



DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA
Virginia's Oldest Continuously Chartered Town
CHARTERED 1749 INCORPORATED 1961

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Cydney Neville, Director of Community Services
DATE: June 26, 2013
RE: Monthly Department of Community Services Update

Priorities:

- Summer Youth Internship Program
- Fall Festival
- Dumfries Cares
- Volunteer Appreciation Reception

Dumfries Cares

The *Dumfries Cares* program has been continued for FY 14. In addition, the FY 13 funding has been extended, through September 30th. Information for the Summer Bridge program offering will be posted soon, as well as Parenting Classes, and Mentoring Opportunities.

Farmer's Market

This has been a challenging season for the Town's Farmer's Market, as we have a variety of vendors, but have yet to find a reliable Farmer to attend the market weekly.

We are still accepting new vendors, throughout the market season. Si desea participar, por favor contacte al Director de Servicios a la Comunidad, se habla español. 703.221.3400 ext. 144

Fall Festival

The Fall Festival is being advertised in the community. There is a flyer posted, as well as registration information for vendors and "Dumfries Has Talent Participants." The event will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at Garrison Park. The event will start at 11am, and conclude at 6:30pm. (Vendors will have to shut down by 5pm; food vendors can sell until 6pm) The band will play from 4:30pm-6:30pm, which will lead into our final "Movie on the Lawn," for the summer.

Movies on the Lawn

Thanks to a partnership with Pillar Church, we will have the following “Movies on the Lawn” events:

- 7/12 Lorax
- 8/2 Willie Wonka (1977 version)
- 9/14 Wreck it Ralph

Movies will begin at sunset, and are FREE and open to the public.

Financial Education Workshops

The Virginia Credit Union offered the following workshops to the community, during the month of June:

6/10-Building a Better Budget (For the Community) Get practical advice for creating and sticking to a budget with tools to track spending and establish savings goals.

6/17-Your Credit Score - Learn how to build, manage and maintain a great credit score.

The workshops were informative for the community. They have offered their services for seniors in the fall, and are willing to present to staff as well.

Summer Youth Internship Program

We are proud to have Ms. Asyah Slade and Ms. Janel Talbert as our Summer Youth Interns for the summer. They will be working with, and learning from Council and staff from July 8-August 16th.

Volunteer Reception

The Town held its first Volunteer Appreciation Reception, on June 24th. The event was a success. Special Recognition awards were distributed; all volunteers received pins, and were listed in the Congressional Record for their services. Volunteers were also treated to a dinner provided by Shawn’s Smokehouse BBQ/Kitchen Gourmet.

<http://potomaclocal.com/2013/06/26/dumfries-volunteers-recognized-at-dinner-ceremony/>

Grants

- Dumfries Cares
- Walmart Grant- The Department of Community Services has received \$5,500 in grant funding from the Dumfries Walmart to support our Market and Health Initiative. Funds provided will cover the Market Manager, help to advertise the weekly nutritional option

in the community (to include a banner and tent fold sign), provide funding for the Grand Opening, nutritious educational materials for youth who attend, provide pedometers for a walking program, and bags to give to the first 100 visitors.

ON-GOING ITEMS:

Senior Luncheon

The June Luncheon was held in the Community Center. Participants worked together to create a collage of photos from previous luncheons, played several rounds of BINGO, and enjoyed each other's company while having lunch provided by Jeremiah's BBQ, and side dishes they brought to share.

There will be no July Luncheon. In August, seniors will be treated to a dinner by the Police Department during the National Night Out event. Our regularly scheduled Senior Luncheons will pick up in September.

English as a Second Language

The Town's FREE ESOL classes are offered on Tuesdays from 10am-noon, in the Community Center.

Building a Presence for the Town of Dumfries

Building a Presence is a community engagement and awareness campaign that will help to create a presence and rekindle relationships within the Town, for citizens and those in surrounding communities. The goal of Building a Presence is that by the end of the next fiscal year, it will be expected for citizens and those in surrounding areas to look to Dumfries first when it comes to finding family friendly activities, festivals to enjoy, community service events and programs. This will be an ongoing campaign, and if successful, all of our events will be well attended, and citizens will be well aware of what the Town of Dumfries has to offer.

In the spirit of putting Dumfries First, with the implementation of *Dumfries Cares*, our Town will be unique in being one of the few, if not the only, Town in Virginia to offer a mentoring program for its youth. The implementation of the mentoring program, in addition to the Summer Youth Internship Program, makes the Town of Dumfries a trailblazer in investing in the future of our youngest citizens.

In the spirit of Building a Presence for the Town of Dumfries, the sense of pride in our Town was palpable at the parade, and at the community block party towards the end of the event. The Department of Community Services will continue to strive to build upon "Dumfries Pride" in our citizens, throughout 2014.

SAVE THE DATES:

2013-2014 Community Events

September 14, 2013

12th Annual Fall Festival

Featuring the “3rd Annual Dumfries Has Talent Competition”

December 7, 2013

Christmas in Dumfries

Town Christmas Tree Lighting

December 14, 2013

39th Annual Christmas-Holiday Parade

February 8, 2014

Annual Black History Month Celebration

April 5, 2014

Quantico Creek Clean-up

April 12, 2014

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

May 3, 2014

5th Annual Multicultural Festival

Community Partnerships

- Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William County-ESL classes (<https://sites.google.com/site/litvolpw/>)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension-PWC-Parenting classes, 4-H resource, nutrition resource (<http://offices.ext.vt.edu/prince-william/>)
- Sonia Hoehn-ESL Instructor, but has also donated children’s books.
- Pillar Church-Movies on the Lawn, volunteers. (<http://www.pillardumfries.com/>)
- Virginia Credit Union