



## POSTAL PATRON

### Did You Know?

Round Hill High School was built on High Street in 1912. Its first graduating class consisted of three students; its final graduating class, in 1941, had nine students.

— From "A Story of Round Hill"  
by Ann Whitehead Thomas

Additional information on subjects covered in this issue can be found at [www.NewsARoundtheHill.org](http://www.NewsARoundtheHill.org).

## Upcoming Events

- **Breakfast with Santa** **Dec. 4**  
Bluemont Community Center, 20 High Street, Round Hill. \$8/person; 2 and under free. Register by Nov. 27 by calling 540-338-4485.
- **RHAC Holiday Workshops** **Dec. 4**  
Round Hill Arts Center. Intro to Wire Jewelry; Ceramic Tile Painting and Printmaking: Holiday Cards. For times, costs, and to register, see [www.roundhillartscenter.org](http://www.roundhillartscenter.org) or call 540-338-5022.
- **Annual Tree Lighting** **Dec. 4**  
Town Park, 4-5:30 p.m.
- **RHVFD Spaghetti Dinner** **Dec. 4**  
Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department, 5:30-7:30 p.m., \$5/person, under 4 free.
- **RHBA Holiday Social** **Dec. 12**  
Savoir Fare. Come meet members of the Round Hill Business Association. 3 to 6 p.m. Free.
- **Meet the Artists** **Dec. 17**  
Gateway Gallery and Gift Shop. 6-9 p.m. Featuring "Art Under \$100" wall exhibit, refreshments and wine tastings from Notaviva. 540-338-3001.
- **RHBA Membership Meeting** **Jan. 18**  
Monthly meeting at Savoir Fare. 5:30 p.m.

## ON THE AGENDA

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

- Establish fiscal year 2012 budget and tax rates
- Negotiate water and sewer agreement with county for Western Loudoun Sheriff's Substation
- Complete design and public information process for the Main Street Enhancement Project and work with Loudoun County to ensure compatibility with the Franklin Park to Round Hill Trail project
- Negotiate lease agreements with SPRINT and AT&T for cellular array on water tower
- Construct Hayman Lane water line project
- Revise Town Park master plan
- Review the B-1 Zoning District (including accessory structures and compatibility of commercial uses with residential)
- Review and revise the lighting ordinance or lighting section in the zoning ordinance
- Review and revise the Comprehensive Plan
- Evaluate possible boundary line adjustment
- Install welcome signs at all Town entry points
- Prepare for the 2011 community garden program

# News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

November 2010

Circulation 2,300

## Community Embraces Woodgrove High School

BY KIM RAMSEY

Co-editor, News aRound the Hill

*"A new high school is a chance to bring together various parts of the community, to give old-timers and newcomers something in common to rally around." – Joseph Spicer*

For nearly 50 years, Loudoun Valley High School served Round Hill's secondary-school population. Families and teachers came to love the school's "family atmosphere" and appreciated how the faculty and students cared for each other.

However, as Joseph Spicer, a Round Hill resident who taught at LVHS for 25 years, put it, the special atmosphere at Valley was "difficult to maintain as the school grew bigger."

This fall, the opening of Woodgrove High School has allowed Spicer and many other teachers and students from the Round Hill area to regain some of that small-town community feel.

Spicer, who now teaches chemistry at Woodgrove, said he is enjoying the "chance to go back to a smaller school where you can know people on a personal level.

"It's a move back to the past for me," he said.

Woodgrove journalism teacher Tammy Pyle agrees. "Since it opened, Woodgrove has felt very much like a community school," she said. "That's hard to get in some high schools, especially when there is more than one



TAYLOR FORTUNATO and ELLIE CARRIER—NEWS aROUND the HILL

**Joseph Spicer left Loudoun Valley High School after 25 years to teach chemistry at Woodgrove High School.**

school in town.

"But Round Hill and the other communities that make up Woodgrove's attendance district have embraced the school with such enthusiasm that it feels like we've always been here," she said.

Woodgrove's principal, Ric Gauriloff said that "the sup-  
See **WOODGROVE**, Page 4

## Bank of Clarke County to Open Branch in Round Hill



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

**The Town Council has approved Bank of Clarke County's special exception application to open a branch in the old bank building at 21 Main Street in Round Hill.**

By KAREN YURISH

News aRound the Hill

Banking may soon return to Round Hill. The Town Council has approved a special exception application for Bank of Clarke County to open a branch in the "old bank building" located at 21 Main Street.

John Hudson, Senior Vice President and Marketing Director of Bank of Clarke County, said they have been researching markets contiguous to their current market for years, and feel that moving to Round Hill is the best decision for the bank as well as

Loudoun County.

"There are many similarities between Western Loudoun and Clarke," Hudson said, and Round Hill, with its existing bank building and close proximity to their branch headquarters, became the best location for the opening of a full-service bank. Plus, Hudson adds, "Round Hill was without a bank."

Mark Albright, owner of the bank property, is excited about the prospect of having a community bank in Round Hill.

"I have used community banks  
See **BANK**, Page 2

# Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgraded

By **JOHN BARKLEY** and **MARTY FELTNER**  
Town Administrator and Utility Staff  
Assistant Supervisor, Town of Round Hill

The Town of Round Hill will expand and upgrade its wastewater treatment plant in an effort to manage the water and sewer system, comply with requirements to protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and to reach the facility's full design capacity.

Located on Lakefield Road adjacent to Sleeter Lake, Round Hill's wastewater treatment plant handles the sewage from Town customers as well as those in the surrounding service area, including the Villages of Round Hill and Stoneleigh subdivisions.

By January 2011, the plant will be upgraded from 0.5 million gallons per day to 0.75 million gallons per day, and several key wastewater treatment processes will be improved. This will make the Town compliant with nutrient limits for nitrogen and phosphorus, the primary two ele-

ments responsible for the poor health of the Chesapeake Bay.

The project includes equipping a third treatment basin, upgrading other treatment process systems, improving biological nutrient removal and sludge handling, and upgrading the aeration system.

Users of Round Hill's sewer system can further help protect the Bay and decrease the system's operating costs by reducing the amount of phosphorus that needs to be chemically removed from the system. Check labels on dish and laundry detergents, automatic dishwasher detergents, and cleaners and avoid them if they contain phosphorus.

Costly additional treatment steps at the facility are also required to remove anything that is not biological in nature. Items such as cotton and heavy paper towels, plastics, and feminine hygiene products all require additional treatment steps at the facility to remove. This increases the

See **WATER**, Page 4

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

**The Ninth Annual Round Hill Home-town Festival will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2011. Planning for the day-long event will begin in early spring. Many volunteers are needed to make the day a success. If you can help out, contact Festival Coordinator Tobi Moriarty at [moriartyrh@yahoo.com](mailto:moriartyrh@yahoo.com).**

## Bank

*Continued from Page 1*

for years after having bad experiences with big banks, so this is why I worked on getting them to come here," Albright said.

What he likes about community banks is that they are very involved in the community in which they are located.

Community banks "make their decisions locally and participate with communities locally," Albright added. "They are more people-oriented,

and really work with you."

Round Hill Mayor Scott Ramsey feels having Bank of Clarke County in Round Hill will benefit the town and its residents.

"The Town is very pleased that a respected community bank such as Bank of Clarke County has chosen Round Hill," Ramsey said.

"Local services such as banking are part of what make our town more than just a neighborhood, and it will be an attractive option for both our residents and the many small business operators in and around Round Hill," he added.

According to Zoning Administrator Rob Kinsley, Bank of Clarke County's application includes adding a canopy over the drive-through window/night deposit area, and a separate ATM with its own canopy and lighting.

One way Bank of Clarke County has already shown involvement in Round Hill is that the drive-through canopy design is very similar to the

one that was there when the building was home to Round Hill National Bank. Hudson said their hope is to return the building to close to its original form.

They also have applied for a special exception for use of the drive-through window and have submitted for a lot consolidation, as the bank building currently sits on two lots.

On Nov. 9, the Planning Commission approved the lot consolidation and forwarded the special exception application to the Town Council, which approved it on Nov. 18.

Next, the site plan will be sent out to several review agencies, and the final site plan will be sent to the Planning Commission meeting in December.

Hudson said they have had a warm reception from residents of Round Hill with whom they have spoken.

"We are looking forward to becoming a part of the community," Hudson says. The bank's goal is to open in January 2011.

## News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

News aRound the Hill is published by the Town of Round Hill. For more information, see [www.NewsARoundtheHill.org](http://www.NewsARoundtheHill.org).

### Editors:

Lisa Zimmer-Chu  
and Kim Ramsey

Please direct comments  
and story ideas to

[editor@NewsARoundtheHill.org](mailto:editor@NewsARoundtheHill.org).



# Round Hill Community Garden a Growing Success

By GINA FABER

Round Hill Community Garden

Under the direction of all-volunteer management, 18 gardening families grew squash, tomatoes, beets, peanuts, flowers and lots of other edibles at the Round Hill Community Garden on Falls Place this season. Improvements this year included improved soil, successful small animal protection fencing, and two Scout projects: a weather-protected sign/bulletin board and a tool shed.

The garden is now closed for the winter, but organizers have been given the green light to garden again next year. Reservations for next year's plots will be accepted beginning in late February 2011.

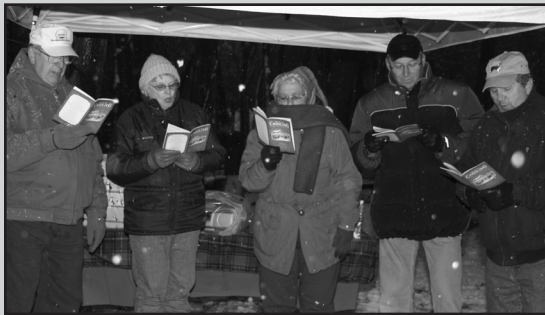
Residents can help prevent erosion and nutrient loss and add organic matter to the soil by dumping dry leaves into the garden this fall. For more info, see [www.roundhillgarden.org](http://www.roundhillgarden.org).



**Squash, tomatoes, beets, peanuts and flowers were among the crops grown in plots at the Round Hill Community Garden this season.**

PHOTOS COURTESY GINA FABER

## Round Hill Celebrates the Holidays on Saturday, Dec. 4



Saturday, Dec. 4, will be a day full of holiday spirit in Round Hill, as various organizations around town work together to present the annual "Holidays in Round Hill." Events include:

### Breakfast with Santa at Bluemont Community Center

**9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**  
20 High Street  
\$8; 2 and under free.  
Register by Nov. 27  
Call (540)338-4485.



### Holiday Workshops at the Round Hill Arts Center

At Hill High Orchards. Call (540)338-5022 to register.

#### Ceramic Tile Painting

With Lisamarie Adams  
10:30am-12:00pm  
ALL AGES!  
Tuition: \$15.00  
(includes one tile)  
Materials: \$8 per additional tile

#### Intro to Wire Jewelry

With Meredith Hilt  
10:00 am-1:00pm  
Tuition: \$55  
Materials: \$20

#### Printmaking Holiday Cards

1:00-4:00 p.m.  
with Jill Evans Kavaldjian  
Ages: 8 & up  
Tuition: \$40  
Materials: \$10



PHOTOS BY KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

### Tree Lighting in the Town Park 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Cocoa, cookies, crafts, carolers from the Round Hill Baptist Church and a visit from a special guest!  
Donation boxes for Loudoun Interfaith Relief (non-perishable food items) and Toys for Tots (new, unwrapped toys).

### Spaghetti Dinner at the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department

**5:30-7:30 p.m.**

Dinner, crafts, and photos with Santa (bring your camera!)  
\$5/person; under 4 free. Credit cards accepted.

## Round Hill Business Association to Host Social

By MARK ALBRIGHT

Round Hill Business Association

The Round Hill Business Association is hosting a holiday social from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12, at Savoir Fare.

Organizers hope the social will serve as an informal way for the members and community to meet. The RHBA currently has about 20 members; all Round Hill area businesses are invited to attend the social.

The social is also a way for The Round Hill Business Association members to thank the people of Round Hill for their support this past year.

## News aRound the Hill Needs You!

Story ideas, writers, photographers and calendar items...

We want your input and help.

Email [editor@newsaroundthehill.org](mailto:editor@newsaroundthehill.org) to volunteer  
for the spring issue.

## Woodgrove

*Continued from Page 1*

port from the community has been fantastic." He noted that, even in the tight economy, the local businesses have "reached out in their own ways and given what they can" and that parent volunteering has been "through the roof."

Gauriloff estimates that students from Round Hill account for nearly 25 percent of the school's 1,100 member population and that approximately 15 members of his faculty call Round Hill home as well.

Pyle, like Spicer, lives in Round Hill and is a former LVHS teacher. She said that the decision to leave Valley was not easy, but "the more I looked at the connections I have with students who live in my community, the more committed I became to investing in the community by being an educator in it.

"I believe it is invaluable to be a neighbor as well as a teacher, to be able to remind a student to stay on track because 'I know your mother' or recognize their faces from around the neighborhood," she said.

Spicer, Pyle and Gauriloff all commended the students at Woodgrove for embracing the new school and exceeding expectations.

Many of Woodgrove's students spent part of their school careers being shuffled between Blue Ridge Middle School, Harmony Intermediate and Loudoun Valley, an overcrowded situation that Spicer said "the kids handled with great spirit and understanding."

The opening of the new school has provided the students with "so many wonderful opportunities that we might not have had if we were all crammed into the crowded halls of Loudoun Valley High and Harmony Intermediate," said Round Hill resident Casey Field.

## Water

*Continued from Page 2*

operational costs to the Town and eventually the customer.

The \$1.8 million treatment plant upgrade and expansion is one of many projects made possible through the restructuring of the Town's debt and an aggressive capital improvement plan the Town Council is undertaking to provide citizens with the best possible service in all facets of Town government operations.

For more information on Town water and sewer facilities, rates and policies, visit [www.roundhillva.org](http://www.roundhillva.org). For more information on how to conserve water, better manage household resources, and protect our waters and watersheds, go to [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

**The students and staff of Woodgrove High School are working together to make the school feel like home.**

Field, now a sophomore, served as a member of the Woodgrove transition team, a group of students and staff members who met monthly over the summer to discuss ways to make the new school feel like home.

"We all wanted to share our thoughts and ideas for what we had in mind for the new school," said Field. "Our goal was simply to make Woodgrove the very best it could be."

Field said she and many of her classmates are "amazed at the size and beauty of the new building" and that they are grateful for "some of the smallest things," including new textbooks, large lockers, the new school's outdoor eating area and the classrooms with views out to the Blue Ridge.

The students' excitement for the new school "is really almost palpable," Pyle said.

Spicer concurred, adding that this fall Woodgrove has held some "exceptionally good pep rallies, some of the best I've ever been around."

"I am amazed daily at how much these students are willing to invest to make Woodgrove their own," Pyle added, "and to make it the best school in the county."



**COUNCIL CORNER****Town Administrator Provides Updates on Recent Projects****Round Hill United Methodist Church Expansion Moves Forward**

In June, the Round Hill Town Council approved the Round Hill United Methodist Church's special exception request to expand the church and build a new fellowship hall. The approval is contingent upon compliance with 25 development conditions. The church is preparing to submit its

zoning permit application to install the fencing and landscape buffer on the north side of the property; installation should begin next spring.

The plan for expansion is available for review at the Town Office.

**Online Water, Sewer Payment Available**

The Town of Round Hill is now offering customers the choice to make payments on water and sewer accounts through Paymentus Corporation, providing this convenient service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Online payments by credit card (Visa, Master Card and Discover), Electronic Check or debit card can be made three ways:

- through an icon on our website, [www.roundhillva.org](http://www.roundhillva.org)
- by calling a toll free number (1-877-318-5828) or
- by contacting the Town Office at 540-338-7878.

This service is provided with no additional fees to customers. The Town will pay the service fees on customers' behalf. Customers who do not wish to use this type of service may continue to submit payments by mail or in person. The drop box in the back of the Town Office is also still available for after hour drops.

The account number needed to make a payment online can be found on the billing statement.

**T-Mobile to Lease Space on Town Water Tower**

Following last year's lease agreement with Verizon Wireless, the Town Council has now approved a lease agreement with T-Mobile to house cellular equipment on the Town's water tower.

Installation is planned to be completed by Spring 2011.

AT&T and Sprint have also expressed interest in space on the tower. In all cases, a special exception permit from Loudoun County is required prior to the Town's approval. The Town has closely reviewed the site plans associated with all applications to ensure the structural integrity of the tower is not compromised.

**Loudoun County BOS Approves Western Loudoun Sheriff Substation**

Despite vocal opposition from neighboring residents, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors approved a special exception application in September that will permit the County to build a Western Loudoun Sheriff's Substation west of Round Hill at 47 West Loudoun Street.

This permit is subject to an approved site plan along with several conditions imposed to ensure compliance with County statutes and to protect the neighboring area to the extent possible.

The Round Hill Town Council and local citizens were instrumental in negotiating many elements of the design and layout of the facility to fit more closely with the rural character of the Town's western gateway and with the Town's overall growth plan.

The Town is currently working with Loudoun County to strike an agreement for the provision of water and sewer service to the facility. Preliminary plans including conceptual renderings of the facility are available for review at the Town Office.

**VRT Ends Western Flyer Trolley Service**

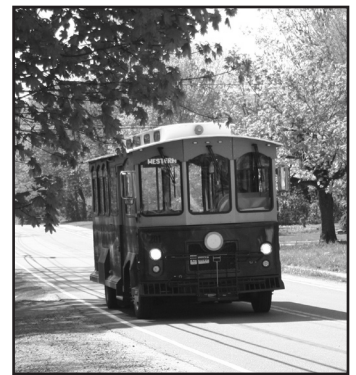
After having the route approved to include a Round Hill stop this past summer, Virginia Regional Transit (VRT) has now discontinued the Western Flyer service.

According to VRT, although the route initially gained riders, it has not generated enough sustained ridership to warrant the continued funding necessary to maintain service.

The service ran between Purcellville, Lovettsville and Round Hill, and also provided access to the MARC train in Brunswick, Md., with optional transfers to other fixed-route services.

VRT anticipates future growth in the service area will generate the passenger counts required to support the allocation of limited transportation funds. The organization stated it may attempt the service again once the economic climate improves.

To learn more about the decision, call 540-338-1610 or visit [www.vatransit.org](http://www.vatransit.org).



PHOTOS BY KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

— Updates on this page were written by Round Hill Town Administrator John Barkley.