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RAVENSWORTH PLANTATION, VA.

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

November 2019

The Ravensworth *Farmer*

Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Farmers:

Nearly a year and a half ago, the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association ("RFCA") Board of Directors called an emergency meeting to address the danger to Lake Accotink, and it seems now that the danger has passed--for the most part. Fairfax County Park Authority had begun the process of updating the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan, and, as part of that process, the Park Authority had proposed various options for the future of Lake Accotink. Several of those options destroyed or dramatically reduced the size of Lake Accotink, and it was apparent that the Park Authority favored these proposals. The RFCA Board, therefore, determined that it was necessary for the civic association to call a meeting about Lake Accotink.

Braddock District Supervisor John Cook attended that meeting and advised those in attendance that if we wanted to save Lake Accotink, we needed to form an organization and start a social media campaign and petition. Several of the neighbors there met in the back of the school cafeteria and agreed to form a nonprofit organization, Save Lake Accotink. A week later, Save Lake Accotink was officially organized.

Since then, Save Lake Accotink has distributed hundreds of yard signs and car magnets and collected thousands of signatures. Save Lake Accotink has been universally

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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	VACANT		
Recording Secretary	Ginger Rogers	703-321-1151	recsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Corresponding Secretary	Diwakar Sharma	571-314-2400	corsec@ravensworthfarm.org
Treasurer	John Ritchie	703-321-8427	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	

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Entrance Committee	James Walkinshaw Margaret Kinder	703-314-1473 703-764-9576	james.walkinshaw@gmail.com
Hospitality	Ruth Hartman	703-321-8063	hospitality@ravensworthfarm.org
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Directory	Coordinator Advertising	Stephen Beste VACANT	703-321-9110 directory@ravensworthfarm.org
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Community Organizations			
PTA President, Ravensworth ES	Andrea Poole		president@ravensworthpta.org
Pool President			
Green Thumb Garden Club	Karen Aftergut		

Association Meetings & Deadlines 2019-20

MONTH	BOARD MEETING, <i>Farmer</i> DEADLINE, FLYERS DUE	<i>Farmer</i> DELIVERY	EVENTS
October	2	26/27	12 – Community Yard Sale (pool lot, 8-11am) 17 – Civic Assoc Mtg 26 – Fall Fest (church, 2-4pm)
November	Oct. 30	23/24	
December	4		14-15 – Holiday Lights Judging
January	8	Feb. 1/2 (Feb. 8/9 snow)	
February	5	29/Mar. 1	Leap Year!
March	4	28/29	19 – Civic Assoc Mtg/ Taste of Ravensworth/ 60th Anniversary Celebration
April	1	25/26	
May	Apr. 29	16/17	9 – Community Yard Sale 21 – Civic Assoc Mtg
Summer			Last weekend of August 2020- BBQ

Unless noted otherwise, all Board Meetings are 7:30pm at Community of Christ Church; All Civic Association Meetings are 7:30pm at Ravensworth Elementary School.

Con't from Pg. 1

praised for its effectiveness. We owe a debt of gratitude to all those who helped in the effort, the thousands of community members who voiced their support for saving Lake Accotink, and especially the key organizers, Scott Houghton, Vikram Shrivastava, Tyler Small, Richard Hildebrand, Stephanie Hopkins, Wade Corder, and Shane Shroeder of Ravensworth Farm, Mike and Cathy Field of North Springfield, and Barbara Coder of Crestwood. I would be remiss if I did not also mention all those who have worked with Friends of Lake Accotink Park and Friends of Accotink Creek who helped spread the word and all those who attended the several public meetings to show support for our beloved lake. I am filled with great pride that my neighbors have led the effort to save Lake Accotink, ensuring that Ravensworth Farm is energetically represented in Fairfax County public advocacy.

On September 19, at a public meeting held in the Cardinal Forest Elementary School cafeteria, Supervisors Cook and McKay and various officials from the Park Authority and other Fairfax County departments confirmed that our efforts to save Lake Accotink bore fruit. The Park Authority announced that the decision has been made to form a permanent plan for the dredging and maintenance of Lake Accotink as we have known it for decades. Details of the dredging and maintenance plan will be completed sometime next year. The Board of Supervisors has also identified sources of funding for the project, which, at roughly \$30 million, will cost millions less than originally projected.

On the downside, to effectuate a permanent plan for the preservation of Lake Accotink, permanent infrastructure will be constructed. We do not yet know exactly what this infrastructure will look like or exactly where it will be built, but the tentative plan is to build a permanent pipeline to pump dredged slurry from the lake to southwest corner of Wakefield Park, where dredged material will be dewatered and then loaded onto trucks. The trucks will haul the dredged material to nearby quarries for disposal.

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Con't from Pg. 3

Watching this process unfold has been an uplifting experience. The community identified a problem and worked together with government officials to devise a solution, and government responded to meet the needs and demands of the public it serves.

Thank you.

Truly yours,

Allan B. Robertson, President
Ravensworth Farm Civic Association

BOY SCOUT TROOP 991

In the last four years eight Scouts of Troop 991 have joined the ranks of Neil Armstrong, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, the founder of Walmart Sam Walton, Steven Spielberg, and Mike Rowe by becoming Eagle Scouts. Scouting sets a foundation for success. If you're interested in your child following a similar path 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 Scoutmaster Ed Haggerty @ 703.622.5831 or Edwardhaggerty1@me.com. Or come by and see for yourself what you're missing!





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COUNTY ANNOUNCES PLAN TO SAVE LAKE ACCOTINK

By John Cook, Supervisor (Braddock District)
reprinted from The Connection newspapers

Two years of advocacy and resident involvement paid off big time when I, Supervisor Jeff McKay, and Park Authority staff announced last week our plan to save Lake Accotink forever. It was a great day for the community. This plan costs less than the original forecast, dredges the lake, provides for regular continued maintenance dredging, and will not require any large trucks to drive through neighborhood streets.

The Park Authority announced two years ago that Lake Accotink was in danger of disappearing absent new dredging. Since then my office and the Park Authority have held multiple community meetings to inform the public and listen to the community's preferences for the future of the lake. Community input was and remains vital in deciding how to move forward. A community survey initially found an overwhelming majority wanted to save the lake. Thousands of residents signed petitions with the same position. Of the five lake management options presented by the Park Authority, the most popular one called for the installation of a sediment forebay and the full dredging of the lake. Supervisor Jeff McKay and I and the Park Authority held a final community meeting on Sept. 19, 2019 to review the Park Authority's final recommendations for lake management.

The Park Authority's recommendation is to do an initial wet dredge of the lake to an average 8-foot depth. Regular dredging on a much smaller scale would continue in future years. The initial dredge would cost a total of \$30.5 million to complete and \$2.013 million annually to maintain. This is much less than the \$50 million we expected last year. The sediment collected in the dredging would be brought by pipe to an unused area of Wakefield Park under the power lines for dewatering. Once it dries, the dirt would be trucked out of the county via the I-495 beltway. No truck would need to use neighborhood roads. The Wakefield dewatering area gives direct access to Braddock Road, and a minimal impact on wetlands in the area. Further study found trucking was the best way to move the final dirt.

The dewatering system recommended by the Park Authority is known as the Geotextile Fabric Dewatering System. This reusable system easily accommodates large volumes of sediment. It reduces dewatering time versus the traditional basin method and does not disturb the ground at the installation site. It will require trucking sediment to a permanent disposal location at the end of the process.

The sediment field is recommended to be placed north of Braddock Road. This location is ideal due to its proximity to the Braddock Road access route. The sites considered south of Braddock Road would cause an increase in construction and trucking activities near residential communities. By building the dewatering site north of Braddock Road the site would have access to on-site dewatering and quick access to I-495 to truck to the final disposal site. Lastly, it would have the least impact to streams and wetlands compared to sites below Braddock Road.

The Board of Supervisors will vote on this proposal on Oct. 29. There is still time to voice your opinions to my office. You can email us at Braddock@FairfaxCounty.gov or call us at 703-425-9300.

Source:

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2019/sep/26/opinion-commentary-county-announces-plan-save-lake/>

BLOCK CAPTAINS - SMALL AMOUNT OF TIME, BIG REWARD

Block captains deliver pre-paid Directory orders and sign up new Civic Association members and deliver Directories on the spot. You can usually complete your duties in one November afternoon. When neighbors aren't home, leave them a note so they can contact you to join. Some of your neighbors volunteered last year. However, many streets didn't have active block captains so many households that normally would join did not join. Sign up for some blocks 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.

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NEIGHBORHOOD ENTREPRENEUR: CAROLINE'S BAKED GOODS

Thirteen year old Caroline Beck has been making music since she was five years old. First on the piano and then nearly three years ago she started taking harp lessons. Her hard work and dedication quickly surpassed the family music budget for future opportunities she'd like to pursue to develop her talents. Instead of giving up, Caroline cooked up a great idea for earning the money for summer music camp and a new harp and her baked goods business was born.

Caroline is selling and delivering baked goods each week, generally Mondays. So far, Caroline has baked whole wheat and white breads and cinnamon rolls. According to her mother, Shaela, the bread freezes well and warms up beautifully. In addition to the loaves, Caroline will be offering cinnamon rolls, dinner rolls, and pies in the coming weeks. To find out what Caroline will be baking each Monday, email her at carolinesbakedgoods@gmail.com to be put on her distribution list or call her at 703-321-7469.

ADVERTISE IN THE RAVENSWORTH FARMER

Reach more than 850 homes with news of your services or merchandise seven times over the 2019-2020 year. Contact Katherine Craig at ads@ravensworthfarm.org for ad sizes, rates, and information on permanent ads in the body of The Ravensworth Farmer. Alternatively, you can include an insert in The Ravensworth Farmer that you can change each month, provide 900 copies of your flyer and a check for \$45 made out to Ravensworth Farm Civic Association to John Ritchie before each month's flyer due date (see page 2). You can reach John at 703-321-8427 to coordinate drop-off.



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NO GLASS CONTAINERS IN CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Posted on October 2, 2019 -

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/glass-containers-no-longer-required-in-curbside-recycling-program/>

To improve the quality of single-stream recycling, we will no longer accept glass bottles and jars in curbside recycling bins effective Oct. 1. This change applies to county collection customers and private haulers.

You now have two options for glass disposal:

- 1) Deliver used glass containers to purple, glass-only recycling containers; there are now 21 purple containers available, and more sites are being evaluated to make dropping off glass more convenient.
- 2) Place used glass in the trash.

Why Is This Changing?

The decision to remove glass from the single-stream recycling program was made after consulting with private recycling sorting centers and Covanta Fairfax, Inc., which operates the waste-to-energy plant.

Glass creates three main problems for single-stream recycling:

- 1) Glass containers placed in curbside recycling bins breaks during collection and transport to recycling sorting centers. Broken glass contaminates bales of other more valuable recycled items, such as cardboard and metals. Contamination has become a major problem for the recycling industry in the past two years since China, the largest customer for recycled material, imposed strict standards on the quality of recycled material it accepts.
- 2) The abrasive broken glass damages machinery.
- 3) Glass is also heavy, which adds cost to transporting recyclables to and from recycling centers.

Recycle Glass at a Purple Bin

Collecting glass separately in a purple container will reduce contamination levels in single-stream recycling. All colors of clean glass bottles and jars are accepted in the purple containers. Glass items not accepted include lamps, light bulbs, ceramics, porcelain, mirrors, windows, and sheet glass.

Glass collected in purple containers is delivered to our glass processing plant in Lorton, the only glass processing plant in the region. Glass is crushed for use in a variety of projects and beneficial applications, such as pipe bedding and filter material.

DC TO TEAR DOWN RFK STADIUM

By Dan Taylor, Patch.com Staff, Sep 6, 2019

It's time for D.C. to say goodbye to RFK Stadium. The Washington Post reports that the District will tear down RFK by 2021 in an effort to save money, and not as a precursor to building a new stadium to bring the Redskins back into D.C.

RFK Stadium was home to the great Redskins teams of the 1980s and 1990s that won Super Bowls 17, 22, and 26. The Redskins left the 47,000-seat stadium for FedEx Field in Prince George's County, Md. in 1997. Officials have released a request for proposals for contractors to demolish the stadium.

After the Redskins left, the stadium briefly hosted the Washington Nationals before their stadium was completed, as well as D.C. United for much longer -- but even they left for Audi Field last year. As a result, RFK has struggled to attract events, and maintenance now costs more than it is bringing in, according to the Post.

TEACHER WORKDAY CAMPS

Need something fun, engaging, and academic for your child (grades 3-8) to do during teacher workdays? FCPS Adult and Community Education (ACE) has the solution, with a full-day, affordable camp. Introduce your child to a foreign language and related cultural culinary activities taught by enthusiastic and experienced instructors. Each day is a new adventure!

Camp dates: October 14, November 4-5, and December 23. Camps start at 9 a.m. with before-care starting at 7:30 a.m., and after-care from 3:30-6 p.m. Sign up for all four days and receive a discount. To apply this bundle discount, call the ACE registration office at 703-658-1201. Camp offerings and prices may be viewed on the ACE website (<https://aceclasses.fcps.edu>) by clicking on K-12 Classes and Camps. Registration may be completed online, by phone at 703-658-1201, by mail, or in person.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

By Ms. Erika Aspuria, Principal, Ravensworth Elementary School

Happy fall to everyone from the Ravensworth Elementary School Ravens!

The school year is off to a fantastic start. We are proud to join the over 50 schools in Fairfax County Public Schools who are implementing The Positivity Project. The Positivity Project seeks to "empower America's youth to build positive relationships and become their best selves."

We are thankful to have such a supportive Parent/Teacher Association (PTA). They hosted the Back to School Bash in September and we are looking forward to Family Movie Night at the end of October. Want to see all the wonderful things happening at Ravensworth ES? Please follow us on Facebook @RavensworthElementary. We also have a Twitter feed @RavensworthES.

LAKE BRADDOCK THEATRE UPCOMING DATES

Lake Braddock Middle School Musical Theatre presents

Elf, Jr. November 21-24.

Ravensworth Elementary School alumni are among the cast. <https://www.lbmsmusicaltheatre.com/>

Lake Braddock High School Theatre Presents

Puffs - November 7 - 10, 2019

For seven years a certain boy wizard went to a certain Wizard School and conquered evil. This, however, is not his story. This is the story of the Puffs...who just happened to be there, too. A tale for anyone who has never been destined to save the world. *Puffs* or *Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic* is an Off Broadway comedy by Matt Cox.

A Piece of My Heart - February 20-22, 2020

The true story about six women in 1969 Vietnam. Three nurses, one musician, one Red Cross volunteer, and one career officer tell their stories from the day they signed-up, through their tours of duty, and ultimately to their lives stateside. A delicate balance of intense tales of horror and tragedy as well as inspiring recollections of the strength of the human spirit.

Love Letters - March 26-28, 2020

A unique and imaginative theatre piece which, in the words of the author, "needs no theatre, no lengthy rehearsal, no special set, no memorization of lines, and no commitment from its two actors beyond the night of performance." The piece is comprised of letters exchanged over a lifetime between two people who grew up together, went their separate ways, but continued to share confidences. As the actors read the letters aloud, what is created is an evocative, touching, frequently funny but always telling pair of character studies in which what is implied is as revealing and meaningful as what is actually written down.

<http://www.lbtheatre.com/>

5TH & 6TH GRADERS SKI FREE IN PA

Fifth and sixth graders from any state ski free in Pennsylvania through the SnowPass program found at SkiPA.com. You must purchase the SnowPass well in advance. Note that the program does require an adult lift ticket purchase although not all ski areas enforce that rule.

LONG-TIME RESIDENTS NEEDED

Ravensworth Farm will celebrate 60 years in 2020. The Ravensworth Farmer would like to share memories from original residents of Ravensworth Farm. If you think your neighbor should be interviewed, please email the editor at rfcafamer@ravensworthfarm.org with your suggestions. If you would like to interview your neighbor, even better!

FEWER TWINS

By Kiley Crossland, posted 10/4/19

The rate of twins born in the United States is at its lowest point in a decade, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Last year, about 124,000 U.S. babies were twins, about 1 in every 31 births. The rate peaked at 1 in 29 births in 2014. The CDC said the drop resulted mainly from advances in in vitro fertilization treatments. The success rate for a single embryo implantation has risen from 20 percent in the 1980s to around 50 percent today, making it much more common for doctors to implant just one embryo at a time.

Source: https://world.wng.org/content/political_advocacy_science_at_its_worst/#twins

STORM SEWER SYSTEM IMPROPER DISPOSAL

Editor's Note: Did you know that putting grass clippings, leaves, and pet waste down a storm drain can be considered an "illicit discharge" or "improper disposal" into the stormwater system? That's in addition to contributing to the sedimentation of bodies of water such as Lake Accotink.

Fairfax County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requires the county to implement an illicit discharge and improper disposal (IDID) program. The purpose of the IDID program is to prohibit any individual non-stormwater discharge that is contributing a significant amount of pollutants to the county MS4 and to state waters. The MS4 (also known as the storm drainage system) was designed to convey runoff from rain and snow-melt from the land to surface waters such as streams and rivers. Material that enters Fairfax County's MS4 does not go to a wastewater treatment plant. Therefore, chemicals and waste materials must not be disposed of in the MS4.

WHAT IS AN IDID?

Fairfax County defines an IDID as the intentional or unintentional release of non-stormwater materials that may enter the storm drainage system, streams or ponds by dumping, pouring, throwing, spilling, abandoning, negligent storage or through an illicit connection.

Examples Of IDID

Examples of IDID include, but are not limited to:

- Inappropriate disposal of grass clippings, leaf litter and pet wastes.
- Improper disposal of vehicle fluids and toxic wastes including motor oil, household hazardous wastes, and pesticides.
- Fats, oils and grease (FOG) from food service establishments.
- Liquid wastes such as oil, paint, and process wastewater (such as radiator flushing wastewater, plating bath wastewater, etc.).
- Saltwater and chlorinated swimming pool water.
- Gray Water - residential and commercial laundry wastewater, commercial carwash wastewater, fleet washing wastewater and floor washing wastewater.

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RAVENSWORTH BABYSITTING CO-OP

If you have children in the baby to younger elementary years, 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 Chris Hunt at starsman66@yahoo.com or any other co-op member for more information or to attend the next meeting.

NEW NEIGHBORS

New folks move in all the time, especially over the spring and summer. If you have new neighbors, tell Cindy Cho. If you are a new neighbor- welcome! Please let Cindy know you have arrived so that one of her New Neighbor Committee members can stop by with information and some goodies. Cindy Cho (choc64@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 rfcafarmer@ravensworthfarm.org or to PO Box 1733, Springfield, VA 22151. The classified ad section is a service to Ravensworth residents and is not intended for business or commercial use. Ads for house sales, commercial services, etc. will be run in this section once. If you wish to repeat your ad, you will need to purchase advertising in The *Farmer* .

<p>DONATIONS ACCEPTED</p>	<p>Good condition used clothes, baby gear (not cribs), and small, useful kitchen items for Immanuel's Hope and good condition clothes, winter outerwear, new socks, and small toiletries for Central Union Mission in DC. Drop off at Immanuel Bible Church lobby (Braddock Rd entrance #1) or the Ortiz home in Ravensworth Farm. Ortiz Family – 703-321-8757</p>
<p>WANTED</p>	<p>Good used furniture for needy low income families in the Annandale area. Needed are beds, dressers, kitchen tables & chairs, sofas, love seats, end tables lamps and TV's. Unfortunately, we cannot take sleep-sofas. Call Bill Sinclair at 703-321-7529 or the Annandale Christian Community for Action warehouse at 703-256-1991. Call the warehouse ONLY on Saturday mornings.</p>

SMOKED OUT

School bathrooms have long been associated with prohibited behaviors such as smoking or bullying. But the growing popularity of smoking electronic cigarettes—known as vaping—among middle- and high-school students has alarmed many school districts. Now, they are combating the trend with technology.

More than 200 U.S. and Canadian schools have installed an artificial-intelligence-based system called Fly Sense, which can detect both vaping and elevated sound levels that might indicate fighting or bullying.

Fly Sense isn't 100 percent accurate at detecting vaping signatures, and sometimes triggers false alarms. But when school officials get a Fly Sense alert, they can investigate to determine whether the system correctly identified a vaping incident. Feedback from these events helps the system become more accurate.

Fly Sense can monitor noise levels in bathrooms or locker rooms to detect potential bullying or fighting. The system alerts administrators when noise levels exceed a certain school-determined threshold. (To protect student privacy, Fly Sense cannot identify specific voices.)

Soter Technologies, which developed Fly Sense, claims it has helped schools decrease vaping incidents by 70 percent, on average, according to IEEE Spectrum. —M.C.

Source: <https://world.wng.org/> - Science & Tech – New Products



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EVENTS

*Something to add? Email RFCAFarmer@ravensworthfarm.org or call 703-321-8757 to add to the calendar of events. * notes Civic Association Events +notes Pool events*

*Oct 26 – 2-4pm **Ravensworth Farm Fall Fest**, Community of Christ yard on Inverchapel Rd

Nov 4,- 11am-12pm **Healthy Strides Wellness Book Club** @ George Mason Regional Library, Book: “Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics” by Dan Harris

Nov. 21-24 – **ELF Jr** by Lake Braddock Middle School Theatre; LBMSmusicaltheatre.com for info

Dec 2- 11am-12pm **Healthy Strides Wellness Book Club** @ George Mason Regional Library, Book: “Why We Sleep” by Matthew Walker, PhD

*Dec 14 or 15 – evening- **Holiday Lights Judging**, details TBA

*Mar 19 – 7:30pm **Ravensworth Farm Civic Association Meeting**, Ravensworth ES, Taste of Ravensworth and 60th Anniversary Celebration

*May 9 – 8-11m, **Community Yard Sale**, Ravensworth Farm Pool

*May 21 – 7:30pm **Ravensworth Farm Civic Association Meeting**, Ravensworth ES

+May 23 – 11am **Ravensworth Farm Pool Opens**

*Aug 29 – **Annual Ravensworth Farm BBQ**

Check out Lake Braddock Middle School theater production schedules at www.LBMSmusicaltheatre.com and Lake Braddock High School at <http://www.lbtheatre.com/>.

CITY INVESTS IN 13-YEAR-OLD'S HOT DOG BUSINESS

by Harvest Prude, 8/30/19

An entrepreneurial 13-year-old hoped to earn money for school clothes by selling hot dogs, chips, and sodas in front of his Minneapolis home this summer. But someone sent a complaint to the city’s health department because Jaequan Faulkner’s stand was technically illegal without a vendor’s license.

What did the city do? Instead of forcing Faulkner to close up shop, city officials gave him a hand up. Health inspectors taught him about proper food-handling techniques and provided him a tent, a hand-washing station, and a meat thermometer. They even paid the \$87 fee for a 10-day short term food permit. Minneapolis police officers picked up the tab for his next permit. Jaequan’s uncle, Jerome Faulkner, who helps his nephew, estimated they sold 100 to 150 hot dogs to a hungry lunch crowd every day.

Source: https://world.wng.org/content/city_invests_in_13_year_old_s_hot_dog_business

STORM SEWER SYSTEM IMPROPER DISPOSAL (CON'T FROM PG.13)

- Sewage and septic tank effluent

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If you are reporting an emergency situation that could result in imminent or substantial danger to the health and safety of persons, call 911. For all other IDIDs, call the Stormwater Planning Division, 703-324-5500, TTY 711 or complete the Report Illicit Discharges online form.

When reporting any IDID provide the following information:

- What you observed.
- Location of the discharge or improper disposal.
- Date and time that the discharge/disposal was discovered.
- Whether the discharge/disposal is ongoing.
- The suspected cause of the discharge/disposal.
- Your contact information (Reports may also be made anonymously, however staff will not be able to inform you of the outcome of an investigation.).
- Photographs of the incident, if available.

Source:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/stormwater/illicit-discharge-and-improper-disposal-idid-program>

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AIR NETWORK

Source: https://world.wng.org/2019/01/air_network

Stratospheric balloons to provide phone service for Kenya
by Michael Cochrane, January 31, 2019

In 2011, using a simple weather balloon and some basic, off-the-shelf radio equipment, engineers at Alphabet's research and development subsidiary, X, tried to show that balloons could provide internet and telecommunications coverage. By 2017 the technology of X's Project Loon, as it was known, was mature enough to provide emergency internet service for hurricane-devastated Puerto Rico.

Last year Alphabet (parent company of Google) spun off Project Loon into its own division within the company, and this year Kenya's telecommunications provider Telkom Kenya will use Alphabet's Loon balloons to provide countrywide mobile phone service—a commercial first for Loon.

Kenya is an ideal candidate for this kind of technological challenge. Its 50 million citizens use nearly 43 million mobile phones, according to the CIA World Factbook. But outside of major cities such as Nairobi, no infrastructure exists for mobile telecommunications.

"High-altitude balloons are actually a very reasonable way to approach this problem," Sal Candido, Loon's head of engineering, told IEEE Spectrum. "They're high, they cover a lot of ground, and there are no obstacles."

According to Candido, the key technological challenge was keeping the balloons relatively stationary in the stratosphere for hundreds of days. Loon's engineers solved this problem by developing a system to control automatically the balloon's altitude, taking advantage of different wind directions at various altitudes. Loon's engineers have become so good at navigating this system that the balloons to be used in the Kenyan system will be launched from Puerto Rico.

But even minor deviations in the balloons' locations can affect coverage, so Loon developed a method for the balloons to transmit data between them using direct, high-bandwidth connections. As a result, the entire airborne system will only need ground stations in the cities, not the rural countryside.

Loon will spend the first six months of 2019 testing the system before handing it over to Telkom Kenya, according to IEEE Spectrum.

A HISTORY OF RAVENSWORTH ELEMENTARY FROM 1962

Editor's Note: Fairfax County Public Schools recently had the history of Ravensworth Elementary School written and published on the school's website. There are great pictures included in the online version at <https://ravensworthes.fcps.edu/about/history/>.

Ravensworth Elementary School opened on September 3, 1963. However, our school was actually established during the 1962-63 school year. As we commemorate our more than 50 years of educating children in the Ravensworth Farms and Burke communities, we invite you to explore some facets of our unique and fascinating history.

Ravensworth Elementary School opened on September 3, 1963. However, oral histories and an old report card indicate that our school was actually established during the 1962-63 school year. During that time, while Ravensworth Elementary School was under construction, children from the Ravensworth Farms community were bused east of Annandale to the old Lincolnia Elementary School. Even though the students and teachers were housed in the Lincolnia building, they were officially organized as Ravensworth Elementary School.

In 2005, Mary Lipsey, a local historian and former Fairfax County Public Schools teacher, interviewed Ruth Miller for Braddock Heritage. Miller, who taught a combined class of second and third graders at Ravensworth from 1962-1964, shared some memories from the first year at Lincolnia.

Con't Pg. 24



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Con't from Pg. 22

“That was an older school and had large classrooms. My room was on the corner of the building, and I had a door out to the playground, which was marvelous, and lots of shelves. And being a science major, I encouraged children, or they just naturally had an interest, they'd bring in milkweed pods or bird nests, and I'd just put them on all the shelves. It was just marvelous. ~ Ruth Miller, Braddock Heritage Interview

Design and Construction

Ravensworth Elementary School was designed from 1961-62 by the architecture firm of Victor B. Spector & Associates, and was constructed from 1962-63 by general contractor M. L. Whitlow, Inc., at a cost of \$469,000. The building originally had just 16 classrooms and a multi-purpose room which functioned during mealtime as the cafeteria. The library was originally located on the second floor above the main office.

Duck and Cover

Ravensworth Elementary School was constructed during the period known as the Cold War—a time when the threat of nuclear war between United States and the Soviet Union (U.S.S.R.) seemed imminent. Once a week, public schools in Fairfax County conducted air raid drills, and students practiced what to do in case of an attack by the U.S.S.R. The State Board of Education strongly urged local school divisions to construct shelters in new school buildings, so during the planning process for our school the Fairfax County School Board directed the architect to plan an alternate design to include a basement level with a fallout shelter. The plans were shelved in January 1962, when, by a vote of three to two, the School Board decided against building a shelter at Ravensworth.

The First Additions

Ravensworth Elementary School opened during the post-World War II period known as the baby boom. In September 1960, there were 59,870 students enrolled in FCPS. By September 1970, enrollment had swelled to 133,362 students.

The first addition to Ravensworth Elementary School was constructed in 1963. Four classrooms, two on each floor, were built on the northeast end of the building. A single-story addition of six classrooms, connected to the four story addition, was constructed in 1966 at a cost of \$88,000, increasing the pupil capacity of the building to 780 students.

Fun Fact

Did you know that when Ravensworth Elementary School first opened there were no kindergarteners in our school? During the 1967-68 school year, a kindergarten program was piloted in several schools and proved so successful that one year later FCPS added kindergarten county-wide. Ravensworth opened its doors to the five-year-olds of our community in September 1968. FCPS enrolled approximately 8,000 children in kindergarten that year.

A Necessary Adjustment

From 1970 to 1977, enrollment at Ravensworth fell from 719 to 374 students. As enrollment declined, FCPS administrators reallocated four of Ravensworth's vacant classrooms for other purposes. A letter written by the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President of Ravensworth in 1974 indicates that one classroom was being used to house FCPS Human Relations staff, another was being used by county and state auditors, and two rooms were being used as storage space for materials from Woodburn Elementary School.

Originally the Ravensworth attendance area only encompassed the surrounding Ravensworth Farms neighborhood, but in 1977 our boundary was expanded to include the newly established and planned neighborhoods of Fox Lair and Signal Hill in Burke. After the boundary adjustment, enrollment gradually increased, and our population maintained a steady average of approximately 520 students throughout much of the 1980s.

The Little Red Schoolhouse

From 1963 to 1988, Ravensworth Elementary School did not have a gymnasium. Students of the 1970s attended physical education classes in “The Little Red Schoolhouse,” a portable classroom trailer that was located where the School Age Child Care (SACC) classrooms are today. As early as 1971, Ravensworth's PTA lobbied the School Board to construct a gymnasium and classrooms for art, music, and science. Funding finally became available for a gymnasium and music room addition in 1986. Construction began during the summer of 1987 and was completed the following spring.

Con't Pg. 25

Con't from Pg. 24

In 1988, voters approved the sale of bonds that funded the first building-wide renewal of Ravensworth Elementary School. A \$2.1 million contract for the renovation was awarded by the School Board to the Hess Construction Company in December 1989. During the renewal, air conditioning was added throughout the building for the first time, and a new media center was constructed.

Our Principals (1962-1992)

The first principal of Ravensworth Elementary School was Alice Tolliver. In 1964, she was succeeded by Ronald N. Carpenter. Principal Carpenter left Ravensworth in 1971 to open Forest Edge Elementary School in Reston. He was followed by Merlin Gil Meadows, who came to Ravensworth from Quander Road Elementary School in Alexandria.

Rita C. Apter became the fourth principal of Ravensworth Elementary School in 1976. Apter was formerly the principal of Vienna Elementary School. She left Ravensworth in 1979 to open Rocky Run Intermediate School near Chantilly. Our fifth principal was Janet R. Keith. Principals Apter and Keith are pictured below in these class photographs from 1979 and 1981.

Our records from the mid-1980s are incomplete, but we know that Janet Keith was succeeded as principal in 1984 by Nancy Burnett, who led Ravensworth through at least 1987.

Our seventh principal was Marilyn J. Helvie. Records indicate that Ms. Helvie was principal of Ravensworth from at least 1989 through 1995. During her principalship, Ravensworth became one of four schools chosen to pilot a new Spanish Partial-Immersion Foreign Language program.

Ravensworth Elementary School began its fourth decade with a newly renovated building. Our school was also in the midst of the pilot testing phase for a new Spanish Partial-Immersion Foreign Language program. The program proved so popular that, by 2003, Ravensworth was one of fourteen Fairfax County public schools offering Spanish-Immersion.

In 2003, thanks to a generous donation from Ravensworth's Parent Teacher Association (PTA), our computer lab was outfitted with a new, state-of-the-art wireless mobile laptop station.

Outdoor Learning

In the fall of 2004, Ravensworth debuted a new outdoor classroom. The gazebo was funded by an anonymous donation to Ravensworth's PTA.

The idea behind the gazebo, according to PTA member Elisa Meridian is to "get (students) outside and get some fresh air." The gazebo will be used for outdoor lessons, especially in science and art classes, and will eventually become a part of an "outdoor discovery schoolyard," which Meridian hopes will be used in many subject areas and will also include a small garden where students will plant bulbs and establish a butterfly conservancy. ~ The Connection Newspaper, Sept. 8, 2004

After the 2016 remodel, a new gazebo was built.

Ravens Town

By 2013, Ravensworth Elementary School had become significantly overcrowded and modular classrooms were brought in to handle the overflow. The cluster of modular classrooms became known as Ravens Town. In the spring of 2014, the Fairfax County School Board awarded a \$13.3 million contract for an addition and renovation project at our school to the V. F. Pavone Construction Company.

The project, completed in 2016, added 12,000 square feet of space, including new classrooms and a new library.

Our Principals (1992-Present)

In 1995, James Ray Ross became the eighth principal of Ravensworth Elementary School. After he retired, Pam McClelland served briefly as an interim principal until Pam O'Connor's appointment as principal in 2005. In 2013, Roxanne Salata became principal of Ravensworth Elementary School. In August 2019, she was succeeded by Erika Aspuria.



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