



Our Heroes - 2016 Valor Award Winners

At the recent Prince William Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards, three City of Manassas heroes were honored for Valor. The following are their stories:

Captain Andrew Carver, City of Manassas Fire and Rescue, was off duty the afternoon of Sept. 30, 2015. He was spending the day with his son, Nick. They were leaving their community in the Clifton area to run a few errands. As they approached the main road, they both noticed several people crowded together on the jogging path. It appeared that the crowd was standing over someone on the ground. Capt. Carver pulled to the side of the road and his instincts took over as he and Nick ran to the scene. They found an elderly man, unconscious, and a bystander giving chest compressions.

Capt. Carver announced himself as a Paramedic and proceeded to perform CPR. Nick was standing back a few feet with those who were watching the scene unfold. A few moments later, he was found kneeling on the ground praying for not only the unconscious man, or the group of onlookers, but also for his father; that his paramedic skills would help him in saving this man's life.

Nick, a preteen, provided an unexpected comfort to everyone at the scene, while Capt. Carver provided lifesaving care to the patient. While this type of incident is seen frequently by first responders, we must realize how traumatic it is to those who don't experience it each day. These two men were seen as heroes to the men and women on the jogging path that day. For his quick actions, Capt. Carver was awarded the Merit Award for Valor.



Chief Brett Bowman stands with Captain Andrew Carver on stage at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. Photo by Mark Gilvey Creative



Captain Andrew Carver, Nick Carver and Chief Brett Bowman at the Valor Awards. Photo by Mark Gilvey Creative

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A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
William Patrick Pate

As you read this, City Council is spending many hours at meetings reviewing and examining the proposed budget for FY 2017. Through this process, Council will prioritize the services that they deem to be the most important for the community and those that will have the most impact on future generations of residents.

The proposed budget is built to maintain the high quality of services and programs that you currently receive from the City. It is developed based on the City strategic plan and priorities and adheres to the sound financial practices and policies that have been adopted by

City Council. The overall increase in the budget to provide these services is 0.5 percent.

Priorities for operational areas addressed in the proposed budget include a 2.625% increase in local funding for the Manassas City Public Schools; economic development incentives and a new position to promote community appearance; funding for body worn cameras for police officers; new voting machines as mandated by the General Assembly (these will also support a new precinct); and full funding for fire and rescue positions and police officers.

Capital investments priorities include moving forward with the new fire station approved last year and purchasing land for a future police facility under public safety; projects to maintain our utilities infrastructure; and transportation projects on Fairview Ave., Sudley Rd., Prince William St., Grant Ave., and Dean Dr. We will also continue to work to determine which recreation and cultural issues from the recent citizen satisfaction survey are the highest priorities for the community, such as amenities in the downtown, walking trails and planning for the future of Dean Park.

The advertised tax rate would result in about a 4 percent increase for the typical residential homeowner, but overall utility rates would fall by 2.2 percent for the same average residence. The \$1.9 million in new property tax revenues included in the proposed budget would support \$1.386 for Manassas City Public Schools, \$296,000 for police body worn cameras, \$92,000 for voting machines and \$125,000 for reductions in late payment penalties or additional tax abatements for the elderly and handicapped.

A \$3.5 million reduction in utility costs and corresponding utility revenues in FY 2017 will offset some of the increase in taxes.

To view detailed information about the proposed FY 2017 Budget, visit www.manassascity.org/budget. A public hearing on the proposed budget is scheduled for April 25 at 7:30 p.m. during the regular City Council meeting.

Council looks forward to your input at the public hearing on April 25 and hopes to hear your priorities for FY 2017 and beyond.

Recycling News

Yard Waste Tips!

Spring is here and everyone is back in the garden planting, pruning and pulling weeds, setting the stage for another beautiful display of greenery for the summer. Here are a few reminders for you as you pull on your gardening gloves and head out the door:

- Yard waste is collected only on Mondays.
- Make sure to set out your yard waste in brown paper yard waste bags or private trash containers
- Bundle and tie your twigs and small branches for collection.
- Yard waste in plastic bags or City trash/recycling containers will not

be collected at curbside.

- No sod, dirt, manure, compost, sand or stone will be collected at curbside.

Did you know that you can dispose of your garden pesticides at our Household Hazardous Waste Drop off days? Visit our website: www.manassascity.org/trash for more information.

Adopt a Street

The City of Manassas Adopt a Street program plays an active part in keeping our City streets clean and beautiful. The City has more than 33 active groups of volunteers from every walk of life working hard to pick up litter in their spare time. In 2015, over 215 bags of litter

were collected by bikers, walkers, scout troops, schools and local organizations. Did you know?

- Over 51 billion pieces of litter appear on U.S. roadways each year.
- 76 percent of roadway litter appears to originate from motorists and pedestrians.
- Visible litter on our nation's roadways has decreased about 61 percent in the last 40 years.

Adopting a street is easy! Just visit www.manassascity.org/adoptastreet or call (703) 257-8252 for more information on how you can become a volunteer!

Our Heroes - 2016 Valor Award Winners - *Continued*

On Saturday, May 16, 2015, officers were sent to a report of a suicidal subject who was armed with a shotgun. Prince William County received the initial call and kept the subject on the line while city dispatchers relayed the information to the responding officers. It was determined that the individual was an armed forces veteran and was suffering from PTSD. His girlfriend had also recently passed away and he was having difficulty dealing with the loss.

Units arrived on scene and a perimeter was established, while dispatch continued to talk to the subject who was inside of his house. Manassas City **Senior Police Officer (SPO) J.R. Lehman** positioned himself near the front of the house while instructions were given to the subject on how to step outside to speak with the officers on scene. The subject indicated that he was scared of the police and was uneasy about what was going to happen when he came outside. After about 30 minutes, the subject walked out to the front porch area holding a shotgun.

SPO Lehman, who has received training in crisis intervention, spoke to the subject in a calm manner so as not to startle him. Lehman was able to gather basic information and began to establish a rapport with the subject. SPO Lehman continued to talk with the subject and attempted to have him place the gun on the ground, however, the subject was reluctant to do so.

After a short time, Manassas City **Senior Police Officer Y. Sturman**, who is also trained in crisis intervention, met SPO Lehman near the front of the house. SPO Sturman took over the role of primary negotiator. She and SPO Lehman worked together to keep the subject calm while trying to resolve the situation safely. SPO Sturman gathered additional information about the problems that the subject was having and worked to gain his trust. She explained to him that she would be able to guide him through the process of getting help.

By gaining his trust, SPO Sturman was able to convince the subject to place



SPO Sturman and SPO Lehman before the Valor Awards Ceremony.



SPO Sturman and SPO Lehman stand with Chief Doug Keen on stage at the Hylton Performing Arts Center.

the weapon on the ground in a safe manner before having him move to a location where officers were able to detain him.

Through the use of their CIT training and by displaying a calm and reassuring demeanor, both Officers Lehman and Sturman brought a safe resolution to a situation that easily could have resulted in a loss of life. For these actions, SPO Lehman and SPO Sturman were awarded the Bronze Medal of Valor.

All About Parks

The City of Manassas is conducting a Parks, Recreation and Cultural Needs Assessment and Facilities Plan. This project will guide the City in current and future parks, culture and recreation decisions. For updates visit www.manassascity.org/parksplan.

Did you know that you can rent city parks for parties, weddings and special events? Visit www.manassascity.org/parks for more information.

The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during April and May

April - October - Thursdays and Fridays at noon - **Historic Downtown Walking Tours**
www.manassasmuseum.org

April - October - Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Museum at the Market** - find out what fun learning experience is in store every week at the Farmers Market
www.visitmanassas.org

April - November - **Manassas Farmer's Market** - Thursday & Saturdays 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
www.visitmanassas.org

Through April 17 - **Perceptions**, a free exhibit of Osbourn student art at the Manassas Museum
www.visitmanassas.org

Through April 17 - **To be Sold**, a free exhibit on loan from the Library of Virginia with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities
www.visitmanassas.org

April 1, 6 to 9 p.m. - **First Friday** in Historic Downtown Manassas
www.visitmanassas.org

April 2, 9 - 11 a.m. - **Museum Bike Tour** around the City
www.manassasmuseum.org

April 2, 7 - 11 p.m. - **Feed the Arts** - Center for the Arts Annual Fundraising Gala - Experience What We Do & Party on Every Floor --at the Candy Factory!
www.center-for-the-arts.org

April 3 at 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Private John S. Mosby, First Virginia Cavalry** by Gregory P. Wilson at the Manassas Museum
www.manassasmuseum.org

April 8 - 23, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. - Rooftop Productions **Little Shop of Horrors** at the Center for the Arts.
www.center-for-the-arts.org

April 9 at noon - **Hard Hat Tours** of Liberia Plantation - \$15 per person
http://manassasechoes.com

April 10 at 1:30 p.m. - Free book Talk - **The Man Who Would Not Be Washington: Robert E. Lee's Civil War and His Decision That Changed American History** with Author Jonathan Horn
www.manassasmuseum.org

April 11 at 5:30 p.m. - Manassas City Police recognition ceremony at City Hall.

April 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **10th Annual Live Well Festival** - Enjoy free exercise classes, document shredding, tips on recycling, and much more at the Harris Pavilion.
www.visitmanassas.org

April 17, 7:30 a.m. - **Runway 10K/5K** at the Manassas Regional Airport
www.manassasrunway10k.com

April 22, 10 a.m. **Arbor Day** Celebration at Nelson Park. The City of Manassas is a Tree City USA.

April 23, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **Manassas Reads** at the Harris Pavilion. Come for free books and fun!
www.visitmanassas.org

April 24, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **2nd Annual Manassas Bridal Show** on the Manassas Museum Lawn
www.visitmanassas.org

April 30, 4-8 p.m. - **CASA Retro Dance Party** at the Harris Pavilion - Free event
www.visitmanassas.org

May 6, 6-9 p.m. - **Spring Gallery Walk** in Historic Downtown Manassas
www.visitmanassas.org

May 6 - Aug. 28 - Free New Exhibit at the Manassas Museum: **Wounds Healed, Wounds Inflicted: Post-Civil War Virginia**
www.manassasmuseum.org

May 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **Manassas Airshow 2016** - Performances, activities and displays
http://manassasairshow.com

May 7, 9 - 11 a.m. - **Museum Bike Tour** around the City
www.manassasmuseum.org

May 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **East Coast Roundup M6A Regional Car Show** - a free event on the Museum Lawn
www.visitmanassas.org

May 15 at 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Lafayette: Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General** at the Manassas Museum
www.visitmanassas.org

May 20-22 - Manassas Ballet Theatre's **Cinderella** at the Hylton Performing Arts Center
www.visitmanassas.org

May 29 - Sept. 4 - Sundays at noon - **Free Liberia Plantation Tours**
http://manassasechoes.com

June 28 - July 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; ages 9-13 - **Civil War Camp** - four days immersion in Civil War life. Call 703-368-1873
www.manassasmuseum.org

August 9 - 12; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; ages 9-13 - Manassas Museum **Archaeology & Swim Camp**
www.manassasmuseum.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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