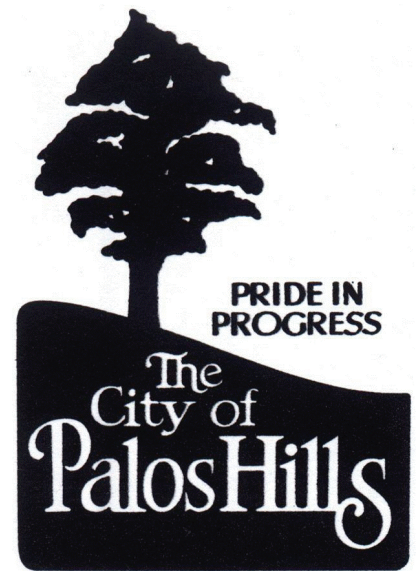


City of Palos Hills

50th Anniversary

October 25, 2008



In Recognition of the 50th Anniversary Of Incorporation

On October 25th the City of Palos Hills will celebrate its 50th year of incorporation. As Mayor of the City of Palos Hills for the past 28 years, I am honored and proud to be part of our Pride and Progress.

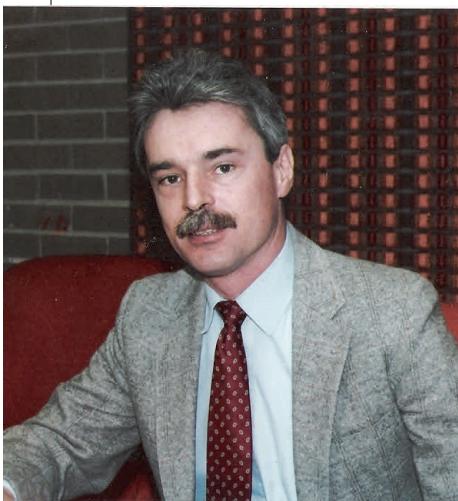
The 50 year history of the City is really about all the people who made our town their choice destination – worked hard, raised families, and retired – right here in town. I would like to recognize the businesses who chose our community to locate and especially to those who have been around since almost the beginning and I would like to thank the employees who have worked hard over the years in contributing to its success.

Like any community the root and soul of its citizens have centered on many religious denominations. Your religious affiliations and participation in various civic, service, school and athletic associations have played an integral part in our City becoming what it is today. Your involvement and volunteerism has added to the quality of life in our town.

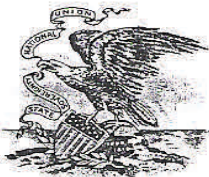
A combined effort over the years has helped make the City of Palos Hills the Pride of the southwest suburbs. It has been your investment, your cooperation and your pride in your town, which makes this 50th Anniversary celebration a benchmark in the continued success of our City.

Thank you for giving me the honor and privilege to serve you over the years and I look forward to making Palos Hills an even better place to live in the future.

Sincerely,
Gerald R. Bennett
Mayor



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE



To all to whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

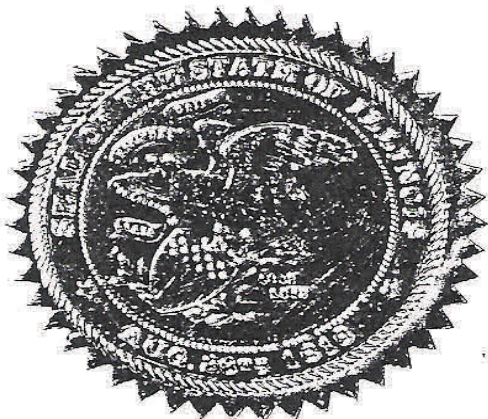
Whereas, a certified copy of the record of the proceedings of the
County Court of the County of
Cook duly authenticated, in the matter of the organization
and incorporation, on the 26th day of January
A. D. 1959 of the City of Palos Hills
in the County of Cook and State, aforesaid, has
been filed in the office of the Secretary of State, on the 25th
day of February A. D. 19 59, under and in accordance
with the provisions of "An Act concerning cities, villages, and incorporated
towns, and to repeal certain Acts, herein named." Approved August
15, 1941. Effective January 1, 1942, and all acts amendatory thereof, and

Whereas, it appears from the recitals in said record, that the
provisions of the said acts have been duly complied with.

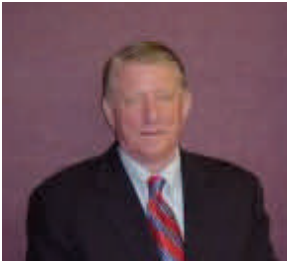
Now, Therefore, I, CHARLES F. CARPENTIER, Secretary of State of the
State of Illinois, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by law,
do hereby certify that the said Palos Hills
of Cook County is a legally organized and incorporated
City under the laws of this State.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereto set my hand and
the Great Seal of the State of Illinois. Done at the Capitol
in the City of Springfield, this the 25th
day of February A. D. nineteen
hundred and fifty-nine and of the
Independence of the United States the one hundred and
eighty-third

Charles F. Carpentier
SECRETARY OF STATE



City Council 2008



Rudy Mulderink
City Clerk
Elected 1985



Gerald R. Bennett
Mayor
Elected 1981



Kenneth J. Nolan
Treasurer
Elected 1977



1st Ward
Joan Knox
Elected 2001



1st Ward
Marty Kleefisch
Elected 1988



2nd Ward
Pauline A. Stratton
Elected 1987



2nd Ward
Mark Brachman
Appointed 2006
Elected 2007



3rd Ward
A.J. Pasek
Elected 1993



3rd Ward
William Hanson
Elected 2007



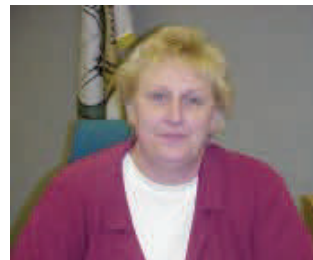
4th Ward
Ricky Moore
Appointed 2000
Elected 2001



4th Ward
Joe Marrotta
Elected 2007



5th Ward
Frank Williams
Appointed 1996
Elected 1997



5th Ward
Mary Ann Schultz
Elected 2001

*Congratulations
Palos Hills
on your
Bi-Centennial Anniversary*

*Congratulations
to the
City of Palos Hills
on 50 Amazing Years*

I have seen many positive changes take place in the City since I have been a resident for over 30 years. It has been an honor, a privilege and a pleasure to be part of those changes. As an Alderman in the 5th Ward, I am looking forward to many more positive changes in the future. My thanks go out to the residents of the City of Palos Hills and my constituents of the 5th Ward, for allowing me this opportunity to be their voice on the council, as they are the ones who make our slogan possible. "Pride in Progress".

I am honored to be a resident of a City that has demonstrated growth, fiscal responsibility, and effective government!

I thank all the residents for their help and continued support.

*Happy 50th Anniversary
City of Palos Hills.*

*Ken Nolan
City Treasurer*

Alderman Frank J. Williams



*Best Wishes
on your
50th Anniversary
City of Palos Hills*

*In Recognition
of the
City of Palos Hills
50th Anniversary*

As a resident and elected official I am honored and privileged to be part of a City rich in tradition. May the next 50 years prove to be as successful as the last.

On this our 50th anniversary, I want to extend my congratulations to all of the residents, businesses, churches, schools, service organizations, city employees and city officials (past and present) who have helped to make Palos Hills such a wonderful community.

*Alderman Pauline Stratton
2nd Ward*

*Congratulations,
Alderman Marty Kleefisch*

*Happy Anniversary to
The City of Palos Hills*

*There are many people to attribute to
Palos Hills success, including the
Residents, Businesses, Service, Civic and
Athletic Organizations, the Mayor and our
counterparts on the City Council. It is an
honor and a privilege to serve as
Aldermen in this wonderful community.
Congratulations!*

*Aldermen
Ricky Moore & Joe Marrotta*

*Happy Anniversary
To the Residents and
City of Palos Hills*

*Looking to a bright &
successful future
See you there!*

*3rd Ward Alderman
AJ Pasek*

*Congratulations
to the
City of Palos Hills*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has played
a part in the progress of Palos Hills.
The growth and success we have seen over the past 50 years is largely dependent on the
contributions of the residents, a capable and committed business community
and a strong government.*

Congratulations and Best Wishes for a Future as Prosperous as your Past.

Alderman Mary Ann Schultz - 5th Ward

Congratulations!


50
YEARS
OF PROGRESS

3rd Ward Alderman Bill Hanson & Family

Congratulations

*The city of Palos Hills has only gotten
better with the passage of time.
Congratulations to our residents, past and
present, on 50 wonderful years!*

*Alderman Joan Knox
1st Ward*

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CITY OF PALOS HILLS
FIFTY YEARS OF DEDICATION TO
THE COMMUNITY
FIFTY YEARS OF
COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Alderman Mark Brachman
2nd Ward

*Congratulations
to the City of Palos Hills,
Mayor Gerald Bennett
and
Members of the City Council
For 50 Years
A Job Well Done*

George Pappas
Attorney at Law
Three First National Plaza, Suite 3700
Chicago, IL 60602

PALOS HILLS DEMOGRAPHICS

Taken from Census Information 2000

Census Results:	17,655 – 2000	17,803 – 1990	16,654 – 1980
Races in Palos Hills:	White Non-Hispanic (84.3 %) Hispanic (4.8 %) Other race (1.6 %) Asian Indian (0.7 %)	Black (5.5%) Two or more races (3.0 %) Filipino (0.7 %) Korean (0.5 %)	
Ancestries:	Irish (19.2 %) German (16.3 %) Greek (6.5 %)	Polish (19.0 %) Italian (10.6 %) English (4.6 %)	
Median Household Income: \$55,800 (2005)	Land area: 4.17 miles	Population density: 4138 people per square mile	
Single Family new house average cost:	1996 - \$78,400 1997 - \$146,700 1998 - \$140,800	2000 - \$195,400 2001 - \$153,600 2002 - \$190,000	2003 - \$138,600 2004 - \$213,900 2005 - \$187,500 2006 - \$223,300 2007 - \$309,700

History of the Census - 1950

Census Day was April 1, 1950.

Enumeration -The 1950 census encompassed the continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, American Samoa, the Canal Zone, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and some of the smaller island territories.

Americans abroad were enumerated for the first time in 1950. Provisions were made to count members of the armed forces, crews of vessels, and employees of the United States government living in foreign countries, along with any members of their families also abroad. This enumeration was carried out through cooperative arrangements with the departments of Defense and State, the United States Maritime Administration and other federal agencies that took responsibility for distributing and collecting specially designed questionnaires.

Other persons living abroad were to be reported by their families or neighbors in the United States, but the quality of this data was considered to be poor and they were not included in the published statistics.

A new survey on residential financing was conducted as part of the 1950 census. In a separate operation, information was collected on a sample basis from owners of owner-occupied and rental properties and mortgage lenders.

The History of Palos Hills

Though the city of Palos Hills has existed some 50 years, the history of the Palos Hills area extends back through history to the time our country was inhabited by the Indians.

Indian artifacts dating back as far as 300 years ago were unearthed by archeologists on the site of what used to be the municipal building. An Indian cemetery was discovered just west of Kean Ave. near 108th St. some 100 years ago. And an area near the northwest corner of the Moraine Valley college campus, once fed by a spring, served as a watering place for Indians.

Historians record the fact that Father Marquette held a mass for the Indians residing in the area on the site of what is now Saint James of the Sag church, 107th St. and Archer Ave. A cemetery near the church served as a burying ground for many of the area's early pioneers.

French trappers were quick to inhabit the area after Marquette and Joliet had completed their exploratory trips. The traders exchanged goods with the local Indians and even managed to construct two small forts in the area near 107th and Kean and close to the site of the municipal building. Though the exact dates of the construction of the forts is not known, it is believed by some that they were constructed at the beginning of the French and Indian war. (The small cast iron cannon balls were unearthed by road graders during road improvements on 103rd St. not too long ago.)

After the French and Indian war ended, the Palos Hills area was ceded to the British. However, the status of the area during this time is not clear.

In these early days, a portion of the area in the vicinity from 82nd Ave. and 99th St. to approximately 108th and Kean Ave. was a swamp, forming a natural drainage basin that emptied into Lake Michigan through Stony Creek and the Calumet. That condition was rectified later when the construction of the Cal-Sag channel in the 1920's caused the area to drain.

Though settlers arrived in Palos township, in what is now Palos Park in the 1830's pioneers did not begin to settle in the Palos Hills area until the Illinois-Michigan canal was constructed in 1839. Irish and German immigrants helped build the canal, and some purchased land in the area for farming. Early families settling in the area included the Sullivans, the Lucases, the McMahons, the Codys, and the Kelsos.

Trenton was the name of the township when it was first organized in 1850. It was soon discovered, though, that another township nearby was also named Trenton. Melanchan Powell, one of the earliest settlers and the first postmaster of the township, suggested the name Palos. The name Palos comes from Palos de Frontera, the port across the sea from whose harbor sailed the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria.

After the canal was opened and until the beginning of World War II, the area then referred to as "North Palos" consisted primarily of large farms. The village of Worth served the area as a trading center in the late 1800's and early 1900's. The first main street in the area was located from 107th to 103rd and Kean Ave. In the 1930's Rt.45 was built and 111th St. was extended to meet it.

The first non-farming building in the area was concentrated along the 111th St. and Kean Ave. roadways. And, according to some, the cemetery at 100th and Kean Ave. was the site of the original Sacred Heart Church.

The first subdivision was made in the Palos Hills area in 1923 when Robert Bartlett purchased the area bounded by 88th Ave., 103rd St., Kean Ave. and 95th St. However, the crippling effects of the depression hampered the growth of Bartlett's "Palos Hills subdivision," which contained only seven homes in 1929.

The construction of a Dodge aircraft plant in the early 1940's by the Chrysler Corp. on the site of what is now the Ford City Shopping Center attracted a large number of people to the then North Palos area. Other subdivisions were made in the area during the war years and some small lots in the area reportedly sold for as little as \$70.

Many of the people who worked at the Dodge aircraft plant during the war years were unable to build homes in the area. The severe housing shortage forced many people to reside in tents and other unorthodox structures.

Once the war ended, however, commercial home-building began in the area. And, the people from the area then known as the DeLugach subdivision (105th to 107th Sts. Between Roberts Rd. and 84th Ave.) even organized a volunteer fire department to serve the area.

The late forties and the fifties signaled the beginning of real growth in the area. In 1946 the first firehouse was built and Charles Morgan served as the first fire chief. In 1955 a new fire-house was built to serve the ever-growing area.

Schools too were built in the area. A brick addition was made to the tiny North Palos school in 1940 and the original Quin School was dedicated by School Dist. 117 in 1950. Oak Ridge School was built some nine years later. As the neighboring communities of Worth, Hickory Hills, and Bridgeview began to extend their boundaries further and further into the vicinity of Palos Hills, the need for some organization by area residents became apparent. Some 400 people began to shape the destiny of Palos Hills with the formation of a community association in 1957.

The North Palos Community Council (NPCC) was chartered by the state of Illinois as a not-for-profit organization in 1957. Earl Potter served as the first president of the fledgling organization, which soon mounted a battle against the village of Hickory Hills, one of the neighboring communities which had begun far-reaching road annexations into the area.

The NPCC retained the law firm of Louis Ancel and Assoc., experts in municipal law, to represent them. Though the organization lacked funds for the fight, Ancel agreed to do the legal work for a minimal fee and the council members held a number of fund-raising efforts to pay his bills.

Successful in their battle against Hickory Hills, the members of the community council thought their job was done. Very soon after the court decision against Hickory Hills, however, members of the council discovered that the village of Worth was interested in annexing a large part of the area.

INTRODUCING . . .

The City of Palos Hills

**Compelling Reasons
To Vote "Yes" in the
October 25 Referendum**

NORTH PALOS citizens registered as voters will go to the polls Saturday, Oct. 25, to vote on the vital issue: Shall we incorporate as the City of Palos Hills? Voting will take place from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Quin Public School, 103rd St. and Roberts Rd. Here in brief outline is why the North Palos Community Council is urging you to vote "Yes."

Sponsored by the

North Palos Community Council

THE INCORPORATION program for the City of Palos Hills is sponsored by the North Palos Community Council, a non-profit, non-political citizens' group organized in October, 1957, to promote the civic pride, public welfare and safety of the community.

Further details about the council's reasons for supporting the incorporation program may be obtained from the following persons.

1958-59 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Edward Earl Potter.....President
(8811 W. 102nd St.—GArden 2-3552)
Lewis P. Shaver.....Vice-President
(9800 S. Roberts Rd.—GArden 2-7058)
Dominic F. Perkowski.....Treasurer
(8700 W. 103rd St.—GArden 2-9488)
Mrs. Frederick C. Lohrens.....Secretary
(10220 S. 86th Ct.—GArden 2-3483)

TRUSTEES

Edward S. Griffith.....At Large
(8223 Gladys Lane—GArden 3-4236)
Elmer W. Claussen.....Southwest
(9027 W. 111th St.—Gibson 8-4309)
Merrill H. Bain.....Southeast
(10333 S. 74th Ave.—GArden 3-2220)
Maxwell D. Dunlap.....Northwest
(8200 Eleanor Ave.—GArden 3-6571)
Gerald J. Doody.....Northeast
(7920 W. 101st Pl.—GArden 3-6692)

INCORPORATION COMMITTEE

Carlton Ihde.....Chairman
(8932 W. 102nd St.—GArden 2-2428)
Edward Hail.....Secretary
(10925 Westwood Dr.—Gibson 8-1960)
Gerald Fardy.....Ismael Luna
8900 W. 98th Pl. 8225 W. 103rd St.
GArden 2-5459 GArden 3-2750
Mrs. Vernon L. Grund.....Joseph J. Straka
10455 Roberts Rd. 8951 W. 98th St.
GArden 5-2974 GArden 2-0201
Al Heller Sr. James W. Wilson
7357 W. 103rd St. 10953 Westwood Dr.
GArden 4-2620 Gibson 8-1962

The History of Palos Hills (continued)

It was then that the movement for incorporation began in earnest. Members of the community council voted 296 to 42 to begin the incorporation efforts. The required number of signatures were quickly collected on necessary incorporation petitions and the name Palos Hills, derived from the nearby Palos Hills Forest Preserve land, was chosen for the city.

Though the incorporation efforts were quickly organized and the required papers were taken to the county court by Carlton Ihde, who would later serve as the city's first mayor. Worth had beat the NPCC to the draw by filing its annexation petition shortly before the incorporation papers.

Another court battle began. After a fight over the validity of the Worth petition, then county judge Otto Kerner ruled that the Worth petition, lacked the required number of signatures and allowed the NPCC to schedule an incorporation referendum on Oct. 25, 1958.

Ben Warren, the owner of the Warren Turf Nursery, and his brother, Bob, led opposition to the proposed incorporation. But, in a close vote, the incorporation was approved by some 50 votes from almost 2,000 cast in the referendum.

Shortly after the incorporation of the city was approved, Palos Hills voters chose Carlton Ihde to serve as the city's first mayor. And, problems for the new administration were quick to crop up.

The proposed construction of a trucking terminal at 103rd and Harlem Ave. triggered another court battle. Even though the tract was a part of Bridgeview, a large number of people opposed its construction so near to the city. The membership of the NPCC voted to oppose the construction of the terminal and began efforts toward a court battle to challenge Bridgeview's original annexation of the tract. However, factions favoring the construction of the terminal created a fracas at the NPCC which eventually resulted in the dissolution of the council and the delegation of monies collected for road repairs in the city.

After the community council was dissolved, the North Palos Hills Civic Assn. (NPHCA) was formed. Allied with the Southfield Homeowners Assn., the NPHCA continued its efforts to prevent the construction of the terminal. However, the two organizations lost the final court battle against Bridgeview and the terminal was eventually built.

Carlton Ihde, the city's first mayor, served a two-year term and was elected to a four-year term, however, he died and John Jager was elected to fill the remaining two years of his term.

Jager failed in a re-election bid in 1965 and was succeeded as mayor by Charles Daciolas. After serving a four-year term Daciolas lost a bid for reelection to Thomas Bona.

Bona resigned after serving two years of his term and Edward Hail was chosen as acting mayor. While he was serving as acting mayor, the city's new municipal building was dedicated.

Hail went on to win a four-year term as mayor in the April 1973 election. However, some four months after the election, he resigned.

Alderman Leroy Roloff was appointed to act as the city's acting mayor. However, he lost a bid to fill the remainder of Hail's term to Leonard "Bud" Meyer, the city's next mayor, in the Jan. 26, 1974 special election. April 19, 1977 Meyer ran for reelection opposed by Claude Orton and an Independent candidate Gerald Bennett, Meyer won reelection.

In the early 1980's, Palos Hills began a new City Administration under the leadership of Gerald R. Bennett as Mayor. Mayor Bennett began his public service in 1979 by serving as alderman of the 2nd Ward. In 1981, at the age of 30, Alderman Bennett was elected to Mayor of the City. Besides the position of Mayor, Jerry Bennett is president of Bennett Dental Labs, Inc. located in Palos Hills.

As mayor, he has transformed the City of Palos Hills into a progressive community which seeks to unite all of Chicago's southwest suburban towns. Mayor Bennett has served as founder and President of the Southwest Conference of Mayors for the past 26 years, he is co-founder and Chairman of the Board of Southwest Central Dispatch (an intergovernmental police and fire 911 service) and he was elected Chairman of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and continues to serve on the Executive Board Committee. He has served as President of the Illinois Municipal League and is Chairman of the Board of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). Mayor Bennett currently is the co-chairman of the 2016 Olympics.

Many major improvements have been made since 1981 under Mayor Bennett, including new roadways, drainage, improved sidewalks, lighting projects as well as improvements to our thoroughfares and neighborhood streets.

The 80's also saw the addition of a municipal golf course at 7301 W. 105th St. and the creation of the Community Resource Department serving the needs of all age groups.

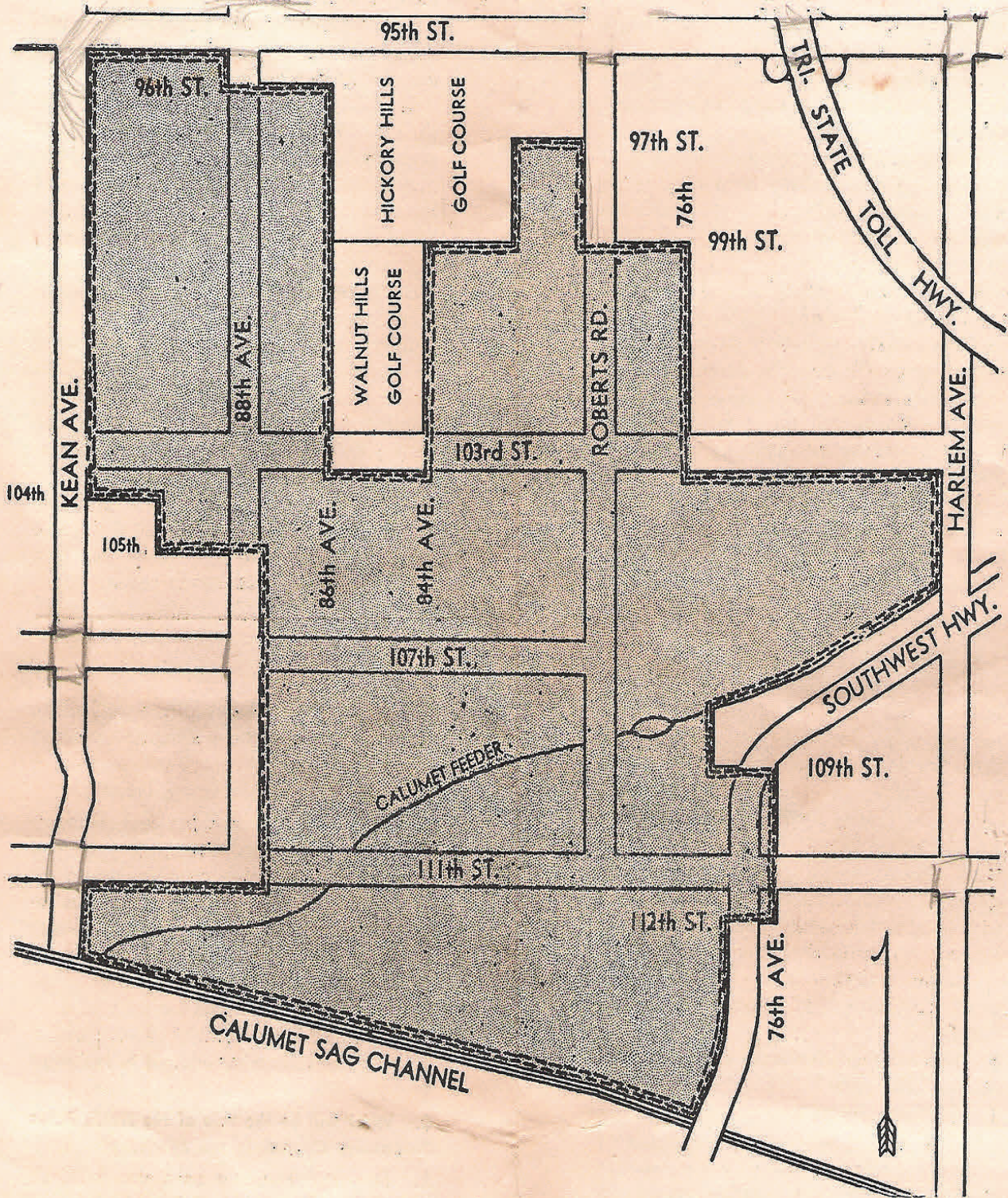
A new 8,000 square ft. City Hall at 10335 S. Roberts Road was dedicated in 1994. The new City hall houses the departments of Administration, Sewer & Water, Building and Licensing and Ordinance/Animal Control Officer. The site is the former Metrovision building. The old City Hall, 8555 W. 103rd St. will be converted to the new Police Department giving them a 3,500 square ft. building.

The City has seen major breakthroughs in the Police Department under Mayor Bennett. The Palos Hills Police Dept. has one officer in US Customs and one in the Drug Enforcement Agency, allowing the City to share asset seizures.

State Grant funds enabled the City to expand and renovate the Community Center at 8455 W. 103rd St. in 1999.

Also in 1999, Mayor Bennett and the City Council eliminated an annual \$15.00 vehicle-sticker.

PROPOSED CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PALOS HILLS



The shaded area in the map of the North Palos community above indicates the four-square-mile section designated in the petition to organize the City of Palos Hills. Citizens in adjoining, unincorporated areas would be invited to annex to the new city if they approve of the democratic, economical form of government proposed for Palos Hills.

The History of Palos Hills (continued)

The year 2002 saw a new Town Square Park built adjacent to the Community Center. The Town Square includes a gazebo for concerts, veterans memorial, a waterfall and children's play area.

On September 20, 2008 the City dedicated its newest park "Pleasure Lake" just off of 108th & Roberts Road. The park features a lake for fishing, walking trail and nature area. It is a wonderful tribute to dedicate this park to the people of Palos Hills.

More to come ... In the next 50 years...

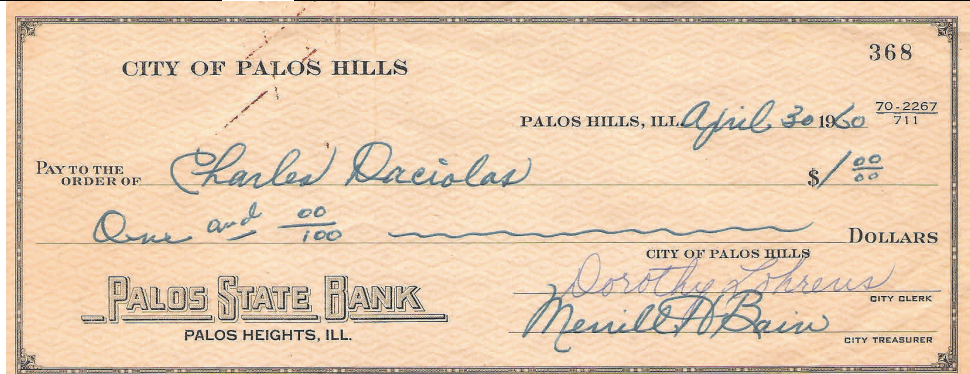
Former Mayor Charles Daciolas (1965-1969)

Charles Daciolas moved to the Palos Hills area before it was incorporated in 1953. Charles and his family lived in the same house at 10920 Westwood until the early 2000's. As soon as he moved to the area from Chicago; he became the President of the Southwest Homeowners Association. The first position that he took at the City of Palos Hills was

Police Magistrate, where he served until 1965. In 1965 he was elected the third mayor of Palos Hills where he served until 1969. During his term as Mayor of Palos Hills, Moraine Valley Community College was just breaking ground. After his term as Mayor, Charles became part of the first Palos Hills Police and Fire Commission. When Charles Daciolas was a Mayor the annual salary was \$1.



In 1960
the annual salary
for the
Mayor and
City Council Members
was One Dollar



Ronald Regan Visits Palos Hills

November 4, 1988 Ronald Reagan came to Palos Hills for a Republican Campaign Rally. President Reagan spoke in front of a packed auditorium at Moraine Valley Community College. At this rally Regan talked about the great times that he had in the past eight years in office and how qualified the Republican candidate George H. Bush was. In the introduction of his speech he talked about how nice the community of Palos Hills and the college were.



Town Square Gets Its Name

Article from the Reporter Newspaper 2002

Two weeks before construction was set to start, the town square in Palos Hills has a new name not very different than what the project has been called all along.

The Town Square is the official name for the new park to be built behind the Community Center 8455 W. 103rd St. The name was suggested by resident Alex Skolek, one of 55 residents who submitted a name in the contest to name the new park. Skolek's suggestion actually tied with two other choices, Memorial Park, proposed by Dick Pearson and Park in the Hills offered by Patricia Wienke. To break the tie Mayor Bennett drew the winning name from a hat.

The new park is part of the expanded community center. The \$1.2 million project nearly doubled the size of the center, from 8,000 square feet to 15,000 square feet.

The City of Palos Hills also celebrates its 20th Year as a "Tree City U.S.A"

The first of these yearly awards was received in 1988. This means that a city has an effective tree-care program that is an ongoing process of growth and a renewal program of planting and care that continues through the years. This year Palos Hills also received a Tree City Growth Award. The Tree City USA Growth Award is provided by The Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, to recognize environmental improvement and encourage higher levels of tree care throughout America. This award is designed not only to recognize achievement, but also to communicate new ideas and help the leaders of all Tree City USA plan for improving community tree care.

Last year only 523 Tree Cities earned the Growth Award, by completing activities to strengthen their local tree care programs.

Palos Hills Police Dept.

The Police Department has been around about as long as the City has been in existence, although what the Department was then would hardly be recognizable today. In those early years, the police Chief would receive a call for service at his home from the Oak Lawn Police. From there, either he or an officer would take their private vehicle to the scene of the crime. The private vehicle was later adorned with a magnetic sign with a police insignia when responding to calls for help.

Officers were part-time and mainly volunteer, receiving a stipend of \$1 per year. Subjects who were arrested or cited for a driving offense went before a "Justice of the Peace" until the later part of the 1960's when the Cook County Municipal Court system came about.

In the November 26th, 1972 edition of the Suburbanite Economist, it was reported that the City had decided to have a full-time police department, along with an appointed Police and Fire Commission. Police salaries ranged from a patrolman starting salary of \$9,180 and lieutenants receiving \$13,050 after their tenth year of service.

In May, 1973, five officers were sworn in as the first full-timers. They were supplemented by part-time officers as necessary to get the job done. The population of Palos Hills at this time was about 8,600 people.

As the City grew, so did the police department. In the year 1999, the police department became a totally full-time agency to service the citizens in a more professional fashion under the direction of Police Chief Paul Madigan, who has been serving as Chief of Police since 1993. In 1995, the police department remodeled and dedicated what is now the Palos Hills Police Department. City Hall had moved to its present location at 10335 S. Roberts Road.

The Palos Hills Police Department responds to over 1,500 calls for service each month, with 33 full-time commissioned officers, who are supported by Desk Officers, Secretarial Staff, and Community Service Officers. The department utilizes "State of the Art" vehicles, equipment, and training to serve the citizens of Palos Hills. Most of the modern improvements were paid for out of drug-seizure money or grants orchestrated and negotiated by the Chief.

Paul Madigan, Chief



K9 Dog Unit



Palos Hills ESDA (Emergency Services & Disaster Agency)

CIVIL DEFENSE ESDA (Emergency Services & Disaster Agency) EMA (Emergency Management Agency)..... a Locally operated volunteer group of people who are committed to the safety and education of the citizens of Palos Hills.

This organization has been around for many years with many different titles and leaders. Yet above all the mission has remained the same; to provide the community with a back up to the existing services provided by the government.

Under the current direction of Robert Ward, with supervision of the Palos Hills Police Department, the unit has been involved in many aspects of community service. From updating the Emergency Alert System with new sirens completely covering the city, Weather Spotters, a city Disaster Plan utilizing mutual aid of the surrounding communities and resources, to answering the emergency request from police, fire and Public Works to relieve them from traffic control duties as well as providing quick response to keep the community safe from localized emergencies. We have added a Bike Team consisting of trained Search and Rescue personnel.

Our department offers a resource for the city to provide an extra level of service to the community at no cost to the residents. Ours is a small group of dedicated people giving over 3,000 hours each year to help provide a greatly needed service to the community.

The city provides a budget to cover uniforms for the members. Our vehicles are resourced vehicles from the police department, with our communications van being a retrofitted bus purchased from Pace. We also have a 1978 Fire engine once servicing the community of Lemont, now being used for a lighting unit on accident scenes and other community events. This vehicle also provides a generator for emergency power as well as transporting equipment.

Palos Hills Golf Course

The Palos Hills Municipal Golf Course was opened on June 30, 1990, with a celebration and Open House held on June 23rd. The municipal golf course was designed by David Gill, and built by Bradlink Inc. The site for this project was a 45 acre land fill site. Construction started in the Fall of 1988 and was completed just a year and a half later. It is a par 35 – 2800 yard nine hole course that features bent grass greens, tees and fairways, water obstacles, bunkers and sand traps. Stoney Creek divides the course and provides natural obstacles. The shortest hole is 135 yards – “Par 3” and the longest is a “Par 5” – 520 yards. The course rating is 33.4. The Palos Hills Municipal Golf Course was ranked in Chicagoland Golf periodical as one of 1990’s top ten new public courses opened in the state of Illinois.

Golf Course Press Release June, 1990

Mayor Gerald Bennett, said it was his pleasure to announce to the City of Palos Hills the Grand Opening of the Palos Hills Municipal Golf Course on June 30th, 1990. After many months of planning and development, Palos Hills can be proud of converting a 45-acre former landfill site into a recreational and aesthetically beautiful piece of property. Once in operation, the City of Palos Hills will be able to create a revenue source for future Park development in our city. Remember, residents of Palos Hills you pay no property tax for the operation of our Park and Recreation Department, and the development financing and not through the use of property tax. I extended an open invitation to all our residents to join us on June 23rd from Noon until 4:00 pm for our Open House on the Golf Course and further hop that all our residents enjoy the use of the Golf course now and for many years to come.



Hole 7 Palos Hills Golf Course

Community Resource & Recreation Department

The Community Resource Department was established in August of 1981 by Mayor Gerald Bennett to provide educational, social and informational services to the residents of Palos Hills, and to spark participation of the community in these projects.

The first staff of this department were: Doris Marks, Commissioner, Marlene Feldhaus, Alma Koerner and Mary Jo May.

In March 1982 the first Palos Hills Happenings Newsletter was published. The Newsletter provided information to the residents about the many services and departments of the city. The Newsletter still exists today and is published three times a year.

In the early 80's under the umbrella of the Community Resource Dept. the Palos Area Transportation Service for the Elderly was formed. The service "PATSE" provided transportation to seniors to various medical appointments, shopping etc. The service continues to operate today with two handicapped accessible buses. It was a greatly appreciated service.

Palos Hills Friendship Festival. Started by Mayor Jerry Bennett, the Friendship Festival began as a small picnic style event for the entire family to enjoy. The Festival included entertainment, craft fair, food concessions and in some years a parade. A City-softball tournament was also played with City officials taking part. Today the Festival remains a great family friendly event held for four days in early July and includes a carnival, K9 dog demonstrations, Classic Car Show, children's tent, log rollers, high wire acts and more.

In 2002, Mayor Bennett combined the Community Resource Dept. with the Parks & Recreation Dept. to create the Resource & Recreation Dept. The dept. not only provides recreational activities for residents, but also serves as a resource for the concerns and needs of the community. The Department was designed to be a central, one stop shop for many different types of assistance, ranging from emergency services, to Medicare questions, to transportation services.

The dept. sponsors and creates the programs for the Governors Home Town Awards as well as the Arbor Day Programs for the City. CRRD has taken several awards for outstanding programs.

The Dept. is also responsible for the many recreation and leisure programs for the City as well as Special Events. The dept. oversees the many parks in the City.

July 2006 - The Sox take the World Series. The Championship trophy was on display at the Friendship Fest. Festival goers could have their picture taken with the trophy and were allowed to try on the championship ring.

In 2007, the City hosted its first Circus. The only three ring circus in the U.S. the Carson's & Barnes Circus raised the Big Top on 108th & Sunny Creek Drive. The Circus played to packed crowds and to the delight of residents.

In March 2008, the Governor established a Free Ride Program for Seniors for public transportation. The senior only show an RTA pass that was available at the Community Center. From the start of the program to Sept. 29, 08 the staff of the Resource & Recreation dept. processed 704 applications. Seniors came in record numbers for the free ride pass.

As a way to let people remember a loved one or a special occasion the CRR Dept. implemented the Commemorative Brick, Tree and Bench Program. The Trees are available at Town Square Park, Bricks are available at the Veterans Memorial or Gazebo section also at Town Square Park. Benches are available at Pleasure Lake. The bricks and engraved plaque (tree / bench) is engraved with the person's name or special occasion. It is the perfect gift that will be treasured for generations.

Recently, CRRD received the "Power Play Beyond School" Grant for after school programs. The programs designed to keep kids healthy and fit will begin in November and run through March 2009.

The present staff consist of Mary Jo Vincent, Commissioner, Mary Orłowicz, Ed Jung, Mark Sutherland, Teri Szablewski, and Barb Jamroziak as well as many instructors, program leaders and volunteers.



CRRD Staff celebrate with the White Sox Championship Trophy

Public Works / Sewer & Water / Building Department

The Public Works / Sewer & Water Department provides service to 17,800 residents residing in 7720 dwellings within our community and are responsible for the delivery of 673 million gallons of drinking water annually.

The department operates and maintains more than 73 lane miles of city owned streets, 8 sanitary sewerage pumping stations, 55 miles of sanitary sewer mains, 67 miles of potable water mains, 2 potable water pumping stations, 2-two million gallon potable water reservoirs, 869 fire hydrants, 1020 traffic and regulatory signs, 290 street lights, various public buildings and a fleet of 25 vehicles and construction equipment.

In addition to the many other tasks the department is also responsible for the cleaning of snow from city streets, cleaning of storm and sanitary sewers, maintenance of city parks and various public easements and maintenance of public building.

GIS

City of Palos Hills Geographic Information Systems or GIS is a division of the Public Works department, in charge of locating and mapping out the infrastructure for the City of Palos Hills. The staff works very closely with the Building Department, Fire Protection District and many other organizations that are associated with the city in locating and mapping out the areas of interest.

With the recent development of our Internet based mapped systems, you will now be able to search our Zoning and Floodzone databases and maps for important information related to your property.

Dave Weakley, Commissioner
Nick Oeffling, Superintendent



**Those were the days. Public Works Staff
Joey Slisz, John Gasca, Former Commissioner
George Lutz and Bob Wetzig**

The Building Department is responsible for the maintenance and enforcement of local building, planning and zoning codes. Structural, plumbing, HVAC and electrical inspectors are supervised by the Building Commissioner. Their function is to ensure safe and efficient construction adhering to construction and city codes.

The Building Dept. advises the City Clerk's Office on land use and appropriateness on business licensing. They also supervise work with the health Dept. pertaining to local businesses regarding code.

Ordinance Enforcement/Animal Control functions are a service of the Building Dept. The Ordinance Officer investigates ordinance violations complaints on a wide range of land use operation ordinances as well as property maintenance matters.

The Ordinance Officer coordinates with the Health Department inspectors and makes initial investigations of health violation complaints.

In the capacity of animal control, the officer investigates and enforces all animal control ordinances, traps wild nuisance animals and deals with other animal problems.

The office provides a wide range of services to the homeowner and business community helping to maintain a high standard of community pride and property values.

Administration

The Administrative staff is responsible for the day-to-day operations at City Hall. The Staff can assist with information pertaining to payments, e-pay, garage sale permits, voter registration and more.

Anna Slubowski, Commissioner



**Do you recognize these ladies from City Hall?
Anna Slubowski, Marge Hodek, and Paula Kaspar**

Pictures are worth a thousand words



New Horizon's Senior Club Arbor Day Tree Planting Palos Hills Golf Course



Reporter News Festival Press Coverage



Dinner Gala



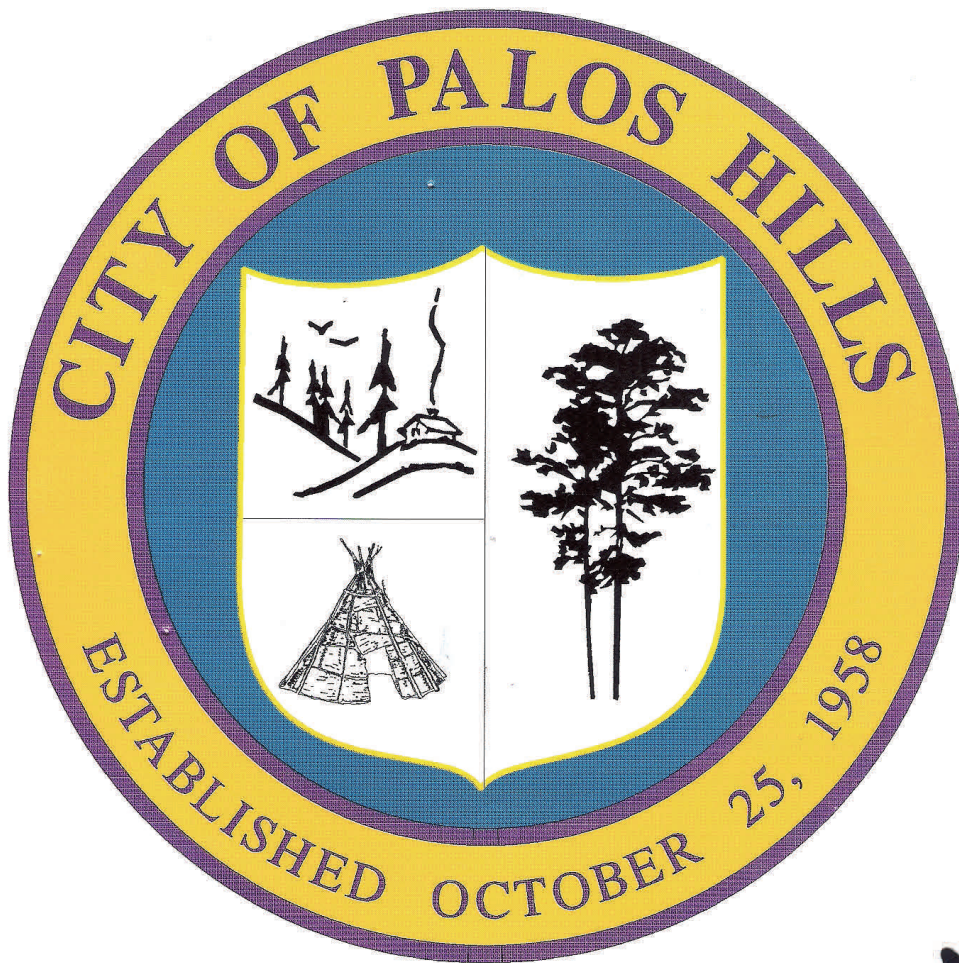
25th Anniversary Parade



Community Center before the remodel



Former Resource Employee Alma Koerner



City Seal

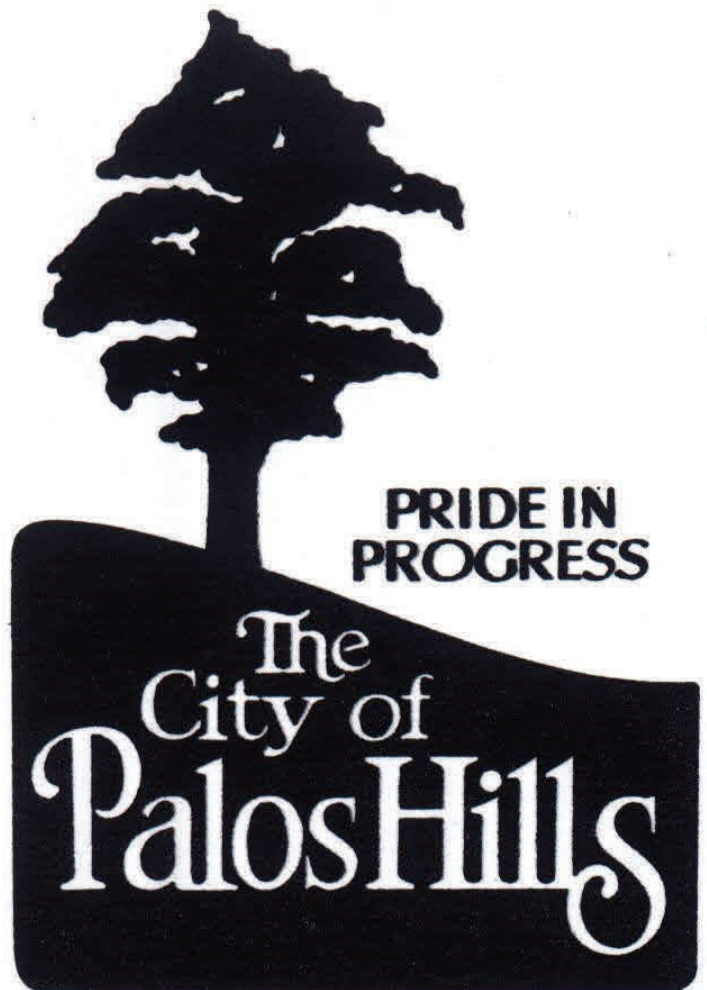
A bit of Trivia

Did you know that the City Motto was not always
"Pride in Progress" ?

The first City Motto,
created by Former Mayor Bud Meyer was
"Beautiful City of Beautiful People"

It was Mayor Jerry Bennett,
who in his first term in office
created the existing Motto used today
"Pride In Progress"

City Logo



A City of Pride in Progress ... Governor Home Town Awards

- 1982 Community Services Award**
- 1983 Honorable Mention**
- 1983• Two-phase bicycle safety program.
- 1984 3rd Place –Youth Award**
- Youth Board was created to increase social and recreational opportunities.
- 1985 1st Place**
- Senior Friends program, seniors volunteer to help in reading and art classes offered to young pupils, creating closer ties between the generations.
- 1986 2nd Place**
- Resource Dept, established a free job referral system to serve the needs of unemployed adults, youth and seniors.
- 1987 Honorable Mention**
- Volunteers formed the Palos Hills Youth Board
- Senior Award**
- Senior Advisory Board
- 1988 Economic Development Award**
- Volunteers cleaned and planted parks and streets
- Youth Award**
- Youth Turnabout Day let kids hold jobs for a day.
- 1989 2nd Place**
- Health care professionals provided free screenings and information at the Community Health and Welfare Fair.
- Honorable Mention Economic Development**
- Community Resources Dept created Youth Activities Night events.
- 1990 Honorable Mention**
- Volunteers built “safety city” for kids.
- Senior Award**
- Senior Advisory Board serves as senior awareness advocates.
- 1991 3rd Place**
- Friendship Festival annual community picnic drew 30,000 participants.
- Honorable Mention**
- Youth Board offers input and feedback on programs for young teens.
- 1992 Honorable Mention**
- Youth volunteers staged a production to send gifts to Desert Storm soldiers.
- Youth Award**
- Challenger baseball program allows disabled children to play baseball.
- Senior Award**
- Senior Friends help youth District 117 students with reading, art and foods.
- 1993 Youth Award 3rd Place**
- Youth Board organized a Haunted House to entertain kids at Halloween.
- Senior Award 1st Place**
- Senior Advisory Board addresses needs and concerns of senior citizens.
- 1994 Youth Award 3rd Place**
- Turnabout Day offers youths a chance to work for a day with a local leader.
- Senior Award 2nd Place**
- Senior volunteers work as tutors for students at Oak Ridge School
- 1995 Senior Award 1st Place**
- 125 volunteers gave nearly 4,000 hours to help their fellow senior citizens.

- 1996 General Award 1st Place**
- Multicultural Mural at the entrance to Oak Ridge School was created by volunteers to build community unity.
- Senior Award 2nd Place**
- A “hillbilly” style mock wedding was organized & produced by volunteers to provide entertainment & enjoyment
- 1998 Senior Involvement Award 1st Place**
- Volunteers organized a Senior Amateur Hour to raise funds to provide Medalert bracelets to seniors and the disabled.
- 2000 Senior Citizen Involvement Award 1st Place**
- Noting that heart disease is a growing concern among seniors, the city’s Senior Advisory Board sponsored activities planned and attended by seniors that included line dancing lessons and heart healthy potluck lunches.
- 2001 Senior Citizen Involvement Award 1st Place**
- Senior Pen Pals – Seniors exchange letters with 6th graders, creating friendships and improving kids writing skills.
- 2002**
- Teen Employment Program – The program, run by volunteers, helps teens learn how to write resumes, interview, dress for success and successfully find jobs.
 - Halloween Happenings – Concerns about Halloween safety in the wake of the September 11 tragedies led volunteers to organize fun, safe activities for children.
- 2003**
- Concerts in the Park – A series of summer musical concerts provided free, cultural entertainment for city residents.
 - Santa Stockings – Members of the Palos Hills’ 39’ers senior group made and delivered “Santa Stockings” to residents of an extended care center.
 - Town Square Park – Residents raised money to build a new community center that houses a Veteran’s Memorial, waterfall, walking trail, gazebo and child’s play area.
 - Youth Turnabout Day – The program provides 50 junior high and high school students the opportunity to serve in a business or political capacity for a day.
- 2005**
- Food Pantries/Meals - Pennies From Heaven! .
 - Parks & Recreation - The Creation of the Community Resource and Recreation Department
 - Senior Citizen Involvement - Have A Heart For A Veteran
- 2007**
- Youth Involvement - Turkey Shoot Out / Basketball Free Throw Contest
 - Senior Citizen Involvement - 39er’s, a social club for seniors
 - Veteran’s Involvement - Annual Veteran’s Day Ceremony
 - Joel M. Tomas Memorial Fun Run / Walk benefiting City-wide scholarship fund
- 2008**
- Beautification - residents take pride in their homes and businesses, the contest recognizes these individuals
 - Halloween House Contest - Local Scouts select and award prizes to the scariest houses in the City
 - Neck Coolers for Soldiers - Seniors cut, stuff and sew neck coolers for Soldiers in Iraq
 - Tutoring Program - High School National Honor Society tutors youngsters in a free after school program

A Proud Community of Volunteers...

Each year PLLWS Council on Aging and Age Options recognizes outstanding volunteers working in programs for older adults in Suburban Cook County. The City of Palos Hills has expressed their gratitude to the following volunteers over the past 15 years. We Love Our Volunteers!

<i>Ann Lachi</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>Catherine Moscato</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>Mary Busch</i>	<i>2003</i>
<i>Bernice Czech</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>Fran Beireis</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>Lois Kimeck</i>	<i>2004</i>
<i>Hattie Macukas</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>Santa Moll</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>Lidia King</i>	<i>2005</i>
<i>Ann Schultz</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>Lucille Sacharczyk</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>Ed & Ruth Klimaz</i>	<i>2006</i>
<i>Lorraine Seymour</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>Marilyn Brown</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>Betty Jaworski</i>	<i>2007</i>

Beautification Contest - In 2005 Alderman Marty Kleefisch initiated the Beautification

Contest to recognize the residents and businesses in the City who add to the overall beauty of our attractive city and enhance the quality of life for everyone in Palos Hills. The contest is held once a year during the summer months when lawns should be reaching their peak of green and many flowers and shrubs are in full bloom. The volunteer judges are residents, but do not judge their own Ward. The contest focuses on front and side yards only. Five homes are selected in each Ward as well as five businesses. Town homes, Condo's, single or multi-family homes may enter.

2005 Winners

1st Ward

Warywoda Family
Bambuch Family
Brown Family
Noonan Family

2nd Ward

Koutoulogenis Family
Latsis Family
Siergey Family
Kelly Family

3rd Ward

Shannon Family
Petros Family

4th Ward

Fitzgibbon Family
Skubisz Family
Moloney Family

5th Ward

Molk Family
Sideris Family
Multiple Residents (Condo)
Pucura Family

Businesses

Pizza Hut Restaurant
McDonald's Restaurant
Aviana Banquets
LaSalle Bank
Illinois Brick

Judges

Marie Tinman
Roseann Jonas
Renee Dollah
Keith Lotz
Linda Kaiser

2006 Winners

1st Ward

Bagninski Family
Moldovan Family
Cackero Family
Urquijo Family

2nd Ward

Bara Family
Oblazna Family
DeLaRosa Family
Kopec Family
Sheridan Family

3rd Ward

Dusterhoft Family
Wlodarczyk Family
Joseph Family
Stempin Family
Kaiser Family

4th Ward

Handley Family
McCarthy / James Family
Bailey Family
Wask Family

5th Ward

Tsokolas Family
Sartori Family
Heflin Family
Maniakouras Family

Businesses

Bertucci Restaurant
Illinois Brick
Sacred Heart Church
Moraine Valley College
McDonald's Restaurant

Judges

Renee Dollah
Janet Fiene
Andreatte Brachman
Joan Kaminski
Linda Kaiser

2007 Winners

1st Ward

Esparza Family
Fencel Family
Beckfeld Family
Muelnickel Family

2nd Ward

Angelo Karoubas Family
Tilley Family
Kathryn Karoubas Family

3rd Ward

Piton Family
Rediehs Family
Borzecki Family

4th Ward

Koestner Family
Vainiko Family
Mohn Family
Sramek Family

5th Ward

Bowman Family
Edwards Family
Lebensorger Family

Businesses

Bertucci Restaurant
McDonald's Restaurant
Belvedere Chateau
Aviana Banquets
Moraine Valley College

Judges

Renee Dollah
Cindy Fitzgibbon
Andreatte Brachman
Janet Fiene
Linda Kaiser

*Please Note: 5 Awards were given in each Ward however some residents chose not to be recognized.

2008 Winners

1st Ward

Judith Mendez & Kathy Romine
Opiela Family
Spiros Family
Pazdziora Family
Tilley Family

2nd Ward

Newtoff Family
Rice Family
Kazimierski Family
Galvin Family

3rd Ward

Wrucha Family
Belbis Family
Staszal Family
Doherty Family
Lotus Family

4th Ward

Karl Family
Koestner Family
Hill Family
Beauregard Family
Ryan Family

5th Ward

Awadallah Family
Kalinsky Family
Hourani Family
Gruener Family

Businesses

Belvidere Chateau
Bertucci's Restaurant
McDonald's Restaurant
Hills Funeral Home
Sid's Greenhouses and Garden Center

Judges

Al Muehlnickel
Andreatte Brachman
Linda Kaiser
Renee Dollah
Janet Fiene

A City of Parks

The making of Pleasure Lake Park



Pedestrian Bridge over Lucas Ditch



The Lake & Trails



The Wetlands protected by a pedestrian bridge constructed by Public Works employees



**The Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting
September 20, 2008**

City Parks



Town Square Park 8500 W. 103rd St
Indian Woods 100th St. & 82nd Ave
Michael Park Michael Dr. & 105th St
Loveland Park 8500 W. 106th St
Aspen Park 105th St. & Aspen Dr
Calvary Park 111th St. & Roberts Road
Krasowski Park 104th Pl. & Tod Dr.
Volunteer Park 99th St. & 88th Ave.
Pleasure Lake 10801 Roberts Road

Coming Soon

Glacier Park

78th Ave. & 100th Pl.



History of Palos Hills submitted by Mike & Judy Southerland

Here is a little history of what it was like in '58. My parents moved to Palos Hills in 1944, at that time it was called North Palos. I was born in 1946 (62 years ago this year). My parents were Hal and Kay Carlson, (Fire Chief Hal Carlson) my dad worked as a mechanic for Bowman Dairy Company and my mom worked in the local grocery store called Boerema's. Boerema's grocery store located on a hill on Roberts Road, had about a dozen steps to the door, we used to sit on the steps and just watch the cars go by and the parades, the store had wooded floors, a butcher and dry goods section. Mrs. Etta Boerema the owner would often make home baked bread which was the best and you could smell it through out the store. Her son and his family lived above the grocery store, her other son and his family lived next door above the first fire house.

My parents were one of the founders of the fire department. In the 40's and 50's most of Palos Hills was Prairie. My parents property was two blocks from the fire house,(10619 S. 81st Ave,) they both volunteered all of their free time and more to building it up. My dad was a firefighter, mechanic, Officer, Fire Chief and Trustee over his years with the department. Going back to what Palos Hills looked like when I was a child in the 50's; the streets were dirt and the ditches were deep. Everyone's property was filled with bushes and shrubs and beautiful Oak trees and crab apple trees. It took many years to clear all the bushes away. They were dense and had 3 inch long needles on them. As years went by the streets became gravel. The area at 103rd and Roberts Road used to flood with heavy rains.

In the early days of the Fire Dept. at the end of everyone's street hung a metal tire rim and metal bar, they used that to notify that someone needed help. The first firehouse was in the lower half of Bud Boerema's home, it was recently demolished and was located across from where the fire house now stands. It was also located next to the grocery store. Next to the firehouse was a place called Smitty's. It was owned by Bill, Alice and Olive Smith. It was a small grill which had about a dozen stools, a couple of tables and served greasy hamburgers and ice cream. A popular place for a treat. Behind the firehouse was a place called Cross's farm, we would go ice skating there in the winter. At the end of our street 81st Avenue South of 107th were the dumps. All the trash was dumped there. My dad and I would walk down there with our fishing poles and go fishing. There were several ponds there. We wouldn't eat the fish because some of the ponds were orange, green or blue. Most of the houses in the area were small frame homes that people added rooms as their families grew. All the kids would play baseball in the street or in the cornfield on 107th street. As the city grew there was a siren put in for the fire station and later a new Fire House was built where it stands today. There were three families who answered the phone when there was a fire. They had the phones in their homes and they would take turns covering the phone so it was never left unattended. My parents had a fire phone in their bedroom, of course it was red so when there was an emergency the phone would ring. They would run to answer it, take down the address and press the siren to alert the volunteers to go to the fire house, my mom would stay on the line until someone arrived at the firehouse to take the address and respond. The fire department was all volunteers and was a big part of our lives.

There were two schools, one called North Palos which was located on 95th street and Quinn School located on 103rd. Then Oak Ridge School was added. A typical day when I was in grade school was that everyone walked to school, some of the classes were held in the basement at the school and I remember telling my dad that my class was in the basement and they had chains on the doors so he would make sure they kept the chains off the doors leading to the outside so no students were ever trapped in there. We also had air raid drills where all the kids would go in the hallways and sit on the floor and cover our heads until the warning was over, we also had to turn out all the lights and close all the shades. The schools had a playground with big swings, a slide and monkey bars. When I was in the 6th grade they build Oak Ridge School at 103rd and 88th Ave. So in 7th and 8th grade all the kids were at the new school.

The mail was delivered to a row of mail boxes at the end of the street, ours was along 107th street. In the late 50's someone built a row of stores where Valley Catering now stands which is across from the fire house. They moved the grocery store into that location and it had several owners. Next to the grocery store was the Post Office which consisted of a wall of mail boxes and a postal window. It was said the person who ran the post office knew everyone's business and was the town gossip. So if you wanted gossip you went to the post office.

Our high school was Carl Sandburg in Orland Park, it was there that I met my first love and now husband in 1962. We married in 1965 Mike also joined the volunteer fire department and made the rank of Captain, he formed the first underwater dive and rescue unit, my brother Russ was also a volunteer fireman with the rank of Capt. and he did all the mechanical work on the fire trucks until he retired and we are still here in Palos Hills.

Going back to what it was like in Palos Hills, the fire house was the center of everything, we raised money for the equipment, the ambulance and anything else that was needed. They held dances in the fire house with big bands, they held spaghetti dinners where Ann Johnson would make the sauce and the women's auxiliary would help out and make the spaghetti and serve the food. Every year in the summer they had the old fashion firemen's picnic where a baseball game was held along with water ball fights. They would have water ball fights against other departments and held them at Pleasure Lakes. The water ball fights would be a fun training exercise in handling the hoses with water pressure giving the novice firefighter experience in firefighting. Everyone knew everyone and if someone needed help they all pitched in.

As the town grew the people formed a city which is now Palos Hills, with the city came the paved streets, city water and sewer, trash pick up, beautiful parks and a government body that made the city what it is today. We raised our two sons here and find it a beautiful place to live although it is getting crowded we still love it here. Hope this helps with a little history.

Residents Remember ...

I am the son of one of the founding fathers of Palos Hills. My father was Edward S. "Ted" Griffith. He as a member of the North Palos Community Council, led the fight against Bridgeview's "corridor annexation" down Harlem Ave. because of the then proposed trucking terminal at 103rd & Harlem. This caused Palos Hills to be incorporated in 1958. After Palos Hills was incorporated my father served one term as one of the first alderman, along with Joe Straka who was a close friend of his for many years there after. As a teenager I accompanied my father to many of the committee meetings and other gatherings. I learned a lot at them and cherish the memories of the time I spent with my father. I continued to live in Palos Hills until 2000 when I moved to Matteson. Palos Hills was and is a great place to live.

Paul S. Griffith

Mrs. Marilyn Brown - 7849 W. 107th St.

In 1932 Mr. & Mrs. Leland Brown's In-laws rented a farmhouse on 103rd & Roberts Rd for \$5.00 a month, there was no plumbing or electricity. Roberts Rd. only went as far as 103rd. Years later the county finished Roberts Rd. to 111th street. The speed limit on the two lane street was 55 miles per hour when it was finished.

Mr. & Mrs. Leland Brown were later married in the same farmhouse in 1948. The Brown's Family bought 7 acres on 107th St. in 1950 the property was mostly used for raising oats, in 1951 the family built three homes on three different lots, which was the now named Pleasure Lake property, in years past the property has been called Big Bass Lake, since then it has been, Emerald Athletic Club, Nielson's Restaurant, and Lake and Park Inn.

In the late 1950's Mr. & Mrs. Leland Brown sold 150 feet off the back of their lot, the other two lots owned by family members also sold some of their lots to the Lake and Park Inn.

My dad worked for Tucker.

When we moved to Palos Hills many people were still farming, but my dad got a job at the old Tucker Torpedo plant working on the Tucker automobile. The job was short lived. Later on I worked at Tootsie Roll and my sister worked at the Post Office, all at the same location as what is now Ford City Mall.

Ford City Complex Has A Past Most Don't Remember

But what makes this story interesting is not only a new beginning but the colorful past of this great center.

The year was 1942 and war seemed imminent. Knowing the key strategy to winning this war would be control of the air, the government arranged for the construction of a new defense plant, what would be the largest plant in the world. With the purchase of 432 acres of marshland bounded by Cicero Avenue on the west, Pulaski Road on the east, the Belt Railway Tracks on the north and a yet-to-be-constructed 77th Street on the south.

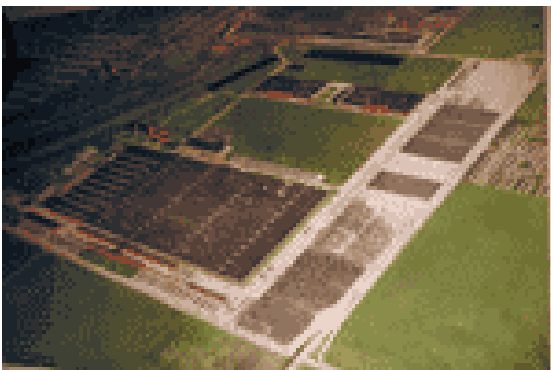
By October of that year, Building No. 1 was finished and the space had been leased to the Dodge division of the Chrysler Corporation. Production, assembly and testing of aircraft engines to be used for the B29 bomber began. Known as the Dodge Chicago Plant, the war effort was underway.

December, 1945, saw the end of the war and left this once illustrious plant standing vacant and deserted. The government tried many times to sell the parcel of land to no avail. That is until February of 1947, when at least two of the buildings were brought back to life.

Car dealers from the world over gathered at the plant to get the first glimpse of the Tucker Torpedo. Hailed as the "truly modern automobile", the Tucker Torpedo was going to revolutionize the automobile. However, a year later and with \$26 million gone, Tucker had managed to assemble 46 cars and once again the building stood vacant.

War was on the horizon – this time the Korean War. And once again the government went to work producing airplane engines. In October of 1950 Ford Motor Company signed with the government to produce these engines. And what better place than the exact plant that had done almost the same work years earlier. Thousands of workers were employed until the spring of 1953 when technological advancements forced the retirement of the piston engine. Undaunted by this development, Ford continued to make the newer version of the engine, the jet engine. Production continued, employing as many as 12,000 people until 1959 when Ford Motor Company discontinued production and one more time, the plant stood vacant.

The land once again stood silent until October of 1961 when it was re-sold to create one of the greatest commerce centers in Chicago. On August 12, 1965 with over 200,000 people in attendance, then Mayor Richard J. Daley and a host of dignitaries cut the ribbon and marked the beginning of the largest retail mall in Chicago.



Tucker Torpedo



Aerial View of Ford City Complex "Pre"- Mall era.

Vote for Good Government As remembered by David Meneghetti

David Meneghetti
10933 Westwood
Palos Hills, IL. 60465

Mr. David Meneghetti has been a resident in the City of Palos Hills since 1957. He was part of the Official Plan of the City of Palos Hills, Subdivision Regulations, when Carlton H. Ihde – was Mayor. David Menghetti was part of the volunteer Planning Commission in Palos Hills, June 1st , 1959.

Vote for Good Government

Saturday, Dec. 6th 1958 is a day of vital concern to all registered voters of the newly incorporated City of Palos Hills. The city's first government will be elected in voting from 6 am to 6 pm in Quin Elementary School, 103rd St and Roberts Rd.

Ten candidates nominated and recommended by the North Palos Community council will appear on the ballot as the Council Party.

The Council Party candidates are worthy of your vote for many reasons, the most important of which are:

1. They are persons who filled major roles in planning the successful incorporation program sponsored by the North Palos Community Council.
2. They are the only candidates endorsed by the community council.
3. They are the only candidates committed to organizing the type of city government envisioned by the community council.

For long months the Council Party candidates have been giving intensive study to the myriad problems associated with forming a municipal government, one that would make Palos Hills a model community where citizens enjoyed minimum taxes, maximum democracy and pleasant homes in well-planned neighborhoods.

Now that Palos Hills has voted in favor of incorporation, the council Party stands ready to convert the community council's pledges into action.

The Council Party steps forward in the community Council spirit of public service walking only for Palos Hills voters to give it the "go" signal at the polls Dec. 6, 1958.

The Council Party Platform

1. We pledge to organize a minimal-type government for the City of Palos Hills that will require only a modest municipal real estate tax levy. The major portion of the city budget will be derived from building permits, refunds of state motor fuel tax and business licenses.
2. We pledge to serve without salary (except for the city clerk, who will serve on a full-time basis to fulfill a state requirement) as public-spirited citizens willing to donate their time, talent and effort to bring a model community into being.
3. We pledge to conduct all municipal business at public meetings. Every citizen will be given full opportunity to be heard as the city council and its committees discuss and act on ordinances and zoning and building matters.
4. We pledge to enact ordinances establishing high building standards, large lot area requirements and strict septic tank regulations. These will serve to increase property values, eliminate the need for a costly central sewage system and enhance Palos Hills' reputation as a pleasant community in which to live.
5. We pledge to organize, a volunteer police force to preserve order in the community. The police force will not be permitted to operate "speed traps" for the sake of traffic-fine revenue.
6. We pledge to provide the community with full protection against trailer camps, garbage dumps, obnoxious heavy industry and any other land use that may prove objectionable or hazardous to the community.

Palos Hills Original Alderman's History

Joseph J. Straka, was born and raised in Chicago. At the age of 23 he and his wife Elaine moved to a farm in Wisconsin where they raised their two sons and one daughter. Joseph was drafted into the Army in 1941, but his unit never left the country. After his discharge in 1945 from the service he and his family continued to live in Wisconsin till 1950 when they decided to move to Palos Hills.

In 1958 when Palos Hills became incorporated as a city Joseph Straka a Palos Hills Resident of 8 years became part of the first City Council when he was elected 3rd Ward Alderman. Joseph served as alderman until the April 18, 1961 election when he ran for mayor and lost the race. Joseph was now free to join the fight for a truck terminal along 103rd St., which the City Council ultimately voted against.

Joseph co-owned D & S Construction while living in Palos Hills. He later worked for Nalco from which he retired in 1968. He and Elaine moved to Chicago for 1 year before moving to Cape Coral Florida and eventually to Okeechobee Florida where they enjoyed retirement together until recently passing away.

As stated by Judy Mittler, Daughter of Joseph Straka.

North Palos Fire Protection District...

Providing Service to the Community for over 50 Years ...

In the fall of 1939 when only a few families were settled here, the buildings were constantly threatened with prairie fires. The residents formed a group to work on this menace. The problem was to provide an alarm system within reach of everyone. In 1940 it was suggested that large brake drums be hung on posts on every other corner. 107th Street had 4, 106th Street had 5, 105th Street had 4 and 100th Street had 4. When an alarm was sounded, every man available would respond with wet bag flaps or whatnot. If it was a house fire, someone would go to the nearest phone to call a fire department, which would get to the scene after the house had burned to the ground.

A few years later, when the community built up, the North Palos Township Improvement organization was formed. They voted to form the North Palos Firemen's Club. On January 26, 1947, the Firemen's Club held their first meeting to set up the By-Laws with 17 volunteers each agreeing to purchase their own fireman hat and badge. Charles Morgan was voted the first Fire Chief. George Boerema offered the use of his garage (located across the street from the present firehouse) to hold the first piece of fire equipment. In 1947, Truck #1 a 1947 Chevrolet 500 GPM Class "A" Pumper was purchased for \$7,097.39. Fred Lange became the Chief in 1950. In August of 1951, the property that is now station #1 was purchased for \$2,000.00. Petitions began to be circulated to form the fire district. The department responded to 31 calls in 1950.

On January 9, 1952, the Referendum to form the North Palos Fire Protection District passed with a vote of 105-YES to 7-NO. The dedication of the First Firehouse was on April 3, 1955. Hal Carlson became the Chief in July of 1955.

The new decade brought about a progressive department with 3 pieces of apparatus and 33 volunteer members. A Bell Alarm System was installed in all the volunteers' homes for notification when a call came in. The first Seal Drive requesting donations was mailed out in November 1963. The lot adjacent to the firehouse was purchased in 1966. The firemen began receiving \$1.00 per call in 1967 (prior to this, it was totally volunteer). Walls were knocked out to add 3 new bays to the firehouse. In 1968, the first ambulance was purchased and put in service. John Roe, Sr. became the Chief in September of 1969.

Continuing with the times were many fundraisers to increase sources of revenues. The Ambulance Referendum passed in 1974, allowing a structured Emergency Medical Service to the community. The department outgrew the existing building and an addition was built on the existing station, adding living quarters, offices, larger bays and a workshop. It began the process of hiring full time personnel.

The first Aerial Truck, a 1974 Mack was purchased for \$96,000.00 Chief John Roe, Sr. was hired full time in June 1974. The progress of the department continued by hiring the first full time Assistant Chief, Mechanic and Engineer. Paramedic service began providing Advanced life Support to the community. The first three full time Firefighters were then added in April 1978. Self-contained breathing apparatus was introduced, allowing firefighter's to enter into hazardous environments to breathe fresh air.

The progression did not stop with hiring of full time members. Updating the apparatus and equipment continued to be a priority. The training program became more structured with the hiring of a full time training officer. A new FMC Class "A" Attack Pumper, 1500 GPM was purchased for \$55,980.00. Two new ambulances and Rescue Squad 805 were also purchased. In 1986, the department's ISO rating dropped to a 4. In 1987, two E-One Engines were added to the fleet. In 1989, the Firefighter's Association held the First Pancake Breakfast. Discussion begins regarding building a second station on 95th Street.

Many progressive changes continued into the 90's preparing everyone for the new millennium. Station #2 is built on 95th Street (across from the Sabre Room) in 1992. A second Advanced Life Support Ambulance with Paramedics and an Engine Company went into service full time, 365 days a year. Chief John Roe, Sr. retires in 1993 bringing Chief Richard McKeon in 1994. The Emergency Rescue Equipment Referendum passes in 1996. Full time manpower is increased to 16 members, 12 paramedics and the support staff is increased to 2. Ambulances are upgraded to the modern Type-3 box ambulances to replace the smaller van style; Squad 805 is refurbished as a response vehicle for the 1st District Hazardous Material and Specialized Rescue Teams; Station #1 is remodeled with modernized living quarters and training classroom with most of the work being done by department personnel.

In preparing for the future needs of the community, the property adjacent to Station #2 was purchased there past 50 years due to the hard work and dedication of the **MANY** volunteers, part timers and career personnel who have comprised the department. The support and dedication the residents of our community have given us; including paying taxes and supporting our fundraisers over the years is greatly appreciated. We look forward to continue to serve the community through the next millennium.



Palos Township History

When I see and hear about the Palos Township Health Service now, and go back in memory as to how we started out, I can still say, "Yes, it was a good thing."

August 28, 1973 was our opening day! At that time there was a gas shortage and also a shortage of physicians in our area. Families had to travel long distances to visit a doctor's office, after waiting in long lines at the gas station.

My husband, Herb Schumann, Sr. had recently been elected as Township Supervisor and was thinking out loud about how to use the Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, which were already on hand for the residents of Palos Township. There were rules and regulations of course, but they had to be used in the best way to include all residents of the township!

Since I was an R.N., I mentioned a health service. I didn't think he heard me, but he brought it up at the board meeting. The attorney, the late Robert Peck approved of such and the township board after much discussion agreed.

One of the first things we did was to visit the schools within the township, districts 117, 118, 230 and 127 to talk with the nurses. They were very cooperative. We became very busy with school physicals and catching up on vaccinations.

Dr. Kurt Liepens, M.D. from Palos Park was our first physician. He had a few hours to spare from his work at Silver Cross Hospital. Dr. Garramone replaced him after Dr. Liepens untimely death from cancer.

Ruth Doeslocure, R. N., was hired when we got super busy with school physicals, etc. She was a real gem of a person and lived right down the street! She now resides in Wisconsin.

Dr. Stanevich, podiatrist, has been there a long time and fulfills a very important service to Senior citizens.

Without the help of my daughter, Theresa, who was a nursing student at Moraine Valley College at the time, I would have had a real rough time getting started! We put together file cabinets and put things in order, had charts printed, looked for bargains and picked up used exam tables, chairs, scales, whatever need arose and kept within the budget. She hauled it all in the trunk of her car.

I worked at the Palos Township Health Service as Head nurse about fifteen years with wonderful co-workers, some of which are still there and from my point of view Palos Township Health Service is "a great thing."

Palos Hills is my home town from day one.

Pearl Schumann, R.N.

How the Township got its Name

Trenton was the name of the township when it was first organized in 1850. It was soon discovered, though, that another township nearby was also named Trenton. Melanchan Powell, one of the earliest settlers and the first postmaster of the township, suggested the name Palos. The name Palos comes from Palos de Frontera, the port across the sea from whose harbor sailed the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria.

Green Hills Public Library District History

In 1960 the President of the Palos Hills Civic Association, Earl Potter, recommended that the Association Board study the merits of forming a public library. The Board agreed and a library incorporating committee was formed. Plans were formed and petitions were being circulated when a group from Hickory Hills approached members of the Board to consider the formation of a library district. This Library District would include all the area from both towns and a small portion of Justice, and would be called the Green Hills Public Library District. The incorporation election was finally held in December 1962 and the Green Hills Public Library District became a reality. A site was selected on 103rd Street next to where the Palos Hills City Hall was originally located.

At its founding the population was approximately 7,000 (versus over 31,000 today). Gen Warren the first President of the Library Board of Trustees, sold the property to the District for the sum of \$25,000 in 1969. It was formerly a landscaping nursery. Prior to taking possession of the building the Library operated out of a storefront on Roberts Road.

In 1972, the original building was dedicated. The building was 3,000 square feet. In 1975, the Library added 7,200 square feet, and in 1986, a second addition of 7,000 square feet was completed bringing the total square footage to 17,200.

After a number of failures, voters decisively voted in favor of a referendum to remodel and expand the facility in November of 2004.

A formal dedication ceremony was held on April 5, 2008 to celebrate the completion of this wonderful new facility! Over 800 people toured the building that day and over 300 children attended programs on April 6. Speaker of the Illinois House Michael J. Madigan was a featured speaker.



Green Hills Public Library

Sacred Heart Parish

The first Mass in the current Sacred Heart church was celebrated ten years ago this week (Palm Sunday, 1994). Our magnificent church is the fourth for Sacred Heart, not counting a time in the late 1960s when Mass was celebrated at Stagg High School. The other three Sacred Heart locations, as currently pictured in the glass divider between the day chapel and the main church, include 101st St. and Kean Ave. (now the site of Sacred Heart cemetery), 107th St. and Kean Ave. (now the site of St. Luke's OCA) and 111th St. near Stagg High School (now the site of Sacred Heart's McGinnity Ministry Center).

Although Sacred Heart, founded in 1872, was not an *official parish* until 1967, it was vibrant enough to spawn two (or let's say *three*) other parishes. St. Gerald's in Oak Lawn was founded in 1934 by Sacred Heart leaders. St. Patricia's in Hickory Hills was founded in 1959 by Sacred Heart leaders. What about a third offshoot of Sacred Heart?

St. Luke's Orthodox Church in America was founded exactly 20 years ago when some Moraine Valley teachers told me their new congregation had nowhere to celebrate Mass. "Oh yes you do," I replied. Through most of the 1980s I was administrator of Sacred Heart #2, the church on 107th St., just west of Kean Ave. It was home for a council of the Knights of Columbus, for the Southwest Archdiocesan Singles and for the Newman Club of Moraine Valley Community College.

In 1984 St. Luke's became my fourth tenant. Eventually, St. Luke's bought Sacred Heart #2. That building by the way joins the 2004 anniversary parade. Sacred Heart #2 is now 100 years old.

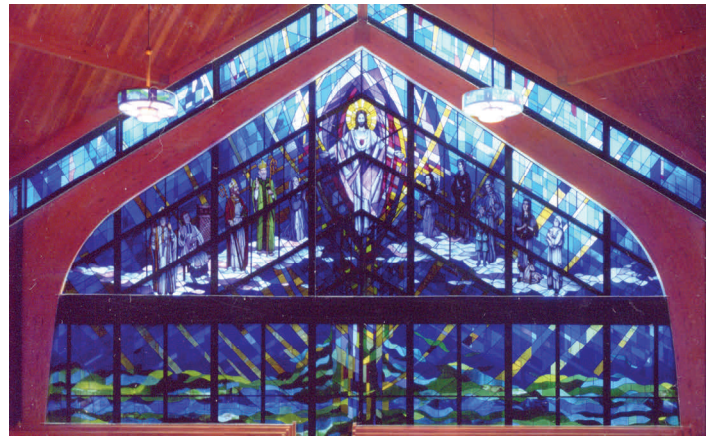
It was Thanksgiving weekend 100 years ago that Sacred Heart parishioners celebrated Mass for the first time in their 107th St. and Kean Ave. church. That "church hill" building, on land donated by Peter Lucas family, replaced the original Sacred Heart on Kean Ave. near 101st St., now the site of our cemetery. The first Sacred Heart was destroyed by fire. Do you know who caused that blaze? The culprit is depicted in the glass window separating our day chapel from the main church. Our "new" church, by the way, is now ten years old.

Our Lady of the New Millennium Statue

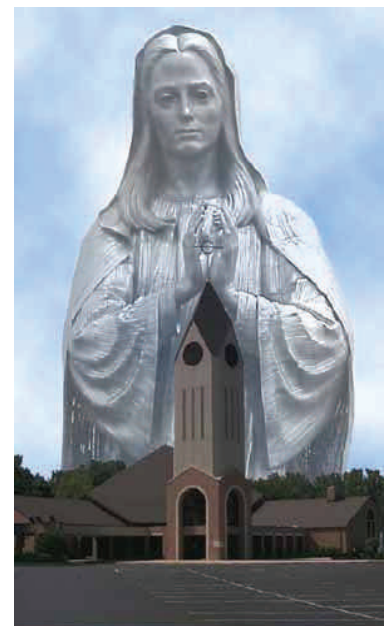
The Statue of Our Lady of the New Millennium, commissioned by the late Carl Demma, was inspired by his lifelong devotion to Our Blessed Mother. The stainless steel statue stands 38 feet tall and weighs over 8,000 pounds. Pope John Paul II blessed the statue during his visit to St. Louis in January 1999. Ingeniously transported on a flatbed truck and raised by custom hydraulics, Our Lady of the New Millennium has since visited hundreds of parishes and religious communities in the Archdiocese of Chicago. This marvelous tribute to Our Blessed Mother is on display at Sacred Heart Church.

Archdiocese of Chicago, Communications Department – July 2006

Sacred Heart, which was a mission of other parishes—not an official parish—for most of its history, almost didn't get started. Sure, the Mathias Jungles family generously donated the 101st property back in 1872. Sure, the Wachter family, the Busch family, the Lucas family and more gave their energy and their ideas. But, guess what? The German-American farmers and canal workers couldn't support a new church until they reached out to the McMahon family, the Sullivans, the Halligans, other Irish-Americans and more.



The lesson is obvious. Sacred Heart is a great parish precisely because we are German, Irish, Polish, Mexican, Pilipino, Italian and more. In a recent homily, Fr. Robert McGinnity said nearly 30 languages or dialects are spoken in the Palos/Worth region. Many of those languages, he further noted, were part of prayers offered in the Sacred Heart parking lot upon the display here of a renowned statue, Our Lady of the Millennium



SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

10700 South Kean Ave.
Palos Hills, IL.. 60465

The Building

Erected in 1904 as the Roman Catholic Mission of the Sacred Heart, this building replaced the original log church at 101st and Kean Avenue which had burned down earlier that year. Sacred Heart cemetery remains at that site today.

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Mission was founded by Father Francis anti from Saint Alphonsus Church in Lemont in 1873. He became the first Pastor. Fathers J. E. Hogan and Joseph A. Bollman, both from St. Patrick's in Lemont, serviced the mission in the 1880's.

The hilltop location on 107th Street in the Forest Preserve was the site of a fort built by the French army during the 1600's. This fort was located a few feet from the present church building. It was in a log cabin on this site that the famous missionary explorer Father James Marquette spent the winter of 1674-1675.

The land for the church was donated from the farmland of the Peter Lucas family. The architect chosen to design the new building was William J. Brinkman who built several other architecturally notable churches in Chicago. It was constructed of brick in the Romanesque style. The steeple, which has since been removed housed a bell and was topped with a golden cross. Interesting features of the building were the round rose window containing stained glass.



Hymn to St. Luke

*With Sacred Songs, Let us Praise the Holy Apostle
the narrator of the Acts of the Apostles
and author of the Bright Gospel of Christ
the all-hymned Luke
whose fame is not confined to Christ's Church.
For he is the physician who heals man's ills,
nature's frailties and the soul's injuries.
And he prays unceasingly for our souls.*

In 1971, when Sacred Heart parish moved to its new site on 111th Street near Roberts's road, the church building on 107th Street became the Newman Center for Moraine Valley Community College. When the Newman Center relocated the Catholic Archdiocese rented the facility to the newly formed Orthodox mission of Saint Luke in 1984.

Saint Luke Parish

By October 1986, the decision was made to purchase the building and its grounds from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago. The late Joseph Cardinal Bernadin supported and approved the sale.

A milestone in the life of the Church was achieved on January 1, 1995, when St. Luke was granted full parish status; i.e. it was no longer considered a mission. On the Feast Day of Saint Luke, October 18, 1997, the building was consecrated as Saint Luke the Evangelist Orthodox Church by His Grace Job Bishop, of the Midwest Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America. The parish had grown from the original membership of seventeen and now serves over 200 souls. Through the years, the parish has been served by Fathers John Matusiak, Mark Stevens, William Bass and Kynil Riggs. In December of 1995, the Very Reverend Andrew Harrison was appointed rector of Saint Luke and currently charts its future course.

World Trade Center Beam

The parish of Saint Luke requested and was given an "I" beam from the former world Trade Center by the mayor of New York City. During a solemn ceremony on September 11, 2002, the relic was placed in its permanent home in the narthex of the church.

St Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church



S. Constantine and Helen is one of the oldest parishes in the Chicago Metropolitan area. Greek immigrants of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church (established in 1897), suggested the organization of a branch to accommodate the South Side Greeks living in the Washington Park and Woodlawn areas of Chicago.

The parish became its own entity at an organizational meeting on April 25, 1909 when approximately 350 persons voted to establish an independent parish dedicated to SS. Constantine and Helen. Church membership was initiated with the payment of twenty-five cent dues and temporary officers were elected. Prior to this meeting, property had been acquired at 61st Street and South Michigan Avenue.

The first church building of the parish was erected on this site at an approximate cost of \$30,000 and opened in October 1910. The new edifice was designed similar to a typical urban church in Greece with no pews or organ. The two-story dark brick structure and an English-type basement with a central dome and two smaller domes comprising the church steeples. The ground floor was devoted to classrooms; the first floor was the church proper; and the second floor had the church office and a special balcony for the women of the congregation - gynaititis, as was the custom in Greece.

In 1910, the second oldest continuously operating Greek Orthodox parish day school was established. The school was named in honor of Adamantios Korais, the intellectual father of the Greek War of Independence in 1821. The school became the focal point of the community preparing and transmitting the religious and cultural heritage to future generations. Greek was the only language of instruction until 1922. At this time, English was added to the curriculum as a language of instruction and public school accreditation was arranged.

Rev. Ambrose Mandilaris served the parish for eleven of the seventeen years of this period. he was known as the "builder priest" of the first South Side Greek Church. As typical of a Greek immigrant parish, he brought the ministrations of a rural church emphasizing the sacramental elements of the parishioners and providing for the education of their children. Rev. Theodore Prussianos, Rev. Demetrios Vanikos and Rev. Mark E. Petrakis served as pastors the remainder of this church period, with Rev. Demetrios Rangos and Rev. Arsenuis Priakos serving as assistant pastors for a few years.

The first Board of Trustees set the precedent for successfully making policy and dealing with the practical affairs of the church. Theodore G. Koumountzis served as the first parish president. He was followed by John Papanastasiou, Michael Davrantzis, Peter Metos, Nicholas Giannakopoulos, Niketas Nomikos, Constantine Georgakopoulos, James S. Stamos and Dr. Constantine Theodore.

In the early 1920's, the Young Ladies Hellenic Society "Nea Genea" was formally organized for young unmarried women. This group has since evolved into "Agia Paraskevi".

St. Helen's Benevolent Society, the most prominent of the church auxiliaries, was organized in 1924 for charitable and philanthropic work as well as an aid in church fund-raising efforts. Presvytera Stella Petrakis was the society's first president. This organization is known today as the St. Helen Women's Philoptochos. The early hours of Holy Monday April 26, 1926 brought the first church period to a close as the building was destroyed by fire. The church was a total loss. At great personal risk Rev. Petrakis entered the gutted building and was able to save three items, the antimission, chalice and Gospel. Through the generosity of the Episcopal diocese, Holy Week services were held at neighborhood churches. On Easter Sunday, despite their feeling of despair, the community received hope from the Prayer of Resurrection and the announcement that the church would be rebuilt on the same location

An impressive ceremony was held on October 1, 1927 as His Eminence Archbishop Alexander laid the cornerstone of the church assisted by Bishop Joachim of Boston, Bishop Kallistos of San Francisco and all hierarchy and clergy present for the Third Clergy-Laity congress of the Archdiocese. A year later the structure had been completed and His Eminence Archbishop Alexander returned to officiate at the Thyranoxia (Door Opening) Ceremony on October 14, 1928.

The edifice, designed by the Chicago architect Jens Jensen, was a basilica style structure modeled after the early Christian churches of Roman times. The new structure exemplified simplicity and clean-cut lines unlike the duplication of a Greek village church. The altar proper (hieron) was separated from the sanctuary (solea) from the church proper (naos). Two rows of columns separated the nave into three parts and a tremendous apse soared above the sanctuary, displaying Virgin Mary (Playtera) enthroned. The other icons and religious paintings which covered the walls and ceilings of the church were copies of famous works by El Greco, Raphael and Michelangelo. Adjoining the main church, a separate Baptistry Chapel was built containing beautiful artwork. Classrooms for Korais Elementary School were designed along the periphery of the main building.

The new church not only evolved into one of the most beautiful Greek Orthodox churches of its time but also became an innovative influence for future churches. In addition to a new communion rail, church pews were installed. In 1927, George Dimopoulos, a talented chanter and choir master, organized a choir that included women. The choir was accompanied by an organ. Pews and an organ represented a departure from traditional Greek churches and a movement towards Americanization. Under the direction of Rev. Mark E. Petrakis the transition began towards that of an urban church with a variety of organizational and administrative functions. Rev. Petrakis assumed direct command and administered the church and school in close cooperation with the Board of Trustees. Rev. Irenaeus Tsourounakis was an assistant pastor at the beginning of this period. Rev. Constantine Glynos served the parish for 10 years as a deacon, 3 years as an assistant pastor as well as the principal of Korais

This period promoted lay leadership that was tenacious and resourceful as the parish faced reconstruction, economic collapse brought about by the Great Depression, bankruptcy proceedings as well as the long process of economic recovery and progress. Two of the past presidents returned to serve additional terms. Presidents serving the community during the second period were: James S. Stamos, Demetrios J. Chrissis, George Labesis, Stylianos J. Reck-sas and Nikitas Nomikos.

Under the spirited leadership of Rev. Mark and Presvytera Stella Petrakis the community was motivated to found and develop a variety of church auxiliaries. A Theatre Guild annually sponsored a wide variety of dramatic performances conducted in Greek for the benefit of the parish institutions.

In 1929, Father Petrakis organized the Korais Mothers Society for the Korais Elementary School, the Afternoon Greek School and the Sunday School, the Afternoon Greek School and Sunday School. During the Great Depression of the 1930's the Mothers Society's help was crucial in keeping these schools open Presvytera Petrakis served as president for the first decade

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the third structure were held on February 12, 1948 at 74th Street and Stony Island Avenue. His Grace Bishop Gerasimos of Chicago officiated.

Designed by Chicago architect Christopher Chamalis, the third edifice was an enormous structure of Indiana limestone modeled after Hagia Sophia of Constantinople. A huge dome, pierced by twenty-four windows, surmounted an elongated crucifix and half domes, in traditional Byzantine style. The interior of the church was finished with Italian Carrara marble and bronze fixtures. Serio Tonelli, designed the magnificent iconostasion, altar rail, bishop's throne and pulpit. The iconography of the church was done by Constantine Yioussis of New York in the traditional Byzantine style with huge gold-leaf painted icons, murals and mosaics.

Following the relocation of the parish to South Shore, the Korais Elementary School along with the Afternoon Greek and Sunday Schools were housed in temporary quarters adjacent to the new church under construction. In 1948, Patriarch Athenagoras urged the parish to build a new school to encourage religious and ethnic education. His wish was granted when the doors to the new school and community center opened in 1965.

In 1948, Patriarch Athenagoras urged the All of the existing church auxiliaries that served the community at the end of the second period continued to develop based on their goals and needs. The church choir, founded in 1927 under the direction of Rev. Mark Petrakis, flourished in the third church period. George Dimopoulos, protopsaltis, composed Byzantine ecclesiastical hymns that are still used today to glorify God.

The youth of SS. Constantine and Helen joined the Orthodox Youth Movement in Chicago by organizing their chapter in 1946. Later, under the leadership provided by the parish chapter, the O.Y. Movement evolved into the Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA), with the parish chapter becoming a charter member in 1951 with senior and junior divisions. The Senior GOYA (over 18) chapter was revitalized under the leadership of Very Rev. Eusebius Stephanou.

In accordance with the mandate of the Archdiocese, the youth groups were restructured into a tripartite organization as follows: Young Adult League, over 18 years of age; G.O.Y.A., 14-18 years of age; Junior G.O.Y.A., 12-14 years of age. Rev. Alexander Karloutsos, then assistant pastor, led the restructuring of the youth programs in the parish. These groups today continue to be an active segment in the community engaging in religious, athletic and social activities.

By the 1960's South Shore underwent a dramatic demographic change and once again the question was raised whether or not the parish should relocate. There was a great deal of reluctance to do so in view of the enormous investment made by the community. Nonetheless, after much discussion, the decision to sell the property was reached at a General Assembly meeting early in 1972. After removing all the religious artifacts from the church in the spring of 1972, a temporary home for the parish and school was found in the First Church of the Nazarene at 8345 South Damen Avenue for the next three years.

Once again the parishioners of SS. Constantine and Helen Church strengthened their resolve and confronted the task of erecting a fourth edifice. The community purchased seventeen acres of prime land in the attractive suburb of Palos Hills at 111th and Roberts Road. Ground-breaking ceremonies for this structure took place on the Feast Day of SS. Constantine and Helen in 1974. The parish celebrated their first Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday 1975 in the new auditorium. On May 21, 1976, precisely two years after construction began. An impressive gold dome and cross in the modified neo-Byzantine style highlight the current church complex designed by architect-engineer, James Barris. Twelve distinctive stained glass windows created by Conrad Schmitt Studios of New Berlin, Wisconsin in consultation with iconographer, Demetrios Dukas of Massachusetts grace the church's interior. The Building committee commissioned George Papastamatiou of Athens to complete the Byzantine iconography including the Pantocrator and Platytera. Serio Tonelli of Chicago elegantly crafted the brass iconostasion and chandeliers and the marble solea embedded with the mosaic Byzantine eagle. hop Iakovos officiated at the Thyranoxia (Door Opening) Ceremonies.



On May 11, 1980, the 1650th anniversary of the consecration of Constantinople, founded by St. Constantine the Great, the parish of SS. Constantine and Helen held their Consecration Ceremony. The steps of this service included baptizing, anointing, sanctifying, consecrating and dedicating the church of God as an orthodox Christian house of worship.

As you walk within the walls of SS. Constantine and Helen Church, the visions of the original founders remain alive today. Under the continuing guidance of the venerable Protospesbyter, Father Byron Papanikolaou, their ideals continued to flourish. Instead of a bridge to their ancestral homeland, the church now provides a moral oasis as their members combat the woes of society.

As in the preceding periods, pastoral leadership becomes paramount to the success and development of the spiritual ministries. Fr. Byron's loving and patient leadership traits have become noted throughout the Archdiocese. Therefore, young priests from the seminary have come to serve. Through his spiritual example, he has mentored Rev. Dean Paleologos of St. Spyridon Cathedral in Worcester, Massachusetts, Rev. Kosmas Karavellas of SS. Constantine and Helen Church in Annapolis, Maryland and Rev. Michael Pappas of Holy Trinity Church in San Francisco, California and Rev. Nicholas W. Jonas. He has also guided former pastoral assistants, Rev. James Greanias, Rev. Peter Spiro and Chris Avramopoulos (current Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries). Currently, Tom De Medeiros serves in this role.

On Sunday, June 4th, 2006, Rev. Nicholas W. Jonas assumed the responsibility of the position of Pastor, with Fr. Byron remaining and focusing his attentions especially on our beloved Koraes Elementary School.

The large number of ministries requires an annual budget in excess of 1.8 million dollars. The Parish Council administers and oversees all church operations under the guidance of the pastor. This body also monitors the financial and fundraising activities. In this period Pierre A. DeMets, William G. Rummel, Sam Stavrakas, Tom Argires, Theodore A. Boundas, and Peter G. Lagen have served as presidents with Theodore Argiris as our current president.

Perpetuating and fortifying the mission of our forefathers, education bridges lessons of the past to inspire the future. Koraes Elementary School continues to nurture the intellectual development, enhance a Hellenic ethnic cultural identity and inculcate the moral values of the Greek Orthodox Church for our youth. In addition the Afternoon program offers a curriculum in Greek language studies and our Sunday School and Camp Constantine cultivate the Orthodox way of life.

As in past periods, the Senior and Youth Choirs, Chanters and Altar Boys enhance religious worship services. Rev. Byron Papanikolaou organized the Spiritual Life Committee to promote spirituality among the faithful. This led to formation of Bible Study groups currently under the direction of Rev. Nicholas W. Jonas who also added the specialized classes such as Road to Orthodoxy (Convert Classes), Journey to Oneness (Pre-Marital Seminars) and Godparent Seminars.

The seedling auxiliary organizations planted earlier in the Parish's history are still evident today. St. Helen Women's Philoptochos remains steadfast in their participation in parish life and the membership has lent their efforts to countless humanitarian endeavors. Ladies Hellenic Society "Agia Paraskevi" continues to realize its goals.

The parish offers a wide array of programs, ministries, and activities for our youth. Since 1981, the Metropolis of Chicago and this community have cooperatively hosted the annual Junior Olympics initiated by Rev. Kosmas Karavellas. This event brings together over two thousand youth from the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Indiana and Missouri for athletic competition and Orthodox Christian fellowship on Memorial Day Weekend.

Youth organizations abound and the community center becomes a focal point of activity. GOYA, YAL, GOAL, JOY Basketball, JOY Soccer, Cheerleaders and Folk Dancers meet regularly. Our young people also participate in the annual youth event of the St. John Chrysostom's Oratorical and Sights and Sounds Festival.

Throughout the years, our parish has enjoyed the blessings of patriarchs, archbishops, metropolitans and bishops. In November 1997, His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, the New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarchate visited SS. Constantine and Helen one of the few parishes in his itinerary. The community considered this a rich blessing that everyone will remember for years to come.

Savior Divine

The church is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a member of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod.

Regardless of where you are in your spiritual journey, we seek to help you become a follower of Jesus Christ. We also offer Christian community, where members encourage and support one another.

We at Savior Divine are a congregation that uses the talents of our members in worship. We believe strongly in the power of prayer as we pray for others in worship, have a Prayer Group that meets monthly, and do a Health and Healing Service throughout the year. You may send your prayer requests to us, and we will pray for you.

We hope that you will learn more about us; and if you do not have a church home, we invite you to worship with us and participate in our activities.

Pastor Marty Pauschke

A Brief History

The congregation's beginnings go back to 1940, where the congregation had the name of Roberts Park Evangelical Lutheran Church. The name later changed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, and finally to Savior Divine Lutheran Church.

The present church was built in 1975, following a fire that burned down the previous structure. The previous church was built largely by members of the parish.

During the 1970's, the congregation voted to leave the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod and join the English Synod of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, which merged into the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



1940 Church



1945 Church



1965 Church

Moraine Valley College

The idea of a community college in the southwest suburbs was conceived in 1965 by the Oak Lawn rotary Club. By 1966 a committee was formed to study the proposed junior college district. A petition to form a community college district was submitted to the Illinois Junior College Board in Springfield. Soon afterward the petition was approved to establish a community college. In 1967 area residents passed a referendum approving the formation of a community college. An election took place creating Community College District 524 and its first seven trustees, including Board Chairman Theodore F. Lowinik. The first temporary office for the unnamed college was located at 4740 W. 95th St. in Oak Lawn. In 1968 the Board of Trustees held a contest to name the college and chose Moraine Valley Community College. The name relates to the colleges location where the Valparaiso and Tinley moraines meet to form a valley. The first classes were held on September 16, 1968 and consisted of a total of 1,218 students. Classes took place in leased warehouses on 115th St. in Alsip. The college's first president was Dr. Robert E. Turner.

Moraine Valley's first student congress was formed in 1969. The Oak Lawn rotary Club established a scholarship fund for the students. The first structures on the new Palos Hills Campus were seven temporary buildings. By 1970 the enrollment reached 4,089. Construction began on the first permanent facility, Building A. The following year the college gymnasium opened. Finally in 1972 the first permanent structure Building A opened. In 1975 Dr. James D. Koeller became Moraine Valley's second president. Construction started on 2 more buildings (B&L) and enrollment continued to increase to 9,749 students. The college published its first issue of its literary magazine the Mastodon in 1981. In 1982 Dr. Fred Gaskin became the college's third president, the MVCC college foundation was formed and construction began on the new college center. Their football team the Marauders played its first season in 1983 and by the following year they won the conference title. In the next few years, Moraine Valley will continue to grow and expand their campus as well as the student enrollment, which increased to 17,021. The Alumni Association was established in 1990. The college in 1991 welcome's their fourth president, Dr. Vernon D. Crawley and is officially named one of twelve satellite offices of the Illinois World Trade Center.

The dedication of the G. Jack Bradley observation Deck in the Nature Study Area took place in 1992, along with the adoption of Moraine Valley's 1st College Flag. By 1994 the Fine and Performing Arts Center opened it's doors, which consists of the Dorothy Menker Theater, John & Angeline Oremus Theater and the Robert F. DeCapirio Art Gallery. The traveling monument known as the Moving Wall honoring Vietnam Veterans, made a visit to the campus for thousands of community residents to view. Moraine Valley becomes automated for class registration, tuition payment, schedules changes etc... MVCC excels in its 1st full year (1996 as a member of the Skyway Athletic Conference, winning conference championships in women's softball, men's soccer and men's basketball. Also in '96 the Barbara Bush Foundation For Family Literacy selected the college's Family Reading Program as one 14 recipient's of national grants.

The following year UPS commissioned MVCC art students to create a mural of the orca whale from the movie Free Willy, upon completion it was hung at the Hodgkin's UPS. The Automotive Technology Department in the year 2000 was designated as an official Daimler Chrysler CAP Training Center for the Chicagoland Area. The international student enrollment reached a new high with more than 240 students from 45 countries. The campus Nature Study Area is one of the only places in Cook County where you can see the three beach levels of Old Lake Chicago, now known as Lake Michigan. For the next few years Moraine Valley continues to grow adding on much needed classrooms, on line courses, and introducing a web site.

In 2003 the MVCC Chorale performs at Carnegie Hall in New York along with 21 other choruses representing community colleges from the United States and Canada. A new partnership was formed between the college and Walt Disney World to intern for the spring semester. By Fall semester enrollment reached a record high of 14,380 students. The following year Moraine Valley became the 2nd largest community college in Illinois. Also, a telescope built and donated by Tom McCague, a retired department chair and associate professor of Biology was installed on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck of the Nature Study Area.

In 2005 the men's soccer team was the first college team from the United States invited to participate in an international tournament in Rotterdam Holland, they were also the 1st Moraine Valley team to compete abroad. The women's volleyball team, was the only United State's team in 2006 invited to participate in an international tournament in Dublin, Ireland earning a silver medal. The college's forensics team earned a gold medal at the National Community College Speech and Debate Tournament. The college newspaper the Glacier won a second place in the two-year college category in the national 2006, newspaper of the year award by the Collegiate Press and also finished second place in the Illinois Community College Journalism Association awards. Two of the MVCC faculty members, Richard Wolf and Andrew Zbeeb's in 2007 gave a successful presentation at the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance studies in Oxford, England which in turn prompted an invitation for MVCC students to study at the Centre. This is the first Community College in the world to be invited to participate in this prestigious program.

Through the many years that Moraine Valley Community College has been in existence it has been host to many well know dignitaries, celebrities, a Pulitzer-prize winner, novelist and journalist all of whom either participated in various campus ceremonies or were guest speakers.



The History of North Palos School District 117

The North Palos School District came into existence as a district just prior to 1858. During this time, districts in and about Chicago were numbered within the townships rather than within the county. This accounts for the fact that all records prior to 1900 refer to this particular district as Palos School District #4. Near the turn of the century, the district numbering system was changed and this district became Cook County School District 117, and accordingly, soon became known as North Palos School District 117.

The first school in the District was located at 8425 West 95th Street. This building was a frame, one-room structure that serviced a total student enrollment of approximately 30 students. With student enrollment rapidly increasing, the district constructed a new school at the same location in 1938.

During the 1939-1942 time interval the District experienced a 60% increase in student enrollment, so a new 8-room school was built in 1947 and became known as the **Thomas S. Quin Public School**, located at 7825 West 103rd Street, within the future boundaries of the City of Palos Hills. The **Oliver Dorn School**, located at 7840 West 92nd Street, opened its doors in the fall of 1956. The **Oak Ridge School**, located within the boundaries of the City of Palos Hills, opened its doors in 1959. The next school, named **Glen Oaks**, was built in 1961 at 9045 South 88th Avenue, Hickory Hills. Subsequent increases in enrollment resulted in many room additions at all of the schools, and a new building, **Conrady Junior High**, which was built in 1966. The **Opalinski Primary Center** was dedicated in 1975.

From 1982 to 1992, eleven attempts were made to pass tax increase referenda in the district. As each referendum failed to pass, personnel and student services were forced to be reduced. The beginning of the 1989-90 school year saw the implementation of a reorganization plan in the District. Dorn School became a primary center (grades K-1), Oak Ridge and Glen Oaks housed students in grades 2-5, and Conrady Junior High expanded to include 6th-8th grade students. At this time, Opalinski and Quin were closed and leased.

On November 2, 1993, the school District successfully passed a .90 education tax rate increase by a margin of 3,294 "Yes" votes to 1,920 "No" votes. Student services such as technology, textbook purchase programs, and gifted programs were re-established.

Quin School reopened in 2001. It now houses the **Ken Geraghty Administrative Center** and **Quin Early Learning Center**, where the District now offers free pre-school programs for all district children.



In the past few years teachers and administrators have taken many measures to continuously improve student achievement. Math and reading curriculum mapping has occurred at all grade levels, pre-kindergarten to eighth grade. Students are assessed monthly and /or quarterly using teacher-created local assessments. Teacher articulation meetings and administrative quarterly quality reviews examine student performance on these assessments and make necessary changes to individualized student learning plans. After school tutoring sessions, extra math and reading classes and summer school programs assist students who need extra help. On April 5, 2005 voters overwhelmingly passed a referendum to request a tax rate increase of .75 in the education fund. These funds have been instrumental in helping the District to make the changes in classes and additional staff that have helped to make this increased achievement possible.

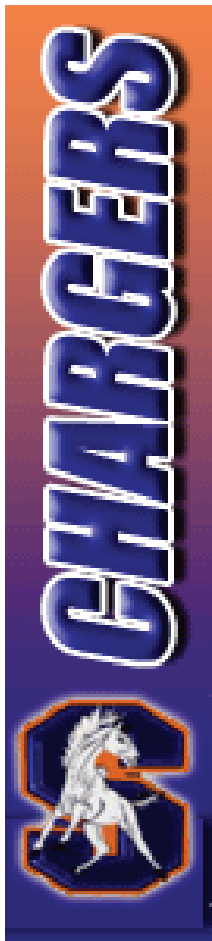
ISAT test scores from 2003-2007 have increased steadily at all grade levels and subjects, with increases as high as 30 percent in some areas. In 2007, the District's overall performance on all tests increased 2.5% from the previous year to 90.5%.

In Spring, 2007, Oak Ridge Elementary and Conrady Junior High received State of Illinois Honor Roll Academic Improvement Awards for substantial gains in performance over the past few years, based on ISAT 2005 scores. In addition, Conrady was one of two junior highs in the state of Illinois recognized by a study at the University of Illinois for high implementation of standards and achievement. They were profiled on the ISBE website as a "best practice" school. Oak Ridge Elementary was also named by the Southtown Economist newspaper as one of the top ten suburban south-land schools based on ISAT scores. In Fall, 2007, Conrady was named to the State of Illinois Honor Roll for 2006 scores and in February, 2008 they received the award again for their 2007 scores.

Growth has been witnessed in the District in all areas. Not only has there been population growth from the 30 students that attended our school at its onset to the 3000 students now enrolled, but also we have grown in facilities, student achievement levels and teacher performance. North Palos School District 117 has reached its goal of being recognized as one of the highest performing school districts in the state of Illinois.



History of District 230 and Koraes School



Miss Dorothy Emily Davie, a graduate of the University of Chicago, came to Orland and Palos Townships in 1919 accredited Chicago high school for the students in the area who were unable to attend the Chicago high school was established through a provision in the Community High School Law of 1917, making it possible to secure funds for all costs except building and equipment from the non-high school district revenue of the State of Illinois.

Miss Davie and the first thirteen students of Orland High School had classes in one room located on the second floor of the old village hall in Orland Park. In March of 1920, the high school was accredited by the State, making graduates eligible to enter the Chicago high schools without entrance examinations and providing full credit for courses taken at the Orland High School.

The next year, Miss Davie and twenty-eight students moved into two rooms in the new bank building. At the end of that school year, the original thirteen students were graduated.

After occupying the old grammar school building for the first part of the third year, Miss Davie and thirty-one students moved to a new five-room school building designed by Mr. Pashley and built by Mr. Mahaffy of Palos Park. In June, 1921,

For the next thirty years, makeshift facilities were used to house the expanding high school enrollment. In the 1940's classes were held in the basement of the grammar school building, in the basement of the Lutheran Church, and in two abandoned stores in the Village of Orland Park. By this time, students were graduating from a fully accredited four-year high school. On May 5, 1952, the voters of Palos and Orland townships voted to create a new high school by combining High School Districts 221 and 222 in Consolidated High School District 230. A year later, the voters held an election to select the site for the new high school as well as to vote the necessary bonds to construct the building.

Amos Alonzo Stagg High School

On May 26, 1962, voters in the district approved a \$2,100,000 bond issue to finance the construction of the second high school in the district located at 111th Street and Roberts Road in Palos Hills. Stagg High School opened in September 1964.

In 1910, the second oldest continuously operating Greek Orthodox parish day school was established. The school was named in honor of [Adamantios Koraes](#), the intellectual father of the Greek War of Independence in 1821. The school became the focal point of the community preparing and transmitting the religious and cultural heritage to future generations. Greek was the only language of instruction until 1922. At this time, English was added to the curriculum as a language of instruction and public school accreditation was arranged.

In 1929, Father Petrakis organized the Koraes Mothers Society for the Koraes Elementary School, the Afternoon Greek School and the Sunday School. The group provided support and aid in the form of free textbooks, lunch programs and tuition payments for indigent children. During the Great Depression of the 1930's the Mothers Society's help was crucial in keeping these schools open Presvytera Petrakis served as president for the first decade.

Following the relocation of the parish to South Shore, the Koraes Elementary School along with the Afternoon Greek and Sunday Schools were housed in temporary quarters adjacent to the new church under construction. In 1948, Patriarch Athenagoras urged the parish to build a new school to encourage religious and ethnic education. His wish was granted when the doors to the new school and community center opened in 1965.



On May 21, 1976, precisely two years after construction of the fourth Church began, His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos officiated at the Thyranioixia (Door Opening) Ceremonies.

On Sunday, June 4th, 2006, Rev. Nicholas W. Jonas assumed the responsibility of the position of Pastor, with Fr. Byron remaining and focusing his attentions especially on our beloved Koraes Elementary School.

Perpetuating and fortifying the mission of our forefathers, education bridges lessons of the past to inspire the future. Koraes Elementary School continues to nurture the intellectual development, enhance a Hellenic ethnic cultural identity and inculcate the moral values of the Greek Orthodox Church for our youth. In addition the Afternoon program offers a curriculum in Greek language studies and our Sunday School and Camp Constantine cultivate the Orthodox way of life.

Organization & Clubs

Palos Hills Riding Stables

Chuck Thompson has been gone for a while, but his legacy still remains here at the Palos Hills Riding Stables.

As a young boy, Chuck grew up around famous Saddle Horses and Hackneys due to the work experience with his great-aunt, the late Mrs. A.C. Thompson. Chuck had continued his interest in horses, worked with the late Dick Talaber and John Klein, where he got more exposure to other elements of horses, such as the hunter/jumpers, race horses, etc. In the years that followed, he went to war, married Christa Grunier in 1953, and then became the manager of the three-story New Parkway Riding Stables located in Lincoln Park. Chuck had influenced the careers of many others

who became horsemen. He and his wife remained at Parkway until 1967...at this time he moved to the now known Palos Hills riding Stables that they had purchased in 1960 and then concentrated their efforts on that facility.



Chuck continued to run a boarding facility that taught lessons and offered trail rides to the public. Chuck then had gotten interested in thoroughbred racing in 1978 and became a trainer out at the track. The thoroughbreds were Chuck's favorite horse endeavor-he had many winners to his credit and spent many a fun hour at the race track.

One of Chuck's most favorite memories was of the horse, Morocco. This lovely spotted American Saddle bred was shown to many blue ribbon wins at the Sun times Horse show in Chicago, as well as being a Broadway star. Morocco was able to help Chuck purchase Palos Hills riding stables by going on the road with the Broadway production of The Music Man. Morocco was on the road for almost a year!



It was chuck's diversity in horses that made him the success he was. He will be remembered for the horseman that he was, as well as the many individuals who have come through the doors of New Parkway Riding Stables and Palos Hills Riding Stables. The number of riders and horse owners, trainers, etc. that have come out of these doors are endless.

Palos Hills Horsemen Association

In the early 1950's the Southwest suburbs of Chicago were just starting to develop. Their development had been spurred during World War II by the building of a Chrysler/Dodge Airplane Plant at what is now Ford City. Suburbs cropped up in the area to provide housing for the workers. The City of Palos Hills was one of the last to incorporate. Palos had stayed pretty rural and was known simply as North Palos. Worth, Hickory Hills, Bridgeview and Chicago Ridge did exist and were annexing streets like 95th, Harlem and Route 83 to set up speed traps and supplement their income. October 25, 1958 the City of Palos Hills incorporated, kind of out of self-defense.

Palos Hills stayed pretty rural for about the next 10 years. Large open lots were the norm and apartments were banned until 1963. The area had long been a center of equine activity on the southwest side of Chicago. Many Livery and Boarding Stables dotted Palos, Hickory Hills and Willow Springs due to their close proximity to the 7000 acre Cook County Forest Preserve Palos Division with its' extensive trail system. One of the largest commercial stables at the time was Green Acres, owned by Cliff Hartman Sr. Green Acres was located on 88th Ave. at about 97th Street. A great deal of what is now Palos was at one time the Hartman family farm which extended from Green Acres south to the Forest Preserve. The history of the PHHA, the City of Palos Hills and Green Acres are closely tied. A small informal subdivision had sprung up across the street from Green Acres west of the Stable. These were small brick ranch houses built on approximately 1-acre lots. Many of them included barns and were owned by former Green Acre boarders. Other areas of Palos also had lots with barns. Green Acres was the hub of social activities for the many horsemen in the area.

In the mid sixties it was the foresight of these homeowner/horsemen and Cliff Hartman Sr. that enable us today to still enjoy horses on small lots in Palos Hills with safe easy forest preserve access. As Cliff Sr. sold off land to the west to the developers who built the apartment buildings in Palos after the ordinances were changed. He insured that his livery riders and boarders would still have access to the trails by donating a section of land parallel to 97th Street for about two blocks to the City with the agreement that it be used for a horse trail. This created the leg of an equestrian trail system through the city. Faced with the change in ordinances and the climate in City Hall the Palos Hills Horsemen's Association was formed in 1967. Some of the original members and their families still live in the area. The original purpose of the club was to preserve private horse keeping in Palos Hills. The first big step of the organization was to encourage the City to create ordinances to preserve, protect and regulate horse keeping on private property. Another primary purpose of the club was to encourage horsemanship in the area. They did this by hosting horse shows, rides, dances, parades and other activities. Governing horse keeping with ordinances, being involved with city government and encouraging horsemanship in a social setting were all very far sighted. Other horse owners who did not organize notably Willow Springs and Hickory Hills and instead depended on being "grandfathered in" soon found themselves horse less. Without ordinances defining horse keeping, active recognition by local governments and sheer numbers the homes in these areas with backyard horses became casualties of urban development.

Palos Hills Horsemen Association Continued....

During the late 60's and early 70's Green Acres remained the hub of activity for the association. Early organizational meetings and later, the monthly meetings were held in the Green Acres clubhouse. Horse shows, some of the largest in the area at the time, some lasting several days were at Green Acres. Other activities included parades, rides and the annual Christmas Dance. Originally only homeowners with horses on their property were allowed full membership, which included voting the club offices. Associate members paid dues and worked hard on activities but were only allowed social privileges. In 1976 the PHHA participated in the National Bicentennial Celebration. Members of PHHA (Bob Luebben as Paul Revere was one of many) took part in historic reenactments at Moraine Valley Community College and then rode with the Wagon Train that crossed the country as far as Tinley Park. Other notable activities included "Find the Spot Rides" and "Cowboy Polo Games". In the late 70's the Bylaws were changed to allow non-residents to vote and hold offices other than board member, president or vice-president. By the end of the 70's meetings were being held the last Wed. of every month at a Restaurant/Bar on Roberts Road, The Copper Kettle. Notices of meetings were mailed out on stamped post cards.

Two very significant events ushered in the 80's for PHHA. Green Acres owner Cliff Hartman Sr. sold Green Acres and the acreage west of there to developers. As Cliff Sr. sold the parcels of land that was to become The Hills of Palos, he provided for an easement for the purpose of a horse trail on the backs of the lots that were sold. The easement was to benefit the owners of a parcel of land, which was the hill at the east entrance of the trail. Cliff Jr. approached the Association officers with an offer to sell them the "hill" and the easement rights to the trail when Green Acres closed. The price was \$5000.00, more than the Club had in reserve. The Club allocated half, \$2500.00 and within two weeks homeowners, members, interested or sympathetic, relatives, friends and neighbors had pledged the rest. This created a trail system connecting the majority of horse properties in the city to the forest preserves. PHHA named the hill and the easements they had acquired "Humphries Trail" after Bob Humphries, one of the founding members.

The other very significant event was the election of a young Gerald Bennett for Mayor of Palos Hills. PHHA and the city forged new avenues of communication and developed relationship that would affect the hour's community for decades. PHHA began demonstrating a strong presence at City meetings with agenda that might affect them, developments, special use permits, widening of roads. Sometimes they were successful, sometimes not, but the city council always listened. For several years the club invited the Mayor, Aldermen and heads of city departments to participate in an Aldermen race during the annual horseshow. Club members and local stables adopted the officials and prepared them for the race on the members horses. The race took the form of a Farmer Brown Race some years, Barrel Tooter other, always fun, always memorable. I believe the mayor won every single year on my Arabian mare, Katy. Toward the mid 80's the City erected the overhead sign at 97th St. and 88th Ave naming their section of the trail Humphries Trail and dedicated it to the Palos Horsemen's Association in a small ceremony at the site.

This demonstrated the change in attitude in both the city and the horsemen. The city began to regard the presence of horses as a desirable and unique aspect of the city. The PHHA began to accept the city council, the mayor and their neighbors as the tremendous benefactors and friends they would come to be. PHHA began important PR activities like appearing at the local Friendship Fest. In the early mid. Eighties they performed Parade of Breeds some years. Other years elaborate Drill Teams performed.



Mayor Bennett, a member of the Horseman Association

What Is The Order Of AHEPA?

AHEPA is the largest grassroots association of US and Canadian citizens of Greek heritage and Philhellenes. It is comprised of nearly 500 local chapters across the US and Canada with headquarters in Washington, D.C. There are also a handful of chapters in Greece and Cyprus for US citizens living there.

AHEPA works to promote Greek-American, Greek culture, and U.S. and Canadian relations with Greece along with promoting the rights of minority Americans. AHEPA Also maintains ties with the similar Australasian Hellenic Educational Progressive Association. The goals of the AHEPA are to promote Hellenism, education, philanthropy, and civic responsibility.

AHEPA was founded on July 26, 1922, as a fraternity in Atlanta, following growing and continuing attacks on Greek-Americans and their businesses by the Ku Klux Klan and others. Its initial mission was to promote the image of Greeks in America, assist them with citizenship and to fight against the KKK attacks by using education and information as weapons.

With the full assimilation of Greek Americans its mission has evolved toward philanthropy, education, and promoting and preserving the Hellenic identity of the Greek Americans. Philanthropic efforts include senior housing projects, extensive local and national scholarship programs, fighting Thalassemia through the AHDPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation and a Greek descent Bone Marrow Registry.

The organization also works on education and advocacy in Washington on issues relating to Greece and Cyprus and U.S. policy.

Palos Hills Horseman Association continued ...

Highlights of Activities in the 80's

1984 – Ride in Lincoln Park Chicago. Park at the Zoo. Pictures of horses tied to parking meters with skyscrapers behind

1985 – first ride to Starved Rock

1986 – Club camping trip to Kettle Moraine in Wisconsin

Activities included Rough and Ready Rides, Breakfast Rides, Halloween Spook rides, Flea Markets, Square dance hayrides but always the Horse Show and Christmas Dance. Meetings were being held at the Killarneys Castle and later the Delphian House. A monthly newsletter informed members of activities and monthly meetings, still the last Wednesday of every month. The hub of club horse activity became Rustic Woods Stable.

The nineties seemed to pass pretty quietly. The relationship between the city and the PHHA continued to grow into a smooth working relationship. New activities emerged, some old ones were dropped. The city continued to give permits for new barns on lots at least ½ acre within a mile of the forest preserve. Meetings were moved to Willow Crossing in the late 90's and they were reduced to every other month, yes still the last Wednesday.

The 21st Century ushered in some of the greatest challenges for PHHA, which could have had a devastating affect on all horsemen in the area. Fortunately by this time PHHA had several formidable weapons in their arsenal, leadership experienced in dealing with governmental agencies, a strong network in the equestrian community, the internet, and Mayor Bennett.

The first major challenge came from IDOT, which was orchestrating the multimillion dollar project of widening LaGrange Rd. It came to the attention of the club leadership that IDOTS planned to close both of the equestrian tunnels in the forest preserve for the entire two years of the project. This would have effectively limited the equestrians to about 5% of the trails. When IDOT was contacted they said we were too late and the time had passed for our input. Both the FPDCC and our County Commissioner said it was too late. A single call to Mayor Bennett sent him to the rescue. He appealed to his contacts at IDOT pointing out the trail closures would cripple two businesses in his community and adversely affect many of his constituents. A compromise plan was announced that week and at least one tunnel remained open for the entire project. IDOT also recognized the equestrian community and kept them closely informed of changes and closures for the duration of the project through the PHHA.

We had barely regained our breath from this crisis when our next challenge emerged. The Forest Preserve of Cook County and the Cook County Board raised the Equestrian fees an unprecedented 400%. Again we were told emphatically that it was too late to do anything and it was unheard of for the county board to roll back an increase. Working closely with Horse Promoters, making many valuable contacts and compiling research on the Internet PHHA began what seemed like a hopeless fight.

The county held public meetings in four sections of the county. On the North side we were able to enlist one speaker on our behalf. Although well received, she was told the situation was hopeless. At the downtown meeting we produced a few more speakers; again the county was not particularly impressed. At the Maywood Courthouse our numbers grew to about 20, with speakers from statewide organization coming to our aide. By the time the meeting was held on the southwest side the newspaper claimed that hundred of horsemen turned out for the meeting. While perhaps not quite hundreds, we had effective speakers of different races, ages and walks of life. We continued with e-mails, letter writing and gained the support of several local legislators and of course Mayor Bennett and the City Council. In the end the Cook County Board rolled back the increase to a reasonable amount by a unanimous vote.

This victory was not only financial or a matter of justice, it opened the door for an increased communication with the Forest Preserve District. The FPDCC invited the PHHA, Horse Promoters and Reps from other stables for input meetings. These resulted in two very successful National Trail Day Clean-ups. Horse Promoter/PHHA leadership spoke at several Board Meetings. The summer of 2006 saw the opening of the very first Equestrian staging area in Cook County. Riders could finally tie horses at hitching posts, use comfort stations, avail themselves to pull-through trailer parking and enjoy the shade pavilion with picnic tables. This was a direct result of input and financial support of both PHHA and Horse Promoters.

As has happened several times in the past PHHA remained active in horse property being rezoned in the City. In the last fight in 2005-2006 the developer pulled his plans after citizens; many of them horsemen filled the meetings month after month. The most rewarding part of this encounter is the attitude of the citizens of Palos Hills. They wanted the property to remain horses; they value the horses in the community. One resident, who lives on the private trail, commented that when he moved into the city it was made clear to him that you did not mess with the horse trail, it was like the "Holy Grail of Palos Hills".

I think the history of PHHA has demonstrated that it is an important organization that has fulfilled its purpose of preserving horse keeping on private property and promoting horsemanship in the area. It is a club that has grown and changed with the times. The greatest threat to the future of horses in the area is not urban sprawl or big government. The greatest threat is that if each and every horseman does not recognize their obligation to do their part and be involved, the club may not continue to exist or be strong enough to meet challenges in the future. It is with this in mind that we invite you to join the Palos Hills Horsemen's Association, share your ideas and join us in the fun.

By Susan Collins, President, Palos Hills Horseman's Association Inc.

September 2006

Businesses, an integral part of Palos Hills

The History of Valley Inn

In 1938 the Valley Inn was built by Edward Schoenke. He ran the business till 1955, his son George and Marie bought it in 1955 and ran the business till 1971. Frank and Faye Ristucci family bought the business in 1972 and is operating with Dennis and Becky, Frank and Debbie Ristucci.

With good food and catering Frank and Faye opened in 1985 the catering business serving the community.

Thanks to all of you

Frank and Faye Ristucci



Hair Professionals Career College invites you to be a part of the exciting beauty industry. Hair Professionals Career College is celebrating its 11th year in Palos Hills. The college also has campuses within the Chicago land area in the growing town of Oswego and in Sycamore near the campus of NIU. Our number one goal is to produce the best graduate. Our students have a fine tradition of excellence in the cosmetology and esthetics field and have been rewarded for their efforts over the year through various competitions.

Hair Professionals Career college reputation in producing fine graduates is being rewarded in Chicago-lands top salons and spas. The feedback that salon owners have given has been more than complimentary. Our success is measured by our student's success and to be the best in the salon and spa industry you have to have world-class training. That is why we have developed a real world salon and spa where you, the customer, can come in and get services at greatly reduced prices. Be a part of our student's education by experiencing our quality hair services. The cosmetology campus is located at 10321 S. Roberts Rd.

The Esthetics campus located two blocks from the Cosmetology campus at 10419 S Roberts Rd is where our Spa training takes place. Hp: esthetics, contains the preeminent and most seasoned teaching staff with a state of the art training facility in the Student Spa.

The Spa, open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, lets the students prepare for the real world. Come in and pamper yourself at our Spa, while taking part in our student's journey to become one of the best in the industry.

hp: esthetics | 10419 S. Roberts Rd, Palos Hills, IL |

708.237.1985

hp: cosmetology | 10321 S. Roberts Rd, Palos Hills, IL |

708.430.1755

www.hairpros.edu

Palos Hills Ace Hardware

11152 Southwest Highway, Palos Hills, IL.

Opened in 1957 and closed its doors in 1997; The Palos Hills Ace Hardware was an established business in the City of Palos Hills for over 40 years. Also the Worth-True Value, was closed after 40 years doing business in Worth. Palos Hills and Worth residents were sad to lose their neighborhood hardware stores the summer of 1997. Both stores said competition from the big chains forced them out of business. Doug Gniadek and his brothers plan to bring a 50 year Burbank tradition to Palos Hills by opening Duke's Ace Hardware at 7610 W. 111th Street., the site of the former Palos Pride Finer Foods.

The 15, 000-square-foot building has remained vacant for more than two years. Dough Gniadek will continue to run the family's Burbank store. His brother, Greg will run the Frankfort store, and his other brother, Al will run the Palos Hills store. The Duke's Ace Hardware, had its grand opening on Nov. 1st, 1997, at the new location in Palos Hills, 7610 W. 111th St. The new location of the Palos Hills Duke's Ace Hardware, will be a modern, well-lit, well stocked store.

The store offers a wide product selection, a knowledgeable staff and services such as window repairs that the big chains don't, Gniadek said. It's convenient because it's closer, you don't have the hassle of a big parking lot, and they offer things that the other large hardware chains don't such as community pride helpful service no matter how small the job may be! They give one-on-one service that's so needed.

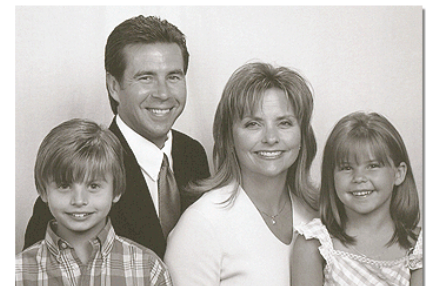
A Brief History of

The Palos – Gaidas Funeral Home

Some may think Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home is relatively new to the Palos area, and it is (established 1996). But its history goes back well over 100 years. Its History goes back to Chicago's back of the Yards community, made famous in Upton Sinclair's novel, "The Jungle" published in 1906. John F. Eudeikis Funeral Home served many of the immigrant families, mostly who were employed at the union Stockyards, at the time.

In 1969, David Gaidas Sr. and Gerald Daimid (both who worked for Mr. Eudeikis) bought the business, which also included a Brighton Park facility by this time. Neighborhood changes brought about the addition of the Palos Hills facility in 1996. David Gaidas, Jr. and his wife Loretta, run and operate the Palos location, currently known as Palos-Gaidas

Funeral Home. They live above the funeral home with their 2 children, Davey, 12, and Olivia, 7.



Sid's Greenhouse & Garden Center since 1961

Bernice and Sid Schaafsma founded Sid's in 1961—originally as a fresh fruit and vegetable stand on the current Palos Hills site. Since that time, managed growth has resulted in the addition of greenhouses, a garden center, floral shop, nursery, and landscaping business. Sid's is proud of its distinction of being Chicagoland's Premier Garden Center with trained professionals in every department to offer expert advice and service to loyal customers. Sid's Greenhouse & Garden Center in Palos Hills is situated on approximately 5 acres with 425 feet of frontage along Southwest Highway. Part of the property includes the Schaafsma Family home, which now serves as the main office area for the business. As adjacent residential property became available, it was incorporated into the complex. In July 2001, a second location was added in Bolingbrook with the purchase of the assets of an existing garden center business there. This location has been expanded to include a 27,000 sq ft retail building on approximately 4 acres with 1200 feet of frontage along two major roadways. Sid's offers value to its customers by providing excellent service, convenience of the shopping experience, availability of merchandise customers want (when they want it) and through value added programs and services such as Sid's Garden Club, Sid's Reward Dollars, Seminars and Workshops. We consistently strive to create an unmatched shopping experience for our customers.

Palos Hills Facilities

Sid's Greenhouse & Garden Center in Palos Hills is situated on approximately 5 acres with 425 feet of frontage along Southwest Highway. Part of the property includes the Schaafsma family home, which now serves as the main office area for the business. As adjacent residential property became available, it was incorporated into the complex.

The original 4 greenhouses were built from 1963—1967 are still in use. Greenhouses 1 and 2 were fitted with steel roofs in 1984 to create the garden center area, while the Fiberglass roofs were replaced with polycarbonate.

In 1984 the building, which now houses the floral department, was built. This is a 75' x 70' building which was built over and around the original Schaafsma family home, which is now used as office space.

Greenhouses 5 and 6 were built in 1986. These are Nexus Greenhouses, originally covered with bronze polycarbonate film. The roofs were replaced with opaque polycarbonate in 2002.

In 1988, several houses were torn down to make room for the current warehouse building at the south edge of the property. This building is 50' x 100' consisting of four bays providing 5,000 square feet of storage.

In 1998, the perennial greenhouse was erected. This Nexus structure is 72' x 120' (two 36' x 120' bays). With removable double-poly side walls, this building is in use yearround.

In 2000, a 12' x 12' x 120' tent structure was installed to create additional sheltered storage and merchandising space out of the driveway between the greenhouses and the northern boundary of the property.

The shade structure on either side of the main entrance is covered with a double poly roof for three-season dry outdoor merchandising space in the spring, summer and fall.

In 2004, we added $\frac{3}{4}$ acre by rezoning an adjacent parcel of residential property. The existing house was remodeled to serve as our new education building and nursery office.



Palos Hills Businesses

Now and Again Resale Antiques & Collectable's 10714 Roberts Road

This store is a favorite of Palos Hills for 15 years. Owner Donna Mufich along with 15 talented hand picked dealers present affordably priced antiques, collectable's, gifts, furniture, shabby chic and much more. We bring the unusual, unique, one of a kind items to our shop. Customers enjoy our friendly relaxed atmosphere and displays that offer many items for their home all at affordable prices. Shopping at NOW & AGAIN is truly a one of a kind experience and a first time visit is guaranteed to bring you back to NOW & AGAIN, again and again.

Ronda Graman

Palos Hills New Horizon Club for Senior Citizens History

The Club was incorporated by the State of Illinois on September 16, 1974. The original officers were Jerri A. Pearce, Earl J. Myers and Phyllis I Hespren.

The purpose of the club is the cultivation of friendship; the development of mutual interests and the sharing of social, educational and recreational projects.

Membership is open to adults 62 years and older and residing within the city limits of Palos Hills. Dues are \$3.00 per year.

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7pm at the Community Center.



SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF HICKORY HILLS AND PALOS HILLS ILLINOIS

The Palos Hills Chamber was established over 40 years ago. Like most chambers it was and continues to be comprised of small businesses in the community and run by a board elected by its members. The goal of the Palos Chamber was to offer various resources for growth in the business community and a way to promote and build relationships with other successful business owners. Over the years the Palos Chamber has sponsored many events for the community. The Chamber was responsible for starting the beautiful Christmas lights project you see in our community; supported Scholarships for students; and co-sponsored the Youth Turnabout Day for students to spend the day with business and government leaders.

The Chamber has been fortunate to have had several devoted business owners operate the Chamber and who continue to remain active board members. Over the past 20 years business leaders such as Phyllis Majka, Arlene Kasper and Art Golden have not only presided as Presidents of the chamber but also continue to be involved on the Hills Chamber Executive Board.

In 2003 under the guidance of Palos Hills Chamber President Phyllis Majka and Hickory Hills Chamber President Arlene Kasper both boards under careful consideration voted to merge their respective chambers. In January 2004 the Hills Chamber of Commerce became incorporated with both Presidents serving as Co-Presidents. The merger was solely for the purpose of being able to better serve the businesses of both communities.

The Chamber's goals remain the same. We encourage new business in the community, participate in municipal matters and monitor legislation which affects the business community and support community events. We ask for your support in our endeavors by shopping and doing business within Palos and Hickory Hills whenever possible and by attending and supporting our fundraising events.



Arlene Kasper, Phyllis Majka, Christine and Jerry Bennett



Arlene Kasper and Phyllis Majka

Palos Hills

Cranes & Equipment Specialists of Chicago/CES Crane Rental, 10900 S. 85th Ave. are part of the International Union of Operating Engineers, local 150. The company is approaching their 30th year anniversary. Cranes & Equipment Specialists of Chicago began in 1979 and was founded by the late Dennis L. Jirout and Joe Ashley; honorable businessmen dedicated in supporting local business, charities and the community. We began as a heavy equipment and crane repair business and through hard work and dedication the company added a fleet of rental cranes; expanding their business to meet the demands of the expanding community. As technology evolved the company it was elected to be the premier dealer for Hirschmann/PAT/ LMI safety systems for Illinois and Wisconsin. The family owned business is operated today with the same values and integrity as bestowed upon us by our fathers. We are proud to be part of this community and will continue to strive and provide outstanding customer service as our founding fathers before us.



Tot Stuff Playschool

Playschool held at the Palos Hills Community Center is a balanced program designed to meet the educational, social and creative needs of children 3 to 5 years old. Each class includes pre-academic reading skills, learning games, songs and play time.



Halloween Hayride



Grandparent Reader Program



Family Parties & Programs



Thanksgiving Celebration



The City of Palos Hills

*Celebrating the 50th Anniversary
of Incorporation*

October 25, 1958 - October 25, 2008

Gerald R. Bennett, Mayor

*Log on to the City Website
www.paloshillsweb.org*

*Click on 50th Anniversary
Print additional copies
or to view any updates to the
Palos Hills 50th Anniversary
Commemorative Book*

*Featuring stories, pictures and artifacts of
our rich and productive history.*



Past City Banner Program



**City Council
Honors Our Military
2008**