

VIENNA VOICE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF VIENNA, VIRGINIA • WWW.VIENNAVA.GOV



Town Council Seeks Community Input on Proposed Meals Tax Increase

The people have spoken, and the Town Council wants to honor the community's wish for an indoor recreational pool and fitness center! The Council received the final recommendation for future use of the now-vacant, three-acre Annex property located at 301 Center St., S at a work session on Sept. 30, 2024, and now the question is how to pay for it. The Town Council expressed interest in funding the new facility sooner rather than later with a temporary, 1% meals tax increase dedicated specifically for the aquatic/fitness facility construction, which would enable it to open by 2030. Without the increase, the earliest the facility could open is 2040 through traditional capital planning processes.

“The community has told us for decades through various engagement activities that its top priority is an indoor pool and its second priority is a fitness facility,” said Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert. “In three recent outreach campaigns, we asked the community how the Annex property should be used, and

aquatics and fitness again emerged as the top priorities. Now the Town Council would like to find a way to honor the community's wishes as soon as possible.”

Vienna’s current meals tax of 3% was imposed by the Town Council in 1990 to pay for capital projects such as roads, buildings and parks. It is among the lowest in the region, and the temporary increase to 4% would be the same rate that is currently paid in the cities of Falls Church, Fairfax, Manassas and Manassas Park.

“The Town Council is aware that Fairfax County is also considering imposing a meals tax, but it will not apply in the Town of Vienna jurisdiction,” Colbert said. “The Town Council sets the meals tax rate within the Town of Vienna.”

The proposed temporary 1% increase equates to an extra 15 cents on a \$15 meal or an extra 50 cents on a \$50 meal. The Town Council used the temporary funding mechanism once before from 2002 to

2024 Meals Tax Comparison

JURISDICTION	MEALS TAX
Vienna	3%
Herndon	3.75%
Falls Church	4%
Fairfax City	4%
Manassas	4%
Manassas Park	4%
Purcellville	5%
Alexandria City	5%
Warrenton	6%
Washington, DC	10%

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2008 to pay for what has become the central gathering place for beloved Town events in the heart of the community, the Vienna Town Green. During that time, overall restaurant revenues increased.

Before voting on the current proposal, the Vienna Town Council wants to know if the community would support a temporary 1% meals tax increase from Jan. 1, 2025 to Jan. 1, 2035 to enable the facility to be constructed by 2030. Residents are

encouraged to email their views to the full Council at council@viennava.gov or call the Town Clerk's office at 703-255-6304 or respond to our brief, online survey: <https://bit.ly/TOVmealstax>. Residents may also speak to the full council at the public hearing on the proposed meals tax increase at the Town Council's regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 18, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Hall.

All community input will help inform the Town Council's final decision about the increase on Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. 📌

The Town bought the Annex property at 301 Center St., S. in 2020 from the former Faith Baptist Church for \$5 million. The church building served as a temporary police headquarters from 2021 to 2023 while the new police department was being constructed next door. The Vienna Town Council voted to demolish the building to make way for a new use after bringing the church building up to code was deemed to be too costly. For more information and conceptual designs and project updates, visit www.viennava.gov/annex.



Navy Federal Pledges Support for Proposed Pool/Fitness Facility

The Town of Vienna's largest employer, Navy Federal Credit Union, wants to help make the community's decades-old wish for an indoor pool and fitness center come true sooner rather than later. As the Town Council considers whether to fund the proposed facility with a temporary, one percent meals tax increase from Jan. 1, 2025 to Jan. 1, 2035, Navy Federal is offering to advance the funding needed for design that the Town would pay back at zero interest.

"Navy Federal Credit Union is a part of the Vienna community, and we have long been a proud supporter of the Town's events and activities," said George Eichert, the credit union's Senior Vice President of Workplace Infrastructure & Logistics. "Many of our employees live in the Vienna area, and we are excited about the prospect of assisting the Town in building this facility for the benefit and health of the community."

"This is such an exciting opportunity for Vienna, and we are grateful for Navy Federal's continued support of our community," said Mayor Linda Colbert.

Approximately 6,000 employees work at Navy Federal's Vienna headquarters, and many of them live in the Vienna area and support local businesses. Navy Federal provides financial contributions to beloved Town events, including ViVa! Vienna, the Independence Day Celebration, Big Screen on the Green, the Church Street Stroll and the annual Family Fishing Rodeo at Wildwood Park. 📌



Public Hearing

on Proposed Temporary
1% Meals Tax Increase
to Fund an Indoor Pool/
Fitness Facility

**Monday,
Nov. 18
7:30 p.m.**

Vienna Town Hall
127 Center St., S.



Don't Forget! Election Day is Nov. 5

Early voting is underway through Saturday Nov. 2 for this year's November General Election, and voter turnout has been steady. You can go into the polls to vote or cast your ballot via curbside service. No Town Council seats are on this year's ballot, but Vienna residents will cast votes for U.S. President, U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. Local voters will also weigh in on two Fairfax County bond referenda for public safety and transportation improvements, and a Virginia Constitutional Amendment regarding tax relief for veterans injured in the line of duty. For sample ballots and voting locations visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/early-voting. ↴

Do you know where to vote on Election Day?

Vienna residents can vote on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5 at the precinct where they usually vote for state and national offices. These four Election-Day precincts/locations are: Cunningham Park Elementary School, Vienna Community Center, Cedar Lane School, and Madison High School. Residents who still have mail-in ballots may drop them off at any early voting location through Nov. 2; or any Election Day precinct during operating hours; or any time before 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 5 at the ballot drop box in front of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Va.; or by mail so long as ballots are postmarked by Election Day and arrive in the Fairfax County Elections Office by noon on Friday following the election. You can confirm your voting location and voter registration status online: www.viennava.gov/vote or call the Fairfax County Office of Elections at 703-222-0776. ↴

W&OD Trail Trees Near the Town Green to be Cut Down



Since mid-July, Dominion Energy has been working to replace wires and upgrade the electrical transmission system along a four-mile stretch between the utility's Clark and Idylwood substations. Beginning in mid-November, Dominion plans to clear all large trees along the trail portion that runs from the Community Center on Cherry St. to Church Street behind the Town Green and next to the Freeman Store. The utility plans to cut all trees that are 20 feet tall or greater and younger trees that have the capacity to

grow more than 20 feet tall to protect the heavy transmission lines that are being installed that can handle a greater load than the existing lines. The property is owned by NOVA Parks and Dominion has an easement that gives the company the right to clear the trees. The Vienna portion of the project is expected to be completed by January 2025.

Questions or concerns about the project should be directed to Dominion by email at powerline@dominionenergy.com or by calling 1-888-291-0190. For the latest information, visit www.DominionEnergy.com/clarkidylwood. ↴

Mayor & Chief at Your Service

Tuesday, Nov. 12

7 p.m.

Vienna Police Department Community Room



Have children and teenagers in your life? Learn how to keep them safe from online predators at the next Mayor and Chief at Your Service. Join Mayor Linda Colbert and Police Chief Jim Morris for a timely discussion about this growing threat across the internet, how to avoid being targeted, and how you can protect your loved ones while they're online. ↴

Town Seeks Board and Commission Volunteers

Here's a great way to use your skills and experience to make a difference in Vienna. Apply to serve on a Town Board, Commission or Advisory Committee.

The following panels have vacancies and are seeking volunteers:

Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) (1 Vacancy). The BZA is a semi-judicial body that holds public hearings on zoning variances and administrative appeals including granting special exceptions, conditional uses and variances to development standards.

Conservation and Sustainability Commission (CSC) (1 Vacancy). The CSC encourages residents, local businesses and the Town government to undertake conservation and sustainable practices through education and outreach, community initiatives, and planning and recommending policies and programs to the Town Council.

Town Business Liaison Committee (TBLC) (2 Business Vacancies). The TBLC works with the Town's economic development director to represent business-community concerns to elected Town officials and staff, the Vienna Business Association and residents at large.

Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) (1 Vacancy). The TSC helps the Town work toward its goal of being an efficiently mobile, walkable and bikeable community by studying street safety issues and making recommendations to the Town Council.

Vienna Public Art Commission (VPAC) (1 Senior Student Vacancy). This commission advises and assists the Town Council on matters related to advancing public art, including programs staged in public venues and public art funding.

To volunteer to serve on an advisory board, commission, or committee, you must be a registered voter in the Town of Vienna. To learn more and to submit an application, visit www.viennava.gov/boards or call the Town Clerk's office at 703-255-6304. 📞



Running Scared

This year's Cops and Kids Fun Run was a scream! For the first time in its history the event hosted by the Vienna Police Department was Halloween themed, and participants were invited to run in their favorite Halloween costumes.

Everyone got in on the fun, including Vienna Police Chief Jim Morris and Deputy Chief Dan Janickey. Following a vote from those who registered for the event, this dynamic duo was on the case, dressed up as everyone's favorite dynamic duo: Batman and Robin!

This beloved annual day of fitness and fun featured face painting by the Vienna Singing Princesses, a live DJ, slides, obstacle courses, yummy treats, and an opportunity to explore police vehicles including a motorcycle! Rounding out the fun were visits with Marlin, the police dog, Chase from Paw Patrol and Fairfax County police officers who "dropped in" via Fairfax One, the County's police helicopter. 📞



Stroll into the Holidays!

Usher in the holiday season with this year's Church Street Holiday Stroll, Monday, Dec. 2, from 6-8:30 p.m. in front of the Freeman Store at the corner of Church and Mill streets. Enjoy live holiday music and a tree lighting ceremony led by Mayor Linda Colbert, just after Santa makes his grand entrance down Church Street aboard the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department's antique fire truck.

After the ceremony, take advantage of great deals from local Church Street businesses, visit with Santa and his friends, and visit historic sites such as the Freeman Store and Museum, Little Library, Caboose, Train Station, Knights of Columbus (formerly First Baptist Church) and Vienna Presbyterian's Old Chapel.

Free marshmallow roasting will be available at fire pits located up and down Church Street.

For more information: call Historic Vienna at 703-938-5187 or visit www.viennava.gov/stroll. Thanks to our sponsor, RTR Pilates. 📞





Updates from Vienna Parks & Recreation

Stay Up to Date with Vienna Happenings!

For weekly updates on events and fun things to do around town, sign up for the Town's weekly e-newsletter, "Vienna Happenings." To sign up, visit www.viennava.gov/happenings. For quick updates, follow us on Facebook, X, and Instagram @TownofViennaVa.

Winter Registration Begins Nov. 4

It's time to start planning your winter class, camp and program lineup at the Vienna Community Center. Check out the options online at www.viennava.gov/parkguide and be ready for registration when it opens on Nov. 4 for residents; Nov. 12 for people who live outside town limits. Register at the Community Center or via webtrac: www.viennava.gov/webtrac.

Pottery Show and Sale Saturday, Nov. 2

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Bowman House Arts and Craft Center
211 Center St. S.**

Don't miss out on great gifts for the holiday season! The Bowman House Pottery Show and Sale features outstanding, handmade pottery created by students and teachers. Shop early for the best selection. Cash or checks only.



Vienna Public Art Foundation Seeks Board Members

Help support public art projects by serving on the Vienna Public Art Foundation (VPAF) Board. This local non-profit organization is seeking board members with fundraising or grant-writing experience to support efforts to finance artistic projects in the Town of Vienna. Public art in Vienna is created and supported through private efforts, community organizations, and the Town of Vienna's Vienna Public Art Commission (VPAC), which advises and assists Town Council on matters related to public art. For more information, contact Mike Cheselka mike.cheselka@gmail.com.

Autumn Harvest Luncheon

Thursday, Nov. 7
12-2 p.m.

Celebrate the season's bounty at the Autumn Harvest Luncheon. This special fall event for adults ages 55+ features a menu of shepherd's pie, salad, and a pumpkin sugar 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. Cost is \$20 per person. To register call 703-281-0538.

Vienna Halloween Parade a Retro-Themed Hit

Nearly 100 floats, walking groups, antique vehicles and more marched down Maple Avenue in their "Party Like



it's 1999"-themed Halloween get up for Vienna's 78th annual Halloween parade held on Wednesday, Oct. 23. Thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors who made this year's parade possible, and special thanks to the parade's title sponsor, Carnegie Diner and Cafe. Stay tuned for the announcement of this year's parade winners, including Best in Parade Monday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Council meeting at Town Hall.

Winter Pickleball Hours

Beginning Dec. 1, Glyndon Park pickleball hours will be as follows:

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10 a.m.-6 p.m.**

Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

No restrooms or lights will be available Dec. 1 through Feb. 29. For more details and full schedule, visit www.viennava.gov/courts.

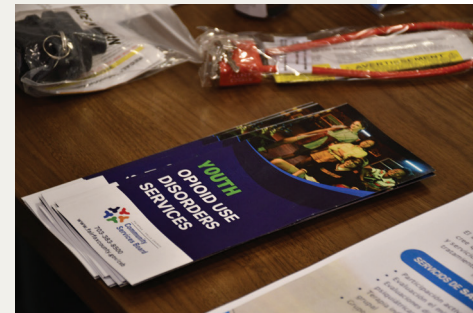
Parent Discussion: Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education (REVIVE! Kit Training)

Wednesday, Nov. 13
6-7 p.m.

Club Phoenix Teen Center

The Club Phoenix Teen Center is teaming up with the Fairfax Falls Church Community

Services Board to host two age-appropriate workshops that teach people how and when to administer naloxone to reverse an opioid overdose. Naloxone is also commonly referred to by the brand name Narcan. Section A1 is designed for adults only. Section B1 is designed specifically for teens ages 16-18. Upon completion of these workshops, participants are eligible to receive a free box of naloxone if desired. Take this training and learn to save a life! To register and learn more visit www.viennava.gov/webtrac.



School of Rock Concert Friday, Nov. 15

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Club Phoenix Teen Center

Grab a friend and enjoy live music from the Vienna School of Rock Junior/ House Band in the Club Phoenix Teen Center. All are welcome.



Housing Diversity and Tax Relief Options in Vienna

BY COUNCILMEMBER HOWARD SPRINGSTEEN



Housing diversity and the high cost of housing are among the many challenges facing Vienna Town Council as well as Fairfax County and the nation. As we work to address these issues, we also want to make sure residents are aware of existing property and vehicle tax relief and deferral programs that are available for property owners who qualify.

One housing diversity option the Council is exploring is to allow Accessory Living Units (ALUs) on residential lots zoned only for single-family detached homes. This would provide a 1–2-bedroom option for senior residents, family members or other renters and hopefully address some housing cost and availability concerns. The Council held two productive work sessions on this (Sept. 9 and Sept. 23). If the Council votes to approve this, it would allow ALUs on residential lots as long as the total lot coverage does not exceed 25% for both the ALU and main residence, off-street parking is provided for the ALU and the building height does not exceed 35 feet. Other key details must be worked out, and the Council is being very deliberate in its consideration of this option to ensure residential neighborhoods are maintained. The proposed zoning change is now being reviewed by the Planning Commission, and public hearings will be held to get community input. Ultimately the Town Council will make its final decision. If done correctly, allowing ALUs could be a very positive step forward.

There's another hopeful option for current Vienna residents who may be struggling with housing affordability through the Town's and County's tax relief or deferral program. Senior citizens, renters, disabled veterans and residents with disabilities who qualify are eligible for the program. There is a sliding scale that ranges from 25% to 100% relief or deferral depending on your income and financial worth (under \$400,000) excluding the value of your home. Presently more than 200 Vienna residents qualify and participate in varying degrees based on income and asset value.

To apply for Fairfax County tax relief, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/relief or email TaxRelief@FairfaxCounty.gov for detailed information. For the town of Vienna, visit www.viennava.gov/taxrelief. Residents who qualify for relief or deferral by the County automatically qualify for relief or deferral from Town taxes, and applications must be submitted annually. 📌



Picture it!

Vienna, 1970. Hawthorne's Drug Store was a fixture in town at the corner of Maple Avenue and Center Street, where Donutchee is currently located. Almost everyone in town knew pharmacists Charlie Hawthorne and Bill Baughman. In addition to medications, the store carried toys, greeting cards, reading glasses and other standard drug store items. Hawthorne's pharmacy started in a different town location in 1954, and moved to this building in 1960, where it served generations of Vienna families until it closed in the late 1980s. 📌

November Holiday Hours

It's holiday season, and that means schedule changes for the Town government:

Veteran's Day:

Town offices will be closed Monday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veteran's Day. The Vienna Community Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. The drop in pickleball fee will be waived for all veterans on Nov. 11.

Thanksgiving:

Town offices and the Vienna Community Center will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28, in observance of Thanksgiving. The Vienna Community Center will be open on an adjusted schedule from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 29 with special open gym hours as well. Regular waste collection will occur on Friday, but there will be no bulk, brush, or yard waste collection.

Holiday Open Gym Hours will be in effect for all holidays, and the schedule is available online: www.viennava.gov/opengym. To see the Community Center's full holiday schedule visit www.viennava.gov/hours. 📌



Economic Development Director Accepts Position in Virginia Beach



Nearly five years ago, Natalie Guilmeus (then Natalie Monkou) became the Town of Vienna’s first ever Economic Development Director. She was excited at the prospect of building a new resource to support local business and to make Vienna a dining destination for visitors. Just a few months later, COVID-19 hit, and Guilmeus shifted her focus from attracting new business to the area to helping existing businesses survive the pandemic.

“What I have tried to do in my role from the beginning is to make sure the business community felt loved, supported, and cared for, and understood the resources available to help them thrive,” Guilmeus said.

Guilmeus came to Vienna in November 2019 and quickly facilitated an agreement between the Town of Vienna and Fairfax County that resulted in the distribution of \$2.7 million in relief grants to local businesses that were struggling during the pandemic. She also worked with the Vienna Town Council and the Planning and Zoning Department to implement emergency measures to allow outdoor dining at restaurants so that businesses could continue operating while adhering to pandemic-related social distancing guidelines.

“It was challenging establishing the department just as the pandemic was beginning but working with my colleagues, the Town Business Liaison Committee, the Vienna Business Association, local non-profit organizations and using state and federal resources, we were able to creatively find ways to support our local businesses through that very difficult time.”

Other notable accomplishments that Guilmeus helped lead during her tenure in Vienna include:

- the “Ignite” virtual education series to help business owners and promising entrepreneurs establish and maintain a sound operational framework.
- Vienna Restaurant Week – to drive business by encouraging residents to dine at local establishments and take advantage of weeklong specials.
- Vienna in Bloom – an initiative to beautify the commercial corridor with colorful plants, creating a welcoming feel and contributing to the Town’s goal of making Vienna a desirable destination for dining, shopping and special events.
- a culinary workforce certificate program to help 200+ food-based businesses with hiring and retention efforts.

Guilmeus also worked with an outside expert to establish the Town’s award-winning economic development brand on social media and the web – www.exploreviennava.com, and established collaborative relationships with the Vienna Business Association, the Fairfax County Government and the Town Business Liaison Committee to help ensure the Town’s economic infrastructure remains sustainable and vibrant.

“It’s been an incredible opportunity to serve in this special community,” said Guilmeus as she reflected on her service in Vienna. “It’s been a wonderful experience, and I’m proud of the things my colleagues and I have been able to accomplish to support our local businesses.”

Guilmeus and her husband will soon move to Virginia Beach, where she will serve as deputy director of the city’s economic development department. Her last day with the Town of Vienna was Oct. 25, 2024, and the projects she started will continue while the Town searches for her successor. 📍

It’s “Banner Season” in Vienna

Have an event or campaign coming up next year that’s fit for a banner over Maple Avenue? Why not apply to have it displayed! Each year, nonprofit and charitable organizations can apply to display a banner over the coveted Maple Avenue spot for up to two weeks. Specific display dates are assigned through a lottery managed by the Department of Public Works and Town Manager’s office, and priority is given to Vienna-based organizations or for banners promoting Town-sponsored events.

Applications for 2025 opportunities will be accepted from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30, 2024. To enter the lottery, complete and submit a banner application with a \$150 refundable deposit paid in cash or by a check made payable to the Town of Vienna. Banner requirements and specifications are included in the banner application, which is available online: www.viennava.gov/bannerlottery. 📍



Open for business

Town of Vienna business licenses were issued in September to:

Elpisian Eye, PLLC <i>Ophthalmologist</i> 203 Tapawingo Road, SW	Prime Custom Kitchen and Bath Remodeling <i>Kitchen Design</i> 301A Maple Ave., W	The Virginian Restaurant/Third Act Restaurant <i>Restaurant</i> (Change of ownership) 169 Glyndon St.
Fairfax Bridal Thrift Boutique <i>Non-profit Organization</i> 450 Maple Ave., E	Seray <i>Restaurant</i> 160 Maple Ave., W	
Mah Boutique <i>Boutique</i> 527 Maple Ave., W	Tacit Scribes, LLC <i>Administrative Assistance</i> 203 Tapawingo Road, SW	

Vienna businesses with staying power

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

35 YEARS CARPET DYNAMICS	10 YEARS JOHN P. MARTIN RED VACUUMS, LLC
25 YEARS ADVANCED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	5 YEARS ADVANTAGE DESIGN SOLUTIONS, LLC
JOANNE EHRETH BURKE, CPA, PLLC	BIRCH STREET FINANCIAL ADVISORS, LLC
KARLA COLLETTA SWIMWEAR, INC	SUTHRAVE & ASSOCIATES, LLC
20 YEARS CHRISTINE WANG & ASSOCIATES, LTD	
VETERINARY SURGICAL CENTERS, LLC	



Mayor's Pet of the Month

Meet Calvin! This half Havanese and half Tibetan Terrier joined the Shannon family after they experienced a loss in the family. Calvin is a delight to have around, as he loves riding in the car and bringing home sticks from his neighborhood walks. He especially enjoys going to the Bethany Beach Boardwalk where he can meet other dogs.

Congratulations, Calvin! You're the Mayor's Pet of the Month! 🐾

Nominations for Mayor's Pet of the Month are accepted on an ongoing basis. To nominate your pet, send an email to Mayor@viennava.gov with your pet's name, type of pet (please be specific), a photo of your pet, and three reasons why you think your animal should be recognized.

Word From Juan

E-ZPass 'Smishing' Scam Targets Virginia Residents

Commuters be forewarned! According to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), a new scam involving fraudulent text messages, known as "smishing," attempts to trick victims into making payments for nonexistent toll charges.

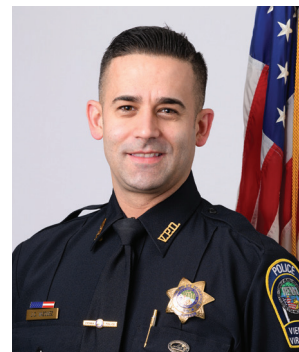
What You Need to Know:

These deceptive text messages may appear to come from E-ZPass Virginia or a specific toll facility, claiming that you owe outstanding tolls. VDOT says that many of these messages are false and are part of a broader scam designed to exploit unsuspecting motorists.

How to Protect Yourself:

- **Do Not Respond:** If you receive a text message requesting payment for unpaid tolls, do not engage with the sender or click on any links.
- **Verify Authenticity:** Always verify the legitimacy of such messages by contacting E-ZPass Virginia's Customer Service directly.
- **Report Scams:** If you suspect you are a smishing scam victim, please file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center. Be sure to include the originating phone number of the fraudulent text message and any links provided.

Your awareness and vigilance are key to protecting yourself and our community from fraud. Please share this information with family and friends to help spread the word. Together, we can safeguard our community against scams. 📢



Juan Vazquez is the Vienna Police Department Public Information Officer. He conducts community outreach and public safety programs for area schools and community

groups. To contact him, email Juan.Vazquez@viennava.gov or call 703-255-7845.



Farmer's Market Compost Pilot a Success

BY MALA PERSAUD,
CONSERVATION AND
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

The Town of Vienna's pilot compost program has come to an end, and the results are impressive! The Town launched the pilot in May 2024, and in just 22 weeks, residents dropped off more than 7,000 pounds of food scraps that will be diverted from the waste stream and create nutrient-rich soil that will be used for agricultural purposes.

Many eco-champions know composting is one of the most important things anyone can do to protect the planet. The simple act of composting food scraps, whether at home or through a commercial composter, reduces the amount of trash going to a landfill or incinerator, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, which are a major contributor to global warming.

Neighboring areas, including the cities of Falls Church and Fairfax, have had permanent compost solutions as well as county-supported farmers market drop-offs for some time.

Vienna's pilot was initially funded as a 14-week test by the Conservation and Sustainability Commission (CSC). After its rapid success, the Town Council voted to extend Vienna's pilot program through the end of the Farmers Market season in October.

Over the next few months, the CSC will explore options for continuing Vienna's program and make recommendations to the Town Council. Until a permanent solution can be determined, residents who wish to continue to compost can drop food scraps at the I-66 transfer station or contract with a private company for home collection. A few neighboring supermarkets also offer food scrap drop-off for customers.

If you'd like to provide the Town Council with your own feedback about composting in Vienna, you can email the full council at council@viennava.gov. 📧

Lighting the Way for a New Town Code



Prior to adopting Code Create in 2023, which updated zoning requirements in Town code for the first time in more than 50 years, there were few lighting regulations in town. Now the work begins on developing better, clearer rules for outdoor lighting for properties throughout Vienna.

The process includes input from the local business community and town residents. Your input will help inform new lighting-code regulations and guidelines. You're invited to learn more, ask questions and provide feedback at one of two information sessions:

Vienna Business Meeting

Nov. 6, 2024 • 2-4 p.m.

Vienna Police Department Community Room
(215 Center St. S)

Vienna Residents Meeting

Nov. 6, 2024 • 6-8 p.m.

Vienna Police Department Community Room
(215 Center St. S)

You are also invited to take the online lighting code survey here <https://bit.ly/ViennaCode> now through February 2025. For more information including how to participate via Zoom, visit www.viennava.gov/lightcode or call 703-255-6341. 📞

MEET THE MAYOR

Mayor Linda Colbert offers several opportunities for residents to meet with her each month:

- **Meet the Mayor:** Periodically Mayor Colbert sets up "office" in various Vienna locations. The next "Meet the Mayor" is on Sunday, Nov. 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the American Legion Auxiliary breakfast buffet fundraiser for local youth activities at American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St. N. Stop by, enjoy some breakfast and share your thoughts. See breakfast details in the Happenings Around Town section on page 10.
- **Mayor's Walk:** Join Mayor Colbert for a chat and stroll through the Town on the third Friday of most months. The next walk is on Friday, Nov. 15. Meet in front of Town Hall at 9:30 a.m.
- **Office Hours:** The mayor is available to meet in her office weekdays, by appointment. To make an appointment, email mclark@viennava.gov or call 703-255-6304.

Mayor Colbert also does a weekly Facebook video highlighting upcoming events and Town Council business. You can catch it each Wednesday on the Town Facebook page [@TownofViennaVA](https://www.facebook.com/TownofViennaVA). 📺



HAPPENINGS around town

Holiday Donation Drive for CHO Christmas Store

Now through Nov. 28
One week after Thanksgiving, the CHO Christmas Store will provide food and gifts to nearly 200 local families in need. Please join us by donating new toys for younger children, gift cards for teens and for food (WalMart cards are appreciated), your time to help set up and also to serve as an escort for a family at the store. Call 703-281-7614 box#1 for more information.

CHO Bike Drive

Now through Nov. 28
CHO is also collecting bikes to distribute to families in need in our community. The greatest need is for bikes for teenagers and adults. Drop your bikes off in the parking lot of Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, or in the driveways of 317 Church St. NE; 218 Elmar Dr. SE; or 9807 Wintercress Court. The collection ends Thanksgiving Day. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/CHObikes>.

Post 180 Children's Christmas Party

Registration Open Nov. 1-22
Children age 12 and younger are invited to register to attend this holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

at American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. The fun will feature music, crafts, games and a present from a special visitor, Santa Claus! Children must be accompanied by an adult family member, and lunch will be provided to all attendees. The event sponsored by Post 180 and Auxiliary Unit 180 is free, but pre-registration is required for children and adults. Registration is open from Nov. 1-22 or until the event reaches capacity. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/Post180Party>.

How To Engage With the Fairfax County Board

Monday, Nov. 4 7 p.m.
Find out the best ways to raise your issues with the Board of Supervisors from Penny Gross, recently retired vice chairman of the board. Learn how the county government works and discuss issues of concern to women. Gross, who has a wealth of public service experience, will also offer her thoughts on campaigns and democracy. The program will be held at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. The free public event is sponsored by the Vienna Area Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the library.

Dining for Dollars Fundraiser

Tuesday, Nov. 12 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Enjoy a delicious meal and support the Lions Club Dining for Dollars fundraiser by dining at Foster's Grille Vienna the second Tuesday of each month. Simply ask the cashier to put your receipt in the Lions' box, and Foster's will donate 20% of your purchase to Lions' youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. If you have used eyeglasses and hearing aids that you would like to donate to the cause, please bring them with you. For more information contact Lion Tom at golfertom1943@gmail.com.

Lions Club Citrus Fruit Sale Online Ordering Now Open

www.fairfaxlions.org/citrus-sale-notification
Sign up for email notices of sales and discount coupons. Orders are now being taken for pickup Nov. 21-23 or Dec. 19-21. All proceeds to Lions charity programs.
PICKUP LOCATION – American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax, VA 22030.



NEVCA Membership Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 13 7:30 p.m.
Join the North East Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA) for its membership meeting at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St SE. Featured speakers Brian Land and Christina Caplan will describe efforts leading to the adoption of Vienna's new Tree Conservation Ordinance and creation of the Vienna Tree Advocacy Committee. Door prizes will be awarded. All are welcome.

Vienna Arts Society Membership Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 14 7-9 p.m.
They say "a party without cake is just a meeting." Our November membership meeting will be a party! You do not have to be a member to join us for a sweet demo by award-winning cake and sugar artist B. Keith Ryder. We'll get the inside scoop on how he approaches decorating a cake, plus we will get to test his creation when the demo is finished. Join us at the Vienna Art Center, Windover Professional Building, 243 Church St., NE, Suite 100 LL, Vienna. For more information about VAS activities, visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

American Legion Auxiliary Breakfast Buffet

Sunday, Nov. 17 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
It's Thanksgiving at the American Legion Auxiliary Post 180 Breakfast Buffet. Enjoy Joe's custom omelets, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, sausage gravy, biscuits, blueberry pancakes, fruit cocktail, Post 180 cake and more. Adults \$12, children younger than 12 \$5. Proceeds will support Girls State and youth activities. American Legion Post 180 is located at 330 Center St., N, Vienna, Va. For more information, call 703-409-3564.

Third Thursday Art Eventing

Thursday, Nov. 21 4-7 p.m.
All ages are invited to drop in to the Vienna Art Center to enjoy a sip and a bite and meet the artists featured in our new exhibition: "Rhythm and Reflections." As always, there will be creative surprises for visitors during the evening. The center is located in the Windover Professional Building, 243 Church St., NE, Suite 100 LL, Vienna.

An Evening with Julia Child

Friday, Nov. 22 6 p.m.
Kick off the holiday season with this special presentation at the Vienna Community Center. The show pays tribute to Julia Child's incredible energy, passion and sense of play-



fulness. This event is free and open to the public, however, online registration is required as space is limited: <https://bit.ly/JuiaProgram>. Presented by Historic Vienna, Inc. and the Freeman Store & Museum. The Vienna Community Center is located at 120 Cherry St., SE.

Free Fall Paper Shredding and Recycling Event
Saturday, Nov. 23
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

This free event at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department is a great way to help the earth and recycle items to help others. Accepted items for shredding include paper (including staples and paperclips), checks/

checkbooks. Eyeglasses will also be collected for the Fairfax Lions Club eye-glass recycling program. Crutches walkers and unopened hygiene products including soap, toothpaste, new washcloths, shampoo and deodorant will also be collected to help Medical Missionaries. You can also drop off women's clothing in very good or excellent condition for Women Giving Back, a non-profit organization in Sterling. The Fire Department is located at 400 Cherry St. S, Vienna. For more information, visit www.janeellensells.com/shred-event.

Vienna Turkey Trot 5k/10k/Kids Fun Run
Sunday, Nov. 24
8-9:30 a.m.

Burn some holiday season calories and support two worthy causes by participating in the 22nd annual Turkey Trot 5K/10K

and Fun Run hosted by the James Madison High School Band. All proceeds benefit the JMHS "Pride of Vienna" Band and the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. The event starts and ends at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St., S, Vienna. Join us for a great run, super music, fun prizes, refreshments after the race and the Finish Line Festival! To register, visit: <https://www.viennaturkeytrot.org>.

Tiny Tot Holiday Concert
Thursday, Dec. 5
10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 6
10 a.m.

James Madison High School Band, the Pride of Vienna, is thrilled to invite you to our 43rd Annual Tiny Tots Holiday Concert! This cherished event will feature enchanting performances by our talented

students along with some very special surprise guests. All performances will take place at James Madison High School Auditorium. Admission is \$10 per person, which includes children of all ages (one year and older). Get tickets today! <https://bit.ly/totconcert>.

Holiday Gifts and Visits from Santa
Sundays Dec. 8 and 15
12-2 p.m.

Support small business in a beautiful historic setting this holiday season by purchasing holiday gifts at the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE. You'll find unique gifts, ornaments, pottery, home goods, toys, candy and more at the shop – and don't forget the bargains in the store's Used Book Celler. For more information about special events, including visits from Santa, visit www.HistoricViennaInc.org.

JMHS Snowman Concert
Saturday, Dec. 14
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.



Join the JMHS Choral and Orchestra Departments for this magical family holiday event at James Madison High School. Watch the film based on Raymond Briggs' "The Snowman" book with live choral and orchestra music accompaniment. After the film, walk through the winter wonderland and enjoy crafts and a chance to take pictures with the Snowman and Santa! Each seated attendee must have a ticket. Purchase tickets in advance online starting mid-November: <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/announcements>, scroll down to find Snowman Concert. Tickets will be available at the door only if the event isn't sold out.

CONTACT Vienna

VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

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mayor@viennava.gov

Sandra Allen
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Chuck Anderson
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Roy Baldwin
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Jessica Ramakis
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Howard J. Springsteen
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Full Council
Council@viennava.gov

TOWN STAFF

Town Manager	Mercury T. Payton	703-255-6371
Town Attorney	Steven D. Briglia	703-255-6305
Town Clerk	Melanie J. Clark	703-255-6304
Acting Economic Development Director	Kelly O'Brien	703-255-6347
Finance Director	Marion Serfass	703-255-6322
Human Resources Director	Michelle Crabtree	703-255-6351
Information Technology Director	Tony Mull	703-255-6364
Parks & Recreation Director	Leslie Herman	703-255-6356
Planning & Zoning Director	David Levy	703-255-6340
Police Chief	Col. James Morris	703-255-6390
Public Information Director	Karen Thayer	703-255-6330
Public Works Director	Brad Baer	703-255-6380

Send community news and high-resolution photographs to karen.thayer@viennava.gov. All material provided is subject to editorial review and revision and will be used as space allows. **Deadline for the December issue is Nov. 10.**

TOWN HALL
MAIN PHONE
703-255-6300
PUBLIC
INFORMATION
OFFICE
703-255-6330

**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 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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VIENNA
VOICE

November TOWN CALENDAR

1	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) • 8 p.m.	18	Town Council Meeting & Public Hearing on Proposed Meals Tax Increase • 7:30 p.m.
2	Pottery Show & Sale, Bowman House • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.	19	Vienna Public Art Commission (VCC) • 7 p.m.
2	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) • 8 p.m.	20	Board of Zoning Appeals • 7:30 p.m.
3	Daylight Saving Time Ends	21	Board of Architectural Review • 7:30 p.m.
3	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) • 2 p.m.	21	Conservation and Sustainability Commission (VCC) • 7:30 p.m.
5	Election Day • 6 a.m.-7 p.m.	26	Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee • 7 p.m.
11	Town Offices Closed (Veterans Day)	26	Transportation Safety Commission • 8 p.m.
12	Mayor and Chief @ Your Service (VPD) • 7 p.m.	28	Thanksgiving Day-Town Offices and Community Center Closed (No waste collection)
12	Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 p.m.	29	Town Offices Closed (Regular waste collection; no brush, bulk or yard waste)
13	Planning Commission • 7:30 p.m.	30	Small Business Saturday-Shop Local!
14	Town Business Liaison Committee • 7 p.m.		
16	NOVA Model Railroaders and Caboose (TD) Open House • 1-5 p.m.		

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S.
Meeting schedule subject to change; check www.viennava.gov/calendar for updates.
VPD, Vienna Police Department Community Room, 215 Center St. S
VCC, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE
TD, Train Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE