

## Public art piece to honor late mayor, community volunteers



If late Mayor M. Jane Seeman were still here, she'd be excited about the public art piece for which Town Council approved a down payment at its December 5 meeting. The former mayor, who passed away in February 2014, would be thrilled that something that will enhance and bring together the Vienna community is one step closer to becoming reality, says her daughter, Councilmember Linda Colbert. But had she learned that the bronze sculpture was to be installed, in part, in her honor, her daughter says that Seeman would have said something like: "What? For me? What?! Oh gosh, they shouldn't do that for me."

"Taking Flight," a bronze sculpture of two children reading and playing atop a stack of five books, is to be installed, hopefully over the coming year, as the Vienna Public Art Commission's inaugural project. The statue, created by Texas artists Seth and Missy Vandable, was selected to honor the late mayor and all Vienna community volunteers.

"By recognizing Jane Seeman," says Public Arts Commission member Tara Ruskowski, "we're recognizing the importance of all of those who live, work, and give to the community. We're really excited to have this first piece underway because public art energizes a community by humanizing and invigorating its public spaces."

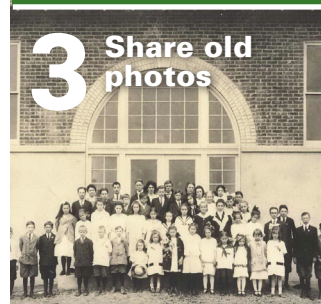
When people see the "Taking Flight" statue, Colbert says she has no doubt that it will remind those who knew her of her

mother, who not only served as Town mayor for 14 years (and on Council four years before that), but also taught pre-school, volunteered more than 3,000 hours with the Patrick Henry Library (always on Tuesday evenings), served her community through several schools and other organizations, and was known to her grandchildren's friends as "Grammy Mayor."

"Just the other day," Colbert says, "someone was telling me how great [my mother] was with kids.... And reading

see *Taking Flight* page 3

### IN THIS ISSUE





## Vienna puts (bike) pedal to the metal – and comes up bronze

The Town of Vienna closed out 2016 with some news worth ringing a (bicycle) bell about: The League of American Bicyclists recognized the Town as a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community. This difficult-to-achieve recognition is shared by 11 other communities in Virginia and a total of 404 communities nationwide.

The Bicycle Friendly Community designation recognizes Vienna’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure, and pro-bicycling policies.

Mayor Laurie DiRocco says: “We recognize that by supporting bicycling we can improve the environment as well as the health and well-being of residents, reduce congestion and automobile parking demands, increase opportunities for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, and encourage additional choices in travel modes, particularly among seniors and children.”

“We applaud these communities for making bicycling a safe and convenient option for transportation and recreation,” says Bill Nesper, vice president of programs at the League of American Bicyclists. “We are encouraged by the growing number of leaders who see bicycling as a way to build more vibrant, healthy, sustainable, and connected communities.”

The Town’s Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) took the lead in seeking the Bicycle Friendly Community award, submitting an application in August and receiving notification in November. Among Vienna’s bicycle-friendly achievements and characteristics, notes BAC Chair Beth Eachus, are programs such as its bike rodeo, participation in bike-to-school and bike-to-work events, wayfinding signage, the W&OD trail, and the fact that, with the exception of Maple Avenue and Nutley Street, the speed limit throughout Town is 25 miles per hour.

“This award reflects the commitment that the Town has made to making our



photo by Adam Kincaid

**Pedal to the metal** Charlie Strunk and Beth Eachus, photographed with Mayor Laurie DiRocco and Robert Eachus, were among the Bicycle Advisory Committee members who helped lead the Bicycle Friendly Community designation effort.

**“We are encouraged by the growing number of leaders who see bicycling as a way to build more vibrant, healthy, sustainable, and connected communities.”**

— *Bill Nesper*

community bike friendly,” says Eachus.

Charlie Strunk, the BAC member who drafted the Bicycle Friendly Community application, notes that the number of Vienna children riding bicycles to school – on a daily basis not just on designated bike-to-school days – has quadrupled in the past two years.

The BAC members point out that 40%

of all motorized vehicle trips are to destinations less than 2 miles away. “You can pretty much go anywhere in Vienna in less than 2 miles,” says Eachus.

Strunk adds: “One of our committee goals is to install more bike racks throughout Town to encourage people to use bikes for transportation purposes as well as recreation.”

Moving forward, Vienna’s BAC will continue to encourage biking as a realistic alternative transportation option and work to implement some of the recommendations from the League of American Bicyclists to achieve silver certification, including additional bicycle safety education programs and networks to better utilize low-speed streets.

Vienna’s Bicycle Advisory Committee members are Scott Allison, Beth Eachus (chair), Tim Fricker, Dan Mielke, Jonathan Rak, and Charlie Strunk (vice chair). 🚲

## Taking Flight *from page 1*

was something that was very important to her. She thought people should always be learning and reading.”

Colbert adds that her mother would be delighted to be honored by a piece of public art. “Anything that will make people in Vienna happy.... She loved seeing people out and about and gathering. She loved to see the community gathering, and a piece of art does that – it attracts people to it.”

At its December 5 meeting, Town Council voted to approve a 10% down payment of \$3,900 for the approximately 7-foot sculpture, as recommended by the Vienna Public Art Commission in order to lock into the current \$39,000 price. The total cost of the artwork, along with an approximately 3-foot stained concrete base, is \$47,000.

The public art commission, which was formed about 18 months ago, grew out of the Mayor M. Jane Seeman Memorial Committee, which was established in March 2014. Currently the commission has about \$17,000 for the sculpture, donated by individuals, businesses, and civic organizations who, shortly following her death, wished to honor Seeman. The art commission and other groups anticipate raising the additional \$30,000 over the next several months.

Donations are being accepted online at [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov). In addition, a group of interested citizens is organizing a February 9 “Become a mover and shaker” fundraiser at Jammin’ Java.

“We feel that this statue not only represents Mayor Seeman’s values,” says Public Arts Commission Chair Midge Biles, “it also reflects the identity of our Town, its education, imagination, and community – along with a splash of playfulness.”

The artwork will not be installed until all funds have been raised. While the public art commission has recommended that the statue be installed at the Town Green, Council has requested that the Board of Architectural Review work with the commission to consider this and other possible public locations. 📍

## Help public art take flight in Vienna

To help support the Vienna Public Art Commission’s efforts to purchase the bronze statue “Taking Flight,” you can donate online at [viennava.gov/donations](http://viennava.gov/donations).

- Under “Help public art take flight in Vienna” click on the “donate here” link.
- Complete the donation form.
- Under Donation Type, select: Other Town of Vienna Programs
- Under Donation’s Purpose, type: public art
- Click “proceed” and provide your secured payment information.

You also may write a check payable to the Town of Vienna, with “public art” noted in the memo section and mail to Town Hall, 127 Center Street S, Vienna, VA 22180.

# pARTy!

Friends of Vienna Public Art present  
Mayor Jane Seeman Celebration Concert

## Become a mover & a shaker

7-11 pm • February 9 • Jammin’ Java  
music, tons of door prizes, food, silent auction, cash bar

\$100/person for this public art fundraiser  
tickets are limited & available beginning at 10 am Jan. 7 @ [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com)

featured bands: *Fat Chance, Mudlark, and NRJ*

## Share your old Vienna photos – pretty please

**T**he Town of Vienna’s public information office is working to expand the Town’s photo library and is interested in adding significant historic photos to its collection.

If you have photos of Town of Vienna people, places, events, grand opening ceremonies, community gatherings, etc. from “back in the day,” we’d love to borrow your photos, scan them, and then return them to you.

It would be most helpful if you can identify the event and date (or time period) that the photos represent.

To share your photos, please contact Adam Kincaid at [adam.kincaid@viennava.gov](mailto:adam.kincaid@viennava.gov) or 703-255-6361 to arrange drop off or pick up of photos. Or, if you’ve already scanned them, you can simply email the photos. Thank you, Vienna! 📷



Town Council, 1947



Vienna Pharmacy back in the day.



## 2017 Legislative Agenda: Vienna's wish list

Each year Del. Mark Keam (D-35th) and Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34th) meet with Vienna Town Council to discuss legislative items the Town would like to see addressed at the General Assembly in January. Legislative cornerstones related to the Town's infrastructure, such as transportation, water quality, and community development, remain on this year's Legislative Agenda. Council also requested that its state representatives address a couple of new items:

- Wireless telecommunication providers – The Town wants to maintain its legal authority to review public right-of-way applications for land on which companies may wish to place telecommunication structures.
- Airbnbs – The Town wants to keep its authority to review and regulate short-term rental activity. Specifically, the Town wants to maintain its current zoning and tax authority over Airbnbs.

Learn more about the 2017 Legislative Agenda at a Town Hall meeting at 9 am Saturday, January 21, at – where else? – Town Hall, 127 Center Street S. 📍



Sen. Chap Petersen



Del. Mark Keam

The January 2002 newsletter reports that the Town of Vienna and developers Stephen Bukont and Douglas D'Alexander received a 2001 Community Appearance Award from the Community Appearance Alliance of Northern Virginia for the building at 144 Church Street NW. The commercial building, which now houses Red Galanga Asian Kitchen, was the first to be developed under the Town's new Church Street Vision Plan, adopted in 1999.

**15** years ago...

*Happy New Year!*

From Everyone at the Town of Vienna!

**25** years ago...

The January 1992 Town newsletter reported that Lynn Street Cemetery was the latest addition to Vienna's register of historic sites. The cemetery, the newsletter reported, contains the grave of Dr. James Hunter, who died in 1867 and is believed to have been the first doctor to live in Vienna.

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Send community news and high-resolution photographs to [lynne.dewilde@viennava.gov](mailto:lynne.dewilde@viennava.gov). All material provided is subject to editorial review and revision and will be used as space allows. **Deadline for the February issue is January 10.**



# Let it snow! Not really – but if it does, the Town is ready

by Adam Kincaid, Communications Specialist

Last year, old man winter packed a wallop of a snowstorm. The Town utilized 600 tons of salt, 200 tons of sand, 2,000 gallons of salt brine, and 1,000 gallons of magnesium chloride to battle the January 2016 blizzard. That's a lot of chemistry.

As always, whatever will be – will be – but the Town's public works department has a couple of new tools in the toolbox to battle the elements this year, should the need arise: improved plows, larger chemical tanks, and two brand new snow-blowing Bobcats.

The 2,000 gallons of salt brine used last year were distributed utilizing a 200-gallon tank. Brine is placed on streets in anticipation of a snow and helps prevent ice from forming on the roadway, so speedy application is of the essence. This year, public works will utilize a 975-gallon tank, slicing transportation and prep time for a quicker preemptive strike against icy roads.

The new plows are slightly bigger and more curved so snow does not flow over the top of the plow and go right back on the street. The major benefit of the new plows, says Fleet Maintenance Coordinator Mary-Beth Palmer, is the ease of access to the pistons that drive the main mechanism. On previous versions the entire plow would have to be disassembled in order to reach the pistons and, in the event of a breakdown, repairs could take north of two hours. Now, with the pistons right on top, repairs take about 30 minutes.

The Bobcats serve a dual purpose. Not only do they suck up the snow from streets and sidewalks, but one of them can also throw the collected snow into an accompanying truck that hauls



it to an off-site location. The new machines gather more snow more quickly and are expected to be particularly helpful in clearing sidewalks in heavy snows.

With any luck there will not be another snowmageddon this year, but just in case there is, the Town is ready. Stay warm, Vienna. 🍷



## Staying green when it's white outside

by Christina Caplan, Community Enhancement Commission

Here are a few tips for surviving winter weather in an eco-friendly way.

**Lower your thermostat,** especially at night. This simple strategy conserves energy, saving you money and reducing emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global climate change. Set your thermostat to no higher than 68°F when you are home and awake, and even lower when you are asleep or away. You can save about 2% on your heating bill for every degree that you lower your thermostat, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

**Stay warm** by putting on a sweater or extra blanket, keeping drapes and doors

closed, and caulking around windows and doors to insulate your house. If you have a furnace or boiler, install a programmable thermostat that automatically adjusts temperature settings each day.

**Burn dry wood only.** Wet wood burns incompletely, releasing particulate matter and other pollutants into the air. Never burn household garbage, colored paper, or plastic or foam materials, which can release harmful chemicals.

**Use non-toxic household cleaners.** Windows and doors stay closed in winter months, so fumes from chemical products concentrate in the air you breathe.

**Use non-toxic deicers.** Salt and chemical deicers contain hazardous compounds that leach into soil and run off into water,

damaging trees, vegetation, and aquatic life. These compounds burn paws and skin, harm children who ingest them, and corrode roads and vehicles. Safer alternatives include alfalfa meal (found at local nurseries) and deicers made from calcium magnesium acetate (CMA). Try Bare Ground, Melt, SafePaw, or NaturalAlternative IceMelt, available at Home Depot and Amazon. Make sure to physically remove as much snow as possible before applying a deicer.

**Keep generators outside** and away from doors, windows, and vents. Generators release carbon monoxide, an odorless and deadly gas. 🍷





## A preliminary peek at 2017

### The new year: New opportunities. New challenges.



photo by Adam Kincaid

**Bring it!** The Town's department directors are eager to address the challenges and opportunities of 2017. From left on the front row are Patrick Mulhern and Mercury Payton; back row includes Leslie Herman, Mike Gallagher, Col. Jim Morris, Tony Mull, Marion Serfass, Maggie Kain, and Lynne DeWilde.

**V**ienna Voice asked the Town's department directors and town manager what might be on the horizon for 2017 and what they're excited about working on in the coming year. Here's a department-by-department glimpse at their responses.

#### Town Manager

"I'm excited about re-opening the community center," says Town Manager Mercury Payton.

While the renovation and construction project has presented many challenges since construction got underway in September 2015, including unexpected water damage to and instability of existing foundation walls, additional costs, and scheduling issues, Payton says that the

finished facility will be something that "everyone will be able to celebrate."

The re-created community center, now anticipated to be substantially complete sometime in the second half of 2017, is designed to better serve the needs of a 21st century community with gathering and recreational spaces for sports, classes, activities, and events. The Vienna Community Center serves as a hub of community-building activity, Payton says, and the completed center will enhance not only the variety and quality of programming offered, but also residents' experience of the facility itself.

More details about what the completed facility will offer and an update on construction progress will be in a near-future edition of *Vienna Voice*.

#### Communications & Marketing

Marketing experts say, notes Communications and Marketing Manager Lynne DeWilde, that your community brand is what people say about you when you're not around. In 2017, the Town will undertake a branding campaign that will utilize qualitative research with stakeholders throughout the community to obtain an understanding of the Town's personality and brand position. And, using that information, the Town will hold a juried design competition to create a logo that graphically represents Vienna's brand.

#### Finance

Maintaining the Town's AAA bond rating will always be newly appointed Finance Director Marion Serfass's top priority. However, she is not satisfied with



the currently limited information available to staff members and residents, so she aims to change the conversation to better illuminate how the Town manages its funds and priorities.

“We want to better tell the story internally and externally of what each department does,” says Serfass, “and the new Munis software will help everyone read along. In 2017 Munis will house all information regarding real estate, utilities, and business licenses so everything can be accessed through a simple inquiry.”

After reporting becomes fully streamlined, through the system upgrade to Munis, for in-house purposes, Serfass plans to work with colleagues to create online, dashboard reporting that is accessible to residents.

## Human Resources

The Town’s human resources department constantly reexamines efficiency and looks for opportunities for improvement, and 2017 is different only because it will be even better. Human Resources Director Maggie Kain says that 2017 will bring a strong emphasis on leadership and team coaching as well as performance monitoring.

“When employees trust their supervisors and their commitments, then everyone feeds off of it and provides the very best service,” says Kain, reflecting on a bevy of recent management training programs provided to supervisors as well as team-building and leadership opportunities for the Town’s department directors.

## Information Technology

“Once the Town’s Munis software implementation is complete, it will be a one-stop shop for many Town services,” says Information Technology Director Tony Mull.

IT is looking to streamline all business interactions residents may have with the Town, including paying bills, zoning inquiries, and even making service requests, all through the ease of the Munis system.

With the addition of a Munis-based application, if someone sees a pothole or

an obstruction or a code violation, they can request that the situation be addressed through almost any portable device or computer. And while they are at it, they can make sure that their water bills are up to date and that their fees for any zoning permits are paid.

IT also will update police recordkeeping in 2017 via Tyler New World.

## Parks & Recreation

Parks and Recreation Director Leslie Herman will continue, of course, to focus on the community center in 2017.

A full-sized basketball court in the new gym is one of the most anticipated features of the improved community center. The regulation-sized gym creates opportunities for additional community engagement and new recreational activities.

“As the parks and rec department prepares to get back up to full steam – and then some,” says Herman, “it’s important to develop community networking and make sure that staff is properly trained in the industry’s best practices.”

## Planning & Zoning

Planning and Zoning Director Patrick Mulhern says that his department’s focus on updating the Town’s zoning ordinance, which was last significantly modified in 1969, will bring the ordinance more in line with state code and how development actually works. The update also will reduce the need for variances and modifications.

The department also plans to develop design standards and guidelines for the Maple Avenue Commercial zone and to undertake a transportation study of Maple Avenue that will focus on transportation alternatives. Community engagement will be key components of each of these efforts.

Looking more long term, likely beyond 2017, Mulhern says, the department will re-master plan all of the Town’s parks to ensure that they are meeting current community needs and take a look at enhancing the Town’s gateway and wayfinding signage.

## Police

With the lowest turnover rate the Vienna Police Department has seen in years, the department, says Chief Jim Morris, is in a great position to maximize community involvement.

“We loved putting on the Cops & Kids Fun Run,” says Morris. “With a steady staff and freshly focused effort on our community outreach, we want to push to host more events like it.”

The chief sees the police department’s public information officer taking a more proactive role. Working to prevent scams of elderly residents and having the public information officer attend community meetings and events around Town are priorities for the new year.

In addition, the department will flush out details this year for a new police station, which is one of the upcoming projects anticipated in the Town’s capital improvement plan.

## Public Works

One of the most significant changes that all residents need to be aware of, says Public Works Director Mike Gallagher, is that beginning July 1 yard waste will no longer be accepted in plastic bags. The Town will no longer pick up yard waste in plastic bags after that date because Fairfax County will no longer accept them. The plastic bags, the county notes, get consistently caught in machinery used to process yard waste resulting in equipment failure and maintenance requirements.

Several improvement projects are scheduled for the coming year, including:

- new sidewalk along one side of Marshall Road SW from Rachel Lane to Trowbridge Lane as well as traffic-calming and pedestrian circulation improvements from Delilah Drive SW to Hillcrest Drive SW; this project will require road redesign and closures
- Mill Street NE Road reconstruction, which will include minor improvements to existing stormwater drainage inlets
- Wolftrap Creek stream restoration, from where the creek crosses Follin Lane SE upstream to the Town limit. ♻️

## Honoring the past and moving into the future with gratitude

by Friderike Butler, Town/Business Liaison Committee

**A** new year with new opportunities and new outlooks is here. Reflecting on the past year, I feel blessed to be part of this wonderful community. In my role as chairperson of the Town/Business Liaison Committee, I find hope and purpose in giving my time and energy to building relationships with local businesses on behalf of the Town and helping those businesses thrive in Vienna.

Relationships are also built through sports activities and an array of community events. These fun events allow residents and visitors to enjoy wonderful Town facilities and, most importantly, one another. All of these events are great community-builders, and together they create the small-town feel that we all love so much.

Of course, those events don't just happen on their own. Their success is carried on the shoulders of an extensive volunteer and sponsorship network. The Town of Vienna is grateful for all the actively involved citizens and businesses and strives to celebrate the large and small pillars of our community.

So with that set up, do you know of a business or business owner who took extraordinary steps this past year to give back to the community? Do you know someone who organized a fundraiser for a local charity? How about someone who saw a void in the community and filled it without fanfare on their own time and dollar? Each year, you have the opportunity to nominate a Vienna-based business or business owner, whom you believe deserves



**The business of community** Last year's Carole Wolfand Award winners were Kathy Georgen and DH Scarborough of Georgen Scarborough Associates.

special recognition for extraordinary community contributions.

Through the Carole Wolfand Community Service Award, the TBLC honors a businessperson or business who went above and beyond in giving back to the community and who represents community spirit at its best. The Carole Wolfand Award winner will be recognized at an April 18 reception at which other community volunteers will be celebrated as well. Click on the Carole Wolfand Award link on the Town/Business Liaison Committee page at [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) for nomination guidelines. Nominations are due March 3. Please consider nominating a business or business

### Town Council Actions

The following items represent recent Town Council actions, but do not constitute official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes, agendas, and meeting videos are available online at [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov).

#### November 21

- After consideration of input from the public, state elected representatives, and Town staff, Council adopted the proposed 2017 Legislative Agenda.
- At applicant's request, deferred consideration of the Fairfax County School Board's request for approval of an additional public-use trailer as a temporary classroom at Cedar Lane School.
- Reset a public hearing on amendments to the Maple Avenue Corridor zoning ordinance to December 5.
- Set a public hearing on zoning ordinance amendments to RM-2 zone definitions and parking requirements for January 9.
- Approved an amendment to the vehicle replacement program, allowing \$24,328.80 in expenditures for a vehicle to be used by the streets maintenance supervisor.

- Approved purchase of controllers and GPS modules from J.O. Herbert Co., Inc. for \$25,365.
- Increased funds by \$2,500, payable to Urban Ltd., for engineering services provided for a drainage study along Glyndon Street NE.
- Approved \$369,166 in expenditures through the vehicle replacement program for a tandem sanitation truck and two two-ton trucks.
- Approved an increase of \$37,576.54, payable to A&M Concrete, for the Nutley Street and Courthouse Road signal and sidewalk project.
- Appropriated \$13,500 for utility billing conversion to Munis, to be paid to Norman Alan.
- Approved additional expenditures of \$15,808 with Robert Half/Accountemps for temporary, experienced accounting staff.

#### December 5

- Held a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Maple Avenue Commercial zone and approved the amendments with additional changes.
- Approved Fairfax County School Board's withdrawal of a request for an additional public-use trailer as a temporary classroom at Cedar Lane School.

- Approved expenditures not to exceed \$149,050 with Espina Paving, Inc. for contracted asphalt repairs.
- Approved expenditures of \$3,900 from raised public art funds as down payment for purchase of and installation on Town public property of "Taking Flight" bronze statue.
- Approved expenditures not to exceed \$50,000 for expert services provided for potential litigation.

#### Appointed to serve

At recent meetings, Town Council appointed or re-appointed the following individuals to boards and commissions:

- Maureen Alonso – Community Enhancement Commission
- Midge Biles – Public Art Commission
- Mike Cheselka – Public Art Commission
- Desiree DiMauro – Community Enhancement Commission
- Robert Petersen – Board of Zoning Appeals
- Jonathan Rak – Transportation Safety Commission
- Gloria Runyon – Historic Vienna Inc.
- Tara Ruszkowski – Community Enhancement Commission
- Mark Stahl – Public Art Commission



# Community Center Renovation and Expansion Update

The following has been achieved according to most recent construction progress reports:

- Installed curbs around pervious pavement parking areas and sidewalks along north parking areas. Finished grading drive for future paving. Installed base material for pavement areas and asphaltic base pavement in north parking area.
- Sprinkler piping installation 96% complete. Routed mains through ceilings and second floor storage area.
- Installed brick around openings to first and second floor rooms. Set beam plates for mechanical unit support beams.
- Installed CMU walls in family restroom, staff locker room, and east wall of administrative area.
- Masonry foundation and exterior wall on north wall completed. Installed foundation drain along north wall to remove water.
- Set beams in administrative area for support of mechanical rooftop units. Set steel angles for support of Tectum roof panels at north wall.
- Completed demolition of auxiliary gym floor slab and exterior walls. Evaluating soil

- condition in vicinity of foundation to confirm ability to carry new loads.
- Poured concrete slab infill in various rooms.
- Continued laying brick around new lobby. Installed masonry shafts around ductwork in new gym as well as entry ceiling hollow core planks.
- Final footings and piers poured for lobby.
- Air barrier install completed and some repairs made. Project manager reviewed surfaces and found additional repairs are required.
- Installed rough-in in new family restrooms.
- Installed feeder conduit in north wall and new feeder cable to electrical panels in admin area.
- New roof on gym 40% complete; awaiting approval of components. Received letter from manufacturer on use of underlayment as air barrier—approved by architect. Roofing installation may now proceed with approved products.
- Installed and tested sprinklers in new gym.
- Set steel columns and beams for corridor 162 and lobby.
- Set doors and installed hardware in new gym and storage areas.

Looking ahead, next steps include:

- Starting concrete sidewalks and barriers.
- Beginning grading at north parking areas.
- Removing and reinstalling mineral wool on new gym walls.
- Installing masonry on auxiliary gym walls one week after footings installed.
- Installing steel decking along north side of building at corridor 162 and lobby. Completing installation of supports for mechanical units over auditorium corridor.
- Installing mechanical ductwork in new gym.
- Continuing inspection and repair of air barrier on new gym walls.
- Installing conduit on roof areas for lightning protection.
- Starting installation of sprinklers in corridors 162 and 166 and lobby.
- Continuing roofing on new gym and starting roofing above new restrooms.
- Pouring footings for auxiliary gym.

*A community center renovation update is presented each month at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Town Council work session. The public is encouraged to attend these updates in Council Chambers at Town Hall. The next update will be presented January 12.*

## Vienna businesses with staying power

Congratulations to the following Vienna businesses celebrating milestone anniversaries this month.

55 YEARS

**Westwood Country Club**

50 YEARS

**Money and King Vienna Funeral Home**

**Vienna Drug Center**

45 YEARS

**Bill Buhl Electric**

**Jo Ann Reisler**

**Long & Foster**

40 YEARS

**Brooke Rental Center**

**Canteen Vending**

**Eurest Dining Services**

**Fairfax Auto Parts of Northern Virginia**

35 YEARS

**Bonaroti Restaurant**

**Westwood Golf Shop**

30 YEARS

**Christine Dunbar**

**Westwood Quality**

**Cleaners**

25 YEARS

**Tops of the Town Virginia**

20 YEARS

**RJN Group**

**Specialized Orthopedic Services**

15 YEARS

**Aesthetic & Laser Plastic Surgery Center**

**Andy's Barbershop**

**Baldino's Lock & Key Service**

**Cyber Services Incorporated**

**Gerrish & Associates P.C.**

**OnLocation**

10 YEARS

**Billy Weber Tire Company**

**Dub Exports**

**Emigra Group**

**Michele Dunlap**

**Nicholas Chimney Stove & Fireplace**

**Tyson & Murphy Associates**

5 YEARS

**Bluenose Capital Management**

**Capitol City TechLaw DCwithMe**

**Diane Hofstadter**

**Epic Realty**

**Hair & Nails Spa**

**Integrant**

**John C. Draper III**

**Katherine Thorn LPC**

**Kathleen Paolini**

**L & M Flooring Installation**

**Matthew T. Felber**

**Ruszkowski & Associates**

**Sarah Hagen, LCSW**

**US Resources**



The Town of Vienna issued business licenses in November to:

**JK Barbershop**

*barbershop*

101 Park Street SE

703-474-7479

**Farooj Beik**

*restaurant*

235 Maple Avenue W

703-281-7700

**Maru Korean Cuisine & Sushi**

*restaurant*

128 Maple Avenue W

703-273-1744

## They're not just train hobbyists. They're regional historians.

by Adam Kincaid, Communications Specialist

When you walk into the old train depot along the W&OD trail between Mill Street and Dominion Road, now home to the Northern Virginia Model Railroaders Club (NOVA Model Railroaders), you won't just find a box within a box – i.e. a model railroad inside an old station of a real-life railroad. Instead, the massive replica of the Western North Carolina Railroad physically manifests American history and culture, and NOVA Model Railroader members' sociological knowledge of the many towns, peoples, and places re-creates an era in your imagination. Welcome to the early mid-20th century.

NOVA Model Railroaders President Sandy Robeck takes pride not just in replicating the railroad that ran between Salisbury and Asheville in western North Carolina, which he said was built by “electrical geniuses,” but also in scripting everyday scenes from the era, circa 1957.

Club members create events from their imaginations that might have taken place at the time and actions people likely performed every day. One scene involves workers in a lumberyard, which is adjacent to a scene of a mother holding her child and waiting for the train while a man nearby reads the paper. Other scenes include a crew of mountain climbers, a highway accident attended to by fire and rescue, and even a hobo camp.

During the Church Street Holiday Stroll in November, when the depot was open to the public, club members “put the Polar Express on the tracks so Santa could go around the town and see who's been naughty and who's been nice,” says Robeck.

One of the points the railroad reflects about the era is its industry. Throughout the line's snaking path, various mountains and towns house woodwork areas and factories, tobacco plants, and even a majestic theater (currently showing Abbot and Costello's *Meet the Mummy*).

The railroaders also show some love for local Vienna industry; miniatures of a Rexall and one of Jud Tile can be seen with people shopping, eating, and carrying on various activities while art deco automobiles pass by.

Looking down at a civilization's mosaic creates a little theater in the mind as models of Oldsmobile 88s honk in traffic, gentlemen tip their fedoras in polite fashion, and a child in a sailor outfit begs his mother for a treat from an ice cream stand. The silent picture allows viewers to create their own unique stories and dialogue for the pieces.

NOVA Model Railroaders typically hold an open house once each month. (Check the printed Town calendar for dates.) You'll find it's definitely worth stopping in. It's like cutting out a hole directly into the past and seeing – up close and in a miniature – a world from not so long ago. For more information, visit [nvmr.org](http://nvmr.org).



photos by Adam Kincaid





# HAPPENINGS around town

**Vienna (Host) Lions Club** will hold a fundraiser from 11 am-9 pm January 3 at Foster's Grille. Simply put your receipt in the Lions box, and Foster's will donate 20% of your purchase to Lions' youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. For more information, call Akin Oduolowu at 202-415-6085 or visit [facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub](https://www.facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub).

**PFLAG Fairfax**, a community group for parents, families, and friends of lesbians and gays, and FLY, a social group for LGBTQ youth and allies ages 12 (with parental permission) to 19, will meet concurrently at 7:30 pm Tuesday, January 3, in the program building at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF), 2709 Hunter Mill Road. FLY also holds teen lounges the third Friday of each month, alternating between movie and pizza nights at UUCF and outside venues. For more information about both groups, email [wf.pflag@gmail.com](mailto:wf.pflag@gmail.com) or visit [pflagdc.org](http://pflagdc.org) and [facebook.com/groups/fly.pflag/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/fly.pflag/).



Popular local photographer and workshop leader **Corey Hiltz** will speak about creative composition techniques at the January 4 meeting of the **Vienna Photographic Society**. The location for the 7:30 pm meeting, which is free and open to all, is available at [vpsva.org](http://vpsva.org).

A representative from the **Virginia Women's Monument Commission** will be the speaker at the January 6 meeting of the **Fairfax County Chapter of the National Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)** at 10 am at Penderbook Community Club, 3704 Golf Trail Lane in Fairfax. If interested in attending the meeting or joining the DAR, please contact Amy Cartwright at [a.cartwrightDAR@yahoo.com](mailto:a.cartwrightDAR@yahoo.com) or 703-507-0023.

**Beauty of Flora and Fauna**, a juried exhibition of artwork by **Vienna Arts Society** members, is at Green Spring Gardens Park, 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria, through February 19. Meet the artists as well as juror Susan Herron at an awards reception from 1-3 pm Sunday, January 8. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, [greenspring.org](http://greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173.



**Ensemble**, a collection of **Vienna Arts Society** members' artwork, including paintings, etchings, sculpture, woven bead jewelry, and fused glass, is on exhibit at the Katibeh Art Center, 2070 Chain Bridge Road, Suite, 180, through January 9. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org) or 703-319-3971.

**FB Meekins Cooperative Preschool** is hosting an open house from 12:45-1:45 pm Tuesday, January 10, and Wednesday, January 11, at 900 Maple Avenue E. Take a tour, meet teachers and current families, and get your application questions answered. For more information, visit [fbmeekins.org](http://fbmeekins.org) or email [membership@fbmeekins.org](mailto:membership@fbmeekins.org).

Registration for the **Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's winter semester of Adventures in Learning** classes is 10 am-noon Thursday, January 12, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road. Classes, which include bridge, tai chi, a health series, and national and world affairs as well as a potpourri of other topics, will be held from 9 am-2 pm Thursdays, January 19-March 16. The fee for the eight-week semester is \$40. For more information or a current schedule, visit [scov.org](http://scov.org) or call 703-281-0538.

The **Vienna Photographic Society** will host a critique session of member-submitted photographs at 7:30 pm Wednesday, January 18; for location of this meeting, which is free and open to all, visit [vpsva.org](http://vpsva.org). Photographers and artists alike can learn how to improve their composition at the critique, for which the theme is bridges and textures.

Guests are welcome to the January 23 meeting of the **Ayr Hill Garden Club** at which **Dean Norton** will speak about the beauty, uses, importance, and preservation of **Mount Vernon's gardens**

and landscape. The meeting is at 1 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road; complimentary refreshments will be served at 12:45 pm. Norton is an honorary member of the Garden Club of Virginia, board member of several historical sites, and past president of the Southern Garden History Society.

Girls (ages 3 through sixth grade) are invited to celebrate Valentine's Day with their dads, granddads, big brothers, godfathers, or other family members at the **Vienna Woman's Club's Daddy Daughter Valentine Dance** from 6-8:30 pm Friday, February 3, at Marshall Road Elementary. Dress to impress! Tickets are \$30/couple and must be purchased in advance at [www.cdaddydaughterdance2017.eventbrite.com](http://www.cdaddydaughterdance2017.eventbrite.com). Come enjoy dancing, prizes, good food, and a special fairy tale guest. Proceeds from the event will fund library donations to Vienna elementary schools and college scholarships for Vienna area high school students.

**Vienna (Host) Lions Club** will hold its annual **James A. Bland competition** for school-aged (elementary through high school) vocalists and instrumentalists at 1 pm Saturday, February 18, at the Vienna Assembly of God, 100 Ayr Hill Avenue. Each competitor will perform a song or musical selection, which can be no longer than eight minutes, for a panel of local musical experts. Cash prizes will be awarded to first and second place winners in each category; first-place finishers move to the next level of competition. Information and an application, due by February 13, are available by contacting Susan Stiles at [sandcs89@yahoo.com](mailto:sandcs89@yahoo.com) or 703-938-1142.

**The Freeman Store and Museum and Little Library** are open by appointment only in January and February. Please call 703-994-9054 or email [stuntzag@aol.com](mailto:stuntzag@aol.com) to schedule tours and other access or with any questions. Historic Vienna Inc. is collecting used books through January; feel free to leave books on the Freeman Store front porch at 131 Church Street NE.

Don't gamble: Get your tickets now for the 2nd annual **Taste of the World Casino Night**, hosted by the **Rotary Club of Vienna**. Enjoy a festive evening with fantastic food and a variety of gaming tables, all while supporting a service organization that makes a difference locally and globally, from 7-11 pm Saturday, March 11, at the Westwood Country Club. Restaurants supporting the event include Bazin's, Clarity, Earl's Eddie V's, and Founding Farmers. For more information and tickets, go to [ViennaCasinoNight.com](http://ViennaCasinoNight.com) or call 703-981-4911.

*Happenings Around Town notices are printed as a community service, and items are included as space allows. Submissions may be edited. Listings do not constitute an endorsement of content nor necessarily reflect any policy or position of the Town of Vienna, Town Council, or employees.*

**Police,  
Fire & Rescue  
Emergency**  
**911**  
(Voice & TDD)

**Vienna Police**  
703-938-4900 voice  
703-255-5730 TDD  
Non-emergency  
703-255-6366 voice  
703-255-5730 TDD

**Community Center**  
703-255-6360 voice  
TTY Virginia Relay 711  
120 Cherry St. SE  
Vienna, VA 22180

**Vienna Town Hall**  
703-255-6300 voice  
TTY Virginia Relay 711  
127 Center Street South  
Vienna, VA 22180-5179  
Monday-Friday • 8 am-4:30 pm

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Vienna 

# JANUARY TOWN CALENDAR

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**2** Holiday: Town Hall Closed – No Refuse Collection

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**3** Refuse Collection for Monday & Tuesday –  
No brush, bulk, or yard waste

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**3** Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 pm

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**9** Town Council Meeting/Public Hearing • 8 pm

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**11** Historic Vienna Inc. (Freeman Store & Museum) • 7:30 pm

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**11** Planning Commission • 8 pm

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**12** Town/Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm

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**16** Holiday: Town Hall Closed – Regular Refuse Collection

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**17** Public Art Commission • 7 pm

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**18** Board of Zoning and Appeals • 8 pm

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**19** Board of Architectural Review • 8 pm

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**20** Holiday: Town Hall Closed – Regular Refuse Collection

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**21** Town Hall Meeting: 2017 Legislative Agenda • 9 am

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**23** Town Council Work Session • 8 pm

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**25** Planning Commission • 8 pm

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**26** Community Enhancement Commission • 7:30 pm

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**30** Town Council Meeting • 8 pm

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**31** Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committees • 7pm

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**31** Transportation Safety Commission • 8 pm

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*Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S. Meeting schedule subject to change; check [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) for updates.*