

County Administrator's Update

ISLE CARES



January 24, 2018

Dear Citizens,

Welcome to the first edition of the County Administrator's Update. This is part of our new Isle Cares Newsletter which we have designed to provide you with up-to-date information about the County including items that may not make it into the news. We plan to spotlight County staff and activities within our Departments. We also welcome your feedback. If there is information that would be useful to you, please contact us with your suggestions.

Sheriff Mark Marshall is resigning effective March 1, 2018 and the Board of Supervisors is tasked with the responsibility of petitioning the Circuit Court to set a special election to fill the vacancy. The Board voted at their meeting on January 18th to request a special election be held on May 1st in conjunction with the Town of Smithfield's municipal election. After the Board meeting, we learned that it is likely that a Primary election will be held on June 12th which means that the special election for Sheriff cannot be held on May 1st since it would be within 55 days of the Primary election. The Board of Supervisors will discuss this issue again at a special meeting on February 1st. The Supervisors must call for a Special Election within 15 days of the office becoming vacant which would be March 15th.

With the new year comes the County's budget season. County Departments and other agencies that are funded by the County are in the process of submitting their budgets. I will begin meeting with Department Heads and agencies over the next several weeks and submit a proposed budget to the Board on April 5th. The Board will begin holding work sessions on the proposed budget in mid-April with the adoption of the budget scheduled for May 10th.

The construction of the foundation for the last of the 5 communication towers for the new E911 system will begin this week behind the Sheriff's office. The other 4 towers are in various stages of construction. If you have never seen a radio tower being built, this is your opportunity. We are planning to complete the new E911 system this Spring which will provide all of our Emergency Service and Law Enforcement agencies with much needed radio coverage and state-of-the-art equipment.

I would like to thank all of our departments and our volunteer agencies for the outstanding service that was provided to our citizens during the recent snow storms and extreme cold conditions. Many of them worked long hours in challenging conditions to keep the rest of us safe.

Randy R. Keaton, County Administrator
Isle of Wight County Virginia