



## City, ODU pave the way for new transportation research center at Virginia Beach Towne Center

By Jennifer Mullen Collins and Warren Harris

In an agreement with the Virginia Beach Development Authority, Old Dominion University will launch the Center for Innovative Transportation Solutions in Virginia Beach Towne Center, positioning the city and the university at the forefront of transportation

research for the region and beyond.

The center, slated to open later this summer, will focus on developing and applying innovative techniques, including the expansive use of modeling and simulation, to address a broad variety of transportation challenges and issues facing the region, state and nation.



The Center for Innovative Transportation Services (CITS) positions the city and university at forefront of research

“Old Dominion University and the city of Virginia Beach have partnered for many years to create opportunities for

the betterment of the city, university, region and its citizens,” said ODU Chief Operating Officer David F. Harnage. “The center is a continuation of that strong partnership and we look forward to the promising work that will come from our joint efforts at CITS.”

Approved June 19 by the development authority, the agreement

provides ODU office space in One Columbus Center, valued at approximately \$50,000 a year, for three years. In return, CITS will complete detailed transportation simulation and modeling research of an equivalent value for Virginia Beach. The research topic will be jointly selected by researchers. Please see City, Page 2

### Makahiki released at First Landing State Park



Makahiki, a green sea turtle, was recently released at False Cape State Park, following six months of rehabilitation at the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Center's Marine Animal Care Center. (Courtesy photos)

### Virginia Aquarium treats, releases sea turtle found by Sandbridge's Anne and Bill Gasset

By Joan Barns

You might say that the green sea turtle, “Makahiki,” wintered-over at the Marine Animal Care Center of the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center.

The limp, cold-stunned turtle arrived at the center on New Year's Day; and after six months of rehabilitation with the Aquarium's Stranding Response Program, Makahiki was recently returned to the sea, from the beach at First Landing State Park.

Makahiki, which means “New Year” in Hawaiian, was named by the Sandbridge residents who discovered her, Anne and Bill Gasset. They knew exactly who to call, since two Christmases ago they had worked with the Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Team to rescue a Kemp's ridley turtle they named “Kalikimaka,” which means “Christmas” in Hawaiian. The turtle will be fitted with a satellite transmitter, so the stranding team and the public can track her post-release success on [www.seaturtle.org](http://www.seaturtle.org).

Makahiki gained two pounds during its winter stay in the Resort City and the turtle was deemed fully fit by the veterinarian, before its release. Perhaps one day Makahiki will meet Kalikimaka, who was rehabilitated and released on June 16, 2009.

The Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Program's mission is to promote the conservation of marine animal special through stranding response, research, rehabilitation and education. It is largely a volunteer-based group, operating from the Aquarium's Marine Animal Care Center in Virginia Beach. The program is supported by the Virginia Aquarium Foundation through donations from the community and grant-making organizations.

To report a dead or live stranded marine mammal or sea turtle call 757-385-3474. Visit [www.VirginiaAquarium.com](http://www.VirginiaAquarium.com).

Reach Joan Barns, with the city of Virginia Beach, at 757-385-0252; or at [jmbarns@vb.gov](mailto:jmbarns@vb.gov).



This is Makahiki, shortly after being rescued by the stranding team.

## Class of 2012: \$32.7 million in scholarships

Highest amount ever awarded to seniors

By Bonnie Fischer

The class of 2012 has been awarded an amazing \$32,788,893 in scholarships, as reported by graduating seniors to high school guidance offices. It is the highest amount ever awarded to Virginia Beach City Public Schools' graduating seniors.

This amount represents only scholarships that were accepted by the graduates, according to Joe Burnsworth, assistant superintendent in the school division's Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

“If we calculated everything that was offered to students in terms of scholarships to colleges and universities they ultimately chose not to attend, or financial aid such as loans and grants, the figure would be as much as 50 percent higher.”

Students from all 11 of the city's comprehensive high schools are represented in the scholarship amounts, which includes scholarship awards from in-state and out-of-state educational institutions.

The division's Office of Guidance Services actively encourages students to apply for as many scholarships as possible and as early as possible, as a way to offset continually escalating higher education costs.

“Given the state of the economy and with the costs for higher education skyrocketing, more and more seniors are applying for financial assistance,” said Alveta Mitchell, director of guidance services. “High school counselors are an extremely valuable resource for students. They not only advise students, but also work with them in locating and applying for scholarships.”

In addition, the Office of Guidance Services sponsors an annual citywide “college night” for students, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, during which representatives from 185 institutions of higher learning are available to speak with students and their parents about various post-graduate educational opportunities. The next one is set of Tuesday, Nov. 13.

The division actively encourages students to apply for as many scholarships as possible and as early as possible, as a way to offset continually escalating higher education costs.

“We are proud to offer an array of diverse schools and institutions to Virginia Beach students,” said Mitchell.

The division also offers students an added advantage in finding scholarship opportunities through “Scholarship Central” on its web site, [www.vbschools.com](http://www.vbschools.com); and parents who are interested in financial aid and scholarships for their children should talk with school

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Lally

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No matter where you live, work or play in Virginia Beach, the latest copy of the Virginia Beach Sun is only minutes away, at any one of its 22 distribution points throughout the Resort City. Take a minute and visit any one of these convenient locations for your copy of the Sun:

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 Heritage Health Food Store - 984 Laskin Road  
 Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront - 5700 Atlantic Avenue

### Shore Drive/Great Neck

Starbuck's - 3273 Shore Drive  
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 Zero's Subs - 2272 West Great Neck Road  
 Uncle Rich's Café - 2242 Seashore Shoppes

### Towne Center/Pembroke

Bevello - 172 Central Park Avenue  
 Confetti Café and Gelato - 233 Market Street

### Central Virginia Beach/Aragona

A & G Auto Sales - 5012 Virginia Beach Boulevard

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### Bayside

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### Centerville

Care-A-Lot Pet Supply - 5457 Indian River Road

### City of Norfolk

Turpin's Florist - 1846 East Little Creek Road

## City, ODU pave the way for the new research center

Continued from page 1  
 and city leaders.

"This is a very timely project for the city and for ODU," said Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms. "For years, I have said that transportation is the 'number one' issue in Hampton Roads. As former chairman of the region's transportation planning group, I am proud that Virginia Beach will host this center, dedicated to finding creative solutions to moving people and goods through Hampton Roads."

Six researchers will be housed at CITS, with others joining them to collaborate on specific projects. Asad Khattak, ODU's Batten Chair in Transportation, will serve as director. He also leads ODU's work as part of a five-university team, recently named a Tier One University Transportation Center (UTC) by the U.S. Department of Education.

"I am proud that Virginia Beach will host this center, dedicated to finding creative solutions to moving people and goods through Hampton Roads." - Mayor Will Sessoms

Work on the \$3.5 million grant to integrate real-time data systems and advanced transportation applications to better manage congestion, while minimizing environmental impacts, will be done at CITS. Researchers will also study alternative fuels and technologies, fuel conservation, urban studies, land use and public policy to support transportation decision-making at the local, regional and national levels.

In addition, other possible research areas include:

*Multimodal transportation planning, including signal light timing, public transportation planning and analysis, potential growth of light rail and simulation of future traffic patterns.*

*Intelligent transportation systems, including "advanced traveler information systems," advanced sensors analysis and inter-vehicle and vehicle-to-vehicle communications.*

*Safety and security, including driver and passenger behaviors and evacuation transportation plans.*

*Transportation impacts of climate change*

and sea level rise.

Old Dominion University, with a full service campus in Virginia Beach, is Virginia's forward-focused metropolitan research university, contributing nearly \$1 billion annually to the local economy. It has held classes in Virginia Beach since 1988 and recently announced the relocation of its nurse anesthesia program to Virginia Beach.

"Cities face many complex issues in transportation and elected officials and city managers must make decisions that benefit their citizens and provide the basis for economic growth," said John Sokolowski, executive director of ODU's Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center.

"Modeling and simulation enables decision-makers to see the impact of planned improvements on congestion and ease-of-access to neighborhoods and businesses, resulting in better-informed decisions and more successful projects. This partnership between ODU and the city brings together the transportation research resources and urban planning capabilities to solve these complex issues for the benefit of all."

*Jennifer Mullin Collins, an Old Dominion University spokesperson, can be reached at 757-683-3314 or at jmullen@odu.edu. Warren Harris, Virginia Beach's economic development director, can be reached at 757-385-6464 or at wharris@vbgov.com.*

## Student scholarships total \$32.7 M

Continued from Page 1

counselors early in their children's school careers about the college admissions process.

School counselors routinely stress that students must focus on learning and striving for excellent grades, as well as on participating in school and community activities.

"Most colleges, universities and proprietary schools are looking for well-rounded students with excellent academic records," said Mitchell. "As a result, students should research what the institution they want to attend requires of incoming freshmen; and then concentrate on applying for admission, as well as for financial assistance." The \$32.7 million reported above also includes the dollar value of ROTC scholarships and military academy appointments. The dollar value of Pell grants, work-study and loans accepted by graduates has not been included. For more information about the scholarship awards contact one of the public high schools' guidance offices or the division's Office of Guidance Services at 757-263-1980.

Contact Bonnie Fischer, a division spokesperson, at 757-263-1234 or at bonnie.fischer@vb-schools.com.

## Virginia Beach Sun

Publisher  
 Greg Goldfarb

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## The "Hot" Stuff

Events, Announcements and News

# In The Sunshine

Chantal Lally, assistant manager, Confetti Caffè & Gelato at Towne Center

**Name:** Chantal Lally.

**Occupation:** Assistant manager at Confetti Caffè & Gelato, 233 Market Street at Towne Center. I've been an assistant manager for one year and worked here since it opened four years ago. I really like it. We've done really well; it's been a good spring and summer; and we had a good winter – moderate weather helped, not too chilly.

**Family:** My mother, Kirsten, who lives off Shore Drive and works as a nanny; and my older brother, Daniel, 26, a 2004 Tallwood High School graduate and a body shop manager in Virginia Beach.

**Education:** 2009 graduate of Kempsville High School.

**Where born:** Scott's Bluff, Nebraska. I lived there less than a year before moving to Virginia Beach, where I lived in a house off Bonney Road while growing up.

What do I like best about Virginia Beach: The beach; we have a really casual atmosphere here. People are really friendly. There's always something to do. It's a good city; I love Virginia Beach.

**What's your favorite part of Virginia Beach:** We have nice neighborhoods and shopping places, but I like the actual beach - the North End – there's more locals down there. I like taking my dog, Chance, down to the beach.

**Favorite car:** One that never breaks down.

**Favorite comfort food:** Sirloin steak cooked rare and mashed potatoes; chocolate and ice cream.

**Favorite seafood:** Lobster, steamed, grilled, buttered.

**Favorite vegetable:** Fresh green beans.

**Favorite beverage and dessert:** Coffee and plain cheesecake.

**Favorite sports team:** I don't have a favorite team or sport; but I like to watch the Olympics. **Hobbies and interests:** I like going out and listening to music; going to some of the places on Shore Drive and at the Oceanfront.

**Your cultural heritage:** German, mainly; my mother was born and raised in Germany; my father was Irish, Native American and Italian. **Describe yourself in a few words:** Pretty spontaneous, eccentric, caring – I'm definitely not patient.

**What makes you "tick":** Always trying to be my best.



Chantal Lally,



Chantal Lally, along with her co-worker and counter server, Mary Remesic, a Haygood Point resident and 2009 Bayside High School graduate.

**What "ticks" you off:** People who chew their food with their mouths open; it drives me crazy. **What the world needs more of:** Open-mindedness; and love.

Reach Chantal Lally at [vbtowncenter@confeticaffe.com](mailto:vbtowncenter@confeticaffe.com).



Mary Remesic and Chantal Lally

### Black police pioneers to be honored

The Virginia Beach Police Department, in cooperation with the Seatack Civic League, will hold a Black Law Enforcement Pioneers Recognition Ceremony at 6 p.m., on Monday, August 20 at the department's 2<sup>nd</sup> Precinct headquarters, 820 Virginia Beach Boulevard. If it rains, it will be held at the city's Law Enforcement Training Academy, right off the expressway at Birdneck Road. The special event celebrates and honors the accomplishments of four men who served either Princess Anne County or the City of Virginia Beach as the county's and the city's first Black law enforcement officers. For more information contact Bonnie Hall, with the city of Virginia Beach, at 757-385-1158 or at [bhall@vbgov.com](mailto:bhall@vbgov.com).

### Virginia Latino Higher Ed. Conference set

The Virginia Latino Higher Education Network Conference is set for Oct. 11 and 12 at Regent University. The theme is: "Latinos in the Arts and Sciences: Past, Present and Future." Conference participants will talk with experts about Latinos and education; network with fellow higher education professionals; and learn from others dedicated to advancing Virginia Latinos in higher education. For more information visit [www.valhen.org/encuentro](http://www.valhen.org/encuentro).

### Community Services Board seeking input

The Virginia Beach Community Services Board is asking for public comments on the proposed 2013 state performance contract, through which state funding is made available for public mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse services. Contract summaries are available for viewing at [vbgov.com/HS](http://vbgov.com/HS). There will be an opportunity for public comment at the board meeting on July 26 at 8:30 a.m., at the Human Services Building, 3432 Virginia Beach Boulevard. For more information contact Kathleen Drumwright at 757-385-0689.

### Aquarium, Zoo and others set summer concerts

The Virginia Aquarium and the Virginia Zoo, in partnership with Portsmouth Museums and Monarch Bank, are launching the "Zoo Grooves" summer concert series beginning on Saturday, June 30 with the Deloreans performing at the zoo's event field. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. Show starts at 6 p.m. School of Rock is set for July 28; and Town Mountain, August 25. General zoo admission applies for non-zoo members. The Norfolk Zoo is located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Call 757-441-2374 or visit [virginiazoo.org](http://virginiazoo.org).

### MBC, HRC announce new officers

The Virginia Beach Minority Business Council has installed new officers for the coming year. They are: Wanda Cooper, chair; Carla Bailey, vice chair; Linda Bright, secretarial officer and Amma Guerrier, financial counselor. The Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission held elections this month. Its officers are: Father James Park, chair; Cliff Rice, vice chair and Geraldine King Hunt, vice chair. Both bodies are appointed by City Council.

### 1,000 sign up for summer reading program

The 2012 Virginia Beach public library system's Summer Reading Program took off on June 18, with more than 1,000 signing up in the first few hours of registration. Program participants can register and maintain their reading logs online and at [vbgov.com/SRP](http://vbgov.com/SRP). Computers with internet access are available at all public libraries for those who may not have access at home. For more information contact Christine Brantley at 757-385-4354 or at [cbrantle@vbgov.com](mailto:cbrantle@vbgov.com).

### Cape Henry Rotary: 'Oyster Crush' fundraiser

The Cape Henry Rotary is holding its Oyster Crush Fundraiser from 1 to 6 p.m., on Sunday, September 23 at The Marina at Marina Shores, 2100 Marina Shores Drive, off Great Neck Road. There will be music and refreshments, including Orange Crush, oysters, fried chicken, barbecue and Buddy Redfean's clam chowder. Tickets are \$45. All proceeds go to charity. Contact Jeremy Johnson at 757-486-0153 for more information.

### Schools: 4-day week over the summer

Virginia Beach public schools, centers and offices are operating on a four-day week – Monday through Thursday – through August 17; that is, except for the week of July 2-6, when schools and administrative offices will adhere to a Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., schedule, with closure taking place on Wednesday, July 4 for the holiday.

### City distributes water to citizens

City officials recently conducted an emergency exercise to test the city's ability to distribute fresh water to its citizens in the event that its water supply is ever compromised or tampered with, such as from natural disaster or manmade disasters. The exercises were held at First Colonial High School and Salem High School.

### LOV asking for community support

Lyric Opera Virginia (LOV) is asking for the community's support, by way of online contributions or by check, to continue its performances through next year and beyond. LOV has offices at 2610 Potters Road. For more information call 757-446-6666.

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*About 1,000 people were on hand at 35<sup>th</sup> Street and the boardwalk for the Virginia Beach Fallen Police Officers' Memorial's unveiling. Located to left, the monument dwarfs the onlookers. It's about three times as tall as an average man.*



*The memorial shows the peace officers, hands locked, continuing to reach out to those in need.*

## ***Fallen Officers' Memorial unveiling attracts 1,000***

They were everywhere: On the beach, on the boardwalk, looking out from the oceanfront hotel room balconies – locals and visitors alike, paying their respects to fallen law enforcement officers, from Virginia Beach and across the state. The public, as well as city officials, neighboring dignitaries and family and friends of the fallen, all gathered at 35<sup>th</sup> Street and the boardwalk – along a green, well-manicured reflective area – as the big, bronze memorial was unveiled, bringing it to “life,” to live on forever for centuries to come. Mayor Will Sessoms and Virginia Beach Police Foundation president and retired police chief, Jake Jacocks, praised the work of city, state and federal law enforcement members, past and present, for their devotion and sacrifices to their nation and to their community. Other notables present were City Manager James Spore, U.S. Representative Scott Rigell, Virginia Beach Police Chief Jim Cervera and Norfolk Police Chief Mike Goldsmith. Symbolizing lives lost from the police department, sheriff's department and from state and federal law enforcement agencies, the sculpture is made of bronze, depicting two men and a woman, hand-in-hand, appearing to continue to reach out to continue to care, for those in need. It's 19-foot tall, 10-foot wide at the base and inscribed with the names of 14 fallen heroes. Ground was broken on the monument on Feb. 24, 2012 and was publicly unveiled on June 23, 2012, before about 1,000 people. (*Sun* photos)



*Friends and family members, prior to the unveiling.*



*The memorial, with an Atlantic Ocean backdrop.*