

The Newsletter of the Virginia Association of Counties

December 2, 2016

WCo V





Visit Botetourt County and Roaring Run Waterfall... Page 5



Fauquier County Fire Rescue appoints Assistant Chief... Page 3



New report explores how localities can combat Opioid Epidemic... Page 7



VACo Releases 2017 Legislative Program

After months of steering committee meetings, lively debate and participation through the association's legislative process, VACo adopted its 2017 Legislative Program. The Legislative Program is organized according to VACo's Steering Committees.

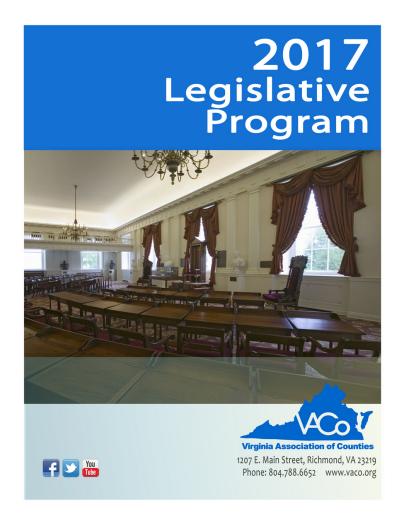
VACo membership identified "Increased Education Funding" as the overarching legislative priority for the 2017 General Assembly Session.

VACo's overarching legislative priority is:

To assure each child in Virginia a quality education necessary for his or her success, VACo calls upon the Governor and General Assembly to fully fund the Standards of Quality as recommended by the Board of Education and the Standards of Accreditation.

The provision of a quality education for all Virginia's children is the most important function of state and local government. The infusion of K-12 funding provided in the 2016 General Assembly session was a step in the right direction toward restoring the state's partnership with localities in fulfilling this critical mission. However, when adjusted for inflation, state per pupil spending on public education is less than funding levels in FY 2006. With increased educational mandates, increased numbers of students, and state policy changes that decreased education funding, local school divisions have had to eliminate important academic programs, cut instructional and support staff, and increase class sizes, despite strong local efforts to improve efficiencies in public education.

VACo looks forward to working with the Governor and General Assembly to address these serious challenges facing public education in our Commonwealth.



VACo's 2017 Legislative Program also addresses other priorities. In the realm of Economic Development and Planning, VACo's members voiced support for three priorities, including changes to the conditional zoning law on proffers to allow greater flexibility for determining impacts and opposing limits to local regulations of home-based businesses, including short-term rentals.

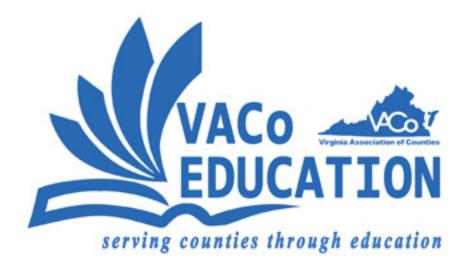
The top priority in Environment and Agriculture is Water Quality Improvement Funding, while the priorities in Finance are support for the authority of county governments to levy and collect local business taxes, and support for granting counties the authority to adopt a local meals and cigarette tax without referendum.

Broadband, Health and Human Resources Funding, K-12 Workforce Development Cooperation, Devolution of Secondary Roads, Local-State Transportation Funding and Cooperation and Transportation Revenue Sharing are other priority issues.

VACo's 2017 Legislative Program

VACo Contact: Dean Lynch, CAE





The new year brings new educational opportunities at VACo. The following is a preview of VACo Education programs scheduled in January and February 2017.

On January 4, VACo will join with VML at the VML/VACo Finance Forum held at the Omni Richmond. Topics on the agenda include state revenues and the 2017 budget, local finance trends and perspectives, VRS local budget pressures, assessment of local revenues and education. Register online at http://www.vml.org/registration/2017-finance-forum. This is five hours of education you won't want to miss! There is no hotel room block for this program.

VACo will host three events February 1-4.

On February 1, join VACo and the Virginia Rural Center for the annual Rural Caucus Reception and Dinner at the Omni Richmond. This popular event provides an evening of collaboration and discussion on issues that impact rural Virginia. VACo County Government Day at the General Assembly is set for February 2 at the Omni Richmond. VACo staff will report on important legislation, then county officials are encouraged to go to the Capitol to participate in committee meetings and talk with state legislators. VACo offers the County Board Chairpersons' Institute on February 3-4 to Board Chairs and Vice Chairs. This program focuses on the specific roles of those positions, including meeting management, internal and external communications, work relationships, leadership and goal setting. An overview of county government and the work of county supervisors are also covered. Online registration to any of these events is open here. Find out more information or download faxable registration forms by visiting the Education and Meetings page on our website.

Omni Hotels & Resorts Says Goodnight to Hunger

For every room night booked online using our individualized access code and room block rates during the February events, Omni Hotels and Resorts will make a donation that provides an entire week of dinner for a family of four.

For VACo's dedicated room reservation link, click <u>here</u> or copy and paste into your browser: <u>https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/richmond/meetings/vaco-county-government-day-2017</u>

For more information on the Say Goodnight to Hunger program, click <u>here</u> or copy and paste link into your browser: <u>https://www.omnihotels.com/about-omni-hotels/say-goodnight-to-hunger</u>

Registration for our upcoming <u>Virginia Certified County Supervisor Program</u> is open. Join Dr. Mike Chandler, Professor Emeritus at Virginia Tech, and Dr. Martha Walker, Community Viability Specialist at Virginia Cooperative Extension for our <u>Managing While Leading: Understanding Your Powers, Duties and Responsibilities</u> course. Classes will be held in Albemarle County on Friday, March 17 and Friday, May 12. Size is limited to first 20 who register, so don't delay!

VACo Contact: Amy Sales, CMP



Fauquier County Fire Rescue appoints Assistant Chief

Chief Darren Stevens is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Ciarrocca, as the Assistant Chief of the Fauquier County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management. Chief Ciarrocca will be leaving his position of Battalion Chief with the City of Fairfax Fire Department to begin his employment with Fauquier County on December 19, 2016.

"Chief Ciarrocca was the unanimous choice of the selection committee" Stevens said. Of the initial 48 applicants for the position, 11 were invited to complete a written exercise. Six of those candidates were interviewed by the committee a few weeks ago.

"I am honored to have been selected to serve the citizens and visitors of Fauquier County as the Assistant Chief of the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management. I look forward to using my knowledge, skills and abilities developed over the course of my career to assist the Department in meeting the challenges facing the combination fire service in the County" said Ciarrocca.

Ciarrocca started his fire service career in 1981 as a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician in his hometown of Mechanicsburg, PA. While attending the University of Maryland, Chief Ciarrocca continued his fire service career, volunteering in College Park, MD. In 1988, he transitioned to the career fire service in the City of Fairfax Fire Department. Chief Ciarrocca spent more than 28 years with the City of Fairfax Fire Department rising through the ranks to battalion chief with over 14 years of experience as a command-level officer. Additionally, he has prior experience in fire prevention and investigations, having served as an Assistant Fire Marshal.



Ciarrocca has an extensive background managing emergency response personnel in a combination all hazards department that includes implementing effective incident command, providing career development opportunities for responders, developing policy and procedures, managing occupational safety and health programs, and developing promotional and selection processes.

He is a strong advocate of firefighter safety and works to reduce risk through proactive measures with a focus on safe and efficient fire ground operations, cancer prevention, and physical and mental well-being.

Ciarrocca holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Technology / Fire Protection from the University of Maryland and received the designation of Certified Public Manager from the George Washington University Center for Excellence in Municipal Management.

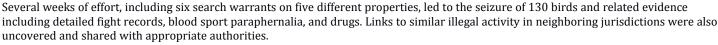
Loudoun County Animal Control Officer receives association award

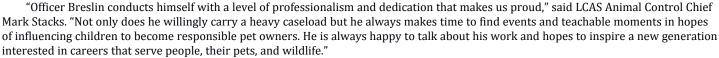
Loudoun County Animal Services (LCAS) Officer Patrick Breslin has received a prestigious statewide award from the Virginia Animal Control Association (VACA). Breslin is the recipient of the Dr. Kent Roberts Award for Animal Control Officer of the Year.

"Officer Breslin received the award as a result of his consistent hard work and dedication as well as his professionalism and compassion," said Department of Animal Services Director Nina Stively. "He has set an excellent standard for investigative work in cases of animal cruelty, while consistently showing compassion to people and their pets. He also devotes considerable time and energy to public education by attending youth camps, school events, and other community activities."

Stively says Breslin's "excellent investigative skills have led to important collection of evidence, confessions, and many successful convictions." Breslin holds an 85% conviction rate and has responded to more than 4,700 calls for service since starting at LCAS in May 2013.

One notable investigation led by Breslin resulted in the conviction of five different people on charges related to a cock-fighting ring.





The Dr. Kent Roberts Award for Animal Control Officer of the Year is presented annually to one officer in Virginia who has demonstrated overall excellence in the performance of his or her job. It is named in honor of Dr. Kent Roberts, an important figure in the history of VACA, which strives to advance the profession of animal control.

"It is an immense honor being recognized by my peers and receiving this award," said Breslin. "I look forward to further serving both animals and people of Loudoun County, and speaking for those who cannot speak up for themselves."

In addition to being recognized at the VACA annual conference, Breslin was honored by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors with a resolution of commendation at the Board's November 1, 2016, meeting.

More information about LCAS, including the county's Animal Services Officers, is online at www.loudoun.gov/animals.





Coastal Policy Center issues report on Virginia's stormwater program



The 2016 Stormwater Bill:

An Analysis of Perceived and Real Problems with Proposed Solutions



Prepared at the request of the Honorable M. Keith Hodges, Member of the Virginia House of Delegates, 98th District

During the 2016 session, the General Assembly passed <u>HB 1250 (Wilt)</u> and <u>SB 673 (Hanger)</u>, companion bills that integrated the four chief statutes that deal with the issue of stormwater management. The provisions of HB 1250 and SB 673 are not scheduled to go into effect until July 1, 2017, or until the State Water Control Board approves the final regulations that implement the statute.

Shortly after the 2016 session ended, Delegate M. Keith Hodges requested that additional study be conducted that would focus on the stormwater issue, principally for the purpose of determining whether more changes to Virginia's stormwater management law should be considered during the 2017 legislative session. The study requested by Delegate Hodges was conducted by the Virginia Coastal Policy Center (VCPC), a division of the Law School at William and Mary.

The report generated by VCPC's study was released on November 11. To address lingering problems associated with HB 1250 and SB 673, the report contains a suite of policy options that may be incorporated within legislation to be considered by the 2017 General Assembly.

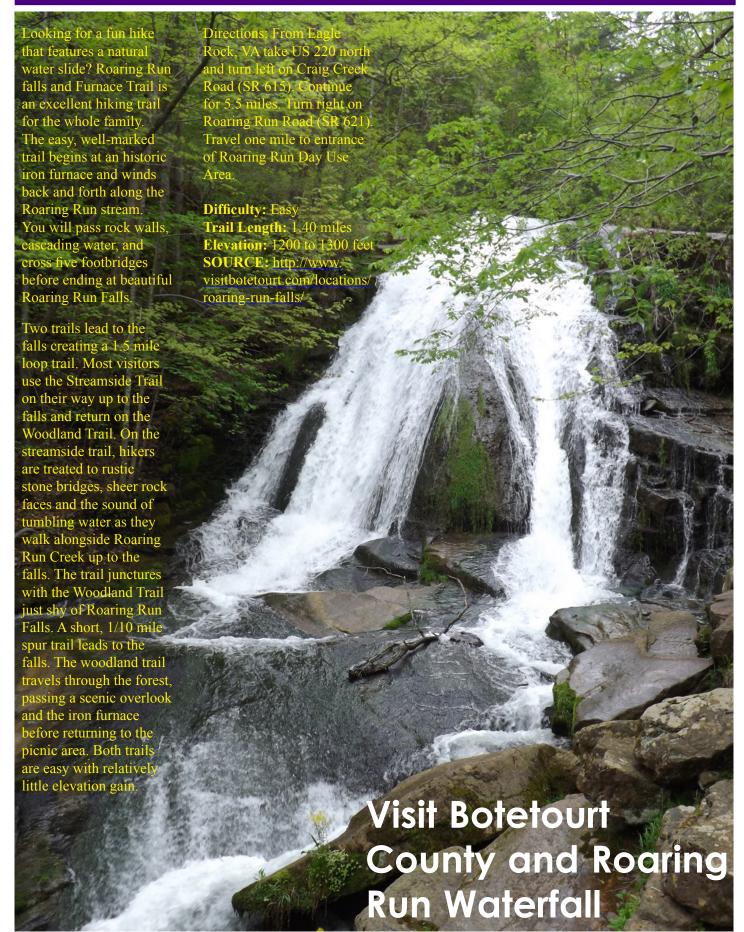
One chief issue described in VCPC's report relates to the problem of the so-called "donut hole." The "donut hole" is a consequence (VACo believes unintended) of HB 1173 (Hodges) and SB 423 (Hanger) that allowed many smaller, rural counties to "opt out" of what had been a statewide mandate to manage their own stormwater programs. However, a loophole in the final legislation continued the requirement of "opt out" localities to enforce stormwater requirements for land disturbances between 2,500 square feet and one acre within the area of the state covered under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (CBPA). Localities not subject to CBPA would still be mandated to enforce stormwater requirements for land disturbances between 10,000 square feet and one acre.

VACo's 2017 Legislative Program has a position statement supporting legislation to eliminate the "donut hole" problem.

Click here for VCPC's final report on Virginia's Stormwater program.

VACo Contact: Larry Land, CAE









Mark Your Calendars



VACo COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 2, 2017 | 9am - 9pm | \$40

Registration Form | Register Online | Omni Richmond Hotel

The Virginia Association of Counties invites county officials to VACo County Government Day on February 2 at the Omni Richmond Hotel. VACo staff will report on legislation affecting local governments, then county officials are encouraged to go to the Capitol to participate in committee meetings and lobby state legislators. In the evening, county officials are strongly encouraged to invite their state legislators to dinner.



CHAIRPERSONS' INSTITUTE

February 3-4, 2017

Registration Form | Register Online | Omni Richmond Hotel

Are you a county board chair or vice chair?

If so, VACo's Chairpersons' Institute is for you. It is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel on February 3-4, 2017. The Institute offers a professional learning experience that is carefully tailored to the needs of county board chairs and vice chairs.

These uncertain times require county leaders who are prepared for every eventuality. To succeed, board chairs and vice chairs must be active leaders who know how to encourage teamwork and manage conflict. They must be confident problem solvers as well as visionary leaders.



The Chairpersons' Institute was developed with the cooperation of an ad-hoc committee of board chairs. This Institute gives chairs a chance to learn practical strategies in critical areas including the duties, powers and responsibilities of board chairs.

This program provides details on the structure and functions of county government, active leadership, communications, meeting management, decision making, working strategically to achieve important goals, building partnerships with local staff, board colleagues, the media and other government entities.



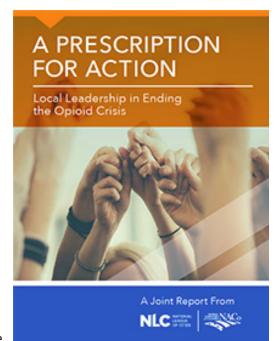


NEW REPORT EXPLORES HOW CITIES AND COUNTIES CAN COMBAT OPIOID EPIDEMIC

A new joint report from National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National League of Cities (NLC) examines how cities and counties can strengthen collaboration with each other and state, federal, private-sector and non-profit partners to tackle the opioid crisis. The report, A Prescription for Action: Local Leadership in Ending the Opioid Crisis, produced recommendations aimed at city and county officials. They include action steps on how to:

- 1. Leading in a crisis
- 2. Focusing on education and prevention
- 3. Expanding treatment
- 4. Reassessing public safety and law enforcement approaches

Several of the recommendations are accompanied by existing local practices from cities and counties. The report also includes recommendations for state and federal officials, who are pivotal partners in local efforts to combat opioid misuse, diversion, overdose and death.



To view the website accompanying the report, visit www.opioidaction.org.





Join us for a Webinar on Friday, December 9 at 11am to learn about the new VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool and our exciting online interface: MYACCESS.

Announcing the VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool

Recent federal money market reform has severely limited the availability of liquid investment vehicles that offer both <u>high returns</u> and <u>stable net asset value</u>. Fortunately, such funds may still be offered by governmental programs such as the Virginia Investment Pool (VIP). The VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool fills the void created by recent regulation with an AAAm-rated alternative whose goal is to offer the most competitive returns on liquid investments in Virginia.

VIP MYACCESS is now live

MYACCESS is a proprietary online interface offered exclusively for VIP participants. MYACCESS enables participants to make contributions, withdrawals, and transfers between the VIP Liquidity Pool, the VIP 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund, and their own checking or other local bank accounts. With MYACCESS, users may schedule important transactions in advance to avoid cash access emergencies. Reporting features available via MYACCESS include access to monthly statements, transaction confirmations, and details of past, present, and future dated transactions.

Who should attend the Webinar?

- Anyone interested in learning more about VIP's higher return, Stable NAV Liquidity Pool.
- Those who have considered joining VIP and want to learn how our expanded offerings and capabilities make VIP an even more valuable option for Treasurers and investment officers.
- Participants in the VIP 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund we will demonstrate how you can immediately begin taking advantage of MYACCESS and the new VIP Liquidity Pool.

The VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool and MYACCESS are two great new tools now available to Virginia Treasurers and investment officers. Join us to learn how to put them to work for you.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



VACo Committee Interest and Reappointment Form



VACo seeks county supervisors and executive staff interested in serving on steering and operational committees. The steering committees consider proposals from member counties for inclusion in VACo's legislative program.

They also provide direction to the VACo staff on policy issues arising from legislative and state agency studies. Steering committee members from VACo's 13 regions are selected to serve.

The operational and ad-hoc committees are responsible for helping direct the staff in the activities, programs and functions of VACo.

Attendance will be expected of committee members at the VACo Annual Meeting and other committee meetings during the year. VACo asks that committee members or the counties they represent assume responsibility for travel arrangements and costs associated with attending committee meetings. Appointments are made each year by the president of VACo. If you are interested in being considered for an appointment or wish to be reappointed, complete this form and return it by **December 31, 2016** to **VACo--Attention: Vicky Steinruck**, 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219-3627, **FAX 804.788.0083**, or scan and email to vsteinruck@vaco.org.

Please note: Reappointments are not automatic. County officials currently serving on committees must submit this form by December 31 to be reappointed to a committee in 2017.

| name | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| title | county |
| address | |
| phone em | nail |
| STEERING COMMITTEES | OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES |
| Economic Development and Planning | Budget and Finance |
| Education | |
| Environment and Agriculture | Conference Planning |
| Finance | Nominating |
| General Government | |
| Health and Human Resources | |
| Transportation | |



employment oportunities



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. The cost is \$50 per ad for non-VACo members. VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Valerie Russell.

PART TIME ANIMAL POUND
ATTENDANT | Sussex County | Posted
December 1

RIDESHARE COORDINATOR/OFFICE MANAGER | Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission | Posted November 29

SENIOR ACCOUNTING CLERK | **James City County** | Posted November 23

INSPECTOR-PUBLIC WORKS |

Frederick County | Posted November 23

TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER | Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization | Posted

November 22

PROGRAM SUPPORT SPECIALIST |

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission | Posted November 22

COASTAL ANALYST/PLANNER

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission | Posted November 22

SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS
MANAGER | Page County | Posted
November 22

DEPUTY TREASURER I AND OTHER
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES |

Gloucester County | Posted November 21

SENIOR FACILITIES HVAC
TECHNICIAN | James City County |
Posted November 18

BUILDING OFFICIAL | Sussex County | Posted November 18

<u>**OF CODE ADMINISTRATION**</u> | City of Alexandria | Posted November 16

AUDITOR-INTERNAL | Hanover County | Posted November 11

PLANNER III | Prince William County | Posted November 10

ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES | James City
County | Post November 10

FAMILY SERVICE SPECIALIST I/

II | New Kent County | Posted November 10

CLERK OF COUNCIL | Town of Leesburg | Posted November 10

TREASURER/ACCOUNTANT | Town of Dayton | Posted November 10

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF GENERAL
SERVICES | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 7

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR II

Accomack County | Posted November 7

DEPUTY SHERIFF | **James City County** | Posted November 7

MENTAL HEALTH OUTPATIENT
CLINICIAN, CHILD & ADOLESCENT
(LCSW OR LPC) | Hanover County
| Posted November 7

SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST/
BUDGET | Loudoun County | Posted
November 7

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ASSOCIATE/
DEPUTY CLERK TO BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS | Warren County
| Posted November 4

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE | **Shenandoah County** | Posted November 3

DEPUTY BUILDING OFFICIAL | **Warren County** | Posted November 3

COST RECOVERY MANAGER/DEPUTY
EMERGENCY COORDINATOR |
Warren County | Posted November 3

PUBLIC PROPERTY COORDINATOR | City of Winchester | Posted November

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER | Montgomery County | Posted

November 2

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR | COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR INFO | COMMUNITY BROCHURE | Grayson County | Posted November 2

INMATE RECORDS CLERK | Frederick County | Posted November 2

PRE-TRIAL SECRETARY | Frederick County | Posted November 2

COUNTY ATTORNEY | **Goochland County** | Posted October 31



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | **Potomac** & **Rappahannock Transportation** Commission | Posted October 31

JAIL SUPERINTENDENT | Hampton Roads Regional Jail | Posted October 31

CUSTOMER SERVICE
REPRESENTATIVE | James City
County | Posted October 28

BENEFIT PROGRAM SPECIALIST (PT) | James City County | Posted October 28

BENEFIT PROGRAM SPECIALIST | James City County | Posted October 28

ACCOUNTING CLERK | Pittsylvania County | Posted October 28

ACCOUNTING DIVISION DIRECTOR | Hanover County | Posted October 28

DEPUTY DIRECTOR/CSB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Arlington County | Posted October 27

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS | City of Charlottesville | Posted October 27

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR | City of Frederick, Maryland | Posted October 25

TRANSPORTATION/REGIONAL PLANNER | Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission | Posted October 25

REAL ESTATE APPRAISER | Fairfax County | Posted October 21

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Surry County | Posted October 18

CHIEF DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY (ATTORNEY IV) | Patrick County | Posted October 18

ACCOUNTANT | Amherst County | Posted October 18 TREASURER | Town of Dayton | Posted October 18

SENIOR BENEFIT PROGRAM
SPECIALIST | James City County |
Posted October 17

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT | James City County | Posted October 17

FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST I/II | James City County | Posted October 17

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER I/II | James City County |
Posted October 17

ACCOUNTANT | James City County | Posted October 17

SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS
MANAGER | Page County | Posted
October 17

FINANCE OFFICER/TOWN
TREASURER | Town of Gordonsville |
Posted October 14

DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER FOR PUBLIC WORKS | **Town of Amherst** |
Posted October 14

REVENUE MANAGER | **Albemarle County** | Posted October 13

DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES | **Campbell County** | Posted October 13

SKILLED TRADES TECHNICIAN | **Fauguier County** | Posted October 13

<u>& GROUNDS DEPART</u> | Pittsylvania <u>County</u> | Posted October 12

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES | **Fauquier County** | Posted October 12

CD ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR | VA DEPT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | Posted October 12

PLANNING I (SITE PLAN/ZONING) | City of Manassas | Posted October 12 FIELD REPRESENTATIVE II | City of Newport News | Posted October 12

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE 1 | City of Newport News |
Posted October 12

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CODES
COMPLIANCE OFFICER (PT OR FT) |
Middlesex County | Posted October 12

IT SYSTEMS ENGINEER-SERVER
SUPPORT | Hanover County | Posted
October 12

CLINICAL ASSISTANT | **James City County** | Posted October 12

WASTEWATER FACILITIES
MECHANIC | James City County |
Posted October 12

SENIOR FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST | James City County |
Posted October 12

TRANSPORTATION PLANNER | Hampton Rds Transportation Planning Organization | Posted October 7

COMMUNITY PLANNER | Hampton Rds Transportation Planning Organization | Posted October 7

LIBRARY DIRECTOR | **Montgomery County** | Posted October 6

DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS &
GENERAL REGISTRAR | Montgomery
County | Posted October 6

CERTIFIED MEDICATION ASSISTANT (CMA) | **Fredrick County** | Posted October 6

IT SYSTEMS ENGINEER | Fluvanna County | Posted October 5

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR | King William County | Posted October 5

MAINTENANCE MANAGER | Botetourt County | Posted October 3



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Mary W. Biggs, Montgomery County

President-Elect: William A. Robertson, Jr., Prince George County 1st Vice President: Sherrin C. Alsop, King and Queen County 2nd Vice President: Robert Thomas, Jr., Stafford County Secretary Treasurer: Donald L. Hart, Jr., Accomack County Immediate Past President: Judy S. Lyttle, Surry County

STAFF

Executive Director: Dean A. Lynch, CAE General Counsel: Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE

Director of Administration and Finance: Vicky D. Steinruck, CPA

Director of Association Services: Amy V. Sales, CMP

Director of Communications: A. Gage Harter **Director of Government Affairs:** Katie Boyle

Director of Local Government Policy: Joe Lerch, AICP

Director of Member Services: Carol I. Cameron **Director of Policy Development**: Larry J. Land, CAE

Director of Technical Services: John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA

Administrative Assistant: Valerie Russell

VACORP: Chris Carey, Administrator, 888.822.6772

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

1207 East Main Street Suite 300 Richmond, VA 23219-3627 Phone: 804.788.6652 Fax: 804.788.0083 www.vaco.org

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

Editor: A. Gage Harter 804.343.2502