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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Receives Award for Ragsdale Community Center

DINWIDDIE, VA – The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) has announced its 2018 Achievement Award Winners. Dinwiddie County received an award for the Robert & Betty Ragsdale Community Center. VACo received 106 submissions and selected 25 to receive awards.

Following a tremendous loss, the family of the late Robert and Betty Ragsdale generously donated a building that was formerly home to the Aleen Sewing Factory in McKenney. The County conducted a needs assessment, confirming that this was a prime location for the much-needed expansion of Parks, Recreation and Tourism programming. An architectural rendering was unveiled in April 2015 and demolition/construction began in November of that same year. A grand opening celebration was held on May 2, 2017, and the facility quickly became the hub of activity in the McKenney area.

Ray Vines, Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism stated, "I am thankful for the legacy of Robert and Betty Ragsdale. Their love and spirit of giving along with the tireless work and dedication of the Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors, community, and citizens, has afforded us the opportunity to positively transform this community, by bringing recreation amenities to a previously underserved area of Dinwiddie County."

"The Robert & Betty Ragsdale Community Center is a shining example of what can result from local government working together with communities and citizens. I am so happy to have seen this project grow from a dream to reality", stated Dan Lee, District 4 Supervisor. Mr. Lee went on to say "This facility will benefit the citizens of Dinwiddie County, specifically those in the McKenney area, for many years to come. It is an honor to receive a VACo Achievement Award for this project."

This is Dinwiddie County's fourth VACo Achievement Award, having won the award in 2015 for the County's Youth Workforce Development Initiative: in 2012 for the County's Sports Complex; and 2017 for the Ready to Hire Program.

For additional information on the Robert & Betty Ragsdale Community Center, visit: www.Dinwiddieva.us.

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