

Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL OCTOBER 2020

Letter from the Board

Despite temperatures and rain that has kept our lawns lush and green through summer, it looks like autumn has finally arrived. The oranges and reds are beginning to show on the trees and, while mowing yesterday, I noticed the leaves are beginning to accumulate on the lawn. Keeping with the Halloween spirit, the pumpkins, ghouls and goblins are beginning to show up in the neighborhood as is the pleasant aroma of a warm fire of an evening. Another telltale sign of autumn is that football is finally here. Though it may not be what we are used to...tailgating and crowd packed stadiums, just being able to sit and watch on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon is good enough for me.

It has been a busy month; in late September, we held our fall meeting in conjunction with the food trucks down at the bottom of the hill. To go along with the great food, music and camaraderie, Mark Husband provided a neighborhood update and chaired the election of two new board members: Kevin Arwood as President and Margaret Canilang as Treasurer. As we welcome the new team, we would be remiss if we didn't thank out outgoing officers, Bill Dorr and Candy Thompson, for the great work that they have done over the past few years leading the SCA. Anyone that knows Bill and Candy know that they unselfishly donated countless hours towards making our community better all while successfully juggling professional careers and family. Though both would be the first to tell you that they were looking for nothing in return, at the very least they deserve a big thank you and I will go out on a limb and speak on behalf of all of our residents in expressing our gratitude for a job well done.

As the leaves continue to fall and over take the yards and streets, this is a good time to talk refuse collection. While lots of information is available on the Fairfax County website, Stoneybrooke residents rely on private trash collection services who all have their own guidelines for leaf and yard pick-up. Regardless of who your provider is and how you choose to maintain your property, take the extra few minutes to look for common areas that you can put a little effort into. Most important are the curbs and the pathways to the sewers. The geography of our neighborhood allows for gravity to do most of the work in moving out rainwater but leaves, sticks and other debris can greatly impact the free flow into the sewers. A couple of other things to keep in mind this time of year: Daylight Savings time is just around the corner. While most have a much easier time "falling back", it is still a transition none the less. This is also a great time to change those batteries in your smoke detectors.

Halloween is on a Saturday this year and it will most likely look very different from years past, but the 5pm to 8pm window is pretty standard so you can expect some neighborhood traffic. Hopefully we will have a seasonal evening that is just chilly enough to put us all in the Halloween spirit but not so cold that we cannot enjoy being outside with our neighbors and friends. A final thanks to those who contributed to the fall yard sale...from what I saw it seemed to be a success...at least from the volume of traffic. Hopefully it was worth your while for those that chose to participate.

That is it for October; again, welcome Kevin and Margaret, thanks to Bill and Candy, and lets look forward to those autumn colors and comfortable fall evenings before old man winter rolls in.

-SCA Board

Community News and Events

Best Alexandria Area Pumpkin Patches 2020

Along with crisp air and turning leaves, a fall tradition for many families is a visit to a local pumpkin patch. And while the coronavirus pandemic of 2020 has caused some of the region's pumpkin patches to modify how they operate, quite a few will be open this fall. Below is a list of some of our favorite pumpkin patches in and near Alexandria.

- Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA
 - » Hours: Oct. 4 to 31, weekdays noon to 6 p.m. and weekends 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Greenstreet Gardens, 1721 W Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA
 - » Hours: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday
- Nalls Produce, 7310 Beulah Street, Alexandria, VA
 - » Hours: Pumpkins and other fall produce for sale, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday through Saturday
- Meadows Farms Nurseries, 4808 Backlick Road, Annandale, VA
 - » Hours: Pumpkins and fall produce for sale, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- Burke Nursery's Pumpkin Playground, 9401 Burke Road, Burke, VA
 - » Hours: Pumpkin patch and Halloween-themed backdrops for photos, Oct. 1 to 31, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- Cox Farms, 15621 Braddock Rd, Centreville, VA
 - » Hours: Fall festival is canceled this year. A drive-thru market is open from Sept. 25 to Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Nov. 1 to 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sales are online only.
- Whitehall Farms Fall Open House, 12523 Popes Head Road, Clifton, VA
 - » Hours: The fall festival is canceled, but the farm is hosting an open house with advance tickets. Weekends from Oct. 3 to Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- DePaul's Urban Farm, 2599 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA
 - » Hours: Daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Reston Farms Garden Market Fall Fest, 10800 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston, VA
 - » Hours: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 1, timed tickets at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- Krop's Crops, 11110 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA
 - » Hours: Daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in shop; walk-in hayrides to pumpkin patch weekends in October from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Alexandria Again Named A Top Small U.S. City

Condé Nast Traveler has released its 2020 Readers' Choice Awards, and Alexandria has once again made the cut for the best small cities list. The best city rankings were split into two categories small cities (with populations under 250,000) and large cities. Alexandria placed fifth among the likes of Charleston, Santa Fe, Laguna Beach, and Aspen. Since the small cities category was created in 2018, Alexandria has ranked in the top five.

Here's what Condé Nast Traveler says about Alexandria in the ranking:

Washingtonians are all in on the secret, but it's no surprise the rest of the world is catching up: Alexandria, Virginia, the charming, historic city just across the Potomac River from our nation's capital, draws travelers and would-be residents alike. Most folks start to imagine moving there just after setting foot in Old Town, once they've strolled the red brick sidewalks, clocking street after street of perfectly preserved rowhouses from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Springfield Restaurant Snags Award At 2020 RAMMYs

Restaurants from Washington, DC dominated the list of winners at the 2020 RAMMY Awards, but a Springfield restaurant earned an accolade too.

Among the winners was Yasmin Orozco of Taco Bamba Taqueria Springfield for the employee of the year award. Taco Bamba is a locally-based taquería owned by Chef Victor Albisu with the most recent location opening in Ballston. Albisu was named chef of the year in 2015 by RAMW and also owns Poca Madre and Del Campo. Poca Madre won the RAMMY award for upscale casual restaurant of the year but has been permanently closed. Taco Bamba's location has also closed, leaving the taquería with five Northern Virginia locations.

In addition, the 2020 Honorary Milestone RAMMY Awards were handed out to Rocklands Barbeque and Grilling Co. (30 years - Alexandria and Arlington, Virginia, and, Washington, D.C.), Vace Italian Delicatessen (40 years - Bethesda, Maryland, and, Washington, D.C.), and Mrs. K's Toll House (90 years - Silver Spring, Maryland).

Franconia's Paradiso Restaurant To Close, Reopen As New Concept

A longtime family-run restaurant in Franconia will close, but a new generation is planning to reopen it as a new concept. Paradiso Italian Restaurant's owners announced on their Facebook page that the restaurant has closed to undergo renovations and reopen in mid-November as La Fiamma, which translates to "The Flame."

The family-run restaurant states on its Facebook page it has been cooking recipes passed down from generations and serving thousands of families and friends. It is also affiliated with Villa Bella Restaurant in Burke and Giardino Italian Restaurant in Springfield. The owners say La Fiamma will remain the same family-owned business as Paradiso with a new generation.

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/).



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!

Stoneybrooke Halloween

Hosted by the Stoneybrooke Citizens Association

Saturday, October 31st

TRICK-OR-TREATING TREASURE HUNT 4-6PM

ZOMBIE WALK 6:45-7:30PM

PRIZES FOR BEST PUMPKIN CARVING, BEST DECORATED HOME,
& BEST DRESSED PET



Food Trucks from 5-8pm

THE BIG CHEESE ♦ PUDDIN' ♦ BUSKEY HARD CIDER

For more information and to sign-up visit:
<http://www.stoneybrooke.org/event/halloween-2020/>