Vienna VOICE
MARCH 2016
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF VIENNA, VIRGINIA • **VIENNAVA.GOV**

Solarize Vienna: March 15-May 15

Another opportunity to harness the power of sunshine

Councilmember Carey Sienicki and Community Enhancement Committee Chair Susan Stillman came to the decision to go solar last year via different primary motivations, but the result is that both of them are saving money on home energy bills and reducing their impact on the natural environment.

For the Sienicki family, who became interested in solar energy for their home as part of last spring's Solarize Vienna program, "as long as we could realize a payback in 10 years or less, then it made sense" to move forward, says the councilmember. The Sienicki's nine kilowatt system, which includes 36 panels and a central inverter, went online in September, and the family is enjoying monthly electric bills as low as $20.81 for an all-electric home – and they haven't even made it to the sunny summer months yet.

For Stillman, the decision to go solar was more about the environment. "I want to cut my carbon footprint," she says, "and I want to show people that solar is doable, even with a big maple tree in front of one-third of the panels."

Stillman's 6.2 kilowatt system (which includes 23 panels with microinverters) went live in October. In November, she had a $21.45 electric bill, and

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Recycling Day March 5

Got materials in your garage or basement that you want to get rid of in an environmentally friendly way? Public Works can help you out with that.

The Town's next quarterly recycling day will be from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, March 5, at the Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill Street NE. At this event, the Town will accept waste motor oil, antifreeze, and vehicle batteries as well as most electronic items for recycling. Please note that only newer flat-screen TVs will be accepted for recycling; no old-style TVs (the kind with a fat back side) can be accepted. Older televisions are accepted at the Fairfax County I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex; proof of county residency may be required.

Last year, the Town assisted residents in recycling 500 gallons of waste oil, 42 gallons of antifreeze, 21 car batteries, and more than two tons of electronics.

25 YEARS AGO…

The **March 1991** Vienna Newsletter reported that Town Council had adopted a resolution congratulating Vienna Dyer-Gunnell Post #180 and Greater Vienna Chamber of Commerce for implementing Operation Desert Salute, an initiative to support those serving in Operation Desert Storm by encouraging citizens to fly American flags daily during the conflict. The Town partnered with those two organizations to display American flags daily along Maple Avenue and Center Street.

2016 Town of Vienna Citizen Survey

We've got questions; *you* have answers

How would you rate the quality of life or sense of community in the Town of Vienna? Are you satisfied with police response times, leaf pick-up service, and accessibility to Town parks? What do you think about the Town calendar and website? These are just a few of the questions on the 2016 Town of Vienna Citizen Survey, which will arrive at randomly selected homes throughout Town around mid-March.

If the five-page survey arrives in your mailbox, please make sure that one adult in the household takes the 10-15 minutes necessary to complete and return it. Citizen responses will be critical to helping Town of Vienna councilmembers and staff better plan, manage, and improve services and programs. The survey may also be completed online. If your home isn't one selected to receive the survey, you cannot participate – sorry. In order to maintain scientific credibility, only randomly selected households may participate.

"Citizen survey results provide an invaluable tool to local governments," says Communications and Marketing Manager Lynne DeWilde. "The data gathered from this 2016 survey will allow Vienna to understand how well it is performing compared to other regional communities and across time. The results allow the Town to use citizen input to better prioritize, budget, and plan for the future."

All citizen responses are confidential. Survey responses are returned to ETC Institute in Olathe, Kansas, with whom the Town has contracted to administer the survey. Results are reported to the Town only as collective data. Survey results are expected to be reported to the Town and shared publicly late this spring.

Vienna participated in a similar citizen survey in 2014, and results from this year's survey will be compared to those results.

"We're excited to learn what our citizens think about programs and services provided by the Town and characteristics of our community," says Mayor Laurie DiRocco. "An investment of just 15 minutes or so can, when survey results are reported collectively, have a significant impact on quality of life in our community. The results will help us understand what we do well and identify areas where there are opportunities for growth. Thanks in advance to those citizens who will participate in the survey and to the many residents who make a positive impact on our community in so many ways."

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

Hop into egg-hunting fun

Within a 16-hour period this month, Vienna's Parks and Recreation Department will host not one but two egg hunts.

Bring your baskets and flashlights to Glyndon Park from 7:30-9 p.m. Friday, March 18, to search for candy-filled eggs in the dark at Vienna's Family Flashlight Egg Hunt. Inflatables will be set up as well. Tickets are $3 per family member (maximum of six tickets); children under 1 year are free. Ticket info is available at viennava.gov.

Come back the following morning, March 19, for an Old-Fashioned Egg Roll from 10:30-11:30 on the lawn of the Freeman House, 131 Church Street S. Hosted by Historic Vienna, Inc. as well as the Town of Vienna, this free event is for children 12 and younger.

The Easter Bunny will appear at both events, so make sure to bring your camera and smiles for a "hoppy" weekend. These events are rain or shine.

Photos: Adam Kincaid

Community Center Renovation and Expansion Update

Here's the most recent progress report on the construction project as reported at the February 8 Town Council work session:

- no site work was undertaken Jan. 20-Feb. 8 as equipment was moved to support snow removal efforts at the state level
- removed and replaced old stormwater management structure
- installed stormwater piping along south side of center
- removed trees on south and west sides of building
- received delivery of majority of manholes and pipes
- subcontractors obtained mechanical, electrical, and plumbing trade permits
- submitted sprinkler and fire alarm trade permit requests to fire marshal
- installed ductwork on first and second levels.

Looking ahead, next steps include:

- installation of stormwater piping and water line
- relocation of existing W&OD trail to temporary location to provide access to the west side of the building
- installation of footings and foundation walls
- installation of electrical rough in existing building
- inspection and insulation of plumbing lines
- installation of chase walls
- demolition of clock tower, metal roof, and some windows.

A community center renovation update is presented each month at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Town Council work session. The public is encouraged to attend these updates in Council Chambers at Town Hall.

Town leverages grants to – literally – make better community connections

A few years ago, the Town of Vienna began to consider the underrated sidewalk as a transportation alternative. That transformative thinking has encouraged Vienna to explore and apply for grants that have resulted in construction of sidewalks at a much quicker rate than would be allowed by the Town's limited budget.

While significant gaps remain, Vienna certainly is more walkable and better connected than it was a decade ago, with thousands of feet of sidewalk being installed each year. Ten Town sidewalk projects were completed in 2015.

"Vienna really prides itself on being a village," says Public Works Director Dennis Johnson. "Part of being a village is being able to walk around. We're all pedestrians at some point. You ought to be able to walk to school or a local coffee shop or the store without having to pull your car out of the garage. But as a small town, we don't have the ability to independently fund everything we need, so we started to figure out ways we could qualify for grants from bigger organizations."

Over the past several years, the Town has utilized federal and state transportation grants designed to enhance pedestrian accessibility to schools, public transportation hubs, public facilities, and downtown areas. Below are examples of some of the projects that have been completed in Vienna over the past couple of years.

Sidewalk was installed along Lullaby Lane and Harmony Drive near Cunningham Park Elementary School through a Safe Routes to School grant. Not only do such projects address safety issues, Johnson says, they also encourage healthy lifestyles, training children early on to walk short distances rather than rely on a car.

A sidewalk along Beulah Road, from Church Street to Maple Avenue, allows better access to Vienna's commercial corridor. This project used a federal Walk to Downtown grant.

"These sidewalks make connections so that people can more easily walk to local businesses," says Johnson.

A state Walk to Metro grant was used to install $2 million worth of sidewalk along Tapawingo Road and Cottage Street, just a half-mile from the Metro station.

"We're able to do sidewalks like this," Johnson says, "because we can show that they'll enhance access to alternative transportation modes, but they also improve overall quality of life. Even if you don't walk to Metro, these sidewalks make it possible for you and your children to walk around the community."

In addition to grants, the Town also works cooperatively with Fairfax County to manage sidewalk projects in and around Town that provide connections to outside-of-Town destinations, such as Tysons and the silver Metro line. Such cooperative projects have included sidewalks along Old Courthouse Road and Lawyers Road, between Blair Road and Abbotsford Drive. Council approved a similar project along Creek Crossing Road at its February 1 meeting.

And, finally, Town ordinances require property owners who subdivide lots or who redevelop next to properties that already have sidewalks to install sidewalks as part of their projects.

The Town only installs sidewalks on public rights-of-way, but every homeowner whose property is impacted by the sidewalk project is contacted by the Town and may meet with staff, including the Town arborist. "We've had lots of meetings in front yards," notes Johnson.

Town Arborist Gary Lawrence sometimes recommends that dead or diseased trees be removed to make way for a sidewalk; sometimes he suggests that the project be adjusted to spare trees. When that happens, Johnson says, the sidewalk path is shifted or, in some cases, rubberized sidewalk is used.

"Most people are concerned," when a sidewalk is proposed adjacent to their property, says Johnson. "They understandably want a full explanation on their turf of the project." When all is said and done, he adds: "One hundred percent of people like it."

Solarize continued from page 1

in December, when days are shortest, her solar panels generated 56% of her electricity demand.

Stillman and Sienicki were among nine Vienna residents who installed solar panels as part of last year's Solarize Vienna program, a community-based initiative jointly sponsored by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and Local Energy Alliance Program that allows residents to take advantage of free solar assessments, pre-negotiated bulk-purchasing discounts with vetted vendors, and warranties on installation and efficiency of panels.

The solar assessment, notes Stillman, includes consideration of the home's orientation, shade, and condition of the roof. As for the installation itself, she says, "There's nothing to it. It's all turnkey. Installation took about half a day."

As easy as all that is, Stillman adds, the Solarize Vienna program makes the process even easier. "Someone else has gone out and found the vendors and qualified them. They've negotiated a group discount so there's no need to haggle over the price."

The Solarize Vienna program also offers residents free home energy assessments – even if you aren't interested in solar energy. During the home check-ups residents receive advice from an energy coach as well as energy-efficient products such as CFL light bulbs, smart power strips, pipe insulation, and door weatherization. More than 100 Town of Vienna residents took advantage of the energy check-ups last year, which are valued at about $200 each.

The Solarize Vienna program will run from March 15-May 15. Learn more at the March 8 Mayor @ Your Service or April 24 Green Expo or sign up for either or both a solar assessment and a home energy check-up at solarizevienna.org.

In addition to savings in energy costs, the Sienickis are taking advantage of a 30% federal tax credit, savings from Fairfax County over the next five years on their home assessment, and income from selling solar credits.

"It's an investment in our home," says Sienicki. "Energy costs are going to continue to go up, not down."

The most common question that Sienicki and Stillman are asked relates to the cost of the system. The Sienickis invested almost $28,000 in a system that generates 12,960 kilowatt hours of power each year; after tax credits and other incentives, the net cost was closer to $19,000. Stillman reports that she invested $20,000 in her home's solar system, but after the 30% federal income tax credits were realized, the net cost was about $14,000.

"We're happy we did it," says Sienicki. "We're waiting to see what a full year of usage actually brings."

Going solar

has never been easier – or more affordable!

Learn more about going solar and sign up for a FREE home energy check-up @

Green Expo

April 24 • 2-5 pm
Windover Neighbohood
in conjunction with Walk on the Hill

MAYOR @ YOUR SERVICE Tuesday, March 8

Shining a light on Solarize Vienna

Learn more about the positive impacts of solar energy on your wallet and the environment at the Mayor @ Your Service forum at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Town Hall.

Community Enhancement Commission Chair Susan Stillman and Energy Coach Ryan Van Patten with the not-for-profit Local Energy Alliance Program will discuss the Solarize Vienna program, available March 15-May 15, through which residents can sign up for free home energy check-ups and take advantage of bulk-purchasing discounts for solar energy systems.

In addition, the meeting will offer an opportunity for community members to meet Gregory Hood, the new principal at James Madison High School.

BATTLING THE BLIZZARD

by Adam Kincaid

In late January, Mother Nature dumped 30 inches of snow on the metro Washington, DC area, literally and figuratively putting a road block on activities inside and outside the beltway. The Town of Vienna enlisted pre-planning, lots of equipment, and working-around-the-clock employees to battle the impacts of the historic winter storm.

Before the weekend storm moved in, Mother Nature provided a test run with a dusting Wednesday evening that made area roadways nastily slippery. Town public works crews had pre-treated the roads early, early that morning with a salt brine and magnesium chloride. The preparation paid off about 16 hours later.

@lesliejeannene wrote on Twitter: "Thank you @TownofViennaVA for pre-treating the roads last night! Getting in to Vienna was the best part of my commute."

When the big storm started up Friday afternoon, Public Works Department staff began working around the clock in two 12-hour shifts and employed 10 two-ton dump trucks, four one-ton dump trucks, and two flex trucks to plow the approximately 65 miles of roads in Town. In total, public works dispersed 600 tons of salt, 200 tons of sand, 2,000 gallons of salt brine, and 1,000 gallons of magnesium chloride. As the storm dumped about 30 inches of snow over an approximately 48-hour period, it was a constant battle to keep main roads cleared, and the Town was unable to effectively address secondary/neighborhood streets until Sunday.

Battling against a blizzard that fought back included plowing and truck support, radio and dispatch for personnel and information-sharing, phone service to monitor updates and citizen inquiries, and vehicle maintenance to repair and keep equipment running during the process. Over a five-day period, more than 300 vehicle repair and parts replacement jobs took place in the field and at the maintenance facility at the Northside Property Yard. Crews plowing through the snow "really need a mechanic with them at all times," says Fleet Maintenance Coordinator Mary-Beth Palmer.

As a testament to the treachery of the roads, Vienna's plows themselves got repeatedly stuck. Front-load operators spent up to four hours at a time trying to get one truck out of a snow pile, only to move on to truck after truck.

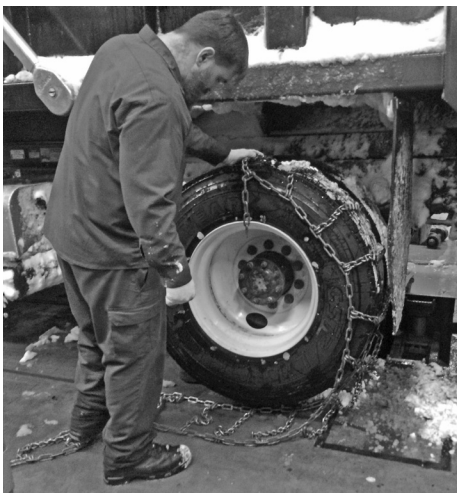
Many frontline public works employees put in about 60 hours over a six-day period, and that's after having worked a regular 40-hour week. Many staff members stayed at a nearby hotel. "Everyone pretty much left their families for a week," says Acting Operations Superintendent Jonathan Wooden.

After all Town roadways were finally cleared by Tuesday morning, sidewalks along Maple Avenue and Nutley Street became the primary task. Sidewalks presented a particular challenge this storm because of the large amount of snow. In addition to the 30 inches dumped by the storm, sidewalks also received snow that was plowed from roadways as well as business parking lots.

The Town of Vienna continues to assess and work to improve its response to snow emergencies.

While many residents used social media outlets to express their frustration and impatience with the time it took to get their neighborhood roads cleared, others expressed their appreciation for the Town's work.

"I'm proud of you all," wrote Dorothy Friedlander on Facebook. "You all did much better than most jurisdictions. Thank you for your kindness (the plow drivers were FANTASTIC in our neighborhood)…."



Get off to a fresh start with spring parks and rec offerings

Exciting opportunities are closer than you think with so many classes and programs available. Below is a small sample of spring offerings.

"We aim to offer community recreational and instructional programs for every age and interest." says Recreation Coordinator Kathy Blevins. "Don't miss our spring special events and exciting trips for individuals, families, and seniors. Check us out – and if you need assistance, give us a call. Our staff will help you find something you'll love this spring."

TRIPS

The Philadelphia Flower Show
March 9 @ 9 a.m.
Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Parks at the Philadelphia Flower Show. This annual event at the Pennsylvania Convention Center is the world's oldest and largest indoor flower show.

Montpelier: Constitution and Garden Tour — March 30 @ 8:30 a.m.
Visit the former home of President James Madison, father of the Constitution and architect of the Bill of Rights, and Dolley Madison, America's first "First Lady."

CLASSES

Beginning Tai Chi
Begins March 30 @ 9:30 a.m.
Participants will learn tai chi's graceful and precise movements while developing balance, alignment, and relaxation. This gentle yet powerful discipline integrates body, mind, and spirit.

Dramatic Kids
Begins April 5 @ 5:15 p.m.
Is your child destined for the spotlight? This theater arts class for elementary-age students focuses on acting techniques and scene work and promises lots of fun and laughter. Students will write and perform their own original monologues and skits based on character education topics.

SEMINARS

Planning for Healthcare in Retirement
March 14 @ 10 a.m.
Increasing health care expenses as we age can imperil financial security, but proper planning and a few simple steps can reduce these risks. Registration for this free lecture is requested.

Selling Your Home to a Builder
March 16 @ 7 p.m.
Interested in selling your home or has someone contacted you wanting to buy your home? Attend this program to find out how to best handle any scenario as well as how to protect yourself. Registration for this free lecture is requested.

Getting Your Home Ready to Sell in the Spring— March 28 at 10 a.m.
Attend this free lecture to obtain tips and ideas on how to get your home ready to sell. Registration for this free lecture is requested.

MORE

Phoenix Artist Week
March 4-10 @ 4:30-5:30 p.m.
No matter skill level or favorite style, teens will find art opportunities and ideas to love at Phoenix Artist Week. The resulting Club Phoenix Art Show will take place from 6-7 p.m. Friday, March 11.

For more information about parks and rec offerings, visit the parks and recreation section at viennava.gov.

Backyard habitats enhance quality of life – for people, too

by Bob Robinson, Community Enhancement Commission

In recent years, newspapers and electronic media have chronicled the precipitous decline of pollinators, such as honey bees and monarch butterflies, on which our food system depends. Likewise, rapidly declining populations of amphibians, songbirds, and other species have set off alarms in the scientific community and among conservationists. Thankfully, by implementing a few relatively simple actions, even suburban residents can be part of a local solution to these national and global problems.

One particular step that many Vienna residents have already taken, and many more will hopefully employ, is obtaining certification of their gardens and backyards as wildlife habitats through the Reston-based National Wildlife Federation (NWF). Almost any resident can easily create a garden that supports wildlife. Certification simply requires that your property provide the following:

- food, such as fruits and seeds
- water, by way of a water garden or birdbath, for example
- cover, such as that provided by mature trees or brush piles
- places for wildlife to raise young, such as dense shrubs or a pond.

Planting native plants, often sold at local garden club events, is a great way to get started and to meet many of these requirements. As many of your neighbors with certified habitats can attest, struggling animal species aren't the only ones to benefit from wildlife-friendly properties; people, too, enjoy an enhanced quality of life. For more information on the benefits of wildlife gardening and the simple steps necessary to obtain certification, go to the National Wildlife Federation website at NWF.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm.

It also may interest residents to know that the Town of Vienna has been registered as a NWF Community Wildlife Habitat and is participating in an ongoing endeavor to join about 100 communities across the country to have its efforts nationally certified. To be certified, Vienna must have at least 100 homes, four common areas, and three schools with certified habitats as well as conduct a variety of educational and community habitat restoration projects. Vienna is making good progress in meeting these requirements, and we hope to complete the certification process this year. So when you certify your property, you also will be making an important contribution to your Town's efforts to be nationally recognized.

Street Sweeping Season!

The Town's spring street sweeping program begins at the end of March. The Town has been divided into eight sections, which can be viewed at viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=167. As time for sweeping each section approaches, signs will be placed on area streets as a reminder; residents may also call the Public Works Department at 703-255-6380 to obtain specific information about when the street sweeper will be on their block. The schedule is subject to change in case of inclement weather.

Residents are asked not to park on the street during the scheduled time for their section to allow the street sweeper to do a thorough job.

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

35 Years
American Resources Inc.

25 Years
Bradley and Sevilla, DMD

20 Years
MG Painting & Tile Company

15 Years
Center for Integrative Psychiatry
Turner Financial Group, Inc.

10 Years
Associate Counseling Center
Avalon Consulting, LLC
Bazin's on Church
Church Street Pilates
Imedia Collaborative
Norman M. Descoteaux
Vienna Primary and Preventative Medicine

5 Years
Aloha Mind Math
Caballero Painting Contractors
Eye Level
Foundation for Academics, Science, Computer Science & the Arts
Harmonia School of Music & Art
Icon Design & Construction, LLC
Pure Construction Company
Sales Up, Inc.

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. All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

January 4

- Approved right-of-way dedication donations on west side of Pleasant Street SW between Maple Avenue and Courthouse Road.
- Awarded IFB 16-13 to K. Neal International Trucks, Inc. for two dump trucks totaling $214,500.
- Approved payment to Keller Brothers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $23,420 for Vienna Community Center project, IFB 16-04.

Photos: Adam Kincaid

Vienna serves up Virginia's Green Restaurant of the Year

by Adam Kincaid

Michael Amouri, owner, Caffe Amouri

Virginia's 2015 Green Restaurant of the Year calls the Town of Vienna's Church Street home. Caffe Amouri, a small-batch coffee destination, has been so recognized through the Virginia Green Travel Stars Awards program, sponsored by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Tourism Corporation, and Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association.

The annual Virginia Green awards program recognizes tourism-industry businesses that promote environmentally friendly practices.

"It's important for local businesses to step up and do our part for the environment," says Michael Amouri, owner of Virginia's Green Restaurant of the Year. "I feel responsible as an individual, a father, and a business owner."

Across the state, more than 1,000 restaurants, wineries and breweries, lodging facilities, and attractions participate in the self-certification program that establishes minimum practices for reducing environmental impacts of the tourism industry and raising environmental awareness.

A Virginia Green Restaurant abides by specific guidelines to ensure that its environmental footprint is minimally impactful. These restaurants reduce use of disposable food service products by using bio-based or renewable resources. In order to receive Green Restaurant certification, a restaurant must have a water-efficiency plan to minimize its waste as well as a plan to reduce overall energy consumption across operations. Certified restaurants also handle grease in an environment-friendly manner.

Other Town of Vienna businesses that have achieved certification through the Virginia Green Restaurant program are Caboose Brewery and Maple Avenue Restaurant.

HAPPENINGS around town

Wishes & Dreams, an exhibition of **Vienna Arts Society** members' work, will be on display March 1-April 2 at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW. The exhibit is open 10 am-4 pm Tuesday-Saturday. A reception for the exhibit will be hosted at the Vienna Art Center from 4-6 pm Saturday, March 5; the reception is free and open to the public. For more information, visit ViennaArtsSociety.org or call 703-319-3971.

PFLAG Fairfax, a community group for parents, families, and friends of lesbians and gays, and FLY, a social group for LGBTQ youth and allies ages 12 (with parental permission) to 19, will meet concurrently at 7:30 pm Tuesday, March 1, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF), 2709 Hunter Mill Road. FLY also holds teen lounges the third Friday of each month, alternating between movie and pizza nights at UUCF and outside venues. For more information about both groups, email wf.pflag@gmail.com or visit pflagdc.org and facebook.com/groups/fly.pflag/.

The Freeman Store reopens Wednesday, March 2. Regular store hours are 12-4 pm Wednesday-Sunday. The long-awaited *This Was Vienna Virginia* by Connie and Mayo Stuntz is now available in softback as well as hardback. This 1987 legacy book is filled with nearly 400 pages of history, photos, maps, and stories about the Town of Vienna. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit historicviennainc.org.

Local Irish singer/songwriter **Brian Gaffney** will provide entertainment at the March 3 luncheon of the **Welcome Club of Northern Virginia**. The club will also host a "New Friends Coffee" on March 14. The Welcome Club of Northern Virginia is a social club that offers an interest group for almost everyone, including those who enjoy tea, bridge/games, wine, books, and golf, among a host of other interests. For more information about the club and details about registering for the lunch and coffee, visit welcomeclubnvirginia.com.

Gather your photos, friends, and scissors for a scrapbooking weekend hosted as a fundraiser by the **Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary**. The event will be held from 6 pm-midnight Friday, March 4, and 9 am-7 pm Saturday, March 5, at the fire station at 400 Center Street S. The $60 registration fee includes cropping space for the weekend, lunch on Saturday, snacks, and beverages as well as a goody bag filled with free products and coupons. Dinner may be purchased for $8 each night or $15 for both nights. Vendors will offer supplies and expert advice, and a massage therapist will be on site as well. For more information, contact Lisa Emerson at lisaemerson3@verizon.net or 703-981-4504.

Plant expert Karen Rexrod, former owner of Windy Hill Nursery, will present "Perennial Personalities" at 10 am Tuesday, March 15, at a meeting of the **Five Hills Garden Club** at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park Street. This meeting is free and open to the public.

In honor of Women's History Month, the **Vienna Branch of the American Association of University Women** is partnering with Patrick Henry Library to present *Profiles of Women Past and Present*. This free dramatic reader's theater production is at 7 pm Tuesday, March 8, at the library, 101 Maple Avenue E. Among the outstanding women to be featured are polar explorer Ann Bancroft, pilot and humanitarian Jerrie Cob, and nuclear physicist Chien-Sheung Wu. Register for the program online at fairfaxcounty.gov/library or by calling 703-938-0405. For more information, email ViennaAAUW@yahoo.com.

Davi D'Agostino will demonstrate painting in oils and acrylics and discuss how she plans subject matter for her own works as well as the classes she teaches at the March 10 **Vienna Arts Society** meeting from 10:30 am-12:30 pm at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information about the artist, visit davifinearts.wordpress.com/about/. Also visit ViennaArtsSociety.org or call 703-319-3971.

The Vienna Choral Society presents *'Til the Spirit Moves: Traditional Songs and Spirituals* at 7:30 pm Saturday, March 12, at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW. A variety of traditions will be included in the performance. Tickets are $25 for adults and $20 for seniors (65+) and students (ages 15-18); youth (14 and younger) attend free with a paying patron. More info at viennachoralsociety.org.

Historic Vienna Inc. will host an opening reception for two new exhibits from 2-4 pm Sunday, March 13, at the Freeman Store, 131 Church Street NE. T*he History of Agriculture in Vienna and Northern Virginia* follows the evolution of local farming, from tobacco in the 18th century to wheat and more variety in the 19th. Did you know that a Vienna poultry farm provided all of the Eisenhower White House's fresh eggs? The exhibit includes maps, photographs, and period artifacts. *The Road to Women's Rights* is a series of exhibit modules describing the suffragist movement. Individual modules will be on display for a six-month period through 2020. The Freeman Store is open 12-4 pm Wednesday-Sunday. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit historicviennainc.org.

The renowned political comedy troupe **Capitol Steps** will perform at 4 pm Sunday, March 13, in the James Madison High School auditorium. The show features songs from the troupe's *Mock the Vote* album and offers tasteful bi-partisan lampooning. Advance tickets are $30 for adults and $25 for students and those 65 and older; the same tickets are $40 and $35, respectively, at the door. Purchase advance tickets at madison-capitolsteps2016.brownpapertickets.com. Proceeds benefit the James Madison Crew Boosters.

Joscelyn Jackson will perform favorite Broadway hits from the 1940s and '50s at Lunch n' Life, the quarterly luncheon series presented by **Sheperd's Center of Oakton-Vienna**. Lunch will be from 12-2 pm Monday, March 14, at Emmanuel

more ►

HAPPENINGS *continued*

Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Call 703-281-0538 to make a reservation; $10 fee is due by March 7.

Jon Vrana will be the featured speaker at **Historic Vienna, Inc.'s** spring membership meeting at 7:30 pm Tuesday, March 15, in Council Chambers at Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center Street S. Following a brief business meeting, Vrana, a noted local history dramatist and longtime U.S. Department of Agriculture employee, will discuss how Vienna has changed over the centuries, going from large tobacco plantations to what we see today. The meeting is free and open to the public; refreshments will be served. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit historicviennainc.org.

At the next meeting of **Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227**, Nedda Thomas Davis, author of *Hump Pilot,* will discuss the service of her father, Ned Thomas, a C-46 Army Air Corps pilot who supplied Chinese troops fighting the Japanese in World War II. The meeting is at 7:30 pm Thursday, March 17, at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane. Changeable, adverse weather conditions, hostile wind currents, and primitive mountain airfields were among the challenges faced by WWII pilots flying high among the Himalayas. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit vva227.org.

The **Vienna American Legion Post 180** will host a breakfast buffet from 8 am-noon Sunday, March 20, at 330 Center Street N. Enjoy omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, and more. Tickets are $9 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under. For more information, call 703-938-6580.

As part of the next meeting of **Vienna Vision Impaired Persons Resource Group** (VIP), **Dr. Rebecca Sheffield** and **Dr. Priscilla Rogers** from the American Foundation for the Blind will present "News You Can Use from AFB: Programs, Policy, Research, and a National Conversation on Aging and Vision Loss" from 10 am-noon Monday, March 21, at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue E. For more information about VIP, contact Ann Koch at 571-275-0292 or 5kochs@cox.net or John Cox at 703-938-4779 or jacoxjr@cox.net.

Residents are encouraged to donate used books to the **Freeman Store**, 131 Church Street NE, through March 21 in preparation for the 2016 Historic Vienna, Inc. annual used book sale fundraiser. All donated books should be bagged or boxed and placed on the Freeman Store porch at any time or brought inside whenever the store is open. Please no encyclopedias, textbooks, or magazines of any kind. For more information, call 703-281-1206 or visit historicviennainc.org.

In conjunction with 1st Stage's presentation of *Proof*, the **Vienna Arts Society** will host an exhibition March 31-May 2 of corresponding original works that are open to those attending performances. 1st Stage is located at 1524 Spring Hill Road in McLean. The exhibition reception is free and open to the public from 4:30-6:30 pm Sunday, April 10, at 1st Stage. For theater tickets, visit 1ststagetysons.org. Also visit ViennaArtsSociety.org or call 703-319-3971.

Find a good read at **Historic Vienna, Inc.'s annual used book sale**. The sale will take place 9 am-7 pm Saturday, April 2, and 12-5 pm Sunday, April 3, at the American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street N. A members-only sale (new members may join) is open 7-9 pm Friday, April 1. Hardcover books are $2, and paperbacks are $1, with a selection of treasures individually priced. All proceeds support HVI programs and activities. For more information, call Nancy Moats at 703-281-1206 or visit historicviennainc.org.

The Golden Girls, a senior women's slow-pitch softball league, is looking for women 40 and older to play ball Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings April-July and September-October. The league stresses skills development, exercise, and good sportsmanship – all while having fun. For more competitive players, tournament teams are formed in the 50+, 65+, and 70+ age brackets. The Golden Girls also is looking for businesses to sponsor teams. For more information and registration details, visit goldengirls.org.

Another opportunity to play softball: **Northern Virginia Senior Softbal**l invites men 50 and older and women 40 and older to play on one of 28 slow-pitch softball teams, competing at three skill levels, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings April-July and September-October. Everyone bats with 11 defensive players on the field. Visit nvss.org or call Dave Scheele at 703-524-5576.

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

Help wanted: Teens needed for odd jobs

Thankfully we made it through the 2016 blizzard! During the snowstorm, the Town received several requests for assistance with shoveling. While the Parks and Recreation Department maintains an odd jobs list of teens willing to shovel snow as well as babysit, clean house, mow the lawn, do office work, rake leaves, or pet sit, there currently aren't enough potential workers to meet demand. Teens interested in earning a little money by performing such odd jobs should complete the online application at viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/740. If you have a job or questions, call 703-255-6360.

Are you sufficiently insured?

A reminder to residents to review your property insurance to ensure that you are adequately covered. Some homeowner and tenant insurance providers do not cover all types of property damage stemming from unforeseen events. Virginia localities are financially responsible for private property damage only in instances in which the locality is legally liable for damages. In those cases in which the Town is liable, Vienna, like many other localities, carries property and liability coverage through a municipal liability insurance program. Anyone with questions about their property insurance may contact the Town at 703-255-6351 or visit viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=1188.

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

Vienna Police
703-938-4900 voice
703-255-5730 TDD
Non-emergency
703-255-6366 voice
703-255-5730 TDD

Community Center
703-255-6360 voice
TTY Virginia Relay 711
120 Cherry St. SE
Vienna, VA 22180

Vienna Town Hall
703-255-6300 voice
TTY Virginia Relay 711
127 Center Street South
Vienna, VA 22180-5179
Monday-Friday • 8 am-4:30 pm

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Vienna, VA
Permit No. 36

MARCH
TOWN CALENDAR

5	Quarterly Recycling Day (Northside Property Yard) • 8 am-2 pm
7	Town Council Meeting/Public Hearing • 8 pm
8	Mayor @ Your Service • 7:30 pm
9	Planning Commission • 8 pm
10	Town/Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm
14	Town Council Budget Work Session • 8 pm
15	Public Art Commission • 7 pm
16	Board of Zoning Appeals • 8 pm
17	Board of Architectural Review • 8 pm
18	Flashlight Egg Hunt (Glyndon Park) • 7:30 pm
19	Town Council Budget Work Session • 9 am-4 pm
19	Old-Fashioned Egg Hunt & Roll (Freeman House) • 10:30 am
23	Planning Commission • 8 pm
24	Community Enhancement Commission • 7:30 pm
28	Town Council Work Session • 8 pm
29	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committees • 7 pm
29	Transportation Safety Commission • 8 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.

Vienna Theatre Company presents 'In Living Sound'

The Community Center may be under construction, but you can still enjoy a performance by the Vienna Theater Company. Performances for the spring production of *In Living Sound* will be in the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department's Flame Room Friday and Saturday, April 1-2 and 8-9.

In Living Sound features snippets from popular 1940s radio shows including "Adventures of the Thin Man: The Case of the Goofy Groom" and "The Big Story: Manhunt in Manhattan."

"Adventures of the Thin Man" follows an ex-detective and his affluent, sophisticated, and dazzling wife as they unravel mysteries. The second performance, "The Big Story," portrays true tales of 1940s newspaper reporters.

Tickets are $14 for Friday performances; hot food and drinks are available for purchase beginning at 7:15 p.m. Tickets for Saturday shows are $25 in advance, $30 at door, and include dinner, drinks, and dessert, all served beginning at 7:15 p.m. Shows begin at 8 p.m. both nights. Visit viennatheatrecompany.org for more details and ticket information.