On June 1, 2014 the Manassas Museum will open a very special exhibition in our temporary gallery. Civil War Journey: The Maps and Sketches of Private Robert Sneden will feature more than 40 original watercolors on loan from the Virginia Historical Society. This is the first time many of these images have been seen outside of Richmond. The Manassas Museum is the first stop on a national tour for Civil War Journey, produced to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War.

The entire Sneden collection includes a 5,000 page memoir and 1,000 watercolors – perhaps the largest collection of Civil War soldier art ever produced. Sneden was a cartographer (map maker) for the Army of the Potomac, and a Confederate prisoner of war – captured by John S. Mosby’s troops at Brandy Station. He continued making clandestine drawings even while being held in the notorious Andersonville Prison. Sneden’s eyewitness accounts, captured so beautifully in his drawings, provide us with a vivid account of the war. Some of his images are the only known depictions of lesser-known locations and events.

Civil War Journey will be on exhibition at the Manassas Museum through Aug. 31, 2014 and is included with the price of regular admission. The museum would like to thank two sponsors, the GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc. and NOVEC, for their generous support of this traveling exhibition.

Photos provided by the Virginia Historical Society

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Park News

Stonewall Pool opens on Memorial Day, May 26, 2014. Season passes are available now at www.manassascity.org/pool. While you are there, sign up for swim lessons.

Restrooms are now open at Stonewall Park and Byrd Park from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. To reserve a park pavilion for your event, visit www.manassascity.org/parks.
The Cherry blossoms have bloomed, the daffodils are poking out of the ground and I am looking forward to seeing the hanging baskets back on Center and Church streets. The farmer’s market is moving into high gear, outdoor dining has become a real possibility again and it is wonderful to go by Osbourn High School in the late afternoon and see all of the spring sports in action. Walking around Manassas this past weekend gave me a glimpse of the many things that are and will be available to do in our community this spring.

One of the issues that I hear about in our community is parking. The consensus seems to be that we all love our vehicles and want to be able to park as close as possible to our homes, our work and the many places that we visit each week.

One misconception that I often hear concerns the parking deck off Prince William Street. This deck was originally proposed as a parking deck for commuter parking to ride the VRE into Washington, D.C. The City partnered in the construction of this facility to add two additional floors to serve the City of Manassas. Commuter parkers have priority in the mornings to park on the first three floors and there are some metered spaces that are also available for the general public and commuters. If you are coming into the Historic Manassas area for lunch, afternoon or evening shopping or dining, or on weekends there is no fee to use the parking deck. After 10 a.m. on weekdays all spaces in the Deck are open to anyone who wishes to park there.

Another area of parking concern is related to neighborhood parking. Several parking districts already exist in the City to limit public on-street parking to specific permit holders. Suggestions have been made to the Mayor and Council that we should expand parking restrictions to other parts of the City to discourage individuals that do not live in a particular neighborhood from parking in that neighborhood and to improve traffic safety along public streets and at intersections. A draft proposal for parking districts along the northern section of Liberia Avenue has been developed and public comments from residents are being reviewed. The draft is available online at www.manassascity.org/parking.

If you are in the City, I encourage you to take the time to support our local businesses. If you are able, I would also encourage you to take a walk on a spring day to enjoy your community. You never know what hidden treasures you might find that you may have overlooked if you are in a car.

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Water Quality Report

The 2013 Water Quality Report is available online at www.manassascity.org/waterqualityreport. For a printed copy of the report, contact the Utilities Department at 703-257-8245.

Used Musical Instrument Drive

Do you have a musical instrument laying unused around the house? The Osbourn High School Band Boosters are holding their 2nd annual community instrument drive. They will give these instruments a new home. Email 2013.2014ohsbanddirector@gmail.com or call 571-377-7019 for more information.

Get Ready for Great Events

They are coming, so mark your calendars now. On June 7, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. get ready for the 20th Annual Manassas Heritage Railway Festival in Historic Downtown Manassas. This family celebration of rich railroad history features train memorabilia, live entertainment, model trains and a host of information for the train enthusiast.

On July 4, 2014 from 4 - 10 p.m. Celebrate America in Historic Downtown Manassas with one of the largest fireworks displays in Northern Virginia! There will be live entertainment, kids rides, an apple pie baking contest and so much more.

Set a reminder for August 22 - 24 for the City’s Annual Civil War Weekend. Step back in time and experience Civil War events that transformed a sleepy railroad junction into a thriving camp and then a devastated landscape. Learn about the lives of soldiers and civilians as they faced hardship beyond measure. The weekend will feature military and medical demonstrations, African-American interpretation, period baseball games, music, food, a bourbon tasting, and a re-enactment remembering General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson’s 1862 raid on the railroad junction.
Outstanding New Emergency Management Professional

Amelia Gagnon, Emergency Management Planner for the City of Manassas, has been named Outstanding New Emergency Management Professional for 2014 by the Virginia Emergency Management Association. The award recognizes an emergency management professional who, at the time of the annual VEMA conference, has served 24-months or less in their position and who during that time has displayed enthusiasm and made specific accomplishments or improvements to the local program.

Amelia was hired in 2013 by the City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Department’s Prevention and Preparedness Division. In her short tenure, she has developed and presented training to all City departments on responsibilities for their emergency support functions. She coordinates the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at major annual city events and has recruited and trained other City employees to fill EOC positions. Amelia has also worked with Manassas City Public Schools on their safety initiatives.

“It takes spirit, dedication, and perseverance to change the course of an organization and Amelia has helped to do just that,” said Fire & Rescue Chief Brett Bowman. “With her fresh outlook and positive attitude, she has built bridges with other City departments and partner agencies and established relationships that are critical in an emergency situation.”

Two Officers Honored for Life Saving Events

A City of Manassas medic team arrived and determined that the baby was conscious. Medic Steven Schmid, one of the Fire and Rescue personnel on the scene, said that the CPR performed by Officer Cram revived the baby and increased the chances for survival. The medic team transported the infant to the NOVANT Prince William Emergency Room where doctors determined that it was in the best interest of the baby to be transported to INOVA Fairfax Hospital for further treatment.

Officer Cram’s quick thinking and knowledge of CPR saved this baby’s life. In a further act of compassion and concern, Officer Cram transported the family to the hospital.

Officer Cram applied his training and experience as an officer, as well as a parent, to jump into action without hesitation to save a life and comfort the family in a stressful situation.

On Feb. 14, 2014 at about 4 a.m., Officer R. L. McAndrews and Senior Police Officer (SPO) E. A. Bauckman responded to a City residence for a report of a male who was not breathing. CPR was in progress. The officers arrived within three minutes of the call and found a family member performing CPR on the 78-year-old man. The family member was exhausted and could not continue with CPR. SPO Bauckman stepped in to assist. She conducted a check of the victim’s vitals and found that he was not breathing and did not have a pulse. SPO Bauckman began administering CPR to the victim. After five minutes she observed the victim’s eyes blink. She paused and reassessed his condition. She found that he had a pulse and was breathing. Shortly after, Fire and Rescue units arrived on scene and transported the gentleman to the hospital.

Officer Bauckman’s quick response and knowledge of CPR played a significant role in saving this gentleman’s life. She went above and beyond what is required and helped to save the life of a City resident.

At the April 14 City Council Meeting, two Manassas City Police Officers received awards for saving the lives of City of Manassas Residents. Officer Trey Cram was presented with the Honorable Service Medal and the 2013 Employee of the Year Award. Senior Officer E. A. Bauckman received the Honorable Service Medal. Here are their stories.

On Feb. 26, 2013, the City of Manassas Public Safety Communications Center received a 911 call regarding a one-year-old child who was having difficulty breathing. Officer Trey Cram responded and realized that the baby was having a seizure. The child was unresponsive and not breathing. Officer Cram administered CPR, after which the baby began breathing on his own.
May 24, 12 p.m. - Manassas Museum. 
www.manassasmuseum.org


May 31, 7:30 p.m. - Manassas Chorale: Twentieth Anniversary Concert www.HyltonCenter.org

June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 12 p.m. - Enjoy a tour of Liberia Plantation with the cost of admission to the Manassas Museum www.manassasmuseum.org


June 1, 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk by author Garrett Peck - Capital Beer: A Heady History of Brewing in Washington, D.C. www.manassasmuseum.org

June 5, 2014 - Real Estate Taxes Due www.manassascity.org/tax

June 6, 5 - 9 p.m. - First Friday in Historic Downtown Manassas www.visitmanassas.org

June 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - 20th Annual Manassas Heritage Railway Festival www.visitmanassas.org

June 8, 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - Battle of Big Bethel by Michael Cobb, Edward Hicks & Wythe Holt www.manassasmuseum.org

June 10, 10 a.m. Pre-K Tuesday at the Manassas Museum www.manassasmuseum.org

June 15, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. - 10th Annual Manassas Wine and Jazz Festival www.visitmanassas.org

June 29, 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk with Author Canden Schwantes - Wild Women of Washington, D.C. www.manassasmuseum.org

July 4, 4 to 10 p.m. - Celebrate America in Historic Downtown Manassas. Food, fun, live entertainment and the Best Fireworks in Northern Virginia. www.visitmanassas.org

Get Social!
Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.

Help keep the City of Manassas beautiful by following these easy tips:

☑ Put your yard waste out Sunday evening for Monday pick up as crews are out bright and early. Do not put yard waste out mid-week because heavy rains or high winds could blow yard waste around.

☑ Use brown paper yard waste bags and hard sided containers for grass trimmings, leaves, weeds and small branches. Plastic bags do not compost.

☑ Bundle branches with twine in bundles no longer than four feet. Shorter branches are easier to lift and handle as they go into the grinder at the compost site.

Tree stumps, fallen trees, lawn furniture, ornaments, stones, rocks and dirt are not considered yard waste.

If you have any questions regarding yard waste, please contact Monica Boehringer, Refuse and Recycling Coordinator at 703-257-8252 or visit www.manassascity.org/trash.