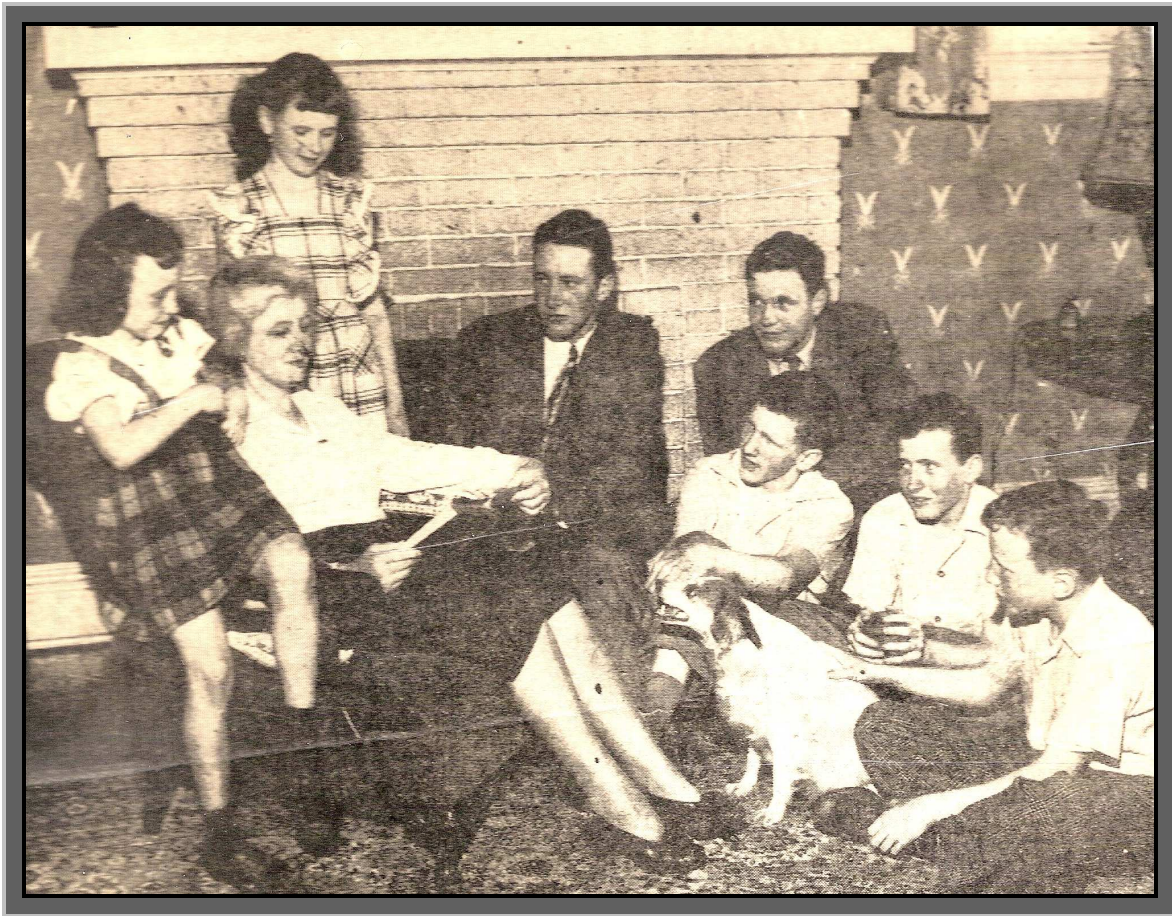




Hawthorne Place
Neighborhood Association
March 1, 2008

Life in Historic Hawthorne



This faded newspaper photo is from sixty years ago. It was for Mother's Day in 1948. Mary Casey of 1508 Holmes is surrounded by seven of her nine children. They are, left to right: Margaret Mary, Anne Marie, Bernard, John, Edward, James and Richard. The family dog, Mitzi, is in the center. Tom and Robert, the two oldest sons, were away at college. The photo appeared in the *State Journal-Register* of May 9, 1948. Maggie (Bradley) Casey shares her memories and some family pictures beginning on page 5.

Remember Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11.

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION?



Annual Meeting – Thursday, April 24

This year's annual meeting for the Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association is scheduled for Thursday, April 24 at 7 PM at the Laurel Methodist Church (Walnut & South Grand).

The meeting is will address the future of our neighborhood association. What has this effort accomplished over the past fourteen years? What do the neighbors want out of this association? What can we all do to assure the neighborhood association's future?

Presently, aside from the annual meeting, no events are planned for the spring of 2008. We need more volunteers to keep our events going.

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Boulevard Mowing

There are additional concerns. Bob Scott has been mowing the Lowell Avenue boulevard for the past several years. He has given us a uniform, regular mowing at a modest price paid by the Lowell residents. But Bob and his wife, Janet, are planning to move. Their home is on the market. Once again, each Lowell resident will be responsible to maintain the boulevard in front of their house. In the meantime we need to come up with a solution. Any ideas?



Garden Tending

Also, there are garden plots at the intersection of Lowell and Cedar and around each of our neighborhood signs. Planting, weeding, and watering are necessary, especially in summer.

We will be asking for your help.

Please attend the Annual Meeting on
April 24!

ANNA HAN



The Young family – Claire, Chris, Philip,
Kathy – and Anna Han

We have been so fortunate that Anna Han has been living in Hawthorne Place for the past two years. She has been residing with the Young family at 1601 Holmes. You may have met her at one of the neighborhood events, been helped by her at one of the sales tables at our Big Event, or heard her perform her violin with the Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony.

Anna first came to stay with the Youngs in January 2006. She entered Sacred Heart-Griffin as a sophomore in the second semester. There were big adjustments as she could read English but was still struggling with her verbal skills. You would never know that today when you converse with Anna.

Anna is now seventeen years old. She will graduate from Sacred Heart-Griffin on May 25. Be sure to congratulate her. Her parents will be here for the ceremony. Their home is in Wonju, South Korea, which is about an hour-and-a-half outside of Seoul. After graduation Anna and her family will have an opportunity to travel in the United States before returning home.

But Anna may be back. She intends to enter college in the fall and prepare for a major in business. It remains to be decided if she will study in the United States or in Korea.

She wanted everyone to know that she has had “a great experience and will never forget it” and with a special thanks to her host family.

LUMINARIES

On the evening of December 24 luminaries were placed up and down the streets of Hawthorne Place. Our neighborhood has shared in this holiday activity for several years. Wherever people ventured in the city of Springfield that evening - to celebrate with family and friends or just to see holiday decorations - they would often find their travels lighted by luminaries. It's always gratifying to see that our neighborhood shares in this welcoming spirit.

Again, for this past year, we are indebted to Karen Newbold for organizing this effort.



Karen Newbold (1600 Lowell) was one of the first neighbors outside with her shovel on Friday, February 1.

THE LAST SIGH OF THE SNOW PEOPLE

Springfield had at least eleven inches of snowfall on Thursday, January 31, and Friday, February 1. Schools were closed, the city buses weren't running, and many people chose to stay home. By Saturday the snow was packable and there some young inventive minds were at play. You could see an igloo with windows at 1513 Lowell (Ralph), a family of snow people at 1416 Whittier (Wentz), and a mighty fortress at 1613 Lowell (Lemme).

Then there was rain and hail on Sunday. By Monday morning, when these photos were taken, our neighborhood was in a shroud of fog and the warmer temperature was causing the snow people to melt away.

Our thanks to all the creative efforts in winter and that brought smiles to our neighbors.



LIFE IN HISTORIC HAWTHORNE



This house at 1508 Holmes has been listed in the Springfield city directory since 1905. For much of that time it was the home of the Casey family.

It was seventy years ago – in 1938 – that the Casey family moved to Hawthorne Place. Previously, the family had resided in the Rogers Park area of Chicago. The father, Thomas B. Casey, was employed as assistant chief at the Department of Waterways for the State of Illinois. He had commuted for years between his job in Springfield and the family home in Chicago. The move to Hawthorne Place brought the family together under one roof for every day of the week.

And what a big family it was. When the Caseys came to Springfield they moved into a rental property at 1333 Holmes. At the time the Casey family included seven boys and a baby girl. The last child, another girl, was born in 1940. It appears that the immediate neighbors – Melvina Dollarhide (1854-1951), a widow, and her two maiden daughters at 1331 Holmes – suffered shell shock at the sight of the seven little boys. But they quickly adjusted. The oldest Casey boys were always willing to help with chores.

All of the Casey children attended Blessed Sacrament School. In one year, Mrs. Casey

was honored for having the most children at the school at one time. The parish house was just down the block at 1629 Holmes and each of the boys would work there taking out ashes, cleaning carpets and running errands. In the Casey family the rosary was said frequently and everyone went to Sunday mass.

By the mid-1940s, Mr. Casey considered building a new home in Springfield. He even drew up the architectural plans. His job seemed secure. He had been appointed chief engineer at the Division of Waterways by Governor Dwight Green in 1943. Then, in 1947, the house at 1508 Holmes was up for sale. The Caseys decided to buy it – and stay in the neighborhood.

1508 was smaller than 1333 Holmes, but the family made adjustments. They remodeled the kitchen and put a bathroom downstairs where there had been a pantry. There were two bunk beds and a single bed in one room for the boys. The two girls shared a room. The back porch was enclosed to provide for a fourth bedroom. And the two oldest children were away at college.



Thomas B. Casey (1893-1968)



Mary K. (Lavin) Casey (1900-1977)

All of the Casey children graduated from college. They attended Marquette, St. Benedicts, St. Louis University, Georgetown, and the University of Illinois. They entered careers in law, engineering, international transportation and interior design. The oldest, Tom, studied at Florissant Seminary and became a Jesuit priest.

During the Korean conflict the Caseys had five sons in uniform: two in Korea, one in Germany, and two stateside. At an early point in the war, the *Illinois State-Journal* ran a story that appeared in the March 2, 1951 issue. It was titled "All in Family: 3 Brothers Get Calls to Service, Others May Go." The paper interviewed Mrs. Casey who tried to make "the best of a bad situation." "After all," she remarked, "there are a lot of other boys being called into service." But her family remembers that she prayed every night that her sons would not have to kill anyone.

Maggie Bradley and John Casey, the fifth son, began dating in 1967. Then, one day, John asked Maggie over for dinner. It would be an opportunity to meet the family. Forty years later, Maggie still remembers that evening at 1508 Holmes. She can recite the meal: roast beef, leg of lamb, browned potatoes and gravy, broccoli with cheese sauce, cauliflower with cream sauce, rolls, salad of greens with sliced avocado, grapefruit and oranges, and lots of desserts with coffee. John didn't invite

Maggie over just to meet the folks. He was going to introduce her to the whole family. Maggie remembers the bedlam. There were card tables set up in the foyer and front room. Children were everywhere. And there were heated arguments and good jesting. Everyone had an opinion on everything and politics were often central to these debates. It was a family portrait in action, a scene that would repeat itself over the next decades at 1508 Holmes.

At that time - 1967 - Maggie was a Young Democrat and John was a Young Republican. They had previously met at a Sons and Daughters of Erin banquet. Then, just a short time later, a mutual friend, Tom Londrigan, brought them together. (Hawthorne trivia: Tom Londrigan's son, also named Tom, would later live in 1525 Lowell in Hawthorne.) John and Maggie dated regularly every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. They were married at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral on August 10, 1968 with Father Tom, John's brother, officiating.



John Casey (1932-2002) in a photo from the early 1950s when he was in military service.



The photo above is from September 1956. Pictured from left to right are Evelyn Marchiela, who helped with the household, Catherine Foley, Bernard Casey, and Mrs. Casey. They are in the backyard of 1508 Holmes. The occasion was Edward Casey's engagement to Miss Foley from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The Sons and Daughters of Erin



John and Maggie Casey first met at a Sons and Daughters of Erin banquet. This organization is still active in Springfield and exists throughout the country. It is a society dedicated to the preservation of the customs and history of Ireland and its people. The local chapter, the Peter F. Rossiter chapter, was founded in 1957. The first president was Arthur Fitzgerald who was the uncle of Mary Sellers (1601 Whittier). Tim Davlin, our current mayor, was president in 1993. John Casey served as president in 1971. His brother Edward was president in 1979.

Thomas B. Casey died in 1968. His wife, Mary, continued to live at 1508 Holmes until her death in 1977. It was then the home of their son Bernard for two years. John and Maggie Casey became the owners in 1979. After some remodeling, they moved into the family home with their two young children, John and Anne.



Thomas B. Casey by the family home at 1508 Holmes. The photo is from the mid-1950s. Thomas Casey (1893-1968) was born in Colorado. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in engineering. He served as an army lieutenant in World War I. A job with the state of Illinois brought him to Springfield in the early 1930s. Eventually, he became the Chief Engineer of the Division of Waterways, Department of Public Works and Buildings for the State of Illinois. He served in that capacity from 1943 until he retired in 1963 at age of 70.

Maggie recalls that when they arrived at 1508 Holmes she had been told that there were sixty-six children living on their street, a mere two blocks from South Grand to Laurel. Maggie went door to door to organize the mothers. It was time to have a block party, perhaps the first in Hawthorne.

John and Anne Casey, John and Maggie's two children, attended Blessed Sacrament as had their father and the Casey uncles and aunts before them.

John Casey was employed as an assistant state's attorney from 1960-1963. He was police magistrate in 1963. And beginning in 1963, he was a partner with his brother Edward in the law firm of Casey and Casey. John Casey remained in the firm until he died at the age of 70 in 2002. That was also the year that Maggie sold the house.

The Caseys had lived on Holmes (both at 1333 and 1508) for 65 years. Even as family members left Springfield they always identified with 1508 as the family homestead. Always, through those years, there would be reunions and special events that would bring them back together. Grandchildren who had never lived at 1508 would visit with their intended and have their pictures taken at the house. There would also be visits to Blessed Sacrament, the site of so many Casey baptisms, confirmations, graduations, and funerals. And there would be trips to Pease's.



Pease's Fine Candies has a long history, a history which precedes its stores in Springfield. The company began in Canton, Ohio, in the late 19th century, moving to Elgin, Illinois, around 1900. The operation was transferred to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1918.

A family member opened the first store in Springfield, Illinois, in 1930, when it was located in a two-story house on the corner of Third Street and South Grand Avenue. The shop at Laurel and State opened in 1953.



JFK & Margaret Bradley

Margaret (Maggie) Bradley, the future Mrs. John Casey, is photographed with Senator John Kennedy. As you can see she is getting his autograph. The date is October 24, 1959.

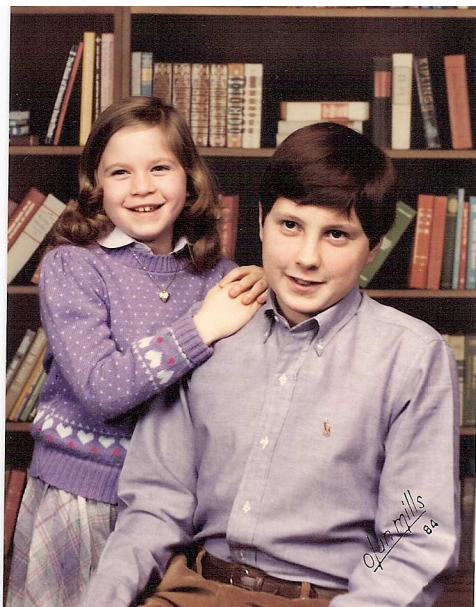
Maggie's father, Ralph S. Bradley (1906-1997) had organized the Illinois Farmer's Union in 1953 and he served as its president. In 1959, he was the national chairman of Farmer's for John F. Kennedy in the senator's campaign for the U.S. presidency. It was a role that provided Maggie with the opportunity to get the future president's signature. In 1960, Mr. Bradley was a delegate-at-large at the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles.

Later, Ralph Bradley would be appointed Director of Agriculture for the State of Illinois. He served in this capacity in the early 1960s in the administration of Governor Otto Kerner.



John & Maggie Casey (1984)

and their children:



Anne & John Casey (1984)

In 1993, John and Maggie celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a Mass followed by a dinner for 125 friends and relatives at 1508 Holmes. It was the same day that David and

Mary Jenkins were hoping to move into their home next door. The next morning, Maggie rushed over with flowers and food and the Casey and Jenkins families established a very close bond which remains today.

Although Maggie, the last of the Caseys to live at 1508, left the neighborhood in 2002, she has not forgotten Hawthorne Place. Each year she has come back to make her celebrated breakfast croissant sandwiches for our Big Event. And she still has many friends here. Among them is a bridge group. The original bridge group was formed in 1980 with Maggie, Caroline Daniels, Norma Graves, Betty Jennings, Helena Larson, Pat Lloyd, Helen Reisch, and Eloise Springer – all Hawthorne neighbors. Their membership may have changed a bit – and it currently includes Mary Maloy of 1501 Whittier – but the ladies still get together to play bridge nearly thirty years after they first gathered.



One of the last group photos of the Casey siblings at 1508 Holmes. The year was 2000. It was sixty-two years after the family had moved to Hawthorne Place. From left to right are: John (1932-2002), Father Tom (b. 1927), Margaret Mary (1940-2006), James (b. 1933), Anne Marie (b. 1937), Richard (b. 1934), and Robert (1928-2007).

Edward (1929-1991) and Bernard (1931-1999) were certainly remembered at this gathering and at another that followed in 2002.

Thomas & Mary Casey would be the forbears of 93 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

HAZARDOUS WASTE



The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will be accepting hazardous waste materials this year at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. This project is coordinated with the city of Springfield. The date that has been set is Saturday, April 26. The hours at 8 AM-3PM. Be sure to check the local papers for more details. You can call Community Relations at the Illinois EPA at 782-5562.

LEAF & BRANCH PICKUP



Springfield's citywide free leaf and branch pickup is typically scheduled during the month of April. Again, it is best to check the local papers for details when the program is announced. You can also call Waste & Recycling at 789-2327.

"THE PLAYS THE THING." -Hamlet

Our neighborhood thespians have been very busy of late. Matt Wilhite (1417 Whittier) had a role in *The Nerd* at the Hoogland Center in early February. Aasne Vigasaa (1319 Whittier) appeared in *Wit* also at the Hoogland later in February. Erin & Julie Saal (1605 Lowell) are participating in the musical *State Fair* at Sacred Heart-Griffin on March 7, 8, 9, 14, & 15. Give them a round of applause.

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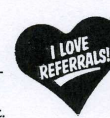
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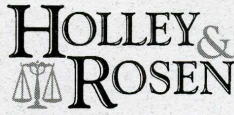
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HAWTHORNE PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

What is it? – The Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association is an organization for residents of Whittier, Lowell and Holmes between South Grand and Laurel – the boundaries of the 1902 Hawthorne Place subdivision. The organization advocates for the neighborhood, sponsors social activities, and is a forum for working on neighborhood issues.

History – The Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association held its first meeting at Laurel Methodist Church on October 27, 1994. The organization grew out of the effort to get a stop sign installed at Holmes and Cedar. Neighbors discovered the benefits of a group effort and a group voice.

How to join – Membership is \$20 per family for a first time membership and \$10 per family for a renewing membership. To join, contact Membership chair Burnell Heinecke at 522-3842. Also, let Burnell know if you do not want to be listed in the neighborhood directory.

Directories – Neighborhood directories are available to members. Contact your block captain if you need a directory.

Neighborhood Officer – Hawthorne Place is protected by the Springfield Police Department. Mike Vogel, our Neighborhood Police Officer, can be reached at 741-0988. If there is an emergency situation call 911.

Alderman – Hawthorne Place is in Ward 6. Our alderman is Mark Mahoney. He can be reached by phone (544-7944), email (mmahoney67@hotmail.com), or regular mail (1916 Whittier).

Newsletter – The neighborhood newsletter is produced quarterly. And the newsletter is self-supporting – thanks to our advertisers. Three cheers to them! Rates are \$10 per issue for a business card space or \$40 per year. Interested? Call Marty Vandiver at 523-3544.

Block Captains – The neighborhood is divided into six “blocks,” with block captains elected to represent each block on the association board. The blocks consist of the north or south section of a street, separated by Cedar Street. Three block captains are elected each year to a two-year term at the annual meeting in the spring.

The following is a list of the current block captains.

N. Holmes
Anne Craig (525-7002) – 1433 Holmes

S. Holmes
Jennifer Willhite (753-3626) - 1521
Holmes

N. Lowell
Beth & Mike Trojahn (744-7303)
- 1314 Lowell

S. Lowell
Jim Huston (528-5256) – 1524 Lowell
Edward Russo (414-0052) – 1612 Lowell

N. Whittier
Martha LeMay (241-7829) – 1421 Whittier
Lindsey Trojahn (789-1315) – 1317 Whittier

S. Whittier
Linda Riebling (523-1450) – 1500 Whittier
Marty Vandiver (523-3544) – 1528
Whittier

Be a block captain.
If you are interested in representing and
working for your block in Hawthorne Place,
call Anne Craig (525-7002).
Elections are held at the Annual Meetings.

- jah