

The Town of Occoquan would like to express their deepest sympathies to the family of Edward I. Hope who passed away on January 23rd. Mr. Hope had been a resident of Occoquan since 1977 and will be greatly missed.



OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE II

TOWN HALL: (703) 491-1918

FEBRUARY 2012

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta Jr., Mayor
Kenneth T. Brunsvold, Vice-Mayor
Denise M. Bush
Elizabeth A. Quist
Patrick A. Sivigny
James N. Walbert



TOWN HALL STAFF

Claudia A. Cruise, CMC, Town Manager & Clerk
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Janet D. Quenzer, Administrative Assistant
Bucky Brill, Grounds and Maintenance Tech
Patricia Thomas, Arts and Crafts Show Director

MAYOR'S LETTER

This month I would like to start out by thanking the literally hundreds of you who sent in emails, wrote letters, posted comments, and/or attended the Prince William Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) hearing and vote on the Oaks III rezoning application on January 10. Although we lost the vote 5-3, the outpouring of community sentiment was truly impressive, with the BOCS chamber filled to overflowing, and nearly as many of the town's supporters seated in folding chairs in the lobby watching on screens as in the chamber itself. Occoquan Supervisor Mike May did an outstanding job leading the Board opposition to the rezoning, and his arguments and yours persuaded Woodbridge Supervisor Frank Principi and Coles Supervisor Marty Nohe to vote with us. The Town Council and others will be monitoring the situation closely in an attempt to do whatever we can to mitigate the anticipated storm water and traffic impacts of the Oaks III project as currently designed. In the meantime, please take a moment when you can to thank not only the county supervisors who supported the town, but the many individuals and business leaders from the surrounding community who did so as well.

By now many of you may have noticed some construction work underneath and near the Route 123 Bridge on Mill Street. The Prince William County Service Authority (PWCSA) is replacing the Occoquan Lift Station, which is currently housed in the small brick building near the BB&T ATM machine. PWCSA very carefully coordinated this well in advance with Town Hall, ensuring that no work would be done during the key shopping months of November and December, nor during any of the town's craft shows. They also did extensive outreach with the businesses adjacent to the relevant property. Current work should be completed within 30 days and with minimal disruption. Eventually, the brick building behind the ATM will be removed; the new structure has been designed to match the pattern and look of the bridge.

Finally, I also want to mention that the revised advertising and sign rules for the historic district are likely to be voted upon at the Town Council meeting on February 7. Members of the ARB Task Force and the ARB worked very hard on this update, which is likely to provide both additional flexibility and clarity to our business community. Thank you again for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquan.org with any comments, questions or concerns.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

Email: Info@occoquan.org Town Hall: 703-491-1918

Founded in 1734

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

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Occoquan, VA
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CARRIER ROUTE
OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

At the January 2012 meeting, the Town Council voted to:

- ◆ direct TEG to price-out engineering solutions for the Mill Street run-off
- ◆ adopt the Resolution in Support of a Regional Drought Response and Contingency Plan
- ◆ appoint Sheldon Levi as the Emergency Management Coordinator



FEBRUARY 2012

The Tree of Hope

During the holiday season, the tree in front of Town Hall becomes the "Tree of Hope" for the families at the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center. This year we raised \$350.00 which will assist families with costs that are necessary to get a new start such as rent, utility deposits, etc.

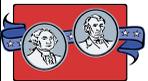
I want to thank everyone who purchased an ornament. Your support and generosity has given a gift that will make a difference in someone's life. Special thanks to those who got the tree ready with lights and decorations. It was beautiful.

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

Kathy Smith
Simply Country

2011 Real Estate Taxes

Town of Occoquan 2011 real estate taxes are due by close of business on February 15th. If you have any questions concerning your taxes, please call Town Hall at (703) 491-1918, Ext. 1. Office hours are 9:00 to 3:30, Monday through Friday. Any messages left after hours will be returned the next business day.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Ground Hog Day 	3	4
						
5	6	7 6:45 - PH Sign Ordinances PC-Special Meeting immediately following 7:00 Town Council	8	9 6:30 - OHS	10	11
						
12	13	14 6:30 - PC 7:30 - ARB Valentines Day 	15	16 7:00 - Hollows	17	18
						
19	20 President's Day Town Hall Closed 	21	22	23	24	25
						
26	27	28	29			
						

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 1. You must be registered by April 9th to vote in this election.. Please contact the Registrar's office if you have additional questions.