

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL FEBRUARY 2018

Letter from the Board

Happy 2018 to all of our Stoneybrooke Neighbors! 2017 was another great year for the Stoneybrooke Citizen's Association (SCA) with continued participation and enthusiasm during the annual events such as yard sales, egg hunts, Halloween parade, National Night Out and community meetings with guest speakers (Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay and representatives from the Fairfax Community Emergency Response Team [CERT]).

We look forward to continuing these community-building events and welcome ideas for community meetings and other events. A recent suggestion, which we will pursue, is to invite a speaker from the Fairfax Department of Code Compliance, which "investigates most county neighborhood complaints, consisting of issues affecting safety and quality of life."

The SCA would not be possible without the energy and efforts of all the volunteers who serve in a variety of ways, including coordinating and executing events, acting as board members, and searching out information relevant to our community to be published in this Sentinel distribution. Over the past two years, we have benefited from the efforts of an outstanding individual who served as board member, treasurer, web guru, and a slew of other roles too numerous to list out. We will miss you, Rachel Cramer, and wish you best of luck as you move cross-country. A sincere and special "Thank You".

With each sad farewell, a door opens up for a warm welcome -- the SCA welcomes long-time Stoneybrooke resident Candy Thompson as our newest board member and treasurer. We look forward to working together. Thank you for volunteering to fill Rachel's shoes!

For others 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 planners, 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/.

Looking forward to another great year in 2018!

- SCA Board

Upcoming Community Events

Stoneybrooke Easter Egging: 4/1/2018

Neighborhood Yard Sale: 5/5/2018

Community Meeting: May

Highlights from the Community

Aldi to Anchor South Alex Development (formerly Penn Daw Plaza)

The transformation of the former Penn Daw Plaza shopping center into a mixed-use community has landed an anchor retail tenant, allowing the development to move forward. German discount grocer Aldi signed on for 20K SF with Combined Properties for the South Alex. The developer is currently working on its financing deals and expects to break ground by Q3. The project will include 400 apartments, 41 townhouses and has another 24K SF of retail space in addition to the grocery store. The deal comes after negotiations for The Fresh Market to anchor the project fell through.

Huntington Club Condominium to become new Mixed-Use Community

The Huntington Club Condominium Owners' Association voted with 87% approval to terminate itself, and allow developers to build a more-than-3M SF transit-oriented, mixed-use community in its place. HCC's 10 buildings with 364 garden-style condos will be replaced with over 1,000 condos, over 500 apartments, 65 townhouses, 446K SF of office space, a 120K SF hotel and 17K SF of retail. The HCC site is adjacent to the Huntington Metro station. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors proposed a plan amendment that would increase the allowed density on the 19-acre site and provide for 200-foot-tall buildings. The developers will either buy out HCC owners or grant them units in the new development, which will break ground in 2019 and deliver in phases throughout the next decade.

Hayfield Center Giant Closed

The Giant Food in the Hayfield Center on Telegraph Road closed its doors on Thursday, January 25th after 32 years in business. The Hayfield Giant had about 80 employees, and they were all given opportunities to work at other local Giants. It's unclear what, if anything, will replace the store.

Giant's closing marks the second supermarket in the greater Richmond Highway area to close in the past 12 months. The Safeway at the Mount Vernon Square shopping center in Hybla Valley shut down last March. That space is still vacant and no replacement has been announced yet.

Toppers Pizza at Beacon Center to open this Month

Toppers Pizza in the Beacon Center will be holding its grand opening on Feb. 17. Located at 6676 Richmond Highway, Toppers will operate in the space formerly occupied by Zinga, which closed its doors in 2017.

The Beacon Center Toppers will be the second Northern Virginia location for the pizza chain, which is based out of Wisconsin. The first NoVa Toppers opened in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria in December.

Besides pizza, Toppers is known for its wings, "Topperstix" and other unique offerings, including more than 30 toppings ranging from Wisconsin mozzarella cheese to tater tots to dill pickles. The Beacon Center location will offer delivery and carry out, and remain open until 3 a.m.

Tropical Smoothie Opens in the Belle View Shopping Center

The new Tropic Smoothie Cafe in the Belle View Shopping Center opened for business mid-December. This is the first Tropical Smoothie in the Richmond Highway area. The two closest locations are in Kingstowne near the Wegmans and in the City of Alexandria north of Old Town.

The Belle View location is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Embark Richmond Highway Project

Embark Richmond Highway is a multi-faceted project promoting revitalization along a 7.5 mile segment of the Richmond Highway Corridor by creating a series of mixed-use activity centers supported by a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system; roadway, pedestrian and bicycle improvements; enhanced open space and park systems; and ultimately a three-mile extension of the Metrorail Yellow Line from Huntington to Hybla Valley.

The next public meeting is scheduled for March 8th and 15th.

New Metro parking fees set to begin, McKay not happy with changes

Metro will now charge for parking earlier on weekdays, add a new fee for parking on Saturdays, and raise prices for non-Metro riders who use the lots at many stations, including Huntington and Franconia-Springfield. Metro says the new parking rules are estimated to generate approximately \$4 million in additional revenue.

The non-rider daily parking fee will now be \$8.95 at both Huntington and Franconia-Springfield, as compared with \$4.95 for Metro riders.

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay said he was particularly disappointed the decision to implement fees for non-Metro users at the Franconia-Springfield, and described the entire rollout of new parking fees as “poorly thought out” and counterintuitive. McKay wants Franconia-Springfield non-riders exempted from the higher daily fee, since the garage is used by both Virginia Railway Express and Metro riders. McKay invoked supply-and-demand principles in his argument, saying that the Franconia-Springfield garage isn’t close to capacity, and that if anything, prices should be lowered to encourage more use.

Parking fees will also begin two hours earlier in the morning at Huntington and Franconia-Springfield, and go an hour later on Fridays.

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>

The Connection | <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com>

BizNow | <http://www.biznow.com/washington-dc/news>

Note of Appreciation

TO: Our Neighbors in The Stoneybrooke Community

My wife and I want to express our sincere appreciation to the kind neighbors in the Stoneybrooke Community. It is very heart warming to find our newspaper placed on the front stoop 'for our easy retrieval' by some kind neighbor who is 'just walking past our house, particularly on the cold and wet days. And even more appreciative is the removal of the snow from our stoop and walkway with a path shoveled out to the mailbox. We are happy that our choice for a home site many years ago have been a neighborhood of many "Good People." Thank you for being here for all of us in the Community.

With warm regards,
Lloyd & Ginny Milburn

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.

Neighborhood Foxes

If you encounter a fox, enjoy the experience. Foxes don't attack humans — even small children. The fox's true size is deceptive, because of his thick coat. He barely weighs 10 pounds. Foxes are hunters of squirrel-sized animals. We're at greater risk of being bitten by dogs or cats. In the U.S., about 5 million people are bitten each year — by dogs! Another 400,000 are bitten by cats. The number of fox bites, on the other hand, is statistically insignificant. Though humans have little to fear, foxes will defend themselves, if necessary. If you inadvertently corner one, turn and walk away.

If a fox enters your yard and you feel uncomfortable about it, just yell, stamp your feet, wave your arms, or spray him with water — he'll leave the scene. If he appears ill, stay far away from him and contact Animal Control.

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!)