

*Visit*  
**Occoquan**  
*Virginia*

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN  
VISITOR'S GUIDE  
Fall/Winter 2024



LEARN ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES AT [VISITOCOQUANVA.COM](https://www.visitoccoquanva.com)



# Forever Young Med Spa

206 Mill st. Occoquan, VA

## Treatments



Botox, Fillers, Peels, IPL & Laser treatments for hair removal, pigment, veins, and tightening, Microneedling RF, AquaGold, Skinny Lipo, and Medical Grade Skincare.



## Aesthetics

Facials, BioRePeel, ProCell Microneedling, Hair ReGrowth treatments, and teenage skin treatments.



## Lashes & Brows

Eyelash Extensions, Lash Lift & tint, Brow tint, Brow Lamination, and Brow Wax, and more to come!

Self Schedule Online

703-651-2553 ForeverYoungToday.com



## Buy-A-Brick in River Mill Park!

Order your commemorative brick on the River Mill Park pathway and become a permanent fixture in our community! Sponsoring a brick supports future programming, maintenance, and improvements in Occoquan parks. Bricks can commemorate:

- Memorials
- Families
- Businesses
- Engagements or Anniversaries

Space is limited. Online ordering is available through the QR code to the right.



Emergency: Dial 911  
 Non-Emergency: (703) 792-6500  
 OPD Duty Phone: (571) 575-3188  
 OPD HQ: (571) 492-7274  
 Email: policechief@occoquanva.gov

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To learn about upcoming town events and activities visit [visitoccoquanva.com](http://visitoccoquanva.com), or for information on the town visit [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov)

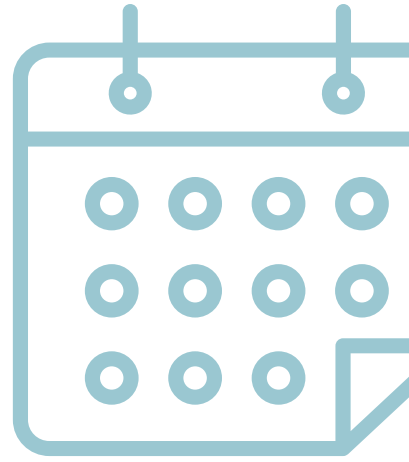
This publication is produced in partnership by Visit Occoquan, Inc. and the Town of Occoquan

All information such as events, dates, times, locations, addresses, and contact information are subject to change. Please contact the business or event host to confirm details.

COVER PHOTO BY SARAH HITCHCOCK BURZIO  
 DESIGN & LAYOUT BY HITCHCOCK CREATIVE  
 FALL/WINTER (SEP 2024 - FEB 2025)



# Upcoming Events *in the* Occoquan Community



Information in this calendar has been submitted by organizations in our community & are up-to-date as of the time of the printing. We recommend contacting event organizers to ensure information is still accurate.

## SEPTEMBER

### Teacher Appreciation Month

#### SEPTEMBER 1-30

Occoquan Optical, 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

September is Teacher Appreciation Month at Occoquan Optical! Go back to school with the coolest eyewear. All month long we are offering teachers 20% off their ENTIRE purchase! \*Must show teacher ID or have some proof to receive discount. [occoquanoptical.com](http://occoquanoptical.com)

### Nature's Wonders

#### SEPTEMBER 3 - OCTOBER 6

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Pat Hafkemeyer's paintings capture the heart of nature. She's drawn to realism, combining watercolor with ink to enrich her artistic expression, while exploring various techniques to achieve her beautiful visual effects. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors

#### SEPTEMBER 6 - OCTOBER 27

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Dracula, A Comedy of Terrors, is filled with clever wordplay and pop culture references. This laugh-out-loud reimagining of the gothic classic is perfect for audiences of all blood types. Tickets: \$25-\$40. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Sip & Learn: Beginners Calligraphy

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 FROM 1-4PM

Hitchcock Studios, 305 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

During this introduction to calligraphy workshop, learn all the basics of pointed pen calligraphy in a relaxed and inspiring river-view atmosphere. Advance registration required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Art Reception: Nature's Wonders

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 FROM 1-4PM

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Come explore the captivating work of Pat Hafkemeyer, the Loft's Artist of the Month. Pat's unique artwork beautifully combines watercolor and ink, as she captures her view of Nature for all to enjoy. Enjoy the artwork & refreshments. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 FROM 6-8PM

Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Trivia Night

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 FROM 6:30-8:30PM

River Mill Park, 458 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Test your knowledge during our outdoor trivia nights in the park! That night's event title is your clue to one of the six rounds of questions. Bring your up-to-8-person team plus camp chairs or blankets for seating in the park. [visitoccoquanva.com/trivia](http://visitoccoquanva.com/trivia)

### Sip & Learn: Brush Lettering Workshop

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 FROM 1-4PM

Hitchcock Studios, 305 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

This class will be an afternoon of colorful fun as you learn calligraphy letterforms with brush markers and watercolors! No experience is required and all materials will be provided. Advance registration required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Meeting with a Renowned Artist

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT 4PM

Vizia Gallery, 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA

Meet a renowned artist who will lecture on the significance of art in life. During this cocktail party, he will show different techniques in creating portraits and landscapes. [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 FROM 6-9PM

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Friday Night Flights

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 FROM 5-7PM

Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a flight of teas! Have you wanted to see what a Milk Oolong or a Gunpowder Green tastes like without committing to a purchase? Stop by our shop for monthly Friday Night Flights! We will be staying open late on these evenings and we will have four to five different freshly brewed hot teas to sample. Do a little shopping and sip on some tea! [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### National Daughter's Day Sip & Shop

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 FROM 6-8PM

Hello Jackson, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Celebrate National Daughter's day with an after hours sip & shop event! Fall home fragrances, permanent jewelry, and light refreshments. [shopathellojackson.com](http://shopathellojackson.com)

### Book Signing with Occoquan Resident, Henry Brinton

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 FROM 2-3PM

Hitchcock Paper Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA  
Occoquan resident and award-winning author, Henry Brinton will be signing copies of his three mystery novels, based right here in town. Purchase books onsite or bring your own! [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

## FALL ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Fall Arts & Crafts Show  
SEPTEMBER 28 & 29 FROM 10AM-5PM  
throughout Occoquan

Join us for our Fall Arts & Crafts Show, in the streets of historic Occoquan! This annual event features two packed days of a wide range of 300 makers and creators in over 20 categories! Meet emerging and experienced artisans, talk to them about their work, and view demonstrations of some of their craft techniques. Plus don't miss Imagination Alley for the kids, a beer garden & live music in the park, and amazing food vendors! Free admission. Parking shuttle tickets \$8 (kids 12 & under free) or \$15 for 2.

Learn more at [occoquanfestivals.com](http://occoquanfestivals.com)

## OCTOBER

### Haunt 2024: Twisted Tales of Terror

#### OCTOBER 4 - NOVEMBER 2

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Get into the spooky spirit of Halloween at the Workhouse Haunt! Back for our 11th season, we're bringing even more scares (and laughter) to our popular creepy outdoor walk-through trail. Twisted Tales of Terror will lead guests on a frightening journey that brings them along abandoned, historic buildings where they will encounter terrifying characters and sights and sounds that are not for the faint of heart. [workhousearts.org/calendar/haunt](http://workhousearts.org/calendar/haunt)

### Featured Artist: Maggie Hillen

#### OCTOBER 8 - NOVEMBER 3

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

"Flora, Fauna, & Fantasy" Whether you are an art enthusiast or simply looking for an inspiring experience, Maggie's show promises to delight. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Meet the Artist Reception

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 FROM 1-4PM

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Meet Maggie Hillen & enjoy her show "Flora, Fauna, and Fantasy." Explore her enchanting artistic journey through the realms of nature & imagination. Refreshments provided. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 FROM 6-8PM

Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Fall Into Beauty Event

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 FROM 5-8PM

Forever Young, 206 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a SPA Party! We will discuss all of the amazing treatments and services we offer, have event special pricing, and yummy food & drinks. RSVP details on our website. [foreveryoungtoday.com](http://foreveryoungtoday.com)

### Trivia Night

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 FROM 6:30-8:30PM

River Mill Park, 458 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Test your knowledge during our outdoor trivia nights in the park! That night's event title is your clue to one of the six rounds of questions. Bring your up-to-8-person team plus camp chairs or blankets for seating in the park. [visitoccoquanva.com/trivia](http://visitoccoquanva.com/trivia)

### Sip & Learn: Beginners Calligraphy

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 FROM 1-4PM

Hitchcock Studios, 305 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

During this introduction to calligraphy workshop, learn all the basics of pointed pen calligraphy in a relaxed and inspiring river-view atmosphere. Advance registration required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 FROM 6-9PM

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Workshop in the VIZIA Gallery

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 4PM

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 AT 4PM

Vizia Gallery, 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA

Join us for two days of learning about European and local art, while tasting excellent Mediterranean delicatessen food, and learning how to paint under instruction while gaining new knowledge and experience. Book at 703-592-7765. [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

## THE CURSE OF THE AMETHYST

### The Curse of the Amethyst: A Murder Mystery in River Mill Park

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 7PM  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7PM  
River Mill Park, 458 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

A famous traveling exhibition of an ancient pharaoh is scheduled to open, but the priceless headstone gem has been stolen! Plausible suspects have been gathered in the museum's secret late night speakeasy in an effort to solve the crime and return the jewel in time for the exhibition's grand opening... and then a murder occurs! Join us for this 1920s style, outdoor interactive murder mystery. Tickets required, free shuttle service, cash bar onsite. \$48 each or 2 for \$86.

Reserve your tickets now or learn more at [visitoccoquanva.com/murder](http://visitoccoquanva.com/murder)

### Culture Culinary Club

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 4PM

Vizia Gallery, 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a lecture on the place of culture in our everyday life. How does art upgrade and give a new dimension on our everyday routine? How do we improve our cooking culture by preparing healthy Mediterranean food? [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

### Friday Night Flights

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 FROM 5-7PM

Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a flight of teas! Have you wanted to see what a Milk Oolong or a Gunpowder Green tastes like without committing to a purchase? Stop by our shop for monthly Friday Night Flights! We will be staying open late on these evenings and we will have four to five different freshly brewed hot teas to sample. Do a little shopping and sip on some tea! [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Ghouls, Goblins and Ghosts

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 FROM 10AM-7PM

Art A La Carte Gallery, 310 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Get ready for a scary, spooky good time at Art A La Carte Gallery on October 26th! We've got tricks and treats that are sure to delight even the most ghoulish of spirits. Witness the spell binding painting techniques of Brian McElligott. [artalacartegallery.com](http://artalacartegallery.com)

## OCCOQUAN COSTUME PARADE & CONTEST

### Occoquan Costume Parade & Contest

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 AT 10AM  
throughout Occoquan / River Mill Park

Join us for a family-friendly Costume Parade & Contest in historic Occoquan! Occoquan Mayor Earnie Porta will lead a parade of costumed families down Mill Street to River Mill Park, where costume judging will take place. Judging categories include: cutest, scariest, funniest, most original, and family/group. Prizes go to first place winners! Fun fall activities will take place in the park during and after judging. This event is free, no rsvp required, and is designed for all ages!

[visitoccoquanva.com/costumeparade](http://visitoccoquanva.com/costumeparade)

### Howloween Costume Party

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 FROM 4-8PM

Mill St. Draft Garden, 126 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Howloween costume party! A costume party for adults, children, and dogs! Featuring pumpkin brews, spiced cider, mulled wine, and cider! [millstdraftgarden.com](http://millstdraftgarden.com)

### Haunted Maze & Spirit Garden

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 FROM 5-10PM

Patriots for Disabled Divers, 305 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a Haunted Maze PLUS Spirits Garden! Our popular maze is rated PG13 - scary stuff designed for adults, teens & some older kids! Tickets are \$10 Adults, \$5 Kids. Cash bar available. Profits benefit nonprofit: [patriotsfordisableddivers.org](http://patriotsfordisableddivers.org)

## NOVEMBER

### Holiday Happy Hour

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 FROM 4-7PM

Hitchcock Paper Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

& Tiny Supply Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for an evening of fun and prizes as we kick off the holiday season in style! Enjoy drinks, tasty treats, door prizes, raffles, and more during our annual holiday happy hour. Free to attend, no rsvp required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Sip & Learn: Intermediate Calligraphy

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 FROM 1-4PM

Hitchcock Studios, 305 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Join us for a mid-level workshop on intermediate calligraphy in our river-view Occoquan studios! In this class we will focus on writing capital letters and have fun experimenting with colored and metallic inks. Advance registration required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)



## NOVEMBER (CONT.)

### Featured Artist: Lori Welch Brown

**NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 1**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

"Out of the Blue" explores a colorful history & remains an important part of the art world as it represents a myriad of themes and moods. Explore its depth, range, & subtleties through the lens of this mixed media artist. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Meet the Artist Reception

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FROM 1-4PM**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Meet Lori Welch Brown learn about her mixed media show "Out of the Blue." Refreshments provided. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FROM 6-9PM**

*Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA*

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 FROM 6-8PM**

*Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Art in our Home Interior

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 AT 4PM**

*Vizia Gallery., 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA*

This lecture by an interior designer will show us how to create a more cozy and artistic atmosphere with paintings and home decor in our house. Practical advice and video demonstrations, plus a tasting of Balkan food. [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

### Occoquan Friendsgiving

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 FROM 4-8PM**

*Mill St. Draft Garden, 126 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Special Holiday Menu: Good times with friends featuring a chef driven menu and hot drink specials. [millstdraftgarden.com](http://millstdraftgarden.com)

### Holiday Treasures

**NOVEMBER 19 - DECEMBER 30**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Experience the joy and wonder of the holidays through the eyes of talented artists. Unique gifts & a festive atmosphere are the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Live Wreath Making Class

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 AT 6PM**

*Hello Jackson, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Join us as we create live door hanging wreaths for the holiday season! This will be a pre-sale ticketed event. For more detail, please follow us on facebook and instagram: @ShopAtHelloJackson. [shopathellojackson.com](http://shopathellojackson.com)

### Champagne Bottle Wreath Making Class

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AT 6:30PM**

*Brandon's Flowers, 203 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Come learn to adorn your bottles with flowers and leave with a beautiful wine or champagne bottle all ready for the holidays. We supply everything you need to design, just show up ready to relax and have a bunch of fun designing with flowers! [brandonsflowers.net](http://brandonsflowers.net)

### Friday Night Flights

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 FROM 5-7PM**

*Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Join us for a flight of teas! Have you wanted to see what a Milk Oolong or a Gunpowder Green tastes like without committing to a purchase? Stop by our shop for monthly Friday Night Flights! We will be staying open late on these evenings and we will have four to five different freshly brewed hot teas to sample. Do a little shopping and sip on some tea! [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

*Want to add your event to our calendar?*

*Find details and deadlines at:*  
**[visitoccoquanva.com/visitorsguide](http://visitoccoquanva.com/visitorsguide)**

### Shop, Dine & Win! Contest

**NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 15**

*throughout Occoquan*

Our annual contest is back! From November 23 through December 15, you can shop and dine your way through Occoquan's best stores, galleries, and restaurants for your chance to win \$100 in gifts cards! Multiple winners will be selected. [visitoccoquanva.com/holiday](http://visitoccoquanva.com/holiday)

### Letters to Santa

**NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 15**

*Tiny Supply Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Kids of all ages are invited to write a letter to Santa and drop it in one of our special mailboxes in Occoquan! If a return address is provided, Santa will even send a letter back. Drop letters at Tiny Supply Co. (125 Mill St) or Town Hall (314 Mill St) through December 15. [shoptinysupply.com](http://shoptinysupply.com)

### Gong Fu Tea Tasting

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 FROM 10AM-12:30PM**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Savor a variety of exquisite Asian teas with Darlene Kaplan learning their unique properties & flavors. Includes art presentations for a blending the elegance of tea with the beauty of art. \$20 per person. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Holiday Lights, Laughter and Art

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 FROM 11AM-8PM**

*Art A La Cart Gallery, 310 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Get ready to jingle all the way to our epic Holiday party! Come hang out with the coolest artists and enjoy tasty treats while checking out some seriously impressive artwork. It's going to be a blast! [artalacartgallery.com](http://artalacartgallery.com)

### Holiday Treasures Gala

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 UNTIL 8PM**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

The Loft is open late, showcasing our Holiday Treasures. Join us for a cup of hot cider while you search for the perfect gift. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Wrap up the Joy!

**NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 1**

*Art A La Cart Gallery, 310 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Who's ready for the holidays? We're thrilled you chose us for your holiday shopping. Our sales not only bring joy to the artisans who crafted your gifts but also to the loved ones receiving them. Meet the artisans and enjoy some refreshments! [artalacartgallery.com](http://artalacartgallery.com)

## DECEMBER

### Featured Artist: Lynn Martin

**DECEMBER 3-29**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

"More than Gestures" presents paintings in a variety of media created by Lynn Martin that are inspired by nature, her travels, and everyday experiences. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### A Hello Jackson Christmas

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5 FROM 6-8PM**

*Hello Jackson, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Join us for an after hours Christmas shopping event. Christmas cookies, cocktails, and carols provided as you shop for scents to both gift and fill your home this holiday season. Permanent jewelry also available at this event. [shopathellojackson.com](http://shopathellojackson.com)

### Sing-A-Long with Santa

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 AT 11AM**

*River Mill Park, 458 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Join us for a festive sing-a-long with Santa's favorite kids (that's you!). First, Santa arrives by boat at 10:30am where visitors can wave him in from the town dock. From there, he and his friends will parade down Mill Street to River Mill Park for singing and merriment. Free, no tickets required. [visitoccoquanva.com/holiday](http://visitoccoquanva.com/holiday)

### Jingle Bell Bash

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 FROM 11AM-7PM**

*Art A La Cart Gallery 310 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Create lasting memories this holiday season at Art A La Carte gallery, where you can enjoy stress-free shopping, indulge in complimentary refreshments, and participate in a delightful holiday cookie decorating activity. [artalacartgallery.com](http://artalacartgallery.com)

### Meet the Artist Reception

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 FROM 1-4PM**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Meet Lynn Martin and learn about her watercolor, acrylic and mixed media paintings in her show "More than Gestures." Refreshments provided. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Ugly Sweater Holiday Party

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 FROM 3-7PM**

*Mill St. Draft Garden, 126 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Wear your best (and ugliest sweater) and drink some festive holiday beers and cocktails as we celebrate the jolliest season of the year! [millstdraftgarden.com](http://millstdraftgarden.com)

### Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame

**DECEMBER 7 - JANUARY 12**

*Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA*

Based on the Victor Hugo novel with songs from the Disney animated feature, the musical tells the story of Quasimodo, the deformed bell-ringer who escapes from his devious caretaker, archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo and meets the beautiful Romani woman, Esmeralda. He vies for her attention with Frollo the handsome Captain Phoebus. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 FROM 6-8PM**

*Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Holiday Elopement Ceremonies in Historic Occoquan

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**

*Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Looking for a quick elopement in a charming, twinkly, small town atmosphere? The PWC Circuit Court will be in Occoquan to perform nuptials in front of Town Hall's beautifully lit tree. Ceremonies will last approximately 15 minutes. Pre-booking with the county clerk's office is required. [visitoccoquanva.com/elopement](http://visitoccoquanva.com/elopement)



### Firelight Night

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 FROM 6-9PM**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 FROM 6-9PM**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 FROM 6-9PM**

*Mill House Museum, 413 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Bundle up, grab some friends, and join us under the stars in historic Occoquan! This outdoor event takes place in the cul-de-sac in front of the Mill House Museum and includes firepits, live music, plus drinks and concessions. Firelight Nights are free and open to the public. No rsvp required.

[visitoccoquanva.com/firelight](http://visitoccoquanva.com/firelight)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 FROM 6-9PM**

*Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA*

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### A Very Last Minute Sip & Shop

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 FROM 4-7PM**

*Hitchcock Paper Co, 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

*& Tiny Supply Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Oh hey... Christmas and Hanukkah are in a week! Come have a drink and do a little last minute shopping (or let us help you get started!). Snacks, drinks & stress free shopping vibes are included. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Friday Night Flights

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 FROM 5-7PM**

*Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Join us for a flight of teas! Have you wanted to see what a Milk Oolong or a Gunpowder Green tastes like without committing to a purchase? Stop by our shop for monthly Friday Night Flights! We will be staying open late on these evenings and we will have four to five different freshly brewed hot teas to sample. Do a little shopping and sip on some tea! [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Bulgarian Christmas Celebration

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 5PM**

*Vizia Gallery., 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA*

Join us for a celebration of Christmas with the traditional Bulgarian Christmas party, with a rich feast of the regional food! This event will include rituals, music, and a raffle with three winning tickets. The first prize will be a home decor art object from the gallery. [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

## JANUARY

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7 FROM 6-8PM**

*Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA*

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 FROM 6-9PM**

*Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA*

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Firelight Night

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 FROM 6-9PM**

*Mill House Museum, 413 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Bundle up, grab some friends, and join us under the stars in historic Occoquan! This outdoor event takes place in the cul-de-sac in front of the Mill House Museum and includes firepits, live music, plus drinks and concessions. Firelight Nights are free and open to the public. No rsvp required. [visitoccoquanva.com/firelight](http://visitoccoquanva.com/firelight)

### Meeting Artisans and Craftsmen

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 AT 3PM**

*Vizia Gallery., 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA*

Join artisan Captain R. Bailey for a lecture on how to make boat models from coconut pods and materials (also exhibited in the gallery). You will also learn how to work with a loom to create wall decorations from an artist from Georgia. [vizeuroart24.com](http://vizeuroart24.com)

### Art for Everyone Event

**JANUARY 25 - MARCH 2**

*The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA*

Annual showcase of original art available at special pricing for a limited time! It's the perfect opportunity for art enthusiasts looking for unique pieces or anyone starting their journey into the world of art collecting. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

Learn more about Occoquan's holiday events at [visitoccoquanva.com/holiday](http://visitoccoquanva.com/holiday)



## FEBRUARY

### Permanent Jewelry Party

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 FROM 6-8PM**  
Hello Jackson, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Grab your girlfriends and join us for a permanent jewelry party at Hello Jackson! Cocktails and light refreshments provided. [shopathellojackson.com](http://shopathellojackson.com)

### Make a Valentine with Us!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 FROM 10AM-12PM**  
Tiny Supply Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Kids are invited to come make a valentine with us! Open to all ages/created for ages 4-10. Free, no RSVP needed. [shoptinysupply.com](http://shoptinysupply.com)

### Saint Valentine in the Gallery

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 5PM**  
Vizia Gallery, 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA

For couples - partners, spouses, friends- a romantic party with cold buffet. Celebrate love in a beautiful art interior. A lot of presents from the gallery. [vizoeuroart24.com](http://vizoeuroart24.com)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 FROM 6-9PM**

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### For the Love of Art & Chocolate

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 FROM 11AM-7PM**

Art A La Cart Gallery 310 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Cultivate a sparkling connection with your date at our Gallery, where you can appreciate the works of 29 talented artists. Savor complementary refreshments and rich chocolate treats. Enjoy art demonstrations. [artalacartgallery.com](http://artalacartgallery.com)

### Valentine Photo Booth

**FEBRUARY 8-16**

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Capture unforgettable moments! Whether it's a romantic couple's shot, a fun family portrait, or a sweet selfie with friends, come create wonderful memories. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Leaves & Literacy Book Club

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 FROM 6-8PM**

Leaf & Petal, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Leaf & Petal has our very own book club! Leaves & Literacy is a chance to discover and discuss new books, drink delicious tea, and get an exclusive handmade item! In person spots for this book club are currently limited to a small amount, due to space, but we do hope to expand in the future! Advance registration required. [leafandpetalva.com](http://leafandpetalva.com)

### Galentine's Happy Hour

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 FROM 4-7PM**

Hitchcock Paper Co., 125 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Gather your gals and come celebrate Galentine's Night with sparkling wine, tasty treats, and of course shopping! Free to attend, no RSVP required. [hitchcockpaper.com](http://hitchcockpaper.com)

### Firelight Night

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 FROM 6-9PM**

Mill House Museum, 413 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Bundle up, grab some friends, and join us under the stars in historic Occoquan! This outdoor event takes place in the cul-de-sac in front of the museum and includes firepits, live music, drinks and concessions. [visitoccoquanva.com/firelight](http://visitoccoquanva.com/firelight)

## MARCH

### Featured Artist: Rich Moore

**MARCH 4 - APRIL 6**

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Experience Rich's versatile landscape oil paintings in "Let All Creation Rejoice Before The LORD" which showcase the LORD's creation with bold brushstrokes & a soft pastel palette. His work reveals divine design in the sky, earth, mountains, & seas. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Spring Scent Release

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6 FROM 6-8PM**

Hello Jackson, 201 Union Street, Occoquan, VA

Are you ready for the warmth of Spring? Us too! Join us for an after hours event to get the first look at our Spring Scent Collection. Light refreshments provided. [shopathellojackson.com](http://shopathellojackson.com)

### Meet the Artist Reception

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8 FROM 1-4PM**

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Meet oil painter Rich Moore & experience his show "Let All Creation Rejoice Before The LORD." Refreshments provided. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Reunion Party & Team Building

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15 AT 5PM**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16 AT 5PM**

Vizia Gallery, 308 B Poplar Alley, Occoquan, VA

This event is for all friends, colleagues, and art lovers who would like to reunite and enjoy a cocktail party! This is great for team members who would like to build their team while enjoying cultural atmosphere through culture and art in our relationships and jobs. [vizoeuroart24.com](http://vizoeuroart24.com)

### Second Saturday Art Walk

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15 FROM 6-9PM**

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA

Stroll through the dozens of artist studios located in multiple buildings on the Workhouse campus. Check out the ever-changing art displays including glass, ceramics, paintings, photography, textiles, jewelry and more. And don't forget that most items in the studios are available to purchase! Our talented artists will be there to chat about their works and processes. Galleries, gift shop, and the Lucy Burns Museum will be open extended hours. FREE. [workhousearts.org](http://workhousearts.org)

### Gong Fu Tea Tasting

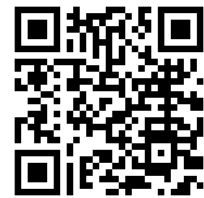
**SATURDAY, MARCH 22 FROM 10AM-12:30PM**

The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA

Savor a variety of exquisite Asian teas with Darlene Kaplan learning their unique properties & flavors. Includes art presentations for a blending the elegance of tea with the beauty of art. \$20 per person. [loftgallery.org](http://loftgallery.org)

### Looking for more events?

Visit our online calendar at the QR code below:



**THE LOFT GALLERY**  
OCOCOQUAN

*Curated fine art by local artists*

- Browse our paintings (watercolor, oil, acrylic, pastel); turned wood, photography, figurative sculpture, print media, and kiln-formed fused glass.
- Original art by 24 local artists
- Visit our artists' studios
- Sign up for a class

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Pub Hours:  
Mon 7pm-1am, Tues-Fri 5pm-1am, Sat-Sun 10pm-1am

Fine Dining  
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Reservations Recommended  
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Fri-Sun 5-9

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Welcome to Verano, a Minority-owned Boutique with Beautiful Summer-like vibes and Global gifts in the heart of Occoquan.



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[shopveranoboutique@gmail.com](mailto:shopveranoboutique@gmail.com)  
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125 Mill Street #3, Occoquan, VA

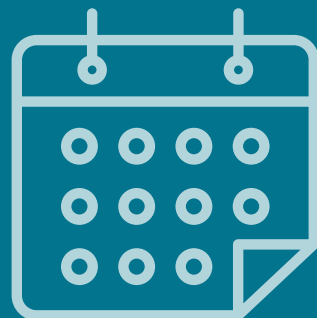
Best Sandwiches!

# BALLYWHACK SHACK & CAFE

**SHACK**  
Thursday - Sunday  
11 am - 5 pm  
304 Mill Street #104  
Occoquan, VA 22125

**703-772-0068**  
**BALLYWHACKSHACK.COM**

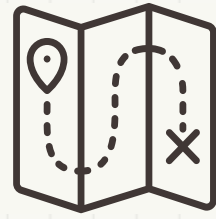
**CAFE**  
Wednesday - Saturday  
8 am - 6 pm  
Sunday 9 am - 4 pm  
126B Commerce St  
Occoquan, VA 22125



## Save the date for future events:

Occoquan Peep Show	April 15-19, 2025
2025 RiverFest & Craft Show	June 7-8, 2025
Trivia Nights in the Park	May-October, 2025
2025 Fall Arts & Crafts Show	September 27-28, 2025



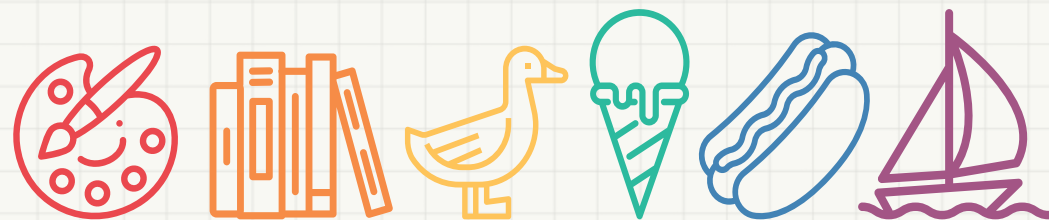


*A really handy and totally amazing*

# kids guide

*to super fun and awesome things to do in*

# occoquan!



*This list is a compilation of activities a local 10-year-old thinks other kids would like to do around town*

125 Mill Street

Start your day with a healthy dose of creativity, while **decorating your own pottery** at Paint Your Heart Out. While you're on the second floor, head over to Tiny Supply Co. to browse this **modern kid's shop** full of books, toys, art, stem & more. Pop downstairs to check out the unique and interesting **rocks and crystals** at Earth Addictions.

205 Mill Street

Find your way to Mamie Davis Park and take a rest in the gazebo. Can you see what symbol is on the **weathervane on top**? Take the bridge in the back to head onto the town dock and **watch the boaters** and kayaks. If you see them flock to you, you can even **feed the ducks** (oats, rice, seeds, and duck pellets are better for ducks than bread or junk food!).

305 Mill Street

It's fun-a-palooza when browsing the shelves full of **puzzles and games** at Puzzle Palooza! On your way out, ask your grown up nicely for a **sweet treat** from Mill Street Sweets. Before you go, walk down the alley to get a great look at the river and see if you can **spy the old sailboat** or our frequent visitors, the herons and eagles! Then head across the street to grab a **hot dog & lemonade** at Ballywhack Shack.

458 Mill Street

Stroll, skip, or hop down to River Mill Park and **take a selfie** at the LOVE sign. Can you find the bench swing in the park? After a swing or two, head across the footbridge to see the **secret waterfall**. The top of the park is a good place to use the restroom and fill up your water bottle. Then head into the Mill House Museum to check out the **cool artifacts**.



# WATERS WAY Counseling

## MENTAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS START HERE

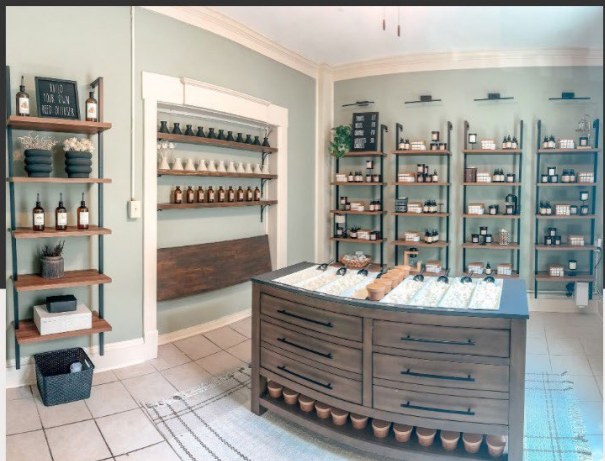


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308 Poplar Alley, Suite A. Occoquan, VA 22125 • [www.WatersWayCounseling.com](http://www.WatersWayCounseling.com)



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305 Mill St.  
Occoquan, VA

## MILL STREET SWEETS

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12 to 8  
Sat & Sun  
11 to 8



[MillStreetSweetsinOccoquan@Gmail.com](mailto:MillStreetSweetsinOccoquan@Gmail.com)  
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# TOWN DIRECTORY



## SHOPPING & GALLERIES

- 13 Magickal Moons
- All American Makers
- Andre Soriano Atelier
- Art a la Carte
- Artists' Undertaking Gallery
- Black Magic
- Brandon's Flowers
- Crave Kangen
- Curate
- Earth Addictions
- Elements
- Gift and Gather
- Glory Be
- Hello Jackson Home Fragrance Company
- Hitchcock Paper Co.
- Jerry's Occoquan Jewelers
- Labela Bridal & Wedding Services
- Leaf & Moss
- Leaf & Petal
- Local Colour
- Man Overboard Enterprises
- Marin Woodturning
- Occoquan Optical
- Organic Allure
- Paint Your Heart Out
- Patriot Diving
- Puzzle Palooza Etc
- Sincerely Yours Stained Glass Studio
- So Bohemian
- So Olive
- Spinaweb
- The Loft Gallery
- The Occoquan Outfitter
- Tiny Supply Co.
- Tulia Qi Integral
- Union Street Guitar Works
- Urban Posh Boutique
- VanEch Studio
- Verano
- Vizia Art Gallery

## LODGING

- Anne's Place
- Harry's Place
- Meghan's Home
- McKenzie Estate
- Stay with Usa
- The Bird's Nest
- The Daisy
- The Ellicott
- The Farmhouse

## RESTAURANTS & FOOD

- Ballywhack Shack
- Ballywhack Shack Cafe
- Bar-J Chili Parlor
- Bottle Stop Wine Bar
- Cock & Bowl
- D'Rocco's Grille/The Tawproom
- Graffiti Cat Pizza
- Grind N Crepe
- Madigan's Waterfront
- Mill St. Draft Garden
- Mill Street Sweets
- Nazbro Chocolates
- Potomac Chocolate
- The Golden Plum
- The Secret Garden Cafe
- The Spot on Mill
- Third Base Pizza and Frozen Custard
- Zorba's Grill

## PERSONAL SERVICES

- Angie's Nails
- ASM Chiropractic & Wellness
- Be Always Beautiful
- Dansk Day Spa
- Emerald Nail Spa
- Forever Young
- Good Hair Day Salon
- Healing Light Skincare and Reiki
- Leggy Lashes LLC
- Occoquan Family Chiropractic

## GENERAL

- Anthony R. DiFrancesco PhD PC
- Apple Tree Counseling
- Beltway Realty Group
- Blue List Partners, LLC
- Carefree Boat Club
- Dominion Yachts
- Edward Jones
- Eureka Trading and Cleaning Services
- Group Benefits Designers Inc
- Hitchcock Studios
- Law Office of Kathleen Grace Walsh
- Norma Fayak Photography
- Occoquan Masjid Al-Hussain Peace House
- Occoquan Spirits Ghost Tours
- Penguin Paddling
- PRM Integrated Systems
- Pure Palette
- Puritano Media Group Inc
- Ravensworth Custom Home Improvement
- Reilly Law, PLC
- Reinhardt, Harper, Davis
- Riverside Property Management
- Rodas Mc Multi Service LLC
- Safe Harbor Financial Advisors, LLC
- Starwishmusic
- Talutium Real Estate
- The Concrete Artisan
- Title Write 1, Inc
- Waters Way Counseling, PLLC

## FREE TIMED PARKING DISTRICT

- 4 HOUR PARKING
- 8 HOUR PARKING

## OTHER

- EV Electric Vehicle Charging
- ♿ Kayak/SUP Ramp
- ♿ Mamie Davis Park
- ♿ Mill House Museum
- ♿ Public Dock
- ♿♿ Public Restrooms (east side)
- ♿♿ Public Restrooms (west side)
- ♿ River Mill Park
- ♿ Rockledge Mansion
- ♿ Town Hall
- ✉ United States Post Office
- ♿ Veterans of Foreign Wars
- i Information Kiosk (east side)
- i Information Kiosk (west side)

## HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

- Apiary Market
- Innovative Design & Renovation
- Inspired Events LLC
- LM Force Consulting, HR Consulting
- Patriots For Disabled Divers
- Riina Mettas Jewelry

List updated as of August 15, 2024



# OGLE HARRIS WAY

BY EARNIE PORTA, PhD

Ogle Harris & Sons General Store on Washington Street, Circa 1940, with Ogle and son Arthur. photo Courtesy of the Harris family & the Occoquan Historical Society.

On Saturday, June 29, the Town of Occoquan held a ceremony formally assigning the 100 block of Poplar Alley the honorary designation, “Ogle Harris Way” in honor of the contributions of the late Ogle Harris and his family to the town of Occoquan.

## THE HARRIS STORY

In the early years of the 20th century, Ogle Harris began a business out of his four-room home at 204 Washington Street, among other activities selling ice cream from the African-American Oddfellows Hall that used to sit on Washington Street and Poplar Alley near what was then Ebenezer Baptist Church. Eventually moving his family into a larger home on the corner of Washington and Commerce streets, he turned his former home into full-fledged grocery, and by the end of the century's second decade it had become one of Occoquan's thriving businesses, selling meat, fresh produce, fishing tackle, sodas, candy, and sundry other goods. Unlike many other businesses in Occoquan at the time, Ogle Harris accepted purchases on credit, keeping the transactions in a spiral-bound notebook.

Through his marriages to Coral L. Peyton and Lottie Bowles, Mr. Harris helped raise seven children in Occoquan. His store became an Occoquan institution and a cornerstone of the town's commercial and African-American communities, remaining so after his passing in 1949 after which it was operated under the auspices of his son Arthur and his daughter-in-law Doris, until it formally closed in 1974.

In addition to historic photographs of Ogle Harris and members of his family that are on display at the Occoquan Historical Society's Mill House Museum (413 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA), the historical society also has recordings of an oral history from one of Ogle Harris's daughters, the late Saluka Toliver (who along with another daughter, Artie Harris, lived to more than 100 years old). Among her many recollections, Ms. Toliver remembers the hand-cranked machine with which her father made ice cream, the crackling wood stove that warmed the store and around which customers would congregate on cold winter afternoons, and the bench placed near the front door after her father's death, providing a place to rest and watch the activity on Washington Street.

For much of the 20th century, Ogle Harris's store, along with Ebenezer Baptist Church and the no longer extant Oddfellows Hall, were the center of what was once a small but thriving African-American community located on Occoquan's Washington Street.



Oddfellows Hall Festivities, Washington Street, Circa 1935, Contributed in 2000 by Artie Harris to the Occoquan Historical Society.



## THE MEMORY LIVES ON

The ceremony on June 29, 2024, which was attended by several local elected officials and Harris family relatives from as far away as Kentucky, included remarks by Occoquan Mayor Earnie Porta, a musical selection by family member Tamika Joy, recollections by members of the extended family, and the presentation of resolutions from the Town of Occoquan and U.S. Representative Abigail Spanberger, honoring Ogle Harris and his descendants.

Visit the Occoquan Historical Society's Mill House Museum at 413 Mill Street to see some of the historic photographs of Ogle Harris, his family, and what was once the heart of Occoquan's African-American community.

"Ogle Harris was an upstanding neighbor, business owner, and Virginian whose dedication to bettering his community has been fondly remembered by Occoquan residents even 75 years after his passing,"

*U.S. Representative Abigail Spanberger*



Harris relative, Tamika Joy, at the June 29, 2024 dedication.



Occoquan Mayor Earnie Porta speaking to guests and family at the dedication. The original site of the Ogle Harris & Sons General Store is the white building, across the street, on the far right.



Members of the extended Harris family pose for a photo in front of the new "Ogle Harris Way" street sign, across the street from the site of the original Ogle Harris & Sons General Store.

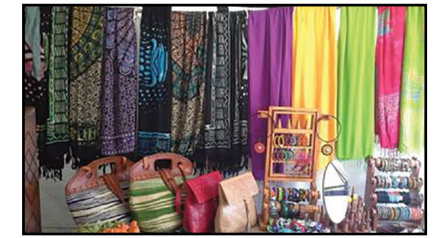
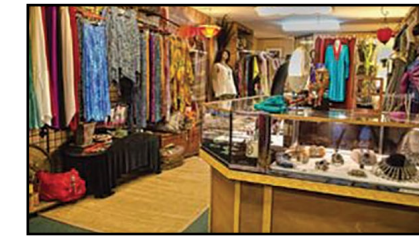
PHOTOS BY SARAH HITCHCOCK BURZIO FOR TOWN OF OCCOQUAN



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EMAIL: [shop@giftandgather.com](mailto:shop@giftandgather.com)

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GIFTS  
MAKERS  
OCCOQUAN, VIRGINIA

[shopleafandmoss.com](http://shopleafandmoss.com)



# Wrap it Up!

## AN OCCOQUAN GUIDE TO TRENDING GIFTS

BY COURTNEY WILLIAMS



This season, finding the perfect gift is as simple as heading to your favorite small town. From ferns to furs, toys to teas, grub to garb, Occoquan is proud to feature a wide variety of locally made, on-trend items for every kind of person on your list. Check out this list of where to find your perfect present to make gifting this season an unforgettable experience.



## Walking Through A Whimsical Wonderland

That's right, the woodland creatures of yore are still leading on the list of what's hot this gifting season. Snails, frogs, and mushrooms may sound like a strange theme for a personal gift, but just trust us when we say these little friends aren't going anywhere anytime soon - and for good reason!

For the newest member of your crew, **Tiny Supply Co.** (125 Mill St) offers the sweetest neutral crochet rattles in an array of favorite creatures, including a fox, bunny, elephant, giraffe, and reindeer. If your little one has moved from rattles to reading, then *A World Full of Nature Stories: 50 Folk Tales and Legends* will capture their hearts.



Children aren't the only ones wishing for whimsy - adults are loving this trend with a slightly elevated twist. At **Glory Be** (305 Mill St) you won't want to pass up on the unique and colorful creations of Lori Michelle, with her figurines for all of life's celebrations, or fill the room with wonder by gifting a Cheerful Giver candle in more fragrance options than you can imagine.



At **Urban Posh Boutique** (203 Washington St), bring the elegance of nature and simplicity into your gift through home decor, clothing, accessories, and more! Some favorites for the host or hostess in your life are the abstract acacia wood cutting board and paulownia wood pedestal. No two are the same, but the response is guaranteed to be awe.







## Beauty (and Fashion) in Every Gift

When all else fails, pamper. **Verano** (125 Mill St #3) and **Curate** (302 Mill St) are your one-stop-shops for all things self-care and self-pampering.

At **Verano**, you will find a beautifully curated collection of vegan leather handbags to fit every mood, style, and occasion. Your loved one is sure to appreciate the velvet travel bags and matching sleep masks, when needing a little R&R.

Pamper your loved one with a personalized selection of skincare and beauty products. At **Curate**, men and women alike will enjoy an assortment of products that are specifically designed to bring out the best in themselves, such as Little Seed Farm Bourbon Beard Oil or Curated Skincare Silk Slip Radiance Serum. Unsure of the right concoction for your giftee? Allow Curate's team of experts do the work of putting together the perfect selection with their curated gift packages.



## For the Plant Parent in Your Life

Not all of us have been blessed with a green thumb, but for those in your life with that gift, **Leaf & Moss** (312 Commerce St) and **Leaf & Petal** (201 Union) are the places to go!

At **Leaf & Moss**, you can leisurely explore an exceptional lineup of lush houseplants for the one who is always searching for just one more. Featuring a constantly growing array of succulents, rare plants, soils, and more, it's not a question of if you'll find the right gift, but rather if you'll be able to stop.

**Leaf & Petal** is primarily a tea and tinctures shop, but it also embraces herbs, air plants, and plant accessories. For those who love plants but have no green thumb to speak of, the felt miniature plants are a big hit! Plus, their meticulously curated assortment of plant based essential oils are available in the shop or through their website.



## #LocallyMade

Occoquan is home to local artisans of all kinds, so for the one who loves to support the products of their community, we have what you need. **Potomac Chocolate** (304 Mill St) is a craft chocolatier specializing in transforming ethically sourced raw cacao into award-winning craft chocolate - AKA the most giftable of gifts known to mankind.

For the art collector, **Loft Gallery** (313 Mill St) features artwork from 24 local artists ranging from representational artwork to soft impressionism and abstract. Let your creative gifting lead the way as you select the perfect piece for your friend or family member this season.



Picking out the perfect gift can sometimes feel like an impossible task, but when you come to Occoquan, you are guaranteed to find unique and trendy gifts for everyone on your list. And remember - no matter the trends of the season, the one thing that's never going out of style is gift cards! Give your loved one the gift of picking out their own treasure at our 140+ small and family owned businesses.

This holiday season, think outside the big box store, and pop down to Occoquan to find something truly special. Head to [visitoccoquanva.com](http://visitoccoquanva.com) today to learn more about our shops, galleries, and small businesses!



# PLAN YOUR VISIT *in Occoquan*

## OUR BUSINESSES

Occoquan knows small businesses. There are 140+ small and family owned businesses here in town in the shape of retail shops, restaurants, galleries, salons, services, and more. Visit pages 14-15 to see the Town of Occoquan Map and Directory or browse our online directory at [visitoccoquanva.com](http://visitoccoquanva.com).

## PARKING

Free public street and lot parking is available throughout town. The Timed Parking District in the historic/business edge of town has free 4 and 8 hour timed parking, with occasional 20-minute pick up spots throughout town.

## RESTROOMS

Accessible public restrooms are available at River Mill Park (458 Mill Street) and Mill Street Draft Garden (200 Mill Street).

## PET FRIENDLY

Many shops and restaurants are pet friendly. Be sure to call ahead to confirm, if you plan to have your furry friend accompany you. Our historical district and parks have waste receptacles and bags for your convenience.

## KAYAK/SUP RAMP

The Town of Occoquan, Virginia kayak and SUP ramp is free and open to the public. It can be accessed through the 8-hour parking lot at 111 Mill St. The ramp has direct access into the Occoquan River (connecting to the Potomac River) and is accessible for people with mobility disabilities.

## MAMIE DAVIS PARK

Occoquan's Mamie Davis Park (205 Mill Street) was named in honor of the late, long-time resident and town official, Ms. Mamie Davis. Located at the intersection of Washington Street and Mill Street, this small grassed and shaded public area features a gazebo, and connects to the town's public boardwalk and pier. It is often used as a setting for weddings, receptions, and other events.

## BIRD WATCHING

Occoquan is a great place to watch and photograph numerous species of waterfowl and raptors including ospreys, blue heron, eagles, mallards, Canadian geese, kingfishers, and more. The entire Town of Occoquan is designated as a bird sanctuary.

## MILL HOUSE MUSEUM

The Mill House Museum contains an eclectic collection of documents, photographs, and other artifacts related to Occoquan's history and that of the surrounding region. Over 400 items are catalogued and many of these are on permanent display. One strength is the Historical Society's collection of Occoquan-related photographs. While a number of these are on display in the Museum, many more have yet to be catalogued and made available to the general public. *413 Mill Street. Open daily (except Wednesdays) from 11am-4pm.*

## RIVER MILL PARK

The Town of Occoquan, in partnership with Prince William County and Fairfax Water, developed River Mill Park, a one-acre park along the Occoquan River with a public restroom, event pavilion, open space, and paved walking trail. River Mill Park was opened to the public in July of 2016 and is used by the Town to host concerts and other family-friendly events, as well as by the community for various public and private events.

## FOOTBRIDGE

The Nathaniel Ellicott Bridge is located on the site of a bridge originally constructed in the late 1700s, which put Occoquan on the main north-south route of the East Coast until the coming of Route 1. An iron Pratt truss bridge was erected on the site in 1878 and carried Route 123 across the river and through the Town of Occoquan. In 1972 Hurricane Agness washed away the bridge and a footbridge replaced it.

## TOWN DOCK

The Town of Occoquan Boardwalk and Public Dock are accessible via Mamie Davis Park (205 Mill St). Public picnic tables and benches are available for public use. Contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918 for docking fee and information. No reservation are needed and slips are first come, first serve.

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## Occoquan, Virginia HISTORICAL MARKER TRAIL

### 413 Mill St

Ellicott's Mill  
Civil War Trail  
Milling History  
Establishment of the  
Town of Occoquan  
Water Basin Gear Wheel  
The Dogue Indians  
Occoquan River Bridges

### 416 Mill St

Carbide Bunker  
Rockledge

### 402 Mill St

Carriage Stone

### 314 Mill St

Virginia Historic District  
Methodist Church

### 302 Mill St

Mill Street

### 200 Mill St

1804 Occoquan Town Plat

### 203 Washington St

The Town Of  
Occoquan Prospers  
Mamie Davis Park  
Occoquan Wharves  
Occoquan Riverwalk  
1804 Boundary Stone

### 204 Washington St

Ogle Harris Store

### 209 Washington St

Ebenezer Baptist Church

### 206 Union St

Old Hammill Hotel

### 308 Commerce St

Odd Fellows Hall

### 307 Commerce St

Commerce Street



LEARN MORE AT [VISITOCOQUANVA.COM](http://VISITOCOQUANVA.COM)

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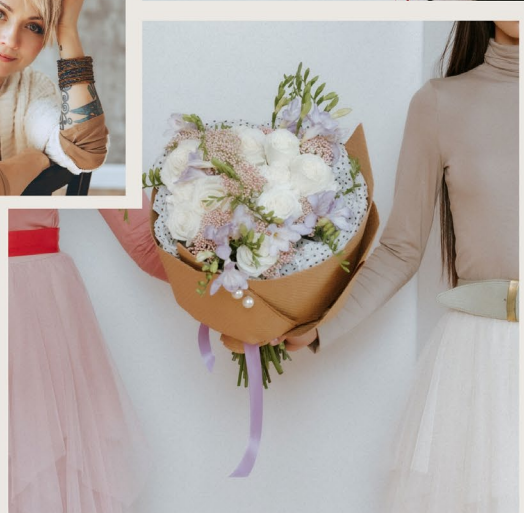
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