



Dear Leesburg Resident,

I'm sure you've heard that Loudoun County Public Schools is launching Virginia's first computer science immersion schools. Governor McAuliffe says there are 36,000 unfilled cyber-security jobs in Virginia. This is an exciting step to meet the demands of the job market now and in the future.

It is my pleasure to report that Loudoun County's tourism industry is thriving and, once again, ranks third in overall visitor spending in the Commonwealth. This puts Loudoun County ahead of Virginia Beach and Williamsburg in terms of revenue generation (third only behind Arlington and Fairfax). Tourism in Loudoun generated almost \$1.69 billion in travel spending in 2016, up 2.9 percent from 2015, supported 17,225 jobs and generated \$663.4 million in wages, up 5 percent.

Transportation Update: Route 15 North

At the September 20th Board meeting, I supported the additional funding requested from Kimley Horn in the amount of \$299,400 for the Route 15 Safety and Operational Study for additional public workshops and the stakeholder committee outreach. The scope of the Kimley Horn study was expanded between Whites Ferry Road and the Maryland state line due to two fatal crashes on Route 15 north of Whites Ferry Road in the first half of 2017. To date, two stakeholder committee meetings have been held. Four additional stakeholder committee meetings are planned, along with two more rounds of public meetings planned in February and June 2018.

The stakeholders committee met on September 14th and discussed congestion report recommendations from their group or organization. Small groups discussed ideas that should be carried forward, ideas that need further discussion and ideas that should not be carried forward. You can view the meeting packet and notes on the County website dedicated to [Route 15 North](#). This feedback will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the October 19th Board business meeting and all are welcome to attend and speak. Advanced sign-up for public input is available by calling 703-777-0200 before noon the day of the business meeting.

Leesburg Courthouse Statue

At the September 20th meeting, I supported both Chair Randall's motion to request local control over the location of statues and Supervisor Higgins's motion to examine options for

adding monuments to the courthouse grounds. The Chair's motion failed on a tie vote and Supervisor Higgins's motion passed.

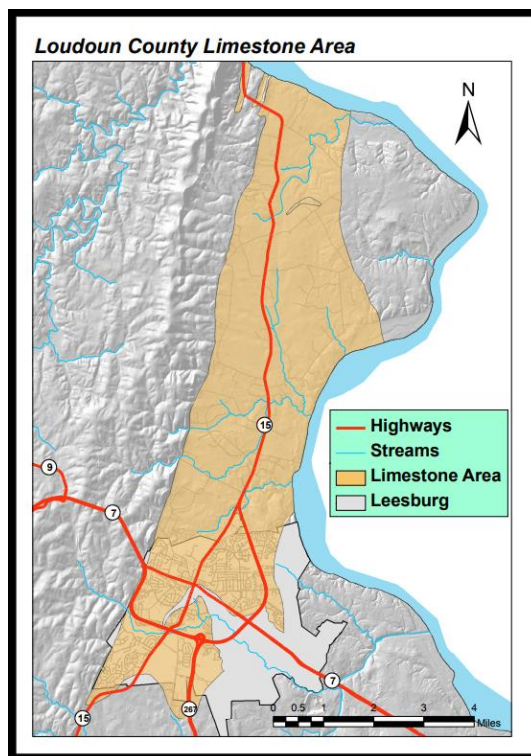
Pennington Garage

Two sinkholes were discovered under North Street's Pennington Lot last summer. The Board was notified on August 28th and the County proposed remediation. When this issue was discussed at the September 5th Board meeting, I asked if the remediation effort would harm neighbors' homes and properties. We were told sinkholes are unpredictable and that it is a natural hazard. Much of Leesburg lies in the Limestone district, a rock that is prone to sinkholes (please see map below). I also asked if there was any possibility that remediation could help stabilize the area for neighbors. Staff does not expect to cause problems or improve the condition for neighbors.

Staff informed us that it would be costly to pull the plug and build somewhere else because 50% of the structure is already fabricated. Reducing the size of the garage from 4 to 3 levels, something I supported would require an expensive redesign of the project.

This is a difficult issue for the neighbors along North Street, Slack Lane, and Ariel and Marshall Drive. There was an almost 2 1/2 month gap between mid-June, when the County staff learned of the sinkholes and the end of August, when the Board first learned of the sinkholes. County staff has asked the construction crews to provide weekly updates and I have requested more timely notification of future problems. I will communicate any additional issues.

The [staff report](#) is available on the Loudoun County website.




Metro Briefing

Metro General Manager and CEO, Paul Wiederfeld, gave a yearly update on the safety, reliability and financial management of the system. SafeTrack, an accelerated track work plan to improve safety and reliability, was completed at the end of June. Through SafeTrack, Metro completed approximately three years' worth of work in approximately one year. In August, service reliability improved with an on-time performance rate of 89%.

Financially, Metro will need \$15.5 billion over 10 years for its capital program to address urgent safety and service reliability needs. Metro is the only major transit agency in the U.S. without a dedicated funding source. Mr. Wiederfeld recommends capping increases in local jurisdictions' capital and operating contributions at 3% per year to provide certainty and keep up with inflation. He is also trying to reduce labor costs by offering new employees a 401k contribution program vs. a pension program. I asked if Metro considered cut backs in service hours to save money. Mr. Wiederfeld did not recommend this to cut costs because it must be measured against lost revenue due to riders leaving the system. We all feel strongly that the federal government has a role to play in funding because Metro moves the federal workforce and visitors across the region. If Metro does not perform, the federal government does not open.

On Monday, October 16th the Board will host a Housing Summit at 5:00 pm in the Boardroom of the Government Center. The public is welcome to attend but there will be no public input session. Thank you.

Warm Regards,



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Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Happy Fall! With school back in session, I've been meeting with lots of school and scout groups. On September 2nd, we had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Little Free Library on Plaza Street installed by Girl Scout Troop 6752. Simpson Middle Track also had a recent ribbon cutting, to celebrate their new track. Last week, I met with third grade students at Catoctin Elementary and we talked about all the things that the Town does for our residents, like picking up trash, snow plowing in the winter, and maintaining parks and playgrounds. Boy Scout Troop 998 is working on their citizenship badges and I met with them to explain how Town government works and how they can be active citizens. Coming up in October, I'll be walking with the Catoctin Girl Scouts on Wednesday morning, October 4th, for Walk to School Day. The next afternoon, a group of Cub Scouts will be visiting Town Hall and they'll have the opportunity to conduct a mock Council meeting and discuss an important issue facing the Town. If you are interested in having your children participate in similar activities, please email me at kburk@leesburgva.gov.



at 2 Loudoun St SW in Leesburg.

Business of the Month ADJ Enterprises

ADJ Enterprises sells promotional products in downtown Leesburg. Whether you are looking for a specific item or just browsing for ideas, their website <http://adjenterprises.com> is your one-stop shopping source. From fun items to the traditional, you can easily search for some of the hottest items on the market, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Or visit the owner, Gladys Burke (pictured left),

Absentee Voting

Absentee voting for the November 7th general election is underway in Loudoun County.

Voters who wish to have an absentee ballot mailed to them may apply through the Virginia Department of Elections [online](#). Anyone who would like to vote an absentee ballot in person may do so at the Loudoun County Office of Elections, 750 Miller Drive, SE, Suite C in Leesburg, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Expanded absentee voting hours and locations will be offered beginning in October, check [here](#) for updates. The deadline for voters to apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to them is 5:00 pm, Tuesday, October 31st. The last day to vote an absentee ballot in person is Saturday, November 4th.



Events & Info



Leesburg's First Friday: Stroll around historic downtown Leesburg on the First Friday of each month (except January) to enjoy numerous live music performances throughout the town, art exhibits, wine tastings, lectures, and so much more! Over 45 specialty shops, art galleries, antique shops and restaurants are open until 9 pm or later, many offering free refreshments and/or special sales. Mark your calendar for the next First Friday event on October 6th.



Leesburg Airshow: Saturday, September 30th. Gates open at 11:00 am and the airshow begins at 1:00 pm at the Leesburg Executive Airport. The 8th Annual Leesburg Airshow will take to the skies once again with thrilling aerobatic

demonstrations, sky divers and more! There is a suggested donation of \$3 per person and \$5 per family. There are NO parking or shuttle fees. Visit www.leesburgairshow.com for parking directions and more information. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to relax on during the aerobatic portion of the event.

Coffee with a Cop: Thursday, October 5, at 9:00 am at Portside Coffee and Bakery, 446 Madison Trade Plaza, SE in Leesburg. Leesburg Police Chief Greg Brown invites you to join him and other police officers to have coffee, ask questions, voice concerns and get to know the officers in your community. No agenda, no speeches, just coffee.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: Saturday, October 14, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Leesburg Park & Ride 19730 Sycolin Rd. This service is free of charge and is available to Loudoun County (and Leesburg) residents only. Limit per household is 15 gallons of liquid hazardous waste and 40 pounds of solid hazardous waste.

2017 Fall Farm Tour: October 21-22, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Come out and enjoy the animals, people and products of Loudoun County's agricultural lands. The farm tour is free and self-guided, no tickets required! You can access tour information [online](#) or pick up a brochure at local libraries and community centers.

Loudoun County Partners with Leesburg to Help Businesses: Locating your business in an older building in the Town of Leesburg? Let the Business Assistance Team (BAT) guide you through the process of adaptive reuse. BAT will help commercial property owners and prospective tenants through the building and zoning permitting process for the use or reuse of commercial buildings within the town of Leesburg. Learn more [here](#).

Leesburg District, 1 Harrison St, S.E., 5th Floor, PO Box 70000, Leesburg, VA 20177

[About our service provider](#)

Sent by kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov in collaboration with

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