



PHOTO COURTESY THE ROUND HILL ARTS CENTER

The Round Hill Arts Center is planning a fundraiser for its ceramics program. For a donation to the RHAC, pottery instructors and students will provide bowls, a local restaurateur will fill the bowls with delicious concoctions, and a local winery will fill a glass with a beverage. For details, see *Upcoming Events*, below.

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## POSTAL PATRON

## Upcoming Events

- ▶ **“Once Upon a Christmas Carol”** Multiple dates  
Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center. Run Rabbit Run Theatre’s musical rendition of the Dickens classic. For schedule and tickets, visit [www.rrrtheatre.org](http://www.rrrtheatre.org).
- ▶ **Block-printed Holiday Card Workshop** Dec. 8  
Round Hill Arts Center, 1 to 4 p.m. with Jill Evans-Kavaldjian. \$40 includes materials for 20 cards. Ages 8 and up. For info on camps, classes and events see [www.roundhillartscenter.org](http://www.roundhillartscenter.org).
- ▶ **Round Hill Tree Lighting** Dec. 8  
Town Park, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Hot cocoa, baked goods, carols, crafts and a special visitor who will arrive at dusk to magically light the Town Tree.
- ▶ **RHVFD Spaghetti Dinner** Dec. 8  
Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, corn muffins, dessert and drink. \$5 for adults/\$3 ages 12 and under. Cash or check only.
- ▶ **Laughs! A Comic Look at Life** Jan. 4-Feb. 3  
Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center. Exhibit from regional artists and craftspeople.
- ▶ **Fill Your Bowl & Fill Your Glass** Feb. 23  
RHAC, 7-10 p.m. Fundraiser for pottery program. To register, visit [www.roundhillartscenter.org](http://www.roundhillartscenter.org).

## 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
- Participate in county information session for Franklin Park Trail upgrades
- Review proposed lighting ordinance
- Consider adoption of county parking and nuisance codes
- Review county redesign for Western Loudoun Sheriff’s Substation
- Commission engineering study for future Sleeter Lake Park
- Conduct water rate study
- Complete upgrades to the Rt. 719 Lift Station
- Extend water and sewer to Hayman Lane residents
- Evaluate possible boundary line adjustment

*The Town Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.*

# News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

December 2012

Circulation 2,300

## *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*



KIM RAMSEY—NEWS aROUND the HILL

The Woodgrove High School Chorus, shown here at last year's Town Tree Lighting, will return for this year's Holidays in Round Hill festivities, on Saturday, Dec. 8. The Town Park's new pavilion will be decked out with lights, garland and decorations donated by Leesburg's Home Depot, Round Hill Family Practice and the Town of Round Hill.

For event details, see the *Upcoming Events* box on Page 4.

## Community Center Returns to Bluemont; Round Hill Center Back to Full LCPS Use

By KIM RAMSEY

Co-editor, News aRound the Hill

After four years at the Round Hill Center on High Street, the Bluemont Community Center is back at home in its newly-renovated building five miles west.

"We are happy to be back in our renovated building," said Center Manager Rick Gleason. "But we also miss having the space of the Round Hill Center. We enjoyed the hospitality of the school board staff at RHC and look forward to working with them in the future."

With the departure of BCC, the Round Hill Center is again occupied solely by the Loudoun County Public Schools, which owns the building.

While there has been talk in the past of transferring the building to Parks, Recreation and Community Services for use as a full-time community center, School Board vice chairman and Blue Ridge District representative Jill Turgeon said that "as of right now, there are no plans to transfer the Round Hill Center to PRCS."

"It is currently being utilized as an invaluable resource center for teachers, as well as a testing center," Turgeon said. "While I would support a community center in Round Hill, I would not want to remove resources

See **ROUND HILL CENTER**, Page 3

## Planning Commission Seeks Input for Comprehensive Plan Update

By ROB KINSLEY

Town Planner/Zoning Administrator,  
Town of Round Hill

The Round Hill Planning Commission is currently working on an update to Round Hill's Comprehensive Plan. The plan is a projection and recommendation for development and type of land use activities for the immediate and distant future.

As part of the update process, a survey is included in this newsletter as a means of soliciting input from residents, local business, and property owners—anyone who considers Round Hill home and cares about its future. The survey was also mailed last month to local residents and businesses along with the real estate and personal property tax bills; anyone who has already responded to that mailing need not respond again.

The current comprehensive plan

was adopted in 1993. It was last updated in 2008 to include a section regarding the east commercial district that was incorporated into the Town in 2005 through a boundary line adjustment with Loudoun County. The current update should be completed by the Planning Commission by late spring or early summer.

The comprehensive plan promotes orderly growth by providing a framework for decisions about land use, community facilities, natural resources, housing and other factors that are vital to a healthy and livable community.

The primary goal of the plan is to protect and improve the quality of life of its citizens by providing for the public health, safety, convenience and welfare of the Town's residents.

The plan should also be used by the Planning Commission and Town

See **COMP PLAN**, Page 3

# Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center Gives Local Stars a Place to Shine

By **CHRIS KING**

News aRound the Hill

This fall the Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center began its fifth season of providing a Western Loudoun County venue for local, regional and national performers.

The Center opened to the public in February 2008, with their inaugural season beginning in September 2008—10 years to the day after the first timbers were raised by the community.

There are approximately 35 unique performing groups in the 2012-13 season, including more than 70 performances. Additional shows will be added throughout the season as the calendar permits.

The primary mission of the Center is to support Loudoun County-based arts organizations, including but not limited to VSA Arts Loudoun, Loudoun Lyric Opera, The Loudoun Symphony, The Loudoun Symphonic Winds, Loudoun Ballet's Jazz&Co Dance, numerous community theater groups, local musicians and bands, and, new this year, a troupe of local improv comedians called "Last Ham Standing."

When the booking period begins, groups such as these get first choice

to go on the Center's calendar.

When the deadline for initial booking ends, booking opens for regional and national acts.

While most of the acts hail from Loudoun County, some non-local groups are slated to perform this season as well, such as The American Shakespeare Center, Robbie Limon, Al Petteway and Amy White.

The long-distance award would go to Mike Rayburn—a comedian and guitarist who hangs his hat in Las Vegas.

When asked what he considers to be the biggest act on the schedule, and which one he is most excited about, Center Manager Jeff Stern responded diplomatically, saying that answers to these two questions are highly subjective.

"It's like asking who your favorite child in the family is!" Stern said.

In addition to performing arts shows, the Center also provides theater classes, including a weekly "Junior Theatre" class, for ages 7-12, taught by Heather Stillings, and a course for younger children, ages 5-7, called "First Stage," taught by Alicia Keen. Registration is available for both of these classes on [www.loudoun.gov/prcs](http://www.loudoun.gov/prcs).

The Center also hosts visual art exhibits. The popular "Barns and Farms: Images of Loudoun" art show and sale is on display now, and, beginning Jan. 4, a show sponsored by the Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center entitled "Laughs! A Comic Look at Life" will be on display.

Other displays through the winter



PHOTO COURTESY MARIAN SWEET, BITWC-IMAGINE THAT! THEATRE

**Round Hill resident Joan Wolford, left, starred as Mame in the BITWC-Imagine That! Theatre's musical production at Franklin Park Arts Center in November.**

and spring include the annual "Youth Art Show" featuring art from the students and preschoolers of Loudoun; VSA Loudoun's Da Vinci Art Studio exhibit; an art exhibit from students at The Middleburg Academy; and the "Five For 5" exhibit, which will feature five of the Center's favorite artists during the past five years.

The Center will also be a stop on the Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour on June 22 and 23.

The Center provides ancillary support to many groups, towns and events that happen in the community—from Round Hill to Oatlands, from Purcellville to Waterford and many more.

The Center's holiday show last year provided a rare treat for audience members: a chance to see Stern on stage.

When asked if he would return to the stage again any time soon, Stern replied, "The only reason I appeared last year in 'The North Pole Follies' was that it raised money for a very worthwhile cause—the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department. I'll never say never again, so if there's a charity that needs help, it may happen, but don't count on it!"

(Chris King serves as a customer service assistant at Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center. He is also a Round Hill resident.)

## 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:

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and Kim Ramsey

Please direct comments  
and story ideas to

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



## COUNCIL CORNER

# Generators Allow RH Water Supply to Keep Flowing in Weather Emergencies

By MARY ANNE GRAHAM

Vice Mayor, Town of Round Hill

Hurricanes, snow storms and other major weather events not only affect homeowners but also affect Round Hill's utilities.

When there are power outages, well pumps and wastewater sewer plant operations are unable to operate normally.

However, the wastewater plant is equipped with an emergency generator that can maintain operations. There are also generators at the Route 7 and Route 719 lift stations that pump sewage to the wastewater plant.

The Town's elevated water tank on Evening Star Drive also has a generator. The tank has a capacity of 500,000 gallons. Usage on a typical day is around 200,000 gallons, so the tank offers approximately 2.5 days of storage.

In the event of short-term outages, the storage in the tank acts as a buffer, and water service continues even in the event of power loss.

Because the Town's wells are scattered throughout the service area, power outages may not affect all of the wells, so alternate wells could be used to supply the Town.

Round Hill does not currently have backup generators at any of its wells, so in the event of a prolonged power outage it would be necessary to rent portable generator(s).

The Westlake water treatment facility (and associated wells), to be located south of town, is currently under design. This facility will have an emergency generator so that water can continue to be pumped and treated even in the event of a prolonged power loss.

Emergency generators are also under consideration at other facilities.

## Battleground Jam



PHOTOS COURTESY JAKE WHITMAN, ABC NEWS

**Bill Weir, anchor for ABC News' "Nightline," visited the Old Furniture Factory's bluegrass jam session for a segment that aired Nov. 1 titled "Battleground Virginia: What the Voters Think." He spoke with Round Hill businessman Wally Johnson, below, about the presidential election. Afterward, Weir borrowed Johnson's guitar and jammed with the regulars. The interview can be seen at [abcnews.go.com/Nightline/video/battleground-virginia-voters-17623054](http://abcnews.go.com/Nightline/video/battleground-virginia-voters-17623054).**



## Comp Plan

*Continued from Page 1*

Council when considering rezoning and development proposals, road and public facility locations, and capital improvement program and budget recommendations.

In Virginia, every local government is required to adopt a comprehensive plan for the physical devel-

opment of the territory under its jurisdiction.

The comprehensive plan is becoming increasingly important as a legal basis for making land use decisions. Therefore, a well-developed plan, with specific standards and policies, encourages consistency in town land use decisions.

## Round Hill Center

*Continued from Page 1*  
for our teachers."

According to Sharon Ackerman, assistant superintendent for LCPS, "There are 12 classroom spaces at the Round Hill Center. Only three of those classrooms are currently not being used for LCPS programs. Eight classrooms are being used for the Testing Service Offices and the

centralized library acquisition services, including a teacher resource area. One classroom is being used for storage of special education equipment."

"As the school system grows, so will the space needed for the LCPS testing and library services," Ackerman continued. "We are certainly in need of this building currently and

will be far into the future."

As for the Bluemont Community Center, Gleason said the BCC still offers classes, preschool and child care, just as they did in Round Hill. "We are a short 4.7 miles away and would love to continue serving the Round Hill community."

Email [rick.gleason@loudoun.gov](mailto:rick.gleason@loudoun.gov) for info on all the latest BCC offerings.



**1. What is your overall vision for the future development of Round Hill?**

**2. What are the top 5 reasons you moved to Round Hill?** (Please list responses according to importance)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

**3. What are the top 5 reasons you continue to live in Round Hill?** (Please list responses according to importance)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

**4. What are the top 5 strengths that contribute to Round Hill being a successful community?** (Please list responses according to importance)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

**5. What are the top 5 areas where Round Hill can improve – What are the community's needs?** (Please list responses according to importance)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

**6. Considering the future, what are Round Hill's top 5 opportunities - What opportunities will help the community to achieve its vision?** (Please list responses according to importance)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

**7. Considering the future, what are Round Hill's top 5 concerns - What obstacles will stop the community from achieving its vision?** (Please list responses according to importance)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

**8. Where do you live? (Select One)**

- a) The Town of Round Hill
- b) Within 5 miles of Round Hill
- c) Loudoun County
- d) Other (Please specify)

**9. How long have you lived in the Town of Round Hill or the Surrounding Community (within 5 miles)? (Select One)**

- a) Less than 1 Year
- b) 1 - 5 Years
- c) 6 - 10 Years
- d) 11 - 25 Years
- e) More than 25 Years
- f) I do not live in town or within 5 miles of town

**10. Age of Responder? (Select One)**

- a) Under 24
- b) 25 - 34
- c) 35 - 44
- d) 45 - 54
- e) 55 - 64
- f) 65 and older

**11. How did you receive this survey? (Select One)**

- a) Town Hall
- b) Town of Round Hill Website
- c) Round Hill Newsletter
- d) Other (please specify)

**Please drop off completed surveys for Rob Kinsley at the Town Office, 23 Main Street, or mail them to the Town of Round Hill, ATTN: Rob Kinsley, P.O. Box 36, Round Hill, VA 20142. Surveys may also be submitted via email to [rkinsley@roundhillva.org](mailto:rkinsley@roundhillva.org). To be most useful, please submit by Dec. 14, 2012.**