

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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SENTINEL  
FEBRUARY 2020

## Letter from the Board

Punxsutawney Phil may have gotten it right this year...he did not see his shadow which means an early spring. In fact, in the 134 year history of the tradition, this is only the 20th time that Phil has predicted an early spring...and 2019 and 2020 are the first back to back years. As much as I hate to say it, it looks like he may in fact be correct. As I am writing this, the weather outside is more like late April than early February; 50 degree temperatures while the area is getting hammered by a quick moving, but powerful thunderstorm. Weather for the next 10 days shows daytime temperatures consistently above freezing and relatively dry. For some, this is all welcome news and many may even fear that I have “jinxed” us and that we are now surely going to get a doozy before spring arrives. But if you share my train of thought, you still have your fingers crossed for at least one substantial accumulation that gives you all the reason you need to sit by the fire, find a good book, and just relax the day away.

While there has been a lack of snow, there has not been any lack of moisture. We have had two substantial rain-falls and we are still months away from the proverbial “April showers”. I know that the storm drains have been a reoccurring topic of the last few newsletters but as we do prepare for the spring rains, proper water flow is essential to the community. It doesn't take more than a few leaves, a couple of sticks and just a bit of silt to form a rather effective dam. Take a few minutes to ensure that the curbs along your property are clear and free of debris and it takes just a couple more to ensure that the frontage of your adjacent properties are cleared as well.

There is a great sense of patriotism that you can sense as you are out and about in our neighborhood; many of our residents can claim being either an active, former, or retired Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Airwoman, or Marine, while others serve and support through their own personal actions or deeds. For many, support and patriotism means flying the flag. Old Glory typically doesn't weather the elements too well and with spring just around the corner, take a look and see if it is time for a new one. If the old one is faded, tattered, or torn, the US Flag Code says that it should be destroyed in a dignified way...preferably burning, burial or by donating it the local American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War, Boy or Girl Scout Troop (who will then dispose of it, free of charge). The Farmer's Almanac is a great source of additional information for proper etiquette, display, and disposal. <https://www.almanac.com/content/us-flag-etiquette-rules-and-guidelines>

That is it for another month...spring is just around the corner and let's hope that our Washington Nationals can pick up where they left off and that the Capitals can bring home another Stanley Cup!

-Happy New Year from the SCA Board!

## Upcoming Events

### **The George Washington Birthday Parade**

*Monday, February 17th, 1pm – 3pm*

This annual celebration is the oldest and largest parade celebrating George Washington. This year, it is set for Feb. 17 from 1 – 3 p.m. in Old Town. The parade theme is “Selfless Service to Country.” The parade starts at the corner of Gibbon and Fairfax Streets, heads north on Fairfax Street, turns west on Queen Street, then heads back south on Royal Street.

### **Washington’s Birthday Celebration at Mount Vernon Estate**

*Monday, February 17th, 9am – 5pm*

Witness a presidential tribute featuring honored guests and a wreath laying at Washington’s tomb. Listen to remarks given by esteemed speakers during the Official Observance Ceremony of George Washington’s Birthday. Watch Continental soldiers conduct a marching drill, fire their guns and charge at their enemy in an exciting military demonstration. After the smoke clears, listen to the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps play patriotic music. For more information, visit [www.MountVernon.org/Birthday](http://www.MountVernon.org/Birthday) or call 703-780-2000.

### **Hunt for Washington**

*Monday, February 17th, 10am – 1pm*

Enjoy a fun and challenging game to uncover clues about Alexandria and George Washington on President’s Day. The hunt, which should take about an hour to 90 minutes to complete, will take you to a few of the places in Alexandria associated with the General. You will learn some fun facts about the father of our country and visit several historic sites around Old Town as you search for the answers to the clues. Start by picking up a clue sheet at the Parade Reviewing Stand after 10 a.m. and then use your sleuthing skills to find answers to the clues. There are prizes and mementos associated with this new event. For more information, visit [www.Washington-Birthday.com](http://www.Washington-Birthday.com) or call 703-829-6640.

### **Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution**

*Monday, February 17th, 11am*

Join the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution as they honor the soldiers of the Revolution at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

### **Historic Alexandria Open House**

*Monday, February 17th*

In honor of George Washington’s birthday, admission is free at these historic Alexandria sites on Feb. 17: Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, Christ Church, Friendship Firehouse Museum, Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, Old Presbyterian Meeting House and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.

### **Old Town Alexandria Historic Garden Week Tours**

*Saturday, April 18th, 10am – 4pm*

This year’s Historic Garden Week Tour of Old Town includes private homes and secluded gardens nestled along the tree-lined streets of the Historic District, refreshments at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, and a marketplace at the historic Athenaeum. What’s more, the tour ticket allows access to several nearby historic gardens and properties, including two Garden Club of Virginia restoration projects: George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and Green Spring Gardens.

For the full tour schedule and ticket information, visit [www.vagardenweek.org/main/tours](http://www.vagardenweek.org/main/tours).

**Hollin Hills Home & Garden Tour**

*Saturday, May 2nd, 12pm – 6pm*

The neighborhood of modern homes is located five miles south of Old Town Alexandria.

The 326-acre neighborhood was built from the late 1940s to the early 1970s by developer Robert Davenport and architect Charles Goodman. Hollin Hills was the first community in the DC metro area to be made up entirely of contemporary homes. Recognized for its architectural and design vision, Hollin Hills was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2013, and is a Virginia Landmark Historic District.

The self-guided walking tour, scheduled rain or shine, will showcase examples of mid-century modern architecture, landscaping and interior design.

Tickets are \$50; VIP tickets (\$80) will get you into the tour an hour early as well as a commemorative poster or other promotional item. For tickets and more information, visit [www.hollinhillsmodern.com](http://www.hollinhillsmodern.com)

**Community News****VCA Animal Hospital to End Overnight Emergency Services in Alexandria**

Effective Feb. 24, VCA Animal Hospital on Duke Street will be closing its 24-hour pet emergency service.

In a letter to clients, VCA management cited the difficulty in being able to hire and retain veterinarians who are willing to work overnight hours.

This isn't a local issue: The American Veterinary Medical Association reported the nationwide shortage of veterinarians can be attributed, in part, to the very high cost of veterinary school and the emotional toll of veterinary work. The Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society and American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care have launched a task force to study the shortage of emergency and critical care veterinarians in particular.

Other options in the region for emergency care for pets include:

- VCA Southpaws in Springfield
- VCA Woodbridge
- Regional Veterinary Referral Center in Springfield
- Colombia Pike Animal Hospital
- The Hope Center in Vienna
- Friendship Animal Hospital in Washington, DC
- Veterinary Business Pet Services



*Stoneybrooke Resident Asher as featured on Alexnow.com*

**Revel Wine Bar Opens in Belle View Shopping Center**

Revel wine and craft beer bar is officially open for business in the Belle View Shopping Center.

The location held its soft opening in mid-January and has the same owners as Unwined next door.

With a wine menu boasting more than 150 different bottles ranging in price from \$32-\$650, Revel has something for everyone and every occasion.

Food at Revel focuses around plates to be shared. There is the expected cheese and charcuterie board, which include options from both Virginia and Maryland farms, and gets jazzed up with accompaniments such as pickled watermelon and caramelized onions.

**Lidl To Open New Springfield Store**

Discount grocery store chain Lidl is set to open a location in Springfield on Wednesday, Feb. 19. It will be located at 6801 Commerce Street.

The store will open with a ribbon cutting at 7:40 a.m. and a weekend of special offers, giveaways and prizes. The first 100 customers will receive a gift card with a value between \$5 and \$100. Free samples and complimentary Lidl reusable bags will be available while supplies last.

**Jimmy John's in Kings Crossing Closes**

The Jimmy John's in the King's Crossing Shopping Center has closed.

Located in the shops across from Walmart at 6305 Richmond Highway, Jimmy John's closed permanently because the franchisee decided to cease operations there, according to a Jimmy John's spokesman. The location opened in late 2012, shortly after the shopping center was completed.

A representative from Rosenthal did not immediately respond to an email asking about possible future tenants for the Jimmy John's space.

Jimmy John's opened a new location at the other end of Richmond Highway in the ground-level retail of the Belvoir Square apartments in 2019. There are also nearby locations in Kingstowne and the City of Alexandria.

**Speed Camera Legislation in the Works in Virginia**

Speed cameras in the District and Maryland have produced millions in revenue and proponents argue they have made roads safer. They could become legal in Virginia.

Earlier this year, Gov. Ralph Northam, along with Virginia House Democrats, proposed a series of driving safety measures. Those measures include allowing local governments to lower speed limits in business or residential districts to less than 25 mph, and permitting stationary speed cameras on certain interstates and primary roads designated as safety corridors.

Since speed cameras are not legal in Virginia, Alexandria uses speed awareness cameras, which do not issue fines, throughout the city. Reports from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation (USDOT) show these signs are effective in reducing traffic speeds and increasing speed limit compliance, but they only work for a limited time before drivers start to ignore them.

Alexandria has, in recent years, reduced speed limits on some major roadways, including Seminary Road and Richmond Highway, to the lowest allowed speed of 25 mph.

If the Commonwealth gives the green light to speed cameras, Alexandria and Fairfax County will be then given the option to deploy them.

## 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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1034208403392227/)).

### 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](mailto:deanthebean6911@yahoo.com) or call at 703-768-0895  
I hope to see your dog soon!

### FOR SALE –

**Barely Used Bowflex Treadclimber - TC10. Originally paid over \$1,800 for it and asking \$750 for it (lists on Amazon for \$1,199). Includes Bowflex mat and various maintenance items. Available for pickup. Please give us a call at 703-768-3125 and leave a message if we do not answer.**

**Keith & Beth Johnson  
3805 Stonebridge Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22306**

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM JANUARY 2020 - DECEMBER 2020

### 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](mailto:scaboard@stoneybrooke.org).
2. Include the information in the form below.

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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](http://www.stoneybrooke.org)!