Spring 2021 Volume 62



Lake Villa Historical Society's Vintage Views

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President's Letter

Dear Members:

The LVHS Board Members are excited to announce that we are beginning to plan programs for 2021! The first to be scheduled is



a cemetery walk in Angola Cemetery. Details may be found in this newsletter. Due to the pandemic, our annual elections were rolled over to 2021. We had three members whose terms expired in 2020 and three members who are expiring in 2021. The

Board has decided to hold elections at our August 17th meeting in Lehmann Park at 1:00 p.m. before boarding the bus to go to the program. The following Board Members will be on the ballot for a term that will expire in 2023: Dan Botts, Lori Heitman, Kim McCollum; and a term that will expire in 2024 Joyce Dever and Julie Stanley. Peggy Bogenschutz has decided not to continue as a Board Member. We are very thankful that she will be continuing as a volunteer. Peggy has been a vital part of the group spending countless hours in the museum and publishing our Vintage Views. As you can see, so far, we have five people running for six positions. Anyone interested in putting their name forward to be on the ballot or to find out more information about the position should contact any one of the board members or e-mail

<u>lvhs@lake-villa.org</u> or leave a message at the historical office 847-265-8266.

I look forward to seeing you all soon! Lori Heitman, President

The Museum is Reopening

Beginning on June 3rd our museum will be reopening! Since closing for the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, the museum has been a lonely place. Volunteers have still been hard at work organizing artifacts and files, taking photos for our new computer program, adding new donations to our collection, answering questions and creating this newsletter. Programs will begin again in August. Please drop in Thursday afternoon from 1:30 – 4:30 to enjoy seeing Lake Villa history and visit with the volunteers who keep it alive. Some precautions will remain in place. We can't wait to see you!



Calendar of Coming Events

August 17 at 1:00pm: Angola Cemetery Walk with Elections and Watermelon Social

As we *resurrect* our in-person Program meetings, what better place to hold a meeting than a *Cemetery!*? Join us on Tuesday, August 17th as we visit **Angola Cemetery** on Rt. 83 in Lake Villa. Learn the history of this burying ground which dates back over 180 years to 1840. Learn about the caretakers and benefactors. Learn about, *and perhaps be visited by*, certain Lake Villa notable citizens at rest in Angola: Fannie Parker, Noer Potter, Lafayette Allen, Paul Revere Avery, Henry Fiddler, Olive Martin and Christopher Manzer.

We will meet at Lehmann Park at 1:00pm. Members will fill out ballots for Board of Directors. Then, due to limited parking at the cemetery, everyone will ride a shuttle bus to Angola Cemetery. Once there, the program should last about an hour. It will require some walking over uneven grassy areas. We will have cold water available. After arriving back at Lehmann Park, cold watermelon will be waiting to enjoy during some social time together. Don't miss this fascinating glimpse into the history of Lake Villa as told from beyond the grave!

Noer Potter awaits you. Members and guests are welcome to attend this, and all, programs of the Lake Villa Historical Society.

Other coming events in the planning stages include Rob Frank's presentation about West Miltmore and a hair-raising October event about native burial mounds in the area along with other spooky places in and near Lake Villa.

Congratulations To...

LVHS member Rosella McCarthy who celebrated her 99th birthday at home on February 15, 2021.



Rosella's yard, as posted on FaceBook by her granddaughter, Amanda Cartwright, is also a reminder of winter's big snow.

Let LVHS know about your big events and accomplishments. Sharing happiness is always welcome.

Thank You Members

Sincere thanks are extended to all members who renewed their memberships so promptly. This year, more than ever, your dues and donations will help keep our doors open and fulfill the mission of preserving Lake Villa history for future generations. As an organization run entirely on volunteer manpower, EVERY penny goes toward this goal. Did your renewal form get buried under the mail heap? Join now.

Thank You Village and Public Works

A big thank you to the Village of Lake Villa, and especially Public Works for continued support of LVHS. Keeping our driveway and parking lot plowed this winter was a big job. It allowed our volunteers to continue working at the office and museum through the long, cold, snowy northern Illinois months.



Summer 1971

From Lake Villa Record

With Sympathy



to the family of LVHS member CAROL SWANSON, 78 years old of Lake Villa, IL who passed away on December 23, 2020. As a longtime resident of the Lake Villa area, Carol

loved taking walks in McDonald Woods and Hastings Lake. Carol was an avid gardener and gourmet cook who loved decorating her home.



to the family and coworkers of LOREN GROSS who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 58 years on January 31, 2021. Loren fulfilled his lifelong dream of opening LG

AUTOMOTIVE at 219 Lake Avenue. LVHS soon moved in to 223 Lake Avenue next door! Loren was a great guy, a skilled and honest mechanic and a wonderful neighbor always willing to lend a hand or a screwdriver. We miss his smiling face!!



to the Jennrich family of Lake Villa on the loss of their matriarch ETHEL JENNRICH, 95 years, on Feb. 20, 2021. LVHS was honored to interview Ethel a couple of years ago about her life as a Chicago girl who became a Lake Villa farmer's wife. She raised six

children while quietly caring for her home and animals, making sure beds were made and stomachs were full. Her son, Tom (TJ), a plumber by trade, volunteers his time and talents to our organization and museum whenever the need arises. Like his Mom, he does it quietly, without recognition or reward.

Recent Donations

Barry Schneider at his late mother's request: 2 decks of boxed playing cards with scenes from the area.

District 41 via band director Renee Brown: Band items including scrapbooks, a vintage snare drum, records and tapes of student concerts and competitions, framed photos, certificates and articles.







Board of Directors Election

Elections for the LVHS Board of Directors will be held at Lehmann Park prior to the Angola Cemetery field trip meeting on August 17th at 1:00pm. Normally held at the April meeting each year, the last election was in 2019 due to the pandemic. Members serve for 3-year terms.

We hope you will consider joining the team that keeps our Lake Villa history alive by running for a position on the Board of Directors. Fresh ideas and perspectives help keep our historical society and museum strong and relevant.

If you would like to vote but can't attend the August meeting, drop by LVHS during museum hours on August 5th or 12th for early voting. Mail-in ballots will also be sent on request. See the President's Letter for details on who is currently running and how to contact LVHS to join the slate of candidates or to participate in early or mail-in voting.

Page from the Past: Lake Villa Township Baseball



"If you build it, they will come."

Perhaps it was that famous quote from the 1989 blockbuster, "Field of Dreams" that encouraged Lake Villa to finally pursue a home field for the Township Baseball League. The Lake Villa Township Baseball League was organized in the early 1960's and since that time, had never had a home field to call their own, instead using local school and park ball diamonds as availability allowed. As the number of area youth playing baseball increased, local officials saw the urgent need for their own *field of dreams*, and after a deal was made with the Forest Preserve to acquire some land, our story of perseverance and passion begins...

This is a story of determination, and the belief and ability of devoted volunteers to see an enormous project through to the end. As Construction Manager, Glenn McCollum led a team of believers to create a state-of-the-art facility from a 13.5-acre soybean field.



Lake Villa Mayor Frank Loffredo and Lakes Region Youth Baseball President Rich Coles worked tirelessly to bring this dream to fruition, finally opening in May of 1999, after over 8 years of legal and financial maneuvering, fundraising and frustration. It took years of vision and volunteering, successes and setbacks, committees and commitment. But as their slogan states, it was always "For the Kids". An army of selfless citizens, local businesses and contractors worked for years to accomplish what was said "couldn't be done". Hall of Fame contributors to this massive project include Tom Jennrich, Applied Technologies Engineering, Ray Scarpelli Chevrolet, Nielsen Development, Lake County Grading, Diemer Plumbing, Greg Larson Excavating, Thelen's, Peter Baker Trucking and U.S. Filter.

Chicago Cubs All-Star 3rd Baseman and WGN announcer, Ron Santo, took a personal interest in the construction of this ballpark, and made several visits for fundraisers, and even to umpire the first game held on the new field.

Opening Day took place on May 15, 1999. A starting cash fund of \$150,000 became a half million-



dollar facility, and thanks to endless fundraising, was completely debt-free! Four ball diamonds were dedicated to those that turned a dream into a reality; Glenn McCollum & Rich Coles, Ron Santo, Ray Scarpelli and Tim Osmond. There were sixteen games scheduled for LVTB's first ever Home Opener. Glen Beckert, Cubs All-Star 2nd baseman was a special guest, signing autographs for all the kids. There were pitching and batting contests, and all kids entering the park received commemorative baseball cards. Raffles that day included a new car, donated by the Scarpelli family! Tom Gradowski ran a sports memorabilia auction which included such items as an autographed Walter Payton helmet and a Michael Jordan rookie card!

Later that summer, the first "Crosstown Classic" took place at the ballpark. Three games were held; Fire Dept. v. Rescue Squad, Village of

Lake Villa Township Baseball, cont.

Lake Villa v. Village of Lindenhurst, and the Lake Villa Police v. Lindenhurst Police. These games raised more funds for the ballpark and became a fan favorite, with spectators enjoying the sight of firemen running in their rubber boots, or policemen wearing flippers. This Crosstown Classic would continue for another ten years, each year growing in participation and theatrics.



Proud and happy baseball fans Evan McCollum (Glenn's son) and Patrick Jennrich (TJ's son)

An "Opinion" column appearing in the Pioneer Press in May of 1999 sums it up best:

"Take us out to the ball game, and take us out to the crowd of devoted Lake Villa Township residents who pitched in endless hours of fundraising and volunteered their time to erect a beautiful ballpark for its youth...the park serves as a symbol of community spirit...the many adults who were involved in this project should take pride in serving as stellar role models for their children".

People will come...people will most definitely come.



History on the Table

Rhubarb Custard Pie Sue Cribb

Spring is here and we look forward to gardening and enjoying fresh fruits and vegetables. Rhubarb Custard pie is one of my favorite spring desserts. I only make it once a year because I eat the whole thing!! It's also "historic" from a 1968 Better Homes and Garden Cookbook:

Mix:

1 1/2 c. sugar 1/4 c. All-purpose flour 1/4 t. nutmeg Dash of salt

Add to 3 beaten eggs; beat smooth Stir in 4 cups 1" slices rhubarb.

*Prepare pastry for 9" lattice-top pie. Fill with rhubarb mixture. Dot with 2 Tablespoons butter. Adjust lattice top; seal. Bake at 400 degrees for 50 minutes.

** I skip the lattice top!!



Gardening Tips

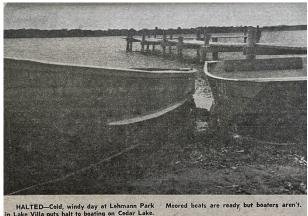
For those of you who enjoy gardening here are a few tips for companion planting from an Amish Gardening Secrets book:

- Protect your roses and raspberry plants by planting garlic nearby.
- Beets **love** cabbage, lettuce and onions. They **hate** pole beans.
- Broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage love carrots, potatoes, celery, dill. They hate strawberries and tomatoes.
- Dill **loves** cabbage and **hates** carrots.
- Peas love radishes, carrots, cucumbers corn, beans, turnips and potatoes. They hate onions, garlic and gladiolus.
- Pumpkins **love** corn, eggplant and radishes. They **hate** potatoes.
- Cantaloupes **love** corn and they **don't hate** anybody!!

Who knew??

Happy Birthday, Lehmann Park

100 years ago in 1921 E.J. Lehmann's children deeded the land on Cedar Avenue known as Lehmann Park to the Village. The deed states that there is to be no commercial ice harvesting or the land will revert to the Lehmann family. Since that time, the park has been used for community gatherings, festivals, fireworks, craft shows and more.



50 years ago, in 1971, low water levels beached boats at Lehmann Park

Today, according to the Lake Villa Parks and Recreation website, Lehmann Park "provides swimming in Cedar Lake, a boat launch, volleyball, a picnic shelter with tables and grills, horseshoe pits, playground equipment and restrooms."



In 2020, the park became the setting for a fantastic, festive holiday light show. No doubt Lehmann Park will continue to bring happiness to the Lake Villa community for the next 100 years.

Music in the Park is Back



Arrive early for the concerts at Lehmann Mansion and enjoy an opportunity to learn about the mansion and tour parts of it with Rob Frank.

History in the Making

Lake Villa Historical Society is hoping to document the COVID-19 pandemic through the eyes of our members. Please send us your stories, as short as a paragraph or as long as a novelette. We would also like to include photos, signs, articles, cartoons and memorabilia such as masks, ornaments, earrings or anything you would be willing to part with. Tell us how the pandemic impacted you.





Fifty Years Ago

All of the following are from the Lake Villa Record in May – August 1971.



Allen W. Eckert, a former resident at Allendale, was a 4-time Pulitzer Prize nominee. At the time he had written 14 books and 5 scripts for NBC's Wild Kingdom.









Some things seem to never change including this 1971 political cartoon fearing that a \$2.00 minimum wage would fan the flames of inflation.

17 Lake Villa Students Earn Presidential Fitness Award



Nancy Ziaja of Lake Villa Intermediate School

From Our Collection









These are a few of the artifacts in the museum from the Lake Villa Pharmacy/Hooper Pharmacy.

Lake Villa Historical Society P.O. Box 9 Lake Villa, Il 60046