

Rouss City Hall



Rouss City Hall opened to much fanfare in March 1901. The cornerstone laying occurred in May of 1900 with a huge crowd witnessing the program by the Winchester Hiram (Masonic) Lodge which had use of the old Market House as well as the new City Hall. The Masons' use of City Hall terminated in 1976.

Calls for a new City Hall were underway at least since 1885. That year, a dispute arose between the City and Frederick County over ownership of the Public Square and the right of the City to rip up posts in the horse hitching yard east of the County Court House. The posts needed to be removed to make room for City Hall to replace the old Market House at the corner of Market St (now Cameron St) and Courthouse Ave (now Rouss Ave). There was a dark, dingy room above the market floor for City Council to meet.



Rouss City Hall is named in honor of Charles Broadway Rouss. He donated \$30,000 toward the building that cost about \$62,000 to build and furnish. Rouss also made many other donations for worthy causes. Mr. Rouss sold pins and needles in the former Market House before becoming a successful merchant in New York City. He never got to see City Hall built since he went blind before he died in 1902.

Architecturally, City Hall combines elements of at least four styles. The hipped roof, round arches, and dormers are Richardson Romanesque in style. The yellow/white brick and minimal exterior decoration is of the Classical style. Hood molding over the upper windows is common to the English Gothic style, and the clock cupola is typical of the Victorian style. Inside, the Corridor and the Main Hall form a "T" anchored by a statue of Charles B. Rouss, donated by contributions from over 800 Winchester residents. The statue is centered between a pair of marble steps leading to two matching grand oak staircases.

The present-day Treasurer's Office was formerly the Council Chambers. The present-day Council Chambers was originally a courtroom. The Mayor's office was formerly the Judge's chambers. Next to that was the Jury Room. After the Joint Judicial Center was completed in 1984, and upon completion of the very extensive 1986 renovations to City Hall, the court room became the new Council Chambers. There were ten fireplaces in City Hall. Centered on the far wall of the Council Chambers is a large fireplace with a recess above the stone mantle perfectly framing a portrait of the third U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice, John Marshall. The painting was a gift from then Mayor Robert T. Barton.

The upper two floors were originally dedicated to non-government uses. This included a beautiful Auditorium and the Masonic Lodge. The Auditorium had a seating capacity of 770 including the main floor, the gallery, and the four opera boxes, one stacked over another on each side of the stage. Live shows included performances by Mary Pickford and John Philip Sousa. The only feature still remaining from the Auditorium is a recess in the ceiling. A beautiful mural of a girl with a harp graced the ceiling, but was too damaged to save during the 1986 renovation. A trap door to the attic is situated within the ceiling of a closet and was used by crews to direct spotlights down through the recessed ceiling during live performances.

The foyer area at the top of the matching oak staircases connecting the second level to the third level was called the Auditorium Lobby. The space in the southwest portion of the third floor contained the ticket lobby, ticket office, and coatroom. Matching staircases led to the fourth floor, providing access to both the balcony and the Masonic Lodge. Only the west staircase remains today. The Auditorium was

used for live performances for only a few years before being converted to motion pictures. By the early 1920's, the Auditorium had been deemed a fire trap and closed.

Major renovations in 1986 created much needed office space and a large Exhibit Hall on the upper two floors of City Hall. Plans are underway to further renovate City Hall to better meet the ever-changing needs of city government. The plans call for the renovations to be very sympathetic to the historic fabric of the building. A self-guided tour of City Hall is available to the public during business hours.

-Timothy A. Youmans





Explorer Post 114

Exploring Law Enforcement



Come Join The Winchester City Sheriff's Office

An Explorer will develop:

WHEN 6-8 PM Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday
WHERE Joint Judicial Center, 5 North Kent Street, Winchester Virginia 22601

- Leadership Skills
- Respect for police officers & explorers
- New personal skills
- Marksmanship
- Law Enforcement Protocols

WINCHESTER CITY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER POST IS OPEN TO YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN 13 TO 18 YEARS OF AGE WITH AN INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT CAREERS IN THE FIELD OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

You will learn:

Law Enforcement Exploring provides educational training programs for young adults on the purposes, mission, and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to challenge them to become responsible citizens of their communities and the nation. Free for Participants!

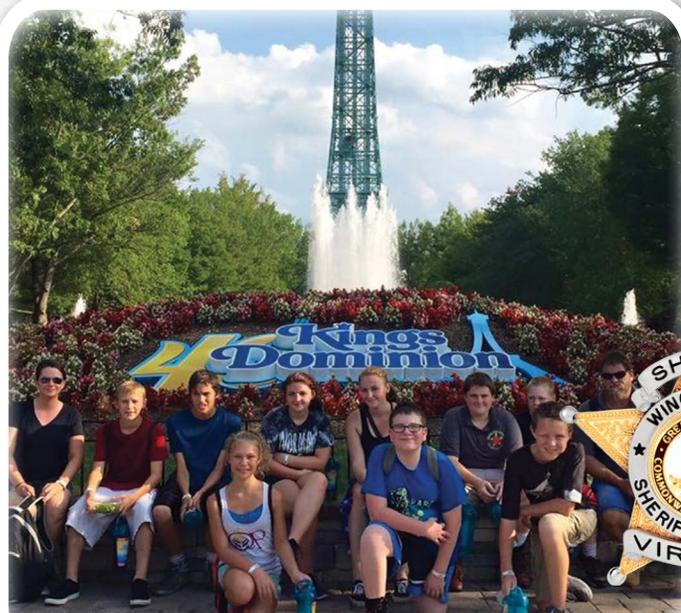
- Accident Scene Procedures
- Bomb Threat Response
- Proper Equipment usage
- Other LE Procedures

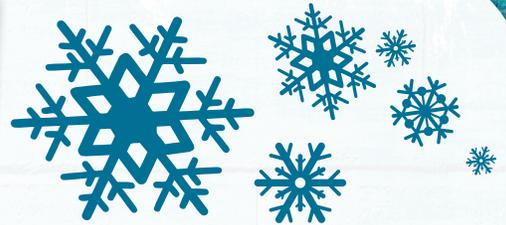
For More information please call Winchester City Sheriff's Office (540) 667-5770
Find us on Facebook

AND MUCH MORE!

PLEASE CONTACT US

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month





Enjoy the charm and warm hospitality of Old Town Winchester this holiday season. Visit Santa's Headquarters on December 11 and 12 and take your own pictures with Santa! Take in the sights and sounds of the holidays during the annual Holly Jolly Celebration on December 12. There will be carolers, activities, horse drawn carriage rides, and specials at shops and restaurants. Cheer on the participants of the Jingle Bell 5k Run & Frosty's Fun Run on the morning of Dec. 19. Runners start and finish on the Loudoun Street Mall and are often dressed in whimsical costumes. Celebrate the arts and New Year's Eve with First Night Winchester in Old Town and ring in 2016 with the apple drop at midnight.



Plaid Friday
November 27

Downtown Businesses. The fun alternative to "Black Friday." Designed to promote both local and independently-owned businesses during the holidays. Wear plaid while shopping.



Old Town Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony
November 30

Starting at 7 p.m. Route: Piccadilly at Cameron to Braddock to Cork at Cameron.



Santa's Headquarters
December 11 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
December 12 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Godfrey Miller Center, 28 S. Loudoun St. Snap your own pictures with Santa!



Holly Jolly Celebration
December 12 from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Loudoun Street Mall. Caroling and holiday activities including two holiday carriages offering rides from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Specials at shops and restaurants all day.

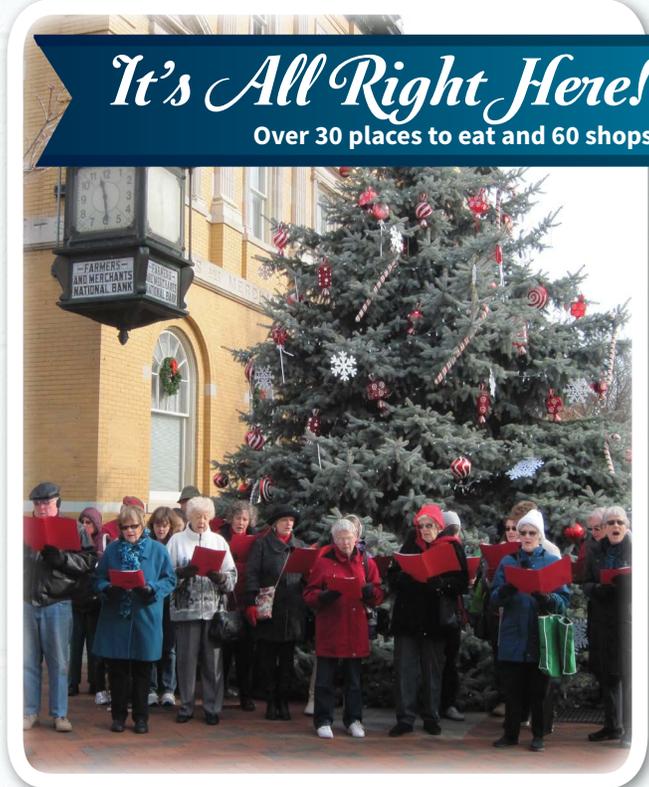


YDC Apple Capital Jingle Bell 5k Run & Frosty's Fun Run
Saturday, December 19



First Night Winchester
December 31

Celebrate New Year's Eve in Old Town Winchester. Visit FirstNightWinchester.com for more details.



It's All Right Here!
 Over 30 places to eat and 60 shops.

3rd Annual Chocolate Escape
Saturday, February 6

Love is in the air in Old Town on Saturday, February 6 as we host the 3rd Annual Chocolate Escape. Spend the afternoon sampling chocolate delights at participating restaurants and shopping for the perfect Valentine's gift at our charming boutiques.

89th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival
Friday, April 22 - Sunday, May 1

KidzFest
Saturday, May 14

Bring the family to Old Town for KidzFest on May 14. This popular family-centered event is free to attend and brings together music, sports, education, and the arts in a fun, hands-on atmosphere. There will be musical performances, athletic demonstrations, make and take activities, educational displays, and more.

Visit Old Town online at www.OldTownWinchesterVA.com for the most current information about events and businesses downtown and be sure to stop by the Old Town Welcome Center for the latest news. 33 E. Boscawen Street.



Winchester-Frederick County

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

1400 South Pleasant Valley Road, Winchester . VisitWinchesterVA.com

7 Ways to Explore the Arts & Architecture in Winchester

1. Shenandoah Conservatory

Where else can you see world-renowned and Grammy Award-winning performers at affordable prices? The Conservatory also offers many **FREE** performances.

www.ConservatoryPerforms.org

2. Magic Lantern Theater

Join other film enthusiasts for community screenings of quality cinema in various area locations. www.MagicLanternTheater.org.

3. 250 Years of Architecture Walking Tour

Preservation of Historic Winchester offers numerous opportunities to learn about and support the preservation of Winchester's heritage and architectural history. Take their self-guided walking tour to learn more! Pick up a copy at the Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center, or online at www.VisitWinchesterVA.com, under Tours and Itineraries. www.phwi.org.

4. Shenandoah Arts Council

Visit this community resource to browse the gallery, participate in a class or work shop, or attend a poetry reading or musical performance. www.ShenArts.org

5. Winchester Little Theatre

Take in a play at Winchester Little Theatre, a community performing arts theatre, located in the historic 1895 Pennsylvania Railroad freight station.

www.wltonline.org

6. Top of Virginia Artisan Trail

Explore the sites on this newly created network of local craft artisans, agriartisans, and cultural points of interest. Find them on Facebook: Top of Virginia Artisan Trail, or www.ArtisansCenterofVirginia.org/Artisan_Trail_Network.

7. Historic Building Tours

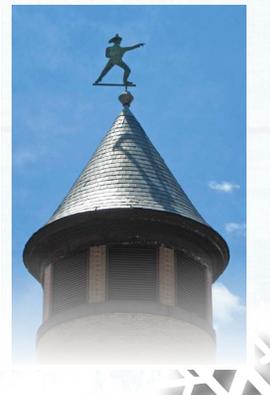
You may know that you can tour museums, but did you know that some local historic buildings are open for tours as well?

The Hexagon House, 530 Amherst St.
(free, but donations are accepted). Call (540) 667-3577.

Godfrey Miller Home, 28 S. Loudoun St.
(free, but donations are accepted). Call (540) 667-5869.

Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St.
(self-guided tours, or guided tours for groups of 10 or more) Call (540) 667-1815.

Handley Regional Library, 100 W. Piccadilly St.
(free, offered 1st Wed. at 6:30pm, and 3rd Sat. at 1pm). Call (540) 662-9041, ext. 11.



Did you know?

Take time to support local arts organizations, artists, musicians, artisans, and performers. Educate yourself about the history, culture, and architecture of your community. Preserving and enhancing these elements of our culture not only improves quality of life; it promotes tourism and brings economic vitality to the Winchester area.

1. *Urban Ladies* by Dennis Goris, Winchester Art Market, Artisan Trail
2. *Cityscape Right* by Dennis Goris, Winchester Art Market, Artisan Trail
3. *Matthew Charles Jewelry*, Winchester Art Market, Artisan Trail
4. *Coffee Table* by Daniel Rioux, Winchester Art Market, Artisan Trail
5. *Neena Jhaveri*, Handworks Gallery, Artisan Trail
6. *Lorene Soto*, Winchester Art Market's Holiday Pop Up Shoppe
7. Conservatory photographs courtesy of Shenandoah University





Bus Trips



Winchester Parks and Recreation in partnership with Schrock Travel are pleased to offer day trips with a Schrock Motor Coach and a tour director. Please contact Winchester Parks and Recreation for registrations or questions (540)662-4946. Seats are limited, so please register early. Please arrive 15 minutes before departure time for check in! There will be No Refunds given for any trips so please make sure you are available to attend the trip.

Cherry Blossom Odyssey Cruise (Ages 18+)

Activity #: 617447-01
Date: Tuesday (4/5)
Fee: \$117
Register by: 3/22



Washington, D.C.

Just as the snow starts melting, our Nation's Capital springs to life.

There is nothing prettier than Washington D.C. when the cherry blossom trees are in bloom. Cherry Blossoms will surround us as we cruise the Potomac River enjoying lunch and good company. The Odyssey will travel beneath the historic bridges spanning the Potomac and offer views of the Monuments & Cherry Trees along the way. After the cruise we will drop everyone off at the National Mall in front of the Air and Space Museum and then pick up time will be 5:00 pm also in front of the Air and Space Museum.

Leave Schrock Terminal at 8:00a return to Winchester around 7:30p!
Includes: Transportation & Cruise on the Odyssey with Lunch

New York (Ages 18+)

Activity #: 617447-02
Date: Saturday (5/14)
Fee: \$143
Register by: 4/30



Spend the morning at the 911 Memorial and The World Trade Center. You will then have some time to explore the city on your own before coming home.

Leave Schrock Terminal at 4:00a and will return to Winchester around 12:30a!
Includes: Transportation & Tickets

Philadelphia Flower Show (Ages 18+)

Activity# 617447-03
Date: Tuesday (3/8)
Fee: \$91
Register by: 2/23



Welcome to the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show. The 2016 Flower Show will honor our treasured National Parks EXPLORE AMERICA with acres of themed and floral displays, breathtaking imagery and heart-pounding adventure experiences to expose the vast beauty of our national parks to you. Lunch is on your own today. There is a cafe' in the building, and The Reading Terminal Market across the street which offers over 100 vendors.

Leave Schrock terminal at 7:00a will return to Winchester between 10:30-11:00p!
Includes: Transportation & Admission to show

