Lake Forest residents took to the polls on Tuesday, May 11, voting in favor of a proposition to annex some nine square miles of territory west of the present city limits. Though voter turnout was low, annexation carried the day by a wide margin, 303-5.

The special election was called at the City Council meeting on Monday, May 4, when petitions to be annexed, signed by property owners and voters of the territory in question, were read.

Broadly, the newly added land extends west from Green Bay Road to the Libertyville and Vernon township lines, north to the Lucius Teter estate at the slight bend in Telegraph Road, and south to a line ¼ mile north of Half Day Road.

Louis F. Swift, the largest affected property holder at 1,000 acres, has been vocal in his support of the plan. Other estates in the area include A. B. Dick’s Westmoreland, A. Watson Armour’s Elawa Farm, and J. Ogden Armour’s Melody Farm, as well as those on the west side of Green Bay Road. The Onwentsia Club, the Ridge Farm Ventorium, and the village of Everett will also now be incorporated into Lake Forest.

The annexation was the first task of the Lake Forest Plan Commission, newly instituted in February. It is said that the next area under consideration is the Knollwood Club to the north.

The Historical Society’s new exhibit West Side Stories opens with a special preview for members on Friday, April 21st, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Join today to attend this exclusive members event!

West Side Stories explores Lake Forest’s western regions, beyond the Skokie Highway. You’ll get a chance to see the entire exhibit before parts of it go on tour west. West Side Stories will be open at the Historical Society and various locations in the community through the end of 2014.

Join today to attend this exclusive members event!

The Lake Forest branch of the League of Women Voters is having a busy first year. The League works to educate voters, especially women, so that votes can be cast intelligently with proper understanding of qualifications of candidates and the importance of issues. The club reminds everyone they can see and hear candidates for office at a public meeting at the Young Men’s Club on Oct. 21. There has been some interest among the girls at Lake Forest College at forming their own chapter with the purpose of getting young women to vote.

ST. MARY OF THE LAKE HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

A Million People Descend on the Mundelein Seminary on June 24

One of the most significant events in the Chicago region, the 28th International Eucharistic Congress, took place in June 1926. This event signaled the emergence of Chicago as a major city. More than a million pilgrims arrived and pilgrims from around the world attended the five day Congress which included three Masses at Soldier Field. The final event took place at Mundelein Seminary (University of St. Mary of the Lake) on June 24, 1926. The process of transporting the participants to Mundelein was the largest transportation effort ever attempted in the country.

The Gem. A Publication of the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society $40 Membership

Volume 2, Number 1 News of 1926 Lake Forest, Illinois

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS: LAKE FOREST VOTES 303-5 FOR ANNEXATION

City Triples in Size

people to the 1926 International Eucharistic Congress is one story. Historical Society members receive first notice of tickets, so join or renew today.
CROWN PRINCE VISITS LAKE FOREST

Becomes Godfather to Local Baby

On June 25, 1926, the Crown Prince Gustaf Adolfus and Princess of Sweden visited Lake Forest College. The Prince played golf at the Forest Lakes Country Club and met with Misses Eliza M. S. Swanson and Mrs. Charles M. Schoppweber. The Roverinnians entertained the guests with a lawn party and the Prince declared that he had played golf many years ago. On his way back to Chicago the Prince and Princess spent the night at the Prince’s Illinois yacht club, Shore Acres, and returned to Sweden near midnight.

LEGION READY FOR LAKE FOREST DAY

Parade starts at 10

The stage is set for the annual Lake Forest College Homecoming Parade, which takes place on October 12th. The parade begins at 10 a.m. and winds its way through the streets of Lake Forest, ending at the college campus. The parade features floats, marching bands, and the annual speech by the college president. The event is free and open to the public.

HOWARD SHAW, ARCHITECT, DIES

Noted Chicago architect Howard Van Doren Shaw died suddenly May 27th in Baltimore. He had gone to Baltimore to be treated for anemia. He had been well enough to make his annual trip to Nassau, Bahamas near the home of his son-in-law, John T. McCutcheon, but went straight to Baltimore upon his return. Just a day shy of his 57th birthday, he was accompanied by a gold medal only last week by the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Shaw resided in Chicago and maintained a summer home in Lake Forest. He designed many country homes on the North Shore, the model town of Marktown in northeast Indiana, and Market Square. His own home, Regale, is on Green Bay Road. Mr. Shaw graduated from Yale University in 1893 and from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1893. He was a founder of the American Institute of Architects in 1907. He also was a member of the Architectural, Westmoota, Cliff Dwellers, University, Yale and Shore Acres clubs of Chicago and Lake Forest. He was married to Frances Wells and survived by three daughters: Evelyn (Mrs. John T. McCutcheon), Sylvia (Mrs. Clay Judson) and Frances Theodore Shaw. Private burial will be at Graceland Cemetery.

NEW SKOKIE VALLEY LINE OPEN

Some Question Lake Forest Station Name

The new line on the North Shore Interurban opened in June. The forty-six miles of track and nine passenger stations were completed in less than a year. A special trip was made with members of North Shore city councils to introduce them to this new electric line. The new route from Niles to Lake Bluff passes through a beautiful countryside that is not yet obscured by billboards announcing subdivisions. It passes alongside and through the estates of many wealthy Chicagoans living in the Lake Forest region.

The Skokie Valley route is a modern electric railroad built for both comfort and speed, with a capability of 99 miles per hour. It is anticipated that with the railroad, a great amount of north shore property "west of the lake" will open up for settlement. Light and power are now available to this area and water is plentiful. Twenty-five miles of telephone cable were also strung along the right-of-way. The stations, which are attractive and roomy, are designed with quarters for the station agent and his family. At the suggestion of many communities, and despite being open only for a brief period, the North Shore Line has changed the name of its Lake Forest station on the Skokie Valley route. The station, which was originally named in the $1,000 prize contest, is no longer known as Skokie Manor. The new name is Deerpath. The new name seems better suited inasmuch as the traveling public can easily locate it in connection with this well-known thoroughfare.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LAKE FOREST-LAKE BLUFF AREA

Still Going Strong Since 1920

The League of Women Voters of Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Area has been active since 1920. The organization has been dedicated to promoting informed participation in government and public affairs. They have been involved in a wide range of activities, from registering voters to conducting election observation to advocating for various social and political issues. The League continues to be an active force in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff.

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THE ANTI-PHRACTION CLAMOR

A Reader Editorial

There are a few issues that are driving the anti-phrauction movement. They are concerned about the potential for phrauction to disrupt traditional family values and to undermine the efforts of law enforcement agencies to combat phrauction and related crimes. They argue that phrauction is a public safety issue, not a private matter, and that the government has a responsibility to protect the public from phraud.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

A Summary of the News of 1926

Ten coeds in a home economics class at the College were aiming to vote to take on the anti-phrauction campaign for a baby from the Lake Forest Opera Company. The baby was to take turns watching the baby each day so that no one girl could be overwhelmed. This was all in hopes to put their theories to practice. This plan while feasible in theory did not make it to practice and was voted down. The girls, however, did pose as mothers to freshwater boys.

The Lake Bluff Boy Scouts were in full charge of all departments in the village April 11th. During the afternoon, one arrest was made of Mr. James of Chicago who was speeding through the village at 35 miles per hour. He was arraigned before "Police Magistrate" Scott Ralph Baker and fined $5 by "Judy" Baker as well.

The popular vaudeville actor known in theatrical circles as Jack Benny is rehearsing a show for Atlantic City. He is the son of Mayer Kubelsky, the clothing proprietor in Market Square. Mr. Kubelsky announced he will name management of his store to Leonard Farnsief, who will soon be his son-in-law.

The city of Lake Bluff plans to triple its size. Edward M. Mawman, village president, presented an amendment proposal to obtain the necessary signatures. Among the properties to be acquired are the Kelloulou golf course, and the estates of Phillip D. Armstrong, Scott Durand, Earl H. Reynolds, and Ralph H. Poole.

The residents of Hirst Court in Lake Bluff are about to petition the village to change the name of their street demanding it impossible to pronounce and thus order anything over the "phone." No alternative has been named.

What will be your lasting gift?

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After an extensive review, the plan for Deepthorpe Hall Estates were finally approved at the September 15 City Council meeting. Construction is expected to begin soon on this unique subdivision, developed by Henry K. Turnbull. Local architect Stanley Anderson will design the homes.

Knollwood Club’s time now $10,000 building was finally opened last Saturday with an all-day affair. Prizes for the day were given out in the evening at a stag party. The annual Big Ten golf championship was held there in June.

The annual horse show at Oswego in July was a brilliant one and the most important social event of the season. The event included polo matches on both afternoons. Maj. Gen. Umberto Nobile, pilot of the New airship, and his four Italian companions appeared at the show. They recently returned from being the second airship to fly over the North Pole with R.A. Anderson. Proceeds are helping to exterminate the problem.

The public schools—Gorton, Halsey and Everett—are helping to exterminate the problem. The railroad tracks are nominally proper in settling this question.

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Historical Society Programs

For reservations visit www.lflbhistory.org or call 847-234-5253

About The Gem

The Gem was a short-lived, four-page monthly newspaper published in 1967. The Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society is publishing its own version of The Gem but for the year 1926. Read about the Historical Society’s upcoming programs, tours and exhibits and learn about the news of the day from 1926. This is the second year for this publication. Last year the Historical Society received an Award of Superior Achievement from the Illinois Association of Museums for The Gazette, which depicted the news of the day from 1916.

Inside—Turn back the pages to 1926 for all the gossip, scandals and news of the day.

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Join online at www.lflbhistory.org or mail in this form to:

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