

# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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## WINTER WEATHER



SETH WENIG, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hannah and Astrid Grimskog enjoy the snow during a winter storm on Monday in Times Square in New York. Central Park recorded 19 inches of snow, while other areas received up to 2 feet of precipitation.

# Storm slams Northeast

Classes and flights canceled as millions forced to stay home

ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE, CLAIRE RUSH, JULIE WALKER AND ADAM GELLER  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A massive snowstorm pummeled the Northeast from Maryland to Maine on Monday, forcing millions of people to stay home amid strong wind and blizzard warnings, transportation shut-downs, and school and business closures.

The storm dumped up to 2 feet of snow in parts of the

metropolitan northeast as accumulations from an earlier snowfall had just melted away — except for gray mountainous piles in parking lots and along the side of roads.

Officials declared emergencies from Delaware to Massachusetts and hundreds of thousands of people grappled with power failure from downed electrical lines.

Even as the snow moved northward and tapered off in other areas, the National Weather Service said it is tracking another storm that could bring more snow to the region this week.

The weather service referred to Monday's storm as a "classic bomb cyclone/nor'easter off

the Northeast coast." A bomb cyclone happens when a storm's pressure falls by a certain amount within a 24-hour period, occurring mainly in the fall and winter when frigid Arctic air can reach the south and clash with warmer temperatures.

New York City and Boston canceled public school classes for Monday, while Philadelphia switched to online learning. New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani called it the "first old-school snow day since 2019." But class would be back in person on Tuesday, he said.

"You can still pelt me with snowballs when you see me," he told kids after saying schools

would reopen.

For Monday, though, he had another mission for students: "Stay cozy."

In Lower Manhattan, snow shovelers appeared to outnumber commuting office workers, and pedestrians walked freely in streets normally blocked by morning traffic.

"It's very quiet, except for the howling winds," said Luis Valez, a concierge at a residential tower just off Wall Street, as he cleared the sidewalk. "A couple of residents have gone out to get their essentials. Other than that, there's nothing."

Please see **BLIZZARD**, Page A11

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# Skill games challenge lawmakers

License fees, number of machines permitted differ among chambers

DAVE RESS  
Richmond Times-Dispatch

The long-running and hard-fought General Assembly battle over skill games is coming down to how much tougher Virginia will be than other states that allow the slot machine-like devices in convenience stores, gas stations and truck stops.

A little tougher or a lot? Unusual alliances, including some of the General Assembly's most liberal and most conservative legislators in opposition, face shrinking but still strong enough support for legalization in a bipartisan coalition swayed by arguments that the games are a source of revenue for mom-and-pop convenience stores that would otherwise have to close their doors.

Please see **SKILL**, Page A6

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# Budget brings big stakes for public transit

House, Senate must solve an impending crisis for the Metro

MICHAEL MARTZ  
Richmond Times-Dispatch

When the House of Delegates and Senate meet to resolve more than \$1 billion in differences between their two budgets, they will also have to find a way to put together the two pieces that each holds to a puzzle to solve an impending financial crisis for the Washington Metro transit system that makes Northern Virginia's economy run.

Please see **BUDGET**, Page A6

■ **INSIDE:** Dominion Virginia earnings, data center connections rise. **Page A6**

## RICHMOND

# Judges recuse themselves from suit. Why?

Bingham suing Avula and others alleging wrongful termination

SAMUEL B. PARKER  
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Richmond's Circuit Court judges are just like the rest of us, said local veteran defense attorney Steven Benjamin.

All seven of the judges on that bench live within the city limits



Benjamin

as required by state law and, as a result, were "affected in the same way" as everyone else by the six-day water outage of January 2025.

That could very well be the reason every one of those judges recused

Please see **LAWSUIT**, Page A6



April Bingham, right, is seen in this 2022 photo. The former director of the Richmond Department of Public Utilities resigned in the wake of last January's water crisis, but later retracted her resignation and was fired.

ALEXA WELCH EDLUND,  
TIMES-DISPATCH

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**ICE officer training 'deficient,' says ex-agency lawyer**

PAGE A8

## Weather

Periods of sun; chilly  
**High 44**  
**Low 34**  
**Forecast • A12**

<b>A News</b>	Entertainment	A9	<b>B Sports</b>	<b>C Food</b>			
Lotteries	A2	Opinions	A10	Scoreboard	B2	Comics	C5
Business	A7	Obituaries	A11	Marketplace	B6	Television	C6

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