



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

May 2008

**The Ravensworth *Farmer***

VOL. XLIV Issue 9

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Folks,

Expect to see many trees near the beltway and Braddock Road cut down soon to accommodate staging areas for the proposed widening of the beltway by four HOT (High Occupancy Toll) lanes. In a recent meeting hosted by Supervisor Smyth, there was substantial concern that Braddock Road and other secondary roads would also be widened in the future to handle the increased single-occupant auto traffic. **If Braddock Road was widened, we would likely lose some homes on Adair Lane.**

Are these HOT lanes a good deal for the public? Under NEPA this \$2 billion project (or will it escalate to \$3 billion?) was negotiated in secrecy, giving citizens only 30 days to respond now and provide input. Virginia must pay \$409 million and guarantee a \$600 million federal loan. Fluor and Transurban will be putting up only 17.5% of the cost; \$348 million, yet will receive most of the revenues for 75 years.

Plus in this plan, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions have been ignored at a time when visionary states, cities, and communities are undergoing a fundamental shift to common-sense transit and smarter growth solutions. Toxic pollutant hotspots next to highways have been shown to create elevated danger for nearby communities (like Ravensworth), especially for children, the

*Con't on Pg. 3*



**STOP!** Save this Farmer. It's the last one until September! You can always visit the website at [www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org).

### **Community Activities**

#### **\*\*RFCA Membership Meeting\*\***

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Subject: Beautification Along Braddock Road

**Golden Ravens**—Wednesday, May 28, Pg. 7

**Springfield Days (May 29—June 1)**

See Pg. 6

**Braddock Nights Concerts (every Friday)**

Begins Friday, June 1, 2008 at 7:30PM

Lake Accotink, Pg. 5

**Wakefield Farmer's Market**

May 7—October 29, Pg. 7

**The HOT Lanes are coming. Could parts of our neighborhood be in jeopardy? Attend the meetings listed on pg. 3 to find out!**

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	Luis Londono	703-850-7338
2nd Vice President	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Recording Secretary	Katherine Craig	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 Hans Jansen	703-321-8535 703-321-4919
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		
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Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
Korean	Monica Kim	703-321-0338
German & Russian	Ifira Reynolds	703-321-8383
Arabic	Joumana Al-Naji	703-321-8002
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		703-321-7523 703-850-7338 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
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*

elderly and those with respiratory disorders.

I urge you to voice your opinion for or against this project at two upcoming meetings:

- ☛ **May 20, Tuesday, Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003 (see below for times)**
- ☛ **May 21, Wednesday, Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043 (see below for times)**

At each meeting, an open house will be held from 5-7 p.m. After a brief presentation at 7 p.m. there will be a public comment period. Mark your calendars and plan to arrive early to sign up for the speaker's list at the door.

If you have an interest in this issue, please contact me ([prez@ravensworthfarm.org](mailto:prez@ravensworthfarm.org)). You can also contact the following:

- Supervisor Bulova: [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov)
- Chairman Connolly: [chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov)
- Governor Tim Kaine: <http://www.governor.virginia.gov/AboutTheGovernor/contactGovernor.cfm>

Or provide comments to: [meeting\\_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:meeting_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov). Please reference "Capital Beltway Proposed HOT Lanes" in the subject line.

With the approach of HOT lanes, now is a good time to consider cutting back on single-occupant auto use. We are all guilty of using our autos with little regard to the impact on the environment. We have one of the highest childhood asthma rates in the U.S. -- partly attributable to auto emissions from the beltway and other roads. One day each week, try to bike, ride metro, walk, ride share or telecommute. It helps the air, water, and the kids. We don't burn leaves in our backyard and yet, isn't it odd we can drive anywhere, anytime, burning gas with no restrictions? We really should re-think the way we consider transportation. The solution is in the mirror.

Brent Reynolds, President, [prez@ravensworthfarm.org](mailto:prez@ravensworthfarm.org), Cell: 571-214-9068

### **PLANNING TO DIG? CALL MISS UTILITY!**

Before deep-digging in your yard - call 811 (Miss Utility). Someone will visit your property and mark the areas where there are buried gas and power lines.

### **OVERGROWN LAWNS?**

A new number for reporting overgrown lawns (grass must be at least 12" high) - 703-324-1937. You can make this change on p.14 of your directory.

**IMPORTANT****ATTEND THE NEXT RFCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING!**

Plan to attend the last meeting (until September) of the Civic Association on Thursday, May 22nd at 7:30 PM in the Ravensworth Elementary School Library.

We will vote on new board members and important issues such as the **Braddock Road Beautification Project** mentioned in last month's Farmer.

Remember, old issues of the Farmer can be accessed online at  
<http://www.ravensworthfarm.org>.



## IS YOUR SIDEWALK CLEAR?

Spring and summer time are here, and that means more and more people will be out on the sidewalks. Please do not block the sidewalks and make sure the entire sidewalk is open for access at all times. People who don't have handicapped family members or small children may not give much thought to this, but a blocked sidewalk can be a very dangerous situation.

My mom can only move around freely on her three wheel scooter. Cars, toys, bikes and overgrown shrubs blocking the sidewalk force her to go into the street or cross the street completely. This makes her life more dangerous and painful and a simple trip becomes much more complicated. My wife who pushes twin boys through the neighborhood in a cart has had to enter the street many times to get around cars blocking the sidewalk.

I would ask everyone to be courteous and keep the walkways clear. Most people I talk to do not realize that blocking the sidewalk is illegal. Any neighbor seeing a blocked sidewalk can anonymously call the Fairfax police to take care of the problem. For persistent problems such as overgrown trees, the VDOT website has a form that can be submitted online: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/walkways.htm>

Parking a car across the sidewalk even for a short period of time can cause folks to walk into the street to get around it. In certain conditions, this could cause a disaster! Since this issue is close to my heart, I even make the pizza delivery guy move his car before I pay him, if he's blocking the sidewalk.

It is also important to keep our driveways in good repair. In my situation, my driveway had a small section where the concrete had cracked and fallen away. My handicapped neighbor and friend tried to turn around in the driveway, got her wheel stuck and the entire scooter flipped over on top of her. She was badly hurt and I was crushed that this happened on my property. I still remember the pain she experienced because I did not fix something very small.



Please be courteous and keep all sidewalks clear and our driveways in good repair. Even old newspapers with their slippery covers on the sidewalk can be a safety hazard. **Let's all work together to keep Ravensworth Farm safe for everyone!**

By: Tom Lytle

## "BRADDOCK NIGHTS" CONCERTS RETURN



The 2008 Summer Concerts at Lake Accotink begin on Friday, June 1. Grab a picnic basket and your lawn chair and head to the marina for a Friday evening of live music by the water. Enjoy bluegrass, classical, jazz and even German music! All Friday night concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and are cancelled in case of rain.

Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/perfmances> for more information.

## SPRINGFIELD DAYS MAY 29 - JUNE 1

Springfield Days is four days of fun and celebration! From **Thursday, May 29 through Sunday, June 1**, you can enjoy a variety of activities for all ages in our own hometown (to include pets!) Here are a few highlights:

<b>Sat. May 31</b>	10:00 am	Springfield Days Parade and Paws on Parade, Commerce Street
	12:00 noon	Taste of Springfield & Art Show, Springfield Plaza
	6:00 pm	Movie at the Park, Lake Accotink
<b>Sun. June 1</b>	12:00 noon	Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta, Lake Accotink
	6:00 pm	Movie at the Park, Lake Accotink

For more information and other activities, see <http://www.springfielddays.com>

### Kick off Summertime!



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- Taste of Springfield*
- Parade featuring Paws on Parade*
- Kids' Rides and Games*
- Live Music on Stage*
- Movies at the Park*
- Arts and Crafts*
- Cardboard Boat Races*
- 1K Run/Walk*






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### FOUR DAYS OF FUN!

**Thursday, May 29**  
**Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games**  
 Springfield Mall, 4 pm – 9 pm

**Friday, May 30**  
**Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games**  
 Springfield Mall, 10 am – 9 pm  
**Old-fashioned Barbeque at Old-fashioned Prices**  
 American Legion Post 176, 5 pm – 9 pm

**Saturday, May 31**  
**Family Fitness 1K Run/Walk**  
 Starts at Hanover and Monticello, 9 am  
**Springfield Days Parade and Paws on Parade**  
 Starts at Hanover and Monticello, 10 am  
**Taste of Springfield, Art Show, Exhibitors,**  
**Child Car Seat Safety Checks Organized by the Fairfax**  
**County Police Department**  
 Springfield Plaza, 12 – 6 pm  
**Springfield Toyota Entertainment Stage featuring**  
**Junkyard Saints, Deanna Bogart, and**  
**the High Middlin String Band**  
 Springfield Plaza, 12 – 6 pm  
**Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games**  
 Springfield Mall, 10 am – 9 pm  
**Silver Diner Children's Celebration Station**  
 Springfield Mall, noon – 6 pm  
**Springfield Hilton Movie at the Park, Bee Movie**  
 Lake Accotink Park, 6 – 11 pm

**Sunday, June 1**  
**Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games**  
 Springfield Mall, 10 am – 9 pm  
**19th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta**  
 Lake Accotink Park, noon – 4 pm  
**Springfield Hilton Movie at the Park, Under the Same Moon**  
 Lake Accotink Park, 6 – 11 pm

**WWW.SPRINGFIELDSDAYS.COM**

**GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB**

The National Capital Area Garden Clubs held their annual flower show on April 17-18 at River Farm. Two Ravensworth residents won 1st place for their horticultural specimens. Plus, there were numerous honorable mentions. Congratulations to you all. The final meeting of the season will be the induction of new officers at a tea in Greenspring Park. If you would like to become a member of the garden club call Laura Asiello at 703-321-7840.

**GARDEN OF THE SEASON WINNERS**

- 1st place:** Mr. & Mrs. Joe O'Connor  
8111 Ellet Rd
- 2nd place:** Carla Graham  
8101 Carrick Lane
- 3rd place:** Mr. & Mrs. Charles Daimler  
5616 Rathbone Place

**HONORABLE MENTIONS**

- |           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Fernandes | 8103 Carrick Lane    |
| Gaitan    | 7940 Ellet Rd.       |
| Kessler   | 8021 Ellet Rd.       |
| Santizo   | 5227 Kepler Lane     |
| Clem      | 5221 Inverchapel Rd. |
| Nugent    | 5238 Inverchapel Rd. |
| McGrady   | 5311 Nutting Dr      |
| Poole     | 5513 Ravenel Lane    |
| VanDam    | 5517 Ravenel Lane    |
| Beall     | 5678 Ravenel Lane    |

**GOLDEN RAVENS**

Our last meeting before September is **Wednesday, May 28th**. Join us for a potluck lunch and lively discussion! We will have a speaker with ideas on how to keep our brains fit. We will also discuss a possible trip to the VDOT Store (next to the place where drivers' licenses are issued) at the Springfield Mall.

Meet at the Community of Christ Church, 5610 Inverchapel Road.

Time: Wednesday, May 28 at 11:00 am

Bring: Your ideas and a dish to share

Questions? Ideas? Call Dick or Martha Sargent at 703-321-9143 or Ruth Miller at 703-321-7477.

**WAKEFIELD FARMER'S MARKET RETURNS!!**

Do you enjoy fresh fruit and vegetables? Can't pass up homemade ice cream? Then visit the Wakefield Park Farmer's Market for a variety of plants, baked goods, cheese, fruits and vegetables all grown or made locally. Plus, many vendors offer samples! When? Wednesdays from 2:00 to 6:00 pm from May 7 through October 29.

## **AROUND THE WORLD IN FILMS 2008**

Bring your blankets and enjoy two movies under the stars at Lake Accotink Park. Pre-movie performances start at 6:00 pm; movies begin at dark:

**Saturday, May 31:** Bee Movie  
**Sunday, June 1:** Under the Same Moon

For more information, call 703-324-7469 or see the website <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/perfmances>



## **INVASIVE PLANTS THREATENING OUR PARKS**



In Fairfax County, many invasive plants are degrading our natural resources and preventing us from enjoying our yards, forests and parks. These invasive plants are deteriorating the ecological value of our natural areas by forcing out native plants, which in turn reduces wildlife habitat and biological diversity. They out-compete the indigenous species by blocking access to sunlight and soil resources.

In response to the increasing number of climbing vines that are strangling trees and the thorny shrubs that keep citizens out of the woods, Fairfax County Park Authority created the Invasive Management Area (IMA) program. It is a volunteer-based, community project that aims to reduce invasive plants on our parklands, thereby helping to improve wildlife habitat and restore the native ecology of our fields and forests. The program calls upon enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers throughout the county to assist with targeted manual removal of these undesirable non-native, invasive plants with the help of hand tools provided by

the FCPA – no herbicides or power tools are used by volunteers.

There are many sites countywide that have been identified as areas overrun with invasive plants and adopted by the IMA program. Although there are many invasive, non-native plants in the county parks, the program targets ten specific species selected because they are pervasively invasive and expand rapidly but are also easily and effectively controlled by volunteers. These target species are English ivy (*Helix hedera*), Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), winged burning bush (*Euonymus alata*), mile-a-minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), kudzu (*Pueraria montana*), oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), and porcelainberry (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*).

However, the IMA program does not just work to remove invasives. Its key components are habitat restoration and a long-term commitment to the park. After an area has been cleared of invasives, native species are planted to restore the natural habitat. Each IMA site is monitored throughout the restoration process, even after the planting, as invasives may reemerge from the existing seedbank or resprout from roots left in the soil.

The success of the program is very much dependent on the dedication of its generous volunteers. It is a fantastic way for kids to earn hours for scout projects or school community service requirements. Many citizens have joined the program to help protect the county's native plants and wildlife so that they can continue to enjoy these natural resources. More information about the program can be found on the county website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima/). For questions or to sign up to volunteer, contact the IMA Volunteer Coordinator, Kathy Frederick, at [katherine.frederick@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:katherine.frederick@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-8681.

By: Jenn Truong



**FROM THE EDITOR**

I'd like to thank all the people who helped me during my first year as editor of the Farmer. I appreciated your patience and assistance as I continue to learn about publishing our newsletter.

— Kathleen Powers

**FROM THE WEBMASTER**

Thanks to all who've sent in photos for the website slide show. Keep 'em coming! If you have photos that you'd like to post, please email them to [webmaster@ravensworthfarm.org](mailto:webmaster@ravensworthfarm.org).

Don't forget to check the website ([www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org)) this summer for a list of activities in Springfield and Fairfax County, past issues of the Farmer and to sign up for the neighborhood e-news list.

— Susan Deyampert

**WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS**

Keith Yesukaitis  
5214 Inverchapel

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.

<b>WANTED</b>	Fellow county employees who live in Ravensworth and work at the county government center complex in the Herrity building. I work 7:30AM to 4PM but my hours are flexible by about 15-20 minutes. Are you interested in carpooling some days or every-day? Call me at work, 703-324-186, Ellen
<b>WANTED</b>	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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**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  
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Ravensworth Community Picnic  
Holiday Caroling in the Neighborhood

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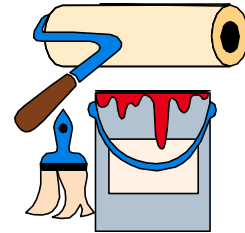
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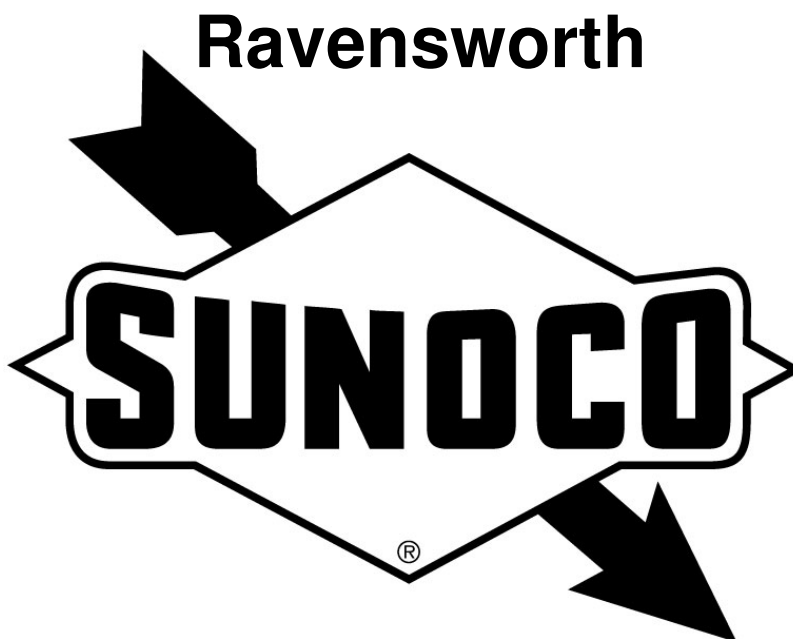
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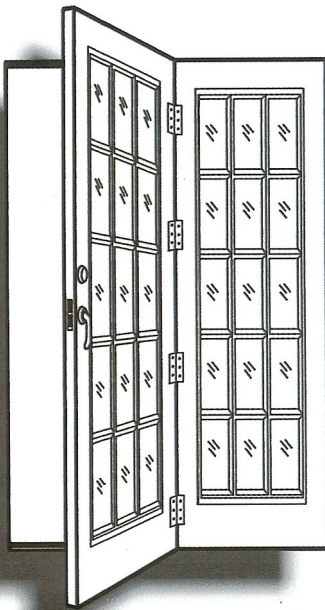
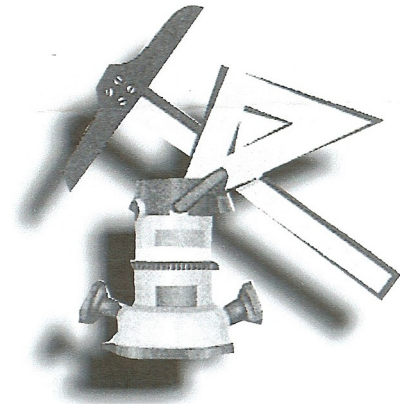
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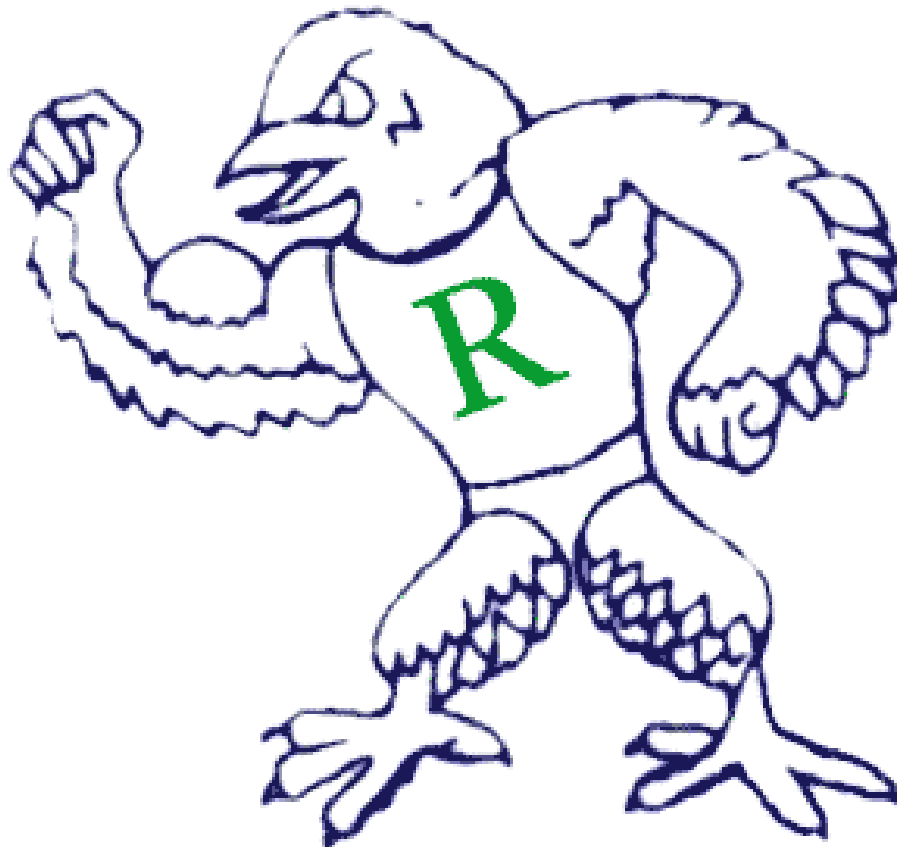
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## Think you don't have the time or know-how to build your own family Web site? Think again!



### Create a Website, write a blog, air a podcast... you can do it all.

**MojoWebDomains.com** makes it fun for ANYONE to create their own site — without spending a fortune! Launch your own Web site. Start an online business. Share your favorite photos. Whatever you want to do online, a .COM domain name can make it happen!

Domain names from Mojo Web Domains are not only affordable, each one comes with a rich collection of FREE extras, including:

- ✓ **FREE! Online Photo Album**—Share, print & store your family photos online
- ✓ **FREE! Blog**—Instantly share your thoughts on everything from family to politics
- ✓ **FREE! Personalized Email Account**—Spam & virus protected email
- ✓ **And MUCH more!**

With Mojo Web Domains, getting on the Web is fast, easy and affordable.

#### DOMAIN NAMES

Your address on the Web (*www.YourName.com*). It's how people find, remember and refer to your Web site.

#### WEB HOSTING

Online storage space to store the files from your website — **99.9% uptime guarantee.**

#### EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Fast, ultra-reliable, secure and **advertising-free** (*you@YourName.com*).

#### ONLINE FILE FOLDER

24/7 online file storage — great for securely sharing documents.

#### FAX THRU EMAIL

Send and receive faxes using your email account instead of a fax machine.

#### QUICK SHOPPING CART

Create and publish an Internet store!

#### LIVE CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Highly trained and courteous phone support staff.

**.COM'S \$9.99 per year**

**Website Hosting starts at \$5.95 per month**

\* Ravensworth Resident since 1984

[www.MojoWebDomains.com](http://www.MojoWebDomains.com)