

*Raven Hill Discovery Center, incorporated in 1991, is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.*

**Mission:** Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

To: Friends and Family everywhere

From: Cheri and Raven Hill

Date: July 24, 2021

Re: Weekly Update

Greetings!

What would Raven Hill's Nature Lovers Water Camp be without water balloons?! Along with a parachute, a water balloon becomes a teamwork challenge to keep the balloon bouncing AND the campers dry! Michael Faraday invented rubber balloons in 1824 for his electromagnetic experiments. The first water balloons appeared around 1950. According to TIME, "English inventor Edgar Ellington decided to create a waterproof sock using latex and cotton. But after filling his creation with water to test its quality, he noticed a small stream of water gushing from the side. As he threw the water-filled sock onto the table in anger, it burst — and so a second idea was born." Originally called "water grenades", Ellington's water balloons were the first to hit the market.



*Water balloons are great fun. At Japanese festivals they have yoyo tsuri, which are small water balloons with a rubber string (think rubber band) that can be bounced like a yoyo. The balloon has a little water inside, so it's like a small water balloon. The Japanese play lots of games with yoyo tsuri. Sounds like fun, huh?!*

In her song, "Anticipation", Carly Simon sings, "We can never know about the days to come, but we think about them anyway." In anticipation of all that is poised to happen here at Raven Hill over the next few weeks, we wait with baited breath! Stay tuned for new developments on the **CONNECTIONS TRAIL**. And be sure to mark your calendars for the **PEDAL, PIG & PINT BIKE TOUR** on August 1st; and the opening of the **SMITHSONIAN LABOR DAYS-A HISTORY OF WORK** exhibit on August 14th!

Remember, Raven Hill is a happening place this summer! With visiting families, camp and birthday parties, the Center appeals to all ages and interests. We provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning by connecting science, history and the arts! Regular hours are 10am to 4pm weekdays, noon to 4pm on Saturdays, 2pm to 4pm on Sundays and other times by appointment. For the sake of the children, we continue ask everyone to mask up while inside. Enjoy these summer days!

Cheri