



THE SPIRIT

Preserving the life of America's unique community

A publication of
the
Park Forest
Historical
Society

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February 2022

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

PFHS Board Officers 2021-2022

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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



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 accom-
plishments 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 !



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

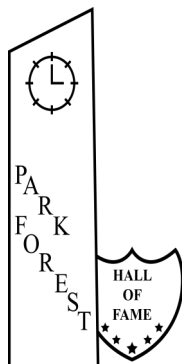
Park Forest Historical Society

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.parkforesthistory.org

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

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.parkforesthistory.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.