

ON TOP OF THE VALLEY

THE NEWS VIRGINIAN

Buffalo Gap wrestler
Aiden Acord is
following in his
father's footsteps



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Injured kangaroo
rescued from
highway in
Nelson County

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Tuesday, February 3, 2026

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

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A DISTINGUISHED DOZEN -



CAL CARY, THE DAILY PROGRESS

David Toscano, former Charlottesville mayor and Virginia House of Delegates minority leader, sits a conference room in his office in the city, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2024.

David Toscano's distinctly Virginian political style is hard to find in Virginia nowadays

DAVID VELAZQUEZ
The Daily Progress

David Toscano retired from politics in 2020 — kind of.

After a 26-year career, in which he served as mayor of Charlottesville and later minority leader in the Virginia House of Delegates, Toscano is still as engaged as ever, albeit from the sidelines now.

"I left the legislature in 2019 because I'd accomplished the things I wanted to do," Toscano, one of this year's Distinguished Dozen honorees, told The Daily Progress. "But I had to keep my fingers in the pie, and I do that by writing. And it keeps my mind engaged. It's both to help shape the debate, and frankly,

A Distinguished Dozen

Every year since 1995, The Daily Progress has honored 12 Central Virginians who have given of themselves and to their community. They are movers and shakers, history-makers and everyday heroes — they are a Distinguished Dozen. This is the eleventh of this year's 12 honorees.

it's personal, because I like to think about issues and think about them carefully."

In his 2021 book "Fighting Political Gridlock," with a forward by fellow Virginia Democrat U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, Toscano urges his readers to see that it is action at the state level and not inaction in Washington that has a more significant impact on their lives. In his 2022 book "Bellwether," this one with a forward by another Democratic Virginia senator, Tim Kaine, Toscano traces the history of Virginia from 2006 to 2020, from reliably conservative to much more liberal.

And in his op-eds, that run in newspapers across the commonwealth, including The Daily

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COURT

Hospital 'did not report abuse'

Prosecutors: Henrico Doctors' hindered 2023 investigation into injured newborns

ERIC KOLENICH
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Henrico Doctors' Hospital hampered detectives' efforts to fully investigate injuries to four newborn babies in the hospital's neonatal intensive care unit in 2023, Henrico County prosecutors said earlier this month.

Hospital leaders did not report the injuries as potential abuse to Henrico Child Protective Services until seven weeks after they discovered the first injury, which made it more difficult for investigators to determine when exactly the injuries occurred, said Shannon Taylor, Henrico's top prosecutor.

But Wes Hester, a spokesman for the hospital, said administrators contacted authorities "once abuse was suspected." The law requires licensed caregivers to report possible abuse within 24 hours.

Additionally, the hospital did not track which employees provided care to the victims, making it difficult or impossible to determine who was responsible, said Alison Martin, another prosecutor.

Hester, however, said the hospital documents the caregivers assigned to each patient.

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RESCUE

'It happened again'

DAILY PROGRESS STAFF

Wintergreen Fire & Rescue is urging caution as the number of injuries reported from residents slipping and falling on the thick layer of ice and snow blanketing the Blue Ridge continues to grow.

The department's technical rescue team was dispatched Saturday to northern Nelson County where two people had slipped and fell down a steep embankment, landing in the woods below.

"It happened again," Wintergreen Fire & Rescue posted to Facebook. "A patient slipped on the ice and slid down a steep

embankment before coming to rest in the forest. A bystander attempted to assist, however became a second patient."

"Fortunately, the injuries were minor," the department said. Nevertheless, it took a team of 10 and assistance from the Rockfish Valley Volunteer Fire Department to rescue the pair.

Wintergreen Fire & Rescue is asking residents use their common sense and avoid the ice and snow that remains on the ground after a storm dropped several inches of precipitation on Virginia a week ago.

Wintergreen Fire & Rescue urges caution as ice injuries multiply

The exceptionally dense, rock-hard combination of snow and ice has been nicknamed "snowcrete," and the below-freezing temperatures last week meant much of it remains on buildings, lawns, roads,

Please see ICE, Page A2

Wintergreen Fire & Rescue rescues a pair who slipped and fell down a steep, icy embankment, Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, in northern Nelson County.

WINTERGREEN FIRE & RESCUE



Luis Aguilar: ICE is putting Virginia communities, rights and taxpayer dollars at risk PAGE A5

Weather
Mostly cloudy
High 39 • Low 27
Forecast • A6

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