Village of Round Lake Beach

Bulletin

Vol. 13 No. 1
January-February 2009

Wal Mart breaks ground for new SuperCenter

A ground breaking ceremony was held recently for the new Wal-Mart Supercenter in Round Lake Beach.

"We are very excited about this new Super-center," said Mayor Rich Hill. "Wal-Mart has been a member of our community for 20 years and we look forward to this new building."

The store, located on the corner of Monaville Road and Route 83, will include 175,000 square feet of retail space with a full grocery line, general merchandise, an expanded lawn and garden center and a pharmacy.

Intersection improvements will be made including a new traffic light at Engle Drive.

The store is expected to open in Fall 2009 and will replace the current Wal-Mart at Route 83 and Rollins Road.

Mayor Rich Hill, Village Trustees and Wal-Mart dignitaries celebrate the groundbreaking of the new Supercenter. Wal-Mart staff with 20 years or more service at the Round Lake Beach store participated in the groundbreaking.

Need a cup of coffee, a sandwich, a pizza or a quick hair cut? Stop in at the new Hook Commons on Route 83 and you'll be able to find these items and more.

Village & Chamber offer scholarships

The Village of Round Lake Beach provides three $2,000 scholarships for high school seniors residing in Round Lake Beach. The scholarships are administered through the Round Lake Area Chamber along with the Chamber's scholarship program.

Applications for both the Village's and the Chamber's scholarships will be available at local high school guidance offices or at the Chamber office in the coming months. For more information, please contact the Chamber at (847) 546-2002.

Time to Recycle, Round Lake Beach!

You already know that:

- ✔ Recycling is good for the environment.
- ✔ Recycling extends the use of landfills.

Did you know:

- ✔ Recycling benefits our village financially?
- ✔ The village receives payment from Recycle America for every ton that our town collects.
- ✔ Round Lake Beach has collected 742 tons per year. Let's increase that in 2009!
- ✔ The Village hosts electronics recycling collections - next one is in February.

Go to SWALCO.org for information on:

- ✔ Recycling options & Disposal guide
- ✔ Household Chemical Waste program
- ✔ Household Electronics Collection program
- ✔ Yard waste disposal & compost bins

Keep Recycling, Round Lake Beach !

And don't forget to buy recycled items!

From the Mayor

2008 The Year in Review

Richard H. Hill
Mayor

Happy New Year Round Lake Beach! We continue to have several new businesses move into town with more on the way. We are working hard to fill the few vacancies we have in town. This makes your shopping and dining trips a lot shorter and brings more revenue to the village, schools, park district, fire department, etc. helping to keep taxes lower and services higher.

Let's take a moment to review 2008. The Wal-Mart Supercenter broke ground after 3½ years of planning, design improvement and permitting to make it the best it can be for our residents. They expect to open in late 2009. The Village invested more than $2.5 million in our water, sewer, street and sidewalk projects in each of the last six years and we plan the same this year.

We have been awarded over $750,000 through two grants to install sidewalks along some major residential arterial roads by the schools and along Hook Drive from Orchard to Rt. 83 to increase pedestrian traffic to the parks, Cultural Center, Post Office, Village Hall and the Metra Station.

To preserve our environment and enhance the recreational qualities of our namesake lake, Round Lake, we have undertaken a dredging project that is 20 years in the making. The two channels at the north end of the lake have been dredged.

Round Lake Beach bought the 6.68 acres just north of the Village Hall from the Round Lake School District. It was used to deposit some of the dredging materials. The silt has been tested and has no environmental concerns. Without the dredging, the silt would have continued to back up into the lake and eventually turn our high-quality lake into a swamp. It will enhance the fishing, boating and other recreational uses of the lake for all our residents.

Five acres of this land have been sold to the Round Lake Area Park District and will eventually be developed into playing fields. The village will retain the remaining acreage for the eventual expansion of the parking lot on the north side of the Village Hall.

I hope your new year is looking as good as the village's.

Village Holds Property Tax Rate Flat

On December 8, 2008, the Village Board approved a property tax levy of $2,335,000 which is expected to keep the Village portion of the tax rate the same as last year. The Mayor and Board consciously decided to keep the rate as close as possible to last year's rate, noting the strain the current economy has placed on Village residents and businesses. It is the lowest percentage increase in ten years, and the lowest dollar increase since 2004. Although the Village portion of a resident's tax bill is only about 5.5% of the total, the Board felt that it needed to ensure the Village was doing its part to keep property taxes from increasing.

Property Tax is a very important revenue source for the Village, funding 22% of the General Fund (which supports general operations such as police, public works, economic development, building and property inspections, etc.) in the current fiscal year. The remainder of the Village's General Fund budget is funded by other major revenue streams, including Sales Tax and Home Rule Sales Tax. The Village has benefitted from steady growth in these revenue sources in the past to fund rising personnel, fuel, and other costs. Residents are encouraged to spend retail dollars locally, which helps to support vital Village functions and operations.

Round Lake Commission needs volunteers

The mission of the Round Lake Commission is "providing a safe, clean, and pleasant Round Lake for the enjoyment of all area residents." The Commission is currently looking for residents interested in serving as an appointed commissioner.

This volunteer position is perfect for residents that have an interest and or experience in dealing with the environment, habitat maintenance and restoration, the outdoors, water sports, fishing, safety policy & enforcement, etc. If you are interested in additional details or in serving the community, please contact Tim Pasternak at (847) 644-3976.

From the Department of *Public Works*

Christmas tree recycling

Recycle your Christmas tree by leaving it at the curb and Waste Management will pick it up on the first and second week of January. This pickup is free of charge. Please make sure that the tree has been stripped of all lights, ornaments and garland and is no longer than four feet. **Do not** place the tree in a plastic bag.

Parking during snowfall

In the winter months parking on Village streets can create a problem when there is snow. Here are some helpful rules:

- ✔ No parking on Village streets from 2:00 am to 6:00 am.
- ✔ When there is a snowfall of more than two inches, please do not park on the streets. This gives the public works department the opportunity to plow the streets.
- ✔ If the snow has not been removed, please continue the "no parking" restrictions until snow removal has been completed.
- ✔ Please do not throw snow from your property into the streets since this can create a hazardous condition.
- ✔ When shoveling or plowing snow from your driveway, pile the snow to the left side of the driveway (when facing your house). This will help prevent snow from accumulating again on your driveway when the snow plows come through your neighborhood.

Moving??

If you are moving please contact Public Works at (847) 546-8752 three weeks prior to your closing date so you can schedule a final water meter inspection for your home.

Village Notices

✔ Rental property renewals began January 1. Notices & Renewal Applications were mailed out November 1.

✔ Holiday lights have to be removed no later than April 1.

From the Round Lake Beach Police Department

Officers attend command school

The Round Lake Beach Police Department is pleased to announce the recent graduations of Sgt. Roger Callese (right) and Sgt. Timothy Mitsven (below) from the School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC) at Northwestern University. The SPSC provides upper-level college instruction in a total of 22 core classes including Management and Management Theory, Organizational Behavior, Human Resources for Law Enforcement, and Personnel Deployment.

The Round Lake Beach Police Department anticipates a variety of benefits from Sergeant Callese's and Sergeant Mitsven's attendance at this program. Many of the program's graduates go on to achieve leadership positions within their respective agencies.

Rebuilding Together, April 25

Come out & help - Apply for assistance

The Village of Round Lake Beach participates in Rebuilding Together, a national event. Community volunteers perform home improvement projects at no cost to approved homes for seniors, single parent or low income families. The annual event will be held on Saturday, April 25. Homeowners who would like to apply or residents who want to volunteer can call the Building Department at (847) 546-2351 for more information.

Phone numbers

Police, fire emergency	911
Village Hall	(847) 546-2351
Police non-emergency	(847) 270-9111
Police Records	(847) 546-2127
Public Works	(847) 546-8752
J.U.L.I.E. (before you dig)	811
Waste Management	(800) 796-9696
SWALCO	www.swalco.org
Email	inquiries@rlbeach.org

From the Center

2007 Civic Center Way, Round Lake Beach www.rlbciviccenter.org

Cultural & Civic Center
VILLAGE OF ROUND LAKE BEACH

Cooking Classes in the Center with Chef Leslie

Don't miss out on these fun Tuesday evening classes from 7:00-9:00 pm! These classes filled up quickly in the past. Call or stop by the Center for details and forms.

- January 20
  Healthy Low Fat
- January 27
  Men Only!
- February 17
  Hearty Winter Meals
- March 24
  Teens in the Kitchen
- April 7
  Simple Desserts

Electronic Drum Circle @ the Center

Free Community event for all ages. See what the energy is about. January 16 & February 6 at 7:00 pm.

Relay for Life Kickoff @ the Center

January 22 for the Round Lake Area/Grayslake event. Call (847) 317-0025 for more information.

Valentine's Day event Saturday, February 14

Bring your sweetheart for a Valentine's Day Murder Mystery and Dinner @ the Center. You'll enjoy a unique Valentine's date with a delicious dinner.

Call the Center at (847) 201-9032 for more details or for a reservation.

Hunchback of Notre Dame

Improv Playhouse Young Actors Workshop presents ***The Hunchback of Notre Dame*** on March 14, at 2:00 and 7:00 pm and on March 15, at 2:00 pm at the Center.

The unforgettable characters from the beloved novel come to thrilling, laugh-happy life in this funny and frill-free "festival" adaptation of Victor Hugo's popular literary classic. A great family show!

Upcoming Chamber Events

Call (847) 546-2002

January 15 -
Mayors Panel

January 23 -
Installation Dinner

February 13 -
Casino Night

Planning a party or a wedding?

The Round Lake Beach Cultural & Civic Center has the right space for your event!

The Banquet Room can accommodate up to 350 guests.The Gathering Lobby with the fireplace and historic cabinet is a comfortable space for smaller events.
Call (847) 201-9032.

Students helped "light up the holidays!"

Check out the newly redesigned village websites

Easier to find the information you need.

www.villageofroundlakebeach.org

www.rlbpolice.org

www.rlbciviccenter.org

Village Officials

Mayor
Richard H. Hill

Trustees

Jerry Mattingly
(senior trustee)

Larry Mount

Sue Butler

Judy Armstrong

Sylvia Valadez

Tom Smith

The Staff

Village Administrator
David Kilbane

Police Chief
Douglas Larsson

Finance Director
Patrice Sutton Burger

Public Works Director
Keith Neitzke