

# News aRound the Hill

A Community Newsletter for Round Hill, Virginia

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## Town Celebrates Fall with Two Festivals

### **Hometown "FestiFall" Invites Community to Come Together on Oct. 9**

After cancellations the past two Memorial Days due to Covid-19, the Round Hill Hometown Festival returns on Saturday, Oct. 9, as the Round Hill "FestiFall."

Taking Covid precautions into account, the FestiFall will feature family-friendly activity stations spread around Town.

"The FestiFall is a chance for us to come together as a community to meet our neighbors old and new and to celebrate our small town," said Mayor Scott Ramsey. "All events will be outside and socially-distanced in order to gather responsibly."

The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the traditional 5k race through town, starting and ending at Round Hill Elementary School, followed by a half-mile kids' fun run, also at the school. Registration is online at [www.hometownfestival.org](http://www.hometownfestival.org).

Plans are still being finalized for the rest of the day, but look for music, food, lawn games and other socially-distanced activities to be held at the



PHOTO COURTESY HOMETOWN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

**The Hometown FestiFall, on Saturday, Oct. 9, will feature multiple activity stations throughout downtown Round Hill.**

Round Hill Town Park, Round Hill Baptist Church and the Round Hill United Methodist Church.

Possible activities include face painting, sidewalk chalk art and paint-your-own pottery from the Round Hill Arts Center, a town-wide scavenger hunt, an antique car show, bake sale, petting zoo and more.

Tammy's Diner will be serving lunch hot off the grill and the Round Hill Grocery will offer wrapped sandwiches and samples of exotic meats; other food items will be available for purchase as well.

Activities will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather and Covid conditions permitting.

Find the most up-to-date information on the Festival website at [www.hometownfestival.org](http://www.hometownfestival.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/rhhometownfestival](https://www.facebook.com/rhhometownfestival).

### **Appalachian Trail Festival Returns to B Chord Brewing Sept. 11 and 12**

The Round Hill Appalachian Trail Festival toasts the beauty of the Trail with brews and bites, tunes and talks on Sept. 11 and 12.

On Saturday, enjoy live music, trail talks, kids' activities, food and vendors from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and talk with representatives from 10 environmental/hiking groups.

Speakers include authors/long-distance hikers Cindy Ross and Jeff Ryan. PATC Past-President Lee Sheaffer will talk about local day hikes.

On Sunday, the festival focuses on hands-on (and feet-on) activities and workshops from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join a forest bathing hike, cook over the campfire, sketch from nature, learn to camp "light," and pick up first aid and photography tips.

This free, family-friendly event celebrates the A.T. and other outdoor opportunities in the area. It will be held at B Chord Brewing, 34266 Williams Gap Rd., Round Hill, VA.

For more information visit [www.roundhillat.org](http://www.roundhillat.org).



PHOTO COURTESY ROUND HILL OUTDOORS COMMITTEE

**Justin Trawick and the Common Good will perform at the AT Festival at B Chord Brewing on Saturday, Sept. 11, at 4 p.m.**



PHOTO COURTESY HOMETOWN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

**Kai Shah's image of a bright red leaf will adorn the FestiFall t-shirts.**

## TOWN ELECTIONS TO BE HELD NOV. 2, 2021

As a result of a change in Virginia state law, the next Town election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021. The offices of mayor and three council members will be on the ballot.

Mayor Scott Ramsey is on the ballot to run for another two-year term; he is currently running unopposed.

Council members Paula G. James and Jesse P. Howe are running for re-election to another four-year term. The third open seat will be filled by a write-in candidate.

Candidates for mayor or town council, including write-ins, must be over 18 years of age, have lived within the corporate limits of the Town for at least six months, have lived within the Commonwealth of Virginia for at least one year, and be registered to vote with the Loudoun County Registrar's office.

Voter registration deadlines are as follows:

- Online: Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 11:59 p.m.; register through [www.vote.virginia.gov](http://www.vote.virginia.gov).
- In-person: Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 5:00 p.m.
- By-Mail: Postmarked no later than Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 5:00 p.m.

Early voting opens on Friday, Sept. 17, and the last day to request an absentee ballot be mailed is Friday, Oct. 22, at 5:00 p.m. The last day to vote absentee in-person is Saturday, Oct. 30.

Absentee ballots must be postmarked by Election Day, Nov. 2, or dropped off at the Office of Elections no later than 7:00 p.m. on election day.

The Round Hill Mayor and Town Council elections have traditionally occurred in May of even-numbered years. However, in February 2021, the Virginia General Assembly passed Senate Bill 1157, which requires all Virginia towns to adopt an ordinance specifying that all municipal elections scheduled after Jan. 1, 2022, be held in November. Senate Bill 1157 became effective July 1, 2021.

Following a public hearing on Apr. 7, 2021, the Round Hill Town Council unanimously adopted an amendment to the Town Code that changes the mayor and council elections from May in even-numbered years to the November general election in odd-numbered years.

## OUTDOOR COMMITTEE SEEKS NOMINATIONS OF NOTABLE TREES

In honor of the Town's recent recognition by Tree City U.S.A., the Round Hill Outdoors Committee is working to create a Tree Map of notable trees in Town.

Residents are asked to share information on any notable trees (big, old, unusual, native) in their front or side yard (visible from the sidewalk/street).

The committee is also looking for some "witness trees" as part of the project; these are trees at a site of a little Round Hill history.

Please contact [dalbright@roundhillva.org](mailto:dalbright@roundhillva.org) with nominations of trees anywhere in downtown Round Hill to put on the map.

## Summer Has Gone, But The Sun Is Still Here!



The Round Hill Outdoors Committee encourages area residents to enjoy the beautiful autumn weather — go for a hike or a bike ride, visit an orchard or play in your backyard—but please remember the sun is still here and can still cause a sunburn.

The three autumn sunburn risks to consider include:

**REFLECTION:** Exposure to the reflective properties of water and ice when boating or on the ski slopes increase risk of sunburn because UV rays are reflected from the surfaces onto skin.

**ALTITUDE:** Altitude also plays a role in autumn sunburn. During autumn activities like hiking, mountain climbing, or skiing, increased altitude decreases the distance to the sun and also means the air is thinner, both of which lead to over-exposure to the harmful UV rays of the sun.

**LACK OF NOTICEABLE HEAT:** Unlike summertime when the heat is a reminder to use sun protection, in autumn the weather gets cooler and cooler and people tend to not even think about sun protection or to think that they don't need sun protection.

**Autumn Sun Protection Tips:** Everyone should develop and exercise good year-round sun protection habits. People of all skin colors, types and ages, especially newborn babies and children, are at risk from not just intense sun exposure, but incidental sun exposure as well.

Helpful tips for autumn sun protection include:

1. Seek shade between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
2. Don't allow skin to burn and don't go to tanning booths
3. Cover head/arms with UPF 50+ hats/sleeves
4. Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen to any exposed areas of the face and neck
5. Reapply sunscreen every two hours (especially children ages 6 months and up)
6. See a dermatologist once a year for a professional skin examination

## LOUDOUN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFERS ASSISTANCE

The department of Loudoun County Economic Development is reaching out to local business owners to promote the services the department provides.

"Our team is dedicated to recruiting new business, growing your existing industries, and improving our county's business climate," said KC Tregoning, Busi-

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ness Retention Specialist at Loudoun County Economic Development. "We provide a wide range of services for your company, whether you're a startup or well-established."

Services provided include:

- **Site Selection:** Creation of a no-cost land and property report based on robust property databases and relationships with commercial developers and brokers throughout the county. For businesses looking for a first-time home or to relocate.

- **Permitting & Zoning:** Assistance in navigating the permitting and zoning processes that impact individual businesses and locations.

- **Workforce Services:** Hiring assistance through in-person Hire Loudoun job fairs and the virtual Loudoun Jobs portal at *WorkInLoudoun.com*. Recruiting and hiring strategy advice from Workforce Development Manager, Nancy Evanko.

In addition, the Loudoun Small Business Development Center also offers a wide range of services including practical business training, networking events and referral services and experienced business coaching. Like Loudoun Economic Development, the SBDC's services are available at no cost to businesses.

For more information on any of the services mentioned above, contact KC Tregoning at [kc.tregoning@loudoun.gov](mailto:kc.tregoning@loudoun.gov) or 571-330-3865



**Work on East Loudoun Street and Main Street will continue through March 2022.**

### **UPDATE ON FRANKLIN PARK TRAIL, MAIN STREET PROJECT**

The County's contractor, Highway and Safety Service LLC (HHS), has been busy working on the Franklin Park and Main Street projects this summer. The following work has been performed the following work over past few months:

- **Franklin Park Trail:** Excavating, backfilling, and compacting the Trail.

- **East Loudoun Street:** Relocating water lines, installing sanitary sewer lines and stormwater infrastructure, relocating fire hydrants, installing valves, and repaving the temporary road patches.

- **Main Street:** Installing stormwater infrastructure, relocating water/sewer laterals, and repaving the temporary road patches.

Construction of electrical conduit,

sidewalks, retaining walls, and curb/gutter is scheduled to begin this fall and continue through February 2022. This will be followed by project-wide asphalt milling and paving, which is scheduled to take place between February 2022 and March 2022. Project completion is scheduled to occur in March 2022.

Project updates are available on the County's website [www.loudoun.gov/2996/Round-Hill-to-Franklin-Park-Trail](http://www.loudoun.gov/2996/Round-Hill-to-Franklin-Park-Trail).

Once completed, these two projects will be connected to create a single pedestrian-friendly path to Franklin Park, including:

- Construction of approximately 1,000 feet of sidewalk along Main Street from Loudoun Street to North of High Street.

- Safety elements (ramps and striping), curbing, drainage improvements, designated parking, and streetscaping.

### **Sleeter Lake Park Gate Closing Hours:**

- Starting Sept. 6: 7:30 p.m.
- Starting Sept. 24: 7:00 p.m.
- Starting Oct. 11: 6:30 p.m.
- Starting Nov. 7: 5:00 p.m.
- Starting Nov. 27: 4:30 p.m.

The park closes for the season on Dec. 1 and will reopen on March 1, 2022.

## **ON THE AGENDA**

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

- Future well site and future water treatment plant
- Town expansion
- Downtown parking report
- Public facilities Zoning Ordinance amendment
- American Rescue Act funding
- Strategic planning for FY2023 budget

## **Upcoming Events**

- ▶ **Town Council Meeting** **Sept. 15/Oct. 20**  
7:30 p.m., Round Hill Town Office and Zoom
- ▶ **Planning Commission** **Oct. 5/Nov. 9**  
7:00 p.m., Round Hill Town Office and Zoom
- ▶ **Town Council Work Session** **Oct. 6/Dec. 1**  
7:30 p.m., Round Hill Town Office and Zoom
- ▶ **Joint Public Hearing** **Oct. 27**  
7:00 p.m., Round Hill Town Office and Zoom
- ▶ **Town Elections** **Nov. 2**
- ▶ **Strategic Planning Meeting** **Nov. 3**  
7:30 p.m., Round Hill Town Office and Zoom

(Note: The Zoom link and phone number will be provided on the agenda for each meeting, [www.roundhillva.org/minutes-and-agendas](http://www.roundhillva.org/minutes-and-agendas).)