

Welcome Spring

Every Spring brings a wonderful feeling of rebirth and revitalization to the Chicago area. Many parts of the world do not get to enjoy the blossoming of trees and flowers telling us that the dreary Winter is over and reminding us of the wonder of God's creation.



Maybe it is the lingering soreness many of us feel from so much shoveling, but this Spring couldn't seem to come soon enough.

And with this year's thaw, we are able to see and appreciate even more the beneficial impacts of Techny's commitment to environmentally sustainable development. Our extensive investment in groundwater management helps protect the community from flooding as snow and ice melt away. Our ever-maturing landscape provides a warm and inviting surrounding to "Northbrook's Front Door." And our ongoing wetlands preservation and reforestation work help reduce the carbon footprint of our development.

At Techny, we know the beneficial impact that natural surroundings have on the human spirit. Our priests and brothers who retire here after their careers serving mankind across the globe are comforted in having a peaceful place for reflection and contemplation.

We look forward to seeing our tenants, residents, friends and neighbors out and about this Spring as we all enjoy another season of renewal.

Reverend Sunny Francis, SVD



**Techny
Land
Corporation**

NEWSLETTER

Stewardship at the core of Techny development plans



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Since the Society of the Divine Word decided to embark on plans to develop its land holdings in Northbrook its leaders have made stewardship and sustainability top priorities. While development by its very nature changes our environment, maintaining a long-range vision allows TLC to coordinate projects to preserve many natural elements of the property.

Of the nearly 750 acres of land originally owned by the Society, 50 acres have been devoted to permanent open space and 42 acres were donated to the Northbrook Park District for use by the community. Additionally, under the guidance of TLC's President, Rev. Sunny Francis, SVD, the Society has preserved 40 acres of wooded land and has undertaken the largest reforestation project in Cook County, planting over 39,000 trees on another 40 acres once used as farmland.

The Society also created a 185-foot forested berm along Waukegan road to positively impact the environment. These significant investments in open lands and reforestation, as well

as wetland preservation, have not only made the Techny property more visually appealing to tenants and local residents, they have also reduced the development's carbon footprint.

This vision of environmental sustainability is also reflected in TLC's substantial financial investment in the sustainability of its property. "Our goal is not to extract the maximum financial benefit from our land," said Father Francis. "We are committed to protecting this land and using it wisely—that is the essence of sustainability."

Unlike most property developers, TLC sees its role stretching far into the future. "This land is under the care of the Society and will be for a very long time," said Father Francis. "We must handle it in a conscientious manner that respects our neighbors and respects the environment."

New company takes the reins at Willow Festival

Jacksonville, Florida-based Regency Centers (www.regencycenters.com) purchased the Willow Festival shopping center from original developer Hamilton Partners in December of 2010. The \$64 million purchase was the second highest real estate transaction in the Chicago area for the year.

Regency purchased the remaining term of Hamilton's 99-year ground lease of the land from Techny Land Corporation which retains ownership of the property.

Hamilton scored a huge success bringing Willow Festival to 96% occupancy even as the real estate downturn and recession took hold of the economy. Willow Festival, anchored by Lowes and Whole Foods stood out as a flourishing property in a sea of languishing commercial developments.

The sale is part of Hamilton's effort to focus on its core function of property development rather than ongoing operations.

At nearly 400,000 square feet, Willow Festival is the largest of Regency's two-dozen retail developments in Illinois. The sale will not mean any significant changes for shoppers or the community.

"Regency saw that Willow Festival was a thriving project, even in a recession," said TLC President Father Sunny Francis, SVD. "It is gratifying to know that our development plan has held up even in these challenging times."



Father Francis recognized the vision of Hamilton Partners as a big part of Willow Festival's success. "Many developers were skeptical about how their goals would fit in with those of TLC," he said. "But Hamilton saw it as a great opportunity and could not have been a better partner."

Partners in Development: Latest News and Updates

Spring is a big thing at Pinstripes

With ample outdoor space for dining and recreation, Pinstripes is eager for the warm weather. And to add to the excitement, they have rolled out a new Spring menu featuring a weekend fish fry and new desert flight. And Pinstripes is perfect for Easter, Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day brunch, with made-to-order omelets, prime rib, seafood and heavenly deserts, including a chocolate fountain! And it's not all about food. Pinstripes is now offering \$1 games of bocce and bowling Sunday through Thursday after 9 pm with a special late night menu. Spring and summer are the perfect time for special events at Pinstripes, whether it is a company outing, birthday celebration or team party.

Andreas Hogue Salon brings sophisticated style to Northbrook

The February opening of Andreas Hogue Salon brings urban energy and unmatched style to the Northshore. With a broad range of salon services along with nationally-recognized talent and superior customer services Andreas Hogue is raising the bar for the suburban salon experience.

Be it hair cutting or coloring, Keratin treatments, extensions, nail care, facials, microdermabrasion, or massage, the services you want with the skill and quality you deserve no longer requires a trip downtown. Located next to Whole Foods, Andreas Hogue Salon will be an oasis in the middle of Willow Festival.

Meadow Ridge featured among developments focused on "lifestyle living"

Time is running out to plan your office! The Daily Herald recently looked at the growing trend towards residential developments that cater to the lifestyle of prospective homebuyers. They found that many developments in the Chicago area are being designed with amenities that appeal to baby-boomers who are transitioning to empty-nesters.



Communities are especially focused on physical fitness opportunities for residents with ready access to workout facilities, walking trails and other features.

The story noted how Meadow Ridge, the townhouse community being built by KZF Development features easy access to recreational opportunities, open spaces for walking, nearby shopping and round-the-clock security.

The unique location and amenities of Meadow Ridge are perfectly suited for active adults, "looking for a maintenance-free lifestyle and a secure, gated community," according to the Daily Herald.

Many area residents spend extended periods of time away from home and knowing that their residence is secure and being constantly maintained is important gives them added freedom to travel.

Read more about "lifestyle living" at <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20110218/entlife/702189843/>.



Society's role in Chicago history featured on Fox News Chicago



In our December newsletter we featured the amazing work of Father Philip Gibbs, SVD, who served as chaplain at the McMurdo research station in Antarctica. And while it is common to find priests and brothers

from the Society of the Divine word in the farthest flung parts of the world, their ministry also has a long-standing impact right here in our area. This story was the basis of a feature story by Fox Chicago anchor Robin Robinson.

In the early part of the 20th Century, Chicago saw a growing influx of African-Americans, many moving to the city to escape continued oppression in the rural south. Among those migrants were a small, but significant number of Catholics who settled mostly on the South Side.

Chicago's Archbishop George Mundelein faced a challenge in serving this new flock. While the Archdiocese has a specific policy that forbade any parish from excluding worshipers on account of race, the reality was often much more complex. Mundelein felt that creating parishes specifically for African-American Catholics would allow the community the ability to control their churches and liturgy knowing they would have little say in the running of a majority white parish.

Cardinal Mundelein also knew he needed special priests to tend to this flock. While Chicago had been home to Father Augustine Tolton, the first African-American ordained to the priesthood who built St. Monica's parish in the 1890's, his untimely death left a void among the community. In 1917, the Cardinal asked the Society of the Divine Word, whose provincial headquarters had recently been established at Techny, to take over St. Monica's. The SVD priests and brothers had worked extensively among rural African-Americans in the south, establishing the first seminary to train African-American priests in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

In 1924, St. Monica's merged with St. Elizabeth's Church at 41st and Michigan Avenue, to become the "Mother Church" to Chicago's African-American Catholics. Under the leadership of Father Joseph Eckert, SVD, the church and its parochial school became the spiritual and educational home to generations of black Catholics.

Story continued on back page.



Watch Fox News Chicago story at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h zr9L9KOBzo>.



St. Elizabeth Parish, Yesterday and Today

Society's Role in Chicago history (continued)



Over the years, dozens of SVD priests and brothers have served at St. Elizabeth's and neighboring St. Anselm's parish. Among them was Father Dominic Carmon, SVD, who went on from pastor of St. Elizabeth's to become a bishop in New Orleans.

The parish has offered the promise of a quality education for hundreds of students who were trapped among the poverty and crime of nearby public housing projects while the church

built into its energetic liturgy the traditions of both African and African-American worship.

Today, St. Elizabeth's remains a key part of the spiritual bedrock of one of Chicago and our nation's most disadvantaged communities. The parish's important role in the area was featured on Fox News Chicago in a story we encourage our friends to watch at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzr9L9KOBzo>.

Techny Land Corporation Mission Statement

Techny Land Corporation furthers the mission of the Church in general and the work of the Society of the Divine Word in particular. Through the leasing and management of the Techny land, we support more than 6,000 Divine Word Missionaries worldwide.

Compatible Development



Land Stewardship



Global Outreach



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