



Weekly Newsflash
February 9, 2023

**TOMORROW: Sterling Community Center
Black History Expo Feb. 10**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXPO

FEBRUARY 10

- DJ
- FOOD
- PRIZES
- RAFFLE

Join the Sterling Community Center to celebrate Black History Month. There will be fun activities to partake in such as a singing/dancing talent show and live performances. Friday, February 10, 5:00 PM-8:30 PM

Sterling Community Center
120 Enterprise Sterling, VA 20164
703-430-9480
www.facebook.com/sterlingvacommunitycenter

PRCS LOUDOUN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOUDOUN **LOUDOUN.GOV/PRCS**
SI USTED REQUIERE ASISTENCIA POR DISCAPACIDAD O NECESITA UN INTERPRETE PARA PARTICIPAR, POR FAVOR CONTACTENOS ADAPTREC@LOUDOUN.GOV - 703-777-0343

February is Black History Month. Join Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, and Community Services and the Sterling Community Center in celebrating Black history and culture at their upcoming Black History Month Expo!

The expo will be held **TOMORROW Friday, February 10, 2023, from 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm** at the Sterling Community Center (120 Enterprise Street).

The event will feature a DJ, food, games and prizes, a raffle and a variety of other fun activities and performances--including a talent show and live performances from local artists.

For more information, please contact the Community Center at [703-430-9480](tel:703-430-9480) or visit their [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/sterlingvacommunitycenter).

TOMORROW: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Hosts Open House for Summer Jobs on Feb. 10

Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services is holding two Summer Jobs Open Houses where you can learn more about summer positions within PRCS. Opportunities at the Open House include learning more about the application process and the different opportunities you can apply for as well as getting assistance with your application, and meet hiring managers for pre-interview conversations!

When:

- Friday February 10th
- Friday February 17th

Where:

- The PRCS Main Office
- 742 Miller Drive, Leesburg, VA 20175

There are numerous employment opportunities for summer and year-round jobs for teens who are rising 11th graders and adults. Interested candidates are encouraged to [fill out an application online prior to attending the open house events](#). For more information, call 703-777-0343 or [email](#).

If you can't attend one of the dates listed please sign up in the "More Info" slot to be contacted with more information about Summer Job Opportunities.

Have questions? Contact Caroline Bennett-Davis by email at Caroline.Bennett@loudoun.gov.

NOW HIRING
BUSCAMOS EMPLEADOS

JOIN OUR MISSION TO CONNECT ALL COMMUNITIES THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE, PARKS AND PROGRAMS.

SPRING & SUMMER JOB OPENINGS:

- SUMMER CAMP LEADERS, SUPERVISORS, & INSTRUCTORS
- LIFEGUARDS
 - NOT CERTIFIED? GET HIRED - FREE TRAINING!
- AFTER SCHOOL CASA LEADERS & SUPERVISORS
- YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL (YAS) LEADERS & SUPERVISORS
- FACILITY SUPERVISORS
- ADAPTIVE RECREATION STAFF
- SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKERS

APPLY TODAY!

FOR A FULL LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES, VISIT
LOUDOUN.GOV/PRCSJOBS
703-777-0343 PRCSRECRUITING@LOUDOUN.GOV

Update: Plastic Bag Tax

Month/Year Collected by Retailer	Amount
July 22	\$112,532.83
August 22	\$99,699.84
September 22	\$51,426.16
October 22*	\$1,792.05
Grand Total	\$265,450.88

*Partial month revenue

Loudoun County recently implemented a plastic bag tax that went into effect on July 1, 2022. The tax is collected on plastic bags used for purchases made at grocery stores, convenience stores and drugstores countywide, including those within the county's incorporated towns. It does not apply to restaurants, food banks, farmers markets

or clothing stores.

Additionally, plastic bag tax *is not* about generating revenue. The purpose of a plastic bag tax is to discourage utilization of plastic bags in order to help the environment. Any revenue generated will not go to the County's General Fund and what it can be used for is restricted under state law.

In accordance with the Code of Virginia, revenues generated from the disposable plastic bag tax are restricted in use to the following specific uses:

- Environmental cleanup,
- Providing education programs designed to reduce environmental waste,
- Mitigating pollution and litter, or
- Providing reusable bags to recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) benefits.

Revenue Update

Attached is the revenue the County has to date from the Disposable Plastic Bag Tax. As shown, revenue generated has substantially decreased from the tax's implementation in July 2022, indicating a decrease in plastic bag usage.

This tax is administered by the Virginia Department of Taxation and remitted to the County. Note that the Department of Taxation takes approximately three months to process and report/remit the bag tax information to Loudoun County. Also note that this is a new tax, so changes in consumer behavior, retail outlet business practices and seasonal patterns are not yet clear from this limited data – the amounts received to date are not necessarily predictive of future collections.

Public Invited to Provide Comment on the Fair Housing Plan for Loudoun County

The Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development invites residents to [provide comment](#) on the draft [regional fair housing plan](#) for Loudoun County. The public comment period opened January 31, 2023, and will last until March 31, 2023.

Residents are also encouraged to attend a public hearing on March 8, 2023, to learn more about the plan and provide feedback in person.

Loudoun County is one of eight participating jurisdictions that is working collaboratively to develop a regional fair housing plan, also known as the Regional Analysis of Impediments, to Fair Housing Choice. The process is being coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Public Comment Period

The public comment period will gather input from Loudoun County residents on the draft fair housing plan. The public comment period is open from January 31, 2023, to March 31, 2023. To submit comments:

- [Email](#)
- Phone/Voicemail: [202-962-3794](tel:202-962-3794) or TDD to [202-962-3213](tel:202-962-3213)



Regional Fair Housing Plan

Help shape the future of housing in Loudoun and the region!



- Submit comments on the draft Regional Fair Housing Plan.
- Attend a public hearing in Loudoun County 3/8/23.

 loudoun.gov/FairHousing

- Mail: MWCOG, 777 N. Capitol St, Washington, D.C. 20002, Attn: Fair Housing

Public Hearing

Loudoun County will host a public hearing on March 8, 2023, at 6 p.m. at the Department of Housing and Community Development office located at 106 Catoctin Circle SE in Leesburg. The meeting will be held in the Olmstead Room on the first floor. The program will include an overview of the Loudoun County sections of the fair housing plan including goals, past achievements, and data on affordable housing and barriers to fair housing in the county.

Anyone interested in speaking during the public hearing is encouraged to sign up in advance by contacting the Department of Housing and Community Development at [703-737-8323](tel:703-737-8323) or [by email](#).

To request language interpretation or accommodations for those with disabilities, please contact the Department of Housing and Community Development at [703-737-8323](tel:703-737-8323) or by [email](#). Five days' notice is requested.

[Read the Full News Release](#)

APPLY TODAY: Sterling District Representative for the Loudoun County Animal Advisory Committee



Loudoun County's Animal Services Committee is seeking a member for the vacant Sterling District seat. Commission members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the individual filling

this open seat would be one of 9 members.

The purpose of the Animal Advisory Committee is to advise the Board of Supervisors on the effectiveness of the Loudoun County Department of Animal Services; to advise to the Director Animal Services; to promote public awareness

of the Department of Animal Services; and to serve as ombudsman for Animal Services issues or concerns.

There are many Sterling District residents who are passionate about animal welfare, and many have had an opportunity to interact with Loudoun County Animal Services. The committee would benefit from having a Sterling district resident participating in their discussions with Animal Services, communicating feedback about their experiences, and advising about animal-related concerns from the Sterling district.

If you are interested in being considered for the position, please complete the [online application](#). Additional information is posted on the county's website at loudoun.gov/advisory.

2023 Real Estate Assessments Available Online

Loudoun County Commissioner of the Revenue Robert S. Wertz Jr. announces that Loudoun County real estate assessments for tax year 2023 are now available online



at loudoun.gov/parceldatabase. Printed assessment notices will be mailed to property owners the week of February 6, 2023.

These assessment notices, which are not tax bills, communicate to property owners the value of their real property as of January 1, 2023, and are reflective of real estate market activity that occurred during 2022. The assessed value in conjunction with the tax rate to be set by the Board of Supervisors in April provides the basis for real estate tax bills that will be due on June 5 and December 5. Property owners who believe their assessments are incorrect may file an Application for Review with the Commissioner online

at loudoun.gov/reaa by March 10, 2023. Thereafter, appeals may be made to the Board of Equalization until June 1.

The county's total taxable real estate is \$129.9 billion, an increase of 14.9% over last year. The typical existing single family detached property saw a year-over-year increase in value of 7.5% and the average attached townhome was up 5.9%. Commissioner Wertz stated, "We saw continued increases in sales prices of residential real estate in the county last year which peaked mid-year and began to taper off by the end of 2022." He continued, "Regarding commercial real estate, Loudoun is all about data centers which now comprise 58 percent of the commercial tax base and 14 percent of the overall value of real estate in the county." The total value of taxable commercial property in the county climbed to \$31.7 billion, an increase of 22.4% compared to 2022. These figures are averages and property owners may experience assessment changes that are more or less than the average.

Property owners may communicate with their respective appraiser whose name and contact information can be found on the assessment notice.

Taxpayers are encouraged to connect with the Commissioner of the Revenue's office virtually since most transactions can be done online. For more information, visit loudoun.gov/cor or contact the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue at 703 777-0260 weekdays during regular business hours of 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or [by email](#).

2023 CFDCO Dulles International Airport Scholarship Program



2023 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR DULLES FAMILIES

The CFDCO Dulles Airport Scholarship Program will award a minimum of 10 scholarships to 2023 **graduating high school seniors pursuing college or trade school**, who either are employed or are the dependent of an employee or volunteer of a business or agency operating at Washington Dulles International Airport.

For information and an application, visit <https://www.committeefordulles.org/scholarship> or e-mail Mark Treadaway at Mark@washingtonairports.com

Applications are due **March 28, 2023**



SCAN FOR DETAILS

As The Committee for Dulles Community Outreach Dulles Airport Scholarship Program will award a minimum of 10 scholarships to 2023 graduating high school seniors pursuing college or trade school, who either are employed or are the dependent of an employee or volunteer of a business or agency operating at Washington Dulles International Airport.

Available scholarships include eight (8) \$2,000 Academic Scholarships, and two (2) \$2,500 Academic/Community Service Scholarships.

Applicant Criteria

The Criteria is as follows:

1. Applicant must be an employee or volunteer of, or the dependent of an employee or volunteer of, a business or agency operating in the Washington Dulles Airport community. (This is defined as inside the fence that surrounds the entire airport property.)
2. Applicant is a graduating high school senior (Class of 2023).
3. Applicant must enroll in an accredited community college, trade school, college, or university. The applicant may be full-time or part-time.
4. Applicant demonstrates leadership and commitment to the community through involvement in extracurricular and/or volunteer activities. The Academic/Community Service scholarship awardee will demonstrate considerable community service.
5. Applicant must submit a completed application form which includes student essay, a recommendation letter from a teacher, a copy of high school transcript, and the signature page.
6. No financial disclosure is required; scholarship is not based on need.

7. The scholarship may be used for tuition and other related expenses, i.e., books.
8. The scholarship must commence within 12 months of the scholarship award or scholarship award will be forfeited.

Selections

Selection of the scholarship recipient will be made by a committee of the sponsoring organization. Please note that the Scholarship Committee reserves the right not to award the scholarship if it does not receive suitable applications.

Due Date

Applications are due no later than Tuesday, March 28, 2023. Complete applications will include a) the application form, b) a copy of student's transcript, c) a letter of recommendation from a teacher, and d) the signature page. ***Note: Due to the high number of scholarship applications received each year, incomplete applications will not be considered.***

For help and/or questions, please contact Mark Treadaway at [703.572.8718](tel:703.572.8718) or at mark@washingtonairports.com.

[Apply Today](#)

Loudoun Awarded Matching Grants for Water Quality Improvements

Loudoun County has been awarded more than \$4 million in state funding for stream restorations and local water quality improvements.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has approved matching grants for four Loudoun projects from the



**Loudoun County Awarded \$4 Million
for Stream Restorations
& Water Quality Improvements**

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loudoun.gov/stormwater

Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF). Through a competitive application process, the SLAF provides 50/50 matching grants to local governments for the design and implementation of stormwater best management practices that reduce water quality pollutant loads in local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay.

The projects and grant amounts are:

- **Ashburn Lake Pond Enhancement, \$2,130,446:** The project will create a forebay, or reservoir, in Lake Ashburn, which will increase the lake's ability to treat pollutants and enhance water quality to local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay.
- **Conklin Park Stream Restoration, \$1,408,185:** This project is located within Conklin Park in the Bull Run watershed and will restore an unnamed tributary to Elk Creek. The reduction of phosphorus, nitrogen and sediment in the stream will enhance water quality in the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.
- **Rostormel Court Outfall Restoration, \$319,147:** This project will repair and restore a highly eroded outfall channel, or discharge point, located within a stormwater easement in the Timberbrooke community. This project will enhance water quality in Beaverdam Run, Broad Run, the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay by reducing the amount of phosphorus, nitrogen, and sediment from entering these waterways.
- **Nutrient Credit Purchase, \$148,500:** As part of the county's efforts to limit the amount of pollutants that can enter the Chesapeake Bay, (Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load Action Plan), the county purchased 30 pounds, or credits, of phosphorus in Fiscal Year 2022. The grant will allow the county to be reimbursed for 50 percent of the purchase of those credits.

Construction on the projects is expected to begin in late 2023 or early 2024.

The Loudoun County Stormwater Management Program, which is administered by the Department of General Services, addresses the design, development, improvement, operation, inspection, maintenance and oversight of the county's stormwater management system. More information is online at loudoun.gov/stormwater.

Name of Historic 1895 Loudoun Courthouse to Honor Charles Hamilton Houston



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Historic Loudoun County
Courthouse
to be named for
Civil Rights Attorney
Charles Hamilton
Houston

Learn more: loudoun.gov/CourthouseHistory

During its February 7, 2023, meeting, the Board of Supervisors formalized the name of Loudoun County's courthouse complex in downtown Leesburg. Additionally, the Board approved the placement of a special moniker on the historic 1895 courthouse on the corner of King and

Market streets to honor civil rights attorney Charles Hamilton Houston. The move comes as the Loudoun County Courthouse Expansion project heads toward completion later this year.

The Board voted to name the multiple buildings that comprise the Loudoun courts and related offices the Loudoun County Courthouse Complex, while the historic courthouse will bear Houston's name. In 2020, the Board directed staff to pursue National Historic Landmark designation for the historic courthouse, which is expected to happen this year.

The name selection is based on a recommendation from the Board-appointed Heritage Commission, which highlighted Houston's work on the nationally significant 1933 trial of George Crawford. In *Commonwealth of Virginia v. Crawford*, Charles Hamilton Houston, who was the dean of Howard University's Law School and legal counsel to the NAACP, led an all-Black legal team assembled by the NAACP to defend Crawford, who was accused of murdering two white women in Middleburg. The case brought national attention to the issue of all-white juries, facilitated widespread recognition of the abilities of Black lawyers and laid important groundwork in the NAACP's emerging campaign to use federal constitutional law to dismantle racial segregation.

The case is considered seminal to the emergence of the civil rights movement and civil rights jurisprudence and is of such national importance that Loudoun County is seeking National Historic Landmark status for the courthouse based

on the event. The county anticipates a favorable vote by the National Park Service's Landmarks Committee later this year.

Meanwhile, work continues on the courthouse expansion. Construction crews have completed interior framing and the utility rough-in. The installation of drywall, door frames and window glazing are nearing completion. Permanent power for the new building has been established, and crews have installed the elevators and began painting interior walls. The Loudoun County Courthouse Expansion project is expected to be complete and open to the public in the fall of 2023.

Loudoun County will host a virtual construction update on March 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Details for joining the meeting are posted at loudoun.gov/calendar. Additional information about the courthouse construction project is available at loudoun.gov/courts-expansion.

February 2023 Mental Health Education & Substance Abuse Prevention Programs

Loudoun County offers ongoing mental health education and substance abuse prevention programs. All programs are free, but registration is required, and seats are limited.

The schedule of upcoming classes for February 2023 is as follows:

Mental Health Education & Substance Abuse Prevention Programs

New Classes Scheduled for Jan & Feb 2023

- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Mental Health First Aid
- Opioid Overdose Reversal
- Suicide Prevention

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loudoun.gov/MHSADSPrevention

Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid offers training that teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The trainings are usually held over a two-day period, with the class lasting for about three hours each day.

- February 14 & 15, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. each day. The in-person training will be at the Loudoun County Department of Mental

Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services office at 906 Trailview Blvd SE, Leesburg, Aspen Room.

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/mhfirstaid.

Opioid Overdose Reversal

REVIVE! is the opioid overdose and naloxone education program for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The training is free and anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who is using opioids is encouraged to attend a training. Loudoun County offers two versions of the program - Rapid REVIVE! and Virtual REVIVE!

- February 13, 2023, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

REVIVE! trainings can also be scheduled upon request. For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/revive.

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
[703-777-0204](tel:703-777-0204)

**Loudoun County
Government**

**Sterling District
Supervisor Page**

**Email
Koran T. Saines**

STAY CONNECTED



Sterling District | 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20177

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