



# The Windsor Newsletter

## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER, 2014



I hope you and your family are looking forward to the beautiful days of fall. The Town and the Windsor Young Professional Organization are planning a day to celebrate the beginning of autumn on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Touch-a-Truck event for children to explore and enjoy from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and a great band from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., among other things for the whole family to enjoy, which will be located on Duke Street.

I want to thank all the people who have made our new town entrance signs possible. Councilman Durwood Scott has given generously of his time the last three years to make this project an affordable reality. I also want to thank Robert Eley and Essroc Cement who both made generous donations to help the Town with the cost of the signs. Our previous signs were made of wood and were beyond repair with whole sections falling off due to rot. The new signs are made of a material which will last much longer, and the back is protected by the brick to give them even more longevity. The letters are carved into the material of the sign and can easily be repainted, if needed, in the future. We feel that these signs are not only attractive but will save the Town a lot of money in the future. We will be adding landscaping this fall for the signs on 460. If any civic groups or citizen would like to help with this, please let me know.

Our Council believes it is important to anticipate and plan for the more expensive items the Town will need in the future. This allows us to save a little money each year until we can afford them without having to raise taxes. We instituted financial policies about five years ago which include strict line item budgets for every department in our Town. Money cannot be moved from one line item to another even within the same department without Council's approval. This allows Council to scrutinize all spending carefully. Our staff also does a great job finding ways to save the Town and our taxpayers money. Because of this commitment from Council and staff, we have accomplished our goal of not raising the \$0.10 real estate tax (which is the lowest rate of any town in this area) over the last four years even though our costs continue to rise.

I want to thank the outstanding people who make up this Council and with whom I have had the privilege to work the last four years. Their job is not always easy! Sometimes they have had to make difficult decisions with no good choice available, and they have courageously chosen the one that is better than the rest for our citizens. They have given selflessly of their time and money. Most refuse reimbursement for their travel on behalf of the Town, some do not take any stipend, and others contribute food, etc. for long meetings so the Town will not have to purchase it. They do it all because they love this Town and the people in it.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement over the last four years that I have been Mayor. Don't forget to vote in the election on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Your mayor,

Carita (Rita) J. Richardson

### Up-Coming Events

- Windsor Town Fall Festival - Saturday, October 4, 2014. (refer to page 4 for more information.)
- Halloween – Friday, October 31st, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Day light savings time – Sunday, November 2nd. Just a reminder to change your clocks back one hour on this day.
- Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 6th 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Community House
- Christmas Parade - Saturday, December 6th, 4:00 p.m.
- Tree Lighting Service - Saturday, December 6th immediately following the Christmas parade in Robinson's Park (next to the library)
- Christmas in the Country - Sunday, December 7th 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m., at Windsor Hardware



# Windsor Police Department

## Message from 1st Sergeant Riddle

**2014 Windsor Christmas Toy Drive** Because of the overwhelming need that we experienced over the last few years, we are again starting early. This year this program is going to be even tougher than before as we are already receiving requests. The Windsor Police Department will always partner with the community to meet the needs of our residents but will also accept all the help that we can get. We will soon be placing boxes throughout town. Citizens can drop off their new, unwrapped gifts so that we can get ahead of the Christmas rush. To be a part of this year's program please contact the Chief at 757-242-6799.



### Distracted Driving Awareness

Already this year, tens of thousands of car crashes have been caused by people using their cell phones while driving, and I want to take this opportunity to remind our residents that texting and driving is illegal in the State of Virginia. We need to engage our young drivers in the hard conversation of, "Was that call or text really worth it?" Also, 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.

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 want 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 sign the pledge to drive distraction-free: <http://www.drivesmartva.org/projects/distracted/pledgeform2.htm>

## 2014 Citizen Survey

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

*Take a brief survey and you could*

**win 2 tickets to BOB FEST or Smithfield Wine & Brew Fest!**

If you live, work, conduct business, own a business or visit in Isle of Wight County, give us feedback on:

- Government Services
- County Amenities
- Communication

**Deadline: 10/06/14**

### Survey Locations:

- Online - County Website
- County Admin Building
- Old County Admin Building
- General Services
- Parks & Recreation / Nike Park
- Otelia J. Rainey Comm. Ctr.
- Visitor Center
- Libraries

<http://www.co.isle-of-wight.va.us/blog/2014-citizen-survey/>

# HALLOWEEN Safety Tips

**TRICK OR TREAT: OCTOBER 31ST, 2014 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 13**

**To help ensure this Halloween is a safe and happy holiday for you and your family**

## **Costume Suggestions:**

- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
- Wear light or bright colored costumes and use light reflective tape.
- Children shouldn't wear a mask; it restricts vision. If a mask must be worn, cut large eye holes. Make-up is much safer than a mask because it doesn't obstruct vision.
- Toy weapons, wands, brooms, etc. should be made of paper or cardboard; they are safer than plastic, wood or metal.
- Put the child's name, address and phone number on the inside of their costume in case of an accident or lost child.

## **Trick or Treat Safely:**

- Eat a full meal prior to going out so your child won't be tempted to eat treats before they can be properly checked out. Tell your children not to eat treats until you have checked them out.
- Plan your child's route and visit only homes in your neighborhood that are well lighted.
- Remind them not to take short cuts through backyards, alleys or playing fields.
- Travel in a group or with an adult. Do not let children go alone.
- Carry a flashlight or glow stick.
- Cross streets at corners, never from between two vehicles.
- Walk on the sidewalk or walk facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.
- Watch for cars driving into or backing out of driveways.

## **Treats -- Give Them A Safety Check:**

- Check for holes or loose wrappers, pour powdered candy into a container and look for discoloration or lumps.
- Don't eat opened candy, fruit, etc., unless you know the person it came from.
- Wash fruit, and then cut it into bite-size pieces.

Have a Safe and Happy  
Halloween!!



## Fall Festival

October 4, 2014

### Town of Windsor's Touch-A-Truck

From 3:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Across from the  
Blackwater Library

Police Cars, Fire Trucks, a Nightingale and the  
#43 NASCAR will be there, and much more!!

The Windsor's Woman's Club will be selling  
crafts,

the Ruritans will be selling food, and

M.A.M.A.S. Creative Sweets will be selling  
treats,

along with other venders who will be  
participating.

Music by

*Crossword*

will be performing from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy a family day of fun!

***We invite any civic or community organizations to come  
out and set up a booth.***

***For more information you may call the Town Hall at***

***757-242-4288***

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*Dear Boys & Girls,*

*Windsor will be having their 3rd annual Christmas Parade on  
December 6th, 2014. This is the first Saturday in December  
I am hoping all you good boys and girls will come and see  
me. Better yet, be in the parade. You will find the registra-  
tion form enclosed in this newsletter!*

*Sincerely,*

*Santa Clause*

*P.S.*

*Breakfast with Santa (that would be me) will be that morn-  
ing at 8 a.m. at the Ruritan Building! Come eat pancakes  
and get a photo with me. Take home a free children's book  
to remember our fun morning.*



## Windsor's 3rd Annual Christmas Parade

### "The Gift(s) of Christmas"

Windsor will be hosting our 3rd annual Christmas Parade, December 6th, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating in the parade, please fill out the registration form that you received in this newsletter and drop it off at the Town Hall. If anyone needs an additional form, you can go to our website or pick one up at the Town Hall. The Theme this year is "The Gift(s) of Christmas."

We will be lining up at the Farmer's Bank at 3:00 p.m. The parade route is from Holland Drive to Roberts Avenue to Church Street to Duke Street. The parade will end up at the Windsor High School parking lot, across from the library.

Please join us at the gazebo after the parade for the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Santa Claus will be there to light our Christmas Tree and visit with all the boys and girls. We look forward to celebrating with you during this holiday season.



## Blackwater Library

Bonnie L. Lauver, 18 Duke St. - 757-242-3046, [www.blackwaterlib.org](http://www.blackwaterlib.org)

Friends of the Windsor Library meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 5 p.m. (September - May); everyone is welcome, and membership is FREE!

Weekly story time at the library:

Ages 2-5 Tuesdays beginning September 16th at 10:45 a.m.

\*\*Registration is not required; all programs are free.

Book Club meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Contact the library for upcoming selections.

Breakfast with Santa- Sponsored by the Friends of Windsor Library Saturday, December 6th from 8-10 at the Community House (Ruritan Building)



GET INVOLVED!  
BECOME A  
VOLUNTEER!

## Fall Cleanup

The Town of Windsor's fall cleanup will be **Saturday, December 13, 2014**. The Town offers two special trash pickups per year. This provides you with a great opportunity to clean out your attic and garage, trim your trees, or get rid of items cluttering your yard. If you have any tree branches, please keep them less than three inches in diameter and no longer than four feet. You must bundle all branches and bag leaves or other yard trimmings. Place all items at the street by 7:00 a.m.

The contractor will not enter your driveway or yard to get heavy items, such as appliances, and he will not make pick-ups after 11:00 a.m. because the land fill closes at noon.

The contractor will not pick up items such as used lumber, roofing, siding, tires, paints, batteries, gas cylinders, oil, asbestos, animal carcasses, or hazardous materials.

If you have household hazard waste, you can dispose of it free of charge at the Isle of Wight Transfer Station, 13191 Foursquare Road, Smithfield on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They also take paint, pesticides, antifreeze, fuels, hobby supplies, insecticides, herbicides, paint thinners and solvents, fertilizers, swimming pool chemicals, household cleaners and household batteries. The Transfer Station on Stave Mill Road will take refrigerators and freezers. You may recycle used motor oil at both locations.

For more information, you may call 961-3874.

## Recycling

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!**

For curb side recycling, you may contact Moody's, A.V.E.S.

At (877) 357-9997 for further information.

## Business License

All persons or businesses who do business in the town of Windsor must obtain a business license. All business license shall be due and payable on January 1 of each year, and if not paid by March 1 of the year for which assessed, a penalty of 10% of the amount of the license tax shall be imposed along with a \$30.00 administrative fee. **Peddlers are able to purchase a peddlers license for the amount of \$50.00 per day** at the town hall. Thank you for doing business in the Town of Windsor. For further information you may call 757-242-4288.

## Grass on Sidewalks and Roads

Recently we have been receiving complaints about people cutting grass and leaving the clippings on the sidewalk or in the road. As you can assume, this poses a safety hazard for those individuals that walk on the sidewalk or on the edge of the road where no sidewalk is available. Town Code does prohibit anyone from placing debris on the road or sidewalk within the Town. We ask that you please keep our sidewalks and roads clear of any debris by blowing your grass clippings away from the road and sidewalk. We thank you for your cooperation in keeping Windsor a safe and beautiful community.

## Planning and Zoning Activities

### Code Compliance- Good Citizenship- Dog Owners

Dog owners are reminded that dog waste is not permitted on the Town's sidewalks and streets. This is considered an obstruction and is illegal under the Town's Code. Dog owners should make an effort to not have this happen, and if and when it occurs, the dog waste should be removed.

The Planning Department, Planning Commission and Town Council invites any citizen that has questions or ideas about the issues facing the Town of Windsor, or its future, please contact Dennis Carney at either (757)242-4288 or [dcarney@windsor-va.gov](mailto:dcarney@windsor-va.gov). It is through your input and efforts that the Town will continue to grow and prosper.

## Yard Sale

Please be advised that in order to have a yard sale you must purchase a yard sale permit from the Town Hall. Our business hours are Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Only signs provided by the Town of Windsor are permitted. You may purchase a yard sale sign for \$1.00, which is refundable upon returning of the signs. Thank you for your cooperation. **(This Ordinance will be enforced.)**

Windsor Christmas Parade Registration Form

Theme: The Gifts of Christmas



**RULES:**

- Parents wishing to sponsor a student/child as an entrant must accept full liability and provide an escort for that entry.
- All floats must be accompanied by an adult escort walking next to their entry.
- Drivers must hold a valid driver's license.
- Objects such as candy should not be thrown at the crowd or into the streets; however, candy may be handed out by people walking with the float.
- No vulgar language will be allowed in any music being played by any entry.
- No rain date has been set for the parade.
- All entries must be lined up and ready to go at the Farmer's Bank by 4:00 pm on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Parade Route: From Holland Drive to Roberts Avenue to Church Street to Duke Street. Parade will end up at the Windsor High School parking lot, across from the Library.



Please complete and return this form no later than Monday, November 17, 2014.

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor(s)Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Entry: Float: \_\_\_\_\_ Car: \_\_\_\_\_ Truck: \_\_\_\_\_ Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

(We would like you to consider playing your floats theme music on your float this year.)

Total Number of people riding or marching: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*If your group needs permission slips please have them\***

Name of Driver: \_\_\_\_\_

If Float, Name of Escort(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information contact Patty Flemming at 242-9491.



TOWN OF WINDSOR  
P.O. BOX 307  
WINDSOR, VA 23487



### **Town Council Members:**

**Mayor Carita J. Richardson**

**Vice Mayor Wesley F. Garris**

**J. Clint Bryant**

**N. Macon Edwards, III**

**Patty Flemming**

**Durwood V. Scott**

**Greg Willis**

The Windsor Town Council conducts its regular meetings @ 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 an as needed basis.

### **Holiday Closings**

Columbus Day - Monday, October 13th

Veteran's Day - Tuesday, November 11h

Thanksgiving Holiday - Wednesday, November 26th  
at noon thru Friday, Nov 28th

Christmas Holiday - Wednesday, December 24th at  
noon, thru Friday, December 26th.

*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**

**For More Information About our Town**

**Please Visit our Web Site at:**

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

Payments in the form of cash , check, money order, visa, master card and discover are accepted.

**Starting October 15, 2014 the Town of Windsor will be implementing a \$50.00 return check fee.**

We publish and distribute the newsletter by mail or e-mail to Windsor Town residents and customers of the Windsor water system quarterly. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to, please call the Town Office at 757-242-4288 or stop by to see us. We are open Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.