

Dear Leesburg Resident,

At the May 18th Board business meeting, we held a virtual Youth in Government Day where students had the opportunity to meet with us individually to discuss our experiences as elected officials and participate at the business meeting. I was paired with a Leesburg student from Tuscarora High School. I enjoyed talking to Gerardo Amador Lovato and appreciate his candor and persistence.

## Tax Relief Program for the Elderly and Disabled

At the May 18th Board business meeting, I moved that the Board conduct a review of the annual qualifying income limits every four years for the Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly or Totally and Permanently Disabled Program. I further moved that the four-year review be incorporated in the Chapter 872 Ordinance Amendments and scheduled for the July 14th public hearing.

The Commissioner of the Revenue (Commissioner) concurred with the recommendation. Additionally, the Commissioner agreed to include the option of the exclusion of disability income for members in the dwelling other than the applicant or spouse in the Ordinance Amendments that are scheduled for the July 14th public hearing.

## Vaccination for Adolescents Ages 12-15

The Loudoun County Health Department began offering COVID-19 vaccinations by appointment to adolescents ages 12 to 15 on May 13th. The VDH approval for use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for individuals in this age group follows [endorsements by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the [CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), and the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#).

### [How to make an appointment](#)

The Loudoun County Health Department has streamlined the appointment-making process to make it easier for parents and others to schedule their own appointments online in one single step. Residents may now make appointments in real time without first

registering in the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS). The system no longer requires users to wait for an e-mail that prompts them to schedule an appointment.

To schedule an appointment for your child or yourself, simply visit Loudoun County's [website](#) and then click on "Schedule A Vaccine Appointment" and follow the "Step 1" instructions. On the VAMS appointment page, [submit a request](#) for an appointment by following the prompts in the online form.

Anyone who needs assistance making an appointment, such as those who do not have access to the internet, should call the COVID-19 Information Line at 703-737-8300 Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Individuals ages 12 to 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The vaccination site continues to operate by appointment only. Vaccinations are free of charge for everyone regardless of immigration or health insurance status.

A promotional graphic for COVID-19 vaccines. On the left, a teal box contains the text "COVID-19 Vaccine Now Approved for Ages 12 & older" in white and dark blue, followed by "Schedule an appointment today!" in white. A white checkmark inside a grey circle is positioned over the text. On the right, a photograph shows a young woman with dark hair wearing a light blue surgical mask and a blue shirt, resting her chin on her hand. Below the teal box is the Loudoun County Virginia logo, and to the right of the photo is the URL "loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine" in dark blue.

**COVID-19 Vaccine**  
**Now Approved for**  
**Ages 12 & older**

**Schedule an appointment today!**

**LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA**

**loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine**

## Westpark

Over the past few weeks, staff for the Town of Leesburg and the County have received several inquiries from Leesburg residents about the status of the Westpark property. Please find information below that describes the County's status with the purchase of the Westpark property.

- The County has not yet purchased the property, although the Board has formally approved the purchase. We anticipate having an executed purchase agreement within the next 2 weeks.

- The Seller purchased the property in December 2020 and is required by his purchase agreement to hold the property for one full year before he can convey the property to someone else, including the County.
- The Seller is required to complete a subdivision plat and gain subdivision approval by the Town. Seller is able to proceed with this effort now. While subdivision is needed for the Seller and the County to proceed to closing, finalizing the subdivision does not impact the Seller's requirement to hold the property for a full year.
- The Seller must prepare a conservation easement to record against the property and the language of the conservation easement must be mutually acceptable to both Seller and the County. After we execute the purchase agreement (anticipated in the next couple weeks), the County will begin working with the Seller to develop the language for the conservation easement.
- Given the above, the likely timing for closing is first quarter of calendar year 2022.
- The County plans to have community meetings regarding the uses the County intends for the Westpark property. These uses are passive in nature, will allow public access, and will include any of the following: stormwater mitigation projects, nutrient credit projects, and water quality projects. There are no active uses planned for this property. Any community meetings for the property are not planned until after the County closes on the property.

## Renaming Harry Byrd and John Mosby Highway

At the May 18th Board business meeting, we approved the following timeline to rename primary roads Harry Byrd Highway (Route 7) and John Mosby Highway (Route 50) that will extend into at least February 2022 and includes public outreach. For a description of the tasks associated with the timeline, please see [Table 1 in the action item](#). The name of Route 7 through Leesburg will not change, it will remain "Market Street". The County government does not have the authority to change road names inside the border of an incorporated town.

Task 1: Estimated Schedule: January 2021 – end of process

Task 2: Estimated Schedule: June 2021 – September 2021

Task 3: Estimated Schedule: July 2021 – November 2021

Task 4: Estimated Schedule: July 2021 – November 2021

Task 5: Estimated Schedule: July 2021 – November 2021

Task 6: Estimated Schedule: January 2022 – February 2022

Task 7: Estimated Schedule: February 2022 – TBD

Task 8: Estimated Schedule: February 2022 – TBD

We also approved the following motions:

- Establish a capital project account in the Capital Projects Fund for renaming Harry Byrd Highway and John Mosby Highway and approve the amendment of the FY 2021 CIP by authorizing the execution of a budget adjustment to transfer \$87,000 to fund the sign inventory.
- Send the balance of the remaining estimated costs for sign replacement in the amount of \$621,000 - \$3,204,000 to the Capital Improvement Program FY21 fund balance discussion for consideration and prioritization.
- Explore a stipend program for those affected by the name change.
- Create a Task Force comprised of seven members of the Heritage Commission plus one appointee by each Board member.

I support compensating businesses and residential property owners along Route 7 and Route 50 who will need to change their addresses and proposed a potential grant system. Staff reported the costs associated with changing a residential address are relatively low. However, the costs associated with changing a commercial address are likely to be more substantial and include items such as replacing signage, marketing materials and legal documents that are specific to the business.

Even though anyone with a residence or business within the Leesburg District will not be impacted by the name changes, if you are interested in serving on the Task Force please contact Val Suzdak at [valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov](mailto:valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov) by June 15th. Thank you!

## Linear Parks and Trails System Update

At the May 4th Board business meeting, we received an update on the development of Linear Parks and Trails (LPAT) plan. The LPAT plan is the County's long-term vision for an interconnected system of multi-use linear parks and trails with multiple benefits for community connectivity, health and wellness, natural and cultural resource protection and economic development. The LPAT service level goal for trail access is 1/8 mile for areas with residential unit density greater than 3 units per acre and 1/2 mile for areas with residential unit density of 3 units or fewer per acre. Please visit this [website](#) for more information about the plan. The final LPAT plan will be presented at the June 15th Board business meeting.



## 2020 Survey of Residents

Since 2012, Loudoun County has conducted surveys of residents every two years to 1) gather residents' satisfaction with County services, 2) obtain residents' opinions on key issues that affect Loudoun communities and 3) collect demographic information. Survey results are used by County staff and departments to improve community services and communicate key issues to the Board. Loudoun County contracted with the National Research Center (NRC) to conduct the 2020 survey. The NRC received a total of 1,468 responses; 570 responses from a mailed survey and 898 responses from the online survey.

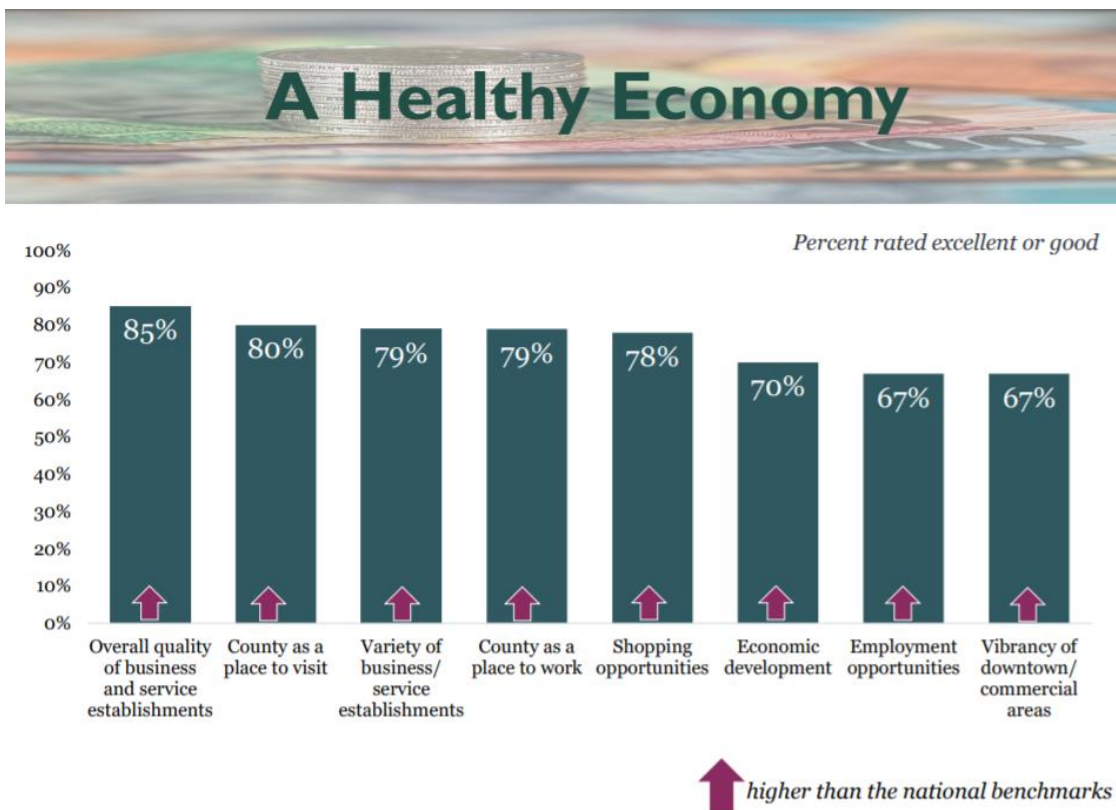
Overall, residents continue to rate Loudoun County as a high-quality location to live and raise children. Approximately 85 percent of respondents gave favorable results when responding to the overall image and reputation of the County and 83 percent planned to remain in Loudoun for the next five years. Regarding the economy, 87 percent of residents rated the overall economic health of Loudoun County as excellent or good. Please see the bar chart below for the list of indicators, which were rated higher than the national benchmarks.

Similar to the 2018 survey results, cost of living and affordable housing were areas of importance to residents with 81% of respondents stating it was "essential" or "very important" for Loudoun County to focus on cost of living/cost of housing in the next two years. This is why the Board prioritized the development of the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan to implement the Housing Chapter of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

There are, however, two things to consider when looking at the affordability of housing - one of them is the desire for more new affordable housing, which is what most of the Board is understandably focusing on, given how expensive housing is in Loudoun. The other one, which usually gets lost in the shuffle, is the impact of rapid residential growth on property taxes. On average, every new home in Loudoun County consumes \$1.60 in services for every \$1.00 it pays in taxes. As a result, the service needs of new homes,

especially the school needs, require the Board to spread the costs of those needs over the existing tax base, which includes your home, my home, rental properties, and commercial enterprises. For example, a recent residential upzoning that was approved by the Board, over my objection, will add 1,000 new homes to the County and cost County taxpayers almost \$5.7 million each year in additional school costs. So while that upzoning included some affordable units, it will require more tax dollars from existing taxpayers to cover its costs. The only way to make sure that more housing doesn't add to our tax burden is to ensure that the County grows its commercial sector, including the data center sector (currently the one sector that has significant growth potential) rapidly enough to cover the costs of residential growth. As I've written before in these newsletters, commercial properties and farms pay a lot more in taxes than they require in services. If we grow our residential sector and do not grow our commercial sector and preserve our agricultural sector, we will see higher taxes for existing homeowners and apartment tenants, which will make Loudoun's housing even less affordable than it is today.

In [Attachment 3 of the 2020 Survey of Residents Results](#), the report shows differences in opinion of survey respondents by County District. You can see how a statistically representative sample of Leesburg residents responded to the survey questions.



## Airport Impact Overlay District

At the May 4th Board Business Meeting, we referred the Airport Impact Overlay District to



the Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC) due to the interactive nature of the mapping exercise and the range of issues for which staff seeks direction. At the May 19th TLUC meeting, we approved the following motions, which will be forwarded to the full Board for a final vote:

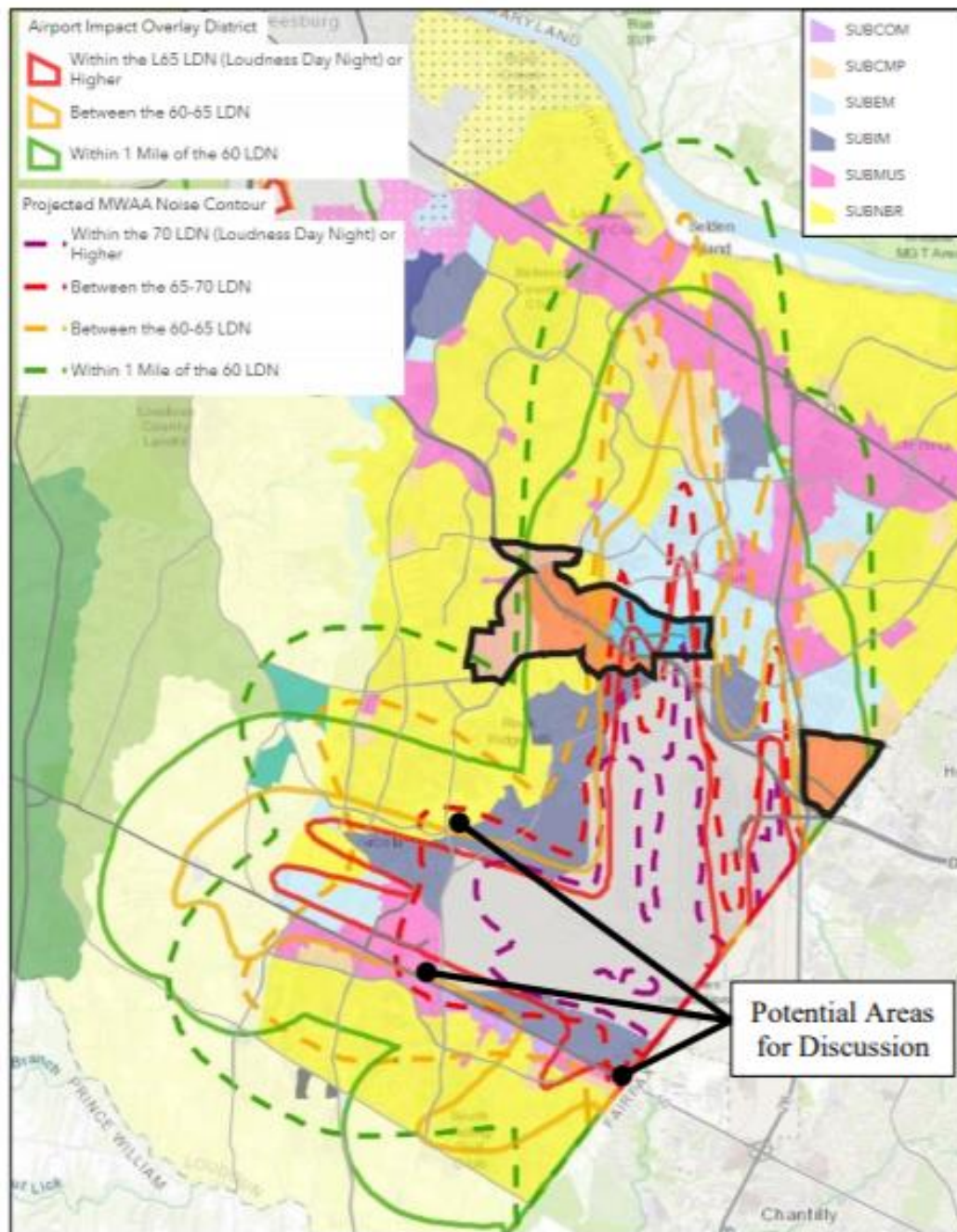
- Adopt the new contours with the exception of the area west of Arcola Mills Drive that is within the mixed-use place type (Motion passed 3 to 2: I opposed motion).
- Recommend that existing homes that are moved into the new 2019 65 Ldn projected contour would be grandfathered and would not require disclosure or noise attenuations and performance standards would not be applied retroactively to existing homes (motion passed unanimously).
- Ensure developments such as Brambleton that are mapped into the loudest contour can develop pursuant to their approval (motion passed unanimously).
- Update CPAM and Zoning Ordinance concurrently with the provision that allows staff to have a latitude to schedule the zoning rewrite as needed with the aspirational goal of completing both CPAM and Zoning Ordinance update at the same time (motion passed unanimously).
- Remove the one-mile buffer outside of the 60-65 Ldn contour (motion passed 3 to 2: I opposed motion).

Washington Dulles International Airport is unsure when the fifth runway, which underpins the modeling of the 2019 projected noise contours, will be built but it is part of their long-term plan. The 2019 Comprehensive Plan provides guidance that new residential and other noise-sensitive uses should not be allowed within the 65 Ldn noise contour. If we allow residential development in the new 65 Ldn noise contour, it will be too late in 20 years when the fifth runway is built. I support protecting the airport and residents from airport noise by keeping residential development out of the 65 Ldn. The 2019 projected noise contours are based on a scientific FAA study; there is no scientific justification for alternative contour lines or carve-outs.

I support protecting the home values of existing residents whose homes were built outside the current 65 Ldn, but are added into a louder noise contour with the new contour lines. I also support continuing the existing policy of disclosure to prospective new homebuyers that the property is in an area that will be impacted by aircraft overflights and aircraft noise within the one mile buffer area to the 60 Ldn noise contour.

Figure 1 depicts the 2019 projected noise contours, the current noise contours and three potential carve-out areas that were discussed at TLUC.

**Figure 1. 2019 Projected Contours vs. Current Noise Contours**



**Advisory Boards, Commissions & Committees  
Vacancies**



We have vacancies on the Communications Commission, Community Criminal Justice Board and Lyme Disease Commission. The Communications Commission provides advice and recommendations concerning broadband, communications best practices, and local regulation of cable and open video systems services and other providers of communications within the County. The purpose of the Community Criminal Justice Board is to enable the County to develop, monitor, and maintain community-based corrections programs for criminal offenders who meet the eligibility criteria established under the Code of Virginia or other applicable provisions of state law. The purpose of the Lyme Disease Commission is to implement the 10-Point Action Plan to mitigate Lyme Disease.

Please contact Val Suzdak at [valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov](mailto:valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov) if you are interested in serving. Thank you!

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I hope you have a relaxing Memorial Day weekend.

Warm Regards,

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**Business of the Month**  
**J. Morris Flowers**

**J. Morris Flowers** is a floral design studio with a passion for wedding and event decor, everyday floral designs and floral design education. Our floral shop is located in historic, downtown Leesburg at 120 E Market Street, Suite B. The studio serves the D.C. metro area, and Loudoun County's wine and hunt country. Our customers love us because we always deliver the freshest blooms on time. It's because we have the very best drivers who know the ins and outs of Leesburg. You don't need to worry about being late. We offer same-day delivery so even if you need to order last minute, we'll still be able to hand deliver the flowers that you want to send.



## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

### **ACOUSTIC ON THE GREEN**

I am excited to announce the return of Acoustic on the Green. The summer concert series will be held on the Town Green, 25 W Market Street, beginning June 5th. Chris Bowen is making his first appearance at the award winning concert series with his one-man band style act. A mixture of classic rock, country, pop, soul and original music are featured in his live shows. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm. For more information, visit the Town [website](#).

### **TUSCARORA CREEK DEDICATION**

A dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, May 15th following the completion of the two-year Tuscarora Creek Restoration and Flood Mitigation project. Construction began in spring 2019 and involved two components. The flood protection portion of the project included channel improvements to Tuscarora Creek to help reduce flooding of the

adjoining residential properties. In addition, storm drainage was included to handle the 100-year storm event along with a three to four foot high wall. The stream restoration portion of the project included realignment of the stream channel to reduce and eliminate erosion while improving overall stream health and planting of a riparian buffer along portions of the stream. The entire project was completed in November 2020.



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#### **EXHIBIT AT THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY**

Works created by members of the Loudoun Photo Club are currently on display in a new exhibit, "Capturing Moments in Black & White," at Thomas Balch Library. Nineteen photographs depict some of the best moments captured in black and white. When you strip all the colors from the images you may see a raw beauty in a new perspective. The exhibit is available to view, by appointment only, now through the end of June. Please call 703-737-7195, e-mail [balchlib@leesburgva.gov](mailto:balchlib@leesburgva.gov), or [request an appointment online](#).

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#### **CALL TO ARTISTS**

The Leesburg Commission on Public Art (COPA) and Friends of Leesburg Public Art (FOLPA) are seeking design submissions for three murals that will be installed along the exterior of the Town Hall Parking Garage fronting Lassiter Way. The alley provides an ingress and egress to the Town Hall as well as a walking path to shops and restaurants on King Street. The initial niche mural, a vision provided by the late Gale Waldron and gifted to the Town of Leesburg through the generosity of Gale and Gerry Waldron, was installed

in 2018. This Call to Artists is to provide murals on the remaining three wall niches. To learn more, visit the Town [website](#).

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## Update from Beth Barts

Thank you all for your support for not only your children but all our children this year. It goes without saying that this past school year was the most challenging in recent memory. My heart aches for those for whom the year was particularly difficult; the saying "We're all in the same storm, but not in the same boat" rings truer than ever. Please continue to reach out to me so that I may advocate for your needs.

As many of us turn our attention to a more traditional summer and our hopes for the next school year, I will share that LCPS plans to reopen safely on the first day of the 2021 - 2022 school year in person, 5 days a week! A message was sent by Interim Superintendent Zeigler on May 18th containing more details. If you need any help finding this, please let me know and I will be happy to share.

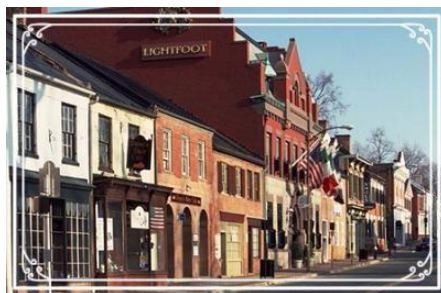
The school board has been working to improve our students' quality of education in various areas. In our most recent meeting, we passed the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Month Proclamation, we authorized the expenditure of end of year funds as recommended by the school division staff in the amount of \$15,783,692, and we appointed the Douglass High School Commemorative Committee. We are starting an audit of our Literacy program this summer in order to best align our instruction and curriculum to the science of reading. The North Star School in Leesburg will open this fall and we are in the final stretch of our Superintendent search. An announcement about this search will be shared in early June. I thank the many families who participated in this process! The community engagement was significant.

I want to congratulate the class of 2021! You have much to be proud of and we commend your resilience and strength. I am grateful that all our high schools will be having graduations in person over the next few weeks.

I will continue to be a resource to you as the summer progresses. Please stay in touch and stay well.



## Community Information



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**LinkedIn Learning Opportunity:** Upgrade your skills through a new program available from the Loudoun County Workforce Resource Center. LinkedIn Learning offers more than 10,000 online courses that can help job seekers gain skills and certifications that will assist them as they seek a career path. The training available from LinkedIn Learning allows users to learn at their own pace using a desktop or mobile device. Participants who receive a free license for the training from the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center will also have access to additional resources, including employment coaching and other services. Anyone interested in the LinkedIn Learning program is encouraged to contact the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center at 703-777-0150, (press option 0), or by e-mail at [wrc@loudoun.gov](mailto:wrc@loudoun.gov).

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**New Operating Hours for COVID-19 Information Line:** Effective May 18th, the hours of operation for the COVID-19 information line changed to Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding holidays when Loudoun County government administrative offices are closed. This change eliminates weekend call center operations. Residents may continue to call the COVID-19 Information Line at 703-737-8300 during weekday hours for assistance with vaccination appointments and for COVID-19 related information. In addition to contacting the county by phone, anyone who needs assistance or has questions related to COVID-19 may send an e-mail at any time to [health@loudoun.gov](mailto:health@loudoun.gov).

Outside of the county's hours of operation, callers to the COVID-19 Information Line will be forwarded to the Virginia Department of Health's COVID-19 information line when available. The statewide call center operates Monday through Saturday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Residents may contact the statewide information line directly call calling 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682).

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**June Democratic Primary:** Early voting is available through June 5th, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm at 750 Miller Drive SE in Leesburg (closed May 31st for Memorial Day). Extended hours begin May 29th to include Saturdays in Leesburg and additional early voting sites throughout the County. Exact dates, times and locations are posted on the [early voting website](#).



Any registered voter may request an absentee ballot by mail. The deadline to request a ballot by mail for the June primary is Friday, May 28th, at 5:00 pm. Voters who cannot safely have a witness present while completing the absentee ballot for the primary election are not required to have a witness present. Information on how to request a ballot is [online](#). More information about the upcoming primary election is also [online](#).

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For our Republican readers, the Republican Party in Virginia has already chosen their statewide nominees for 2021. If you have questions, you can find information [here](#).

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**SolarizeNOVA:** A program that reduces the cost and complexity of going solar by providing a one-stop shop for education and installation. This grassroots, community-based outreach initiative is managed by the nonprofit, [Local Energy Alliance Program \(LEAP\)](#). Through June 30th, you can utilize SolarizeNOVA to access discounted prices and vetted installers through a competitive bidding process, and experts at LEAP will be by your side to provide ongoing customer support and education to make the experience as streamlined as possible. Join now by visiting the [website](#) and help make Loudoun solar. Loudoun's clean energy future starts with your roof!

Leesburg District | 1 Harrison St, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20175

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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