



MANDR HOUSE 1796-1925
RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

October 2007

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

VOL. XLIV Issue 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

The cool weather is finally coming and bringing more moisture for our parched plants and trees. Please read Duane Murphy's article regarding Accotink Creek and our water quality. See how the weather—and our actions— affect this local resource in our back yards. Look for additional information in upcoming *Farmer's* about our air quality, also. Keep walking, biking, and using mass transit or carpooling when possible and certainly enjoy those autumn walks through the woods near the creek and lake.

Thank you,
Brent Reynolds,
prez@ravensworthfarm.org



**Ravensworth Farm Civic Association
Membership Meeting**

Next Membership Meeting

*Thursday, 25 October 2007
7:30 p.m.*

**Held in the Ravensworth Elementary
School Library**

**Ravensworth Farm
Community Activities & News**

Golden Ravens

Wednesday, October 24—12PM, Pg. 6

Springfield Community Theatre

Celebrates 50 years

See Pg. 7 for details

Oktoberfest Celebration

Saturday, October 20— The Swiss Bakery, Pg. 6

**SWEET MONDAY, A Monthly Social
for the Ladies of Ravensworth**

Monday, November 5—See Pg. 6 for details

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	703-321-8777
2nd Vice President	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Recording Secretary	Mike Edwards	703-321-0176
Corresponding Secretary	Bob Nielsen	703-321-8206
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Vacant	
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Brenda Soares	703-321-7856
Schools & Education	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
Green Committee	Jim Hickey	703-321-8535
Membership & Communications	Julia Johnson	703-321-8845
Zoning Committee	Ellen Eggerton Stan Orndorff	703-321-4948 703-321-7990

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	Katherine Craig Marti Terry	703-321-3149 703-321-9668
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman Ramona Michels	703-321-8063 703-321-7664
New Neighbors	Gloria Brissman Miffie Clem	703-321-7871 703-321-7875
Cultural Committee		
Vietnamese	Vacant	
Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
Korean	Monica Kim	703-321-0338
German & Russian	Ifira Reynolds	703-321-8383
Arabic	Joumana Al-Naji	1-703-321-8002
Directory	Coordinator Advertising	Stephen Beste Martin Shepherd
		703-321-9110 703-321-8777
Farmer	Editor, Advertising Preparation Printing, Flyers, Assembly Distribution	Kathleen Powers Susan Deyampert Laura Asiello Stephen Beste
		703-321-7523 703-321-3150 703-321-7840 703-321-9110
Neighborhood Watch	Vacant	
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary	Sarah Hammersly	703-426-3600
Green Thumb Garden Club	Laura Asiello	703-321-7840
Golden Ravens	Martha Sargent	703-321-9143

Association Calendar 2007 - 2008

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
October	3	3	5	15	20	25
November	Oct. 30	Oct. 30	2	12	17	
December	Nov. 28	Nov. 28	Nov. 30	10	15	
January	2	2	4	14	26	
February	6	6	1	19	23	
March	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Feb. 29	10	15	27
April	2	2	4	14	19	
May	Apr. 30	Apr. 30	2	12	17	22

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



PICNIC AN INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS!

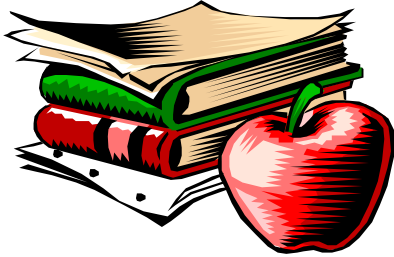
To celebrate our cultural diversity, the Ravensworth Civic Association held its International Picnic on Saturday, September 29 at the Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel. A lot of folks came and had fun. For the adults, we had tasty dishes from different lands plus volley ball and croquet. For the kids, a moon bounce, piñata, and lots of games provided fun for all. Todd Madder, of The Bike Lane (703-440-8701) did bike safety checks for the kids.

It was fun having individuals play "pin their country" or state of origin. We had people who originated from 16 different countries including China, Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Jordan, Lithuania, Italy, Switzerland, France, Spain, Ireland, Columbia, El Salvador, Honduras and the U.S. Within the U.S., we had 11 states of origin including, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, New York, Michigan, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Georgia, Montana and Oregon.

A lot of thanks to the following volunteers who made all of this possible: Dinora, Jose, Miguel, Dennis and Felicity Gonzales, Joumana and Naseem. Al-Naji, Monica Kim, Karen Aftergut, Jim and Sabina Pontious, Susan Deyampert, Ellen Eggerton, Brent and Ilfira Reynolds, Ruth Miller, Betty Sinclair, Kay Perret, Julie Riegg, Carol Tun, Jacqueline and Seth Fix, Rachel Furman, Jorge Medina, Martha Del Cid, and Sandra Flores, Jackson and Kyle Hanam and John McCollom. A special thanks to Erin and Marcelo Coelho who wrestled the moon bounce and to Dinora for making that great piñata. Another special thank you goes to the Community of Christ church for the use of their facility and grounds. Last but not least, thank you to the following Scouts from Troop 991: Alex Eggleston, Joong Huin Lee, Tim Barry and John Mataya.

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see at our next international picnic, please e-mail Bill Sinclair at Billsinclair2@cox.net.

NEWS FROM RAVENSWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



We finished September with a school-wide celebration of the new official partnership between Ravensworth and Mountain Kim Martial Arts. We feel we are ideal partners as Ravensworth and Mountain Kim work to develop both the mind and the body. Dr. Dale (our Superintendent), Dr. Krill (our Assistant Superintendent of Cluster III), and Tessie Wilson (Braddock District School Board Member) joined us for the festivities. Ravensworth students who are also students at Mountain Kim provided an exciting demonstration.

Our Jamestown outdoor classroom has been enhanced through the efforts of Jason Knickmeyer and Boy Scout Troop 991. This coincides with the 400th anniversary of Jamestown. Jason constructed benches as an Eagle Scout project and the troop mulched and cleared the area. This wonderful outdoor classroom is on the backside of the "Prairie Trailer". It looks great. We truly appreciate being part of this community.

Throughout the year we practice a variety of safety drills including fire, tornado and lockdowns. So if you hear we are doing a lockdown or building evacuation, they are all part of our efforts to prepare our students for a variety of emergencies. Of course we are always hoping we'll never need to use them for the real thing, but we want to be prepared as best we can.

Pam O'Connor, Principal
Ravensworth Elementary
(703) 426-3600
(703) 426-3697 FAX

NEW WEBSITE FOR THE BRADDOCK DISTRICT

A new website has been created that highlights the history of our Braddock District: <http://www.braddockheritage.org>. The website can be used for research or just strolling down memory lane. Choose a topic like airport and discover the story of how Burke escaped being the site of Dulles Airport. There are also educational activities and lesson plans for teachers and students. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Lipsey at 703-321-2824.

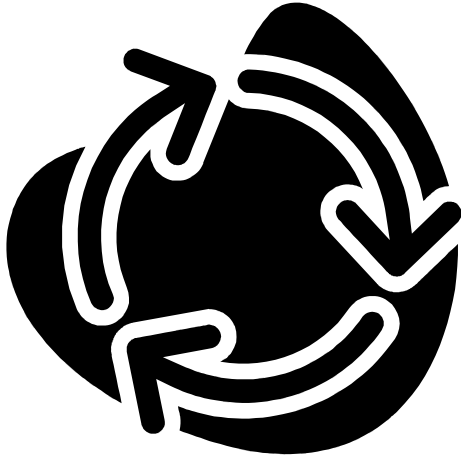
FALL CLEANING TIME!

All Ravensworth Farm residents have a wonderful opportunity to safely destroy sensitive papers. So clean out those shoe boxes and file cabinets, and bring them to be shredded on Saturday, **November 3rd**, from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, at the pool parking lot.

Remember: shredding old financial records helps to prevent identity theft.



NO RAIN EQUALS COOLER, CLEANER ACCOTINK CREEK!



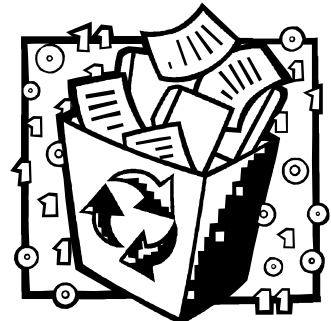
Would you believe Accotink Creek has become cleaner and colder because of no rain? The obvious lack of storm water this summer meant hot, dirty and polluted water did not rush off driveways, streets and parking lots, and did not enter the nearest storm drain, carrying trash into Accotink Creek. The creek is flowing during the drought because of naturally cool and clean ground water. One young lady joined Friends of Accotink Creek to earn Community Service hours during our annual fall International Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, 29 Sep, and waded into the stream to find the plastic bags and bottles. She soon had to get out because the water was "too cold!" The trash in the creek this fall is apparently all that remains from earlier storms.

Each person in the RFCA can help keep Accotink Creek cool and clean by picking up trash off the street and stopping the warm, dirty water reaching and destroying life in Accotink Creek! Rain on roofs and streets heats up and rushes into the storm drain carrying pollution and trash directly to the stream! Warmer water has less oxygen. Aquatic life needs oxygen and cool, clean water.

- **Responsibly use pesticides / fertilizers!** Only fertilize lawns in the fall and use phosphate-free fertilizer. Encourage the natural predators to control your pests. Use boric acid or insecticidal soap; they're less toxic to aquatic life than pesticides.
- **Plant native plants!** Grow varieties of attractive native plants that are available for residential use. These plants require fewer chemicals, less maintenance and support native wildlife.
- **Practice good car care! Fix car leaks! Recycle used motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, etc.** Use a car wash that recycles. If washing your car at home, use a small amount of low-suds, biodegradable, phosphate-free cleaners.
- **Practice Good Water Stewardship! DIRECT DOWN SPOUTS AWAY FROM YOUR DRIVEWAY! Keep our stream from drowning --** see: <http://www.accotink.org/Stormwater.htm>! Use the natural cooling and pollutant-filtering ability of soil & plants. Install rain gardens and rain barrels to capture water and release it slowly! Use porous materials such as spaced bricks or gravel for pathways & patios instead of asphalt or concrete, reducing impervious surfaces and slowing the water.
- Check out Friends of Accotink Creek web site calendar at <http://www.accotink.org> for many opportunities to join in helping restore our stream to a more pristine place for all to enjoy! If you have any questions, contact Duane Murphy or Philp Latasa via email: coordinators@accotink.org or call Duane at 703-599-3328 (cell – evenings and weekends).

Check out Friends of Accotink Creek web site calendar at <http://www.accotink.org> for many opportunities to join in helping restore our stream to a more pristine place for all to enjoy! If you have any questions, contact Duane Murphy or Philp Latasa via email: coordinators@accotink.org or call Duane at 703-599-3328 (cell – evenings and weekends).

www.accotink.org



SWEET MONDAY—A MONTHLY SOCIAL FOR THE LADIES OF RAVENSWORTH FARM

Take time out the first Monday of every month to relax, laugh and talk with other women. Each month will have a fun theme, sweet food and great fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend!

**Upcoming Dates:
November 5th, December 3rd, and January 7th**

No commitment to come each month required. Come late, leave early — whatever you need to do is fine. Kids 5+ can come and watch a movie while we chat.

RSVP: A Aberle, (703) 321 3379 — 7938 Ellet Road

*** Do you host a weekly/monthly/annual event at your home and want to invite your neighbors? Let us know! We'll include your event here and on the website: <http://www.ravensworthfarm.org>.**



OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION



The Swiss Bakery & Pastry shop located in the Ravensworth Shopping Center will host an Oktoberfest celebration on Saturday, October 20th. Live German music will be playing in the parking lot in front of the store. German foods such as sausages, sauerkraut and giant pretzels will be sold. All Ravensworth residents are cordially invited to attend!

Visit their website for more information:

www.TheSwissBakery.com

GOLDEN RAVENS GOING TO GREENSPRING!

Join in the fun—all who are interested are invited to join us, as we enjoy lunch at Greenspring. We have a reservation for 12 noon on Wednesday, Oct. 24. Meet at the Community of Christ Church to carpool at 11:00 am. Lunch is \$7.50; no tips. For questions, suggestions or rides, call Martha or Dick Sargent (703)321-9143 or Ruth Miller (703) 321-7477. Hope to see you there!

RAVENSWORTH FARM PHOTOS

Have you snapped amazing shots of the fall leaves? What about the wildlife in the neighborhood or a fantastic community event. If you've taken photos of our lovely community, please share! We're redesigning our fast growing website and want to include your photos! Please send your digital photos to webmaster@ravensworthfarm.org. Make sure to include a description of the picture and the name of the photographer.

SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY THEATER CELEBRATES 50 YEARS!

The SCT presents the "Last Five Years," a contemporary musical romance from the Tony-Award winning composer, Jason Robert Brown. Performance dates: October 26, 27 & 28; November 2, 3, & 4. Tickets are \$18; \$15 for seniors and students. The theater recently moved to a new location at the New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax, VA. For additional information see <http://www.sctonline.org> or phone (703) 866-6238. Due to language this production is not recommended for children.



FREE DINNER AND A SHOW!

If you live in Ravensworth and bring a child, you're invited. The show is **Winnie the Pooh**, this year's children's play at Annandale High School. Join us before the show at the Community of Christ Church in Ravensworth for a pizza dinner. Dinner and tickets are provided by the Civic Association. The church has generously let us use their building.

- **When:** Saturday, November 10th at 5:45 at the church. The show is at 7:00pm and will be over by 8:30pm.
- **Where:** Meet at the church in Ravensworth at 5:45pm.
- **Advance notice:** You **MUST** call Steve Beste at 703-321-9110 by 3:00pm on Saturday to say you'll be coming. Tell the answering machine your name and how many in your party.

Here's the fine print:

- You must be a resident of Ravensworth Farm.
- Your party must include at least one child.
- You must accompany your children the whole time. This is a family outing. No dropping them off.
- You must supply your own transportation to the school and back to your home.

These shows are always well done. The kids have a GREAT time. Please spread the word. Can't join us? You can still see the show on your own. Tickets are \$5 apiece at the door. Show times are Friday Nov 9th at 7pm, and Saturday Nov 10th at 1 and 7. At Annandale High School.



PET OWNERS TAKE NOTE:



Effective July 1, 2007, new legislation is requiring all Virginia veterinary practices to send a copy of your dog's rabies certificate to the local treasurer. For your convenience, your local treasurer will bill you directly for your dog license fee, if you have not purchased one within 90 days.

*Source: The Virginia Veterinary Medical Association

COYOTE'S IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Some of you may have noticed the coyote's in our neighborhood. Please read the following FAQ to keep your family and pets safe.

Are there coyotes in Fairfax County?

Yes. Coyotes were first sighted around the tank farm and Daniels Run in 2001. They have gradually migrated and are now being reported throughout the entire County.

Should we be concerned?

Not really. They're part of our wildlife now. Coyotes, just like in the old Western movies, are primarily a concern to farmers. **For Fairfax County citizens, the big concern is letting out pets at night -- cats or small dogs, which could be killed if they wander into coyote territory. Cats and small pets should be kept indoors, especially at night. Dogs should not be left outdoors unattended.**

It's also very important that you don't leave food sources out at night, like dog food or food on compost piles, and secure garbage can lids.

Can't anything be done to remove them?

Not safely. They are very elusive and are difficult to trap humanely or safely. Even if they could be safely captured and removed, as long as the environmental conditions exist to support their survival in the area others will quickly move in behind any that are removed.

What should I do if I spot a coyote?

Nothing. We know that they are here. You don't need to do anything more than you would if you saw a skunk or raccoon. If you see one that is acting sick or aggressive contact Animal Control right away.

Can coyotes be scared off?

Yes. Just yell at them. Coyotes generally aren't confrontational and would rather avoid humans and run away than get into a fight, although they might get into a tug-of-war if you tried to grab away their catch.

However, if a coyote is behaving abnormally or aggressively, like a rabid dog, then call the county police non-emergency number -- **703-691-2131** -- and they will dispatch an animal control officer.

Are there any benefits to having coyotes in the area?

The good news for Fairfax County is that coyotes will help normalize two animal populations that have overgrown due to the lack of a natural predator, and have presented a nuisance problem for citizens. These are rats and Canada geese.

Coyotes will help clean up the high rat population and other rodents as well, which is a welcome activity. In the case of Canada geese, coyotes like eating goose eggs (and occasionally a goose dinner), which should help to mitigate the big soiling problem the county has when geese overrun sports fields, parks, school grounds and lawns.

* Source: Fairfax County Park Authority



RFCA 2007-2008 BUDGET

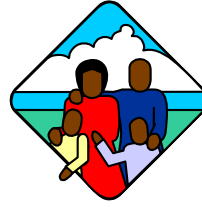
Ravensworth Farm Civic Association			
Reporting Period from Sep 1 to Aug 31 of following year			
	07 Budget	07 Actual	08 Budget
Revenues			
Membership	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,656.00	\$ 6,500
Advertising - Directory	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,560.50	\$ 4,500
Advertising - Farmer	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,382.21	\$ 3,300
Withdrawal - General Account	\$ 3,260		\$ 2,300
Total Revenues	\$ 17,560	\$ 13,598.71	\$ 16,600
Annual Expenses			
Farmer	\$ 3,160	\$ 2,574.70	\$ 3,425
Directory	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,664.00	\$ 4,500
Hospitality	\$ 500	\$ 291.05	\$ 500
Entrance Maintenance	\$ 700	\$ 773.33	\$ 1,000
Community Services & Events	\$ 3,250	\$ 2,564.55	\$ 3,350
Annandale H.S. Theater Event	\$ 250		\$ 350
International Festival	\$ 700		\$ 700
Halloween Party	\$ 700		\$ 700
Holiday Hay Ride	\$ 600		\$ 600
Internet Assistance	\$ 500		\$ -
Eagle Scout Projects	\$ -		\$ 500
Ravensworth Elementary - Plantings	\$ 500		\$ 500
Administrative Expenses	\$ 400	\$ 238.85	\$ 300
Website	\$ 200	\$ 70.35	\$ 200
Annandale Fire Department	\$ 500	\$ 500.00	\$ 500
Cultural Committee	\$ 200		\$ 200
Green Committee			\$ 250
Miscellaneous	\$ 150	\$ 66.24	\$ 75
Non Recurring/Capital Improvements			
CERT	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -
Entrance Improvements	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 2,300
Total Expenses	\$ 17,560	\$ 9,743.07	\$ 16,600

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Shea Rogers
5300 Kepler Lane

Jeff & Suzie Bousquet & Family
5525 Queensberry

Cameron Leiker & Maria Biank
8126 Drayton



When a new neighbor moves in on your street, please give Gloria Brissman a call at 703 321 7871.



CLASSIFIED ADS may be placed in the ***Farmer*** 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.

SERVICE	Ravensworth resident offers Assisted Living or In-Home Care Services such as food preparation, light housework, laundry or personal care/hygiene. Call Lima Home Care Services, LLC at (703) 944-1749.
FOR SALE	B & D Electric Hedge Clipper - \$20.00; Makita Hand Grinder - \$40.00; Sears Hand Buffer - \$10.00. Contact: (703) 321-7186 after 6:00 pm.
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.

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(703) 321-0507 (Church) • **(703) 313-8254** (Pastor)

Sunday Services:

9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Please join us for these Community Activities:

NEW! Children's Playground
Ravensworth Golden Ravens
Ravensworth Community Picnic
Holiday Caroling in the Neighborhood

We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love, and peace.

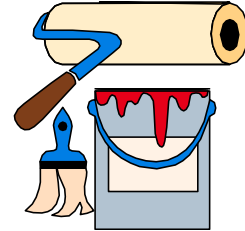
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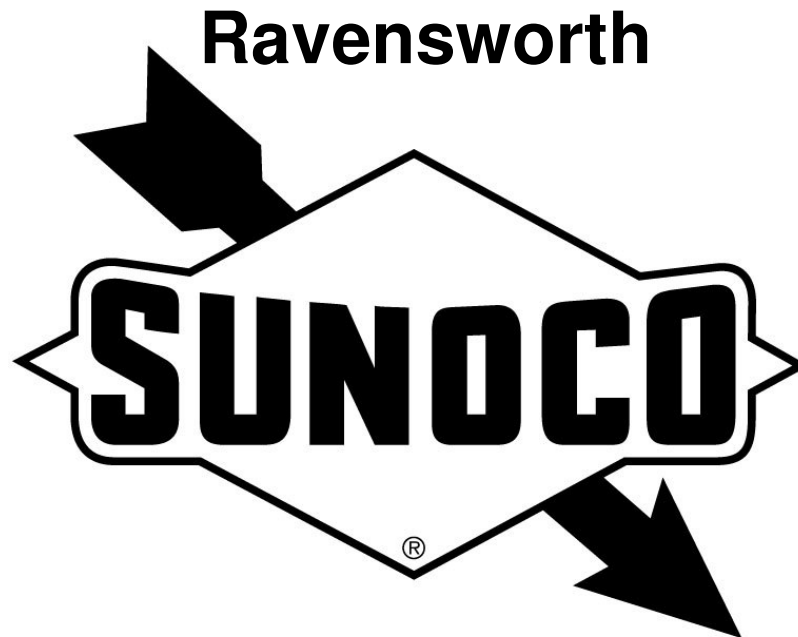
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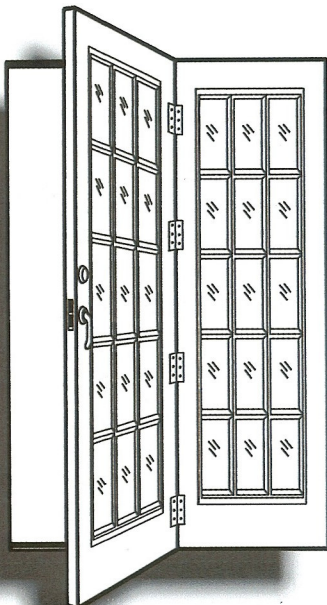
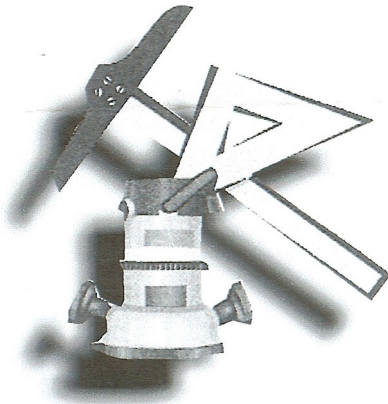
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