



NEWS RELEASE

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Vienna Celebrates Grand Reopening of Historic Bridge

After months of anticipation, the new pedestrian bridge connecting the Historic Freeman Store and Museum to the Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail in Vienna is open. The Town of Vienna will officially celebrate the new bridge at its official grand reopening and ribbon cutting on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at 10 a.m. outside the Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church St., NE, Vienna, Va., 22180.

The most recent bridge collapsed in 2016, leaving only pre-existing concrete footers behind. The new ADA-compliant, steel and wooden passageway was completed in November 2023 and is constructed to modern-day standards. It looks as it did many years ago and restores an important link to the Town's history, connecting past and present.

Since the Freeman Store opened in 1859, it has been a store, a home, a train depot, a hotel, a hospital, an officers' quarters, and a fire department, and the pedestrian bridge over Piney Branch to the store's side entrance has been an integral part of the structure.

The public is invited to attend the ribbon cutting and a reception to follow, where guests can see new museum exhibits "Exploring Books Throughout Time" and "Vienna Unveiled Through Maps." Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or email HistoricViennaVa@gmail.com.

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