

**Notice to Property Owners Concerning Permits**

At its November meeting, the Town Council voted not to fill the position of Town Building Official. As a result, building and related permits are now administered by Prince William County. The telephone number for the county permit office is 703-792-6924.

**Building Permits**

Plans to be submitted with County building permit applications must first be submitted to Town Hall for approval by the Zoning Administrator.

**Architectural Review Board**

Any property located within the Historic District may also have to submit plans to the ARB for approval before seeking a county permit. The ARB meets once a month on the first Tuesday. All submissions are to be completed and in Town Hall the Wednesday before the meeting.

**OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER**

**TOWN OF OCOQUAN**

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  
OCOQUAN, VA 22125**

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

**OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME XVIV, ISSUE II**

**TOWN HALL: (703) 491-1918**

**FEBRUARY 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  
Anderton Burke, Treasurer  
Sheldon E. Levi, Town Sergeant  
Janet D. Quenzer, Administrative Assistant  
Bucky Brill, Grounds and Maintenance Tech  
Gina G. Garcia, Arts and Crafts Show Director

**MAYOR'S LETTER**

As we slowly approach springtime, we will once more be preparing for a wide variety of events in town, including our spring arts and crafts show. This year, as many of you are aware, the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration kicks into high gear. In conjunction with that effort, the Occoquan Historical Society (OHS) recently announced an initiative, organized by Dolores Elder, to collect and post on the OHS web site information about individuals and units that participated in Civil War-related events in and around Occoquan. When you get an opportunity, please visit the *Civil War Legacy Project* on the OHS web site ([www.occoquanhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.occoquanhistoricalsociety.org)) to learn a bit more about Occoquan's Civil War past, and contribute any information you might be willing to share. Also related to the sesquicentennial, I am very pleased to announce that thanks to the efforts of the CVB, in May Occoquan will be a stop on the 2011 *Ken Burns American Journeys* Civil War Tour. This is a great opportunity for the town, and I will pass along additional information about the tour as it becomes available.

We are talking a great deal about history this month—keep your eyes open in the coming weeks for a new kind of historical marker in town. This month I am installing a few test QR (Quick Response) barcode historical markers to supplement our existing town and county historical markers, Civil War trails and OHS displays, and building plaques. These barcodes, which are just starting to be used more extensively in the U.S., can be constructed and updated very inexpensively and read by a wide variety of camera phones. They will likely never replace our traditional markers, but have the potential to be very useful in providing a great deal of supplemental historical information to a wider group of visitors. I am installing the first marker near the *Pink Bicycle Tea Room*, but plan to place test markers elsewhere in town over the next few weeks.

Finally, let me close by expressing my appreciation to everyone who has been helping out with snow removal and generally maintaining a positive attitude during the streak of bad weather we have experienced lately. Another month or so and we should hopefully at least be beyond the snow. Thank you as always for your continued support, and please feel free to contact me at [eporta@occoquan.org](mailto:eporta@occoquan.org) with any comments, questions or concerns.

*Earnest W. Porta, Jr.*

**At the January 2011 meeting, the Council voted to:**

- ♦ approve scheduling a Joint Public Hearing to solicit public comment regarding the request for a special use permit for 107 Poplar Lane
- ♦ appoint Robert Butterfield as an auxiliary police officer



# FEBRUARY 2011

## 2010 Tree of Hope Project

During the holiday season, the tree in front of Town Hall becomes the "Tree of Hope" for the families at the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center. This year we raised \$1,050 which will assist families with costs that are necessary to get a new start, such as rent and utility deposits.

I want to thank everyone who purchased an ornament. Your support and generosity has given a gift that will make a difference in someone's life. Special thanks to those who got the tree ready with lights and decorations. It was beautiful!

For further information about the shelter and the rent fund, contact Gail Saunders at (703) 680-5403.

Kathy Smith  
Simply Country

### A reminder:

Town of Occoquan 2010 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, Ext. 1. Office hours are 9:00 to 3:30, Monday through Friday. Any messages left after hours will be returned the next business day.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 6:45 Joint Public Hearing 7:00 Town Council	9 	10 5:00 OHS	11	12
13	14	15 7:30 ARB	16 	17 7:00 - Hollows HOA	18	19
20	21 Presidents' Day Town Hall Closed	22	23 	24	25	26
27	28					