



# CHAIR PHYLLIS J. RANDALL NEWSLETTER



## Hello, Loudoun

First, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas, happy holidays and happy New Year. As I approach the half-way mark in my term, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your Chair.

On Sunday, December 3rd, I attended Loudoun Symphony Orchestra's Christmas performance at John Champe High School. I enjoyed the family concert and got a chance to visit with Santa and his elves (see picture below). Thank you for a wonderful 2017!



**Nonprofit Needs Assessment**

At the December 5th Board meeting, we voted to pursue direct funding arrangements in FY 2019 with six nonprofits that provide core safety net services to County residents.

The nonprofit grant program will solely focus on funding for human service nonprofits. The recreation and culture based nonprofit organizations will potentially have another source of funding.

I want to thank the Loudoun Human Services Network (LHSN) and staff for improving this formula and taking the politics out of the process. The application process will be different and focus on evidence based numbers. I hope nonprofits will take advantage of the training offered by the LHSN in the New Year.

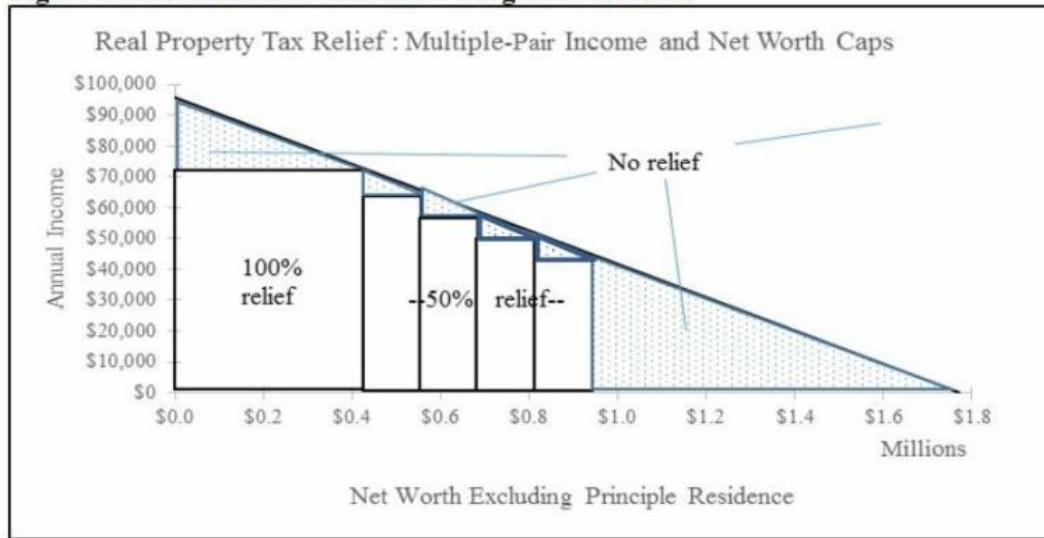
#### **Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly or Permanently Disabled**

At the December 13th public hearing, the Board approved the proposed expansion program for the [real estate tax relief for the elderly or permanently disabled](#) to be to be effective on January 1, 2019.

The amended ordinance adds four new brackets (see figure below), each denoted by a combination of income and net worth, and awards fifty percent real property tax relief to property owners age 65 years and older or totally and permanently disabled and meeting all other existing criteria for real property tax relief. All applicants who are currently benefiting from the program will not be affected.

In Loudoun, ten percent of our population are veterans and many have mental or physical disabilities including post-traumatic stress disorder. I supported these amendments, if for no other reason, than to support our veterans.

**Figure 2: Recommended Tax Relief Program Structure**



### True North Data Center

The Board held a special Transportation and Land Use Committee meeting on December 13th and forwarded True North Data Center to a January 18th Board business meeting for a vote.

I asked the applicant about the impervious surface of the data center use vs. by-right development or ten homes (please see the [video link](#)). Unlike what was presented, the applicant is now saying the site has more impervious cover/surfaces than a by-right use. This misinformation makes me think about a quote from my favorite movie, Jurassic Park: "The kind of control we are attempting here is not realistic." Although I appreciate our data center community, I think the citizens of Loudoun will suffer the negative consequences of a large data center along the Goose Creek.

The applicant agreed to revise the proffer statement to include the following:

1. Scholarship increase to \$50,000 payable to the County
2. Minimum open space increase to 64 acres or 62% of 103 acres
3. Maximum height of buildings on Sycolin Road capped at 27 feet
4. Building color from gray to earth tones
5. Four enhanced design elements
6. Landscape plan along Sycolin Road and the Greenway
7. Additional entrance plantings.

I hope residents will speak to the Board during the public input session on January 18th at 6:30 pm in the Board room of the Government

Center. Advanced sign-up for public input is available until noon the day of the business meeting by calling 703-777-0200. Thank you.

### **PACE**

The establishment of a commercial PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy Program) for Loudoun County will be discussed by the Board at the January 18th Board business meeting. I have been a strong supporter of this program because it will promote economic development and green infrastructure. As Metro comes to Loudoun, PACE will be an option for new commercial property owners to finance clean energy improvements. Our business community, environmentalists, and citizens support this program.

### **DC United Agreement**

The Board will be considering a [proposed Memorandum of Agreement \(MOA\)](#) between the County and the Major League Soccer franchise, DC United, to locate team offices and training facilities on county-owned property at Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park. Four soccer fields and an approximately 5,000-seat stadium will be constructed. Two fields will serve as the team practice fields and two will have shared use with the County during peak recreational periods. The County will have use of the stadium for other purposes, such as, college sports, concerts and other venues. Under the proposed agreement, the team will be repaying the County for the cost of constructing its facilities. Once the MOA has been finalized, it will be presented at the Board public hearing on January 10th. I can't think of a better place for DC United to be located. This agreement will provide Loudoun's kids with the opportunity to learn from the best soccer players and to experience world class competition.

The Board business meeting on December 21st is cancelled and the first Board meeting in January was moved to January 3rd due to the New Year holiday. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday.

Best Regards,

Phyllis Randall  
Chair, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
[phyllis.randall@loudoun.gov](mailto:phyllis.randall@loudoun.gov)

Bo Machayo  
Chief of Staff  
[bo.machayo@loudoun.gov](mailto:bo.machayo@loudoun.gov)

Laura TeKrony

Legislative Aide  
[laura.tekrony@loudoun.gov](mailto:laura.tekrony@loudoun.gov)

Elizabeth Bennis  
Executive Assistant  
[elizabeth.bennis@loudoun.gov](mailto:elizabeth.bennis@loudoun.gov)

## **Voice for a Cause** **Toys for Tots**



The Loudoun County Toys for Tots campaign is coordinated through the Loudoun County Detachment of the Marine Corps League. The national Toys for Tots Foundation's goal is to provide toys for needy children during the Christmas season. Hundreds of businesses and families contribute toys to enable us to serve less fortunate children. For every \$100 collected by Toys for Tots, \$97 goes to the children and only \$3 to support the efforts in collection. We strive to ensure that each child receives three toys for Christmas. At this time, toys have already been dropped off at the warehouse. Please consider a monetary donation to allow us to purchase toys, especially for children with special needs. It is easy to donate on-line, visit <https://loudoun-va.toysfortots.org>, select the "Donate" tab, then select "Make a Donation" in the "Give & Receive" column. In order for the donation to be designated to the Loudoun County Toys for Tots, please select VA-Loudoun from the "Select a Local Campaign" drop-down menu. Thank you!

## **Investing in Transportation**

Night lane closures at [Route 7/Belmont Ridge Road Interchange](#) are planned in December. The removal of the temporary bridge overhang material affecting the westbound lanes on Route 7 is planned to begin the night of Sunday, December 17th and will continue nightly until the morning of Friday, December 22nd. Single and double lane closures are set begin at 10:00 pm and all lanes will be open to traffic by 5:00 am the following morning. In addition to law enforcement personnel directing traffic, electronic message boards will be posted to advise the public to expect delays the night of each planned lane closure.

There will be a traffic shift on Waxpool Road from Ashburn Village Boulevard to Unbridled Way as part of the Waxpool Road expansion project on or about Wednesday, December 20th. The two existing lanes of traffic on Waxpool Road will be shifted to the north side of the road within the work zone limits as seen in the map below. As work is completed on the south side, traffic will shift accordingly and new lanes will open at the completion of the project, which is currently planned for early 2018.

## Waxpool Road – Traffic Shift Location 12-20-17



Route 50 will be closed in both directions between the roundabouts at Route 15 and Howers Branch Road, Thursday, December 21st from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm and Friday, December 22nd from 9:30 am to noon for guardrail upgrades. Traffic will be detoured via Route 15 and Howers Branch Road back to Route 50. Motorists should expect delays and are advised to use alternate routes.

VDOT's resources are in place for when winter arrives in Northern Virginia. Visit [VDOT's Northern Virginia Emergency Information](#) for the latest updates during snow storms.

## Community Events and Information

**Loudoun County Animal Services (LCAS) Mobile Adoptions:** Meet adoptable pets in convenient locations by visiting them on the Mobile Adoption Bus! All pets on the bus are available for adoption and most can go home right away. Upcoming mobile adoption events in 2018 include:

- Friday, January 5 - Pet Supplies Plus in Ashburn, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Friday, January 12 - Pet Value in Ashburn, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Saturday, January 13 - Leesburg Farmers Market, 9:00 am to noon
- Friday, January 19 - Purcellville Library, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Sunday, January 21 - Cascades Farmers Market, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm



**[Give the Gift of Farm-Fresh Food:](#)** Still looking for tasty, useful gifts for friends and family? Why not give them a subscription to fresh food from a Loudoun farm? Many of Loudoun's farms offer Community Supported Agriculture subscriptions. When you sign up for a CSA, you get a supply of seasonal food every week. It can be Loudoun-grown fruits or vegetables, or Loudoun-raised meat products, or a mixture, depending on the farm. To find farms that offer CSAs, visit <http://loudounfarms.org/csa>.

**[Baroque, Beyond, and Back Again by Loudoun Symphony Orchestra:](#)** Sunday, January 21st from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at St. David's Episcopal Church, 43600 Russell Branch Parkway in Ashburn. Chase away the winter gloom by enjoying an afternoon of joyful music! The program features the iconic Vivaldi's Winter from The Four Seasons and The Holberg Suite for String Orchestra.

STAY CONNECTED:



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

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