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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

November 2016

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

Issue 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Farmers:

Last month, I expressed my feelings regarding community service and cohesion. The Ravensworth Farm Civic Association offers a tremendous opportunity for us to see the power of collective action and enjoy the fruits thereof. My primary goal as President is to bring the community together more than ever before, to organize our talents, and to focus our efforts to make Ravensworth Farm the best community it can possibly be.

Recently, there was some concern about where the lines were to be painted on Queensberry, and we began to organize a collective response. The energy I saw directed at this issue excited me and gave me great hope for our future. Unfortunately, we were a little late to the party, and we were not able to influence the process as much as some of our Queensberry residents would have liked.

This experience shows two things. First, we need everyone to participate more in community interests. Second, if we work together toward a common cause and direct our efforts properly, we can accomplish great things. We were much too late to stop the bike lanes from being painted, but, you may have noticed, we can see some wiggle room was exercised in line placement to the advantage of our Queensberry residents.

Con't Pg. 3

**FALL FESTIVAL & TRUNK OR TREAT
SUNDAY, OCT 30 from 3-6PM**

Sunday, October 30 the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association is partnering up with the Ravensworth Pool for a Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat! From 3 to 6pm in the pool parking lot.

**DECORATE YOUR CARS
AND COME ON DOWN!**

Costume parade. Hotdogs and water provided. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share. Editor's Note: Trick or treating from house to house usually begins at dusk on October 31 in Ravensworth Farm. If you do not wish to participate, leave your porch light off.

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	Allan Robertson	703-627-0219	prez@ravensworthfarm.org
1st Vice President	Amanda Walker	703-517-0715	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
			rcaf farmer@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
	Lancaster Fresh Community Supported Agriculture	Jennifer Auble	jenmarzouk@yahoo.com

Association Meetings & Deadlines 2016 - 2017

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	DELIVERY	EVENTS
November	2	2	3	Dec 3	
December	7				Holiday Lights Judging
January	4	4	5	28	
February	1	1	2	25	
March	1	1	2	18	23—Civic Assc. Meeting
April	5	5	6	May 6	
May	3	3	4	June 3	25—Civic Assc. Meeting
June/Jul/Aug				Summer Community BBQ/Picnic – Date TBA	
General and Board Meetings and Events are held at Ravensworth Elementary School on Nutting Road unless otherwise noted. Meetings are 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.					

Con't from Pg. 1

So do not lose heart or be discouraged. We can put this one in the win column.

At the last RFCA Board meeting, we discussed changes to our committee organizations, and we will continue to consider how to make the Association even more effective than it has been. As important as world and national events are, these matters are relatively unimportant compared to what happens in and around our own homes. That is why the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association matters. And that is why we should all seek opportunities to get involved and influence local public policy and how public policy is enacted here. So, as we move forward, please be prepared for requests to take action.

We have immediate need for Block Captains. The requirements of the position are modest, to say the least. In fact, I had been a relatively effective Block Captain for a couple of years without even knowing it, but that is a story for another day. The primary duty of a Block Captain is to deliver printed directories to and collect RFCA dues from a handful of homes around you. It also gives you a great opportunity to meet more of your neighbors and gives you a good excuse to see neighbors you already know.

If you will serve as a Block Captain, contact Elissa Myers by phone/email at 703-321-7590 or elissa@elissamyers.com. Additional needs and requests for action will be published on a rolling basis.

We have great talent lying dormant among us. Ravensworth Farm attracts the best of the best. Let's find just a little time each month to put those talents to use for the benefit of our wonderful neighbors.

If you have something to offer or if you have a concern that can be addressed through collective action, please let us know. Get involved and make Ravensworth Farm the neighborhood you want it to be.

Truly yours,

Allan Robertson, President of the Board
Ravensworth Farm Civic Association
prez@ravensworthfarm.org

Con't Pg. 4

Con't from Pg. 3

P.S. Regarding the bike lanes, we have no need to fear. I have personally observed the lanes operating as they were intended. The sole purpose of the bike lanes is to calm traffic, and speeds on Queensberry have decreased. A recent study of the effects of bike lanes on traffic along Wakefield Chapel Road, showed the lanes slowed average speed by 5mph, and the travel lanes on Wakefield Chapel are pretty wide even after the addition of the bike lanes. The travel lanes on Queensberry are much narrower, so we can expect an even greater reduction in speed.

The remaining concerns involve parking tickets and the potential for bicycles to collide with parked vehicles. First, I have been emphatically assured no one will get a parking ticket for crossing over the white line as long as the vehicle is parked close to the curb, as it always should be. Supervisor Cook's office has promised to take care of any such erroneous parking tickets. As for collisions, there is no increased danger. Bicyclists are going to be hurt more than your vehicle, so they will continue to take care to avoid parked vehicles. Moreover, bicyclists are not required to use the bike lanes. They are unlikely to ride any closer to your vehicles than before the lanes were painted.

If, after we have had time to adjust to the changes, issues with the bike lanes persist, we shall take further action. For now, however, let's just see how things work out.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY CLASSES

Cars have changed. So have traffic rules, driving conditions and the roads you travel. Even the most experienced drivers can benefit from brushing up on their driving skills. By taking a driver safety course, you'll learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment.

If you feel you could benefit from a brush up, consider taking one of the AARP Driver Safety classes. The cost is just \$15 for AARP members. (Please bring your AARP card!) There is a \$20 fee for nonmembers. You also may want to test your driving safety by taking a short quiz sponsored by Virginia GrandDriver at <http://granddriver.net/seniors/test-your-driver-safety>.



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GARDEN OF THE SEASON WINNERS

Results of the Fall 2016 Garden of the Season Judging by members of the Green Thumb Garden Club on Monday, October 3, 2016.

1st Place: 5323 Pillow Lane – Stutzke
 2nd Place: 8145 Halleck Place – Sheaffer
 3rd Place: 8016 Gosport Lane – Uyen



Honorable Mention

8117 Adair Lane	5313 Landgrave Lane
8121 Adair Lane	5311 Moultrie Road
8101 Carrick Lane	5309 Nutting Drive
8112 Carrick Lane	5311 Nutting Drive
8136 Drayton Lane	5313 Nutting Drive
7925 Ellet Road	5414 Nutting Drive
7929 Ellet Road	7821 Penley Place
7913 Gosport Lane	5315 Pillow Lane
8002 Hatteras Lane	5220 Queensberry Avenue
8100 Hatteras Lane	5225 Queensberry Avenue
5238 Inverchapel Road	5305 Queensberry Avenue
5502 Inverchapel Road	5323 Queensberry Avenue
5604 Inverchapel Road	5523 Queensberry Avenue
5227 Kepler Lane	5325 Ringold Place
5313 Kepler Lane	5513 Sedgwick Lane

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

By Laura Asiello

Eight members of the Green Thumb Garden Club enjoyed an outing to Huntley Meadows Park in Alexandria on October 5. A guided tour on the beautiful sunny day along the pathways and boardwalk “wetland trail” in Fairfax County’s largest park was highlighted by birds, other wildlife, and wild flower sightings and identification by our group.

In November, the plan is for a holiday flower demonstration. New members are welcome. For more information about our monthly activities, please call Membership Chairman Agnes Hite at 703-321-4808.

HELP WANTED: ENTRANCE SIGNS

Marti Terry, who is currently the sign person on the entrance committee, needs someone to take over changing the entrance signs to reflect upcoming Civic Association activities. Anyone interested can contact Marti at 703-209-4424 for all details and she will supply you with everything you need to do the signs. The Ravensworth Farm Civic Association heartily thanks Marti for the many years of service she has provided in making sure we know what is going on in the neighborhood.



TRANSFER ON DEATH DEEDS

By David Fontanella, reprinted from Golden Gazette, October 2016, fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults

Question: Is there a way to pass my residence to a beneficiary when I die by a new form of deed?

Answer: Yes. Under the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act, a person may transfer his real property at death to a beneficiary by recording a new deed form for this purpose. It is a non-probate conveyance that requires neither a will nor a trust, but the real property passes at death to a beneficiary just as in a testamentary document.

Now, let's take a look at some specifics. The deed must be recorded before the death of the owner and all the elements and formality of a normal deed must be observed. It is exempt from recording taxes. It is not subject to probate taxes. This deed is a revocable deed and there is no transfer of interest in the property until the owner dies. There is a preamble provision that recites the Virginia Code cite and bears the language, "At my death, I transfer and convey my interest in the below described property to my designated beneficiaries as follows:" There follows the name of the primary beneficiary, the alternate beneficiary, the legal description of the real property and the recitation that this is a Revocable Transfer on Death Deed.

Finally, the deed explains the provisions for the right to revoke. This provision must be clearly stated on the deed, preferably in bold letters, as "Before my death, I have a right to revoke this deed." It may be revoked by recording a transfer on death deed that revokes the original deed or it may be revoked by simply recording a new transfer on death deed with a different designated beneficiary. This deed may not be suitable for persons with very large or complicated estates. But if a person had all his accounts held jointly with another, or made them payable or transferable at death to a beneficiary (POD or TOD), this new deed might be used to convey the decedent's residence to a beneficiary and complete his estate planning. We do not have a great deal of experience with this new deed form, and I am sure legal challenges will arise as it becomes a more common "testamentary" vehicle for transferring real property. But, it is one more resource that you may want to consider in your estate planning.

Note: This article is not intended as legal advice and no one should rely upon it without consulting legal counsel. If you have an estate planning question you would like to see answered in this column, please email David Fontanella at dfontane@verizon.net or call him at 703-317-1927.

FREE MEDICARE ENROLLMENT WORKSHOPS

The county's Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP) staffs these free workshops.

Medicare Enrollment Event

Nov. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington, 7700 Little River Tnpk. Ste. 406, Annandale, 703-354-6345, Bo Young Cho

Free Medicare Workshop Training: Medicare 101, Nov. 9, Noon- 1:30 p.m., St. Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean, 703-402-9648, Mary Jo Frickel

About VICAP

The county's VICAP provides public education and objective insurance counseling to Fairfax County Medicare-eligible residents, their families and caregivers. VICAP is one of the nation's State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs). SHIP operates in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. They are grant-funded projects of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Administration for Community Living. Fairfax County residents should visit VICAP at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/vicap.htm or call them at 703-324-5851.

To find Medicare counseling for family members living in another jurisdiction, go to www.shiptacenter.org for the local agency contact information



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NOVEMBER 8 - THE LOGISTICS OF VOTING

With more than 655,000 active voters in Fairfax County, and as many as 500,000 voters turning out on Election Day, it's a good time to consider voting early, and preparing for a longer-than-usual process if voting on Election Day. If you live in Ravensworth Farm and have changed your address to reflect your residence, you will vote at Ravensworth Elementary School. If you have not changed your address with the Elections Office, you may need to vote in your old precinct. (While you're there, fill out a change of address form.) To see where you are registered to vote, go here: <http://elections.virginia.gov/citizen-portal/index.html>

New voter check-in equipment will be in use that can scan the driver's license (or DMV-issued ID) and automatically look up the voter in the records. Other forms of ID will require a longer, manual lookup process. Please make your Ravensworth Precinct's team's job easier and bring your driver's license.

What's on the ballot? While the Presidential election will take top billing, every seat in the U.S. Congress is on the ballot. Read up on the state constitutional questions, bonds, and tax measures before you enter the voting booth. This will reduce the length of lines at polling places. Fairfax County voters will decide on three bond questions, including \$120 million in transportation bonds for Metro; \$107 million in bonds for parks; and \$85 million for building and renovating senior and community centers, and homeless shelters. More at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

Virginia Voter ID Requirement Virginia has a significant voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day. But you can get a voter ID card if you don't have one of the other acceptable identifications.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card (Editor's Note: This is FAR AND AWAY the fastest and easiest option, please help your election officials by bringing your DMV-issued ID if possible.); valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business. Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter. A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. If it's not feasible to run home and get your ID, you will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted. A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted. Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.



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WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

New folks move in all the time, especially over the spring and summer. If you have new neighbors, tell Pam Ryan. If you are a new neighbor- welcome! Please let Pam know you have arrived so that one of her New Neighbor Committee members can stop by with information and some goodies. Pam Ryan (703-447-6283; pkryan74@gmail.com).

TAKE A WALK! MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS! HELP US OUT!

As Civic Association volunteers, Block Captains go out during one or two late fall weekends to deliver pre-paid Directory orders and sign up new Civic Association members and deliver Directories on the spot. Many of our faithful Block Captains are no longer as mobile as they would like to be and it is time for those with more active legs to take over.

Last year, many streets didn't have active block captains so membership was down- resulting in a significant reduction in budget for Civic Association activities and publications such as The Ravensworth Farmer and the Directory and the need to increase dues. 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.



CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to Dick Sargent and family on the death of Dick's wife, long-time Ravensworth Farm resident, Martha Sargent. Martha died September 20. Her obituary can be found on the Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home Website. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Martha and Dick Sargent were involved in nearly every aspect of life in Ravensworth Farm over their long residence here and have been missed since they moved last year.



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*.

<p>FREE</p>	<p>Free to a Good Home with a sunny spot: 4 Foot Norfolk Island Pine Tree. Must be indoors when temperature is below 45 degrees F. Planter and soil included. Contact Carol Belovitch, cbelovitch@aol.com</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>

CUB PACK 991 GOES CAMPING!

Over 50 cub scouts, parents, and siblings braved the damp weather October 1 and headed for Prince William Forest National Park for the Pack's fall campout. Thankfully the weather held out and we had a blast! A ranger put on a great program for the boys about the WWII spies that trained in the park. We feasted on burgers, dogs, and sides followed by a great campfire program put on by the boys. Afterwards we made s'mores and ended the evening by retiring a number of old and worn American flags. The boys did a great job honoring our treasured Flag and country. We wrapped up with a pancake breakfast the next morning!



It's popcorn selling season which is a big fundraiser for our Pack and helps cover the costs of many of our activities for the boys. Thanks for supporting Pack 991 and Scouts!

Want more info on our Pack contact Greg Ferrara at cubpack991@gmail.com

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICE FOR SENIORS

Who do you call when you don't have tech-savvy friends or family nearby to help with a computer problem? The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging has an "IT On-Call" program for residents 60 and older. Simply dial 703-324-5406 and request an IT On-Call volunteer. They will ask questions to understand your issue and determine whether or not they can help. Many times, they can walk you through the solutions on the phone. If that doesn't work, they can visit your home usually within a week.

Volunteers cannot repair computers or other devices, but they will try and fix small problems that can be resolved within an hour. They will even teach you how to use email and other frequently used apps.

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10:45 a.m. Worship Service

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For Ravensworth Farm Residents



SAMPLE BALLOT FOR RAVENSWORTH PRECINCT (PRECINCT 115)

US 2016 General Election

President

Hillary Clinton—Democratic
 Donald J. Trump—Republican
 Gary Johnson—Libertarian
 Jill Stein—Green
 Evan McMullin—Independent

**Member House of Representatives 11th District**

G. E. 'Gerry' Connolly Democratic

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1 Should Article I of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to prohibit any agreement or combination between an employer and a labor union or labor organization whereby (i) nonmembers of the union or organization are denied the right to work for the employer, (ii) membership to the union or organization is made a condition of employment or continuation of employment by such employer, or (iii) the union or organization acquires an employment monopoly in any such enterprise?

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2 Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to provide an option to the localities to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any law-enforcement officer, firefighter, search and rescue personnel, or emergency medical services personnel who was killed in the line of duty, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

Meals Tax For the purpose of reducing dependence on real estate taxes, shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, be authorized to levy a tax on prepared food and beverages, otherwise known as a meals tax, as allowed by Virginia Code § 58.1-3833, at a rate not to exceed four percent (4%) of the amount charged for prepared food and beverages (which, based upon state law, is applicable only to sales outside of the town of Clifton, and towns of Herndon and Vienna that have already implemented a meals tax)? The revenues generated shall be dedicated to the following purposes: 1. 70 percent of the net revenues to Fairfax County Public Schools. 2. 30 percent of the net revenues to County services, capital improvements and property tax relief.

Transportation Bonds Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$120,000,000 to finance Fairfax County's share, under the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact, of the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements and facilities, including capital costs of land, transit facilities, rolling stock and equipment in the Washington metropolitan area, and to finance improvements to primary and secondary State highways and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

Parks and Park Facilities Bonds Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for parks and park facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$107,000,000: (i) \$94,700,000 principal amount to finance the Fairfax County Park Authority's cost to acquire, construct, develop and equip additional parks and park facilities, to preserve open-space land, and to develop and improve existing parks and park facilities; and (ii) \$12,300,000 principal amount for Fairfax County's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to acquire, construct, develop and equip parks and park facilities?

Human Services and Community Development Bonds Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$85,000,000 to provide funds to finance the cost of human services facilities and community development facilities, including the construction and reconstruction of community centers and shelters and the acquisition of land and equipment or interests therein?

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BOY SCOUT TROOP 991 - OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

We have had a busy, fun month planning and participating in several service projects. David Cho, one of our next Eagle Scout candidates, planned and carried out his Eagle Scout service project to clear invasive plant species at the Hidden Oaks Nature Center in Annandale. The Troop also supported the ServiceSource.org annual celebration, directing parking to help this organization recognize the people with disabilities it serves. As you know, service to our community is at the heart of Scouting.

In addition to serving, we honed our outdoor skills with a camping trip in the Shenandoah Valley where we went white-water rafting! We got wet, hiked, swam, camped and had a lot of fun! This month, we will be heading to our District's Fall Camporee where we will demonstrate our scouting skills in competitions against many other troops, defending our Troop's championship title. Over the next few months, we are not just going camping, but doing SCUBA, skiing, snow tubing and much more...

Come join us - Boy Scouts: 6th – 12th grade boys. Visit us Wednesday nights - 7:30pm @ Ravensworth Elementary.

Troop 991 is boy led, sponsored by the Ravensworth Elementary PTA and lives and scouts in your neighborhood! Learn more about us at: <http://www.troop991.com/>. Contact Scoutmaster Bill Mitchell @ 703-321-8072 or mitchwt@cox.net if you are interested... Or come by and see for yourself what you're missing!

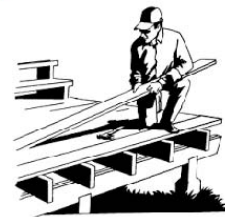


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SEVEN IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT ABSENTEE VOTING

1. Absentee voting begins Sept. 23. Votes will be counted on election night, Nov. 8.
2. Consider absentee voting because November weather is unpredictable, and a historic voter turnout is expected on Election Day.
3. Being a caregiver or a person with disabilities is a valid reason to absentee vote along with 17 other reasons. To check your eligibility, call the county's Office of Elections at 703-222-0776 or email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov.
4. There are two ways to absentee vote: in-person or by mail. First confirm that your voter registration status is correct. The deadline to register or make changes was Oct. 17. Check your status online at <http://elections.virginia.gov> or call the county's Office of Elections at 703-222-0776. You also may send an email to voting@fairfaxcounty.gov.
5. Apply online for a mail-in absentee ballot at <http://elections.virginia.gov>. You will need your Social Security Number and information on your Virginia Driver's License. Information also is provided on how to apply if you do not have a driver's license.
6. You will need a photo ID to vote absentee in-person. If you need a photo ID, call 703-222-0776.
7. In-person absentee voting takes place at the Government Center and Satellite locations.
P.S. If you request an absentee ballot and then decide to vote in person, you must bring the absentee ballot with you to the polls. If you are marked as an absentee voter, election officers can't provide you with an additional ballot. Voting twice is against the law!

Fairfax County Government Center Conference Room 2/3
12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax

Weekday Schedule, Oct. 17 to Nov. 4:
Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Saturday Schedule Oct. 9 and Nov. 5:
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

County Satellite Voting Times and Locations:
Weekday Schedule: Oct. 17 to Nov. 4 - Monday-Friday, 2-8 p.m.
Saturday Schedule Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 - 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Satellite Voting Locations Near Ravensworth Farm:

- Providence Community Center 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax
- Franconia Governmental Center 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria
- West Springfield Governmental Center 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield
- Mason Governmental Center 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale
- Mount Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria



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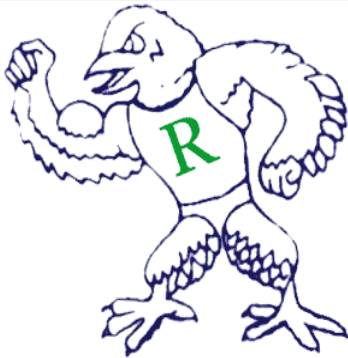
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