

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL
AUGUST 2021

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Stoneybrooke Community Association is looking for some fresh, young, talent. Well, truthfully, you don't need to be fresh, young, or talented to volunteer a few hours a month towards a great neighborhood. The all-volunteer board will have two vacancies come the end of the year and we are looking for a couple of neighbors interested in filling those seats. The "Chair" position has been vacant since the beginning of the year and the "Vice-Chair" will be vacated at the end of the year. Both positions require no more than a few hours of time each month and the tasks are nothing more than coordinating neighborhood events (Easter Bunny visit, yard sale weekends, etc.) and working a bit of community outreach. The Chair and Vice-Chair positions are supported by the Parliamentarian, the Treasurer, and the Secretary; incumbents in those three positions are all staying on. Anyone who is interested can reach out to Brad Hobson, Mark Husband, Megan Mansell, or Margaret Canilang for additional information.

Letter from the Board

Is the "unofficial" halfway point of summer really 30 days behind us? The 4th of July weekend has come and gone with a renewed emphasis on the large gatherings and fireworks shows that were amiss last year. Seems like Memorial Day was just last weekend yet suddenly...it is August.

This year, unlike last, many in the neighborhood are on a final countdown to the end of summer: kids who are cherishing the last few days of vacation, parents who are counting the days until the school bus once again rolls through the neighborhood, and sports fans who know that football is just around the corner. Change can be difficult...especially considering that it has been nearly a year and a half since many have been in a formal classroom, put on the pads for football practice, or headed out to cheer camp. Always keep safety and hydration in mind; while the cooler fall weather is just around the corner, there is no doubt that we still have some 90 degree heaters coming in August.

Back to school is always a good time to refocus our priorities on safety. We are just a few days away from children of all ages being out, waiting for the school bus as we begin and end our daily grind. If you listen to the news you will know that both Virginia and Maryland are making huge investments in technology to make busses safer and easier for law enforcement to identify and ticket drivers who illegally pass while loading and unloading. Just make sure you are aware of the rules here in Fairfax County or anywhere else your commute may take you...and when in doubt always err on the side of caution...it just isn't worth it. Regardless of the number of lanes, the general rule is that unless there is a median separating the opposite lanes of travel, all must stop.

Our close proximity to the Pentagon, Joint Bases Anacostia-Bolling, Andrews, Myer-Henderson Hall, and Fort Belvoir coupled with the generation who is open to more frequent job changes means that the neighborhood has seen a lot of turnover. Military in and out on change of station moves, professionals who are capitalizing on new opportunities, and even some original owners who are ready for the next chapter of their lives all makes for a community that changes and grows from season to season, year to year. For those we have to say goodbye to, the community can only wish you the best of luck wherever you may land. For those who are new to the neighborhood, let us wish you the warmest of welcomes in hopes that this is the beginning of many years of happiness here in our little part of Northern Virginia.

That is it for August...watch your speed, keep your vehicles secured, keep your lawns free of debris (a.k.a. critter hiding places) and look out for your neighbor...that about sums it up!

Kindest Regards,

-SCA Board



National Night Out is Tuesday, August 3rd

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a sense of community. It is a great opportunity for police and neighborhoods to get together under positive circumstances. Watch the Stoneybrooke Facebook Pages for additional information.

Upcoming Neighborhood Events

- National Night Out: Tuesday, August 3rd
- Community Meeting and Fall Festival: Saturday September 25th, 5-7pm

Community News

Alexandria Restaurants to Feature Olympic Themed Menus and Events

Several restaurants and cafés in Alexandria are holding Olympic-themed specials to celebrate the games in Tokyo.

From July 23 to Aug. 8, Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza & Tap in Del Ray is serving an Olympic viewing fixed price menu in its Beer Garden & Tap Room, which has five TVs. Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza & Tap's specials are gold, silver and bronze medal themed. Lena's is located at 401 E. Braddock Street.

Elizabeth's Counter, located at 804 N. Henry Street in the Braddock Metro/Parker-Gray neighborhood, is offering an Olympic Donut starting July 23. The donut is a vanilla-glazed donut sprinkled with a blend of red, white, blue and gold and silver stars.

On Saturday, Aug. 7 from 5 to 8 p.m., Barkhaus, a dog-friendly bar and restaurant, is holding the "The Dog Games," featuring dog competitions, food and drink specials and free dog medals. A portion of the event proceeds will support the Special Olympics. Barkhaus is located at 529 E. Howell Avenue in Alexandria.

529 E HOWELL AVE, ALEXANDRIA, VA



THE DOG GAMES

PORTION OF PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

SATURDAY, AUG 7TH | 5PM-8PM

DOG COMPETITIONS ALL DAY
WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT 8:00PM
FREE DOG MEDALS
FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS
BIG PRIZES

 barkhaus

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series Returns

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series will return to LIVE, IN-PERSON events this year! These free, public concerts at Grist Mill Park and the Workhouse Arts Center feature a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket, and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Start your evening early at the Workhouse by exploring its vibrant arts scene prior to the show.

Friday night concerts start at 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy.

Saturday night concerts start at 7 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way in Lorton.

Here's the schedule:



Quin Tango



David Wilcox



Jumpin' Jupiter



Dom Flemons

Grist Mill Park

4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria
Fridays • 7:30 p.m.

JULY

- 9 Thrillbillys (Roots Rock)
- 16 David Wilcox (Folk)
- 23 Jumpin' Jupiter (Rockabilly, swing, surf)
- 30 Whiskey before Breakfast (Irish Band)

AUGUST

- 6 Mystic Warriors (Andean)
- 13 Patsy's Honky Tonk Torch & Twang (Country)
- 20 Empty Bottle String Band (Old-time, String Band)
- 27 The Rock-A-Sonics (Vintage Rock 'n' Roll)

Workhouse Arts Center

9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton
Saturdays • 7:00 p.m.

JULY

- 10 Marc Berger (American Roots Music)
- 17 QuinTango (Tango Music)
- 24 Los Texmaniacs (Conjunto band)
- 31 Robin and Linda Williams (Folk)

AUGUST

- 7 The Pietasters (Ska)
- 14 Crys Matthews (Jazz, Blues, Funk)
- 21 Dom Flemons (Acoustic Blues)
- 28 The United States Army Field Band, Six-String Soldiers (Americana, folk, bluegrass, and Irish)

Mount Vernon Nights is presented in partnership with the supporters of Mount Vernon Nights and generous contributions from the following sponsors:



The Summer Entertainment Series is made possible through corporate and private donations. To donate, visit www.fairfaxparkfoundation.org/projects.

Scan to donate!



Performances are subject to change due to pandemic-related issues. For schedule updates and COVID safety information prior to attending, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) before leaving home for inclement weather updates.



New Boating Options on the Potomac

This year, Alexandria residents and visitors have two new options: a pedal boat (the pedaling is optional) and a fleet of small boats. Both are offering private group rentals and leave from Old Town Alexandria.

Potomac Paddle Club, the first “cycleboat” in the region, is offering private, two-and-a-half hour cruises for 10 to 16 people that launch from The City of Alexandria Marina dock behind the Torpedo Factory. With a mahogany bar as its centerpiece, guests have the option to pedal in tandem on the pontoon pedal boat, even though it does have motor power. Since the boat is BYOB, passengers may bring their own alcoholic beverages, with the exception of hard liquor. Visit potomacpaddleclub.com to make a reservation for cruises.

Embark DC is launching private boat cruises along the Potomac River for private parties this summer from Robinson Landing. The company offers both open bow boats and yacht-certified, multi-level cruisers for up to six guests. Boat guests can decide their destinations in advance to create a custom, private, sightseeing or recreational cruise for 90 minutes or more. Guests are welcome to bring their own food and drink on board. The open boats are dog-friendly (and include life vests for four-legged boaters). Learn more and make a reservation at embarkdc.com.

Alexandria the ‘Most Underrated’ City in the US

Alexandria is “underrated,” according to a new study from Commercial Cafe, a commercial real estate news website. The company looked for cities “that offer a great quality of life, are smaller and are perhaps even a little more affordable....”

That last part — affordability — was a struggle for Alexandria. Home prices and the cost of living in Alexandria have both increased significantly in the past year. But other factors boosted Alexandria’s overall score. “For this study, we only considered cities that have more than 100,000 residents, but less than 250,000. We also factored in attributes like earning potential, home prices, crime rates, local entertainment and whether the city itself was growing or not. The city got positive points for having a relatively low crime rate compared to some other, similarly-sized cities, very high earning potential and great local entertainment including a thriving restaurant scene.

Other cities in the top five on the list after Alexandria: Overland Park, Kansas; Bellevue, Washington; Fort Collins, Colorado; and Cary, North Carolina.

Virginia Drivers Among the Most Distracted Nationwide

A new study from driver’s ed company Zutobi ranks Virginia the fifth worst state for fatalities caused by distracted driving, with 21.5 percent of fatal auto accidents in the state caused by distracted driving. Maryland drivers, whom Virginia drivers love to hate, ranked 22nd with just 7.6 percent of fatal auto accidents caused by distracted driving. The District of Columbia was not included in the rankings.

In 2019, more than 3,100 people in the United States were killed in the 2,895 fatal distracted driving crashes reported that year. An estimated 424,000 were injured in crashes involving a distracted driver. The worst states (those with higher distracted driving fatality percentages) are, in order, New Mexico, New Jersey, Hawaii, Washington and Virginia.

The most common cause of distracted driving was the use of cell phones. Other common causes of distracted driving included reaching for an object, looking at things outside the car (like a house or a car accident), applying makeup and eating. Other passengers can also be a distraction, particularly children.

The states with the fewest fatalities caused by distracted driving are Mississippi, West Virginia and Georgia.

New Proposal for Former Topgolf Site in Kingstowne

The Kingstowne Topgolf — the first Topgolf in the nation — has been closed since January 2020, when a new location of the sports entertainment chain was opened at National Harbor in 2019. The Ruby Tuesday was closed around the same time when the restaurant chain closed 150 locations around the country.

Developers has been attempting to find new uses for the site since 2016 when a mix of townhomes, multifamily units and 70,000 square feet of retail space were proposed.


In April of this year, developers submitted a proposal to the County suggests the construction of 164 townhomes and 44 stacked townhomes on the site. The proposal will need to include plans for increased pedestrian and bicycle safety on site, open space and affordable housing. The proposal would also have to consider any affects on nearby Edison High School, Twain Middle School and Lane Elementary School, since the new community is projected to bring 80-89 new students.

Fairfax County Aims to be Carbon Neutral by 2040

Fairfax County has a strong dedication to protecting the environment as evidenced by a number of recent policies. The County eliminated the use of plastic bags for yard waste in February of this year and expanded its composting pilot program to several farmers markets, including the Mount Vernon Farmers Market.


Last month, Fairfax County announced it is committing to go carbon neutral by the year 2040. This means that the County will remove as much carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide from the atmosphere as is emitted from its government operations, including buildings, facilities and transportation.

Some of the practical steps that the County will take to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions include reducing energy use where possible, adopting renewable energy and converting diesel buses to electric or non-carbon emitting alternatives.




CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2040


Fairfax County will cut emissions, reduce energy use, generate green energy, and shift to all-electric buses and vehicles.



**ENERGY USE
50% LESS**



**GREEN ENERGY
50% MORE**



**ELECTRIC
BUSES**

New Uses Coming to Original Mount Vernon High School

After sitting virtually unused for almost six years, the Original Mount Vernon High School at 8333 Richmond Hwy. is on its way to getting new purpose.

The building was originally built in 1939 on land that used to be part of George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate. It was used as a high school until 1973 and then a middle school until 1985. The building was then leased to the Islamic Saudi Academy in 1989 until that school relocated to a new building in 2016.

Now the County plans to redevelop the building into what they are calling a "Human Development Center," which will offer a variety of community services and programming including continuing education, workforce and life skills development, arts and childcare. The building will have a variety of multi-generational and flexible community spaces for a mix of uses.

Design will continue to be refined through the fall of 2022 when construction is expected to begin. Occupancy of the building will begin in late fall of 2024. The project has a budget of \$81 million which the County is seeking to fund through state historic tax credits and other sources.

Chopt Creative Salad Company Coming to Kingstowne

Chopt Creative Salad Company is opening at 5926 Kingstowne Center, Suite 110, according to construction records. The store is already mapped on the Kingstowne Town Center website. Chopt is an American chain of fast casual restaurants with locations on the east coast. The company was founded in 2001 and focuses on serving salads, although warm grain bowls and wraps are also available. The new Chopt location will open next to &pizza in the former Avenue store next to Panera. An opening date for Chopt has not been announced.

Key Sources

Alexandria Living | <https://alexandrialivingmagazine.com/>

Fairfax County | <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/>

Kingstown Patch | <https://patch.com/virginia/kingstowne>

Old Town Patch | <https://patch.com/virginia/oldtownalexandria>

The Washington Post | <https://www.washingtonpost.com/>

Reminders

Stay Connected

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

Residents can also join on-line community on Facebook (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 (www.facebook.com/groups/1034208403392227/).

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OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEMBERSHIP INFO JANUARY 2021 - DECEMBER 2021

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.

Payment Options:

1. Make out a \$20 check payable to 'SCA'.
2. Note your name and address on the check.
3. Deliver your check to our Stoneybrooke Treasurer
Margaret Canilang:
6903 Stonebridge Court, Alexandria, VA 22306

Or:

1. Send \$20 thru PayPal or Venmo by scanning one of the QR codes below.
2. Include your name and address in the details.



venmo



Please choose the *Friends and Family* option.