



# ALSIP DIGEST

VILLAGE OF ALSIP, ILLINOIS

...PROGRESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP...

Volume 1

November, 1978

Number 4

## VILLAGE BOARD NAMES WARNER T. HUSTON NEW ALSIP POLICE CHIEF



Warner T. Huston

"Alsip has a fine Police Department and it's my intention to continue in those directions that will not only preserve what is best, but develop our future potential," comments newly appointed Alsip Police Chief Warner T. Huston.

A Committee comprised of Mayor Arnold Andrews and Trustees Bob Sterba and Jerry Marzec conducted initial candidate interviews before presenting final selection to the entire Village Board. Preliminary research was conducted as a free service by the State Police Consultants Bureau made up of State of Illinois Police Chiefs.

Huston, a 21 year police veteran from Cincinnati, Ohio, took command on August 21, 1978. He started his career in the Cincinnati Department's Cadet Program right after high school.

"I believe I was influenced during a special high school senior Career Day Conference when representatives came in to explain the Cadet Program. It sounded like something I'd like to try for," recalls Huston.

He says he was happy to be selected, but soon realized the importance of additional formal education. This prompted his earning a B.S. in Law Enforcement from the University of Cincinnati and an M.S. in Corrections from Xavier University in Cincinnati. Huston also attended the F.B.I. Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

During his career with the 1,000 man Cincinnati Police Department, Huston held various field and staff assignments which propelled him up the ranks from Cadet to Lieutenant.

The Chief points out that through the years, the nature of police work has developed new emphasis. For example, years ago technical aspects such as finger printing and firearms were stressed. Today these things are still a vital part of police work, but greater priority is given to the humanities . . . learning how to deal with people in difficult situations.

"In wife beating, child abuse or family and landlord-tenant situations emotions run pretty high. The professional police officer must know how to defuse the situation and then solve it. It isn't enough today to just arrest people, an officer must be knowledgeable of Social and Family services available to the troubled parties," explains Chief Huston.

Prior to accepting the Chief's position in Alsip, Huston was serving as Co-Chairman of a specially appointed committee to weigh alternatives for delivering the most feasible police protection service to Anderson Township (just outside Cincinnati). He said he enjoyed the challenge of that assignment and regrets only that he was unable to see it to final completion before coming to Alsip.

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While Chief Huston is busy about the task of coordinating the duties of Alsip's 31 sworn police officers, his wife, Arlene and their three children are busy acclimating to the new home recently purchased in Alsip. The age range of the children promises a variety of experiences in their new community. The oldest is Todd who is in high school; Melissa, 13 in Jr. High and Kristi, 11 is in grade school.

Chief Huston refers to his softball hobby as somewhat ironical in that "there are times when an Umpire feels as pressured as a policeman." But this has not lessened one bit his love of the sport.

The Chief remarked that it was a pleasure to get out and meet with several community groups recently and he welcomes more such opportunities in the future.

Prevention of Crime is really the name of the game and Huston says the success of such Crime Prevention efforts is dependent upon citizen cooperation.

Chief Huston adds that it is his goal to develop a department of professionals so that other departments will look to Alsip in the recruitment of future Police Chiefs. "That's the caliber of men I expect to represent this department," says Chief Huston earnestly.

## CHAMBER THANKS OFFICER O'FARRELL

"Presented to Lt. Thomas O'Farrell in appreciation of your dedicated service to the Alsip Business & Industrial Association, 1976-1978", reads the delicately engraved bronze plaque recently presented to Lt. O'Farrell at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

"Law enforcement is full of challenges and I try to stay right on top of things," commented O'Farrell from his office where he poured over a book cataloguing court cases.

The young Lieutenant, a ten year veteran of the Alsip Police Department, has been sharing his time in the temporary capacity of "Acting Chief of Police" since the death of former Alsip Police Chief Raymond Marinec, in November 1976.

O'Farrell accompanied newly appointed Police Chief Warner Huston to the same luncheon where Huston was introduced to members of the Chamber.



Village Trustees look on as Mayor Andrews signs Law Enforcement Proclamation. Pictured left to right: Ray Morrison, Jack Yock, Jerry Marzec and Jim Howe

### ALSIP SUPPORTS CHICAGOLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK

At the October 2, 1978 Alsip Village Board Meeting, Mayor Arnold Andrews proclaimed the week of October 22 through 28 to be Chicagoland Law Enforcement Week, calling upon all citizens of the Village of Alsip to join in its observance.

We encourage citizen awareness of law enforcement and crime prevention efforts in our community 52 weeks of the year, but we recognize this special week to reinforce that year-round effort," points out Mayor Andrews.

The objective of the 14th Annual event sponsored by the Chicago Crime Commission, is to create an awareness among Chicago area citizens of their responsibility in the fight against crime and the need for citizen support of law enforcement agencies.

### ALSIP FOLLOWS GROWING TREND TO BAN SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA

Following a rapidly growing trend to ban the sale of pot trappings, the Alsip Village Board recently passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of smoking paraphernalia to minors.

Other suburbs with similarly enacted legislation, include such places as Niles, Palatine, Park Ridge, Hoffman Estates, Tinley Park, Oak Forest, Chicago Ridge, Evergreen Park, Orland Park and Oak Lawn.

A recent Chicago newspaper item reported that according to Bill Craven, Kansas co-ordinator of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, rolling papers can be purchased in grocery stores.

"Not in Alsip", emphasizes Mayor Andrews.

Passage of the Alsip law was prompted by circumstances similar to those of Park Ridge where a resident happened upon the paraphernalia in a record store he was patronizing with his wife and two children. So outraged was the resident who also was a corporation lawyer, that he complained to village officials and the law resulted.

Similarly, in Alsip, Village Trustee Ray Morrison happened into a local shop that was selling such items and was equally disturbed by the ease with which these things could be purchased—especially by minors. Morrison brought the matter before Mayor Andrews and the Village Board which resulted in the outlawing of such sales in Alsip.

### HOLIDAYS DELAY GARBAGE PICK-UP ONLY ONE DAY

Please note that if your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day happens to fall on a holiday, **your garbage will be picked up one day late that week.** All other pick-ups for that week will proceed according to schedule on the regular day. ANY QUESTIONS? CALL: MR. GROEN—385-7232.

### AMERICA'S POLICE—A CONGLOMERATE OF SMALL DEPARTMENTS

Alsip Police Chief Warner Huston offers the following facts supporting police pleas for consistent citizen cooperation with their local department:

The United States, including the State of Illinois is comprised of some 40,000 individual small police departments. 41% of the Municipalities of the State of Illinois are policed by forces comprised of 10 men or less, and over 53% of the Police are in the city of Chicago, with the remainder scattered throughout the State.



Mayor Arnold Andrews (rt.) and Village Attorney Peter Loutos

### ALSIP ATTORNEY ATTENDS WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION

It isn't to just anyone or just on any day that a White House invitation is extended. But that's what happened in Alsip recently and naturally it created some excitement.

Alsip Village Attorney, Peter Loutos, was recipient of the coveted note from our nation's First Lady, Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, in recognition of his service to the "Greater Chicago Area Chapter of the Leukemia Society of America" of which Mr. Loutos is President. He also serves as a Trustee on the National Board of Trustees of the Society.

Pictured above is Mayor Andrews and Mr. Loutos admiring the White House invitation to the special reception held in early October.

"Alsip is honored to have a man of this caliber who carries so many responsibilities and yet finds time to devote to the promotion of this worthy, life sustaining organization," commented the Mayor proudly.

### ORDINANCE REGULATES TREE SELECTION

Alsip Village Ordinance limits selection of only one of the following types of trees for planting in parkways:

Red Oak, Pin Oak, Hard Maple, American or English Elm, Sycamore or American or European Linden.

The acceptability of these particular varieties is due to their slower growth pattern which tends to prevent clogged or troubled sewer lines caused by tree roots.

The Village encourages citizen cooperation in order to avoid the expense of sewer rodding service and the hassle involved in dealing with broken sewer tiles or water backing-up into your home.

## MEET TRUSTEE JAMES M. HOWE . . .



One of the nice things that happened to the Village of Alsip in 1957, was having a young plumber named **James Howe** move into the community from Chicago's south side. The Calumet High School and Washburn Trade School graduate and his wife, Alice, raised three children along the way—Shiela 22, Jim 21 and Jack 16.

However, application of his organizational and technical skills was not limited only to raising a family. Through the years, Howe shared his time with the community as a Charter member of both the Lyons Club and Little League.

Later his energies were directed toward municipal government when in 1958, he was appointed Plumbing Inspector and later Building Inspector of Alsip. In 1970, he was appointed to the Village Board, completing the unexpired term of Bob Smolik and retained the seat through the 1971, 1975 and 1979 village elections.

Howe's ability to get things done is complimented by a quiet modesty and appreciation of teamwork. For example, in recalling the organizing of Little League about 14 years ago, he is quick to point out that its success was due to the diligence of a group of dedicated Alsip parents, with whom he was proud to be associated.

The group started working with about 50 boys and today boasts 500 participants and five ball fields, including a National League, an American League, two Minor League and one Pony League. Jim recalls with a chuckle the year he had to maneuver a week off of work to accompany a Tournament Team to Bay City, Michigan where they finished just two games short of the National title.

"There was always that one bunch of people on hand to get the program off of the ground and they remained faithful throughout the years," commends Howe.

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Trustee Howe is Chairman of the Building Committee comprised of Trustees Jack Yock and Penney Black and points with pride to recent updating of inspections of industrial and residential areas conducted on an annual basis. Building, plumbing and electrical inspectors work under supervision of full time Building Commissioner, Lawrence Zykwa, assisted Emma Kramer, Supervisor of the Building Department.

"We've adopted ordinances and follow through on enforcement because the health and prosperity of our community depend upon this kind of supervision," stresses Howe.

Then he adds seriously, "On the whole we find good cooperation from property owners. Most people are happy to learn they have a problem and are anxious to correct it."

Actually it is much safer and less expensive to comply with Village Codes than to ignore a potentially dangerous situation and face the expense of being cited for violation.

Another focal point is apartment buildings.

"We impress upon owners of rental property that their obligation is two-fold. One to the community in maintaining clean, safe and attractive premises and second to themselves because that's the way to attract quality tenants who will display the same kind of responsibility," emphasizes Howe.

Jim has served as Building Chairman for the past nine years and credits the department staff for patience with a sometimes tedious task.

"I know we've had to wind our way out of some pretty delicate situations as we experiment with new ideas and reinforce old ones, but I'm proud of these people and the good things we are together accomplishing for Alsip."

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Another committee that Howe chairs is that of "Streets", also comprised of Trustees Black and Yock. Again he credits department members for good performance headed by Superintendent Tony Esposito and assisted by Jack Redmore.

He cites the six year Road Program which should see all village streets improved within the next three years, allowing for weather and unforeseen emergency expenditures. The majority of this work is funded by MFT (Motor Fuel Tax) money.

Also, recent updating of snow removal operations, including the purchase of more efficient equipment which eliminates the possible expense of renting plows to assure citizens of a free traffic flow in getting to jobs.

Recent acquisition of a street sweeper results in a cost reduction in keeping sewer lines clear. "Clean gutters not only keep sewers free of damaging debris that would otherwise find its way into the lines, but they enhance the town's appearance as well," remarks Howe.

Other recent Street Department innovations pointed out by Howe are curbside branch chipping service and free hauling of such scrap, weed cutting operations, street sign repairs and assuming the street patching program as opposed to contracting it out which is more expensive.

Howe also serves on several other committees, including *Fire, Water and Health and Pollution*. After so many successful years as a public servant, one might expect to see a decline in this dynamo.

However, Jim is still keeping a keen eye on Alsip's future, including a proposal for construction of a new garage designed to protect valuable equipment from weather deterioration.

Another concept under consideration is creation of a Weather Station on top of the Public Safety Building for storm watches and Alsip Department of Emergency Preparedness operations.

Trustee Howe says that he is grateful to Mayor Andrews who always manages to find time to sit down with our Committees offering insight and support.

"His cooperative example reflects upon the entire Board and makes it possible to accomplish so many worthwhile projects. I guess that's why I look forward to serving the people of Alsip in the future and keeping things in good shape for my grandson, Jason, who is two years old," says the beaming young Grandfather.

### TIP FROM CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU . . .

Electric engravers may be borrowed, free of charge, from the Crime Prevention Bureau. By properly engraving television sets, stereos, office equipment and other valuables, you discourage thievery of such items and hasten their return to you in case of theft. This service is available to both residents and business people. For more details call Officer Ken Wood at 385-6902.

**TIP FROM BOB STERBA**  
Chairman, Water Committee:



**LEAKING TOILETS DRIP DOLLARS:**

1. It wastes several thousand gallons of water a year.
2. It causes unnecessary demands on your sewer system or septic tank.
3. It is usually silent because it trickles so slowly from the tank.

**HOW TO DISCOVER A LEAK:**

1. Place a couple drops of food coloring into toilet tank. (DON'T USE DYE!)
2. Do not flush or disturb toilet for about two hours or more.
3. At end of waiting period, observe toilet bowl. If the coloring appears in the bowl, YOU HAVE A LEAK.

**WHAT CAUSES COSTLY LEAKS?:**

1. Leaks are frequently caused by a defective flush valve which normally acts as a stopper at the bottom of the toilet tank. Years of flushing action cause this flap or ball plunger device to wear out or lose shape thus preventing its proper function.



**HOW TO FIX A LEAK:**

1. Purchase a replacement valve or a complete replacement kit from a local hardware or plumbing store. These parts are inexpensive and easy to install.

**SCHOOL SCENE . . .**

In District 125, some school children may qualify for free milk or meals. Applications accepted anytime during school year. Call: Office of Superintendent Stephen Horvath, Jr.—388-3487.

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In District 126, several permanent teaching positions now open. Also, substitute teachers needed, salary \$27.50 per day. Call: Office of Superintendent William Smith—389-1900.

The November 20 P.T.A. meeting at Lane School will mark the finale of Lane School Silver Anniversary Celebration. November 2, 1978 is gala Silver Jubilee Dinner.

On February 7 and 8, 1979, Illinois Office of Education plans a visitation of all five schools in District.

**WOULD YOU BELIEVE?  
WINTER SOFTBALL IN THE SNOW . . .**

Alsip Park District Director, Rodney L. Denisar, invites residents to participate in 16" Adult Winter Softball. Two Leagues—one for men and one co-ed. Schedule runs December through February using bright orange balls and colorful red bases for easy detection against white snow. For details call: Rodney Denisar—389-0749 (Park District Office).

**RESIDENTS REQUEST . . .**

In response to numerous recent resident inquiries, the following clarification between offices of the Village of Alsip and those of the Alsip Park District is offered:

The Park District Office is located at 12521 South Kostner; telephone: 389-0749. President of Park Board: Pat Wilson; Vice President: Clark Orlovetz; Commissioners: Frank Ross, Kathryn Esposito and Charles Galvin. Park Director: Rodney L. Denisar.

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**ALSIP VILLAGE BOARD**

ARNOLD ANDREWS, MAYOR  
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PETER A. LOUTOS, ATTORNEY  
JOHN STREETER, TREASURER

**TRUSTEES**

James M. Howe	Penney Black
John J. Yock	Bob Sterba
Raymond J. Morrison	Jerome M. Marzec

VILLAGE HALL: 4500 West 123rd Street—  
Telephone: 385-6902

MEETING DATES:  
1st and 3rd Monday of each month.  
7:30 P.M. Public Safety Building

EMERGENCY NUMBERS: FIRE—385-6121  
POLICE—385-6131

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. 123th Street  
Alsip, IL 60658

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Alsip, Illinois 60658

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Village of Alsip Digest  
Vol. 1, No. 4  
November, 1978