



# The City of Manassas Connection

December 2012

## 500 Foot Runway Extension Opens

On Wednesday, Nov. 21, the Manassas Regional Airport cut a ceremonial ribbon on the completion of a 500 foot extension of Runway 16L/34R. This makes the total usable distance 6,200 feet. Mayor Harry J. Parrish II, City Manager John A. Budesky, Airport Commission Chairman Dan Radtke, and members from the FAA, DOAV, Airport staff and Congressman Wolf's office were among the people in attendance.

This runway extension project has been more than 10 years in the making and comes as a welcomed accomplishment for the airport and for aviators around the area. The 6,200 foot runway means that aircraft taking off and landing at the Manassas Regional Airport will be able to maximize their capabilities to take on more fuel for coast-to-coast flights. The extension also provides an additional safety measure in inclement weather and will help reduce noise for the surrounding area to the north.

The five-phase construction project was made possible through grants from the Federal Aviation Administration

(FAA) and Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV). Of the \$4.6 million that went into this project, the FAA contributed 90%, the Virginia Department of Aviation contributed 8% and the Airport contributed 2%. No City of Manassas General Funds were used for this project.

In 2010, an independent economic impact study done by the Virginia Department of Aviation reported that the Manassas Regional Airport has contributed more than \$234.6 million in overall economic activity, generated more than \$69 million in payroll and created more than 1,056 jobs for the economies

of the City of Manassas and Prince William County.

The Manassas Regional Airport is gearing up for additional flights for the inauguration in January. With the anticipation of flight and security delays at other Metropolitan area airports during Inauguration Week, Manassas Regional Airport gives travellers the freedom to fly on their own schedule without the hassles of a major airport. The airport offers reliable and convenient service in modern facilities. For more information, visit [www.manassasairport.aero](http://www.manassasairport.aero).

1<sup>st</sup> Flight on Runway Extension by Metropolitan Aviation



Ribbon Cutting on Runway Expansion



Manassas Regional Airport



## Route 28 Ribbon Officially Cut!

On Thursday, Nov. 15 at 10 a.m., the City of Manassas and VDOT cut a ceremonial ribbon on the completion of the Route 28 Grade Separation Project. This project has significantly improved traffic flow, reduced congestion, improved emergency vehicle access and eliminated rail/vehicle interaction on Route 28.

The Route 28 project has been long-term, beginning in 1992 with a request to VDOT from the City of Manassas for a feasibility study to review relocating or upgrading the rail crossing on Route 28. In 1995, VDOT and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) conducted a Railroad Realignment Study on the area. Local officials from the City of Manassas,

Prince William County and Norfolk Southern served on a steering committee for the project; and Delegate Harry Parrish and Senator Charles Colgan provided support to the group.

In May of 1999, a Memorandum of Understanding was forged between the Railroad, the Commonwealth and the City of Manassas to create a partnership, which was critical to the development and completion of this project. The project was completed in two phases. Phase one included railroad double tracking south of the City of Manassas (2 miles), crew change building construction at Bristow, and B-Line curve improvements and a Wellington Road detour. These

improvements were completed in 2003 at a cost of \$15.2 million.

Phase two of the project, which cost \$43.9 million, has opened the Route 28 overpass to traffic and is scheduled to be completed in December 2012. As part of the Memorandum of Understanding, the City of Manassas contributed \$200,000 in General Funds and \$250,000 in Utility Funds to this phase of the project. This has eliminated all vehicle/railroad conflicts at Route 28, reduced congestion on Wellington Road and Route 28, and provided improved emergency response times to the Airport, Manassas Landing, several large businesses and City residents in the southwestern portion of the city.

### Christmas and New Year's Day Trash Changes for Townhouses Only

American Disposal Services, Inc. will not be collecting trash or recycling on Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012 and New Years Day, Jan. 1, 2013. Trash and Recycling will be collected on Monday, Dec. 24 and Monday, Dec. 31 at townhouses. The City will also be cancelling the regular Monday, Dec. 24 and 31 yard waste collection. There are no other schedule changes for single family homes.

### Christmas Tree Collection Starts Jan. 7, 2013

American Disposal Services, Inc. will pick up Christmas trees starting Monday, Jan. 7, 2013 and will continue on Mondays until the end of January. Remember to set out the "naked" tree, no lights, no ornaments, no tinsel, etc. Please do not set your tree curbside before Sunday at 4 p.m. After January, trees will need to be cut to 4 ft. or less for pick up.

### A Note About Keeping Your Neighborhood Looking Great

Do you ever see yard waste at the curb days before it's collected? Not a very appealing sight. Monday was selected for yard waste collection so that those doing yard work on the weekends would be able to put their waste at the curb on Sunday afternoons after 4 p.m. This was decided so that the look of neighborhoods would not be degraded by waste sitting out too long. The City of Manassas asks residents not to place yard waste at the curb before 4 p.m. on Sundays. It is against the City code and it looks bad for the community you live in.

The City of Manassas has a well established yard waste program that began prior to 1995. Over the years, the City has increased its tonnage due to more mature trees and additional residential grass clippings. Currently, the City picks up more than 2,300 tons of materials a year. Part of that program asks that City residents use the biodegradable paper bags, a trash can, or tied bundles of branches for collection. For more information on trash pickup or yard waste, visit [www.manassascity.org/recycling](http://www.manassascity.org/recycling).



## Giving Back: Service in the City

More than 300 neighbors attended the Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, Nov. 15. The day offered workshops, a youth cafe, awards, a yummy lunch, raffles, prizes and an exhibit hall.

The City's youth played a large role in the day's activities. They led the pledge of allegiance, served lunch courtesy of Old Towne Sports Pub and rocked to the beat of the Osbourn High School drum line.

Walgreens gave out first aid kits and other spin-the-wheel prizes all day long, and the GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas sold 2012 White House Christmas ornaments and tickets to their Holiday Homes Tour to benefit their year-round service projects. US Foods distributed turkeys to the first 50 people who registered for the conference and everyone walked away with free apples, fresh from Farmer Dan Dodson's Farm.

Awards were given for the following:

- Community Service of the Year Award - Presented to Manassas Rotary Club, Bull Run Rotary Club, and Gainesville/Haymarket Rotary Club for their successful Wellness Fair.
- Volunteer of the Year Award - Leslie Jones for year round involvement in the community.
- Best Neighborhood Youth Involvement - Tina Murray, Project I.N.F.U.S.I.O.N. for her ability to engage youth year round in leadership, communication, and outreach initiatives.
- Best Neighborhood Participation - Georgetown South Community Council, Inc. for their National Night Out and Community Pride Outside events.



- Best Neighborhood Communication - Point of Woods East/Lakeside for their increased efforts to communicate to the neighborhood through flyers, emails, websites, and newsletters.

There are many benefits of attending the Neighborhood Conference - meeting new neighbors, connecting with vendors and exhibitors and meeting others who have worked to create a positive environment for the entire community. We hope you will join us for the next Neighborhood Conference in 2013.

## A Message from the City Manager

This holiday season when you are getting ready to buy gifts for your friends and family, remember to shop local. I know shopping online or at big chain stores is easy, but did you know that for every \$100 you spend in a small local business, \$68 returns to our community? If you spend it in a large chain store only \$43 comes back to our community. If you shop online, absolutely nothing comes back to our community.

I have come to know that the City of Manassas is a great place to live, work and play, but it is also a great place to shop and dine. One-of-a-kind stores and restaurants abound in the City of Manassas. Where else can you buy the things they'll love or something whimsical. The Manassas Museum has wonder-

ful gifts, as do so many of the specialty stores in the City. From baby gifts, home interiors and antiques to jewelry and fashion, you can find it here. For your convenience, all two and four hour street parking restrictions in Old Town Manassas have been lifted through Dec. 25, 2012.

And, while you are out for the day shopping, stop in one of our local restaurants for a bite to eat. I have tasted fare from most of the restaurants in the City and would recommend them all.

But most of all, from the City of Manassas, have a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

*John A. Budesky*

### Need Gifts Wrapped this Holiday Season?

Osbourn High School Band will be wrapping gifts near Target at Manassas Mall. This annual fundraiser earns money for instrument repairs, band competition fees, and helps purchase new music, marching band equipment and uniforms; and allows students to raise money for their music fees and spring trip. Now through Dec. 9, the wrapping booth will be open weekdays from 5 to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sundays - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Beginning on Dec. 10, the wrapping booth will be open every day - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Christmas Eve from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

# The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during December and January.

The Harris Pavilion is open for Ice Skating - visit [www.harris pavilion.com](http://www.harris pavilion.com) for times and fees.



Dec. 1 - **67th Annual Christmas Parade** at 10 a.m. in Old Town Manassas.  
[www.gmchristmasparade.org](http://www.gmchristmasparade.org)

Dec. 1 - 15 - **2012 Gingerbread House Contest** - [www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Dec. 1 - New winter hours for the Farmer's Market - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Lot B.

Dec. 2 - **Old Town Merchant Open House**

Dec. 2, 9 & 16 - **Horse drawn carriage rides** around Old Town Manassas leaving from the train depot.  
[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Dec. 5 - **Real Estate Taxes due**  
[www.manassascity.org/taxes](http://www.manassascity.org/taxes)

Dec. 8 - VRE's Annual Operation Lifesaver Santa Trains. [www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Dec. 9 - GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas Holiday Homes Tour.

Dec. 12 - Dec. 16 - Winter Wonderland Train Show at the Candy Factory.  
[www.manassascity.org/trains](http://www.manassascity.org/trains)

Dec. 14 - **The Nutcracker** will be performed by the Manassas Ballet at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on Dec. 14, 15, 22 & 23. This will surely get you in the spirit of the season! For more information call 703-257-1811.  
[www.hyltoncenter.org](http://www.hyltoncenter.org)

Dec. 15 & 16 - **A New Birth of Freedom** at Liberia Plantation. A very special holiday celebration on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 5, 6 and 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Tickets are available at *Echoes*, the Manassas Museum Store, at 703-257-8453 or at  
[www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org).

Jan. 17 - Red Cross Blood Drive, 2 to 8 p.m. at the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad, 9322 Center Street, Manassas.

The next RAD Basic Self Defense course for women begins in February. Stayed tuned to [www.manassascity.org/police](http://www.manassascity.org/police) for registration details.



## A Note about Safety

What better way to escape the cold than to book a road trip or a cruise to a Caribbean island? Whatever your travel plans are this season, consider these simple steps from the Manassas City Police Department to keep you, your loved ones and belongings safe:

- Before leaving for an extended time, consider stopping paper or mail delivery to your home, or have a trusted neighbor retrieve them for you while you are away.
- Lighting is one of the least expensive ways to protect your property. Consider using photoelectric cells or timers for lights and other electronic devices when out of town to give the impression that someone is home.
- Don't broadcast your plans to others, especially if you are travelling alone.
- When returning home, be cautious. If you see anything out of the ordinary, call the Police and let them investigate.
- Let Manassas City Police Department know when you plan to leave for an extended period of time so that officers can check on your house while you're away. Submit a Vacation Check Request form online at [www.manassascity.org/police](http://www.manassascity.org/police).

For more safety tips throughout the month of December, visit  
**30 Ways in 30 Days** at  
[www.manassascity.org/30ways30days](http://www.manassascity.org/30ways30days)

## City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

### City of Manassas Council

**Mayor Harry J. Parrish II** 703-257-8213  
**Vice Mayor**  
**Andrew L. Harrover** 703-368-2453  
**Marc T. Aveni** 703-795-9651  
**J. Steven Randolph** 703-368-4732  
**Ian T. Lovejoy** 703-828-7592  
**Jonathan L. Way** 703-368-9174  
**Mark D. Wolfe** 703-257-1702

### City of Manassas School Board

**Chairman Scott M. Albrecht** 571-606-1129  
**Vice Chairman**  
**Arthur P. Bushnell** 571-535-7510  
**Ilka V. Chavez** 571-606-0285  
**Tim Demeria** 703-895-4856  
**Ellen M. Purdy** 571-606-0499  
**Pamela J. Sebesky** 571-535-0652  
**Sanford S. Williams** 571-535-6364

## Get Social!

Visit the City at [www.manassascity.org](http://www.manassascity.org).

- [www.manassascity.org/facebook](http://www.manassascity.org/facebook)
- [www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas](http://www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas)
- [www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas](http://www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas)

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