ΙΕΝΝΑ

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

Council approves purchase of public parking space

he Town of Vienna has taken a significant step toward its long-term goal to provide additional public parking in its historic commercial corridor as Town Council approved in June the purchase, for \$4.6 million, of a second-floor condominium that will provide 121 public parking spaces at 223-241 Mill Street NE.

Mill Street Development One, LLC has proposed a four-story, mixed industrialcommercial building at the site. Public parking will be provided by the Town on the second floor with privately owned rental storage space on the third and fourth floors and retail/parking on the first floor. Additional retail parking will be provided below grade. Council's approval of the condominium purchase is contingent upon delivery of a final, satisfactory purchase contract and condominium documents.

The Town proposes to fund the purchase through a combination of grants and loans. Vienna has been awarded a Northern Virginia Transportation Authority grant that would cover 50% of the cost and require 50% of the spaces be reserved for a portion of the day for Metro, biking, and carpool commuters.

The condominium-structured purchase, explains Finance Director Marion Serfass, limits the Town's risk and ensures that the Town will be refunded should the project not come to fruition. Currently, the project is expected to be finished sometime in 2020. The Town would pay annual condominium and maintenance fees, anticipated to cost \$50,000 to \$100,000 each year.

"We're excited that this project will allow for 'park once, shop prolifically' opportunities in downtown Vienna," says Planning and Zoning Director Cindy Petkac, "and we're pleased to make good on our commitment to Church Street merchants to provide additional, needed public parking spaces."





Make a splash with the red, white, and **BOOM!**

JULY 2018

Enjoy two opportunities to celebrate Americana this Independence Day:

Sparklers & Sprinklers

Vienna Community Center - 2 pm Warning: You will get wet!



Fireworks & Festivities Yeonas Park - 7:15 pm Mars Rodeo plays classic and modern rock tunes; fireworks display around 9:30 pm



photos by Adam Kincaid

Town partners with schools on project-based learning

S chool may be out for summer, but Town residents will continue to benefit from about a dozen project-based learning opportunities that Vienna students and Town staff collaborated on over the course of the most recent academic year.

The nine Madison pyramid schools partnered with the Town of Vienna this past school year on project-based learning as "a way to make learning more authentic and more connected to the outside world," says Madison High School Principal Greg Hood. Students from Vienna's schools worked with the Town's parks and recreation, public works, and information technology departments on project topics that ranged from public awareness related to environmental issues to the design of a memorial garden at the community center, from cyberbullying to homelessness.

"It helped us think about problem-solving in new ways," reported a Thoreau Middle School student at a project-based learning share-fair held May 18. Other students reported that while project-based learning was stressful and time-consuming, it also was an "amazing" learning experience.

Some of the projects undertaken by the students were broad and beyond the scope of Town services. One example is a Vienna Elementary student's proposal to transform old Metro cars into affordable housing for the homeless. Other projects represent great ideas that the Town of Vienna may incorporate if funding can be found. For example, second-graders at Marshall Road Elementary and third-graders at Louise Archer have created designs promoting environmental/recycling messaging that, if funding can be secured, will be used as wraps on the Town's trash trucks.

Other projects have already resulted in tangible results. In the fall, geometry students at Madison used their math skills and existing memorial stones and benches to design a memorial garden at the front of the Vienna Community Center. And sixth-graders at Louise Archer created posters related to water quality and protecting local streams that were displayed at the Town's Public Works Day. "The partnership between the Town of Vienna and Madison

Driving Question

pyramid schools has been positive in so many ways," says Mayor Laurie DiRocco. "Students are learning how the Town functions, how to be active and engaged citizens, and the complexity of issues facing the Town. The students also are providing solutions to challenges and contributing to their community."

Vienna has top-shelf H₂0

ienna's water is perfectly safe to drink — in fact it's as safe, if not safer, than bottled water that you pick up at your local grocery store. Environmental studies indicate that tap water must meet more regulatory standards than bottled water, and the latest regulatory report finds that Vienna's water meets or exceeds those standards.

The Town's 2018 Water Quality Report is in and it concludes that Vienna's H_2^0 is still the best of the best. To view the report, visit viennava.gov/waterquality. Printed copies are available; call 703-255-6380 to request that one be mailed to you.



Driving to make vehicle registration payments a little easier

by Communications Specialist Adam Kincaid

B ills – sometimes they can be complicated, but the Town of Vienna, in cooperation with Fairfax County, recently made it a little easier and less confusing to take care of annual vehicle fees.

This spring Town Council approved the finance department's recommendation that Fairfax County assume management of the Town's vehicle registration fee collection. Now annual vehicle registration fees, collected on behalf of the Town, will appear on residents' Fairfax County personal property tax bills. This change provides residents with "one-stop" payment of local annual taxes and fees, streamlines the billing process, and is expected to save the Town money and result in an increased fee collection rate. Town Financial Operations Manager Gwen Riddle says of the new partnership with Fairfax County: "We listened to feedback from our customers, and we are very pleased that we were able to make this particular requested change. We always look to make improvements in our services to residents, especially if the improvement involves making things clearer and easier."

Fees will match current Fairfax County rates, which are based on weight: \$33 per car that weighs 4,000 pounds or less and \$38 per vehicle if it weighs more than 4,000 pounds. Motorcycle rates remain at \$18. While the Town will no longer charge a \$25 late fee per vehicle, Fairfax County will impose late fees and penalties if the bill is not paid on time; the Town will not receive any portion of late fees. Fairfax County will begin mailing 2018 personal property tax bills at the end of July; the Town will no longer send out vehicle registration fee notices. Payment is due to Fairfax County October 5. For more information, visit **fairfaxcounty. gov/taxes/vehicles.**

Payment of new bills cannot be accepted by the Town of Vienna, but the Town will continue to collect delinquent bills from prior years. Be sure to pay a delinquent bill if and when one is received or contact the Town at 703-255-5735 with questions.

More information about the county's collection of the Town's vehicle registration fees can be found at viennava.gov/vehicleregistration.

Town Council, staff thinking strategically

ver the course of 2018, Town of Vienna Councilmembers, with input from staff teams, have been thinking, researching, talking, brainstorming, imagining the possibilities, discussing, disagreeing, coming to consensus, and working to create strategic goals and priorities that will guide how the Town of Vienna moves forward over the next 4-5 years. The Town is working with former Prince William County Executive Craig Gerhart to update the Town's strategic plan.

"In order to be a high-performing organization, an effective local government," Gerhart says, "there has to be a clarity of purpose, and you have to have a plan that outlines where the organization is going, how it's going to get there, the staff needed to do the job, and how staff will be evaluated. At its essence, a strategic plan motivates people and provides a sense of purpose."

Town Council kicked off the strategic planning process with a visioning work session in January where Councilmembers discussed their vision for the Town at its most successful as well the forces bolstering the opportunities to achieve that vision and/or forces restraining the Town. As a result of that session, Council identified seven focus areas, envisioning Vienna as:

- safe
- · economically viable
- efficiently mobile
- engaged
- an authentic small town

- environmentally sustainable
- · influential and well-governed

Seven staff teams were then formed this spring to research these areas and provide Council with recommendations for goals and strategies. In May, staff teams presented policy briefs to Council that analyzed data, best practices, opportunities/threats and provided recommendations.

The 28 staff members participating in the strategic planning process overwhelmingly expressed enthusiasm for working crossdepartmentally with colleagues, an appreciation for insight into the leadership process, and pride in being part of helping to shape the Town's strategic plan.

In June, using the staff policy briefs as a basis, Council began drafting the strategic goals on which they believe the Town should focus over the next five years. This process will continue over the summer and into the fall with staff once again pitching in to offer suggestions for strategies that will most effectively achieve those goals. It's expected that Council will consider adopting the Town's updated strategic plan around the end of the year.

"In order to be a high-performing organization, an effective local government, there has to be a clarity of purpose" -Craig Gerhart

CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNCIL

The challenges of operating a small water and sewer system

by Councilmember Howard Springsteen

s newer residents move into Vienna, many may not know that the Town of Vienna runs its own public water and waste water (sewer) utility for Vienna and neighborhoods that border the Town. The two systems have been in operation since the 1940s. The Town currently has about 131 miles of water pipes and 95 miles of waste water (sewer) pipes. The Town will spend \$8.6 million in the next fiscal year to operate and maintain this public utility, with funding coming from user fees – not property, commercial, or meal taxes.

Vienna's water system predates the Fairfax County Water Authority system. More than 60 years ago, the Town obtained water from deep artesian wells. The last ones closed about 15 years ago. In the past, the Town also purchased water from the City of Falls Church and does so now from the Fairfax County Water Authority.

Vienna's waste water system also predates the county's wastewater system. Originally the Town had two sewer treatment plants: one at Northside where the Town's public works property yard is located and another one at Southside Park in southeast where the balls fields are.

In the early 1960s the District of Columbia built a trunk sewer to Dulles Airport. This allowed the Town of Vienna and Fairfax County to connect half of the Town and surrounding areas of Fairfax County to the trunk sewer, enabling the Northside sewer treatment plant to be closed. Around the same time, Fairfax County built a trunk sewer that flows to the Norman Cole treatment plant. This sewer enabled the Southside sewer treatment plant to be closed.

Running a water and wastewater utility in a small jurisdiction can be costly and challenging compared to larger jurisdictions such as Fairfax County. In 2007, because of concerns that the Town's water costs were high compared to most of Fairfax County, the Town had extensive discussions with Fairfax



County about integrating and taking over or acquiring the Town's systems. Given the county's concerns with ongoing maintenance costs and a lack of agreement on the value of either system, the parties could not reach a mutually satisfactory agreement. In the past several years, after Fairfax Water purchased the Falls Church water system, Vienna was able to purchase all of its water directly from Fairfax County, resulting in cost savings.

When I was first elected to Council, I was (and still am) concerned about the economic viability of the Town running its own water and sewer utility, but I have fully supported maintaining and improving the systems whenever possible Over the past several years, Council

see Council page 7

TOWN HALL MAIN PHONE 703-255-6300

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE 703-255-6330

VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

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Carey J. Sienicki csienicki@viennava.gov Howard J. Springsteen hspringsteen@viennava.gov

TOWN STAFF

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| Town Manager | . Mercury T. Payton | 703-255-6371 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Town Attorney | . Steven D. Briglia | 703-255-6305 |
| Town Clerk | . Melanie J. Clark | 703-255-6304 |
| Communications & Marketing Manager | . Lynne Coan | 703-255-6330 |
| Finance Director | . Marion Serfass | 703-255-6322 |
| Human Resources Director | . Maggie Kain | 703-255-6351 |
| Information Technology Director | . Tony Mull | 703-255-6364 |
| Parks & Recreation Director | . Leslie Herman | 703-255-6356 |
| Planning & Zoning Director | . Cindy Petkac | 703-255-6340 |
| Police Chief | . Col. James Morris | 703-255-6390 |
| Public Works Director | . Michael Gallagher | 703-255-6380 |

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

Boom! Check out these sparkling July events

Summertime in Vienna = awesome events! Here's what's going on in July, in addition to the Town's booming July 4 events (see page 1).

Kids on the Green Tuesdays through July 24 • 10 am • Town Green

New to this year's Vienna events line-up is Kids on the Green – a fun, free, and interactive kids program that includes musical performances, live animal shows, and puppets!

July 3: Live animal show with Wildlife Ambassadors

- July 10: Peter McCory's one-man band
- July 17: Blue Sky Puppets presents The Three Not So Little Pigs

July 24: Songs and storytelling with Bill Wellington

Summer Stories, Songs & Sprinklers Wednesdays through August 1 • 1 pm • Freeman Store lawn

Parks and Recreation in partnership with Historic Vienna, Inc. continues to offer kids a summer serving of a little music, picture-book reading, and water sprinkler fun on the Freeman House lawn. A scaleddown "sprinklers" only version of this event will be offered August 8. Please note that this event will not take place Wednesday, July 4.



Summer on the Green Concert Series Fridays through August 10 • 6:30 pm • Town Green

Vienna's free and family-friendly Friday evening concert series continues through July. Here's who's on this month's musical menu:

July 6: The Earls of Kent – *southern rock and blues*July 13: Mary Lou and the Drugstore Lovers – *classic rock from the '60s-'80s*July 22 (Sunday): Vienna Community Band
July 27: Sarah Bennett Swanner – *covers, country, and blues*

Chillin' on Church July 20 • 6:30 p.m. • Historic Church Street

Free admission to the best block party in Town! Come chill on historic Church Street and enjoy live music performed by Mudlark, food trucks, beer and wine sales, and family fun. Photo ID required for beer or wine purchase.





photos by Adam Kincaid





HAPPENINGS round town

Vienna (Host) Lions Club will hold a fundraiser from 11 am-9 pm July 3 at Foster's Grille. Simply put your receipt in the Lions box, and Foster's will donate 20% of purchases to Lions' youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. For more information, call Tom Comi at 703-281-4575 or visit facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub.

Ready to take on a mission that, should you choose to accept, will take you on an adventure in fellowship, fun, and faith? The theme of **Vacation**

Bible School at First Baptist

Church of Vienna this summer is GodSquad: Special Agents in Action. Free and open to youth and adults, the program will take place from 6-8:30 pm July 9-13. For more information, contact the First Baptist office at 703-938-8525 or **office@fbcv.org**.

The monthly **breakfast buffet at American Legion Post 180,** at 330 Center Street N, features

center Street N, features omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and more. Breakfast will be served from 8 am-noon Sunday, July 15. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$4 for children ages 12 and under. For more information, call 703-938-6580. Healing Wall, an exhibit of 200 giant puzzle pieces painted by troops on the mend at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, opens July 17 at the Vienna Art Center. Note the center's new location at 243 Church Street.

The all-women bluegrass group Sweet Yonder will present a benefit performance at the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's 20th anniversary celebration event at 1:30 pm Sunday,

July 22, at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue E. Tickets are \$20 each at the door (which opens

at 12:30 pm) or online

at Ticketfly, ticketf.

ly/2sMOCwQ.

recommend

purchasing tickets

early as the event

sell out. For more

is expected to

information, call

703-281-0538.

Organizers

If "adorable" appeals to you, you won't want to miss **Historic Vienna** Inc.'s Teddy Bear Picnic from 10:30 am-noon

Saturday, July 14, at the historic Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church Street NE. Children ages 9 and younger are invited to bring their favorite bear or other stuffed creature (dolls are welcome, too) for a picnic and bear-friendly activities. Reservations and prepayment are required by July 11; \$5 per child – no charge for bears! Parents are asked to stay to accompany their child. Please call 703-938-5187 to make reservations

Please call 703-938-5187 to make reservation and for more information.

The Town of Vienna Community Band will perform its final concert

of the season at 6:30 pm Sunday, July 22, at the Town Green. This performance is free and open to the public. The band continues to recruit enthusiastic new

musicians in all sections, and especially those

who play clarinet, bassoon, oboe, or tuba. If interested, please attend any 6:15 pm rehearsal on Sundays at the Vienna Community Center. Visit viennacommunityband.org for more information.

An exhibit of works by the **Vienna Arts Society's Artist of the Year Dr. Dick Neff** is on display this summer at the new location for the Vienna Art Center at 243 Church Street. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments from 4-6 pm Sunday, July 29.

Inexpensive **used books** are available from 12-4 pm Wednesday-Sunday at the **Freeman Store**, 131 Church Street NE. Self-help books are half price this month; children's chapter books are 25 cents each.

Country Places, an exhibit of work by Libby Eckert is on display through August 4 at the Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Avenue W.

Save the date: On Saturday, September 8, **Historic Vienna Inc.** will host an **Antique Fair and Antiques Appraisal** from 10 am-4 pm on the Freeman Store grounds. To schedule an appraisal or for details about the outdoor antique sale, call 703-938-5187. The cost per appraisal is \$15 (\$10 for HVI members); admission to the antiques market is free.

The Vienna Women's Club seeks crafters and vendors for its 56th Holiday Bazaar to be held Saturday, November 10, at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, contact Diane Abel at dcabel@cox.net or 703-281-7494.

Happenings Around Town notices are printed as a community service, and items are included as space allows. Submit information to lynne.coan@viennava.gov by the 10th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may be edited. Listings do not constitute an endorsement of content nor necessarily reflect any policy or position of the Town of Vienna, Town Council, or employees.

Open for business

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

Cloudrdy *consultant* 619 Welles Street SE 703-434-2907

Fedex Office and Print Services

packaging and shipping 328 Maple Avenue E 302-636-5400 x61390

Moon River Wellness Center

massage therapy 386 Maple Avenue 703-965-8529

Vienna businesses with staying power

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

30 YEARS Merchants Tire and Auto Center 25 YEARS Nicholas Chimney Stove & Fireplace Starbucks Coffee 20 YEARS George Papastergiou Kristin Griffith 15 YEARS Daly Associates Topix Crystal 10 YEARS Beekman Place Mycreditabc.com Schneider Associates Silverkey Sushi Yoshi



Thai Treasure restaurant 330 Maple Avenue W 703-272-3684





Town Council Actions

The following items represent recent Town Council actions, but do not constitute official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes, agendas, and meeting videos are available online at viennava.gov.

May 21

- Held a public hearing related to permit parking in the 100 block of Patrick Street SW. Following the public hearing, Council approved a motion establishing permit parking from 7 p.m.-6 a.m. daily in the 100 block of Patrick Street SW.
- Held a public hearing related to and approved rezoning of 200 Maple Avenue E and 109 Park Street NE from C-1A Special Commercial Zone to C-2 General Commercial Zone for a proposed automobile service station and convenience store. Council also approved modification of the requirement for off-street parking for the project.
- Approved purchase of property at 440 Beulah Road NE for \$712,000, plus additional closing costs not to exceed \$2,000.
- Approved water and sewer rates for fiscal year 2018-19.

- Approved spending \$1.2 million with E.E. Lyons Construction for water main and appurtenances improvements within the Town's water service area.
- Approved \$72,000 in additional FY18 spending with Sagres Construction Corp. for on-call roadway maintenance, specifically for storm structure repairs and additional curb and sidewalk repairs.
- Approved spending \$400,000 with AM-Liner East, Inc. for rehabilitation of sanitary sewer pipes throughout the service area.

June 4

- Approved renewal of several contracts for fiscal year 2019.
- Approved an expenditure not to exceed \$25,000 to the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force as part of a multijurisdictional funding agreement.
- Approved the updated and amended 2018 Capital Improvement Plan.
- Approved purchase for \$4.6 million of a condominium interest, specifically a second-floor public parking garage with 121 parking spaces, in a proposed building to be constructed by Mill Street Development One, LLC at 223-241 Mill Street NE.
- Approved subdivision of 713 Kingsley Road SW and 911 Myers Circle SW.

- Set a public hearing for July 9 regarding rezoning of 430-444 Maple Avenue W from C-1 Local Commercial Zone and RS-16 Single-Family Detached Residential Zone to Maple Avenue Commercial (MAC) Zone for a proposed mixed-use development.
- Approved renewing a service agreement with Datamatx for outsourced bill printing for \$25,000.
- Approved an additional \$11,000 in FY18 spending with Ross Tree Expert Company (dba RTEC Treecare) for tree maintenance and removal.
- Approved \$30,000 in FY19 spending with Ross Tree Expert Company (dba RTEC Treecare) for tree maintenance and removal.
- Approved reappointment of Town officers for fiscal year 2019:
 - Mercury Payton as Town Manager
 - Steven Briglia as Town Attorney
 - Melanie Clark as Town Clerk
 - Marion Serfass as Town Treasurer.

Appointed to serve

Town Council recently reappointed **Keith Aimone** to the Transportation Safety Commission and **Charlie Strunk** to the Transportation Safety Commission and Bicycle Advisory Committee.

Council from page 4

has taken a number of positive steps to greatly improve maintenance of the water and wastewater systems, replace or rehabilitate pipes (particularly those in the poorest condition), and stabilize rates.

The most recent step taken was late last year. The Town hired a nationally recognized utility consultant, Municipal and Financial Services Group, to look at the Town's water and wastewater systems, review the rate structure, and provide management and engineering recommendations related to maintenance and funding. As a result of these recommendations, the Town has stepped up spending and budgeted \$2 million for capital improvements for the water and wastewater systems. Moving forward, an additional \$2.7 million a year in capital funds has been allocated to address many of these concerns. We now have a good financial plan in place moving forward to maintain the two systems and excellent staff and leadership within the Public Works Department's water and sewer division to carry this out.

August 1 deadline

Healthy challenge to businesses for sustainable heroics

hink your business is green enough to be certified as sustainable? Good, now get recognized for it! The Community Enhancement Commission's Vienna Sustainability

Challenge encourages Vienna businesses and nonprofits to self-certify as "sustainable" based on points earned from an environmental checklist of business practices.

Last year seven businesses were recognized by Town Council for their green efforts. The deadline to submit the completed checklist for certification or recertification this year is August 1. The environmental checklist and more information can be found at viennava.gov/sustainabilitychallenge.



| Police, Fire & Rescue Emergency 911 (Voice & TDD) | Vienna Police 703-938-4900 voice 703-255-5730 TDD Non-emergency 703-255-6366 voice 703-255-5730 TDD | Community Center 703-255-6360 voice TTY Virginia Relay 711 120 Cherry St. SE Vienna, VA 22180 | Vienna Town Hall 703-255-6300 voice TTY Virginia Relay 711 127 Center Street South Vienna, VA 22180-5179 Monday-Friday • 8 am-4:30 pm | PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Vienna, VA Permit No. 36 |
|---|--|--|--|--|
|---|--|--|--|--|

VOICE July town calendar

3 Kids on the Green: Wildlife Ambassadors • 10 am 3 Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 pm 4 Holiday: Town Hall Closed/No Refuse Collection 4 Sprinklers & Sparklers (VCC) • 2 - 4 pm 4 July 4 Fireworks & Festivities (Yeonas Park) • 7:15 pm 5 Refuse collection for Wednesday & Thursday no brush, bulk, or yard waste Summer on the Green: The Earls of Kent • 6:30 pm 6 7 Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am - noon 9 Town Council Meeting • 8 pm 10 Kids on the Green: Peter McCory • 10 am 11 Stories, Songs & Sprinklers (Town Green) • 1 pm 11 Historic Vienna, Inc. (Freeman Store) • 7:30 pm 12 Town Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm 13 Summer on the Green: Mary Lou & the Drugstore Lovers • 6:30 Meeting schedule subject to change; check viennava.gov for updates. Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am – noon

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S.

| 14 | Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am – noon |
|----|--|
| 17 | Kids on the Green: Blue Sky Puppets • 10 am |
| 17 | Public Art Commission • 7 pm |
| 18 | Stories, Songs & Sprinklers (Town Green) • 1 pm |
| 18 | Board of Zoning Appeals/Public Hearing • 8 pm |
| 19 | Board of Architectural Review • 8 pm |
| 20 | Chillin' on Church: Mudlark • 6:30 – 9:30 pm |
| 21 | Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am – noon |
| 24 | Kids on the Green: Bill Wellington ● 10 am |
| 25 | Stories, Songs & Sprinklers (Town Green) • 1 pm |
| 26 | Community Enhancement Commission • 7:30 pm |
| 27 | Summer on the Green: Sarah Bennett Swanner • 6:30 pm |
| 28 | Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am – noon |
| 31 | Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee ● 7 pm |
| 31 | Transportation Safety Commission • 8 pm |



The July 1993 Town newsletter crowed about the Town's recent sale of general obligation bonds at a total interest cost of 4.74 percent. The article stated that there was strong interest in Vienna's bonds, in part, because of its high ratings, Aa and AA-, respectively from Moody's and Standard and Poor's. (By comparison, when the Town sold general obligation bonds earlier this year, the interest rate received was 2.45%, and the Town currently has AAA ratings, the highest available, from both Moody's and Standard and Poor's).