



THE SPIRIT

Preserving the life of America's unique community

A publication of
the
Park Forest
Historical
Society

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"Show and Tell" Program Sunday, February 25, 2024. It's All About YOU!

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Join us in person, Sunday, February 25, at 2:30 p.m. in Ryan Hall of St. Mary's Catholic Church for an informal "Show and Tell" session on YOUR memories of living in Park Forest over the past 75 years. The words, "show and tell" themselves evoke childhood memories, but your memories can be new, and you don't have to have grown up here to share!

Bring a BRIEF memory from your time in Park Forest, or one thing that holds a special memory you want to share. Invite your friends to come along!

The Museum will be open after the program to view the "Step Back into a 1950s Valentines Day" exhibit and the 75th Anniversary of Park Forest displays.



Visit the Museum !

Interested in helping preserve

Park Forest History?

We are looking for volunteers for Museum, Archive, mailings. Contact Jane Nicoll, 708-481-4252, or via email on the website, parkforesthistor.org.

PARK FOREST HALL OF FAME 30th Annual

awards ceremony honoring the Park Forest Hall

of Fame 2024 Inductees will take place Sunday,

April 14, 2024, 3:00 p.m. at Freedom Hall. Invitations will be sent or posted closer to the event. Announcement of those to be inducted will be made in late February.

Be sure to attend this ceremony and reception in Park Forest's 75th year.



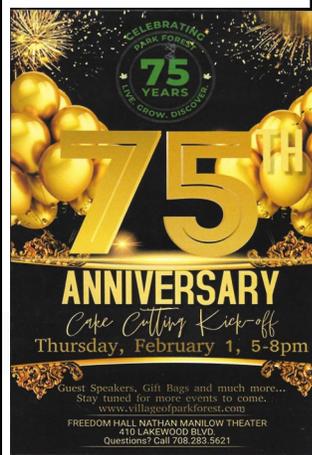
Connect on Facebook:
-1950s Park Forest House
Museum
-Park Forest Historical
Society

75th Anniversary of Park Forest News

The Society began celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Park Forest in August 2023 marking the 75th Anniversary of the first move-ins.

The Village of Park Forest will kick off its 75th Anniversary year by marking the February 1, 1949 Incorporation date and will continue its celebration throughout 2024.

A small 75th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Trustee Theresa Settles will call on community members for help planning events. The 75th Kick-off cake cutting is scheduled for February 1, 2024 from 5-8 p.m. at Freedom Hall, 410 Lakewood Blvd. The public is invited. Actual cake-cutting is planned for about 6 p.m. The Society will provide history displays. The Village is designing a brief history video and plans to have a video booth for brief resident interviews.



In My Own Little Corner
By Jane Nicoll

The 1950s Park Forest House Museum Exhibits: “Step Back into a 1950s Valentines Day,” February 3– March 9, 2024., and 75th Anniversary of Park Forest displays. The Museum always tells the story of life here in the first five years, 1948-1953, and how Park Forest began. Museum hours are Wednesday and Saturday 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.; or at other times by appointment. Call or Facebook message if the weather looks iffy.

If you have not seen our Valentines display, or want to see it again, call a friend and come on out to the museum. We think it is very special. All that red can chase the February blues away! **If you have not seen the museum in the past few years, or since it moved to St. Mary's, you have NOT seen it!**

This year with the addition of many display items about the early days of Park Forest, please be sure to support us both financially and boost our morale with a visit to appreciate what we do.

Remember members receive one free visit each year. Headcount matters to us as much as income.

We will also have displays in Village Hall, the library and information in Freedom Hall.

We **must** have more volunteers in the museum Archive and doing mailings to keep the organization running.

Thank all of you who have joined and have sent
♥ Annual Fund donations. You are truly our Valentines. ♥
****We are grateful for your generous support!!****



Calling for Rich Township High School Memories

We have been contacted by a member of Rich Township High School's first Class of 1954, Mitch Steinberg. Mr. Steinberg would like the Society to solicit memoirs, especially from the class of 1954 members. The Society would like to know when graduates moved to Park Forest and why, where they lived here, then what they accomplished with their lives post-high school graduation.

The Society is interested in receiving memoirs from Park Foresters in general, hopefully in electronic format, to be shared on our website.

We especially encourage alumni of the Rich Township High School district to share their memories of his school and accounts of what they did after graduation. Memoirs can be emailed to PFHS via our website parkforesthistor.org, or if in paper mailed to Park Forest Historical Society, 227 Monee Road, Park Forest, IL 60466.

We remind those who graduated from Rich East, the first Rich Township High School, that the Society sells the video, "Remembering Rich East" on DVD or thumb drive for \$20 per copy. Mailing fees apply. See our website, as those fees can be subject to change.

The video contains footage and still photographs taken inside Rich East in May 2020 after the building had been closed. It also contains photos from our collections and scans of early brochures, along with a few versions of the fight and loyalty songs.

“Revisiting Utopia” Documentary Title Change

On Facebook Phil Rockrohr has announced the documentary, "Revisiting Utopia" has changed title to, "This Amount of Time."