

# Vienna



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

## Survey says: Residents rate Vienna as great place to live, raise kids, and play

Recently Vienna has been rated highly for safety and hard-working citizens (see story, page 10) but the ratings that Town officials and staff are most proud of are those provided by citizens through the 2016 Town of Vienna Community Survey. The statistically valid survey, which was implemented in March, indicates that 98% of citizen-respondents find Vienna an excellent or good place to raise and educate children. Ninety-seven percent say Vienna is an excellent/good place to live, and 96% would recommend living in Vienna to someone who asked. As a place for play, recreation, and leisure, 88% of respondents rated Vienna highly.

Citizens' high ratings of the Vienna community and Town services compare favorably to national and Mid-Atlantic benchmarks. Vienna scored significantly higher (by 10 points or more) in 28 categories when compared to national and Mid-Atlantic benchmarks provided by ETC Institute, an Olathe, Kansas-based firm that administered Vienna's survey. Some of those categories in which Vienna scored significantly above the benchmarks include satisfaction with parks and recreation facilities, police response times in emergencies, level of public involvement in decision-making, cleanup of junk/debris on private property, availability of information regarding Town services and programs, Vienna as a place to live and raise children, and value of services received for taxes paid.

see *Survey says* page 6



## 2016 Water Quality Report

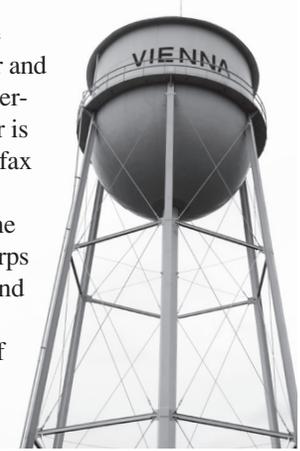
### Is Vienna drinking water safe? Absolutely!

The 2016 Town of Vienna Water Quality Report, which provides information about 2015 water quality testing, is now available on the Town's website at [viennava.gov/waterreport2016](http://viennava.gov/waterreport2016). Printed copies will be mailed upon request – call 703-255-6380.

The report provides an overview of results from required and voluntary water quality testing undertaken in 2015 to ensure that Vienna's drinking water meets or exceeds state and federal requirements.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants, and the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates acceptable amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Vienna's 2015 water samples fell within EPA's guidelines.

During calendar year 2015, Town of Vienna drinking water was supplied with treated surface water from the Potomac River and Occoquan Reservoir. The water is treated by Fairfax County Water Authority or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is distributed by the Town of Vienna. ♻️



### IN THIS ISSUE



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## Tax rate remains the same as Vienna adopts \$33.8 million FY17 budget

At its June 6 meeting, Town Council approved a \$33.8 million budget for fiscal year 2016-17 (FY17), which begins July 1. This budget, which includes the Town's general, debt service, water and sewer, and stormwater funds, represents a 2% increase over last year's budget. At \$22,614,320, the general fund, the Town's day-to-day operating budget, is actually down about 2.2% from last year.

The FY17 real estate tax rate, adopted by Council May 23, remains the same as last year at \$0.225/\$100 assessed value. The Town's real estate tax rate has remained the same or been decreased each of the past six years.

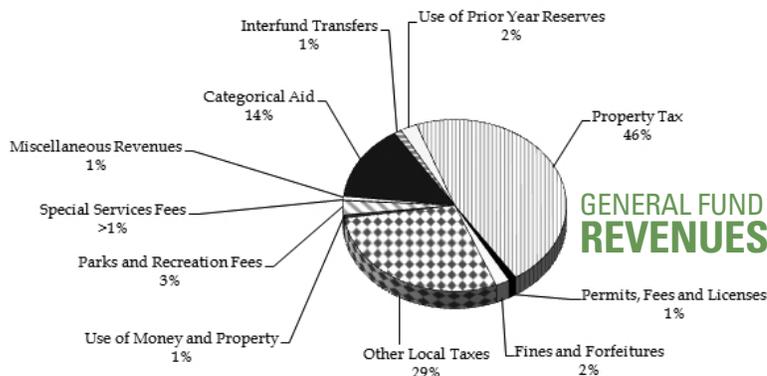
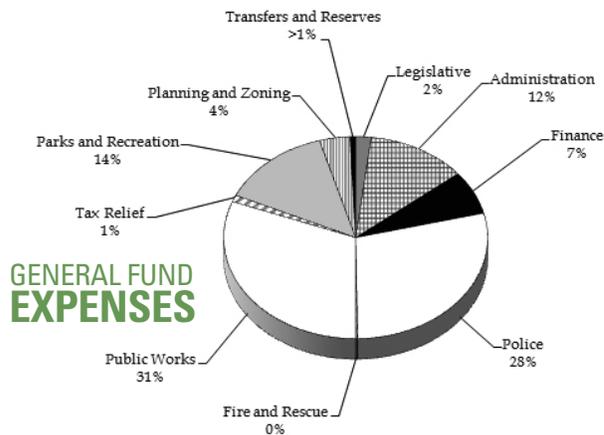
Although Vienna's tax rate remains constant, most homeowners will pay higher Town real estate taxes this year due to increased assessments. The average additional Town tax payment for Vienna residents is expected to be about \$20 for the fiscal year.

In addition, water and sewer rates will go up in FY17. Council approved in May a 66 cents increase per 1,000 gallons for water and sewer usage. The average Vienna water customer will likely see a \$10.56 increase in the quarterly bill.

"Our new budget anticipates that expenditures will be essentially flat this coming fiscal year," says Town Manager Mercury Payton. "Even with modest salary increases and additional health care costs, the Town worked hard to hold the line on expenditures overall and to avoid piling on homeowners who will experience increased real estate taxes due to a higher county rate and growth in assessments."

Town employees will receive a 0.9% cost-of-living salary increase and 2% merit increase for those who are eligible and meet expectations. Healthcare costs for Local Choice Anthem, which a large majority of staff use, will increase by 14.8%. The Town and employees will share those increased costs.

New expenditures and initiatives for the coming year are relatively modest. A planned class and compensation study will be conducted in-house to reduce costs. Salt brine equipment and a skid loader/snow blower will be purchased for about \$55,000 to assist with snow removal, and an additional \$20,000 is provided for street striping. 



## July Summer on the Green performances

Join your friends and neighbors for free concerts on the Town Green. Performances begin at 6:30 p.m. Bring picnics, chairs, blankets, and your dancing shoes, but please leave pets at home. Also, no alcohol may be brought to the concerts.



**July 1**  
Navy Band Commodores

**July 8 • Shenandoah Run**

**July 15 • Bill Emerson and the Sweet Dixie Band**

**July 22 • Feedback**



**July 24**  
Vienna Community Band

**July 29 • Wayne Typmanick – jazz, Dixieland**

## Moody's report notes Vienna's 'very strong financial position'

In a Local Government Issuer Comment Report published June 7, Moody's rating agency describes the Town of Vienna's credit position as "of the highest quality" and notes the Town's "robust financial position, healthy tax base, and superior socio-economic profile."

In December as the Town prepared to issue new general obligation bonds to support several green capital projects, Moody's – and Standard and Poor's – confirmed the Town's AAA bond rating.

Noting Vienna's good financial management and very strong financial position, Moody's says in the June report that the Town's Aaa rating is much stronger than its median rating of Aa3 for U.S. cities.

Vienna's local economy and the Town's tax base are "very healthy," says Moody's, adding that Vienna's debt burden is "negligible."

"I'm so pleased with this Moody's report," says Mayor Laurie DiRocco, "and even more so with the Town of Vienna's conservative fiscal policies and practices that underscore the report and make it financially possible to address challenges and opportunities that arise while maintaining the real estate tax rate, as we were able to do in the recently adopted FY2017 budget." ▼



## Appointed to serve

Over the past couple of months, Council has appointed or re-appointed the following individuals to two-year terms on Town boards:

- Joanne Ehreth Burke – Community Enhancement Commission
- Christina Caplan – Community Enhancement Commission
- Freya Fisher – Historic Vienna, Inc.
- Laine Hyde – Board of Architectural Review
- Steve Kenney – Planning Commission
- David Lanphear – Planning Commission
- Susan Stillman – Community Enhancement Commission
- Sylvia Taylor – Historic Vienna, Inc.

JOIN THE TOWN  
OF VIENNA FOR A  
SPARKLIN' FOURTH  
FIREWORKS RAIN DATE: JULY 5

Monday, July 4  
Yeonas Park

Food and family fun  
begins at 4 pm

2nd Annual Vienna Inn Chili Dog  
Eating Contest – 4 pm

Kids pie eating contest – 5 pm

Old Bay Circus Company  
featuring Michael Rosman – 5:30  
and 6:30 pm

Fat Chance concert – 7 pm

Fireworks show – 9:30 pm

Parking at Cedar Lane School  
and Thoreau Middle School

**CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNCIL**

**Benefits of Vienna's meals tax**

by Howard Springsteen

This November, Fairfax County voters will have the choice to vote for or against implementing a 4% tax on prepared meals in Fairfax County. While this will, no doubt, create considerable public debate, if this measure passes, it could generate \$99 million in much needed additional revenue for Fairfax County Public Schools and county programs. It also would help diversify the county's revenue stream.

Many Town residents may not be aware that a meals tax has existed successfully for years in the towns of Vienna and Herndon, the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, and Alexandria, and Arlington County. This meals tax provides critical financial resources for these local jurisdictions. If voters approve the Fairfax County meals tax, it would have no effect in the towns of Vienna and Herndon since these jurisdictions already have a meals tax in place. The benefit of a county meals tax to Vienna, however, would be that a majority of the new funding would go for public schools, several of which are located in Vienna and run by Fairfax County Public Schools.

Here in Vienna the meals tax raises about \$2.3 million a year, received through more than 108 establishments. As the number of new eating establishments has increased in Vienna, so has the revenue. The Town of Vienna uses this revenue to fund the debt service fund, which pays for capital projects throughout Town, and thus has not used residential real estate property taxes. The list of major capital projects that Vienna's meals taxes have supported over the past 10 years includes: the Town Green, Beulah Road rebuild, Branch Road rebuild, Casmir Street rebuild, several drainage programs, Town Hall renovations, more than 30 sidewalks projects, Meadow Lane Park renovation, the community center expansion, and land acquisition for a future police facility expansion. This has amounted to more than \$20.4 million in capital improvements the past 10 years. We are fortunate to have the meals tax as a revenue source to help address our capital needs. ♻️



**TBLC posts #DiscoverViennaVA summer initiative**

by James Cudney and Friderike Butler, Town/Business Liaison Committee

The Town/Business Liaison Committee invites Vienna residents and visitors to explore the Town's wonderful variety of businesses and activities this summer. The Town of Vienna is holding a friendly social media competition around monthly themes.

Post a picture of yourself having fun exploring Vienna with the hashtag #DiscoverViennaVA on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. Random winners will be selected from among those making #DiscoverViennaVA posts.

Over the next few months, here's how the TBLC invites you to #DiscoverViennaVA:

**July:** Food

**August:** Entertainment

**September:** Shopping



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Send community news and high-resolution photographs to [pio@viennava.gov](mailto:pio@viennava.gov). All material provided is subject to editorial review and revision and will be used as space allows. **Deadline for the August issue is July 11.**



July is National Parks and Recreation month, so we decided to throw a party – a Big Splash Party, that is. Kids, prepare to get a little crazy, a little loud, and definitely wet when Parks and Recreation brings the waterpark to you from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, July 31, on the Town Green. Suggested attire for this party? Bathing suits, of course.

Expect water to be blasted your way from every direction in the form of canons, sprinklers, and various games. Kids can belly-surf along the slip and slide until they are, well, soaked, and then come back for more.

In addition to the H<sub>2</sub>O rampage, there will be raffle prizes, a moon bounce, snow cones, and music. Parks and Recreation Program Coordinator Kathy Blevins expressed the buildup of anticipation for the mid-summer water explosion by saying: "It's like you take the energy and fun of a water-themed park and mash it all into the Town's backyard. It's like a big, refreshing splash of water in your face after a heat-filled couple of months. We're excited for the kids to get out and blow off some steam during the dog days of summer." 📌

## Community Center Renovation and Expansion Update

### Deteriorated foundations require additional repair

The construction crew at the community center site unearthed some bad news recently: The foundations of three of the building's walls, and especially the north wall, are so deteriorated from moisture that portions of them have holes and are crumbling. The deterioration, says Construction Project Manager Brad Macomber, was caused by water that had pooled against the foundations because no perimeter drains had been installed, and the clay essentially held the water against the building, in some cases as long as 50 years.

The least expensive approach to correcting the problem is to rebuild the foundation and walls. In addition, perimeter drains will be installed around the building. On June 6, Town Council approved additional funding for the project in the amount of \$1.266 million, \$476,000 of which will be used to address the foundation issue and \$242,000 of which had already been approved but not allocated.

This additional funding will come from capital improvement projects, which for one reason or another, will not be completed or have been delayed.

Progress on the project, as reported to Town Council June 13, includes:

- installing bollards along the W&OD trail
- mowing the grass and cleaning the construction site
- installing masonry piers in the administrative office area and auditorium corridor
- installing heating and cooling units and piping
- removing windows on the second floor and framing openings
- completing the west and south masonry walls of the new gym, which are now ready for roof trusses
- beginning masonry walls along the east wall of the new gym
- installing masonry foundation and piers along the north corridor and lobby
- installing bar joists, decking, and roofing over the electrical room, new gym, and theater storage.

Looking ahead, next steps include:

- laying asphalt for the W&OD trail
- pouring concrete slabs in the corridor adjacent to the new gymnasium as well as men's and women's restrooms
- installing switch gear for the electrical room
- installing the new pad, transformer, and primary and secondary cables for power to the community center and VYI building
- installing temporary support in the administrative area in preparation for removal of the north wall
- installing brick piers on the east wall of the administrative area to support the wall and foundation and grouting completely between the piers at each location.

*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. Because there is no work session in July, the next update will be presented July 11, prior to the regular Council meeting.* 📌





## Survey says *continued from page 1*

In rating citizen satisfaction with the value of Town services received for taxes paid, Vienna's ratings (74% were "satisfied" or "very satisfied") were 25 points higher than the Mid-Atlantic (49%) benchmark and 27 higher than the national benchmark (47%).

"I'm really proud of the Vienna community and the services provided through the Town of Vienna, but of course, I may be a little biased," says Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco. "However, these survey results and the generally high satisfaction ratings reported by our citizens underscore our strong sense of community and the Town's commitment to high-quality services. The

data collected through the citizen survey helps ensure that the Town is headed in the right direction and helps us plan for and improve services and programs."

The 2016 Town of Vienna Community Survey was mailed to a random sample of 4,000 Town of Vienna households in March. A total of 897 surveys were completed for a 22% response rate. ETC Institute reports that a typical response rate is 10-12%.

In addition to reporting current opinions about the quality of Town programs and services and providing comparisons to benchmarks, ETC also provided comparisons to 2014 Town of Vienna Community Survey results.

Compared to 2014 survey results, citizen ratings are up in 52 categories, down

in 17 categories, and remained the same in three. Among the areas where citizens' ratings were significantly higher (5 points or more): quality of public information; police services, especially crime prevention efforts; enforcement of Town regulations, especially regarding signs in rights-of-way and mowing/weeding private properties; maintenance of streets; planning and zoning and transportation services, especially ease and safety of biking; and overall parks and recreation services, especially the quality of facilities, ease of registering for activities, and variety of programs.

While satisfaction was up significantly regarding traffic flow on Maple Avenue – 32% of respondents reported being satisfied in 2016 compared to 17% in 2014 – it's noteworthy that more respondents ►

(47%) remain dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with Maple Avenue traffic flow.

Among areas where there is a significant decrease (5 or more points) in citizens' satisfaction are how quickly staff responds to requests; the feeling of safety in commercial areas at night; parks and recreation children's programming; and Vienna as a place to retire.

Forty-four percent of survey respondents said Vienna was a good or excellent place to retire as compared to 56% in 2014. Interestingly, tabular data shows that 55% of respondents who are 65-74 years old rated Vienna as a good or excellent place to live in the 2016 survey while 70.6% of respondents 75 and older rated the Town highly; approximately one-third of younger respondents were neutral on the topic.

Among the highest rated initiatives that citizens would like the Town to address over the next 5 years are:

- economic development strategies to sustain/enhance the downtown commercial area (89%)
- additional sidewalks/trails for better connections (87%)
- park facilities and recreational programming (86%)
- mixed-use development along Maple Avenue (75%).

Selected additional survey findings:

- Rated feeling of safety in Vienna as good or excellent: 94%
- Read the Town newsletter in the past 12 months: 96%
- Visited a Town of Vienna park in past 12 months: 87%
- Satisfied with overall quality of police services: 89%
- Attended a Town of Vienna event in past 12 months: 70%
- Satisfied with safety and ease of walking and biking in Vienna: 89% and 81%, respectively
- Satisfied with overall cleanliness of the Town: 90%

The 2016 Town of Vienna Community Survey findings, including graphs and charts, benchmark comparisons, and trends can be found at [viennava.gov/survey](http://viennava.gov/survey). 

# Wait, what is that – a traffic signal?

Vienna is at a crossroads, so to speak. The ever-increasing number of vehicles passing through Town and the desire of people to cross Maple Avenue are often in conflict. How can our infrastructure promote small-town, pedestrian America while also accommodating the reality of heavy traffic?

The Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) signal, sometimes referred to as a HAWK

signal (short for High-Intensity Activated CrossWalk beacon) takes both issues into consideration. Its purpose is quite simple: to create a safe and efficient environment in which pedestrians can cross busy streets. PHB signals replace traditional “red/yellow/green” signals for pedestrian crossings, and Vienna currently has one PHB signal at Maple Avenue and Pleasant Street

So, as a pedestrian or as a driver, what do you need to do when you encounter a Pedestrian Hybrid Signal?

Drivers	Pedestrians
 Proceed with Caution	 Push the Button to Cross
 Slow Down (Pedestrian has activated the push button)	 Wait
 Prepare to Stop	 Continue to Wait
 STOP! (Pedestrian in Crosswalk)	 Start Crossing
 STOP! Proceed with Caution if Clear	 Continue Crossing (Countdown Signal)
 Proceed if Clear	 Push the Button to Cross

## Drivers

When approaching a PHB signal, the lights are dark when not in use. If the yellow light begins flashing, begin to slow down and prepare to stop. When the light changes to a solid yellow, stop if it is safe to do so. Once the PHB signal changes from steady yellow to two solid red lights, stop and remain stopped. Next, the two red lights will begin to flash in an alternating pattern – stop or remain stopped until pedestrians have finished crossing the street. If, after you've stopped, the crosswalk is clear while the signal is still in the alternating red flash, it's OK to proceed with caution. The signal will then return to its unlit condition when not in use by pedestrians.

## Pedestrians

The PHB signal functions in the same manner as a normal pedestrian traffic signal. Push the button on the signal and wait for the pedestrian signal to cross the street. When the signal changes from a DON'T WALK symbol (orange solid hand) to a WALK symbol (walking person), begin crossing the street in the crosswalk. When the WALK symbol changes to a flashing DON'T WALK with a countdown timer, continue crossing if you are already in the crosswalk, but do not begin crossing.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon signals:

- increase safety by reducing crash rates at pedestrian crossings
- reduce dangerous driver violations at pedestrian crossings
- eliminate driver delay and frustration, as they allow drivers to proceed through the crossing once it is clear of pedestrians (rather than having to wait for a green light).

These signals are a tool that helps make our community more walkable and pedestrian-friendly. They encourage people to be out and about enjoying stores, restaurants, or just a stroll through Town. 

## Leave it on the lawn: Grasscycling helps reduce stormwater pollution

by Christine Horner, Water Quality Engineer

**W**ith the heavy spring rains we experienced, Vienna’s homeowners are likely noticing increased time spent behind the lawn mower. Why not save some time and have a positive impact on the environment by learning how to grass-cycle? Grasscycling is the direct return of fresh clippings to the lawn and is the recommended alternative to bagging or disposing of clippings in the street curb line.

Leaving clippings on the lawn reduces unnecessary waste in local landfills and helps protect our waterways as well. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that yard waste accounts for 18% of refuse dumped into landfills. And when grass clippings and excess fertilizer enter the curb line and storm inlets, they eventually drain to our local streams and rivers. This yard waste pollution contributes to excess nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus in our waterways, which can cause uncontrolled growth of algae and aquatic plants. Excess algae causes deoxygenation of water and can have a detrimental impact on aquatic ecosystems, including on fish and other stream creatures.

Please consider sweeping up all grass clippings and reusing them to fertilize your yard. Left on your lawn, grass clippings provide a source of nutrients for your lawn as they decompose, reducing the quantity and cost of fertilizer required.

In order to grasscycle, allow your grass to grow to three inches and then cut no more than one inch off the top. This “one-third” rule helps to develop a deep root system, which is a natural defense against weeds, disease, and drought. During quick growth periods, it is best to mow grass every four to seven days. Mulching blades and adaptor kits are available for many types of lawn mowers, but are not necessary for grasscycling. Keep mower blades sharp and mow only dry grass for the best results. Grass clippings are about 90% water so they will quickly decompose and will not cause thatch buildup.

And here’s another good reason to consider grasscycling: Beginning next July (2017), Fairfax County (and thus the Town of Vienna) will no longer accept yard waste in plastic bags. Residents will need to utilize reusable containers or paper bags – or better yet, grasscycle.

Please contact Water Quality Engineer Christine Horner at [christine.horner@viennava.gov](mailto:christine.horner@viennava.gov) or 703-319-8630 with questions or comments about the Town’s stormwater management program. 📞



Remember, the grass is always greener when you leave it on the lawn!

## Invasive ivies are killing your trees

by Michael Givanniello, Community Enhancement Commission

**A**s a resident of a Tree City USA, odds are that your Town of Vienna property is fortunate enough to include at least a couple of trees. But did you know that your trees, whose health adds beauty and value to your home, could be seriously at risk? The perpetrator: English ivy.

An invasive species becoming increasingly abundant in ecosystems throughout the East Coast, English ivy grows on trees and, if unchecked, obstructs their ability to photosynthesize while also weighing them down, putting your trees at significantly greater risk of falling.

So to avoid an unsolicited branch in your living room, you just need to prune the ivy on trees next to your house, right? Not quite.

English ivy also provides a breeding ground for mosquitoes, and homes near affected trees are guaranteed to see more of the flying, biting pests. That’s why the Community Enhancement Commission (CEC) organized Ivy Free Vienna. Aimed at removing English ivy from public spaces and educating citizens about the threat that ivy poses, the initiative helps homeowners safeguard the environmental health of their property and community.

Fortunately for homeowners, keeping your ivy at bay is as easy as it gets. All you need is a little bit of time on a beautiful Saturday and some trusty clippers. To remove the ivy from your trees, simply make a series of two cuts, roughly three inches apart, and remove the segment between the two cuts. Do this twice a year, and you’re made in the shade (of a healthy, beautiful tree).

If you want more information or would like to volunteer, search “ivy free” at [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) or call 703-255-5721. 📞

# Old show, new tricks: VYP stages 'Jesus Christ Superstar'

By Adam Kincaid

It's doubtful that anyone has a photograph of Jesus wearing a button down Oxford with jeans and a pair of boat shoes. That's the great thing about art: Imagination is the only limit on creativity. At least that was the mindset of the Vienna Youth Players (VYP) when the community youth theater decided to take on as its 2016 production Andrew Lloyd Webber's rock opera classic *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

The innovative decision to ditch the robes and sandals in favor of modern attire is just the tip of the artistic iceberg for VYP's latest production. The audience is in for an audio-visual spin of a long-established play, as Babs Dyer undertakes an intriguing production in her 24th year as VYP director.

"We wanted to retool and look for a new

angle on a title that's been done for over 30 years," says Dyer. "We think the audience will be delightfully surprised to see new tricks in an older show."

Last August, VYP put on acclaimed performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* to sold-out crowds. The company intends to draw a similar number of theater-goers this summer and to provide the same riveting experience, but this year there is no community center.

"Shifting for rehearsals, lighting set up, and stage formations has required some adjustments," admits Dyer, adding that "Vienna Baptist Church is a great venue, and we are more than thankful for their hospitality."

Casting for the show reflects the dynamic demands of a modern-day interpretation and requires performers to

have a broader array of dance skills than usual. The show has five choreographers to coach all 40 cast members, who range in age from 8 to 18, in differing forms of dance – hip hop, ballet, tap, and jazz. The production also has diverted from the show's traditional gender roles, casting a woman as King Herod.

*Jesus Christ Superstar* premieres on August 5 with additional performances August 6, 12, and 13. All shows are at 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW. Tickets are \$14 and go on sale July 6 and may be purchased from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Parks and Recreation offices, 262M Cedar Lane SE (second floor, units 4 and 7) or online at [viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=895](http://viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=895). Tickets, if available, may also be purchased at the door. 🎫



Photo by Adam Kincaid

## Vienna businesses with staying power

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

50 YEARS

**Thomas C. Mandes, M.D., P.C.**

25 YEARS

**Joe's Place Pizza and Pasta**

20 YEARS

**Maple Fashions**

15 YEARS

**Harrison Consulting Group, Inc.  
Vienna Family Medicine**

10 YEARS

**Easy Stone Center  
Navy Federal Brokerage Service  
Spanish Women's Care  
Wireless Jungle**

5 YEARS

**Choice Property Management & Services  
Cuppakitchen  
Mobilerev  
Nails Etc.  
Rainbow Imports and Exports, Inc.  
Robek's Premium Fruit Smoothies  
The Fresh Market, Inc.  
Unique Landscaping**



Cycle Chi, 211 Mill Street NE, received a new business license from the Town in May.

# GET HAPPY!

## Vienna ranks at the top of several lists

by Adam Kincaid

According to several research firms who throw bodies at number-crunching to analyze communities and create “best places” lists, Vienna and Fairfax County rank among the *crème de la crème* for safety, work ethic, and happiness.

Zippia, a career research database firm located in San Francisco, declared Vienna the second hardest working place in Virginia, the first being Purcellville. The metrics were based on average hours worked per week (39.6), workers per household (1.6), and percentage of college graduates (65.5%). Other measures included average commute time and labor force participation rate.

Alarm System Reviews has ranked Vienna as the ninth safest community in Virginia and Virginia as the second safest state in the country. In addition to general demographics, the company looked at data from multiple alphabet agencies, including FBI crime data.

Vienna’s high safety ranking based on Alarm System Reviews’ data correlates to data received through Vienna’s 2016 community survey in which a majority of respondents reported feeling very or somewhat safe in their neighborhoods during the day (97%) and at night (87%), commercial/business areas during the day (97%) and night (86%), in Town parks (89%), and along the Vienna section of the W&OD (79%).

Perhaps the happiest news of recent rankings relates to the finding that Fairfax County is the second happiest county in the country, just behind Loudoun County. SmartAssest, a privately held personal finance firm out of New York, looked at four values associated with happiness: family stability, calculated based on marriage and divorce rates; physical health, based on life expectancy and exercise rates; personal financial health, calculated from bankruptcy rates and median income; and economic security, derived from the country’s unemployment and poverty rates from 2009-13. 📌



## 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](http://viennava.gov). All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

### April 18

- Held a public hearing and adopted an ordinance to vacate a portion of the public alley behind 102 Ayr Hill Avenue NW.
- Approved \$4,103.14 in additional spending with Virginia Paving Company for asphalt milling and repaving associated with Saint Romans Drive water line replacement.
- Approved \$1,462 in additional spending with RJ Merkel to repaint crosswalks.
- Reduced public improvement bond for the Onondio Cove subdivision to a surety amount of \$347,143, to be held until the remainder of public improvements are completed.
- Awarded a \$39,257 contract to Amec Foster Wheeler for stormwater design services at the Northside Property Yard.
- Approved Transportation Safety Commission-recommended pedestrian improvements, at a cost of \$4,500, along Beulah Road NE.
- Approved memorandum of understanding between Vienna Little League and Town of Vienna for use of Yeonas Park during the 2016 July 4 fireworks display.
- Approved an increase in the construction contract with Keller Brothers for the Vienna Community Center in an amount not to exceed \$266,577 and approved payment to Robert E. Lee Electric in an amount not to exceed \$20,623.
- Approved an increase in the service agreement renewal with Datamatx in the amount of \$1,900.
- Set a public hearing for May 9 to consider amending the Town Code to allow for cash and non-cash proffers.
- Set a public hearing for May 23 for the Vienna Market rezoning application.
- Set a public hearing for May 9 for the Flagship Carwash rezoning application.
- Awarded a contract not to exceed \$59,997 to Tyler Technologies, Inc. for permits and code enforcement software. 📌

# HAPPENINGS around town

Enjoy **tea with “Elizabeth Cady Stanton”** at 3 pm Sunday, July 3, in the parlor of the Freeman Store and Museum. Finger sandwiches and desserts will be served. Stanton, 1815-1902, an American suffragist, social activist, and leading figure of the early women’s rights movement, will be portrayed by Leigh Kitcher. Advance reservations are required; tickets are \$20 per person. Call 703-938-5187 or visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org).

**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, July 5, in the program building 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](mailto:wf.pflag@gmail.com) or visit [pflagdc.org](http://pflagdc.org) and [facebook.com/groups/fly.pflag](http://facebook.com/groups/fly.pflag).

The **Vienna Arts Society** will host a reception and exhibit of painted puzzle pieces created by veterans at Fort Belvoir Hospital from 5:30-7:30 pm Saturday, July 9, at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street, NW. The puzzle pieces will be auctioned with bids starting at \$20.

**Faith Baptist Church**, located at 301 Center Street S, will host its free annual soccer and

basketball clinics for rising K-6th graders July 12-14. Register online at [believegrowchange.org/levelup.php](http://believegrowchange.org/levelup.php). The soccer clinic is 9-11 am each day, and the basketball clinic is 1-3 pm; children may enroll in one or both. Please be aware that lunch is not provided and will need to be eaten elsewhere or at picnic areas outdoors. Call Shannon Mathews at 540-841-9293 with any questions.

Longtime Vienna resident **Connie Stuntz** will sign copies of *This Was Vienna, Virginia*, a legacy book providing the definitive Town of Vienna history that she wrote with her late husband, Mayo. The book signing will be from 2-4 pm Sunday, August 7, at the Freeman Store & Museum. Call 703-938-5187 or visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org) for more information.

You’re invited to a **Civil War History Parlor Talk** with Edward T. Wenzel at 2 pm Sunday, July 24. Wenzel, who just came out with his *Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County*, has been honored by the National Civil War Trust for his efforts to preserve the Ox Hill battlefield in Chantilly. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org).

*Mixed Bag, Mixed Media, Mixed Subject Matter*, a **Vienna Arts Society** all-member show, is on exhibit through August 6 at the Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Avenue W. Visit [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org) or call 703-319-3971.

Start snapping now to participate in the **Vienna Arts Society’s** 2016 judged photography show. This year’s theme is “On the Street.” The competition is open to all. Cash awards will be presented to first, second, and third place winners. Registration forms are available at [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org) or at the Vienna Arts Center. Registration

forms and fees are due July 25; submissions are due July 30. The exhibit will be August 2-September 3 at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street NW, with artists reception and awards presentation from 4-6 p.m. Saturday, August 6. For more information, visit [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org) or call 703-319-3971.

What’s going on in the side yard of the Freeman Store and Museum? **Historic Vienna Inc. (HVI)** has created a “farm” as part of HVI’s *History of Agriculture in Vienna* exhibit. HVI planted wheat, rye, flax, barley, oats, red and white corn, tomatoes, and potatoes in the raised garden. Want to help water or weed? Call 703-938-5187.

**Historic Vienna Inc. (HVI)** is hosting an old-fashioned country fair 12-4 pm Saturday, August 20, at the Freeman Store and Museum. For green thumbs, there will be a homegrown fruit and vegetable competition, patio pot competition, and flower show. Kid-friendly activities include farm animals, bike decorating contest, farm crafts, living history, old-fashioned games, music, ice cream churning, and HVI’s demonstration farm garden. For more information, visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org) or call 703-938-5187.

Stop in for a free tour of the **Freeman Store and Museum**, 131 Church Street NE, at 2 pm Saturdays throughout the summer. [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org).

*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.*

## Parks and Rec sampler

Here are just a couple of samples of the many programs being offered through the Parks and Recreation Department in July. In addition, registration for summer camps is ongoing. For more information about camps or the programs listed at right, visit [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

### ‘Where the wind comes sweepin’ down the plain’

Enjoy a rousing rendition of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Oklahoma!* as well as a three-course gourmet meal at the Riverside Theatre in Fredricksburg. This trip is scheduled from 10 am-5:30 pm Wednesday, July 27. Pick-up location is the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department at 400 Center Street. Cost is \$88 for Town residents and \$110 for non-residents. Activity #141567-A1.

### Controlling the clutter

Certified professional organizer Maria Spetalnik will show you how to knock down that mountain of paperwork that is cluttering your desk or dining room table. After taking this one-hour, free seminar, you’ll be able to find that bill you’re looking for, know whether or not you should shred a document, and be able to locate your insurance information should you need it quickly. The class is at 10 a.m. Monday, July 11, at 262M Cedar Lane, upstairs above the Subway. Pre-registration is appreciated. Activity #142521-A1.

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

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

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

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

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Vienna **VOICE**

# JULY TOWN CALENDAR

- 1** Summer on the Green: U.S. Navy Band Commodores • 6:30 pm
- 2** Vienna Farmers Market (301 Center Street S) • 8 am-noon
- 4** Holiday: Town Hall Closed/No Refuse Collection
- 4** July 4 Celebration and Fireworks (Southside Park) • 4-10:30 pm
- 5** Refuse Collection for July 4 and 5
- 5** Windover Heights Board of Review • 7:30 pm
- 8** Summer on the Green: Shenandoah Run • 6:30 pm
- 9** Vienna Farmers Market (301 Center Street S) • 8 am-noon
- 11** Town Council Meeting • 8 pm
- 14** Town/Business Liaison Committee • 7 pm
- 15** Summer on the Green: • 6:30 pm  
Bill Emerson & the Sweet Dixie Band
- 16** Vienna Farmers Market (301 Center Street S) • 8 am-noon
- 19** Public Art Commission • 7 pm
- 20** Board of Zoning and Appeals • 8 pm
- 21** Board of Architectural Review • 8 pm
- 22** Summer on the Green: Feedback • 6:30 pm
- 23** Vienna Farmers Market (301 Center Street S) • 8 am-noon

- 24** Summer on the Green: Vienna Community Band • 6:30 pm
- 26** Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committees • 7 pm
- 26** Transportation Safety Commission • 8 pm
- 29** Summer on the Green: Wayne Typmanick • 6:30 pm
- 29** Teen Park Takeover (Meadow Lane Park) • 7-9 pm
- 30** Vienna Farmers Market (301 Center Street S) • 8 am-noon
- 30** Dine & Create Till 8 (262M Cedar Lane) • 5-8 pm
- 31** Big Splash Party (Town Green) • 1-3 pm

*Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S.  
Meeting schedule subject to change; check [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov) for updates.*

**30** years ago...

The July 1986 Town newsletter reported that the Vienna Chamber of Commerce was offering a \$100 reward for the return of its 28-foot Viva! Vienna! banner, which was taken from where it hung on Church Street in the early morning hours of May 25. 📍