

Spring 2012  
Issue No 56

# The Windsor Newsletter

## Message from the Mayor

### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

APRIL 2012

Spring is finally here, and it is time for home improvement projects! Surely you have also noticed that the improvement work is finally underway on the deteriorating pavement on Route 460 at the four-way intersection in Windsor. We ask for your patience as this is a major undertaking with detours and, at times, lane closures. Please drive safely!

Our other major news is that the Town of Windsor has purchased 5.204 acres of land on route 460 beside the Farmers Bank for our future municipal complex. After doing a 5-10-15 year plan, we realized that we needed land for a police station and a town hall with more municipal office space. Also, a Blackwater Regional Library study found that the Windsor Library will need to be replaced in the future because it does not have the structural strength to support the needed books. Our agreement with the county says that the Town will supply the land and that the county will build the structure for our library. This purchase gives us enough land for these three buildings as we grow, as well as other things such as a community center. This parcel of land should meet the needs of the town for the next 50 years or more.

With careful planning and excellent budget management, Council has saved enough money to pay for the land which we bought for 15% less than the appraised value. The savings came from cutting the Capital Improvement expenditures to the "bare bones", aggressively collecting back taxes, and following new financial policies with strict guidelines for all departments. We plan to start on the police building soon, pay for it, and then construct the municipal offices within 10 years. We feel that all of this can be accomplished without raising taxes.

Council will continue to look for ways to save taxpayers money as we go forward. For example, Council has just saved the Town over \$250,000 by refinancing a previous water loan at a lower interest rate and paying it off sooner. When you see your council members, please thank them for doing an excellent job.

Your Mayor,

Carita Richardson

### COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY

With growth comes many positive things. In that same breath we must also all accept that there are negatives that come with that as well. One of those negatives is an increase in crime. I would like to send a very clear message to the residents that we serve. We will not fail you! We do not hide the fact that the Windsor Police Department is a very proactive agency that knows our residents, the good ones along with the ones that we seem to come into contact with more often than others. As your Chief of Police am so very proud that I can say that I work in a place where the good so far outweighs the bad. It makes coming to work a joy. We intend and vow to keep this town that way. Although you cannot stop growth, you can guide it. Although we cannot stop crime from happening, we can make sure that those that choose to harm our residents in any way are brought to justice.

Chief Reynolds





## From the Chief

"Committed To Community"

Windsor – Isle of Wight DUI Checkpoint was a great cooperative effort. **Thank you to all that participated.**

Well everyone, it is that time again, the warmer weather is approaching and statistics have shown that crime increases during the warmer months. Because of the support of the citizens we serve, we are still able to be a proactive police agency and will always strive to keep it that way. We will remain very proactive in our efforts and enforcement actions to keep this wonderful community safe, "BUT WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP". If you observe anything that you feel is suspicious in nature, we encourage you to please call **757-357-2151** which is Emergency Communications **Non-Emergency** number. Please don't dismiss things that strike you as odd or out of place. You know your neighborhoods, the people that live here and our community, so please take measures to protect your property. The Windsor Police Department offers free Home and Business Security Surveys. Please feel free to contact us at any time. We are YOUR Police Department. We are here to serve you. Also, we will be more than happy to check on our resident's homes while they are out. Just come in or call in the request for a "Keep-Check", and we will be more than happy to help.



### INCREASED PATROL

The Police Department is participating in Click-It or Ticket. Please, always wear your safety belts and drive safely. We all know how dangerous our portion of Rt. 460 is. We are working hard to make it safer through increased enforcement. You are our residents and we are here to serve you. Please set the example

## Distracted Driving Kills

Already this year, tens of thousands of car crashes have been caused by people using their cell phones while driving. Was that call or text really worth it? Please ask yourself that question the next time you pick up your phone while behind the wheel, or when you take your eyes off the road to tend to children, pets or program the GPS. DRIVE SMART Virginia and the federal government are recognizing April as *Distracted Driving Awareness Month* in order to bring attention to this risky behavior.

Driving is the most dangerous activity a person does on a daily basis, and full concentration is required. Studies have shown that brains cannot effectively multi-task; instead, minds shift from one task to the next. Therefore, when doing other tasks while driving, our minds are forced to split attention and are not 100% focused on the road ahead.

One of the most serious distractions is texting behind the wheel, which is illegal in Virginia. Studies have found a person texting while driving is **23 times** more likely to crash. Cell phone use is also very dangerous; research shows that people are **FOUR** times more likely to get into a crash than someone driving without distraction from the phone. And because cell phone use occurs more frequently and for longer durations than other risk behaviors, it's the #1 source of driver inattention behind the wheel. There has been no difference found in the cognitive distraction between hand-held and hands-free devices.

DRIVE SMART Virginia and the Windsor Police Department would like assistance from our residents to help raise awareness about distracted driving in order to improve the safety of Virginia's roadways. Try to avoid using your drive time as your down time and instead focus solely on driving. Keep yourself and your family safe by making sure you always buckle up and make sure all your passengers are properly restrained. Seat belt use is one of your best defenses against another distracted driver. Please take a minute to please sign the pledge to drive distraction-free: <http://www.drivesmartva.org/projects/distracted/pledgeform2.htm>



# Events

## Upcoming / and Current

**Windsor Police Toy Drive**, Christmas in July – Due to the growth of the Windsor Police Christmas Toy drive we will be kicking it off this year at our Windsor Fourth of July Ceremony.

**Windsor Police Department Youth Auxiliary Program** – We are still seeking local young men and women in our community to come and join our Windsor Police Youth Auxiliary Program (Explorers). For information please contact Chief Vic Reynolds at 757-242-6799 or [areynolds@windsor-va.gov](mailto:areynolds@windsor-va.gov).

**Click It or Ticket** – Continuing enforcement for this campaign. Please buckle up.

**Checkpoint Strike Force** – With one successful checkpoint this year already completed, the Windsor Police Department has received funding from the Department of Motor Vehicles to conduct another. These checkpoints which target Drunk Drivers tend to yield more traffic and equipment violations. Please make sure your vehicles are within code and properly inspected.

**Rt. 460 VDOT Construction** – Let's all work together through the inconvenience of this with the understanding that the work on Rt. 460 is sorely needed. We thank you in advance for traveling safely through the intersection.

## Potential Windsor Middle School 5K Run

**When** – April 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

**Where** – The route designated is N. Court Street to A Street. A Street to Duke Street. Duke Street to Church Street. Church Street to Butler Avenue and then back to the Middle School. **NOTE – This may change due to Rt. 460 construction and VDOT Approval.**

**Important** – Please be aware that there will be no traffic allowed on these streets for the duration of the event with the exception of residents to their homes which will be with a police escort.

**SPECIAL NOTE** – There are more than 350 students participating in this event, so let's all get out and support our kids.



### Contact Your Officers

Chief Arlis V. "Vic" Reynolds – 757-242-6799 / [areynolds@windsor-va.gov](mailto:areynolds@windsor-va.gov)

First Sergeant Rodney Riddle – 757-242-6799 / [riddle@windsor-va.gov](mailto:riddle@windsor-va.gov)

Sgt. W.D. "Bill" Owens – 757-242-4288 / [wowens@windsor-va.gov](mailto:wowens@windsor-va.gov)

Det. G.P. "Parker" Jernigan – 757-242-4288 / [pjernigan@windsor-va.gov](mailto:pjernigan@windsor-va.gov)

Ofc. J.L. "Josh" Harris – 757-242-4288 / [jharris@windsor-va.gov](mailto:jharris@windsor-va.gov)

Ofc. Jason "JD" Turner – 757-242-4288 / [jturner@windsor-va.gov](mailto:jturner@windsor-va.gov)



### Business Appreciation Day

The Town Council will recognize local businesses with a resolution and breakfast on Thursday the 3rd of May, 2012 @ 8:00 am. This annual event includes an update on issues relevant to local business leaders. Invitations are being sent to those businesses that have a current license to do business in Windsor.

### WINDSOR RURITAN CLUB'S 36TH ANNUAL PIG PICKIN'

You are cordially invited to attend the 36th Annual Windsor Ruritan Club Pig Pickin' Festival at Foster's Pond - 4 miles South of Windsor, Virginia on Route 610, Wednesday, May 9th, 2012 from 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Tickets can be acquired for a donation of \$20.00 per person by contacting any of the Ruritan Club members or calling Robert Beale @ 757-242-6550 or 757-642-3224.

**Tickets must be acquired prior to the event**

### Spring Clean Up

Our spring clean-up is Saturday May 19, 2012. Another opportunity to clean out your attic, garage, trim your trees and shrubs and get rid of items cluttering your yard. If you have any tree branches, remember to keep them less than three inches in diameter and no longer than four feet. You must bundle all branches, and you must bag leaves and yard trimmings. Please place all items at the street by 7:00 a.m.

Our contractor will not enter the driveway or yard to get heavy items, such as appliances. **There will not be any pick-ups after 11:00 a.m.** If you have household hazardous waste such as paint, pesticides, antifreeze, fuels, hobby supplies, insecticides, herbicides, paint thinners, solvents, fertilizers, swimming pool chemicals, household cleaners and household batteries you can dispose of it free of charge at the Isle of Wight Transfer Station, 13191 Foursquare Road, Smithfield 757-961-3874 or the Staves Mill Convenient Center on Staves Mill Road 757-242-3597. You may recycle used motor oil at both locations.

For further information you may call the Town office at 757-242-4288.

### Blackwater Regional Library

Bonnie Lauver - [blauver@blackwaterlib.org](mailto:blauver@blackwaterlib.org)  
757-242-3046

**Welcome to Storyhour!** Children up to age 5, Tuesdays @ 10:45 a.m.; registration is not required.

**Book Club:** Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7p.m.; registration is not required.

#### Upcoming Selections:

March - Caleb's Crossing, by Geraldine Brooks

April - Saving Cee Cee Honeycutt, by Beth Hoffman

May - I Still Dream About You, by Fannie Flagg

June - The Postmistress, by Sarah Blake

**Teen Night** is the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. (October - May);

**Friends of the Library** meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. New members are welcome.

**Membership is FREE! Registration is not required.**



### Ready for Prom?

Girls 10th - 12th grades register today for our upcoming program to learn more about skin care, cosmetics, hands and nails with Mary Kay! Saturday, April 21st @ 10 a.m. Space is limited...this is a FREE program (with samples) but registration is required.

Call 242-3046 or email [blauver@blackwaterlib.org](mailto:blauver@blackwaterlib.org)

See us on Facebook and watch for upcoming events throughout Blackwater regional Library (including summer reading for children, teens and adults).



## The Rain Barrel Workshop



Rain Barrels catch runoff water from your roof. You can then use this water for gardening, watering flower beds, or other non potable uses. This can help reduce your potable water consumption and will lead to lower water and sewer bills.

The Town of Windsor in conjunction with Isle of Wight County Department of Agriculture will be hosting a rain barrel workshop at Windsor Hardware April 24th. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Town office for more information at 757-242-4288.

Thank you,  
Town Staff

## Grass Cutting

With spring time upon us, grass will be growing again. Please help keep Windsor looking beautiful by cutting your grass on a regular basis. And don't forget, if your grass gets taller than 12 inches, you are in violation of Town ordinance which could result in the Town having the grass cut

We're on the Web!

[www.windsor-va.gov](http://www.windsor-va.gov)

## Town Council Members:

Mayor Carita J. Richardson  
J. Clint Bryant  
N. Macon Edwards, III  
Patty Flemming  
Wesley F. Garris  
Durwood V. Scott  
Greg Willis

The Windsor Town Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

The Planning Commission conducts its regular meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

The EDA conducts its regular meetings on the second Monday of each month.

## Recycle with Ease



Recycling has been made easy for Windsor residents. Recycling bins are located at Windsor Middle School for your convenience. Residents cannot put food in their trash bags to recycle, but anything else that is acceptable for your normal trash pick up can be put in the same bag. No separation of different types of items is needed. RECYCLE, SAVE THE COUNTY MONEY (help keep the tax rate lower), AND HELP THE ENVIRONMENT!

**Leash Law** It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or is the custodian of any dog (s) to allow such dog (s) to run at large in the Town of Windsor. And please remember, while walking your dog "on a leash", to be kind to your neighbors and "scoop the poop". Thank you for your cooperation.

## Yard Sales

That's right, it's yard sale season again!! Don't forget that you need a yard sale permit from the Town Office for your yard sale. Remember that only signs provided by the Town of Windsor are permitted. Signs cost \$1.00

We publish and distribute the newsletter to Windsor Town residents and customers of the Windsor water system quarterly. If you have any questions, then please call the Town office or stop by to see us. We are open Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**You should report after hour emergencies to the Isle of Wight Communications Center at 357-2151, and they will contact the appropriate Town staff.**

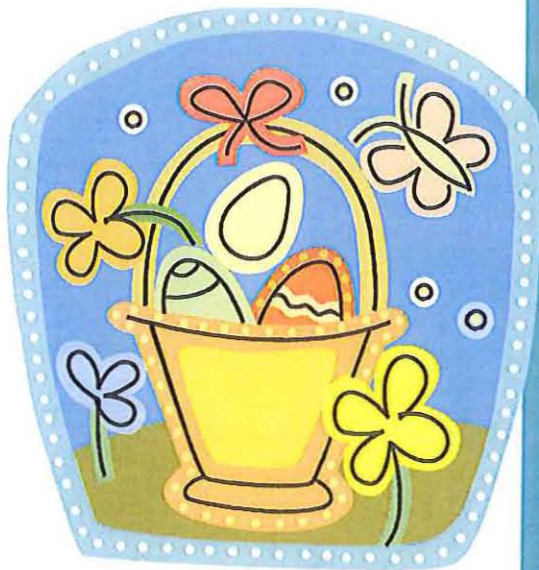
Town Hall Phone: 757-242-4288

Town Hall Fax: 757-242-9039

E - Mail: [windsor@windsor-va.gov](mailto:windsor@windsor-va.gov)



# Breakfast with the Easter Bunny



WHERE: Windsor Community House

WHEN: Saturday, March 31, 2012

TIME: 8:00am - 10:00am

SPONSORED BY: The Woman's Club of Windsor

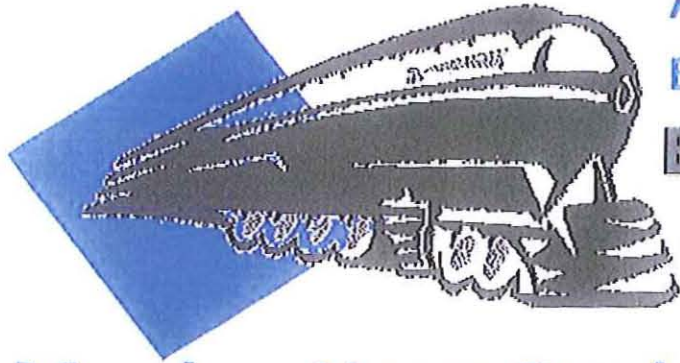
COST: \$5.00 per person

Price includes: Pancake Breakfast, Photo with the Easter Bunny and Goodie Bag.

All sales will be made at the door.  
Please join us and help support our local community!

Photos may be picked up at the Windsor Library,  
beginning Tuesday, April 2, 2012.





ATTN: Small Business Owners,  
Entrepreneurs & Students!

## ENTREPRENEUR EXPRESS



Moving Your Business Forward!

*VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ASSISTANCE,  
The Isle of Wight Department of Economic Development and  
The Isle of Wight – Smithfield - Windsor Chamber of Commerce*

Invite you to attend the

### **ENTREPRENEUR EXPRESS WORKSHOP**

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

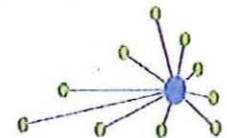
Windsor Ruritan Community House  
14 Community Drive, Windsor, VA 23487

Topics and Resources will include:

- The How and Why of a Business Plan
- Growing Your Business/Marketing Strategy
- Financing/Managing Resources
- Available Resources & Resource Fair



Register at: [www.vastartup.org](http://www.vastartup.org) and click "EVENTS"  
Scroll to bottom of screen for events in the "EAST"  
Questions? Call 804-371-0488 OR 757-365-6249  
Registration is free, but limited.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ASSISTANCE  
Connecting Businesses with Resources