

Issue No. 54

Fall 2011

The Windsor Newsletter

The Mayor's Message

October, 2011

I would like to thank all the people and organizations who helped make our Fourth of July celebration a successful and safe event. These groups include the Ruritans, the Windsor Womans Club, the Windsor Youth Foundation, the Fire Department, the Rescue Squad, and the Windsor Police Department, including several auxiliary officers. We also appreciate Windsor Hardware, their employees, and volunteers for decorating the yards in our town with small flags to show our patriotic spirit. It was inspiring to see all the children who participated in the Patriotic Parade sponsored by the Womans Club. This event and the people who make it possible truly exemplify what makes our small town such a special place to live. We hope everyone will make plans to join us next year for an even bigger and better event.

As I reported to you earlier, VDOT has committed to redo route 460 in front of the post office. Traffic will have to be rerouted because of the extensive nature of the repairs. Unfortunately, it appears that the time frame for the work has been delayed until spring.

We are in the process of designing new entrance signs for the town on routes 460 and 258. The old signs have deteriorated and must be replaced.

We are grateful that there was no loss of life in Windsor during the recent hurricane. Thanks to everyone who helped neighbors in need during this time. I would especially like to thank our Windsor Police Department and our auxiliary officers for remaining on duty with very little sleep for several days to make sure our residents were safe. These officers checked on the elderly and transported them to the emergency shelter when needed, made sure our businesses were safe when there was no power, and were even out in the worst part of the storm clearing the streets of debris, as was the fire department. Let's express our appreciation to our firemen and policemen when we see them!

Council voted to change our town elections from May to November. The change will not take effect until 2014. This will save the town money and, hopefully, increase turnout.

We are inviting a representative from Dominion Power to come to either our October or November council meeting to discuss a solution for the frequent power outages some of our residents have been experiencing. We encourage you to attend our council meetings on the second Tuesday of each month so we can work together to make our town an even better place.

Your mayor,
Rita Richardson

Fall Cleanup

With the recent storm debris clean up conducted due to hurricane Irene, we anticipate a reduced need for a fall clean up. As such, we are asking any Town residents that have items for the fall cleanup (old furniture, appliances, or other large items) to contact the Town Office at 242-4288 so that we can assess the need for the fall clean up.

Thanks,
Town Staff



Rain Barrel Workshop

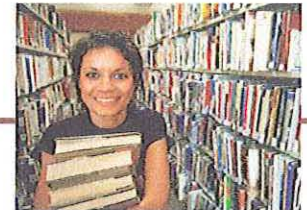
Rain Barrels catch runoff water from your roof. You can then use this water for gardening, watering flower beds, or other non potable uses. This can help reduce your potable water consumption and will lead to lower water and sewer bills.

The Town of Windsor is in the planning stage of hosting a rain barrel workshop. If you are interested in attending a workshop, please contact the Town office for more information at 242-4288.

Thanks,
Town Staff

Blackwater Library

Bonnie L. Lauver - 18 Duke St. - 757-242-3046



Storyhour for children ages 2-5 Tuesdays @ 10:45 am

Morning Out! Children up to age 5 and their caregivers are invited to play and socialize while enjoying juice, coffee and snacks. October 7th and 21st, November 4th and 18th, December 2nd and 16th @ 10:00 am.

Teen Night - 3rd Thursday of each month at 5 pm beginning October. Join us for gaming with PS2 and Wii, board games, holiday themed parties, and more!

Book Club - Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Upcoming selections include - *Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara, and *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison.

Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 3rd @ 8 am (Windsor Community House).

Support your library by joining the Friends of the Library! Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month @ 6 pm. Membership is FREE; everyone is welcome!

To find other great programs at Blackwater Regional Library visit www.blackwaterlib.org

Up-Coming Events

- Homecoming Parade – 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 21st
- Halloween – 5:00 pm to 8:00 p.m., Monday, October 31st
- Day light savings time – Sunday, November 6th, just a reminder to change your clocks back one hour on this day.
- Breakfast with Santa - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 3rd at the Community House
- Christmas in the country -12:00 Noon until 6:00 p.m., Sunday, December 4th at Windsor Hardware
- Tree Lighting Service - 7:00 p.m., Sunday, December 4th in the Municipal Park

HALLOWEEN Safety Tips

**TRICK OR TREAT: OCTOBER 31ST, 2011 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 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.

Windsor Police Department

Message from "Chief Vic Reynolds"



Hurricane Irene

First of all I want to send a loud thank you to all the citizens of the Town of Windsor. What an incredible family that we have in our small town. I am so proud to be your Chief of Police. Neighbors helping neighbors after the storm, the town officers out checking on everything before, during and after the storm and our rescue services, Fire and EMS never failing to answer the call. What a team we have! Although Hurricane Irene was thankfully not as bad as we had all prepared for, some of our local families suffered great loss, but that loss was nothing in comparison to the love and compassion shown by the residents of this wonderful town. Again, thank you all for giving me the honor of serving you.

We are your Police Department, and here are just a few things we are doing:



The Auxiliary Police Officers have dedicated hundreds of hours to this community and, in doing so; have saved our taxpayers thousands of dollars. We have been able to train more so that we can serve better. I am so proud of these officers. Thank you just does not seem to cover the admiration that I have for them.

We participated in the CHKD Jeans Day Fund Raiser. Events and activities such as this are what truly define the type of agency that I think you the citizens want us to be. We are of the Community, for the Community and always "Community First".



We are in the process of implementing a new piece of equipment called the Taser Axon. This equipment is a body worn camera system that we will be slowly implementing into use and phase out a much more costly and far less superior in-car camera system.



We are almost complete in achieving the goal of having a satellite Emergency Operations Center here at Town Hall. This will enable us to better serve our residents and, in the event of extreme emergencies, transform the Windsor Town into an EOC that can be used by multiple emergency management agencies. We have learned from past experiences where we along with other Emergency Management Officials could not get to the County Emergency Operations Center and are making incredible strides in creating redundancy for all emergency services here on the south end of the county. This is not, nor will it ever be, an individual effort to better protect and serve you. We will always strive for team work and cooperation. We will not fail you.

I would like to send special thanks out to Auxiliary members Morris and Chris Hansin. The Hansins used their private helicopter to assist our agency and Isle of Wight County after Hurricane Irene passed to get a bird's eye view of the damage incurred. Because of them we as a whole were able to get a better picture of where we stood so that we could gauge a more adequate and appropriate response to citizen needs. Thank you so much.

I would like to bring your attention to a new ordinance passed at the September 22nd, 2011 Council Meeting. This was a very tough ordinance for both me and for our council members to work on. This ordinance addresses the use of firearms inside the incorporated town limits. In looking at the overall safety of all residents it was time to address the issue because we are growing. It specifically addresses the use of high powered rifles. I know that I never want to, nor do your officers ever want to infringe upon the liberties that we enjoy as citizens of this great country and residents of this wonderful town. However, I can tell you that we did our research on this and felt that it was time. I know that there are a few residents that do not agree with me that it is not (in general) safe to discharge a high powered rifle anywhere within the town limits. As your Chief of Police I am at times put in a position that I must render what will be an unpopular, professional opinion. For any residents that feel I am wrong and that it is safe to discharge high powered rifles within town limits, I can only state that it is the opinion and recommendation that I have that is in the best interest of all that I have sworn to protect and serve. I can tell you that your Town Council served the residents of this town with honor and loyalty because they really weighed all thoughts of every citizen who spoke. Regardless of agreeing or not agreeing, I can tell you they took this matter very seriously because they too never want to infringe upon the activities of individuals on their own property unless it is absolutely necessary.

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Windsor Police Department

This was very tough for them as well, but in the end it was decided that looking at what is in the best interest of all residents it was time to ban the discharge of these weapons in town. In an effort to ensure that all citizens are properly notified we will for the next year address any violations of this new ordinance using the responding officer's discretion in regards to addressing the violation for first offenses. I would personally like to thank all residents, even ones that disagreed with us on this topic, for their opinions.

I would like to say thank you to our young residents. I have been with the Town of Windsor Police Department since February 2006. In my years here I have never experienced a summer where we had so few juvenile complaints / calls for service. I feel that law enforcement agencies are very quick to address problems with young adults. We do not tend to spend nearly enough time recognizing them for their good deeds and, in general, good behavior and good citizenship. From the information I gathered, we had only one juvenile complaint for the entire summer. I think this is very important to let the parents and citizens of this town know that this speaks volumes about our young men and women here in Windsor.

Youth Auxiliary Program

Our Youth Auxiliary Program is growing, and we want it to get bigger and better. We are currently accepting volunteers ages 10 to 17 desiring to serve their community. For details please contact Chief Reynolds at 757-242-6799.

2012 Windsor Christmas Toy Drive

Because of the overwhelming need that we experienced last year, we are starting early. This year this program is going to be driven by the Windsor Police Auxiliary Program and Youth Auxiliary Officers. We need your help. To be a part of this year's program please contact me at 757-242-6799. I am expecting this year's need to be even greater than that of previous years, and as always we will rise to the occasion.

Holiday Safety Tips

The holidays are approaching and with the fun and festivities also come thieves and con artists who are frequently on the prowl. Here are some tips from your Windsor Police Department to help keep your home, your car, your possessions, and your family safe.

Keeping Your Home Safe

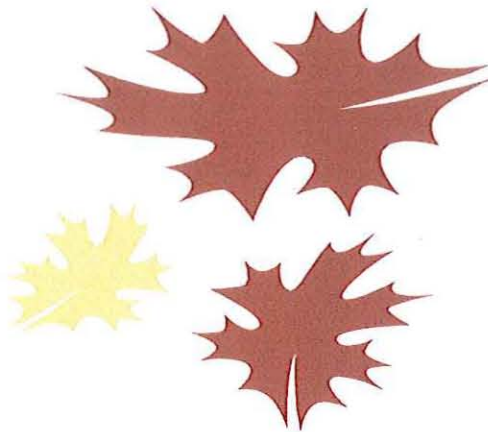
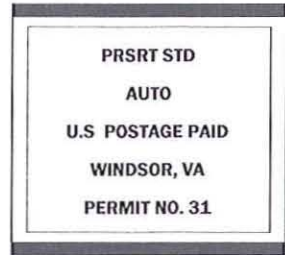
- We all want our homes to reflect the joy of the season, but avoid displaying gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway.
- Arrange to have packages delivered to a neighbor if you're not home to receive them.
- Packages left on porches or doorsteps are "easy picking" for thieves. It also draws unwanted attention to your home.
- Consider simple outside decorations. Elaborate or large lawn pieces are often stolen.
- Be sure not to obscure the view from your windows. You need a clear view of your property.
- Always lock your home's doors and windows, even if you're only gone for a few minutes.
- Compact or dispose of packaging discreetly. Often criminals will spot something you've discarded and can target you for their next burglary or theft.
- When leaving town, have a trusted friend or neighbor take care of your home.
- Notify the Windsor Police Department when you're planning an extended absence. We will issue a vacation watch or directed patrol for your home.

Keeping Your Neighborhood Safe

Share these tips with your neighbors. Establish a network with your neighbors and make a plan for mutual protection and notification and remember, ALWAYS report suspicious activity



TOWN OF WINDSOR



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.

Holiday Closings

October 10th - Columbus Day

November 11th - Veteran's Day

November 23rd at noon thru Nov 25th - Thanksgiving

December 23rd thru Dec 26th - Christmas

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

For More Information About our Town

Please visit our Web Site at:

www.windsor-va.gov