

Stoneybrooke

OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL NOVEMBER 2020

Letter from the Board

This time last year we were cheering on the World Champion Washington Nationals after their seven game series win over the heavily favored Houston Astros. This year, we are cheering on our favorite sports teams in much different fashion as we continue to seek a healthy balance between social distancing, work, school and the ins-and-outs of daily life. Regardless, time marches on and we find ourselves ready for another seasonal transition as we enjoy the beautiful fall weather of the past few weeks knowing full well that the winter chills are not far off. With Thanksgiving just around the corner, the December holidays are going to be here before we know it...and dare we say 2021?

What a great Halloween event we had this year! The number of families who chose to participate in the pumpkin carving, house decorating, trick or treat tables, the zombie walk, and just the overall spirit of the holiday was amazing. Nothing this successful happens without a lot of planning and hard work; as reluctant as I am to mention neighbors by name, out of fear of leaving someone out, we would be remiss if we didn't send out a big thanks to Rachel Moran, Kevin Arwood, Bill and Jen Dorr, Amy Lynn Gilbert, Jeanine, Clarissa and Bailey Womble, Courtney Cansler, and Barb Hobson for putting this together. Again, apologies if I left anyone out...I am sure that there were many more working behind the scenes to make Halloween one of the neighborhood highlights for 2020.



The mild fall, warm weather, and ample rainfall through October and early November has kept the yards green and the leaves healthy and on the trees longer than in recent years. But...they are now in free fall mode and if your yard is like mine, a few hours raking and bagging over the weekend is all for naught just a few days later. Despite the fact that our residents rely on private contractors and not county services for trash and refuse, it all ends up in the same place and Fairfax County is working hard to phase out plastic bags for yard waste collection. Check with your private refuse collection service for pick up times and schedules and don't forget to keep the curb area in front of the house clear. It doesn't take too much debris to really hinder the drainage into the sewers. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/yard-waste>

The shorter days and longer nights create an opportunity for petty thieves that have been a constant throughout our area over the past few years. We have had a couple of residents both here and down the hill in the Vantage and Woodstone neighborhoods who have had their vehicles gone through for anything that is a quick score. Maintain your vigilance and make sure locking your vehicle is the last thing you do each night. As the holiday shopping season ramps up, we can expect an influx of delivery trucks dropping Amazon, Walmart and Target orders off at our doors. Do your best to track your items and delivery windows, limit the amount of time they sit outside on your door step, and if possible, team up with your neighbors to keep an eye out and secure your items if you can't be home. And in that spirit...team up with all of your friends and neighbors and just look out for one another in general...not just during the holidays but throughout the year.

As we do transition to winter and adjust to daylight savings, a good rule of thumb is that as you change your clocks you should also change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors...items that we take for granted that our lives can literally depend upon. There are lots of other safety tips that go along with preparing for the cold weather that all residents should consider...a professional cleaning of the fireplace, ensuring that you don't overload outlets with holiday decorations, and a good maintenance check of the furnace are all good practices.

That is it for November...Happy Thanksgiving to all and here is to ushering in a great holiday season!

- The SCA Board!

Upcoming Events

Alexandria's Holiday Season Starts Before Thanksgiving

Holiday decorations are in our local stores already and a lot of people are already starting to shop for gifts. Even if this holiday season is a bit more socially distant than we'd like, there are still plenty of fun things to do. Here's what to put on your calendar between now and Thanksgiving:

- **Ice & Lights: The Winter Village at Cameron Run** opens! Visit novaparks.com/events/ice-lights to purchase tickets and get more information on this year's Winter Village at Cameron Run, which features an ice rink, more than a dozen holiday light displays perfect for Instagramming, a retail area, food, music and more.
- On Nov. 20, the **Office of Historic Alexandria's Online Holiday Activities Portal** goes live! The site at alexandriava.gov/historic will feature videos and activities exploring how Alexandria has celebrated and endured the cold season throughout the years.
- That same day, the Office of Historic Alexandria starts taking orders for a new **"Winter in Alexandria" kit**. This kit provides everything from materials to step-by-step instructions on how to explore Alexandria's history through hands-on activities and stories.
- Saturday, Nov. 21 brings the first virtual **City of Alexandria Tree Lighting**. This year, the City of Alexandria's 2020 Tree Lighting ceremony will move online in an effort to protect public health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch online at alexandriava.gov starting Nov. 21, and mask up to visit the Market Square tree in person throughout the season.
- Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 21 and 22, brings the second annual **Cookie Crawl!** Savor the holidays during Old Town Business Association's second annual Old Town Cookie Crawl. Schedule a time to pick up your cookie tin, then shop and fill your cookie tin with pre-wrapped treats at 25 retailers in Old Town Alexandria. Advance registration is required at oldtownbusiness.org and costs \$30. Reserve a time to pick up your tin. It's fun for the whole family and a great way to explore Old Town's walkable shopping district.

Alexandria Shop Small Week, Nov. 27-Dec. 6

VisitAlexandriaVA.com/Holidays/Shop-Small-Week

This year's holiday shopping season is more important than ever for independent retailers. In an effort to support Alexandria's large community of independent boutiques throughout this unparalleled winter, Visit Alexandria announced Monday that three new promotions for shoppers near and far will kick off soon: Alexandria Shop Small Week, the Alexandria Santa-gram Giveaway and the digital Guide to Alexandria Holiday Shopping.

Alexandria's biggest shopping week of the year, the first-ever Alexandria Shop Small Week, Nov. 27 to Dec. 6, will kick off with Plaid Friday: Alexandria's Small Business Black Friday and Small Business Saturday.

Alexandria Shop Small Week is an opportunity to show your support for the D.C. region's largest destination for independent boutiques with 10 days and two weekends of deals, promotions and Instagram giveaways.

Don your favorite mask or hop online to take part in promotional events including Plaid Friday: Alexandria's Small Business Black Friday (Nov. 27), Small Business Saturday (Nov. 28), Museum Store Sunday (Nov. 29), Cyber Monday (Nov. 30) and Giving Tuesday (Dec. 1).

Be sure to follow Visit Alexandria's Instagram at [@VisitAlexVA](https://www.instagram.com/VisitAlexVA) for gift card giveaways Dec. 4-6. Need more reasons to shop small? Enter the Alexandria Santa-gram Giveaway by submitting a receipt from your purchase at a participating independent retailer featured in Visit Alexandria's digital Guide to Alexandria Holiday Shopping for a chance to win a personalized video greeting from the region's most beloved Santa.

Community News

New Seafood Restaurant Opens in Mount Vernon Area

The fast-casual restaurant specializes in fish sandwiches and made-to-order seafood items. Skrimp Shack was has opened in the shops between Staples and PetSmart at Mount Vernon Plaza on Richmond Highway in Alexandria. The Mount Vernon location marks the 23rd Skrimp Shack in Virginia.

The dining room provides socially distanced seating at 25 percent occupancy and will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays.

Skrimp Shack was founded in Newport News in 2011 by Mitch and Stacey Hartman and now has more than 30 locations across the East Coast. The Skrimp Shack franchise was sold to lifelong friends Glenn Heard and Kevin Harrison on Jan. 1, 2020. They plan to grow the brand, expand awareness, and become “America’s Favorite Fast Casual Seafood Restaurant.” The Mount Vernon restaurant will join Dumfries and Manassas locations in the Northern Virginia region.

The owners are proud to support members of the armed services by offering Military Appreciation discounts. On Tuesdays, all active duty and retired military receive 10 percent off their meals as a “thank you” from the owners and their staff.

For more information on Skrimp Shack, visit theskrimpshack.com.

Giant Food Opening In Former Kmart Location In Springfield

A new Giant Food location has opened at Springfield Plaza, occupying the former Kmart space at 6364A Springfield Plaza. The current Giant Food store at 6426 Springfield Plaza will close once the new store is fully open.

The new 50,000-square-foot store will offer expanded departments and product offerings. Inside, shoppers will find extensive prepared food services, full meat and seafood service, expanded Natural and Organic selections and larger produce sections, including more fresh cut fruit and locally grown offerings. There is also a full-service Starbucks, PNC Bank, full-service floral shop, and full wine and beer shop.

McKay Elected As Virginia Association of Counties President

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jeffrey McKay was elected to serve as 2021 president of the Virginia Association of Counties.

The association advocates with the state legislature for the commonwealth’s 95 counties. McKay assumes the role while serving as board chairman in Fairfax County, Virginia’s most populous jurisdiction. He became chairman in 2020 after serving as Lee District supervisor.

According to a news release from the chairman’s office, McKay has led efforts with the Virginia Association of Counties over the last few years to significantly increase state education funding and transportation funding, as well as amplify the perspective of counties statewide.

McKay succeeds Nottoway County Chairman Stephen Bowen as president of the association. During the upcoming year, McKay will be tasked with the continuing challenges of the pandemic. In an acceptance speech, he commended Gov. Ralph Northam and localities for supporting communities, as well as the association for advocating with the governor’s administration, legislature, and federal government on behalf of county needs during the pandemic.

Key Sources

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.

Additionally, a Facebook group exists to advertise events and service or share recommendations here (www.facebook.com/groups/1034208403392227/).

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.
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!

**united
community**



Holiday Food Drive

***Benefitting United Community / Fordson
Food Pantry, Alexandria, VA***

***What: Canned goods (sweet potatoes, beans, etc), dried beans,
boxed mashed potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese,
boxed stuffing mix, canned/jar gravy. Anything non-
perishable and suitable for a healthy meal.***

***Where: Bins will be located in front of 3906 Stone Mansion
Ct, 7005 Stone Mill Pl, and 6919 Stoneybrooke Ln for
contactless drop off.***

***When: Bins will be at the above listed locations from 15
to 22 November.***

***Point of Contact is Mrs. Barb Hobson at
bdeanhobson@gmail.com***

