



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

June 2011

June 29, 2011

CONTACT: Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., County Manager
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Henrico names Winstead to head General Services

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces the appointment of Christopher L. Winstead, P.E. as director of the Department of General Services, effective July 16.



Winstead, who currently serves as assistant director of Henrico's Department of Public Works, is succeeding Paul N. Proto, who retired recently after 20 years in the position.

As director of General Services, Winstead will lead an agency that provides a broad range of services in support of general government and Henrico County Public Schools operations. The department's responsibilities include the maintenance and management of buildings, grounds and the county's automotive fleet; administration of capital projects; centralized procurement and distribution of materials and services for all county agencies; and risk management. General Services also is responsible for the county's radio communications infrastructure, including the Emergency E-911 system for Public Safety.

"General Services provides myriad services that enable every other county agency to function and succeed," Winstead said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the outstanding people in this department. Paul Proto set a high bar of excellence, and I want to honor and continue that legacy."

Winstead, a licensed professional engineer, worked 17 years with the Virginia Department of Transportation before joining Henrico's staff in June 2009. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech University.

June 22, 2011

CONTACT: Linda Leigh, Executive Assistant, Board of Supervisors
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Fairfield constituent meeting June 29 to examine Alzheimer's disease, support services

The next constituent meeting of Henrico County Board of Supervisors Chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank Thornton will examine Alzheimer's disease and services available locally to help its victims and their families. The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 29 at North Park Branch Library, 8508 Franconia Road.

Sherry Peterson, CEO of the Greater Richmond Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and Deputy County Manager George T. Drumwright, Jr. will discuss the disease and other dementia-related ailments and their impact on the victim, caregivers and the community. They also will provide information about support services available in Henrico and the metropolitan area. The 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.

June 21, 2011

CONTACT: Charles Gibbens, Automotive Fleet Manager, General Services
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Henrico mechanic to represent Virginia at national competition

Henrico County's Jason Sharpe recently outperformed mechanics from around the state to capture first place in the Virginia's Best School Bus Technician Competition, held by the Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) in Spotsylvania County. Now he's making travel plans for San Antonio, Texas where he will represent the commonwealth at the national School Bus Technician's Training and Skills Competition in September.

Sharpe, who was recognized by Henrico's Board of Supervisors at its June 14 meeting, has worked as an automotive equipment mechanic at the county's Central Automotive Maintenance facility since 2008.

"Jason is truly gifted and dedicated to his work and is a popular member of our staff," said Automotive Fleet Manager Charles Gibbens. "He will do a great job representing Henrico County and Virginia in San Antonio."

The VAPT competition consisted of a written exam as well as a timed hands-on segment that tested contestants' problem-solving skills under pressure. Participants were presented with several buses requiring repair and then were evaluated on their diagnostic ability, speed and application of safety measures. Sharpe said he diagnosed repairs ranging from drivability issues to electrical malfunctions.



"There are times when you need to work quickly, such as when a bus is broken down on the road," he said. "You pay attention to everything under the bus — that's when experience comes into play."

Sharpe, 28, holds an associate's degree in automobile science from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. He said he grew up around people working on engines and vehicles.

"School buses are very sophisticated, especially in terms of electronics," he said. "There is something new every day, and that keeps things interesting."

Sharpe said the upcoming national competition will present an additional challenge — the flight to San Antonio will be his first trip aboard an airplane.

"There's a little anxiety but I'm really looking forward to it," he said.

June 17, 2011

CONTACT: Jeannie Murray, Special Events Coordinator , Henrico Recreation and Parks
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Henrico to offer range of patriotic entertainment at 'Old-Fashioned Fourth'

Henrico County's 400th anniversary commemoration will continue Monday, July 4 when it turns back the clock to celebrate Independence Day at the "Old-Fashioned Fourth of July." The free event is set for 1-5 p.m. at Meadow Farm Museum at Crump Park, 3400 Mountain Road.

Henrico residents have been marking America's independence since August 1776, when hundreds were on hand to hear the Declaration of Independence read aloud at the county courthouse. Old-Fashioned Fourth of July will give visitors a sense of that time with patriotic performances by Living History Associates, including a historical color guard, drum and fife music and a musket salute. The celebration will feature juggler Jonathan Austin, hot air balloon rides, storytelling and a watermelon feast.

Visitors also can enjoy a variety of modern entertainment such as sky-diving shows featuring Uncle Sam and live music by the Commonwealth Bluegrass Band, Julius Pittman and the Revival, and more. Kids' activities include face painting, arts and crafts, contests and games, a petting zoo, pig races and pony rides. Meadow Farm Museum and exhibits at the Orientation Center will be open as well. Concessions will be available for purchase.

The Old-Fashioned Fourth of July is part of Henrico County's year-long celebration of its 400th anniversary. For more information, call (804) 501-1611 or visit www.henrico400th.com.

June 14, 2011

CONTACT: Veta Herbaugh, Executive Assistant, Board of Supervisors

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Varina town meeting June 20 to examine reservoir project, education foundation

The next town meeting of Varina District Supervisor Jim Donati will examine the efforts of the Henrico Education Foundation and will provide information about the Cobbs Creek Water Supply Reservoir project. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, June 20 at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road.

Executive Director Susan Stanley will be on hand to discuss the work of the Henrico Education Foundation, a private, nonprofit organization that provides supplemental funding such as instructional grants and learning support for specific initiatives in Henrico County Public Schools.

The meeting also will highlight the 1,100-acre Cobbs Creek Water Supply Reservoir project, a regional cooperation effort designed to ensure a long-term water supply. A question-and-answer period will follow.

Varina town meetings are open to the public. Call 501-4208 for more information.

June 1, 2011

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

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Henrico officials appointed to VML committees

The Virginia Municipal League (VML) has named 11 Henrico County board members and key officials to serve on its policy, steering and other committees for 2011.

Members of the Board of Supervisors received the following appointments:

Board Chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton, chairman, human development and education policy committee; chairman, human development and education steering committee; legislative committee;

Board Vice Chairman and Brookland District Supervisor Richard W. Glover, community and economic development policy and steering committees;

Three Chopt District Supervisor David A. Kaechele, finance policy and steering committees;

Tuckahoe District Supervisor Patricia S. O'Bannon, environmental quality policy committee; executive committee; and

Varina District Supervisor James B. Donati, Jr., transportation policy committee.

Several county officials also received appointments:

County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., general laws policy committee;

Deputy County Manager for Administration Leon T. Johnson, Ph.D., finance policy committee;

Deputy County Manager for Community Development Randall R. Silber, community and economic development policy committee;

Deputy County Manager for Community Operations Robert K. Pinkerton, P.E., environmental quality policy committee;

Deputy County Manager for Community Services George T. Drumwright, Jr., human development and education policy committee; and

Director of Public Works Timothy A. Foster, P.E., transportation policy committee.

VML is a statewide association of city, town and county governments that assists local governments through legislative advocacy, research, education and other services. The league's policy and steering committees make policy recommendations to its legislative committee, which develops VML's annual legislative program. Appointments are made by the league's executive committee, which also provides guidance to VML staff and serves as the organization's governing body.

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