

Dear Leesburg Resident,

In memory of Congressman John Lewis, hero of the Civil Rights movement, you can support Black entrepreneurs, learn more here: [Loudoun Shops Black](#).

Noise Issue

Can the Board of Supervisors pass an ordinance to control the noise from outdoor shooting on private property that is in areas of the County designated as “rural” where the noise is audible in and disturbing to residents inside the Town limits? This is a question I have been getting from Town residents who live within earshot of the rural areas outside the Town. I am currently researching the law to see if the state has granted the Board the legal authority to protect Town residents from disturbing noise originating outside the Town. I don’t yet have a full answer, but the following will give you an idea of where we are in addressing this issue.

For years, the Sheriff and the Board of Supervisors have received complaints about noise coming from recreational shooting. Most of these complaints have originated in the rural parts of the County in Western Loudoun. If you subscribe to Alert Loudoun’s LCSO Daily Incident Report, you will find the Sheriff’s office receives complaints about gunfire from time to time. Inside the Town of Leesburg and in parts of Eastern Loudoun, there are prohibitions against shooting.

State law permits the Board to prohibit shooting in densely populated areas of the County. Why is it important what state law permits? Because Virginia is what’s called a “Dillon Rule” state. The Dillon Rule prohibits local government from taking any action unless the General Assembly passes enabling legislation that gives local government the authority to take action by, for example, passing an ordinance. When it comes to noise, Loudoun has two kinds of ordinances - the Codified Ordinances that can be enforced by the Sheriff; and the Noise Standards incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance that can be enforced by the County’s Zoning Enforcement staff.

Recently, residents of several Leesburg neighborhoods have complained about the noise of shooting coming from one or more properties just outside the Town of Leesburg. These

properties are in a district defined as Agricultural Rural-1 (AR-1) in the County's Zoning Ordinance, an area where recreational shooting is permitted, because, with very specific limitations, the state has not given the County the authority to prohibit shooting on one's own property in low density rural areas. Areas designated as AR-1 generally allow only low density residential development - at least 10 acres per residential unit. But there are quite a few non-residential uses that are permitted. For the full list of permitted uses in the AR-1 areas, please look at Article 2 (see link below).

Zoning Ordinance

Tree Clearing

The tree clearing on both sides of Tuscarora Creek is being performed to establish erosion and sediment controls necessary for construction of the bridge across Tuscarora Creek and the associated storm water management facilities. Clearing will be necessary on both sides of Tuscarora Creek to allow for construction of the bridge, bridge abutments, and bridge piers crossing Tuscarora Creek.

The developer of Tuscarora Crossing proffered to preserve trees that are located in tree conservation areas; however, they are permitted to remove trees for the construction of storm water management facilities and they can remove trees that were shown on approved construction plans. The current clearing is being performed in accordance with the approved construction for Crosstrail Boulevard extension from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell Branch Parkway at the Village at Leesburg. Please visit the project website below to stay informed.

Crosstrail Boulevard Extension

Structure of Government and Establishing a Police Department

At the July 21st Board business meeting, the Board discussed changing the County's form of government to another optional form (please visit link below for the list), timing for implementation and issues related to implementation. The motion that was approved directed staff and any consultant to study implementing a new system of County government that could eliminate the positions of an elected Commissioner of the Revenue and elected Treasurer, with County administration taking over their functions. The options discussed also envision the contraction of the Sheriff's duties from general law enforcement to the more limited functions of running the jail, protecting the courts and service of process. Under all scenarios, the Sheriff's law enforcement powers would be handed over to a newly created County Police Department that would operate under the County Administrator or Executive or under the Board. The staff and consultant's report is due no later than April 2021 for consideration by the Board. There was no cost estimate provided on the staff or consultant's reports. The Board anticipated, although postponed

any vote on, a possible voter referendum (required for these proposed changes) in November of 2021.

Optional Forms of Government per State Law

I did not support the motion because of the current massive instability in federal and state government policy, in the private sector, and in people's lives due to the shutdown. I believe it is the wrong time to spend money on this study at this time, especially since the vote to commission the study took place without any cost estimate or cost limit. It is also the wrong time to throw confusion into how Loudoun will be governed in the future. Loudoun's unemployment rate has skyrocketed from 2% to 10% and the recovery back to full employment is expected to be a long one. As a result, there are growing needs for food assistance, rental or mortgage assistance, and mental health assistance. Once we get our feet on the ground and the economy improves, County residents might want to study the options. Regarding the establishment of a police department, advocates for this change have stated that having an elected Sheriff politicizes law enforcement. But I believe politics can impact any form of law enforcement we choose. It is almost impossible for elected officials to refrain from attempting to inject political influence or control into any arena, including law enforcement.

Confederate Statue

The Confederate statue at the Loudoun County courthouse in Leesburg was removed by the Daughters of the Confederacy in coordination with the County on July 21st. At the Board business meeting on July 7th, we affirmed that the Loudoun Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy owns the Confederate monument. I voted to authorize the Loudoun Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to access the Loudoun County Courthouse grounds and remove the Confederate statue. I believe we have to put ourselves in the shoes of other people and see that these monuments are symbols of a system that enslaved the ancestors of our African American residents.

Battlefield Parkway Closure at Route 7

This is a reminder that Battlefield Parkway is closed between Russell Branch Parkway and the Marketplace at Potomac Station shopping center entrance for about ten months; traffic will be detoured via Fort Evans Road to the north, and Russell Branch Parkway and Crosstrail Boulevard to the south (see map below). During the closure, the traffic signal at the intersection will be removed from service. Route 7 eastbound and westbound will remain open to traffic at all times.



You can keep informed by visiting VDOT's project website and watching a video detailing the detour routes [here](#).

Route 7 at Battlefield Parkway website

Route 15 South Public Input Meeting

**LOUDOUN
COUNTY**
VIRGINIA

ROUTE 15 
SOUTH
Safety and Operational Study Leesburg to Prince William County

The Route 15 South public input meeting will be held Thursday, July 30th, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Members of the public are invited to attend the virtual meeting to learn more about the Route 15 South Safety and Operational study and to ask questions about this stretch of road, which includes approximately 12 miles of Route 15 from the southern corporate limit of the Town of Leesburg to the Prince William County boundary.

The purpose of the study is to identify safety and traffic operational issues and present recommended solutions for consideration by the Board. The County is working with the public to ensure any proposed improvements along Route 15 South will continue to carry local and commuter traffic safely and efficiently while preserving the unique context of the historical roadway.

Information on how to join the online meeting and to review meeting materials, including a pre-recorded presentation, detailed corridor diagrams and an online survey, are available on the website below. You may also submit questions in advance or sign up to ask questions by completing an online form no later than today (Wednesday) at noon.

[Route 15 South website](#)

Interactive Timeline of Positive COVID-19 Tests

Northern Virginia Regional Commission created an interactive timeline of the percentage of positive COVID-19 test results from March 16th to the present by Health District. You can see how staying at home, wearing a mask, washing your hands and employing physical distancing has had a good result for our region. Thank you.

[Interactive Timeline](#)

Warm Regards,

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Business of the Month



[Five Stones Healing Arts & Wellness Center](#), located in Leesburg, centers on the Five Stones of optimal health: Healthful Eating, Balanced Movement, Integrative and Functional Medicine, Mindful Stress Management, and Interconnected Living. The physicians and the medical team at Five Stones Healing Arts & Wellness Center strive to achieve optimal health and wellness by focusing on what matters most: helping patients to achieve the essential balance of healing and lifestyle in mind, body, and spirit. We are fully equipped to do virtual telemedicine, by phone visits or in the office visits; whatever best suits your individual need.



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

It's hard to believe that 2020 is halfway over. To kick things off for the second half of the year, I am once again challenging our residents to take part in the 9th annual Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation. The annual, non-profit, national community service campaign inspires leaders to engage their residents in making life-style changes that add up to big reductions in water and energy consumption. Leesburg residents are being asked to make online pledges, beginning August 1st, to conserve water, which can generate great impact on the health of our oceans, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands. The challenge will run through August 31st. In the wake of the current pandemic, the campaign, normally held in April, will provide residents with more opportunities to get involved safely from home. Residents who participate will be eligible to win up to \$3,000 towards home utilities in addition to more than \$50,000 in prizes. To participate, visit www.mywaterpledge.com.

A Civil War exhibit is currently on display at the Thomas Balch Library with more than 300 artifacts collected by local resident John Creamer. Items include belt buckles, rifles, artillery, and currency, most of which have been found throughout Leesburg and Loudoun

County. A number of the items are associated with the Battle of Balls Bluff. The exhibit will be on display in the Margaret Mercer Room through August and can be viewed by appointment only. For more information, call the Thomas Balch Library at 703-737-7195.

A ribbon cutting was held for the new ArtsPARKs installation at Raflo Park on Saturday, July 18th. ArtsPARKs is a collaboration between Leesburg Commission on Public Art and the Friends of Leesburg Public Arts.

The Leesburg Town Council has allocated \$1,000,000 in CARES Act funding in support of non-profit organizations working to assist Leesburg residents who have been financially or medically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Leesburg Town Council will approve the grant awards at their meeting on Tuesday, August 11th.



Update from Beth Barts

LCPS will start the 2020-2021 school year virtually with a phased in approach to the hybrid platform. As the Leesburg Representative, students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, ELL students and students with no internet and home support are a huge priority and an area of extra concern for me. I will be working with my colleagues and Dr. Williams to address these concerns.

The school board has always shared that decisions on returning to our bricks and mortar buildings will be based on the ability to safely and effectively meet in person. With the onset of a small group of students using "in-person" instruction over the summer, LCPS gained greater insight into the challenges of safe, in-person learning. This was with 52 students and not 40,000 students, and issues were still extremely challenging. In addition, the processing time for COVID-19 tests is taking longer. If we do not have tests that can be processed in less than a week, we cannot operate safely. Student and staff quarantines and isolation, as well as partial school closures, clarifies the level of disruption to learning that would occur. The data on school-based staff that would not be returning due to child care issues made opening in two formats extremely challenging. The original hope to make sure that secondary level students could have their choice classes in both distance learning and the hybrid platform was proving to be unlikely. The recommendation

from the Loudoun Health Department for staff to maintain 6 feet of distance from students even when masked was going to be difficult to enforce at all levels.

I look forward to sharing in the August newsletter more about our distance learning platform and ways we will be continuing our community care outreach.

Community Information



Sea un Héroe: Los residentes y negocios del norte de Virginia han trabajado duro para aplanar la curva del coronavirus. Hemos progresado mucho, pero es imperativo que no seamos complacientes. Todos necesitamos trabajar juntos para ser héroes y reducir el número de pruebas positivas a cero.

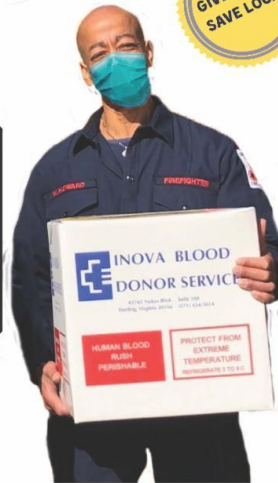
Sea un Héroe - YouTube

Blood Drive: The Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System, Inova Loudoun Hospital and Inova Blood Donor Services encourage you to make a lifesaving appointment to donate at the upcoming community blood drive on Friday, August 7th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center in Leesburg. Click [here](#) to sign up. Precautions will be taken to ensure social distancing and the use of facial coverings.

BLOOD DRIVE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2020

**9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. AT IDA LEE PARK RECREATION CENTER
60 IDA LEE DRIVE, NW | LEESBURG, VA 20176**



**SIGN UP TODAY!
VISIT [INOVABLOOD.ORG](https://www.inovablood.org)
OR CALL 1-866-BLOODSAVES (1-866-256-6372)**



Solarize NOVA: Now through August 31st, Loudoun County residents and business owners may utilize Solarize NOVA to learn more about solar power options and take advantage of streamlined installation and financing processes.

In addition to free home energy assessments, the program also offers discounted pricing on solar panels and electric vehicle chargers and will connect participants with information on the federal tax credit and local incentives. Anyone interested in learning more about solar power is encouraged to attend one of two upcoming virtual information sessions listed below. More information about the Solarize NOVA program and the webinars is available [here](#).

- Thursday, July 30th, 4:00 – 5:00 pm
 - Tuesday, August 18th, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
-

Pilot Glass Recycling Program: Glass bottles and jars are now being collected separately at the Landfill Recycling Center, 21101 Evergreen Mills Road in Leesburg.

The program is designed to increase recycling opportunities for glass. Glass that is commingled with other materials in the recycling process is often contaminated after the sorting process, limiting the extent to which the glass can be recycled. The glass collected in the Loudoun pilot program will be sent to Fairfax County to be used in construction projects and may also be sent to other facilities that are able to recycle glass bottles into new products. Visitors to the recycling center will see large purple bins (see picture below) labeled “Glass Recycling,” where glass bottles and jars are to be placed. Please follow these guidelines:

- Only glass bottles and jars are accepted.
- The glass bottles and jars must be empty and rinsed out.
- No lids or caps.
- Deposit bottles and jars loosely in the recycling containers provided, not in bags.

For more information, please visit the [recycling website](#).



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[About our service provider](#)

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