

Town of Round Hill

Quarterly

November 2004

TOWN OF ROUND HILL TO NEARLY DOUBLE IN SIZE JANUARY 1



New Town Boundaries effective January 1, 2005

The Town of Round Hill is set to expand its borders for the first time since the town was originally incorporated 100 years ago. The Town and Loudoun County have both passed legislation approving a Boundary Line Adjustment (BLA) that will become effective on Jan. 1, 2005 (see map). The current Town is 123 acres, and the BLA will nearly double the Town's area to 233 acres. Most of the new land is undeveloped.

The Town and County began the BLA process when it was determined to be the best method for providing promised utility extensions to the planned Westlake development on Sleeter Lake. A planned commercial district east of Town, on the corner of Evening Star Drive and Business Rt. 7 was included to expand the Town's tax base and to better incorporate the district into the Town's commercial development plans. The BLA also

incorporates a string of lots on Falls Place that are planned proffers to the Town, including the old Potts Barn lot.

The process began back in April, when a Town steering committee was formed to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan to incorporate the new residential and commercial areas. The Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPAM) is currently under review by the Planning Commission, and will be scheduled for public hearing soon.

IS ROUND HILL HIGH A VIABLE OPTION? MEETING TO DISCUSS ISSUE SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1

Ever since last month's announcement that the Loudoun County School Board intends to begin condemnation proceedings on a parcel of land east of Hamilton for the county's next high school, debate about the school has been heating up in the Western towns. While citizens of Hamilton have been speaking out against the proposed site in their town, Round Hill Mayor Frank Etro is urging the School Board to locate the school in the Round Hill area.

A community meeting has been scheduled for Dec. 1 to discuss the history and issues surrounding the search for a school site in the Round Hill area, and to formulate the community's next steps. All Round Hill area residents are encouraged to attend.

The meeting will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Round Hill

Elementary School cafeteria. Babysitting will be provided onsite by Girl Scout Troop 3768; pre-registration is not necessary. Activities and a snack will be included. While the service is free, donations will be gladly accepted. Mayor Etro publicly proposed the idea of using a site adjacent to Franklin Park earlier this month during a "summit meeting" on the location of the next Western Loudoun County high school. The mayors of Purcellville, Hamilton and Hillsboro, eight school board members, the superintendent of schools, the director of the schools' planning department, and approximately 100 citizens of Western Loudoun County attended the Nov. 13 meeting. Members of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors also were invited to attend, but none chose to do so. The meeting was held at the Purcellville town office and was moderated by Purcellville Mayor Bill Druhan. During the course of the meeting, public comments were made by county residents as well as each of the mayors and school board members present. A number of Hamilton residents spoke out against putting the school on the eastern edge of their town, and Mayor Etro spoke passionately about the Round Hill area's focus on community and identity and about how locating a high school in the area would help forward both of those goals.

For more in-depth coverage of this issue, visit the Schools page of www.roundhillrecord.org.

**TOWN WELCOMES
PLANNER/ZONING
ADMINISTRATOR TO STAFF**

The Town of Round Hill has recently added Sarah Coyle Etro, AICP, to the Town staff in the capacity of Town Planner and Town Zoning Administrator. With more than 22 years of experience in the planning profession, Sarah comes to the Town after having spent the past 15 years with the Loudoun County Department of Planning. She has also been a Round Hill resident for over 12 years.

Sarah's interest and commitment to the Round Hill area began early in her career as a County planner, as she and others worked with the community to complete the Round Hill Area Management Plan. Since its adoption by the Board of Supervisors, the Town has used it as the basis for planning policies, ordinances, and future direction.

Sarah served as the project manager and principal planner for many of the County's long-range land use planning initiatives. She finished her career with the County as the Division Manager for the County's Community Planning program.

We welcome Sarah to the staff. Her planning experience and long-term Town residency will add great value to the efforts of the Town as we move forward in dealing with the land-development issues facing the community.

Please feel free to contact Sarah through the Town Office or via e-mail at sarah.etro@roundhillva.org. And remember, prior to starting design or discussions with contractors for any additions, accessory building, signs, or any

other structure, please contact Sarah to become familiar with the Town Zoning and Development Regulations and the required process.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
TACKLES COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN AMENDMENT AND
ZONING CHANGES; SEEKS A
NEW MEMBER**

The Planning Commission is juggling several projects at once: residential and commercial updates to the Town Comprehensive Plan update and a proposed R2 zoning amendment initiated by the Town Council for a clustering option (a grouping of houses to allow more open space).

The Planning Commission and Town Council have received a resignation notice from a valuable member. Anne Crouch has decided it was time for her to focus on other activities. Her contributions will be missed, as her many years living in Town and participation in many Town-related activities brought invaluable insight into many topics. Thanks, Anne, for your service; we'll miss you.

As a result of Anne's departure, the Planning Commission is seeking an active Town resident to fill her seat on the commission. Interested citizens should submit a brief biography to Kelly Yost at the Town office.

Remember, citizens of Round Hill, your input — be it support or criticism — is always welcome and desired. We invite you to attend the meetings and participate. Please visit the Town website (www.roundhillva.org) for current topics, meeting dates and contact info.

— Edgar Ellis
Chairman, Planning Commission

**POTTS BARN'S FUTURE
STILL IN LIMBO AS TOWN
AWAITS DEED**

Thanks to all for the responses to the questionnaire seeking opinions from area residents of the future of Potts Barn. As of yet, the barn hasn't been deeded to the Town. For the time-being, the Planning Commission is working on inserting language into the Town's Comprehensive Plan that will state the intended use for the barn. While we wait for the transfer of ownership from Oak Hill, the Town Council is still listening for any input from the public for its possible uses. — Phil Bzdyk

**PLANS PROCEEDING FOR
TRAIL TO FRANKLIN PARK**

While the official date for the start of construction on the trail from Round Hill to Franklin Park has not yet been set, it is anticipated that the County will begin work next fall. Although the concept design along East Loudoun Street is fairly advanced, the County is still working on the final alignment from the Town limits to Franklin Park. A preferred path has been identified, and the County is working with Oak Hill on incorporating portions of the proffered trail system south of East Loudoun Street and Harry Byrd Highway, as well as attempting to secure several easements. Once the final alignment is set, the Town and the County will jointly hold public informational meetings to help finalize the design.

**NO DECISIONS ANNOUNCED
YET ON POOL/COMMUNITY
CENTER**

No additional information has been made public regarding a pool and community center in Round Hill since the Aug. 22 meeting in which Supervisor Jim Burton presented the status of discussions with Oak

Hill Properties regarding the 1991 ZMAP-89-04 rezoning proffers to the County for a “county community center” and “county junior Olympic swimming pool.” We understand that those discussions are still ongoing; once they are completed, we anticipate that Supervisor Burton will hold another community meeting to seek additional input.

FALL TOWN PARK CLEANUP SETS THE STAGE FOR A COLORFUL SPRING

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time during this fall’s Town Park Cleanup on Saturday, Nov. 6. In four hours, a dozen volunteers spread 120 bags of mulch, planted 700 bulbs and 5 flats of pansies, pulled countless weeds, and raked a gazillion leaves. While the adults worked, the kids had a great time playing in leaf piles, drawing with sidewalk chalk and enjoying the beautiful late fall day.

The park should now be ready to slumber through the winter and then burst into color in the spring when the new crocuses, daffodils, tulips, and irises come into bloom.

Be sure to mark your calendars: The next Town Park Cleanup will be scheduled for early May, in time to get the park in tip-top shape before the Hometown Festival at the end of the month.

Don’t feel like you have to wait until May to help out though; weeding, deadheading of flowers, and litter pickup can be done year-round!

— Kim Ramsey

ROUND HILL ARTS CENTER PLANS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Round Hill Arts Center announces its 2004 Holiday Invitational Show, which will be on display Friday, Nov. 26 through Saturday, Jan. 1, 2005. The show features

the work of several artists from Round Hill and western Loudoun. Highlights include pottery by David Norton, watercolors by Catherine Hillis, pastels by Hope Hanes, and stained glass by Mary Page.

This exhibit will also include photography, original art greeting cards, jewelry, and functional pottery. So do a little of your holiday shopping right here in town! An artists’ reception is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Gallery hours during the show will be Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Arts Center at (540) 338-5050.

The Arts Center will also host Bluegrass Jam Sessions on Turkey Day Friday (Nov. 26) and New Year’s Eve. We are in the planning stages for creating a really special New Year’s Eve Jam and would welcome ideas and suggestions from the community, as well as volunteer help!

— Hope Hanes’

Artistic Director, Round Hill Arts Center

THE FRANKLIN PARK PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS CENTER PLANS WINTER EVENTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

What a busy fall it has been! The staff of the Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center want to thank the volunteers of Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center and the voters of Loudoun County for approving the bond issue to allow the completion of the Arts center in Franklin Park. There is so much work ahead, please feel free to contact us if you have a question or would like to get involved. Our art show and sale entitled ‘Barns and Farms of Loudoun County’ opens Nov. 20 at 2 p.m.

and runs through Jan. 3 at the Round Hill Center. The show is dedicated to the visual power of Loudoun’s agricultural landscape. Featuring paintings, textile art, digital art, photography, and sculpture, you will see Loudoun in a new way. All the artwork is for sale along with great farm gifts from the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum. The Art Show is a great way to do some of your holiday shopping while supporting the arts in Loudoun.

On Sunday, Nov. 28 at 3 p.m. the Arts Center, in cooperation with the Neale Concert Series, will present its annual Holiday Concert. The concert features Madeline MacNeil singing and playing hammered dulcimer. Special performances include local vocalist Emily Oresik and the traditional staged reading by Jeff Stern and Heather Stillings of the holiday classic ‘A Child’s Christmas in Wales’. The concert is presented free of charge as a community gift at this most wonderful time of the year. Seating is limited, please call to reserve your seats.

Registration for winter classes begins Nov. 22. We feature classes for all ages in all disciplines. We are proud to announce our partnership with Loudoun Academy of the Arts (LAA). LAA will teach evening art classes for adults in watercolor, oils, and drawing at the Round Hill Center. Please visit our new website at www.franklinparkartscenter.org to learn more.

The staff and volunteers of the Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center wish you and your family a safe and creative holiday season!

Jeffrey Stern
Manager, Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meeting to Discuss Issues

Surrounding the Next Western High School

Wednesday, Dec. 1; 7:00 p.m.
Round Hill Elementary School

Town Council Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 2; 8 p.m.
Town Office

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting

Monday, Dec. 6; 7:30 p.m.
Town Office

*Richmond American Homes Presentation on Creekside at Round Hill (formerly Woodgrove Village)**

Tuesday, Dec. 7; 7:00 p.m.
Town Office

Tree Lighting

Friday, Dec. 10
Town Park

Richmond American Homes' Creekside at Round Hill goes before County Planning Commission

Monday, Dec. 13

Check County website for details

TC/PC Joint Public Hearing on the Proposed R2 Cluster

Thursday, Dec. 16
7:00 p.m.
Town Office

* Watch for announcements providing further information. Once the staff report is available, a copy will be available for viewing at the Town Office and online at www.roundhillrecord.org.

Stay up-to-date on Round Hill news between issues of the Quarterly by visiting www.roundhillva.org and www.roundhillrecord.org.

Round Hill Massage Therapy

Providing Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork

KAREN KEYSER

Nationally Certified Massage Therapist
Flexible appointments to fit your schedule

Phone: 540-338-8126

email: roundhillmassage@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY CORNER

If anyone is interested in playing Cribbage, please contact Kenn or Helen at roundhillseals@aol.com.

If anyone is interested in getting together for euchre, please contact Meg at mnash@roundhillva.org.

Round Hill
Town Office
P.O. Box 36
Round Hill, VA 20141

Pre-sorted
STANDARD-CLASS
MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
Round Hill, VA
PERMIT No. 10

Patron
Rural Route 3
Round Hill, Virginia 20141