



MANDR HOUSE 1796-1925
RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

September 2010

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

VOL. XLVII Issue 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Neighbors:

I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the RFCA in the upcoming year. One of the major initiatives that we will be implementing is a new, central website for the community that will incorporate all of the ones currently in use. We have been using the Ravensworth.org site, a Yahoo site, and a Facebook account. With this initiative, we hope to combine all of them in one user-friendly forum. The goal is to give access to various groups such as Ravensworth parents; Neighborhood Watch; Fabulous Fridays; Golden Ravens and others the means to keep their members up to date and informed.

Another goal is to be able to have a way of tracking and assisting, members of our community who may be in need of assistance, and pairing them up with volunteers who can help them. After countless volunteered hours, a core group consisting of Cathy Riedel, Tom Mathis, and Susan Dey have put together a proposal for this initiative and will present it to the community at our first open meeting on October 28th.

My personal goals this year is to foster a spirit of community where neighbors will take it upon themselves to reach out and introduce themselves to each other and to

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RFCA Community Activities

**October Membership Meeting
Thursday, Oct 28 at 7:30PM
Ravensworth Elementary, p. 7
Topic: Neighborhood Safety**

Message from the Neighborhood
Watch Committee, pg. 6



**Wanted: Attorney for
Civic Association,
see pg. 4 for details**

**Join us on Facebook
(check the website for details):**

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	Marty Robinson	703-297-7255
1st Vice President	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
2nd Vice President	Jacquelyn Fix	703-321-3048
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151
Corresponding Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Ruth Orem	703-321-8061
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Tom Terry	703-321-9668
Schools & Education	Anita Bhatnagar	703-942-6806
Green Committee	Jim Hickey	703-321-8535
Membership & Communications	Elissa Myers	703-321-7590
Zoning Committee	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
	Stan Orndorff	703-321-7990

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	Katherine Craig	703-321-3149
	Marti Terry	703-209-4424
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063
	Ramona Michels	703-321-7664
New Neighbors	Melanie Bennett	571-282-3291
	Amy Reynolds	703-321-7317
Cultural Committee		
Vietnamese	Tam Nguyen	703-321-8338
Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
Korean	Seo Pani	703-321-8081
German & Russian	Ifira Reynolds	703-321-8383
Arabic	Vacant	
Directory	Coordinator	Stephen Beste
	Advertising	Katherine Craig
		703-321-9110
		703-321-3149
Farmer	Editor	Kathleen Powers
	Preparation	Susan Deyampert
	Printing, Flyers, Assembly	Laura Asiello
	Distribution	Jacquelyn Fix
	Advertising	Katherine Craig
		703-321-7523
		703-321-3150
		703-321-7840
		703-321-3048
		703-321-3149
Neighborhood Watch	Tom Mathis	703-321-7187
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary	George H Brodie	703-426-3600
Pool President	Amy Reynolds	703-321-7313
Green Thumb Garden Club	Laura Asiello	703-321-7840
Golden Ravens	Martha Sargent	703-321-9143

Association Calendar 2010 - 2011

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
September	1	1	3	13	25	
October	5	5	1	15	23	28
November	2	2	5	10	20	
December	Nov. 30	Nov. 30	3	8	18	
January	4	4	7	12	22	27
February	1	1	4	11	26	
March	1	1	4	11	19	24
April	Mar. 29	Mar. 29	1	6	30	
May	3	3	6	11	21	26

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

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truly keep an eye out for their neighbors. The best way for Ravensworth Farm to become a safer community is for us all to be familiar with our neighborhood and to be aware of what is happening on your block.

I also have seen a rich diversity of cultures in our neighborhoods and I plan on encouraging the various ethnic clubs to participate more in our association. My wife and I have both lived overseas and we know how hard it can be when you move to a new country and culture. If you have new neighbors from another country it would be nice to reach out to them and welcome them. Not only will you open yourself up to some new friends you might find yourself discovering some great new foods.

I urge all of you that read this to try to attend the October 28th general meeting and to let the board know what your concerns are that could improve the quality of life in Ravensworth Farm.

Marty Robinson, RFCA President, prez@ravensworthfarm.org, 703-297-7255

NEEDED: A GOOD VOLUNTEER

The RFCA board needs someone to step up and volunteer for the position of Corresponding Secretary. Consider joining a great group of people trying to make our neighborhood a better place. For details, contact Marty Robinson 703-297-7255.

WANTED: ATTORNEY FOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Is there a lawyer in Ravensworth with general practice experience? The RFCA board needs some general legal advice and would like someone to volunteer and help us. We need a consultation lasting about 2-3 hours. If you can help, please contact Marty Robinson at 703-297-7255.

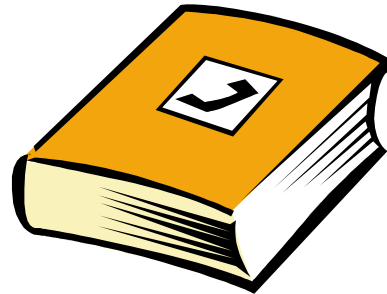
IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT DIRECTORIES

The seasons roll around so quickly! We are rapidly approaching membership dues, renewal, and directory season. So many neighbors enthusiastically lend their efforts to make sure we know our neighbors, have correct names, phone numbers and other information for each house on our streets.

When everyone chips in, the responsibilities of being block captain are not that difficult! At the end of October, block captains will receive an updated worksheet for the residents of their blocks -- typically 15-18 houses. They then take a little time -- usually not more than an hour or two -- to contact each neighbor in their block, update name and phone info, and offer the neighbor the opportunity to join the civic association and receive a new membership directory.

There are currently more than 30 volunteer neighbors signed up to help... but we are missing block captains in the following blocks:

- Drayton Lane
- Ellet Road (8100-8114)
- Hatteras Lane (8019-8112)
- Inverchapel Road (5630-5650)
- Nutting Drive (5224-5308)
- Queensbury (5223-5235)
- Queensbury (5300-5329)
- Ravenel Lane (5600-5613)
- Ravenel Lane (5636-5649)
- Halleck Place



If you live on those blocks, and could call on a few neighbors to offer membership and the directory, please let me know, by phone at 703 321 7590, or email elissa@elissamyers.com.

You don't have to live on the block to volunteer, and you are welcome to take more than one block, or less than one whole block!

Please help make this our best season ever!

Elissa Myers, Directory Chair

COMMUNITY PICNIC AND HALLOWEEN PARADE

Two great events combine into one—a neighborhood picnic and Halloween parade for adults and children alike!

When: Sunday, October 17 (rain date, October 24)

Where: Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel.





Start time and other specific details will be posted on the website at <http://www.ravensworthfarm.org>.

SCHOOLS HAVE RE-OPENED!

School will be in session from 8:25AM to 3:05PM. Buses are expected to arrive at the school between 8:10AM and 8:25AM and depart between 3:10PM and 3:30PM and there are a significant number of families driving their children to school and that coupled with the construction on the Hot Lanes could impact traffic in the neighborhood. With all this happening I suggest that kids could walk to school instead of riding in a car, it is great exercise and really good for the environment so we can build a healthier planet!



To keep our Neighborhood children safe please follow the below rules: -

- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.
- When driving in neighborhood watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking of getting there safely.
-  Down. Watch for children walking in the street.
-  Down. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.
- Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street with out looking for traffic.
- Drivers are required to travel  in a school zone when indicated by a sign or signal.
- Learn the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:
 - **Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.**
 -  **Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.**
- Parents Please Encourage Pedestrian Safety to Students.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Dear Neighbors:

Many positive things are happening for our community. We are finally taking steps to improve our neighborhood communication in order to have a safe and vital community. The fact that this newsletter is my first opportunity to update you on the status of our general security in several months is indicative of the challenges we have to overcome so that we can share information in a timely manner.

At the next RFCA General meeting on Thursday, October 28 I will have the RFNW Reflective Belts for general issue to the Citizen Patrol and new folks can volunteer to support the cause. I have taken up running, (or my closest approximation of that activity,) and the RFNW Reflective Belt really stands out for my personal safety and demonstrates we are a vigilant community. If you take walks, exercise and even cycle in the community routinely- I WANT YOU to join the civic patrol and get a RFNW Reflective Belt! Enhance your personal safety during this activity and show the community and folks in our community we are vigilant.

I requested another crime analysis from J.T. Frey, the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for the Springfield Police to update us on crime in our community. The last report in March clearly illustrated that we have challenges. Yes, we are much safer than most communities across America. However, if you are a victim of crime, those statistics do not mean much. Ultimately, we should not live in fear, but we should be vigilant.

A key component to our mutual security is simply each other-- knowing our neighbors, being vigilant and looking out for one another. So if you are holding back from getting to know your neighbors and being part of your community, then you are doing the worst possible thing and making yourself and your household susceptible to crime.

I do need a committed volunteer who can manage administrative issues respective to RFNW (Ravensworth Farm Neighborhood Watch.) It isn't a tremendous amount of work, but it IS critical work that requires some attention to detail and being familiar w/ Microsoft Office. I promise it will be rewarding work – you'll get an inside look of what is going on in the community and will meet lots of people.

Finally, until we can get the RFCA web-tool in place to secure our community, here are my casual, but informed assessments:

1. On 24 June around 10:00PM a member of our community was mugged in the vicinity of Queensberry and Bullock. I find this most disturbing because this is a very aggressive class of crime. It is very important to be wary in your activities during low-light conditions. Go out in pairs, with a big dog or make sure you are alert to strangers. At this time, this seems to be an isolated incident, but be wary to be safe.
2. Rule of Thumb – do not welcome any solicitors in our community and call the non-emergency police number to report them. It is my firm suspicion that many criminals use the guise of “solicitor” to canvas our neighborhood and identify unoccupied vehicles and residences. They also have aggressive marketing strategies, some of which specifically target senior citizens. The casual questions about your household may be deliberate attempts to get your personal information to enable identity theft. If you see someone who is going door to door-- make a note of the time, location and their general description. In the future we want to record these observations so if a crime does occur we can correlate it back to those individuals. Solicitors have been identified in crimes ranging from robbery to most recently the sexual assault of a teenage girl in a surrounding community.
3. Dogs and Home Alarm Systems (the ones linked to a monitoring service) are key deterrents to securing your home. Always maintain your yard, empty your mail box, and make sure newspapers are not piling up in your driveway. If a house looks empty, it is an opportunity. As I patrol the neighborhood, I am surprised by the lack of lighting and the landscaping folks have that make it easy for someone to break into their household

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In conclusion, once RFNW is web-enabled, we will be able to inform residents about incidents in a timely manner as well as provide useful analysis and trends about our neighborhood. If you agree with me that a safe community is a top and urgent priority, then please make a point to communicate this to the RFCA Board via participation in the General Meetings or contacting them direct via this link:

<http://www.ravensworthfarm.org/feedback.htm>.

I have worked with the Police and other notable Neighborhood Watch programs to capture lessons learned and best practices before determining a strategy specific to our needs. A Safe community leads to a Clean and Vital community – please voice your desire to support initiatives that help us have a safer neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Tom Mathis



GENERAL MEETING TARGETS SAFETY!

Come join your neighbors for our next Civic Association general meeting as we focus on safety and situational awareness. The Neighborhood Watch committee will present their proposal for a new web-based initiative. You will also have a chance to review and vote on this year's RFCA budget.

When: Thursday, October 28 at 7:30PM

Where: Ravensworth Elementary School

GOLDEN RAVENS BEGIN NEW SEASON

The first gathering of those who consider themselves Golden Ravens will be on Wednesday September 22 at the Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel. This kickoff for the season will be a friendly meeting to catch up on events, vacations and adventures over the summer. We will also discuss any recommendations and ideas you may have for program activities for the coming months. Invite a neighbor or friend who just might enjoy meeting up with the Golden Ravens. The gathering begins at 11 AM. Anyone wishing to help with transportation may call Kay Anderson at 703-321- 9230.

WAKEFIELD FARMERS MARKET



Don't forget to enjoy one of our local Farmers Market right across the street in Wakefield Park. Every Wednesday, seven farms from Virginia's Northern Neck to Pennsylvania sell a variety of seasonal produce, baked breads, cheeses, and homemade ice cream. Join the crowds to get some great veggies:

Wakefield Farmers Market
Every Wednesday
2:00 – 6:00 pm

FAIRFAX COUNTY CEMETERY PRESERVATION & RESTORATION SEMINAR

Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation & Restoration Seminar at Frying Pan Farm Park

For more information, please see website at www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org.

Saturday, October 23 & Sunday, October 24—FREE, but the number of attendees is limited. Call 703-437-9101 to register.

FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY COMMISSION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

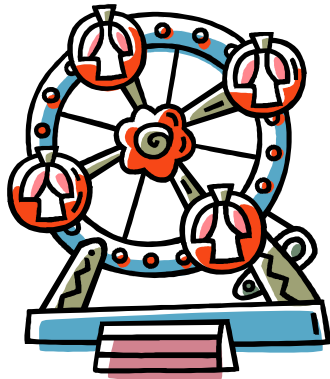
Fairfax County History Commission's Annual Conference

Saturday November 6th James Lee Center on Annandale Rd., Falls Church, VA

Preserving our Paths in History

Please contact Mary Lipsey for the brochure to be emailed to you: christopherlipsey@verizon.net

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL



St. John's United Methodist Church, 5312 Backlick Rd., Springfield, will hold its 8th ANNUAL COMMUNITY FUN FESTIVAL on Sat., Oct. 2, 10AM-2PM.

Train ride, moon bounce, big ocean slide, pony rides, games, craft and vendor booths, free live music, featuring The Logan Kraft Band, and more!

Children and youth will each receive their first 20 tickets FREE. Additional tickets may be purchased 5 for \$1.00. Rain or shine. Everyone welcome!

For more info call 703-256-6655 or go to www.saintjohnsumc.org/funfair.

MOMS CLUB OF SPRINGFIELD CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Saturday, October 23, 2010

Children's Consignment Sale—Sponsored by Grace Weekday Preschool and the MOMS Club of Springfield. Come shop for gently-used and like-new maternity and children's items at great prices!

Grace Presbyterian Church, 7434 Bath Street, Springfield. Sale open to the public Saturday, October 23 from 8AM-1PM. Cosigners shop early on Friday, October 22. If you are interested in selling your items, please call 703-451-3314 for more information.

Money raised from this effort will benefit preschool students through improved classrooms and supplies, and the MOMS Club will be donating their share to Our Daily Bread in December to help out those in need.



SAVE THIS DATE

A LOOK BACK AT BRADDOCK PROJECT PROUDLY PRESENTS

**OAK HILL OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY OCTOBER 16, 2010
NOON—FIVE PM**

(Opening ceremony at 12:30 pm)

4716 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale, VA 22003



Schedule

12:00—12:30 House open for unguided walk-through first floor only (Ticket distribution for Guided-tours begins)
12:30 Opening Ceremony
1:00—2:00 Guided House tours (first floor only) - Entry time into house – 10-15 persons at a time: 1:00; 1:20; 1:40
2:00—3:30 House open for unguided walk-through (first floor only)
3:30—5:00 Guided tours of house (first floor only) - Entry time into house – 10-15 persons at a time: 3:30; 3:50;
4:10; 4:30

Speakers

1:00—1:30 Dennis Howard
1:45—2:45 Maddy Mc Coy & John Browne
3:00—3:30 Dennis Howard
3:45—4:45 Maddy Mc Coy & John Browne
Between 1:00 and 4:30 on the lawn—Food, Music and Children's Activities

Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-2321 or TTY 711. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.

COMMUTER LOT IN WAKEFIELD PARK

Did you know Wakefield Park has a commuter lot? It's actually two lots, the one the Farmers Market uses and the one across from it. This is useful to know in case your car/van pool needs a convenient starting point. It's also a great place to meet up with friends when sharing rides. Here's the map with the exact location. Share this information with your neighbors, especially if you have problems with commuter parking. Also, please remember, there is NO commuter parking at the Ravensworth Shopping Center.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Raquel and John Land and Family
5419 Moultrie
571-282-3188

Thuan Luu
5313 Oldcastle

Michelle Martin and Trina Bowman
5226 Landgrave



Jeff and Khan H Morgan
5231 Oldcastle

Jack and Mandi Felici and Family
5404 Nutting

When a new neighbor moves in on your street, please call Melanie Bennett at 571-282-3291 or email melanieannebennett@gmail.com.

HOSPITALITY

Please call Ramona Michels at 703-321-7664 to report births, adoptions, hospitalizations or deaths.

WANT TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD?

Email Kathleen@ravensworthfarm.org or mail to P.O. Box 1020 Springfield, VA 22151. Deadline for each month's classified ads can be found in the chart on page 3.



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.

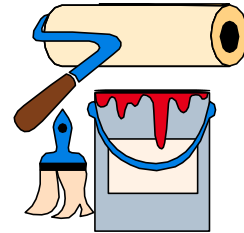
FOR SALE	Cherry Curio Cabinet with five glass shelves, mirrored back, lighted interior. Pulaski brand. Less than 5 years old. Comes with four extra shelves. Great for collections. \$200. Call 703-321-7523 in the evenings.
FOR SALE	Brown-Jordan 1970's outdoor chaise lounge-\$10; wrought iron shepherd's crook stands for hanging baskets-\$5 each; bamboo tray table with folding stand (16x24x30 high)-\$10; folding bamboo table (21x16x27 high)-\$8; wood butler's tray with folding stand (30x18x44 high)-\$12; 2 tole tray tables with folding metal stands (20x15x25 high)-\$8 each; belt positioning car booster seat (30-100 lbs.)-\$5; heavy wood "captain's" style office chair-\$6; heavy wood office side chair-\$6; 2 "upscale" wood folding chairs with vinyl seats-\$5 each; Rolling Stones American Tour 81' badge-\$8; Lake Placid 1980 Winter Olympic Games badge-\$6; UVa 1987 All American Bowl badge-\$5; Kennedy assassination memorabilia (magazines, books)-\$10; 1942 Estey spinet piano (tuned yearly)-\$100 (buyer to arrange delivery). (Piano subject to prior sale.) Please call: 703-321-7871.
FOR SALE	Antique round wooden table with four matching wooden ice cream parlor-type chairs. Great for a little breakfast nook, or game table for kids in the rec room. \$200 Antique wooden spindle twin bed; frame, head and foot boards. \$100 OBO Solid, sturdy wing chair. Some wear on arm rests but has arm covers. Great chair; no room for it. \$50 Please call: 571/334-1927
FOR RENT	Condo for Rent in the Outer Banks, one bedroom with loft; one bath; sleeps four; kids welcome. Close to beach and other attractions. Long weekend availability. Contact Pam Ryan at 703-447-6283 or email pamkug@aol.com.
YARD SALE	"YARD SALE EXTRAORDINAIRE! October 2, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 8135 Drayton Lane. NO EARLY BIRDS! Huge selection of fabrics and craft items, to include ceramic bisque. Kitchen items/appliances, frames, furniture, clothing, glassware, rugs, fashion jewelry, framed pictures, lawn mower and yard equipment.
WANTED	Good used furniture for needy low income families in the Annandale area. Needed are beds, dressers, kitchen tables & chairs, sofas, love seats, end tables lamps and TV's. Unfortunately, we cannot take sleep-sofas. Call Bill Sinclair at 703-321-7529 or the Annandale Christian Community for Action warehouse at 703-256-1991 Call the warehouse ONLY on Saturday mornings.

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Move-in or Move-out Office*

**Call MARYEN or RAUL at
(703) 321-5335**



What are you looking for?

Come, and see!

Hope Lutheran Church is an inclusive and welcoming congregation, offering a variety of ways to become involved and/or to serve your community. Why not come and see for yourself? Join us on Sunday for:

- Classes for kids and adults - 9am
- Worship at 10am Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday
- Kids' chapel during the service
- Attended Nursery available
- Coffee and fellowship before and after the service
- Monthly potlucks on the 2nd Sunday – great food and fellowship!

Additional activities:

- Wednesday Bible Study – 11 am and 6:30pm
- Monthly Men's and Women's Breakfasts
- Choirs – voice and bells
- English as Second Language classes
- Quilting group and Knitting/Crochet group
- And more!

Hope Lutheran Church, 4604 Ravensworth Rd, Annandale, VA 703-256-9040

www.hopeannandale.org



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- Chaos-free downsizing

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- Lost productivity and vacation days
- Disruption of family routine

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We'll get your new home up and running in a day (Make bed, hang shower curtain, put soup away).

Estate dispersal / house clearing service.

Decide what you want, we'll do the rest.

Remodeling, painting, carpeting?

We'll pack it up and put it back.

****Always seeking quality part-time staff.****

Call your neighbors (5318 Inverchapel) we can help.



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*Bring in this ad, buy any loaf of bread and get a loaf of Honey Whole Wheat bread FREE! Valid through ******

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BURKE, VIRGINIA 22015
PHONE: 703-249-0044
WWW.GREATHARVESTBURKE.COM



Community of Christ

Experience a Ravensworth community church where all are welcome.

5610 Inverchapel Road, Springfield, VA
(703) 321-0507 (church)
(703) 409-1920 (pastor)

Sunday Services:

9:30 a.m. Classes for all ages
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Please join us for these community activities:

- Children's Playground
- Picnic Area
- Ravensworth Golden Ravens
- Community Picnics and Yard Sales
- Christmas and Easter Special Activities for Everyone!

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

www.CofChrist.org
www.cofchrist-cbmc.org

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Springfield, VA 22151-4307

Between Industrial & Electronic Drives
in the Edsall Road Industrial Park

Phone: 703-658-8840
www.rebuildwarehouse.org

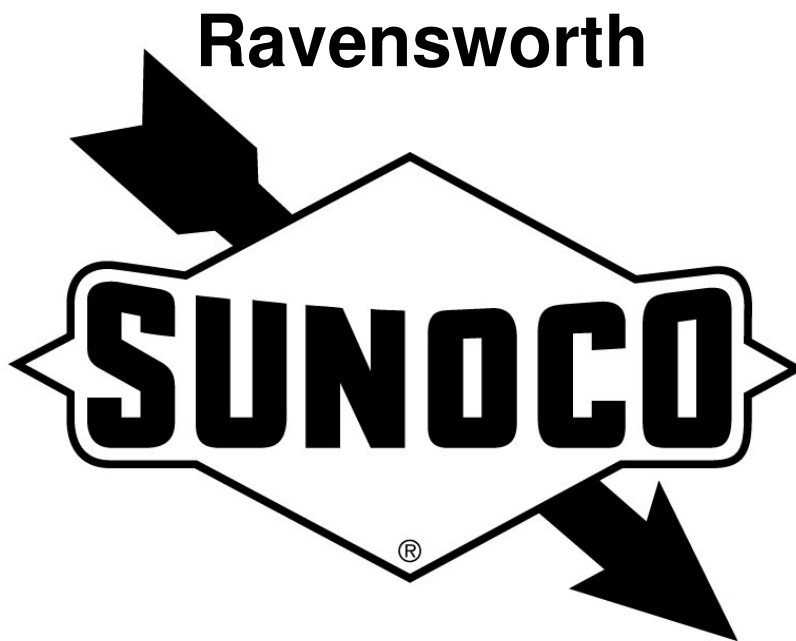
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Deep discounts on used building materials

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Mon & Tue:	Open by appointment only
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Picture Your Ad Here!



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