



NEW ICE AGE Three Roanoke Valley rinks are attracting skaters > *extravibe*



Oregon edges Wisconsin

COLLEGE FOOTBALL IN SPORTS

ROSE BOWL **O** 28 **W** 27

THE ROANOKE TIMES

THURSDAY January 2, 2020

roanoke.com

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA \$2

Execution opponents press for reversal

Del. Lee Carter, supported by victims' survivors, filed a bill to abolish Virginia's death penalty.

By Denise Lavoie
Associated Press

RICHMOND — Virginia has executed nearly 1,400 people in its 412-year history — more than any other state. But as a new Democratic majority prepares to begin the legislative session, some see an opportunity to end executions in Virginia.

A bill to abolish the death penalty has been filed by Del. Lee Carter, a Democrat from Manassas, and several additional bills are expected.



William Morva

The push is backed by Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, along with some powerful voices: loved ones of murder victims. Thirteen family members sent a letter to the General Assembly in November asking lawmakers to abolish the death penalty.

Rachel Sutphin, the daughter of Cpl. Eric Sutphin, who was fatally shot in 2006, said she felt no closure or solace when her father's killer was executed in 2017.

"A lot of people, they want families to have this moment that heals them or makes things completed. And for me, it did not," Sutphin said, describing her reaction to the execution of William Morva.

See **PENALTY, 5**

Militiamen withdraw from U.S. Embassy

With tension still high, the U.S. said it will deploy hundreds of additional troops to Baghdad.

By Qassim Abdul-Zahra
and Joseph Krauss
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iran-backed militiamen withdrew from the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad on Wednesday after two days of clashes with American security forces, but U.S.-Iran tensions remain high and could spill over into further violence.

The withdrawal followed calls from the government and senior militia leaders. It ended a two-day crisis marked by the breach of the largest and one of the most heavily fortified U.S. diplomatic missions in the world.

The attack and its volatile aftermath prompted the Pentagon to send hundreds of additional troops to the Middle East, and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will delay a European and Central Asian trip.

In an orchestrated assault, hundreds of militiamen and their supporters broke into the embassy compound, destroying a reception area, smashing windows and spraying

See **IRAN, 5**

'THE GREATEST RIVER IN THE U.S. THAT NOBODY'S EVER HEARD OF'

The Clinch River has become the centerpiece of a new state park, part of central Appalachia's nature tourism efforts as the region looks to reinvent itself amid the decline of coal.

By Sarah Rankin | Associated Press

RICHMOND — As much of central Appalachia looks to reinvent itself amid the decline of coal, community leaders in southwest Virginia say they are seeing some early success by focusing on another natural resource: the Clinch River.

The Clinch, which flows for about 130 miles through four mountainous Virginia counties before crossing into Tennessee, is the centerpiece of what will be one of Virginia's newest state parks, thanks to a yearslong grassroots effort. Advocates say the park that's still under development will help protect the river, a biodiversity hot spot, and support a growing regional outdoor recreation and tourism industry.

See **PARK, 4**



Photos by The Nature Conservancy via Associated Press

People fish in the mist along the Clinch Riverwalk on the Sugar Hill property in St. Paul, Va. The Cumberland Forest Project protects 253,000 acres of Appalachian forest in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia and is one of The Nature Conservancy's largest-ever conservation efforts in the eastern United States. The region will be home to the new Clinch River State Park.

"Coal's not coming back. ... But they're pulling themselves up by their bootstraps, and they're reinventing themselves through tourism, recreation. So we're pretty proud of that."

David Collett, interim state parks director

Left: The Flag Rock Recreation Area in Norton, Va., provides a sweeping vista over the Cumberland Forest Project's 253,000 acres of forest in Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia.



Associated Press | File 2019
Rabbi Jeffrey Myers (right) hugs Rabbi Cheryl Klein (left) and Rabbi Jonathan Perlman during a community gathering held after a deadly shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Year-end violence highlights vulnerability of worshippers

Recent tragedies join a growing list of religious communities under attack.

By Gary Fields and David Crary
Associated Press

NEW YORK — When a machete-wielding attacker walked into a rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, during Hanukkah, and a gunman fired on worshippers at a Texas church 14 hours later, the two congregations in different regions of the country

joined a growing list of faith communities that have come under attack in the U.S.

It is a group that crosses denominations and geography and has companions around the world. The frequency of attacks has faith leaders and law enforcement grappling with how to protect people when they are at their most vulnerable.

FBI hate crime statistics show that incidents in churches, synagogues, temples and mosques increased 34.8% between 2014 and 2018, the last year for which FBI data is available.

"For a person bent on hate crime against a particular religion or race, you go to a place

See **VIOLENCE, 4**

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Here's your guide to what's inside.

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Roanoke	New River
54 44	52 42
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW

Full forecast and weather data.
VIRGINIA 6





V7 70 | 58

Hokies down Tigers

SPORTS



MDA Car Show

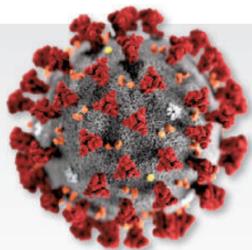
cruises into Berglund Center this weekend *extravibe*

THE ROANOKE TIMES

THURSDAY March 5, 2020

roanoke.com

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA \$2



The U.S. death toll from the coronavirus has risen to 11 with a victim succumbing in California.

Coronavirus illustration provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Authorities investigate West Coast virus cases

The U.S. House passed a bipartisan bill to spend \$8.3 billion to battle the outbreak.

By Gene Johnson, Rachel La Corte and Martha Bellisle
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The U.S. death toll from the coronavirus climbed to 11 on Wednesday with a patient succumbing in California — the first reported fatality outside Washington state — as federal authorities announced an investigation of the Seattle-area nursing home where most of the victims were stricken.

Nationally, the Democratic-controlled House passed an \$8.3 billion measure Wednesday to battle the coronavirus outbreak that's spreading rapidly and threatening a major shock to the economy and disruptions to everyday life in the U.S.

The swift and sweeping bipartisan vote was a relative rarity in a polarized Washington and came just nine days after the president outlined a \$2.5 billion plan that both Trump's GOP allies and Democratic critics said was insufficient.

The 415-2 vote followed a debate that lasted only a few minutes.

"The government's greatest responsibility is to keep Americans safe," said House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey, D-N.Y. "This emergency supplemental addresses the coronavirus and takes critical

See DEATHS, 5

CORONAVIRUS



MATT GENTRY | The Roanoke Times

In preparation for spring break, Virginia Tech freshmen Claudia Bruce (center) and Kylee Hsu (right) place their luggage in a vehicle driven by Joshua Mergler (left), their friend from Pennsylvania. The students have had travel concerns due to the coronavirus.

Virus fears haunt spring break

Universities urged students to make smart travel decisions in the wake of the outbreak.

By Sam Wall and Henri Gendreau
The Roanoke Times

72
Number of countries with confirmed cases of coronavirus.

MORE INSIDE
■ 17 in Virginia have been tested; health officials say state has no confirmed cases.

■ Looking for hand sanitizer? Good luck finding it.
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Thousands of college students will be leaving the Roanoke and New River valleys to scatter for spring break starting this weekend as universities urge smart decisions for travel in the midst of the coronavirus outbreak.

Colleges are largely referring to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's protocols to guide students on how they should operate and travel during the upcoming break.

The CDC on Sunday said colleges and universities should consider canceling exchange programs and asking students currently abroad to return to the U.S.

The virus is confirmed in at least 72 countries as of Wednesday, according to the World Health Organization.

Radford University and Virginia Tech sent out campus-wide messages this week encouraging

faculty and students to reconsider their travel plans for the upcoming break, especially those planning on traveling abroad.

The schools also asked students to reconsider traveling to locations where COVID-19 has been found domestically.

The University of Virginia's language was a bit more direct in its campus-wide message, asking faculty and students "not to travel internationally or to areas of the U.S. affected by the coronavirus."

"We recognize Spring Break has traditionally been a time when many students traveled on their own or with independent student groups," said Patricia Lampkin, UVA's vice president and chief student affairs officer.

Continuing, she said: "Given the concerns about the spread of coronavirus both abroad and in the United States, the University has asked student groups to reconsider their plans, but if

See BREAK, 4

Biden's big day shifts Sanders strategy

Mike Bloomberg is the fourth contender this week to endorse Joe Biden.

By Steve Peoples, Will Weissert and Bill Barrow
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — His front-runner status slipping, Bernie Sanders refocused his Democratic presidential campaign on surging rival Joe Biden on Wednesday as the Vermont senator's allies grappled with the fallout from a Super Tuesday stumble that raised internal concerns about the direction of his White House bid.

MORE INSIDE

Sanders targeted Biden's record on trade, Social Security and fundraising just hours after billionaire Mike Bloomberg suspended his campaign and Elizabeth Warren confirmed she was privately reassessing her future in the race. The dramatic shifts signaled that the Democrats' once-crowded nomination fight had effectively come down to a two-man race for the right to face President Donald Trump in November.

VIRGINIA 1

Sanders declared himself "neck and neck" with Biden as he faced reporters in his home state, Vermont, one of just four states he captured on the most consequential day of voting in the party's 2020 primary season. Biden won 10 states, assembling victories that transcended geography, race and class.

"What this campaign, I think, is increasingly about is, Which side are you on?" Sanders said.

See ELECTION, 5



Associated Press

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden speaks on Wednesday in Los Angeles.



MATT GENTRY | The Roanoke Times

Stuart Hal Goldstein (right) appeared with his defense attorney, Jimmy Turk, in Montgomery County General District Court Wednesday.

Physician's DUI charge dropped after hearing

The LewisGale Hospital Pulaski surgeon lost his job after the Jan. 4 incident.

By Mike Gangloff
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CHRISTIANSBURG — A surgeon who earlier this year ran into a pedestrian in front of the Walmart no longer faces a drunken-driving charge — because a breath test showed he was below the legal threshold for intoxication, a

prosecutor said Wednesday.

The pedestrian who was struck had a much higher blood-alcohol level, over four times that of the doctor, a defense attorney added.

A short hearing in Montgomery County General District Court ended the case against

See CASE, 5

FASTFACT

Stuart Goldstein was arrested Jan. 4 after his 2013 Audi hit Clarence Michael Hutchinson, 52, at about 8 p.m. while Hutchinson was crossing Christiansburg's North Franklin Street.

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WEATHER

Roanoke	New River
54 38	50 35
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW

Full forecast and weather data.
VIRGINIA 6



6 45527 08554 5

MINOR LEAGUES FACE MAJOR CHALLENGE

WITH NO BASEBALL, SALEM SOX, PULASKI YANKEES EYE OTHER WAYS TO ENTERTAIN IN SPORTS



REVOLUTIONARY BREWS: WHAT BEER WAS LIKE IN 1776 GOOD LIBATIONS IN EXTRA

THE ROANOKE TIMES

WEDNESDAY July 1, 2020

roanoke.com

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA \$2

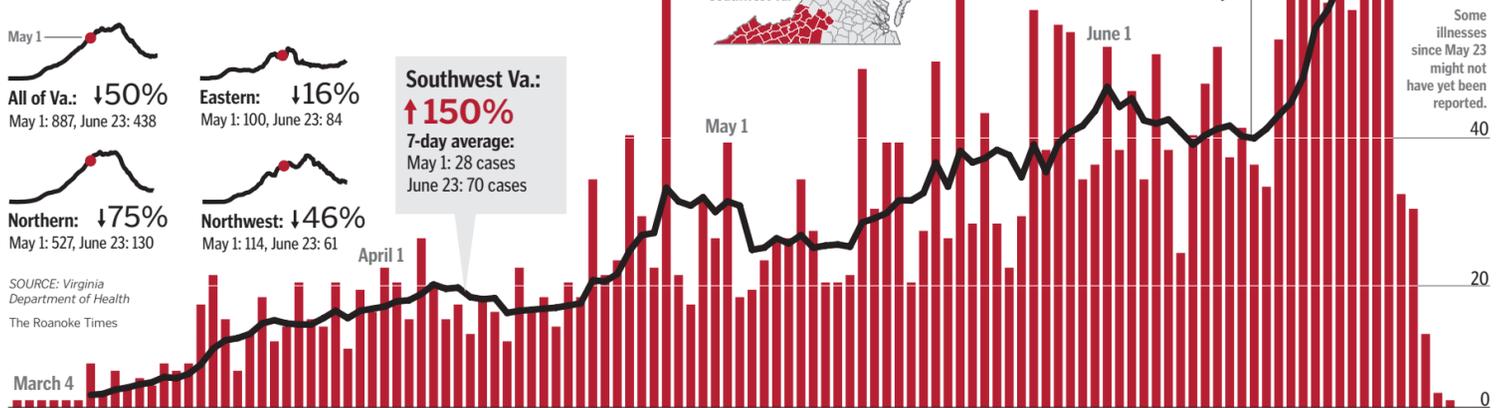
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Cases climbing in the region as Phase 3 reopening begins

- From Friday to Tuesday, for example, Franklin County's case count surged from 54 to 88.
- Cases are "almost exclusively" from people returning from vacations, a health official said.

Confirmed cases trends since May 1

Southwest Virginia is the only area of the state where new COVID-19 cases are still increasing



By Luanne Rife

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By late March, when the first person in Roanoke fell ill from COVID-19, elsewhere in Virginia, 22 people had died. The case count was nearing 1,000 as the virus infected mostly those living in Northern Virginia, and the governor had already shuttered schools, ordered some businesses to close and directed all of us to stay home.

Southwest Virginia was insulated from the worst of what the virus brought to the state. But as more and more establishments reopen and people venture out, often without mandated face coverings, and as restrictions ease still more on Wednesday, the tide has turned.

Back in March, back before everybody retreated to their homes, the coronavirus had hitched a ride with a few travelers returning to Franklin County.

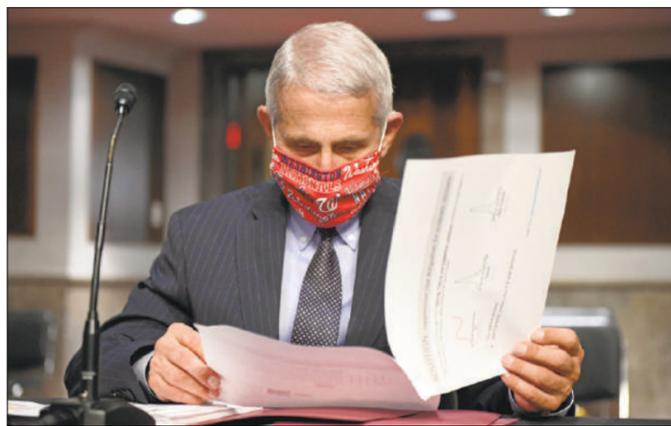
Since then, cases of COVID-19 in the rural county accumulated at a rate of one or two a week — until people began to travel again.

From Friday to Tuesday, the county's case count rose from 54 to 88, according to the Virginia Department of Health's website.

See VIRUS, 4

MORE INSIDE

- Republican lawmakers urge public to wear facemasks for their safety. **Page 4**
- Roanoke County delays vote on plan to reopen schools. **Virginia 1**
- Roanoke will begin reopening services and offices to the public Wednesday. **Virginia 1**



Associated Press

Dr. Anthony Fauci said recent images of Americans gathering in crowds in bars and other places foreshadow a greater spike in infections.

Daily cases could reach 100,000 without precautions, Fauci says

By Amy Goldstein
 The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious-disease specialist, warned Tuesday that the United States could soon have 100,000 new coronavirus cases a day "if this does not turn around" — a surge that would be more than twice as many as the record and three times as many as the

peak of the original surge this spring.

Fauci said recent images of Americans gathering in bars or other crowds foreshadow a greater spike in infections that "is going to be very disturbing.... We're going to continue to be in a lot of trouble, and there's going to be a lot of hurt if that does not go away."

Fauci gave his bleak assessment in

See FAUCI, 4

Entertainment venues push back openings

Some movie theaters and arts centers in the region will miss their crowds for a while longer.

By Tad Dickens

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Virginia's Phase 3 guidelines go in effect Wednesday, with some Roanoke Valley entertainment and recreation outlets ready to open. But with COVID-19 still at a high spread rate, some are pushing back their opening dates.

Center in the Square, which utilized digital offerings for educational fun after closing in March, has received a hospital grade building disinfection, courtesy of Green Home Solutions, the center said in a news release. It opens Wednesday, enforcing physical distancing, face coverings for staff and patrons and hand sanitizer stations, among other measures. Staff will be subject to health monitoring and will routinely clean high-contact areas, according to the news release.

"It has been lonely not having an

See ENTERTAINMENT, 4

Citing 'civil unrest' Northam extends state of emergency in capital

The governor's executive order comes after many nights of clashes between protesters and police in Richmond.

By Mel Leonor

Richmond Times-Dispatch

RICHMOND — Gov. Ralph Northam on Monday quietly signed an executive order extending a state of emergency declaration in Richmond, citing "civil unrest" following weeks of protests that have resulted in some violent clashes between demon-

strators and police.

The extension came at the request of Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney, who said in a Monday letter to the governor that the city has "minimum funding to cover costs" tied to the response, and that "the bandwidth of our personnel will reach its limit."

The order gives the administration the ability to deploy addition-



Gov. Ralph Northam

al state resources to "implement recovery and mitigation operations and activities" to return the city to "pre-event conditions as much as possible." That includes emergency funding for government response to the protests and activation of the Virginia National Guard, according to the order.

Northam spokeswoman Alena

Yarmosky said the administration has "absolutely no plans to deploy the National Guard," and said a reference to it in the order is standard language.

Northam's order, in effect until July 30, reads: "Often, peaceful demonstrations evolve into conflicts with law enforcement during late night and early morning hours. These events have required significant intervention to ensure the safety of protesters and the public, protect property and provide additional resources

to support our local and state partners."

The ACLU of Virginia on Tuesday chided Northam's order in a statement on Twitter.

"[Northam's] actions show no understanding of the anti-Black racism that infects our civil and social structures, accepts the police version of the facts and demonstrates an unwillingness to recognize that treating people as enemy combatants invites violence rather than quells it," the civil rights group said.

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 HIGH LOW HIGH LOW

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