

A MESSAGE TO ALL RESIDENTS:



Please follow these simple steps to prevent crime against you and your vehicles:

- ◆ When you exit your vehicle, lock it, even if you expect to be gone for only a few minutes.
- ◆ Make sure that your car alarm is working.
- ◆ Take your keys and valuables (don't forget that GPS system) inside.
- ◆ Report all suspicious activity immediately to:

Prince William County Police
Emergency - 911 Non-emergency - 703-792-6500

Mary M. Brown, Town Sergeant
703-491-1918, Extension 19

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

Founded - 1734 Chartered - 1804 Incorporated - 1874
Town Hall: 703-491-1918 Email: Info@occoquan.org

314 Mill Street
P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

CARRIER ROUTE
OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Occoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XVIII, ISSUE II TOWN HALL: (703) 491-1918 FEBRUARY 2010

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta Jr., Mayor
Kenneth T. Brunsvold, Vice Mayor
Denise M. Bush
Joao Paul "J.P." Cunha
Barry G. Dean
James N. Walbert



TOWN HALL STAFF

Claudia A. Cruise, CMC, Administrator/Clerk
Anderton Burke, Treasurer
Mary M. Brown, Town Sergeant
Janet D. Quenzer, Administrative Assistant
Bucky Brill, Grounds and Maintenance Tech
Greg Gilker, Arts and Crafts Show Director

MAYOR'S LETTER

Mark your calendars to be in town on July 31, 2010. On that day, in conjunction with the Occoquan Historical Society and other sponsors, the town will hold its first Civil War sesquicentennial (150 year anniversary) commemoration event. Both the state and the county are planning numerous sesquicentennial activities over the next five years, and Occoquan's is one of the earliest. The centerpiece of our day's activities will be a re-enactment of the Prince William militia's destruction of a liberty pole erected by Occoquan's Abraham Lincoln supporters in July of 1860. Other activities during the day will include our Farmers' Market, a Civil War-era mourning and medical display in Town Hall, Civil War-era music at Mamie Davis Park, two historical lectures at Rockledge on the liberty pole incident, book signings at several shops by authors who have written about Civil War or Occoquan-related events, various children's activities, and free boat tours discussing the Occoquan River's role in the Civil War. We have attempted to space events throughout the day so that everyone will have an opportunity to attend what interests them. All the day's activities are free, including free shuttle transportation from selected commuter lots, so please encourage your family and friends to set aside July 31 for a wonderful day in Occoquan!

In addition to our sesquicentennial activities, we, of course, have a variety of additional events planned for Occoquan during the next several months. These include a fashion show sponsored by the OMA in March, a native plant lecture in April, an art event in May, another Duck Splash in June, and, of course, our spring craft show. All of these events require volunteer assistance, so if you are interested in donating just an hour of your time during one or more of these events to help provide information to visitors, distribute flyers, or be involved in other ways, please let me know. Many of our merchants donate their time for these events, but ideally we would like to have enough volunteers so that they may stay in their shops and serve the customers that these events bring to town.

Finally, as the weather improves we will be starting a number of capital projects. The most visible will be the installation of brick sidewalks on a portion of Commerce Street. This will finally complete all the brick sidewalks planned for the historic district. We will contact affected property owners and tenants as the dates for the start of these project near and do whatever we can to minimize disruption.

Once more, thank you for your support and please feel free to contact me at eporta@occoquan.org with any comments, questions or concerns.

Earnest W. Porta, Jr.

At the January 2010 meeting, the Council voted to:

- ♦ approve The Engineering Groupe's proposal to perform surveying services for Washington Street sidewalks;
- ♦ reappoint Teresa Janssen and Christopher Hardy to the BZA;
- ♦ approve adding John Hicks to a list of persons authorized to assist the town's Grounds and Maintenance Technician.



2009 Tree of Hope Project

This was the 11th year that Simply Country and the Town of Occoquan have sponsored the Tree of Hope project. \$500 was raised for the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Shelter Rent Fund. The fund assists families with rent, utility deposits, and other costs necessary for a new start in the 30-50 days they are allowed to stay in the center.

I would like to thank everyone who purchased an ornament. Your support and generosity made a difference in someone's life. A special "Thank you" goes to Aileen Streng, a reporter for the News & Messenger, for making the community aware of the Tree of Hope.

For further information about the shelter and the rent fund, contact Gail Saunders at (703) 680-5403.

Kathy Smith, Simply Country



As a reminder, this is an election year for the positions of mayor and town council members. Anyone wishing to be a candidate may obtain the necessary filing forms by contacting the Office of the General Registrar, 9252 Lee Avenue, Manassas, (703) 792-6470, or by downloading the forms from the State Board of Elections website (www.sbe.state.va.us) and going to "Candidate Information."

Voting will take place at Town Hall from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, and you must be registered by April 12 in order to vote in this election. Please contact the Registrar's office if you have additional questions.

Town real estate taxes are due on Monday, February 15. If you have any questions concerning your taxes, please call Town Hall at (703) 491-1918, Extension 10.

February 2010



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 6:30 Planning Commission Cancelled 7:30 ARB	3 Trash & Recyclables	4	5	6
7	8	9 7:00 Town Council	10 Trash & Recyclables	11 5:00 - OHS	12	13
14 Valentine's Day 	15 President's Day Town Hall Closed	16	17 Trash & Recyclables	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Trash & Recyclables	25 7:00 Hollows HOA	26	27
28						