

Activity Report Highlights

City of Staunton



The photo above, of the Camera Heritage Museum in Downtown Staunton, was featured in a 16-page spread in Cary Magazine and on their website.

STAUNTON ACCOLADES ABOUND

The City of Staunton has been recently featured in multiple regional and national publications. In March, visiting Staunton was featured in Cary Magazine, Wake Living and Richmond Magazine. All three publications were not only print, but also had a significant online component. Staunton was also ranked #6, and is the only Virginia city to be in the top 10, for USA Today's Best Small Town Cultural Scene for 2024. Throughout the year, Staunton continues to be included in top ten lists across the nation for the city's architecture, scenery, downtown life, arts, and local attractions. Many thanks to the small, but mighty, Tourism Department for the work they do promoting Staunton.



March 2024

Dispatched Calls for Service*

Police	3,064 ↑
Fire & Rescue	387 ↑

Average Response Time month/year

Police	4'00"/4'06"
Fire & Rescue	3'59"/4'41"

*arrows indicate if calls are up or down compared to the previous month

By the Numbers

150 new multi-family units were approved via site plans in 2023 and **31** new single-family lots were created through approved plats.

Staunton has a labor force of **12,850** people.

27 individuals passed the Regional Firefighter Testing and received certification.

Into the Future

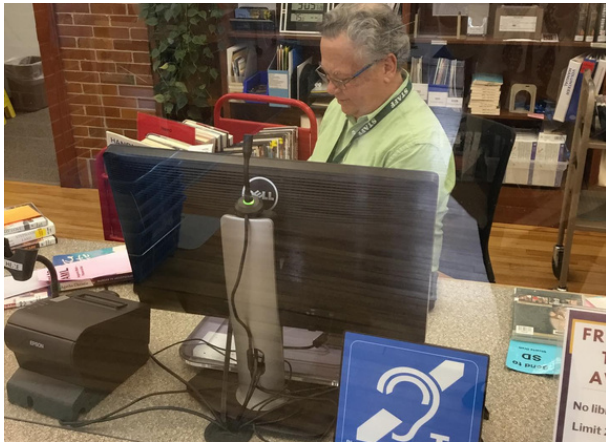
Staunton Jams will take place in various locations downtown **May 3-5**.

15th Annual (and final) Sgt. Tom Larner 5K, **7:30 a.m., May 11**. Register online at runsignup.com

STAUNTON
VIRGINIA

INTERNATIONAL CRED FOR WELLER

The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) voted unanimously on March 15 to re-confer Deputy Chief Perry Weller's Fire Marshal designation. He is one of 240 Fire Marshals internationally. He has demonstrated through his education, leadership and management skills that he possesses the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities required for the fire and emergency services profession.



HEARING LOOPS INSTALLED AT LIBRARY

With the support of IT, hearing loop technology has been installed at the Library's checkout and reference desks. This system will significantly improve accessibility for patrons with hearing loss. It will allow them to communicate more easily with library staff by reducing background noise and interference. Hearing loops consist of a transmitter that produces a magnetic field and a microphone placed in front of the library staff. When a compatible hearing aid is switched to the 'T' setting and the user is standing within two feet of the transmitter, library staff speaking into the microphone can be heard directly in the hearing aid.

SEC SHARING CITY VALUES

Staunton's Facebook page has recently featured a few posts on environmental consciousness within the city. Staunton's employee committee has been tasked with sharing the City's core values as they lead up to their staff appreciation event in September. The values that prioritize the actions of City Council and staff can be found on the city's website at www.staunton.va.us/stauntonplan.



Notes from the City Manager

Some great news on improving services and creating some efficiencies – the Voting Registrar's Office has moved to the other side of City Hall where the utility billing office was housed; and utility billing moved in the third window at the Treasurer's Office. This move will be beneficial in a few ways:

- While it's a temporary move for the registrar, the new space will give them more office space, they will be more secure, there is a welcome counter and the voting kiosks will not be visible by citizens who

are also trying to pay bills, offering more privacy for those voting.

- Utility billing will be more of a one stop shop for someone who needs to pay a utility bill and a personal property or other type of bill. The new location will provide utility billing staff more space than they had previously.



March 2024 Activity Report

Community Development

Key Construction Project Updates

Dunkin Donuts

Final demolition of the former Wendy's is complete, a building permit has been issued, and footer inspections are currently being completed for construction of a Dunkin Dounts at 704 Greenville Ave. *Picture below.*



Firestone Complete Auto Care Center

Rough-in inspections were completed for the Firestone Complete Auto Care Center building at 1012 Richmond Ave. *Picture below.*



Middlebrook Trace II

Footer inspections and underground inspections have been completed for construction of a single, four-story apartment building consisting of 48 units at 914 Middlebrook Ave. A common area is also a part of the plan.

1106 North Augusta St.

A certificate of occupancy has been issued for the former single-family dwelling at 1106 North Augusta St. that will be a mixed-use restaurant and short-term lodging.

4 Silver Creek Dr.

A building permit has been issued for foundation of a 756 square foot office and six storage buildings.

Staunton Apartments II

Framing and rough-in inspections are currently being scheduled for building 200 and 300. When the complex at 1013 Seth Dr. is complete, there will be a total of 8 buildings consisting of 72 units. *Picture below.*



Staunton Steam – Phase #1

A certificate of occupancy has been issued for the Old Staunton Steam Laundry Building at 110 W Hampton St. The Laundry Building will become mixed occupancy to include 28 apartments with future retail or restaurant space. Final inspections are currently being scheduled for the Armory Building which will house 20 apartments. Phase #1 is complete.

Reports

Site Plans

The following is a newly approved site plan:

- 1006 Pocahontas Ave – six new townhouses

Environmental Inspections Report

The Environmental Programs Division of Community Development completed erosion and sediment control inspections on residential and commercial construction sites throughout the city as follows:

- Residential Construction – 58 active sites with 96 inspections in March
- Commercial Construction – 10 active sites with 19 inspections in March

Community Development Software

Over the next 12 to 18 months, Community Development will be working with Tyler Technologies to implement Enterprise Permitting and Licensing software. This will allow for better efficiency in processing development plans for all residential and commercial projects in the city. Once completed, citizens and developers, in addition to being able to apply in person, will be able to process their requests online. This includes application submittal, plan submittal, payment of fees, requests for building inspections, and the ability to view the project status.

Zoning Code Amendment

In March, Staunton City Council approved a zoning code text amendment to the H-1 Historic Preservation District regulations to reference the 2019 adopted guidelines.

West End Revitalization

City staff continue to work with residents and property owners to shape the future of Staunton's West End. Approximately 50 residents attended the second community event on its West End Revitalization Strategy effort, on March 5 at Montgomery Hall Park. The event was in a workshop format with presentations and small group discussions and activities. Attendees reviewed a draft vision and community goals. In breakout groups, attendees began to detail actions and recommendations. Nearly 100 action items and recommendations were submitted from the participants. The third, and final, community engagement meeting for the West End Revitalization Strategy Plan will be on May 7 at Gypsy Hill Park gymnasium from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The meeting will be an open house format where participants can arrive any time within the 90-minute time window and learn about the draft plan and provide feedback.

Housing and Grants Coordination

- As a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Community, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that the city create a Consolidated Plan (CP) and update it every five years. The original CP was created in 2019 and is currently being updated. As part of the plan update process, the city gathered input on community needs, especially those for community members with low-to-moderate incomes, from stakeholders, and the public. On March 7 and 11, four stakeholder workshops were held at the BRITE Transit Facility covering the following topics: affordable/accessible housing; homeless/special needs housing and services, human service provision, and community-based organizations. Each of the workshops were well attended by local service providers and other community stakeholders. Their comments were recorded and will be submitted as part of the updated Consolidated Plan to HUD by Aug. 15. When the Consolidated Plan is completed and approved by HUD, it will also be available on the City's website.
- The School Board has requested that the Community Development provide data for the number of housing units that are planned or under construction. The table

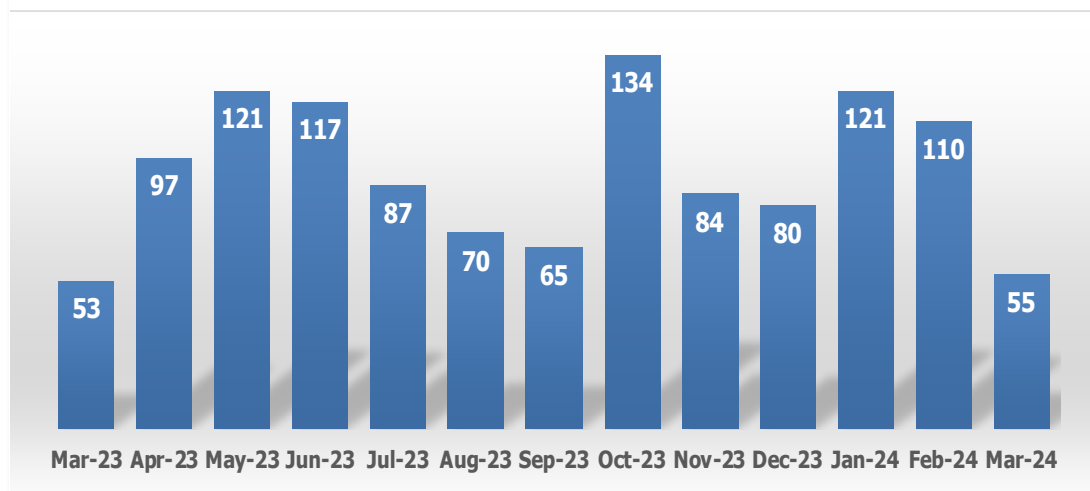
below shows the number of new single-family lots that have been approved through plats and the number of multi-family units that have been approved through site plans over the past two years.

	2022	2023
New Single-Family Lots Created Through Approved Plats	52	31
New Multi-Family Units Approved through Site Plans	104	150
TOTAL	156	181

Building Construction and Related Activity

Permits Issued	Mar-24	Mar-23	# Chg	% Chg
New Residential	2	0	2	-
Residential Renovations	11	13	-2	-15.4%
Electrical Permits	15	19	-4	-21.1%
Mechanical Permits	5	4	1	25.0%
Plumbing Permits	12	9	3	33.3%
Commercial New-Renovations	7	7	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous	3	1	2	200.0%
Total	55	53	2	3.8%

Total Monthly Building Permits Issued



Permit Fees Collected	Mar-24	Mar-23	# Chg	% Chg
New Residential	\$936	\$0	\$936	-
Residential Renovations	\$842	\$1,051	-\$209	-19.9%
Electrical Permits	\$1,295	\$1,882	-\$587	-31.2%
Mechanical Permits	\$469	\$428	\$41	9.5%
Plumbing Permits	\$1,015	\$898	\$117	13.1%
Commercial New-Renovations	\$778	\$939	-\$161	-17.1%
Miscellaneous	\$97	\$50	\$47	93.8%
Total	\$5,432	\$5,247	\$185	3.5%

Economic Development

Virginia Economic Development Partnership

On March 6, staff participated in the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program virtual site tour featuring Staunton Crossing. Announcements of awards should be made by the beginning of June.

Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute

Economic Development Specialist Amanda DiMeo was selected as one of 25 women in the state to participate in the Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute. This partnership between Virginia Women Leading Government and the Virginia Tech Roanoke Center provides women in local government with the connections and tools to further develop their skills, strengthening the pipeline for women to lead communities in Virginia and beyond. The group meets monthly, March to October, at various locations throughout the state. Pictured below is the current class as the first session held March 20-22 in Roanoke with the facilitators.



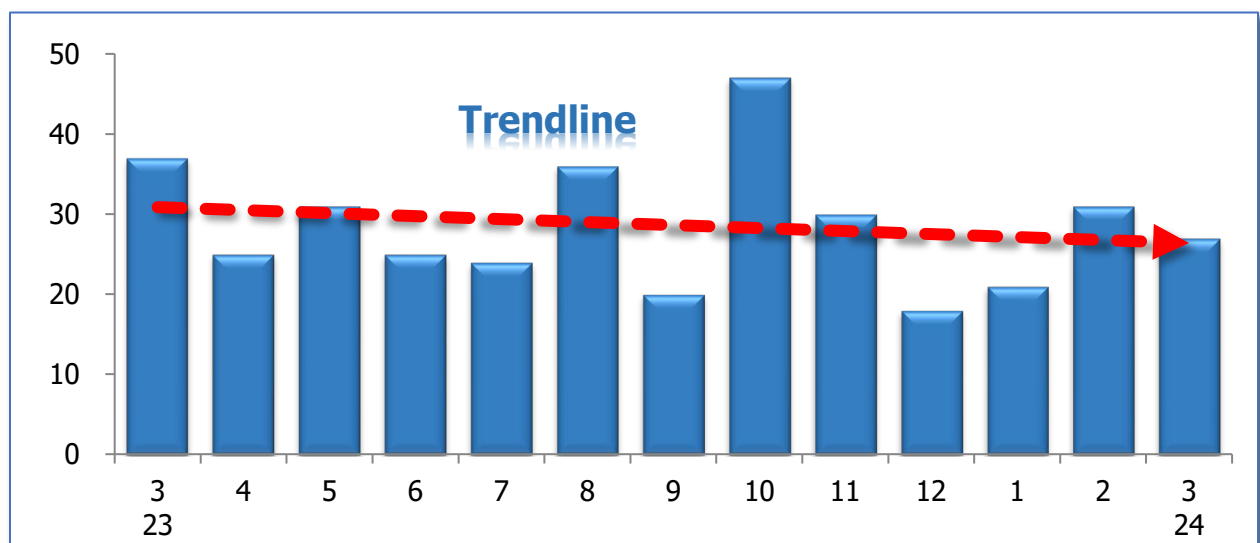
Business Retention and Expansion

On March 25, staff attended the ribbon cutting for the reopening of Marino's Lunch. A staple in the Queen City since 1917, Marino's Lunch is now under new ownership. The event was packed with many excited regulars (including Staunton's own Mayor Stephen W. Claffey) looking forward to the official opening on April 2. *Pictures below.*

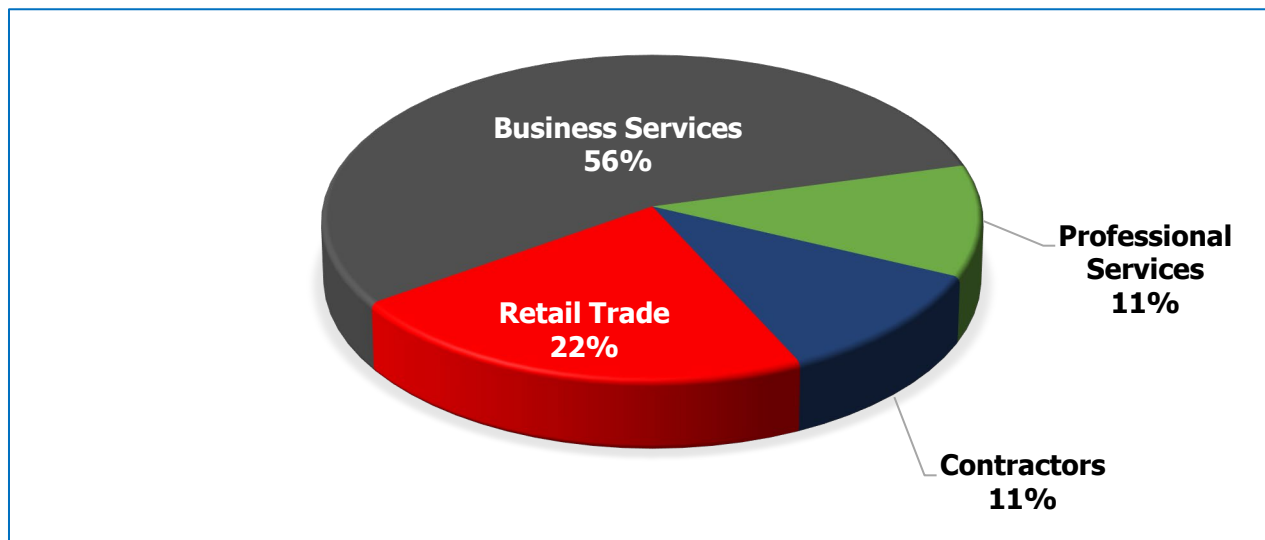


Business License Activity

During the month of March, the Commissioner of Revenue's office issued 27 business licenses compared to 31 the previous month, representing a 12.9% decrease. This month a year ago, 37 business licenses were issued. The following bar chart provides a monthly comparison for the total number of business licenses issued for the past year.



As seen in the following pie chart, the services sector accounted for over 3/4 of the total licenses issued in March.



Unemployment Rate

During February, Staunton's unemployment rate was 2.5%. As seen in the graph below, Staunton's rate was lower than Waynesboro and the Commonwealth. Augusta County had the lowest rate at 2.4%.

With a labor force of 12,850 people, 12,533 were employed and 317 were unemployed in Staunton in February. The following table provides a comparison by locality of labor force data changes from the prior month to the current month.

Area	Month	Labor force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (%)
Staunton	Current	12,850	12,533	317	2.5
	Prior	12,850	12,491	359	2.8
	Change	0	42	-42	
Augusta County	Current	39,537	38,580	957	2.4
	Prior	39,324	38,310	1,014	2.6
	Change	213	270	-57	
Waynesboro	Current	11,184	10,866	318	2.8
	Prior	11,161	10,837	324	2.9
	Change	23	29	-6	
Virginia	Current	4,558,770	4,433,559	125,211	2.7
	Prior	4,567,606	4,434,763	132,843	2.9
	Change	-8,836	-1,204	-7,632	

Finance

- The department issued 7,715 utility bills and general bills totaling \$1,135,857 during March.
- Collection activities in March resulted in the recovery of \$1,810 in delinquent utility invoices.
- The Utility Payment Office processed 3,367 receipts in the amount of \$720,101 during March.
- The department processed 414 City and 192 School accounts payable checks totaling \$2,822,620. 863 City and 575 Schools payroll-related advices totaling \$3,873,562; and 29 ACH debit/wire transactions totaling \$3,073,258 during March.
- Staff worked with our financial advisors, bond council, and the Virginia Resources Authority on the issuance of bonds to fund the city's new Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court. Finance also assisted the Engineering Department issue an Invitation for Bid for the construction of the building.
- The department received bids on behalf of Staunton City Schools for the Shelburne Middle School renovation and additions. Award of the project is in progress.
- Staff attended the 2024 Virginia Association of Governmental Procurement spring conference.
- Staff attended the first annual VDOE IDEA Part B Fiscal Collaborative Forum. The focus of the forum was to improve fiscal and program collaboration in the school division and with the State Educational Agency. Other topics covered consisted of MOE and Excess Cost successful data submissions, fiscal monitoring best practices, and grant funding and reimbursements.
- Staffed worked with City Council to update the city code for utility disconnections, in order to align with state code.
- The FY2025 proposed budget was presented to City Council on March 28. Budget work continues with city departments and budget work sessions with council.
- A draft of the FY2023 Cost Allocation Plan has been received from Maguire Associates. The department is in the process of reviewing the draft for finalization. The cost allocation plan distributes central service overhead costs such as finance, city manager, engineering, and legal to operating departments such as public works, parks and recreation and public safety.

Fire & Rescue

- Staunton Fire and Rescue responded to 387 incidents in March, totaling 1,101 emergency incident responses for 2024. The average response time for March was 3 minutes and 59 seconds. The average response time for 2024 is 4 minutes and 41 seconds.
 - Fire Station No. 1 responded to 270 incidents in March.
 - Fire Station No. 2 responded to 117 incidents in March.
- Staff received 635 hours of training in March. Personnel totaled 1,543 training hours for 2024, averaging 16 hours per person every month.
- Staff conducted 60 business fire safety inspections and 32 re-inspections in March, which totals 190 business fire safety inspections and 122 re-inspections for 2024.
- Staff conducted 15 public education visits in March, totaling 43 visits during 2024.
- The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) voted unanimously on March 15 to re-confer Deputy Chief Perry Weller's Fire Marshal designation. He is one of 240 Fire Marshals internationally. He has earned the professional designation as witnessed by a team of his peers and members of the CPC. He has demonstrated through his education, leadership and management skills that he possesses the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities required for the fire and emergency services profession.

Human Resources

Employee Actions

The following employee actions were processed:

Terminated:

Full Time—4

Part Time/Seasonal—3

Hired:

Full Time—1

Part Time—3

Retired—0

Activities

Human Resources staff members took part in the following activities in March:

Recruitment:

- Initiated recruitment for the following positions:
 - Firefighters/EMTs – Part-Time
 - Equipment Operator I – Park Maintenance
 - Recreational Program Counselor – Seasonal 2024
- Continued recruitment for the following positions:
 - Equipment Operator I – Public Works Utilities
 - Police Officer-Certified
 - Equipment Operator II – Public Works Utilities
 - Lifeguards – Seasonal 2024
 - Referees/Umpires – Parks & Recreation
 - Susan Blackley Horticulture Internship
 - Pretrial Officer Position – Blue Ridge Court Services

Orientations:

- Conducted an orientation for one full-time employee.

Training:

- Staff hosted Sentara to present information to the city's Management Team on general performance evaluation goals and preparation strategies and discussions.

Other:

- Staff helped facilitate the Regional Firefighter Testing at Rockingham County Fair Grounds. Of the 36 individuals tested, 27 passed and received certifications.

Information Technology

Information Technology staff took part in the following activities in March:

- Representatives from every agency on the SAW Regional Public Safety Radio project met for several days to discuss Fleet Mapping for the new system. This was the initial meeting to determine talkgroups for agencies and how the new system will improve interoperability.
- Completed a migration from Mainstar to Tyler EAM for tracking vehicle workorders for Public Works. This will enhance tracking of vehicle maintenance.
- Installed and tested three hearing loops at the Library to assist hearing impaired patrons communicate with staff.

- GIS created custom maps for numerous rezonings, the Uniontown Neighborhood Project, and Shop and Dine Out in Downtown.
- Migrated over 600 email inboxes to a new server that houses new hardware and new updated software.
- Replaced five workstations, upgraded five additional workstations.
- Signed a contract to migrate city wireless devices to T-Mobile which will save the city over 20%. Nearly 300 devices will be migrated in April.
- Achieved significant progress with telephone vendors in sending location specific information to the NG911 network. Shentel is working with the city to configure their network to provide critical location information when 911 is called from a city phone.
- Continued work on building security projects including several camera upgrades to the City Courthouse and design for access control in the Library and City Hall. Upgrades will start in April at the Library.
- Chief Technology Officer Kurt Plowman attended the National Public Safety DroneResponders Conference, March 12-13.

Library

- For the second year in a row, the library partnered with the Virginia Festival of the Book to host a preview event in Staunton. Mojgan Ghazirad, author of *The House on Sun Street*, addressed an audience of almost 40 people and spoke about her novel and experience writing autobiographical fiction. Ms. Ghazirad also signed copies of her book after the event ended. *Pictures below.*



- Over the course of two Saturdays, the Augusta County Genealogical Society and the Library of Virginia facilitated workshops in researching family history. This series outlined resources and tactics that new genealogists can utilize as they start their research. The Library of Virginia sent their mobile resource team from Richmond to focus on African-American and Indigenous genealogy records.
- Students from Stuart Hall School, C. F. Richards Christian School, and Grace Christian School visited the Children's Department on field trips – touring the library, receiving new or replacement library cards, and learning how to conduct catalog searches to find materials for research projects. Several Staunton City kindergarten and 3rd grade classes are scheduled for library field trips in April and May.
- The Youth Services team hosted a range of engaging programs for children and teens, in addition to regular storytimes and outreach visits:
 - Homeschool Hour: Spies & Detectives
 - Pi Day Party
 - Paper Bag Kite Crafting
 - March Manga Madness events and giveaways for teens



CIRCULATION	Month	YTD		SERVICES	Month	YTD
Adult	9,963	91,159		ILLs Borrowed	12	118
Young Adult (YA)	892	6,912		ILLs Lent	0	0
Juvenile	6,528	61,115		Proctoring/Book-a-Librarians	1	48
Digital	5,634	45,191				
Total Circulation	23,017	204,377		PROGRAMS		
Talking Book Center Circulation	1,336	11,265		Adult	15	106
				Attendance	483	1,886
Items Checked In	19,681	179,665		YA	10	67
				Attendance	601	6,064
Outgoing to VLC Libraries	1,819	17,764		Juvenile	43	349
Incoming from VLC Libraries	1,612	15,558		Attendance	1,673	13,586
Total Holds Filled	4,940	45,776				
				PEOPLE		
Added to Collection	973	8,073		Library Visits	13,353	115,304
Withdrawn from Collection	67	10,286		Curbside Visits	33	717
				Computer Users	667	6,106

Database Use/Sessions	1,022	15,936	Juvenile Computer Users	1,130	6,997
			Meetings Held	5	31
			Volunteer Hours	102	1,159
			New Card Registrations	191	1,444
			Total Registered Cards		17,520

Parks & Recreation

Horticulture

Horticulture completed the following tasks:

- Tree Work:
 - Pruned and fertilized 22 trees at Staunton Crossing, 46 trees along Statler Boulevard, and 23 trees on Gypsy Hill Golf Course.
 - Cleaned storm damage debris from March high winds.
 - Applied bio plex fertilizer/transplant shock aide to 21 new tree plantings.
- Contract work:
 - Removed the large Cucumber Magnolia in Gypsy Hill Park and five white pines near Thornrose Avenue.
- Tree Plantings:
 - Planted two flowering cherry in Montgomery Hall Park, two scarlett oak at Gypsy Hill Park near Lake Tams and two hickory and one white oak near Gypsy Hill Park west end.
- City Horticulturist Matt Sensabaugh led a tree walk in Gypsy Hill Park, promoted by Staunton Tree Stewards. A total of 22 citizens attended the walk which included information on the park trees, tree identification and culture, and park history.
- The contractor for the stream restoration project in Gypsy Hill Park removed four trees for the project. The log and brush are stored on site and will be used as construction materials for a portion of the project.

Maintenance

Park Maintenance completed the following:

- Park Maintenance started mowing operations in all parks and satellite areas.
- Repaired damaged roof on sheds at the Park Maintenance compound.
- Repaired damaged bumper rails in Gypsy Hill and Montgomery Hall Park.
- Completed repairs to the pool house located in Gypsy Hill Park.

Community Outreach

Staff engaged in the following community outreach activities:

- Camp Staunton registration opened March 6. Currently the Gypsy Hill Gym site is at capacity and there are only two open spots at the Garden Center location.
- The annual Irish Road Bowling event was held in Montgomery Hall Park, with 59 teams participating The annual Eggstravaganza was also held in March.
- The Toddler Open Gym program, that had 40 participants weekly, wrapped up for the season and will return in the fall.

- Work has begun to get both Montgomery Hall and Gypsy Hill pools operational for the upcoming swim season.
- Programs offered in March:
 - Morning Warm Ups, 15 participants
 - Handprints art class, 11 participants
 - Explorers Club, 19 participants
 - Beginner Chess, 6 participants
 - Advanced Chess, 6 participants
 - Agcroft Hall Trip, 13 participants

Police

- The Police Department completed its on-site accreditation evaluation March 11 through 14. The department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies since 1985.
- The Police Department's E-911 Center handled a total of 4,003 telephone calls during the month, including 1,076 9-1-1 calls.
- Police personnel responded to 3,064 incidents during the month, including 1,359 citizen calls for service, 1,050 officer initiated activities, 211 administrative calls, and 444 directed patrols.
- The average response time for police emergency calls for service during the month was 4 minutes and 0 seconds; it is 4 minutes and 6 seconds for the year.

Public Works

- The Utility Office established 42 new owner accounts, 22 new rental residential accounts, and six commercial accounts.
- The Public Works Utility Office collected \$44,853 in payments.
- Utility crews repaired two water main breaks, one valve, and seven water meters. The crew responded to three sewer main blockages and 12 sewer lateral blockages. The crew installed one new water service connection.
- The Refuse Department hauled more than of 874 tons of trash for the month of March including one of the weeks of heavy trash pickup.
- The Building Maintenance Crew repaired multiple things throughout the City Buildings. Recently they repaired the ceiling tile in City Hall due to a leak and helped the Custodial Staff clean the debris.
- The Custodial staff did a great job cleaning the multiple City Buildings. Around the first of the month City Hall had a water leak from an ice maker on the second floor

that flooded the floors and leaked down through the ceilings. They worked several hours to clean up the debris and damage.

- Christopher Lambert began his new position as Superintendent of Facilities and Refuse Services.
- The Streets Department completed blacktop utility cuts and started heavy trash pickup on March 25, with the first round being completed on March 29. The team will move on to brush pick up and a second round of heavy trash.

Tourism

Activities

The Tourism Department staff took part in the following promotional, networking, or administrative activities in March:

- March promotions included Let's Celebrate Staunton Women, Staunton Spring Bucket List, Say Hello to 10 New Staunton Businesses, Your Guide to Getting to Staunton, and Embrace the Return of Shop & Dine Out in Downtown.
- Tourism had a booth at the Virginia Welcome Center at Clearbrook for the month of March promoting Spring Break travel.
- Provided promotional items and a Staunton raffle to the VA Free Clinic Director's Conference at Hotel 24 South, and just promotional items for the Building & Code Officials Association meeting later in March.
- Staunton was featured in Cary Magazine and Wake Living's March issue. Link to online version [here](#).
- Staunton was featured in Richmond Magazine's March issue. Link to online version [here](#).



Public Relations

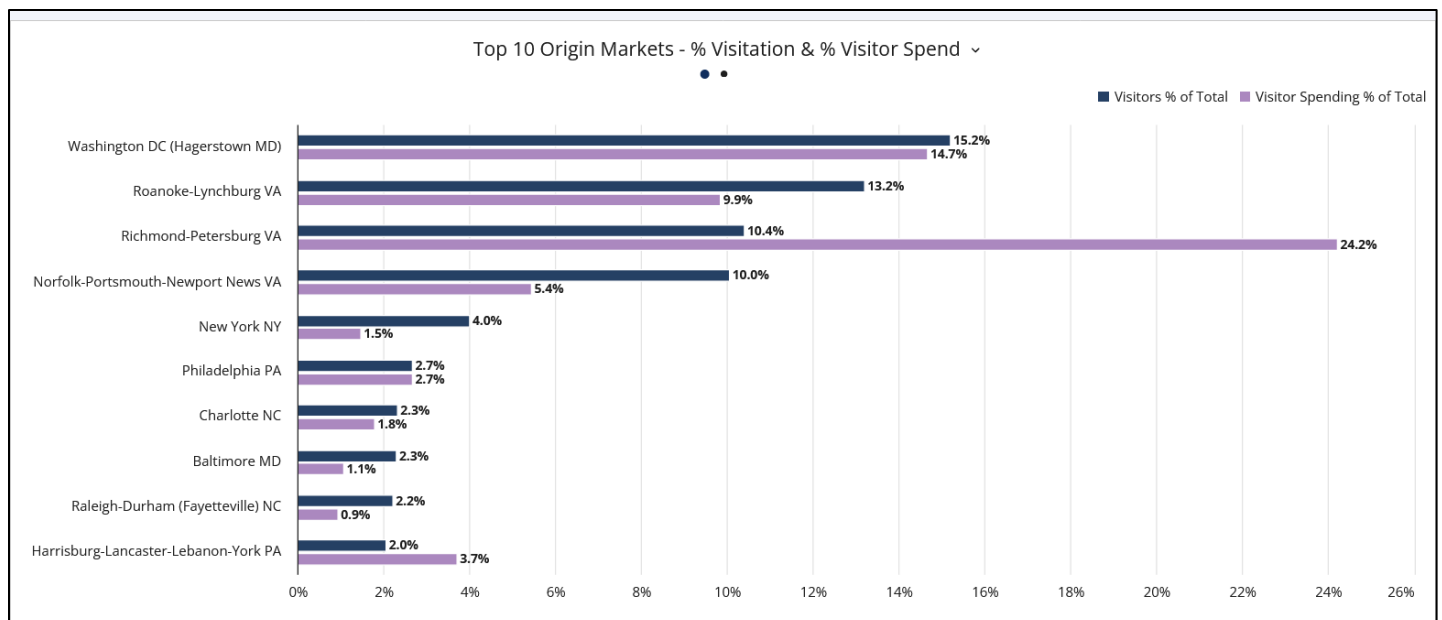
The following is a list of newspapers, websites, magazines, and television stations that published articles about Staunton:

Date	Headline	Source	Reach
Mar. 14	<u>Staunton Wins Spot in USA TODAY'S 10 Best Small Town Beer Scenes In The US</u>	Yahoo! News	20,965,545
Mar. 03	<u>20 Most Scenic Train Rides in The South</u>	Southern Living	15,794,715

Date	Headline	Source	Reach
Mar. 22	10 Of the Most Overlooked Towns in Virginia	World Atlas	4,556,482
Mar. 21	These Towns in Virginia Come Alive in Spring	World Atlas	4,556,482
Mar. 13	Virginia's 11 Most Underrated Towns to Visit In 2024	World Atlas	4,556,482
Mar. 26	U.S. Senator Mark Warner Tours the Shenandoah Valley	WHSV-TV	391,985
Mar. 25	Staunton Coca-Cola Plant Listed in The Virginia Landmarks Register	WHSV-TV	391,985
Mar. 24	These Small Towns in Virginia Have the Best Historic Districts	The Tech Advocate	334,509
Mar. 20	13 Best Small Towns in Virginia for Retirees	The Tech Advocate	334,509
Mar. 27	Staunton Awarded \$500K For Study to Increase Amtrak's Cardinal Service to Seven Days	Augusta Free Press	238,257
Mar. 25	Outdoor Favorites Return to Downtown Staunton	News Leader	80,304
Mar. 15	Historic Staunton Foundation Purchases Historic Cabell Log House	News Leader	80,304
Mar. 14	Marino's Lunch, A Legendary Restaurant and Music Venue, set to Reopen in March	News Leader	80,304
Mar. 13	Queen City Bistro Ready to Open in Downtown Staunton	News Leader	80,304
Mar. 22	A Gem in The Valley	Richmond Magazine	43,101
Mar. 13	Trapdoors, From Both Sides Now	C-ville Weekly	20,135
Mar. 01	Staunton: The Gem of The Shenandoah Valley Cary Magazine	Cary Magazine	200,000
Mar. 01	Staunton: The Gem of The Shenandoah Valley	Wake Living	200,000
Mar. 12	Frontier Culture Museum, Staunton, Virginia	Travel Gumbo	4,118
			52,909,521

Website Visitation

Website Traffic		
March 2023	March 2024	% Change
39,227 visitors	37,000 visitors	-5.6%
174 visitor's guide requests	180 visitor's guide requests	+3.4%



Office on Youth

Crime Control Programs

- Nineteen youth received detention alternative services.

Parenting Programs

Adult participants in March parenting programs:

- Active Parenting - First 5 Years, 10
- Active Parenting, 19
- Parenting and Divorce co-parenting program, 16
- The Parent Project program, 5
- Loving Solutions program, 11
- 24/7 Dads/Fathering in 15, 2

Community in Motion Program

- Outreach Coordinator participated in Women's Weekend in Staunton and Waynesboro on March 8.
- Outreach Coordinator attended *Implementing a DEI Strategy* webinar hosted through Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth Empower Series on March 19.

Truancy Prevention - Check and Connect

- Participants include 68 students from 11 area middle and high schools. There were seven students from Staunton High School and 16 from Shelburne Middle School.
- Two students and their families participated in Truancy Board meeting on March 12.

Personal Responsibility Education Programs

- 375 elementary students participated in Family Life Education program. There were 133 fourth and fifth-grade students from McSwain Elementary and 128 from Ware Elementary school.
- 109 area middle school students participated in Personal Responsibility Education Programs.

Safe Routes to School

- Coordinator completed bike maintenance to prepare for bike distributions during the Spring 2024.

Community/Etc.

- Seven OOH staff attended *Prevention Project Human Trafficking* training presented by Sabrina Dorman-Andrew on March 5.

- Five OOH staff attended City Councilmember Alice Woods' drug awareness presentation at Staunton High School on March 8.
- Nine OOH staff attended *REVIVE! Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education program* through Valley Community Service Board on March 26.

Staunton Downtown Development Association¹

The Staunton Downtown Development Association is on hiatus from any activities outside of the normal day-to-day business.

¹ The Staunton Downtown Development Association (SDDA) is an independent, non-profit corporation, separate from the City of Staunton. Pursuant to the Staunton City Code and a contract with the city, SDDA provides facilities and services funded by the City in the City's downtown service district. SDDA furnishes information to the City Manager's Office for inclusion in this Activity Report to update the city in the performance of its obligations.