

THE LINCOLN PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

Established 1955

March 2022

Museum Hours: Wednesday & Saturday 1 pm to 6 p.m.

Website: www.lphistorical.org

1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, MI 48146

313-386-3137

lpmuseum@gmail.com

also visit our Facebook page

Wolverine Parkettes Exhibit

Prior to the advent of Title IX, girls' sports had been consigned largely to the edges of the school experience. The groundbreaking gender equity law signed in 1972 would make a lasting impact by increasing the participation of girls and women in athletics.

In 1965, however, through the vision of one man, **Richard Beyst** an English and History teacher at Huff Junior High School, opportunities in athletics for young girls already began to change. That year, Beyst recruited a group of junior high school girls who became known as the **Lincoln Park Parkettes**, forming a highly competitive track and field and cross-country club. The girls soon began attending local meets and invitationals under the sponsorship of the Michigan Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). The affiliation with AAU, and under the watchful eye of coach Beyst, led to a core of highly disciplined and well-trained athletes, traveling state-wide and nationwide and even to Canada. The club was soon achieving championship level performances and a well-admired reputation.

The club would expand its age range from ages 9 to 18, affording younger girls the experience of being coached and supported by their team mentors, which often times included an older sister or two. As the club's reputation grew, it accepted new members from communities outside Lincoln Park, and the club changed its name to **Wolverine Parkettes** in 1968.

In November of 1969, the Wolverines won the Women's Cross Country National Championship title at Los Angeles. Runners on that championship team had by then acquired three or four years of top-level experience (see photo caption to the right). In early 1970, the State of Michigan issued a formal resolution commending the Parkettes and coach Dick Beyst on their achievements. Other championships followed in 1970 and 1971. The Parkettes also hosted a number of meets at Lincoln Park.

On March 26th, the museum will open an exhibit celebrating these young athletes, many who are today approaching their seventies. An opening reception will be held that afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The exhibit runs until Saturday, May 28th. At that time, a smaller permanent display will be put in place.



NATIONAL CHAMPION PARKETTES—After winning two AAU national cross-country championships November 29 in California, the Wolverine Parkettes (above) of Lincoln Park, received a gala homecoming. Theresa Rulison and Karen Zimmerman. In the second row are Pam Bagian, and the Ford sisters, Jackie and Patti. Standing in the back row are Mike Stasie (left), Debbie Johnson, Kathy Moore, Coach Richard Beyst.

Members of the Wolverine Parkettes team pictured who took the 1969 National AAU two-mile cross-country championship include: **Kate Moore, Theresa Rulison, Cheryl Bridges, Pam Bagian, Jacki Ford, Patti Ford, Sherice DuChamp, Karen Zimmerman, Lynn Olson, Debbie Johnson**; coach **Dick Beyst** stands in center of back row.



Some of the items featured in the new Wolverine Parkettes display, on exhibit through May 28th. A slide show of photos contributed by team members will also be featured.



This Wolverine Parkettes team uniform jacket was recently donated by Patti Ford Razo and is featured in the new exhibit.

Two Anniversaries: A 70th ...

The Lincoln Park Little League will commemorate its 70th birthday this year, having formed in 1952. To celebrate, the museum is mounting a special summer-long exhibit opening on June 18th and running until September 17th. Our June newsletter will feature more of this story.

We are currently seeking any Lincoln Park Little League memorabilia from local folks and former players of the many teams and divisions over these years. Items loaned to us will be returned in the fall at the close of the exhibit. Contact curator Jeff Day at 313-386-3137 or lpmuseum@gmail.com. Thank you.

.... and a 50th

The historical museum will soon celebrate its 50th year, having opened on May 5, 1972 in the newly-built addition at the back of the Lincoln Park library. Look for a special display on this history with a public reception coming up in the fall.

IN MEMORIAM



Mary Humphrey Meyer

January 3, 2022

Mary and her late husband Jerry were for many years dedicated to the work of the museum and historical society. Mary was the society's treasurer for over 20 years; Jerry served as Chair of the Historical Commission. Mary's parents William and Lucille Humphrey had operated the German Village tavern on Fort Street for more than a generation.

Don Wallace

March 6, 2022

Don and his late wife Wanda Jean, who passed in 2020, had been members for many years. Both grew up in Lincoln Park and married in 1955. Don was a Korean War vet, and a retired LP police officer. His growing years in the 30s and 40s became the basis for his well-received published recollections of youth, "Growing Up in Simpler Times...Memories of Lincoln Park".

We extend our deepest sympathies to their families on the losses of both Mary and Don.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

WELCOME! to New Members
 Jacki (Ford) and Jim Bilsborrow
 Carolyn Long
 Chris Swekel
 Elizabeth and Gerald Shaw

Thanks to our recent Benefactor Members, who have given over and above their membership dues for 2022: Jacki Ford Bilsborrow, Paul Zatyko.

Museum Donations

Tax-deductible donations of any amount will help us with our shortage for the current fiscal year, and may be sent to the "Lincoln Park Historical Society", 1335 Southfield Road, Lincoln Park, MI 48146. Donations can also be made via our website, using the link provided in the box on the last page for "Made in Lincoln Park" orders. Thank You.

The Historical Society & Museum website continues to offer updates with news and additional features covering Lincoln Park history. You will also find on the site virtual editions of some of our exhibits. www.lphistorical.org



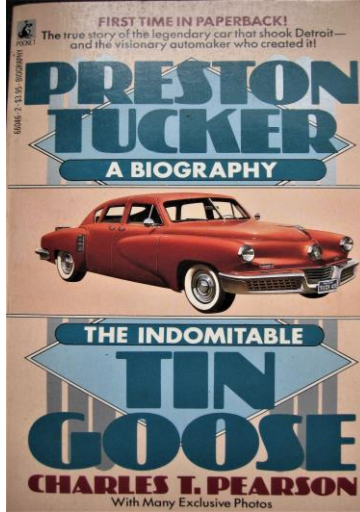
HERITAGE PLAZA ORDERS due by April 18th

The 2022 Heritage Plaza engraved pavers will be dedicated on Saturday, May 21 at the 12:00 noon Memorial bell-ringing ceremony.

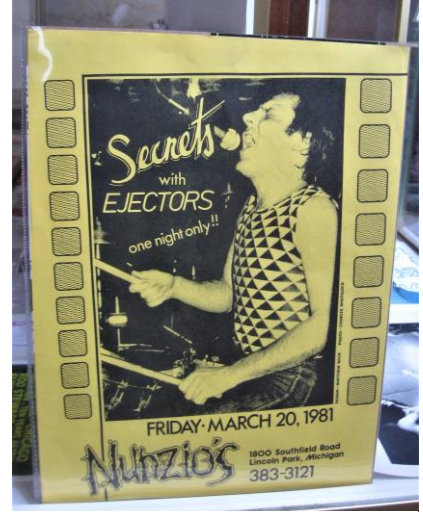
Costs for the engraved pavers are: \$100 for a 4” by 8” paver, and \$150 for the 8” by 8” paver. Order forms are available at the museum and on our website; city hall lobby; and public library; or by calling 313-386-3137. **Note: This season’s paver orders must be placed by Monday, April 18th.** Orders received after that date will be included in the 2023 dedication.

RECENT COLLECTION DONATIONS

Donations of Lincoln Park related artifacts to our collections have been received from Michael Coleman, Deborah Ciarlino Knight, Carolyn Long, John Monaghan, David Doss, Beverly Toth, Jacki Ford Bilsborrow, Patti Ford Razo, Sherice DuChamp Krzywonos, Pam Bagian Beyst, Rebecca Derminer, Tim Caldwell, Peter Stram, Mark Gering, Marlene Rinaldi, and the estate of Jack Zills.



A rare copy of the Preston Tucker biography, *The Indomitable Tin Goose* by Tucker associate Charles T. Pearson came to us from the estate of Lincoln Park resident Jack Zills.



Nunzio’s*, situated on Southfield Road near Dix, catered to Punk and New Wave rock live sets in the early 1980s. The group “Secrets” featured Dennis “Machine Gun” Thompson (ex-MC5 drummer from Lincoln Park), pictured on this flyer promoting the group’s appearance on March 20, 1981. *Contribution from John Monaghan.* *Joe Joe’s Bar is now at the same location.

Lincoln Park Historical Society Board and Museum Staff 2021-2022

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|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| President | Jim Nelson |
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| Secretary | Linda Mixer |
| Treasurer | Jim Mixer |
| Trustee | Alyce Riggs |
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| Membership Chair: | Sandi Horst |
| Website Manager: | Emily Solomon |
| Custodian: | Robert French |
| Director Emeritus: | Muriel Lobb |

Board meetings are held at 1:30 p.m. on the FOURTH Tuesday of each month. The Historical Society Newsletter is published quarterly. To be added to our email list and help us save on postage costs, please email us at: lpmuseum@gmail.com



This high school GAA sweater was recently donated to the museum by Carolyn Long, LPHS class of ‘65

CURRENT CALENDAR

The museum's first exhibit of the year opens on **Saturday, March 26: Lincoln Park Parkettes & Wolverine Parkettes** (see article on first page).

An opening reception for the public with club members in attendance from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The exhibit continues through Saturday, May 28.

April 18 – The deadline for 2022 Heritage Plaza paver orders is Monday April 18. Call us for more info or for an order form. More information on previous page.

Saturday, May 7 is the spring grounds clean-up day from 10am to 1pm. Refreshments provided to all volunteers. Bring work gloves.

Saturday, May 21st, the Annual Memorial Bell Ringing Ceremony and the Dedication of the newly-installed Heritage Plaza pavers and two new park benches on the east lawn of the museum, at 12 Noon.

This summer we will continue a look at community sports legacies with a special exhibit and program celebrating the **70th Anniversary of the Lincoln Park Little League program**. The exhibit is scheduled to open on June 18th and run through mid-September. Look for more info in our June newsletter.

With the recent relaxing of Covid restrictions by the CDC and Michigan Health Dept., we return to scheduling of indoor society programs this spring. Masking indoors is now optional, but is suggested. Policies may again change if public health circumstances change.

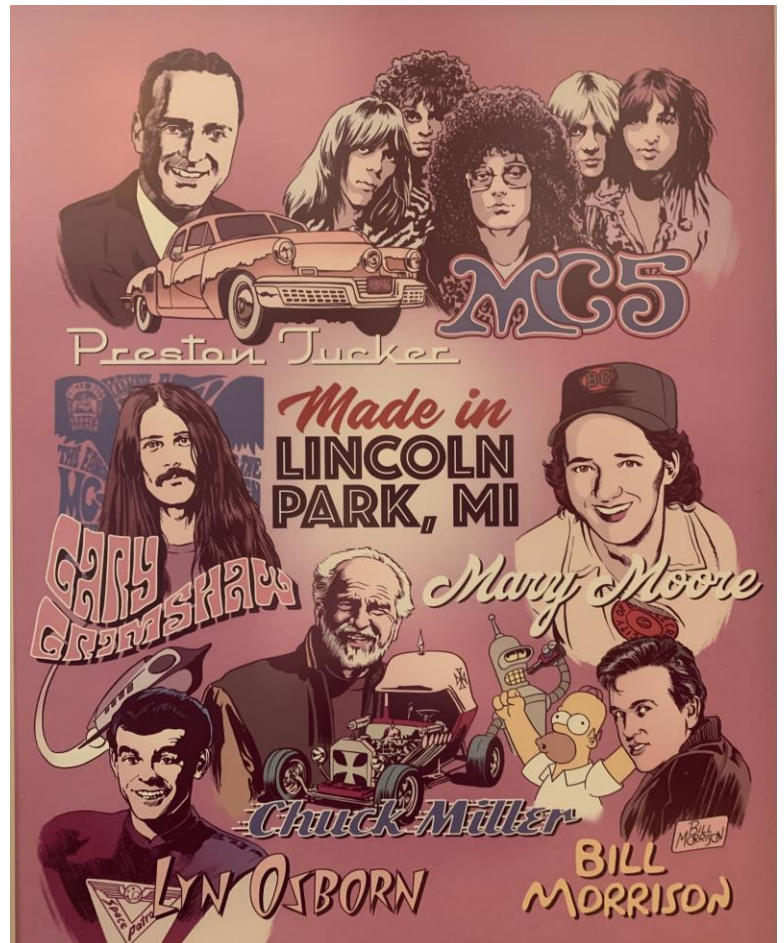
Online Orders for "Made in Lincoln Park" Prints

Out of town orders can be made by accessing the membership page at our website - see below link. Scroll down to the 'Donate Now' button and enter your information on the form and the amount you paid. (Member's price is \$35 plus \$5 shipping = \$40. Non-member price is \$50 plus \$5 shipping = \$55.)

These signed prints may also be purchased at the museum gift shop for the same cost. *Unsigned prints sell for \$25.*

Museum memberships are also available at our website – Fees for the membership levels can be paid for at the "Donate Now" button:

<https://www.lphistorical.org/become-a-member>



Thank You, Bill!

A huge thanks to Bill Morrison for his beautiful work creating the "Made in Lincoln Park" poster to help celebrate Lincoln Park's centennial. The poster features cultural icons who emerged from our community over the past 100 years.

Copies of the print, signed by **Morrison, Mary Moore and Chuck Miller** are available now at the museum gift shop. They are 11" by 14" and are perfect for framing. See box at left for online ordering.

Also available at the gift shop are prints created for the "**Chuck Miller Mobile Masterpieces**" exhibit this past summer and fall. These were created by artist Glenn Barr, and are signed by Chuck Miller.

Other prints and posters available for purchase include those featuring **The MC5** and **Gary Grimshaw**.

Stop by and check out the many unique offerings from our gift shop. All funds will help to support the historical museum, our mission, operation and programming and events. We accept cash, checks and credit cards.