

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**BARBARA WHEELER**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 64TH DISTRICT



March 23, 2016

Dear Mayor Hanson,

On behalf of the Illinois House of Representatives, please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the Village of Antioch's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The history of the area is actually quite fascinating with the Indian history of the Potawatomi Indians settling in your area in the early 1800's. I am excited to have learned that numerous Indian artifacts have been preserved by your Historical Society and that to this day many of the original trails the tribes used to get up to Wisconsin along the Fox River remain.

Antioch should have great pride in the fact that they built a replica sawmill for tourists in your village in 1976 to honor the days of past settlers.

I understand that Antioch was known in the past as a place for dancing, hunting, fishing, gambling and drinking during the days of prohibition. I was surprised to read that the original gambling house was bombed five times before it was closed.

The history of days gone by with Al Capone himself owning a summer home on Bluff Lake and a house on Lake Catherine which was used as a retreat for the mob from Chicago.

Since those days Antioch has doubled in size. Antioch is home to many parks, a wetland sanctuary and several forest preserves. It has had numerous housing developments built, as well as ample economic development. I congratulate your anniversary and help celebrate your rich history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Wheeler".

Barbara Wheeler  
Illinois House of Representatives, District 64