



Sentinel

Volume XL, Issue 2

March 2016

Circulation 250

**Stoneybrooke Community Yard Sale,
Saturday, May 7**

Message From Supervisor McKay

Budget Season Begins, Co. Sets Advertised Tax Rate

The County Executive released his proposed FY17 budget on Feb. 16. On March 1, the Board of Supervisors, in a bipartisan vote after much discussion and debate, agreed to advertise a tax rate of \$1.13, a 4-cent increase from the current rate of \$1.09 per \$100 of assessed value. The Board can now adopt a tax rate that is lower, but not higher, than that 4 cent rate.

An underperforming real estate market, uneven job growth, and high office vacancies meant the County needed to close an \$85 million shortfall this year. Schools also requested a transfer increase of over \$120 million. To do this, there were proposed cuts, reductions, and the possible 4-cent real estate tax increase.

My Board colleagues and I will now be crunching numbers and weighing needs to produce a balanced budget. It's another year of tough decisions – our needs surpass available revenue. State law limits our revenue sources, leaving property taxes as our main resource. We again are having a dialog with Richmond to increase education funding and to diversify our tax base.

Education is again a top priority. The advertised budget has an increase of over \$54 million already included for schools. We must balance the needs of our strong parks, libraries, public safety, and human services too. These are not stand-alone services and the success of our schools is linked to them.

There was some good news specifically for South County in the County Executive's proposal. Funds for the future use of Old Mount Vernon High School, as well as dollars towards the construction of a new police station in Lorton were included. A new station in South County will reduce response times countywide, especially in Mount Vernon and Lee Districts.

I want to hear about what's important to you. Please contact my office or sign up to speak at our public hearings on April 5, 6, and 7. We'll adopt the budget on April 26.

Stoneybrooke Community Association (SCA) Interest Meeting

Our SCA past president, Mike Jurkowski, hosted a very successful community meeting at his home on Monday, March 7. The purpose of the meeting was to re-energize the SCA, which has been lacking some key officers and committee chairpersons for several years. Mike provided information to the folks that attended on what the SCA has done in the past and how to get involved with the SCA, be it as an officer or other volunteer positions (organizing kids' activities, neighborhood gatherings, webmaster, directory, etc.). Several folks who attended expressed an interest in the committees and positions available, and the group discussed having a full neighborhood meeting in May. Watch the Sentinel, the neighborhood email list, and neighborhood Facebook page for updates and information on upcoming meetings.

FCPS School Board to Consider Starting School Before Labor Day for 2017-2018 School Year (reprinted by permission)

The Fairfax County School Board will consider starting school before Labor Day for the 2017-18 school year, now that Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) qualifies for a waiver from the post-Labor Day requirement. The 2016-17 school year calendar, adopted in December, remains in effect and designates Tuesday, September 6, as the first day of school.

According to the Code of Virginia (22.1-79.1), the Board of Education may waive the state requirement to begin schools after Labor Day if a district is closed an average of 8 days per year during 5 of the past 10 years due to weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergencies.

FCPS qualifies for the waiver because, during five of the past 10 years, the district has averaged 8.4 days missed due to weather conditions and other events. Based upon this current average of missed days, the waiver option will continue at least through the 2019-20 school year.

The School Board will discuss the issue at a future work session and, prior to taking a vote, will gather feedback from parents, teachers, and community members.

For more information, contact the FCPS Office of Communication and Community Relations at 571-423-1200.

New Fairfax County Real Estate Tax Rate; Schools Budget

As noted in Supervisor McKay's article, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has authorized a maximum advertised real estate tax rate of \$1.13 per \$100 of assessed value for the FY 2017 budget, four cents higher than the current FY 2016 rate. This does not fully fund FCPS. Assuming there is no other funding from the County, and accounting for the budget proposals under consideration in Richmond and increasing estimated sales tax revenue for FCPS, the remaining budget gap is approximately \$54 to \$58 million. This shortfall will need to be addressed by cuts to the FY 17 advertised budget that will be determined by the School Board over the next three months with final adoption May 26.

Note from the Editors

Please contact the editors with your news and information: Carrie Wehling Michaud and Jessica Kaplan (cwehlingmichaud@verizon.net and floreskaplan@gmail.com)

Neighborhood Watch

More news next month.

D. Faxon
Stoneybrooke Citizens Association
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
571-437-7696 (cell)

Letters to the Editors:

No letters this month.

2016 Stoneybrooke Board and Committees

Board

Chairman	Vacant
Vice-Chairman	Vacant
Secretary	John Finamore
Treasurer	Bernie Tabarini
Parliamentarian	Vacant

Committees

Directory	Marie Ernst
Lee District Land Use	Jim Van Duesen
Membership	BJT Associates
Registered Mail Agent	Mike Jurkowski
Welcoming	Ruth Feist
Youth	Vacant
Neighborhood Watch	Don Faxon
<i>Sentinel</i>	Jessica Kaplan, Carrie Wehling Michaud and Heather Martin



Stoneybrooke Babysitters

- Mitchell Flores-Kaplan: (703) 765-9448, floreskaplan@gmail.com
- Ashlyn Hendrix: (703) 298-2073 (Red Cross Certified), ashlynrhendrix13@gmail.com
- JD DeLorenzo: Red Cross Certified babysitting and mother's helper (703) 768-0895, rangersrulejd@yahoo.com
- Tiffany Carter: (703) 509-9098, tiffielc@gmail.com
- Emily Lyon: (703) 765-6582 (Red Cross Certified)
- Christina Dillard: Cell (703) 981-0926; cjdillard98@gmail.com
- Adrianna DeLorenzo: (703) 768-0895;(Red Cross Certified);adsmiley36@yahoo.com
- Lily Michaud: (703) 768-9723; lmichaud.5@gmail.com
- Molly Sternberg: Home: (703) 768-7879; Cell (703) 772-7801 (Red Cross Certified); mollyesternberg@yahoo.com

Announcements

Registration for Bethany Lutheran Preschool. It's a new year and time to plan for the 2016-17 school year for your little one. Registration began Wednesday, January 20th. A registration application and forms are available at the church website or by contacting the preschool office. We offer classes for children ages 2 – 5 years-old. Learn more by contacting Tonia 703-765-8687 or PRESCHOOL@BETHANY-LCMS.ORG. Visits during the school day are welcomed. Interested in viewing pictures of what happens in the classrooms during the day? Check us out on Facebook. www.Facebook.com/BLPreschool It's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

Car show at West Potomac HS, April 23, 2016. See attached flyer for more information. This should be a very fun event, and a great fundraiser for the WPHS Class of 2016 All Night Graduation party.

The Rose Hill Players Present "What a Knight!" Join Rose Hill Elementary School's Rose Hill players for What a Knight!, a hilarious musical adventure featuring a castle full of colorful characters, including precocious princesses, a talking dragon, and Merlin and his magic mirror. When young squire Watt Cobblers is expelled from Knight School, he reluctantly becomes Merlin's new apprentice. But trouble is never far away, and soon Camelot Castle collapses into chaos. Merlin has lost Excalibur, King Arthur's daughters have been kidnapped and his brave knights have turned into chickens. Watt and his new found friends Dusty Dragon and wayward Princess Alice set off on the biggest quest of their lives. Can our unlikely heroes rescue the princesses, save Excalibur and defeat the evil Black Knight?

Please join us for performances at Thomas A. Edison High School (5801 Franconia Rd., Alexandria) on Friday, May 6th at 7pm and Saturday, May 7th at 1pm and 7pm. Tickets will be available at the door (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$1 for children at matinee). Concessions will be available. Stoneybrooke's own Lily Mizoe is in the play!

FCPS Board Member office hours. Jeanette Hough, Fairfax County School Board Member At Large, has scheduled upcoming office hours. Wednesday, April 6, 2016. Time: 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean, VA 22101-2818. If you would like to discuss any issues related to Fairfax County Public Schools, please drop by to talk with Jeanette. No appointment necessary.

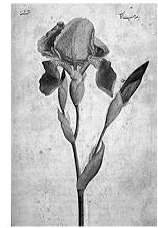
Free Yoga Class. Free, Family Friendly Yoga Class is open to the community. Class meets weekly on Tuesday evenings from 7:00PM - 8:00PM at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA 22308. Appropriate for 3 Year olds and up. Contact Judy Jurkowski at 703-765-6555 ext 626 or JJurkowski@aldersgate.net for more information.

Streetlights. If you notice streetlights that are out, it's easy to get them fixed. Just call Virginia Power at 1-866-366-4357 and provide the street address where the streetlight is located.

Stoneybrooke on Facebook. Please join the Stoneybrooke community ("Stoneybrooke Neighborhood (Alexandria, VA)") on Facebook for up-to-date community news and information.

MOMS Club of Alexandria-South Chapter: The MOMS Club is a social support group designed for stay-at-home moms. They sponsor activities for moms and kids, with most activities taking place during the day. They also offer small playgroups, a book club, and community service opportunities. If you or any of your friends (in zip codes 22303, 22306 and 22307) are interested in joining or would like more information, visit the MOMS Club website <http://www.southalexandriamomsclub.webs.com>.

Supervisor McKay's Newsletter: If you would like to be on the distribution list for Supervisor McKay's electronic newsletter, please send an email to leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov and include 'subscribe' in the subject line.



The plant club of Stoneybrooke: The Plant Exchange provides a place where gardeners in the community can offer plants, cuttings, seeds and bulbs for trade and make requests for what they are seeking. Items for sale are not permitted. If interested contact: Zoya DiCaprio at zoya@zoyaphoto.com. Here is the link for the plant club: <http://zoyaphoto.com/PlantClub.htm> We hope you can join us.



An award winning portrait photojournalist captures the depth of the moment in the visual world.

For my dear Stoneybrooke neighbors, I would like to extend a gift of \$50 discount.

Zoya DiCaprio

www.Zoyaphoto.com

703.313.8787

202.413.2501

Other ways to find out what's going on in Stoneybrooke: Join the Stoneybrooke group email list, which includes most of the neighborhood. It's a secure way for neighborhood residents to view messages and information about the community. Contact the SCA email coordinator, Dina Staskiewicz, at Stoneybrooke_Citizens@yahoo.com for more information

Classifieds

NOTE: Any SCA family member that would like to place an ad, please send a note or email to the editors with the ad information and your contact information. Listings of items for sale are limited to one year. Ads for contractor services require at least one written recommendation (e.g. email) from a Stoneybrooke resident. The editors reserve the right to remove or reject such ads.

Caleb's Odd Jobs. If you need jobs done, from dog walking to lawn-mowing to anything else that you can think of, Caleb's Odd Jobs has your back! No job is too big or too small, that's our motto. You can call us at 703-768-4249, or shoot us an email at CalebsOddJobs@icloud.com

Aspiring singer/songwriter available to sing at your event:

- Birthday parties
- Graduations
- Holiday parties
- Retirement parties
- Any social gathering you wish, large or small

Available for one to two hours

Adrianna is a 15 year old at West Potomac High School. She has 9 years of singing experience and has been self-taught in guitar for almost two years. Adrianna has performed at the White House, at Wolf Trap, and was selected to sing in the Carnegie Hall High School Honors Performance Series Choir in February of 2015.

For more information or if you are interested in hearing a sample of her singing, please email ADRIANNASINGS@YAHOO.COM!

Younique: Ditch your old chemical filled cosmetics and skin care and try Younique's naturally based and cruelty-free products! Famous for our 3D Fiber Lashes Mascara which gives 300% more volume and length than regular mascara, we also have a full line of amazing products that will leave your skin thanking you! Contact Anne Carter for more info on products, how to get freebies, or the Younique business opportunity at longluxelashes@gmail.com or 703-509-4993. www.longluxelashes.com

Real Estate Services: Contact John Hajduk, Realtor, Samson Properties to list your home for a 4 1/2% commission fee. Full services provided. Savings to sellers, and if buying, cash rebates to all buyers! Call 703-507-5193 or email: johnhajduk@cox.net.

Notary: Complete Notary Services available. Contact John Hajduk at 703-507-5193 or email johnhajduk@cox.net. Professional, experienced, licensed.

Shaista's Baby Bear Daycare. Shaista Mirza has more than 15 years of experience in daycare and is certified in CPR, First Aid, and MAT. She is also State licensed and has a USDA food program. 6803 Blue Slate Court, Alexandria, VA 22306. Phone 703-660-1688. Email: shaistamirza@cox.net. Website: <http://www.shaistasdaycare.com/home.html>

Happy Day Care. Licensed, CPR and First Aid Certified. Excellent References. 22 years of experience. Safe, loving, educational environment with outdoor and indoor activities. CDA certified. Flexible schedule, reasonable rates. For more information, please call 703-660-8499 or email at soumya.assassi@gmail.com.

Piano lessons: Gerard King at 6909 Stoneybrooke is offering piano lessons for children and adults. Please call for details. 703-718-2156.

Ron's Totally Reliable Lawn Service: call 571-236-7154.

**Stoneybrooke Citizens Association
2015-2016 Membership Drive**



Why join?

1. It's easy and inexpensive!
2. It funds the community directory.
3. It funds our monthly newsletter.
4. It funds year-round social activities for adults and children.
5. It funds our new website!
6. The association is the best source of local information including transportation and school initiatives.
7. Strong membership builds credibility with other local associations and local politicians.
8. Your involvement promotes improved property value and neighborhood safety.

How to join!

1. Make out a \$20 check payable to "SCA".
 2. Fill out and print the information slip below.
 3. Mail your slip and check to the Stoneybrooke Treasurer:
Bernie Tabarini
3803 Cobblestone Court
Alexandria, VA 22306
treasurer@stoneybrooke.org
- Or give them to your block captain.
4. Enjoy our great neighborhood!

Your Name: <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	Directory Information
Your Spouse's Name: <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	
Address: <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	
Phone: <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	
Check One: Include us in the Community Directory <input type="checkbox"/> OR Do not include us in the Directory <input type="checkbox"/>	
Email: <input style="width: 70%;" type="text"/>	To receive your copy of The Stoneybrooke Sentinel by email Not for community directory or other mailings

www.stoneybrooke.org



Car Show

Saturday April 23, 2016 9am-2pm

West Potomac High School

6500 Quander Road, Alexandria VA 22307

**Car Entries \$20, Awards to be Provided
Spectators Free!**

**All Proceeds to go to the West Potomac All Night Graduation Celebration
for the 2016 Graduates!**