

VIENNA VOICE

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

OCTOBER
2020

Town purchases Center Street property for long-term community use

The Town of Vienna settled September 18 on an approximately three-acre property at 301 Center Street S; the site had been home to Faith Baptist Church since the mid-1950s. Town Council approved the \$5.5 million purchase of the property at its August 31 meeting.

“This is an amazing opportunity for the Town of Vienna and our community,” says Mayor Linda Colbert. “The property is centrally located among many civic and community facilities. This is a strategic purchase that will provide extraordinary long-term benefits for the community. I’m grateful that the Town’s strong financial planning and position have allowed us to take advantage of this opportunity.”

Faith Baptist Church is in the process of changing its mission and recently began considering the sale of its property. The church notified Town officials that it would consider an offer from the Town of Vienna; the church also accepted bids from other interested parties. In July, the congregation voted to accept the Town’s proposal.

Funding for purchase of the church property came from general obligation bonds issued earlier this year. The Town identified potential property acquisition as one of its objectives when it issued \$34.5 million in bonds in March. The Town generally issues bonds every two years to finance capital improvement projects and repays the bonds using revenues from meals taxes collected from customers at Town of Vienna restaurants. Because of its centralized location and proximity to other community facilities, the possible purchase of this property had been discussed by previous Town Councils. When the property recently became available, Town Council met several times in closed sessions to discuss the possible property acquisition. Closed sessions to discuss purchases of property are permitted by state code and help protect local jurisdictions’ interests in the negotiation process.

The main purpose of this purchase is to provide long-term benefits to the community. The property’s ultimate use may not be determined, funded, or implemented for several years. Council plans to engage with the community to gather and share ideas for long-term uses for the property and will likely employ a feasibility study.

“Even though we don’t yet know the best community use for this property,” Colbert says, “I believe that taking advantage of this opportunity allows us to create a wonderful community amenity in the same way that the Town took advantage of a real estate opportunity at Mill Street and Center 18 years ago and eventually created our Town Green, which now functions as our community’s outdoor gathering space.”

photo by Adam Kincaid

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Temporary ordinances, grants provide assistance for businesses

In case you missed it, Town Council has passed several temporary emergency ordinances designed to assist Town of Vienna businesses during the coronavirus pandemic. All of the ordinances described below require that a business apply for a temporary permit at vienna.idtplans.com/secure.

- **Outdoor commercial activity**

This emergency ordinance waives zoning regulations and allows restaurants and other licensed businesses in Town to conduct commercial activity outdoors. The ordinance currently is effective through March 31, 2021.

- **Child care in commercial zones**

This ordinance provides a temporary waiver of zoning restrictions for child day care in commercial and industrial zones and for public, semi-public, and private institutions in other zones. This ordinance is effective through January 31, 2021.

- **Outdoor activity by public, semi-public, and private institutions**

This allows organizations that don't traditionally have business licenses, such as the American Legion, golf courses, and schools, to conduct business outdoors. Currently, this ordinance is effective through November 13, but is expected to be readopted and extended by Town Council.

"The Town realizes that there's a lot of uncertainty for businesses related to this public health crisis," says Economic Development Manager Natalie Monkou. "These emergency ordinances are designed to

allow all types of businesses an added degree of flexibility in an expedient manner."

RISE grant expanded

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved on September 15 expansion of the RISE (Relief Initiative to Support Employers) grant program to ensure that 100% of applicants found eligible are approved to receive a grant.

The RISE program started this spring with \$26 million, with \$1 million coming from the Town of Vienna and specifically earmarked for Town of Vienna businesses. In July, Fairfax County added \$20 million to the program funding. The latest expansion adds another \$12 million to the program.

As of mid-September, 156 Town of Vienna businesses had been approved for

grants, totaling \$1.66 million. With approval of additional funds, nearly 300 Vienna businesses will be eligible for the grants, which are, depending upon number of employees, for \$10,000, \$15,000, or \$20,000 for each business. Countywide, 6,280 grant applications were received. Among the Vienna businesses already approved for grants, 40% are woman-owned and 41% minority-owned.

"Having access to a grant that doesn't have to be paid back is incredible," says Monkou. "It's so exciting that everyone who applied will be eligible to get a grant. Especially over the next few months, this assistance is going to be critical. This is really going to help many businesses get through the next few uncertain months." 🗣️



photo by Adam Kincaid

Property from page 1

In the short-term, the Vienna Police Department will utilize space in the church while a new police facility is constructed; groundbreaking on the police facility is anticipated in the next approximately six months.

Police will use the former church building for a period of 18-24 months. This will allow the department to remain open to the public in a physical location throughout the construction process and provides a more centralized, efficient, and functional option than the Town's Beulah Road property, which previously had been proposed as temporary space for police functions.

In addition, the Town may use the 301 Center Street property for additional meeting space and, once the coronavirus pandemic has ended, for additional recreational space. The existing parking lot may be utilized by the community for nearby activities and event parking. 🗣️



The remarkable - and perhaps overlooked - benefits of sidewalks

Consider:

- Sidewalks could help you look great in your skinny jeans. Sidewalks mean that people can walk more – and more safely – which results in burning more calories.
- Sidewalks help improve the bottom line – in a variety of ways. Making communities more walkable increases the number of people who shop there. One study indicated that pedestrians may spend as much as 65% more than drivers. Sidewalks also help reduce health care costs, save money on roadway construction and maintenance, and shrink the cost of traffic congestion. By the way, sidewalks also increase land and property values. Property values rise when neighborhoods become safer, more accessible, more livable. Like good schools and hospitals, sidewalks are a community amenity that help residential homes command higher prices.
- Sidewalks are good for the environment. They decrease dependency on nonrenewable resources and promote sustainable behaviors, can cut ambient noise, and reduce air pollution. According to a 2016 [fastcompany.com](#) article, smog in Paris was cut by 40% in parts of the city on a single car-free day.

Sidewalks are a bit of a hot topic around Vienna as the Town has

begun to implement a sidewalk construction spree, thanks to the generous gift bequeathed to the Town by former Councilmember Maud Robinson, who passed away in 2019. Through a trust, Robinson left more than \$8 million to the Town to be used for sidewalks, not already planned or funded, in areas with curb and gutter already in place. According to conditions in Robinson's will, the Town must expend these funds by fall 2024.

"This is really an amazing gift to the Vienna community," says Project Manager Alsinia Ervin. "We want our community to be able to walk, bike, jog safely. We want to get pedestrians out of the streets. We want them to be able to walk to community destinations safely. The Robinson Trust allows us to create sidewalk connections throughout Town without having to check all the boxes necessary when we use grant funding from other organizations. This is a very unique, positive situation."

Of Maud Robinson, and her husband Charlie, who served as Vienna mayor for 24 years before his death in 2000, Laurie Genevro Cole, executor of Robinson's estate says: "They realized how much sidewalks mean to making a place a community and a good place to live."

As the Town has been working with residents on some streets potentially designated for new sidewalks through the Robinson trust, some residents have expressed concerns related to dog waste, damage to existing plants and trees, and increased crime. (By the way, sidewalks

put "eyes on the street" and can help reduce crime. According to the [fastcompany.com](#) article, one Kansas City neighborhood experienced a 74% decrease in crime after some streets went car-free on weekends.)

"There's really a greater good to the Town to having additional sidewalks," says Angela Sorrell, Transportation Safety Commission member and chair of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. "The sidewalks built through the trust are a gift to the Town that benefit not just the current residents of homes where sidewalks will be installed. Sidewalks will benefit all of us who move around Town. Drivers won't have to avoid dog-walkers in the street. Parents can teach their kids how to ride bikes on sidewalks in a safe space. Walkers and runners can exercise without having to dodge parked cars."

And, Sorrell notes, more people walking on sidewalks means there are less cars on Town roads.

She adds that sidewalks will benefit future residents as well. "These sidewalks are long-term investments in the Town that improve walkability, attractiveness, and that hometown feel," she says. "What we all love about Vienna is the small-town feel, and small towns have sidewalks."

Given that both walkability and trees are important to the Vienna community, Sorrell says, "There are many options to retain our streetscaping so that we can prioritize safety on sidewalks while still maintaining greenery. A bush or tree should not preclude us from achieving a safe, connected sidewalk network."

See [Sidewalks](#) page 5

Defining terms related to sidewalks

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A right-of-way, in the case of sidewalks, is the edge of private property on which members of the public have the legal right to use to pass along a specific route. Sidewalks are constructed in the right-of-way, which is Town property. The right-of-way generally extends 10-12 feet from the curb; as a rule of thumb, a residence's water meter in the front yard is typically where the property line is located. Residents should not plant trees or other greenery nor install fences or other structures in the right-of-way.

/ēzmənt/

An easement is a right to cross or otherwise use someone else's land for a specified purpose. The Town often requests a temporary easement for a contractor to be on private property in order to construct sidewalks.



photo by Adam Kincaid

Navigating through uncharted territory

by Councilmember Steve Potter

Who would have thought nine months ago that we'd be wearing masks to protect one another, eating in parking lots instead of restaurants, working online from our homes, social distancing from family and friends, and doing whatever we can to stay safe – with no end in sight? The long-term impacts of covid-19 are still uncertain, but it is safe to say that this crisis will strongly influence what we do for generations to come.

As we adjust to a new normal, it is essential that we actively plan for Vienna's success post-recovery. We have several projects underway to do that: a zoning update, multi-modal traffic study, library expansion, and new police station to name a few, and, coming up, a Comprehensive Plan update. All of these are topics that Vienna has addressed before, but in more stable times when predictions and planning could be based on solid facts and years of data.

Established facts have been altered dramatically in recent months, and new data is limited. We have entered uncharted territory.

There are more questions than answers. If predictions that 25% of malls in the U.S. will close in the next two years are accurate, how will that impact Tysons and what opportunities will be created for Vienna? What impact will ecommerce and teleworking have on the needs for

retail and office space, apartments and condos in Vienna and how should we plan for that? Will the rise in people/families walking and riding bikes create more demand for safe sidewalks and bike lanes throughout Vienna? Will social distancing create the need for deeper setbacks, wider sidewalks, and more green space? Will fewer commuters reduce traffic concerns on Maple Avenue and other key, highly travelled streets?

Ultimately, the key to answering these questions and successfully moving forward will be flexibility, creativity, and shared commitment in the planning process. With our capable staff, citizen-led boards and commissions, dedicated Town Council, and an engaged community focused on making Vienna a better place to live, we can and will get through this together. Stay safe! 🙌



Virtual Fall Family Fun Night to bring real good time

The Vienna Business Association (VBA) and Town of Vienna will kick off seasonal celebrations with a virtual Fall Family Fun Night at 6:30 pm Friday, October 2. This event will be live-streamed @TownofViennaVA on Facebook and YouTube.

Grab takeout from your favorite local restaurant, set out a picnic in your living room, and tune in with the whole family to enjoy kids songs, stories, and a visit with George the Monkey from Mr. Jon, followed by a magic show presented by Vienna favorite The Great Zucchini.

Be sure to watch live to play games, win prizes, and provide a shout-out to your kiddos. Mr. Jon and the Great Zucchini also will answer questions live. This show will be co-hosted by VBA Executive Director Peggy James and the Town's Event Coordinator Lily Widman. 🙌



Stay home for this year's Halloween Parade

The Town of Vienna is bringing its 74th annual Halloween Parade to residents beginning at 10 am Saturday, October 31. Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, this year's parade, presented in partnership with the Vienna Business Association, will be a "wave parade" consisting of 10-15 floats that will visit all four quadrants of Vienna, though not every street. The route will be released to the public after 3 pm Thursday, October 29, via viennava.gov/halloween. Residents are encouraged to don their costumes and wave from sidewalks near their home as the parade passes by. 🙌



Zoom is the new radio for Vienna Theatre Company

As part of its *In Living Sound* series, the Vienna Theatre Company is offering three old-school radio shows this October – with a new-age twist. The company will present three mid-20th century melodrama radio shows, viewable both in-person (limited to 21 attendees per show) and, for the first time ever, via Zoom.

The shows run two weekends only at the end of October. Patrons can expect lighthearted comedy, detective mysteries, and sci fi drama – all replete with live sound effects.

As a gift to patrons, the shows are free and will be presented in two formats, in person and via Zoom.

In-person

7 pm Fridays, October 23 and 30

2 pm Saturdays, October 24 and 31

Tickets may be obtained in advance at the community center and at the door prior to performances if space remains available.

Zoom

7 pm Saturdays, October 24 and 31

A Zoom link will be available at viennatheatrecompany.org.

Email vtcshows@yahoo.com with inquiries.

Each show is an episode of continuous radio plays that reached airways all over the country between 1946 and 1960. Here's the lineup:

Gunsmoke – Chester's Dilemma (January 31, 1960)

"...a warm, humorous celebration of human nature, set soon after the arrival of the railroad in the wild frontier town of Dodge City, Kansas..."

X Minus One – Mars is Heaven (May 8, 1955)

It's 1987, and humanity has finally landed on Mars. But Mars is not what explorers were expecting – in fact, it's very familiar.

Sam Spade – The Blood Money Caper (September 29, 1946)

The first episode of the hard-boiled detective series based on the character created by Dashiell Hammett in his 1930 novel *The Maltese Falcon*. 📺

Sidewalks from page 3

Cabin Road resident Dan Tucker made a similar point to Town Council when he spoke at the February 24 meeting in favor of installing sidewalks on his street. "A tree can be replanted," he said. "I have a 3-year-old daughter and a 5-year-old daughter, and they need a sidewalk to get to school, to go to the restaurants. You can't replace a child if she gets hit by a car."

For Town Transportation Engineer Andrew Jinks, sidewalks, like utilities, are a critical component of the Town's infrastructure. "Sidewalks interconnect all of the different destinations within Town," he says. "It's all about safety and connection."

For Ervin personally, sidewalks, when she's walking her dog in the evenings, allow her to safely enjoy being outdoors, where she can observe things she doesn't really have time to notice when in her car. "I get to slow down for a moment and appreciate life a little better."

Sidewalks can do a lot of amazing things and may even actually make you feel happier – researchers have found that the happiness of someone who shifts from a long commute to a walk increases as much as if they had fallen in love. Still, there's a limit even to a sidewalk's powers: They probably can't do anything about getting your partner moving on that "honey do" list or making your hair look more thick and less gray.

Editor's note: If you live on a street with curb and gutter and would like sidewalk added, email alsinia.ervin@viennava.gov. 📺

Certified green

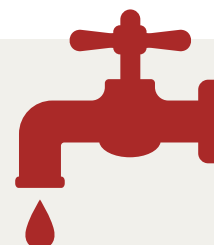
To commemorate Arbor Day and the Town's commitment to preserving trees, Mayor Linda Colbert and members from the Conservation and Sustainability Commission and Virginia Department of Forestry will hold a virtual Arbor Day celebration Wednesday, October 7. The celebration will be live-streamed on the Town's Facebook page and YouTube channel at 5 pm.

The Town also has been re-certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Foundation. Community Wildlife Habitats include gardens and landscaping created with wildlife in mind, promote the use of native trees and plants, work to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and chemicals, and integrate wildlife-friendly practices into sustainability plans. 📺



Water and sewer bill giving you trouble?

Contact customer service at 703-255-6385 or water@viennava.gov to find a potential leak or work out a payment agreement.



MEET THE MAYOR

Mayor Linda Colbert offers several opportunities for residents to meet with her each month, both in her office and out and about in the community.

- **Meet the Mayor:** The first Friday of each month, the mayor sets up “office” in various locations in the community and invites residents to come meet her. **Friday, October 2, she’ll be at Glyndon Park, 300 Glyndon Street NE, from 9-10:30 am.**
- **Business Walk-About:** The mayor and Economic Development Manager Natalie Monkou visit various businesses on the second Friday of each month.
- **Mayor’s Walk:** Join Colbert for a chat and stroll through Town the third Friday of each month. Meet at 9:30 am in front of Town Hall.
- **Office Hours:** Feel free to drop in for open office hours 9-11 am Tuesdays and Thursdays, during which time the mayor will do her best to be available. Or make an appointment to meet with the mayor on Wednesdays; email mclark@viennava.gov or call 703-255-6304 to schedule an appointment.

Topics on deck for October

- New police station facility:
 - Improvements over current station
 - Design features
 - Community space
- Options for voting in the November 3 presidential election and what to expect
 - A conversation with Fairfax County General Registrar Gary Scott

On Deck with Mercury is a monthly community forum hosted by Town Manager Mercury Payton. The program provides an opportunity for Town residents to learn about recent projects and accomplishments of the Town, receive a preview of upcoming initiatives, and ask questions and have an open discussion. On Deck with Mercury is recorded for later broadcast on YouTube and the Town’s cable access channel, channel 27 on Cox and 38 on Verizon Fios.

ON DECK
WITH MERCURY

6-8 PM

OCTOBER 13

**TOWN HALL,
COUNCIL
CHAMBERS**

10

years ago...

The Town announced in the October 2010 newsletter that it had joined the brave new world of social media and invited residents to like and follow @TownofViennaVA.

CONTACT **Vienna**

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MAIN PHONE
703-255-6300**

**PUBLIC
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OFFICE
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Economic Development Manager	Natalie Monkou	703-255-6338
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 November issue is October 12.



Putting fun into the spookiest of holidays

The coronavirus pandemic may be scary, but the Town's celebrations of Halloween aren't! The Town of Vienna is providing several socially distanced options for celebrating the spooky holiday.


- Dress up like a ghoul or princess for the Town's costume contest. Categories include best family/group, best adult, best kid, and best pet.
- Feed your competitive spirit by participating in the Town's pumpkin-carving contest.

Contests kick off October 1; all entries must be submitted by October 26. Watch social media and viennava.gov for a link to submission forms and guidelines as well as updates on prizes.

In place of the annual Halloween on the Green event, the Town of Vienna is bringing the scares to your doorstep with Halloween in a Bag. Bags are \$20 and contain enough creepy contents for two children. Purchase bags at viennava.gov/webtrac by searching under "special events" or by activity code #610704-A1.

Here's what's included in the bag:

- DIY superhero or princess cape kit
- two pie-sized pumpkins from Merrifield Garden Center
- pumpkin decorating kit
- Halloween candy and treats
- spooky crafts
- recipes and activities
- vampire teeth, beach balls, and an assortment of Halloween fun

Place your order soon while supplies last because these fun bags will be just a rumored ghost story after the October 9 purchasing deadline. 




Holy Comforter working to become wholly sustainable


In August the Church of the Holy Comforter became the first church to be certified through the Town of Vienna's Sustainability Challenge. In order to be certified, a business or organization must earn at least 60 points across five categories: reducing building energy consumption, lowering water usage, reducing waste, adopting more Earth-friendly transportation practices, and adapting more sustainable purchasing practices.

Among steps undertaken by Holy Comforter to achieve sustainability certification were:

- installing motion sensors to turn off lights in rooms not in use
- replacing inefficient lights bulbs with LED bulbs
- replacing inefficient bathroom fixtures with low-flow models
- using recycled printer/copier paper
- replacing Styrofoam products with compostable ones.

Holy Comforter has committed to goals to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and to achieve net zero status by 2050. To learn more about the Town's Sustainability Challenge, visit viennava.gov/sustainabilitychallenge. 

Help clean up Town while staying safe

Instead of the typical "all hands on deck" approach to Town Clean-Up Day, the Parks and Recreation Department invites families and service groups to participate in a socially distanced Clean-Up Day at their convenience. Volunteers pick the day and time, and the parks department will assign a location in Town that needs some TLC and provide all the supplies needed. Contact Amy-Jo Hendrix at ahendrix@viennava.gov or 703-255-6357 to schedule your clean-up day. Thank you for helping to keep the Town of Vienna looking its best. 



Working together to create a healthy tree canopy

by Christina Caplan, Conservation and Sustainability Commission

Vienna has been certified as a Tree City USA for the past 19 years. Preserving existing healthy canopy and planting new trees is integral to this designation and is becoming increasingly important as Town trees, already aging, face new threats from climate change, insects like the emerald ash borer, and diseases like maple wilt fungus, as well as removal for housing and infrastructure development. Vienna even has a list of its oldest trees; two are more than 300 years old!

Maintaining a beautiful tree canopy in Vienna requires work and a commitment from Town leaders and residents. Everyone in Town has a role to play in tree preservation and replacement.

Builders/homeowners

Tree canopy requirements apply when building on or redeveloping lots in Vienna. The specific requirements are found in Vienna Town Code zoning provisions and vary by zone. For single-family residential lots, the Town of Vienna currently requires that trees be planted and replaced on site so that at a maturity of 20 years, the minimum tree canopy is 20% of the lot.

Builders and homeowners can work together to go beyond existing minimum requirements.

- Maximize the survivability of existing trees during construction and make sure that trees on neighboring lots are not damaged in the process.
- Rather than building to the lot limit and clear cutting then replanting, work with your builder to size and locate your new home in a way that preserves more existing canopy and places trees so that environmental and economic benefits (e.g., shade, wind protection, and erosion control) are maximized.
- Builders can earn recognition under the Vienna Eco-Efficient Homes Initiative by achieving 30% canopy coverage by 10 years after development. Builders are encouraged to preserve neighboring trees during construction as a best practice.

Town staff

Vienna's Department of Parks and Recreation works hard each year to plant and maintain trees around Town. The numbers

vary annually, but can be up to 30 trees per season and 60 trees per year. Because the Town also removes trees each year for various reasons, there usually is no net gain in trees.

Building up the tree canopy in Town takes time, money, and effort.

- Town staff members provide the labor to plant, water, and maintain new trees. To develop root systems, trees during their first growing season need frequent – daily then weekly – watering. Growing trees also need staking, mulching, and protection from pests.
- To augment existing efforts, Town Council included a Tree Replacement Program to plant and maintain 60 additional trees in this year's budget as an unfunded priority. Unfortunately, budget cuts due to the pandemic mean that this program must be postponed.
- Town arborists plan to conduct a GIS residential canopy survey in the future to identify existing healthy and dying trees throughout Vienna. This will help direct planting efforts.

Residents

Imagine how much it would help the Town if every household in Vienna decided to plant one tree this year!

- Plant a tree on your own property. Fall is the optimal time to plant because trees focus their energy solely on root development. The weather also is perfect for everyone to take a much-needed screen-time break and get outside.
- When planting new trees, opt for native species. Native trees grow well in our climate and require less maintenance in the future. They also provide great habitat for native birds and insects. Trees are available at local nurseries and garden centers, or contact organizations like Fairfax ReLeaf or Earth Sangha.
- An easy option is to make a donation to have a tree planted somewhere in Town through the Heritage Tree Dedication program, viennava.gov/documentcenter/view/2322.

We all benefit from a healthy tree canopy in Town, so let's work together to make sure Vienna remains a Tree City USA each and every year. 🌳

60

years ago...

The October 1960 newsletter was "the first issue of a quarterly newsletter addressed to every citizen in Vienna from the Town Government" produced by Town staff "cheerfully and enthusiastically in order to fully inform all citizens of the current operations of their government." The same issue noted the dedication in August of that year of the Town's newest park, Meadow Lane Park.



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.

August 31

- Held a public hearing related to amending the fiscal year 2020 budget to include CARES Act funds. Council then approved amendment of the fiscal year 2020 general fund budget to account for CARES Act expenditures.
- Held a public hearing related to amending the fiscal year 2021 budget for use of CARES Act funding. Council then approved a \$2,293,552 amendment to the fiscal year general fund budget to account for CARES Act expenditures.
- Held a public hearing on rezoning of 117 Courthouse Road SW from C-2 general commercial zone and C-1A special commercial zone to RS-10 single-family detached residential zone. Following the public hearing, Council approved the requested rezoning.
- Approved a transfer of \$350,000 in capital improvement funding for 2021 roadway maintenance projects with Arthur Construction.
- Reduced a bond for public improvements at the Onondio Cove subdivision to a surety amount of \$78,164.30 for maintenance of public improvements.
- Authorized publication in a newspaper of general circulation and posting on the Town's website of the fiscal year 2020 delinquent real estate property tax list. Council also approved transmittal of the list to Fairfax County with a request that it be entered into county records, according to law. Council also authorized recording the delinquent real estate property taxes as a lien against the delinquent properties.
- Approved a previous emergency expenditure of \$71,176 with Resurface, Inc. for repairs and improvements to tennis and basketball courts and to replace basketball backboards and goals at Glyndon Park.

- Approved a two-hour limit for ordinary Town Council meetings and a three-hour limit for meetings involving public comment, except that if additional time is needed, the meeting may be extended by 30-minute increments by majority vote, including for closed sessions.
- Approved purchase for \$5.5 million, plus an additional \$5,000 for settlement and insurance expenses, of property at 301 Center Street S.
- Referred to the Planning Commission a proposed amendment to Town Code Section 17-67.2 to require construction of sidewalks in any single-lot redevelopment.
- Amended Chapter 9 – Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article 1 – In General, Section 9-3 – Adoption of State Code to reflect updates to state code sections relating to traffic offenses.
- Readopted and extended by six months the Continuity of Government ordinance, originally approved by Council at its April 13 meeting, to March 31, 2021.
- Readopted and extended through March 31, 2021 an emergency ordinance to waive zoning regulations to permit temporary outdoor commercial activity.

September 4

- Approved an emergency ordinance to permit temporary waiver of zoning regulations and review to allow for outdoor operations by public, semi-public, and private institutions adversely affected by the ongoing pandemic.

September 14

- Authorized the Town Manager to apply to the Maud Robinson Trust for design of a sidewalk on the even side of Cherry Street SW from Courthouse Road to Cottage Street. Council postponed indefinitely decisions about sidewalks on other proposed streets.
- Held a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Town Code, Chapter 18-Zoning, Article 19-Nameplates and Signs, relating to temporary sign regulations. Council deferred to a future meeting consideration of the amendments.

- Approved payment not to exceed \$87,158.98 to Tyler Technology for the third year payment of a standard maintenance agreement for the Police Department's computer-aided dispatch, law enforcement records management, and mobile data systems.
- Approved \$368,000 in FY21 spending with Arthur Construction for roadway milling, overlay, and traffic marking on Town streets.
- Set a public hearing for October 5 regarding amending the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to Town-owned property at 301 Center Street S and referred the matter to the Planning Commission for consideration. Council also directed the Town Clerk to advertise a Notice of Public Hearing.
- Readopted an emergency ordinance, to expire January 31, 2021, related to operation of child day care centers by existing businesses in commercial and industrial zoning districts and by public, semi-public, and private institutions in other zones.
- Adopted the 2021 Town Council meeting calendar and adopted Liberty Amendments Day as an official Town holiday. Council also rescinded the Christmas Eve half-day holiday and replaced it with a floating holiday for all employees.
- Directed the Town Clerk to advertise a Notice of Intent to Adopt at the October 5 meeting proposed amendments to the Town's personnel code.
- Approved a request from Kirkland and Ellis LLP and Ramboll US Corporation to undertake a pro bono project to complete a legal, policy, and technical analysis to identify tree programs and initiatives that could be beneficial to the Town.
- Awarded a capital lease equipment purchase contract to US Bancorp at an interest rate of 1.128%.
- Approved expenditure of funds not to exceed \$407,628.33 for replacement of a street maintenance plow truck and sanitation truck.
- Approved a resolution designating the Old Courthouse Road sidewalk project as a VDOT Revenue Sharing project.

Appointed to serve

Town Council appointed or re-appointed the following individuals to boards and commissions at its August 31 and September 14 meetings:

Holly Aglio – Vienna Public Arts Commission

Keith Aimone – Transportation Safety Commission

Midge Biles – Vienna Public Art Commission

Sharon Baum – Planning Commission

Craig Burns – Conservation and Sustainability Commission

Sonali Chandra – Conservation and Sustainability Commission

Peter Hartogs – Transportation Safety Commission

Julie Kylo – Windover Heights Board of Review

Andrew Meren – Planning Commission

John O'Keefe – Pedestrian Advisory Committee


Charlie Strunk – Transportation Safety Commission

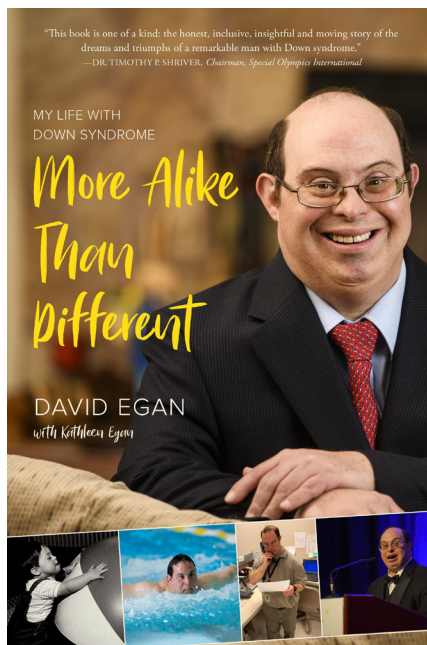
Town residents have 'write' stuff

Vienna has been a creative hot spring recently with several citizens publishing books. Two of Vienna's bevy of scribes include longtime resident Peter Wacht, who published in August the sixth book, *The Lost Kestrel Found*, in his fantasy Sylvan Chronicles series, and David Egan, champion of the rights of individuals with intellectual disabilities, who has published his memoir, *More Alike Than Different: My Life with Down Syndrome*.

Wacht's newest novel features two characters based on his children, his son, who is a senior at William and Mary College, and his daughter, a senior at George C. Marshall High School.

"I've incorporated scenes into the books based on some of their experiences growing up," Wacht says. "Even with fantasy and when you're creating a new world, you're still pulling on your life experiences and those around you and bringing them into that new world to give it some substance."

A Special Olympics Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger and certified leadership coach, Egan began work on his memoir two years ago to demonstrate that a large group of people whom society has tended to underestimate and misunderstand has blossomed in countless ways as laws and attitudes have changed. 



Vienna businesses with staying power

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

40 YEARS
Cuppert Performing Arts Center

25 YEARS
Allen S. Garai
The Italian Gourmet
Oscar's Improvements
Posh!

20 YEARS
Advanced Pediatrics

15 YEARS
Cynthia Pearson
The Personal Edge

10 YEARS
Assal Bakery International
Bikes@Vienna
Culinaria Cooking School
Debby Rubinfeld
Massage On Us
Vienna Periodontics

5 YEARS
The Cilician Jeweler
IT Availability
Korff Consulting



Open for business

Town of Vienna business licenses were issued in August to:

Avid Impact
consulting
312 Broadleaf Drive NE
919-274-0775

Behind Your Every Day
dog walking/admin assistance
571-749-8221

Crumbl Cookies
bakery/carryout
203 Maple Avenue E
301-922-3392

Gut Logic
computer software development
501 Orchard Street NW
608-469-5219

Janet E. Hoffman
consultant
616 Hillcrest Drive SW
703-625-5135

Just Smilez Kids and Family Dental
dentist
410 Pine Street SE
703-865-4036





HAPPENINGS around town

Because the **Committee for Helping Others (CHO)** will not be able to host its Christmas Store this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, the organization is getting an early start on collecting **gift cards** toward its goal of helping more than 200 families to have a holiday meal and some 400 children, ages 0 to 18, to receive gifts. Please consider donating Giant or Safeway gift cards for food and Walmart or Target gift cards for gifts; suggested card amounts are \$25 or \$50. Donations are being accepted online at cho-va.com or gift cards may be mailed to CHO at PO Box 233, Vienna 22183 or dropped off in the mail slot at CHO's Food Closet at 133 Park Street NE. Questions? Call 703-281-7614 and leave a message in box #1.

You're invited to the **Freeman Store Used Book Cellar's socially distanced fourth birthday bash** from 12-4 pm Saturday, October 3. Used book donations may be delivered in boxes or bags and placed on the Freeman Store porch anytime. Textbooks, magazines, and romance novels are not accepted. Contributions are greatly appreciated; proceeds from the Used Book Cellar fund Historic Vienna, Inc. exhibits, programs, and events.

The **CROP Walk** for hunger relief, which is more vital than ever this year, kicks off with an in-person, group walk at 2 pm Sunday, October 4 (meet at Vienna Court condos, 133 Park Street NE). Participants also can walk on their own through October 25. Register and donate at crophungerwalk.org/viennava. A quarter of funds raised will support the Committee for Helping Others, a Vienna-based nonprofit that provides a food pantry and other emergency assistance to local residents. The bulk of funds raised will support Church World Services, a multifaith global humanitarian nonprofit.

Vienna Host Lions Club will hold a **fundraiser** from 11 am-9 pm October 6 at Foster's Grille. Simply put your receipt in the Lion's box, and Foster's will donate 20% of your purchase to Lions' youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. For more information, call Tom Comi at 703-281-4575 or visit facebook.com/viennahostlionsclub.

Renowned artist **Peter Ulrich** will present a virtual art demonstration, hosted by the **Vienna Arts Society**, from 10:30 am-12:30 pm Thursday, October 8. Join this Zoom event by clicking on the invitation at ViennaArtsSociety.org. Utilizing the compact, lightweight painting equipment he uses when traveling, Ulrich will show and discuss some of his sketchbook paintings and then paint an ink-and-wash scene from a photograph.

The **Freeman Store** will **reopen** from 12-3 pm Saturdays in October beginning October 10. The main

floor, Used Book Cellar, and exhibits will be open. For more information, visit historicviennainc.org. Strict guidelines to safeguard employees and visitors will be in place:

- Masks are required.
- Visitors are limited to five at a time.
- Credit card transactions only.
- Visits limited to 20 minutes if there is a queue.
- Social distancing required inside.

The **Shepherd's Center** is offering a three-part **Just Breathe... We've Got You** webinar series this fall for seniors as well as their adult children and friends. A variety of topics will be covered each session, scheduled from 9:45 am-noon October 13, November 10, and December 8. This free series is sponsored by Navy Federal Credit Union, AARP, and Kensington Reston Senior Living. Sign up by calling the Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0601; contact Mike Mulreany at mulreany@verizon.net for Zoom demo information. October 13 topics include:

- "Caring for Your Loved One at Home" with Sally Hume, an elder law attorney with AARP Health Education and author of *Wise Moves: Checklist for Where to Live, What to Consider, and Whether to Stay or Go*
- "Are You Ready Financially to Take the Next Step?" with Anne Marie Ferdinando, regional outreach manager with Navy Federal Credit Union
- "How to Keep Engaged and Connected with Loved Ones" with Angela Bailey, executive director of Kensington Reston Senior Living
- "Breath and Meditation" with yoga teacher and life coach Katie Courlander.

Historic Vienna, Inc. (HVI) will host its **fall membership meeting** at 7:30 pm Tuesday, October 20, via Zoom; details are available at historicviennainc.org. Longtime Vienna residents **Gloria Runyon and Sylvia Taylor** will present highlights of **Vienna's African-American History**. The presentation will cover longtime families, their contributions to the community, and important sites, including churches, schools, cemeteries, parks, homes, and landmarks. The program will follow a short business meeting and presentation of HVI's Volunteer of the Year Award.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church has voted to become a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation and to publicly affirm its welcome to all seeking God's love and grace, regardless of race, culture, national origin, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity of expression, relationship or socioeconomic status,

addictions, physical or mental health, disability, imprisonment, age, or other circumstances. The Reconciling in Christ program supports Lutheran congregations and other organizations who have made a public commitment to welcome, include, and celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual people. Online worship at elcvienna.org is available to all at 9 am Sundays.

A new **Nature and Wildlife exhibit** will be on display through Halloween at the Windover Building, 243 Church Street NW, by appointment only and employing social-distancing strategies and masks. In addition to the exhibit, you'll find handmade jewelry, cast glass and pottery, greeting cards, and other unique pieces created by **Vienna Arts Society** members. To visit, please call 703-319-3971 from 12-4 pm Wednesday-Saturday.

Historic Vienna Inc.'s oral history committee is expanding. If interested in helping with transcribing or conducting interviews or if you have a suggestion for an interesting person to interview, contact hvioralhistory@gmail.com.

Though all rehearsals and concerts have been canceled through December due to the covid-19 pandemic, the **Town of Vienna Community Band** remains an active association of musicians. The band will host small-group, **pop-up mini concerts** around Town and within neighborhoods. Keep an ear out for musical strains as you stroll around the Town Green or even your own neighborhood. For more information, visit viennacommunityband.org.

The **Haromina Day Program** offers students the structure of in-person education with the added benefit of socialization with peers in a safe, socially distanced environment. The structured school day includes supervision during virtual school classes, homework and study help, physical movement, group music and theater classes, and daily dance breaks in small groups of no more than 15 students/group. Harmonia School of Music and Art also is offering online and in-person music lessons. To register, visit harmoniachool.org; for more information, call 703-938-7301.

Happenings Around Town notices are printed as a community service, and items are included as space allows. Submit information 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.

**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

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**VIENNA
VOICE**

October TOWN CALENDAR

2	Meet the Mayor (Glyndon Park) • 9-10:30 am
2	Fall Family Fun Night (Facebook Live) • 6:30 pm
3	Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am-noon
5	Town Council Meeting • 8 pm
6	Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 pm
8	Town Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm
10	Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am-noon
10	Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Open House (VFD) • 10 am-4 pm
12	Holiday: Town Offices & Community Center Closed/ Regular Waste Collection
13	On Deck with Mercury • 6-8 pm
14	Planning Commission • 7:30 pm
15	Board of Architectural Review • 7:30 pm
16	Mayor's Walk • 9:30 am
17	Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am-noon
19	Town Council Work Session • 7:30 pm

20	Public Art Commission • 7 pm
21	Board of Zoning Appeals/Public Hearing • 7 pm
22	Conservation and Sustainability Commission • 7:30 pm
23	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (VCC) • 7 pm
24	Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am-noon
24	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (VCC) • 2 pm
24	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (via Zoom) • 7 pm
26	Town Council Meeting • 8 pm
27	Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee • 7 pm
27	Transportation Safety Commission • 8 pm
30	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (VCC) • 7 pm
31	Vienna Farmers Market (VCC) • 8 am-noon
31	Halloween Wave Parade • 10 am
31	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (VCC) • 2 pm
31	Vienna Theatre Company: In Living Sound (via Zoom) • 7 pm

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S. Meeting schedule subject to change; check viennava.gov for updates.