

## WHY VOTING IS IMPORTANT



Today, most American citizens over the age of 18 are entitled to vote in federal and state elections, but voting was not always a default right for all Americans. The United States Constitution, as originally written, did not define specifically who could or could not vote—but it did establish how the new country would vote.

Article 1 of the Constitution determined that members of the Senate and House of Representatives would both be elected directly by popular vote. The president, however, would be elected not by direct vote, but rather by the Electoral College. The Electoral College assigns a number of representative votes per state, typically based on the state's population. This indirect election method was seen as a balance between the popular vote and using a state's representatives in Congress to elect a president. Your vote may not directly elect the president, but if your vote joins enough others in your voting district or county, your vote undoubtedly matters when it comes to electoral results. Most states have a "winner take all" system where the popular vote winner gets the state's electoral votes. There are also local and state elections to consider. While presidential or other national elections usually get a significant voter turnout, local elections are typically decided by a much smaller group of voters.

It was not until the 15th Amendment was passed in 1869 that black men were allowed to vote. But even so, many would-be voters faced artificial hurdles like poll taxes, literacy tests, and other measures meant to discourage them from exercising their voting right. This would continue until the 24th Amendment in 1964, which eliminated the poll tax, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which ended Jim Crow laws. Women were denied the right to vote until 1920, when the long efforts of the women's suffrage movement resulted in the 19th Amendment.

With these amendments removing the previous barriers to voting (particularly sex and race), theoretically all American citizens over the age of 21 could vote by the mid 1960s. Later, in 1971, the American voting age was lowered to 18, building on the idea that if a person was old enough to serve their country in the military, they should be allowed to vote.

Across generations and over many elections, the bottom line remains the same: we believe that voting is a piece of our democracy, a right, a responsibility, a communal voice in what our future holds. Participating in elections is one of the key freedoms of American life. Many people in countries around the world do not have the same freedom, nor did many Americans in centuries past. No matter what you believe or whom you support, it is important to exercise your rights.

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/why-voting-important/>

**Vienna Community Center Hours of Operation**  
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.  
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Sunday 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

## Vienna Theatre Company Presents



### Performance Dates:

**Friday & Saturday 8 p.m.**  
**October 18, 19, 25, 26 and**  
**November 1 & 2**

**Sunday 2 p.m.**  
**October 27 & November 3**

**Tickets \$16**

**[Click here for more info](#)**

In the madcap comedy tradition of *Lend Me a Tenor*, the hilarious *Moon Over Buffalo* centers on George and Charlotte Hay, fading stars of the 1950s. At the moment, they're playing *Private Lives* and *Cyrano De Bergerac* in rep in Buffalo, New York with five actors. On the brink of a disastrous split-up caused by George's dalliance with a young ingénue, they receive word that they might just have one last shot at stardom: Frank Capra is coming to town to see their matinee, and if he likes what he sees, he might cast them in his movie remake of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Unfortunately for George and Charlotte, everything that could go wrong does go wrong, abetted by a visit from their daughter's clueless fiancé and hilarious uncertainty about which play they're actually performing, caused by Charlotte's deaf, old stage-manager mother who hates every bone in George's body.

RECIPE  
CORNER

**November 6 is National  
Nachos Day**



National Nacho Day is celebrated on November 6th every year. It's a day to celebrate the cheesy, gooey dish that's enjoyed by many people. Nachos themselves have a fascinating history, with their creation often attributed to Ignacio "Nacho" Anaya, a Mexican chef who invented the dish in the 1940s.

Try making a nacho dish at home and share them with friends and family

- Tortilla chips**- skip the flavored ones (Doritos don't make great nachos). Thicker tortilla chips stand up to the toppings, skip thin cantina-style chips.
- Cheese** – The best nacho recipe is one with lots of cheese; a blend of cheddar and Monterey jack cheese. To make it fast, use pre-shredded cheeses like Mexican or TexMex blends.
- Meat** – Seasoned ground beef & black beans. Swap out the beef use any leftover meats like barbacoa or steak!

Prepare meat mixture (if using): Brown ground beef, stir in taco seasoning, water, and black beans. Simmer until the water has evaporated.

Layer on a sheet pan: Layer chips with cheese, beef and bean mixture, and green onions.

Bake at 375 until the cheese is melted and bubbly. Remove from oven and load 'em up!

Add these BEFORE baking: Sliced black olives, red onions, canned or grilled corn, fresh jalapenos.

Add these AFTER baking: pickled jalapenos, diced tomatoes, green onions, diced avocado, cilantro.

Add these ON THE SIDE: guacamole, pico de Gallo, salsa, sour cream, lime wedges.

# Bowman House Pottery Show and Sale

211 Center St. S.

**Saturday, November 2 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**



**Don't miss out on great gifts for the holiday season.  
Cash and Check only.**

## Tech Classes

### Today's Technology

October 17– 24

9:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

\$90 Residents/\$112.50 Non-residents

### Get Up to Speed on your Android Phone/Tablet

October 31

9:45-11:45 a.m.

\$45 Residents/\$56.25 Non-residents

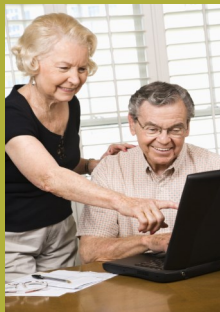
### Keeping Socially Engaged In Retirement

October 10

1:30-3:30 p.m.

\$45 Residents/\$56.25 Non-residents

Click [here](#) to register



## TAI CHI CHUAN - QIGONG

Tai Chi Chuan-Qigong is an easy, gentle, low-impact exercise for better balance, general health and flexibility. Suitable for all.

The group meets in-person on Tues/Wed/Fri from 7:30 -8:30 a.m. at the VCC and Zoom® Mon/Thur from 7:30 -8:30 a.m. Qigong meets in person Mondays from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

To join this FREE fun, welcoming group in-person or via Zoom® contact [hanname1122@gmail.com](mailto:hanname1122@gmail.com)

## Vienna Farmer's Market

The Vienna Farmers Market is a locally grown, local producer-only market. The market is open from 8 a.m.– Noon Saturdays until October 26.

Vendors must grow, raise, bake or make all products at the market that they sell. The Vienna Farmers Market is located at the Vienna Community Center parking lot, 120 Cherry Street SE.

Hosted by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, the market features over 25 local vendors providing fresh produce, meats and homemade foods.

For more information call 571-354-6933



Save the  
Date!

March 4, 2025

## Not Another Home Movie

This course will help you tell a family story and create a 3-5 min family film that you can share and celebrate as a keepsake. Your story will not only engage your audience but it will also transform you as you tell it yourself.

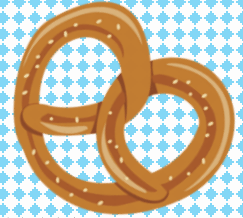
November 2-December 21 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Fee: \$500 residents/\$550 non-residents



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Oktoberfest



Saturday, October 5 • 11am-7pm

Historic Church St.

A traditional Oktoberfest with beer, wine, food, entertainment and games for families.

Sponsored by the [Vienna Business Association](#) and Town of Vienna



## Vienna's 78th Annual HALLOWEEN PARADE

**“Party Like it’s 1999”**

Wednesday, October 23 ★ 7p.m. ★ along Maple Avenue

Check out [www.viennava.gov/Halloween](http://www.viennava.gov/Halloween) for details and road closures

## Autumn Harvest Luncheon

November 7 12–2 p.m. Vienna Community Center




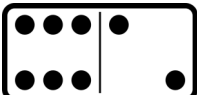
With the harvest season upon us, come celebrate the bounty of the season for an Autumn Harvest luncheon. Autumn is a beautiful time of year to enjoy the changing colors and the crisp air... So, why not embrace the season by joining friends for this special fall event. Enjoy warm Shepherd's Pie, salad, and a pumpkin shaped cookie, along with entertainment by Hickory Grove. This event is sponsored by Vienna Parks and Recreation, the Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia, and Hunter's Woods at Trails Edge.

Registration fee is \$20 per person. Pre-payment is due by November 1st.

To register call the Shepherd's Center (703)281-0538.



# MATURE ADULT DROP IN PROGRAMS

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<b>Pickle ball</b> <b>11 a.m.-1 p.m.</b>	<b>A Stitch in Time– Knitting Circle</b> <b>1-4 p.m.</b>	<b>Table Tennis</b> <b>8-9 a.m.</b>	<b>Mah Jongg</b> <b>12:30-4 p.m.</b>	<b>Table Tennis</b> <b>8-9 a.m.</b>
				
<b>Scrabble</b> <b>12:30 -4 p.m.</b>		<b>Canasta</b> <b>12:30-3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Rummikub</b> <b>12:30-4 p.m.</b>	<b>Pickle ball</b> <b>11 a.m.-2p.m.</b>
		<b>Pickle ball</b> <b>11 a.m.-1 p.m.</b>	<b>Pickleball</b> <b>6-10 p.m.</b>	<b>Dominoes</b> <b>12:30-3:30 p.m.</b>
				

Questions in Real Estate & Lessons in Cards —October 21st 10-11 a.m. @ the VCC  
 Learn how to play 5-crowns • Ask real-estate questions while we play • Find out how Deeds are held • Bring your friends

## First Friday Flicks



First Friday of every month

2 P.M. at the Vienna Community Center Auditorium

October 4- “Sully” -2016 starring Tom Hanks

November 1- “The Big Sick”- 2017 starring Kumail Ali Nanjiani and Emily Gordon

December 6- “The Impossible”- 2013 starring Tom Holland and Naomi Watts

Special Family Movie– December 13- “Elf”-2003 starring Will Ferrell, James Caan, Mary Steenburgen

Come and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment as we show classic movies for adults 55+ on our 13’ X 9’ dimension screen with specialized surround sound. Free popcorn is available or you may bring your own

The ability to participate in our democracy by voting in elections is a foundational right of citizenship that we cherish as Americans. No adult should be denied this right because of their age or ability.

### Important dates and election information

- **Deadline to register:** Tuesday, Oct. 15
- **Deadline to apply for an absentee ballot:** Friday, Oct. 25, at 5 p.m.
- **First day of early voting:** Friday, Sept. 20
- **Last day of early voting:** Saturday, Nov. 2
- **General election:** Tuesday, Nov. 5



**Voter registration:** Use the [Virginia Department of Elections Citizen Portal](#) to check your registration status.

**Absentee voting:** All registered voters can vote [absentee by mail](#), but you’ll need to apply to do so.

**Early in-person voting:** You can vote early and in person at your [local registrar’s office](#) or nearby [satellite location](#) from Friday, Sept. 20, through Saturday, Nov. 2.

**Voting at the polls:** Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. You’ll need to show an [acceptable form of identification](#), such as a Virginia driver’s license, or sign an ID confirmation statement to vote at the polls.

SIGN UP FOR VIENNA HAPPENINGS  
E-NEWSLETTER TO RECEIVE THE TOWN'S WEEKLY EMAIL WITH UPDATES ON  
WHAT'S GOING DOWN AROUND TOWN

## Test Your Gourd Prowess

A traditional symbol of abundance and the harvest, what would fall decorations or desserts be without gourds?

Learn more about gourds and test your knowledge with this quick quiz.

1. The main difference between a summer squash and a winter squash is:

a. Color b. How long they can be stored c. When they are grown d. Where they are grown geographically

2. Pumpkins are a type of squash: True or False

3. As of 2015, the largest pumpkin ever grown weighed:

a. 996 pounds b. 1,859 pounds c. 1,179 pounds d. 2,323 pounds

4. All Gourds are squashes: True or False

5. The first jack-o-lanterns were made from onions: True or False

6. Zucchini and yellow crookneck squash are the same species: True or False

Answers can be found on page 7.



## UPCOMING LECTURES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Thursday, October 3– Reducing, Reusing and Recycling Properly 2-3 p.m.

Thursday, October 3– Aging in Place 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, October 8– Mouth & Throat Toning for Better Sleep 10-11 a.m.

Monday, November 4– Cardiac Health for Older Adults 10-11 a.m.

Wednesday, November 13– Meet Marlin the Police Dog 10-10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 14– Downsizing 10-11 a.m.

Thursday, December 10– Breathing Exercises for Optimal Brain Health 10-11 a.m.

REGISTER FOR A LECTURE [HERE](#)

### Why does October have two birthstones.....?

Because the National Association of Jewelers (NAJ) added tourmaline to the list in 1952 to address concerns about opal's durability and perceived femininity.

Opal, the traditional October birthstone, is believed to have originated in India (the source of the first opals brought to the Western world), where in Sanskrit it was called upala, a "precious stone." In ancient Rome, this became opalus. Most opals are valued for their shifting colors in rainbow hues – a phenomenon known as "play-of-color."

Tourmaline is the newer October birthstone. The name comes from the Sinhalese word toramalli, which means "stone with mixed colors," because it often has multiple colors in one crystal. Very few gems match tourmaline's dazzling array of colors. Perhaps this is why ancient mystics believed this October birthstone could inspire artistic expression – it has a color palette for every mood.



# Mature Adult Adventure Daze 2024 was filled with unforgettable memories!



Making friends and experiencing new adventures!

## Herbs, Gardening & Companion Planting

[Click Here](#)  
To Register



### Now is a Great Time to Start Your Spring Garden

Date: Saturday, October 5 9-10 a.m.

FEE: \$5 residents/\$7.50 non-residents

#### Fruit Tree Basics

Date: Saturday, October 5 10:30 –11:30 a.m.

FEE: \$5 residents/\$7.50 non-residents

#### Mushroom Growing for the Home Garden

Dates: Saturday, October 5 12-1 p.m.

FEE: \$5 residents/\$7.50 non-residents

## The Alphabet Soup of Medicare



October 12 \* 9:45a.m.-12:30 p.m.

November 16 \* 9:45a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fee: \$10 Residents/\$12.50 non-residents

Are you confused about Medicare? Most seniors are so you are not alone. It's not only about the ABC's. There's also D and then there's Medical Supplement with it's own host of lettered plans! Have you heard about Medicare Advantage? That's where A+B+D (sometimes) =C. Yikes! And have you ever wondered how and if Medicare pays for nursing homes or long term care? If you have any of these questions, this course is for YOU. If you're not yet old enough for Medicare, come to the class so you can be a step ahead of the pack so that you know what to do when the time comes. If you're already on Medicare, come to better understand the benefits you currently have. 2 sessions at 2.5 hrs. each. Presented by Maddie Sharpe, CFP® Specializing in Senior Health, LTC, Life, and Annuity Protection.

To Register [click here](#)

## EGGNOG & BINGO

December 13 1:30-3:30 p.m. @ the VCC

A popular game and the perfect holiday drink all wrapped in one. Enjoy a traditional bingo game in a friendly atmosphere while you win bargain prizes. Bingo cards are \$2 for 2 cards (limit 2 cards/person). Registration required. Please bring an inexpensive or lightly used item to donate to our prize table (no food items). For mature adults ages 55+.

Pre-registration required.

Registration begins November 6 for Vienna residents



### Gourd Quiz Answers

1. (B) Summer squashes are soft-skinned squashes that are harvested in the summer and need to be eaten quickly. Winter squashes are hard-shelled squashes that can be stored for months
2. TRUE Pumpkins are members of the squash genus Cucurbita.
3. (D) 2,323 lbs. The record-holding pumpkin weighed over a ton!
4. FALSE The term squash is mainly used only for members of the genus Cucurbita, while gourd refers to any number of ornamental hard-fruited plants in the family.
5. FALSE The first jack-o'-lanterns were made from turnips.
6. TRUE Both summer squashes are varieties of Cucurbita pepo.

December is National  Month

The game began in Italy in 1530 as "LoGiucio del Lotto D'Italia," and is still played there today, almost every Saturday. The French adopted the game in the 1770s as "Le Lotto." Bingo arrived in North America in 1929, where it was first called "beano." Edwin Lowe, a New York salesman, modernized the game by hiring mathematician Carl Leffler, who developed thousands of combinations of numbered game cards. Lowe reportedly changed the name to "Bingo" when a winner shouted the word one day by mistake. And here's a fun fact for you: Edwin Lowe, the man who modernized Bingo, also invented Yahtzee!

# Join us for an excursion and join the fun!



## Hamover Tavern

November 6 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Fee: \$114 residents/\$142.50 non-residents

## Lady Camellia Tea Room

December 4

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Fee: \$105 residents/\$131.25 non-residents



Virginia National Ballet performs  
“The Nutcracker”

December 18 3- 11 p.m.

Fee: \$112 residents/\$140 non-residents

## “Sound of Music” @ Toby’s

Registration begins November 6 for Vienna residents

January 8 9 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$119 residents/\$148.75 non-residents



## Upcoming Winter trips

Registration begins November 6 for Vienna residents

**Bond in Motion @ International Spy Museum**

**Philadelphia Flower Show**

**“Waitress” @ Olney Theatre**

Click here for [Trip Registration](#)





**CHURCH  
Street  
Stroll**

**Church St. Stroll**

**November 25**

**6:00– 8:30 p.m.**

On Church Street –in front of the Freeman Store

**Enjoy visits with Santa, live holiday music from local groups, a tree lighting led by Mayor Linda Colbert and great deals from local Church Street Businesses!**

For more information:  
call Historic Vienna at 703-938-5187 or visit [historieviennainc.org](http://historieviennainc.org)

Town of Vienna Parks and Recreation  
Kathy Blevins -Recreation Program Coordinator  
[kblevins@viennava.gov](mailto:kblevins@viennava.gov) 703-255-7801

**Vienna Community Center**

120 Cherry St. SE

Vienna, VA 22180

Front Desk: (703)255-6360

Park Maintenance: (703)255-6336

Vienna Police Non-Emergency (703)255-6366

**TOWN OF VIENNA PARKS AND RECREATION**

*Creating community through people, parks and programs*

