



Chair Phyllis J. Randall

Newsletter



Hello, Loudoun

On Tuesday, November 17th Supervisors and staff wore white and purple in honor of the 100th year anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. I'm also wearing my Delta Sigma Theta pin to honor women of color who had to wait longer and fight harder for the right to vote. The amazing opportunities I have are only because so many came before me and blazed the path. Maybe there is a little girl out there whom I can positively influence. Wouldn't that be wonderful!



COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

The federal government controls the distribution of the COVID vaccine and provides allocations to individual states. The CDC and the federal government have asked that

each state create a draft vaccine plan that talks about how they will allocate the vaccine. Here is [Virginia's interim draft COVID-19 vaccination plan](#).

Though the CDC provides guidance, jurisdictions will have some authority to decide how to distribute the vaccine to populations. Here are the four recommended phases for regional vaccine distribution:

Phase 1 A: High risk health care workers and first responders. (Winter)

Phase 1 B: Individuals with comorbidities and underlying conditions; individuals in congregate care facilities (Winter)

Phase 2: Critical workers, older adults, educators (Winter)

Phase 3: Young adults, children, other critical workers who were not included in phase 2 (Spring)

Phase 4: Everyone else (Spring)

Jurisdictions are looking at a variety of options for distributing the vaccine to individuals:

- Partnering with the private sector through existing health care channels
- The use of pharmacies to dispense medications
- Open public vaccination points

A vaccine coming does not mean we can stop all the precautionary and safety measures put forth by the CDC and VDH. We will get back to "normal" much faster if we keep wearing a mask, testing, tracing and following safety protocols.

Celebrating the Holidays Safely

The COVID-19 caseload in Northern Virginia is at its highest level since May. In Loudoun, the case count as of November 25th is 9,717 (please see the [VDH daily dashboard](#) for updated numbers).

During this Thanksgiving holiday, the Loudoun County Health Department encourages residents to plan their holiday celebrations and travel carefully to lower the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. The CDC recommends that families participate in these lower-risk activities that can be enjoyed at a safe distance:

- Small dinner gatherings with only people who live in your household.
- Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others.
- Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends and family.
- Shopping online rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or the next Monday.
- Watching sports events, parades and movies from home.

As college students travel home for the holidays, many communities are experiencing an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. Students should use extra caution if they will interact with older family members and individuals in the household who have underlying

medical conditions. Please see the [Virginia Department of Health's information](#) for students and staff who are returning home for holidays or extended breaks.

Outdoor Seating Grant

To help our business community through the pandemic, we have created a \$250,000 fund to support restaurants, wineries, breweries, distilleries and others who are permitted for outdoor seating. The new Loudoun Is Ready Outdoor Seating Grant program, which will open at 10 am on Tuesday, November 24th is designed to provide up to \$5,000 in funding to approximately 50 businesses. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and the application window will close once it becomes apparent that the funds have been awarded. To learn more and apply, visit the Loudoun Is Ready [grant website](#).



Utility Payment Assistance

Residential customers can request assistance to pay their electric, water, and gas bills and for propane, oil or wood, if those are used for heating or cooking.

Residents are urged to apply now to ensure that applications are completed by the deadline of December 15th. You must meet income guidelines and show proof that you've been economically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as job loss, lowered income, or medical or child-care expenses. There is a maximum \$1,750 payment per qualifying household, which can be used to pay past-due or current-month utility bills.

To apply, contact the [COVID-19 Emergency Fund and Helpline](#) at 703-669-5040. Speak clearly and be ready to provide a phone number for staff to return your call. The assistance program is administered by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington and Loudoun Cares, and supported by a CARES Act grant from Loudoun County.



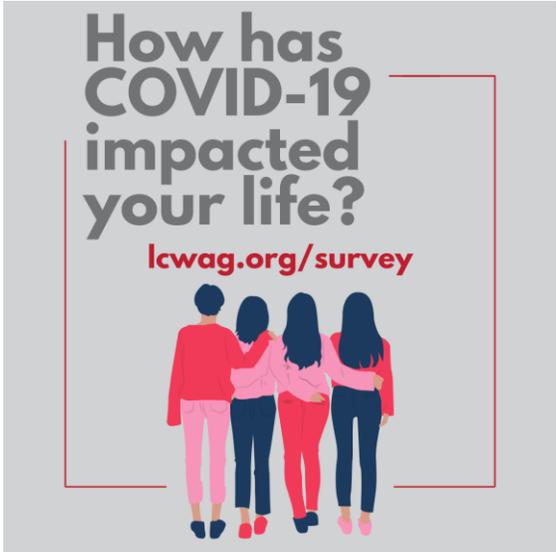
Apply now!
**Utility Assistance
For Loudoun
Residents**

To help households
impacted by COVID-19

**Call the COVID-19
Emergency Fund
and Helpline:
703-669-5040**

COVID-19 Impact Survey

The Loudoun Commission on Women and Girls (LCWAG) is conducting a **survey** to understand the impacts of COVID-19. All women living in Loudoun County are invited to take this survey to identify issues and unmet needs in our community. Your feedback will help inform new programming for LCWAG and local leaders. Please take 5 to 10 minutes and complete the **survey** before December 9th at 5:00 pm. Thank you!



**How has
COVID-19
impacted
your life?**

lcwag.org/survey

Illustration of four women standing together, representing the community being surveyed.

To follow Governor Northam's **Executive Order 67**, which helps mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we reduced the capacity of the Board Room at the Loudoun County Government Center to 25 members of the public. You are encouraged to view and

participate in Board meetings and public hearings remotely. Anyone who would like to provide public comment remotely may sign up by calling 703-777-0200. Thank you!

I hope you have wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

Sincerely,
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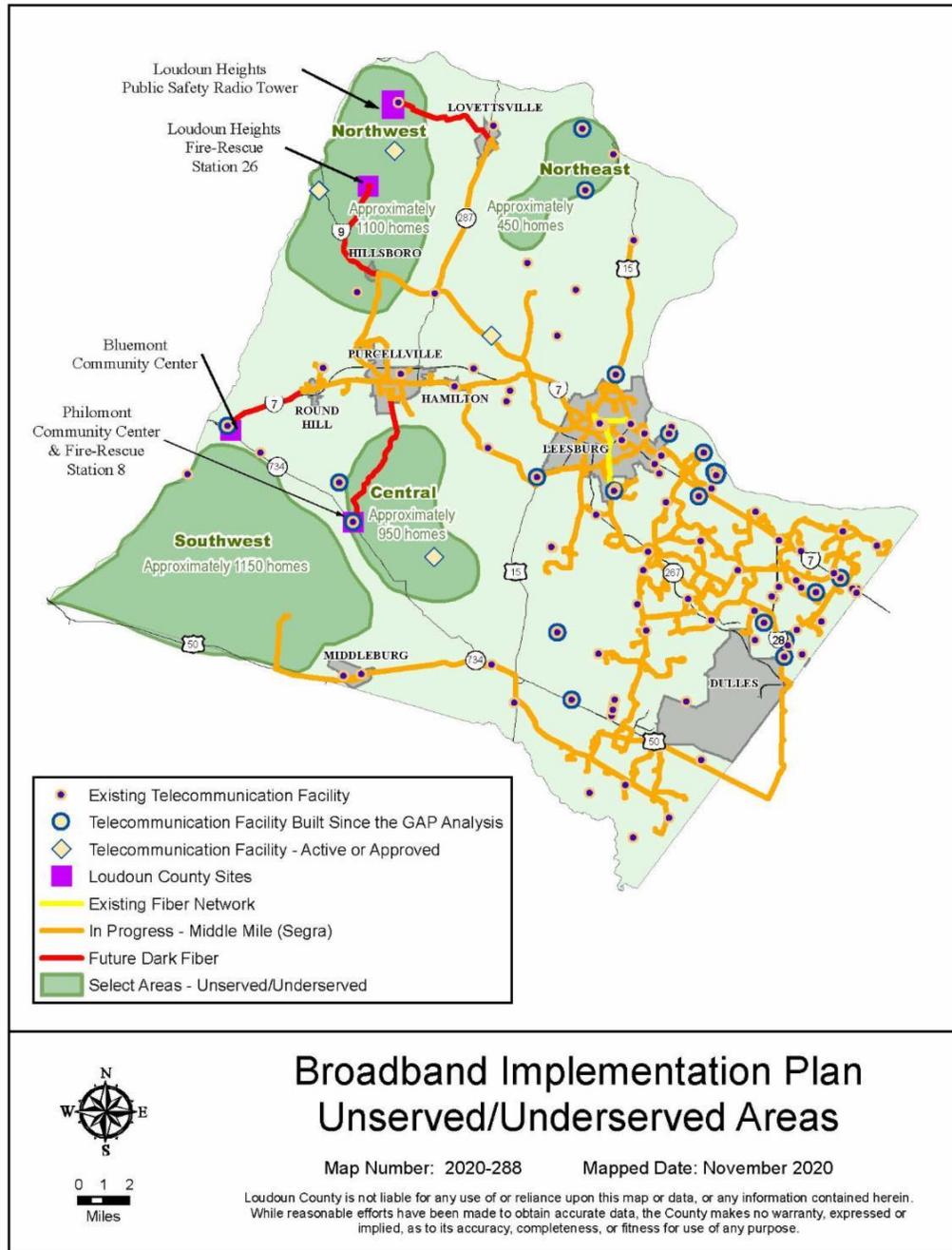
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Board Business

Prohibition of Firearms on County Property: At the November 17th Board business meeting, we voted to advertise a public hearing to consider amendments to Chapter 684 of the codified ordinances by adding a new section 684.04 Possession of Firearms on County Property, and a definition for “ammunition” to section 684.001. With this amendment, we are aligning County policy with State and Federal policies. Currently, you cannot enter certain State or Federal buildings without being screened. I support funding security screening at certain County facilities, which may include x-ray machines and a magnetometer operated by a law enforcement officer or a contracted security firm. I believe this ordinance makes sense at County facilities with high volume service centers. The public hearing for the draft ordinance will be scheduled in January or February 2021.

Emergency Broadband: At the November 17th Board business meeting, we discussed the deployment of broadband to underserved and unserved areas of western Loudoun County (please see map below). Recommended actions include: 1) accelerate four additional fiber runs connecting the following five county facilities (Bluemont Community Center, Philomont Community Center, Philomont Fire and Rescue Facility, Loudoun Heights Fire and Rescue Facility and Loudoun Heights Public Safety Radio Tower); 2) discuss prioritizing the full construction budget of approximately \$4.5 million in the FY 2022 budget; and 3) continue to examine ways to provide funding that could support

public-private partnerships to build out the last-mile. COVID-19 brought this issue to the forefront. It is a top priority for this Board because of the critical need. We will be getting quarterly progress updates beginning in January 2021 regarding our initiatives.



Privy Identification: At the November 5th Board business meeting, we discussed existing privies that are in use in Loudoun County, cost estimates for potential solutions to address privies identified as active, and a work plan. I requested that staff provide the location of the two churches currently using privies and demographic information for the residential privies in use.

Investing in Transportation

Traffic Signal Work at Loudoun County Parkway and George Washington Boulevard Intersection: Starting Monday, November 30th from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm ending the week of December 6th. The work will include removing the existing temporary traffic signals and installing four new traffic signal poles, mast arms, signal heads, pedestrian poles and other related activities necessary for the signalized intersection.

Flagging operations, lane closures and temporary traffic stoppages will be needed to safely install the mast arms and poles over traffic. Each traffic stoppage will last for approximately five minutes. Drivers should use extra caution when traveling through the area and follow all directions from the posted signs and road crews.

Community Information

The **Re-Employing Virginians (REV) Initiative** helps current and future students cover the cost of tuition and fees in fields that will lead to careers. Governor Northam directed \$30 million to support workforce training for unemployed Virginians. If you are unemployed or underemployed due to COVID-19, you can receive up to \$3,000 for short-term training or certification programs at NOVA. The registration deadline is December 14th. Visit this **website** to review the eligibility requirements and then complete the **REV Self-Certification Form**. A Navigator will contact you and assist you with the process, making sure you have everything you need to make the most of this opportunity.

Tree of Life's Annual Thanksgiving Together Ministry: Instead of sitting down together to enjoy the meal, volunteers will be handing out to-go meals to those in need in our community. There are two ways you can help. You can **sign up** to prepare a dish and drop it off hot and ready to go on Thanksgiving morning OR you can sign-up to help hand out or deliver meals on Thanksgiving Day. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Del Grande at 540-441-7920 x2 at Tree of Life.

A graphic for a Thanksgiving dinner invitation. The background is a light wood-grain texture with a blurred image of a turkey. The text is centered and reads: "You're Invited" in a red cursive font, "Thanksgiving TOGETHER" in a black serif font with a gold leaf graphic on the 'O', and "THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 26 | 12PM-1PM" in a bold black sans-serif font on a yellow banner. At the bottom left, it says "Dinners available curbside to bring home and share with your family." and "Location: St. Peter's Episcopal Church - 37018 Glendale St, Purcellville". At the bottom right, there is a red button with white text that says "TO LEARN MORE or VOLUNTEER click here >".

You're Invited
Thanksgiving **TOGETHER**

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 26 | 12PM-1PM

Dinners available curbside to bring home and share with your family.

Location: St. Peter's Episcopal Church - 37018 Glendale St, Purcellville

TO LEARN MORE or VOLUNTEER click here >

Nonprofit Grant Funding Application Now Available: Applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm, December 21st. The amount of funding will be determined during the FY 2022 budget process. In FY 2021, the budget for human service nonprofit grant funding was \$1.1 million. Tax-exempt, private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations that provide human services to Loudoun County residents in the areas of need identified and approved by the Board of Supervisors are eligible to apply for grants. For more information, visit the nonprofit grant funding [website](#) or send an email to nonprofits@loudoun.gov.

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**WORKING WOMEN
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
WHAT IMPACT HAS THE PANDEMIC
HAD ON YOUR LIFE?**

A SOCIAL HOUR FOR YOU!
4:30-5:30pm
Take time to decompress, connect and share your experiences on how COVID has affected your work and family
This is your time to be heard! We are all in this together!
So, grab your favorite beverage, relax, and enjoy an hour of conversation with women in Loudoun.



Denise Corbo's Corner

These past few months have been incredibly challenging on the entire community. Every student, staff member and parent are working harder than ever to deliver the highest level of education possible under the health and safety guidelines provided by the Superintendent, health department and Governor.

According to a recent survey, the vast majority of our Loudoun families have opted to continue with distance learning for their students while others will attend in-person if health and safety conditions permit. While many surrounding localities are not providing in-person learning options, Loudoun leads the way, opening schools to our most vulnerable students and programs. The Superintendent recently presented a plan to offer both distance and hybrid learning models to all students. The School Board subsequently adopted a hybrid/concurrent learning plan for all students per the guidance of the Governor. Hybrid classes are currently offered to K-2 students and the adopted plan will expand hybrid classes for students in grades 3-5 beginning December 1st and for grades 6-12 starting January 21st. The School Board set clear metrics and guidance for closing schools based on the health and safety metrics that ensure if Loudoun's positivity rates meet or exceed the thresholds established, LCPS will revert back to distance learning for all students until it is safe to reopen.

Superintendent Eric Williams earlier this month made public that he was offered the opportunity to lead Clear Creek Independent School District in Texas, which will officially be announced on December 1st. LCPS Chief of Staff Dr. Nyah Hamlett also announced she will be leaving to lead Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in North Carolina beginning January 1st. I would like to wish Dr. Williams and Dr. Hamlett the very best of luck as they transition into the next step of their careers.

The School Board has begun the process of hiring an Interim Superintendent and will then start a nation-wide search for Loudoun County's next Superintendent. The School Board remains committed on delivering equitable, caring and engaging learning experiences for our students.

Finally, I want to thank school employees and the Board of Supervisors for their commitment to keeping our children and community safe as we move forward together. Please continue to reach out to me directly through e-mail at dcorbo@lcps.org or visit my [Facebook page](#) for updates. Have a happy Thanksgiving and stay safe!

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