

The Official Publication of the Ravensworth Farm Civic

March 2008

The Ravensworth Farmer

VOL. XLIV Issue 7

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Hi Farmers,

We have a lot of plans in the community. For instance:

Make the community safer for walking and bicycling, so kids can go to school without papa or mama. Pretty soon we will present to the General Meeting of RFCA a safe bicycle plan. Some details are being ironed out with VDOT, but basically it is a number of low cost provisions that will make bicycling safe in some lanes and roads, without too much sacrifice to the movements of the holy cow, the car. In order to keep it lowcost, we need volunteers to make our plans work

Some people would like to increase the level of street lighting in our community. The present system is 40 years old, and a new energy efficient system with lights on every pole would cost the same or less to operate. Let us know your ideas, so we can start the talks with the Utility Company (Virginia Dominion Power). At the same time we can talk with them on ways to improve the reliability of the electricity supply. We have been lucky so far, but the distribution is as old as Ravensworth Farm. Maybe the community should press for an emergency backup generator at the school, to supply (some) emergency power. Please give some comments and new ideas to make our community ready for this century.

Ravensworth Farm Community Activities

RFCA Elections Thursday, March 27, 2008

Deadline for Next Farmer Wedneday, April 2, 2008

Legacy of the CCC Saturday, April 5, 2008—Pg. 3

Civil War Living History Day Sunday, April 27, 2008—Pg.

> Community Yard Sale Saturday, May 3, 2008

We're online:
www.ravensworthfarm.org.
Join the neighborhood e-list for
news and announcements.

(con't pg. 3)

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	Vacant	
2nd Vice President	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Recording Secretary	Mike Edwards	703-321-0176
Corresponding Secretary	Hans Jansen	703-321-4919
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Vacant	
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Vacant	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 Comr	mittee	Katherine Craig Marti Terry	703-321-3149 703-321-9668
Hospitality		Ruth Hartman Ramona Michels	703-321-8063 703-321-7664
New Neighbors	S	Gloria Brissman Miffie Clem	703-321-7871 703-321-7875
Cultural Comm	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 Vacant	703-321-9110
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
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.

(con't from pg. 1)

These are just some ideas that float around. Anyone who is interested in changing these ideas into reality should contact any member of the RFCA Board.

Hans Jansen, Corresponding Secretary 703-321-4919

ELECTIONS-RFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As our by-laws require, the Board of Directors must be nominated and voted into office during the General Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 22. The positions of Recording Secretary and 1st Vice President currently do not have nominees. If you would like to nominate someone for a position on the Board of Directors, please send an email to Mike Edwards at recsec@ravensworthfarm.org or call him at (703)321-0176. Then, show your support by coming on May 22nd and voting!



<u>LEGACY OF THE CCC -- SATURDAY APRIL 5</u>

Come witness and learn about the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The 75th anniversary of the CCC will be celebrated with the unveiling of a historical marker at Lake Accotink Park Visitor Center on Saturday, April 5 at 2 pm, rain or shine. African American enrollees of the CCC camp at Fort Belvoir built fire trails in Fairfax County. One such trail crosses through present-day Lake Accotink Park. Music, refreshments, exhibits, and walking tours, make this event exciting for history buffs and all park visitors. Advance registration is helpful, but not mandatory. Phone 703-569-0285, for more information.

WE NEED IDEAS FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

If you have an idea that (1) Brings out the neighbors, (2) Beautifies the community, (3) Improves the value or increases the value of our homes and (4) Has volunteers to implement the idea (from start to finish), please go to www.ravensworthfarm.org, click "Feedback" and fill out the form. If you do not have internet access, please call any member of the RFCA Board on Pg. 2 or come to the next Civic Association Meeting on Thursday, March 27th and tell us about your idea!

MUSKETS AND HARDTACK: CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY DAY AT LAKE ACCOTINK PARK

Sunday April 27, 8 am -7:30 pm for 18 years old and up, \$30 per person-703-569-0285

Load a musket, sample hardtack, and join in infantry and artillery drills. Experience the life of a Civil War soldier and learn about Civil War medicine, leisure, food and more. Limited to 40 participants. Perfect for educators – educational materials and a certificate of attendance will be provided. Event held rain or shine. Refunds only if the event is canceled.



COMMUNITY YARD SALE



Boy Scout Troop 991 will be helping the Ravensworth Farm Community families at the 29th Annual Community Yard Sale on **Saturday, May 3, 2008**.

The Scouts are trying to raise money to support their outdoor program. The Scouts will be available to help the Ravensworth Farm community residents set up tables, carry items to / from vehicles, and they will be cooking and serving food for donations.

Please come out on **Saturday, May 3rd**; sell some of your family goods; and help support the Boys Scouts of Troop 991. **Suzie Eggleston** is the Chairperson for this event. Please call her at **703-321-2070** if you have any questions about the Community Yard Sale.

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

The March meeting will feature a speaker on aromatherapy. If interested in joining the garden club, call Laura Asiello at 703-321-7840. New members are always welcome.

TIPS TO MAKE YARDWORK EASIER

- Use more mulch...the more of your property you cover in mulch, the less there is to mow, weed and fertilize. Mulch also provides nutrients, reducing the time you must spend fertilizing.
- Choose a ground cover other than grass...once established, an attractive, low-lying ground cover requires little or no maintenance.
- Plant evergreen trees rather than deciduous trees.
- Select slow-growth shrubs.



FROM THE GREEN SERVICE CENTER:

Energy Conservation:

Have YOU and your home had your energy audit yet?

On average, Ravensworth residents save 10% to 30% on their electricity and gas bills after our audit if they follow our advice. This audit costs you just one hour and \$35.00--and we do the rest. We provide a short analysis of your most wasteful habits, and give you an Energy Star rating of your house in comparison with the average of similar houses in the region. We also tell you in detail how to reduce your environmental footprint on the planet. Your children will love it. Call Hans Jansen, 703-321-4919.

Tree Canopy:

Did you know it is against the law in Virginia to cut down large healthy trees without a good reason? This law is seldom enforced, but should remind us that our forefathers who made the law cared for the tree canopy so we can enjoy it at this moment. In October 2007 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted a new Tree Preservation Ordinance, which protects individually-owned, heritage and street trees from being cut down. Homeowners or groups such as the Green Service Center of the RFCA can recommend trees for protection.



Trees around the house provide shade, which saves you around \$100 - \$300 on your electricity bill every year by reducing the air conditioning load. Trees are good for the environment, and reduce your ecological

footprint by recycling some of the carbon which your car puts into the atmosphere. Trees are living organisms, and have a right to live. If the tree is sick or you are concerned the tree may fall on your roof, you should have it properly pruned every other year.

The Green Service Center is looking for volunteers to help with an inventory of all precious trees in Ravensworth Farm. Eventually we would like to provide some financial support for the professional pruning and maintenance of these heritage trees, so they will live a long and happy life.

For Seniors:

Did you know there are a sizable number of senior citizens living in Ravensworth Farm? This community tries very hard to stay in touch with others around them but when close friends are moving out, it can be difficult to trust new people.

If this sounds familiar, here are some ideas to help:

Phone Tree: Seniors living alone should organize a daily telephone tree; a few people calling each other every morning at the same time, to hear that everything is OK. The starter person always calls the same person every morning, who calls the next person on the list, and so on, until the last person has called the starter of the phone tree to say everything is OK. Everyone has to make only one call a day.

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District



2008 Native Seedling Sale



A Butterfly Buffet!

Butterflies need more than nectar. Before they transform into the beautiful insects that frequent our flowers, butterfly larvae feed on the leaves of many of our native trees and shrubs. Did you know that each butterfly species has a special host plant or plants where they lay their eggs? This year's selections include nectar plants as well as several of these special butterfly hosts; they are certain to turn your yard into a butterfly buffet!

12 Bare-root Seedlings & 2 Seed Packets for \$17.95! Order now!

To see images of this year's plants, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm

- 2 Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). A large tree, suitable for planting in close quarters. Very fast growing! Tolerant of dry sites, but prefers moisture and sun or partial shade. Distinctive yellow-green and orange tulip-shaped flowers. Height: 100+ feet. Butterfly host plant.
- 2 White dogwood (Cornus florida). Clusters of delicate white flowers in early spring give way to bright red fall berries. Lustrous green foliage turns scarlet in fall. Grows well in average, well-drained soil; shade or sun. Height: 20-40 feet. Butterfly host plant.
- 2 Buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis). Deciduous shrub likes sun to shade and moist to wet conditions. Bright, glossy green foliage complements showy, fragrant, cream-colored, ball-shaped flowers in summer. Height: 6-12 feet. Great source of food for birds and a nectar source for butterflies.
- 2 Eastern redbud (Cercis canadensis). Large, multistemmed shrub or small tree. Blue-green heart-shaped leaves turn golden yellow in autumn. Flowers are clusters of pink, pea-like blooms that appear in early

- spring. Shade tolerant. Height: to 20 feet. Spread: to 12 feet. Butterfly host and nectar plant.
- 2 Common hackberry (Celtis occidentalis). A very adaptable, medium-sized tree. Tolerates poor soil, sun or shade, drought or flooding. Small yellow-green spring flowers produce purple berries favored by birds and mammals. Host plant for 5 species of butterfly. Height: 40-60' commonly, but up to 100' is possible.
- 2 Loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*). Large evergreen with beautiful red-brown bark, an attractive form, and yellow-green needles. Fast growing. Prefers full sun, but tolerates dry to wet soils. Seeds attract numerous birds and mammals. Butterfly host plant.
- 1 SEED PACKET Butterfly weed (Ascepsias tuberosa). This May-blooming milkweed's brilliant orange flowers attract butterflies seeking nectar. Host plant for the monarch butterfly.
- 1 SEED PACKET Black-eyed susan (Rudbeckia hirta). Showy yellow flowers with dark brown centers provide a summer nectar source for butterflies.

A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by **Monday**, **April 14**, **2008**, or until supplies run out. You will receive a confirmation receipt and a map to the pickup site (in Fairfax County, off of Braddock Road, two miles outside the Beltway, near Rolling Road). Orders may be picked up on **Friday**, **April 18**, **between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**, **or on Saturday**, **April 19**, **between 9:00 a.m. and noon**.

2008 Seedling Order Form

Name:		
Address:		Make your check payable to NVSWCD and mail to:
City/State/Zip:		NVSWCD Seedling Sale
Daytime Phone:	Fax (if available):	Juille 303
E-mail:		Fairfax, VA 22035
Where did you hear/read a	about our seedling sale?	
Seedling Packa	ges @ 17.95 (sales tax included) each = \$	

HOW WE VOTED-FEBRUARY 12, 2008

Ravensworth

At 37%, turnout was unusually high for a primary – equal to the turnout for last November's state elections. By comparison, the Congressional elections of 2006 had a turnout of 64% and the Presidential election of 2004: 72%.

Fairfax County

Virginia

How We Voted -- February 12, 2008

				,	3	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Democratic Nominee	for Preside	ent				
Barack Obama	168	46.7%	95,008	59.2%	627,820	63.7%
Denis Kucinich	0	0.0%	206	0.1%	1,625	0.2%
Hillary Clinton	186	51.7%	64,381	40.1%	349,766	35.5%
Bill Richardson	0	0.0%	154	0.1%	991	0.1%
Joe Biden	2	0.6%	124	0.1%	795	0.1%
John Edwards	4	1.1%	671	0.4%	5,206	0.5%
Total	360		160,544		986,203	
Republican Nominee	for Preside	ent				
Ron Paul	4	2.0%	2,970	4.9%	21,999	4.5%
John McCain	125	61.0%	38,412	63.8%	244,829	50.0%
Fred Thompson	3	1.5%	609	1.0%	3,395	0.7%
Mike Huckabee	60	29.3%	14,432	24.0%	199,003	40.7%
Rudy Giuliani	2	1.0%	316	0.5%	2,024	0.4%
Mitt Romney	11	5.4%	3,491	5.8%	18,002	3.7%
Total	205		60,230		489,252	
						_

Turnout

Registered voters	1,580	619,530
Voting Democratic	371	161,470
Voting Republican	212	60,808
Total Votes	583	222,278
Turnout	36.9%	35.9%



Sources

Ravensworth & turnout results from Fairfax County Elections Board:

http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/gov/eb/result/resu0104.pdf

Va. State Board of Elections as of 2/20/2004. Uncertified results. http://www.sbe.virginia.gov

SPECIAL THANK YOU!

All the members of RFCA would like to say a special thank you to Gloria Brissman for her many years of volunteer work on our New Neighbors Committee. She is stepping down at the end of May.

Would YOU like to welcome newcomers to Ravensworth Farm? Contact Brent Reynolds if you are willing to assist Miffie Clem in this area.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Kwang H. Kim & Kikyung Lee 5226 Inverchapel

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

HOSPITALITY

Deaths:

We extend our sympathy to the family of:

▼ Irma Reiser, February (former resident on Ravenel Street)



<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	Sears Craftsman string trimmer—very good condition\$35 OBO. Scott's rotary lawn spreader—excellent condition\$25 OBO. Two IKEA tall white bookcases—good condition—\$30 each OBO. Please call 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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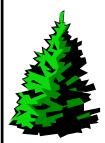
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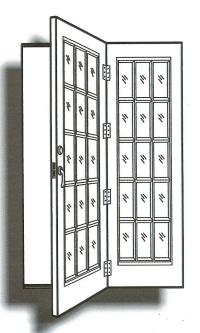
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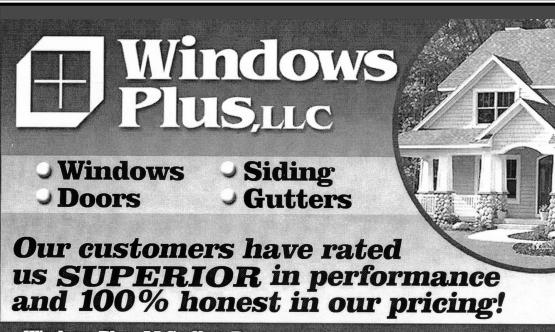
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As Seen on HGTV-Curb Appeal

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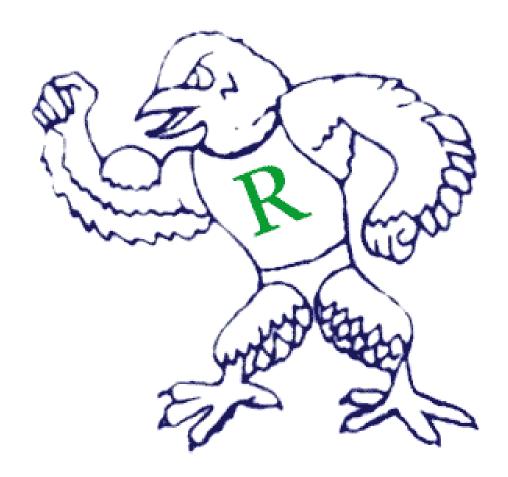
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