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Ready to light up the sky Richmond?July 4 is approaching and that means hot dogs, pool days and massive firework displays over the city.This year will also bring the last firework show at The Diamond."The final July 4th celebration at The Diamond will arguably provide the most unique experience yet. For the past 14 seasons, the event has revolved around a baseball game. With the team playing on the road this year, we had the opportunity to create a county fair-like atmosphere and let people onto the field to enjoy live music, inflatables and games before the fireworks go off later in the evening," Flying Squirrels General Manager Anthony Oppermann said.Find out where else to celebrate the Fourth of July with our guide to local events:Fireworks SHABAN ATHUMAN, TIMES-DISPATCH Dogwood DellCelebrate Fourth of July at Dogwood Dell with performances by Full Spectrum, Virginia Opera and the Richmond Concert Band. Performances begin around 5:30 p.m. Fireworks are expected to start at dusk. 600 S. Arthur Ashe Blvd.Fourth of July at Chesterfield FairgroundsHead to the Chesterfield Fairgrounds for a free celebration including food vendors, a kids zone, a live performance by horn and party band Brasswind and fireworks at dark. Gates open at 5 p.m. 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield. chesterfield.gov/4441/Fourth-of-July-Celebration Eva Russo, Times-Dispatch Fireworks at The DiamondCelebrate July 4 at The Diamond one last time. The Richmond Flying Squirrels will celebrate a little early this year with massive, in-your-face fireworks on July 2 and an Independence Day dueling fireworks show on July 3. Even though the Squirrels won't be playing a home game on July 4, you can still catch the fireworks with a "Star-Spangled Squirrels Fest" with fireworks, live music, and food and drink specials, with bands playing on a stage set up on the field from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tickets $10-$20. The Diamond, 3001 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd. Tickets start at $13. (804) 359-3866. www.squirrelsbaseball.comBusch Gardens fireworksBusch Gardens Williamsburg will celebrate Military Appreciation Week from June 30 through July 6 with patriotic décor, concerts, and a patriotic fireworks display each night at 9:15 p.m. Included with park admission. 1 Busch Gardens Boulevard, Williamsburg. buschgardens.com/williamsburgKings Dominion fireworksCatch King Dominion's Star-Spangled Nights on Friday, July 4 and Saturday, July 5 at 10 p.m. Included with park admission. 16000 Theme Park Way, Doswell. kingsdominion.comOn Thursday, light up the sky with the City of Petersburg and Trapezium Brewing. Celebrate with live music, food trucks, beer tents, games and fireworks at 9:15 p.m. Admission is free Trapezium Brewing Co. 423 3rd St. For details visit www.trapeziumbrewing.com/Colonial Williamsburg will host a full day of festivities on July 4, including public readings of the Declaration of Independence, patriotic bands, and a firework display above the Governor's Palace to end the night. Fireworks start at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more details, visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.orgFourth of July CelebrationsHardywood's Let Lagers RingHardywood will celebrate July 4 at their Ownby Lane location with pizza, craft lagers and live music performances from The Embalmers, Villages, DJ Williams Band, and Tom Petty cover band Full Moon Fever. Starts at noon; music kicks off at 1 p.m. Hardywood Richmond, 2410 Ownby Lane. Free to attend. 21 and over preferred experience tickets, $15. No fireworks. or (804) 418-3548. JOE MAHONEY/TIMES-DISPATCH Ashland July Fourth ParadeCelebrate July 4 with the town of Ashland's patriotic parade kicking off at 11 a.m. from Henry Clay Elementary School, the parade will wind through the railroad town ending at Hanover Arts (500 South Center St.). During the event, the Hanover Concert Band will play a patriotic concert.Liberty Celebration in YorktownJoin in on the one-year countdown to America's 250th commemoration with interpretive programs, artillery demonstrations, an American sing-a-long and more. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, 200 Water St. Independence Day Celebration and Citizenship CeremonyCelebrate America's newest citizens by attending a naturalization ceremony at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture at 10:30 a.m. The ceremony is open to the public. 428 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard. VirginiaHistory.org or (804) 340-1800. Henrico County's Red, White and Lights celebration features the Richmond Symphony, fireworks and more on July Fourth. PAM Kempf/ Free Fourth of JulySpend the day at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden with free admission. Guests are encouraged to wear red, white and blue and decorate wagons and strollers while enjoying the gardens and exhibits. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 1800 Lakeside Ave. www.lewisginter.org or (804) 262-9887.Red, White & Lights at Crump ParkCelebrate Independence Day with live music from Deau Eyes, food trucks, a kids' zone and a laser light finale with the Richmond Symphony. The fun starts at 4 p.m. No fireworks. Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit will perform at the Allianz Amphitheater at Riverfront on July 19. Courtesy of the artist Summer Sounds Lineup:June 19 – The Party Rockers Band (Special Juneteenth Celebration)July 3 – Trademark BandJuly 17 – The Mashup BandAugust 14 – Silver BulletsAugust 8 – JTucker & The Krewe BandSeptember 11 – Tight Slacks BandSeptember 18 – Better By Tuesday Courtesy of Stony Point Fashion Park Foreigner will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on July 30. Krishta Abruzzini Billy Currington and Kip Moore will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on July 26. Courtesy of the artist Aug. 1: Drive-By Truckers will play Music at Maymont. Courtesy of the artist Aug. 1: The Head and the Heart will perform at Allianz Amphitheater at Riverfront. Courtesy of the artist Styx and Kevin Cronin will perform at the Allianz Amphitheater at Riverfront on Aug. 6. Styx Aug. 28: Gavin Adcock will perform at Allianz Amphitheater. Courtesy of AEG Aug. 9: The fourth JamPacked Festival lineup includes Lotus, Moon Taxi, Spafford, TAUK featuring Kanika Moore, and Kendall Street Company. Courtesy of Broadberry Entertainment Group Sam Hunt will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on August 17. Courtesy of the artist Cole Swindell will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on August 21. Amy Harris Alison Krauss & Union Station will perform at the Allianz Amphitheater at Riverfront on Aug. 29. Randee St. Nicolas Chase Rice will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on August 30. Jason Myers Sept. 2: Men I Trust will play Brown's Island. Courtesy of the artist Country singer Dustin Lynch will play Atlantic Union Bank After Hours in Doswell on September 19. Justin Nolan Key Sept. 9: Sierra Ferrell will play at Brown's Island. 'Weird Al' Yankovic will perform at the Allianz Amphitheater at Riverfront on Sept. 22. TODD HEISLER Turnstile will play at Brown's Island September 24. Courtesy of the artist Oct. 21: Tedeschi Trucks Band will make a stop at the new riverfront amphitheater. Courtesy of the artist The fried catfish dinner from The Roosevelt. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Burrata served with tomato serrano salsa and garlic toast at Celladora. AKASH PAMARTHY, TIMES-DISPATCH Steak frites at Grisette. Autumn Olive farm sausage from Restaurant Adarra. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The buscatini alle vongole from Lost Letter. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Schnitzel from Metzger Bar & Butchery. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Grilled tandoori-marinated quail with mango-chili sauce and apple-cilantro-lime salad at Lehja. White beans and arugula at Edo's Squid. JOE MAHONEY, TIMES-DISPATCH Confit chicken leg at Penny's Wine Shop. The sweet corn raviolo from Blue Atlas. Fabergé egg bèdazzled with Maine lobster, dill cured salmon from L'Opossum. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The Siren Song at Alewife. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Platter with pork spare ribs, pulled pork and beef brisket from ZZQ. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Roast duck from Full Kee. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Lobster bisque en croute featuring Maine lobster and puff pastry at 1870. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH 8 1/2 A guiso platter with chicken in chorizo cream and pork in chile Colorado at Abuelita's. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Soft-shell crab dish from Acacia Midtown. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Dishes change seasonally at Amuse at the VMFA. SANDRA SELLARS, VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS Shrimp Koliwada from Anokha. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Penne with marinara, ricotta and sausage from Bacchus. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH EVA RUSSO, TIMES-DISPATCH Birria eggrolls at Bar Solita. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Shrimp cocktail with chile-pepper vinaigrette at Birdie's. EVA RUSSO, TIMES-DISPATCH Bombay and sturgeon caviar shots at Black Lodge. ALEXA WELCH EDLUND, TIMES-DISPATCH The pistachio financier at Brenner Pass with vanilla and amaro Nonino Bavarian cream, Concord grape and oxalis flowers. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Steak fromage at Buckhead's Chop House. AMANDA ANTHONY, BUCKHEAD'S CHOP HOUSE Chechebsa, a dish of broken pancake pieces, at Buna Kurs. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Schnitzel a la Holstein at Cafe Rustika. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Buñuelos from Cafe y Sabor. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The French onion soup from Can Can Brasserie. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Eggplant fries from Cheng Du. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Sourdough bagels from Chewy's Bagels. CHEWY'S BAGELS Sole de Douvres at Chez Max. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Rotisserie chicken combo with rice, beans, and yucca at Chicken Fiesta. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH The Cobra Burger at Cobra Burger. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH The tacos dorados from Cochiloco are Jalisco-style fried tacos stuffed with potato. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH EVA RUSSO, TIMES-DISPATCH Arepa with grilled chicken at Con Salsa. COLLEEN CURRAN, TIMES-DISPATCH Calamari and shrimp with squid ink fettuccine from Dinamo. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The burger at Dot's Back Inn. DAN COLLINS, INSTAGRAM @prophotova The chile relleno burger with Oaxacan cheese at Eazzy Burger. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Elegant Cuizines was featured in this year's RTD 100: the 100 best restaurants in Richmond. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Shrimp Fra Diavolo from Enoteca Sogno. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The Ultramartini at Fanboy. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Rainbow roll at Fighting Fish. FIGHTING FISH MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH The Croque Park Avenue at Garnett's Cafe. GARNETT'S CAFE Gelati Celesti ice cream. GELATI CELESTI Grilled polenta at Gersi. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Braised beef short ribs, roasted beet salad and a "Life is Beautiful" cocktail from Helen's. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Pork loin with marinated gigante beans, broccolini, garlic scape, pistachio pesto at Heritage. JOE SPARATTA, HERITAGE The chicken fried steak at The Hill Cafe. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Chicken and waffle at Hobnob. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Curry goat at Jamaica House. ALEXA WELCH EDLUND, TIMES-DISPATCH The spaghetti a la Joe at Joe's Inn. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Elotitos, a street-corn style appetizer, at La Doña Cocina Mexicana. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The double cheeseburger at Laura Lee's. LAURA LEE'S Beef tenderloin at Lemaire. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH What's more romantic than taking your sweetheart to the hottest new spot in town? At Lillian, no reservations are needed, you just need to find a spot at the long, low bar in Scott's Addition. The idea is cocktails and upscale "snacks," such as the seafood tower with oysters, shrimp, clams and tuna tartare, plus shooters and cured meat skewers ($85 for petite or $125 for grand). Other options like a dressed lobster tail and scallop crudo with mandarin kosho, shiso and radishes deliver a "wow" factor. 3001 W. Leigh St. Suite A, Scott's Addition. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Obe Ata braised lamb shank at Lillie Pearl. SHABAN ATHUMAN, TIMES-DISPATCH The fried chicken from Mama J's. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Potato skins at The Mantu MARK GORMUS, TIMES-DISPATCH The Reuben Dog and The German at Hots & Brats. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Seafood stir fry at Mekong. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Salmon tartare at Midlothian Chef's Kitchen. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Thai spicy shrimp at Millie's Diner. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Soup dumplings from Mr. Noodle. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH The Breakfast Club at Moore Street Café. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH Nami's 13-course chef's tasting includes 10 nigiri courses, along with a couple non-sushi dishes and dessert. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH A breakfast sandwich at Nate's Bagels. JOE MAHONEY, TIMES-DISPATCH Nokoribi's grilled yuzu kosho shrimp. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Charred octopus at Oceano. COLLEEN CURRAN, TIMES-DISPATCH The BBQ sandwich at Original Ronnie's BBQ. FRED + ELLIOTT PHOTOGRAPHY Samurai roll at Osaka Sushi & Steak. OSAKA SUSHI & STEAK SHELBY LUM, TIMES-DISPATCH The bamboo fish from Peter Chang. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Char-grilled octopus at Pinky's. ALEXA WELCH EDLUND, TIMES-DISPATCH The cheese board pizza at Pizza Bones. PIZZA BONES JOE MAHONEY, TIMES-DISPATCH Rappahannock River Oysters with citrus bourbon granita and trout caviar. DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH The happy hour platter at Sabai. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH The famous box lunch at Sally Bell's Kitchen. AKASH PAMARTHY, TIMES-DISPATCH MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Vidalia onion bisque at Shagbark. JULIA RENDLEMAN, TIMES-DISPATCH Salted caramel cake at Shyndigz Bakery & Cafe. SHYNDIGZ BAKERY & CAFE The Smoky Mug's brisket nachos DANIEL SANGJIB MIN, TIMES-DISPATCH The pork and fennel meatballs at The Stables at Belmont. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH The Stock Board at Stock Bistro & Bar. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH The Tammy sandwich at Susie's. SHARONA CANTOR, SUSIE'S Prosciutto and arugula pizza at Tazza Kitchen. MARK GORMUS, TIMES-DISPATCH Como la Flor taco at TBT El Gallo. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH The steak au poivre at Trouvaille. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Un Haute Chien, a hot dog topped with caviar and potato egg salad, at The Wine Whisperer. MARGO WAGNER, TIMES-DISPATCH Ghostface pizza special at Zorch Pizza. ZORCH PIZZA This is a developing story and will be updated.11:40 a.m. Saturday: Mayor Danny Avula announced Saturday that the Virginia Department of Health has lifted the boil water advisory for Richmond. Boil water advisories have also been lifted for Hanover, Henrico and Goochland counties."We have reached our goal, Richmond," Avula said. "After an incredible amount of work by so many dedicated public servants — as well as regional, state, and federal partners — we have received the news we've been waiting for: With two rounds of clean test results, we have verified that our water is clean and safe for people to drink." The advisory for Richmond first went into effect Monday afternoon after a winter storm Sunday night into early Monday caused a power failure that triggered flooding in the city's water treatment plant and compromised the plant's "ability to produce more water."This is breaking news. This story will be updated. National Guard distributing water6:30 p.m. update: The Virginia National Guard provided help with water distribution support on Friday in Richmond and staged personnel to get ready for potential winter storm response at locations across the state. "The VNG deployed 15 Soldiers operating six portable bulk water storage tanks with transport trucks to sites operated by the City of Richmond. Another approximately 30 Soldiers and Airmen loaded tactical trucks with cases of battled water and distributed them to the city's sites," the guard said in a statement. Virginia National Guard Soldiers and Airmen support water bottle distribution efforts Jan. 10, 2025, at multiple locations in Richmond, Virginia, after a recent water outage. Approximately 30 Soldiers and Airmen are assisting with the commodity distribution efforts int he City of Richmond as directed by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Another 15 VNG Soldiers are supporting bulk water distribution efforts using Load Handling System Compatible Water Tank Racks, otherwise known as Hippos. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Rhita Daniel) "It has been a busy week working alongside our local and state partners, and I think Virginia National Guard troops are doing a fantastic job as they wrapped up one snow response and quickly geared for water distribution and more snow," said Brig. Gen. Todd Hubbard, VNG Director of the Joint Staff. "During domestic response operations, the National Guard can bring in tactical resources used for our federal mission that can help our fellow Virginians in times of need. In this situation, bulk water tanks used to support soldiers in the field can provide citizens of Richmond with much-needed water."City water passes first test, a big step toward lifting boil water advisories Words cannot capture my gratitude for our dedicated @VCU teams — thousands of people caring for other people — for their extraordinary efforts during this challenging time. Please join me in thanking our team for their tireless dedication and hard work on behalf of all of us. pic.twitter.com/IgUNToCehN — Michael Rao, Ph.D. (@VCUpresident) January 10, 2025 3:30 p.m. update: The first test of the city's water supply came back negative. A positive result for Richmonders who have been struggling without drinkable water. The city is testing for harmful bacteria. If a second test comes back negative, the city can lift the boil water advisory.The city said the results of the second test are anticipated by 1 p.m. Saturday.City Hall closes after losing water pressure2:30 p.m. update: Richmond's City Hall closed at 2 p.m. Friday because of a significant drop in water pressure. A Facebook post by the city said "while the exact cause hasn't been identified yet, it is not indicative of a larger issue with the water distribution system."City put off replacing key component2 p.m. update: The city for at least eight years put off replacing the water treatment plant's switchgear — the component that failed Monday morning, leading to flooding that took the plant offline and left Richmond residents without drinkable water for 5 days and counting — according to records obtained by The Times-Dispatch.The records show that, since 2016, city officials have put out three solicitations for bid — which are public requests for contractors to submit proposals to do needed work for the city — indicating that the switchgear needed "upgrading" and "modification."No drinkable water until Saturday11 a.m. update: Mayor Danny Avula on Friday morning said officials are "making headway" on the water testing process — but pushed the return of drinkable water back to Saturday.The first test results should come back by 3 p.m. Friday, Avula said. If they are negative, the city will have to test the water again.The required 16-hour time period between tests means potable water will be restored on the weekend, assuming both tests are negative for bacterial contamination.Asked whether he'd heard from former Mayor Levar Stoney, Avula said Stoney had "sent ... texts of encouragement," but that was the extent of their communication on the issue.He said Department of Public Utilities Director April Bingham has not been available for questions as she focuses on preparing the water treatment plant for incoming winter weather.10:45 a.m. update: Henrico County officials announced Friday morning that they estimate the countywide boil water advisory will be lifted as early as Saturday following successful initial water-quality test results.The announcement comes after the county saw water services restored to its central and eastern portions, which had previously experienced outages starting late Monday and early Tuesday.Residents should expect water pressure to increase throughout the day as systems return to normal, officials said. However, until the boil water advisory is lifted, the county encourages residents and businesses to boil their tap water before consuming it or using it in food preparation.According to Virginia Department of Health guidelines, tap water can be used safely for hand washing and bathing without boiling it first.With forecasts calling for snow beginning Friday evening, Henrico government buildings will close at 8 p.m. This includes locations that have been offering bottled and potable water as well as access to showers and bathroom facilities.The county has set up a 24-hour call center for residents who may have questions regarding the ongoing boil advisory. Folks with questions can call (804) 501-4275, option 2.On Thursday night, a water main break shut down Staples Mill Road. A water main break earlier in the week had contributed to water pressure issues in the eastern part of the county. Hanover estimate drinkable water by Saturday10:45 a.m.: As of Friday morning, officials with the Hanover County DPU estimates that the boil water advisory will be lifted sometime Saturday afternoon. The department is in the testing process after the regaining water pressurization and is also waiting for the green light from Richmond.Hanover collected its first water sample Thursday and expects those results to be in by Friday afternoon. The department's second sample collected is already in testing and should be completed by Saturday.If both Richmond and Hanover's tests deliver clean results, the water boil advisory will be lifted.Richmond adds 13 free water distribution sites 9:40 a.m. update: Richmond on Friday morning announced that 13 free distribution sites have been put into place. Locations have a combination of water tankers and bottled water. Water will be available 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.:1. Annie Giles Community Center; 400 Oliver Hill Way; RichmondWater Bottles OnlyNo Water Tanker2. Anne Hardy Plaza; 3300 First Ave., RichmondNo Water Bottles2,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)3. Broad Rock Library; 4820 Old Warwick Road, RichmondWater Bottles OnlyNo Water Tanker4. Richmond Public Library; West End Branch; 5420 Patterson Ave.,; RichmondWater Bottles Only2,000-Gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)5. Hickory Hill Community Center; 3000 Belt Blvd., RichmondWater Bottles6,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)6. Bellemeade Community Center; 1800 Lynhaven Ave., RichmondWater Bottles2,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)(Note: Water Tank will be at Oak Grove Elementary School)7. Richmond Midtown Green; 2401 W Leigh Street, RichmondWater Bottles2,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)8. Richmond Pine Camp Community Center; 901 Old Brook Rd., RichmondWater Bottles6,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)9. Randolph Community Center; 1415 Grayland Avenue, RichmondWater Bottles OnlyNo Water Tanker10. Westover Hills Community Center; 1301 Jahnke Road, RichmondWater Bottles2,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill/carry)11. East End District Initiative (EDI); 701 North 25th Street, RichmondWater Bottles OnlyNo Water Tanker12. Southside Plaza; 4100 Hull Street Road, RichmondWater Bottles6,000-gallon Water Tanker Only (Bring container/s to fill/carry)13. Powhatan Community Center; 5051 North Hampton St., RichmondNo Water Bottles2,000-gallon Water Tanker (Bring container/s to fill and carry) We're speaking to residents and business owners about how the water outage in the Richmond area has had an impact on daily lives. Tell us your information and we may contact you for an upcoming story. Avula to hold press conference9:29 a.m. update: Mayor Danny Avula and Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Human Services Traci DeShazor are scheduled to hold a news conference at 10 a.m. Friday regarding the water outage in Richmond and anticipated winter weather. The National Weather Service on Friday issued a winter weather advisory from 10 p.m. until Saturday at 1 p.m. The advisory is for the Richmond area as well as Fluvanna, Goochland, Caroline, Westmoreland, Northumberland, Lancaster, Louisa, Hanover, King William, King and Queen and Essex counties."Plan on slippery road conditions," says the NWS. "Slow down and use caution while traveling. A weather-related power failure caused Richmond to lose water supply on Monday. Avula on Thursday said an automatic "switch-gear" that would have transferred the city water treatment plant to a backup power source failed, leading to flooding in the facility.Businesses navigate water orders9:25 a.m. Friday update: Companies around the Richmond area have taken different approaches to navigating the turbulent water crisis that's left water across the area undrinkable, and at times, nonexistent.Many workers have faced the struggle of trying to run their homes without water for dishes and bathrooms, all while schools have been out and children have been home.READ THE REST OF THE STORY HEREFor restaurants, some adapt while others shutter for day 4:28 p.m. update: On Thursday, day four of Richmond's water crisis, some Richmond area restaurants reopened using boiled and bottled water, while others remained closed, waiting for the boil water advisory to be lifted."We've been in constant contact with the Virginia Department of Health. We're following the guidelines to make sure that everything's in compliance," Susan Davenport, one of the owners of Tazza Kitchen and Conejo, said.Problems with Richmond's waterworks well-known before system collapse4:15 p.m. update: In the days since Richmond's public drinking water utility collapsed, two documents have emerged that appear to indicate infrastructure problems at the water treatment plant were well-known.Operations at the James River plant broke down on Monday, cutting off city water and resulting in what looks to be a six-day boil water advisory for Richmond, as well as water pressure and quality issues in the neighboring counties of Hanover and Henrico.4 p.m. update: The Attorney General's Office reports that as of Thursday morning, there have been no formal complaints of price gouging in Richmond due to the ongoing water shortage.Mayor provides update on what happened at water facility 3 p.m. update: On Thursday afternoon, Mayor Danny Avula said the failure of an automatic "switch-gear" that would've transferred the city's water treatment plant to its primary backup power source failed during Monday afternoon's blackout, leading to flooding in the facility.Instead of the first backup power source, Avula said, the plant diverted to its secondary backup source: a battery system that lasted for 45 minutes. The power outage lasted for 2 hours.The plant's third failsafe— backup generators — were not even plugged in, Avula said.This explanation confirmed a city spokesperson's Tuesday statement that "the plant ... had redundancies. They just failed."Making matters worse, there was no electrician on-site to manually place to address the issue. An electrician had to be called in."Our electrician came in ... within 30 minutes, and made the manual switch-over," Avula said during a Thursday afternoon news conference at Richmond's Maind Public Library.But by that time, the open valves had flooded the basement plant, leading to catastrophic failure that took the entire system offline. Officials then struggled to connect the plant to its servers when power returned.Avula emphasized that the switch-gear had functioned properly during numerous previous power outages.When it malfunctioned, the secondary backup batteries didn't last long enough for workers to make the manual and get the plant's valves closed.Compounding the problem, according to Avula: when the power did come back on, the plant struggled to connect with its servers — essentially, Internet connectivity issues on a massive scale."The SCADA system that controls the operation, when it rebooted, it did not connect to servers," he said. "The brains of the operation that opens and closes valves ... wasn't online."Mayor: Water restoration returns pressure1 p.m. update: Mayor Danny Avula on Thursday afternoon said all nine of Richmond's water zones have seen full pressure restored and that testing has begun on the system."I don't have the exact time," he said when asked when the testing had begun, but he added that it was sometime between 11 a.m. and noon. Officials are making sure the water supply was not contaminated with bacteria when the water pressure vanished.The tests will last at least 16 hours.The mayor said he "could not say with certainty" whether city workers were in the water treatment plant when its power and battery backup systems failed, but said he would be "absolutely shocked" in the event that nobody was there monitoring the facility."It's a 24/7 operation," he said.Regarding Department of Public Utilities Director April Bingham, Avula said he was "absolutely impressed with (her) attentiveness and response." He also committed to holding leadership and staff accountable should an investigation determine human error contributed to the crisis.Henrico officials say water returning todayNoon update: Henrico County residents who lost their water should see it return Thursday, county officials said. A pipe burst Tuesday, causing parts of northern and eastern Henrico to lose water. Residents in all of Henrico are still being advised to boil their water.Though water should return to eastern Henrico on Thursday, it will return at a slower-than-normal pressure. Officials say they will restore pressure in a gradual manner. Eastern Henrico is receiving water from the city of Richmond at a rate of 6 million gallons per day. Fire hydrants on that side of the county might open to relieve pressure and avoid breaking.Pressure is increasing in northern Henrico, too, where residents receive water from the Henrico County Water Treatment Facility.Water in Henrico is safe for showering and bathing, but residents should make sure it does not enter their mouths.Will Jones, a county spokesperson, said rumors circulating that West End water will be shut off are absolutely false.Reservoir nearly full9 a.m. Thursday update: The Byrd Park reservoir is near full capacity, reaching a depth of 17 ft. overnight, officials announced Thursday morning. Its full capacity is 18 ft.Eight of the nine water zones, which provide water service to Richmond's neighborhoods, are back online. Officials asked that residents continue to conserve water to allow water pressure in the final zone to reach the desired 20 psi.The boil advisory remains in effect. State health officials must test the water the ensure no bacterial contamination occurred when the water pressure dropped — a process that will take at least 16 hours. The reservoir is almost at full capacity. As a reminder, the reservoir holds up to 18 feet of water. We are asking that residents continue conserving water as we get the last zone up to 20psi. Please remember that the boil water advisory is still in effect. pic.twitter.com/3MpFnGgIjy — City of Richmond, VA (@CityRichmondVA) January 9, 2025 BrickFire, a new wood-fired pizza restaurant, is now open at 525 E. Grace St., near the Dominion Energy Center. It took over the former Maya space in the Berry-Burk building. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Memi's Egyptian restaurant is now open in the Fan in the Barrio spot. Named after Memi Yacoub, pictured here. Read the story. MIKE KROPF photos, TIMES-DISPATCH Susie's Café & Deli is now open in the former Hop Craft Pizza and Beer spot at 1600 W. Cary St. Susie's is known for its weekly pop-ups and Mediterranean-style Jewish cuisine. Read the story. photos Courtesy of Yael Cantor Die By Fry, a dedicated French fry shop, opened at 111 W. Brookland Park Blvd., from the owner of Slay Burgers. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Corner Rock Café is now open in Midlothian, serving Black Hand Coffee, Belgian waffles and bagel sandwiches, as well as ice cream and cocktails. It is located at 3734 Winterfield Road, Suite 100. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH B-Side Bakehouse is now open at 707 N. Sheppard St. in the Museum District. Read the story. Margo Wagner, Times-Dispatch Ash & Olive from Gregg Brooks, drummer for Three Sheets to the Wind, opened in Ashland at 107 S. Railroad Ave. Read the story. MIKE KROPF photos, TIMES-DISPATCH Brickwood Barbecue now open in former F.W. Sullivan's in the Fan at 2401 W. Main St. Read the story. Margo Wagner Goldwing cocktail bar is now open from the owners of Fighting Fish at 910 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Bar-Q, a craft barbecue joint, is now open in the former SB's Main Street Love Shack at 2600 W. Main St. Read the story. Meredith Lindemon A new Pizza Hut opened at 711 N. Lombardy St. Read the story. Pizza Hut The popular Detroit-style pizza pop has opened for pre-order take-out in Church Hill at 306 N. 29th St. Place an order Mike Kropf, TIMES-DISPATCH Hots & Brats is now open at 3111 W. Cary Street in the former Carytown Cupcakes spot. Read the story. MIKE KROPF photos, TIMES-DISPATCH The British Embassy is selling fish and chips in downtown Richmond at 1116 E. Main St. Margo Wagner, Times-Dispatch Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls is now open in Midlothian at 14213 Winterview Pkwy, Ste 105. Read the story. Margo Wagner, Times-Dispatch Baltik's Bagels is now open in the former Go Bird location at 6801 Forest Hill Ave. Read the story. MIKE KROPF photos, TIMES-DISPATCH Southern Kitchen is now open in its new location at Stony Point Fashion Park, 9210 Stony Point Pkwy., Ste. 116. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH 7 Brew, the first franchise from the Arkansas-based company to open in the Richmond area, is now open at 11 Le Gordon Drive, Midlothian. Read the story. Courtesy of 7 Brew Layne Montgomery has opened Davvero Gelato Shop, featuring from-scratch, hand-made gelato, located at 6931 Lakeside Ave. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Cava opened another Richmond-area location last week at 9959 Iron Bridge Road in Chesterfield. This is the sixth Cava in the Richmond area. Read the story. Photo courtesy of CAVA The Mantu Express, from Chef Hamidullah Noori of The Mantu, has opened at 11636 W. Broad St., next to Regal Short Pump cinemas.The Mantu Express serves modern Afghan cuisine with Mediterranean influences in a fast-casual setting, as well as pizza, stromboli and calzones. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Toast New American Gastropub is now open in the Scott's Walk retail/restaurant project across from The Diamond. It is one of the few locally owned restaurants to go into the new retail space, which also has a Raising Cane's and a Chipotle. Read the story. Mike Kropf, TIMES-DISPATCH Sweet P's, a New American restaurant, is now open in downtown Richmond at 304 W. Broad St. from chef Antonio Owen. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Latitude Seafood Co. opened a new location at 14440 Hull Street Road in Chesterfield's Duckridge Landing overlooking the water. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Devil's Lettuce Vegan Food Joint, is set to open the first week of September in the new location at 9050 W. Broad St. in Henrico. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH 19-year old Chris Knight Jr. opened Cookie Chris in Short Pump at 11571 W. Broad St. Read the story MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH Zorch Pizza has opened its second location at 7524 Forest Hill Ave. in the former home of Don't Look Back South. Read the story. Zorch Pizza Brecotea Bakery & Café opened its fourth location in the Richmond area. The latest Brecotea is located at 13628 Hull Street Road in Midlothian. Read the story. A combination Saladworks and Frutta Bowl has opened at Duckridge Landing in Chesterfield at 14446 Hull Street Road. Colleen Curran/Richmond Times-Dispatch Kline's Dairy Bar, which originally opened in Harrisonburg in 1943, has opened a new location at 15589 Cosby Road in Chesterfield. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Charlottesville's Mudhouse Coffee is opening its first Richmond location downtown at 418 W. Broad St. It soft opens Aug. 5, and fully opens starting Aug. 19. Read the story. Courtesy of Mudhouse Coffee Le Box Lunch in Chesterfield is under new ownership and reopened at 300 Arboretum Place in Chesterfield. The new owners are Trey Owens of Soul Taco and JewFro, along with Scootie Logan and Missy Mangrum of The Original Ronnie's BBQ. Read the story. Margo Wagner, TIMES-DISPATCH Cochiloco, an authentic taqueria from the guys behind Y Tu Mama, is located in Scott's Addition at 3340 W. Moore St. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Kali Love, from the Lindsey Food Group, opens in Chesterfield Towne Center on June 12. Kali Love will offer California cuisine with a mix of Mediterranean, Italian, Asian and Mexican dishes. Read the story. Colleen Curran Stock Bistro & Bar, a full restaurant inside the new Txtur furniture store in Manchester, serves up a Nordic-inspired menu at 604 Hull St. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH The first Richmond location of Taco Bamba at 1601 Willow Lawn Drive is now open. Read the story. Taco Bamba photos Raising Cane's has opened a location in Glen Allen at 10093 Brook Road. Read the story. Raising Cane's The Midlothian Shake Shack at 1371 Huguenot Road, near Raising Cane's and Torchy's Tacos, is now open. Read the story. Colleen Curran/Richmond Times-Dispatch Marylous upscale soul food is now open at 1323 West Main Street in the former Postbellum spot. Read the story. NICOLAS GALINDO, TIMES-DISPATCH Parlay at Graybo's is a new sports bar and card shop in Scott's Addition at 3117 W. Leigh St. in Scott's Addition in the former Circuit Arcade Bar spot. Read the story. Margo Wagner photos, TIMES-DISPATCH A new Eggs Up Grill is now open at 6593 Mechanicsville Turnpike in Brandy Creek Commons. Read the story. Eggs Up Grill Trouvaille is now open in the Fan at 203 N. Lombardy St. in the former Balliceaux spot. Read the story. MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH The Lynchburg diner that's been serving Cheesy Westerns and chili beans since 1935 has opened a location in Richmond in the Museum District at 2901 Park Ave. Read the story. Margo Wagner, Times-Dispatch Smoke & Barrel is now open at 2329 W. Main St. in the former Lady N'Awlins spot. Smoke & Barrel serves elevated Southern cuisine and craft cocktails. Read the story. Smoke & Barrel. 1870, a French-inspired steak house from Chef David Dunlap of Midlothian Chef's Kitchen, opened in April at 13310 Midlothian Turnpike in the heart