

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



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George R. Pelton
President and CEO
First Team Automotive Group

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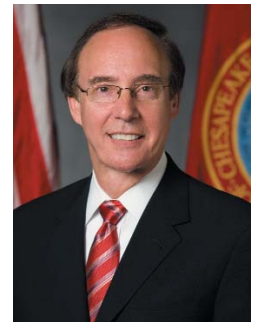
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Good People. Great Values.

Message from the Mayor



Welcome to our inaugural report, in collaboration with *Inside Business*, which highlights Chesapeake's remarkable achievements.

Despite the challenges of a less than robust economy that may have adversely affected other cities, Chesapeake has been able to grow more than \$135 million in business investment and create 600 new jobs.

Like all of Hampton Roads, our City also benefits from a strong military presence. Prime examples are the opening of a new Coast Guard Retail Exchange, not to mention the Coast Guard Finance Center's decision to renew its lease and remain one of Chesapeake's major employers.

Chesapeake also is re-engineering practices that might have worked well yesterday, but don't make sense in a rapidly changing economic climate that demands new ways of thinking. The new South Norfolk Jordan Bridge is a prime example of how Chesapeake and the way we do business have changed. Where once a bridge application could have languished on a desk for up to 15 years, this one was signed, sealed and delivered in less than a year.

By using technology and the latest advances in e-government, Chesapeake also is quickly moving toward the day when our City will be open for business on a 24/7 basis. Services such as online permitting and real-time information are but two examples.

Looking forward, our commitment to our citizens and those who do business in Chesapeake remains undiminished.

I have said it many times before and I will say it again now: Chesapeake is open for business. Today, I invite you to join us on this journey, as together we build on our accomplishments to maintain the quality of life and prosperity we've come to expect in Chesapeake.

Alan P. Krasnoff, Mayor

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Chesapeake City Council (from left) Vice Mayor Dr. John M. deTriquet, Dwight M. Parker, C.E. "Cliff" Hayes Jr., Patricia Pritchard Willis, Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff, S.Z. "Debbie" Ritter, Bryan L. Collins, Dr. Ella Ward and Dr. Richard W. West.



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Chesapeake: The Hub of Hampton Roads

Since its formation in 1963 from the merger of Norfolk County and the City of South Norfolk, Chesapeake has grown to become the third-largest city in Virginia in terms of population and one of the Commonwealth's most geographically diverse cities. From the bustling urban center of Greenbrier to the pastoral quiet of Hickory, there truly is something for everyone in Chesapeake.

Chesapeake's 353 square miles sit at the heart of Hampton Roads, making it both a center for business and commerce and a hub for easy access to the region's many amenities. The City is at once focused on its position in history and the expansive future that lies ahead.

Chesapeake's historic importance reaches back to America's founding days and the crucial Battle of Great Bridge, often termed by historians

as "the Bunker Hill of the South." This key engagement is celebrated annually each December and forms the cornerstone for the new Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways History Center being constructed along the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal.

Water and the environment are key players to much of the Chesapeake lifestyle. Residents enjoy hiking, walking, biking and paddling the Great Dismal Swamp's many trails and waterways.

Residents also take great pride in preserving and enhancing the community's natural beauty, with the City having earned



Chesapeake's 353 square miles sit at the heart of Hampton Roads, making it both a center for business and commerce and a hub for easy access to the region's many amenities.

top national honors in environmental stewardship for many years.

But while they are firmly rooted in history, Chesapeake residents also are clearly focused on their future. Technology is evident throughout Chesapeake, in ways large and small. In fact, IBM recently named the City of Chesapeake a "Smart City" for its extensive adoption of technology to enhance efficiency and workflow.

This focus on technology is just one of the ways Chesapeake shows it's open for business. The City continues to streamline its operations and processes to make doing business in Chesapeake as easy and attractive as possible. Plus, with more than

90 companies representing 18 countries, Chesapeake has the largest concentration of international businesses in Hampton Roads.

Chesapeake also can look with pride to its strong municipal financial picture, being rated as AA+ by Moody's for several years. Despite the challenges of the current national economy, the City continues to find ways to maximize its resources and make the best, smartest use of taxpayer dollars.

There's so much to see, learn, experience and enjoy in Chesapeake that we've only scratched the surface. For more on all that makes Chesapeake Virginia's finest city, visit www.CityofChesapeake.Net, stop by one of the many community centers or libraries, or call the City's Customer Contact Center at 382-CITY.

Moving Forward – Chesapeake 2030

The City of Chesapeake is reviewing and updating the Forward Chesapeake 2026 Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted by City Council on March 9, 2005. This new initiative, called "Moving Forward – Chesapeake 2030," serves as a blueprint to guide the City's future growth and land use, as well as guide development in Chesapeake, during the next 20 years. The plan includes the future land-use plan and master transportation plan. It will be organized into three major themes: sustainability, infrastructure and quality of life.



Six community workshops were held in October 2009 to receive input from citizens and stakeholders on elements of the current plan. Additional workshops are planned for summer 2010, with a public hearing targeted for fall/winter 2010.

Additional project information can be found at www.CityofChesapeake.Net/movingforward2030 or you can follow the plan updates on [twitter.com/@chesapeake2030](https://twitter.com/chesapeake2030).

Chesapeake, one of the 100 largest cities in the United States and the third largest in the Commonwealth, continues to sustain and thrive. In 2009, more than \$135 million in investment and 600 new jobs were generated as a result of the City's economic development business retention and business attraction efforts.

Of special note, Chesapeake employers — such as Canon ITS and the U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center, to name a few — also renewed their office leases choosing to stay here and retain 1,145 jobs and occupy 473,200 total square feet.

Business Highlights

Leading the way in 2009, Dollar Tree, with its corporate headquarters in Chesapeake, broke into the ranks of the Fortune 500, joining regional neighbors Smithfield Foods and Norfolk Southern. The company stock was the best-performing stock of 2008, returning nearly 61 percent to stockholders and logging \$4.6 billion in revenue.

Closing out the year, Init Inc. was awarded a \$35 million contract in the Pacific Northwest by the Tri-County Metropolitan District of Oregon. Init was chosen to provide an advanced CAD/AVL system in support of TRIMET's fixed-bus operations and light rail vehicles. Init specializes in intelligent trans-



Dollar Tree's corporate headquarters is located off Volvo Parkway in Chesapeake's Greenbrier area.



At the May 2009 Chesapeake Business Appreciation Event, Usui International was named Chesapeake Business of the Year. Usui International, headquartered in Japan, completed its \$22 million expansion in Chesapeake by relocating and consolidating its operations into the former Johnson Controls building in Cavalier Industrial Park. Usui has 130 employees, with plans to add another 65 over a three-year period.

More than \$135 million in investment and 600 new jobs were generated as a result of the City's business retention and business attractions efforts.

portation systems for public transit and recently celebrated its 10th anniversary in Chesapeake.

Business Retention and Expansion Program

Economic Development staff formally structured this program and as a result conducted nearly 200 one-on-one business visits, many of which included Mayor Alan Krasnoff. These visits provided insight about Chesapeake companies' products and services so staff can continue to devise useful business programs and helpful resources. Monthly Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) meetings also continued and the year was rounded out with quarterly business events and/or workshops.

For business opportunities in Chesapeake, please email research@chesva.com or call 757-382-8040.

Usui International Inc. and Electric Motor & Contracting Co. Inc. were the top performers in industrial expansion investment and created or saved the most jobs.

Business Attraction

Many entities discovered the City is strategically positioned as a great place to do business and access multiple markets and customers. For instance, the U.S. Census Bureau recently opened a regional office here and RRMM Architects returned to its city of origin after two decades.

The Chesapeake Economic Development staff and Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance joined as partners to travel nationally and globally to spread the word that "Chesapeake is open for business" and tout the region's strategic advantages by visiting international headquarter companies and site selection consultants.

Award-winning real estate

Chesapeake won nine awards in 11 categories in the 2009 Deals of the Year competition sponsored by the Hampton Roads Association of Commercial Real Estate (HRACRE) and Inside Business — four Golds, three Silvers and two Bronzes. Gold winners were the U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center, Greenbrier Portfolio, Coast Guard Retail Exchange and the new Walgreens in Greenbrier.

In 2009, HRACRE honored the TCC Regional Automotive Technology Center with an Award of Excellence as the Best Institutional/Public Building. The 30,600-square-foot, single-story building in Chesapeake's Oakbrooke office park houses 15 working garage bays, nine classrooms, faculty offices, conference facilities and a dedicated car display area.

2009 Development Highlights

Company	Investment
Usui International	\$22 million
First Team Auto	\$18.5 million
Tidewater Community College (Regional Automotive Center)	\$10.1 million
Electric Motor & Contracting Company, Inc.	\$8.5 million
Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (Emergency Department)	\$6.5 million
Comfort Inn & Suites Hotel	\$7 million
Flow Serve	\$5.5 million
Edinburgh Commons Retail Center	\$4 million

And, thank you to our Chesapeake companies that choose to renew their leases and remain here equating to 473,200 total sq. ft. and 1,145 saved jobs.

www.yeschesapeake.com



Staying competitive even in a down economy is important and the Chesapeake Economic Development Authority's 120-acre Oakbrooke Business and Technology Park continues to garner strong interest. Besides the new automotive center, a 60,000-square-foot Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters office building opened, as well as more than 37,000 square feet in new construction of office and warehouse facilities.

Development and Permits Department is formed

In 2009, Chesapeake began a yearlong process to re-engineer the City's development review practices. The group consisted not only of staff, but a wide range of members from the business community including, engineers, developers, contractors, and small and large business owners. As a result of this diverse group's findings, the Development and Permits Department was formed in 2009.

This new department combined two former departments to provide better communication within the City, as well as a more comprehensive quality of customer service for residents and businesses. Several key initiatives include construction plan review meetings to expedite approval, a major streamlining of the sewer and water acceptance process, and a new tenant build-out Web site. In 2009, the department issued more than 12,039 permits with a total building permit value of \$224,868,168.

Chesapeake is small-business friendly

- The Small Business Development Center of Hampton Roads has opened a new satellite office at the Independence Place Building within the offices of the Chesapeake Department of Economic Development. The center, an affiliate of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, will have a library geared toward entrepreneurs. It will help give small business owners improved access to the City's resources and programs.
- The City has initiated a Small, Women and Minority-Owned (SWaM) Business Program that provides education and financial opportunities. SWaM education resources include partnering with the Chamber of Commerce, the Small Business Development Center and the City's procurement division to provide training in the areas of licensing, marketing, writing a business plan, opening a business and doing business with the City. Financial resources include partnering with local banks and state resources that offer lending programs and options for SWaM businesses.



Founded in 2002, T-Solutions, Inc. is a service-disabled veteran owned small business that provides maintenance-engineering consulting services to military clients worldwide. T-Solutions was honored by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce as Virginia's No. 1 fastest-growing company in 2007, the third fastest-growing company in 2008 and the 10th fastest-growing company in Virginia in 2009. The Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce also recognized T-Solutions as Chesapeake's Small Business of the Year for 2009. Pictured here are Madonna Bossa, Mike Chapman, Jim Todd, Darlene Todd, Katy Lorince, Mike Phillips, Rochelle Morelan and Maria Bayer.

To promote committed investment partnerships between the City and its business community, the Economic Development Investment Program was amended to benefit both small and large businesses. City Council modified the existing program in July 2009 to allow more businesses to qualify for the grant. The minimum investment of \$5 million and/or the creation of 50 jobs was reduced to a minimum investment of \$500,000 and the creation of at least five new jobs. The company is also required to be in business for at least three years. At least 80 percent of the companies in the City are considered to be small businesses.



Dr. Harry E. Jenkins, D.D.S., of Harry Jenkins Family Dentistry, received the 2009 Virginia Black Expo Chesapeake Business Leadership Award.

Greenbrier: The best keeps getting better

Once the world's largest outdoor nursery, Greenbrier is now the most popular business district in Hampton Roads. This dynamic area contains three million square feet of office space, eight million square feet of industrial space and nearly four million square feet of retail space, making it the largest mixed-use development in Hampton Roads.

Greenbrier is also home to some of the region's largest employers such as Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, QVC Chesapeake, HSBC – North America, Cox Communications, Dollar Tree Stores, Sentara Home Care Services, General Dynamics Information Technology, Canon ITS, First Data Resources, Givens Logistics, Harris Connect, Mitsubishi Chemical America, Cegedim Dendrite, Chubb & Son, Panasonic, American Funds Service Co., Volvo Penta of the Americas and Yupo Corp. America. Financial, technology, defense, office, manufacturing, logistics — all can be found here.

With so many retail opportunities, Greenbrier is the place to shop in Hampton Roads. Statistics show this area is the No. 1 retail destination in the region. Shoppers looking for leading national retailers or that special boutique experience will find the right place in a safe and friendly environment.

Greenbrier Mall recently attracted Jillian's, an entertainment venue and family restaurant, for this very reason. Jillian's will occupy 25,000 square feet in the former Piccadilly's Restaurant space with an opening planned for spring 2010.

Highlights of new commercial office and retail developments include:

- A new Coast Guard Retail Exchange — Open to all branches of the military as well as members of the Department of Homeland Security, it occupies the 42,697-square-foot former Circuit City



Cox Communications' regional headquarters are in the Greenbrier District. The company is one of the City's top five major employers.



(From left) Steven Wright, director of Chesapeake Economic Development; Chesapeake Councilwoman Dr. Ella Ward; John Maddux, president/CEO of RRMM Architects; Mayor Alan Krasnoff; and Stephen Childs, president of RRMM Design Build LLC, cut the ribbon to RRMM's new headquarters.

building. It will serve as a trade area for more than 162,000 eligible customers within a 12-mile radius. Up to 70 new jobs have been created.

- Towne Place @ Greenbrier – Kahn Development and Bonaventure recently announced it would build 250 apartment units for this mixed-use project in 2010. Surf Rider and Spaghetti Eddie's are two of the newest restaurants to locate here.
- 1100 Volvo Parkway is a brand-new 30,000-square-foot Class-A office building completed at the end of 2009. Developed by Davenport Real Estate Group, this building sits on 2.6 acres in



The new U.S. Coast Guard Retail Exchange — a department store in Greenbrier that sells everything from apparel, designer brand accessories and cosmetics to electronics, appliances and liquor — celebrated its grand opening in October 2009.

the heart of Greenbrier. Naming rights are still available.

- RRMM opening – In December 2009, RRMM Architects bid farewell to Norfolk, its home for 21 years, and relocated its 85-person headquarters to a new LEED Silver-certified office on Executive Boulevard in Greenbrier. The new office space gives the company almost 10,000 square feet more than its previous headquarters for a total of 23,000 square feet. The company maintains its central location is convenient for both its clients and employees but, most importantly, it chose its new location because the building is LEED certified.

Recognizing the area's strengths, City Council established a Tax Increment Financing district as a means to help keep Greenbrier a vibrant live/work/play location. Planned projects include improved pedestrian access, parking decks, City Park improvements, a new internal transit system and new streetscapes. Improvements to date include streetscape improvements along Eden Way, with construction planned or under way along Crossways, Kristina, Jarman and Stephanie Way.

The Greening of Greenbrier

Developed by Liberty Property Trust, Independence Place and Liberty Three are the first LEED certified buildings in Chesapeake and the Hampton Roads region to receive this designation from the U.S. Green Building Council.



Awarded LEED Gold certification in 2009, Independence Place is a 73,345-square-foot brick-and-metal office building in Battlefield Corporate Center. It has many green features including waterless urinals, a white-rubber membrane roof, energy-efficient glass, advanced energy-management system, state-of-the-art telecommunications, fiber optics, water-efficient landscaping, bike racks and reserved parking for fuel-efficient vehicles. Current tenants include the Chesapeake Economic Development Department, TEKSystems and Web Teks Inc.



Liberty Three on Executive Boulevard is a 75,000-square-foot LEED Silver-certified office building with lakefront views, walking trails and state-of-the-art telecommunications. Centro Trade, Devry University, Keller Graduate School of Management, RRMM Architects, The Capital Group Cos. Inc. and Virginia Business Bank are current tenants.

South Norfolk: The Gateway at SoNo beckons



First phase of Gateway at SoNo, a mixed-use development, which at completion will consist of 130 condominiums and 40,000 square feet of office and retail space. The combined value of these two projects is over \$60 million.

Since the first mound of dirt was moved at the corner of Poindexter Street and Bainbridge Boulevard, the Gateway at SoNo has been a dream in the making for many in South Norfolk. Jerry Harris, development manager of Harris-Judah Development LLC, says progress couldn't have happened without joint cooperation of the community, business leaders and the City of Chesapeake.

The neighborhood revitalization project has been years in the making and a huge undertaking for Harris and everyone involved. Its location is sure to be enhanced after the new Jordan Bridge is constructed. Work should be completed by 2011.

The recently opened multi-use/mixed-income complex now offers retail and professional office space and condominium lofts that will attract new businesses, young professionals and much-needed revenue for a community that's ready for change.

Signs of revitalization can be found all over South Norfolk. The new Oscar Smith Middle School has opened, three new restaurants have opened in less than a year and two more are under construction.

Taylor Made Diagnostics Inc., which operates and manages occupational health clinics in Hampton Roads, recently opened a new location at the Gateway at SoNo. The company offers a broad range of high-quality, cost-effective, occupational health care services and drug and alcohol management programs.

The developer, the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the City are very committed to revitalizing South Norfolk. Much more is planned for the Poindexter corridor and additions to Gateway that will add more retail and office space. Plus, plans for



Streetscape improvements at Poindexter Street and Bainbridge Boulevard are examples of the South Norfolk Tax Increment Financing (TIF) dollars at work.



Tidewater Staffing Inc., a temporary service provider headquartered in Chesapeake, has consolidated its operation in a brand new two-story building on Poindexter Street. The company provides temporary personnel to clients throughout the Eastern United States.

130 one- and two-bedroom condominium units are on the drawing board.

Signs of revitalization can be found all over South Norfolk. The new Oscar Smith Middle School has opened, three new restaurants have opened in less than a year and two more are under construction. A new insurance company, Buster's Bistro and the SoNo Flea Market have opened up shop on Bainbridge Boulevard.

Eden Pellets recently leased 60,000 square feet in a building on West Dexter Street that once housed Chesapeake Hardwood Products. Company owners plan to hire 20 workers and spend \$6 million to start a wood pellet manufacturing business that will produce wood pellets for horse bedding and burnable pellets to produce energy. They hope to have operations up and running by April 2010.

Western Branch: Crossroads of commerce

With the various transportation assets in Western Branch — I-664, Hampton Roads Executive Airport and Rt. 58 and 460 interchange at Bower's Hill — it's no wonder it remains the commercial center in western Hampton Roads. And although this area has encountered several challenges in 2009, the future looks bright as many public projects are under way or in the final planning stages that will continue to encourage private investment in the district.

The Department of Public Works has secured the necessary federal funding to widen and improve Portsmouth Boulevard from the I-664 interchange to the Suffolk line. Public works is working with VDOT to finalize traffic counts and the project is entering the design phase.

Western Branch High School is currently undergoing an approximate \$29 million expansion and upgrade, with the anticipated completion date in the fourth quarter of 2010. The new school will accommodate 2,400 students and technology upgrades will equal those at Grassfield High School.

Global and national market forces also had an impact on Western Branch, anchored by Chesapeake Square Mall. Significant closures included two of the mall's anchor tenants, the Dillard's East and South stores. Circuit City's bankruptcy forced the store at Crossroads Center at Chesapeake Square to close. City leadership has taken a pro-active stance and made the continued vibrancy of the Western Branch commercial sector a priority by working with various stakeholders.

The private sector has taken notice and despite the recession, Western Branch has experienced a surge of new business. The First Team Automotive Group invested approximately \$18.5 million to acquire and transform a former Lowe's on Western Branch Boulevard into one of the largest Toyota showrooms in Virginia and the largest Scion showroom in



First Automotive Group transformed a former Lowe's on Western Branch Boulevard into one of the largest Toyota showrooms in Virginia and the largest Scion showroom in the U.S. This location serves as First Team's corporate headquarters.



Chesapeake Square Shoppes

the United States. The project created 85 high-paying jobs. The 85,000-square-foot dealership also serves as First Team's corporate headquarters.

Other recent successes include the Chesapeake Square Shoppes, anchored by ABNB Federal Credit Union and Five Guys Burgers. Dollar Tree Market and Tuesday Morning will open in the former Circuit City space, while the Department of Economic Development continues its work with Simon Properties to fill the former Dillard's locations. The Dragas Cos. will begin construction on a 416-unit condominium complex that includes a 4.2-acre parcel for future commercial development.

On the west side of I-664, which is part of the Chesapeake Square submarket, the City has prospered with the opening of Onelife Fitness (formerly Gold's Gym) and a Cracker Barrel. There also are several new tenants at the Shops at Chesapeake Square including a Huntington Learning Center, ERA Residential Brokerage office and a day-spa.

Proposed developments in the Chesapeake Square market include Wirth Development's Jolliff Landing, which will include 84 townhomes, 20,000 square feet of office space and 100,000 square feet of commercial



Brothers John and Kirk Galiani, Onelife Fitness Center (formerly Gold's Gym); Chesapeake Mayor Alan Krasnoff; Chesapeake City Councilwoman Dr. Ella Ward; and Robin Tull, Chairman of the Board, Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, cut the ribbon to Onelife's new 60,000 sq ft facility.

space. Kotarides Development also is planning a 304-unit apartment complex as part of the new community.

Economic Development also has set its sight on two major properties along Portsmouth Boulevard. The largest property is the 250-acre Pine Grove development. Preliminary plans call for residential and commercial development, including an 80-acre parcel that's ideal for offices for defense contractors and modeling and simulation companies. A second property of about 150 acres, known as the Boyd property, is ideal for a commerce park or mixed-use development.

College District: Growing at a healthy pace

The Tidewater Community College Chesapeake Campus is the fastest-growing campus in the TCC system, having grown more than 63 percent over the last five years. The 70-acre site is located between the rapidly growing communities of Great Bridge and Deep Creek. It serves as the anchor for the business area known as the College District.

Home to more than 13,000 students, this campus offers a variety of educational opportunities for transfer degree preparation, career development and technical training. Courses of study include Accounting, Administration of Justice, Administrative Support Tech, Business Management and Administration, Childhood Development, Communication Studies and Theater, Electrical Technology, and Health.

Besides the TCC campus, the College District also includes Dominion Commerce Park, a 239-acre private development that features a new 38,000-square-foot multitenant industrial building and a new 20,000-square-foot multitenant Class-A office building, both with flexible floor plans. Current tenants include Hearndon Construction Corp., Anderson-Douglas Inc., Crossfit Chesapeake, Edward Jones and Sentara Physical Therapy.

In addition, Dominion Commerce Park has a variety of land opportunities ranging from 1 to 150 acres for sale. Recent construction activity includes:



TCC Chesapeake Campus



Dominion Business Center

- Mobile Satellite Technologies expanded its operations and relocated from its Greenbrier location to a new 13,200-square-foot building in the park.
- Chesapeake Montessori, now located in Great Bridge, is currently building a new 15,000-square-foot school scheduled to be completed this summer.

Across the street, Grassfield High School, a state-of-the-art facility, is designed for 2,400 students in grades nine through 12. Grassfield features four academic quads which houses classrooms, a 2,000 seat gymnasium, media center, food court and a 1,001 seat auditorium. Chesapeake Public Schools' Technology Academy is also at this location.

Great Bridge: Where history comes to life

It's no secret Great Bridge is the site of one of the most important battles in our nation's founding.

It's also no surprise that Great Bridge plays a key role in the founding of Chesapeake.

Home to the City's sprawling Municipal Center, this district is frequented daily by residents and companies conducting their day-to-day business and patronizing various restaurants and retail establishments.

Locke's Point Park — located along the Intracoastal Waterway — remains the district's focal point and gives Great Bridge its character and maritime feel.

Recent progress in Great Bridge includes Kelly's Tavern, which opened in the old Locke's Point restaurant site, and Chili's, which opened in the Great Bridge Shopping



Plans are currently under way to create the Historic Battlefield District as part of Great Bridge Village. A joint venture of Chesapeake, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation, the park will encompass the four quadrants of land that surround the intersection of Battlefield Boulevard and the canal at Great Bridge. In 2009, the foundation broke ground on what will be the centerpiece of the park — a 12,000-square-foot visitor's center/museum.

Center. The City's Department of Public Works also has made significant traffic improvements to enhance the "walkability" of the

Great Bridge Village and address needed drainage improvements.

Deep Creek and South Military Highway: Business is good in Deep Creek, home to 2009 Homearama

Cavalier Industrial Park, located off South Military Highway, continues to provide a strong industrial tax base for the City with over 100 companies in the park. In 2009, the City's top two industrial business expansions occurred here. Usui International completed its \$22 million total investment in the former Johnson Controls building off Cook Boulevard. Electric Motor & Contracting Co. is moving forward with its \$8.5 million investment, expanding its facilities with an additional 52,000 square feet.

Developers Dilip R. Patel and Hampton Roads Hospitality Inc. wanted to provide a much-needed, mid-priced hotel facility to the

In February 2010, the Comfort Inn and Suites officially opened on South Military Highway as part of the Choice Hotels International chain, bringing \$7 million in investment and 25 new jobs.

Military Highway/Deep Creek area. In February 2010, the Comfort Inn and Suites officially opened on South Military Highway as part of the Choice Hotels International chain, bringing \$7 million in investment and 25 new jobs. The adjacent restaurant/lounge is currently undergoing renovation and is planned to open in June 2010. A 100- to 150-seat function meeting room will complete the full-service aspect of the hotel, appealing to both local businesses as well as social and tour groups.

Despite a less than stellar housing market, the Deep Creek area of Chesapeake was chosen by Tidewater Builders Association to host Homearama 2009 which showcased the Robinson Development Group's Culpepper



Electric Motor & Contracting Co. Inc.'s \$8.5 million expansion will add on 52,000 square feet to its existing 110,000-square-foot facility. According to Steve Newing, EMC president, "We looked at many options when considering our current expansion, including relocating our entire company. After reviewing these options, and considering our positive business relationship with the City of Chesapeake for the last 25 years, we made the decision to leave our headquarters in Chesapeake and continue our growth in this area."



At Cavalier Industrial Park, Bay Warehouse, owned by First Potomac Trust, completely leased its 94,330-square-foot and 396,000-square-foot buildings in 2009. Newly signed tenants are Cort Business Systems, Ehrlich Distribution and Flow Serve. Harrison Moving and Storage also leased overflow warehouse space. First Potomac Trust owns and leases a total of 2,864,206 square feet in Chesapeake.

Landing. Twelve custom homes, six of which were already sold when the event kicked off, were showcased Oct. 3-18 at the 488-acre residential development. Home prices ranged from around \$230,000 to about \$500,000. Culpepper Landing features a mixed-use,

pedestrian-friendly design that incorporates community buildings with parks, open spaces and neighborhood gardens. When complete, its mercantile district will encompass 40,000 square feet of commercial office and retail space.

The Gilmerton Bridge, a major transportation artery in the Deep Creek and South Military Highway area, is currently being replaced. This \$158 million project will be open for traffic in 2013.

Two new bridges are on Chesapeake's horizon

In the near future, Chesapeake will welcome two replacement bridges over the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River.

The \$100 million South Norfolk Jordan Bridge project, which will connect South Norfolk to Portsmouth, will be a privately funded toll span built by Figg Bridge Developers, a company that's been designing and building bridges for 30 years. Electronically monitored tolls are projected to be about \$2.

At 145 feet tall, the new bridge will provide unrestricted water and highway access. Work should be completed by 2011.

The old Jordan Bridge, located at Poindexter Street in South Norfolk west of I-464, was closed in November 2008 because of safety concerns. Built in 1928, it was the



Jordan Bridge

The \$100 million South Norfolk Jordan Bridge project, which will connect South Norfolk to Portsmouth, will be a privately funded toll span built by Figg Bridge Developers, a company that's been designing and building bridges for 30 years.

oldest operating lift bridge in Virginia. Each year, it lifted more than 10,000 times to make way for in excess of 21,500 marine vessels. About 7,000 commercial vehicles and commuters used the bridge daily.

The Gilmerton Bridge replacement is fully funded and construction has begun. The new bridge will be four lanes with growth potential of up to six lanes. The vertical lift will be approximately 35-feet above the water in



Gilmerton Bridge

its closed position, requiring less openings which will result in fewer disruptions to roadway users.

In 2013, the \$158 million Gilmerton

Boulevard update

Another critical transportation project, Dominion Boulevard, continues to be a top priority for the City with an estimated budget of \$437 million. The project's design is 60 percent complete, with the design plans targeted to be finished by December 2010.

Bridge will open for traffic replacing the existing double-leaf bascule bridge constructed in 1938. The new four-lane, lift-span bridge will be operated by the City of Chesapeake.



Chesapeake is the transportation hub of the region, linked to one of the most modern interstate and state highway systems in the country.

- Typical commute to work is only 21.6 minutes.
- Norfolk International Airport is only 20 minutes away, offering more than 250 daily flights.
- Chesapeake Regional and Hampton Roads Executive Airports provide corporate flight service within the City.

- I-64 originates in Chesapeake, and I-264, I-464 and I-664 also serve the City.
- U.S. Route 58 connects Chesapeake to the principal north/south highways on the East Coast: I-95 and I-85.
- U.S. Route 13 connects the City to Virginia's Eastern Shore.
- The Chesapeake Expressway (Route 168) is a 16-mile-long, four-lane divided highway that links I-64 to North Carolina and the Outer Banks.

IBM recognizes Chesapeake as a 'Smarter City'

In December 2009 at “Smarter Cities — City of Chesapeake — Summit for Industry Leaders,” IBM recognized Chesapeake as a “Smarter City” for using technology to better serve the community. The City implemented an asset management program called Maximo that allows precise tracking of everything from water pipes to police dogs. This recognition has resulted in worldwide attention.

IBM made the announcement in front of an audience of nearly 40 City leaders, Council Members, and area business leaders. The summit, hosted at the City's newly opened eco-friendly Economic Development Department headquarters, included presentations by IBM Regional Executive Dom Cottone, Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff, City Manager William Harrell and Chief Information Officer Peter Wallace.

The City also was featured at IBM's Pulse Conference this year in Las Vegas. More than 5,000 people watched a video about Chesapeake's efforts and heard from one of the project leaders.

Every major Chesapeake City department uses IBM Maximo to maintain and manage the vital assets and City resources responsible for Public Utilities, Police, Fire, Public Works, Facilities and Parks and Recreation. The software allows the City to keep track of all assets, from water lines to vehicles, but the real benefit comes when that information is used to make smarter decisions. It allows the City to anticipate what will be needed.

If it's vehicle maintenance, it can be planned for a time when the vehicle isn't in use instead of when it's on the side of the



At a leadership summit press conference in December 2009, Chesapeake Council Member C. E. “Cliff” Hayes Jr. addresses (from left) City Manager William Harrell, Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff, CIO Peter Wallace and IBM Regional Executive Dom Cottone.

road. If it's an equipment part, it can be purchased together with other departments to get the best price. In cases where there's an emergency need, having a city-wide inventory means that public works can check the inventory of public utilities to see if it has the needed item. The replacement of items that expire can be anticipated and included in the budget.

According to IBM, “The City of Chesapeake, with technology and services from IBM, is a leading example of a truly interconnected and intelligent city. The commitment and understanding of the value of technology from the mayor, City manager and CIO clearly pulsates to all branches and departments across the city.”

Permits now available online

In a first within the region, the City of Chesapeake has launched a new service that opens Chesapeake for business 24/7. The Ez-Permit Center enables businesses and residents to apply for and receive City permits online. This process is part of an initiative to encourage business development by streamlining the process of doing business in Chesapeake.

Launched in March, the service will enable users to secure certain permits anytime without a trip to City Hall. Plumbing permits were the first available, with more to be added soon.

Chesapeake companies that achieved significant milestones in the technology arena include:

DENDRITE 

- Cegedim Dendrite ranked 49th on the 2009 edition of Software Top 100, the leading and independent online review of the world's largest software companies.

Canon

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INC.

- Canon Information Technology Services was recognized in PC Magazine's Annual Readers Choice Survey as providing the best level of technical support and customer service in the camera and printer category. Canon ITS has received this honor for the past six consecutive years — and is going for seven in 2010.

Green practices are here with more to come

A broader agenda of environmental leadership was officially endorsed when the Chesapeake City Council adopted the City's first sustainability plan Dec. 15, 2009.

An outcome of the Sustainable Chesapeake Initiative Committee formed in 2008, the plan provides a roadmap toward making the City a more environmentally sustainable community, with both long- and short-term goals.

Seven major focus areas have been identified to launch the City's green practices: fuels/vehicles/emissions, green infrastructure, green purchasing/acquisition, sustainable buildings and resource conservation, recycling/waste prevention, education/awareness and water quality.

In 2007 the City joined the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and adopted a green-building policy requiring all new city-funded buildings of 5,000 square feet or more to be built to meet the criteria of the USGBC Leadership for Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification Program. Construction of Chesapeake's first LEED-certified municipal building will begin in 2010.

Listed below are a few accomplishments and ongoing initiatives:

In October 2009, Chesapeake Economic Development located its office to Independence Place, the region's first Gold Level LEED Certified Building constructed and owned by Liberty Property Trust.

- Chesapeake participated in the Virginia Municipal League (VML) "Green Government Challenge," a friendly competition among Virginia local governments to encourage specific environmental policies/practices that reduce carbon emissions. Chesapeake was one of only 26 Virginia local governments VML designated as a "Green Government" in 2008. The City received the designation again in 2009.
- Department of Energy Block Grant – Chesapeake staff applied for and was awarded a \$2.06 million formula grant for extensive energy retrofits in up to 40 City



Construction of the City's first building designed to meet LEED standards is expected to begin in April 2010. Chesapeake's new 31,500-square-foot animal services facility will be built on a brownfields site and will include an array of green features, including passive solar water heating, rainwater harvesting, daylighting, low/no VOC interior finishes, energy-efficient HVAC system, energy-efficient T-8 fluorescent lights, and a white reflective "cool" roof.

buildings, energy awareness training, a solar photovoltaic project, development of a Comprehensive Energy Master Plan for City operations and other items. The City is also collaborating with Norfolk and Virginia Beach to develop a regional greenhouse gas inventory.

- Central Fleet has received the Environmental Enterprise designation from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Environmental Excellence Program. The environmentally friendly City fleet contains hybrid and flex-fuel vehicles, with some using biodiesel.
- Chesapeake will complete work on an Urban Forest Management Plan in 2010. This is a first for the City and Hampton Roads region.

Progress toward meeting the plan goals as well as updates will be summarized annually in a report titled "The State of Chesapeake's Environment." For further information on this initiative, check out the Sustainable Chesapeake Web page at www.CityofChesapeake.Net/services/citizen_info/green/index.shtml.



TFC Recycling was awarded the contract to collect and dispose of the City's recyclable products. In November 2009, Chesapeake enhanced its bi-weekly curbside recycling program and transitioned from 18-gallon bins to 95-gallon rolling carts. Today, 65,000 households are part of the Big Blue Bin recycling effort.

Outstanding school system ranks among the best

Chesapeake has every reason to be proud of its schools and the students who attend them. One reason the City is distinguished as such a desirable place to live and work is that Chesapeake is known for its outstanding school system.

With an enrollment of almost 39,000 students, Chesapeake Public Schools is the seventh largest school division in the state and

tion rate in the South Hampton Roads area.

Of the 500 graduates receiving college scholarships, more than 130 were awarded scholarships in excess of \$40,000 each. Career and technical education students earned 1,046 industry certifications



The new, \$56 million Oscar Smith Middle School, which opened in fall 2009, was built next door to the old one in South Norfolk. It serves about 875 students in grades six through eight in the Chesapeake Public Schools.



Grassfield High School off Dominion Boulevard in Chesapeake is a 347,549-square-foot facility designed for up to 2,400 students in grades nine through 12. It is the site of Chesapeake Public Schools' Technology Academy.

the second largest in Hampton Roads. The City boasts 45 public schools and more than 1,600 acres of campus. Its seven high schools offer a comprehensive program, including specialized academies such as the International Baccalaureate program and the Technology Academy. The newest academy, which is in the planning stages, will focus on medicine.

The seven high schools in Chesapeake awarded more than 3,000 diplomas to the graduating class of 2009. This class achieved a graduation rate of 86.5 percent, a rate higher than the state average and the highest gradu-

ation rate in the South Hampton Roads area. Of the 500 graduates receiving college scholarships, more than 130 were awarded scholarships in excess of \$40,000 each. Career and technical education students earned 1,046 industry certifications

from industry, trade, professional or state organizations. More than 620 students worked in 570 local businesses as part of a marketing and business education work program. These students earned more than \$2.4 million in wages, obtained hands-on work experience and earned high school credit while also having a positive impact on local businesses.

They are also the City's largest employer — with almost 6,000 employees and a budget of \$397 million.

Athletic success quickly translates into a very positive impact for the community, and 2009 proved to be a banner year in the athletic arena. Last year, the high schools won four state championships — Girls Softball, Boys Outdoor Track, Theatre and Football.

With a fleet of more than 450 buses traveling more than four million miles per year, the schools operate the City's largest transportation system.

Academics in Chesapeake are top-notch. Chesapeake students' performance on the Standards of Learning assessments was exceptional. The entire school division is 100 percent fully accredited, achieving this goal two years ahead of the state's deadline.

A major challenge to most school divisions is the provision of adequate school facilities. However, Chesapeake has made progress to help alleviate overcrowding by building two new state-of-the-art schools: Grassfield High School and Oscar Smith Middle School. In December, the school board approved a Capital Improvement Plan, which calls for an additional \$352 million over the next five years to go toward three new schools and major repairs, modernization, and renovations to existing facilities.

Chesapeake companies still hiring

Chesapeake, similar to communities across the nation, is experiencing fluctuating unemployment levels. As of December 2009, Chesapeake's unemployment rate is relatively low at 6.3 percent. The City's rate fares better than Hampton Roads' 6.9 percent and Virginia's 6.8 percent and considerably lower than the nation's hovering 10 percent unemployment rate. (Source: *Jobs EQ.com* and *Bureau of Labor Statistics*)

In spite of the challenging economy, new employment opportunities for City residents and the region were generated by Chesapeake employers such as QVC, Canon ITS, Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Sumitomo Drive Technologies, TFC Recycling, Coast Guard Retail Exchange, Onelife Fitness and the U.S. Census Bureau regional office.

Chesapeake also had seven companies out of the top 25 Best Places to Work in the region's *Inside Business* annual listing in 2009:

- **Cox Communications** – Third- Place Large Company
- **UrsaNav Inc.** – First- place Mid-sized Company



Cox Communications is among the best places to work in Chesapeake according to *Inside Business* 2009 Best Places to Work. (Photo by Vincent Schilling/*Inside Business*.)

- **Init Inc.** – First-place for the Best Small Company
- **Sumitomo Drive Technologies** – Best Place to Work
- **Damuth Trane** – Best Place to Work
- **Homeland Contracting Corp.** – Best Place to Work
- **Monarch Bank** – Best Place to Work

Job searching can be a SNAP

To assist unemployed and underemployed individuals with online job searching, resume writing and other job search services, Chesapeake Public Libraries and Opportunity Inc. have partnered to establish SNAP centers at its library branches at Cuffee, Greenbrier, Indian River, South Norfolk, Central, Russell and Major Hillard.

Short for Shared Network Access Points, SNAPs are locally operated one-stop service points that are part of a statewide workforce development initiative. Each SNAP center holds online job-hunting classes where patrons learn how to register and use the system to search for jobs.



'It' Factor Job Club launches in Chesapeake

(From left) Chesapeake-based "It" Factor Job Club co-founders Michelle Pippin and Laurie Baggett chat with Tory Johnson, author of "Fired to Hired" and Good Morning America correspondent, during a book signing in Chesapeake. Johnson inspired Pippin and Baggett to form a local group to help unemployed people find jobs. The 13 original job club members have all netted results by landing new jobs; starting entrepreneurial ventures and pursuing advanced education. To date, three other job clubs have been started. (Photo by Vincent Schilling.)

A \$250,000 Workforce Development Grant Award (Job Help @ the Chesapeake Public Library) funds a partnership between the library, Tidewater Community College, Economic Development, Opportunity Inc., the Virginia Employment Commission, Chesapeake Adult Continuing Education and other community partners. Together they offer area residents educational opportunities for career advancement and a wide range of employment resources to help them acquire skills to land new jobs.

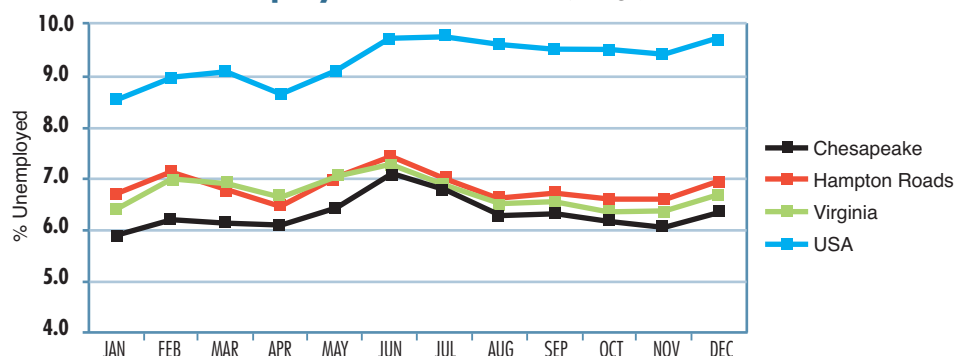
United States Census 2010

The U.S. Census Bureau opened a 6,600-square-foot regional office off South Military Highway in the Deep Creek area with a staff of 20 new administrative and managerial positions to support the 2010 census operations in 11 counties. An additional 1,100 to 1,200 temporary workers will be employed during the census' peak operations.

Military presence in Chesapeake has contributed to the low unemployment rate with a high rate of active duty service members choosing to live in the City.

2009 Unemployment Rates

Source: JobsEQ(R) & Bureau of Labor Statistics



Quality of life is on the rise



With its strong neighborhood and community base, Chesapeake was once again selected by Tidewater Builders Association (TBA) to be the host City for its annual Homearama. Pictured above is Culpepper Landing in the city's Deep Creek area with home prices ranging from \$230,000 to \$500,000. The event was held Oct. 3-18, 2009.

In 2008, the Alliance for Innovation recognized Chesapeake's Neighborhood Quality of Life (QOL) Study with one of its Outstanding Achievement in Local Government Innovation awards. The QOL study is an innovative and practical policy to guide the measurement of neighborhood-level quality of life conditions across the City. Its goal is to increase public awareness and understanding of critical QOL issues and to find solutions to challenges facing the City. By working together, citizens, elected officials, businesses, community groups and staff can create stronger neighborhoods throughout Chesapeake.

Since the study's findings have been put into motion, Chesapeake has received several neighborhood QOL grants over the past year.

In Harbour North, driveways have been paved to eliminate hazardous potholes and a neighborhood park has been built with amenities partially funded by QOL monies. Waste collection services have been enhanced by adding two dumpsters in the neighborhood, resulting in reduced litter and debris. Property maintenance violations have been addressed in response to a code sweep and rental inspection. In June 2009, 31 Serve the City volunteers partnered with residents and repaired 13 homes. All total, 43 projects have been completed.

A tutoring and mentoring program that targets neighborhood youth in Campostella Square has been established to increase SOL

scores in mathematics, reading and science. Called the Heart of Compassion Partnerships, the program also aims to reduce behavioral problems by modeling integrity, accountability and leadership skills. The program supports children's well-being by providing a safe environment and an alternative to risky behaviors during out-of-school time during the school year and summer break.

The Youth Entertainment Studio (YES) Project was awarded a Neighborhood Quality of Life Enhancement Grant. The YES project, which targeted youth 13 to 18 years old, resulted in an original DVD where youngsters denounce gang involvement based on personal experiences. YES also presented two 10-week gang prevention mentoring programs for young ladies and a five-week performing arts and music video camp.

Most recently, the Crossings Civic League was awarded a Neighborhood Quality of Life Enhancement Grant to repair and improve the neighborhood's primary entryway in spring 2010. The grant will pay for repairs to the neighborhood's sign, lights at the entrance and landscaping for the entryway's island.

The enhancement program is a competitive grant that creates community partnerships, and impacts crime, social, economic and physical conditions in neighborhoods. All grant monies must be matched by the grantee through in-kind donations.

Homearamas are at home in Chesapeake



Of the 28 Homearamas held since the new home showcase began, 15 have been in Chesapeake. One of the sites, Edinburgh Meadows, is pictured here.

The very first Homearama was held in 1982 in Chesapeake's Bayberry Woods and the most recent was held at Culpepper Landing in 2009 in the Deep Creek section of Chesapeake. Sponsored by the Tidewater Home Builders Association, the showcase of new homes annually draws tens of thousands of visitors from across the region to view elegantly appointed homes that feature cutting edge treatments and state-of-the-art building techniques.

Zip it up

Chesapeake's exceptional upscale real estate offerings routinely exceed those in surrounding Hampton Roads' communities in both value and attractiveness.

In the 2009 *Inside Business Book of Lists*, a publication of *The Virginian-Pilot*, four of Chesapeake's zip code areas were ranked second, sixth, 15th and 16th out of the top 21 wealthiest zip codes in Hampton Roads — the most listings for any single city in the area.

Median household incomes range from \$83,312 for the number two spot to \$63,819 for the 16th.

Events and accommodations lure more people to City

Chesapeake has some successes to tout with new hotel openings despite the economic challenges faced nationally by the tourism industry with low visitation and reduced hotel stays. The opening of five new hotels in late 2008 presented new demand opportunities in Chesapeake for 2009, resulting in increased lodging revenues. The Chesapeake Marriott, a full-service, seven-story 157,817-square-foot hotel with 226 guest rooms represented a \$20 million investment. Other hotel properties opening in late 2008 were the Aloft Hotel, Hyatt Place, Hampton Inn & Suites and the Candlewood Suites.

With its central location in the Hampton Roads region, Chesapeake is steadily building a reputation among first-time and repeat tourists and business travelers who bed down in one of the City's 4,335 rooms in 44 hotels, 15 of which are located in the Greenbrier area. In 2009, two new hotels opened in Chesapeake, the Comfort Inn & Suites and Value Place.

With its 124 rooms, Comfort Inn & Suites provides a very welcome, mid-priced hotel facility in the Military Highway/Deep Creek area. An adjacent restaurant/lounge, which will include accommodation for groups of up to 150 people to gather, is currently being renovated. It should be open for business in time for the upcoming summer season, completing the full-service aspect of the hotel.

Whether you're searching for an extended-stay hotel, a studio apartment or any



The new Chesapeake Marriott Hotel had a full operating year in 2009 and restored much-needed lodging revenue to the City.

The Comfort Inn & Suites on South Military Highway fills the niche for a mid-priced hotel in the Deep Creek area.



other housing solution, Value Place brings 121 new rooms to Chesapeake. With a commitment to guest safety, unmatched cleaning standards and so much more, Value Place offers all the convenience of a hotel and all the essentials of a furnished apartment.

In addition to the two new hotels, vacant restaurants are seeing a resurgence of life. In Towne Place, for instance, the local family-owned Surf Rider seafood restaurant has set up shop in the former Sterling's and Spaghetti

Eddie's is now serving pasta where customers of the Purple Cow once grazed.

Hospitality highlights

- Ten City-wide conventions — events that utilize the Chesapeake Conference Center and one or more hotels — were booked in 2009.
- In 2009, lodging tax revenue increased by 5 percent, which added up to nearly \$200,000.



The Chesapeake Conference Center

The Chesapeake Conference Center is an important tool in the City's economic development and revenue-generating efforts, hosting approximately 1,800 events annually and generating more than \$4.8 million in revenues in fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Each year, more than 100,000 guests are served myriad meals during events that range from elegant receptions for 100 people to multicourse dinner banquets for 1,000 guests.

To keep the Conference Center competitive, City staffers are strategically developing a long-range plan to identify building improvements and other enhancements. This meeting facility meets the needs of current and future businesses, organizations and individuals. Signature events are the U.S. 9-Ball Championship, Chesapeake Regional Medical Center Annual Gala, the Conference Center's Jingle Ball that's well attended by local small business owners and employees in Hampton Roads, various Chamber of Commerce events, Chesapeake Rotary events, and a host of social events for business and private clients.

2010 recreational events in Chesapeake offer something for everyone

Chesapeake has plenty of entertainment on the books for 2010 for residents and visitors alike.

Headlining this year's lineup is the ever-popular Chesapeake Jubilee, selected as one of the Southeast Tourism Society's Top 20 Events for May 2010. Thousands flock to Chesapeake City Park at 900 Greenbrier Parkway each spring for this annual four-day festival that has scores of activities and rides, a smorgasbord of tasty temptations and unforgettable fireworks. Musical acts from all genres take the stage daily and nightly, while admission is still just \$1. The fun this year begins May 20 and runs through May 23. www.ChesapeakeJubilee.org

For those interested in a more physically challenging event, consider the Dismal Swamp Stomp Half Marathon April 17. Running along the scenic and flat Dismal Swamp Canal Trail, this annual event highlights the historic Great Dismal Swamp Canal, part of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. There's also a Half-Mile Cub Run for children 12 and under. www.DismalSwampStomp.com

Besides celebrating and stomping, here are a few other things on this year's recreational agenda:

May through September: Under the Stars

Bagley Stage, Chesapeake City Park

The Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission and the Virginia Arts Festival team up to present a series of evening musical performances. www.vafest.com

June 5-6: American Indian Festival

Chesapeake City Park

14th annual celebration features American Indian storytelling, traditional dancing, food, jewelry, crafts and demonstrations. Admission is free. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. www.CityofChesapeake.Net/PRevents

July 3: Independence Day Concert

Chesapeake City Park

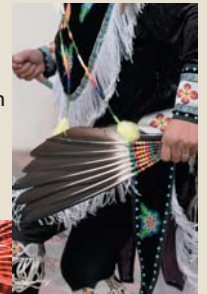
Holiday concert with a fireworks finale



Battle of Great Bridge



Symphony Under the Stars



American Indian Festival



Chesapeake Jubilee fireworks

features the renowned U.S. Fleet Forces Band. Music starts at 7:30 p.m. Concession stands are open. Admission is free; \$5 fee for on-site parking. Bring lawn chairs and/or blanket. www.CityofChesapeake.Net

Sept. 18-19: Heritage Days

Chesapeake City Park

Heritage Days celebrates traditional rural skills passed from generation to generation. Civil War period re-enactments, spinning, weaving, children's activities, live music, crafter/vendor tent and farm animals. Free admission and parking for this certified Virginia Green Event. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dec. 4: Holiday Tree Lighting

City Hall, 306 Cedar Road

The 5 p.m. ceremony kicks off Chesapeake's holiday season just before the Great Bridge Jaycees' Parade. Christmas songs will be performed by a Chesapeake Public School chorus.

Dec. 4-5: Battle of Great Bridge

Great Bridge Bridge area, 116 Callison Drive

Step back in time and witness Revolutionary War camp life and re-enactments of two pivotal battles: the Battle at Kemps Landing and the Battle of Great Bridge. Historical displays, lectures, artisan demonstrations, children's crafts and activities. Admission is free for this certified Virginia Green Event. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information or for details about these and other upcoming events not listed here, call (757)-382-6411 or visit the Web site at www.CityofChesapeake.Net/ParksandRec.

Be sure to visit the many parks, large and small, spread throughout Chesapeake. From the expansive Northwest River Park to the many neighborhood parks, there's something for everyone. Coming in 2010, the new Deep Creek Park will begin construction with ballfields, multipurpose areas and much more. Be on the lookout for this new highlight to the growing parks family.



FBI ranks Chesapeake very safe

In 2008, the FBI ranked Chesapeake 58 out of 194 similarly sized cities (population of 100,000 to 249,000) for safety. Of the cities nationwide in this population range, 68 percent have a higher crime index than Chesapeake.

Source: Chesapeake Police Department and the FBI National Uniform Crime Report

Chesapeake moves police precinct and fire station



The fifth precinct will soon move into the former Chamber of Commerce building.

To allow for more efficient deployment of police officers and firefighters, Chesapeake has relocated or is relocating two public safety facilities.

Chesapeake's newest fire station opened in March at 1801 Rokeby Ave. Located across the street from the original station built in October 1951, Chesapeake Fire Station No. 3 replaces the oldest station in the City. The new 10,000-square-foot building, designed by Waller Todd and Sadler Architects and constructed by W.B. Meredith II Inc., is built on 21.5 acres. It is home to 18 fire and emergency medical services personnel who serve the nearby Indian River community and the growing commercial development in that area.

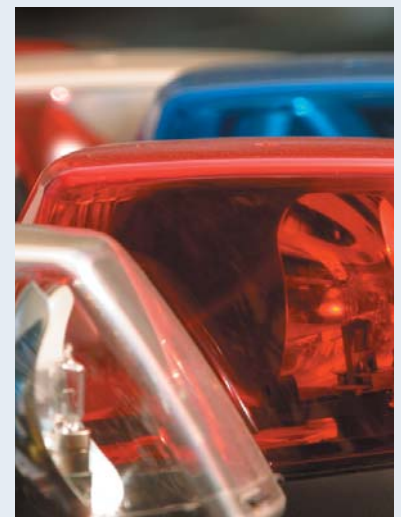
With its new headquarters at 400 Volvo Parkway, the site of the former Chamber of Commerce building, the precinct will provide residents with a highly visible and permanent home in one of the City's busiest corridors.

The Chesapeake Police Department's fifth precinct is scheduled to relocate this summer to the heart of the Greenbrier business area. With its new headquarters at 400 Volvo Parkway, the site of the former Chamber of Commerce building, the precinct will provide residents with a highly visible and permanent home in one of the City's busiest corridors. The fifth precinct is currently off Debaun Avenue in a business park.

Crime Reduction Plan is under way

The Chesapeake Police Department is committed to implement Chief Kelvin L. Wright's Crime Reduction Plan. To be successful, they are asking all City employees, citizens, business owners and educational institutions to help the department focus on five major components: prevention, visibility, enforcement, accountability and education.

The plan calls for increased law enforcement at every level, delivery of police services in a timely manner and greater police visibility in the community. To educate the public in target-hardening methods, the department is increasing its crime prevention efforts. It will prevent, deter or solve crimes and incidents at the patrol level more frequently. Police are refocusing specialty units to help patrol officers be more effective. They will identify persons and properties causing recurring problems and devise plans of action to reduce their impact on the community.



Chesapeake, Hampton Roads and Virginia Accolades in 2009

- Virginia Named No. 1 State for Doing Business in U.S. by Forbes
- Virginia Named Top State for Business by CNBC
- Chesapeake and the Hampton Roads metro area cited by the MetroMonitor, Brookings Institute, as one of the top-20 strongest-performing metros in the U.S.
- Chesapeake and the Hampton Roads metro area ranked as the third lowest in annual operating expenses for regional corporate headquarters by Boyd Co., a Princeton-N.J. based site selection consulting firm.



Major Employers

- More than 180 manufacturers, employing more than 95,000 people
- 20 percent of the region's largest employers are in Chesapeake, including:
 - Chesapeake Regional Medical Center
 - QVC
 - Maersk Distribution Service Inc.
 - Lifetouch National Studio
 - EDS
 - Cox Communications
 - Dollar Tree
 - HSBC – North America
 - Mitsubishi Chemical America
 - Sentara Home Care Services
 - General Dynamics Information Technology

Globally Connected... Locally Invested

More than 90 companies from at least 18 different countries (46 percent of the entire region) call Chesapeake "home," and for good reasons:

- Excellent telecommunications backbone
- Efficient transportation system of water, rail, roads and air
- One of the safest cities in America
- Quality of life recognized by various national publications as among the best anywhere

More than 24 countries are represented regionally, and 12 foreign consulates have offices in Hampton Roads. The area's banking and legal resources are among the best around in helping international companies, and their employees, make the smooth transition to living and working in the United States.

Demographic comparisons

	Chesapeake	Hampton Roads	Virginia	U.S.
2000 Population	199,184	1,576,332	7,078,515	281,279,915
2009 Population	216,184	1,683,451	7,850,505	305,921,712
Median Age	36.7	35.5	37.6	37.1
Male	48.5	48.8	49	49.4
Female	51.5	51.2	51	50.7
White	63.9	61.1	69.5	73.9
African American	29.2	31.7	19.6	12.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.8	3.5	5	4.6
Hispanic or Latino	3.3	4.2	7.1	15.6
Median household income	\$64,053	\$54,167	\$59,564	\$53,679
Average household size	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6
\$100,000 or more	23.2	18.5	25.1	21.2
\$75,000 - \$99,999	17.7	14.1	13.6	12.8
\$50,000- \$74,999	21.8	21.6	19.5	19.3
\$25,000 - \$49,999	22.4	26.2	23.1	24.5
Under \$24,999	14.8	19.7	18.7	22.1
Graduate Degree	11.8	10.1	14.3	10.4
Bachelor's Degree	16.1	17.3	20	17.6
Associate's Degree	9	8.9	6.6	7.5
Some college	22.8	23.2	18.5	19.4
High School graduate	31.1	30.1	27.2	30

Economic Facts

- One of the 100 largest cities in the U.S. and third largest in the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Centrally located and within 750 miles (1,200 kilometers) of two-thirds of the nation's population and industrial activity
- Adjacent to the world's largest natural harbor and the world's largest naval base
- Midpoint of the Intracoastal Waterway, stretching from Maine to Florida

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