



# Town of Dumfries

VIRGINIA

## The Dumfries Charter

Volume XII, Issue II

Second Quarter 2013

### DUMFRIES TOWN COUNCIL

Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II  
Mayor

703-221-3400 ext. 120

Hon. Willie Toney,  
Vice Mayor

Hon. Charles Brewer  
Hon. Kristin W. Forrester

Hon. Helen Reynolds  
Hon. Gwen P. Washington

Hon. Derrick Wood

### TOWN MANAGER

Dan Taber

### TOWN ATTORNEY

Christine Sanders

**Town Council Meeting** are typically held the *first* Tuesday of the month at 7:00<sup>PM</sup>. The regular meetings are broadcast locally and may be viewed on Comcast Channel 3 & Verizon Channel 35.\*

Work Sessions are typically held on the *third* Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Please visit the Town website for an updated schedule.

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## A Message from our Mayor:

Spring and summer are here and there are quite a few activities that Dumfries will be hosting. I'm proud to say that these events have made the Town of Dumfries the gathering place for Southeastern Prince William County. Our Farmer's Market begins on April 13<sup>th</sup> and will be held every Saturday until August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Multi-cultural Festival will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Historic Dumfries will be holding the Charter Day – Prince William Resolves – May Pole on May 11<sup>th</sup>. As you can see, there are a lot of activities for everyone, hopefully you will find the time to attend, and as

always, it will be good to see you there.

Thank you for contacting the Council concerning televising all the meetings again. It's nice to hear that citizens want to stay connected to their Town Government. The Council is currently working on the proposed FY14 Annual Operating Budget, your input, suggestions and comments are needed. As citizens, taxpayers and business owners you voice matters.

I'd like to lastly say, "Thank You" for being involved and part of the local governmental process. Your support on a

wide range of issues and your volunteerism to community service is what makes Dumfries unique. Our Town has come a long way since May 2012, we must continue to move forward and be active in Prince William County politics in order to ensure services are being provided to Southeastern Potomac Magisterial District.

Stay involved and God Bless You,

S/F

Gerald M. Foreman  
Mayor

## Real Estate Taxes Due

The 2013 first half real estate tax bills will be mailed May 6, 2013. All bills are due on or before the close of business on June 5, 2013. Payments not received by the due date will be assessed a ten percent (10%) penalty. If you have a mortgage on your home, your mortgage

company typically pays your real estate taxes and you will not receive a bill from the Town.

Payments can be mailed to the Town of Dumfries, 17755 Main Street, Dumfries, Virginia 22026, or for your convenience there is a drop box

located next to the front door of Town Hall.

**Another payment option is through Official Payments. To pay online visit [www.officialpayments.com](http://www.officialpayments.com) or to pay by phone call 1-800-2PAY-TAX. Use Jurisdiction Code 6234.**

# Inside Story Headline

Thanks to all who volunteered for the Annual Quantico Creek Clean Up!



Town residents were joined by folks from Montclair, Woodbridge, Manassas, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania to remove trash from Quantico Creek and areas throughout the town. Participants from Friends of Quantico Bay, South

Cove HOA, the Stonewall Jackson High School International Baccalaureate Program, Prince William Forest Park (National Park Service) and the Potomac Senior High School Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) all pitched in to help.

Results for this year's clean-up:

- 27 participants
- 50 trash bags
- 5 recyclable bags
- 20 tires
- 1/2 ton of bulk trash

- 75 drain markers installed

Dumfries' efforts contributed to the 3,809 volunteers working at 135 sites in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. to collect 93.3 tons of trash from the Potomac River watershed!

For 25 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.

## Town Seeks Citizen Involvement

The Town Council has directed the Town Manager to set up a committee of citizen volunteers to participate in a committee that will review the parks and recreational needs of the Town of Dumfries and make recommendations to the Town Council. This committee will meet initially one evening a month throughout Fiscal Year 14 and will report their recommendations to

the Town Council during regular Council meetings as needed.

Anyone over the age of 15 with an interest in the future of the continued development of our parks and recreational programs is encouraged to apply. If you are interested, please submit a letter addressed to the Town Manager that states why you are interested and why you feel you should be

selected to serve on the committee. Please forward your letter of interest to the attention of the Town Manager by mail or email at the points of contact listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager if you have any questions concerning this opportunity to play an important role in the future of the Town of Dumfries.

# News from the Police Department:

With warmer weather finally breaking winter's grip on the area thereby allowing us to venture outside, the Dumfries Police Department would like to remind our citizens of the following tips to decrease your vulnerability to being a victim of a crime.

## **Larcenies from Auto**

Most thefts from motor vehicles are preventable. There are just a few things you need to do to prevent them. Once you realize the steps you need to take, we are counting on you to do them on a daily basis!

## **Practice T. L. C.**

### **Take Out Valuables**

If you can leave your valuables at home, do it. Otherwise, when you get to your destination, take your valuables with you. If you have to leave them in your automobile, put them in your trunk before you get to your destination.

**This includes firearms! Please do not leave a firearm in your vehicle unsecured!**

## **Lock Your Vehicle**

Enough said!

## **Close Doors and Windows**

An open door or window allows a thief a quick and quiet way to enter your automobile. Take the time to make sure you closed everything. Please remember to report **all** suspicious activity immediately by calling:

**Emergency: 9-1-1**

**Non-Emergency: 703-792-6500**

## **Sergeant Jose L. Vazquez Graduates**

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Vazquez became the first Dumfries Police Supervisor to graduate from the West Point 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. The eight hour classes were conducted once a week from September 2012 to February 2013.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
SERGEANT VAZQUEZ!**



## **Door to Door Soliciting**

The Dumfries Police Department frequently receives phone calls regarding individuals who are going door to door soliciting products and services. The Dumfries Town Code has limitations on what is permitted and what is not.

**The Town Code defines a "solicitor" as a person going door to door:**

To sell goods, wares, merchandise or services.

To accept or request donations for any charitable purpose

**The following are exceptions to the Code:**

Unpaid members of any civic or charitable organization who have an approved means of identification issued by such organization.

Persons soliciting subscriptions to any newspaper for home delivery within the Town

Persons who make deliveries at least once a week to regular customers and solicitation is only incidental to their regular deliveries.

Solicitors are required to register with the Town and furnish personal information such as name, date of birth, address, criminal arrest information and provide information as to what they are selling.

For communities who place signs prohibiting solicitations, these signs are not enforceable. Signs that prohibit trespassing are enforceable.

Additional information may be obtained from the Police Department at 703.221.1111. To report violations contact dispatch at the non-emergency number 703.792.6500.

## Welcome Dorthe Tannehill, Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager:

Dorthe Tannehill joined the Dumfries team in March motivated to support the community as the Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager and Town Attorney. She comes to Dumfries with extensive experience as a Contract Attorney supporting legal projects in Washington D.C. Prior to her work in Washington D.C., she was a practicing attorney in Culpeper, VA specializing in family/domestic law and supported Culpeper County as a Guardian ad litem.

Dorthe attended college at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA. She then continued her educational development by graduating from Thomas Cooley Law School in Lansing, MI. Outside of her professional life, she is very family oriented, loves to travel and is an avid sports fan, especially fond of baseball and the New York Yankees. For Dorthe 2012 was a big year; she got married and with her husband purchased a home in the area. They are excited to plant their roots here as they have been residents of Prince William County for most of their lives.



## Town of Dumfries Police Department Self-Defense Class for Women!

Thursday, May 30th  
7:30pm-9:00pm  
Community Center (next to Town Hall)



- ♦ **Decrease your chances of becoming a victim**
- ♦ **Learn Self-Defense tactics**
- ♦ **Learn how to use pepper spray as a defensive weapon**

All women who are residents of the Town of Dumfries who are 16 years of age and older. (Participants under the age of 18 will be required to have their parents or guardians complete a form allowing them to participate).

Space is limited to the first 20 individuals who register. Please contact Executive Assistant, Penny Shaffer by email at: [pshaffer@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:pshaffer@dumfriesva.gov) to reserve your space by May 16, 2013!

# News from the Community Services

## Department:

### Senior Luncheons

The Town of Dumfries' Community Services Department hosts monthly Senior Luncheons for retirees to fellowship with one another. Participants do not have to reside in the Town to participate in the luncheons,

which are typically held on the 3rd Friday of each month.

If you are interested in attending a future Luncheon, please contact the Director of Community Services at 703.221.3400 ext. 144.



## Farmer's Market:

On April 13th, the Town held the Grand Opening for the 2013 Farmer's Market! The first 100 visitors received Town of Dumfries Farmer's Market bags, as well as Town pedometers! The Department of Community Services would

like to thank the Dumfries Walmart for their community grant of \$5,500 to support the Market and our health initiative!

Visit the Market on Saturdays from 8am-12pm, now through August 31st.



## Upcoming Events:

**Saturdays: Farmer's**

**Market**

(8:00am-12:00pm)

**5/17 Bike to Work Day**

(7:30am-9:30am)

**5/30 Women's Self-**

**Defense Class**

**6/10 Financial Seminar**

"Building a Better Budget"

**6/17 Financial Seminar**

"Your credit Score"

**9/14- Fall Festival**

**12/7 Christmas in**

**Dumfries**

(Contact the Dumfries

Police Department)

**12/14-Annual Christmas**

**-Holiday Parade**