

# ALSIP DIGEST

VILLAGE OF ALSIP, ILLINOIS

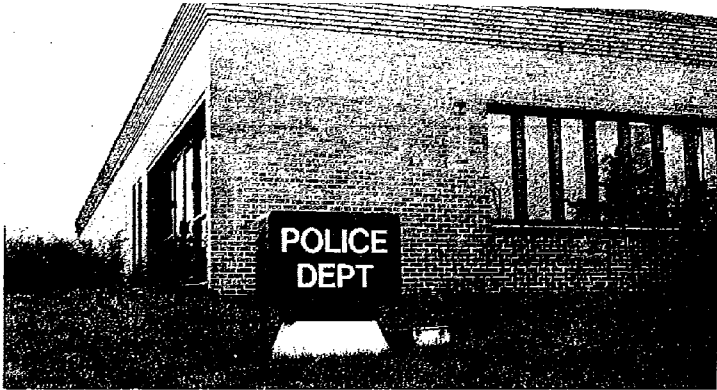
...PROGRESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP...

Volume 4

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Number 2

## ALSIP POLICE PURSUE PREVENTION ... FOCUS ON VANDALISM



Alsip Police Headquarters EMERGENCY TEL.: 385-6131.

At a recent Village Board meeting Mayor Arnold A. Andrews and Police Chief Warner T. Huston announced the launching of an innovative Crime Prevention Program—"A Community Against Vandalism", with special focus on the issue during the month of June 1981.

The thrust of the program is to focus more on long range goals designed to develop more public awareness that will diminish negative attitudes while nurturing positive ones. Statistics on a nation-wide basis reflect a consistent rise in such activity despite efforts to eliminate the problem. Although Alsip is not experiencing vandalism to as serious a degree as some other places, this program is prompted to initiate some control to stifle its growth.

For some time now, Alsip Police Investigator Ken Wood of Alsip's Crime Prevention Unit, has been coordinating efforts among several segments of the community, including school officials, administrators, teachers, public officials, organizations and churches. All are helping to support and promote constructive activity. But parents, of course, are the primary and most effective influence on their children.

By channeling youthful energy toward constructive actions and attitudes, it is intended to counteract interest and activity in destructive ones. Youthful pride in the community in which one lives can do much to dilute acts of vandalism.



Officer Ken Wood promotes posters.

"We're realistic enough to know that we can never hope to wipe out the problem entirely, but are obligated to at least show children an alternative to anti-social behavior—otherwise how will they ever be able to judge what is right and what is wrong?" says Wood.

In addition to Mayor Andrews recent proclamation supporting Alsip's vandalism program, Officer Wood recently conducted a Poster and Essay Contest among schoolchildren. Prizes included savings bonds, cameras, coin-filled banks and gift certificates. Wood says that while neatness and other considerations contributed to judging, he also encouraged the children to just feel free to express their personal feelings about vandalism with pen or paint and paper.

"I was really impressed with what these kids did. They all expressed very negative feelings about vandalism and they did it with some very original pictures, rhymes and reasons."

Local business has been quite generous in donations of time, money and materials as has the Alsip Industrial District and the Worth Township Youth Commission, all of which are contributing to the programs growing success. Wood says the Alsip Kiwanis Club purchased an expensive film which they donated to the Police Department for use when making a presentation on vandalism to schools.

A monthly newsletter distributed to Alsip schoolchildren and written alternately by Alsip Police Chief Warner T. Huston, and school principals, superintendents and Worth Township Administrators has also been quite effective, as have the notices carried in local Church Bulletins.

### ... The High Cost of Vandalism ...

According to a report prepared by Officer Wood, vandalism is long past the nuisance stage. It is rapidly becoming a blatant assault on the moral codes and financial stability of a com-  
(continued)



Stony Creek school children display vandalism posters. Front row (l-r): Sandy Hojnacki, Bobby Cline and Jeff Buben. Back row (l-r): Debbie McClain, Chris Evoy and Suma Jacobs

## Alsip Police Pursue Prevention . . . (continued)

munity. Losses to taxpayers is frightening. American schools alone annually lose over \$5000,000,000 in taxpayer dollars to the costly consequences of vandalism. Each dollar spent on repairs, means one less spent on books and educational materials.

However, schools are not the only targets. Unfortunately, in 1979, over ten million dollars worth of destruction of residential, streets, alleys, schools and businesses was attributed to vandalism in the state. On a nation-wide basis, twenty-two million dollars in property damage was attributed to vandalism.

In addition to the monetary losses, vandalism affects public moral. Broken, marred or littered public property boldly advertises a disregard for society.

The causes of vandalism remain obscure. But contrary to popular assumption, vandals are not typically those youths who are the most needy or frustrated. Instead, many appear to be well adjusted members of families from comfortable homes.

Preliminary evaluation of some innovative vandalism prevention programs disclose that success is directly dependent upon the full cooperation of the community.

"And that's what my immediate goals are," says Officer Wood. "To coordinate as many segments of the community as possible in order to enlist interest, support and participation in Alsip's program, "A Community Against Vandalism."

For more information, call: ALSIP POLICE DEPT., CRIME PREVENTION UNIT: 385-6902—Ext. 48.

## WIN POLICE ESSAY CONTEST

Six Prairie Jr. High School students recently were awarded first, second and third place prizes in the Vandalism Essay Contest sponsored by the Alsip Police Department. They are Kathy Fitzpatrick, Barb Hohnacki, Michelle Gartman (eighth graders); Mindy Boghosian, Michelle Flamm and Melanie Mullen (seventh graders). First place prizes were \$50.00 Savings Bonds; second place, Polaroid Cameras and third, gift certificates.

## APPROPRIATION ADOPTED

The Alsip Village Board adopted an appropriation ordinance at the regular June 1, 1981 Village Board meeting for the current fiscal year. Mayor Arnold Andrews advises that he is pleased to announce the figures have been brought within the goals set—2% less than 1980. The Mayor adds that services are expected to continue at the current level.

## COMMON TAX QUESTIONS

There are hundreds of units of government in Cook County, each levying its own tax in the area or community in which it operates. Your Tax Bill represents YOUR SHARE of the total cost of operations of ALL of the taxing bodies levying a tax in your specific area or community.

### WHAT IS THE FIRST THING I SHOULD LOOK FOR ON MY TAX BILL?

The PERMANENT INDEX NUMBER. This identifies your property. Be sure it is correct to avoid the possibility of payment of tax on the wrong property.

### WHAT IS THE ASSESSOR'S VALUATION?

It is a measure of value or worth of property, which has been established by the Assessor of Cook County and has a definite relation to market or fair cash value.

### HOW IS THE ASSESSOR'S VALUATION OF MY PROPERTY ESTABLISHED?

The Real Estate is viewed, measured and appraised, both land and improvements according to a Set of Rules which the Assessor applies uniformly to all property in Cook County. This value may fluctuate up or down from one quadrennial to the next because it has a direct relation to current cash value or market value and is affected by the real estate market.

### WHAT IS THE TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION?

It is the sum of the Land Value plus the Building Value which is multiplied by the State Equalization Factor, which results in the Equalized Value.

### WILL THE TAX ON THIS EQUALIZED VALUATION BE THE SAME FOR A CHICAGO PROPERTY AS FOR ONE IN A SUBURB?

No. Because the budgets required by the local taxing bodies in different Taxing Districts are different. Therefore, the tax rate or amount of dollars for tax per \$100 of valuation will be different.

### WHY DOESN'T THE ASSESSOR'S VALUATION APPEAR ON THE TAX BILL?

Because the law requires that property in Illinois be assessed at 100% of fair cash value. The State Department of Revenue each year establishes a factor to equalize the ASSESSOR'S VALUATION AT 100%. This equalized valuation must appear on the Tax Bill.

### IF THE ASSESSOR INCREASES THE VALUATION ON ALL PROPERTY IN COOK COUNTY, WILL AN INDIVIDUAL'S TAX BE HIGHER AS A RESULT?

Not necessarily because of the increased valuation. If your tax is higher, it will be primarily because of the increase in Budget Requirements and Tax Rate.

### WHAT IS THE TAX RATE?

It is a multiplier computed by the County Clerk for each taxing district and is applied to the Equalized Valuation to give the amount of tax in dollars which appears on the Tax Bill.

### WHAT IS THE EQUALIZED VALUATION?

It is the amount which appears on the tax bill as required by law, and which is arrived at by applying the Equalization Factor (a multiplier established by the State of Illinois Department of Revenue intended as a means of bringing the Assessed Valuation up to 100% market value as required by law).

## POOL PRECAUTIONS

IN ACCORD WITH ALSIP VILLAGE CODE, THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINE IS OFFERED:

1. All private and portable swimming pools must be enclosed by a fence or other suitable enclosure at least 42" high, with gate latches positioned so as to be inaccessible from the outside to small children. In lieu of such fencing, a suitable pool cover must be provided that will withstand the weight of 150 pounds.
2. At least one means of exit in the form of steps, ladders or step holes must be provided for private, portable swimming pools having a depth of 3' or more.
3. All pools must be maintained in a clean and sanitary manner by either filtering or refilling at periodic intervals. REGULAR USE OF AN EFFECTIVE GERMICIDE AND ALGAECIDE IS REQUIRED.
4. Proper supervision must be provided while pool is in use.
5. As a courtesy to neighbors, DO NOT DRAIN POOL WATER INTO THE YARDS OR GARDENS OF OTHERS.
6. No portion of all private portable pools or its equipment is permitted less than five feet from any property line.

## APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

At the regular May 4, 1981 Village Board Meeting, the following appointments were ratified:

John Streeter	Treasurer
Marion Bucht	Assistant Treasurer
Peter Loutos	Attorney
Sandra Eich	Health Commissioner
Joyce Cavanaugh	Mayor's Secretary
Bob Sterba	Administrative Assistant to Mayor
Anthony Esch	Water Commissioner
Maurice Augustus	Water Plant Operat
Frank Hiter	Civil Defense Directc.
John Bultema	Fire Chief
Mathew Cramer	Plan Commission
Diana McCoy	Plan Commission
Ronald Fraider	Plan Commission
William Hayes	Zoning Board
Jack Redmore	Superintendent of Streets

## STERBA STEPS DOWN



Mayor Arnold Andrews (l) presents plaque to Bob Sterba (r) as Trustee Jim Howe (seated far right) looks on.

Outgoing Village Trustee, Bob Sterba, was presented a plaque by Mayor Arnold A. Andrews at the regular May 4, 1981 Village Board Meeting in appreciation of Sterba's many years of service to Alsip including terms as both Village Clerk and Village Trustee.

Sterba first stepped into public service during the fifties as a volunteer fireman and later a volunteer policeman. He was elected Village Clerk in 1961, and re-elected to the same post in 1965. He won a trustee's seat on the Village Board in 1973, followed by re-election in 1977.

Bob, however, will continue to serve Alsip in the capacity of Administrative Assistant to Mayor Andrews. "Bob's kind of expertise is too valuable to lose," says the Mayor.

## PERMIT PROVIDES PROTECTION . . . CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

Both contractors or private home owners will do well to comply with Alsip Village ordinance which requires a Permit before beginning any remodeling or new construction. Permits are issued by the Alsip Building Department located in the Public Safety Building, 4500 West 123rd Street. A nominal \$5.00 Building Permit fee includes a Certificate of Inspection which is issued after all inspectors have made a final inspection of the completed work.

**The CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY assures the owner that the work is completed in accord with village code, thus avoiding costly and time consuming problems of violation.**

As pertains to new construction, premature occupancy (before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued) holds the occupant as well as the contractor in JOINT VIOLATION. A \$200.00 fee per day (each day constitutes a separate offense) may be assessed according to village ordinance.

Permit applications request information according to the type of work involved, such as new construction; room additions or industrial sites. All contractors must be licensed and bonded. The length of time required to secure a Certificate of Occupancy is dependent upon how quickly all requirements are in full compliance. The fewer delays, the sooner the certificate is issued.

## HALLALUJAH MUSICAL COMES TO EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL

A Place In The Sun camp program will present "Hallalujah Musical" on July 23rd at 7:00 p.m., and July 24 at 9:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Eisenhower High School, 127th St. and Sacramento Ave., Blue Island. The cast is comprised of eighty members, the majority of whom are handicapped persons. DONATION: \$2.00. TEL.: DONNA VALONE—758-9146. This camp is sponsored by Worth Township to meet the recreational needs of handicapped persons.

## HELP FOR HANDICAPPED

Handicapped Parking Identification Cards are available to eligible persons residing in the Village of Alsip, through the Worth Township Office located at 5831 West 115th Street, Worth. Telephone: 371-2900.

## RECYCLED CANS MEAN CASH FOR KIDS

Two enterprising young Alsip residents, Mike Kramer and Lloyd Delbarbara, recently turned a batch of battered beer and pop cans into a batch of cold cash.

The fourteen year old Prairie Jr. High School classmates scoured village streets, lots and gutters collecting their bounty which they sold to the Reynolds Aluminum Company at a collection station located in the parking lot of the Hickory Hills Jewel Store on 95th Street.

Only aluminum cans are acceptable and payment is determined by the pound, with prices fluctuating from time to time. Mike and Lloyd are able to determine the aluminum from the metal cans because the aluminum shows no sign of rusting.

Reynolds asks that the cans be placed in a see-through, plastic bag, but these two energetic young entrepreneurs took things one step further and flattened each can with the swing of a good, heavy sledge hammer, which permits more cans to fit into each bag.

However, keeping busy with worthwhile projects is nothing new to these boys. They also enjoy occasional scavenging excursions when they search discarded debris for hidden treasure. One such excursion turned up a broken lawn mower which Mike carted home, repaired and now uses to earn money mowing lawns.

Their parents say can collecting is an ideal activity for youngsters their age who have outgrown things that amused them last summer, but are still too young for regular jobs. As it turns out, they pocket some cold cash while unwittingly performing a public service by ridding the community of ugly debris and themselves of the excess energy with which their age group is bursting.

In addition, this summer will mark the seventh year in a row that Reynolds will be a corporate sponsor of the Muscular Dystrophy Association/Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon. That means that from August 1 through Labor Day, September 7, Reynolds will donate one cent to MDA for every pound of aluminum collected by the company nationwide. In addition to cans, the company accepts pie plates, frozen food and dinner trays and dip, pudding and meat containers. They also purchase siding, gutters, storm door and window frames if cut into three feet lengths and bundled neatly.

### THE REYNOLDS TRUCK SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS FOR THOSE YOUNGSTERS LOOKING TO EARN SOME SUMMER MONEY:

MONDAY	..... closed
TUESDAY	..... 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	..... 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	..... 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
FRIDAY	..... 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
SATURDAY	..... 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS	..... closed

(Parking Lot of Jewel Store, 95th St., Hickory Hills)

## REMINDER . . .

Postage stamps are no longer available for purchase at the Village Hall. They may be purchased at either of the two new Mini-Post Offices recently opened in Alsip:

- (1) FIRST STATE BANK, 11346 So. Cicero, Tel.: 371-8300
- (2) ALSIP BANK, 11900 So. Pulaski, Tel.: 389-9400.

No packages accepted after 12:00. Call banks for further details. Or refer to last issue of Alsip Digest dated May 1981, which carried this notice in more detail.

## VILLAGE PROHIBITS VENDOR NOISE

Alsip Village Ordinance (375-11-2), requires a special permit to operate any noise-making device in and around the Village of Alsip. This reminder to ice cream or other vendors is prompted by several complaints from residents protesting the disturbance caused by such devices. All vendors are required to secure proper permit to avoid violation of village code and are requested to exercise some discretion in order to avoid creating a public nuisance.

## THEATER OFFERS DOLLAR DAY DISCOUNT



(l to r): Irene Evans and Kathy Briestansky

The Coral Theater, 4720 West 95th Street has been serving the community for over thirty years and has recently initiated a special "Dollar Day" on Thursdays to offer the public an inexpensive evening's entertainment. For program information, call: 424-0041.

### BRANCH PICK-UP SCHEDULE

PLEASE POST THIS SCHEDULE IN A PROMINENT PLACE. REFER TO IT FOR PICK-UP DATES OF CUT BRANCHES AND OTHER YARD TRIMMING DEBRIS.

#### WEST OF CICERO AVENUE:

JUNE 22, 23                      AUGUST 24, 25  
JULY 20, 21                      SEPTEMBER 21, 22

#### EAST OF CICERO TO PULASKI:

JUNE 24, 25                      AUGUST 26, 27  
JULY 22, 23                      SEPT. 23, 24

#### EAST OF PULASKI:

JUNE 26                              AUGUST 28  
JULY 24                              SEPT. 25

#### PLEASE NOTE:

1. REFER TO THE SCHEDULE TO DETERMINE YOUR PICK-UP DATE.
2. CALL THE VILLAGE 24 HOURS PRIOR TO PICK-UP DATE. . . . Tel.: 385-6902 . . .
3. CUT ALL BRANCHES INTO 3 to 4 FOOT LENGTH, STACK NEATLY & PLACE ON PARKWAY.
4. ANOTHER MEANS OF PICK-UP IS TO BUNDLE NEATLY 4 FOOT LENGTHS, NOT TO EXCEED 18" IN DIAMETER, & PLACE WITH YOUR GARBAGE FOR PICK UP WITH REGULAR GARBAGE PICK-UP.

VILLAGE OF ALSIP  
4500 W. 123rd Street  
Alsip, Illinois 60658

Village of Alsip Digest  
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## CAUTION WITH CON-MEN

Alsip Police Chief Warner T. Huston cautions residents against doing business with uninvited repairmen who have been soliciting unsuspecting victims in the village. Anyone going door to door, within the Village of Alsip soliciting such jobs as home repair, landscaping or driveway resurfacing is required to be licensed.

If an applicant qualifies, he will be issued a special green circular badge bearing the words "Village of Alsip" and a permit number. This badge must be pinned in a prominent place on their clothing.

These tricksters prey upon all ages, but especially upon the elderly. Should you be approached by any person or persons offering a special deal on some type of home repair, it is best to call the police before agreeing to any service they want to sell, or before going to a place where you keep your money and paying them. It is not wise to let them see where you keep your money nor is it wise to pay them before the job is complete.

Another common ruse is a claim to be a telephone, gas company or water department representative in order to gain entry to your home. **DO NOT LET THEM IN. INSTEAD, ASK THEM TO WAIT—OUTSIDE!** Then go directly to your telephone and call either the police or the company they claim to represent to check on whether they have representatives working in your area. It is also a good idea to call a nearby neighbor and ask them to come over. When more persons are at the scene, the con artists have a tendency to leave.

Keep in mind, that if they are willing to wait as you ask them to do, it is a fair indication that they are legitimate. However, if they refuse to wait, impatiently pressuring you—then **BEWARE!** Make the call immediately.

In the meantime, it will be helpful to police as well as to yourself and neighbors if you can provide a good description of the suspects, their vehicle and their vehicle license number.

Although their tricks are many, one common ploy is the promise to apply a good sealer to your driveway. However, long after they have been paid and are long on their way, does the victim discover nothing more than motor oil has been poured on the driveway.

**YOUR POLICE SERVICE AND PROTECT. CALL, SO WE CAN HELP. 385-6131.**

Alsip Digest written, edited and photography 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

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Alsip, IL  
Permit No. 4038

DATED MATERIAL