First Decade — 1990

HISTORICAL
SOUVENIR BOOK
WELCOME FROM DORIS WADE

I can do all things thru Christ who strengthened me. PHILIPPIANS 4:13

For greater is he that is within me, than he that is in the world. 1 JOHN 4:4

This souvenir book is published to preserve and to share the Historical aspects of the Village of Sun River Terrace since it’s inception in 1980. The purpose of this is to promote a sense of unity, good will, concern for the community and fellowman, and to inspire young people to be proud of their Roots and Heritage.

This book is dedicated to:

The Mayor, Village Officials, Police Chief and Department, Ganeer Two Complex Community Organization, Committees, Consultants, Area Churches and all who have been a part of the success of the community.

It’s your Love, Respect, Commitment, Dedication and Determination that made Sun River Terrace a better place to live. You should be commended for all your efforts were without financial compensation for the past decade.

Special thanks to Mrs. Myrtle Anne Radford who assisted in compiling this booklet.

All proceeds from your contribution will be used to purchase playground/recreational equipment for the children of Sun River Terrace.

God Bless You,

Mrs. Doris Wade
Editor
SUN RIVER TERRACE

The Metamorphosis to a Corporation:

Six miles east of Kankakee, 6 miles north of St. Anne, 6 miles west of Momence, and north of Illinois Route 17, and along the banks of the Kankakee River, lies a quiet community comprised of approximately 600 residents who currently enjoy the status of living in Kankakee County's newest Village. Sun River Terrace's status is deceiving in light of the fact that many of the residents have lived in the community for decades, and have worked diligently building and stabilizing what is now one of the more progressive predominately black residential areas in the county.

Prior to its incorporation, the area consisted of five subdivisions: Eldorado Terrace, Kankakee Suburban Park, Riverwood, Sunset Hills Subdivisions I and II.

The derivation of the name resulted in the conjunction of names of each of the major subdivisions: Sunset Hills I and II, Riverwood, and Eldorado Terrace.

Many residents, having previously lived in Chicago and Kankakee, sought this area as an affordable alternative to noise and congestion of city living.

As the area grew and the use of its roads increased, residents became concerned about the infrequent maintenance being provided by the township governments.

In response to this concern: After Casey Wade, Jr. was elected Township Precinct Committeeman in April, 1978, he sent out fliers asking citizens of the community to meet with him on April 27, 1978 at the local church, Gethsemane Gardens - (Rev. Ervin Marshall, pastor) at 11:00 a.m. to discuss plans for better living conditions for the community.

From this meeting the Ganeer II Complex Community Organization was formed electing Henry Nichols, Sr. as president. Wade and Nichols brought residents of the entire community together to address this issue, and paved the way for the incorporation of the Village of Sun River Terrace. Surveys, petition drives, Pledge Drives, community meetings, referendums, and court hearings led to the incorporation of the Village of Sun River Terrace on June 14, 1980.

The vote to incorporate and the first election for Village Officials was held at Leonard Slaughter's garage.

On July 12, 1980, Casey Wade, Jr. was elected Village Mayor; Ruth Collins, Village Clerk. Village Trustees were Harrison Avant, Clarence Brown, Howard Kendall, Henry Nichols Sr., Willie M. Piel and Rudolph Slaughter.

By volunteering their time and talent, the elected officials of the Village have made great strides.

Street lights have been installed throughout the Village.

Streets and roads are maintained by the Village's own road truck. Roads have been opened to allow more than one way out of the Village.

The Village has its own Police Department and a fully equipped police vehicle.

In June, 1983, the Village moved into its own Village Hall.

The Summer Food Service Feeding Program for Children has been maintained by the Village.

The Summer CETA Youth Work Program has been sponsored by the Village continuously since 1980.

The Village has hosted the Village Festival for ten years. Also hosted was the community Fall Banquet.

The Village completely renovated the water house, wells, and pumping system, extended the water mains, installed fire hydrants throughout the village and erected a new 55,000 gallon water tower for sanitary drinking water throughout the community.

The sewer facility and pumping station were remodeled for sufficient sewer sanitation. These are some of the achievements made since the incorporation.

Since June 1980 the elected and appointed officials, the Police Department and all committees through total dedication, without financial compensation have willingly volunteered their time and talents to bring Sun River Terrace where it is today.

Queenie Nalion, a community pioneer, opened her heart and home over the years to needy children at Christmas. She reached out to the county's needy children by sponsoring a Christmas Party complete with entertainment, refreshments and gifts for each child. Mrs. Nalion is deceased and her presence is greatly missed.

The Mt. Calvary M.B. Church and pastor, Rev. Alex Bond, played a prime role in their unselfish financial contributions toward the success of the Village. All Village public meetings were held at Mt. Calvary without charge to the Village.

The Village Office was housed at the home of Casey Wade, Jr. without charge to the Village.

PRESENT VILLAGE ELECTED OFFICIALS
Casey Wade, Jr. ......................... Mayor
Ruth Collins ............................ Clerk
THREE TRUSTEES
Verba Dunn, Howard Kendall
Vermell Lockett, Jr., Charles Mittons
Henry Nichols, Willie Mae Piel

PRESENT VILLAGE APPOINTED OFFICIALS
Myrtle Radford ......................... Treasurer
Doris Wade ............................. Planning Commission
Raymond Radford ..................... Police Chief
Mary Davis ............................. President, Fund Raising Committee

There are still many large bridges to cross and we can all cross them together.

The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it.
Dear Citizens and Friends:

I have served you for the past ten years and would like to give you a summary of how far God has brought us in accomplishments that made Sun River Terrace a better and safer place to live. But first, I would like to give you a short history of our small community.

I have been a resident of this community since 1955. Only a few families lived in the area during that time. I helped build the first three houses in the previous subdivision of Eldorado Terrace. I watched the community grow from twelve families to 172-plus families. I watched the four-lane highway (Route 17 East) be built, the laying of the sod on the Shamrock Golf Course, and the beauty of the Kankakee River. Such beauty and improvement was surrounding this small community. However, before Sun River Terrace became a Village, many public needs of the people were not met. Some unmet needs were:

1. Unsafe contaminated drinking water and residents being without water sometimes weeks at a time.
2. The area was plagued with inadequate sewage disposal. The waste materials ran openly into the streets, the Kankakee River and sometimes the raw waste materials overflowed into the homes of the residents. At times, the offensive odor from the raw materials could be detected throughout the community.
3. Impassable roads over which many times school buses and the postman could not get through.
4. Poor lighting
5. Indiscriminate garbage dumping
6. Increased crime
7. No polling place

The dreams and hopes of the residents to live in a suburban country-like atmosphere was changing.

TODAY: “Praise God”

The Village of Sun River Terrace secured grant monies and have purchased the inadequate pre-existing water and sewer system and is now the sole owner.

The Village of Sun River Terrace secured grant/loan monies and completely renovated the water house, wells and pumping system,
extended the water mains throughout the village, installed fire hydrants throughout the village and erected a new 55,000 gallon one-pedestal water tower with the end result being sanitary drinking water throughout the community.

The Village secured grant monies and completely remodeled the sewer facility and pumping station. The end result is proper sewer sanitation and freedom from offensive odors.

The Village secured grant monies and built a new multi-purpose pole building for the Public Works Department.

The Village has its own Village Hall.
We maintain our own roads and streets.
We own our Village truck.
Street signs have been erected throughout the Village.
We have opened two new roads.
We have cleaned up the garbage dumping areas.
We have our own polling district.
Street lights are throughout the Village.

We have a fully equipped police car and police force. In June, 1980, the crime rate in Sun River Terrace was 15%. It is now 2%, showing a 13% decrease in crime. The Police Chief Laymond Radford has created a working system with the Kankakee County Sheriff Department that assists with full police backup and indirect dispatch service. A crime watch program has been established where community citizens have helped the police by reporting a crime while the crime was of a suspicious nature.

The Village has operated a state funded summer feeding program for children each summer for the past eight years.

The Village sponsored the summer youth work program each year for eight years.

The Village sponsored the Federal Food Commodity Program for the past six years.

In 1987 the Village was recognized by the State of Illinois and Governor Thompson in winning the Governor’s Hometown Award Recognition for outstanding community achievement to make Illinois an ideal state with volunteers.

Other social activities of citizens participating are Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, community dances, banquets, fashion shows, Halloween parties, weiner roasts, hay rides, sponsored the circus coming to Sun River Terrace three times, festivals, parades, dedications, ball games and memorial services each year and cornerstone laying.

Today, Sun River Terrace has come a long way and, we as a people, are proud of the many accomplishments made. We must never forget from where we have come. We should take pride in our heritage. We should set high goals and be motivated to achieve them.

I want to thank each and every citizen in Sun River Terrace for participating in promoting anything asked of you pertaining to the growth and upgrading of the Village. I thank my wife, Doris, who is my inspiration and who has worked diligently with me side-by-side. Not only is she a good wife, mother and grandmother, she is also the Village Planner and Deputy Clerk.

I want to commend the Village Clerk, Village Trustees, Police Department, committees, area churches and other individuals for willingly and unselfishly volunteering their time and talents without financial compensation. Through togetherness and dedicated efforts, Sun River Terrace is a better place to live.

I encourage all citizens to love their community, continue to support its efforts for further development in high standard, stay united with one another, and be proud of each milestone, for God is the Leader.

Thanks again and God Bless You All!

Your Mayor,

Casey Wade, Jr.
CASEY WADE, JR.

MAYOR OF SUN RIVER TERRACE

SINCE 1980
MRS. DORIS WADE

"THE LADY BEHIND THE MAN."
CHAIRPERSON, VILLAGE PLANNER AND DEPUTY CLERK

Since 1980

"I can not bear to be without Christ"
RUTH COLLINS

VILLAGE CLERK SINCE 1980
HENRY NICHOLAS, SR.

VILLAGE TRUSTEE SINCE 1980
POLICE OFFICER SINCE 1980
HOWARD KENDALL

VILLAGE TRUSTEE SINCE 1980
SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
WILLIE M. PIEL

VILLAGE TRUSTEE SINCE 1980
POLICE OFFICER FROM 1980 - 1987
FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
VERBA DUNN
VILLAGE TRUSTEE
BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

VERMELL LOCKETT
VILLAGE TRUSTEE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY OPERATOR
LAYMOND RADFORD

VILLAGE POLICE CHIEF SINCE 1981
ON THE POLICE FORCE SINCE 1980
MRS. MYRTLE G. RADFORD
VILLAGE TREASURER

BARBARA WILLIAMS
VILLAGE SECRETARY

CAROL SHEGOG
ACTING FUND RAISING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

MOTHER MARY DAVIS
FUND RAISING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

FORMER TRUSTEES

CARL EDWARDS
SARAH BARLOW
CLARENCE BROWN
RUDOLPH SLAUGHTER
CHARLES MITTONS

FORMER VILLAGE TREASURERS

LEONARD SLAUGHTER
GERTRUDE MITTONS

VILLAGE ATTORNEYS

GREGORY DECK
Not Pictured
DENNIS BARON

MRS. ROSE COVINGTON
VILLAGE CONSULTANT
New village formation up for vote

Residents of four unincorporated subdivisions along 111. 17 east of Kankakee will vote June 14 to decide if they want to incorporate as a village known as Sun River Terrace.

Approximately 540 persons live in the four subdivisions, which occupy about two square miles. The subdivisions are currently known as Kankakee Suburban Park, Sunset Hills, Eldorado Terrace, and Second Subdivision Sunset Hills.

The polling place will be Slaughter's Barber Shop, RR6, St. Anne, and the hours of polling will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The area lies between the Kankakee River and 111. 17 and is approximately five to seven miles east of Kankakee.

A petition seeking the election of incorporation was filed in Kankakee County Circuit Court, April 17. On May 20, Judge Daniel Gould held a hearing on the petition. After determining there were no objections, he ordered the election to be held on June 14.

Chosen as election judges were Doris A. Wade and Willie Mae Piel.

The petition asking for the incorporation as a village was signed by 120 persons.

Gregory Deck, an attorney representing the citizens, said today the purpose in forming a village is to bring some improvements to the community such as roads and sewers. The residents believe incorporation as a village would accomplish their purpose.

Vote favors new village

Sun River Terrace, a collection of five subdivisions east of Kankakee, became a new village after residents voted Saturday in favor of incorporation.

The vote was 106 in favor and 77 opposed. Adjusting for defective ballots, turnout in the election was 191 persons.

The village encompasses about two square miles inhabited by approximately 540 persons.

It includes the subdivisions of Eldorado Terrace, Sunset Hills, Kankakee Suburban Park, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills and River Wood.

Doris Wade, chairman of the Planners Board for Sun River Terrace said the next move would be a caucus to choose candidates for village posts. An election could come as soon as 20 days from now, Mrs. Wade said.

The caucus will be conducted by Ganeer II Community Improvement Association. Mrs. Wade said the planners board came into existence because of efforts by Ganeer II and the River Wood Improvement Club.

However, residents of River Wood petitioned to have their subdivision left out of the territory covered by the annexation.

Supervising Circuit Court Judge John Michela ruled Wednesday that River Wood be included in the election.

New village sets 1st election

Voters in the newly-formed village Sun River Terrace will find contests in Saturday's election for village president, clerk and trustees.

A lottery was conducted Monday by Kankakee County Supervising Circuit Court Judge John Michela to determine ballot placement for the village's first election.

Voters in five subdivisions east of Kankakee voted to incorporate June 14. Those subdivisions are Eldorado Terrace, Sunset Hills, Kankakee Suburban Park, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills and River Wood.

Michela wrote the names of the candidates for each office on separate pieces of paper and had attorney Gregory Deck draw the lots.
New village election day set for July

An election of officials for the newly-formed village Sun River Terrace will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 12 at Slaughter’s Barber Shop, RR6, St. Anne. Supervising Circuit Court Judge John Michela set the voting date Monday and established the rules for filing nominating petitions.

Residents of five subdivisions east of Kankakee had voted 106-77 June 14 to incorporate into the new village. Those subdivisions are Eldorado Terrace, Sunset Hills, Kankakee Suburban Park, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills and River Wood.

Voters will elect a village president, clerk and six trustees.

Nominating petitions, which require between 10 and 60 signatures, must be filed with the Kankakee County Circuit Clerk’s office by noon July 3, according to the judge’s order.

Deadline for filing objections to nominating petitions or for a candidate to withdraw from the election is noon July 7.

Ballot position will be determined by lottery during a court hearing at 1:30 p.m. July 7.

After the July 12 election, the votes will be canvassed by the court at 9:30 a.m. July 14.

The election is being supervised by the court, as required by state law, until the village government is established.

Wade elected president of newest village

Casey Wade Jr. received nearly 70 percent of the votes to become the first village president of the new Sun River Terrace village in elections held Saturday.

Wade received 114 votes to 49 for Mary E. McCain.

Ruth Collins was elected village clerk, pulling in 118 votes to Lena M. Rucker’s 39.

Henry Lee Nichols, Harrison Avant, Clarence R. Brown, Willie Mae Piel, Howard Kendall and Rudolph Slaughter were elected village trustees out of a field of 11 candidates.

“I’m very happy to win, and I think I can serve the people — in fact, I know I can,” Wade said late Saturday night. “I love them all.”

Wade said he plans to push for street improvements and equipment for snow removal in the next few months.

Festival for new village

Residents of Sun River Terrace, Kankakee County’s newest community, are planning a festival from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday in a closed-off section of the frontage road that leads to subdivisions from Ill. 17E. There will be games, a bake sale, flea market, dancing and home-cooked ribs. Proceeds will be used to defray costs involved in further development of the village. Sun River Terrace was formed June 14 by a vote of residents in five subdivisions east of Kankakee. From left are Ronnie Harwell, Berwin Williams, Dwayne Rone, Village Trustee Rudolph Slaughter and Village President Casey Wade Jr.

No date has been set for the first meeting of the village board.

Sun River Terrace was formed June 14, when voters in five subdivisions east of Kankakee approved incorporation. The subdivisions were Eldorado Terrace, Sunset Hills, Kankakee Suburban Park, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills and River Wood. Final results of the election were: president: Mary E. McCain 49; Casey Wade Jr. 114; village clerk: Ruth Collins 118; Lena M. Rucker 39; village trustees: Henry Lee Nichols 122; Harrison Avant 114; Clarence R. Brown 109; Queenie M. Mailon 45; Sammy A. Riley 53; Harris Fulton 50; Willie Mae Piel 107; Herbert L. Griffin 45; Charles A. Mittons Jr. 56; Howard Kendall 128; Rudolph Slaughter 117.
Voice of the People

Sun River should incorporate

ST. ANNE — Re: Efforts to incorporate Sun River Terrace.

We are sorry about the 11 people in River Wood Subdivision who are against the incorporation to the point that they wanted a court hearing right before the election to be held Saturday to vote for the Village of Sun River Terrace.

There was no consideration for the Rev. Avant, president of the Riverwood Improvement Club, and old-timer Rev. Jeffles, and 22 other people who signed a petition, put forth monies, time and effort to incorporate this small community along with Eldorado Terrace and Sunset Hills into one community.

We must admit the Aroma Township officials have been much more dependable and cooperative about the roads than the Ganeer II Township officials. A very small item has been asked for from both townships — a light to be placed at the River Wood turnoff. Both townships refused. The cost of the light would have been a maximum of $135 per year.

In the area of Ganeer II Township in the winter and early spring some of the roads are completely impassable. The mail is held up, as is the garbage truck and school buses, not to mention emergency vehicles. All of the above services have to be rerouted.

The Ganeer II Complex Community Improvement Association board with Mr. H. Nicholes as president and myself, Casey Wade, as precinct committeeman, have met with our Ganeer Township officials, headed by Mr. Gaylord Jensen, as supervisor, and Mr. Clifford Homberger, road commissioner, correspondent to our county board, state representative and governor. These meetings have all proven to be disappointing.

The Eldorado Terrace is in bad need of the water and sewer systems. The pumps are over 20 years old and for weeks at a time, when the pumps break down, the residences of over 200 people are completely without water. Last year, two large dogs were pulled out of the sewer system. It is completely open. Efforts on behalf of the Ganeer II Complex Community Improvement Association for demanding a fence have proved fruitless. Rev. A. Bord, pastor of the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Sunset Hills, donated the fence. We were told that the stew ordered the top off of the cesspool.

So we are still putting up with the smell. The entire area is fast becoming a dumping ground for garbage in all three areas. Roads have been closed. River Wood Subdivision only has one way out. In River Wood there are large holes of water standing for as long as six months at a time after the spring rains.

Snakes and mosquitoes and other insects have made this a paradise. There are lots of people in these subdivisions that feel that something can be done and that the community will have to put forth some effort to see that it is done.

The least little thing you do on your home to improve it, the taxes go up. We made an improvement on our home and the tax went up $175 in one jump.

We have nothing to say about our taxes. It is a waste of time to protest it. We wouldn’t feel so bad about it if the community we live in was receiving some of the benefits. A careful study was done by Ganeer II Complex Community Improvement Association before considering incorporation, this being the only resource or alternative to beautify the community and to improve some of the bad conditions. We don’t know of any community in this state that has a main highway and a river front all at the same time. The community is a residential area. We would like to see it stay that way.

Being incorporated, we can keep such things as taverns and any other source out of the community. Right now, we don’t have a voice.

In the last few days, there has been great effort made to the people in the area from people outside the community. You would wonder what their interest could be.

The people that are for incorporation are for it because it will build up the community for our children and their children.

The community can only be what we make it. Let’s make an effort and make it what we, the residents of the area, want it to be.

Casey Wade Jr.
Doris Wade

Rt. 6, Box 200

Sun River Terrace project

Sun River Terrace workers, from left, Sterling Riley, Bennie Hedrick, Ronnie Harwell and Dwayne Womble spread gravel on Illinois Street in the village Tuesday. Since incorporation this summer, Sun River Terrace has purchased this gravel truck, a snowplow and salt spreader and has completed improving Second and Illinois streets. The village also has had street lights installed at 17 locations, including one at the Ill. 17 and frontage road intersection.
RIVERWOOD SUBDIVISION RESIDENTS FIGHT FOR DETACHMENT FROM TOWN

By Rosalind Jackler, Journal writer

Residents of the small area called Riverwood Subdivision aren’t just fighting city hall — they’re trying to eliminate it. They want to sever themselves from the village of Sun River Terrace — a group of five subdivisions about six miles east of Kankakee and north of Illinois 17 — which was incorporated only last summer.

About 20 residents of the village sat in the courtroom of Kankakee County Circuit Judge Wayne Dyer this morning for the beginning of a hearing to disconnect Riverwood from Sun River Terrace. “Most of these people are out of the city (of Chicago) and they want to live in the country without any officials,” said Sheldon Reagan, attorney for the Riverwood residents. “They want to be left alone.”

The village itself encompasses about two square miles and has a population of about 540 persons. How many live in Riverwood is unclear because of a large transient population, several residents said.

Presently, village officials — including President Casey Wade Jr. and the five voluntary policemen who use their own cars when dispatched by Wade — receive no pay. Donations account for the only money in the village’s coffers.

As a village, however, it can levy for property taxes. And the village wants to collect $8,200 in property taxes this year, according to the levy filed in the county clerk’s office.

Some of the people watching today’s hearing do not live in Riverwood but want the subdivision to be the victor in its move to pull out of the village. “If Riverwood pulls out, I think we’ll have a ‘chance’ to withdraw, too, said Annie Bell Walton, who lives in Sunset Hills, one of the other subdivisions in the village.

She and another Sunset Hills resident, Elizabeth Collins, complained about how the village was incorporated. When the original petition was being circulated, they said, they were told it was to gravel the roads and install street lights. Both women said they didn’t know it would create a governmental body.

“We’re up here to see if he’ll (the judge) break it up,” Ms. Collins said.

Village attorney Gregory Deck led today’s hearing with a motion to block Riverwood’s petition to disconnect from the village, but the hearing was continued until a later date.

This is not the first time Riverwood residents have objected to the village. Before the incorporation vote was taken, they filed a petition to withdraw from the proposed boundaries of Sun River Terrace. That move, however, was rejected and residents of the area voted 106-77 to create the village June 14.

The subdivisions that compose Sun River Terrace are Eldorado Terrace, Kankakee Suburban Park, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills and Riverwood.

required public hearings on use of the revenue sharing money — a time when community residents can make requests and recommendations for spending from that fund.

The list was not long. One young man asked for recreational facilities — basketball courts, baseball diamonds — both of which are being developed with cooperation of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, which the village also uses as a meeting hall.

Work was being done on the basketball courts Tuesday and the goals will be put up as soon as weather permits, said Trustee Henry Nicholas. The baseball diamond is waiting for play and equipment will be available, he said.

There is one restriction — since the facilities are on church-owned land, “You cannot play on Sunday — period,” he told the youngsters.

Sun River Terrace ends fiscal year with money to spare, not to spend

By Robert Themer, Journal writer

SUN RIVER TERRACE — The village of Sun River Terrace is closing out its first full fiscal year “with revenue to spare … but not to spend.”

Trustee Sarah Barlow, finance chairman, characterized the village’s financial status in that way Tuesday night after she delivered a report on revenue and spending for the fiscal year that will end April 30.

The village of about 550 residents was incorporated two years ago June 14, combining the communities of Riverwood, Sunset Hills and Eldorado Terrace into a municipal body with taxing powers.

The first partial fiscal year brought no local real estate taxes to the village. Revenue from state income taxes, community projects, donations and other sources totaled $11,600.

The second year brought real estate taxes of $7,447; more than twice as much state income tax ($10,248) and total revenue of $29,045 — including a $9,14 balance from the first year.

Expenditures totaled $24,774.19; with nearly 60 percent ($14,006) spent on public works — primarily on streets.

Improvements in the roads was the primary reason the village was incorporated, said planning committee chairman Doris Wade. “We’ve put more stone on the streets here in the last year than there ever was before,” she said.

Despite the fact that the village officials spent more than twice as much on public works as they had planned (they budgeted $6,600), the village will end the year an estimated $4,281 in the black, Ms. Barlow reported.

Economy elsewhere allowed more spending on streets and other improvements; and even made up for insurance costs that ran $1,100 more than expected.

Perhaps because the village officials serve without pay, administrative expenses were only 60 percent of the budget’s allowance — only $5,406.77 rather than $9,280.

Only $332 was spent on the police department, which had a budget of $3,400.

Still, as Ms. Barlow said, there’s no money to spend. The $4,281 year-end balance will include $3,252 of federal revenue sharing money, all of which is in bank deposits for future use.

Cash flow is tight. To pay this month’s bills, the village spent $598 into the hole, borrowing temporarily from its audit fund.

Tuesday night brought the first of two

The Sunday Journal, Kankakee, Ill., May 24, 1981

Staying in Sun River Terrace

Riverwood Subdivision will remain part of the year-old village of Sun River Terrace, a Kankakee County Circuit Court judge has ruled.

A petition by Riverwood residents to disconnect from the village fell one signature short of the number needed to consider the issue, said Judge Wayne Dyer in his order Thursday.

At least 24 voters had to sign the petition, but the judge ruled it contained only 23 valid signatures.

Dyer had taken the issue under advisement Feb. 20.

This was the second attempt by Riverwood residents to sever themselves from Sun River Terrace. Before the residents voted to incorporate in June, Riverwood had petitioned to be left out of the territory covered by the annexation.

Supervising Circuit Court Judge John Michela had ruled that the subdivision had to be included in the referendum on incorporation.

Five subdivisions with about 540 residents make up Sun River Terrace, six miles east of Kankakee north of Illinois 17.

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Unassuming Sun River showing solid progress

Six miles east of Kankakee, north of Illinois 17 lies a quiet unassuming community comprised of approximately 540 residents who currently enjoy the status of living in Kankakee County's newest village.

Sun River Terrace's status is deceiving in light of the fact that many of the residents have lived in the community for decades and have worked diligently building and stabilizing what is now one of the most progressive residential areas in the county.

Prior to its incorporation, the area consisted of five subdivisions: Eldorado Terrace, Kankakee Suburban Park, Riverwood, Sunset Hills Subdivision I and II. Many residents, having previously lived in Chicago and Kankakee, sought this area as an affordable alternative to the noise and congestion of city living.

As the area grew and the use of its roads increased, residents became concerned about the infrequent maintenance being provided by the township government.

In response to this concern, the Gasser II Complex Community Organization was assembled and spearheaded by Henry Nicholes, bringing residents of the entire area together to address this issue. The work of this group paved the way for incorporation of the village.

Surveys, petition drives, community meetings, referendum and court hearings led to the incorporation of the village of Sun River Terrace on June 14, 1980.

The first election was held on July 12, 1980, electing a village board of trustees, other officers and Casey Wade, Jr., mayor of the Village. Having resided in the area many years, devoting a great deal of time to community development, Wade has taken the reins of village government and is currently guiding the village through its infancy with a great deal of success.

Volunteering their time and talent, the elected officials of the village have made great strides. Street lights have been installed throughout the village.

A road truck with snow plow has been purchased and utilized to spread tons of gravel in addition to providing adequate snow removal. In cooperation with the county's CETA program, the village has been able to perform a number of public works projects - cleaning roadsides, filling pot holes, installing street signs, mowing grass in public areas and park maintenance. A police department has been assembled and outfitted with a fully equipped police vehicle.

The establishment of priorities, open communication, sound fiscal management and a deep commitment to the community has characterized the leadership of Sun River Terrace.

As proof of their careful handling of village government, the first full fiscal year was closed out in the black with ample funds carried over into the following year enabling the group to proceed with the acquisition of the village hall, purchased in January 1983.

Each year the village has sponsored two public fund raising events. The Franzen Brothers Circus, featuring 50 wild and domestic animals, an elephant act and international performers, has attracted hundreds of children and their parents from throughout Kankakee County.

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church hosts this event each spring on the church grounds located on the frontage road with easy access to Illinois 17. In August of each year the village sponsors a summer festival featuring a variety of activities including a flea market, bake sale, barbecue, adult and children's games and dancing.

Last year's festival opened with a full scale parade complete with marching bands, rodeo performers on horseback, and floats. The Western Jamaica Folk Dance Company highlighted the day's festivities with a performance of traditional Jamaican entertainment complete with authentic musical instruments and costumes.

Plans for 1983 are in the final stages of completion. Currently the village has the following activities on the drawing board.

A Police Banquet is scheduled for April. It will be a fund raiser to benefit the village police department, with guest speakers from county and state law enforcement agencies.

The Village Hall Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is slated for June, and will be a display of the new village hall and tour. This activity will be followed by the annual community picnic.

The performances of the Franzen Brothers Circus is in the planning stages, but dates have not yet been confirmed.

The Village Festival will be held Aug. 20. This activity will include a parade, entertainment and the crowning of the village king and queen. A Banquet and Fashion Show is scheduled for November, and will be an annual village fund raiser.

Aside from the activities and successes of the new village government, Sun River Terrace is the home of a number of other notable humanitarian activities that bring the village into full focus as a community comprised of people who are not just concerned about their physical surroundings.

Queenie Naillon, a community pioneer, has opened her heart and home each year for a number of years to needy children at Christmas. Even in her senior years, Mrs. Naillon continues her tradition of reaching out to the county's needy children sponsoring a Christmas party complete with entertaining refreshments and gifts for each child.

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church, under the leadership of the Rev. Alex Bond has extended itself into many facets of life both in the village and beyond.

The outreach program of this religious organization is grappling with the social illnesses plaguing our communities and is proving to be a stabilizing force in the growth and development of the community with its unselfish contributions toward the success of the Village of Sun River Terrace.

Village Hall

Sun River Terrace to celebrate 'Rainbow's End'

SUN RIVER TERRACE - After three years, the village of Sun River Terrace will dedicate its first village building Saturday at this year's annual summer festival - the new village hall.

Since the incorporation of Riverwood, Sunset Hills and Eldorado Terrace communities June 14, 1980, the village of Sun River Terrace has been surviving on a limited budget. But, the village of about 560 residents has a village maintenance truck, police car and now a village hall.

This year's event - "Sun River Terrace - The Rainbow's End" will include ribbon cutting ceremonies conducted officially opening the village hall for business.

A parade will start from the Leonard Slaughter Barber Shop, Washington and First streets, at 11 a.m. Saturday and end at the new village hall on Chicago Street, with a dedication ceremony of the hall and village flag. Dr. Leonard Porter will be Master of Ceremony.

U.S. Representative Ed Madigan and Illinois Rep. Charles Pangle will participate in the parade and the noon ceremonies, according to Trustee Sarah Barlow.

Local officials will include Mayor; Norman Grimesley, Armin Park; Ernest J. Mooney, Bourbonnais, and Napoleon Haney, Pembrooke.

Then all residents are invited to a picnic much like a "family reunion" in the park across from the village hall.

"It'll be like one big family," Mrs. Barlow said. "It's going to be a glorious event - it only happens once."

And, official are holding the party not only for the community, but to let everyone in the county know the community exists.

"We are the newest incorporated village in the area and we'd like to have our own identity," she added. "We want people to know us and know where we are."

Village officials are busy working on the village hall putting in the final touches. Much of the time and energy put into the hall has been from volunteers, according to Ms. Barlow.

"It's been a voluntary effort from day one - total dedication," she said.

And the building will be put to use right away as the Sun River Terrace lunch program begins at 11 a.m. today for children 18 and under.

Proud of their new village hall are Sun River Terrace village board trustees, from left, Howard Kendall, White Mae Piel, Henry Nicholes, Sarah Barlow and village president Casey Wade, Jr.
Cornerstone added

The village hall in Sun River Terrace was fitted with a cornerstone Saturday — a year after the hall was opened. The occasion was the 4th anniversary of the village’s creation. The Rev. James Smith, left, pastor of Second Baptist Church of Kankakee, assisted Village President Casey Wade Jr. with the ceremony. A public birthday party followed the cornerstone service.

VILLAGE TRUCK

The Daily Journal, Kankakee, Ill.

June, 1986 — Chief Laymond Radford and Officer John Warks.

OUR VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

OLD


NEW

Mayor Wade and Chief Radford.

Mayor Wade and Chief Radford.

Kevin Walker - Police Dept. 1980-1982. Also President of the Zoning Board of Appeal, 81-82.

PHOTO AT LEFT: Gloria Slaughter, left, Ruth Collins, Howard Kendall and Doris Wade go over final plans for Sun River Terrace’s village fest to be held 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday. One of the special attractions will be a performance by the Western Jamaica Folk Dance Company at 3 p.m. at the north end of the village in the Eldorado Terrace section. Sun River Terrace, the county’s newest village, is six miles east of Kankakee off Illinois 17 East.
Performing at Sun River Terrace

Shannett Hubert, far left, 6-year-old daughter of Juanita Hubert of Sun River Terrace, was showing off her “pomponing” skills and her T-shirt during Saturday’s festival at Kankakee County’s newest village. Left, Frank, 3, and Renee, 5, children of Lynn and Frank Johnson, show their techniques in a karate demonstration. Approximately 1,000 visitors were on hand to see the parade and take part in other activities. A highlight of the afternoon was a program by the Western Jamaica Folk Dance Company.


Noisy birthday party

4-year-old Carol Shegos of Sun River Terrace found the community’s third anniversary celebration a bit too noisy for her liking. She prepared to hold her ears as a fire engine rolled by with sirens blaring in Saturday’s parade. U.S. Rep. Edward Madigan and local public officials helped the village celebrate and dedicate its new village hall.
Sun River’s Prince

Prince may not have made a guest appearance at the Sun River Terrace festival, but Jarmaine and Jaymce Lee seem to have the rock star’s act down. They also escaped the rain that dampened the morning, to have a pleasant afternoon for the village’s 5th anniversary celebration. Jarmaine, as Prince, is the 5-year-old grandchild of Paul and Brenda Lee. His sister Jaymce, 2-year-old, is dressed as Appolonia, the girlfriend of the popular singer.

Western Jamaica Folk Dancers
Sun River Terrace Festival
August, 1982
Sun River royalty

18-month-old Shenille Barlow, daughter of Sheryl Barlow, was selected Sun River Terrace baby of the year 1983 at the summer festival celebrated this past weekend.

Above, from left, are village Princess Elisa Berry, 12, daughter of John and Dianne Berry; Queen Tamiko Radford, 14, daughter of Laymond and Anne Radford; King Eugene Wilson, 15, son of Devira Wilson and the late Rev. Eugene Wilson; and Prince Anthony Wilson, 12, Eugene's younger brother.

Sun River Terrace honors ...

Brandi La Starr Ward, 9 months, daughter of Daphne and John Ward as Sun River Terrace's cutest baby; and clockwise Kidadah Douglas, 5, daughter of Talmadge and Sarah Douglas, princess; Verzel Randall, 10, son of Clarance and Lena Randall, prince; Michael Wilson, 14, son of DeVeria Wilson, king; and Elisa Berry, 13, daughter of John Berry, queen, at the community's festival Saturday. The celebration was the fourth since the village was incorporated.
Judy, Sherri win

One of the highlights of the 5th anniversary of Sun River Terrace Saturday was the crowning of a queen and princess. Judy Sykes, 23, far left, was selected queen. She is the daughter of Hazel Sykes of Sun River Terrace. Sherri Timms, left, won as princess. She is the 13-year-old daughter of Dorothy and Elliott Timms of Sun River Terrace. Various games and entertainment filled the day and food specialties were available.

Sun River Terrace royalty

Kidadah Douglas, 7, daughter of Paul and Sarah Douglas (left) was named princess of the court over the weekend at the annual Sun River Terrace Festival. Tina Thomas, 15, daughter of Mary Thomas, was named queen. And the cutest kids made festival-goers see double. Ashley Marie and Andrea LaTreace Yancy, twin daughters of Stephen and Jacqueline Yancy, outdistanced the field in the baby contest.
Sun River royalty

This year’s royalty was chosen at the annual Sun River Terrace village anniversary celebration Saturday. In photo at left, from left are: princess Kidadah Douglas, 8, daughter of Paul and Sarah Douglas; queen Denise Williams, 15, daughter of Mildred and Leon Mayo; king Shawn Radford, 15, son of Laymond and Ann Radford; and prince Zachary Mason, 12, who resides with his aunt, Hazel Sykes. Last year’s queen was Tina Thomas, 17, who resides with Mrs. Mary Thomas. Baby of the year, top, is Tyler Monique Sexton, 3 months, daughter of Doria Sexton. The day’s activities included food, games and a dedication of the new village water tower, a pivotal project with the village’s new sewage treatment facility in winning the “Governor’s Home Town Award” for the community.
Sun River Terrace festival royalty

Royalty abounded at the Sun River Terrace community festival Saturday, when babies, children and senior citizens were honored. From left above, are Queen Kimberly Shegog, 13; King Jason Springer, 15; Prince Jovan Marshall, 7; and Princess Kidelah Douglas, 9. At right, Ruby Gonzalez was honored for her outstanding work as a Cub Scout leader. At left, Mother Mary Davis was named senior citizen of the year. Runner-up was Mother Almel Phillips. Baby of the year was Raquel Beene, daughter of Anthony Beene.

Sun River royalty

Royalty from the 9th Annual Sun River Terrace Festival are: from top, Queen Darnice Shannon, 16, daughter of Mrs. Yvonne Shannon; prince Orick Mitchell, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Armstead Mitchell; princess Tina Williams, 9, daughter of Mrs. Barbara Williams; and Derricus Hudson, 2, son of Ms. Angela Hudson. Not pictured is King Keith Williams, 17, son of Mrs. Henrietta Wilson. The festival was held Saturday.

Mother Mary Davis

A recipe for a happy home from Mother Mary Davis,
4 cups of love 2 tsp. spn of tenderness
2 cups of loyalty 1 bowl of laughter
3 cups of friendship 5 lbs. of hope
1 cup of forgiveness 4 qts. of faith
Take love and loyalty mix with faith, blend it with tenderness and understanding. Add friendship and hope, then sprinkle with laughter. Bake it with sunshine. Serve daily with generous helpings.

Mrs. Ruth Stout

Stout, Davis, B. Mason, Breckenridge, B. Breckenridge.
102nd birthday

Ollie Alford of rural St. Anne celebrated her 102nd birthday Sept. 3 at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Arthur and Almer Phillips with whom she resides. A son, Guy Alford of Chicago, also was a host. A daughter, Rose Gordon, is of Mer Rouge, La. Mrs. Alford’s other seven children are deceased. She was born Ollie Overton, Sept. 2, 1887, in Galliano, La. Her husband, Green Alford, died in 1945. Mrs. Alford has 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.
Scouts host area camp-out

Sun River Terrace Village Hall was the scene of "S.R.T. Mania" on July 9 — courtesy of the Girl Scout troops of Sun River Terrace. All girls, 5-17 years old, who lived in the area were invited to come and learn about the Girl Scout program.

Evening events included instruction on fire building including safety, types of wood and the proper way to lay a fire taught by Janice Miller. The 25 Sun River Terrace girls enjoyed a campfire stew supper and shared the clean-up.

After supper, they participated in several activities. Julie Miller, a Cadette Girl Scout from Bradley, taught parachute games. Daphne Works, Bourbonnais, co-leader of the Sun River Terrace Brownie Troop, led the girls in aerobics; and Debra Lee, a resident of Sun River Terrace, and a nurse for the Kankakee County Community Action Program, taught a class in fitness.

De Vera Wilson, a beautician from Sun River Terrace, gave a session on hair care and styling and face care.

Sun River Terrace Site of Girl Scout "S.R.T. Mania"

Sun River Terrace Village Hall was the scene of S.R.T. Mania on July 9. This event was hosted by the Girl Scout Troops of Sun River Terrace for all Sun River Terrace girls 5-17 years old to introduce them to the Girl Scout program.

The evening began with instruction on fire building including safety, types of wood, and the proper way to lay a fire taught by Janice Miller. This was followed by laying a fire and preparing supper over it.

The 25 Sun River Terrace girls who attended used a Koper Chart there by sharing the responsibility of cooking, fire building and tending, hosting and clean-up. Supper consisted of bugs-on-a-log, campfire stew and carrot sticks all prepared by the girls.

After supper the girls were broken into two groups by age; five to eleven year old girls and twelve years old and up. Both groups participated at different times in the same activities adapted to their age levels.

Julie Miller, a Cadette Girl Scout from Bradley taught parachute games.

Daphne Works, Bourbonnais and a co-leader of the Sun River Terrace Brownie troop lead the girls in aerobics. Through the aerobics, Debra Lee taught small groups of girls how to take blood pressure, pulse rate and temperature. Each girl got to try her skills on someone else and finished by taking a test on what she had learned. Debbie is a resident of Sun River Terrace and works as a nurse for KCAP.

De Vera Wilson, a beautician from Sun River Terrace, gave a session on hair care and styling and face care. She also covered such fine points of being a lady as good posture, nail care, good hygiene, and how to dress.

The evening was cut short by the lightening and threat of tornadoes. The girls didn’t get to fix s’mores and the older girls missed a session on makeup.
Happy Hallo-weiner

Aletha Breckenridge was pretty pleased with herself Wednesday night when Sun River Terrace Mayor Casey Wade Jr. gave her a weiner he cooked especially for her. The weiner roast was the village alternative to having youngsters go out for tricks or treats. There also was a party at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church for more Halloween fun. Aletha is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Breckenridge.

Sun River Terrace plans Halloween party

SUN RIVER TERRACE — Village and church officials in Sun River Terrace are sponsoring Halloween parties Wednesday as an alternative to trick-or-treating.

The village asks that residents not give treats at their doors — a method of preventing problems with sabotaged or contaminated treats.

Instead, trick-or-treaters should be sent to the village or church party, said Doris Wade, village planning commission chairman.

Her husband, Mayor Casey Wade, Jr. and village officials are sponsoring a Halloween weenie roast at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the village hall for all children in the village.

A Halloween party sponsored by the Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church will follow the weenie roast. Parents are asked to accompany small children.

Good old times

Sometimes the good old times can produce good new times — as was the case at the Sun River Terrace village Halloween party for kids Friday. A substitute for trick-or-treating, the party included a hayride and games. At left, Mrs. Elmer Hudson shows youngsters how to grab an apple on a string. Above, Brian O'Brien, 7, son of Renard and Esther O'Brien tries himself.
Queenie’s 37th party

About 100 youngsters turned out Saturday for Queenie Nailon’s 37th annual children’s Christmas party at Sunset Hills Masonic Temple east of Kankakee. Mrs. Nailon, right, who is 84 and handicapped, was assisted by the Rev. George Klepec and members of Church Women United.

The Daily Journal, December 23, 1984

Katherine Price, at rear, is president of the women’s group. Leon McRay of St. Anne has a place of honor on Mrs. Nailon’s lap. There was entertainment and the guests had seasonal refreshments and received gifts.

Caroling children make a joyful noise to the lonely

By Molly Jaeger, Journal writer

While most youngsters are tearing open their gifts this morning, a group of more than 20 young people are delaying their holiday celebrations to bring special Christmas joy to elderly in the area.

They met at the home of Hazel Sykes of Sun River Terrace and set off in two donated vans to sing carols at senior citizen apartment buildings in Kankakee, and at some 30 homes in their own area.

This is the fifth year that Ms. Sykes has headed the project which she organized in 1983, following the sudden death of her son.

To help her get through the holidays that year — “I didn’t want to put up the Christmas lights, I wanted to do something to outreach to others” — she gathered a few children between the ages of 8 and 12 years from Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church and taught them some carols. Then she took them out on Christmas morning to surprise older residents with baskets of fruit and candy and joyful music.

The effort has grown, both in the number of people participating and the amount of miles they travel. Ms. Sykes says that the older children won’t leave the group, so it keeps expanding. A Santa was added when Paul Timm of Sun River Terrace volunteered to drive a van for the group.

Last year, Dr. Leonard Porter and Mary Ann Alexander of Sun River Terrace joined the group.

Porter led a carol practice recently to teach the group some new songs. And this year, eight members of the Sun River Terrace Boy Scout troop have been added to the caravan.

“We even have a drummer boy,” Ms. Sykes laughed.

She now receives donations for candy and fruit, but in the beginning she financed the project herself by recycling pop cans and selling cosmetics.

It was through the cosmetic sales that she became aware of just how many lonely elderly people were in her area.

“They would place orders so that I would have to come and see them. I have found ladies that were sick and hadn’t eaten, so I would fix them something,” she recalled. “One old lady said to me, ‘You young people can’t take time with us old people.’ And I said to her, ‘Try me and see.’

And she has kept her word each Christmas even though one bitterly cold holiday had a wind chill of 50 below zero and she and the children had to form a chain in order to get across the icy streets. The response of the people, though, was as warm as the weather was cold, and that made the experience one of the group’s most rewarding.

“I want to teach the children to give rather than receive. They aren’t supposed to open their presents until they get home — that’s their sacrifice for Christmas.”

The Sunday Journal, Kankakee, Ill., December 25, 1988

Above, as they prepare to sing carols and give Christmas treats to area elderly, are some of the Sun River Terrace children and adults who have made their Christmas morning forays a tradition. From left, are Santa (Paul Lee of Kankakee); Hazel Sykes, who has organized the group for the past five years; Diana Goosby, 11; and O'Stiek Mitchell, 12; all of Sun River Terrace. Below, Lashonda Goosby, 14, of Sun River Terrace, gives fruit and candy to Cordelious William of Kankakee, before she leaves for church.

The boys in the group are shown above. From left, are Cris Pitts, son of Johnny and Ronnie Pitts; Roger Sykes Jr., son of Roger Sykes; Jovan Riley, son of Garrick and Debbie Riley; and Victor Pitts, brother of Cris. They also are all of St. Anne.
Sun River Terrace 24 Annual Circus
June 2, 1981 2 Shows 6-8 p.m.
Call for tickets: 815-937-1219

COMING SOON to the Village of Sun River Terrace!
"America’s Favorite Show!"
FRANZEN BROS. CIRCUS
The world’s finest performers, circus rides, and midway games.
June 26, 1986 2 Shows 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Village of Sun River Terrace, 17 E., 2 miles east of Kankakee.
Call for tickets: 815-937-1219

Sun River Terrace Annual Circus

SUN RIVER TERRACE ANNUAL BANQUET & FASHION SHOW

Continued to Next Page
MORE ANNUAL BANQUET & FASHION SHOW PICTURES
ICC probes Sun River Terrace water firm

SUN RIVER TERRACE — The corporation responsible for water and sewer service in Eldorado Territory is under investigation by the Illinois Commerce Commission for failure to comply with ICC regulations.

About 350 residents of the subdivision have had repeated problems with water service for the past several years. Water has been shut off much of the last two weeks and a boil order has been in effect for a month.

The residents have asked for an ICC hearing on their complaints and Sun River Terrace village officials have been studying the possibility of taking over the bankrupt firm, Kankakee Utilities Corp.

The company has been bankrupt since 1966 and now appears to be little more than a tax write-off for Chicago attorney Nicholas Constantine, associate of the Illinois court-appointed receiver Michael Macino.

As receiver, Macino has responsibility for operation of the corporation. He reportedly has not filed required ICC annual reports for the past five years and, as a result, the state permits under which Kankakee Utilities operates could be revoked, according to Marvin Farner of the ICC’s accounting department.

Investigation of the corporation’s non-compliance “is moving right along,” said Patric Maxwell, ICC public relations director. “We’re building a case. The company should be cited (for non-compliance) by the end of the month. ICC officials have not received a petition for the public hearing requested by Eldorado Terrace residents, Ms. Maxwell said.

Agency officials have been helping village officials in their investigation of the water and sewer problems and possible solutions, she said.

ICC officials have provided Mayor Casey Wade Jr. with information about Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regulations and with data about alternative water systems, Ms. Maxwell said.

Doris Wade, chairman of the village planning committee, said officials have been investigating the problem for eight months.

The village is considering acquiring the Eldorado system and expanding it for the entire village, but not in a way which would force residents with their own wells to participate, she said.

Sun River Terrace considers court action to take over Eldorado Terrace water, sewer

By Robert Themer, Journal writer

SUN RIVER TERRACE — Village officials of Sun River Terrace may go to court to obtain management responsibility over the bankrupt company which provides water and sewer service to the Eldorado Terrace subdivision.

“We would like to take over the receivership if we could,” said Village President Casey Wade Jr.

That will involve going to court, said Wade’s wife, Doris, who is also chairman of the village planning board.

The company, Kankakee Utilities Corp., has been bankrupt since 1966. It is now managed by Chicago businessman Michael Macino, who has been court-appointed receiver since August 1978.

But, Wade said, “We think we could do more with it. We have to live with it.”

Macino and his associate, Chicago attorney Nicholas J. Constantine, acquired interests in the company in 1972 through the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp., Constantine said.

Although the company loses money regularly, the two men are not anxious to be relieved of it, he indicated.

“If they think they’re going to put the heat on and have us walk away from it, they have been badly advised,” Constantine said.

He and Macino have invested heavily in the company over the years, thinking that housing development would resume in the area and a profitable water and sewer enterprise would be one result, Constantine indicated.

And, he said, they will demonstrate at Illinois Commerce Commission hearings into residents’ complaints that service has not been as bad as is maintained.

“We’ve got a lot of money sunk into this thing,” Constantine said. “They can decry it, but it’s there and functioning. The wells, the lines, the tanks are all there, and working. It has not been one disaster after another.”

Constantine and Macino both said they believe housing growth will resume in the area the utility serves, which is now part of the year-old village of Sun River Terrace. “I think it’s time has come,” Constantine said.

Despite service problems in the past several years, the system has built-in capacity for expansion, Macino said.

After they acquired interests in the company in 1972, water and sewer lines were extended to 11 home sites in Eldorado Terrace and 32 in Sunset Hills subdivision at a cost of $44,000, he said.

Constantine has personally advanced loans to keep the system repaired over the years. Court records show he loaned the company $14,400 in 29 separate personal loans from January 1975 to March 1978.

And, he said he has continued advancing money to meet expenses. “The most recent breakdown cost us $8,000,” he said. (Restoring water service in March included tapping into a new well, cleaning the original well, and repairing pumps.)

Constantine also says he has not received tax write-offs as a result of his loans to the company, as was reported earlier.

Macino says he has received no payments for his service as receiver since 1978, no reimbursement for his expenses, and no tax write-offs. Court records show his predecessor as receiver was paid $225 per month until June 1974. But there is no record of payment to a receiver from 1974 to 1978.

If the village expects to take over the corporation, it will have to “come up with something reasonable based on a fair appraisal” to compensate them for their investments and services, Constantine said.

The village would inherit a company with inadequate rates to meet its needs, Constantine indicated.

Even if all customers paid promptly their $8.50 per month bills for both water and sewer, the company would produce only about $8,200 per year. That amount, Constantine says, is barely enough to pay Commonwealth Edison for the cost of electricity to operate the systems.

But, Constantine and Macino have allowed at least 24 customers to fall behind in payments in amounts ranging from $59 to $299 — bills equalling service for seven months to about three years.

The company has no policy of shutting off service for non-payment because it cannot afford employees to do that work, they said.

Constantine admits the policy is probably unfair to those who pay their bills regularly. “You can make that interpretation, but I assume those who don’t pay are destitute,” he said. “Some may just not want to pay, but those are the exceptions.”

To operate well, the utility’s rates should be increased and water meters should be installed, Constantine said. But, he added, the company lacks money either to do the paperwork necessary for a rate increase or to put in meters.

Meters would promote conservation and would mean that customers would pay proportionately for the amount of water they use, he said.
Eldorado Terrace water, sewer complaints aired

SUN RIVER TERRACE — Complaints on water and sewer service in Eldorado Terrace subdivision were heard Tuesday night in an Illinois Commerce Commission hearing at Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Sun River Terrace.

According to Doris Wade, Sun River Terrace planning board chairman, about 40 residents were present and 10 persons testified on various aspects of the water and sewer service from Kankakee Utilities Corp.

The corporation is bankrupt and has been in receivership since 1986. Since August 1978, the utility has been managed by Chicago businessman Michael Macino and Chicago attorney Nicholas J. Constantine.

Mrs. Wade said complaints on water service included water pressure on the ground, in the streets and in vacant houses.

Witnesses also reported a monthly $8.50 bill for combined services were placed in their mailboxes and were asked to make checks payable or give the cash to Mattie Hammond. Their only contact with the service was through Mrs. Hammond who lives in Eldorado Terrace.

Other complaints were interruptions in service for long periods of time without advance notice or with the only notice being calls from neighbors.

Warnings about impure water and the need to boil it were not received by customers and some residents became ill and required medical care. Water has a high chlorine smell and is discolored, they said.

Among complaints on sewer service were backups in homes, spills on the ground causing an unpleasant odor that made it impossible to sit outdoors and when the sewage ran into yards. Mrs. Wade said there were reports of sewage running into the Kankakee River.

Although Constantine and Macino were not present, it was reported they intend to present a plan for improvements to the ICC, Ruth Collins, Sun River Terrace village clerk, and Trustee Rudolph Slaughter.

The plan will be based on priorities for action during the first year, second and third years.

ICC hearing officer was Dennis Stoffo and Gerald Keely and Caroline Burling also were present from the Chicago office. They said they will study the improvement proposal and try to make the best recommendations for implementation.

There will be another hearing at 2 p.m. June 4 at the State of Illinois Building, 160 N. LaSalle St., Chicago.

Earlier there had been reports that Sun River Terrace, incorporated last June, was interested in taking over the utility in Eldorado Terrace and possibly expanding services to include other sections of the community. In addition to Eldorado Terrace, the new village includes Sunset Hills, Second Addition Sunset Hills, Kankakee Suburban Park and Riverwood subdivisions.

Sun River plans to buy, expand utility company

SUN RIVER TERRACE — The Village of Sun River Terrace is moving toward purchase of the troubled Kankakee Utilities Corp. water and sewer system in the Eldorado Terrace subdivision, with expansion of service for the whole village in mind.

The issue has been discussed for some time and depends upon obtaining federal grant and loan funds for both the purchase and the expansion of services, said Doris Wade, village planning commission chairman.

The village board has approved an ordinance, published in Friday's Journal, outlining the purchase of the bankrupt utility company.

The purchase price has been agreed upon yet between the village and Nicholas Constantine, a Chicago attorney who has been receiver for the bankrupt company.

The village's engineering firm, Jerry Lacy and Associates of Kankakee, is now working to update an estimate of the value of the system. Constantine also has engineers working on an estimate, Mrs. Wade said.

"We don't know how much we're going to spend yet. We're waiting for the engineers to get through with their studies," she said.

Reports from the engineers are expected at the May 15th meeting of the village board.

The ordinance says the purchase price is not to exceed $150,000; but Mrs. Wade said, "hopefully it won't be anywhere near that amount."

"We signed a contract with Constantine to purchase the system providing we can get funds to upgrade it and expand it," she said. Expansion to serve the Sunset Hills and Riverwood portions of the village would double the number of users of the system, which now serves 78-83 homes in the Eldorado Terrace section.

The ordinance provides that expenses for upgrades and expansion are not to exceed $3 million.

The project can be undertaken without vote of the public, unless a petition signed by at least 14 registered voters in the village is delivered to Village Clerk Ruth Collins by May 25. Petition forms are available from Mrs. Collins.

Pangle, Joyce helped them

SUN RIVER TERRACE — Sun River Terrace is a unique small village with a population of 600, located six miles east on Illinois 17 east. Sun River Terrace, the newest municipality in Kankakee County, celebrated its fourth birthday June 14, by laying the cornerstone on the village hall.

Before Sun River Terrace became a village, many public needs of the people were not met. Such unmet needs were: Unsafe drinking water, sewer back-up, impassable roads, poor lighting, garbage dumping, increased crime and no polling place. The dreams and hopes of residents to live in a suburban county in a country-like atmosphere was changing.

In 1980, with the incorporation of the village, and through dedicated volunteering of village officials, steps were taken to try to correct some of the problems. The leadership of Mayorro Wade Jr. has motivated the community as a whole to take part in revitalizing the community aspirations to move forward.

Among the many accomplishments since 1980 are: 22 street lights installed throughout the village; roads are maintained and kept up; overgrowth on vacant land is being groomed; crime has been curbed; the village has its own village hall; Police Department; a fully equipped police car and village road truck. The village has operated a children's summer free lunch program for the last three years, a summer youth employment program for four years and a distribution of federal food commodity for the past two years.

In the immediate future, November, 1984, when the roads are graded for the winter, one of the oldest roads in the village "The Riverwood Road" will be surfaced-covered from the frontage road to Chestnut Trail.

Pure, safe, drinking water for all of the residents was the number one need in the village. Some families have experienced many water outages and sewer back-ups. In December of 1983 through New Year of 1984, a total of 14 days, families were without water. This really created a great hardship on the users. Utility rates had increased, less than two years from $8 a month to $25 a month. The village officials sought for help from local, state and federal agencies to no avail.

Mayor Wade asked for the assistance of Senator Jerry Joyce and Representative Charles Pangle. On Jan. 4, 1984, Rep. Pangle met with the village officials and the Eldorado Terrace Concerned Citizen Committee to visit the water and sewer plants. He made contact with other state and federal agencies, and Jan. 18, 1984, drove from Springfield to Sun River Terrace to personally chair a meeting on behalf of the village, the Illinois Attorney General's office, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Sen. Joyce sent his representative, Tony Ends, to our assistance. Mr. Ends was instrumental in collecting data necessary for the grants, attended workshops in behalf of the village, made referrals and follow-ups, and provided many other services.

It's good to know men of this caliber are concerned about the constituents they represent. I would eagerly endorse Sen. Joyce and Rep. Pangle without reservation as they have proved their concern for the people of Sun River Terrace.

On Oct. 19, 1984, Mayor Wade received notice that the village of Sun River Terrace has been awarded a FY '84 Community Development Assistance Program grant award of $30,815 under the public facilities category.

I thank God for this excellence. "Just think" in the near future, families will not have to fear drinking their water.

Mrs. Doris Wade
Sun River Terrace Purchases Water, Sewer Facilities

The Village of Sun River Terrace purchased the water and sewer facility Monday, June 8 from the Kankakee Utilities Corp.

The village engineer is currently drawing up designs for the new water tower to be erected by late fall (Oct.-Nov.)

The village is in the process of completing an application to Farmers Home Administration for the expansion of the water system throughout Sun River Terrace.

The system will officially be Sun River Terrace Water and Sewer. It was built for $135,000 from a Kankakee public facility which was owned by stockholder, Nicholas J. Constantine.

Now officially owned by the people of Sun River Terrace, the rates will remain at a flat rate of $25 until meters are installed.

According to Mayor Casey Wade, bills from Sun River Terrace water and sewer will be sent on Aug. 1, and monthly thereafter.

Buying their own water supply has been a goal of Sun River Terrace residents since 1983, when customers boycotted the old company; refusing to pay the high prices for unsafe and inadequate water supplies.

Sun River Terrace gets $206,900 grant

Journal staff and wire reports

SPRINGFIELD — The village of Sun River Terrace has received a $206,900 grant to improve its sewage treatment system — the second major grant the village has received in less than a week.

The latest grant came through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs from the federal Community Development Assistance Program.

On Friday, the Farmers Home Administration announced a $275,000 grant and a $64,000 loan for extending water lines throughout the village. Public water service is now limited to the former Eldorado Terrace subdivisions on the village's east side. Residents of the rest of the village have wells.

The water and sewage systems have been problems for years because it was owned by a bankrupt private utility company. Sun River Terrace officials have been trying for five years to get improvements made.

Water tower groundbreaking

a long-awaited event in Sun River

By Mike Lyons, Journal writer

By the first of the year the landscape along Illinois 17 at Sun River Terrace, six miles east of Kankakee, will be changed.

And for the 573 residents of Sun River Terrace, life itself will be changed — opened for the first time, to the possibilities of industry and to continued residential expansion.

Also, the project and other work on the system should assure them that they won’t be running out of water as was common several years ago when they depended on the bankrupt Kankakee Utilities Corp. for service.

Over 80 residents and dignitaries were on hand Wednesday afternoon for the groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the village's new water tower. The 55,000 gallon tank, presently under fabrication by Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., will provide the village with the “infrastructure” needed to attract industry.

State Rep. Chuck Pangle, who worked closely with Mayor Casey Wade Jr., and the residents of the village, noted the effort's importance to the continued progress of Sun River Terrace.

"With this kind of water system and the increase in the sewer system, someday, adjacent to this water tower, you might just see a small factory putting our people to work," he said.

"Before you can get that type of industry and business into your community, you have to be able to handle infrastructure problems, like water and sewer — you can't do it with a septic tank and a well."

Kankakee Alderman Zelpha Whatley, at the groundbreaking for the village's new water tower.

The project includes the purchase of the Kankakee Utilities Corp., which had begun work on the sewer system before declaring bankruptcy. The building and renovation of the sewage treatment plant are being financed with a $200,000 grant issued through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

The water plant will be paid for with a grant from DCCCA, and a loan from the Farmers Home Administration, with $165,000 being earmarked for water tower construction and $135,000 designated for the purchase of the bankrupt system.

Other features of the project include the renovation of the present water house, well, and pumping system; the installation of water mains throughout the village; the installation of fire hydrants; the remodeling of the existing sewer facility and pumping station; and the construction of a new post-frame building.

Wade applauded all of the residents and officials whose persistent efforts and community spirit, finally brought this "day of progress."

Village Clerk Ruth Collins, also pointed to this day as a symbol of Sun River Terrace's spirit of community. "I must congratulate everyone here," she said, "because when we decided that we were going to take some action, 95 percent of the people in the community joined in.

"I think that that's a remarkable thing to say. And today we can see the results of our cooperation."
Mr. Casey Wade, Jr.
Village President
Village of Sun River Terrace
Route 6, Box 200A
Sun River Terrace, IL 60964

Dear Mr. Wade:

Thank you for your kind letter and your request for help regarding the upgrading and expansion of your sewer system. We were delighted that you received 100% funding from the Community Development Assistance Program and gratified that we could be of assistance in the preparation of the grant. There were many people involved in the preparation of your grant application who deserve a THANK YOU. In particular, I would like to thank Doris Wade and Tony Ends. The grant award was due in large part to their untiring support and work.

Yes, I will be happy to assist you in securing funding for the upgrading and expansion of your sewer system. The IRCAP program was funded again this fiscal year through the Great Lakes Rural Network and I will be working out of the IACAA office when I am in Illinois.

Although there are several options we can pursue, we cannot be specific until we know where we stand with the FmHA application. I would appreciate it if you could send me a copy of the FmHA application and notify me as soon as you receive word. In the meantime, I suggest the following:

1) Maintain careful and accurate records regarding the progress of the CDAP grant. What we need is most of the information requested in the Grant Evaluation Report or Performance Assessment Report. This is explained in item D. Previous Grantee's Status Report, pp. III-34 to III-36, in the 1984 Community Development Assistance Program application booklet.

2) Collect any documentation from official or outside agencies, such as EPA, county health department, etc., which document the health hazards, inadequate operating conditions or limited service capacity of the existing sewer system, including individual septic systems. This can involve:

   a) Taking well samples in the low-lying areas which you suspect may be polluted and having them analyzed at the state lab for high coliform count, etc. It would help if someone from outside the community, a certified operator or county health department employee took the samples.

   b) Asking for an EPA evaluation of the sewer system.

   c) Copies of EPA notification of being placed on the EPA Critical Review List or any other citations from EPA.

   d) Any photographs, etc., from outside sources, such as newspaper or agency personnel showing sewer system and/or individual septic system leakage or overflow on a periodic or regular basis which would indicate a health hazard.

   e) Any documentation regarding flooding of low lands which affect the sewer system and/or individual septic systems in such a way as to create a health hazard.

3) Any documentation, past, present or future indicating existing or potential health hazards, inadequate operating conditions and limited service capacity of the community's total waste water treatment system (sewer and individual septic systems).

Just as the grant application last year, there is a requirement for citizen participation, which means public approval and awareness of the potential costs to the individual household, such as a sewer hook-up fee. This may be your biggest problem and will require some delicate persuasion on the part of your community leaders. In addition, it will be more difficult to receive a CDAP grant two years in a row. But I am always optimistic.

Please do not hesitate to contact me through this office if you have any questions. In the meantime, I look forward to hearing from you regarding the FmHA application.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Huelster
IRCAP Director

--- Serving 1.5 Million Illinois Citizens Each Year ---
Up in the world

When these workmen leave home in the morning they can almost always say they're going up in the world. These three elevated iron workers were continuing work Thursday on the new water tower at Sun River Terrace, six miles east of Kankakee. For village residents, the project will mean the end to long-term problems with a bankrupt private system the village purchased last year.

Sun River Terrace broke ground in '86 for water and sewer system improvements financed by nearly $900,000 in federal money. The work should solve long-term problems with a bankrupt privately-owned system the village recently purchased. Work on new water tower started Friday. Early each June, the village celebrates its status as Kankakee County's youngest incorporated town. This year's birthday party will be the 7th.
SUN RIVER IN GOVERNOR’S AWARD FINALS

Sun River Terrace moved one step closer to winning the Governor’s Home Town Award Thursday afternoon, with the visit of a state-sponsored team of “community judges.”

Located six miles east of Kankakee on Illinois 17, the village had applied earlier this year to become a candidate for the award. The program gives recognition to those cities whose economic development, volunteer effort, and special projects have bettered the lives of its citizens.

Dwight, a finalist in a different award category, was also visited yesterday by a team of state judges, according to Doug Neville of the Dwight Economic Development Commission. The judges paid special attention to the city’s recent economic development efforts, including the production of a promotional video to be used in attracting new businesses.

Over 200 communities, in six population categories, had initially applied. The list had been narrowed to eight finalists in each category — Sun River Terrace among them. Today, the final selections will be made in Springfield.

Sun River Terrace is competing with other villages with populations of up to 1,700. Other candidate cities will compete for the honor against cities of similar population levels, said Bob Patton of the Illinois Electric Cooperative.

Patton, along with Forrest Langenfeld, a professional city administrator from Centralia, made up one of the six judging teams which fanned out across the state this week.

First, second, and third place winners will be selected in each of the six population categories, with a single overall winner to be chosen from all of the selected cities.

Category winners will receive a highway sign identifying them as a Governor’s Home Town Award winner, and a plaque to be presented when the winners are officially announced June 10, in Springfield.

Patton and Langenfeld, like all of the community judges, were drawn from the “private sector.” State employees were not used as judges, since state funds made possible many of the candidate city’s development projects.

Mayor Casey Wade, Jr. welcomed the team to the village hall, answered questions about the village’s development projects and future plans; then led the visitors on a tour of the village. Village Clerk Ruth Collins and Village Planner Doris Wade joined in the review of recent village development, including the water and sewer system and the just-completed water tower.
Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

Jay R. Hedges  
Director

James R. Thompson  
Governor

Stephen F. Selcke  
Assistant Director

Congratulations for being a winner in the sixth annual Governor's Home Town Awards Program!
Elections committee answers Sun River Terrace voters' petition

by Lisa Laney, Herald reporter

In answer to the request for a polling place in the village of Sun River Terrace, at least a few precincts could be redrawn prior to the November election, county board member Chuck Ruch said last week.

Chairman of the county clerk and elections committee, Ruch made the statement last Friday after a meeting of the committee.

The action is being taken in answer to a petition filed by Sun River Terrace Mayor Casey Wade, Jr. Wade said he has been requesting the polling place for ten years and filed the petition out of desperation in April.

The petition was filed after the mayor was assured by County Clerk Bruce Clark and an unidentified staff member of County Board Chairman Marwood Hendrix that Sun River Terrace would have a permanent polling place in the village for the primary election last March.

"We found out we weren't getting a machine when the list of polling places was printed in The Daily Journal on February 22," Wade said.

Residents of the village currently vote in St. George, or in Aroma Park on VanDerKarr Rd.

"We voted on this by the committee and agreed to create an additional precinct to allow for there always to be a polling place within Sun River Terrace," Ruch said Friday. "As chairman of the committee, I am calling a special meeting of the committee next month and inviting Mayor Wade and other elected officials to be present for the purpose of getting their input in drawing the lines and locating the polling place. We will have it all done so that by the next election, and for every election thereafter, the residents of Sun River Terrace will be treated like (the citizens) of any other village."

Because the village is split between the townships of Ganeer and Aroma, however, some residents may still have to travel more than ten miles each way to vote.

"The people who vote in Aroma are still going to have to vote in Aroma, because that's a different township. We cannot solve that problem. That's just an unfortunate geographic barrier," Ruch said.

Ruch was not specific about other precincts that might be redrawn as a consequence.

"It's my desire, as part of this process, to redraw a couple of the other precincts to equalize the population. So we're going to be looking into that too," Ruch said.

Sun River Terrace gets own polling place

By Karen Snelling
Journal writer

Officials in Sun River Terrace welcomed a recent Kankakee County Board vote to establish a polling place within the village but they say the action should have come long ago.

Incorporated in 1980, Sun River Terrace had been the only municipality in the eastern portion of the county without its own voting place.

The county board voted unanimously to designate the village hall as a polling site last week, more than eight years after the original request for the designation was made, according to village Mayor Casey Wade.

"The polling place is very important," said Wade. "Now, we don't have to travel all those miles with all the older people."

The area's voters, primarily senior citizens, had been forced for nearly a decade to travel five and seven miles to Aroma Park and St. George to cast their election ballots in all but municipal elections.

"We were promised things but then, at the last minute, we would be told we couldn't get it," the mayor recalled.

"I'm upset because I feel it shouldn't have taken that long. And, it's not only me. The residents of the village are upset."

Village Clerk Ruth Collins expressed similar sentiments.

"We just feel every municipality should have their own polling place and we don't feel Sun River Terrace should be treated any differently from anybody else," she said.

She said 50 to 60 percent of the village's population is composed of senior citizens and many do not have access to transportation.

Despite the delay, Wade said he is glad that the long election day trips are now a thing of the past for most of the town's 240 registered voters.

The county board vote established Sun River Terrace as a new election precinct in Ganeer Township, eliminating the need for 83 percent of the village's voters to make long election day journeys.

However, 40 voters will continue to travel to Aroma Park to vote because their homes are located in Aroma Township.

"They have to go to Aroma Park until 1990 when the township lines will be redrawn. I can go along with that," said Wade.
Compliments of

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
JEROME J. JOYCE
SENATOR, 43RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
329 STATE HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706, 217/782-8204
107 S. KENNEDY, P.O. BOX 80, BRADLEY, IL 60915, 815/939-1661

Congratulations,
Sun River Terrace

MARK FRECHETTE
KANKAKEE COUNTY TREASURER
470 EAST MERCHANT STREET, KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS 60901
PHONE: 815/932-2960

Congratulations
on Ten Great Years
and
Best of Luck in the Future

CITIZENS
AND
OFFICIALS
OF THE
VILLAGE
OF ST. ANNE

JOHN PHILIP NOVAK
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
86TH DISTRICT

KANKAKEE DISTRICT OFFICE
230 EAST COURT STREET
KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS 60901
815/939-1983

WATSEKA DISTRICT OFFICE
208 E. WALNUT
WATSEKA, ILLINOIS 60970
815/432-6539

CAPITOL OFFICE
K4 STRATTON BLDG.
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-5981
CONGRATULATIONS
AND
BEST WISHES

Mayor Russell Johnson

BEST WISHES
FROM
MAYOR KEN HAYES
AND VILLAGE BOARD
BRADLEY, ILLINOIS
CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
FROM THE
MT. CALVARY M.B. CHURCH
SUN RIVER TERRACE
TO THE
MAYOR, VILLAGE OFFICIALS
AND VILLAGE COMMITTEES
... who have dedicated themselves in making
this community a better place to live

MT. CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Without all of you
this accomplishment would not have been.

Best Wishes,
REV. ALEX T. BOND, JR. AND FAMILY
Compliments & Best Wishes to
SUN RIVER TERRACE
from
NANCY TAYLOR
and Family
Who are celebrating their 35th Annual
Reunion and Birthdays
10 Children
33 Grandchildren
66 Great-Grandchildren
6 Great-Great-Grandchildren
AUGUST 26th

FEST OF 1990
Congratulations, Sun River Terrace
Evangelist, Sylvia D. Smith and Family

Congratulations on Your First Decade
UNION M.B. CHURCH
South on Main Street
Hopkins Park, Illinois

... Welcome You to Come and Worship
With Us.

Rev. Henry Cardwell
Pastor

Compliments of
GETHSEMANE GARDEN
EVANGELIC TEMPLE
Rte. 17 East, Sun River Terrace
Parsonage, 937-9690

"All Are Welcome"
A Church Where a Stranger Can Find a Friend
and A Sinner Can Find God

Sunday School — 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship — 11:00 a.m.
Mondays: Rehearsal — 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study & Prayer — 7:00 p.m.
Compliments of

AL, SHERRIE, ALISHA, ADAM BRECKENRIDGE FAMILY

Compliments from:
The Stout Family,
Ruth, Serena, Eddie
and the late
Rev. Andrew L. Johnson

COMPLIMENTS OF
Rose Covington, M.S.W.
(Licensed/Clinical Social Worker)
Individual, Family and General Counseling
By Appointment in Your Home.
944-5961

Congratulations from:
Mrs. Frank Johnson, Sr.
and Family
and Frank Johnson, III
Building Construction Co.

Congratulations!
Our First Decade
of Incorporation
We Love Living in Sun River Terrace!

Trustee Henry
and
Mrs. Sally
Nicholes
and
Family

Congratulations,
Sun River Terrace.
You’re a Beautiful Community

Mr. and Mrs. Laymond Radford
Congratulations on your Tenth Anniversary!

Maple Medical AMBULANCE
472-2111

Compliments of
JOHNSON’S HARDWARE

1935 E. Court St.
Kankakee, Illinois 60901

SUNDAY
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

"Congratulations!"
Sun River Terrace

"ONE DECADE OLD"

God Bless the Newlyweds
Mr. and Mrs. George Santaquida

and

to John and Dean’s New Baby,
Diamond Dean Ward
and Sister, Brandé

Mom: Trustee Willie M. Piel

Mr. and Mrs. Vermell Lockett, Jr.

A Community To Be Proud Of
MOMENCE
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MOMENCE, ILLINOIS 60954

Best Wishes to the Village of Sun River Terrace
on your
10th Anniversary

COMPLIMENTS OF THE
MOMENCE FIREMEN

RJN ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSOCIATES, INC.
Formerly Jerry Lacy & Associates, Inc.

- Water Distribution
- Wastewater
- Transportation
- Surveying

Consulting Engineers
247 W. Jeffery Street
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-3335

Congratulations,
10th Anniversary

L-K BOTTLE
GAS
Bradley, Illinois
Sincere Congratulations

to

CASEY WADE, JR.

MAYOR

and the

officers and trustees

of the

Village of

SUN RIVER TERRACE

from ...


**Ends Insurance Service**

"PUTTING AN END TO INSECURITY"

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RUTH ENDS, Insurance Broker/Agent

409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BOURBONNAIS, ILLINOIS 60914
Congratulations to
Sun River Terrace
First Decade of Incorporation
and Progress

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Gomez

Congratulations to
MOM AND DAD
from
THE WADE CHILDREN
Robert, Diane and Joy

Congratulations & Best Wishes to
My son-in-law, Mayor Casey Wade, Jr.
Wife, my daughter, Doris and Daughters for
your dedication and hard work that you have performed in your community.
Sun River Terrace.
“A Job Well Done.”
Love, Mother
NANCY TAYLOR

Congratulations on
our first decade.

We love
Sun River Terrace

Mr. & Mrs. Earnest Davis

McGRATH WHALEN
OFFICE
EQUIPMENT, INC.
Bradley, Illinois 60915-0351
EVERYTHING FOR THE OFFICE
933-3358

Congratulations,
Sun River Terrace.

HENDRIX
AGRI POWER, INC.
Rts. 1 and 17, St. Anne, Illinois
St. Anne, Illinois
Cub Cadet

Lawn Mowers, Riding Mowers, Garden Tractors
Congratulations to Sun River Terrace
Our Family Serving Your Family

LAX MORTUARY
187 South Greenwood Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois
(815) 935-0090

Loving Memory of
Teresa L. Shegog

and Robert V. Shegog
(Not Pictured)

Elder and Mother Samuel Jefferies
Founder and Pastor of the
Riverwood Church of God In Christ
1953-1989

(Missed by the Sun River Terrace Community)
Sun River plans special memorial event

SUN RIVER TERRACE — Rev. Eugene Wilson Memorial Day, the only Sun River Terrace official holiday, will be observed Saturday, May 26.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. with memorial services for all residents who have died since the village was incorporated, June 14, 1980.

A floral presentation to families of deceased residents along with the Eugene Wilson Memorial Plaque bearing the names of those deceased residents, will be presented to Mayor Casey Wade for permanent placement in the village hall.

Rev. Wilson was the associate minister of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church and founder of village baseball. He died in August 1981 while directing the baseball program.

The village’s summer recreation season also will begin Saturday. Introduction of the 1984 Little League and Church League coaches and teams will be followed by a 7-inning opener between the Sun River Terrace Little League Rebels and Bandits. The finale will match the village officials against the church league All-Stars.

Bring your own lawn chairs. Parents and officials will be selling refreshments to support the Little League.

The Mighty Casey

Sun River Terrace Trustee Vermell Lockett, Jr. may look like The Mighty Casey at the bat, but Mayor Casey Wade, Jr. appears to live up to his name on the pitcher’s mound as the village officials warmed up for a game of softball against the Junior All Stars. Catching is Trustee Henry Nicholes and umpiring is Trustee Howard Kendall. The game followed the village’s Memorial services and kicked off the softball season.
## Sun River Terrace

### VILLAGE MEMORIAL SERVICES 1990

### DECEASED RESIDENTS
### SINCE VILLAGE INCORPORATION JUNE, 1980

**JUNE 1980 to MAY 1984**
- REV. JOHNNIE COONS
- REV. DILLARD CRUME
- MR. JAMES JOHNSON
- MS. MARION JOHNSON
- MS. BERTHA NELSON
- MR. GEORGE RILEY
- MR. SAMUEL RILEY
- MR. WILLIAM RILEY
- MS. DOROTHY ROBERTS
- MR. ROBERT SHEGOG
- MS. THERESA SHEGOG
- MS. GEORGIA SYKES
- MR. KENNETH SYKES
- REV. EUGENE WILSON SR.

**MAY 1984 to MAY 1985**
- MR. OLGIA LOWRY
- MS. PEARL RAMBUS
- MS. LENA RUCKER
- MR. NOBLE THOMPSON
- MS. ROSIE THOMPSON
- MR. HENRY YANCY

**MAY 1985 to MAY 1986**
- MS. A. ARMSTRONG
- MS. L.V. GRIFFIN
- MS. R. HOWLETT
- MR. E. LEWIS
- MR. M. LUMPKIN
- MS. V. LUTCHER
- MR. J. NAION
- MR. N. SHARP
- MR. K.M. WALKER
- MR. J.L. WIGHAM
- MS. M. YOUNG

**MAY 1986 to MAY 1987**
- MS. M. BRITTON
- MR. J. COLLINS
- MS. B. CONNOR
- MS. E. HUDSON
- MS. Q. NAILON
- MR. C. PITTS
- MR. W. RAMSEY
- MR. L. RADFORD JR.

**MAY 1987 to MAY 1988**
- MR. H. ARMSTRONG
- MS. J. GORDON
- SIS. JEFFRIES
- MS. D. JOHNSON
- MS. M. McCAIN
- MR. W.H. SLAUGHTER

**MAY 1988 to MAY 1989**
- MR. A. MARSHALL...1959-1988
- MS. W. RAMSEY...1917-1988
- MR. C. BROWN...1913-1988
- MR. W. DEAR SR...1900-1988
- MR. W. LEWIS JR...1948-1988
- MR. L.A. JAMES...1932-1988
- MS. W.A. WALKER...1919-1988
- MR. M. HOWLETT...1897-1989
- MR. D. RAMBUS...1923-1989
- MS. E. MALLOY...1911-1989
- ELDER - SAMUEL JEFFRIES SR.

**MAY 1989 to MAY 1990**
- MS. MATTIE HAMMOND
- REV. HUGHS
- MR. JAMES LITTLE
- MR. DAVID MARSHALL
- MR. SHELBY
- MR. LEONARD SLAUGHTER
- MS. BETTY YANCY
- Village Trustee 1980-1985:
  HARRISON AVANT
VILLAGE OF SUN RIVER TERRACE
RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING FIRST HOLIDAY

WHEREAS the Village Board did discuss the establishment of the first VILLAGE HOLIDAY to commemorate the Community services rendered by our departed brother, Reverend Eugene Wilson Sr.,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board of Sun River Terrace, Illinois that the LAST SATURDAY in the month of MAY, shall be each year designated as:

SUN RIVER TERRACE REV. EUGENE WILSON MEMORIAL DAY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Village Board that this day ANNUALLY shall be the official opening of the baseball and other RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES Season.

HENCEFORTH — THE SUN RIVER TERRACE VILLAGE MEMORIAL DAY
RESOLUTION FOR JIMMY WHIGHAM:

Jimmy Whigham, an active auxiliary policeman for the village of Sun River Terrace for the past five years, departed this life on December 31, 1985 after a prolonged illness.

Mr. Whigham had lived in the community for the past 11 years. During his residence, he has been concerned about the welfare and progress of his community.

Jimmy Whigham was actively involved with the senior citizen group and remained involved to assist in whatever way possible as his health began to fail.

He was among the first auxiliary policemen appointed to the village. He has been supportive of all the village's special events and financially until his departure from this earth.

THUS; - Be it resolved that Jimmy Whigham has served his fellow neighbors, the senior citizen group, and the community well.

THUS; - Be it further resolved, that Jimmy Whigham has served faithfully and with dignity as an auxiliary policeman for the village of Sun River Terrace.

His eager participation has been appreciated.

— Submitted by
Mayor Casey Wade, Jr.
and Village Board

RESOLUTION FOR MRS. WILLIE ANNE WALKER:

Willie A. Walker, better known to some, as "Little Mommy", departed this life suddenly on December 18, 1988.

Willie A. Walker has lived in the community for over twenty five (25) years, and has always been concerned about the welfare and progress of her community.

Willie A. Walker was actively involved with the village goals and objectives and would assist without reservation in whatever way possible, by giving of her service, time, and finances. In the Village of Sun River Ter-
race for the past eight (8) years, she served as President of the Fund-Raising Committee, Co-chairman to the events of the Village Holiday, and as a Member of the Village Planning Board.

THUS; - Be it resolved, that, Willie A. Walker was concerned about the welfare of humanity by serving, especially the children with programs, activities, and as day care teacher.

THUS; - Be it resolved, that, Willie A. Walker has demonstrated leadership characteristics in serving in public office, as president of the fund raising projects, which benefited the Village of Sun River Terrace.

THUS; - Be it resolved, that, Willie A. Walker has demonstrated leadership characteristics as co-chairman to functions of the Village Holiday (Rev. Eugene Wilson Memorial Day) activities.

THUS; - Be it resolved, that, Willie A. Walker has served her fellow neighbors, and the Village of Sun River Terrace; well.

THUS; - Be it further resolved, that, Willie A. Walker loved her Family and Community, and that she has served, faithfully, and with dignity and pride.

Mrs. Willie Anne Walker's eager participation has been greatly appreciated, and she will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

— Submitted by
Mayor Casey Wade Jr.
and Officials of the Village of Sun River Terrace

This 22nd Day of December, 1988

RESOLUTION FOR MR. LEONARD RANKIN SLAUGHTER, SR.:

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., departed this life on Saturday, September 2, 1989.

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., lived in this community for over 25 years and was always concerned about the progress in this community. He was actively involved in the community being incorporated.

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., was actively involved with village goals and objectives and would assist without reservation in whatever way possible by giving of his time, services and finances. From 1980 to 1985, he was appointed and served as Village Treasurer and was faithful and dedicated to that position.

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., was actively supportive with all the village special events, both physically and financially until his health failed.

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., was well known as the community barber by young and old.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., was concerned about the welfare of humanity by serving his community in whatever way possible and was a dependable, reliable, dedicated Village Treasurer.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., has served his fellow neighbors and the Village of Sun River Terrace well.

THUS; - Be it further resolved that, Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter, Sr., loved his family and community and that he served faithfully and with dignity and pride.

Mr. Leonard Rankin Slaughter’s eager participation has been greatly appreciated and he will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

— Submitted by
Mayor Casey Wade Jr.
and Officials of the Village of Sun River Terrace

This 7th day of September, 1989

RESOLUTION FOR THE REV. HARRISTON AVANT:

The Rev. Harriston Avant, departed this life in June 1990.

The Rev. Harriston Avant, lived in this community for over 20 years and was always concerned about the progress in this community. He was actively involved in the
community being incorporated.

The Rev. Harriston Avant, was actively involved with village goals and objectives and would assist without reservation in whatever way possible by giving of his time, services and finances. From 1980 to 1985, he was appointed and served as Village Trustee and was faithful and dedicated to that position.

The Rev. Harriston Avant, was actively supportive with all the village special events, both physically and financially until his health failed.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, the Rev. Harriston Avant, was concerned about the welfare of humanity by serving his community in whatever way possible and was a dependable, reliable, dedicated Village Trustee.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, Rev. Harriston Avant, has served his fellow neighbors and the Village of Sun River Terrace well.

THUS; - Be it further resolved that, Rev. Harriston Avant, loved his family and community and that he served faithfully and with dignity and pride.

Rev. Harriston Avant’s eager participation has been greatly appreciated and he will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

— Submitted by,
Mayor Casey Wade, Jr. and
the Officials of the Village of
Sun River Terrace

This 25th day of July, 1990

RESOLUTION FOR MRS. QUEENIE NAILON

Queenie Nailon better known to all who knew her as “Mom Nailon” was the first family in 1955 to settle in the previously named Sunset Hills Subdivision.

In 1955 through the efforts of Mom Nailon the Bethune Community Center was built and open to the public, there she sponsored a large Christmas party every year for the under-privileged youth in this community and surrounding communities. Other charitable acts, was giving of food and clothing to the needy.

In 1964 she opened the doors of the community building to the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church where they held service until they moved into their church home in 1967.

In 1967 Mom Nailon won a courageous battle for a Day Care Center and Bethune Day Care became a reality for pre-school children.

In 1980 when Sun River Terrace was incorporated, Mom Nailon’s health had begun to fail, but she offered what services she could by giving financial donations and written encouragements to village officials.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, Mom Nailon was concerned about the welfare of humanity by serving the needy.

THUS; - Be it resolved that, Mom Nailon has demonstrated leadership characteristics in organizing a community Lodge and a community Day Care Center.

THUS; - Be it further resolved, that Mom Nailon has loved her family and community, and that she has served others with dignity and pride.

This Great Lady “MOM QUEENIE NAILON” was a strong soft pillow of support in her community and will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

— Submitted by,
Mayor, Casey Wade Jr. and
Village Officials of
Sun River Terrace, Illinois

“...There is a day of sunny rest
For every dark and troubled night
And grief may hide an evening quest
But joy shall come with early light.”

---

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE “BILL” WALKER
FROM SALLY NICHOLS AND SARAH BARLOW

I asked God - “WHY did you send this cross
the hurt, the pain, and the bitter loss?”
I found it hard not to complain,
as I sought for peace of soul again.
“Why dear GOD did you destine me
for such a special misery?”
Somehow it seemed that I heard him say,
Man does not walk an easy way.

I looked for written words to give
a fitting tribute to BILL, and the life she lived.
For in this troubled world it was so refreshing to find
that Bill always had the time to be kind.
BILL spread GOD’s Love, Kept her Faith and did Believe
that the more you give, the more you will receive.
She kept up that smile each and every day,
her smile made your problems drift right away.
She would never slow down, there was always work to be done
BILL was no respecter of persons, she would help ANYONE.

NEVER to be forgotten to Sally and Me,
BILL, Sally, and Sarah started the MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.
In 1982, the first services were put together,
inside the church if rain, outside if sunny, never stopped by the weather.
We wanted to remember each Village resident that passed away,
each year we made the plans for the only VILLAGE HOLIDAY.
BILL started the FLORAL PRESENTATION using words all her own,
assuring each person’s family that they would never be alone.
She would pass around the MEMORIAL PLAQUE for each family to see,
that their loved one’s name was now a part of Village History.
BILL was always ready in Thought, Word, or Deed
to reach out a hand, in a neighbor’s hour of need.

For EVERY pain that we must bear
For EVERY burden, every care
For EVERY grief that bows the head
For EVERY teardrop that is shed
For EVERY hurt, though out of sight
For EVERY lonely pain-racked night,
WE KNOW THERE IS A REASON

But if we TRUST GOD as we should,
It will work out for the good.
ONLY GOD KNOWS THE REASON.
Build a pyramid?
For him, anything's possible

By Karen Diegmueller, Journal writer

Someday, Leonard Porter wants to build a pyramid.
For some people, such an undertaking might be considered far-fetched, but for
Porter, anything seems possible.
Thirty-five years ago, the St. Anne
Township resident was born in Marvell,
Ark. — a small farming community near the
Mississippi River where, as Porter puts it,
"we raised cotton, corn, children and pigs."

Today, he is executive director of
Midwest Family Resource Associates, Ltd.,
a family therapy agency with offices in
Kankakee, Oak Lawn, Highland Park and
downtown Chicago.

Porter's rise from the son of a poor farmer
to a therapist with a doctorate in human
learning and development was no fluke, however.

He attributes his accomplishments to that
age-old American ethic — hard work
learned from his parents, who had to work
hard to provide for their seven children.

After receiving his undergraduate degree
in sociology from Arkansas Baptist College,
Porter taught school in his home state. Then,
wanting to further his education, he moved
to Chicago and attended the University of
Illinois, Chicago Circle.

But "In 1967, I got my education rudely
interrupted," he said. He was drafted into
the Army where he was first sent to El Paso,
Texas, and then on to Vietnam.

One of the few men in his outfit in El Paso
with a college education — and the oldest
as well — Porter found himself in a unique
position: The men would seek him out for
advice.

In Vietnam, the experience continued, on-
ly on a more intense level. "I was trying
to keep people sane."

One of the problems he encountered
repeatedly was drug use among soldiers. "I
would try to talk them out of it. There were
a lot of guys who got scared or depressed
or whatever and went along with the
crowd."

Following his discharge, Porter returned
to Chicago, received his master's degree in
correctional counseling and worked as a
Cook County probation officer for 3½
years.

During that time, Porter completed his
doctorate and also attended the Institute for
Juvenile Research. He also served as a men-
(Continued to Page 61)
Porter ... (Continued from Page 59)

tal health consultant in Cook County schools.
These days, he devotes himself to the Midwest Family Resource Associates, Ltd. Primarily, he counsels abused or abandoned children and fosters, adoptive and single parents.

Unlike the majority of counseling services, Porter and his staff counsel clients in their homes. The Kankakee office, for example, covers Kankakee and Will counties. One day a counselor may be in Herscher; the next in Limestone Township, and the next in Manteno.

“Many times the families we serve don’t have transportation,” therefore, his staff travels because “a lot of the people in the outlying areas wouldn’t have access to the services we provide.”

Leonard Porter ...

... from poverty to doctorate

Although Porter’s education may be key to his work, he looks back on his family as the foundation upon which it was built.

“I had two very mature, very good parents. Of course, I didn’t like them all the time. But I found out later they were really on the ball.

“I felt I could share some of (my) life. I can teach people stuff that’s not in the books. I know what it’s like to have a prob-
lem and go home and tell my Dad about it. That’s a privilege.

“In my treatment, I can pull from that all the time. Since I’m a parent that helps, too. But I can pull from my head.

“I feel like I have a lot to share and I’m willing to share it with kids who don’t have fathers.”

Porter used to do all that sharing in Chicago, but four years ago he, his wife, Evelyn, and their two sons, Duwan, 9, and Myron, 7, moved to St. Anne Township near the village of Sun River Terrace.

“I was looking for some serenity. I like working (in Chicago), but I don’t like sleeping there.

“I fell in love with the (St. Anne) area. I liked the people here. They seem like people from Arkansas.

“The Sun River Terrace community excites me because it’s a new town. I like the idea of a growing community. I enjoy working with the community.”

Porter and his wife, who is a first grade teacher at Carver Elementary School, devote a lot of time to that community.

Both teach Sunday School classes and are involved with the After School Enrichment Program at Mount Calvary Baptist Church. Porter also sponsors a basketball team for youths 14 to 20.

The head deacon of the church, Porter was instrumental in the growth of the church library to the point where it will be moved into the community. In fact, he hopes to spearhead the construction of a cultural center that will include a history museum as well as a library.

“That’s one of my goals, and I’m working on it now.”

But that’s not his only goal. Someday he wants to open an art shop, teach at a university and counsel Vietnam veterans.

“There are still so many of them messed up today. That war had a devastating effect on a lot of American men.”

He also wants to complete a book he’s writing about counseling black families. And when that book is completed, Porter is toying with the idea of writing another — a how-to book about happiness.

Once again, he returns to his boyhood.

“My parents didn’t have a lot of money, but you don’t need money to be happy.

“I enjoy life. I love it. If I could share with the rest of the world how to be happy, I would do it.”

And, of course, there’s always that pyramid to build.

(Continued to Page 62)
At The Heart Of Community Involvement ... (Continued from Page 61)

According to Wade, there have been many people who have worked and who continue to work to make his community grow. Asked why he spends so much time helping others try to build Sun River Terrace, he answers, "The best use of life is to spend it building something that will outlast it."

Working alongside Wade is his wife, Doris, who has worked diligently with him, and serves as the village planner.

According to Mrs. Wade, one of her greatest joys is to know that her community has taken its rightful place among the other communities of the Kankakee area. She says she takes pride in the construction of the water system and the erecting of the new water tower not only as symbols of the community’s successes, but as a needed improvement. She says she knows that quality drinking water in the village is important as a health factor, and said she was very concerned before the system was constructed.

Mrs. Wade says she is also interested in the social development in the community, and is proud of the area’s churches. She says she is proud of the work members of Mt. Calvary M.B. Church have done in support of the village. She says that the pastor and church members have dedicated themselves to making the community a better place to live.

Mrs. Wade says the area has a long and proud history. She says the first family to build in the area known as Sun Set Hills, moved there in 1950, and in 1955 the Sun Set Hills Masonic Hall (also known as Bethune Center) was opened to the community. The Mt. Calvary Baptist Church held services and other affairs in the hall for three and a half years.

According to Mrs. Wade, early settlers to the area were John and Queenie Naillon, Ernest Davis and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Rucker, Frank Johnson and family, Henry Nichols and family, Stanley Williams, Willie Walton, Linnie Lanningham, Willie Dear and family, and Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson.

Proof of her careful determination to see the area be successful is Mrs. Wade’s support of the area’s youth. She says they need positive things to be involved in, and she plans to help provide summer activities for area youth. She supports efforts within the church to counsel the youth, and she also says the youth need employment and she is interested in programs that will provide positive alternatives to drugs for young people.

Mrs. Wade says that she understands the desire of the young people to seek out new adventures, but she says she wants to do what she can to see that those adventures are positive and successful ones.

Mrs. Wade, the former Doris Taylor of Pembroke, is a proud woman and she comes from a proud family. She knows the successes faith in God and determination can produce, and she wants Sun River Terrace to stand for that determination and success, not only for the area’s residents but for anyone willing to work hard to improve themselves.

The Sunday Journal, Kankakee, Ill., February 12, 1984

SUNSET AT SUNSET HILLS

By Lisa Hoss, Journal writer

La Donna Blanton was a mother of two in the late 1940s when she took on the heavyweight boxing champion of the world — Joe Louis.

The battleground was a 40-acre, nine-hole golf course at Sunset Hills Country Club — today the site of Sun River Terrace and surrounding subdivisions.

Mrs. Blanton and her husband, Chicago realtor M.T. Blanton, had purchased a summerhome near the all-black club to satisfy their craving for golf.

And Louis — who owned the world heavyweight boxing championship from the mid-1930s through the late 1940s — also was known for his excellent golf game.

Louis was '"a wonderful golfer"' who frequented the Sunset Hills course, the first black public golf course in the nation, Mrs. Blanton said. Today a widow, she lives in the summer home now incorporated into Sun River Terrace.

Mrs. Blanton first met Louis through her husband while dancing at Bacon’s Casino — today the AFL-CIO hall on Chicago’s Wabash Avenue.

The boxer later gave her informal golf lessons in Jackson Park. But only once did the two play a real game — at Sunset Hills.

"'Naturally," Louis won, Mrs. Blanton said, remembering the score nearly 40 years later — 34-66.

Golfing with Louis was not the only highlight of her 26-year-membership at the novel country club.

Crowds filled the two-story clubhouse that once stood near the corner of Fifth Street and Sunset Avenue in Sun River Terrace, she said. The first floor housed a diner, bar-room and club room, while overnight accommodations were available upstairs.

Many drove from Chicago to spend weekends there, including the Windy City Square Dancers which Mrs. Blanton had joined.

An annual wild game dinner — sporting rabbit, pheasant, venison steak and more — attracted the public, she said. Others came for "lovely" Sunday dinners.

The grounds also sported a shooting range, and merrymakers often would walk to the nearby Kankakee River to swim, fish and go boating.

The club’s 60-some members, including many with automatic membership because they owned property adjacent to the grounds, paid dues of $100 a year to continue the activities, Mrs. Blanton said. And members of the club’s ladies auxiliary, including herself, took turns completing paperwork to keep the facility operating.

But the hilarity ended about 20 years ago when club officials auctioned off the grounds, apparently after mortgage payments could not be met, she said. The land was purchased before members knew the club was lost and later sold in lots to individual homeowners.

The clubhouse was abandoned, then burned down one Halloween night about a decade ago, she said.

Only fond memories remain.

Sunset Hills "was just a nice place to come to," Mrs. Blanton said. "Everybody was warm."

Period photo shows majestic Blanton home.
GROUP HOPES TO AID SUN RIVER
BY ACQUIRING TAX-SALE PROPERTY

By Bill Norman, Journal writer

SUN RIVER TERRACE — A move to acquire 100 vacant lots in Sun River Terrace was made Monday by Village Planner Doris Wade and several other village residents.

Mrs. Wade and her partners pooled together $3,165 to purchase the delinquent taxes on the lots at the Kankakee County tax sale Monday.

The effort is a private project though, not a village-sponsored one.

Mrs. Wade and her group hope to sell some of the undeveloped lots for residential development, and to keep one or more for construction of an all-purpose community building.

She and her partners may claim legal ownership in six months if the current owners don’t pay the taxes by then. Delinquent taxes on the 100 lots totals about $40,000.

The purpose of the move is to return the properties to the county tax rolls by selling most of the lots for private residential development.

“We looked at the situation last year when we saw we weren’t getting as much property taxes back as we should,” said Mrs. Wade, the wife of Village President Casey Wade.

“We have plans to build up the village,” said Mrs. Wade.

However, she and her partners aren’t acting on behalf of the village, said Dennis Baron of Kankakee, attorney for the village.

The group’s effort may be the first time that the delinquent taxes on that many lots have been purchased at a tax sale, said Kankakee County Treasurer Mark Frechet.

The current owners — two individuals and a trust at a Kankakee bank — haven’t paid taxes on most of the properties since 1980.

The owners have six months to redeem the “tax sale certificates” held by Mrs. Wade and her partners.

To redeem the certificates, owners must pay the back taxes to the county and Mrs. Wade and partners would get their money back, plus interest.

The owners also would have to pay Mrs. Wade and her partners the $3,165, they’d spent to “buy” the taxes, plus interest at a rate set by the county.

The group is “taking a risk,” said Baron, in trying to acquire the properties because they will be responsible for paying property taxes on the 100 lots in the future.

But “somebody has to step in there and put it back on the tax rolls,” he said.

New owners of properties acquired through tax sale proceedings don’t have to pay the delinquent taxes on those properties.

The lots are scattered throughout the Sunset Hills 2 subdivision, said Mrs. Wade. The lots are 30-to-40 foot frontages and varying depths.

AREA LADIES

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Church Women United of Kankakee will sponsor its observance of World Community Day Friday at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church located in Sun River Terrace east of Kankakee on Illinois 17. The theme of the event is “Scarcity/Abundance” and the Rev. Alex T. Bond Jr., pastor of Mt. Calvary, will be guest speaker. Coffee hour begins at 9:30 a.m. From left, going over final plans for the day’s activities, are chairwomen Olline Pitts, Jennie Gordon, Ruth Stout, Sally Nichols and Florence Kendall.

Reprinted from The Daily Journal, Kankakee, Ill.
PATRONS:

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Jones & Young Family
Mrs. Ozzie Williams
Mrs. Malzie Ellis
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Riley and Family
Mr. and Mrs. John Works and Family
Mr. Melvin William
Mrs. Mary L. Pitts
Mrs. Nancy Ross
Mrs. Alberta Moore
Mrs. Olline Pitts Shelby
Margaret, Danny and Roma Williams
Ruth Collins
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lee and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Phillips
Paul and Dorothy Timms
Clarence Randall and Family
Reverend and Mrs. Louis Wells and Family
Gregory Mason
Mrs. Barbara Mason

SUN RIVER TERRACE BOOK PROJECT
Chairman: Doris Wade
Co-Chairman: Anne Radford
## LIL ROBERT’S RIBBS & FISH PLUS

559 E. COURT, KANKAKEE - 939-0720

**Congratulations to Sun River Terrace on their First Decade from Rudolph and Betty Slaughter**

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<th>RIBBS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ribbs - Full slab</td>
<td>12.96</td>
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<td>Ribbs - Half slab</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jumbo Ribb Tips</td>
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<td>Large Ribb Tips</td>
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<td>Half Order Ribb Tips</td>
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**FISH**

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<td>Frog Legs</td>
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<td>Snelts</td>
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<td>*Hoki</td>
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<td>Buffalo</td>
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<td>Silver Bass</td>
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<td>*Pollock</td>
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**PIES**

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<tr>
<td>Sweet Potato, Apple, Peach, Cherry and Lemon Meringue</td>
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**BAKED BEANS**

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**HOURS**

- **Tuesday - 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.**
- **Wed. & Thurs. - 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.**
- **Fri. & Sat. - 12 p.m. - 12 a.m.**
- **Sun. - 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

**PLUS**

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<td>Pickles (dill, hot, sour &amp; kosher)</td>
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<td>Sweet Pickles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jalapeno Peppers</td>
<td>1 for .16 or 2 for .26</td>
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<td>X-tra 2 oz. slaw or sauces</td>
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<tr>
<td>X-tra 1 oz. slaw or sauces</td>
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PLAT OF INCORPORATION
SUN RIVER TERRACE


LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The Subdivisions of Kankakee Suburban Park, Sunset Hills, Eldorado Terrace, Second Subdivision Sunset Hills, an un-subdivided tract in the Southwest Quarter (SW¼) of Section 33, contiguous roads and highways and that part of the Kankakee River lying Southerly of the centerline of the said river, all in the West Half (W½) of Section 33 and the Subdivision of River Wood in part of the East Half (E½) of Section 32, contiguous roads and highways and that part of the Kankakee River lying Southeasterly of the centerline of the said river and contiguous to River Wood, all in Township 31 North, Range 13 East of the Third Principal Meridian in Kankakee County, Illinois, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter (SW¼) of Section 33, Township 31 North, Range 13 East of the Third Principal Meridian; thence Westerly on the South line of the Southwest Quarter (SW¼) of Section 33 to the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter (SW¼); thence Northerly on the West line of the said Southwest Quarter (SW¼) to the South line of the North Half (N½) of the Southwest Quarter (SE¼) of Section 32; thence Westerly on the said South line of the North Half (N½) of the Southwest Quarter (SE¼) to the centerline of the Kankakee River; thence Northerly, Northeasternly, and Easterly on the said centerline of the Kankakee River to the East line of the West Half (W½) of Section 33; thence Southerly on the said East line of the West Half (W½) of Section 33 to the point of beginning.

March 24, 1980