

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXIV, ISSUE XI

TOWN HALL - (703) 491-1918

NOVEMBER 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
Peggy Blackwell, Town Clerk
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Patricia Thomas, Arts & Crafts Show Director

In Memory - Robert Keith Lehto



The Town extends its profound sympathy to the family and friends of Robert Keith Lehto, town resident since 1982, who passed away on September 30. Bob served on the Town Council, the Planning Commission, and as the President of Historic Occoquan, Inc. He will be missed.

2013 Vehicle Decals to be Displayed by November 15

Section 62-37 of the Town Code requires any vehicle normally garaged, stored, or parked in the town to display a town decal. Purchases may be made by mail (enclosing a check for the proper amount), at Town Hall from 9:00 to 3:30, Monday through Friday, or on Saturday, November 3, from 10:00 to noon.

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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

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

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OCCOQUAN, VA 22125**

MAYOR'S LETTER

As this issue of the town newsletter goes to print, we are bracing for the arrival of Hurricane Sandy. Town personnel have taken steps to prepare for the storm, and by the time you receive this newsletter we have all hopefully weathered it successfully.

With November we begin a robust holiday season in Occoquan that is one of the most important times of the year for Occoquan merchants, so I ask that you please consider doing some of your holiday shopping in town, and encourage your friends and family to do so as well. On Friday, November 16, the Business Guild of Occoquan will hold its annual Holiday Open House from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., followed by gift certificate drawings at 8:15 in front of Hawthorne House. At approximately 8:10 that same evening the town will hold its tree lighting ceremony at the Occoquan Town Hall. This has become a very popular event for residents and visitors alike, and I hope you will find attending enjoyable. Other Occoquan holiday traditions will take place early in December this year. Santa will arrive by boat at the town pier and visit with children at Town Hall on Saturday, December 1, and on the following day, Sunday, December 2, Ebenezer Baptist Church will hold its annual town blessing in the early evening at the historic church on Washington and Commerce Streets. The Town will sponsor its annual, free holiday party that same evening immediately after the blessing. More details on these events will be posted throughout the month, as will information on a variety of charity drives (e.g., the Untrim-a-Tree program) sponsored during the season by Occoquan merchants.

Please note that Tuesday, November 6, is Election Day in Virginia. The polling location for town residents is Occoquan Elementary School, and the polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Last, I would like to make a quick appeal for volunteers. I once again hope to invite the Salvation Army to have bell ringers in town the night of the Guild's Open House and Town Tree Lighting—for that we need volunteer bell ringers. Additionally, a group of carolers is forming to visit Occoquan neighborhoods a few nights during the month of December. Please contact me at eporta@occoquan.org if you are willing to participate in either. Once more, thank you for your support, and please feel free to contact me with any comments, questions or concerns.

Earnest W. Porta, Jr.

At the October 2012 meeting, the Council voted to:



- adopt the Ordinance to Revise Zoning for Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Compliance
- approve the purchase of up to \$2,000 for computer and accessories for Town Police
- cancel the Town Council meeting on November 6, 2012, due to the General Election
- award the Poplar Alley paving contract to *Gossom and Costello Paving*
- award the contract for refurbishing the Town Hall doors to *Jabs Construction*
- award the 2012-2013 snow removal contract to *First Choice*

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012
GENERAL ELECTION DAY**

Don't forget to vote - November 6 - at Occoquan Elementary School on Occoquan Road. The polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions, call the Voter Registrar's office at (703) 792-6470.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 4

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 4, at 2:00 a.m., so be sure to set your clocks *back* one hour before heading to bed on Saturday night.

Evening Shopping in Occoquan — Be a Patron of Your Town!






A number of Occoquan businesses are extending their hours for the holiday season. On Thursday evenings between now and Christmas, almost 30 Occoquan businesses will be open until at least 7:00 p.m., so we hope you will consider Occoquan for your holiday shopping needs.

Holiday Open House

The Business Guild of Occoquan will have their annual Holiday Open House on Friday, November 16, 2012, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Register to share \$1,000 in gift certificates. You must be present for the 8:15 drawing at the Hawthorne House to win.



NOVEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 10 - Noon Town Hall will be open for auto decal purchases
4  Daylight Savings Time ends	5	6 	7 	8 6:30 - OHS 7:30 - Occoquan Reach HOA	9	10
11	12 Veteran's Day Town Hall closed	13 6:30—PC 7:30—ARB	14 	15 7:00 The Hollows HOA	16	17
18	19	20	21 	22 Thanksgiving  Town Hall closed	23 Black Friday Shop in Occoquan Town Hall closed	24
25	26	27	28 	29	30	Reminder: The annual Town Blessing and Holiday Party will be Sunday, December 2.