

# OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE I

TOWN HALL - (703) 491-1918

JANUARY 2013

## 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

## *From the Occoquan Post Office*

*The Occoquan Post Office would like to express our appreciation for all the kind words and gifts we received during the holiday season from residents and town merchants. Happy New Year!*

*Judy and Eleanor*

## **Christmas Tree Disposal**

Christmas trees should be placed at your curb for Wednesday's normal trash pick-up. If you have further questions, please contact Bates Trash Service at 703.212.9395.

## **OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER**

### **TOWN OF OCCOQUAN**

Email: [Info@occoquan.org](mailto:Info@occoquan.org) Town Hall: 703-491-1918

Founded in 1734

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

## **MAYOR'S LETTER**

Thank you to everyone who chose to meet some of their holiday needs by patronizing our town businesses. As you know, this is a particularly important time of the year for Occoquan merchants, and you can rest assured that they appreciate your support. As I have in the past, I also want to take a moment as we start 2013 to thank everyone who volunteered to help out the town in 2012. Whether it was by assisting with a clean-up or an event; by serving on a formal body like the Planning Commission, ARB, or other committee; or by helping out someone in need, such efforts are what help make Occoquan a pleasant place to live, work, and visit.

As always at this time of year, I feel compelled to address the subject of snow. The streets within town boundaries are a hodgepodge of VDOT, town, and HOA property. Consequently, snow removal obligations can be confusing. I encourage everyone to review the town street maintenance map to familiarize themselves with snow removal responsibilities. The map is posted at the Post Office and can be found on the town web site at [www.occoquan.org](http://www.occoquan.org). The main streets in the historic district are plowed by VDOT. It is important for businesses, however, to remember that VDOT does not guarantee that it can preserve on-street parking when it plows; its primary responsibility is to clear the roadways for traffic. Please also pay particular attention to the sidewalk areas in front of our homes and businesses. In most cases, we are individually responsible for clearing these areas within a reasonable time after the conclusion of a storm.

I would like to close by thanking town residents, businesses, staff, and visitors for their support during the past year. In particular, I want to recognize and thank the members of the Town Council. Happy New Year to everyone and please do not hesitate to contact me at [eporta@occoquan.org](mailto:eporta@occoquan.org) with any comments, questions or concerns.

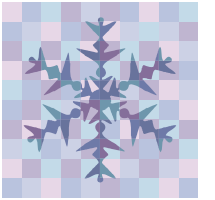
*Earnest W. Porta, Jr.*

**At the December 2012 meeting, the Town Council voted to:**

- ◆ approve Elm Street Development fee reimbursement;
- ◆ hold a joint public hearing on an ordinance relating to design standards
- ◆ hold a joint public hearing on an ordinance relating to non-conforming structures;
- ◆ adopt an ordinance relating to Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act;
- ◆ approve the purchase of new tires for the police cruiser; and
- ◆ approve a raise for the craft show director.



# JANUARY 2013



**2012 REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 15, 2013**

Town 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, Extension 1. Office hours are 9:00 to 3:30, Monday through Friday. Any messages left after hours will be returned the next business day.

Senior citizens and disabled persons who meet certain criteria may be granted relief from all or part of real estate and personal property taxes. Tax relief is granted on an annual basis, and a renewal application must be filed each year by April 15. Application forms for these programs are available at the PWC Real Estate Assessments Office or by mail. You may also request an application form by calling 703-792-6780.

**Business Licenses**

The Occoquan Town Treasurer is charged with assessing fees for the Business, Professional, and Occupational Licenses (BPOL, or business licenses) for those businesses operating in the Town of Occoquan. In February of 2013, a random sampling of businesses will be chosen for audit of their 2012 business license applications. Business owners should be aware that, if contacted, they will be required to produce certain financial documentation necessary for the confirmation of gross receipts in accordance with Section 14-44 of the Town Code. If you have any questions, please contact Abi Breeding, Town Treasurer, at (703) 491-1918, Extension 4.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>  New Year's Day  Town Hall Closed	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00—ARB	<b>9</b> 6:45—JPH 7:00—TC 	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Lee Jackson Day  Town Hall Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Martin Luther King Day  Town Hall Closed	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 	<b>31</b>		