

STONELEIGH NEWS

Upcoming Events

- April 1** – HOA Quarterly Dues Due (\$360)
- April 7** – Easter Egg Hunt
- May 19** – Yard Sale and McLean Day
- May 20** – Junk Army Pickup
- July 1** – HOA Quarterly Dues Due (\$360)
- July 4** – Parade and Games
- September 29** – Annual Picnic
- October 1** - HOA Quarterly Dues Due (\$360)
- November 13** – Annual Meeting

In This Issue

- 1** **Upcoming Events**
- 2** **Fire Safety Tips**
- 3** **Free Income Tax Assistance**
Officer Elections
Changes to Property Management
- 4** **Don's Intel Corner: Restaurants**



Fire Safety Tips

Did you know that in 2011, there were ZERO fire fatalities in Fairfax County? That was the first time in 62 years there have been no fire-related deaths. A huge thanks to our County and Volunteer Firefighters!

However, a home across Westmoreland recently had a fire break out in the clothes dryer. This is one of the more common types of fires, due to lint built up in the dryer vent. It is generally recommended to have your dryer vent cleaned out every two to three years. If you've noticed that it is taking longer and longer for your clothes to dry, then there is probably too much lint built up in the tubing. Having a professional clean it out for you is a quick process and will cost you about \$150 - \$175, although it may be included if you are also having your air ducts cleaned. You'll immediately notice that your clothes dry faster, too, saving you more money.

Dryers aren't the only fire danger, though. Here are some tips for having a fire-safe home:

Heating

- Have your chimneys and heating systems inspected, cleaned, and repaired prior to the heating season.
- Make sure all portable heaters are placed at least three feet from bedding, furniture, and other flammable materials. They should be plugged directly into the wall, never into an extension cord.
- Turn off portable heaters when you leave the room or before going to bed.
- Ensure every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

Electrical

- Use as few extension cords and plug adapters as possible.
- Extension cords should not be tacked to walls, run under rugs, or through doorways.
- Unplug small appliances, like the toaster, when not in use.

Housekeeping

- Keep matches and lighters in a secure place out of the reach of children.
- Paint, varnish, and other flammables must be stored in sturdy metal containers and in a cool place.
- Ashes from fireplaces and barbecues can only be disposed of in metal containers.
- Only light candles when someone is able to keep an eye on them, and when placed in sturdy holders away from things that can burn.

Kitchen

- In the event of a grease fire, the best thing to do is to put a lid on it.
- Never leave your cooking unattended.
- Never use the oven to heat the home.

Smoking

- Do not smoke in bed or while lying down.
- Always extinguish smoking materials with water.

Smoke Alarms

- Install smoke alarms on a ceiling or high on the wall outside of the bedrooms on each level of the home and in every bedroom.
- Change your smoke alarm batteries when you change the clocks.
- Test your smoke alarms and vacuum them regularly.

Escape Plan

- Make a plan of escape showing two ways out of every room in your home, especially bedrooms.
- Regularly practice your escape plan by holding fire drills in your home.
- Be sure that windows used for escaping can be opened easily.

Free Income Tax Assistance

If you worked in 2011 and made less than \$50,000 you may qualify for free assistance in preparing your income taxes. Visit www.nvacash.org for more details.

There are a number of locations, dates, and times, but the closest is at Tysons-Pimmit Library on Saturdays through April 7 from 10am to 2pm. See the website for a list of what you should bring.

Don't forget the filing deadline this year is Tuesday, April 17th.

Officer Elections for the Board of Directors

At our January Board meeting, the following people were elected or re-elected as Officers:

- * Mitchell Sacks, President
- * Douglas Hoyt, Vice-President
- * Laura Coblentz, Treasurer
- * Heather Kennedy, Secretary
- * Winnie Pizzano, Landscaping Chair
- * Don Sumihiro, Security Chair
- * Emily Summers, Member-at-Large



Changes to Property Management

James Hawkins has returned as our property manager, and we are glad to have him back!

You can reach James Hawkins at d.fanning@cardinalmanagementgroup.com or 703-565-0042.

The Cardinal Management Group main number is 703-569-5797.

Katherine Boyd is the Accounting Representative and her number is 703-565-5022.

The 24-hour emergency number is 1-866-370-2989.

DON'S RESTAURANT INTEL CORNER

Harth

Inside the McLean Hilton Hotel
7920 Jones Branch Road
Tysons Corner
www.hiltonmclean.com/harth

Complimentary Bread with Bacon Jam – Do we really need to say any more?

We will anyway. This recent addition to the McLean dining scene might be dismissed as another boring hotel restaurant, but let go of your preconceptions and give it a shot. With its modern design and focus on local, seasonal, and sustainable food, it should be on every foodie's to-do list. Chef Tom Elder is so committed to fresh ingredients that he has an organic garden on-site and beehives on the roof of the Hilton that produce over 200 pounds of honey each year! Ask about having Chef Tom visit your school or pre-school to teach kids about the important role bees play in our food.

Back to the food, Don had the fish and chips, which he deemed "very good." His wife enjoyed her mussels with spicy sausage cooked in stout with hand-cut french fries. Desserts are large, so they split the apple and ice cream dessert.

Dinner entrees can be expensive, but they also serve small plates and flatbreads from their wood-burning oven. There is an extensive wine and beer selection, presented on iPad menus, so it should always be up-to-date.

Harth is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, as well as brunch on Saturday and Sunday.

Yelp users: Check in on Yelp when you are at Harth, and you'll receive a free jar of bacon jam to take home!



La Ferme

7101 Brookfield Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
301-986-5255
www.lafermerestaurant.com

Don and his wife enjoyed a lovely Valentine's Day dinner at this French Country restaurant located in an old house in what is still a residential area. They had a delicious meal and cannot wait to sample the regular menu.

McLean 1910 Closed; New French Bistro Opening Soon

The owner of Assaggi Osteria will be opening Bistro Vivant in the location that was briefly McLean 1910. They are currently changing the décor and plan to open in March. They will offer French specialties as well as French wines in a casual setting. Price points will be lower than Assaggi. We can't wait to check it out!