



# Real Time Updates

**Chesapeake**  
VIRGINIA

October 2014

for the Chesapeake City Council and Community Leaders

## NEWS

### CHESAPEAKE ROTARY HONORS PHIL JOHNSON AS FIRST CITIZEN OF CHESAPEAKE

The Chesapeake Rotary Club named Phil Johnson the recipient of the 2014 First Citizen Award. Mr. Johnson is retired from Xerox and has dedicated more than forty years of leadership and volunteer efforts to numerous local, state, and national initiatives. He has contributed his time and talent to the City of Chesapeake by serving on several boards, committees, and task forces throughout his career. Currently, he serves as chairperson of the Ruritan Environmental Committee and played a key role in establishing the War Memorials at Lakeside Park. Mr. Johnson has been described as someone who never takes credit for himself and never seeks the spotlight. Congratulations to Phil Johnson for this well-deserved recognition.



### CITIZEN INFORMATION MEETING:

#### DOMINION BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A citizen information meeting for the Dominion Boulevard South Roadway Improvement Project is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, from 6-8 p.m. at Grassfield High School. The meeting will give citizens the opportunity to provide input on the proposed roadway widening improvements along the Dominion Blvd corridor from Grassfield parkway to 1.5 miles south of Scenic Parkway. Proposed improvements include repaving the existing travel lanes, adding two additional lanes for the northbound direction and adding a grass median. Exhibits will be available for review and City staff will be on hand for questions.

## PROJECTS

### FLASHING BEACONS & SIGNS AT ELBOW ROAD

Installation of the flashing beacons and signs on Elbow Road is underway. The project is expected to be completed this month. The project provides curve warning flashing beacons at three curves on Elbow Road between Centerville Turnpike and the Virginia Beach city limits. The project was designed in-house by engineering staff and is being installed by City crews.

### WOODLAKE DRIVE EXTENSION PROJECT

Construction has started on the Woodlake Drive Extension Project. Land clearing and the installation of a stormwater/drainage system is underway. The project will construct about a half mile of roadway extending from the end of Woodlake Drive to Battlefield Boulevard at the Debaun Avenue intersection. The extension will provide another major connection between Greenbrier Parkway and Battlefield Boulevard. Construction is scheduled to be complete in April 2015.

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# NEWS

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## THE CITY RECEIVES GRANT FOR FLOOD MITIGATION

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded the City of Chesapeake a \$1.3 million grant as part of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance program (HMA). The grant funds will be used for the acquisition of five flood-prone properties and the elevation of one flood-prone home in the City. The properties affected by this grant all have suffered repeated loss and/or damage due to flooding. They are located in the Mains Creek, Fernwood Farms, and Inland Colony neighborhoods, some of the most flood-prone sections of the City. For more information contact the City's Office of Emergency Management at 382-6504.

## CHESAPEAKE IRON FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE

The Iron Firefighter Challenge is an annual fundraiser that raises money for Chesapeake's Adventure Intervention Mentor Program (A.I.M.). The hands-on program works with local youth that are classified as "crisis fire-setters." Chesapeake has made a commitment to effectively serve the youth and identify and develop skills and interests that can help lead them to success. The A.I.M. Program utilizes mentorship combined with adventure-based counseling to help at-risk youth. Since funding for this program is very limited, the Chesapeake Fire Department created the Iron Firefighter Challenge to raise money and support the program.

The Chesapeake Fire Department partnered with the Norfolk Fire Department to raise funds. The 4th Annual Iron Firefighter Challenge took place on September 13, at Oak Grove Lake Park. The race consisted of canoeing, paddle-boarding, biking, and running through obstacle courses. The event raised more than \$2,000 for A.I.M. Congratulations to the Chesapeake team for bringing home the trophy this year.



*Photos provided by: Dusty Hyatt*

## THE CHESAPEAKE JEWEL DEDICATION

City Treasurer Barbara Carraway and the City Symbol Committee held a special ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Blue Heron statue, recently named "The Chesapeake Jewel." The dedication ceremony was held in September and recognized the Heron Committee members and the Peninsula Glass Guild for all of their hard work on the exquisite Blue Heron. The Peninsula Glass Guild designed and created "The Chesapeake Jewel." You can admire this beautiful piece of art in the lobby of City Hall.



*Barbara Carraway addresses the group.*



*Mayor Alan Krasnoff with Pastor Ralph Herbert of Great Bridge Presbyterian Church.*



*Members of the Peninsula Glass Guild listen to remarks from City Treasurer Barbara Carraway.*



*The Guild's Heron Committee Chairperson Carolyn Riley introduces the Peninsula Glass Guild Members.*



*The Chesapeake Jewel is revealed.*

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## PROJECTS

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### ELIZABETH RIVER PARK UPDATE

Construction is underway at Elizabeth River Park and the project is currently running slightly ahead of schedule. Park improvements will include paved parking for passenger vehicles and spaces for boat trailers, a new park entrance, and paved roadways and sidewalks. The park will have bathroom facilities, a building that includes a store and covered pavilion, playground, dock improvements, picnic shelters, walking trail, and more. The project should be completed by December 2014 with a grand reopening set for April 2015.



### NEW AMENITIES AT INDIAN RIVER PARK

Phase I of the parking lot is complete and included planting several new native tree species. Phase II of the project will include a stone dust walkway, split-rail fencing, an information kiosk at the entrance of the park, a bike rack, a rain garden, and trail focal point enhancements. The project is estimated to be completed this fall.

### UPDATES TO SOUTHWESTERN PARK ARE COMPLETE

The installation of spring toys, swings, a 1/4 mile trail, and a new shelter at Southwestern Park in Western Branch is now complete.

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## OPERATIONS

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### PERMIT FOR MEDICAL/ HEALTH TESTING

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, which is an organization representing the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), has obtained a Zoning Permit to place trailers on the old Bally's site behind the Greenbrier Mall. The team will conduct various medical/health testing of citizens to obtain national health statistics. There will be semi-truck trailers on site through November 30. They are coordinating activities with the local Health Department. The Bally's site was chosen for the ample parking space and ability to use utilities.

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## EVENTS

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**Girls & Young Women's  
Empowerment Conference**  
Saturday, October 4  
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Oscar Smith Middle School

**EDAC Meeting**  
Friday, October 10  
8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  
Sumitomo Corporation  
4200 Holland Blvd  
*\*Must RSVP to 382-8040*

**Health Fair for Veterans**  
Saturday, October 11  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Chesapeake Regional  
Medical Center

**Annual Waterways  
Heritage Festival**  
Saturday, October 11  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Great Bridge Locks Park/  
Battlefield Park

**Chesapeake Virginia Wine  
Festival**  
 Saturday, October 11  
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Chesapeake City Park

**Annual Waterways  
Heritage Festival**  
Sunday, October 12  
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Great Bridge Locks Park/  
Battlefield Park

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### QUARTERLY DOMINION BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Businesses along the Dominion Boulevard corridor are welcome to attend the quarterly Dominion Boulevard Improvement Project meeting for the business community. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., at Winston's Raw Bar & Grill, 1620 Cedar Road. City staff will provide a project update and will be on hand to answer questions. If you have any questions or would like to put your business on our mailing list to be reminded of future meetings, please email [dominion@cityofchesapeake.net](mailto:dominion@cityofchesapeake.net).

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# ECONOMIC IMPACTS

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## HAMPTON ROADS EXECUTIVE AIRPORT - A CITY AND REGIONAL AVIATION ASSET

The Hampton Roads Executive Airport held a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 18, 2014, to celebrate the facility's new 5,350 foot long by 100 foot wide runway, built to accommodate large corporate jets, aviation businesses, and recreational pilots.



The \$30 million project occurred over a 14-year period with support from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the airport owners.

Most recently, an additional \$10 million investment included a new terminal and 40,000 square feet of contiguous hangar space to accommodate larger aircraft, air/land distribution companies and office related aviation users. Space is available for lease and divisible down to 5,000 square foot units.

The Hampton Roads Executive Airport supports 20 aviation businesses, five flight schools, 300 planes (belonging to recreational pilots and small to medium companies), an aerial photography business, aviation maintenance, banner tow operations, aircraft brokerage, corporate and business aviation meeting space, and the Blue Skies Grille restaurant.

Located off Route 58 (Bowers Hill area), the Hampton Roads Executive Airport is central to Interstates 64, 664 and 264. The airport is a public use and privately owned reliever airport to non-commercial users of Norfolk International Airport. The Airport is ranked #2 in the State of Virginia among 57 non-towered airports in annual operations (takeoffs and landings) and #3 for economic drivers among all Virginia general aviation airports. For general information, check out [www.flypvg.com](http://www.flypvg.com) or call 757-465-0260. For leasing opportunities, please contact Steve Fox at [sfox@flypvg.com](mailto:sfox@flypvg.com) or call 757-373-3151.



*Steven Fox, General Manager, Hampton Roads Executive Airport, is the 2014 Virginia Department of Aviation Manager of the Year. Steven is pictured here with his wife, Elizabeth Fox.*

### **Facts:**

- 2nd largest non-towered airport in Virginia
- 500,000 sf of buildings of which 40,000 sf available for lease
- 300 planes
- 20 aviation businesses
- 28 person Conference/Meeting Room
- Blue Skies Grille restaurant

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## THE CITY OF CHESAPEAKE RANKS HIGH

The City of Chesapeake was ranked the 48th best city in the U.S. to live in by 24/7 Wall Street. It was noted that the City is home to Dollar Tree's headquarters and other major employers. 24/7 Wall Street stated that residents are "generally well paid, and they are likely to be employed."

Chesapeake was also named 2014's 19th Best City for Hispanic Entrepreneurs in a recent study from the leading personal finance outlet WalletHub.com.