

October 2021 VLGMA eNews

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Craig's Corner

Why Are We In This Crazy Profession?

As I'm sure you can relate, my daily routine changed dramatically in mid-March of last year. Once the first few cases of COVID-19 began showing up in our County facilities, we quickly established new protocols, policies, and sanitation regimens to ensure that we were addressing the growing concern among our staff and our citizens. Now, over 18 months after that eventful March, we continue to modify our policies, protocols, and sanitation regimens, to more closely align with what we now know about the virus.

Save the Date! VLGMA Winter Conference "The Big Reveal" February 16-18, 2022, Hotel 24 in Staunton

In-person and on-line participation opportunities.

The conference will address what the past few years have revealed about our communities while providing innovative and creative ideas to move forward based on those revelations.

Civic Engagement - Keep Looking for What Works

by Kirstyn Jovanovich, ICMA-CM, Town Manager, Town of Occoquan

They say that living in a small town means everyone knows you and you know everyone. As a manager of a small community, I can attest that there is truth to this statement. The people that live and work in the community truly love and care for the town and the people that are in it with passion and vigor. With that said, you would think that civic engagement would be simple – put the information out and they will come! Spoiler alert: it's not.

Institute of Government Update

VIG is accepting applications for our first in-person LEAD professional development programs since February 2020! There are spots available for the November 13-19 and December 4-10 cohorts which will be held at UVA's Darden School. Please contact Shirley Hamblet (smh2dr@virginia.edu) if you have any questions and you may apply [here](#).

Gift of Life

To live in this culture and not be
sucked into its meaningless superficialities.

To work and play with love and gratitude
without a long list of distracting have-to-dos.

To welcome life's unpredictability
and the aliveness of spontaneity.

To bless all unconditionally,
Love radiates silently.

All gifts of life's infinite inexhaustible treasury.
Mysterious, dazzling, unknowable Being.



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