

# All About Algonkian



Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



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## From Supervisor Briskman

Dear Neighbors,

My thoughts and are with each and everyone of of you as we continue to navigate our way through this murky period. There is so much information and sobering statistics threatening to engulf us. My staff and I are working tirelessly to keep you informed. When we know, you

will know.

The Loudoun County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains active and staffed and providing guidance and answers to the many question my office receives. The excellent county staff continue to work collaboratively with our neighbors. last week, members of the BOS and the mayors of Loudoun County's seven incorporated towns joined together to send words of encouragement and support to the community amid the COVID-19 pandemic. In a letter to the community, the officials praise Loudoun residents and businesses for their resilience and caring and also encourage them not to "fall into the trap of negativity." The elected representatives also pledge to "do everything in our power to help us all get through this together."

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## BOS Meetings

The Board of Supervisors meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Public Hearings are held the Wednesday of the week after the 1st Board meeting.

Check out the [BOS Calendar](#) for upcoming meetings

Want to speak? Visit the [county web page for information](#).

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## QUICK TIPS

Can't find time to get to DMV? No problem. They will come to you with DMV2Go!!!

Apply for or renew your id or driver's license, take road and knowledge tests and much more.

Check the [DMV2Go calendar](#) for upcoming dates and locations

Loudoun County Health Department hotline  
(703) 737-8300

## SCAMS

[IRS Issues Warning about Coronavirus-Related Scams; Watch Out for](#)

Last week, I co-hosted a forum with experts from the George Washington University. The panelist included the chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, a professor of nursing, and the deans of the schools of Public Health and Nursing. This was a great discussion. A wealth of information was shared and we answered as many questions as we could on COVID-19. You can watch the video on my [Face Book Page](#).

I also hosted a call with local area religious leaders to discuss ways to support their communities. Members are volunteering and sewing face masks and looking for other ways to assist. I plan to hold these calls on a regular basis through the pandemic and beyond.

It goes without saying that these are very trying times. Families may be experiencing increased isolation and danger caused by social distancing measures during the COVID-19 pandemic. The county has resources to help those who are surviving violence in their relationships and want residents to know:

- The DART team is still at work to protect survivors.
- Everyone deserves to feel safe in their homes and live a life free of violence.

The DART team includes advocates, service providers, law enforcement, and legal professionals, who mobilize to support survivors' needs. The team has developed a [video](#) and [webpage](#) to highlight available resources.

### To get help in Loudoun County:

- Call or text 9-1-1 if anyone is in immediate danger.
- Call Loudoun County's Domestic and Sexual Violence hotline 24 hours a day, every day: 703-777-6552.
- Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or TTY 1-800-787-3224. If you're unable to speak safely, you can log onto [thehotline.org](#) or text LOVEIS to 22522.
- Call the National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN) at 800-656-HOPE (4673). Survivors can call RAINN or chat on the [website](#). It's free and confidential.
- Visit [loudoun.gov/DART](#).

Schemes Tied to  
Economic Impact  
Payments

The Virginia  
Coronavirus Fraud  
Task Force and  
Internal Revenue  
Service-Criminal  
Investigations are  
warning taxpayers  
to be alert about  
possible scams  
relating to COVID-19  
economic impact  
payments.

Virginia Coronavirus  
Fraud Task Force

Eastern Virginia  
Coronavirus Fraud  
Coordinator,  
Assistant U.S.  
Attorney Email  
Kaitlin F. Cooke or  
804-819-5416.

To report fraudulent  
activity to the  
Virginia State Police,  
Virginians can Email  
Virginia Fusion  
Center.

To report a COVID-  
19 fraud scheme or  
suspicious activity,  
contact the  
National Center for  
Disaster Fraud  
(NCDF) by calling  
the NCDF Hotline at  
1-866-720-5721 or  
send an email.



In closing, I urge you to find joy wherever you can. Loudoun County AAA/Senior Center staff are making daily birthday calls as outreach to their membership. They also created a list of highest risk seniors and contact them for weekly check-in providing reminders on safety, uplifting messages and stories, timely messages about topics like women's history month and poetry month, home delivered meals, and wellness. They have created Zoom activities (sing-a-long, bingo, and joke hour) and exercise classes and emailed activity packets to families and are working with colleagues to host a virtual monthly caregiver support group. At Loudoun Valley Community Center they have developed a "Stories from School Street" video campaign where preschool staff, and admin staff read a story, do a project, or sign a sing-a-long. What a great job keeping people engaged!

Stay well,

*Juli*

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**VIRGINIA'S  
HEALTH  
IS IN YOUR  
HANDS.**  
Do your part,  
stay at home.

**The stay-at-home order is in effect until June 10**



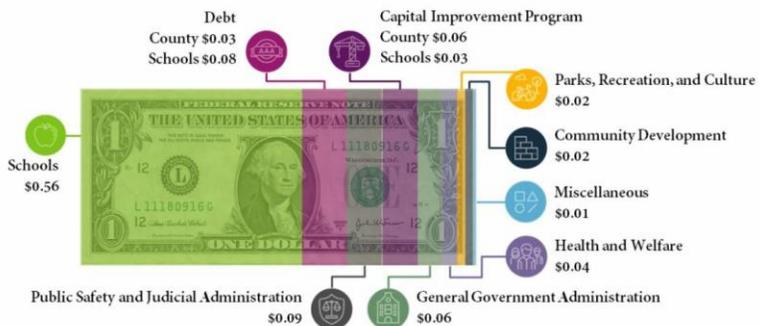
## STATE UPDATES

Governor Northam requested the General Assembly (GA) move the May General Election and all special elections scheduled for May 5, 2020 to the November 3, 2020 General Election date to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The GA reconvenes on April 22, 2020. The Governor is also exercising his statutory authority ([§ 24.2-603.1 of the Code of Virginia](#)) to move the June primary elections from June 9, 2020 to June 23, 2020. Read the full press release [here](#).

## Your Tax Dollar at Work

Adopted FY21 Budget

**Loudoun County**  
VIRGINIA



## BUDGET UPDATES

This week, the BOS approved a budget totaling approximately \$3.0 billion in total appropriations for the general county government and school system for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. The adopted budget includes a real property tax rate of \$1.035 per \$100 in assessed value, one cent lower than the current tax rate. In adopting the FY 2021 budget, the Board recognized the uncertain financial future the county faces due to the COVID-19 pandemic and took action to give the county government flexibility in managing the unknown economic impacts.

The Board approved a county plan for a revenue shortfall in FY 2021 of up to \$100 million as revenues within the FY 2021 budget were constructed on assumptions of economic growth that are unlikely to be fully realized due to COVID-19. \$100 million in planned FY 2021 expenditures will be placed into a reserve that will be split between the general county government and Loudoun County Public Schools, with \$40 million designated for county government expenditures and \$60 million for LCPS. These funds will be held in reserve until released by the Board, if revenues materialize to support these expenditures. When including the \$60 million of reserved LCPS expenditures, the FY 2021 fully funds the School Board's February 4, 2020, adopted budget request.

For the \$40 million in county government-reserved expenditures, this freeze includes most new expenditures in the FY 2021 budget, including: the 3.5% merit increase for eligible county employees and step increase for public safety employees; operating and maintenance adjustments; and new departmental resource requests for capital facility openings and departmental priorities.

The FY 2021 budget will go into effect July 1, 2020, while the new tax rates are effective as of January 1, 2020, and will be used for the spring tax collection. More information about the budget process is online at [loudoun.gov/budget](http://loudoun.gov/budget).

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VISIT LOUDOUN

Interested in hearing what's going on with Tourism in Loudoun? Watch The CARES Act and Tourism What are the conversations you need to have TODAY.



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## LOUDOUN OFFICIALS ADDRESS CONCERNS ABOUT ANIMALS and COVID-19

Loudoun County officials are offering advice to residents concerning interactions with animals during the COVID-19 pandemic. While there is no evidence that pets or livestock can transmit the virus to people, researchers are investigating whether animals can contract the virus from humans. Basic hygiene and distancing measures are recommended to keep everyone safe:

- Wash your hands before and after handling pets, even your own.
- Avoid sneezing or coughing on your pet.
- Keep your distance from other people's pets and animals. Don't allow people outside of your household to pet your animals. Don't touch animals that are not your own.
- Always avoid interacting with or feeding wild animals.

If you become ill, follow the [CDC's guidance](#). Consider having a friend, neighbor or family member provide care to your pets while you recover. If you do not have someone to help with care, practice good hand-washing and avoid sneezing or coughing on your pet.

If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and cannot leave your home to get pet food, contact the Department of Animal Services for assistance. The department can facilitate the delivery of up to two weeks of pet food to your home. Anyone who has questions about COVID-19 and animals or needs assistance may call the Department of Animal Services at 703-777-0406 or email [animals@loudoun.gov](mailto:animals@loudoun.gov).

ATOOSA  REASER

Paid for by The Committee to Elect Atoosa Reaser



## School Board Snippets

As you are likely aware, due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, Loudoun County Public Schools has transitioned to distancing learning for the remainder of this school year.

Beginning April 15, teachers will provide distance learning with a focus on new skills and knowledge. While many details have been shared, many are still developing, and some are sure to change in this brand new world. For example, specific guidelines regarding teacher communication, including office hours and synchronous learning opportunities, are being developed and will be shared next week.

Your feedback is not only welcome, it is imperative. We are all working together, so please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [via email](#) and we can set up a call.

### Grades K-2

- teachers have flexibility to provide optional synchronous learning and offline learning opportunities
- teachers may communicate via ParentVue or other forms as established with students' families
- packets of material for English and math learning experiences will be available on the LCPS site and mailed to families every two weeks beginning April 20
- student work time guideline of up to 60 minutes daily
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ended 3/11 and grades will be finalized by 4/24

- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter will reflect no grade, but progress teachers will track progress and provide feedback

### **Grades 3-5**

- teachers will provide synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities via Google Classroom
- English, math, science, and social science will also use Edmentum courses
- student work time guideline of up to 90 minutes daily
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ended 3/11 and grades will be finalized by 4/24
- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter will reflect no grade, but progress teachers will track progress and provide feedback

### **Grades 6-12**

- teachers will provide synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities via Google Classroom
- English, math, science, and social science will also use Edmentum courses
- student work time guideline of up to 30 minutes per class daily (up to 4 hours daily, all classes combined)
- AP and Dual Enrollment classes are aligned to course expectations

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

- grades determined based on work completed through 3/11 with an opportunity for students to make up missing work for a grade and/or complete re-assessments until 4/24
- no assignments entered for work submitted after 3/11 should negatively impact the grade a student had on 3/11

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

- teachers may assign numeric values for assignments in the grade book to track student progress
- grades will not be reflected on the report card and no Quarter 4 grade will be reported

### **Final Grades**

- the final grade for the course will be determined by whichever of three options results in the most favorable grade for the student, which can be found here: [here](#)
- resulting grades will be shared with families and students, at which time the option for the numeric grade or Pass/Fail will be given to the student and family
- teachers may adjust a student's final grade based on Quarter 4 work done by a student if the student shows improvement or progress compared to that student's previous work
- student improvement during Quarter 4 can lead to an improved final grade
- a student's final grade cannot be lowered based on Quarter 4 work
- department chairs and teacher leaders in each school will set consistency guidelines



**Atoosa Reaser**  
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**Loudoun County School Board**  
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[Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](#)

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