



Real Time Updates

Chesapeake VIRGINIA

October 2015

for the Chesapeake City Council and Community Leaders

PROJECTS & NEWS

CITY DEALS WITH STORM IMPACT

While Hurricane Joaquin did not directly impact the City, Chesapeake still experienced significant tidal flooding during the first weekend in October, thanks to both heavy rains and winds from a separate weather event. The City maintains active coordination with the National Weather Service office in Wakefield, so when it became apparent that flooding was possible, Emergency Management, Public Works, and other crews began preparations. This included not only reviewing plans and preparing equipment, but also checking and clearing known “choke points” in the City’s storm drainage system.

Chesapeake’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was partially activated, with staff on-hand to provide coordinated response and manage recovery efforts. While the impact of the flooding



Bainbridge Blvd. - Portlock

cannot be minimized, overall most of Chesapeake was fortunate in this event. It does serve as a reminder, though, that the best time to plan and prepare homes, families, and businesses for a weather emergency is before the skies darken. For information on preparedness, visit www.Ready.gov.



North Battlefield Blvd.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHESAPEAKE’S 2015 FIRST CITIZEN R. STEPHEN BEST, SR.

The Chesapeake Rotary Club recently recognized R. Stephen Best, Sr., as the 2015 First Citizen for his lifetime of service to the City of Chesapeake. He has developed a legacy of leadership that will brighten the future of this City. Best is a Deep Creek native, and served in the Chesapeake Fire Department for 37 years. He rose through the ranks from volunteer to Fire Chief and Emergency Services Coordinator, before retiring in 2010. Since then, he has served as Program Director for the Hampton Roads Catastrophic Planning Team.

In addition to his long government service, Best has contributed countless hours to several charitable causes, civic and fraternal organizations, and community service projects in Chesapeake. He has served on numerous boards such as the Chesapeake Regional Health Foundation, YMCA of South Hampton Roads, Chesapeake Public Schools Education Foundation, and more. His Rotary service has included Chairman of Paint Your Heart Out, and a member of the Chesapeake Wine Festival organizing committee.



Steve Best has contributed immensely to the City of Chesapeake and has exemplified the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self.” Congratulations to Mr. Best for receiving this very prestigious honor.

Additional information can be found at CityofChesapeake.net, or contact the City Manager’s Office at 382-6166.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

CANON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS) CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN CHESAPEAKE

Canon ITS relocated to Chesapeake's Greenbrier area in 1995. Since then, the company has grown to more than 500 employees. Canon ITS is the support company for Canon products sold in the United States and provides industry leading support to the end user and business customers, on pre-sales, sales, and post-sales related inquiries. Canon ITS has highly trained specialists ready to assist Canon customers. The Mayor declared September 23, 2015, "Canon Information Technology Services Day" in Chesapeake.

Canon ITS is an integral part of Canon Inc., company's success. Forbes magazine named Canon U.S.A. one of "America's Best Employers" on the 2015 list. For the 11th year in a row, Canon U.S.A. Inc. has received the 2014 "Readers' Choice Award" for service and reliability from PCMag.com for both printers and digital cameras; and Canon Inc. was listed fourth in the computer industry on Fortune magazine's "World's Most Admired Companies 2013."

Canon ITS is dedicated to its Kyosei philosophy of social and environmental responsibility and tirelessly supports organizations such as the American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, the Chesapeake Humane Society, the Virginia Aquarium, the Virginia Food Bank, the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.



Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff reads a Proclamation to President & CEO, Doris Higginbotham.



Canon ITS and their employees celebrate the company's 20 years in Chesapeake, with Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff.

NEWS

DOMINION BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A new interstate ramp configuration opened in September. The ramp from northbound Dominion Boulevard to I-464 closed and the ramp to I-64 Suffolk reopened. Access to I-464, I-64 East and I-64 West will continue to be maintained. Progress continues at both major intersections: Cedar Road and Great Bridge Boulevard.



GREAT BRIDGE BATTLEFIELD & WATERWAYS HISTORIC PARK & VISITOR CENTER

Phase I of the Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways Historic Park & Visitor Center will be a single story building in Historic Battlefield Park at the foot of the Great Bridge bridge. The building, which is currently in the bid review process, is proposed to house display spaces and exhibits, restroom facilities, gift shop, multipurpose rooms, and other amenities to historically serve Chesapeake citizens and its visitors.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Great American Food Fest
Wednesday, October 7
3:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
Chesapeake City Park

Early Education Business
Mentorship Graduation
Thursday, October 8
6:00 p.m.
The Portlock - Bainbridge

Waterways Heritage
Festival
Saturday, October 10
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Great Bridge Locks Park

Chesapeake Wine Festival
Saturday, October 10
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Chesapeake City Park

Waterways Heritage
Festival
Sunday, October 11
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Great Bridge Locks Park

U.S. Congressional Forum
Wednesday, October 14
11:30 a.m.
Chesapeake Conference
Center

Veterans Health Fair
Saturday, October 17
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Chesapeake Regional
Health Center Lifestyle
Building

The Great Dismal Swamp
Art Festival
Saturday, October 24
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Dismal Swamp Canal Trail

State of the Schools
Thursday, October 29
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Chesapeake Conference
Center

Reminder: October 20: Business Special Excise Taxes Due!

WESTERN BRANCH TASK FORCE ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOCUS GROUP AND WORKSHOP

Wednesday, October 14: 8:30 a.m. Sign In/Networking

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Presentation and Focus Group Discussion

The Club House at Kings Pointe at Western Branch

4350 Farringdon Way

The workshop will feature two presentations: Owning Your Own Business (Jim Carroll, SBDC) and Franchising Opportunities (Marc Steiner, FranNet). The focus group will provide a format for recommendations from the community to discuss what best practices which will enhance entrepreneurial and small business opportunities in Western Branch. During the focus group portion of the program, the Economic Development Authority will also have an open forum discussion and panel to address questions and ideas regarding:

- Financing Opportunities and Resources
- Real Estate and Legal Structure
- Business Resources
- Entrepreneurship

There is no cost to attend, but you must RSVP by Friday, October 9. Call 382-8040 to register.

PROJECTS & NEWS

9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AT CITY PARK

On Friday, September 11, residents, law enforcement, and City leaders gathered at City Park to remember the tragedy of September 11, 2001. Chesapeake Firefighter Faith Gayheart gave the keynote address. Ms. Gayheart shared her experience from that day, 14 years ago when she served in the New York City Police Department.



Mayor Alan Krasnoff provides remarks during the 9-11 ceremony at Chesapeake City Park.



Chesapeake Firefighter Faith Gayheart gives a heartfelt keynote address.

LIVING SHORELINE AT BATTLEFIELD PARK

A grant from Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund License Plate program was received for a Living Shoreline at Battlefield Park. The project was accomplished with volunteers and assistance from Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation, Tidewater Community College, The Elizabeth River Project, Bay Environmental, Luck Stone, Currituck Sand, Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Tourism. This shoreline will help protect the canal bank from further erosion and enhance the overall look of the park for visitors.



PASSPORT SERVICES MOVE TO THE FIRST FLOOR OF CITY HALL

On September 14, passport applications were relocated to the first floor of City Hall for citizen convenience. The new location has provided citizens a designated location to visit for processing the necessary application to obtain a passport for their out of the country travel.

The hours of operation are as follows:

Monday - appointments from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday- walk-in hours from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and appointments from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friday - appointments from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

This service has been provided to citizens throughout Hampton Roads and other states since 2004.