



THE CHARTER

March 2022/Spring Issue

TOP NEWS

Dumfries Digital Inclusivity Align with National Infrastructure Agenda

Route 1 Fraley Boulevard

The Rose Breaks Ground

Women History Month Employee Spotlight

taking a community-driven approach. Closing the digital gaps in Dumfries will elevate residents' position in education and provide a competitive edge in the evolving job market. There has been a shift in industry demands and COVID-19 has crystalized trends in expanding digital technology.

In expanding local Wi-Fi, Dumfries partnered with a local IT firm, TSI, to install access at Town Hall, Weems Botts Museum, and Ginn Park. These access points were strategically selected with the depth and breadth to connect with neighborhoods that need it the most. The Town-owned fiber network implementation will be completed in March 2022, with broadband service reaching optimal speeds later this spring.

"Internet access is a necessity that has only been highlighted by the pandemic. I am proud to have lead the effort to bring access to Wi-Fi to all of our citizens and continue to build on our Council's commitment to equity. I would like to thank our Town Manager and our staff for their hard work in making this a reality," stated Councilwoman Selonia Miles.

The Dumfries' success story lies in leveraging community relationships. The combination of private sector innovation and public sector motivation compels teams like Dumfries, VA, to deliver enhanced service for residents.



Dumfries Digital Inclusivity Aligns with National Infrastructure Agenda

A reliable broadband connection is integral to municipal infrastructure, and COVID-19 made this fact abundantly clear. When households do not have access to affordable and reliable broadband connections, it creates a barrier to equitable opportunities in career and education. This issue is exacerbated in households with parents simultaneously managing remote work and education for school-age children. Fiber network projects are traditionally private sector owned and led, but the ever expanding reliance on digital technology necessitates government-led initiatives.

Dumfries push for digital inclusivity aligns directly with the Town's Strategic Focus Areas. While private sector strategies prioritize quality broadband access to communities with the greatest return on investment, Dumfries is

Route 1 Fraley Boulevard

Starting July 1, 2022, Prince William County will begin the renaming of Jefferson Davis Highway. This is a large project for the County, businesses and residents are in the process of notification about the change. Although the Town of Dumfries had previously renamed the portion of US Route 1 that runs through the Town, there are still a few properties and businesses that use the Jefferson Davis Highway name for addressing. The Town will also change these last addresses within the Town to the Fraley Boulevard street address. Business owners and residents will be notified by mail of the change and are encouraged to prepare to change address contact information starting July 1, 2022. Business licenses, driver's licenses, billing, and all mail services will need to be notified of your new address.



Left to Right: Councilman Tyrone Brown, Mayor Derrick Wood, Vice Mayor Monae Nickerson, Town Manager Keith Rogers, Jr., and Councilman Shaun Peet

The Rose Breaks Ground

On January 11th, 2022 Colonial Downs broke ground on their mixed-use project "The Rose". The Rose will include a nearly \$400 million gaming facility, hotel, and public park all within the Town of Dumfries. This project is the single largest investment in Town History and will be a catalyst for continuing development for Dumfries. The goal is to make Dumfries a destination, bringing economic development and tourism to Virginias' oldest chartered Town. Staff continues to work closely with Colonial Downs to ensure that the Site Plan, which is currently in review, is completed by the beginning of the new fiscal year.

Trash, Leaves, and Poo, Oh My!

The Town of Dumfries offers one trash receptacle per residential household. If you own or rent a single-family residence within the Town and do not have a trash receptacle, please contact the Department of Public Works at 703-224-3400 #4.

If you have large items, boxes, old furniture, non-construction-related debris, you must call for bulk pick up in advance. Bulk pickups must be scheduled in advance by calling Bates by 2 PM the Tuesday before Wednesday trash pickup at 703-212-9395, Mon - Fri. 8:30 to 5 PM, and Saturday 9:00 - 12:00 PM EST.

Residents must place yard waste in biodegradable paper bags or containers labeled "Yard Waste". The public can no longer use plastic bags for yard waste collection. Residents may also bring yard waste to the County Landfill or Balls Ford Road in paper bags or containers, no plastic bags.

We love our furry friends and want them to live long healthy lives. But pet waste left on sidewalks and grass pollutes the waterways when it enters the storm drainage system after a rain event. Just one gram of dog waste can contain as many as 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. Waste can seep into groundwater and spread salmonella posing a hazard to your pets, your family, and your landscaping. Pet waste is not fertilizer. Pick up the Poo!



Dumfries Women History Month Spotlight Jonet Prevost-White, Public Works Director

Jonét Prévost-White currently serves as the Director of Public Works for the town of Dumfries, as well as the Acting Building Official. After earning her BS degree in Architecture from Temple University, Ms. Prévost-White moved to Richmond, Virginia. Her career in government started in the City of Richmond, Virginia, where she started as a Building Inspector. After earning her MBA, she moved over to Public Utilities as an Operations Manager. It is during her 13-year tenure with the city that she developed their VSMP Stormwater Program, managed MS4 Permit Outreach, Erosion and Sediment Control Permitting, Floodplain, and the Chesapeake Bay. Her successful RVA H2O Drain Art Outreach Campaign won a



national award from the American Public Water Association that has been duplicated by several localities in the US and as far away as New Zealand. Under her guidance, the City of Richmond became the first locality in the State of Virginia to adopt the FEMA High Water Initiative. Her goals for the Town of Dumfries are to create more stormwater and anti-litter awareness programs, better continuity of government, improve parks and recreation, and contribute to the overall health and vitality of the town. When not spending time with her husband of 23 years and two sons, Ms. Prevost-White likes to visit local craft shows, garden, and practice photography.

Black History Month 2022 - "Health and Wellness"



The Dumfries Black History Month virtual celebration was held on Saturday, February 19th. This year's theme centered around the importance of being an advocate or having someone advocate on your behalf. The program featured many community leaders and talents, such as Pastor Michael Sessoms, Retired Master Sergeant Caleb Green, Prince William County Poet Laurette Kim B. Miller, Pianist Rudene Jones, and Divine Inspirations Center for the Arts.

The program kicked off with a welcome address by Mayor Derrick R. Wood. Mayor Wood spoke of the wonderful policies the town has created surrounding black health and wellness, such as us being a H.E.A.L community, obtaining the designation of a dementia-friendly community, and most recently partnering with Prince William County in becoming a warming center during the first heavy snowstorm when families were without electricity.

Virginia Senator Mark Warner spoke on health & wellness within the Black community surrounding COVID invoked havoc in all our lives both physically and mentally and became a disproportioned impact on people of color. Congressman Gerry Connolly spoke regarding the importance of having public health care access, care for others, and saving lives in the Black community. Prince William County's Potomac District Supervisor Andrea Bailey shared the importance of us protecting our health and wellness each day. She was followed by Prince William County NAACP President Reverend Cozy Bailey, who expressed the NAACP's concerns for COVID testing to underserved and people of color. Councilwoman Selonia Miles and Dumfries Event Coordinator Yvette Ragland participated in a discussion of questions geared toward the theme from both a national and personal perspective.

The keynote address was from Dr. Deidra Haralson. Dr. Haralson powerful words noted that the African American community is more susceptible and has a higher statistical rating to illnesses such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes. She urged us to improve our health and promote wellness not only physically, but also mentally. She reminded us to not be ashamed to seek help for mental illness.

The program is currently airing on the Town of Dumfries Official YouTube, Comcast Channel 2 and Verizon Channel 35.

Town of Dumfries Welcomes New Employees

The Town of Dumfries is growing! Please join us in welcoming our newest employees,

Public Works Department

Jeremy Holt. Jeremy is a Prince William County native, and we are very excited to have him working for the great Town of Dumfries. Mr. Holt comes to us from The Prince William Country School system where he worked for 11 years. Mr. Holt was the Custodial Manager and now joins us as our newest Maintenance Technician in the Department of Public Works. Outside of work, Jeremy enjoys travel, cooking, and fishing. He is often found catching catfish, trout, and "whatever bites the end of his hook". Jeremy is also a fan of the Green Bay Packers football team and enjoys spending time with his family. He is thrilled to be working for a local small town. He also values being outside and working with his hands. His personal motto is, "anything worth having is worth working hard for". He also likes to "work hard, and play hard".



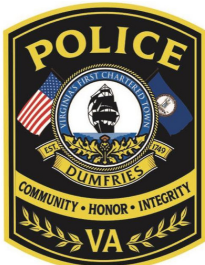
Jeremy Holt
Maintenance Technician

Public Safety Department

Officer Abdelaziz has over 5 years of law enforcement experience He volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club and Real Food for Kids. Officer Abdelaziz is looking forward to providing the Town of Dumfries with professional, effective, and courteous public service.

Officer Yarosis lives in Prince William County with his fiancée and two dogs (Chloe and Cruz). Chloe is 6 years old, while Cruz just turned 4 months old. He is originally from Connecticut and has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of New Haven. Officer Yarosis was previously employed with the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, DC. In his free time, he enjoys playing with his dogs and watching hockey.

The Town of Dumfries is excited to have Mr. Holt, Officer Abdelaziz, and Officer Yarosis join the staff.





THE CHARTER

SPRING 2022

17739 Main Street, Unit 200
Dumfries, VA 22026



2022 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

7 PM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

APRIL 5TH AND 26TH
(NO MEETING ON APRIL 19TH)

MAY 3RD AND 17TH

JUNE 7TH AND 21ST

JULY 5TH

AUGUST 3RD

SEPTEMBER 6TH AND 20TH

OCTOBER 5TH AND 18TH

NOVEMBER 2ND AND 15TH

DECEMBER 6

2022 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

APRIL 5TH - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
(FY23 BUDGET PRESENTATION)

APRIL 11TH - PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
(TOWN MANAGER'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PRESENTATION PLAN)

APRIL 26TH - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
(FY23 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING)

2022 TOWN HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

APRIL 15TH
GOOD FRIDAY

MAY 30TH
MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE 20TH
JUNETEENTH OBSERVED

JULY 4TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY

SEPTEMBER 5TH
LABOR DAY

OCTOBER 10TH
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

NOVEMBER 8TH
ELECTIONS DAY

NOVEMBER 11TH
VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 24TH AND 25TH
THANKSGIVING DAY AND BLACK FRIDAY

DECEMBER 23 (PM ONLY) AND 26
CHRISTMAS DAY OBSERVED

2022 TOWN UPCOMING EVENTS

QUANTICO CREEK CLEAN UP
Saturday, April 9th, 2022
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
17739 Main Street
Dumfries, VA 22026

Join us for a fun day to help clean up the Quantico Creek watershed in Dumfries. Meet at 8:30 am at the Quantico, contact Yvette Ruskoff, at ymruskoff@townofva.gov or give her a call.

2022 TOWN ANNOUNCEMENTS

DUMFRIES Farmer's Market
LOCAL FRESH ORGANIC PRODUCTS

2022 COMMUNITY PARTNER GRANT

For application or information, please email communitygrant@townofva.gov or call 703-520-5200.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 17TH