

Every year, a group of Leesburg families, "The Burg Family Reunion Club," throw a giant party at Ida Lee Park and everyone is invited. Find out more about this June 17th event here. Please join me for the Juneteenth March on Monday, June 19th at 9:00 am at the Loudoun County Courthouse prior to proceeding to the Orion Anderson Memorial site at the W&OD trail. Upon arrival at the site, there will be guest speakers and a small food reception.

Memorial Day



On Memorial Day, Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk and LTCOL Robert Holcomb laid a wreath at the monument honoring the Loudoun residents who died during the First World War. They were assisted by Ann Doss, Vice-Commander of American Legion Post 34, and Sam Doss.

New Douglass Community Center Playground



I was thrilled to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony on May 31st to celebrate the completion of the Douglass Community Center playground replacement project which embraces the global impact and contributions that African Americans have made as a part of American history. The project is a premier one-of-a-kind destination playground that includes the following features.

- Custom structures have been designed to embody an authentic play experience through intentional educational components. The "Hall of Heroes," inspired by the architecture of the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., is the center structure that sets the tone for the themed playground concept.
- Replicas of the Hall of Heroes, the Selma Bridge, the Montgomery Bus, the space pioneers space capsule, and the Garrett Morgan traffic signal are custom playground structures that promote social and culturally conscious play.
- Other custom-made structures depicting African American history and culture.

Veterans Moving Forward



Some of our favorite visitors at Board meetings are the service dogs that work with veterans. This pup is in training with <u>Veterans Moving Forward</u>.

Graduations



Graduations are upon us and the Loudoun County High School community is ready with flocks of flamingos.

Juneteenth Observance



At Leesburg's Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony on June 5th, retired U.S. Army paratrooper Julian Murray addressed the crowd. During his army career, he jumped out of just about every kind of aircraft.

Westpark Community Meeting



There is an in-person design public information meeting for the <u>Westpark Property</u> <u>project</u> on Tuesday, June 27th at 6:00 pm, at the PRCS Administration Office, 742 Miller Drive SE, Leesburg. This project will design and construct a passive park consisting of walking and biking trails on the county-owned land located around the Leesburg Country Club Subdivision and along Country Club Drive.

In August 2022, Loudoun County purchased 134 acres of property formerly known as the Westpark Golf Course in Leesburg from a private owner who bought the land several years ago following the closure of the golf course. The Westpark property has been placed into a conservation easement, which will preserve the natural landscape. The placement of property into a conservation easement imposes certain restrictions on the use of the land in the future, which includes how it is developed and maintained.

LCPS Budget Increase to Cover State Shortfall

During our May 16th Board business meeting, we increased Loudoun County Public Schools' (LCPS) FY 2024 Operating Fund budget by \$13 million to cover a state shortfall. As part of the approval, we permitted some flexibility for how the funds will be appropriated, depending on whether the state makes up the shortfall, makes up part of the shortfall or leaves the entire shortfall in place:

- If not resolved, the Board will provide up to \$13 million of FY 2023 year-end fund balance to LCPS.
- If the state provides a portion of the \$13 million state revenue shortfall, the Board will accept it in the FY 2024 LCPS Operating Fund and provide the remaining shortfall to LCPS using FY 2023 year-end fund balance.
- If the state covers the entire \$13 million shortfall, the Board will not need to appropriate any of its own year-end fund balance.

This year, statewide public school systems received less money than was anticipated after a Virginia Department of Education calculation error that was not addressed in a subsequent budget bill. I am very pleased that we were able to fund the state shortfall for the schools.

2022 Survey of Residents

Table 1. Issues of Importance in the Next Two Years.

Percent "Essential or Very Important"	Percent Willing to Incur Tax Increase
65%	22%
89%	59%
80%	44%
81%	45%
82%	37%
72%	25%
80%	46%
82%	47%
58%	39%
57%	29%
71%	49%
75%	46%
	or Very Important" 65% 89% 80% 81% 82% 72% 80% 82% 58% 57%

Since 2012, Loudoun County has conducted surveys of residents every two years to (1) gather residents' satisfaction with county services, (2) obtain residents' opinions on key issues that affect Loudoun communities and (3) collect demographic information. Survey results are used by County staff and departments to improve community services and communicate key issues to the Board of Supervisors.

The 2022 survey was distributed to a representative sample of 5,000 residents via the U.S. postal service (535 completed the print survey). As with previous community surveys, an accompanying online option where any resident could complete the survey was offered (973 completed the online survey).

<u>Survey results</u> indicate residents continue to rate Loudoun County as a high-quality location to live and raise children. Approximately eight out of ten respondents planned to remain in Loudoun for the next five years. The majority of residents (85%) rated the overall economic health in Loudoun County as "excellent" or "good" citing service establishments, shopping and the variety of businesses as high quality. Schools were the top issue of importance for the County to focus on in the next two years with 89% listing the category as essential or very important. Table 1 above lists the issues of importance to residents.

Town of Leesburg Proclamation



Delegate David Reid presents Mayor Burk and the citizens of the Town of Leesburg with a proclamation from the Virginia General Assembly, recognizing the Town for being nationally acclaimed as a great place to live and visit.

Warm Regards,

Kristen C. Umstattd Leesburg District Loudoun County Board of Supervisors <u>kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov</u> 703-777-0203

Valerie Suzdak Chief Legislative Aide Supervisor Kristen Umstattd valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov

Laura TeKrony Legislative Aide Supervisor Kristen Umstattd laura.tekrony@loudoun.gov

Business of the Month

Wine Kitchen



The <u>Wine Kitchen Leesburg</u> is a wine bar and restaurant featuring all that is good about food and wine, and specializing in what is great about sharing them together with friends and family. Highlighting fresh pastas and local ingredients, we offer a seasonal flair to everything we do. Join the <u>Wine Kitchen Wine Club!</u>



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner



New Chief of Police: I want to personally welcome Thea Pirnat who has been named Leesburg's next Chief of Police. Major Pirnat's first day will be Monday, July 24th. She comes to the Leesburg Police Department following a 23-year career with the Fairfax County Police Department.



<u>Juneteenth Celebration</u>: On Saturday, June 17th at 12 pm, the "Burg" Family Reunion Juneteenth Celebration will take place at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center. Food trucks, kids entertainment, craft vendors, and other activities will be on-going throughout the day. Town offices will be closed on the official Juneteenth holiday, which is observed on June 19th.



4th of July Parade: The Town of Leesburg is seeking entries for the 2023 Independence Day Parade, which will take place on Tuesday, July 4th, beginning at 10 am. The parade will begin at Ida Lee Park, travel south on King Street, and conclude at Fairfax Street. Civic groups, youth organizations, community groups, families, and others are encouraged to participate in the parade. Entry to participate is FREE! Pre-registration is recommended. The application for the parade is available online. For more information, contact Ida Lee Park Recreation Center at 703-777-1368.

Summer 2023 Residential Newsletter: The Town of Leesburg's summer residential newsletter is now available to view on the Town's website. It is intended to give residents an update on what is happening in the Town of Leesburg while highlighting current news and events. To see the newsletter online, or to register to receive it via email or text, visit here. Limited copies will be printed and made available in the Town Hall lobby, Ida Lee Recreation Center, Thomas Balch Library, and Leesburg Police Department.



AV Symington Aquatic Center: The A.V. Symington Aquatic Center has opened for the summer! Beginning on Friday, June 9th, the aquatic center will be open daily from 12 to 8 pm, with Town residents admitted at 11 am. The outdoor pool will be closed on July 4th. For more information regarding hours, rates, passes, and rentals, visit here or call the Aquatic Center at 703-779-5390.



Community Information



New Online Land Management System: The new system, called LandMARC, will create a comprehensive online tool for accessing, managing and maintaining Loudoun County's land-related information. The system is expected to launch this month. Through an online portal, members of the public will be able to:

- Submit permit, land development and legislative land use applications.
- Submit electronic copies of plans and other required documentation.
- Track the status of applications and land development projects.
- Request pre-application and pre-submission meetings.
- Request inspections.
- Pay application fees.
- Access public records related to permits and plans.

The new system will replace current internal systems, as well as publicly available systems, including LOLA and e-Permits. These systems, which date back two decades, are no longer able to provide the scalability or transparency required to meet the expectations and needs of the County's customers. LandMARC will add many new online capabilities to better serve the needs of residents and businesses.

Disability Services Board Seeks Nominations for 2023 FAIME Award



Honoring Loudoun businesses & organizations displaying a strong commitment to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace.



LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA Nominate a Business/Organization: loudoun.gov/FAIMEAwards

FAIME Award Nominations: The Loudoun County Disability Services Board sponsors an awards program that honors businesses and organizations that display a strong commitment toward the full inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace. Nominations for the 2023 Full Accessibility and Inclusion: Moving toward Equity (FAIME) Awards should be submitted through this **online form**. The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, June 23rd.

Eligibility Requirements for Award Nominees:

- Businesses and organizations must demonstrate a commitment to hiring people with disabilities, to providing accommodations in the workplace and to offering people with disabilities professional development opportunities so they can grow their skills.
- Nominees may be for-profit or nonprofit businesses and organizations, but may not be government agencies, nonprofits or businesses whose mission is to provide services to people with disabilities.
- Businesses and organizations may nominate themselves.

Winners will be notified in July 2023 and an awards reception will be scheduled in October 2023, which is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

<u>June is Homeownership Month:</u> Loudoun County Department of Housing & Community Development and its community partners will host four virtual events at no cost for people interested in learning more about owning a home in Loudoun County. These workshops will provide information on Loudoun County homebuyer programs, fire safety, home improvement and repair programs, and the Virginia Mortgage Relief Program.

 Affordable Dwelling Unit Purchase Program and Homeownership Loan Programs: Thursday, June 15th, 12:00 – 1:00 pm. Join the Loudoun County Department of Housing & Community Development for an overview of Loudoun County's Affordable Dwelling Unit Purchase Program and Homeownership Loan Programs, Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program, Public Employee Grants for Homeownership, and Sponsoring Partnerships and Revitalizing Communities.

- Fire Safety and Home Escape Plans: Wednesday, June 21st, 12:00 1:00 pm. Join the Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office for an overview on home fire safety and home escape plans.
- Home Improvement and Repair Programs: Thursday, June 22nd, 12:00 1:00 pm. Join the Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development for an overview of Loudoun County's Home Accessibility and Repair Program, Rental Unit Accessibility Modification Program and Granting Freedom Program.
- The Virginia Mortgage Relief Program: Tuesday, June 27th, 12:00 1:00 pm. Join Virginia Housing for an overview of the Virginia Mortgage Relief Program.

Registration is required for the workshops. Details on how to register, as well as more information about Loudoun County's housing programs, may be found **here**.

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

Sent by kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov powered by

