

# Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Thursday April 11

Volmert, Mark

Mon 4/1/2019 1:09 PM

to: news@dhonline.com <news@dhonline.com>;

 1 attachment

Linn TAC 19-04-11 Agenda.doc;

## Community Calendar Item

The Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday April 11 at 1:30 at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent Street, Lebanon.

The agenda is attached.

For additional information please contact Mark Volmert, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator at mvolmert@co.linn.or.us or (541) 231-8903

### **Mark Volmert**

Linn County  
Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator  
(541) 231-8903

Mark Volmert is an Independent Contractor

# Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Tuesday March 5 Meeting

Volmert, Mark

Mon 2/25/2019 8:26 PM

To news@dhonline.com <news@dhonline.com>;

 1 attachment

Linn TAC 19-03-05 Agenda.doc;

## Community Calendar Item

The Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday March 5 at 1:30 at the Albany City Hall (Willamette Room-First Floor).

The agenda for each meeting is attached.

For additional information please contact Mark Volmert, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator at mvolmert@co.linn.or.us or (541) 231-8903

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# Community Calendar Item: Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meetings January 29 and January 31

Volmert, Mark

Mon 1/21/2019 12:32 PM

To: news@dhonline.com <news@dhonline.com>;

 2 attachments

Linn TAC 19-01-29 Agenda.doc; Linn TAC 19-01-31 Agenda.doc;

## Community Calendar Item

The Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday January 29 at 1:30 at the Albany City Hall (Willamette Room-First Floor).

The Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee will also hold a meeting on Thursday January 31 at 1:30pm at the Lebanon Senior Center lated at 80 Tangent Street Lebanon.

The agenda for each meeting is attached.

For additional information please contact Mark Volmert, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator at mvolmert@co.linn.or.us or (541) 231-8903

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# Community Calendar Item: Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meetings January 29 and January 31

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Mon 1/21/2019 12:32 PM

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## Community Calendar Item

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# Community Calendar Item: Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Volmert, Mark

Tue 11/27/2018 4:57 PM

To news@dhonline.com <news@dhonline.com>;

 1 attachment

Linn TAC 18-12-04 Agenda.doc;

## Community Calendar Item

The Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday December 4 at 1:30 at the Albany City Hall (Santiam Room-Second Floor).

The agenda for the meeting is attached.

For additional information please contact Mark Volmert, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator at mvolmert@co.linn.or.us or (541) 231-8903.

### **Mark Volmert**

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Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator  
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opened from his former classmates in Parkland, Florida, many school districts conducted regular shooting drills — exercises that sometimes included simulated gunfire and blood and often happened with no warning that the attack wasn't real.

The drills began taking shape after the Columbine High School shooting in 1999. But 20 years later, parents are questioning elements of the practice, including whether the drills traumatize kids.

April Sullivan was pleasantly surprised by an "I love you, Mom" text from her daughter last May, even though she knew the eighth-grader wasn't supposed to be using her cellphone during school in Short Pump, Virginia. But she did not know that her child sent it while supposedly hiding from an intruder. The girl didn't know the "code blue" alert was a drill.

"To find out later she sent that text because she was in fear for her life did not sit well with me," Sullivan said.

Henrico County Public Schools have since changed the way they conduct drills, making clear at the start that the events are not real and notifying parents as the drill begins or right after, district spokesman Andy Jenks said.

The backlash underlines the challenges administrators face in deciding how far to go in the name of preparedness.

Thirty-nine states require lockdown, active-shooter or similar safety drills. Other states have less ex-



AP FILE PHOTO

a student helps block the classroom door with furniture during a mock lockdown drill in 2013, at Moody High School in Corpus Christi, Texas. Now, parents and others are questioning elements of these drills, including the question of whether they traumatize kids.

licit requirements or leave it to districts, according to the Education Commission of the States. A Mississippi task force has proposed twice-yearly active-shooter drills.

But even as the drills become routine for many of the nation's 51 million elementary and secondary public school students, there is no consensus on how they should be conducted, experts said. No data exists, for example, to show whether a drill with simulated gunfire is more effective or whether an exercise that's been announced in advance is taken less seriously than a surprise.

"Some hard data on each question are needed with urgency," said University at Buffalo professor Jeremy Finn, who gathered experts from around the country to evaluate school security measures at a conference in Washington, D.C., in October.

After Columbine, lockdowns that involved bolting the door and crouching quietly out of sight became the norm. In 2013, the Department of Education

recommended giving staff latitude to evacuate, barricade classroom doors or, as a last resort, fight back by throwing things or rushing the attacker.

"Do you really want it to be your kid who's the one who takes the bullet and winds up with a plaque in the lobby of the school saying he went down as a hero?" asked Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, parent Nannette Adams, who disagreed with the decision to adopt a widely used safety protocol during a September drill at her 15-year-old son's high school. The protocol is known as ALICE, which stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter and evacuate.

"To me, this just seems like an indirect admission on the part of the schools that they really have no control over who gets into the building, and the school security office isn't enough to keep the place safe so we need to hold the kids accountable for doing it," she said.

In 2014, the National Association of School Psychologists and the National Association of School Edu-

cation Officers issued joint guidance that cautioned that while drills have the potential to save lives, those "not conducted appropriately" can cause "physical and psychological harm to students, staff and the overall learning environment."

needs-up would impact safety by letting students take it less seriously.

"I think that's baloney. They're very aware of what can happen in this day and age. They all see the news. They all see social media," said Sullivan, whose daughter declined to be interviewed by The Associated Press but described the drill for Richmond television station WWBT a few days later.

"I thought I was probably going to die that day," she said. "We hear the door handle jiggling up and down and then we see the door

Mo Canady, executive director of the school resource officer group, recommends districts save the most intense exercises for staff only. As the decision-makers, he said, "they need to know a little more what that's going to feel like."

For students, lower-stress drills that have them listening to instructions and running through the motions, like traditional fire drills, should be the focus, he said.

"We need to be as prepared as we can," Canady said. "but it doesn't mean that we've got to terrify students to get them prepared."



**Applications Available For Linn County Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund 2019-2021**

Funding from the Oregon Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Formula Fund Program is available for the planning, development, operation and administration of public transportation programs. In this funding cycle the money is primarily intended to expand or improve public transportation services. The program is funded through a one-tenth of 1% employee payroll tax. Funding is generally limited to public transportation service providers.

STIF project applications must be received by the Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. For additional information contact Mark Volmert, Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator, at (541) 231-8903 or e-mail [mvolmert@co.linn.or.us](mailto:mvolmert@co.linn.or.us).

Applications will be reviewed by the Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee at 1:30 pm on Tuesday March 5 at the Albany City Hall. The Linn County Board of Commissioners will make final decisions regarding prioritization and funding of project applications at 9:35 am on Tuesday March 19 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Linn County Courthouse.

**CARING PLACE**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2019-2021

HISTORY | analysis

# Blackface dates back to 1830s

Here's a look at the racist practice and its origins

JESSE J. HOLLAND  
Associated Press

A racist photo from a 1984 yearbook threatens to end Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam's political career. The photo shows two people: one in blackface and one wearing a Ku Klux Klan hood and robe. The image generated intense pressure for Northam to resign and offered the latest example of a prominent white person facing harsh criticism for wearing blackface. Here's a look at the practice and its history:

## Blackface origins

Blackface minstrelsy is considered by some to be the first uniquely American form of entertainment.

White men would darken their faces to create caricatures of black people, including large mouths, lips and eyes, woolly hair and coal-black skin. The performances would stereotype black men and women as ignorant, hypersexual, superstitious, lazy people who were prone to thievery and cowardice.

The practice took hold in New York City in the 1830s and became immensely popular among post-Civil War whites. In fact, the Jim Crow laws that enforced racial segregation in the South took their name from a character played by blackface performer Thomas Dartmouth Rice. He said his act "Jump, Jim Crow" (or "Jumping Jim Crow") was inspired by a slave he saw.

## Controversial from the start

Blackface performances were condemned as offensive from the beginning.

In 1848, after watching a blackface act, abolitionist Frederick Douglass called the performers "the filthy scum of white society" in *The North Star* newspaper.

Blackface performers, he said, "have stolen from us a complexion denied to them by nature ... to make money and pander to the corrupt taste of their white fellow-citizens."

Civil rights organizations have publicly condemned blackface for decades, saying it dehumanizes blacks by introducing and reinforcing racial stereotypes.



AP PHOTOS

demonstrators hold signs and chant Saturday outside the Governor's Mansion at the Capitol in Richmond, Va.

## Northam isn't the first

Comedian Billy Crystal was criticized in 2012 for impersonating Sammy Davis Jr. in blackface during his opening montage at the Oscars, a repeat of his oft-performed skit from "Saturday Night Live" from the 1980s.

Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan had to apologize in 2000 for a picture of him and his brothers singing in a blackface quartet in 1960 that came up during his run for U.S. Senate in 1999. He died in a plane crash the next year but won the Senate seat anyway.

Actor Ted Danson was accused of being racist and tasteless for performing a skit in blackface, using the N-word and joking about his sex life with then-girlfriend Whoopi Goldberg, who is black, at Goldberg's Friars Club roast in 1993.

Dozens of other whites, including college fraternities and sororities, public officials and law enforcement officers, have also been criticized for blackface incidents.

Florida Secretary of State Mike Ertel



Eddie Cantor was known for performing in blackface in the 1920s.

resigned last month after a newspaper obtained photos of him in blackface and wearing earrings, a New Orleans Saints bandanna and fake breasts under a purple T-shirt that said "Katrina Victim." The photos were taken two months after the deadly storm ravaged the Gulf Coast in 2005, killing more than a thousand people.

## African-Americans in blackface

Early black actors, singers and vaudevillians were forced to don blackface as well if they wished to perform for more lucrative white audiences.

For example, William Henry "Master Juba" Lane is considered the single most influential performer in 19th-century dance and is credited with inventing tap. It was only after his fame reached international proportions that he was allowed to tour with an all-white minstrel troupe and to perform without blackface.

One of the more disastrous critiques of blackface was from black actor Ben Vereen at President Ronald Reagan's inauguration. Vereen's intent was a tribute to legendary black vaudevillian Bert Williams, who was forced to wear blackface to stay employed.

Vereen ridiculed and sang "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee" before a cheering GOP audience, along with the president and first lady Nancy Reagan. He then stripped the blackface off while singing "Nobody (I ain't never got nothin' from nobody, no time)" to show the pain of blackface and the exploitation of African-Americans.

But ABC omitted the second part of Vereen's performance when airing it, leaving only the minstrelsy segment. Vereen, who at the time was one of the nation's top black actors, faced an immediate backlash from African-American fans for what they saw as burlesquer.

Vereen has said he was promised that both parts would be shown and that he was "sabotaged by the network."

## Tension in other countries

Similar controversies have arisen in other countries.

In 2017, confrontations broke out in the Netherlands over the helper of the Dutch version of Santa Claus. Known as Black Pete, the character is played by whites in blackface at children's events.

A leading television station in Peru was fined \$26,000 for airing the popular comedy character Negro Mama on an entertainment show in 2013. The character is played by Jorge Benavides, who dons blackface, exaggerated lips and a flaring nose.

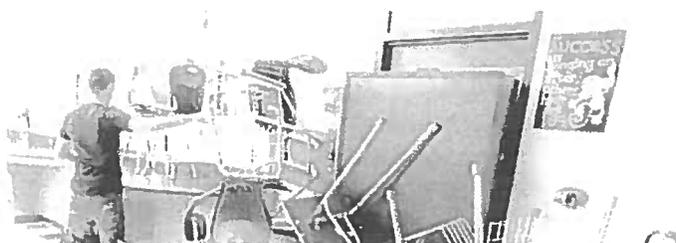
In 2010, Mexican media conglomerate Televisa drew criticism for hiring actors in blackface for a popular morning program during the World Cup.

# Parents worry that school drills traumatize kids

No consensus exists on how to conduct simulated events

CAROLYN THOMPSON  
Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Long before an ex-student



After public criticism of the unannounced Short Pump drill and others, the Virginia House of Delegates last month considered, but defeated, legislation requiring schools to give parents advance notification. The bill's Democratic sponsor, Schuyler VanValkenburg, a high school teacher, said opponents argued that the

open, and it's our resource officer telling us it's a drill.

When her son's school tired blanks during a drill, Adams questioned whether it was really necessary to expose children to the sound of gunfire. Others complained that such realistic exercises can take a toll on classroom learning even after the drills are done.