

SENTINEL APRIL 2018

Letter from the Board

It's great to see the green peaking through the ground driving down the Stoneybrooke hill. Spring is one of my favorite times to drive through the neighborhood, as I get to admire all the great landscaping and personal touches put forth by our neighbors. The warming spring also means it's time for our annual residential "Stoneybrooke Egging." You will see a blog post (http://www.stoneybrooke.org/) in the upcoming days detailing this year's event and how to sign up to have the Easter Bunny hide candy and toy filled eggs around your home the night before Easter.

Additionally, the warming weather brings out kids playing and families walking around. Please keep an eye on your speed as you're driving down the hill, it's amazing how quickly one can build up momentum and speed while not paying attention. Let's keep all of our residents safe.

We hope you enjoy this month's collection of local news and upcoming events. We look forward to getting together for a spring neighborhood bbq / picnic type event in May.

And as always, for anyone looking to pitch in, we welcome your participation. The SCA functions solely on volunteers and we invite both new and long-time residents. Current vacancies include a board position (Vice Chair), event plan-ners, Sentinel content managers, and neighborhood watch coordinators. If you are interested in volunteering for a position or helping in some other way, please reach out to the board at scaboard@stoneybrooke.org or via our website at stoneybrooke.org/contact-us/.

- SCA Board

STONEYBROOKE SENTINEL

Upcoming Community Events

Neighborhood Yard Sale: 5/5/2018

Community Meeting: May

Highlights from the Community

Another Historic Ship Likely From 1700s Found

Archaeologists have discovered remains of a third historic ship this year at the Robinson Landing construction site in Old Town Alexandria. Like the other two ships found at the site, it was likely built during the mid-to-late 1700s and buried before 1798. The site sits right across from the Hotel Indigo site, where archaeologists discovered a historic warehouse and ship in late 2015.

"The combination of Revolutionary War-era ships, early building foundations, and thousands of other artifacts makes Robinson Landing one of the most archaeologically significant sites in Virginia," said Eleanor Breen, acting city archaeologist, in a statement. "The discoveries at this site have gained international attention, and the city is working with EYA to identify and preserve these important pieces of Alexandria's history."

Jerry's Subs and Pizza in Penn Daw Closes

Jerry's Subs and Pizza in the Penn Daw area has closed down. No reason was given for the closure but in recent years the restaurant sometimes kept sporadic hours, and the location had been subject to numerous poor online reviews by customers. Jerry's is the second longtime fast-food restaurant in the Penn Daw area to close recently, with the Wendy's at the corner of Route 1 and Fairview Drive closing last October. The Jerry's location had previously been a Church's Chicken, and sits on the spot where the former Penn Daw Motor Hotel operated until the early 1970s.

Five Tons of Trash Cleaned Up in Fairfax County Parks

Earlier this month, over 600 volunteers cleaned up more than five tons of trash at Fairfax Parks cleanup day. Led by Fairfax County Park Authority and Nature Conservancy leaders, volunteers spread out at eight different parks from Lake Accotink in Springfield to Huntley Meadows Park. They cleaned 35 miles of stream, shoreline, and trails collectively. Two other cleanups were rescheduled due to the weather.

DRP Belle Haven's Custard Shack Reopens for the Season

Just in time for seasonable temperatures, DRP Belle Haven's Custard Shack today will start serving up frozen custard, fresh fruit sorbets and other cold treats to customers. Located adjacent to the pizzeria at 1401 Belle Haven Road, the Custard Shack will be open every Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturdays/Sundays from 12 to 9 p.m. until May 1 when it resumes daily operations. Besides selling vanilla and chocolate frozen custard, the shack features rotating feature flavors of custard and sorbet, with cookies & cream custard, and strawberry sorbet being the kick-off flavors. The nearly three-year-old business will be hiring for summer positions; an application can be found on the Custard Shack's website.

Other walk-up options for soft-serve custard or ice cream along the Corridor include:

<u>Johnny Mac's N.C. Style Barbeque:</u> 8526 Richmond Highway offers eight "flavor bursts" and traditional chocolate, vanilla and twist ice cream; "concretes" with mix-ins; smoothies; banana splits; sundaes; and milkshakes. <u>Jimmy's Old Fashioned Custard:</u> 1636 Belle View Blvd. (located in the take-out section of Primo Family Restaurant) offers vanilla and chocolate custard; to-go cartons; and root beer floats.

Upcoming Events and Happenings

First Community Meetings on Richmond Highway BRT

The Embark Richmond Highway comprehensive plan amendment was only approved by the county last month, and construction on bus rapid transit (BRT) isn't slated to start for years, but it's already time to start talking about the project.

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation is holding its first public information meetings for the BRT project on April 17 and April 18. The first meeting on the 17th will be at West Potomac High School, while the second meeting on the 18th will be at Mount Vernon High School.

BRT is a central piece of the Embark Richmond Highway plan to revamp the Richmond Highway corridor. BRT stations are envisioned inside a series of eight high-density community business centers (CBCs) along the highway. The BRT will run 8.6 miles, going up the median area of Route 1 from Fort Belvoir to Penn Daw before cutting over to the Huntington Metro station.

Springfield Community Business Center Commuter Parking Garage Meeting

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation and Department of Public Works and Environmental Services will host a community information meeting for sluggers and other commuters to discuss the Springfield Community Business Center Commuter Parking Garage on Monday, April 9th at 7 p.m. This is a rescheduled event from a March meeting that was cancelled due to weather. The meeting will be held at Edison High School.

The Springfield Multi-Use Parking Garage is a six-level structure that will hold approximately 1,000 parking spaces, and will enhance commuters' transportation options with the installation of:

- a bus transit center with seven bus bays
- two commuter (slug) lines
- a short-term parking/carpool waiting area for pick up and drop off
- a pedestrian bridge over Old Keene Mill Road, connecting the garage to Springfield Plaza
- bicycle storage
- community areas for gatherings and events on the ground level and roof top

Get Up to 5 Free LED Lightbulbs at Libraries in April & May

Fairfax County is giving away up to five free LED lightbulbs to help you save money and protect the planet. Get a free LED—and if you bring up to four of your incandescent or compact fluorescent lightbulbs with you, we'll exchange them for LEDs. Come to these libraries on these dates and times to get your free bulbs:

- Wed., April 25, 4–6 p.m., George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale
- Tues, May 8, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
- Mon., May 14, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston
- Tues., May 22, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

The LEDs being given away offer a warm white light that's equivalent to a 60-watt incandescent lightbulb. By replacing five old incandescents with LEDs, you could save at least \$25 a year on your electric bill. For more information and other LED giveaway, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/free-led-lightbulbs-library/.

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Secure Document Shredding

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program will be sponsoring one secure document shredding event in each supervisory district per calendar year. These events are only open to Fairfax County residents along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted.

Shredding events start at 8 a.m. and conclude at 12 p.m. All cars must be in line by 12 p.m. Check the County website for upcoming dates and locations: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/document-shredding

Fort Belvoir Hosting Free Pancake Breakfast for Area Military Community

Next month, Fort Belvoir will host a free pancake breakfast — open to all National Capital Region service members, military retirees, Defense Department civilians, contractors and their families — thanks to a grand prize won by its commissary last fall.

The J.M. Smucker Company awarded the Fort Belvoir Commissary its 9th annual "Mission: Breakfast" prize for building the most creative product display of Smucker's products and increasing commissary sales last June. Now, just in time for Military Appreciation Month, Smucker's will serve breakfast on a much larger scale at Fort Belvoir's Pullen Field on Wednesday, May 2 from 7 to 10 a.m. The garrison-wide event will include breakfast stations by Hungry Jack Pancakes, Martha White Muffins, Folgers Coffee, Tyson Chicken, Jimmy Dean Sausage and others. There will be a variety of family-friendly activities, live music from classical rock fusion group Spinphony, and lots of giveaways. Lending added prestige to the event, TODAY Show host and weatherman Al Roker is expected to broadcast live from the celebratory breakfast.

Although event registration isn't required, Fort Belvoir is encouraging DoD card holders to informally register via the installation's Facebook event page or Eventbrite.

Tickets on Sale for Old Town Alexandria Historic Garden Week Tour

On April 21st, Old Town will kick off the Garden Club of Virginia's 85th Historic Garden Week public tour of stunning historic homes and gardens which is expected to draw an estimated 1,500 garden enthusiasts and tourists. The tour is part of the Garden Club of Virginia's statewide tour of Virginia's finest historic homes and gardens during the height of the spring blooming season. Presented by the Hunting Creek Garden Club and the Garden Club of Alexandria, the local Old Town tour encompasses tours of five private homes and gardens with exquisite floral arrangements designed by club members showcased in each home.

Tickets are \$45 if purchased in advance and \$55 on the day of an include admission to five of Old Town Alexandria's most elite private homes and gardens, refreshments at 228 South Pitt Street, and admittance to five nearby historic public properties, including: Carlyle House, Lee-Fendall House, River Farm, Gunston Hall, and Mount Vernon. There is also a Marketplace at the Athenaeum at 201 Prince Street with specialty boutiques and purveyors of fine goods.

Other Washington, D.C. area GCV club tours include: Middleburg on April 22-23, Great Falls, McLean and Vienna on April 24, and Fredericksburg on April 24.

Kickboxing Fitness Gym Coming to Belle View Shopping Center

A national franchise fitness gym specializing in 30-minute kickboxing workouts is opening a new location in the Belle View Shopping Center later this spring. 9Round Fitness is under construction in a space between Safeway and Clawes Carpets. The location is currently hiring and is hoping to open in early May. The Belle View location will be the first in the Richmond Highway area. 9Round already has locations in Springfield, Falls Church and Fairfax City, as well as three in Arlington. Locations in Lorton and Burke will also soon be opening.

Debut of Reenactment at George Washington's Mount Vernon

Watch Colonel Washington and his new bride Martha travel by horse-drawn carriage from the West Gate to the Mansion as they arrive at their new home. The event will take place April 21 at noon.

Spring Theater Performances

Enjoy the acting of three school and community-based theater groups. West Potomac High School's Beyond the Page Theatre Company will feature Jesus Christ Superstar from April 20-28 and Mount Vernon High School Theatre will present Bye Bye Birdie from April 26-28.

Community Garden at St. Marks Episcopal Church

Do you like to garden, grow fruits and vegetables, and exercise your green thumb? There are some plots available for rent in the community garden at St. Marks Episcopal Church, right across the street from Stoneybrooke. Small plots-2'x10' are \$15 for the growing season, large plots- 8'x10' are \$40. Part of the rent also includes contributing labor to garden maintenance such as weeding and watering. Please contact Candy Thompson at 703.909.5479 if you are interested.

Reminders

Stay Connected

Stay up to date on neighborhood happenings by joining the Stoneybrooke Neighborhood Facebook group (https://www.facebook.com/groups/210928805722992/). If you are looking for recommendations, or to sell or buy something, check out the Stoneybrooke Events, Services & Recommendations (https://www.facebook.com/groups/1034208403392227/) group.

Key Sources

Covering the Corridor | http://coveringthecorridor.com
Kingstown Patch | https://patch.com/virginia/kingstowne
Greater Alexandria Patch | https://patch.com/virginia/greateralexandria
Old Town Patch | https://patch.com/virginia/oldtownalexandria

Need a hand in your yard or garden this season? Some of Stoneybrook's local youth would love to help you out!

Caleb | Caleb's Odd Jobs | calebsoddjobs@icloud.com

Abby & Bailey | The Yardeners | **yardenerslw@gmail.com** (Age appropriate jobs for 10-year-olds; no power-tools please!)