



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

January 2010

January 28, 2010

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

PHONE: 501-4318

Henrico officials receive appointments to Virginia Association of Counties

The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) has named eight Henrico County officials to the association's steering committees for 2010 and has chosen one for its board of directors.

Members of Henrico's Board of Supervisors received the following appointments:

Chairman and Tuckahoe District Supervisor Patricia S. O'Bannon, Telecommunications and Utilities steering committee; and currently serving the second year of a two-year term as the Region 3 representative on the VACo Board of Directors;
Vice Chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton, Education steering committee;
Brookland District Supervisor Richard W. Glover, Community Development and Planning steering committee;
Three Chopt District Supervisor David A. Kaechele, Finance steering committee; and
Varina District Supervisor James B. Donati, Jr., Administration of Government steering committee.

Other county officials receiving appointments were:

Deputy County Manager George T. Drumwright, Jr., Health and Human Services steering committee;
Deputy County Manager Robert K. Pinkerton, P.E., Transportation steering committee; and
Deputy County Manager Randall R. Silber, Environment and Agriculture steering committee.

VACo steering committees review legislative requests from counties, recommend an annual legislative program and provide policy direction for VACo staff. The association represents local governments at the state and federal levels and provides a resource network for planning and implementing new ideas and technologies.

January 27, 2010

CONTACT: Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., County Manager

PHONE: 501-4386

Henrico employee John Butler tapped for county's annual public service award

Henrico County employee John Butler, a 23-year veteran of the county staff, has won the 10th annual Excellence in Public Service Award. County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. presented the award at a ceremony Tuesday.

The Excellence in Public Service Award recognizes a general government employee who consistently demonstrates and exemplifies outstanding public service. Nominees are chosen by their coworkers; only one of Henrico's more than 4,100 general government employees receives the award each year.

Butler began his county career in 1986 with the Division of Recreation and Parks and also worked with the Division of Police before joining the Department of Building Construction and Inspections in 1998, where he now serves as a building inspector enforcing housing code. Described as a role model and dedicated employee, he helped develop and implement the nationally recognized program "Conquer Your Clutter," which provides support and services for residents dealing with hoarding behaviors. He also works closely with limited-income homeowners to help maintain their properties. County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. noted two recent projects in which Butler coordinated assistance for single-parent families with adults suffering from long-term health problems; his efforts helped the families remain in their homes.

"(Butler's) commitment to our residents is evident in his efforts to assist families with repairs and rehabilitation of their homes," said County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. "He goes above and beyond expectations to help others."

Butler said the best part of his job is the opportunity to interact with other people.

"I see people every day who are struggling, whether financially, emotionally or in other ways," he said. "Knowing that I can have an impact on their lives makes my work especially meaningful. I take pride in helping others."



January 25, 2010

CONTACT: Kendra Young, Extension Agent

PHONE: 501-5160

Annual Henrico Extension berry sale benefiting 4-H programs is under way

The Henrico Extension Office's annual 4-H berry sale is under way, with proceeds benefiting local 4-H youth programs.

The sale features a variety of strawberry, raspberry, blackberry and blueberry plants. Strawberry plants cost \$6.50 for a bundle of 25; raspberry, blackberry and blueberry plants cost \$4.50 each. Instructions for planting and care are included with each order.

To obtain an order form, call 501-5160 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; log on to the Extension Service Web site at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension; or visit the Extension Office, located in the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive. Order forms also are available at any Henrico library.

Because supplies are limited, orders placed after Monday, Feb. 22 will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Extension staff will distribute orders from noon to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10 and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 11 at the Glen Allen Softball Complex on Mountain Road.

For more information, contact the Extension Office at 501-5160.

January 22, 2010

CONTACT: Nicole Gore, Prevention Coordinator, Henrico Area Mental Health & Retardation Services

PHONE: 222-8194, ext. 3006

Henrico program to recognize 'Community Champions' on Jan. 28

Henrico Area Mental Health Prevention Services and the Too Smart 2 Start Coalition will honor several individuals for their efforts benefiting Henrico youth at the third annual Community Champions recognition ceremony, set for 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 28 at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road.

The ceremony will salute volunteers and professionals for their work to build a stronger, healthier community for young people through a variety of prevention and education programs. Michelle Hairston, director of nontraditional programs for Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) and a former honoree, will serve as keynote speaker.

The Community Champions ceremony will honor Lamont Bagby, Henrico County School Board member, Fairfield District; Risha Berry, intervention specialist, HCPS Department of Nontraditional Programs; Elizabeth Herman, CONNECT Program and Summer Enrichment; Helena Lythgoe, president, Tucker High School PTSA; Shannon Martinko, Mother's Against Drunk Driving; Denise Miller, Parent's Council of Richmond and president, Regional Drug-Free Alliance; James Parsley, officer, Henrico County Police; Pam Sclar, outreach worker, Henrico County Public Health Department; Robin Thurman, Noelle Community CONNECT Program; and Victoria West, CONNECT Program and Summer Enrichment.

The HCPS Department of Nontraditional Programs is a co-sponsor of the event. For more information, call 222-8194 or log on to www.toosmart2start.com.

January 20, 2010

CONTACT: Linda Leigh, Executive Assistant, Board of Supervisors

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Eastern rec center, 2011 commemoration topics for next Fairfield constituent meeting

The next constituent meeting of Fairfield District Supervisor Frank Thornton will offer a progress report on the planning for the county's new eastern recreation center as well as the ongoing preparations for the celebration of Henrico's 400th anniversary next year. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1 at the Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road.

Representatives from the county's departments of General Services and Recreation and Parks will provide updates and information on the eastern recreation center, which is targeted for opening in late 2011. In addition, Deputy County Manager Angela Harper will discuss the work of the 2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission and its preparations for Henrico's quadricentennial celebration. The county officials will join Thornton for a question-and-answer period as well.

Fairfield constituent meetings are open to the public. Call 501-4208 for more information.

January 19, 2010

CONTACT: Jim Carey, Foster Care Supervisor

PHONE: 501-4029

Henrico Foster Care program sets winter information sessions

Henrico residents interested in becoming foster parents can learn about the county's Foster Care program at two information sessions offered this winter by Henrico's Department of Social Services (DSS). The sessions are scheduled for 6-8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 15 and again on Monday, March 8 at the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive.

Participants will receive information on a variety of topics, including the special needs of foster children; what it takes to be a successful foster parent; working with DSS staff and the biological parents of a foster child; and the application and approval process. There will be a question-and-answer period as well.

Henrico DSS currently has a special need for families interested in serving as foster parents for young people ages 12 to 20.

Pre-registration for the information sessions is encouraged. Participants can register or obtain additional information by calling Georgia Phillips at 501-7496 or Tony Jones at 501-4245.

Foster parents are "professional parents," available around-the-clock to bring children into their homes and provide temporary and potentially long-term care in a safe, stable environment. Parents must be at least 21, have their own source of income and sufficient living space in their house or apartment to care for a child. They can be single or married, with or without children of their own, male or female, and from all backgrounds, races and nationalities.

For more information, log on to www.henricocares.com.

January 13, 2010

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

PHONE: 501-4318

Henrico Board of Supervisors elects chairman, vice chairman for 2010

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors has elected Tuckahoe District Supervisor Patricia S. O'Bannon as chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton as vice chairman for 2010. Each will serve a one-year term.

O'Bannon, who was first elected to represent Tuckahoe in 1995, begins her third term as board chairman. A graduate of Leadership Metro Richmond, she is a past recipient of the Patrick Henry Award for Government Service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and Good Housekeeping magazine's "Women in Government" award. She has served as vice chairman of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Large Urban County Caucus steering committee, as chairman of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) Telecommunications and Utilities steering committee, and as chairman of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission. She also has served on the Virginia Coalition for Open Government Board of Directors, the Henricus Foundation Board of Trustees and the Virginia Building Code Technical Review Board. A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, O'Bannon is a former English teacher, news editor and development associate for public television.

Also voted to the board for the first time in 1995, Thornton has served on numerous governmental boards and commissions, including the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission, Richmond Metropolitan Planning Organization, Henrico Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine's Urban Policy Task

Force and as vice chairman of the Virginia Municipal League Human Development and Education policy committee. He is a graduate of Leadership Metro Richmond and a co-founder and past president of the Henrico County Civic League. Thornton, who earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Union University and a master's degree from American University, works as an assistant professor of French at Virginia Union, where he has received the university's "Teacher of the Year" award.



Patricia S. O'Bannon



Frank J. Thornton

January 12, 2010

CONTACT: George T. Drumwright, Jr., Deputy County Manager

PHONE: 501-4515

Dr. Susan Fischer Davis tapped to lead Henrico County Public Health Department

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces that Dr. Susan Fischer Davis is director of the Henrico County Public Health Department. Fischer Davis, who was named acting director of the department in August, was appointed to the position by the commissioner of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). She succeeds former director Dr. Mark J. Levine.

Fischer Davis comes to Henrico from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where she served as editor of the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Series, the CDC's principal source for public health information and recommendations. She previously worked as deputy director of the VDH Office of Epidemiology and was appointed by Gov. Timothy M. Kaine to serve as medical epidemiologist on the governor's Biosolids Expert Panel.

As Henrico's health director, Fischer Davis will oversee a department of some 70 employees that provides administrative and clinical services from sites at the Government Center and Eastern Government Center. The agency offers a range of programs and services for county residents, including disease control and prevention, environmental health, child and maternal health, and emergency planning and response.

Fischer Davis has more than two decades of public health experience, including serving in a variety of positions with VDH and the CDC. She received a bachelor's degree from Smith College and earned her doctor of medicine degree from Dartmouth Medical School.



January 5, 2010

CONTACT: Steve Yob, Director, Division of Solid Waste and Recycling

PHONE: 727-8217

Henrico Public Utilities official receives state appointments

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine has appointed Henrico County's Steven J. Yob, P.E., director of the division of solid waste and recycling for the Department of Public Utilities, to the Virginia Waste Management Board (WMB).



Yob will serve a four-year term on the WMB, which is one of three boards responsible for adopting the state's environmental regulations. The WMB has general supervision and control over the state's waste management activities and is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Virginia Waste Management Act.

In addition to his WMB appointment, Yob has been elected president of the Old Dominion chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). The 300 members of the state chapter of SWANA manage municipal trash and recycling services in localities throughout Virginia.

Yob, who joined the Henrico staff in April 2001, has worked 24 years in solid waste management and recycling. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from Michigan State University and also received a master's of business administration degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is a registered professional engineer and holds a Class II solid waste facility operator's license from Virginia.

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