



**NEWSFLASH**

# Inside Sterling

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Loudoun County  
VIRGINIA



## COVID-19 Updates & Important Information

~FEBRUARY 16, 2021~

### Governor Northam Announces \$524 Million in New Funding for Virginia Rent Relief Program



Governor Ralph Northam today announced \$524 million in new federal funding to help keep Virginia families in their homes amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Virginia Rent Relief Program (RRP) is funded through the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program included in the recent federal stimulus package and will assist households and landlords with rent payments to avoid eviction.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

### Virginia Launches Central Pre-Registration Website for COVID-19 Vaccine

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) [announced the launch of a Statewide Vaccine Pre-Registration System](#) to provide a unified and comprehensive process for people in Virginia to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine.



As a result of the new statewide system, VDH has directed all local health districts to close their pre-registration forms and surveys to allow for existing registration data to be transferred to the new system.

Loudoun County's survey is now closed and residents will be able to register for a COVID-19 vaccine via the new system beginning Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at [Vaccinate.Virginia.gov](https://www.vaccinate.virginia.gov). Important points for Loudoun residents to know:

- Anyone who has pre-registered with the county will be transferred to the new system.
- Loudoun will continue to schedule vaccine appointments with those who are pre-registered with the county.
- The current wait time for an appointment for anyone who is pre-registered with the county is at least six weeks. Again, we ask for your patience as we work through the process.

[Read More About the Transition to the New System](#)

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**This Week: Black History Month Programming**



### **A Conversation: Advancing Historic Justice & Equity in Preservation of Virginia's Black History**

Wed. February 17th at 6:00-7:30  
pm

Interested in learning more about Virginia's historic justice and equity efforts?

If so, join the Secretary of the Commonwealth for an engaging conversation with several Virginia leaders who have been instrumental in efforts to preserve Virginia's Black

history and right Virginia's historical wrongs.

[Register](#)

### **Second Annual 'Black History Month Historical Marker Contest'**

This initiative offers opportunities to learn about African Americans who have made important contributions to Virginia history, provides teachers with resources to guide history discussions, and includes a contest where students can submit ideas for new historical markers to the Department of Historical Resources.

[Get Contest Details](#)

### **The Other Madisons: The Lost History of a President's Black Family**

Thurs. February 18th at 6:00 pm

Join the Library of Virginia for a virtual genealogical book lecture by retired physician and geneticist Bettye Kears, author of *The Other Madisons: The Lost History of a President's Black Family*. Kears—a descendant of an enslaved cook and, according to oral tradition, President James Madison—shares her family story and explores the issues of legacy, race, and the powerful consequences of telling the whole truth.

[Register](#)

## You Can Improve How Your Face Mask Protects You

Updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) emphasizes that wearing a well-fitting mask is important in helping curb the spread of COVID-19.

This comes after the CDC posted [results of new research](#) that tested different types of masks and found that combining a cloth mask over a disposable surgical mask could significantly reduce the spread of the virus to others. It also reduces exposure to the virus for the wearer.



The CDC recommends people wear masks with a nose wire that can be adjusted for a snug fit and suggests knotting the ear loops of a disposal mask and then tucking in and flattening the extra material close to the face.

[Read the updated guidelines](#)

## Using Labor Market Data for Your Job Search



The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center is hosting a free, online information session, "Using Labor Market Data for Your Job Search," on **Wednesday, February 17th from 5:30 - 6:30 pm.**

Take advantage of this session to get an update on the current labor market for

Loudoun County, opportunities for job growth over the next 18 months, tips for using data to find a job, and an overview of other resources. Presented by Alex

Cooley, CECD, MPA Administrator, Economic Development Strategic Partnerships and Workforce Innovation

[Find details and link to register](#)

## Update: Sterling Park Safety Center

This week, reconstruction of the new Sterling Park Safety Center on Commerce Street--home to Sterling Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC) and Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad (SVRS)--will commence.



Work begins with the demolition of the building behind the current station to make room for a temporary station that SVFC, SVRS, and LCFR will use to respond to emergencies while the new station is under construction. Operations are scheduled to move into the temporary station at the end of Spring 2021, and should return to the new station in late Summer 2022!

The new station will provide:

- More space to account for the increase in emergency calls seen over recent years
- Larger doors will allow for easier, safer, and quicker response for emergency vehicles
- Expanded sleeping and living areas
- A gym
- Expanded classroom spaces for ongoing training and skills practice
- An exhibit the history of Sterling Volunteer Fire Company and the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad
- And more

[Learn More](#)

## Loudoun Online Initiative to Develop Fatherhood Skills Begins March 2, 2021



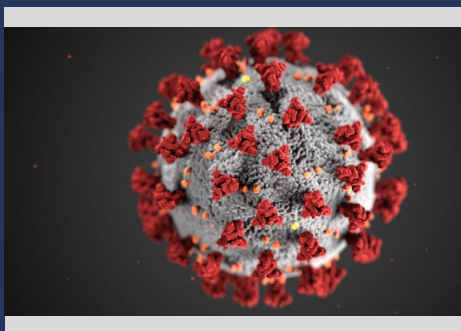
The next session of the program sponsored by the Loudoun County Department of Family Services to help fathers build skills to become even stronger dads **begins Tuesday, March 2, 2021.** All fathers are welcome to attend the free, 12-week virtual program.

Area fathers are encouraged to register for the National Fatherhood Initiative's 24/7 Dad® program to strengthen their relationships with their children. The virtual workshops will take place weekly on Tuesdays, beginning March 2, 2021, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Developed by fathering and parenting experts, the 24/7 Dad program teaches fathering techniques and strategies, provides fathers with peer support and guidance, and allows fathers the opportunity to discover their own parenting strengths.

To register, sign up at <https://bit.ly/loudounfathers>, email Program Assistant Linh Carter or call 703-737-8237.

## Stay Informed!



**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY**  
—  —  
**VIRGINIA**

The county continues to encourage everyone in the community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

- Wear a mask/face covering ([see requirements](#))
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus).
- Text **LCCOVID19** to **888777** to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con **LCCOVIDESP** al **888777** para actualizaciones diaras relacionadas con el coronavirus (COVID-19) en el condado de Loudoun.

Residents with questions about COVID-19 may call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line, 703-737-8300, or email [health@loudoun.gov](mailto:health@loudoun.gov).

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid non-essential travel.

## Supervisor Koran T. Saines

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[Loudoun County Government](#)

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STAY CONNECTED



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