

# Chesapeake appoints officer to council

Jefferies will fill vacancy that resulted from vice mayor’s death

By Natalie Anderson  
Staff writer

CHESAPEAKE — City Council on Tuesday appointed Chesapeake police officer E. R. “Jeff” Jefferies to the nine-person city council, filling a vacancy that resulted from the death of Vice Mayor John de Triquet in August.

De Triquet was a pediatrician who had been on the council since 1994.

Chesapeake’s city charter gives the council 30 days to fill the council vacancy with a Chesapeake resident. Last week, Mayor

Rick West announced that council member Jeff Bunn nominated Jefferies, who unsuccessfully ran for an open council seat in the 2024 election, and council member Les Smith nominated former council member Dwight Parker, who has served on the council several times before.

City Council’s vote on Tuesday to appoint Jefferies was 7-1, with all but Smith in support.

Jefferies has worked for the Chesapeake Police Department for more than 20 years and currently serves as captain in the investigations bureau, according

to information posted on the city’s website. He was also co-owner of Crossfit Chesapeake. He did not immediately respond to a request for comment via phone Tuesday.

In last year’s City Council race with nine candidates and three open council seats, Jefferies finished within 1% of the candidate who secured the third seat. Though he qualified for a recount, he didn’t request one. Jefferies received 46,401, or just shy of 15%, of the total votes cast, according to the Virginia Department of Elections. He had the backing of the Chesapeake Republican Party in the nonpartisan race.

Council members interviewed Jefferies and Parker in closed

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Jeff Jefferies speaks during a city council and mayoral candidate forum in 2024. Jefferies was appointed to the Chesapeake City Council this week. KENDALL WARNER/STAFF



## MAKING WAVES OF BEAUTY

NORFOLK — The Berkley neighborhood’s mermaid statue is back after a car crash took her out of commission over a year ago.

She’s also sporting a fresh coat of paint, new jewelry and even an updated hairdo.

The mermaid statue, which was called Flying Spirit, stood for around a decade at the corner of Berkley Avenue and Main Street before being struck by the car. Though more than 100 fiberglass mermaid statues are on display across the city as part of a long-running public art installation, the Flying Spirit is the only mermaid currently located in south Norfolk, according to the city’s mermaid spotting map.

Berkley residents set about coming up with a replace-

Berkley mermaid shines with Pan-African colors after old statue was damaged

By Trevor Metcalfe | Staff writer



ment mermaid last year and recruited Norfolk artist Monique Selby to create a new paint design that also honored the original work.

Selby said she worked with the Berkley Historical Society to recreate the original mermaid’s dress design while also adding some new, personal touches: bracelets, a necklace and seashell-and-pearl earrings. The black base color is highlighted by gold hair and tail accents, a black-and-white dress and the Pan-African colors of green, yellow and red on the jewelry.

“It’s just the best opportunity I could have,” Selby said. “It’s one of the biggest projects I’ve done this year.”

Selby began work on the

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Top: A new mermaid made by artist Monique Selby sits in the median on Berkley Avenue near the intersection with South Main Street in Norfolk on Wednesday. Above: A plaque sits beneath the new mermaid. KENDALL WARNER/STAFF PHOTOS

## Virginia Beach extends parking restrictions near Cavalier Hotel

By Stacy Parker  
Staff writer

VIRGINIA BEACH — The City Council on Tuesday approved an ordinance to extend a restrictive parking program in the Cavalier Shores neighborhood until 2029 and to add another community to the program.

Parking is limited to four hours north and south of the historic Cavalier Hotel, which includes the 200 blocks of 43rd, 44th and 45th streets. Ocean Hills neighborhood, which is south of The Cavalier Hotel, has also been added to

the program.

“It’s worked for us,” said Bernice Pope, president of the Cavalier Shores Civic League.

Time limits on parking in Cavalier Shores first began six years ago, in 2019. At that time, the City Council approved a one-year temporary residential parking program in Cavalier Shores after the neighborhood’s civic league raised concerns about on-street public parking during the construction on the Cavalier properties, which includes three hotels, condominiums and several restaurants.

The City Council has approved



several extensions to the parking time limit in Cavalier Shores in recent years. The latest one was set to expire on April 5, 2026. It has now been extended to April 5, 2029.

Cavalier Shores, which marks

the start of the larger North End residential neighborhood, is a Virginia landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Developers built houses

A restrictive parking program in the Cavalier Shores neighborhood has been extended until 2029. FILE

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## President basks in pomp of UK visit

Royals greet Trump with pageantry for his 2nd state event

By Danica Kirka, Jill Lawless, Michelle L. Price and Will Weissert  
Associated Press

WINDSOR, England — President Donald Trump appeared to relish the glow of a British royal spectacle Wednesday as he was greeted at Windsor Castle on his state visit by King Charles III, military honor guards and mounted troops before paying a private tribute at Queen Elizabeth II’s tomb.

Joined by first lady Melania Trump at St. George’s Chapel on the castle grounds, the president placed a wreath in honor of Elizabeth, who died in 2022. Later, he sat with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, White House chief of staff Susie Wiles and other American officials for a musical performance from the chapel choir.

Trump’s visit began with Prince William and his wife, Kate, meeting the presidential helicopter in the private Walled Garden on the vast Windsor estate, then walking Trump over to be greeted by Charles and Queen Camilla.

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Members of the Virginia National Guard are being trained to provide administrative and logistical support to ICE. **Page 2**

#### Ex-CDC director gives warning

Fired CDC chief Susan Monarez warned senators that the U.S. public health system is headed to a “very dangerous place” with Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. **Nation & World, Page 5**

#### Sales rise for used electric vehicles

A research firm says sales of used electric vehicles have risen as used EVs cost less than comparable gasoline vehicles. **Business, Page 10**

### HUMID

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