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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

*The Official Publication of the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association, Inc.
Springfield, Virginia*

February 2006

The Ravensworth **Farmer**

VOL. XLII Issue 6

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Folks,

Spring seems to be approaching, and with the nice weather we may want to think about our gardens early this year. Though I bet we still get more snow and a chance to skate on the lake.

I recently met Governor Warner, Governor Kaine, and Congressmen Davis and Moran at the Springfield Interchange ribbon cutting ceremony. My two-year-old daughter sure liked Governor Warner. Did you know your politicians are very accessible and willing to listen? Most have very responsive regional offices. Last night I attended the School Board budget meeting to present my views regarding our school system. Almost all the School Board members were present and maybe 100 people showed up to voice their opinions. I spoke personally (as did my five-month-old from my arms) with Jack Dale (School Superintendent) and Mr. Moon (Board Chair). Isn't it a little surprising that a person can simply walk in and speak to a governor, congressman, or folks who are in charge of a school system serving a million residents? So, if you have any issues or thoughts regarding our schools, transportation, politics, etc., all you need do is get out there and attend meetings and you will be heard. See the article in this issue that summarizes my concerns, which I presented to the School Board. If you are interested in my detailed proposal, contact me.

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**Ravensworth Farm Civic Association
Membership Meeting**

Topic: Lake Accotink Dredging

Thursday, March 23, 2006 - 7:30 p.m.

**Held in the Ravensworth Elementary
School Library**



Ravensworth Farm Community Activities

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| • March Farmer Deadline | Wednesday, March 1 |
| • Trout Fishing at Lake Accotink | February 10 - April 23 |
| • Community Clean-Up | Saturday, March 18
~ details page 6 |
| • Lake Accotink Park Clean-Up | Saturday, April 8 |
| • Community Yard Sale | May 6 (TENTATIVE)
~ more info page 4 |
| • Volunteer Opportunities ~ Page 4 inside | |

**Ravensworth *Farmer* Online
www.ravensworthfarm.org**

Article I, Section 3, of the Civic Association's By-Laws provides that the Association shall be strictly non-partisan, non-political, and non-sectarian. Accordingly, the invitation of elected officials and other public figures to speak at Association meetings, and the inclusion of paid political or commercial advertisements in the Farmer or in the attached flyers, do not constitute endorsements by the Association.

RAVENSWORTH FARM CIVIC ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Brent Reynolds	703-321-8383
1st Vice President	Martin Shepherd	703-461-0158
2nd Vice President	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Recording Secretary	Mike Edwards	703-321-0176
Corresponding Secretary	Bob Nielsen	703-321-8206
Treasurer	Trong Nguyen	703-425-7650

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Ruth Orem	703-321-8061
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Tom Harms	703-321-7476
Schools & Education	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
Parks & Recreation	Jim Hickey	703-321-8535
	Richard Sargent	703-321-9143
Membership & Communications	Julia Johnson	703-321-8845
Architectural Committee	Brent Reynolds	703-321-8383

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	Richard Sargent	703-321-9143	
Hospitality	Nancy Jarvie	703-321-8319	
	Johanna Canfield	703-321-8483	
	Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063	
New Neighbors	Gloria Brissman	703-321-7871	
	Miffie Clem	703-321-7875	
	Celia Fruchterman	703-321-0756	
Cultural Committee	Vietnamese	Trong Nguyen	703-425-7650
	Spanish	Celia Fruchterman	703-321-0756
	Korean	Monica Kim	703-321-0338
Directory	Coordinator	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
	Advertising	Martin Shepherd	703-461-0158
<i>Farmer</i>	Co-editors, Advertising	Chris & Mary Lipsey	703-321-2824
	Preparation	Deirdre Orem	703-321-8061
	Printing, Flyers, Assembly	Dick Sargent	703-321-9143
	Distribution	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Neighborhood Watch	Larry Lippolis	703-321-8966	
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary	Alicia Mooradian	703-764-8575	
Green Thumb Garden Club	Mary Ann Rish	703-321-7447	
Golden Ravens	Richard & Allie Hunter	703-321-9549	
Ravensworth Swim and Racquet Club	Enrique Navarrete	703-321-9140	

Association Calendar 2005 - 2006

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
February	1	1	10	13	18	
March	1	1	10	13	18	23*
April	5	5	21	24	28	
May	3	3	12	15	20	25

Membership or Board Meetings are canceled in the event of Fairfax County Public School's early closing or school cancellation.

*** Snow Date March 30**

(Continued from page 1)

Did you know that each homeowner is responsible for clearing his/her own sidewalks of snow and debris? If someone falls on your snow-covered sidewalk, you could be liable. Aside from that, it would be nice if each homeowner cleared their sidewalk immediately after a snow so that all the children and walkers could walk safely.

Well, our December cover with seasonal greetings in Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese was a hit but not completely the way I had hoped. I received a number of phone calls from folks who were upset. I realized I should have put a note of explanation in English of our reasoning and goals. Being Christmas, I thought it appropriate to attempt to recognize and bring into our family the other cultures within our neighborhood. I did this by reaching out to them in their native languages. This effort is the culmination of a year of work by four people on the cultural committee. Their hours of work often go unnoticed as they attempt to bridge the gap between the diverse cultures in our neighborhood. Believe me, this is not an easy task and I get many phone calls regarding similar issues which could be more easily resolved if our different cultures understood each other better. I could think of no better time to reach out to our neighbors who we want to participate in our community more and invite them in using their native language. My goal is to bring all cultures into our association and for these adults and children to be involved in our activities.

As you will notice, our cover will continue in English but occasionally we will print the cover or some articles in other languages. I will put a brief explanation in English to explain each article when we do this. If you have concerns or questions, (or compliments) please contact me at 703-321-8383 or better, email brent@madbomber.com. Interestingly, due to our work establishing cultural committees and translating abilities within this community, I have been asked by the Braddock District Council to form a task force to teach the other 200 associations how to accomplish this. To the few folks who called upset about not being able to read the cover (and the others who were upset but didn't call), I appreciate your viewpoint and concerns. You are the history of this community and important to us. Try to think of this printing as an accomplishment, a first for our community as it evolves. And regardless, I appreciate your calling and voicing your views. We need to hear what everyone thinks and wants, and we need more volunteers for future projects.

We are looking for members to form two committees: a Concerns Committee to address issues regarding covenants, zoning, parking, noise, architectural, etc., and a Mediation Committee to address serious/long-term issues between neighbors. Let me know if you are interested.

Meanwhile, watch for the changes at our entryway as Spring approaches.

Brent Reynolds
703 321 8383

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' NOTES

The Board of Directors meetings are held in the Teachers' Lounge of Ravensworth Elementary School. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2006.

The Civic Association extends its special thanks to Julie Riegg for typing this month's *Farmer*, and to Deirdre Orem for her role in preparing the *Farmer* and maintaining the paid advertisements.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- ♣ Volunteers to pick up trash periodically along Braddock Road fronting the Ravensworth residential area. Residents nearby are desired, but not required. Please call 703 321-9143.
- ♣ Once a year volunteer to pick up trash, trim bushes, and prune trees in median strip of Braddock Road. This is part of the Braddock District Tree Planting Project. Call 703 321-9143 for more information.

DO YOU WANT A COMMUNITY YARD SALE THIS YEAR?

A volunteer is needed to arrange for the Annual Community Yard Sale if there is to be one. It's easy - mainly coordinating a date with the Pool Management and getting advertisements to newspapers and the *Farmer*. Call Maureen Fletcher at 703 321-0962 for information.

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Rogos, Pablo
Rogos, Walter
8115 Carrick Lane

Roberto Fernandez and wife
8114 Bullock Lane



REMEMBER: Call Gloria Brissman (703 321 7871) when a new neighbor appears on your block.

HOSPITALITY

Hospitalizations:

- ♥ Ruth Miller, Halleck Place

Ravensworth Farm extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Madeline Von Deck of Inverchapel Road, and to the family and friends of Doug Langley of Adair Lane.

Please call Johanna Canfield (703-321-8483) with news of births, adoptions, hospitalizations, and deaths in our community.

CONCERNS EXPRESSED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD BY BRENT REYNOLDS

NUTRITION

This is simple. Spend more; charge more. Offer healthier choices and eliminate junk food. Reinforce good nutrition habits.

REDUCE CLASS SIZE - 17 STUDENTS PER TEACHER

Hire the teachers and build more classrooms if necessary. Raise funds by issuing bonds for the buildings. Increase teacher's pay in order to encourage more applicants.

ENCOURAGE WALKING TO SCHOOL

Too many parents drive their kids to school. We should have a program to recognize kids who walk everyday, who bike, or kick scooter. We have to start teaching our kids about better methods of travel and encourage an appreciation of mass transit and non-motorized methods.

INITIATE A STANDARDIZED POLICY FOR INFORMATION FLOW FOR STUDENTS WITH SPLIT HOMES / DIVORCED PARENTS

Sometimes non-custodial parents miss out on activities of their children, because of lack of communication.

REMOVE ALL JUNK FOOD FROM SCHOOLS, INCLUDING TEACHERS LOUNGES

Make a school policy that parents must bring healthy snacks for parties, special activities, etc.

ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE MORE INTEREST IN MATH AND SCIENCE

Today, we have to import talent from overseas to fill engineering and computer related jobs. Our future lies in higher tech and services, both of which require a better education. Let's get this done. Our kids are counting on you.

NEW RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE RECYCLING

What's new about the collection service? All solid waste companies in Fairfax County will collect cardboard and paper. Place the following items in a bin, bag or container: junk mail, magazines, mixed paper, catalogs, flattened cardboard, newspapers, phonebooks, cereal and cracker boxes.

What **DOES NOT** Recycle? Pizza boxes, plastic bags, styrofoam, aluminum foil and trays, prescription vials, and batteries. When in doubt, call your hauling company or for County information, check out www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling.

IT'S THE LAW!



*Rain or snow in your sights
Switch on Wipers, Switch on Lights*

-- Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs

Remember these lines and avoid a traffic citation. Virginia law requires motorists to turn on their lights anytime they turn on their windshield wipers.

DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

If so, here's your opportunity. The Wakefield Chorale is looking for men and women of all ages to sing with them this spring. The group performs for seniors at assisted living facilities and also at a spring concert. No auditions are necessary. Please join them as they rehearse on Tuesdays in the music room of Falls Church High School at 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church from 7:30-9:30 p.m. For more information, please call Dale at 703 938-8044 or Mary Lipsey at 703 321-2824. Hope to see you on Tuesday.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAY: SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2006

The **seventeenth (17th) annual Clean-Up Day** this year will again provide an added incentive for "Farmers" to tackle back-yard clutter, messy basements, carports or storage sheds.



The Civic Association has again arranged for Fairfax County trash disposal trucks to be parked at the **Ravensworth Elementary School parking lot on Saturday, March 18** from **8:00 AM to 11:45 AM**, for the purpose of collecting items which are not accepted by private trash collectors at curbside. One truck will take metal items and another will take other trash. Now is the time to get rid of old appliances, furniture, mattresses, boards, doors (no glass), swing sets, lawn mowers (thoroughly drained of fluids), piping, etc.

Items that CANNOT be accepted include hazardous waste (BATTERIES, including the small "button" and rechargeables, PAINT, USED OIL, pesticides, and lawn care products), TIRES, sheet rock, STONE OR CRUSHED ROCKS, and products that can be recycled - such as newspapers, cans and glass. Also, BRUSH WILL NOT BE COLLECTED. Residents may take their brush to one of the County's two brush recycling centers, located at:

- + I-95 Landfill, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton. Phone 703-690-1703. Hours 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM M-F, 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM Saturday. Tires (maximum of five without rims) will be accepted at the Lorton Landfill only! Call first!
- + I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax. Phone 703-631-1179. Hours 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM daily. Hazardous waste, Thursday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Friday 8:00 AM - 12 NOON, Saturday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.



Brush delivered to these recycling centers will be shredded into mulch. Therefore, the brush must be free from other debris. Brush containing stumps, rock, metal, etc. will not be accepted because these items damage shredding equipment. Residents may obtain free shredded wood mulch at both these recycling centers.

THIS IS IMPORTANT!! You may not dump your trash at the school prior to the arrival of the County trucks or after the trucks depart! Disposing of private trash on school property, or in school dumpsters, is punishable by a \$100 fine.

We need a volunteer with a pick-up truck for assisting those people who need help getting large, bulky items to the school. Make every effort to get your materials to the school on your own as this pick-up is intended mainly for disabled or elderly residents. We do not have sufficient volunteers to clean out basements. **To offer assistance or schedule a pick-up, call Dick Sargent at 703-321-9143.** For instructions on where to dispose of **hazardous waste**, call 703-324-5068, and for where to dispose of stumps, rocks and tile, call 703-690-1703.

RAVENSWORTH ONLINE

www.ravensworthfarm.org



The webpage is providing many opportunities for our community. Better communication is just one. Soon the *Farmer* newsletter will be posted there. If you misplace the *Farmer*, you can still stay connected by finding it online. Please note that classified ads will be online also since they are part of our newsletter. It is highly unlikely that an advertiser will receive thousands of phone calls, but it is better to be forewarned.

GOLDEN RAVENS ENJOY WINTER GET-TOGETHER

Fifteen members of the Golden Ravens enjoyed excellent meals and conversation together at the Spartan Family Restaurant on January 25th. We missed our program coordinator, Ruth Miller, who was recovering from knee surgery. Since February weather can be inclement, we will eat out again on February 22nd at Bob Evans in Springfield. Meet at the Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Road at 11:00 a.m. to carpool to the restaurant. If you need a ride, call Allie or Dick Hunter (321-9549) or Martha or Dick Sargent (321-9143). Meetings with guest speakers will resume in March. All Ravensworth Farm seniors are welcome to join us.

MEDICARE INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

For information on Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Program), including how to enroll, clients may call the following numbers:

English:	703 324-5851
Spanish:	1 866 783-2645
Chinese:	1 800 582-4218
Korean:	1 800 582-4259
Vietnamese:	1 800 582-4336

You can get additional information on changes in Medicare Part D by watching Senior Times on Channel 16. The schedule for Senior Times is:

Sunday at 6:00 p.m. and again at 9:00 p.m.
 Monday at 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.
 Thursday at 10:00 p.m.
 Friday at 9:00 p.m.
 Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

The Green Thumb Garden Club met at the home of Martha Sargent. A Virginia State Game Warden came and spoke on backyard intruders and how to attempt to control them. In addition to deer, raccoons and possums, we now have foxes being seen regularly. He warned us to always be on th lookout for an animal that might be rabid, especially if you have small children or dogs. If you suspect a rabid animal, always call the animal warden so that he can trap the affected animal.

GARDENING TIPS FOR MARCH

- Fertilize all trees and shrubs
- Apply crabgrass preventative
- Apply weed control for lawns and gardens
- Cut back liriopie and ornamental grasses and prune roses and other summer flowering shrubs before spring growth appears



ATOMS 5K RUN/WALK

The Annandale High School (AHS) Athletic Booster Club will sponsor a **5K Run/Walk** on **Saturday, May 20, 2006 starting at 8:30 a.m.** to benefit the athletic programs at AHS. The race course starts at the school, meanders through the neighborhood, and ends on the track. There will be T-Shirts, food, prizes, and music by the AHS Marching Band. The price for participants is \$20 (\$18 if paid by April 30). Last year's events attracted over 150 participants, which included seasoned runners, families, and local politicians. Registration forms will soon be available at www.Annandaleatoms.com. In the meantime, if you would like to volunteer for this event, or get on the mailing list, please contact Jim Connor at 703 321-2827 or at jconnor3@cox.net.



CLASSIFIED ADS are placed in the *Farmer* and on the Ravensworth Farm web page at no cost to residents of Ravensworth Farm. Classified ads must be mailed to: The Ravensworth *Farmer*, P.O. Box 1020, Springfield, VA 22151. This classified ads section is a service to Ravensworth residents, and is not intended for business or commercial use. Accordingly, we will run ads for house sales, commercial services, etc. in this section once; if the advertiser wishes to repeat them, he/she must shift them to the paid ad category.

FOR SALE	Epson Stylus Photo 890/1280 Printer, \$75.00; Reciprocating Saw w/Case, \$35.00; 7 1/2" Circular Saw with Laser Trac and Case, \$30.00; Blower/Vacuum, \$25.00; Hedge Trimmer, \$15.00. Please call 703 321-7169.
FOR SALE	Crib/Mattress/Mattress Pad and two Fitted Sheets: \$45.00. Please call 703 321-7871.
FOR SALE	55-Gallon Fish Tank with Stand. Includes Pump, Filter Pieces, Heater, Fish Feeder, Stones for Bottom of Tank, Various Decorations, and Cleaning Supplies. \$20.00 (negotiable). Call 703 321-9593.
WANTED	Good used furniture for needy low income families in the Annandale area. Needed are beds, dressers, kitchen tables and chairs, sofas, end tables, lamps, kitchen utensils, dishes and pans. Call Bill Sinclair at 703-321-7529 or the ACCA warehouse 703-256-1991. Call the warehouse on Saturday mornings only.

