

News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

November 2007

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A well sits in a dry creek bed north of Round Hill. Area rainfall to date is more than 12 inches below normal.

From Aquifer to Tap, Acquiring Water Requires Expensive Process

By KIM RAMSEY
News aRound the Hill

If you ask your average young child in Round Hill where our water comes from, you'll likely get one of two answers: rain, or the sink.

Of course, both answers are part of the water distribution process. But how does our water get from one point to the other?

Unlike many systems that rely on surface water from reservoirs, Round Hill's water system is entirely well-fed. The system currently operates eight wells in the area, pumping water from underground aquifers that are recharged by annual rainfall.

According to Alan Wolvertson, utility supervisor for Round Hill's water util-

See **WATER SYSTEM**, Page 6

Water-Friendly Landscaping

By BRAD YURISH
Vice President, Blake Landscapes

The water deficit for 2007 is more than 12 inches, and it shows in Round Hill's lawns and gardens. Unfortunately the effects will extend into 2008 or longer, so it's important to adopt water conservation measures to preserve landscaping.

First and foremost, put the right plant in the right location. Native plants are adapted to local climate and soils; test your soil first and plant accordingly. Based on these results, apply recommended amendments—

See **LANDSCAPING**, Page 7

Water Restrictions to Last Through End of the Year *Implementation of Phase II May Be Required*

By KIM RAMSEY
News aRound the Hill

Since the implementation of mandatory water restrictions in August, average daily water consumption in the Round Hill utility system has dropped by nearly 20 percent. Unless the rain starts to fall soon, though, 20 percent may not be enough.

A recent Town Council Utility Committee study of water usage found average daily consumption for the August billing period dropped to wintertime levels. "The suspension of summer outdoor water activities (and probably many other voluntary conservation measures by residents) returned residential usage patterns to a more winter pattern," the report reads.

"We are very pleased with the efforts of the utility customers to conserve water during this drought," said Carter Morrow, chairman of the Utility Committee.

"Our water supply is very sensitive to daily water use and is highly dependent on customers conserving water when the system is strained," Morrow said.

If the current drought conditions continue, however, even wintertime usage may be too high.

The Town system is currently under Mandatory Water Restrictions, Phase I, in which users are required to curtail outside water uses and overall conservation is encouraged.

The Utility Committee recently directed the Town utility staff to read meters bi-weekly instead of at the end of the 60-day billing cycle. More frequent readings allow the staff to better monitor usage and detect possible leaks in the system. The staff has also been instructed to person-

See **RESTRICTIONS**, Page 7

HOW MUCH WATER Do You CONSUME?

- Locate the number of gallons you used during the billing cycle on your bi-monthly bill.
- Divide this amount by the number of days in the billing cycle. The answer is your average gallon/day usage.
- An average residential account uses about 150 gallons/day.

Local Groups Share Passion for All Things "Green"

New Group Formed to Preserve, Enhance, Protect the Blue Ridge Mountains

By **AL VAN HUYCK**
Vice President, FBRM

The mission of the newly-formed Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains is to preserve, enhance and celebrate the Blue Ridge Mountains as a valuable resource and treasured space for present and future generations.

Two standing committees have been formed.

The Land Use Committee will be responsible for monitoring development on the mountains; preparing maps; conducting research on land use, historic structures and cultural sites; and making proposals for preservation of the mountains.

The Celebrations Committee will be responsible for organizing educational programs, field trips, lectures, public relations and membership events.

The FBRM is a membership organization open to all who share the mission of the organization. Members are invited to join in all the activities of the organization.

Anyone interested in joining is urged to contact Al Van Huyck by phone at 540-338-3524 or email avanhuyck@aol.com.

News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

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LCCSS Works Toward Energy-Secure Future

By **GINA FABER**
Member, LCCSS

More and more climate change is being reported by the media, but what can citizens do about it? In 2005, Sustainable Loudoun/Loudoun County Committee for Sustainability (LCCSS) founder Tony Noerpel challenged Loudouners to work for sustainability NOW, in order to prepare for an energy-secure future for our children.

Sustainable Loudoun's mission is to promote the development of a local community economy based on environmental stewardship and the sustainable use of resources. Examples of the group's efforts include sponsoring public education guest expert lectures, films and Science Fair prizes, organizing conferences, and creating questionnaires for Loudoun School Board and Board of Supervisors candidates. A recently formed education subcommittee is focusing on the environmental health of Loudoun children.

More than 120 Loudoun citizens and representatives of industry and government share information through an internet mailing list about

See **LCCSS**, Page 5



PHOTO COURTESY GINA FABER/LCCSS

Sample electric cars were on display at a LCCSS-sponsored event in April at which the film "Who Killed the Electric Car" was screened.

Wildlife Conservancy Promotes Healthy Habitats

By **JOE COLEMAN**
Vice President, LWC

Thirteen years ago, three Loudoun County residents who lived just south of Round Hill became concerned with the rapid and daily loss of wildlife habitat. Because of the negative impact of the loss on the richness of the county's wildlife, they decided something had to be done to reverse the trend.

Envisioning a county where people would live in balance with wildlife and act with an understanding of the value and importance of nature, they

formed the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy (LWC).

LWC's mission is to promote the preservation and proliferation of healthy wildlife habitats throughout Loudoun County by fostering an understanding of the value of nature and providing opportunities for applying that knowledge for the betterment of the natural environment.

Since 1995 the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy has grown to over 600 members who represent all areas of the county.

See **LWC**, Page 7

COUNCIL CORNER

Nature Park: Work in Progress

By **DAVID FERGUSON**

Member, Round Hill Town Council

Have you taken a walk in the Town's nature park?

"What nature park?" you may ask.

A long and narrow band of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants of a little less than an acre extends southward from the edge of the more developed Town Park on Loudoun Street.

Acquired in the late 1990s through a generous donation of the land by developer Bruce Brownell, the park was dedicated in his memory in a ceremony on July 4.

Originally the site, behind a row of houses on New Cut Road, was basically an overgrown wasteland, often used for trash dumping.

In 1999, with the formation of a committee to develop a plan for the overall park, effort was also initiated to address the portion identified as the "nature" park.

The intent was to enhance the growth of native plants and eliminate exotic species such as multiflora rose, honeysuckle, trumpet vine, English ivy and tree of heaven.

The objective is to create an area that can serve as a rep-



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

Council member John Heyner and Bruce Brownell's mother, Mac, prepare to officially open the nature park.

resentative example, though tiny, of the original natural ecosystem that once covered the Round Hill area.

Caring for and learning from the values of this microcosm of the North Fork Goose Creek Watershed may help us be better stewards of our local environment.

Meanwhile, take a walk along the park's meandering trails or rest on one of the benches and enjoy what each season brings.

To get involved in this project, or others involving public spaces, please write Dave Ferguson at P.O. Box 224, Round Hill, Va. 20142

A WALK TO SCHOOL



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

Round Hill residents are enjoying the chance to walk and bike to preschool this fall. The Loudoun Valley Community Center is temporarily operating out of the Round Hill Center on High Street during the renovation of its Purcellville location. The Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center, previously housed in the Round Hill Center, has now moved to its permanent home in the Barns in Franklin Park.

Neighbors Invited to Join Syrup Project

Round Hill resident Carter Morrow is inviting anyone interested to join in his family's 2008 Round Hill Maple Syrup Project. Fifty taps are available for loan.

To take part, identify maple trees while leaves are still on and email cmorrow@baycustom.com.

The trees should be tapped in late winter/early spring. Any maple at least a foot in diameter at chest height will do.

The Morrows will help set the tap(s) and show how to collect and store the sap. Collection will begin when nighttime temperatures are below freezing and daytime temperatures get up into 40s.

Every time a good batch of sap (50 gallons or more) is collected, there will be a syrup boil

behind the Morrow's garage at their "sugar shack."

Participants can attend and help make the syrup.

"It's a hoot!" Morrow said.

The general practice is that the sap collectors get a third of the syrup from their sap—more if they bring firewood and help hold vigil during the boil.

Syrup boils generally occur on weekends and a lot more beverages are consumed than syrup is produced.

It takes about 30 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup. Each tap can produce several gallons a day when conditions are good. The Morrows made a little over one gallon last year from two taps in one tree.

Donations for Loudoun Interfaith Relief may now be dropped off at the Round Hill Town Office. LIR serves the hungry in Loudoun County and is in need of food and personal hygiene items. For more information, see www.interfaithrelief.org.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Resources

Consider the following resources not just for getting rid of stuff, but for getting recycled things you need as well.

For contact information and more details on these resources, see www.newsaroundthehill.org.

ANTI-FREEZE

Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility Recycling Center

APPLIANCES

Churches

Thrift shops

Goodwill

Steel Recycling Institute

CLOTHES

In good condition:

Churches

Charitable organizations

Once Upon a Star

Blue Ridge Hospice Thrift Shop

Planet Aid Drop Boxes

World Trade Co.

Yard Sales

Clothing/coat/shoe drives

Goodwill

Dress for Success

Unwearable clothes and towels:

Animal boarding and shelter facilities

BATTERIES

Automotive:

Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility Recycling Center

Rechargeables:

Home Depot

Alkaline batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, etc.)

Recycling options are available for a fee at www.batteryrecycling.com/household.html

Button batteries:

Return for recycling at the Wal-Mart jewelry counter Household Hazardous Waste

Collection Events

BICYCLES

The Washington Area Bicycle Association's Bikes for the World

BLANKETS AND TOWELS

Paws for People

BOOKS:

Used book dealers

The Loudoun Library

Foundation

Adopt a Library

Pro Quo Books

CDS/DVDS/GAME DISKS

AuralTech for refinishing

COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS

IKEA

COMPOSTABLE BIO-PLASTICS

Municipal composter

(www.findacomposter.com)

COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS

Purcellville Computers

www.ban.org/pledge/Locations.html

EYEGLASSES/HEARING AIDS

Lions Club; drop off at Dilzer Eye Care in Purcellville

EXERCISE VIDEOS

Swap them with others at www.videofitness.com

FURNITURE

Churches

Charitable organizations

MERCURY THERMOMETERS AND THERMOSTATS

County Household Hazardous Waste Events. Please do not discard with regular household garbage because of mercury content.

METALS, SCRAP

Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility

MISCELLANEOUS

Freecycle.org

Craigslist.org

Throwplace.com

iReuse.com.

MOTOR OIL

Loudoun County Solid Waste

Management Facility Recycling Center

Some gasoline service stations

PHONES

Cell phones:

Loudoun County Victim

Witness Program

Loudoun County Electronics

Recycling Events

Staples

Radio Shack

Collective Good

Call to Protect

Single-line phones:

Reclamere

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Staples

U.S. Post Office locations

Round Hill Elementary

Recycleplace.com

PROPANE TANKS/HELIUM TANKS

County Solid Waste Management Facility (Grill-size or smaller; fee charged).

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Play It Again Sports

STYROFOAM SHIPPING

PEANUTS AND FILLERS

Mail-it-All in Purcellville

TENNIS SHOES

Nike's Reuse-a-Shoe program

One World Running

TIRES

Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility

Where new tires are purchased

WIRE COAT HANGERS

Dry cleaners

TEN EASY TIPS FOR REDUCING WATER USE INSIDE THE HOUSE

1. Don't let the water run while you lather your hands, shave or brush your teeth.

2. Run dish and clothes washers only when the load is full.

3. Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean. And don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.

4. Cook food in as little water as possible and select the proper size pan for cooking. Large pans may require more water than necessary.

5. If your toilet was installed prior to 1980, place a brick or bottle filled with water in your toilet tank to cut down on the amount of water used for each flush. Be sure these devices do not interfere with operating parts.

6. Insulate hot water pipes

so you don't have to run as much water to get hot water to the faucet.

7. Install low-volume toilets, faucet aerators and water-saving appliances.

8. Plug the bathtub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up; bathe your young children together.

9. Keep your showers under five minutes long and consider shaving and/or washing your face while in the shower.

10. Water trees, shrubs or houseplants with water collected while waiting for it to warm, dropped ice cubes, old fish tank water, old pet water, or water from your dehumidifier.

Adapted from Water: Use it Wisely. For more tips for conserving water, visit www.wateruseitwisely.com.

Round Hill Area Residents Recycle

By LISA ZIMMER-CHU

News aRound the Hill

An early morning walk through Town on a Wednesday is very revealing of local consumption and disposal habits, and one thing is certain: Round Hill recycles.

Indeed, county residents are compelled to do so by state law requiring that 25 percent of solid waste generated be diverted from landfills.

According to Jessica Vasquez of American Disposal Services (ADS), with whom the town contracts for curbside pick-up, educating residents is an ongoing process.

When inappropriate or improperly presented items are noticed by drivers, they are left behind with a sticker explaining the reason.

ADS trucks have two separate compartments, one for paper and one for co-mingled items (*see box at right*); the company's role in sorting occurs on the street.

Trucks then deliver their contents to a material recovery facility where it's further sorted and sold to manufacturers that use the raw materials to make new products.

Items accepted are getting recycled, resulting in a \$236 billion industry.

Besides contributing to the economy, "recycling prevents air and water pollution and saves energy,"



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

Empty recycling bins line the streets of Town on Wednesday mornings.

said Tony Hayes, County Recycling Specialist of the Loudoun County Office of Solid Waste Management.

An enthusiastic proponent of recycling and reuse, Hayes contends that "if you buy things and use resources, it's your responsibility."

The process, he said, is simple: "Follow directions, and if you don't know, ask."

There are several self-serve recycling sites for residents who do not have access to curbside pick-up, including one across from Harmony School in Hamilton and another behind the Philomont Fire Department.

These locations also accept items that trucks will not collect, like large flattened cardboard and clean aluminum foil and pie plates.

(*See page 4 for additional information on ways to keep valuable resources from going to the dump.*)

ITEMS TO INCLUDE FOR CURBSIDE PICK-UP

- **PAPER PRODUCTS**
May be bundled, in paper bags, or in separate bin:
 - Newspaper
 - Phone books
 - Junk mail (including envelopes, but not those with windows)
 - Magazines
 - Corrugated cardboard (flattened and cut no larger than bin)
 - Paper board (i.e. cereal boxes)
 Waxboard (coated, like milk containers) is NOT accepted.
- **OTHER, CO-MINGLED**
 - Glass food and beverage containers
 - Aluminum and steel cans (no aluminum foil/pie plates)
 - #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jugs
 Carefully check the bottom of plastic containers for the triple arrow imprint that gives the recycling number. No plastic bags (grocery stores have receptacles for them).
- **YARD DEBRIS**
For composting. April 1 through mid-January. Bag in clear plastic or brown paper yard bags.
 - Leaves
 - Grass
 - Brush and limbs up to 4' in length and 6" in diameter—roughly the size of a fist—should be bundled.

Additional recycling bins may be obtained by calling your carrier.

Round Hill Mayor

Frank Etro is soliciting ideas on how to motivate Round Hill water system users to conserve more water.

Send your suggestions to mayor@roundhillva.org.

LCCSS

Continued from Page 1

global environmental issues, alternative energy and reducing carbon emissions. Initiatives in local industry, government, education and public policy have been the major thrusts of their efforts.

Sustainable Loudoun will present its second free annual Alternative Energy Summit on Nov. 9. It will feature industry representatives discussing state-of-the-art solar, wind, geothermal and biodiesel energies, and will give attendees the chance to "be part of the solution." (*See LCCSS website for details.*)

Learn more about Sustainable Loudoun at www.sustainableloudoun.org. Subscribe to the main internet mailing list to enter the conversation about energy efficiency, climate change and alternative energy as it relates to living in Loudoun. There is also a low-volume LCCSS announcement list of educational activities and events sponsored by or promoted by Sustainable Loudoun.

Water System



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

Operator Earl Suitor explains the water system's inner workings.

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ity system, only 10 percent of rainfall sinks into underground aquifers, especially when the ground is as hard and dry as it is right now.

Once the water is pumped from the ground, it enters the Town's water filtration system.

"We're lucky here in that the water is very pure coming up," Wolverton said. The Town uses large filters to remove iron and manganese, and then disinfects the water to kill any bacteria that may be present.

From the filters, the water enters water mains that extend throughout the Town's utility service area and ultimately reach individual homes. It is also stored in the 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank next to the Round Hill Elementary School and a smaller storage tank in Stoneleigh.

While Round Hill operates what Wolverton describes as a pretty bare-bones system, it is still a very expensive undertaking.

According to the Town's water and sewer rate study that was finalized in June, labor costs—salaries and benefits—account for more than half the system's operation and maintenance costs.

The utility system currently employs eight full-time and two summer-only staff members. The town

administrator, treasurer, and receptionist also spend part of their days attending to utility matters.

Electricity and fuel, testing and lab costs, administrative expenses, and supplies and equipment account for the remaining costs.

"Any time you have to go and buy something technical that not very many people use, it's going to be expensive," explained water system operator Earl Suitor.

Capital expenditures, of course, also factor into the system's high costs.

For example, the utility staff recently installed a new computer system to monitor the water levels and outputs of each of its wells.

While the computer system was expensive to install, Wolverton and Suitor are confident it will pay for itself in the long run in terms by saving labor and repair costs that were incurred in the past by manually monitoring the wells.

In addition to this recent purchase, the Town is currently pursuing several other large capital improvement projects that will increase the system's pumping and storage capacity. (See box right)

While some of these projects are supported by developer proffers, a large percentage of the expenditures must be underwritten by the water system's users and are, in part, a reason for the Town's recent rate increases.

Another reason why Round Hill's water rates are higher than many other Loudoun municipalities' is that the Town's utility system is relatively new, and much of the debt incurred in constructing the system is still being paid off, explained Town Council Utility Committee member Scott Ramsey.

Typically, capital improvement costs are covered by availability fees, which are charged on new homes as they are being constructed and are supposed to help offset the additional financial burden that home puts on the system.

Most new homes in the Round Hill area are part of the Oak Hill communities, however, and availability fees for these homes were determined by a legal settlement in 1990, when construction prices and regulatory burdens were much lower than they are today. Consequently, these fees do not cover today's expenses.

"In effect," Ramsey said, "our water rates are picking up costs that cannot be charged at construction of these homes."

The cost of the Round Hill system is also subject to an economy of scale, Suitor contends. Round Hill must

PROJECTS THE UTILITY SYSTEM IS CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING

- Expanding the water storage facility in Stoneleigh;
- Installing a new 500,000 gallon ground tank north of Town and extending a new water main from that tank to Town;
- Bringing online two new wells and a water filtration system on East Loudoun Street; and
- Completing a new water treatment facility south of Town to serve four new wells and several existing wells.

meet the same regulations and provide the same services as a larger system while dividing the system's expenses and debt-management among a smaller number of users. This makes each user's individual share more than it would be in a larger system.

So, are more users the cure for higher rates?

This is a political question that Wolverton and Suitor hesitate to answer.

Suitor would say, however, that the system is currently at capacity in his opinion.

"We're running things as hard as we can," he said. "There's no redundancy," or excess capacity, right now. "And if we don't have enough water now, what happens with more houses?"

Landscaping

Continued from Page 1

these can improve soil quality and reduce stress on all plants. Check with the Cooperative Extension Service for soil testing services, native plant lists and other information. (703-777-0373; www.loudoun.gov/extension/home.htm)

Another water conservation method is to collect rainwater and use it later when needed. Rain barrels are great reservoirs, and several can be linked to increase water storage capacity. Contact the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District for information on how to make and use rain barrels. (703-777-2075; loudoun.vaswcd.org)

Mulching trees and planting beds helps conserve water, but only keep 2 to 3 inches of mulch on plants. Too much mulch prevents water from reaching the roots and creates additional problems.

If/when water restrictions are lifted and watering of plants is allowed, be discriminate and efficient. Apply water infrequently, yet thoroughly.

This creates a deep, well-rooted lawn that efficiently uses water stored in the soil. Water newly installed trees and shrubs once or twice per week, and do it slowly so the water reaches the bottom of the root ball.

Cut grass at 4 to 5 inches during hot weather and 3 to 4 inches the rest of the year to lessen drought stress and create a healthy, deep root system.

Fertilizing stressed plants, including turf, aggravates the problem. For best results, fertilize trees and shrubs in the spring and turf grass in the fall.

It is important that fertilizers be applied correctly for nutrients to stay in the soil and not end up in the Bay. Most fertilizers are petroleum-based sources and can be an inexpensive way to fertilize your plants; however, over-applying these can easily pollute our groundwater and downstream water ways. Organic fertilizers are a great source of nutrients but be wary of the source; animal, bone, kelp-meal based fertilizers are

truly 'organic' but others are poultry/turkey-litter based and not what most consider organic. Either way, even organic fertilizers, if over-applied, will pollute the environment.



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

Rain barrels can be made at home, like this one, or store-bought.

Restrictions

Continued from Page 1

ally contact the system's highest users and request that they reduce their consumption.

In the event of prolonged drought, equipment failure or other loss of capacity, the Town Council is authorized through the Round Hill Water Ordinance to implement Mandatory Water Restrictions, Phase II.

During Phase II, usage would be limited to a set number of gallons a day and surcharges on any usage above that amount would be imposed.

According to the water usage study, in order for Phase II restrictions to be effective, large numbers of users would need to change indoor usage habits in addition to curtailing outdoor usage.

While restrictions are ordered by the Town Council, the Council acts upon the advice of the Town's utility system staff members, who monitor system water levels and capacity daily.

Even if Phase II restrictions are not implemented, though, Utility Supervisor Alan Wolverton predicts several more months of mandatory restrictions.

"I don't see us going out of mandatory water restrictions until at least the end of the year," Wolverton said. "And every week that we don't get rain pushes the end date that much further."

LWC

Continued from Page 2

LWC's activities include:

- Programs featuring wildlife specialists and guest speakers;
- Nature studies and wildlife watching;
- Amphibian monitoring;
- Bluebird nestbox monitoring;
- Annual butterfly count;
- Bird surveys and walks;
- Stream monitoring programs and classes;
- Habitat restoration;
- Tools for reaching out to public officials;
- Hands-on classes, field trips and adventures for all ages; and
- Publications and handouts highlighting local wildlife and habitats.

For more information, visit www.loudounwildlife.org.

Got Bulbs?

Round Hill resident Connor Albright is seeking donations of shade bulbs and perennials—especially hostas—for use as part of his Eagle Scout project: landscaping the Round Hill Arts Center.

With the help of his troop members, Connor has cleared debris off the Arts Center property and planted bushes. His next goal is planting a flower bed.

If you have plants to donate, please contact Connor at 540-338-5609 or email Connor.Albright@gmail.com.



Construction dumpsters sit at the ready, waiting to receive materials from the deconstruction of Potts' Barn on the east side of Town. The wood will be refinished, recycled and reused in a residential construction project in Western Loudoun County.

POSTAL PATRON

Did You Know?

So far this season, 10,409 raptors—from Broad Shouldered Hawks to Bald Eagles—have passed over Snickers Gap to be counted in the annual Hawkwatch.

Submitted by Joe Coleman

Additional information on subjects covered in this issue can be found at www.NewsARoundtheHill.org.

Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Alternative Energy Summit** Nov. 9
LCCSS, 6:30 p.m., NVCC Loudoun Campus
- ▶ **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** Nov. 17
Heritage High, 520 Evergreen Mill Rd., Leesburg
- ▶ **Combined Thanksgiving Eve Service** Nov. 20
Round Hill United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.
- ▶ **Holiday Show** Nov. 24
Round Hill Art Center. Through December. Participate in Loudoun's "Green Friday" initiative by buying locally-produced holiday goods and products to support local farmers and artisans. Information at loudounfarms.org or 703-777-0426.
- ▶ **Holiday Open House** Dec. 1
Round Hill Arts Center, 11 a.m. RHAC is also registering now for classes in the winter session.
- ▶ **Christmas Tree Lighting** Dec. 8
Round Hill Community Park. 4:30 to 6 p.m.
- ▶ **Round Hill Last Night Celebration** Dec. 31
Round Hill Arts Center, 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Jan. 1.
- ▶ **Annual Christmas Bird Count** Dec. 28
Contact Joe Coleman at 540-554-2542 or jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.
- ▶ **Junior Womens Group January Meeting** TBA
Email roundhillwomen@hotmail.com for details.

ON THE AGENDA

Issues the Town Council and Planning Commission will address in the coming months include:

- Revising parking and landscaping regulations
- Developing a Comprehensive Plan amendment for the Eastern Commercial District
- Amending the Zoning Ordinance regarding non-conforming structures
- Converting all JLMA-1 areas to R-2
- Developing a drought water plan to potentially include alternative supplemental water source
- Studying future Town expansion
- Making improvements to Main Street

Elections for Town offices will be held on May 6. Round Hill Town residents will elect three Town Council members, as well as mayor. Any Town residents interested in declaring candidacy must do so with the Loudoun County Registrar's Office; the official filing deadline will be set in January.

The Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department is selling **White House Christmas Ornaments** for \$18 each. Contact Cathy Rinker at 338-7449 for more information.