

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL FEBRUARY 2019

Letter from the Board

Well, love them or hate them, Super Bowl LIII is in the books and the Patriots are the champions yet again. Two overtime division championship games that were rife with controversy set high expectation for the final showdown which for the most part, fizzled out. But, what did shine were the parties and get-togethers hosted throughout the neighborhood that serve as another example of what makes this community so great.

Many of us are still waiting on that one big snowstorm that we look forward to every year while for others, spring can't arrive fast enough. Regardless of your opinion of the groundhog's forecast, with March upon us, keep the following in mind:

Now is a good time to get ahead of the spring cleaning projects around your property. Warmer weather will bring about the critters you least want in and around piles of wood, dead leaves, and any debris. Use up any firewood you might have and get everything that has collected in the yard since the fall piled up. Early reports are that snakes and other less than desirables will be out early this year and if you are anything like me, I opt for prevention over cures.

Warmer weather will also bring more folks out for evening walks and outdoor activities, to include bicycles and motorcycles. With lots of people dependent upon street parking, you never know when a child may dart out between parked cars chasing the soccer ball that is heading down the hill. Just a friendly reminder to keep your speed in check and your cell phones put up, especially when you are moving up and down the hills and around blind spots. And remember to set your clocks an hour forward for daylight saving time on Sunday, March 10th.

Reconstituting a neighborhood watch is in the very early stages of consideration and development. Maintaining positive relationships with our neighbors, not just next door, but two, three and four doors down is what makes Stoneybrooke the community that it is. The watch is just another way to look out for one another by doing what we are already doing: getting out, being vigilant, knowing when something looks out of place or doesn't seem right and, if necessary, reporting it.

Finally, the board has had a couple of concerns regarding our four legged companions. While walking, please keep your dogs on a leash and maintain positive control, especially when approaching new friends and neighbors. And, never leave home without a couple of plastic bags for when nature calls. Keeping our park, the common areas, and the yards of our friends and neighbors clean and tidy is a core responsibility of pet ownership and in putting our community first.

-SCA Board

SCA Events

- Stoneybrooke Easter Egging: Sunday, April 21st
- Spring Yard Sale: Saturday, May 4th (Rain date Sunday, May 5th)

Upcoming Local Events

Free Admission to Historic Alexandria Sites

Monday, February 18th, 2019

To mark Washington's birthday, admission is free at these historic Alexandria sites:

Friendship Firehouse Museum: 10 am-4 pm

107 South Alfred Street

Gadsby's Tavern Museum: 11 am-4 pm

134 North Royal Street

Old Presbyterian Meeting House: 10 am-4 pm

323 South Fairfax Street

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum: 11 am-4 pm

105-107 South Fairfax Street

The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum: 10 am-4 pm

201 South Washington Street

George Washington Birthday Parade

Monday, February 18th, 1-3pm

Parade stand at Market Square, 301 King Street

The nation's largest George Washington Birthday parade is a one-mile march through the streets of Old Town Alexandria. The parade starts on Fairfax Street at Gibbon Street, heads north, turns left and heads back south on Royal Street. Over 2,500 people typically participate. The parade is preceded by a free marching band concert from 11 a.m.-noon and Armed Forces Community Covenant Ceremony from noon-1 p.m.

Principle Gallery 25th Anniversary Invitational Exhibition

Friday, February 22nd, 6:30- 9pm

This exhibition will be an early celebration of Principle Gallery's 25 years in Old Town Alexandria. The opening will showcase a variety of different works from at least 20 artists! The event is free and all are welcome. Visit the gallery at 208 King Street in Old Town or check out their artwork at www.principlegallery.com.



Old Town Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, March 2, 12:30– 2:30pm

When the 38th annual parade kicks off in Old Town on March 2, it will feature more than 100 bagpipers as well as an array of classic cars, dogs, dignitaries and local organizations proudly wearing green. The event is possible thanks to the Ballyshanners, a local organization dedicated to promoting and preserving Old Town's Irish history.

Community News**Virginia Hills Pool Now Accepting New Members for 2019**

Located in the Virginia Hills residential community, the Virginia Hills Swim Club is currently welcoming members from communities in the local area. There are no official boundaries for the pool and there is currently no waitlist. The Virginia Hills Swim Club is also home to the Tidal Wave Swim team. The swim team is part of the Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL). In 2018, the team was the undefeated Division 10 champions. Swim team season begins after Memorial Day and meets begin in June and run through July and is open to ages 4-18.

For more information about Virginia Hills Swim Club and the Tidal Wave Swim Team, please visit www.vahillspool.com. For membership information please mail info@vahillspool.org.

New Wegmans to Be Constructed in the Eisenhower East Neighborhood

Wegmans will be building an 84,000 square-foot store in Alexandria near the Hoffman Town Center off of Eisenhower Avenue. The grocery store is part of a larger mixed-use project on the 5-acre site, according to developer StoneBridgeCarras. Much of the Wegmans will be on the second floor of the development. The project will also include at least 700 residential units. According to the project description, outdoor amenities will include pet parks, gardens, a pool with wading area, fountains, a theater and fireside lounges. With an aggressive construction timeline, the project is estimated to be completed by 2022.

Wegmans opened its Hilltop Village Center store in the Hayfield area in June 2015.

Planning Commission Votes to Remove Huntley Meadows Trails from Plans

The Fairfax County Planning Commission voted to support two comprehensive plan amendments that would remove a pair of planned bicycle trails at Huntley Meadows from the county's plans. The trails had been on the county's maps for years, but there had been little movement on either one, due in part to the Park Authority's opposition to them. One trail would have connected Lockheed Boulevard with Telegraph Road, while the other would have run from Hayfield Road around the southern and eastern perimeters of the park to Lockheed Boulevard. The motion will direct County staff to immediately begin identifying connectivity alternatives in advance of the Countywide Trails and Bicycle Master Plan update so that we have data and options to consider.

Many bicyclists, including the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB) and State Sen. Scott Surovell, had opposed the removal of the trails from the county's maps. While sympathetic to environmental concerns raised by county staff, the cycling advocates hoped for a compromise that would allow modified trails to be built. Those trails, they argued, would ultimately be a net positive to the environment while also increasing access to the park, particularly for residents who live along its southern and eastern borders.

Kings Crossing Development on Hold as Ownership Changes Hands

It has been more than a year since the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors gave final approval for Novus Kings Crossing, a 350-unit multifamily development to be built at the intersection of Richmond Highway and Fairview Drive. However since then the project has not moved forward, and the property is now going through an ownership change. The buyer, Fairfield Residential, intends to build on the site, according to Andrew McGeorge, a member of the company's development team. Design of that project is still being worked on with the county and any permitting and construction won't begin until the sale is completed in the summer of 2019. Right now Fairfield hopes to start actual construction sometime in the 4th quarter of 2019.

Four vacant buildings remain on the 5.3 acre property — a former Wendy's, a former Pizza Hut that had been out of business since 2014, a title loan business, and a martial arts school that was the last tenant to move. The property has had chronic issues with litter, dumping and landscaping maintenance. At least seven code complaints related to the property have been filed since July 2017, according to county records.

South County Government Center to be Renamed for Former Supervisor

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to rename the South County Government Center after longtime Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland.

Current Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck, who replaced Hyland after his retirement in 2015, put forward the measure. Storck praised Hyland's ability to communicate with constituents and called him "the epitome of a public servant." Hyland was elected as a Democrat in the fall of 1987 and served for 28 years. He had previously had a long career in the Air Force, and also served as the president of the Richmond Highway-based United Community Ministries.

Storck praised Hyland for his accomplishments on the board, including fighting the closure of Mount Vernon Hospital in the early 2000s and working to close the Lorton landfill and prison. Storck also cited Hyland's efforts to bring the South County Center to Route 1, which brought various government services closer to residents of the Richmond Highway corridor.

Volunteer Program in FCPS Brings Students and Seniors Together

GrandInvolve, a volunteer program that puts retired Fairfax County residents into Title 1 elementary schools, now works with a number of Richmond Highway-area schools and plans to keep expanding around the county. GrandInvolve, which started in 2014 at Crestwood Elementary School in Springfield, helps to improve the quality of life for older adult volunteers and school age children. The program brings older adults into Fairfax County's Title I Elementary Schools to volunteer in individual classrooms, offering their skills and talents to work directly with students. This Intergenerational and Intercultural contact allows lasting and meaningful relationships to form. The result is that folks of all ages share their talents and resources while supporting each other in relationships that benefit both the individual and the community.

The program is now in 16 elementary schools in Mount Vernon and Lee districts, which host close to half of the Title 1 schools in FCPS (schools with a high percentage of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch). The organization hopes to begin working with seven more schools in those districts in 2019.

If you are interested in learning more or getting involved, visit GrandInvolve's website at www.grandinvolve.org.

Work Underway on New Drive-Thru Dunkin' Donuts on Telegraph Road

Contractors have started converting an old bank building on Telegraph Road into a Dunkin' Donuts, and a spokesman for the company said they're hoping to open the location in the next month or so. The new store, located next to Hayfield Secondary School at 7710 Telegraph Road, will feature a drive-thru and have a 22-person seating capacity, according to a plan approved by the county in the fall of 2017.

The building, which was built in 1973, served as a bank for many years. It has been vacant since 2015.

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>

Reminders**Stay Connected**

Stay up to date on neighborhood happenings by visiting the Stoneybrooke SCA website (<http://www.stoneybrooke.org/>), which includes a blog for highlighting recent events and publishing upcoming SCA related events.

Residents can also join online community on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Stoneybrookcommunity/>) for residents of Stoneybrooke, in Alexandria, VA. It is designed for members to connect and share information. Posts containing lost and found, requesting referrals for paid services or items, help with a project, borrowing, ride sharing, announcing yard sales or interesting events in Alexandria area, neighborhood alerts and concerns, giving away items or volunteering your time and any non-profit related posts are welcomed here.

Additionally, a Facebook group exists to advertise events and service or share recommendations here (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1034208403392227/>).

Stoneybrooke

OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

STONEBROOKE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION 2019 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Why join?

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

How to join:

1. Make out a \$20 check payable to 'SCA'
2. Fill out the form below and print.
3. Mail the form and check to the Stoneybrooke Treasurer:
Candy Thompson
6825 Lamp Post Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306
4. Enjoy our great neighborhood!

Your Name:	<input type="text"/>	Directory Information
Your Spouse's Name:	<input type="text"/>	
Address:	<input type="text"/>	
Phone:	<input 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 type="text"/>	To receive your copy of The Stoneybrooke Sentinel by email Not for community directory or other mailings

Contact us online at www.stoneybrooke.org!