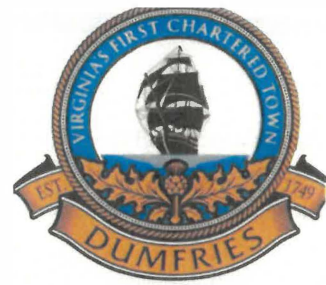


# THE CHARTER

Winter/Spring 2023



Greetings Dumfries,

With the arrival of spring, many of us feel a sense of renewal and rejuvenation. One way to harness this energy is through spring cleaning, which not only helps tidy up your physical space, but also has positive mental health benefits. Research has shown that a clean and organized environment can contribute to feelings of calm, clarity, and focus, while a cluttered space can cause stress and anxiety.

As we approach spring holidays like Easter and Mother's Day, we encourage you to take some time to reflect on what truly matters to you. Spending time with loved ones, creating a peaceful home environment, and giving back to your community are all great ways to find meaning and purpose during this season.

In addition to spring cleaning, there are plenty of fun and exciting events happening in Dumfries this spring. Stay connected with our social media accounts for updates on events like the farmer's market, Easter egg hunt, and more. These events are a great way to get outside, connect with others in the community, and celebrate the season.

(Continued on Page 1)

## NEWS CORNER :

**The Mayor's Voice**

**Black History and Youth  
Town Hall Spotlight**

**Code Red**

**Autism Appreciation**

**Easter Bunny Coming to  
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**RAD Program**

**Market on Main**

**Flood Awareness  
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**Expungement Clinic**

**Springtime Fun**

## The Mayor's Voice (Continued from Page 1)

We hope you take advantage of all the wonderful opportunities that spring offers and enjoy a happy and healthy season.

I wanted to reflect on some of the accomplishments we've already achieved and share some exciting news about what's to come in the Town.

Firstly, we are thrilled to announce that we are establishing a committee to plan a celebration in 2024 to mark the 275th anniversary of our town's charter. This is a significant milestone in our town's history, and we want to ensure we celebrate it in style. But we can't do it alone - we need your input and help! We welcome any ideas you have on how we should celebrate the Town of Dumfries and encourage you to get involved in the planning process. Together, we can make this a celebration to remember.

Your Town is also in the process of building a National Fitness Court Studio near Ginn Memorial Park and the Old Rescue Squad on Graham Park Road. This state-of-the-art facility is designed to provide a free outdoor workout experience for all fitness levels. It includes seven stations with more than 30 exercises that can be completed in just seven minutes. The fitness court is a great way to promote healthy living and provide a space for residents to come together and exercise. We are excited to announce that the National Fitness Court Studio is expected to be ready in late spring, just in time for the warmer weather. We can't wait to see this new facility's positive impact on our community.

In addition to these accomplishments, we are currently working on our town's budget for the upcoming year. This is an important process that determines how our town's resources are allocated, and we need your input. There will be public presentations and public hearings where you can provide feedback, both written and verbal. Your opinions are an important part of the budget process, and we encourage you to get involved and share your thoughts with us.

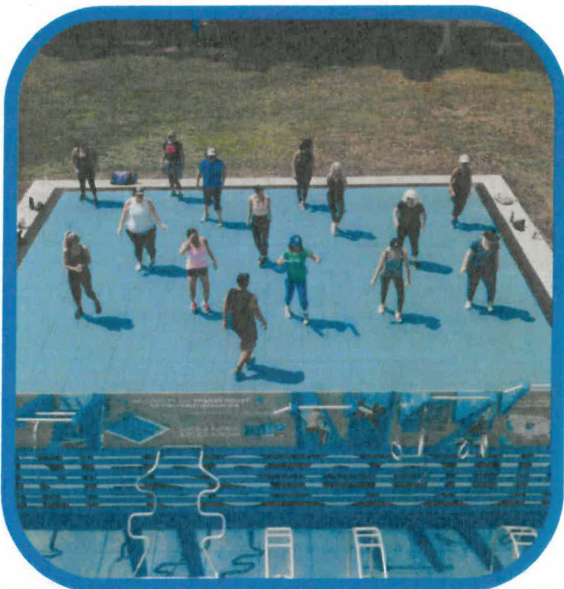
We are grateful for all the hard work and dedication of our community members, staff, and volunteers who make these achievements possible. We remain committed to making Dumfries a vibrant and thriving place to live, work, and play.

I want to leave you with these words of wisdom from Professor C. S. Lewis.

*"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."*

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more updates with you soon.

Mayor Derrick R Wood



# Dumfries Black History and Youth Town Hall Spotlight



## Have You Signed Up for Code Red?

CodeRED is an important tool to help keep you informed and prepared for any emergencies that may occur in our area. Officials will send messages to alert you of emergency details, instructions, or precautions that you need to make well-informed decisions and remain safe. This system is precise enough to geotarget residents within an exact area of impact so that only those people who are affected by emergency situation are noticed.

The CodeRED® system will be used to send critical communications, from evacuation notices to missing child alerts.

### THREE WAYS TO SIGN UP!

- By computer or laptop: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFEAC5054D36>
- By cell phone: text the word Dumfries to 99411
- To receive notifications while traveling, download the mobile app:  
<https://www.onsolve.com/solutions/products/codered/mobile-alert-app/codered-mobile-apps-download/>



## Autism Appreciation Day April 23, 2023

Chair Pro Tern Selonia Miles is hosting the first ever Autism Appreciation Day in Dumfries on April 23, 2023, at Garrison Park from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm. The event will be a sensory-friendly field day for children on the spectrum. There will be food vendors and much more.

For more information regarding this event, please email Chair Pro Tern Selonia Miles at [honsmiles@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:honsmiles@dumfriesva.gov).



## The Easter Bunny is Coming to Dumfries

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
APRIL 8TH @ 10:30AM | GINN MEMORIAL PARK

Join us for a FREE Dumfries Community Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Pillar Church. There will be 4 egg hunts for different age groups, ranging from babies-12 years.

Face Painting  
Bounce House  
Pictures with Easter Bunny

Spoon Races  
Sack Races  
Popcorn

The Town of Dumfries is partnering with Pillar Church for this year's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 11:00 am in Ginn Park. This year's event will include bouncy houses, Peter Cotton-Tail, games, free food, and lots and lots of Easter eggs.

For more information regarding this event, please email [iramseyer@pillarchurchsbc.com](mailto:iramseyer@pillarchurchsbc.com).

## Prince William Public Defender's Office - Book Drive in Dumfries

**BOOK DRIVE**

**BOOKS NEEDED**

- Hardcover or Paperback
- Non-fiction or Fiction
- Children's Books (All Ages)
- Audiobooks
- E-books
- No textbooks or reference books
- No encyclopedias
- No dictionaries
- No comic books
- No magazines
- No newspapers
- No reference books
- No video games

**RESTRICTIONS**

- No damaged or worn books
- No books with missing pages
- No books with missing covers
- No books with missing spines
- No books with missing pages
- No books with missing covers
- No books with missing spines

The Prince William Public Defender's Office is hosting a Paperback Book Drive from Monday, March 13, until Monday, May 15, in the Wilmer J. Porter Building lobby, 17739 Main Street in Dumfries. Their mission is to expand access to diverse books for people incarcerated in Prince William County through community collaboration.

For more information, email [pwdefenderslivinglibrary@gmail.com](mailto:pwdefenderslivinglibrary@gmail.com).

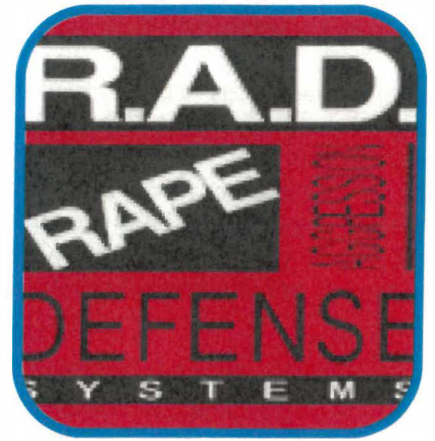
## RAD Program in Dumfries

What would you do if you faced a violent or other dangerous situation? Would you run? Would you comply with your attacker's demands? Would you defend yourself? Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) is fundamental, hands-on training that teaches women how to protect themselves in the event of an attack. It combines classroom instruction on awareness, prevention, risk reduction, avoidance, and basic hands-on defense tactics. Certified deputy RAD instructors teach the course. No two situations are the same, but you CAN develop a plan to help you survive an attack. After all, YOU are the one who is ultimately responsible for your personal safety.

The Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) Basic Physical Defense Program for Women is a 12-hour course offered exclusively to women and young women. A variety of topics are covered, with an emphasis on the "4 Risks of Personal Safety", physical defense techniques, and responsibility in decision-making/ The techniques are practical self-defense tactics, easy to learn and use, make you more aware of awareness and avoidance strategies to reduce your risk of attack.

The sessions are scheduled to start on March 22, 2023, with meetings on March 25 (Saturday), March 28, and March 31 to conclude the session. We will meet from 5-8 PM each night except for March 25, 2023. On March 25, 2023, we will meet from 10 AM-1PM. Please check your schedules and ensure you can attend ALL four instructional nights. Dress comfortably and wear tennis shoes and feel free to bring snacks and any non-alcoholic beverage to the facility. The class will take place at the Community Center located at 3800 Graham Park Rd. in the Town of Dumfries.

**To register, email 1st Sgt. Nicole Kephart at [nkephartepwcv.gov](mailto:nkephartepwcv.gov). Space is limited to 15 participants.**

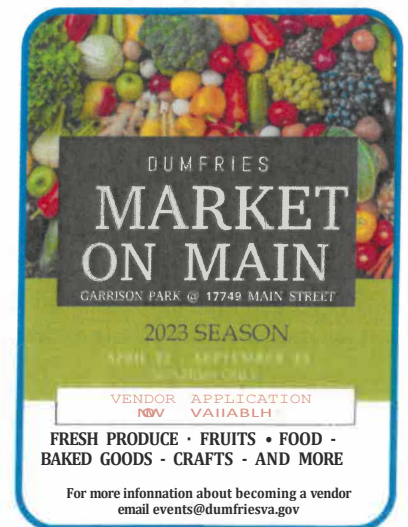


## Dumfries Market on Main - New Location, New Vibe

The Town of Dumfries is excited to announce the grand opening of "Market on Main." The market will be located at Garrison Park, 17749 Main Street, beginning on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This year's market offer a variety of vendors, community organizations, entertainment, and family activities. The relocation of the market was to allow better visibility for our vendors. The market season will end on Saturday, September 23.

This year's grand opening will include vendors, produce, food, live music, a petting zoo, a bounce house, a rock climbing wall, and more. So come out and welcome spring with us at the Market on Main!

If you want more information about the market or vendor opportunities, please email [events@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:events@dumfriesva.gov). The vendor application is available at [www.managemymarket.com](http://www.managemymarket.com).



## SpringTime Fun in Dumfries

The Town of Dumfries is partnering with Prince William County Parks and Recreation to offer Springtime Fun at 3800 Graham Park Road. Springtime Fun will offer three programs for youth ages 5 to 13. Registration will begin on April 11 at [pwcparks.org](http://pwcparks.org). In-person registration will be available at Chinn Aquatics and Fitness Center, Sharon Baucumm Dale City Rec Center, or Veterans Community Center.

Junk Art Journal (Ages 8-13) - April 22-May 6, 2023 (Saturdays Only) - \$54  
Pee Wee Baseball Clinic (Ages 5-7) - May 1-22, 2023 - \$45  
Paperclip Arts (Ages 8-13) - May 13 & 20, 2023 - \$41

For registration information, email [jlafleur@pwcv.gov](mailto:jlafleur@pwcv.gov). For financial assistance (Dumfries residents only), email [thill@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:thill@dumfriesva.gov).



## Flood Awareness Week - March 12 - 18, 2023

Flood Awareness Week, March 12-18, 2023, is a time to inform all Virginians about flood risk and the importance of flood insurance. Anywhere it can rain, it can flood. Flooding can happen anytime, and the Town of Dumfries wants to ensure you and your family is prepared. You can't control the weather, but you can prepare for it. FEMA and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) encourage all Dumfries residents to purchase flood insurance today to protect their homes and families before local flood risks occur. Policies typically take up to 30 days to go into effect.

Here are three things to know about flooding: • Just one inch of water in an average-sized home can cause more than \$25,000 in damage: In 2017, the average flood claim payment was more than \$90,000. • Flooding can happen anywhere, not just in high-risk areas: More than 25% of flood insurance claims come from outside the high-risk flood area. • Most homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage: With a flood policy from the NFIP, you're covered—up to \$250,000 for your home and \$100,000 for belongings. Please feel free to contact NFIP with questions or to learn more about the right level of coverage for your home or business.

### Dumfries Spring Clean-Up - April 15, 2023

The Town of Dumfries Annual Spring Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm. This year's event will also include stormwater markings. To register as a volunteer or for more information, please email [rnickerson@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:rnickerson@dumfriesva.gov).



### Job Fair & Career Expo- March 21, 2023

Would you be interested in new employment opportunities? Look no further than the Community Job Fair & Career Expo, presented by The Commonwealth of Virginia (Virginia Employment Commission and Virginia Career Works), and hosted by Mayor Derrick Wood and Vice Mayor Monae Nickerson, will be held on March 21st from 11 am to 4:30 pm at 3800 Graham Park Rd, Dumfries, VA, for a chance to connect with employers from Dumfries and Prince William County.

Registration is now open at [TODJobFair.eventbrite.com](https://TODJobFair.eventbrite.com).



### Expungement Clinic - April 22, 2023

Attention Dumfries community! Vice Mayor Monae Nickerson and Chair Pro Tem Selonia Miles will host their 2nd Annual Expungement Clinic in Dumfries! This event offers a unique opportunity for people with criminal records to get free legal advice on how to clear their records and move forward with their lives. Whether you're struggling to find a job, housing, or other opportunities because of your criminal history or want a fresh start, we're here to help.

Join them on April 22, 2023, from 9 AM to 1 PM for expert advice, resources, and support. A team of skilled attorneys, public servants, and volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions, guide you through the process, and help you determine if expungement is the right option for you. For more information, email [honnickerson@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:honnickerson@dumfriesva.gov) or [honsmiles@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:honsmiles@dumfriesva.gov).



### Get Involved in Your Town

The Town of Dumfries seeks volunteers to assist us with various events and programs. If you want to serve your community and be involved, please email [thill@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:thill@dumfriesva.gov). In the subject line, type VOLUNTEER, and in the body of the email, please provide your contact information. Below are just a few ways you can serve.

Boards and Commissions, Christmas Parade, Fall Festival, Market on Main, Clean-Ups, 275th Charter Celebration, etc.)



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# THE CHARTER

WINTER/SPRING  
2023

*1739 Main Street, Unit 200  
Dumfries, VA 22026*

