

World-Class Creativity



PHOTO COURTESY KIM RAMSEY

A team of eighth-grade students from Harmony Middle School will be traveling to Michigan later this month to compete at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. The seven students all graduated from Round Hill Elementary School. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college.

POSTAL PATRON

Did You Know?

This will be the last print issue of News aRound the Hill. For details, see Message from the Editor, Page 3.

Upcoming Events

- **Mother Earth Art Show** **May 10-June 16**
Round Hill Arts Center. Exhibit hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Multi-media exhibit examining the related concepts of Earth and Mother.
- **Round Hill Hometown Festival** **May 25**
Various sites around Town, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. 5K, parade, memorial ceremony, entertainment, pie-eating contest, downhill derby, community feast. For details see insert or visit www.hometownfestival.org.
- **Annual Homecoming Service** **June 2**
Historic Ketocin Baptist Church on June 2, at 3:00 p.m. with Dr. Travis Moger, Pastor of the Middleburg Baptist Church being the guest speaker.
- **Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour** **June 22-23**
Round Hill Arts Center and other locations throughout Loudoun County, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. each day. Visit working artists in their studios and at host sites. Refreshments and kids' activities. Free.

ON THE AGENDA

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

- Review comprehensive plan survey responses and prepare draft update to comprehensive plan
- Review proposed lighting ordinance
- Consider adoption of county parking and nuisance codes
- Review county redesign for Western Loudoun Sheriff's Substation
- Complete engineering study for future Sleeter Lake Park
- Adopt water rate study
- Complete upgrades to the Rt. 719 Lift Station
- conduct public information session on Main Street sidewalk design
- Evaluate possible boundary line adjustment



Pig roast, Picnic, Potluck?
Ice cream social? Concert in the park?



Round Hill is looking for someone to take the lead and shape the Town's Independence Day activities this year.

If you'd like to help out, email
Scott Ramsey at mayor@roundhillva.org.



News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

May 2013

Circulation 2,300

Round Hill Aquatic Center Under Construction on Woodgrove Park

By **KIM RAMSEY**

Editor, News aRound the Hill

More than 20 year ago, Oak Hill, the developer for the Villages of Round Hill, was negotiating the property's rezoning with the county. In exchange for being able to build more homes, Oak Hill agreed to two proffers: one to provide a monetary contribution to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors for a junior Olympic swimming pool and the other to build a community center and dedicate it to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors. Both proffers included

language that would allow the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services to agree to "alternative services."

Now, two decades later, after several zoning determinations, appeals, and public input meetings, the promises Oak Hill made to the County in 1991 are being fulfilled in the form of a four-lane indoor pool that is being constructed at Woodgrove Park on Evening Star Drive.

"The project is anticipated to be completed late fall 2013 – early winter 2014, with opening to the public later

See **POOL**, Page 3



Images from the 2007 PRCS public hearing show the schematics for the Round Hill Aquatic Facility.

Volunteer Fire Department Celebrates 75th Anniversary

By **BETTY DODGE**

Secretary/Treasurer, RHVFD

Seventy-five years ago, in 1938, the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department was first organized with eight members and a two-wheel cart equipped with hoses that was pulled behind a car. The department was housed at the current location, 4 Main Street, in Lynch's livery stable.

In 1939 the first fire truck was purchased; its body was built by the members. Nicknamed "Old Henry," this truck was in service until 1952.

The town purchased the property at 4 Main Street in 1942 and deeded it to the fire department six years later.

The department received its chart of incorporation in August 1948. The livery stable was demolished and the original cinderblock fire house built. A new 1948 Chevrolet truck was also purchased.

The first ambulance was purchased in 1957. Rescue 49 was organized in 1961 with 13 members.

In 1973, the department purchased Darr's Hardware, next door to the station. This building is still owned by the department. The lower level is being rented to Round Hill Mini Mart and the upper level is utilized by the department for storage, office space and a fully equipped exercise area made possible through generous donations

of community members and the County of Loudoun.

In 1980, thanks to a generous bequest from the Marie Cravens estate, renovations began on the station.

In 1998, growth in Western Loudoun made adequate volunteer manning no longer possible. As a result, the department's 35 volunteers are currently augmented by five paid county firefighters/rescue workers who are on duty at the station 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Equipment includes an engine and tanker furnished by the County of Loudoun and a rescue engine, brush truck, 2 ambulances, a utility vehicle and a medic response vehicle owned by the department.

The RHVFD will be celebrating it's 75th anniversary through 2013, including at its annual open house and barbecue during the Hometown Festival on May 25.

The department is grateful to everybody in the community who has assisted with monetary donations and volunteer hours. Without them the RHVFD could not continue to operate.

(Betty Dodge and her brother, RHVFD president Fenton Simpson, often say they were born and raised at the firehouse. Their father, Joseph Simpson, was one of the original members of the department, and their mother, Elizabeth Simpson, was a member of the auxiliary/department. Fenton and Betty are both lifetime members.)

News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

Message from the Editor

In 2006, when Lisa and I launched the first issue of News aRound the Hill, we stated our goal for the newsletter: "to provide a consistent source of communication in the service of continuing to build our community."

Seven years later, we still believe in the newsletter's goal, but we have come to recognize that the method of communication—a print issue delivered by mail only two or three times a year—has become outdated. News today must be immediate to be relevant.

Consequently, we have decided that this will be the last issue of News aRound the Hill in its current format. We are not abandoning our goal of providing a source of community communication but believe Round Hill will be better served if we transition to a more flexible digital form.

We are not yet sure exactly what shape that form will take—will it be a website or a facebook page, will there be discussion forums or blogs, will there be any supplemental printed form for those who are not internet savvy?

We do know we still want News aRound the Hill to be a community resource with input from a wide variety of voices in Round Hill. As such we seek your input now to help build a new virtual identity, so that we can continue to celebrate our real world Round Hill community together.

Please email editor@newsaround-thehill.org if you have input to share. And keep an eye out on the Town website (www.roundhillva.org) in the fall for information on the virtual rebirth of News aRound the Hill.

- Kim Ramsey and
Lisa Zimmer-Chu, Editors

Festival Depends on Local Businesses Sponsors Use Opportunity to Give Back to RH Community

By **JULIE MCDONALD**

Member, Round Hill Hometown
Festival Committee

The annual Round Hill Hometown Festival, and other events around town, could not happen without the countless hours of time and boundless energy of volunteers. However, these events also would not be possible without the generous support of our local businesses.

"Several volunteers work together to try to raise donations from local businesses," Hometown Festival Committee Co-chair and Budget Coordinator Lisa Cammarota said.

The 5K race, downhill derby, pie-eating contest, main band stage, feast, arts and crafts, carnival rides, Sheriff detail, and other operating costs are funded through race registrations, ticket sales and sponsors' donations.

Each year the committee sees a continuation of generosity from longtime Festival sponsors who see supporting the Festival as a way to give back to their community.

"H2 Land Company strives to find opportunities to support the local communities that it develops projects in," said Mike Hummel, a Round Hill

resident. "The Hometown Festival is a great chance for H2 Land to support the grass roots efforts of Round Hill and receive direct exposure in the community."

apple house contracting's president, Phil Bzdyk, agrees.

"apple house contracting has enjoyed the privilege to be a part of the Round Hill community for 23 years," Bzdyk, a longtime Round Hill resident, said. "We enjoy supporting the Hometown Festival because it celebrates the closeness that Round Hill citizens have for each other."

It's not just businesses that are well established in Round Hill who have lent their support to the Festival.

Newer businesses—like Bank of Clarke County and Round Hill Exxon—are big supporters of the event as well, sponsoring high visibility spots such as the main stage and pie-eating contest, respectively.

At the Hometown Festival and around the town, remember to thank Round Hill's businesses for their support in making the Hometown Festival a success year after year.

(Julie McDonald is in her second year serving as the sponsorship coordinator on the Hometown Festival Committee.)

Woodgrove PTSO Seeks Contributions for 2013 Graduation Night Party

SUSANNE KAHLER

President, Woodgrove HS PTSO

The end of the school year promises freedom, independence and the onset of adulthood. It is, however, also statistically a season of the highest teen auto fatalities and alcohol-related car crashes.

The Woodgrove PTSO is dedicated to providing a safe and sane outlet for the Class of 2013 to spend one last exciting and memorable evening as "Wolverines" before they embark on even greater adventures.

The PTSO is soliciting sponsors for both monetary contributions and prize donations for their Graduation Night Party to be held on site at the school Monday evening, June 10, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Find out more about supporting the WHS graduation night celebration online at www.lcps.org/Page/101734.

COUNCIL CORNER

County Still Working on Plans for Franklin Park Trail, Sheriff Substation

Town Completes Sidewalk, Hayman Lane Utility Improvements

By JOHN BARKLEY

Town Administrator, Round Hill

The Town Council and Planning Commission have been working on the following projects recently:

FY 2014 Budget: The Town Council is currently reviewing the draft FY 2014 Budget and is scheduled to hold public hearings on the budget and tax rates on June 6, with formal action on the budget and tax rates scheduled as an agenda item at the Town Council's regular meeting on June 20. Next year's draft budget includes a decrease in real estate tax rates and no increases in water and sewer user fees.

Western Loudoun Sheriff Substation: Loudoun County continues to work on the design of the planned Western Loudoun Sheriff Substation and has requested water and sewer service to be provided by the Town. The Town Council is currently working on a water and sewer agreement for the facility.

Franklin Park to Round Hill Trail: The Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Construction is working on the design of the Franklin Park to Round Hill Trail, and held a meeting April 9th at the Round Hill Town Office to present the project plan to the citizens of Round Hill. In general, the residents of Round Hill expressed support for the project and requested that Loudoun County minimize the impacts on the properties along East Loudoun Street as much as possible and ensure proper stormwater management and drainage.



Workers pour concrete to replace the sidewalk on the east side of North Locust Street earlier this month.

The County plans to launch a Franklin Park to Round Hill Trail project web site soon.

Sidewalk Replacement: Earlier this month the Town replaced the sidewalks along North Locust and High Streets.

Sleeter Lake Park: The Town is currently working on plans to develop Sleeter Lake Park as a recreational offering to Round Hill citizens. The park will feature a non-motorized boat launch facility and picnic area, boat storage facilities, and a small parking lot. While the project is currently in the design phase, the Town expects to begin development of the park in 2014.

Main Street Enhancement Project: This project will feature new sidewalks along Main Street, improved drainage, lighting, signage, and traffic control. The Town continues to coordinate the project design review in consultation with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2014.

Hayman Lane Water and Sewer Extension: The project design to extend Town water and sewer service to the residents of Hayman Lane has been completed. The Town has received over \$130,000 in grant funding from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to support the project.

Pool

Continued from Page 1
in 2014," said PRCS Communication and Marketing Coordinator Claire Smith.

"We have been eagerly awaiting the construction of the pool here in Round Hill for quite some time," said Rebecca Flannigan, who has lived in the Villages for nearly 10 years. "While it is not exactly what was promised to many residents

in the Villages, we are, nonetheless, finally getting a pool. I for one am very excited."

The 75-foot indoor pool will have four lanes and a zero-entry area. The building will house a reception area, locker rooms with showers, meeting rooms, and an office/first-aid room.

"Specific operating hours and use policies for this facility have not been formalized," Smith said. "These will

be determined in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors prior to the facility being open to the public."

Two public input meetings on the facility were held in 2004 and 2007. PRCS does not anticipate holding additional input sessions, but, Smith said, "a grand opening for the public will be scheduled at the appropriate time."