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TOWNEBANK PLEDGES \$1 MILLION TO CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT

GIFT TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIPS, ATHLETICS AND THE ARTS

by [Kelley McGee](#) | September 16, 2024

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Christopher Newport University proudly announced a \$1 million pledge from TowneBank that will support academic scholarships, athletic facilities and programs, and the arts. The gift reaffirmed TowneBank's long-standing partnership with the University and ensures that its name will continue to headline TowneBank Stadium, home to the Captains football and track and field teams.

The gift will directly benefit students through the TowneBank Leadership Scholarships, which offer essential financial support to deserving recipients. It will also enhance Christopher Newport Athletics, as well as the Ferguson Center for the Arts, a key element of the University's commitment to enriching cultural life in the Commonwealth and on campus.

"This is a game-changing gift from TowneBank that will energize our athletic programs and enrich the experience of every student on campus," said President William G. Kelly.

"We are proud to continue our strong partnership with TowneBank, whose ongoing support inspires our student-athletes on and off the field, allows us to attract top talent, and enriches the cultural life of our campus through the arts."

Brian Skinner '92, a Captain for Life and TowneBank President of Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina,

expressed the importance of sustaining this meaningful collaboration: "This continued commitment reflects the deep partnership between TowneBank and Christopher Newport University. We celebrate opportunities for student engagement, professional development and career exploration, alumni involvement, athletic support, and enjoyment of world-class cultural offerings available right here in Newport News. It is an exciting time at CNU, and as an alum, I could not be happier for the support offered by TowneBank to make the future even brighter."

TowneBank Stadium, with its natural grass surface and high-definition video board, opened in 2001 when Christopher Newport's football team played its first game. It has a seating capacity of 4,200. TowneBank's generosity, along with contributions from Christopher Newport alumni, have contributed to the stadium's ongoing success.

"We are deeply grateful to TowneBank for its remarkable generosity and ongoing support. TowneBank's gift will have a lasting impact, empowering us to provide exceptional opportunities for our students and athletes," said Richard Long, Vice President for University Advancement. "We also extend a heartfelt thank you to our devoted Captains for Life who are employed by TowneBank, whose contributions of time, talent and treasure help us to nurture our students and strengthen the future of Christopher Newport."

The announcement was celebrated with a ceremony before kickoff of the Family Weekend football game on Sept. 14.
