

On Wednesday, May 24th at 6:00 pm in the Loudoun County Government Center Board Room, Chair Randall is hosting her last State of the County address for our 4 year term. If you would like to attend, please RSVP Ruth Immanuel at [ruth.immanuel@loudoun.gov](mailto:ruth.immanuel@loudoun.gov). I hope to see you there. Thank you!

### Launch Loudoun for Small Businesses

During Small Business Week, Loudoun County Economic Development is excited to announce a new signature program called Launch Loudoun focused on the support and growth of small and minority businesses. There are over 14,000 businesses in Loudoun County and over 87% have 20 or fewer employees. Women and minority-owned businesses nationwide and in Loudoun tend to face underlying issues that make it harder to run and scale successfully, and they are more likely to be concentrated in higher risk industries. Launch Loudoun will offer active support for long-term small business survival and growth.

The County approved \$450,000 in ARPA funds that will support the Launch Loudoun program focused on women-owned and minority-owned businesses. And soon we will be adding a minority-owned business specialist to help our businesses address challenges unique to them.

### Youth in Government Day



Youth in Government Day is an opportunity for local high school students to meet and speak with the Board and learn about the complexities that our officials are faced with when making decisions on behalf of local government and citizens. Students participated in workshops focusing on community building and leadership and had the opportunity to observe the business meeting on April 18th. I enjoyed meeting my student supervisor on the dais. Thank you to all of the students for participating in the program.

## **Leesburg Flower and Garden Festival**



The Leesburg Police Department performed safety patrols during the record attendance days of this annual festival. The team members answered questions from festival-goers, gave directions to motorists circumventing the event, and called in one personal injury from a fall. I thank them for their service.

## 2023 Valor Awards



Thank you to Chief Grigsby and MPO Winkler (pictured left) for their long service to the Town of Leesburg. They have always put our community first. Congratulations to all first responders recognized at the Loudoun Chamber's Valor Awards.

Congratulations to the staff at Heritage High School for winning 4 Valor Awards for saving the life of a staff member. Pictured right: Ashley Kolbas (left) and Alison Stephan, sitting, and Michael Krepinevich and Superintendent Daniel Smith.

## Data Center Volunteers



Data center employees fill bags of food for Backpack Buddies, a program in Loudoun that sends food home with students whose families can't always afford to buy it.



## Environmental Excellence Awards



At the April 18th Board business meeting, we presented the County's first environmental excellence awards. These awards recognize individuals and organizations who are contributing their time and effort to environmental issues. The theme of the awards for 2023 was litter prevention, education, and clean up. The environmental excellence awards are as follows:

- **Citizen or Community Group:** Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy's Stream Monitoring Program, led by Amy Ulland, implemented effective citizen monitoring and educational outreach to support stream health in the county. The team collected and shared water quality data in ways that both educated the public and supported government environmental decision making. •
- **Government Employee or Program/Team:** Michele Seib, from the Department of General Services' Stormwater Team, developed and implemented a constructed wetland that removes pollutants from stormwater runoff and provides a diverse habitat for wetland species. The project required innovative engineering and extensive outreach to residents.
- **Small Business:** Little Tree Huggers, led by Lia D. Johnson as the Founder and Director, is a bilingual, nature-based preschool dedicated to breaking down barriers to sustainability and inspiring children, their families, and local businesses to connect with nature, care for the environment, and celebrate the diversity of our multicultural world.
- **Student:** Eyasu Neale, a junior at Tuscarora High School, initiated a project to educate and inspire students to reduce waste from fast fashion practices. His project included creating an educational video and facilitating a Thrifted Fashion Show with student volunteers curating and modeling outfits from local thrift stores.

In addition to winners in established categories, the environmental excellence awards also includes lifetime achievement awards to recognize longtime Loudoun residents who have served the community for many years in an area of environmental stewardship. The lifetime achievement awards are as follows:

- Joe Coleman, a Founder of the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, has been an advocate for protection and restoration of wildlife habitat in the county for

several decades. He was a leading driver in establishment of the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, preservation of White's Ford Regional Park, and purchase of the JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary. He is also active in environmental education and citizen science related to birds, butterflies, and amphibians.

- Shirley Pearson, a volunteer with Keep Loudoun Beautiful, has worked for more than thirty years to get youth of the county invested in litter prevention and environmental preservation. Her work has included a partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools to conduct a poster and essay contest in schools for 19 years, recently reborn as video, to celebrate Earth Day and educate students. She is also a founding member of the Catoctin Garden Club, informing the community about native plants.

## Church Street Closure

# Loudoun County

VIRGINIA

**Beginning May 1, 2023**

## Courthouse Visitors: Free public parking available in the Pennington Parking Garage and lot.

Shuttle service to and from the Pennington Garage and Loudoun County Courthouse approximately every 10 minutes.

**Operating Hours:** Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



For shuttle service questions, contact Loudoun County Transit by phone at **877-465-2287** or **703-771-5665** or [transit@loudoun.gov](mailto:transit@loudoun.gov). A customer service representative is available to speak to callers Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Contact us:** 703-777-0100 | [publicaffairs@loudoun.gov](mailto:publicaffairs@loudoun.gov)

Beginning May 1st, a segment of Church Street, NE, from North Street to the Pennington Lot in Leesburg, will temporarily close while improvements along the road are constructed. As a result, vehicle and pedestrian access to the Pennington Lot and Pennington Garage will temporarily relocate to a different access point approximately 500 feet east at the

corner of North and Harrison Streets, NE. The Pennington Garage is the primary parking site for the Loudoun County Courthouse Complex.

Vehicles will access the Pennington Garage through a temporary entrance/exit located on the second floor of the garage. Pedestrians will enter and exit the garage at the same location using a pedestrian walkway. All motorists and pedestrians who use the Pennington Garage should follow all directional signage and are encouraged to use extra caution when entering and exiting the garage. The temporary street closure is expected to last approximately 4 to 6 weeks, weather permitting.

Due the closure of Church Street, the pick-up and drop-off location for the shuttle that runs between the Pennington Lot and the courthouse will also temporarily move to the corner of North and Harrison Streets, NE, at the end of the pedestrian walkway leading to and from the garage. Complimentary shuttle service between the Pennington Garage and the courthouse will continue to run approximately every 10 minutes, Monday - Friday 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.

### **Lafayette Trail Marker on the Courthouse Grounds**

A new marker is scheduled to be installed on the Loudoun County Courthouse Complex grounds later this year to honor the Marquis de Lafayette's contributions to the Revolutionary War and his stop in Loudoun during his farewell tour of the United States in 1825. At the April 18th business meeting, we approved the request by the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution (Virginia DAR).

Lafayette, a French aristocrat, came to the United States in 1777 to support the U.S. Continental Army. He served under the command of George Washington, eventually earning the rank of general. He also lobbied the French government for troops to aid the U.S. Continental Army. In 1825, Lafayette returned, touring all 24 states in 13 months. During his visit to Loudoun in August 1825, he met with former President James Monroe at his Oak Hill home. He was honored with a procession through downtown Leesburg that included Monroe and former President John Quincy Adams, followed by a grand banquet on the courthouse lawn. Lafayette also visited Temple Hall, north of Leesburg, and Belmont, on what is now Route 7.

Lafayette Trail Inc. will pay to fabricate and deliver the marker and the County will install it on a post near the "Spirit of Loudoun" Revolutionary War monument on the north side of the historic 1895 courthouse in Leesburg. The inscription on the marker will read "On August 9, 1825, General Lafayette, Revolutionary War Hero, was greeted by local officials and escorted to the courthouse for a dinner."

### **Short-Term Residential Rentals**



## Regulations Adopted for Short-Term Residential Rental Businesses

**Supervisors adopt  
amendments to the  
Zoning Ordinance &  
Codified Ordinances.**



**loudoun.gov/ShortTermRentals**

At the April 4th business meeting, we adopted a Zoning Ordinance Amendment (ZOAM) that will regulate short-term residential rental (STRR) uses in the County. STRR properties are those that are typically listed on websites, such as Airbnb and VRBO. Under the County's adopted ZOAM, STRR properties are defined as those available to rent for fewer than 30 consecutive days. Existing STRR businesses will have until September 30th to comply with the ZOAM's new regulations or submit the application needed to come into compliance.

In addition, on February 7th, we amended Loudoun's Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) to include STRR businesses. Beginning July 1, 2023, the levy and collection of the TOT on overnight stays in Loudoun County will be applied to lodging facilities that offer lodging or accommodations for compensation to one or more people. The TOT currently applies only to facilities that can accommodate four or more people at one time. In Loudoun, the TOT is levied at 8% of the total price charged to the customer for their stay. The tax collected is used to promote tourism and fund transportation.

More information about the regulations and registration requirements may be found [here](#).

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Warm Regards,

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## Business of the Month Visit Loudoun



The Loudoun Convention & Visitors Association (Visit Loudoun) is the destination management organization for Loudoun County and its incorporated towns. Visit Loudoun works with Loudoun's travel and tourism industry to generate visitor spending. The Visitors Center is located in downtown Leesburg in Market Station at the intersection of Loudoun Street and Harrison Street. Just follow the blue "Tourist Information" signs.



### Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

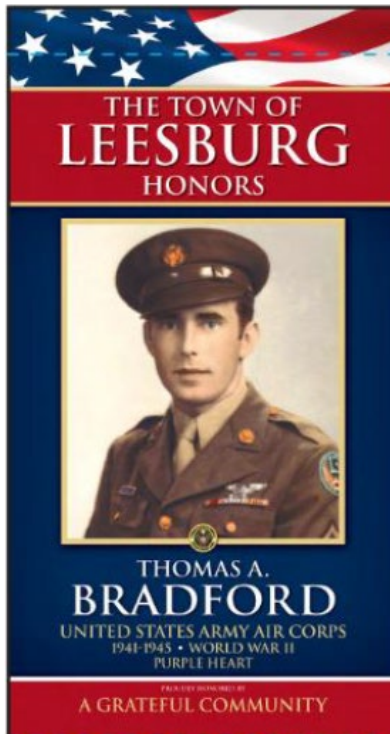
**State of the Town:** On Monday, May 15th, I will deliver my annual "State of the Town" address. I'll discuss recent accomplishments, current projects, and what to expect the remainder of the year. The event will take place in the Council Chambers at Leesburg Town Hall (25 West Market Street), beginning at 5:30 pm. The address will also be streamed live on the Town's Facebook page.

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**Extended Sidewalk Dining Returns:** The extended sidewalk dining program will return to downtown Leesburg on Friday, May 5th. South King Street, from Market to Loudoun streets, will temporarily close on Fridays to create separate outdoor dining areas for participating restaurants. Sidewalk dining hours will be 5 to 9 pm. The street closure will begin 30 minutes prior and reopen by 9:30 pm. Designated on-street parking spaces will be available for food delivery and pickup on East and West Market Street, adjacent to the King Street intersection. There will be no live performances or other outdoor entertainment, however, customers are encouraged to visit downtown shops while waiting to dine. Please note, sidewalk dining will not take place on May 26, June 30, August 11, or September 29. It will also be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.

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**Hometown Heros:** Thanks to our local leader Tammy Carter, who did all the research and advocacy, the Leesburg Town Council has voted to partner with the Loudoun County Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #1177 on a Hometown Hero banner program. VFW Post #1177 will oversee the program, which has recently been rolled out by several Virginia localities, mirroring similar initiatives in other states. The banner program will recognize Leesburg and Loudoun County residents who have served, or are serving, in the United States Armed Services.

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**Leesburg Loves Dogs:** With Leesburg's growing reputation as a dog-friendly destination, a new campaign, "Leesburg Loves Dogs," is being launched to encourage locals and visitors to bring their furry companions to explore the town's many attractions and businesses. The campaign includes a variety of features designed to make it easy for dog owners to plan their visit and enjoy their time in Leesburg with their four-legged friends.

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## Community Information



**Equality Loudoun Art Gallery:** Artists of all ages, backgrounds, and styles are invited to submit their original works of art to be part of the Loudoun One Gallery show from June 1-29. Any mediums are welcome. Submissions may be a showcase of work by LGBTQ+ artists and allies either themed to celebrate the uniqueness of the LGBTQ+ community or your personal art style. There is hanging space, a display unit, and limited floor space.

All submissions must be registered by May 15th and picked up by May 20th. Pieces will be on display from June 1-29. After the gallery, we will arrange returning them to their owners as soon as possible.

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**Bike to Work Day:** On Friday, May 19th, Loudoun will host two pit stops in Leesburg and Sterling for Bike to Work Day. This free annual event celebrates a healthy and fun way to get to work with over 100 different pit stops throughout the Washington metropolitan area. Participants may bike to a pit stop, pick-up a free T-shirt and giveaways and enjoy refreshments before beginning their workday.

New and experienced bicycle commuters planning to participate in the event are encouraged to [register online](#) before the event to pick up a T-shirt at one of Loudoun County's pit stops. Both pit stop locations are adjacent to the Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail:

- Leesburg at Raflo Park, 345 Harrison St. SE, 6:00 - 9:00 am.
- Sterling, just east of Route 28, at 183 Ruritan Road behind Northrop Grumman, 6:30 - 9:00 am.

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**Disability Resource Fair:** The Loudoun County Disability Services Board and The Arc of Loudoun will co-host a Disability Resource Fair, Friday on May 12th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Road NW in Leesburg. The free event will highlight a wide variety of community resources available to people with disabilities. Participating organizations will include representatives of the Loudoun County government as well as organizations that provide educational, employment and recreational opportunities to Loudoun residents.

Anyone who requires a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or needs language assistance in order to participate in the Disabilities Resource Fair should contact Loudoun County Public Affairs and Communications at 703-777-0113. Three business days' notice is requested. Thank you.

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

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