

The Free Lance-Star

Starting fresh

Hartwood hires Fernando Ramos as first boys soccer coach. **SPORTS, PAGE B1**



'Toy Story'

A personal ranking of 10 characters from all five films. **MOVIES, PAGE C2**



Saturday, June 27, 2026

WHERE **YOUR STORY** LIVES

Fredericksburg.com



Bellie of Fredericksburg Tattoo creates a sea creature-themed tattoo for attendee Abigail Sullivan. Sullivan comes to the event every year with her mom as a tradition.

More than skin deep

Ink, artistry and community fill the FXBG Tattoo Invitational

PILAR DAVIS
The Free Lance-Star

The third annual FXBG Tattoo Invitational is buzzing at the Fredericksburg Convention Center. The event, a collaboration with Black Horse Tattoo Studio, is scheduled for June 26-28. Tattoo artists from all over the country will be in attendance to do live tattoos, piercings, merchandise and education on the art of tattooing. Emiliano Gabaldon is the owner of Black Horse Tattoo Studio. Gabaldon and his tattoo studio are the hosts of the convention. In a statement, Gabaldon



Dale City Body Art Tattoo shop sign framed by a shiny all-chrome three-wheeled bike on display for attendees at the third annual FXBG Tattoo Invitational to see.

said, "The FXBG Tattoo Invitational has grown faster than expected due to the incredible passion of the community

and Fredericksburg's deep tattoo heritage. What started as a regional show is quickly becoming a national destination."

Marlene Camp, the general manager of the convention center, says the event has gotten bigger every year. "In the last three years, it's exploded. This is the first year it's kind of stretched just from a regional event to a kind of nationwide event. There are vendors from all over the country. It's such a fun event." Camp says it's often difficult to project attendance because, as word spreads, many people buy tickets at the door rather than in advance. "We have quite a few tickets that were pre-bought online, but we do find that the majority, and this is actually for all of our events, the majority of the attendees buy tickets at the door."

Please see **TATTOO**, Page A4

Supreme Court backs Trump's immigration agenda

ANDREW CHUNG
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Since Donald Trump returned to the presidency last year, promising to aggressively crack down on immigration and pursue a campaign of mass deportation, the

6-3 conservative-majority U.S. Supreme Court has, for the most part, smoothed the way. In case after case, the court has green-lighted the Republican president's policies targeting both legal and illegal immigration with few exceptions, while

its three liberal justices have objected to most of his actions. The latest examples came this week, when the court gave Trump and his administration three victories — all in cases decided along ideological lines — that make it easier to deport

people, or refuse them entry, including those who have legal status in the United States. "The Trump administration has turned the immigration system into a deportation machine,"

Please see **COURT**, Page A4

Public to weigh in on Amazon sewer plan

Comments accepted through July 23 on data center wastewater

SCOTT SHENK
The Free Lance-Star

A Spotsylvania County deal with Amazon and data center development in 2024 included the construction of a re-use water system to cool the high-tech buildings that power the Internet. Amazon, which is building several data center projects in the county, agreed to pay for the reuse water system, which will cost more than \$135 million. Now Amazon is seeking a permit to "regulate the discharge of industrial wastewater from spent cooling water" from the Mattameade Tech Campus into the Spotsylvania sanitary sewer collection system. The permit would take effect on Aug. 1 and run through July 31, 2028, according to the agreement. The permit can be renewed.

Please see **WATER**, Page A4

Nursing homes to get \$70M help in budget

MICHAEL MARTZ
Richmond Times-Dispatch

A year ago, Virginia nursing homes thought they had a new way of getting more money from the state's Medicaid system to hire nurses and other direct-care staff, but then-Gov. Glenn Youngkin vetoed the budget provision and then refused to provide the money that the General Assembly had approved — more than \$43 million over two years — even though the House of Delegates clerk had ruled the veto unconstitutional. Now, the nursing home industry sees help coming from the proposed budget, which would provide \$70 million in one-time state and federal Medicaid funding in the fiscal year that begins on July 1, pending approval by Gov. Abigail Spanberger.

Please see **NURSING**, Page A4

VIEW: Looking for something to do this weekend? Check out our events calendar online. **FREDERICKSBURG.COM**

NEWSVU

Weather

Shower, thunderstorm
High: 80 Low: 69
Forecast: B6

Inside

ADVICE	C3	HOROSCOPE	C3	OPINION	A7
CLASSIFIEDS	C1	MARKETS	C6	RELIGION	A8
COMICS	C5	OBITUARIES	A5	SPORTS	B1



A1 MINUTE

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