

THE CHARTER

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FIRST QUARTER, 2015

Dumfries Black History Celebration

**50 Year Anniversary of
the Voting Rights Act**

**Little Union
Baptist Church
17150 Mine Road
Dumfries, VA**

**Starting at 11 am
February 28**



Join the Town of Dumfries as we celebrate Black History Month at Little Union Baptist Church on February 28 at 11 am. Guest speakers will include Terrance Davis of the Northern Virginia Buffalo Soldiers and poet/writer Hazel Sykes. Musical performances by the Dumfries Elementary School chorus and the Little Union Baptist Church Men's Choir. Mayor Foreman and the Dumfries Town Council will be on hand to welcome visitors for the event. A reception will follow at the church.

Farewell Forrester

The Dumfries Town Council said farewell to Councilwoman Kristen Forrester at the December Town Council meeting. Councilwoman Forrester recently accepted a job in Spain working for the U.S. Government. We would like to thank Ms Forrester for her service to the Town of Dumfries and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

William Murphy is currently serving as interim Councilman. The Town of Dumfries will hold a special election on April 14, 2015 to fill her seat. See page 5 for more on the special election.



Councilwoman Forrester is honored for her service at the December Dumfries Town Council meeting
(Forrester pictured with Mayor Foreman)

Inside...



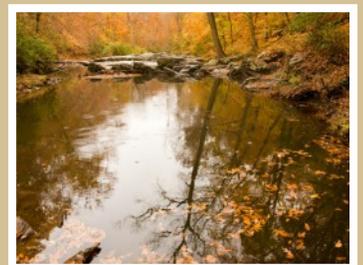
Mayor's Reading Challenge....2



Parade Winners.....4



New Captain in Town....5



Quantico Creek Clean-up.....7

THE CHARTER

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FIRST QUARTER, 2015

NEWS FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

2015 is upon us and I wish everyone a fun filled year. There is a lot happening in our Town, the Public Works Department, Parks & Recreations Commission, Dumfries Police Department, Community Services Department, Dumfries Cares and Historic Dumfries Virginia (Weems Botts Museum) all have events planned throughout the year for the entire family. Take the opportunity to enjoy a day at one of our three Parks (Garrison, Ginn Memorial and Merchant), to learn more about winter and spring activities visit our Town website <http://www.dumfriesva.gov/>, Historic Dumfries Virginia <http://www.historicdumfries.com/> and the General Heiser Boys and Girls Club of Dumfries <http://www.bgcgw.org/heiser/>

The next several months are important; as the Council and Town Staff enter the Mid-Year Review of the Town's Annual Operating Budget there is an alignment of spending priorities with operational goals. A mid-year review is essential for establishing a Fiscal Year 2016 Town Operating Budget. Both the Mid-Year Review and the planning for the Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget require citizen and business owner comments. Be involved, this is your tax money being spent.

During the winter months it is important if you park on a public street to pay attention to Snow Emergency Routes in Town. If the Town activates the Snow Emergency Route, your vehicle can be towed. When a storm is approaching please visit the Town's website or turn on the Community channel for public notices. In 2014 the Town activated the Snow Emergency Route for the first time in years; numerous vehicles were towed. We do not need a repeat of the event.

If you are interested in participating in Town government as an elected official, serving on a commission, volunteering to assist with events or serving as an advisor, please contact me. If there is anything I can do to encourage or facilitate your involvement I am ready to provide you assistance. As always, please continue sharing this publication and spreading the word about what's good and going on in the Town of Dumfries. Our Dumfries Town government must be transparent and inclusive; as Mayor I have a duty to listen and understand your priorities. If you have a concern or an idea, please contact me at 703-895-4715. We will set up an appointment for a call or meeting at your convenience. I look forward to seeing you around Town.



**MAYOR GERALD
FOREMAN II**

The Mayor is the chief elected executive official of the Town. The Mayor is first among equals on the town's legislative body. The Mayor chairs the council meetings, signs governing documents, makes ceremonial appearances and carries additional responsibilities as per the Town Charter and State Statute.

Mayor's Contact Information
703-895-4715
hongforeman@dumfriesva.gov
www.gmforeman.com

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MAYOR ANNOUNCES READING CHALLENGE



Mayor Foreman has issued a reading challenge to students at Dumfries Elementary School to read as many books as possible on an approved reading list by March 20, 2015. Students must show they read the books by providing the author, title, and a short review of the book along with verification from a parent or guardian. The winning classroom for each grade level will win a pizza party sponsored by the Town of Dumfries. Acceptable books were selected by the Mayor and school administrators.

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Taber's Take

It's Your Town.....

Jurisdictional boundaries, businesses, houses, subdivisions and parks do not truly define a community. It is the people that live within those boundaries that define community. A real community is characterized by people supporting people and showing genuine concern for the well-being of others. A real community is made up of individuals who embrace diversity, express their opinions, listen and try to understand the opinions of others and who are willing to get involved in matters of collective interest. A real community can embrace an idea, discuss all sides of it, contribute input and watch it grow into a reality. The time is right and opportunities are available for our residents and businesses to get more involved and share ideas with Town staff and elected officials. It has always been your Town simply because you live here or conduct your business here. My challenge to you for 2015 is simple.



Town Manager Dan Taber

It's Your Town, Now Make It Your Community.....

Voter Registration Information

You may submit your application to register to vote year-round, but changes to the voter rolls are not processed during the 21 days prior to elections.

In person:

9250 Lee Avenue, Suite 1
Manassas, Virginia 20110

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F

Co-Location in the DMV building
2731 Caton Hill Road

Woodbridge, Virginia 22192

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F & 8 a.m. to
noon Saturdays

DUMFRIES SPECIAL ELECTION

On April 14, 2015, The Town of Dumfries will hold a Special Election to fill the seat of departed Councilwoman Kristen Forrester. The seat is currently filled by William Murphy, who was appointed by the Town Council to serve in the position until the special election. Murphy, who has served on the Board of Zoning Appeals for the past 5 years, suspended his duties on the BZA to accept the appointment.

"The Town of Dumfries will bear no financial burden "

The Prince William County Office of Elections approached the Town Council at the January 6th Council meeting about the possibility of Dumfries serving as a pilot program for newly purchased voting equipment to be used in the June 2015 State primaries. In a letter to

the Town, General Registrar Rokey Suleman said "When the Office of Elections learned the Town of Dumfries would need to hold a Special Election, we realized that we would have an opportunity to conduct a pilot on our equipment in our own county...Prince William County will absorb the entire cost of the election. The Town of Dumfries will bear no financial burden."

Absentee in-person voting begins February 27 at the Manassas & Woodbridge Office of Elections locations. The last day to register to vote in the April Special Election will be March 31.

Intended features of the paper based pilot program will include:

- Shorter voting lines
- Multiple ballot stations
- 3-4 seconds per machine
- Corrections can be made



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“VIRGINIA’S OLDEST TOWN”
TOWN OF DUMFRIES
17755 MAIN STREET
DUMFRIES, VA 22026

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor Gerald Foreman
Vice-Mayor Willie Toney
Councilman Charles Brewer
Councilwoman Helen Reynolds
Councilwoman Gwen Washington
Councilman Derrick Wood
Interim Councilman William Murphy

HOW TO FIND US DIAL 703-221-3400 PLUS:

Mayor.....	x120
Town Manager.....	x113
Town Attorney.....	x140
Treasurer.....	x110
Town Clerk.....	x114
Front Office.....	x101
Public Works.....	x116
Zoning & Planning.....	x118
Information Technology.....	x115
Community Services.....	x144
Dumfries Cares.....	x146
Police Department.....	703-221-1111
Fax.....	703-221-3544

Email: info@dumfriesva.gov
Parks & Rec: parksandrec@dumfriesva.gov
Website: www.dumfriesva.gov

 /DumfriesVA

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 /DumfriesVA

40TH ANNUAL DUMFRIES CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS

The 40th Annual Dumfries Christmas Parade was held on Saturday, December 13. There were over 50 entries from area businesses, non-profit organizations, schools, and clubs. Winners were selected from a panel of judges who took part in the event. The Town of Dumfries would like to congratulate the winners and thank everyone for their participation in this year's Christmas festivities!

Vehicle/Motorcycle Group

1. Top Flight Corvette Club
2. DMV Car Club
3. Honda Riders Manassas

Youth Group / Scouting Troop

1. Leesylvania Cub Scouts
2. Mt. Zion Baptist Church
3. Neabsco GS Troop

Business / Non-profit Float

1. Prince William Forest National Park
2. Prince William Yellow Cab
3. Lord Charlton Kennel & Pet Spa

Dance Group / Marching Band

1. Freedom HS Soul Squad
2. Marine Corps Band
3. Ja'Tamo Drama/Dance Team

Police / Fire / Honor Guard

1. Dumfries Triangle Rescue Squad
2. Dumfries Fire Dept.
3. Army Color Guard

Military / ROTC

1. Freedom AF JROTC
2. Woodbridge JROTC
3. Army Drum & Fife

The Prince William County Toys for Tots float, carrying parade Grand Marshals Colonel Allen Broughton and Sgt. Major Mark Byrd, took Best In Show at the 40th Annual Dumfries Christmas Parade. According to Tiffanie Wells, Toys for Tots float coordinator for Prince William County, "Toys for Tots float team shares the mission of the Marine Corps to provide toys for children. It is our goal to raise awareness to the Northern VA/ DC area to reach out and donate toys to fill the big white boxes! This years float supporters include Home Depot, Battlefield Ford, Eastern Memorials, Woodbine Church, and Manassas Transfer." The judges for this year's parade, Khrissy Padberg, Mayra Torres, and Uriah Kiser chose the Toys for Tots float from over 50 entries. The Town of Dumfries would like to thank Marine Corps Base Quantico and Prince William County Toys for Tots for their service and participation in our Holiday Events.

"TOYS FOR TOTS FLOAT TEAM SHARES THE MISSION OF THE MARINE CORPS TO PROVIDE TOYS FOR CHILDREN." - TIFFANIE WELLS



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DUMFRIES POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES CAPTAIN PROMOTION

CAPTAIN JOSE VAZQUEZ

Captain Jose L. Vazquez was promoted December 1, 2014. He joined the Dumfries Police Department in January 2012. He has a total of approximately thirteen years of law enforcement experience with ten years as a supervisor.

Captain Vazquez has experience as a supervisor in patrol/field operations, criminal investigations, narcotics/street crimes, warrants, evidence, field training, and recruitment. He has several certifications that includes certification as an instructor and field training officer, and has instructed at law enforcement academies, to include the Prince William Training Academy. He has successfully completed several supervisory and leadership courses.

Captain Vazquez is a respected leader who has the respect and works very well with police department and Town staff, and other law enforcement and public service agencies. He is active in the community and is well known by many Town residents. He is a proven trustworthy supervisor who is dedicated to continuing to lead the police officers and staff of the Dumfries Police Department forward in a professional manner as we continue to improve our performance.

The Town and police department are truly fortunate to have Captain Vazquez as a member of our agency and leadership team. Congratulations to Captain Vazquez on his accomplishment!

Captain Jose Vazquez
(703) 221-1111 extension 214
Email: vazquez@dumfriesva.gov

OFFICER T. DESHAWN SIMS GRADUATES

On December 10th, Officer Sims graduated from the Direct Leadership Course. This course is an academic approach to the study of leadership in organizations. The course includes lessons on individual development, motivation and stress, group dynamics, leadership theory/skills and finishes with a brief discussion of organizations and ethics. Eight hour classes were conducted once a week from September thru December 10, 2014. Congratulations to Officer Sims!

Officer T. DeShawn Sims
(703) 221-1111 extension 212
email: tsims@dumfriesva.gov



Captain Jose Vazquez
Williamstown Liaison

NEIGHBORHOOD & BUSINESS COMMUNITY LIAISONS

The Town of Dumfries has been divided into five areas for the purpose of assigning Police Officers who will serve as a Neighborhood and Business Community Liaison for each designated area. A Police Officer will also be assigned to each established Home Owners Association as well. The purpose of the Neighborhood and Business Community Liaison Officer is to serve as the primary contact for citizens and business owners who are located within a specified area to contact when they have general questions, concerns, or issues that are related to law enforcement.

If a citizen or business owner is not certain in which area their home or business is located, they should contact the Dumfries Police Department at (703) 221-1111 to speak with someone for assistance.

Citizens and business owners should still contact 9-1-1 in cases where there is an emergency; and dispatch at (703) 792-6500 to file a report.

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WINTER WEATHER TIPS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Winter Safe Travel Tips

Winter is upon us. The Dumfries Police Department would like to offer the following tips to increase your chances of a safe journey during inclement weather.

When it snows, use your head not your feet. Slow down for wet, snowy, or icy conditions; when visibility is poor; or when conditions are changing or unpredictable; no matter what type of vehicle you drive. Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady spots. These are all candidates for developing black ice - a thin coating of clear ice that can form on the pavement surface that may be difficult to see.

Space out! Leave plenty of room between your vehicle and others. It takes more time and distance to stop your vehicle in adverse weather conditions, so use your brakes carefully. Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and *never* slam on the brakes.

No Cruising! Avoid using cruise control in winter driving conditions. You need to be in control of your speed based on road conditions - don't let the cruise control make a bad decision for you.

Remember: Winter conditions call for different driving tactics. Ice and snow, take it slow - slower speed, slower acceleration, slower steering, and slower braking.

When you start your car in the morning, do not leave the keys in your vehicle and the door unlocked should you decide to return to the house. Remember, criminals look for easy targets and moments of opportunity. You are inviting the theft of your vehicle.

Completely clean your vehicle of ice and snow before traveling. Snow on your windshield and side windows reduce your view of potential hazards.

Don't crowd the plow. Snowplows plow far and wide - sometimes very wide. The front plow extends several feet in front of the truck and may cross the centerline and shoulders during plowing operations. Snowplows also turn and exit the road frequently.

The Dumfries Police Department wishes everyone safe travels during the winter season!

Winter Weather Storm Precautions

Severe weather storms create many serious issues. One of which is the loss of electricity for extended periods of time.

Food Safety Precautions - In the case of an electrical outage, it is important to take careful precautions to ensure food safety. The risk of food poisoning is heightened when refrigerators and ovens are inoperable.

- Discard any food that has been at room temperature for two hours or more, and any food that has an unusual odor, color or texture. Just remember, "When in doubt, throw it out!"
- If your power has been out for 48 hours or longer – and you have NOT made other provisions for keeping your food at or below 41 degrees F – do not eat it.
- If you have made other provisions to keep your food cold, make sure the temperature of the food is 41 degrees F or below before cooking or eating it.

“41 F or below”

- A full cooler or freezer will maintain its cold temperatures longer than one that is partially filled, so it is important to pack plenty of extra ice or freezer packs to insure a constant cold temperature.
- Depending on the type of cooler you are using, ice will need to be replaced at least every 24 hours.

Avoid Carbon Monoxide - Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is poisonous to breathe. Do not heat your home or operate gasoline-powered generators inside your residence. Never bring them indoors.

Candle Safety

- Use flashlights instead of candles whenever possible.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire such as clothing, books, curtains, or flammable liquids.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily and are made from a material that can't burn.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children.
- Avoid carrying a lit candle.
- Never use a candle for a light when checking pilot lights or fueling equipment.

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FIRST QUARTER, 2015

AROUND TOWN

27th Annual Potomac River Watershed Quantico Creek Clean-Up

It may be freeeeeeeezing now, but we can think ahead to warmer weather and outside activities. Please join the Town as we undertake a creek clean-up effort on Saturday, April 11th in conjunction with the 27th Annual Potomac River Watershed & Quantico Creek Clean-Up Day.

For 26 years and counting, the Potomac Watershed Cleanup remains a successful event for cleaning litter from our watershed. The Alice Ferguson Foundation's Trash Free Potomac Initiative invites all people in our watershed to help be a part of the solution for eliminating trash from our waterways, public lands, and communities.

Why participate? The Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup has become a decisive catalyst for progress that ignites people throughout



the watershed with the Alice Ferguson Foundation's community spirit. The largest regional event of its kind, the Cleanup provided a transforming experience that engages citizens and community leaders and generates momentum for change.

The Clean-Up will begin at 9 am at the Town Community Center located at 17757 Main Street in Dumfries. Please dress appropriately for the weather and plan to get dirty. All volunteers who support this event will receive a free t-shirt and lunch for their participation. For more information please call 703-221-3400 or email rwest@dumfriesva.gov. Thank you for taking pride in our community!

Coffey Corner

Interim Planning and Zoning Administrator Darren Coffey talks development, capital improvements

Last year was busy with projects with more to come this year. The Town adopted a revised Comprehensive Plan and approved the mixed-use First Town Center development that will create more of a downtown feel along Main Street. A number of transportation projects were completed including Cameron Street improvements, Possum Point Road sidewalk, and a multimodal sidewalk project with federal, state, and local funds on Jefferson Davis Highway is currently underway. This year we will continue with the Tripoli Boulevard road improvement, Graham Park Road intersection redesign, Fraley Boulevard preliminary design, and Possum Point Road drainage improvement design. We also completed a Quantico Creek restoration assessment which has future phases slated to protect that valuable natural resource. As busy as we were in 2014, there is much more to come this year so stay tuned!

TRAFFIC

With the congestion and traffic on Route 1, Town residents are looking forward to the plans to divert traffic away from Main Street.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development continues to be a priority high atop the lists of Town residents.

MAIN STREET

Citizens polled stated they would like to see a true downtown, Main Street feel within the Town of Dumfries.



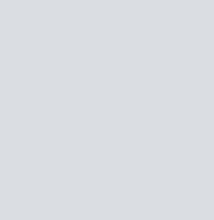
Tripoli Boulevard Construction

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FIRST QUARTER, 2015

COMMUNITY SERVICES



The Community Services Department has many exciting events coming up this year. Beginning with the Black History Month Celebration at Little Union Baptist Church on February 28 at 11 am, we will be hosting several community events leading up to summer. Please check the community calendar and our Facebook page for updates on all events. If you would like to volunteer or even participate in an event listed, please contact us.

Community Calendar

February 28 - Black History Month Celebration at Little Union Baptist Church - 11 am

April 4 - Easter Egg Hunt in Ginn Park - 11 am

April 11 - Quantico Creek Clean-Up - 9 am

April 14 - Special Town Council Election at the Simpson Community Center

April 25 - Community Commonwealth Day - 12-4 pm

April 25 - Scholarship Walk in Merchants Park - 8 am

Town Council meetings are held at Town Hall on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month (unless otherwise stated). Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are open to the public. For more information, please visit the Town website at www.dumfriesva.gov

Senior Luncheons are held on the third Friday of each month at 12:30 pm in the Simpson Community Center. All seniors are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend.

Contact the Department of Community Services at 703.221.3400 or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dumfriesva