

Subject: [DPNeBlast] DPN eBlasts return; Chay to be nominated for Trustee; Date Change for Road Crew; CN Updates
Date: Friday, May 15, 2009 5:59 PM
From: Deborah Barry, Secretary <deborah.barry@deerparkneighbors.com>
Reply-To: deborah.barry@deerparkneighbors.com
To: "dpneblast@deerparkneighbors.com" <DPNeBlast@deerparkneighbors.com>
Conversation: DPN eBlasts return; Chay to be nominated for Trustee; Date Change for Road Crew; CN Updates

host_name

Greetings, Neighbors

DATELINE: DEER PARK FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009

We know you've been missing your Deer Park Neighbors' eBlasts, but we're back online! Your Press Secretary has been "out of the office," having a new knee installed, which explains the hiatus since our last eBlast. For those of you who maintain that Deborah doesn't have a leg to stand on, now she does. Please accept our thanks for the many messages of good wishes.

Openness and inclusiveness has been the watchword of the Kellermann slate. If that's true, then some of the responsibility for change in the village is on your shoulders, as well. Your emails and your greatly increased traffic to our web site demonstrate that village residents are not apathetic, as past administrations believed. By a margin of almost 2 to 1, you made it clear that you want the Village of Deer Park to head in a new direction, and yes, that means away from Vehe and toward programs and services that benefit the entire village, not just one group.

The Kellermann slate let you know what their direction will be, providing proactive goals and solutions in their "100 days" document.

deerparkneighbors.com/sources/2009_Election/Candidates/KellermannSlate_1st100days.pdf

(See below for some comments from Bob Kellermann.)

**MONDAY, MAY 18, 6PM, THE BARN, MEET-AND-GREET YOUR NEW BOARD
FOLLOWED AT 7PM, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Here's a terrific idea, to use our community center as a—well—community center! Immediately following will be the Board of Trustees meeting, at 7pm.

Even in this very small town, we have the privilege of witnessing the peaceful transition of power from one administration to the next, as our newly elected officials—Bob Kellermann, Keith Olson, Dale Sands and Joyce Trost-Beattie—are sworn in at this meeting. Please bring the whole family; what better way to teach them that democracy does, indeed, begin at home. Remember, you are free to come and go (quietly) throughout village meetings. Once again this month, the entire agenda packet has been posted online. Read it at the far right of the Village's home page or here:

http://deerparkneighbors.com/sources/VODPsources/2009_05-18_BOT_AgendaPacket.pdf

WILL THE BOARD APPROVE KELLERMANN'S NOMINEE?

Richard Chay will be nominated to fill the trustee seat vacated by Kellermann's election to the presidency. Richard is well known to many of you who met him in his extensive door-to-door campaign for Trustee in the 2007 campaign. He has also served as the volunteer videographer of Deer Park public meetings for years. Richard has been in attendance at all but a handful of public meetings in the last four years. Richard is a nationally known marketing expert who, since his retirement a couple of years ago, has become a very much in-demand consultant. Deer Park Neighbors has long maintained (as did Richard during his campaign) that this Village needs to focus resources on marketing Deer Park as a destination for shopping and entertainment and to attract the best businesses to locate here. (Why didn't Deer Park pitch to get Sunset Foods to locate here instead of Long Grove?)

Will the board provide the three votes needed to ratify Bob's choice for trustee? DPN is asking them to do just that. The board should ratify Kellermann's choice because of the mandate the recent election provided. To do otherwise would be petty, partisan and counter-productive—causing even more ill will among residents.

Going forward, we will be watching Trustees Maureen Pratscher and Dave Kizior, asking them to give President Kellermann the same unalloyed support they always gave to President Gifford. And where will Joyce Trost-Beattie's alliances be made? Will the new board all work cooperatively and with an open mind, putting aside stylist differences to get this village back on track?

DPN ROAD CREW CHANGE OF DATE

Due to very wet ground and our desire to avoid any slips and fall, we are moving

back the Long Grove Road Crew to Sat., May 30, 10am. We've told you how much fun we all have, and how "taking ownership" of a small part of Deer Park will alter your perceptions. RSVP to info@deerparkneighbors.com <<mailto:info@deerparkneighbors.com>> or call 847-867-1867, to ensure that we have safety vests for everyone.

AN APOLOGY

Just before leaving town, our Press Secretary was updating the DPN web site. Due to a technical error, the sponsorship ad for Behrens Landscaping was inadvertently deleted. It is now back in its rightful place, and we ask Mike Behrens to forgive our error. Mike was the first-ever business supporter of DPN; what's far more important, Mike makes it a point to attend most Deer Park open meetings. He sets a great example for the business people in this village. Their interests are the village's interests, and vice versa. So, as the weather continues to improve, please give your support to Behrens Landscaping, whose services include: Weekly Landscape Maintenance, Spring/Fall Yard Cleanups, Tree/Shrub Trimming, Tree/Shrub Removal, Stump Removal, Brush Cleaning, Removal of Debris, Grading (Rough and Final), Sod Removal & Installation, Seeding / Overseeding, Drainage Solutions, Mulch Installation, Plant Material Installation, Stone & Brick Work, Retaining Walls, Timbers Installed. Free Timely Estimates. 847-358-4010, <http://behrenslandscape.com>

Also see Behrens' calculator for how much landscape materials you will need: <http://behrenslandscape.com/pages/bulk.php> <<http://behrenslandscape.com/pages/bulk.php>>

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY MAY 17, 2009, noon-3pm, OPEN HOUSE AT VEHE BARN

We know nothing more about this event than that a PDF is linked from the Village web site's front page. What is the purpose of this open house? Were invitations sent out to anyone? Who is paying the expenses for this open house? Is it a fund-raiser? We've been away, so please, do provide any information you may have:

<http://www.village.deer-park.il.us/default.htm>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

The Lake Zurich High School Spring Concert on May 20, featuring performances by the school's Concert Choir, will be recorded for broadcast May 30, beginning at 11am, on WFMT (98.7FM), then rebroadcast on WFMT on June 4, at 10pm and online at

www.sfmtintroductions.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 5:30-7:30PM, MEL EIDE FIELD, LAKE ZURICH HIGH SCHOOL, 300 CHURCH STREET.

Attend the District 95 Faculty Football game and band concert. Tickets are only \$10 each with children under age 6 free. Every ticket sold will be entered into a prize raffle. Proceeds from the game and band concert will go to the "Kids Win!" campaign to help fund important programs that are in danger of being cut by the school district. In case of inclement weather, the football game and concert would be re-scheduled for Sunday, May 31.

www.lzflames.org

IN THE NEWS

Pioneer Press, 5/15/09 "Over the past year, Deer Park's Vehe Barn has lost about \$37,000 dollars, according to village documents. A village document dated May 12 listed expenditures and revenues from the Barn in the 12 months preceding April 30. Expenditures were about \$52,000, with revenues being about \$15,000. All revenues were from rentals of the barn."

<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/lakezurich/news/1575997,lake-zurich-barnloss-051509-s1.article>

To us, it is simply amazing that after close to 4 million dollars, "it's just a Village hall," according to President Gifford. We already had a village hall--the farmhouse--and the current design of the Barn does NOT include any offices—although the Kellermann administration plans to change that. What's more, Deer Park Neighbors does not see anything like a genuine marketing plan; the \$6,000 budgeted last year for advertising was not all spent, as far as we can determine. It's time for straight talk about Vehe, for the Foundation to take responsibility for its own funding, and for the Village to move beyond what has doubtless been the most contentious issue ever in this Village. While the resistance to the Deer Park Town Center was significant, at least in its realization, the village's bottom line has benefited. Not so with the Barn.

Chicago Tribune, 5/13/09 "The Canadian National Railway failed to disclose all the excessive delays and accidents that occurred earlier this year at its suburban grade crossings, a coalition of towns has charged. The Regional Answer to Canadian National (TRAC) said the railroad did not account for numerous incidents in an April 10 report required by federal regulators. The next report is due Monday. (See additional updates on CN following later in this eBlast.)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-cn-delays-submay13,0,5815632.story>

Daily Herald, 5/4/09: "Lobbyist filed new registrations this quarter on behalf of major metropolitan areas such as Cook County, Ill., St. Louis and Seattle. But they also went to bat for scores of small towns as well. For instance, the village of Deer Park, Ill., with a population of 3,200 and a budget of about \$3.5 million, hired a lobbying firm to help it get money for road and drainage projects."

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=290997>

CONVERSATION WITH BOB KELLERMANN

We contacted the President Elect Bob Kellermann (bobkellermann@sbcglobal.net) to ask about his plans for transition. He welcomes your suggestions and requests, but reminds us that no actions can be taken until the swearing in at the next village meeting, Monday, 5/18/09.

He hopes that residents will make village meetings a regular part of their calendar. That's why he's holding a social hour at 6pm Monday, before the Board meeting, to have time to talk with his constituents. Under new leadership, village meetings will be more inclusive, less intimidating. "I think everybody should have an opportunity to speak at the board meeting," says Bob. "Of course, if four or five people are interested in the same matter, it will save time if one speaks for that group. But yes, turn out and express your feelings." At that meeting, Bob will also announce the next Public Forum, which he says will be of general interest.

As to the "First 100 days" document, Bob points out how serious this document is to him. "We are going to do everything within our power to accomplish the whole list. But we are held back because we can't do anything until 5/18, so let's start the clock on those first 100 days at the May meeting."

We also asked Bob how he felt about the reform unfurled at the April meeting, the issuance of a consolidated, complete agenda packet online. "It's great, that's fully transparent, that's what we have been talking about."

NEW VENDOR POLICY PUBLISHED BY VILLAGE

http://deerparkneighbors/sources/VODPsources/2009-04_Purchasing.pdf

NEWSLETTER FROM MELISSA BEAN

This issue touches on Stimulus funds, drinking water and other interesting updates.

<http://bean.congressnewsletter.net/mail/util.cfm?gpiv=2100039239.79463.802&gen=1>

MONDAY NIGHTS AT CARIBOU

Beginning Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, Deer Park Neighbors will return to our Monday Nights at Caribou. This is a great opportunity for casual conversations, catching up with news from your neighborhood and the actions of our Village Board. Come and go, 8-10pm, and don't forget the latest offer from Caribou: \$1 OFF their "Wild Coolers."

http://deerparkneighbors.com/adart/caribou_WildCoolers.pdf

LAKE COUNTY TAX BILLS

You should have received your Property Tax bill in the mail. Property owners who DO NOT receive a bill by May 16, or those looking for payment options, can obtain this information at the Treasurer's office. If you think there is an error on your tax bill, you can talk to your local township assessor to be sure that a factual error has not occurred. By law, only factual errors can be corrected once the bills go out:

PHONE: 847-377-2323, www.lakecountyl.gov/Treasurer

Please remember that none of the current property tax you pay accrues to the village; in other words, you'll have to do your moaning and groaning elsewhere.

During the recent campaign, both slates tried to make an issue of property taxes. It's a meaningless talking point, because no property tax can be imposed by this village without your assent in a referendum. Instead, it's past time for this village to take a leadership position on business development and attracting more customers to our stores, because that is where our income derives, from sales tax.

SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR

BirdieTracker strives to be the only stop for any golfer looking to keep track of your golf scores and calculate handicaps. They offer complete golf handicap tracking with a handicap index identical to the one used by the USGA, but free of cost. 100% free! Virtually Unlimited Score History (most sites limit you to your last 20). An ever-growing golf course database, searchable by all members. The ability to leave and read comments from other members about courses.

<http://www.birdietracker.com/>

We'd be happy to promote YOUR business as well; see our "sponsor" page for very low prices to reach such a choice audience as you are!

FROM OUR OWN RITA FINLEY--STAYING ON TRACK WITH CN

As you know, we're just a couple months into the 5 YEAR Surface Transportation Board oversight period. It is CRITICAL that we continue to report any incidences we encounter with the trains as CN is underreporting problems. The latest STB report was just issued- see article below and also efforts to influence Obama's pick of the vacant STB seat:

<http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2009/05/april-report-eje-crossings-blocked-14-times.html>

For reference, CN failed to report at least 17 significant street blockages in their March report! Please read the comment at the end of the first article by "Brian"- as he points out some important issues with this transaction:

<http://www.chicagobusiness.com/cgi-bin/news.pl?id=33989&seenIt=1>

<http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-08-2009/0005022485&EDATE>

<http://www.progressiverailroading.com/news/article.asp?id=20379>

Naturally, CN denies wrongdoing in reporting (How can you miss a brush fire?) Contributing to the underreporting may be inadequate STB guidelines and CN's motivation to report the minimum: CN claims that STB guidelines require them to only report delays caused at crossings blocked by stopped trains and only trains stopped for 10+ minutes. So if CN has a train that blocks traffic, including an ambulance or other emergency responder, for 10 minutes they don't have to report it if their train never stalls? What do you think of that??

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=292398>

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/beaconnews/news/1566600,2_1_AU10_EJE_S1.article

You've heard of Hunter Harrison, CN's current CEO and alleged mastermind of the EJ&E acquisition. Well, he will be riding off into the sunset after this year as CN has a mandatory retirement of 65. This article speaks of his replacement effective January 1:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-wed-cn-harrison-apr22,0,5416700.story>

The bottom line is it is critical to keep reporting any impact or problems you are experiencing with the increased train traffic! The TRUTH must be known. Please

add this link to your “favorites” in your browser for easy access; it takes seconds to complete:

<http://www.fightrailcongestion.com/form.html>

Our efforts to-date have made a difference! Please advise of any questions. Thank you- Rita Finley, fn5@comcast.net

FROM FIGHT RAIL CONGESTION (TRAC)

TRAC is focused on the necessity of filling the third STB Board seat that has been vacant since March. Getting this seat filled by President Obama is a major goal as the vacancy is impacting the region's interests on three fronts. First, the Illinois Commerce Commission currently has an appeal on file with the STB on a provision of the decision approving CN's acquisition of the EJ. Without a third Board member in place, the STB is not likely to rule on that appeal. That, in turn, impacts TRAC's legal appeal of the STB decision approving the transaction before the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. The Court has ruled that it will hold off on any further action on our appeal until the STB has ruled on the appeal matter before it.

Essentially, the vacant Board seat may be holding TRAC and the region in legal limbo and we are greatly concerned that "justice delayed, is justice denied." Finally, we have asked the STB to appoint an independent monitor to audit the problems CN's traffic is causing on the EJ as it has failed to come clean with the whole truth. Absent the third Board member to weigh in on the matter, CN's under-reporting of problems continues unchecked (as evidenced with the latest CN report that was filed with the STB earlier this week.)

So, concerned members of the Illinois Legislature have weighed in on TRAC's behalf with the hope that Washington is listening. Yesterday, state legislators and area mayors held a press conference in Springfield to highlight a Senate resolution – S.R. 273 – that urges President Obama to fill the vacancy on the Surface Transportation Board quickly with an appointee who understands community impact concerns and the necessity of mitigating the impacts of integrating rail freight into communities. Further, it informs the President that the State of Illinois, including the Department of Transportation, will show preference in the programming of railroad funds and rail-to-road grade separation project funds to projects where the federal Surface Transportation Board has ordered a private entity to partially fund improvements necessary to mitigate impacts at significantly affected grade crossings. This latter part of the resolution means that the Illinois legislature is trying to insure that CN will not be relieved of its STB-mandated obligation to pay for a large part of the

costs for the grade separation projects in Aurora and Lynwood due to a failure to secure the public funding match.

S.R. 273 is sponsored by Senators Linda Holmes (D-Aurora), Pam Althoff (R-Crystal Lake) and Randy Hultgren (R-Naperville). Also supporting the resolution are State Representatives Linda Chapa LaVia (D-Aurora), Chris Lauzen (R-Aurora), Darlene Senger (R-Naperville), Mike Connelly (R-Naperville), and House Republican Leader Tom Cross of Oswego. State Senator Dan Duffy (R-Barrington) was also in attendance.

What can you do to help out at this point? Contact President Obama's office and ask that his team move rapidly to appoint a community-oriented Board member at the STB! You can contact President Obama's office by e-mail at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/> <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>> . We need to get the wheels of government grinding in the favor of communities that are left with the onerous burden of living with freight traffic without anyone making the needed investment to mitigate the harms! REMEMBER, IT WAS YOUR EFFORTS TO REGISTER THESE EVENTS AS THEY OCCURRED THAT ENABLED TRAC TO KEEP CN'S FEET TO THE FIRE. So, make sure you don't slack off in reporting all problems that you witness. Let your friends and family know about this handy tool as well – just click on the "Register Rail Complaint" button on the upper left-hand corner of the home page: <http://fightrailcongestion.com> <<http://fightrailcongestion.com>> You will be linked to an auto-form that can be filled out and submitted quickly.

NEED HELP? CAN HELP?

CommunityPoint is a comprehensive guide to the community resources in your local area, in partnership with United Way of Lake County, Hospira, Healthy Lake County and Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County. To learn more about local resources and to add your services to this resource guide, visit:
<http://www.findhelplakecounty.org>

BACOA's Age-Friendly Initiative is currently conducting an online survey on volunteerism in the Barrington area. You can take the survey, which will remain open until May 20, here:
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=OuagdtZDojjVIRVMGllmKw_3d_3d)
[sm=OuagdtZDojjVIRVMGllmKw_3d_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=OuagdtZDojjVIRVMGllmKw_3d_3d) <[file://localhost/s.aspx](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=OuagdtZDojjVIRVMGllmKw_3d_3d)>

No matter the season, no matter the weather, no matter who is sitting at the Board of Director's table... ***TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER! See you all Monday evening.***

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Deborah Barry, Secretary | Al Barry, President
847-867-1867 <http://deerparkneighbors.com>
Deer Park Neighbors, 412 Bramble Lane, Deer Park, IL 60010

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