

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL JANUARY 2022

Letter from the Board

Dear Fellow Stoneybrooke Neighbors,

Happy New Year. Let's all tiptoe into 2022, move cautiously and quietly, and maybe, just maybe, this year will be a little smoother than the last two years. Although we have all had difficult times, one thing has actually improved: the bond and friendships within the Stoneybrooke neighborhood. A smile or hello from a neighbor can brighten someone's day, especially if they are quietly fighting their own life's challenges that we do not know anything about. So, when you are outside or walking, if you feel comfortable, get those hands up hi for big waves! Big smiles. It can be our own January secret neighborhood code for encouragement, positivity, and unity as a neighborhood.

Also, let us introduce ourselves as the new President and Vice-President of the Board. We are excited to be on the board and hope to assist in supporting all the wonderful events and resources offered by SCA. We are all extremely busy and juggling many roles or jobs inside and outside our families and friendships. Our goal is to try to make resources and information more readily available to support the daily rise and grind of all neighbors.

We wish you all a safe and healthy January.

-SCA Board, to include Jackie Murray (as new President) and Katy Clough (as new Vice-President)

Community News

Plastic Bag Tax Starts January 1st

Starting Jan. 1, businesses in northern Virginia will be charging you 5-cents per single-use plastic bag that you use from local grocery stores, convenience stores and drug stores.

The Alexandria City Council, Arlington County Board and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted this plastic bag tax in September in an effort to reduce the negative environmental impacts of single-use plastic bags.

The tax does not apply to:

- plastic bags intended for reuse;
- plastic bags solely used to wrap, contain or package certain items (ice cream, meat, fish, poultry, produce, unwrapped bulk food items or perishable food items);
- plastic bags for dry cleaning or prescription drugs; or
- multiple plastic bags sold in packages for garbage, pet waste or leaf removal.

Collected taxes might be used for environmental cleanup, to provide educational programs designed to reduce environmental waste, mitigate pollution and litter; or to reusable bags to SNAP or WIC benefit recipients.

Visit the Regional [Plastic Bag Tax website](#) for more information.

Richmond Highway's Brookside Motel Could be Replaced with Residences

The transformation of Richmond Highway continues with plans to replace the Brookside Motel with a new multi-family residential building.

Evergreen Investment Company is working with Fairfax County to redevelop 2.57 acres located at 6001 Richmond Highway. The project will require an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and rezoning. If approved, the project will join a number of new residential developments popping up along Richmond Highway.

Brookside Motel is a single-story motel built in 1953. The motel has been the site of a couple fires in recent years.

New Partnership Seeks to Preserve Mount Vernon Trail

The National Landing Business Improvement District (BID) and the Friends of Mount Vernon Trail recently announced a partnership that will seek to preserve the 18-mile Mount Vernon Trail that runs from George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate to Theodore Roosevelt Island.

Through the partnership, the BID and Friends of Mount Vernon Trail will host clean-up events every Saturday through Jan. 22, and on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Volunteers will focus on trimming vegetation, removing invasive plants, cleaning and repairing bridges and the trail surface. Before the weekly events wrap up on Jan. 22, the National Landing BID and Friends of Mount Vernon Trail will also host a day of service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 17.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, please visit: mountvernontrail.eventbrite.com

New Diner Will Bring Modern Comfort Fare and Giant Cakes to Alexandria

For most of us, the concept of bellying up to the bar means a stiff drink is in our future. Not at Beeliner Diner. “It’s kid-friendly,” explains co-owner Markos Panas.

The bar, which is 120 feet in circumference and seats 38, does serve some boozy milkshakes, but the focus is on sweets that will appeal to all ages.

The desserts include slices of TowerCakes, an invention from pastry chef Temperance Puffer. One slice feeds three or four people. An entire cake weighs between 25 and 35 pounds. The slices are already available at the team’s other business, Bread & Water Company on weekends.

Fans of Bread & Water Company will find lots of familiar favorites at Beeliner Diner, including the burgers, dogs, and chicken sandwiches they’ve come to love at Bun Papa, the business that takes over the Alexandria bakery in the evening.

Boom Chicky will serve fried chicken, while ALX Pizza will fill the shoes of Atlantis Pizzeria and Family Restaurant, which served Alexandria for 38 years in the same space inside Bradlee Shopping Center.

There will also be an emphasis on vegan options. About a quarter of the menu will be vegan by default, but many burgers and pizzas that usually contain animal products can also be made without them.

Beeliner Diner will open in Bradlee Shopping Center in early 2022.

Northern Virginia Man Plans to Swim the English Channel

Fewer than 2,000 people have swum solo across the English Channel from England to France since the first time it was done in 1875. The average time in the water is 13.5 hours, and that water is cold, choppy, and full of jellyfish. The average age of channel swimmers is 35, which makes what Denis Crean intends to do all the more impressive, or alarming, take your pick.

When Crean gets in the water in 2023, he’ll be one of the oldest swimmers by a large margin to attempt what he’s setting out to do: Not only does he intend to swim across the channel, but he also intends to turn around and swim back. “I’m going to do a double,” he says quietly. “As the crow flies, it’s about 42 miles. My goal is to do it in 24 hours.” He has asked not to publish his age.

An open-water swim enthusiast, Crean began teaching endurance swimming in the Potomac River in 2009, calling the collective WaveOne Open Water.

Crean is not going into his channel challenge blindly. The swim marathoner was the first to swim the Potomac from Chain Bridge to Mount Vernon (22 miles, 9:42 hours), and he has won or come close to winning major swim marathons around the country. But he’s never done the channel.

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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MEMBERSHIP INFO JANUARY 2022 - DECEMBER 2022

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.



Please choose the *Friends and Family* option.