

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

November 2007

The Ravensworth Farmer

VOL. XLIV Issue 3

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Farmers,

Sometimes it seems we hear only negative comments about the state of the world today. If you watch the popular media, it appears the crime rate is up and very few people are willing to help each other. Interestingly, crime is statistically down and volunteerism is at what I believe to be an all-time high. In fact, the younger generation is showing signs of volunteering at a rate only matched by our fine generation from World War II. For example, here are two young men who are making a difference: Gus Nielsen for installing dog waste bag dispensers around Accotink Park and Sean McKinney, a life-long scout and member of Troop 990. Sean will be organizing an effort to glue nearly 250 plaques onto every storm drain in the neighborhood. Each plaque reads "No Dumping, Drains to Accotink Creek". Both boys planned these projects as part of their efforts to become Eagle Scouts. Not only are these two young men socially-oriented but they both demonstrate tremendous leadership potential.

Hans Jansen is looking for help with our energy conservation plan as well as our emerging bicycle plan for the neighborhood. If anyone has a particular interest in those areas please contact Hans at 321.4919 or email him at thansjansen@hotmail.com. Interestingly, Hans lived in Thailand and Vietnam where he helped (Continued on page 3)

Ravensworth Farm Community Activities & News

Storm Drain Marking, Pg. 9

Name That Newt Contest for Kids! See Pg. 5 for details

SWEET MONDAY, A Monthly Social for the Ladies of Ravensworth

Monday, December 3 See Pg. 5 for details

Holiday Party for Ravensworth Seniors

Wednesday, December 12—11AM
See Pg. 5 for details

Holiday Decorations Judging

December 14th, 15th & 16th—See inside for details

Holiday Caroling in the Neighborhood

December 16th at 6 P.M. — See inside 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

EXE	CU	TVE	CON	/MI	TTEE

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

		Katherine Craig Marti Terry	703-321-3149 703-321-9668
Hospitality		Ruth Hartman Ramona Michels	703-321-8063 703-321-7664
New Neighbor	S	Gloria Brissman Miffie Clem	703-321-7871 703-321-7875
Cultural Comn	nittee		
	Vietnamese	Vacant	
	Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
	Korean	Monica Kim	703-321-0338
	German & Russian	Ilfira 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	Farmer DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT Farmer	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
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.

(Continued from page 1)

setup the electrical conservation programs. Not only can you discuss smart electricity use and wise biking with Hans but also areas of interest in Asia. Catherine Craig thankfully volunteered for the tree canopy group's efforts to identify our trees and will be working with Hans on this effort. Thanks to both of them for taking on these challenges. I'd also like to thank Mr. Stringer and Dick Sargent and the many others who volunteer in our neighborhood.

Does everyone know the Annandale High School paper; the A-Blast, won a national award last year for its quality? And Annandale HS has one of the few commercial kitchens for culinary arts students, partly thanks to the work of School Board Member, Tessie Wilson and a group of altruistic business people who helped raise funding for this project.

Remember there are lots of good people out there-- in the neighborhood, at the schools, and all around our community.

Brent Reynolds—President, Ravensworth Farm Civic Association Email: prez@ravensworthfarm.org, Cell: (571) 214-9068

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to the following people who watered the entranceways to our neighborhood this year and kept them looking nice:

& Eddie Deyampert

Agnes O'Keefe



With so little rain, this was a big project. If you see them, thank them!!

IS THERE A GREEN ROOF IN YOUR FUTURE?

For those that don't know, green roofs are growing-plant beds placed on a rooftop. They consist of a waterproof, root-proof layer of polyethylene protecting the roof itself, a bedding container, the growth media (engineered soil components and organic soil), and one or more species of plants. These plants can include weather-tolerant alpine varieties of succulents, and certain herbs, grasses, or mosses. Maintenance is minimal, just like a conventional roof. Twice a year you need to inspect the roof for leaks, damages, invasive weeds or tree saplings. Watering and enriching the soil in the first years can yield a roof that lasts for thirty years or more! How's that for sustainable?



The benefits of green roofs fall into four categories- economic, ecological, aesthetic, and psychological. Just as with any improvement over traditional building methods, the initial cost of a green roof can be higher than conventional products and methods. Over time, however, the costs of heating and cooling your home will be reduced as the living roof shields the structure from the heat of the summer, and insulates it from heat losses in the winter.

Ecologically, the roof reduces the resources needed to re-roof using conventional materials, as well as decreasing the wastes from re-roofing, which are not currently fully recycled. Water remediation and retention are also builtin; no-effort benefits of green roofs. Plus, you'll also be contributing to a decrease in global temperatures-- green roofs do not reflect heat back into the atmosphere, thereby reducing the "heat island" effect of large metropolitan areas.

The aesthetic and psychological benefits are harder to tease apart. You'll know if a green roof is right for you when you see the pictures and imagine your own roof covered in living plants that are protecting and shading your home. If that moment brings a tingle of excitement and a gentle sense of the good the roof will do for the environment, then this might just be an option for you. The minimal effort it takes to care for the roof and the higher price it will cost to build it will be just slight inconveniences on your path to a healthy, world-healing, inspiring addition to your home.

The websites: <u>www.GreenRoofs.com</u> and <u>www.dcgreenworks.org</u> are excellent places to begin sourcing materials for a project, or for seeking advice and services from professionals in the green roofing industry, which has seen tremendous growth in the last few years.

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

At our monthly meeting, the Garden Club enjoyed a speaker from the Fairfax County Extension Service, who spoke to us about growing and using herbs. The Garden Club welcomes anyone who is interested in beautifying your home inside or out! Interested in joining us? Please contact Laura Asiello at 703-321-7840 for more information and meeting times.

GARDEN TIPS FOR THE SEASON

- You can still plant flowering bulbs.
- ➤ Make another application of fertilizer for cool season grass.
- Rake and bag leaves—then add them to your compost pile!
- ➤ Clean leaves and debris from all gutters and curb areas.
- ➤ Be sure plants are well watered going into winter (especially important since we are in a drought.)

NAME THAT NEWT!

The Green Committee of the Ravensworth Farms Civic Association has a logo, courtesy of neighborhood artist Chris Lipsey. It is a red-spotted newt and is native to Northern Virginia. Chris used to see them at Lake Accotink as a boy.

But our newt has no name! So, we are turning to the elementary school students to help us name him/her/it. Submit your idea for a chance to win a prize! The contest is open to all elementary students who live in Ravensworth or attend Ravensworth Elementary school.

The Green Committee works on environmental and energy issues to make our neighborhood a healthier and better place to live.



Include your name, grade, school, address and phone number along with your suggestion.

Send all submissions to Jim Hickey, 5308 Nutting or give them to any committee member or Margaret Kinder at Ravensworth Elementary.

The deadline is the end of the year, so name our newt!

<u>SWEET MONDAY—A MONTHLY SOCIAL FOR THE LADIES OF</u> RAVENSWORTH FARM



Were you able to join us for 'Sweet Monday' on November 5th? If not, don't worry — we have another get together coming up on **December 3rd**! 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!

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.

HOLIDAY PARTY FOR RAVENSWORTH SENIORS

On Wednesday, December 12th, the Ravensworth Farm Seniors will meet for a potluck lunch at 11:00 at the Community of Christ Church (5610 Inverchapel Road.) We'll begin eating at 11:30, so bring a dish to share. Newcomers are always welcome—and newcomers do NOT have to bring anything! This is a happy time for all of us and we wish to share it with others. Do you have comments, questions or just need a ride? Please call Dick or Martha Sargent at 703-321-9143 or Ruth Miller at 703-321-7477. At our last meeting, we learned about all the services that Fairfax County offers us. Please contact the Sargents or Ruth Miller if you would like any additional information.



SIGHTS AND LIGHTS OF THE SEASON



Greetings fellow residents! With only a few days left until Thanksgiving, time is near to untangle your strings of lights, test the bulbs and make sure that all the holiday decorations, which were carefully stored last year, are in top-notch shape for another fabulous **Ravensworth Holiday Display**! This year's judging will take place on **Friday**, **Saturday** and **Sunday**, **December 14th**, **15th and 16th**. Remember that the categories of judging will be: If you wish to be included for consideration of an award, please have your lights on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M. Garden Displays will be viewed during daylight hours on those days as well. As in year's past, if you spot a home deserving of special recognition, please e-mail RFCAholiday@att.net. This year,

- **※** Best Overall
- **※** Best Religious
- **※** Best Door/Window
- **※** Most Original
- **※** Kid's Favorite
- ***** Best Daytime Display (garden of the season)

residents will have an extra week to decorate. **The winners will be posted at our website:**www.ravensworthfarm.org as soon as judging is complete. Also, the results will be published in the January edition of the Farmer. Please remember that we invite everyone's participation. However, homes that won a category last year are not eligible to win this year. Good luck!

HOLIDAY CAROLING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

On Sunday evening, **December 16th at 6:00 P.M.** we invite you, your family (of all ages) and neighbors to join in an evening of holiday songs to residents of the Ravensworth Farm community. It has been our tradition for well over 20 years now for our singers to join together at the **Community of Christ Church** at **5610 Inverchapel Road** where we will receive songbooks and join together for caroling around the Ravensworth Farm community. When we finish singing, usually about 1 to 1½ hours, (or when it grows too



cold!) our group will return to the church for baked goodies and beverages. This time together provides additional opportunity for the singers from around the neighborhood to visit with each other. So mark your calendars, bring your flashlights to see the songbooks, and come on out to enjoy a fun evening while bringing joy and heartfelt holiday greetings to your neighbors in Ravensworth Farm. Please contact Wally Evers at 703-321-8254 before December 15 to let us know how many to expect, or to find out any other information. Also, call Wally if the weather that evening is questionable. Unless there's a rainstorm or heavy snow, it's usually "a go".

HOLIDAY HORSE & WAGON RIDE FOR CHILDREN

The Belgian Draft horses are coming back! On Saturday, December 22 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm your children can experience an old-fashioned wagon ride through our neighborhood. Please meet at 5622 Inverchapel—bike or ride, if possible, since parking is limited. Come and enjoy the sights of the season from this unique perspective with your children.

PARKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS BETHLEHEM WALK

December 9-10, 2006, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA across from the King's Park Shopping Center

Stroll Back in Time . . . Come and revisit a busy street in Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born. This FREE interactive program has something for everyone. It features townspeople working at their trade and sharing their goods with visitors -- and ends with the stable where you will find a Live Nativity where children can pet the animals. Upstairs you will be welcomed with Christmas Carols, refreshments and gifts for the children. Visit our website at www.parkwood.org for more information.

IOW WE VOTED	-NOVEM	MBER 6,	2007			
State Senate 35th I						
Saslaw (D)	398	75.1%	13,647		16,946	78.0%
Palmiotto (IG)	132	24.9%	3,750	21.6%	4,531	20.9%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	236	1.1%
Total	530		17,397		21,713	
Delegate 39th Distr	ict					
Watts (D)	420	76.5%	10,521	78.7%	10,522	78.3%
Clifton (IG)	129	23.5%	2,847	21.3%	2,847	21.2%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	67	0.5%
Total	549		13,368		13,436	
Clerk of Court						
Evans	264	47.7%	87,466	48.1%	89,541	47.9%
Frey	273	49.4%	88,817	48.9%	91,458	48.9%
Oddo	16	2.9%	5,411	3.0%	5,663	3.0%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	309	0.2%
Total	553		181,694		186,971	
Commonwealth's Att	ornev					
Morrogh (D)	321	58.3%	100,545	56.1%	103,321	55.9%
McDade (R)	230	41.7%	78,694	43.9%	81,394	44.0%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	281	0.2%
Total	551		179,239		184,996	
Sheriff						
Barry (D)	501	100.0%	161,399	100.0%	166,062	99.0%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1,716	1.0%
Total	501		161,399	0.070	167,778	
Soil & Water North	er Virginia	District (e	elect 3)			
Gagnon	322	27.7%	,			
Ormsby	355	30.6%			1	41
Peterson	330	28.4%				\ '\
Sahlin	154	13.3%				1
Total	1,161	10.070				Y
. 0141	.,					
Fairfax County Board	•					
Connolly (D)	336	58 Qº/-	113 706	50 5%		~

Connolly (D)	336	58.9%	113,796	59.5%
Baise (R)	206	36.1%	68,402	35.8%
Parker	28	4.9%	8,989	4.7%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	570		191,187	



Ravensworth precinct and county school bond results from Fairfax County Elections Board: UNOFFICIAL RESULTS http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/eb
Others from Va. State Board of Elections as of 11/7/2007. http://sbe.Virginia.gov/cms/ UNOFFICIAL RESULTS Sources:

HOW WE VOTED-	-NOVEM	BER 6,	2007	
	Ravens	worth	Fairfax C	ountv
	#	%	#	%
				,,,
Fairfax County Board	of Superv	isors B	raddock Distri	ct
Bulova (D)	447	80.5%	18,695	81.6%
Campbell (IG)	108	19.5%	4,213	18.4%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	555		22,908	
School Board At Large	o (alact 3)			
Braunlich	165	11.5%	65,514	13.5%
Cooper	91	6.4%	24,596	
Costantino			66,275	
	200	14.0%	•	
Hone	277	19.3%	92,013	
Hunt	195		67,891	
Moon	282		88,929	
Raney	191		69,309	
Volkstorf	31	2.2%	9,982	
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	1,432		484,509	
School Board Brado	lock Distric	ct		
Griffith	249	45.3%	11,315	49.5%
Wilson	301	54.7%	11,522	50.5%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	550		22,837	
School Bond				
Yes	401	69.6%	150,633	77.1%
No	175	30.4%	44,769	22.9%
Total	576	30.4 /6	195,402	22.9/0
TOTAL	376		195,402	
Transportation Bond				
Yes	419	72.6%	160,007	81.7%
No	158	27.4%	35,921	18.3%
Total	577		195,928	
Turnout				
Registered voters	1,570		606,501	
Voting in person	587	37.4%	190,816	31.5%
Voting in person	17	1.1%	10,875	1.8%
Total voting	604	1.170	201,691	1.070
Turnout	004	38.5%	201,001	33.3%
Tarriout		JU.J /6		00.0/0

 $Ravens worth\ precinct\ and\ county\ school\ bond\ results\ from\ Fairfax\ County\ Elections\ Board:\ UNOFFICIAL\ RESULTS\ http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/eb$

Others from Va. State Board of Elections as of 11/7/2007. http://sbe.Virginia.gov/cms/ UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Community Education on Non-Point Source Pollution (NPS)

COMING TO A DRAIN NEAR YOU!!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2007 OR RAIN DATE: SATURDAY DECEMBER 1, 2007 10 AM—4 PM

Storm Drains are NOT Trash Cans! Each time it rains, debris and waste is washed down the storm drains. Water flowing through storm drains is not filtered before flowing into local streams. This means <u>anything you put down storm drains flows</u> directly into our local streams and creeks.

Steps to keep your drains clean:

- Throw litter away in trash cans. Pick up trash off the road and keep it out of the storm drains.
- 2. Avoid over-using fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides; also avoid use before storms. Get your soil tested and use lawn chemicals only in the amounts needed.
- 3. Dispose of used motor oil and anti-freeze at your local gas station. Never throw household paints or cleaners down the drain! It is against the law! Call the hazardous waste info line at 703-324-5068 with questions about disposal of paint and cleaners.

What is NPS?? Non-Point Source Pollution is a form of pollution contaminating our waterways through storm drains. Several different forms of NPS pollution include: Sediment, Nutrients, Toxic Substances and Pathogens. The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that non-point sources are a primary cause of our nation's water quality problems.

Where does NPS Come From? Anyone who has or uses land contributes to NPS pollution. It doesn't come from one source, or point, like a sewage treatment plant or an industrial discharge pipe.

Affects of NPS Pollution: Impairs or destroys aquatic life (nutrients over-enrich waterways causing algal blooms, which deplete oxygen necessary for aquatic life). Algae clouds the water cutting off sunlight to underwater vegetation. Covers fish spawning beds.

Sediment also blocks sunlight by clouding the water. It also covers the bottom of the lake/stream, destroying aquatic life. Over time, it fills in lakes and reservoirs leading to the need for expensive dredging.

Remember: Lake Accotink is part of a chain of Watershed Activity!

Accotink Creek flows into Lake Accotink and they both flow into the Potomac River, which flows into Chesapeake Bay. Let's Keep Accotink Creek and Lake Clean for Our Community, the Potomac River Community and the Chesapeake Bay Area for our generation and for those who follow in our footsteps!

Please Drive Slowly Near Our Volunteers on November 17 or December 1, 2007!

We will be marking the storm drains, handing out flyers in the neighborhood, which educates the community, and traveling in between the headquarters at Ravensworth Elementary School. Come join in this community effort between 10 am and 4 pm!

This project is authorized by the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Ravensworth Farms Civic Association. This project was funded by Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. If you have any questions about this project, or would like to organize your own storm drain marking project, call Watershed Specialist, Christin Jolicoeur at 703-324-1423.

Eagle Project Sean M. McKinney BSA Troop 990



NEIGHBORHOOD PHOTOS

Reminder: We are in the process of redesigning our neighborhood website. If you have any photos that you've taken around the neighborhood and want to have them featured, please email them to webmaster@ravensworthfarm.org along with the Subject and Photographer!

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

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

321 7871. HOSPITALITY

Births:

Congratulations to the parents of our newest Ravensworth residents!

- © Baby Boy, Dastur family, Ravenel Lane
- © Baby Boy, Jaramillo family, Gosport Lane



Deaths:

We send our condolences to the families of the following neighbors:

- ▼ Dorothy Major (Inverchapel) in August
- ▼ Frank Mahoney (Ellet) in August
- Marge Shroeder in October
- ▼ Irma Goonan (Hatteras) in October



<u>CLASSIFIED ADS</u> may be placed in the **Farmer** at no cost to residents of Ravensworth Farm. Classified ads <u>must be mailed</u> 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	Computer Desk. Solid oak, mission style. 25" x 50". Excellent condition. \$75.00. Call Barbara at 703-321-8980. 7820 Penley Place.
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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Community of Christ



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5610 Inverchapel Road, Springfield, VA

(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.

www.CofChrist.org

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- Gas Line Installations
- Gas Appliances
- Gas Logs
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Emergency Service

Daytime and Evening Hours When Available



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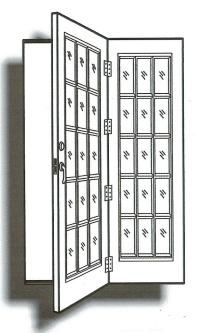
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Ravensworth Resident

Office (703) 635-6057

Fax (703) 321-0768

As Seen on HGTV-Curb Appeal

References available upon request Licensed and Insured



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