

A BIG THANK YOU!

From the Craft Show Office:

Our thanks to all the Town folks who helped out at our Spring Craft Show. We really appreciated all the hard work, especially working in the extreme heat. Looking forward to a successful Fall Show!

Pat Thomas and Candie Best



ARB News — Did you Know?

Businesses, you can use banners for special events! In addition to announcing grand openings, banners can promote events such as featured artists or book signings. There are restrictions regarding color, logos and placement. Please plan ahead so that your banner is used timely. Contact town hall for the application. More information can be found about banners in the Town's Sign and Advertising Rules (Sec. 66-368 (b)). You can find the rules online at http://occoquan.org/pdf_docs/SignOrd1.pdf.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

Email: Info@occoquan.org
314 Mill Street
P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE V TOWN HALL: 703-491-1918 JULY 2013

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta Jr., Mayor
Elizabeth Quist, Vice-Mayor
Denise M. Bush
Barry G. Dean
Patrick A. Sivigny
James N. Walbert



TOWN HALL STAFF

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

MAYOR'S LETTER

I want to start out this month by thanking Pat Thomas, Candie Best, Bucky Brill, Chief Levi, and all the town staff and volunteers who contributed to the town's Spring Arts and Crafts Show, as well as those of you who patronized the show's vendors. We are all looking forward to the coming fall show. Thanks as well to all of you who contributed to the success of our 7th annual charity Duck Splash Race.

On June 25, the Town Council adopted the tax rates, budgets, and capital plan for FY 2014. There are a number of notable changes. In particular, as a result of an approximately two year process that involved the town's Strategic Planning Committee, the Town Council, and various public meetings, the Town Council has decided to reallocate \$60,000 of arts and crafts show revenues from capital projects to the funding of an Economic Development Office, with the goal of bringing new businesses to town, as well as improving conditions for existing businesses. This is a substantial new direction for the town and reflects the Council's commitment to investing for its future success.

The Town Council also voted to expand some services. Beginning the first full week in August, Town Hall will be open until 5:00 p.m. each week day. Additionally, the part-time Town Treasurer will have regular office hours in Town Hall and be available to meet with the public. Finally, we have converted our existing part-time Chief of Police position to a full-time position. Although other FY 2014 budgeted expenses are below FY 2013 projections, the combination of real estate assessment levels, projected declines in other revenue sources, and increasing personnel costs left the town with a potential budget shortfall. Accordingly, the Town Council voted to adopt a real estate tax rate of \$0.11 per \$100, which is an increase from the current rate of \$0.10 per \$100, but below the advertised rate of \$0.12 per \$100. All other tax rates remain the same.





Last, a number of you have contacted me to express your concern about the temporary closure of a portion of the sidewalk on Washington Street. The Town Manager is working with the developer to see if we can expedite its re-opening. Let me end by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable 4th of July holiday. As always, thank you for your contributions to our community, and please feel free to contact me at eporta@occoquan.org with any comments, questions or concerns.

At the June 2013 meetings, the Town Council voted to:

- ◆ adopt the tax rates, budgets, and capital plan for FY 2014
- ◆ reallocate \$60,000 of arts and crafts show revenues from capital projects to the funding of an Economic Development Office
- ◆ adopt salary and benefits for staff
- ◆ to change Town Hall hours to 9-5 , effective August 5
- ◆ maintain the current transient occupancy tax of 2%
- ◆ maintain the meals tax rate of 2%
- ◆ increase the real estate tax rate to \$0.11 per \$100
- ◆ award Gossom & Costello Paving contract to fix potholes on West Locust Street
- ◆ approve the Prince William Boundary Line Adjustment
- ◆ approve the Resolution regarding Matching Funds for Canoe/Kayak Launch Facility
- ◆ approve the Website Design Proposal from the Computer Doctor



JULY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00 Town Council	3	4 Town Hall Closed 	5	6 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
7	8	9 7:00 - PC	10	11 Ocoquan Historical Society Lecture 	12	13 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
14	15	16	17	18 	19	20 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
21	22	23	24 	25	26	27 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
28	29	30	31			

Fireworks Displays in Prince William County

Dale City: Dale City's annual parade always gets under way at 10am (Dale Blvd. from Keytone to Gemini).

Manassas: The City of Manassas celebrates the 4th of July with an Independence Day party with live music, rides, an Apple Pie Baking Contest, carnival foods, face painting, and a red, white and blue hayride. Events kick off at 4pm and fireworks are scheduled for 9:15. Rain date is July 5.

Woodbridge: The Potomac Nationals hosts a game on the 4th complete with fireworks. Purchase tickets ahead, they're usually sold out at the gate. People do come out and sit around the exterior of the stadium to watch the fireworks — plan to pay to park if you drive up to the stadium, and for it to be CROWDED getting out!