

Monday, October 12, 2009 | [Make nwherald.com your home page](#)

# NORTHWEST HERALD

LOCAL NEWS AND VIDEO FOR MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**WEATHER**  
Right Now  
Overcast  
42.0°  
VIDEO: Forecast | CBS 2 Radar



mchenrycounty  
**personals**  
all local. all fun.  
The new, fun way to meet singles!

HOME NEWS SPORTS BUSINESS OPINION LIFESTYLE MULTIMEDIA PHOTO STORE

YAHOO! HOTJOBS | WHEELS | REAL ESTATE | CLASSIFIED

Site Web Search Web Search by YAHOO!

Personals | Coupons | PlanIt Northwest | Local Business Directory

www.itactty.org  
It's Easy to Call Deaf People on the Telephone.  
Using Illinois Relay is Free, Easy and Confidential  
DIAL 711 ILLINOIS RELAY

Created: Monday, March 5, 2007 12:00 a.m. CDT

FONT SIZE: + -

## Proposal to split land, sell parcel worries some

By REGAN FOSTER - rfooster@nwherald.com

CRYSTAL LAKE – The historic farmhouse on the corner of South Oak Street and Dole Avenue sits on just over a half-acre of land, almost half of which is a yard.

The property is believed to have been in existence since the city was first incorporated, information released by the city shows, and likely was once a large farmstead. The neighborhood that surrounds it is an eclectic mix of older homes and old-growth trees, accessible to downtown and comfortable for residents.

But a proposal put before the City Council on Tuesday could add one more house to the mix and has stirred up some controversy among neighbors in the usually quaint neighborhood.

Dr. Phillip Neal, the owner of the home and property at 122 Dole Ave., hopes to divide his property, keep the house as it is, and sell the second parcel as a vacant, buildable lot. Neal could not be reached for comment for this story, but his attorney, Joseph Gottemoller, said the new home would fit in with the neighborhood.

"If you look up and down that neighborhood, you will find that the homes range from roughly 20 years ago to 100 years ago," Gottemoller said. "We will do our best to fit into the character of the neighborhood, yes."

But one neighbor worried that adding a new home to an established neighborhood would disturb the area's feel.

"The joy of Dole [Avenue] and Oak and Grove [streets] is older homes set like we are on a double lot," said Joanna Ladd, who lives across the street from the lot. "All you have to do is drive up and down Oak and see the types of homes that are here and realize it's going to be a newer home in an older community."

Neal took the proposal before the city Planning and Zoning Commission in January then again Feb. 7, asking for permission to subdivide the lot and zone the second lot with a shorter setback than neighboring homes.

The commission voted, 6-2, to recommend that the council deny the request, even though the property meets city zoning requirements. For the commission recommendation to be overturned, five council members would have to vote in Neal's favor.

The council this week heard the petition and agreed to continue the situation for a month to accommodate engineering studies to look at the effect on the watershed. It is expected to come before the board again March 20.

E-mail this story  
Print this story  
Share

TextAlerts  
from the Northwest Herald  
Up-to-date news, weather, scores & more sent right to your phone!  
BCU

### NWHERALD.COM MULTIMEDIA

Biggest Loser Fastest 4 Minutes CL South 41, Huntley 0

GOLDEN EAGLE COMMUNITY BANK  
FLU SHOTS  
October 10, 2009 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Cost: \$24.99

**Land O'lakes Jobs**  
\$30/Hour Work From Home Jobs.View Home Jobs Now! Computer Required.  
National-News

**Find Psychotherapists at Psychologytoday**  
Looking for a psychotherapist in Crystal Lake Illinois?  
psychologytoday.com

**Crystal Lake Jobs - (Hiring Now)**  
View Local Jobs in Seconds. Find Jobs in Crystal Lake, FL.  
www.iJ-o-b.com

Ads by Yahoo!

It's Easy to Call Deaf People on the Telephone.  
DIAL 711 ILLINOIS RELAY  
Using Illinois Relay is Free, Easy and Confidential  
www.itactty.org

### READER POLL

Have you attended a soldier homecoming?

- yes
- no

Show results



Copyright © 2009 Northwest Herald. All rights reserved.  
Published in Crystal Lake, Illinois, USA, by Shaw Suburban Media.

[About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Submit News](#) | [Subscriber Services](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Place a Classified Ad](#) | [Feedback](#) | [RSS](#)  
[Privacy Policy](#) | [Editorial Principles](#) | [Newspapers in Education](#) | [Jobs at Northwest Herald](#) | [Shaw Suburban Media](#)