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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

April 2014

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

VOL. XLVIV Issue 7

EMERGENCY! HELP IS ON THE WAY
- MARCH 27

Join the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association for a presentation by the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management on Thursday, March 27 at 7:30PM in the school cafeteria. Learn about the role of emergency management in Fairfax County, how to stay informed during emergencies and what you can do to get your family prepared.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRANT
RECIPIENTS

Karole and Bob Nielsen were awarded a \$1,000 grant for the maintenance of bag holders and restocking of doggy waste bags in Accotink Park. The grant was awarded by TransUrban, the contractors who built the I-495 toll lanes.



SPRING YARD SALE - MAY 3

Mark your calendars for the **Community Yard Sale** at the **Ravensworth Swim Club**. Here's an opportunity to turn your stuff into someone else's treasure, find a few treasures yourself, and mix with others in the community!

Spaces are free; bring your own tables, racks, etc. **May 3, 8am - 1pm**



www.ravensworthfarm.org

Find us on FACEBOOK

The Farmer is ONLINE

If you already lined the birdcage with The Farmer and now want information from it, you can always go online to **www.ravensworthfarm.org** and read the digital edition.

Article 1, 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	Kevin Joyce	703-587-7989	prez@ravensworthfarm.org
1st Vice President	VACANT		
2nd Vice President	Dean Fix	703-321-3048	vp2@ravensworthfarm.org
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151	recsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Corresponding Secretary	Stephanie Hammond	703-321-0546	
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404	treasurer@ravensworthfarm.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Vacant		
Public Service (Streets / Sidewalks)	Tom Terry	703-209-2675	rfnw@ravensworthfarm.org
Schools & Education	Jill Mowbray Maria Dastur	703-865-8368	bjm820@hotmail.com mariacdastur@gmail.com
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 Brenda Soares Margaret Kinder	703-209-4424 703-321-7856 703-764-9576	
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New Neighbors	Jill Mowbray	703-865-8368	bjm820@hotmail.com
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Korean	Seo Pani	703-321-8081	
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PTA President, Ravensworth ES	Anita Bhatnagar	703-942-6806	president@ravensworthpta.org
Pool President	Rob Hannam	703-321-7398	
Green Thumb Garden Club	Doddie Cave Nancy Jarvie	703-321-9773 703-321-8319	
Golden Ravens	Joan Crofford	703-321-7809	

Association Calendar 2013 - 2014

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
March	5	5	7	12	22	27
April	2	2	4	9	26	
May	Apr. 30	Apr. 30	2	7	17	22

General and Board meetings will be held at Ravensworth Elementary School. Meetings are canceled in the event of Fairfax County Public Schools' early closing or school cancelation. Meetings are at 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.

POOL NEWS & EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Ravensworth Farm Swim and Racket Club would like to congratulate the Shuttinga Family for winning the Early Bird Registration Raffle for the month of February! They received 10 free guest passes for the pool; we hope they enjoy bringing some friends for a swim this summer. There will be another drawing for the month of March on April 1st, so there is still time to register and have a chance to win! We will announce that winner in next month's Farmer.

Early Bird Registration is still going on, up until May 3, 2014, so please register before then to take advantage of the savings. Visit our website, www.RavensworthFarmPool.com, to sign up or find more information. If you have specific questions, please send an email to membership@ravensworthfarmpool.com.

MOMS IN PRAYER GROUP

Several moms in the neighborhood meet weekly for one hour to pray for their children, schools, teachers and staff. If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact Sara Ortiz at (703)321-8757 or go to the website <http://www.momsinprayer.org/>



KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION AT RAVENSWORTH ELEMENTARY

by Ms. Roxanne Salata, Principal

As the new school year quickly approaches, we would like to invite you to attend our Kindergarten Orientation Meeting on Monday, March 31, 2014 from 2 pm to 3 pm. If your child is going to be five years old by September 30, 2014, please make plans to attend. Registration is open now! Call Mrs. Lemaitre at 703-426-3600 for details.



PLEASE DONATE PRIZES FOR TOP RUNNERS IN PTA FUNDRAISER

Your local Ravensworth Elementary PTA is on a mission. We are looking for sponsorship opportunities within our community for Ravensworth Elementary School's 'Run 4 Ravensworth' Fundraiser, which will be held on May 2nd. This event, our school's primary fundraiser, raises money to support educational activities at the school such as reading, music, art and library needs; assemblies and field trips; much needed technology for the classrooms; and grant money to teachers.

We are looking for donations of prizes to award to the students who raise the most money for our school through donations for each lap the student runs. Donor's names and logos will be advertised on a banner outside the front entrance of the school, as well as in the school lobby and in newsletters and flyers.

We are looking forward to great success at this year's event and appreciate any donations you or your organization can provide. If your organization would like to donate a prize for this year's event, please contact Jill Mowbray at fundraising@ravensworthpta.org or 703-865-8368. Thank you for your time and consideration.

MARCH CAME IN LIKE A LION - WITH GOLDEN RAVENS

By the time this is distributed perhaps March will be more like a Lamb. The Golden Ravens certainly would appreciate a break from this cold snowy winter. You might think we live in New England or somewhere like that. Not to worry. Spring is here and the Golden Ravens are on the loose again. So if you are retired and could use a new friend or two, come on down. There is always some good cheer and good company – on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call Joan Crofford for the latest plans to meet, eat, and chat. You could be glad you did.



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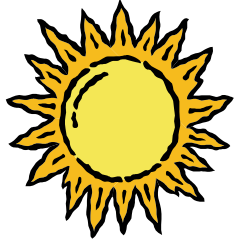
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COMMUNITY YARD SALE



Saturday, May 3rd

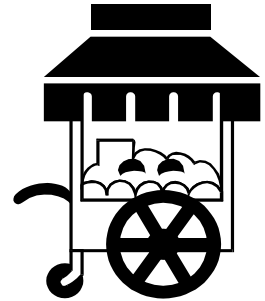
8:00 am to 1 pm

**Ravensworth Farm Swimming Pool
Parking Lot**

Food & Drink on Sale!

**Bring Your Tables, Etc & Set Up Your Items
For Sale On the Outer Edges of the Parking Area.**

Also, No Reservations!



**Rain Date:
Saturday, May 10th**



ANNUAL PLANT SALE



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Saturday, May 10th

9 am - 1 pm

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GARDEN CLUB BOOK DISCUSSION & PLANT SALE

Our March meeting about container gardening was canceled by Old Man Winter. The next (more spring-like?) meeting will be April 2. Call Doddie Cave or Nancy Jarvie to find out where. We will be discussing the book "The Language of Flowers" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

Our annual plant sale will be May 10 from 9 am to 1pm at the Ravensworth Shopping Center. Come early for the best selection. Our plants make great Mother's Day gifts.



WHY JOIN THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION?

Your \$10 membership (what a bargain!) helps cover the cost of writing, printing, and delivering this newsletter to all 858 homes in Ravensworth Farm nine times per year.

It also covers the cost of updating and printing the Ravensworth Farm Community Directory each year. The Directory is only available to members. In addition to providing the names, addresses and phone numbers for your neighbors, the Directory provides you with emergency numbers (for when your internet is dead), useful non-emergency numbers, contact information for preschools, schools, parks, utilities, libraries, medical facilities, and houses of worship. It contains the history of Ravensworth Farm and the Covenants and Restrictions associated with the neighborhood. It even contains contact information for youth looking to work! If you need a teen to babysit, pet sit, shovel, rake, or wash your car, just \$10 gets you a copy of this coveted list.

In addition to The Ravensworth Farmer and the Ravensworth Farm Directory, the Civic Association also funds:

- informative general meetings,
- community Halloween Party,
- holiday decoration judging,
- spring horse-drawn hayride,
- summer picnic (canceled for 2014 due to lack of funds),
- maintenance of the plants and signs at the community entrances,
- donations to the Scouts and the school,
- advertising of the spring community-wide yard sale, and
- community large-trash-items clean-up day every spring.

If you aren't a member, contact Elissa Myers to become a member - 703-321-7590 or elissa@elissamyers.com - or answer the door when your Block Captain comes knocking. It would be great to welcome every one of our 858 households into the Civic Association!

RAVENSWORTH FARM ON FACEBOOK

Want to keep up with issues, have firewood to give away, or you're wondering what surprises others have run into during renovations? The Ravensworth Farm Facebook page is the place to go. Send Tom Mathis, the group's moderator, a join request and he'll add you to this lively and informative community. You can adjust your notification settings and visit the page as little or as often as you choose.



SIGNS OF CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

The problem of child abuse and neglect is being given increased attention in communities across the country.

Abuse and neglect of children affects many people in the community. The abused or neglected child is the primary victim. Such maltreatment may lead to a variety of problems and disorders that may follow the child into adulthood. The abusive or neglectful parents or caretakers suffer as well. Most of them do not want to hurt children but may be repeating the abusive behavior they themselves experienced as children.

How to recognize abuse and neglect...

The most commonly recognized types of abuse and neglect are physical abuse, physical neglect, emotional abuse, emotional neglect and sexual abuse or exploitation. Signs of abuse and neglect include:

- A child with repeated injuries such as bruises, welts, or burns
- A child who is withdrawn, angry, depressed, aggressive
- A child who exhibits extremes in behavior, such as being excessively Aggressive or being overly compliant; being afraid to go with a caretaker or clinging and not wanting to separate
- A child who is inadequately dressed for the weather, is malnourished, physically dirty, tired, or unsupervised; or is not receiving needed medical treatment
- A child who shows signs of or reports sexual abuse or has a sexually transmitted disease.

Who reports?

Any citizen may report; however, those who are "mandated reporters", such as medical personnel, school employees, social workers, law enforcement, and social workers, can be fined for failure to report suspected abuse or neglect to the Child Protective Services (CPS) Hotline.

Any identifying information about the person reporting will remain confidential unless otherwise ordered by the court. Persons reporting in good faith are, by law, immune from civil or criminal liability.

When a complaint is made...

A Child Protective Services (CPS) social worker will determine if the complaint should be investigated. If the situation warrants an investigation, this must be initiated within 24 hours of the complaint; certain cases immediately. The CPS worker will interview the child, the non-abusive parent/caretaker and the alleged abuser and others having pertinent information.

What can Child Protective Services do?

Child Protective Services recognizes that children need to be with their own parents. Sometimes, however, it is necessary to place a child who has been abused in alternate care. But more often than not, we work to change the family system through interventions such as counseling, parenting programs, child care and support from volunteers who relate well to the family to enable a child to remain safely in his or her own home. Parents and children can receive support and guidance from their CPS social worker, from programs that use specially-trained volunteers, and from public and private resources.

What can you do?

Learn to recognize the warning signals and indicators of child abuse and neglect.

If you suspect abuse or neglect, contact the Child Protective Services Hotline at 703-324-7400. Start or join community efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, especially during April, Child Abuse Prevention Month.

If you see a parent abusing a child in public, approach and say something like, "Looks like you're having a rough day. Is there anything I can do to help?" If you are in a store and a child is in danger, offer assistance. For example, if the child has been left unattended in a cart, stand by the child until the parent returns. If you are concerned about the physical safety of the child, alert the store manager.

Con't Pg. 9

Con't from Pg. 8

Questions about leaving children home alone?

See the Fairfax County Child Supervision Guidelines:

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrenyouth/supervision_eng.htm

TROOP 1147'S ANNUAL FLAG FUNDRAISER! FLY THE FLAG PROUDLY AND SUPPORT THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Thank you for your support this year! If you would like to renew or signup to have an American flag in your yard email or give us a call!

2014-2015 Schedule is only \$40 for the year:

July 4th 2014

Labor Day 2014

President's Day 2015

Memorial Day 2015

The Boy Scouts will set up a flag in your front yard at sunrise and remove it at sunset. Be patriotic and support a great group of youth! The Scouts will be collecting renewals and signup during April & May.

Here's another easy way to sign up for the flag service:

Make a \$40 check payable to "BSA Unit 1147" - Send checks to:

Kyle Curd, 7819 Butterfield Ln, Annandale, VA 22003, Call: 703-229-2062,

Email: FlagFundraiser@gmail.com



Get ready for the 4th of July!

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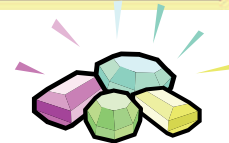
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GEM REVIEW: BBQ DELIGHT

by Wade Corder



I found a restaurant for Pakistani and Indian Cuisine over on Hechinger Drive. The restaurant was very clean and nice, but empty. It's also closer than any other I've found, and the food was great. The waiter asked if I wanted mild, medium, or regular. I chose mild and it was. I hope you'll check them out and help keep them around!

It's called BBQ Delight. Here's there website. <http://www.bbq-delight.com/> Enjoy!

[Editor's Note: Thanks, Marian McLaughlin, for pointing out the restaurant's review in the February 20 Washington Post.]

6981 Hechinger Dr., Springfield. 703-376-3388; Sundays-Thursdays 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Entrees, \$7.99-\$15.99.

PARKWOOD WEE CENTER REGISTRATION OPEN

Parkwood WEE (Weekday Early Education) Center offers quality, Christian preschool for ages 16 months to five years on two, three, and four-day schedules from 10am-2pm. Potty-trained children can also participate in one-hour enrichment classes up to three days a week from 2-3pm either stand-alone or in addition to regular daytime classes.

Tours are available by appointment only- Tuesday - Friday, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm. Registration forms can be submitted in person at the WEE Center Office Tuesday - Friday. Call Ann (Asiello) Lipton, WEE Center Director, for an appointment. The WEE Center was reviewed in the January 2013 issue of The Farmer. Parkwood WEE Center is located at 8726 Braddock Road (Kings Park Drive and Braddock Rd). Tel: 703.978.0640; www.weecenter.com.

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

New folks move in all the time. If you have new neighbors, tell Jill Mowbray. If you are a new neighbor- welcome! Please let Jill know you have arrived so that one of her New Neighbor Committee members can stop by with information and some goodies. Jill Mowbray (703-865-8368, bjm820@hotmail.com).



CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS

Condolences -

- to the family of Mr. Madison Walker of Inverchapel Road.
- to Lilli Poole on the death of her husband, Burton, in February.

REMINDER: THE RAVENSWORTH FARMER...

... may not be delivered to homes that compromise the safety of the scout troop that delivers it. This includes homes that may have loose or unfriendly pets, hazardous walkways, or other impediments to safe delivery by the scouts. The Farmer is always available for viewing one week after home delivery on the Ravensworth Farm web site, <http://www.ravensworthfarm.org>.



CLASSIFIED ADS may be placed in The *Farmer* at no cost to Ravensworth Farm residents. Classified ads may be placed by sending them to rfcfarmer@ravensworthfarm.org or to PO Box 1020, Springfield, VA 22151. The classified ad section is a service to Ravensworth residents and is not intended for business or commercial use. Ads for house sales, commercial services, etc. will be run in this section once. If you wish to repeat your ad, you will need to purchase advertising in The *Farmer*.

FOR SALE	Elliptical Trainer (ProForm CardioCrossTrainer) \$100; Backpack (Tough Traveler Baby/Toddler Carrier) – great for a hiking mom or dad \$40; Foosball Table (Sportscraft Star Wars Foosball Table) \$50. Call Anne at 703-321-7386
FREE	Free ergonomic adjustable computer chair. Just pick up and take. Call Lew. 703-321-9268.
HELP DC HOMELESS	Usable clothing and shoes, blankets, canned foods, etc., collected by a charitable foundation for the winter needs of homeless folks in D.C. Call for free pickups 703703-321-9268. For details, visit www.Kassirfoundation.org .
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.

CONSIDER NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR YARD

by Suzanne Dorick

Native plants are well adapted to local environmental conditions, maintain or improve soil fertility, reduce erosion, and often require less fertilizer and pesticides than many alien plants. These characteristics save time and money and reduce the amount of harmful run-off threatening the aquatic resources of our streams, rivers, and estuaries.

Native plants provide familiar sources of food and shelter for wildlife. As natural habitats are replaced by urban and suburban development, the use of native plants in landscaping can provide essential shelter for displaced wildlife. http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml. If you are interested and would like to plant some of the plants native to our area in your yard, they are available as seedlings at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm. The offer is good until they last or April 28.

If you seek to purchase the plants themselves, native plants are increasingly popular. There are many native plant sales in the area. Native plants are also sold at local home improvement stores and nurseries.



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(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.

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www.cofchrist-cbmc.org**

EVENTS

Is there an event that should be here? Email rfcafarmer@ravensworthfarm.org

March/April - **Online Employment Applications** at ravensworthfarmpool.com for teen summer employment.

Mar. 27 - 7:30pm - **Ravensworth Farm Civic Association General Meeting - Ravensworth Elementary

March 31 - 2-3pm - **Kindergarten Orientation at Ravensworth Elementary School**. Parents and rising kindergarteners welcome.

April 6 - **RFCA Horsesdrawn Hayride - 4:00pm - Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Rd. Meet the horses at <http://harmonscarriages.com/hayride.htm>. Some cost this year due to increased hayride rates and decreased Civic Association membership.

April 28 - **last day to order native plants** - fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm

April 11-13 & 17-19 - **Easter Pageant** - Immanuel Bible Church, Backlick & Braddock, evenings and weekend afternoons, free tickets at <http://www.immanuelbible.net/music-worship/easter-pageant>

April 14-18 - **No School - Spring Break**

April 20 - **Easter Sunday**

May 2 - **Run 4 Ravensworth Fundraiser** - Ravensworth Elementary School

May 3 - 8am - 1pm - **Community Yard Sale - Ravensworth Farm Pool parking lot

May 3 - **Last Day for Ravensworth Farm Pool Early-Bird Registration**

May 10 (rain date, 8am-1pm) - **Community Yard Sale rain date**

May 10 - **Garden Club Plant Sale at Ravensworth Shopping Center**

May 22 - 7:30pm - **Ravensworth Farm Civic Association General Meeting - Ravensworth Elementary

May 26 - Memorial Day

June 1 - 2pm - **Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Accotink Park**, boat drop-off at 10am, \$4/vehicle, walk in for free

June 24 - **Last Day of School**

Oct. 4 - **Fall Community Yard Sale - Ravensworth Farm Pool

BRADDOCK ROAD WIDENING

Planning is happening regarding widening Braddock Road and adding HOV lands from Burke Lake Road to the Beltway. Supervisor Cook and County staff are collecting public feedback. RFCA President Kevin Joyce is a member of Supervisor Cook's Braddock District Council and can pass on your thoughts. There will be some discussion of this project and its potential impacts on our community at the May 22 Ravensworth Farm Community Association general meeting.

In addition to widening Braddock Road from Burke Lake to the Beltway, County plans include a potential transit center behind the Kings Park Shopping Center and possible widening of Braddock Road from Guinea to Burke Lake Road.

The stretch of Braddock Road potentially slated for widening currently handles approximately 70,000 auto-mobile trips a day, one of the more congested corridors in the County. The effort is made possible through Virginia's transportation funding bill which passed last year.



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DO YOU HAVE A DRUG HOUSE ON YOUR STREET?

Drug houses don't just happen in "other" neighborhoods. There are drug houses in all types of neighborhoods. There are four things that make a drug house:

Product	Buyer	Seller	Location
----------------	--------------	---------------	-----------------

Most neighborhoods have very little control over Product, Buyer, or Seller. Drug dealers look for Locations where neighbors do not communicate and isolate themselves. This makes it easy to intimidate those neighbors that do notice drug activity. Drug dealers like neighborhoods that say, "It can't happen here." Money is a key element for the drug dealer. If they establish a drug house in a neighborhood where kids and adults have money to buy drugs, business will thrive.

The following list of WARNING SIGNS describes signs of drug activity that either you or neighbors may observe. As the list will show, many indicators are visible at times when the landlord is not present. This is one reason why a solid partnership with trusted neighbors is important. Note also, while some of the indicators are reasonably conclusive in and of themselves, others should be considered significant only if multiple factors are present. This list is primarily targeted to tenant activity.

DEALING—Dealers sell to the end user so they typically sell small quantities to many purchasers. Dealing locations are like convenience stores; there is high customer traffic with each customer buying a small amount.

Neighbors may observe:

- Heavy traffic. Cars and pedestrians stop at a home for only brief periods. Traffic may be cyclical, increasing on weekends or late at night, or minimal for a few weeks and then intense for a period of a few days-- particularly pay days.
- Exchanges of money. Cash and packets traded through windows, mail slots, or under doorways.
- Lack of familiarity. Visitors appear to be acquaintances rather than friends.
- People bring valuables into the unit. Visitors regularly bring televisions, bikes, VCRs, cameras and leave empty-handed.
- Odd car behavior. Visitors may sit in the car for a while after leaving the residence or may leave one person in the car while the other visits. Visitors may also park around a corner or a few blocks away and approach on foot.
- Lookouts. Frequently these will be younger people who tend to hang around the rental during heavy traffic hours.
- Regular activity at extremely late hours. For example, frequent commotion between midnight and 4:00 in the morning on weeknights. (Both cocaine and methamphetamine are stimulants-- users tend to stay up at night.)
- Various obvious signs. This may include people exchanging small packets for cash, people using drugs while sitting in their cars, syringes left in common areas or on neighboring property, or other paraphernalia lying about.

What should you do if there is a possible drug house in your neighborhood? One of the tools of the drug dealer is intimidation. There is safety in numbers.

- Build a cooperative effort with other neighbors.
- Log all activity connected to the suspected drug house (time, car type, license plate number, description of person and activity, etc.).
- Talk to someone from the West Springfield District police station and give the information from your log sheet to them. 6140 Rolling Road; telephone: 703-644-7377.
- Speak with property owners about problems that the tenants are causing for the neighbors. If you are having problems, the property owner is probably having problems too.
- Report all problems - 911 or Fairfax County Police Non-Emergency Number: 703-691-2131



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