



2017 Businesses of the Year Announced

The Chesapeake Economic Development Authority has announced their 2017 Business of the Year recipients. INIT, Inc. was named the 2017 Chesapeake Business of the Year and South Norfolk Jordan Bridge, LLC was named the 2017 Chesapeake Waterfront Business of the Year.

INIT Innovations in Transportation, Inc. is a worldwide leading supplier of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and electronic fare collection systems for public transit. INIT was established in 1999 in Chesapeake with a small staff of five people.

Today, INIT employs more than 90 staff, operates two manufacturing firms, and provides innovative transit solutions to more than 50 transit agencies across the U.S. and Canada.

This May, INIT moved their entire operation into a newly built 67,000 sq.ft North American headquarters building inside the Oakbrooke Business and Technology Center. INIT was recognized by Coastal Virginia Magazine as one of the 2017 Best Places to Work. A grand opening for the new building is planned for August 3, 2017.



Pictured left to right : Steven Wright, Director, Chesapeake Department of Economic Development; Linda Keith, Chief Financial Officer, INIT Inc.; and Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff.

South Norfolk Jordan Bridge (SNJB) LLC is a fixed span crossing of the Elizabeth River linking Chesapeake to Portsmouth. The fully-electronic tolling system eliminates the need for a toll plaza, thereby keeping traffic moving smoothly and without delays. The new South Norfolk Jordan Bridge opened to traffic on October 30, 2012. No local, state or federal funds were used to build the \$142 million project. SNJB is 100% privately funded and operated.

Built in less than two years, the SNJB delivers the region's highest navigational clearance (145') for free-flowing maritime traffic. It features an ADA compliant, eight-foot wide walkway to facilitate pedestrian traffic, and provides a direct link to Chesapeake's Colonial Trail system and a future link to Paradise Creek Nature Park in Portsmouth.

The popular walkway was named the region's 2017 Best Place to Hike/Walk by Coastal Virginia magazine.



Pictured left to right: Steven Wright, Director, Chesapeake Department of Economic Development; Robin Magrisi, Communications Specialist; and Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff.

The 2017 Business of the Year honorees received their congratulatory awards at the 17th Annual Chesapeake Business Appreciation Golf Classic, held at Cahoon Golf Course this past May.

The golf tournament's net proceeds of \$6,143.43 will benefit the HER Shelter based in Chesapeake.

The HER Shelter is a private, non-profit agency, certified by the United Way of South Hampton Roads, and the statewide coalition: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.



Pictured left to right: Steven Wright, Director, Chesapeake Department of Economic Development; Stella McClain, HER Shelter Board Member, Jenna Williams, HER Shelter Board Member; Beth Cross, Executive Director, HER Shelter, along with her two children (Isaac and Josiah); and Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Stormwater Outfall Improvement Project Complete

The Washington Manor Stormwater Outfall Improvement Project is complete.

The project constructed a regional Stormwater management facility (pond) at 3316 South Military Highway.

The project also made enhancements to the drainage outfall near Canal Drive and made improvements to drainage and water quality along Yadkin Road and Old George Washington Highway.



PUBLIC UTILITIES NEWS

City Wins “People’s Choice Award”

The City of Chesapeake won the “People’s Choice Award” at the Virginia chapter of the American Water Works Association’s (VA AWWA) statewide municipal water taste test held in Lynchburg, in April.

Conference attendees were the taste testers. This award follows last year’s win for the “Judge’s Choice Award” for clarity, odor, flavor, and aftertaste.

VA AWWA is a section of the American Water Works Association, an international non-profit scientific and educational society dedicated to the improvement of drinking water quality and supply. Founded in 1881, AWWA is the largest organization of water supply professionals in the world. Its more than 50,000 members represent the full spectrum of the drinking water community.



Mike Keenan, Water Service Superintendent accepts the award from Chris Carey, Virginia Section AWWA Committee Chairman.

PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

On June 8, members of the Chesapeake Fire Department were honored at the Hampton Roads Chamber VALOR AWARDS. Firefighter Paramedic John Crombie, Firefighter EMT William Lawrence, Senior Firefighter Charles Poole, and Lieutenant Marshall Smith were honored with the Lifesaving Award for their heroism in saving a resident during Hurricane Matthew.

On the morning of October 9, 2016, crews responded to a vehicle submerged in floodwater near Jolliff Road. Upon arrival, the crew found a man clinging to a large water pipe surrounded by fast moving water. The strong winds and swift current had swept the man from the roof of his vehicle into the water. The crew used personal floatation devices and waded through thigh deep water to reach him. The man could not catch the rope they tried to throw him. So the crew used a “Baywatch” buoy and throw rope to finally reach the terrified man, fighting the wind and current to drag him to safety. Given the speed and strength of the water current during the course of hurricane winds and rain, as well as the depth and temperature of the water, the crew worked with extreme bravery and courage to save the citizen.



Firefighter/Paramedic
John Crombie



Firefighter/EMT
William Lawrence



Senior Firefighter
Charles Poole



Lieutenant
Marshall Smith

Fire Department Receives Outstanding EMS Agency Award



On June 4, at the Tidewater EMS Council Annual Awards Ceremony, the Chesapeake Fire Department received the “2017 Outstanding EMS Agency Award.” In addition, Lieutenant Forrest Winslow received the “2017 Outstanding EMS Administrator Award” and Captain Scott Clifford was recognized with the “2017 Outstanding Contribution to EMS Health and Safety Award.”

These awards underscore the tremendous amount of hard work and effort members of the Chesapeake Fire Department put forth in the pursuit of best practices to provide the highest quality emergency medical care to their patients.

Pictured left to right: Captain Scott Clifford, Health and Safety Officer; Lieutenant Forrest Winslow, Performance Improvement; Chief Edmund Elliott, Fire Chief; Division Chief Thom Schwalenberg, Chief Medical Officer.

Mass Casualty Workshop Held To Prepare Community

A Mass Casualty and Mass Fatality Family Assistance Center Workshop was held on May 10 at The Mount in Chesapeake. The workshop was a collaboration of the Eastern Virginia Healthcare Coalition, the City of Chesapeake Department of Human Services, Tidewater Community College, and the Tidewater Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. The Chesapeake community collaborated in a Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program workshop for transitioning from a Family Reception Center to a Family Assistance Center with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

More than 100 Chesapeake community stakeholders with manpower and/or resources participated in this emergency incident workshop. The workshop helped prepare the Chesapeake community for a full scale Mass Casualty and Mass Fatality Exercise in the fall.

DEVELOPMENTS & PERMITS

Lidl Store: A Certificate of Occupancy was issued to the Lidl Store located at 4033 Portsmouth Boulevard. The grand opening is scheduled for July 1. This is one the first of the German-owned grocery store in North America.

Hoffman Beverage: A Certificate of Occupancy was issued on June 15 to the two story Hoffman Beverage office building located at 4105 South Military Highway.

INIT US Headquarters: A Certificate of Occupancy was issued on June 9 to INIT US Headquarters, a 62,885 square foot building located at 424 Network Station Drive.

Independence Day Holiday

All City Offices, Courts, Libraries and Community Centers will be Closed

Monday & Tuesday

July 3rd & 4th

Trash and recycling collections will be moved back one day during the holiday week

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Celebrate Freedom”
Monday, July 3 City Park
Gates open: 5:00 p.m.
Army TRADOC Band 8:00 p.m.
Fireworks 9:15 p.m.

South Norfolk Parade & Picnic
Tuesday, July 4
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Lakeside Park
1441 Bainbridge Boulevard

Towne Place Concert Series
Thursday, July 13
5:30 p.m.
Towne Place at Greenbrier
725 Eden Way North

Food Truck Hump Days
on the Great Bridge Waterways
Wednesday, July 19
4:00 p.m.
1775 Historic Way

Night Hike
Saturday, July 22
7:30 p.m.
Northwest River Park
1733 Indian Creek Road
[Register Online](#)

South Norfolk Blue Crab Fest
Sunday, July 30
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Khedive Shrine Center
645 Woodlake Drive
