

Daily Press

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Luria vying to take back 2nd District seat

Former Democratic representative hopes to unseat Republican incumbent Kiggans

By Stacy Parker
Staff writer

VIRGINIA BEACH — Former Democratic U.S. Rep. Elaine Luria wants to recapture the seat she lost three years ago.

Luria is making a bid for Virginia's 2nd Congressional District with hopes of unseating Republican incumbent Jen Kiggans, whom she faced in the 2022 election. A wide field of Democratic candi-

dates have launched campaigns for the district's midterm election next year.

Democrats see the district as one of their best chances to flip a Republican seat next year.

Luria's running to help address Virginian's rising costs of living, she said in a news release Wednesday morning.

"The hardworking people of Hampton Roads deserve a government that lowers costs,

creates opportunities, and works to improve their lives," she said. "Virginians are hungry for change, and I look forward to getting back to work for Hampton Roads to make life more affordable for working families, grow our economy, cut health care costs, and strengthen our military."

Luria was first elected to Congress in 2018 and served two terms. She's a former small-business owner and Navy veteran.

She's represented the region before and after redistricting,

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U.S. Rep. Elaine Luria thanks her supporters after conceding in the November 2022 election. **STEPHEN M. KATZ/THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT**



Norfolk tenants face 'renoviction'

Residents turn to city for help as owners don't renew leases to fix properties

By Trevor Metcalfe | Staff writer

Lisbet Chiriboga is in love with her community.

She moved into Pelham Place, a historic 119-year-old Ghent apartment complex, in March 2024 looking for a place to retire and decrease her expenses. She didn't expect to find a community and neighbors who liked and cared about one another. Residents even started a community garden.

"We were really thriving," Chiriboga said.

However, just a few months ago, Chiriboga said that community was shattered. She and other residents are facing displacement due to new ownership, which is renovating every unit. Residents' leases will not be renewed when they expire, leaving some tenants with as few as two months to find new housing.

"We have to go somewhere," Chiriboga said.

The owner is giving residents right of first refusal to move to another unit in the complex, but charging around \$400 more for monthly rent, she said.

Resident frustrations boiled over into several appeals to Norfolk City Council in monthly meeting public comment periods. Now, several City Council members are looking into ways for the city and state to protect tenants from sudden housing displacement due to renovations.

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Above: Pelham Place Apartments in Norfolk, shown on Oct. 30, is a historic 119-year-old Ghent apartment complex. Lightwell Development, a New York City-based real estate development firm focused on historic tax credit renovation work, purchased the property in September for \$9.15 million, according to property records. **KENDALL WARNER/THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT**

Trump mentioned in Epstein emails

House Democrats release documents estate gave to panel

By Michael R. Sisak and Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jeffrey Epstein wrote in a 2019 email to a journalist that Donald Trump "knew about the girls," according to documents made public Wednesday, but what he knew — and whether it pertained to the sex offender's crimes — is unclear. The White House quickly accused Democrats of selectively leaking the emails to smear the president.

Democrats on the House Oversight Committee released three emails referencing Trump, including one Epstein wrote in 2011 in which he told confidant Ghislaine Maxwell that Trump had "spent hours" at Epstein's house with a sex trafficking victim.

The disclosures seemed designed to raise new questions about Trump's friendship with Epstein and about what knowledge he may have had regarding what prosecutors call a yearslong effort by Epstein to exploit underage girls. The Republican businessman-turned-politician has consistently denied any knowledge of Epstein's crimes and has said he ended their relationship years ago.

The version of the 2011 email released by the Democrats redacted the name of the victim, but Republicans on the committee later said it was Virginia Giuffre, who accused Epstein of arranging for her to have sexual encounters with a number of his rich and powerful friends.

Epstein took his own life in a New York jail in 2019 while awaiting trial on federal charges.

The emails made public Wednesday are part of a batch of 23,000 documents provided

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Power of music ... and animals

How a rock star decided to help a Williamsburg-area animal sanctuary

By Sarah J. Ketchum-Pribush
Correspondent

Rachel Bolan is willing to give up his Thanksgiving turkey to help a Williamsburg-area farm animal sanctuary.

Maybe you've heard of him — he's the songwriter and bassist for metal band Skid Row, which hit it big in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Bolan recently connected on social media with the owners of James City County sanctuary Life with Pigs, and announced he's willing to cook and eat a vegan meal if the nonprofit can raise

\$10,000 by Thanksgiving. They're calling the fundraiser "Kindness is the Bass-Line."

"I'm really excited about it," Bolan said. "I love to cook ... this is a new challenge to cook all plant-based stuff."

Bolan's band Skid Row launched in 1986 and quickly rose to fame with songs such as "18 and Life." Nearly 40 years later, the band still records music and tours but is currently taking a pause while they look for a new lead singer.

Bolan said he connected with Life with Pigs owners Ryan and Mallory Phillips after seeing a



Mallory and Ryan Phillips, who own the farm animal sanctuary Life With Pigs, with the turkey they named after Skid Row musician Rachel Bolan. **MALLORY AND RYAN PHILLIPS**

video of Ryan Phillips playing guitar and singing Skid Row's "I Will Remember You" to the farm's cow, Jenna.

Out on the farm on a sunny day in April, Ryan Phillips sat with his guitar on his lap and played and

sang the song. Jenna, lying behind him, nudged him as he played, and eventually napped on his shoulder.

"I saw how Jenna the cow was

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INSIDE

CreatiVets receives boost

A veteran and Purple Heart recipient's nonprofit, CreatiVets, purchased a former church to create an arts center for veterans. After the building was vandalized, an actor stepped in to help. **Nation & World, Page 7**

Food fight

An organization backed by major firms is pushing for federal legislation that would overrule state laws. **Business, Page 10**

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