



Maureen Gloria, of Virginia Beach, walks with her son Marques Gloria, 5, for his first day of kindergarten at Landstown Elementary School on Monday. **BILL TIERNAN/FREELANCE PHOTOS**

School days return, a bit earlier for most

Students welcomed across Hampton Roads in pre-Labor Day opening

By Gavin Stone and Devlin Epling
Staff writers

The first day of school is the time when every student's unique journey starts in the same place. At Landstown Elementary School in Virginia Beach, children and their families arrived like a wave. Some posed for photos in front of a huge sign welcoming them; others shuffled in shyly. Some parents tried to snap pictures of their children from behind as they walked through the doors. Among the first faces they all saw when they arrived was that of Tyler Peterson, an assistant physical education teacher. Peterson, 29, called to student after student by name, dapping them up and joking around with them. "I try to give the kids a good,

nice warm welcome, you know, bring that smile to their face early in the morning and just start the day off right," Peterson said. He's been greeting students first thing in the morning for about six years, he said. "I love kids, there's a reason why I'm here," Peterson said. Monday was the first day of school for most systems in southeastern Virginia — most changed their calendars after the state allowed them to start classes before Labor Day. The systems in Norfolk and Portsmouth started last week, and those in Chesapeake and Isle of Wight County have opted to wait until after the holiday. While sipping a cup of coffee, David Boord walked with his 8-year-old son to his first day of

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"I try to give the kids a good, nice warm welcome," said Tyler Peterson, an assistant physical education teacher at Landstown Elementary.

VIRGINIA BEACH



The end of the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier is closed off by a temporary wall due to damage from the effects of Hurricane Erin. **PETER CASEY/FREELANCE**

Erin causes damage to iconic fishing pier

Part of Oceanfront structure to be closed through Labor Day

By Stacy Parker
Staff writer

VIRGINIA BEACH — Powerful waves from Hurricane Erin knocked down one of the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier's original piles last week, necessitating a partial closure of the 75-year-old wooden platform at

the Oceanfront. Roughly 400 feet of the pier remains open for fishing and crabbing. But repairs will need to be made to the far end of the pier, which will be closed at least through Labor Day weekend, according to Dee Nachnani, pier spokesperson. The pier is 660-feet long. Dozens of people were fishing Monday on the section of the pier that is open.

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New Kent, James City counties likely to grow

Areas forecast for significant population boom by mid-century

By Ben Swenson
Correspondent

Communities in the Historic Triangle and western Tidewater region will be among the fastest-growing in Virginia over the next 25 years, according to University of Virginia population estimates published last month. In July, the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at UVA released population projections for every city and county in the commonwealth, showing significant increases in people living in a geographic crescent from Northern Virginia through Hampton Roads. New Kent and James City counties are predicted to have population growth rates among the highest in Virginia, with York County, Williamsburg and King William County also gaining a significant number of residents over the next quarter-century. In the Greater Tidewater region, New Kent County will be the leader in population growth, according to UVA's projections, increasing to more than 39,500 residents by 2050, greater than 72% over its 2020 population of 22,945.

James City County is also predicted to grow at a rapid pace, having nearly 112,500 residents by mid-century — an increase of almost 44% over its 2020 population of 78,254. The projections show that nearby areas also are likely also to grow over the next 25 years. York County's population will rise to more than 85,300 from 70,045 people in 2020 — a nearly 22% increase. The number in Williamsburg will exceed 19,000 by 2050, a 23% increase over 15,425 in 2020. King William County's population is predicted to increase to nearly 23,800 from its 2020 population of 17,810 — more than 33%. The growth projections of Historic Triangle and western Tidewater communities closely align with Northern Virginia, a region where demographers predict significant population growth in coming decades. New Kent County's 72% increase over its 2020 population is roughly equivalent to that of Loudoun County, Northern Virginia's fastest-growing jurisdiction. In western Tidewater, Charles City County will buck the growth trend, according to UVA projections. The rural community is projected to lose

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Harsh legal angle to DC crackdown

Minor offenses met with elevated federal charges in US capital

By Devlin Barrett
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — As President Donald Trump posed for photos with police officers, government agents and members of the National Guard in southeast Washington last week, lawyers across town in federal court grappled with his new brand of justice. The stream of defendants who shuffled through a federal courtroom Thursday afternoon illustrated the new ways in which laws are being enforced in the nation's capital after the president's takeover of the city's police. They were appearing before a magistrate judge on charges that would typically be handled at the local court level, if they were filed at all. Trump has cast his crackdown on crime as a success, and suggested Friday that it was a blueprint he would seek to apply to other cities, including Chicago. To defense lawyers and even some prosecutors, though, many of the cases that have landed in court have raised concerns that the takeover seems intended to artificially inflate its effect because government lawyers have been instructed to file the most serious federal charges, no matter how minor the incident. One of the recipients of Trump's show of force was Mark Bigelow, 28, a delivery driver for Amazon. After midnight on Aug. 19, Bigelow was sitting in the middle row of a van parked on a street in northeast Washington with its doors open, according to court papers. Two other men were in the front when a full complement of law enforcement officials — from the Metropolitan Police Department, the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service — stopped and saw what appeared to be an open container of alcohol in the front seat. As law enforcement questioned and searched the two other passengers, Bigelow left the van and started to walk away, until other agents stopped him, according to the charging document. Peering into the van, an officer spot-

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INSIDE



Growing wallet

Commanders, receiver Terry McLaurin reportedly agree to three-year contract extension worth \$96M. **Sports**

Shrinking wallet

For in-state students, the total cost for a year of public college in Virginia averages nearly \$30K. **Page 3**

Banner debate

President Trump moves to ban burning the U.S. flag despite high court ruling allowing it. **Nation & World, Page 6**

TURNING CLOUDY

High: 83 Low: 63



Details on the back of news

