

## Town Council Actions: April 2021

- Approved Site Plan SP-2021-02, 203 Union Street/208 Poplar Alley—Anderson's Country Store

The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes. Minutes and agendas are posted at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov).

**Music on Mill**  
OCOQUAN'S FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**MYSTERY MACHINE DMV**  
SATURDAY, MAY 15

**MONALLO**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 19

**COLLECTIVE**  
SATURDAY, JULY 17

**CHELEY TACKETT**  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

**UP ALL NIGHT**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

ALL CONCERTS  
7-9 PM

## OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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**TOWN OF OCOQUAN**  
314 Mill Street  
P.O. Box 195  
Occoquan, VA 22125

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# OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, ISSUE V

703-491-1918

May 2021

### TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor  
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor  
Krys Bienia  
Cindy Fithian  
Laurie Holloway  
Eliot Perkins



### TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager  
Adam Linn, Chief of Police  
Manuel Casillas, Town Treasurer  
Julie Little, Events Director  
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor  
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

### **Mayor's Letter**

May will kick off the first of our three weekends of Artisan Markets. While restrictions related to the pandemic prevent us from being able to host our traditional spring arts and crafts event (which was scheduled to be replaced with RiverFest), we have been able to move forward with a similar event staged in River Mill Park and held over a weekend in May, June, and July. The first of these will take place on May 8 and 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will feature the work of juried artisans. See elsewhere in this newsletter for additional information. We are all looking forward to this new event.

In May the Town will also host two popular events initiated in prior years. On Saturday, May 15 we'll kick off the 2021 season of Music on Mill in River Mill Park with the rock group Mystery Machine playing from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. Then, on May 21, River Mill Park will again be the site of one of our Trivia Night competitions. Both the concerts and trivia nights have been very popular with residents and visitors alike, so we hope you will consider attending.

In April we dedicated our free, public-access, canoe/kayak/SUP launch ramp suitable for individuals with ambulatory challenges. We were honored with attendance by Congressman Gerry Connolly, State Senator Scott Surovell, and BOCS Chair Ann Wheeler. If you haven't had a chance to view or use the ramp we encourage you to do so as the spring weather improves. With its installation our riverfront community now finally has convenient recreational access to our namesake river.

Last, the Town will make final decisions on the FY 2022 budget in the next two months. Public hearings are scheduled for May 18 and June 1. The budget proposed by staff is available on the Town web site for review.

Once again I would like to thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [eporta@occoquanva.gov](mailto:eporta@occoquanva.gov) with any comments, questions, or concerns.

## FY2022 Proposed Budget

Information on the proposed FY2022 budget is available on the Town's website at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov). There will be a public hearing on the proposed budget on May 18, and on the proposed tax rates on June 1 with adoption scheduled for June 15, 2021. The 2022 fiscal year runs July 1, through June 30, 2022.

## Military Tribute Banners

Residents, businesses, friends, and visitors to Occoquan can once again sign up to sponsor a banner honoring a U.S. military veteran. This successful and popular program is a partnership between the Town and VFW Post 7916. If you are a new sponsor interested in honoring your family member, ancestor, or friend for their military service, or a former sponsor wishing to renew for 2021, visit [militarytributebanners.org](http://militarytributebanners.org) and select Virginia/Occoquan under the Current Programs menu; or, stop by Town Hall or VFW Post 7916 for more information.

## Trivia Night at River Mill Park: May 21, 6:30 p.m.

Test your knowledge during our outdoor trivia nights in River Mill Park! Play six rounds of seasonally themed brain busters for your chance to win the \$100 gift card and grand prize. Bring your team, camp chairs or blankets, and enjoy your socially-distanced picnic circle. One 10-foot circle can accommodate up to six team members. Registration is \$30 for the whole team/circle—sign up in advance online or at the door.

**6:00 p.m. Doors Open | 6:30 p.m. Start**

Snacks and beverages available! Proceeds benefit Patriots for Disabled Divers. Learn more at [occoquanva.gov/trivia](http://occoquanva.gov/trivia).



## MEETINGS & EVENTS

### MAY 4

#### Town Council Meeting

7:00 p.m.

### MAY 8 & 9

#### Occoquan Artisan Market

10 a.m.—5 p.m.

River Mill Park

### MAY 15

#### Music on Mill Presents: Mystery Machine (Rock)

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

River Mill Park

### MAY 18

#### Town Council Meeting

7:00 p.m.

### MAY 20

#### Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

### MAY 21

#### Trivia Night

6:30 p.m.

River Mill Park

### MAY 25

#### Planning Commission

6:30 p.m.

#### Architectural Review Board

7:30 p.m.

*Meetings held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.*

## Occoquan Artisan Markets

### May 8, 9 | June 5, 6 | July 10, 11

The Artisan Markets will be hosted in River Mill Park along the beautiful Occoquan River on three separate weekends: each a sleek and distinct arts and crafts market individually curated from the work of juried artisans. The shows are held Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm. As the event will be held within River Mill Park, town roads will remain open for traffic and parking. During these event weekends, timed parking restrictions will be temporarily lifted.



Patrons may take the free shuttles from the VDOT lot at Route 123 and Old Bridge Road or park in public parking areas within the Town, as available. To enter the show, there is an admission fee of \$5 and includes opportunities to win amazing prizes! For more information, visit [occoquanva.gov/town-festivals/arts-craft-show](http://occoquanva.gov/town-festivals/arts-craft-show).

*The health and well-being of our community is paramount. This event will be following CDC and local health authority guidelines. Please bring and wear a mask.*



We're looking for a few good volunteers for our May Artisan Market! Please consider signing up for a shift at the May Market with Sign Up Genius available on the Town's website at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov). We're looking for volunteers to help with:

- Set Up: Friday, May 7, 6-10 p.m.; Saturday, May 8, 6:30-9:30 a.m.
- Admissions: Saturday and Sunday shifts
- Vendor Assistance: Saturday and Sunday shifts
- Information Booth: Saturday and Sunday shifts

All shifts are 3 or 4 hour blocks. All volunteers receive a free volunteer T-shirt! Sign up for a shift online at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov). Contact Julie Little at [jlittle@occoquanva.gov](mailto:jlittle@occoquanva.gov) for more information.