

# Benches on the Avenue 2008

1

## Eastside, Westside, All Around the Town

Artist: Nick Schulien

Nick is a retired art teacher and 50-year resident of Tinley Park who enjoys contributing to Benches on the Avenue. He captured the many, lively sights and sounds of New York from Ellis Island to Wall Street in this spectacular bench.

**Zabrocki Plaza, South Side**  
Sponsor: Apple Chevrolet

2

## Jurassic Park

Artist: Nick Schulien, Jen Lilly, Roger Gerencir

The artists imagined traveling back into time to see animals as big as houses moving among the trees in one of the greatest adventures ever. This bench represents a group effort by three artists who have participated in this project for several years.

**Zabrocki Plaza, North Side**  
Sponsor: Bettenhausen Dodge

3

## Native America

Artist: Jennifer Lilly

This bench is overflowing with history and tradition in a glimpse back to Native America. Jennifer enjoys spending time with her family and fellow bench artists while working on creations for Benches on the Avenue.

**17313 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Tinley Park So. Condominium Association

4

## International Delights

Artist: Robert Gors

A variety of sights and costumes native to each region provide this bench with an international flair. Robert lives in Palos Heights and is a self-taught artist who uses bold colors for his caricatures and sharp lines for solitary scenes.

**17255 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Nick's Barbecue

5

## St. Petersburg, Russia

Artist: Jaclyn Robbins

Mountains and hot air balloons provide the background for The Church of Spilled Blood in St. Petersburg, Russia. The artist is a Columbia College graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree and currently resides in Tinley Park.

**17225 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Cardinal Fitness/Donlin Builders

6

## Relax Down Under

Artist: John and Scott Fleming

A living coral reef featuring hidden passages and colorful aquatic life was created by these former Tinley Park residents. John lives in Bolingbrook and Scott in DeKalb. These brothers are second-year bench artists.

**17217 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Law Office of Arthur Pierce

7

## Magical Place

Artist: Val Fischer

Cinderella's castle at Disney's Magic Kingdom has been the destination for many memorable vacations for young and old alike. This 30-year resident of Tinley Park has three grown children who would love to go back to visit the Magic Kingdom.

**17236 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Gatto's Restaurant and Bar



8

## "Bienvenue a` Paris"

Artist: Lisa Hanna Akroush

The artist welcomes you to Paris, the City of Love, with this realistic yet whimsical bench. Lisa is a 26-year old Tinley Park resident who received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and Minor in Art History from Columbia College.

**17244 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: First Midwest Bank

9

## Regal Rushmore

Artist: Lefje Lindokken

Spend time in South Dakota with Mount Rushmore, an amazing work of art. This monumental sculpture, created from nature, represents United States history. Lefje, a sophomore at Tinley Park High School, has participated for five years in "Benches on the Avenue".

**17256 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Crossmark Printing, Inc.

10

## Cruisin' For Memories

Artist: South Side Brushes

Travel to a far-away island beach while cruisin' for memories among the white sands and swaying palm trees. First year bench artists, these talented ladies are members of South Side Brushes, a local chapter of the Society of Decorative Painters.

**17314 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Tinley Park Park District

11

## Gone Fishin'

Artist: John & Scott Fleming

Sand, driftwood and aquatic plants transform this bench into a quiet day on the water waiting for the Big One. John and Scott are brothers who grew up in Tinley Park and who enjoy painting murals, and printing and web design.

**17326 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Ed & Joe's Restaurant

12

## "Queen of the Adriatic"

Artist: Marty Rose & Don Zak

Visit romantic Italy as Venice comes to Oak Park Avenue. Enjoy the "City of Water" glowing with lights while sitting upon a gondola. Marty and Don have collaborated on the "Benches on the Avenue" for the past three years and have dedicated this bench to their wives, Melissa and Dorothy.

**17332 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Comfort Suites - Tinley Park

13

## Egyptian Wonders

Artist: Jennifer Lilly

A wonderful "travel treasure" can be found in the rich history of Egypt's pyramids and the discovery of King Tut's Tomb. Created by Jennifer Lilly, this third-year bench artist enjoys challenging her artistic abilities.

**Oak Park Avenue & Hickory Street**  
Sponsor: Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce

14

## Jewel of the Avenue

Artist: Sandra Gross/Russell Kurtz

This cruise ship with deck chairs portrays a relaxing vacation on the high seas. Sandra is a Tinley Park resident and second year bench artist. Russell is a master carpenter who can make anything out of wood come alive.

**17424 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Elite Construction Co.

15

## Stuffed with Memories

Artist: South Side Brushes

Memories and bits and pieces from a Caribbean vacation are stuffed inside this colorful bench which was created by a group of artists from a local chapter of the Society of Decorative Painters. This bench represents their first contribution to the Benches on the Avenue.

**17432 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center

16

## World of Imagination

Artist: Val Fischer

The artist created an image of Epcot Center because it has examples of many lands as well as the world of the past and future. Val is a self-employed artist who has participated in Benches on the Avenue for four years.

**17500 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Pluss Appliance

17

## Fun in the Sun

Artist: Morgan Kelly

Palm trees, sailboats, and beach toys bring back memories of summers in the sun. This is Morgan's second year as a "Benches on the Avenue" artist. An extremely talented 12 year old, she attends Century Jr. High School.

**17514 S. Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Aero Rubber Company

18

## Paris

Artist: Roger Gerencir

The Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe and Notre Dame are some of the historic monuments of the City of Paris depicted in this colorful bench. Roger is a retired art teacher born and raised in Joliet, Illinois.

**17501 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Carol's Travel Service

19

## "My Kind of Town"

Artist: Nancy Malis Bare

This bench captures the diversity and dynamics of Chicago and was inspired by the artist's great love for "The City of Big Shoulders". Nancy resides in Tinley Park and owns a successful home decorating business.

**6779 West 174th Place**  
Sponsor: James B. Carroll & Associates

20

## Alaska Adventure

Artist: Roger Gerencir

The wonders of Alaska, from Glacier Bay to Denali National Park are depicted on this creative bench. Roger is a graduate of Illinois State University and National Louis University, and a retired art teacher.

**17401 Oak Park Avenue**  
Sponsor: Robinson Engineering/Klein Thorpe & Jenkins

21

## Old Cape Cod

Artist: Nick Schulien

The peaceful sounds of the sea, roaring waves, sea gulls and the glow of the lighthouse create a relaxing experience on Cape Cod. Nick has been a bench artist for four years and does his best to please his greatest critics - his four grandchildren.

**Oak Park Avenue & South Street**  
Sponsor: Pondman



## Bronze Statues on the Avenue

These timeless statues and monuments on Oak Park Avenue add beauty and dignity to our town. Many of the statues typify what Tinley Park is all about - rich in family values, hometown warmth and pride in our neighborhoods. Our village welcomes all of you to take the walking tour

along Oak Park Avenue and see the wonderful bronze sculptures and artistic birdhouses we have on display. A special thanks to Emily Zabrocki for her assistance in selecting the bronze sculptures and for writing the descriptive narratives.



**1 The Good Book** sculpted by Mark Lundeen.  
This sculpture captures the bond between the old and young. Many of us remember a grandmother, favorite aunt, neighbor or friend reading to us as we sat enjoying not only the story, but the sense of sharing and love that brought us together.



**2 First Star** sculpted by Dennis Smith.  
Children, being shorter than we adults, see a totally different world. It is probably part of why they love high places that will elevate them above their short world. In First Star, a father, rooted as an observatory, scans the dusky sky of a summer day, searching for that first evening star, creating for his daughter a vision of a broad universe beyond anything her young mind can yet imagine.



**Home Delivery** sculpted by Blair Muhlestein.  
Home Delivery transports us to an earlier time, much like the buildings that we see from the Plaza. Here we see a young man, taking pride in his bike and his delivery of papers. Many of us remember the responsibilities of the papers delivered on time, as well as the drudgery of getting up early and facing those bad weather days!



**4 Long May It Wave** sculpted by Blair Muhlestein.  
Three children, recreating the battle weary flag-bearer and fife and drum players of the Revolutionary War as they play. This sculpture takes on added significance as we remember the events of September 11, 2001. We continue to take pride in our flag and what it symbolizes and remember to rejoice in our freedoms as Americans. We also are reminded that the freedoms we enjoy came about because of the sacrifices of many and that it takes continued vigilance to stamp out hatred, fostering understanding and respect for all the peoples of this world.



**Tinley Park Firefighters** sculpted by A. Joseph Kinkle.  
The Tinley Park Fire Department was organized in 1901. The design of this statue was selected to depict those early days, a firefighter called to duty with a look of determination and concern to handle the task at hand. The base was designed and engraved by Maurice Moore Memorials. This tribute contains the names of all firefighters who served Tinley Park during the first 100 years, 1901 to 2001.



**6 Twist in Time** sculpted by James Haire.  
Here we see a young boy, enjoying a fine summer day on a rope swing beneath the branch of a favorite tree. Another simple pleasure, reminding us that happiness doesn't need to involve owning the newest, most expensive gadgets, whatever our age. Most of us remember the joy of feeling the wind brush across our face as we swoop up and down, up and down, higher and higher on the swings of our youth.



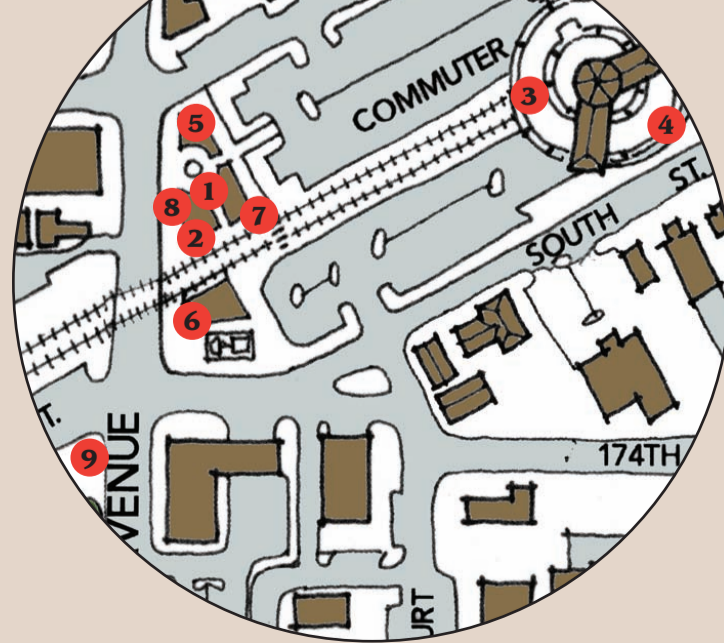
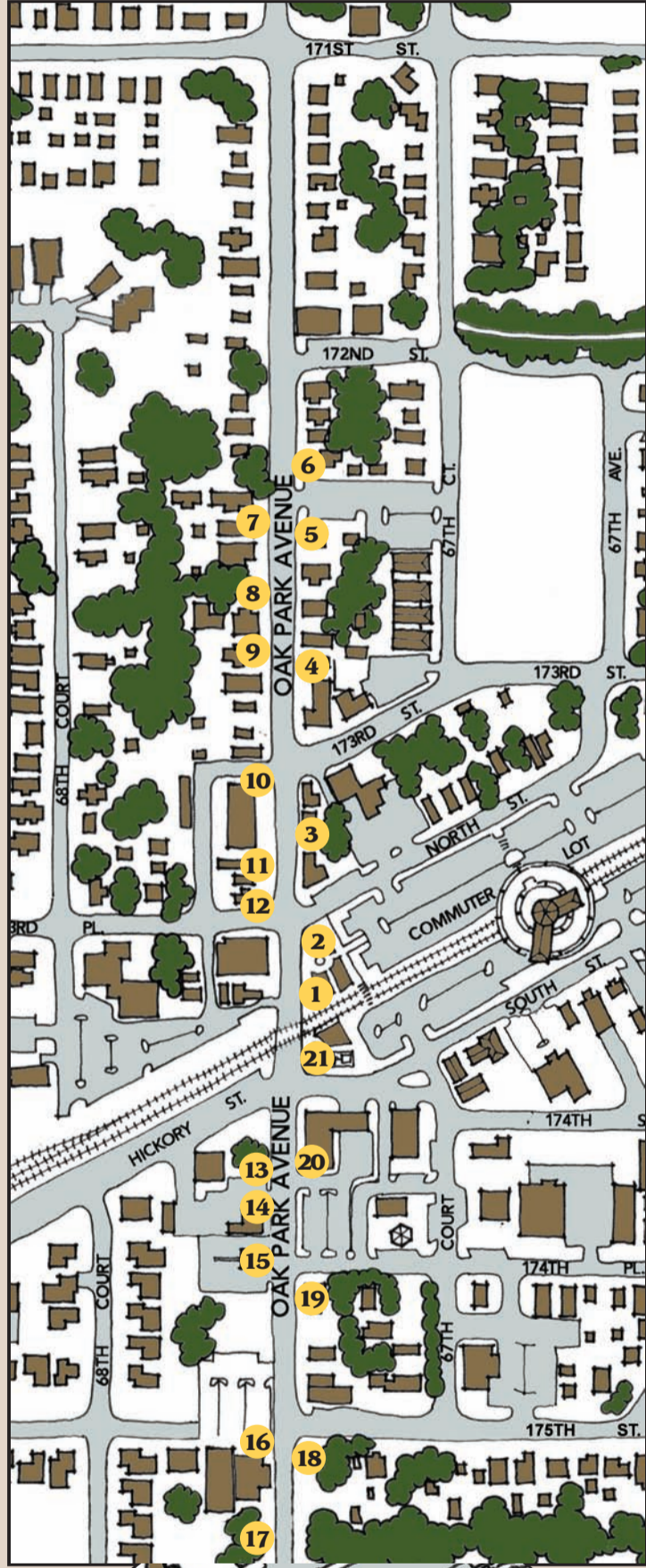
**Heading Out** sculpted by Dennis Smith.  
Heading Out is an image about beginnings. Think about the mind and vision of a child; the trial and error—the pure work that accompanies the task of learning to walk. Beyond the falls, the bumps and bruises of the effort, finally those first steps take form, and the child heads out into the wide and endless vision of a world filled with new things and endless places to explore.



**Dorothy and Friends** sculpted by Phyllis C. Beattie.  
This sculpture was originally commissioned to memorialize Dorothy Vogt, who was a community leader and volunteer in Arapahoe County, Colorado. It depicts Mrs. Vogt as a young girl, doing what she loved best, reading with her dog in the park. It reminds us of the days you could find us outside, enjoying nature, a good book, and our animal friends.



**Tender Touch** sculpted by George Lundeen.  
Tender Touch is a life size sculpture of a young woman dressed in period clothing from the turn of the century. In one arm she holds an infant swathed in a blanket and with her other arm she holds the hand of a young girl with a crutch who is leaning against her. Alongside her is a steamer trunk. This woman stands between Fulton House and the train station and brings to mind the early settlers who underwent difficult journeys and untold hardships to find for themselves and their families the promise of a better life.



# Benches on the Avenue

May thru September, 2008

## The Village of Tinley Park

Edward Zabrocki  
Mayor

Frank German  
Village Clerk

Trustees  
Patrick Rea  
David Seaman  
Gregory Hannon  
Michael Bettenhausen  
Brian Maher  
Thomas Staunton, Jr.



Cover Photo by: Photos by Rick

Winners will be announced at the Music in the Plaza Concert at the Oak Park Avenue train station on August 9, 2008  
Log on to [www.tinleypark.org](http://www.tinleypark.org) to view photos of the benches and vote for your favorite in the following categories:  
Most Creative, Best Theme, Best Use of Materials and Best Young Artist

## Vote for Your Favorite Bench!

- Village of Tinley Park MainStreet Commissioners: along with Donna Framke, Amy Chmura, Len Wienck and Joanne Carroll for their energy, enthusiasm and creativity; and Mary Dobyns and her Public Works crew for their resourcefulness and timely support.
- The Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce and the Oak Park Avenue MainStreet Association for their assistance with this project.
- Michael Reithsman and his assistants at Sannort's Nursery for coordinating the flower selection for the planter boxes.
- The carpenter, Gerard & Roberts Inc. who custom designed and built the benches for the artists to decorate.
- The individual property owners who allowed the benches to be displayed on their property.
- Smith Consulting for the on-line contest web design work.
- Crossmark Printing for the design and printing of this brochure.

## Enjoy!

- Our sponsors for their financial support of this project.
- Each and every artist who generously shared his or her incredible talent and creativity with the residents of and visitors to the Village of Tinley Park.
- John Kasman of Aero Rubber Co. for donating warehouse space to house the benches.
- Bill Moran of Carlin-Moran Landscapers, Inc. for donating the watering of the beautiful flowers throughout the season.
- Rick Butkus of Photos by Rick for donating the photography of all of the benches.
- Cub Scouts Pack #436 from Cardinal Bernardin School and their parents for planting the flowers.
- Becky Nichols of Evon's Trophies & Awards for donating and installing the plaques to identify the artists and sponsors.
- The Tinley Park Garden Club for maintaining the flowers throughout the summer.

Many thanks to the following contributors without whose help this project would not have happened:

This project was created and implemented by the Village of Tinley Park's MainStreet Commission in an effort to beautify our community and showcase downtown Tinley Park.

A Very Special Thank You to...