



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

December 2007

December 21, 2007

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

PHONE: 501-4386

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces the appointment of John A. Vithoukaskas as director of Finance, effective Jan. 5.

Vithoukaskas, who has been serving as interim director, will succeed former director Reta R. Busher, who resigned from the position in September.



As director, Vithoukaskas will oversee the operations of a department with 166 full-time employees and a current budget of \$12.4 million. The Department of Finance, which is responsible for the preparation and administration of Henrico's budget and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, is comprised of the divisions of real estate assessment, treasury, management and budget, accounting, and revenue.

As Finance director, Vithoukaskas also will serve as the county's treasurer and commissioner of revenue, as required by Virginia law.

A Henrico employee since 1997, Vithoukaskas previously worked as a budget analyst and as budget director before being named director. He received a bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's degree from the University of North Carolina.

December 21, 2007

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

PHONE: 501-4386

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces the appointment of Randall R. Silber as deputy county manager for Community Development, effective Jan. 5.

Silber, who currently serves as Planning director, will succeed Harvey L. Hinson, who is retiring from the position on Dec. 31.



As deputy county manager, Silber will oversee the departments of Planning, Building Inspections, Real Property, Community Revitalization and The Permit Center -- agencies totaling 154 full-time employees and a combined budget of approximately \$12.2 million. Duties of these departments include the inspection of residential and commercial structures and issuance of building permits; zoning and long-range planning for land-use activities; coordination of enhancement programs for existing residential, commercial and industrial areas and implementation of the Enterprise Zone program; and the acquisition and sale of real estate used by county government and schools. He also will serve as liaison over the Henrico Economic Development Authority.

Silber, a Henrico employee since 1985, worked as a county planner and principal planner before being named assistant director of Planning in 1996. He has served as the agency's director since 2004. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado.

December 19, 2007

CONTACT: Megan Brown, Executive Coordinator, Keep Henrico Beautiful

PHONE: 501-4502

The Keep Henrico Beautiful Committee will provide Christmas tree recycling for Henrico residents at two county sites from Wednesday, Dec. 26 through Wednesday, Jan. 9.

Residents may bring their trees to the lower parking lot at the Henrico Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road, and to the front parking lot at the Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road. This free service is offered for residential use, not for commercial tree lots.

Residents may also recycle trees free of charge at the public use areas at Springfield Road Landfill, near Interstate 295 and Nuckols Road, and at Charles City Road Landfill, 2075 Charles City Road. County staff will help residents dispose of trees from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily through Thursday, Jan. 31.

All ornaments, tinsel, screws, nuts and bolts and other items should be removed before trees are brought to the recycling locations.

For more information, contact Keep Henrico Beautiful at 501-4502.

December 18, 2007

CONTACT: Valerie Liggins Law, Prevention Specialist, Henrico Area Mental Health & Retardation Services

PHONE: 727-8555

Henrico Area Mental Health Prevention Services and the Too Smart to Start Coalition recently honored several individuals and organizations for their efforts benefiting Henrico youth at the first Community Champions recognition ceremony.

Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Mental Health, the ceremony saluted both volunteers and professionals for their work to build a stronger, healthier community for young people through a variety of prevention and education programs. Recognized for their efforts were:

- * Maureen Early, former director of the Regional Drug Free Alliance and advocate of regional collaboration and prevention strategies;
- * Michelle Hairston, former principal of Laburnum Elementary School and advocate of the Families and Schools Together Program;

- * Tamara Childress, Elks Lodge member, former Henrico Public Schools employee and volunteer for Too Smart to Start and other prevention initiatives;
 - * Cindy Clark/Ukrop's Super Markets, coordinated workshops and supplies for the Teen Job Symposium, and offered employment opportunities for youth;
 - * Billie Tebbens, Henrico Police, Too Smart to Start volunteer and supporter;
 - * Dreamel Henry, Too Smart to Start volunteer and supporter;
 - * Britney Walton, Too Smart to Start volunteer and supporter;
 - * Jacqueline Poke, director of community affairs for Mulholland Group, coordinates life-enhancement programs for more than 1,000 county residents;
 - * Anne Carson, leadership adviser for parent-teacher associations throughout the county and coordinator of the County Council Scholarship Fund;
 - * Sgt. Kenneth Ragland, director of the Henrico Police Athletic League, which has provided athletic activities for more than 300 youth since forming in May;
 - * Officer Tim Snyder, Henrico Police, community officer for Essex Village where he started the Neighborhood Network computer training center for residents;
 - * Makon Fletcher, founder of East End Communities United for Change and East End Youth Basketball League;
 - * Lori Ferguson, founder of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, which serves more than 300 young people;
 - * Comcast, supporter of Too Smart to Start, Teen Job Symposium and other youth and community programs;
 - * Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond, hosts and supports annual Outstanding Youth Volunteer Awards ceremony; and
 - * Laurel Athletic Association football coaches, serve as mentors as well as coaches, helping 33 of 36 players in the program become honor roll students.
-

December 14, 2007

CONTACT: Maureen Goode, Employment Services Supervisor, Social Services

PHONE: 501-5828

Eligible taxpayers can receive free help preparing their income taxes next year -- and potentially increase their refunds by claiming the earned income tax credit -- at sites hosted by Henrico County and the Greater Richmond Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition (GREITCC).

The earned income tax credit is a benefit for qualifying workers who file a tax return and meet income requirements -- generally, families with children earning less than \$37,783 and individuals earning less than \$12,590. The benefit could increase a federal refund by as much as \$4,716 for families and \$428 for individuals.

Trained volunteers will help eligible taxpayers prepare and file returns at coalition sites throughout the metropolitan area, including two in Henrico:

- * Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive; from Jan. 29 to April 15, 4-8 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday;
- * Fairfield Area Library, 1001 N. Laburnum Ave.; from Feb. 9 to March 8, 6-8 p.m. each Thursday and 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. each Saturday.

The GREITCC works to increase public awareness of the earned income tax credit and to offer qualifying taxpayers a free alternative to paid tax-preparation services. Last year, coalition volunteers helped area residents file 1,031 federal returns, generating \$523,786 in earned income tax credit funds and a total of \$1,194,039 in federal returns. The free service saved filers an estimated \$145,000 in preparation fees.

For more information, contact the GREITCC at 649-0330 or call the United Way information service at 211.

December 12, 2007

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

PHONE: 501-4318

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors will not hold a second meeting in December. The board will reconvene on Tuesday, Jan. 8.

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors regularly meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Government Center Board Room, located at 4301 E. Parham Road.

Call 501-4318 for more information.

December 7, 2007

CONTACT: Maureen Goode, Employment Services Supervisor, Social Services

PHONE: 501-5828

Henrico County and the Greater Richmond Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition (GREITCC) are seeking volunteers for a special program that provides free income tax-preparation assistance for qualifying residents.

Volunteers are needed to help eligible families and individuals prepare and file income tax returns or greet and screen taxpayers at GREITCC sites throughout the metropolitan area, including two in Henrico:

- Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive; from Jan. 29 to April 15, 4-8 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday;
- Fairfield Area Library, 1001 N. Laburnum Ave.; from Feb. 9 to March 8, 6-8 p.m. each Thursday and 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. each Saturday.

Previous experience with income tax preparation is not required, and hours are flexible. Volunteers can attend an IRS-sponsored training session and must complete a certification exam before assisting with income tax preparation. Several training sessions will be offered in January. To register or to obtain additional information, contact Maureen Goode with Henrico Social Services at 501-5828 or e-mail goo03@co.henrico.va.us.

The GREITCC works to increase public awareness of the earned income tax credit -- a benefit for qualifying workers that can increase a federal refund by as much as \$4,716 for families -- and to offer eligible taxpayers a free alternative to paid tax-preparation services. Last year, coalition volunteers helped area residents file more than 1,030 federal returns and receive nearly \$525,000 in earned income tax credit funds.

[Return to Public Relations & Media Services Page](#)

[Past News Releases](#)