

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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## SENTINEL

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2025

### Letter from the Board

Dear Neighbors, welcome to 2025! As we step into the new year, we're excited to continue fostering community connections and working together to make Stoneybrooke an even better place to call home. To kick off the year, we hope to see you at our first Stoneybrooke Citizens Association (SCA) Community Meeting on Thursday, January 23rd, at 7 PM, held at St. Martin Church (formerly St. Mark's), 6744 S. Kings Hwy. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your neighbors and share your ideas for the year ahead. We are honored to have Franconia District Supervisor Lusk joining us for a portion of the meeting to provide updates on district matters and address questions from residents. Let's make sure he receives a warm Stoneybrooke welcome!

Our meetings are a cornerstone of community engagement, allowing us to discuss upcoming events, address concerns, and plan for the future. Your input is invaluable, and we're eager to hear your thoughts on the officials and organizations you'd like us to invite to future gatherings, as well as any ideas for neighborhood events. Let's shape 2025 together!

Speaking of the new year, it's time to renew your SCA membership! For just \$20, you can help support community resources like this newsletter, our website, and the exciting events we host throughout the year. Membership also grants you voting rights on board matters and strengthens our collective voice on local issues. Payments are simple and convenient via PayPal ([SCAboard@stoneybrooke.org](mailto:SCAboard@stoneybrooke.org)), Venmo ([@stoneybrooke\\_sca](https://venmo.com/@stoneybrooke_sca)), or in person at our January 23rd meeting. Let's aim for full participation this year! As we reflect on 2024, we'd like to highlight some recent events that brought our community together:

- **Candy Cane 5K:** December's fun run was a festive success! Families, pets, and neighbors braved the cold to enjoy a cheerful race filled with candy canes, hot chocolate, and even appearances by Santa (with a fire truck!) and the Grinch. Thank you to everyone who participated and made it a memorable day.
- **Barrier Clean-Up:** On November 23rd, a dedicated team of volunteers tackled the overgrowth along the barrier between our neighborhood and the condos on Cold Spring. Their hard work has kept this area tidy and welcoming—thank you for lending a hand!

As always, we're grateful for the energy and enthusiasm our neighbors bring to Stoneybrooke. Let's keep that momentum going in 2025! We can't wait to see you at the Community Meeting on January 23rd and throughout the year.

Warm regards,

*~SCA Board*

## Neighborhood News

### January 23<sup>rd</sup> Community Meeting (ft. Supervisor Lusk)

Welcome 2025! With the new calendar year, we're kicking things off on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM with an SCA Community Meeting - looking forward to seeing you there! Franconia District Supervisor Lusk is available and plans to attend a portion of this meeting to provide area updates as well as field questions from residents. The Board looks forward to seeing our neighbors at this meeting.

**Who:** All Stoneybrooke residents invited and welcomed

**What:** Community SCA Meeting Where: St. Martin Church (formerly St. Mark's), 6744 S. Kings Hwy Alexandria (our neighborhood election location) When: 7p Thursday January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

**Why:** Discuss upcoming events and provide feedback on issues that affect you and our community. The SCA Board has regularly hosted public officials such as our Franconia District Supervisor Lusk or leaders from other Fairfax County departments and agencies (Mount Vernon District Police Department, School Board, Fairfax County Park Authority's Invasive Management Area Program, etc.) to meet with Stoneybrooke neighbors. We want your input on who you want to see as well as your ideas on neighborhood events.

Did you know you can sync the Stoneybrooke events calendar directly to your personal calendar? Go to the 'Community Events' tab on our website, <https://www.stoneybrooke.org/community-events/> click 'Subscribe to Calendar', and select your calendar app of choice.

### 2025 Dues

It's a new year again, and that means it's time to renew (or begin!) your membership with the Stoneybrooke Citizens Association (SCA)! Just \$20 a year to join us in supporting our community's resources like this Stoneybrooke Sentinel newsletter, our neighborhood website, and fun events for all ages. Membership also grants voting rights on board membership and by-law amendments and helps strengthen our neighborhood's voice in local matters.

The dues cover the entire calendar year, so jump in now in January for all of 2025. Making the payment is easy, with PayPal: [SCAboard@stoneybrooke.org](mailto:SCAboard@stoneybrooke.org), Venmo: @stoneybrooke\_sca, or if you'd rather, a physical payment you bring to an event: like the SCA Community Meeting on Thursday January 23rd at 7:00pm! We're so excited for you to join us for a great year in Stoneybrooke!

### **Candy Cane 5k**

Dozens of families turned out for December's fun run, which led neighbors, dogs, and children of all ages to brave the cold in search of candy canes and a sighting of Santa. Santa flanked by a shiny fire truck, was spotted by runners passing by the Duck Donuts truck and hot chocolate station. In a surprising turn of events, the grinch made a surprise appearance too! Yes, straight from Whoville, the Grinch fired up our runners to complete the 5k. Great job to all attendees!



*Images: Runners of all ages and species competed in the Candy Cane 5K*

(Photo Credit: Rachel Moran)

### **Barrier Clean Up**

The barrier between our neighborhood and the condos down Cold Spring requires periodic maintenance so that it does not get overgrown. A team of volunteers from our SCA board and concerned members assembled to clean up the barrier on November 23rd. Working efficiently, this team had it looking great in no time. Thank you volunteers for keeping things tidy!





*Images: Cold Spring Barrier, before and after*

(Photo Credit: Katy Clough)

### Community News

#### **Fairfax County Announces Winner For First Hike Photo Contest**

Every year, Fairfax County Park Authority hosts the First Hike photo contest. Photos of people, scenery, and wildlife taken at Park Authority sites are submitted to showcase the variety offered through the park system. This year's People's Choice winner was taken at our local gem, Huntley Meadows Park.

More: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/first-hike>

#### **Pandas Arrive at National Zoo!**

The pandas are back and ready to make their official debut on January 24th. The National Zoo has special festivities planned between January 24th and February 9th to celebrate the arrival of Bao Li and Qing Bao. You'll need to reserve a free entry pass, but then you are set! And while you may be thinking you'll just wait until the weather warms up, pandas are actually MORE active in cold temperatures, so don't miss out on this fun event.

More: <https://www.nbcwashington.com/entertainment/the-scene/pandas-will-soon-debut-at-dcs-national-zoo-heres-how-to-visit-plus-pro-tips/3812686/>

**Local Resources**

Alexandria Living | <https://alexandrialivingmagazine.com/>

Fairfax County | <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/>

Kingstown Patch | <https://patch.com/virginia/kingstowne>

Old Town Patch | <https://patch.com/virginia/oldtownalexandria>

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) | <http://www.sfdc.org/>

**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 an online 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.

# Stoneybrooke

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## MEMBERSHIP INFO

### How To Join:

1. Electronic: Send \$20 dues (plus optional donation, if desired) through [PayPal](#) (scaboard@stoneybrooke.org) or [Venmo](#) (@stoneybrooke\_sca) by scanning one of the QR codes below. Include your name, street and house number, and email address\* in the details.
2. Cash/Check: Deliver \$20 dues (plus optional donation, if desired) to Margaret Canilang, Treasurer, at 6903 Stonebridge Court. Checks can be made payable to "SCA" or "Stoneybrooke Citizens Association."



*Please choose the **Friends and Family** option.*

*\* To receive your copy of the Stoneybrooke Sentinel by email; transaction settings are set to "private."*

**Yes, I would like to join the Stoneybrooke Citizens Association. Enclosed is my \$20 dues.**

Name(s) of adults in household: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to my dues, I am adding a donation of:

\$20 (\$40 in total)

\$30 (\$50 in total)

Other Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(es), to receive copy of Sentinel newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

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