

Charlie Becoming Mayor

MR: The first watershed in Vienna was the Yeonas building here, which was very positive, even though we weren't in favor of so many uniform things. But I think the next real watershed in what Vienna was going to become was the mayor's battle of 1976, which had the largest turnout for voters that anyone had ever seen.

The night of election the people who had gotten there by 7 o'clock waited in line all the way down the street to the Fire Department House. It was a wonderful time because I could walk to every single person and give them out my husband's flier and they had nothing to do but to stand there and read it.

My husband became Mayor. It was a good Council that he had then. They wanted to keep Vienna as much as the small town flavor as they could. They were straight-shooters. There was nothing going on in the background. It was really very good open government. They more or less all had the same mission in mind: we know we have to grow, but let's keep things, control as much as we can to direct how it grows, and its character and everything.