

TO: DEER PARK VILLAGE BOARD
FROM: PAT WINKELMAN/VEHE FARM FOUNDATION
SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS
DATE: DECEMBER 2008

Public Relations and Partnerships

The Vehe Farm Foundation is now a member of the Lake-McHenry Historical Alliance, which includes 31 member historical/museum organizations. As a member, the Foundation will continue to raise awareness of the Vehe Farm's educational, recreational, and historical value to the broader community.

Citizens for Conservation donated a quantity of seed to Vehe Farm, which the Foundation and other volunteers sowed in the prairie last month. Foundation members continue ongoing prairie restoration/maintenance efforts on Saturday afternoons. Work continues to expand beyond the 12:00 to 2:00 periods.

The National Forum on Children and Nature chose Chicago Wilderness, of which Deer Park is a member, as a national model regarding their vision to integrate nature and children. Please see attached.

The Foundation's website www.vehefarmfoundation.org continues to be updated and expanded. Watch for the exciting news to be posted regarding the new Leave No Child Inside website serving greater Barrington, Deer Park, and Lake Zurich. This website will be a one-stop shop location for Leave No Child Inside information and activities for parents and children in the northwest suburbs.

During November in the Barrington Area Library, the Foundation installed a number of displays focusing on the Vehe Farm municipal center, the farm's amenities and the Vehe Farm Foundation's *Leave No Child Inside* tri-community initiative. Library personnel stated they were a huge hit with local children and parents.

Community Service and Education Programs

On November 21, Vehe Farm hosted approximately 50 first and fourth graders. The Foundation gave an educational presentation regarding the farm history and farm's wildlife habitats. The children participated in a hands-on activity that they were able to take back to school, and ended their day sowing the seeds that were collected at CFC's properties. Carol Hogan, a CFC member, assisted the children during the sowing process. Teri Bridge spent approximately 20 hours of her time developing the curriculum and activity. Pat Winkelman took time off from her job and taught the class. Teachers and students were quite pleased with the days' events and look forward to holding future field trips at Vehe Farm! The teacher's comments included that Vehe Farm offers many types of habitats in one location, such as the wetland area, oak savanna, dry prairie, and the butterfly garden.

Barrington Area Educational Foundation—Preliminary Proposal for Collaborative Project Between District 220 and Vehe Farm. Please see attached document.

The Foundation and local organizations continues to map and develop the *Leave No Child Inside* initiative for Deer Park, greater Barrington, and Lake Zurich. The initiative has grown to include all of District 220, not just the Barrington area.

The IDNR trunk-lending program at Vehe Farm continues to provide a wonderful addition to local school and home school curriculums. They are also bringing additional teachers, parents, and their children to the farm.

Eagle Scout Projects at Vehe Farm

Thank you to all who supported Greg Frech's Eagle Scout fundraisers at Deer Park's Jamba Juice and at Moe's Southwest Grill. Greg is well on his way to raising funds to cover the materials needed for the prairie path animal footprint stands.

Daniel Guarnieri is making good progress on his Eagle Scout project. Daniel has met with a member of the Long Grove Historical Society and they are working together to determine the names and uses of all the farm tools. The Foundation is quite impressed with Daniel's newfound knowledge in naming some of the artifacts at his most recent visits.

Jonathon Coath has also made progress on his Eagle Scout project. Jonathon is in contact with a sleigh company in Wisconsin who is willing to help with the sleigh restoration design.

If you would like to make a contribution towards any of the Eagle Scout projects, please let me know.