



The City of Manassas Connection

July 2015

Civil War Weekend - August 21 - 23

On the very ground where tens of thousands of soldiers once transformed sleepy Manassas Junction into a massive campground and a fiery battleground, the annual Manassas Civil War Weekend will commemorate our city's role in the nation's history.

The weekend's free events, from August 21-23, promises to engage visitors of all ages and interests with the sights, sounds and scents of Civil War-era Manassas. The Manassas Museum lawn will be dotted with the tents of living historians who will demonstrate drills, cannon firing, campfire cooking, and the role women played on and off the battlefield. Watch as the Shenandoah Valley Civil War Era Dancers demonstrate dance moves, while musicians play tunes of the era.

Inside the museum, enjoy a Chat with the Curator highlighting unusual items in the collection, a children's scavenger hunt, and two new exhibits, *New World Aristocracy: The Carters of Virginia*, co-sponsored by the Prince William County Historic Preservation Division, and *Partisans Among Playmates: American Childhood and the Civil War*.

At nearby Liberia Plantation, 8601 Portner Avenue, stroll the shade-filled grounds and hear the accounts of well-known Confederate Spy Rose Greenhow, watch period cooking demonstrations and fashion shows, military demonstrations, cannon firings, and a blacksmith at work.

The weekend begins with a keynote address by well-known Civil War re-enactor Al Stone, who has been portraying General Robert E. Lee for more than 20 years to nationwide audiences. Stone will portray Lee in his post-war years, when he became president of what was then called



Washington College in Lexington, Va., later renamed Washington & Lee University. His address begins on Friday, August 21 at 7 p.m. on the museum lawn.

On Saturday, August 22, enjoy a parade and speakers on the lawn, which include Richard E. Killblane on Logistics of the War; Earl McElfresh on Maps of the War; and re-enactors portraying General William Tecumseh Sherman, General Philip T. Sheridan, General Jubal Early, General John B. Gordan, Major Jed Hotchkiss, and General Samuel Cooper.

This year the popular Saturday evening bourbon tasting and mock rail car burning will return. The rail car burning commemorates the 1862 Confederate raid on Union supplies at Manassas Junction. On Sunday, visit the Harris Pavilion for an ice cream social and to hear the Manassas Symphony Orchestra.

For more information, visit www.visitmanassas.org.



**Beginning
July 1, 2015,
enjoy
Free Admission to
the Manassas
Museum**

A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
William Patrick Pate

Over the past two months I have written about two of the themes coming from the community research and input on the City of Manassas, a “sense of place” and a “sense of opportunity.” This month I want to talk about the third and final theme “a sense of community.”

When I talk with individuals about why they live, work or participate in the life of the City of Manassas they often refer to the “sense of community” that they experience in the City. Responses to questions about describing the City led to terms like authentic, inclusive, supportive, charming, affordable, strategic and welcoming. But what makes us think about Manassas as a community?

Recent psychological and sociological studies have led to a focus on the “experience of community” rather than the structure, setting or formation of a community, as the centering force that helps us know and even love our communities. This notion of community focuses on relationships not physical boundaries. Questions the researchers suggest define communities are: Who are the members and how strong is their identification with the community? Do they have influence and are they influenced by the group? Does participation provide a sense of reward or fulfillment of need? Is there an emotional connection including a shared history and participation?

Before I get too academic let me say, when I hear folks talking about their sense of community in Manassas it is not just about the physical place or the work opportunities. It really is about the relationships that are formed which cause us to love this community. Just today I started with a morning meeting in a local coffee shop with an individual that wanted to talk about a long-term vision for the community and how he might help me with an issue that his wife learned about at another community gathering. Mid-day brought a retirement

celebration for two police officers who would bring the room to tears describing the relationships they had built within the local neighborhoods and with their colleagues, both locally and throughout the region. This evening began with a ribbon-cutting for a new business. This new owner kept saying how she could not believe all of the folks that had come just to wish them well with the start of her business. All of this was community building through relationships.

For the city’s part we want to create a sense of community by creating a safe, secure and family friendly environment where citizens, businesses and visitors want to live, work, play and experience the uniqueness of our neighborhoods and community. This will require a continued focus on delivering high quality public safety activities, culture and recreation opportunities, quality housing and redevelopment along with an encouragement of personal and professional growth.

Most importantly, to maintain the strong sense of community that is used to describe the City of Manassas we need to continue to reach out and build the relationships that allow us to know each other, share our experiences, work for the common good and love our community.

Three graduate from Virginia Fire Officers Academy

City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Master Technician Justin Hruneni, Firefighter/Medic William Barton and Volunteer Chief Tripp DeRamus recently graduated from the Virginia Fire Officers Academy (VFOA). Sponsored by the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, the VFOA application process is highly competitive. Hruneni, Barton and DeRamus were selected out of more than 160 candidates for this course.

The VFOA curriculum, *Safety through Leadership*, is designed to improve firefighter safety by recognizing that safety is, at its core, a leadership and cultural issue. The VFOA focuses on improving leadership techniques, personal accountability, and fostering the cultural changes required to improve firefighter safety and health.

“I am proud of these officers,” said Fire and Rescue Chief Brett Bowman. “These are our leaders for the future of the City of Manassas and I have every confidence in them.”



Hometown Tourist

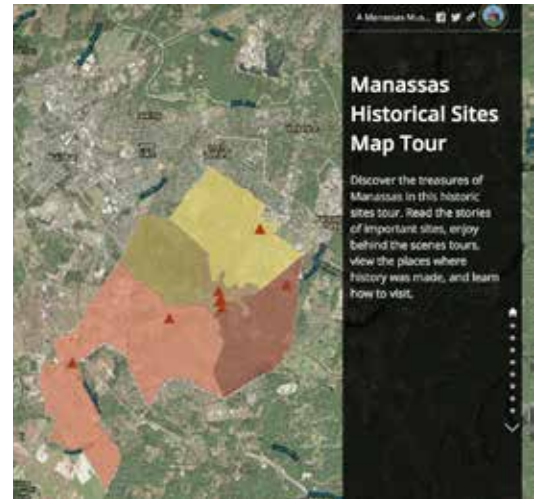
This summer the City of Manassas is unveiling the Hometown Tourist virtual map of historic sites in the city. The map allows visitors to learn about history through photos, little-known stories about people and places associated with the sites, behind-the-scenes pieces, and information about visiting in person. Visit www.manassascity.org/tour to start the virtual tour.

Also this summer, the Manassas Museum is taking to the road with a new travelling exhibit, Hometown Tourist, at the Bull Run Regional Library. The exhibit features artifacts, old post cards, and archaeology from nine area historic sites: The Southern Railway Depot, the Hopkins Candy Factory, Liberia Plantation, the Stone House, the Manassas City Cemetery, the Manassas

Museum (built on land where Eastern College once stood), the Manassas Industrial School, the former Grace United Methodist Church (now Bull Run Unitarian), and the Albert Speiden House.

Most of the City's nationally significant historic sites are open free every day and offer interpretive signage that tells the story. Visitors may also use the mobile version of the Manassas Historical Sites Map Tour to enhance the experience.

Learn more about the sites or take a guided walking tour of Historic Downtown Manassas. These are offered every Thursday and Friday at noon, and Liberia House tours are offered Sundays at noon through the summer.



New Air Charter Touching Down at Manassas Regional

Through October 2015, the Manassas Regional Airport will be a regular stop for Air Charter Express (ACE), the passenger division of Freight Runners Express, Inc. ACE is bringing international tourists to the region. They selected Manassas Regional Airport as a regular stopping point for their tours because the Airport is a cost-effective alternative to other major airports in the area. Manassas Regional Airport is the busiest General Aviation airport in the Commonwealth with more than 415-based aircraft. It

has an annual Economic Impact to the community of about \$235 million.

“Manassas Regional Airport serves a vital role in promoting economic development and tourism for the Greater Manassas region as well as the City of Manassas,” said City Manager W. Patrick Pate. “We welcome Air Charter Service to the community of businesses that are utilizing the Manassas Regional Airport as a cost effective way into the Capital region.”

Air Charter Express is based out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin and has been operating for 30 years, which includes 21 years flying passengers. Freight Runners Express, Inc. currently has 60 employees. In addition to tour groups, their fleet of 24 aircraft fly corporate shuttle flights and college sports teams including men's and women's basketball, volleyball, soccer, gymnastics, and softball teams. Their cargo business operates scheduled cargo flights in the Midwest, and on-demand cargo flights to and from Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. They also provide full-service aircraft maintenance and management services.

Why call about Bulk Waste collection?

Mattresses, sofas, shelves and fridges ... people go through a lot of them! But why can't you just set it all out with the trash on trash day?

Residents of the City of Manassas are among the fortunate when it comes to bulk waste collection in Northern Virginia. Many other jurisdictions charge separately for the service or limit the number of collections per year. Here in Manassas, residents are permitted to set out bulk waste every week, all year long. But having this additional service does require a bit of organization ... and when it comes to trash collection ... timing is very important.

By scheduling bulk waste collection, residents can make sure that what they are setting out can be collected by the City contractor and that their bulk waste will be collected quickly – keeping our streets clean and safe.

Please schedule your bulk waste collection at least 24 hours ahead of your regular collection day. Please note that bulk waste is collected on Fridays only in townhome communities. Call (703) 257-8252 for more information.

Get Social!

Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.

 www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas

 www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

 www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

Put your own photos up at
[www.flickr.com/groups/
mycityofmanassas](http://www.flickr.com/groups/mycityofmanassas).

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email pprince@ci.manassas.va.us.

The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during July and August.

Now - October - Thursdays and Fridays at noon - **Historic Downtown walking tours**
www.manassasmuseum.org

Sunday Tours of Liberia Plantation - Sundays throughout the summer tour the Civil War Era plantation and view the graffiti left by Civil War soldiers
www.manassasmuseum.org

Take Out Tuesdays and Wednesday Lunch Concerts are back in June, July and August at the Harris Pavilion. Pick up a meal at one of our local restaurants and enjoy the free entertainment. Also stop by the Farmer's Market from 6-8 p.m.
www.harrispavilion.com

July 3, 5 - 9 p.m. - **First Friday** Police & Fire Appreciation in Historic Downtown
www.visitmanassas.org

July 4, 4 - 10 p.m. - **Celebrate America** in Historic Downtown. Great food, live entertainment and children's rides will all be available followed by the BEST fireworks display in Northern Virginia
www.visitmanassas.org

July 9 at 7 p.m. - U.S. Navy Commodores
www.harrispavilion.com

July 10 at 8 p.m. - Friday Adult Dance with the **Silver Tones Swing Band**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 11, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous, eWaste Drop off and Shredding** at Manassas Transfer Station (8305 Quarry Road)
www.manassascity.org/trash

July 11 at 6:30 p.m. - **Annapolis Bluegrass Coalition** - Summer Sounds Concert
www.harrispavilion.com

July 12 at 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Jonathan Roberts - The Civil War's Quaker Scout and Sheriff**
www.manassasmuseum.org

July 12 at 3 p.m. - **The Smokey Winstead Band & Ice Cream Social**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 14, 10 a.m. - **Pre-K Tuesday** for ages 3-5 with a caretaker
www.manassasmuseum.org

July 17 at 8:30 p.m. - **An American Tail** Friday Family Movie Night
www.harrispavilion.com

July 19 at 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Cut from Strong Cloth**
www.manassasmuseum.org

July 19 at 3 p.m. - **The Kings Park Band & Ice Cream Social**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 24 at 8:30 p.m. - **How to Train Your Dragon 2** - Family Movie night
www.harrispavilion.com

July 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **8th Annual ADA Fair**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 25, 8 p.m. - Adult Dance with **Southern Persuasion**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 25 at 3 p.m. - **Nitehawks Orchestra and Ice Cream Social**
www.harrispavilion.com

July 26 at 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **For Brotherhood & Duty**
www.manassasmuseum.org

August 1, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous and eWaste Drop off** at Manassas Transfer Station (8305 Quarry Road)
www.manassascity.org/trash

August 1, 8 - 11 p.m. - Saturday night adult dance to the **B2B Band** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 2, 3 - 4:30 p.m. - **Capital Jazz Preservation & Ice Cream Social**
www.visitmanassas.org

August 4, 6 - 8 p.m. - **National Night Out** - Come out to the Manassas Museum Lawn for America's Night Out Against Crime
www.visitmanassas.org

August 7, 5 - 9 p.m. - **First Friday** in Historic Downtown
www.visitmanassas.org

August 7, 8:30 - 10 p.m. - Friday family movie night with **Free Birds** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 8, 6:30 p.m. - **David Kline Band** - Summer Sounds Concert
www.visitmanassas.org

August 9, 2 - 4:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Citizen-General** with author Gene Schmiel
www.visitmanassas.org

August 9, 3 - 4:30 p.m. - **St Thomcats Band & Ice Cream Social** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 15, 8 - 11 p.m. - Saturday night adult dance to **The Fabulous Bel Airs** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 16, 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **The Confederacy's Last Northern Offensive**
www.manassasmuseum.org

August 16, 3 - 4:30 p.m. - **Washington Balalaika Orchestra & Ice Cream Social** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 21 - 23 - **4th Annual Civil War Weekend** in Historic Downtown - Living history, artillery and weapons demonstrations, Civil War speakers, a parade and much more. . .
www.visitmanassas.org

August 22 at 9 a.m. - **Bike Tour** - Tour the City with the Manassas Museum
www.manassasmuseum.org

August 22, 6:30 p.m. - **La Unica** - Summer Sounds Concert
www.visitmanassas.org

August 28 - 8:30 - 10 p.m. - Friday family movie night with **Monsters University** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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