

# Stoneybrooke

OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SENTINEL  
OCTOBER 2019

## Letter from the Board

Despite record breaking temps that ushered in October, it looks like autumn has finally arrived. The oranges and reds of the fall are beginning to show on the trees, the leaves are piling up in the yards, pumpkins adorn the front door steps of many homes in the neighborhood, and of an evening you can smell the fireplaces burning. Instead of talking football in October, let's talk baseball and basketball. A late rally to beat the Brewers in the wild card, a game seven, 10th inning grand-slam against the Dodgers, and a sweep of the Cardinals in the NLCS by the Washington Nationals means the World Series is coming to the District! If you are a hoops fan, the Mystics showed how to get it done and are celebrating their first Women's NBA championship.

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. What was an afternoon commute in the daylight may instantly become an evening commute, but cool and comfortable evenings will keep neighbors young and old out and about. Continue to think safety...it is easy to pick up speed going down the hill and give it a little extra gas when going up if we aren't mindful of our surroundings. This is also a great time to change those batteries in your smoke detectors.
- Fairfax County has no set times for ghosts and goblins to be out on Halloween but the 5pm to 8pm window is pretty standard. 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 and to those who were able to come out for the neighborhood cookout down on Stone Quarry Court, and to those who were critical to its success. The "bounce house" seemed to be a big hit and for those that remembers Ms. Andi Edwards Bethea (and her little white dog Chance) who now calls Florida home, her generous donation contributed to this for the neighborhood kids.

-SCA Board



## Upcoming Local Events

### **The Haunting of Yacht Haven**

One home tucked away in a quiet neighborhood in the Mount Vernon area has its own small-scale, free and family-friendly haunted house scene called: “The Haunting of Yacht Haven.”

Wade and Lisa Woolwine — both fans of horror movies and the supernatural — first conceived their front-yard Halloween display when they lived on North Kings Highway. What started as a cemetery scene with a handful of animatronics and lighting evolved into a larger display last year with the addition of about 15 animatronics. As visitors wend their way along the fog-filled path through the Woolwines’ yard, they encounter a variety of creepy dolls, skeletons, gargoyles, witches, demonic figures and clowns. The Haunting of Yacht Haven, located at 4400 Dolphin Lane, is open Fridays through Sundays from now through the weekend after Halloween.

### **Torpedo Factory Annual Art Safari**

*Saturday, October 19th, 12pm – 5pm*

An Alexandria tradition for almost a quarter-century, Art Safari returns for a day of hands-on activities for kids and families. Dozens of artists lead budding art enthusiasts in exciting and creative projects throughout the building. Dress to get a little mess. Great for kids ages 5+. Younger children may need some extra help, but will still have a lot of fun! Visit [torpedofactory.org/event/24th-annual-art-safari/](http://torpedofactory.org/event/24th-annual-art-safari/) to learn more.

### **The 2019 Tour de Mount Vernon**

The annual bike ride, which is now in its fourth year, will begin at 8:30 a.m. on October 19 at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. Participants can take part in either a 20-mile ride or a 35-mile ride that will take people through western side of the Mount Vernon District as well as down the Mason Neck peninsula. The longer ride includes a section on Fort Belvoir.

There is a \$25 fee per rider, which includes Tour de Mount Vernon socks and a \$5 donation to the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling. Spokes, Etc. will be on hand to provide support to riders, and ride monitors and the Fairfax Police will also be on the routes. More information on registration and polices can be found at: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/tour-de-mount-vernon-2019](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/tour-de-mount-vernon-2019)

### **Mount Vernon Fall Harvest Family Days**

*October 19th - 20th, 9am - 5pm*

Enjoy fall activities with the whole family at Mount Vernon! Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and play colonial games on the bowling green before heading to the Pioneer Farm to observe 18th-century demonstrations and greet General Washington. Find your way through a straw bale maze and listen to the Itinerant Band play colonial tunes. Sightseeing cruises will be free throughout the weekend (while supplies last). Buy tickets at: [www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/fall-harvest-family-days/](http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/fall-harvest-family-days/)

### **Old Town Waterfront Beer Garden**

*Friday, October 25, - 27, hours vary*

Savor the fall season at a pop-up Waterfront Beer Garden by Port City Brewing Company, part of Portside in Old Town programming at the new Waterfront Park at the foot of King Street. Enjoy award-winning craft beer plus food from Haute Dogs. Put your Halloween knowledge to the test with Port City trivia. Get spooked with ghost stories from Alexandria Colonial Tours. Port City will offer a selection of their award-winning beers, including their Porter, Downright Pilsner, Optimal Wit and Integral IPA. Chill by the water with a hint of Halloween as Alexandria kicks-off its Halloween festivities across the City. Costumes are encouraged. The Waterfront Beer Garden is presented by the King Street Corridor Initiative. Learn more at: [www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/waterfront-activities/portside-in-old-town/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/waterfront-activities/portside-in-old-town/)

**Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade***Sunday, October 27th, 2pm – 4pm*

Del Ray's annual Halloween Parade begins at Mt. Vernon Ave., south of E. Bellefonte, and continues down to the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center play fields at Mt. Vernon and Commonwealth Avenues. Children, pets and strollers in costumes are invited to march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb. Following the parade, awards are given for Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home and Best Decorated Stroller during a brief ceremony. There is no fee to compete for Best Pet Costume or Best Decorated contests. Judges include elected officials and city dignitaries.

**Community News****New Japanese Restaurant opens in Belle View Shopping Center**

Yido Ramen & Sushi opened earlier in October in the Belle View Shopping Center. Yido's menu boasts an extensive array of sushi choices, as well as Japanese and Chinese-style ramen. There are also lunch specials and a sushi bar. Yido replaces Magic Wok Cafe, which closed in April. The new tenants have completely renovated the interior.

**New Animal Hospital Opens at Telegraph Shops**

A new animal hospital on South Kings Highway is aiming to make your pet's trip to the vet a less stressful. Harmony Animal Hospital, which opened in late September, features a brand-new, state-of-the-art interior specifically designed to reduce the anxiety level of your cat and dog. The building features separate entrances and waiting rooms for cats and dogs. There are textured floors so dogs don't have to worry about slipping. Even the paint scheme and the colors of the uniforms worn by the staff are meant to be as pet-friendly as possible. The hospital also has the basics, including surgery and dentistry areas, X-ray rooms, a pharmacy, and recovery areas for cats and dogs. There's also some nice touches for pet owners, including comfortable furniture and free coffee that's provided by the popular Grounded Coffee shop around the corner. Cat and dog food and treats are also available for sale.

Harmony Animal Hospital is located at 6940 South Kings Highway in the Telegraph Shops at Telegraph Village shopping center.

**Virginia Hills Baptist Church Plans to Expand with Senior Housing**

Virginia Hills Baptist Church has partnered with a senior living developer to build a 170-unit facility for seniors on the church's property. Virginia Hills Baptist and Brightview Senior Living submitted their rezoning request for the project to Fairfax County in August, which includes plans to build a 194,000-square-foot continuing care development on the church's property. Brightview Virginia Hills, as the facility is referred to, would feature both independent living and assisted living residences. The current church and its daycare facility would remain on the site but would be rebuilt toward the front of the property. The senior residences would be closer to the center and rear of the property, which borders Lee District Park to the east and south, and a residential development to the north. Thirty-six units of the facility would be for residents with dementia and other memory impairment, such as Alzheimer's disease.

**Wawa is coming...to Beacon Hill**

Wawa has applied for multiple construction permits to renovate the former Rite Aid store at 6711 Richmond Highway. Permits indicate that Wawa plans to update the building's facade and make structural and other improvements to the existing building as part of the project.

An initial zoning review has already been approved by the county, according to the permits. It does not appear Wawa has applied to put gas pumps at the site; a special exception requiring approval from the Board of Supervisors would be needed for that.

Wawa has developed a loyal fanbase, particularly for its variety of food and coffee options. In the past year the chain has aggressively expanded in the D.C. market, with new locations in Tenleytown and Columbia Heights opening earlier this year and another in Northwest scheduled to open later this fall.

### **Small Shopping Center to Possibly Replace Two Rundown Houses on Route 1**

The two homes, located at 8212 and 8118 Richmond Highway, are proposed to be demolished to make way for a 9,200-square-foot shopping center. The shopping center would consist of two 4,600-square-foot buildings, with a driveway that intersects with Richmond Highway separating the two buildings. Parking would be in the rear of the center, behind the buildings. An outdoor seating area would be allowed in front of the buildings should a restaurant or restaurants move into the spaces.

The two lots were last used as a rental car facility and a title loan business, respectively. The title loan business has been closed since 2017, and in 2018 the windows of the other building were boarded up after the car rental business moved. As of last week, the front area of the homes was overgrown and some vehicles remain in the rear of the lot. Neither house appears to have been used in some time.

### **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/)).

# Stoneybrooke



OF FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM SEPTEMBER 2018 - DECEMBER 2019

### 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)!