

VIENNA Voice

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

JULY
2025

History Rolls Along Celebrating the Nation's 250th Birthday



Step back in time and experience Virginia's central role in the American Revolution when the VA250 Mobile Museum Experience, "Out of Many, One," visits Vienna during Liberty Amendments Month. The mobile museum utilizes high-tech displays, interactive exhibits, and compelling artifacts to engage visitors of all ages in a journey through pivotal events, groundbreaking ideas, and diverse individuals who shaped the United States of America in its earliest days. It highlights Virginia's essential contributions as the birthplace of the nation and its ongoing pursuit of a more perfect union.

You can experience this innovative traveling exhibit at Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center St., S, from July 10-12. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

The VA250 Mobile Museum is traveling throughout the state and beyond to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War and the Independence of the United States. For more information, visit www.va250.org/mobile-museum.

★ Virginia Changemakers ★ VIRGINIANS WORKING FOR A MORE PERFECT UNION



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Parade Ushers in Liberty Amendments Month Events

It was all smiles on Saturday, June 14 as the Town of Vienna's first-ever Liberty Amendments Month Parade down Maple Avenue ushered in the month-long event to celebrate the American way of life. The parade led to this year's Juneteenth festival at First Baptist Church on Orchard Street, NW, in Vienna, featuring family-friendly activities and voter registration.

Liberty Amendments Month comprises multiple events that celebrate the Constitutional Amendments that give all U.S. citizens a say in how they are governed, regardless of their culture or station in life. The month commemorates the passage of the 13th, 14th, 15th and 19th Amendments, which granted full rights to citizens who were previously excluded from the U.S. Constitution. The Town of Vienna initiated the celebration in 2021 after Juneteenth was declared a state holiday.

The celebration continues this month with a slate of activities that everyone is sure to enjoy.

All Liberty Amendments (13th, 14th, 15th and 19th) are at the heart of Vienna's Independence Day celebration, which takes place from 6-10 p.m. on Wednesday, July 2, at Yeonas Park. The patriotic event includes live music, and of course the main event — a spectacular fireworks display beginning at 9:30 p.m.

On the traditional Independence Day, July 4 at 11 a.m., community members are invited to take part in an inspiring reading of our nation's foundational documents at the Vienna Community Center. Community members will read portions of the Fairfax Resolves, Virginia Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, Emancipation Proclamation, and each of the Liberty Amendments in a round-robin style to reflect on the legal framework penned by our Founding Fathers, which continue to support the nation nearly 250 years after its birth.

Several other historical presentations, activities and events for people of all ages will take place throughout Liberty Amendments month, including the Vienna Business Association (VBA) Mixer and Empowering Women Panel, the VA250 Mobile Museum Exhibit, a summer concert and the Liberty Amendments Month Children's Readers Theatre. For the full calendar of events, visit www.viennava.gov/liberty.

Liberty Amendments Month is presented by the Town of Vienna in partnership with other governmental organizations and non-profit groups. 🗳️





The Town's Attorney Takes on a New Role

If you've ever attended a Vienna Town Council meeting, you've likely seen Town Attorney Steve Briglia, at the dais providing legal guidance when needed. He has served as the Town Attorney since 2002 and will continue in that role while also serving as the Fairfax Bar Association's new president, effective July 1, 2025.

Briglia has been an active member of the bar association since his law school days and has served in other elected positions within the organization for the past six years. As the association's president, he will represent the bar at ceremonial functions, lead board meetings and help guide the organization's future direction, adapting to changes in the legal field particularly in emerging technology such as artificial intelligence.

Congratulations, Steve! 🎉



Sustainable Garden Tour Featured During July 18 Mayor's Walk

If you think vegetable gardens are seasonal endeavors, think again.

Vienna residents Miguel and Wanpen Ordonez grow greens year-round and harvest tomatoes as early as May in their sustainable, backyard garden. You can see the garden first-hand during the Mayor's Walk on Friday, July 18. This is the third year the tour has been offered. It is limited to 15 people, and preference will be given to those taking the tour for the first time. For more tour details and to register, please call the Town Clerk's office at 703-255-6304. 📞



Periodically Mayor Colbert sets up "office" in various Vienna locations. The next "Meet the Mayor" is on Friday, Aug. 1 from 9-10:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 136 Maple Ave. Stop by, grab some coffee and share your thoughts.



Why Waste Your Food Waste?

Help conserve landfill space and reduce related greenhouse gas emissions by dropping off your food scraps at the Vienna Farmers Market for composting each Saturday through October. Composting is a natural process by which organic waste is broken down into rich nutrient soil. Last year's pilot composting program at the market was so successful, the Town is bringing it back this year until a Town Council-approved permanent composting location can be established in Vienna.

The Vienna Farmers Market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. To learn more about which food scraps are compostable, visit the Town's Conservation and Sustainability webpage, www.viennava.gov/CSC. 🍌



Progress Alert!

Now that the planters along Church Street have been revitalized, the Town is working to make sure the newly planted blooms remain beautiful throughout each season. Irrigation lines are scheduled to be installed along Church Street from Lawyers Road to Mill Street in July and August. Sidewalks will remain open and disruption to businesses is expected to be minimal. 🍌



Updates from Vienna Parks & Recreation

Stay in the Know with Vienna Happenings

Sign up for Vienna Happenings e-newsletter to get weekly updates on fun things to do this summer in the Town of Vienna. To sign up, visit www.viennava.gov/happenings.

Anastasia-The Musical
Fridays and Saturdays
July 19, 25 and 26
7 p.m.
Sundays, July 20 and 27
1:30 p.m.



Vienna Youth Players presents Anastasia based on the 1997 animated feature and the 2017 Broadway musical. This dazzling show transports its audience from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet officer determined to silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing con man and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find a home, love, and family. Tickets are \$18 each and can be purchased in advance online at www.viennava.gov/register or at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, visit www.viennava.gov/theatre.

Chillin' on Church

Vienna's favorite block parties, Chillin' on Church, continues Friday, July 18 and every third Friday of the month through September on historic Church Street. This family-friendly event runs from 6:30- 9:30 p.m. and is complete with live music, food trucks, and beer and wine vendors. Admission is free. To learn more including the monthly live entertainment lineup, visit www.viennava.gov/chillin.



Thanks to our sponsor, Luka Design & Build.

Summer on the Green

Enjoy free Summer on the Green concerts on the Vienna Town Green. The performances on select Fridays through Aug. 22 feature a wide range of musical genres. Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and are approximately 90-minutes long. For more information and to see which bands are playing, visit www.viennava.gov/summeronthegreen.

Thanks to our 2025 series sponsor, Rotary Club of Vienna.

Kids on the Green

Enjoy our 8th annual series of free, interactive kids programs on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in June, July and August. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a 30-45-minute program for kids of all ages on the Freeman Store patio. Call the weather line at 703-255-7842 or check the Town's social media for updates on weather cancellations. For more information, visit www.viennava.gov/kidsonthegreen.

Thanks to our 2025 series sponsors, the Rotary Club of Vienna and Vienna Presbyterian Church.



Stories and Sprinklers

Kids and families are sure to enjoy stories and sprinklers this summer on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. through July 30 near the patio located behind the Freeman Store, 131 Church St., NE. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a 30-45-minute program for kids of all ages. Directly afterward, cool off and have a squealing-good time running through sprinklers on the Town Green lawn.

Presented by the Town of Vienna and Historic Vienna, Inc.

Independence Day Fireworks

Celebrate the nation's 249th birthday early with the Town of Vienna fireworks display on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at Yeonas Park, 1319 Ross Drive, SW. Festivities including live music, children's entertainment, games and other family fun begin at 6 p.m., and a spectacular fireworks display will begin at 9:30 p.m. Food and beverages will be available for purchase, or you can bring your own picnic and snacks. For more information about the festivities and nearby street closures, visit www.viennava.gov/fireworks.



Thanks to our title sponsor Navy Federal Credit Union.

Back to the Future - Repurposing a Historic Landmark



BY COUNCILMEMBER ROY BALDWIN

Last month's Vienna Voice reported that the Town is teaming up with NOVA Parks to explore creating a regional visitor center along the W&OD Trail and mentioned that the proposal allows the Town to explore purchasing "a historic bank building across the street on Dominion Road for future Town use." I'd like to tell you more about that building because, to me, it's the most exciting historic preservation opportunity to come along in years.

Not only is this building historic, it is Vienna's very first bank! According to Connie and Mayo Stuntz' enlightening book "This Was Vienna, Virginia," a group of local businessmen organized as the Vienna National Bank in 1920, constructed this handsome brick building, and moved in three years later. An article in the July 27, 1923, edition of the Fairfax Herald assured prospective depositors that "[t]he vault will be modern and will be as burglar proof as it is possible to make a vault."

In 1929, the company transformed into the Vienna Trust Company, which is how some long-time Vienna residents remember it. For years it was the only bank in the Vienna area, surviving the Wall Street Crash and the Great Depression. It was one of only four banks in Fairfax County to be allowed to reopen after the so-called Bank Holiday of 1933 to allow depositors to withdraw limited sums for absolutely necessary expenses, and for businesses to draw money to meet payrolls.

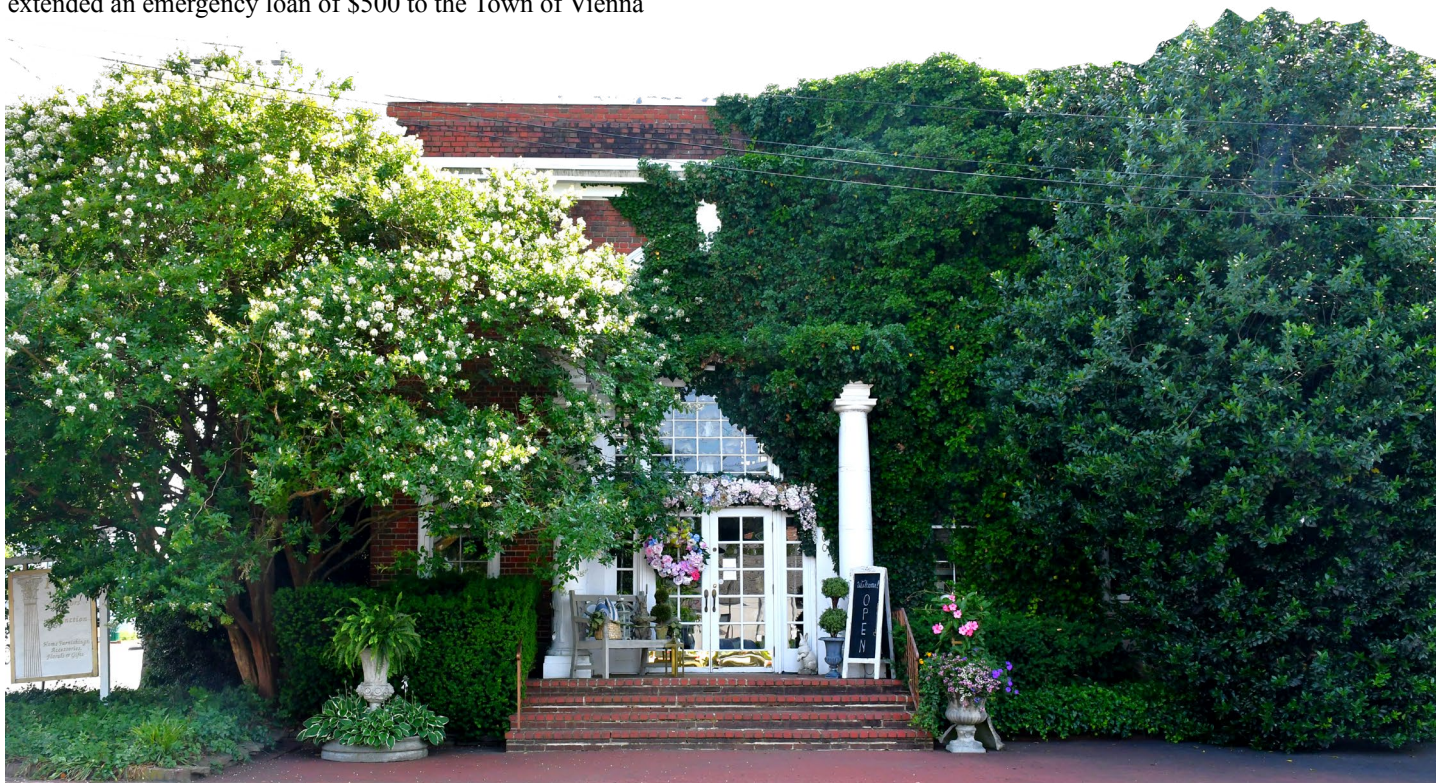
An Aug. 14, 1936, Fairfax Herald reported that the bank extended an emergency loan of \$500 to the Town of Vienna



"to tide the town over until taxes begin to come into the town treasury in November".

Although the building was last occupied as a financial institution years ago, it is largely unchanged from how it looked in the above 1940s photo (albeit in need of some vigorous topiary sculpting!). The Town now has the right to study whether it can be restored to a condition suitable for public use before deciding whether to buy it. If the study results are favorable, I look forward to hearing your ideas for the building's use through multiple engagement opportunities, or you can always email the full Council at council@viennava.gov.

Sincere thanks to Anne Stuntz of Historic Vienna, Inc., for her research for this article. 🍷





Picture it!

Vienna, June 26, 1920. The Vienna National Bank opens for business in this frame building, which had been occupied by Bouton & Milburn, an insurance firm. It was located on Church Street behind the electric railway station operated by the Washington-Virginia Railway. Bank business so rapidly increased, bank trustees started looking for a new home just two years after opening. The new bank building, which is still in existence today, opened to the public on Jan. 12, 1924, at the corner of Church Street and Dominion Road, NE, and is now occupied by Posh!, Inc. 📍

Open for business

Town of Vienna business licenses were issued in May to:

ROSE JASMINE

Florist

272 Cedar Lane, SE

WHERE AM I TEEN COACHING, LLC

Psychotherapist

516 Council Court, NE

917 TIMBER LANE, LLC

Builder & Developer

112 Pleasant St., NW

JUDITH KENT

Massage Therapy

501 Church St., NE

SHILLA BAKERY & CAFÉ

Bakery/Carryout

340 Maple Ave., W

LEGACY BY GRACE REALTY, LLC

Real Estate Brokerage

124 Park St., SE

Vienna businesses with staying power

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

50 YEARS

A LARRY MILLER, MD, LTD

45 YEARS

JOHN WHITNEY PAINTING

30 YEARS

**WHEAT'S LANDSCAPE
DESIGN CENTRE**

25 YEARS

**OBERON SYSTEMS CORPORATION
BECK CONSULTING, LLC**

15 YEARS

**PALM BEACH TAN, INC.
JZB, LLC
CAFFE AMOURI**

10 YEARS

**ASGAARD CAPITAL, LLC
WASHINGTON RESOURCE ASSOCIATES, INC.
ZERO LIMITS VENTURES, LLC
CASTLE SOFTWARE SERVICES, LLC**

5 YEARS

**CABALLEROS TREE SERVICE & LANDSCAPING, LLC
GUT LOGIC, LLC
WAWA #8669
NETZEROENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.
TURNER FITNESS CONSULTING, LLC
7-ELEVEN 10645J**



Word from Juan

Crosswalk and Bicycle Safety – Let's Keep Vienna Moving Safely

Warmer weather always leads to an increase in motor vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic as people venture outdoors. It also increases the potential for serious accidents when people get in a hurry and fail to obey traffic signal, crosswalk and bicycle laws. Whether you're walking, biking, or driving, safety is a shared responsibility.

Crosswalks, whether marked or unmarked, are legally protected zones where pedestrians have the right of way. However, pedestrians must enter crosswalks with caution and ensure approaching vehicles have time to yield. Flashing or blinking crosswalk signals are not suggestions; they are mandatory indicators for vehicles to stop until pedestrians in the crosswalk are safely across. Failure to yield can result in serious consequences, both legal and tragic.

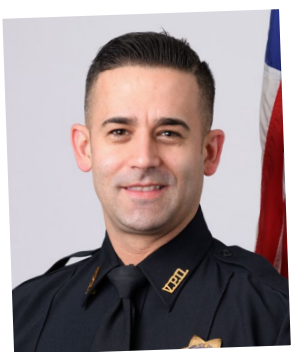
Unmarked crosswalks at intersections are just as enforceable, even if the lines aren't painted. Everyone should be especially mindful around schools, parks, and other high-traffic areas.

Bicycle safety is a growing focus in Vienna as people pedal for leisure or to work. Virginia law requires cyclists to obey the same traffic signs, signals and yielding rules as motor vehicle drivers. Failing to do so can lead to the same legal consequences as motor vehicle drivers who violate traffic safety laws.

Here are key Vienna biking laws to remember:

- **Helmets** are required for riders younger than 15 and recommended for everyone.
- **Lights and reflectors** are required when riding at night.
- **Bells or horns** must be audible from at least 100 feet.
- **Sidewalk riding** is allowed for children younger than 15 and for all cyclists where the road is unsafe, but cyclists must yield to pedestrians.
- **No earbuds** in both ears while riding. It is illegal and dangerous.

Let's work together to keep Vienna safe and enjoyable for everyone. Whether you're on foot, on two wheels, or behind the wheel, your choices matter. 🚲



Juan Vazquez is the Vienna Police Department Public Information Officer. He conducts community outreach and public safety programs for area schools and community groups. To contact him, email Juan.Vazquez@viennava.gov or call 703-255-7845.



Real Estate Taxes Due

Tick tock! The deadline for property owners to pay their first installment real estate tax bill is right around the corner. Taxes are due by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, July 28, or late fees will apply. Payments can be made in person at Town Hall, Monday through Friday until 4:30 p.m. You can also drop payments in the Town Hall night deposit box or pay via credit card or e-check online at www.viennava.gov/cssportal. Questions? Call 703-255-6325. 📞

Town Seeks Student Member for Tree Advocacy Committee



Here's a great opportunity for a student to earn community service hours and make a difference in the community. The Town is looking for a junior student representative to serve on the recently formed Tree Advocacy Committee. The committee is overseen by the Town's Conservation and Sustainability Commission and works with the Town's Urban Forestry team to advise and assist on matters relating to the conservation and management of the Town's trees and tree canopy.

Applicants must be Town of Vienna residents. To learn more and to submit an application, visit www.viennava.gov/boards or call the Town Clerk's office at 703-255-6304. 📞



Topic on deck: Vienna's Summer Construction Projects

The Town's Public Works crews are hard at work year-round, and the summer season is particularly busy for staff as they work on a myriad of construction projects like road and sidewalk improvements. Join Town Manager Mercury Payton and Public Works staff for an update on all the projects happening around town as the warm weather heats up. Staff will be available after the taping to answer your questions.

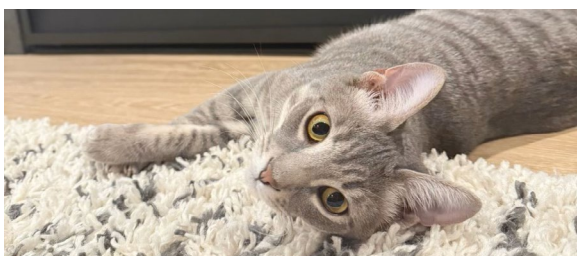
"On Deck with Mercury" is a monthly community forum hosted by Town Manager Mercury Payton. If you missed previous episodes, you can still see them on the Town YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/MercuryOnDeck>. 📺



Mayor's Pet of The Month

Meet Saber, the Sayed family's pet kitten. He was named Saber because he can be fierce, like a Sabertooth tiger, but mostly this tiny tabby is tame, cute and cuddly as he lounges around the house. As the newest member of the family, Saber likes to play fetch with his pom poms, and is obsessed with the fireplace.

Congratulations, Saber! 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 be recognized.



CONTACT **vienna**

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Full Council
Council@viennava.gov

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PUBLIC
INFORMATION
OFFICE
703-255-6330**

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Town Attorney	Steven D. Briglia	703-255-6305
Town Clerk	Melanie J. Clark	703-255-6304
Economic Development Director	Nicole Toulouse	703-255-6347
Finance Director and Treasurer	Steven Barlow	703-255-5759
Human Resources Director	Michelle Crabtree	703-255-6351
Information Technology Director	Tony Mull	703-255-6364
Parks & Recreation Director	Leslie Herman	703-255-6356
Planning & Zoning Director	David Levy	703-255-6340
Police Chief	Col. James Morris	703-255-6390
Public Information Director	Karen Thayer	703-255-6330
Public Works Director	Brad Baer	703-255-6380

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 August issue is Jul. 10.**



HAPPENINGS around town



Freeman Store Brings History to Life

Looking for something to do on the lazy days of summer? Visit the Freeman Store & Museum and experience what an old-time general store was like in 1859. Explore our exhibits to learn more about Vienna's history, browse our gift shop or check off your summer reading list with bargain books in our Used Book Cellar. Used book donations may be delivered to the porch if the store is closed. The Freeman Store is open 12-4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday.



Lions Club Dining for Dollars Fundraiser

Tuesday, July 8
11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Enjoy a delicious meal and support a worthy cause at the same time by dining at Foster's Grille in Vienna on 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 support Fairfax/Vienna

area youth, sight, hearing, and community programs. If you have used eyeglasses and hearing aids to donate, please bring them with you. For more information contact Lion Tom at golfertom1943@gmail.com.

Photography Presentation

Thursday, July 10
7-8:30 p.m.

The Vienna Arts Society presents this special program by photographer W. Lee Meeks, PhD. In addition to his inspiring photography, Meeks is also an aerospace engineer, former U.S. Marine Infantry Officer, author and instructor. In this presentation, he'll describe why he is inspired by the intersection of STEM and Art; growing from both critical and creative thinking. The Vienna Art Center is located in the Windover Professional Building, 243 Church St., NW, Suite 100 LL, Vienna, Va. For more information visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org or call 703-319-3971.

Third Thursdays with Art

Thursday, July 17
4-7 p.m.

Stop in to the Vienna Arts Center for its summer exhibition, "It Came to Me in a Dream." Bring family and friends to meet the artists while enjoying a sip and a bite. The Vienna Art Center is located in the Windover Professional Building, 243 Church St., NW, Suite 100 LL, Vienna, Va.

American Legion Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser

Sunday, July 20
8 a.m.-12 p.m.



Celebrate America at the American Legion Auxiliary's Post 180 Breakfast Buffet. Enjoy Joe's custom omelets, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, sausage gravy, biscuits, blueberry pancakes, fruit cocktail and dessert.

Adults \$12, children younger than 12, \$5. Proceeds support Girls State and local youth activities. For more information, call 703-409-3564. American Legion Post 180 is located at 330 Center St., N., Vienna, Va.

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
215 Center St. S
Vienna, VA

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.

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July TOWN CALENDAR

1	Kids on the Green (VTG) • 10 a.m.
1	Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 p.m.
2	Stories and Sprinklers (VTG) • 1 p.m.
2	Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks (Yeonas Park) • 6-10 p.m.
7	Town Council Meeting • 7:30 p.m.
8	Kids on the Green (VTG) • 10 a.m.
8	On Deck with Mercury (NPY) • 6 p.m.
9	Stories and Sprinklers (VTG) • 1 p.m.
9	Planning Commission • 7:30 p.m.
11	Summer on the Green (VTG) • 6:30 p.m.
12	NOVA Model Railroaders Open House • 1-5 p.m.
15	Kids on the Green (VTG) • 10 a.m.
16	Stories and Sprinklers (VTG) • 1 p.m.
16	Board of Zoning Appeals • 7:30 p.m.
17	Board of Architectural Review • 7:30 p.m.

18	Chillin' on Church • 6:30-9:30 p.m.
19	Vienna Youth Players Production (VCC) • 7 p.m.
20	Vienna Youth Players Production (VCC) • 1:30 p.m.
22	Kids on the Green (VTG) • 10 a.m.
23	Stories and Sprinklers (VTG) • 1 p.m.
24	Tree Advocacy Committee (VCC) • 6:30 p.m.
24	Conservation and Sustainability Commission (VCC) • 7:30 p.m.
25	Summer on the Green (VTG) • 6:30 p.m.
25	Vienna Youth Players Production (VCC) • 7 p.m.
26	Vienna Youth Players Production (VCC) • 7 p.m.
27	Vienna Youth Players Production (VCC) • 1:30 p.m.
29	Kids on the Green (VTG) • 10 a.m.
29	Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee • 7 p.m.
29	Transportation Safety Commission • 8 p.m.
30	Stories and Sprinklers (VTG) • 1 p.m.

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

Meeting schedule subject to change; check www.viennava.gov/calendar for updates.

VCC, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE • VTG, Town Green, 144 Maple Ave., E • NPY, Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St., NE