

# The Free Lance-Star

## Commanders keep sliding

Washington's struggles against KC continue in blowout loss on Monday night. **SPORTS, PAGE B1**



## Beyond eggs

Use black beans for protein punch in breakfast bowls. **FOOD, PAGE C1**



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STEVE HELBER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

The state and U.S. flags fly over the Virginia State Capitol. The General Assembly could draw new district lines in response to any other states' actions to redraw boundaries from 2025 to 2030.

# Va. Dems' amendment would allow redistricting

The move would not abolish state's bipartisan commission

**DAVE RESS**  
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Virginia Democrats' response to other states redrawing congressional boundaries to boost GOP chances in 2026 would not abolish the state's bipartisan redistricting commission.

The Virginia constitutional amendment would give the General Assembly the option to step in and redraw Congressional district lines in response to actions by other states.

The resolution, published Tuesday afternoon, retains the state's bipartisan redistricting commission. But it says the General Assembly would be authorized to modify one or more Congressional districts if any other state redistricts after it already drew lines based on the latest census data. This would not apply if a state needs to redistrict because of a court order.



MIKE KROPF, RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

Senate Majority Leader Scott Surovell, D-Fairfax, said the Democrats' proposed constitutional amendment would not scrap the state's bipartisan redistricting commission. He said it would permit legislators to intervene and redraw congressional boundaries in response to actions by other states.

The General Assembly could draw new district lines in response to any other states' actions to redraw boundaries from 2025 to 2030.

"This is disappointing, and let's be

clear, this is not what Virginians deserve," said Senate Minority Leader Ryan McDougle, R-Hanover.

Please see **AMENDMENT**, Page A9

# Man convicted for shooting during gun exchange

**KEITH EPPS**  
The Free Lance-Star

A young man who shot another man during a planned gun swap in Fredericksburg last year pleaded guilty to four felony charges Tuesday.

Darrien Christopher Wright, 22, of Spotsylvania, was convicted in Fredericksburg Circuit Court of aggravated malicious wounding, robbery with serious bodily injury, using a firearm in the commission of a felony and giving false

identification to law enforcement.

As part of a plea agreement, attempted murder and other charges were dropped. But Wright will still face the possibility of up to two life sentences when he is sentenced Jan. 6.

According to the evidence presented by prosecutor Steve Eubank, the shooting took place on Gates Street in Mayfield on May 9, 2024. Wright had sold a gun to the victim, Garfield Duncan, several months earlier and proposed re-ac-

quiring the weapon by trading Duncan another gun.

The victim drove to the meeting spot on Gates Street and Wright got into the car with him, presumably to make the exchange. Instead, the victim ended up getting shot and still has scars from the entrance and exit wounds he suffered. Wright and a young man who was with him ran from the scene with both guns.

Please see **CONVICTED**, Page A10



TRISTAN LOREI, THE FREE LANCE-STAR

A man crosses Amelia Street in Fredericksburg in 2022. One of the traffic changes the city is considering is a two-way conversion from Washington Avenue to Caroline Streets on Amelia.

# Meeting set for discussion on city traffic changes

**KEITH EPPS**  
The Free Lance-Star

A public meeting is scheduled for next month for Fredericksburg residents and business owners to learn about and provide input regarding potential major traffic pattern changes in the downtown area.

The Downtown Traffic Engineering Study has been developed by a city consultant and would greatly alter how traffic moves in the downtown area. City public information officer Caitlyn McGhee said the project "aims to improve

safety, traffic flow and accessibility throughout the downtown area."

If eventually approved by city officials, the recommendation developed by the Timmons Group would alter many of the one-way traffic patterns put in place in the 1960s. The meeting is set for Nov. 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the first floor of the Fredericksburg Visitor Center at 601 Caroline St.

The consultant's report recommends that Princess Anne Street be converted to two-way from Herndon to Amelia

streets. It also suggests two-way conversions from Pitt to Amelia streets on Caroline Street, from Washington Avenue to Sophia streets on William Street and from Washington Avenue to Caroline Streets on Amelia.

The report suggests other new two-way patterns in the Darbytown area, while Frederick and Elizabeth streets would be one-way because the roads are relatively narrow.

Please see **CITY**, Page A10

**For more on the forecast, see our daily online videos.**

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**Weather**  
Rain  
High 58 • Low 52  
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