



MANDR HOUSE 1796-1925  
RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

December 2006

**The Ravensworth *Farmer***

VOL. XLIII Issue 4

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Ever see those beautiful Belgian Draft Horses up close? If not, our community will get the chance to see them **Friday, December 22**, from **5-8 P.M.**, pulling a wagon with plenty of our children through the neighborhood. If we are really lucky, **maybe** Santa will spare a few hours to visit and ride with us. All of our community's kids are invited! The ride will begin at the Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Road and possibly circle the neighborhood, if the horses don't get too tired. Your best bet is to walk or bike with your children to the church to catch the wagon ride. (Please don't drive unless absolutely necessary, for parking space is limited.) This is our first attempt at a Holiday wagon ride for kids. So if it doesn't work perfectly, please be patient and you can volunteer to help next year.



Remember that **before** you build or renovate, you need to check our neighborhood covenants and county code. Our covenants are printed in the Ravensworth Farm telephone directory on pages 6-8. For example, only rear yard fences are allowed and should not be more than 48 inches in height and of 50% open design.

*(Continued on page 3)*



**Ravensworth Farm  
Community Activities**

**Deadline for Next *Farmer***  
Wednesday, January 3rd

**Holiday Decorations Judging**  
December 16th and 17th  
See [www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org) for winners!

**Holiday Caroling in the Neighborhood**  
December 17th, 6PM—See inside for details

**Volunteer Opportunities—Page 4**

**We're online: [www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org)**

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	Brent Reynolds	703-321-8383
1st Vice President	Martin Shepherd	703-321-8777
2nd Vice President	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
Recording Secretary	Mike Edwards	703-321-0176
Corresponding Secretary	Bob Nielsen	703-321-8206
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Ruth Orem	703-321-8061
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Brenda Soares	703-321-7856
Schools & Education	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
Parks & Recreation	Jim Hickey Vacant	703-321-8535
Membership & Communications	Julia Johnson	703-321-8845
Architectural Committee	Brent Reynolds	703-321-8383

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	Marti Terry	703-321-9668
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman Ramona Michels	703-321-8063 703-321-7664
New Neighbors	Gloria Brissman Miffie Clem Donna Karlinchak	703-321-7871 703-321-7875 703-321-4805
Cultural Committee		
Vietnamese	Vacant	
Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
Korean	Monica Kim	703-321-0338
Directory	Coordinator Advertising	Stephen Beste Martin Shepherd
		703-321-9110 703-321-8777
<i>Farmer</i>	Co-editors, Advertising Preparation Printing, Flyers, Assembly Distribution	Chris & Mary Lipsey Susan Deyampert Dick Sargent (Acting) Stephen Beste
		703-321-2824 703-321-3150 703-321-9143 703-321-9110
Neighborhood Watch	Vacant	
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary	Sarah Hammersley	703-426-3600
Green Thumb Garden Club	Mary Ann Rish	703-321-7447
Golden Ravens	Richard & Allie Hunter	703-321-9549
Ravensworth Swim and Racquet Club	Tom Panther	703-321-7704

## Association Calendar 2006 - 2007

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
December	Nov. 29	Nov. 29	1	11	16	
January	3	3	5	16	20	
February	Jan. 31	Jan. 31	2	12	24	
March	7	7	9	19	24	29
April	11	11	13	23	28	
May	2	2	4	14	19	24

**Membership or Board Meetings are canceled in the event of Fairfax County Public School's early closing or school cancellation.**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Also, if you have questions concerning zoning laws, home construction, or even noise in the neighborhood, please read "Neighborhood Concerns and Complaints" on pages 17-19 in your Ravensworth telephone directory. Remember that Block Captains are currently engaged in our annual membership drive. Be sure to welcome them as they ask for the household dues of \$10 and deliver you the 2007 RFCA telephone directory. Don't we wish that the Yellow Pages were as user friendly as our own community telephone directory?

Does the county/state plan to widen Braddock Road, take out a few houses, put Metro on the Beltway, or install speed bumps on Queensberry? Not so far! But now that I have your attention, feel free to email your best ideas of what our long-term vision for the neighborhood should be. We are discussing many ideas and considering what this neighborhood will look like in the future. Give us your thoughts. Should we advocate for all utilities to be installed underground and widen the sidewalks? What is your opinion about upgrading our entryways and instituting traffic calming? Does "granny-on-line" sound like a good program? Are you interested in a Ravensworth Town Center? How do you feel about monthly community-sponsored activities each year? Do we need a stronger relationship with our park and more volunteers to help with a new handicap accessible playground, invasive plants removal, and serious stream monitoring? What do you think about wireless access at the shopping center? It's your neighborhood and it's up to you to decide. Please share with me your ideas and remember to volunteer in our community activities.

I hope everyone has a pleasant holiday and can spend time with family or friends.

Thanks very much,  
*Brent Reynolds*  
 brent@madbomber.com

### **KEEP THE STREETS CLEAR FOR THE SNOW PLOWS**

When a storm is threatening, please move your vehicles into your driveway. This makes a clear path for the snow plows and enables them to remove the snow all the way up to the curb.

# VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

## VOLUNTEER JOBS THAT LOOK GOOD ON YOUR RESUMÉ AND HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

### 1. Farmer Newsletter Editor, September – May

- Collects articles from contributors
- Edits articles and forwards them to typists
- Proofreads typist's hard copy and transfers the copy to the formatter

For 17 years, a husband and wife team has held this position; it must be interesting!!! Call Mary Lipsey at 703-321-2824 if you have questions, and/or want to volunteer.

### 2. Farmer Advertising (Flyers only) September – May

- Collect flyers and Farmer newsletter text and deliver them to the printer (17 minute trip one way) Two trips per month

Present incumbent has had the position for 18 years—obviously it is not that difficult. Present incumbent is available as a substitute also. Please call Dick today at 703-321-9143.

### 3. Advertising coordinator, August – November

- Coordinate advertising for the RFCA telephone directory and Farmer newsletter. Present position is held by the First Vice President and Newsletter Editor. Please call 703-321-8777.

## GOLDEN RAVENS

The Golden Ravens really enjoyed our holiday celebration together. This year, our wonderful potluck lunch featured specialties of expert chefs, entertainment and sharing news of our families. Make a New Year's resolution to join us in the New Year. On **January 24th, 2007**, our meeting will be dining out. When we call you, we will have definite plans on where we'll eat. If you have questions, suggestions or are in need of a ride, please call Dick/ Allie Hunter, 321-8548 or Dick/ Martha Sargent, 321-9143 or Ruth Miller, 321-7477. Happy New Year from the Golden Ravens!

## SCHOOL NEWS

### News from Ravensworth Elementary School

December is a very exciting month at our school. Children (and teachers) anxiously await the Winter Holiday vacation (December 25-January 1). Classrooms had parties and other fun-filled activities. On December 2, PTA members wrapped presents at Barnes and Noble, in exchange for donations to our school. Our annual holiday chorus/strings concert was on December 14. On **December 22**, our 6th grade chorus will be performing at **Tyson's Corner Mall (9:00 am-2:00 pm)**. Come join us while you do your holiday shopping!

You may have noticed some "creative art" displayed in front of our school last month. This was the Christo project that our wonderful Grace Art Team did with our students. It will be displayed again during our April 10 Art Walk. Also, check out the new format for our PTA newsletter on the PTA website (<http://www.ravensworthpta.org>).

A HUGE "thank you" to the neighborhood association for donating \$500 to our school. We look forward to using the money to make the front lawn of our school more attractive. Our GROW team is planning to beautify the area around our school sign so that all of you can enjoy it as you walk or drive by. We really do appreciate our partnership with our neighbors.

Our staff wishes all of you a warm, wonderful holiday season!

Pam McClelland, Principal  
Ravensworth Elementary School



### News from Poe Middle School

The Winter Concert featuring the Grade 6 Band, Chorus and Orchestra will be held on **Tuesday, January 23rd at 7 p.m.** in the **Poe Cafeteria**. Come and enjoy the beautiful music of our students.

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**Seasons Greetings**

## HOLIDAY DECORATIONS RESULTS!!

Check out our website for the winners ([www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org)) and enjoy our lovely neighborhood decorations. Happy Holidays everyone.

## **RAVENSWORTH FARM CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES DRIVE BEGINS—\$10 PER HOUSEHOLD**

The benefits include:

- Farmer newsletter
- RFCA telephone directory
- Welcome New Neighbor Program
- Acknowledgements of births, illnesses, adoptions, deaths
- Holiday decoration recognition
- Contributions to Boy Scout program who deliver the Farmer
- Garden of the Season recognition
- Maintenance of Entranceways
- Program Speakers at Membership Meetings
- Community Clean -up
- RFCA website
- Annual Yard Sale
- Community social activities
- Representation in county organizations and agencies, etc.

Please welcome the block captain who will be knocking on your door to ask for your dues and present you with a new telephone directory.

Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters of our community activities. At the Halloween party, we want to thank Giant for donating cupcakes and Cardinal Lawn Care for operating the tractor to pull the wagon for the hay ride. Thank you to Busy Buddies, Inc. for supporting the shredding opportunity for the community.

## **GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS**

The Garden Club met on December 6th for their annual holiday luncheon. Some of the 90 Christmas stockings, showing members' creative talents, were on display and will be filled and delivered to the Northern Virginia Detention Center later this month. Voluntary donations were also collected to be sent to Children's Hospital. The January meeting will be "Fun with Greens". Please contact Mary Ann Rish at 703 321 7447 for details.

## **GARDEN TIPS**

- Mulch landscaped plants for winter protection
- Water plants well as winter begins
- Feed lawns with a third application of fertilizer



## **WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS**

Chelle Anderson  
5641 Inverchapel Road

When a new neighbor moves in on your street, please give **Gloria Brissman** a call at 703 321 7871.

## **HOSPITALITY**

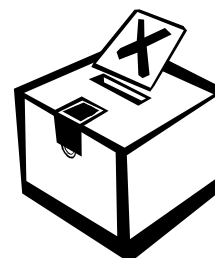
♥ Hospitalizations: Tony DiBari of Adair Lane

Ravensworth Farm extends its sympathy to the family of Daniel Lee of Inverchapel Road.

Please call **Ramona Michels**, (703 321 7664) with news of births, adoptions, hospitalizations, and deaths in our community.

**HOW WE VOTED—NOVEMBER 7, 2006**

	Ravensworth		Fairfax County		Virginia	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Senate</b>						
Allen (R)	430	44.7%	137,222	40.1%	1,165,899	49.2%
Webb (D)	522	54.3%	201,906	59.0%	1,174,906	49.6%
Parker (IG)	9	0.9%	3,270	1.0%	26,121	1.1%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	2,388	0.1%
<i>Total</i>	<u>961</u>		<u>342,399</u>		<u>2,369,314</u>	
<b>House (11th District)</b>						
Davis (R)	558	58.4%	88,536	54.8%	130,208	55.4%
Hurst (D)	386	40.4%	71,753	44.4%	102,337	43.6%
Greco (IG)	11	1.2%	1,278	0.8%	2,036	0.9%
Write-Ins	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	259	0.1%
<i>Total</i>	<u>955</u>		<u>161,567</u>		<u>234,840</u>	
<b>Constitutional Amendment 1 - Marriage</b>						
Yes	512	55.3%	153,814	45.8%	1,327,374	57.1%
No	414	44.7%	181,794	54.2%	997,880	42.9%
<i>Total</i>	<u>926</u>		<u>335,608</u>		<u>2,325,254</u>	
<b>Constitutional Amendment 2 - Incorporation of Churches</b>						
Yes	644	71.2%	238,533	73.8%	1,422,019	65.0%
No	261	28.8%	84,820	26.2%	764,323	35.0%
<i>Total</i>	<u>905</u>		<u>323,353</u>		<u>2,186,342</u>	
<b>Constitutional Amendment 3 - Partial exemption from property taxes</b>						
Yes	592	65.6%	221,034	68.4%	1,422,386	64.8%
No	310	34.4%	102,147	31.6%	773,866	35.2%
<i>Total</i>	<u>902</u>		<u>323,181</u>		<u>2,196,252</u>	
<b>Fairfax County Bond Issue - Parks</b>						
Yes	700	75.6%	256,326	77.5%		
No	226	24.4%	74,475	22.5%		
<i>Total</i>	<u>926</u>		<u>330,801</u>			
<b>Fairfax County Bond Issue - Public Safety</b>						
Yes	713	77.1%	260,353	78.8%		
No	212	22.9%	69,846	21.2%		
<i>Total</i>	<u>925</u>		<u>330,199</u>			
<b>Turnout</b>						
Registered voters	1,626		626,983		4,555,308	
Voting	970	59.7%	315,358	50.3%		
Voting absentee	76	4.7%	30,255	4.8%		
Total voting	<u>1,046</u>		<u>345,613</u>		<u>2,369,314</u>	
<i>Turnout</i>		64.3%		55.1%		52.0%



Sources: Ravensworth precinct and county school bond results from Fairfax County Elections Board: UNOFFICIAL RESULTS  
[http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/eb/webreports/RESU0607\\_AUTO.pdf](http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/eb/webreports/RESU0607_AUTO.pdf)  
 Others from Va. State Board of Elections as of Nov 9, 2006. Unofficial results. <http://sbe.vipnet.org/>

**A BIT OF RAVENSWORTH FARM HISTORY**

Have you ever wondered why the name "Pillow" was selected for a street name in our community? Had you thought that maybe Serta was advertising in our neighborhood? You might be amazed to find out that all of our street names have a Civil War connection and that "Pillow" was actually named for Fort Pillow on the Mississippi River, near Memphis. The editors made the connections and did the research, although we didn't find them all. "Penley" is one example where we were unsuccessful. You can find the rest of the examples of street names on our web site: [www.ravensworthfarm.org](http://www.ravensworthfarm.org) (click "History"). Also, more examples will be sprinkled throughout the upcoming issues.

“In April 1864, Nathan Bedford Forrest’s Confederates surrounded Fort **Pillow** on the east bank of the Mississippi River near Memphis. Fort Pillow was being held by 552 black Union troops and a group of Tennessee unionists. When the defenders refused to surrender, Forrest’s men stormed the fort. Over three hundred disarmed defenders, black and white, were slaughtered.”

“**Adair** County, Missouri was the site of a battle on August 6-9, 1862. The Union Army attacked and secured Kirksville, Missouri; this victory helped maintain Union dominance in Missouri, a border state.”

“Commander James **Bullock** was sent to Britain to purchase warships for the Confederacy. Bullock was able to contract for the construction of four ironclads. Bullock supervised the construction in Europe. The ships were to be seaworthy of the Atlantic and able to navigate the Mississippi River. The dream was to use these ships to break the Union naval blockade. Of the four warships ordered, only one ever saw service.”



CLASSIFIED ADS may be placed in the *Farmer* at no cost to residents of Ravensworth Farm. Classified ads must be mailed to: The Ravensworth *Farmer*, P.O. Box 1020, Springfield, VA 22151. This classified ads section is a service to Ravensworth residents, and is not intended for business or commercial use. Accordingly, we will run ads for house sales, commercial services, etc. in this section once; if the advertiser wishes to repeat them, he/she must shift them to the paid ad category.

<b>FOR SALE</b>	Fully electric, Zenith long term care bed. Head, foot and side rails. Pressure relief mattress. Used 3 months. \$2500 new, asking \$500 or best offer. 703 321 8206
<b>WANTED</b>	Good used furniture for needy low income families in the Annandale area. Needed are beds, dressers, kitchen tables and chairs, sofas, end tables, lamps, kitchen utensils, dishes and pans. Call Bill Sinclair at 703-321-7529 or the ACCA warehouse 703-256-1991. Call the warehouse on Saturday mornings only.