

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Town Council, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

NEWSPAPER PICKUP - North side of town.

MONDAY, JUNE 8

Town Council work session, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

NEWSPAPER PICKUP - South side of town.

Planning Commission, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

Town/Business Liaison Committee, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

Vienna Youth Soccer fall registration, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

Town Council, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

NEWSPAPER PICKUP - North side of town.

Board of Zoning Appeals, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

Board of Architectural Review, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

NEWSPAPER PICKUP - South side of town.

Planning Commission, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Transportation Safety Commission, 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

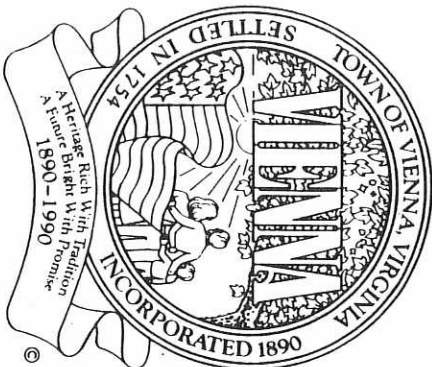
COMING NEXT MONTH:

July 1 - Newspaper pickup for north Vienna.

July 3 - Town Hall closed. Trash collection as usual.

July 4 - July 4th celebration at Vienna Community Center.

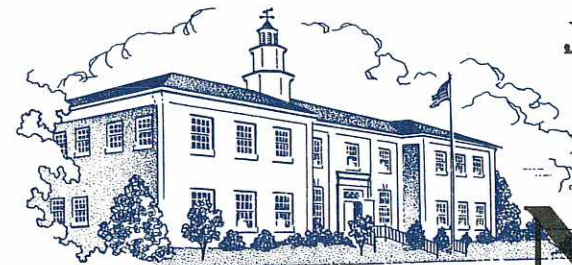
July 6 - Town Council meeting.



Vienna Town Hall
127 Center Street, South
Vienna, Virginia 22180
255-6300
Police Emergency 938-4900
Business Hours Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Vienna, Va.
Permit No. 36

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the proposed Town/County boundary adjustment at 4 p.m. Monday, June 22, in the new County Governmental Center. To sign up to speak at the hearing, call the Clerk to the Board at 324-3151.



June 1992

VIENNA NEWSLETTER

Public Hearing Scheduled for June 15 On Historic District Amendments

The Town Council will hold a public hearing at its June 15 meeting on proposed amendments to the Windover Heights Historic District ordinance. The meeting begins at 8 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Town Hall.

Under the proposed ordinance, the members of the Town's Board of Architectural Review would serve as the Windover Heights Board of Review. Other provisions of the proposed ordinance outline the procedures under which the new review board would function and specify instances when a

Certificate of Appropriateness would or would not be required.

Council suspended the Windover Heights Board last year after receiving petitions from about half of the historic district residents to remove their properties from the district. Since then, the historic district ordinance has been revised in an attempt to address the residents' concerns about the operation of the review board and the standards used in granting Certificates of Appropriateness.

The Windover Heights Historic District in northwest Vienna is one of the town's original residential neighborhoods, which has changed little since the turn of the century. Many of the homes there contain distinctive architectural features, were the sites of significant events in the town's history, or belonged to prominent citizens. Residents of the district must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness prior to construction or major alteration of buildings to ensure that it is in keeping with the old and historic character of the area.

Copies of the proposed amendments to the historic district ordinance are available in the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall.

Curbside Recycling Comments Invited

Citizens are reminded that the Town Council's public hearing on a proposal for curbside recycling in Vienna is scheduled for the June 1 meeting, which begins at 8 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Town Hall.

If approved, regular trash and grass would be picked up on the first collection day of the week; newspapers, brush, grass, plastic bottles, glass jars and bottles, metal food and beverage cans, and aluminum foil would be picked up on the second collection day. Cardboard would continue to be collected at the Vienna Community Center initially.

For more information, call the Town's Recycling Coordinator at 255-6349.

RECYCLING DAY
SATURDAY, JUNE 6
For used motor oil,
antifreeze, car batteries
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Town Property Yard
247 Nutley St., N.W.

Political Signs Require a Permit

During this election year, candidates and their supporters should be aware of the Town's regulations pertaining to political signs:

- Five temporary signs not exceeding 20 square feet total may be posted on residential property after receiving a permit and posting of a \$25 bond. Signs may be erected up to 30 days prior to election day and must be removed within five days after the election.

- It is unlawful to place signs on street lights, telephone poles, markers or other signs, or to place a sign without a permit within 10 feet of the curb or edge of pavement.

For more information about signs, call the Planning and Zoning Department at 255-6341.

Call these numbers 24 hours a day
Vienna Newsline 255-6333 Town Job Line 255-5720
Police Info Line 255-6363 Special Pickup 255-5727

Town Council Action

APRIL 6, 1992

- Held an executive session to interview Karen Martin for reappointment to the Transportation Safety Commission.

- Referred to the Transportation Safety Commission for review and recommendation a petition requesting activation of the left-turn signal at Nutley and Tapawingo Roads, S.W.

- Requested the Mayor to write a letter to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Board reinforcing Vienna's adopted ordinance and position of the Town Council that the Town would abide by the requirements of State statutes but would not go beyond those statutes due to the impact on property owners.

- Conducted a public hearing on proposed revisions to water and sewer connection fees.

- Conducted a public hearing on proposed revisions to fees charged by the Planning and Zoning Department.

- Approved the request of David Jodice, 121 Glyndon St., N.E., for

additional improvements in that block of Glyndon as part of the Town's sidewalk construction project, with the understanding that Jodice is to reimburse the Town \$7,555.

- Approved a request by Vienna Little League to waive sewer connection availability charges for improved toilet facilities at Yeonas Park.

- Approved a revised site plan to enlarge the loading dock at Navy Federal Credit Union, 820 Follin Lane, S.E., contingent on receipt of a recorded easement for the relocation of the existing water line. Approved the landscape plan contingent on additional landscaping at the rear of the building being incorporated into the plan.

- Approved the purchase of five police cars under a State contract at a cost of \$67,220, on condition that proposed new vehicles be stricken from the Police Department's 1992-93 budget and proposed maintenance costs be reduced by \$10,000.

- Set June 15 as the date for a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Windover Heights Histor-

ic District ordinance and June 1 for a hearing on a proposed curbside recycling program.

APRIL 20, 1992

- Adopted revisions to fees charged by the Planning and Zoning Department.

- Adopted revisions to water and sewer connection fees.

- Approved the installation of a four-way stop at Dominion Road and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E.

- Voted to retain the four-way stop at Cottage and Oak Streets, S.W.

- Approved the installation of "No Parking" signs on the south side of the service road in the 1100 block of Maple Avenue, E.

- Awarded a contract for engineering and landscape architectural services, Maple Avenue corridor improvements, to Mortensen, Lewis & Scully, Inc. Approved part one of the contract at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

- Awarded a bid for a two-wheel trailer-mounter leaf loader to MSC Equipment, Inc., of Richmond at a price of \$10,760.

- Awarded a bid for the July 4th fireworks display to Vitale Fireworks Display Co. of New Castle, Pa., in the amount of \$6,490.

- Reappointed Karen Martin to the Transportation Safety Commission for a two-year term.

- Awarded a three-year auditing contract to Robinson, Farmer and Cox.

- Referred to the Planning Commission proposed ordinances to regulate parking of boats and campers.

News from Your Vienna Parks & Recreation Department

For more information about any of the activities listed below, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 255-6360.

Summer Playground Program for children aged 6 through 12 begins Monday, June 29. The program will be held at the Vienna Community Center, rain or shine, weekdays through August 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Kids will enjoy arts and crafts, games and special events. The cost is \$50 for one child and \$40 for each additional child for Town of Vienna residents (\$62.50 for one child and \$50 for each additional child for out-of-town participants). In-town youngsters will be given priority registration until June 15.

School's Out Special for 7th and 8th graders will be held on Wednesday, June 17, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. at the gazebo outside the Vienna Community Center. Listen to the latest hit tunes played by a DJ, and enjoy volleyball and other games.

Kings Dominion trip for ages 12 through 17, is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24. A charter bus will leave the Vienna Community Center at 8 a.m. and return about 9 p.m. The cost of \$30.50 per person includes transportation and admission to the park. The reservation deadline is June 10.

Discount tickets to Kings Dominion are available at the Vienna Community Center. The cost is \$13.95 for admission June 7 and 14, and \$14.95 during Parks and Recreation Days June 20 through July 5 (regular price \$23.95).

Drop in and dance at the Vienna Community Center from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 14. Admission is \$3 per person. Hostess Joy Edwards is an instructor in ballroom, Latin international and American dance.

"55 Alive Mature Driving Program," sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons, will be held at the Vienna Community Center Monday and Tuesday, June 22 and 23,



from 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. The registration fee is \$8 per person, and advance registration is required.

The course will cover the effects of aging and medications on driving, basic driving rules, license renewal, local traffic hazards, adverse road conditions and accident prevention measures. Graduates of the course could receive up to a 10% discount on their car insurance.

Vienna Tennis Tournament will be played June 19-21 and 26-28 at Meadow Lane and Glyndon Parks. Categories are open men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles, and ages 35+ and 45+ men's singles. Entry is limited to two categories per person.

The entry fee is \$10 for singles play and \$18 for doubles. Entry forms are available at the Vienna Community Center.

Auditions for the Vienna Theatre Company's summer children's show, "Magical Moments," will be held at the Vienna Community Center on Sunday, June 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. Boys and girls aged 10 through 14 are needed for the show, which will be presented in August.

Enjoy a day at the casinos in Atlantic City on Thursday, June 18. A charter bus will leave the Vienna Community Center at 9 a.m. and return about midnight. The cost of \$27.50 per person includes transportation and

casino package of quarters. June 11 is the reservation deadline.

The U.S. Navy Band's bluegrass ensemble, Country Current, will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, June 12, at the Vienna Community Center. Admission is free. The group has performed with Charlie Daniels, the Statler Brothers and other country music artists. Master Chief Musician Bill Emerson, a founder of the Country Gentlemen, is the band director.

The Commodores, the U.S. Navy Band's jazz and big-band ensemble, will give a free performance at 8 p.m. Friday, June 26, at the Vienna Community Center. The group has performed with Clark Terry, Joe Pass, Grover Washington, Jr., and other jazz artists. Senior Chief Musician Gerard Ascione directs the 18-member group.

CPR instruction for senior citizens will be held at the Vienna Community Center on Tuesday, June 30, from 9 a.m. to noon. The class fee is \$5 and advance registration is required.

Stress Management in the 90's is the topic of a free seminar at the Vienna Community Center on Thursday, June 18, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Dr. Eric D. Terrell will discuss major sources of stress and techniques for effective stress management. A questionnaire will help identify participants who are most at risk for stress related illnesses.

Attorney David G. Hoffman will conduct two free seminars at the Vienna Community Center on June 8 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics are "Wills - Having the Last Word" and "The Truth About Trusts."

July 4th celebration booth spaces are still available for non-profit organizations, and private and commercial arts and crafts vendors. Registration forms may be picked up at the Community Center. Those interested in participating in the July 4th All-American Chili Cook-off to benefit the Optimist Club of Vienna should call Bill Gratz at 281-3135.

TOWN OF VIENNA NEWSLETTER

Vol. CII, No. 6 Vienna, Virginia June 1992

VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

Charles A. Robinson, Jr., Mayor

Albert J. Boudreau	Vincent J. Olson
Francis X. Lillis	Martha H. Pruett
George E. Lovelace	Rodger W. Seeman

Send news and comments to *Vienna Newsletter* c/o Town Hall.
Deadline for July issue is Monday, June 15.

The Town Council invites citizens to submit comments for publication in the *Newsletter*. Please include your name, address and daytime phone number. (This information will not be published.)

Around Town

Vienna Artist Receives Award

Vienna resident Pauline Lorfano has been awarded the Grumbacher Gold Medallion for her watercolor painting "Scarboro Marsh" at the 36th National Biennial Art Exhibition of the National League of American Pen Women. Her painting "Approaching Storm" was also selected for the exhibition, which will be at the Sumner School Museum in Washington, D.C., through June 17.

Vienna Band Presents Father's Day Concert

The Vienna Community Band will present its annual Father's Day Concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 21, outdoors at the Vienna Community Center. In case of rain, the concert will be moved indoors. The free program will include marches, Broadway show tunes and symphonic selections. Bring a blanket and picnic supper and enjoy this evening of family entertainment.

The band rehearses at the Community Center on Sundays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and new members are welcome to join with no audition required. For more information, call Bernard Gild at 750-2144.

Woman's Club Scholarships

The Vienna Woman's Club has awarded scholarships of \$1,000 each to Jennifer Ellis, Jennifer Kane and Shelby Lake, all graduates of James Madison High School. The club has also awarded U.S. Savings Bonds to the winners of its essay contest for 8th graders at Kilmer and Thoreau Intermediate Schools. Jennifer Westover and Allison Wadley received \$75 bonds, and Kathy Bobek, Esther Ok, Brian Weinberg and Kelly Coffey received \$50 bonds.

These awards are funded in part through the Woman's Club annual bazaar, to be held November 14 at the Vienna Community Center. Interested handcrafters should contact Georgia Hendrickson, 620-5356, for information.

A Union Soldier's View Of Vienna in 1863

June 17 is the 131st anniversary of the Civil War "Battle of Vienna," which took place near the Park Street railroad crossing where the Vienna Community Center now stands. The ambush of Union Brig. Gen. Robert Schenck's men by Confederate forces marked the first time in history a railroad was used tactically in battle.

Connie Pendleton Stuntz, co-author of *This Was Vienna, Virginia*, shares the following 1863 wartime description of Vienna and the Freeman House at 131 Church St., N.E., which was recently discovered in the unpublished manuscript of Charles A. Currier, a former Captain in the 40th Massachusetts Infantry Volunteers. Currier's unit was encamped at Hunter's Chapel (near the Arlington Army-Navy Club) when the call came to "move out" toward Vienna.

"On the night of March 30th, the Brigade was turned out in heavy marching order and moved over execrably bad roads, a distance of thirteen miles, to Vienna, the place made famous by the enemy in the early part of the war, who there drew Gen. Schenck's forces into an ambuscade and slaughtered a large number of them. We arrived there at four o'clock the next morning, cold, tired and wet, having forded what seemed in the darkness, to be several small rivers (the two branches of Wolf Trap?). As we emerged from the last one, the guns of a Union Battery which commanded the ford, were trained upon us, by its frightened commander, who mistook us for rebels and except for the coolness of one of our guides, would have blazed away. A severe snow storm came on soon after our arrival, which rendered our condition still more uncomfortable, as the mud and snow became half leg deep. With great difficulty, fires were started, over which the men hovered till day break, when a hunt for quarters commenced. Our company found shelter in the former principal hotel of the place (Freeman House) which after the war commenced, served the enemy as a hospital. It was filthy to the last degree, and the effects of war were apparent in everything connected with it, as was the case with all the other buildings in the town. Corps. Charles O.C. Smith was here taken violently ill. We cared for him as best we could until the 4th of April when he was removed to Mt. Pleasant Hospital, Washington, where he died 18th inst. of spotted fever. This was the first death in G Co. On the 5th inst. we drew our first shelter tents and pitched camp in the midst of a driving snow storm. The sudden change from comfortable winter quarters, to the cold wet ground sent many of the men to the surgeon, who at once ordered a liberal daily ration of whiskey for the command. After picketing this deserted village until the 10th inst. tents were struck and the command returned to Hunters Chapel, not having had the satisfaction of seeing a 'Johnny' in arms or of confiscating any property, beyond a small quantity of provisions secreted in the front yard of a house which served as a refuge to Mosby's men when in that vicinity."

Around Town

Vienna Baptist Players Present "South Pacific"

The Vienna Baptist Players will present the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "South Pacific" in the Fellowship Hall of Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Rd., S.W. Performances are scheduled June 12, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m., with a matinee at 2 p.m. June 13. For reservations and ticket information, call 281-4400 or 938-5518.

Vienna Arts Society Botanical Art Demonstration

The public is invited to a free botanical art demonstration by Vienna Arts Society member Leonard Justinian at the club's monthly meeting on Thursday, June 11, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, call Annabel Winston at 437-4910.

SVA Meeting

All town residents are invited to attend the next meeting of the South Vienna Association at 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, call Joe Taylor at 938-3400.

Last Chance to Recycle Telephone Directories

For those who missed the chance to recycle telephone directories at the Vienna Giant Food store earlier this year, Fairfax County is collecting phone books at the I-66 Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Rd. in Fairfax. This collection site will remain open until June 14. For more information, call the County's Recycling Hotline at 324-5052.

Town Receives Award for Finance Report

The Town of Vienna has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for its 1990 comprehensive annual financial report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the field of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment is important to the Town in maintaining its excellent bond rating.

In addition, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement was presented

to Finance Director Phil Grant as the individual primarily responsible for Vienna's having earned the certificate.

The Town's financial report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" effort to communicate clearly its financial story to citizens.

Copies of the financial report are available for public inspection at Town Hall.

Beautification Commission Applications Available

The Town Council is still accepting applications for Vienna's new Beautification Commission. Created earlier this year, the Commission will act as the focal point for efforts to improve the appearance of all areas of town.

Commission membership will include four residents, one from each quadrant; four representatives of the business community; and a student from James Madison High School.

Some of the Commission's functions will include preparation of pro-

posals for beautification projects, assistance to community organizations involved in beautification activities, sponsorship of a "Vienna Beautification Day" each year, competitions to recognize businesses and citizens who make noteworthy improvements in the appearance of their properties, and application for environmental beautification grants.

Interested citizens may pick up applications in the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall.

Call on us at Town Hall whenever you have a question or complaint about Town regulations and services.



Animal Warden, 255-6377 - Dogs at large/injured animals/removal of wild animals

Customer Service, 255-6385 - Water and sewer billing problems

Parks and Rec Dept., 255-6360 - Use of Vienna Community Center and Town parks

Planning & Zoning Dept., 255-6341 - Abandoned or junk vehicles/yard sales/recycling/building permits

Police Dept., 255-6366 - Noise complaints/traffic complaints/security surveys/engraving of valuables/bike registration

Public Works Dept., 255-6381 - Weeds and debris/water and sewer service problems/trash collection/damage to streets and sidewalks/location of Town right-of-way before building or planting

Real Estate Office, 255-6325 - Tax relief for elderly and handicapped

Limited Edition
"OUR TOWN"TM
 TREE ORNAMENTS

A unique Limited Edition Tree Ornament is now available for our town. By carefully recreating historical landmarks from around our community, we have undertaken the task of preserving our local heritage. These beautiful Tree Ornaments will bear a different theme each year and show the history and pride of our community.

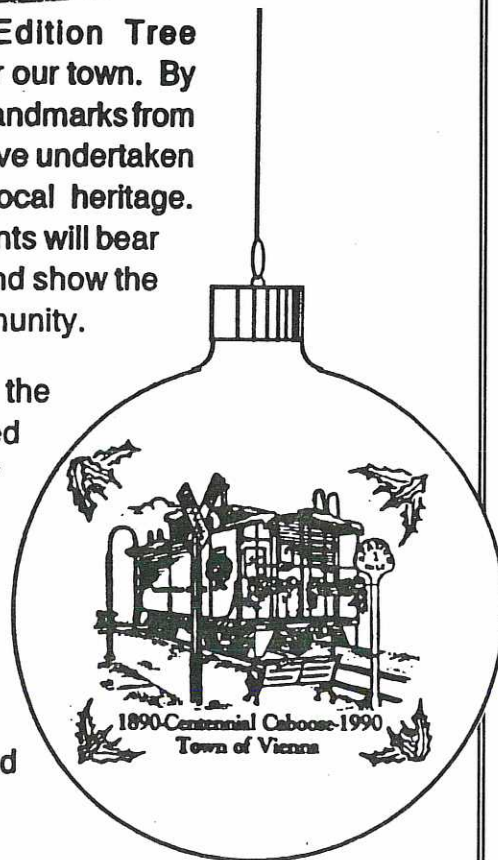
This Tree Ornament is the perfect gift for friends and loved ones who have moved away and would serve as a memory of their hometown. Collect the series for your children, give them to your employees, or simply collect them for your own enjoyment. It's sure to become a keepsake and heirloom.

As we are only producing a limited quantity, they will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. Don't wait and miss out on this unique and thoughtful, "OUR TOWN"TM Tree Ornament.

To purchase your Limited Edition "OUR TOWN"TM Tree Ornament stop by

Greater Vienna Chamber of Commerce
 115 Church St., N.W.
 Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Phone: 281-1333

Price \$10 each
 The proceeds of this project are being reinvested in our community



Travel with Mosby And His Rangers

A few spaces are still available for Historic Vienna, Inc.'s bus tour to Mt. Zion Church, Aldie Mill, Middleburg, Hathaway Home, Rector's Crossroads, Lakeland, and other significant sites in the exploits of Civil War Col. John Singleton Mosby. Travel the back roads of Mosby's Rangers on Saturday, June 20, with tour guides James M. Moyer and Thomas J. Evans, authors of *Mosby's Confederacy*.

A charter bus will leave at 9 a.m. from the historic Freeman House, 131 Church St., N.E., and return about 4 p.m. The authors will be available at 8 a.m. before the tour to autograph copies of their book, which is sold at the Freeman House.

The cost of the tour, which includes lunch and a visit in Fairfax with Virgil Carrington Jones, author of *Ranger Mosby* and *Gray Ghosts and Rebel Raiders*, is \$25 per person (\$20 for Historic Vienna members). For reservations and more information, call 938-9668.

Summertime Shopping At the Freeman Store

This summer at Vienna's Freeman House general store visitors will find a wide variety of old-fashioned items for sale, including: antique quilts; "court-ing" candle holders; antique bobbin candle holders; picnic baskets; Vienna pitchers and lamps; Vienna cookbooks; and toys such as limber jacks, climbing bears, Jacob's ladders, train steam whistles, and ball and jacks.

The historic Freeman House, built around 1859, is located at 131 Church St., N.E., and staffed by volunteers of Historic Vienna, Inc., the town's non-profit organization for restoration and preservation. It is open on Saturdays from 12 noon to 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The original Vienna library, now located on the Freeman House grounds, is open on the first Sunday of every month from 1 to 5 p.m. Call 938-5187.

Around Town

Farmers' Market Now Open At Nottoway Park

A farmers' market is now open at Nottoway Park on Courthouse Road just outside Vienna every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through fall. A variety of seasonal fresh merchandise will be available at the market each week, including vegetables, fruits, eggs, potted plants, cut flowers, baked goods and honey.

For more information, call the Fairfax County Extension Department at 324-5390.

Volunteers Needed In National Parks

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) is offering Vienna residents the opportunity to spend a week in our region's wilderness areas building trails. Volunteers can spend a week in July in the George Washington National Forest or a week in August in the Shenandoah National Park. No experience is necessary, but volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Food, lodging and all necessary tools are provided. A ranger will train and lead the volunteers every day.

PATC is located at 118 Park St., S.E. For information, call 242-0693.

Vienna AARP Recognizes Outstanding Volunteer Work

Vienna Chapter 754 of the American Association of Retired Persons has presented its 1992 National Community Service Award to Hansel Totman in recognition of his outstanding volunteer work. Totman is an active member of his church and entertains residents of many area nursing homes.

Residents Reminded of Yard Sale Rules

With the summer months approaching, the Town would like to remind residents of the Town Code provisions governing yard/garage sales:

- Each residence and/or family household may conduct no more than two sales during any calendar year. No permit is required.

- Each sale must be conducted during daylight hours for no more than two consecutive days or two consecutive weekends (Saturday and Sunday).

- Two signs of not more than four square feet each are permitted on the property where the sale is being conducted.

- Two directional signs of not more than two square feet each are permitted, provided that the property

where the sale is conducted is not on a major thoroughfare and provided permission is received from the owners of the property where the signs are to be placed.

- No sign may be exhibited more than two days prior to the start of the sale.

- Signs must be removed each day at the close of garage sale activities or at dark, whichever comes first.

- Signs are not allowed in Town right-of-way (10 feet from the curb or edge of pavement) or on utility poles.

Any questions about these regulations should be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 255-6341.

Timely Tips for Safer Vacation Travel

If you plan to travel this summer, your Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has some timely tips for you.

Not all hotels and motels have built-in fire control and alarm systems. These systems include standpipes for firefighters, automatic sprinklers, and heat and smoke detectors that provide early warning to evacuate in case of fire. For your safety, be sure your travel accommodations include these systems.

If you can't reserve accommodations with complete safety systems, buy and use a travel smoke detector. Low-cost portable smoke detectors are available with hook-mounts that fit easily over hotel/motel doors.

When you check into your hotel or motel, identify the locations of two fire exits nearest to your room. Count the number of doors between your door and the exit and memorize which side of the hall it is on. That memory could save your life if you need to escape through dense smoke.

When the building alarm (or your

travel smoke detector) sounds, roll onto the floor and crawl to the door, grabbing your keys on the way. (You may need them if smoke drives you back into your room.) Feel the door for heat before you open it; if it is cool, open it carefully, check the hallway for smoke, and head for the nearest exit. Never use the elevator.

If you must stay in your room, block the doorjamb and heating/air conditioning outlets with moist towels. Try the telephone; if it works, call the desk or the fire department and give them your name, location and situation. Do not consider jumping from a room higher than the second floor. For visibility, place a sheet out of your window or off your balcony.

When you are familiar with your surroundings and know how to act in the event of a fire, you stand an excellent chance of surviving a fire emergency. For more information on safe traveling, call the Fire and Rescue Department's Public Affairs Section at 246-3366.