

All About Algonkian



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In this Issue

Bike-to-work Day

State of the County

NVRC to Conduct
Equity Study of the
Potomac Heritage
National Scenic Trail

Youth Movement
Exhibition

Public Hearing on
Metrorail Bicycle
and Pedestrian
Improvements

EQOLS Group to
Offer Citizenship
Class

Q & A with Planning
Commissioner Jane
Kirchner

LSCO Racing
Prevention Initiative

Thank You
Cascades Library



So much has been happening around the county and in Algonkian! Over the last two weeks I had the pleasure to visit the Sugarland Learning Academy and the Countryside Animal Clinic for Small Business Week, to learn about the benefits and challenges of operating a small business in Loudoun. Both businesses have fortunately weathered COVID - the Learning Academy

through the Business Interruption Funds distributed by the county and Countryside Animal Clinic through the adoption of COVID puppies. Not only were these visits fun (check out the baby goat pictures below and on Facebook), but interacting with local business owners allows me to keep my ear to the ground in our district.

I was proud to co-sponsor our Resolution on D.C. Statehood last week with Chairwoman Phyllis Randall with whom I serve on the Metro Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG). Our region is connected in a myriad of ways. It is imperative for the health and economic prosperity of our region that our neighbors in D.C. attain the full privileges of citizenship. Read the [resolution](#).

Here's What's
Happening With
Traffic Around
Algonkian

Loudoun Workforce
Resource Center
Offers LinkedIn
Learning
Opportunity

Update from
Algonkian Planning
Commissioner Jane
Kirchner

Regional
Homelessness
Update

Adult Mental Health
First Aid Trainings

State and Local
COVID-19 Trends

COVID-19
Restrictions End
Today

Free COVID-19
Testing Events
through June

Busting COVID
Myths

V-safe Now
Available for
Adolescents

I am excited to be participating in two ad hoc committees. I will be chairing the Committee on Advisory Boards, Commissions and Committees, (which could not sound wonkier if we tried) to understand how we best utilize our committees. The committee will explore whether we should fund certain bodies and their work and examine the county's reliance on committees that set the policies that impacts their own businesses. Second, I am very much looking forward to participating in the MWCOG Board of Director's Racial Equity Training Task Force, which had its first meeting this week. This committee will advise COG's Chief Officers' committee on matters of racial equity.

In development news, demolition of the Regal Theater is slated to commence within two months, or maybe sooner. The developers think they will start construction on the new Sterling Meadow homes soon thereafter.

The Algonkian survey closes Friday, May 28th. Please take a few minutes to share your opinion. Stay tuned for information on my social media platforms about happenings around the county, including the June 22nd town hall on the newly created Environmental Commission.

If you haven't already, please follow my office on Twitter and Facebook and share images and positive stories to include on our social media.



Happy Spring,

Juli

Finn, the baby goat (Countryside Animal Clinic)

BOS Meetings

Check out the

BOS Calendar for upcoming meetings

Want to speak?
Visit the county web page for information.

QUICK TIPS

Can't find time to get to DMV? No problem. They will come to you with DMV2Go!!!

Apply for or renew your ID or driver's license, take road and knowledge tests and much more.

Check the DMV2Go calendar for upcoming dates and locations

Loudoun County
Health
Department
hotline
(703) 737-8300

SCAMS

IRS Issues Warning about
Coronavirus-Related Scams;
Watch Out for
Schemes Tied to



Bike-to-Work Day

We could not have had a better to Bike-to-Work Day. This event, sponsored by Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclists Association took place last Friday and I enjoyed a gorgeous 10-mile ride from the Sterling Ruritan Club to Leesburg. County staff provided wonderful support. I look forward to when we can participate in the event without any COVID Restrictions and to a day that I can safely bike from Algonkian District to the W&OD, without needing my car.



Me with Ashburn Supervisor Mike Turner

Economic Impact Payments

The Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task Force and Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations are warning taxpayers to be alert about possible scams relating to COVID-19 economic impact payments.

Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task Force

Eastern Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Coordinator,
Assistant U.S. Attorney Email Kaitlin F. Cooke or 804-819-5416.

To report fraudulent activity to the Virginia State Police, Virginians can Email Virginia Fusion Center.

To report a COVID-19 fraud scheme or suspicious activity, contact the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) by calling the NCDF Hotline at 1-866-720-5721 or send an email.



Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) employee Judy Galen passes out t-shirts to participants



Me with DTCI division manager Scott Gross

State of the County

On Wednesday, Chairwoman Randall delivered a stirring State of the County address. She touched on many of the issues that have impacted our lives over the past year, including the pandemic and this county's long overdue racial reckoning. She gave heartfelt thanks to and recognized hardworking county employees and featured many talented young Loudoun residents, including "Algonkian's Got Talent" winner, Caroline Taylor, who sang the National Anthem.



**VIRGINIA'S
HEALTH
IS IN YOUR
HANDS.**
Do your part,
stay at home.

If you missed this inspirational event, you can view it on the county's [Facebook page](#).



Algonkian's Got Talent Winner, Caroline Taylor



Me and Chairwoman Randall



NVRC to Study Equity of PHT

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is pleased to announce the kick-off of a community impact assessment of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) in Northern

Virginia that includes an assessment of health equity, social equity, transportation, and economic impacts of improving trail access, closing trail gaps, and making safe connections to nearby communities. The objective of the study is to assess the public health and community-related impacts associated with use of the trail and to provide recommendations to maximize those impacts and help justify the investment of public funds to complete and sustain the trail.

You can find information, updates, and subscribe to PHNST updates [here](#).



Youth Movement Exhibition

Beginning June 2, residents can view the Youth Movement Art Exhibition at the Loudoun County Government Center. Thank you to those at [INMED USA](#) who helped put together this display.

Public Hearing on Metrorail Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will hold a virtual design public hearing Thursday, May 27th at 6:30 pm on plans to construct missing segments in the bicycle and pedestrian network within two miles of the future



Loudoun Gateway (Route 606) and Ashburn Metrorail stations. You can find more information on locations or register [here](#). To participate without registering in listen-only mode, call 877-309-2071 (use access code 493-233-610). The project team will make a short presentation beginning at 6:30 pm and answer questions for an hour after the presentation.

You can also provide comments by e-mail to meetingcomments@vdot.virginia.gov, leave a voicemail at 703-584-0479 or mail comments to Mr. Zamir Mirza, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.



Vice Chair Koran Saines and I checking out the new hybrid bus for Parks, Recreation and Community Services

= EQOLS =

EQOLS Offers Citizenship Class

In partnership with Loudoun County Public Library, the EQOLS Group will be offering an online U.S. citizenship class in June. Topics covered include eligibility, filling out an application, immigration officer interviews, and civics test questions. Classes begin Wednesday, June 23 with a maximum of 12 students.

Materials: Citizenship workbook with application available at Loudoun County Public Library branches. Supplies limited. Please call to reserve a copy.

For the Zoom link, more information, and to pick up the workbook, please email eqols411@gmail.com.



Q & A with Planning Commissioner Jane Kirchner

Each month we will feature an Algonkian appointee to one of Loudoun's citizen advisory bodies. For May, we are featuring Jane Kirchner. Jane serves as the Algonkian representative on the Planning Commission. Her appointment began in January 2020. You can also read her Planning Commission update later in the newsletter.

Why are you interested in serving on the Planning Commission?

I care very much about my community, the people who live here and the health of our natural world. I would like to help in the work to ensure the Algonkian District is a great place to live. I have lived in Loudoun County for 20 years and understand the intended and unintended impacts our land use decisions can have on establishing healthy communities where people truly feel connected; protecting/restoring abundant, accessible and sustainable natural landscapes; providing safe and balanced transportation options, including trails and walking/biking paths; ensuring community and commercial spaces are places where individuals and families can thrive; and responsible development.

What kind of professional work have you done that relates to your work on the Planning Commission?

I've worked in local, national and international marketing for over twenty years with a special focus on national digital advocacy campaigns to address and find solutions around climate change, land protection, water pollution, restoration of native landscapes and declining wildlife issues. My work has also included raising visibility of conservation issues with voters and elected officials at all levels of government and providing easy ways for everyday citizens to do something about issues they care about.

Have you been involved with any organizations within the community?

As a member of the Loudoun County Master Gardeners since 2012, I have provided public gardening presentations and helped maintain the Leesburg demonstration garden. I am also a member of Plant NOVA Natives to encourage independent local nurseries to increase sales and promotion of plants native to Northern Virginia as well as help community members plant native flora. Lastly, I Chair the Cascades HOA Community Beautification Committee where I've championed the use of native plants in community landscapes and transitioning to a no-chemical turf management program.

What particular goals would you most like to see the County achieve?

1) The restoration and protection of natural landscapes and waterways in the Algonkian District and all of Loudoun's suburban neighborhoods.

2) Achieve cost-effective sustainability measures in existing built communities - including minimizing non-renewable energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, water conservation, reduction of noise and light pollution, recycling and use of sustainable materials, elimination of heat islands, native plant landscaping, and expanded walking and biking networks.

What projects have you been working on that you are especially proud of?

Planning Commission work to ensure development proposals respect the needs of current residents and are held to a higher standard of environmental protection and restoration.

Racing Prevention Initiative



Sheriff's Office Launches Racing Prevention Initiative

Over the past five months, the LCSO and my office have received numerous concerns from residents regarding speeding, racing and the use of altered mufflers in portions of Loudoun County. Street racing on public roadways has become a issue not only in the region, but on the national level during the pandemic. This activity presents safety concerns on our roadways for drivers and passengers alike. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office has been closely monitoring racing activity and has responded.

Since November 2020, LCSO has issued 700 citations and more than 100 warnings issued surrounding street racing operations. These operations have also resulted in arrests, and the impoundment of several vehicles.

Monitoring and enforcement is ongoing.



Thank You Cascades Library

Thank you to Cascades Library for providing a space for the AARP Tax Aide staff! Although Cascades was under many restrictions this year brought on by the

COVID pandemic, AARP was able to complete and submit more than 312 Federal and State tax returns between February to May. The staff at Cascades, as always, were most accommodating and helpful to ensure AARP could safely work at the Library. The success of getting this tax season up and running was truly a team effort.



Here's What's Happening with Traffic Around Algonkian

VDOT has provided updates to several transportation projects throughout Algonkian:

Riverside Parkway

- Construction continues with completion of fine grading, base, and intermediate paving.
- Installation of stormwater management and placement of topsoil and seeding continues.
- The majority of the sidewalk and median are complete and construction of the shared use path has begun.
- Remediation work on Segment 2 (old Lexington Road) is underway.

Algonkian Parkway and Lowes Island Boulevard Intersection Improvements

- Project maps are anticipated to be submitted to Loudoun's Department of Building & Development within the next few weeks.
- The signal modification plan has been approved by VDOT.

George Washington Boulevard Overpass

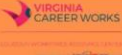
- The proposed contract has been approved continues and the project remains on schedule to accept bidding in June 2021.

Free Access to LinkedIn Learning

Upgrade Your Job Skills!

The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center offers free access to thousands of online courses from LinkedIn Learning.





loudoun.gov/wrc



Loudoun Workforce Resource Center Offers LinkedIn Learning Opportunity

Loudoun County job seekers, as well as current workers seeking to upgrade skills, will have access to free training offered by LinkedIn Learning through a new program available from the Loudoun County Workforce Resource Center.

LinkedIn Learning offers more than 10,000 online courses and certifications that will assist them as they seek a career path. 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.

The program is part of an initiative of the Virginia Career Works Northern Region. The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center is a Virginia Career Works affiliate. 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 email.



Planning Commissioner Update

By Jane Kirschner

A proposal will be reviewed by the Planning Commission for additions and conversion of areas at Bles Park, which is in our district on the Potomac River near University Center. The photo above shows the proposed additions for the 132-acre park. An initial budget of \$3,425,000 would cover additional parking spaces, safety netting, an updated playground with new equipment, a picnic pavilion, and a kayak/canoe launch. You can contact me, your Algonkian District Planning Commissioner, at Jane.Kirschner@loudoun.gov with any comments or questions. You can also submit a comment via the county online land applications site <https://www.loudoun.gov/3362/LOLA>, enter Application Number "SPEX-2019-0037" on the searchable list.

HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Results and Analysis from the Annual Point-in-Time (PIT)
Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

May 2021



LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA

Learn more at
loudoun.gov/PointInTime



Homelessness Lowest Ever Recorded

According to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' May 2021 Homelessness in Metropolitan Washington: Results and Analysis from the Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness report, the number of persons experiencing homelessness in the region is the lowest ever recorded. In Loudoun County alone, the number of persons experiencing homelessness has decreased by 29% in the last five years.

Data from Loudoun County is part of a regional analysis by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee. Concerned by the lack of regional data available, COG undertook the first effort to produce a Point-in-Time count of homeless adults and children in metropolitan Washington in 2001. Learn more at mwkog.org/homelessnessreport.

Mental Health First Aid

Gain a better understanding of mental illness
through this free virtual training.

Adult Mental Health: June 8 & 9

1:00 - 400 p.m. each day

Registration deadline: May 28, 2021.



Find details and register:
loudoun.gov/mhfirstaid



Loudoun Schedules Adult Mental Health First Aid Trainings

Anyone interested in having a better understanding of mental illness is encouraged to sign up for the next Adult Mental Health First Aid training offered by Loudoun County.

The free classes cover:

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness.
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use.
- How to interact with a person in crisis.
- How to connect the person with help.
- Information on trauma, addiction and self-care.

Find details at loudoun.gov/mhfirstaid.

COVID-19 Update

COVID19 NUMBERS

 Positive Cases  Hospitalizations  Deaths  Total Shots

VIRGINIA



674,843



29,683



11,156



8,082,422

LOUDOUN



27,916



1,070



278



404,621

State and Local COVID-19 Trends

According to Loudoun's May 26 COVID-19 Summary Report, the County's seven-day test positivity rate is 1.9 percent (down 0.2 percent since last report). At the state level, Virginia has experienced a decrease in its seven-day moving average of cases since May 20 where it stood at 370. More information about COVID-19 from the Virginia Department of Health can be accessed [here](#).

According to LCPS's case data, total number of cases per 100,000 people has lowered to the "moderate risk" level while the test positivity rate has declined to a state of "low risk." You can access COVID-19 data from LCPS by clicking [here](#).

The Loudoun County COVID-19 data dashboard can be accessed by clicking this [link](#).



COVID-19 Restrictions End Today

Earlier this month, Governor Northam announced that Virginia will ease all distancing and capacity restrictions on Friday, May 28, two weeks earlier than planned.

Anyone who is not yet vaccinated should wear masks in all settings. Masks are still required in K-12 settings, given low rates of vaccination among children. The federal government continues to require masks on public transportation, including buses, trains, and airplanes.

The state of emergency in Virginia will remain in place at least through June 30 to provide flexibility for local government and support ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Governor Northam will take executive action to ensure individuals have the option to wear masks up to and after that date.

COVID-19 TESTING

June 2021

Multiple Locations

Tuesdays
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Drive-thru only. Free & open to everyone.

LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA

loudoun.gov/COVID19testing

Loudoun County Schedules Free COVID-19 Testing Events through June

Loudoun County will continue to hold free, drive-thru COVID-19 testing events through June. The events are scheduled for Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at the following locations:

- June 1: Ray Muth Sr. Memorial Park, 20971 Marblehead Drive, Ashburn.

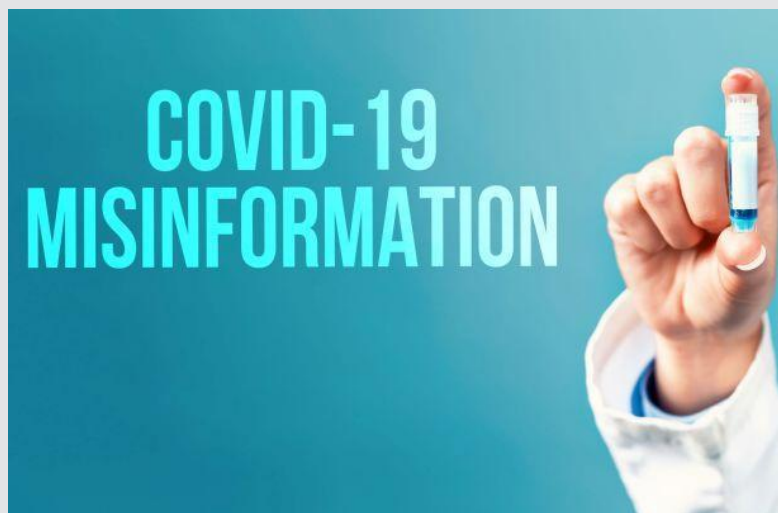
- June 8: Franklin Park, 17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville (Follow signs to the baseball field parking lot.)
- June 15: Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park, 42405 Claudia Drive, Leesburg (Enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road.)
- June 22: Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls (Access the testing location in the back parking lot, near the senior center.)
- June 29: Dulles South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding

Registration Form

To help reduce wait times, people who plan to attend the testing events are strongly encouraged to complete the required registration form for each person who will be receiving a test prior to arriving at the testing site.

- Registration Form: [English \(PDF\)](#) | [Spanish \(PDF\)](#)

Or at loudoun.gov/COVID19testing.



Busting Myths About COVID-19 Vaccines

Health officials are enlisting members of the public to help fight misinformation and myths about COVID-19 vaccines. Key facts to know about the vaccines:

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- You may have side effects after vaccination. These are normal and should go away in a few days.
- You are not fully vaccinated until two weeks after the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or two weeks after a one-dose vaccine.
- People who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic.
- It's easy to make an appointment: To get vaccinated, [schedule an appointment with the Loudoun County Health Department](#) or visit vaccinate.virginia.gov or call 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682).
- Learn more from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Myths and Facts About COVID-19 Vaccines](#).
- Fight misinformation with a [Mythbusters Toolkit](#) of flyers, social media banners and more from the Virginia Department of Health.



V-safe Now Available for Adolescents

V-safe is the smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Parents and guardians can now enroll adolescents (ages 12 and older) in v-safe and complete health

check-ins on their behalf after they receive a COVID-19 vaccination. All adolescents in the family who are eligible to be vaccinated can be enrolled in v-safe.

- Through v-safe, you can quickly tell the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from the CDC may call to check on you and get more information. V-safe is available in English, Korean, simplified Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- [Read more about the tool from the CDC.](#)

Please share any messages of hope you see.
Submissions may be sent to Zachary Harris at
zachary.harris@loudoun.gov and we'll share them in
our updates and newsletter.

Like us on Facebook and Twitter



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[Email Supervisor Briskman](#)

Want to see someone you know or an Algonkian event featured?
[Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](#)

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