

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL JULY 2019

Letter from the Board

The 4th of July fireworks, BBQ's and celebrations are all in our rear-view mirror as we are nearing (already?) the halfway point of summer 2019. Most think that it is still too early to get things in order for the upcoming school year but the time to prepare is now. Immunizations, sports physicals and the to-do list for a fall seems to get longer with each passing grade. These are the things that we think there is plenty of time left in the summer to complete yet we always find ourselves scrambling on the last few days of summer vacation to get done. Spend some time now doing what needs to be done so that all is in order well before the kids go back to school.

Continue to keep safety at the forefront of all of your summer activities. Hydration coupled with prevention is the key to an injury free summer. Don't ignore the warning signs of heat cramps and heat exhaustion while outside for both work and play. Activities don't have to be strenuous to be dangerous depending upon multiple factors such as age, fitness level or previous heat injuries. Talk with your kids and ensure they know when enough is enough and it is time for a break from bike riding and playing ball.

The rain that is keeping our yards and foliage green and growing is also keeping the mosquitoes in business. In addition, several neighbors have kept us all updated on their snake sightings within the neighborhood via Facebook. While Northern Virginia does have a few poisonous species, what has been seen in the neighborhood have all been of the rat or garden varieties and have all been nonvenomous. I am not ashamed to say that I don't like them...never have and never will, but truth be told, they do serve a purpose and do far more good than harm in keeping disease carrying vermin in check. Keeping your property clear of debris and standing water is the best way to control unwanted pests and vermin.

A quick reminder to always stay on top of security and maintain your vigilance. Unsecured vehicles are always targets in the middle of the night as are our homes if a delinquent sees the mail piling up, multiple newspapers in the driveway and an unkempt yard...all signs that a family has gone out of town for a few days. Make arrangements for one of the neighbors or one of the youths in our community to keep an eye on your place and do the little things that can prevent a break-in. Despite all our security cameras and the great work of the FCPD, I think we can all agree that petty thieves are very hard to catch and that prevention is our only real option.

Upcoming neighborhood events includes the National Night Out at the Mansion on Tuesday, August 6th. This is an informal get together to meet new neighbors and some members of the Fairfax County Police and Fire Departments who are assigned to our district and routinely patrol the neighborhood. Also, mark your calendars for the end of September and the chili get together on Stone Mansion Court. More to follow on that next month!

Here is to a continued great summer for everyone in the community!

-SCA Board

Upcoming Local Events

Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair Returns

Saturday, July 27th, 10am – 6pm

Join Volunteer Alexandria on July 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Waterfront Park (1 King Street) for the 39th Old Town Arts and Crafts Fair. The event benefits Volunteer Alexandria, whose mission is to build a better community by inspiring and mobilizing people to volunteer.

In addition to art, the free festival includes face painting and activities for children, boat painting and food from a wide variety of local restaurants.

Vendors include In Bloom Jewelry, Hat Matter, K&S Wood Crafts, Scarvelous, UncommonFinds, MacroFind Photography, and more than 75 other artists. For a full list of vendors, visit www.volunteeralexandria.org/vendors.

Virginia and French Wine Dinner to Benefit Mount Vernon

Saturday, August 3rd, 6:30pm

The exclusive Virginia and French Wine Dinner organized by Neighborhood Friends, is set for Saturday, Aug. 3, 6:30 p.m., at Mount Vernon Country Club, to benefit the restoration of George Washington's Mount Vernon estate. (The country club, located at 5111 Old Mill Road, is also situated on one of Washington's original farms.) George Washington often toiled over the years attempting to create his own vineyards on the Mount Vernon estate and would certainly be proud of the accomplishments of Virginia's wine industry today - 312 wineries and growing.

At the dinner, Jason Tesauro, chief sommelier of Barboursville Vineyards, will compare and contrast four Virginia wines with their French cousins. A local wine expert will also be on hand, as well as a representative from Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon Country Club Executive Chef Bryan LaForge will prepare a four-course dinner, pairing the courses with each wine.

Tickets to the wine dinner are \$250 each and can be purchased on Mount Vernon's website. Proceeds from the ticket sales will go toward restoration of the west front of the exterior of the Mount Vernon mansion.

Community News

List of Best Drivers Dings Richmond Highway, but Doesn't Know Where It Is

Allstate insurance released its "America's Best Drivers Report" which purports to rank the 200 largest cities in the U.S. from best to worst when it comes to the skills of their drivers. Unsurprisingly, Washington D.C. and some of its suburbs ranked poorly. Also, unsurprisingly, Allstate doesn't seem to understand the difference between the now-numerous Richmond Highways in Northern Virginia. Nor is clear they understand there's two different Richmond Highways in two different Alexandrias.

First, the rankings: D.C. finished 199th in the nation — only Baltimore was lower — while Alexandria (192nd) and Arlington (168th) also brought up the rear. Brownsville, Texas was ranked 1st, with Allstate's data showing drivers there only file claims only every 14.9 years.

Fairfax County's overall rating is unknown — but surely better than the rest of Nova — because Allstate only included cities on the list except for Arlington (which, for what it's worth, has a much smaller population than Fairfax County).

Things got even trickier when Allstate also published a list of “Risky Roads,” which included roads from the 15 lowest-ranked cities where crashes are common. It included Richmond Highway in “Alexandria, VA” on the list — but Allstate’s image for Richmond Highway shows Route 1 in Arlington, not Alexandria (or Fairfax County).

Learn About the National Park Service’s Work to Improve Safety on the George Washington Memorial Parkway

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are studying the safety at intersections on the southern section of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) and are inviting the public to participate in the process.

The study will focus on intersections between the City of Alexandria and George Washington’s Mount Vernon. Traffic can create challenges for park users and pedestrians who need to cross the parkway to access neighborhoods, recreational facilities, bus stops and the Mount Vernon Trail. During the upcoming public engagement process, the NPS and FHWA will share recently compiled safety data from the southern part of the parkway and ask people to share their concerns or ideas about how to improve safety while protecting the parkway’s beauty and historic character.

The intent of the study is to develop recommendations to improve safety that can be implemented using existing funds while preserving the parkway’s historic appearance. You can learn more about the study and see a map at [go.nps.gov/GWMPSafety](https://www.nps.gov/GWMPSafety).

The NPS invites people to get involved by attending an open house or submitting written comments online or by mail.

Rundown Gas Station near Huntington Sold

The boarded-up former Sunoco gas station on Richmond Highway in the North Gateway area — which got a fresh coat recently— has a new owner.

Sirhandi Investments Group, LLC purchased the property from Sunoco LLC in January for \$1.9 million. Sirhandi Enterprises is “the owner and operator of premier service stations and casual dining facilities located in the Mid-Atlantic region.”

Sirhandi could not be reached for comment. However a lawyer for Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley & Walsh said the firm, which specializes in land use issues, is representing the new owner but can’t discuss future plans for the site just yet.

The Sunoco station is one of the first buildings people see when entering the Richmond Highway corridor and has long been considered an eyesore by residents. It has not been an operational gas station since 2003, when it was sold to the state to be used as a staging ground for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project.

After completion of the bridge project, the property was purchased by Sunoco for \$1 million. However a plan to reopen the station never moved forward.

Ike's Five Star: Food Hall Sets Opening for Next Summer

A food hall coming to the Eisenhower area will be called Ike's Five Star, according to founding partner Scott Shaw. The venue will feature 11 local fast-casual restaurants and one central bar. Plans call for both indoor and outdoor seating, as well as carry-out options.

Ike's Five Star will take up the ground floor of the building, which is currently undergoing reconstruction. (Ike is a reference to President Dwight Eisenhower, who went by Ike.)

The location, at 200 Stovall Street, is located just north of the Eisenhower Metro Station and west of the AMC Hoffman Center 22 movie theater.

Growing a Sustainable Community at Earth Sangha

Founded in 1997 by Lisa and Chris Bright with a mission for ecological restoration as a form of socially-engaged Buddhism, the Northern Virginia-based nonprofit Earth Sangha has an influence that extends far beyond greater Washington.

Sangha's nursery is the region's most comprehensive source of local ecotypes, and, for many species, it is the region's only source of production for wild native-plant material. The use of local ecotypes is a standard practice in ecological restoration, as it helps to safeguard genetic diversity and local adaptation in the species planted.

The organization is volunteer-dependent and serves its own planting program as well as programs for governments, schools, businesses, and other conservation nonprofits. The nursery is open for customers and volunteers on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon (or by appointment) at 6100 Cloud Drive. Learn more about volunteering, the nursery and Earth Sangha at earthsangha.org or call 703-859-2951.

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>

Alexandria Living | <https://alexandrialivingmagazine.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.

Dean's Dog Sitting



Hey do you need someone to watch your dog while you are on vacation or at work? If so I am here! My name is Dean, I am 12 years old and I am a local dog sitter. Here are a few reasons why you should pick me:

- my older brother has taught me many things in dog sitting
- I am young so I can run around and play with your dog
- I love dogs so I would be more than happy to help out

You can email me at- deanthebean6911@yahoo.com or call at 703-768-0895

I hope to see your dog soon!



18th Annual Arlington Police, Fire & Sheriff

9/11 Memorial 5K Race

Saturday,
September 7, 2019
@6:00pm

Doubletree Hotel
300 Army Navy Dr.,
Arlington, VA 22202

- * Race limited to 3,000 Register at www.arlington911race.com
- * Arlington's largest picnic after a 5K with food/beverages.
- * Run/walk, create a team. Over 40 individual awards and 4 team categories.

All Proceeds will be donated to 9/11 related charities

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEMBERSHIP FORM SEPTEMBER 2018 - DECEMBER 2019

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

OR

1. Send \$20 via PayPal to scaboard@stoneybrooke.org.
2. Include the information in the form below.

Your Name: _____ (for the Community Directory)

Your Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Check One: Include us in the Community Directory OR Do not include us in the Directory

Email: _____ (To receive your copy of the Stoneybrooke Sentinel by email.
Not for Community Directory or other mailings.)

Visit us online at www.stoneybrooke.org!