



ROUND LAKE NEWSLETTER

March, 2015

FROM THE MAYOR:

Spring is finally here.

Please take time to reacquaint yourselves with all the parking laws as they are now being enforced. This applies to unlicensed cars or other vehicles on your property and do not park vehicles in village parking lots that are not registered or insured.

The public hearing on the 2015/2016 budget will be held on April 15th, at 6:30pm (Budget message in newsletter) and a public hearing on Victorian Landings PDD amendment regarding the reduction in the size of the overlook park and placement of a sign.

Remember in April we have the annual meeting of the Village Board. At this meeting the new or re-elected members take their seats and appointments are made for the coming year. The annual meeting is always the first Monday of April, which is April 6th, 2015. The second meeting in April will be on April 15th. There is no meeting the first Wednesday of April. (April 1st)

FROM THE CLERK:

**Congratulations to our elected trustees.
Tom Bergin, Michael Roets and Heidi Parker.**

**Please watch the bulletin board in the hall for upcoming events
and meetings.**

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

**The Village will be running a trial water test in April with new
software so do not be alarmed if your meter is read at that time. We
will be reading water meters in May for the June billing.**

**Spring DPW pick up will start again in April. Please remember
No plastic bags (paper only) and No garbage in the bags.**

**PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND KEEP THEM ON A LEASH.
IT IS VILLAGE LAW.**

2015/2016 Tentative Budget message

Village of Round Lake

The 2015/2016 budget has a slight increase of \$.03 per thousand in the general fund. This is due to an increase in almost all services and supplies and a cost of living increase in salaries.

Over the past 8 years we have reduced the property tax rate per thousand from \$6.50 to \$4.90 with the knowledge that eventually we would need an increase due to rising costs.

During a New York State audit we were told that we need to increase the water and sewer fund balances as we were operating without a balance in these funds.

The water fund rate will stay the same for this budget. However there will be an increase in the number of units charged for commercial property and non for profits. We will follow the units set by Saratoga County sewer district.

The sewer fund will need an increase. We are increasing the flat fee from \$272 to \$300 per year. This may be re-evaluated in the next budget depending on the revenue.

Out and About: Round Lake Nature Notes Winter 2014 - 2015

My brown winter boots are now a "rock salt" white. My jacket's zipper is worn and sluggish from going up and over layers of clothing. Whether it was fifteen degrees below zero or a balmy fifteen above (twenty felt like a heat wave) my dogs insisted on going outside to do leg lifts and squats. I saw a handful of fellow dog walkers out in the tundra. Some days dogs and their owners were unrecognizable because they were so bundled up. Despite the frigid temperatures and frequent snow storms, I found something each day that was interesting to look at and to take a picture of as I hurried along. The pictures are posted on my blog, Roundlakenaturenotes.blogspot.com.

Snow filtered through the pine forest settling on trees, shrubs and rocks and created all kinds of shapes: rippling, layering, sparkling and piling up and up and up! Hoar frost formed on the streams and roadsides in wonderful crystal patterns. Icicles outdid themselves this season. Freezing, dripping, melting, refreezing, some stretched the length of nearly two stories.

Bluebirds hung out on Foster, Ames, Andrews, and Bowman Avenues. They were a bright splash of color in a black and white winter world. A Northern Mockingbird feasted on rose hips from a multiflora rose on Ames Avenue. It may have spent cold nights in the chimney stack of a garage across from the rose shrub. I caught sight of it on the stack at dusk several times. Cooper's Hawks hungrily eyed birds at feeders for their meals. While doing the Great Backyard Bird Count, I saw one snatch up a starling from the Steve Peterson yard on Andrews and take it to the frozen stream bed at the end of Peck Avenue to devour. On the last full day of winter, a Cooper's Hawk came sailing low into my yard (cold temperatures still) and plucked up a gray squirrel. The hawk brought it up to a tree branch in the Wade's yard where it kept a death grip on the squirrel with its talons. It dined on it elsewhere. Pictures of both sightings are on the blog.

Great-horned owls were heard most nights around town and sometimes in the early morning. Alison Gibney called me one night to say she could hear them over by Alumni Hall. We met up to do an owl prowl and could hear three of them calling back and forth. We did not catch sight of one though as they were way up in evergreen trees and well hidden. I didn't see or hear the Barred Owl to the south of the village as I usually do in winter. The Great-horned may have taken over the Barred's territory.

The snow in the woods by South Lawn was crisscrossed with deer and fox tracks. On February eighth, I took a snowshoe hike along the old trolley line, which runs along the south side of the lake. The woods there also had lots of deer and fox tracks. There were at least a couple dozen deer beds in the snow, too. It's a quiet spot for a winter deer yard with lots of twigs, nuts, lichen and fungi for deer to eat. Fresh beaver chew was spotted by the lake.

It was snowing the night that spring sprung. The next day I tried stabbing a pitch fork into the ground in my garden. Forget about it. Solid as a rock. Although we are still surrounded by snow mounds, ice chunks and a frozen lake, one can see a couple of signs of spring. I've heard and seen that Red-winged Blackbirds are back. My neighbor, Norma, has a flower bloom on the Hellebore plant in her front garden. There's hope. Happy Spring Everyone!

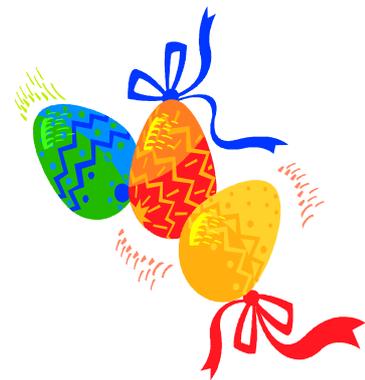
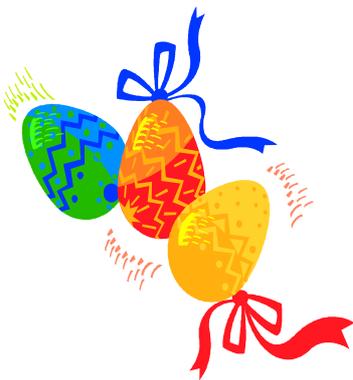


Annual Round Lake Easter Candy Hunt

Saturday March 28, 2015 @ 12p
Rain or Shine.

Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon hunting for candy. We will meet at the Round Lake Municipal Building @ 11:45a. The hunt will take place across the street, in Rowe Park (relocate to auditorium, if necessary). The youngest participants start the hunt followed by the older participants (under age 13). Remember to bring your basket for gathering and cameras to catch all the action.

Any questions contact Nancy Kinkead 899-7552



Sponsored by the Village of Round Lake, Stewart's Shops, WRLIS, Price Chopper,
Hannaford and GS Troop 2098



**10TH ANNIVERSARY
NIGHT OF ILLUMINATION**

LANTERN SALE

**SATURDAY APRIL 18TH
9 AM - 1 PM**

COMMUNITY ROOM

GET FESTIVE!