

CITY CONNECTION



Interim City Council Member

On Monday, Aug. 12, 2019, Ralph J. Smith was selected by unanimous vote as the Interim City Council Member on the Manassas City Council. He will serve on City Council as Interim until the November election can be certified.

Council Member Smith has lived in the City for nearly 40 years. He has served as an Election Official at the Round precinct for 20 of those years.

Mr. Smith has a long history of service to the community. He has been recognized with the Prince William County Human Rights Award and by the Library of Congress for community service. He is a board member for the American Red Cross and past president of the Prince William chapter of the NAACP.

Council Member Smith graduated from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

Mr. Smith was a Senior Executive at the Social Security Administration in Falls Church, Virginia. He served as a resource person and national spokesperson on issues related to policy and procedures for administrative hearings, appeals, and civil actions in claims for Social Security Benefits.



Courtesy Truck Season Ends September 30

For many years City residents have been renting the City's "Courtesy Truck" for those times when City residents have large amounts of household trash, yard waste, or construction debris for disposal. These three working Street Department trucks have been actively helping residents dispose of more than 66 tons of unwanted household trash this year alone. As we head into leaf collection season and winter months, the trucks will be fitted with equipment that will allow them to pick up leaves and remove ice and snow from our streets. The trucks will be available for rental again in April. For more information please visit: www.manassascity.org/trash.

Election Officers Wanted

Do you want to help out on Election Day, Nov. 5? The City of Manassas Registrar's Office is looking for Election Officials for the November election.

If you are a qualified voter in Virginia, do not hold political office and are not related to or employed by an elected official, you can sign up. You will be paid for training and your time on election day. Find out more at www.manassascity.org/vote.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

It seems like we are being bombarded on a daily basis with negative news, hyperbolic social media posts, conspiracy theories and the list goes on. Unfortunately, we are faced with almost daily tragedies and unimaginable events/revelations that shake to the core our beliefs in shared values and civic pride. It makes you wonder if we are still a nation that believes in the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

Fortunately for me, in the midst of regular public safety watch bulletins and news feeds, I also get to see and hear firsthand the many positive things that are also happening in our community. Let me share just a few examples with you this month.

A routine question that I hear revolves around the construction activity going on in town and in particular with the Micron expansion. If you have driven near Godwin and Nokesville you can really see how quickly the landscape is changing with the \$3 billion expansion that will create 1,100 new jobs in the City. Also in this area you can see the start of a new commercial building and a Tru by Hilton hotel that are under construction across from the new residential development on Gateway Drive. Other areas in Northern Virginia may be talking about big projects but you can actually see projects taking shape in Manassas!

Another example comes from the Manassas City Public Schools. If you

are not aware, this year the General Assembly gave some flexibility to schools on start dates so the MCPS decided to start earlier to create better timeframes for student learning and achievement. This meant that the turnaround time for getting ready for the start of school was shortened by several weeks in addition to some significant school renovation projects. While the Superintendent talked about the great job that the maintenance staff had done getting these projects completed for the start of the school year, all of the teachers stood and applauded the job that these folks had done to get the school buildings ready for the school year. When I walk into the school buildings I can see the pride that these folks take in the role they play of providing a good educational environment for all of our students.

Every day I hear examples of how City employees have gone above and beyond to provide services to someone in the community. This month we are recognizing about 70 city workers with “above and beyond” awards for letters we have received from individuals recognizing them for outstanding customer service or commitment to the community. It might be an officer responding to an emergency call and helping resolve a crisis or save a life, a field worker responding to a service issue to make sure that services are available to a family or even the recognition of a friendly voice on the phone helping a citizen find the correct information that they need to resolve an issue. All of these are calls I have received this week. It is uplifting to hear the appreciation that citizens have when they receive outstanding service.

As I have told you before, I am always impressed with volunteerism in this City. Recently seven citizens offered themselves up to City Council as being willing to serve as Interim City Council member to fill the Ken Elston vacancy until the November election. It was a proud moment in August when a standing room only crowd was on hand to see Ralph J. Smith appointed unanimously by City Council and then

sworn in as the Interim Council Member to fill this role until the November election. Councilmember Smith went to work learning about City government before he was even sworn in and participated in a Council work session the same night that he was appointed. He brings a wealth of knowledge along with new perspectives and experiences to the City Council. When you see him I hope that you will take the opportunity to thank him for taking on this role serving the community and thank the other individuals that were willing to give of their time and talent to serve the City.

These examples which represent the core values of our community, along with many more examples that I have not mentioned, give me great hope for the future of the City of Manassas. Despite some difficulties that will inevitably arise, great opportunities are in store for this community as we approach our 150th anniversary in 2023.

Fall Yard Waste Collection

As the leaves begin to fall, and you begin to prepare your garden for the winter, please remember these Monday yard waste collection rules:

- Use paper biodegradable yard waste bags or private containers. (Do not use plastic bags.)
- Keep the weight of your bags or containers below 50 lbs.
- All branches or limbs set out as Yard Waste are not longer than four feet in length and three inches in diameter and be bundled and tied for collection.
- Secure yard waste and brush to prevent everything from being scattered by wind.
- Do not put dirt, compost, wood chips, sand or treated wood out as yard waste.

Finally, all garden gnomes will be treated as casual observers and not collected as yard waste.

Visit www.manassascity.org/ leaves to get more information about leaf collection in your area.



FALL LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE 2019-2020

Tips for leaf collection:

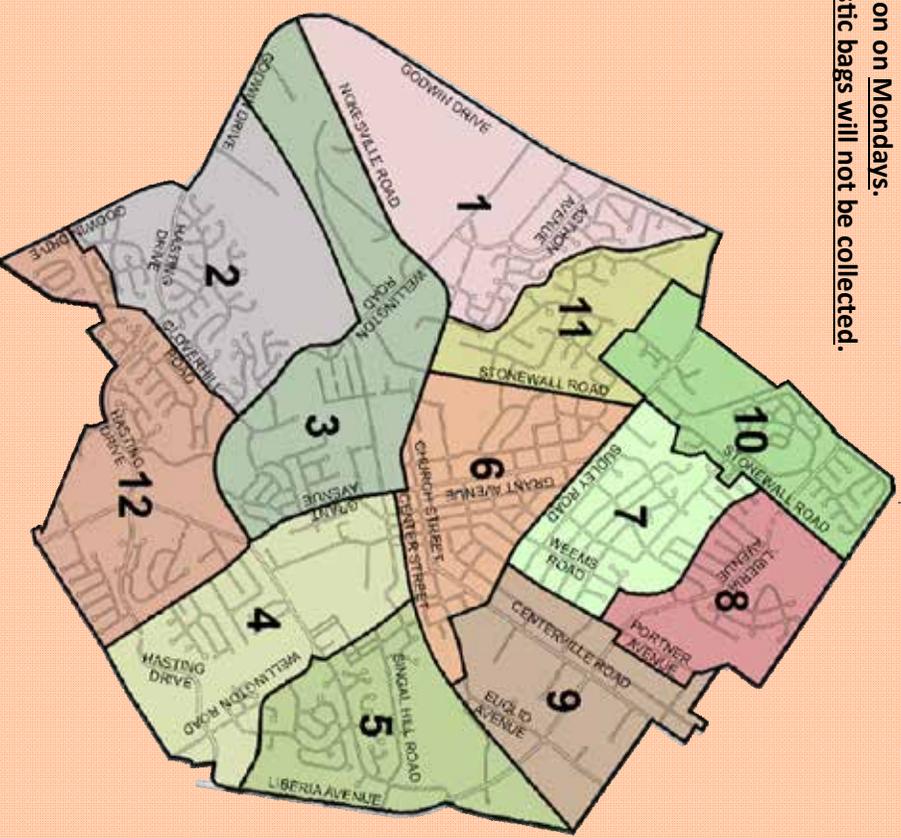
1. Make sure you follow the collection schedule for your area. Leaves will only be collected one time during each scheduled collection period. If you have missed your collection, please wait until the next time your street is scheduled.
2. Rake the leaves to the edge of the street or sidewalk. Leaves that are out of reach or on private property will not be collected.
3. Do not rake leaves into or near the storm drains.
4. Do not park your car or allow children to play in the leaves once they are ready for collection.
5. Leaves can also be set out in paper yard waste bags or private containers for yard waste collection on Mondays.
6. Leaves in plastic bags will not be collected.

Section 1	Section 5	Section 9
Oct 28 - Nov 1	Oct 21 - Oct 25	Oct 28 - Nov 1
Nov 18 - Nov 22	Nov 12 - Nov 15	Nov 18 - Nov 22
Dec 16 - Dec 20	Dec 9 - Dec 13	Dec 16 - Dec 20
Jan 13 - Jan 17	Jan 6 - Jan 10	Jan 13 - Jan 17
Section 2	Section 6	Section 10
Oct 28 - Nov 1	Oct 28 - Nov 1	Oct 15 - Oct 18
Nov 18 - Nov 22	Nov 18 - Nov 22	Nov 4 - Nov 8
Dec 16 - Dec 20	Dec 16 - Dec 20	Dec 2 - Dec 6
Jan 13 - Jan 17	Jan 13 - Jan 17	Dec 30 - Jan 3
Section 3	Section 7	Section 11
Oct 21 - Oct 25	Oct 15 - Oct 18	Oct 21 - Oct 25
Nov 12 - Nov 15	Nov 4 - Nov 8	Nov 12 - Nov 15
Dec 9 - Dec 13	Dec 2 - Dec 6	Dec 9 - Dec 13
Jan 6 - Jan 10	Dec 30 - Jan 3	Jan 6 - Jan 10
Section 4	Section 8	Section 12
Oct 15 - Oct 18	Oct 15 - Oct 18	Oct 21 - Oct 25
Nov 4 - Nov 8	Nov 4 - Nov 8	Nov 12 - Nov 15
Dec 2 - Dec 6	Dec 2 - Dec 6	Dec 9 - Dec 13
Dec 30 - Jan 3	Dec 30 - Jan 3	Jan 6 - Jan 10

Notes:

Please be advised that leaves are collected on City streets only.

Leaves on private streets or lanes will not be collected.



The City of Manassas Happenings

Find these events and more at www.visitmanassas.org. Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas:

Through September 15 - Exhibit at the Manassas Museum - **Expanding Boundaries: Celebrating Traditions, Shaping the Future**

Now - Fall - **Saturday Farmer's Market** runs through the fall at the VRE parking lot across from Baldwin Elementary/Intermediate

Through October 12 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - **Museum at the Market** hands-on activities for the whole family.

Through November 2 - First Saturday of the month - **Downtown Walking Tours** by the Manassas Museum

Sept. 3, 7 p.m. - **Acoustic Tuesday** at the Harris Pavilion with **James Britton**

Sept. 7, 9 a.m. - Great Strides - the **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation 5K Walk** starts at the Harris Pavilion

Sept. 7, 12 noon - 6 p.m. - **Bands, Brews & Barbecue** on the Manassas Museum Lawn

Sept. 7, 8 a.m. - noon - **Household Hazardous and eWaste Dropoff** at the Manassas Transfer Station

Sept. 8, 12:30 p.m. - **Out of the Darkness Manassas Walk** starts at the Harris Pavilion

Sept. 10, 7 p.m. - **Acoustic Tuesday** at the Harris Pavilion with **Shane Gamble**

Sept. 14, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. - **World Heritage Festival & Festival of Kites** on the Manassas Museum Lawn

Sept. 15, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk with author Robert Wilson, **Barnum: An American Life**

Sept 21, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **Edgar Rohr Car Show** at the Manassas Museum.

Sept. 21, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **International Food Festival** at the Harris Pavilion.

Sept. 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - **Car Free Day Celebration** at the Farmer's Market

Sept. 22, 1:30 - Free Book talk "**Too Much for Human Endurance**" with author Ronald Kirkwood at the Manassas Museum.

Sept. 27 - Feb. 25 - New Exhibit Opens at the Manassas Museum - **Native Americans** - Produced specifically for the 400th anniversary of the founding of the colony at Jamestown

Sept. 28, 2 p.m. - **Liberia House Tours**

Oct. 5, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Manassas Fall Jubilee** in Historic Downtown Manassas.

Oct. 5, 8 a.m. - noon - **Household Hazardous and eWaste Dropoff** at the Manassas Transfer Station

Oct. 9, 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation and Progress at the Manassas Museum

Oct. 11, 8 p.m. - **Cemetery Tour**

Oct. 11-13 - **Central Library Book Sale**

Oct. 17, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Novant Health (Prince William) Auxiliary's **Dillard's from Stony Point** - name brand handbags, jewelry, perfume and more

Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. - **Jazz in Motion** by the Manassas Ballet at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m. - **Walk to End Alzheimer's** begins at Harris Pavilion

Oct. 20, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk with author Craig Galley **Hall of Mirrors - Virginia Hall: America's Great Spy of WWII**

Oct. 26, 10 a.m. - **Haunted Happenings**. Enjoy games and activities at the Harris Pavilion and trick-or-treating with Downtown merchants

Oct. 26, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **Holiday Crafts, Desserts & Sweets** at the Manassas Museum

Oct. 26, 6 - 9 p.m. - **Spirits of Liberia** - Hear the tragic and uplifting stories of those who passed through this historic landmark. To make a reservation visit <https://manassasechoes.com>

Nov. 2, 8 a.m. - noon - **RecycleFest** at the Manassas Transfer Station - Household Hazardous & eWaste and shredding

Nov. 2, 11 a.m. - **Northern Virginia Veteran's Parade**

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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 www.youtube.com/user/manassascityva

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