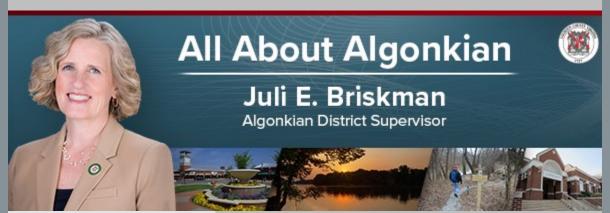
### Volume XXIII | May 25, 2023



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Dear Neighbors,

Earlier this month, I was able to accelerate county work on a comprehensive plan amendment that would identify where it is suitable to build more data centers. And, more to the point, where it is not. This mapping project, which I initiated with our Economic Development Department, has been lagging behind the zoning ordinance rewrite and some other policy issues in our Planning and Zoning department. But I want to make sure we get the work done faster! We are waiting for county staff to report to the board the scope and cost of having an outside consultant do the work.

In the same vein, we had a win last month on the University Center rezoning application. Because the applicant, Peterson Companies, was willing to work with my office on a housing project, rather than build data centers north of Route 7 off of Loudoun County Parkway, we have been able to stave off the creep of Data Center Alley into Algonkian District.

It was my honor this month to attend the Douglass High School Re-Dedication ceremony, present the Bike to Work Day Proclamation, visit small businesses in Algonkian and host the Metro

### Board of Supervisors Meeting Dates

### **Business Meeting**

6/6/2023 at 4:00 p.m. 6/20/2023 at 4:00 p.m.

### **Public Hearing**

6/14/2023 at 6:00 p.m.

### **Finance Committee**

6/13/2023 at 6:00 p.m.

# Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC)

6/21/2023 at 5:00 p.m.

**BOS Calendar** for upcoming meetings

Want to speak?

<u>Visit the county web</u> page for information.

Washington Council of Governments Farm Tour in Western Loudoun. See blurbs and photos below.

Enjoy your Memorial Day Weekend but also do please take a few moments to remember those who sacrificed all in the name of peace!

Guli

### **Local Events**

#### **SENIOR CENTER**

The Loudoun County Senior Center provides an active gathering spot for the thriving, diverse community of adults 55 and older and offers a variety of classes, groups and programs that provide learning, growth and social opportunities. Find activities and read their newsletter here.

#### **CASCADES LIBRARY**

### **ESOL: English Conversation Group**

Mondays at 11:00 AM

Cascades Library Meeting Room A - Cascades

Practice English in a conversation-based program for English language learners.

#### Live Music: The Weather People

Saturday, June 10, at 3:00pm

Cascades Library Meeting Room A

This horn quartet plays original compositions and arrangements by trombonist Cam Millar whose influences include jazz, rock, Latin, classical/art music as performed by

James Brown, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago, Stravinsky, John Williams, Tito Puente, Duke Ellington and Mozart.

### **After Hours Teen Center**

Fridays at 6:00 PM

Cascades Library Meeting Room B

Each week is a new fun activity hosted by the library: Paint Night on June 2; Paper Airplane Tournament on June 9; Tie-Dye on June 16; DIY Coasters on June 23; Stop-Motion Puppet Workshop Cuddles and Rage on June 30.

Check out more upcoming events here.





**Douglass High School Re-Dedication** 

It was an honor to join the community to commemorate the renovation of the historic Douglass High School in Leesburg on Sunday. The Great-Great-Grandson of Frederick Douglass spoke on his ancestors' legacy. This investment is a huge step forward to telling Loudoun's true history and providing immense educational benefits to the community.

Self-guided tours of the campus are available to the public this weekend on May 27 and 28 from 11am to 1pm.

Read more information on the renovation and watch a recording of the ceremony and ribbon cutting at lcps.org/douglass



# 2023 Bike to Work Day



I was in Sterling Friday morning to kick off this year's Bike To Work Day! I was excited to be joined by Loudoun County Commuter Services, BikeLoudoun, and Friends of the Washington & Old Dominion Trail to receive the proclamation I sponsored for their work to make this annual event happen. I'm appreciative of our county staff and community leaders that make Loudoun a better place for bicycling!

This is an annual event coordinated by the Washington Area Bicyclists Association (WABA) and Commuter Connections to celebrate and encourage bicycle commuting. Biking provides immense personal health and societal benefits. As an avid biker, I am working to make Loudoun County a safer and better place for cyclists. If you couldn't make it this time, join us again next year!

Check out the video below to see how the day went.



### Loudoun Farm Tour with COG





I joined the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) for a Farm Tour of Loudoun County! We hosted 45 leaders from Metropolitan Washington who serve on the MWCOG Board of Directors, FARM Policy Committee, and Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee.

In my role on the MWCOG Board Directors, I thought it was critical that elected leaders and agricultural organizations from across the region visit Loudoun

County as part of our work with the new FARM Committee dedicated to regional sustainability. We were able to see all that our rural businesses have to offer, learn the challenges of operating a rural business and partake of locally-made cheeses and other goods! It is important that elected leaders hear directly from farmers when building policy.

The day's visits included visits to Long Stone Farm, Georges Mill Farm, Potomac Vegetable Farms, and finishing off the day at the Wheatland Spring Farm and Brewery. Thank you to the work of our incredible Loudoun County Economic Development team for organizing the beautiful and educational tour!

# **Small Business Week in Algonkian**



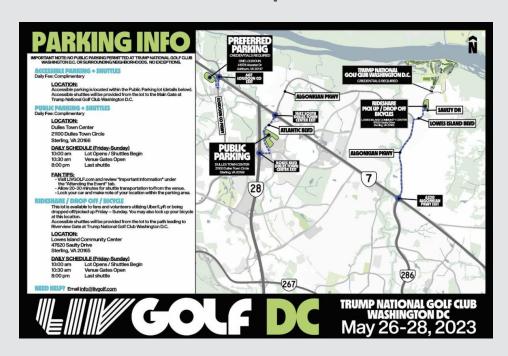


During this year's Small Business Week, I joined the Department of Economic Development on visits to multiple small businesses in the Algonkian District, including Remnants of Magic in Sterling and Local Provisions in the Cascades Marketplace. Our community is made better by the brave small business owners and entrepreneurs that diversify the local economy.



I was also thrilled to speak at the press conference for Launch Loudoun, an initiative by the Department of Economic Development to close the gaps for minority and women-owned businesses through connections with county, state, and federal resources to support small businesses. Learn more here

## LIV Golf Tournament Update for Residents



LIV Golf will be hosting a tournament this weekend at the Trump National Golf Club located in the Algonkian District from May 26 - 28. My office has been in constant communication over the past few months with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), county staff, and the Cascades Community Association to stay updated on procedures to manage impacts to the community for the duration of the event. Below are updates for residents, especially those who live in the Cascades and Lowes Island area.

All parking for attendees of the event is off-site at the Dulles Town Center or One Loudoun. Please see the above map for information. Shuttles will transport attendees from parking sites to the event and should help reduce some of the traffic congestion impacts to the local area. The Lowes Island Community Center has been designated as the drop-off point for anyone using rideshare services. Despite these measures, residents should expect increased traffic congestion, pedestrian traffic, and police presence in the area, especially along Lowes Island Boulevard and Algonkian Parkway. The highest impact is expected to occur between 10:30am - 1pm and 6pm - 8pm during each day of the tournament.

Vehicular traffic to some neighborhood roads past the intersection of Lowes Island Boulevard and Colonel Young Way will be restricted to residents only through a police checkpoint. Affected residents have been issued a credential to ensure access throughout the weekend. All other residential areas will not be

restricted and can be accessed freely through Whitewater Drive or Lowes Island Boulevard.

Any residents who encounter traffic or public safety issues associated with this event should contact LCSO through the non-emergency number at 703-777-1021. As always, use 911 for emergencies.

My office will be actively monitoring the event's impacts on our community, but I trust that the planning and coordination county staff, LCSO, and their partnerships with the local HOA will be more than adequate!

For more information, please see the Loudoun County news release <a href="here">here</a>. LCSO publishes alerts regarding road closures and other traffic-related incidents via Alert Loudoun. Anyone may sign up for the "Loudoun Traffic and Road Closures" category of Alert Loudoun to receive text and email updates by visiting loudoun.gov/alert.



2023 State of the County Address by Chair Randall





Last night, Chair Randall delivered her eighth annual State of the County address to a packed house at the Loudoun County Government Center in Leesburg. I was honored to attend and concur with Chair Randall's assertion that the state of Loudoun County is "exceptional".



The Chair highlighted the many great accomplishments of the Board of

Supervisors this past year and made touching tributes to county staff and community leaders. The event included contributions from several remarkable young people, including Loudoun Valley High School junior Logan Buckley singing the National Anthem, Leesburg resident and performer Derrick Pough Jr. singing "Rise Up" by Andra Day, and the Pledge of Allegiance led by James Butler, who Randall highlighted as a rare Eagle Scout of color. Two incredible high school students were announced as the winners of the Ryan Bartel Foundation Heart of Humanity Awards.

If you missed the event, you can watch the recording by visiting <u>loudoun.gov/2203/Meeting-Videos</u> and scrolling down to "State of the County Address".

# Potomac View Road Shared Use Path Project Update



The county is constructing 0.57 miles of a 10-foot-wide shared use path along Potomac View Road on the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) Campus. It is part of Loudoun County's Sidewalk and Trail program which addresses missing bicycle and pedestrian links within the county. The project is located west of Potomac View Road tying into the Route 7 Pedestrian Improvements Project on the northwestern corner of the intersection of Route 7 and Potomac View Road. The Shared Use Path will be constructed between south of River Meadows Terrace and South Cottage Road and between South Cottage Road and Route 7.

Currently, the project is in the design phase with construction estimated to begin in summer 2026. Loudoun County's Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) has been coordinating the design with the NVCC staff. The right of way phase will begin this summer. For more information about the Potomac View Shared Use Path project, including estimated timeline and a link to sign up for updates about the project, visit the project page.

# **County News**

Updated Draft Zoning Ordinance Available
Online



A new draft of the proposed ordinance was published on May 19, 2023. The updated text incorporates changes made by the Planning Commission during the ongoing Zoning Ordinance Rewrite project. The Planning Commission and its subcommittees met for more than 20 work sessions in recent months to consider revisions to the regulations within the ordinance and to direct changes to the text. The commission has received thousands of comments from members of the public, which have informed the process to date. The Planning Commission is continuing to deliberate on the Zoning Ordinance until they are able recommend a final draft.

The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite is taking place because of the adoption of the 2019 Loudoun County Comprehensive Plan that includes land use and transportation policies that guides future development throughout the county. The Zoning Ordinance is the regulatory framework that implements the Comprehensive Plan vision.

The Board of Supervisors will evaluate the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite after the Planning Commission makes their recommendation. That is currently expected to be sometime this Summer. The Board will take additional public comments and my office will welcome any feedback from the community on the draft.

The Planning Commission has directed edits to all chapters of the ordinance, some of which simply restructure the components of the ordinance and simplify the language. The complete text of all chapters of the latest draft ordinance are posted on the county's website at <a href="loudoun.gov/ZoningOrdinanceRewrite">loudoun.gov/ZoningOrdinanceRewrite</a>.

Traffic Signal Work Delayed on Algonkian Pkwy



Traffic signal construction at the intersection of Algonkian Parkway and Lowes Island Boulevard in Sterling that had been scheduled to begin today has been rescheduled to early June. The county will announce the new date once it is available and my office will communicate it to residents.

Weather permitting, work to activate new signal heads and remove old existing overhead equipment at all four quadrants of the intersection is scheduled to take place over two days, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During work hours, intermittent traffic signal operation and lane closures are required for the safe removal and installation of overhead equipment. Drivers and pedestrians should use extra caution when traveling through these areas and follow all directions from the posted signs and police.

# Loudoun County Again Earns Triple-A Bond Rating



The nation's top bond rating agencies have again affirmed Loudoun County's triple-A ratings on its general obligation bonds, noting the county's strong financial performance, a robust economic profile with a diverse tax base and strong management. Loudoun County has held the AAA rating from Moody's since 2004, and AAA from Fitch Ratings and S&P Global since 2005. The three ratings agencies also affirmed Loudoun's AA+ and Aa1 ratings on the upcoming sale of public facility revenue bonds through the Economic Development Authority, as well as outstanding appropriation-backed bonds.

A triple-A rating is important to the county government and taxpayers because it helps the county continue to get the best possible interest rates to finance capital projects, saving millions of dollars. The reaffirmation comes in advance of the county's upcoming sale of general obligation bonds and public facility revenue bonds through the EDA; the proceeds of which will be used for school and general government projects.

More information on Loudoun County finances and its triple-A status is online at loudoun.gov/bondratings.

# **Land Use Applications**

The legislative land use re-zoning process can be complicated. To make the process more understandable, my office asked county staff to create a flowchart with the steps required in a land use application process. With this chart, you can now see where each potential project is, along the process.

Additional details are available at <u>Loudoun's Online Land Applications (LOLA)</u> by searching for the name or application number, of each application.

### LEGISLATIVE LAND USE APPLICATION PROCESS



**SUBMISSION** 



STAFF REVIEW



RECOMMENDATION/ DECISION



PRAP Conference (1 month)



Checklist (15 days -1 month)



1st Referral (up to 2 months)



Additional Referrals (up to 3 months)



Planning Commission



Board of Supervisors

For more information, resources & application procedures, visit loudoun.gov/legislativelanduse. Note: Timelines are estimates.



### University Center Lakeview

### **STATUS: APPROVED**

The University Center Lakeview application was approved by the Board of Supervisors at the April 18 Business Meeting. The application will re-zone the property to R-24 for the development of up to 597 multifamily units (both multifamily stacked and multifamily attached) with 10% of the unit count as affordable. The application also included a



### **Dogwood Farm Station**

# STATUS: RECOMMENDATION/DECISION

Lennar Multifamily Communities has filed plans for a multifamily development to build 485 homes on the 19.33-acre site currently home to Blue Mount Nursery. The application was deliberated on by the Planning Commission at a Work Session on May 11 and was

proffer of \$2.7 million to fund Bles Park Phase 2 improvements. forwarded to another Work Session on July 13.



### **Cascades Marketplace**

#### **STATUS: ACTIVE**

The team at Willard Realty are busy meeting with (and signing) prospective tenants. Make sure to visit their website for updates and to provide feedback, here. The application proposes to re-zone the Cascades Marketplace into a mixed-use development of new housing and retail. The application has been placed on the Planning Commission's Public Hearing agenda on June 27.



### **Bles Park**

### **STATUS: APPROVED**

The application was approved to establish a Bles Park Master Plan to expand the existing park and its amenities, including trails, pickleball courts, an off-leash dog park, four soccer fields, and a kayak launch.



### The Villas at Cascades

#### **STATUS: APPROVED**

This application is to allow the development of 178 multi-family stacked residential units. The developers are currently in the site plan processing

stage of the project. They expect to break ground towards the end of this year with the first units delivering approximately a year later (or late 2024). A \$160,000 school contribution has also been made with the expectation those funds will be used for the playground area at Meadowland Elementary.

# **School Board Snippets**



### Update from School Board Member Reaser

Check out School Board Member Atoosa Reaser's <u>School Board Snippets</u>.

This month, read about LCPS Policy Review, Adoption of Multi-Year School Calendars, Algonkian District student and teacher accomplishments, and more!

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Juli E. Briskman, Algonkian District Supervisor <u>Ethan Gardner</u>, Acting Chief of Staff

> <u>Algonkian District Supervisor Page</u> Email Supervisor Briskman

We want to hear from you! Share your concerns, questions, or events that you would like to see featured in upcoming newsletters.

Email Ethan Gardner

### Sent by juli.briskman@loudoun.gov powered by

