



Economic Development is Booming in the City

Recently, Micron Technology, Inc., one of the world's largest semiconductor companies, announced it will invest \$3 billion to increase memory production at its operation here in the City of Manassas. This expansion will create 1,100 new high-tech, high-wage jobs further reinforcing the City's reputation as a regional hub for technology and advanced manufacturing industries.

The City has the fourth highest weekly wage rate for positions in career and technical services and the tenth highest weekly wage rate overall in Virginia. More than 20,000 people commute into Manassas each day for jobs at major businesses like BAE, Lockheed Martin, Novant Health/UVA Health Systems and Micron. The City's current unemployment rate is 2.5%, well below the state and national averages.

In a press release by Governor Ralph Northam, Mayor Harry J. Parrish



Il said "For almost two decades Micron and Manassas have been partners in the manufacturing of semiconductors and community development as the City was with IBM before them. The significant benefits that the company brings Manassas by virtue of their employment and investment help us make advances in public education,

infrastructure development and in maintaining a stable tax rate for all of our citizens. On behalf of our entire community I am thrilled that Micron has chosen to modernize and expand operations here, which will guarantee the relationship continues into the future."

City Leadership Academy Graduates

In September, a group of City residents signed up for and attended the first City of Manassas Leadership Academy (CLA). This academy was designed to give residents a look into City government and how it works.

Over the course of five weeks, these residents heard from the City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, Public Safety (both Fire & Rescue and Manassas City Police), Public Works, Utilities, the Manassas Regional Airport, Economic Development, Community Development and Parks, Culture and Recreation. On the final evening, the capstone project was deciding on a budget for the City.

The class was broken into two "City Councils" and were given guidelines and parameters to create their budgets.

This was the first year for this class and the City hopes to offer it each fall for interested residents.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

Is 2018 really almost over? November reminds us again to look back and be thankful for the many blessings that we have received over the past year and in many previous years. Veterans Day is one of those ways that we remember many who have sacrificed through service to grant us the freedoms that we all too often take for granted. Attending the annual Veterans Day parade in Manassas is one of the ways we can express our gratitude to those who have worn the uniform of military service. We can also attend the Santa Lights Manassas (Nov. 30) and Christmas Parade (Dec. 1) that honors local volunteers who give all year long to the community.

I am also thankful for the many City employees who are living the City values of customer service, honesty, integrity, stewardship, respect and teamwork. Forty-seven employees were recognized this month due to nominations by citizens or their peers for going above and beyond in making a difference for those of us who live and work in the City. The highest level recognition, the "Above and Beyond Award," went to two individuals this year. Fire and Rescue Master Tech Rebecca Wilson was recognized for the teamwork and respect that she exhibits while coordinating efforts in the Fire and Rescue Department to help families in need during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Permit Technician, Chris Hogan was recognized for her work this

past year in Development Services in providing overall outstanding customer service and in particular helping to provide a smooth transition for customers to a new software system.

Congratulations to each of those employees who were nominated for the Servants Heart award and City Beat award this year.

As you can see elsewhere in the "City Connection" we recently held the first City Leadership Academy for City residents interested in learning more about the inner workings of City government. These individuals spent one evening a week for five weeks learning about things such as what is in the City Charter, how is our form of government different from other localities, when does the City receive the most public safety calls, how does the City read utility meters, what help does the City provide to existing businesses, how to get a tour of City parks, what kinds of parks are under consideration and how long it takes to create the City budget.

On the final evening, the participants actually considered requests from departments along with revenue estimates from the Finance Department and had to come to a decision as a "mock council" on what to include in a future City budget. It was heartening to see all of these individuals give of their time to learn about what it takes to make the City work. If this is something you don't want to miss next year, look for the registration forms when they come out next fall.

It is really a joy to live and work in such a family friendly place as Manassas. We can all be thankful during this season of Thanksgiving for our families, for the public servants that keep us safe and secure both here at home and abroad and for the many community volunteers who give of their time to improve and promote the community. I am always proud when I hear the City recognized by visitors and locals alike for the positive impressions seen and experienced due to the efforts of citizens and staff to showcase our "Historic Heart and Modern Beat."

Happy Thanksgiving!



Thanksgiving Trash & Recycling

There will be no trash and recycling collection on Thursday, November 22, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. If your trash or recycling collection falls on Thursday or Friday, your services will be delayed by one day. If your trash or recycling collection falls on Thursday, service will be provided on Friday; if your collection is on Friday, service will be provided on Saturday.

LET'S TALK MANASSAS



Visit www.LetsTalkManassas.org and join the Community Conversations on land use and development, transportation, parks, rec and culture, economic development, housing and neighborhoods, and infrastructure and facilities.

These conversations will be used to shape the future of the City of

Manassas. The City has been collecting citizen input over the last year through Community Conversations and the www.LetsTalkManassas.org website. Share the site with friends and neighbors and know that by taking just a few minutes out of your busy day, you can have an impact on the future of this City.

Your opinion matters, and your comments will be incorporated into the final Community Conversations report. The City's Comprehensive Plan, which will be completed in 2019 and goes through to the year 2040, will be shaped by this input. Be heard! Visit www.LetsTalkManassas.org

Recycling and Trash Notes

Why Schedule Bulk Waste Collection?

Mattresses, sofas, shelves and exercise equipment ... people go through a lot of things! So, why is there a rule against setting these items out with the trash on trash day?

In the City of Manassas, residents are permitted to set out items that do not fit into their trash carts (also known as "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.

Residents are required to schedule bulk waste collection so the City can ensure that what is being set out can be collected by the trash service. Scheduling also provides residents with the confirmation that the bulk waste will be collected on time - keeping the streets clean and safe.

Setting out bulk waste is as easy as:

- Calling (703) 257-8252 at least 24 hours before your trash collection day.
- Reporting what you have to schedule for collection.
- Setting bulk waste out the night before your collection day.

Please note that there is a maximum of three bulk waste items per collection.

Did you know that setting out unscheduled bulk waste could result in a fine? Bulk waste in our community is not only an eyesore; it can cause damage to property and be harmful to the environment, passing motorists and pedestrians. Violators could receive a fine of up to \$3000 for setting out unscheduled bulk waste and items containing hazardous chemicals. The City provides free hazardous waste drop off days almost every month. Visit www.manassascity.org/trash for more information.

Holiday Trash and Recycling

The holiday season is almost here and with all of the giving, receiving, feasting and decorating comes some additional trash and recycling at the curb. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, the amount of trash produced in the United States increases by an estimated 25%—that's about one million extra tons of garbage every week.

Here are a few tips to help you get through the holidays:

- Check trash and recycling carts for

damage and order replacements before the holidays.

- Call the Trashline at (703) 257-8252 with the serial number of your current cart and they will help you schedule your cart replacement.
- Cardboard is a very valuable recycling item. Make sure to remove all the packing material and flatten boxes for recycling collection. Styrofoam, plastic packing bags and plastic wrapping cannot be collected as curbside recycling.
- Set aside a box or bin to make recycling easier for your guests. By making it easier for your guests to recycle, clean-up can be easier too.
- Make sure to set trash and recycling out the night before collection day. Leaving trash and recycling out at the curb all week long can put a damper on everyone's holiday. Being a good neighbor means being good about trash and recycling too!

The City of Manassas is always here to help with information about trash and recycling. Visit: www.manassascity.org/trash or call (703) 257-8252.

The City of Manassas Happenings

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

Through October 20 - Free **Historic Downtown Walking Tours**, Saturdays at 3 p.m.

www.visitmanassas.org



Farmer's Market - Thursdays & Saturdays - 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thursdays under the Harris Pavilion, Saturdays on Prince William Street.

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 3, 11 a.m. - **10th Annual Veterans Day Parade**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to noon - **RecycleFest** - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off. Shredding and more

www.manassascity.org/trash



Nov. 3, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **Fall Bazaar & Rummage Sale** at the Manassas Senior Center



Nov. 4 - **Daylight Saving Time** - Set your clocks back one hour and don't forget to check the batteries in your smoke alarms!



Nov. 6 - **Election Day** - Vote

www.visitmanassas.org/vote



Nov. 7 - Dec. 12 - **Nuts & Bolts**, NOVA Community College Faculty Art Exhibit

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 11, 1:30 p.m. - Free Manassas Museum Book Talk: **Hell Comes to Southern Maryland: The Story of the Point Lookout Prison and Hammond General Hospital**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 14, 3 p.m. - **Stories of Preservation and Progress**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 24 - **Shop Small Saturday**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 24 - Dec. 9 - **A Christmas Carol** by Rooftop Productions @Center for the Arts

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 30 - Dec. 31 - **Deck the Museum**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 30, 5-8 p.m. - **Holiday Open House at the Manassas Museum**

www.visitmanassas.org



Nov. 30, 5:15 p.m. - **Santa Lights Manassas** - Meet Santa as he comes to town by VRE then lights the tree on the Museum Lawn.

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 1, 10 a.m. - **73rd Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade**

gmchristmasparade.org



Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. - Manassas Chorale **"Silver Noel" Winter Concert** @Hylton Performing Arts Center

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **We Once Met By Chance: Four Life Stories of American Civil War**

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 5 - Feb. 24 - New Exhibit: **True Sons of Freedom** - at the Manassas Museum - See the Library of Virginia photographic exhibit that features images of African American soldiers from Virginia who served in World War I.

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 7 - **Jolly Ol' Confections** - Visit the shops and get sweet treats for this holiday First Friday

www.visitmanassas.org

❖❖❖ Dec. 8 - **Holidays of the Past at Liberia House** (tickets required)

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 8, 10 a.m to 4 p.m. - **Holiday Market on the Manassas Museum Lawn** - unique gifts, hot chocolate and seasonal music to get you in the spirit of the season

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 9, 1-4 p.m. - GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas **Holiday House Tour**

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. - **Stories of Preservation and Progress**

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 12 - 16 - **Winter Wonderland Model Train Show** @Candy Factory - The National Capital Trackers set up their O gauge trains amid an elaborate winter fantasy background for the annual display

www.visitmanassas.org



Dec. 13-23 - **The Nutcracker** by the Manassas Ballet Theatre

www.visitmanassas.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

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www.instagram.com/cityofmanassas

www.youtub.com/user/manassascityva

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