

BE *twice* AS HAPPY... A SALE WITH *endless* POSSIBILITIES!

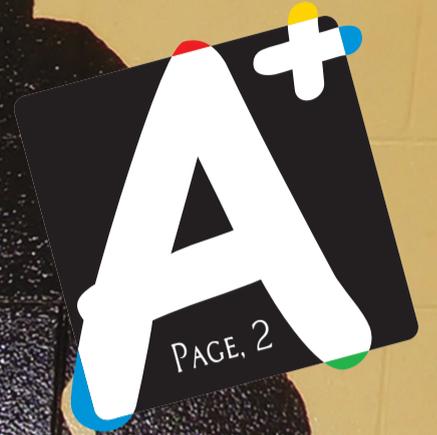
MARLO
FURNITURE

SEE OUR AD INSIDE

Chantilly

CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes



From left: Carla Perez and daughter Lia, 2, pose with Westfield High junior Sarah Luffy, portraying a princess. Carla is not a Mountain View student, but her mom is Tina Perez, administrative assistant to Mountain View's principal.

A Princess, Magic Tricks And Fun

NEWS, PAGE 6

Inside New Sully District Community Center

NEWS, PAGE 3

ATTENTION
POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE
MATERIAL
REQUESTED
IN HOME
1-17-19

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT # 322

CALENDAR, PAGE 5 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

COURTESY OF RRMM LUKMIRE ARCHITECTS

JANUARY 16-22, 2019

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

Reaching 15 Markets throughout Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md

Available in print and digital PDFs online, through email and social media

visit connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs to subscribe for free

LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households
Newspapers & Online
703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

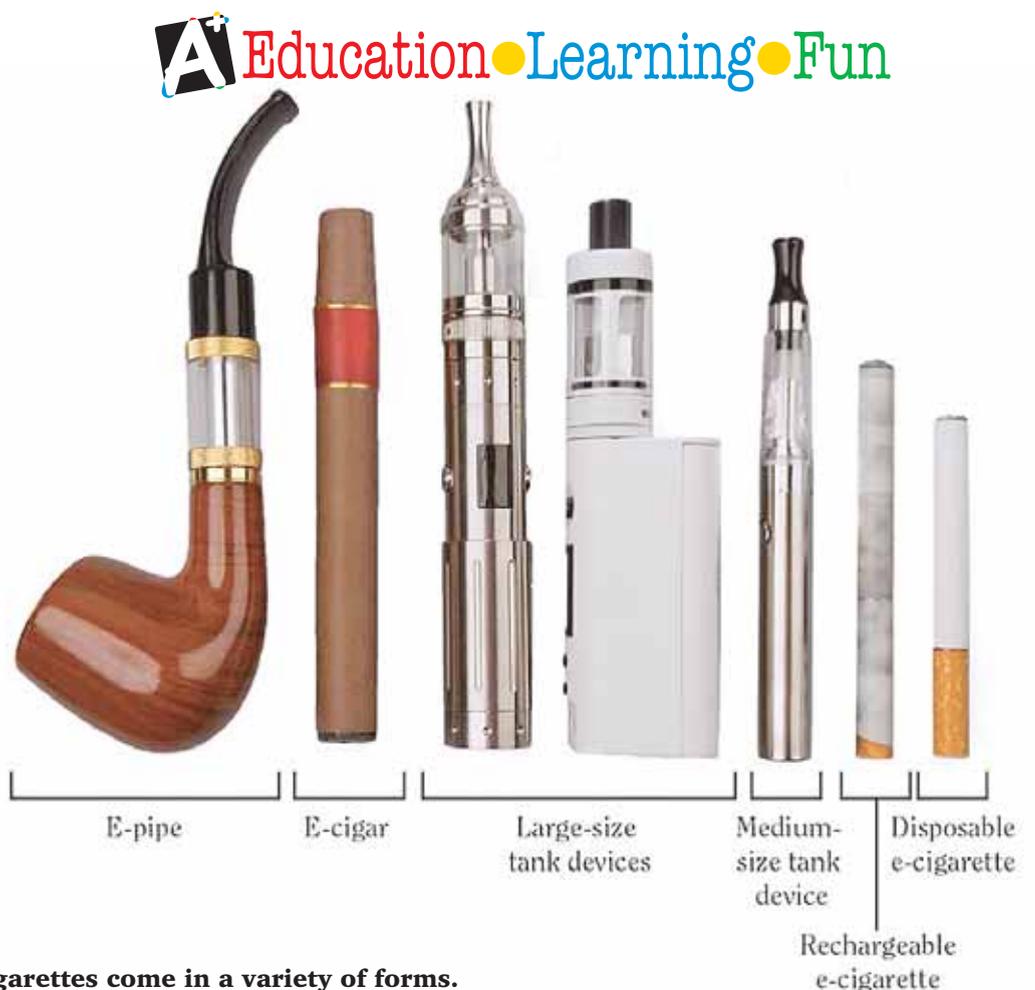
- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Centre View
- Chantilly Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Veneta/Dakota Connection

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

Helping Animals Find Their Way Since 2001

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer
www.lostdogandcatrescue.org



E-cigarettes come in a variety of forms.

How to Talk About Vaping

Approaching conversation about dangers of e-cigarettes.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jessica DeBoer's 13-year-old son just returned to school after a six-day suspension because he was caught vaping in the boys bathroom of his elite private school. Until she received a call from one of the school's administrators, DeBoer was not familiar with the practice and never dreamed her son would partake in it.

"Now I feel like I might have been naive considering how widespread it seems to be," she said. "My son told me that many of the kids in his school have tried vaping and some even do it regularly."

Vaping is the use of e-cigarettes to inhale and exhale an aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device. The term is used because e-cigarettes produce an aerosol that consists of fine particles, many of which contain varying amounts of toxic chemicals.

For parents like DeBoer, keeping the line of communication open is a key weapon in keeping kids away from e-cigarettes, says therapist Lisa Baguio, LCSW. "Before talking with your teen about vaping, or any sensitive issue for that matter, educate yourself and make sure you know what you're talking about," she said. "Kids know more than we give them credit for. Be prepared with unrefutable facts and scientific evidence because you can guarantee yourself that your kids will have their own set of facts, which are often false."

Once you have those facts, be prepared to share them during a conversation with your teen. "It's important that parents are open and honest with their

children," said child psychologist Laurie Jones, Psy.D. "You first have to tell them your expectations. For example, 'In our family, we have zero tolerance for e-cigarette or tobacco use of any kind.' You then should explain the dangers and risks involved and make sure that your teen knows that this is not your just opinion, but proven hazards."

A teen might be less likely to engage in vaping if they can connect it to negative consequences that affect them personally, advised marriage and family counselor Joyce McCarry, M.A. "One thing that teens value is their image among their peer group," she said. "If vaping a substance causes bad breath, that will deter a teen from using it. If getting caught vaping means that they are kicked off a sports team, that will be a deterrent."

A parent's best tactic is creating an environment where one's teen feels comfortable sharing information about vaping and working with them collaboratively to find ways to avoid it, says McCarry. "You want your child to let you know if they're vaping or have friends who are doing it," she said. "You can also let them know that if they're ever in a situation where they're being offered an e-cigarette, real cigarettes or drugs or anything dangerous, that they can call you and you will pick them up immediately with no questions asked."

"You also want you to give your child a way to get out of a risky social situation without feeling embarrassed," continued McCarry. "I have a patient whose parents tell him to text them a numerical code whenever he's in a precarious situation with friends. The parents know to call his cell phone and tell him that there's a family emergency and he needs to come home right away. This gives the child an excuse to leave without feeling embarrassed or like he'll be ridiculed for not engaging in risky behavior."

"You also want you to give your child a way to get out of a risky social situation without feeling embarrassed."

— Joyce McCarry, M.A.

'I've Been Waiting for This' First glimpse of new Sully District Community Center.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Local residents recently got their initial glimpse of the new community center planned for the Sully District. And Hana Chang was first to address the nearly 70 people attending an informational meeting in Sully's Governmental Center.

"We've been working on the design of this building, and we're excited to share it with you," said Chang, with Fairfax County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. "It's one story, about 30,000 square feet and is on a 5-acre site [bounded by Wall Road and Air and Space Museum Parkway in Chantilly]."

She said a 2017 community survey – to which more than 700 residents responded – guided what elements will go into this county project that has an estimated \$20 million price tag. And she told residents it's scheduled for completion by summer 2022.



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

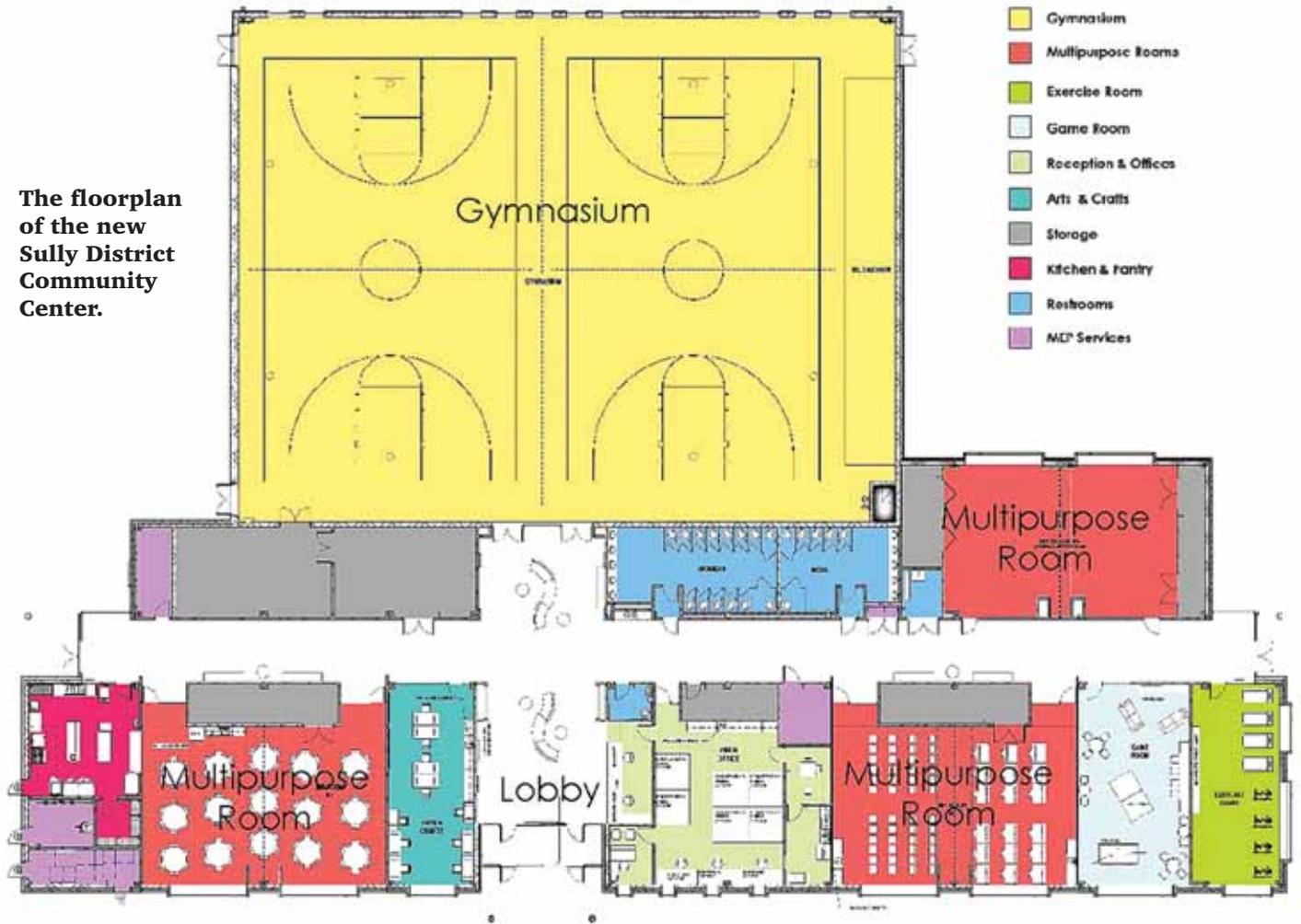
Evan Braff

Evan Braff, a regional manager with the county's Neighborhood and Community Services, presented further details. "I live in the Sully District, so I've been waiting for this," he said. "This will be Fairfax County's 10th community center, and we want to get feedback from the community about the types of programs and services they want there."

Braff said three, multipurpose rooms are proposed for a variety of uses, as well as programs both day and evening. Also planned are an arts-and-crafts room, game room, exercise room, offices, kitchen and pantry. And moving there will be Sully District's senior center, which is currently operating in a temporary location in another section of Chantilly.

"Seniors will be able to get a meal and transportation, if necessary," said Braff. "We're partnering with Shenherd's Center

The floorplan of the new Sully District Community Center.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RRMM LUKMIRE ARCHITECTS



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

Keith Leonard

and seniors can call them for rides to doctors' appointments and to get groceries." However, he added, "It'll be an intergenerational center with programs for youth in the afternoons [after school] and during the summer. And it will provide a meeting place for groups and organizations." This space may be used by community associations and

clubs and for classes and social gatherings.

The facility will also feature a gym with two basketball courts. "We partnered with the [county] Park Authority, which gave the additional funding for the second court," said Braff. "And the county will use it on Sundays. We're going to have a plethora of activities serving all kinds of people, including people with disabilities."

Since it's geared for all ages, some examples of the programs and services to be offered include: Fitness classes; gym sports such as volleyball, pickleball and badminton; STEAM, technology and computer instruction; therapeutic recreation; and Park Authority specialty camps.

Also speaking at the meeting was Keith Leonard, principal with RRMM Lukmire Architects, which designed the community center. He said it will be constructed adjacent to the Sully Highlands Park, with access off Wall Road and about 180 parking spaces.

"There'll be a generous, drop-off area for buses and cars, plus access to the park for shared parking," said Leonard. "And there'll be pedestrian connections from the development to the north."

Discussing the building's amenities, he



The site layout of the community center to be built in Chantilly.

said one side of the double gym would have bleachers and, "In theory, you could have four, different activities going on at the same time."

"The main lobby will have seating areas and a reception desk," continued Leonard. "The building is divided into active and



COURTESY OF RRMM LUKMIRE ARCHITECTS

Artist's rendition of the Sully District Community Center in Chantilly.

OPINION

Pay Attention, State Legislature Not Gridlocked

Thousands of bills considered over 45 days could have a big impact on your life, for better or for worse.

A week is already completed in the short (45-day) session of the Virginia General Assembly, and so many important things are in the works, in danger of happening or not happening, that no one can have a clear view of it all.

An example: The Senate Courts of Justice Committee voted for a bill 8-6 that would bar the execution of people with serious mental illnesses. Possibly you didn't realize that it is legal to execute someone with serious mental illness, because it makes no sense. But this bill failed last year.

Another success for the moment: increasing the minimum wage to \$15 over several years also cleared Senate committee.

COMMENTARY

Do you know who your Virginia delegate and senator are? Every resident of Virginia gets one of each. Enter your address here: <https://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/> to find out all of your representatives, plus contact information. Call and tell them, or leave a message, about what matters to you. Send an email. Connect to them on Facebook and watch for live Q&A sessions.

Here you can search legislation by bill number or keyword, find video and streaming: <https://virginiageneralassembly.gov/>

Last week's editorial, a long legislative wish list, <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2019/jan/08/opinion-editorial-wish-list-things-session-general/> still omitted many important actions, despite its length. One in par-

ticular made it into some editions and not others: To establish equal rights for LGBT Virginians, especially in housing and public employment.

Here are a few more important items:

The Virginia State Conference NAACP Criminal Justice Committee supports the passage of the following bills that are up for debate in this legislative session:

❖ HB 1651 - Raises grand larceny limit from \$500 to \$750 (Del Hayes)

❖ HB 1642 - Increases data collection on use of solitary confinement (Del Hope)

❖ SB 1013 - Repeals suspension of drivers licenses for not paying fines (Sen Stanley; Del Kory)

❖ SB 1053 and HB 1745 - Makes juvenile offenders sentenced to life automatically eligible for parole after serving 25 years. (Sen Marsden; Del Lindsey)

❖ HB 2616 - Raises the minimum age a child can be tried as an adult from 14 to 16 (Del Guzman) (And this is still far too low.)

❖ SB 1551, HB 1685, HB 1873 and HB 1688 - Limits the scope of what School Resource Officers can get involved, prohibits students from being charged with disorderly conduct, and mandates data collection of use of force against students. (Sen Surovell, Del Schuyler T. VanValkenburg, Del Bourne; Del Mullin)

❖ SB 997 - Decriminalizes simple marijuana possession. (Sen Ebbin)

❖ SB 1008 - Bans mechanical devices designed to increase rate of bullets firing. (Sen Ebbin)

❖ SB 1013 - Repeals the requirement that the driver's license of a person convicted of any violation of the law who fails or refuses to provide payment of fines be suspended. (Sen Stanley)

❖ SB 1034 - Prohibits any person who is not a licensed firearms dealer from purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period. (Sen Locke)

❖ HB 1991 - Labels violent hate groups as domestic terrorists (Del Price)

❖ HB 2472 - Adds gender, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation to the categories of victims whose intentional selection for a hate crime results in a higher criminal penalty for the offense. (Del. Kenneth R. Plum)

Contact House Courts of Justice members: Robert B. Bell (chairman), Leftwich (vice chair), Kilgore, Gilbert, L.R. Adams, J.L. Campbell, Collins, Miyares, Ransone, R.R. Campbell, Watts, Toscano, Herring, Hope, Mullin, Bourne, Simon, Carroll Foy.

Senate Courts of Justice members: Obenshain (chairman), Saslaw, Norment, Howell, Lucas, Edwards, McDougle, Stuart, Stanley, Reeves, Chafin, Deeds, Sturtevant, Petersen, and Peake. Find contact information <https://virginiageneralassembly.gov/>

See our website www.ConnectionNewspapers.com for many stories from the General Assembly from the Capital News Service, written by journalism students from VCU.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

NEW

Prescription Drug Take Back Box Program.

Fairfax County announced the expansion of the Prescription Drug Take Back Box Program Countywide. The boxes are available 24/7/365 at each district police station for any person to anonymously and safely dispose of their prescription medications 24/7/365 - no questions asked. It is important to get unused medicines, especially opioids, out of your medicine cabinets to prevent accidental or illicit use. Several Fairfax County pharmacies also take back unused prescription drugs. For a current list, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/4-ways-to-safely-dispose-of-unused-medications/.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Interested in local Civil War or Railroad History? Consider volunteering at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. The Museum offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Museum events, programs and administration. The Museum is also seeking an individual to coordinate the scheduling of the volunteer staff. Training will be provided for all positions. Email volunteers@fairfax-station.org or call 703-945-7483 for opportunities. The

Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. It is open every Sunday, except holidays, from 1-4 p.m. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

INPUT SOUGHT

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program.

Fairfax County is developing a comprehensive Public Safety Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program and would like to hear from residents. Each of six public information meetings will include a static display of unmanned aircraft followed by a presentation outlining the program. After the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions. The formal presentation will begin at 7 p.m. To find out more about the UAS program go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/uas. Send feedback or questions to uas@fairfaxcounty.gov or through the link located on the UAS webpage. Written comments on the draft program must be received by the close of business Feb. 8, 2019, to be included in the official public record.

- ❖ Wednesday, Jan. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at South County Governmental Center (Room 221C), 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.
- ❖ Wednesday, Jan. 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at McLean District Governmental Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean.
- ❖ Thursday, Jan. 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly.



Cultural Excellence Winner

The Children's Science Center (CSC), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire a love of learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) by providing opportunities to explore and create, recently was awarded a \$15,000 Cultural Excellence grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation. This award was given to support the youth outreach and education programs, including the Family Science Night Program, that the Children's Science Center facilitates during each school year. Each year, 50,000 visitors explore the Children's Science Center Lab located at Fair Oaks Mall in Fairfax, and another 20,000 visitors experience its programs delivered at schools, libraries and other venues throughout the region. Above are, from left, Nene Spivy (CSC), Preeti Sarnik, Rebecca Ray and Michael Butterfield of Wells Fargo, and Jenn Brunner (CSC).

Chantilly CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@ChantillyConnec

Newspaper of
Chantilly
Fair Oaks / Fair Lakes
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit hart90.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit foreverhome.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 18-20

Home + Remodeling Show. Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. More than 300 companies will be on hand to showcase the latest products and services in home remodeling, renovation, home décor and redesign. TLC's Trading Spaces' John Gidding and HGTV Design Star's Tyler Wisler will headline the event. \$12 at box office; \$9 online, \$3 children 6-12, free for 5 and younger. Purchase tickets at homeandremodelingshow.com/show-features.

FRIDAY/JAN. 18

Family Movie: Disney's "Frozen." 2-3:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. It's an early release day from school. The whole family is welcome to this PG favorite. Bring a blanket and/or pillow to sit on. Light snacks and drinks provided or feel

free to bring something from home. All ages. Call 703-830-2223, TTY 711 or email libCE@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/JAN. 19

Word Sculpting Fundamentals.

1:30-2:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Learn from expert Carla Bass how to write to grab and maintain the reader's attention. Grades: 9 to adult. Call 703-830-2223, TTY 711 or email libCE@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SUNDAY/JAN. 20

Garden Gauge (G Scale) Model

Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington, Virginia, and Maryland Garden Railway Society will hold their annual Garden Gauge Model Train Show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY/JAN. 25

Journey to the Past. 9-11 a.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Treat a favorite doll to a visit to the past. Bring the doll to the "All-American Girl: Living Dolls" program at Sully Historic Site and explore the life of an American girl from an era in history through fun activities, costumes, crafts and themed games in a beautiful historic setting. For children age 5-9. \$30 per child. Bring a snack and drink. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

Animal Tricks for Staying Warm.

4:30-5:30 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Bundle up in winter wear and learn animal strategies for making it through the winter at the "Winter Wonder Campfire." Meet some exhibit animals at the park and see first-hand how they beat the cold. Warm up by the campfire and enjoy s'mores, too. Designed for participants age 4-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

SATURDAY/JAN. 26

"Making Stone Soup."

10-11:30 a.m. in the historic Floris Schoolhouse kitchen at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Discover how easy and satisfying it is to prepare home-cooked soups in winter. Learn the history and origins of several different ethnic soup styles and sample each style featured. Create a new soup with members of the group based on the story of "Stone Soup." Participants will get to take home a serving of "Stone Soup" to enjoy. \$10 per person, designed for participants age 7-adult. Call 703-437-9101 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park.

SUNDAY/JAN. 27

Reading Circle and Craft Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. "My Little Book of Trains" will be featured in a reading circle. Train locomotives and tenders will be explored during the activities that day. Participants may make their own ongoing journal for

the year's reading circles and information learned about trains and railroading. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

Live Music: Only Lonesome.

7 p.m. (doors open at 6) at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Make plans to "hitch up the team" and head to Frying Pan Farm Park this season for Bluegrass Barn. Food and beverages available for purchase. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/bluegrass-barn or by phone at 703-222-4664 or 703-437-9101.

SUNDAY/FEB. 3

Make a Valentine Card Craft. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will have a Valentine's Day Make and Take event. Visitors will create their own Valentine's cards to take home with them. The cost of supplies is included with admission. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/FEB. 4

Journey to the Past. 9-11 a.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Treat a favorite doll to a visit to the past. Bring the doll to the "All-American Girl: Living Dolls" program at Sully Historic Site and explore the life of an American girl from an era in history through fun activities, costumes, crafts and themed games in a beautiful historic

setting. For children age 5-9. \$30 per child. Bring a snack and drink. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

SUNDAY/FEB. 10

T-TRAK Scale Model Train Show.

1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia T-TRAK members will hold a N gauge Model Train Display. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

Live Music: Laurie Lewis & the

Right Hands. 7 p.m. (doors open at 6) at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Make plans to "hitch up the team" and head to Frying Pan Farm Park this season for Bluegrass Barn. Food and beverages available for purchase. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/bluegrass-barn or by phone at 703-222-4664 or 703-437-9101.

THURSDAY/FEB. 14

Make Art Inspired by History.

10 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. This Valentine's Day, gather friends and family together at the park to create art inspired by history. The artwork created will reflect the season or month, and the projects are designed for artists age 6-adult. The park will be offering two, one-hour sessions. \$8 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.



BUY ONE PIECE GET ONE PIECE FREE

BUY THE SOFA, GET THE LOVESEAT FREE*



BUY THE DRESSER, GET THE BED FREE*



WWW.MARLOFURNITURE.COM



ALEXANDRIA, VA
5650 Gen. Washington Dr. • (703) 941-0800
ROCKVILLE | LAUREL | FORESTVILLE

MANY exceptional FINANCING OPTIONS AVAILABLE! SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

*Second free item must be of equal or lesser value. Free local delivery with \$1799 minimum purchase.

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER. CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Announcements

**We pay top \$ for STERLING,
MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.**

Schefer Antiques

703-241-0790

theschefers@cox.net

**Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!**

[www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Employment

Forget Daily Commuting

Print and digital media
sales consultant for area's
most popular and trusted
local news source

Manage your own hours from home

Enjoy flexible schedule

plus no daily commute

Help local businesses grow

Unique opportunity to be a

voice in your community

Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon

703-549-0004

Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

NEWS



Children and parents enjoying The Great Zucchini's (Eric Knaus, on right, in blue T-shirt) magic tricks.



Mountain View senior Julia Henriquez with son Jacob, 3, playing with a toy at the party.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS

A Princess, Magic Tricks and Fun

Mountain View High held a holiday party, Dec. 19, for its pregnant and parenting students in the school's Project Opportunity program. Centreville Presbyterian Church provided a magician, The Great Zucchini, a princess and snacks. And The Life Church provided gifts for the parents to give their children at Christmas.



Children reach for a banana that was transformed from soap bubbles by magician Eric Knaus.



Jojo Woolard, 4, daughter of math teacher Emily Woolard, helps The Great Zucchini do a magic trick.



Matthew Martinez, 2, is excited to see a Great Zucchini magic trick up close. His mom, Ashley, is a Mountain View senior.



Magician Eric Knaus explains one of his tricks to Jimena Chavez, 6.

You can read any of this week's 15 papers digital editions here:

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE



A ground-level view of what the community center will look like.

First Glimpse

FROM PAGE 3

quiet areas – for things like arts and crafts. The game room could have video games, table tennis, pool, etc. And the exercise room will have, for example, treadmills and free weights – but on a small scale, so as not to compete with the Cub Run Rec Center in Chantilly, 10 minutes away.”

He said the three, multipurpose rooms will each be 1,600 square feet. One will have a wood, sprung floor conducive to yoga and aerobics. It’ll have plenty of storage for equipment, but may also be used at night for meetings. Leonard said it’s an example of how important “efficiency and flexibility” are in this facility. He also noted that the building will be “mainly brick, plus some metal, with lots of glass in the lobby.”

Resident Mark Hall asked what would be offered for people with disabilities. “My background is in therapeutic recreation, so the atmosphere will be welcoming and inclusive for people with disabilities,” replied Braff. “And activities will be adapted so they can participate, too.”

Hours of operation will be Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Sundays will be for Park Authority rentals only. And there’ll be bike racks and WiFi.

Braff said the programs already in operation at the current senior center will be moved to the new one “pretty much intact” and at the same cost. “There’s a fee for the senior center, but there’s not a general-membership fee to join the community center,” he said. “However, classes might range, for example, from \$5 for an 8-week, tai chi class to as high as \$70/week for something else.”

He said the building’s entrance will be “zero incline,” so people may enter easily. And, added Braff, “We’ll have a meal program, not just for seniors, but for kids on free-and-reduced-price lunches. We have scholarships for those who want to participate, but need some financial help. And we’ll have buses go into neighborhoods to pick up kids and bring them to the center so they can be in a safe place after school.”

A woman asked if there could be an educational component, too, such as lectures by guest speakers. “A lot of our programming is driven by what the community wants,” answered Braff. “So we could partner with someone to do this.”

He said the county is also exploring the possibility of having a community garden there. And when a man asked about walking trails on the grounds, Leonard said, “It’s something we’re designing in the next phase.”

For more information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/sully-community-center.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller	
ELECTRICAL K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc....		ELECTRICAL Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com	
GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamele@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		GUTTER A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia	
RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com			
LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500		LANDSCAPING J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed	
TILE / MARBLE Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Fall Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience – Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service			
Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE			
ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with THE CONNECTION DIGITAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Email Marketing ► Social Media ► Sponsored Content FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING			
Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.com			

What To Right About



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Today, Jan. 12, 2019 is National Glazed Donut Day and the day after my most recent post-scan appointment with my oncologist. A day when, if I’m lucky – as I have been for the past 10 years – my world will change for the better (donut consumption notwithstanding). However, the ‘world’ to which I refer is one fraught with danger and offers no more guarantees than I’ve been accustomed to.

To invoke the late, great Rod Serling: I am now entering “The Immunotherapy Zone.”

Yes, a brand new – for me – treatment protocol: new drug, new side effects, new frequency, new lifestyle/fewer hassles (potentially), and most importantly: shrinkage (possibly), of my tumors, especially my “Adams Apple” tumor, as I’ve come to nickname the mass just below my Adams Apple (which is sort of bothering me, if you want to know the truth).

The nature of cancer treatment as I’ve experienced it – and learned from my oncologist is – if the drug is working, you continue it until it isn’t (sounds simple I know). When it stops working, you change as the cancer has figured out the drug’s intent. (Cancer cells are smart that way.)

Generally speaking, the cancer drug doesn’t start working (shrinking, stabilizing) after it has stopped working (growing). Over my nearly 10 years, I have switched drugs upwards of a dozen times.

Now, I am switching again: to Opdivo, an immunotherapy drug, a class of drugs that didn’t even exist a decade or so ago when I was first diagnosed, and one that has only been approved for the treatment of lung cancer since 2015. A drug that, to quote the television advertisement: “offers a chance at longer life.”

And so, Team Lourie, two-thirds of it anyway, made the decision to switch and fight. Starting this Friday, I will be infused into the great unknown.

From what my oncologist explained yesterday, aside from the possible benefits, Opdivo has some potentially unpleasant side effects. However, continuing with my present infusion drug, Alimta, now that there’s been some growth, is also likely to produce some unpleasant side effects: growth and movement.

And more growth/movement is the worst side effect, relatively and comparatively speaking. So we chose a definite over a maybe. If we continue with Alimta, there will be growth – definitely (that’s how cancer works). If we opt for Opdivo, maybe there won’t be growth, and maybe there might even be some shrinkage (the good kind).

As for lifestyle changes, there are, according to my oncologist, some quality of life improvements as well, or at least, more weeks in the month when potentially I’ll be less impacted by my disease/treatment. Which along with my quality of life has always been a concern of my oncologist.

And, without getting into the details, I’m ready for a change.

Combined with the possibility of tumor shrinkage and fewer/different side effects (some patients report few side effects from Opdivo), I wouldn’t say switching to an immunotherapy drug was enticing/a “no-brainer,” but it does offer an alternative of sorts. And given where I’ve been treated from and where I’ll be treated now, I am ready for something different.

Changing drugs is always a risk though; it could improve my life or it could make matters worse, a ‘worse’ from which quite frankly I might not recover (do you remember my yo-yo down-the-stairs visual from a few columns ago?). And I am familiar, unfortunately, with some less-than-encouraging accounts of patients not faring so well.

I just hope there’s not a hole in my thinking. Oh wait. That’s a hole in my donut. No worries. I’m happy to buy the donut and I never complain about the hole. That’s the trade-off. I’m hoping, given the potential benefit of Opdivo, I can likewise live/trade-off with side effects.

My philosophy has always been to take the good with the bad – and vice versa, and after almost 10 years of rolling with the punches, I see no reason to change now.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

Strategic Priority: Recruiting Great Teachers

Superintendent presents public schools' budget for FY 2020.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand presented a \$3.0 billion Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Proposed Budget, with a focus on employee compensation, to the Fairfax County School Board at its business meeting on Jan. 10. The FY 2020 Proposed Budget represents an increase of \$117.4 million, or 4.1 percent, over the FY 2019 Approved Budget.

"Student success begins and ends with a highly qualified teacher in every classroom, which is why the FY 2020 Proposed Budget continues to focus on our strategic priority of recruiting and retaining great teachers through market competitive compensation," said Brabrand. "The proposed budget in-



Scott S. Brabrand

COURTESY OF FCPS

cludes a \$55.2 million investment in the teacher salary scales which is the final phase of a multi-year plan to bring teacher salaries to the market average and includes a 1.0 percent market scale adjustment. Our goal is to ensure that every student—by name and by need—receives an excellent and equitable education in a 21st-century learning environment with the very best teachers." "The FY 2020 Proposed Budget takes us closer to aligning with the four key priorities in our strategic plan – Student Success, Caring Culture, Premier Workforce, and Resource Stewardship," said Brabrand. "Resources are allocated to maximize student achievement and support classroom efforts to achieve Portrait of a Graduate outcomes for every FCPS student. We are reaffirming our commitment to keep the focus on students, teachers, and classroom instruction."

THE PROPOSED BUDGET includes

\$46.8 million for a step increase for eligible employees, and \$8.2 million for a 1.0 percent market scale adjustment for employees who are not teachers. An additional \$12.0 million is provided for instructional programs, which includes funding to distribute a laptop to every high school student as part of the FCPS On 1-to-1 initiative to prepare students for college and careers.

The budget also realigns the elementary staffing standard which will result in an overall average class size reduction of 1.4 students at elementary schools during the primary hiring season. "Since becoming superintendent, I have made it a priority to establish and maintain a cooperative and collaborative relationship with our county funding partners - the Board of Supervisors and the County Executive," Brabrand continued. "In FY 2019, we received full funding for the first time in more than 20 years and we will continue to work in tandem with the County to address the investment

needs of our school division." The budget assumes a slight decrease in student enrollment which will result in savings of \$6.3 million. Overall, the FY 2020 budget allocates 86 percent of available funding to instructional programs with more than 93 percent of employees school-based. When aligned to the FCPS Strategic Plan, Ignite, 53 percent of FCPS programs have been identified as supporting Student Success.

The presentation of the FY 2020 Proposed Budget is the starting point of the budget process, which ends in May with the School Board's adoption of the Approved Budget. The 2020 fiscal year begins July 1, 2019.

The Fairfax County School Board will hold work sessions on the FY 2020 budget on Tuesday, Jan. 22, and Thursday, Jan. 31, along with a public hearing on Monday, Jan. 28 (and Jan. 29 and 30, if needed).

The School Board will adopt its Advertised Budget on Feb. 7 and present the budget to the Board of Supervisors on April 9.

U.S. District Court Sets Deadline for Redistricting 'Special Master'

Recommendations would affect 2019 elections.

BY DANIEL BERTI
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Before this year's elections, a federal court is working to redraw 11 Virginia House of Delegates districts that were ruled unconstitutional in 2017 for violating racial gerrymandering laws.

Bernard Grofman, a "special master" appointed by the U.S. District Court in Richmond to oversee the redistricting process, has presented judges with a plethora of alternatives to the current map. The court hasn't reached a decision on which one it will use, if any.

At a hearing Thursday, Jan. 7, in U.S. District Court in Richmond, judges gave Grofman until the end of this week to submit a complete recommendation. Parties in the case will have time to respond to his final report, and the recommendation could be sent back to the special master for additional changes.

Toby Heytens, counsel for the Virginia State Board of Elections, said he hopes changes to the current legislative map are finalized by the end of January. All seats in the Virginia House are up for election in November, and the political parties may choose their nominees during June primaries.

The Virginia General Assembly and Gov. Ralph Northam were given an opportunity to redraw the map themselves by Oct. 30, but Democrats and Republicans couldn't agree on new boundaries for the districts. The task of redrawing the unconstitutional

districts was then passed to the judicial branch.

The Office of the Attorney General recommended Grofman, a political science professor at the University of California, Irvine, because he redrew Virginia's 3rd Congressional District, which includes Hampton Roads, in 2015 after it was found to have violated racial gerrymandering laws.

Changes to the 3rd Congressional District made the 4th Congressional District, which includes Richmond and Southside Virginia, more Democratic and resulted in the election of Donald McEachin in 2016. McEachin won the 4th District with 58 percent of the vote. Republican J. Randy Forbes held the 4th District from 2001-2017.

The 11 Virginia House districts being redrawn in this case are located primarily in the eastern part of the state, between Richmond and Hampton Roads, and touch an additional 20 districts.

Last Thursday's hearing gave attorneys and interested parties on both sides an opportunity to comment on Grofman's proposed remedial maps. Attorneys were also able to question Grofman on the witness stand.

Grofman spent most of the morning defending his methodology against criticisms from attorneys for House Republicans.

Mark Braden, attorney for House Speaker Kirk Cox, R-Colonial Heights, attempted to show that Grofman acted improperly by using racial data to create the new districts, an allegation that Grofman flatly denied.

Grofman repeatedly said that race was not taken into account and that he relied



Bernard Grofman

solely on traditional redistricting criteria such as compactness, locality boundaries, election results and contiguity to redraw the 11 unconstitutional districts.

Katherine McKnight, also an attorney for Cox, contended that the remedial maps drawn by Grofman violated the Constitution by using racial data to create new district boundaries. McKnight said Grofman's maps showed "a fundamental misunderstanding of what needs to be remedied."

Judge Robert E. Payne pushed back against McKnight's remarks, however, and questioned her characterization of the special master's proposed changes.

"If there was no intentional application of race in [Grofman's] process, how can it violate the Constitution?" Payne asked.

Attorneys for Cox stated a preference for redistricting changes proposed in HB 7002, a bill proposed during a special legislative session last year, instead of the remedial maps proffered by Grofman. They say that HB 7002 remedies the constitutional violations in the 11 racially gerrymandered districts while impacting the fewest possible voters.

Kevin Hamilton, an attorney for the African-American voters who brought the case, equated HB 7002 with "tidying up a crime scene."

Allison Riggs, an attorney representing the Virginia State Conference of the NAACP, said the proposed remedial maps were an improvement from the existing lines but didn't go far enough in addressing racial gerrymandering.

In its initial ruling in the years-long case, the U.S. Supreme Court found that the districts in question had been racially gerrymandered by the 2011 General Assembly to dilute the voting power of African-American voters.

Legislators lost the authority to draw the new district lines, at least for the time being, because they couldn't reach a deal quickly enough.

Republicans appealed the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling and asked the court to delay the redrawing until it hears their appeal later this spring. The Supreme Court denied that request, giving the U.S. District Court the green light to continue redrawing the district maps.

The District Court's final decision will impact only the 2019 election. District lines will be redrawn statewide after the U.S. Census Bureau releases new demographic data in 2020.

Several lawmakers have introduced legislation to create an independent redistricting commission that would take the process out of the hands of lawmakers.

Those legislators include Democrats such as Del. Steve Heretick of Portsmouth and Sen. Creigh Deeds of Bath as well as Republicans like Del. Mark Cole of Fredericksburg and Sen. Emmett Hanger of Augusta.

The Princeton Gerrymandering Project, a fair redistricting advocacy group, has taken an interest in the redistricting process in Virginia. In 2018, the group created an open-source data project that incorporated all the proposed remedial maps from the General Assembly. It has since been updated to include the special master's proposals.

"The Virginia state legislature has one of the strongest gerrymanders from the partisan standpoint in the country," director Sam Wang said.

"I think that, from a good government standpoint, it will lead to greater stability and greater competition if there are routes found that make redistricting either independent or nonpartisan."