

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

---

## SENTINEL DECEMBER 2020

Dear Stoneybrooke,

This is my final Sentinel “Letter from the Chairman” after joining the SCA Board in 2016.

Since that time, I have been fortunate to be among the residents and neighbors to continue the Stoneybrooke Citizen’s Association’s charter, which began in 1971, to *“promote the interests of the residents of Stoneybrooke subdivision in improving our community, and in promoting the growth and development of the children residing in Stoneybrooke subdivision, and in living in a friendly community.”*

For the last four years, I have used this definition to shape and influence the SCA’s activities.

The 2016 board listed six primary areas of focus four years ago (from the July/August 2016 Sentinel) and I am proud to see the progress made in each of the six areas. This is thanks to two things: an active community volunteering their time selflessly, and also importantly, members supporting the SCA financially through the \$20 annual dues:

1. Website: Established a refreshed web presence (<http://www.stoneybrooke.org>) to share upcoming information and provide new residents an easy location for community resources.
2. Meetings: Hosted regular SCA meetings, welcoming guest speakers such as then Lee District Supervisor McKay, Fairfax County Dept of Code Compliance, Fairfax County Police Department, and others. Additionally two annual meetings / block parties are held in May and September.
3. Welcome Packets: Refreshed welcome packets were created; however, we continue to need volunteers to help identify and welcome new residents. If you have any interest in volunteering to be part of the welcoming committee, please contact us!
4. Events: Several annual community events to celebrate holidays were continued and then tweaked for COVID such as the Easter Egging / Easter Bunny visit, Halloween Howl and Prowl, and summer food trucks (what an amazing 2020 addition!)
5. Newsletter: The Sentinel continues to provide Stoneybrooke with current events and information within the local area each month. A blog was also added with periodic and timely updates.
6. Going Digital: Many SCA functions are now digital, from now accepting the \$20 annual dues via PayPal (and will soon offer other digital methods--stay tuned as dues are now being accepted for the 2021 year!) as well as using an opt-in Sentinel mailing list instead of printing and delivering costly hardcopies.

Additionally, we improved Stoneybrooke’s visibility through the new signage for the semi-annual Yard Sales; removed the dilapidated fences at the entrance to the community; and through the help of some committed volunteers, reinvigorated the feeling of community and excitement through events and tools supported by (but not run by) the SCA, like the food truck event and the multiple Stoneybrooke social media accounts.

I could not be more excited to see the continued evolution and growth of our community and neighborhood as Kevin Arwood steps in as SCA Board Chairman and the rest of the current board (Brad Hobson, Megan Mansell, Margaret Canilang, and Mark Husband) work to provide leadership and support for community events. I have enjoyed every moment volunteering alongside past board members (Rachel Cramer, Jason Prokop, Jo Butler, and Candy Thompson) and valued the mentorship and guidance from previous community leaders (Mike Jurkowski, John Finamore, Bernie Tabarini, and Lloyd Milburn).

While 2020 may be a year we will want to forget in many regards as we trudge through the Covid-19 pandemic, our Stoneybrooke neighbors came together as a community and created events and memories I will cherish. Hopefully, some will be new neighborhood traditions to be repeated for years to come. The Easter Bunny bouncing along in the back of a pick-up truck. Springtime scavenger hunts. Summer evenings filled with the sound of live music while enjoying delicious food truck delicacies. A Halloween invasion of zombies and ghouls. With many residences looking inward to our communities instead of traveling to see distant family and friends during this holiday season and winter, I am thankful to be a member of the Stoneybrooke neighborhood.

The SCA wishes all of our neighbors a joyful December holiday season. As we ring in the 2021 New Year, Stoneybrooke will continue to be the best neighborhood thanks to the participation, creativity and leadership of all who live here. Thank you for everything!

-Bill Dorr, SCA Board Chairman (2016-2020)

## Upcoming Events

### **Del Ray Artisans' 25th Annual Fine Art & Fine Craft Holiday Market**

Del Ray Artisans 25th Annual Holiday Market offers unique handcrafted fine arts and crafts from local artists. As always, the artists are presenting a variety of media, including fiber/textiles, glass, jewelry, mixed media, mosaics, painting, paper crafting, photography, pottery/ceramics, sculpture, watercolor, wood turning and more. Different artists are featured each weekend. Del Ray Artisans Gallery and the Holiday Market follows ALX Promise guidelines to protect the public. Face masks are required, and the number of individuals allowed in the gallery is limited.

Hours are Fridays, 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Del Ray Artisans is at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Market is open thru Friday, December 18th.

### **Public Feedback Requested for Future BRT Station Design**

If you had to pick three words to describe Richmond Highway, the words modern, walkable and green probably don't come to mind – but they might in the next ten years.

This transformation includes the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and road widening projects.

The first two phases of the BRT project involve the construction of nine stations along the highway between Huntington Metro Station and Fort Belvoir. Later, phase three will extend stations further south into Prince William County, and phase four will eventually extend the yellow line of the metro from Huntington to Hybla Valley.

The BRT project expects to wrap the environmental review process by early 2021 and is currently preparing for right of way acquisition which will begin in the first half of 2021 and continue through 2025. The first utility related construction is not expected until 2023 and revenue service is expected in early 2030.

Design for the project is 30 percent complete but the County is looking for public input in order to finalize the concept for the BRT stations. Visit the County's website (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt>) to view the concepts and provide feedback now thru December 18th.

### **Alexandria Plan to Bring the Torpedo Factory Art Center into the 21st Century**

Do you have an opinion about the future of the Torpedo Factory Art Center? Make sure your voice is heard by providing your views on the newest Action Plan for Vibrancy and Sustainability at Torpedo Factory Art Center.

The Action Plan has three main goals: reestablish the art center's identity, curate the building and rebuild the art center's role in the community. The new identity will reflect the needs of a 21st century audience by being interactive, family-friendly, and diverse through programming, events and an expanded role of the center's Target Gallery.

To review the plan and provide feedback, visit the City of Alexandria's website or contact the Office of the Arts by emailing [arts@alexandriava.gov](mailto:arts@alexandriava.gov).

## Community News

### WMATA Budget Cuts Could Close Two Alexandria Metro Stations

Citing a “historic operating budget crisis,” Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) officials put forth a proposed budget that includes major cuts to services, hours and even locations.

In addition to service cuts and thousands of layoffs, the WMATA proposed budget includes eliminating weekend service on rail lines (somewhat making up for it with increased bus service) and closing 19 Metro rail stations.

The stations that could face closure include those that are within one mile of other stations and those that are seeing the lowest usage. In Alexandria, that means the Eisenhower Station and Van Dorn Street station are on the list.

WMATA depends a lot on tourism for revenue from riders, which has been down significantly with museums closed and most major events canceled, including baseball games. In addition, with so many people working from home, daily commuter ridership remains much lower than normal (down by more than 75 percent, according to Metro, from pre-pandemic levels).

### Alexandria Receives Highest Score in Human Rights Campaign Equality Index

For the first time, the City of Alexandria received a score of 100 on the Human Rights Campaign’s (HRC) Municipality Equality Index. This index measures the inclusivity of laws, policies, and services for LGBTQ people who live in the city.

Last year Alexandria, received a rating of 90 out of 100. The increase by 10 points this year is in part due to a new state law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in equal housing, employment, and public accommodations. In addition, city laws prohibit this discrimination based on gender identity.

Another improvement from last year is that the city as an employer has an ordinance against discrimination based on gender identity.

Fairfax county received a score of 88, an improvement for their score of 53 last year. D.C. received HRC’s highest rating in the states category last year. The state of Virginia was listed as “high priority to achieve basic equality,” their lowest rating.

## 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/](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/)).

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM JANUARY 2021 - DECEMBER 2021

### 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:

Margaret Canilang  
6903 Stonebridge Court  
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.

-----  
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)!