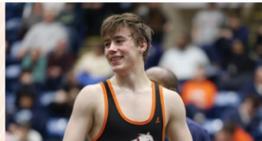


STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

William Byrd's Darin Witcher wins 3rd straight title **SPORTS, B1**



What's new on The Stream

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THE ROANOKE TIMES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

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WINTER WEATHER

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 United States from Maryland to

Maine on Monday, forcing millions of people to stay home amid strong wind and blizzard warnings, transportation shutdowns, 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.

Please see **WEATHER**, Page A6



Principal Greg Johnston speaks to students in G.W. Carver Elementary School's library.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SALEM CITY SCHOOLS

Pride in its success

Salem's G.W. Carver Elementary earns a Virginia Blue Ribbon School designation

ALEXIA PARTOUCHE
The Roanoke Times

When Greg Johnston says good morning to his students, he sometimes has a hard time getting their attention — in a good way.

Even before the clock strikes 8 a.m., kids are focused on their work.

"You can start at 7:45 in the morning, and you'll see our kindergartners already on task, already working and everything," said Johnston, principal at G.W. Carver Elementary School in Salem.

It's part of why the school has earned a Virginia Blue Ribbon School designation, an achievement years in the making, built off the work of everyone from students and families to teachers and administrators to division-wide staff.

Please see **CARVER**, Page A6



Fourth grade teachers Abby Meade and Krista Massey work with students on an activity about the phases of the moon.

ANALYSIS

Trump will speak to Congress he sidelined

LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will stand before Congress on Tuesday to deliver the annual State of the Union address to a suddenly transformed nation.

After a year back in office, Trump has executed a head-spinning agenda, upending priorities at home, shattering alliances abroad and challenging the nation's foundational system of checks and balances. Federal agents killed two Americans while they protested the Trump administration's immigration raids and mass deportations.

As the lawmakers sit in the House chamber listening to Trump's agenda for the year ahead, the moment is an existential one for the Congress, which essentially became sidelined by his expansive reach, the Republican president bypassing his slim GOP majority to amass enormous power for himself.

"It's crazy," said Nancy Henderson Korpi, a retiree in northern Minnesota who joined an indivisible protest group and plans to watch the speech from home. "But what is disturbing more to me is that Congress has essentially just handed over their power."

She said, "We could make some sound decisions and changes if Congress would do their job."

The union's state

The country is at a crossroads, celebrating its 250th anniversary while experiencing some of the most significant changes to its politics, policies and general mood in many Americans' lifetimes.

The president forced his agenda through Congress when he needed to — often pressuring lawmakers with a phone call during cliffhanger votes — but more often avoided the messy give-and-take of the legislative process to power past his own party and the often unified Democratic opposition.

Trump's signature legislative accomplishment so far is the GOP's big tax cuts bill, with its new savings accounts for babies, no taxes on tips and other specialty deductions, and steep cuts to Medicaid and SNAP food aid. It also fueled more than \$170 billion to Homeland Security for his immigration deportations.

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PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Avio bringing more than 1,000 jobs

Rocket motor manufacturing facility making investment

CHARLES WILBORN
Danville Register & Bee

DANVILLE — A spot that decades ago was a thread of life in northern Pittsylvania County will become a new rocket motor manufacturing facility, bringing more than 1,000 new jobs, nearly rivalling the number of workers employed there when textile

operations drove economies in Southern Virginia.

"Avio USA's historic investment in Pittsylvania County represents a major win for Southern Virginia, for the commonwealth, and for our national security," Gov. Abigail Spanberger said in a news release Monday.

"By investing more than \$500 million in Pittsylvania County, Avio USA will create over 1,000 high-quality jobs and revitalize domestic production of critical defense technologies," she continued. "Virginia is proud

to support this project and the talented workforce that powers the Commonwealth's resilient defense industrial base."

In December, Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced that Avio had picked Virginia as the location for a new 860,000-square-foot-facility, but did not reveal the exact location.

The space at the Southern Virginia Multimodal Park will make solid rocket motors for defense, tactical propulsion, missile systems and space sectors, the

company reported.

On Friday, the Staunton River Regional Industrial Facility Authority approved a local performance agreement for the then-unnamed company.

With the performance agreement approval, the authority and/or Pittsylvania County will provide a grading grant of up to \$1.7 million, a relocation grant of \$7.5 million and a local enterprise zone jobs grant of up to \$1.54 million.

Please see **AVIO**, Page A6

Man charged after shooting in air

PAGE A2

6 people displaced after 2 fires

PAGE A2

Weather

Not as cold
High 43 • Low 36
Forecast • A10

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