

Dear Fairfax County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you to those of you who attended Juneteenth celebration at the First Baptist Church in Vienna. That was the kickoff for our Liberty Amendments Month and we want you to know you are always welcome to attend any of the events. The calendar is here: www.viennava/Liberty.

I am sure you are aware that pickleball has been the fastest growing sport in the United States for the past three years. Exercise is so important for the physical health of a community and sports also promote social connections which are good for our mental health as well. This particular sport makes more noise than tennis or other outdoor sports because of the particular pitch and loudness of the paddle hitting the ball. The number of people playing is double that of tennis because there are two games of four per court. The town marked lines on our tennis courts at Glyndon Park for pickleball and our Vienna and County residents have been playing there. Glyndon Park, like all of our town parks, is very close to homes, thus, the surrounding neighbors' quality of life has decreased, and they have asked us to suspend play. For the time being, we reached a compromise and have reduced the hours of play allowed for pickleball. However, neither the residents nor the players are happy.

We are asking you to help Fairfax County residents have more options of locations to play pickleball with longer hours. The county owns facilities near the town that could be used for pickleball. Because of their relative distance from residential neighborhoods, several of those facilities are far better suited to use for pickleball than Town of Vienna owned property. Please research county parks and facilities near Vienna that could be used for pickleball.

This sport is not going away and my daughter told me her college even offered a pickleball class. It is a very fun sport and one that all ages can play together. For the health of our communities, please consider looking into all options to increase the number of pickleball courts in the county, preferably some near Vienna.

Sincerely,

Linda Colbert
Mayor

And the Vienna Town Council