VIENNA OICE

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



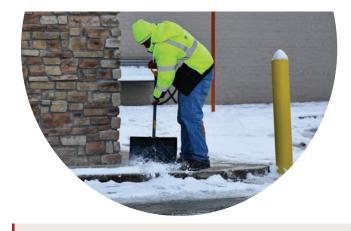
No "Snow-prises" Here!

t's safe to say that winter is in full swing after the first official snowstorm of 2024 in mid-January. Given the warmer temperatures and amount of rainfall just one week before, the inclement weather and impromptu snow day came as a surprise to many who thought the forecasted snowfall would prove to be a fluke. Though that wasn't the case for the Town's hard-working Parks and Recreation and Public Works staff members who know to be prepared for anything.

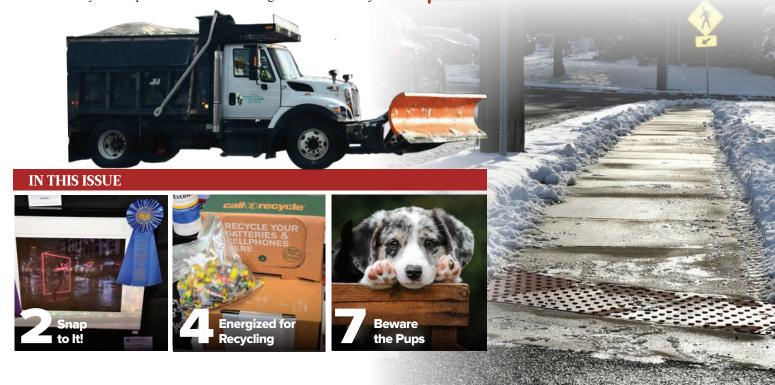
"In the days leading up, with temperatures approaching freezing and then dipping well below freezing during and after the storm, we tried to mitigate the impact," said operations superintendent Jonathan Wooden. "We deployed our brine trucks, pre-treated roads, sidewalks, and parking lots, and spent day and night monitoring the situation." Parks and Recreation Director Leslie Herman added "We were prepared for anything, but no event is without its challenges."

Both Wooden and Herman agree that timing and temperature fluctuation can play a big role in how Town snow removal crews respond during a winter weather event. "It's one thing to be prepared, it's another to act accordingly during an hour-by-hour situation, especially when our crews are out in the elements" said Wooden. Herman confirms "But everyone acts as a team and is excellent at rolling with the punches and adapting to change."

Crews worked around the clock in 12-hour shifts treating roads and shoveling sidewalks to ease the impact of the first snowfall of the year. There aren't any "snow-prises" when these unsung heroes are on the job!



FOR UPDATES on the Town's operating status during inclement weather, check the Town's social media pages @TownofViennaVA, or visit the web: www.viennava.gov or tune into the Town Cable Channel (Cox 27 or Verizon 38). You can also sign up for text messages or email notification via Vienna Alerts at www.viennava.gov/alerts.





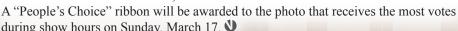
Call for Entries - Vienna Photo Show!

nap to it amateur shutterbugs! The Vienna Photo Show is just around the corner and now is the time to plan your entry.

All metropolitan-area amateur photographers are eligible to enter the contest, which will take place at the Vienna Community Center on March 16-17. Entries will be accepted March 14 and 15.

For contest details and to download an application, visit **www.viennava.gov/photo** or call 703-255-6395. Applications are also available for pickup at the Vienna Community Center front desk. Middle and high school students are invited to submit their photography and will be judged separately from adult photographers.

Ribbons will be awarded for first, second and third place and honorable mention in seven categories including: animal, nature, pictorial, scenic, architecture, photojournalism, and portraiture. One "Best in Show" ribbon will be awarded in the adult division, and one will be awarded in the student division.





Vienna Theatre Company Presents...

arm up your winter with Vienna Theatre Company!
Two great performances take center stage this month at the Vienna Community Center.

"Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf"
A Theater for Young Audiences Production
Saturday, Feb. 3
11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The whole family will love this hilarious comedy which cleverly combines the "Three Little Pigs" and "Little Red Riding Hood"

with a very hungry wolf stuck between them. Children and adults will delight in the whirlwind antics of the three pigs, a Canadian woodsman and Cornelius B. B. Wolf who might actually get something to eat, if he doesn't keep blowing things away. This performance is suitable for ages 3 and older. Tickets are available at the door only; \$5/child, \$8/senior, \$10/adult. Cash, check (payable to Vienna Theatre Company) and credit card (Visa and Mastercard) accepted.

Theatre, continued on page 4



Updates from Vienna Parks & Recreation



Sign Up for Vienna Happenings Newsletter

For weekly updates on events and fun things to do around town, sign up for the Town's weekly e-newsletter, "Vienna Happenings" here: www.viennava.gov/ happenings. Subscribers should check their junk mail

and email security settings. There are reports of "Vienna Happenings" emails are going to spam. For quick updates, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @TownofViennaVa.

Vienna Community Center Holiday Hours Monday, Feb 19 (Presidents Day): 10 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

All 2024 Vienna Community Center holiday hours are available at www.viennava.gov/hours. The Community Center's Holiday Open gym schedule is available at www.viennava.gov/opengym.

Lunar New Year Celebration-Year of the Dragon Wednesday, Feb. 7 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Lunar New Year is a celebration of the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the lunisolar calendar. It is the most important holiday in many Asian countries. Join us as we welcome the year of the Dragon by celebrating the Lunar New Year with friends. The celebration will feature Asian cuisine provided by the Davis Career Center, along with entertainment by Hong Dance School. This event is presented by Vienna Parks and Recreation, the Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia, and Brightview Senior Living. For adults ages 55 and up. The registration fee is \$20 per person. Prepayment is due Feb. 1. To register call the Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0538.

Club Phoenix Teen Center First Semester Open House

Thursday, Feb. 1 2:30-7:00 p.m.

Vienna Community Center Basement -Club Phoenix Teen Center

You're invited to our First Semester Open House! Come learn about all the exciting endeavors we have planned for your teens to be a teen! The Teen Center is a safe and structured environment where teens can socialize, build new skills,

explore fun activities, and get to know more about themselves and the community they live in. **Is your teen already a member?** Come see where your teen hangouts after school and inquire about getting them more involved. This is a great opportunity to play games and ask staff members about volunteer opportunities and how to become a Teen Council member. Light refreshments will be provided.





Spring Registration for Parks and Recreation Program and Events!

The Spring Program and Events Guide is out now and available here: www.viennava.gov/parkguide.

Registration starts at 8 a.m. on February 5 for Town residents and at 8 a.m. on Feb. 12 for non-residents. Register in person at the Vienna Community Center or online at www.viennava.gov/webtrac.



Theatre, continued from page 2

"Shakespeare in Hollywood" Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2-3 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 2 p.m.

It's 1934, and Shakespeare's most famous fairies, Oberon and Puck, have magically materialized on the Warner Bros. Hollywood set of Max Reinhardt's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Instantly smitten by the glitz and glamour of show biz, the two are ushered onto the silver screen to play (who else?) themselves. With a little help from a feisty flower, blonde bombshells, movie moguls, and arrogant "asses" are tossed into loopy love triangles, with raucous results. The mischievous magic of moviedom sparkles in this hilarious comic romp. All tickets are \$16 and can be purchased in advance online: www.viennava.gov/theatre. Tickets can also be purchased at the door before showtime, if still available.



Charged Up for Battery Recycling

t's been almost two years since the Town launched its battery recycling campaign and residents continue to take advantage of the program, dropping off batteries in droves. So far, public works has collected and shipped over 424.5 lbs. of household and tool batteries for recycling.

"After all this time, battery recycling is still going strong here in the Town," says Adam Lehman. "Vienna residents have really shown us their commitment to recycling and helping the environment through this program which ultimately keeps batteries out of landfills."

Mr. Lehman reminds everyone that recycling used batteries is not only the right thing to do, but also the safe thing to do. "Batteries contain toxic chemicals like lead, nickel, and mercury that can leak into drinking water sources if thrown in the trash. It's best to recycle them. You'll keep your family safe, help the environment, and keep our drinking water free of those toxic chemicals."

Residents can drop off almost any regular size or rechargeable battery weighing less than 11 pounds that powers electronics, cell phones or children's toys during regular business hours at Vienna Town Hall. Residents can use plastic zip bags for each lithium-ion battery, but bags are available at each recycling box location as well.

All batteries, including car batteries, can be dropped off at the Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St. NE in Vienna on Quarterly Recycling days. The next Quarterly Recycling Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Alternatively, if you can't make it to a Quarterly Recycling Day, you can recycle batteries anytime at the Fairfax County I-66 or I-95 Transfer Station.

To learn more about recycling in the Town of Vienna, visit www.viennava.gov/recycling.





Richmond, Dillon and Billin'

BY COUNCILMEMBER CHUCK ANDERSON



n conversations about local government authority, you may have heard the phrase "but Virginia is a 'Dillon Rule' state," and wondered what that means. The answer is pretty simple: A Dillon Rule state is one in which local government authority is derived solely from the powers conferred upon them by the State. The Vienna Town Council can't do anything it wants about issues such as tree canopy loss or vape shops unless we have been granted specific authority by the state to do so.

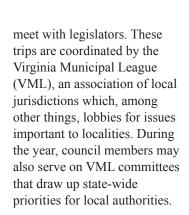
This is a major restriction on what we can do at the local level. If the Town Council desires to act in an area where it doesn't have state-bestowed authority, its only option is to "work Richmond" to try to get that authority.

So, how do we "work Richmond?" First, the Town establishes an annual list of legislative priorities to share with our local senator and delegate (right now, Saddam Salim and Holly Siebold, respectively). Our state representatives consider the priorities in formulating their own draft bills to introduce into the Virginia House and Senate for further consideration. At times, council members get involved directly in the process, by testifying in support or opposition to a particular bill.

This year, the Town Council's top three requests are

- 1. more local authority to address tree canopy loss;
- 2. opposition to any proposed nearby casino; and
- 3. no reduction in local zoning regulations.

To further push for these priorities, council members travel to Richmond annually while the Virginia General Assembly is in session, to make personal pleas and



Finally, as council members, we try to stay in close contact with our legislative delegation, as well as elected officials in nearby jurisdictions. We exchange ideas and look for issues of common interest on which we can join forces. When it comes to seeking change in Richmond, there is power in numbers.

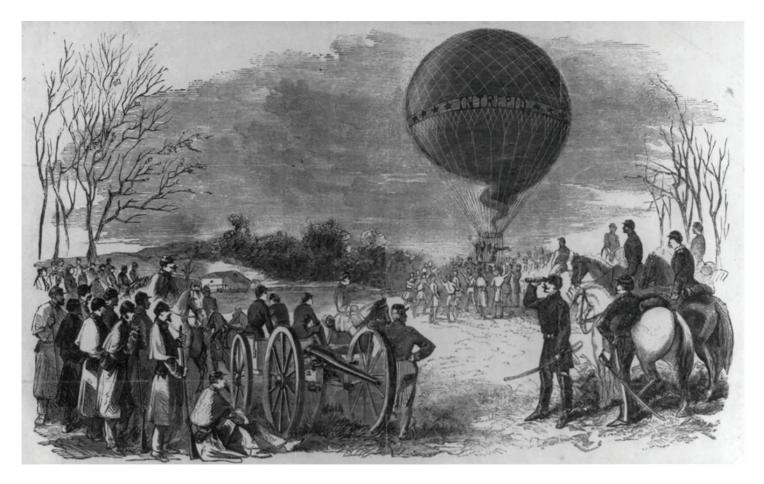


New Year, New Mayor & Chief at Your Service

024 is in full swing and that means all new Mayor and Chief at Your Service forums are on the horizon! Get set for the first of four, quarterly forums featuring Mayor Linda Colbert and Vienna Police Chief Jim Morris, on Feb. 13, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Vienna Police Department Community Room.

Join local historian and author, Jim Lewis, for a deep dive through history as he explores the life of a Civil War Union soldier, Charles Russell Lowell Jr., and his special connection to Vienna. Afterward, Chief Morris and Mayor Colbert will be available to talk all things Vienna and answer your questions. Refreshments will be served. The Vienna Police Department is located at 215 Center St. S., Vienna.





Picture it!

ienna, 1861. This vintage image depicts Professor Aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe's hot air balloon ascension on a reconnoitering expedition to Vienna, Va., during the Civil War. Lowe's record is impressive, and we're not just blowing hot air! Known as the grandfather of the United States Air Force, Lowe built five balloons used to spy on the Confederate Army and was considered "the most shot-at man" due to his high profile in the air. He also built one of the largest balloons ever constructed to cross the Atlantic.



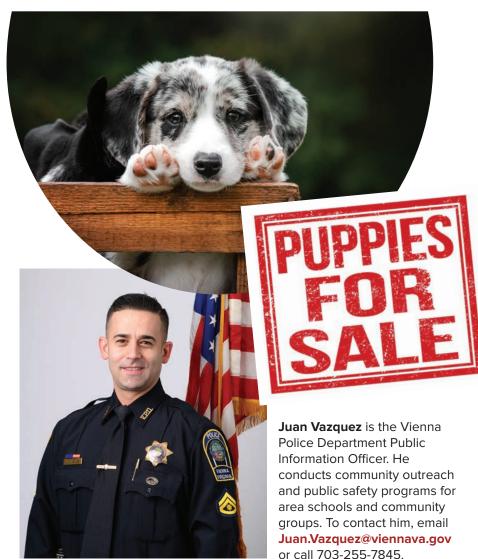
Word from Juan

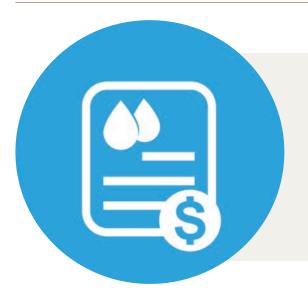
Beware of the Puppy Scam!

ere's a buyer-beware story that's sure to have you chasing your tail! It involves an online scam that pulls you in with images of cuddly puppies and promises to sell you your dream pet, only to have the fraudsters disappear with your money. In one case, the scammers supplied buyers with a Vienna address to pick up a puppy or a kitten they purchased online, only to have the buyers show up to find out they were victims of fraud! People from all over the United States and Canada have driven to this Vienna address to pick up a pet they paid for via phone, email, Zelle, or other sites that are constantly changing. It got so bad that at one point the homeowner decided to put up a front-door sign advising would-be pet buyers that they had been victims of fraud and to contact Vienna Police.

Detectives are working hard to shut down these sites, but the criminals keep opening new sites and changing their tactics. Since 2009, there have been 18 pet fraud case reports, and the most recent was on Dec. 16, 2023.

To avoid becoming a victim, be sure to do your research before purchasing a pet online. Check reviews, research reputable places to buy pets, and always pay in person once you have the pet in your hands. Don't be another victim of the puppy scam and lose hundreds or even thousands of dollars. Stay vigilant and be safe, Vienna!





Introducing Water & Sewer e-Billing!

ired of opening envelopes? Now's your chance to go green with Water & Sewer e-billing! Beginning January 31, 2024, the Town will send bills via email to all customers who have an email address on file. Paper bills will continue to be mailed until the Town receives an opt-out notice. If you would like to go green and opt-out of paper billing, please send your request to water@viennava.gov or call 703-255-6385.



MEET THE MAYOR





It's Snow Season, Please Be a Good Neighbor!

ust as the Town has a responsibility to clear streets and public sidewalks after a snowfall, it is imperative that commercial and residential property owners do their part to help keep public passageways safe by clearing parking lots, sidewalks and other customer-facing or public areas on their property. Please be sure residential and other private snow-clearing activities are completed without piling snow on public streets, sidewalks or other public rights-of-way. By working together, Vienna can weather any winter storm and get moving again efficiently.

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

- Meet the Mayor: Periodically Mayor Colbert sets up "office" in various Vienna locations. The next "Meet the Mayor" is on Friday, Feb. 2, from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Virginian Restaurant, 169 Glyndon St., SE. On March 1, "Meet the Mayor" will be at Café Amouri. 107 Church St., NE. Stop by, grab some coffee or breakfast, and share your thoughts.
- **Business Walkabout:** The mayor and Economic **Development Director** Natalie Monkou visit various businesses on the second Friday of each month.
- Mayor's Walk: Join Mayor Colbert for a chat and stroll through the Town on the third Friday of most months. The next walk is on Friday, Feb. 16. Meet in front of Town Hall at 9:30 a.m.
- Office Hours: Drop in for open office hours 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, during which time the mayor will do her best to be available or schedule a Wednesday meeting. To make an appointment, email mclark@viennava.gov or call 703-255-6304.

Mayor Colbert also does a weekly Facebook video highlighting upcoming events and Town Council business. You can catch it each Wednesday on the Town Facebook page @ TownofViennaVA.



Open for business

Town of Vienna business licenses were issued in December to:

Red Bird The UPS Store

Restaurant Sale of Packaging Supplies

282 Cedar Ln. SE 344 Maple Ave. W

Stretch LabLara Hammock TherapyStretch Studioand Couples Counseling318 Maple Ave. WMental Health Counseling

Mental Health Counseling 501 Church St. NE, #301

Vansmiledesign, P.C.

Dentist (A)

139 Church St. NW, #A

Yamachen Sushi

Restaurant

320 Maple Ave. W



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

35 YEARS

NOVA DENTAL CARE

30 YEARS

CAMEO COINS & COLLECTIBLES LLC
IGS DIAMONDS, INC.
MCKINNEY FINANCIAL PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

25 YEARS

MEDICLEAN SERVICES, INC.

10 YEARS

WASHINGTON EQUITY, LLC

5 YEARS

DOLLAR TREE

GENERATIONS WEALTH MANAGEMENT MCENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC.

MELODY YAZDANI STUDIOS LLC NEW YORK SCHOOL OF ARTS

REFORMING SOLUTIONS LLC

SWANSIE, LLC

WARD & CO. ACCOUNTING SERVICES, LLC
WEIGEL TAX AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES LLC



Mayor's Pet of the Month

eet Moose! By all accounts, he might not look like a moose, but this sweet pup sure has a large presence. Moose has changed the lives of his new family members for the better, but it was only by sheer determination that this cute pup became a part of the Conforti family. After more than three years of insisting the family get a dog, Avery (pictured with Moose), finally won over her parents. Now, Moose never misses a chance to play catch or go on long or short walks with his new-found family and the rest is history.

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

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

Time for Renewal

eads up! Town of Vienna business license renewals are due Friday, March 1, 2024. Submit your payment along with a signed, completed renewal form including a list of renters and a contractor's certificate of workers' compensation insurance if applicable. Questions? Call the business license office at 703-255-6321. For more information and business license documents, visit www.viennava.gov/businesslicense.



HAPPENINGS around town

Starting a Women-Owned Business with Help of the Small Business Administration Saturday, Feb. 3 2 p.m.

Ever wonder what it takes to start a business? Learn more at this special presentation at Patrick Henry Library. Hear from Cindy Butler, Director of the Women's Business Center, who oversees training and counseling for individual entrepreneurs and groups who want to form women-owned businesses. This program is cohosted by Patrick Henry Library and American Association of University Women (AAUW) Vienna Chapter and is open to the public.

Saturday at the Movies! Saturday, Feb. 10 1:30 p.m.



Come watch "Best of Enemies," based on a true story, with a discussion following the viewing at 100 Ayr Hill Ave., NE. This community event is presented jointly by Faith Encounters Community Church and Vienna Assembly of God. For more information about the movie, visit **www.viennaag. com/movie**.

Used Book Sale Sunday, Feb. 11 12-2 p.m.

Stop into the Freeman Store located at 131 Church St. NE for its annual Super Bowl Sunday Used Book Sale Bag Sale! Bags will be given out to each customer and the cost per bag of books is \$8. All proceeds support Historic Vienna, Inc. programming, workshops, and exhibits. For more information, visit www.historicviennainc. org or call 703-938-5187.

Lions Club Dining for Dollars Fundraiser Tuesday, Feb. 13 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Enjoy a delicious meal and support a worthy cause by dining at Foster's Grille Vienna on Tuesday, Feb. 13 and the second Tuesday of every month. Simply ask the cashier to put your receipt in the Lions' box. and Foster's will donate 20% of your purchase to Lions' youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. If you have used eyeglasses and hearing aids, please bring them with you for donation. For more information contact Lion Tom at golfertom1943@gmail.com.

Art Exhibition Thursday, Feb. 15 4-7 p.m.

The Vienna Arts Society's Artist of the Year, Joyce Myers, presents a collection of her artworks in the Vienna Art Center, Windover Professional Building, 243 Church St. NE, Suite 100 LL. Enjoy a sip and a bite and meet Joyce and other artists celebrating winter. The center is also open Wednesday to Saturday, 12-4 p.m. and by appointment by calling 703-319-3971. Be sure to check out VAS paintings and photographs in the Gallery in the Village Green, 513 Maple Ave., W, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through March 16.

Windmill Jazz Collective Performance

Saturday, Feb. 17 2 p.m.



Treat yourself to a live performance by the Windmill Jazz Collective at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE. For more than a decade, this group of hobbyist musicians has performed jazz tunes, primarily from the mid-20th century to the delight of jazz-loving audiences in the area. This program is hosted by the Patrick Henry Library and the Vienna Community Center. For more information, visit https://bit.ly/WindmillJC.

American Legion Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser

Sunday, Feb. 18 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Continue Valentines Day with American Legion Post 180's Legendary Breakfast Buffet! Enjoy Joe's custom omelets, scrambled eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, pancakes, Vienna's own Gravy Lady's renowned sausage gravy & biscuits, Post 180 cake & a Valentine treat. Proceeds will be used to send local high school students to Girls State and to support youth activities. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children younger than 12. For more information call 703-409-3564. American Legion Post 180 is located at 330 Center St. N., Vienna, Va.

Virtual Book Club

Feb. 20 and Third Tuesdays through May

7 p.m.

Are you interested in Vienna's history? Join the Virginia Room and Historic Vienna Inc. on Tuesday, Feb. 20 for a virtual history book club to read and discuss "This Was Vienna, Virginia" by Connie and Mayo Stuntz. Drop in Anytime! To register, visit https://library calendar.fairfaxcounty.gov and search "Fairfax County History Book Club." Questions? Contact HVI at historicviennainc@gmail.com.



Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Party

Saturday, March 23 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Music, crafts, games and Easter egg hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny are featured in this annual tradition hosted by American Legion Post 180 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 180. The Children's Easter Egg and Party is held indoors at American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street, N, Vienna. The party is open to children ages 12 and younger, and lunch will be provided to all attendees. Children must be accompanied by an adult family member. This event is free but pre-registration is required for all attendees, including adults, and is open from Feb. 1 through March 15 or until registration has reached maximum capacity whichever comes first. To register, visit https://bit.ly/AL180party.



History by Appointment January and February



The Freeman Store & Museum, Used Book Cellar and Little Library Museum are open by appointment only in January & February. To schedule a tour, visit, or to make a purchase, email HistoricViennaVa@gmail.com. Book donations for the Used Book Cellar are welcome year-round. Find out how to donate and what is excepted online: www.historic viennainc.org.

Golden Girls Softball League

May-July and September-October

Play ball! The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players to join the league! Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join, and all skill levels are welcome. Golden Girls league plays most Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings at Vienna's Southside Park from May-July and September-October. For more information, visit www.goldengirls.org.



CONTACT Vienna

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PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE 703-255-6330

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Chuck Anderson

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Full Council

Council@viennava.gov

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.Brad Baer	. 703-255-6380
	. Mercury T. Payton

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

Police,
Fire & Rescue
Emergency
911
(Voice & TDD)

Vienna Police

703-938-4900 voice 703-255-5730 TDD Non-emergency 703-255-6366 voice 703-255-5730 TDD **Community Center**

703-255-6360 voice TTY Virginia Relay 711 120 Cherry St. SE Vienna, VA 22180 **Vienna Town Hall**

703-255-6300 voice TTY Virginia Relay 711 127 Center Street South Vienna, VA 22180-5179 Monday-Friday • 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Merrifield, VA Permit No. 36



February town calendar

1	Club Phoenix Open House • 2:30-7 p.m
2	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) ● 8 p.m.
3	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) ◆ 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 8 p.m.
4	Vienna Theatre Company (VCC) ◆ 2 p.m.
5	Town Council Meeting ● 7:30 p.m.
6	Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 p.m.
8	Town Business Liaison Committee ◆ 7 p.m.
12	Town Council Conference Session (VPD) • 7 p.m.
13	Mayor and Chief at Your Service (VPD) • 7 p.m.
14	Planning Commission • 7:30 p.m.
15	Board of Architectural Review • 7:30 p.m.

17	NOVA Model Railroaders Open House • 1-5 p.m.
19	Town Offices Closed (Presidents' Day)
	(Regular waste collection) (VCC Open 10 a.m10:30 p.m.)
20	Vienna Public Art Commission (VCC) • 7 p.m.
21	Board of Zoning Appeals • 7:30 p.m.
22	CSC Meeting (VCC) • 7:30 p.m.
26	Town Council Meeting • 7:30 p.m.
27	Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee • 7 p.m.
27	Transportation Safety Commission ● 8 p.m.
28	Planning Commission • 7:30 p.m.