

CITY CONNECTION



Annaburg Added to National Register

Annaburg has been officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places by The National Park Service.

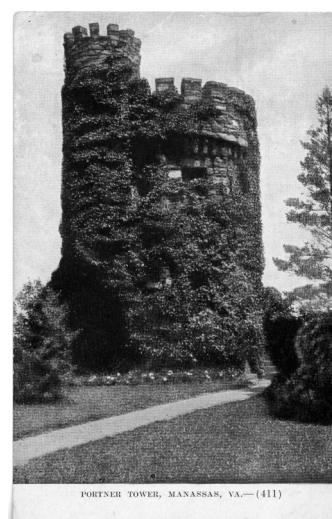
After the 1892 house on Maple Street and surrounding 3.65 acres were acquired by the City in 2019, the grounds opened as a park.

Staff and consultants spent the last year working through the nomination process to recognize the historic importance of the home built as a summer retreat by Prussian-born entrepreneur and Alexandria brewer Robert Portner.

The 35-room Annaburg Manor is believed to be the first home in the country equipped with mechanical air-conditioning. Portner's designs in air-conditioning, artificial cooling and ice making machines would later contribute to the technology used in today's air-conditioning systems.

Designed by Washington, D.C. - based architect Gustav Friebus, the house combined elements of some of Portner's favorite European mansions, and was built using brownstone obtained from Portner's own Manassas quarry. The interior, furnished with Italian marble mantles and statuary from Greece, sustained extensive damage during the many years while the house was unoccupied. At its height, Annaburg encompassed a total of 2,157 acres, stretching from Main Street in Manassas to the shores of Bull Run.

Annaburg has a long history as a recreational destination. Residents and visitors attended the town's Dairy Festival, 4th of July events, and even church baptisms at the estate. After Robert and his wife Anna Portner passed away and the house was no



(top left) Annaburg Manor is at 9201 Maple St. (bottom left) archaeologists recently searched the grounds, and uncovered the foundation of the tower (top right) that was demolished in 1979.

longer occupied, residents recalled the grounds as a place to stroll, take photographs, and skate on the frozen ponds in winter.

In the 1960s, two wings of the Manor, which have since been removed, were constructed and Annaburg became a nursing home and rehabilitation center. The facility was managed by what was then Novant Health UVA Health System.

In the past year restoration efforts focused on stabilizing the structure by replacing the home's original slate roof, metal cornices and wood box gutters, and paint removal that helped fix moisture problems.

A recent archaeological excavation uncovered the foundation of Annaburg's stone tower, a major landscape feature that was torn down due to structural integrity issues.

Additional exterior stabilization including paint removal and window replacement, and the addition of park amenities are planned for this year.

A final Master Plan, which will help determine future improvements to the park and the historic house, was developed with extensive community input and adopted by City Council in December 2021.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources placed Annaburg on the Virginia Landmarks Register in December. It now joins Liberia, the Manassas Industrial School for Colored Youth, Cannon Branch Fort, Mayfield Fort, the Manassas Water Tower, and the downtown national historic district in the National Register of Historic Places.

Visit www.manassasva.gov/annaburg to learn more.

A Moment with the Mayor



Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger at the White House for the announcement by President Biden and Vice President Harris on lowering the cost of high-speed internet with the Affordable Connectivity Program.

It's the month of Dads and Grads!! June is such a great month for family gatherings and high school and college graduations. I was so excited to deliver remarks at the Osbourn High School commencement at Eagle Bank Arena and SO proud that my daughter is a member of OHS Class of 2022. She is headed to Virginia Tech and we are very excited for what the future holds for her.

It's also the month to celebrate our fathers, and I am so thankful to celebrate my dear old dad...most people know he was born on the Jennie Dean site, has been a lifelong Manassas resident, is now 88 years young, and on top of that he and my mom are celebrating 63 years of marriage in June as well!

Most of you follow me on social media and know some of the activities I have participated in and there have been MANY! I recently went to the White House Rose Garden, cut the ribbon and opened LARexpo (and even

did Zumba...that was a sight to see!).

Our city was highlighted on local WUSA Channel 9 featuring the "My Mayor Looks Like Me" mentoring Program that I started, and it was also highlighted in the *Virginia Town and City Magazine*.

I keep representing Manassas the best that I can and as much as I can... it is OUR MANASSAS! We have several events and festivals coming up like our Railway Festival, Bee Festival and Jazz Festival that you and your entire family can participate in, and I hope to see you at these events; stop me and say hello! I absolutely love chatting with our residents and visitors and hearing stories about what brought them to Manassas.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to all Dads, Step-Dads, Brothers, Uncles, and those that are Like-a-Dad. Please kick back, relax and enjoy your special day. You deserve every minute of it!



More Affordable Internet

Your household may be eligible to receive a monthly discount on a new or existing internet service plan with the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

There are several ways to qualify for the ACP: through your participation in other government programs, based on your annual household income, or by participating in an internet service provider's low income plan.

Visit:
www.affordableconnectivity.gov
to see if you qualify and to apply.

Let Us Know

Have you ever seen a streetlight out, something that needs to be fixed in a park, or weeds that need to be trimmed? You can use the easy Manassas Connect app to let us know. Find the app for iOS and Android devices and on www.manassasva.gov with the "report a concern" button.



Earn Prizes for Summer Reading

Explore "Oceans of Possibilities" during Prince William Public Library's Summer Reading program, June 13–August 14 and earn prizes. Look for more than 150 other in-person and virtual programs too.

PWPL is bringing back favorites like The Butterfly Guy and Dinoman Dinosaur Show for kids, Laser Tag for teens, and Master Gardeners for adults.

Visit pwcva.gov/library or pick up a copy of Explore magazine at our Manassas Library next to the Wellington Giant, 10104 Dumfries Road, to see the lineup of programs and pick up a good book.

A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

City Budget: In May, City Council completed their budget review process and adopted the ordinances necessary to provide a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. This budget is 1% higher than the previous year. The budget includes a 3% increase in local funds for Manassas City Public School operations along with enhancements in fire and rescue services, utility infrastructure, transportation mobility, park maintenance and other strategic priorities.

Major capital projects that will be ongoing in the new year include: City Hall renovations, Manassas Museum expansion, replacement of the main water transmission line, Liberia stream restoration, Grant Ave. street improvements, Annaburg and Dean Park enhancements, and the opening of the Public Safety Facility on Grant Ave.

The General Fund property tax rate was reduced from \$1.222 to \$1.135 while the Fire and Rescue levy remained unchanged at \$0.207. With assessment changes this means the average residential levy will increase by \$234 and the average non-residential levy will decrease by \$465 for an overall change in property tax revenues of 2.6%.

Our budget assumes that no major changes will impact the City from the final adopted Commonwealth budget. In addition, we are monitoring for any lingering long-term impacts of the pandemic and inflationary impacts

Strategic Budget Priorities



- Increased funding for paving, resurfacing, and traffic signals.
- Continued capital investments in projects at Route 28/Nokesville Road, Sudley Road, Grant Ave., Dean Drive extension and Mathis Ave.



- Continued pedestrian and bike trail expansion like those at Godwin Dr. and Gateway.



- 3 new firefighters, radios and equipment.
- Support for Public Safety building and continued Police accreditation needs.



- Staff to support continued utility infrastructure improvements and stormwater requirements.



- Enhanced park maintenance, and support for recreation, tourism, and the arts.



- Support for workforce and business development and recruitment.



- Equity and Inclusion funds to address equity and better engage Spanish-speaking population.



- Commitment to staff recruitment and retention with pay study to maintain competitiveness within the region.

Many people do not realize the impacts that Social Services has on our community. Almost 17,000 residents received services from this department during the past year. This included over 11,000 residents receiving medical assistance and over 4,500 residents receiving supplemental nutrition assistance.

Other eligible families received temporary housing assistance, housing vouchers, energy assistance, child care assistance and employment assistance programs.

The department provides Adult Protective Services, Child Protective Services, Juvenile Community Crime services, Foster Care and many other programs that assisted with pandemic related recovery. Almost \$75 million in non-city funds were directed to Manassas residents through these departmental programs and services. Visit www.manassasva.gov/ss for information on these programs.



Social Services Director Nicole Kirven

from the economy and global events. To date, our financial condition remains in excellent shape.

Social Services: I am pleased to announce that Nicole Kirven has agreed to become the Social Services Director for the City of Manassas. Nicole was most recently the Assistant Director of the Stafford County Department of Social Services. She is a licensed Professional Counselor and has several ties to the Manassas area.

Events: I hope you are paying attention to the many summer events that are happening in Manassas. Some are listed in the newsletter and many more can be found on our website and on social media. Please come and enjoy the City as we believe there is something for everyone!

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.



Now - November from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. - **Manassas Farmer's Market** on Thursdays @ Harris Pavilion and Saturdays on Prince William Street. Visit @cityofmanassasfarmersmarket on Facebook or www.visitmanassas.org to see a list of vendors.



Now - June 25, Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. - **Mayor on the Move**, walk or bike with our Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger - meets at Osbourn High School



Now - Labor Day - **Stonewall Park Pool** is open for the season www.manassasva.gov/pool



June 3 at 7:30 p.m. - Manassas Chorale **Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow** Spring Concert at the Hylton Performing Arts Center



June 3 from 6 - 9 p.m. **First Friday Roll N Glow** at the Harris Pavilion. Enjoy a DJ, special lighting and dance skaters. Bring your roller skates.



June 4 from 9 - 11 a.m. - **Clean the Bay Day at Liberia** - bring work gloves and help clean Liberia's grounds



June 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - **27th Annual Manassas Railway Festival** - model train displays at the Harris Pavilion, Storm Troopers from the 501st Legion, a puppet show with RUFUS and Friends by Blue Sky Puppet Theatre,

games, rock wall, slide and Train Rides to Clifton and back.



June 6 at 7 p.m. - Manassas City Council **Town Hall** at Mayfield Intermediate School



June 7 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday free concert with **Hilary Veltri** @Harris Pavilion



June 11 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.: **Household Hazardous Waste** and Electronics Waste drop off at the Manassas Transfer Station



June 11 at 10 a.m. - **Chair Yoga at Liberia** - www.manassasmuseum.org



June 11 at 2 p.m. - **Front Porch Talk @ Liberia** - Join master storyteller Dylan Pritchett at Liberia House for African American history through storytelling and music.

www.manassasmuseum.org



June 14 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday free concert with **Tender Polman** @Harris Pavilion



June 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Museum at the Farmer's Market**



June 18 from 4 - 9 p.m. - **The Manassas Jazz Festival** - An evening of Jazz with a 1930's Cotton Club atmosphere, featuring headline jazz artists Marcus Johnson, battling pianos by local band Velvet Storm and comedian Doug Scott. www.visitmanassas.org



June 19: **Juneteenth Holiday** (City of

Manassas Government Buildings closed in observance on June 20)



June 19 from 3 to 5 p.m. - **Liberia House Tour** - meet descendent members of the Naylor family who were enslaved there.



June 21 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday free concert with **Bradley Rhodes** @Harris Pavilion



June 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **Manassas Bee Festival** at Liberia House and grounds



June 25 at 7 p.m. - **Beatlegacy** Saturday Night Concert @Harris Pavilion



June 26 at 3 p.m. - Sunday Funday Free Concert with the **U.S. Navy Band Country Current** @Harris Pavilion



June 26 at 4 p.m. - **History Hike at Liberia** - meet Rosie the Hawk and explore Liberia's trails. www.manassasmuseum.org



June 28 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday free concert with **Shane Gamble** @Harris Pavilion



July 2 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.: **Household Hazardous Waste** and Electronics Waste drop off at the Manassas Transfer Station



July 4 - 3 - 10 p.m. **Celebrate America** in Downtown with fireworks at dusk



July 9 at 6:30 p.m. - Summersounds Concert with **La Unica** @ Harris Pavilion

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger

703-895-4485

Vice Mayor

Pamela J. Sebesky
Theresa Coates Ellis
Lynn Forkell Greene
Tom Osina
Ralph J. Smith
Mark D. Wolfe

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City of Manassas School Board

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Vice Chair Lisa A. Stevens
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Carl Hollingsworth Jr.
Alex Igbal
Jill Spall
Robyn Williams

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