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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

April 2015

The Ravensworth Farmer

Issue 7

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this April issue finds you well and looking forward to spring. It's been a cold winter and as of this writing (it's still early March) we're still under snow. I won't hesitate to admit I love snow even this late in the season. I had a rare opportunity this winter to use an antique snow blower for the first time. It's from the late 60's or early 70's and originally came from the couple we bought the house from who lived here 33 years. I had it tuned up this fall and it worked! We haven't had a lot of snow, just a lot of cold weather which kept the snow on the ground for a long time. But I think it's time to start thinking about more outdoor activities.

Unfortunately my last letter missed the March Farmer deadline so a lot of my updates didn't make it but there are a few that are still relevant.

Speeding. I proposed an anti-speeding resolution. It's largely symbolic but shows the community we're serious about the problem. Second, your board recently asked the county to perform a **traffic calming study** on Queensberry, Inverchapel, Ellet, and Moultrie roads to see if they qualify for the additional \$200 fine for speeding tickets. The study comes at no cost and is non-binding. Speeding has been at the top of our community's list of concerns for a number of years now and recently Supervisor Cook's office (along with our other

Con't Pg. 3

Community Yard Sale

Saturday, May 9th

8:00 am to 12 pm

**Ravensworth Farm Swimming Pool
Parking Lot**

**Bring Your Tables, Etc & Set Up Your Items
For Sale On the Outer Edges of the Parking Area.
Also, No Reservations!**

Food & Drink on Sale!

Annual Plant Sale

Sponsored by: Green Thumb Garden Club

Saturday, May 9th | 8 am - 12 pm

**Home-Grown Plants and Shrubs
(Low Prices)**

Ravensworth Shopping Center

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	Mary Keeser	703-321-4925	vp1@ravensworthfarm.org
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	Heather Scott		treasurer@ravensworthfarm.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

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	
Hospitality	Jacqueline Fix Ruth Hartman	703-321-3048 703-321-8063	hospitality@ravensworthfarm.org
New Neighbors	VACANT		
Cultural Committee	Spanish Korean	Dinora Gonzalez Seo Pani	703-321-0160 703-321-8081
Directory	Coordinator Advertising	Stephen Beste Katherine Craig	703-321-9110 703-321-3149
Farmer	Editor Preparation Printing, Flyers Distribution Advertising	Sara Ortiz Susan Deyampert Laura Asiello Jacqueline Fix Katherine Craig	703-321-8757 703-321-3150 703-321-7840 703-321-3048 703-321-3149
Neighborhood Watch	Tom Terry	703-209-2675	rfnw@ravensworthfarm.org
Community Organizations			
TA President, Ravensworth ES	Anita Bhatnagar	703-942-6806	president@ravensworthpta.org
Pool President	Rob Hannam	703-321-7398	
Green Thumb Garden Club	Ursula Schuttinga	703-321-3535	
Golden Ravens	Joan Crofford	703-321-7809	

Association Meetings & Deadlines 2014 - 2015

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
March	Mar. 4	Mar. 4	Mar. 5	Mar. 10	Mar. 21	Mar. 26
April	Apr. 8	Apr. 8	Apr. 9	Apr. 16	May 2	
May	Apr. 28	Apr. 28	May 7	May 7	May 30	May 28

General and Board meetings will be held at Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Rd. Meetings are at 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.

Con't from Pg. 1

county districts) took action to help communities address the problem. You may have seen some yellow signs? If you're interested in one please contact Supervisor Cook's office.

We're interested in your opinion on modifying our 2015 event calendar by **combining the budgets for the picnic and hayride and, instead, putting together a community-wide block party** sometime mid to late July. Please reach out to anyone on the board with your comments. I'll also be posting a survey on our Facebook page to gauge interest but I think it's a great way to bring as many residents as possible together for a single event. One potential location is Accotink Park. I've also been talking to the president of the North Springfield Civic Association, Ken Balbuena, about potentially hosting a joint party. It's still early and nothing has been decided so I welcome your comments.

Braddock Road. As our delegate to Supervisor Cook's Braddock Road Citizen's Task Force, I provide regular updates to the community on the status of the project and contribute community input to the design. The next meeting is tomorrow March 4. (I'm writing March 3). I'll discuss the Task Force meeting at Ravensworth Farm's March 26 meeting.

Banking. Your board recently moved the civic association's bank account from Bank of America to Sandy Spring. As you know Bank of America closed their Ravensworth Shopping Center location over a year ago. Sandy Spring is a supporter of our community and their personal style of customer service and free banking make it a great new business partner. We're looking forward to our new relationship. It also gave us the opportunity to update our records and ensure continued sound financial management.

I'd like to welcome our new Treasurer, Heather Scott, to the board. Heather brings with her a background of neighborhood governance experience, financial management, and a fantastic and energetic personality. We're all very thrilled to have her on the board!

We have two more general membership meeting this fiscal year- the one this week (March 26) at 7:00 p.m. (starting half an hour earlier than usual) and the last one on Thursday May 28 at 7:30pm. Both meetings will be at the Community of Christ church on Inverchapel Rd. so mark your calendar

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

The Green Thumb Garden Club met March 4 between an ice storm and a snow storm to enjoy a spring-thinking presentation on growing herbs. The presentation was given by a master gardener from Greenspring Gardens.



The Garden Club meets the first Wednesday of every month at 9:30. We would love to have you join us! Please contact Ursula Schuttinga if you are interested. (703-321-3535)

SPRING HAS SPRUNG THE GOLDEN RAVENS AGAIN

Another season to remind yourself the Golden Ravens like company. Retired folks in Ravensworth Farm need not get spring fever as there is always something cooking for the month ... each month for lunch on the fourth Wednesday. Whether it is a journey to some nearby eatery or a bag lunch and a speaker there is no need to feel left behind. Just come on down to the Community of Christ church on Inverchapel and join up. If you don't like parties and crowds, you can just watch the others having fun. The schedule changes for each month so best to call Joan Crofford for details if they don't call you. 703-321-7809. Don't be bashful.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Kindergarten orientation for those starting September 2015 will be Wednesday, April 8 from 6-7:30 pm, at Ravensworth Elementary School. The school will accept your child's registration any time. Ravensworth Elementary School - 5411 Nutting Drive. Tel: 703-426-3600. Registrar: Rossana Lemaitre, rlemaitre@fcps.edu



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MARCH 26 MEETING WIN A FREE TABLET & OTHER GOODIES

by Mary Keeser, RFCA First Vice President

On 26 March, at the meeting we will be raffling off a free tablet computer, pet care, yard care, and dinners as part of the Board's effort to expand involvement and participation in the General Meetings and other Civic Association activities. All homes in Ravensworth Farm will automatically be entered in the raffle. You must be present to win and you must show proof of residence at a house in Ravensworth Farm, for example a driver's license or utility bill. Please spread the word and join us on the 26th of March at 7:00p.m. at the church on Inverchapel. We have two informative speakers and we also need your input for future speakers and events.



RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS

As part of a regional initiative, the district offers build-your-own rain barrel workshops and also distributes low-cost rain barrels to Fairfax County citizens. At the workshops, you will learn how to install and maintain a rain barrel and take one home! Rain barrels can be placed under downspouts to capture runoff from your roof. Rain barrels can save both money and water. Instead of water from the tap or faucet, you can use the water you've saved to keep your home landscape happy and growing. Furthermore, installing a rain barrel means that you will be protecting the Chesapeake Bay. Water stored in your rain barrel won't rush off into our streams. Instead, as you use the stored rain water around the home and garden, it will absorb slowly into the ground replenishing groundwater supplies. By decreasing the volume of storm runoff, rain barrels also help moderate stream erosion and the resulting pollution that is impairing the Chesapeake Bay.

Registration is required for all programs. The fee per barrel is \$55.00 for build-your-own workshops and \$65.00 per barrel for distribution events. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/rainbarrels.htm> for more information.

Build-Your-Own Workshops

Saturday, April 11, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM - Green Acres Community Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax
Saturday, May 16, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM - Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston

NEW NEIGHBORS COMMITTEE DISBANDING

Jill Mowbray has stepped down as leader of the New Neighbors Welcoming Committee. If you don't step up to lead, the neighbors who have moved in recently and who will move in over the summer won't receive a neighborhood greeting, directory, information on the neighborhood and goodies. Jill has three reliable helpers to lighten the load during busy Spring/Summer months. She would be happy to tell you how she has done things in the past. Feel free call with questions (703) 865-8368 or drop her an email bjm820@hotmail.com.

BUTTERFLY GARDENING

Enjoy a presentation by a Riverbend naturalist on butterflies, host plants for their caterpillars and nectar plant suggestions at Riverbend Park from 6 to 8 p.m. Learn techniques for attracting these garden jewels and area butterfly gardens you can visit. The cost is \$12 per person. For information, call 703-759-9018.



BLOCK CAPTAINS

Block captains deliver pre-paid Directory orders and sign up new Civic Association members and deliver Directories on the spot. Your Block Captain should have been by already but the weather has been very uncooperative. If you haven't seen your Block Captain and want your directory now, contact Elissa Myers to find out who is your block captain- 703-321-7590 or elissa@elissamyers.com. Editor's Note: For those on Drayton Lane, I'm your block captain. I will see you soon! Call me if you need me before then - 703-321-8757.

POOL NEWS



Attention Pool Members-

The Ravensworth Farm Swim and Racquet Club Spring General Membership Meeting will take place at the Community of Christ fellowship hall at 5610 Inverchapel Road on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. Come to hear plans for next year, and share your own feedback and ideas -- this is YOUR pool, and we want to hear your perspectives.

We have an important vacancy on the Board we are hoping to fill as soon as possible – our current Secretary, Sabine Pontious, will be relocating very soon and we are asking all members who are interested in serving our pool's member community come to the meeting prepared to introduce yourself and describe your qualifications prior to a vote by the membership.

To have a specific item added to the agenda, or to learn more about the Secretary's duties, please email Secretary@ravensworthfarmpool.com. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their proxy online using the Website (www.ravensworthfarmpool.com) and designate either the Board of Directors, in general, or any individual RFSRC member who will be present, to vote in their places. You will need to sign in to the website to access the member proxy registration.

Please mark your calendars; we have scheduled the Cinco De Mayo Potluck party! It will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at the pool. Please check out the website for more details. Also, don't forget about the Early Bird Discounted Membership, it's available through April 30th, 2015.

Thank you, we hope to see you at the meeting and the party!
— Your RFSRC Pool Board

ESTATE PLANNING AT MARCH 26 MEETING

by Mary Keeser, RFCA IVP

Failure to plan for what happens after your death to those you love and to your assets and debts can lead to confusion and unnecessary expense about everything from funeral arrangements to distribution of property. Please join J. Michael Slocum, an attorney with over 35 years of experience, as he guides you through the estate planning process. He will give you an overview of Last Wills and Testaments, Powers of Attorney, Advance Medical Directives (also known as "Living Wills") and in what situations it is advisable to form a Trust to protect your assets. Hope to see at the Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Rd at **7:00p.m.** on March 26.

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Ravensworth Resident

U-HAUL IT REZONING AT MARCH 26 MEETING

A re-zoning application, submitted by the Port Royal Rd U-Haul has now been accepted for review and comment. The property in question is an approximately five (5) acre parcel located at 5271 and 5285 Port Royal Road on which a warehouse built in 1963 is located. The Property is currently zoned I-4. The Applicant seeks to rezone the property to I-5 to use the land as a U Haul It facility for the rental of trucks of various sizes and to construct, within the warehouse building, a three-level self-storage component which would also be operated by U Haul. Supervisor Cook's office will host a community input meeting at Community of Christ Church on March 26 **at 7:00p.m.** in conjunction with the general membership meeting of the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association.

JOIN RAVENSWORTH'S NEW COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

Fresh fruits and vegetables delivered straight to our Farm!
by Jen Auble

Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperative (LFFC) is a non-profit organic farmers cooperative of 75 farmers in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. This year, LFFC has a weekend pick-up location in Ravensworth Farm on Inverchapel Road.

LFFC provides fresh, certified organic fruits, vegetables, and other farm-fresh products through a subscription program known as Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). CSA members commit to support LFFC farmers for the entire growing season by pre-paying for their share of the harvest in the winter and early spring. The farmers are able to purchase supplies in the winter and start their crops in early spring. They repay the shareholders in fresh, organic, seasonal produce. CSAs enable you to keep local sustainable farms and local food safe for future generations. The produce sold through LFFC is certified organic unless otherwise noted.

As a current shareholder, I can say that it has been a very enjoyable experience and I am very excited to have a location in our neighborhood. Tell your friends from nearby neighborhoods how easy it will be to get fresh veggies and fruits. It's even closer than the Farmer's Market.

How does it work? Every Thursday, the list of items on the share is emailed out to members, so that everyone can menu plan for the coming weekend's delivery in Ravensworth Farm. There are active Facebook and Pinterest sites where members share recipes that they are making using the produce from the week's share. At pick-up, there's a "swap box" to which you can add produce from your share box that your family doesn't eat as much of and take more of something your family likes better. (The swap box works best if you're among the first to pick up your share after delivery.)

What does it cost? This spring/summer season is 26 weeks this year from May to October. LFFC has five share options available for vegetables, which allows families of all sizes to participate. Best of all, the produce is very affordable and ranges from \$14-\$31 per week for veggies (depending on share size) and \$11 per week for fruit (21 weeks). In addition to fruits and vegetables, there are also chicken, meat, cheese, bread, and egg shares available.

Interested? If you are interested in joining or receiving more information about the CSA, please visit www.lancasterfarmfresh.com or contact Jen Auble at (703) 922-9353 or jenmarzouk@yahoo.com to answer any questions. Make sure you select the North Springfield location on Inverchapel Road. Registration closes April 24, so don't delay! The website provides examples of the shares in different seasons and the different types of vegetables that you may receive in a typical week.



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

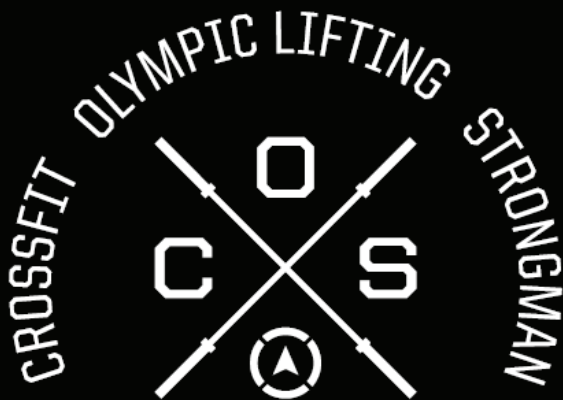
The Civic Association is requesting bids for a two-year lawn care maintenance contract of the greenway behind the residents of Adair Lane and adjacent to Braddock Road. If you are interested in bidding, please write for a detailed request for proposal: Ravensworth Farm Civic Association, Box 1020, Springfield, VA 22151. The deadline for submitting your request will be announced in a future Farmer.

COMPENSATION INCREASE APPROVED FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

For the first time since 2008, the Board of Supervisors at its meeting March 4 approved a compensation increase for members of the board. The increase will be effective Jan. 1, 2016, and will apply to the board members and chairman elected on Nov. 3, 2015.

Currently all board members receive an annual salary of \$75,000. Beginning next year, the chairman's salary will be \$100,000 and other board members will receive \$95,000.

As Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova explained, the timing of salary adjustments is established by state law, which mandates that increases can only be approved after a public hearing is held and no later than April 15 of any year in which there is an election for board members. A public hearing was held at the Jan. 27 board meeting.



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WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

We need a new leader of the New Neighbors Welcoming Committee! If you are interested or have questions, please call Jill Mowbray at (703) 865-8368 or drop her an email at bjm820@hotmail.com.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS - BE A BLOCK CAPTAIN

Block captains deliver pre-paid Directory orders and sign up new Civic Association members and deliver Directories on the spot. Forty-eight of your neighbors were block captains last year. However, many streets didn't have block captains. Sign up for a block near you or be adventurous and visit the other side of the neighborhood! Contact Elissa Myers to be a block captain- 703-321-7590 or elissa@elissamyers.com

JOIN THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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 November through January.



CLASSIFIED ADS may be placed in The *Farmer* at no cost to Ravensworth Farm residents. Classified ads may be placed by sending them to rfcafarmer@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*.

SERVICES	Tyler Crum - spring and summer yard and home maintenance projects. You can call or text me at 703-966-4115 to set up an appointment. I live in the neighborhood and have references here.
SERVICES	Services - Dana Gleich - Ravensworth ES teacher, available for after-school tutoring. All subjects, especially reading. Email dmgleich@fcps.edu .
SUMMER CHILDCARE NEEDED	We are looking for summer child care for our 7 year old son, Melvin. We are looking for either a stay-at-home parent or responsible young adult. Melvin likes to spend lots of time at the pool so if you spend much of your summer at the pool this could be a great opportunity. His primary summer obligation is getting to swim practice in the morning. We have two scheduled week-long vacations and his grandparents are happy to take him for an additional week (or more) if we need to accommodate your summer vacation plans. We hope to keep compensation commensurate with fees for the summer SAAC program, but have some flexibility for pay depending on experience. If you are interested, please contact Lucy Yohn at 571-225-8199.
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.

HELP WITH TAX PREPARATION

source: The Braddock Beacon, Office of Braddock District Supervisor John Cook

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program in Fairfax County serves individuals or families with a 2014 income of \$52,000 or less. Last tax season, low-income families in this area saved over \$1.1 million in tax preparation fees by having their tax returns prepared for free by volunteers in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). These families received over \$8 million in refunds and credits. Clients bring their social security cards, W2s, and other documents to one of twenty locations in the area and are generally served on a first come, first-served basis. They are greeted by volunteers who help organize documents and then meet with a trained and tested volunteer who prepares their returns using professional software provided by the IRS. Translators and IT support volunteers also assist. If you are interested in volunteering, or if you know someone who is eligible for the program, call James Do at 703-533-5471, or email james.do@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The AARP Free Tax-Aide Assistance Program has close to 300 Volunteers, certified by IRS, who will assist taxpayers in the preparation and submittal of their Virginia and Federal tax returns. They are located at thirteen sites in Northern Virginia to provide this service free of cost for taxpayers with low and middle incomes. Assistance is available through April 15 and all returns are filed electronically. Remember to bring documents, such as last year's tax return, a photo ID, and your Social Security card. Residents with illnesses or infirmities, which confine them to their homes, may schedule appointments with AARP by calling 703-594-6576. For more information please visit www.aarp.org/money/taxaide, or call 1-888-227-7669.



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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!

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WORLD POLICE & FIRE GAMES OPEN IN FAIRFAX JUNE 26

The World Police & Fire Games are a spectacular international sporting event, offering police officers, firefighters, customs and correction officers from around the world an opportunity to showcase their athletic excellence in 'Olympic' style sporting events. Held biennially, the Games will be held in Fairfax County, VA in 2015, Montreal in 2017 and Chengdu, China in 2019



The Fairfax 2015 World Police & Fire Games are scheduled between 26 June and 5 July. Opening Ceremonies will be held at the historical RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. and Closing Ceremonies located at the Wolf Trap for the Performing Arts in Fairfax County, VA. Over 60 sports venues are located across the entire National Capital Region.

Sports events are always FREE of charge. Families are encouraged to bring their children to any sporting event so that they may observe worldwide public safety heroes in athletic competition.

One of the events, the Toughest Competitor Alive competition (TCA), is comprised of eight consecutive phases. Each competitor will complete all eight phases of the TCA in one day. At the completion of each phase, the flight of competitors moves directly to the next phase. In order of occurrence, the phases of the TCA events are as follows: 5 K Run, Shotput, 100 Meter Dash, 100 Meter Swim, 20 Foot Rope Climb, Bench Press, Pull-ups, and Obstacle Course

Some events to be held near us include: Basketball (GMU), Dragon Boat (June 28, National Harbor, MD), Police Service Dogs (June 27-29, Lake Fairfax Park, Reston), Stair Race (June 27, Tysons Tower), Submission Grappling (June 28, GMU), Toughest Competitor Alive (June 27-29, Westfields H.S.), Ultimate Firefighter (June 30, Springfield Town Center or TBA), Softball (June 28-July 3, Braddock Park (Clifton) and Wakefield Park).

Below are all the events. For complete sports, dates, and venue information, visit www.Fairfax2015/venuemap. Click on the sport of your interest for the date(s) and address. **Angling**, Archery (3D, Field, Target), Badminton, Baseball, Basketball (3x3 and 5x5), Bench Press, Biathlon, Bodybuilding, Bowling, Boxing, Cross Country, **Cross-fit**, Cycling (Criterium, Hill Climb, Road Race, Sprint, Time Trials), Darts, Decathlon, **Dodgeball**, **Dragon Boat**, Field Lacrosse, **Flag Football**, Golf, Half Marathon, **Honor Guard**, **Ice Hockey** (35+, 45+, Women, Novice, Div. 1&2), Judo, Karate, Motocross, Motorcycle (Street), Mountain Bike, **Muster**, Open Water Swim, **Orienteering** (Classic & Sprint), **Paintball**, **Pocket Billiards**, **Police Action Pistol**, Police Pistol Combat, **Police Service Dogs**, **Push Pull**, Rifle (Air, Large Bore, Small Bore), Rowing, Rugby, Skeet, Soccer (indoor & outdoor), Softball, Sporting Clays, **Stair Race**, **Submission Grappling**, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tae Kwon Do, Tennis, **Toughest Competitor Alive**, Track & Field, Trap, Triathlon, **Tug of War**, **Ultimate Firefighter**, Volleyball (beach & indoor), Wrestling, **Wrist Wrestling**.

SELL THAT STUFF! MAY 9

In the "Dumping Debt" chapter of his book Complete Guide to Money, Dave Ramsey recommends several steps to getting out of debt quickly. One is to sell something. In fact, he writes, "Sell so much stuff the kids think they're next!" This one's a cinch! The Ravensworth Farm Community-Wide yard sale will again be held at The Ravensworth Farm Swim & Racquet Club (aka the Pool) parking lot on May 9 from 8:00a.m. to noon. Space is "first come, first served." Bring your own tables, blankets, chairs, etc. for display and bring all that "stuff" you've been saving because it's still useful- just not for you. Buyers start appearing well before 8:00a.m. so come prepared with your prices. The Civic Association thanks the Pool Board for allowing use of the parking lot.

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CAMPS AT ACCOTINK PARK THIS SUMMER

See Parktakes catalog or Parktakes Online (<http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov>) for more detailed information and to register. Some camps are offered at additional locations so verify the location before you register.

Adventure Racing Camp (9-14 yrs) - Bike, run and paddle with TrailsforYouth.Org as you learn the basics of one of the fastest growing outdoor sports -- Team Adventure Racing! Camp covers mountain biking, hiking and paddle sports while teaching the importance of teamwork, conservation and overcoming obstacles. Bikes and equipment provided. Camp ends with an exciting team adventure race!



Geocaching Camp (9-14 yrs) - Enjoy our parks in this wildly popular high-tech treasure hunt! This camp teaches GPS technology, logging findings and other outdoor skills. Week starts with stewardship basics prior to locating and creating caches. Be prepared for a lot of hiking through the parks. A great way for scouts to earn their geocaching badge!

Jr. Lakeside Explorers (5-7 yrs) - Younger campers will enjoy this half-day camp focusing on exploration, environmental awareness and fun. Campers will enjoy a variety of games, guided park walks, treasure hunts, nature lessons and arts and crafts. Campers will take advantage of the cooler early temperatures and enjoy the morning exploring the park.

Lakeside Nature Fun Camp (6-14 yrs) - Activities include a mountain biking clinic, guided nature hikes, fishing, orienteering on shaded trails and exploring creatures and plants that live in our streams, lakes, and forests. Campers also enjoy nature-themed games, live animal exhibits, basic archery and canoe and pedal boating. Sheltered woodland pavilions provide the perfect setting for slower-paced activities including fun and wearable arts-and-crafts projects using recycled and repurposed eco-friendly materials. Campers also enjoy a weekly field trip to a nearby waterpark. Bring lunch, snack and water bottle daily.

Travel Kayak & Fishing Camp (11-15 yrs) - An introduction to kayaking and kayak fishing with instruction on safety, paddling and maneuvering a sit-on-top kayak. Enjoy various locations, fishing and sightseeing while paddling on all types of water-lakes, tidal creeks and rivers. A great way to get close to nature. Fishing catches include bass, catfish, sunfish and more.

Travel Mountain Biking Camp (9-14 yrs) - With VA Outside, campers develop beginner and intermediate skills including: steering, shifting, hill climbing/descending, log hopping, dodging obstacles, etiquette, maintenance, safety and more. Instruction and trail ride locations include Lake Accotink, Laurel Hill, Burke Lake and VA Outdoor Center in Fredericksburg. Bikes and helmets provided, but campers are welcome to bring their own. Grouped from beginner to advanced intermediate.

AUDREY MOORE REC CENTER CAMPS

There are 79 summer camps happening at and around Audrey Moore REC Center between the weeks of June 15 and August 18. There is an afternoon camp every week for elementary school age children who attend any of the various half-day camps in the morning. Camps range from sports to robotics to games (playing and creating). Registration is open at <http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov>.



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EVENTS

Something to add? Email RFCAFfarmer@ravensworthfarm.org or call 703-321-8757 to add to the calendar of events.

****Mar. 26 - 7:00pm - Civic Association General Meeting** - Wills and Estate Planning presentation by Mr. Mike Slocum & U-Haul Rezoning - Community of Christ church

Mar. 28-Apr. 6 - **FCPS Spring Break**

Apr. 4 - 9am-noon - **The Home Depot Hands-On Workshop** – Build your own chalkboard planter stand - Free hands-on workshops designed for children ages 5-12 offered the first Saturday of every month at all The Home Depot Stores.

****Apr. 8 - 7:30pm- Civic Association Board Meeting/Information due for Farmer**

Apr. 8 - 6-7:30pm - Kindergarten Orientation - Ravensworth Elementary School

Apr. 9-11 - **The Sound of Music** - Thoreau MS

Apr. 15 - **Federal taxes are due.**

Apr. 17 - **Student Holiday**

Apr 23-25 - **Beauty and the Beast, Jr.** - Holmes MS

Apr 24-May 2 - **Merrily We Roll Along** - West Springfield HS

April 28 - 7:00pm - **Ravensworth Farm Swim & Racquet Club meeting** - Community of Christ church

****Apr. 30 - 7:30pm- Civic Association Board Meeting/Information due for Farmer**

May 1 - **Virginia state taxes are due.**

May 2 - 9-noon - **The Home Depot Hands-On Workshop** –Free hands-on workshops designed for children ages 5-12 offered the first Saturday of every month at all The Home Depot Stores.

May 6 - 2-6pm - **Wakefield Farmer's Market**, all Wednesdays until the last week of October

May 8 - 12:10pm - **WWII Flyover** - National Mall

May 9 - 8-noon - **Green Thumb Garden Club Plant Sale** - Ravensworth Shopping Center

****May 9 - 8-noon - Ravensworth Farm yard sale** - Pool parking lot

May 1-9 - **BIG: The Musical** - Fairfax HS

May 1-9 - **Waiting - A Musical by Sarah Motes Ashley** - Woodson HS

May 25 - **Memorial Day Holiday**

****May 28 - 7:30p.m. - Civic Association General Meeting**, Community of Christ church

****May 30 - Last Farmer for the summer.** Hang on to this one!

June 5-7 - **Celebrate Fairfax!** - see CelebrateFairfax.com

June 6 - 9-noon- **The Home Depot Hands-On Workshop** – Build your own chalkboard planter stand - Free hands-on workshops designed for children ages 5-12 offered the first Saturday of every month at all The Home Depot Stores.

June 19 - **Last day of school for FCPS**

PEAK CHERRY BLOSSOM DATES LATER THAN AVERAGE

Patch.com and other sources

It should surprise no one that the peak blooms for Cherry Blossom season will arrive a little later than usual. The National Park Service announced March 3 that our local cherry blossom trees will be at peak bloom between April 11 and April 14. That's off from the average peak bloom of April 3, according to The Washington Post. The National Cherry Blossom Festival is scheduled for March 20 through April 12.

World-renowned performers will entertain at the historic Warner Theatre for the annual event that celebrates the gift of thousands of these trees from Tokyo to Washington, DC., more than 100 years ago. The National Cherry Blossom Festival Opening Ceremony is on Saturday, March 21 at 5:00p.m. at the Warner Theatre. Tickets are sold out, but walk-ups will be accepted at 4:45p.m. if space is available.





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FIVE WAYS TO SPOT SCAM "IRS" CALLS

Aug. 28, 2014



The Internal Revenue Service issued a consumer alert today providing taxpayers with additional tips to protect themselves from telephone scam artists calling and pretending to be with the IRS.

These callers may demand money or may say you have a refund due and try to trick you into sharing private information. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They may know a lot about you, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. If you don't answer, they often leave an "urgent" callback request.

"These telephone scams are being seen in every part of the country, and we urge people not to be deceived by these threatening phone calls," IRS Commissioner John Koskinen said. "We have formal processes in place for people with tax issues. The IRS respects taxpayer rights, and these angry, shake-down calls are not how we do business."

The IRS reminds people that they can know pretty easily when a supposed IRS caller is a fake. Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do. Any one of these five things is a tell-tale sign of a scam. The IRS will never:

1. Call to demand immediate payment, nor will we call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
2. Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
3. Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
4. Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
5. Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at 1.800.829.1040. The IRS workers can help you with a payment issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1.800.366.4484 or at www.tigta.gov.

Remember, too, the IRS does not use unsolicited email, text messages or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue. For more information on reporting tax scams, go to www.irs.gov and type "scam" in the search box.

Additional information about tax scams are available on IRS social media sites, including YouTube and Tumblr where people can search "scam" to find all the scam-related posts.

Source:

<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/Scam-Phone-Calls-Continue;-IRS-Identifies-Five-Easy-Ways-to-Spot-Suspicious-Ca>



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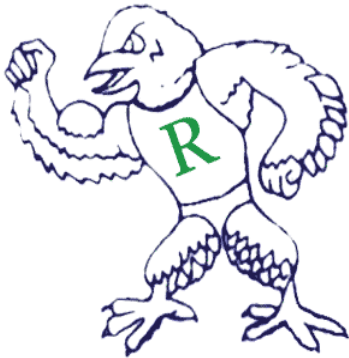


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