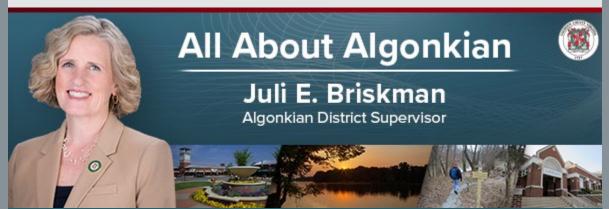
July 6, 2023



Weekly Newsflash

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Independence Day in Loudoun



It was an honor to be part of this year's 4th Fest at Claude Moore Park, where the Declaration of Independence was read among many other festivities! The event spotlighted Loudoun County's important contributions to the American Revolution. The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is working to organize events and initiatives in the lead-up to the semiquincentennial anniversary in 2026. You can read more about the Loudoun Virginia 250 initiative here.

Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services put on an amazing and well-attended 4th Fest event for the community with games, food trucks, and two stages that included performances from the Sterling Playmakers and a band. I am glad this free event was widely attended by the community. However you decided to celebrate, I hope everyone had a festive Independence Day!

BOS Action for INMED Families and Replenish Child Care Fee Reduction Program



At yesterday's Board of Supervisors Business Meeting, we made an important vote allocate funds to support families affected by the closure of INMED in Loudoun County and ensure that families enrolled in their Summer Camp programs were placed in comparable programs. \$200,000 of the ARPA Child Care Fee Reduction Program was allocated to these families for that purpose. The Fee Reduction Program is a new program in which qualifying families can have 50% of their childcare costs reimbursed by the County, bringing essential financial relief to families.

I brought an additional motion that directs staff to evaluate the need to replenish funds reallocated from the ARPA Child Care Fee Reduction Program and bring it back to the Board during the FY 2023 Fund Balance discussion that will occur at the end of the calendar year. It is my hope that we will re-allocate the \$200,000 into the Fee Reduction Program and look for ways to continue reducing costs and barriers for families in need of childcare.

Watch the discussion on the item <u>here</u>. You can read the staff report for the item <u>here</u>.

Solarize Loudoun

Solarize NOVA has returned to Loudoun County, providing opportunities for free solar assessments and discounted pricing on solar systems from vetted installers. Information will be provided on how to access the 30% federal solar tax credit and other incentives. including the Solar Renewable Energy Credit Market and Loudoun <u>County's Solar Energy Tax Exemption</u>. The program is open until August 31, 2023.

Anyone interested in learning more about solar power is encouraged to attend an upcoming virtual information session about the Solarize NOVA program. Sign up for a session <u>here</u>.

- Wednesday, July 19, 12:30 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 1, 6:00 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 17, 3:00 4:00 p.m.



I am proud to see this important program returning to Loudoun County. Expanding solar infrastructure to homes in Loudoun will help us achieve our energy goals and stave off the effects of climate change. I encourage any homeowners interested in this program to sign up for an information session!

Solarize NOVA is sponsored by the Local Energy Alliance Program in partnership with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and participating municipal governments, including Loudoun County. More information about the Solarize NOVA program in Loudoun is online at <u>solarizenova.org/loudoun</u>.

Loudoun Receives Grant for Low-Emission Buses



The purchase of 37 compressed natural gas buses is a key step in achieving goals of the Loudoun County Energy Strategy.

Learn more about Loudoun's Energy Strategy: loudoun.gov/energy.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has awarded Loudoun County \$13.8 million to purchase 37 compressed natural gas buses, construct a fueling station and update its maintenance facility. The purchase of buses for Loudoun County Transit is a key step in the county's efforts to achieve the goals of the Loudoun County Energy Strategy, which include reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in transportation and leading by example in county government operations.

The new buses will replace current buses in the county's fixed-route, local bus service, which are already nearing the end of their useful life. These buses provide vital transportation services to many residents who depend on public transportation in order to work, go to school, medical appointments, grocery shopping and accomplish many other activities of daily life. I am excited that Loudoun is leading on climate action and supporting our essential public transit services. Officials estimate that the new buses will lead to an annual reduction of 447.55 metric tons of greenhouse gases, which, in terms of emissions benefits, equates to:

- 98 gasoline vehicles taken off the road.
- 180 tons of waste recycled.
- 3.1 acres of US forest preserved.
- 7,459 trees planted.

More information about Loudoun County's efforts to increase energy sustainability, as well as other environmental initiatives, is online at loudoun.gov/environment.

Pavilion Reservations Available Now

Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) recently announced that pavilion rentals are now reservable online. There are over 30 pavilions countywide at PRCS parks and community centers.

Reservations can be submitted through loudoun.gov/pavilions and are available at a fee for half or full day rentals (see pricing chart below). Information about amenities, available rental times, maximum occupancy, and other details are also available at the link.



Reservations may still be made in person at one of our staffed sites, including the PRCS Administrative Office, Recreation and Community Centers, Community Centers, the Claude Moore Park Visitors Center, the Franklin Park Office, and the Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park Administration Building, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

For more information on reserving pavilions online go to loudoun.gov/pavilions or visit the Frequently Asked Questions page, email PRCS for general questions, or call 703-777-0343.

PRCS	PAVILION PRICING CHART	March- October			November- February
		HALF DAY		FULL DAY	FULL DAY
		9:00am- 2:00pm	3:00pm- 8:00pm	9:00am- 8:00pm	9:00am- 5:00pm
Small	Weekday/Weekend	\$70 / \$80		\$110 / \$120	\$75 / \$85
Medium	Weekday/Weekend	\$75 / \$85		\$115 / \$125	\$80 / \$90
Large	Weekday/Weekend	\$85 /	\$95	\$125 / \$135	\$90 / \$100

Board of Supervisors Meetings Next Week

Finance, Government Operations, and Economic Development Committee (FGOEDC) Meeting Tuesday, July 11 at 6pm

> Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Wednesday, July 12 at 6pm

> > <u>Agenda</u>

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

Algonkian District Supervisor Page 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

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