

## AHPS Provides Security For the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Printers Row Book Fair

WELCOME TO THE  
SUMMER 2004 ISSUE OF  
THE AHPS ALMANAC... A  
SEASONAL UPDATE ON OUR  
SERVICES, RECENT CLIENT  
ACTIVITIES AND IMPORTANT  
STAFF DEVELOPMENTS.  
WE'RE PLEASED TO BRING  
YOU THIS NEWSLETTER  
(ALSO AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.AHPSERVICES.COM](http://WWW.AHPSERVICES.COM))

### PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS:

5100 West 127th Street  
Alsip, IL 60803

Phone: (708) 388-7900



American Heritage was pleased to provide protective services for the 2004 Chicago Tribune Printers Row Book Fair, held Saturday, June 5th and Sunday, June 6th, in the Printers Row district of Chicago. Approximately twenty AHPS uniformed security officers and ten AHPS off-duty police officers joined with the Chicago Tribune security staff to provide security, traffic control, crowd control and personal protection.

An estimated 50,000 people attended the two day event visiting outdoor sales booths representing such large corporations as Borders, Barnes and Noble, and Target as well as numerous smaller vendors. One highlight of the fair was the appearance of famed movie star turned author, Julie Andrews. Ms. Andrews read some excerpts from her book and held a question and answer session before signing autographs for several hundred of her fans. The book fair made use of facilities at Columbia College and Jones Commercial High School, where 90 yr. old Studs Terkel spoke with over 400 book lovers.

Mr. Larry Reynolds, Director of Safety and Security for the Chicago Tribune, stated he was very pleased with the service rendered by AHPS and indicated that he had received several compliments from various vendors who were more than satisfied with our services.

### *Inside...*

- *Identity Theft*
- *AHPS New Corporate Headquarters Complete*
- *Caring for the Community*

# AHPS New Corporate Headquarters Complete

Construction on our new corporate headquarters at 5100 West 127th Street in Alsip, Illinois is complete. The new 10,000 square foot facility will house our entire staff and will be occupied in early July. This location, which is only two blocks from the 294 Tri-State Tollway, provides ideal transportation access for our employees, clients, visitors and applicants. The new building is also immediately adjacent to the entrance to the Alsip Radisson Hotel, which will provide both convenient and first quality resources and facilities for meetings, seminars and other special occasions.

The building was designed for AHPS by Architect Richard L. Schmidt in the Prairie Style that is reminiscent of the works of Frank Lloyd Wright. These same design elements are reflected inside the facility with the window treatments, the extensive use of wood and glass, the color scheme, the floor coverings and the furniture plan of Interior Designer Karen Geise of the Ethan Allan Company.

The same attention to detail employed in determining the appearance of the building was also utilized in providing for its functionality. The office space is almost triple the size of the present AHPS office and provides for facilities and adjacencies that will improve efficiency, internal communication and work flow.



*AHPS President and CEO, Arthur J. Hannus, recently referred to the new facility when he stated:*

*“Our new Corporate Headquarters will be the platform that launches AHPS into the 21st Century. It will help us work harder and smarter. It represents our past success and our future achievement.”*

## AHPS Cares For The Community....

All of us at American Heritage Protective Services are committed to being good neighbors and partners in our community. We participate in civic and professional organizations and make every effort to contribute as much as we possibly can to worthy charitable concerns throughout our service area.

In keeping with this commitment, our AHPS Bowling Team, in the Maremont Ladies Bowling League, recently participated in the Women’s International Bowling Conference “Bowl for the Cure” event to fund cancer research. AHPS Area Manager and team member Denise Fagan reported that our team raised over \$400 and the event was responsible for raising nearly \$800,000 nationwide as a contribution to this great cause. Well done ladies!

AHPS has also made its annual contribution to and will have representatives attending “Chuckwagon Day” at Maryville Academy in Des Plaines, Illinois. This is one of the primary fund raising events for Maryville Academy, the “City of Youth” that provides services to over 18,000 abused, neglected and abandoned children each year through its network of childcare facilities on 23 campuses. Kudos to Father John Smyth!!

American Heritage has always tried to give as much back to the community as possible and will continue this practice to the best of its ability in the future.



# Identity Theft *by Stephen J. Pollak, Executive Vice President*

During the course of a normal day you may write a check for groceries, charge the purchase of a new pair of shoes, call a friend on your cell phone, order new checks for your checking account, or maybe apply for a new credit card. The chances are that you don't give any of these everyday transactions a second thought, but someone else may.

During the 1990's a new type of lawbreaker called an identity thief appeared. This thief's stock in trade is your transactions. Each transaction requires you to share personal information: your bank and credit card account numbers; your Social Security Number (SSN), and your name, address and phone number. An identity thief co-opts some piece of your personal information and appropriates it without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. An all too common example is when an identity thief uses your personal information to open a credit card account in your name.

It's estimated that in 2001 upwards of 750,000 people had their identities stolen and are currently trying to recover from their losses, and it is believed that the number of identity theft victims in the nation this year will easily top the 1 million mark. In a single incident in 2002, the State of California had its entire employee database of more than 260,000 workers, exposed to a hacker. Despite our best efforts to manage the flow of personal information or keep it private, skilled identity thieves may use a variety of methods – both low & high tech – to gain access to data. Many consumers feel that they may be safe from identity theft since they don't make purchases over the internet, or make credit card purchases over the phone. This is a complete myth since virtually everyone over 18

is part of the nation's credit reporting system which therefore makes them susceptible to identity theft. When a consumer finds out their personal data has been leaked, the waiting game begins. They should order credit reports regularly and simply monitor if their bank accounts become the victim of unplanned withdrawals, if car loans are taken out in their names, if their homes are mortgaged and whether equity is stolen right out from under their roofs.

While identity theft can't be prevented entirely, the risk of identity theft can be minimized. By managing personal information wisely, cautiously and with an awareness of the issue, you can help guard against identity theft by:

- *Determining how personal information will be used and whether it will be shared with anyone before you reveal it.*
- *Paying attention to billing cycles, and following up with creditors if your bills don't arrive on time.*
- *Guard your mail from possible theft, by depositing outgoing mail at the Post Office, and promptly removing mail from your mailbox.*
- *Putting passwords on your credit card, bank and phone accounts, and avoiding the use of easily available information for PIN numbers & passwords.*
- *Limiting the identification information and number of credit cards you carry to what you actually need.*
- *Not giving out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the internet unless you initiated the contact or you know who you're dealing with.*
- *Keeping items with personal information in a safe place, and tearing up or*

*shredding charge receipts, credit applications, bank statements, or expired charge cards.*

- *Determining who has access to your personal information at work and verifying that these records are maintained in a safe location.*
- *Providing your Social Security Number only when absolutely necessary.*
- *Not carrying your Social Security Card with you. Keeping it in a safe, secure location.*
- *Ordering a copy of your credit report at least annually.*

The US Congress has asked the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to provide information to consumers about identity theft and to take complaints from those whose identities have been stolen. If you, or someone you know may have been the victim of an identity theft, call the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline toll free at 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338). The FTC puts this information into a secure consumer fraud database and may, in appropriate instances, share it with other law enforcement agencies and private entities, including any companies about which a victim may complain.

In addition the FTC has developed an ID Theft Affidavit – a form that can be used to alert companies where a new account was opened in a victims name. Companies can then investigate the fraud and decide the outcome of these claims. A list of some of the companies and organizations that accept or endorse the ID Theft Affidavit can be found at: <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft>. The FTC, working in conjunction with other government agencies, has produced this report to help victims and potential victims guard against and recover from identity theft.

# Someone You Should Know: *Stephen J. Pollak*



Recently, Steve Pollak joined the Management Team of American Heritage Protective Services on a full-time basis as Executive Vice President, even though he has been associated with AHPS in various capacities since its inception.

Prior to joining the AHPS Management Team, Steve served as the Chief of Police of the Mokena Police Department for 14 years. He has a total of 26 years service with the Mokena Police Department, having risen through the ranks, holding positions of Auxiliary Officer, Patrol Officer, Crime Prevention Officer, Field Training Officer, Sergeant, and Administrative Sergeant. Before fulfilling his boyhood dream of becoming a police officer, Steve taught Industrial Arts classes at A.A. Stagg High School in Palos Hills, Illinois for five years. As a police officer, he has also taught Law Enforcement Driving procedures to police officers through the Tri-River Police Training Unit, and served as a Junior Achievement Teaching Consultant for ten years, teaching 2nd and 3rd grade students the *Our Community and Our City* programs at local public and parochial grade schools.

Steve holds a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, and is a graduate of the 162nd Session of the FBI National Academy. He is an active member of many professional organizations. Steve's notable affiliations include Past President of the Will County Association of Chiefs of Police, Past Executive Board Member of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Past President of the Illinois Police Association (South Division), and Past Executive Board Member of the Illinois Police Association. He is also a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

Steve and his wife Karen are the proud parents of three daughters, Pam, Sandy, and Paige. In his spare time he enjoys attending his daughters sporting events, golfing, toy collecting, reading, and playing volleyball.

# Congratulations...

*We're proud to recognize these individuals who have contributed to our growth and the continued success of our clients.*



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Diane Brown



## RECENTLY OVER SIX YEARS OF SERVICE!

Mary Sheehan

Jim Johnson



## RECENTLY OVER FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE!

Gloria Allen

Beverly Fenderson

Fernando Castillo

June Parker



## RECENTLY OVER FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE!

Antonio Sandoval

Larry Lindquist

Ralph Wilson

Denise Fagan

Lisa Digles

Richard Wilson

Eddie Streeter

Madeline Colon

William Mattingly

John Duffy

Maude Jones



## RECENTLY OVER THREE YEARS OF SERVICE!

Bernard Considine

Kathleen Liebich

Tiffany Stephen

David Minelli

Natasha Wilson

Wayne Swiderski

Diana Hopkins

Paul Gainer

William Piccony

Gwendolyn Holmes-Jenkins

Steve Uchman



## RECENTLY OVER TWO YEARS OF SERVICE!

Adolfo Rodriguez

Eugene Turner Jr.

Michael Carter

Alvin Greenup

Floyd Reed Jr.

Michael Evans

Arthur Blakely

James Hankey

Michael Malec

Brian Dunleavy

Jesse Harris

Nancy Nelson

Daniel Stuck

Jesus Reyes

Richard Raines

Derrick Johnson

Kaiton Bullock

Terence Harrington

Diane Brown

Kenneth Larry

Virginia Hights

Earl Digby

Kimberly Gainer

William Johnson

Earl German

Lloyd Graham

Edward Hardaway

Louis Childress



## RECENTLY OVER ONE YEAR OF SERVICE!

Bernard Mikolajczak

Glen Adams

Pamela Janecek

Daniel Dacanay

Jennifer Geary

Patrick Foley

Deon Hughes

John Braico

Peter Semeniuk

Eugene Gibbons

Marshall Harris

Rahsaan Hur

Frank Hernandez

Michael Boldyga

Sean Finnigan

Frank Sztukowski

Michael Hehl

Victor Maltbia

Fred Muller

Miguel Herrera

Zeniah Ward

Frederick Tomasek

Neal Schaffer

The Security  
Dream Team®

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## AHPS Completes Risk Assessment For Long Term Care Provider

American Heritage recently completed a comprehensive risk assessment for one of the midwest's leading long term care providers. The assignment consisted of detailed property inspections and risk assessment surveys at nearly 20 senior care facilities located in five states.



The security assessments were requested by the organization as a way to make sure they are doing and continue to do everything possible to provide a safe, risk-free environment for residents, health care providers and visitors. Several days of on-site work were required and written reports were provided to senior management upon completion of the assessment.

Our client operates continuing care retirement communities, assisted living facilities, independent retirement living and skilled nursing facilities in five states throughout the Midwest, as well as home health agencies in Indiana and Illinois. They operate facilities which offer virtually every type of senior care, including independent living/retirement communities, assisted living environments, dementia/Alzheimer care, skilled nursing and long term care facilities.

Risk assessments, which are often required by insurance companies or organizations wishing to meet the highest standards of quality and safety, are just one of the specialized consulting services offered by American Heritage Protective Services. For more information on specialized consulting services, contact Paul Stellato, Chief Operating Officer at 708/923-0400.