Covid-19 Transforms Politics

Both Virginia and Loudoun County Declare Emergencies

The Covid-19 pandemic has radically changed the face of Virginia society in a few short weeks. Governor Northam has banned gatherings of more than 10 people. In-person Town Halls, Fundraisers, and non-emergency meetings have been cancelled. Virginia schools have shut down for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Our economy is in distress.

Where does this leave LCDC?

With the election of our lifetime looming in November, Loudoun Democrats cannot afford to stop working but neither can we afford to jeopardize the health and safety of our members and our community.

(Cont. on p. 2)
Before the ban on large gatherings was made official, the LCDC Leadership began exploring teleconferencing options and settled on Zoom. The Districts and Committees are now holding their meetings by teleconference, and the April General Membership Meeting will also be a teleconference (see p. 4 for details). While teleconferences require a bit of getting used to, LCDC members can use them to stay connected going forward.

LCDC has organized a volunteer service for those more vulnerable people who need errands done but are reluctant to leave their homes. See details at the end of this article.

The Committee is also arranging virtual movie nights and trivia nights. Watch the calendar and your inboxes for details.

More than anything, we must not lose sight of our goal of electing Democrats, returning science and experts to our government, and ensuring the corrupt Trump Administration cannot continue its mismanagement and blatant disregard of our institutional norms.

If we cannot canvass, we will phonebank. If we cannot conduct candidate events, we will move them to social media. If we cannot reach out to voters in person we will try harder online.

While we all might hope that the current administration was more capable and less corrupt, all we can do is move forward and continue to mobilize the best we can for the May Town elections (see p. 6) and the November election.

Remember, per the Loudoun County Board of Elections, anyone can opt to vote absentee (either in person or by mail) for the May elections. Choose 2a (illness or disability - Covid-19) as the excuse.

As the situation changes, LCDC will send out updates. Watch your inboxes!

**LCDC Covid-19 Community Response**

The LCDC is organizing volunteers to help those who need assistance in running errands during the Covid-19 outbreak. If you are interested in volunteering, sign up here.

If you are in need of assistance, contact LCDC here.

Stay Safe!
Notes From the Chair

As we are going through these uncertain times I am reminded of our core values as a Democratic Committee, specifically our belief in the public good.

We believe it is the responsibility of government at all levels to efficiently protect and promote the public good as determined by the people working through our democratic political institutions and ensure that the economy creates enough jobs that provide a living wage for all.

Unfortunately, this presidential administration does not share our core values, and its inaction is proving deadly. I understand that the unpredictability of what is to come is scary. I understand that many of us are waking up to a world that has changed and continues to change at an unprecedented rate. Many of us are worried for our loved ones, our paychecks, and our communities.

Even through all of this I have found reason to hope. I have watched our community stand up to help those less fortunate. I have seen our local leaders working nonstop to keep us informed and safe. We will get through this together, and you have shown me that is possible. We will adapt, we will move forward, and we will succeed.

The world may not be the same as it was just a few weeks ago, but that does not mean we should sacrifice our values. Now, more than ever, we need to stand up for them, not only through our words, but also through our actions.

This state of emergency will pass. We will remember the search for toilet paper and hand sanitizer with amusement. We will look back with anger on the failures of the presidential administration. We will mourn the loss of life and remember our dead. But I hope that we can also look back and feel a sense of pride. Pride that during trying times we did not falter, we stood up. We watched out for our neighbors. We helped our local businesses. We did whatever we could to help our community. Please remember we will get through this.

Our Loudoun County community has shown me repeatedly what we can accomplish when we work together. Be kind to your fellow humans, continue to uphold our values, and stay safe.

Lissa Savaglio
LCDC Chair
April 2nd General Membership Meeting Goes Virtual

Thursday 2 April,
6:30 PM: Networking and Help with Zoom
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM: Business Meeting

Description: Join Zoom Meeting, ID: 940 420 535

https://lucd.zoom.us/j/940420535

One tap mobile +16465588656,,940420535# US (New York)
+16699006833,,940420535# US (San Jose)

The meeting will be open at 6:30 PM for those looking for help with Zoom and for those that want to say hello and chat before the Business Meeting starts.

The first 5 minutes of the Business Meeting will be a discussion of the moderation procedures.

Moderators: Tyler Peak and David Bauer

Please be prompt and patient. Thank you.

In addition, we are lucky to have a few individuals offer to be our "help staff" to be on call for assistance through this transition and any technical problems that may arise. Those individuals and their contact information are:

Nicole Lee - nicolepagelee@gmail.com: (703)405-0055
Amy Bauer - bauer2017a@gmail.com: (703)447-7182
Chris Tandy - chris@christandy.net: (703)407-8142
You do not need to purchase Zoom to attend a Zoom meeting, but you do need to download the free Zoom client. It's best to do this before the meeting is scheduled to start. Either visit Zoom's website or click on the meeting link you've been sent. You won't be able to join the meeting until it is started by the host, but you will be sent to the download link if you don't already have the client and can ensure you are ready to go.

- **Put your first and last name into your Zoom profile** (this will enable the moderators to take attendance and verify that quorum is met).

- Mute yourself if you are not speaking (the microphone icon should be red). For some meetings such as the Membership Meeting, the Moderators will be controlling your microphone. This is not to silence you, but to prevent noise levels from overwhelming the meeting.

- Remember to take yourself off mute when you are speaking. (In large meetings, the moderators will do this for you).

- If you wish to be seen, turn on your video. Look for the video camera icon (if red, you are not visible; green you can be seen). If you happen to have a tab blocking your camera on your computer, remember to open it.

- If you do not wish to be on camera, you can set a profile picture, which will appear instead. If you keep your video icon turned off and do not set a picture, your name will appear on a black background.

- Use the Raise Your Hand icon if you wish to speak and wait to be recognized (Can be found by clicking on Participants in the menu).

- There is a chat room. You can ask questions or otherwise communicate with everyone or with a particular member of the meeting without affecting the ongoing meeting. Please note that meeting moderators may not necessarily see your comments or be able to address all of them directly.

- Be aware that this type of meeting has its own special challenges and please be patient.

**Zoom tutorials can be found here.**
Do you live in Hamilton, Lovettsville, Middleburg, Round Hill, or Purcellville?

Don't forget to vote in the May 5th town elections! Absentee Ballots are being encouraged. Choose 2A Illness or Disability (Covid-19) as the excuse.

Voter Registration Deadlines

Online - Monday, April 13, 2020 at 11:59 PM
In-person - Monday, April 13, 2020 at 5:00 PM
By-Mail - Postmarked no later than April 13, 2020 at 5:00 PM

Absentee Voting

In-person absentee voting opens - Friday, March 20, 2020
Last day to request ballot be mailed to you - Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 5:00 PM
Last day to vote absentee in-person - Saturday, May 2, 2020
   (office will be open 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM) *
   In light of the pandemic, all hours should be verified

Wait! Where are Hillsboro and Leesburg?

Leesburg and Hillsboro holds their town elections in November (In 2020, Tuesday, November 3rd).
The Blue Ridge District is large, stretching from the western border with Clarke County at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, south to Prince William across the southern border of Loudoun County to Dulles Airport. The northern border spikes up in the west north of Hillsboro before dropping precipitously to run south of Catoctin District.

Blue Ridge includes farmland, historic towns and villages, and award-winning urban and suburban planned communities and established neighborhoods. Four of the seven incorporated towns in Loudoun County are in Blue Ridge: Hillsboro, Middleburg, Round Hill, and Purcellville. The robust and diverse economy features a technological hub, data centers, agri-businesses, and agri-tourism.

Over the past few years, Blue Ridge District voters moved from supporting the GOP to helping flip Loudoun County and Virginia Blue. Wendy Gooditis wrestled House District 10 away from the GOP in 2017 and retained the seat in 2019. In 2019 John Bell won Senate District 13, turning blue a previously red seat.

Buta Biberaj, Loudoun County Commonwealth’s Attorney, and Denise Corbo, Loudoun County School Board Member-At-Large, reside in the Blue Ridge District.

Local Elected Officials

Senator John Bell (SD-13)  
(Precincts 301-303, 305, 310-313, 315, 318, 319, 322)

Senator Jill Vogel (R) (SD-27)  
(Precincts 307-309)

Senator Jennifer Boysko (SD-33)  
(Precincts 314, 316, 320, 321)

Delegate Wendy Gooditis (HD-10)  
(Precincts 305, 307-309, 312, 316, 318, 321)

Delegate Dave LaRock (R) (HD-33)  
(Precincts 301-303, 310, 311, 315)

Delegate Suhas Subramanyam (HD-87)  
(Precincts 313, 314, 319, 320, 322)

Supervisor Tony Buffington, Jr. (R)

School Board Rep. Ian Serotkin

LCDC Contacts

Chair Cathy Schonder  
blueridge@loudoundemocrats.org

Vice-Chair Barbara Gerritsen

Vice-Chair Larry Pantzer
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<tr>
<th>Precinct</th>
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<tr>
<td>301</td>
<td>Emerick Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>302</td>
<td>Round Hill Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>303</td>
<td>Old Stone School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>Philomont Firehouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307</td>
<td>Town Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>308</td>
<td>Banneker Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>309</td>
<td>Aldie Methodist Church</td>
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<td>Mountain View Elementary School</td>
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<td>322</td>
<td>Buffalo Trail Elementary School</td>
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See Loudoun.gov to verify polling locations, locate addresses, and view individual precinct maps.
Committee News

Outreach and Inclusion

Outreach and Inclusion will be meeting virtually on Sunday 5 April (12:30 PM to 1:30 PM). Join Zoom Meeting - https://lucd.zoom.us/j/223145128. Meeting ID: 223 145 128. One tap mobile +16465588656,,223145128# US (New York) +16699006833,,223145128# US (San Jose).

Algonkian District

Algonkian will be meeting virtually on Thursday 9 April (6:30 PM to 9:00 PM). Zoom Meeting: https://lucd.zoom.us/j/680710824. Meeting ID: 680 710 824. One tap mobile+13126266799,,680710824#US (Chicago)+16465588656,,680710824# US (New York).

Dulles District

Dulles District will be holding a virtual meeting on Thursday 9 April at 7:00 PM. Zoom information coming soon.

Sterling District

Sterling District will hold a virtual meeting on Wednesday 8 April (7:00 PM to 9:00 PM). Join Zoom Meeting - https://lucd.zoom.us/j/936731637. Meeting ID: 936 731 637. One tap mobile +16465588656,,936731637# US (New York)+13126266799,,936731637# US (Chicago).

For information about Committee leadership and for contact information, visit the LCDC website.
Events

Community Check-In
Virtual Phonebanking
Virtual Locations Throughtout April

Join the Wexton Campaign in touching base with our neighbors and promoting mental and physical health awareness. Sign up here.

If the April Caucus to elect Delegates to the VA-10th CD Convention and the State Convention is necessary, the Caucus will be held online from NOON Saturday 18 April to 7:00 PM Monday 20 April.

See the LCDC website for more information.

Authorized and Paid for by the Loudoun County Democratic Committee