



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

November 2014

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

Issue 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Fall to all and since I missed our first issue I wanted to say I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is getting ready for a change of seasons. We on the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association are back in session for our 2014 -2015 calendar year and are gearing up for another great year. We have some new events planned which can all be found on our webpage under Current Announcements on the front page.

First of all I will be hosting a multi community town hall with Supervisor Cook on October 16 at 730 pm at the North Springfield Elementary School to talk about the Ravensworth Shopping Center construction project with the owner. The owner will present on the project then follow up with a Q&A session. Many of you contributed to the discussion on our Facebook page over the summer so I encourage you to join us and get your questions answered by those who will be making the decisions.

Next, our next Quarterly General Membership meeting will be October 30 at the Community of Christ Church off Inverchapel Road at 730pm. I am inviting Supervisor Cook to join us. This will be another great opportunity to get your questions answered and Supervisor Cook will be giving us an update on happenings in the Braddock District. This should be another informative session.

Con't Pg. 3

CAUTION

****BEWARE of SOLICITORS****

Due to a lot of soliciting activity in Ravensworth, including that which resulted in a criminal investigation, Detective Loesch and Officer J.T. Frey of West Springfield District Station's Crime Prevention Section requested that the Civic Association share information with the Ravensworth community.

Please see PAGE 20

Article 1, Section 3, of the Civic Association's By-Laws provides that the Association shall be strictly non-partisan, non-political, and non-sectarian. Accordingly, the invitation of elected officials and other public figures to speak at Association meetings, and the inclusion of paid political or commercial advertisements in the Farmer or in the attached flyers, do not constitute endorsements by the Association.

RAVENSWORTH FARM CIVIC ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Kevin Joyce	703-587-7989	prez@ravensworthfarm.org
1st Vice President	Mary Keeser	703-321-4925	vp1@ravensworthfarm.org
2nd Vice President	Dean Fix	703-321-3048	vp2@ravensworthfarm.org
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151	recsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Corresponding Secretary	Stephanie Hammond	703-321-0546	
Treasurer	Richmon Tun	703-321-1404	treasurer@ravensworthfarm.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative & County Affairs	VACANT		
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	703-209-4424	
	Brenda Soares	703-321-7856	
	Margaret Kinder	703-764-9576	
Hospitality	Jacqueline Fix Ruth Hartman	703-321-3048 703-321-8063	hospitality@ravensworthfarm.org
New Neighbors	Jill Mowbray	703-865-8368	bjm820@hotmail.com
Cultural Committee			
	Spanish	Dinora Gonzalez	703-321-0160
	Korean	Seo Pani	703-321-8081
Directory	Coordinator	Stephen Beste	703-321-9110
	Advertising	Katherine Craig	703-321-3149
Farmer	Editor	Sara Ortiz	703-321-8757
	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	Tom Terry	703-209-2675	rfnw@ravensworthfarm.org
PTA President, Ravensworth ES	Anita Bhatnagar	703-942-6806	president@ravensworthpta.org
Pool President	Rob Hannam	703-321-7398	
Green Thumb Garden Club	Doddie Cave Nancy Jarvie	703-321-9773 703-321-8319	
Golden Ravens	Joan Crofford	703-321-7809	

Association Meetings & Deadlines 2014 - 2015

MONTH	BOARD MEETING	<i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE	FLYER DEADLINE	PRINT <i>Farmer</i>	DELIVERY	ASSOC. MEETING
October	Oct. 1	Sept. 29	Oct. 2	Oct. 6	Oct. 18	Oct. 30
November	Nov. 5	Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Dec. 6	
December	Dec. 3	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 19	Jan.17	
January	Jan. 7	Jan. 7	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Feb. 7	
February	Feb. 4	Feb. 4	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 28	
March	Mar. 4	Mar. 4	Mar. 5	Mar. 10	Mar. 21	Mar. 26
April	Apr. 8	Apr. 8	Apr. 9	Apr. 16	May 2	
May	Apr. 28	Apr. 28	May 7	May 7	May 30	May 28

General and Board meetings will be held at Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Rd. Meetings are at 7:30pm unless otherwise announced.

Con't from Pg. 1

I will also be keeping us informed on developments with the Braddock widening project. There is nothing new to report as of this writing but hopefully by next month's newsletter I will have more information to share.

Lastly, we need help! Our longtime and talented Treasurer, Richmon Tun, and his family are moving. He will be greatly missed. Words cannot describe how much he's done for the community. He's done a lot of work in the public eye but also a tremendous amount behind the scenes. But this is an excellent opportunity for someone to see how our community works and give a little back. We have a great team of volunteers across the community and it would be fun to meet someone new with that curious spirit. Please email or call anyone on the board if you're interested. We'd love to meet you or someone you know who may be interested.

I'm looking forward to the cooler temperatures and more runs/walks in the park. I hope to see you out there or at our next meeting!

Warmly,
Kevin

SET YOUR WATCH AND MARK YOUR CALENDAR - FOR GOLDEN RAVENS

The number of older folks living alone without close family may be increasing, but there is a place for them at the table with Golden Ravens. A friend in need is a friend indeed. So, come on over on the fourth Wednesday and get acquainted with some neighbors and make some friends who need friends. Sharing a meal and some personal conversation or a learning experience could be the start of something big. You won't know if you don't begin. So mark your calendar on the fourth Wednesday for lunch with the Golden Ravens. We meet at the community church on Inverchapel at 11:30am or some local eatery. Call Joan Crofford – not the movie star – for plans and help with transportation. 703-321-7809.

THE FALL FESTIVAL - SATURDAY

The Civic Association's Fall Festival will be SATURDAY, October 25 from 4-6pm in the yard of Community of Christ Church on Inverchapel Rd. A community event requires community involvement (and it's lots of fun!). Contact Jen Auble at 703-922-9353 to volunteer.

Games. Moonbounce. Costume Parade (4:30pm). Hot dogs, potluck, and a campfire. Bring a side dish to share. This is a great opportunity for you and your kids to meet new friends in the neighborhood.



GOT BUGS?

Identify them at <http://www.InsectIdentification.org>.

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Join Boy Scout Troop 991!

We Want You!

We are looking for boys, age 11-17 (sixth grade through twelfth grade) who want to have fun, explore, and make a difference in our community!

About Us

We are Celebrating 50 years as Ravensworth's Boy Scout Troop! Chartered by Ravensworth ES PTA.

We offer a year-round program (can fit around sports) that includes a mix of outdoor activities, community service, fun and adventure!

We are Boy Led. Boys are elected to leadership roles and run the troop. Adult leaders are guides and mentors.

We offer a wide array of activities: camping, sports, merit badges, community service, and fellowship.

Contact Us

Bill Mitchell, Scoutmaster

phone: 703-321-8072

email: scoutmaster991@yahoo.com

2015 RFCA PROPOSED BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR OCT 1 - SEP 30

Annual Operations		14 Actual	Proposed 15 Budget
Annual Operating Revenue			
Membership		5,032	5,100
Advertising - Directory		2,220	2,220
Advertising - Farmer		3,150	3,200
Interest on Savings		209	200
Total Annual Operating Revenue		10,611	10,720
Annual Operating Expenses			
Farmer	Printing	1,626	1,626
	Distribution	1,350	1,350
	Typing and Formatting	1,000	1,000
		3,976	3,976
Directory	Printing	2,902	2,950
	Block Captain/Distribution	0	0
		2,902	2,950
Hospitality	New Neighbor Welcome	170	75
	Get Well/Hospitalizations	0	75
		170	150
Entrance Maintenance	Mowing	420	450
	Landscaping	491	550
	Flag - Scout		40
		911	1,040
Community Services & Events	International Picnic	0	300
	Halloween Party	465	400
	Spring Hay Ride	755	755
	Church	0	250
	Ravensworth Elementary	240	0
		1,460	1,705
Contingencies		0	170
		0	219
Administrative Expenses		283	250
Website /e-blasts		230	180
Annandale Fire Department		250	250
Total Annual Operating Expense		10,182	10,720
Annual Revenue minus Expenses		429	0

2015 RFCA PROPOSED BUDGET (CON'T)

Non-Recurring/Capital Expenditures - from Savings			
Bouncy bounce		500	
Entrance cleaning		800	
Billboard Sign			200
Volunteer Appreciation Reception			300
Door Prizes			650
Total Non-Recurring/Capital Expenditures		1,300	1,150

SUPERVISOR COOK & 2015 BUDGET AT OCT 30 CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Braddock District Supervisor John Cook will speak at the October 30 Civic Association Meeting. Likely topics will include Ravensworth school construction, traffic, speeding, Braddock Road widening, the Ravensworth shopping center. If there is a topic you would especially like him to address, please pass your topics of interest in advance to Civic Association First VP Mary Keeser at 703-321-4925 or vp1@ravensworthfarm.org or to Supervisor Cook’s office at 703-425-9300 or braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov. This will allow Supervisor Cook to research the topic before the meeting.

October is the start of Ravensworth Farm Civic Association’s fiscal year. A discussion of and vote on the following proposed budget will be held at the RFCA’s October 30 meeting.

TIME TO TRIM YOUR BUSHES?

Take a moment to check your trees, bushes, and ornamental grasses. Do they hang out onto or over the sidewalk? Could they catch someone’s hair or slap someone in the face? Do passersby have to step off the sidewalk or walk single file to get past? If so, please trim your bushes. The joggers, dog walkers, students, and parents walking their children to school will be most appreciative. If your senior neighbor’s bushes are infringing on the sidewalk, why not offer to do some trimming for them? If you need help, please call Sara Ortiz to coordinate for a volunteer—703-321-8757.



GAS LINE REPAIR PROBLEMS?



Washington Gas

If you’re having trouble with some of the paving or other repairs, temporary or permanent, made by Washington Gas’ contractors in the course of the gas line upgrade, contact Washington Gas at 703-750-1000.

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Ravensworth Resident

SOUND OFF!

What topics would you like to hear about at our Civic Association's three general meetings per year? Contact First VP Mary Keeser with your priorities from the list below and any ideas you have to offer. Mary can be reached at vp1@ravensworthfarm.org or 703-321-4925.

SUBJECT	WHAT
Attorney	Wills-Estate Planning
Mortgage Broker	Mortgage-Trends-Refinancing
Document Shredding	Securing Information-Why shred-What do we do with the material? Could we bring the shredding truck for free?
Construction	What do we need to replace/fix in our aging home?
Senior Care	In-Home? What do we need to do?
Cyber Security	Social Media-What do we need to do to stay secure?
Cold War Spy	Discuss her challenges
Homeless in Our Neighborhood	How do we address? Can we make a difference?
Animal Control	Controlled hunts in our park, animals searching for food.
Senior Pet Car	Do we need to change diet and exercise? Changes in activity? What should we look for?
Microsoft Instructor	How to use Microsoft Office 365
Pet First Aid	
College Applications	Your child and college application process
Summer Camps	Finding the right summer camp for your child.
Solar Power	Systems currently available for home installation
Green topics	How to "green" Ravensworth or your home?
Babysitting	How to become a certified babysitter (Red Cross or other)?

CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCE SERIES AT OLD TOWN HALL

The Children's Performance Series at Fairfax's Old Town Hall is held from September through June, on the first and third Mondays of the month at 10:30 am (except Government holidays). It is open to children of all ages, however especially for those who haven't yet started school! Music, movement, storytelling. The performances are free, but donations are gratefully accepted. 3999 University Drive; Fairfax 12/1 - Mr. Skip, 12/15 - Bob Brown Puppets



NEVER TOO YOUNG FOR STROKE

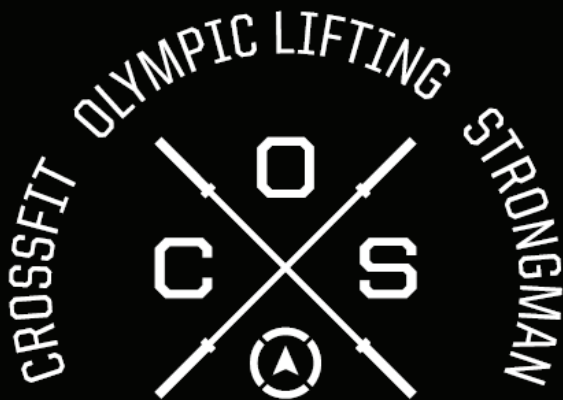
Univ. Fla. Health Science Center & Shands Healthcare 29 Sep 2014

Unless you're a senior citizen, and perhaps even if you are, you probably think you're too young to have a stroke. You're not. Stroke is on the rise worldwide in people age 64 and younger, as a 2013 overview study of more than 119 scientific studies showed. The truth is, stroke can happen to anyone.

There are two main causes of stroke. One is a clot in a blood vessel inside or leading to the brain, which blocks blood and oxygen from nourishing the organ. This type of stroke is called an ischemic stroke. A hemorrhagic stroke occurs when a blood vessel that feeds the brain bursts. According to the American Stroke Association, most strokes are caused by clots.

Other experts say young stroke patients have higher rates of stroke caused by hemorrhage than elderly patients do. The root of these hemorrhages and clots can vary by age. In elderly patients, high blood pressure and cholesterol are often to blame. Younger stroke victims are more likely than seniors to have a stroke caused by inherited disease affecting the heart or circulatory system. Sadly, that doesn't mean the results will be different. Stroke can cause serious disability, regardless of age. Many people die from stroke, and those who survive can suffer problems with speech, movement, vision, memory and swallowing ... along with other serious issues.

Keeping your heart and vascular system healthy is the best way to avoid stroke. In addition to eating well, exercising frequently and not smoking, that also means regular checkups to keep tabs on your heart and vascular health. If you have a disease that could raise your risk, heed your doctor's instructions to help you stay in the clear.



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WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

If you have new neighbors, tell Jill Mowbray. If you are a new neighbor- welcome! Please tell Jill you're here so that one of her committee members can stop by with information and some goodies. Jill Mowbray (703-865-8368, bjm820@hotmail.com).

**GET WELL SOON**

Best wishes for a speedy continued recovery for long-time resident Joan Peterson after her recent hospitalization.



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

FREE	Lewis Tagliaferre - Free computer work table, great for home or college. Contact lewtag@aol.com or phone 703-321-9268
SERVICES	Tyler Crum - With fall right around the corner, I wanted to let you know that I will be doing fall cleanups, including leaf removal, mulching, planting, and fertilizing. I also do exterior paint or stain on houses and decks. I know it's probably still a little soon to be talking about it, but I will also be doing snow removal this winter so please keep me in mind. You can call or text me at 703-966-4115 to set up an appointment. I have references in the neighborhood.
SERVICES	Dana Gleich - Ravensworth ES teacher available for after-school tutoring. All subjects, especially reading. Email dmgleich@fcps.edu .
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.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT RAVENSWORTH SCHOOL

by Twila Lytle

Last year companies donated over \$6,000 to Ravensworth School or the PTA. Schools are being asked to do more with less. You can help by participating in these programs that provide extra funds for schools:

- Earn 10 cents apiece by clipping Box Tops and giving them to a student, or mailing them to Attn: Boxtops Ravensworth Elementary School - 5411 Nutting Drive.
- If you have a Target Redcard, 1% of purchases go back to the PTA. Sign up through the PTA website or by calling Target Redcard services at 1-800-316-6142. The id for Ravensworth Elementary is 103696.
- Use the Amazon link on the PTA website for making Amazon purchases and 4% goes back to the PTA.
- Designate Ravensworth (id 02081) to get School rewards for the Giant A+ program for purchases made when you swipe or scan your Giant card.
- Designate Ravensworth (id 6629193) to get School rewards from the Escrip program for purchases made when scanning your Safeway card and paying with cash, check or debit.

You can link your cards or use the Amazon link by going to the PTA website <http://www.ravensworthpta.org/fundraising>. If you need assistance, contact Twila Lytle at 703-321-8713 or twilalytle@gmail.com. Encourage you friends, neighbors, and family members to support Ravensworth. It's nice to have money to spend!

Editor's Note: If you don't have a child at Ravensworth Elementary, give your Box Tops to a neighboring child. His or her class might win an extra recess, in addition to money for the school, thanks to your contributions!

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(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**

EVENTS

Oct. 1 - **Green Thumb Garden Club to Mount Vernon**, contact Ursula Schuttinga

****Oct. 1 - 7:30pm- Civic Association Board Meeting**

****Oct. 25 - 4-6pm, Ravensworth Farm Fall Festival at Community of Christ.** Bring a side to share, hot dogs provided; costume parade (4:30pm), games, cupcake walk, moon bounce, etc. Call Jennifer Auble to help 703-922-9353.

Oct. 25 - 10am-5pm- **Annandale Fall Festival and Parade** - Safeway shopping center on Little River Turnpike. Parade at 10:00am.

October 29 - last **Wakefield Farmers Market of the year**, 2-6pm, Wakefield Park

****Oct. 30 - 7:30pm - Ravensworth Farm Civic Association General Meeting** - Community of Christ church

Oct. 31 - **Fairfax County Schools Two Hour Early Release**

Nov. 3 - **Teacher Work Day** - No school

Nov. 4 - See you at the polls! **Election Day**

****Nov. 5 - 7:30pm- Civic Association Board Meeting/Information due for Farmer**

Nov. 14 - 5:30pm - **Funtastic Friday at Parkwood Baptist** (Braddock & Kings Park Dr). Free but register at parkwood.org or 703-978-8160

Nov. 15 - **Animal Lore at Lake Accotink Park**, \$, registration required

Nov. 17 - **Babysitting Co-op Meeting** Call Cathy Riedel for more information

Nov. 26 - **Fairfax County Schools Two Hour Early Release**

Nov. 27 - **Thanksgiving Day**

Nov. 28 - **No School**

****Dec. 3 - 7:30pm- Civic Association Board Meeting/Information due for Farmer**

Dec. 13 - **Animal Tracking at Lake Accotink Park**, \$, registration required

Dec. 11-13 - 6pm - **Christmas by Candlelight Concerts at Immanuel Bible Church.** Free but tickets required.

Dec. 13 - 4-8pm- **Bethlehem Walk at Parkwood Baptist** (Braddock & Kings Park Dr). Free

****Dec. 15 - Christmas Lights Judging due**

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 - **No School**

Dec. 25 - **Merry Christmas!**

POOL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Ravensworth Farm Swim and Racket Club Fall General Membership Meeting will take place at the Community of Christ fellowship hall at 5610 Inverchapel Road on Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30 pm.

Come to hear a recap of the season's pool business, competitions, and social events, as well as plans for next year. Share your own feedback and ideas -- this is YOUR pool, and we want to hear your perspectives.

The agenda will include a vote to confirm the RFSRC acting Vice President Karen Hampton for a full term on the board. Any RFSRC members wishing to run against an incumbent may be nominated or self-nominate at the October general membership meeting, for an immediate vote.

To have an item added to the agenda, please email Secretary@ravensworthfarmpool.com.

Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit a proxy at the RFSRC website and designate either the board in general, or any individual RFSRC member who will be present, to vote in their places. You will need to sign in to the website to access the member proxy registration. <http://www.ravensworthfarmpool.com/>

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BALLOTS & OTHER INFO FOR NOV. 4

Polls are open 6:00a.m. to 7:00p.m. Our precinct is 115 and votes at Ravensworth Elementary School.

Items up for vote are:

U.S. Senate seat, statewide - Candidates are: Gillespie, Warner, and Sarvis

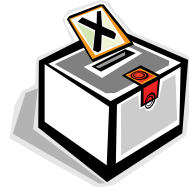
Member U.S. House of Representatives, District 11 - Candidates are: Scholte, Connolly, Galdo, Harrold

Proposed constitutional amendment - Virginia

Question: Shall Section 6-A of Article X (Taxation and Finance) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

Fairfax County transportation bonds

On Tuesday, November 4, Fairfax County voters will be asked to vote YES or NO on a \$100 million transportation bond question in the general election.



If approved, the money is intended to provide:

1. Spot road improvements to increase roadway capacity, reduce congestion, improve safety, and improve transit access (\$16 million)
2. Pedestrian improvements to improve capacity, enhance safety, and complete missing pedestrian links that connect neighborhoods, and improve access to schools, Metrorail stations and activity centers (\$77.5 million)
3. Bicycle improvements that include developing new bicycle facilities, constructing trails, adding bicycle parking and enhancing accessibility (\$6.5 million)
4. The proposed bonds are also one of the many funding sources identified to pay for \$1.4 billion in transportation priorities over the next six years. Due to the flexibility of bond funds, projects like spot roadway, pedestrian, and bicycle projects can be funded and implemented efficiently and expeditiously. These projects were identified through extensive public outreach and engagement, called the Countywide Dialogue on Transportation.

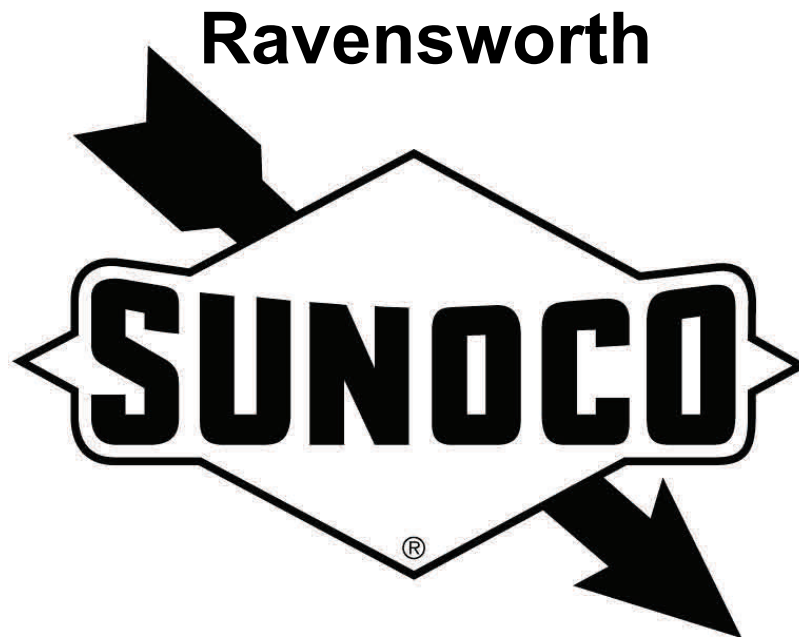
PHOTO ID NOW REQUIRED TO VOTE

As of August 2014, Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification (photo ID) at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be required to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections. Acceptable forms of identification for in-person voting include the following:

Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card, Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card, Valid United States Passport, Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by US Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, Valid college or university student photo identification card (must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia), 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, OR a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office

Don't have a proper form of ID? Any registered voter who does not possess one of the above mentioned forms of photo ID, may 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 Card will have to 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.



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BEWARE OF SOLICITORS

Editor's Note: Due to a lot of soliciting activity in Ravensworth, including that resulting in criminal investigation, Detective Loesch and Officer J.T. Frey of West Springfield District Station's Crime Prevention Section requested that the Civic Association share the following information with the Ravensworth community.

Door-to-Door Solicitors

Is the salesperson at your door properly licensed? Know your rights under the federal "Cooling Off" rule and the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act. These laws apply to virtually all purchases made in your home or at any location that is not the seller's permanent place of business

Peddlers and Solicitors

Soliciting is the sale of goods or services door-to-door or from a temporary stand and is regulated by Fairfax County Code. Fairfax County requires peddlers and solicitors be licensed before they solicit door to door. They may solicit only between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., and may not solicit at a residence which posts a "No Peddlers or Solicitors" sign.

A peddler or solicitor must show the license upon request and must leave the premises immediately if asked to leave. Often solicitors will show customers an ID badge or some other document, claiming that they are licensed by Fairfax County when they are not.

When a solicitor knocks...

- Ask for his or her license.
- If they do not have a valid license, ask them to leave.
- Close and lock your door.
- Immediately call Fairfax County Police (non-emergency) at 703-691-2131 to report the violation.

Solicitors offer a wide variety of goods and services for sale. Solicitors may be selling goods or services such as magazine subscriptions, tree work, firewood, driveway sealing, coupon books, or meat; or "setting appointments" for high-speed internet/cable service, home improvements, or home security alarms. No matter what good or service they are offering, the solicitor is required to have a license.

The Fairfax County Solicitor's License is a laminated card that displays the solicitor's photograph, name, and personal information on the front side. The back side of the license displays the solicitor's business information and thumbprints. It is valid for one year from date of issue.

Buyer's Right to Cancel

Virginia law gives consumers the right to cancel a home solicitation contract for \$25 or more at any time prior to midnight of the third business day after the date of the transaction. Consumers have up to 30 days to cancel if the seller has misrepresented the nature or purpose of transaction. A waiver or modification of a buyer's right to cancel is void and of no effect. In the event a buyer grants such a waiver or modification, the buyer's right to cancel begins on the first business day after he learns that the waiver or modification is void and of no effect.

Cancellation occurs when the buyer gives written notice of cancellation to the seller. After cancellation, the consumer must make available to the seller any goods delivered by the seller, and in as good condition as when received. If a seller fails to recover the goods within 20 days after cancellation or revocation, then the goods become the property of the buyer, with no obligation to pay for them.

The Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act does not apply to sales resulting from prior negotiations between the parties, or in some cases when the buyer has asked the seller to provide goods or services without delay because of an emergency.

Con't Pg. 22



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Con't from Pg. 20

The Seller's Obligations

The seller must tell you about your cancellation rights at the time of sale. The seller must provide you with a copy of your receipt (for cash sales) or contract (for credit sales). The receipt or contract must be in the same language used in the sales presentation. The receipt or contract should be dated, show the name and address of the seller, and explain your right to cancel. Virginia law requires that the Buyer's Right to Cancel must appear as a conspicuous caption on the front side of the receipt or contract, or immediately above the buyer's signature, in bold face type with a minimum size of 10 points. Under federal law, the seller must give you two copies of a cancellation form: one to keep and one to send.

After you cancel within permitted time-frames, the seller has 10 days to:

- Refund your money.
- Cancel and return any promissory note or other negotiable instrument you signed.
- Return any trade-in you gave, and return it in as good condition as when received by the seller.
- If the seller fails to return the trade-in, you may recover its equivalent monetary value as stated in the agreement.

After cancellation, a seller who provided goods has 10 days to inform the buyer whether the goods will be picked up. A seller who does not recover the goods within 20 days of cancellation forfeits ownership of them. The seller is not entitled to compensation for services performed prior to the end of the cancellation period. A violation of any provision of the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act is subject to any and all of the enforcement provisions under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Stayed tuned for Part 2, which will be available in next month's Farmer.

RAVENSWORTH FARM ON FACEBOOK

Want to keep up with issues, have firewood to give away, 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.

RAVENSWORTH BABYSITTING CO-OP

If you have children ranging in age from baby to younger elementary, you may need the Babysitting Co-op for no-cost, no-guilt babysitting swaps. Join the co-op through sponsorship by a current co-op member. Contact Cathy Riedel or any other co-op member for more information or to attend the next meeting.

FAIRFAX SCHOOLS DRAMA

If you're a fan of middle school and high school theater, or just enjoy a good show without the high ticket prices, check out www.fcpsdrama.com for dates and shows for most Fairfax County schools' productions.



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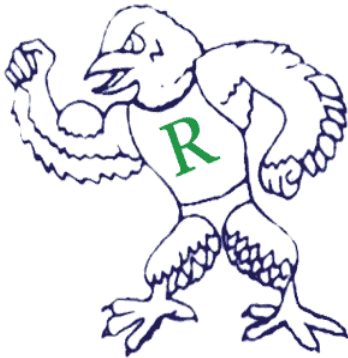


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Swim and Dive Team registration
information located on line.

Summer Employment Opportunities

Go to the website for more information regarding the following positions: Manager, Life Guard, Snack bar.