

**From:** deerparkneighbors@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Rain, rain doesn't go away—and other year-end round-ups  
**Date:** December 31, 2006 2:35:45 PM CST

- : : Review of recent flooding/drainage issues
- : : “Deer Park, Vehe Barn at odds over summer camp,” Daily Herald (attachment)
- : : “Watchdog group stirs the pot in Deer Park,” Daily Herald (attachment)
- : : “Cook County year in review”
- : : Plan Commission meeting on Hampton Inn, Jan. 8
- : : Board of Trustees, TUESDAY, Jan. 16 (note change of day)
- : : DPN Open Forum set for Jan. 25

: : REVIEW OF RECENT FLOODING/DRAINAGE ISSUES After the previous week's rain, residents contacted Deer Park Neighbors about the flooding around town. Last week's rain was completely unseasonable, but made very obvious substantial drainage problems throughout the Village.

Water in the ditches is serious; standing water in your yard is more serious and could negatively affect the ability of your septic system to function properly.

What should you do if you have standing water? Contact the Village Hall, Jim Connors specifically, 847-726-1648. He will contact the appropriate person to deal with the situation. The situation was so serious the previous week that Jim called out Village Engineer Todd Gordon and Ela Township Highway Engineer Bill Krukenberger to view the drainage locations and determine what needs to be done.

The flooding was not expected in December, but the fact that it occurred after the heavy rains was not a shock to those of us who attended the December Village Board Meeting. We heard Trustee Pat Ekstrom, commissioner for roads and drainage, remind the board that the village eliminated spending on roads/drainage for three years of the scheduled 10-year Road Plan. She estimated that due to these deferrals, the cost for drainage work would be \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 to bring the village up to date on the plan.

That's at today's prices. With the plan going 10 years out, it's difficult to predict actual future dollars to cover the rest of the work. More importantly, she stated that there were serious drainage issues that have not been addressed in the past three years that could become a problem.

Trustee Ekstrom also spoke directly to the fact that the money for road/drainage work was spent on the Vehe Farm. Pat also stated that this village is out of money. (See attached story, “Deer Park, Vehe Barn at odds over summer camp.”) We heard that another trustee stopped Pat after the meeting to complain about the condition of roads in his own subdivision! You can reach Pat Ekstrom at 847-878-0276 or email her c/o deerparkoffice@comcast.net.

Anyone can request a copy of the 10-year plan from the Village to see how many years

away your own subdivision's planned road and drainage work is.

Good news for Ferndale: the board approved the \$122,000 for the Phase I Drainage Project. But what about all the remaining undone drainage work in Deer Park?

: : WATCHDOG GROUP STIRS THE POT The second attachment is a recent Daily Herald story reviewing DPN's (almost) first year in action.

: : COOK COUNTY YEAR IN REVIEW This is a Daily Herald summary of news by communities; Deer Park was included in the Cook County review; a number of communities face issues similar to our own.

: : IMPORTANT MEETING DATES:

>> Plan Commission, regarding proposed Hampton Inn in the Triangle (approx. 104 rooms), Jan. 8, 7 pm, Village Hall

>> Board of Trustees, TUESDAY, Jan. 16 (Monday is a holiday)

>> DPN Open Forums set for Thursday, Jan. 25 and Thursday, Feb. 22, 7 pm, Barrington Library. At our January meeting, our guest speaker will be Mike Martinez, Group Editor, Northwest Group, Pioneer Press, and Managing Editor, Lake Zurich Courier. We know this will be a fascinating conversation about how local news is covered in weekly papers. Great opportunity to ask about submitting press releases, calling in leads, writing letters to the editor, how calendar items are handled and much more.

We all hope your holidays were lovely, and that the coming New Year will be peaceful and prosperous.

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