

This Month in History

from the Vienna Newsletter archives

MARCH 1994 – Revised solid waste regulations take effect March 1. Among the major changes are that “yard waste,” defined as grass, leaves and small clippings, must now be bagged and separated from the regular trash.

MARCH 1984 – “Planning for Tomorrow,” the final report of the Citizen Advisory Panel on Redevelopment of Commercial Zones, has been presented to the Town Council. The panel was appointed in 1983 to explore what actions might be taken to enhance the economic vitality of the town while maintaining its residential qualities. Among the recommendations is the establishment of a Church Street Advisory Board, since the panel felt that this is the area most likely to be redeveloped over the next 10 years.

MARCH 1974 – The Virginia Department of Highways will conduct a public hearing March 21 at the Vienna Community Center on the widening of Park Street from its present two lanes to four lanes. In 1966 the Town Council requested the Highway Department to approve widening the street between Maple Avenue and Cedar Lane, then in 1972 asked the State to take no action while it considered an alternate route along Dominion Road, and last November returned to its original request for State assistance for the Park Street project.

CALL THESE NUMBERS 24 HOURS A DAY:

VIENNA NEWSLINE – 703-255-6333

POLICE INFO LINE – 703-255-6363

TO ORDER A SPECIAL PICKUP – 703-255-5727

Visit the Town's web site at www.ci.vienna.va.us

FIRE & RESCUE 911

(Voice & TDD)

VIENNA POLICE EMERGENCY

703-938-4900 (Voice)
703-255-5730 (TDD)
NON-EMERGENCY
703-255-6366 (Voice)
703-255-5730 (TDD)

VIENNA TOWN HALL
703-255-6300 (Voice)
703-255-5735 (TDD)

COMMUNITY CENTER
703-255-6360 (Voice)
703-255-5739 (TDD)

Vienna Town Hall
127 Center Street, South
Vienna, Virginia 22180-5799
Business Hours Monday – Friday,
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Vienna, Va.
Permit No. 36

The Town of Vienna does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The Director of Public Works has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements.

This document will be made available in large print or on audio cassette upon request. Call 703-255-6330, TDD 703-255-5735.

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER
VIENNA, VA 22180

Yield to Pedestrians

Your Transportation Safety Commission reminds you that the driver of any vehicle must yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian crossing the street at any marked crosswalk, whether at mid-block or at the end of the block, or at any intersection.

Motorists are urged always to be alert to the possible presence of pedestrians, especially when turning right on red, and to yield the right-of-way with courtesy.

Pedestrians must also act responsibly and not disregard approaching traffic. The American Automobile Association offers these safe walking tips:

- Cross only at designated crosswalks and at intersections.
- At signalized crosswalks, cross only on the proper signal.
- Look *all* ways (not just both ways) before crossing.
- Walk facing traffic where there are no sidewalks.
- Wear reflective material after dark.
- Always watch for cars even when you have the legal right-of-way.

TOWN OF VIENNA

Business License Deadline March 1

Town businesses are reminded that March 1 is the deadline for payment of the annual business, professional and occupational license (BPOL) tax. All businesses in the Town of Vienna, including home occupations, must renew their business licenses by March 1.

The amount of the tax is based on gross receipts, and the rate varies according to the type of business. The gross receipts threshold is \$50,000, below which the tax does not apply. Those businesses with total annual gross receipts of \$50,000 or less pay only the minimum license fee of \$30 per year.

License tax forms are available in the Finance Department at Town Hall and online at www.ci.vienna.va.us. For more information or assistance in figuring license taxes, call 703-255-6321.

Recycle Motor Oil, Antifreeze, Batteries

The next quarterly recycling day for used motor oil, antifreeze and car batteries will be Saturday, March 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St., N.E. This service of the Public Works Department provides citizens a convenient and environmentally responsible way to dispose of vehicle waste products. For information, call 703-255-6381.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR THE SPRING
STREET-SWEEPING SCHEDULE.

NEWSLETTER

March 2004

Car Tags Go on Sale March 15

2004 Town of Vienna motor vehicle decals go on sale Monday, March 15, and must be displayed by midnight April 15. Decals may be purchased by mail or in person in the Finance Department at Town Hall. (Military personnel must apply in person.)

Decals cost \$20 for passenger cars and trucks under 4,000 pounds, \$25 for cars and trucks 4,000 pounds and over, and \$10.50 for motorcycles.

Information for pre-printed application forms for 2004 decals was taken from 2003 records; therefore, if your vehicle was not registered in Vienna last year, you will not automatically receive an application form in the mail. Call 703-255-6323 or visit the Finance Department to obtain a form, or download it from the Town's Web site, www.ci.vienna.va.us.

Town of Vienna residents do not need to purchase Fairfax County vehicle decals, but they must pay County personal property tax on motor vehicles. For information about personal property tax, call the County Office of Assessments at 703-222-8234 or visit the County Web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Tax Relief Forms Due April 1

Both the Town of Vienna and Fairfax County offer real estate tax relief for low-income homeowners who are 65 years old and over, or permanently and totally disabled. To qualify, the following requirements must be met:

- Total household income of \$52,000 or less. This amount excludes \$6,500 of income of relatives, other than the spouse, who reside in the household. Also excluded is \$7,500 of any income received by a disabled homeowner. 100% tax relief is given for total combined income of \$40,000 or less, 50% tax relief between \$40,001 and \$46,000, and 25% tax relief between \$46,001 and \$52,000.
- Total combined assets of no more than \$190,000. This amount excludes the value of the residence, up to one acre of land, and household furnishings.
- Disabled persons applying for the first time must show evidence of disability.

In addition to real estate tax relief, Fairfax County provides rental grants and relief from personal property tax for one automobile per household. The Town of Vienna provides all relief recipients one free auto decal.

Both Town and County applications must be filed. Applications for 2004 for all programs are due April 1. This date may be extended to December 31 of the year following the year the application was due for first-time filers or if hardship conditions exist which, through no fault of the applicant, prohibit applying by April 1.

For more information and to obtain Town application forms, call 703-255-6325. For County applications, call 703-222-8234.

Town Council Action

All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

JANUARY 5, 2004

- Disapproved a request for a modification of sign requirements for Earth and Fire, 144 Church St., N.W.
- Awarded a contract for medical services for Town employees to Inova Health Services, with payments in fiscal year 2003-04 budgeted at \$12,900.
- Awarded a bid for automated external defibrillators to Philips Medical Systems in the amount of \$8,530.58, of which \$1,500 will come from grants received from the Virginia Municipal League Insurance Programs.
- Extended the contract for private landfill use with Lorton Landfill at an estimated cost of \$24,520 for one year.
- Accepted the resignations of Kaye Kause from the Transportation Safety Commission and Sallie Chase Johnson from the Town/Business Liaison Committee.

TOWN OF VIENNA NEWSLETTER

Vol. CXIV, No. 3 Vienna, Virginia March 2004

VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

M. Jane Seeman, Mayor

Albert J. Boudreau George E. Lovelace
Laurie Genevro Cole Maud F. Robinson
Edythe Frankel Kelleher Sydney H. Verinder

TOWN STAFF

Town Manager	John H. Schoeberlein	703-255-6370
Director of Public Works	Dennis W. King	703-255-6381
Chief of Police	Col. Robert A. Carlisle	703-255-6390
Director of Finance	Philip R. Grant	703-255-6320
Director of Parks & Recreation	Catherine L. Salgado	703-255-6356
Director of Planning & Zoning	Gregory M. Hembree	703-255-6341
Town Attorney	Steven D. Briglia	703-255-6305

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

Comment from the Council Table

Thank You, Vienna

By Albert J. Boudreau
Vienna Town Councilman

As in so many instances, there comes a time when all good things come to an end. That time has come for me. I would like to take this opportunity to announce that Alice and I will be leaving Vienna in the near future and moving to Florida.

Serving the people of Vienna on this and previous Town Councils for the past 12 years has been an honor, a privilege and enjoyable. Together we have accomplished a revitalization of the Town through a significant number of improvements and enhancements and have set others in motion for the future.

And because we have established and enforced the standards for growth and development, our Town has become a magnet for businesses and for those who want to live in and grow with this remarkable Town of Vienna.

My memories of all of you in our collective and productive efforts will stay with me forever. To all of my colleagues, past and present, the Town staff, and to the many fine citizens, who have inspired me, and at times challenged me with their words and deeds, I leave with you my deepest respect and admiration for sharing the visions that have made Vienna such a great town.

It will be difficult for Alice and me to leave this town that has been our home for so many years, but we will carry with us a treasure of memories that will not fade.

So, with a sad, yet grateful heart, I ask the younger members of the Council and their generation in this town to take my place, and do what they represent best.....the future.



Councilman Boudreau

Community Blood Drive

A community blood drive, sponsored by Inova Blood Donor Services, is scheduled for Friday, March 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center. Please call Inova at 703-698-3885 to register.

Remember, only disposable, single-use, sterile supplies are used to collect blood. You cannot get AIDS, West Nile virus or any other disease by giving blood.

The general requirements for blood donor eligibility are minimum age of 17 (no upper age limit), good general health with no minor illness symptoms for three days, and minimum weight of 110 pounds. You will also be required to show a photo ID. If you have questions about eligibility, call Inova, 703-698-3885.

		2004						
		Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Business license renewal deadline Town Council	Windowover Heights Board of Review 7:30 p.m.				Drop off used motor oil, antifreeze & batteries at Northside Property Yard, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.	
		8	9	10	11	12	13	
		Town Council work session	Mayor's Advisory Committee	Planning Commission	Town/Business Liaison Committee 6:30 p.m.			
		15	16	17	18	19	20	
		Car tags go on sale Town Council		St. Patrick's Day Board of Zoning Appeals	Board of Architectural Review			
		22	23	24	25	26	27	
		Town Council		Planning Commission	Community Enhancement Commission, 7:30 p.m.			
		29	30	31				
			Transportation Safety Commission					
		7						
		Trash pickup first collection day, curbside recycling second collection day each week						
		14						
		21						
		28						

March

What Requires a Building Permit?

Your Planning and Zoning Department reminds you:

It is no secret that home improvement projects usually take longer and cost more than anticipated. However, some contractors and even a few homeowners try to expedite the process and save money by cutting corners and taking shortcuts. To many contractors and homeowners this may be tempting, but it usually generates more problems and costs more money than if the proper procedures had been followed.

The most common example is beginning a home improvement project without obtaining the proper permits beforehand. Building codes and specifications vary from one jurisdiction to another. Although the Town of Vienna is located in Fairfax County and uses County structural plan review and inspection services, Vienna has its own code regulating home improvements. Instead of guessing whether you need a permit, or relying on a contractor to find out, simply check with the Planning and Zoning Department at Town Hall.

Unfortunately, some contractors and homeowners proceed with home improvements and avoid obtaining permits to try and save money and time, and to make changes that are not code approved. When a valid building permit is obtained for home improvements, a red card with the words "BUILDING PERMIT" on it should be displayed so that it is visible from the street. If there is no red card visible, then chances are a permit was not obtained.

The Town of Vienna requires home owners, renters, business owners and tenants to obtain a building permit whenever they wish to make improvements to their property. A permit is required before any of the following improvements may commence:

1. Constructing, enlarging, altering, repairing, or demolishing any part of a building or structure. This includes but is not limited to installation of a new roof or siding, erection of a storage shed or other accessory structure, finishing a basement, and construction of new facilities such as retaining walls, fences, hot tubs, pools, driveways, satellite antennas, and building additions.

2. Changing the use of a building either within the same use group or to a different use group when the new use requires more structural strength, fire protection, exits, or sanitary provisions.

3. Removing or disturbing any asbestos-containing materials.

4. Additions, alterations, replacement, or relocation of any plumbing, mechanical, or electrical systems.

There are exceptions to when a building permit is required, such as ordinary repairs. The term "ordinary repairs" means replacement of materials with like materials, including but not limited to:

1. Painting.
2. Roofing when not exceeding 100 square feet of roof area.
3. Windows when they are replaced in exactly the same size and location.
4. Doors, except those in fire-rated wall assemblies or exitways.
5. Floor coverings and porch flooring.
6. Repairs to plaster, interior tile work, and other wall coverings.
7. Cabinets installed in residential dwellings.

8. A notable exception is the construction of an accessory structure less than 8 feet tall and with a total area of less than 150 square feet on a single-family lot. The installation of such a structure does not require a building permit, but its location is restricted in accordance with setback requirements for each of the three residential zones.

If you are unsure whether the home improvements you are planning require a permit, or if you have questions regarding home improvement projects going on in your neighborhood, please call the Planning and Zoning Department at 703-255-6341 for information.

Help Prevent Runoff Pollution

Urban landscaping typically covers the ground with impervious surfaces such as pavement and buildings. These impervious surfaces generate stormwater runoff every time it rains. (A typical city block generates nine times more runoff than a woodland area of the same size!)

When rainfall washes across the land surfaces, the initial flush of runoff can carry high concentrations of pollutants such as excess lawn fertilizers and pesticides, and bacteria from animal waste, to nearby waterways. Pollution washed from the land surface by rainfall is called nonpoint source pollution.

You can help prevent nonpoint source pollution in many ways. Some examples are:

- Apply pesticides according to instructions on the label.
- Collect litter and animal waste before they wash into storm drains.
- Recycle grass clippings and leaves by mulching or composting.
- **Never** dump oil or any other material into a storm drain.
- Direct roof runoff onto a grassy area. Roof drains should not be connected to a sanitary or storm sewer system.
- Watch for soil erosion around your home. Seed, install sod or plant ground cover to protect the site.
- Use porous surfaces such as flagstone, gravel, stone, and interlocking pavers rather than concrete and asphalt.

Police Inspect Child Safety Seats

Your Vienna Police Department provides free child safety seat inspections for town residents. Hours are flexible, but on Tuesdays from noon to 4 p.m. technicians are usually available to check the seats on a walk-in basis. Since only certified technicians can inspect a car seat, it is recommended that you call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 703-255-6366, and ask for a safety seat technician to assist you with scheduling an appointment.

Spring Street Sweeping Schedule

The Public Works Department's spring street sweeping program begins this month. The town has been divided into eight sections to be covered according to the schedule below. Residents are requested not to park on the street during the scheduled time for their section to allow the street sweeper to do a thorough job. As the time for each section approaches, signs will be placed on streets as a reminder, and residents can also call the Public Works Department at 703-255-6381 to obtain a more definitive date of when the street sweeper will be on their block.

SECTION I MARCH 29-APRIL 2

West of Lawyers Rd. to town limit & north of Maple Ave. to town limit

SECTION II APRIL 5-9

East of Lawyers Rd. to Beulah Rd. & north of Maple Ave. to town limit

SECTION III APRIL 12-16

East of Beulah Rd. to eastern town limit & north of Maple Ave. to northern town limit

SECTION IV APRIL 19-23

East of Glyndon St. & east of W&OD Trail to western town line & south of Maple Ave.

SECTION V APRIL 26-30

East of Center St. & east of Lullaby Ln. to Glyndon St. & W&OD Trail & south of Maple Ave. to southern town limit

SECTION VI MAY 3-7

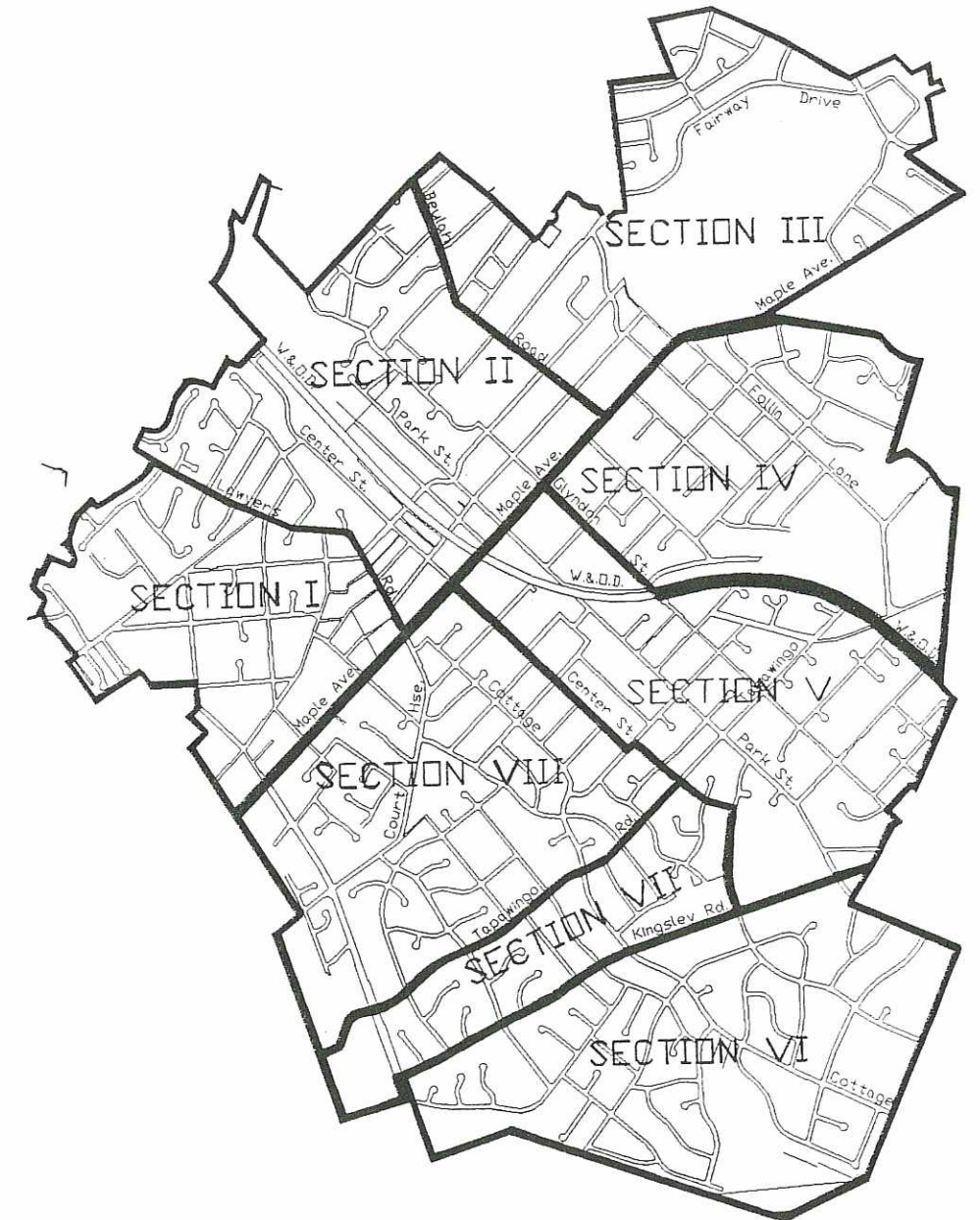
South of Kingsley Rd. to Cedar Ln. & southern town limit

SECTION VII MAY 10-14

North of Kingsley Rd., west of Lullaby Ln., south of Tapawingo Rd. & east of town limit

SECTION VIII MAY 17-21

North of Tapawingo Rd., west of Center St., south of Maple Ave. & east of town limit



Welcome New Businesses

The following business licenses were issued in January:

Christopher Thomas & Assoc. <i>computer consultant</i> 1122 Ware St., S.W. 703-786-8629	Henderson Enterprises <i>handyman</i> 906 Frederick St., S.E. 703-319-0482	Network Tuner <i>computer consultant</i> 906 Frederick St., S.W. 703-319-0482
Kenneth M. Prohoniak <i>CPA</i> 380 Maple Ave., W. #L1 703-255-0400	Noodles & Company <i>restaurant</i> 201 Maple Ave., E. 703-281-6544	Union Free America <i>distributor</i> 320 Maple Ave., E. #D 703-242-3575
Little Shoppe of Restoration <i>massage therapy</i> 243 Church St., N.W. #100D 703-919-3237	Cold Stone Creamery <i>ice cream, carry out</i> 205 Maple Ave., E. 703-281-1940	Susanna Bellenkes <i>paintings</i> 403 Holmes Ct., N.W. 703-938-2102

Washington Pathology Services
pathologist
360 Maple Ave., W. #F
703-255-5504

Inova Reference Laboratory has added a new blood draw site at 110 Maple Ave., E., Suite 110 (same building as Vienna Radiology), 703-938-4039. No appointment required.

Convenient Location & Friendly Service

SHOP IN VIENNA

Support Our Hometown Merchants

Congratulations to the following businesses, both commercial and home occupations, celebrating milestone anniversaries this month: *20 years* — Hancock Fabrics, John W. Hall, DDS, Michael L. Gannon, DMD, Sharon Baldwin Voice Studio, Walter Bechtold, DDS; *10 years* — Aaron Glick, MD, Diane Chamberlain, Howard Viola Studio, McCormick Insurance Agency, Orchids for You.

Get County Information Online

The Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs is now posting one of its most popular publications, "News to Use," on the Internet at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/n2u.htm. News to Use contains informative articles about programs and services in Fairfax County such as public safety, recreation, child care and more. Recent topics have included staying safe in cold weather and how the public can offer input on air quality issues. People can read archived editions of News to Use online or subscribe to this monthly electronic newsletter free of charge.

In the past, News to Use was only mailed to community association presidents. In order to make it more widely available, it has been transformed into an electronic newsletter, although the information will be made available in hard copy to people who request it. The first electronic issue was distributed on February 2. News to Use is published the first Monday of each month in the form of an e-mail newsletter. The articles are short, containing only the essential information, but most will link to additional information that can be found on the county's Web site. Subscribers are welcome and encouraged to reprint any of the information in their own newsletters.

For more information, contact Amy Carlini at 703-324-3187 or e-mail newstouse@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Water Mains Flushed in Spring

Each spring the Town of Vienna flushes the water mains in its distribution system in order to maintain a high standard of water quality and to ensure proper and efficient operation of the fire hydrants. The preventive maintenance program begins in early April, and flushing usually occurs between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Water mains are flushed by opening the fire hydrants and allowing the water to flow freely for a short period of time. The flushing cleans out sediment that normally accumulates during the summer and winter, and enables the Town to test and perform routine maintenance on the 800+ fire hydrants within its service area.

Flushing may result in some discoloration and the presence of sediment in the water reaching your home or business. These conditions are not harmful and should be of short duration. The Town appreciates your tolerance of this inconvenience. If you need more information, please call the Water and Sewer Customer Service Office at 703-255-6385.

Are You Registered For Town Election?

Monday, April 5, is the last day to register to vote in the May 4 Town election. You are eligible to register if you are a Vienna resident, at least 18 years old by election day, and a U.S. citizen.

You may register in person in the Fairfax County General Registrar's Office. Mail-in application forms are available at Town Hall, all public libraries and other locations around the county, and can also be downloaded from the County Web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/goveb/vregis.htm.

If you are already a registered voter, no additional registration is required for the Town election; however, you should check your voter registration card to be sure it lists your current name and address.

This year, Vienna voters will elect the Mayor and three Town Council members for two-year terms beginning July 1.

LOOK FOR TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE PROFILES IN THE APRIL NEWSLETTER.

New Life Wellness Center, 301 Maple Ave., W., will present "Improving Your Digestive System Naturally" on March 15 and "Natural Solutions to Allergy Problems" on March 22. Free of charge. Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. To register and for more information, call 703-242-7474 or visit www.newlifewellness.com. Need a speaker for your group? The New Life Doctors' Speakers Bureau provides workshops on a variety of natural health related topics free of charge.

La Leche League of Vienna will meet at 10 a.m. March 3. The topic for this month is "Nutrition and Weaning." Pregnant and nursing women and their children are welcome to attend. For more information and meeting location, call 703-281-5801 or 703-716-4872, or e-mail abcgray@hotmail.com.

Breakfast buffet, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary of Vienna, will be held on Sunday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Dyer-Gunnell Post 180, 330 Center St., N. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. For more information, call Shirley Martin at 703-938-6580.

The Legion Auxiliary will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 10, at Post 180.

Vienna Toastmasters will meet at the Vienna Community Center March 10 and 24 at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in developing the skills of effective communication is welcome to attend. For information, call Jim Tompkins at 703-201-6555.

The Vienna Jaycees are seeking handyman assistance in refurbishing a southwest Vienna home for its "Christmas in March" project on Saturday and/or Sunday, March 27 and 28. Painting, plumbing, tiling and other skills are welcome plus plain old elbow grease! For more information, call Karen at 703-281-1255 or e-mail vien najaycees@yahoo.com.

Other Vienna Jaycee activities this month include bowling on March 5, chapter meeting at 7:30 p.m. March 9 at the Vienna Community Center, and Vienna Restaurant Outing of the Month at

Fire Dept. Brass Sworn In



Photo by Brian Trompeter, Sun-Gazette

New officers of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department (VVFD) were sworn in at the February 2 Town Council meeting. VVFD is supported primarily by citizen donations and departmental fund-raising activities, including weekly bingo games held on Sunday evenings. The department comprises over 40 active volunteer firefighters and EMT's. VVFD is always in need of volunteers, both as active firefighters and medics and as support and fund-raising personnel. Visit the VVFD Web site at www.vvfd.org for information on how to apply.

the new Chipotles on March 18 at 7:30 p.m. All Vienna 20 and 30-somethings welcome.

Northern Virginia Senior Softball seeks men age 50+ and women age 40+ to play seven-inning slow-pitch softball games on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from mid-April to mid-August on Fairfax County fields. Players are assigned to teams according to their skill levels. The \$60 fee for county residents includes a team cap and T-shirt. For more information, call Dave, 703-524-5576, or Joyce, 703-860-1876, or visit www.nvss.org.

Scrapbook event, "The Road of Life . . . Remembering Days, Capturing Moments," will be held at the Vienna Community Center on Saturday, March 27, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Creative Memories, a

company specializing in acid-free albums and supplies. The fee of \$35 includes scrapbooking classes and demonstrations, new product previews, goody bag, prize drawings and refreshments. Register by March 15. Young adults over age 12 may register if accompanied by an adult. For more information, call Paula Kellogg at 703-281-5532 or visit www.CreativeMemories.com/PaulaKellogg.

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 227, will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 18, at Neighbor's Restaurant in the Cedar Lane Shopping Center. Shay Korentayer will speak on his military service in the Israeli army during the Six Day War. For more information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit www.geocities.com/vva227.

HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR TOWN

Antiques appraisers Josephine Thrasher and Jim Johnson will be at the historic Freeman House, 131 Church St., N.E., on Saturday, March 20, from noon to 4 p.m. They will give a verbal appraisal of the approximate age and current value of any item, up to three items per person, for \$10 per item (\$7.50 for Historic Vienna, Inc. members). A photograph may be brought if the piece is too large. Appointments are required; call 703-938-5187. All proceeds will be donated to Historic Vienna, Inc., the town's non-profit organization for preservation and restoration.

Vienna Girls Softball League registration is still open for the 2004 season. Mail-in registration forms are available in the Community Center lobby and online at www.vgsl.org. Practice for Tee-ball, Coach Pitch, 10U, 12U and Senior divisions begins this month, with regular season play in April and May. For more information, e-mail Joann Zahroff, joanne@vgsl.org, or call Bob Walker, 703-938-6842.

Vienna Arts Society (VAS) gallery in the Village Green Shopping Center is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. "What Lies Beyond," featuring the work of abstract/realistic watercolorist Janice Burns, will be shown from March 2 through April 3. For more information, call 703-319-3971 or visit www.viennaartsociety.org.

Historic Vienna Inc. (HVI) membership meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, in the Council Chamber at Town Hall. Guest speaker will be Bradley E. Gernand, author of *A Village Goes to War: Falls Church During the Civil War*. The public is invited and refreshments will be served. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit www.historicviennainc.org. HVI is the town's non-profit organization for historic preservation and restoration.

Your old magazines and paperback books (no hard covers) are welcomed by detainees at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center through the Literacy

Project sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Fairfax County Chapter. Regular donors may leave publications at the usual location on the third Tuesday of the month from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. *only*. (Be sure to remove mailing labels from magazines.) First-time donors may call project chairman Florence Roseborough at 703-281-2498 for information.

Free income tax return preparation for senior citizens is available each Tuesday and Wednesday through April 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., E. Bring copies of your 2002 federal and Virginia returns; federal and Virginia tax forms and booklets for 2003; documents showing income; and all information regarding any capital gains. E-filing of returns is available. This program is sponsored by AARP and the IRS. AARP membership is not required. For more information, visit www.aarp.org.

Donations for wounded service men and women returning from Iraq to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, are still needed by the American Red Cross. Most-requested items are phone cards, men's and women's underclothing and white socks of all sizes, and "creature comforts" such as games and puzzles, playing cards, CD's and CD players. Toiletries cannot be accepted. Town residents may drop off donations at Vienna American Legion Post 180, ATTN: JOYCE, 330 Center St., N. For more information concerning donations or to volunteer to sort and distribute items, contact Barbara Green at 202-782-6362 or e-mail Barbara.green.1@amedd.army.mil.

Chapter 1116 NARFE (National Association of Retired Federal Employees) will meet at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, at the Vienna Community Center. Fred and Betty McIntosh will share their adventures during and since World War II, when he was a fighter pilot and she served with the OSS and CIA. For more information, call 703-255-5345.

Vienna Photographic Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, in the Lecture Hall at Thoreau Middle

School, 2505 Cedar Ln. Chip Clark will speak about photographing gems, minerals and jewelry. For more information, call Mo at 703-816-2423 or visit www.safeport.com/vps.

Casino Night Luau, sponsored by the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce, will be held at Westwood Country Club on Saturday, March 6, from 7 p.m. to midnight. Enjoy games of chance and food samplings from local restaurants. The evening will also include an auction and drawings for prizes donated by area businesses. Tickets are \$60 per person, with a 10% discount for 10 or more tickets. For more information, call 703-281-1333 or visit www.vtrcc.org.

Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant will be held on Saturday, May 22, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School. The winner will represent Virginia in the Ms. Senior America Pageant. Contestants must be at least 60 years old, a Virginia resident for at least three months, a U.S. citizen and prepared to compete in talent, evening gown and other categories. The entry deadline is March 26. For entry forms and for more information call Pinky O'Neil at 703-481-1715, e-mail pinkyon@aol.com, or Bev Wetherbie at 703-960-9076, e-mail wetherbie@aol.com.

Nature photography exhibition will be held at the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens Atrium and Visitor Center on Saturday and Sunday, March 6 and 7, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. The Northern Virginia Alliance of Camera Clubs (of which the Vienna Photographic Society is a member) is hosting this exhibition of more than 700 nature images in conjunction with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. For more information, visit www.MeadowlarkPhotoExhibit.com or call 703-255-3631.

Vienna AARP will meet at 1 p.m. Monday, March 15, at the Vienna Community Center. The program will feature a performance by the Gospell Trio. For more information, call Emilie Larson at 703-938-1379.

Preventing Sewage Backups

*Important Answers to Your Questions from
Your Town of Vienna Department of Public Works*

What causes sewage backups?

In home and office plumbing systems, the main cause is accumulation of grease, hair, and other solid materials. Also, many items that are too large for wastewater pipes to handle (such as disposable diapers and sanitary napkins) are often flushed down toilets. The greatest cause of wastewater stoppages within the Town's system, however, is vandalism. Leaves, sticks, rocks, bricks, and trash have been found stuffed down manholes.

How could a sewage backup affect me?

An overflow in a wastewater line generally results from a stoppage in the line, which causes the wastewater to back up into nearby pipes and drains. Stoppages can occur not only in the main sewer lines outside your home, but also within your home or office plumbing system. If the backup occurs in the Town maintained line, the wastewater will normally overflow out of the lowest possible opening, which is usually a manhole. However, in some homes, especially those with basements or where the lowest level is even with the sewer lines, the overflowing wastewater may exit through lower drains and toilets.

Is there anything I can do to reduce the possibility of sewage backing up into my home?

If the lowest level of your home or office is above ground level, the chances are slim that you will ever have a problem with overflows from the Town's wastewater lines. However, if the lowest level is below ground level, there is a slightly higher possibility that you may one day be affected by a backup. Normally, if a stoppage occurs in your neighborhood's main wastewater line, only the lowest level drains and toilets will be affected. A common point is floor drains located in basement areas. One way to prevent sewage from backing up through these sources is to install a **backflow valve** on the lowest drain. For floor drains, a **plumber's test plug** can be used to close the drain

when not in use. For further information on these items and other preventative measures, contact a plumber or your local plumbing supply dealer.

What should I do if sewage backs up into my home?

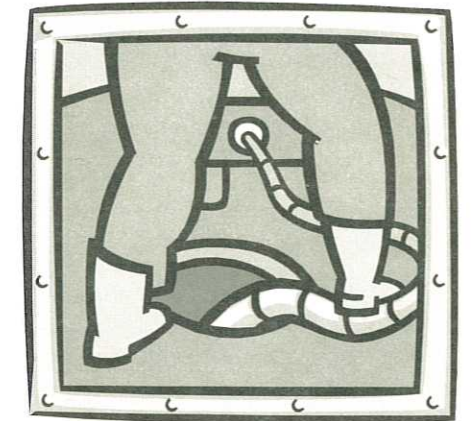
Keeping in mind that ceramic plumbing fixtures such as toilets are fragile, quickly close all drain openings with stoppers or plugs. Tub, sink, and floor drains may need additional weight to keep them sealed. A string mop can be used to help plug toilets. A quick check with several nearby neighbors will help you determine if the blockage is widespread or if it is limited just to your home. If you suspect the stoppage is in your home plumbing system, don't run any water down the drains until you or your plumber have cleared the cause. If the backup appears to be in your neighborhood's main wastewater line, call the Department of Public Works immediately at the numbers given below.

What does the Town of Vienna do to prevent sewage backups?

The Town makes every attempt to prevent backups in the public wastewater system before they occur. Sewer lines are specially designed to prevent accumulation and stoppages. In addition, a maintenance crew is devoted to inspecting and cleaning wastewater lines throughout the Town. These lines are examined on a regular basis. Degreasing chemicals are also injected into lines in areas that are prone to stoppages, such as those near restaurants, apartments or high density housing developments. Even with this rigorous maintenance schedule, however, backups are often beyond the Town's control. Fortunately, they don't happen often. Very few are reported each year, and most are confined to the sewage pipeline.

What can I do to help?

Call the Department of Public Works immediately if you notice any cases of vandalism to sewer lines or manholes. This



way, the debris can be removed before it causes a backup. Avoid putting grease down your garbage disposal or any household drain. Not only could it accumulate in Town lines, it could also build up in your own system and might eventually require the services of a plumber. Never put disposable diapers or sanitary napkins down the toilet. These were not meant to be disposed of in this manner and besides stopping up lines, could damage your plumbing system.

Will my insurance cover any damage resulting from sewage backups?

In the majority of cases, a special rider is needed to your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy to cover damages related to sewage backups or water damage. This optional coverage is generally inexpensive. However, you must usually request it, as it is not automatically included in most policies. Customers who may be vulnerable to backups, such as those with lower levels below the ground, are especially advised to investigate this option. Like the majority of municipalities around the country, the Town of Vienna cannot assume financial liability for damages resulting from sewage backups, since most stoppages are related to conditions that are beyond the Town's control. This is why it is important to verify that you are adequately insured!

How do I report a sewage backup?

Call the Department of Public Works at 703-255-6381 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After hours and on weekends and holidays call 703-255-6366. Emergency crews are on call 24 hours a day to assist you.

NEWS FROM VIENNA PARKS & REC

For more information about any of the activities listed below, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360. All activities are held at the Vienna Community Center unless stated otherwise.

BUS TRIPS

Philadelphia Flower Show, the largest floral show in the world, celebrates its 175th anniversary this year with "Destination Paradise," focusing on the beauty of the tropics. A charter bus will leave the Community Center at 8 a.m. Thursday, March 11, and return around 7 p.m. The cost of \$54 for town residents includes transportation and admission to the show with all-day re-entry privileges.

Walter Reed Army Medical Museum has collections dating from the Civil War. Leave the Community Center at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, March 18, and return at 2 p.m. The cost of \$18 for town residents includes transportation, tour of the facility and a one-hour forensics workshop.

SPORTS & FITNESS

Summer youth sports camp registration begins March 1 for town residents.

Kids can learn the fundamentals of golf, horseback riding, fencing, tennis, basketball, baseball, soccer, volleyball and football. Call for information on dates and fees for each camp.

Adult spring tennis league begins April 4. Men's singles games will be played on Thursdays and women's singles games on Sundays at Meadow Lane and Glyndon Parks. Each league member will play a minimum of seven matches during the season. The fee is \$10 for town residents. Registration deadline March 28.

Annual Vienna Tennis Tournament will be held April 17 and 24 at Glyndon Park. Categories are men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles. The entry fee for town residents is \$25 for singles and \$35 per doubles team. Prizes will be awarded to the winners and all participants will receive a tournament t-shirt and stroke analysis from FirstServe Tennis Academy pros Gregg Deinhart and Steph-

an Schlagenhauff. Entry deadline April 3.

Adult co-ed softball league begins its spring season April 25. Games will be played on Sundays at Southside Park. The registration fee of \$400 per team includes 10 regular season double-header games, a post-season tournament, umpire fees, softballs and awards. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis with a limit of 12 teams.

Adult summer basketball league registration is underway. League play will be held June 21-August 6. Two 10-team divisions will play a round-robin schedule, with the top teams competing in a championship tournament. The fee is \$500 per team (plus \$20 for each non-county play-er).

Walking groups: The morning group will meet on Mondays, March 22-May 24, from 10 to 11 a.m. The fee of \$5 for town residents includes a guide and written materials.

The evening group will meet each Wednesday, April 7-August 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There is no fee for this program, but advance registration is required.

Friday Adventure Walkers will meet March 26-April 30 from 10 to 11 a.m. at different locations around Fairfax County. The cost is \$12 for town residents.

JUST FOR KIDS

Summer Playground registration begins March 1 for town residents. Camp will be extended to seven weeks this summer, offering arts and crafts, games, special events and field trips. Call for information on dates and fees.

A Week in History Camp, for ages 8-10, will be held this summer at the historic Freeman House on Church. Kids will learn about local history through games, music and dance, crafts, herb gardening and cooking, and visits to nearby historic sites. Sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc. Registration begins March 1 for town residents. Call for more information.

Friday skate night will be held March 5, 12, and 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$1 per child and 50¢ for participating adults. Bring your own skates or rollerblades and safety equipment. Parents are required to stay with their children.

AT THE TEEN CENTER

Teen Excursion Camp registration begins March 1. Camp has been extended to seven weeks this summer. Rising 6th-8th graders are invited to enjoy white water tubing, horseback riding, and trips to Kings Dominion and the Cameron Run wave pool. Call for information on dates and fees for each camp.

GAK Attack for 6th graders will be held at 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 26. Make your own colorful GAK, a slimy mess but so much fun! Free of charge.

Beaded jewelry design for middle school students Friday, March 19, at 6 p.m. Make key chains, bracelets, necklaces and other creations. Free of charge.

Concert night for high school students featuring live bands Saturday, March 27, from 7 to 11 p.m. Admission \$5. Students interested in booking a concert at Club Phoenix should call Brandy Mullen at 703-255-5721.

MANAGING YOUR MONEY & YOUR ESTATE

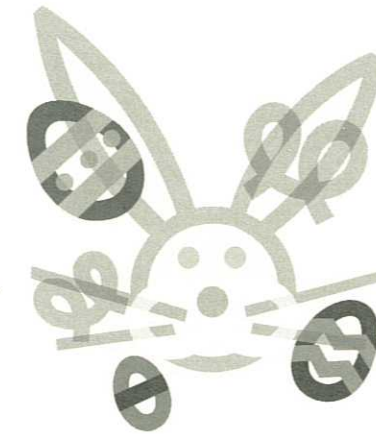
Wills, Trusts and the High Cost of Dying will be presented by attorney David Hoffman on Monday, March 8, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Topics will include the many forms of wills and trusts, federal and state death taxes, common planning mistakes, and probate in Northern Virginia. Free of charge; no registration necessary.

MATURE ADULTS

AARP driver safety program, for motorists age 50 and older, will be held March 22 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The course covers 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 a discount on their

FAMILY FLASHLIGHT EASTER EGG HUNT

Thursday, April 1 OR Friday, April 2
7:30 p.m. at Glyndon Park



Tickets will be sold at the Vienna Community Center
March 20, 8-10 a.m.
March 22, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

\$3 per family member
Maximum six tickets per family

TOWN RESIDENTS ONLY

car insurance. The fee is \$10 per person and advance registration is required.

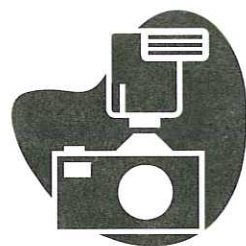
Writing Your Personal History is an informal, group-run class for people interested in documenting their life stories for themselves and future generations. Class will be held each Thursday, March 6-August 14, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Class members select topics about which to write, and read their work to each other for supportive feedback. The class is free

of charge; a donation of \$5 will be used to provide coffee and tea at each class.

POTPOURRI

July 4th booth space applications will be available beginning March 1. Nonprofit organizations, commercial food vendors, and private and commercial arts and crafts vendors are invited to apply. The celebration is scheduled for Sunday, July 4, on the Community Center grounds. Booths are to be open from noon to 5 p.m.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST & EXHIBIT



SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.
SUNDAY, MARCH 21, NOON-4 P.M.
AT THE VIENNA COMMUNITY CENTER

Entries accepted Thursday, March 18, 5-9 p.m.
& Friday, March 19, noon-4 p.m.

Photos will be judged by local professional photographers and ribbons awarded in eight categories in black & white and color divisions. There will be a separate contest section for students in grades 7-12.

The entry fee is \$7 per person.

Entries are limited to five photos per person and two per category.

Thanks to the Vienna Photographic Society for its assistance with this event.
VIENNA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
703-255-6360

Share Your Views on Church St. Safety

Are you concerned about traffic conditions at the intersection of Church Street and Lawyers Road? Are you worried about the safety of pedestrians in the commercial section of Church Street and around the Post Office? Do you have ideas about how to improve those areas? If so, Vienna's Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) would like to hear from you.

The TSC will discuss the Church Street corridor at its next regular meeting on Tuesday, March 30, which begins at 8 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Town Hall. The Commission is seeking input on what the problems are and possible solutions to make Church Street safer for pedestrians and vehicles.

If you would like to provide input, please attend the meeting, or send your thoughts to the Town via e-mail, pio@ci.vienna.va.us, or addressed to the Transportation Safety Commission, c/o Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center St., S., Vienna, VA 22180-5799.

NEW IN TOWN? Vienna's Public Information Office has a welcome packet especially for new residents. Stop by Town Hall and pick one up or call 703-255-6330 to have one mailed to you.