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

October 2018

The Ravensworth ***Farmer***

Issue 1

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Friends, Farmers, Neighbors:

Join us on October 18 at 7:30pm in the Ravensworth Elementary School cafeteria for a detailed discussion regarding Lake Accotink and its future. Many of you have expressed ongoing concern about Lake Accotink and have asked about the current status of Save Lake Accotink's efforts. While there is still much to be done and the matter is far from decided, we need not worry as we have. Before I give an update on the current status of Lake Accotink, I shall provide a very brief summary of the issues and events to date. For a more complete explanation and discussion of Lake Accotink, please attend the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association General Membership Meeting on October 18.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has been undertaking the process of revising the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan. This process began in 2016, and at some point in that process, several options for the future of the lake were proposed. Some of these options got rid of the lake altogether, and it seemed the Park Authority favored those options that removed the lake entirely. Other options included creating a smaller lake and maintaining the lake in its current form through continued dredging.

In January of this year, 2018, I began to raise the alarm, and at an emergency meeting of the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association held in February, a number of our

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OCTOBER 18 CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

The October 18 Ravensworth Farm Civic Association general meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Ravensworth Elementary School. Scheduled speakers will discuss the latest on the Braddock Road Project designed to move more cars more quickly along Braddock Road between the beltway and Burke Lake Road and also the most recent news regarding the effort to save Lake Accotink from filling or shrinking. Additionally, the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association budget will be voted up or down. See the proposed budget elsewhere in *The Farmer*.

ENTRANCE BEAUTIFICATION

Thank You

Thanks to James Walkinshaw, Ray Rounds, Terry Powers, Dan Auble, Marty Terry and others for weeding, pruning, mowing, and generally maintaining the three Ravensworth Farm entrance signs this summer and fall.

Article I, Section 3, of the Civic Association's By-Laws provides that the Association shall be strictly non-partisan, non-political, and non-sectarian. Accordingly, the invitation of elected officials and other public figures to speak at Association meetings, and the inclusion of paid political or commercial advertisements in the *Farmer* or in the attached flyers, do not constitute endorsements by the Association.

RAVENSWORTH FARM CIVIC ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Allan Robertson	703-627-0219	prez@ravensworthfarm.org
1st Vice President	Scott Houghton	703-321-7320	vp1@ravensworthfarm.org
2nd Vice President	James Walkinshaw	703-314-1473	vp2@ravensworthfarm.org
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Corresponding Secretary	VACANT		corsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Treasurer	John Ritchie		treasurer@ravensworthfarm.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

Schools & Education	Jill Mowbray	703-865-8368	bjm820@hotmail.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	James Walkinshaw	703-314-1473	james.walkinshaw@gmail.com
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063	hospitality@ravensworthfarm.org
New Neighbors	Pam Ryan	703-447-6283	pkryan74@gmail.com
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	Distribution Advertising	James Walkinshaw VACANT	703-314-1473 james.walkinshaw@gmail.com ads@ravensworthfarm.org
Community Organizations			
PTA President, Ravensworth ES	Nicole Ferrara		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	703-922-9353	jenmarzouk@yahoo.com

Association Meetings & Deadlines 2018-19

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	<i>Farmer</i> DELIVERY	EVENTS
October	3	3	4	27	13—Community Yard Sale (pool lot) 18—Civic Assoc Mtg 27—Trunk or Treat @ Pool, 1-2pm
November	7	7	8	Dec. 1	
December	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	15-20—Holiday Lights Judging
January	9	9	10	Feb.9 or 16	17—Civic Assoc Mtg
February	6	6	7	Mar. 2	
March	6	6	7	30	21—Civic Assoc Mtg
April	3	3	4	May 4	
May	1	8	2	June 1	16—Civic Assoc Mtg 18—Yard/Plant Sale
Summer				2	BBQ—TBA

General and Board Meetings and Events are held at Ravensworth Elementary School on Nutting Drive unless otherwise noted. Meetings are 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.

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wonderful neighbors, including Tyler Small, Vikram Shrivastava, Scott Houghton, Phil Baxter, Shane Shroeder, Mike Field of North Springfield, and I formed the non-profit Save Lake Accotink. Later, Stephanie Hopkins, Richard Hildebrand, and Barbara Coder of Crestwood’s Springfield joined our efforts. Since we began the campaign to save Lake Accotink, thousands have joined the efforts, donating money, posting yard signs, attending meetings and events, signing our petition, and sharing our message with the community.

Save Lake Accotink has supported only one of the options proposed, designated “Option C” by the Park Authority. Option C is a full dredge of the lake with the addition of a forebay, which will catch most of the sediment plaguing the lake before it gets to the main body of the lake. While this is the most expensive of all the options, Save Lake Accotink determined that, when external costs are included in the cost-benefit analysis, Option C is actually by far the least expensive of all the options. Due to the requirements of clean water regulations to reduce the amount of sediment discharged by Accotink Creek and the value Lake Accotink provides to Fairfax County’s efforts to comply with its regulatory obligations, Option C will, in the long run, save Fairfax County money. Braddock District Supervisor John Cook later confirmed the accuracy of Save Lake Accotink’s cost-benefit analysis.

On June 5, 2018, Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity, and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross joined Supervisor Cook in the presentation to the Board of Supervisors of Save Lake Accotink’s petition of 4,168 signatures in support of a bond referendum to fund Option C. During the discussion of that petition presentation Chairman Sharon Bulova expressed emphatic support of Option C. Since then, other county supervisors have expressed support for saving Lake Accotink.

It appears now that Option C is the only option left on the table. The Park Authority has engaged an engineering firm to conduct further studies and proposed designs for Option C, a full dredge of Lake Accotink with the addition of a forebay, which may be located either at Braddock Road or at the head of the lake itself.

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County Supervisors, the Park Authority, and the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services are studying options for funding Option C. No matter where the county finds funding for the project, much of the funding will have to come from a bond. We anticipate the inclusion of a special bond on the November 2019 ballot. As that election approaches, Save Lake Accotink will campaign for the bond referendum. We ask that everyone keep abreast of the efforts and join Save Lake Accotink in its bond campaign.

With all the activity surrounding Lake Accotink, the rest of the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Revision has been placed on hold. I am now working with Friends of Lake Accotink Park to develop a community vision for the future of the entire park and will be working with other civic associations to gain input to and endorsements of this community vision, which will address the improvements we would like to be included in the revised park master plan.

If you have suggested improvements to any part of the park, whether transportation infrastructure, recreation facilities at the marina or other areas of the park, educational features, wildlife viewing areas, or any other park features please send those suggestions to me in an email and please send those suggestions to the Park Authority at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. If there are any features you do not want to change, please express those wishes as well.

What a pleasure it has been to see my neighbors respond to the needs of the community! I look forward with confidence to our future efforts and ask everyone to consider ways you can contribute more. I have seen what we can accomplish when we get involved and hope we'll each catch the vision that I have for civic engagement in Ravensworth Farm.

Thank you for making Ravensworth Farm such a great community. And thanks in advance for your future efforts to further improve the lives of your neighbors.

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

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GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

The September meeting of the Ravensworth Farm "Green Thumb Garden Club" was held at the home of Vice President Tess Warmka. Members made suggestions for upcoming monthly meetings and volunteers signed up to host each month.

The Garden Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month and new members are most welcome. Call Agnes Hite 703-321-4808 for more information.

Member and Master Gardener, Karen Aftergut, gave a presentation on her ongoing project at her home on Queensberry of a Rain Garden. The landscaped garden promotes a successful water run-off to prevent contaminants from roof and asphalt entering the drainage system. The Gardens are planted with native plants attracting butterflies, bees and birds. Neighbors are welcome to visit as did our members after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Asiello, Secretary

JOIN BOY SCOUT TROOP 991

Interested in camping, hiking or rifle shooting? Need to hone your leadership skills? Check out Troop 991, a Scout-led Troop in your neighborhood, sponsored by the Ravensworth Elementary PTA. Learn more about us at: <http://www.troop991.com/>. Contact Asst. 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!

JOIN RAVENSWORTH'S CUB SCOUTS

Do you have a kindergartner - 5th grader interested in scouting? If so, Ravensworth's Cub Pack 991 is waiting for you! Contact new Cubmaster Dallas Richards at cubpack991@gmail.com to learn more. We are a very active group with a focus on having fun while learning important skills. Our Pack hosts two family campouts each year that are very popular. Come see what you are missing!

PAY DUES ONLINE & GET DIRECTORY

The new year is upon us! The Civic Association membership year is October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019. Go to <http://pay.ravensworthfarm.org> to join the Civic Association. You can pay via PayPal or credit card. All Civic Association members will receive a free copy of the Ravensworth Farm Community Directory. Members who pay online will receive a copy of the neighborhood directory delivered to their doors. Civic Association dues are \$15 and cover the cost of activities ranging from entrance beautification to the Community BBQ, as well as publication and delivery of The Ravensworth Farmer.

NOVEMBER 6 GENERAL ELECTION



Register to vote, change your address so you can vote in Ravensworth Farm, or apply to vote absentee by 5pm October 15. You can register online at the Virginia Department of Elections website <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/Registration/Eligibility> or in-person registration can be done at the Fairfax County Office of Elections on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and Thursday, 8:00 a.m - 7:00 p.m.

November 6 Election: On Election Day Polls Are Open From 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. On the ballot: Member, United States Senate and Member, United States House of Representatives. If you are registered at your Ravensworth Farm address, you will vote at Ravensworth Elementary School.

**FARMER AWARDS CEREMONY & CIVIC ASSOC
BBQ**



The Civic Association and RFS&RC teamed up again this year to host a fantastic BBQ event and Farmer Awards ceremony at the pool! The weather was great, and the turnout was tremendous. We estimate that close to 200 members of the community came out to connect with friends and neighbors that day. Many brought tasty contributions to the potluck, we also enjoyed BBQ ribs and pulled pork, as well as coleslaw, hamburgers and hotdogs. The turnout this year was greater than the year before, and we hope that trend will continue (and will plan accordingly for next year!). It's a great opportunity to come and get to know your neighbors, enjoy the amenities that the pool has to offer, and have a fun time making our community a little bit more connected. We hope this tradition continues to grow!

The annual awards ceremony immediately preceded the community BBQ. Each year, the RFCA Board of Directors solicits nominations from the community and selects awardees who represent the community spirit of our great neighborhood. This year's awardees were congratulated in person by Braddock District Supervisor John Cook and recognized in the Congressional Record by Congressman Gerry Connolly. You can see video of the event on the Ravensworth Farm Facebook Page!

Our 2018 Farmer of the Year is Tom Bruce. Tom is the owner of TJ Jr's Plumbing and has gone above and beyond to serve our community. He volunteered his crew and trucks to haul trash during our Neighborhood Cleanup and to help clean up the section of Lake Accotink Park near the pool. Congratulations Tom!

Our 2018 Young Farmer of the Year is Neave Michaels. Neave just completed her first year at James Madison University and was a member of the Ravensworth Swim Team starting at age six. She served as a swim coach, going above and beyond to have a positive impact on our young swimmers, who she continues to coach and mentor at Kids First Swim School. Neave has set a wonderful example for our Young Farmers to follow. Congratulations Neave!

Our 2018 Life of Service Award Winner is Ruth Hartman. Ruth is an original Ravensworth Farm resident and has helped make the neighborhood what it is today. She embodies civic engagement, civic responsibility, and community service. She's served as a block captain, on the Board of RFCA, is the longest-serving election officer for Ravensworth precinct, and served as a hospital volunteer, among other things. Ruth loves her neighbors and always takes responsibility for bringing wonderful refreshments to our civic association events. Thank you, Ruth! We are grateful to have you and Ken in our neighborhood!

The Civic Association thanks the Pool for hosting this annual community event. Thanks to the lifeguards for helping set up and move tables. We owe a special thanks to Scott Houghton for buying all the food supplies and for spending the entire day building the barbecue pit, tending it all day, and clearing up afterward. Thanks, too, to Katherine Craig for helping with setup and service.

LIFE OF SERVICE RECIPIENT THANKS

Dear Ravensworth Farm Civic Association,

It was such an Honor to receive "The Life Of Service Award." It has been my Pleasure and Privilege to Serve such a Wonderful Ravensworth Farm Community over the Years.

Thank You So Much.
Sincerely,
Ruth Hartman

P.S. It really pleases Ken and me to see the younger generation stepping forward to continue to serve Our Community and keep it such a Special, Vibrant place to Live.

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2017 RFCA ACTUAL BUDGET

Annual Operations			2017 Proposed Budget	2017 Actual
Income				
	Membership		5,400	3,740
	Advertising - Directory		2,500	330
	Advertising - Farmer		4,000	5,560
	Interest on Savings		0	0
	Total Annual Income		11,900	9,630
Expenses				
	Farmer	Printing	1,600	1,451
		Distribution	1,350	1,200
		Refunds - overpayment	0	0
		Typing and Formatting	1,000	1,000
			3,950	3,651
	Directory			
		Printing	1,610	1,451
			1,610	1,451
	Hospitality			
		New Neighbor Welcome	150	0
		Food for Membership mtgs.	75	53
		Get Well/Hospitalizations	75	0
			300	53
	Entrance Maintenance			
		Mowing	450	280
		Landscaping	350	0
		Signage	40	40
			840	320
	Community Services & Events			
		Community BBQ	1,250	902
		Fall Festival	500	381
		Church Contribution	0	
		Ravensworth Elementary	250	250
			2,000	1,534
	Miscellaneous expenditures		500	1,199
	Administrative Expenses		300	257
	Storage of RFCA property	Use of Dean Fix's shed	0	0
	Website / e-blasts		250	226
	Annandale Fire Department		250	250
	Total Expenses		10,000	8,940
Net income minus expenses			1,900	690

NEW RULES FOR SHORT-TERM LODGING



By Supervisor John Cook, Braddock District

On July 31, the Board of Supervisors voted 7 to 3 to approve new rules that for the first time allow homes to be rented out as short-term lodging (STL) through websites such as Airbnb. We heard from people on both sides of this issue.

I believe we need to be responsive to what people want to do with their homes while at the same time protect the character and residential nature of our neighborhoods. The best way to reduce the impact of activities such as STL is to enforce the existing zoning occupancy laws. Our Zoning Ordinance is not perfect, but it is a set of consistent rules that are in place to make sure that communities remain stable and that people are able to enjoy the use of their property.

I offered an amendment to require that when a property is used for STL, occupancy would be limited to the same number of people provided for in the county's Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Ordinance limits occupancy of a dwelling unit to: one family with up to two unrelated roomers or boarders; two single parents or guardians with not more than a total of six of their children; or a group of not more than four unrelated persons functioning as a single housekeeping unit. I believe that the same rules should be in place for someone who chooses to rent their house as short-term lodging. Why should the rules for the same house change depending on who is occupying it that particular day? My amendment also would have required that all areas used for sleeping be in compliance with all applicable code regulations, particularly with regard to the requirements for adequate ingress/egress from sleeping areas, including basements. Unfortunately, my amendment was not adopted by the Board of Supervisors, which chose to set the occupancy limit at six adults. Because the Board's motion did not support our Zoning Ordinance, I voted against the final motion.

The new rules will go into effect on October 1, 2018. Residents will be able to rent out their single-family homes, townhouses, condos, mobile homes, apartments, or rooms therein for up to 60 days a year, with some limitations. They must apply for a new \$200, two-year permit. The number of guests will be limited to six adults, who must all be associated with the same rental contract. One designated parking space must be available for lodgers. Properties may not be rented for events or commercial purposes, like parties, weddings, or fundraisers. Residents who offer their homes for STL will be required to pay transient occupancy taxes.

County staff will report back to the Board 18 months from the effective date on how the system is working, including: the number of STL permits issued and how that number compares to activity data provided by Host Compliance; the amount of tax revenue received; the number, nature, and disposition of complaints received related to STL uses; whether there should be a Special Permit or Special Exception process to expand STL uses beyond what is currently provided for; whether additional resources are needed to adequately address the permitting and enforcement of STL uses; and whether any privacy-related concerns or incidences have been reported to county staff.

For more information on the new zoning rules, including permit requirements, call 703-324-1314, TTY 711, or go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/zoning/short-term-property-rentals>.

PREPARE NOW: 4TH & 5TH GRADERS SKI FREE

To introduce 4th & 5th graders to the sports of skiing and snowboarding, Pennsylvania's ski areas team together to offer free lessons, rentals, and lift tickets to fourth and fifth graders- even those who don't live in Pennsylvania. PA's ski areas want to remind families that spending time on the mountains is a healthy and FUN family activity.



This is a great age for children to learn a new sport with ease and to excel rapidly. Through the Snowpass Program and on-mountain experience, students can see the lessons of their 4th & 5th grade science studies in action (such as water resources at work, animal predator/prey relationships, geology structure, and the physics of lift mechanics). Also, ski resorts are a part of Pennsylvania history. To get your pass, visit <https://www.skipa.com/kids/4th5th-grade-snowpass>

KEEP LOOKING WHEN COOKING

According to the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management, preparing and cooking food is the leading cause of home fires and related burn injuries.

Unattended cooking accounts for 33 percent of these types of fires. Planning ahead, however, can reduce your risk for a kitchen fire. Here are some useful cooking tips:

- Be attentive and alert while cooking
- Keep your stove area clear of towels, papers, pot holders— anything that can burn
- Enforce a “kid free zone” around your stove
- Turn handles inward to prevent small hands from knocking over hot pans
- Unplug appliances when not in use
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy

“In addition to these tips, we always stress the importance of properly installed and maintained smoke alarms,” says Courtney Arroyo, Emergency Management. “It may sound trite, but smoke alarms do save lives and doubles your chances of surviving a fire.” She also advises that having a fire extinguisher handy is always a good idea.

She emphatically states that once a fire starts at home, get out and call 911. Do not go back into a burning building—no matter what. If you think someone is trapped inside, tell the firefighters when they arrive on the scene. For more safety information, visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/educationaltopics>.

GARDEN MYTH: IMPROVING DRAINAGE WITH GRAVEL

by Rachel Vecchio, Certified Master Gardener

Myth: Put gravel or rocks in the bottom of containers to improve drainage.

Reality: This long-held gardening belief is based on the idea that gravel or rocks at the base of a container will allow water to move more freely from top to bottom, thus preventing the plants’ roots from becoming waterlogged. Ironically, the exact opposite occurs.

According to Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, extension horticulturist and associate professor at Washington State University, “Gravitational water will not move from a finely textured soil into a coarser material until the finer soil is saturated.” In other words, the soil in the container behaves like a sponge. It fills with water, but the water won’t drip through until the soil reaches maximum capacity. As a result, a person may unintentionally overwater a container plant, believing that the water is moving through the soil and draining out over the gravel, when, in fact, it is not. Consistently overwatering a plant will most likely lead to root rot, which generally causes plant death. So how do you improve drainage in a container?

- All planting containers should have drainage holes at the bottom which allow for root aeration.
- If the container is large or deep, place empty, sealed plastic beverage bottles at the bottom to take up space. This will reduce the amount of planting medium required. Avoid Styrofoam, though, as roots can penetrate it, and a plant in Styrofoam can float out of the container.
- Use a high-quality potting mix and combine small amounts of leaf mold, compost and topsoil throughout the mix.
- If using a heavier garden soil or topsoil, add perlite to create a lighter mix that will improve drainage.

Reprinted in Golden Gazette with permission from Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia.

Learn more at <https://mgmv.org/>

Sources/References: Chalker Scott, L. (n.d.). The Myth of Drainage Material in Container Plantings [PDF].

Puyallup: Washington State University; Gillman, J., & Maynard, M. (2012). Decoding gardening advice: the science behind the 100 most common recommendations. Portland, Or.: Timber Press. Olsen, E. (2016, March 10). Hydrological Discontinuity. Retrieved February 28, 2018, from

<https://blogs.ext.vt.edu/henrico-hort/2016/03/10/hydrological-discontinuity/>

Successful Container Gardens. (n.d.). Retrieved February 28, 2018, from <https://extension.illinois.edu/>

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 of your neighbors volunteered last year. However, many streets didn't have active block captains so membership was down- resulting in a significant reduction in budget for Civic Association activities. 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.

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).

MOMS IN PRAYER GROUP

Several moms in the neighborhood meet weekly to pray for their children, schools, teachers and staff. If you would like to learn more, please contact Sara Ortiz at (703)321-8757 or slkortiz@gmail.com.

RAVENSWORTH FARM ON FACEBOOK

Want to keep up with issues, have firewood to give away, lost or found a dog, or you're wondering what surprises others have run into during renovations? The Ravensworth Farm Facebook page is the place to go. Send Tom Mathis, the group's moderator, a join request and he'll add you to this lively and informative community. You can adjust your notification settings and visit the page as little or as often as you choose. While an excellent communication tool, the Facebook page is not supported or endorsed by the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association. For Civic Association news (and old issues of The Farmer), visit RavensworthFarm.org.



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

FOR SALE	Two lots in Section 8 Braddock Gardens / Fairfax Memorial Park 9900 Braddock Road. Jim Shipley, tel: 703-321-7454, best after 4pm.
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.

FALL YARD SALE - OCT 13

The Community-wide fall yard sale will be Saturday, October 13 at the Pool parking lot. The yard sale will begin at 8:00am and run no later than noon. Sellers may enter the parking lot to claim their space and begin setting up no earlier than 7:00am. Vehicles must be out of the lot by 8:00am. The yard sale will be advertised on craigslist.com and Facebook. Unfortunately, there will not be a fall neighborhood clean-up truck day. Hopefully, the County will be able to provide a big-trash truck in the spring.

KP LIBRARY NEEDS MATH VOLUNTEERS

Kings Park Library needs adults with math skills to teach a new program called, Parents Can Do Math. Volunteers will have a set of open hours when parents can bring in their children's math homework, learn how to do it and, then, help them with it.

According to Elena Ignatenko, library manager, math teaching experience is preferred. "It is a great fit for retired or current math teachers or college math majors." For more details contact her at 703-978-5600 or Elena.Ignatenko@fairfaxcounty.gov.

"GEM" REVIEWS

The Ravensworth Farm Community Association board wants to encourage neighbors to share great ideas with neighbors. Whether it's an eatery, theater, tool, park, repair place, preschool, or builder, if you've found a "gem"... please share. Send reviews to rcafarmers@ravensworthfarm.org. Thanks for sharing!



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EVENTS

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



- Sept. 21, 2 p.m., OLLI's Follies presents Memories, at The Fairmont, 9852 Fairmont Avenue, Manassas
 Sept. 28, 10:30 a.m., OLLI's Follies presents Memories, at Manassas Senior Center, 9320 Mosby St., Manassas
 * Oct. 3 – 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 Oct. 8 – Columbus Day, No School
 * Oct. 13 – Community-wide Yard Sale, 7am set-up, 8am-Noon, Pool parking lot
 * Oct. 18 – 7:30pm, Civic Association General Meeting, School cafeteria
 Oct. 24-27 – Lake Braddock Middle School Musical
 *+ Oct. 27 – 1-2pm, Trunk or Treat in the Pool parking lot
 *+ Oct. 27 – 2-4pm, Fall Festival, potluck, hot dogs, games, etc. in the Pool parking lot
 Nov. 2, 1 p.m., OLLI's Follies with the jazz band, Tallwood Trio., 4210 Roberts Rd., Fairfax
 Nov. 4, 2am – Daylight Savings Time ends
 Nov. 6 – Election Day, No School
 * Nov. 7 – 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 Nov. 9, 5:30-7:30 – Illusionist Wes Iseli. Table magic during dinner at 5:30 with full show to follow. Free but please register at www.parkwood.org/registrations so they'll know how many to expect. Parkwood Baptist Church, Braddock Rd & Kings Park Drive
 Nov. 15-17 – Lake Braddock High School Theatre first show
 Nov. 19, 2 p.m., OLLI's Follies presents Memories, Haymarket Library, 14870 Lighter Rd., Haymarket
 Nov. 20, 7pm – Lake Braddock Secondary School Jazz Concert
 Nov. 23-24 – Thanksgiving Day school holidays
 Nov. 27, 7pm – Lake Braddock Middle School Orchestra Concert
 Nov. 29, 7pm - Lake Braddock High School Orchestra Concert
 Dec. 4, 6pm – Ravensworth Elementary School Chorus
 * Dec. 5 – 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 Dec. 7, 7pm – Lake Braddock Theatre Holiday Unplugged
 Dec. 8 & 9, 3:30-7:30 – Bethlehem Walk, Parkwood Baptist Church (Parkwood.org), drop-in on Bethlehem
 Dec. 14, 1 p.m., OLLI's Follies Holiday Show, South County Senior Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria
 * Dec. 15-16 – Civic Association Holiday Lights Judging
 Dec. 24-Jan. 6 – No School
 * Jan. 8– 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 * Jan. 17 – 7:30pm, Civic Association General Meeting, School cafeteria
 * Feb. 6– 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 Feb. 18 – No School
 * Mar. 6– 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 * Mar. 21 – 7:30pm, Civic Association General Meeting, School cafeteria
 * Apr. 3 – 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 Apr. 15-21 – No School, Easter Break
 * May 1 – 7:30pm, Civic Association Board meeting, School, SACC Room
 * May 16 – 7:30pm, Civic Association General Meeting, School cafeteria
 * May 18 - Community-wide Yard Sale, 7am set-up, 8am-Noon, Pool parking lot
 May 18 – Green Thumb Garden Club Plant Sale, location TBD
 + May 26 – Pool Opens
 May 28 – Memorial Day
 June 3 – Last Day of School

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FEEDBACK NEEDED ON PROPOSED PUBLIC SAFETY DRONE PROGRAM

By Supervisor John Cook, Braddock District

On July 31, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to defer both the purchase of six to eight drones by the Police Department and approval of a drone policy manual to allow time for community input on the use of drones by law enforcement and other first responders.



County staff discussed the concept of drone use by police, fire and emergency management groups with the Public Safety Committee, which Supervisor Cook chairs, in January. However, the full policy manual was not released until shortly before the Board meeting. Supervisor Cook noted that the law is in flux with regard to information gathered from drone use and expressed concern about the civil rights implications for citizens. He stated at the meeting that people tend to think that they have privacy in their backyard, and they won't necessarily have that if police and prosecutors can use video gathered by drones over private property to support criminal prosecutions. For this reason, Supervisor Cook supported a delay to allow time for more conversations with privacy advocates, homeowners' associations, and civic groups.

The purpose of the public safety drone program is to assist first responders with situations that may benefit from a remote view. Drones could be helpful in search and rescue missions, emergency operations, police investigations, hazardous material situations, and infrastructure assessments. Although there are many potential benefits, there are also concerns.

Public input on this issue is critical. The Board hopes to revisit the use of drones by public safety agencies in December, with potential adjustments to better protect the privacy of Fairfax County citizens. No meetings have yet been scheduled. In the meantime, please feel free to contact our office at 703-425-9300 or email Brad-dock@fairfaxcounty.gov with your comments, questions or concerns.

ACE CLASSES

Registration is now open for fall 2018 Adult and Community Education (ACE) classes. ACE offers a wide variety of programs for the community ranging from career classes to enrichment for both adults and K-12 students. Upcoming courses include: Adobe Photoshop—Basics, Promoting Mental Fitness, Old World Holiday Desserts, Creative Fiction on Your Fingertips, and more!

Fall course offerings may be viewed online, and registration may be completed online, by phone, by mail, or in person. The course catalog, ACE Classes, has been mailed to Fairfax County residents and is also available at Fairfax County public libraries and at the Plum Center in Springfield. Explore a new career, discover a new hobby, and connect with your community...your journey begins with ACE! Note: Ravensworth's nearest ACE location is the Plum Center on Edsall Road near Backlick Road.

KIDS CORNER



Kids' Corner is a place where Ravensworth kids 18 and under can have their writing published for all of Ravensworth Farm to read. Send your submission of 500 or fewer words to Ravensworth.Farmer@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name and where you live (your address won't be published). All genres appropriate for a general audience are welcome.

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PRESERVE OLD PHOTOS, VHS, ETC FREE

Remember back in the day, before you (or your parents) took photos and videos on a smartphone and you had boxes of prints, slides and VHS cassettes? Many of us have boxes of those family histories and memories tucked away in our basements and attics. Now is the time to pull out those dusty boxes and put your photos, videos and documents in digital format – the Library has launched the free Memory Depot at two locations, the City of Fairfax Regional Library and Sherwood Regional Library.

Preserving Memories

Memory Depot is a free way to digitize your old photos and videos!

The Memory Depot is a do-it-yourself (DIY) station, which enables you to digitize material, including:

- VHS video cassettes.
- Photographic prints, negatives and slides.
- Scrapbooks and other documents.
- And audio cassettes are coming soon!

When you are ready to get started, you will need to bring with you:

- The materials you want to digitize.
- An external hard drive or a USB with capacity for your materials to be saved digitally.
- Your library card.

Sign Up for 30-minute Orientation

We strongly recommend that you sign up for an orientation before registering for a session at the Memory Depot. Remember, it is a do-it-yourself project!

The orientations show you how the Memory Depot stations work, including the scanner station (photos and documents) and the VHS transfer station (video cassettes). While registration is for either the scanner station or the VHS transfer station, our orientations will cover all available equipment in a single session.

Sign up for your orientation:

City of Fairfax Regional Library: Orientations are Thursdays and Saturdays at 10:15 a.m. Sign up in person at the Virginia Room Information Desk or by calling the Virginia Room at 703-293-6227, ext. 6 (TTY 711) or through our events calendar.

Sherwood Regional Library:

Orientations are Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. Sign up in person at the Tech Lab Information Desk or call the Sherwood Information Desk at 703-765-3645, ext. 4 (TTY 711) and ask for the Tech Lab.

Get Started!

When you sign up to use the Memory Depot, you will be signing up to use one station at a time. You can register for a session to use either the scanner for photographs, slides, negatives and other archival documents or to use the VHS transfer station. Reservations are limited to one session per day and no more than two per week; reservations may be booked as much as 30 days ahead of time. You may reserve a session for a minimum of one hour, but no more than three hours.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/preserve-old-photos-vhs-cassettes-free-with-librarys-memory-depot/>



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