

VILLAGE OF DEER PARK

est 1957

The Village of Deer Park Newsletter

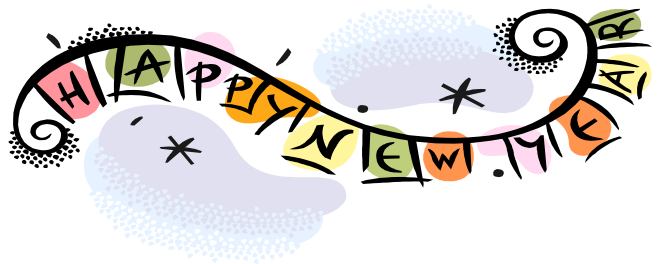
December 2005

Dear Neighbor,

Although there are not too many large tracts of undeveloped land left in the Village, opportunities for growth remain. One area where the Village hopes to spur new development is along Rand Road, south of Deer Park Town Center. The Village Board at its November meeting approved continuation of the process of creating a Tax Increment Financing District for that area. Many of the lots there are narrow and some contain "brownfields," which are lands where previous users left chemicals or materials that pollute the soil and water. The TIF District allows the Village to negotiate with local taxing bodies, such as the school district and library district, to allow incremental taxes that are generated by new development within the TIF to be used for such things as brownfield cleanup. The entire process of enacting the TIF is expected to take at least nine months and will include public hearings. Check the Village web site to learn when those dates are set.

I am looking for a new Emergency Response Coordinator for the Village. Dennis Bridge recently resigned the post due to work commitments. The Coordinator is responsible for organizing, administering, training and operation of the Village Emergency Management Agency, subject to the direction of the Village President, State EMA and Lake County EMA. If you are interested, call the Village Office.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy new year!



Scott Gifford, Village President

A Note from Ela Township . . .

Ela Township Highway Department will be plowing all Village roads this winter. (In the past, Cuba Township also plowed some Village streets.) Three trucks have been dedicated to three snow routes of about 8 miles each.

We will be salting the same as last year, using salt brine (liquid salt). This procedure uses approximately 20% less salt and is better for the roads, our cars, our lawns and our wetlands. This solution also helps to prevent the salt from bouncing, keeping it on the roads and out of grassy areas.

Residents are welcome to place reflectors or markers on the edge of the road, but please space them at least 15-20 feet apart at corners and cul-de-sacs. The plow must be able to push the snow off the road in these areas without damaging your markers.

Also, please check your mailbox and post to be sure they are secure. They must be sturdy enough to take flying snow from the plow. Snow and slush damage do not warrant replacement of the box by us. If you have an expensive mailbox, you might want to replace it just for the winter. If we hit the box with the plow (accidents do happen at 3 a.m.), we will only replace it with a standard mailbox and wooden post. **Any mailbox damage, lawn damage or unsafe conditions should be reported to your Village Office.**

Snow plowing is a vital service. For everyone’s safety, please do not interfere with snow trucks by parking on the streets, following too closely, passing unsafely or blocking intersections.

Again I want to thank your Village President, Village Board and staff for their support and for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

Drive safely and have a great winter.

*--Bill Kruckenberg,
Ela Township Highway Supervisor*

Ordinances Passed

05-11: Amends the Municipal Code to include the property at the southeast corner of Lake Cook Road and Quentin Road in the Planned Development District.

05-12: Amends the Zoning Map to reflect the change to the Planned Development District.

05-13: Approves a variance to the Zoning Code regarding placement of pools for the property at 20170 Sunshine Lane.

05-14: Approves a variance to the Zoning Code regarding building setback lines for a garage at 35 Surrey Court.

05-15: Approves a variance to the Zoning Code regarding fences for the property at 23680 W. Cuba Road.

05-16: Approves the admittance of two new member villages into the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County.

Resolutions passed:

05-05: States that the Village endorses the expansion of Route 120 in an effort to alleviate traffic congestion throughout Lake County.

05-06: Approves a preliminary planned development use for the property at the southeast corner of Lake Cook Road and Quentin Road.

05-07: Approves the offering for sale of two surplus Village lots at the southwest corner of Deerpath Road and Lake Cook Road. Bids will be accepted through the end of the year, at which time the Village Board will decide whether to actually sell the lots.



Foundation President Pens Annual Letter

This has been a tremendously exciting year for Vehe Farm. With the continued support of contributors, Village Trustees and residents, so much was accomplished.

Artifacts and Photographs

The Vehe family in South Dakota gave on perpetual loan to the Foundation and the Village the original charcoal drawing of the first generation Vehes with the farmhouse (now the Village

Office) and barn in the background. Family members felt their ancestors would want the drawing “home” and on display in the Barn once it opens.

Other Vehe family members still living in the Chicago area met with Foundation representatives to share family history and memories of the farm. It was heartwarming to meet and talk with them. Another Vehe family member compiled a photographic history of the family and times she shared with Ed and May Vehe. The album has been donated to the Foundation and will be displayed in the Barn.

The Vehe Barn Community Center

Phase II work on adapting the barn for reuse as a community center continues, with a target opening date of late spring 2006. Construction has been slower than anticipated, but Jim Peterson (principal architect on the project, a Foundation board member and a resident of Deer Park) is working closely with the construction company to get the community center open as soon as possible. The interior of the Barn will be quite exceptional, making it an invaluable asset to Deer Park.

As the community center opening nears, Pat Winkelman (Foundation board member and Deer Park resident) and Chris Wykowski, Foundation committee volunteer, have donated hundreds of hours developing purchasing recommendations as well as operational policies for the Village Board’s consideration. Their recommendations included furniture, audio-visual equipment and suppliers, to name a few. And a special thanks to Sandy Schroeder (Deer Park resident) for contributing his knowledge to the A/V recommendation.

The Prairie and Wetlands

Thanks to the hard work of John Wagner (Foundation board member and Deer Park resident) and the support of Citizens for Conservation, seeding of the prairie and wetlands continued. This is the fifth year of prairie restoration, and each year the results exceed expectations. If you have ever broadcast seeded (tossing seed low into the air so that it naturally spreads across the ground), you know how relaxing and uplifting it feels.

Educational Programming and Outreach to Area Schools

Again thanks to the efforts of Pat, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has designated Vehe Farm as a “trunk site.” This means that area schools will be contacting the farm to borrow the voluminous amount of educational materials made available by the IDNR. Many of the materials will be on display in the barn’s museum area, adding to the farm’s own educational programming activities. This involvement with the IDNR is quite exciting as it helps to connect the farm with area schools and students.





The Betty McLaughlin Memorial Butterfly Garden

Through a generous and much appreciated donation from The Little Garden Club of Barrington, the garden now has a beautiful natural cedar picket fence. The fence enables the creation of a 50-by-60-foot “classroom” for school-age children interested in learning about ecology through the study of the butterfly’s life cycle and related environmental issues.

Farm Artifacts

Representatives from Volkening Farm in Schaumburg spent an afternoon with Foundation members sorting through and identifying many of the farm implements (or parts thereof) that were found in the barn prior to construction. Their knowledge was quite impressive, so much so that almost every artifact has been identified and documented.

Goals for 2006

First on the agenda is to celebrate the Barn’s opening as a community center. There will be an open house for the community, including activities showcasing the varied ways in which the barn can be used, such as meetings, parties, cultural events and exhibits.

On behalf of the Village Board, application will be made to the state requesting grant assistance with the completion of the farm’s site plan. This includes making the barnyard, prairie and garden trails handicap accessible, building a bridge across the wetland and creating signs that will provide visitors information about the farm buildings, farm life and plants of the prairie and wetlands.

The horticultural design of the butterfly garden will be enhanced to showcase a butterfly’s full life cycle and the ecological needs it has during the various stages.

Planning for the museum area of the community center will be done. This includes designing ways to best tell the history of local farming and to display farm artifacts and DNR educational materials.

Seasons Greetings!

The Foundation is deeply grateful for the continuing support of the Village trustees, residents and Foundation contributors. It is an honor for us to serve Deer Park and to act as stewards for Vehe Farm. From all of us at the Foundation, we wish you and your family a very joyous holiday season and 2006.

*Teri Bridge, President
Vehe Farm Foundation*

Waste, Recycling Pickups Set

Christmas trees will be picked up by Groot on Tuesday, Jan. 10. Please be sure to remove all ornaments, garland and tinsel before placing the tree at the curb.

Groot also reminds residents that if a holiday falls on or before the Village’s regular collection day (Tuesday), service will be delayed one day that week. For example, Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, so Groot employees will be observing the holiday on Monday, Dec. 26.

Therefore, Village garbage pick up will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 28. The following holidays will affect regularly scheduled collections:

- New Year’s Day
- Memorial Day
- July 4th
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day



Board Meetings

Board meetings usually are held the *third Monday* of every month at **7 p.m.** at Charles Quentin Elementary School, 21250 W. Shirley Road, Palatine. However, because of the Martin Luther King holiday in January and the Presidents' Day holiday in February, meetings in those two months will be held on the *third Tuesday*. Agendas for the meeting are posted at the Village Office by the close of business day Fridays prior to the meeting, may be requested by email from the Village Office (deerparkoffice@comcast.net), and are available on the Village website at www.village.deer-park.il.us. Minutes of Board meetings are posted online after approval by the Board (therefore, there is a one-month delay, i.e., October minutes of the Board were approved at the November meeting and are now available online).

Meeting dates for **2006** are as follows:

January 17	July 17
February 21	August 21
March 20	September 18
April 17	October 16
May 15	November 20
June 19	December 18

Heating Bill Assistance Available

Higher natural gas costs this winter are expected to result in a significant rise in heating bills. The State of Illinois offers a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to those who qualify, based on household size, location and income. Your monthly income cannot exceed 150% of the federally established poverty level. For more information about the program, call 1-800-252-8643.

Nicor Gas also offers a Sharing Program, which provides grants once per year to qualifying residential customers. It is administered by the Salvation Army. Residents must apply in person at a Salvation Army office. For a list of Salvation Army offices and this year's grant amount, visit www.nicorgas.com and click on "Financial Assistance."

ComEd Tree Trimming Planned

ComEd will be trimming trees throughout the Village in January. Exact locations are plotted on maps available for inspection at the Village Office, but affected subdivisions include: The Squires, Deerpath Estates, Swansway, Country Corner, Haverhill, Rue Vallee, Chapel Hill and Hamilton Estates.

Development Updates

- The Plan Commission will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 9, regarding a new development proposed for the southeast corner of Quentin and Long Grove Roads. Red Seal Development Corp. originally presented the plan for 62 townhomes and 11 single-family homes to the Plan Commission in November. If recommended for approval by the Commission, the proposed development will be considered by the Village Board at its Jan. 17 meeting.
- The Village Board voted in October to rezone the property located at the southeast corner of Quentin and Lake Cook Roads as part of the Village's Planned Development District. At the same time, the Board approved a preliminary planned development use for the property that would allow 12 townhomes or 18 multi-family dwellings, as outlined in a report by the Village's planning consultant.

In Memoriam

The Village notes with great sadness the passing of former Assistant Village Treasurer Debbie Karl. Mrs. Karl was born Aug. 11, 1957, and died Sept. 23, 2005.

She moved to Deer Park in 1987 and worked for the Village from 2000 to 2003.

She is survived by two sons, Richard and Zachary.

Village Officials

President—H. Scott Gifford

Administrator—Kari Diesen-Dahl

Administrative Assistant—Josie Doniec

Treasurer—Terri Stade

Clerk—Maureen Pratscher

Trustees: (meets 3rd Monday of the month)

Greg Dowell: Finance

Pat Ekstrom: Roads & Public Utilities

David Kizior: Parks & Recreation

Patricia Plautz: Health & Sanitation

Joel Rotter: Planning & Zoning

Howard Thrun: Public Safety

Plan Commission: (meets 1st Monday of the month, as needed)

Chair—David Heidtke

Frank Comber

Jan Koe

Bill Koutsis

Eric Lorenz

Sandy Schroeder

Zoning Board of Appeals: (meets on request)

Chair—Randy Szczeny

Barbara Evans

Jack Honomichl

Bill Michael

Russell Mills

Beth Noll

Randy Pinchot

Contact Us:

Phone: 726-1648 Fax: 726-1659

Email: deerparkoffice@comcast.net

Website: www.village.deer-park.il.us

Police: (emergency) 911

(non-emergency) 438-6010

(office) 438-6644

Fire: (emergency) 911 (office) 540-5070

Village Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9 – 12:30 & 1:30 – 5:00

Friday: 9 – 12:30



Reminders

***The burning season** for leaf and yard waste is over. Yard waste may be burned only two times a year: April 15–May 15 and Oct. 15–Nov. 15, on weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

*Many household projects (including septic repairs) require **building permits**. Please check with the Village office to determine if your project needs a permit.

* **Dogs** must be leashed when not on their owners' property, per Village Ordinances. Be aware that cats must not be allowed to roam the Village freely. Also, loud barking is considered a nuisance and prohibited by Village ordinances.

* **Please use Deer Park as the city in your postal address.** Not only will this speed up delivery of your mail, it will also ensure that any utility taxes you pay are directed to the correct municipality.

***Septic maintenance** is required for all septic systems. For homeowners with aerator systems, Village ordinances require inspections of the aerator every 6 months, in addition to the usual pumping required for the tank. Also, be aware that the Village requirements for septic systems are in addition to those of Lake County and are generally more restrictive than those of Lake County.

***Animals on private property—*alive or dead*—are the responsibility of the property owner.** The Village can provide assistance in removal of unwanted animals through cooperative programs with Lake County and Ela Township; however, **property owners will be billed for removal of these animals**, and rates are determined by the County and Township, not the Village.

Lake County Briefs . . .

County Approves 2006 Budget

The Lake County Board approved the fiscal year 2006 budget of \$410,977,883, a 2.21% increase over last year. Due to growth in business and residential development in the area, the Lake County property tax rate will decrease for the sixth consecutive year. Lake County government receives \$.07 of every \$1 collected in property taxes. By comparison, schools in Lake County receive \$0.67 of every property tax dollar collected.

Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Ready

Citizens, first responders and local government officials have been meeting for the past year to develop an "All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan" that recommends actions to reduce the impact of potential natural hazards in the county. Paper copies of the plan are available for review at the Stormwater Management Commission office in Libertyville or in the County Administrator's Office in Waukegan. The plan is also available on the County's web site at <http://www.co.lake.il.us>.

How to Identify, Manage Dutch Elm Disease

Dutch Elm Disease continues to affect trees in several Lake County communities. If you think your trees are diseased, information regarding identification and management of Dutch Elm Disease is available online from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service at: http://na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/howtos/ht_ded/ht_ded.html.

"Do Not Call" for Cell Phones

As of Nov. 10, cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies. Besides being disturbed by unwanted sales calls, you will be charged minutes for these calls.

To prevent this, you can request that your cell phone number be placed on the national "Do Not Call" list that has been available to landline phones for more than a year. You must call from your cell phone. The number to call is 888-382-1222. This will block your number

to telemarketers for five years.

While you have your cell phone handy, it would be a good time to enter emergency contact names and numbers. Emergency personnel will turn to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity, and they recommend that you "ICE" your phone to make their job easier. ICE is an acronym for In Case of an Emergency. Enter your closest relative's name and phone number in your cell phone's contact list under the acronym ICE. If you have more than one emergency number, you can create multiple entries, such as ICE-Spouse, ICE-Mom, etc.



Municipal Tax Suit Settled

A class action lawsuit in which the Village was a defendant was settled recently. The suit centered on the Municipal Infrastructure Maintenance Fee that villages were allowed to enact under state statute. Wireless phone companies that collected the fee brought the suit on behalf of their customers. The Village had been setting money aside over the past few years to cover any liability relating to the suit, and had nearly \$90,000 earmarked for a settlement. The Village's portion turned out to be slightly less than \$18,000, so the remaining money will be returned to the general fund.

It is impractical to distribute the settlement money to all wireless customers, so the fund will be used for emergency (911) telecommunication programs (60%) and for hospitals and emergency care centers, particularly in rural areas (40%).

Email Updates

Email updates of time-sensitive issues and events are available from the Village of Deer Park. If you are interested, email us at deerparkclerk@comcast.net. For community alert information from the Kildeer Police, log onto their website at www.kildeerpolice.com.

**Village of Deer Park
23680 W. Cuba Road
Deer Park IL 60010**

**Presort Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Barrington IL
Permit 101**

2006-2007 Village Vehicle Sticker Application

You may pick up vehicle stickers free of charge at the Village Office during normal business hours, or you can fill out and mail this form to the Office, and the stickers will be mailed to you. The cost is \$1 (per residence, not per sticker) to cover the cost of mailing. If paying by check, please make it payable to the Village of Deer Park.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Subdivision: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Number of stickers requested: _____

Sticker Numbers Assigned: _____ (to be filled in by the Village)