

Treatment of hearing loss with hearing aids may delay cognitive decline.\*



Recent studies have found that treating hearing loss can support healthy aging and reduce the risk of cognitive decline by 48% over three years.<sup>1</sup>

**AudioNova**  
Your Hearing Experts

Protect your brain with just one visit.

**BOOK NOW** 804-609-2491

2469 Pruden Blvd, Suffolk  
3610 Festival Park Plaza Ste A, Chester  
14408 Sommerville Court, Midlothian

**FREE HEARING TEST**

**RISK-FREE IN-HOME TRIAL**  
of the latest hearing aid technology<sup>2</sup>  
Offer expires 02/28/26

Hear better for years to come with our **SAME-DAY SERVICE**

\*Source: Sarant et al. 2023 <https://healthsciences.unimelb.edu.au/research-groups/audiology-and-speech-pathology-research/hearing-and-cognition-research-program/research/remediation-hearing-aids> Lin, F., et al. (2023, July 17). Hearing intervention versus health education control to reduce cognitive decline in older adults with hearing loss in the USA (ACHIEVE): a multicentre, randomised controlled trial. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01406-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01406-X) <sup>2</sup>Certain types of hearing loss may require a hearing instrument model that is not appropriate for the trial. Hearing evaluation required. See clinic for details. Only available for selected hearing instruments. Offers expire 02/28/26.

PETERSBURG'S LEADING NEWSPAPER SINCE 1865

# The Progress-Index

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026 | PROGRESS-INDEX.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Family needs 'space' to grieve

### Petersburg woman killed in mass shooting

**Bill Atkinson**  
Petersburg Progress-Index  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The family of a Petersburg woman killed in a Feb. 21 mass shooting in Richmond's Shockoe Bottom is asking for "space" as they deal with their sudden loss.

"From the depths of our hearts, thank you to everyone who has reached out, prayed, called, messaged, shown up, and wrapped the family of Genesis

Jones in love during this unimaginable time," Keisha Berry Pope, the best friend of the victim's mother, Tangee Massey Jones, wrote on Facebook. "Your support and concern mean more to them than words can express."

Jones, 23, was leaving a restaurant where she had celebrated her brother's birthday around 2:45 a.m. Feb. 21 when Richmond Police say she was caught in crossfire from a skirmish at the intersection of East Main and North 18th streets. Jones was shot several times



Jones

The remaining seven victims were taken to VCU Medical Center a few blocks away for treatment.

#### Victim's mother: 'Piece of my heart' died

Tangee Jones has put several posts

and died at the scene.

Ultimately, a total of nine people were shot in the confrontation. Jones and 42-year-old Dominic Jackson of Henrico County were the only fatalities.

on Facebook since her daughter's death.

"A piece of my (heart emoji) died yesterday!" she posted Sunday morning. "My God!! HOW am I supposed to go on?!? Broken...I want my lil mama back (praying hands emoji)."

Pope wrote that the family is "trying to process the loss of Genesis and to find the strength to breathe" through their grief.

"Please understand that they need some space as they navigate this pain," Pope wrote. "They feel your love and they are grateful for every kind thought

See SHOOTING, Page 2A



Petersburg Area Art League will host Charles Magistro's artist talk at 1 p.m. on Feb. 28 in Old Towne.

## ARTIST TALK

### PAAL hosts American artist Charles Magistro

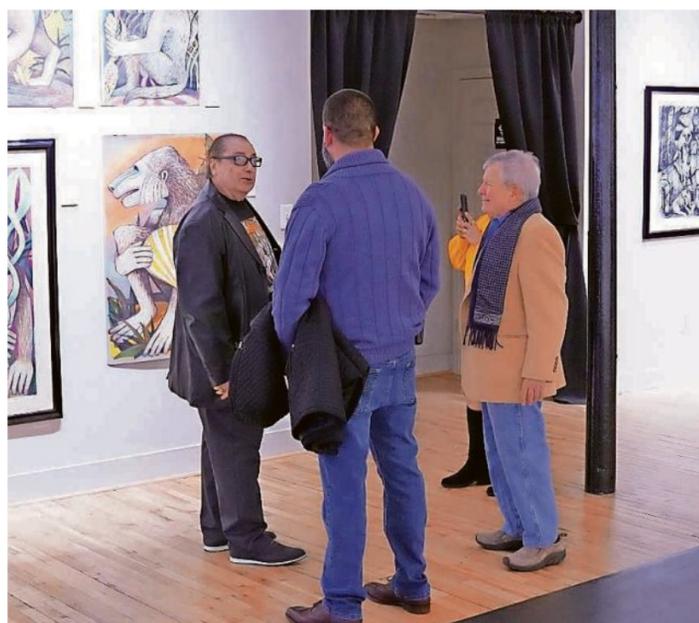
**Kristi K. Higgins**  
Petersburg Progress-Index  
USA TODAY NETWORK

In Petersburg, an artist talk by American artist Charles Magistro will be hosted by Petersburg Area Art League [PAAL]. The free public program will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 28. Attendees will listen to Magistro discuss his creative process, influences, and the deeply personal narratives embedded in his work.

#### American artist Charles Magistro

"Magistro's practice spans from abstract painting, imagined

See ARTIST TALK, Page 2A



On the left, American artist Charles Magistro speaks with guests at his exhibition on Feb. 13, at Petersburg Area Art League. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KEN COX

## GOP files second VA redistricting lawsuit

**Bill Atkinson**  
Petersburg Progress-Index  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Another lawsuit involving Virginia Democrats' attempt to redraw the state's congressional map has been filed by Republican members of the congressional delegation, but unlike the others, this one is not asking for the proposed April 21 referendum to be halted.

This one, filed Feb. 18 in Richmond City Circuit Court by Reps. John McGuire and Rob Wittman, challenges the wording of the ballot. They say the question as it now appears is misleading to Virginia voters and generates "viewpoint discrimination" by claiming an affirmative vote would "restore fairness" to the electoral process.

The lawsuit - filed by McGuire of the 5th District, Wittman of the 1st District, and co-plaintiff Melissa Jurk of Northern Virginia - is not the same as a suit filed on the same day by GOP Reps. Ben Cline and Morgan Griffith, and the Republican National Committee in Tazewell County Circuit Court that would halt the referendum altogether. A judge in that court has issued an injunction blocking the referendum from happening, and Virginia's attorney general, Democrat Jay Jones, has filed an appeal.

"Plaintiffs ask this court to require that the General Assembly comply with Virginia law by presenting the voters with a ballot question that is neutral and accurate as required by the Virginia Code and Constitution," the lawsuit reads. "The people of Virginia are entitled to decide the fate of a proposed constitutional amendment, and they are entitled to do so on the basis of truthful, unbiased information presented by their government."

#### Political background of the referendum

The referendum is in response to

See REDISTRICTING, Page 2A

### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to [progress-index.com/enewspaper](http://progress-index.com/enewspaper) or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 160 | No. 91  
To subscribe 804-490-0055.  
Thank you.  
©2026 \$1.25

