

The town would like to express its deepest sympathy to the family of Richard J. Hall, a town resident since 2006, who passed away on November 19, 2011.



OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCOCOQUAN

Email: Info@ococoquan.org Town Hall: 703-491-1918

Founded in 1734

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

**CARRIER ROUTE
OCOCOQUAN, VA 22125**

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Ococoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XX, ISSUE XII

TOWN HALL: (703) 491-1918

DECEMBER 2011

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 & Clerk
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Janet D. Quenzer, Administrative Assistant
Bucky Brill, Grounds and Maintenance Tech
Patricia Thomas, Arts and Crafts Show Director

MAYOR'S LETTER

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Business Guild's Holiday Open House on November 18, as well as those who attended the town tree lighting that same evening. Both were well and enthusiastically attended by residents and visitors alike. I want to extend a special thanks to those who volunteered to decorate the town tree and serve as Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign bell ringers that evening - Rick and Andrea Coulson, Doug Kittel, Kristyn Gleason, Julie Marshall, Patch O'Riordan, Cindy Reeder, Sharon Helton, and Petra and Tony Casipit.

On November 26, the OMA sponsored Santa's annual trip to Ococoquan by boat, after which he met with children at Town Hall. He will be visiting town several times again, including on December 17 and 18, when you can join Santa on a cruise of the Ococoquan River. For more information on this event, please go to www.ococoquanmerchantsassociation.com. Our holiday celebrations will continue on Sunday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m., with a service and Town Blessing at Ebenezer Baptist Church, followed promptly by the free town holiday party at *Madigan's Waterfront*.

Our town merchants, as you know, depend heavily on the holiday season, so I ask that you once again please consider patronizing them for your holiday shopping needs. The OMA is sponsoring a drawing at noon on Saturday, December 10, in front of Town Hall for those who shop at participating stores in town between now and the 10th. And as always, during the holidays Ococoquan makes a particular effort to remember those who are less fortunate. We are once again hosting an "Untrim-a-Tree" program for needy children, and *Simply Country* is sponsoring the annual "Tree of Hope" drive to benefit the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center's Resident Rent Fund. Details on both initiatives are contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

There are always enjoyable events going on in Ococoquan, and a number of media outlets give us terrific coverage. In particular, in addition to a variety of websites devoted to the town, I encourage everyone to regularly check the *News & Messenger*, *Lake Ridge - Ococoquan Patch*, and *PotomacLocal.com*. Each has done a great job in giving us timely and comprehensive coverage over the past year. Please enjoy a safe and joyful holiday, and do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@ococoquan.org with any comments, questions, or concerns.

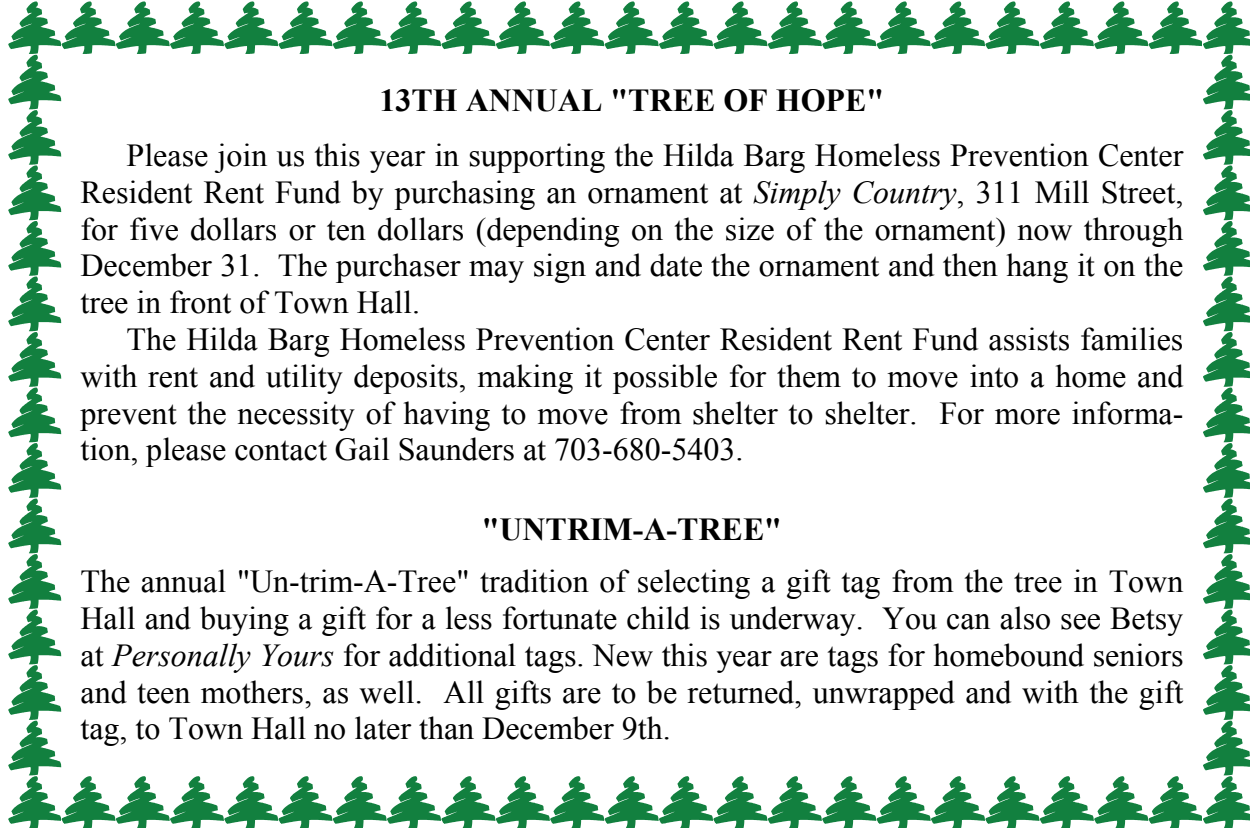
Earnest W. Porta, Jr.

At the November 2011 meeting, the Council voted to:

- ♦ approve Gifford Hampshire, with Blankenship and Keith, P.C., to represent the town in the Lynn/Casagrande matter
- ♦ awarded the 2011-2012 snow removal contract to First Choice



DECEMBER 2011



13TH ANNUAL "TREE OF HOPE"

Please join us this year in supporting the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center Resident Rent Fund by purchasing an ornament at *Simply Country*, 311 Mill Street, for five dollars or ten dollars (depending on the size of the ornament) now through December 31. The purchaser may sign and date the ornament and then hang it on the tree in front of Town Hall.

The Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center Resident Rent Fund assists families with rent and utility deposits, making it possible for them to move into a home and prevent the necessity of having to move from shelter to shelter. For more information, please contact Gail Saunders at 703-680-5403.

"UNTRIM-A-TREE"

The annual "Un-trim-A-Tree" tradition of selecting a gift tag from the tree in Town Hall and buying a gift for a less fortunate child is underway. You can also see Betsy at *Personally Yours* for additional tags. New this year are tags for homebound seniors and teen mothers, as well. All gifts are to be returned, unwrapped and with the gift tag, to Town Hall no later than December 9th.

TOWN BLESSING and HOLIDAY PARTY

Please join your friends and neighbors for the annual Town Blessing at Ebenezer Baptist Church this Sunday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m. Immediately following the blessing will be the town's party at *Madigan's Waterfront Restaurant*. We hope to see you there!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 5:00 Town Blessing and Party 	5	6 7:00 Town Council	7	8 6:30 - OHS	9	10 Noon - OMA Shopping Spree Drawing at Town Hall
11	12	13 6:30 - PC 7:30 - ARB	14	15 7:00 - Hollows	16	17
18	19	20  Hanukkah begins at sundown	21	22	23 Town Hall Closed	24
25  Christmas	26 Town Hall Closed	27	28	29	30 Town Hall Closed	31 New Year's Eve 