

# VIENNA VOICE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF VIENNA, VIRGINIA • VIENNA.VA.GOV

APRIL  
2019

## Town greenlights transportation study of Maple Avenue corridor

The Town of Vienna is commissioning a Multimodal Transportation and Land Use Study of the Maple Avenue corridor that not only is taking a look at what's happening along the asphalt, but also at active transportation needs as well as how development might impact mobility.

The Town has contracted with Kimley-Horn, a transportation, planning, and engineering consulting firm with offices around the country, to lead the study, which is expected to wrap up by early fall. Community engagement opportunities are being built into the study process.

"We're taking a step back to take a careful look at the transportation and mobility needs of the Maple Avenue corridor," says Kimley-Horn Project Manager David Samba. "We'll be looking at current and future needs as well as potential solutions that will improve mobility along Maple Avenue. A key question we'll keep coming back to is: How can we consider the needs of all corridor users while enhancing the safety, access, and character of Maple Avenue?"

In addition to looking at Maple Avenue from James Madison Drive to Follin Lane, the study area includes Church Street from Lawyers Road to East Street as well as Courthouse Road and Locust Street.

"We're looking at transportation along Maple Avenue in the context of the Town's vision for the corridor to be more vibrant and pedestrian-oriented," says Planning and Zoning Director Cindy Petkac. "We're trying to create a place for people to gather – outside of their cars."

The study is really about the importance of transportation in placemaking, Petkac says.

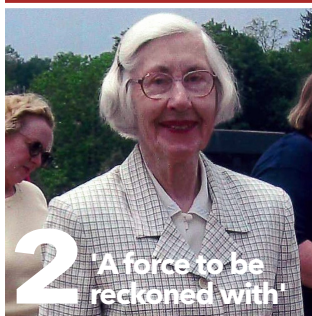
A 2017 travel patterns study found that 38% of traffic on Maple Avenue is pass-through and another 38% represents those traveling to Vienna from outside the Town and then leaving. Only 24% of Maple Avenue traffic starts and finishes internally to Town.



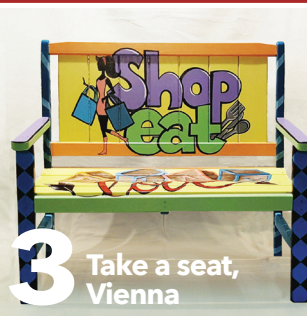
Photo by Adam Kincaid

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A force to be reckoned with



Take a seat, Vienna



Stroll through spring

## Town Council Election - May 7

Get to know the candidates, find election information on page 8

**Maud Robinson: 1922-2019**

## An era, 'a force to be reckoned with' passes

Though she hadn't served on Town Council for nearly a decade, it wasn't uncommon even in recent days to hear a Councilmember or Town staff person comment that "Maud says..." or "Maud thinks..." The "Maud" in this case is Maud F. Robinson, who died March 11, just one month short of her 97th birthday, following a remarkable life of service to her beloved, adopted Vienna community, to which she moved in 1951.

"Maud Robinson is a shining example of lifetime service and volunteerism," said Mayor Laurie DiRocco, as she announced Robinson's death at the March 11 Town Council meeting. "Her commitment to the Town of Vienna is unparalleled, and we will be forever grateful for her decades of service to the community.... Her passing is the end of an era, and she will be greatly missed."

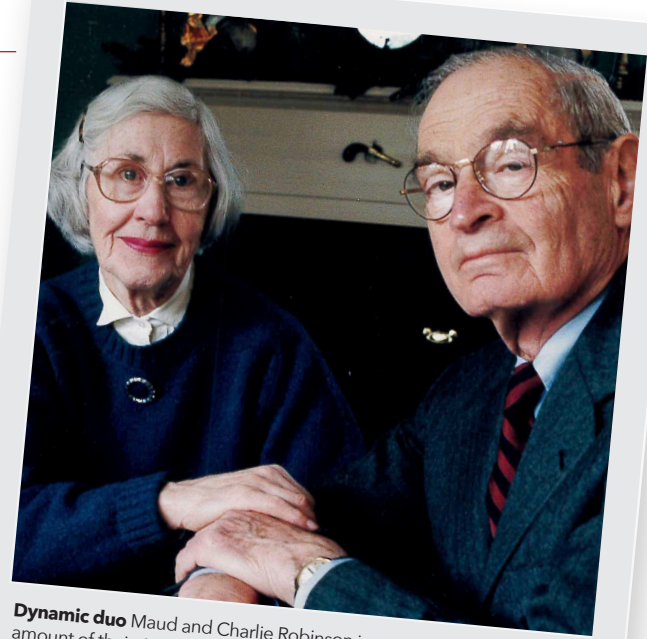
"She was involved in everything," says Councilmember Howard Springsteen, who often sought Robinson's counsel and frequently visited her in her Courthouse Road home or via a phone call while walking his dog. "Every organization, board we have in Vienna – she touched or helped."

Robinson, who worked as a code decryptor during World War II, immediately following her 1944 graduation from Smith College, served on Town Council from 2000-2009. Before that, she supported and reportedly out-campaigned her husband, Charles A. Robinson, who served as Vienna's mayor for a quarter century from 1976 until his death in 2000.

While the community organizations and Town boards and commissions on which she served comprise a veritable alphabet soup of community commitment, Robinson was particularly proud to be one of the first members of the Board of Architectural Review and of her service on the Town Business Liaison Committee and Church Street Vision Committee. She was named Citizen of the Year at least twice, in 1993 by the Vienna Regional Chamber of Commerce and in 2000 by the *Vienna Times*. Last year, she received the Mayor's Award for her years of service and strong dedication to the community.

In trying to encapsulate what Robinson meant to the Vienna community, her friend and Council colleague Laurie Genevro Cole says: "Look at Northside Park, look at the Freeman Store and Town Green, look at the preservation that we've been able to do of Vienna's history. Look at the community center, too. Maud was a member of the Woman's Club when it was one of the forces that established the community center. All of these community gems that we have in Vienna – that's what Maud gave to Vienna."

Cole, who served on Town Council from 2002-14, says it would be "a hard call" to say which community achievement would have made Robinson most proud. One candidate would be the Vienna



**Dynamic duo** Maud and Charlie Robinson invested an extraordinary amount of their time and talents to enhancing the Vienna community.



Community Center. Another would be helping to bring an integrated public library that was open to all residents to Town. As a Councilmember, Robinson was instrumental in establishing Vienna's parks and recreation zone and preserving Northside Park as a natural area.

"She firmly believed that we were losing our opportunities to interact with nature and needed to protect what we had left," Cole says.

Describing Robinson as "incredibly loyal," kind, "never shy about sharing her opinion," thoughtful, intelligent, and "a force to be reckoned with," Cole says that Robinson could be known around Town as "crusty" and "the little old lady in tennis shoes."

While her impact on the Town over several decades was enormous, Cole says that Robinson, even as a Councilmember, never really saw herself as a community leader.

"She saw herself as just part of the community, just working with other community members to make Vienna a good place," Cole says. "And that does mean a good place as she saw it. Change wasn't always easy for her, but I never questioned that Maud did what she did, believed what she believed, always with the best interest of Vienna in her heart. She and Charlie just invested so much in this Town, all their talents, which were considerable." 📌



## Take a Seat, Vienna

# A new benchmark for public art in Vienna

**T**aking a seat in Vienna has never been so colorful as it will be this spring and summer when 42 custom-painted benches pop up all around Town. In celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Vienna Arts Society (VAS) is hosting a public art/fundraising program entitled Take a Seat, Vienna.

Benches painted with pianos, cars, children, tropical birds, beautiful flowers, and more as well as baseball and patriotic themes will be placed in front of sponsoring businesses and in several public locations from April until sometime in October. The event's official kick-off will take place at the April 13 Old-Fashioned Egg Roll at the Freeman Store and Museum.

"The benches are breathtaking," says VAS Executive Director Lu Cousins, noting that they were created by VAS members who donated their times, supplies, and talents. Each bench, on average, took 60-80 hours to create.

"Not only is this a fun, neat public art project in and of itself," adds artist Deborah Kennedy. "It also encourages people to focus on the positives of the community. Rather than noticing any deficiencies, people's attention will be drawn to all of the things that are right in the community."

Public locations that will feature benches include the Town Green, Glyndon Park, and the dog park near Nottoway Park. Several benches will be located at businesses on Church Street with additional benches placed on Maple Avenue, Mill Street, Center Street, and other various sponsor locations throughout Town. Brochures with a map of bench locations will be

see *Take a Seat* page 4



*Enginuity* by Ken Britz



*Sit Down with Birds All Around* by Ruth Ensley



*Unlock the Cosmos* by Dore Skidmore

## Transportation Study from page 1

"The corridor currently functions as more of a thoroughfare than we want and not necessarily as a main street or destination," Petkac says.

The first step in the current study's process is to conduct an analysis of existing conditions, says Samba. Among other things, Kimley-Horn will be looking at vehicle operations (travel times, queueing, intersection conditions), pedestrian and bicycle counts, transit availability, and crash data.

After that, the firm will consider what impact reasonably anticipated development over the next 10 years – both under the voluntary Maple Avenue Commercial (MAC) zone and other by-right development – will have on corridor mobility. "We also need to factor in what's happening regionally, such as in Tysons and with changes to I-66," Samba says.

Finally, Kimley-Horn will draft recommendations and next steps. Public engagement events will be scheduled as each phase of the study is completed. The first community meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 4, at Town Hall.

"We're looking to be creative about solutions particularly related to active transportation modes," says Public Works Director Michael Gallagher, "so that we can achieve the vision of Maple Avenue as Vienna's main street. Results of this study will help inform the Town as we plan for future projects and identify transportation grant opportunities." ↻

## Maple Avenue Corridor Multimodal Transportation and Land Use Study

### COMMUNITY MEETING

7 pm • Thursday, April 4  
Town Hall

**Take a Seat** from page 3

available at sponsor businesses and on the VAS website, [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org).

On November 2, VAS will host a live auction at the Vienna Community Center at which all of the benches will be available to the highest bidder.

The idea for Take a Seat, Vienna germinated about three years ago when VAS member Mary Ellen Larkins saw a television program about a painted bench public art program in Purcellville. “The next day,” says Cousins, “we were in the car on our way to Purcellville.”

After mulling it around for a while, the VAS decided that its 50th anniversary was the perfect time to host a similar program. Members have been working on the project for more than a year, soliciting sponsors, purchasing and transporting benches, and priming, painting, and varnishing benches.

Painting a bench, says VAS President and abstract artist Hayden Luczka, is “not like painting on canvas – nothing at all.” The brush strokes are different, and the surface is harder and larger and multidimensional. “You have to stand the benches on end, get underneath and on the sides. They’re big, bulky, and heavy.”

“It was a great experience,” says artist Susan Scanlon, “but I think I’m one and done. It was exhausting, but I was thrilled with the opportunity to paint a bench.


“Putting that first brush stroke down was so intimidating to me,” she adds. “And knowing that it will be on the street for months is intimidating, too. I hope that people like it.”

“It’s really a commitment to the community,” Luzka says of the bench-painting experience. “We want them to love it and to bid on it.”

Community support for the program has been enthusiastic. Kennedy, who created two benches, spearheaded the sponsorship effort, locking down businesses willing to cover the cost of the benches, which were hand-built by an Amish furniture-maker in Pennsylvania, in exchange for having them displayed outside of their business for about six months.

“We gave ourselves five weeks to get sponsors,” she says. “We sold out in 12 days. The businesses are so excited to be part of the program. It’s such an amazing project because the businesses can see how it will support the arts and help increase interest in their business as well.”

“I was really excited to hear about this project,” says Cindy DiMeglio, owner of Birdwatchers Seed and Supply Company, the first business to sign on as a Take a Seat, Vienna sponsor. “I’ve seen similar projects in other towns and noticed how much a splash of art can add to the environment. I’m pleased to support the Vienna Arts Society and participate in something that will add to the wonderful sense of community here in Vienna.”

To help the event go viral, the VAS is hosting a Scavenger Hunt, through which anyone who posts on social media photos of themselves on each of the 42 benches will receive a prize. Find more information at [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org). Begun in 1969, VAS now has about 175 members. 





## Windover Heights and Mother Nature welcome you to a special anniversary edition of Walk on the Hill

by Communications Specialist Adam Kincaid

This year's Walk on the Hill self-guided walking tour through gardens in the Windover Heights neighborhood is worthy of a few additional exclamation marks!

As per usual, homeowners will welcome visitors to stroll through many of the lovely, landscaped gardens in this historic district from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, April 28. In addition, the 2019 edition of this uniquely Vienna event is celebrating several milestones.

This year is the 40th anniversary of the Windover Heights Historic District, which was established April 2, 1979. The Ayr Hill Garden Club is celebrating its 90th anniversary with a nature photography show featuring artists from James Madison High School, and the Vienna Arts Society will mark its 50th anniversary with samples from its Take a Seat, Vienna custom-painted bench public art initiative.

Want a little bit of music with your lovely gardens and vibrant artwork?

- Green Hedges Jazz Band will perform at 288 Windover Avenue at 2 p.m.
- The Vienna Community Band will play in the same location at 3 p.m.
- Hickory Grove will play old-fashioned music throughout the afternoon in the log cabin at 223 Walnut Lane.

Walk on the Hill is free and open to the public. Windover residents will provide punch and cookies.

An online walking map is available at [viennava.gov/hillmap](http://viennava.gov/hillmap). Parking is located at Green Hedges School and at Vienna Arts Society's new 243 Church Street NW location. For "day of" Walk on the Hill weather-related information if necessary, visit [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) or call Vienna parks and recreation at 703-255-6360 or Historic Vienna, Inc. at 703-938-5187. This event is rain or shine.

If you would like to volunteer your time or talents in support of Walk on the Hill, contact Carey Sienicki at [csienicki@viennava.gov](mailto:csienicki@viennava.gov).



photos by Adam Kincaid

**Town Business Liaison Committee**

**Home-based business reception a hit**

**A**bout 50 home-based entrepreneurs came to the Vienna Community Center for an evening of networking and inspiration at the Town Business Liaison Committee-hosted Home-Based Business Reception February 19.

Event sponsors Purple Onion Catering and Vienna Vintner served up a tasty spread and guest speaker Rohit Bhargava, a gifted storyteller, offered energetic and inspiring success tips.

"I work with and speak to small business all the time," says Vienna Business Association Executive Director Peggy James, "but I can honestly say that this was the most inspirational event I have been to in years. The energy in the room and the appreciation from the businesses was so lovely."

Thank you to all of the event sponsors, including Brooke Rental and Donnelly's Printing & Graphics. 🍷



photos by Adam Kincaid

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



## Newest VTC production tickles the funny bone, tugs at heartstrings

by Communications Specialist Adam Kincaid

“If David Lindsay-Abaire had written a phonebook,” says Vienna Theatre Company (VTC) Director Jessie Roberts, “I would absolutely direct it.” That’s how strongly Roberts believes in Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lindsay-Abaire’s ability to balance both humor and depth. But don’t worry, VTC’s spring production isn’t a phonebook, but rather the playwright’s rip-roaring comedy about two adversarial female roommates at the Bristol Place Senior Living Facility.

*Ripcord* premieres at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at the Vienna Community Center with additional performances across the next three weekends. Tickets are \$14 and may be purchased at [viennava.gov/webtrac](http://viennava.gov/webtrac) or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

“This a play I have wanted to direct for some time now,” Roberts says of the 2015 situation comedy. “I felt that when it would eventually go through our play selection process, everyone involved would see its unique script as appropriate for Vienna.”

*Ripcord* centers on retirement home roommates who mix together about as well as oil and water. The pair get into

Odd Couple-esque situations and must endure one another. In addition to the classical, in-your-face comedic moments, the play provides a layer of poignancy just below the surface.

“It is a very funny play,” says Roberts, “but it also has a more profound message beyond the jokes.

These two women, who absolutely cannot stand one another, come to learn that, of course, you will hit some bumps in your life, but that you can’t give up on it or your dreams because once you do, it’s all over. Even in their twilight years, these two women go through dynamic changes and still have a thing or two to learn.”

In an interview with the Huntington Theatre in his hometown of Boston, Lindsay-Abaire says of *Ripcord*: “As it started to take shape, I realized that I was also writing something that was harkening back to some of the first plays that I had seen and loved as a kid: *I’m Not Rappaport*, *Lettice and Lovage*, or *The*



photo by John Sharrard

*Gin Game*, comedies about two characters of a certain age really going at it with each other. Those plays are really funny, but what I loved about them was that they were incredibly human. They had big throbbing hearts in the middle of them.”

Huntington Theatre Artistic Director Peter DuBois says of his company’s 2015 production of the play: “It is no surprise that this play is laugh-out-loud funny with a truly moving underbelly. It’s *The Odd Couple* with old women, nursing home shenanigans, and skydiving – what’s not to love?”

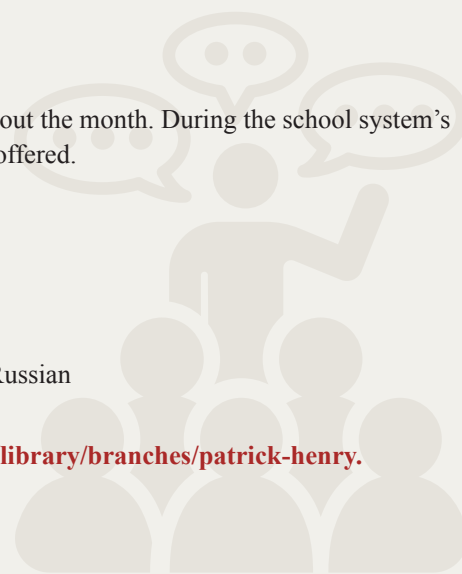
## April is soaked with fun at the library

A variety of preschool programs are offered at the Patrick Henry Library throughout the month. During the school system’s spring break week, programs about printmaking, poetry, and birdfeeders are being offered.

For adults, the library offers a wide variety of April programs, too:

- Women’s Center anniversary (April 9)
- Sephardic Jewish history (April 13)
- social security planning (April 16)
- a Secret Service career (April 25)
- conversation groups for language learners in English, German, Japanese, and Russian
- four book clubs.

Find more information about Patrick Henry Library events at [fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/patrick-henry](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/patrick-henry).



## Get to know the candidates

**Editor's note:** Six candidates, including two incumbents, have qualified to run for the three open positions on Town Council. Below, each candidate has provided a brief biography/statement. The Town Council election is Tuesday, May 7. Only Town of Vienna residents who are registered to vote may cast their ballot between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center



### Tara Bloch

It has been my honor to represent you on Vienna Town Council for the last four years, and I appreciate the opportunity to run again for a third two-year term.

I have lived in the Town of Vienna for 19 years. I'm a preschool teacher and director at FB Meekins Preschool right here in

Town. I'm a former PTA president at Marshall Road Elementary School and sat on the Transportation Safety Commission and Planning Commission before being elected to Town Council. I have served as vice mayor and as the Town's representative to NOVA Parks and currently represent the Town at the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition.

I am proud of the accomplishments of Council over the previous four years. We have successfully and beautifully renovated our first LEED gold-certified building, the community center; maintained a AAA bond rating; been fiscally responsible by passing a balanced budget while meeting the needs of the Town with excellent services; made consistent improvements in our aging sewer and water system to ensure long-term reliability and sustainability; increased the number of sidewalks and bike routes; and approved the first commercial redevelopment projects in Vienna in many years.

I am concerned about all interests in the community. I want a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly business corridor and walkable/bikeable, safe residential neighborhoods. By listening to concerns (and compliments) of all citizens, I believe we can work together to make the changes and improvements necessary to keep Vienna the vibrant, warm community it has always been.

Thank you for your previous support and please come out to vote May 7 at the Vienna Community Center.

### Julie Hays



I'm a native Virginian and a mother of three, who is passionate about public service and ensuring that our community is walkable, bikeable, and livable. I envision a Town where our children feel safe walking to school, our citizens enjoy walking and biking worry-free to local businesses and Town events, and motorists travel along Maple Avenue free of abysmal traffic conditions.

Thoughtful and sustainable development begins with rigorous, detailed planning and policy. For the past five years, I've served on the Town's Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Transportation Safety Commission. As chair of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee, I led the effort to develop the Town's Pedestrian Master Plan, and I am leading the Town's *Traffic-Calming Guide* update.

I will bring a good governance approach to Town Council with a focus on transparency, citizen input, and building effective partnerships. I understand how our Town policy works, how to effect positive change, and the level of commitment required to get things done. I've built a reputation of providing leadership and strategic thinking to make Vienna a better place to live. I am experienced in rolling up my sleeves and conducting the due diligence required to make informed decisions.

With a master's degree in public policy from Carnegie Mellon University, I have provided strategic leadership and policy analysis for government clients in the defense and homeland security community. Drawing from this work and my experience in leading initiatives to make the Town a more resilient community, I will provide a fresh and qualified voice to Town Council. I believe we can maintain the small-town feel of Vienna that we all fell in love with while ensuring it is a vibrant and attractive place for both those who grew up here and those planting roots. Visit [julieforvienna.org](http://julieforvienna.org) for more information and share your thoughts: [julieforvienna@gmail.com](mailto:julieforvienna@gmail.com).





## Nisha Patel

My husband and I moved to Vienna in 2007. We have three children at Wolfrap Elementary School. Since 2014, I have owned and directed an ophthalmology practice on Church Street. My family and I love this Town. We have attended Halloween parades and Oktoberfest, raised money for the fire department at Taste of Vienna, attended the Church Street stroll, and “chilled” on Church Street. I was at ViVa Vienna two days before giving birth to my third child. I have been to many of the surrounding parks and schools for multiple sports events with my family. I am deeply vested in this community and would be honored to represent you, the people of this Town, on Town Council.

I am running for Town Council because we need elected officials who are committed to responsible development. There are many issues facing the Town and its constituents, but one of the most pressing issues is the proposed developments on Maple Avenue and their impact on the school systems, traffic, and quality of life. The current MAC code allows for buildings that are too dense and too high. I would like an opportunity to work on changing the zoning laws and guidelines to fit the “small-town” character of Vienna, and at the same time encourage responsible development on Maple Avenue. We can all benefit from progress and new businesses, but not at the cost of gridlock traffic on Maple, overcrowded schools, and decreased walkability. I support the current MAC moratorium and think it’s time for a fresh look at development and our long-term strategy for smart growth.

I hope you can identify with my message and vote on May 7. I would be humbled and honored to serve the people of this great community. For more information, you can visit [patelforvienna.org](http://patelforvienna.org).



## Steve Potter

My wife, Toni, and I have lived in Vienna for 15 years and love it dearly. We have four children and four grandchildren. We’ve lived many places during our corporate careers, but of all those places we like Vienna best. We were drawn to Vienna’s small-town feel, quiet neighborhoods, quaint shops, and wide variety of restaurants. Vienna is unique; it should be cherished and protected.

I am running for Town Council because I want to continue serving the community. For the past year and a half as a founding member of Vienna Citizens for Responsible Development (VCRD), I have worked vigorously to ensure that Vienna can move forward in a fashion that preserves our small-town appeal, is fiscally responsible, allows our businesses to thrive, and ensures Vienna is a place where people want to live and visit. These efforts have created greater public awareness and encouraged citizens to speak out about inconsistencies and ambiguities in Maple Avenue Corridor (MAC) regulations that developers have exploited. This hard work, including the 1000+ signature petition against the current MAC regulations, significantly influenced the current MAC moratorium, which has put any new MAC applications on hold until the code is revised.

There is still much more work to do. There should be no more MAC development until after the ambiguities in the MAC code are removed and the long-term implications of increased density on traffic, infrastructure, schools, taxes, parking, and our quality of life have been identified and quantified. Development is inevitable and necessary, but it needs to be good for the community. This is our chance to get MAC zoning right. If honored with your vote and elected, I’ll work diligently to make that happen. For more information, please visit [potterforvienna.org](http://potterforvienna.org).

## Hear more from the candidates

The North East Vienna Citizens Association will host a Candidates Forum from 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11, at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street S. Each candidate will present opening remarks, followed by a structured question-and-answer period, followed by closing remarks from each candidate. This event is free and open to the public.

All candidates also have been invited to a forum at the April 16 Vienna-Oakton chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) meeting at 1 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center. The meeting is open to the community.



## Howard Springsteen

It has been a privilege to serve the citizens of Vienna since 2009 on Town Council. I have lived for 22 years on Upham Place NW, where my wife and I raised our two children. I have a demonstrated history of involvement, service, and leadership positions in the

volunteer Fire Department, Madison Crew Club, Boy Scouts, and Vienna Presbyterian Church – all of which reflect the Vienna community.

I am running for re-election because I believe I can deliver on the sentiment of our citizens that Vienna retain its small-town feel. If re-elected, I will continue to ensure that Vienna remains a special community where businesses can thrive and people want to live. Vienna needs to remain fiscally responsible while supporting necessary infrastructure improvements and providing high-quality services. My voting record validates my position of successfully advocating and voting on issues of importance to Town residents. I make myself available to address neighborhood concerns and issues.

I strongly support Vienna's long-standing policy of managed growth and low-density zoning in residential neighborhoods. In our commercial areas, when redevelopment occurs, it needs to be modest, balanced, and appropriate for Vienna. My voting record makes clear that I will oppose buildings that are out of scale or too dense. The currently suspended Maple Avenue Corridor (MAC) ordinance needs moderate to significant changes or possible elimination. Most of all, future redevelopment should not make traffic worse.

Looking forward, we cannot be blind to the pressures from being on the fringes of Tysons. We have difficult issues to address. I seek your input and help as we strive to achieve the vision of Vienna most of us want. For more information, visit Howard Springsteen for Vienna on Facebook or [SpringsteenForVienna.com](http://SpringsteenForVienna.com).

Thank you for the privilege of serving you and our Vienna community. Please vote on May 7.

## Important election-related dates

### April 15

Last day to register, online or in person, to vote in this election.

### April 30

Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail.

### May 4

Final day to vote absentee in person.

### May 7

Election Day! Voting from 6 am - 7 pm at the VCC.

## Tim Strike



I will do what is in the best interest for Town residents, not the developers, every day I have the privilege of representing you on Town Council.

For 23 years I have loved living in Vienna while raising three children. I wish to preserve the small-town character of Vienna and avoid the high/medium density buildings being promoted by the Maple Avenue Commercial (MAC) zoning. I promise to protect Vienna from unnecessary development.

My plan will include the following:

- 1. Reduce Vacant Building Blight** – Incentivize Maple Avenue commercial landowners to improve and lease their vacant space and increase funding for code enforcement involving abandoned and derelict buildings.
- 2. Resolve Our Traffic Problem** – Improve traffic flow on Maple Avenue and reduce cut-through traffic on residential streets by procuring, with assistance from Fairfax County, a traffic street signal system that controls and syncs all the signals and eliminates stop-go-stop again traffic issues.
- 3. Increase Public Parking** – For our shops and restaurants by partnering with Fairfax County to build a parking structure supporting downtown Vienna. My vision would be to have the parking structure be the new home of the Vienna Farmers Market, which will be able to run year-round using the covered level during inclement weather.
- 4. Fast-Track Local MAC Business Licenses** – Provide local businesses a streamlined process to obtain Town business licenses.

About me:

- Vice president of locally owned technology services company headquartered in the Vienna area.
- Girls and boys team coach in Vienna for 13 years including basketball, baseball, lacrosse, soccer, and volleyball.
- Various ministries at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.
- Recipient of the Vienna Volunteer Award.

I hope you will vote for Tim M. Strike for Town Council so that together we can keep small-town Vienna special.



## Solarize Vienna 2019

# Your home or business can take advantage of the sun

**T**he Conservation and Sustainability Commission will host a Solarize Community Forum at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, in Town Council Chambers. At the meeting, interested residents and business owners can discuss solar opportunities with this year's selected Solarize NOVA vendors.

Don't forget, the federal government currently offers a 30% solar investment tax credit, which will drop to 26% in 2020 and 22% in 2021. Also, Virginia residents can "net meter" excess energy generated by their solar systems, receiving a credit at the full retail rate that can then be used during times when the sun isn't shining. Fairfax County exempts business and residential solar systems with qualified equipment and system installations from real estate taxes for five years.

Solar continues to be a bright choice as pricing has dropped precipitously over recent years, making 2019 a great time to harness the sun to generate power for your household or business and save money. The 2019 Solarize NOVA program, a partnership between the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Local Energy Alliance Program, and Town of Vienna as well as other localities, makes it easy to purchase solar – the program provides vetted contractors as well as pre-negotiated contract terms and prices for photovoltaic panels. Offered April 16-June 14, the 2019 Solarize program provides great prices for solar systems through the power of group purchasing.

To get a peek at how your home or business would fare with solar installation, check out the award-winning [novasolarmap.com](http://novasolarmap.com). When you type in your address, this tool analyzes your roof, its orientation, and shading and calculates how much solar power could be generated. Generating your own energy is a hedge against future increases in the cost of electricity provided by utilities.

Visit the Solarize table at the Green Expo, which will be held 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, at the Vienna Community Center. We hope to see you there! 📍

# HEY!



## Vienna businesses and nonprofits . . .

take the

# Vienna Sustainability Challenge!

It's easier than you think to become certified!  
Information & application available at  
[viennava.gov/sustainabilitychallenge](http://viennava.gov/sustainabilitychallenge)

## Parks & Rec Sampler

### Odd jobs

The Parks and Recreation Department sponsors a program through which youth can sign up to be on a list to help out neighbors with odd jobs, such as babysitting, raking leaves, shoveling snow, or walking dogs. For more information about the Town's Odd Jobs application, contact Natalie Duncan at 703-255-5736 or [natalie.duncan@viennava.gov](mailto:natalie.duncan@viennava.gov).

Conversely, if you need a little help ticking some of those around-the-house "to do" items off your list, the Parks and Recreation Department can help put you in touch with youth willing to help out. Call the community center at 703-255-6360 for more information. The salary rate is determined between the resident in need and the person who is hired.

### Spring break camps and outings

Information about spring break camps and Club Phoenix Teen Center outings is available in the spring 2019 *Vienna Parks and Recreation Programs and Events Guide*, [viennava.gov/brochure](http://viennava.gov/brochure). Club Phoenix will be open 12-6:30 p.m. during spring break week, April 15-19.

### Youth talent showcase

Area music students will perform in Club Phoenix's April Showers Talent Showcase on two consecutive Fridays in April, then, at the end of the month, club members get their shot at taking the stage. School of Rock musicians will perform songs from the 1970s-90s in a Decades Night-themed show at 6 p.m. Friday, April 5, at the community center. Herndon's Bach to Rock school will offer up soul favorites during its Friday, April 12, performance.

On Friday, April 26, Club Phoenix members are invited to perform at the Open Mic and Acoustic Show at 7 p.m. In addition, throughout the month, visual artists may submit their prints, sculptures, and paintings. To sign up or for more information, contact Natalie Duncan at [natalie.duncan@viennava.gov](mailto:natalie.duncan@viennava.gov) or 703-255-5736.

## Town hosts several egg-cellent April events

by Communications Specialist Adam Kincaid

### **Spring into cleaning season**

The Town of Vienna is encouraging resident-volunteers to engage in some spring cleaning – around Town, that is. Town Clean-Up Day will run 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, **April 6**. All volunteers, including students, Boy and Girl Scouts, and anyone willing to lend a hand, are welcome. Please meet at the Town Green at 9 a.m. Wear clothing in which you are comfortable getting down in the muck. Please contact [john.king@viennava.gov](mailto:john.king@viennava.gov) to sign up and with any inquiries.



### **A hunt and roll, egg-cellent for the kiddos**

This nugget of an event is for the little ones: Children ages 12 and under are invited to participate in an Old-Fashioned Egg Roll, sponsored by the Town of Vienna and Historic Vienna, Inc., from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, **April 13**, on the Historic Freeman Store and Museum lawn.

In addition to hunting for and rolling Easter eggs, children can get their photo snapped with the Easter Bunny and enjoy tales from a storyteller. For more information about this event, call 703-255-5187.

Tickets for the Family Flashlight Egg Hunt on April 12 have sold out.



photo by Sharon Baum

### **Salute local superheroes**

Help honor some of Vienna's hometown heroes at the annual Mayor's Volunteer Reception at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, **April 23**, at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Laurie DiRocco will honor community volunteers nominated for their neighborly actions and character. The Town Business Liaison Committee also will present the Carole Wolfand Award to a Town business in honor of its contributions to the community.

### **Going green is easier than you might think**

Learn more at the Vienna Green Expo about the abundant opportunities to practice personal sustainability – it's a lot simpler than you probably think to make a difference that can preserve the environment, protect pollinators, reduce waste, or conserve energy. The Community Sustainability Commission (CSC) is hosting the Green Expo from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, **April 24**, at the Vienna Community Center.

"We all know that climate change is a pressing issue," says CSC Chairperson Susan Stillman. "At the Green Expo, residents can learn more about energy issues – and how to reduce their energy usage related to their cars, waste, and home."

The Green Expo will feature approximately 30 exhibitors, presenting on topics ranging from recycling and composting to solar power, from alternative fuel vehicles to net zero home design, and much more. Admission is free, and sustainable prizes will be given to each student who collects stamps from each booth in the Green Expo "passport."



### **Vienna deeply rooted in its commitment to trees**

The Town of Vienna has been certified as a Tree City USA, for the 18<sup>th</sup> time, by the Arbor Day Foundation. To commemorate Arbor Day and the Town’s commitment to preserving trees, Mayor Laurie DiRocco, along with Cub Scout Pack 1116, will plant a dogwood tree, donated by the Vienna Woman's Club, at 5 p.m. Friday, **April 26**, at the Vienna Community Center.

Arbor Day Foundation President Dan Lambe says: “Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community firsthand. Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it’s through volunteer engagement or public education.”

photo by Adam Kincaid

### **Big taste comes to a small town**

The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate great taste at its 8th annual Taste of Vienna event from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, **April 27**, in the fire station parking lot at 400 Center Street S. Admission to the event itself is free, with beer, wine, and a bevy of food for sale from vendors. A moon bounce and face-painting for children will be available as well as musical entertainment. For more information, visit [tasteofvienna.com](http://tasteofvienna.com).



photo by Adam Kincaid

### **Show off your pipes**

Vienna Idol, a competition that showcases local talent, is celebrating its 8<sup>th</sup> year as well.

Auditions will take place in April and May on a semi-weekly basis at either Caffe Amouri or Whole Foods. Visit [viennaidol.org](http://viennaidol.org) to sign up and for more information.

Finalists will take the Town Green stage at the June 7 Summer on the Green concert, at which fans will vote to crown the 2019 Vienna Idol. The winner will receive a cash prize, eight hours of professional recording studio time, and an opportunity to perform at various Vienna events and venues over the course of the year.

Vienna Idol has raised more than \$80,000 for the Khristin Kyllö Memorial Fund, sending several young people to college, purchasing epilepsy seizure bracelets and providing monitoring for those who can’t afford them, and supporting Sudden Unexpected Death from Epilepsy research.



photos by Adam Kincaid

## 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).

### February 25

- Approved a memorandum of understanding with Vienna Little League to use Yeonas Park for spectator viewing of the July 4 fireworks display.
- Reduced the subdivision performance bond for 344 Park Street NE to a two-year maintenance bond of \$2,790.
- Reduced the subdivision performance bond for Andrew Minor subdivision to a two-year maintenance bond of \$53,526.

### March 11

- Set a public hearing for April 8 regarding the proposed fiscal year 2019-20 operating budget.
- Set a public hearing for April 8 regarding fiscal year 2019-20 proposed water and sewer rates.
- Set a public hearing for April 22 regarding the proposed fiscal year 2019-20 real estate tax rate.



## Vienna businesses with staying power

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

35 YEARS

**Vienna Flooring and Wallcoverings**

30 YEARS

**Princess Jewelers**

25 YEARS

**Silver Star Motors**

20 YEARS

**Direct Research**

**Emcon Construction Corporation**

**White Swan**

15 YEARS

**Autumn Electric Company**

**Freda Smith Vittone**

**Levinson Custom Clothiers**

**Novella Graphics**

**Washington Clothing Company**

10 YEARS

**Darcey Geissler Esquire**

**Finished Product**

**Foot and Ankle Center**

**Stroke Comeback Center**

**Westwood Leasing**

**William J. Olson**

5 YEARS

**Alternative Health Associates**

**Early Steps Bilingual Pre-School II**

**Lombardi's Pizza**

**Velocity Dance**

### Appointed to serve

At recent meetings, Town Council appointed or reappointed several individuals to Town boards and commissions:

- Roy Baldwin – Board of Architectural Review
- Desiree Di Mauro – Conservation and Sustainability Commission
- Robert Dowler – recommended to the Fairfax County Circuit Court for reappointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals
- Kathy Georgen – Town business/community representative to the Local Administrative Retirement Committee
- Alexandra Mann – student representative to the Vienna Public Art Commission
- Andrew Meren – Planning Commission
- Angela Sorrell – Transportation Safety Commission

## Open for business

Town of Vienna business licenses were issued in February to these companies:

**Jolie Hair Studio 2**

*beauty salon*

121 Maple Avenue W  
703-624-6666

**Julia B. Chung**

*psychotherapy*

115 Beulah Road NE  
540-522-8924

**New York School of Arts**

*art studio*

320 Maple Avenue E  
914-708-0123

**Pathways to Health**

*massage therapy*

311 Maple Avenue W  
757-753-4940

**Weigel Tax and**

**Accounting Services**

*CPA*

901 Country Club Drive NE  
703-967-7778



**35**  
years ago...

Vienna welcomed Champ, the police department's new K-9 officer, reported the April 1984 Town newsletter. The 3-year-old German shepherd finished second in his training class at the District of Columbia police K-9 training center where he learned how to search buildings, track people and objects, and help apprehend suspects.



# HAPPENINGS around town

**Vienna (Host) Lions Club** will hold a fundraiser from 11 am-9 pm April 2 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 Tom Comi, 703-281-4575 or visit [facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub](https://www.facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub).

The **Vienna Arts Society** is hosting *Salon des Refuses*, an exhibit of works not accepted for juried shows, April 2 through June 1 at the Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Avenue W.

The **Vienna Arts Society**, which is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, will host a weekend of music and art at its **Treasury of Art** juried art show and sale April 5-7 at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street SE. The show features original artworks from around the nation selected by juror Leigh Culver. Sale hours are 10 am-9 pm Friday and Saturday, April 5 and 6 and 12-4 pm Sunday, April 7. The Difficult Run String Band will perform Saturday evening, and Fascination Strings will perform at the awards reception from 7-9 pm.

Local *a cappella* groups On the Verge, Pitches Be Crazy, and Noteworthy will present an **A Capella for Autism** concert a 1 p.m. Sunday, April 7, at Jammin Java. Proceeds from this high-energy, family-friendly show will benefit the Autism Society of NoVA, which provides assistance and programs to local families affected by autism. For info and tickets, visit [jamminjava.com/event/1816182-cappella-for-autism-vienna/](https://www.jamminjava.com/event/1816182-cappella-for-autism-vienna/).

**American Legion Post 180**, which has been involved in the Vienna community for 80 years,

will host a **membership picnic** from 1-5 pm Sunday, April 7. The menu includes hamburgers, hot dogs, and various salads. The picnic is free and open to all current members and anyone interested in joining.

**Shirley Clark**, executive director of The Women's Center, will speak on the topic of *45 Years of Helping Women in Vienna* at 7 pm April 9 at the Patrick Henry Library. This free program, sponsored by the library, and **American Association of University Women (AAUW)**, is open to the public.

Help veterans battling post-traumatic stress disorder by participating in the April 13 third annual **For Our Troops Sake PTSD Awareness Walk**. The 1.3-mile walk along the W&OD Trail begins at the Vienna Community Center and concludes at Caboose Brewery. Funds raised will be donated to Boulder Crest Retreat in Bluemont, which each year assists more than 700 service members battling PTSD and their families. For more information, email [uvacavalierwahoo@yahoo.com](mailto:uvacavalierwahoo@yahoo.com).

A representative from the **Fairfax County Foster Care and Adoption Program** will

talk about postsecondary opportunities for youth in foster care and how the community can help at the **Vienna Woman's Club meeting**, at 7 pm Wednesday, April 17, at the Vienna Community Center. Visitors are welcome.

Find more information at [viennawomansclub.org](https://www.viennawomansclub.org).

Fill your plate with omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and more at **American Legion Post 180's monthly breakfast buffet** from 8 am-noon

Sunday, April 21, at 330 Center Street N. \$10 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. For more information, call 703-938-6580.

A large variety of plants, labeled with care requirements and indications as to whether or not they're "unappetizing" to deer and other critters, will be available at the **Five Hills Garden Club plant sale** from 8 am-noon Saturday, April 27, on the lawn of the Freeman Store.

The **Ayr Hill Garden Club** will host a **photography show** celebrating the club's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary as part of Walk on the Hill festivities from 2-5 pm Sunday, April 28. The exhibit will feature club members' photos of flora and fauna as well as guest submissions from Madison High School students. The exhibit, which is free and open to the public, is at 307 Windover Avenue NW. For more information, email [emilielarson@rcn.com](mailto:emilielarson@rcn.com).

The **Vienna Community Band** will perform a **free concert** at Walk on the Hill at 3 pm Sunday, April 28, at 288 Windover Avenue. If you're a musician interested in joining the band, attend any Sunday rehearsal at 6:15 pm at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, visit [viennacommunityband.org](https://www.viennacommunityband.org).

Find reasonably priced used books in numerous categories at the **Freeman Store Book Cellar**, open 12-4 pm Wednesday-Sunday. In April, all art books will be half price. Used book donations are accepted anytime; boxed or bagged books may be delivered to the Freeman Store or left on the porch. For more information, call 703-938-5187.

Stay up to date regarding all **Freeman Store & Museum and Historic Vienna, Inc.** events and information via **social media**. Follow @FreemanStore\_Museum on Instagram and join the Historic Vienna, Inc. group on Facebook.

Botany professor **Dr. Carl Taylor**, former director of the National Science Foundation, will present *Ferns in the Landscape* at the April 22 meeting of the **Ayr Hill Garden Club**. The meeting, which is free and open to the public, is at 12:45 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. For more information, email [emilielarson@rcn.com](mailto:emilielarson@rcn.com).

*Happenings Around Town notices are printed as a community service, and items are included as space allows. Submit information to [lynn.coan@viennava.gov](mailto:lynn.coan@viennava.gov) by the 10th of the month preceding publication. 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

PRSR STD  
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Vienna, VA  
Permit No. 36

**VIENNA  
VOICE**

**April TOWN CALENDAR**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b> Town Council Work Session • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>2</b> Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>3</b> Town Council Strategic Plan Work Session (VCC) • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>4</b> Community Meeting: Transportation &amp; Land Use Study • 7 pm</p> <p><b>6</b> Town Clean-Up Day • 9 am - noon</p> <p><b>8</b> Town Council Meeting • 8 pm</p> <p><b>9</b> Solarize Community Forum • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>10</b> Planning Commission • 8 pm</p> <p><b>11</b> Town Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm</p> <p><b>12</b> Family Flashlight Egg Hunt (Glyndon Park) • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>13</b> Old-Fashioned Egg Roll (Freeman Store) • 10:30-11:30 am</p> <p><b>16</b> Public Art Commission • 7 pm</p> <p><b>17</b> Board of Zoning Appeals/Public Hearing • 8 pm</p> <p><b>18</b> Board of Architectural Review • 8 pm</p> <p><b>18</b> Vienna Theatre Company: Ripcord (VCC) • 8 pm</p> | <p><b>20</b> Vienna Theatre Company: Ripcord (VCC) • 8 pm</p> <p><b>22</b> Town Council Budget Work Session • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>23</b> Mayor's Volunteer Reception (VFD) • 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>24</b> Vienna Green Expo (VCC) • 7-9 pm</p> <p><b>24</b> Planning Commission • 8 pm</p> <p><b>26</b> Arbor Day Tree Planting • 5 pm</p> <p><b>26</b> Vienna Theatre Company: Ripcord (VCC) • 8 pm</p> <p><b>27</b> Taste of Vienna (VFD) • 11 am-8 pm</p> <p><b>27</b> Vienna Theatre Company: Ripcord (VCC) • 8 pm</p> <p><b>28</b> Vienna Theatre Company: Ripcord (VCC) • 2 pm</p> <p><b>28</b> Walk on the Hill (Windover Heights) • 2-5 pm</p> <p><b>29</b> Town Council Meeting • 8 pm</p> <p><b>30</b> Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee • 7 pm</p> <p><b>30</b> Transportation Safety Commission • 8 pm</p> |
|---|--|

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.