Meet Your Coloring Book Guide: 
Charles Broadway Rouss
This is Charley Rouss. Charley is one of Winchester’s most loved benefactors, along with Judge John Handley. Charley lived in Winchester when he was young. At age 15, he worked at a local store and was paid $1.00 per week. When he wasn’t working, he sold pins and needles at the city’s marketplace (where City Hall is located now). He saved $500 and opened his own store on his 18th birthday in 1854. By 1860, he had earned over $20,000. After the Civil War, he moved to New York to start a business. He was very successful in New York and before he died in 1902, he gave Winchester some of his $10 million estate to help build a new City Hall and fire station, buy a stream so the City could build its first water plant, and much more. Each year, Charles Broadway Rouss is honored on his birthday, February 11 which is considered Rouss Day in Winchester.
Hi. My name is Charles Broadway Rouss, but my friends call me Charley. The year 2019 is an important year. It marks the 275th anniversary of when Winchester, Virginia was founded. In this coloring book, I will lead you through a few exciting moments in Winchester’s history and introduce you to some of the city’s special people and places. Let’s take a walk through Winchester’s history and have fun coloring along the way.
Shawnee Indians lived and hunted in the lower Shenandoah Valley wilderness where the Town of Winchester (originally known as “Opequon”) was settled by James Wood and other early European settlers. The Great Wagon Road followed native American hunting paths and lined up with part of what is now Loudoun Street in Old Town Winchester.
Colonel James Wood founded Winchester in 1744. He filled in for young George Washington in Winchester when Washington was elected to public office for the very first time, long before he became the first United States President. Some residents were so happy that they carried Colonel Wood around town in a chair to celebrate. James Wood lived at Glen Burnie on what is now Amherst Street while in Winchester.
Abram’s Delight, named for original settler Abraham Hollingsworth, was built in the mid-1700s and is the oldest standing home in Winchester. In 1833, his great-grandson built a large grist mill near the house. Today, both buildings are museums owned by the City of Winchester and managed by the Historical Society. Also on the Abram’s Delight property is an old log cabin, which shows how settlers may have built their house after coming to Winchester.
After becoming a Colonel in the Virginia Militia, George Washington was in charge of building Fort Loudoun in Winchester during the French and Indian War. The Fort was built to protect Winchester and was located on the hill north of Old Town. The fort has been replaced by homes, but the story is still told at the Fort Loudoun headquarters on North Loudoun Street.
Douglas School on North Kent Street, is a historic school that was built in 1927 for African-American students in Winchester with funds from the Judge John Handley donation to Winchester. The school served as the only African-American school in the city until 1966. The building was later used as a community center and is a Virginia Historic Landmark. When the school first opened, the children and teachers held a parade through downtown and marched to school together.
The first railroad to serve Winchester was the Winchester and Potomac Railroad which began in 1836. This allowed farms and factories in and around Winchester to easily send products to the ports at Baltimore, Maryland. The railroads would play an important role 25 years later during the Civil War. The railroad station on the corner of Piccadilly Street and Kent Street in Winchester is still active for the transportation of goods, but not for passengers.
Judge John Handley was a wealthy 19th Century Pennsylvania Judge who gave money to many projects in Winchester including the Handley Library (1913) and John Handley High School (1923) that were named in his honor. Funds from his trust were also used for the Douglas School.

Did you know that John Handley never lived in Winchester? He was not a Winchester resident but he loved the city and wanted to make a difference here. The buildings that were named for him are unique, beautiful and make Winchester special.
The Winchester Memorial Hospital opened in 1902 on South Stewart Street. It outgrew that site by the mid-1980s and relocated to Amherst Street as the Winchester Medical Center in 1990.
Spottwood Poles was a very talented 20th Century baseball player in the Negro Leagues. He also was a sergeant in the Army who earned a Purple Heart and five battle stars for his bravery while serving in France during World War I.
In 1924, the first Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival was held in Winchester to celebrate the area’s apple industry heritage. Each year, a queen is crowned and famous grand marshals are chosen to serve as leaders of the Grand Feature Parade and the Firefighters Parade. Now, thousands of people visit Winchester to enjoy the many festival events.
Admiral Richard E. Byrd of Winchester was a 20th Century Polar Explorer who conducted many Antarctic research missions and was one of the first pilots to fly over the North Pole. A statue honoring Admiral Byrd is located in front of the Winchester-Frederick County courthouse on Cameron Street.
Shenandoah College and Music Conservatory relocated to Winchester in 1960 and expanded to become Shenandoah University. The University has a strong music program but has expanded in the areas of business, sports, and health sciences among other areas.
Patsy Cline was a world famous country music singer who sang at local talent shows and the local radio station in Winchester before becoming a national music star in Nashville, Tennessee. The house her family owned on South Kent Street is now a private museum showcasing her life in Winchester.
Loudoun Street used to be a normal street, but was changed to a pedestrian mall in 1974. The Loudoun Street Mall allows people to walk, exercise, shop and dine safely without worrying about watching out for cars and trucks. On the Mall today are many great shops, restaurants (many with outdoor cafes), places to do activities, areas for entertainment, and a splash pad for kids to enjoy.
The town of Winchester was founded in 1744, was established in 1752, and became a city in 1874. Over the last 275 years, Winchester has created a lot of fascinating history. Draw yourself, friends and family above celebrating Winchester’s 275th anniversary with the entire community.
**Winchester History Puzzle**

**WORDS:** BLOSSOM, BURNIE, CLINE, DELIGHT, FIRST, HANDLEY, HEBRON, MEDICAL, ROUSS, SEVENTY, SPRING, TOWN, WASHINGTON, WINCHESTER, WOOD

**ACROSS**

1. The largest cemetery located in Winchester is the Mount H______N Cemetery.

5. A central water system, made of oak pipes, was installed in 1808 to carry 300,000 to 500,000 gallons of water per day from the Old Town S______G.

6. The first president of the United States, George W______W______N moved to Winchester at the age of 16.

9. During the Civil War, between 1862-1864, Winchester may have changed hands S______Y times between the Union (north) and Confederate (south).

11. One of the oldest homes in Winchester, now a museum called Abram’s D______T was built in 1754 by Abraham Hollingsworth.

12. Winchester was the F______T place where George Washington was elected to public office.

13. In 1874, the T______N of Winchester became the City of Winchester.

**DOWN**

1. Judge John H______Y gave more than two million dollars in 1895 to build a library and a school.

2. R______S City Hall was named after Charles Broadway R______S.

3. In 1752, the Town of W______R was chartered by the Virginia General Assembly.

4. The Shenandoah Apple B______M Festival was first held in May 1924.

6. Winchester was founded by Colonel James W______D in 1744.

7. The Winchester Memorial Hospital, now known as the Winchester M______L Center, first opened in 1902.

8. Country music legend Patsy C______E was born in Winchester in 1932.

10. The Glen B______E Museum was home of Colonel James Wood.
Dear Mayor of Winchester,

My name: ____________________________________________

My address: __________________________________________

My three favorite things about Winchester are:

1. __________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________

Here’s what I like best about this book:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Winchester’s Mayor wants to know what you think.

Send in your letter to the Mayor at Rouss City Hall 15 N. Cameron Street Winchester, VA 22601

www.WinchesterVA.gov/275th-anniversary