

Manager's Corner. . . .

Greetings from Town Hall! I want to take a moment to thank the staff, residents, and business owners for all the support you have given me in my role as Acting Town Manager. In the short time that I have been in this role, I have had a couple of issues (noise, overgrown grass/weeds, etc.) brought to my attention by residents. I want to thank all of you who have done so. Resident feedback and observations are crucial to helping Town staff address issues promptly. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of us at Town Hall either by telephone at 703-491-1918 or by email at info@occoquan.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to ensure that the Fall Show runs smoothly. Please stop in at Town Hall and sign up or call Pat Thomas, Craft Show Director, at 703.491.2168. Thanks, in advance, for your help.

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCOCOQUAN

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OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE VIII TOWN HALL: 703-491-1918 AUGUST 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

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

MAYOR'S LETTER

I am pleased to announce this month that progress continues on our long quest to convert to park land the decommissioned water treatment plant at the northwestern end of town. As reported in an earlier newsletter, Fairfax Water, Prince William County, and the town have signed a memorandum of agreement regarding the property's future. Last month, the county and the town agreed to a boundary adjustment that will place all of the approximately 1.11 acres of park land within town boundaries. The parties are now negotiating the long-term lease for the site, and Fairfax Water has indicated that they plan to begin removal of the tanks in late 2013, or early 2014.

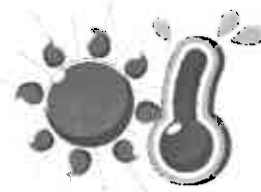
We have a number of interesting events coming up in August. On Sunday, August 4, the inaugural *Tour of the Towns – Tour of Prince William* cycling event will pass through Occoquan. Riders on 27, 35, and 100 mile routes will start and finish just outside of town boundaries. Several Occoquan businesses have sponsored the event, and we hope participants will visit town at the event's conclusion. On Thursday, August 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall, the Occoquan Historical Society will be hosting the next installment in its lecture series. This free lecture will feature archaeologists working on the historic and pre-historic site digs just across the river in old Colchester.

As some of you are aware, in late June Claudia Cruise resigned as Town Manager. We thank her for her years of service and wish her the best. The Town Council has appointed Sheldon Levi Acting Town Manager on an interim basis. Starting this month, Chief Levi will be extending Town Hall's operating hours to 4:00 p.m. Chief Levi has started a brief, regular column with this month's newsletter.

Recently, the town Zoning Administrator has rejected several deck applications, which has prompted the Town Council to remind everyone of the rules that apply to construction of decks. A special insert in this month's newsletter addresses the issue. Last, the Electoral Board has requested that the town consider moving its elections from May to November, as some other local jurisdictions recently have done. This would save the town several thousand dollars, make the elections part of the common November election cycle, and result in voting at the Occoquan Elementary School polling location. The Town Council is interested in resident feedback on the issue, and has set up the email account, "survey@occoquan.org" to receive feedback through the end of the month. Once again, thank you for your support and feel free to contact me at eporta@occoquan.org with any comments, questions or concerns.

At the July 2, 2013 meeting, the Town Council voted to:

- ◆ Approve the audit firm of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates for FY 2013
- ◆ Approve the Mamie Davis account budget
- ◆ Approve the Arts and Craft Show budget
- ◆ Approve the formation of an Arts and Craft Show Committee
- ◆ Approve the purchase of a new Town truck



AUGUST 2013

VFW Post 7916 to Serve as a Cooling Station

Cool down at the VFW! Our own VFW Post 7916, located at 204 Mill Street, has been designated as a temporary Emergency Cooling Station. When the heat index gets above 95 degrees, the public in the downtown area may come in and cool off. Water and restrooms will be available. The Post can also serve as a prep location if someone requires evacuation. Please contact the Post at 703-491-1884 should you have any questions.

Virginia Sales Tax Holiday—August 2-4, 2013

During this three-day period, purchases of qualifying school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and purchases of qualifying clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from sales tax. Retailers may also choose to absorb the tax on other items during the holiday period, but they are responsible for paying the tax on those items to the Department of Taxation.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
4 Tour of the Towns Bike Tour	5	6 7:00 - Town Council	7	8 6:30 OHS Lecture	9	10 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
11	12	13 6:30 - Planning Commission 7:30 - ARB	14	15	16	17 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market
25	26 6:30—ORC	27	28	29	30	31 8:00 - Noon Farmers Market