


Wheeling Centennial  
Essays

Founder's Day  
Celebration  
June 22, 1994



# WHEELING CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ESSAYS

## Wheeling In The Future

by Tony Grinshpan, Grade 3, Whitman School - 2nd Place

This is Wheeling 2010. The village has grown a LOT! Almost everything from 1994 is gone. There are still plenty of things from old that have been changed.

All schools now stand 7 stories tall. All grades are taught in the schools. There is a record now of 500,000 principal awards given out and rising. There are 27 schools in District 21 now.

There has been a tunnel dug that connects Wheeling to the Great Lakes. The water has come in such great quantities that it made it's own lake, our lake! It was named Lake Wheeling in honor of the city.

Franklin Foods store has been rebuilt and turned into a giant supermarket. Almost everyone in Wheeling goes there to shop. There are lots of different products and goods sold there.

The hovercars ride all over the city. There are no more roads, only sidewalks. The hovercars glide on skyways, marked by laser.

Many of the buildings are now skyscrapers. They stand tall and proud all over the city. Wheeling is now a huge metropolis that has merged with Buffalo Grove.

Wheeling of 2010 is nothing like Wheeling of 1994. All these major changes happened in just 16 years! I think that the future holds a lot of unusual and special things for our city.

## Wheeling My Kind of Town

by Gia Navarro, Grade 3, St. Joseph the Worker School 3rd Place

**AREA:** Wheeling has the most beautiful area's. It has the Aquatic Center that has a great pool, and a delicious food area.

**LAND:** Land back then were just field's and farms. All of the land on Longtree Drive was farm land. It wasn't until 1978 that it was developed into houses. That is where I live now. Wheeling High School was also part of that farm land. The farmer's house is still up. It is on the corner of Hintz Road and Schoenbeck Road.

**PEOPLE:** People are great in Wheeling. They are friendly and nice. Everyone wants nice people in their town.

**SERVICES:** Wheeling has many different kind of services. The services that Wheeling has to offer are all good for the prople. They are very nice and good for you. We have the best paramedics, fireman, policeman, and Officer Parr from the D.A.R.E. program.

Wheeling is a great town and I am happy to live in Wheeling.

Wheeling, My Kind of Town

by Charlie Goins, Grade 3, Whitman School

Wheeling is my kind of town because of the Aquatic Center, low crime, and the good environment.

I love to go swimming, so I'm glad they built the Aquatic Center. I go there every Summer. It used to be a railroad station back one hundred years ago.

I'm glad Wheeling has low crime because I don't want people to get hurt. There is crime maybe once a year. I'm glad I live in a low crime city.

I live in a good environment. I have a lot of space to play games. I love the trees and the fresh air.

I am glad I live in a city with the Aquatic Center, low crime, and a good environment.

Wheeling, my kind of town

by John Preuss, Grade 3, Twain School

Wheeling is a great place for familys and friends to be together a place that i can have friends to play outside knowing my neighbors watch out for us a place you can grow up knowing that you can be safe and healthy a place that has the greatest schools like mark twain i go to it has the nicest teachers that care about you they help you all they can a school that my dad and his brothers and sister went to when there they were my age

i love Wheeling and all the places that three is to see like the museum my dad took me there and he found an old phone book from when he was small and it had his old phone number in it along with each one of his and his brothers and sister birth date i like knowing that i can see things that my dad saw when he was my age knowing that it will always be there even when older and i like knowing that it keeps up with the times opening doors for new jobs and new things to do in Wheeling i'm glad that i live in a great town and a great place to live that's why i think that wheeling is my kind of town happy 100th centennial Wheeling

Wheeling, My Kind Of Town

by Christine Selander, Grade 6, Twain School - 1st Place

Wheeling is a great town, with many fine qualities. Wheeling has great people, fine restaurants, many family activities, and excellent schools.

The people in Wheeling are great! Neighbors are always friendly. When my family needed help, our neighbors were there to lend a hand. This friendly attitude is important in establishing a sense of security in the neighborhoods. The village staff is also very helpful. They are always willing to answer questions citizens have.

As everyone knows, Wheeling is known for its fine restaurants. It's true. There are great restaurants in Wheeling. One of my favorite restaurants is Hackney's. Hackney's serves a great burger known to everyone as the Hackneyburger and a tasty onion ring loaf! Everyone loves their food. La Francais is known throughout the country for fine french cuisine. Don Roths features prime rib and the famous spinning salad. Bob Chinn's Crabhouse serves great seafood! There is something for everyone.

Wheeling also has many activities for families. A very popular event is St. Joseph the Worker's annual Familyfest. Normally held during the Fourth of July weekend, Familyfest is filled with music, fun games and rides for all ages. The Fourth of July Fireworks display is held at Heritage Park, near the Familyfest grounds. The displays are spectacular. Our new ('93) Aquatic Center gives families a chance to bond and spend fun time together. The Aquatic Center has water slides, sand volleyball, a playground and shallow water for small children. Our newest addition to Wheeling, the Wheeling Park District Recreation Center, will be a great place for people of all ages. The Rec Center will have an indoor track, large gym, stage, teaching kitchen and even a Pre-School. Wheeling is a great place for family activities.

My favorite place in Wheeling is my school. Teachers make the difference. They are always friendly and helpful. My Principal has a smile for students and is willing to help. She also makes my school a good environment to learn in by encouraging all of us to try our hardest and work together. There are many activities that take place at my school, Mark Twain. We have an ice cream social, pancake breakfast, fun fair, chorus, family night, field trips, parties, and much more. My favorite though was a Multi-cultural Week we had in May. During that week we learned about our family origins and the origins of our friends. We had a parade of nations, passport to the world display, a Cinco de Mayo celebration and a motivational speaker. It was a great week.

Wheeling will always be my favorite town because it is my hometown. I have lived here all of my life and have made many good friends. The people who live here are proud of Wheeling for its fine qualities such as friendly people, fine restaurants, fun family activities, and excellent schools. I too, am proud to be a citizen of Wheeling!

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, WHEELING!!!!

Wheeling: Life in 1894  
by Julie Massarsky, Grade 6, Whitman School - 2nd Place

Life in 1894 was different from today. They didn't have cars like us. They didn't have cement roads. They had horses and covered wagons and dirt roads. The dirt roads would get muddy in the winter because of the snow. They didn't have plows so they had to shovel the snow and it took days, sometimes longer.

They had one stove to warm the house. At night children would wrap a hot iron to sleep with to keep them warm. The cup of water they would put next to their bed to drink would be frozen in the morning.

They took a bath once a week and everyone used the same bath water. They didn't sit in a tub. Their tub looked like a deep pan. Their water didn't come out of a faucet. The water was pumped from a well. In the morning if the water was frozen they had to melt it with a fire.

They lived in houses and they also lived on farms. The houses we live in are on what was once farmland. Boys helped their fathers in the fields and girls helped their mothers milk the cows, churn butter, and make soap out of pig fat.

Children only had two outfits. Boys had two pairs of pants and two shirts. Girls had two dresses. That's all they needed. One for church and one for school, play time, or work.

Kids that went to school went to a two floor, two room school-house named Walt Whitman. The kids were put into any classroom. The classes were full of different ages. Children had to wait for the teacher to teach them.

Bob Chin's Crab House was a turn of the century whore house and a spaghetti house. Behind the Crab House there was an ice house. Billy and Company was the Village Hall. Harry Carey's was a speakeasy. Harry Carey's and Chevy Chase had an underground tunnel that gangsters used a lot. The tunnel started to collapse so they got rid of it.

As you can see Wheeling was very different in 1894. We have cars, cement roads and plows. We have heaters to keep us warm. We have bath tubs and faucets to get water and take showers or baths every day. We live in houses not on farms and we don't milk cows, churn butter or make soap. We have many outfits and girls just don't wear dresses anymore. There is more than one school in Wheeling and these schools have many classrooms. Children are grouped in classrooms by age. Walt Whitman School was rebuilt and is brand new.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Kelli Miller, Grade 6, Twain School - 3rd Place

Wheeling is my kind of town for many different reasons. The special events, special places to go and Mark Twain School all make Wheeling my kind of town. Wheeling should be everyone else's kind of town also!

Wheeling has many special events you could attend. The most popular event is the Wheeling Family Fest. Family Fest, a

celebration of Wheeling Days, includes rides, games, food and booth games. There are various raffles where you could win different prizes. You could also get to meet the members of the Village Board. Another special event is the parade. Wheeling only has 1 parade a year, but it beats all of the other towns parades put together! It is on the Fourth of July. It includes special guests, music and very detailed floats made specially by the Village Board members. After that, there is usually a big parade at Wheeling's Heritage Park. The final special event is concerts. There are various concerts at the new Aquatic Center. There are different kinds of music such as reggae, rock, country and rap. Those are some special events in Wheeling these days.

Another good thing about Wheeling is the special places to go to. The newest place is the Aquatic Center. It includes 2 fantastic waterslides, a pair of drop slides, a little whale slide for the younger children and 2 concession stands. Another fun place to go to is the new Recreation Center. At the Recreation Center, you can play sports such as floor and rollerblade hockey and basketball. Also the Recreation Center will include some different types of summer camps. A third place to go is Neptunes Pool. It is an indoor swimming and diving facility. Neptunes Pool may not be as great as the Aquatic Center, but it is just as refreshing. It is located inside of Wheeling High School. Those are some special places you could go to in Wheeling.

There is 1 final thing that is so special about the town of Wheeling. It is Mark Twain School. Mark Twain School is from grades kindergarten-sixth grade. It is probably the best school in the town of Wheeling. You go on field trips to places such as different plays, museums, the Botanic Gardens and many other fun places. At Mark Twain School you could join various activities such as chorus, spirit club, intramurals and service club. Those are some things about the school that makes Wheeling my kind of town. Mark Twain School.

In conclusion, Wheeling is my kind of town for several reasons. The special events, special places to go to and Mark Twain School all make Wheeling my kind of town. Wheeling should be everyone else's kind of town also!

Wheeling

by Tristin Engels, Grade 5, Field School

Wheeling is a great village to live in because of good schools (that are very educational) and the contests. There fun. Especially when you win prizes! At my old school they had contests sponsored by our teacher. If you win the prize is a sticker! WHOOPEE!

There is great recreation centers, a small but nice park, and 2 outrageous pools. Where we used to live they didn't have either! They only had a bike rack!

At the pools I feel especially safe. The lifeguards really do their job. They talk to you like an adult. When someone dives they compliment you. If you get stung by a bee they help you out. If you stay after you got stung they will ask you if you are ok or if it is better.

My neighborhood is clean. When I walk my dog in the field I barley ever see a peice of litter. Once I was walking my doig and we came upon a lady who was picking up litter. She really didn't have much to pick up though.

On Earth day I was sick. We were going to Walgreens to get cough medicine. We have to pass Wal-mart to get there and across from Wal-mart is a big field. There usually is a lot of litter but since nice people live here some kids were picking it up! My mom and I were saying that's a good idea and thank you.

Our neighbors are nice. HAPPY BIRTHDAY WHEELING!

Wheeling

by P.J. Hartung, Grade 5, Field School

I have lived in Wheeling for the past 9 years and now I am 11 years old. My mom grew up here. I like it here because Wheeling is clean, peaceful, and quiet. The people here are friendly and nice. Wheeling offers a lot of fun for kids. There is a good recreation center that has a lot of sports for us to join and a place for entertainment.

The Police and Fire Dept. are quick to respond to help you. Also the schools offer a lot. I like the Dare Program at school. It teaches kids to stay away from strangers and not to take drugs. I have made a lot of friends at school.

Wheeling also has a lot of places for people to get jobs. There are many stores of all different kinds right in Wheeling. Everything is near by. I think Wheeling is a nice place to grow up. You can feel safe here and I'm glad that I am growing up here. It's GREAT!

Wheeling

by Jason Shearn, Grade 5, Field School

I like wheeling because it has a great baseball program.

This year the baseball teams are divided up into majors and minors. I made the majors and am on the Marlins. This year they are taking more time than ever to sponsoir teams.

I am also on the Wheeling Traveling Team. They are sponsoring this team a ton. To just give you an idea of what they are doing here are some things. They pay fore every tournament and are buying good jerseys.

The fact that they do this and a whole lot more is why I think Wheeling is a great place.

Wheeling Is My Kind Of Town!

by Amy Bumgardner, Grade 5, No School Given



Wheeling is my kind of town! IT has lots of recreaion centers! This is a great idea. it lets kids and grown-ups have fun but yet thier also learning how to do the exercing properly and efficient. Wheelings Facilities are in tip-top condition! Wheeling's recreation centers are always clean and well main-tained!

Wheeling's president Mrs. Schultz even came to our school to talk to us about the local Government! She answerd our questions to! She talked to us like grown-ups! I think she knew how we felt! Most kids do not fully understand the Local Government!

The Village of Wheeling is a friendly place! There are bearily any gangs! (and if the police take care of the problem, right away!) The Fireman & Police are friendly and are always there at there stations to help you out! They respond quikly to phone calls! They have saved a lot of people. Wheeling is safe but the police and Fireman are there to help citizents when they need help.

People who are in need are always helped out at Wheeling. We help people in our community and in others. here at Wheeling we help when people are in need and theres always somone by your side as a friend FOREVER!

WHEELING REALLY IS MY KIND OF TOWN!

A Look In The Future  
by Sheldon Patrick, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling will be a fine city to live in the year 2004. Wheeling a look into the future. In the year 2004 Wheeling will be very high tech, peaceful and beautiful. Those are my eason why Wheeling will be a great city to live in 10 years.

In 10 years Wheeling will be very high tech. There would be big buildings. There will also be high tech cars. They would go quick and be big. There would be a huge super highways too. thats what I beleive will be in the buissnes in Wheeling.

In the year 2004 it would be quiet. peolpe would go to work. It would be cool. It would be peaceful without the drup problem. That what I think Wheeling will be like in 10 years.

In ten years it will be very beautiful. There will be no litering. If you do a fine of \$200.00 dollars and there would be a alarm on the grass. There would be no pollution and the grass would be green and the sky will stay blue. In the year 2004 Wheeling is my kind of town.

That is what I believe Wheeling will look like in the year 2004 It will be high tech peaceful and very beautiful.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by David Acevedo, Grade 6, Twain School

In Wheeling there are a lot of different things, like the Aquatic Center. There the food is great, the water slides are fun, and the atmosphere is wonderful.

In the Aquatic Center the food is great. The nachos are really cheesy, the pizza is wonderful because it's from Wapa-ghetti's, and the hot dogs are tasty.

There are 3 different kinds of water slides and 5 water slides, the kiddie slide, Willy the whale, the drop-slides, and the body and tube slides.

The atmosphere is wonderful, the slides are on big boulders. There is a waterfall and the pool is 0-depth. There is also a kiddie water park with-in.

There are many different things in Wheeling. The Aquatic Center is one. There the food is great, the water slides are fun, and the atmosphere is wonderful.

Wheeling My Kind Of Town  
by Melissa Catardi, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling is my kind of town. They have good schools, the Aquatic center, and good neighbors.

The first reason Wheeling is my kind of town is that they have good schools. In school we learn many important things. We have many good subjects in school. The most important subject was D.A.R.E. In D.A.R.E. we learned not to do drugs. We also learned many other things that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

The second reason that Wheeling is my kind of town is because of the Aquatic center. At the Aquatic center they have Teen Night, Movie Night, and Dedication Night. they have waterslides and dropslides. They have lifeguards and pool attendances to watch over all the kids and adults at the pool. just to make sure that everybody is ok they have fifteen minute safety breaks every two hours. The Aquatic center is very fun because it gives you a chance to relax and get away from your problems.

The third reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because they have good neighbors. If you fell of your bike your neighbors will help you up. If you ask them to turn down the music they will. Neighbors are good to have because they are kind.

This is why Wheeling is my kind of town. They have good schools, the Aquatic center, and good neighbors.

Wheeling--My Kind Of Town  
by Danny Miller, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling is my kind of town for many reasons. There are a lot of fun places to hang out when you're bored. There are tons of fun events. There are a lot of good schools and many fun summer camps. There are also a lot of cool restaurant to dine at.

In case you ever get bored, there are many fun hang out places to go to. First there's the Aquatic Center. It was just built so it's fairly new to our community. In the Aquatic Center, there are a lot of fun things to do in there. There are 2 drop slides and a diving board on the deep end of the pool. There's a body slide and a tube slide all the way on the other side of the pool. There's a sand volleyball court. For those competitor swimmers, there are lap lanes for you to race on or to practice on. For adults, there is a spa. Heritage Park is another cool place to hang out. There is a basketball court and a tennis court. There are 2 playgrounds for the kids. Last but not least, a humongous field for picnics for just for playing baseball!

There are many action-filled events that keep the town awake. Two of them include the 4th of July parade and Family Fest. There are many different kinds of floats in the parade. Family Fest is probably the towns best event. It's usually 5 days long. There are many cool games and rides. Some of the games are to throw a dart at a poster, shooting basketballs, and throwing footballs. Some of the rides include the HiRoller, the Kamikaze, and the Gravitron. Everybody in the town loved the events.

There are many good schools in district 21. Mark Twain and Holmes are just 2 of the dozen schools in district 21. At Mark Twain, you go on many fun field trips. You go to the Field Museum, Botanical Gardens, The Robert Crown Center, or even the Brookfield Zoo. At Holmes there's a basketball team, ski club, and cheerleading. Some other good schools are Whitman, Tarkington, and Cooper.

During the summer, you can join many different summer camps. Some of the Sports Camp, you learn how to and play sports. In Kamp Krazy Kids, you do a lot of fun activities and go on a lot of fun trips. And in Art Camp, you make a lot of neat art projects.

In Wheeling, there are many good restaurants to eat at. Some of them are: McDonald's, Market Square, and Hackney's. At McDonald's there are many good items on the menu. You can carry-out or dine in. At the Market square, there are also many good foods that are served there. Finally comes Hackney's. Hackneys has a room full of video games for the kids to play with. It also has excellent food.

Fun places to hang out, fun events, good schools, fun summer camps, and good restaurants, are my reasons for making Wheeling my kind of town. Who could get bored in a town like Wheeling?

Future Of Wheeling

by Kenneth Morales, Grade 6, Twain School

To describe the future of Wheeling, I think many things will be changed. Those things that might be changed are the buildings, sports, and transportation in Wheeling. That is what I think Wheeling will be like in the future.

First of all, Wheeling might fix buildings. Some buildings might be the Aquatic Center, Wheeling High School, and even the Park District. They might make it bigger, smaller, or change it completely. That is what I think Wheeling will be like in the future.

Second of all, Wheeling may start tournaments for sports. Some sports maybe basketball, baseball, and football. They may even build parks for these kinds of sports. They will help by taking kids off the streets. That is what I think Wheeling will be like in the future.

Third of all, Wheeling maybe having new ways of transportation. Some new ways of transportation are for cars, bikes, and buses. We may have new rules to obey like a curfew, helmets, and seatbelts. That is what I think Wheeling will be like in the future.

In conclusion, Wheeling might be changed in many ways. The things that may be changed are the buildings, sports and transportation. That is what I think Wheeling will be like in the future.

#### My Kind Of Town

by Ashish Patel, Grade 6, Twain School

In Illinios, there are many towns that I like. However, there is one paticular town that I like and appreciate. This town happens to be Wheeling. There are many reasons why I like Wheeling. For example, I like Wheeling because there are many kinds of stores, it is peaceful, and it is a healthy place to live in.

The first reason why I like Wheeling is because there are many stores. With there being many stores in Wheeling I can shop at different places. Things that I can shop for are clothes, video games, and sport equipment. I can get those things at stores such as J.W., Merry Go Round, Software etc., and Sportmart. Those are the reasons why I like the different kinds of stores that are present in Wheeling.

Another reason why I like Wheeling is because it is a peaceful environment. Wheeling does not have many problems with drugs. Kids are safer due to this. Wheeling is also a peaceful environment because it does not have very much problems regarding accidents. This is because it does not have many drunk people driving on the roads. I also like Wheeling because there aren't many robberies or fires in the town. These are the reasons why I like Wheeling as a peaceful environment.

The last but not the least reason why I like Wheeling is because it is a healthy place to live in. This means that there is not a lot of pollution because there isn't many factories, and people are responsible for their garbage. There is good hospitals to treat a patient kindly and in nice manner so people get better in

most cases. Those are some reasons why I think Wheeling is a healthy place to live in.

In conclusion, those were couple of reasons why I like Wheeling. As you see the reasons why I like Wheeling are that there is many stores, it is peaceful, and it is a healthy place to live in.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Lee Aragon, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling is my kind of town. It's my kind of town because it is fun to live here and there are many places to go. Neptune pool, stores, and The Aquatic Center are my favorite places to to. These are some reasons Wheeling is my kind of town.

Neptune pool is at the Wheeling High School. It is the pool before The Aquatic Center. It use to be the pool everyone goes and hangs out. Now The Aquatic Center is one of the most famous hang outs. Neptune pool is still getting business. I sometimes go there my self. That is one of my favorite places to go.

Wheeling has a lot of stores. It has a mall near by. K-MART and Sears is one of the stores from a long time ago. I go shopping for clothes, stuff for my hobby, candy, and some appliances like a walkman. This is another reasons I like Wheeling.

The last, but not The Aquatic Center. Auatic Center is one of my favorite places to go. This is one of my favorite places to hang out, swim, and to play beach volleyball. this is a reason that Wheeling is my kind of town.

In conclusion, those are the reasons that Wheeling is my kind of town. Wheeling is my favorite town and hang out. The reasons I like Wheeling is Neptune pool, the stores, and The Aquatic Center.

Wheeling: Life in 1894  
by Tracie Tijerina, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling life in 1894 was difficult and different. Men, women, and children worked. This essay includes fashion, entertainment, and jobs.

Fashion was very cool. Women wore big poofy dresses, with girdles under them. They also wore beautiful hats. In Wheeling's recent fashion show "Petticoats to Pants" some of these items were auctioned off. Back then women always wore dresses. Men wore slacks and elegant dress coats. These are some facts about fashion.

The next thing is entertainment. Men usually went to bars and saloons and bars. Men and women rarely went out to dinner, if they did they went to places like Bob Chinns or Hackneys, but they wern't called that back then. Kids had various things to do, like play outside or go to the DesPlaines river for a swim.

Others went to the movies for .05. These were popular forms of entertainment.

The last thing is jobs. Jobs were low paying and time consuming. Men, women, and even children worked. They worked in the fields. They sold this food. Women and girls made butter and soap. These are some forms of jobs.

This was life in 1894. Fashion was cool, entertainment was fun, and jobs were boring.

#### Wheeling Is My Kind Of Town by Gregory Stellatos, Grade 6, Twain School

Here are some reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town. It has a low crime rate, it has kind people, and Wheeling has many fine restaurants. Those are the reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling has a low crime rate so you don't have to worry about someone mugging you or braking into your house and stealing things. Some people in Wheeling sometimes leave their doors unlocked. (That's how safe Wheeling is.) Also you don't have to worry about gangs in Wheeling because there are very few. That is one reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Another reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because a lot of people are kind in Wheeling. for example, if you need something like sugar and you ask a neighbor he will probably give some to you if he has some. Also a lot of people in Wheeling know each other, so if you had a party you coul invite some of your neighbors if you want to. That is my second reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

The third and last reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because of it's fine restaurants. Wheeling has a lot of good restaurants. If you want to go to a fancy restaurant you can go to Bob Chins and if you want to take your kids to a fast food place you can go to McDonalds, Burger King, or even Skippers. That is my third and last reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Those are just a few reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town. It has a low crime rate, it has kind people, and Wheeling has many fine restaurants. Those are the reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

#### Wheeling Is My Kind Of Town Because by Nadia Haque, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling is my kind of town for various reasons. Wheeling is a special place to me because of all the nice people all the fun activities that are at the Park District, and the slippery fun at the Aquatic Center. These are three reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

One reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town is my kind of town is because of all the nice people. The nicest people that I know in Wheeling would have to be all of my friends. My friends are trustworthy and care about me. The teachers are very nice. They listen to your problems and care about you. You can count on them to stick behind you and telling you the right things to do. The nice people are one reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

The second reason why Wheeling is my kind of town because of all the fun activities at the Park District. They're all sorts of games played at the Park District. They're are games such as volleyball, soccer, and much more. Our football team, the SOONERS, represent Wheeling very well. The fun activities at the park is the second reason Wheeling is my kind of town.

The third reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because of the Aquatic Center. The Aquatic center has swimming pools and lots of slides. In the summer it is open full time to you can go when ever you feel like it. My friends and I go all the time. On Saturdays they give lessons. The best thing about the Aquatic Center is that you can have a good time and it is in Wheeling. The Aquatic Center is the third reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling is my kind of because all the nice people, the fun activities at the Park District and the wet and slippery fun at the Aquatic Center. These are 3 reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling Is My Kind Of Town  
by Carolyn Gaffke, Grade 6, Twain School

I like living in Wheeling for three reasons. It has fun activities, the citizens of Wheeling are really nice, and Wheeling has great restaurants. Those are a few reasons why I like living in Wheeling.

I have lived here in Wheeling for about 12 1/2 years, and I'm hoping that I'll live here for about 73 more years. For kids my age, Wheeling has the new Aquatic Center, park district activities, and good schools. Wheeling has a nice senior center, churches, and shopping for when I am older.

The second reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because the people of the town are really nice. Everybody knows everybody. We're all friends. Nobody hates anyone. That is why I like it here.

The third reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because Wheeling has terrific restaurants. Wheeling is known for it's great restaurants. We have everything from Bob Chinn's Crab House and LeFrancais's french cuisine to McDonalds and Burger King. If you don't have time to cook dinner, you can just eat out. And I love to eat out.

I like Wheeling for the reasons I have stated. If you like good food, good schools, and friendly people, you have to like Wheeling. It's my kind of town.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town

by Maria Rodriguez, Grade 6, Twain School

Of all the towns, Wheeling is my kind of town. There are many reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town, but the three main reasons are: Wheeling's residents are nice and always make you feel welcomed, Wheeling is peaceful and quiet, and Wheeling is neat and clean. Of all the reasons, these were my three reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling's residents are nice and always make you feel welcomed. Mostly all the time I walk to school, there is someone outside of there house. Every time I walk by, they say Hi! to me. That makes me feel very happy because they make you feel welcomed. Another way that they makkke you feel welcomed is that when you are just moving in and you worry that your new neighbors won't like you. Wheeling's residents make you feel weldomed the very first day. You don't have to be scared that they won't like you because they will. They will treat you with respect and dignity. That was how they treated my family when we moved in. Once you get to know your neighbors you find out that they are real nice. This is my first reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling is quiet and peaceful. In Wheeling you don't have to make a compliment because there is to much noise. Instead you might have to make a coment on the silence of the town. When I meant that the town was peaceful I meant that there isn't any violence in this town. In Wheeling there isn't any gangs. We don't here gun shots or reports on the news of people killed, people missing, accidents, or of any other cases. Everyone tries their best to keep their town safe and out of trouble. Wheeling is so quiet that you can even here a bird chirp. Everyone wants a town where there is no violece (peaceful) and that's quiet. Another reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because Wheeling works as a team to keep it peaceful and quiet. If they didn't work as a team there would be gangs, violence, and many kinds of cases. That's what matters, that they work as a team. This is my second reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

Wheeling is neat and clean. Wheeling is not like other towns. Other towns are very messy. People in other towns throw away their garbage on the streets. They do that because they don't care about their town. People in Wheeling do. Wheeling's streets are very clean. Many parents look for towns that are neat and clean because they want their children to grow up in a clean town. Because of the cleanness and neatness, this is my kind of town. As I said in the paragraph above, everyone works as a team to keep this town clean and neat. This is my last reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

In conclusion, there are many reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town. The three major reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town are: Wheeling's residents are nice and always make you feel welcomed, Wheeling is quiet and peaceful, and Wheeling is neat and clean. These where my three reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.



## Wheeling My Kind Of Town

by Jenny Lucas, Grade 6, Twain School

One of the best towns in Illinios is Wheeling. Wheeling is my kind of town for three reasons. These three reasons are special activities, fast food resturaunts, and the prople. Those are three reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

The first reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because of the special activities. Special activities include the Aquatic Center, Recreation Center, and camp. You can cool down at the Aquatic Center by going swimming, and you could probably get a real good tan too. At the Recreation Center you can work off some fat on your body, or make something special for a relative or friend. The final one is camp. There are a lot of different camps around here. One example of the camps is Art Camp. You can show your artistic talent. These are some examples of where you could go and do for special activities, in Wheeling.

The second reason why Wheeling is my kind of town is because of fast food resturaunts. Some fast food resturaunts are McDonalds, Burger King, and Arby's. They have good food and they are fast at getting yiur food. Those are some things about the fast food resturaunts, in Wheeling.

The third, and final reason Wheeling is my kind of town is the people. The people at Wheeling aren't stuvk up or cruel. They are just plain, simple, and friendly folks. they will always eat you right.

## My Kind Of Town

by Brandon Muhlenburg, Grade 6, Twain School

My kind of town is Wheeling. I have two reasons they are sports, and activites. Those are my reasons about my kind of town.

My first reason is sports. Basketball is fun because it could have lots of people that can play. Most of the time people are running back and fourth trying to steal the ball or to score. Baseball has lots teams. It has to have 25 players if they got to many players they would have to cut players or put them in the minors. Football is very popular because the Bills' have made it to the Super Bowl the last four years they have lost. Each team has a quaterback, receiver, and a blocker. those are my reasons on my kind of town Wheeling.

The second and final reason is activities. You can go to the Aquatic Center to go swimming or to get lunch. You can go down the slides or jump off the edge. Sometimes if you do something wrong on the slides they will not let you come back up or tell you not to do it again. You can go shopping at stores to get food, look for clothes, look at fish, or at hats. You can do commercials. They put you in movies then they give you lots of money. Those are my reasons on my kind of town Wheeling. In conclusion, those were my reasons sports, and activites. Those are my reasons on my kind of town Wheeling.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Matt Todd, Grade 6, Twain School

Wheeling is my kind of town. I like having a lot of things to do, which there are in Wheeling. In Wheeling there's always something fun to do, like going to one of the pools, or just walking around and looking at all the sights.

When I moved to Wheeling I didn't know that there was so much to do! Back then there wasn't any Aquatic Center or incoming Recreation center. Even though there wasn't any of that stuff, there was Neptune's Pool at the high school and still lots of history to look for traces of.

Now that Wheeling has expanded into the kind of place that you can go anywhere you want and be able to have fun, or just to take a break from doing work. If you live close enough you can just walk over to the Aquatic Center and cool off, or go screaming down one of the water slides. As soon as it's finished being built you'll also be able to go over there to so that you can exercise, have a sports game, or just have fun.

Wheeling has a great history and since this is the village's centennial year, this is a great time to learn about it. Wheeling was started in 1894, that was a long time ago, so anyone could just look in a history book and find out something about an area such as a subdivision, or something as small as a house.

Wheeling has a lot of places that you can eat at also. Some of these places have drive-in where you could just drive up, get your food, and take all your food right where you are going. Other restaurants you can go into and take your time eating at.

There are lots of public activities that you can sign up to do with the park district. There is park district baseball, basketball, hockey, and soccer that you can take during the spring and fall. There are also swimming lessons that can take place at the Aquatic Center or Neptunes pool.

This is why Wheeling is my kind of town. Just remember that even after this essay was made there will still be more newer and even better things in the making.

Wheeling: My Kind of Town

by Beth Pollet, Grade 8, Holmes - 1st Place

Many changes have occurred in Wheeling in the last one hundred years. Wheeling has grown, and this has brought new challenges and change to our growing community. Our schools have grown and are constantly developing new programs to meet our changing needs. A Park District was developed for learning and fun, and an expanded Police & Fire Department has become necessary in order to service this larger community. Yes, much has changed in the last century, except one very important quality, which makes our Village truly unique.

Wheeling has a great school system that provides an excellent education to its youth. Holmes Jr. High, Field, Frost, Twain, and Tarkington make up our award winning District 21. My old elementary school, Walt Whitman, is now in a beautiful new building, and the students can enjoy air-conditioning, a new library and a terrific computer lab. Other schools have also acquired new additions because they were becoming too crowded and more space was required. Some of the kids still don't like going to school, just like one hundred years ago, but most think they are really having a great time because they are experiencing new ideas and they appreciate attending good schools.

One of the most exciting additions to Wheeling has been our Park District. Many programs are offered to young people, adults, and even our seniors. Our park district is very involved in athletics, but emphasizes training and fun. This lets the most my kid feel right at home. This past year a new aquatic center was built with a pool that fits the needs of the whole family.

Wheeling has a small crime rate, and it has risen minimally in the last one hundred years. Children and adults, can to just about anywhere, without having to worry about their safety. The police have provided the schools with the D.A.R.E. program (Drug Awareness Resistance Education) to teach kids about drugs and alcohol, and the harm they cause.

But lastly, Wheeling's greatest asset is its people. Wheeling has some of the friendliest people in the world. I moved here almost five years ago, and when I came everybody made me feel like I had lived here all my life. Wheeling is a lot of things to me but, the people are the most important. They make you feel welcome and make you feel like you belong here. In my opinion, the people here are like angels. If you need help, all you have to do is ask and they will be there to help you.

Wheeling is the best place to live. Our police department is great, our schools are outstanding, our Park District is state-of-the-art. But most of all, the people are great, and the people are happy. This town has a great sense of togetherness, which in my mind makes Wheeling one great place to grow up!

## Look Into The Future

by Deborah Lee, Grade 8, Holmes - 2nd Place

-Wheeling's Bicentennial Essay Contest-read a small metallic sign. The letters on the metal plate glowed with brightness as the plates were being hung all around the school's hallways and classrooms. On the third floor, a holographic picture of the contest requirements beamed out from a laser hologram machine. It didn't take us very long to buy the machine, because Holmes had become a very prosperous and wealthy school over the years. There were arguments over it though. The principal, who has been the school's third woman principal, had doubts about having a laser hologram machine at a school. She said it would be a waste of money to get something that was already just about everywhere around the town. Thanks to Principal Mathers however we now have all sorts of new gadgets at school, including the hologram machine.

Everone was so excited about the essay contest. It was the talk of the lunchroom, and all who were going to enter were determined to win. I, Katherine Carper, too was eager to write something creative. As a 6th grader at Holmes, I knew I didn't have a good chance of winning, but I didn't let that distract me.

Finally, in Mr. Guby's 9th period class, one day, he informed the class the different topics that we could write about in our essays. I decided to write about Wheeling's past and how it had evolved, throughout the years to what Wheeling is today. With a pencil clutched in my hands, I thought up ideas, ideas, and more ideas. I had never taken time to look back and see just how much Wheeling had improved since 1994!! For one thing, back in 2065, before I was born, the town had converted Wolf Road into a six lane programmed mega highway. This particular change was necessary due to the fact that the population was growing, and therefore more people were using Wolf Road. The cars on the highway go so fast, that even the images when looking out the window appear to be nothing but a big blur. Just a push of a button can put the car into automatic drive. There is no need to steer, change gears, or use the breaks. This way, we can do other things in the car and not worry about driving. Every morning, when my dad is taking his usual 10 min. drive to Chicago, he finds it very nice to lean back and enjoy his coffee and the ever-so popular Chinese Toast. (I am a little old fashioned and I still prefer French Toast).

Across from Holmes, is the Wheeling Park District. About 60 years ago, the park district was rebuilt from a ground level building into a 5 story high building. Pet rat obedience classes, ant farm training classes, and even driver's education classes were only a small part of the many new activities and programs that were added to the agenda in the new building. Mr. Guby told us that in the process of building the new park district in 2034, the town had collected many interesting items and put them into a big glass jar. This jar was placed at the cornerstone of the building, as a time capsule to be opened at the bicentennial celebration. All the residents are now looking forward to reviewing its contents.

Also, when Mr. Guby mentioned that in 1994, the back of Holmes was just a big grass field, I was stunned at how anyone could do any kind of sports without the multi-purpose building that we have now. There were so many activities that so many people

got involved in, that the town had to construct a 3 level building to accomodate everyone. The building resembles what you would call those 5 story high parking lots that you'd find in downtown Arlington Heights. On the ground level is a big parking lot for the school faculties' cars. Above it is a swimming pool and a miniature golf course which has been added to provide swimming and golf units to the school's physical education curriculum. The 2nd level is just a big grassy field where kids often play volleyball or soccer. Off to the corner, in the winter, an iceskating rink is set up for free iceskating lessons. Finally, on the top floor, an oval track was built to provide students with a place to compete for track and cross country. In the center of the track pavement, is a roller blading rink. The floor is a wooden floor that has been made specially for the roller blades bought by the school.

I remember when my dad told me that years ago, he had to ride the bus to get to school. These days, we don't even see a bus anymore. The "bullet train" is the new thing for school transportation. Its areodynamic formation and shape helps take current Holmes students to and from school quickly and effeciently.

Of all the reforms made since 1994, I have found those I've mentioned to be the most interesting. In a 100 year span, Wheeling has definitely grown into a very safe and clean place to live. As I wrote and printed up the last remaining paragraph of my essay, I felt pride in Wheeling. Hopefully, I thought, Wheeling will continue to grow and become a better and better place every single day.

President From Wheeling  
by Molly Gentleman, Grade 8, Holmes - Third Place

"Welcome back to Wheeling. Hi, my name is Harry Shoeman from the Wheeling Tribune largest newspaper north of Chicago. How does it feel to be the first president ever to come from the city of Wheeling?"

"Well Harry, right now I'm just glad to be home. The last time I was in Wheeling I was only 15, and Wolf road only had two lanes. Things sure have changed."

"What do you mean by that madam president?"

"I remember the school that used to be here before that mall was built. It was my old school, Holmes Jr. High. Every day we would take the bus to and from with enough books to fill a library. I also remember what that park used to look like before they built all those park facilities. Only a few tennis courts and less bike trails. This town used to be quite quiet. My friends and I would to walk up to the store on the weekends or take the bus to the mall. We would even rollerblade around town and not have to worry about traffic. The greatest thing about Wheeling in the 90's though would have to have been the Aquatic center. Sure, it's 10 times bigger now, but it was special to us. It was the first time anything was built for us, the kids of Wheeling. We all had a place to go for fun. No one sat at home the summer it first opened. Best of all was that if our parents

came it was big enough so we didn't have to be with them. We would play volleyball or go down the water slides while they swam.

Now a days all you see are solar cars, trains, and busses. The high rise buildings tower over the parks. This city has almost become more well known then Chicago. Apartment buildings loom over the city like reeds over a pond. It never seems to stop growing. Amazing as it may seem, while the population and business is growing the crime rate isn't."

"Thank you for a very enlightening interview. I am sure the children of this town city will find your rememberance of this city as fascinating as I did."

"I am very glad to help when I can. I am happy with the improvement in this wonderful city. I wish that every city in this country will do as well as this one has. Wheeling is the place I call home and it always will be."

Wheeling: My Kind of Town

by Allen Bulmash, Grade 8, Holmes - Third Place

For the thirteen years that I've been alive, the years that I've enjoyed the most were the eight years here in Wheeling. There are so many people, places, and things that bring out the best in Wheeling. The new Aquatic Center and the Park District are two places that have meaning to the kids in Wheeling. The schools, and the education the schools provide, are known across Cook County for excellence. I can't forget about all of the kids either.

One place in Wheeling that I have found to be fun and enjoyable to go to is the Aquatic Center. Ever since I had a great time last summer at the Aquatic Center, I've been waiting impatiently for it to open for the summer of '94. I can't wait to take a ride down the slippery slides, and to fall down the great drop offs. Best of all, the Aquatic Center is right in the middle of Wheeling which makes it easy for people to get to. Every single one of the District 21 schools in Wheeling are great. I think that the teachers do a fantastic job giving the kids an education! While you learn in one of Wheeling's many schools, you meet all different kinds of people. Getting lonely in Wheeling is very difficult. The teaching, along with the kids in Wheeling, is easily able to keep you busy. This is yet another reason why Wheeling is my kind of town.

You can be assured of your safety if you live in Wheeling. Violence is not a big factor here. If violence were ever to occur, however, you can be guarenteed that someone would be there to help you within seconds. There are so many neighborhood watch people walking around the area that it would be stupid to commit a crime. Wheeling is not a place where you should be afraid to walk outside in the evening, but a place to enjoy the night, the town, and your leisure time.

Obviously, living in Wheeling is a very wise choice. There are fun places to go, great people to meet, and schools that deliver

a great education. Wheeling is a place where you can enjoy yourself. I don't know about you, but Wheeling is my kind of town!

Wheeling Future-Like  
by Kostas Tsonis, Grade 8, Holmes

This paper was done at Wheeling in the year 2010? Our time traveler John has come from the future to give us, the us in the past, a sneak peak of what's stored for us ahead. We might have noticed but our form of writing is alot different than our's in the past: That's because we're too buisy in the future to bother with proper punctuation or)and grammar\*

In our time we, the future people of Wheeling, do things alot differently than we did in the past. Instead of finishing homework quickly to watch T.V. We finish watching T.V. quickly so that we can do homework. Us in the past would get payed to work but us in the future pay to work.

Most importantly, we the past would pollute the air, and us the future clean the air with our own super vacuum filtering system.

When the vacuum is full we just take out all of the "stuff" and eject it out to Pluto where our station recycles it and ejects it back to us as plastic.

We also have a unique way of getting energy without creating toxic waste. We our in the way of a space wind constantly since 2001, that goes through our atmosphere and makes a tornado evert two minutes in the North Pole. A technician from Loyola Academy created a kind of wind mill that creates energy in the form of electricity when wind turns it. We just placed a million of them in the North Pole and for each tornado we crank up one thousand terawats that goes to the whole Earth equally.

Well, that's our future for us. We hope we liked it. I myself hope I can meet myself in the year of.....2010.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Beth Wortman, Grade 8, Holmes

I have lived in Wheeling all my life. There is clean air and not that much crime. Also, in the past couple of years, Wheeling has gotten many new buildings.

Many changes have taken place in Wheeling. There used to be a big field in front of my house. Instead of a big field, now there are many buildings and stores. There is a White Hen Pantry, laundromat, Westcoast Video, El Famous Burrito, Wapagetti's Pizza, and lots more. They have also built new houses behind my house in Chelse Cove.

They not only have built new stores and houses, they have also built The Aquatic Center and Recreational Center.

You might hear about a crime once in a while, but it doesn't happen often. I like knowing that when I take night time stroll I'll be safe. And when I breath, I know I'm breathing in fresh, clean air.

Since I have lived in Wheeling all my life, I am used to it here. I love Wheeling and it is MY KIND OF TOWN.

Wheeling - A Look Into The Future  
by Richard Frese, Grade 8, Holmes

In the future Wheeling will be more advanced, populated, and sophisticated.

Wheeling will be more advanced in things like designs of houses, and transportation. Some of the older houses in Wheeling will be torn down, and in their places will be three story houses. Roads such as Wolf and Hintz will be four lanes wide, while Dundee will be six lanes.

Wheeling's population will increase from 29,000 to over 100,000 people when new housing developments are completed. The population will be able to live in the three story houses. The people will come from towns such as Arlington Heights, and Buffalo Grove when they see how much more advanced Wheeling is. There will also be a hospital put in Wheeling so women can have their babies right in their home town.

Wheeling will be technologically advanced when computers control all of the emergency systems like 911. Robots will also take over many undesirable human jobs, like cleaning up garbage. Wheeling will be the sophisticated town in this area of Illinois.

In conclusion Wheeling will become more advanced in many areas such as housing, population, and efficiency. Many empty lots will be developed, roads will be widened, and Wheeling will have taken a giant step by having almost everything controlled by robots.

Wheeling, A Look Into The Future  
Mary Ann Chang, Grade 8, Holmes

In the year 2094, the town of Wheeling will be prosperous in all points of the economy. Everything will be different from how it is presently with the technology being much advanced and the town being well populated with an ethnic variety.

In the year 2094, the economy will be flustering. Many of the developments that this town has, such as the Aquatic Center, will be raking in the money. They will become well known attractions to this city. Tourists will come to see the many famous landmarks that exist. The museum of Wheeling will be a trade mark of Wheeling, being so old and full of history.

Everything will be different than it is now. Everything will be run electronically. All the buildings and landmarks will be run



electronically. Instead of keys, cards will be used to open doors and other things. There will be a law passed that all products are to be made environmentally safe. Recycling will also become required.

The variety of all the different races will be admired by all other towns. Everyone would live in harmony. There will be no need for guns, since they've been against the law since the year 1995. Also, there won't be any gangs or murderers in the towns, because the punishment for murder will be killing the murderer with a lethal injection.

So you see, the town of Wheeling will be much better than it is today. The technology will be much more advanced, the town will have changed very much since 1994, and there would be a big variety of different races living in harmony in Wheeling.

#### A Look Into The Future

by Cleo Goularas, Grade 8, Holmes

In the years that it has been a town, Wheeling has grown to be very modern. Many things such as technology have changed a lot. Of course as we look into the future, we can foresee many changes and advances here in Wheeling.

In about one hundred years from now, there will be many advances in the field of computers. In Wheeling, now, computers are already a daily part of life and are used for many different things. Just imagine how much the lives of the citizens of Wheeling will depend on computers in one hundred years. Almost their whole lives will be run by computers.

Also, in one hundred years, the environment here in Wheeling will be different. Perhaps it will be full of pollution, or maybe much cleaner than it is right now. Maybe there will be a new type of invention that would help clean up the environment so that all plants, animals, and people will be free of pollution. On the other hand though the world, along with the town of Wheeling, may continue to grow filthy and polluted.

In one hundred years the school system will be different. The schools that we are in today may no longer be here. In their places will be new, more technically advanced schools. The new schools will be more innovated and geared towards the use of computers. Maybe the schools will have a fee to pay to use their equipment or for all we know there may not be any schools at all. Perhaps all kids would learn and study at home.

Indeed in one hundred years the town of Wheeling will have changed dramatically in a variety of ways. Life will eventually be made to be extensively advanced, and hopefully easier.

#### A Look Into The Future

One of the things that people used to do to have fun in their spare time was going swimming in the rivers. Rivers back then were not polluted, people could swim in the rivers any time. In addition, they could also go to a restaurant and buy a glass of coke for only \$.5 you could also get a refill for only \$.5. Where could you get a deal like that now!!

The purpose of writing this essay was to determine how Wheeling was many years ago. After giving all these facts about Wheeling in 1894, I think everyone has realized how much Wheeling has grown and how it has modernized. Now Wheeling has a bigger population and we're off to see the future!

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Sandra Fredrickson, Grade 8, Holmes

"A new water park in Wheeling? Cool!"

"I'm going to love swimming this summer!"

"Me too!"

Things have changed a lot since 1894, most for the better. The new Aquatic Center is just one of the ways Wheeling's park district has improved recreation and living in Wheeling. But with all these changes, you can be sure it's not over yet!

"I've always wanted to play an instrument. I wonder what it's like to play real music."

"My dad says buying a trumpet for me to play would cost too much money, but I know it would be worth it. I wish there were some way for me to convince him."

"Haven't you heard yet? There is now!"

So many children and adults have always wanted to try playing an instrument, but to them it seems too expensive or they just didn't start soon enough to be in the school band or orchestra. Or, in some cases, it may even be too late to go to school!

A program Wheeling Park District could fund would be a city band and orchestra program. By getting a package deal, the Wheeling city council might be able to work out an arrangement with Shuey's Music Education Center (773 W. Dundee Rd.) for renting instruments, or participants could rent the instrument at a nominal fee about every three months individually. For instruments that cannot be rented, such as percussion, funds could be set up or people could donate old instruments in need of just a little repair or ones they just don't use anymore.

Private lessons for the participants would be helpful, but not necessary. If we could get someone to volunteer as conductor with some musical knowledge, students and adults already knowing how to play an instrument could tutor the beginners at basic music reading and fingerings of their instrument. The music practiced would not have to be difficult, though some of it might be for the more advanced players.

Then, at the end of each session, a concert with a small admission fee could be held to raise funds for the next session. Many people would be extremely pleased to finally get a chance to try an instrument for real.

"Sparky's gonna win!"

"No, my Tiffany's a shoo-in!"

"Casey'll get the blue ribbon for sure!"

"Nope, Leo will win! I just know it!"

Sound familiar? Not yet. Wheeling's never had pet shows before, but that doesn't mean we can't start now. Many kids enjoy showing off their pets and would have fun on a day their pets could be recognized. The dogs or cats would not be judged on pedigrees or credentials, however, but on their own personal strong points. If certain specifications could be met, even pets besides cats and dogs could be judged.

To make it work, first we would have a sign up sheet for volunteer judges (no experience needed!). Then each of the pets could be given a blue ribbon, with a comment on it what they won it for, such as a comment for a goldfish might be, "Wettest!" That way, everyone could be a winner like they should be.

However, for more serious competitors there could be another contest, one cat and one dog. Judges could be asked from a veterinarian's office or people with more experience. That way, even owners of dogs and cats specially trained for shows could be happy!

"Bring your friends! It'll be so much fun!"

"What?"

"The book party, silly!"

Many young children don't get read as much as they should, and many parents don't get enough time to read by themselves. A book party every once in a while could change that!

At the park district there would be one room or section for each age group: non-readers or pre-school, elementary school age, junior high, high school, and adult. With volunteers reading to several kids at a time in the pre-school section and a wide variety of books that Indian Trails Library can provide, it could be a very successful day of reading. People would bring pillows, blankets, and snacks. They could use or apply for their library card. There could be rooms to discuss books and the differences between real and imaginary. There would be something for everyone!

"Boy, things have changed since 1994!"

"Yeah, it's hard to believe all the things they didn't have back then!"

"Sure, but they worked to improve things back then, and look at us now in 2094!"



Renaissance Town  
by Ean Kryska, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is definitely my kind of town. It's got everything from a waterpark to the top rated La Francaise. Wheeling is a real Renaissance town.

Maybe the most attractive aspect of Wheeling is the amount of recreational activities that this town has to offer. On a hot summer day the Aquatic Center is an excellent place to cool down. It's got cool slides and good food. If you like diving then you'll love the drop-off slides. One of the many family oriented events is Family Fest. Filled with carnival rides, contests, and good food from all over Wheeling, this is one event no one misses. Sports plays a major part in the everyday life of this town. Toward that end, Wheeling Park District offers the very best in sport activities. There's hockey, baseball, soccer, and a whole lot of fun. In fact, a significant number of Buffalo Grove residents enroll their children in Wheeling Park District sporting events rather than sending them to their own park district. All these and more help to contribute to the liveliness of the citizens of Wheeling.

Education can be a very important part of a town. Wheeling may be represented at its best when viewed from an educational aspect. The town of Wheeling has long since been a leader of education across the country. In case you don't already know, Wheeling High School was voted one of the top ten best schools in the country. A look at schools like Holmes Junior High would, perhaps, give you a really good idea of the wonderful quality of our educational programs. The teachers put more into teaching their respective subjects than they're getting paid to do. This is yet another example of the hard work put into our educational system. Take a trip by Wheeling, Holmes, or any other school in Wheeling and you'll understand.

Now, my favorite part, Wheeling's excellent cuisine. Anyone feeling hungry should take a bit of Edwardo's great pizza. They use all natural ingredients and even grow their own basil. Their fresh pizza is made ever so delicately. They load it with great toppings like garlic, peppers, and other tummy titillating delights. And now on to international bistros. La Francaise is nationally acclaimed as one of the best restaurants in the country and it's right here in Wheeling! You will be delighted by its beautiful decor. The food and delicacies taste as good as they look. These are just some of the many examples of the great quality of food in Wheeling.

Wheeling is my kind of town. It's a town that has activities for everyone. A day in Wheeling is like a day in Disney World. There's fun activities, the best educational programs, and wonderful food. Wheeling is definitely a Renaissance town.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Eric Johnson, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling looks a lot different 700 years from now. Wheeling is located on the coast of Lake Michigan now. All the land that used to be from the coast to us eroded away. Few buildings remain on the ground. All the houses and office buildings are floating in the sky. Cars are obsolete. The only thing they are good for are as collector's items. Ionic transporters are used for personal transportation. Gigantic flying flatbed trucks are used to transport goods.

Schools are no longer around. Children all have bionic brain implants that give them a lot of the knowledge they'll ever need. Books and stories are on small chips that can be inserted on the sides of their heads. Video games are now fully interactive, placing the children right in the middle of the action. Children never need to leave home because every house is equipped with virtual reality.

No one ever needs to go shopping. They all have replicators to make the food for them. No one needs to work because machines do it all. No one needs money since every home is equipped the same. No one pays taxes because no one gets money. The government consists of just the president. All other members of the government are robots.

Every house has a mechanical doctor, just in the rare case that someone might get sick. Drugs and pain-killers are no longer used. In place of the drugs, a gas is released in the air, which puts the patient to sleep.

Wheeling would be having its octennial. Kids in Wheeling would be sending telepathic essays to the judges instead of writing. The Wheeling Aquatic Center would be getting its brand new addition: the tidal wave enhancer which makes waves 400 feet high. Not to worry, though, the Aquatic Center has been expanded to 500 miles by 348 miles (174,000 sq. mi.).

The year 2694 would mean many changes from the Wheeling in 1994. Too bad none of us will be around then.

Wheeling, 2094  
by Ruchi Shah, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling a suburb of Chicago in 1994, will be pollution free. School in Wheeling will be 4 hours a day, 4 days a week. The houses will be totally different.

The Wheeling area will have no pollution. The industries in the area will have no chemical waste to fill the air with, and Cars shall be solar powered. All goods will come in material that disintegrates when the product is finished. So there will be nothing to throw on the ground, which will lead to no litter.

Schools in Wheeling shall only be 4 hours long, 4 days a week. Each student will have a compact size computer which is used

instead of books or paper. The home work given out will be easy to do on the computer.

Homes will be bigger, and they will be off of the ground. Each home will have attached garage, that will also be in the air. This will make parking the flying cars much easier. With the air bound homes there will be belts that can be raped around the waist of the person, this belt will allow the person to fly to their destination.

That is how Wheeling will be in the 21rst century. Like Wheeling today is a lot different then Wheeling 1894. The Wheeling of tomorrow will also be very different from the Wheeling in 1994.

### Wheeling

Karla Binversie, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is my kind of town. There is a wide variety of things to do, places to go, and people to meet. I would call it a neighborly town.

Wheeling has plenty of things to do. Built last year is the Aquatic Center. With a body slide, a tube slide, and two drop slides, it's a great summer activity. Wheeling Park District has lots of programs for residents and non-residents. The Wheeling Park District has tennis courts, basketball courts, and a playground. In the winter, they make a big outdoor ice skating pond. Chevy Chase has a golf course and a restaurant. Everyone has something of their interest in Wheeling.

Wheeling has tons of great places to go. The restaurants are delicious. L'e Francais and Bob Chinn's are both five star restaurants. The Drive-In on Milwaukee Ave. was a cool place to hang out. Every July is Familyfest. The St. Joseph the Worker Church and the Wheeling Park District are the proud coordinators. Family Fest is like a big carnival and popular restaurants hold their own stands. Wheeling has many unique places.

The residents of Wheeling make terrific long-time friends. Everyone is very friendly. If you ever need any help with anything, just ask. Most people are very helpful and concerned for eachother. Everyone looks out for each other at Wheeling.

Wheeling is a wonderful place to live. If you want things to do, places to go, and people to meet, come to Wheeling. It's everyones "kind of town."

### Wheeling: My Kind Of Town

by Adrienne Hengels, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling, as many people don't realize, is a great town to live and raise a family in. It is a kind of town where people with all different interests can have fun. No matter what you hobbies are there is always something for you to do.

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Since we're in the subject of things to do, there are many. If you enjoy fast food, some places you may want to consider are: El Famous Burrito, McDonald's, Burger King, and the famous Wapagetti's. But if you are the type of person who likes the dine-in restaurants, there is Le Francais, Bob Chinn's Crabhouse, Harry Caray's, and Hackney's.

Besides food, which is a major part of our lives, there are many more great activities. If you like to swim, there is the Aquatic Center and Neptunes Pool. If you like to do other things there is Jeffrey Lanes, go-carting, Twin Drive In and the batting cages.

There are few stores in Wheeling, but nothing that any other cities don't have. There are many strip malls with K-Mart, Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Sportmart, Tom Todd car dealership, the Dollar Store and other little simple stores.

Among all the shops, restaurants, and activities there are more important things that are essential for everyday life. One, in which, is the schools. The school district in Wheeling, 214, happens to be one of the best in the entire state. There are also the important things like the Indian Trails Library, Palwaukee Airport, the Wheeling Police Station, cemetery, and all of the apartments, condominiums, and houses that people dwell in.

Now that you have seen that Wheeling isn't as bad as everyone thinks it is, maybe people won't use as much negativity towards it. Now you know that Wheeling is the place to be.

Wheeling, My Kind Of Town  
Leo Pisman, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is my kind of town because it has everything I need. It has restaurants, an aquatic center and a park district. I will tell you what I mean.

Wheeling has two of the best restaurants in the state. Both of them are on Milwaukee Ave. Bob Chinn's Crabhouse is one of the restaurants. It has food ranging from pizza to crab. The food is great. The people there are very nice and service is great. Le Francais is another restaurant. It is rated one of the best in the country. Even though I have never been there people that have told me that the food and service is excellent. Wheeling has two Mc Donalds and a Burger King. Wheeling has a lot of great restaurants.

The new Aquatic Center is another great place in Wheeling. It is located on Dundee Rd. by Wickes Furniture. It first opened in 1993. It has just about everything you want. Two big water-slides, a diving board, two drop offs, lap lanes, a spa for adults, sand volleyball, playground, snack booth and suntanning. It's open all summer long. It is not very expensive. What makes the Aquatic Center in Wheeling special is that most towns are not as lucky as we are and do not have a center like this one.

The Wheeling Park District is very special. It offers people camps and many sports. Some of the sports it offers are soccer in the fall and spring, baseball, basketball and floor hockey.

not to mention many other sports. It has an open gym for youths and adults. For adults there is Chevy Chase Golf Course and golf lessons.

Great restaurants, Aquatic Center and the Park District are just a few of the things that make Wheeling my kind of town.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Frank Bentley, Grade 8, Holmes

What will Wheeling be like in the future? It will be a place where people want to live. With an expanded Aquatic Center, a Mag-Lev train, and a Hover-Bicycle trail, Wheeling will be the envy of the Chicago area.

The Aquatic Center, to be expanded to the entire lot of Heritage Park will be one of the biggest and most popular water facilities in the Chicago area. It will have over 20 slides and 2 Olympic sized pools. The slides will be state-of-the-art, having tunnels, high speed turns, and even corkscrews.

Wheeling will be well connected. The Wisconsin Central Railroad tracks will be converted into high-speed Mag-Lev tracks, taking people from Wheeling to downtown Chicago in 5 minutes. Wheeling's future citizens will be able to hold jobs anywhere along the line and get there in record time. The line will stretch through Barrington and north into Milwaukee and south to downtown Chicago. The commute from beginning to end will take just 10 minutes.

Hover-Bike trails will link Wheeling to towns as far north as Gurnee and travel south-east to the Chicago lakefront trails. This new form of exercise/recreation will use bicycles without wheels, that will hover over magnetic tracks. The pedaling will product magnetic resistance, pushing the bike along the track. These trails will travel through reforested areas of the northern suburbs providing scenic routes.

As you can see, Wheeling has a very promising future. We can make Wheeling that wonderful place where people will want to live. With the expanded Aquatic Center, new Mag-Lev train, and the Hover-Bicycle trails, Wheeling will be the ideal 21st century community.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Sarah Schroeder, Grade 8, Holmes

It's the year 2094 and Wheeling is covered by an immense glass dome, because the outside air is too polluted to breathe. Everyone in the state of Illinois lives here, since Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights, Palatine, Prospect Heights, Glenview, etc blew up in 2050.

The living quarters are very crowded and unpleasant and over 30 people live in each house. In my home there are exactly 34 people. Sometimes I think about "the good old days" of Wheeling.

In the good old days, we used to go down to the Aquatic Center for a swim, or to a local restaraunt for a bit to eat. Now there is no time for fun, since we go to school everyday to learn how to design a builting that is taller than 2 miles high, and can hold over 4,000 people.

People in the year 2094 aren't as optimistic as they were in 1994. We now know that they future isn't looking very promising, and that our time on earth is limited. It's not that we're going to die, it's just time to move on.

The new space city will be ready in about 5 years. Ironically, it will also be named Wheeling. The new Wheeling will be a lot different, since it won't have plantlife or animal life. Hopefully it measures up to our old standards.....

#### A Look Into The Future

by Omar Primicias, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling 2094 will be a wonderful place, for both men and women alike. I believe that it will be a place for family and technology. Wheeling will be the ideal city in which other cities will be modeled after.

Wheeling is a wonderful place for a family. After years of the farm life, people in Wheeling are used to spending time with their family. New buildings will be built where families can spend their afternoons together. Like an anti-gravitational basketball court, with 50 foot rims. Or gelatin swimming pools, completely edible. Speaking of this new things, lets get into technology.

Wheeling 2094 will be a place of wonders with some help from some of the major industrial powers located in Wheeling. Taito, a major video company, will assist with a virtual reality information highway, just like the T.V. and the newspaper but in 3-D and interactive. Crescent Cardboard Co. might develop some type of experimental plastic which may become the plastic of the world. It could be Mylar Strong 2000 or Spolypropane 23.e. The plastic would be used in everything because it is highly light-weight and extremely strong. Outside help from AT&T and IBM will help develop Wheeling into the next capitol of U.S.A.

Wheeling of 2000 will be an enormous town of technology and family life. It will be a happy town for friends to lay back to have fun, or business people to have meetings and gather for talk about corporate takeovers. In anyway, Wheeling will be prosperous in the next 100 years.

#### Wheeling: A Look Into The Future

by Tammy Lyttek, Grade 8, Holmes

In 100 years, the town of Wheeling will look very different. Houses and schools will be built to withstand any form of destruction. Cars won't run on gas and there will be Shuttleways

to take students to school, instead of buses. The school day will be from 9:00 to 2:00, allowing more time for morning and after school activities.

All of the industries will environment safe, using bio-degradable ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ will be making an ending people to Saturn to begin building a town. Another industry will be working on controlling natural disasters, using a certain type of machine.

Illness' will be vanished, because of new ways to stop them from appearing on genes. Television will be much more advanced and complex with ways to communicate, like talking on the phone.

As you can see, Wheeling will be much more prosperous and advanced.

### In The Future

by Brian Gerken, Grade 8, Holmes

The year is 3294, Wheeling is celebrating its miliquadcentennial. All 2,285,395 of its people were gathered in the town square.

The town square is 4 million square feet. The town square is a 16,587 multi-level complex. Every other level had a supermail on it. The levels that did not have a mall had an amusement park.

They were all gathered there to hear the mayor's speech. The mayor was going to talk about how far Wheeling has gone since the centennial fountain was dedicated. This year Wheeling is going to add on to the fountain.

At precisely 1:01:45 the mayor, Quaso Mando, came out to make his speech. "Hello, people of Wheeling, as your mayor I wish to dedicate this fountain to you" A deafening roar rose up from the crowd. He then quieted them down. "But first a look at Wheeling when the fountain first cam, and how we have changed. First Wheeling used to be a small village of 29,900. Our biggest sport was Wheeling High School sports, the original section, of course. Now we are a megalopolis, annexed off most of the northern section of Illinois. We have over 2 million people. Our biggest sport is. . . well, baseball would be the three major league teams, football would be the two teams, four basketball teams, two hockey, and one soccer" He stops to take a sip of water.

"The Club is known world wide for being the largest at 1500 square miles. Counting all the levels. Oh, by the way another level is being added for '96. And the Club used to be called the Aquatic Center. There used to be a Rec Center next to it but that was destroyed for the expansion of the Club in 2010" Quaso tok a breath then continued. "We now have a university, three high schools, nine junior highs, and 15 elementary schools. The Wheeling Jaycees is also the world leader in feeding the homeless and hungry"

"I guess Wheeling has come a long way since 1994. So, I dedicate this fountain to the people of wheeling in 3294." He cut the ribbon on the fountain. The rowd cheered and the rest of the celebration party began.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Phillip Tran, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling in the year 2020 will be very different than it was when it was founded in 1894. There will be alot of new technology and there will be more families and people living in Wheeling. Wheeling will have also expanded.

There will be alot of new gadgets and things in Wheeling because America is finding better technology to make our lives easier. There will be larger and better built, energy efficient homes and we won't be using coal or oil, but the sun, for heating them. Our cars will be running on electricity. There will be no more pollution because the whole world has converted to non-polluting materials and chemicals. The ozone will also be full again and there will be no more threats of the sun's rays harming our skin.

There will be more families living in Wheeling because it will be voted the cleanest and safest town because of its new technology. Wheeling's law enforcement program will help keep criminals behind bars which will make it a good place live. The homes will also be cheap and good in quality.

Wheeling will have expanded to fill the needs of the people living there. It will have a large shopping center built and developments for new homes. Wheeling will also have new parks and a small lake built for the people.

This is what I think Wheeling will be like in the year 2020.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Joe Morales, Grade 8, Holmes

Date...May 14, 2094. An electric car hums up to the lot. The family casually leaves the car. They are going to join the thousands who are celebrating Wheeling's Bicentennial. The celebration is being celebrated at the site of the centennial water fountain.

The family strides across the field past the renewed water park, which with extensions has become a major attraction. The opening of the new city hall next to the fire department building is having its grand opening. The contest for school children this year was again a essay, and in art they have risen the stakes to a three dimensional scene of the life in 1994 and 1894.

They follow the walk way down to a new gateway climb the stairs and enter the outdoor theatre. They settle down in the seating and turn there attention toward the stage. The mayor entered the stage and received a warm round of applause. After giving her speach she guided the citizens of Wheeling to the new city hall. She with half a hundred children squeeze the giant handles of the scissors to open the hall.

After the grand openeness celebration the festivities began and came to be the great celebration of Wheeling's Bicentennial.

## My Kind Of Town

LaShawnda Epps, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is a beautiful town to live in. It has lots of stores and restaurants and big houses and the people couldn't be nicer than they all ready are. This is the most perfect town you could possibly think of living in.

The stores around here are just fabulous. They have really low prices for very pretty clothes. Some stores are just plain out robbery. The stores around here give you the price that you can afford. They have Sam's Club that sells its products in the large amounts. We also have Wal-Mart which has everything for low prices. We also have Sportsmart which sells sports equipment and clothes like the kind that super stars wear. Sportsmart also sells shoes. They don't sell dress shoes, just gym shoes.

We have lots of different kinds of restaurants. We have McDonalds which sells burgers and fries. Burger King sells the same food. We have the House of Pancakes that make the fluffiest pancakes you can ever think of. We also have Crab House that serves the most delicious sea food.

The houses around here are very big. They are like mansions. They don't even cost that much. There are lots of different kinds of houses you can choose from. There are town-houses, houses, apartments, and condominiums. The apartments and condominiums are sometimes small. The houses and town-house are the same size, but the town-houses are connected.

The people around here are so nice and polite. The people around here don't look at you like you don't belong around here. They come to you with open arms. They don't care if you are white, black, tan, or any other color. Everybody around here is family. They don't have any attitude with you. Its just perfect.

Like I said in the begining, this is my kind of town. There is no other town like this. You think that this town has a lot of things that you can do. Well, I didn't even tell you most of the stuff you can do!

## Wheeling: My Kind Of Town

by Rochelle Panahon, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling was incorporated in 1894 and has grown into a large and prosperous city. It now supports a population of 29,600 people but is still growing. I like Wheeling for 3 reasons, its kind people, its fun activities, and ever-lasting memories.

Wheeling has a lot of good people, you just have to go to the right places to find them! Even though we have different races, we all get along in a reasonable manner. Wheeling has a low crime rate because everyone communicates well. blacks, whites, and hispanics all have a say in what we do here in the community of Wheeling. We all listen to on another's opinion, that's why it's so peaceful here. I have lived in Wheeling ever since I was 6 years old, and would never, ever move!

There is so much to do in Wheeling, activities such as playing sports at the Park District, joining the local church programs, or even working as the village's superintendent will keep you busy. Joining any club or group will give you a chance to meet new people. It will also give you a chance to try different things and improve your abilities. The new Aquatic Center/Recreational gym is just one of the newest attractions here in Wheeling, it provides fun and excitement to residents as well as neighboring communities. Future developments include a plan to build a new railroad station. It will give the city a more efficient transportation system for commuters, and it will be better for the environment, less gas will be used and there will be a better traffic flow. Memories are always remembered here in Wheeling, it's always a great way to remember the old times. A hundred years ago, surrounding areas were farmlands. Farmers raised cows, horses, and chickens, and grew their own food. They even plowed their own lands with tractors. The roads were made of dirt, the barns were made of old creaky wood, and the people wore straw hats and overalls. And instead of having large supermarkets and a number of schools, they had one general store and one school for each 300 children.

As you have read, Wheeling is a great town. It provides kind and generous people, enjoyable activities, and good old memories. If you ever took a trip down to Wheeling, you would know that it's an exciting and wonderful place to live in, whether you live here or not! Wheeling has definitely grown into large and productive town! It's surely my kind of town!

#### A Look Into The Future Jenna Leu, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling has come a long way since it was founded in 1894. Things are much different than they were. The people and recreation have changed. Not have been living in the late 1800's and earlier 1900's, I don't know exactly how they lived. But I do know what the town is like nowadays.

People have changed quite a bit since then. The people of today have different clothing, jobs, and ways of doing things. Curfews have been set by the community police to protect young adults and keep them off the streets. For the most part we are more lenient, and willing to accept the fact that our generation of kids are growing up. They therefore have to take on more responsibilities. More jobs are available to teens and more employers will hire them. But above all, the kids have become more independent. Teens like to hang out with their friends, but many buildings today have signs saying "No Loitering". So the young adults have to find a place they like, where they can have fun, are allowed to be. Wheeling has made an effort to make those places possible to keep them occupied.

A swimming facility with waterslides and concession stand was constructed last year so friends and families could spend time together in a nice place during the warm summer months. It was a great success! Now a recreation center is being built for exercise all year long. These few places helped the community quite a bit.

Wheeling's Bicentennial  
by Tim Sandholm, Grade 8, Holmes

The air is vibrant. Wheeling is preparing for another anniversary. The bicentennial of 2094. Children in schools everywhere are learning about the "olden days" way back in 1994.

"Back then Wheeling was only a village with a population of 29,600," the teacher said. "Just think, our population has grown to over five million people. It is amazing that now we are one of the most prosperous villages in the State of Illinois."

Back at village hall, things are moving quickly. Everyone is excited about the celebration. "Put those old fashioned fireworks over by the dirt hill," the supervisor said to eager volunteers. "We want everything to be perfect, right down to the hologram effects."

In her office, the village president is going over her speech for the celebration with her computer.

Citizens of Wheeling, I would like to welcome you to our village's two hundredth anniversary. I am very happy to announce that this year, we had over one million entries in our writing contest. I am also pleased to say that the winners are from many different age groups, and that all of the essays are superbly written. And now, let the festivities begin! "That's perfect," thought the president. "Who knows, it might even get me re-elected."

As the night of the celebration approached, there were only two things on everyone's mind, the old fashioned fireworks, and the junior essay winners. The night began with a holographic presentation of the parade that had occurred one hundred years ago. It was magnificent. The floats looked so old. And they used old motor cars, not hovercars to pull them. Then, the board president announced the winners of the essay contest. Despite a little stage fright of the children reading the essays, it went well. Then the fireworks, the lazer show, and finally, the Holmes Jr. High Jazz Band.

The celebration went perfectly. Everyone was happy. And the essay winners won a three million dollar savings bond for college, plus an antique compact disc player. One of those hadn't been seen since compressed gasses used to store information had been put into wide usage fifty years ago.

Wheeling, My Kind of Town  
by Brian Bogda, Grade 8, Holmes

Over the 14-years I've lived here, Wheeling has grown. Wheeling has lots of activities, people, and educational places. Wheeling now is a better place to live.

Wheeling now has an Aquatic Center. The Aquatic Center brings many people from all over. It is "Fun In the Sun" for all the citizens in Wheeling. The Park District also is in the process of making a Recreational Center. The Recreational Center will



help Wheeling citizens be healthy. The indoor track, basketball court, and weight room will be nice for the winter months. Chevy Chase provides a place for our older citizens to go. Besides golfing, they have a place to eat and talk with friends in the clubhouse. Our "All Community" Indian Trails Library provides us with books and knowledgeable information. Now the Indian Trails Library has CD-roms. Although they tore down Dairy Queen, we still have Skipper's. Perhaps, the best hot dogs in Cook County. Skipper's makes you feel like you're in a small town restaurant. So Wheeling has plenty of recreational places for us to go to.

The people in Wheeling are different. We have people speaking different languages, and we learn some languages too. I think it's important for us to learn different languages and cultures. Since, in the real world, most people speak more than one language and are from different ethnic cultures. We also are a family orientated community, meaning the families go together and do things together.

The education is getting better. We're re-opening Jack London again. Holmes, Cooper, and Jack London are becoming 6th, 7th, and 8th. We also renovated Whitman and Mark Twain Elementary Schools. They definitely look much better. The "group learning" is becoming a new way in our society. Wheeling High School is one of the top rated high schools in Illinois. Almost all of the schools have some type of computer, and the students are learning how to use them. I think Wheeling Public Schools are getting much better.

Wheeling has become a nicer place to live. Truly, we're getting smarter and healthier. The way we're living and becoming better people will make us better for the world. Wheeling is really "My Kind of Town."

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Dinna Yap, Grade 8, Holmes

In the summer in Wheeling, you can hear the splashes of water and sounds of laughter at the Aquatic Center. A young child swims toward the end of the pool, but can't seem to make it. An older girl sees this and quickly helps the child out. This scene shows how much fun the Aquatic Center is and how nice the people are in Wheeling. Because there are a lot of good people living in Wheeling, there is hardly any crime. Compared to Chicago and Los Angeles, Wheeling is a paradise. Kids can walk home without worrying about a drive-by shooting or kidnapping. All these things make up what I call, my kind of town.

There are so many good and beautiful people of different dreams, faces, and races. The people are always nice and friendly. If you happen to drive by Wheeling and get lost, just ask a friendly "Wheeling" person and they'll probably help you. That's what happened when I first moved here. Almost everybody in Wheeling seems to know each other. They respect each other and treat one another like neighbors. People like these are the kind of people that I think make up part of a great town.

Maybe because there are so many good people, there is hardly any crime. There are crimes, but not big ones like what you would

hear about in Chicago, so the people living in Wheeling feel safe. This allows other people to see that Wheeling really is a safe place to live, and when they see this, they may want to move here which will then increase property value. Real estate can easily sell houses. The town can use the extra money to make new fun things like the Aquatic Center or remodel an old building. A low crime rate can bring very good things to a town and maybe that is why Wheeling has so many advantages.

The Aquatic Center is one of the great places in Wheeling. On a hot summer day it is packed with people from Wheeling and surrounding areas. There people go down tube, body, and drop slides. They also play volleyball on sand courts. There are so many other great things at the Aquatic Center. People love it there because they are always smiling or laughing.

Wheeling is my kind of town because of all the reasons I have mentioned. It has great people, a great Aquatic Center, and a low crime rate. There are nice people almost everywhere, fun five minutes away, and the knowledge of being safe. Many people, including me, love this town. It's is a great town that needs no changes and will continue to move forward into the next century.

#### A World Of Change

Jeremy Bruner, Grade 8, Holmes

I just can't imagine how the people of Wheeling used to live in 1994. It must have been such a primitive town in those days. I heard most things had to be done by hand. We studied that era in history class, but I still can't believe their way of life. Here in 2994, we hardly do anything by ourselves.

How did they get from place to place without the warp portals or magnetic super trains? It probably took hours to travel to a place we could arrive at in a mere minutes. Imagine wanting to go to New York City or Los Angeles and having to wait more than 30 minutes. The things they called "cars" look so slow and awkward. 2 tons of steel and plastic being supported by 4 rubber tires seems so illogical. They didn't even use solar power, instead they wasted our earth's resources that are irreplaceable.

Our ancestors wore the strangest clothing, too. Why did they actually use fabric, didn't they have plastic? Having to buy clothes that were made to fit different sizes must have been a pain. All we have to do now is buy the style we like, and the garment will automatically adjust to our size. Laundry had to be done either manually or by machine. I was told it took hours to finish one load! Using the clothing's' inner washing/drying system, all we have to do is press a button and the clothes are automatically washed and dried. This whole process takes a matter of minutes.

The movies weren't even in 3-D. What could you possibly do for fun? It must have been so boring in 1994 without all the technological advances of today. There were no robot sports, which you could do by yourself using computer controlled opponents. There was no virtual reality, a cyberspace world in which anything and everything is possible. The video games

wern't even interactive. Instead, you had things like bowling or Nintendo, which may have been fine then, but would never begin to whet our appetites now.

I would never have survived in 1994. The way of life has changed so drastically. I'm sure that was just fine for the people back then, but nobody who has ever lived in our time would be able to enjoy the Wheeling of 1994. Our technology is so advanced now, that if you traveled to the past Wheeling, you could never deal with the inferiority of their technology.

Wheeling: A Look Into The Future  
by Aleksandra Kulczuga, Grade 8, Holmes

It is now the year 2050. Wheeling was once a quiet little town. Now Wheeling is the second largest city in the state of Illinois, population- 3 million. The town has expanded and grown into one of the most sophisticated towns in our area. However this town's occupants aren't exactly human. They are robotically enhanced living beings, otherwise known as R.E.L.B's. It wasn't always this way. The whole thing started way back in 1997.

World War Three had just ended and the world was a place of complete and utter chaos. Poverty, sickness, and death were everywhere. There was a very small select group of young men and women who had been able to escape this tragedy by living in bomb shelters for the duration of the war. As they emerged from their hiding places they realized that the future of life as we know it was in their hands.

They searched for a quick and easy solution to the world's problems. But although they searched and searched, such an answer couldn't be found. They searched near and far for a way to help get the Earth back on it's feet again. Finally they came up with one conclusion. "Robots can not experience poverty, sickness, and disease. Therefore the answer to our problems must lie somewhere in the mechanical world."

So they began their experimenting. But where to start? First they must find people willing to be used as guinea pigs for this experiment. They discovered that Wheeling was a town full of these people and so they would start their experimenting there. But what was the next step? Humans are living breathing mortals while robots are pieces of mechanical genius. The solution- combine the two. First the smallest microchips were formed into a gel which also contained bits of selected information. The gel was then delivered to the brain by a simple shot. The result was incredible. Humans were no longer as prone to hunger and disease as they had been before. On top of it all they were living, walking calculators and dictionaries. The world was now a better place, right?

Not exactly. Soon people started noticing that Wheeling was quickly advancing in areas such as math, science, literature, and even art. Our once small town was now constantly being recognized for things like excellence in education and sports. We seemed to have all the answers. Crime was practically unheard of and everybody was prosperous and happy. Soon people started moving to Wheeling by the thousands. Single family houses had to

be torn down so that huge 100 story apartments could be put in their place. These new-comers soon learned Wheeling's little secret and soon they too got that special little shop. Everybody in the town of Wheeling was now a genius!

But, alas there was a bad side to all of this. As people got to be so smart, they wanted more and more information. They had their brains zapped with microchips all the time. People who didn't get these shots at first got them now because they realized they just couldn't keep up with the others, who were zapped. Since everybody was just getting smarter and smarter they began to forget their human qualities such as love and happiness. They became more like robots each day.

So now you know Wheeling's little secret, what will you do? Will you become one of them? Or will you be the one to save the human race before it ceases to exist?

#### Life in 1894

by Michelle Rojas, Grade 8, Holmes

Welcome dear friends to the town of Wheeling. My name is Caitlin Boehmer, daughter of Henry Boehmer, our Village President. It is the year 1894 and we are now celebrating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Village of Wheeling. Will you accompany me on a trip to the past?

It was Joseph Filkins who built the first residence here in 1834. As the population grew in the village, a post office was established in 1836. In a few years, many businesses opened. They appeared as early as the 1850's. There were hotels, blacksmith's, wagonshop's, stores, and creameries. In fact, my father opened a creamery in 1880. He sold it a while later.

As for our life here, it's a nice and peaceful town. We have reunions on days such as the 4th of July and other important dates for the village. One of the great sites here is the Des Plaines River. On Sunday's, the Wheeling Cornet Band plays there and families gather around to sing and dance along. We also have bicycle races from Wheeling to Chicago. Even one of my brother's participated in one. He came in fourth, and not bad for a skinny little boy out of 100!

The Wheeling Township was organized on April second, 1850. Some of the supervisors were Joseph Filkins, William Scoville, George Strong, William H. Dutton, Frederich Tesh, and David Peters. The first church was built in 1865 and was called "The German Evangelical United Reformed and Lutheran Church." The first pastor was Reverend F.C.Schwartz. From what I've hears, my old elementary school's name is going to be changed to Walt Whitman. I'm not sure, but I'll find out! Our doctor's name is M. Moffat and he has worked here since 1876, but he retired in 1890. He was really kind to all of us! I can still remember when he always gave us lollipops because of a few scrapes on our knees. Our railroad was built in 1886, and it is located one mile from here. We don't have a Fire Department yet, but I hear we are considering it, for the safty of our townspeople!

On June 18, 1894 an election was held in Union Hall to decide whether there should be a Village organization. The results were 43 yes and 3 no. For almost a month, men ran for different kinds of offices. July 17, 1894 the results for the village president, trustees, Village clerk, and Police magistrate were given. Henry Boehmer, my father, was named Village President. The six trustees were John Forke, Jacob Schwigel, Emil Sigwalt, Reinhold Schneider, William Fassbender, and J.A. Schminke. The Police Magistrate was Louis Fischer. Finally, the Village Clerk was W.R. Munkhenke. The state approved the Articles of Incorporation on August 6. So far, everything has been great for these men. We all depend on them to keep us safe and to make the right decisions.

Well, that's the past of Wheeling. Hopefully, it will live on in the hearts of the townspeople and it will be brought down through the ages of our children, for them to teach to their generation. I hope you enjoyed our trip through time and please take care of the village. For it is the only key we have to open the door to the past. Good-bye!

#### The Future of Wheeling by Chuck Snoad, Grade 8, Holmes

What lies ahead for the world in the future? No one knows for sure what it will be like then. How about our town of Wheeling? Most of the people over the age of five, won't be here in one-hundred years. So, we just have to guess at what the people of this town will experience. Imagine all the new things people will see! It will probably be a great time for the world in general and Wheeling in particular.

Many things will occur that should have an impact on the town. Homes will have new appliances and other objects that we can't even dream of. Life will then be made easier by these helpful ~~tools~~ ~~our jobs~~ could be done by different robots and forms of computers. Technology will be all around the people and should greatly assist them in every day tasks they always have to do.

On a sad note, computers may come back to haunt workers. Already people are losing their jobs. This problem has a good chance of increasing. This can be said, because robots might take over human's jobs. It is true that this may occur all over the world, not just here. Hopefully, we won't see too much job loss. If too many people lose what they worked so hard for, the American dream could be destroyed.

Crime, on the other hand, could decrease in Wheeling and police officers may be more equipped for fighting against the bad guys. This would surely make the citizens of the town feel more secure. We know the members of the police forces are working as hard as they can, but they still need more help and new technology to help them. Let's just hope the criminals don't get new weapons either. Some of the new objects officers might get will be weapons, more advanced supplies and computers for different situations. When there is a terrorist attack, these new guns and even computers will help them to save people's lives.

For now, all that the people of the present can do is wait for the future to get here. What we have a chance of seeing is very limited. My children and theirs will hopefully take care of the earth and our town. Just think of what they will experience. Remember what we saw and went through? They'll see even more than we did. Keep on dreaming and wondering about a time most of us won't see.

### My Kind Of Town

by Aaron Thomas, Grade 8, Holmes

Considerable time has passed since the first buildings in Wheeling were built, but it is significant that they have meaning and direct implications for today's consideration of my kind of town. The crucial elements in Wheeling that make it my kind of town are the friends that you make, and the safety of the people. Also the educational system is a big asset to the town of Wheeling. The recreational activities that Wheeling presents vary from swimming at the new Aquatic Center, to sports teams of all kinds.

When a person says my kind of town, what do they mean? In my eyes it means a town that you like personally or a town that suits your living needs. One thing that makes Wheeling my kind of town is the friendliness of the people. For instance, when I first moved in, I felt lonely, shutout, and barred from having any type of fun. My family and I were greeted at our new doorstep with a basket of assorted fruits, by people we had never met. That drew more of our attention to the town of Wheeling and the people in it.

Safety is one of the first things that you look for in a town that you may be thinking about moving into. Wheeling is a fairly safe town. Of course there is going to be violence that occurs anywhere, but that is a part of every town. The town of Wheeling might not have the largest police force but they are one of the best trained. The Police in Wheeling give you not only a sense of protection and trust, but also a feeling of loyalty, to each person.

Education in any place is very important just as long as you acquire as much as you can. I am receiving my education at Holmes Junior High School. Students from Wheeling and District #214, are among the most successful in the Chicago Area. I have heard that some of the work given to students in Wheeling is more intense than in other areas. In my opinion that is good because it is preparing the kids for the more difficult classes they will be attending as their education progress. This is one of the reasons why Wheeling is my kind of town.

After school is over there are always things that children and adults can participate in. In the town of Wheeling there are great recreational activities that give people of all ages a release from work or school. One of those activities is: Swimming at the new Aquatic Center, located in downtown Wheeling. There are also different groups and teams for different sports that you can join. I think this is a great alternative to gang activities in Chicago and other Areas. Also located in Wheeling is the well know Neptune's Pool for birthdays and any other

social occasions. Different projects and benefits for the people of Wheeling are what makes a good town, into a great one. All of the different aspects that I have talked about sort of interweave with each other. The friendliness of the people has a great effect on everyone. The kids, myself included, use these positive influences in school to make school a better place, as well as a fun place. Ideas of kids and grown-ups in a positive community like Wheeling help to make these great activities fun for everyone. Wheeling is a one of a kind town, because of all it has to offer. That is why Wheeling is MY KIND OF TOWN.

Home to Many Generations  
by Amber Johnson, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling has been a home for many generations of my family. My Great Grandfather, Walter Scalon, settled here in 1930. When he first came here there was nothing but open fields. He found a small cottage on Dundee and Milakee Roads, where Dreskie's Florist is located. Grandpa devoted his time as a volunteer fireman in Wheeling. He dedicated 48 years of his life to helping people in need, while somehow managing to raise eight children, 5 of whom still live in Wheeling.

My Grandma, Shirley Riddle, has known no other home than Wheeling because she was born and raised here. She lived with my Great Grandfather in a small, peaceful cottage until it had to be torn down because Wheeling was being to grow. The family then moved to a two bedroom house on Wheeling Avenue where she and her siblings continued to enjoy their wonderful town.

Times were great! My great Uncle was the town's mayor and the Justice of Peace. My great aunts were one of the first children to be born in the small, white house near Kolsack's Funeral Home. There were open fields everywhere. The town was so small that everyone know everyone. There were no big buildings to pollute the scenery, and only one small Jewel to shop at. The local library was located at the tiny restaurant, we know today as Two Doves. Walt Whitman was the only elementary school in the whole town. The school only had four very small classrooms. There was no Wheeling High School so all high school children attended either Arlington Heights or Northbrook. Everyone loved Wheeling!

Times began to change and by the time my mom was born Wheeling had really begun to thrive. Still there were open fields to play on and to explore. However, more schools were being built and they included St. Joseph the Worker and Wheeling High School. My mom enjoyed Wheeling and the many friendly people who were beginning to settle here. A community was beginning to grow.

No as we enter my generation, Wheeling is fully developed. My family members cannot believe how much Wheeling has changed. Look at it now! We have numerous shopping centers, supermarkets, a post office, schools, and much more. We even have a big outdoor swimming center. Wheeling has so much more to offer than it did in the early years of the century.

Wheeling began in 1894 as a small farming community. Life revolved around cutting grass and picking crops. Work was difficult back then. Look how far we have come in a 100 years.

I hope in 100 more years, generations to come can explore a wonderful town called Wheeling!

Happy Birthday Wheeling!

My Kind Of Town

by Jeff Weidemann, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is a town full of many different things. Since I like variety and changes, Wheeling is my kind of town. It seems like everywhere I look, change is occurring in this village.

The first reason I like the village of Wheeling is because it offers many different activities for kids and teenagers. Some of my favorite activities include sports and other popular athletic activities such as: Hockey, Baseball, Basketball, and Football. By having all these activities the village of Wheeling is at least trying to keep kids off the streets.

The second reason Wheeling is my kind of town is because everything is close and easy to get to. There are many different things to do and they are pretty much evenly distributed throughout the village. There are also a lot of stores and variety. All the different food and restaurants in Wheeling are especially interesting. They have about every kind of food imaginable.

The final reason Wheeling is my kind of town is because it's big and capacious. Wheeling has plenty of room to do many things. In fact, with it's extra room, they made the Wheeling Aquatic center. They also have made a few other little shopping centers.

Since the addition of many new things in Wheeling, it has become a pretty busy village. It also has become popular. It has become popular because the Aquatic Center attracts many people. But no matter how busy or popular it becomes, Wheeling will always be my kind of town.

Wheeling

by Michael Bulmash, Grade 8, Holmes

I think that Wheeling is a great place to bring up a family. In Wheeling, your children will never get the bad end of anything. For example, your children, as well as yourself, can visit the new Recreation Center. It is a place where you can go to play sports when you are bored and several other possibilities. Your children, as well as yourself, can also visit the Aquatic Center. There you can have fun with your family on the waterslides, on eht 50 foot drops, and the diving boards. There are lots of other things that you can do there also. That is a fun place to bring your family on hot Sundays. The schools for your children in Wheeling also provide for a good education. Half of the District 21 schools already have excellence in education for Illinois. Another good reason is that this city is healthy compared to crime, pollution and gangs. This would be a terrific place to bring up your family.



I think that Wheeling is a great place to bring up a family because there is the Recreation Center and the Aquatic Center to keep you busy on your day off and to keep your kids off the streets. The Recreation Center is a place where you can do lots of things. It is a place to drop your kids off when they are little and you have no babysitter. It is a place for when your kids want to join a league or just play some sports somewhere. This place is like Wheeling's little Y.M.C.A., but this place has more things to do for your children. It also has things to do for you and your husband or wife. If you are the type that likes to lift and play any kind of sports than this is also a good place for your parents to go. You and your children can go to the Aquatic Center. It is like a mini water park. It has everything there. It has two sets of water slides, It has two sets of drops, there are also two sets of diving boards, there is also two volleyball courts, and a playground for the really little kids that can not swim. This whole place is a fun place to take the family on the day-off. It seems like you're in Florida.

Another reason why Wheeling is a great place to bring up the family is because the school education system is very good. District 21 has been nominated for excellence in education several times. Your students are guaranteed a good education as long as they fulfill their end of the bargain. There are also lots of other good students which will not only influence your children into being good students as well you will know that they will be having good friends to.

Another reason why you should settle down in Wheeling is because of the crime rate. We, Wheeling, have very little gangs, crime, pollution, and graffiti. You really don't need an alarm to protect your house here in Wheeling because we aren't like that here. Also, you don't need ten people to go with you somewhere at nine at night because of all the gangs out there. Wheeling is a place where you don't have to lock your door at night. This is a place where we won't see Wheeling on the news everyday because of a murder.

Wheeling is a great place to bring up your family for several reasons. One reason is because of the Aquatic and Recreation center, there is an excellent school system, and there is very little crime in Wheeling. I am glad that I live in a neighborhood where I know my family can be safe and have fun while getting a great education. Wouldn't you love too also?

Wheeling My Kind Of Town  
by Chad Garrow, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is my kind of town because it has many resources. Some of the resources are the Aquatic Center, the Family Fest, and the Forest Preserve.

The Aquatic Center is an out-door swimming pool so you can play and have swimming races. The Aquatic Center is also a nice place to stay and have fun all day. You can get a nice tan by sun tanning or playing volleyball. Once in a while they play movies while people sit in or out of the pool. It is really nice to sit and relax, and watch a movie.

The Family Fest is a very exciting place to go to. Especially watching the neat fireworks at night. The best time to go to the Family Fest is at night. Night is the best time because all of the rides are lit up with colorful colors. Wheeling always has different rides each year. They have roller coaster rides, the kind of rides that go in circles, and a whole lot more rides to go on, and have fun. They also have games that you can win prizes in. Like a big or small stuffed animal, and you can also win a poster. I go to the Family Fest every year, and every time I go, I enjoy it. It's just a good place to go to and have fun.

The Forest Preserve is a very enjoyable place to have a party for anything. Graduation, birthday, and all of the parties are good to have at the forest preserve. If you want to, you can take a walk in the forest. You might be able to see some wild life in the forest. If you get tired from walking you can find a pit stop, or just sit down and have a picnic.

Wheeling is my kind of town because it has many resources. Some of the resources are the Aquatic Center, the Family Fest, and the Forest Preserve.

#### Wheeling My Kind Of Town by James Fedij, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is a real fun town. There are lots of stores and ~~activity centers~~ you can go to, to have fun. There is also a lot of business in Wheeling; for example, the airport, and the new train station they are going to build in a couple of years. The most important thing about Wheeling is that they have really good schools. Holmes Junior High or Wheeling High school both offer an excellent educational program for kids young and old.

The aquatic center is a real good place for kids to hang out and have fun. Plus they won't get into that much trouble because there is a lot of life guards watching everybody and everything they do so they can make sure no one gets hurt. During the Fourth of July there is Family Fest, a place to celebrate the Fourth of July. There you can go on rides, eat food, play games and watch fire works. Most of all, you go there just to have fun. Wheeling also has a lot of stores like sport Mart, K-mart, Wal Mart, Dominicks, The Dollar Bill Store, and the convenient White Hen.

There are a lot of new things being built in Wheeling where you can get a job. There is the recreational center where you can get a job. There is also the new train station that is going to be built. Having a train station in our town will raise the property value in Wheeling. This will raise the population in Wheeling and we will become a bigger and stronger town.

Wheeling also has real good schools. Both Holmes Junior High School and Wheeling High School have excellent band programs. In the schools there are a lot of extra activities that the students can get involved in. Examples are Ski club, Chess club, Track, Cross country, and wrestling. The students in these schools have put many long hard hours into their school work. Even though there are those few kids who don't follow the rules and get bad

grades. the majority of the students are real good workers and learners.

Wheeling is a great town to live in. I feel sorry that everybody doesn't live in Wheeling. but they can come and visit it any time they want. That is what makes Wheeling such a great town. for the people who live in it and also the ones who don't.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by David Rivera. Grade 8. Holmes

Wheeling. Illinois. the small, but beautiful town in which we live our lives. Here in Wheeling we can live a happy and peaceful life in a neighborhood with respectful and curious people. going to excellent schools known for excellence in education. or going out and enjoy a great day at many of our year round attractions.

I have lived in Wheeling for about eleven years and as far back as I can remember. my family has enjoyed living in Wheeling. I can remember going to Walt Whitman Elementary School where I learned many skills such as my reading. writing. spelling. listening. and even social skills which help me in Holmes Jr. High School which I currently attend and am on the High Honor Roll that proves the excellence in education. Next year I plan on attending Wheeling High School which has excellent teachers and classes in which I hope to keep on getting good grades. Going along with education. Wheeling has it's own Indian Trails library with a wide variety of books from the past and present. Wheeling schools and buildings recognized for excellence!

When I had some free time on the weekend. I always enjoy a weekend of fun and happiness at the new Aquatic Center here in Wheeling which has a body slide. tube slide. two drop slides. volleyball courts. and fresh grass to get a tan on. When it's cold outside you can also go to the Wheeling High School where they have an indoor heated pool to swim in. We are also building the new Recreational Center so you and your family can go and use two full basketball courts. weight training equipment. or other classes of your favorite hobbies. After a great day at the Recreational Center. you can go to the famous Chevy Chase Club where you can dance to country music until you drop or you can hop on over to the Twinn Drive-In also located right here in Wheeling and watch any of the new movie hits. All of these attractions help me believe that Wheeling is the greatest town.

Wheeling has many important features that also make it a great town. The annual Family Fest is one of the great activities in Wheeling. In the Family Fest. there is live music at night. rides. and food stands to satisfy your needs. The Fourth of July fireworks attracts hundreds of people. Not only is Wheeling beautiful. but the forest preserves are home to many creatures of nature. Also recognized for one of the finest restaurants such as Le Francais which is known nation-wide. The police department helps keep Wheeling crime rate low which means that I don't have to worry about any big dangers. The Indian Trails Library is great for school research or just for leisure because it has a wide variety of your favorite authors and books. Plus. the

library has about ten different encyclopedias for your convenience.

I've lived in Wheeling for a very long time and the education, recreational events, and features have helped me enjoy every second, minute, hour, and day of my life here in Wheeling.

WHEELING, MY KIND OF TOWN!

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Vicki Deschner, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling offers a lot to everyone. It offers you things to do and places to go. Wheeling cares about its people. The town is building new things; it almost looks like everyday. Just this following year they were building an aquatic center and a recreation center, and they'll keep building more to make it a better place and a more fun place to live for everyone.

For the newcomers that come to this great community, they are welcomed by neighbors that will be living next to them. They receive information about the community and the history of Wheeling. Wheeling offers you passes to go swimming in places like the Aquatic Center. It also offers you camps for kids like camps for baseball, soccer, football and lots more. It even offers craft schools or art schools.

There is a park district that kids go to after school to play sports or just to hang out. Sometimes cops stay there just to make sure there are no trouble makers and to keep things under control so no one gets hurt.

Wheeling has lots of places to go. During the year Wheeling has many things going on. Wheeling has a Family Fest, Fourth of July parties and activities. In Wheeling there is one great restaurant, Le Francias; it is very popular with the people. The Aquatic Center in Wheeling offers you a place to hang out and go swimming, there's sand and everything fun you could think of to do is there. Wheeling has really thought this time; they put a pool in the Wheeling High School called Neptune's Pool. This pool provides swimming and diving; you could even play basketball in it. The pool is great! You can have swimming lessons in it and it's great especially if are you too embarassed in the summer to take lessons, you could take them in the winter and be all ready for the summer. The pool even has a scuba class and if you pass the test at the end you can go somewhere bigger and really go scubing, but your whole class decides or the director or teacher.

Wheeling has one of the top ten schools in the state. The forest perserves are great in Wheeling. They're clean and the animals are safe there because there is no hunting there, or at any perserve for that matter. The forest perserves have rules like don't feed the animals. Everyone should follow those rules; they're actually very good rules. The forest perserves are great for other reasons too. You can go walking or running. You can take your dog or pets to some and you can let them run free because there is lots of room. You should go there and have some fun or have a party with family or friends.

Wheeling has lots of places to eat from fancy to just hanging out and having fun. The number one places for teenagers to hang out is Foxies or Skippers. For adults they like fancy places like Le Francias. It's rated one of the top restaurants in the state. The parks in Wheeling are some of the places kids go to hang out and have fun and party, and of course.

So all together Wheeling is a great place to visit or live. Just take a look at all the things you can do here and have fun while doing it.

Wheeling: A Look Into the Future  
by Noemi Cardenas, Grade 8, Holmes

Let's make Wheeling a better place by taking a look into the future. With a brand new commuter train station going through Wheeling, bike paths, and the Aquatic Center-Recreation Center, residents of Wheeling will have a more enjoyable summer.

With this brand new commuter train station you'll be able to transport yourself anywhere you want to go. If you want to save money on gas this is the best way. For residents who work in Chicago or visit a lot it's faster and cheaper to take the train. Also there would be less pollution if more people took the train instead of everyone taking individual vehicles.

If you like getting exercise the new bike paths will give you access. Using a bike path is safer and more convenient. The bike paths can help you get around Wheeling faster than driving. It's a great way to have fun with your family without spending a lot of money.

With the new Recreation Center and the Aquatic Center already here you have plenty of time to relax and have fun. With these two centers around the corner and low fees it will be easy to enjoy the summer. Another way to get together with your friends without having to drive many miles, you can go to the Aquatic Center and Recreation Center. Now that you've had a look into the future you will be able to enjoy Wheeling more. Especially with a brand new commuter train station, bike paths, and really cool activity centers. I hope you stay in Wheeling long enough to enjoy these wonderful things.

My Kind Of Town  
by Jon Calica, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is my kind of town because it offers many things that is fun. It has many stores to offer so we can go shopping and buy what we need. It has many great food places that we can go to eat. Wheeling has educational places too. Wheeling has many places that we can go to to have fun.

There are many stores that Wheeling has to offer. If people want to buy some clothes and shoes they can go to Wal-Mart, K-mart, Payless Shoe Source and Sportmart. If people want to buy food there are many great stores that are cheap. Consider Aldi.

Dominick's, Walgreens, Jewel, 7 Eleven, Dollar Store and many more.

If you want to eat there are many restaurants in Wheeling that you will love to eat at. If you want to eat fancy you would love to eat at Le Francais, Hackney's, and Bob Chinn's. If you are in a hurry you would like to eat at a fast food place. There are many fast food places in Wheeling, like McDonalds, Taco Bell, Burger King, JK Gyros, Pizza Hut, and Wa-Pagetti's.

If you want fun Wheeling is the place to be. It offers many places that people can go to. If you are hot and sweating you can go to the brand new Aquatic Center and cool off. If you want to play basketball there are many outdoor parks that you can go to. The Wheeling Park Distict offers many sports that people can join in and have a good time. This year Wheeling will open the Recreation Center and it will offer many fun things to do. If you want to go bowling go to Jeffrey Lanes and have a striking good time.

For education people go to Wheeling High School and Indian Trails Public Library. Wheeling High School is in District 214, which is rated top 5 in the state of Illinios.

That is my reason why Wheeling is my kind of town. It has many stores to go to. It has many great restaurants. It is the most fun town that I ever lived in.

Wheeling: My Kind Of Town  
by Victor Lee, Grade 8, Holmes

Wheeling is a great town. Many people don't know that you can do a lot in Wheeling. You can go shopping, go to a great restaurant, and have some fun.

Wheeling has a lot of great shopping. If you like buying clothes and not paying a lot of money, you can go to K-Mart or Wal-Mart. Sportmart is the place to go if you want athletic clothes or if you want to get things to work-out in. You could buy a weight set or a pair of gym shoes. If you want something really cheap you can go to the \$1 Store. If you like shopping for food you can head on over to Sam's Club or Dominick's.

Wheeling has a lot of great restaurants that you could have breakfast, lunch, or dinner. You can have a terrific breakfast at Original Granny's, a great lunch at Wa-pagetti's, or a fantastic dinner at Harry Caray's Restaurant. If you don't want to spend a lot of money McDonald's has the perfect food for you. Baskin Robbins has all of the 31 flavors of ice cream. Le Francias will give you a fancy dinner with one of the best chefs in Cook County.

Wheeling has a lot of fun things to do. You can take a dip at Neptune's Pool or if you want something more exciting you can go to the new Aquatic Center. A new rec center has just been built next to the Aquatic Center. You can play basketball, run on a track, or lift weights in the weight room. If you want to stay dry you can bowl at Jeffery Lanes or see two movies for the price of one at the Twin Drive -In. If you want something more

exciting you can drive a go-kart, or swing a bat at the batting cages. If you're an athlete you could visit the park district and play basketball, tennis, or baseball.

Wheeling has a lot of great things to do. You can go shopping, go to a restaurant, or have some fun.

**My Family Roots In Wheeling**  
by Matt Koelper, Grade 8, Holmes

My family roots in Wheeling go back a long time. I have had five generations of members in Wheeling. The town has changed a lot from what it used to be. Many things they used to have are now gone. It was a totally different place. Back then they had a mill, a blacksmith, a general store which sold basic needs, and a hospital. My grandpa took corn and oats to the mill to be ground. The mill also made cider. There was also a pumping station which took water through wooden tunnels to the steam engines to help them run. Wheeling Farms was there too. They had chickens, eggs, and pigeons. All of this is where Cole Taylor bank is on Dundee Road.

My great-great-grandpa on my mother's side owned a farm on the corner of Hintz and Wheeling road. He moved to that house when he was twenty years old in 1904. The house was where Wheeling High High School is now. They lived in an old farm house. The nearest neighbor was 1/4 mile north and 3/4 miles west. My grandpa was the older one of two children. His sister died when she was only three. He has lived there since he was born. He farmed a lot. He pitched corn and grain. He moved away when he married in 1942. Wheeling fire station #2 now stands where that farm used to be. When my grandpa got older he became an electrician. He did work all over the Wheeling area for many years.

My grandma and her family lived on Portwine road. She went to Wheeling school which is now Walt Whitman school when she was a little girl. There were only two rooms in that building! Grades 1-4 were in one room and 5-8 were in the other room. They ate lunch in their classroom. School went from 9:00 to 4:00. The lunch and recess was from 12:00-1:00. They played ball usually at recess. My grandma had to walk two miles to school every day. She seldomly got a ride. When she moved into an old red brick house on Hintz Road, she walked but she got rides more frequently than before. When she walked home, they would stop at a saw mill and get cider. Sometimes her mom would order things from the general store that was there and she'd pick them up on her way home. When she got home, she had to get wood for the stove and she had to feed the chickens. She used to work the old plug style switchboard for the telephone company. She started the job in 1939 when she was nineteen and worked about ten years. In 1942, after my grandma and grandpa got married, they moved above Wheeling Farms, a store. They moved into their house next to Whitman school in 1945 and they still live there today. Their phone number then was 368.

My mom's Uncle has lived in Wheeling all his life. He ran a merry-go-round when there was a fair in the forest preserve. My dad's father moved to Wheeling when he was a boy. He lived on a

farm by Palwaukee airport. He talks of how he used to help pull the blimps down when they came to Wheeling.

My family has lived in Wheeling for many, many years. They have contributed a lot to this town. I have had five generations of family living in Wheeling. Almost all of them still reside in Wheeling.

These essays were written for the Wheeling Centennial Celebration Essay Contest, held from May-June 1994. We are pleased that so many children have such great opinions of their home and community. Three winners were chosen from each level of participation (3rd & 4th Grades/5th & 6th Grades/7th & 8th Grades), however, we consider them all winners who should be proud of their community spirit. Happy Birthday Wheeling!!!!!!