

Cuba Township

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Barrington, IL 60010

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Road District phone: 847-381-7793
Road District fax: 847-381-7994

**VOTER REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT
THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
MONDAY- FRIDAY, 9 AM TO 3:30 PM.
VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSURES
MARCH 10, 2009**

Clerk, *PRISCILLA H. ROSE*

The November 4, 2008 presidential election brought unprecedented voter turnout nationally and locally. In addition to election day turnout, voters responded enthusiastically to the option of Early Voting. In Cuba Township, 25% of the registered voters voted early at the Township office. I am pleased to report that the Township's new Community Room was able to comfortably accommodate the 3000 plus Township residents that came to our office to vote early.

The next election is scheduled for April 7, 2009. This election has local impact as your village, township and school officials will be on the ballot.

VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSURES: March 10, 2009
EARLY VOTING BEGINS AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE: Monday, March 16, 2009
Monday through Friday 9 am to 4:30 pm
Saturday, March 21 and March 28, 2009 9 am— 2 pm
Early voting **ends** Thursday, April 2, 2009

IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
Friday, April 3rd, and Monday, April 6, 9 am to 4:30 pm
Saturday, April 4th 9 am —noon

ELECTION DAY: Tuesday, April 7, 2009— polls are open 6 am to 7 pm
VOTER REGISTRATION RE-OPENS: Thursday, April 9, 2009

If you are interested in serving as an election judge for the April 7, 2009 election, please contact the Lake County Clerk's office at (847) 377-2317. Teens, aged 17 and older, are eligible to serve as election judges. For more information on the election, to check your registration, to view your ballot or to find your polling place, please go to www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk/elections.

WWW.CUBATOWNSHIP.COM

Officials

David F. Nelson, Supervisor

Priscilla H. Rose, Clerk

Rebecca M. Tonigan, Assessor

Thomas W. Gooch, Hwy. Commissioner

Donald F. Griffith, Trustee

Richard J. Kosner, Trustee

Arthur L. Rice III, Trustee

Roberta A. Svacha, Trustee

CUBA
TOWNSHIP

Township board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Township office, 28000 W. Cuba Road, Barrington. All meetings are open to the public

Office hours-
Monday—Friday
9:00 am—3:30 pm

Cuba News

Winter 2009

A message from the Cuba Township elected officials
Levy, v- to impose and collect a tax for services provided by a unit of government

In response to our nation's current economic situation and the concern of our taxpayers, the Cuba Township board of Trustees, at its December 11, 2008 meeting, passed the General Town and Road District levies with a zero percentage increase from the tax extension received by the Township in 2008.

Although expenses to run the Township continue to increase, we will strive to "hold the line" this next year. As tax funds are distributed the first week in June, it is too early yet to know what the impact of a zero increase will be. It is possible that some services could be scaled back or eliminated. However, we will continue to strive to be good stewards of your tax dollars and to provide relevant and efficient services.

The levy process and the tax cap laws can be confusing and difficult to understand. We welcome your questions and concerns about these or any other matters. Please feel free to contact us:

cubatownship@comcast.net – Cuba Township email
(847)381-1924– Cuba Township phone
tomgooch@cubaroads.com Cuba Township Road District email
(847) 381-7793- Cuba Township Road District phone

Supervisor, *DAVID F. NELSON*

December 2008 saw an unprecedented number of Township families and individuals seeking assistance from our food pantry. 50 families were given holiday gift baskets supplied with food from our pantry and gifts from the community. Community donors included Barrington High School's Stampede, Senior and Sophomore Class Boards, Code Red and Student Council, Barrington Suzuki School of Music, Andreano Chiropractic, Barrington Noon and Breakfast Rotary, Barrington Junior Women's Club, Barrington Giving Day, North Barrington School, the Community Church of Barrington, North Barrington School Cub Scouts, St. Anne's School Boy Scouts, The Village Church of Barrington, GWhiz, the Barrington Woman's Club and the Lake Barrington Shores Ladies Club. Additionally, many Township individuals and families made donations including two residents who donated hams and turkeys for both winter holidays. Our appreciation and gratitude is extended to all of you. If you or someone you know could benefit from the food pantry, please call the Township office. All inquiries are confidential.

The good news is that our donations to the pantry have never been greater! It is heartwarming to see our residents respond so generously to the ever increasing need. Our shelves are well stocked currently, but as the news of each day worsens on the economic front, we know that demand will continue and increase. Your donations of non-perishable food items are welcome at the Township office Monday– Friday, 9 am to 3:30. See inside this newsletter for information on the 8th annual HAVE A HEART FOOD DRIVE which supports both Cuba and Barrington Township's food pantries. For a suggested list of donation items, please see our wish list on the website www.cubatownship.com and also included in this newsletter. We also welcome your assistance in sorting and shelving the donations. Individuals are welcome, as are groups such as Brownies and Girl Scouts. Please contact Cuba Township's Community Liaisons, Cheryl Tanaka or Kate Formichella at (847) 381-1924 for more information.

Disappointment isn't an adequate word to describe how the news of the CN purchase approval is being received. Your local officials promise to appeal this decision and do everything possible to continue to fight this acquisition and/or mitigate the outcome for the residents of the Barrington area. I welcome your calls on the subject. More information can be obtained from www.fighttrailcongestion.com.

CUBA TOWNSHIP SERVICES

Handicapped parking placard applications are available at the Township office. Once approved by a physician, the Township can provide a temporary parking card for up to 90 days. If a permanent card is required, obtain a temporary from the Township, then mail the application to the Secretary of State's office for a permanent card.

R.T.A. applications for passes for the SMART card for senior citizens and the disabled are available at the Township office. This card provides free transportation for seniors and the disabled on Metra and CTA. Proof of age is required- a driver's license or state identification card is acceptable. Photos can be taken at the Township office for Township residents at no charge- non-Township residents, please provide \$2 per photo. We will then complete the application and the pass will be mailed to you in approximately 4 weeks by the R.T.A. *The original reduced fare permit will soon be obsolete. Please stop by the Township office to apply for a new SMART card.*

Half fare taxi program is available for Township residents who are 65 years of age or older. The Township will subsidize half of your taxi fare up to \$7.00. Please stop in the office to sign up for this program. Proof of age is required.

Notary public services are offered at no charge.

The Cuba Township food pantry is available to any Township resident indicating a need, after an intake interview. Distributions are available every 30 days. Please call the office for more information. Donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome.

The General Assistance and Emergency Assistance programs offer limited financial assistance to Township residents. Income guidelines determine eligibility. Additionally, limited financial assistance is available through the Salvation Army. Please contact the Township office for more information.

LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) and SHARING applications are available at the Township office. These programs offer limited financial assistance, based on income, for heating and electric bills. Funding for these programs begins in late October/early November and continues through the heating season. Please contact the Township office for more information.

Township vehicle stickers are available for residents living in unincorporated areas of the Township. There is no charge for the stickers and they are not required. They are offered as a courtesy.

Passport processing services are offered at the Township office by appointment only. Processing takes up to 8 weeks. Identification (usually a driver's license) and proof of citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization papers) are required. Please call the Township office for an appointment. More details on requirements, fees and documentation are available at www.travel.state.gov.

A drop-off box for used eyeglasses is in the Township office. Eyeglasses are collected by the Lions club and given to health care professionals for distribution to the needy.

Warning sirens are located throughout the Township to warn residents of dangerous weather. The sirens are owned and maintained by the Township with cooperation from the local fire department. The sirens are designed to be heard *outside* to warn residents to seek shelter.

Mosquito abatement services are provided for the Township through a contract with Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. Larviciding is done throughout the Township to prevent the hatching of mosquito eggs. Additional emergency spraying is performed if the West Nile virus is detected in the Township. Please call Clarke's hotline at 800-942-2555 for more information.

Voter registration is available at the Township office for any Illinois resident. To register, a person must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age by the date of the next election, and a resident of the address at which they are registering at least 30 days prior to the election. Two forms of identification are required- one must show your name and current address and one form of identification may be a piece of mail for a contractual service addressed to you at your residence. The Township office is open for voter registration Monday through Friday, 9 am to 3:30 pm.

Early and Absentee Voting is available at the Township office prior to every election. You must be a Cuba Township resident to vote at the Township office.

The Cuba Cares fund is a 501 © (3) charitable fund. Monies donated to this fund are used to assist residents in need who do not qualify for other resources. After determination of need, disbursements are made to a vendor to assist in maintaining self-sufficiency. Funds are available to Cuba Township individuals or families only every 12 months. All monies donated are tax deductible; the fund is administered at no expense to the Township and no taxpayer funds are used to maintain it. To make a donation or inquire about assistance, please contact the Township office. All information regarding disbursements or inquires is confidential.

Retired flags can be dropped off at the Township office. The local VFW post and American Legion will collect the flags and dispose of them at periodic sanctioned ceremonies.

Free firewood and mulch are available seasonally through the Cuba Township Road District. Please go to www.cubaroads.com for more information on services offered by the Road District.

Please click on "assessor" on the Township's home page (www.cubatownship.com) for services provided by the **Cuba Township Assessor**.

Questions can be directed to the Cuba Township office at (847) 381-1924

Assessor, *REBECCA M. TONIGAN, C.I.A.O.*

My staff and I would like to wish you all a safe and happy New Year.

As mandated by Illinois state law, a sales ratio study is performed to see if our assessments meet the required 33 1/3% of fair market value for the prior three years sales to establish a basis for our assessments. For purposes of this study, the sales will be from January 2006 through December 31, 2008. We are committed to equity and fairness and, as such, should the sales show a decrease in values, then this decrease will be reflected in the assessments. To the same end, should the sales show an increase in a neighborhood, then, that too, will be reflected in the assessments. We are not planning on doing a total reassessment and have been notified by the Lake County Supervisor of Assessors office that we will probably have a factor of over 1.000, which means all properties will have a slight increase. As I have stated in previous newsletters, I have no control over the equalization factor applied. This number comes from the values of all properties and where they fall in that 33 1/3% study, the amount of values decreased or increased by all property owners in the Township through the Lake County Board of Review and the outcome of any Property Tax Appeal Board decisions.

I would encourage all of you to review your properties online at www.lakecountyil.gov/assessor/assessments to make sure that we have correct information regarding square footage and amenities. If you see any discrepancies, please contact us at (847) 381-1120 and we will be happy to make an appointment to review those differences.

Also, please make sure you have the appropriate exemptions applied to your property. As reviewed in previous newsletters, there are several types of exemptions available. Some of the exemption amounts have now increased. They are as follows:

General Homestead	\$6,000
Senior Homestead	\$4,000
Homestead Improvement	\$25,000 assessed/\$75,000 market
Senior Freeze Income	\$55,000 (of total household income or less)
Senior Tax Deferral Income	\$50,000 through the Treasurers office
Disabled Veteran's Exemption	\$70,000 assessed

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH HEATING BILLS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

Cuba Township is pleased to administer 2 programs for low-income households to assist with the expense of heating bills.

LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) is funded locally and with federal grants to provide financial assistance to qualifying families and individuals. If approved, the grant will be applied directly to your NICOR and ComEd account.

SHARING is offered through the Salvation Army and operates in a similar manner to LIHEAP. Each program maintains different qualifying income levels.

Please call the Township office at (847) 381-1924 to determine your eligibility or to make an appointment to complete an application for either program.



Highway Commissioner, *THOMAS W. GOOCH*

Do we have it bad or could it be worse?

“There seems to be some dispute that the cold and snows of our youth were worse than of recent years, yet reports of meteorologists and weather bureaus bear that out. Before autos, your author remembers that snows were too deep at times for a team and a bob sleigh to wallow through, and a team of horses could take a lot more of it than an auto can. Wire fences were cut and farmers coming to town with their morning milk drove across fields or along the inside of hedges which were all too many in snow storms. On January 17, 1918 the snow was so deep at sub-zero that a drift had to be tunneled through to get into Evergreen Cemetery at the middle gate. There was no traction for wheels and a team and sleigh were used for the Fred E. Lines burial. The tunnel fell in and had to be shoveled out again by hand. No scoops or dredges then.....In earlier days when that cut east of the village was filled with snow, a canadian rotary snow plow was sent for, and some of our men laughed and said it could never go through. They sat high up on the fence to laugh and watch, not reckoning with the mogul down there boring a mammoth hole and spewing its snow out to one side. The rotary snow plow went on through about its business, but the scoffers were no longer on the fence, they had to be dug out of the snow....” From “*A History of Barrington, Illinois*” by Arnett C. Lines.

I guess we could have it a lot worse, but it sure seems like this winter is shaping up to be just as bad. During December we started with a storm on the first and about every 4 days we had another including two events of more than 10 inches each and 5 freezing rain events. I really appreciate your patience and tolerance as some of these events were so large that correspondingly a great deal of time was needed to clear the roads.

Costs of salt, as you know, are at an all time high. We have been fortunate in being ahead of the proverbial curve on snow clearing methods over the past few years. While many municipalities were scrambling to equip trucks with liquid dispensing systems and storage facilities, I had begun this process some five years ago! Three years ago we began experimenting with liquid calcium chloride, salt brine and even beet juice. By the time this year rolled around the vast majority of our trucks were equipped with computerized delivery systems and we were well experienced in the use of the new “wonder chemicals”. It has made a difference; we are using less salt and more liquid, but when we are faced with events such as freezing rain or dropping air temperatures, the salt usage increases. This year we have the capability to alter the percentages of the chemicals comprising the liquid mix for better efficiency; we are one of few Townships or Villages with this capability and it came from being prepared and getting educated on the developing methods some five years ago!

You may notice many of our trucks are shaped differently or look different from the traditional dump truck used to apply salt. These trucks are equipped with conveyor systems or “v boxes” designed to move the salt to a “spinner” located near the road surface. This reduces the amount of salt spilled or scattered substantially, saving the environment and the amount of salt used. Currently, we are applying on the average 350 lbs salt per lane mile. We intend to reduce that rate as the winter progresses and increase the liquid.

You’re always welcome, if curious, to call and stop by to look at the equipment and discuss the methods with me.

We still have hand split oak and maple firewood available to residents of the Township only, on Fridays between 7 and 3. We discourage pick-up truck size loads and try to limit it to a large trunk full, but you come every Friday and we will help you load it- weather permitting!

We have already ground the spring mulch and it’s ready for delivery commencing in April. We’ll begin taking orders for Friday deliveries around April 1, 2009.

Even though we have a lot of winter left, I’m planning the construction and paving season now. If you have a specific concern or question, please call me so that we can chat. I can’t fix purely private property problems, but frequently the problem involves drainage on the right of way and there is something I can do.

A final note on salt. We are being subjected to very high salt costs. I have met with representatives of the major salt companies and can assure you next year we will not be subjected to the State of Illinois controlling our contract or costs, but for this year, like everyone else in Lake and McHenry County, we face high costs and a diminishing supply. We still have it, but if this winter keeps up like December we may have to begin mixing with sand....

This winter, I think, is like the ones my father used to tell me about: You know the ones where all our parents walked barefoot through blizzards and ice storms to get to school almost daily..... STAY WARM

TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Barrington Area Council on Aging is once again offering the AARP Income Tax Assistance Program. A trained volunteer will assist seniors with their taxes at the BACOA office in the Prairieview Building at The Garlands of Barrington, 6000 Garlands Lane, Barrington, Illinois. Barrington Bank and Trust will provide tax assistance on Saturdays in February and March at 201 Hough St. BACOA will be making appointments for both locations.

Assistance is by appointment only and will run from early February until April 10, 2009. Appointments fill quickly, so call as early as possible to schedule an appointment. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call BACOA at (847) 381-5030.

NATIVE PLANT SALE

Citizens for Conservation will hold its 13th Annual Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale on Saturday, May 2nd, from 9 AM to 12 Noon. A huge selection of robust, hardy, native plants will be available for sale.



Native plants provide many advantages for gardeners. They do not require fertilizers or pesticides saving you both time and money. Their deep, fibrous root systems firmly anchor soils to help prevent erosion. They reduce air pollution by sequestering carbon from the air. Native plants do not require watering once established. They provide much needed food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

The sale will be held at CFC’s headquarters, 459 W. Highway 22, in Lake Barrington. For additional information phone 847-382-SAVE (7283) or visit the CFC web site www.citizensforconservation.org.

Cuba Heritage

by Barbara Benson

The elected officials of Cuba Township are pleased to present

HAVE A HEART FOOD DRIVE

Saturday, February 14, 2009
Barrington Public Safety Building
440 W. Northwest Highway
Barrington
9 am to noon



This 8th annual drive is held in conjunction with Barrington Township. All donations will be equally distributed between both pantries and support individuals and families in the Barrington area

SUGGESTED DONATION ITEMS

Canned fruit	Paper products	Toothpaste
Canned vegetables	Feminine hygiene products	Tooth brushes
Dried pasta	Cookies	Peanut butter
Cereal	Dish washer soap	Dish soap
Canned prepared meals	Jelly	Microwave popcorn
Fruit juice	Diapers	Spaghetti sauce
Laundry supplies	Toiletries	Snack foods
Canned tuna and chicken	Canned soup	Cleaning supplies

GIFT CARDS IN \$10 DENOMINATIONS TO GROCERY STORES AND GAS STATIONS

Voter registration will be provided. To register to vote, you must be 18 years of age on or before the next election (April 7, 2009) and provide 2 forms of identification— one must be a photo i.d. and have your current address.

This is the third and final installment of the story about the evolution of the lake at Lake Barrington Shores from a muddy depression in the early 1920s, unknown on any plat maps, and its metamorphosis to become Indian Lake and now Lake Barrington. Much of the detail was provided in 1985 to the late Andre F. Rhoads, by Charles Davlin and Leroy Miller. They were descendants of the area's pioneer settlers with long and good memories. My interest in retelling this story was generated by a newspaper article from 1946, which indicated that the proposed new North Barrington School, was to be named Indian Lake School. My primary resource has been an article that appeared in a Barrington Area Historical Society newsletter in 1985. That article was researched and written by the late Andre F.(Dusty) Rhoads. He and his wife Lucy were residents of LBS.

The previous installment ended with the lake's development and beautification by the property owner from the mid-1920s until 1946, G.C. Criswell of the Criswell Candy Company. Charlie Davlin stocked the lake with bass, and Leroy Miller remembered at his 1985 meeting with Dusty Rhoads, that he had spent 2 years hauling rocks from a quarry in Fox River Grove, driving a six-wheeler and dumping the rocks at low points around the lake. Charlie Davlin would set the rocks with his bulldozer. Eventually, the entire lake was ringed with rocks to prevent the shoreline from erosion. It was partly due to their efforts, that residents of LBS using canoes, rowboats and sailboats, were forbidden to beach them along the lakeshore, for fear of displacing the protective ring of stones.

In 1946, the estate was sold to Robert Bartlett. According to Leroy Miller, Mr. Bartlett changed the name from Indian Lake to Lake Barrington, because "there were 700 Indian Lakes in the United States and he didn't want to be the owner of just another one." But, Davlin had his own ideas about the name change. By then, the name "Barrington" had gained a lot of appeal because many wealthy Chicagoans had built estates in the Barrington countryside, and perhaps the name reflected a certain "snob appeal." Besides the Lake Barrington property, Bartlett acquired several large tracts in Cuba Township, many of which, in the 5-acre zoning area, remained undeveloped until recent years. But, it became time to sell the estate, and in 1972 it was purchased by the J.S. James Company, and Amoco Realty, a division of Standard Oil of Indiana. After long review by the Lake Barrington Village Board, and some local landowners' protests, the development of Lake Barrington Shores was approved and construction of the first units began in 1973. The lake, and many of the old trees provided the development a "settled" ambience, and extensive, well cared for landscaping, as well as the golf course, give LBS a distinctiveness lacking in other condominium developments. And it really all began with the imagination and "tinkering" of two old-timers, Charlie Davlin and Leroy Miller, whose grandparents, in the mid-19th century, had settled the open prairie, punctuated by beautiful stands of oak trees. But that is a story for another time, about Cuba Township's heritage!

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

April 14, 2009

Cuba Township office
28000 W. Cuba Road
Barrington, IL 60010

7 pm

Cuba Township will hold its 159th Annual Town Meeting originally implemented to give citizens a uniform place and time to gather, this state mandated meeting provides an opportunity for any registered voter of the Township to speak.

March 1, 2009 is the deadline by which Cuba Township voters may propose agenda items to the Annual Town Meeting. Proposals must be written, signed by at least 15 registered township voters and delivered to the Cuba Township Clerk, Priscilla H. Rose

Please join us— questions can be directed to the Township office at (847) 381-1924