

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL

MARCH 2024

Letter from the Board

Hello again, Stoneybrooke neighbors!

It's hard to believe, but Spring is just around the corner and things are already heating up in Stoneybrooke! We kicked off 2024 with a celebration of our newly minted neighborhood nonagenarian, Ms. Jo Butler. Neighbors gathered on a chilly February afternoon to toast to her good health with tasty treats and food truck favorites.

We also entered our new fiscal year, and membership dues are flooding in. As you may recall, our Stoneybrooke Citizens Association (SCA) board has committed to growing our membership over the next three years. In last month's edition of the Sentinel, we published the following motion, passed in January by the board:

"The board will promote to the community a goal of growing the household membership in the SCA and put into place actions to achieve this growth. Our goal is 70 households in 2024, 80 households in 2025, and 90 households in 2026."

Our membership drive to reach that goal is well underway after launching with a direct mailer that was delivered to all Stoneybrooke residents in February. We hope you have received your mailer by now and have chosen to renew your membership. Thank you to those who have already paid. **If you have not, we ask that you renew your membership by March 30th.**

We have some fun upcoming events lined up for you as well. Food trucks from Hangry Panda and Sugarcoated Bakery will be coming Thursday, March 14th. Check the Facebook page for more information as the date approaches and be sure to bring your appetites! We will have a neighborhood photo shoot with the Easter Bunny on March 17th (advanced sign-up required, see below). Finally, our annual Easter Egging event will be Saturday, March 30th. For this Stoneybrooke tradition, the SCA board will hide easter eggs in the front yards of residents the night before Easter. Simply email scaboard@stoneybrooke.org to request your house be added to the list, include your street and house number and number of children.

We are excited to see what this year brings for all of us here in Stoneybrooke!

~SCA Board

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MEMBERSHIP INFO

How To Join:

1. Electronic: Send \$20 dues (plus optional donation, if desired) through [PayPal](#) (scaboard@stoneybrooke.org) or [Venmo](#) (@stoneybrooke_sca) by scanning one of the QR codes below. Include your name, address, and email address* in the details.
2. Cash/Check: Deliver \$20 dues (plus optional donation, if desired) to Mark Husband, Parliamentarian, at 3804 Stonebridge Rd., or to Margaret Canilang, Treasurer, at 6903 Stonebridge Court. Checks can be made payable to "SCA" or "Stoneybrooke Citizen's Association."



Please choose the **Friends and Family** option.

* To receive your copy of the Stoneybrooke Sentinel by email; transaction settings are set to "private."

Yes, I would like to join the Stoneybrooke Citizen's Association. Enclosed is my \$20 dues.

Name(s) of adults in household: _____

Address: _____

In addition to my dues, I am adding a donation of:

☐ \$20 (\$40 in total)

☐ \$30 (\$50 in total)

☐ Other Amount: \$ _____

Email address(es), to receive copy of Sentinel newsletter:

Neighborhood News

Easter Egging Returns in 2024

The Easter Bunny is visiting Stoneybrooke again this year and is hiding eggs at participating homes on the evening of Saturday, March 30th. If you are interested in having the Bunny stop by your yard and hide 12 eggs per child, let the Board know of your interest by **FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND**. To add your home to the Bunny's list, sign up by sending an email to scaboard@stoneybrooke.org and make sure your household is current on its annual SCA member dues. In addition, if you would like to volunteer to help the Bunny hide eggs on March 30th, please let us know as well.



New in 2024! Photos with the Easter Bunny

The SCA is holding an additional pre-Easter event this year. On March 17th we are bringing an Easter Bunny photo opportunity to the Stoneybrooke Mansion from 11 AM to 1 PM. This family-friendly event is great for younger kids or fun family photos.

All funds raised from this event will go to support the Stoneybrooke Citizen's Association, which in turn get re-invested in the community. **Contact SCA Vice-President Katy Clough for more information: 310-283-8112.**

EASTER BUNNY PICTURES
SCA Fundraiser
Stoneybrooke Mansion
March 17th, 11am-1pm

Bring your kids, pets and props and have some fun!
\$10 for members
\$30 for non-members
-this will bring you current for 2024 SCA dues

Pay via PayPal or Venmo below
and then call or text Katy Clough at
310-283-8112 to reserve a spot.

A square QR code located at the bottom right of the poster, next to a cartoon bunny illustration.

Neighborhood Celebrates Jo's Birthday

Our community joined together on February 24th to wish longtime resident Ms. Jo Butler a happy 90th birthday! Dozens of neighbors joined in celebration with cake, bubbly, and treats from Empanadas de Mendoza and Kaye's mini-donuts. Neighbors of all ages braved some unexpectedly nasty weather to make this a birthday to remember. Thank you to Rachel Moran for organizing and everyone who made this possible!



Image: Ms. Butler and Residents Enjoy the Event
(Photo Credits: Rachel Moran)



SCA Begins New Fiscal Year

The Stoneybrooke Citizens Association began its fiscal new year on January 1st. This means that 2024 dues should be returned by MARCH 30TH by PayPal (scaboard@stoneybrooke.org), Venmo (@stoneybrooke_sca) or check. Not yet a member? See our sign-up sheet for more information!

Community News

Virginia Legislature Votes to Approve Marijuana Sales, Awaits Governor's Decision

The vote, passed last Wednesday, would create the legal framework for retail sales, including provisions for localities to allow or prohibit sales by referendum. Marijuana possession was decriminalized in 2021 but sales of the drug remained illegal. The new bill will now go to the Governor's desk for signature or veto.

More: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/weed-in-virginia-legislation-votes-to-approve-recreational-marijuana-sales>

Fairfax Connector Strike Continues

The Fairfax Connector bus service is halted as contract talks continue between the 600 operators and mechanics of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 689, and the Transdev company, responsible for operating the Fairfax Connector service. ATU leaders allege unfair labor practices and want higher pay, better benefits. The 26,000 residents relying on the Connector each day will have to find alternate transportation as the strike continues.

More: <https://wtop.com/fairfax-county/2024/02/fairfax-connector-strike-will-enter-sixth-day-after-fruitless-negotiations-between-union-contractor/>

Fairfax County Middle Schools Consider Later Star Time

A possible change to middle school start times could come as soon as the 2025-26 school year. Currently, all middle schools in the district start at 7:30 a.m. Now, the county wants to have them start at or after 8 a.m.. Now the question becomes how to implement this without significant changes to budgets or scheduling. Consulting firm Prismatic Services will use the next 10 months to establish a recommendation for the school board, which is expected to be presented in January.

More: <https://wtop.com/fairfax-county/2024/02/fairfax-co-considering-how-to-implement-later-middle-school-start-times/>

Local Resources

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>

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) | <http://www.sfdc.org/>

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 an online 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.