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# Real Time Updates

**Chesapeake**  
VIRGINIA

June 2015

for the Chesapeake City Council and Community Leaders

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## NEWS

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### CITY BUDGET APPROVED

On May 12, 2015, City Council adopted the FY 2016 Operating Budget and funded City operations for the fiscal year that starts July 1, 2015. The \$936 million budget addresses all services across the City, including Chesapeake Public Schools, Public Safety, and enterprise activities such as water and sewer services for residents and businesses. While there are no changes in general tax rates, Council approved a modest increase in water and sewer fees along with increased fees for ambulance service and building inspection fees to insure compliance with stormwater regulations. The Budget also includes funding to address pay equity and wage compression for the general work force in FY 2016.

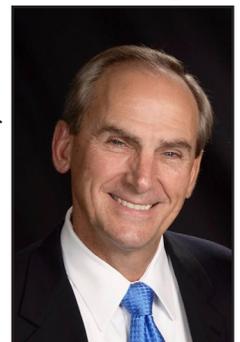
The same night, City Council approved funding of the first year of the 2016-2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP provides for the City's long-term investment in facility and infrastructure needs. The new CIP includes improvements for water, sewer, and stormwater systems, a rehab of the Centerville Bridge, Dominion Boulevard widening, modernization of Great Bridge Primary School and more. Citizens may review the proposed budget at [CityofChesapeake.net/budget](http://CityofChesapeake.net/budget).

### R. STEPHEN BEST, SR. NAMED CHESAPEAKE'S FIRST CITIZEN FOR 2015

The Chesapeake Rotary Club has named Mr. R. Stephen Best, Sr. Chesapeake's First Citizen for 2015. Best served 37 years in the Chesapeake Fire Department before retiring in 2010. Since his retirement he has served as Program Director for the Hampton Roads Catastrophic Planning Team. He has contributed countless hours to numerous charitable causes and community service projects in Chesapeake over the past 30 years.

Best served on the Board of Directors for the South Hampton Roads YMCA, as Treasurer of the Chesapeake 50th Anniversary Committee, and as Charter President of the Chesapeake Boys and Girls Club of Southeastern Virginia. He was an active Director of the Chesapeake Regional Health Foundation, the Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways History Foundation, the Chesapeake Jubilee, and the Chesapeake Rotary Club. His Rotary service has included being Chairman of Paint Your Heart Out and as a member of the Chesapeake Wine Festival organizing committee.

Steve Best has contributed greatly to making his hometown of Chesapeake a better place to live and work, and has exemplified the Rotary motto of "service above self." Congratulations to Steve Best for this outstanding accomplishment.



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# ECONOMIC IMPACTS

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## SONNY MERRYMAN INC. GROUNDBREAKING

Sonny Merryman, Inc. recently broke ground on their new Hampton Roads Service Center, which will triple both the size of their current facility and their number of employees. Sonny Merryman's new \$5 million, 37,000 square foot bus service facility is a valuable investment to the City. Sonny Merryman, Inc., has been in Chesapeake since 2005 in the Greenbrier area. The new facility is under construction in Cavalier Industrial Park at 1221 Fleetway Drive. Sonny Merryman, Inc., is the state's leading dealer for school, transit, and commercial buses. The May 13th groundbreaking celebration officially kicked off the company's year-long 50th Anniversary Celebration.



*Sonny Merryman, Inc. representatives with Mayor Alan Krasnoff. Pictured from left to right: Floyd W. Merryman, III, President and CEO; Dean Farmer, Vice President of Sales and Marketing; Mayor Krasnoff; Lou Merryman, Matriarch and Co-founder; and Pat Merryman, Senior Vice President of Administration.*



*Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff provides congratulatory remarks to Sonny Merryman, Inc. on their expansion into Cavalier Industrial Park. Sonny Merryman, Inc. is the state's leading dealer for school, transit and commercial buses.*



*Architectural rendering of Sonny Merryman, Inc.'s new \$5 million Hampton Roads Service Center which will encompass 37,000 sq. ft. and triple the size of their current bus service facility. Targeted completion date for the brand new facility is spring 2016.*



*Sonny Merryman, Inc. and City officials break ground on the company's new Hampton Roads Service Facility. Pictured from left to right: Brady Childress, Vice President of Customer Support; Mark Roberts, Vice President of Operations; Steven Wright, City of Chesapeake, Department of Economic Development; Lou Merryman, Matriarch and Co-founder; Pat Merryman, Senior Vice President of Administration; Floyd W. Merryman III; Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff; Angelo Castanes, Chief Financial Officer; and George Compo, President & CEO, Compo Construction.*

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## PROJECTS

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### DOMINION BOULEVARD WIDENING PROJECT

The Dominion Boulevard South Widening Project has been advertised for construction. The project will widen Dominion Boulevard from two lanes to four lanes from south of Cedar Road to Route 17. This project will be the final piece to complete a four lane roadway from the North Carolina state line to Interstate-64/464.

### LAKESIDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements are in process to replace the bridge and sidewalks at Lakeside Park. The improvements should provide easier accessibility for visitors.



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## JUNE EVENTS

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Chesapeake Criterium  
Saturday, June 6  
8:00 a.m.  
Chesapeake Municipal  
Center

Clean the Bay Day  
Saturday, June 6  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
City-wide Locations

Veterans Benefits Service Office  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
Wednesday, June 10  
10:00 a.m.  
TCC Chesapeake Campus

Phelps Brothers  
Music Festival  
Sunday, June 14  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Lakeside Park

Summer Reading Carnival  
Saturday, June 20  
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Major Hillard Library

KayaXpedition  
Saturday, June 20  
All day event  
Oak Grove Lake Park

2015 Service Awards  
Breakfast  
Thursday, June 25  
8:30 a.m.  
Chesapeake Conference  
Center

Seniors Fish Fry  
Friday, June 26  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Chesapeake City Park

Chesapeake Recycles Day  
Saturday, June 27  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Greenbrier Mall  
(Between Dillards and JCPenney)

### MAYOR'S CUP BLOOD DRIVE

Great Bridge Community Center  
June 9, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Chesapeake Conference Center  
June 23, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Let's help Chesapeake win again this year!

### SAVE THE DATE - JULY 3

Celebrate Freedom - Concert & Fireworks  
July 3, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.  
Chesapeake City Park - Greenbrier  
Live Music, Fireworks, Concessions  
FREE Admission - \$5 fee for on-site parking

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## OPERATIONS

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### **BUILDING PERMIT ISSUED FOR NEW PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS BUILDING**

A building permit was issued for the new Public Safety Operations Facility at 2130 South Military Highway. This will be a 52,978 square foot new building.

### **GREENBRIER SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER APPROVED**

The Development and Permits Department recently approved construction of the Greenbrier Square Shopping Center. The shopping center is located along the newly extended Woodland Drive near the intersection of North Battlefield Boulevard. When completed, the shopping center will feature a 123,000 square foot Kroger grocery store and an additional 138,000 square feet of retail space.

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# NEWS

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## PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL CEREMONY RECAP

On May 14, the Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony was held to commemorate and honor those Public Safety Officers who have died in the line of duty while serving Chesapeake, the City of South Norfolk, and Norfolk County. Guests gathered at the Public Safety Memorial site to remember these brave men. Family survivors, along with Police and Sheriff honor guard members, laid flowers upon the memorial as each officer's name was announced. If you missed the ceremony, you can see a complete replay on WCTV Chesapeake Television, Cox 48, Verizon 43, or online at [www.CityOfChesapeake.net/TV](http://www.CityOfChesapeake.net/TV).



*Attendees gather at the 2015 Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony*



*Delegate Ron Villanueva shared comments during the ceremony*



*Mayor Alan Krasnoff delivered a proclamation from City Council*



*Officers salute the flags during the ceremony*



*Family members and officers pay their respect*



*Chesapeake Police honor the fallen*



*Major Tracy Branch, Chesapeake Police Department, served as Master of Ceremonies for the event.*



*Following the outdoor service, a new Memorial Wall was dedicated at the Public Safety Building on Albemarle Drive. The wall includes photographs of Chesapeake Police, Fire and Sheriff's personnel who died in the line of duty.*

## PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES HONORED AT SAFE DRIVING CEREMONY

On Thursday, May 21, more than 180 Public Works employees were honored at the Safe Driving Awards Ceremony which takes place every year during National Public Works Week. Award recipients have logged anywhere from 1 to 41 accident-free years for the City.