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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2013

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## Travis's Auto Repair Named 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VA – Travis Latimer, Owner of Travis's Auto Repair in Carrollton, is the recipient of the 2013 *Entrepreneur of the Year Award* given out by the Isle of Wight County Department of Economic Development in conjunction with the Commonwealth of Virginia's Business Appreciation Week.

Travis Latimer started his full-service auto repair business in 1999 in rented space with just two additional employees. His wife, Wanda, soon joined him in the business. In a short amount of time, he doubled his space and continued to grow. Ultimately, Latimer built a new, larger facility in 2009. He now has 20 employees, including the two that started with him when he first opened. Latimer's employees describe him as a strong leader, yet very compassionate about the needs of others.

Travis's Auto Repair hosts fundraisers and numerous community events, including car shows, yard sales, auctions and bake sales.

Since 2005, Isle of Wight County Economic Development has been honoring a County business as Entrepreneur of the Year in conjunction with its Business Appreciation Week celebration. This year, Business Appreciation Week was celebrated June 3-7<sup>th</sup>. Previous winners include Bella Fabrics, Bon Vivant Market, Ringo's Donuts, The Oaks Veterinary Clinic, Darden's Country Store and Sesroh Tack Shoppe.

The *Entrepreneur of the Year Award* was presented to Travis Latimer and his wife, Wanda, at the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors Meeting on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Economic Development would also like to congratulate the following businesses, which were nominated for the award this year: Yummaries (Smithfield), Solutions Travel (Windsor), Gimme Shelter Thrift Shop (Smithfield), and Painted Garden Gallery (Smithfield).

Travis's Auto Repair is located at 15185 Carrollton Blvd., Carrollton, Virginia 23314. (757) 238-9585.