

# ALSIP DIGEST

VILLAGE OF ALSIP, ILLINOIS

...PROGRESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP...

Volume 2

September, 1979

Number 3

## ALSIP: "THIS IS YOUR MAYOR" ... MEET ARNOLD A. ANDREWS



Mayor Arnold A. Andrews, gets down to business at his Office in the Public Safety Bldg.

Alsip Mayor Arnold Andrews says that he moved out here in 1962 because Alsip appealed to him as a good community with a strong future potential. He was anxious to participate in the development of that potential which prompted his first step into public office in 1969 when he was elected a Village Trustee, a post he held for four years, before being elected Mayor in 1973.

Prior to his move to Alsip, Andrews, his wife, Flo, and their three children lived in Chicago near the McKinley Park area. Karen, the oldest is currently attending De Paul University, majoring in law; Alan is 18 and the youngest is 14 year old Tommy who attends Shepherd High School.

Andrews reflects an incisive attitude in seeking out priorities and delegating responsibility to see that they are accomplished. It was this characteristic awareness that prompted his participation in local government.

"After we had settled down in the community for a while, I got the distinct impression that the town's plans were reactionary rather than planned and I didn't like it," points out Andrews.

He says that when a community is placed in such a position, it finds itself controlled by circumstances instead of controlling the circumstances. This results in long range loss both in terms of financial and environmental development.

One of the first things Andrews did after taking office as Trustee, was to rewrite the building codes in order to solve existing problems and to exercise control over future ones. Another serious concern of the new trustee was the onslaught of apartment building construction in the village.

"I was duly concerned because it was apparent that Alsip was well on the road to becoming "Apartment Complex U.S.A.", expounds the fiesty Mayor.

Under Andrews direction, the density of apartment buildings went from unlimited expansion to a limit of 12 units to the acre.

Another of the dynamic leader's pet priorities was that of Water. Externally, he developed plans for supplying water to every Alsip property owner which included scheduling plans for pumping capacity, cost connections, methods of retaining and supplying water. Internally, he supervised the complete revision of the Accounting and Billing System for water.

Andrews points to this as an example of what he means by controlling circumstances instead of letting them control you. These changes in the water set-up were accomplished gradually over a period of time, but now the village has some direction to follow for the next ten years.

\* \* \* \* \*

Andrews assures Alsip property owners that he and the Village Board are fully cognizant of flooding problems in the area.

"Every community has its own particular problems, but the difference between a successful and a mediocre town is determined by how such problems are attacked—or if in fact, they are addressed at all," advises the Mayor seriously.

Andrews says that Alsip has enlisted the aid of the State, the County and the Metropolitan Sanitary District tackling its flooding problems. The Village Board has adopted a step by step approach to the matter since this proves to be much easier on the taxpayer in the long run.

The Mayor says Alsip is proud of its low tax base and hopes to keep it that way, while working out solutions to flooding. He adds that this can be accomplished in one of two ways: floating a major bond issue or taking things step by step through utilization of current funds. He recommends the latter.

"When a problem has been ignored for a very long time, it cannot be solved overnight—it isn't fair to the taxpayers to do it that way," he points out.

Mayor Andrews points with pride to recent accomplishments since he was elected Mayor and expounds a great deal of enthusiasm for future plans and projects designed to further improve Alsip. He is grateful to his constituents who have given him this opportunity to serve Alsip and thrives upon the challenge.

"With the help and trust of Alsip residents, I look forward to many more years of service to this community and I'm as excited today about its future as I was 10 years ago when I first won a seat as Village trustee," declares Andrews with a warm smile.

### ALSIP POLICE HOST OPEN HOUSE

Newly appointed Alsip Police Chief Warner Huston invites you to a Police Department Open House, Sunday, September 30, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.—Public Safety Building, 4500 W. 123rd Street.

# ALSIP HOBBYISTS HELP POLICE PATROL



Alsip Police Investigator Ken Wood demonstrates role of civilian C.B. operator at the Communications Desk in the Civil Defense Center of the Public Safety Building.

"The eyes and ears of the community", is Alsip Police Investigator Ken Wood's description of a group of volunteer citizens who have turned a hobby into a community service. Just as a busy, conscientious mother often wishes for another pair of hands or eyes to better meet the demands of her busy toddlers, Alsip police frequently experience similar feelings in meeting their obligations. This prompted the founding of a special crime prevention program, the "C. B. Patrol Club".

According to Wood, who supervises the program, the group is comprised of Alsip C.B. hobbyists and was introduced by the Alsip Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau in January 1976. Ken picked up the idea after attending a meeting of the "Illinois Crime Prevention Officers Association" of which he is a member.

"Of course we would like to be in all places at all times, but only through public awareness and cooperation can we come closer to this goal. When I noted the C.B. peak in popularity in 1976, I thought this might be an excellent means by which to extend our "eyes and ears" throughout the community," explains Wood.

One incident that prompted Wood to formulate plans for stimulating public awareness occurred during a Crime Prevention-lecture he delivered in a local classroom. When asked if they thought a person observing suspicious activity would call and report what was seen to the police, 70% of the students replied "no".

Wood says that the original appeal for C.B., volunteers was most gratifying and that today there are still some vacancies open for additional qualified volunteers. Some of the requirements are: (1) must be an Alsip resident (2) must be over 18 years of age (3) must have their own C.B. equipment.

Program participants are trained in maintaining a careful, inconspicuous watch on an area or a suspect, including tips on how to drop out of immediate sight without losing touch with a suspect or a vehicle under surveillance.

Investigator Wood points out the fact that 1 out of 6 autos on the street today have C.B. antennas, and that C.B. Club Patrol cars carry no outward identification. This is enough to give even the most seasoned criminal some second thoughts about committing a crime.

"He's never sure whether or not he is being observed by a trained C.B. police volunteer and actually has no way of finding out, particularly in view of the fact that all operators use a special code language while transmitting information," says Wood.

In addition, the extra manpower realized through the program, permits heavier surveillance of suspected problem areas or individuals, while freeing up regular police patrols in all other areas of the village.

An example of its effectiveness was when celebrities like Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra appeared at a local Alsip supper club and there were no reported car thefts in the parking lot, even though it was just bursting with tempting, expensive automobiles.

The dedicated citizen volunteers of the "C.B. Patrol Club" have donated a total of 355 hours and logged approximately 3,000 miles on their own automobiles in patrolling the streets of Alsip. The Village is indeed grateful to these generous, caring people who freely give of their time and energy in order to keep our village a safer place in which to live and work.

## PRAIRIE JR. HIGH CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

According to Superintendent William D. Smith, Prairie Jr. High School, 11910 South Kostner, will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary in October, 1979. Principal Harry Hansen announces the following events: 10/14: PJH (Alumni) Class Reunion and Musical; 10/18: PJH Mini Schedule; 10/20: Alumni Basketball games. The quality of your schools dictate the quality of your community. Community interest prompts quality. *Maintain an active interest in your schools.*

## BLOOD IS LIFE . . . SHARE LIFE!!!

Members of the "Alsip Blood Council" report that this year's goal is 630 pints. They wish to extend their thanks and appreciation to the many donors who came out on July 14th for the village draw held at St. Terrence Church. The Alsip Blood Program is held in cooperation with the "United Blood Service", based on north Clark Street in Chicago.

Whether or not you donate blood personally, you and your family will remain eligible to receive blood in time of need as long as the Village meets its goal of 630 pints. So plan now to help Alsip meet this goal by donating at one of the periodic blood draws. There is no better gift than the gift of life, and blood is life. See you at the next Blood Draw.

**BLOOD DRAW—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11,  
10:00 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

For more details telephone today: Maureen—389-5950, Carol—389-3320 or Village Hall—385-6902.



Pictured above are Alsip Blood Council Members: (back row, l-r): Sandy Eich, Village Health Commissioner, Jim Lofgren, Ray Morrison, Alsip Trustee, Sharon Dougherty, Maureen Diericks, Carol Velky, Donna Galvin. (Members not pictured: Becky Hagerty, Dorothy Hinton).

# YOUTH BEAT . . .

## Bob Lesh Sings Up A Scholarship



Traditionally high school opens a multitude of doors to the incoming freshman seeking new challenge. Bob Lesh, a June '79 graduate of Shepherd High School, capitalized on his high school experience by discovering a host of hidden musical talent.

As a result, during recent Chicago auditions, representatives of Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, awarded Lesh a \$1,000 Music Award Scholarship, renewable for four years, and a \$500 Merit Scholarship 1979-80. The Chicago audition was one of many similar ones held across the nation.

Early in his freshman year, Bob says Shepherd's Choir Director, Mr. Holt, did a great deal to encourage his interest in music, including introducing him to Joyce Williamson under whom he studied piano for the first time in his life.

"I had never played a real piano before that time, just banged around on one of those little toy pianos when I was little," says Bob with a chuckle.

Holt introduced the eager youngster to an independent study type program through which he worked with the boy on a one-to-one basis, often on his own time. One requirement of the program was an annual recital. Singing the catchy tunes from such scores as Annie Get Your Gun, Pajama Game and Oklahoma, Bob demonstrated his growing singing ability as well as his developing piano expertise. Previously, at Prairie Jr. High, he sang in "Hello Dolly" while studying under Mr. John O'Brien.

"Those early recitals when Mr. Holt did most of the work weren't too bad, but later as I began working out more of my own programs I did worry more and get a little nervous," points out Lesh.

However, Bob points with pride to his most recent recital titled, "Making It", in which he tied a group of songs into one story line. With the help of other youngsters who helped write it, created special lighting effects and accompanied him with bass guitar and drum, the event took on a more theatrical tone.

Bob has a collection of trophies, medals and school letters which he has earned through hard work. Summer plans include participation in some concerts directed by Mr. Chapman, his former high school music director with whom he studied from sophomore to senior year.

Music takes up most of Bob's time although he also holds a job. He lives with his parents, Irene and Theodore on Loveland Avenue, with two older brothers, Tom and Mike.

Bob says he admires the music of Barry Manilow and ten years from now would like to be doing something similar, but in his own singing style.

**SEND US THE NAME OF A YOUTH YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ ABOUT IN THIS COLUMN.**

## SENIORS RIDE RTA AT REDUCED RATE

Special travel cards which entitle Senior Citizens (65 yrs. and over) to ride all RTA funded transit carriers at a reduced rate, are currently available at the Alsip Village Hall located in the Public Safety Building, 4500 West 123rd St. In order to secure this identifying pass, you must bring in: (1) proof of age, such as birth or baptismal record or drivers license; (2) Social Security Card or a copy of your social security number; (3) a recent picture of yourself—exactly 1½" square, showing only your head and shoulders. (Such photos are available inexpensively through automatic photo machines often located in discount or dime stores.)

## STREET DEPT. SCHEDULES STOPS

According to Trustee James Howe, the Street Department wishes to assure residents of a desire to accommodate the needs of every individual while maintaining a work schedule suitable to the needs of the village as a whole. Street Superintendent Tony Esposito advises that while hundreds of regular and emergency brush-pick-up stops have been completed, the Department is still running about 3 or 4 days behind schedule. Interruptions caused by unexpected emergencies, or storms that leave excess debris delay scheduling.

"Every so often a resident sees a truck and crew working in the vicinity of his home and will ask the men to make a special pick-up at his place," says Esposito.

The Superintendent says that the men are not permitted to do so, because they must follow the schedule of stops planned for that day otherwise they end up falling too far behind. He hastens to add, of course, that in the event of a real emergency they will lend whatever assistance possible. Simply call the Street Department and leave your name and address.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT 218 HONORS ALSIP VILLAGE BOARD



Mayor Arnold Andrews (RT.) and Trustee Ray Morrison display the "Resolution of Commendation" presented to the Alsip Village Board by the Board of Education and the Administration of Community High School District 218, Superintendent William Webb.

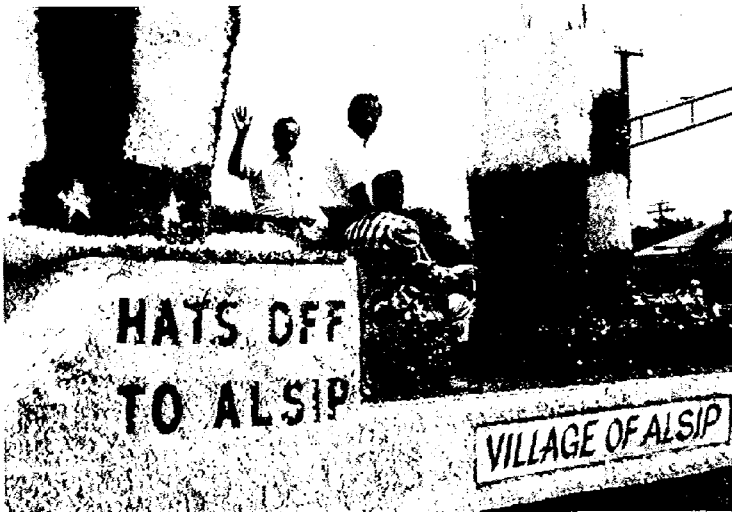
The resolution was in recognition of recently enacted local ordinances designed to regulate and control drug related paraphernalia in the Village of Alsip. The action was prompted when Trustee Morrison discovered the ease with which some of these items could be purchased in the Village by our young people. He carried the matter to the Mayor and Village Board who totally supported measures to discourage such activity. (For more details, refer to past issues of the ALSIP DIGEST: Sept. and November 1978, page 2).

### ... IN MEMORY ...

Alsip Mayor and Mrs. Arnold Andrews and the Village Board of Trustees wish to express sincere sympathy to the family of Mrs. William (Becky) Hegarty, a 17 year Alsip resident who recently passed away after a serious illness. Becky was a popular Alsip personality due to her active participation in community affairs through such organizations as Scouting, Little League Auxiliary, Homeowners, Summerfest, Blood Drive, Cancer Crusade. Becky was also a past Village Recording Secretary. She leaves three children—Bill, Margaret and Kathy. A memorial trust has been set up at: CONCORDIA SAVINGS, 12004 PULASKI. Please make checks payable to: REBECCA HEGARTY MEMORIAL FUND—or call the bank for details at 388-0660.

### SUMMERFEST '79 A SUCCESS

Despite sporadic bouts with some fickle weather, Summerfest '79 in Alsip was a week-end full of food, fun, music and entertainment. The Village is indeed grateful and proud of all those who gave so generously of their time, talents and energy to make the event such a delightful success.



(L-R) Trustees Ray Morrison, Jack Yock and Clerk Robert Gruber aboard Summerfest Float.

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

Village of Alsip Digest  
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FRANK HITER  
4543 W. 115TH PL.  
ALSIP, ILLINOIS  
60658

### NEEDS CHEERING UP . . .

Little Linda Orowick of 117 Rosemary, Alsip, is currently hospitalized in Northwestern Hospital at Superior St. and Fairbanks in Chicago, with a serious neck injury resulting from swimming accident. After being transported to St. Francis Hospital, Blue Island by Alsip Paramedics, Linda was later flown by helicopter to Northwestern. Cards and letters will do much to lift the spirits of this Alsip Girls Softball player.

### LETTERS . . .

Someone you should know about for the "Youth Beat" column in the Alsip Digest is Gretchen Morg, who among many other things is an A fourth grade student, a dancer, a drummer and a swimmer. She puts all her energy into whatever she tackles, including helping with the cooking at home.

Mrs. Kenney, Mansfield Avenue

(Thanks Mrs. Kenney. Gretchen's story and photo appeared in the May 1979 issue of the Digest.)

### ... THE VILLAGE OF ALSIP ...

PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECT DATE AND TIME FOR ALSIP VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS ARE: 1st and 3rd MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30 P.M., Public Safety Building, 4500 W. 123rd Street. (This corrects the information on meeting date as listed in the July 1979 Alsip Digest)

Mayor Arnold A. Andrews	Robert A. Gruber, Clerk	
John Streeter, Treasurer	Peter A. Loutos, Attorney	
James M. Howe	TRUSTEES	
Raymond J. Morrison	Bob D. Sterba	Penney Black
	John J. Yock	Jerome M. Marzec

#### PLACES TO CALL:

VILLAGE HALL: 385-6902

#### EMERGENCY

POLICE: 385-6131 (non-emergency: 385-6902)  
FIRE: 385-6121 (non-emergency: 385-6902)  
STREET DEPT.: 385-6902

The Alsip Village Hall is located in the Public Safety Building, 4500 West 123rd Street.

HOURS: Mon. & Wed.: 9 - 9  
Tues., Thurs. & Fri.: 9 - 4  
Saturday: 9 - 1

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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