

# VIRGINIA

TOWN & COUNTRY

The magazine of the  
Virginia Municipal League

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## So long, Mike

Amyx steps down after 33 years  
as VML executive director

**Also inside:**  
VML Annual Conference  
photographs from Arlington



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A man wearing safety glasses and a brown work vest over a light-colored shirt is focused on cutting a large sheet of plywood on a table saw. He is outdoors in a residential setting, with a two-story house featuring white siding and black shutters in the background. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

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The magazine of the Virginia Municipal League



**About the cover**

*Mike Amyx will step down as executive director of the Virginia Municipal League Dec. 31 after leading the association for the past 33 years. Photograph by David Parsons.*

**Features**

7

**Flynn receives coveted LGA service award**

VML General Counsel Mark Flynn received the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia’s prestigious Edward J. Finnegan Award for Distinguished Service at the association’s annual conference in Norfolk on Oct. 25.

8

**So long, Mike: Retiring executive director reflects on 33-year tenure at VML**

Mike Amyx has spent the past 33 years working on behalf of local government interests as executive director of the Virginia Municipal League. During that time, the affable Amyx has witnessed a number of changes. As he prepares to retire at the end of the month, VML’s fifth executive director reflects on his time at the league.



12-21

**Looking back: VML 2013 Annual Conference**

The 2013 Virginia Municipal League Annual Conference in Arlington was a success thanks to the efforts of the host county and an abundance of informative speakers, sponsors and exhibitors. More than 500 attendees gathered for the three-day event held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. *Virginia Town & City* takes a look back at the conference in eight pages of photographs.

**Departments**

**PEOPLE** ..... 4  
**NEWS & NOTES** ..... 6  
**THE CORPORATE PAGE** ..... 22  
**MARKETPLACE** ..... 24  
**PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY** ..... 27

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**Cashwell named Culpeper manager**



- Cashwell -

**Dewey P. Cashwell Jr.** was selected as town manager of Culpeper effective Dec. 1.

Cashwell, 64, has served in public administration and local government for more than 30 years, most recently as city manager in Bristol, Va. A native of Laurinburg, N.C., Cashwell has substantial experience in economic development and tourism.

**Haley selected Hopewell manager**



- Haley -

Hopewell has named **Mark Haley** as city manager.

Haley, who was serving as acting city manager, served as director of the Hopewell Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility before the resignation of former city manager **Ed Daley** earlier this year.

**Leesburg's Wells to retire in '14**

Leesburg Town Manager **John Wells** will retire effective Oct. 3, 2014.

Wells has served as town manager for nine years. Before his tenure in Leesburg, Wells worked for Loudoun County beginning in 1982 as a budget analyst, budget director and deputy county administrator. Before his time in Loudoun, he worked in California and Pennsylvania.

**Alexandria fills information post**

**Kevin D. Edwards** was named chief information officer and director of the Department of Information Technology Services in Alexandria effective Dec. 1.

Edwards brings more than 20 years of experience to the city. Most recently, he served as director of com-

prehensive justice information systems for Fulton County, GA. Before that, he served as senior information technology project manager and IT lead for the City of Bellevue, WA.

**Cole Hendrix receives citizenship award**



- Hendrix -

The Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce honored former Charlottesville City Manager **Cole Hendrix** recently with the organization's 2013 Paul Goodloe McIntire citizenship award.

Hendrix, 79, received the award Nov. 14 at the chamber's 100th annual dinner at the Boar's Head Inn Pavilion. He spent 25 years as the city's top administrator during the creation of the Downtown Mall, the construction and funding of the Omni Charlottesville Hotel and the creation of the Rivanna Water and Sewer and Rivanna Solid Waste authorities, according to *The Daily Progress* newspaper in Charlottesville.

In addition to his service as city manager, Hendrix has served as interim town manager in Gordonsville and Orange, interim manager of both Rivanna authorities, associate vice president for community relations at the UVa Health Sciences Center and chairman of the Charlottesville Regional Airport Board of Directors, according to the newspaper.

The award honors Paul McIntire, a successful stock broker, investor and philanthropist who gave away most of his fortune, providing land for city parks and facilities and creating a business school along with music and arts programs at the University of Virginia.

**Norfolk names Howell to administrative post**

**Joe Howell** has been hired as assistant to the city manager in Norfolk.

Howell's duties include serving as the legislative and judicial staff liaison, managing the City Council



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- Howell -

docket process, and scheduling, organizing and planning briefings for the city manager. Early in his career, Howell worked for Norfolk as a management analyst then assistant to Mayor Paul Fraim before accepting a position with another city.

### Denslow named key McAuliffe aide

**Suzette Denslow**, chief of staff to Richmond Mayor Dwight C. Jones since his election in 2009, was named deputy chief of staff for Gov.-Elect Terry McAuliffe.

Prior to the position with Jones, Denslow served as legislative director for two governors – Mark Warner and Tim

Kaine. In addition, she served as the deputy secretary of education for Gov. L. Douglas Wilder. Denslow also has served as deputy director of the Virginia Municipal League and as director of the Tennessee Municipal League.

*Have news about personnel in your city, town or county government? Send information to David Parsons via e-mail at [dparsons@vml.org](mailto:dparsons@vml.org).*

NEWS & NOTES

### Falls Church cited for green power accomplishments

The City of Falls Church has been recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership as a Green Power Community, the first in Virginia to earn that designation.

The Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to buy green power as a way to reduce the environmental effects associated with purchased electricity use. To be designated as a Green Power Community, residents, businesses and the local government must purchase or produce green power in amounts that meet EPA minimum purchase requirements set by community electricity usage.

The city is using more than 4 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power annually, which is enough green power to meet the 3 percent requirement set by EPA. Green power is electricity that is generated from environmentally preferable renewable resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, biomass, and low-impact hydro. Purchases of green power help accelerate the development of new renewable energy capacity nationwide and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector.

According to EPA, the city's green power purchase of more than 4 million kWh is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of nearly 700 passenger vehicles per year, or the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the

electricity use of nearly 500 average American homes annually.

EPA's Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power as a way to reduce the environmental effects associated with electricity use. The partnership has more than 1,500 partner organizations voluntarily purchasing billions of kilowatt-hours of green power annually. For additional information, visit [www.epa.gov/GreenPower](http://www.epa.gov/GreenPower).

### Falls Church OKs sale of water system

The referendum to sell the City of Falls Church's water system to Fairfax Water in exchange for \$40 million dollars and a boundary adjustment to bring several parcels from Fairfax County into the city passed by a wide margin Nov. 5.

As a result, all Falls Church water customers will become Fairfax Water customers on or about Jan. 3. All Falls Church water system assets will convey to Fairfax Water at that time, creating a single water system with three separate water treatment facilities and a fully integrated water transmission and distribution system. Rates charged by Fairfax Water to customers of the city water system will be lowered to the Fairfax Water rate within 2 years.

### ELSEWHERE ...

**Manassas** celebrated the completion of its Main Street streetscapes project in the Old Town area of the

city on Nov. 19 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The improvements, which included widening sidewalks and substantial landscaping, are part of an effort to attract more visitors and enhance their experience in the city. Design and construction costs totaled \$1.075 million. ... The Mary Riley Styles Public Library in the **City of Falls Church** has won a four-star rating (out of five) from the *Library Journal*, recognizing it as one of the top libraries in the country. This is the sixth consecutive year the library has received a star rating. The library is one of only 263 in the country to receive ratings in an award system similar to that of the *Michelin Guide*.

The **Town of Vienna** received a 2.24 percent interest rate on the recent sale of \$9.56 million in Series 2014 General Obligation Public Improvement Bonds. Included in the bond issue was the refunding of 2002 General Obligation Bonds and Water & Sewer long-term notes payable that will save the town in excess of \$460,000. ... **Albemarle County** has received an AAA credit rating from Fitch Ratings, its first assignment from the firm, and reaffirmation of triple-A ratings from both Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services. Nationally, only 39 counties are rated AAA by all three agencies.

The **Town of Front Royal** has developed a brochure designed to help new residents and commercial customers obtain utility service from the town. Check it out on the town

website at [www.frontroyalva.com](http://www.frontroyalva.com). ... The **City of Hampton** has renamed its public safety building in honor of retired chief **Pat G. Minetti**, who attended a ceremony Nov. 6 marking the event. Minetti joined the Police Division in 1955 and spent 45 years in uniform – including 29 years as chief

– before retiring in 2000.

The **Arlington County Police Department** has expanded its social media presence by joining Twitter. Follow the department at @ArlingtonVaPD. ... The **Norfolk Department of Recreation, Parks & Open Space** celebrated the opening

of the new Southside Aquatic Center on Oct. 26.

*Have news about your city, town or county government? Send information to David Parsons via e-mail at [dparsons@vml.org](mailto:dparsons@vml.org)*

## Flynn receives coveted LGA service award

**V**ML GENERAL COUNSEL Mark Flynn received the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia's prestigious Edward J. Finnegan Award for Distinguished Service at the association's annual conference in Norfolk on Oct. 25. The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to local government law or LGA. Flynn has done both during his legal career.

"I'm deeply honored to have received this award," Flynn said. "LGA plays a critically important role in helping local governments provide services to citizens

counsel for the Winchester Airport Authority, which he has been doing since 1987. Flynn moved to Richmond in 1996, and worked on the local government team at the law firm of Sands Anderson, advising five counties and numerous other local entities.

In 1998 Flynn became director of legal services for the Virginia Municipal League, where he has served as a resource for attorneys representing VML's member localities. The service is of particular importance to the many private practitioners who are part-time counsel to VML's many small town member localities. Flynn also is a key member of VML's legislative team. With the retirement of Howard Dobbins in 2012, Flynn assumed the duties and title of general counsel to VML.

Along the way, Flynn has served as a board member, treasurer and vice president of LGA, and had a term as president in 1991-1992. He has been an active participant in LGA committees, a frequent poster of helpful responses on the listserv, and a presenter at numerous conferences in recent years, including the annual spring legislative update. Flynn has also been a member of the State Bar's Local Government Section since its founding, and served as section president in 2003.

In his 15 years at VML, Flynn has steadily developed an excellent reputation among General Assembly members and lobbyists as an effective spokesman and negotiator for local governments. There is a long list of legislation on tax issues, utility billing and collections, land use and zoning authority and many other topics that reflects the benefits of Flynn's efforts.

In particular, Flynn's persistent efforts on legislation dealing with dilapidated structures, property maintenance and blight prevention have gained him recognition from both legislators and the executive branch of state government. As a result, he was asked to serve on the Governor's Housing Policy Task Force, and is currently serving as a member of the Virginia Housing Commission. 



**Flynn (l) with the family of the late Edward J. Finnegan following the LGA banquet in Norfolk.**

across Virginia. I'm humbled for being recognized as playing a significant role in that effort."

Since 1985, Flynn has devoted himself to serving Virginia local governments. Working for a law firm in Tazewell, he served as county attorney for that county and all of its agencies. In 1986 he moved to Winchester, where he was full-time attorney for both the city and its school system for 11 years. He continues to serve as

# So long, Mike

**T**HIRTY-THREE YEARS AFTER he took the post, Mike Amyx will step down as executive director of the Virginia Municipal League Dec. 31.

Amyx, 71, came to VML from the Kentucky League of Municipalities, where he served as executive director from 1975-1980. Prior to leading the Kentucky league, he served as a staff member for three years at the League of Kansas Municipalities; as the city manager of New Hope, Minn., a second tier suburb of Minneapolis; as assistant city manager of Des Moines, Iowa; and as assistant manager of Glenview, Illinois, a north shore suburb of Chicago.

A native Kansan, Amyx was recruited to the league in that state in 1972 by the executive director, who was familiar with his background.

“Otherwise,” he said, “I probably would have stayed in the city manager business.”

After 33 years leading the VML staff, Amyx reflected on his career in Virginia recently. Here are a few of his thoughts on a handful of subjects as he prepares to exit.

## Upon arrival

“When I came here in January of 1980 we were housed in the Ironfronts building on Main Street in downtown Richmond. We had a staff of 13 members as we do today.

“The front and center legislative issue had to do with the funding of the recently-passed House Bill 599, which was the comprehensive legislation to compensate localities – cities

primarily – for surrendering their annexation rights. The legislation had been passed in 1979 and this was the first session that it was actually going to be funded and there were some localities that were a bit nervous about

stop by the office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and have coffee with the staff and then go on up to the law office that he shared with Howard Dobbins (VML’s general counsel) on the fourth floor. So it was really fun to get to know him. Harold

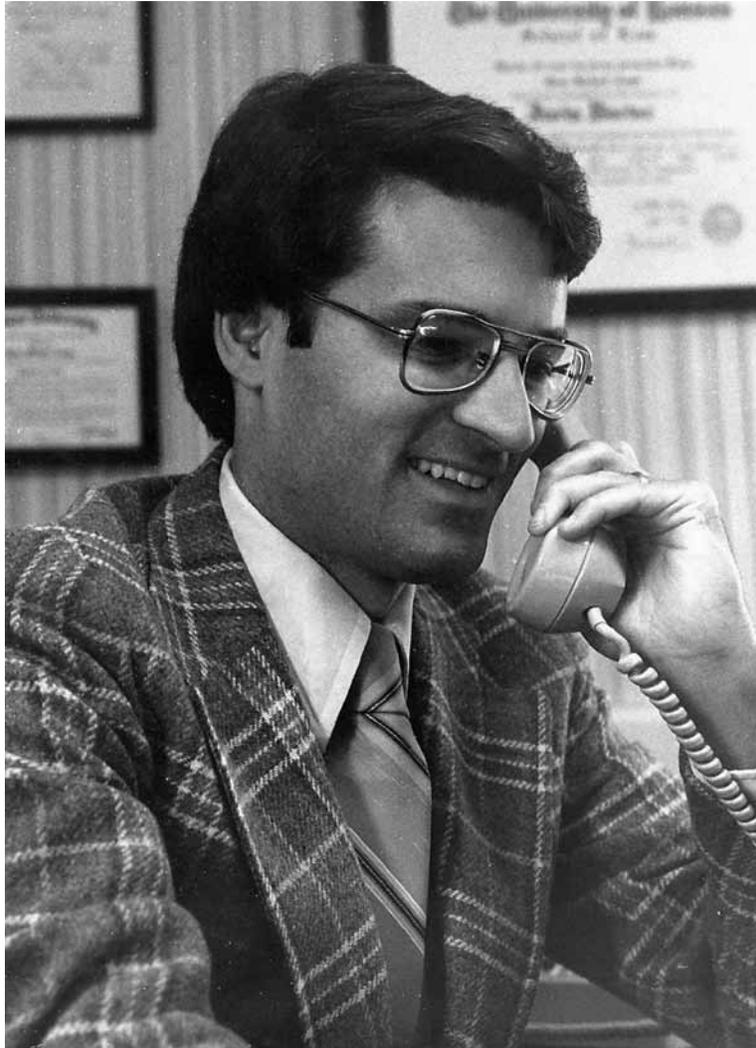
Baumes, who was the league’s first official full-time director, had retired in 1973, I believe, and I would hear from him occasionally, too.

“I had some very interesting perspectives from both gentlemen on what was important to the league and what had gone on in the early years of the league as well. So that was kind of a neat bonus – to have both of them alive and active.”

## Founding of VML Insurance Programs

“Insurance had been under study by VML when I got here. There was actually a standing committee that had been evaluating whether group insurance pools were a viable option for the league. The committee had decided that the first priority should be a health insurance pool.

“I think one of the advantages that I had in interviewing for the job in the fall of 1979 was that I had started the third workers’ compensation program in the country among state municipal leagues while in Kentucky. ... Because of my limited knowledge of insurance, rather than start a health insurance pool, which was a tough business to get into with Blue Cross-Blue Shield so dominant, we started a workers’ comp pool and had it planned for launch on



**Amyx upon his arrival at VML in 1980**

whether that funding was actually going to get started as promised, but it did in fact happen.”

## The early years

“In the beginning, one of the interesting experiences was that each morning the day started with coffee in the conference room. Morton Wallerstein – then 92 years old and the founding director of VML – would

# Retiring executive director reflects on 33-year tenure at VML

April 1 (1980).

“Howard Dobbins drafted and got the legislation through the 1980 General Assembly session. And he also was a big hand to the state in drafting the regulations to monitor and govern insurance pools.

“Unfortunately, as we tried to meet the April 1 deadline, we could not meet the minimum premium amount that Howard and the rule drafters had set. As I recall, it was something like \$700,000. We fell just short of that and had to call the folks who had committed to the program and let them know that we needed several more months. “Finally, on July 1, we met and easily passed the minimum premium amount. Interestingly, on the last day of our first year, we had a lineman fall off a pole in Martinsville and suffer a devastating injury. He became a quadriplegic. That was a huge loss on a small premium base, but we were able to absorb that – we had reinsurance, of course – and the program was able to move forward.”

## VML Insurance expansion

“When we got to the mid-1980s, there was a huge problem in the insurance industry and local governments were finding that they were being canceled – particularly for liability coverage. We hurriedly offered a property and liability pool and that became instantly popular for us. We attracted a lot of members in the first year simply because – in the parlance of the insurance industry – local governments

were going bare. They just weren’t able to find any type of coverage at any sort of price. Those market conditions gave the program an initial boost that helped getting it going.”



Amyx as he prepares to depart in 2013

## Finding a home

“Another real landmark for the league, I think, is that when I came here in 1980 there was a small building fund set aside and an ongoing objective of the Executive Committee to find a permanent headquarters. I did a lot of looking in the early eighties and discovered that there were either mostly really large buildings – four or five times greater than the space we

needed, which would have meant being a landlord – or on occasion a really small building that probably would not have accommodated our needs.

“We were fortunate in 1985 to come across this building (13 E. Franklin St.). We assumed an existing mortgage which was retired in 2005. With our 4,700 square feet, it’s made for very comfortable offices well located to the capitol with several conference rooms to accommodate meetings. It also stabilized our budget by putting an end to annual rent increases.”

## Other successes

“Another very successful service program – and we’ve tried to be very choosy about what service programs we offer – has been VML-VACo Finance, now in its eleventh year of operation. It’s issued more than \$700 million in bonds and started the most successful OPEB program in the country with current assets of about \$550 million after six years of operation. It’s providing short-term loans that have become another nice option for

local governments. By any measure, it’s been hugely successful.

“Another area that comes to mind is our affiliates. We have, for example, more than a thousand members in the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association. We co-staff with the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia the Virginia Local Government Management Association. And we have for many years staffed the Municipal

Electric Power Association of Virginia, the Virginia Energy Purchasing Government Association and the Southern Municipal Conference, which provide services for the 13 state league members who are a part of that group.”

## Virginia local government and VML

“I’d like to pay a tribute to the league as an institution. My goodness, in its 108<sup>th</sup> year it’s really stood the test of time. We’ve had thousands of elected and appointed officials come through the league – to be active in the league and count on the league for direct services.

“The league’s mission on Day One – and it certainly remains this 108 years later – is that we do everything we can to ensure that elected and appointed officials have the tools to successfully deliver needed municipal services to their residents. Whether it’s the annual conference, our magazine, our insurance programs or one of our training programs, everything tries to ensure that we have as well-trained and as well-informed a membership as we possibly can.

“The general reputation of Virginia local governments – whether it’s the number of Triple-A bond ratings or their success in national award programs – seems to suggest that they are operated at a high professional level under girded by the city manager form of government. But again, our mission remains the same: We want to make sure that every local official has all of the tools possible to make good decisions, and ensure that local tax dollars are spent well and efficiently to provide needed municipal services.

“One top service program has to be our legislative lobbying effort. That really is in many respects a protective effort to ensure that the statutory tools that have been put in place in state law are protected and in some cases enhanced. With each passing session we have all sorts of special interests that would love to do-in land use regulation or zoning requirements and things of that nature – to weaken our tools to really provide effective municipal services.

“So ... looking back all these years



**Amyx with (l-r) VML’s three longest serving employees – Joni Terry, Mary Jo Fields and Paulette Alexander. The four have 132 combined years of service with VML.**

– and I’ve been involved for nearly a third of the league’s history – we really have served that mission well and I’m sure that the league in another 108 years will be relied upon as it is today by our members.”

## League service

“We’ve been blessed over the years with some outstanding local officials that have come up through the leadership ranks of VML. I’ve worked with 34 presidents and we’ve had a really good track record of outstanding executive committee members.

“We’re a little bit unusual in that most state municipal leagues have a very large board of directors – 40 to 50 is about average – and they only serve maybe a term or two. In our instance, once a local official comes on the Executive Committee they often serve seven-to-nine years and become president. And so we have a chance to really expose them to issues and for them to be involved in policy changes and directives that we need to have for the league to succeed.”

## League staff

“And finally – kind of the third leg of the stool – is no doubt the quality of our current and former staff. We are unique among state leagues, I think, in that our average tenure of service is so long. Five of our current 13-member staff have their names on a plaque in the National League of Cities office recognizing that they have served 25 years or more. I don’t think there are many leagues that could make that claim. I’ve had a chance to be exposed to a lot of league staffs, and I think that we’ve been blessed by the quality of ours over the years. We’ve developed an abundance of institutional knowledge that I think would go unchallenged nationally if you compare us to other leagues and other associations.”

## Trends

“From a legislative issues standpoint, it’s intriguing how the core issues always seem to remain the same. As I look back, it always seems to be about the state-local relationship, funding from state government and



**Amyx (r) with former Gov. Gerald Baliles (l) and former VML staff member Clay Wirt.**

having the statutory tools to do a good job of managing a community. Those issues never seem to go away and have to be addressed every session.

“And speaking of the legislature, we’re certainly going against the trend line in Virginia. We’ve seen a number of our counterparts, particularly in southern states, that are evolving into – for all intents and purposes – full-time legislative bodies. They may still meet for only 60 days, but they will milk those out over a period of eight or nine months. So, we’ve benefited as a state league staff by having a short but intense two-month legislative session allowing us 10 months to do other good things for our members. Other state leagues have found that’s no longer the case.”

### Relationships

“I definitely will miss the personal associations – both with staff and with elected and appointed officials. I’ve always enjoyed the heck out of the Town Section meetings every spring. Those meetings, as well as the Annual Conference, have been very renewing to me. I’ve looked forward to those.

It’s just great to get out there and see – particularly elected officials – who are enthusiastic about doing good for their local government.

“I’m reluctant to mention names, but a French Moore (Abingdon) comes to mind. If you look at the successes of Abingdon, his fingerprints are all over so much of what has been done there for years. There are many French Moores out there in local government and many successful projects that have occurred over the years. They may not have quite as flamboyant a style as French does, but someone like David Helms (the current VML president and mayor of Marion) has played a central role in many of the really neat things that have gone on there.

“Another thing that I’ll always recall is the events that really speak to the unique nature of our local governments – whether it’s a Christmas parade or a mid-summer chicken festival, every locality has its unique take on bringing citizens together in some sort of community celebration. That to me speaks volumes about the value of cities, towns and counties,

and the basic need of people to have community identification. Those kinds of things – whether it’s the Neptune Festival in Virginia Beach or the Uncle Billy’s Day Festival in Altavista – all those unique things are not to be missed in these localities.”

### Looking back

“On a personal note, it’s been a professional privilege to serve as executive director of VML. The climate of working in Virginia has to appeal to anyone who is a fan of local government. I thought that from Day One – and as I look back over the 33 years – I still think that way. The opportunity to have built relationships with local elected and appointed officials and the chance to kind of share in the reflected glory of what Virginia local governments accomplish has been a pretty cool thing. It’s been a great ride.”

### Looking ahead

“We’re going to do a little bit of traveling. I’m also involved in my grandchildren’s lives – particularly the two boys who are here in town – they’re 12 and 13. They’re heavily involved in sports and other activities. I try to never miss an event and have a pretty good track record with them. My granddaughter in Atlanta is 6 but also is developing some interests – among them soccer and other sports. So we’re looking forward to spending a little bit more time with her.

“I have a genuine interest in these online university-level courses and have been collecting information on that and want to pursue some interesting things. I mentioned at the Annual Conference banquet that I have a lifelong interest in architecture and want to kind of explore that.

“And not surprisingly, I have a couple of books yet to be read at home. (My wife will say that I have a couple of rooms full of books yet to be read.) One of the other things I hope to do is loop back and visit some of the Virginia attractions that I’ve passed by over the years. I’d really like to take the time to reflect on some of those sites.” 

### Amyx: Top 10 retirement pursuits

With apologies to David Letterman, retiring VML Executive Director Mike Amyx listed his Top 10 retirement pursuits at the VML Annual Conference banquet in Arlington. Watch the YouTube video at: <http://bit.ly/1fZF3iD>.



## VML Annual Conference – a look back

The 108<sup>th</sup> VML Annual Conference drew a large cross-section of local government officials from across the state Oct. 13-15 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington. The eight pages of photos here capture just a small part of what transpired. Among participants at the Virginia Mayors Institute (bottom) held before the start of the conference in Arlington were (clockwise from top left) Fredericksburg City Attorney Kathleen Dooley, Herndon Vice Mayor Connie Hutchinson and Bluefield Mayor Don Harris, Franklin Mayor Raystine Johnson-Ashburn, Ashland Mayor Faye Prichard and Bristol Vice Mayor Catherine Brillhart.



## Exhibition Hall

The Exhibition Hall in Arlington proved to be a popular gathering spot. Among the vendors and service providers were (clockwise from top left) Robin Bradley of GovDeals; Rati Bogdan and Linda Purdy with SERVPRO; Joe Deleon with the



Virginia Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association; Jeff Stodghill with PMA Architects; Exhibition Hall lunch break drew a large crowd; Keli Ratcliffe with Anderson & Associates.





2013

**VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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## Getting the word out

Among the speakers at the conference were (clockwise from top left) Michael Fann, director of loss control at the Tennessee Municipal Risk Management Pool, who spoke at a luncheon sponsored by VML Insurance Programs on creating a culture of civility; Monday morning keynote speaker Mark Adamshick, USN (Ret.), who spoke to a general session on moral leadership in public service, with VML outgoing president Ed Daley (r); Tuesday afternoon group luncheon sponsored by VML Insurance Programs drew an overflow crowd.





## Plenty to say

(Clockwise from top left) Jacquelyn E. Johnson, president of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials and a council member in East Orange, N.J., flanked by Lynchburg Vice Mayor Ceasor Johnson (l) and Petersburg Vice Mayor Horace Webb before her luncheon address to the Virginia NBC-LEO membership; Poquoson City Manager Randy Wheeler (l), president of the Virginia Local Government Management Association, with Bob O'Neill, executive director of the International City-County Management Association, before O'Neill's address to the VLGMA luncheon; Arlington County Board Member Mary Hynes (l) with Susan Markham, women's political participation director at the National Democratic Institute, before Markham's remarks to the Women in Local Government luncheon; keynote speaker Ed McMahon, senior resident fellow at the Urban Land Institute, before his remarks to the Monday morning general session; and Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille (l) with keynote speaker John Martin of the Southeastern Institute of Research before Martin's remarks to the Tuesday morning general session.



## Leading and learning

Among the speakers and participants at workshops and roundtables were (clockwise from top left) Vienna Town Manager Mercury Payton; Marissa Jones, a staff member with the Institute for Public Health Innovation, HEAL Cities & Towns Campaign, who discussed how to build healthier communities; Christopher Colby, a town council member from Gordonsville who discussed establishing railroad quiet zones; Chris Eatough, BikeArlington program manager, led a roundtable discussion on creating bicycle-friendly communities.



## Something for everyone

Among the other speakers and participants at workshops and roundtables were (clockwise from top left) John Andrews, special assistant to the city manager for military and veterans services in Norfolk, who discussed identifying, hiring and retaining veterans; participants in the DRIVE Tourism roundtable discussing Virginia's statewide tourism development plan; Jack Reagan, audit partner at CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, speaking on the effect of new GASB standards on local governments; Philip Pugh, Property Maintenance Division chief in Alexandria, discussing issues related to hoarding; and Scott Sklar, president of Stella Group LTD, discussing solar and renewable-charged battery banks for critical infrastructure.





## Host Locality Night

Among the attendees at the Host Locality Night event held at Artisphere were (clockwise from top right) Arlington County Board Chair Walter Tejada; Arlington County Board Member Mary Hynes with Gordonsville Mayor Bob Coiner; conference attendees experiencing Andy Warhol's Silver Clouds installation; dancers from an Arlington area troupe entertain; and Gov.-Elect Terry McAuliffe, who stopped in to shake hands three weeks before his election.



## Closing banquet

(Clockwise from top left) Retiring VML Executive Director Mike Amyx with wife Linda; new VML President David Helms, mayor of Marion, with wife Sue; the Capitol Steps closing out the evening with an entertaining performance.



**Leesburg – 35,001-90,000**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Council Member Katie Hammler, IT Manager Annie Carlson, Mayor Kristen Umstaddt, Council Member Marty Martinez, Council Member Kelly Burk, Management Analyst Michael Bruckner, Deputy Town Manager Kaj Dentler, Town Manager John Wells, Council Member Kevin Wright, Management Analyst Lisa Haley, Finance Operations Manager Bob Berkey and Finance Director Norm Butts.

**Clifton Forge – Under 5,000**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Town Manager Darlene Burcham, Council Member Johnette Roberts, Mayor Carl Brinkley and Vice Mayor Gayle Hillert.



**Martinsville – 10,001-35,000**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Community Planner Susan McCulloch and City Manager Leon Towarnicki.

**Virginia Beach (President's Award)**

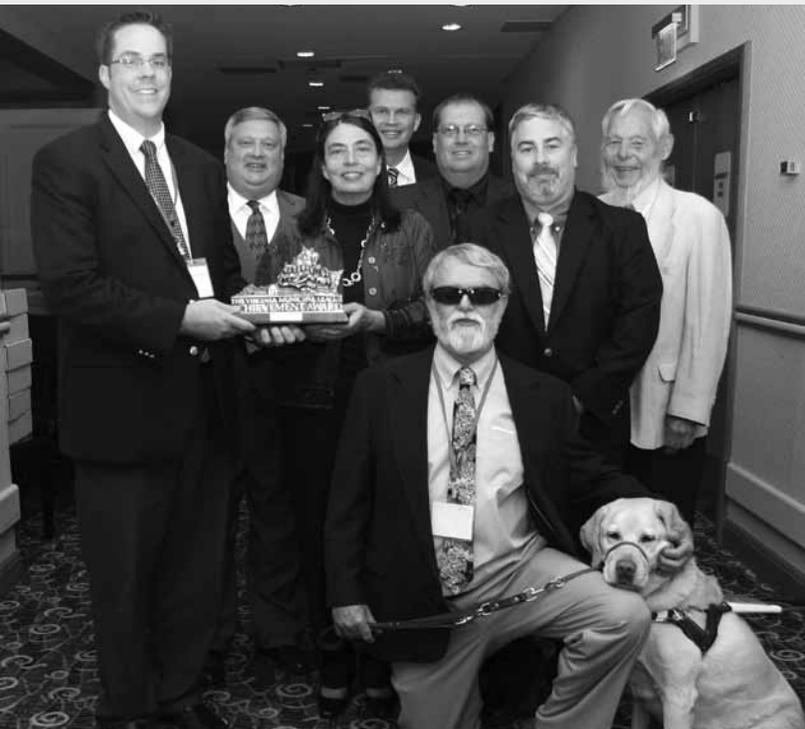
Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) City Manager Jim Spore, City Council Member Rosemary Wilson, Director of Planning and Community Development William "Jack" Whitney Jr. and City Council Member Amelia N. Ross-Hammond.





**City of Fairfax (Communications)**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Council Member Eleanor D. Schmidt, Council Member Daniel F. Drummond, City Manager Robert L. Sisson, Mayor R. Scott Silverthorne, Council Member Michael J. DeMarco, Community Relations Specialist Chris Fow Cohen and Council Member David L. Meyer.



**Strasburg – 5,000-10,000**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Town Manager Judson Rex, Council Member Rich Orndorff, Council Member Sarah Mauck, Mayor Tim Taylor, Council Member Rick Redmon (with guide dog Cooper), Public Works Superintendent Ray Heishman, Director of Public Works Mark Gundersen and Council Member Bob Baker.



**Arlington County – More than 90,000**

Achievement Award recipients: (l-r) Director of Social Services Heather Stowe, Board Member Mary Hynes, Board Chair Walter J. Tejada and Public School Superintendent Patrick Murphy.

## Roanoke River Service Authority was born out of necessity

IN THE LATE 1990s, the Town of South Hill was making do with a limited water supply from the Meherrin River and an outdated 1.5 million-gallons-per-day water treatment plant. Faced with a 10 percent increase in water demand annually, the plant was operating more than 20 hours a day.

Not surprisingly, the town wanted to double treatment plant capacity, but the Meherrin River and nearby reservoir pool was woefully inadequate. The Roanoke River/Lake Gaston appeared to be the most logical future raw water source. Unfortunately, it was located 15-plus miles from the plant, which made accessing it cost prohibitive.

At the same time, B&B Consultants was aware that the Virginia Department of Corrections (VDOC) was in dire need of a new potable water supply to serve two correctional units in Mecklenburg County, both west of South Hill. To serve the two facilities, however, the town would need to extend water mains 17.5 miles. B&B brought VDOC and town officials together to discuss the possibility of providing water service to the two units. B&B convinced VDOC that the water main extensions could be completed in 12-15 months. An agreement was quickly reached. B&B designed, obtained approvals and provided administration of three construction contracts, all of which were completed in 13 months. The 17.5 miles of water main extensions became Phase 1 of a regional water system.

Five other towns in Mecklenburg County were then invited to join the regional water system. On behalf of South Hill, B&B prepared a report detailing a new water system to serve the six towns and the Bracey community. The plan included a raw water intake on the Roanoke River/Lake Gaston, a water treatment plant near the intake, water storage tanks, booster stations and water mains to serve the towns and communities



**By October 2002, customers from the towns of South Hill, La Crosse, Brodnax, Boydton and the community of Bracey were receiving water from the authority.**

of Mecklenburg County. A water withdrawal permit was obtained. B&B then assisted four of the towns, Mecklenburg County and parts of Brunswick County in forming a water authority, which became known as Roanoke River Service Authority.

When funding was secured to continue with the project, B&B designed a six-mile water extension that included a water booster station and a half-a-million gallon elevated water storage tank. B&B then proceeded to design: a 12 MGD intake structure on the Roanoke River/Lake Gaston; a mile of raw water main; a 4.18 MGD water treatment plant; 11 miles of finished water main connecting the Phase I water main and serving the Bracey community and the Town of Boydton; a one million-gallon elevated water tank and a 3 MGD water booster station.

The authority, formed in 2002, provides water to the towns of Mecklenburg County and parts of Brunswick County. Not only did its formation bring a safe and abundant water supply to the area, it also created

an opportunity for growth. When a business considers locating in a town or county, many things have to be considered. One of the most important items: Is there sufficient water supply and sewage disposal facilities? 

### Contacts

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Roanoke River Service Authority  
5419 Highway One  
Bracey, VA  
(434) 689-7772

Sam Carroll, P.E., CEO  
Henry M. Bugg, Ph.D., P.E., L.S  
B&B Consultants Inc.  
South Hill, VA  
(434) 447-7621  
[www.bandbcons.com](http://www.bandbcons.com)

**B&B Consultants, Inc.**, a VML member, is a multi-discipline consulting firm specializing in water and wastewater analysis and design, planning, development, and other civil/environmental engineering services.

# Getting the VIP treatment ...

**A**BOUT 125 LOCAL GOVERNMENT officials attended six regional information sessions held across the state in mid-November to learn more about the Virginia Investment Pool (VIP), a new option in Virginia for funds that will be held for one year or longer. The Virginia Municipal League, the Virginia Association of Counties and numerous local treasurers developed VIP, which invests in a diverse portfolio of high-quality corporate and government securities and offers a higher

expected rate of return than typically provided by money market funds. VIP offers a convenient way for local governments and authorities to invest in conservative, one- to three-year instruments. At the same time, participants are able to access their funds semi-monthly if unexpected needs arise. The six regional sessions were held in Fairfax County, Harrisonburg, Abingdon, Roanoke, Hampton and Henrico County (pictured here).



**Longer version of job ads posted at [www.vml.org](http://www.vml.org)**

VML maintains a detailed listing of local government job openings on its website at [www.vml.org/JOBS/Jobs.html](http://www.vml.org/JOBS/Jobs.html).

**Director of Planning and Community Development, Prince Edward County**

**SALARY:** DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Responsible for managing the Planning and Community Development Department. Primary duties include land-use planning, zoning, code enforcement, community development, erosion and sediment control, and 911 address mapping. Serves as staff to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. Reqs. relevant bachelor's degree and min. 6 yrs. exper. Prefer master's degree, AICP certification and supervisory exper. Send resume and 3 references to: County Administrator, P.O. Box 382, Farmville, VA 23901. First review of applications is Jan. 6. Open until filled. EOE.

**Parks & Recreation Planning and Design Administrator, Virginia Beach**

**SALARY:** \$68,937-\$103,406 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Directs and coordinates all activities of the Planning, Design and Development Division. Reqs. any comb. of educ. (above H.S.) and/or exper. equiv. to 12 yrs. in planning, engineering, architecture and/or landscape architecture, utilizing the knowledge skills and abilities req'd and with significant applications of all phases of planning, design and construction, including project implementation; must possess certification as a certified planner, professional architect, professional engineer or certified landscape architect. More info and apply online at [www.vbcareers4gov.com](http://www.vbcareers4gov.com). Job # 5717. Deadline: Dec. 24. EOE.

**Budget Officer, Suffolk**

**SALARY:** \$64,915-\$84,390 hiring range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Ensures financial integrity of city's operations by establishing and maintaining sound budget practices and procedures. Reports to director of finance. Reqs. relevant bachelor's degree and 6-9 yrs. exper. and/or training that includes progressively responsible govt. financial mngmnt., accounting, and budget development; knowledge of business and finance as it relates to local govt. accounting, budgeting and management information systems, and financial analysis; 3-5 yrs. supervisory exper.; extended knowledge of personal computer operations; or any equiv. comb. of educ., training and exper.

that provides the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities. Apply at [www.suffolkva.us](http://www.suffolkva.us). Open until filled. EOE.

**Principal Planner – Comprehensive Planning, Suffolk**

**SALARY:** \$55,892-\$65,500 hiring range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Assists the comprehensive planning manager on implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and Unified Development Ordinance with particular emphasis on housing and redevelopment initiatives, and in preparation of long-range planning studies and other studies for orderly growth and development. Reqs. bachelor's degree (master's preferred) in urban and regional planning or a related field; 6-9 yrs. exper. in urban planning; or any equiv. comb. of training and exper. that provides the req'd skills, knowledge and abilities. Prefers AICP certification. To apply, visit [www.suffolkva.us](http://www.suffolkva.us). Open until filled. EOE.

**Development Services Inspector/Technician, Falls Church**

**SALARY:** \$47,380-plus DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Responsible for enforcing city's Planning, Zoning, Property Maintenance and Building Code ordinances; investigating complaints and reports of hazardous conditions; issuing summonses involving enforcement; preparing court papers and testifying as expert witness; assisting the Development Services staff with site inspections and tasks related to plan review, site compliance and inspection of sites under construction. More info, including full job description, at [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov). Send city application or resume to City of Falls Church, Human Resources Division, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church, VA 22046 or via e-mail at [hr@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:hr@fallschurchva.gov). Applications and resumes received by Dec. 6 will receive priority consideration. Open until filled. EOE.

**Human Resources Analyst, Leesburg**

**SALARY:** \$57,195-\$95,998 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Reqs. bachelor's degree in HR, business mngmnt. or related field, or equiv. comb. of educ. and exper.; min. 3 yrs. increasingly responsible technical and administrative exper. in a HR govt. or private industry setting. Prefer min. 5 yrs. exper. in a municipal govt. or business environment, preferably in an HR generalist capacity; master's degree; PHR or SPHR certification; exper. or certification in training; exper. in Munis; bilingual in English/Spanish. Resumes may be submitted as supplemental material only. Town of Leesburg application req'd. Go to [www.leesburgva.gov/jobs](http://www.leesburgva.gov/jobs) to apply online. Open until filled. EOE.

**Business Audit Supervisor (Commissioner of the Revenue), Newport News**

**SALARY:** \$53,608-\$58,968 (+) benefits. Conducts financial and compliance audit examinations of businesses to ensure proper application and enforcement of city tax ordinances. Supervises business auditors and provides them with leadership and technical expertise. Reqs. any comb. of educ. and exper. equiv. to a relevant bachelor's degree with course work equiv. to a major concentration in accounting and extensive exper. in accounting and/or auditing, including some supervisory exper. CPA preferred. Submit resume and online city of Newport News application at [www.nngov.com](http://www.nngov.com). Open until filled. EOE.

**Controller – Dorchester County Government, Saint George, S.C.**

**SALARY:** \$63,335-\$76,002 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Manage accounting and financial reporting under supervision of CFO. Duties include providing day-to-day management of the general ledger, accounts payable, payroll, debt management, and internal controls. Reqs. bachelor's degree (master's preferred) in accounting, finance, public admin., business admin., or related field. More info and apply at [www.dorchestercounty.net](http://www.dorchestercounty.net). Deadline: Dec. 27. EOE.

**Finance Director, Bowie, Md.**

**SALARY:** \$88,850-\$142,160 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Lead team of experienced, well-trained financial professionals as a key member of the city's senior management team. Qualified candidates will possess: 7 yrs. of progressively responsible exper. in financial, accounting or budget management; a bachelor's degree in finance, accounting or a related field. Prefer CPA, CPFO, CGFM or a master's degree in finance, business administration or related fields; considerable exper. working with govt. financial systems. Visit City of Bowie website at [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org), or click the following link for more info: <http://bit.ly/1h7tFl3>. Deadline: Dec. 20. EOE.

**Systems Engineer II/III (Department of Communications and Information Technology), Virginia Beach**

**SALARY:** \$65,614-\$114,071 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Serves as head of the department's communications team. Designs, implements and supports Cisco voice, video and network infrastructure. Detailed job info and apply online at [www.vb.gov.com/careers](http://www.vb.gov.com/careers). Job # 5696. Deadline: Dec. 15. EOE.

**Systems Engineer I (Department of Communications and Information Technology), Virginia Beach**

SALARY: \$59,444-\$89,166 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Designs, implements and supports Cisco voice, video and network infrastructure. Detailed job info and apply online at [www.vbgov.com/careers](http://www.vbgov.com/careers). Job # 5697. Deadline: Dec. 15. EOE.

**Systems Engineer I/II (Department of Communications and Information Technology), Virginia Beach**

SALARY: \$59,444-\$98,421 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Design, install, manage and troubleshoot complex, large-scale networks (WANs) that provide efficient data and voice transmission, security, flexibility and scalability for the enterprise's infrastructure. Detailed job info and apply online at [www.vbgov.com/careers](http://www.vbgov.com/careers). Job # 5698. Deadline: Dec. 15. EOE.

**Assistant Director of Human Resources, Hanover County**

SALARY: \$76,939-\$103,878 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Provides leadership support to the county's Human Resources initiatives and oversight to the department in the absence of the director. Reqs. bachelor's degree (preferably in Human

Resources) with min. 5 yrs. of progressively responsible related exper., including supervision. Prefer master's degree, as well as PHR, SPHR or IPMA-CP, and exper. in local govt. human resources. More info, including qualifications and how to apply, at [www.hanovercountyjobs.com](http://www.hanovercountyjobs.com) or call 804-365-6489. Open until filled. EOE.

**Risk Manager (Finance Department), Albemarle County**

SALARY: \$51,317-\$61,580 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Provides strategic leadership for the county's risk management program. Responsible for implementing and managing a comprehensive risk and claims management program through proven risk management techniques. Reqs. associate's degree in risk management, min. 7 yrs. exper., and demonstrated leadership in a risk-related field with a strong commitment to customer service; or a relevant bachelor's degree and 5 yrs. of exper. with successfully managing self-insurance programs for health, property, casualty and liability (including workers compensation plans) preferred, as is a CRMA, CRA, FRM or PRM. Master's degree in public or business admin. desired. Full job description and apply at [www.albemarle.org/hr](http://www.albemarle.org/hr). Open until filled. EOE.

**Senior Planner (Community Development Department), Albemarle County**

SALARY: \$47,829-\$57,395 DOQ/DOE (for senior planner). Position may be filled as planner. Performs independent work in the development of analysis and recommendations regarding current physical, social, economic and capital projects, and allied phases of the comprehensive plan. Reqs. any comb. of educ. and exper. equiv. to graduation from college supplemented by a master's degree in urban and/or regional planning and a min. of 2 yrs. exper. in professional planning work. More info., including planner job description and min. requirements at [www.albemarle.org/hr](http://www.albemarle.org/hr) under "Job Descriptions." Open until filled. EOE.

**Senior Planner (Development Review), Falls Church**

SALARY: \$57,333-\$94,599 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Responsibilities will focus on current planning and development review involving the processing and approval of special exceptions, rezonings, site plans and subdivisions as staff to the planning commission and City Council. Reqs. graduation from college with major course work in urban planning or related field; local govt. or private planning exper.; AICP



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certification a plus. More info and detailed job description at [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov). Submit resume or application to: City of Falls Church, Human Resources Division, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church, VA 22046, or via e-mail at [hr@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:hr@fallschurchva.gov). Open until filled. EOE.

**Planner III, City of Fairfax**

SALARY: \$67,659-\$76,101 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. (May be under-filled as a Planner II). Responsible for a range of planning and development-related activities, including analysis of land use and development projects, as well as evaluation, refinement and implementation of land use policy. Reqs. bachelor's degree in planning or closely related field and 4-plus yrs. of directly-related exper. Master's degree and AICP certification preferred. More info and apply at [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/personnel/jobs](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/personnel/jobs). Open until filled. EOE.

**Deputy Zoning Administrator/  
Planner III, City of Fairfax**

SALARY: \$67,659-\$76,101 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Under direction of the zoning administrator; assists in the administration and enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance; prepares reports and makes recommendations on special use permits, special exceptions, variances and zoning

text amendments. Reqs. bachelor's degree in planning or closely-related field and 4-plus yrs. exper. in professional planning/zoning administration. A master's degree in planning or a closely-related field, AICP certification and CZA certification are desired. More info and apply at [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/personnel/jobs](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/personnel/jobs). Open until filled. EOE.

**Water & Gas Chief Engineer  
(Utilities Department), Danville**

SALARY: \$63,262-\$99,000 start range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Plans, designs and performs engineering for rehabilitation and/or extensions to the water and gas distribution systems; administers construction projects, contracts, governmental regulations. Directs engineering staff and contract firms; supervises GIS, corrosion control and other programs. Reqs. comprehensive knowledge of water and gas distribution engineering and of the construction, operation and maintenance of water and gas distribution systems. Also reqs. bachelors' degree in engineering (mechanical or civil preferred) and extensive exper. as an engineer in the water and gas distribution field. More info and apply online at [www.danville-va.gov](http://www.danville-va.gov). Open until filled. EOE.

**Senior Accountant (Retirement Team), Roanoke**

SALARY: \$41,184-\$51,795 start range. In the Department of Finance, maintain financial records, primarily in the area of financial reporting. Reqs. relevant bachelor's degree from 4-yr. college and 3-5 yrs. related exper. and/or training in accounting and/or auditing, preferably in a public accounting firm or through specialization in the govt. sector; or equiv. comb. of educ. and exper. CPA preferred. More info and download application at [www.roanokeva.gov](http://www.roanokeva.gov). Applications may be mailed to: Human Resources, City of Roanoke, 215 Church Ave., Roanoke, VA 24011. Open until filled. EOE.

**SUBMITTALS:** *Submit ads as text files via e-mail to David Parsons at [dparsons@vml.org](mailto:dparsons@vml.org). VML posts job ads on its website at no cost to its local government members. Non-members are charged a flat rate of \$25 per ad, which includes a listing in the VML eNews newsletter and publication in Virginia Town & City (deadlines permitting). VML edits position descriptions in printed publications because of space limitations.*

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