
The Village

January 2008

News from the Village of Round Lake

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The History of Our Village – 1908 to 2008

The Village of Round Lake has a rich history that few of our citizens know. The following is an account of the town's history from its beginnings:

While the retreating Wisconsin glacier left an attractive environment for farmers who entered western Lake County after the Black Hawk War of 1832, the numerous lakes and wet prairies there prevented easy movement to agricultural markets. Farmers traded at stage coach trail communities such as Hainesville, often exchanging dairy products and eggs for what they could not craft on the farm.

In the 1890s, when officials of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad extended a branch line from their Milwaukee–Chicago main line at Libertyville Junction (later Roundout) to Janesville, Wisconsin, western Lake County farmers gained easy access to Chicago.

Landowners near Hainesville such as Amarias M. White knew that a railroad station would increase property values. In a classic ploy, White offered the railroad free land in exchange for a station. He also drew up a town plat to show railroad officials that profitable traffic would

come through his station site. White succeeded, and Round Lake, named after the nearby lake, not Hainesville, whose inhabitants failed to offer the railroad anything, became the area station on the “Milwaukee Road.”

White's promise came true in 1901 when the Armour Company decided to harvest ice from Round Lake for their refrigerator car operations. They erected a massive ice storage building holding over 100,000 tons for shipment in spring and summer months.

In 1908 White and his partners acted to incorporate the station area. The proposed village population was too small to meet incorporation requirements, so area farmers were included in the village with the understanding that, once incorporation was successful, their farms would be disconnected. On January 7, 1909, Round Lake incorporated with White as village president. Soon after, those farmers who wished to disconnect were allowed to do so—an act which prevented present-day residents of the village from having any public access to their namesake lake.

A fire in 1917 destroyed the Armour operation in the village, although a dormitory housing winter ice cutters survived. Noticing vacation resorts

which had sprung up around the lake, the Armour Company remodeled its dormitory into a rural summer retreat for company employees. The praise showered on the Round Lake environment by them helped bring a slow trickle of nonagricultural residential growth to the village.

With post–World War II expansion into the suburbs, Round Lake's Armour-era reputation as a rural refuge acted as a magnet for development. People began moving into the unincorporated area around the lake and demanding municipal services. The village of Round Lake failed to make those annexations. As a result new communities, using the words “Round Lake” in their corporate titles, arose. This resulted in a duplication of political hierarchies and village services which still exists.

Since the 1970s, Round Lake has embarked on an expansive annexation program. With ongoing development of those areas, Round Lake was expected to continue to grow.

From 2000 to the present time, the Village has doubled in population. It is expected to reach 20,000 residents by the year 2020.

Mayor's Corner

I have gotten a ton of emails and comments on neighbors not cleaning the sidewalks off after a snow storm. So I decided to go to the village code and find exactly what it says. However the Valley Lake HOA already had an excellent flier and I asked John Gutknecht to send it to me.

Frequently Asked Questions and Reminders

Question: Who's supposed to clear the sidewalks?

Answer: It is the responsibility of each property owner to remove the snow from ALL PUBLIC SIDEWALKS adjacent to their property.

Question: But can't I be held liable if someone falls on a sidewalk that I cleared?

Answer: Individuals who shovel snow or ice from sidewalks are

NOT liable for personal injuries allegedly caused by the snowy or icy condition of the sidewalk resulting from their shoveling unless their conduct is willful or wanton. (Willful or wanton conduct means with an actual intent to cause an injury or with a conscious disregard for the safety of others. Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 745, Section 75/2.

The Village Code even weighs in on the subject as well.

12.04.070 Snow on Sidewalks. The person occupying the ground floor of any building, the user of any lot without a structure thereon, and the owner of any vacant building or other premises shall remove the snow and ice accumulating on the abutting sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours after any snowfall has ceased. If snow or ice cannot be removed the surface shall be



sanded or otherwise treated to lessen the hazard for pedestrians until the climate permits removal.

If you see an address in which the owner is not removing the snow, please contact the Round Lake Police Dept. at 847-546-8112 and file a complaint. Our first priority however will always be the roads during a snow event.

2008 Centennial

What do the last time the Chicago Cubs won the World Series, the Christian Science Monitor, General Motors, Harvard Business School, James Madison University and Reed & Barton have in common with the Village of Round Lake? They are all beginning their centennial year in 2008! Keep your eyes open for coming announcements regarding plans for Centennial events.

The committee meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. Upcoming dates are Jan. 10th, Feb. 14th and March 13th. All are welcome!

Animal Nuisances

The Village has received reports of wild animals that may be perceived as a problem for residents and their pets, so please be aware. If you are having any wild animal problems, such as coyotes, skunks, raccoons, etc., please contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources at (815) 625-2968 or Lake County Animal Control at (847) 377-8080. The Village of Round Lake Police Department only handles problems with cats and dogs.

Park District News and Events

Frosty Foot race

Join the fun on February 24 for the Round Lake Area Park District's 5K Frosty Footrace at the Sports Center. Pick up race packets at the Fitness Plus Fitness Center 860 Hart Road before the race on Friday, February 22, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm or on Saturday, February 23, from 7:00 am to 1 p.m.

You may also pick up your packet on the day of the race at the Sports Center, 2004 Municipal Way (behind the Post Office). The cost of \$20 for adults. Check In/Registration is at 10 a.m. and the 3.1 mile Run/Walk begins at 11 a.m.

Soup will be served after the race to warm up runners and spectators. For more information, please call (847) 546-8558.

Join The Round Lake Area Community Band

This enthusiastic group of musicians is looking for new members. All types of musicians and ability levels are welcome. Membership is available to high school age musicians or older including those who want to restart their playing. Come join this group and enjoy its welcoming and relaxed atmosphere and many performance opportunities.

No auditions necessary! Rehearsals: Tuesday Nights 7:00-9:00 p.m. Located at Indian Hill School on Lotus Drive in Round Lake Heights.

To join stop by any rehearsal or call Christi at (847) 546-8558 Ext. 231 or Bill Zeigler at (847) 265-8215 for more information.

All instruments are welcome but the band especially need percussionists and low brass instruments such as trombone, baritone, euphonium, french horn and tuba.

Get Fit with more than just a great workout

The Round Lake Area Park District's Fitness Plus offers the most comprehensive health club membership in the area. Our members enjoy full use of our pool in the summer as well as access to certified personal trainers and generous discounts on other fitness programs and services such as Yoga and massage therapy.

In addition, we offer specialty services such as body composition analysis, nutrition counseling, personalized sport-specific training and guidance for rehab graduates.

These features combined with a friendly, relaxed atmosphere make Fitness Plus a great place to get strong and stay fit.

For more information, please call (847) 740-9823.

On-Line Registration Now Available

On-Line Registration is now available. See your Park District Book for details.

Registration at the Round Lake Area Park District's Rolek Community Center is now open: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 8:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am till Noon!

Phone Numbers

Police, Fire, Emergency
9-1-1

Police Non-emergency
(847) 270-9111

Greater Round Lake Area
Fire Dept. Non-emergency
(847) 546-6001

Village Hall
(847) 546-5400

Police Records
(847) 546-8112

Public Works
(847) 546-0962

Building Department
(847) 546-0963

J.U.L.I.E. (before you dig)
(800) 892-0123

Waste Management
(800) 796-9696

website
www.eroundlake.com

Round Lake Area
Chamber of Commerce
(847) 546-2002

Solid Waste Disposal Dates

The Village of Round Lake, in cooperation with the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO), will be hosting 5 Household Electronics Collections in the year 2008. These events will be from 8am to 5pm at the Round Lake Public Works Facility located at 751 W Townline Rd. The dates are as follows: January 9th, March 13th, May 8th, July 10th, September 11th. For more information please check out the SWALCO website at www.swalco.org or the Village website at www.eroundlake.com.

Accepted Items:

Personal Computers, Monitors, Computer Drives, Keyboards, Modems, Mainframes, Scanners, Printers, PDA Organizers, Cellular Phones, Televisions, Stereos, MP3 Players, CD Players, DVD Players, VCR's, Cameras, Video Games, Fax Machines, Shredders, and Small Household Appliances.

Items NOT Accepted:

Broken Glass, Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Large Household Appliances, Batteries, Electric Fixtures, Fluorescent Lamps, Compact Disks, Software Disks, Tapes, Liquid or Chemical Waste, and Packaging Materials.

Rules and Regulations

Building Permit Information

The following is a list of some projects requiring a permit. Most of these projects require 2 copies of your property plat of survey and locating the improvement by drawing on the plat of survey. A certificate of insurance is required for any contractor that is to do the work. You may check to see if your contractor is already on our list. If you live in one of the newer subdivisions, you will have to obtain an approval letter from your Homeowner's Association in order for the Village to release a permit.

Permit Required:

- Concrete work
- Deck
- Gazebo
- Shed
- Fence
- Siding, Gutters, Fascia
- Re-Roof
- Fireplace
- New Windows, only if you are changing the current dimensions
- Garage
- Addition
- Swimming Pool – Above or Below Ground (also requires fencing and an electrical permit)
- Demolition
- Electrical Work
- Plumbing Work
- Furnace Upgrade
- New Air Conditioning
- In-Ground Sprinkler System
- Any new or alteration of structural systems
- Driveway
- Brick Pavers

If you have any questions regarding your building permit, please contact the Building Dept. at 847-546-0963.

Snow Removal

The Village Public Works Department strives to provide residents with the best snow removal possible. Their performance is directly related to the weather extremes. Your patience and understanding are appreciated. To enable them to do their job, we ask residents to follow a few simple guidelines.

- * Do not park on Village streets from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 am.
- * Do not park anytime on Village streets or rights of way when snow is two inches or more and while snow removal is taking place. Any unattended vehicles blocking the streets will be towed by order of the Police Department to a place of safety.
- * Do not deposit snow from private drives or walks into the streets.
- * Do shovel snow to the right of your drive access (when facing the street) to reduce the amount of snow pushed back by the plow.
- * Do place garbage cans on private drives, not in the street.
- * Do clear snow from hydrants.

Village crews begin snow removal on main streets followed by secondary streets, then cul-de-sacs. Route 120, Route 134, Wilson Rd., Cedar Lake Rd. and Fairfield Rd. are plowed by state or county work crews.

If you have any questions or problems regarding snow removal, call the Public Works office at 847-546-0962.

Garbage Pickup

The Village needs everyone's cooperation on garbage collection days. Please do not park vehicles on the streets on these days in order to allow access by the garbage trucks. Please keep the garbage and recycle receptacles at least 3 feet apart. Garbage pickup for those north of Route 120 is Monday and south of Route 120 is Tuesday.

Meetings

- Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 442 N. Cedar Lake Road.
- Regular Board Meeting**
First and third Monday of the month at 7:00pm.
- Planning/Zoning Board Meeting**
Last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

Village Officials

Mayor

Bill Gentes

Clerk

Jeanne Kristan

Trustees

Michael Blum
Brian Brubaker
Bob DelPrato
Dale Multerer
Don Newby
Sherry Perkowitz

Village Administrator

Marc Huber

Finance Director

Steven Shields

Director of Public Works

Davis Clark

Building Commissioner

Dale Engebretson

Police Chief

Cliff Metaxa



Village of Round Lake
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