



# THE SPIRIT

Preserving the life of America's unique community

A publication of  
the  
Park Forest  
Historical  
Society

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## "Reflections and Accomplishments of African Americans," on YouTube, February 27, 2022

### PFHS Board Officers 2021-2022

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Be sure to watch our YouTube program **Sunday, February 27, 2022 launching at 2:30 p.m.** "Reflections and Accomplishments of African Americans," part of our 50th Anniversary programming was originally filmed February 21, 1999 at Freedom Hall. The program includes panels and speakers on different aspects of African American life in Park Forest. Several families created display boards on the history and accomplishments of their families, and on educational/professional attainment. Primary organizers were Leonard and Yvonne Robinson with help from Roy and Bonita Dillard and others.

A committee worked on "How We Entered, and When We Came," a book of documents on early integration in Park Forest. The book became part of the Park Forest Public Library archival collection, now maintained by the Park Forest Historical Society at 227 Monee Road. A copy is in the library and the original is in the Park Forest History Files with the Society.



Visit the Museum !



### Interested in helping preserve Park Forest History?

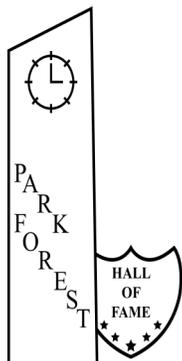
We are looking for board members, volunteers to show the museum, and to work on the Archive. Contact Jane Nicoll, 708-481-4252, or via email on the website, parkforesthistory.org.

### Connect with the Society On Twitter:

@1950smuseum  
@parkforeststory

### On Facebook:

-1950s Park Forest  
House Museum  
-Park Forest Historical  
Society



### PARK FOREST HALL OF FAME 2022

#### Awards Ceremony Honoring THE PARK FOREST HALL OF FAME 2022 INDUCTEES

The virtual ceremony will take place  
Sunday, April 3, 2022  
3:00 p.m.

Launched on  
Park Forest Historical Society  
YouTube Channel

*Please join us on this happy occasion.*

Official invitations will be mailed soon.  
Watch for yours to see who will be inducted.

**In My Own Little Corner**  
By Jane Nicoll

The 1950s Park Forest House Museum Exhibits: **“Step Back into a 1950s Valentines Day,”** February 2– March 9, 2022. 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!

In February we will also have antique Valentines dating from 1888 up to the 1950s and vintage collectibles on display. This was a beautiful private collection donated to us.

We **must** have more volunteers to be docents/tour guides at the museum in order to maintain these hours! Please be trained to volunteer, and help us stay open on a scheduled basis.

We need other volunteers to help with mailings, the Archive, and keeping an 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!!\*\*** ♥



♥ **Step Back into a 1950s Valentine's Day** ♥  
February 2, 2022-March 9, 2022  
**1950s Park Forest House Museum**  
227 Monee Road, Park Forest, IL  
OPEN WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY 1:00 to 3:30  
Or by Appointment  
**Forest Boulevard School classroom is decorated  
for a**  
  
**1950s  
Valentine's Day Party!**  
Donation \$5 for adults; 12 & under free.  
For museum appointments on other than open days, call 708-481-4252, or 708-305-3308.  
**Facemasks required for all visitors over 2 years of age.**  
Inside St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Park in the small lot off Monee Rd. Knock on 2nd to last classroom door.

**Vintage Valentines in Every Room.**




The museum is now all on one floor.  
Accessible washrooms available inside building.

**A selection of Antique Valentines will be on display.**



[www.parkforesthistor.org](http://www.parkforesthistor.org)

"Park Forest Historical Society" & "1950s Park Forest House Museum"   @1950smuseum & @parkforestory

We are selling, **“Remembering Rich East,”** DVD at the museum during open hours or by appointment. The DVD is \$20 if picked up in person. It can be ordered via the website, [www.parkforesthistor.org](http://www.parkforesthistor.org) by clicking on the “Donate” button and paying \$24.83 through PayPal. Please be sure to indicate the donation is for a “RE DVD.” You can also mail a check for \$24.83 to “Park Forest Historical Society” and mail to us at 227 Monee Road, Park Forest, IL 60466. Be sure to include your name and mailing address.

We have heard from some alumni that they really like the DVD. We certainly worked hard on it and spent a great deal making sure the school was filmed. We hired a photographer to go into the school with us in May 2020 to preserve images of the interior and exterior. More than 900 photographs and some video were taken. Jane Nicoll scanned early photos and brochures from the collection, and scans from the scrapbooks of Arnold DeLuca were included showing Prom Train articles, photos and more. We added a few versions of the Loyalty and Fight Songs. We hope you order one to enjoy.