

ALSIP DIGEST

VILLAGE OF ALSIP, ILLINOIS

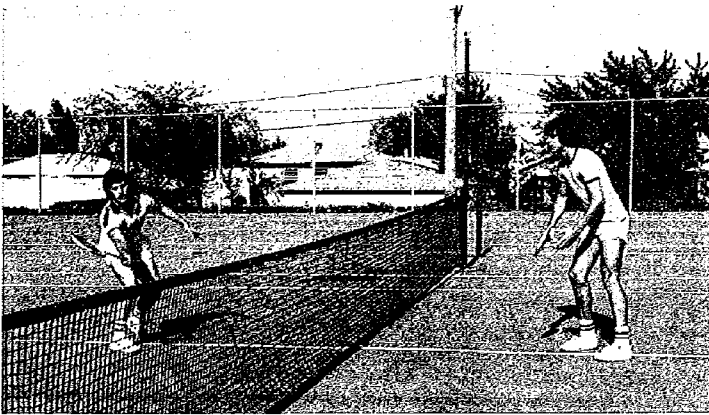
...PROGRESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP...

Volume 2

July, 1979

Number 2

SUMMER SWINGS INTO ALSIP



PARK PROMOTES FAMILY FUN

"Recreate, don't hibernate," advises the Alsip Park District in a special brochure detailing park programs, geared to adults, to young people and to families. Youngsters may learn dancing, baton or baseball basics through "T-Ball". Field trips to Brookfield Zoo and the Chicago Bears Training Camp are part of summer park pleasures. Nine playgrounds run regular activities, while a Day Camp Program offers a more structured agenda. Pre-schoolers are currently reviewing the alphabet and number concepts in a special informal learning situation, and mother anticipates the monthly outings to downtown Chicago to see a play or shop Water Tower Place. On the practical side, a dollar saving course on basic auto maintenance is offered. For the family choosing to "play together", lessons in tennis, guitar and horseback riding are available.



Ms. Lori Dorgan pauses for a pose with her baton students at Apollo Park.

LIBRARY SENDS SUMMER MAGICAL MESSAGES

Discover the "magic of books" during the Alsip-Merrionette Park Library Summer Reading Program, June 25th to August 4th. Youngsters between the ages of 6 and 14 who register for the program will be awarded special certificates of achievement upon reaching self-set reading goals. As an extra treat, all participants are eligible to attend "Monday's Magical Movies" (during July, between 7 & 8 p.m.); a Magic Workshop, an Amateur Magic Show and a party hosted by a professional magician.

Preschoolers, ages 3-5, are invited to join the "Read Me A Book Club", through which youngsters have 15 books read to them by a parent, guardian or family member. These youngsters are then welcome to attend a Magical Storyhour Saturday, August 4th, at 10:00 a.m.

Girl Scouts will have the opportunity to earn their Book Badge and Magic Carpet Badge through summer library workshops held on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in July.

For further information, call Joanna Moran, Children's Librarian, 371-5666, or drop in the library at 11951 S. Pulaski.



Ms. Joanna Moran, Children's Librarian, introduces 5 year old Lana Kofron to the "Magical World of Books." Lana is a Lane School student.

MEET BOB STERBA—

A TALENTED TRUSTEE



A man with an eye on the future, based on experience of the past describes Alsip Trustee Bob Sterba, an Alsip resident since 1956.

As Chairman of the Water Committee, Sterba spearheaded action to assure Alsip a total water reserve of 6 million gallons, stored in two underground and two overhead tanks. This reserve fulfills requirements of the City of Chicago (from whom Alsip buys its water) and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"These requirements are based upon an average 24-hour day supply, and according to our engineers, Alsip will have sufficient reserve until 1985 when consumption and growth will dictate new needs," explains Trustee Sterba. He adds that Alsip supplies water to Palos Heights and Crestwood, but they are required to maintain their own reserves.

During Sterba's past service as village trustee, he was serving on the Police, Fire and Village Hall Committees when Alsip constructed two new firehouses and a new police station. Currently, as Chairman of the Water & Sewer Committee, a program is underway through a government grant to inspect the condition of sanitary sewers throughout the village and set up a preventive maintenance plan to alleviate storm sewer water from inadvertently flowing into sanitary lines.

Bob's first step into public service during the fifties as a volunteer fireman and later a volunteer policeman, was prompted by a sincere concern for his community. Prior to that, an interest in the 1957-59 village elections sparked his Chairmanship of one of the participating parties.

Later, in 1961, Bob was elected Village Clerk and re-elected in 1965, but in 1966 his job as an Operations Manager took him out of state for nearly four years. Upon his return to Alsip, he was anxious to serve and won a seat on the Village Board in 1973, followed by re-election in 1977 to the post he holds today.

During those busy years, Bob also managed to devote time to Alsip Little League and serve as Chairman of the "Alsip Community Chest Finance and Allocation Committee".

Sterba says that full-time personnel with a professional background is the answer to meeting the changes created by Alsip's phenomenal growth during the past 20 years.

"Like so many municipalities today, Alsip is trying to do a full-time job on a part-time basis," says Sterba. The spirited trustee is convinced that such an approach is outdated.

For example, in Alsip's infancy, one clerk handled the Water Department, working one-half day, three times a week. Today, the Village has three full-time employees in this department, but the increased responsibility emanating from increasing expenditures calls for tighter accountability.

As another example, Sterba cites the current two part-time Water & Sewer Commissioner posts, which could be combined with one professional, responsible for administration; pumping station and all auxiliary equipment; reviewing of all water and sewer plans; determining problem areas and designing remedies for all village water and sewer lines. This same person would also act as a liaison between various state and county agencies.

Trustee Sterba is confident that such transitions will ultimately serve taxpayers best interests in keeping Alsip a prosperous as well as an attractive, sanitary and safe community.

"A quality environment attracts quality residents and qualified business and industry. This secures our tax base," emphasizes Sterba. He feels Alsip's leaders have a responsibility to assure that quality, and is proud to be a part of the team whose prudent planning is responsible for so much progress.



During recent final construction of three million gallon underground reservoir at 117th & Karlov, a catwalk provided access to its spacious flat surface upon which will be built tennis and basketball courts for use by Alsip residents.

BULTEMA FIRST FIREFIGHTER



FIRE CHIEF JOHN BULTEMA

Alsip Fire Chief John Bultema has been heading the department for the past 34 years, having founded the first 12 man volunteer department in 1945. He recalls the early firehouse constructed by the men themselves between 1952-58, followed by the purchase of the first fire truck in 1964.

"We ran a lot of bake sales and dances in those days and at's how we bought our first 1947 Chevrolet Pumper," recalls the seasoned Chief. He adds that they still have that pumper on standby reserve.

Today Alsip boasts two new fire stations, No. 1 (126th & Crawford) and No. 2 (120th & Laramie). Bultema says he is proud to have been a part of this dynamic growth which means better insurance rates for Alsip property owners. The modest Chief attributes his knowledge to skills gathered through years of experience as well as a curiosity toward new challenges. Recently he attended a special classroom course in Lockport, Illinois with the fire chief of the Clark Oil Co. He feels that a new firefighter should be exposed to both classroom and practical experience, and learn the importance of self-discipline.

"Properly carrying out a directive at a critical point of fighting a real fire can often teach a lesson faster than six months classroom study," points out Bultema, who moved to Alsip in 1924 when the total population was a mere 165 people. He and his wife, Christina, raised three children, John, James and Jerry Lynn and today are proud grandparents.

ALSIP SIGNS UP SIX NEW FIREFIGHTERS

According to Trustee Penney Black, four new firefighters were appointed full time firemen as of June 1, 1979, and two others appointed as of July 1st. Those starting June 1st are: Terry A. Vrshek, John R. Hartmann, Phillip L. Schafer and Ross E. Staton. Members of the Alsip Fire and Police Departments are required to reside in the village and allowed one year to relocate if necessary. Fire Chief Bultema says these new appointments bring the total number of Alsip full time firemen up to 30 including himself.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Individuals interested in serving as an Alsip volunteer firefighter, day or night, are invited to pick up an application at Firehouse No. 1. Priority will be given those who currently work nights and would be available during the day between the hours of 6 a.m. & 6 p.m. Requirements: (1) must be an Alsip resident (2) must be at least 21 years of age, but less than 35 (3) must be in good health (4) must agree to take required training as stipulated by fire department officials.



PLUMBING INSPECTOR OFFERS TIMELY TIPS . . .

Fred Brouwer, Alsip Plumbing Inspector, offers the following hints:

The use of ample water when operating a garbage disposal is an absolute must to prevent drains from clogging because of trapped chicken bones or similar hard waste material, (including the occasional fork or spoon that accidentally finds its way into the disposal.)

* * * *

To help eliminate sewer gas odor from seeping into your basement, periodically pour water into basement floor drains, especially in very dry weather. When the air lacks sufficient humidity, every drop of available water in the home is absorbed into the dry air, including water standing in floor drains which otherwise serves as a seal to prevent sewer gas seepage.

* * * *

Be very selective about materials that are deposited into toilets. The 2" ejector pump with only a 2" discharge, is not capable of easily moving materials that do not dissolve such as paper towel, kleenex or pampers.

PROTECT YOUR BIKE

To protect your bicycle against theft, Alsip Police recommend that you chain and lock bike using a case hardened chain and lock, looped through frame and wheel. Always pick a spot to lock up that is open view to the public. Whenever possible, bring the bike inside with you.

REGISTER YOUR BIKE FOR IDENTIFICATION with the Alsip Police Department in the Public Safety Building, 4500 West 123rd St.



REMINDERS . . .

**See you at Alsip Summer Fest
June 30-July 1
St. Terrence Church Grounds
Parade Sunday 1:00**

Alsip Village Board meets 7:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thurs. of each month.

All swimming pools must be enclosed by a fence at least 42" high, and periodically filtered or refilled.

Dog licenses available at Public Safety Bldg. Current fee: \$5.00 (includes \$2.00 late penalty). FREE to Seniors (62 yrs. or older).



ALSIP SPRUCES UP STREETS



Street Superintendent, Tony Esposito, and Assistant Jack Redmore review plans for street improvement program.

Trustee Jim Howe advises that under the 1979 Street Improvement Program, the following projects are reported underway by Street Department Superintendent Tony Esposito and Assistant Jack Redmore:

117th Street Storm Sewer (East of Pulaski)

Extension of a 42" storm sewer along 117th Street, east from Pulaski and rear line drainage structures north of 117th.

Storm Sewer (Old Stony Creek, north of 123rd St.)

Piping of Old Stony Creek from south side of 123rd Street, north along the rear line of homes.

120th St., 120th Pl., and Lawndale Ave. (east of Hamlin Ave.)

Necessary base repair, curb replacement, structure adjustments and new bituminous surface.

Homan Ave. (131st St., north for 900')

Necessary base repair, which includes digging up weak, damaged section of street and reinforcing with additional stone to offer stronger base support before resurfacing.

Resurfacing of remaining streets in South Hazel Green

Lawler (115th St. to 117th St.); LaVergne (116th St., to 117th St.); 116th St. (200' east of LaVergne. Resurfacing the street in the 123rd St. & Lamont Ave. area.

Alley south of 119th St. (Keeler Ave. to Komensky Ave.)

Necessary grading, additional stone, structure adjustments and resurfacing.

Kildare Ave. (South of 119th Pl.)

Necessary base repair, which includes digging up weak, damaged section of street and reinforcing with additional stone to offer stronger base support before resurfacing.

Avon Ave. (111th to Lawler)

Seal Coating, necessary base repair, additional stone a resurfacing.

113th St. (LeClaire to Lawler Ave.)

Necessary base repair, patching and resurfacing.

In addition, maintenance of traffic signals at 123rd and Cicero Avenue will be included in this program which is being funded by Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) money and Road and Bridge fund.

INVESTIGATE TRASH REMOVAL SYSTEM



Mr. Groen and Trustee Ray Morrison examine trial "toter".

According to Trustee Ray Morrison, Alsip has agreed to participate in a free 60 day trial of a unique concept in residential trash collection. The "Rubbermaid Co." has devised a "Mobile Toter System" designed to replace the traditional 20 gallon trash can with an 85 gallon "toter" equipped with wheels for easy maneuvering and a snap-lock lid to discourage spills and accessibility to animals. The limited number of containers

supplied by Rubbermaid for the pilot program, will be distributed to designated residential sections throughout the village. Sandy Eich, Health Officer, says the system appears to have some merit in that the container's seal would discourage animal and insect infestation. Comments from participating residents will be gathered after the trial period has ended.

DO BE A DONOR . . . First Alsip Blood Drive July 14, 1979—Opens 8:30 a.m.—ST. TERRENCE CHURCH C.C.D. CENTER, 119th & KOSTNER. Call now for an appointment to donate: Maureen, 389-5959 or Carol, 389-3320 or the Alsip Village Hall, 385-6902. Help Alsip get off to a good start toward its annual goal of 630 pints, required to maintain replacement coverage for our community.

Alsip Digest written and edited by Jean Rodgers.

Your letters of news or comment are welcome: Direct them to:

Alsip Digest
Alsip Village Hall
4500 W. 123rd Street
Alsip, IL 60658

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Alsip, Ill.
Permit No. 4038

Village of Alsip Digest
Vol. 2, No. 2
July, 1979

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