



# ΝΟΙΤΟΟΟΑΤΝΙ

This little publication has been prepared as a commemorative piece, dedicated to the 50th year of Forest Hills' incorporation as a Borough. It is an attempt to gather historically interesting information about a small community. Materials have been taken from notes, diaries, printed papers, records, letters, and tales often repeated. Some of this information is first hand, given us by a few of those who have lived through a portion of those early times of our heritage.

Much of this information has never before been published. It is put down here with the hope that in so doing, an interest will be sparked in the hearts and minds of present day residents to cherish and respect the work, the institutions, and the community of their heritage. There is not only nostalgia here but a glimpse into the lives and times of a fine little community.

As a community, Forest Hills pre-dates by at least 50 years the 1919 date of incorporation. Some of the stories and printed information here, span across this period of time in our boundaries. Time has wrought many changes, but there is still much remaining to keep us anchored closely to our very interesting past.

Let us hope, as we move at today's pace, that we can retain something of the serenity, the character, and feeling for this heritage started with such modest beginnings.

This little historical publication will give us a quick, small glimpse backward to tell us where we have been and how it was here, so that we may better mould the future.

Many thanks and appreciation go to all of those who participated in the Jubilee.

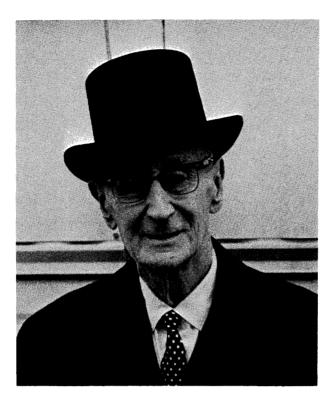
We hope that some instances of Forest Hills' change and progress will be recognized in this Brochure.

We hope you will enjoy the view.

John Shepherd, General Chairman

Roger Wentworth, Historian

GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE



# AL KOCH A LEGEND IN HIS OWN TIME

At the time of the Golden Jubilee, the Forest Hills residents recognize our Number 1 citizen as Honorary Chairman of this 50th Anniversary celebration. *AI Koch* is a native of East Pittsburgh who graduated from Turtle Creek Union High School. He was one of the founders of the Borough and served as a member of our first Council. Later he was elected as the third Burgess to serve this community and subsequently our first Mayor when the Borough code under state law redesignated the Burgess as Mayor in 1961.

Al not only grew with the community, but literally sparked and fostered numerous innovations and organizations. He was a charter member of the Forest Hills Rotary Club and served as its second President. He helped organize the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church as well as our Volunteer Fire Department, the Formas Club, and the Building and Loan. He sold the politicians on the idea of a Post Office for the Borough and became its first Postmaster because he thought this would help put Forest Hills "on the map."

Al lived at the same residence on Halsey Ave. with his father and sister, as he does today, and later married Amelia Konstanzer. His two daughters are, today, *Virginia Brindley* and *Alberta Burrell*.

Al's enthusiasm to promote our Borough was surpassed only by his generosity. He obtained gratis the land for the Presbyterian Church at Atlantic Avenue and donated the church bells. Years ago he donated the Christmas tree which stands by the Borough Building to be decorated each Christmas.

The flag pole in the Borough Park is his pride because it was given as a sort of memorial to the returning war veterans after

World War II. According to the Forest Hills News, Mr. Koch offered \$500.00 for construction of a proposed outdoor amphitheater in the Borough Park in 1937.

In the 1930's, our Burgess came forward with a generous amount of prize money to stimulate an attractively decorated Borough for Christmas. The citizens were urged to *decorate* their *homes* and compete for prizes which were judged and awarded after New Year's Day.

In 1969 when the firemen moved into their new quarters, a beautiful American flag was presented by our retired Mayor.

Al owned property in the Borough including two buildings and the bowling alleys for many years. He and Mrs. Koch operated a little novelty store in the 1930's and many citizens remember buying fire works before today's "Safe and Sane" 4th of July.

Contemporary honors were conferred on AI Koch in 1966 when a new park site, which was given to the Borough by Roland Catarinella, was named in his honor, and on February 17, 1966 an over-flow crowd attended the big testimonial dinner at Churchill Country Club for the veteran Mayor. Here AI Koch and his wife were presented with a beautiful color television set and the warm good wishes of nearly 500 people who gathered to honor our Number 1 citizen on his retirement from public service.

On that occasion, AI declared that "While Forest Hills is one of the best places to live, we're not through yet, and we'll go even further!!"

This dedicated man who really believes in Forest Hills and America will long be remembered for 46 years of faithful public services to his community during his tenure of Councilman and Burgess-Mayor.



## HOSPITALITY CENTER

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church (Middle Level) Hours–10:00 AM to 5:00 PM June 30 thru July 5

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church (Lower Level) Hours–10:00 AM to 5:00 PM June 30 thru July 5

#### ART EXHIBIT "WHAT IS A COMMUNITY",

Sponsored by Forest Hills Coordinating Committee for Human Relations Hours–10:00 AM to 5:00 PM July 1 thru July 5

# SPECTACLE: THE FOREST HILLS STORY "INDIANS TO ATOMS"

July 1755 to July 1969 July 2, 3, 4 & 5 – 9:00 PM–High School Stadium

# FRIDAY, JUNE 27th

EVENING: 9:00 PM Presentation Ball, Edgewood C. C. Jubilee Queen and Court

# SUNDAY, JUNE 29th

Religious Heritage Day

MORNING:

Observance in all Forest Hills Churches: "50 Years of Religious Growth in Forest Hills."

EVENING: 8:00 PM

All-Faith All—Denominational Service at the Churchill Area High School Stadium. Featured speaker—George Swetnam—Choir Director—Howard Le Fever

MONDAY, JUNE 30th

- 10:00 AM-5:00 PM- Hospitality Center Open, F. H. Presbyterian Church
  - 5:00 PM-9:00 PM- Food Concessions and Amusement Rides at Boro Park
    - 9:30 PM- Water Ballet at Boro Pool-Forest Hills Recreation Board

TUESDAY, JULY 1st

- 10:00 AM-5:00 PM- Hospitality Center Open, F. H. Presbyterian Church
- 5:00 PM-9:00 PM- Food Concessions and Amusement Rides at Boro Park

6:00 PM- Pony League Baseball Game, Junior High School Field Churchill vs Forest Hills Bears

7:30 PM- Boro Park-Kangaroo Kourt and Preliminary Judging of Beards

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 2nd-HOMECOMING DAY

10:00 AM-5:00 PM-Hospitality Center Open, F. H. Presbyterian Church

12:00 NOON – Mayors Luncheon

12:00-9:00 PM- Food Concessions and Amusement Rides at Boro Park

6:00 PM -- Swimming Meet at Boro Pool

7:00 PM— Firemen's Water Battle-Wilkins NO.1 vs Wilkins No.3 Wilkins No.4 vs Chalfant Presbyterian Church Parking Lot

- 7:30-9:30 PM— Entertainment at Boro Park Featuring The "Stingrays"
  - 8:15 PM- Pre Spectacle Show, High School Stadium Featuring The Gordon Highlanders
  - 9:00 PM- Spectacle at High School Stadium-The Forest Hills Story "Indians to Atoms"-July, 1755 to July, 1969

THURSDAY, JULY 3rd

Ladies Day

10:00 AM-5:00 PM- Hospitality Center Open, F. H. Presbyterian Church

10:00 AM- House Tour, Womans Club of Forest Hills

- 11:30 AM-1:00 PM— "Scratch" Baking Contest, Womens Club of Bryn Mawr Farms
  - 12:00 NOON Catered Lunch at Womans Club
  - 12:00 NOON- Food Concessions and Amusement Rides at Boro Park
  - 1:30 PM-4:30 PM- Card Party at St. Maurice Church, St. Maurice Church Women
    - 6:00 PM- Pony League Baseball, Junior High School Field Wilkins Devils vs Churchill
    - 7:00 PM— Firemens Water Battle, Presbyterian Church Parking Lot, Braddock Hills vs Churchill East Pittsburgh vs Forest Hills
- 7:30 PM-9:30 PM Entertainment at Boro Park Featuring The "Stingrays"
  - 8:15 PM- Pre Spectacle Show at High School Stadium Featuring "The Blue Knights" and Forest Hills Rangerettes
  - 9:00 PM-Spectacle at High School Stadium-Jubilee Queen and Court
  - 10:30 PM- Fireworks at High School

2:30 PM- Horseshoe Throwing Contest

- 3:30 PM Egg Throwing Contest
- 4:00 PM— Firemen's Water Battle Championship, F. H. Presbyterian Church Parking Lot
- 4:00 PM-7:00 PM- Ox Roast Dinner, Lions & Rotary

5:00 PM- Family Dinner Time

5:30 PM- Shaving Contest

6:00 PM- Pony League Baseball Game, Junior High School Field - Forest Hills Bears vs Forest Hills Tigers

6:00 PM- Pioneer Awards

6:30 PM- Drawings for Bicycles

- 7:30 PM-9:30 PM— Evening Entertainment at Boro Park Featuring "The Blue Knights" and Val Mar Studios Show
  - 8:15 PM- Pre Spectacle Show at High School Stadium-Featuring Junior Tamburitzans
  - 8:30 PM- Children's Movies at Park
  - 9:00 PM- Spectacle at High School Stadium

10:30 PM- Fireworks

10:45 PM to

- 12:00 NOON (Sat.) Skating Marathon at Ardmore Skating Rink
- SATURDAY, JULY 5th Firemans Day
  - 10:00 AM-5:00 PM-Hospitality Center Open
  - 10:00 AM-9:00 PM-Food Concessions & Amusement Rides at Park

11:00 AM-Time Capsule Ceremony, Boro Fire Hall

- 12:00 NOON-End of Skating Marathon, Ardmore Skating Rink
  - 1:30 PM-Gigantic Parade-Ardmore Blvd. from Braddock Road to Avenue B
- 7:30 PM-9:30 PM-Entertainment at Boro Park Featuring The "Stingrays"
  - 8:00 PM-Pre Spectacle Show at High School Stadium Featuring Val Mar Studios "Dance To Music" and the Sundowners Drum & Bugle Corps

10:30 PM-Fireworks at High School Stadium

FRIDAY, JULY 4th Community Day (Boro Park)

- 10:00 AM-5:00 PM- Hospitality Center Open
  - 10:00 AM Flag Raising
  - 10:00 AM- Food Concessions and Amusement Rides Open

10:15 AM- Games at Boro Pool (Children)

- 10:15 AM- Races and Games (Children)
- 11:30 AM Watermelon Eating Contest (Children)
- 1:00 PM Exhibition by Forest Hills Rangerettes
- 1:15 PM-Period Costume Contest Awards (Women)
- 1:30 PM- Women's Roller Pin Throw, Men's Golf
- 2:00 PM- Bingo (Adults) Grab Bag (Children)



# JUBILEE COMMITTEES

# FOREST HILLS COMMUNITY GOLDEN JUBILEE, INC.

HONORARY CHAIRMAN A. L. KOCH

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President — R. E. Wise Vice-President — R. E. Fox Secretary — Mrs. F. B. Ziesenheim Treasurer — H. R. Squires

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# TREASURER

F. V. Kovalovsky A. E. Balmert

ACTIVE GENERAL CHAIRMAN J. W. Shepherd

> SECRETARY A. Kovalak

REVENUE DIVISION S. Thomas (Chairman)

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# NOVELTIES COMMITTEE

Dr. J. B. Shaler (Chairman)

# CELEBRATION BALL COMMITTEE C. I. Ziegler (Chairman)

# PARTICIPATION DIVISION

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D. P. Sheehy (Men's Chairman)

BROTHERS OF BRUSH COMMITTEE D. P. Sheehy (Chairman)

# MEN'S HATS & TIES COMMITTEE

L. A. Clougherty (Chairman)

# KANGAROO KOURT COMMITTEE

(Men only) D. P. Sheehy P. G. Caswell (Co-Chairmen)

# CELEBRATION BELLES

Mrs. F. B. Ziesenheim (Chairwoman)

# LADIES' SUNBONNETS & DRESSES COMMITTEE

Mrs. R. C. Newton (Chairwoman)

# PROMENADE & CARAVAN COMMITTEE

(Men and Women) Mr. & Mrs. P. G. Caswell (Chairmen)

# SPECTACLE TICKET DIVISION

J. L. Mautino, Jr. (Chairman)

# TICKET COMMITTEE

H. Ginburg (Chairman)

# PATRONS TICKET COMMITTEE V. A. Crisanti

(Chairman)

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J. V. Wilson (Chairman) J. Flaherty D. Lucidi C. Watkins

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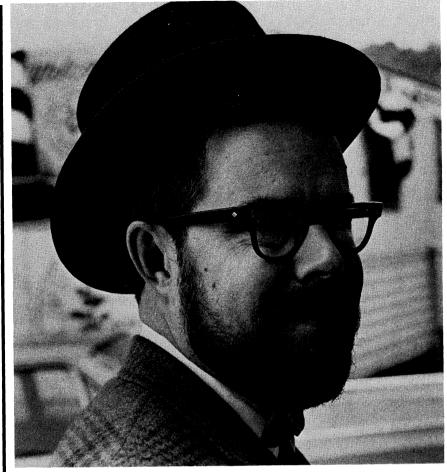
# FIREMAN'S DAY COMMITTEE

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S. DiBernardo

# COMMUNITY DAY COMMITTEE

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Mr. J. W. Shepherd, Active General Chairman

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SCRATCH BAKING CONTEST Mrs. Harry Harrison (Chairwoman)

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B. DiLucente (Chairman)

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Mrs. Guido Russo Mrs. Thomas Fitzpatrick (Co-Chairwomen)

# SOUND COMMITTEE W. F. Nanstiel (Chairman)

OFFICIAL ANNIVERSARY SEAL Miss Susan Good

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**INSURANCE** R. W. Wentworth

DECORATIONS A. P. Baker

SPECIAL EVENTS DIVISION Chairman – T. W. Roy

SPECIAL DAYS COMMITTEE Chairman – F. A. DeCesare Co-Chairman of Division

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- M. Kutlenios Chairman
- A. Baker
- N. Riedl
- F. Perstein
- T. Markland
- W. Pika

# PARADE COMMITTEE

*R. J. Bentz – Chairman* J. Fox R. Adams W. Hogan

# HOSPITALITY CENTER & HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

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Mr. & Mrs. L. H. Defibaugh
Mr. & Mrs. C. S. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. C. G. Cullen
Mr. & Mrs. P. P. Park
Mr. & Mrs. M. C. Plack
Mrs. D. F. Roose
Mrs. C. H. Stott

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# TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief H. H. Richard - Chairman

# ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

W. Hogan – Chairman

# ART EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

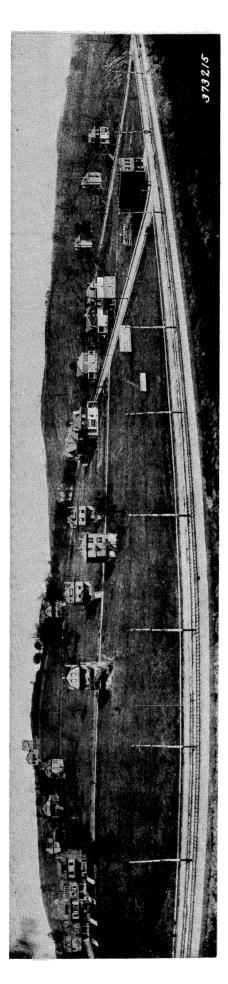
J. G. Watson – Chairman Miss Jean Young Mrs. Carolyn Shoup Mrs. Carol Moritz Mrs. Bonny Karsten

# TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

P. T. Straitiff – Chairman

# RELIGIOUS HERITAGE DAY COMMITTEE

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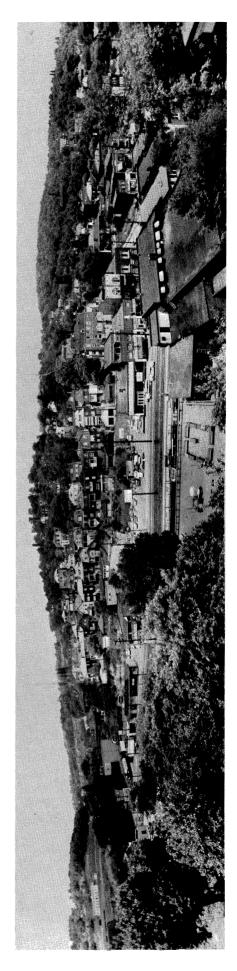
# MORE THAN 50 YEARS OF PROGRESS

In the early 1900's (after the turn of the century) the Westinghouse Corporation took the now celebrated picture (left) of the Ardmore Boulevard, where stands today's business section of the Borough. The picture was apparently taken between 1908-1911, after the "cut" was made and a streetcar line was put through from East Pittsburgh along with the original Ardmore Boulevard at that time.

The only and *first* business house on the Boulevard was the Bissel Store. This grocery and general store for many years, has come to be a historical land mark to be recognized on our 50th Anniversary. For some years this building housed the Forest Hills Public Library. It was eventually purchased by Joe Bush where he and other tenants operated a small dairy and restaurant over the years.

Structurally, the two-story building has not changed, but the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Norm Riedl, created a new look on the old store front. Our oldest store near the corner of Ardmore Boulevard and Lenox Avenue keeps pace with the times.

A picture taken from the same location (right) in 1962 shows the progress made in development of the Ardmore business section more than 50 years later.



# EARLY HISTORY AND VIEW

**1682** The history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Forest Hills, and the Turtle Creek Valley began with William Penn's purchase of this land from the *Indians*.

**1753** The earliest historical references to the Turtle Creek Valley are to be found in connection with the struggle between France and England for possession of the Forks of the Ohio River.

In the summer of 1753 John Fraser, an Indian trader, whose station at the mouth of French Creek on the Allegheny River had been seized by the French, came to the Turtle Creek Valley and built a log cabin on the North bank of the Monongahela River about 200 yards west of the mouth of Turtle Creek. George Washington, on his trip to LeBoeuf, to warn the French to desist from their expedition to the Ohio, visited at Fraser's cabin in November of 1753. Returning from LeBoeuf, on December 29, 1753, Washington again stopped at Fraser's, and remained for three days, spending one of the days visiting Indian Queen Aliquippa in her village at the mouth of the Youghiogheny River.

**1755** It was in July that General Braddock was leading his expedition to capture Fort Duquesne. Heading for the Turtle Creek Valley, he found it difficult country, thus skirted our area to avoid any Indians.

**1758** On November 24th General John Forbes camping among the hills of our valley received word that the French had abandoned Fort Duquesne, his destination. He went on to the smoking fort and started to build Fort Pitt.

**1758** Soon after the Forbes expedition in 1758 and the building of Fort Pitt, settlers began taking grants all through the land that is now Forest Hills and its surrounding territory. These tracts or grants of about 300 acres were given names. This area was "Sommerset" and was acquired by David





Gilliland in two lots. One lot of 300 acres was granted to Gilliland by court order in Pittsburgh in 1817 for \$900. The other lot, the Shields tract to the north, the David Soles tract to the south, and the original grant to Rodarmel to the west bounded and contained parts of the present Forest Hills.

The Great Stage Road, now the Greensburg Pike, was a toll road and part of the main highway from Philadelphia. The Pittsburgh Gazette of January 27, 1816 gives an account of 5800 covered wagons plus stages and mail coaches traveling the road in one year.

**1763** Colonel Henry Boquet set out from Philadelphia for the relief of Fort Pitt. When the Indians found out that he would come through the valley, they went out to meet him and engaged his forces in battle at Bushy Run. This was a complete victory for Boquet and it relieved this area from any serious danger of future Indian raids.

**1769** After the Battle of Bushy Run, settlers began to filter into the Turtle Creek Valley. Among the earliest of these settlers was *Widow Myers*, who located upon land where the Turtle Creek High School now stands, and conducted a road house or tavern on the road leading to Fort Pitt, her establishment being located at what is now the Northwest corner of the intersection of Sycamore Street and the Lower Monroeville Road, within the present limits of the Borough of Turtle Creek.

Widow Myers was well established at this location in 1769, when, following Penn's purchase of 1768, she made application for a patent to the lands occupied by her, that being the earliest date legal title to lands in this locality could be obtained.

# **OUR EARLY GOVERNMENT FORMATION**

**1788** Allegheny County was formed from parts of Westmoreland and Washington Counties. The county was divided into townships. Our vast area was Pitt Township.

**1812** Pitt Township was subdivided and most of our section became Wilkins Township.

**1851** Railroads came to the area and forever changed our lives.

**1860-1870-1905** Forest Hills first village was Gordonville or Duquesne Coal Co. Town. Later, Woodland Hills or Mucklerat area.

**1885** Now another subdivision of Pitt Township left part of todays Forest Hills area in Wilkins Township and part belonged to Braddock Township.

**1887** George Westinghouse moved the Westinghouse Air Brake works from Allegheny (North Side, Pittsburgh) to the Valley as the center of the future Westinghouse Industrial operations. He purchased approximately 500 acres located in Wilmerding, Turtle Creek, and East Pittsburgh. This was the beginning of an *era* that would *influence development* of *Forest Hills*.

**1907** Freehold Real Estate Co. started to develop and build homes in Ardmore, and about 1910 in Bryn Mawr and then in Edgewood Acres. This and the street car and Ardmore Bouldvard 'cut'', which was around 1908, started the real borough growth.

**1908** In the early 1900's it was the Freehold Realty Development efforts nearly all the way plus the Ardmore street car line which induced Westinghouse employees to live near and commute to the East Pittsburgh plant. In the late 20's, probably 90% of the residents of Forest Hills worked at Westinghouse.

**1918** Our people felt they were paying considerable sums in taxes and getting little benefit therefrom. The Commissioners of Wilkins Township would each year engage a few farmers in the Township to go over the unpaved roads of Forest Hills with teams and scrapers to smooth out the surface and in this manner work out their road taxes. In a month or so the roads were in bad condition as they were before. Since all of the Forest Hills Section was still under Township, it was very difficult to start any paving program by the property owners.

It was the general feeling that the only way to get real relief in regard to *roads* as well as with *lighting* and the *school situation* would be to petition the Allegheny County Courts to allow the Forest Hills Section to form a borough of its own where we would control the much needed improvements of a rapidly growing community. We were also deeply concerned with maintaining the Ardmore Boulevard, but the people were determined to create a borough of their own-not only to get better roads but for better schools and churches. Residents from the upper ends of the borough began meeting at the Freehold Real Estate office on Bevington Road in Edgewood Acres section to plan secession from Wilkins and Braddock Townships who were bitterly opposed to the removal of this area from them. They were unsuccessful in court action and on July 29th, 1919, Forest Hills was incorporated as a borough.



# OUR FIRST REAL TOWN OR VILLAGE

WOODLAND HILLS

"Mucklerat"

**Duquesne** Coal

Gordonville

Probably the most fascinating history of Forest Hills centers around the first real town or village in our confines. *Woodland Hills* dates back before 1870. Previously, the Forest Hills area had been large tracts of land or type of plantation farms. The wooded hills and streams were beautiful, but the ugly industry of coal mining developed here as in the general Turtle Creek Valley area.

Many new residents of the borough are suprised to still see some of the old Duquesne coal town buildings still standing in 1969, such as a row of company houses on Filmore Road or a coal company office which still stands on Fairview Road.

The Woodland Hills area of today is still somewhat the same and comprises the Glasgow, Sherwood, Braddock, Filmore and Fairview Road areas. In all of the original grants the province, or later the state, reserved the gold and silver rights. As *Mr. Brass,* President of the Freehold Real Estate Company, once remarked, "How much more to the point had they reserved the coal and gas rights!" By 1870, the Armstrong Mine was well established. In this district a prosperous, though perhaps ugly, mining village sprung up with its center near *Braddock* and *Glasgow* Roads where stood the old *Duquesne School* house and the *Riley Post Office*.

# CHECK HOUSE

Bill Fellers, Jimmy Boyle, Dan Hiland, Jimmy Tomer, Murt Snyder, John Kennedy, & "Big Paul"

Mustached Man is *Mr. Feller* who lived on Glasgow Road at corner of Braddock and Sherwood Roads.

A hugh slag dump had built up where the mines came out to an exit in the hillside to deposit the waste near the Jewish Cemetery. A trestle bridged the valley (where now is Ardmore Boulevard). This tunnel came out finally at the main *checkhouse* on Brinton Road opposite where now stands a small shopping center (formerly the club house site of the Pup's Foot Golf Course). This *check-house* was a frame structure serving the miners and used also as a stable for 21 mules. The loading point destination was, of course, the Pennsylvania Railroad near the Edgewood station.

In the beginning, a Mr. *Alexander Gordon* started the mining here and took up the deeds of property owners in the Woodland Hills area. Many of the miners had to buy about an acre and a half of ground to even get work in the mines. Filmore Road in those days only ran about halfway down to the Ardmore Boulevard instead of connecting with Route 30 as it does today.

Sherwood Road was called by another name in those times. *Mr. Gordon's* name appears on many of the old deeds and later the *Duquesne Coal Company's* name appears and still appears on the records in the Tax collector's office today. Mr. Gordon sold out to *Mr. J. B. Corey* and after probably 15 years Mr. Corey, about 1900, sold to the New York and Cleveland Coal Company which in turn was bought by the Pittsburgh Coal Company. By 1905, the coal was mined out in our locale. Nevertheless, casual operations still went on and a few mules





Armstrong Mine Locomotive-

A very early articulated steam powered mine locomotive probably built in the 1870's.

NOTE-Boiler mounted on one car and cylinders and valve gear on another. Since coal was available anywhere on the line, none was carried on the locomotive.

remained around to greet residents about the time of our incorporation. The coal tipples were still with us and so were the open mine entrances for a few years. There was truly a ghost like hand-over from the life that was.

*Mrs. Jane Stauffer's* home on Sherwood Road is an original building of the second Garrity Store. *Mrs. Garrity* was the grandmother of Mrs. Stauffer (who was a Boyle before marriage).

The old stores here were in operation about 75 years ago and sold all kinds of things including grease, lamps, picks, shovels, and hard *cider*! The famous one-room, and later two-room, *Duquesne School* according to legend and history tells us it was at one time the center of the "Molly McGuires" invasion of our coal mining areas.

Many of us remember the little *Riley Post Office* which was only torn down in the late '50's by our Borough. It jutted out on the curb of Braddock Road and was considered a traffic hazard. It was at that time owned by Schillings. The building had been abandoned for some years but even some 40 years ago, it was still known as the little *Henny Kane* Store. *Miss Riley* was the first Post Mistress and this was prior to ruralfree delivery where people at home receive their mail as today. *Mrs. Martin Plack* (Anna Kennedy) has the original boxes from the Post Office and remembers when the residents who were richer or more influential got their mail in these boxes, which were wood cubicles, while the bulk of the mail was just laid on the counter for the rest of the citizens.

About 1917 — they tore down the old Duquesne School. For some years after World War I, a War Memorial and Plaque were in evidence at the corner of Braddock and Glasgow to honor World War I veterans of the little community.

In 1930 when the *Woodside Road School* addition was constructed and again in 1948 when we built the *Junior High* at Central Site, the old coal-mining operations "came back to roost" costing us dearly to defray the expensive underpinnings for reinforcing the collapse of the mine pillars.

# **KDKA AND FOREST HILLS**

**1920** It was the year 1920...only one year after the Anniversary of the founding of Forest Hills when the word R A D I O came to the world and changed the course of history forever. It was by *Doctor Frank Conrad* in Wilkinsburg that the word came. Frank Conrad's licensed radio-telephone station 8 XK operation moved to a tent atop the Westinghouse K. Building in East Pittsburgh. It became the world's first commercial radio station with a scheduled or anticipated broadcast of KDKA—the Harding-Cox Election.

Soon Doctor Conrad was borrowing Victor records from the *George Bennett Music Store*, then near Caldwell & Graham's, in Wilkinsburg and the world's first commercials spoken by him were about the kindness of the Bennett Music Store in loaning the records for the broadcasts. *Mr. Bennett* resided on *Lenox Avenue* in Forest Hills. *Mr. Al Bartlett* of Forest Hills was probably the first man to sing over radio.

The radio broadcasting grew from a modest 100 watt transmitter and a handfull of crystal set listeners into a billion-dollar-a-year industry. Sixty million sets were in use across the nation—and all in less than three decades!

**1923** KDKA had troubles at 100 watts from the steel buildings in East Pittsburgh and moved to the new site in our

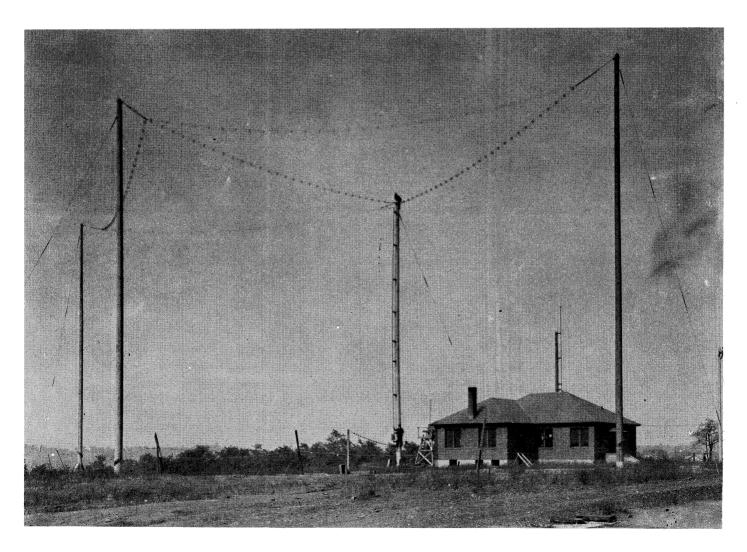
Borough on the Greensburg Pike. They felt this was one of the high and level spots in Allegheny County available on our adjoining hills. It was hoped to avoid the previous problem of steel buildings having decided absorbing effort on radio waves. The new Westinghouse experimental building was one story with a large basement housing the transformers and so forth.

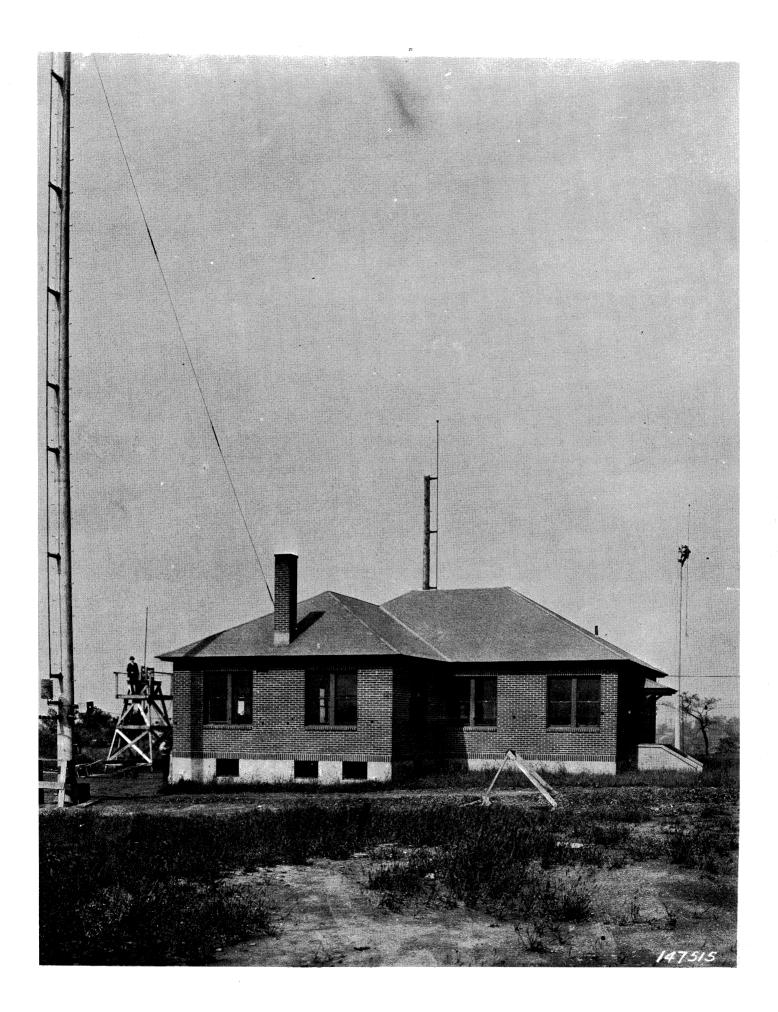
Here are rare early pictures that were taken of the building about 1925 with the antenna and short-wave transmitters and again in 1969 — center of the Westinghouse Recreation Center.

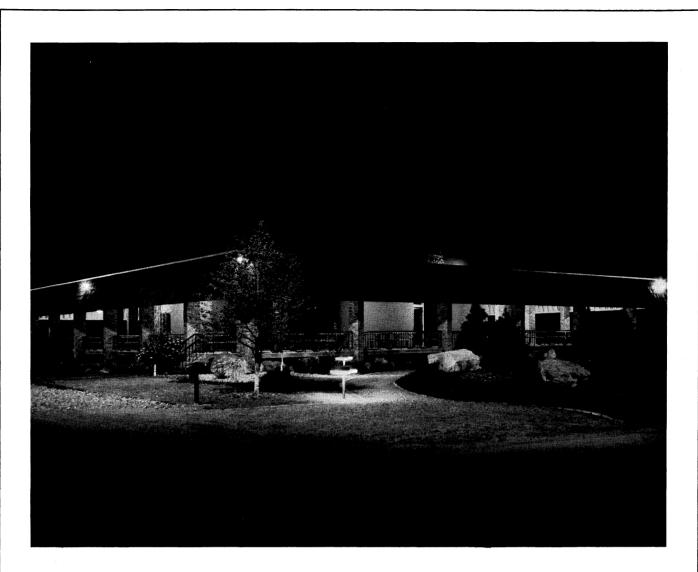
**1931** The first home of the 50 KW radio station was closed down about 1931. Eventually, this building replaced the former wood Tennis Club house adjoining the property of KDKA. Today it has been converted into the Westinghouse Lodge or Recreation Center.

The KDKA transmitting station building is now the nucleus of the beautiful Westinghouse Recreation Center today.

Forest Hills cannot claim the actual radio inventor, Dr. Conrad, or the first broadcast as a Forest Hills first; but we were the *world's first* 50 KW high powered *transmitting* station—and the first home of international short-wave transmitters.







The East Pittsburgh Divisions of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the residents of Forest Hills on the 50th Anniversary of their Borough. Through the years, Westinghouse has grown and prospered along with the Borough, and we hope to continue this tradition in the future.

Pictured here is the Westinghouse Lodge off Greensburg Pike in Forest Hills, recently remodeled for use by Westinghouse employes and their families. It was built around the former building of the Westinghouse recreation center, the site of the early radio broadcasts and the first 50-kilowatt High Power Radio Transmitter in the world. The Lodge offers picnic-dining facilities on a covered veranda which encircles the building, complete kitchen facilities including a barbecue pit, gamerooms, and rooms for parties and other social functions.





The Sincerest Salute to Forest Hills on its 50th Anniversary!

For its fine homes, churches, schools, streets, police and fire protection and other community assets, we of the A&P Family are delighted to say a cordial "Well done, Forest Hills!"



There can be no doubt of A&P's sincerity, for on our 105th Anniversary in 1964, A&P demonstrated our mutual faith in Forest Hills by opening one of our most modern, beautiful stores... and the folks in Forest Hills and surrounding areas have justified it fully. A&P is proud to be a part of the Forest Hills Community and promises to continue to bring to its many friends the lowest possible prices on fine quality foods—plus, of course, the added bonus of Plaid Stamps!

A & P ... the store that cares ... about you!



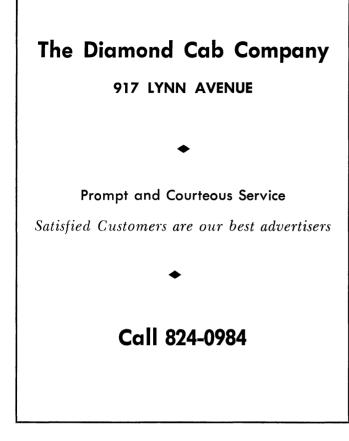
# TO THE PEOPLE OF FOREST HILLS BOROUGH

**Congratulations** 

On 50 Years of Progress in Living

♦ ♦ ♦

# DILL & KIRK, Inc.



# **ROBERT M. THOMPSON**

Quality Insurance — Competitive Rates Business — Commercial — Personal Lines

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# FOREST HILLS DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE FOR 1969

**Evelyn Slusser** 

Thomas J. Joyce

Gloria Anderson

William G. Boney

Ethel Loy

William Hogan

Phyllis Wetherby

Ann Kutch

James Kerr

Mae O'Connor

Lawrence Micklos

Elmer K. Kreiling

Irene Lemak–Secretary Phone 271-6102

# FOREST HILLS DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR 1969

1. Bernard McLaughlin (Mayor)

> 2. Ethel Loy (Tax Collector)

3. Vincent Antonucci Donald F. Cassidy Alphonso Cova Thomas J. Joyce (Council)

4. Richard A. Moore Theodore Zygmunt Evelyn M. Fisher (Churchill Area School Board) **Compliments** 

of

# **ALEX HUTCHINSON & SON**

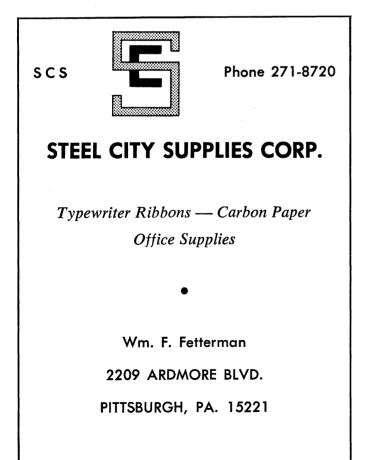
**Civil Engineers and Surveyors** 

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508 REBECCA AVENUE

WILKINSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 15221

Phone: 731-9438



Congratulations on the

**GOLDEN JUBILEE** 

from your

# "TAVERN ON THE PIKE"

(opposite the High School) Greensburg Pike

**Proprietor: JOSEPH RUPTAK** 

Phone 241-9993

# BOROUGH GOVERNMENT



Official Family: (Left to right, seated) W. S. Reding, Solicitor; Mayor Richard E. Wise and Thomas E. Boyd. (Standing) Mrs. Jean Von Hoppe, Office Secretary; E. L. Symons, John G. Stephans, Anthony J. Brucker, Robert Freudenrich, Borough Manager; Daniel M. Poore, James V. Wilson, Frank V. Kovalovsky and Walter G. Winnenberg, Tax Collector. (Not shown) Russell E. Fox, Council President.

# FOCUSING ATTENTION ON TOMORROW

The fiftieth anniversary is not only a good time to pause and applaud the accomplishments of the past but it is also a time to consider the opportunities of the future. While it is good to congratulate ourselves for our past, let us ask ourselves what needs yet to be done to make an even better future. To do this, we must be alert to changing conditions, and adjust our thinking to new trends in the needs of our community and its residents.

How can we best utilize the resources of our borough for the maximum benefit of all our citizens? There are strong pressures for a fuller utilization of our lands which is evidenced by an increasing rate of development of land in our borough. We have initiated a long range master plan for our borough and have made excellent strides toward the fulfillment of that plan. Much remains yet to be done. We can visualize the redevelopment of Ardmore Boulevard with improved traffic flow and the center strip devoid of power lines and beautifully landscaped with shrubs, grass and trees. We can visualize modern apartments in our borough which will provide accommodations not only for young couples but also for retired persons. Thus persons will not have to move from the community to find suitable residences as their needs change.

We can visualize increased employment opportunities with expanded businesses in the area. We can visualize improved recreation for our residents. The development of our parks and facilities will permit a well-rounded program for all our citizens. We will need to continue a vigorous public works program to improve our streets and alleys. These projects, and others, will become realities if the citizens continue to maintain a deep sense of community pride and concern for borough affairs and good borough government.



Mayor Richard E. Wise



**Council President Russell E. Fox** 

Aussell 6.

RUSSELL E. FOX President of Council

Kecha

RICHARD E. WISE Mayor

# AUDITORS! REP

# THE BOROUGH OF POREST HILLS From Jan. 1st, 1930 to Jan. 1st, 1931

## Borough Account

## Receipte.

# Resources.

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Street Lighting	
Tax Collector's Com.	
Secretary's Salary	
Solicitor's Salary	
Printing & Stationer	
Board of Health	
Engineering	
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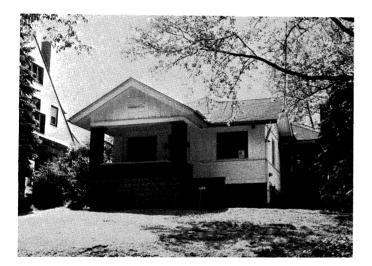
AUDITORS. H.C. Walt

The first audit of Forest Hills Borough—The little village didn't have many facilities or advantages the first year but the prices and taxes were right. The Budget for 1969 is \$541,095.

**Courtesy of Walter Winnenberg** 

# FOREST HILLS BIRTH PLACE: First Council Meeting

In the early 1900's the Freehold Real Estate had built their main office for the development of our area at 6 Bevington Road (just off the Ardmore Boulevard at that intersection.) It was a tiny two room bungalow but with the same porch and gable that is shown in this picture taken in 1969. In the intervening years, it has been made into a large residence with three additions to the original bungalow. Some of the former owners were **Janet and Robert Newton** and the **Joe Christ's**. The present owners are **Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Truschel, Jr.** This was the scene of early "happenings" in the village, since it was here the dissatisfied residents, particularly from the upper ends of the Borough, met to plan their secession from Wilkins and Braddock Townships. And after we were incorporated into a Borough in 1919, the first official Council Meeting was held on January 5, 1920.



**1920** On January 5, 1920, the first New Council met at the Freehold Real Estate Company's Office in Edgewood Acres. All were sworn in by Burgess John France. The members of the new council were:

Edgar R. RayEdgewood Acres
W. SimpsonArdmore
John J. Kennedy
Albert L. Koch
Elmer L. Stewart Rockwood
J. W. BrownBryn Mawr Farms
A. C. StreamerEdgewood Acres

# ADMINISTRATION

Tenure of Councilmen with Longest Records of Service:

39	Albert Koch
26	M. G. Thompson
22	James A. Kennedy
14	John A. Franklin
13	John J. Kennedy
12	Charles Brant
12	John J. Johnescu
12	Edward Lamberger
11	Leslie R. Allison
11	Edward Symons
10	Thomas Boyd

## **BOROUGH OFFICERS**

#### **Burgess and Mayor:**

John France	1920 — 1930
Lee A. Wiser	1930 — 1937
Richard Wise	1938 – 1965 (Mayor 1961)
Richard Wise	1966 —

#### Secretary:

H. E. Haldeman	1920
John H. Reed	1920 — 1921
H. E. Haldeman	1922 – 1923
A. L. Harvey	1923
E. S. Smull	1924 – 1940
Frank V. Kovalovsky	1940 1959
Robert T. Windhorst	1959 — 1965
Edward Dorsner	1966 – 1967

#### Borough Manager - Secretary:

Robert Freudenrich 1967 –

## Solicitors:

John D. Meyer	1920 — 1927
Norman A. Allen	1928 — 1958
Warren S. Reding	1955 —

#### **Engineer:**

J. B. Frease	1920 — 1930
Alex Hutchinson and Son	1930 —

#### **Treasurer:**

C. Miller	1922 — 1951
R. V. Wissinger	1952 – 1957
G. W. Hinkel	1958 — 1959
Frank V. Kovalovsky	1960 —

# FOREST HILLS COUNCIL MEMBERS 1920 - 1969

\*Edgar R. Ray W. Simpson John J. Kennedy Albert L. Koch Elmer L. Stewart William Hamilton (Replaced Simpson) J. W. Brown \*A. C. Streamer John H. Reed J. V. Dobson Mr. Wynne \*O. P. Hipple J. P. Gilson H. H. Elliott Landsperger replaced by R. L. Witter \*H. R. Kirk O. H. Morgan H. H. Hartness Joseph N. Sample \*L. A. Wiser

J. A. McDowell \*M. G. Thompson R. N. Critchlow Wm. F. Campbell F. E. Cyphers S. E. Burkhart H. C. Clemmer \*F. L. P. Kellev \*Flovd J. Titler E. F. Lowry H. L. Wilcox R. Aldridge Merl G. Sevbert Charles R. Neff W. W. Keyser \*Fred Hastings Leslie R. Allison Paul P. Smith **Charles Brant** R. W. Monroe \*J. A. Kennedy

J. H. Allison W. W. Dietrich John J. Johnescu Joseph D. Findley Edward H. Lamberger A. L. Graham Robert T. Windhorst John A. Franklin Vernon D. Dodez John W. Schaffer Edward L. Symons Thomas E. Boyd Thomas L. Passant \*Alexander R. Duncan \*Russell Fox William Biedenbach Daniel M. Poore John G. Stephans Anthony J. Brucker James V. Wilson

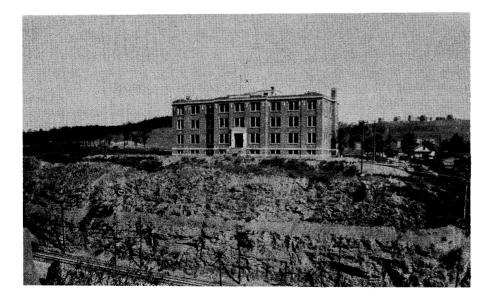
\*Held office as President of Council

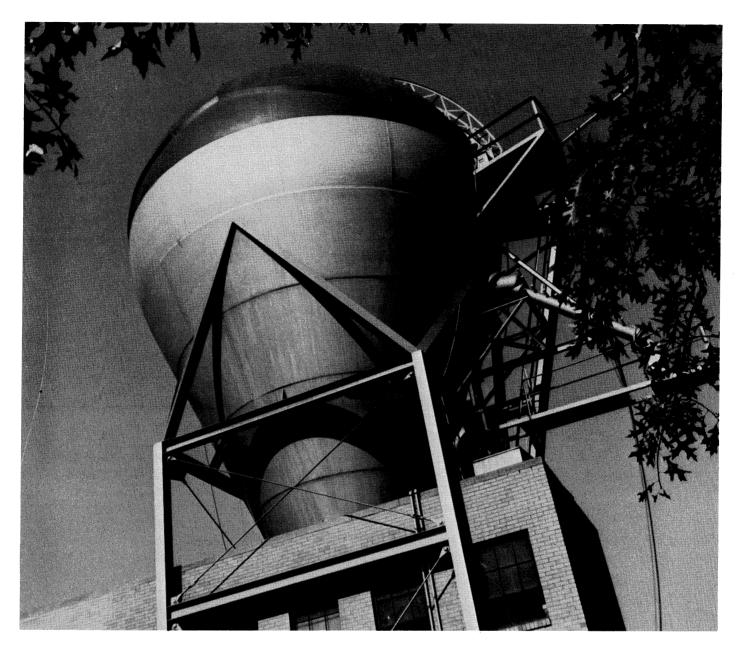
**1915** Early pictures of old Westinghouse Research before and after an addition was built. (Before Atom Smasher days)

At this historic location passed a parade of so many great scientists, inventions and significant "happenings" that a separate history book would be necessary to cover the subject. We salute the many great personalities who lived and worked here.

OUR "WORLD'S FIRST" ..... THE ATOM SMASHER (1937-38) must top the list!!







# "FIRST IN ATOMIC POWER"

Just as true today as it was one year after the Borough of Forest Hills was incorporated, Westinghouse proudly wears the label of a world leader in atomic power.

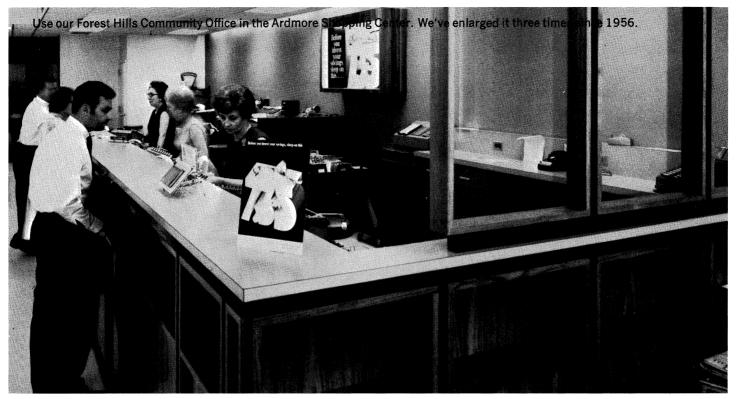
In 1920, a Westinghouse employe, Dr. Harvey C. Rentschler, successfully refined uranium. As early as 1936, Westinghouse announced it would "...install equipment and start work on a project of disintegrating the atom, hoping to solve much of the mystery surrounding the structure of matter."

The world's first industrial atom smasher, pictured above, was built and placed in operation by Westinghouse at their Forest Hills site in 1938. The pear-shaped shell, although no longer in use, stands today as a landmark of man's victory over the atom. This instrument provided knowledge in nuclear physics at a time when such knowledge was sketchy and yet extremely necessary to the accomplishment of nuclear fission on a practical scale. If Pittsburgh today may be justifiably called the "Atomic Capitol of the World," it is due largely to the pioneering work done by Westinghouse at the Forest Hills site.

From a dream in the mid-thirties, Westinghouse has invested millions of dollars in the development of commercial atomic power. Today, this portion of the company's business provides jobs for many thousands of people throughout this Nation, indeed, throughout the World.

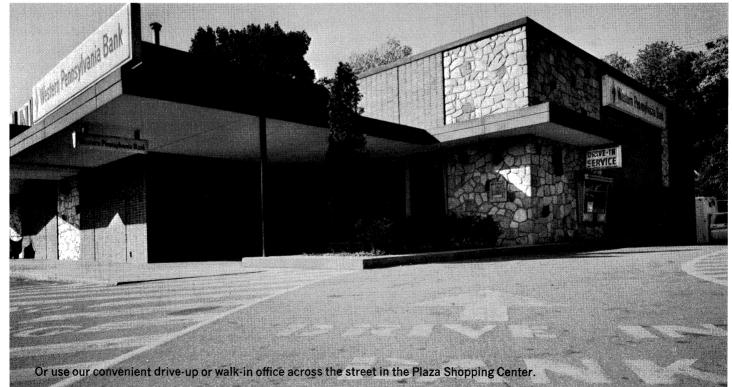
Westinghouse proudly salutes the Borough of Forest Hills on their fiftieth anniversary. May the next five decades be as progressive, as productive and as successful as the last five.





# congratulations, Forest HILLS

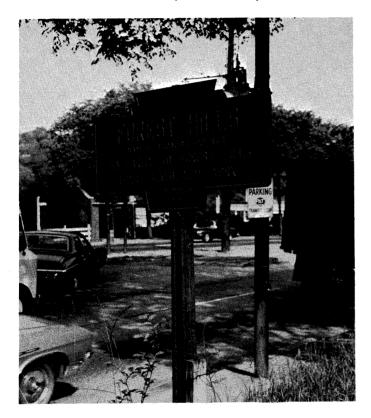
And thank you for helping us to flourish in your friendly shade. We look forward to being of service to you for many years ahead.



WPNB WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL BANK MEMBER FDIC

# FOREST HILLS BOROUGH FOUNDED 1919

This view of the Bryn Mawr entrance to Forest Hills shows one of the old entrance name plates on Lincoln Highway. Forest Hills was so named because of its similarity to Forest Hills, Long Island, New York. Strangely enough, history doesn't say just who was responsible for the naming nor are the residents today certain as to why we were considered so similar to that New York community which actually doesn't have hills!



# THE ELMS

A Joy to residents and commuters alike are the beautiful elm trees that line our Ardmore Boulevard!! Like many precious commodities and assets our Borough enjoys today, these did not just happen. Mr. T. A. McDowell of Bryn Mawr served on an early council of the Borough and was influential in getting Westinghouse to buy some 200 trees to help beautify the village.

# OUR POPULATION EXPLOSION

1920	1500	300% increase
1930	4549	
1934	5116	
1950	6301	
1960	8796	
1965	9923*	

Projected future population between 12,000 and 13,000.

\*5060 adult homeowners with 2862 children 1643 renters with 358 children

# **OUR FABULOUS VANISHING LIBRARY**

**1925** The library was started by the Crescent Hills Club in a room of the Westinghouse Community Building and named the "Westinghouse Community Library." The work was directed by a trained librarian, assisted by a committee of members of the Club, who volunteered their services. Financial support was provided solely by the Club.

**1931** After five years, the Library had grown so large that the Club felt it could no longer maintain it as one of its activities. Borough Council was contacted, with the result that the Library was given to the Borough for a **public library** in the spring of 1931. The number of books loaned jumped from 7,000 in 1930 to over 14,000 in 1931, and jumped again in 1932 to 24,000, and in 1933 to almost 25,000.

**1934** Because of lack of space by Westinghouse, it was necessary to move the Library from its original quarters (in the Research Cafeteria, given free of charge,) to the Municipal Building. The small room (which has been serving in recent years as the police and fire desk for the Borough,) was so tiny that the books were jammed together, stacked almost to the ceiling, and piled on the floor. An aisle was just wide enough for passing. Books were returned through the tax collector's window to save space inside; there was room for one desk only – which served as Loan Desk, typewriter desk, and work table. Gifts of books were offered could not be accepted because of limited space. And yet the lending of books went merrily on, despite the crying need for new and larger quarters.

**1939** Council moved the **public library** to 2206 Ardmore Boulevard on the second floor over the bowling allies. In later years, the library had moved to 2203 Ardmore Boulevard (which was the Bissell Store even before the beginning of the Borough.)

This remarkable library was finally doing business at the rate of 14,000 book-loans annually. The public library board in the early 1940's consisted of 11 members with two appointed by Council; one by the school board; and seven members by the Burgess from the various Borough districts and the Librarian.

When Mrs. Allen Stewart, the librarian, resigned in 1939, she was replaced by Mrs. J. K. Hargraves who assumed the position until 1944.

Eventually the library suffered from lack of funds from the Council and some lack of interest from the citizens.

**1949** The books were stored for almost two years in the Woodside Road School, but in 1949 there was no longer extra space available from the school board. The library board did not receive enough support to have a library tax put on the ballot, and more storage facilities were found.

**1954** The last library's partial quarters was in the Forest Hills Woman's Club House – when it looked as though the old "girl" was at long last being revived – but somehow this fine institution disapeared from the face of the earth!!

# THE WESTINGHOUSE PLAN

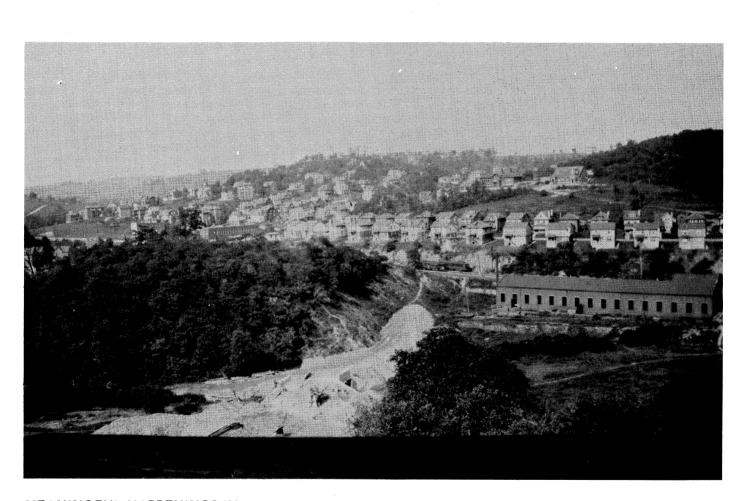
In 1919 the WESTINGHOUSE PLAN was developed and the first homes were completed and ready for occupancy in the later part of that year.

The Westinghouse Electric Corporation through a subsidiary-Interborough Improvement Company-developed the Westinghouse Plan.

Homes were erected for sale to their employees at, or near, cost with the provision that if the employee remained with the company for a continuous period of five (5) years, a reduction

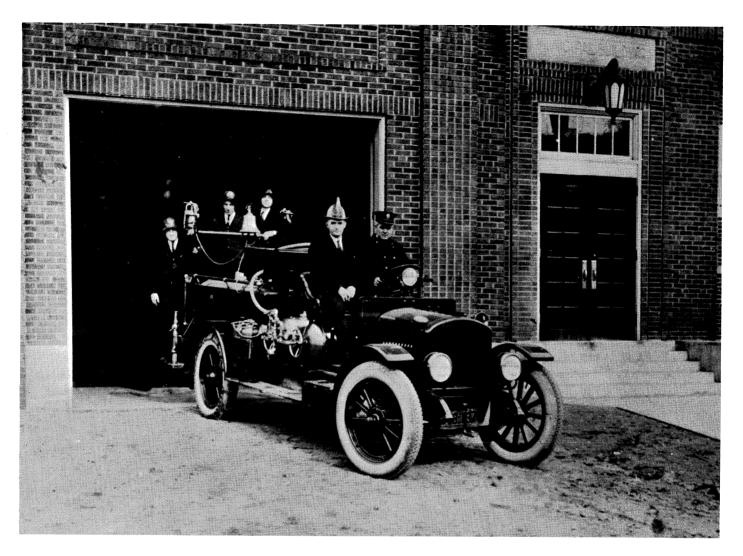
of 10% was made in the cost. While the first homes were ready for occupancy in the latter part of the year 1919, the rest of the plan was completed over four years.

The acting head of the Interborough Improvement Company was Mr. T. P. Gaylord and *Mr. O. P. Hipple* was in direct charge of construction. Mr. Hipple was a resident of the Edgewood Acres section of Forest Hills Borough and later became a member of the Forest Hills Borough Council and Forest Hills Rotary Club. Mr. Hipple later left a Christmas charity trust of \$10,000 to Rotary.



# MEANINGFUL HAPPENINGS IN THE 20'S AND TODAY

Construction of Yost Boulevard after Westinghouse Plan was started – Yost Boulevard in early history was only a private lane (upper part) for rich Mr. Sole's access to Brinton Road. In foreground is the old *car barn*, now a roller rink. (1907) After Yost Boulevard was built and the large wooded hump on the *left* was removed, came the *Ardmore Shopping Center* in its place. Most recently Forest Hills acquired the second shopping center, *Forest Hills Plaza* – now on the right side of Yost Boulevard.



### **1918 – OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Forest Hills began its humble fire-fighting department with a hand-drawn hose cart just about 50 years ago. Actually, men like Joe Gera, Harold Kirk, Al Bartlett and John Franklin started this little organization in the Westinghouse plan area. Shortly thereafter, the Borough incorporated and the Westinghouse plan petitioned to become part of the Borough. We now had acquired Fire Chief Davies and our first fire truck. The fire departments merged to combine their efforts in 1919.

# 1920 – THE FIRST REAL FIRE TRUCK WAS REPORTEDLY A *LA FRANCE* AND CUSTOMIZED IN NORTH BRADDOCK.

Since we didn't have a Municipal Building and/or Fire Hall until 1922, the first *fire engine* was small enough to be housed in the Winnenberg garage. *Walter* says he had the job of polishing it and that he should get reparations today in lieu of the Borough's free rent and his labor.

## OUR FIRST FIRE TRUCK - Pride of Forest Hills in the early 20's

Shown in the picture at the helm of the truck is, of course, our first Fire Chief, Cliff Davies, and seated beside him one of the First Councilmen, Mr. E. L. Stewart. The fire truck is shown at the entrance of the Fire Hall and Municipal Building when completed in 1922.

# 1935 – FOREST HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHARTERED

#### Officers:

Walter Keyser	President
Harold Kirk	Vice-President
Joe Gera	Secretary
Albert Korhnak	Treasurer

## **Board of Directors**

George Heuer		Frank Schrimser
Harry Nelso		L. M. Goodman
	G. A. Williams	

**1937** Our first Fire Chief, *Clifford Davies*, died on September 25th at the Municipal Building where he resided. He was in his 59th year, and our Fire Chief since 1920....formerly a Pittsburgh Fire Captain.

# 1947 – EAST BOROUGHS FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Association was initiated in 1947. The idea was sparked by the tragic fire at the Atlantic Avenue School!! At that time there were some 27 municipalities involved. Today the member communities number at least 50. Tom Brinker, a past President and now deceased, was with others instrumental in forming the new organization.

Significantly, our local Forest Hills Fire Hall is the headquarters or Central Station for the East Boroughs Firemen's Association, which places an unlimited number of firemen and equipment at the disposal of all the member communities, including Pittsburgh.

**1968 VETERAN FIRE CHIEF, WILBUR WRIGHT,** was promoted to FIRE MARSHALL of the Borough of Forest Hills, after serving the Department for over thirty years. He will have charge of all fire-fighting equipment, but his prime duty is studying and suggesting methods for fire prevention rather than actual fire-fighting. In his many years with the Forest Hills Fire Department, he has attended the fire training course of the City of Pittsburgh; the fire school at Penn State University for two years; and was an instructor with the state for 20 years at the South Park Fire Schools.

A resident of Forest Hills for the past 45 years, the new Fire Marshall resides with his wife Rose, son David and daughter Donna at 208 Avenue L.

**1969 NEW FIRE HALL** for our fire trucks and social-training hall was completed....the architects were McConnell Associates and the contractor was Hammerberg Construction, Inc. This is a mighty stride in Borough government building wherein a long cherished dream came true....up-dating the housing for our expanding and fine fire equipment.... probably our "first line of defense."

COST: \$96,000

## 1969 – OFFICERS:

Larry Placone President
Jack Mantino Vice-President
Lowell Jackman Secretary
Bill Honetzy Treasurer

# Board of Directors

John Dicoskey		Dennis Gartland
Sam DiBernardo		Frank Bearinger
	Robert Windborst Jr	

Fire Chief	Ray Heller
Assistant Chiefs	Tony Anker
	Bob Pigman
Captains	Bob Adams
	Larry Placone
Lieutenants	Sal Brusco
	Mel Baker
Fire Marshall	Wilbur Wright



1969 New Fire Hall and line-up of fire equipment.

# OUR FIRE EQUIPMENT

**1939** International Truck. It was a 450 gallon pumper, now used only as a light plant to aid at fires.



1939 International Fire Truck

**1949** In February, 1949, our new *Mack Fire Truck* (750 gallon pumper) was delivered and dazzled the community. Later it had won 10 first prizes out of its first 12 parades as the best appearing truck.

**1960** "GM" Emergency Squad Fire Truck costing about \$7500 is an all-white truck equipped with quickly available fire fighting equipment for small fires. It is also used to promptly transport firemen who necessarily arrive at the fire station after the fire truck has left for a fire.



1960 GM Emergency Squad Truck.

**1967** Ward La France 1000 gallon pumper \$30,000 including some new equipment.



WERE YOU THERE at the Forest Hills Volunteer Fire Department Banquet on January 12, 1942?



TIME CAPSULE

**CAPTAIN RAY HELLER** and associates join Junior Firemen in their approval of the beautiful time capsule to be buried at the height of festivitiesduring the Golden Jubilee.

Over the years our Volunteer Fire Department consistently sought young men to serve, as well as *funds* for operating. In recent years the organization's goal has been new and bigger quarters for our modern fire fighting equipment. At some times VFD had controversial plans to that of the Borough Council, but complete harmony prevailed in February, 1969.

It was a proud moment when members of VFD presented Forest Hills Council President, Russell E. Fox, and Mayor Richard Wise, with a \$20,000 check for their donation towards the newly constructed *Firetruck garage and hall*. The borough fathers in turn gave a lifetime lease to the Volunteer Fire Department for their social quarters.

The Volunteer Fire Department has a total membership of more than 70 citizens who volunteer to perform this important service to our community.

# **1919 OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Forest Hills Borough started in the beginning with just one policeman and Police Chief, "Moody" Champ, who operated in the little 2 room wooden police station in Ardmore. Here, also, our first Burgess—John France—held court. We have gone a long way and today have ten policemen and four desk-men. The police department is augmented further with a force of 26 auxiliary police, modern police cruisers and a communications department.

Forest Hills is the center base and the communications network today serving Forest Hills Borough, Wilkins Township, and Churchill Borough. This security link now gives us a common radio system for mutual emergency aid. We also have lady police in the borough today.

With the complexities of modern society, Forest Hills police deserve much credit for their cool handling of crime and a multitude of law enforcement problems. Many of us tend to forget that in addition to regular police duties, our Borough has a major traffic hazard exposure to contend with. Our Route 30 (Ardmore Boulevard) has been a state and national highway for many years, and creates a patrolling menace.

## **1969 POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Harry Richard

Lt. Robert Kim Lt. Domenic Brusco

Kline Fulton Charles Wood Andrew Gass Milan Bobick

Deskmen Wilbur Wright Daniel Blystone Robert Funk William Walter William Homze Paul Coffman William Havas

**OUR FINEST** 

# ACTIVITIES HANDLED BY THE AUXILIARY POLICE

Handling of traffic for Sunday service at St. Maurice Church at Ardmore Boulevard

Handling of traffic and parking for PTA meetings and other large gatherings in the Borough

Served at "Canteens" at the Junior High School

Served at Youth and Adult activities in the Woman's Club

Assist at the bus pick-up points for the annual school picnics

Activities throughout the 4th of July Community Day at our Borough Park

Extra patrolling duty during the Halloween season

Police training and target practice

These and other activities involve many hours of duty we have come to depend on.

About 1954 the Auxiliary Police began to function in Forest Hills and Richard Wise, now Mayor, served as chief of this group for 10 years.

# **1969 Officers of Auxiliary Police:**

H. Van Dyke, President J. Naughton, Vice-President W. Hogan, Secretary J. Rush, Treasurer

# **Trustees:**

S. Matechan M. Fitzurka

# **1969 OUR ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Forest Hills has more than 25 miles of streets and alleys to keep in condition and to salt and cinder in the winter. Our normal yearly amount of materials used is 200 tons of rock salt, 250 tons of processed cinders, and 24 tons of Calcium Chloride.

One of the reasons our Borough started out in the first place was over lack of roads or absolutely wretched mud roads. In fact—in Bryn Mawr—all roads were mud!

Now in 1969 most all of our roads in the Borough are either paved or improved.

# **1969 STREET DEPARTMENT LINEUP**

Alfred Prop, Foreman, Earl Oswalt, Raymond Schuster, William Fisher, John Maskaly, Melvin Baker, Richard Branzel, Merl Oswalt.



# **ARDMORE CAR BARNS**

**1907 ARDMORE CAR BARNS** were built at time of laying the streetcar lines – making it one of our oldest buildings. One half of the building on Ardmore Boulevard side is the original brick structure with the other half of the building added later. The occupancy now is the *Ardmore Roller Rink*.

**1915** The original *Westinghouse Research* building was built, and an addition was constructed later. This important laboratory witnessed a parade of inventions and scientific "greats" until the present day when the new labs were moved to Churchill Borough. This building is a history book in itself and topping the list was the ATOM SMASHER, Forest Hill's famous "world's first"!!!

# WORLD WAR I

**1917** The United States entered into World War I on April 6, 1917.

**1918** Armistice Day – WAR ENDED! on November 11, 1918.

**1919 FOREST HILLS BOROUGH** incorporates on July 29, 1919.

**1919 WESTINGHOUSE PLAN** development began (see special History write-up)

**1920** Celebration of the *opening* of *Ardmore Boulevard* after a nine-month closing for repairs to the wretched road after World War I military traffic. \$234.000

Except for the 1969 Golden Jubilee, one of the biggest celebrations of all the valley communities and Forest Hills along with Wilkinsburg was culminated after a parade of more than 250 automobiles from Wilkinsburg to East Pittsburgh and Turtle Creek and back to Forest Hills. There were street fairs, a reception, and band concerts. Addresses were given by County Commissioners Gumbert and Cain and the several local Burgesses were on hand.

**1920 KDKA** 1st Commercial Radio Broadcast was of the Harding-Cox election.

**1922 BOROUGH BUILDING** was constructed for about \$25,000.

**1923** KDKA's new and *first 50 KW powerful transmitting station* was built on the Greensburg Pike by Barclay Avenue. The building sets as the nucleus of the *Westinghouse Lodge*  and *Recreation Center* today. This was another "world first" in our Borough. (see special story and pictures)

**1925 FOREST HILLS LIBRARY** was born. It was created by *Crescent Hills Woman's Club.* 

**1928** AL KOCH was appointed *Postmaster* and a post office was opened approximately that year which only "made the scene" about a year and a half.

## **1929 STOCK MARKET CRASH and DEPRESSION**

The date was October 29, 1929 and came to be known as "Black Friday." Forest Hills together with the rest of the country fell into a deep and long depression. The depression hit industrial towns harder than most other areas. The Westinghouse and Valley Corporation, like all the factories in the United States, cut back production and reduced payrolls to the minimum. Not having unemployment compensation to fall back on, the industrial workers plight was one of despair and desolation. Men in their prime wandered the streets. Unemployed banded together and set off on hunger marches. The world of dreams collapsed; the crazy, carefree days of the twenties had run their course and were gone forever. Suicides were not uncommon.

**1930's FOREST HILLS BUILDING and LOAN ASSOCI-ATION** was located in Al Koch's building at Ardmore Boulevard and Atlantic Avenue for probably more than ten years. It was a flourishing Building and Loan operation in the village. The Depression, however, proved a little too much and the organization was eventually liquidated.

Some of the men associated with it were: Harold Kirk, Al Koch, Frank Kelley, O. B. Abraham, E. H. Turnock, Frank Wentworth, Herschel Haldeman, Norman Allen (Attorney.)

**1930** JOHN FRANCE, first Burgess of Forest Hills, died after waging a losing battle with pneumonia. He was forty-three years of age and served as Burgess of Forest Hills for twelve years. *Dr. Funk*, our first doctor and two other specialists had been called into consultation for the lung disease.

1930 or 1932 Storm sewers came to Forest Hills.

**1933** A Federal Emergency Conservation program, later to be known as the Civilian Conservation Corps or CCC was a Federal organization to help unemployed youths. The Corps sponsored many courses but the most popular projects were planting trees, building roads and trails and fighting forest fires. Some of our local men remember these projects well for they were a part of them.

**1934 FOREST HILLS SAGA**, written by Mrs. Arthur Jackman, was researched in 1934 and published in 1936 and later republished in the 1952 FOREST HILLS NEWS. This history of our community in early times, and before the borough's incorporation, was significant in that the records of the Freehold Real Estate Company were completely destroyed in the flood of 1936.

1934 BOROUGH PARK purchased by Council.

**1934 FOREST HILLS NEWS:** 1st Issue was published and born, sponsored by the Civic Association and served this community well for 20 years.

**1935** W.P.A. – In May of 1935, the Federal Government instituted the "Work Progress Administration" and Forest Hills Borough and the School Board were fortunate to get several projects started under this W.P.A. program.

**1936 ST. PATRICK'S DAY FLOOD**... March 17th, 1936, Pittsburgh, Turtle Creek Valley (Wilmerding included) flooded ... even Forest Hills was affected indirectly.

**1937** Atom Smasher – "World's First" Atom Smasher was constructed at old Westinghouse Research.

1938 Council purchased first new ash spreader for \$160.00.

**1939** Borough issues \$70,000 in Councilmanic Borough Bonds to relieve financial pressure and to retire other indebtedness with a high rate of interest.

**1939 to 1942 EDGEWOOD ACRES:** The new part of Edgewood Acres Development was announced in 1939 by Freehold President, J. William Brass. The addition and expansion of old Edgewood Acres would be along Cascade Road and Westward. The entire development eventually was to include some 100 lots to be sold for building homes.

**1944 FRANK L. P. KELLEY,** Pioneer citizen and businessman of the borough, died of a heart attack. In the early 20's, Mr. Kelley operated a motor sales and service garage which building was purchased by the Coca Cola Company, and today is the St. Maurice Catholic Church.

Mr. Kelley was credited with our first Community Day and was active in the borough as a Council President and participated in many civic affairs. His residence was at 1819 Ardmore Boulevard.

**1945** On May 8th, at 6:01 P.M. a cease fire order took effect with the German Army surrendering to the Allies. At last the war in Europe was over; the name VE Day became a by-word.

**1946** On August 14th, Japan announced her acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration, calling for unconditional surrender, and on September 2nd, to bring World War II to a close, the formal instrument was signed on board the United States battleship Missouri.

**1946 FIRST BOROUGH DIRECTORY** was published by the Woman's Club.

**1946** The newly-organized WILKINSBURG PENN JOINT WATER AUTHORITY took over operation of the Pennsylvania Water Company on May 15, 1946.

**1949-1952 PARKWAY HEIGHTS** development was started during the summer of 1949 by the McKinney Bros. Construction Company and included about 135 homes. Here the Hope Lutheran Church was also built on Ridge Road – all in the vicinity of our Junior High built in 1948.

**1949-Dec. FIRST SUPERMARKET** (Giant Eagle) in Borough – 42 Store Chain at 2139 Ardmore Boulevard. In 1969 this location is occupied by Ardmore Sunshine Center.

**1950 ARDMORE BOULEVARD** (East Bound lane) widened and curbed.

**1950 ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERY** – In recent years the Saint John Fisher Church was built on the former site of the Ack-Ack Center of the United States Army on Lewin Lane near the Greensburg Pike. The *Rotary Club* used to help entertain and provide special TV and lounge facilities for the military personnel stationed there in the 1950's.

**1950 CLUB HOUSE** of the Woman's Club of Forest Hills was completed and dedicated.

**1950 FOREST HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION** sponsored a big Appreciation Dinner on May 18th at the Edgewood Country Club honoring our Borough and School officials.

**1952 MILTON G. THOMPSON** entered into his tenth term as President of Forest Hills Council.

**1952** Forest Hills Civic Association sponsors first *Townhall meeting* in February, 1952.

**1952 LADY COPS** were introduced in the borough by Burgess Albert Koch. The women officers were installed in an effort to safe-guard school children against traffic accidents.

**1952 DOCTOR CHARLES B. NUTTING** of 168 Fairfax Road appointed Vice Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh.

**1953 CHEST X-RAY SURVEY** – Mobile units moved into the Borough after a big publicity build-up and Borough organization when the largest public health undertaking ever tried in Allegheny County was activated.

**1953** As early as 1953, the Forest Hills Council approved the re-zoning of the *Fairfax Road area* which gives way for the proposed apartment houses-office complex (at that time it was being considered for a shopping center). In those days, organized groups of citizens tried to block the project and a property owner said "We don't want concrete staring us in the face." Others felt shopping centers and so forth would cause traffic hazards or residential property might be de-valuated. Significantly, one resident asserted that "progress in the borough is very slow and development is needed." Remarks at council hearings held in June, 1953.

**1955 NORMAN A. ALLEN,** our Borough solicitor, died in May of that year. This was a loss of a good friend and faithful servant. *Warren Reding* became the newly appointed solicitor.

**1955-1956** Catranell Construction Company starts 200 home development of *Forest Hills Manor* – acreage was purchased by Catranell from Pittsburgh Coal Company and was to increase our assessed Borough evaluation by about 1 million dollars.

**1956 ARDMORE SHOPPING CENTER** – Our first shopping center at Ardmore & Yost Boulevard went under construction by Mellon-Stuart Company. The 52,000 square foot structure was to house 15 business firms in the beginning with an asphalt parking lot for over 300 cars. Entrances are off Ardmore, Yost and Rockwood. The stream running through our Valley was covered for 170 feet and run through a steel culvert.

**1958 BOROUGH WAGE TAX** – Following the School District Wage Tax enacted in 1956, the Borough was not to be outdone and gave us the same treatment!

**1964** Forest Hills Veteran Chief of Police, *Chuck Lavish*, died of a heart attack on January 15, 1964.

**1965** Council applies for *Appalachian Funds* to rebuild Braddock Road.

**1965 NEW BOROUGH ZONING ORDINANCE** – adopted by council – first completely revised ordinance since first set of zoning laws of 1923. (12-8-1965).

**1965 ARDMORE GARDEN APARTMENTS** – our first "Garden" apartments were built on Ardmore Boulevard at Bevington Road. This is a double apartment building with 46 units and three stories in height.

#### FOREST WOODLAND PARK

**1966 \$50,000** purchase of new Project 70 Park from the Westinghouse. The money was reinbursed under the State Project #70 for \$25,000 and a Federal Government Act reimbursed the Borough for the other \$25,000. In 1967 it was named Forest Woodland Park. We doubled our park area with the additional 20 acres.

**1966** Borough budget nearly tops 1/2 million dollar mark. Borough budget \$476,100.

1966 2 mill Tax hike setting the tax at total of 14 mills.

**1966 RICHARD E. WISE** was successor to A. L. Koch as Mayor.

**1966** Council appoints Recreation Board.

**1966-1967 FOREST HILLS PLAZA** – The second Forest Hills Shopping Center was constructed by The Cost Brow. Inc. 5 exits were planned for increasing traffic flow in the large four-acre parking area. The center is a beautiful two-story complex with offices on the second floor and storerooms on the first.

**1967** Westinghouse's Atomic Power Divisions presented \$5,000 to Forest Hills for support of our Swimming pool and Recreation lodge project.

#### PARKWAY CENTER EAST

**1967 PARKWAY CENTER EAST** ground breaking for the ten million dollar complex for a 23 acre development *Kossman Project* at the site of the old Victory and War Gardens. The first building to be constructed was the *H. B. Maynard Co.* on the thousand foot frontage on Ardmore Boulevard. The Westinghouse *Information Systems Laboratory* was the second. There will be more, including high-rise apartments. This area runs from the Dennis restaurant to Fairfax Road and is bound on the upper side by Brinton Road. The Project represents a *change* of *concept* of Forest Hills Real Estate development and is indicative of Forest Hills growing again.

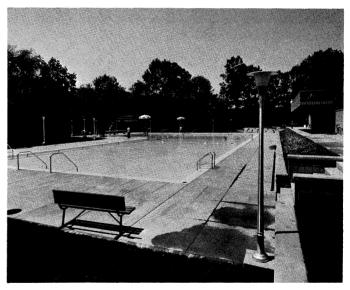
**1967** Ordinance #506 adopted the setting-up on a formal basis an inter-borough, Township, *Police Assistance* program for Churchill Borough and Wilkins Township.

**1967** Ordinance #504 – Forest Hills takes membership in the *Churchill Regional Planning Commission*. To act jointly in cooperation with neighboring communities for over-all planning.

#### SWIMMING POOL & RECREATION LODGE

**1968** Swimming pool and Recreation Lodge was completed. Splash Down was Memorial Day June 30, 1968.

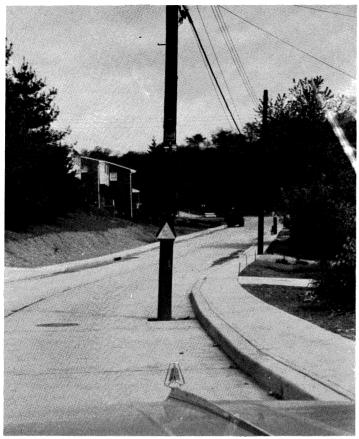
Forest Hills Pride and Joy . . . a long-awaited dream!



1969 NEW SWIMMIN' HOLE

**1968-1969** Road improvement projects were set at \$510,000 for *Braddock* and *Filmore* Roads with financial help of the Allegheny County Commissioners and an Appalachia Grant from the Federal Government. Also resurfacing of Parkway Heights was put on the "go" list by Council.

**1968 FILMORE ROAD** residents presented council with a signed petition and a total of \$50,000 to accelerate the immediate paving of the northerly half of Filmore Road. This money was collected within two weeks. (July 1, 1968)

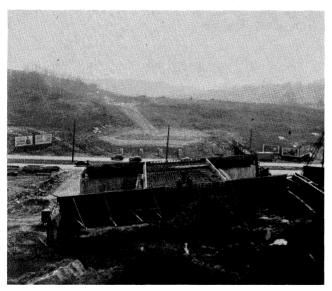


**1969** In 1969 relations between Borough Council and the residents of newly paved Filmore Road were "up tight" but here is some kind of a humorous Forest Hills "first."

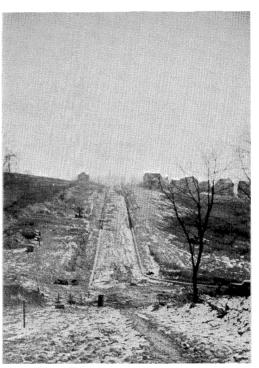
#### **NEW FIRE HALL**

**1969** New *Fire Hall* and Volunteer Fire Department Headquarters completed. A \$96,000 twenty-year dream comes true .....

**1969 MUNICIPAL BUILDING** remodeled to house modern, air-conditioned and more spacious administrative offices for the Mayor, Borough Manager and office staff, as well as Police Department and new quarters for the Auxiliary Police.

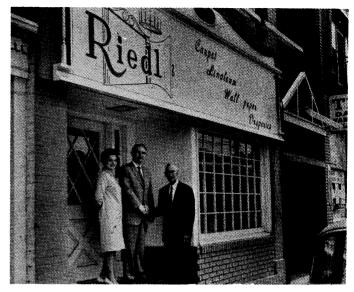


1947 - Penn-Lincoln Parkway Construction



1941 – Edgewood Acres Development Edgewood Road

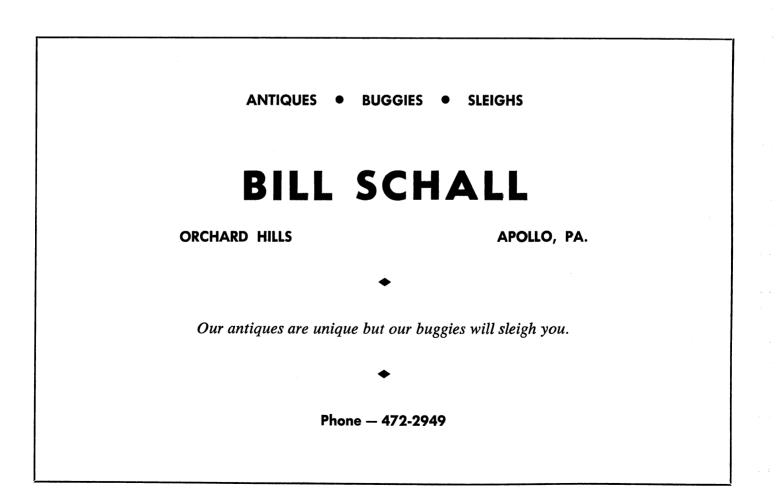




#### **BISSEL STORE**

The Bissel Store as shown in the introductory pages has not structurally been changed, but the present proud owners, *Mr. and Mrs. Norm Riedl*, have given the building a new look as seen in this picture in 1965 when former Mayor Al Koch welcomed the new owners to the business community. The

historical library has long gone, and the store operated as the Boulevard Dairy for many years. For about 48 years, there was no property business house on the corner lot of Lenox Avenue until 1967 when the Baker Insurance Agency built a new building. The two new business houses and others are up-dating "merchants row" in keeping pace with progress.





We helped to insure the community since the beginning

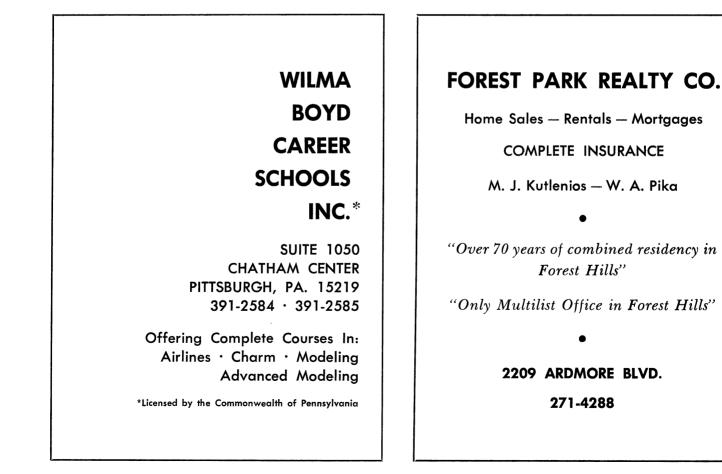
## HAPPY 50th

### ANNIVERSARY

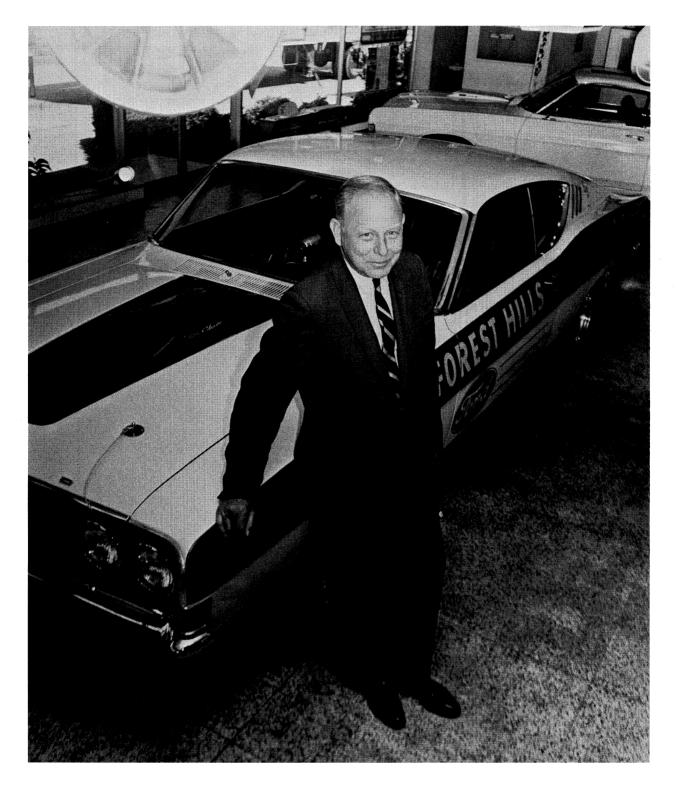
# Wentworth Insurance Agency

FRANK W. WENTWORTH

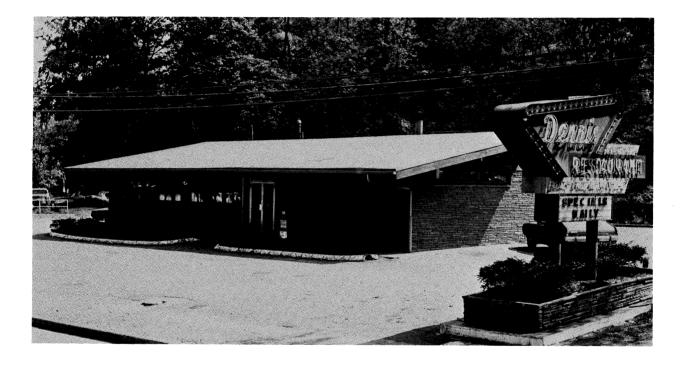
ROGER W. WENTWORTH



# HAPPY FIFTIETH



# CONGRATULATIONS FOREST HILLS ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY



The proof of our success is your

constant patronage!!

# THANKS FROM YOUR HOSTS

# **Dennis and Spiro**

2060 Ardmore Boulevard

Forest Hills, Pa.

# CHURCHES



#### **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

400 Barclay Avenue The Rev. Walter R. Sommerfeld, Pastor

The history of Christ Church dates to 1931. The Lutheran Church Extension Society of Pittsburgh and Vicinity explored the possibility of starting a church in Forest Hills. Work was begun on March 8, 1931 with the Rev. William Dale of Trinity, Mt. Oliver preaching the sermon. After a few Sundays, work was suspended. In June of 1931 the Lutheran Church Extension Society of Pittsburgh called the Rev. Oliver E. Graebner as missionary for the Pittsburgh area. Under his efforts a complete survey was made of Forest Hills. The results warranted a church and the Ardmore Mission was reopened on August 30, 1931 in a rented store room on Sumner Avenue. Regular worship services and Sunday School sessions were held every Sunday. The faithful preaching and teaching of God's Word, combined with the labors and prayers of the Pastor, bore fruit. An Adult Membership Group was formed for instruction in and study of the Fundamental Christian Doctrines of the Bible. It was a happy day in the history of the Ardmore Mission when on April 1, 1933, twenty-eight adults were received and became charter members. On April 21, 1933 in a regular congregational meeting the name Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church was adopted and the congregation formally organized. Thought was given to a permanent church site. With the help of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Schaffer the property on Atlantic Avenue was acquired. The added loan from the Eastern District Church Extension Board made it possible to begin the erection of the first unit of the church in 1934. The cornerstone was laid November 4, 1934. The church was dedicated January 6, 1935 by the Rev. Graebner. The afternoon and evening services were highlighted by the preaching of Rev. Albert Merkens of First Trinity Lutheran Church of Pittsburgh and Rev. Theodore Martens of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of North Side. The basement addition to the Church unit was dedicated February 27, 1938. With additional gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Schaffer a parsonage was built adjoining the church. It was dedicated March 31, 1940.

In February, 1945, Pastor Graebner left Christ Church to accept a call as Director of Camp Pioneer, Angola, New York. The Rev. Walter R. Sommerfeld, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, New Castle, Pa., was called to Forest Hills. He was installed as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church of Forest Hills on May 6, 1945, by the Rev. Eric C. Malte, President of our Eastern District. Pastor and Mrs. Sommerfeld have three children, Wayne, Karen and Ardith.

With the advent of the new pastor activities were resumed with the hope that the congregation might ascend to ever greater heights under his leadership. The first step forward was to elect a Church Expansion Committee which consisted of Mr. P. G. Lessmann, Mr. A. P. Baker and Mr. C. M. Brinsley. After a careful survey of the property and needs of the congregation, the committee recommended the purchase of additional property. In November of 1946 land was purchased on Greensburg Pike and later sold because it was felt to be inadequate for the expanding needs of the church. In October, 1949, two and a half acres of ground on Barclay Avenue was purchased from the Freehold Realty Company for \$6000.00. The location was felt to be very desirable. Mr. Frank Linder was engaged as architect.

The congregation passed a resolution to build a new church March 26, 1950. Mr. Arthur Stroshine, a member of the congregation, was the general contractor. The ground-breaking ceremony was held on April 22, 1951, with the Rev. E. C. Malte preaching the sermon. The cornerstone was laid August 5, 1951, with the Rev. F. E. Schumann of First Trinity Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, as the guest speaker. The new church was dedicated to the glory of the Triune God on May 4, 1952, with the pastor, Walter R. Sommerfeld, officiating. Guest speakers were the Rev. William Gerdes, Grace Lutheran Church, Dormont, Pa. and the Rev. Charles A. Behnke, D.D., President of the Eastern District. Many gifts and memorials helped to beautify the present church building. The Baldwin Organ was dedicated in March, 1956 and the Carillons in April, 1957.

In 1955 the congregation resolved to proceed with plans to build a new parsonage adjacent to the church. Mr. P. G. Lessmann, Mr. A. Stroshine and Mr. A. Johnson were elected to the Building Committee. The new parsonage was dedicated April 14, 1957.

The first church building and parsonage on Atlantic Avenue were sold in September, 1955.

In April, 1958 the congregation celebrated the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the organization of Christ Lutheran Church.

The church organizations include the Woman's Service Guild, affiliated with the International Lutheran Women's Missionary League; The Men's Club, affiliated with the International Lutheran Laymen's League and sponsors of the International Lutheran Hour; the Youth League for High School Students; the Choir, directed by Mr. Henry Bohl. Jr. Mrs. C. Brinsley and Mrs. M. McIntire serve as organists. The Woman's Service Guild completely equipped the modern kitchen in the present building. They also furnished the Mothers' Room. The members sew and make articles for Kane Hospital and other hospitals, collect clothing for the World Relief Drives, provide birthday and Christmas gifts and treats for the Lutheran Home for the Aged in Cabot, Pa. For several years dinners were served to the Lion's Club which regularly met at the church. The active Youth Group, under the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gueck, have bi-weekly meetings, attend seasonal Rallies and Retreats.

The Educational building is used by Brownie and Girl Scout Troops, and as a polling place for elections. It has also been used as local chest X-ray center.

The Pastor also preaches at the Protestant Home for Aged Women in Wilkinsburg. The choir often accompanies him at these monthly services.

The present membership is 500. The Sunday School and Bible Classes for all ages is staffed by 24 teachers and officers with Mr. William D. Peterson, the Superintendent. The very successful Vacation Bible School draws many community children, the pupil registration being approximately 250, with a staff of 40 teachers.

For several years it has been necessary to hold two services each Sunday. A building program of expansion is planned for the future.

One of our members and a talented musician, is Mr. Roland Leich of Forest Hills and Professor of Music at Carnegie Mellon University. He has composed numerous orchestral, choral and chamber works and songs, some of which have been performed by the Pittsburgh and other symphony orchestras. He is choral director of the "United We Sing" Christmas Carol Festival. He formerly worked with the Carnegie Mellon Student Chorus, the Tuesday Musical Club Chorale, and the Mendelssohn Choir. Since 1964 Mr. Leich has been program annotator for the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society. Another member, Mrs. Blanche Rupprecht of Forest Hills, is a very gifted artist.



#### FOREST HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1840 Ardmore Boulevard The Rev. Robert L. Lanning, Minister

The Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, incorporated in 1922 was the out-growth of several efforts early in the 20th Century to found a work in this Community.

In 1904, Rev. William A. Reed, then minister of Beulah Presbyterian Church, began a Sunday School in the Portable School House located on Atlantic Ave.

Rev. John C. McCracken followed him in this venture. Beulah and the land which later became Forest Hills, was then in Blairsville Presbytery.

Believing that the area was in Pittsburgh Presbytery, in 1912 the Presbytery began another Sunday School in Ardmore. They soon found that they were outside the Presbytery limits, and after an apology to Blairsville Presbytery, withdrew from the Area.

Blairsville immediately took up the work and established a Mission which soon became the Ardmore Memorial Presby-terian Church.

In October, 1915, this Church petitioned to become a part of Pittsburgh Presbytery and the petition was granted and announced to Presbytery December 14, 1915. On April 2, 1916, at its own request, the Church was dis-organized, and on May 9, 1916, it again became a Mission, under the care of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg. Sixty-one members were transferred to the First Presbyterian Church as members of the Ardmore Mission or Ardmore Chapel. In 1921-22 the present building on Atlantic Ave., beside the school, was built at a cost of \$30,000.00, after an earlier portable structure has burned in 1920. It was dedicated on April 16, 1923 and 155 members were transferred from the roll of the First Presbyterian Church.

Back in the early Mission period, under the First Presbyterian Church, Mr. R. M. Van Orsdell, an Elder, took charge of the Sunday School of the Mission. In June, 1916, Rev. A. A. Schwarz was appointed to serve the Mission at \$75.00 a month. On Oct. 1, 1916, Rev. Clyde R. Wheeland was appointed and served until Jan. 1917 at the same salary. In Feb. 1917, Rev. Arnold H. Lowe took over and served until he enlisted in the U. S. Army on May 21, 1918. His salary was increased to \$1,350 a year. On July 15, 1917, in order that the Mission might be represented on the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Mr. A. S. Napier was appointed by the Mission, as the first representative to that office. On May 24, 1918, Rev. James Mayne became the Congregation's leader and served until Jan. 19, 1919 at \$2,000 a year. At that time Rev. Howard L. Olewiler was appointed to serve as pastor. By 1922 the congregation, which now numbers 192 members, listed on the roll of the First Presbyterian Church, had increased to the place where it could be independent, and on April 8, 1923, 155 members were transferred to become the congregation of the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of Rev. Howard L. Olewiler.

Five Ministers have served the Church since its incorporation:

Rev. Howard L. Olewiler, April 16, 1923-October, 1927 Rev. James E. Fawcett, January 15, 1928-January 1, 1944 Rev. Joseph Blackburn, August, 1944-April 1950 Rev. J. Ray Thompson, November, 1950-April 1954 Rev. Robert L. Lanning, November, 1954-

During this same period three Clerks of Session have held that office:

Mr. Albert Koch, April 1923-October, 1923 Mr. Warren W. Dietrich, October 1923-1949 Mr. S. M. Dougherty, 1949-

Rev. Howard L. Olewiler, with 154 Charter Members brought the newly formed church, in four years, to a membership of 503. During that period a manse was purchased at 213 Lenox Ave. for \$10,000.00. This purchase was made by the Ladies Aid who paid for the Manse and its yearly taxes until the Manse was paid for in 1944 and the church assumed the taxes in 1956.

Under the leadership of Rev. James E. Fawcett, the Church continued its excellent course. A used pipe organ was bought at his instigation, better pews with cushioned seats were secured, and the Sunday School grew to such an extent that two sessions were started. The Adults and Childrens' Departments met at 9:30, Church at 10:30, and the Intermediate, Senior and Young Peoples' Departments met at 11:45. The depression came to this area during Mr. Fawcett's time here, and in order to meet our mortgage payments, a "Dime Campaign" was instituted among the Congregation and their friends. "A Dime A Week" inserted in a card for that purpose was the plan, and in this way, not a payment was missed during those very difficult years. In 1941 the Youth Budget was introduced into the Church School.

Because of the many changes in plant locations by Westinghouse, and because many people moved during the Depression, the membership did not show a large gain during this period, although many were added to the Congregation. In 1944, the membership was 439. In January, 1944, Mr. Fawcett resigned to become the Civilian Chaplain in Pittsburgh Presbytery.

During Rev. Joseph Blackburn's term of service, due largely to the efforts of the Congregation under Mr. Fawcett's leadership, the Mortgage on Church and Manse was burned. Mr. Blackburn, also established his study and office in the Church. The burning of the Junior High School and parts of the Atlantic Ave. School in 1946 endangered our building but aside from the lead in the stained glass windows melting and running over the sills and the blackening of the bricks on the back wall, no damage was done. One elementary class was held in our church Social Rooms for that semester. With Mr. Blackburn's cooperation the Ladies Aid and Missionary Societies of the Church disbanded in 1947 and became the Women's Association. In 1948 the New Curriculum of the Presbyterian Church was adopted for use in our Church School. In 1950 the membership was 418.

Under the leadership of Rev. J. Ray Thompson the Church again began to grow, and the building of a new Church at a more centrally located site began to be discussed, culminating in the decision to buy the property on Ardmore Blvd. bounded by the Clark-Wright Bldg. at Braddock Road, Cascade Road, and the lots fronting on Bevington Road between Cascade and the Blvd. Presbytery, through the Church Extension Fund, gave \$40,000 toward the purchase of the ground and building the Church, In July 1953 the ground was dedicated in an appropriate service at the site. A fund raising campaign was begun.

During Mr. Thompson's pastorate a Baldwin Electronic Organ, costing \$8,600 was bought and paid for, the office equipment was replaced and renovated, the Audio-Visual equipment was added to and its use greatly enlarged, and the Community again began to become more aware of our Church. A flourishing Chapter of the Presbyterian Mens' Organization was formed in 1951 but its activities lasted for only two years. An electrically operated and lighted bulletin board was also given and installed in the church yard.

The Board of Deacons was reinstated in the church structure also during this period.

The Church School had returned to one session due to small enrollment in the older departments, but it became apparent in 1953 that we were too crowded. (Consequently the Women's Club on Ave. L. was rented each Sunday, and the Junior Dept. and one Adult class began to meet there.)

In January, 1952, it also became apparent that two Church Services would be necessary, and services at 8:30 and at 11:00 A.M. were started. Again, though many new members came to the Church during Mr. Thompson's pastorate, the net gain was not large due to weeding out lost members and the moving of members to other cities. The roll in 1954 numbered 480.

Under the leadership of Rev. Robert L. Lanning, the New Church Program took on new life, the Committees were reorganized, and in July, 1956, the ground was broken for the new Church. New members continued to join and take active part in the Church. In 1956 also, Mr. Lanning having bought a home in Forest Hills, the Manse was sold for \$11,500.00 and the money invested to be used when the need for building or purchasing another Manse is apparent. The Membership in May, 1957, 543. This represented a significant gain, inasmuch as the 1954 membership of 480 was reduced to 211, with 269 names being removed from the roll in 1955 due to their lack of interest in the church activities.

During all this time the Sunday School, later called the Church School, continued to provide fine leadership for the children and older members of the Church. Many teachers through the years took advantage of the Leadership Training Schools provided in our section of the County. From the beginning of the Church a Daily Vacation Bible School was conducted, for 10 years or more of which the whole month of June was occupied. Always, the Church School has endeavored to give the best leadership, newest methods and latest teaching materials to its pupils.

On May 26, 1957 the Chapter of Presbyterian Men, under the leadership of the Deacons, will attempt to reorganize their Chapter and once again become a strong part of the Church Organization.

Since the Mission Church began an alive Young People's program was undertaken, first as a part of the Christian Endeavor Movement, and then in 1945 as the Westminster Fellowship. From 1947 to 1953, largely due to the lack of young people in our church, the program lapsed, to be revived in 1952, 1953 and 1957. A strong Westminster Fellowship for High School young people is now in operation and we are looking for a bright future for our Young People's Work.

Early in 1915 a Ladies Aid Society was established. Due to the many activities of this group of women the Manse was purchased and kept in repair, its taxes paid, the organ paid for, the kitchen equipped and many other services were rendered to the church even when it was just a Mission.

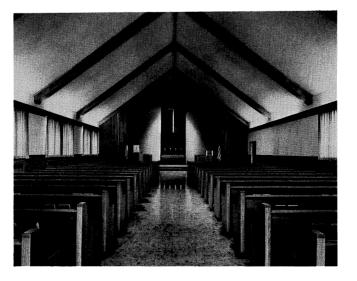
When it became a Church the need was felt for a Missionary Society, and in the Fall of 1923 such a society was organized, under the Pittsburgh Presbyterial Home and Foreign Missionary Societies. These two women's organizations in 1947 disbanded in order to form a Woman's Association of which every woman of the Church was a member. Much has been accomplished by this group both in the purchase of equipment for the kitchen and for the church, serving the Community through providing dinners for the Rotary Club each Tuesday night since Jan. 1947, initiating and contributing liberally to the Building Fund, providing the money to fully equip a modern kitchen in the new Church, and yet always keeping in mind the organization's main purpose "To Further the Work of the Kingdom of God by Uniting the Women of the Presbyterian Church in a Spiritual Fellowship, with a program of education, service, prayer and giving. The primary emphasis shall be upon the wide work of the Presbyterian Church as promoted through the boards of National Missions, Foreign Missions and Christian Education." The amount spent for Mission work in 1956 was \$1,061.82, given through freewill envelope giving, Thank Offering, Opportunity Gift, and a percentage of the Rotary Dinner profit for sewing, Christmas boxes, etc.

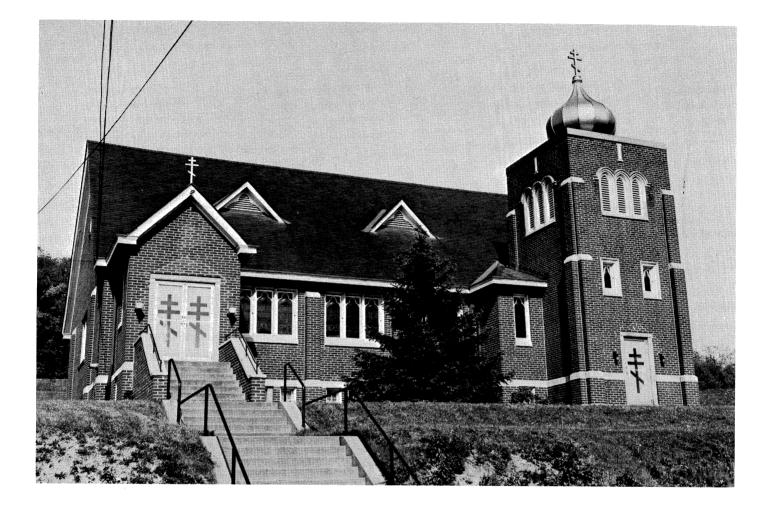
Our Church through the years has been a strong Church, a Spiritually minded Church, a cooperative Church and a friendly Church. In the years to come may we continue to nurture these Christian traits for the benefit of our members, our community, our Country, and our fellow-men through Faith in God and the practice of the Way of life taught by Christ.

The present membership of the Church is 965-November 1, 1968. Also, as of Jan. 1, 1967, the Rev. Robert L. Read became a part of our Church Staff.

The Presbyterian Church has always been a community center for civic activities. Among typicial activities are the following: Boy Scout Troops 90 & 42 Cub Packs 90 & 42 Girl Scout Troops 240, 266 & 1532 **Brownie Troop 657** Forest Hills Rotary Club Forest Hills Nursery School (Daily) Forest Hills Garden Club Forest Hills Assembly No.23 Rainbow Girls Forest Hills Youth Council Meetings Forest Hills Area Blood Bank Girl Scout Neighborhood Association Meetings **Girl Scout Westinghouse District Committee Meetings** Forest Hills entry in the Church League **Basketball Association** Rehearsal hall for the Forest Hills "Big Band" Rehearsal hall for the Forest Hills String Group Our own Youth Groups (40% non-members) Parking for July 4th celebration, together with the use of the lower lot for the July 4th water battle

Reunion Headquarters, Golden Jubilee, 1969 Numerous other civic and group meetings.





#### RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION 716 Atlantic Avenue

The Rev. Gabriel Sokoloff, Pastor

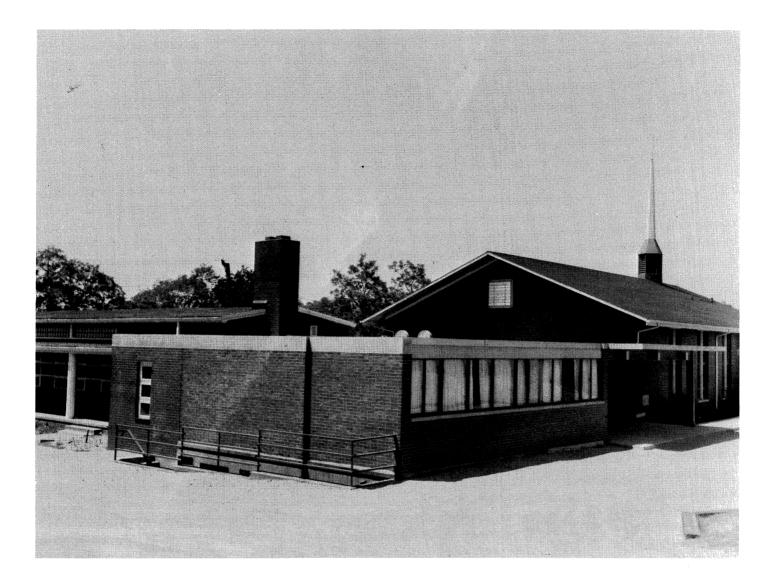
A Church building and land for a Parish home was purchased in April, 1958 from the Presbyterian group at 716 Atlantic Avenue, Forest Hills for a Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of the Holy Resurrection. This Church was organized May, 1916 in Braddock. The old Church and Parish home in Braddock was sold December, 1958. The following year, the construction of a new Parish home was started in Forest Hills, which was completed in November, 1959. A new Cupola was installed on the Church in July, 1964.

In June, 1966, the brick exterior of the Church was steam cleaned and pointed. Also new glass and metal doors were installed. There was interior deco-

rating, painting new Ikons, installing a new Ikonostas, a new Altar and Oblation Table, Tetrapod and other needed church items done and completed March, 1967.

The newly redecorated Church and Altar were consecrated at a Pontifical Divine Liturgy on September 24, 1967 by His Eminence, The Most Reverend IRENEY, Archbishop of New York, Primate of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America and Canada and His Grace, Bishop Amvrossy, Bishop of Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

\* As history marches on, many old-timers will recall the above edifice as the former church of the Presbyterian Church



#### HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Braddock and Ridge Roads The Rev. Ellwood L. Hauser, Pastor

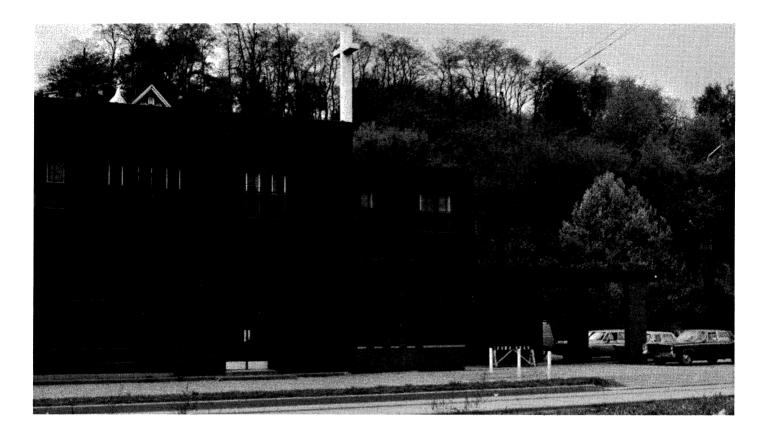
The congregation of Hope Lutheran Church at Forest Hills was organized on **November 19**, **1950** by the first pastor, the Rev. Frederick Stueber, under the auspices of the Board of American Missions of the United Lutheran Church in America and the Pittsburgh Synod. The charter membership was 67. Dr. Donald Hauser, then Missionary Superintendent of the Pittsburgh Synod, conducted the Organization Service, while the sermon was preached by Dr. Robert Stackel, then Pastor of First Lutheran Church, Downtown Pittsburgh.

The congregation met for nearly two years in the Woman's Club Building in Forest Hills. Meanwhile many "firsts" took place. The first Sunday School, the first choir, the first Women's Missionary Society, the first council, the first Luther League, all came about as pastor and people kept molding a growing church for Forest Hills. The need for a church building became urgent, and during 1951 and early 1952 constant planning for the first church building took place. Then on **September 7**, **1952** the present church building was dedicated. It is the first unit of the total plant and will serve as the educational unit in the future. Dr. G. L. Himmelman,

President of the Pittsburgh Synod, conducted the dedication, while the Dr. G. Arthur Fry, Pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Northside Pittsburgh preached the sermon.

On Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 1967 ground-breaking services were held for the building of a new sanctuary. On Sunday, November 17, 1968, a beautiful new sanctuary was dedicated with Dr. William C. Hankey, President of the Western Pennsylvania-West Virginia Synod preaching the sermon.

Pastor Stueber resigned in November 1954 and the Rev. Alva A. Jordan was called, beginning his pastorate in January 1955. Pastor Jordan resigned in April, 1956. The Rev. Paul H. Sampsell, Jr., was called, his pastorate starting June 1, 1956 and continued until April 30, 1960. Mr. Charles R. Wertz, a student of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, was student intern until the present Pastor, the Rev. Ellwood L. Hauser assumed his duties on October 1, 1960. The present membership is 189 confirmed members.



#### ST. MAURICE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2140 Ardmore Boulevard

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Paul R. Coyle, Pastor

**Sunday, July 3, 1949** First Mass, Memory Lane Skating Rink. Rev. Coleman F. Carroll was appointed pastor.

Week of Oct. 9, 1949 Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Atlanta, Georgia placed at the disposal of the members of St. Maurice Parish, the use of the first floor of the Coca-Cola Building.

Oct. 31, 1949 First daily Mass in the Coca-Cola Building. \*

Nov. 27 to Dec. 11, 1949 First Mission.

**November 20, 1949** Pews made by the men of the parish under the direction of Mr. Roy Heinz were put into place in the Chapel in the Coca-Cola Building.

Week of April 16, 1950 St. Maurice Church purchased the Coca-Cola Building.

**April 30, 1950** Moving day. After the last Mass the men of the parish moved all our things from the Skating Rink to the new Church. After 10 months we had a new home.

Week of April 30, 1950 Permanent site for all parish buildings was obtained. It consists of a plot of ground bounded by Filmore Road, Ardmore Blvd., and the Borough Park.

**April 5, 1951** Rev. Coleman F. Carroll was transferred to Sacred Heart Church, East End and now is the First Bishop of Miame, Fla. Rev. James A. Davin was the new Pastor.

Week of Sept. 16, 1951 Rectory above the Church was completed.

Week of June 22, 1952 Rev. George J. Bock was appointed to St. Maurice as the first assistant Pastor.

Week of Sept. 1, 1952 The contract was signed by the Ira C. Wilcox, Inc. for the construction of the School.

September 7, 1953 St. Maurice School was Dedicated.

September 8, 1953 School opened with 5 grades, 9 Mercy sisters and one lay teacher. St. M. Norberta was principal.

**June 13, 1957** Rev. George J. Bock was transferred. Rev. Jerome A. Dixon was appointed to his place. The first 8th grade graduation.

Aug. 1, 1957 Rev. Clair F. Maroney, Ordained in Rome was assigned to St. Maurice as our 2nd assistant.

Sept. 1, 1957 The new addition of 8 rooms was dedicated.

Sept. 1, 1957 Rev. Jerome A. Dixon left St. Maurice to go to the Catholic University to further his studies. He was again reassigned as an Assistant to St. Maurice in June of 1958. Later Rev. J. A. Dixon was appointed full-time Secretary of the Diocesan Matrimonial Court, May 27, 1959.

June 10, 1959 Rev. Joseph W. Miller was assigned to St. Maurice.

Sept. 29, 1959 Rev. Clair F. Maroney was transferred and Rev. Thomas C. O'Connell was appointed.

March 1960 Ground was broken for St. Maurice Convent.

Nov. 7, 1960 Sisters moved into the Convent.

<sup>\*</sup>In the early 30's, the building today housing the St. Maurice Church was originally the Oldsmobile Sales & Service garage of pioneer citizen, *Frank L. P. Kelley*, whose son sold to the Coca-Cola Company.

Jan. 20, 1961 Msgr. James Davin was transferred to St. Bernard Parish and Msgr. Paul R. Coyle, our present pastor, was appointed.

March 1963 Rev. Joseph W. Miller was transferred.

Sept. 1963 Rev. Bernard O'Brien was appointed assistant, transferred May 1965.

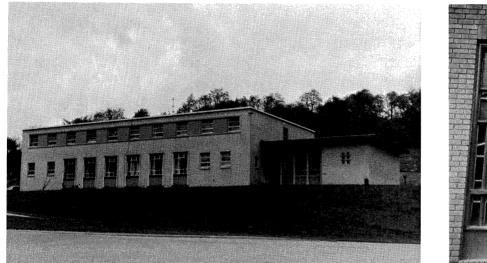
May 1965 Rev. H. Michael Kernan was appointed assistant, transferred December 1968.

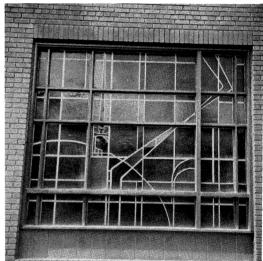
**June 1966** Rev. Thomas C. O'Connell was transferred. Rev. Edward J. Trzeciakowski was appointed assistant pastor.

Dec. 1968 Rev. Mario Del Signore was appointed assistant pastor.

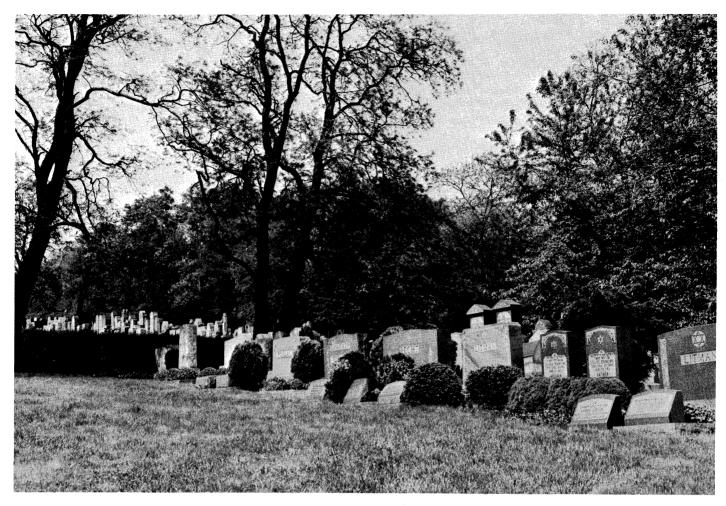
March 29, 1968 Rev. Edward J. Trzeciakowski was transferred.

From July to December 1949, our first 6 months, we had the total of 1008 families. Our total now is approximately 1639.









#### THE CEMETERY: 1902

One of the oldest landmarks in the Forest Hills confines is the little-known Jewish Cemetery running off Sherwood Road. An interesting aspect is how the cemetery is divided as to entrances and perpetuation by three different congregations. The oldest section was founded in 1902 by the Sixth Street congregation of Braddock (Agudath Achim). Another section

is maintained by the Eleventh Street congregation, and the newest division is a burial ground for Rankin citizens.

One can reflect rather somberly in seeing one special section of the cemetery with many childrens' graves-the casualties of the terrible flue epidemic of 1918.

#### **B'NAI B'RITH IN FOREST HILLS**

B'nai B'rith is an international Jewish Organization, dedicated to unison, peace and humanitarian progress. In 1946, a group of thirty women received a charter for a chapter in Forest Hills. Mrs. Samuel Roth was its first President. The membership grew, and one of its most successful projects was the assistance in creating the first kindergarten in Forest Hills Schools. The "Ardmore Chapter" drew its members from a wide area, which proved to be its downfall. The members found it difficult to find a central meeting place, and disbanded after about fifteen years. The members then affiliated with outside groups, some of which were in the city, and Four Freedoms, Citadel and Eastern Parkway chapters. Mrs. Alan Scheffler, then Minnie Greenbaum, was its second president. Mrs. William Rapport, Mrs. Kenneth Steinberg, Mrs. Martin Lewinter and Mrs. Herbert Liss also served as sucessive presidents.

B'nai B'rith is active in the Educational Field, exposing and fighting against the invasion of human rights for all people.

Its Youth Organization helps our youth to achieve personal growth that they may lead satisfying and useful lives. Its Community Service and Civic Affairs aids in community projects, promotes good citizenship, and builds good will through inter-faith activities. B'nai B'rith maintains the Four Freedoms Library, a unique research center in the B'nai B'rith Building in Washington, D. C. and a living memorial to Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Among the philanthropic projects it supports, are the National Jewish Hospital in Denver, which is non-sectarian, and aid those with respiratory and lung diseases, the Leo N. Levi Hospital in Arkansas, and Mayview.

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\* \* \*

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Presents

# "INDIANS TO ATOMS"

Produced By

THE ROGERS COMPANY Fostoria, Ohio

Staged and directed by CHRIS GOODYEAR

CHURCHILL AREA HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM Forest Hills, Pa.

July 2-3-4-5, 1969

Narrators:

Joan Baney

Carol DePaul Ann Massey

William Braun

1

Andrew Kovalak

#### SCENE ONE: PROLOGUE

Forest Hills Rangerettes Mr. Jack Fox, Director

Denise Azzarello Joyce Baker Laura Beveridge Lori Bocchiccio Nancy Boyle **Cindy Brucker** Debbie Bubin Donna Champion **Debbie Critchlow** Lisa Decarolic Gerry DeLucia **Debbie Dimmerling** Donna Docak Patti Dress Dana Dull Eileen Dunn **Bobbi Feher** Nancy Fishman

Jenny Fox Lee Ann Hershberger Diane Hilinski Betsy Ann Hogan Keri Hulick Kim Hulick Laura Jean Majewski Nancy McKenzie Angel Picciafoco Rhonda Ralph Jan Rambacker Carla Rauzan Joella Reed Joy Rice Joyce Robosky Kathy Rodgers Mary Sue Rubino Judy Rubino

Rita Ryan Maureen Schaltenbrand Judy Scholze **Debbie Silvasy** Alexis Spanos Leah Sperduto **Roberta Sperduto** Annette Staub Lisa Vacsulka Michele Vacsulka Georgeann Weidenhof Mary Rose Welsh **Ruth Williams** Steven Feher John Fox **Doug Garretson** Scott Johnson Grant Johnson **Bob Smoose** 

Boy Scouts: Troop 42, Troop 98, Troop 90, Troop 105 Girl Scouts: Troop 112, Troop 266, Troop 590, Troop 677

#### SCENE TWO: "INDIANS"

Indian Chief Mr. Walter Winnenburg

#### Indian Princess

Karen Bost Cathie Cadwallader Linda Cwynar Diane Dering Dorothy Kassalin Annette Li Volsi Carla Li Volsi Michele McGough Karen Robinson Kathy Speranza Patty Speranza Becky Watson Indian Squaws Sue Fitzpatrick Debi Klinefelter Janice Kowaleski Karen Miller Dori Morschl Lynne Morschl Babe Nucci Debbie Prysner Patty Puskar Mary Pat Ryan Kathi Rossi Mary Jo Seng

Indian Boys Scott Carpenter Nicky DeCesare

#### Indian Girls

Nancie Cadwallader Lisa Jonnet Leslie Thomas

Indian Braves

Mike Kassalen Raymond Kutch Joe McCann Tim Mysels Ernie O'Dorisio Charles Orosz Joe Seward Bob Speranza Bob Stocker Jeff Winter Michael Wolf

#### SCENE THREE: "FIRST FAMILIES"

#### The Green Gate Twirlers directed by Larry Herrod

Sally Baker **Dottie Boyle** Jack Boyle Kathy Cabot Kaye Carr Mary DeCesare Tom DeCesare Al DiLucenti Mary DiLucenti **Dotty Dull** Arlene Feher Idel Frankenberg R. A. Frankenberg Jim Hauger Mary Lou Hauger George Hewitt

Mildred Hewitt Ed Huber Nancy Huber **Carol Jonnet** Joe Jonnet Judv Klein Don Lucidi Teck Lucidi **Betty Miele** Vito Miele Fritz Ottenheimer Goldie Ottenheimer Dee Sodar Art Sodar Larry Shackleton Pru Shackleton

#### Gayle Toolin Betty Ure Roland Ure Claire Watson

#### Boys

Alan Lancaster Billy Lancaster Pierce Miller

#### Girls

Boys

Julie Brennan Lou Horne Patricia Keough

#### SCENE FOUR: "THREE R'S"

#### Women

Eleanor Craig Mary Kerlie Gloria Warman Becky Watson Claire Watson Helen Watson

#### Men

W. L. Kerlie J. G. Watson

#### Girls

Nancy Cabot Deborah Ginsburg Amy Riberich Leslie Thomas Sandy Warman Debbie Warman Susan Watson Gretchen Watson Jimmy Cabot Frank Krushinski Matt Krushinski Thad McKenzie Robbie Radzevich Lee Seward Joe Seward

#### SCENE FIVE: "RELIGIOUS HERITAGE"

Girls

Lori Horne Laura Jonnet Michele McGough

Mary Boney Dick Cadwallader Jean Cadwallader Donald Cassidy Dorothy Chiado Alma Cook Alphons Cova Elizabeth Ellis Evelyn Fisher Ellwood L. Hauser Gayle B. Joyce Thomas J. Joyce Alice Leich Connie Leich Roland Leich Audrey Lemak Irene Lemak Ethel Loy Emily McIntire Dick Moore Ruth Moore Mae O'Connor P. L. O'Connor Anna Plack Martin C. Plack Raymond Samoy Marlene Samoy Martha Schoenthal Evelyn Slusser Viola Summer Helen M. Watson Robert A. Winter Mrs. Robert A. Winter Ted Zygmunt Ann Zygmunt

#### SCENE SIX: "RELAXATION"

#### Men

Hugo Jansson Roland Leich Tom Leich George Palascak Edward G. Panzak *Boy* Keith O'Connor

#### Girls

Janice Garofolo Kathy Garofolo Laura Matusik Heather O'Connor Nancy Panzak Rebecca Panzak Chris Yocca

#### Women

Gloria Jannson Trudy Kuenzie Connie Leich Alice Leich Peg Palascak Mary L. Panzak Martha Schoenthal Kathryn Webb

#### SCENE SEVEN: "VOLUME IN BLACK"

#### Men

Richard A. Cadwallader Chester M. Cwynar Bob Fetherlin Robert A. Winter

### Officers

Bobby Harris John Webster

Soldiers Bob Winter, Jr. Allan Læncaster Dan Mills Pierce Miller Tom Radzevick John Sgourzkis

#### Women

Betty Barko Donna Bruecken Jean Cadwallader Kaye Carr Ann D'Ippolito Arlene Feher Pat Fetherlin Sue Fitzpatrick Sally Pika Vonna Webster Marjorie Winter Rosemarie Wilkes Verna G. Zavada

#### Boys

Mike Carpenter Scott Carpenter Tom DeCesare Damon Fogal Mark Fogal

#### Girls

Kelly Carpenter Janet DeCesare Lawren Fogal Leslie Jonnet

#### Lincoln Richard Wilkes

#### SCENE EIGHT: "GAY 90'S"

#### Men

Al DiLucente Joe Jonnet Ben Robertson R. Woolheater Boys Chris Getty Tim Getty Cop George T. Getty Girls Suzi Furjanic Lorri Getty Amy Gray Elizabeth Hood Maria Mackin Mary Pat Sheehy

#### Women

**Dotty Boyle** Liz Carpenter Robin Colagrande Mary DiLucenti Mary Frain Helen Furjanic Marlene Getty **Connie Harris Donna Harris Janie Harris** Mary Louise Hauger Carole Keenan **Evelyn Koch** Betty Robertson Dorothy Scholze **Diane Seward** Mary Ann Seward Peg Summer Joanne Woolheater

Bathing Beauties Joan Carpenter Jeanne DeCesare Mary DeCesare Arlene Fogal Carol Jonnet Cathy Rossi

Dancer Val Mar Studios

#### SCENE NINE: "A BOROUGH IS BORN"

**Special Effects** 

#### SCENE TEN: "OVER THERE"

*Dough Boy* David Scholze Can-Can Sally Baker Kaye Carr Billie Champion Dotty Dull Betty Dunn Arlene Feher Connie Harris Donna Harris

Janie Harris Eleanor Hershberger Dolores Hilinski Kitty Hulick Lillie Kocak Lois Ralph Sue Roelich Anne Staub

#### SCENE ELEVEN: "BEES KNEES"

*Feature Dancers* Val Mar Studios *Men* Donald Cassidy William Cole Jack Parry Richard Sprout Women Sally Baker LaVerne Caprara Arlene Feher Eleanor Hershberger Ann Kutch Irene Lemak Ethel Loy Ann Magziar Sue Roehlick

#### SCENE TWELVE: "PROGRESS REPORT"

Daniel M. Poore John G. Stephans Edward L. Symons Richard E. Wise

#### SCENE THIRTEEN: "TO ATOMS"

Young Lady Michele McGough Young Men Jeff Crozier Dave Flodine Mike Harbadin Bill Harbadin Rick Boyle

#### SCENE FOURTEEN: "TOMORROW"

Boys

Doug Garretson Grant Johnson Scott Johnson Bob Smoose Billy Lancaster Allan Lancaster Dan Mills Pierce Miller Tom Radzevick John Sgourzkis

#### Girls

Donna Champian Danna Dull Jenny Fox Lee Ann Hershberger Kim Hulick Rhonda Ralph Jan Rambacher Joy Rice Joyce Robosky Kathy Rodgers Rene Shaltenbrand Mary Rose Welsh

#### Actractive Lady Roberta Gallick

#### SCENE FIFTEEN: FINALE

**Entire Cast** 

STAGE CREW

Jeff Crozier Dave Flodine Mike Harbadin Rick Boyle Bill Harbadin

#### SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

Christ Luthern Church Eastern Star – Forest Hills Chapter OFS 410 Forest Hills Area Coordinating Comm. for Human Relations Forest Hills Boy Scouts – Troops 46, 90, 98, 105 Forest Hills Civic Assn. Forest Hills Democratic Committee Forest Hills Girl Scouts – Troops 112, 266, 590, 677 Forest Hills Rangerettes Forest Hills Presbyterian Church Hope United Luthern Church Hope United Luthern Church Mothers League of Bryn Mawr Farms – Chapters I, II, III St. Maurice Christian Mothers St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church Womans Club of Forest Hills – Five Arts Dept., Junior Dept.

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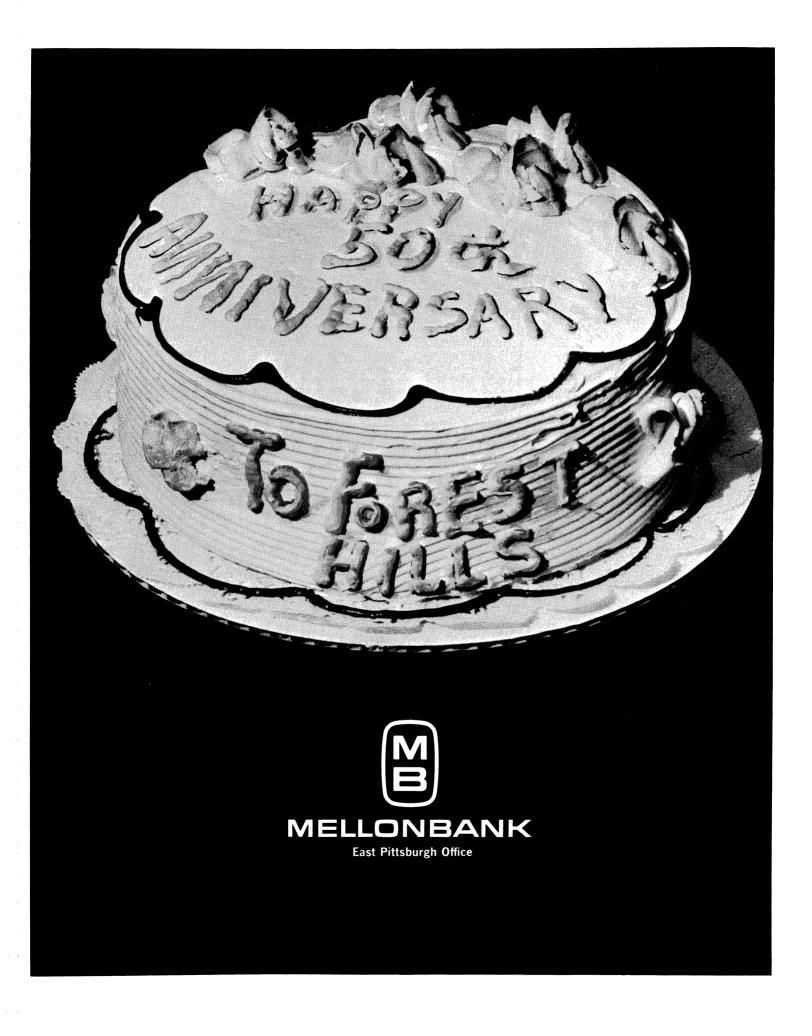
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Mrs. Charles H. Stott Mr. Ogden Tebbets Mr. & Mrs. Stan Thomas Tippy's Taco House Mr. & Mrs. Parks Toolin Treasure Lake Valley Buick & Opel Dr. William K. Vincett Virgils Boron Service Station Vi's of Forest Hills Walt Deemer's Texaco Wentworth Insurance Agency Dinese Wiggly Walter Winnenberg Philip Wright Wilson Meat Packing Arsenal Beer Dist. Mayor Richard E. Wise Mrs. Richard E. Wise Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Worrall Yocca's Service Station Dr. L. J. Zavada, Optometrist Sam Zelkowitz Mr. & Mrs. Frederick B. Ziesenheim Zundel Studio Photographers Compliments of a Friend Compliments of a Friend Good Luck Linda Morris from Parents A Friend A Good Friend

Because the program had to go to press before all the cast members could be identified and all patrons acknowledged properly, omissions occur in these listings - for which the editors offer humble apologies.



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# EDUGATION AND SCHOOLS

#### OLD ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS

Old Duquesne School stood for years before the turn of the century at Glasgow and Braddock Roads ..... was first a one-room frame on stone foundations ..... later a second floor was added ..... old pot-bellied stoves supplied the heat!

There was also a little one-room wooden portable school with basement down in the Ardmore area which ironically was burned down when an inadequate volunteer fire department of those days had only a hand-drawn fire cart ..... the fire was fought with buckets of water before it burned to the ground!! - (about 1920)

There were a few times in our history when our students were sent to attend schools out of the borough. In the beginning, they attended Hannatown in Braddock Township and Johnston School in Wilkinsburg and others, besides our two little one-room schools.



#### OLD DUQUESNE SCHOOL Indestructible Laura Higby

The photograph, partially showing the old *Duquesne School* also focuses attention on one of our very first teachers, the indestructible *Laura Higby*. There are many firsts in our borough and a few first teachers, but none taught as long as 48 years in fulfilling a dedicated career. Who else reached into three generations of students? The one and only Miss Higby retired in 1944.

# THEN BEGAN THE TRANSITION and PROGRESS TO 1969

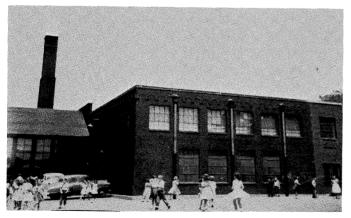
**1915** Woodside Road (or) Bryn Mawr School was our first *permanent* school. It was built by Wilkins Township to replace the old Duquesne fire trap in Mucklerat. At first the Bryn Mawr School used only three of the *four* rooms in the yellow brick structure. Since it was war time, the fourth room was set aside for the Red Cross.

**1916** If you were a student in this year, you may have been one of the kids like John Kennedy and Mrs. Vera Graham Pinder who remember triumphantly marching from old Duquesne School to the new Bryn Mawr School with their books ..... this was progress!! Some of the others who made that short march and who are still living here were John Homer, Mrs. Stauffer, and Andrew "Toe Nails" Downey! Some other students like Alice Bright Stott had been going to Johnston School and now enrolled at Woodside Road.

**1921-1922 ATLANTIC AVENUE SCHOOL** was built and ready for students about the same time we built our Municipal Building—six rooms.



THE WOODSIDE SCHOOL with 1929 addition.



THE ATLANTIC AVENUE SCHOOL and addition of 1928.



THE HAWTHORNE SCHOOL Showing part of the new 1952 addition.

1922 Four room HAWTHORNE SCHOOL was built.

**1925** HAWTHORNE large *portable* room with stage and kitchen, used mostly for community gatherings, was erected.

**1926** Two portable rooms added to *Atlantic Avenue* Building.

#### **1928 ATLANTIC AVENUE ADDITION**

Ten rooms and a combined gymnasium and auditorium were added to Atlantic Avenue. The Atlantic Avenue building was originally constructed to accommodate grades 1-6, but the rapid growth of the community required a Junior High school, hence, further expansion was necessary.

**1929-1930** WOODSIDE ROAD SCHOOL added two room addition and an auditorium.

**1931** 2nd temporary portable buildings were added to Atlantic Avenue. Later this became our first Junior High school.

#### 1941 FOREST HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BECAME THIRD CLASS SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZED FROM a 5 to a 7 MEMBER BOARD

We had become of age and were legally qualified to move from a 4th class district to 3rd class. Our population of 5,271 on July 1, 1941 made us eligible as a district with a population over 5,000 to reorganize.



## OUR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION & FACULTY 1944

Left to right (top row) 1. Walter Kreiling, Secretary 2. Ray Watts 3. Mr. Tenny 4. Edwin W. Painter 5. George Baumgarten 6. Frank Wentworth 7. HarryTravers 8. John Bier (2nd row from top) 1. Florence Blose 2. Not identified 3. Mrs. Watts 4. Mrs. Tenny 5. Mrs. Painter 6. Mrs. Baumgarten 7. Mrs. Frank Wentworth 8. Mrs. Travers 9. Mrs. Slonaker 10. Audrey Graham 11. Linnie Jones 12. Bill Cecil (Some unidentified) (3rd row from top) Helen Yates, Lillian Rumbaugh, Lucille Stewart, Vera Berger, Blanche Allshouse, Dotty Cramer, Arlene Foster Cook, Lois Duer, Harriet Huss Flynn, Jean Young, Mary Miele, Hazel Gretzle, Gladys Smith Metcalf (Some unidentified) (front row) Stella Nead, Nelda Shaffer (next couple are not identified) Gene Mellott and Mrs. Mellott, Laura Higby, Dr. Dale Roose and Mrs. Roose (not identified) Dr. Ramaley (Ass't Super. of County Schools), Dr. Houk, and Hilda Byerly.

The top two rows in addition to others include School Directors and their wives or husbands.

## 1946 THE BIG FIRE (\$100,000) AT ATLANTIC AVENUE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Fire razed the Atlantic Avenue elementary and Junior High school in 1946, where some 500 school children attended. The loss was about \$100,000 and 15 of the 21 rooms were damaged in the two adjoining buildings.

Firemen, at first, were forced to stand idly by for about a half an hour until sufficient water pressure was built up. Finally, six fire companies came to the rescue.

The School Board met and arranged to house our students in the Johnston School temporarily in Wilkinsburg. The third floor with eight rooms was refurbished and rented to our school board.

This fire sparked the immediate formation of the East Boro's Fire Association and also started escalating the planning for the new Junior High which was to be built at Central Site.



THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 1949

KINDERGARTEN Experiences in Kindergarten provide a natural transition from home to school. "This is MY house!"

**1948 NEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** was built on the 19 acre central site.

Architect: Charles J. Rieger . . . Associate Architects: Altenhof & Bown – Peter S. Thompson. Financed by \$400,000.00 bond issue and income from other sources.

This was a real step in progress as the Atlantic Avenue School had been serving under temporary portable and crowded conditions and after the 1946 fire, the third floor of Johnston School in Wilkinsburg (with eight rooms) found both pupils and teachers working under a great handicap.

**1949** On February 3, 1949 – *First Kindergarten* (at Schools Woodside Road and Atlantic Ave.)

**1952** All personnel of Forest Hills Schools took the state's "Loyalty Oath." – March 1952

#### HAWTHORNE SCHOOL ADDITION BOND ISSUE \$200,000.00

**1952** Lack of space at Hawthorne School caused grades to be housed in the Junior High School, Woodside Road School, and at the Atlantic Avenue School respectively over the years. This commuting by the students and over-crowded conditions at Hawthorne led to the bond issue being placed on the ballot in 1952.

#### FOREST HILLS BLOCK BUSTER BALLOT vs. THE AUTHORITY

After the Bond Issue failed on the ballot, an Authority was formed to sell bonds at the Hawthorne School addition. Many people did not know that in January, 1952, the Local Building Authority Act was passed by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Fine. Apparently the citizenry was not generally aware of the great need for expansion and the sorely needed addition to the Hawthorne School. It was a resounding defeat at the polls, but nearly all civic associations and service clubs later endorsed the project in support of the School Board.

Only months after the defeat at the polls, a twenty-year Authority was created with the task of building and paying for the school which would then be leased to the School District. Singer, Dean and Scribner took the Bond Issue. Suddenly the Forest Hills School Board was doing its "own thing" and created the School Authority with the following members: Harold R. Kirk, E. Eibling, Malcolm Hickox, Winthrop M. Leeds, and T. C. Weatherby.



ST. MAURICE SCHOOL DEDICATION September 7th, 1953

**1953** St. Maurice School opened with five grades, nine Mercy sisters and one lay teacher. Sr. M. Norberta was principal.

**1953 STUDENT-TEACHERS PROGRAM** was started in Forest Hills School District.

**1955 WOODSIDE ROAD SCHOOL** had another face-lifting wherein the original wooden stair cases and floor were replaced with concrete and steel covered by asphalt tile. Basement toilets were replaced by rest rooms on each floor.

**1955 SCHOOL BUS BILL** (HB 445) passed the Senate on November 30th – was introduced in the State Senate by our own legislator John J. Murray and backed by the Legislative Committee of Allegheny County Council of PTA whose chairman was Dr. D. Paul Jones, Superintendent of Forest Hills Schools.

#### 1956 WAGE TAX (School District)

On August 1, 1956 the inevitable Wage Tax was levied by the School Board. The estimated income from this tax was to bring in \$50,000. In turn the former \$5 per capita tax was eliminated. *Earned Income Tax* is another name for the same bill, but there's more to come!!

**1956 FOREST HILLS SCHOOL BOARD** purchased the present high school property bound by Braddock Road and on the Greensburg Pike for \$168,000.00 in conjunction with the Wilkins Township District and Chalfant Borough, who were to collaborate towards the jointure and eventual Union officially in the future.

The Joseph Horne property had been the former site of the old Minnik Farms and consisted of a centrally located 46 acres, ideal for the proposed high school. The Joseph Horne Co. had been intending to construct a shopping center here but the project was voted out by Churchill Borough. Our School District was the ultimate beneficiary.

**1957 ST. MAURICE SCHOOL** addition of eight rooms was dedicated in September, 1957.

**1960 THE SCHOOL JOINTURE** was formalized with Wilkins Township School District March 21st, 1960.

**1962 THE CHURCHILL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT UNION** was consummated with Wilkins-Churchill-Chalfant Schools. Our own *Al Smith* was elected first President of the "Union" School Board.

Two separate school boards had been necessary under a jointure, as well as separate budgets, and the movement to change from jointure to union allowed for a single tax base and united purchasing power.

**1963 NEW SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL** of Churchill Area School District (of which Forest Hills Schools are a part) constructed at a cost of four million dollars! Pride of the Area!!

**1964 NURSERY SCHOOL** was inaugurated for Forest Hills pre-school children, commencing with age 4. In 1969 the Nursery School completed its fifth successful year. This is a non-profit organization sponsored by the Junior Department of the Woman's Club of Forest Hills and is conducted in the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. The school is well equipped and the teacher is *Mrs. Blaine Leidy.* Shall we call this INFANT EDUCATION?

**1965 FIRST CLASS** of the Churchill Area School was graduated in 1965. Governor William Scranton was the speaker.

#### 1965 JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION

A new \$1,500,000 look for the Forest Hills Junior High School addition opened space for 300 more students. The front became the back and the back became the front. The original junior high previously faced the Borough Park, but now has a canopy entrance front on Ridge Avenue just off Braddock Road. A new library was created from the former cafeteria which was replaced with new kitchen and heating facilities. The school gained twenty-five new instructional areas including a gym, auditorium, large lab, and biology room with attached greenhouse, also a two station economics room, a band room and a material shop. It was erected in 1964 and the capacity doubled.

## CHURCHILL AREA SCHOOLS AUTHORITY for JUNIOR HIGH ADDITION

Reuel B. Wolford — Chairman		
H. S. Frus		Frank Kovalovsky
John S. O'Brien		H. A. Harrisson
	Warren Reding, Solicitor	

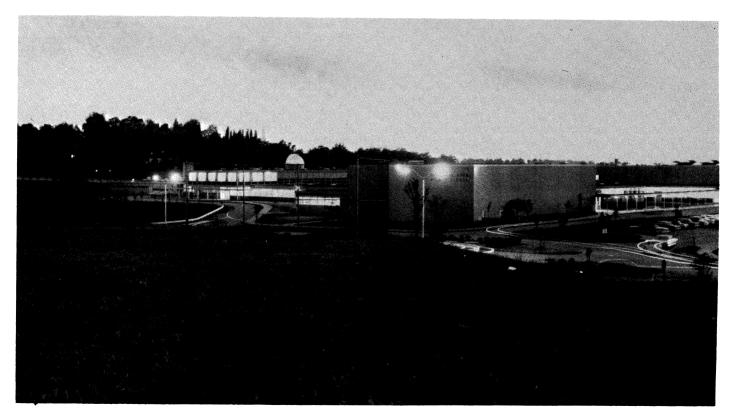
**1966 BLOCK PARENT PROGRAM** was initiated wherein house posters are displayed to notify school children that occupants are available for help in case of emergency.



#### 1969 SCHOOL BOARD CHURCHILL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Seated—Mr. Eugene B. Connelly, Mr. Linford S. Macdonald, Dr. Richard A. Moore, Mrs. Margaret Marti-Balaguer, *standing*—Mr. Thomas A. Watkins, Mr. Stanley W. Addy, Dr. Walter N. Wilson, Dr. C. Paul Clark, Mr. Albert J. Martin, Jr., Mr. J. Robert Maxwell; not pictured, Theodore J. Zygmunt.

### CHURCHILL AREA HIGH SCHOOL



## FOREST HILLS SCHOOL BOARDS 1919 – 1967

From 1921 through 1935, Forest Hills elected only a small number of individuals to serve on the Board of Education . . . . thirteen individual board members which indicated a state of confidence reposed by the citizens of Forest Hills in that early School Board membership. There were four women elected to the Board in our history. They were Mrs. Henrietta Watts, Mr. Harry W. Tenney, Mrs. Ann Gagliardi, and Joy V. Wolff.

Of the three living members from earlier history, Mr. Martin C. Plack served the longest on the Board of Education. His tenure was thirty years. Mr. George Baumgarten served twenty-four years, and Mr. Frank Wentworth-twenty-two years.

Mrs. Watts and Mr. Harry Travers, now deceased, each served twenty-four years.

Mr. Wentworth, oldest living past Board member, remembers when the first school picnic was held at Highland Park and when the foresighted purchase of the Central Site was once criticized by some residents.

Albert L. Harvey – December 1, 1919 to December 5, 1921 - 2 yrs.

T. S. Taylor – December 1, 1919 to December 5, 1921 - 2 yrs.

Robert France – December 1, 1919 to March 8,  $1921 - 1\frac{1}{2}$  yrs.

H. F. Fleming – December 1, 1919 to December 9, 1919 - 8 das.

Oliver Sipe – December 1, 1919 to December 3, 1923 – 4 yrs. James Beswick – December 9, 1919 to December 7, 1931 – 12 yrs.

Dr. John W. Funk – March 8, 1921 to December 4, 1933 – 12 yrs.

Raymond Geisler – December 3, 1923 to December 2, 1929 – 6 yrs.

Henry A. Travers – December 5, 1921 to date – 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> yrs.

Frank W. Wentworth – December 5, 1921 to date  $-13\frac{1}{2}$  yrs.

\*Douglas F. Miner – December 2, 1929 to date – 5½ yrs.

E. W. Painter - December 7, 1931 to date - 31/2 yrs.

Joy B. Wolff – December 4, 1933 to date  $-1\frac{1}{2}$  yrs.

Howard D. Ege – Elected November 11, 1935

\*Retired December 2, 1935

Martin C. Plack, elected November 2, 1937 E. W. Painter, re-elected November 2, 1937 Henry A. Travers, re-elected November 7, 1939 Frank W. Wentworth, re-elected November 7, 1939 Howard D. Edg, resigned May 12, 1941 Mrs. T. R. Watts, appointed May 12, 1941 Mrs. T. R. Watts, elected May 29, 1941 Mrs. T. R. Watts, re-elected December 1, 1941

Mrs. H. W. Tenney, elected December 1, 1941 George W. Baumgarten, elected December 1, 1941 Martin C. Plack, re-elected 1943 E. W. Painter, re-elected 1943 T. R. Ringness, 1945 M. S. Hzncoco, 1945 Mrs. T. R. Watts, re-elected November 4, 1947 George w. Baumgarten, re-elected November 4, 1947 Mrs. Ann Gagliardi, re-elected November 4, 1947 Mr. H. Brunner, elected November 4, 1947 Mr. L. Bowker, elected November 4, 1947 T. R. Ringness, 1945 M. S. Hancock, 1945 Martin C. Plack, re-elected November 8, 1949 George Fossett, elected November 8, 1949 H. Brunner, re-elected November, 1951 L. Bowker, re-elected November, 1951 C. N. Brinsley, appointed to serve out term of E. Painter H. Russell Keyser, appointed to fill term of George Fossett, 1952 George Baumgarten, re-elected November 3, 1953 Mrs. T. R. Watts, re-elected November 3, 1953 Mrs. E. Gagliardi, re-elected November 3, 1953 Mr. A. B. Smith, elected November 3, 1953 Mr. H. R. Keyser, re-elected November 3, 1953 Martin C. Plack, re-elected November 8, 1955 H. R. Keyser, re-elected November 8, 1955 Ralph McIntosh, elected November 5, 1957 A. B. Smith, re-elected November 5, 1957 George Baumgarten, re-elected November 3, 1959 Mrs. T. R. Watt, re-elected November 3, 1959, Died 1965 Mr. Dale Liken, elected November 3, 1959 Martin C. Plack, re-elected November 7, 1961 Howard R. Keyser, re-elected November 7, 1961 Richard A. Moore, elected November 5, 1963

#### CHURCHILL AREA BOARD

Thomas A. Watkins, elected Nobember 2, 1965 Albert J. Martin, elected November 2, 1965 Stan W. Addy, elected November 7, 1967

Mr. Parks Toolin was not elected but served 2 appointments to the Board.

# ADMINISTRATION: PRINCIPALS AND SUPERINTENDENTS

The first school Principal to come to Forest Hills was Professor *John Horner* from Wilkinsburg.

*Dr. Dale W. Houk* came to Forest Hills as a Supervising Principal in 1930 and served until 1939 when he was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Allegheny County (July 1, 1940). *Dr. Houk* later became President of Slippery Rock State Teachers College and during his Presidency for ten years the enrollment tripled and the faculty nearly doubled. Dr. Houk resigned at Slippery Rock to be the Director of Community and Public Relations at *WQED* in 1956 and eventually went into foreign service.

*Dr. D. Paul Jones* became a faculty member of Forest Hills Schools in 1931. In 1940 he was elected Supervising Principal,

was attached to United States Navy from 1943 to 1946. Dr. Jones eventually went into Foreign Service.

*Dale F. Roose* came to the Forest Hills faculty in 1934, became Building Principal and Junior High School Principal at Atlantic Avenue School in 1942.

In 1959 Dale Roose was elevated to Supervising Principal and in 1967 Assistant District Superintendent of the Churchill Area School District under Dr. C. Paul Clark.

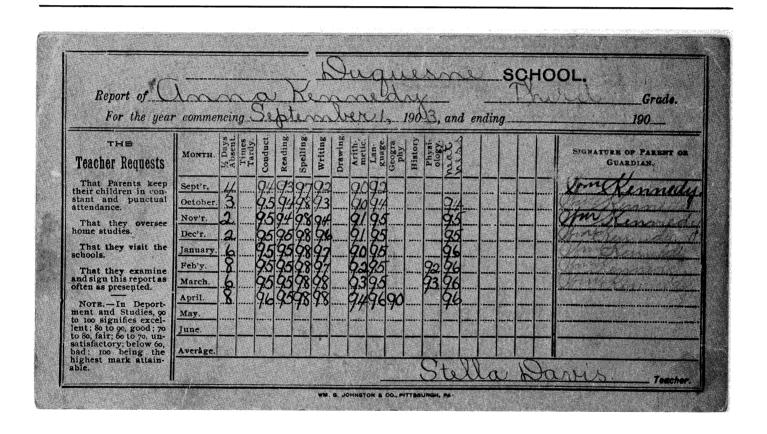
In 1968 Dale F. Roose died after a memorable and appreciated career.

#### GROWING PAINS EDUCATION

The School Board literally started from scratch to build up a school system in the early years. There was a heavy bonded indebtedness after constructing the Atlantic and Hawthorne School and after buying the Central site. Another complicating factor was the long-lasting Depression in the 30's. The School Board never defaulted on their bond obligations nor did they fail to pay teachers. However, there was one year or more when the teachers salaries were only averaging a thousand dollars, and the teachers doubled-up, working somewhat short-staffed.

The depression seriously affected the normal financial calculations of our school district through shrinking tax collections and in some cases through decreased assessments. During the 30's, it became necessary on the part of many school districts to provide against an increasing shrinkage in tax collections by incurring temporary indebtedness. It was significant to study this particular problem in Forest Hills, especially in spite of the fact that this school district had to provide for a rapidly increasing school population as well as shrinking tax collections.

Our schools ran the gamut of the lean years of the depression period, the hectic pressure years of World War II, and the avalanche of increased enrollments over recent decades.



#### ANNA KENNEDY (PLACK)

Report card of *Anna Kennedy* when she attended the old *Duquesne* school in 1903. She was in third grade and the card shows the signatures of her teacher, Stella Davis, and her father, William Kennedy. Anna Kennedy today is Mrs. Martin Plack who taught 17 years in the Monroeville schools, etc.

Whatever way you review this report card, the results and grades are good enough for history's exposure!!

Before retirement Mrs. Plack worked with retired teachers, serving as President of the Gateway Union Group, the Western Region of Pennsylvania and the Allegheny County Retired Teachers Association.



FROM YOUR FOREST HILLS FOODLAND



A Salute to Progress. July 19, 1919–July 19, 1969



# To a progressive 50 year old from a thriving 1 year old

A happy, hearty golden jubilee to all our good friends, neighbors and business associates of the Forest Hills community. We are delighted and proud to be a member of this enterprising team. We have just joined the community this past year and pledge ourselves to being a good neighbor and hope to contribute to a bright future for Forest Hills in the next fifty years.

Westinghouse Information Systems Laboratory provides a direct customer-oriented computer service for industry, government and the professions. Our skills are built on technology and engineering know-how amassed through Westinghouse computer experience over a span of 20 years. WISL serves not only Westinghouse divisions but a growing list of direct customers with time sharing computer services, computer aided problem solving and management information systems techniques and designs.

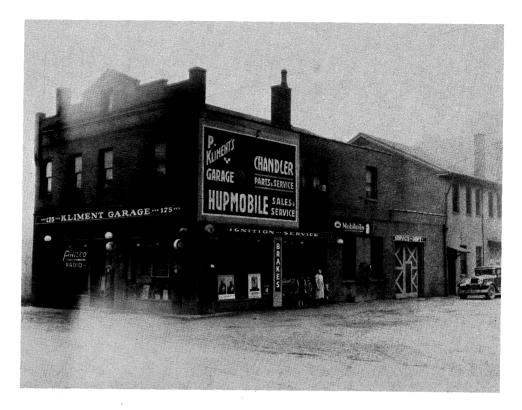
## Westinghouse

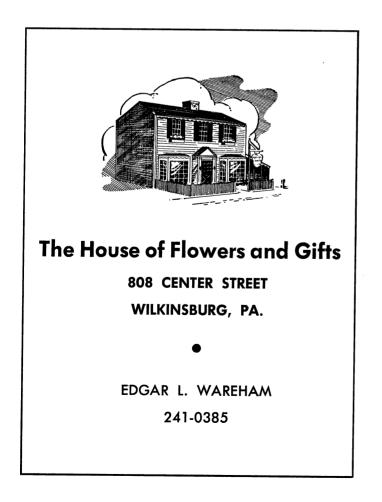
Information Systems Laboratory 2040 Ardmore Boulevard, Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

#### PETE KLIMENT'S

The oldest garage in Forest Hills and probably the second oldest business on Ardmore Boulevard, Pete Kliment's garage was built after the turn of the century and the additions in the rear, added later. This is a continuous family business run by two sons today.

Mrs. Anna Kliment and some children are shown with a new 1929 Hupmobile in that year!





De Nardo's was 13 years old when Forest Hills was founded

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## CLUBS AND CIVIC GROUPS



Pictured here are some of the membership of the Bryn Mawr Men's Club in 1969 at time of participation in the Golden Jubilee activities. Left to .right, Seated: Richard L. Hundstad, Charles H. Shank, C. N. Works, Fred W. Kirschman, Richard E. Wise, Russell E. Fox, Fred B. Ziesehneim, Pres., Frank R. Garner, Secy-Treas. Left to right, Standing: Cecil W. Kelley, Edwin J. Martin, William G. Kerr, Robert N. Wenzel, T. E. Browne, Asa Bentley, Kenneth M. Hughes, Lester H. Defibaugh, Charles E. Bickham, Loxley J. Bowker, Edgar J. Lewis, Stanley W. Addy, George A. Deemer, John G. Bender, J. Ray Witt, Edward H. Lamberger. Active Membership Not Pictured: John H. Anderson, Frank C. Ashe, R. C. Berguall, Harry J. Bishoff, William F. Bowers, Robert J. Campbell, Charles P. Carpenter, Paul G. Caswell, Arthur R. Corvino, William F. Fetterman, Leslie E. Frost, William K. Hanley, Benjamin I. Hayford, Paul N. Hershorin, George W. Hewitt, Walter H. Ions, Sverre Krotseng, Jr., Beveridge Mair, H. E. McCartney, Carl J. Nim, Jr., Carl Olson, A. W. Payne, James E. Perryman, Chester Raczkowski, Robert C. Scanlon, Robert K. Scott, John W. Shepherd, William G. Smock, Michael Sowiski, H. Richard Squires, Michael G. Tury, Vincent C. Vogel, S. M. Wickersham, Floyd Wilson, George M. Woods.

#### 1914 - BRYN MAWR MEN'S CLUB

Bryn Mawr Men's Club was organized November 30, 1914 and thus is the oldest club in our Borough.

OFFICERS-1915
President Mr. Wheeler
Vice President Mr. Schooley
Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Bailey
and
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Dr. Ferree Mr. Ritzel Mr. Graham Bright

This men's club has been continuously active throughout all these years. The unbroken history of this club is due largely to its continued active interest in civic affairs, and because the monthly meetings are held in the members' homes.

The club has actively cooperated with Borough Council in determining proper action in matters concerning Bryn Mawr. The Councilman from this district has always been a member of this Club and submits reports on council matters at the monthly club meetings. The district member of the School Board was also a club member and made regular reports.

For many years, the Club sponsored a Bryn Mawr Boy Scout troop and Cub pack.

The major social activity of the club is planning and serving the annual Community Corn Roast the Saturday after Labor Day. In 1968, the 52nd such event was held with some 450 residents partaking of the man-prepared food . . . corn on the cob, hot dogs, sandwiches, lemonade, coffee and ice cream. The price originally was one dollar per family and now is \$2.50. Reports say the event was rained out only once!

#### **1969 OFFICERS**

President	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	F. B. Ziesenheim
Vice President		•		•	•	•		•	. J. W. Shepherd
Secretary/Treasurer									F. R. Garner

#### 1920 - WOMAN'S CLUB OF BRYN MAWR FARMS

On October 15, 1920, the Bryn Mawr Woman's Club was organized; in 1922 this name was changed to what is now known as the Woman's Club of Bryn Mawr Farms.

#### OFFICERS-1920

President			Mrs.	Edgar R. Sampson
Vice President				Mrs. H. A. Travers
Secretary/Treasurer			. M	rs. J. Wilson Brown

Membership requirements are set out in Article III of the By-Laws as follows: "Residents of Bryn Mawr, and in addition all residents of Glasgow Road north of 308 Glasgow Road, and all residents of Fieldcrest Drive, and also residents of Sherwood Road from the present Bryn Mawr boundary as far as the cemetery shall be eligible for membership."

The object of the Club is to "develop the educational, civic and social interest of its members and to advance **community** welfare." Accordingly through the years the Club has given generously to many charities, besides helping area families who were in distress. Cash gifts are given each room at the Woodside School at Christmas. The Club also sponsors a Girl Scout Troop. For many years it took care of the planting at Bryn Mawr entrance.

#### **1969 OFFICERS**

President	Mrs. F. W. Rotthoff, Jr.
Vice President	Mrs. S. Krotseng, Jr.
Recording Secretary	Mrs. H. A. Harrison
Treasurer	Mrs. William Walter
Assistant	Mrs. Charles Shank
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Cecil W. Kelley

#### 1926 - THE BRYN MAWR MOTHERS' CLUB

The Club was organized in 1926 by Mrs. L. E. Frost with eleven members. Its purpose to discuss methods of raising our children. Money was raised in various ways and given to different charities. Now after forty-three years, the original club is down to twelve active members.

1969 Chairman ..... Mrs. Edgar J. Lewis

#### 1931 – THE BRYN MAWR JUNIOR MOTHERS' CLUB

The Club was organized October 1931.

#### OFFICERS

President ..... Mrs. E. S. Connor Secretary/Treasurer ..... Mrs. A. E. Pinder

The purpose of the Club is to promote the welfare of our children, and to provide recreation for the mothers.

Our projects over the years have been child and civic welfare, sponsoring a Brownie Troop, and at Christmas time to give gifts to homes for old and young and also to needy individuals. Our membership numbers thirty-four.

#### **1969 OFFICERS**

President ..... Mrs. Robt. C. Scanlon Secretary/Treasurer ..... Mrs. P. N. Hershorin

#### 1948 – MOTHERS' LEAGUE OF BRYN MAWR FARMS, Chapter I

The Mothers' League of Bryn Mawr Farms was organized in 1948 by L. M. Liken (Joy) who also became its first president.

In 1950 the Club took over the Santa Claus project from the Junior Mothers' Club. For the next 15 Christmas eves every child in Bryn Mawr, under 9, had a visit from Santa Claus in his own home, and got a small gift from him. Christmas eve was an exciting time for the children. There are a number of grown men and women, still living in Bryn Mawr, young parents themselves now, who will vouch for it.

In 1960 the project was regretfully abandoned. Since then, the club has helped AFS, the School for Exceptional Children, and Girl Scouts.

The Club is limited to 22 members. In 1950 it was necessary to form a second chapter. Mrs. David Bright became it First President.

By 1956 a third chapter had to be added. Its first president was Mrs. C. C. Li.

There it stands today. The Mothers' League is a social club of 65 women whose common interests are their children and their belief in neighborliness.

#### 1969 OFFICERS

President	Lore Keffer
Vice President	Dottie Boyle
Secretary	Evelyn Koch
Treasurer	Dorothy Dase

#### 1950 – MOTHERS' LEAGUE OF BRYN MAWR, Chapter II

The Mothers' League of Bryn Mawr was originally formed in 1948 to promote fellowship among the mothers of Bryn Mawr. Due to increased membership, Chapter II was organized in 1950. First meeting–October 5, 1950.

#### **OFFICERS**

President	Mrs. David W. Bright
Vice President	
Secretary/Treasurer Mi	s. William S. Johnston

The chapter has supported many community projects over the years, such as Brownies, Scouts, and AFS Students. In addition we make tray favors for the patients at Western Pennsylvania Psychiatric Hospital every Christmas and have recently "adopted" a girl at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, for whom we provide extra gifts and visits on birthdays and holidays.

#### **1969 OFFICERS**

President		•	•	•	•	•	•	Mrs. Fred Rotthoff, Jr.
Vice Presi	dent					•		Mrs John H. Anderson
Secretary								. Mrs. Michael G. Tury
Treasurer								Mrs. W. G. Young

#### 1956 - MOTHERS' LEAGUE OF BRYN MAWR,

Chapter III

The Club was organized in 1956.

#### **OFFICERS**

President	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	Mrs. Clara Li
Vice President							•	•	•	Mrs. Mary Frain

The purpose of our organization is to promote friendship in our neighborhood. Three times a year our chapter joins the other two chapters for joint social affairs. Our main project each year is earning money to donate to the Wilkinsburg School for Retarded Children. We have twenty-two members.

#### 1969 OFFICERS

President		• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mrs. Phyllis Fine
Vice Presid	lent			•			•		Mrs. Julia Bumba
Secretary									Mrs. Eddie Vassamillet
Treasurer	• • •	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mrs. Helen Furjanic

#### \* \* \*

#### 1965 – THE EVERGREENS

One of the newer organizations in the borough was organized for **retired** Forest Hills residents and is sponsored by the Women's Club of Forest Hills whose Club House at Avenue L is also their headquarters.

Requirements for membership are simple in that any resident of the borough who is 60 years of age or over is eligible, as well as other retired persons.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month with various programs and on the fourth Tuesday for cards. Meetings are at 1 p.m. and anyone interested is welcome to join with the senior citizens. The meetings are informal as to programs and include such get-togethers as the traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage Brunch.

#### 1969 - President - Joe Rudman

#### \* \* \*

#### **1968 – HUMAN RELATIONS**

Forest Hills Area Coordinating Committee to HUMAN RELATIONS

During January and February of 1968, an inter-faith dialogue series entitled "Human Concern: A Bridge To Understanding," was held in the Borough. With the aid of outstanding leaders of the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish faiths, the series explored the relevance of the various religious heritages to current social problems and inter-personal relationships. Upon completion of the series, several attendees expressed a desire to have some kind of community action organization. After several informal meetings were held to formulate goals and purposes, the Forest Hills Area Coordinating Committee for Human Relations was organized in June of 1968.

The purpose of the Coordinating Committee is to provide opportunities to both individuals and groups who share a common concern for the elements of divisiveness present in our communities and who desire:

- 1. To become personally active in existing action groups,
- To educate themselves as to the scope and depth of the divisive forces as they exist and have existed in our country and community,

3. To take part personally in projects conducted in the area of Forest Hills.

The Committee attempts to act as a clearing house and a coordinator for local activities, giving resources and personnel as requested.

The members stress their desire to find the means for strengthening their own commitment and finding answers to the question "What Can I Do?"

OFFICERS: Herb Ginsburg was elected as president, along with Hazel Baten, Ed Sites, Helen Toolin, Larry Vassamillet, and Fred Werner as the Steering Committee. In its first year of existence, 200 residents have signed the Membership Roll, and each of its public meetings has had an attendence between 150 and 250 people. The Coordinating Committee has supplied speakers and programs to many community organizations, and has begun to address itself to many areas of human relations which affect our lives and those of our children.

As part of the Golden Jubilee, the Coordinating Committee has sponsored a borough-wide art exhibit with the theme "What Is a Community?".

#### THE GARDEN CLUB OF FOREST HULS

1923 In April, 1923, the Garden Club of Forest Hills had its beginning. Twelve women, assisted by the Home Economics extension of Allegheny County, elected officers and the name then was officially "The East Edgewood Acres Garden Unit."

1926 The club ground to a halt and not until 1929 did the group pick up once again in conjunction with the National Farm and Garden Association. From then until today, it grew steadily, building a history which officially began in March, 1930.

1933 In 1933, the club Federated.

1938 In 1938, the name was appropriately changed to "The Garden Club of Forest Hills."

Lectures, Garden Trips, Garden Markets, Flower Shows, Horticultural Study groups and Junior Activities were the frame work of the formative years.

**1932** The club library began with a book by L. H. Bailey called "Manuel of Gardening" in 1932. A Constitution was written in January, 1930, and in March, 1935, the very first year book was printed.

1934 In February, 1934, interest in Civic development was in evidence with the delegation sent to Borough Council to acquire land for the Borough Park.

Council acted to acquire 26 acres for the Forest Hills Park at the cost of \$25,000, with our encouragement.

1933 The Club sent its first delegates to State Federation in October, 1933, to Rolling Rock, Pa. These women were responsible for contributing a very important portion of the curriculum of our Borough school system.

1935 We can also be credited as being one of the very first clubs to become affiliated with the new Pittsburgh Garden Center in the spring of 1935.

1940 In 1940, the present Christmas tree in the Borough Park was presented and planted by our members. We purchased the lights and paid the electric bill until the firemen took over this responsibility.

1941 to 1945 During the war years, much activity was directed to the war effort with Victory Gardens and donations of trees and money toward the Blue Star Memorial Highway. This was established as a memorial to the deceased service members of our Armed Forces. The highway is located at the Irwin entrance to the Turnpike.

**1950** During the 1950's, the club contributed to the Borough Park by planting wild flowers, evergreens from the state, and forsythia.

#### **1969 OFFICERS**

President	Mrs. C. E. McWilliams
Vice-President	Mrs. R. I. Hossli
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Daniel M. Poore
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. W. D. Connolly
Treasurer	. Mrs. C. E. L. Johnston
Historian	Mrs. H. K. Saddler

#### DIRECTORS

Mrs. J. H. Hill Mrs. F. R. Harbison Mrs. W. F. Strathman

#### PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF FOREST HILLS

1923

\*Woodward, Mrs. W. R. \*Waltz, Mrs. H. E. \*Stone, Mrs. F. H. Fox, Mrs, Fred Scarr, Mrs. John

1930-1933	*Wynne, Mrs. Harry
1934-1936	Styer, Mrs. C. A.
1936-1938	Reddie, Mrs. W. W.
1938-1939	Jackman, Mrs. A. J.
1939-1940	Cotter, Mrs. J. L.
1940-1942	Peterson, Mrs. R. E.
1942-1944	Ludwig, Mrs. L. R.
1944-1946	Kelly, Mrs. W. P.
1946-1947	McCracken, Mrs. S. B
1947-1949	Cotter, Mrs. J. L.
1949-1950	Williamson, Mrs. C.
1950-1951	Brady, Mrs. F. W.
1951-1953	Johnson, Mrs. Floyd D.
1953-1955	Harrison, Mrs. H. C.
1955-1956	Birkby, Mrs. John
1956-1958	*Reagan, Mrs. M. E.
1958-1960	Hill, Mrs. J. H.
1960-1962	Davis, Mrs. A. I.
1962-1964	Fisher, Mrs. R. A.
1964-1966	Harbison, Mrs. F. R.
1966-1968	Strathman, Mrs. W. F.

\*Deceased

#### 1956 - LIONS CLUB

The Forest Hills Lions was organized in the Spring of 1956 under the sponsorship of the Turtle Creek Lions Club, headed by E. J. Gagliardi who took active and personal interest in sponsoring this new club.

#### **OFFICERS – 1956**

President R. T. Windhorst
First Vice-PresidentA. P. Baker
Second Vice-President I. A. Painter
Third Vice-President E. L. Symons
Secretary E. S. Bonvalot
Treasurer E. F. Wiechman
Lion Tamer Andrew Kovolak
Tail TwisterWilbur Wright

#### **Charter Membership**

There were 36 members in Forest Hills Lionism in the Charter Year of 1956 as listed . . . . *underlined* names indicate the 14 charter members still active in the Lions Club.

A. P. Baker	W. R. McKee
J. E. Baldwin	M. L. Michael
E. S. Bonvalot	G. C. Mischen
N. G. Chilcott	John J. Murray
H. G. Coleman	Pat Norelli
A. A. Derzak	I. A. Painter
V. D. Dodez	H. A. Perkins
E. F. Eibling	J. C. Ridgeway
G. B. Higgins	Dale F. Roose
Joe Hollowood	Rev. W. R. Sommerfeld
E. J. Incheck	E. L. Symons
E. C. Katchmar	E. J. Teaman
Howard R. Keyser	A. S. Wentworth
A. Kovalak	L. C. Whitney
R. D. Lehman	E.F.Wiechmann
J. W. Logan	R. T. Windhorst
H. E. McCartney	Wilbur Wright
R. O. McIntosh	R. C. Yount

#### **OFFICERS - 1969**

President W. R. McKee
First Vice-PresidentC. Johnson
Second Vice-PresidentRobert Alexander
Third Vice-President Clair Sparks
SecretaryD. Fleming
TreasurerM. J. Kutlenios
Lion Tamer Leo Ronin
Tail Twister
Directors: James Kerr
James Wilson
James Walton
Pat Norelli

The Lions International exists for the purpose of cultivating service and brotherhood among the peoples of the world called Earth. The Forest Hills Lions are actively dedicated to the application of this principle and their thirteen-year history includes a performance record involving: aid to Education for the Blind, the Underprivileged, Churchill Area Students, Eye Research, and Sight Conservation programs.

The Lions support Recreation Programs for the Blind, Forest Hills Borough, local Hospitals, local Charities, American Field Service, Leukemia Fund, Eyemobile, WQED, Boy and Girl Scouts, Auberle School, and others.

#### FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

Fund raising in the Lions Club is a member participation activity and most members do participate in Broom Sales, and Light Bulb Sales also. In December, Christmas Tree Sales are important and well known.

#### 1956-1969 TOTAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

A. Community Activities	
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$ 2,012
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Forest Hills Jubilee – Student Scholarships Forest Hills Swimming Pool – C.A. H.S. Band and A-Capella Choir – Crime Prevention Pamphlets – Telephone Aid for Injured Student – Aid to Local Baseball Teams – Forest Hills P.T.A. Summer Recreation Program – Forest Hill Youth Assoc. – Barbecue Pit for Forest Hills Park

Β.	Boy and Girl Scouts	\$ 635
C.	Beacon Lodge (Vacation area for the blind)	\$ 1,600
D.	Paid Vacations at Beacon Lodge	\$ 573
E.	Eye Glasses and Eye Examinations	\$ 1,059
F.	For the Blind	\$ 3,564

Western Pennsylvania School for Blind children – Leader dogs for the blind – Eye Research Foundation – Pennsylvania Sight Conservation Foundation

G. Miscellaneous Contributions \$ 3,073

WQED – Auberle School for Boys – Youth Exchange – American Field Service – Leukemia Fund – Braddock Hospital – Eye Mobile – Childrens Hospital – Columbia Hospital – Christmas Baskets – Women's Medical Guild

TOTAL \$12,516

All this really adds up to cultivating service, brotherhood and love among the peoples of this world called Earth.

**BIRTH OF A CLUB** 

nov. 12, 1920 Seventien ladies met at the home of Mrs. Homer Fritchman, Edgewood ace Friday afternoon hover ber 12, 1920 for the purpose of organing a Woman's Club a motion was made by Mrs. Toner seconded by Mrs. Kempton that Mrs. In Connan alt as temporary chairman. what kind of a club we should have and in was decided to have a social club for the present, and to take up other work ster when all were wetter requainches The chiman appointed the following ladies on the norinating committee Mrs. Wentworth, and mis. Woodward Liostly they reported the following ficens: Fr President, Mrs. C. E. Skinner the tallot for these lofficers and the were declared elecked. The meeting then advarmed to meet Athe home of the Desident on thes' Thor 2 sord. 1921 - Mrs. Park, Lecion (for Mrs. 19 M. Jones)

#### 1921 WOMEN'S CLUB OF FOREST HILLS INC.

The original Women's Club was organized in 1921. The officers were –

President	Mrs. C. E. Skinner
Vice-President	Mrs. Wesley W. Jones
Recording Sec.	Mrs. Lewis Clark
Corr. Sec.	Mrs. N. K. Kiper
Asst. Sec.	Mrs. S. G. Hoff
Treasurer	Mrs. A. L. Faller

Meetings were held in the homes. As the membership increased it was necessary to hold the meetings in the schools. The desire for a club building of its own began to become very important.

Mrs. Rena Rockwell was President in 1941-42. Under her leadership a merger of the Crescent Hills Club, Community Club of Edgewood Acres and the Woman's Club of Forest Hills took place. The Junior Club became a department of the new Club, still retaining its status in the County and State groups.

Mrs. A. G. Brandon became the first President and Mrs. A. C. Streamer was chairman of the By-Laws Committee. By September 1942 the Club was in action. The Club became a corporation in 1947.

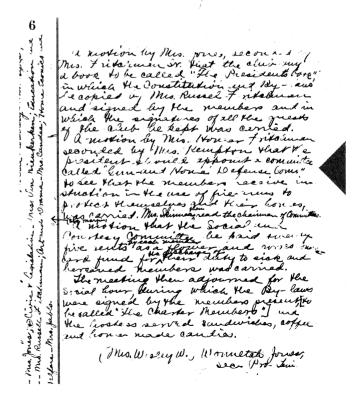
Mrs. L. C. Mechling was President from 1948 through 1950. During these two years Mrs. Mechling stressed the new Club House. Through Mr. A. C. Streamer, Westinghouse gave the ground on Avenue L for the building. Mr. Mechling designed the building, Elmer Dickey built it. With the help of many of the members who did all the interior sanding and painting, it was completed in a short time. The new Club House was dedicated in 1950. On March 20, 1956 the burning of the mortgage of \$14,000. took place.

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During the ensuing years the Club has accomplished much for the community. The following are some of the activities and service projects -

Blood Bank sponsored jointly by Rotary Club and Woman's Club Bloodmobile visits for blood donations Book Review Breakfasts Cancer Dressings made by the Welfare Dept. Community Day - Fourth of July Children's movies at Clubhouse - 3 Saturday performances Columbia Hospital Cart Service - weekly Columbia Hospital – furnished two rooms Eighth Grade English awards **Evergreen Club for Senior Citizens** Forest Hills Directory – published every 3 years – 8th edition, 1968 Hospital Sewing Library support - housed library two years Nursery School - for four year olds, 5 days a week Participation in many campaigns - Cancer, Easter Seal, WQED, TB, etc. Patch the Pony project - (instructing small children in safety, and not to accept rides from strangers) Pre-School for Retarded Children - help each Friday Scholarships annually to a Forest Hills girl. Through 1968 \$6150. was given to 22 girls

Senior Humanities Award Seventh Grade Dancing Instruction – Jr. High Youth Dances Sold magazines – profits to Jr. High Square Dance for American Field Service Students



#### FOREST HILLS ASSEMBLY #23 INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

Instituted February 10, 1968

#### Constituted November 30, 1968

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls was established in 1922 and has experienced many years of growth and development. It is an organization that offers many things of real value, both material and spiritual. Any girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen may petition this Order for membership. She may be of a Masonic or Eastern Star family but may be a friend of a Rainbow Girl.

Rainbow teaches ten outstanding things; the belief in the existence of a Supreme Being; the great truths in the Holy Bible; to seek dignity of character; a conception of the higher things in life; effective leadership; Church membership; patriotism; cooperation with equals; love of home, and above all, service to humanity.

Any member of the assembly may become the Worthy Advisor, who presides over the Assembly and her corp of officers. As Worthy Advisor she will not only preside over the assembly but will work and plan to make a program that will be beneficial to the entire membership. The girls attend two meetings a month whick are held at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. These meetings are conducted by the girls under the supervision of adults.

The Advisory Board and Council are composed of Eastern Star members. One member of the Advisory Board is the Mother Advisory who is closely connected with the girls and the workings of the assembly. These adults sometimes have daughters in the Rainbow but often times have no other reason to be on the Board except their love of working with the girls and offering their time and talents freely.

#### **1926 EASTERN STAR**

"Forest Hills Chapter Order of the Eastern Star was constituted May 22, 1926, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, with the following officers presiding:

Worthy Matron	Gertrude G. Painter
Associate Matron	Carrie B. Meeds
Secretary	Charlotte W. Carlisle
Treasurer	Helen S. Johnston

It is a non-profit charitable organization with a local membership of approximately 200.

The current officers are:

Worthy Matron Associate Matron Secretary Treasurer Mildred Stuchul Jean Chambers Betty Miller Zelda Pearson

#### **1964 FOREST HILLS RANGERETTES**

The Forest Hills Rangerettes, a Junior Baton and Drum Corps, was organized in the Summer of 1964 by Mr. A. Caruso. The Corps is now directed by Mr. Jack Fox who has served as director since 1966.

Membership in the Corps is open to boys and girls, ages 8 to 13, who reside in Forest Hills and the immediate Churchill Area. The size of the Corps is limited to 60 members and consists of a nine-girl Color Guard, Baton Twirlers, and a Drum Section of eight boys. The Head Majorettes are: Dana Dull, Kathy Rodgers and Rhonda Ralph.

The Rangerettes participate in numerous parades and contests in which they compete with other corps and have emerged as one of leading Corps in the county placing third in the opening day parade last year at the County Fair. To meet this competition, the Corps practices a minimum of two hours each week with additional classes for the Dance Twirl Teams which are made up from the regular members of the Corps. Their instructor on twirling and marching is Miss Karen Hilinski.

The Rangerettes in a non-profit organization and supports itself through various fund raising projects.

#### **1947 FOREST HILLS ROTARY CLUB**

As was the case of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL and the many local Rotary Clubs through history, Forest Hills Rotary Club first started with a small group of business and professional men who had the idea of banding together in a Rotary Club to be established in the Forest Hills community. (1947)

Charter members of Rotary give credit to Dr. Billy Weissbach for originally thinking of such a club for Forest Hills and his initial discussions were with Accountant Harold Kirk and Attorney Lew Mai. (January 9, 1947)

Strangely enough, such a potential organization gained its first momentum in a friendly conversation around a utility pole on an East Pittsburgh corner in 1946. These few individuals included Harold Kirk, Lew Mai, Bill Weissbach (now deceased) and Tom Beswick. Along with the then District Governor, Van Churchill, these few men started an analysis of prospective members for our club.

In 1946 and 1947 there were already eight members of the East Pittsburgh Club who formed a nucleus in contacting other Forest Hills representative businessmen. Eventually *Harold Kirk* not only became the first President, but later went on to become a future District Governor. (1952 - 1953) He is the only District Governor of a Service Club to come from Forest Hills.

On April 22nd, 1947 a Charter Night Banquet was held at the Edgewood Country Club. Thus, Forest Hills Rotary – designated Club Number 6549 of District 260 – was installed. Our first President, *Harold Kirk*, accepted the Charter from District Governor H. Van Churchill. It was a gala event with about 100 in attendance from some ten or twelve clubs of our district.

#### **CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Forest Hills Rotary began its career with the 33 Charter members listed herewith:

Fred Adams	A. L. Koch
Joseph Axton	Lewis Mai
Thomas Beswick	R. W. Mallick
Robert Brindley	Stephen Nagy
Anthony J. Bricker	John Onufer
Anthony Cost	C. Earl Park
Robert N. Critchlow	(Deceased)
(Deceased)	Carl Petrovich
John Dicoskey	C. Railingshafer
H. E. Haldeman	Albert Reiner
John Hartman	George Seitz
S. C. Hoey	Joseph Spinelli
D. Paul Jones	Herman Theilacker
Leonard Jones	(Deceased)
(Deceased)	Andrew Uram
Charles Kelley	William Vargo
Frank L. Kelley	William Weissbach
James Kennedy	(Deceased)
(Deceased)	Walter Winnenberg
Harold R. Kirk	

Twenty-one (21) years later - in 1969 - there are 9 of the original 33 Charter members still active today.

#### THE "FIRST" ROTARY YEAR

April 22, 1947 – June 30, 1948

ROTARY CLUB of FOREST HILLS ADMINISTRATION

#### **OFFICERS:**

Harold R. Kirk, President Albert L. Koch, Vice-President Frank L. Kelley, Secretary Walter G. Winnenberg, Treasurer Thomas W. Beswick, Sgt. at Arms

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Harold R. Kirk, Chairman Albert L. Koch Frank L. Kelley Walter G. Winnenberg William Weissbach S. C. Hoey

#### **DINNER MEETINGS (Tuesday)**

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church

Through the particular efforts of our Burgess, AI Koch, final arrangements were made for our Club to hold weekly Tuesday dinner meetings at the old Forest Hills Presbyterian Church on Atlantic Avenue. This fine experience and fellowship has been shared for the 17 years until 1965<sup>\*</sup> in true community spirit.

\*NOTE: In the administration of President Ed Haldeman (1964 - 65) the new "meeting home" of Forest Hills Rotary became the Westinghouse (Atomic Power Division) Cafeteria at the corner of Avenues D and L. Then back to Church with catered dinners and now, in 1969, at the new Plaza restaurant.

#### PAST PRESIDENTS

1947 Harold R, Kirk
1948Albert L. Koch
1949 James Kennedy
1950 Anthony J. Brucker
1951 Herschel E. Haldeman
1952 Edward X. Hallenberg
1953John H. Dicoskey
1954 John Johnescu
1955
1956 John H. Haldeman
1957 Bernard A. Woods
1958
1959 Stanley Thomas
1960
1961 James Stein
1962 A. Richard Molvin
1963 Frederick A. Frost
1964
1965
1966
1967 Paul Henline
1968 Harold Cline



Forest Hills Rotary supports the Rotary International Foundation and the Scholarship Program. All this is financed by assessments and contributions by Rotarians the world over to help in the advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace throughout a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service.

Locally Rotary promotes community projects and is a co-sponsor with the Woman's Club of the *Forest Hills Area Blood Bank*.

In past years some of our projects included the WELCOME – NEW TEACHER NITE and when our School District was only Forest Hills we hosted and honored the Junior High basketball teams and cheerleaders.

Rotary supported *dental health* programs in the schools and more recently purchased and donated the *organ* in the Senior High School auditorium. As long ago as 1949, Rotary helped build the old ice skating pond in the lower section of the borough park and furnished benches. Along with the Civic Club Rotary helped build the first shelter house and rest rooms.

Rotary contributes to WQED.

Recently \$600 profit from the Barber-Shop Nites and other activities were turned over to "Eastern Area School" for the purchase of school lunches, World Book Encyclopedia reference books, autotutor materials, and field trips for the children. And \$300 was contributed to the Forest Hills Swimming Pool Committee for the purchase of a resuscitater for use at the pool.

Some years ago when there was a milk strike, Rotarians transported many gallons of milk from Westmoreland County to children and others in need in our borough and elsewhere.

When the Army anti-aircraft section was in action at the present site of the St. John Fisher Church on Lewin Lane, Rotary helped furnish the Serviceman's Lounge with television and other accommodations.

The Club supports and co-sponsors the annual Forest Hills Community Day and furnishes "man-power."

Rotary plays Santa Claus and conducts Christmas and other annual charitable activities with the Oliver P. Hipple Fund which was bequeathed to Forest Hills Rotary in the amount of \$10,000.00 for that purpose.

During 1968 and 1969 Rotary families are having exchange visits with Leicester, England.

#### **1923 PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

#### 1923 Officers:

Mr. T. S. Taylor, President Mrs. Alice C. Kempton, Vice-President Mrs. Paul Norris, Treasurer Mr. Paul W. Shawver, Secretary

The initial meeting of the Forest Hills Parent Teacher Association was held on November 28, 1923 in Atlantic Avenue School. The meeting was called to order by *Professor Harner*.

There has been much dedicated work accomplished by our P.T.A. in the intervening years and with so many volunteer workers, this organization has truly benefited the community.

P.T.A. with the co-operation of the School and Musical Directors have produced meaningful shows and pageants but perhaps the promotion of summer recreational programs is the best known activity.

Untiring efforts of this organization are devoted to raising the standard of home life, securing adequate laws for the care and protection of youth, and to bring in closer relation the home and the security that parents and teachers may co-operate intelligently in the training of the children.

**1965** The Forest Hills Parent Teacher Association passed a resolution for the *dissolution* of the *association* in favor of individual P.T.A. units for each Borough school. Such reorganization permits better solution of questions or problems unique to each *individual school* and offers greater communication between parents and teachers.

#### FOREST HILLS BLOOD BANK

**1958** Originally the idea of a community Blood Bank was instigated by Ed Haldeman of the Forest Hills Rotary Club in January 1958 when he was attempting to find a worthy project in the field of Community Service for the Rotary Club. About that time, the Forest Hills Woman's Club was not completely satisfied with the samll blood contributing program they had with the Columbia Hospital. Eventually, the Boards of both clubs studying the project endorsed it in the administrations of Bernie Woods, President of the Rotary Club, and Louise Harrison, President of the Woman's Club. The Blood Bank from then on has been co-sponsored as a community project.

#### 1958 Officers:

Edward F. Haldeman, Chairman Dorothy Patterson, Vice Chairman Roger Wentworth, Publicity Chairman Jina Whitney, Executive Secretary Stanley Thomas, Financial Chairman Marjorie Tyler, Membership Chairman James H. Thomson, Bloodmobile Chairman Genelle Chuska, Recording Secretary A total of approximately 500 family donor members was attained and 120 *pints* of *blood* were collected at our first Bloodmobile visit.

The purpose of the Forest Hills Blood Bank is to establish and maintain a reserve and unlimited supply of blood with the Central Blood Bank and thereby provide for members and their families blood service here on a 24 hour basis for any type of blood free of charge.

The Blood Bank has continued in operation until the present day and the coverage was broadened under the administration of President *R. W. Wentworth* about 1963, to extend *lifetime* coverage to our Senior Citizen *members* and to cover *automatically* Golden Age residents in our borough. We further extended the coverage to *clarify definition* of "parents" which now include same of both husband and wife of household members wherever they live in the Continental United States.

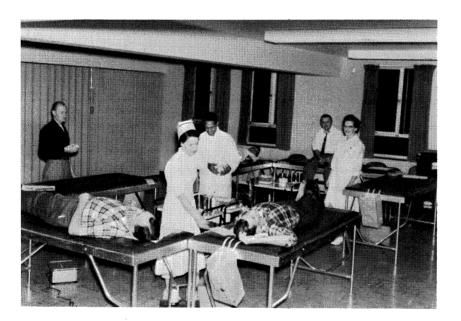
The Forest Hills Area Blood Bank won the coveted "Benjamin Rush" award in 1963 through the efforts of Mrs. Dorothy Patterson and Mr. Ed Haldeman.

The most recent change in the Blood Bank operations now allow persons over 60 years of age to contribute blood.

#### 1969 Officers:

Mrs. Wm. Hogan, President Mr. Fred Kirshman, Vice-President Mrs. Walter Schratz, Executive Scretary Mrs. Thomas J. McDermott, Membership Chairman Mrs. Parks Toolin, Assistant to the Membership Ch. Mr. John Dicoskey, Recording Secretary Dr. James Shaler, Treasurer Dr. L. J. Zavada, Publicity

The membership today is about 287 member families.



FOREST HILLS BLOODMOBILE VISIT TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



#### **1931 FOREST HILLS CIVIC CLUB**

#### Officers 1931:

Mr. R. E. Aldridge, President Mr. R. E. Ferris, Vice-President Mr. L. W. Schad, Secretary Mr. A. L. Brown, Treasurer

The early object of the club was to "improve the standing of the borough as a place in which to live and carry on business." In the early days, the Civic Club was very active and influential with the School Board, Council, and politics.

The Board of Directors was composed of two members elected from each of the seven geographical sections of the borough. The Standing committees were Finance, Auditing, Educational, Municipal Affairs, Social and Recreational Affairs, Publicity, Welfare, Membership, Planning, Tax Study, and Legislation. Representatives attended meetings of the School Board and Council.

#### 1933 VOTERS' GUIDES

To air many activities and goals of this club, the organization published VOTERS' GUIDES for the electorate—similar to the work of the Women's League of Voters today.

### 1933 to 1934 THE CIVIC CLUB & OUR BOROUGH PARK

The Civic Club which was a borough-wide and extremely influential organization, cooperated with the Garden Club to help persuade Borough Council's move towards acquisition of the 20 acre tract of land for a *Borough Park* (Ardmore Boulevard and Braddock Road).

#### **1934 FOREST HILLS NEWS**

By 1934, the Civic Club inaugurated and published for some 20 years – the irreplaceable *Forest Hills News*.

#### **1935 COMMUNITY OPEN FORUM**

On May 12, 1935 the Civics held an *open forum* for all citizens in all parts of the borough to discuss municipal problems. 300 citizens attended.

#### **1936 BOROUGH MANAGER ISSUE**

The Civic Club, particularly under committees of Dr. T. D. Yensen and Mr. R. E. Aldridge, had promoted the issue of a *Borough Manager* to the point that the council actually had meetings on these recommendations. Of course, history marched on and it was 1966 when we finally got a *Borough Manager*.

#### 1937 "THRU" STREET CAR SERVICE

Civic Club promoted the *"Thru" Street Car Service* and along with the South East Club negotiated with the Pittsburgh Railways.

#### **1937 WOMEN MEMBERS**

The Civic Club admitted women members and *Mrs. E. H. Turnoch* was the first lady to sign up.

#### **1938 COMMUNITY DAY**

Under the leadership of *Frank L. P. Kelley* and many other leaders, the Civic Club inaugurated our first Community Day in the borough park with the proclamation by the Burgess, and it has continued in unbroken tradition until the present day.

1944 By 1944, 919 members paid Civic Club dues.

#### 1950 to 1953 MOVIES and PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

In later years, the Civic Club sponsored successful movies at the Atlantic Avenue School and raised \$300.00. It also was the first organization to purchase and have installed considerable play ground equipment in the Borough Park. With the help of Rotary, the Civic Club literally built the first rest room facilities and shelter in the park.

The Civic Association demonstrated that a few hundred dollars invested in equipment can pay ample dividends in recreation. At this time, Council budgeted very little money for the Borough Park.

#### **1952 MINSTREL SHOW**

A Minstrel Show was produced and was a tremendous success.

#### **1952 SWIMMING POOL ISSUE**

In later years, the Civic Club worked hard with a Swimming Pool Committee which was very active, even though our Forest Hills Swimming Pool did not have its first splash-down until 1968.

#### CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

For some years, they purchased and erected annually Christmas trees in the borough park, and decorated them for the Holiday Season.

At one time the Civic Club considered *Christmas tree sales*, but before the Lions made it an annual project. However, the organization bowed to the protest of the merchants in those days who sold Christmas trees in the business section of the borough. **1959** The war days, and later the formation of the Lions and Rotary Service Clubs drew off manpower and caused a general decline of the Civic Club and by 1959, it was quite inactive.

**1966** The Civic Club was reactiviated and in addition of the Community Day celebration on the 4th of July, activated Halloween parades and the 12th Night Christmas tree burnings now contemporary traditions of the Civic Club today which is operated by Board direction.

#### 1968 - 69 OFFICERS

President Herbert Ginsburg
Vice-President Francis DeCesare
Secretary James Frain
Treasurer

#### **BOY SCOUTING in Forest Hills**

BOY SCOUTS: (ages 11-17) *BOYPOWER* is the new theme of scouting – America's manpower begins with BOYPOWER.

**1920** The first troop in Forest Hills was organized September 20, 1920 and sponsored by the Bryn Mawr Welfare Club, and there has been a healthy growth over the years. Harry M. Ryder was Scoutmaster. Members of the Troop Committee were H. A. Troners, Graham Bright, and W. C. Houston.

**1925** In 1925 the Men's Brotherhood of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church became the sponsor.

**1931** Troop 83 was registered in 1931, sponsored by Bryn Mawr Welfare Club. George R. Hurrel was Scout Master and C. W. Shearer was Troop Committee Chairman. This troop was dropped in 1960.

**1932** Troop 90 was registered in 1932 and sponsored by the Men's Club of Edgewood Acres. Fred Hastings was Scout Master and Ralph W. Bowlin was Troop Committee Chairman.

**1940** The troop was renumbered Troop 42 by East Borough's Council Boy Scouts of America in 1940. It was registered as Troop 1 at that time.

**1953** Troop 96 was registered in 1953, sponsored by the Hope Lutheran Church. Victor Smoose was Scout Master. In 1958, this troop was combined with Troop 98.

**1956** Troop 98 was registered in 1956 and sponsored by the Atlantic Avenue P.T.A. F. J. Bearinger was Scout Master and R. A. Cupper was Troop Committee Chairman.

**1958** Troop 105 was first registered in 1958, and sponsored by the Holy Name Society of St. Maurice Church.

**1969** At present, and the 59th Anniversary of Scouting in America, there are now four Scout Troops and four Cub Packs registered in Forest Hills. Troops 42 and 90 and Packs 42 and 90 are sponsored by the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. Troop 98 is sponsored by the Atlantic Avenue P.T.A. Troop 105 and Pack 105 are sponsored by the Holy Name Society of St. Maurice Church. Pack 83 is sponsored by Bryn Mawr Men's Club.

The energetic participation of the dedicated leaders in scouting programs has influenced the lives of Forest Hills boys fine character building.

Joe Garity – Scoutmaster of Troop 42 for 14 years also trained adult scout leaders. Herb Ginsberg – Pack 90 – Scoutmaster Tom Cametti, R. H. Runk, Dale Roose, M. S. Goodlin, Carl Fink, Graham Bright, O. F. Rowe – all served on East Borough Scout Council in 1955.

Graham Bright, honored in 1953, was one of the originators of East Borough Group in 1921.

1939 O. F. Rowe – Scout Commissioner in 1939.

**1945-1948 CAMPOREE** – From 1945-1948 the *Boy Scouts* of the East Borough's Council held a Camporee each year in the area now known as Parkway Heights. About 1000 Scouts attended. Later they camped out on the site of the present Churchill Area High School (formerly the Minnik farms).

**1965** Explorer Post organized for High School age boys – David Runk was Explorer Advisor.

Nate Chilcott is the Dean of Scouting at present in Forest Hills.

#### **GIRL SCOUTS**

**1921-22** Apparently the first Girl Scout Troops were formed in these years in Ardmore, Bryn Mawr, and Edgewood Acres. Some of the early leaders in the first Troop 122 (143) of Edgewood Acres were: Mrs. Ethelyn Streamer Mechesney, Agnes Schmidt, and Mrs. Porter Brace.

**1926** ,The Girl Scout Troop #112 was organized in Bryn Mawr Farms in 1926 under the leadership of Mrs. Floyd Moon. The Troop is still active.

**1935** Troop 319, Woodland Hills, was organized from the Bryn Mawr Farms Troop #112. *Mrs. M. C. Plack* was the first leader with Mrs. A. W. Kimball. Eighteen scouts were registered in the first year, and the Junior Woman's Club of Forest Hills sponsored the membership ranging as high as 30 scouts. This troop was disbanded in 1942.

The first girl scout troop organized in Ardmore met at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, then on Atlantic Avenue. They had wooden, two-room houses for "sleep outs" on the western side of the Westinghouse Recreation Center on Barkley Avenue. Mrs. J. C. Hartman was the leader. Mrs. Roose joined scouting in 1935.

For many years the Girl Scouts conducted Day Camps in the summer in the Borough. *Mrs. E. H. Lamberger* was in charge of the first one held here in 1935 at the grove on Cherry Valley Rd. As the numbers increased the Day Camp was held in the Borough Park through the summer of 1967. Active in this group was Mrs. Porter Brace, Mrs. Dale Roose, and Mrs. George Pickels.

**1969** Since early history Forest Hills has been very active in girl scout activities. There are now 19 girl scout troops in all:

Seven – Brownies	. (second and third graders)
Eight — Junior	(4, 5, and 6 graders)
Three – Cadette	(Junior High)
One - Senior	(High School)

77 Adult leaders are involved in working with 477 girls.

Mrs. Parks Toolin is Neighborhood Chairman.



#### EARLY PICTURE OF A SOCIAL MEETING OF THE OLD FORMAS CLUB

Many of the members present are identified, but you may recognize some of the unknowns. The picture was taken probably in the very early 30's, or earlier, in the basement social rooms at 2147 Ardmore Boulevard (AI Koch's building) at the corner of Lenox Avenue and Ardmore. Doctor Leroy Zavada's office is on the ground floor today with Walter Winnenberg's Tax office in the rear. At one time, *Bill Pika* maintained a Justice of the Peace office in the walk-down location.

This is an early picture of a social meeting of the old FORMAS CLUB.

Seated (Left to Right): A. L. Koch, Unknown, Williams, Burkharät, Sharra, Atkinson, Keyser, King, Chatham, Unknown, Brass, Groomes, (Partly covered Unknown) Myers, Unknown, Weissbach, Unknown, Sampson, Bailey, Kovalovsky, W. J. Yenny.

Standing (Left to Right): VanSteenberg, Tuttle, Unknown, Adams, Critchlow, Thompson, Libby Morie, Fred Heaton, R. E. Aldridge, H. E. Haldenman, J. V. Dobson, Frank Kelley, Beswick, Paul Harbaugh, W. W. Dietrich.

#### OUR MOST SENIOR CITIZENS

CONGRATULATIONS AND ORCHIDS To Our Two Oldest Residents.

- Mrs. J. S. Milmoe .....age 102 129 Elmore Road
- Mr. Ernest L. Mai .....age 94 303 Lenox Avenue

#### **OCTOGENARIAN CLUB**

There are only a few residents living who can claim to have been born in our confines and who still live here today, that are over 80 years old. The names are:

> Miss Jean Duffy Mr. Maurice Moffett Mr. Joseph McGuigan Mrs. Mary B. Kennedy Mrs. Thomas Boney

### SALUTE FROM A NEIGHBOR

The Atomatic Manufacturing Company of East Pittsburgh salutes the Borough of Forest Hills on its Golden Jubilee.

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We design and build special equipment for a wide range of other industries, too. And many research and development centers rely upon the high-quality workmanship and engineering which have given Atomatic its reputation.

That reputation is spreading. First we were known in Pittsburgh. Now our products are shipped to Canada, South and Central America, Europe, Africa and Asia. Not only that, they are going into America's space effort.

We've come a long way. But we think this is just the beginning. Meanwhile, watch us grow and remember that we are proud to be the neighbor of the progressive people and businesses of Forest Hills.





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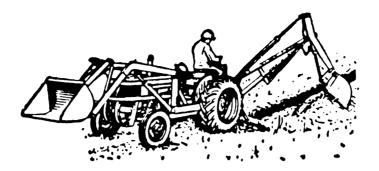
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## OUR ENVIRONMENT

#### **RECREATION & SPORTS**

#### LIVABILITY

Many years ago people in our community found various outlets in the field of sports and recreation! It is hard to believe with the sophisticated Recreation programs and Recreation Boards of 1969, (in our Borough and in the Churchill Area School District) that people had any fun in the old days – far from it!!

#### THE GOOD OLD DAYS TENNIS

Tennis courts were located in at least a few different areas including the Hawthorne School playground and the Bryn Mawr court at Woodside Road. In the Valley, off a cinder lane near Cascade Road, was a private tennis club. There was also the Poison Ivy Tennis courts on the right-hand side, half-way up Avenue F in the Westinghouse Plan. But the most famouse were the Westinghouse Courts on the Greensburg Pike. These were about the finest tennis courts in the 30's in the state of Pennsylvania, and many championships were played there. The first tennis club house was a wooden structure which was torn down when facilities later moved into the KDKA station, which became the *Westinghouse Recreation Center or Lodge*.

Just for the records, some good tennis players were produced, and we had real State Champions like *Joy Liken* in later years.

#### SWIMMING HOLES

There was a small swimming dam away up behind the Borough Building and in the vicinity of the Formas Club Golf Association. Many residents in their 60's did a lot of swimming in the old "reservoir" when there was only one side of the Ardmore Boulevard. This location was down below the old Westinghouse Research Building and near the present pizza shop (Fall Hollow). The rest of us went swimming at old Rock Bottom, an exciting and deep stone-quarry basin. Some brave souls used to dive from the 60-foot-high rock ledges on the one side. "Rock Bottom" was actually in Braddock Hills and was finally built over by a housing plan.

> SCENES AT THE "OLD SWIMMIN' HOLE" WESTINGHOUSE RESERVOIR DAM BELOW THE OLD RESEARCH LAB.

#### ARCHERY

We don't want to forget the archery experts as personified by both *Mr. and Mrs. Turnock* from Bryn Mawr.

#### BOWLING

*Bowling* was popular at the auditorium alleys-(building owned by *Al Koch*) and also in neighboring Wilkinsburg.

#### GOLF

Would you believe ..... two golf courses were found here in our early history ..... and now there are none!

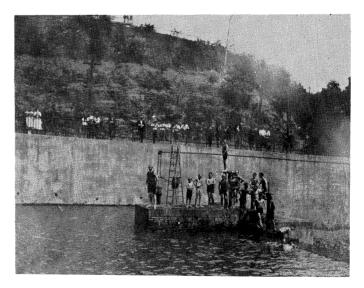
#### Pup's Foot

**1920's** *Pup's Foot* golf course was a well known 9-hole course in Allegheny County in the late '20's.

About the time of World War I, the Edgewood Country Club gave up its original club and course which was mostly in Forest Hills Borough of the future. It ran approximately from the Hawthorne School Acrea to Edgewood and Braddock Township and into Wilkinsburg. Most of this area was finally part of our Borough acquired by the Freehold Real Estate Company. It became a popular course called the *Pup's Foot Golf Course* and was operated by Mr. McIntosh. The club house later became the GI Tavern and was located where today is the mini-shopping center on Brinton Road. When Freehold developed Hawthorne and Edgewood Road the "boom" was lowered on the Pup's Foot operations.

#### Formas Golf Club

**1931** There was a small golf course up near the Greensburg Pike which was later relinquished or merged with the *Formas Golf Club* about 1931. The land was obtained at the right price on a lease from the Freehold Company for \$1.00 a year and was located on the right side of the creek above the Borough Building.



Some of the site is now known as "Forest Hills Manor" including extensions of Atlantic Avenue, Barclay Avenue and others. It ran clear up to the Greensburg Pike and was eventually an eighteen-hole golf course. The number twelve hole was about where the Lutheran Church now stands on Barclay Avenue. By 1935 there were 180 season members.

It was self-supporting and very popular for about ten years when the operation more or less evaporated about the time of World War II.

With inflation and today's cost of Country Club memberships, many residents can't help but wish one of our handy golf courses was still on the scene!

#### SKIING, TOBAGGANING, & ICE SKATING

Other popular sports included tobogganing and skiing in the winter on our two golf courses. Of course, all this was before county parks and professional ski slopes!

Ice skating was also very popular and many of the youngsters and adults traveled to the old Duquesne Gardens on Craig Street in Oakland. Well meaning efforts were directed by the Rotary Club and the Civic Club as well as the borough government in flooding the old pound at the lower section of the Borough Park. In later years, the upper area was cement-based for an improved version of ice-skating.

#### MOVIES

B. D. – Before Drive-Ins

B. T. – Before TV

In the old days, there were movies to attend at both ends of our Borough. It was a must to go to Wilkinsburg to the Rowland or Colonial on Saturdays to see how the current hero of the serials managed to survive! In East Pittsburgh, the spots were the Rivoli and the Frederick. Depending on your generation, you may recall the silent movies at these theatres and the "bouncing ball" screen sing-ins as well as the inevitable piano player.

In the contemporary 50's, the Civic Club sponsored extremely popular series of movies for a few years at the Atlantic Avenue School. They were not only popular but good money-makers! In the 60's, the Woman's Club held movies for the children.

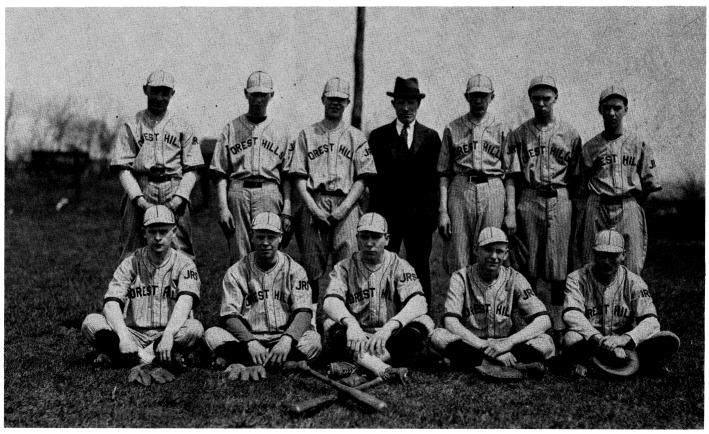
#### BASEBALL

Before and after 1915, baseball teams played on site of and around old Westinghouse Research Building. Here Mucklerat, Hannatown, and Ardmore played it out.

The picture here shows the *Forest Hills JRS* baseball team on the old Central site of the School Board where now stands the Forest Hills Junior High – Early 1920's.

Front Row (seated): Howard Dale, James Dale, James McGuigan, John Kennedy, Pete Franey

Back Row (standing): Mort Downey, Bernard McGuigan, Walt Seibert, *Mgr:* Joe McGuigan, John Heatherington, James Boyle, John Homer



#### **HISTORY OF FOREST HILLS RECREATION**

In the field of recreation, our borough is blessed with many advantages and facilities including fine *Community Parks* and excellent *volunteer leadership*.

In 1934 our Borough Council had the foresight to purchase or acquire a tract of land which is now a garden spot and center of recreation in our borough. In the late '30's the W.P.A. built walls and mapped blueprints of the park. The Garden Club planted the grounds and finally by 1949 the Park was paid off. Over the years our Forest Hills School system has truly carried the burden of our organized recreation program. In the earlier history of this community the old Civic Club and today the post-war Civic Club have made many contributions such as playground equipment and heading up 4th of July Community Days. The Churches have been influential in youth training and character building along with your Rotary and Lions Service Clubs. These clubs have sponsored Little League and other ball teams. The Woman's Club has sponsored youth and adult dances as well as movies. The P.T.A. has sponsored a successful summer playground recreation program, and the Westinghouse Recreation Center's diversified activities served three municipalities. The Bryn Mawr Club has promoted many civic improvements and conducts a traditional and successful annual Corn Roast for its members.

#### PARK ASSOCIATION

**1938** The object of this dedicated organization was to assist in the maintenance and use of the Borough park, and to plan the development and use of areas of parks for play grounds and recreation purposes. It was also to protect the birds, trees, and the plantings being made by the *Garden Club*.

**1938 COMMUNITY DAY** was inaugurated to celebrate the 4th of July! The first celebration was sponsored by the *Civic Club* and *Frank Kelley*, pioneer businessman. Proclamation by *Mayor Koch* – June 25th, 1938.

#### 1953-55 SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEES - Bill Zoller

#### **1954 BOROUGH PROPERTY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

In 1954 an important step forward was the creating of the *Borough Property Planning Committee*. This non-partisan advisory group has *representation* from the leading organizations and clubs in Forest Hills and was formed to *co-ordinate planning* and *surveys*. The group studied swimming pools, tennis, etc. The Borough Property Planning Committee will conduct a professional survey.

#### **NOVEMBER 1956**

**RECREATION MEETING** – Sponsored by the Junior Department of the Woman's Club.

#### **1957 BOROUGH SURVEY APPROVED FOR 1958**

RECREATIONAL MEETING was jointly sponsored by the

*Borough Recreation Committee* and the *Borough Property Planning Committee*, along with some fifty civic and recreational leaders from the community. Joe Swartz was President of the BPPC

#### **1957 BOROUGH RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Borough Council appointed a *Recreation Committee* to make studies and recommend a positive program for the benefit of Forest Hills. After a year of study and meetings, the following Committee members submitted the highlights of their recommendations to interested citizens, and individual Council and School Board members:

Mr. John A. Franklin ...... Chairman, Borough Council
Mrs. Virginia Fetterman .... Representing Women's Activities
Dr. D. Paul Jones ...... Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Albert B. Smith, Jr. ..... School Board
Mr. R. W. Wentworth ..... Representing Men's Activities and (Secretary) Borough Property Planning Committee

**1966 Recreation Board Created By Borough Council** (See Recreation Board section)

**1968** *Swimming Pool* and *Recreation Lodge* was completed. Splash Down . . . . . . Memorial Day, June 30, 1968!

Forest Hills' pride and joy was the culmination of many years' efforts by individuals and civic organizations' sweat and tears!

#### OUR PARKS THE BOROUGH PARK

**1934** Braddock Road and Ardmore Boulevard (see article on History)

#### **KOCH PARK**

**1964** Koch Park was given to the Borough by Roland Catarinella and contains more than four acres. It is located in Forest Hills Manor between Filmore Road and Sharon Drive.

#### FOREST WOODLAND PARK

#### (Project 70)

**1966** Forest Woodland Park is the name of our newest purchase of Project 70 land and contains about 18 acres of land behind the Westinghouse Lodge, on the Greensburg Pike. It was sold to Forest Hills Borough by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation for about \$50,000. The State of Pennsylvania allocated \$25,000 for the purchase of this land under Project 70 and the remaining \$25,000 was reimbursed by a Federal Open Space Acquisition Act. The presence of this park will be left in its natural state with some trails being cleared.

#### **BRIGHT PARKLET**

**1964** Mrs. Alice (Bright) Stott gave the Borough a small park, formerly part of the Bright homestead, in memory of her father Graham Bright, a pioneer citizen of Forest Hills.

#### **1966 THE RECREATION BOARD**

The Recreation Board of Forest Hills was created by ordinance at the *March 9, 1966*, meeting of Borough Council. Original members appointed to serve on the Board were; Mr. John Bischoff, Joseph M. Massey, Parks R. Toolin, John R. McElfish, Robert G. Boscia, Mrs. William F. Fetterman, Daniel M. Poore – (seven man Board). First official meeting of the Rec. Board was held March 14, 1966 at the Borough Building, with the following officers elected – John Bischoff, Chairman, P. R. Toolin, Treas. & V. S. Fetterman, Sec'y.

The present Board consists of; P. R. Toolin, Dan Poore, Virginia S. Fetterman, Edward Paxson, Wm. Zoller, Mrs. Lawrence Shackleton, Tom Goodheart.

Accomplishments over the less than past three years:

- 1. Koch Park development (long range still a lot to do).
- 2. Project "70" Land (purchased by Borough at Rec. Bd. recommendations).
- 3. Swimming Pool planned & completed (Swimming Pool Committee was the first committee appointed by the Recreation Board to serve under it and accomplish what is now a complete project).
- Summer "Splash Parties" for both Hi School and Jr. High (different nights) students, held at the Swimming Pool & Recreation Lodge in summer.

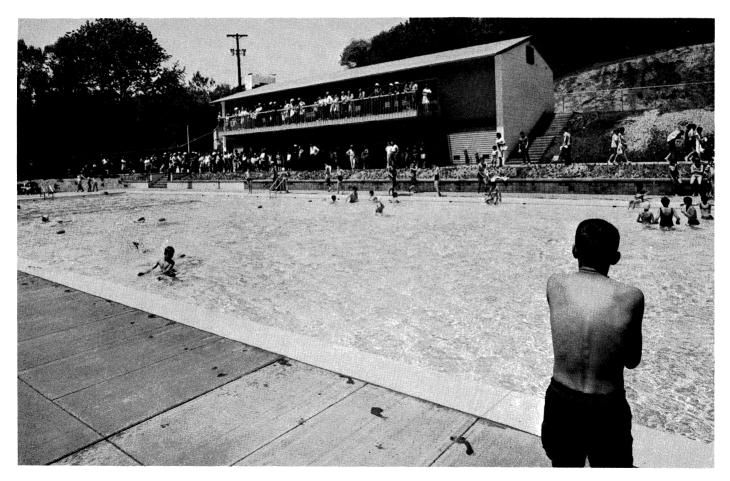
- 5. Summer Recreation Program held for six weeks in the summer in the Forest Hills Borough Park.
- 6. Swimming Team & Swimming lessons sponsored by the Rec. Bd. at the swimming pool in summer.
- 7. Development of Bright Park (with the cooperation and monies from the Woman's Club of Forest Hills).
- 8. Alumni Dance at the Recreation Lodge last Dec. for all Churchill Area Hi School graduates (quite successful).

The development of programs is our present emphasis, with tremendous time and thought also being put into improvements for the 1969 swimming season at the new pool.

We have a list of priority items ranging from long to short range plans for both programs and facilities and are hoping to secure plans for help from the many fine service groups in the Borough.

Some of the long range plans include; Ice Skating area at the pool sight (with freezing units), tennis courts, fully equipping Koch Park, hopefully to include the building of a pavilion.

The present officers, elected in January, 1969 are: Mrs. W. F. Fetterman, Chairman, Daniel M. Poore, Treas., and Mrs. Lawrence Shackleton, Sec'y.



#### OUR BOROUGH PARK UNIQUE AND EARLY HISTORY

The influences which operated to give Forest Hills its Park were probably the influences of an era of economic difficulty rather than one of prosperity. Land purchase and early Park development began when the whole nation was in the depths of the Great Depression and continued through the years of slow recovery.

As strange as it may now seem, those years of economic hardship and insecurity were marked by a livlier state of civic conciousness among the citizenry than appears to have been the case since the return to prosperity. This Civic mindedness found expression in the formation and active attendance at the meetings of local community clubs in different parts of the Borough and in a Borough-wide *Civic Club*.

Just how soon after the Borough incorporation any idea of having a public park will probably never be known. Records show that the *Garden Club* discussed the idea in October, 1931, but sentiment in favor of securing permanently some land for public recreation appeared to have moved out of the realm of such group discussions into that of public debate and controversy in 1933. In that year the Forest Hills *Planning Commission* was appointed by the Burgess. The study of how land might be acquired for a Borough Park, when there was no money to pay for it, was one of the major projects of that early commission. It worked to promote supporting sentiment, both in the formal meetings of the *Civic Club* and through informal conversations with the Borough Council, the School Board, and Officers of the Freehold Real Estate Company, owners of the land.

Late in 1933 representatives of the Council, School Board, and Planning Committee met with the representative of the Real Estate Company and worked out the draft of an agreement acceptable to all parties. This proposed agreement provided that the land company would *progressively relinquish* its *ownership* of the *Park acreage* in *exchange* for a *progressive cancellation* of *property improvement liens* which the Borough held against the land company, all without a bond issue or the transfer of any funds.

But Council moved cautiously, seeking expression of public sentiment for or against the proposed exchange. In February of 1934 the *Garden Club* sent a delegation to the Borough Council meeting with a written endorsement of the project. It was a happy day in November of 1933 when Borough Council acted to acquire the tract of twenty-some acres at a cost of about \$25,000.

It is highly probable that Council was importantly influenced toward its decision to acquire the land, by the fact that development of the tract as a park would *give employment* to many of the then *unemployed* citizens of the Borough, the funds becoming available through one or another of the then existing Federal Agencies which had been set up to provide an administer funds for public works such as this.

**1935** In the months following, Council obtained a \$35,000 Federal grant for materials, labor, and supervision. Actual clearing of the brush and other work started in September,

1935. Some of this work was usefully directed. Some of it was ineffective and wasteful. Where supervision was competent and labor previously skilled, the results were good, as witness the excellent quality and appearance of the *stone wall* which extends along the Ardmore Boulevard boundary of the park.

**1936** In the Spring of 1936, the Borough Council recognized the need for planned development and invited the *Garden Club* to assume responsibility for securing and directing the execution of a planting plan for the Park. The Club accepted the challenge and assigned it to the club's Civic Committee.

**1936** This undertaking, along with some lesser civic activities, required much more money than income from dues could pay for. Accordingly, led by the Civic Activities Committee, the *Garden Club* planned and staged a *Garden Market* at the Atlantic Avenue School in April of 1936. This was a colorful event and a great success, not only in the net cash proceeds but in the response of the public. Seeds, tools, peat moss, fertilizers, bird houses, balled shrubs, and evergreens were pleasingly displayed and sold by several well-known dealers, the Club receiving commissions on all sales. An attractive profitable feature was a Conditori or Swedish Shop where hot coffee, cake, and candies were sold. Non-commercial exhibits were set up, and information on practical gardening was offered and given by some members of the club and their husbands. A net profit of \$175 was realized.

Lest any of you are inclined to think that \$175 was a meager amount, may I suggest that one may get a fair idea of the then value of a dollar from the following dinner for husbands. It was served, with 65 present. And it was decided that the cost per plate be set at 40 cents instead of 35 cents as previously estimated and that any surplus over expenses be turned in to the treasury.

After due consideration of the responsibilities involved and of the opportunity for worthwhile civic work, the *Garden Club* accepted the invitation and set to work at once.

Early in the study of its problem the club recognized the necessity of having the assistance of an experienced landscaper. It was apparent that making the best use of all natural opportunities afforded by the site, called for a far more comprehensive viewpoint than that involved in the mere selection and placing of trees and shrubs.

The possibility of securing the service of an experienced landscape architect and planner was therefore looked into. *Mr. Ezra C. Stiles,* who consulted, was already well acquainted with the local project through his service to Council at the time of their original application for Federal funds.

Mr. Stiles proposed to render the Borough his consultant services and master plan for \$300.

The Garden Club recommended to Council that they appropriate the sum of \$300 asked by Mr. Stiles. In making this recommendation, the Garden Club stressed the importance of having a comprehensive, foundation plan before undertaking any planting or other improvement work. It was pointed out that such a plan when approved and officially recognized, would provide a permanent basis, for sound development over a period of years and would serve as a check against shifting ideas and ill-considered action.

Approving in principle the Garden Club's views and recommendation but finding itself limited in funds available for Park purposes, Council could see its way clear to the appropriation of only \$150.

Upon learning of Councils action, the *Garden Club* voted to provide the other \$150 required to secure the services described.

The agreement with Mr. Stiles was accordingly made.

Meanwhile a special Park Fund and Park Association was started. The underlying idea here was to enable individuals, and organizations to voluntarily contribute toward the realization of the plans and usefulness of the Park than would be possible with the limited funds available from the Borough treasury. A few individuals did subscribe and to the *Junior Women's Club* went the honor for being the first organization to contribute.

This was followed by the *Women's Club* of Forest Hills and the *Bryn Mawr Clubs.* 

**1938** In the Spring of 1938 - 460 plants were planted including 21 dogwood trees.

In the Fall a day was named and interested members met at the park to plant a bushel of wild flower seeds which had been gathered by Mrs. Harry Young, one of the members of the Civic committee. Mrs. Young gathered these seeds on her many trips through the woods and hills of Western Pennsylvania.

In the late Fall, the Civic Committee of the Garden Club contacted Scout leaders and persons in the Borough who were known to be interested in bird life. Through wonderful cooperation of the persons and organizations approached and the manual training department of the schools, *seven bird-feeding* stations were made and established. The scouts took on the job of seeing that food was always present. This was paid for through the Special Park Fund.



#### **RECREATION AFTER 1900**

This rare old picture shows a big bob-sled with the Mucklerat residents out for winter sports. Nor only is the cast interesting, but look closely and you will find the background in the picture is a real gem! This is the corner of Braddock Road and Ardmore Boulevard when Freehold Real Estate was The members of the bob-sled party are as follows: (left to right) Manus Campbell, Charles Campbell, James Mackin, Jefferson Boney, Wilbur Beavers, Joseph Cain, William Mackin, Thomas Powers, Nelson Beavers, and Joseph Campbell.

first developing in the Edgewood Acres area. Today, LeRoy Zavada's home stands on this corner (formerly Norman Allen's house) and next to it is Dr. Longphre's home (the former residence of Dr. Wesley Jones). The Borough Park area of today would be on the right of Braddock Road.



#### WORLD WAR II YEARS

In addition to the sacrifice of our young men and women who joined the Armed Forces, our Borough (which has often been noted for sectional thinking and geographical divisions) really united in an unprecedented manner for the *War Years Effort and Civilian Defense.* 

#### **CIVIL DEFENSE & AIR-RAID WARDENS**

After Pearl Harbor, the Allegheny County Council of Defense was activated rapidly – Civilian Defense was a national effort providing the machinery to let the people of every community prepare themselves for any danger that might lie ahead. Its sole purpose was to prepare citizens to meet danger in the most effective manner.

In the first few months of 1942 – 325 Forest Hills neighbors volunteered and registered for assignment. The Civilian Defense Council and Committee Chairmen are listed and identified in the picture. Listed also are the Air-Raid Wardens in posts of 1942.

#### **Civilian Defense Council and Committee Chairman**

(Left to Right) – R. N. Cambridge, Youth Mobilization; John W. Logan, Jr., Registration; Frank L. P. Kelley, Transportation; Fred S. Hastings, Chairman, Civilian Defense Council; Ed. A. Hawkens, Air Raid Protection; Dr. F. V. Longphre, Medical and Sanitation; Robert N. Critchlow, Public Works; L. C. Whitney, C. D. Council, Decontamination; Walter W. Keyser, C. D. Council, Auxiliary Firemen; Chas. L. Lavish, Chief of Police; Thomas Passant, Pres. Volunteer Firemen; Frank V. Kovalovsky, Sec'y; Edward H. Lamberger, C. D. Council, Auxiliary Police. Other members, absent from the picture, are: Arthur J. Jackman, Sector Air Raid Warden; Albert L. Koch, Norman A. Allen, C. D. Council members; M. G. Thompson, Police Chairman; James A. Kennedy, Emergency Service; E. L. Symons, Industry and Commerce; Dan. W. Frye, Public Relations; and D. Paul Jones, Training.

#### **1942 AIR RAID WARDENS**

#### POST No. 1

Thames, John Y.	619 Cascade Road
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Donovan, James H	18 Roxbury Road
Smith, Irving R	
Cunningham, J. E	722 Cascade Road
Donovan, Mrs. J. H.	18 Roxbury Road
Hillman, Mrs. Harry	609 Cascade Road
Chapman, Mrs. S. F	117 Braddock Road
Vaughn, Mrs. M. E	156 Fairfax Road

#### POST No. 2

Wentworth, F. W	313 Overdale Road
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Stiteler, Ellwood C	244 Cascade Road
Sutherland, Henry C	234 Washington Road
Snyder, R. R	206 Overdale Road
McGreevy, Ed. F	1267 Brinton Road
Whitney, Eugene C	249 Cascade Road
Clever, William A	215 Bevington Road
Frye, Dan W	328 Castlegate Road
Reagan, Mrs. Maurice	325 Castlegate Road
Perkins, Mrs. H. A	10 Hawthorne Road
Milholland, Miss Jane	6 Newport Road
Zinsmeister, Miss Margaret	11 Bevington Road
Gray, Mrs. Alice R	261 Cascade Road
Clever, Mrs. W	215 Bevington Road
Brady, Mrs. Frank	305 Edgewood Road

#### POST No. 3

West, Pemberton	e Road
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Mackim, Thomas A	ock Road
Bateman, J. M	ock Road
Gangwere, Mrs. Lenore	e Road
Fritchman, Mrs. R	
Neubauer, Miss F. T	ock Road
Reed, Mrs. Raymond104 Elmore	e Road
Failor, Charles W	e Road

#### POST No. 4

Sampson, Edgar R	212 Forest Hills Road
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Samzelius, John W	26 Woodside Road
Frost, Leslie R	
Staples, E. I	
Burrell, Mrs. G. R	
Rogers, Mrs. Bruce	9 Woodside Road
Hayford, Mrs. B. I	
Allison, Mrs. J. H	

#### POST No. 5

Turnock, E. Hill	.344 Woodside Road
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
McCoy, V. F	.540 Filmore Road
Hugo, George M	
Hughes, Kenneth M	
Logue, Harry M	.21 Sylvan Road
Kimball, Mrs. A. W.	
Krogh, Mrs. A. T	
Beavers, Mrs. E. M	.239 Beaver Drive
Seibert, Mrs. R. P.	.595 Filmore Road

•

#### POST No. 6

Dicosky, John H.	238 Berkley Avenue
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Kovalik, Frank J.	14 Kenmore Avenue
Shevchik, M. G.	120 Rockwood Avenue
Engel, August	
Danni, Mrs. M.	245 Berkley Avenue

#### POST No. 7

Davis, James E	513 Halsey Avenue
Cunningham, John	11 Sumner Avenue
Umphrey, D. M	
Hyer, Albert	
Heer, Mrs. Elva	
Weissbach, Mrs. Olga	
Vance, Mrs. Helen	

#### POST No. 8

Shawver, Paul W	enue
Senior Post Air Raid Warden	
Nolan, Leon M	enue
Park, Peter P	enue
Bargman, Bruce B	enue
Civilett, Mrs. J. A	enue
Dietrich, Mrs. W. W	enue
Jack, Mrs. Peter P	enue
Kennedy, Mrs. H. P	enue

#### POST No. 9

Meyer, Harry R
Senior Post Air Raid Warden
Chilcott, N. G
Seth, Walter 120 Avenue L
Young, J. F
Martzell, Harvey
Sumner, Mrs. G. L
Wetherby, Mrs. T. C
Ellrod, Mrs. Jessie
Hartzell, Mrs. Harvey145 Avenue A

#### POST No. 10

Hawkens, Edward A
Senior Post Air Raid Warden
Purifoy, G. R
Sekerka, J. H
Brandt, Mrs. Charles
Harker, Mrs. Donald
Miner, Mrs. D. F
Monroe, R. W
Love, J. T

#### **RED CROSS**

#### Heroines without Medals

It was the year 1943, and 187 members and volunteer workers had enrolled in the *Red Cross Forest Hills Auxiliary*. There were 5,044 hours of work done including sewing, knitting, and supplying the demand for bandages and surgical dressings. A total of 93 women gave their time with the result that 6,633 dressings were made.

RATION BOARDS for your food and gas stamps and DRAFT BOARDS and WAR GARDENS and AIR RAID ALERTS became a way of life!

#### SCRAP DRIVES

There were Firemen and Air-Raid Warden scrap drives which netted a total of 82 tons from Forest Hills in 1942. It seemed that the steel mills had an insatiable appetite for their undreamed of production rate and the need of sufficient scrap on hand for planned war production. Still the citizens were urged to collect more.

#### WAR BONDS & STAMPS

The Incredible School Students

In seven weeks the purchase of War Saving Stamps (sale held one day each week) amounted to \$2,515.95. In 1943 the *students* bought a total of \$13,619 worth of these War Stamps and Bonds and many of them worked in the summers in the *War* or *Victory Gardens*.

#### WAR BONDS

War Bond Drives were really successful in our community. The grand total of subscriptions in the year 1943, our second War Bond Drive, was \$59,750. The grand total of sales for the third War Bond Drive was \$50,525. The patriotic residents, in 1944, raised a total of \$80,825 in the fourth, and the fifth Campaign totaled \$66,525.

#### **GRAHAM PAUL BRIGHT**

Graham Paul Bright, son of Graham Bright, Bryn Mawr Rd. was born Sept. 4, 1912 in Wilkinsburg. The family moved to Forest Hills in 1913.

Schooling in Forest Hills, graduate of Wilkinsburg High, one year at Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon University) then received an appointment to Annapolis 1931 graduating in 1935.

Served in the Navy until the beginning of World War II. He was killed Dec. 10, 1941 during the Japanese attack on Guam.

In 1943 a Destroyer Escort was named for him. U. S. Navy Destroyer Escort "Bright". After the war the ship was bought by the French Navy and is now called "Taurey."

## TRANSPORTATION

#### UP AND DOWN THE ARDMORE

1906 or 1907 Streetcar tracks were laid after the "cut" was made from East Pittsburgh up our Fair Valley by the Ardmore Street Railway Company. The clickity-clack of the trolley and the colored sparks from the overhead guide wires suddenly became the big spark of transportation in Forest Hills, and we were "truly on the map." From the early 1900's to the late 1940's the streetcars were the way of life and the "ARDMORE 87" became a number which every child in Forest Hills had to memorize when making the first trip alone on the streetcar. This was the way we went to work, visited our friends, went to Wilkinsburg High School, or to a date's house. Some Forest Hills residents remember going to Halloween parties on the trolley decked out in their costumes. and who can forget the special chartered cars which took the kids to Kennywood for the school picnics! The 87 Ardmore and the Trafford Express (#63) is no longer part of growing up in our community.

**1908** The first streetcars ran from Wilkinsburg (probably at "Johnston School") to East Pittsburgh.

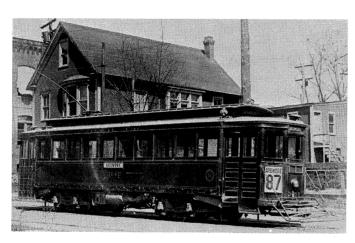
On November 1, the service was extended to East Liberty.

**1910** Streetcar service was extended to run to Highland Park for several years on a seasonal or summer basis only. Old timers will remember when families and young couples enjoyed these beautiful all-day trips.

runs were made from the Homewood car barn to East Pittsburgh. Fourteen cars and nine trailers would leave and complete their runs before nine o'clock. After that the poor housewives could not get a trolley for the next two hours. At three-thirty, the same operation was repeated when the shops were vacated.



Picture of the famous East Pittsburgh "Trippers".

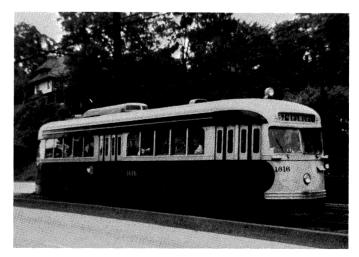


Picture of a very early (Pre 1920) 87 Ardmore. It was a car high above the track and deep red in color with the life-guard fender.

**1920-1940** These were the days when few "Bread Winners" owned their own cars -a far cry from 1969 when most men's sons and daughters drive their cars to high school. Thousands of Westinghouse shop men and employees were transported on the famous East Pittsburgh "trippers." In the later years, this route was sometimes called, "The war workers route." Special

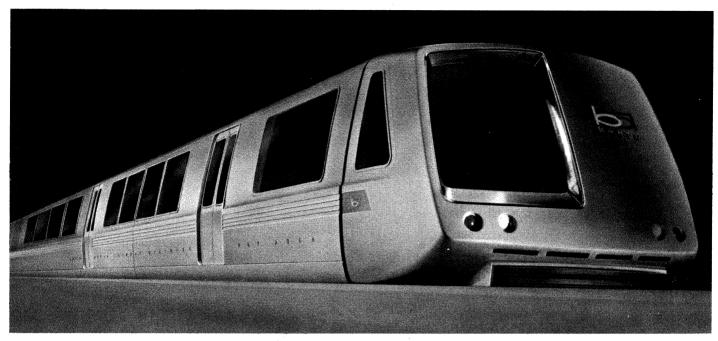
1924 One-man cars began operations in Pittsburgh Railways.

**1937** On August 22, service was extended to *downtown* Pittsburgh without getting a transfer at the junction. The car went through East Liberty and down Liberty Avenue.



1940 - New Streamlined Ardmore

**September 4, 1966** The Ardmore 87 trolley made its last run through Forest Hills about midnight.



#### WESTINGHOUSE TRANSPORTATION CENTER

The transportation division of Westinghouse was formed in Forest Hills in June, 1967, through a combination of the Transportation Equipment Division from East Pittsburgh and the Transportation Systems Department of the R&D Center. In that month, the Transportation Systems Sales, Engineering and Control Departments moved into the Forest Hills site which was being vacated by the Atomic Power Divisions.

Various Westinghouse transportation organizations have been operating in part of the East Pittsburgh Facility for over 75 years. That has been a profitable activity for most of the period for traction motors and controls.

Only recently did Westinghouse look at means of expanding the transportation market. In 1962 we looked at all the new Pictured above is one of the trains which will be used in the BART system in San Francisco which uses a new concept of "hands off" operation of trains. This idea brings together for the first time all functions required to operate trains automatically: speed regulation for safety, stored-program route control, and automatic schedule control by computer to maintain uniform headway.

transit concepts. The decision was made to proceed with our own concept which is now known as Transit Expressway. Building the test loop at South Park (near Pittsburgh) gave us capabilities in computer simulation of transit systems operations and in automatic train control. Both of these qualified us to get contracts as shown below. It further shows that our capability extends from new, light-weight vehicle systems designed for a metropolitan situation (but being first applied to an airport) through the traction motor business which even serves competitive monorail systems, and through to the first revolutionary "hands-off" automatic train control system.

Major Product	Experience	Applications
Traction Systems	* New York (NYCTA)	† Inter-City Rapid Transit
	* Boston (MBTA)	† Commuter Railroads
	* Chicago (CTA)	† Intra-City Rapid Transit
	* Philadelphia (SEPTA)	† Transit Expressway
	* Cleveland (CTS)	† Monorails
	* Northeast Corridor Project	† Streetcars
Vehicle Systems	* South Park Project	† Intra-City Rapid Transit
	* Tampa Airport Project	† Airports
	* LIRR Simulation Study	† Universities
	* Paris Airport Study	† New Towns
Transportation		
Control Systems	* San Francisco Test Track	† Intra-City Rapid Transit
	* San Francisco Automatic	† Commuter Railroads
	Train Control and	† Railroads
	Communications	



### Westinghouse

#### TRANSPORTATION

Historical Roads Modern Roads Railroads OLD Wilkins Township—

The vast Wilkins Township dwindled from 34.5 square miles to its present area of slightly over 2.5 square miles. Much of this change evolved from the changes attributed to transportation. Originally, some of the historical roads and stage coach routes later were the first roads of the emmigrating Indians of our early region—after the Indians came the military; then pioneers conestoga wagons and finally, we discovered the automobile and high speed cars, as well as buses and trucks.

In 1850, came the railroads to this area. This new transportation system changed the picture and industry moved in. The railroad and new municipalities followed the same general path and the population grew. The little villages like Forest Hills and later Churchill Borough needed a broader and closer policing and governing force which was lacking in the *vast Township* form of government. Thus the secession of Forest Hills.

**1931-32** The Ardmore Boulevard which is part of the famous Lincoln Highway, Route #30, was widened and became part

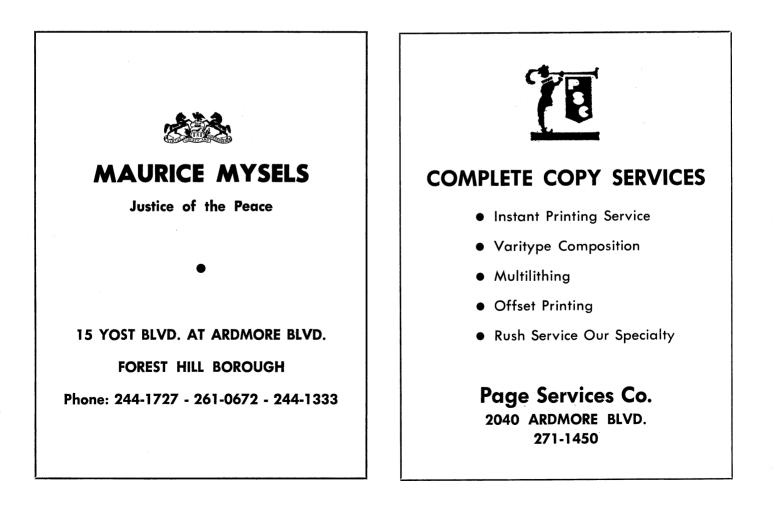
of a State and National Highway-and with the new Westinghouse Bridge-Forest Hills was truly "on the map". Wilkins Township lost Route #30 to the Ardmore Boulevard of Forest Hills. Many more people were now induced to make Forest Hills their home.

**1937** Lincoln Coaches started to operate on a franchise through Forest Hills to Pittsburgh.

**1947-48** Penn Lincoln Parkway started construction and when completed gave us the advantage of an East and West access to the express route to the city of Pittsburgh. The parkway was a very significant factor in attracting many new residents to Forest Hills in the 1950's.

**1965** Ardmore Boulevard asphalted by State \$120,000-borough officials complained of lowered curb heights as safety hazard.

**1965 Greensburg Pike** widened to *four* lanes-affected more than 100 homes from Le Beua Pike to Braddock Road.





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MANY HAPPY RETURNS-

## **REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE OF FOREST HILLS** W. ARCH IRVIN, Chairman

# GOOD LUCK L. & E. T. Co. Inc.

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friends and neighbors

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## **HAPPY 50th**

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**Compliments** 

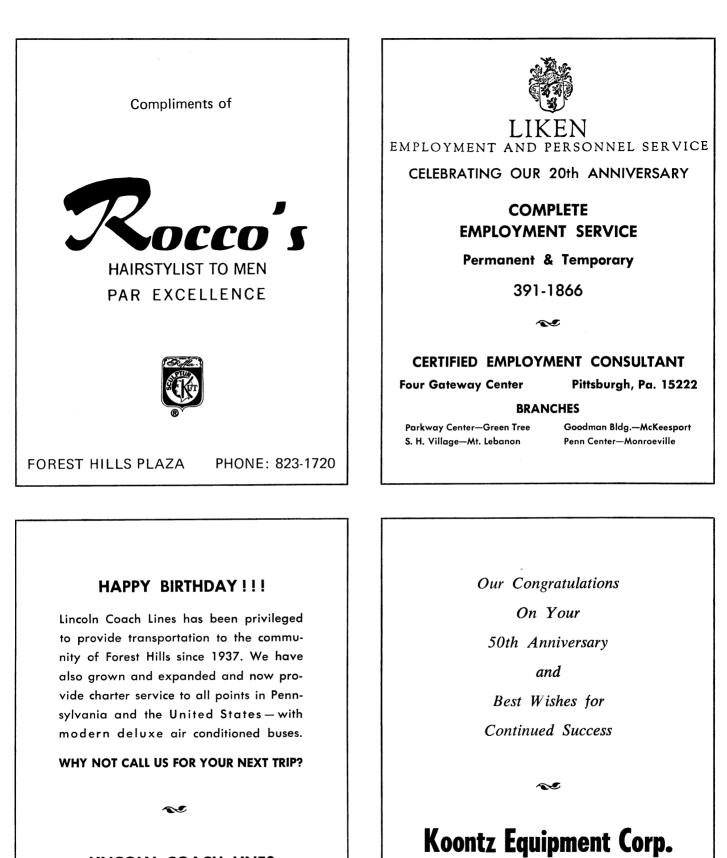
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Some of our citizens or educators went all the way "to the top" and brought recognition and pride to Forest Hills. We salute them on the occasion of our 50th Anniversary.

### MARY LOUISE MILLIGAN RASMUSON (MRS. ELMER E. RASMUSON)



Born - East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

BS Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University), Pittsburgh, Pa.

EdM – University of Pittsburgh (School Administration)

Received honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Carnegie Institute of Technology (was one of the two first women to receive this degree from Tech. Helen Hayes was the other woman).

**1932-1939** Forest Hills School District, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Teacher, counselor, and secretary

**1939-1942** Assistant Supervising Principal, Forest Hills School (Member Allegheny County Principals Roundtable)

**1942** Entered the United States Army as an auxiliary (private) with the first group of American women (400) selected for the Women's Army Corps.

### 1942-1962 Military Schooling

Women's Army Corps Officer Training School, Fort Des Moines, Iowa

Adjutant General's School, Fort Washington, Virginia Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Missouri Military Service - Major Assignments

**1943-1946** Director, Women's Army Corps Training Center, Des Moines, Iowa

1946-1947 Staff Officer, General Staff, Department of Army

1947-1952 Deputy Director, Women's Army Corps

**1952-1956** WAC Staff Adviser to Commanding General, United States Army, Europe

1956-1957 Staff Officer, Continental Army Command

**1957-1962** Director, Women's Army Corps (reappointed in 1961)

**1962 (July)** Retired as Colonel, U. S. Army, after 20 years military service

### **Military Medals and Decorations**

Legion of Merit with 2 oak leaf clusters Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Service Medal American Campaign Medal World War II Victory Medal Occupation Medal National Defense Medal

### Other Awards

**1950** Carnegie Institute of Technology Alumni Merit Award **1960** Designated by the Governor of Pennsylvania as a Distinguished Daughter

1961 Medal Award, American War Mothers

**1962** Alabama Commendation Medal for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished military service

#### Areas Served in or Visited Officially during Military Service

United States	Denmark
England	Hong Kong & New Territories
Scotland	Panama
France	Japan
Germany	Okinawa
Italy	Taiwan
Turkey	

### **Organization and Club Affiliations**

Zonta; Rotary Wives Club; American Association of University Women; Association of U. S. Army (life member); Retired Officers Association; Reserve Officers' Association; Army-Navy Club; Anchorage Women's Club; Business and Professional Womens' Club; Alaska Native Sisterhood; Delta Kappa Gamma; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (life member); League of Women Voters; Cook Inlet Historical Society; A-Homes; Pioneers of Alaska Auxiliary; Capt. James G. Lee Auxiliary to Post No. 1685, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Aurora Borealis, American Legion Post; International Platform Association; WAC Officers Association; Washington Athletic Club; Ft. Richardson Officers' Wives' Club; Holy Family Alter Society; Seattle Art Museum; Anchorage Republican Womens' Club

#### Activities

Member of Anchorage Board of Directors, Alaska Crippled Children's Association

Member of Board, Alaska Division, American Cancer Society Director-at-Large, National Board, American Cancer Society

U. S. Army, Alaska, Civilian Advisory Council, 1967-68

Chairman, Anchorage Fine Arts Commission, 1967-

Campaign Chairman, Anchorage March of Dimes Campaign, 1968

Board Member, Rasmuson Foundation

"Who's Who of American Women" "Dictionary of International Biography 1967"

In November, 1961, married to Elmer E. Rasmuson, Chairman of the Board, National Bank of Alaska; (former Mayor, City of Anchorage 1964-67); Swedish Consul for Alaska; Chairman of the Board of Regents, University of Alaska; 1968 Republican Candidate for U. S. Senate

Mother – Mrs. Alice G. Milligan, Anchorage, Alaska Brother – George V. Milligan, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### BETTY WORTHINGTON - "MRS. REPUBLICAN"

Mrs. J. Clark (Betty) Worthington piled up an enviable record of 27 years as Vice-Chairlady of the Republican Committee of Forest Hills and 28 years total of work for the Republican party. She was born and raised in Wilkinsburg, but moved to Forest Hills about 1920. In addition to being active in the Woman's Club and the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. Betty wrote a Forest Hills column for the Wilkinsburg Gazette for 24 years and also contributed to the borough's own Forest Hills news over the years, until it ceased publication.

### CHEF WALTER MUNTWYLER

Among the personalities in different walks of life here was *Walter Muntwyler*, formerly of 629 Cascade Road. In the 1950's he was a renowned chef in Pittsburgh hostelries. He had become Head Chef in the Fort Pitt Hotel in Pittsburgh and also, his magic wizardry was experienced at Longview Country Club in Oakmont, William Penn Hotel, and the old Keystone Club. Walter also worked at hotels in Cleveland, the Gibson in Cincinnati, the Hotel Aster in New York, the Roney Plaza, and the Biltmore in Miami. Previously, he had trained in many cities on the continent. *Mrs. Muntwyler* was active in the Woman's Club and as a registered nurse, assisted in the operation of our Forest Hills blood bank.

### OUR TOP BLOOD CONTRIBUTOR

George W. Nagel of 234 Cascade Road, started donating blood in 1939 and has contributed a total of 108 pints of blood over the years to blood banks and hospitals. Congratulations!

### WE'RE GLAD YOU MADE YOUR HOME HERE

Dr. Charles Bair, of 173 Fairfax Road, became Superintendent of the Allegheny County schools following the retirement of Dr. Beattie in 1966.

### J. R. GLOVER'S CHINCHILLA RANCH

A Chinchilla ranch thrived in Forest Hills in the basement of Public Accountant J. R. Glover's home at 511 Bevington Road. About 1950, Mr. Glover and his wife and sister-in-law, Margaret Cochrane, bought four pairs of silver-furred chinchilla. The cost - \$6,000. By 1954, they owned 60 chinchilla and were raising 50 more for other people who had no place to keep them.

### MAURICE "MOLLY" REAGANN ... "GRANDADDY" of BARBERSHOP HARMONY

### ${\sf BARBERSHOPPING} \ - \ {\sf SPEBSQSA}$

(Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America)

It is hard to think of the music and entertainment world without harmony in barbershop quartets in this country or Forest Hills. The Rotary Club of Forest Hills has sponsored over the years three different "Nights of Harmony." The first one was at the Wilkinsburg High School Auditorium in 1960. The second was in 1961. Again – in 1967 – the Rotary had a Barbershop Night at the new Churchill High School Auditorium.

As it is hard to imagine the entertainment world without harmony in Barbershop Quartets, it is likewise difficult to think of the origin of the SPEBSQUSA with our own *Maurice* "Molly" Reagan. This personality who lived at 325 Castlegate Road, was on the Society's first arrangement committee. He has harmonized hundreds of songs, including arrangements for International Champion quartets. He judged (mostly as chairman) in twenty international contests and great numbers of districts and regionals.

Maurice originated and patented the CLOCK SYSTEM for barbershop harmony in order to communicate chords and progressions. It was a boon to those with an "ear" for harmony, though short on formal musical training. It covers the waterfront, even to the ringability ratings of chords, based on laws of physics. Other aids are in the Arrangers' Manual (Diekema and Reagan) used in the first HEP School. The phenomenon of barbershop harmony "ring" often requires the "bending" of a tone, whether or not the singer realized what he has done to help produce it. Molly says that according to physics, an octave in barbershop is not invariably twelve half-note steps, and "A-Sharp" is not quite "B-Flat." He adds that "barbershop" is the most exact harmony because the three harmonizing voices in a Grade-A quartet vary (bend) their tone levels to the exact pitch called for by the lead's melody tone. Preservation centers upon the preservation of chord ringability that is typical of "barbershop!"

"Molly" Reagan was singing and doing what comes natchur'ly back as far as 1908 when he first harmonized in a high school quartet. College and a distinguished Pittsburgh career as a Westinghouse electrical engineer only increased his early avocational interest in this field!

*Mrs. Margaret Reagan* was also well known in the Forest Hills Garden Club, Republican politics, and the Woman's Club.

In addition to our "grandaddy" of Barbershop Harmony, Maurice Reagan, Carl Chada of Forest Hills was a member of the Westinghouse Quartet which introduced comedy into quartet circles. Mr. Sisk, formerly of the borough, sang with "The Pittsburghers."

Today, Barbershopping is an international group in competition, starting out with 1300 quartets ... later reduced to five for final competition and world champion.



### MARY KENNEDY OF WOODLAND HILLS

One of our few living octogenarians, *Mrs. Mary Kennedy*, led a full life over the period of history which rushed around her during 85 continuous years in the Forest Hills area. She was the former *Mary Ford*, and her father – James Ford – served on the old School Board at Hannatown. Her sister, Martha Ford, taught in the old Duquesne School and became Mrs. Martha Main.

*Mary Ford* married John J. Kennedy who was a foreman in the Duquesne Coal Company mines here and served as one of our first Councilmen and founders. He was a familiar figure on the borough scene with one arm, having lost the other in a collision in the coal mines. He served later as our Road Commissioner until his death.

One of the children of this union was John J. Kennedy, Jr. who served the borough as a policeman for twelve years. The elder brother, James A. Kennedy, followed his father's foot-steps and served on the Forest Hills Borough Council as a

### MRS. MARY KENNEDY

Picture showing four generations

Mrs. Mary Kennedy is shown standing in the center with her husband John J. Kennedy. Her son James is to her right and Mrs. James (Emily) Kennedy is at her left.

Seated is Mrs. Mary Kennedy's mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. James Ford. The Fourth generation represented is Jimmy Kennedy (now of Parise Road) who is seated on his great-grandfather's lap.

member and later as President for many years. A daughter, *Martha Kennedy* also served in public life as a teacher at the Woodside Road School.

John J. Kennedy, Jr., a son, and James Kennedy, her grandson, today both live in Forest Hills and operate the J. A. Kennedy Plumbing Company, Inc.

*Mrs. Mary Kennedy* lives in a little bungalow today on Braddock Road, one of the original streets of the old Duquesne Coal village. She remembers well as a child walking to Braddock to get a train to the city of Pittsburgh. It was a big event!

### WOMAN POWER

There is a lot of power in a Woman's Club, but there is also a lot of determination in the individual housewife, who as we all know can be the "Behind the Scenes" politician. In 1935 Mrs. Charles B. McIntyre canvassed door to door on foot more than 300 homes and came up with a petition of the necessary 300 signatures to place "local option" on the ballot. She wanted the borough to go *dry*.

Borough Council found a technical error in the wording of the petition. Undaunted with this "hang up", Mrs. McIntyre had some judges in the Allegheny courts draw up another iron-clad petition and secured the 300 signatures once again on a petition.

The results did not please everyone, but are shown here for the records!

### **DRY WITH A BANG**

(Forest Hills News, Dec. 1935)

By a vote of about 3 to 2 (1,086 to 728), Forest Hills made up her mind to go dry. Had the election day weather been less humid, the vote might have been even more decisive.

The actual figures of the voting follow:

District	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Liquor–Yes	93	129	355	151	728
No	375	253	254	204	1086
Beer –Yes	100	127	343	157	727
–No	364	249	253	194	1060

## LOYAL "ARMY" VOLUNTEER ORCHIDS and ROSES!!

Further proof of this woman's dedication and determination is the 54 year record of her commuting to the *Salvation Army* headquarters in Pittsburgh, for preparation of the annual 2,000 Easter Sunshine gifts for 49 area hospitals and institutions. *Mrs. McIntyre* is one of the 100 ladies who packed Easter gift packages for distribution. She also participated in every Salvation Army Campaign for funds until the organization became affiliated with the United Fund. She serves also as a patient escort in the Oakland Veterans Hospital. Her first volunteer duty was serving in the Canteens in 1916, for World War I servicemen.

### FRANK V. KOVALOVSKY

After 18 years of devoted service as our Borough secretary, *Frank Kovalovsky* resigned in 1959. Frank was a veritable combination administrator, appeaser, and diplomat, and with his vast knowledge of the borough, was also an encyclopedia of information.

In 1969, his 44-year career in banking also came to an end April 1 as Assistant Vice-President and Manager of the East Pittsburgh Office of Mellon Bank. In his first years in the Turtle Creek Valley, Frank was a resident of the Tonnaleuka Club in Wilmerding, but abandoned his bachelorhood in 1929 when he married *Elizabeth Haley* who had been working in the bank as secretary to President C. I. Miller.

The Kovalovskys live at 104 Hawthorne Road and have two daughters—Mrs. Ralph A. Frew of Washington D.C., and Mrs. Robert S. Runk of Columbia, South Carolina—as well as four grandchildren.

Frank is well known to Forest Hills officials and citizens where he still serves in important posts. He is Treasurer of the Churchill Area Schools Authority as well as Treasurer of three different boroughs—East Pittsburgh, Forest Hills, and Chalfant; he is Director and Treasurer of the East Pittsburgh Parking Authority and the Turtle Creek Valley Junior Achievement Chapter; Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Forest Hills Volunteer Fire Association; and member of Forest Hills Rotary Club, the Bankers Club of Pittsburgh; and the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church.

### E. HILL TURNOCK - ARCHERY "CHAMP"

Mr. E. Hill Turnock formerly of Woodside Road was five times state archery champion and in 1939 was national archery champion. Mr. Turnock was also a member of the Forest Hills Building & Loan Assn. Mrs. Turnock had the dubious distinction of being the first of her sex to join the Civic Club when that organization opened its membership to include women. Mr. Turnock died in 1969.

### **MUSIC MAN**

*Eugene Reichenfeld*, Music Director of the Wilkinsburg Symphony for 21 years, was appointed permanent conductor of the Murrysville Symphony Orchestra in 1969.

Mr. Reichenfeld, Music Educator in the Penn Hills Schools, was a former resident of Forest Hills.

## CONGRATULATIONS FOREST HILLS ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY

☆

WE HOPE WE ARE FULFILLING OUR GOAL

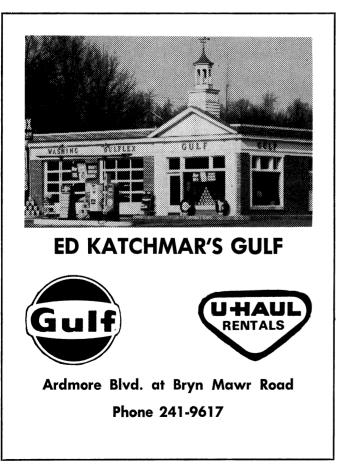
"TO MAKE FOREST HILLS A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE"

YOUR HISTORY IS OUR HISTORY

(See Page on Civic Association)

☆

## THE FOREST HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION



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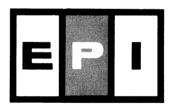
372-2211

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Congratulations to the community of Forest Hills! You are celebrating your 50th birthday this year!

Columbia Hospital, located at Penn Avenue and West Street since 1906, is proud to have been of service to Forest Hills residents since the community founding in 1919.

In this 50-year period, Columbia Hospital has added and improved many of its services to you. Columbia's Outpatient Department was set up in 1922 with the addition of the Social Service Department in 1925.

The Blood Bank began its operation in 1948 in co-operation with the Central Blood Bank of Pittsburgh and the Heart Station, for treating cardiac patients, was established in 1954.

In 1959, Forest Hills residents demonstrated their appreciation of Columbia's services by helping to make possible the new North Wing at a cost of \$2.5 million. When the wing was dedicated in June, 1959, still more facilities were made available, including some 80 additional adult accommodations and six of the most modern operating rooms.

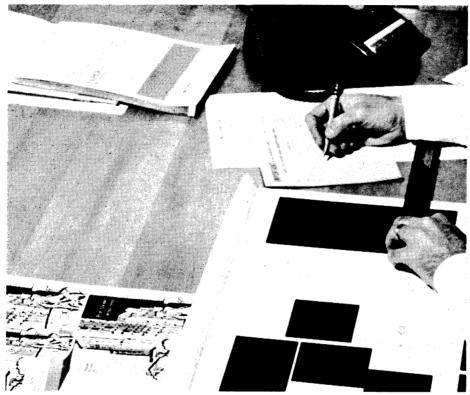
The Intensive Care Unit, one of the finest in the area, was opened in the Spring of 1964. Eleven beds are available for reception and care of medical and surgical patients whose condition requires continuous skilled nursing.

Currently, nine of Columbia Hospital's staff physicians are Forest Hills residents, including James B. Shaler, M.D., who was elected president of the medical staff in January, 1969. Columbia Hospital has set its sights high as it looks toward the future—a future which will provide the optimum in health care for everyone it serves.

The hospital is grateful to its many friends in Forest Hills for their generosity in helping Columbia Hospital to grow with their community. And—we look forward to continuing our service to you in the years to come.



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### **OUR FIRST DOCTORS**

The medical profession proudly salutes our first doctors in Forest Hills. *Dr. John W. Funk* set up a practice in his residence (with officers) at corner of Atlantic and Lenox Avenue and also served as President on the early School Board. He was active in the first P.T.A. and Civic Club.

*Dr. Wesley W. Jones* was the other of the first two doctors to set up practice in our borough. He lived and had his offices at 1831 Ardmore Boulevard in Forest Hills for 27 years and practiced medicine for 44 years. When he retired, he sold his home and doctor's office near the corner of Braddock Road and Ardmore Boulevard to *Dr. Frederick V. Longphre.* 

Dr. Wesley W. Jones and Mr. Arthur Jackman originated and developed the old Edgewood Acres Men's Club. Mrs. Jones was one of the founders of the Forest Hills Woman's Club and also the early Garden Club.

### PATRON PHYSICIANS

Lawrence N. Adler, M.D. John M. Brandon, M.D. Elmer Holzinger, M.D. James D. Kelly, M.D. Gilbert Krause, M.D. Seymour E. Krause, M.D. Alfred Monardo, M.D. W. R. Morton, M.D. George W. Patterson, M.D. James B. Shaler, M.D. John A. Tamarelli, M.D. Edward L. Waisbrot, M.D. Charles W. Zimmerman, M.D.

### PATRON

DENTISTS

Alfred D'Alessandro, D.D.S. John S. Lloyd, D.D.S. H. E. McCartney, D.D.S. Joseph L. Vogt, D.D.S.

### **LEGISLATORS and JUDGES**

In our history, two Judges chose to reside in the borough. One was *Judge Malcolm McDonald*, and in February, 1952, *Judge Ralph T. Bell* of 722 Cascade Road was appointed by Governor John Fine to the Court of Common Pleas.

Senator Jack E. McGregor lived most of his life time in Forest Hills until recently and was the first Senator representing the district to come from Forest Hills. He also was probably the youngest Senator to go to Harrisburg when elected.

John J. Murray lived most of his life time in the borough, and was the first legislator to come from Forest Hills. He was a Democratic candidate in 1949 for Burgess here.

### PATRON ATTORNEYS

Joseph V. Esper Vincent A. Crisanti W. Arch Irvin, Jr. William J. Lancaster Lewis E. Mai Edwin J. Martin James R. McGregor William R. McKee George J. Miller Warren S. Reding Joseph Swartz Charles B. Watkins Charles I. Ziegler

### **BUSINESS PATRONS**

Bruckman Realty Company Edgewood Cleaning Company Great Valley Lanes, Inc. Homewood Bake Shop James A. Jobe Funeral Home Kerr Glass & Paint Knee Memorial Home Marlen Jewelers Memory Lane McLaughlin's Esso Service Nate's American Service

### **1919 - OUR FIRST POLICE STATION**

Before the municipal building was constructed in 1922, "Moody" Champ and police of the early days operated out of a small, two-room wooden shed situated on the still present vacant lot between Spinelli's and the Boutique shop (formally Jim Stein's Pharmacy and Al Reiner's drugstore.) Here John France, the first Burgess, held court. When the Formas Club golf links tee'd off originally in 1931, some stalwart citizens moved the shanty up behind the Borough building to be the golf Club house. Hermie Theilacker was the caddy master in those days and later became Road Commissioner of the Borough.

### TAMPA TRAMPS

Were you around in the early '30's when this combo group were doing their thing? The members were: George Ruppel-Manager, Helen Annis, Jimmy Annis, George Annis, Ang Aeillo, Carl Chada, Bill Pika.

### THE VIGILANTES -- THE DEPRESSION

The little-known, underground movement in our borough during the depression years was known as the Vigilantes. This unmaned group of citizens used to turn on the water and other utilities at night after the companies had turned them off when people could not afford to pay their bills and had become delinquent!

### POLITICS AS USUAL??? NOT IN 1933!!! THE CITIZENS PARTY

The newer residents of Forest Hills today may think politics are always cut and dried and there were only the Democrat and Republican Parties over the Years – NOT SO!

The shenannigans and political trickery which was perpetrated on the citizens caused the creation of a new Citizens Party in 1933 to take the control from the politicians and return it to the hands of the independent voters. The new Citizens Party opened up headquarters, rolled up their sleeves, and really "Got out the vote". There were 2686 registered voters in the borough at the time and the victory of the Citizens Party over the Machine Politicians won overwhelmingly at the polls when 2173 cast their ballots – the largest vote ever polled in the borough's history!

### **RING a LING a LING**

The year was 1937 and the Westinghouse Plan was in the "Valley" telephone exchange ... the citizenry was very irate because the rest of the borough was "across the Berlin Wall," and paid toll charges for phone calls back and forth! This was a little tough on the pocket-book when a fellow wanted to call his girl or somebody's mother-in-law phoned across the boundaries.

The rest of the borough used "CHurchill" and "FRemont" exchanges and of course the phone company had to draw a boundary line somewhere. It was an unhappy decision in 1938 when the phone company still refused (after negotiations with a Forest Hills committee representing our residents) to extend the *Pittsburgh exchange* boundary lines. Eventually this "hang-up" was overcome and history marched on!!

### **1934 - THE FOREST HILLS NEWS**

Our own local newspaper was called "The Forest Hills News," It was issued monthly and served the Borough well for over twenty years. It was started in the year 1934 as an arm of the influential Civic Association. The purpose at first was to give wider circulation to the many committee reports of the Civic Association and activities of the School Board and Council. This newspaper has been sorely missed since the 1950's when it disappeared as did the library. There were dedicated staffs and excellent editors such as Dan Frye of Castlegate Road. Throughout the first year, the masthead carried only the names of the officers of the Civic Club, but listed no editor. Mr. R. E. Ferris was listed until October, and then Mr. G. S. Shull as successive presidents. Mr. H. H. Blackmon became editor for 1935 .... Mr. L. K. Scott for 1936, and Mr. Dan Frye served from 1937 to 1944, putting out eight annual volumes or ninety-six consecutive monthly issues.

Other editors were Boyd C. Shaffer, Bill Pika, Denton Beal, W. L. Gjebre, Maurice W. Reagan, Jr. and Betty Galbraith.

The Golden Jubilee History—or story of Forest Hills—could never have been written without the old records and original newspapers that were saved by a few people all these years.

### 1950's - THE FENCING SCHOOL

A unique Fencing School was organized in Forest Hills by *Mrs. John Birkby.* It was one of the first in Pittsburgh and started classes in the basement of the old Presbyterian Church. Grace Birkby formerly of 21 Castlegate Road was well "versed in the foils", having studied under a French tutor at the School of Fencing in Lensburg, London for over nine years, and later winning championships on the continent. It was this Britisher who inaugurated a fencing school which continued to expand and operate in Wilkinsburg, and eventually became the nucleus for today's Western Pennsylvania Division of the Amateur Fencing League of America. Mr. & Mrs. John Birkby now reside in Edgewood Borough.

### A CONFRONTATION

#### 1951 Braddock Road Housewives STRIKE

On July 16, 1951 irate housewives of Braddock Road were out to pit flesh and blood against steel vehicles when they staged an impromptu strike against the borough of Forest Hills. The confrontation focused attention on the wretched condition of this deteriorating road. Some of the "growing pains" in the borough were over the question of paved vs "unimproved" roads. Braddock Road was a county road and an important connecting link between municipalities.

Strangely enough, in the days of the WPA, a start was made at paving the street but was abandoned when *one* resident refused to wave damages for a six-inch change of grade.

Progress at times really grinds to a halt!

### 1952 – A HAPPENING

Joe "Bugs" McGuigan, Jr. Zeroes Plane into Fierst's Tavern

It was a Saturday in November 1952 at Fierst's when the boys were having beer at the local pub now known as the Tavern on the Pike. "Bugs" McGuigan was missing from the group but suddenly as he buzzed the bar to say "hello", the plane zeroed into the gabled entrance breaking a window and slightly damaging the roof, not to mention a stretch of wiring and a couple of autos. No one was hurt and "Bugs" McGuigan's rented Taylor Craft type airplane got about as "close to the bar" as you can get!!

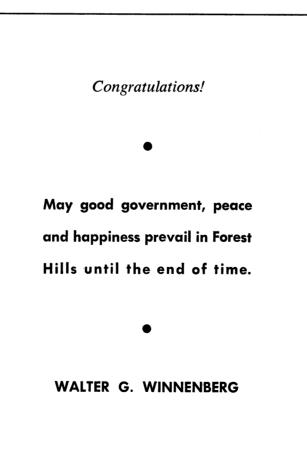
### ANTHONY JOSEPH "Toe Nails" Downey

1924 entered the U.S. Navy – retired 1955. Claims to be the *only retired serviceman* in the Borough who was born in the same house where he returned to live after retirement.

### INCORPORATION OF NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

1890Wilmerding
1888 Edgewood
1887 Wilkinsburg
1934 Churchill
1904
1892Turtle Creek
1895 East Pittsburgh
*1821Wilkins Township
1946 Braddock Hills Boro.
(Formerly Braddock Township)
1898 Swissvale

\*Wilkins Township – Chartered as a 2nd class township in 1821 and was incorporated as 1st class township in 1901.





LADIES AID Society of the Presbyterian Church present a loose show in yesteryear!!

### THEATERS AND OTHER PRODUCTIONS

Show business was part of our life in the Borough and over the years we enjoyed the productions and minstrel shows of the Civic Club, the Woman's Club, and "The Cabin in the Hills" of the firemen. We have had "Barber Shopping" sponsored by the Rotary Club and now Jack Kelley's "Playhouse East" is the thing!



Volunteer Fire Department in 1939 presented all-time hit "CABIN IN THE HILLS"

This page is respectfully dedicated to all persons, organizations, and businesses, that we failed to include -

To err is human . . . To forgive divine.



### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Forest Hills Saga Papers of Mrs. Alice Scanlon Papers of Mr. Graham Bright Wilkinsburg Gazette The Progress Sentinel Forest Hills News Pittsburgh papers Allegheny County history Miscellaneous