Fire & Rescue Station 21 Opens

Manassas Fire and Rescue Station 21 at 10306 Dumfries Road is now open and will help get firefighters and emergency medical technicians to emergencies across the City more quickly.

The new station is the first fire and rescue facility to open in the City since the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad (GMVRS) opened its station on Center Street in 1970, and the Manassas Volunteer Fire Company opened Station 1 on Centreville Road in 1956. Both of those facilities will continue to serve the community.

Fire and Rescue Chief William Garrett says the new station will help decrease emergency response times across the City. “For many years, as the City has grown, there has been a need for better coverage and response times for parts of our City, especially the southeastern side of the City. The location of new Station 21, along with Station 1, will allow better coverage and better response times throughout the City.”

“A fire and rescue station means more to a community than fighting fires and saving lives – it means safety,” Manassas Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger said at the May 14 ribbon cutting. “Feeling safe in our community is what we all hope for, and with the opening of Station 21, I know I feel safer in the knowledge that should I need them, these ladies and gentlemen will be on their way quickly and with the equipment they need to render that aid."

The new station includes a four-story tower used for physical and special operations training, and a vehicle extrication pad that enables fire and rescue personnel to practice rescue operations onsite. In a nod to a feature often seen in historical fire houses, the station includes two fire poles, which will be used to reduce response time and reduce the potential for injury when firefighters are responding from the second floor of the station. A new diesel exhaust system will also remove harmful pollutants in the apparatus bays.

The City of Manassas Fire and Rescue System includes the career department established in 2008, GMVRS, founded in 1965, and the Manassas Volunteer Fire Company, founded in 1892.

Emergency responses in the City have come a long way since citizens who formed Company 1 of the Manassas Volunteer Fire Company in 1892 relied on three locomotive wheel rims as their fire alarms, and stashed ladders and buckets under the railroad depot. “Staff is excited about the modern updates that Station 21 will provide, as well as the improved service delivery they can then provide to citizens. It is a more inviting environment for both staff, volunteers, and the community. Also, there is safer egress from the station," Chief Garrett says.

Fire and Rescue Station 21 is home to Battalion Chief 581, Medic 521, Rescue Engine 521, and Ambulance 521B. The career department will staff three shifts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. GMVRS will provide additional staffing in the evening and on weekends. In addition to its 10 square mile response area, the system offers automatic aid with other Northern Virginia partnering agencies.

The 21,916 square foot, four-bay station, which is located on a 3.5-acre site, was a Capital Improvement Project initiated in 2016 after studies showed the need for enhanced emergency response times across the City. Construction of the $15.4 million project began in 2019.
A Moment with the Mayor

Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger

In this month when we honor Dads, I am thankful to celebrate my dear old Dad. Most people know he was born on the Jennie Dean site, has been a lifelong Manassas resident, and is now 87 years young.

When I think of everything my Dad has endured, there are three words that come to mind: Strength, Courage and Wisdom…he really is all three of those things. He was the one who taught me to read and to ride a bike, and encouraged me in whatever adventures I was getting into. He gave me my quick wit and sense of humor, and he’s still pretty sharp! I not only wish him a Happy Father’s Day but wish he and my Mom a happy 62nd wedding anniversary in June as well!

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY to all Dads, Step-Dads, Brothers, Uncles, and Like-a-Dads! Please kick back, relax and enjoy your special day because you deserve every minute of it.

June is also such a great month for family gatherings and high school and college graduations. Although I don’t have any graduations this year in my immediate family, we’re looking forward to next year when my daughter will graduate from Osbourn High School.

Congratulations to all of this year’s grads, from kindergarten to college!

Representing the City when meeting with various businesses, and meeting and speaking with our residents is the highlight of many days. Recently I was the guest speaker for the Bull Run Rotary Club, and I took a flight over the City thanks to Commonwealth Aviation. We welcomed Governor Northam, who visited our successful vaccine clinic, and I visited Lockheed Martin and learned about their T.A.L.E.N.T. (Training Aspiring Locals to Engineer a New Tomorrow) Apprentice program.

Please follow the City on Facebook or by getting on the website www.manassasva.gov to get information on all of the events happening in and around the City, especially since some of the COVID restrictions will be relaxed. I look forward to seeing you!

Register for Curbside Composting

The City of Manassas is working in partnership with Compost Crew to introduce residential curbside collection of compost in July. Interested residents will be able to opt-in to the service, and work directly with Compost Crew, an area business that provides food scrap collections for thousands of area homes and businesses.

Residents who participate in the program will receive information on what can be composted, a bin for their food scraps, bin liners, and compost for their gardens! Visit our website: manassasva.gov/trash to register or call Compost Crew for more information on (301) 202-4450.

Summer Clean Up

It’s a great time to clean up your property and keep our neighborhoods beautiful. Here are two tips to help with your cleaning!

- Grass grows quickly this time of year. Best practice is to keep lawns trimmed at 2-3 inches - over 12 inches is a violation.
- Clear your property of trash, yard waste, debris, and litter to keep our community clean and safe.

Call 703-257-8424 or visit www.manassasva.gov/propertycode to report a violation.
As we enter the 2021 summer season, it is great to see the continued growth in the number of individuals that have been vaccinated for COVID-19 and the tide turning towards a return to normal activities in all of our lives. That will be a real boost for summer vacation plans and activities. If you are still considering getting vaccinated, I encourage you to seek reputable and trustworthy information on the vaccines and speak to others that have been proactive in getting vaccinated. Each individual who is vaccinated reduces the possibility of the virus continuing to spread and will help keep this virus in check.

As restrictions on gatherings continue to be lifted, you will begin to see more and more of the activities returning that make Manassas such a special place. Festivals such as the Railway and Jazz Festivals along with a new Bee Festival are planned for June. July 4th will feature our traditional fireworks display (which as we all know is the best in Northern Virginia). Outdoor dining, shopping and events like First Friday continue to draw folks to the downtown. As you are comfortable getting back out to shop and celebrate life’s special moments, Manassas is ready to welcome you back!

As you are enjoying the outdoors this month, I have a couple of suggestions for you to check out. If you have not seen the Jennie Dean Memorial at 9601 Wellington Road, visit this fascinating site in front of Dean School that tells the story of the Manassas Industrial School and the many individuals who were educated because of Ms. Jennie Dean. There are also many walking trails in the park, as well as several new trails like the ones at Metz and Oakenshaw that have been added to the City network.

You can stop by Annaburg Manor Park at 9201 Maple Street and see the efforts being made to protect the historic structure and imagine the ways this park can be enhanced for use by the community. Come by the Manassas Museum to see the improvements planned for this site in preparation for the 150th anniversary of Manassas in 2023 and give us your thoughts on how the site can be used in the future.

Stonewall Pool at 8351 Stonewall Road will be open this summer and you can check out the recent improvements and enhancements that have been made over the past couple of years to this facility. Stop by and see the restored cupola on the Parrish Town Hall at 9025 Center Street which was built in 1914 and is also the site of the first fire station in the Greater Manassas region. The Harris Pavilion at 9201 Center Street will also return to hosting events this summer as the restrictions related to the pandemic are lifted. This is also the site of the Thursday morning Farmer’s Market. The Saturday Farmer’s Market is held at 9024 Prince William Street and is consistently rated as one of, if not the best, Farmer’s Markets in our area.

If you have not seen it, I would encourage you to check out the brand-new Fire and Rescue Station #21 at 10306 Dumfries Road. This is a truly outstanding state-of-the-art facility that will serve the community, the Fire and Rescue Department and the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad for decades. Dispatch calls for service began running in May from this facility.

As you travel along Grant Avenue near the historic downtown you will also see the Public Safety Center taking shape at 9608 Grant Avenue. This facility will house the Police Department, Fire and Rescue Administration, Emergency Management and Information Technology staff. This long-anticipated structure will also provide decades of usage to the community and serve as a cornerstone for the revitalization of this corridor.

Finally, I hope that you have had a chance to visit the Manassas Public Library that opened at 10104 Dumfries Road. This new branch library offers a full range of library services and a gateway to library services throughout the region. What would summer be without a good book to read?

This summer is going to be a great time to be in Manassas. Be safe and enjoy!

W. Patrick Pate
The City of Manassas Happenings

Find these events and more in the City of Manassas, Virginia. For more information go to www.visitmanassas.org.

Farmer’s Market for the Season: Thursday Farmer’s Market at the Harris Pavilion and Saturday Farmer’s Market on Prince William Street Commuter Lot - Hours for both are 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Now - June 5 - In-person Absentee Early Voting for Democratic Primary Election, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

June 1 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday Concert with David Andrew Smith at the Harris Pavilion

June 4- December 31 – Manassas Faces, a new exhibit at the Manassas Museum

June 4 from 4-7 p.m. - Power of Partnership, Prince William Chamber of Commerce Hispanic Council event at the Harris Pavilion

June 5 from 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste Dropoff Day

June 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - 26th Annual Manassas Heritage Railway Festival

June 7 at 1 p.m. – Join in fun community activities as the Manassas Library branch celebrates its opening - 10104 Dumfries Rd

Beginning June 7 at the ARTfactory – Dance, Theatre, and Art Classes: www.virginiaartfactory.org

June 8 from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. - Democratic Party Primary Election

June 8 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday Concert with Patty Reese

June 10-August 17 – Printmaking Art Exhibit at the ARTfactory

June 12, July 10 and August 14 at 10 and 11 a.m. – Liberia House Tours

June 13 at 3 p.m. - Sunday Funday Concert with the The U.S. Navy Band Cruisers at the Harris Pavilion

June 14-August 15 - Prince William Public Libraries Summer Reading 2021: Tails and Tales - Register at Manassas Library or at pwcvva.gov/library

June 15 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday Concert with Andrew O’Day at the Harris Pavilion

June 19 from noon to 7 p.m. - 16th Annual Jazz Festival on the Museum lawn

June 20 - Father’s Day

June 20 at 3 p.m. - Sunday Funday Concert at the Harris Pavilion with the Prince William Community Band

Beginning June 21 - Art and Nature Camps from the ARTfactory www.virginiaartfactory.org

June 22 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday Concert with Among the Willows

June 24, July 22 and August 26 at 5:30 p.m. – Downtown Walking Tours from the Manassas Museum

June 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Manassas Bee Festival at Liberia House & Grounds

June 29 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday Concert with Shane Gamble at the Harris Pavilion

June 30 at 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation & Progress Talk from the Manassas Museum

Support your favorite Manassas restaurants and businesses with a digital HEART BEAT gift card!

• Send a Heart Beat card to a friend or associate (they make great teacher’s and coach’s gifts!).
• Sign up your business to accept the Heart Beat Gift Card.
• Begin using the Heart Beat Gift Card for company rewards programs.
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Want to pre-order your City of Manassas 150th Anniversary license plate? Visit cityofmanassas.recdesk.com

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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Vice Mayor Pamela J. Sebesky 571-330-5514
Theresa Coates Ellis 571-247-6729
David Farajollahi 703-209-6320
Tom Osina 571-621-4069
Ralph J. Smith 703-303-8530
Mark D. Wolfe 703-257-1702

City of Manassas School Board
Chairman Sanford S. Williams 571-535-6364
Christina S. Brooks 703-241-0918
Tim Demeria 703-895-4856
Carl Hollingsworth Jr. 703-789-2224
Suzanne W. Seaberg 703-869-1171
Lisa A. Stevens 571-535-0652
Robyn Williams 571-535-7510


July 4 from 3 – 10 p.m. - Celebrate America with Fireworks, First Friday celebration, and yard decorating contest www.visitmanassas.org

July 10 from 8 a.m.-noon - Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Drop-off Day at the Manassas Transfer Station

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