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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

April 2016

The Ravensworth Farmer

Issue 6

POOL NEWS

The Ravensworth Farm Swim and Racquet Club Spring General Membership Meeting will take place at the Community of Christ Church at 5610 Inverchapel Road on Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30 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.

To have a specific item added to the agenda, 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 (as a whole) 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 check out our events calendar on the website, we have many activities already lined up for this season! We are kicking things off with our Cinco De Mayo Potluck party, it will be held on Saturday, May 7th at 6pm, at the pool (the pool will not be open for swimming). It is adults-only, feel free to BYO favorite beverage. Opening Day/Open House will be Saturday May 28th, and then the real fun begins, including a Cornhole tournament, Volleyball Nights, Raft Nights, Lunch Bunch Bingo, Elementary Night...the list keeps going!

Con't Pg. 3

HOW WE VOTED ON SUPER TUESDAY



Check Out the Results on Pg. 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 25th

Garden of the Season Judging

May 7th

Community Yard Sale / Plant Sale
Ravensworth Farm Swimming Pool Parking Lot
8AM to 12PM

May 7th

Cinco de Mayo Party (Adults Only)
Ravensworth Farm Swimming Pool
6PM

May 26th

RFCAs General Meeting
Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel
7:30PM

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		vp1@ravensworthfarm.org
2nd Vice President	Scott Houghton	703-321-7320	vp2@ravensworthfarm.org
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151	recsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Corresponding Secretary	VACANT		
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	Pam Ryan	703-447-6283	pkryan74@gmail.com
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
			rfcfarmer@ravensworthfarm.org jfasiello@aol.com hospitality@ravensworthfarm.org
Neighborhood Watch	Tom Terry	703-209-2675	rfnw@ravensworthfarm.org
Community Organizations			
	PTA President, Ravensworth ES	Jodi Constantino	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 2015 - 2016

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	DELIVERY	EVENTS
April	Tues. 5	6	7	May 7	May 7—Yard/Plant Sale
May	Tues. 3	2	5	21	May 26—RFCA Meeting

General and Board Meetings and Events are held at Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Road unless otherwise noted. Meetings are 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.

Con't from Pg. 1

Don't miss out, join today (we still have our Early Bird Discounted Membership available for a little while longer)!

- Your RFSRC Pool Board

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

What a lovely visit we had to Ravensworth ES for our outing in March. Twelve Garden Club ladies received a tour of the renovated building after having a meeting with Principal Salata concerning some joint gardening projects around the school. It was great seeing some old faces in the new building. We are hoping Principal Salata will schedule an open house for all the neighborhood folks once the renovations are completed. It is definitely worth a visit if you get the chance.

Our upcoming meetings include our monthly gathering on April 6, a trip to Brookside Gardens on May 4, and our annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7, during the neighborhood yard sale at the Ravensworth Pool. Our final meeting before we break for the summer will be Wednesday, June 1. As always, new members are welcome, and may contact our President, Ursula at 703-321-3535 or littlebear23@verizon.net.

MARCH WINDS BLOW IN THE GOLDEN RAVENS

All senior retired citizens in Ravensworth Farm are Golden Ravens. And like the birds of a feather they like to flock together on the fourth Wednesday for lunch and good conversations to catch up the latest doings around the neighborhood. There is always room for you so don't be bashful, and plan to get into the next event. Mark your calendar and just do it. Just come as you are, and for details call Joan Crofford at 703-321-7809.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 991 - OUTDOOR ADVENTURES!

The boys had a winter full of excitement and are now preparing for spring fun! In January, we went snow tubing and, in February, skied the slopes of Timberline Ski Resort in West Virginia! See what we are all about as we plan spring camping trips to the Shenandoah Valley in April and May.

Come join us for our next adventure! Boy Scouting: 6th – 12th grade boys. Visit us Wednesday nights - 7:30pm @ Kings Park Elementary School. Scoutmaster Bill Mitchell @ 703-321-8072 or mitchwt@cox.net
<http://www.troop991.com/>

BOY SCOUT TROOP 991 SPREADING MULCH

Let younger neighborhood backs ache this spring. If you would like someone else to spread your mulch AND would like to support your local Boy Scout Troop 991, make your reservation now. Boy Scout Troop 991 is accepting donations to spread mulch you already have. They will be spreading mulch on April 9, April 16, and April 30. Please visit Boy Scout Troop 991's website for more information - <http://www.troop991.com> or call Scoutmaster Bill Mitchell at 703-321-8072.



CUB SCOUT PACK 991 WINTER UPDATES

The boys of Pack 991 have had a busy February! We kicked off the month with our always popular Pinewood Derby races where the boys raced cars that they built. Everyone had a blast!

At the end of the month we celebrated the birthday of Cub Scouts with our annual Blue and Gold Banquet. We presented numerous awards, had cake, and enjoyed an awesome presentation by Reptiles Alive! Interested in joining our Pack? Learn more by contacting Cubmaster Greg Ferrara at cubpack991@gmail.com.

LAST CALL—COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

Our neighborhood has a CSA location in our neighborhood. Come pick up organic fruits, vegetables, meat, chicken, eggs, and more through our weekly Saturday delivery to the Ravensworth neighborhood on Inverchapel Road. The 2016 Summer season is 26 weeks long, May through October, from the week of 5/1/16 through the week of 10/23/16. Fruit shares equate to \$10/week, there are two sizes of vegetable shares ranging from \$23-\$31 per week. Full season registration deadline is Friday, April 22, 2016 or until site is full. For more information, please visit <http://www.lancasterfarmfresh.com>, summer CSA. Make sure you select the "North Springfield Site" on Inverchapel Road when registering. Questions? Contact Jennifer Auble at 703-922-9353.



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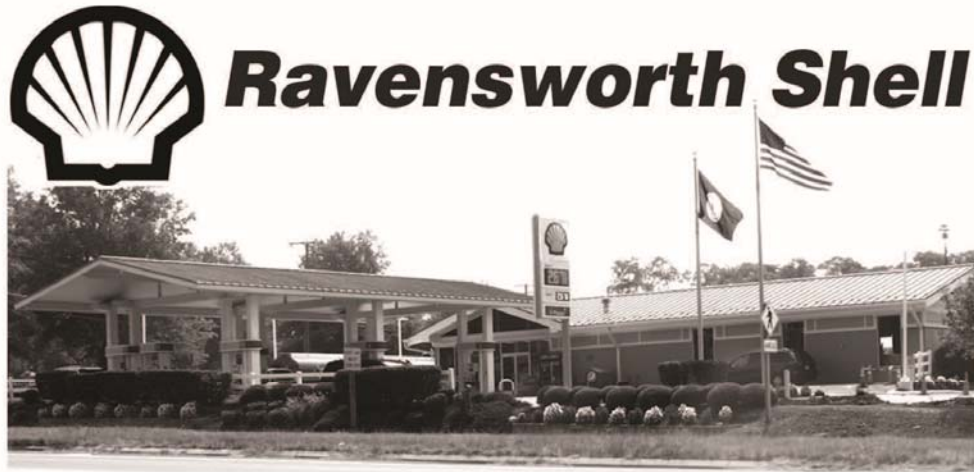
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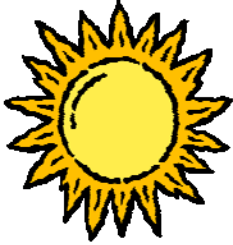
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COMMUNITY YARD SALE



Saturday, May 7th

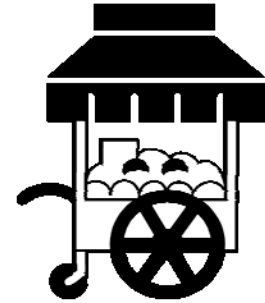
8:00 am to 12 pm

**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 14th**



ANNUAL PLANT SALE



*Sponsored by
Green Thumb Garden Club*

Saturday, May 7th

9 am - 1 pm

**Home-Grown Plants and Shrubs
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Ravensworth Farm Swimming Pool Parking Lot



SUPER TUESDAY ELECTIONS

It may seem a long time ago but 48% of Ravensworth’s registered voters turned out March 1 to make their wishes known in the Super Tuesday presidential primaries. Two simultaneous elections- one of Democratic presidential candidates and one of Republican presidential candidates- were presided over at the Ravensworth Precinct by Chief Judge Edwana “Doddie” Cave and Assistant Chief Judge Norman Van Dam without a wrinkle. Doddie, Ruth Hartman, and Virginia Rogers continued their longest-in-the-county streaks as election officers.

There was a brief nine-person line at one point in the afternoon. Otherwise, the wait to check in and vote was very short. Throughout the day, besides voting, neighbors greeted each other and caught up on their own and their children’s activities. In addition, many people took the opportunity to check out the brand-new school lobby and the beautiful renovation of the cafeteria.

	Ravensworth		Fairfax County		Virginia	
	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>
Democratic Nominee for President						
Hillary Clinton	210	58.7%	88,109	63.1%	504,732	64.3%
Martin O'Malley	3	0.8%	741	0.5%	3,930	0.5%
Bernie Sanders	<u>145</u>	<u>40.5%</u>	<u>50,876</u>	<u>36.4%</u>	<u>276,274</u>	<u>35.2%</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u>358</u>		<u>139,726</u>		<u>784,936</u>	

Republican Nominee for President						
Marco Rubio	151	35.7%	52,709	40.0%	327,852	32.0%
Ted Cruz	74	17.5%	17,051	12.9%	171,149	16.7%
Donald Trump	113	26.7%	33,064	25.1%	356,853	34.8%
John Kasich	56	13.2%	23,150	17.6%	97,775	9.5%
Others	<u>29</u>	<u>6.9%</u>	<u>5,872</u>	<u>4.5%</u>	<u>71,760</u>	<u>7.0%</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u>423</u>		<u>131,846</u>		<u>1,025,389</u>	

Turnout	Ravensworth	Fairfax County
<i>Registered voters</i>	1,613	639,711
<i>Voting Democratic</i>	358	139,726
<i>Voting Republican</i>	<u>423</u>	<u>131,846</u>
<i>Total Votes</i>	781	271,572
<i>Turnout</i>	48.4%	42.5%

Source

Va. State Board of Elections as of 3/4/2016.
Uncertified results.

<http://results.elections.virginia.gov/primary.html>

FABULOUS FRIDAYS ARE BACK!

There have been two 2016 Fabulous Fridays for the ladies of Ravensworth farm. Let’s make it more! If you are willing to serve as hostess for an evening of Fabulous Friday, or if you can’t host but just want to come, drop Elissa Myers at elissa@elissamyers.com a note and she’ll confirm the time and place for the next fun evening. A notice will be put on the Neighborhood Facebook Page, and on the neighborhood “Fabulous Fridays” FB page sharing time and place. It’s a great way to build our community, make new friends, and share experience and expertise. And it’s just plain fun. If you live in Ravensworth, come join the party! You’ll find yourself warmly welcomed!



6 WEEK TRANSFORMATION!



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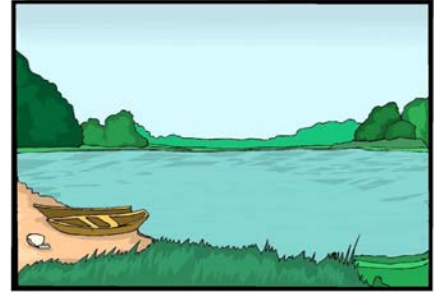
LAKE ACCOTINK PLAN REVISIONS

The Fairfax County Park Authority has begun the process to revise the Master Plan for Lake Accotink Park. The planning process will help guide the future of this well-loved park and the Park Authority would like to hear your opinion. To kick off the planning, a public information meeting was held on March 14, 2016 at Cardinal Forest Elementary School. For more information about the planning process and how to give your input, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/lakeaccotink.htm> or call 703-324-8662.

Why revise Lake Accotink Park' Master Plan that was approved in 1993?

A master plan revision is undertaken when a park or its surrounding community have notably changed. This is the case of the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan.

The Lake Accotink Park master plan was first developed in 1964. It has been revised several times over the years, most recently in 1993. The 1993 Conceptual Development Plan reflected the existing marina, concessions stand, and parking areas. The plan also envisioned additional space devoted for family picnics, restrooms, and expanded parking. The carousel was planned to remain with the addition of a new playground and expanded mini-golf in the lakefront area. These facilities have been added while some, such as a boat landing on the west side of the lake and a ball field, have not been constructed. Additional improvements have also been made to enhance accessibility.



Fairfax County's demographics have changed since 1993. The population has increased 37% between 1993 and 2015, from 818,584 residents to 1,125,385 residents. And the county's population is predicted to grow by another 12% by the year 2030. Along the way, the average age of Fairfax County residents is increasing. More and more residents are living in townhomes or multifamily buildings without the benefit of a traditional backyard for recreation. Demographics are shifting and so are recreational preferences. The relationship of outdoor recreation to health and well-being increases the demand for park space and suggests opportunities for park changes. At the same time, some of the existing park facilities that have served the community for a long time are showing their age. The master plan revision will allow an opportunity to examine existing facilities in light of these changes.

Suburban development upstream of the lake since 1965 has resulted in the recurrent and increasing rate of siltation in the lake. The siltation has reduced the surface area of Lake Accotink as well as the depth to approximately three to five feet deep. Increased siltation degrades the health of the lake, reducing populations of fish, invertebrates, and bottom communities while providing a conduit for pollutants. As a recreational lake, the reduced depth impacts boating operations and the impacted fish population reduces the lake's attractiveness for recreational fishing.

The lake was dredged in 1984 and 2004 and will need dredging again within the next decade. Examination of options for addressing the continued accumulation of silt, which impacts the health and recreational value of the lake, will be a key focus of the master plan revision process.

In addition, Fairfax County has greatly expanded its approach to watershed management planning and the Accotink Watershed Plan will be an important policy guide for considering lake sustainability options. The master plan revision provides an opportunity to align the park master plan with watershed planning objectives.

Park circulation, site operational needs, access, natural resource management, history and archaeology will all be reviewed as part of the master plan revision. Site analysis will examine ways to encourage safe bike and pedestrian routes, to and within the park, while easing vehicular movements. Additional park land use and resource management issues and concerns identified by the public, park users and stakeholders will also be examined as part of the master plan process.

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WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

If you have new neighbors, tell Pam Ryan. If you are a new neighbor- welcome! Please tell Pam you're here so that one of her committee members can stop by with information and some goodies. Pam Ryan (703-447-6283, pkryan74@gmail.com).

EVENTS

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

- April 6 - **Garden Club Meeting**
- Apr. 22 - No School
- April 25 - **Garden of the Season judging**
- April 29 - **Run for Ravensworth** fundraiser for Ravensworth Elementary School
- May 4 - Garden Club to **Brookside Gardens**
- May 7 - 6pm - Adults-only **Cinco de Mayo** party at the pool. (No swimming)
- May 5-7 - 7pm - **The Children's Hour**, Falls Church High School Theatre, \$10
- May 5-7 - **The Island of Dr. Moreau**, Lake Braddock Little Theater
- **May 7 - 8am-1pm - **Ravensworth Farm Community-wide Yard Sale**, Pool Parking Lot (Rain date: May 14)
- May 7 - 8am-noon - **Garden Club Plant Sale**, Pool Parking Lot (Rain date: May 14)
- **May 26 - **RF Civic Association General Meeting**, Community of Christ on Inverchapel Rd
- May 28 - 11am - Pool Opens/**Pool Open House**, non-members are welcome to check out the pool today
- May 30 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 1 - Last **Garden Club meeting** until fall
- June 23 - Last day of school



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

<p>FOR SALE</p>	<p>Brown sleeper sofa w/matching recliner \$100. 8-1/2 ft. max cherry dining table, six chairs, two leaves/padding and 4-1/2 foot wide china cabinet \$400. Amish oak coffee and two end tables \$100. Antique cherry scalloped coffee table \$75. Antique oak nesting tables \$120. Dark hardwood L-shaped desk w/detachable return, file drawer and other storage drawer/cubbies \$100. Typing table \$20; IBM elec typewriter \$10; ergonomic upholstered desk chair \$30 or all for \$50. Various framed art. All in very good to excellent condition. Call Diane B. at 703-909-4772.</p>
<p>HELP DC HOMELESS</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>WANTED</p>	<p>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.</p>

GEM REVIEW - FLEDGLINGS

review by: Sara Ortiz

We moved to Ravensworth Farm too late in the summer of 2011 to join the pool. As we met neighbors through the winter, we heard great things of the pool and how easy it would be to find friends for our then four-year-old daughter if we joined. We were told we would especially make friends with younger kids and parents if we joined something called Fledglings. They said Fledglings was swim lessons. Our daughter had already taken swim lessons at various REC Centers but we were going to join the pool anyway and it is just blocks from our house so we signed her up. We figured she probably wouldn't advance more than she had done in her REC lessons.

Boy, were we wrong! It's amazing what a four-year-old can learn in four concentrated weeks of five lessons per week! It's extra-helpful that the coaches are "big kids" that the little kids really want to impress. After her first summer of Fledglings, our daughter had conquered the shallow end. After her second summer, the deep end held no fear (or danger). After her third summer, she won her event in her first swim meet. She became a fully-fledged Ravens Swim Team member for her fourth summer alongside many of her previous Fledglings coaches. Now, she's waiting to turn 13 and be a junior Fledglings coach herself. Only five years to go! (Oh, and we made a lot of friends at the pool.)

Note: Your household must be a member of the pool to enroll non-swimmers four to seven in Fledglings or swimmers in Ravens Swim and Dive teams. To join the pool and teams, go to www.ravensworthfarmpool.com. Early bird discounts are available for just a little while longer.



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(703) 409-1920 (pastor)
Co-Pastors: Ralph Couey and Hannah Lynch

Sunday Services:

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

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10 session package

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20 session package

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Two person session \$75.00/hr



MILANO CONSTRUCTION EST.1975

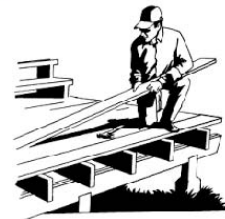
- Additions & Remodeling
- Kitchen/Bathrooms/Plumbing
- Electrical/Lighting Repairs
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COUNTY EXECUTIVE RELEASES PROPOSED FY 17 BUDGET

by Braddock Supervisor John Cook, February 2, 2016

Yesterday, the County Executive presented his proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Advertised Budget Plan to the Board of Supervisors. Over the next six weeks, my colleagues and I will be discussing this plan with the community. We are very early in the process, and I look forward to working with all residents to create and pass a fiscally responsible budget that meets the needs of Fairfax County.

The Fiscal Realities:

The County Executive's budget, as proposed, is balanced. However, to do so, would require a real estate tax increase of \$0.03 per \$100 of assessed valuation. To meet future needs, the County Executive is recommending a tax increase of \$0.04, raising the total real estate tax to \$1.13 per \$100 of assessed valuation. As a result, under the County Executive's proposed increase of \$0.04, the average county homeowner would pay \$303.86 more in property taxes.

The area's real estate market is recovering, but slowly. The average price of homes sold rose only about 1.1 percent. Homes remained on the market longer than they did in 2014. Residential assessments have increased an average of 1.64 percent this year - growing at about half the rate of FY 2016.

The national economy is continuing its economic recovery, but the county's economy continues to underperform. Fortunately, commercial assessments are beginning to improve after declining for two consecutive years, and as of 2015, Fairfax County job growth is 0.9 percent. While this is an improvement over 2014, it still lags behind the national averages. Moreover, the cornerstone of the local economy - federal government procurement - has yet to recover from the effects of sequestration.

As jobs are lost or expansions are delayed, the real estate footprints of companies shrink as well. Consequently, this stalled labor market is, in turn, impacting the commercial real estate market. According to the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, the direct office vacancy rate was 16.5 percent at mid-year 2015, up from 16.3 percent at year-end 2014. This is the highest office vacancy rate since 1991 when the rate was 16.8 percent. The overall effect is a significant reduction in commercial tax revenue.

It was within this very challenging and constrained reality that the County Executive made his recommendations.

Budget Summary:

On the whole, the County Executive's proposed budget would increase General Fund Disbursements by roughly \$168 million, or 4.42 percent, over the FY 2016 Adopted Budget Plan. The two main expenditure increases are:

- Funding for operations of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is increased by \$70.57 million. This would be a 3.0 percent increase over last year. In addition, the County also provides support to FCPS in the amount of \$84.7 million for other school services including Head Start, school health, resource officers and crossing guards, after-school programming, field maintenance and recreational programs. The proposed General Fund transfer for school operations, infrastructure and debt service totals 2.08 billion in FY 2017, which is an increase of 3.51 percent from FY 2016 Adopted Budget. The Fairfax County School Board recently requested an operating transfer of \$1.95 billion for FY 2017 to help decrease class sizes & provide raises to school employees. This would require a 6.7 percent increase over the FY 2016 Adopted Budget and would require an additional \$68 million, or a \$0.03 increase in the Real Estate Tax Rate above that recommended by the County Executive.
- Approximately \$43 million is advertised for employee compensation increases. This would provide longevity and performance increases for qualifying general county and public safety employees, and a 1.33 percent Market Rate Adjustment.
- Reserves require an additional \$15.58 million and ten percent of FY 2017 Disbursement increases will be held in reserve.

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE RELEASES PROPOSED FY 17 BUDGET (CON'T)

Con't from Pg. 17

- 13.6 million in reductions, including the elimination of 17 positions. The full reduction list can be found online.
- Support for human services, public safety, and economic initiatives

Further details are available online.

The first step in the budget process will occur on March 1st when the Board sets the Advertised Tax Rate. Under state law, the Board cannot increase the tax rate after it is advertised (but can lower it.) For that reason, and because I have not yet decided how to vote on the advertised rate, your input is crucial. Please contact me at braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov with your thoughts on this point.

Regardless of what rate is advertised, I and the Board will both be looking for additional reductions and other opportunities for savings as well as reviewing the County Executive's proposed reductions, to see if some should be restored.

This will be a deliberative process, and I encourage you to share your thoughts. You can reach my office at 703-425-9300 or braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.



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July 4th 2016
 Labor Day 2016
 President's Day 2017
 Memorial Day 2017



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 signups during April & May. Here's another easy way to sign up for the flag service: Make a \$40 check payable to "BSA Unit 1147" and send it to:

Shaela Beck
 4900 Chowan Ave, Alexandria, VA 22312
 Call: 702-808-1650
 Email: FlagFundraiser@gmail.com

Get ready for the 4th of July!

PTA @ RAVENSWORTH ES

Thanks to your donations of over \$26,000 to last year's Run for Ravensworth Parent Teacher Association (PTA) fundraiser, the Ravensworth Elementary School students have enjoyed some great activities this year. If you stop by the Ellet Road entrance to Lake Accotink Park before May, you'll see that the students have put into practice what they learned about Public Art in one of their four special GRACE (Greater Reston Arts Center) Art seminars this year.

PTA-Sponsored Assemblies this year included a February 29 visit by Adam Rubin, author of the "Darn Squirrels" trilogy, "Robo-Sauce," "Dragons Love Tacos," and more. With Mr. Rubin's prompting, the students made up a story on the spot. Friday, March 4, all grade levels attended presentations by Brian Curry. For grades K-3, he did a Pop Quiz presentation, transforming math and science concepts into a fun game show. For grades 4-6, he presented the "Magical Math Tour" where he used magic tricks and other fun ways to enjoy math. Visit www.briancurryassemblies.com for more information.

This year's Run for Ravensworth fundraiser is April 29. Expect flocks of Ravens to knock on neighborhood doors asking for donation pledges for each lap they run. On average, the students run 16 laps each and the shorter legs are sometimes the more enthusiastic. If no Raven comes knocking on your door, you can always use the out-of-town donation form to mail in a donation. The form can be found on the PTA website at <http://ravensworthpta.org/fundraising>.

PTA Board Openings

We are looking for a few good men and women! The PTA board will have the following openings for the 2016-2017 school year: VP Programs, VP Fundraising and Corresponding Secretary. Please contact Jodi Constantino at president@ravensworthpta.org if you are interested in joining the board.

Steven Decker

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