

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

May 1, 2009



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Counties required to submit DPB form



On April 29, the State Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) sent an e-mail to chief operating officers of Virginia cities, counties, and regional jails addressing the second half of the \$100 million reduction in state aid to localities (Item 475.20) included in the state's current biennium budget.

Each locality and regional jail is once again required to elect an approved method for taking the reduction, completing the DPB form indicating how the reduction will be taken and submitting a memo signed by the city manager or county administrator or an equivalent approval authority certifying the election.

The form must be sent electronically and a hard copy of the form with the required memo is to be submitted to DPB as well.

Similar to last year, a locality may select the manner for achieving its reduction using one of the following methods; 1) designate that these reductions be taken out of the payments for one or more of the programs in the list provided by DPB, 2) make a reimbursement payment directly to the Commonwealth for all of a locality's reductions, or 3) choose a combination of program reductions and reimbursement payment.

The required materials must be submitted to DPB by June 1, 2009. If a locality has not notified DPB of its

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CTB approves federal stimulus projects



By Larry Land
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At its April 16 meeting, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) voted to include in its current Six Year Transportation Improvement Program (SYIP) approximately \$345.3 million worth of projects that will be paid for with transportation funds allocated to Virginia under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The CTB actions are further detailed in an April 24 letter by Pierce Homer, secretary of Transportation. The letter was sent to the chairs of the General Assembly's standing committees that have interest in transportation issues.

In total, Virginia will receive \$694.5 million in ARRA highway funds and \$116.1 million in transit funds. CTB will consider additional ARRA projects when it holds subsequent meetings throughout May and June.

Here are the projects approved by CTB during its April 16 meeting.

- \$25.2 million for a design/build project on Route 3, Spotsylvania County
- \$9 million, (design/build) to double track the Route 164 Rail Relocation project, City of Portsmouth
- \$110.9 million for 436 projects to improve deficient pavements

- \$66.1 million to repair 119 small structurally deficient bridges throughout Virginia

- \$96 million in BRAC projects for the following military installations:

- * \$11.4 million for Fort Lee along the Route 36 corridor: Prince George County and City of Hopewell
- * \$60.1 million for Fort

- Belvoir: Fairfax County
- * \$24.5 million for Fort Eustis: York County and City of Newport News

- \$17.3 million in initial funding for Virginia's rural and small urban transit systems. (An additional \$13.2 million will be approved by CTB for proposed projects during the summer of 2009.)

- \$20.8 million in mandatory enhancement projects – these are trail projects with “tourism or economic development potential. These include
- * \$8.2 million for Virginia

- Capital Trail
- * \$1.3 million for Dismal
- Swamp Canal Trail
- * \$2 million for High Bridge
- Trail
- * \$2 million for Roanoke River Greenway

CTB
Continued on page 10

As the uncertainty of the investment markets, as well as the economy in general, continues to concern workers trying to prepare financially for their retirement, many find themselves dealing with questions or worries about their retirement accounts well after business hours. Nationwide recognizes this need and has responded by extending its hours of service to the retirement-plan participants of the cities, counties and other governmental entities it serves.

Effective May 18, Nationwide's call centers will remain open until 11 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, Nationwide is reinforcing its commitment to processing requests received by 4 p.m. on the same day every day.

'This is no time to pull back'

"Our country has often faced uncertain economic times in the past," said Louie Watson, vice president of Strategic Relationships for Nationwide Retirement Solutions, "but the current situation has brought together a particularly volatile set of conditions and events that have led to a severe market downturn and a global economy that's in crisis. Many organizations have been forced to curtail services.

"At Nationwide, we believe times like these are not for pulling back. We've seen an upward trend in calls from public employees who are looking for answers about what to do next. In announcing these extended hours, we're telling participants 'Someone is here, ready to help you put things into context and help you review your strategy and risk tolerance,' " Watson added.

Workers are looking for reassurance

Recent surveys reveal that despite experiencing declines in both account balances and confidence, workers are still committed to saving for retirement. By and large, workers are also resisting the urge to tap into their retirement accounts.

But only one out of every seven Americans is very confident of having enough money to live comfortably in retirement, half the amount with the same level of confidence two years ago, according to the Retirement Confidence

Answers. Later in the evening.




On Your Side[®]

Are you:

- Dealing with financial markets in turmoil?
- Faced with questions after hours?
- Worried about your retirement account?
- All of the above.

Now is *not* the time to discover your plan provider is "off the clock".

As of May 18, 2009 the Nationwide call center is open for you until 11:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.

Nationwide retirement plans.
On the clock.
Working for you, even later.

Contact your Nationwide representative

 877-677-3678
 nrsforu.com

Nationwide Retirement Solutions (Nationwide) partners with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to provide counties and their employees with a competitive defined compensation program. As part of this partnership, Nationwide does a fee to NACo in exchange for NACo's exclusive endorsement, marketing support, and program oversight of Nationwide products made available under the program. For more information, including fees paid, Nationwide encourages you to visit nrsforu.com. Information provided by Nationwide Retirement Solutions is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of insurance. ©2009 Nationwide. On Your Side and the Nationwide logo are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Strategic Relationships and Retirement Solutions are a service mark of Nationwide Retirement Solutions Corporation. Member FINRA in Michigan and Nationwide Retirement Solutions Corporation, NCV 04300104 04/09

Survey released in April 2009 by the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

Watson says this underlying concern is an opportunity for employers. "Plan sponsors can help employees understand that market turmoil happens from time-to-time, but history suggests conditions are likely to recover and rebound over the long term. Since most retirement plan participants are investing for the long-term, 'staying the course' may be their best option.

"Fortunately, Nationwide is enhancing services – such as keeping our call centers open until 11 – to help participants find and use the resources available through their employer's deferred compensation plan," Watson said.

Let Nationwide help

If you're a public employee not participating in deferred compensation, contact your local Nationwide Retirement Specialist about how you may be able to enroll, or call an

in-house Retirement Specialist at 877-677-3678.

If you're a benefits decision maker for a governmental employer, you should know that finding creative solutions for employers has been a hallmark of Nationwide's service to the public sector, and especially NACo.

As provider of the NACo Deferred Compensation Program, Nationwide has more than 30 years of collaborative experience in working with and developing solutions for our country's leading county employers.

For more information on what Nationwide is doing to help participants succeed even during difficult economic conditions, contact Louie Watson, Vice-President of Strategic Relationships, by e-mail (Watsonl2@Nationwide.com) or by phone (614-854-8895).

(This article was written by Bob Beasley, Communications Consultant, Nationwide Retirement Solutions.)

Outreach to localities discussed at Governor's Energy Council Meeting



By Larry Land
lland@vaco.org

The Governor's Energy Policy Advisory Council met on April 23 at the Capitol Building in Richmond. This 15-member panel is chaired by Stephen Walz, director of the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME).

Other members are representatives from utilities, industry, architectural firms, local government and other state agencies.

Discussions about federal stimulus funds occupied a large part of that meeting. Through DMME \$83 million in stimulus funds for energy related purposes will be distributed to local governments and other entities in the following ways:

- \$38 million to help defray the costs of renewable energy systems – solar thermal, photovoltaic and small-scale wind – installed at residential, commercial and government facilities.

- \$15 million to help defray the costs of energy efficiency improvements to residential and commercial facilities.

- \$10 million for public-private projects that will assist and attract businesses focus on energy efficiency and commercial facilities.

- \$10 million to develop energy from biomass and waste.

- \$9.7 million in competitive energy conservation block grants to smaller local governments are not eligible for direct allocations from the U.S. Department of Energy.

- \$600,000 to provide technical assistance to local governments and public schools for energy savings performance contracting.

As part of several broad grant applications DMME is submitting to the U.S. Department of Energy, details about the programs described above are still being developed. The Department of Energy is scheduled to begin the process of reviewing state applications in mid-May with approval expected no more than 60 days later.

Several members commented on the need for the Council to effectively reach out to local governments on energy-related matters.

The 2009 General Assembly passed at least two bills that will require state/local coordination in their implementation. Among them are HB 1707 (Oder), which directs DMME to make reasonable efforts to provide general assistance to localities that enter into energy performance-based contracts. SB 1212 (Deeds) allows localities to provide loans to property owners for the initial acquisition and installation of clean energy improvements.

Effective coordination between the state and localities will be crucial not only in the distribution of federal stimulus funds, but also implementation of the State Energy Plan issued in 2007. It is possible that regional meetings on energy could be scheduled. VACo will provide information in as timely a manner as possible.

VEPGA holds annual meeting



By Larry Land
lland@vaco.org

These days, many meetings about energy are being held throughout Virginia. On April 17 the Virginia Electricity Purchasers Governmental Association (VEPGA) held its annual meeting.

Presentations made at this meeting focused on several issues, including efforts by regional entities to develop inter-jurisdictional strategies for improving energy efficiency, Virginia's potential for improving energy conservation, the availability of federal stimulus funds for energy related projects, pilot programs being implemented by Dominion Power, installation of facilities for solar energy, and an update on energy related actions by the 2009 General Assembly.

Helpful information (including presentations from past meetings) provided by VEPGA about energy is available at www.vepga.org/pages/vepgapubs.htm.

Go Green Va. forums to include session on stimulus energy grants



*... Local governments creating
a sustainable future*

Local government representatives can learn first-hand from state and federal officials about applying for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) under the federal government's economic stimulus program May 7 in Richmond and May 8 in Roanoke.

The two Go Green Virginia regional forums will include concurrent sessions for both direct grant recipients (see listing below) and sub-grant recipients (all other local governments applying to the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy) to learn about eligible activities, development of an energy strategy, and the necessary documentation to complete an application.

The May 7 forum in Richmond will include a keynote address from Gov. Tim Kaine on his administration's efforts to assist local governments and school divisions in utilizing federal stimulus funds to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, achieve energy efficiency and create green jobs.

The keynote speaker for the May 8 forum in Roanoke will be announced shortly.

Both forums will feature afternoon sessions that will include a series of 30-minute roundtable discussions that will give up to 10 people at a time an opportunity to gain advice from subject experts on specific best practices including: green buildings, land-use policies, green house gas inventories, green schools, stormwater management and water reuse, energy audits and performance contracting, recycling,

green fleets and tips for VACo and VML members participating in the Green Government Challenge.

The following communities are eligible to receive direct grants from the U.S. Department of Energy: Albemarle, Alexandria, Arlington, Blacksburg, Charlottesville, Chesapeake, Chesterfield, Danville, Fairfax County, Hampton, Hanover, Harrisonburg, Henrico, Leesburg, Loudoun, Lynchburg, Manassas, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Prince William, City of Richmond, Roanoke County, City of Roanoke, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Suffolk and Virginia Beach. Go to www.GoGreenVa.org for the agenda and to register. For more info, contact Larry Land at lland@vaco.org.

2009 Best Practices Regional Forums

These two regional gatherings - designed for local elected officials and professional staff alike - will provide practical help for local governments to begin or to advance their energy saving and sustainability efforts.

The forums also will discuss many of the policies and actions described in the Green Government Challenge that can lead to becoming a certified "Green Government." In addition, those attending will hear the latest on the availability of federal stimulus money for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG).

The \$45 registration fee includes materials and lunch.

Richmond
May 7
Hilton Garden Inn

Roanoke
May 8
Roanoke Plaza Hotel

**For more info on the forum,
visit [www.gogreenva.org/?/
regional_forums](http://www.gogreenva.org/?/regional_forums)**

Go Green – Cash prizes for counties!

MOSELEY ARCHITECTS
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION



An additional feature of VACo's participation in the 2009 Go Green initiative will be the awarding of cash prizes to counties compiling the highest number of points in the Go Green Challenge.

Moseley Architects has teamed up with Trane to offer cash awards of \$3,000; \$2,000; and \$1,000 respectively to counties ranking first, second and third within their assigned population brackets.

There will be three population brackets. The first bracket is for counties with populations of at least 50,000 or more. The second bracket consists of counties with populations between 15,000 and 49,999. The third bracket will be for counties with populations of less than 15,000.



Caroline County goes prehistoric

Very few Virginians know that 14 million years ago, the Commonwealth was home to one of the world's largest mammals to ever grace the earth—an *Eobalaenoptera harrisoni*—a whale about 28 feet long, or the length of a school bus.

Back then, if you can imagine, Caroline County was the site of a prehistoric ocean where these species of the baleen whale would breach out of the water.

But this whale was unknown to science until 1991 when paleontologists from the Virginia Museum of Natural History discovered an *Eobalaenoptera* skeleton at what is now Carmel Church, two miles west of I-95. This discovery and the subsequent research prompted a confluence of important concepts and pointed to the need to display this highly unique I-95 native.

The solution was a permanent exhibition at the Caroline County Visitor Center, which serves an estimated 150,000 travelers a year. The display opened in November 2008 and already has fascinated and enlightened visitors from all over.

"People just love it," said Gary R. Wilson, Caroline County director of economic development and tourism. "I live not far away from the visitor center. I drive by it at night and often see parents with their kids looking at the display, which is illuminated in the glass tower. I hear from people all the time who say they drive out of their way to see the display."

The idea originated from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and was presented to the Caroline County Board of Supervisors early last year by Dr. Alton Dooley, a paleontologist with the Virginia Museum of Natural History. He described the science and significance of the proposed 28-foot Gray Whale fossil that would be housed in the center on Route 207.

"We were excited about the idea from the very beginning," said Caroline County Board of Supervisors chairman Wayne A. Acors, who was VACo president in 2003-04. "It's part of our history. It's another thing that makes Caroline County unique."

Mark Your Calendars

For more information on Mark Your Calendars listings, visit www.vaco.org

**VACSB
Development and
Training
Conference**

May 4-5
Sheraton Richmond West Hotel



This 2-day conference is designed for CSB/BHA board members and staff, consumers and providers in leadership, research, clinical treatment, education, and service delivery fields related to mental health, intellectual disabilities, and substance use disorders.

**Innovative
Financing to Build
Virginia
Communities**



May 14
Danville

Topics include:
-Energy Conservation
-Public Private Partnerships
-ARRA of 2009
-Project Funding Resources

Representatives from federal and state funding sources:

- Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
- USDA Rural Development
- Department of General Services
- Others TBA

Free for government officials and staff

**Virginia Transit
Association
2009 Annual
Conference**



June 8 – 9
Fredericksburg

This two-day conference will be held at the Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center in Fredericksburg, June 8–9. Open to all transportation professionals interested in learning more about sustainability, new federal legislation including re-authorization and ARRA and alternative fuel vehicles. Additional details can be found on the VTA Web site: www.vatransit.com

**Virginia Forum
on Age Wave
Planning**

May 20
Piedmont Virginia
Community College
Charlottesville



There aren't many social crises you can see bearing down on you five to 15 years before they arrive, but the age wave is one of them.

We know that the over-65 population will double in Virginia to 1.8 million citizens by 2030, and we know that Baby Boomers have very different expectations of aging than members of the Silent Generation do.

We also know that many local governments and community services organizations aren't prepared for what's coming.

Acting on the premise that being forewarned is being forearmed, the Older Dominion Partnership is partnering with other aging-related groups to host the "Virginia Forum on Age Wave Planning," on May 20, at Piedmont Virginia Community College in Charlottesville.

"Although current economic challenges are at the top of all our agendas today, we can't ignore another significant change headed for Virginia," said Gov. Timothy M. Kaine. "The Old Dominion is getting older – fast. This is one change we can clearly see coming as the huge number of baby boomers begin to reach traditional retirement age. I encourage all communities to actively plan now for the challenges and the opportunities this future will bring. The strength of local economies and the quality of life for young and old alike will depend on it."

The forum is designed to educate elected officials, municipal administrators, regional planners, and other community organizations.

news from our
associate members

Dewberry Receives Partner of the Year Award

Dewberry, a nationally recognized consulting firm based in Fairfax, has been named Partner of the Year for the Washington, D.C., region by ESRI, a leading geographic information system (GIS) and mapping software developer.

ESRI recognized Dewberry for outstanding achievements over the past year in the areas of innovative product development and fostering ESRI technology into key markets, while exemplifying the culture and ideology of ESRI to include growing GIS solutions in new markets and strengthen the worldwide GIS community.

The award was presented at the 2009 ESRI Business Partner Conference in Palm Springs, Calif., on March 22.

In 2008, Dewberry was selected from over 100,000 ESRI user sites worldwide for ESRI's Special Achievement in GIS award for its technological contribution to floodplain mapping—GeoFIRM. Built around



Dewberry[®]

ESRI's ArcGIS software, the geodatabase allows Dewberry specialists to automate the digital flood insurance rate map process, thereby increasing accuracy and speed.

Dewberry was also named Partner of the Year in 2005 by ESRI for demonstrating "exemplary leadership using GIS in its emergency response to the devastation inflicted by [the 2004] Florida hurricanes." ESRI recognized Dewberry's use of GIS technology to support the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as well as state and local governments.

About Dewberry

Dewberry is a 2,000-person professional

services firm, specializing in federal services to include one of the largest and most comprehensive commercial geospatial practices in the United States; engineering and architectural design; program management; planning; and environmental services. Established in 1956, the firm has more than 40 locations nationwide, with headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, near Washington, D.C. For more information, visit www.dewberry.com.

About ESRI

ESRI, based in Redlands, California, is the world leader in GIS technology.

For more information, visit www.esri.com.

Timmons Group No. 293 on ENR's Top 500 Design Firms List



Timmons Group, an ENR 500 Design Firm and a leader in multi-discipline civil engineering consulting services, recently announced that the firm's ranking in the prestigious Engineering News Record (ENR) list of Top 500 Design Firms increased significantly in 2009.

The list, published in ENR's April 15 issue, ranked Timmons Group 293—up from 370 in 2008. The 2009 rankings are based on revenue for design services performed in 2008. Receiving the firm's highest ranking thus far, this marks the 14th straight year Timmons Group has

been on the list.

Engineering News-Record (ENR) is a weekly magazine that provides news, analysis, data and opinion for the construction industry worldwide.

The Top 500 Design Firms list, published annually in April, ranks the 500 largest U.S.-based engineering, architectural and environmental design firms, both publicly and privately held, based on design-specific revenue generated by each company.

About Timmons Group

Timmons Group is an ENR 500 multi-discipline professional services firm and a leading provider of civil engineering, environmental services, GIS and Geospatial technology services, geotechnical engineering, construction management, landscape

architecture and land surveying. The firm's subject-matter experts deliver a wide-range of specialties including site development design & engineering, transportation engineering and highway design, water and wastewater facilities design, land and community planning, traditional neighborhood design, stormwater management, LEED® and sustainable design and urban planning to both public and private clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

The firm employs more than 350 people and has corporate headquarters in Richmond; and regional offices in Virginia Beach; Charlottesville; Prince George; Ashburn; Greensboro, N.C.; Charlotte, N.C.; and Raleigh, N.C.

For more information on the Timmons Group, visit www.timmons.com.



Staff photo by Thomas Lester

Balloons are released by area students while state and local officials complete a broadband connection during the launch of The Wired Road, a broadband deployment initiative, at the Rex Theatre in Galax on Monday.

Wired Road opened in Galax

By Thomas Lester/News Writer
tlester@thecarrollnews.com

The path to prosperity and the future of the Twin Counties opened on Monday in Galax.

State and local officials joined together at the Rex Theatre to celebrate the launch of The Wired Road, a broadband deployment initiative geared at making sure all citizens and businesses in Carroll, Grayson and Galax have access to the Information Superhighway at the highest speeds possible.

"Our vision is to connect every home, business, government office, school in this region to a world-class telecommunications infrastructure," said Grayson County Supervisor Mike Maynard, who hosted the launch. "It's about the creation and being able to make improvements in economic opportunities, educational opportunities, healthcare opportunities, all those things that will make our community more viable."

Several elected officials spoke at the launch, and presentations were given by Carroll County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Greg Smith and Twin County Regional Healthcare President and CEO Jon Applebaum on how The Wired Road will help their respective institutions.

There were also several school-aged children in attendance for the announcement. Many of the gathered officials pointed to them and their future in the area as the reason why The Wired Road is a necessity now.

"It's not too late for these young people to stay here and live prosperous and productive lives," said Del. Ward Armstrong.

"We want to be at the forefront of the 21st century. It's going to allow businesses and farms to grow and market their goods and it's going to expand the capabilities of households."

Delegate Bill Carrico

Armstrong compared broadband deployment to the growth and expansion of railroads and their role in shaping the country in the 1800s.

"There are a lot of parallels between railroads in this country and high speed Internet and broadband deployment," Armstrong said. "By that, I mean in the 19th century, this country, in order to settle itself, had to build railroads. If you were a community that had a railroad line that ran through it, you prospered greatly. If you didn't, you struggled. In this, the 21st century, I think there are a lot of parallels with that. In order for us in Southside and Southwest Virginia to have a real chance of prosperity, we have to have the infrastructure and tools to do that. Broadband is an integral part of that. If you don't have high-speed Internet, it's very difficult to attract those businesses and industries that are going to be prosperous in the 21st century. It is absolutely essential."

Del. Bill Carrico said The Wired Road

will allow the Twin Counties to compete for business and industry in the future, but what's more, it will create 300 jobs during the implementation and construction stages. When it's all in place, Carrico said The Wired Road will provide broadband-based Internet to 22,000 homes and 1,500 businesses throughout Carroll, Grayson and Galax.

"That's important for our area," Carrico said. "We want to be at the forefront of the 21st century. We want these kids to be able to have the opportunities we didn't have and it's going to allow businesses and farms to grow and market their goods and it's going to expand the capabilities of households."

Carrico said he, Armstrong, and Senators Roscoe Reynolds and William Wampler, who were also in attendance, believe this project can help Southwest Virginia level the playing field when competing with Northern Virginia and the Tidewater regions.

"We think this is going to put us at the forefront and put us in competition with places across Virginia that have this capability right now," Carrico said. "We're looking forward to great success and I'm honored to be a part of it."

Senators Wampler and Reynolds serve as Commissioners on the Tobacco Commission, which has, to date, given \$900,000 to The Wired Road.

"This is one of the things the General Assembly and the Tobacco Commission had in mind as they looked forward from the past to the future as to how our communities will be transformed and how we can take advantage of the economic opportunities that will present themselves in

See WIRED ROAD, Page 3-A





Get Ready to Celebrate!
Theme: *Greening Our Future*

National County Government Week (NCGW) — held the first full week in May — is an annual celebration of county government. First held in 1991, National County Government Week raises public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation’s counties.

There are activities at the national, state and local levels during county government week. More than 1,000 counties annually participate in NCGW by holding a variety of programs and events.

These include tours of county facilities, presentations in schools, meetings with business and community leaders, recognition programs for volunteers, briefings on environmental projects and adoption of proclamations.

VACo's Comprehensive Legislative Summary Available

A preliminary copy summarizing the actions of the 2009 General Assembly is posted on VACo Web site for review and downloading.

In addition to a summary of legislation of interest to counties, this year’s online edition contains links to the General Assembly’s Legislative Information System so that the reader can check the specific working of the bills.

Included in the document is also a summary of amendments to the 2008-2010 biennial budget made by the 2009 Assembly and lists of studies, resolutions and failed legislation of importance to counties.

The current copy is in preliminary form because Gov. Timothy M. Kaine has until May 8 to act on his vetoes and amendments to bills that were not accepted by the General Assembly at the April 8 reconvened session.



2009 Draft Legislative Summary



May 2, 2009
Draft Legislative Summary

Once his actions on those few bills are known, the summary will be amended and republished on the VACo Web site in final form.

Besides being environmentally friendly, the online version of the Legislative Summary provides readers with instant access to important information with a click of the mouse.

We trust you will find the online version a great resources to use throughout the year.

For more information, contact Ted McCormack or Gage Harter.

Wired Road

Continued from page 1-A the future,” Reynolds said.

Wampler cited specific examples of how broadband deployment has helped other communities in Southwest Virginia. He said the Tobacco Commission decided that implementing broadband throughout the region would be one of its signature investments and the Twin Counties will soon reap those benefits, much as other communities already have.

“That’s what this is all about, being able to link Grayson, Carroll and Galax together and make sure you will not be bypassed when it comes to technology jobs and you can compete on a worldwide basis,” Wampler said.

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Deputy Director of Community Development Todd Christensen said the Twin Counties are already considered an attractive place for people to live. Now, with The Wired Road, the Twin Counties can also become an attractive place to work.

“People want to live here and people want to stay here and people are very jealous of you for being able to live in this area. Galax and Carroll and Grayson are known worldwide for what you’re doing for your cultural heritage but also this project is nationally known,” Christensen said. “You should really be proud of your leaders and the amount of collabora-

tion.”

Galax Mayor C.M. Mitchell said that collaboration is a big reason why the launch was able to happen. He said so far, approximately \$1.3 million in local funds has been generated, including \$170,000 from the Solid Waste Authority that he announced at the launch. Mitchell said in all, that investment has generated close to \$4 million in funds for The Wired Road.

Mitchell said that willing-

ness to work together will give today’s students reason to stay here when they go job searching.

“With all the other projects we’re working on together in a collaborative fashion, these young folks will be able to stay here and live here and have good jobs here,” Mitchell said. “That’s the thing that we’re all working for, is to stabilize our community and make sure we have a high quality of life in our region. We have a lot of special things here.”

CTB

Continued from page 1

* \$6 million for Tobacco

Heritage Trail

* \$.5 million for USMC

Heritage Trail

Additional information about transportation projects proposed for funding under ARRA is available at this link.

This Web site includes a full, comprehensive list of projects proposed for ARRA funding. The list was released Transportation Secretary Pierce R. Homer on April 7.

Information (including presentations) about CTB's workshop on April

15 and meeting on April 16 is available at CTB's Web site. In particular, see the two presentations below.

- VDOT stimulus project update

- ARRA rural and small urban

transit - initial allocation

The CTB will approve additional projects for ARRA funding at its next meeting scheduled for May 21.

DPB

Continued from page 1

selection by June 15, 2009, the state comptroller will withhold the locality's recordation tax distribution beginning with the July 2009 allocation. If withholding the locality's recordation

tax distribution for FY 2010 is not sufficient to fully cover its reduction amount, DPB will take action to withhold the remaining reduction amount from the local program deemed most discretionary by the department.

Detailed instructions and the election form are included in the DPB e-mail sent April 29, 2009, and are available on the DPB Web site.

Last year VACo, VML and VGFOA developed a Certification Form for county administrators to complete and transmit to DPB. The form is also available on VACo's Web site, and will be communicated to county administrators via e-mail.



CAROLINE COUNTY

Continued from page 5

There are only three such casts in existence, one at the Virginia Museum of Natural History and the other at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. The Caroline display is distinctive because it provides a physical context for the find, the landscape where Eobalaenoptera was discovered. This local essential of the science of paleontology is not duplicated in many places.

The project cost about \$125,000 and was paid by gifts and grants. None of the money was from the Caroline County general fund.

A \$25,000 donation was made early by the Litt and Kath Thompson Foundation. The Thompsons are business leaders in Caroline County. Many other foundations and companies also stepped up to make pledges.

"That's one of the heartening parts of the project," Wilson said.

"Ultimately, what the donations tell us is this is a strong project, a positive project, one that a lot of businesses want to be a part of. These local businesses have stepped forward to say 'we can see the value of this project.'"

Most of the cost was for casting bones in a light and durable material and attaching them to the metal armature for display. The actual bones are too rare to display and would deteriorate under normal building conditions. Other expenses include the hanging of the whale from the tower section of the visitor center, display structures and information panels.

The replica was constructed by Research Casting International (RCI), one of the world's largest providers of museum technical services. RCI specializes in specimen preparation,

restoration, casting, molding, mounting and exhibit fabrication.

"RCI is the best in the world at what they do," Wilson said. "Our display is the best quality anywhere on the planet."

The Eobalaenoptera is shown in a dive posture that gives it a dramatic effect. The skeletal articulation depicts movement and energy and affects the surrounding space with light and shadow in a changing configuration during the day. Scientists are calling the permanent exhibition one of the most dynamic and accurate displays of a whale skeleton anywhere.

The skeleton is sequestered by a screen of information panels that discuss the species, the moving Atlantic Coast through time, the environmental context for the discovery and the I-95 location as a result of prehistoric forces on the geology of what is now Virginia.



Funding Public Services in the 21st Century: The Role of Budgeting

Friday, May 15, 2009, Charlottesville
Tuesday, June 30, 2009, Charlottesville

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$350, includes books, materials, refreshments, meals

This comprehensive program with home study and a follow-up session is open to all County Supervisors. It is one of the five core courses in the Virginia Certified County Supervisor Program, a joint effort of Virginia Tech and the Virginia Association of Counties.

Mike Chandler, Professor Emeritus at Virginia Tech, and Scott Tate, Community Viability Specialist, with Virginia Cooperative Extension, will lead the course, utilizing examples and calling on practitioners from around Virginia. There is an eight-week home study segment following the May session.

REGISTRATION FOR: Funding Public Services in the 21st Century: The Role of Budgeting

Friday, May 15, Charlottesville 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 30, Charlottesville 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Name: _____

Home Address _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____ E-mail _____

Title or Position: _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Type _____

Name as it appears on Credit Card _____

Signature Authorizing Payment _____

Meeting Location: Albemarle Satellite County Office Building, Fifth Street, Room A

Registration Information: Make checks payable to VACo. Send all registrations to:
Virginia Association of Counties
1207 E. Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

You can also FAX this form with credit card information to: (804) 788-0083.

Refund Policy - Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by **May 8, 2009**; however, substitutions are accepted at any time. For questions about registration, call VACo at (804) 788-6652.

Employment Opportunities

Employment ads are edited due to space considerations.

To view the full versions, visit www.vaco.org and click the man at the typewriter on the right rail of the page.

Assistant Director of General Services/Isle of Wight County

Isle of Wight County seeks an experienced professional to fill the role of Assistant Director of General Services. The successful candidate will manage the County's Engineering and Public Utilities divisions, including County owned water systems, sewer systems, construction administration, and engineering functions. Salary DOQ. Interested candidates should submit an application and resume by May 29 to: HR, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA 23397. Visit our Web site at www.iwus.net or call us at 757-365-6263.

Information Technology Director/Isle of Wight County

Isle of Wight County is seeks an individual to provide leadership, direction, and oversight to the IT Department. This position manages departmental staff, prepares annual budget, oversees the acquisition of new systems, develops and implements procedures, manages software systems and determines software and hardware needs, and provides comprehensive IT planning and training. The position requires a BS or equivalent in computer science or related field and 5-8 years of progressively responsible experience. Salary DOQ. Interested candidates should submit an application and resume by May 29 to: HR, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA 23397. Visit our Web site at www.iwus.net or call 757-365-6263.

Social Services Director I/Nelson County Department of Social Services

The duties of the Director include, but are not limited to, planning, organizing, setting objectives, formulating policies, directing and evaluating benefits programs and service programs

according to federal and state legislation and local policies; preparing and justifying an operating budget; hiring, promoting, transferring, disciplining, and dismissing employees; working with the local social services board to keep it informed and seek necessary approvals. Minimum starting salary \$41,456, negotiable DOQ. A completed VA Application for Employment must be received by noon Friday, May 29, at PO Box 357, 203 Front Street, Lovingson, VA 22949. A resume may be submitted with the required application. Applications are available at the agency or online at www.dss.virginia.gov. Please indicate the position title on the application. The Nelson County Department of Social Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Director of Community Development/Bedford County

The Director of Community Development will perform difficult professional and administrative work in directing the activities of the county's Community Development Department, which includes Building Codes Enforcement, Zoning, Natural Resources, Planning and GIS. The Director will be responsible for planning and developing short and long range planning and community development activities, services, and programs. Application, the recruitment package, and job description are available at www.co.bedford.va.us and are also available from the Bedford County Human Resources Office, Bedford County Administration Building, 122 East Main Street, 2nd Floor, Bedford, VA 24523, (540) 586-7601, ext. 1221. Review of applications will begin June 1. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Annual salary is competitive DOQ.

Fire-EMS Chief/Caroline County

The successful candidate must possess excellent leadership ability, management skills, communication skills and the ability to foster success in

a combined system. Must hold and maintain various emergency services related certifications. For further information visit www.visitcaroline.com/employment.html.

Salary negotiable, based on qualifications and experience. Excellent benefit package includes participation in the Virginia Retirement System (LEOS), vacation and sick leave, group life insurance, medical insurance, professional dues and conference expenses. Submit completed county application, detailed resume, copies of relevant fire and EMS certifications, copy of driving record, salary history and work related references to County Administrator Percy Ashcraft, P.O. Box 447, Bowling Green, Virginia 22427, (804) 633-5380 or e-mail at pashcraft@co.caroline.va.us. Position open until filled with interviews expected in June. Official Caroline County applications can be downloaded and printed from the County's Web site at www.visitcaroline.com/employment.html.

Director of General Services/Fauquier County

Primary functions/responsibilities:

- Oversee management of general services facilities, maintenance work, construction projects and operations
- Administer the fleet maintenance program
- Administer Adult Detention Center Trustee Program
- Instruct, direct, evaluate and supervise assigned staff
- Administer and direct the department budget
- Manage the assessment for quality control and compliance with government mandates and regulations

Qualifications/Application process: Proven field, supervisory, budget and construction project management experience required. For complete job description/qualifications and to apply online, visit www.fauquiercounty.gov.

EMPLOYMENT

Continued from page 12

County Attorney/Prince George County

Salary negotiable, with competitive benefit package. Position serves at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors, attending board meetings and advising County Administration and the Board of Supervisors on legal matters. Must be eligible to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia and possess a degree from an accredited law school. To apply, please visit the County Web site at www.princegeorgeva.org. Open until filled. For additional information, please call 804-722-8669.

Director of Community Development/City of Bristol

Salary is negotiable, within a hiring range of the low \$50's to low \$60's dependent upon the candidate's prior accomplishments, education and experience. The City provides excellent benefits that include fully paid retirement, City vehicle, life insurance, employee medical and dental insurance, deferred compensation, professional dues and conference expenses. Moving expenses will be reimbursed by the City subject to negotiation with the City Manager. Submit letter of application, detailed resume with salary history and work related references to: John A. Anzivino, Senior Vice President, Springsted Incorporated, 1564 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23228-2360; Fax 804-726-9752 or e-mail Richmond@springsted.com by May 15. For further information visit www.springsted.com.

Director of Public Utilities-Works/City of Portsmouth

The candidate will serve under the general direction of the City Manager and is responsible for performing complex professional and administrative work coordinating and supervising operations of a water treatment, wastewater collection, and water distribution system. Salary Range: \$71,996 - \$97,195 (depending upon qualifications) plus competitive

fringe benefits.

Closing Date: Position will close upon receipt of sufficient qualified applicants. Please submit a City of Portsmouth application and resume to: City of Portsmouth, Department of Human Resource Management, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704. www.portsmouthva.gov/hr

County Administrator/Bland County

The Board of Supervisors of Bland County seeks a dynamic person with strong leadership skills for the position of County Administrator. Salary- DOQ. Please submit current resume, state application (VA), and professional references to the Bland County Board of Supervisors, P.O. Box 510; Bland, VA, 24315, no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, May 1. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.bland.org.

Chief of Fire and Emergency Medical Services/Powhatan County

Salary negotiable, based on qualifications and experience. Excellent benefit package includes participation in the Virginia Retirement System, vacation and sick leave, group life insurance, medical insurance, professional dues and conference expenses. Relocation allowance negotiable. Submit completed county application, detailed resume, salary history and work related references to: John A. Anzivino, Senior VP, Springsted, Incorporated. 1564 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23228; Fax (804)726-9752 or e-mail Richmond@springsted.com by May 1. For further information visit www.powhatanva.gov or www.springsted.com. Official Powhatan County applications can be downloaded and printed from the County's Web site at www.powhatanva.gov.

Public Works Director/Lincoln County, N.C.

Must have skill in planning, programming, and estimating costs; skill in the supervision of personnel; skill in contract administration and project management, skill in oral and written communication, and with a

strong commitment to customer service. Graduation from a four-year college or university with major course work in Public Administration, civil engineering, urban and regional planning, or a related field, and three to five years of progressively responsible experience in water, wastewater treatment operations, including one or two years of responsible supervisory experience, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities. Licensed professional engineer preferred. Based on Qualifications and Experience Position Open Until Filled. Applications available online at www.lincolncounty.org or send application to Lincoln County Human Resources, 115 West Main Street, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.

Emergency Services Training Coordinator/Carroll County

Job Type: Full-Time
Hours of Work: Flexible hours required
Salary: Negotiable
Testing: Must Pass Mandatory Drug Test Before Hire, Background Check, DMV Driving Record Check, Other
Job Summary: Performs duties under the Supervision of Director of Emergency Services. Performs administrative and technical work overseeing methods, practices and techniques of emergency services operations training. The ES Training Coordinator develops, implements, conducts and/or coordinates emergency services educations classes for volunteer and paid agencies, and the community, and serves as the assistant liaison between the County's Volunteer emergency and medical service organizations and County.
Job Open Date: March 25
Job Close Date: Open until filled
All candidates for this position must provide a completed Virginia State Application to the Carroll County Human Resources Office at 605-1 Pine Street, Hillsville, VA 24343. An online position description may be found at www.CarrollCountyVa.org/employment.



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VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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