What’s Happening at Annaburg?

As you may have noticed, work has begun on the stabilization of Annaburg Manor on Maple Street. The circa 1892 manor house and property was purchased by the City of Manassas last year to be used as a public park. Recently the City Council determined to use some of the proceeds from the sale of land at the Landing at Cannon Branch to install a new, historically accurate slate roof on the manor house and repair the original cornice and gutter system.

The exterior of the manor house will be cleaned and a variety of painting options are being considered. This will not only stabilize the manor house, preventing further deterioration, but improve the appearance of the house for the community.

The work on Annaburg Manor is expected to last through the fall and is being done by The Durable Restoration Company. This company is highly skilled in preserving and restoring historical buildings and landmarks. Additionally, the Department of Community Development will host an appropriately physically distanced community meeting on the grounds of the manor in the early part of the fall where there will be an opportunity to hear from preservationists working on the project.

If you have questions or would like to be notified about opportunities for learning more about the project, please email Liz Via-Gossman at evia-gossman@manassasva.gov
Last month I celebrated my birthday. It was not a big year ending in a zero or even a five. It was on a Thursday, so it was a workday filled with typical things. There were virtual meetings, phone calls, issues to respond to, concerns to address from Council, citizens and my co-workers. My family gathered for a dinner of things that I love to eat. I am not a particularly sentimental person, but it was a good day like so many birthdays before and hopefully many more to come.

Birthdays allow us to take stock of the year that has passed and prepare for the year to come. We can generally be thankful that we have made it through another year. This is especially true if we are following the old proverb and working towards being more healthy, wealthy and wise.

Health is far too easy to take for granted. Health gives us the ability to have life and a quality of life worth living. Health for me comes in several forms. We often think of physical health and a goal I wrote for myself many years ago was to be able to dance at the weddings of my grandchildren. A lofty goal since I still don’t have any grandchildren or even daughters-in-laws. I also include mental and spiritual health in my mind under the term of being healthy. I suspect it goes back to my many years of reciting the scout oath including the phrase, “to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.”

Wealth is tougher to determine. It is often equated with possessions or money, but I think it is more complex. I see wealth as more of an abundance of valuable goods or resources that have great value to you. It could be a wealth of knowledge, fortune, or good friends. As was said in speaking about the pursuit of money in an old movie, “You can’t take it with you, Mr. Kirby. So, what good is it? As near as I can see, the only thing you can take with you is the love of your friends.” Through my life experiences I have seen many individuals without significant material possessions who have a wealth that I can only aspire to emulate.

That leads me to being wise. I see wisdom as the ability to use the collective knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight that a society has developed in the pursuit of choices that are beneficial and productive for society. Being wise is hard work. It is much easier to understand what is good for us (exercise and a good diet for example) than it is to follow through with applying that understanding in our everyday life. It is much easier to tell others what you think they should be doing, as every parent can attest.

So, if you are still reading this you may be wondering where is this going. As I look at the City of Manassas, I see a community with a strong diversity of backgrounds, ethnicities, opinions and ideas. The City is a community that is financially healthy; has a wealth of resources and talented people; and is seeking to use our collective wisdom to move the community forward. As we approach the 150th birthday of the City of Manassas in 2023, will we be able to look at our past and say we have made the progress that we wanted towards being a more healthy, wealthy and wise community?

I hope so, because birthdays are a good time to take stock of where we have been and make plans for the future to come.

Good news in the City

Did you know... 

That the bathrooms at City parks are now open? It’s true. Now, when you are spending a morning or afternoon with the kids at one of our 16 parks you can use the facilities if you need to. Good news!

Manassas Library

Great news! In anticipation of our very own branch of the Prince William Public Library System in the City. A “Friends of the Manassas City Library” is forming now in order to support future activities at the branch which will open later this year and be located at the Wellington Shopping Center on Dumfries Road. If you are interested in becoming a general member of the Friends or taking an active role as board members, please contact Connie Gilman at 703-335-5267 or conniewg51@gmail.com. All are welcomed!

Voting

Did you know... 

With COVID-19 still in our midst and social distancing still a good practice to observe, you can vote absentee for the presidential election. All registered voters who wish to vote in the November general election can request an absentee ballot by visiting www.manassascity.org/vote. Once the ballots are received in the voter registration and elections office, you may appear in person and vote or you may vote from your home. Either way, your vote is counted.
Share the Road

Warm weather brings out more pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. The Manassas City Police Department encourages everyone to follow these tips so we can all share the road safely!

Tips for Drivers
- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks
- Slow down and don’t drive distracted
- Yield to bicyclists and pedestrians when turning
- Allow three feet when passing bicyclists
- Don’t pass a stopped vehicle
- Always wear your seatbelt!

Tips for Pedestrians
- Plan a route with safe crossings
- Cross in well-lit areas with the best view of traffic
- Dress to be seen, but never assume drivers see you
- Walk on sidewalks facing traffic
- If there’s no sidewalk, walk facing traffic
- Watch for cars backing up, especially in parking lots and driveways

Tips for Bicyclists
- Ride with Traffic
- Stop and look both ways before entering the street
- Use hand signals when turning
- Ride defensively—anticipate actions of drivers and watch for hazards

For more information and safety tips visit https://tzdva.org.

Trash & Recycling Notes

Bulk Waste/Large Item Collection

Beginning Aug. 1, 2020 – the City will schedule all bulk waste/large item collections for the Thursday trash and recycling route on Wednesdays. This measure will reduce the volume of bulk waste/large items left out at the curb outside the collection period, encourage residents to call and schedule their items for collection, and support our contractor now working with a reduced staff due to ongoing issues stemming from outbreaks of COVID-19.

Please call the Trashline at (703) 257-8252 during regular office hours to schedule bulk waste/large item collections.

Have Your Say on the future of Trash and Recycling in the City of Manassas

Now is your opportunity to contribute your thoughts and ideas on trash and recycling as we set our goals and objectives for the next 20 years. The Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is a document that helps the City develop ways to manage the trash and recycling program. We plan for the future by looking at what we have done so far. We also think about how our community will grow and the new technologies that may be available to help us improve recycling and reduce the amount of trash going to landfill.

Please take a moment to review our Draft Solid Waste Management Plan and then tell us what you think by completing a short online survey. The information that we receive will help us improve trash and recycling services for the City of Manassas.

Visit www.manassascity.org/trash for more information.

Rent the Courtesy Truck for your bigger home projects

Did you know that you can rent a City truck? The Courtesy Truck is a working Street Department truck that is rented to residents who need to dispose of their bigger yard waste or DIY projects. The truck is delivered at the end of the working day (3pm) – you load the truck – and the crew comes by to pick it up the following morning at the start of the day (7am) to dispose of it. For more information on how to rent the Courtesy Truck visit: www.manassascity.org/trash or call (703) 257-8256.
The City of Manassas Happenings

Find these events and more at www.visitmanassas.org or www.facebook.com/harrispavilion.

Farmer’s Markets on Thursdays and Saturdays are now open. Don’t forget your face masks.


Tuesdays, 8 a.m., - Virtual Hands-On History – facebook.com/cityofmanassasleisure.

Wednesdays at Noon, - Facebook Live Spotlight Talks - facebook.com/cityofmanassasleisure.

Thursdays, now - Sept. 10 at 8 a.m. – United States Navy Band Instruments from a distance virtual performance; facebook.com/HarrisPavilion.

Thursdays, now - Sept. 3 at 5:30 p.m. (weather permitting) – Historic Downtown Manassas Walking Tours from the Manassas Museum. manassasches.com or call 703-257-8453.

Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Tender Polman.

Aug. 11 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Ashleigh Chevalier.

Aug. 15 at 8 p.m. - Virtual Saturday Night Concert featuring Justified.

Aug. 16 at 3 p.m. - Virtual Sunday Concert - Washington Balalaika Society.

Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Timmie Metz.

Aug. 23 at 3 p.m. - Virtual Sunday Concert with the Prince William Community Band.

Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Shane Hines.

Sept. 1 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Shane Gamble.

Sept. 5, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off day at the Manassas Transfer Station, 8305 Quarry Road.

Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Jason Teach.

Aug. 31 at 3 p.m. - Virtual Sunday Concert with the Prince William Community Band.

Sept. 7 at 8 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring the Prince William Community Band.

Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. - Town Hall Meeting (if conditions allow) @ Manassas Regional Airport, 10600 Harry Parrish Blvd.

Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring James Shaffer.

Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Joe Downer.

Oct. 3, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off day at the Manassas Transfer Station, 8305 Quarry Road.

Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Acoustic Tuesday featuring Shane Gamble.

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

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Vice Mayor
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To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email pprince@manassasva.gov.

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