

News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

November 2016

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Western Loudoun Sheriff's Substation Officially Opens

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office has moved into its new substation at 47 West Loudoun Street, just outside of town limits. The LCSO began operations out of the new building on Sept. 26 and held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 22. The second floor of the Round Hill Town Office, the prior home of the LCSO substation, is now for rent.

Captain Greg Ahlemann, the station commander for the Western Loudoun Substation, said the LCSO is "extremely pleased with the facility."

"Great care was taken in designing a facility that would meet the Sheriff's Office needs but would also fit with the other buildings in Round Hill," he said.

The 8,500 square foot building sits on just over 14 acres, and the substation was sited with the intent to eventually relocate the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department to a new building on the property. The substation includes rooms for roll call,

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PHOTOS COURTESY LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Elected officials from around Western Loudoun County joined Sheriff Mike Chapman for the substation's ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 22.

Town Receives Funds from County for Transportation Projects

Money to be Used to Rebuild Sidewalks, Install Curb and Gutters on Main Street

The Town now has another \$859,000 on hand to build Main Street sidewalk improvements due to recent action by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors. At their Sept. 22 business meeting, supervisors voted to forward to the Town proffer money it had already collected for use in the project.

Phase One of the Main Street improvements will rebuild sidewalks, add parking, and install curb and gutter from the center of Town north to the old train station.

The Main Street project will be constructed in tandem with the related Franklin Park Trail project, once final easements are obtained for both.

Phase One is now fully funded, and leftover money will be used to fund future phases of Main Street improvements.

One planned section will proceed north from the train station to the Town's northern boundary to connect to

Greenwood Commons as well as the Brentwood Springs development. The other section will proceed south from the center of Town under the bypass to provide a pedestrian connection to the southern neighborhoods.

But for now the Town is focused on construction of the current phase.

The proffer money to be forwarded was generated by the Villages of Round Hill rezoning and, by the terms of the proffer, was earmarked for transportation improvements in the Round Hill area.

The funds were originally planned for further widening of Evening Star Drive, but a recent study showed the traffic threshold for triggering construction was not likely to be met. In response to a letter from the Town requesting the funds be made available for active projects, Blue Ridge Supervisor Tony Buffington sought and obtained approval from the full Board.

GOVERNMENT

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community activities, property and evidence, a secure processing area, gym, and offices for station staff. The new station also provides a secure parking lot for the Sheriff's Office vehicles.

"This project took some time to bring to completion," Ahlemann said, "but the end product is something that we are very proud of as we continue to offer additional services to the residents of Western Loudoun."

New services the LCSO will be able to provide in the near future include a community room available for non-profit groups to use, on-site fingerprinting and records checks, and a prescription drug box where residents can safely dispose of old or expired medications.

According to Ahlemann, there are currently 38 sworn positions assigned to work out of the Western Loudoun Station. Deputies from other divisions like traffic safety and school resource officers may also use the station.

The Town of Round Hill is working with Sandy Wehr of Landmark Group Commercial to lease the space previously occupied by the substation. Town Administrator Buster Nicholson said lessees could rent either the whole upstairs or individual offices.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SENT TO TOWN COUNCIL

The Planning Commission has completed its work on the Comprehensive Plan and forwarded it to the Town Council for final review and approval.

The Town Council has until early January to make any changes, hold its own public hearing, and vote to approve.

The Comprehensive Plan will be debated by Council over the next few months, with several chapters on each regular meeting agenda. If the Town Council fails to act within 90 days of the PC's vote to approve, then the PC version is adopted by default.

TOWN COUNCIL HOLDS STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING THIS WEEKEND

The Town Council will hold a strategic planning meeting on Saturday, Nov. 5, starting at 9 a.m. at the Round Hill Arts Center.

The meeting is open to the public but there will be no opportunity for public comment or participation. The goal of the workshop is to review existing and proposed projects and initiatives and for the Town Council members to discuss their priorities and vision for the Town.

After the workshop is complete, the Town staff will formulate work plans that reflect the consensus to be reviewed and discussed at future regular meetings of the Town Council. Every regular meeting includes opportunities for public comment.

TOWN PROPERTY TAXES BILLED IN NOVEMBER

The Town of Round Hill's 2016 real estate/personal property tax bills will be mailed out no later than mid-November and are due Dec. 5.

Anyone who owns property within the Town limits must pay real estate taxes to Loudoun County and the Town of Round Hill. Residents who live within the Town and own and operate a vehicle(s) are required to pay personal property taxes to both Loudoun County and the Town of Round Hill.

The Town rates for 2016 taxes are \$0.18066 per \$100 of assessed value on real estate and \$1.15 per \$100 value for personal property. The Town also assesses vehicle fees of \$25 per automobile or truck and \$15 per motorcycle.

Loudoun County provides the assessed value of real estate and personal property to the Town.

The Town offers several different options for paying tax bills. Customers may pay on line at www.roundhillva.org, pay in person at the Town Office, 23 Main Street, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (except holidays), or use the Town's night drop box located at the back of the building.

Any questions about the above taxes or rates may be directed to the Town Treasurer at (540) 338-7878, extension 302.



PHOTOS COURTESY LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Mike Champan and members of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office at last month's opening.

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PHOTO COURTESY KIM RAMSEY

Santa visits Round Hill each year to magically light the Town Christmas tree in the Town Park. This year's tree lighting event will be held Dec. 3.

SANTA VISITS ROUND HILL TREE LIGHTING AND RHVFD DINNER

The annual Round Hill Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Residents are invited to gather in the Town Park on Loudoun Street for cookies and carols.

At dusk, the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Department will escort Santa to the park and then on to the firehouse (4 Main Street) for Dinner With Santa. Dinner will continue until 7 p.m.

Santa will return to Round Hill later in the month to tour neighborhoods, waving to local children from a RHVFD fire truck. The schedule for this visit has not yet been confirmed.

RHES PLANS ACTIVITIES FOR VETERANS DAY, AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Round Hill Elementary School will be hosting a Veterans Day program on Thursday, Nov. 10, at 6:30 p.m. and Friday, Nov. 11, at 1:30 p.m. Third-grade students will lead the program of patriotic songs, readings, videos and photos of veterans linked to our RHES community. Veterans that plan to attend are invited to email a photo or 15-second mini-video highlighting

their service and their connection to a RHES student or our school to Carma Jones (carma.jones@lcps.org). Photos or clips must be received no later than Friday, Nov. 4, to be included in the performance.

RHES is collecting food for a local food pantry in preparation for the holidays. Donations may be dropped off in the main office or brought to

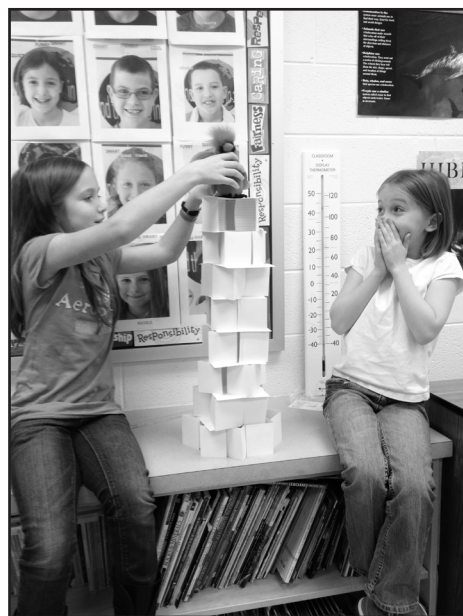


PHOTO COURTESY KIM RAMSEY

RHES students take part in an American Education Week activity.

school with students through Nov. 14.

The school will be welcoming parents throughout the week of November 14-18 for American Education Week. Each grade level will be hosting parents for an interactive activity that the parents can participate in with their child. Parents are also welcomed to eat lunch with their child (please RSVP so enough food is prepared). The school's Fall Book Fair will be held the same week in the library.

The American Education Week schedule includes STEM activities in third grade on Monday; math and science stations in first grade on Tuesday; a "Clash of the Classrooms" mini-catapult activity in fourth grade on Wednesday; "Recreating the Mayflower" for kindergartners on Thursday; and Animal Project Exhibitions for second grade on Friday.

Also on Friday, the fifth-grade class will host a Thanksgiving Outreach Feast. With support from parent volunteers, students will work to plan, prepare and provide a Thanksgiving feast for public servants in the Round Hill area. Local law enforcement, fire and rescue, and elected officials are invited to join faculty, students and their parents for lunch. The feast will take place from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Preparations will begin at 9:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Mark Muldowney (mark.muldowney@lcps.org) by Nov. 11.

CHURCH HOLDS YARD SALE; ELECTION AND HOLIDAY SERVICES SCHEDULED

The Round Hill United Methodist Church is hosting a prayer service for the upcoming presidential election on Monday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. The community is welcome to attend.

The church is also having a community yard sale on Saturday, Nov. 19 from 8 a.m. to noon. Items for sale will include clothing, household items, toys, furniture, books, sporting goods, kitchen items, arts and crafts, pet stuff, linens, tools, and furniture.

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COMMUNITY

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Bargain hunters of all ages are invited! Donations are welcome! Text or call (703)431-6801 to arrange drop-off time.

The community is invited to worship at a Thanksgiving Eve Service, which will be held at the church on Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m.

Pastor Wray will present an Advent Sermon Series, "Waiting is the Hardest Part," beginning Sunday, Nov. 27. Christmas Eve at Round Hill UMC will include four worship services. The 5 p.m. service will feature a "family-friendly" atmosphere; it will be followed by a traditional service with a choral presentation of "The Wondrous Story — A Cantata for Christmas" at 7 p.m. The 9 p.m. service will feature contemporary music, and a candlelight service will begin at 11 p.m. Offerings received on Christmas Eve will be donated to a special cause.

Round Hill UMC invites the community to keep track of its worship and community events at www.roundhillumc.org.

HARMONY MS HOLDS HOLIDAY BAZAAR, SEEKS FOOD DONATIONS FOR BACKPACK PROJECT

Harmony Middle School will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This arts and crafts show will feature more than 40 local Loudoun County artisans selling handmade items including jewelry, holiday items and gifts, gourmet food and much more, plus 20 direct sales company consultants representing skin care, beauty, jewelry, home décor, essential oils, and more. Admission is free.

Harmony is also in need of donations of non-perishable, shelf-stable foods (nothing requiring refrigeration) in individually packaged servings to be used for the Weekend Backpack Project in which 30 HMS students in need will take home easy to prepare meals each Friday afternoon. Monetary donations for additional food purchases can also be made by using the school's parent portal. Volunteers are also needed to bag food for distribution each Friday.

Upcoming Events

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| ► Town Council Work Session | Nov.3/Dec. 1 |
| 7:30 p.m., Town Office | |
| ► Planning Commission | Nov. 15/Dec.6 |
| 7:00 p.m., Town Office | |
| ► Town Council Meeting | Nov. 17/Dec. 15 |
| 7:30 p.m., Town Office | |

The Town Office will be closed Nov. 11 for Veterans Day, Nov. 23-25 for Thanksgiving, and Dec. 23-26 for Christmas.



PHOTOS COURTESY ROUND HILL ARTS CENTER



RHAC holiday workshops

teach students how to make cards and clay ornaments.

ART CENTER EXHIBITS FEATURE STUDENT WORK

The Round Hill Arts Center begins November with an exhibit of skilled work from emerging artists from Harmony Middle School, beginning Nov. 2. The show runs through Nov. 27 with a special artists' reception on Sunday, Nov. 13, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

November's classes and events include Knit Lab with Aylin Bener on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m., Suminagashi Monoprints with Leanne Fink on Friday, Nov. 11, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Pumpkin Patch Painting with Carrie Althouse on Friday, Nov. 18, from 6-8 p.m.

Get Centered: Round Hill Potters' Annual Pottery Show and Sale begins Dec. 2 and runs through Jan. 8, with an artists' reception on Sunday Dec. 4, from 2-4 p.m. Also on Dec. 2, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Karen Helble will teach students how to make beautiful and personal holiday cards. The following Friday from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Amy Manson will lead a holiday workshop where students will make beautiful ceramic ornaments to keep or to give as gifts.

For more information or to register for any of these events, visit www.roundhillartscenter.org.

ON THE AGENDA

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

- Update of Town Comprehensive Plan
- Easement acquisition for Main Street sidewalks and Franklin Park Trail
- Repainting of Evening Star water tower
- Future well site acquisition
- County zoning approval and bonding for water tank on Yatton Road
- Determine development plans for Sleeter Lake park