

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I would like to give thanks to all of you for making Leesburg the wonderful place it is.

## Toys for Tots

The Toys for Tots campaign has started! Our local Marine Corps League is kindly requesting support through monetary donations so that volunteers can purchase the toys directly from local stores with minimal handling, while still providing toys to children in need. In 2020, Toys for Tots distributed 8,313 toys and supported 6,372 children. Please consider making a [donation](#) today. Thank you!

## Unveiling of the New WWI Plaque



VFW 1177 Post Commander Ray Delpesche (foreground) stands by the new, integrated WWI plaque at the Veterans Day rededication ceremony.

On November 11th, Veterans Day, members of Leesburg's VFW Post 1177 and American Legion Post 34 and members of the Leesburg and Loudoun communities rededicated Loudoun's WWI memorial with a new plaque. Unlike the original 1921 plaque, which relegated the Black soldiers to a lower, separate section, the new plaque contains an integrated list of all 30 veterans from Loudoun County who died during their service in the war. Among those attending the rededication were descendants of the Black Loudoun residents who fought and died for our country. When the original plaque was installed during the Jim Crowe era, the families of the Black veterans had to stand at the back of those in attendance. At this Veterans Day ceremony, the descendants of these families stood in front of the memorial.

In attendance, representing the County, were Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall, Vice-Chair Koran Saines, and Supervisors Juli Briskman, Sylvia Glass, Mike Turner and Kristen Umstattd. Representing the Town of Leesburg were Mayor Kelly Burk and Council member Neil Steinberg. Also in attendance were Sheriff Mike Chapman and Commonwealth's Attorney Buta Biberaj.

## Volunteers at JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary



Our Leesburg residents and businesses are big on volunteering. I spent the afternoon Monday at JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary near Lucketts with Gerco Hoogeweg of Leesburg-based [Waterborne Environmental, Inc.](#), and Michael Myers of Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy.

The JK Black Oak sanctuary has over 80 acres under a conservation easement, thanks to a partnership between Chuck Kuhn of JK Moving, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, and The Nature Conservancy. The property hosts several vernal pools that are home to fairy shrimp, salamanders, wood frogs and spring peepers. The property hosts deer, bald eagles, wild turkeys, great horned owls, barn owls, screech owls, mink, raccoons, coyotes and scores of birds, and butterflies in the summer. Although the sanctuary is not currently open to the public at large, volunteers are able to enter, and there are plenty of [volunteer opportunities](#) for those wanting to spend time enjoying wildlife just a few miles north of Leesburg.

## Union Street School

Loudoun County is soliciting proposals for the Union Street School resident curator program (RCP). The two-story Union Street School, located at 20 Union Street, NW in Leesburg, is the first County property to be included in the RCP. A curator can be a private citizen, a nonprofit entity, or a for-profit entity. The proposed rehabilitation must

meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and the curator must provide "reasonable public access" to the property.

Curators will be determined through an open and competitive process based on several criteria, including a commitment to the management and maintenance of the historic property, a use that is compatible with the nature of the property, and the resources, skills and financial capabilities necessary to carry out the proposed curatorship. The deadline for submitting proposals for the Union Street School property is January 24, 2022. To learn more, please visit the [project website](#).

## White's Ferry Study



At the November 16th Board business meeting, the Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure presented the results of the [White's Ferry Operations Alternative Study](#), which was conducted jointly with Montgomery County, Maryland. The study evaluated the short-term and long-term improvements for resuming ferry service between the two counties, economic impact, and potential operating scenarios.

On December 28, 2020, the White's Ferry service ceased operations due to a broken cable and a dispute between the (now former) ferry owner and the owner of the Virginia landing. Started in 1786, the historic White's Ferry is the last working ferry to operate on the Potomac River transporting between 600 and 800 vehicles per day.

### [Short term improvements](#)

The study estimated that restarting the ferry service would require minimal low-cost actions. These include inspecting the existing vessel to confirm its seaworthiness, hiring staff and restringing the ferry cable.

### [Long term improvements](#)

The study identified the following enhancements for the sustainability of the ferry in the future:



- Infrastructure changes such as road widths and shoulders on the access roads leading to White's Ferry and more space for parking and vehicles that are waiting for the ferry;
- Operational changes to meet projected future demand from commuters (previous ferry services only delivered two round trips per hour) such as improvements in staffing, fare collection, lighting, and vessel capacity.

Additionally, the study indicated that the existing ferry would need to be replaced in the next decade.

### Economic Impact

Impacts of resuming ferry operations include travel time savings, travel cost savings, safety savings, the value of emissions avoided, and the value of trips not taken.

- Under the restore ferry service alternative, total impacts are estimated to be a little over \$9 million in 2023 and \$13 million in 2040.
- Under the enhance ferry service alternative, total impacts are estimated to be approximately \$9 million in 2023 and \$24 million in 2040.

### Operating Scenarios

The operating scenarios include private operator/private landowners, private operator/public landowners, and public operator/public landowners. A fully public operation would incur more operating expenses than a private or public/ private operation. While the study did not recommend a preferred path towards resolving the operator/landowner relationship, successful resolution is an outstanding issue.

This was an information item so no action was taken at the business meeting.

## Zoning Ordinance Rewrite

At the November 16th Board business meeting, we adopted the [Resolution of Intent to Amend](#) the Revised 1993 Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance. I raised the concern from the Leesburg Airport Commission about potential changes to the Airport Overlay District. Staff will research and report back to the Board the status of the one-mile buffer notification around Leesburg Executive Airport.

Next steps in the zoning ordinance rewrite process include a general public open house for review and comment; a 90-day public review period for the first draft; review and recommendations by the Planning Commission; and, finally, adoption by the Board in late 2022. You can stay informed about the progress by visiting the project [website](#).

## Confederate and Segregationist Symbols

At the November 3rd Board business meeting, we made the following motions to address the inventory of existing public roads and facilities named after Confederate and segregationist symbols.

1. Initiate the renaming of Jeb Stuart Road and Fort Johnston Road.
2. Coordinate with the Town of Round Hill to rename roads in the Hillwood Estates subdivision.

3. Draft amendments to the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County to prohibit Confederate and segregationist road names and authorize the Director of the Office of Mapping and Geographic Information to rename any such road names and notify the Board prior to taking such action.

In the New Year, there will be a public hearing about the proposed amendments to the Codified Ordinances.

The Town of Leesburg has its own naming standard process and will not be impacted by this ordinance. The process to identify potential new names for Kephart's Bridge Landing near Leesburg is in a separate item. There is also a separate renaming process for Harry Bird Highway (Route 7) and John Mosby Highway (Route 50), and final name recommendations will be discussed at the December 7th Board business meeting. To assist business owners impacted by the Route 7 and Route 50 name changes, a potential grant program is being explored. This program will be expanded to include businesses affected by the road name changes identified in this item.

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Warm Regards,

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**Business of the Month**  
**Loudoun Habitat for Humanity**



**Loudoun Habitat for Humanity** does more than build houses. It partners with homebuyers, volunteers, donors, businesses and community organizations to transform lives and rebuild communities. Houses are sold at an affordable, no-profit rate to qualified home buyers who earn 30% to 60% of the area median income. They complete volunteer hours (sweat equity) and attend classes to learn the skills needed to successfully own and maintain a home for the rest of their lives. These individual homeowners become part of a larger group that works to bring change and new life to communities. Through community planning and neighborhood engagement, Loudoun Habitat encourages the growth of healthy communities throughout Loudoun County.



## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

The Town of Leesburg will hold this year's holiday tree lighting ceremony on the Town Green (25 W Market Street), on Friday, December 3rd at 6 pm. The event will feature holiday songs by the Lost Locals, a visit from Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Reindeer, along with a special message from me. During the event, W. Market Street will be closed from Wirt to King streets. Traffic exiting the Town Hall parking garage will be allowed to go east on W. Market Street or exit on Loudoun Street. This event is free and open to the public. It will also be broadcasted live on the Town's Facebook page. For more information about this event and others, visit the [Holidays in Leesburg website](#).



The 31st Annual Holiday Fine Arts & Crafts show at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center is December 4th and 5th. Show hours are 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Fine arts and crafts exhibitors will be selling their handcrafted items in the basketball courts, hallway, group fitness room and lower level. Local and regional artisans will be selling hand-made items including candles, glass items, carved wood, jewelry, seasonal décor, table linens, and more. Admission to the show and parking is free. Face masks are required for entrance. For more information, call Ida Lee Park Recreation Center at 703-777-1368 or visit [here](#).

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The annual Christmas and Holiday parade is Saturday, December 11th. To prepare, King Street will be closed to vehicular traffic at 5:30 pm from Battlefield Parkway to Catoctin Circle. The parade will begin at 6 pm and usher Santa and his friends down King Street, through the heart of historic Leesburg. The parade will begin at Ida Lee Drive and end at Fairfax Street. Parade participation is open to the public, including businesses, civic groups, teams, organizations, and community groups. A registration form can be found [online](#) or can be filled out, in person, at Ida Lee Recreation Center.

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The Town of Leesburg's Economic Development Department is encouraging everyone to shop local this holiday season. According to the Small Business Administration, \$48 of every \$100 spent at a small business stays in the local economy. When you spend the same \$100 at a national retailer the amount is only \$14. By completing your shopping list at small, independently owned businesses, you are also helping business owners provide local employment opportunities. For more information on local shopping destinations, please visit [here](#).





The Town Hall parking garage will be free to park in as Leesburg continues its tradition of free parking throughout the holiday season. The Church Street parking lot and on-street parking meters, located in the historic downtown, will also be free. There will be a two-hour limit in the Church Street parking lot and at on-street meters on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be no time limit in the Town Hall parking garage or on weekends, evenings, and holidays. Regular parking rates will resume on Monday, January 3, 2022, beginning at 8 am.

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The Salvation Army kicked off its Red Kettle campaign and I challenge each and every one of you to make this year's collection one of their largest. Funds raised will help to sustain local programming that serves Loudoun County communities throughout the year. To donate, please visit this [website](#).

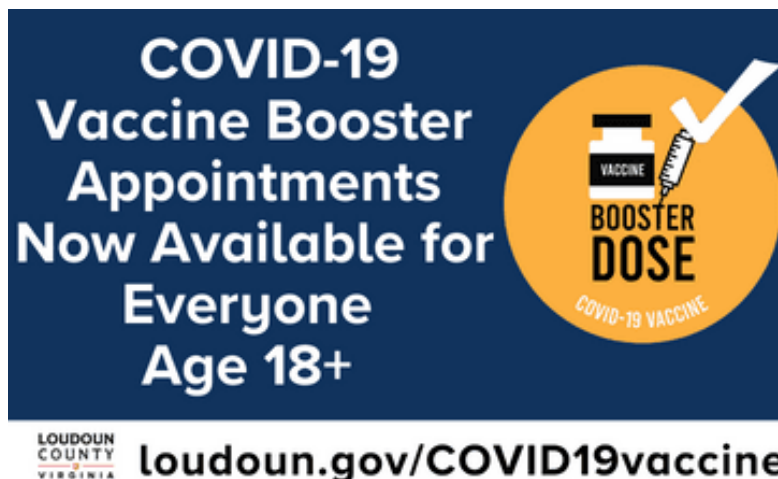


## Community Information



**COVID-19 Booster Shots Available to all Adults:** Individuals who are 18 and older and received their second dose in the two-dose series of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago are eligible for the booster. People who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine at least two months ago are also recommended to receive a booster dose.

To make an appointment online for a COVID-19 vaccine at the county's Dulles Town Center site, visit [here](#). Anyone without internet access or who needs assistance making an appointment can call the county information line at 703-737-8300 weekdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. It is also widely available in the community from many providers, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans. Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a vaccination site near you.



**COVID-19 Vaccination for Children Ages 5 to 11:** The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11 is available at the Dulles Town Center. Please visit [here](#) to make an appointment. Additional vaccination opportunities from other providers, such as

pediatricians' offices and pharmacies, are also available. Find vaccination appointments from any provider at [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov).

The Pfizer vaccine that will be used for 5- to-11-year-olds is an age-appropriate dose that is one-third of the adult dose. A second shot of the Pfizer vaccine is needed three weeks after the first shot to complete the vaccination series.



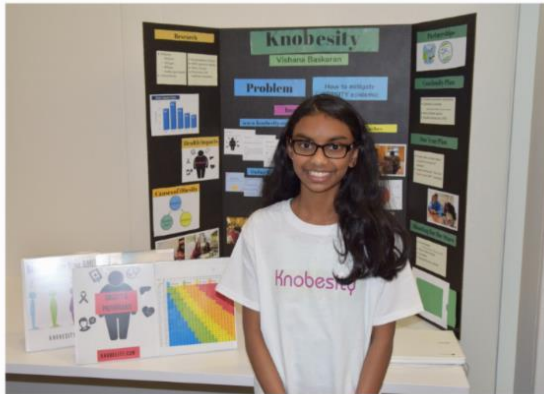
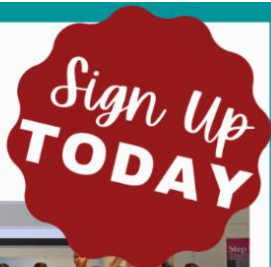
**New Location for the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center:** The center has moved to the AutoZone Shopping Center, 705 E Market Street, Suite E, in Leesburg. The center's hours are:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm.
- Wednesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

The mission of the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center is to connect businesses and job seekers to achieve their employment goals. Visit the center [online](#) for additional information.



PRESENTED BY:



## 2021-22 STEP UP LOUDOUN YOUTH COMPETITION

Empowering all students to make meaningful contributions  
to their community or to the world around them.

LEARN MORE AT [LOUDOUNYOUTH.ORG](https://LOUDOUNYOUTH.ORG)

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

\$25 PER PARTICIPANT

### REGISTRATION CLOSING DECEMBER 17!

Working as a team or individually, middle and high school youth across the county are encouraged to identify an issue of their choice and share their project during the Step Up Loudoun Youth Competition and win \$\$ for their hard work.

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