

## In-Person Absentee Voting Through April 28

*In-person* absentee voting for the May 1 Town Election is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday (excluding holidays), **now through Saturday, April 28**. In-person absentee voting is available at the PWC Office of Elections' main office, located at 9250 Lee Avenue, Manassas, or at their satellite office at the Woodbridge DMV, located at 2731 Caton Hill Road, Woodbridge.

The deadline for absentee ballot *by mail* is **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018**. Applications for a ballot to be mailed must be received by the PWC Office of Elections by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. Absentee ballot request forms are available on the Prince William County website at [www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/vote](http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/vote).

For more information, contact the PWC Office of Elections at (703) 792-6470.

### Register to Vote by April 9, 2018

In order to vote in the May 1, 2018 Town Election, **you must register to vote by Monday, April 9, 2018**. For questions on how to register to vote, contact the Prince William County Office of Elections at (703) 792-6470 or visit [www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/vote](http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/vote).

## OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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### TOWN OF OCOQUAN

314 Mill Street  
P.O. Box 195  
Occoquan, VA 22125

CARRIER ROUTE  
OCOQUAN, VA 22125

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Occoquan, VA  
Permit No. 19

# TOWN ELECTION INFORMATION

**Town Election Day:** Tuesday, May 1, 2018

**Polls Open:** 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

All Town residents registered to vote are eligible to vote in the Town Election.

**Polling Location:** Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125

## Town Election Day: May 1, 2018

The Mayor and Town Council members are elected at-large by the residents of Occoquan. All registered voters within the Town's limits are eligible to vote during Town elections held on the first Tuesday of May during even-numbered years at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street. On May 1, 2018 Town residents will elect Mayor and five Councilmembers during the Town Election. Terms are for two years beginning July 1, 2018.

## Mayor and Council Candidate Statements

The statements included below and inside this document were provided by the candidates for Occoquan Mayor and Town Council. On May 1, Occoquan residents will elect a Mayor and five Councilmembers who will begin new two-year terms on July 1, 2018.

### Candidates for Mayor



#### Earnie W. Porta, Jr.

I was privileged to serve as Occoquan's Mayor from 2006-2014. While Mayor I led efforts to secure what is now River Mill Park, preserve 17 acres off Tanyard Hill Road for parkland, and through work with nonprofits won grants for items like public benches, bicycle racks, and historic signs. During my tenure I also worked diligently to promote the town and its businesses through groups like the Occoquan Historical Society, by establishing an award-winning tourism company focused on Occoquan, and through a popular e-newsletter. If you honor me again with the office of Mayor I pledge to continue the sound efforts of prior officials and work tirelessly on behalf of you and our wonderful community.



#### Steven V. Vonderheide

Hello, I have been a town resident for over 15 years and a Virginia resident and a Defense Contractor for over 25 years. I enjoy living in Occoquan and want to help ensure that it remains an active and thriving town. I want to help ensure that changes center on growth and I want to use my business experience with multi-million dollar projects to help Occoquan evolve while maintaining the uniqueness that we all love. We need to ensure that Occoquan remains inviting for tourists and future residents. I have a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and bring effective communication and problem solving skills to the office, if elected.

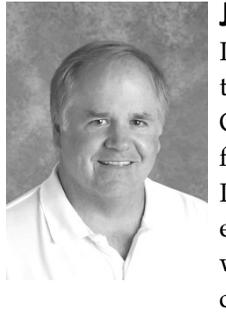
I welcome discussion on issues and concerns. Thanks for your consideration.

## Candidates for Councilmember



### Krystyna M. Bienia

As a proud resident of Occoquan, I am excited about the opportunity to serve as a town Councilmember. I am energized about the prospect for bringing exciting and new opportunities while also preserving the incredible history of this town. The small town community atmosphere is one that is rare. I believe keeping our town pedestrian friendly, safe, and welcoming is a priority. Keeping the park and river area clean, yet accessible, is important to this spirit of community. My professional role as senior policy analyst provides me expertise in understanding and developing best practices while being fiscally mindful. I believe Occoquan has an incredible future. Thank you for considering me for your town Councilmember.



### J. Matthew Dawson

I am seeking a third term to the Occoquan Town Council with the hope of continuing the work and building on the accomplishments of the last four years. I have lived in Occoquan for various stretches since 1980. My grandfather was born here and my father is a longtime resident. I previously served on Town Council from 1988 to 1990. I feel that I bring a unique perspective to the council as that of a former owner of several businesses, a resident, and an owner of rental properties in the business district. I will do my best to listen to all points of view and make the best decisions for all concerned.



### Cindy J. Fithian

Serving you on the Occoquan Town Council is my "community service" of choice. I take the responsibility seriously, and have a 100% voting record at Town Council meetings during my first term. My priority goals include decreasing the negative impact of cut-through traffic, fully funding and constructing the accessible kayak/canoe ramp under the 123 bridge, increasing recycling in the historic district, and completing the River Walk extension. I volunteer alongside my neighbors at craft shows and clean-ups, and choose to "SHOP SMALL" and support our local businesses at every opportunity. A vibrant business district of unique shops, restaurants, services and galleries will ensure that this historic town we love will continue to flourish!



### Laurie E. Holloway

I'm a 30-year journalism/PR executive, now semi-retired. I fell in love with Occoquan on my first visit, and my spouse and I now own a home in the Historic District.

I'm the Adopt-A-Spot volunteer for the Highway 123 parking lot, and I absolutely love volunteering at the craft shows! Last year, I launched the @VisitOccoquan Instagram and Twitter accounts to support the Business Guild and town staff's strong work promoting our town.

I serve on the Architectural Review Board and have been to numerous Town Council meetings. I believe a combination of experienced leadership and enthusiastic newer residents is a perfect mix to make sure we stay the best little town in Virginia!

## Candidates for Councilmember



### Joseph E. McGuire, Jr.

Over the past four years I have watched the growing increase of the Town staff and the associated bureaucracy that comes from it. This has been based on a desire of doing what other communities in Northern Virginia do. In my opinion this has been a drastic error which has contributed to a number of businesses leaving our community. We need to get back to discussing what works for the unique conditions that exist in Occoquan and create those solutions that work for us.



### Eliot R. Perkins

I have been a proud resident and property owner in historic Occoquan for the past eight years with my wife Heather and our two dogs Sully and Gunner. I serve as the Chairman of the Planning Commission in Occoquan; a position for which I have been certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Also, I'm excited to be a part of the newly formed Occoquan Events Focus Group. I am running for Town Council to proactively help Occoquan continue to thrive and progress. I look forward to meeting and talking with you about your insights and observations. I want to positively contribute to our town's present and future while being respectful of Occoquan's proud history.



### Patrick A. Sivigny

I am proud to serve you as a member of what I consider to be a very strong and effective team: our town staff and elected officials. The next few years will be critical to our town's future, for both residents and businesses, and it is imperative that we have an experienced team to guide us forward. Therefore, I respectfully request your continued support to serve you as a member of your town council. As always, I will strive to be a conscientious steward of our town's history and traditions, to protect our river community's limited and treasured resources, and to improve upon our town's enhanced public safety. Thank you for your consideration.



### Johnathan W. Torres

Dear Occoquan Neighbor,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is **Johnathan Torres** and I'm running for Town Council in the **May 1, 2018** town election. Over the past several years, I have had an amazing opportunity to meet with and listen to the concerns and ideas of many of the residents, business owners and visitors of Occoquan. I'm excited for what the future holds for our treasured town.

As your next Councilmember, I will work tirelessly to move the issues you care about to the forefront of the Town Agenda: **REDUCE CUT-THROUGH TRAFFIC; HOLD THE LINE ON TAXES; ATTRACT MORE BUSINESS; CAPITALIZE ON COMMUNITY ASSETS.**

Respectfully, Johnathan Torres