

CULPEPER STAR-EXPONENT

Capital Wing flyers from local airport invited to Warbirds Over Wilmington

LOCAL, A2



Carver herb garden coordinator hosting annual free family workshop

LOCAL, A2

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

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Airport delays could persist

Trump's executive order instructed DHS to pay TSA officers immediately

RIO YAMAT, JOHN RABY AND MATT SEDENSKY Associated Press

Even after President Donald Trump ordered emergency pay for Transportation Security Administration agents to ease long security

lines, major U.S. airports on Sunday were still urging travelers to arrive hours early — and federal immigration officers brought in to help may not be leaving anytime soon.

Trump's executive order on Friday instructed the Department

of Homeland Security to pay TSA officers immediately, though it's unclear how quickly travelers will see an impact. The move comes during a busy travel stretch, with spring breaks underway and Passover and Easter approaching.

Tens of thousands of TSA employees have been working without pay since DHS funding lapsed on Valentine's Day. The department's shut-down reached 44 days on Sunday,

eclipsing the record 43-day shut-down last fall that affected all of the federal government.

Trump deployed Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to some airports a week ago to help with security as TSA callouts rose nationwide — the same officers who may now remain in place if TSA staffing strains continue.

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'IT FELT SO GOOD TO COME HOME'



ALLISON BROPHY CHAMPION PHOTOS, CULPEPER STAR-EXPONENT

Betsy Carter (left) and Nancy Baker are neighbors at the Lightfoot Apartments complex, a new affordable housing project in the Town of Culpeper.

Governor Spanberger in town for affordable housing ribbon cutting

ALLISON BROPHY CHAMPION Culpeper Star-Exponent

Betsy Carter appreciates having stable housing for the first time since her husband died 20 years ago.

"I went from trailer to trailer to living on somebody's couch, then I finally got an apartment," said the Culpeper resident.

But when the rent on the unit on the other side of town went up \$200 per month, Carter, 71, who lives on Social Security, said she couldn't afford it anymore.

Most recently, she was living in an old house with a friend and his two dogs. Now, she's one of the new occupants of Lightfoot Apartments — the new, \$18 million affordable housing project of People Inc., in the Town of Culpeper.

The 60-unit complex — three, three-story buildings — is located at the end of Lightfoot and Bickers Street, next to Head Start on Old Fredericksburg Road. It sits on 5.5 acres the county, school board and



Governor Abigail Spanberger (center right) helps cut the ribbon at Lightfoot Apartments in the town of Culpeper on March 25.

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Eva-Marie Dawson and Abigail Seword are in this week's Academic Spotlight COMMUNITY, A3

Weather

Warmer with clouds and sun High 84 • Low 58 Forecast • A6

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