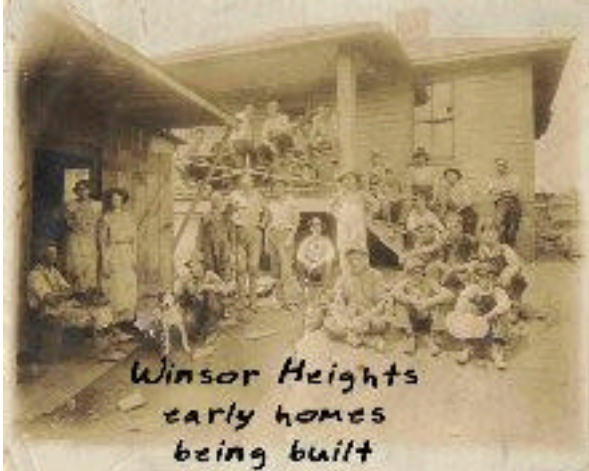


## COMMUNITY PROFILE: WINDSOR HEIGHTS, WV

**B**ack in the early 1900s coal mining towns were springing up all over West Virginia. Windsor Heights was one such town. On just 0.1 square miles of land, the Windsor Power House Coal Company constructed most of the homes still in existence today between 1920 and 1924.



The two-story homes were occupied by mining supervisors and community doctors. The smaller one-story structures were the homes of the labor force. Unlike most mining companies, Windsor Power did not operate a company store. However, there were two privately owned general stores.

An important part of the community was St. Therese Catholic Church. It was originally started as a mission station in 1912 and formally dedicated in 1925. Twenty-two nationalities: Americans, English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, German, Austrian, Bohemian, Slovak, Polish, Slovene, Croation, Lithuanian, Italian, Hungarian, French, Belgian, Spanish, Greek, Lebanese, Uhranian and Russian were represented among the parishioners with Croatian being prominent and Polish second. The Church closed in 1995.

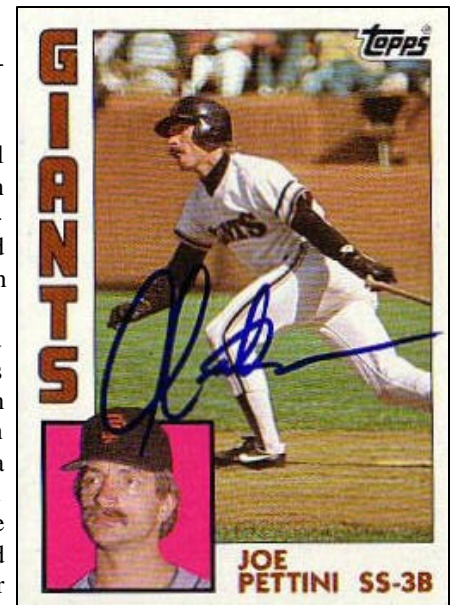


The demand for coal was so great during World War II that many of the miners were given exemptions. Four of those who did serve never made it home. In their honor, four streets – Sarko, Francis, Toat and Diotti – were named as a reminder of those young men who gave their lives.



Two miners getting ready to undercut the coal face in preparation for blasting the coal down for hand loading. Cutter probably Jeffrey or Sullivan machine.

In more recent times, Windsor Heights can boast of being the hometown of a Major League baseball player. Joe Pettini was born January 26, 1955, in Wheeling, W.V., and graduated from Brooke High School in Wellsburg, W.V., in 1973. After college, he pursued a career in baseball. Pettini's playing career began in 1977, when he signed with the Montreal Expos as a nondrafted free agent. In 1980, he signed with the San Francisco Giants and played shortstop for four seasons.



The Village is currently in the process of obtaining funding for a \$592,000 storm sewer project. Heavy rains and melting snow cause basements and garages to flood and sidewalks to deteriorate. Barb Zimnox, BHJ community development specialist, is working with Mayor Bill Liposchak on an application for a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant and the remainder from Legislative Digest funds. This funding will help alleviate a financial hardship on the village and residents.

Once before Windsor Heights faced a hardship of a little different nature. In 1928, not one house had indoor plumbing. Instead, people got their water from four or five pumps located throughout the town. In the winter, the pipes would freeze and someone would have to light a fire to get them thawed. Indoor plumbing didn't arrive until the mid-1930's. Windsor Power provided the lines and equipment, but the work had to be done by the individual residents.

Maybe applying for grant money is a little easier!!