



Meet our New Officers

At a recent City Council Meeting, Mayor Harry J. Parrish II swore into office seven new members of the Manassas City Police Department. These officers are out serving our community and learning the City from one of our training officers. In April, they will be part of the Manassas City Police Department full-time team.

Meet our new officers:

- Officer B. Forren grew up in Bridgeport, WV. He moved to Manassas from Columbus, Ohio where he was an officer for two and a half years. His girlfriend, Katie, and their puppy made the move from Ohio with him once he joined the MCPD.
- Officer A. Datta was born in India and moved to the U.S. when he was six years old. He played football and wrestled throughout high school. Before joining the MCPD, he worked as a personal protection specialist and a government contractor. He is excited to be here and serve the Manassas community.
- Officer W. Lane was born and raised in Manassas. He graduated from Osbourn High School and earned his degree in Environmental Studies from Randolph-Macon College. He takes a lot of pride in being from Manassas and is glad to be in a position where he can help people who have played a major role in his life.
- Officer P. Harrover was born and raised in Fauquier County. He is following in his father's footsteps as a police officer. Prior to joining the MCPD, he worked with the Virginia State Police in Culpeper.
- Officer C. Knight is Manassas born and raised. He graduated from



L to R: Officers Cooper Knight, Reid McCarthy, Abdulah Rasooli, Warren (Conner) Lane, Bradley Forren, Phillip Harrover, Arjun Datta

Osbourn Park High School and earned his Bachelor's in Psychology from Old Dominion University. He is the first in his family to enter a career in law enforcement and is excited to learn more about the job and the opportunities.

- Officer R. McCarthy grew up in Chantilly, Virginia. After high school, he graduated from The Culinary Institute of America with an Associates in culinary arts. He worked at the Inn At Little Washington for more than a year

before beginning his law enforcement career.

- Officer A. Rasooli attended Potomac Senior High School in Woodbridge. Prior to joining the MCPD, he worked at the Prince William/Manassas Adult Detention Center for nine years. His five-year-old daughter motivated him to pursue his dream of becoming an officer, encouraging him to start the hiring process. He is passionate about this job and proudly serves the City of Manassas and its citizens.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

As we move into 2018 the City has several major projects that we are working on and that we expect to see significant progress on during the year.

Two of the biggest projects are in the Public Safety area. The City has acquired a site along Dumfries Road for a new fire and rescue station. This station will provide enhanced fire and rescue services to the southern areas of the City and is currently in the final stages of design. The City has also acquired the old Safeway grocery store in the Grant Avenue Shopping Center. This will be the site of a new public safety building, gaining badly needed space for public safety operations. Design for the building has begun and if you drive by you will see that the old grocery store has been demolished.

We will see work this year on a number of transportation related projects. One of these projects is the Prince William Street widening project. Relocation of electric and gas utilities has been completed, so we are working towards completing the bid process to select the construction company that will be building this project.

We plan to extend the turn lanes from Centerville Road onto Liberia Avenue to improve traffic flow on Route 28. In 2018, engineering work will begin on adding a third northbound lane along Sudley Road, the extension of Dean Drive to Nokesville Road and we are completing right-of-way acquisition for

the widening of Nokesville Road (Route 28) from Godwin Drive to the City limits. We plan to finish improvements that are taking place along Battle Street, Fairview Avenue and Tudor Lane. Resurfacing is also a Council priority and was given a budget increase last year. A list of roads to be completed in 2018 is on the city website at www.manassascity.org/pw.

A new Parks and Recreation Committee has been established by City Council to assist with the prioritization of parks and recreation needs within the City. Park improvements were recently completed in Byrd Park and additional improvements will be scheduled in other existing parks and playgrounds over the next several years. These include Kinsley Mill Park off Hastings Drive and some new features at the Stonewall Park pool this year.

The City has some significant economic and community development projects that are ongoing. The Landing at Cannon Branch has completed the infrastructure improvements necessary to begin construction on this \$250 million mixed use development and vertical construction will continue in 2018. In downtown, Manassas Station and Messenger Place are both under construction. These new upscale projects will provide around 200 additional residential units in downtown and several other projects have been proposed.

On a final note, I am extremely grateful for the many positive comments that I receive about this monthly newsletter. It is planned and put together by the City Communications Office as just one of many ways that they are attempting to provide up-to-date information about City events and activities. The newsletter is always available on the website at the beginning of each month.

The City Council calendar is kept updated on the www.manassascity.org and the City's events calendar is available at www.visitmanassas.org. In addition, the newsletter is sent out with the utility bill to every household in the City on a staggered basis over the course of the

month. This is why the newsletter covers two months of events. If you would like to have the newsletter before your utility bill normally arrives, I encourage you to visit www.manassascity.org/notifyme and select the information that you want to receive as soon as it is available online.

Thanks for reading!



Take the Survey

In 2014, the City of Manassas conducted research to assist with the development of our community brand. Part of that research included a measure of citizen advocacy. We are interested in seeing how citizen advocacy may have changed and you can help. Please take just a minute to give us your opinion on these three quick and easy questions.

This survey is designed for anyone who lives and/or works in the City of Manassas to take. Your response is confidential and only aggregate responses will be reported.

Thank you for your input!

www.manassascity.org/survey



What are those boulders doing in the median?

In December, the Stone Center of (Manassas) Virginia donated 20 boulders to the City's arts group for an upcoming art project. These boulders are in the median at the entrance to the City on Nokesville Road at the intersection of Godwin Drive.

When the weather gets a bit warmer, so the paint won't freeze, these boulders will be painted in the City colors that coordinate with the City logo. It is the artists' hope that this new artistic endeavor will greet folks entering the City of Manassas in a warm and welcoming way.

SAVE THE DATE -

May 4 - 5 for *Much Ado About Art* - a two-day art extravaganza with all

types of artists and art forms, making the City of Manassas an arts destination. You'll want to drop by and check it out. There'll be music, performances, visual

and cultural arts. There will be upcycled furniture and fantastic demonstrations. Stay tuned for more information.



Public Works and Recycling News

Recycling contamination was the headline of 2017. In July, China, the biggest buyer of recyclable materials, notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) that in 2018 it would be imposing a ban on the import of a broad range of recyclable materials including plastic, waste paper and textiles. As the primary exporter of recyclable materials to China, the United States will be hit hardest by the ban.

Did you know that recycling is a \$117 billion dollar industry? When we sort plastic, cardboard, paper and cans, we are supporting more than 500,000 jobs in the United States.

In a recent report published by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, recycling in the City of Manassas has created 347 jobs and provides an estimated \$80 million to our local economy.

The economic impact does not end there. The City pays \$60 for every ton of trash sent to the landfill. In 2017, City residents generated 12,786 tons of trash. The cost of disposal was more than \$767,000. As part of our contract with American Disposal Services, disposing of recyclable materials costs the City nothing, nada, zero, zip.

How can you make a difference?

By following three simple rules for curbside recycling, you can help the economy:

- Only recycle hard plastics, metal cans, paper and cardboard.
- Rinse cans, jars and bottles before putting them in the bin.
- Please do not put plastic trash or shopping bags in your recycling cart.

The City of Manassas is working in partnership with our contractors and other regional jurisdictions to develop policies and outreach information for residents that clearly explains recycling requirements and improves public understanding of great recycling habits. Let's face it. Throwing it all away doesn't make sense.

Leaf Collection

City leaf collection has ended for the season. If you still have leaves on your property, please place them in yard waste bags and set them out on your yard waste collection day.

Let us know!

April showers bring May flowers, but the rain also brings a chance for localized flooding. The City will be inspecting the storm sewer inlets and pipes for obstructions such as leaves, branches, and children's toys that may have found their way into the system. If you see any blockages, let us know. Contact the City's Operations Center at (703) 257-8353.

Winter can be hard on City streets with the changing temperatures and the efforts to remove snow and ice. If you see a pothole or damage to City curbs or sidewalks, you can reach the City in several ways. Go on the City's 311GIS app any time or contact the Department of Public Works at (703) 257-8476 or at (703) 257-8347.

We want to hear from you and keep the City of Manassas running smoothly.

The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas.

Winter Farmer's Market - Every Saturday in the parking lot across from Baldwin Elementary School.

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. - Feb. - **Ice Skate** at the Harris Pavilion this season.

www.harris pavilion.com

Now - Feb. 18, 2018 - New exhibit at the Manassas Museum - **The Forgotten World War: Its Impact at Home**

www.visitmanassas.org

Feb. 2, 6 - 9 p.m. - First Friday's **Souper Bowl**. Sample delicious soups and vote on your favorite.

www.visitmanassas.org

Feb. 11, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk with Joseph Haynes - **Brunswick Stew** at the Manassas Museum.

www.manassasmuseum.org



Feb. 14 - Valentines Day



Feb. 18, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book talk with Author Karen Hughes White **African Americans of Fauquier County**

www.visitmanassas.org

Feb. 19, President's Day - City offices are closed

March 2 - April 1 - New Exhibit: **Artistic Expression**, Osbourn High School students' art - See the diverse work Osbourn students create from a variety of mediums in this annual exhibit.

www.visitmanassas.org

March 3, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous and eWaste Drop Off

www.manassascity.org/trash

March 9 - 11 - Manassas Ballet Theatre presents **Swan Lake** at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

www.visitmanassas.org

March 10, 11 a.m. - **St. Patrick's Day Parade**

<http://www.stpatparade.net>

March 11 - Daylight Savings Time - Remember when you change your clocks, change the batteries in your smoke alarm

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 17, 7:30 p.m. - Manassas Chorale **Voices United** Concert at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

www.visitmanassas.org

Mar. 18, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk with Paula Whitacre - **A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time** at the Manassas Museum.

www.manassasmuseum.org

March 24, 1:30 p.m. - **Women's History Month Performance: A Visit with Suffragist Mrs. Robert Walker** with Living Historian Lynne Garvey-Hodge

www.visitmanassas.org

March 24 - **Great American Clean Up Day** - Join the City's Parks, Culture & Recreation Department to clean up City parks and historic sites.

www.manassascity.org/leisure

March 25 - 31 - **Hop Around Downtown** - Hop around from store to store for sweet surprises and a chance to win more prizes.

www.visitmanassas.org

April 7, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous & eWaste Drop Off with shredding

www.manassascity.org/trash

April 21, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **12th Annual Live Well Festival** - There will be a 5K run to kick off the event

www.visitmanassas.org

April 22 - Earth Day

April 28-29 - **Little Mermaid** performed by Pied Piper Theatre at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

www.visitmanassas.org

April 29, 7 a.m. - **Manassas Runway 5K/10K**

rev3tri.com/manassas-runway

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email prrince@manassasva.gov