



Hello, Loudoun

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. I will be hosting a **Town Hall** in Ashburn on Thursday, July 27th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department in the newly renovated Founders Hall at Station 6, 20688 Ashburn Road. Topics to be discussed include Farmwell Road, Planned Development-Town Center Zoning District, Ashburn Recreation and Community Center and the Ashburn Senior Center. Please feel free to send any questions or other topics you would like addressed to Laura Tekrony at loudoun.gov. I look forward to meeting and listening to the residents of Ashburn.

Annual Compensation

So Loudoun, let's discuss the proposed pay increase for the next Board of Supervisors (BOS). I want to clear up some misconceptions and answer questions I've received.

- Why can't the voters decide? Unfortunately, there is no mechanism for a BOS salary adjustment to be placed on the ballot for voters to consider. The only option is for a current BOS to adjust the salary of the next body. A salary adjustment can only take effect after the next election.
- 2. Is it a full or part time job? Virginia code does not classify elected officials as employees, technically we are neither full nor part time. As Chair, I work fifty plus hours a week, much of that is attending to required County business. In addition, I believe duties such as Town Halls and Community Events, which are not required, are important and necessary to the position. I have Chair duties almost everyday,

- evenings and often on Saturdays. I remain available 24/7. Please know, I'm not complaining about the hours I work, I'm simply answering that question.
- 3. What is the pay and when was the last increase? Currently, District Supervisors are paid \$41,200, the Vice Chair's salary is \$45,300 and the Chair's salary is \$50,000. Those numbers would increase to \$66,800, \$73,363 and \$81,100 respectively. The last BOS salary adjustment was in 2008.
- 4. Aren't we really just raising our own pay? Any current Supervisor who runs for office and wins will have this as their adjusted salary in 2020. It is highly unlikely the current BOS is the body that will be seated in 2020 because the BOS has turned over a majority of its members in the past two decades. No BOS member is required to accept this or any salary.
- 5. Don't BOS members have other full-time jobs? Currently six of the nine members have other employment. That is not possible for the Chair position. My predecessor also did not have another job. I will say my colleagues on the BOS also work long hours in their positions.
- 6. Don't you know the pay when you run? I can only speak for myself. Yes, I knew and made the decision to run. But I don't think the pay is reasonable and I don't believe the pay allows most people the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I believe the pay adjustment will encourage more residents to serve on the BOS.
- 7. When can you speak to the BOS? There will be an opportunity for residents to speak about the proposed compensation increase at the July 20th Board business meeting. Residents are encouraged to sign up in advance to speak by calling the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors at 703-777-0200. Advanced sign-ups will be taken until 12:00 pm the day of the meeting. Please come speak to us or e-mail your comments to bos@loudoun.gov regardless of whether you are for or against the proposal.

Silver Line CPAM

At the June 22nd Board business meeting, I supported Supervisor Letourneau's motion to forward the Silver Line Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPAM) to the Envision Loudoun process for continued study and ultimate inclusion in an updated Countywide Comprehensive Plan. This will give residents the chance to weigh in on an area that will see the most residential and commercial growth.

The Board voted to begin a discussion with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority on an updated Airport Noise Corridor study which could lead to updates to the County's Airport Impact Overlay Districts. The current

study is 25 years old and I believe we need to know what lines we are working with to make smart land use decisions. Not only do we need current data but we also need to know the airport's expansion plans.

The Board also approved Shellhorn Road realignment, between Loudoun County Parkway and Randolph Drive and the Randolph Drive, Lockridge Road and Moran Road realignments, amending the 2010 Countywide Transportation Plan.

Nonprofits

At the June 22nd Board meeting, there was a discussion about the nonprofit grant funding recommendations for FY 2018. The FY 2018 Adopted Budget includes an overall allocation of \$1,090,700 in nonprofit grant funding. In 2016, I initiated a Nonprofit Needs Assessment Study to assess the status of the County's nonprofit community. This study will give the Board a clearer picture of the County's needs and recommendations from the study will be implemented in the FY 2019 nonprofit grant process. For this year, I voted to stay with the former allocation process until the study is complete in the fall of 2017.

Next year, I will be looking for evidence based criteria in the mission statements of nonprofits. We know you are doing good work but some nonprofits need help filling out the County application. The County sponsors a pre-application and post-application workshop. I hope nonprofits attend these workshops to give their feedback on the process.

Transportation Summit

The Board held a Transportation Summit on Thursday, June 29th. At this meeting, the following projects were discussed:

- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Potomac River Crossing
- TransAction Plan
- Rural Primary Roads (Routes 7, 9, 15, 50 and 287)
- Route 7, East of Route 28 to the Fairfax County Line
- Route 50 Corridor

Please read the <u>meeting summary</u> for more details and next steps.

Chief of Staff

It is with considerable regret that I report my incredible Chief of Staff, Jeanine Arnett will resign her position effective July 24th. Ms. Arnett has accepted the position of Executive Director of Delta Sigma Theta Incorporated. Although

she will be sorely missed in my office, and her departure is a loss for Loudoun County, I encouraged Jeanine to accept the position as I know she will be a remarkable asset to Delta. This is an extraordinary opportunity for Jeanine to take her leadership skills to a national organization. I wish her the best in her new position and thank her for her service to the Office of Chair at Large and the citizens of Loudoun. My new Chief of Staff will be announced in the near future.



Best Regards,

Phyllis Randall
Chair, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
phyllis.randall@loudoun.gov

Jeanine H. Arnett Chief of Staff jeanine.arnett@loudoun.gov

Laura TeKrony Legislative Aide laura.tekrony@loudoun.gov

Elizabeth Bennis Executive Assistant elizabeth.bennis@loudoun.gov

Voice for a Cause Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy's mission is to inspire, motivate and engage people to protect, preserve and restore wildlife habitat. And its vision is for Loudoun to be a place where people and wildlife thrive together. A wide variety of programs are offered free to the public that put greater knowledge and enjoyment of nature within easy reach of all Loudoun citizens! These include monthly speaker programs featuring



wildlife specialists and live animals, field trips, citizen science opportunities to learn about streams and water quality, counting birds and butterflies and establishing nestbox trails that help bluebirds, tree swallows and more. The campaign to bring back the Monarch butterflies has engaged thousands of people, local businesses, schools and even VDOT in planting milkweed and other native plants. Please visit the events page for the list of fun, free events that are open to the public.

Investing in Transportation

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) seeks public input on its newly released draft <u>TransAction plan</u> and <u>associated project list</u>. The draft TransAction plan identifies more than 350 candidate projects and \$44 billion in unmet transportation needs. The public comment period is open now through July 23rd and the public can submit comments in three ways:

- 1. e-mail: transactionupdate@nvtatransaction.org
- 2. online: http://nvtatransaction.org/comment/
- 3. mail: 3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22031

Loudoun County has scheduled a Town Hall on Wednesday, July 19th in the Board room, 1 Harrison Street, SE, in Leesburg to seek input from residents on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's (NVTA) draft long range transportation plan called TransAction. The town hall will consist of an open house from 5:00 to 6:00 pm in the lobby of the government center followed by a public information meeting from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Board Room.

TransAction is expected to be adopted by NVTA later this year and will be used to develop NVTA's inaugural six-year program from FY 2018-2023. The TransAction update is the mechanism through which approximately \$1.5 billion will be allocated to regional transportation improvements. Please see the <u>list of projects</u> submitted by Loudoun County for inclusion in NVTA's updated TransAction Plan.

Loudoun County continues to seek public comment on congestion relief on Route 15 north of Leesburg through an <u>online</u>, <u>interactive survey</u>. This follows public meetings held in June and July on the alternatives that have been proposed to relieve congestion on the roadway. The deadline to complete the survey is Monday, July 24th

Community Events and Information

Polo in the Park: starting Saturday, July 1 for nine consecutive Saturdays in the summer at Morven Park International Equestrian Center. Gates open at 6:00 pm with one match starting at 7:00 pm and another at 8:30 pm. Spectators will be able to bring picnic baskets and blankets onto the terraced viewing area next to the riding arena and a DJ will provide dance music in the pavilion tent immediately following the final polo matches throughout the summer. Stone Tower Winery will offer wine for sale by the glass or by the bottle. Guests may also bring their own wine to enjoy at the polo matches. To attend Polo in the Park you must purchase a car pass, \$35 in advance & online or \$40 at the gate.

Butterflies & Peaches at Great Country Farms: July 29 and 30 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. The most recognizable of all butterflies need your HELP! The Monarch butterfly's population has diminished drastically due to, among other factors, the eradication of milkweed and other plants crucial to their habitat. Bring the family for peach picking and Monarch education, and take action to bring their habitat back. Visit the butterfly garden and learn about the plants Monarchs need to survive, and how you can help restore habitat in your community. Buy some milkweed to take home to plant and start helping Monarchs today! Tickets at the gate are \$8/child and \$10/adult.

Career Connections Employer Panel Discussion: Friday, July 21 at 9:00 am in the Shenandoah Room of the Shenandoah Building, 102 Heritage Way, N.E. in Leesburg. The Career Connections panel discussion provides job seekers the opportunity to network with local employers. Department of Parks and Recreation, HireStrategy and Wegmans are now hiring! The event is free and open to the public. Space is limited and anyone interested in attending is asked to register for the event online at www.eventleaf.com/careerconnect,

Pancake Breakfast: August 6, 8:00-11:00 am at the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, Founders Hall, Station 6. Bring family and friends and enjoy our great breakfast of eggs, cheesy eggs, pancakes, sausage gravy & biscuits, bacon, juices, coffee. \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$5 children 3-8, children under 3 free. Pancake breakfast is the first Sunday of every month.

Civil War Artifacts from the collection of Leesburg resident, John Creamer, will be on display at the **Thomas Balch Library** in Leesburg from July 5 - August 31. The public may view the artifacts during normal business hours. The display includes items dug "just ahead of the bulldozer" as well as other Civil War era items from Loudoun County.

STAY CONNECTED:



Loudoun County, VA, 1 Harrison St., S.E., 5th Floor, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177

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