



L. TODD SPENCER | THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell walks into U.S. District Court on Monday in Richmond for the start of his trial. He and his wife, Maureen, face multiple charges in the corruption case.

Jury picked, McDonnells prepare to face charges

By Bill Sizemore | *The Virginian-Pilot*

RICHMOND

A jury was seated Monday in the federal corruption trial of former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife, Maureen, charged with using the powers of the governor's office to promote a businessman's products in exchange for more than \$160,000 in lavish gifts, loans and other favors.

The first Virginia governor to be indicted for conduct in office, McDonnell and his wife could spend the rest of their lives in prison if convicted on all charges.

See McDONNELLS, BACK PAGE

Outside courthouse, a study in contrasts

By Joanne Kimberlin | *The Virginian-Pilot*

RICHMOND

One city block stands between Capitol Square and the federal courthouse where the corruption trial of Bob and Maureen McDonnell began Monday morning.

As the former governor and first lady were entering the courthouse – mobbed by photographers and reporters – all was quiet in the place where they once reigned.

Outside the executive mansion, a groundskeeper mowed the lawn. A woman walked

See OUTSIDE, BACK PAGE

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN

Struck down, again

“Virginia’s same-sex marriage bans impermissibly infringe on its citizens’ fundamental right to marry.”

Judge Henry Floyd, in the majority opinion

By Bill Sizemore | *The Virginian-Pilot*

RICHMOND

A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT declared Monday that Virginia’s prohibition on same-sex marriage violates the U.S. Constitution.

It’s the third such ruling at the federal appellate level following a string of similar decisions by district and state judges around the country and helps set the stage for a potential landmark ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that would settle the gay-marriage issue for the entire nation.

The 2-1 ruling by a three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upholds a February decision by U.S. District Judge Arenda Wright Allen that the 400-year-old ban denies gay and lesbian Virginians their constitutional rights to due process and equal protection under the law.

The decision will not take effect for at least 21 days, pending an appeal.

Besides overturning Virginia’s gay-marriage ban, Monday’s ruling sets a legal precedent that undermines similar prohibitions in three other states in the 4th Circuit: North Carolina, South Carolina and West Virginia.

The case originated a year ago when a Norfolk couple, Tim Bostic and Tony London, sued Norfolk Circuit Court Clerk George Schaefer after they were refused a marriage license.

See SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, PAGE 9

THE RULING

Last year, a Norfolk couple sued when they were denied a marriage license. Monday’s 2-1 ruling by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals panel upholds a February decision by U.S. District Judge Arenda Wright Allen that the ban denies gay and lesbian Virginians their constitutional rights.

NEXT STEPS

The decision will not take effect for at least 21 days, pending an appeal. The defendants could seek a rehearing by the full appeals court or appeal directly to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Chesapeake firm to expand its family tree



Dollar Tree courts Family Dollar with \$9.2B offer that would make it the largest company based here

By Carolyn Shapiro
The Virginian-Pilot

growth

With the purchase, Dollar Tree would grow from 5,080 stores to more than 13,000 in North America, giving it more stores than any other discount chain.

CHESAPEAKE
Dollar Tree Inc., one of Hampton Roads’ largest locally based companies, would more than double in size with its proposed purchase of rival Family Dollar Stores Inc. Chesapeake-based Dollar Tree announced Monday that it plans to buy Family Dollar in a deal worth \$8.5 billion in cash and stock, plus about \$700 million in assumed debt and other cash investment.

See ACQUISITION, PAGE 10

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Report: Medicare's outlook is improving. But Social Security? Not so much.

PAGE 6

\$17 billion. That's how much a deal to improve veterans' health would cost the U.S.

PAGE 6

U.S. says Russia violated its arms treaty by testing banned cruise missiles.

Page 7

partly cloudy

Highs in the upper 70s. Details, back page of Sports

Summer's sweetest songs

THE DAILY BREAK

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