



## President's Message



Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. I admit it is being published a bit after the end of "actual" Spring but we have quite a few things to tell you about and we don't want to wait!

Your board has spent much of the past year (plus) working on improved processes and policies to ensure that our community is well-run for many years to come. In this newsletter you will see some of those recent highlights.

A key theme for us is to broaden community involvement in everything we do. From beautification efforts to board membership to social activities, we aim to bring together neighbors with a common interest in fostering a successful, inclusive, and beautiful Ramsey Ridge community.

If there are any topics or issues you would like to see emphasized, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. And please try to make it to one of our Social events this year to meet and greet friends, neighbors, and acquaintances.

With sincere appreciation for everyone in our neighborhood,  
Henry Clappitt, President

## Dewberry Drive Paving—2026

The back section of Dewberry Drive will be re-paved in late September. The project will extend from the Boysenberry intersection to the end of Dewberry Drive.



Our street paving is maintained by the state (DeDOT) under a public-use provision. Neighborhood paving is partly funded from discretionary budgets allocated by our State Representative and Senator. The RRSC board maintains contact with DeDOT and with our elected representatives to ensure timely street maintenance.

Funding for the 2026 paving project was sponsored by **Representative Krista Griffith** and **Senator Laura Sturgeon**. Their offices worked with us to ensure that the scope of the project was properly defined and funded. **We greatly appreciate their responsive engagement and support!**

RRSC will notify residents when the final start date is established.

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### Special points of interest:

- Dewberry Paving in September
- New Flower Beds (Beautification Committee)
- Plans underway for Entrance Renewal
- Plans underway for Board Renewal

## Beautification Committee

This year the Board has sponsored a new Beautification Committee. Led by Bill Schumacher, the committee is comprised of community members with an interest in helping out. The committee's role is to gather community input on seasonal plantings and decorations, present recommendations to the Board for funding, and then gather volunteers to help with installations.

Community input was gathered through email surveys of our residents. For the first initiative, the board approved funding to plant annual flower beds on the Dewberry islands.

The new beds were planted on

June 13th. Volunteers for the installation were **Bill & Pam Schumacher, Nadeem Faiz, Jim Kelly, and Steph Traver**. Planning support was also provided by **Kathy Blackhurst, Mary Peck, Julia Mullins, and Bill Farnham**.

The results look great !!

We are always interested in new committee members and volunteers ... and in new ideas to consider for "beautification".



For more information about the committee and future projects, contact **Bill Schumacher**.



## Valuable Local Resource: Mt Cuba Center

If you don't already know about the Mt Cuba Center you should check into it! It is close to Ramsey Ridge and is free to visit.

Mt Cuba is an organization willing to be helpful in all things for gardening and landscaping. Their specific focus is in on sustainable native plantings, for natural beauty and wildlife support.

The Mt Cuba Center offers many types of resources for local neighborhoods and also for individual property owners.

Included in their support efforts are things like:

- Native Plant Finder
- Trial Garden Research

- Ecological Gardening Classes
- Landscape Inspiration.

Mt Cuba is a beautiful property to stroll for inspiration and ideas regarding your landscaping.

More information about Mt Cuba can be found at:

<https://mtcubacenter.org>

## Upcoming Social Events

The Ramsey Ridge Social Committee organizes events which foster community spirit and connections.

Current plans for the rest of 2026 include:

- End-of-Summer Block Party Picnic — **Saturday Sept-12** (watch for the flyer)
- Fall Dinner ("Burger Night")

- End-of-Year Holiday Party

These are great opportunities to meet new neighbors and to keep in touch with long time residents.

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If you would like to help with planning and/or outreach for these Ramsey Ridge events, please contact **Kathy Blackhurst**.



## Operations Update

**Snow:** Last winter's snowstorms are behind us (whew!). Some of the storms were eligible for cost reimbursement. We ultimately came in under budget.

**Landscaping:** We have many service providers who help with neighborhood upkeep and repairs. Services include lawn cutting, tree and lawn fertilization, tree and shrub maintenance, sprinkler system maintenance, spring/fall cleanup, security, and lighting.

The hard-working committee overseeing this activity is comprised of **Dave Rada, Bill Schumacher, and John Strojny.**



**Landscape and Lighting Renewal:** We are studying plans to renew the plantings and lighting at the entrance. The walls are not as visible as we would like, and the lighting needs modernization.

This summer we will remove the overgrown holly trees from the areas in front of the walls. In the fall we will install new lighting to highlight the "Ramsey Ridge"

sign on each wall and of course to light up the beautiful stonework.

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The entrance welcomes each of us daily. Keeping it fresh is important for community value.

We will have more to report on this multi-year renewal effort as additional plans come together.

## Board Activities Update

The 2026 Directors and Officers are listed at the end of this newsletter.

As previously reported, Ken Murphy retired from our board after many years as Treasurer. The role is currently being performed by Henry Clappitt on an interim basis. **We are looking for a new board member who is willing to**

**serve as Treasurer.** If you are interested, please reach out to Henry Clappitt for more information on the role.

Since our last update, we have also taken on two new items: (i) we now have Surety coverage in addition to D&O insurance; and (ii) we have adopted a policy for ensuring that our year-end Oper-

ating funds are sufficient to carry us until annual dues are collected in the following year.

Note: The dues collection service of New Castle County has worked well for our Owners for two years running, by providing the security and convenience of electronic payment options.

## Board Governance Update

The Governance Committee is reviewing our bylaws for recommended revisions. The original 1988 bylaws have only been revised once, in 2013, to amend the quorum requirements.

As noted in the 2025 Annual Report, our goal is to broaden community involvement with new board members. Specific topics under consideration for this goal

include term limits, board size, member rotation, and Director recruitment.

Additional bylaws topics are also under consideration at this time. Examples include financial audits, insurance requirements, meeting rules, and records retention.

Let us know if you have thoughts to share on this topic. Members

of the Governance Committee are **Kathy Blackhurst, Henry Clappitt, Vernon Hanby, and Barbara Stratton.**



**Ramsey Ridge  
Service Corporation  
("RRSC")**

Henry Clampitt - Newsletter Editor  
4 Wineberry Drive  
Hockessin, DE 19707-2125

Phone: 302-898-9220  
Email: RRSCneighborhood@gmail.com  
Web: www.ramseyridge.com

**Ramsey Ridge ...  
a "Berry" nice place to live**

**Ramsey Ridge Service Corporation**

Delaware Corporation # 2175590 (a Homeowners Association, per US Code Sec §528)  
Registered Agent: 137 Dewberry Drive, Hockessin DE 19707-2125

**2026 Officers**

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Henry Clampitt   | President and Treasurer |
| Kathy Blackhurst | Vice President          |
| Stephanie Traver | Secretary               |

**2026 Architectural Review Committee ("ARC")**

Henry Clampitt, Israel Floyd, Albert Minutola

**2026 All Directors**

Katherine Blackhurst, Henry Clampitt, Israel Floyd, Vernon Hanby, Albert Minutola, David Rada, William Schumacher, Barbara Stratton, John Strojny, Stephanie Traver

**Resident Reminders**

**Architectural Review Committee (ARC):** The ARC is involved with all exterior matters on your home and Lot. When thinking about an exterior project (e.g. additions, landscaping, recreation, trees), please contact the ARC as early as possible in your planning. If in doubt about what needs approval, please err in favor of contacting the ARC.

The ARC Project **Change Request Form** is available at [www.ramseyridge.com/documents](http://www.ramseyridge.com/documents).  
Thanks to all who participate in and/or help to make the ARC process successful !!

**Yard Signs:** The only signs allowed in Ramsey Ridge are normal real estate "For Sale" signs. All other signs are prohibited unless approved in writing by the ARC. We strongly discourage signage in order to keep our community clutter-free and beautiful. This policy is important to note for contractors doing work on your home — please do not let them post signs. We appreciate your help in keeping our community sign-free.

## Helpful Information

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<https://www.ramseyridge.com>

- ◆ Deed Restrictions & Recorded Plan
- ◆ Board Bylaws
- ◆ ARC Change Request Form
- ◆ Newsletters



Email Inquiries:

- **President** @RamseyRidge.com
- **RRSCNeighborhood** @gmail.com
- **ARC** @RamseyRidge.com

Local Government:

- Krista Griffiths (State Representative, District 12)
- Laura Sturgeon (State Senator, District 04)
- Janet Kilpatrick (NCC Representative, County District 03)