

# Hello, Loudoun

I attended a forum on the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Unlike CARES Act funds, the uses of ARPA money are more malleable and comes directly to Counties. ARPA funds can be used for COVID mitigation and broadband infrastructure. At the Board business meeting today, I will give you an update. As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your County Chair.

# National Association of Counties EMLN to Convene in Loudoun

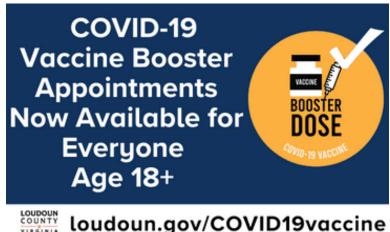
For the first time, Loudoun County will host the <u>National Association of Counties</u> (NACo) Economic Mobility Leadership Network (EMLN) December 7th - 9th. The EMLN was established to examine the range of complicated issues that compromise economic mobility, including the dearth of attainable housing, food insecurity, and an overall lack of opportunity. Starting today, Loudoun County will welcome a network of 20 hand-selected elected leaders from a cross-section of urban (50%), suburban (20%), and rural (30%) communities.

I am pleased that Loudoun County will host EMLN. This week, representatives from Loudoun County government, small businesses, and non-profits will have the opportunity to share the Loudoun County story of resilience.

### **COVID-19 Booster Available for 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 already 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 <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. 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. In addition, COVID-19 vaccine is 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 to find a vaccination site near you.



toudoun.gov/COVID13Vaccine

# **COVID-19 Vaccination Available for Ages 5-11**

COVID-19 vaccinations for children ages 5 to 11 are now widely available throughout Loudoun County. The County's Dulles Town Center clinic has vaccination appointments for children in this age group. Please visit **here** to make an appointment. Additional vaccination opportunities are available from other providers, such as pediatricians' offices and pharmacies. Find vaccination appointments from any provider at **vaccines.gov**.

The Pfizer vaccine that will be used for 5- to-11-year-olds has the same active ingredient as that given to millions of adolescents and adults over the past year, but will be one-third the dose.





# **Union Street School Resident Curator**

Loudoun County is soliciting proposals from private citizens, nonprofit entities or for-profit entities to serve as a resident curator for the historic Union Street School property under the terms of the County's Resident Curator Program (RCP). The RCP is designed to reduce the public costs associated with the care and preservation of historic properties by enabling groups or individuals to take over those responsibilities, while providing periodic public access to the properties.

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**.



# Village of St. Louis

The Kuhn family has put a contract on 25 acres in the historic Village of St. Louis, one of the first African American townships in Loudoun County. A developer, Mojax LLC, proposed 30 lots on most of this property called Middleburg Preserve.

If the purchase proceeds, the Kuhns intend to place the property in conservation easement to protect it from future residential development. Conserving the land will ensure that multigenerational families can afford to stay in their homes since a new development would undoubtedly raise their property values. Neighboring residents were concerned about the development's impact on water supply and quality. In addition to water concerns, residents wanted to protect the cemetery on the property. County staff believe there are more unmarked graves than the 23 that an archaeological survey identified.

I am so grateful for everything that the Kuhn family has done over the years to protect acres of vulnerable land and preserve Loudoun's important history.

## **New Lucketts Fire and Rescue Station**

On November 4th, we celebrated the Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremony for the new fire and rescue station in Lucketts. The Lucketts Fire and Rescue Station is located at 42429 Lucketts Road on a 14-acre parcel immediately adjacent to the old Lucketts Volunteer Fire and Rescue Station, which was built in 1960. The new station is 18,000 square feet providing staff with a modern, safe, and functional facility that will allow for quick emergency response.

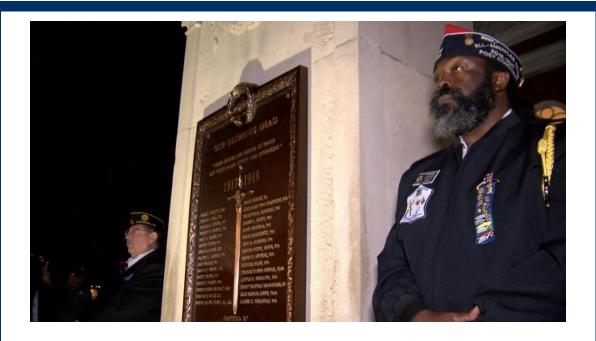
In lieu of a ribbon cutting, Fire and Rescue personnel and Supervisors Kershner and Glass joined me in a traditional "uncoupling ceremony" replacing the standard ribbon and scissors with two sections of fire hose.



## **Rededication of the WWI Memorial**

On Veteran's Day, I participated in a ceremony at the WWI memorial, located on the Loudoun County courthouse grounds, to unveil a new plaque containing an integrated list of all veterans from Loudoun County who died during their service in the war.

The memorial bears a plaque with the names of thirty Loudoun County service members who fought and died in WWI. When the memorial was erected in 1921, during the "Jim Crow" era, the names were segregated according to race, with the names of three black service members listed below two dividing lines that separated them from the names of the white service members. The new plaque is identical to the original, but integrates, in alphabetical order, the names of those who served. Thank you to Supervisor Turner for leading this initiative and Raymond Delpesche and Philip Rusciolelli of VFW Post 1177 who are pictured below.



### Contact Us

### Sincerely,

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### **Board Business**

White's Ferry Study: At the November 16th Board business meeting, the <u>study of</u> White's Ferry operations that was conducted jointly with Montgomery County, Maryland was presented. The study evaluated the short- and long-term improvements to restore and enhance ferry service, economic impact, and options for resumption of operations.

Prior to closing, White's Ferry transported approximately 600 to 800 vehicles per day across the river and connected bicyclists and pedestrians between the two counties. White's Ferry ceased operations on December 28, 2020, following a broken ferry cable and a Circuit Court opinion in a private lawsuit over the use of private land for the ferry landing in Virginia.

#### **Facility Improvements**

In the short term, 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.

In the long term, changes in infrastructure, including improvements in staffing, roadway enhancements to support queuing vehicles, fare collection, lighting, and vessel capacity are needed to improve the system's capacity. Additionally, the study indicated that the existing ferry would need to be replaced in the next decade.

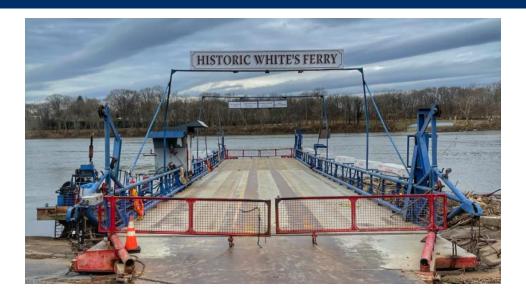
#### **Economic Impact**

Restoring the ferry service is estimated to save over \$1 million in travel time costs in 2023 and over \$1.7 million per year in travel time savings by 2040.

#### **Ownership/Operational Alternatives**

The ferry study reviewed resumption of operations assuming a number of operating and land ownership scenarios including private operator/private landowners; private ownership/public landowners and public operator/public landowners. A fully public operation would incur more operating expenses then a private or public/ private operation.

There has been a lot of misinformation about the White's Ferry issue. The Board is not talking about eminent domain. For the past year, I have been talking with the two parties to try and resolve this issue and reopen the ferry. At this point, I recommend the parties hire a professional mediator or neutral third party to reach an agreement. I hope the parties agree to mediation and come to a successful resolution soon.



Zoning Ordinance Rewrite: At the November 16th Board business meeting, we adopted the Resolution of Intent to Amend (ROIA) the Revised 1993 Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance. Adoption of a ROIA is a necessary step in revising the ordinance. Next steps in the process include review and recommendations by the Planning Commission; a general public open house for review and comment; a 90-day public review period for the first draft; and, finally, adoption by the Board in late 2022. Please visit the **project** website to receive updates.

<u>Confederate and Segregationist Symbols:</u> At the November 3rd Board business meeting, we approved the following motions regarding public roads and facilities named for Confederate and segregationist symbols.

- 1. Initiate renaming 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 an amendment to the Codified Ordinances to prohibit Confederate and segregationist road names and authorize the Director of the Office of Mapping and Geographic Information to initiate the renaming of existing street names that are in violation of the new naming standard and notify the Board prior to taking such action.

Having a name on a road or facility is an honor that should be reserved for a very select few. People who supported the enslavement of others, who raped, beat, and sold human beings have not earned the right to have their names enshrined in perpetuity on a road or facility. I am proud of the unanimous, bipartisan votes by my colleagues to right this wrong. This is a morally correct decision and sends the message that Loudoun is now and will continue to be a welcoming inclusive county.

Mount Sinai Cemetery and Church: At the November 3rd Board business meeting, I submitted a Board Member Initiative with my colleague Supervisor Kershner to explore options for the purchase/and or protection of the historic Mount Sinai Cemetery and Church property located in Lovettsville. Thank you to the Family and Friends of Mount Sinai Cemetery group who reached out to my office asking for help accessing the cemetery. The cemetery and church property has been abandoned for several years and is not maintained. The Family and Friends group would like to work with the County archeologist to survey the property using Ground Penetrating Radar to discover burials and document the history of the sacred ground.



# **Investing in Transit and Transportation**

<u>Substantial Completion of the Silver Line Phase 2:</u> The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, which manages construction of the Silver Line, announced last month that Metrorail construction from Wiehle Avenue to Ashburn has reached substantial completion. Substantial completion means major construction is complete and allows operational readiness testing to begin. It is expected people can begin riding Metro in Loudoun County beginning in the spring of 2022.

Development of the Metrorail Silver Line Extension project is a significant transportation capital improvement project for Loudoun County and the region. The Metrorail Silver Line Phase 2 project is the final 11.4 miles of the 23.1-mile Silver Line extension from East Falls Church to Washington Dulles International Airport with stops at the Loudoun Gateway and Ashburn stations. Once the Metro opens, members of the public can access three garages, one at the Loudoun Gateway station and two at the Ashburn station (North and South). The parking garages at Loudoun Gateway and Ashburn stations have nearly 5,000 total spaces.

Buddy Rizer, Executive Director of the Department of Economic Development, said "This is an exciting step toward reaching our vision for Rivana, Loudoun Station, Silver District West, Moorefield Station and the entire Dulles Technology Corridor."

Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting: The public is invited to a joint virtual meeting on Wednesday, December 15th with representatives from the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Virginia Railway Express, to learn more about the regional collaboration required to keep travelers in Northern Virginia moving.

Attendees must register <u>online</u>. The team of VDOT, DRPT, OIPI, NVTA, NVTC and VRE representatives will make a presentation beginning at 7 pm to highlight their transportation programs and regional collaboration and receive public comments about Virginia's transportation network.

Comments may also be submitted through January 7, 2022 via this <u>online comment</u> <u>form</u>, by voicemail to 703-721-8270, by <u>e-mail</u> (please reference "Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting" in the subject line) or by mail to Ms. Maria Sinner, VDOT, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.

# **Community Information**

<u>Loudoun Toys for Tots 2021:</u> The Toys for Tots season is underway! Rather than toy donations, the Marine Corps League is kindly requesting support through <u>monetary</u> <u>donations</u> to purchase the toys directly from local stores with minimal handling, while still providing toys to children in need. Organizations/businesses wishing to make a corporate donation by check, should <u>e-mail</u> and a W-9 form will be provided. Although this is a change from the usual Loudoun Toys for Tots program, the goal remains the same - to ensure that each child receives a new toy for Christmas. Thank you!

New Location for Loudoun Workforce Resource Center: The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center has reopened at its new location in the AutoZone Shopping Center, 705 E Market Street, Suite E, in Leesburg. The center provides no-cost resources and equipment to both job seekers and employers. The center's hours are:

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

<u>Human Service Nonprofit Grant Application:</u> Loudoun County's nonprofit grant application for community nonprofit organizations is due by 4:00 pm, December 21st. The amount of funding for FY 2023 will be determined by the Board as part of the County's

adopted FY 2023 budget. In FY 2022, the budget for human service nonprofit grant funding was \$1.8 million.

#### PRESENTED BY:

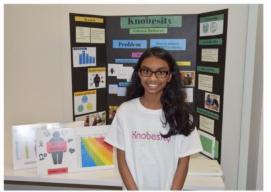
















### 2021-22 STEP UP LOUDOUN YOUTH

### COMPETITION

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

### LEARN MORE AT LOUDOUNYOUTH.ORG

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!** 

\$25 PER PARTICIPANT

#### **REGISTRATION CLOSES 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.

#### **SPONSORED BY:**



#### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:















Contact Us

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