



CHAIR PHYLLIS J. RANDALL NEWSLETTER

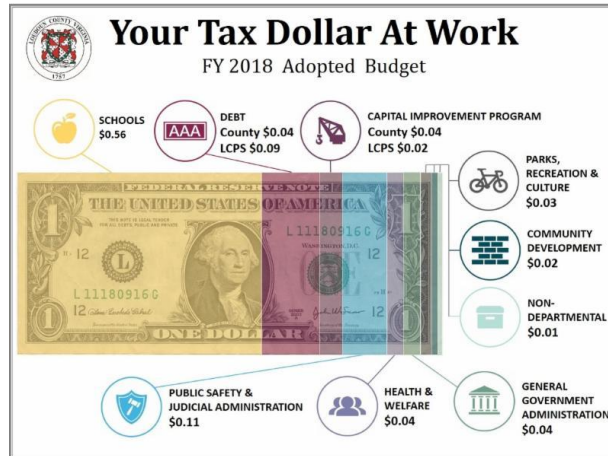


Hello, Loudoun

The first meeting for the Commission on Women and Girls will be Wednesday, April 19th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Dulles Room of the Government Center, 1 Harrison Street, SE in Leesburg. Commission members from the industry clusters will meet and establish subcommittees. All applicants will have an opportunity to serve on the subcommittees and will be contacted in the near future. I am going to open the application process for a woman who has served in the military. Please contact Elizabeth Bennis at elizabeth.bennis@loudoun.gov if you are interested.

Budget

On Tuesday, April 4th the Board approved a budget totaling approximately \$2.5 billion in total appropriations for the general county government and school system for FY 2018. The adopted budget includes a real property tax rate of \$1.125 per \$100 in assessed value, two cents lower than the current tax rate. The budget includes a local transfer to LCPS of \$747.9 million, which is a 7.7 percent increase in local tax funding over FY 2017. LCPS will have a \$5.5 million deficit between the School Board's request and Board allocation. Please visit the [County website](#) for more information about the adopted budget.



Although the Board members have different opinions on the budget, we all care about the County and citizens and have good intentions. It was a respectful budget process and I'm always looking for ways to improve it. We need to listen to each County department and judge each request based on its merit. I don't believe it is appropriate to enter into budget discussions with a predetermined tax rate. I hope the Board will take a different approach in the next fiscal year.

It was unfortunate that we could not provide more funding to ECHO and other employment and day support contractors. ECHO has been underfunded for years and as a result there is a significant waiting list. The Board voted to allocate \$600,000 of the \$1 million requested.

Regarding LCPS, I believe the equalized rate could have done more for the schools and was disappointed that we did not fully fund the schools this year. I moved that the Board fund \$1.9 million to purchase 16 more buses from the County fund balance to complete the FY 2018 Fleet Management Plan for 60 buses. This motion would not have changed the tax rate. The Board approved \$5.265 million to fund 44 buses from the County fund balance. Funding these remaining 16 buses would provide the same funding source for all LCPS buses in FY 2018 and decrease the LCPS budget gap to approximately \$3.6 million. Unfortunately, my motion failed and the LCPS budget gap remained at \$5.5 million.

County and LCPS staff did an excellent job answering questions and moving the budget process forward. I want to thank everyone who came out and spoke. Your voices matter and are appreciated.

Rural Economy

At the April 4th meeting, staff provided an update on the adopted Rural Economic Business Development Strategy. I moved to expand the scope for a needs assessment for a Loudoun Agriculture and Rural Business Accelerator and this passed unanimously. The reason I brought this item forward is because, as Chair, it is important to me that every Supervisor have an understanding of other parts of the

County. I want to thank Donald Virts from [CEA Farms](#) in Hillsboro and Doug Fabboli from [Fabboli Cellars](#) in Leesburg. Donnie has the best tomatoes at his hydroponics greenhouse and I look forward to a wine education this month at Fabboli Cellars.

RC ZOAM

The Board will hold the final [public hearing](#) on the Rural Commercial (RC) zoning ordinance amendment on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:00 pm in the Government Center, 1 Harrison Street, SE in Leesburg. This purpose of this zoning amendment is to establish a maximum density of four dwelling units per acre to be consistent with the character of the villages. Currently, RC zoned parcels located in these districts are permitted to develop residentially with no restriction on density. Commercial uses are not being amended because the main purpose of this district is to encourage rural commercial.

My office has received many e-mails from residents regarding this zoning change. In western Loudoun County, well or septic system capacity is the limiting factor for increased residential development. The two areas most impacted are the village of Arcola and old Ashburn with public utilities. The intent for this zoning district was to promote commercial development in the rural villages. I support amending the RC zoning to protect the character of the villages.

Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE)

PACE is a loan program for commercial property owners and multi-family residential buildings with five dwelling units or more (except condominiums) to finance clean energy improvements for their properties. At a Chamber of Commerce debate that I participated in, some in the business community expressed support for this program. Environmental groups like 350 Loudoun and Sustainable Loudoun have been strong advocates for PACE. I brought this item forward to gather more information and explore the feasibility of a PACE program in Loudoun. The item was forwarded to a May or June Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee Meeting for discussion.

I hope everyone has a relaxing spring break and holiday.

Best Regards,

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Voice for a Cause **Dandelion Meadow**

Dandelion Meadow's mission is to provide a sanctuary of healing for women survivors of addiction, abuse and human trafficking. Love is the strongest force for change in the world is the motto for this nonprofit. Dandelion Meadow plans to offer a residential program through Safe Haven Recovery with 24 months rent-free housing, treatment, vocational training and employment. They will start the program with one home and 6 women and move to 24 women as funding becomes available. They have plans to open a cafe and a retail storefront by Christmas 2017 to sell honey, hand-made products, artisan pottery and quilted creations made by women survivors. Volunteers are needed to define the vision and work on business and fundraising plans. If you are interested in joining, please send an e-mail or message through their [Facebook page](#). **Dandelion Meadow will take part in Leesburg's First Fridays beginning on May 5th with a "Love Mug" sale at Market Street Coffee.**



Investing in Transportation

Please Save the Dates for the Transit and Transportation Summits:

Transit Summit
Monday, May 22 at 5:00 pm

Transportation Summit
Thursday, June 29 at 5:00 pm

Both meetings will be held in the Board room of the Government Center, 1 Harrison Street, SE, Leesburg. The public is welcome to attend these summits but there will be no public input session.

There will be night closures at Route 7 & Belmont Ridge Road (Route 659) for the interchange construction. The second phase is scheduled on or about April 11th to April 20th. During Phase 2, the Route 7 eastbound left turn lanes onto Route 659 north and the Route 7 eastbound left and center through lanes will be closed, beginning at 10:00 pm. Route 7 and Route 659 closures will occur at 20-minute intervals between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, Monday through Friday. Loudoun County officials ask that motorists plan ahead to take alternate routes to avoid this area during the affected times. For more information, visit the [County website](#).

Step Up Loudoun Youth Competition

Chair Randall served as a judge at Step Up Loudoun's Youth Competition on March 28th. This annual competition encourages middle and high school youth across the County to identify an issue in their school, neighborhood or community; create a plan to address that issue; and implement the plan. The goal is to encourage, support and reward the youth of Loudoun County for making positive changes in their own lives and the lives of others. A special thanks to Trailside Middle School for hosting, to The YouthQuest Foundation for being the Program Sponsor, and especially TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING STUDENTS! We're so proud, impressed and awed by the hard work and positive difference each one of you has made!



Community Events and Information

Loudoun County Accepting Applications for Workforce Housing Units: This program provides first-time homeownership opportunities to individuals and families, allowing them to purchase units directly from the builder at a lower purchase price. Applicants are subject to certain income requirements. Regardless of family size, an applicant's household income must be between \$76,050 and \$125,003 per year. An applicant's income cannot exceed Loudoun County's median household income, which is \$125,003. For more information about eligibility, program requirements, and the application process, contact Brian Reagan of the Department of Family Services at 571-258-3305 or at Brian.Reagan@loudoun.gov.

Free Child Abuse Prevention Workshop: Friday, April 21, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, INMED Family & Youth Opportunity Center, 21630 Ridgetop Circle, Suite 130, Sterling. In observance of Prevent Child Abuse Month in April, INMED Healthy Families Loudoun and Loudoun County Child Protective Services are offering a training workshop titled Child Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Reporting Guidelines. This FREE workshop is designed for professionals and para-professionals working with families with children under 18 years of age. To register contact Maria Vasquez, mvasquez@inmed.org or 703-729-4951.

Step Sisters' Ribbon Run/Walk: Saturday, April 22, 8:00 am with the half-mile kids fun run at 9:00 am at the Brambleton Town Center. The Step Sisters' mission is to improve the quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer by funding needed support services like transportation, child care and house cleaning. The Ribbon Run raised \$30,000 last year and organizers hope to exceed that amount this year.

27th Annual Leesburg Flower and Garden Show: Saturday, April 22, 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday, April 23, 10 am to 5 pm. The Flower and Garden Festival has become an annual rite of spring for Loudoun County. The festival boasts 150 vendors which include landscapers,

gardening suppliers, plant sellers, outdoor living furniture, and more. There is also live music entertainment, activities for the kids, and delicious food.

[Loudoun Symphony](#): Saturday, April 29 at 7:30 pm at the Stone Bridge High School in Ashburn. Featured will be will popular classical music by Mozart and Tchaikovsky. Mozart's Piano Concerto will have as its soloist, Donna Lee. Ms Lee is a graduate of both the Julliard School of Music and The Peabody Conservatory. She has been soloist with the National Symphony and has been featured at the Lincoln Center in New York.

[Health and Wellness Fair](#): Saturday, April 29, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Sterling Community Center 120 Enterprise St, Sterling. There will be FREE health screenings and health information and a Sterling Cares Food Drive to collect much needed food for the food insecure. Proceeds will go to Loudoun Hunger Relief and distributed throughout the area. Please visit [Facebook](#) for more information.



Health & Wellness Fair

Saturday, April 29th • 9 am to 2 pm
Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling, VA
Come get information about services in the surrounding community and have questions answered

FREE Health Screenings and Offerings

Blood Pressure Screening, Glucose Screening, Weight and BMI Screening, Vision & Hearing Screening, Information on Nutrition and Oral Health, Diabetes Education, Low Vision Resources, Pre-Natal Care Information, Women's Health Information, Mental Health Information, Counseling Services, Fire Safety, Drug Addiction Awareness and Prevention, Smoking Cessation Information, Blood Donation, Community Food Pantry, Legal Aid, Domestic Violence Assistance, Emergency Financial Assistance, School Enrollment Screening, Senior Programs and Care Options, Other Information & Referral, and more.

Oveja Negra Band **ZUMBA** **The Feed Band**



Participants: Anthem HealthKeepers Plus | Virginia Medicaid Plan, Kaiser Foundation | Health Plan of Mid Atlantic States, Inc., Catholic Charities, CCDA-HOGAR, DEA, Friends of Loudoun Mental Health, Good Shepherd Alliance, HealthWorks for Northern Virginia, INMFD Partnerships for Children, Inova Blood Donor Services, Inova Loudoun Hospital, Just Neighbors, Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Lions, Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWs), Loudoun Cares, Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging, Loudoun County Commuter Services, Loudoun County Division of Housing and Community Development, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Dept., Loudoun County Health Dept., Loudoun County Parks, Recreation & Community Services, Loudoun County Schools Student Health Services, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers, Loudoun YMCA, Mobile Hope, Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Partnership for Healthier Kids, Rotary Club of Ashburn & Sterling, Salvation Army, St. David's Church, St. Matthew's, Sterling Foundation, Inc., American Cancer Society of Loudoun Co., Core Concepts Chiropractic, Department of Family Services, Evergreen Sportsplex, Foundation for Sight & Blindness, Health Insurance Navigator with ENROLL Virginia!, Inova-Simplicity Health, Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse & Developmental Services, Loudoun Elks, Loudoun Free Clinic, Loudoun Orthodontics-Dr. Richard Lee, Loudoun Water, Mobile: Aquaponics Display, NOVA Scripts Central, Plant Based Loudoun, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech Master Gardeners, Washington Regional Transplant Community, Young Invincibles, Supervisor Koran T. Saines, Supervisor Phyllis Randall

STAY CONNECTED:



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

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