

VILLAGE OF DEER PARK

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The Village of Deer Park Newsletter

June 2006

Dear Neighbor,

The Plan Commission in recent months has put in many hours reviewing plans for a new subdivision, Deer Park Estates, making sure the architectural, landscaping and engineering details meet the Village's high standards. I would like to thank the Commissioners, led by Chairman Dave Heidtke, for their hard work and diligence throughout the process. The new townhomes and single-family homes will be something the Village can take pride in as a result.

While it doesn't appear we will have a repeat of last summer's drought, I urge all residents to continue to monitor their water usage and attempt to conserve whenever possible. Many of our wells share the same aquifer.

Scott Gifford,
Village President



Last Development Phase to Begin at Vehe Farm

"Providing the public with a visual and interactive experience featuring the essence of the original prairie, the history of local farming, community recreation, and a restored centennial barn and outbuildings serving as a community and cultural center."

--Vehe Farm Vision Statement, 1999

That vision has been the guiding focus of the Foundation since the Village purchased Vehe Farm, with the help of a \$351,000 Illinois Department of Natural Resources land acquisition grant. And much has been accomplished with that vision in mind: the conversion of the farmhouse to the Village Office, the EPA/Chicago Wilderness Award-

winning prairie/wetland restoration, the development of a butterfly garden supported by private donations and The Little Garden Club of Barrington, the creation of a soccer field and temporary walking paths, the restoration of the barn's exterior, partnerships with Citizens for Conservation and the Lake County Farm Heritage Association, the designation as a trunk site for the Department of Natural Resources' educational materials, and, finally, the nearing completion of the barn's interior and restoration of the remaining outbuildings for use as a community meeting and event site.

We are now poised to begin the final phase of the project. Beginning this year and again in 2007, we will be applying for additional grants to install handicap-accessible paths, a tot lot, educational signage, a wetland bridge, and perhaps even a windmill. Also, we will be

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News from the Village Board

- The Board approved the creation of a speed hump on Deerpath Road, just north of Corners Drive, in an effort to reduce the volume and speed of traffic on that road. The hump, which is wider than a traditional speed bump, will be installed this summer. Baseline and post-installation traffic counts will be conducted on Deerpath Road and surrounding roads to measure the hump's effectiveness and to ensure that traffic is not just being diverted to nearby streets.
- The Board voted in May to grant final approval for a new development, to be called Deer Park Estates, at the southeast corner of Quentin and Long Grove Roads. Red Seal Development Corp. plans to build 61 townhomes and 11 single-family homes, priced at the mid-\$400,000s and up. The approval was contingent upon a variety of conditions, one being that Red Seal must acquire 2.33 acres of adjacent Village land. Bids for that land were accepted until the end of May, and the Board was expected to take action on those bids at its June 19 meeting. Construction could begin this summer.
- The Board accepted a bid from McGinty Brothers in the amount of \$30,025 for temporary grading and seeding of future playfields at Town Center Park. Two soccer fields and a baseball field will be added, but construction cannot begin until the Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Environmental Agency grant approval to fill a small portion of wetlands on the property, a process that is expected to take up to 18 months.
- The Board agreed to make minimal repairs to the tennis courts at Dover Pond this summer, but Trustee Dave Kizior stated he will seek a grant to help finance the total reconstruction of the courts next year.
- The Board voted to formally request that Lake Zurich make water and sewer connections available to the property at 21180 N. Rand Road, at the property owner's cost. The 7.5-acre property abuts

Lake Zurich on two sides. The executor of the estate which owns the land told the Village Board that sewer and water would allow a greater number of development options. The land falls within the Village's Planned Development District, and any proposed change from its current residential use would have to be considered by the Plan Commission and Village Board.

- Trustee Kizior has secured another donation from a local athletic association for field upkeep, this one from the Schwaben soccer organization.
- The Board signed an engagement letter with Sikich in the amount of \$10,475 to perform the Village's annual audit.
- The Board approved a \$1,000 donation to Omni Youth Services and a \$4,628 contribution to the Barrington schools' DARE program for 2005-2006.

Road Resurfacing Plans Set

The following Village streets within the Squires subdivision are scheduled for resurfacing this summer:

- Pheasant Trail, Cuba Road to Village Limit
- Mallard Court, Pheasant Trail to end
- Teal Court, Pheasant Trail to end
- Cardinal Court, Pheasant Trail to end
- Sumac Court, Pheasant Trail to end
- Bobwhite Lane, Pheasant Trail to end
- Thrush Court, Bobwhite Lane to end
- Quail Court, Bobwhite Lane to end

The total cost is expected to be about \$318,000, with \$180,000 coming from the Village's Motor Fuel Tax account.

Vehe Farm Update *(continued from p. 1)*

working to obtain additional grants for programs related to the history of local farming and environmental education.

With the continued support of the Village trustees and residents, our grant efforts will be successful and our community will be the beneficiary of a very special and unique community center—Vehe Farm.

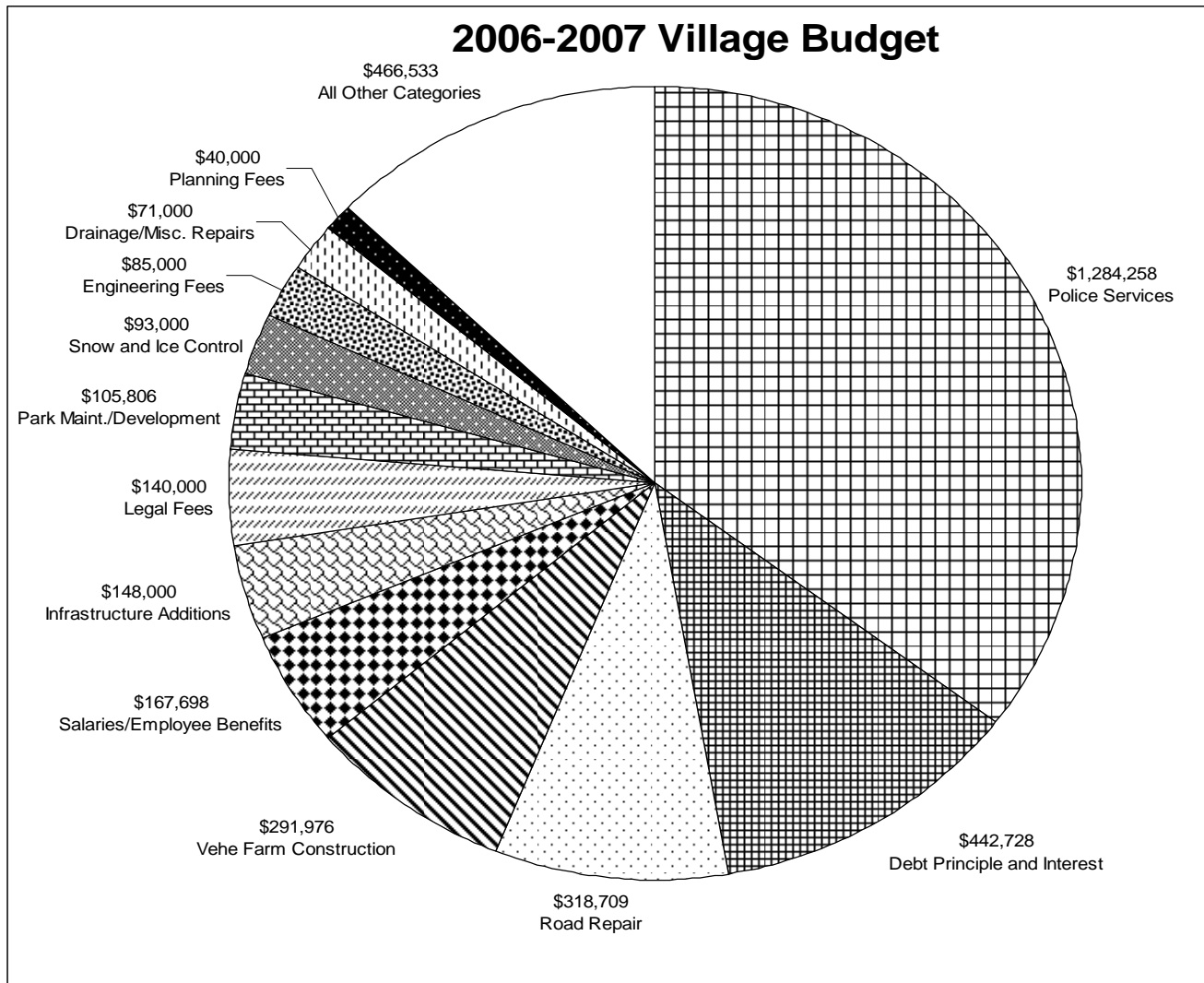
--Teri Bridge, Foundation President

Village Board Passes \$3.65 Million Budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007

The Board of Trustees on April 24 approved the Village budget for Fiscal Year 2007, which began May 1. Budgeted expenses total \$3,654,708 and projected receipts are \$2,707,955; the difference between the two figures will be covered by the Village's cash reserves. Those reserves are projected to be \$1.2 million at the next fiscal year end. Expenses are about 5.2% less than last year's budget.

On the receipt side, the largest source, sales tax, is expected to remain constant at \$1.25 million; trustees opted not to count on potential increases from new commercial construction. The Village's telecommunications tax is expected to be \$240,000 this fiscal year, a 20% increase from last year's budgeted amount. Other increases are projected in the Village's portion of the state income tax (budgeted at \$240,000) and motor fuel tax (budgeted at \$90,000).

On the expense side, the largest line item is police services. That figure is \$1.28 million, a 13% increase from the prior year. The road repair budget increased nearly 600%, as the resurfacing program will resume after being deferred for the past couple years. (See page 2 for a list of roads to be repaved.) The bulk of the infrastructure additions budget will go toward Ferndale subdivision drainage improvements, as \$120,000 is allocated to that project. Nearly \$300,000 is budgeted for the completion of the Vehe Farm Barn renovation project, but trustees expressed hope that the final tab will be less than that. The complete budget is posted as an addendum to April 24 Board meeting minutes on the Village's web site: www.village.deer-park.il.us



Summer Safety Tips Offered

Spending time outdoors is one of the great joys of summer, but carelessness around grills, pools and outdoor power equipment can lead to accidents that will cloud any summer day. The Lake Zurich Fire/Rescue Department offers the following safety tips.

Both gas and charcoal grills produce more carbon monoxide than kitchen ranges and have less insulation to prevent burns.

- Always use a grill outdoors in a well-ventilated, uncovered area, at least 10 feet away from your house or any building. Do not use the grill in a garage,



breezeway, carport, porch or under any surface that can catch fire. Always burn charcoal away from homes, vehicles, tents or campers. Charcoal should never be used indoors.

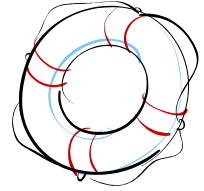
- Since charcoal produces carbon monoxide fumes until the charcoal is completely extinguished, do not store the grill indoors with freshly used coals.
- Use long-handled barbecue utensils to avoid burns and splatters.
- Wear clothing without hanging shirt tails, frills or apron strings, and use flame-retardant mitts when adjusting hot vents.
- Have a fire extinguisher handy in case of a grease fire. A bucket of sand or a garden hose should be nearby if you don't have a commercial extinguisher.

Follow these guidelines around swimming pools, lakes and ponds:

- Ensure children use flotation devices and have extra safety equipment such as a pole, rope or ring available for rescue.
- Children should be supervised around water and should obey all lifeguard instructions.
- Use caution when using and storing hazardous pool chemicals such as chlorine. Even small amounts can be a respiratory irritant. There is a risk of serious chemical

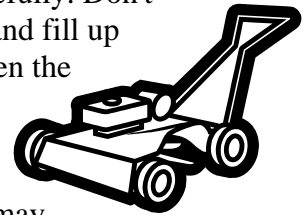
reactions if chlorine is stored near other common garage-kept chemical products.

- Use caution around pool covers; some are not designed to hold the weight of a person.
- Work as groups or neighborhood teams to monitor safety around retention ponds.
- Reduce shock hazards by keeping electrical equipment away from pools.



Lawn mowers and other gas-powered equipment pose a variety of hazards.

- Store gasoline in an approved container or tank away from potential heat sources, including the sun. Gasoline vapors are heavier than air and can travel along the floor to an ignition source.
- Know how to operate your equipment. Read and understand the operator and safety manuals.
- Dress properly for the job. Wear long pants, close-fitting clothing and sturdy shoes.
- Handle gasoline carefully. Don't spill when you fill, and fill up before you start, when the engine is cold. (Attempting to pour gasoline around a hot motor may cause serious flash or explosion injuries.) Never smoke around gas.



Vehe Farm Volunteers Wanted

Summertime is the perfect time to visit Vehe Farm and enjoy the butterfly garden, the prairie and wetland. Recently, neighbors of the farm



have been delighted with the presence and singing of bluebirds that have taken up residence in the farm's bluebird trail.

Vehe Farm Foundation volunteers do grounds work every Saturday from noon to 2 p.m., pulling invasive plants such as buckthorn, garlic mustard, thistles, wild rose and goldenrod. New volunteers are always needed and welcome.

E-mail Updates and Alerts

The Village occasionally issues e-mail alerts pertaining to time-sensitive issues or events. If you are interested in being on the distribution list, e-mail us at deerparkclerk@comcast.net.

The Kildeer Police Department replaced its Krime Watch e-mail alert system with SCAN USA, which stands for Safe Community Alert Network. This national public warning system allows emergency officials to send alerts to computers, mobile phones, pagers and PDAs. The alerts will cover such events as neighborhood crime, terrorism, sexual predators moving into the area, weather and natural disasters, cyber attacks, fire advisories and health emergencies. To join the network, visit www.scanusa.com. Residents can customize which alerts they would like to receive as well as which method of notification they would prefer.

Yard Waste Stickers Available

Groot, the Village's waste and recycling hauler, offers yard waste stickers for those who do not participate in the subscription service.

Residents may purchase up to 10 stickers at a time from the Village Office or by contacting Groot directly at (847) 734-6400. A sticker, which costs \$2.10, must be affixed to each biodegradable "Kraft" bag containing yard waste. The yard waste season runs from April 1 to Nov. 30, and collections are made the same day as refuse and recycling collections.

Those subscribing to the yard waste service, which costs \$75 for the season, receive a special cart for yard waste.

Groot also offers a discount to senior citizens. For more information, call the number above.

SWALCO Sells Compost Bins, Sets Household Waste Collection Days

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) is offering compost bins to county residents at a greatly reduced price at a variety of locations this year. Residents can choose from two different styles: the Earth Machine stationary model (\$20) and the Tumbler model (\$70).



The Earth Machine rests in a typical backyard and accepts food scraps, grass clippings, leaves and other organic wastes while waiting to be manually stirred by its owner. The Tumbler is a barrel-shaped container that rotates around a metal stand when gently pushed. Both models are easy to operate and come with a 10-year warranty. The main difference lies in the amount of time it takes to generate usable compost: three weeks for the Tumbler versus six to eight weeks for the Earth Machine.

The Earth Machine composters are 33 inches tall, 33 inches in diameter and will hold approximately 1 cubic yard of material, while the Tumbler model is 44 inches tall, 22 inches in diameter and will hold just over 7 cubic feet of material.

Composting at home requires a mix of materials high in nitrogen (such as grass clippings and leaves) and materials high in carbon (such as vegetable and fruit peelings). Each composter comes with an educational booklet that describes the process of getting started and producing high quality compost.



For sale locations or more information, call (847) 336-9340 ext. 3.

SWALCO also has announced upcoming household chemical waste collection days. The events take place on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Collections are scheduled for July 8 at Warren Township High School, 500 N. O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, and July 22 at Cotton Creek Elementary School, 545 Newport Court, Island Lake. (See the March 2006 newsletter article online at www.village.deerpark.il.us for a list of items accepted at the SWALCO collection sites.)

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held the *third Monday* of every month at **7 p.m.** at Charles Quentin Elementary School, 21250 W. Shirley Road, Palatine. 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 e-mail 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., April minutes of the Board were approved at the May meeting and are now available online).

Remaining meeting dates for **2006** are:

July 17	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December 18

Deer Park Town Center Doings

- Stride Rite, a shoe store for children, is the most recent addition at Deer Park Town Center. The store is located just southeast of the center gazebo.
- The Smart Bucks program will begin again on Aug. 1 and run through Oct. 31. Shoppers can designate every dollar they spend for a participating local school of their choice by showing their receipts at certain redemption stores throughout the shopping center. Each dollar designated is worth one point. The schools with the most points at the end of the program get the largest shares of a \$15,000 cash bank. Sponsors for the 2006 Smart Bucks program are Cambridge Bank, Comcast and First American Bank. Watch for signs announcing the program at the Town Center this summer.

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 Szczesny

Barbara Evans

Jack Honomichl

Bill Michael

Russell Mills

Beth Noll

Randy Pinchot

Contact Us:

Phone: 726-1648 Fax: 726-1659

E-mail: deerparkoffice@comcast.net

Web site: 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 until the fall. 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.

***Lawns** should be mowed on regular basis and invasive weeds such as garlic-mustard and purple loosestrife should be removed as a courtesy to your neighbors.

*Please do not put garbage or yard waste out before **6 p.m. on the day prior** to collection and remove garbage carts from the curb **as soon as possible** after the pickup. Also, the Village's waste hauling contract does not allow plastic bags outside of sturdy containers.

*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. Please be respectful of your neighbors and do not allow your pet on others' lawns. Also, loud barking is considered a nuisance and is prohibited by Village ordinances.

* **Boats, trailers, commercial or inoperable vehicles, and motor homes** must be kept in a garage or stored off-site; they may not be parked in your driveway or anywhere else on your property except during loading and unloading times.

* **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 . . .

Now that summer is here, the Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center is urging residents to protect themselves against West Nile virus, which is contracted from the bite of a mosquito infected with the virus. The Health Department has re-activated the West Nile virus hotline for county residents to report dead birds, report areas of stagnant water (which are conducive for mosquito breeding), or to obtain more information on the signs and symptoms of West Nile encephalitis. The West Nile virus hotline number is (847) 377-8300.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office has been actively patrolling construction zones throughout the County since the beginning of March. Sheriff's deputies will continue patrols throughout the road construction season to minimize speed violations and dangerous driving. Sheriff's deputies will strictly enforce all violations and motorists are reminded that a speeding violation in a construction zone may cost the driver \$375 in penalties.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office released its 2005 Annual Report this month. The report provides a snapshot of the overall activities in which the Sheriff's Office was engaged in 2005 and a clear perspective on its internal functions and operations. To read the complete report, visit the news page on Lake County's web site at www.co.lake.il.us.

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

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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)