

MARITIME MARVEL

Where technology meets world-class culture

By Ben Swenson

The handshake — a universal gesture of goodwill so common that no one gives it a second look. Except in Newport News, Virginia, there's a handshake like you've never seen before, one that is sure to leave a lasting impression. That's because this gesture is a ten-foot-tall sculpture by German artist Gunther Stilling.

Handshake shows two open hands near embrace, their skin bearing whimsical patterns from the chaos of life. This is one of three dozen open-air masterpieces found citywide thanks to a flourishing appreciation for public art. Imbued with meaning and open to differing interpretations, the sculpture anchors City Center at Oyster Point, a dynamic commercial district in the heart of Newport News, a city with multiple walkable mixed-use developments. The act of shaking hands repeats itself nearby as visitors and residents strike business deals and greet friends. As the bright aluminum of *Handshake* reflects the daylight, some say it also mirrors the city's traditions of ingenuity, collaboration, and an industrious workforce.

The sculpture speaks volumes about the city that displays it: of the history and art that fill the galleries of world-class museums and the streets that connect them; of the bedrock industries and

PHOTOS (FROM LEFT) BY ALEXANDER KRAVETS AND COURTESY OF CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS (2)



Clockwise from left: Handshake sculpture, Newport News Shipbuilding, and Ferguson Center for the Arts

high-tech facilities that generate products and innovation used across the globe; of residents who attend fairs and festivals celebrating the high standard of living their hometown offers. Hands embrace in Newport

News after making discoveries at the particle accelerator housed in Jefferson Lab or when landing a doormat-sized flounder at the King-Lincoln fishing pier, when lauding an unforgettable performance at the Ferguson Center for the Arts, or welcoming soldiers back home to Fort Eustis. *Handshake* represents a community where the arts and education are priorities, where the business climate is a vigorous as the quality of life, where there are plenty of reasons to offer this age-old salutation.

Shaped by the James River

First the domain of the Kecoughtan tribe then later a colonial settlement, Newport News was bound to have water as part of its identity; until the 19th century, rivers were the best means of travel. Today, the city's pulse still beats with the rhythm of the tides. Any morning, you can look out over the shimmering surface of the James River, which



makes the city's long southwestern shore, and see Chesapeake Bay-style workboats bobbing in the soft chop, tonging oyster beds or pulling crab pots. Their catch goes to local establishments deeply rooted in the community, restaurants such as the riverside Crab Shack, for example,

or independent markets like DeMaria's Seafood. The bounty of the Atlantic is among many reasons to celebrate the region's longstanding maritime heritage. The Mariners' Museum, an internationally acclaimed institution, does just that, from its 2,000 ship models to the USS *Monitor* Center, a comprehensive exhibit chronicling the eventful timeline of the U.S. Navy's first ironclad warship.

Water has helped make Newport News in less intuitive ways, too. Sure, it's obvious why a couple mainstays of the local economy occupy a three mile

NEWPORT NEWS POWERS THROUGH THE 21ST CENTURY AS HOME TO AN ARRAY OF HIGH-PROFILE COMPANIES.

stretch of Newport News's shoreline. The coal trains that rumble through town unload their freight onto massive colliers bound for ports of call the world over. And Newport News Shipbuilding, which employs 23,000 people, has constructed, repaired, and overhauled more than 800 ships, including nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, over the last century-and-a-quarter. The solid foundation laid by these enterprises, and the industrious workforce that made their growth possible, caught the attention of other businesses that wanted to tap into that potential. Firms flocked to locate in Newport News throughout the 20th century. Success begot success.

That's why Newport News now powers through the 21st century as home to an array of high-profile companies such as Ferguson, Liebherr, Continental, and Canon Virginia. Christopher Newport University, which consistently earns accolades in college rankings, has since taken root,



as has Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, or Jefferson Lab, where resident and visiting scientists study and apply particle physics.

This modern, thriving economy attracts people from around the world, and the city is better for it. "I've lived in 16 states and 26 cities," says City Manager Jim Bourey, "and this is as welcoming a place as any I've ever been. Newport News is a diverse city, which is a strength, because that



makes it an interesting place to be."

Can't-Miss Amenities

As the city grew around them, the populace nurtured amenities that reflected their varied backgrounds and sophistication. City leaders invested money in education, which is why today residents can enroll children in the public schools' International Baccalaureate program or participate in the Youth Program at Pearl Bailey Library, an initiative that First Lady Michelle Obama recognized last November with the 2013 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. Sustainability programs, recreation, and entertainment are priorities among Newport News residents, from natural sanctuaries like Newport News Park, which, at nearly 8,000 acres, is one of the largest municipal parks in the nation, to the city's vibrant cultural scene, where a public art program adorns city streets and a full menu of performing arts suits any taste.

Bob Chapman is a southeastern Virginia native who has lived in Newport News for nearly three decades. As a Realtor, Chapman knows a thing or two about what people like about his hometown. His appraisal? Convenience and quality of life. "You are never more than ten to 15 minutes from entertainment, fine dining, and the full range of shopping, and you are only minutes from open



farmland, boating, and historic attractions," says Chapman. "We are in a region of more than one million residents but the feel is a suburban small town. Where else would you want to live?"

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS (4) AND (5) BY WILLIAM KING

Clockwise from top: Jefferson Lab, Newport News Park, Hollydazzle at City Center, shopping at Hilton Village, and The Mariners' Museum

A CITY ON THE MOVE

Global companies in high tech, robotics, manufacturing, and research and development call it home.

By Deborah R. Huso

What's new in Newport News? The tagline says it all: Newport News – where great things are happening. Nestled within the lush green landscape and beautiful waterfront settings is an outstanding and engaged corporate community which is anchored in high-tech research and technology. Newport News is home to growing global and regional companies which



Clockwise from top: The Apprentice School, a thriving seafood industry, research at Jefferson Lab, and Liebherr Mining Equipment



capitalize on the pro-business environment, the highly trained workforce and the stellar location.

The Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab), a world-class nuclear physics research center, has been a hub for the transfer of research to technology. Jefferson Lab advances technologies for its discovery science, including detector systems for imaging subatomic particles. That technology has been transferred to the market under license to Dillon Technologies Inc, which brings innovative new life-saving medical imaging products to the global market. Dillon's cornerstone product is a high-resolution, small field-of-view gamma camera which has been proven to detect cancer missed by mammography and ultrasound, and which is used at premier medical facilities like the Cornell University Medical Center and the George Washington University Medical Center.

A discovery made at Jefferson Lab in collaboration with NASA Langley Research Center and the National Institute of Aerospace of a process for producing boron nitride nanotubes (BNNTs) led to the first high-quality, commercially available BNNTs. The ability to produce high-quality

BNNTs in commercial quantities makes it possible to explore their benefits in many anticipated applications, including membranes that generate power from seawater, suits shielding first responders, protective thermal coatings for high-speed aerospace vehicles, and drugs and therapies that improve cancer treatments. BNNT, LLC, a start-up company whose key staff members include the inventors, licensed the technology and set up its factory across the street from Jefferson Lab in Newport News.

A Pro-Business City

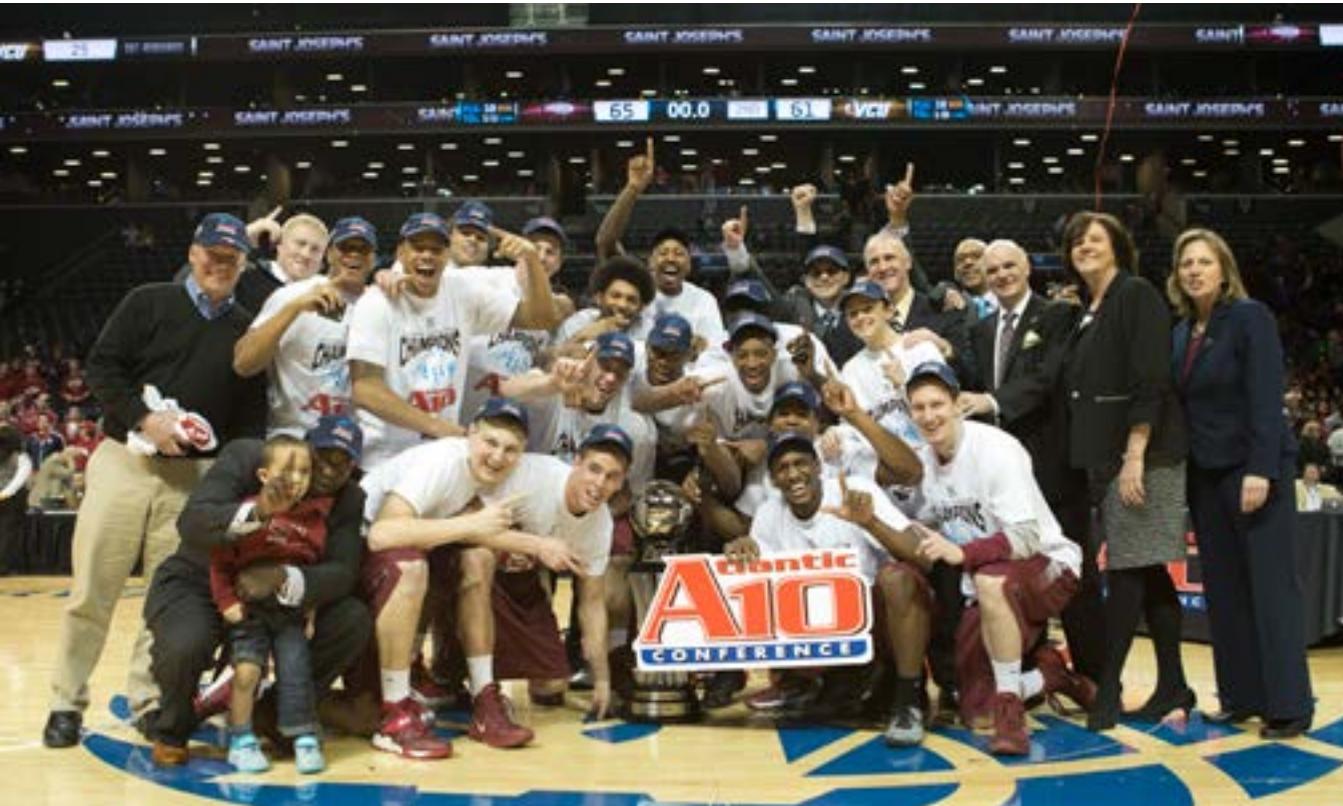
Newport News is home to many international companies. Liebherr Mining Equipment Newport News Company, which manufactures the world's largest mining trucks, has five companies under the Liebherr Group in the city. "By growing our operations in Newport News, we are able to take advantage of the skilled workforce in the area, direct access to the transportation options necessary for delivery of our supplies and end-user products, and a favorable business climate," says Cort Reiser, executive vice president of manufacturing. "The city has been a partner in our operations and sup-



ported us throughout the years. That has played a major role in our decision to expand manufacturing operations here."

The city understands the importance of strengthening and diversifying its tax base and fostering a climate for job creation. Since 1985, Canon Virginia, Inc. has been manufacturing products in Newport News. CVI serves as Canon's

PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP) HUNTINGTON INGALLS INDUSTRIES, COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS, EDU. COURTESY OF JEFFERSON LAB, AND COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS, EDU.



Clockwise from top: Saint Louis wins the 2014 A-10 Conference; Paragon Theater; and Dillon's imaging camera.

only manufacturing, engineering, recycling, and technical support center in the Americas' region. The company produces new products using advanced manufacturing methodologies while also serving as a factory service center providing expert customer service in the repair and refurbishment of Canon cameras, video recorders, and office products. With five local facilities and over 2,000 dedicated members, Canon Virginia brings Canon's reputation as a world-class manufacturer home to Hampton Roads. CVI is actively involved in advanced manufacturing, technology, R&D, recycling operations, workforce development, and precision mold-making.

"Whether it's a small, local, family-owned company or a multinational corporate entity, our approach is the same," says Florence Kingston, the Newport News director of development, who is a 33-year career employee with the city and a Newport News native. "What can we do to help your business?"

High Liner Foods, a Lunenburg, Nova Scotia based global seafood company, is North America's largest processor and marketer of value-added seafood products. The company recently expanded its operation in Newport News. Peter Brown,

High Liner USA's President and CEO, says, "The business case presented by Newport News aligns with High Liner Foods' goal of being the leading supplier of frozen seafood in North America. The expansion of our Newport News operation helped make that goal a reality."

Liebherr, Canon Virginia, and High Liner Foods are only three of several international companies and organizations that have come to call Newport News home. And many of these businesses, including Ferguson Enterprises, Continental AG, Swisslog, Solo USA, and Muhlbauer High Tech International have made successful moves to the area because of the city's openness and willingness to make things work.

Newport News businesses enjoy the nation's second-lowest unemployment tax rate, energy costs that are 30 percent below the national average, and a friendly tax structure with no local income or inventory tax.

But it's not just the city's low cost of doing business that attracts organizations. It's also the workforce, which is highly trained and educated to serve in the quickly growing and employee-hungry sectors of advanced manufacturing, robotics, high tech, and research and development.

Highly Skilled and Educated

"Newport News offers a 'new blue collar' environment where skilled tradesmen with specialized training and certifications are as sought after as 'white collar' professionals," says Everett H. Jordan, Jr., director of The Apprentice School at Newport News Shipbuilding, the largest industrial employer in Virginia.

The Apprentice School, established in 1919, graduated its 10,000th apprentice this year. It recently moved into a new mixed-use redevelopment project in the city's traditional downtown, and includes the school, housing, retail, and structured parking on a 6-acre campus.

There are nearly two dozen institutions of higher learning in the Newport News region, including Christopher Newport University, Thomas Nelson Community College, and the University of Virginia/Virginia Tech Hampton Roads Center, which offers professional development courses for government, industry, finance, and information technology through Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia. The two universities previously had separate locations in Virginia Beach when they decided to expand to the Peninsula to offer easier education access to the entire Hampton Roads region.

Virginia Tech Hampton Roads Center director Melissa Lubin says, "When searching for a central location, we found the mayor, city manager, and Economic Development Authority of Newport News welcoming us with open arms, supporting our expansion efforts on multiple levels." Lubin says the educational center is helping fulfill a critical need for the region with its shifting and diverse demographic of citizens working in a wide array of business enterprises, including high tech, defense contractors, and global corporations. "These businesses all need employee development enhancement to meet the growing demands of our global economy," she adds.

WHAT WE DO EXTREMELY WELL IS TO PROVIDE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH A BUSINESS CAN THRIVE.

— Florence Kingston, Newport News director of development



An Ideal Location to Call Home

The Atlantic 10 Conference moved its headquarters from Philadelphia to City Center in Newport News five years ago. Conference Commissioner Bernadette V. McGlade says the location really can't be beat. "There are three good international airports within 48 miles of our office, as well as major highways, Amtrak service, and excellent travel routes to all of our member institutions," she says.

McGlade also notes that the low cost of living in Newport News helps the Conference attract new and talented employees, who appreciate the



PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) COURTESY OF MITCHELL LEFT/A10 CONFERENCE BY VIRGINIA PENINSULA PHOTOGRAPHY, AND COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS/EDA



Above: The Mariners' Museum, and Thomas Nelson Community College's education and training facilities

city's mild climate and the work/live/play/environment of their office location at City Center, where residences, offices, restaurants, shops, and live entertainment opportunities are all within walking distance. "The efficiencies of doing business here have enabled us to focus on our core goals and not worry about an inordinate escalation in the cost of doing business year in and year out," she adds.

When you settle into a plush leather reclining seat in front of a 65-foot movie screen, a chilled microbrew in one hand and a piping hot custom pizza on the tray table in front of you at the new Paragon Theater in Newport News, you may not consider

what went into establishing this luxurious movie theater experience. But Mike Whalen, CEO of Paragon Entertainment Group, certainly does.

Currently, Paragon operates these state-of-the-art theaters in only eight locations across the country. So why did the company select Newport News City Center at Oyster Point? "Newport News made perfect sense, as its location is central to the Peninsula," Whalen explains, "and City Center is well-known by the local population because of all its special events, restaurants, and specialty retail."

A highly educated and skilled workforce, centralized location, and an outstanding quality of life have made Newport News a haven for globally significant companies looking to meet 21st century demands.

And the leaders and employees of these businesses find ample outlets in the community for their off-time, including the thriving entertainment district at City Center, the 8,000-acre Newport News Park (one of the largest municipal parks east of the Mississippi), and many cultural offerings like The Mariners Museum, Ferguson Center for the Arts, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center and the Virginia Living Museum.

As PBMares Partner and COO Mary C. Aldrich remarks, "Mixing business with pleasure is so easy in Newport News."



PHOTOS (FROM TOP) BY DERRICK DIEMONT AND BY DOUBLE IMAGE STUDIO/TNCC

PLANNING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

The Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce is forging strong partnerships. **By Ben Swenson**

A chamber of commerce usually conjures thoughts of golf outings and Christmas parades, but when your jurisdiction includes a major shipyard, two national research facilities, four large military installations and 14,000 businesses, Chamber leaders have to be more hands-on than that.

Michael Kuhns is president and CEO of the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (VPCC), which represents private and public organizations in Newport News and four adjacent localities. He believes that a community of this dynamic demands a proactive and varied approach to nurturing growth.

"Our focus is to connect business with opportunities," he says. "We do that through the facilitation of relationships — bringing parties together to improve the business environment or their bottom line."

VPCC employs several tactics to make those results possible. Educational initiatives such as executive leadership roundtables and entrepreneur's academies are a top priority. So are frequent conversations with member businesses and civic leaders to give VPCC a sense of issues that affect constituents. This helps the Chamber bridge divides — city lines or different branches of the military, for instance — that stand in the way of free enterprise. "These are all things that fall under no one else's purview," Kuhns says.

VPCC plans for long-term prosperity, too, joining businesses with the workforce through aggressive outreach, as with leadership programs in the public schools.

"That strategy works: VPCC's membership rate is growing by 5 percent annually," Kuhns says. "We program for today. We invest for the future."

Below: Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and local business leaders.

Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB HARPER/VPCC



BEST OF EVERYTHING

City Center at Oyster Point is a Newport News hotspot.

By Ellie Baldini

Imagine if you could live, work, and play in a single location — a vibrant hub filled with premier office space, first-class shopping and dining, and luxurious residences. At City Center at Oyster Point, you can do it all.

Conveniently located in the heart of the mid-Atlantic, just one hour from Richmond and two from Washington, DC, City Center is a must-see attraction. This 52-acre, mixed-used development on the Virginia Peninsula was designed as a stunning outdoor gathering space with southern living in mind. City Center at Oyster Point contains 230,000 square feet of retail shops and restaurants, 1 million square feet of Class A office space, a Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, and 500 luxury apartments and condominiums. It's a destination that truly has it all.

Ready to shop? City Center at Oyster Point is rife with unique apparel, accessory,

and home furnishing shops, like the trendy Sisters Unique and elegant Hauser's Jewelers, along with well-loved brands like Hi-Ho Silver, Ann Taylor Loft and Jos. A. Bank.

In the mood to get pampered? City Center is home to a variety of specialty services, from the Animare Salon & Spa, featuring indulgent Aveda products, to Bo Essential, an all-natural boutique where you can customize your very own bath, body, and home products.

Now that you've worked up an appetite, it's time to explore the dozens of restaurants, cafes, and specialty food options. Try Taste Unlimited at the City Center Market — it's famous for delicious sandwiches on freshly baked bread. There's also the spicy Salsa's Mexican Restaurant and Cove Tavern for dining by the fountain, plus Tucanos Brazilian Grill, and Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill, and other delicious eateries sure to hit the spot.

For premium office space, City Center at Oyster

Point offers eight stunning buildings with top-notch amenities — think high-speed internet; free on-site parking; marble, granite, and wood-finished lobbies; and high-speed elevators — all within easy walking distance of shopping and dining.

The residential units offer luxurious accommodations in an unbeatable location. The Park Place Apartments feature 365 residential units dispersed throughout four brick buildings, plus a first-floor retail and a fitness room, business center, clubhouse, and outdoor pool. And the brand-new Belmont at City Center apartments offers both one- and two-bedroom, open-concept floor plans with contemporary accents, like brushed nickel designer fixtures, energy-saving features, and unbelievable city views.

There's plenty to see and do at City Center at Oyster Point for residents and visitors alike. The City Center Farmer's Market runs every Thursday, all summer long, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. This fall,

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



WHATEVER DRAWS YOU HERE, *THE CITY CENTER* WILL WOW YOU WITH ITS EXCELLENT DINING, PREMIUM SHOPPING, AND FIRST-RATE OFFICE SPACE.



don't miss the 2014 Virginia Brazilian Festival (Sept. 20) and the Oyster Roast with the Deloreans (Oct. 24). And come winter, City Center hosts the hugely popular Hollydazzle on Dec. 5 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Whatever draws you here, City Center at Oyster Point is sure to wow you with its stunning layout, excellent dining, premium shopping, first-rate office space, and beautiful residences. You may even be tempted to stay.

From left:
City Center
at Oyster
Point, and
Paragon
Theaters (2)

SMALL MATTER, BIG IMPACT

Newport News is home to speeding particles and world-class researchers.

By Deborah R. Huso

Clockwise from left: section of a particle detector, examining electronics, aerial view of lab, a calorimeter detector

What makes the universe tick? Scientists at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) in Newport News can probably tell you — at least what they know so far. And while Jefferson Lab’s nuclear physicists are studying quarks — the smallest known particles of matter — their work has a big impact on scientific discovery.

Founded in 1984, this world-class nuclear physics research center is home to the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility, or CEBAF,

which propels electrons into the depths of atoms’ nuclei, allowing scientists to explore quarks and the forces that affect them.

What counts in science is “discovery potential,” says Hugh Montgomery, Jefferson Lab’s director. “We create that potential with the combination of our incredible staff, the visiting scientists who travel to the lab to conduct experiments, and the CEBAF.”

Staff scientist Brad Sawatzky says working at the lab fulfills his childhood interest in understanding how things work. “As a kid, you name it, I took it apart; and occasionally I successfully



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JEFFERSON LAB

reassembled it before my parents noticed!” Sawatzky says. “At Jefferson Lab, I get to take apart and study the very building blocks of matter. This is at the very frontier of what humankind knows about ‘how things work’ at the smallest and most fundamental scales.”

One of 17 laboratories funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, the laboratory has been a second home to professors, students, and engineers from around the world for three decades. More than 1,200 scientists conduct research at Jefferson Lab, and about one-third of U.S. Doctorates in Nuclear Physics awarded annually are earned with Jefferson Lab research.

The lab’s 169-acre campus is inconspicuous, blending seamlessly into the local community, but inside its doors, scientists and students work on the forefront of experimental and theoretical nuclear physics, supercomputing, cryogenics, and laser and particle detector systems.

Jefferson Lab’s economic impact has routinely been pegged well above its annual budget, benefiting both the Newport News region and the nation. Its basic research, often dubbed “pure science,” results in new technologies and advancements that could benefit the commercial electronics industry, security interests, manufacturing, and

I TAKE APART AND STUDY THE VERY *BUILDING BLOCKS* OF MATTER. THIS IS AT THE FRONTIER OF WHAT HUMANS KNOW.

— Brad Sawatzky, staff scientist at Jefferson Lab

nuclear medicine.

The lab shares more than 20 of its 700 staff members with local universities as joint faculty, providing students first-hand access to cutting-edge research and leading scientists. Six thousand people visited Jefferson Lab during its open house day in May, and each year hundreds of teachers and thousands of students benefit from the lab’s nationally recognized science education programs.

Jefferson Lab

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jlab.org

ENVISIONING SUCCESS

Energy and enterprise in a new research park in Newport News.

Newport News is a city where physicists smash atoms at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility to study the very components of our universe, while rocket scientists twenty minutes away explore outer space at the NASA/Langley Research Center. Soon Newport News will be home to the Tech Center at Oyster Point, a 100-acre, \$450 million development in the heart of Newport News that will become a hub of entrepreneurship. With world-class facilities, a full range of business growth services, and access to human, managerial, and financial capital, the Tech Center has everything businesses need to succeed.

From left: the main entrance, and the Marketplace at the Tech Center at Oyster Point

“One goal is to collaborate with Jefferson Lab and NASA/Langley and others, to tap into that en-



ergy and create a campus where we can form solutions to problems,” says Jeff Johnson, director of the Tech Center research park. “We’re building a community whose focus is on commercializing discoveries and growing businesses that matter in a

way that creates jobs, improves lives, and strengthens the economy.”

The Tech Center will comprise 1.3 million square feet of research space and a campus of luxury apartments, retail outlets, fitness facilities, and a Whole Foods grocery store, plus easy access to walking and biking trails, allowing entrepreneurs to work and thrive in the buzz of collaboration. The research park is the brainchild of John Lawson, president and CEO of Newport News-based developer W.M. Jordan Co. and a former rector of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. Lawson was inspired by the Corporate Research Center on Tech’s Blacksburg campus, which is home to about 150 companies and 2,700 employees and was named the 2010 Outstanding Research Park by the Association of University Research Parks. He looked at that center and at his hometown and thought, “Why couldn’t it work here?”

While the end result of successful entrepreneurship and commercial success is important, the how of getting there matters, too.

“Entrepreneurs are people who have an idea that’s just burning inside, sometimes so much they can’t sleep at night because they’ve just got to make it happen,” Johnson says. “Johnny’s approach creates a community where they can have a

SOON NEWPORT NEWS WILL BE HOME TO THE TECH CENTER, A HUB OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITH *WORLD-CLASS* FACILITIES.

healthy life, one that’s more in balance. He has a vision for making his hometown a great place for people to live, innovate, and play. W.M. Jordan has a track record of doing just that.”

The Tech Center is adjacent to the Jefferson Lab and minutes from NASA’s Langley Research Center. Slated to begin opening in the fall of 2015, the partnership includes W.M. Jordan Co.; Georgia-based retail developer S. J. Collins Enterprises; residential apartment developer Ellis-Gibson, Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center; and the City of Newport News. The development will include 250,000 square feet of retail space, 300,000 square feet of multifamily residential space, and 1.3 million square feet of research and office space.

For more information or to see how you can be a part of this vibrant community, visit techcenteroysterpoint.com.

Tech Center at Oyster Point

638 Oyster Point Rd.
Newport News, VA
techcenteroysterpoint.com

PHOTOS COURTESY OF W.M. JORDAN COMPANY AND PHILLIPS PARTNERSHIP



EQUIPPED TO HEAL

Riverside Health System combines comprehensive services with leading-edge technologies.

Riverside Health System is one of the state's largest and most comprehensive providers of health care, serving communities throughout eastern Virginia since 1916. The system includes a regional medical center, community hospitals, a rehabilitation hospital, and a behavioral health hospital, along with facilities specializing in outpatient diagnostic and treatment services, convalescent care, wellness and fitness, and active retirement living.

Riverside's extensive resources also include the more than 550 primary care and specialty physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners

providing care in more than 130 convenient locations throughout the region.

While Riverside offers a wide range of health and wellness services for every stage of life, the system places a strong

emphasis on older adults and is the state's largest non-governmental provider of care for this growing population. In addition to innovative programs that help people remain safely and comfortably in their homes as they age, Riverside maintains three vibrant continuing care retirement communities.

The largest hospital within the system is Riverside Regional Medical Center (RRMC) in Newport News, which includes the only Level II Trauma Center and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit



RIVERSIDE HEALTH SYSTEM'S EXTENSIVE *RESOURCES* INCLUDE MORE THAN 550 PRIMARY CARE AND SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS IN 130 LOCATIONS

located on the RRMC campus.

The Radiosurgery Center represents one of the largest utilizations of radiosurgery in the world providing leading-edge technology.

GAMMA KNIFE RADIOSURGERY The Gamma Knife is a painless and non-invasive procedure that delivers 201 focused and highly accurate beams of radiation to the specific area of the brain requiring treatment. As one of the most advanced forms of stereotactic radiosurgery (radiation guided by 3-D computer imaging), the Gamma Knife is considered the gold standard for treatment of malignant and benign brain tumors, and also treats lesions, arteriovascular malformations, functional disorders, and trigeminal neuralgia.

As part of a multidisciplinary team, a Riverside neurosurgeon, radiation oncologist, and medical physicist use advanced computer software to determine the size, location, and shape of the area to be



Clockwise from left: Gamma Knife, Biplane Imaging, and RRMC main campus

on the Virginia Peninsula. RRMC is also the hub for the health system's expanding telemedicine capabilities as well as a center for medical education, providing physician training through Riverside Family Practice and OB/GYN residency programs.

The other four general hospitals within the Riverside system providing acute inpatient services, outpatient care, and 24-hour emergency care are: Riverside Walter Reed Hospital in Gloucester, Riverside Tappahannock Hospital on the Northern Neck, Riverside Doctors Hospital Williamsburg, and Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

New Hope in Neurosurgical and Neurovascular Care

As part of its overall capabilities, Riverside is nationally recognized for treating brain, spine, and nervous system injuries and disorders. More than 150 experienced care givers provide neurosurgical and neurovascular care at Riverside. Resources include the Chesapeake Regional, Riverside, and University of Virginia Radiosurgery Center

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RIVERSIDE HEALTH SYSTEM





RIVERSIDE OFFERS HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES FOR EVERY STAGE OF LIFE

treatment benefits include faster recovery, fewer complications, and no blood loss.

Riverside has other technologies and procedures it utilizes as part of its overall neurosurgical and neurovascular capabilities.

BIPLANE IMAGING This innovative digital x-ray technology allows Riverside neurovascular specialists to follow the path of blood flow through vessels, creating a “roadmap” for treating the precise location of life-threatening conditions, including blood clots and aneurysms.

Biplane imaging plays an important role in mapping the blood vessels prior to surgery, while also offering a more precise treatment picture during endovascular procedures, which are highly specialized interventional surgeries carried out entirely within the circulatory system.

O-ARM SURGICAL IMAGING SYSTEM This technology provides real-time, highly detailed two- and three-dimensional imaging of the surgical site during spine, orthopedic, and trauma-related surgeries. Because of its distortion-free images and speed of image retrieval, the O-arm system enables surgeons to make fewer and smaller incisions, while precisely navigating delicate anatomical areas. The result of this low-dose x-ray visualization and the less invasive surgery it supports is reduced pain and faster recovery time.

STEALTHSTATION NEURONAVIGATION Innovative StealthStation neuronavigation is used to treat brain tumors, tremors, and Parkinson’s disease as well as spinal and pelvic trauma. This three-dimensional, real-time tracking system provides surgeons with detailed, highly accurate positioning information, resulting in less invasive procedures and improved clinical outcomes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RIVERSIDE HEALTH SYSTEM

From top: O-Arm Surgical Imaging and Stealthstation, Synergy S Radiosurgery System

treated. The Gamma Knife then directs 201 individual radioactive sources precisely on the target area, reducing the risk of damage to surrounding tissue.

SYNERGY S RADIOSURGERY Similar to Gamma Knife Radiosurgery (but not used exclusively in the cranial area), the Synergy S focuses very accurate radioactive beams to specific areas of the body.

In addition to precisely targeting tumors in the brain and spine, Synergy S is an effective treatment option for tumors throughout the body, such as lung, adrenal, and recurrent lymph node tumors. Because both the Gamma Knife and Synergy S technologies are non-invasive,

Riverside Health System

757.875.7880
riversideonline.com/neuro

LENDING A HAND

From plumbing supplies to local communities, Ferguson makes a positive impact. **By Tony Gabriele**

Nobody expects more from us than we do.” For Ferguson, this statement is more than a slogan about how they do business. It also speaks of how the Newport News-headquartered company makes a positive impact to strengthen communities where its 19,000 associates live and work. Those associates share this challenge by lending a hand wherever it’s needed.

Education is a critical component for outreach efforts led by Ferguson, the nation’s largest wholesaler of plumbing supplies and a major distributor of heating/air conditioning equipment and industrial and waterworks products. The company paid for all fourth graders attending the city’s public schools, plus schools in five nearby localities, to take field trips this past year to Colonial Williamsburg. This learning opportunity provided a fascinating journey into America’s past to help educate the younger generation about our nation’s beginnings. Ferguson associates have pitched in to teach workplace skills at An Achievable Dream, a local nonprofit that helps educate disadvantaged students, and the company will provide college scholarships for the program’s class of 2016 high school graduates.

Ferguson has also pledged its support of



Christopher Newport University in the amount of \$12 million over the next 30 years for scholarships, community service programs, and for CNU’s Ferguson Center for the Arts.

Other examples of outreach can be seen across the larger Hampton Roads region. In Project Holiday Joy, associates at Ferguson’s corporate headquarters partnered with Operation Homefront to donate toys for the children of local military families.

Ferguson’s engagement with its neighbors, in the words of Colonial Williamsburg President Colin Campbell, “is a superb example of community involvement and corporate responsibility.”



PHOTOS (FROM TOP) BY SCOTT BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY AND COURTESY OF THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION

From top: Ferguson CEO Frank Roach with toys collected through Project Holiday Joy, and local students at Colonial Williamsburg

Ferguson

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ferguson.com

TAKE TO THE AIR WITH EASE

Thanks to the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport
By Ben Swenson

No, you're eyes aren't playing tricks on you. That was Air Force One landing at Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport (PHF). Located in the heart of Newport News, PHF is the ideal launching point for hotspots and must-see attractions around the Virginia Peninsula and beyond, from the Outer Banks to Washington, DC.

Locals look to PHF because it's an intimate airport that offers easy access to cities across the globe. For instance, passengers can hop aboard any of the 13 daily departures US Airways Express

offers to Charlotte and Philadelphia, and thereby connect to 120 domestic and 46 international destinations.

And pilots of the two Boeing 747-200Bs that provide the U.S. president's long-distance transportation utilize PHF's prime location, too, performing approaches there from time-to-time. In fact, this past year practice made perfect when

Air Force One landed with the president himself aboard at PHF.

The reason you might just glimpse this familiar aircraft is the same one that has brought as many as a million travelers through PHF. For the president's aviators, southeast Virginia's peninsula means less congested airspace just a short plane ride from the nation's capital. For most people who pass through PHF, however, it's not as much about the proximity to Washington, DC, as it is about what lays at the airport's doorstep: an historic, vibrant, and mobile community of 1.8 million people.

Many visitors come to see our nation's birthplace and take in the tourist attractions that have evolved around these



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



cultural resources. Others arrive on business, to research at Jefferson Lab's particle accelerator, perhaps, or to assist in the construction of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier *USS Gerald R. Ford* at Newport News Shipbuilding.

"We are honored to be the hometown airport for the Virginia Peninsula and the convenient choice for the region," says Jessica Wharton, director of marketing and public affairs at PHF.

The airport recently completed several multi-million dollar upgrades, including a renovation of one of the two concourses. Wharton explains that the master plan considered all the sensibilities and needs of modern travelers when arranging the refurbished space. That's why natural lighting, energy efficiency, and opportunities for charging electronic devices were design priorities.

The master plan also includes a brand-new consolidated checkpoint, which means additional lanes, improved concessions pre- and post-security, and best of all, a connecting bridge between concourse A and B, so travelers only need to pass through security once. It all adds up to an increasingly seamless travel experience.

What's more, in February PHF unveiled a state-of-the-art Federal Inspection Station for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, capable of clearing 200 passengers an hour. The airport's first-ever nonstop international flight was to Cancun, Mexico, and among those who had the pleasure of flying the route were two lucky teachers who were awarded an all expenses-paid trip. PHF offered this gesture of goodwill in recognition of the contribution educators make to the common good.

And speaking of goodwill, PHF also recently adopted the "Thanks Again" program, which provides the opportunity to earn additional customer rewards, effectively double-dipping on points and miles which travelers already rack up getting to and from destinations.

Those sorts of overtures explain why PHF has become a fixture in southeast Virginia. "We want to be the airport of choice for the Virginia Peninsula," says Wharton. "We pride ourselves on being part of the community and on the level of service we offer."

Clockwise from left: a recent renovation, the new customs' inspection station, Air Force One, and a rendering of the planned exterior remodel

Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport

900 Bland Blvd.
Newport News, VA
757.877.0221
flyphf.com

FIRST IN CLASS

International Communications Group offers top-flight communications systems while calling Newport News home.

International Communications Group (ICG) has been a part of the Newport News community since its inception more than 20 years ago. The company is a leader in the design, development, and manufacture of next-generation communications systems and data routing solutions for the general aviation and air transport industries. ICG has grown from a small

communications and data routing solutions in the aviation industry.

Situated in one of the nation's most beautiful and historic regions, ICG draws talent from local educational institutions such as Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Old Dominion University, William and Mary, and Christopher Newport University, and taps into the pool of highly skilled military personnel in the area. Newport News has a rich historical heritage that makes ICG an attractive prospect for talent from around the country and across the world. Its proximity to Yorktown, Jamestown, and Colonial Williamsburg makes it easy to explore the country's history, and the nearby coastal and inland recreational areas are appealing to many job candidates.

Known for its attributes — Innovative, Creative, and a Great place to work — ICG has been recognized for its growth in employment and revenues as one of the state's "Fantastic 50" several times in recent years, as well as one of the 20 fastest growing

companies in Hampton Roads in 2013. It's not "news" that ICG thinks the Newport News area is a great place to work and call home.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



group of investors and technology innovators to a thriving 100-plus employee company with customers and products fielded on every continent of the globe.

ICG's decision to locate in Newport News was by design. The company's initial products were communications management systems designed for telephone connectivity for the cruise ship industry. The firm's commitment to innovation has resulted in the adaptation of the technology for advanced cabin and cockpit voice communi-

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ALWAYS GOOD SHIPS

Building seafaring vessels — and tradition — in Newport News. By Deborah H. Huso



As you drive down Huntington Avenue in the historic Huntington Heights neighborhood of Newport News, it is impossible not to notice the vast shipyard operations fronting the James River.

Newport News Shipbuilding has been a major player in the city for more than 128 years. The shipyard, now a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries, employs more than 23,700 people and is the largest industrial employer in Virginia. Many employees are third, fourth, and fifth generation shipbuilders, and 868 of them are Master Shipbuilders, which means they have more than 40 years of experience.

The services NNS provides are critical. The yard is the nation's sole designer, builder, and refueler of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, and one of only two shipyards in the U.S. with nuclear submarine building capabilities. Since the compa-

ny's founding, it has designed, built, and repaired over 800 vessels for the U.S. Navy as well as commercial customers. Thirty of those have been aircraft carriers like the USS *Enterprise* and the *Nimitz*-class carriers.

NNS President Matt Mulherin says the company's highly skilled trades workers and engineers are its greatest asset. Major projects include refueling and overhaul of nuclear aircraft carriers, building new *Virginia*-class submarines in partnership with Electric Boat, building the U.S. Navy's *Gerald R. Ford* class of aircraft carriers, and inactivating the USS *Enterprise*. "Nuclear-powered submarines and aircraft carriers are complex and impressive. Equally impressive are the American shipbuilders who build them," says Mulherin. NNS shipbuilders safely perform these critical tasks with a constant awareness of the shipyard's mission—"always good ships."

From top: shipbuilders at work on the aircraft carrier *Gerald R. Ford*, and a nuclear-powered submarine in dry dock

Newport News Shipbuilding

4101 Washington Ave.
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nns.huntingtoningalls.com

HISTORY, CULTURE, AND NATURE

Relive the past at dozens of historic sites, revel in the present, and recharge in beautiful natural surroundings. **By Deborah R. Huso**

For more than a century, the watery grave of the ironclad USS *Monitor* remained a mystery. Sunk in a storm off North Carolina's Outer Banks in 1862, nine months after the famous first ironclad battle in history, the *Monitor* seemed lost to history. But in 1973, divers discov-

ered the wreck site, and since then, the U.S. Navy and NOAA have been working to recover and conserve its artifacts, many of which are now on display at The Mariners' Museum's USS *Monitor* Center.

"The Battle of the Ironclads is a pivotal moment in history that visitors here can relive," says Cindy Brouillard, director of tourism for the Newport

News Tourism Development Office (newport-news.org, 888.493.7386). At the USS *Monitor* Center, you can view the ironclad's unique screw propeller, turret, and Dahlgren guns while getting a firsthand look at the work of the men and women preserving this historic icon.

The USS *Monitor* is only one of many historic gems in Newport News. "Our city is rich in history and complements the stories being told in nearby Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Jamestown," Brouillard adds. "In the early 1600s, Captain Christopher Newport brought 'good news' of supplies to the colonists at Jamestown." The city was also part of the Peninsula Campaign of 1862, a story told and re-enacted at Endview Plantation and Lee Hall Mansion.

Then, in both World War I and II, Newport News was a port of U.S. embarkation for troops heading overseas. The city has always played a significant role in the nation's military history. Its shipyard, founded in 1886, is still producing submarines and



aircraft carriers for the U.S. Navy. (In fact, it is the only builder of the Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carriers.) You can explore some of the city's and the nation's military stories at the Virginia War Museum as well as the U.S. Army Transportation Museum at Joint Base Langley-Eustis.

Newport News isn't just for history buffs, however. This urban city, with its atmosphere of live,

work, and play at locations like Ferguson Center for the Arts, City Center at Oyster Point and historic Hilton Village, is also rich in natural surroundings. The city has 36 parks, including Newport News Park, which at 7,711 acres (that's nine times larger than Central Park) is one of the largest municipal parks in the U.S.

Here you can hike, bike, canoe, picnic, even camp. Brouillard says she especially appreciates the city's easy access to nature, "from romantic strolls in Newport News Park to breathtaking sunsets from Huntington Park while watching ships pass up the James River." What's her favorite nature spot for getting away from it all? "The Noland Trail at The Mariners' Museum Park," she remarks. "That's where I let my mind unwind at the end of a long day!"



Clockwise from bottom left: Lee Hall Mansion, Hilton Village, Victory Arch, Noland Trail, Ferguson Center for the Arts, Civil War re-enactment at Endview Plantation

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

LIVE LIFE OUTDOORS

Celebrate Newport News' Parks & Recreation. **By Ben Swenson**

The late Maya Angelou said it best: "I work very hard, and I play very hard. I'm grateful for life. And I live it — I believe life loves the liver of it. I live it." Angelou was sharing wisdom from personal experience, but she could just as well have been speaking of Newport News, Virginia, a city that works hard and plays hard. A city that lives and loves life.

Take Newport News Park. This wooded refuge stands tall among the nation's natural landscapes, but it's more than just a place to enjoy open air;

EMBRACE GREEN SPACE UNDER WIDE-OPEN SKY.



From bottom left: Newport News Golf Club at Deer Run, enjoying the open water at Newport News Park, and a tranquil day at Huntington Park Rose Garden

the park represents a community where folks are passionate for life, and where recreation is as much a priority as work.

Newport News Park is enormous. At 7,711 acres, it's among one of the largest municipal parks east of the Mississippi River. (Central Park could fit in here nine times over.) Thirty-five miles of trails wind through woods that are home to deer, bobcats, and otters. Beyond Newport News Park, the city boasts 35 other public park facilities.

That's a lot of green space for people to embrace under wide-open sky, and there are plenty of ways to do it, from kayaking to camping and geocaching. Outdoor recreation is central to Newport News' identity, thanks to a historical connection to the natural features that have driven the city's growth over the years. A day spent at the beach or boating and fishing are traditions along the city's 20-plus miles of shoreline along the James River.

Residents enjoy friendly pickup games at neighborhood basketball courts, and new recreation

centers host tournaments that draw athletes from around the country. You'll find amateur golfers playing against par at acclaimed 36-hole Newport News Golf Club at Deer Run, and organized teams at any of the sprawling complexes for softball, swimming, and tennis.

That's what makes recreation in Newport News stand apart: There's something within the city limits for everyone. The people draw from many traditions and backgrounds, and the opportunities to renew oneself through leisure reflect that diversity. Do floral gardens soothe your soul? Newport News has three. Maybe you want some quality time with the kids? Try any of the 102 city-maintained playgrounds,

including the Boundless Playground, which can accommodate children with special needs.

For more information, visit mngov.com/parks-and-recreation.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



OFF AND RUNNING

Save the date for the inaugural Newport News One City Marathon.

By Janine Latus

Newport News City Manager Jim Bourey is a runner, and it didn't take long for him to recognize that his 26-mile-long city of parks, diverse neighborhoods, outdoor art, and river views would make a perfect course for a marathon. The hills are gentle, the course is fast; ospreys, eagles, and egrets coast overhead, and the scenery is beautiful. Thus the inaugural Newport News One City Marathon (*onecitymarathon.com*) was born. The city believes this is a perfect opportunity to show off its world-class hospitality and intends to provide the warmest welcome runners have ever experienced.

Clockwise from above: starting line at Mariners' Museum, world-class public art, and the Victory Arch



Set for March 15, 2015, the marathon, along with a relay option for up to four participants, an 8K race, and a fun run, are expected to draw thousands of runners to this city along the James River. Throughout the weekend, citizens and

PHOTOS (FROM LEFT) BY ALEXANDER KRAVETS AND COURTESY OF CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS (2)



visitors alike will also enjoy a health fair and a community festival.

Boston Marathon Director Dave McGillivray, who will be the keynote speaker at the pre-race dinner, was the first in line to register. "I love the mission," he said, "to bring unity in the community while encouraging healthy living."

The relatively flat, certified course promises to be fast, with a net drop in elevation and seasonally cool temperatures — and it will provide an ideal opportunity for runners to get in their qualifying time for the Boston Marathon.

Presented by Newport News Shipbuilding, the race will begin in the nearly 8,000-acre Newport News Park, which at nine times larger than New York City's Central Park, is one of the largest municipal parks in the nation. It will then weave through neighborhoods, parks, and a college campus, and pass renowned museums and world-class public art. The course continues along the waterfront and the Newport News Shipyard, which has built sea vessels since 1886 and is now the only maker of nuclear-powered U.S. Navy aircraft carriers.

The final leg of the race will take runners past the 90-foot tugboat *Dorothy*, the first vessel built at the shipyard, which plied the waters for 73 years and today symbolizes the shipyard's workmanship.

In a nod to the city's water-based heritage, the

THE *ONE CITY MARATHON* WILL WEAVE THROUGH NEIGHBORHOODS, AND PASS RENOWNED MUSEUMS AND PUBLIC ART.

fun run will cover a nautical mile — 1.15 land miles — and refreshment stops will be dubbed "wave stations," with neighborhoods competing for theirs to be the most welcoming, helpful, and well-decorated.

Runners will complete the race through the city's Victory Arch, built originally in 1919 to welcome soldiers back from World War I and rebuilt after World War II, where Newport News citizens then cheered returning troops just like they will applaud marathon runners making their way to the finish line.

"Come March 15th, runners will have an opportunity to see the wonderful assets of our city and experience the vitality and spirit of the people of Newport News," says Bourey. "Runners will find that they've never been welcomed like this."



"YOU'VE NEVER BEEN WELCOMED LIKE THIS."

A-10 ASCENSION

Atlantic 10 Conference teams achieve success on and off the playing field.

By Brion O'Connor



Scan this QR code to watch the A-10's Salute to Champions video.

Based in Newport News, Virginia, the 14-member Atlantic 10 Conference (atlantic10.com) is committed to athletic excellence and offers championship opportunities in 21 sports, allowing more than 4,500 students the chance to earn A-10 titles and advance to NCAA Tournament play.

Men's Hoops

The A-10 has shown again that it is one of the premier basketball-centric conferences in the U.S. Six teams — Saint Louis University, VCU, George Washington, Saint Joseph's, Massachusetts, and Dayton — recorded 24 or more wins, and all six made the NCAA tournament, comprising almost ten percent of the 68-team field. So strong is the

A-10 that the Dayton Flyers (26-10 overall), who stunned college basketball followers with their dramatic run to the NCAA Elite 8, finished in sixth place in the conference.

"The league represents great coaches, great players, and very undervalued depth," says Dayton head coach Archie Miller. "To me, the words that describe the Atlantic 10 are competitive, depth, and style."

Ensuring future success is the A-10's stellar collection of head coaches. Five of the league's bench bosses were listed in ESPN's countdown of Top-50 men's basketball coaches, with Virginia Commonwealth University's Shaka Smart topping the list at No. 13. Also mentioned were Davidson's Bob McKillop (24th), Miller (26th), A-10 Coach of the Year Jim Crews of Saint Louis (29th), and Saint Joseph's Phil Martelli (35th), the 2004 NCAA Coach of the Year.

Women's Hoops

The A-10 women's basketball teams also achieved an outstanding season, with record success in the regular season and several teams earning postseason berths.

Seven teams — Dayton, Fordham, George Washington, St. Bonaventure, Saint Joseph's, Duquesne, and VCU — broke the 20-win barrier (the third time in league history that seven teams hit



that mark), and only two teams failed to reach double-digit figures in victories. Three A-10 teams made the NCAA tournament, including Fordham, which knocked off regular-season champion Dayton to win the league tournament. Dayton and Saint Joseph's also made the NCAA Tournament while Duquesne, George Washington, St. Bonaventure, and VCU all earned WNIT bids.

Individual accolades included Jim Crowley of St. Bonaventure, recognized as A-10 Coach of the Year, and Duquesne's Dan Burt, who was named a finalist for the 2014 Spalding Maggie Dixon Division I Rookie Coach of the Year award. Also, Saint Joseph's high-scoring senior guard Erin Shields was selected to the I-AAA Scholar-Athlete Team for the second straight year, the only Hawk in program history to earn that honor twice. Shields was also named one of ten A-10 Post-graduate Scholarship recipients.

Academic Excellence

Proving that academics and athletics can mix, the A-10 scored high with its league-wide Academic Progress Rate (APR) for the fourth consecutive year. The A-10's average APR score of 984 (out of a possible 1,000) recently tied the conference for fifth place among all Division I leagues. Across the board, 141 A-10 teams met or exceeded the national APR average, and 37 teams registered a perfect score of 1,000.

Each year, the league has achieved a top-five ranking in both the APR and the Graduate Success Rate (GSR), reaching as high as the No. 2 spot. Women's basketball ranks fourth

overall in the GSR, and all 11 women's indoor track teams surpassed the national APR average, while 10 of 11 outdoor women's track teams met or exceeded the average. Six of eight women's lacrosse programs, 11 of 12 women's cross country teams, and seven women's swimming squads were all above the average. Men's basketball ranks second nationally in the GSR among all conferences, and collectively the men's basketball programs tied for sixth among the 32 D-I conferences, and seven teams exceeded the national APR average.

Marketing Prowess

Given the success of the A-10 athletic teams and the academic achievements of their students, it's no surprise that the league's branding initiative — Who Wants Next? (WhoWantsNext.com) — continues to gather steam. Highlighting the conference's successful basketball programs during February and March, the campaign was a finalist for a 2014 CLIO Sports award.

NCAA 'Talk'

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is the governing organization of which the A-10 is a Division I member. As widely reported, a major governance restructuring is under way. The A-10 has been engaged in these discussions supporting the initiative to revamp the NCAA.

"Intercollegiate athletics as we know it will be transformed," commented A-10 Commissioner Bernadette V. McGlade. "However, protecting competitive opportunities and enhanced support for student-athletes is very important."

Included in the proposed restructuring is a newly appointed board of directors, comprised of chancellors and university presidents, with responsibility for the highest-level policy and decision making for the NCAA. The A-10 supports equitable representation on this new board, as it is important for ensuring the priorities of FBS football-centric institutions and Division I basketball-centric institutions. Presidents can appropriately address the unique needs of all NCAA student-athletes and amateur sport programs within our institutions of higher learning.

From bottom left: Dayton Flyers basketball, and Fordham women's basketball player Abigail Corning. Below: Scan this QR code to see the Who Wants Next Campaign.



PHOTOS (FROM LEFT) BY MITCHELL LEFF/A10 CONFERENCE AND COURTESY OF THE A10 CONFERENCE



The Atlantic 10 Conference unveiled a new logo this summer. The refreshed logo ties into the lineage of the previous A-10 mark, while also incorporating imagery of speed and strength. The marks were designed to portray the A-10's core values of academic and athletic excellence, leadership, and community service.

ART FOR EVERYONE

The Newport News Public Art Foundation brings great sculpture into the everyday lives of residents.

What better symbol is there for a business park than two fantastic hands coming together in a handshake? Nearby, a giant gear, precise and polished but with an intriguing twist, marks the turn into an industrial area. Over on the river, a dreamy marble beauty gazes out from her perch in a peaceful pond. In front of a library, a bronze figure tells a story about being ready for life's changes, as he balances atop a sphere that's ready to roll. To get to the airport, turn at the soaring metal

abstraction, a geometry puzzle built around a beam of light. Fly into Newport News, Virginia, drive around its streets, and enjoy its "open-air art gallery" — it's always open, always free, always helping make the city a great place to live, work, visit, and do business. Newport News was introduced to outdoor sculpture in the 1930s by the Huntingtons — Archer and Anna Hyatt — who founded The Mariners' Museum and imagined its 500-plus-acre surroundings as a sculpture park. They installed several pieces by Anna, a well-known sculptor, but the Great Depression hit before they could make their ambitious dream a reality.

Six decades later, local developer Bobby Freeman had a dream of his own: a midtown community with squares and roundabouts designed for sculpture. The happy result, Port Warwick, impressed local leaders so much they wanted other parts of the city to enjoy great art, too. They turned to Freeman and, after confirming that major players — in business, education, health, culture, and city government — were on board, he formed the Newport News Public Art Foundation (nnpUBLICART.org).

Since 2001, the volunteer-led nonprofit has been bringing the best sculpture from around the world to Newport News, with 17 pieces installed and another half dozen in the works. The collection is diverse, with pieces that are traditional and modern, figurative and abstract, beautiful and, yes, sometimes challenging. So are the artists, who

Below:
Spirit of Life, Riverside Regional Medical Center



WITH SO MUCH HIGH-QUALITY ART, THERE'S CLEARLY SOMETHING REMARKABLE GOING ON HERE.

come from around the globe — from the local area and around the United States, as well as from Europe, South America, and Asia.

And the Foundation makes the art as accessible as possible. In most communities, only a small proportion of residents visit art galleries. To help more people enjoy the benefits art brings to individual lives and civic life, the solution is simple: Bring the art to them.

The Foundation puts art where people encounter it as they go about their daily lives. It's along major streets and in traffic circles, on public land and high-visibility private property. The collection is large, because while city government is an enthusiastic partner, the great majority of the art is funded by private donors. In other words, Newport News enjoys a great art asset because the community makes it happen.

And so patients and visitors at Riverside Regional Medical Center's busy campus pass the



Clockwise from left:
Izar, at airport entrance; Carambola, Hilton Public Library; and Reinvented, Oyster Point

PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER KRAVETS

From top:
Lenape
Gate, Port
Warwick; and
Elements,
Christopher
Newport
University

THE PUBLIC ART FOUNDATION BRINGS SCULPTORS INTO SCHOOLS FOR EXPERIENCES WITH *QUALITY* ART AND THE ARTISTS WHO CREATE IT.

unfolding marble sculpture Helaine Blumenfeld created to offer comfort and hope, a respite, an affirmation of the *Spirit of Life*. The *Financial Times* compared her to Henry Moore, a giant of modern sculpture, but it speaks to the caliber of the collection.

As people drive around the traffic circle at Christopher Newport University, they enjoy the changing views of *Elements*, and students share the campus Great Lawn with young *Francesco* and the bronze birds alighting on his outstretched arms.

Its citywide art gallery sets Newport News apart by demonstrating that it values quality of life, and it gives locals a source of pride. It's an educational resource, offering students in-person experiences with quality art and the artists who make it, as the Foundation gets sculptors involved in schools.

In 2013, the Foundation installed four new sculptures, and it's just getting started. The goal: a community with so much high-quality, high-visibility art that anyone looking around would say, "There's something remarkable going on here."



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER KRAVETS



ARTS ALIVE

Education and community define the Peninsula Fine Arts Center. **By Laura Burkehart**

W

ithin the grounds of the Mariners' Museum Park, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center sits next to the famed Mariners Museum. Since its establishment in 1962, PFAC has served as a gallery, education center, and community gathering place. Because the center does not have a permanent collection, instead displaying ever-changing, diverse exhibitions, returning visitors will likely never see the same thing twice.

Besides presenting notable works like "NEXT: Emerging Virginia Artists" (October 2014), PFAC offers classes for young and old alike, at every skill level. Children from preschool to high school can take painting classes, or check out Discovery Baskets that explore the cultures of Egypt and Mali. "The Discovery Baskets are like field trips in a box," explains Amber Kennedy, PFAC's marketing director. Adults can take traditional watercolor or pottery classes, or try glass fusion or linocut printmaking.

The Peninsula Fine Arts Center is dedicated to removing barriers to art, and works with corporate donors to underwrite transportation and admission for school field trips, enabling students to attend major exhibitions. The center also serves other

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PFAC



populations; in 2012, PFAC joined forces with Eastern Virginia Medical School to provide art therapy for veterans diagnosed with PTSD through the Healing Arts program.

Everything from musical performances and movie screenings to free monthly poetry nights (every second Thursday) attracts both locals and visitors to PFAC. Third Thursdays feature extended hours, concessions, a bar, and entertainment, and on the first weekend of each month admission to the center is free.

Peninsula Fine Arts Center

101 Museum Dr.
 Newport News, VA
 757.596.8175
pfac-va.org

MAKING WAVES

The Mariners' Museum showcases the timeless allure of the sea. **By Wes Isley**

From traders and explorers to pirates and pleasure boats, humankind's relationship with the ocean is ancient. And for more than 80 years, this story has been told and displayed in The Mariners' Museum. Designated as America's National Maritime Museum by the U.S. Congress, the 130,000-square-foot facility pre-

serves and interprets maritime history through an international collection of more than 35,000 artifacts.

Galleries highlight the spirit of exploration, the story of commercial steamships, and the role of the U.S. Navy in America's history. The Museum also houses the meticulously crafted miniature ships of artist and carver August F. Crabtree and a premier collection of 150 watercraft from more than 36 countries — all reminders of how

integral the ocean is to our lives and how it continues to shape individuals and entire nations.

The centerpiece of The Mariners' Museum collection is the USS *Monitor* Center, a \$30-million, 65,000-square-foot repository for more than 1,100 recovered artifacts from the wreck of the Civil War battleship. The revolutionary ironclad vessel served the Union side in the Battle of Hampton Roads, waged near Newport News in 1862. Visitors can view the ship's steam engine, propeller, and its iconic revolving gun turret, as well as walk a life-size outdoor replica. It's an exhibit the *Wall Street Journal* called "an ironclad must-see."

The Mariners' Museum

100 Museum Dr.
Newport News, VA
757.596.2222
marinersmuseum.org



THE 130,000-SQUARE-FOOT FACILITY HOLDS AN INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION OF MORE THAN 35,000 ITEMS.

Historic ships aren't the only things that once crossed the ocean blue, however, as seen in the museum's newest exhibit, *Savage Ancient Seas: Dinosaurs of the Deep*. Learn more about giant marine reptiles including the "T-Rex of the ocean," the 45-foot-long Tylosaurus with two rows of razor-sharp teeth, and the vicious 12-foot-long Xiphactinus, which swallowed its prey whole. View the exhibit through January 4, 2015.

Also new this year is the museum's permanent, high-definition, 3D Explorers Theater. Using the latest Dolby technology to achieve a sharper image than many 3D and IMAX theaters, this state-of-the-art, 50-seat venue is currently showing films

on prehistoric marine reptiles and the historic D-Day campaign of World War II.

Want more? Check out The Mariners' Museum Library, located next door on the campus of Christopher Newport University. The library houses the largest maritime collection in the Western hemisphere, with 78,000 volumes, one million manuscript items, 600,000 photographs, and thousands of maps, charts, and ships' plans dating as far back as the 1500s.

Part of what makes a visit to The Mariners' Museum so special is its setting within the 550-acre Mariners' Museum Park, which includes the 5.7-mile Noland Trail, 167-acre Lake Maury, and the picturesque Lion's Bridge along the James River. Purchased with funds donated by philanthropists Archer and Anna Hyatt Huntington, who also founded the museum in 1930, the park is the largest privately owned and maintained park in the U.S. that is free and open to the public. Today it's the site of numerous Mariners' Museum events, including a wine classic, a beer festival, a free outdoor concert series, an annual 5K and 10K Pirate Run, and more.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MARINERS' MUSEUM



Clockwise from left: the Noland Trail, prehistoric sea turtle, the USS Monitor Center, and Pirates Pack the Park event



FESTIVALS WITH FLAIR

Newport News celebrates with style.

By Ben Swenson

Newport News, Virginia, is a proud town, and with good reason. The city is awash in enviable assets, among them a diverse population and a rich cultural heritage that includes a long legacy of some seasonal revelry. “Special events in Newport News celebrate the city’s unique history, traditions, and culture with flair,” says Shelly Ezanno, superintendent of special events and promotions.

From top: the Fall Festival of Folklife and Hollydazzle



Newport News first staged the Fall Festival of Folklife 41 years ago to keep the city’s crafts, trades, and musical heritage alive. Spring brings the Children’s Festival of Friends in May, followed by the Summer Celebration Wine Festival in June offering tastings from Virginia’s best wineries.

You can imagine, then, that a city that loves to let loose welcomes the holiday season in grand style. Celebration in Lights is no ordinary drive-through lights show, with two miles of 300 different displays depicting holiday and historic scenes such as the Battle of the USS *Monitor* and CSS *Virginia* (“Merimack”) that occurred nearby. Likewise, Coastal Virginia’s most extravagant holiday party, Hollydazzle, is a hit — it culminates with a stunning pyrotechnic and special effects-infused Fountain of Lights show.

And, of course, a city that has witnessed so many watershed moments in American history pays respect to the nation accordingly. Fourth of July Stars in the Sky takes place in the shadow of the Victory Arch, a point of embarkation in World Wars I and II for soldiers who sacrificed so that we can celebrate our freedom.

For a complete list of special events in Newport News, visit mngov.com/parks-and-recreation/festivals.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

WORLD OF WONDERS

See it all at the Virginia Living Museum. By Tony Gabriele

Virginia stretches from the ocean to the mountains, from the wide vistas of the Chesapeake Bay to the dramatic peaks and valleys of the Blue Ridge and Appalachian mountains. You can’t sample it all in one day — unless you visit the Virginia Living Museum.

What’s a “living museum?” It’s a combination of zoo, natural history museum, aquarium, and learning center, where families marvel at the natural wonders found across the state.

Visitors to the Newport News museum stroll past a cascading mountain stream where trout swim and songbirds nestle in trees, and along a cypress swamp where an alligator lounges. They glimpse the secrets of the limestone caves beneath Virginia, and watch fish and turtles from the Chesapeake and Atlantic swim by their noses.

Outdoors, a boardwalk winds past a pond and woods where more animal residents are seen in naturalized habitats: beaver, otter, bald eagle, coyotes, rare red wolves, and more.

Young visitors enjoy hands-on activities including the popular Touch Tank, where they can get



From top: resident otter and the museum’s popular Touch Tank

up-close with mollusks and horseshoe crabs, and the just-opened Wild and Well, where they imagine life as animal keepers and veterinarians. A Conservation Garden and Living Green House show young and old alike how to be earth-friendly.

The museum does depart from Virginia in one direction: the heavens. A state-of-the-art planetarium offers a variety of shows on astronomy and other topics. And this summer, there’s a foray into the past, too. A traveling exhibit of realistic, roaring animatronic dinosaurs and an outdoor fossil find run through Sept. 1.

Virginia Living Museum

524 J. Clyde Morris Blvd.
Newport News, VA
757.595.1900
thevlm.org



PHOTOS (FROM TOP) BY KARL REBENSTORF AND COURTESY OF VIRGINIA LIVING MUSEUM

DESTINED FOR SUCCESS

Thanks to Hampton Roads Academy

Stroll through the new, state-of-the-art facilities at Hampton Roads Academy, an independent college prep school in suburban Newport News, Virginia, and you'll see 600 students, from knee-high preschoolers to mature high school seniors, all of them destined for college.

Honor, respect, and responsibility are at the core of the school's values, and in this inclusive community, a student-teacher ratio of 10:1 means that every child gets the attention she or he needs to thrive.

But academics aren't the only way these students shine. With more than 50 student-initiated and student-led clubs and activities, children have many opportunities to assume leadership roles both in the school and community. There are 19 Advanced Placement courses, and nearly 95 percent of students will have completed at least one of them before graduation. That hard work



pays off — the class of 2014 earned nearly \$3.8 million in merit scholarships and awards, and 98 percent were admitted to their first-pick college.

Students participate in art, theater, photography, and music, and play on 44 athletic teams in 22 sports. They win, too. Hampton Roads Academy teams have won a total of 55 conference championships and an impressive 23 state titles. In 2013–14, three teams — girls tennis, girls swimming, and boys swimming — were all Virginia State Champions, and 14 student-athletes from the Class of 2014 will go on to play collegiate athletics.

The academy's dedicated faculty also support students by taking personal pride in helping them grow and develop intellectually, artistically, physically, and morally — both for higher education and for life.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAMPTON ROADS ACADEMY



SERVING WITH DISTINCTION

Christopher Newport University extends a helping hand. **By Nancy Oakley**



A world-class city needs a world-class university," says Christopher Newport University (CNU) President Paul Tribble, quoting Newport News' former mayor Joe Frank. Tribble has worked hard in his 18-year tenure to raise the academic bar at the liberal arts school. But he insists there's another reason for CNU's ascent. "Real success for us is a life well-lived," he says. "Leadership and service are part of who we are, and an important part of our city." Hence, CNU's Service Distinction Program.

For every incoming freshman, it starts before fall classes begin, with a Day of Service during which Tribble, faculty and staff, and students participate in a variety of community projects throughout Newport News. The city is an active partner with the university, connecting myriad organizations with students throughout their time at the university. "It's hands-on involvement," Tribble explains, citing students' work at Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Habitat for Humanity, and

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

Special Olympics. In the 2013–14 academic year, more than 1,000 of the school's students completed over 45,500 hours of service at 150 different organizations.

Newport News also benefits in other ways. Tribble illustrates how CNU's rigorous Master of Arts in Teaching program allows 80 prospective teachers to bring their wealth of knowledge to classrooms in 30 public schools during a fifth year of study. Similarly, CNU's cultural offerings at its spectacular Ferguson Arts Center — classical, jazz, and pops concerts, Broadway shows, and dance performances — enrich the lives of Newport News citizens from all walks of life: Its Arts for All initiative gives complimentary and discounted tickets to schools, nonprofits, and the disadvantaged.

It's no surprise, then, that as Christopher Newport students come to know their adopted hometown, they often choose to stay after graduation. "These people are vibrant, energetic, and making the community better," Tribble observes.

From top: Christopher Newport's campus, and students gather to study

Christopher Newport University

1 Avenue of the Arts
Newport News, Virginia
757.594.7000
cnu.edu



Hampton Roads Academy

739 Academy Ln.
Newport News, VA
757.884.9100
hra.org





NEWPORT NEWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ensuring all students are college, career, and citizen-ready

State-of-the-art labs, rigorous coursework, and civic projects like food drives help prepare students for college, careers, and citizenship.

Visitors to Newport News see a community and a school division looking toward the future in every way, especially for its students. Today's kindergartners will graduate in 2027, and it's the mission of Newport News Public Schools (www.nnschools.org) to ensure they are ready for a world that may look vastly different. To that end, the school division focuses on one common goal:

ensuring that all students graduate *college, career, and citizen-ready*.

Ready to Learn

The 21st-century job market requires employees to complete some post-secondary education. Students in Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) have a host of higher-education options, including Early College, where students can attend college during their second semester of senior year. And, with a major increase in the graduation rate, more students than ever are moving on to promising futures.

Ready to Earn

Many of the jobs today's students will have are yet to be created. A robust Career Pathways program and strong relationship with business partners provide students with job awareness, training, and experiences needed to compete in the global workforce. A growing focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) links schools and students with major employers in manufacturing, aerospace, shipbuilding, research, and healthcare.

Ready to Lead

Thriving communities need citizens who contribute their time and talents. NNPS students learn and practice good citizenship every day. The NNPS Youth Development program encourages students to join a club or team, take a leadership role, and look for ways to make a difference in their schools and community.

Options and Opportunities

NNPS treats students as individuals who have varying aspirations for their futures. An Aviation Academy, STEM Academy, Health Sciences Academy, Arts & Communications Magnet, and a dozen other specialized programs provide students a wide range of options when planning their education.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEWPORT NEWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS