



MANDR HOUSE 1796-1925
RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

September 2011

The Ravensworth ***Farmer***

VOL. XLVII Issue 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Neighbors:

The summer has flown by and yet, it still seems like a long time since I have written a letter for the Farmer. My wife, daughter and I were supposed to be in NYC in late August to celebrate our anniversary, and then spend three days on the Jersey shore, but Hurricane Irene changed our plans. Like everyone else, we went shopping, filled the car with gas, and had our flashlights ready to go. In the end the only issue was the inconvenience of being without power for a few hours, and losing the contents of the refrigerator. Truth be told, it probably needed to be cleaned out anyway.

I woke up early the day after the storm and drove through all the streets in the neighborhood expecting to see extensive tree damage. I was surprised that there seemed to be no more damage than we usually get after a storm. The one huge exception was the tree that crashed through a roof of a Queensbury Avenue home. I hope that the only damage was structural, and that nobody was hurt.

As I was writing this letter, I received a call from Supervisor Cook's office checking on hurricane damage, and asking if there was anything that Ravensworth Farm needed from his office. I did request him to look into a

Con't Pg. 3

RFCA Community Activities

**October Membership Meeting
Thursday, Oct 27 at 7:30PM
Ravensworth Elementary, p. 6
Topic: Meet the Candidates**



**It's Time to Join the RFCA,
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	Jacqueline Fix	703-321-3048
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151
Corresponding Secretary	Kevin Joyce	703-587-7989
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Vacant	
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Tom Terry	
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

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	Marti Terry	703-321-9668
	Brenda Soares	703-321-7856
	Margaret Kinder	703-764-9576
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063
	Ramona Michels	703-321-7664
New Neighbors	Amy Reynolds	
	Donna Karlinchak	
Cultural Committee	Vietnamese	Tam Nguyen 703-321-8338
	Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez 703-321-0160
	Korean	Seo Pani 703-321-8081
Directory	Coordinator	Stephen Beste 703-321-9110
	Advertising	Katherine Craig 703-321-3149
Farmer	Editor	Kathleen Powers 703-321-7523
	Preparation	Susan Deyampert 703-321-3150
	Printing, Flyers, Assembly	Laura Asiello 703-321-7840
	Distribution	Jacqueline Fix 703-321-3048
	Advertising	Katherine Craig 703-321-3149
Neighborhood Watch	Vacant	
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary	Joey Stengell	703-272-8647
Pool President	Chris Bergen	703-451-0642
Green Thumb Garden Club	Doddie Cave	703-321-9773
	Nancy Jarvie	703-321-8319
Golden Ravens	Joan Crofford	703-321-7809

Association Calendar 2011 - 2012

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
September	Aug. 31	Aug. 31	2	9	24	
October	5	5	7	11	22	27
November	2	2	4	9	19	
December	Nov. 30	Nov. 30	2	7	17	
January	4	4	6	11	21	26
February	1	1	3	10	25	
March	Feb. 29	Feb. 29	2	9	24	29
April	4	4	6	9	28	
May	2	2	4	11	26	31

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

small bridge/walkover at the bottom of the dam at Lake Accotink. Whenever there is a good rainstorm, the dam area is impassible (at least to us pushing baby carriages), unless you wade through a six inch deep torrent of moving, muddy water. Kyle, from Supervisor Cook's office, got back to me and said that the County is looking into the matter, and this request may be on a ballot for construction repairs in the future.

I am not what you would call a computer savvy person. My wife has had a Facebook page for years and I always resisted her suggestion for me to join it. Pretty soon almost everybody I know was asking me, "What's the matter with you, why don't you have a Facebook page?" I finally gave in, and now I am hooked. It has been lots of fun catching up with friends from high school and people, that quite frankly, I had forgotten existed.

But I didn't realize Facebook's real worth until Hurricane Irene came visiting. Tom Mathis set up a Ravensworth Farm neighborhood page and it proved to be a great way to stay in touch and check on each other. I have used this page to get suggestions about carpenters, lawn care, and gutter replacement. The nice part about Facebook, is if you have a Smartphone (and I do, once again, due to my wife's encouragement), you can stay in touch even if your home's internet service is down.

Until we can get the new web-based initiative going, I encourage all of you to join Facebook, and get added to the Ravensworth Farm page. Tom is very good about keeping everyone informed on current events in the neighborhood. The Ravensworth Farm Facebook page helps us do what we do best—share information, look out for our neighbors and help each other during difficult times.

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

IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE RFCA!

It's hard to believe that summer 2011 is already a memory, the leaves are starting to fall (get out those rakes!), the kids are back in school, and it's almost time to kick off our 2012 membership campaign. Veteran residents already know, but for the benefit of our new neighbors, each year we invite you to join the Ravensworth Farms Civic Association.

{The Civic Association maintains our beautifully landscaped entrances and signage at the entrance to remind us of important events coming up in the Community. It develops, prints and distributes this informative Farmer Newsletter to our door steps nine months a year, helping us all keep up with news about events and happenings in the area, local clubs and troops, and much more. This year the RFCA added our Facebook communication tool, and I know that many neighbors relied on communication through the RFCA Facebook page to talk about power outages and FIOS issues and other issues related to surviving Irene.}



One of the most tangible and useful benefits of membership is the annual Ravensworth Farm Directory, that includes names, addresses, and phone numbers of the 800 or so families in the neighborhood, plus wonderful information including a map of the neighborhood, important phone numbers for utilities, schools, post offices, parks and recreation, and much, much more.

Despite rising costs around us, membership dues remain at \$10 a year per family, this year.

The Dues are collected by voluntary neighbor block captains – a wonderful group of about 50 neighbors who walk door to door to say hello to neighbors, collect the dues, verify any changes to the names and addresses in the directory, and deliver the new directories. This “parade” of block captains will start in early November.

I'm so proud of the block captains – its fun work – most captains cover just 20 or so houses, usually right around where they themselves live – so it's a chance, in the middle of our busy lives, to catch up with friends. But sometimes new neighbors don't understand who these “door knockers” are, and relate to them as if they were unwelcome, impersonal solicitors. So I hope when your block captain comes this year, you will recognize them for the important work they are doing for all of us, and give them a warm greeting.

Block captains usually have a description of the membership proposition in English, Vietnamese, and Spanish – so if English is not your first language, let them know.

I am appealing to you today for help in two ways:

1. Unbelievably, some of our block captains have been serving us for 30 years or more – you would never know it to look at them, but we even have a few captains in their 80's. It's time to pass the torch for some, so we will need some of the younger neighbors to step up. It's a fun, easy job, and I'll show you the ropes. If you can help, please call me at 703 321 7590 or send me an email at elissa@elissamyers.com
2. We are offering you the opportunity to join by mail again this year. You can send a check for \$10 made out to the RFCA with the form enclosed with this newsletter to Steve Beste, and he'll alert your block captain that you've already paid, so the captain only needs to drop off your directory.

Con't from Pg. 4

The RFCA and the wonderful work of its many volunteers is what make this community the very special place that it is. Sure, we have the Audrey C. Moore Rec Center and Lake Accotink, and the close proximity to the belt-way... but it's the civic spirit that puts us over the top!

So...

1. Volunteer to be a block captain by emailing me at elissa@elissamyers.com or calling 703-321-7590
2. Save your block captain a few steps by mailing in your dues.
3. Say thanks when your block captain comes to say hello and collect your dues.

Thanks for your great support!

Elissa Myers
Membership Chairman, RFCA

SIGN, SIGN EVERYWHERE A SIGN...

... Except in our neighborhood. Have you seen the new signs outside of Kings Park? Would you like to see something similar in our neighborhood? Our homemade small, maroon signs are fifty years old and deteriorating rapidly. Thanks to Richmon Tun, you'll see a modification of the existing signs moved up to the top of the brick entrances. We'd like someone to step forward and work with us to investigate getting larger, more visible signs for our entranceways. Currently we can only put up information relating to specific civic association activities on the existing signs. We'd like the option of making more community information more visible to our residents. Can you help us with this? Contact Marty Robinson at 703-297-7255.

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

The Green Thumb Garden Club met on Wednesday, Sept. 7 at the home of Doddie Cave. An English Tea was enjoyed as members finalized plans for a new season of growing and gardening.

New members are always welcome. Ravensworth is a vibrant community and many 'thumbs' are needed to keep it that way. Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 in the homes of various members. For more information, contact Margaret Kinder at 703-764-9576.

GARDENING TIP FOR FALL: PLANTING SHRUBS

Fall is the best time for planting most shrubs. Digging a wide hole, as opposed to a deep hole, is best. Place root ball on packed soil to allow for horizontal root growth. The root ball should be level with the edge of the hole; too high is better than too low. Gently tease apart tightly woven roots with your fingers or a blunt knife. Add leaf compost to your existing soil, but do not add fertilizer to new plants.



ANOTHER SEASON & ANOTHER REASON FOR GOLDEN RAVENS

The aging transitions go on, and the stock market goes down. Sometimes we must walk through challenges in life that threaten our comfort levels. Whenever “do this-get that” fails to live up to its promise, we may find ourselves in strange and scary territory. William Shakespeare wrote, “Give sorrow words. The grief that does not speak whispers the o'erfraught heart, and bids it break.” Our community of senior friends and neighbors can help provide the ears that are often needed to hear your words of stress and talking with us can sometimes help. The Golden Ravens meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Community of Christ Church partly for just such a purpose. Chatting with your senior neighbors over a bag lunch can be a soothing and healing moment for aging souls as time goes by. Come and see for yourself on September 28. The gathering usually begins at 11:30AM. For help with transportation call the president, Joan Crofford at 703-321-7809.

MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

Mark your calendars now! Our next civic association meeting will feature the three people running for the office of Supervisor of Fairfax County: John Cook, Janet Olszek and Carey Campbell.

Date: Thursday, October 27

Time: 7:30 – 9:00

Place: Ravensworth Elementary School.

More details will be in the October issue of the Farmer.



BILL MASKER: AUDREY MOORE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Bill Masker of Drayton Lane was named this year's Volunteer of the Year at the Audrey Moore Recreation Center. He has devoted over 424 hours as a front desk, adapted aquatics, and special events volunteer. Bill makes a daily difference in the lives of the adapted aquatics customers by giving them one-on-one help and assistance. He even attends Special Olympics' meets in other counties and assists all day there. He is punctual, friendly, courteous, and outgoing to all of the Rec Center patrons. Bill and his wife Mary (married 49 years) have lived in Ravensworth for 46 years and have always considered Audrey Moore to be their neighborhood Rec Center. Congratulations and best wishes on this honor, Bill!

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

OCTOBERFEST AT RAVENSWORTH SHOPPING CENTER



Mark your calendars to celebrate Oktoberfest with the Swiss Bakery at Ravensworth Shopping Center!

When: Saturday, October 22 from 11- 2:00

Listen to a German band! Plus, sausages and sauerkraut will be for sale along with homemade pretzels, salads, gingerbread (lebkuchen) and Black Forest cake.

AMERICAS ADOPT A SOLDIER 5- 10 K WALK /RUN 1 OCT // CARE PACKING 22 OCT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Where: Lake Fairfax Park, 400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston VA 20190

When: 1 October 2011

Race Start: 10:00

Registration: \$35.00

RACE CHECK-IN OPENS ON LOCATION AT 0800

ALL RUNNERS MUST PRE-REGISTER AT : americasadoptasoldier.org

Bring an item or letter to be placed in a care package Wear Red - White - Blue show your support for our Troops

100% of Race Registration goes to support "Care Packages"

What: Challenge America 2011 Care Packing

Where: Lake Braddock Secondary School

When: 22 October 2011

TIME(S): 10:00- 1:00 pm

Registration and Information: www.americasadoptasoldier.org

NOTE: Special Guest Appearance - Raffles and much more



"Making a difference in the lives of our Veterans, Soldiers and their Families"

WWII VETERANS FREE BUS DAY TRIP TO THE WWII MEMORIAL

All Vets Welcome! We are planning a free bus day trip to visit the WWII Memorial on Sunday, October 2, 2011. For more information, please call 571-228-8892 or 703-339-5831, or visit www.heroeswelcome.org.

Heroes' Welcome is a non-profit veterans organization affiliated with American Legion Auxiliary Unit 180 in Vienna, VA. We are dedicated to hosting World War II veterans in Washington, DC as they visit the Memorial built in their honor.



Ravensworth Farm Community
HALLOWEEN PARTY AND PARADE

Come out and join in the neighborhood fun

Sunday, October 23

4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Community of Christ Church
(Inverchapel Road)

Parade will begin at 4:30

Costumes encouraged for both old and new

Games

Cupcake Walk

Deejay

MOON BOUNCE

Parade

Rain Date:
Sunday, October 30



2011 AMERICA'S ADOPT A SOLDIER™ CHALLENGE AMERICA

OUR OBJECTIVE

Send a Care Package to every deployed Service member in 2011
FAIRFAX PACKING DAY

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 22

Event Start 10:00 - Lunch 12:00

LOCATION: Lake Braddock Secondary School 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke VA 22015

YOUR CHALLENGE: Get the word out. Sponsor all or part of one or more packages (Postage \$10.95 --- Contents: \$20.00)

PLEDGE TO PACK: americasadoptasoldier.org

DONATE ON LINE: americasadoptasoldier.org

MAIL TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS: Americas Adopt A Soldier, P.O. Box 1049, Springfield VA 22151

From A Deployed Service Member: "The care packages were well-received and believe me when I say it is most inspiring to observe a Soldier, when he or she, receives a care package. The immediate awareness that someone out there is motivated and passionate enough to take the time out of their day to select and package these items with such care brings instant smiles and a very real sense of pride. There are times such as these in which I am reminded that our separation and our sacrifices are not ours alone but rather shared. Our commitments to the values of freedom will never waver and as this bedrock of our nation is challenged around the world, it will always be the continued support and patriotism of our communities that will make the difference in Victory."

DONATION ITEMS



Personal Care Items

Eye Drops

Chapstick, Blistex
Shampoo/Conditioner (travel size)
Deodorant - Men and Women
Toothpaste (travel size), Toothbrushes,
Dental Floss
Mouthwash (travel size)
Soap, Body Wash, Hand Sanitizer
Foot Powder
Tube Socks (cotton)
Lotion (small size)
Feminine Hygiene Products
Razors, Shaving Cream (in tubes) **no aerosol**
Travel Size Tissues
Baby Wipes
Baby Powder
Q-Tips
Tums or Roloids
Tylenol, Advil, Sinus Meds
Gel Insoles

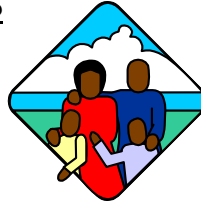
Food Items

Small bags or individually wrapped snacks or cans of Pringles, pretzels, cookies, crackers, nuts, trail mix, peanut butter/cheese crackers, sun flower seeds
Hard Candy (Lifesavers, Jolly Ranchers), Mints
Chewing Gum, Blow Pops
Individual servings of powdered drinks for water bottles such as Lemonade, Gatorade, Kool-Aid, Tang, Lipton To Go Tea, Crystal
Light On The Go, energy drinks, Propel (powder)
Individual coffee, tea bags
Beef Jerky, Slim Jims (no pork allowed)
Pop Tarts, Nutri-grain, Granola, Cereal Bars, trail mix
Cups & small flip top canned fruit, applesauce, pudding
Peanut Butter (small) No Glass Please
Chocolate between the months of October and April only (M&Ms are acceptable anytime)

Other Items

Crossword Puzzles
Playing Cards
Stationery & Envelopes
Pens/Pencils
Disposable Cameras
Assorted Greeting Cards for Soldier to send to family & friends
Journals
AT&T Global Prepaid Phone Cards
Batteries
DVDs, CDs
Video Games
Small board games
Flystrips
Febreze or other freshening spray, no aerosol
Glade Stick-ups or room deodorizers
Small battery operated fan
Bug Repellent in lotions & pump-spray bottles--
NO AEROSOLS
Sun Screen

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS



Matt/Darla Eisemann and Family
5321 Pillow

Anthony/Jolyn Bennett and Family
5303 Inverchapel

Jeff/Kate Wisecarver and Family
5604 Sedgwick

Lien K. Nguyen and Family
5619 Sedgwick

Greg/MaryBeth Champlin and Family
5301 Nutting

Daniel Cavdozo and Family
8118 Bullock Lane

Tom/Amy White and Family
7916 Hattaras

Ron/Janice Cohen and Family
5325 Ringold

Sue/Scott Richardson and Family
5302 Juxon

Sam, Justin, and Ashley Robin
8116 Drayton

John Pham and Family
5500 Queensberry

Kristin Connor
5312 Nutting

HOSPITALITY

Sympathy is extended to the families of:
Robert Armstrong of Gosport Lane who passed away this summer.



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	24" Trek MT 220 Bike, multi-speed, very good condition. Contact Stan, Cell Phone 703-798-3881, Ravensworth Resident. Asking \$135.00.
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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(703) 409-1920 (pastor)

Sunday Services:

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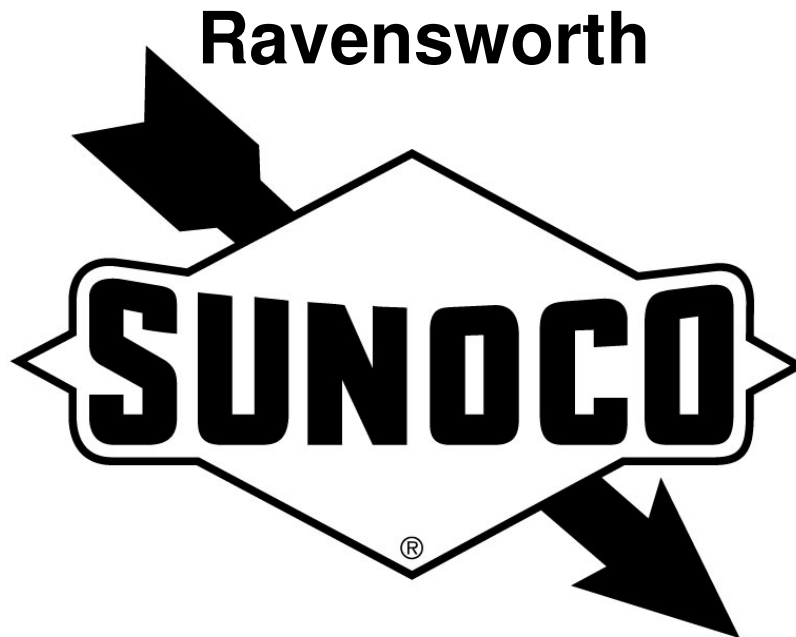
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**Ravensworth Shopping Center
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703-321-8280

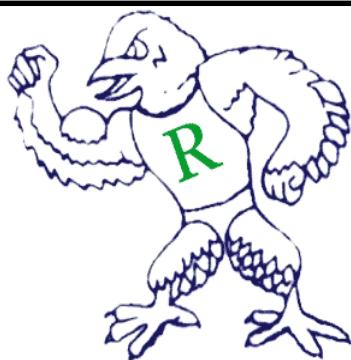
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Dive Team
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Adult Parties

Tennis Camp
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Ping Pong Table
Tennis Courts

Join or renew online at
www.ravensworthpool.com

Swim and Dive Team registration
information located on line.

Summer Employment Opportunities

Go to the website for more information regarding the following positions: Manager, Life Guard, Snack bar.

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FBI Agent retired January 2011

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Two person session \$85/hr

10 session package

Single session \$60.00/hr

Two person session \$80.00/hr

20 session package

Single session \$55.00/hr

Two person session \$75.00/hr

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Springfield, VA 22151**



Come, and see!

Hope Lutheran Church is an inclusive and welcoming congregation, offering a variety of ways to become involved and 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!

**Hope Lutheran Church, 4604 Ravensworth Rd, Annandale, VA 703-256-9040
www.hopeannandale.org**



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- Windows
- Siding
- Trim Cladding
- Rotted Wood Repairs
- And more!



703-906-6525

solutionsofva@gmail.com

Alex Hamilton, Owner

Class A License & Insured



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301-385-0191

Busy Buddies Provides:

- Trusted resources
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- An organized simplified move
- Start to finish move coordination
- Unpacking / settling new home
- Support and guidance
- Hands on physical labor
- Floor plan arrangement
- Chaos-free downsizing

You Reduce:

- Stress, time, effort and novice frustrations
- Lost productivity and vacation days
- Disruption of family routine

Unpacking and Settling Service:

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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Ravensworth Resident

**R & M
CLEANING
SERVICES**



- RELIABLE
- EXPERIENCED
- GOOD REFERENCES
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING
- REASONABLE RATES

WE BRING OUR OWN EQUIPMENT

*Free In-home Estimate
Weekly/Bi-weekly/Monthly or Occasionally
Move-in or Move-out Office*

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