



MANDOR HOUSE 1796-1925
RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

March 2011

The Ravensworth ***Farmer***

VOL. XLVII Issue 7

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Neighbors:

After our recent storms, I heard a few stories from folks about downed wires, no electricity or cable, and hard feelings between neighbors because of limbs coming down in yards.

Last year Ravensworth turned 50 years old so we need to be aware that most of our trees are at least that old and they need looking after. As I walked around our neighborhood after our one big snowstorm of the season, I was amazed to see the extensive tree damage. My neighbors next door and across the street both had trees come down in their front yards. Luckily there was no damage to their houses, but it was close in both instances.

On Queensbury there is a tree down in a backyard that stretches across a few properties. I would imagine they will have to get a large crane in to lift the tree so as not to damage any structures. Almost every street that I drove on had some tree damage and many power lines were downed. I am sure that the main cause was an unusually heavy snow and high winds, but there is a way to mitigate some of this damage.

Con't Pg. 3

Wildlife in the Neighborhood

Want to know more about the birds in our trees? How about the coyotes in the neighborhood? What kind of hawks do we see? And, what do we do about those deer?

Bring your children and come to hear a county biologist speak about our local wildlife.

Her presentation is very kid-friendly and has many photographs. Bring your questions, too!

Date

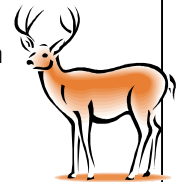
Thursday, March 24th

Time

7:30 PM

Where

Ravensworth Elementary School



This topic is very timely. So, we have asked three other neighborhoods to join us for this presentation. North Springfield, Danbury Forest and Springfield communities have been invited to attend.

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	Marty Robinson	703-297-7255
1st Vice President	Ellen Eggerton	703-321-4948
2nd Vice President	Jacqueline Fix	703-321-3048
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151
Corresponding Secretary	Kevin Joyce	703-587-7989
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	Ruth Orem	703-321-8061
Public Service (Streets & Sidewalks)	Tom Terry	703-321-9668
Schools & Education	Anita Bhatnagar	703-942-6806
Green Committee	Jim Hickey	703-321-8535
Membership & Communications	Elissa Myers	703-321-7590
Zoning Committee	Ellen Eggerton Stan Orndorff	703-321-4948 703-321-7990

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee		Marti Terry	703-321-9668
		Brenda Soares	703-321-7856
		Margaret Kinder	703-764-9576
Hospitality		Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063
		Ramona Michels	703-321-7664
New Neighbors		Melanie Bennett	571-282-3291
		Amy Reynolds	703-321-7317
Cultural Committee	Vietnamese	Tam Nguyen	703-321-8338
	Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
	Korean	Seo Pani	703-321-8081
	German & Russian	Ifira Reynolds	703-321-8383
	Arabic	Vacant	
Directory	Coordinator	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
	Advertising	Katherine Craig	703-321-3149
Farmer	Editor	Kathleen Powers	703-321-7523
	Preparation	Susan Deyampert	703-321-3150
	Printing, Flyers, Assembly	Laura Asiello	703-321-7840
	Distribution	Jacqueline Fix	703-321-3048
	Advertising	Katherine Craig	703-321-3149
Neighborhood Watch		Vacant	
PTA President, Ravensworth Elementary		George H Brodie	703-426-3600
Pool President		Amy Reynolds	703-321-7313
Green Thumb Garden Club		Laura Asiello	703-321-7840
Golden Ravens		Kay Anderson	703-321-9230

Association Calendar 2010 - 2011

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
March	1	1	4	11	19	24
April	Mar. 30	Mar. 30	1	6	30	
May	30	30	6	11	21	26

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

Con't from Pg. 1

This is a good time of year to get some pruning done on over-hanging branches and dead limbs. Before the leaves come in it is easier to see where the pruning should be done. I know there are many tree companies in our area, and some right in our neighborhood, that can handle this task.

We're not the only ones with tree damage. I encourage you to take a walk around Lake Accotink and see how many trees have been uprooted or have large branches split off from the recent storms.

Taking care of your trees is an important part of your yard's maintenance and a good investment in your property. Let the recent storm damage be a reminder to all of us to keep up with this.

Marty Robinson, President, RFCA, prez@ravensworthfarm.org

WANTED: VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO COORDINATE COMMUNITY PICNIC

Our annual community picnic needs a coordinator? Are you up for the job? A budget is available. This person would:

- Coordinate other volunteers
- Schedule the church
- Rent a moon bounce for children
- Purchase paper supplies



Please call Marty Robinson 703-297-7255 or Ellen Eggerton 703-321-4948 to volunteer.

WANTED: NEW NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR



We now have an active, interested neighborhood watch committee. Tom Mathias is stepping down and we need someone to coordinate this important activity. Are you interested? Then, please contact Marty Robinson 703-297-7255 or Tom Mathias 703-321-7187 for more details.

WANTED: ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

The board of RFCA needs an activities coordinator. This person would:

- Coordinate events on a calendar
- Keep track of who is in charge of organizing specific events (like the Halloween Party, Yard Sale, etc.)
- propose dates and make reservations
- communicate with the board on the status of activities
- contact people as needed

Are you interested? Contact Marty Robinson at 703-297-7255 or Ellen Eggerton at 703-321-4948.

GOLDEN RAVENS TALK... AND LISTEN

To quote comedian Joan Rivers, "Can we talk??" You bet we can. And that is part of the benefits in attending the monthly meetings of Golden Ravens. Life eventually challenges everyone and the older we get, the greater the challenges. It helps to talk about it...it really does. Right up until the end.

But that is only half of it; the other half is listening. Everyone piles up a life story as they get older and having someone to tell about it helps to carry the burdens. Psychologist, Mary Pipher said that "everyone carries heavy burdens, everyone." Dale Carnegie advised, "You can make more friends in two months by becoming interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you."

Sometimes our busy suburban lifestyle and cloistered housing does not permit much time or opportunity for getting to know your neighbors. But there is still time for seniors to get acquainted with their neighbors at the gatherings of the Golden Ravens. They meet monthly at 11:30 AM on the fourth Wednesday at the Community of Christ church on Inverchapel. Sometimes they listen to a speaker over a bag lunch and sometimes they do the talking. "Busy Buddies" will be speaking in March. Come up and see us sometime. If you don't feel like talking, just listen. It could do you good, and help others too. Call Joan Crofford for your personal invitation. 703-321-7809.

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB

Join the Green Thumb Garden Club on Wednesday, April 6th at 9:30 to hear a presentation on Container Gardening. It will be at the home of Margaret Kinder. Call Laura Asiello with questions: 703-321-7840.

Get Ready! **The Garden of the Season judging will be on Monday, May 2nd.**

The annual **Mother's Day plant sale will be on Saturday, May 7th** at our shopping center from 9am-1pm. The best and most affordable plants in my yard have come from these sales!

April Gardening Tips:

Enjoy your spring bulbs and let the leaves turn brown before cutting them off. You can double them over and tie them with rubber bands to speed up that process. Also now is a good time to mulch so hopefully you won't have to weed as much!



RFCA BOARD MEETINGS MOVE BACK TO WEDNESDAYS

The monthly board meetings of the Civic Association will move back to Wednesday evenings for the rest of the term:

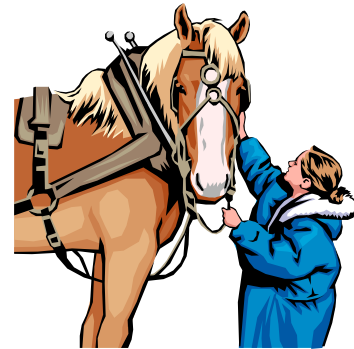
The next meetings are:

- Weds. March 30
- Weds. May 30
- Time & Place: 7:30 pm School Faculty Lounge

HAY RIDE RESCHEDULED AGAIN!

Despite being cancelled for bad weather, we will have the Belgian Draft Horses come and give rides around the neighborhood:

Date: Sunday April 3
 Time: 4:00 to 6:00 pm
 Where: Meet at the church



AMERICA'S ADOPT A SOLDIER



We Care Campaign

We need notes, letters and cards to send to our deployed Service Members and Veterans (Veterans Homes and Hospitals) year-round. A pack of crayons and some copy paper is just perfect to write a note of thanks or encouragement or even to draw a scene from home. Your note doesn't have to be long; just a short simple word of thanks to our soldiers. Getting together with friends? How about a spending a few minutes together writing thank you notes to our veterans?

Mail to Americas Adopt A Soldier P.O. Box 1049 Springfield VA 22151

Contact:
 Mary E. Keeser
 America's Adopt a Soldier
 Chairman & Founder
 email contact@americasadoptasoldier.org

50 FREE RAIN BARRELS FOR RAVENSWORTH RESIDENTS

The Board of RFCA has received a grant from TransUrban to provide Ravensworth residents with 50 free rain barrels. These normally cost between around \$50 - \$65. Don't know what a rain barrel does? See the information: Why Rain Barrels and Rain Barrel FAQ (below).

How to get one? Well, the details are still being worked out, but you will have to:

- Register in advance online. [A link will be provided on our website.]
- Attend a workshop where you and your neighbors will assemble it. The first workshop will be the May 26th regular civic association meeting. Another workshop will be announced later.
- We will provide the accessories you need to attach it to your rain downspout at the workshops.

The first 50 people to register and attend the meeting will get their rain barrels! Keep watching the website or read next month's Farmer for more information.

WHY RAIN BARRELS?

Rain barrels can be attached to your downspouts to capture runoff from the roof. By installing a rain barrel at your home you will:

Provide your plants with water they will love! Unlike treated water, which is "softened" with dissolved minerals, rain water is naturally soft. The water stored in your rain barrel is better than municipal water for washing your car and watering indoor or outdoor plants.

Save money and water! Instead of water from the tap or faucet, you can use the water you've saved to keep your home landscape happy and growing. You'll also reduce your municipal water bill!

Protect the Chesapeake Bay! Water stored in your rain barrel is water that won't rush off into our streams. Instead, as you use the stored rain water around the home and garden, it will absorb slowly into the ground replenishing groundwater supplies. By decreasing the volume of storm runoff, rain barrels also help moderate stream erosion and the resulting pollution that is impairing the Chesapeake Bay.

Questions, e-mail the rain barrel program or call 703-324-1428.

RAIN BARREL FAQs

What do the rain barrels look like and where do you get them?

The rain barrels are made from black plastic barrels that used to hold pickles, olives, peppers or onions. We purchase these barrels from a variety of barrel distributors and reuse them as rain barrels.

How large are the rain barrels?

The rain barrels hold approximately 50 gallons. They are roughly 23 inches wide. They range from 41.25 inches to 43.75 inches tall.

Will I get mosquitoes in my rain barrel?

The rain barrels are capped with fiberglass screen that allows water in, but keeps mosquitoes from getting into the barrel to lay their eggs. However, if you are concerned about mosquitoes breeding in your rain barrel, you can add



half a Mosquito Dunk to the water in your barrel to kill mosquito larvae. Mosquito Dunks can be purchased at most garden supply stores.

I prefer not to shorten my downspout. Is there another way to hook up my rain barrel?

Another option for installing your rain barrel is to use a downspout diverter. Diverters can be manual or automatic. The main advantage of the diverter is that it can be used to regulate the flow of water into the rain barrel. Often you also don't have to shorten your downspout, but you will likely still have to cut into the downspout to install the diverter.

Is the water in the rain barrel safe to use in my vegetable garden?

There are differing opinions on this subject. Rain barrels that collect water from copper roofs or from roofs where wooden shingles or shakes have been treated with CCA (chromated copper arsenate) to prevent moss or algae growth, should not be used on edible plants. If you have treated your roof with chemicals or installed zinc strips to prevent moss or algae growth, you should also not use the water in your rain barrel in your vegetable garden. Other considerations include the potential for air pollution in your area. Water flowing from your roof can contain deposited air pollutants. However, this water may end up in your vegetable garden anyway. No matter what you decide, make sure to wash all your garden produce thoroughly before you eat it!

32ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE

The Ravensworth Farm Community Yard Sale is on Saturday, May 14, 2011, starting at 8AM at the Ravensworth Farm Swim and Racquet Club Parking Lot.

The Rain Date for the Yard Sale is Saturday, May 21, 2011

This is an opportunity for residents of Ravensworth Farm to sell some of your family goods and make some cash. The sale of goods is open to all community families, and **NO pre-registration** is required. Set up will start at 7:30 a.m. so come early to claim your family's spot.

Boy Scout Troop 991 will be available at 7:30 a.m. to help families unload their vehicles and during the yard sale to help as needed. The Boy Scouts will help any residents who need help loading their vehicles at their homes prior to the yard sale on May 13th. If you need help please contact Suzie Eggleston at 703-321-2070 by Wednesday, May 11th to set up a time.

The Boy Scouts will also be manning a concession stand during the yard sale.

Any questions, please contact Suzie Eggleston at 703-321-2070.



REPORTING A CRIME

Reference: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crs/>

The Citizen Reporting System (CRS) is designed to make it easier and more convenient for you to file a police report without leaving home; however, not every crime can be reported using the Citizen Reporting System.

What crimes DO qualify for CRS?

Please use the Fairfax County on-line reporting service for the following crimes:

- Alcohol Violations
- Check and/or Credit Card Case
- Civil Disputes
- Destruction of Property
- Disorderly Conduct
- Identity Theft
- Larceny up to \$5000
- Loitering
- Lost Property
- Noise Violations
- Obtaining False Identification
- Police Service
- Solicitor Violations
- Suspicious Events/Persons/Vehicles
- Trespassing
- Telephone Harassment/Threats
- Vehicle Tampering

What crimes can only be reported in person?

CRS is NOT appropriate for the following crimes:

- Larceny over \$5,000
- Larceny by force
- Larceny with a stolen drivers license, passport or social security card.
- Check, Credit card cases, stolen values over \$5,000
- Incidents occurring within past 30 minutes
- Violent crimes, completed or attempted
- Sex crimes, completed or attempted
- Theft or loss of a firearm
- Stolen vehicles, completed or attempted
- Stolen license plate
- Breaking and entering your home or business, completed or attempted
- Crimes committed due to race, religion, ethnic or national origin, disability and/or sexual orientation
- Aggressive driving

Why can't I use on-line reporting for all crimes?

Some crimes may require evidence collection, photography, or other investigative procedure which require an officer to respond to the scene of the crime.

Can I use CRS to report a hit and run crash?

- If the hit and run crash involves injuries, call 911
- If no injuries, call police non emergency number, 703-691-2131
- Call taker will determine whether your report can be taken by CRS

How long will it take to process my report?

Normally, within 72 hours



Can I get a copy of the report?

Actual police reports are not released since they may contain information critical to an investigation or which could be used for identity theft. A verification letter regarding your report may be obtained by calling the Fairfax County Police Department Central Records Section at 703-246-2272.

Can I report a crime that happened outside Fairfax County?

No, your crime or incident must have occurred in Fairfax County, VA. If the incident happened outside Fairfax County, VA, file a report in the jurisdiction where the crime occurred.

What is the purpose of filing a report with CRS?

- Primarily for insurance and police information purposes
- Case will not be investigated
- Assists in preventing future crimes by providing statistics on trends, locations and times of violations.
- May assist in the identification and return of stolen property recovered as the result of other investigations.

If I know who committed the crime, can I still use CRS?

Only if you do not pursue criminal prosecution through the courts

What if my incident does not qualify for CRS?

If your incident isn't eligible for online reporting or if you would like to speak directly to an officer, call the Fairfax County Police Department's non-emergency number, 703-691-2131. You may also go to any one of our eight Fairfax County Police - District Stations and report the incident in person.

To file a police report using the online reporting system, please visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crs/>

RFCA EMAIL—DO YOU GET IT?

Do you want to:

- Get emergency information quickly?
- Hear about neighbor's deaths and funeral arrangements?
- Advertise lost and found pets in the neighborhood?
- Learn about cancellations and changes?



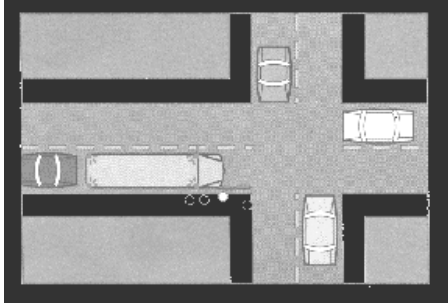
Then... it's time to sign up for the RFCA email blasts.

Please go to this website: <http://www.ravensworthfarm.org> and scroll down. On the lower right hand corner is a box called, "Stay Informed." Simply fill in your email address and you can be in the know! It's quick and easy.

STOP ON RED—KIDS AHEAD (THEIR LIVES DEPEND ON YOU)

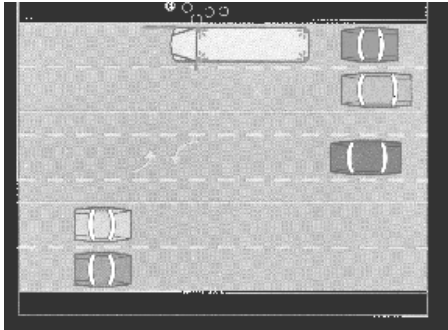
All Motorists **MUST STOP** for a **SCHOOL BUS** when a **SCHOOL BUS** is **STOPPED** for the purpose of **LOADING** or **UNLOADING CHILDREN**. Check out the **RULES** for these various situations:

At Intersections:



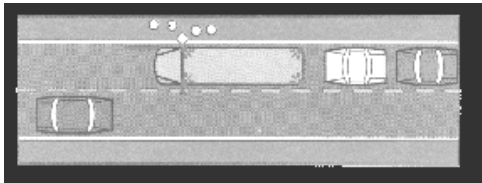
A driver approaching **FROM ANY DIRECTION** must stop and remain stopped until all children are clear of the highway and the bus is put in motion.

Undivided Highways or Streets:



All motorists must stop, **EVEN IN THE CENTER TURNING LANE**, and remain stopped until all children are clear of the highway and the bus is put in motion.

Even when Safety Devices are NOT working:



MOTORISTS ARE REQUIRED TO STOP, when a school bus is loading or unloading children even if the school traffic safety devices are **NOT** functioning properly.

There are legal penalties for not stopping. Penalties can include: Reckless Driving charge, Jail for not less than 12 months, Fine of \$2,500 (or **BOTH**), 4 points on your license.

Reference: <http://www.fcps.edu/fts/tran/safety/stopforbus.htm>

HOSPITALITY

Get well wishes go out to:

John Asiello, on Inverchapel Road had knee surgery on Feb. 24th.

Lois Kraft, Queensberry Ave. was in the hospital recently

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to the families of:

Tom Lytle on Landgrave Lane who passed away.

Martha Holmes, former resident of Oldcastle Road, who died at age 97.



CLASSIFIED ADS may be placed in the *Farmer* at no cost to residents of Ravensworth Farm. Please email Kathleen@ravensworthfarm.org or mail to P.O. Box 1020 Springfield, VA 22151. Deadline for each month's classified ads can be found in the chart on page 3. 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.

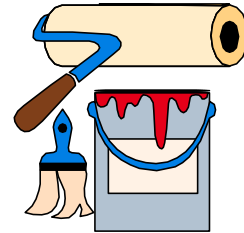
FOUND	Stainless steel watch on Hatteras Lane; please call (703) 321-0307.
FOUND	Sprint Blackberry on Queensberry, on 2/19/11, at approximately 2:30pm. Call 571-228-4513.
WANTED	Used card table. Call 703-321-7523.
SERVICE: NOTARY PUBLIC	NOTARY PUBLIC available in the neighborhood. Call Roger Ward at 703-321-7946.
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.

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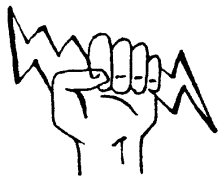
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Hope Lutheran Church is an inclusive and welcoming congregation, offering a variety of ways to become involved and/or to serve your community. Why not come and see for yourself?

Join us on Sundays for:

- Classes for kids and adults - 9am
- Worship at 10am Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday
- Kids' chapel during the service
- Attended Nursery available
- Coffee and fellowship before and after the service
- Monthly potlucks after the service on the 2nd Sunday – great food and fellowship!

Additional regularly scheduled activities:

- Wednesday Bible Study – 11 am and 6:30pm
- Monthly Men's and Women's Breakfasts
- Choirs – voice and bells
- English as Second Language classes
- Quilting group and Knitting/Crochet group
- And more!

Calendar notes:

- Ash Wednesday services, March 9 - 11am and 7pm
- Lent services, Wednesdays March 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, and 13 - 11am and 7pm
- Palm Sunday, April 17 - 10 am - Palms distributed
- Maundy Thursday, April 21 - 11am and 7pm
- Good Friday, April 22 – 7pm
- Easter Sunday, Festival Service, April 24 - 10 am

Hope Lutheran Church, 4604 Ravensworth Rd, Annandale, VA 703-256-9040

www.hopeannandale.org



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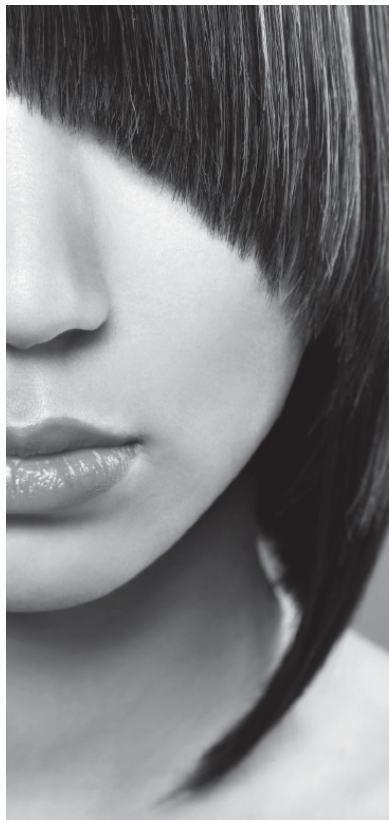


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- Hands on physical labor
- Floor plan arrangement
- Chaos-free downsizing

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- Lost productivity and vacation days
- Disruption of family routine

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We'll get your new home up and running in a day (Make bed, hang shower curtain, put soup away).

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Community of Christ

Experience a Ravensworth community church where all are welcome.

5610 Inverchapel Road, Springfield, VA
(703) 321-0507 (church)
(703) 409-1920 (pastor)

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

Please join us for these community activities:

- Children's Playground
- Picnic Area
- Ravensworth Golden Ravens
- Community Picnics and Yard Sales
- Christmas and Easter Special Activities for Everyone!

We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love, and peace.

www.CofChrist.org
www.cofchrist-cbmc.org

ReBuild

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www.rebuildwarehouse.org

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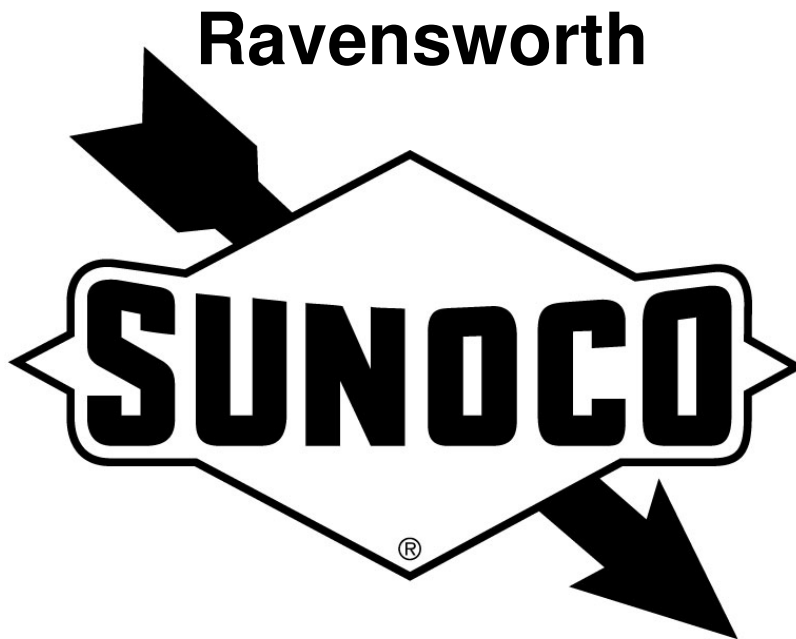
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