

New in Town



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

The Round Hill Exxon Service Center at 4 E. Loudoun Street is now open under the ownership of Robert Cairns, left. The station is open for automotive service from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The gas pumps are open until 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday.

POSTAL PATRON



**Congratulations and Good Luck
to Woodgrove High School's
First Graduating Class!**

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

Upcoming Events

- **Mothers' Day Flower Sale** **May 11-12**
Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department, Friday, 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. till sold out.
- **Round Hill Business Association** **May 15**
Savoir Fare, 5:30 p.m. All welcome.
- **Spring Farm Tour** **May 19-20**
Through Loudoun County, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See Page 1, or visit www.loudounfarms.org for info.
- **Round Hill Arts Center Ladies Night** **May 25**
RHAC, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dyed silk scarves, \$20 plus \$10 materials fee. Ages 16 and up. For info on camps, classes, and events see www.roundhillartscenter.org.
- **RHVFD Annual Open House** **May 26**
Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department, 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.
- **Service at Ketocin Baptist Church** **June 3**
On Ketocin Church Road north of Round Hill, 3:00 p.m. Pastor Chip Corbin as guest speaker, music by Ambassadors of Joy. All welcome.
- **Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour** **June 9-10**
Throughout western Loudoun, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Free. See www.wlast.org for more info.
- **Community Pig Roast** **July 4**
Town Park, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. See www.roundhillva.org in late June for more information.

ON THE AGENDA

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

- Hold public hearing on proposed text amendments to the B-1 (Business) Zoning District section of the Zoning Ordinance, including accessory structures and compatibility of commercial uses with residential
- Conduct water rate study
- Update comprehensive plan
- Review county redesign for Western Loudoun Sheriff's Substation
- Incorporate the nearly completed Goose Creek Water Treatment Facility (Rt.7) into the town system
- Upgrade the Rt. 719 Lift Station
- Obtain easements and construct Hayman Lane water line project
- Evaluate possible boundary line adjustment
- Review LI-1 (Light Industrial) zoning uses
- Review proposed lighting ordinance

News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

April 2012

Circulation 2,300

Town Awards Contract for Park Pavilion Construction

By LISA ZIMMER-CHU

Editor, News aRound the Hill

Soon the town park will have a permanent pavilion in which to stage activities not only for the Hometown Festival but throughout the year.

Included in the 2011 revised Town Park Master Plan, work began right away to design the structure. A committee was formed to work with an architect from Stonegate Construction to produce a concept that could be used for competitive estimates from construction firms.

The design is inspired by the Round Hill train station and structures already in the park. The size will maximize its utility as a stage during special events with the use of temporary risers. Being built at-grade will improve accessibility year-round. The pavilion will be located where the main stage has been for recent Hometown Festivals.

"I'm excited that it's going to be the site of many memorable things in Round Hill," said committee member Tobi Moriarty. "It will make the park into more of an event venue, because it provides shelter."

In February of 2012, the design was endorsed by the Town Council, which then approved a budget adjustment to shift unspent capital improvement budget monies. A



PHOTO COURTESY STONEGATE CONSTRUCTION

The construction of a permanent pavilion in the Town Park will allow for many events throughout the year.

construction contract for \$77,892 was awarded to Fuog/Interbuild of Purcellville in late March.

While it was the Town Council's goal to have the project completed for this year's Hometown Festival, the process of selecting a bonded construction firm and resolving the alignment of a buried power line has pushed the start date for construction to just after the Festival. Construction is scheduled for completion before the end of the summer.

"It has been a long-time goal of the Town to have a permanent pavilion in the park," said Mayor Scott Ramsey, a design committee member. "The upcoming 10th anniversary of the Hometown Festival helps emphasize the importance of our Town Park as a community gathering place."

Spring Farm Tour Features Several Local Agri-Businesses

By GINA FABER

News aRound the Hill

Round Hill is a special place to live: One can appreciate the rural part of the county while enjoying the comforts of a community. The 2012 Loudoun Spring Farm Tour provides an opportunity to visit rural businesses who work the land for a living.

The self-guided tour takes place the weekend of May 19-20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Of 52 sites featured this year, seven wineries and farms are within 10 miles of Round Hill.

To the west is the Bluemont Vineyard and Great Country Farms, both

run by the Zurschmeide family.

Great Country Farms has strived to perfect the "farm experience" since 1994, and has a lot to offer younger family members, from a farm playground to a live animal barnyard. Farm tour weekend is the "Strawberry Jubilee"; admission provides access to the jumping pillow, slides, live music, farm contests, u-pick strawberries and a variety of food.

Across the street, the Bluemont Vineyard is nestled into the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge, affording stunning views to visitors. Offerings include wine tastings and light fare. The "Lore" gift shop will be open

both Saturday and Sunday.

Southeast of Bluemont on Airmont Road is East Lynn Farm. Saved from demolition and development two years ago, this original home and farmstead of Bushrod Washington Lynn, a 19th-century Virginia reformer and senator, has been restored and given a new lease on its rural life. Visitors will tour vegetable gardens, witness sheep shearings and see the sheeps' best friend, guard donkey Matilda. Flowers, vegetables and eggs will be for sale. The farm will be open both days.

On Saturday only, the greenhouses
See **FARM TOUR**, Page 3

Local Businesses Capitalize on Horse Country Location

By **KIM RAMSEY**

Editor, News aRound the Hill

"With an equine population of 20,000, there are more horses in Loudoun than in any other county in Virginia, and Loudoun has the third largest horse population in the United States."

— www.visitloudoun.org

While most county residents may consider Middleburg the center of Loudoun's horse country, no one should be surprised that a number of Round Hill businesses have made it their jobs to cater to the local equine industry.

Some, like Advanced Contracting, Inc., help provide for a horse's physical needs. Others, such as Equissage, focus on the horse's well-being. And yet others, like Moment's Notice Solutions, concentrate on providing specialized services to the horse's



PHOTO COURTESY EQUISSAGE

Mary Schreiber of Equissage gives Tucker a little extra attention.

owners. As different as these companies are, however, they all fill a niche in Western Loudoun's rural economy.

Patty and Randy Iacone of Advanced Contracting, Inc., grew up in Alexandria and raised their family in Fairfax, but "always dreamed of moving to the country and building our own home and barn."

"When Randy and I moved to Loudoun County we decided to use our property as a pilot plan," Patty Iacone said.

"We invested a lot of time in researching our property in order for it to meet our goals. We placed our home, horse barn, dry lot, grazing paddocks, pond, riding arena and trailer parking on the property. We were able to utilize our space efficiently and decided to add a new department to our already existing contracting company."

Today, ACI offers equestrian design/build services to local homeowners. Specialized equine services include modular and remodeled barns, riding arenas, pasture management, and site and lot planning and development.

Mary Schreiber also built her business out of her own personal experience with horses. As a certified massage therapist, Schreiber is the owner and chief instructor at Equissage, which offers certificate programs in equine sports massage therapy and canine massage therapy.

Schreiber began massaging her own horses when she was living in Pennsylvania and competing in pleasure shows. She decided to offer massage therapy at local racetracks after seeing how the therapy helped her own horses. Soon she was asked to teach others her technique, and Equissage was born.

While there are other equine massage schools throughout the country,



PHOTO COURTESY WENDY JONES

Wendy Jones, left, and Patty Iacone, below, incorporated their love of horses into their businesses.



PHOTO COURTESY PATTY IACONE

Schreiber said she believes "what sets us apart is that we were the first to offer such a program worldwide and owners and trainers are seeing amazing results."

"Maybe we put Round Hill on the map," she added. "We have had students from every state and 30 foreign countries."

While Schreiber focuses on the horse's needs, Wendy Jones of Moment's Notice Solutions puts her experience to work assisting the horse's owners with their accounting and financial planning needs.

According to Jones, horse farm owners and other agricultural-related businesses face unique issues in their accounting and financial operations.

"The IRS has numerous regulations addressing agricultural entities," Jones said. "State and local jurisdictions also have unique aspects that encompass special provisions, tax credits and varied personal property tax rates applicable to agricultural businesses."

"Many of these businesses do not have the time to think about tax or business planning due to the 24/7 nature of work in farming or agriculture," she continued.

"Our accounting services allow them to focus on their business, but have someone who understands the idiosyncrasies and special needs surrounding their agricultural-based businesses."

As a horse enthusiast herself, Jones said her choice to focus on Loudoun-based equine businesses "has been more fun than work!"

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.

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and Kim Ramsey

Please direct comments
and story ideas to

editor@NewsARoundtheHill.org.

COUNCIL CORNER

Round Hill Welcomes McGaha to Town Staff

By **JOHN BARKLEY**

Administrator,
Town of Round Hill

The Round Hill Town Council and staff are pleased to welcome Kim McGaha as the Town's new utility billing administrator.

McGaha brings excellent experience, professionalism and skills to her new job with the Town, having worked in both administrative and customer service operations with local news organizations, including Leesburg Today and the Loudoun Times Mirror.

As a member of the administrative and utility operations departments, McGaha's responsibilities include maintaining the utility billing database, opening and closing customer accounts, receiving and posting utility payments, and interacting with utility staff regarding water and sewer service requests and meter readings.

In addition, McGaha assists the town administrator and treasurer with various administrative and public information related tasks.

McGaha, who moved to Round Hill last fall, is thrilled to be working here as well. "I grew up in Loudoun County and am glad to be back home," she said.

When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her family, gardening, going to the beach and reading.

Substation and Trail Updates

After much deliberation and scrutiny from Round Hill citizens, the Town Council and the County Board of Supervisors, the Western Loudoun Sheriff Substation is now being re-designed to a smaller scale. The facility's planned size is being reduced from 18,000 to 12,000 square feet along with a reduction in budget from \$8 million to about \$6 million. The Town Council continues to work with County officials to ensure that the design of the facility fits with the character and scale of Round Hill.

The Council is also continuing to work with County officials to complete the design for the Franklin Park to Round Hill Trail. The project will feature new sidewalks on both sides of Loudoun Street from Evening Star Drive to Main Street, lighting, crosswalks and drainage improvements. Loudoun County has revised its schedule for the project, with construction now tentatively planned for October 2013.



Kim McGaha, the Town's new billing administrator.

Farm Tour

Continued from Page 1

of Endless Summer Harvest (off of Osburn Road just east of Round Hill) offer visitors two farms in one visit. In addition to tours of Endless Summer Harvest's hydroponic greenhouses, Solitude Yarn will offer exhibits and spinning and skeining demonstrations. Greenhouse tours are scheduled for 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., with lettuce and herb sales throughout the day. Solitude will be selling its premium hand-dyed local wool yarns all day Saturday.

Another vineyard just northeast of town on Hillsboro Road is North Gate Vineyard. Though the tasting room is relatively new, winemakers Mark and Vicki Fedor have been contributing to award-winning wines in Loudoun since 1996. Visitors on both days will enjoy live music as well as demonstrations from the local Blue Ridge Greyhound Adoption rescue organization.

Two destinations are in downtown Hillsboro. From 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, the newest Western Loudoun Farmers Market will celebrate its opening day, with yarn spinning demonstrations and door prizes. The market will feature multiple local farmer-vendors, artisans and live music on the lawn of the Hillsboro Old Stone School every Saturday morning from May through October.

Visitors will find Stoneybrook Organic Farm open on Sunday. Attractions include farm tour hayrides, orientation to their brand new greenhouses, and live music and dancing provided by the farm families themselves. The market will be open all day, selling organic local produce, and meat and dairy groceries. Lunch is also available at their new deli.

Plan ahead and confirm destinations and hours at the Farm Tour website; click the "Spring Farm Tour" link from www.loudounfarms.org.



PHOTO COURTESY ENDLESS SUMMER HARVEST

Endless Summer Harvest's hydroponic greenhouses will be on display during the Farm Tour.

10th ROUND HILL HOMETOWN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2012



5K FESTIVAL RACE and ½ MILE KIDS' FUN RUN

8:00 a.m.

\$25 registration fee

Got what it takes to get up early and race through the streets of Round Hill? All age groups welcome. Complete registration forms and more information available at the Town Office or on the web at www.hometownfestival.org.

NO FEE FOR KIDS' FUN RUN!

PARADE

10:00 a.m.

The parade will start at Woodgrove Park, proceed south down Main Street and end at the Town Park. Participation is welcomed and encouraged for local organizations, especially any with musical talent! If you would like to participate, email moriartyrh@yahoo.com for details.

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

10:45 a.m.

Come to the park for the annual Memorial Day Ceremony and honor our local veterans through music, a flag-raising and wreath-laying.

MUSIC AND STAGE ENTERTAINMENT

All Day

The Round Hill Arts Center will host a day of entertainment on both the main stage in the Town Park and a second stage in the Patterson Building parking lot. Come see local favorites and a few surprises, including an after-dinner concert double-header to wrap up the day's festivities.

CHILDREN'S RIDES AND GAMES

11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Western Loudoun Community Church and the Town of Round Hill, enjoy three-legged races, hula-hoop contests, human whirl, bounce houses, rock wall and more! Free except some rides.

Hungry?

Try one of the following options:

RHVFD Pig Roast
Round Hill Grocery
Round Hill Mini-Mart
Savoir Fare
Tammy's Diner

FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS AND VOLUNTEERS

Log on to www.hometownfestival.org to order your Festival T-shirts! All shirts are \$12.50. Order early to ensure sizes and availability.

Volunteers are needed to help make the day a success!
Email moriartyrh@yahoo.com to find out how to help or to sign up for an hour or two shift.

PIE-EATING CONTEST

1:00 p.m.

Dare to go face-down in a mouth-watering pie and take home a free T-shirt and maybe even a medal! There will be rounds for local celebrities, adults, teens and children. Everyone participating must stop by the information table and sign up the day of the event. Permission slips for anyone under 18 will be available online and at the Town Office ahead of time.

DOWN HILL DERBY/SCOOTER RACE

3:00 p.m.

\$5 registration fee through May 26

Build your own derby car and race it down N. Locust Street! There will be heats for scooters as well. Races are open to drivers who can safely operate their vehicles. Racers must follow the rules found at www.hometownfestival.org.

COMMUNITY FEAST IN THE TOWN PARK

5:30 p.m.

\$15 adult/\$7 child by May 20; \$17 and \$9 thereafter

Join your neighbors for a picnic dinner in the Town Park catered by Hill High Country Store. Hometown favorites **Acoustic Burgoo** will help set the mood with their unique blend of bluegrass, blues, old-time fiddle, traditional country and soul. The number of tickets available after May 20 will be highly limited, so reserve your seat at the table early!

EVENING CONCERTS IN THE PARK

7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Top off the evening with two great concerts! The fun and funky **Fabulettes** bring their bouffants and beehives to recreate the unforgettable era of '60s girl groups. Plan to stay late as the **1, 4, 5's** close out the night with electric blues and rock'n'roll. Bring a blanket or chairs to kick back and enjoy the sights and sounds, or bring your dancing shoes to dance the night away!



ADDITIONAL EVENTS TO CHECK OUT:

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S OPEN HOUSE AND PIG ROAST

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Visit with Loudoun's finest service organizations, including the Sheriff's Office and the Medical Reserve Corps at the firehouse. Be sure to grab a delicious pork sandwich afterward!

OLD FURNITURE FACTORY'S TASTE OF THE VINE

1:00-5:00 p.m.

Bluemont Vineyards, Crushed Cellars and Twin Oaks Winery offer samples of their finest wines. The \$12 admission fee includes a commemorative glass.



Catch a Ride

The Round Hill Baptist Church will be providing a courtesy shuttle service throughout the day of the Festival. The green

and white van will travel a route along Evening Star Drive, East Loudoun Street and Main Street.

If you must drive through town, PLEASE drive slowly and carefully during the Festival. Also be alert to temporary road closures and parking restrictions throughout the day as part of the 5K run, parade and derby.

Visit www.hometownfestival.org for detailed information, registration forms, online payments and, if necessary, inclement weather plans for the day of the Festival.

Don't miss the fun!