

New Public Safety Operations Center Opens

The City celebrated the grand opening of its new Public Safety Operations Center (PSOC) with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 31.

The PSOC, located at 2130 South Military Highway, is a state of the art central location for many of the City’s most critical communications and emergency operations functions.

The three-story, 51,000 square foot building houses several departments including the Emergency 911 Call Center, Emergency Dispatch, Emergency Operations Center, Customer Contact Center, Backup Network Operations Center, Emergency Management Office and Fire Training Administration.



Left to right: Fire Chief Edmund Elliott, Delegate James A. “Jay” Leftwich, Jr. , Council Member Elect Matthew Hamel, Council Member Elect Steve Best, Senator Lionell Sprurill, Council Member Lonnie Craig, Congressman Bobby Scott, Council Member Suzy Kelly, Mayor Rick West, Council Member Ella Ward, Treasurer Barabara Carraway, Commonwealth Attorney Nancy Parr, Council Member Debbie Ritter, Senator John Cosgrove and Police Chief Kelvin Wright.



Nearly 100 staff members occupy the building, augmented with additional staffing for emergency operations and training activities.

Later that day, Governor Ralph Northam, surrounded by state and local officials in the PSOC, reminded residents of the importance of preparing for hurricane season which began on June 1. The Governor also encouraged Virginians to learn which evacuation zone they are in so they can receive important evacuation information and instructions from emergency managers as a storm approaches.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS

KNOW YOUR ZONE

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management, together with Virginia coastal communities, has developed a plan for evacuating residents who will be in harm's way should a hurricane or other emergency event occur. This system makes it easier to know when a citizen's home is at risk. Before the storm, before the evacuation, and before the traffic, it's important that citizens know their zone. Residents in evacuation zones are in either A, B, C, or D, based on anticipated risk.



Citizens can find out what their zone is by visiting KnowYourZoneVA.org and entering their home address. The map will zoom into the street which will either be shaded blue for Zone A, green for Zone B, orange for Zone C, red for Zone D, or neutral for the area of Chesapeake with no zone because of the unlikelihood of evacuation. Residents are encouraged to write down their zone and put it somewhere that will help them remember it, like on a refrigerator or by a home computer.



The City will use all available means to notify people of an evacuation, but the best way to get the message is to register for the City's notification system, Chesapeake Alert. Registering ensures that you are notified directly in the way you prefer and receive updates after the storm has passed. [Register here.](#)



COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY'S NEWS

Program Takes Realistic Approach to Teach Important Lesson

"Every 15 Minutes" is an annual two-day program, held at Hickory High School this year on April 11 and 12. The program focused on high school juniors and seniors, challenging them to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions. Along with alcohol-related crashes, it emphasized the impact that their decisions would have on family and friends.

Commonwealth Attorney, Nancy Parr was instrumental in putting together this year's event. WCTV-Chesapeake Television recorded the program, which was later shown to the high school seniors at a special presentation. [View the video.](#)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Sumitomo Breaks Ground on Expansion

Sumitomo Machinery Corporation of America held a groundbreaking on May 11, for the 100,000 square foot expansion of their current location at 4200 Holland Blvd. The \$10 million investment will add 26 new jobs.

Sumitomo plans to grow its manufacturing operations at its North American headquarters at Cavalier Industrial Park.

Celebrating alongside the local leadership of James Solomon, President & CEO of Sumitomo Machinery Corporation of America, was Mr. Toshiharu Tanaka, Director, Executive Vice President of Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Ltd., who journeyed from Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Tanaka spoke to the excitement of this new project in addition to recognizing the hard work of Sumitomo's employees. Chesapeake Council Member, Dr. Ella Ward, also provided sentiments, congratulating the company on its growth and decision to reinvest in Chesapeake.



Left to right: Tatsuro Araki, SHI Vice President/SHI-GB President; Jon Murphy, Vice President of Sales, SMA; Steven Wright, Director of Economic Development; Nate Flora, Vice President & CFO, SMA; James Solomon, President & CEO, SMA; Sara Zimmerman, Vice President of Business Development; Dr. Ella Ward, Council Member; Toshiharu Tanaka, SHI Director, Executive Vice President, PTC Group General Manager; Jim Travers, Vice President of Operations; Dave Harrell, Armada Hoffer Pre-construction Manager; and George Orlando, Armada Hoffer Project Manager.

New Facility Opens in Chesapeake

Konecranes USA celebrated the grand opening of its new Chesapeake facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 22. The Richmond-based company has operations throughout the entire Commonwealth as well as West Virginia and Maryland.

Konecranes specializes in servicing crane and hoist equipment, developing maintenance plans and completing inspections for lifting equipment to prevent cranes and hoists from damage and wear. Mayor Rick West was in attendance to celebrate Konecrane's opening at its 11,000 square foot building located at 500 Woodlake Circle.

KONECRANES®

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

2018 Chesapeake Small Business of the Year Announced

On May 2, the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce recognized MiCar Collision Center as the 2018 Chesapeake Small Business of the Year at their annual luncheon program held at the Chesapeake Conference Center.

MiCar Collision Center started 21 years ago by husband and wife, Mike and Carolyn Maddox. The shop started out in a 1,000 square foot building, and relocated in 2003 to their current location at 928 Ventures Way, where the company eventually expanded from 5,500 square feet to 16,000 square feet. MiCar Collision Center specializes in the replacement and repair of auto parts, as well as applying sealants that preserve a vehicle's paint.



Left to right: Taylor Harrell, South Bank; Congressman Bobby Scott; Danny Melchers, MiCar; Carolyn Maddox, MiCar; Mike Maddox, MiCar; Council Member Debbie Ritter; Bryan Stephens, Hampton Roads Chamber President & CEO; and Mike Herron, Inside Business.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Project Updates and Milestones

Completed Projects:

- Intersection improvements at Military Highway/Smith Avenue and the signalization of the Centerville Turnpike/Butts Station Road and Volvo Parkway/Plantation Lakes Drive intersections.
- A crosswalk safety signal was installed at the Holt Drive/Shea Drive intersection. The signal allows pedestrians to activate a warning signal to give motorists extra notice that they are preparing to cross.

Construction is scheduled to start in June on the following projects:

- Benefit Road Improvements and Bridge Replacement Project
- Gum Road Multi-Use Trail Project
- Cloverdale Area Drainage Improvement Project

Future Projects to Watch:

- 22nd Street Bridge Replacement Project
- Sign Pine Outfall Ditch Project
- Route 168 Mt Pleasant Interchange Repairs

For more information on Public Works projects, go the [Public Works](#) page on the City website.

PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

Fire Department Receives Award for 2nd Consecutive Year

For the second year in a row, the Fire Department has been awarded the American Heart Association Mission Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Award. The award recognizes the department's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers for providing exceptional care to their cardiovascular patients.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest type of heart attack which is caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart and requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it's critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, by mechanically opening the blocked vessel.

In collaboration with hospital teams, the Chesapeake Fire Department has consistently exceeded the required achievement measure and is recognized as one of only ten EMS agencies in Virginia to earn the Gold Plus Award for 2018.



Left to right: Michael McMahon, TEMS PI Coordinator; Division Chief Thom Schwalenberg, CFD Chief Medical Officer; Dustin Harley, CRMC Cath Lab Manager; Dr. Lewis Siegel; Dr. Shon Charkrabarti, CRMC Interventional Cardiologist; and Lieutenant Forrest Winslow, CFD Performance Improvement/Privacy Officer.

Department Hosts Rescue Challenge Scenarios

The 25th annual Rescue Challenge was held April 30 through May 3 in Hampton Roads. This year's event was attended by twelve technical rescue teams from around the country. The teams spent four days completing eight challenges that tested their skills.

The City hosted two scenarios, the first called "Broken Road" involving a car in a trench with two trapped victims and "Bridge over Rubbled Waters" involving multiple vehicles after a bridge collapse with two trapped victims.



The goal of the Rescue Challenge is to give teams from various regions around the country an opportunity to come together and work scenarios they may not see every day, preparing them for real life situations.

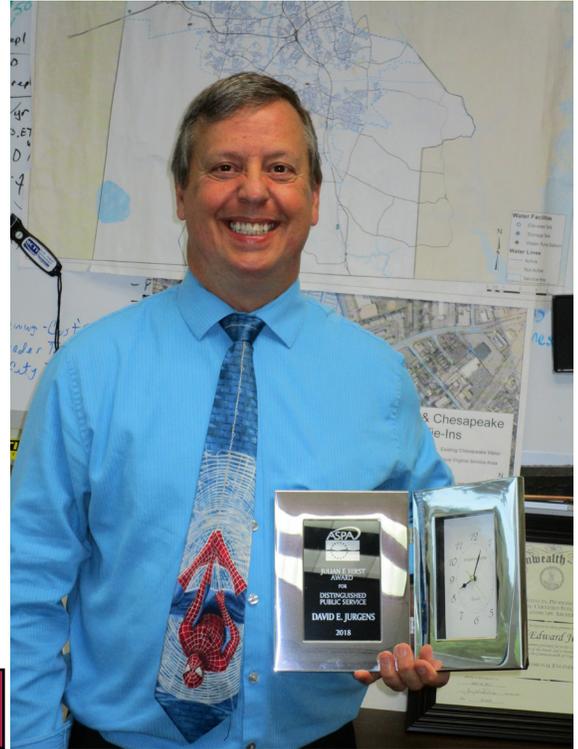
PUBLIC UTILITIES NEWS

Director Recognized with Prestigious Award

The Julian F. Hirst Award for Distinguished Service was presented to David Jurgens, Director of Public Utilities, at the American Society of Public Administration - Hampton Roads Chapter's Annual Awards Luncheon held on May 10 in Norfolk.

Jurgens has served as the Public Utilities Director since January 2014, where he oversees the water and wastewater utility. His initiatives have resulted in substantial savings in City water costs and significant emphasis on employee development and performance.

The award is presented to a Hampton Roads public administrator who is 40 years old or older and best exemplifies the criteria set forth for distinguished service in public administration. The award is named after Julian F. Hirst, who served as City Manager of Norfolk from 1975 until retirement in 1985.



David Jurgens, Director of Public Utilities.

NEWS OF NOTE

Terms Begin for Newly Elected on July 1

On Tuesday, May 1, the City held elections for Mayor, City Council and the School Board.



Rick West was elected Mayor. In the City Council election, incumbents Dwight Parker, Ella Ward and John de Triquet were reelected, along with newcomers Steve Best, Susan Vitale and Matthew Hamel. Incumbents Colleen Leary, Christie New Craig, Harry Murphy, and Michael Woods were reelected to the School Board along with newcomer Patricia King.

The newly elected members of both bodies will begin their terms on July 1. The City Council will hold a reorganization meeting on June 26 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chamber at City Hall. The School Board will hold their reorganization meeting on July 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-purpose Room in the School Administration Building. If you would like to know more about the City Council and School Board members, biographies can be found at CityOfChesapeake.net and CPSchools.com, respectively.

Council Approves Operating Budget for 2019

The Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 was approved City Council on May 8. Amendments and corrections to the budget will be revisited at the June 12 City Council. The first day of new fiscal year is July 1. For more information on the [FY 2018-2019 Proposed Operating Budget](#).

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE NEWS

Mayor's Cup Blood Drive

To schedule an appointment, contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-REDCROSS
or redcrossblood.org

Wednesday, June 6	Social Services Great Room	9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 7	Chesapeake Public Library	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 12	Sheriff Meeting Room	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 13	Great Bridge Community Center	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 26	Integrated Behavioral Healthcare	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 27	Chesapeake Conference Center	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 28	Chesapeake Public Library	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS

The Chesapeake Farmer's Market will open Saturday, June 9, at two locations in the City. The market will remain open until September 29 at Battlefield Park South near the Great Bridge Bridge, and until November 23 at Chesapeake City Park. Local farmers will sell produce, plants and value added products every Saturday and Wednesday at both locations from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Upcoming City Closing

Independence Day

All City offices, courts, libraries and community centers will be closed on Wednesday, July 4
The Visitors Center, located at 1224 Progressive Drive, will remain open.

Changes to trash and recycling collection schedule:

- Wednesday route will be collected on Thursday
- Thursday route will be collected on Friday
- Friday route will be collected on Saturday

UPCOMING EVENTS

Food Trucks "On the Square"
Wednesday, June 6
4:00 p.m. - Dusk
Courtyard Square Park
306 Cedar Road

KayaXpedition
Saturday, June 9
8:00 a.m.
Oak Grove Lake Park
409 Byron Street

Catch a Crab with Dad!
Saturday, June 16
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Elizabeth River Park
1400 Elizabeth River Way

"Movie & More" Outdoor Series
Saturday, June 16
5:00 p.m.
Chesapeake City Park
900 City Park Drive
Free - [For more information](#)

Stepping Out to Cure Scleroderma
Saturday, June 23
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Oak Grove Lake Park
409 Byron Street
[Register here](#)

Rolling on the River
Thursday, June 28
4:00 p.m.
Elizabeth River Park
1400 Elizabeth River Way