



MARKTOWN UPDATE

A publication of the Marktown Preservation Society - SPECIAL EDITION 2005

World Changers Help To Change Marktown & The Carnegie Library Historic District

It is a new year and a new administration. There is a new way of doing things and new people are interested in making this a great city once again. No, we're not talking about industry and redevelopers. We're talking about World Changers and the world of difference - or change - they made in just five days in East Chicago.

Just who are World Changers? World Changers is a ministry sponsored by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Their goal is to help improve the quality of life in neighborhoods by helping others. They are students from all over the country who volunteer their services at the invitation of our community leaders.

And just how did they get to East Chicago and Marktown? Well, that will require a bit of explaining. For the Marktown portion of the project it began with an article in The Times that reported on a new program in Highland, Indiana that was sponsored by a Hammond nonprofit group called Neighborhoods, Inc. Paul Myers read the

article and contacted Keith Speaks, Executive Director for that group. During their meeting Keith mentioned a different program that he had lined up for July called World Changers. Paul was so intrigued by the project that he contacted several of the board members of the Marktown Preservation Society that evening. The next morning he

called Mr. Speaks back and said it was a go in Marktown.

About a week later, Dave Ryan, the Executive Director of the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce contacted several senior members of Mayor Pabey's staff and told them of the project. John Artis, the Executive Director of Housing and Redevelopment set up a meeting with Mr. Speaks and Redevelopment Commission members Thomas Frank and Paul Myers. They reviewed the information and decided that the 135th and 136th blocks of Grand Boulevard would probably be the best place to start in the North Harbor sector of the city.

Why these two blocks? That's simple. Both are in redevelopment areas. The old



Above: The first two buildings on Prospect in the Marktown Historic after the work was completed. What a difference!

Below: Homes on the 136th block of Grand Boulevard in the Carnegie Library - Grand Boulevard Historic District.



WORLD CHANGERS®

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Grand Boulevard Library is about to join the Marktown Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. It is hoped that the building will be restored on the exterior and renovated on the interior for use as a center for the performing arts. Not a bad idea for one of the most classic and historically significant buildings in all of East Chicago.

The very same afternoon that Mr. Artis held the meeting, a photo survey of two and a half blocks of Grand Boulevard was made. Once Neighborhoods, Inc. told Mr. Artis how many crews were available, employees from the Department of Redevelopment began canvassing the neighborhood to see just how many homeowners were interested in a new paint job.

"It was amazing" said one of the workers "One resident said he needed a new roof. We told him we were painting houses and suggested that he might consider getting the roof put on before the paint job begins. He did just that. Just before the July 4th start date a crew was there reroofing the entire building. Now that's progress!"

One of the concepts of the World Changers program is to do as much work as possible in a very concentrated area. Bobby Tucker, the World Changers Coordinator for the project said *"If we can keep all of the work on one block or one side of the street, it will have a much greater impact on the neighborhood than if we did a*

house here and a house there. What the East Chicago Redevelopment Commission and the Marktown Preservation Society did was perfect. They concentrated the work in a small enough area as to really make a difference and set an example for the entire community."

Why Prospect Street? To begin with, the

residents of Prospect Street have worked together in a cooperative effort for well over a decade. Beginning over 25 years ago Prospect Street residents have regularly and routinely made it a point of cleaning up the street scape every month or so during the summer months. When it snows in the winter months they all work together to make sure that everyone can get their car parked safely.

About 20 years ago they worked as a group to have all of the house addresses clearly painted uniformly on each of the homes. They have even taken the time to repaint them in recent years. And yes, they also display the flag of the United States of America on each and every home on virtually every summer holiday.

That is except this 4th of July when they decided that getting paint on them just would not be appropriate.

In the process of lining up Prospect Street we realized that a place to store the ladders and paint was essential to the project. Kevin Truttling was approached and he agreed to loan us his garage. The next day we checked with World



Above: A forklift truck drops off a pallet of ladders at the Marktown job site early Monday morning.

Below: ICI Delux Paints in Hammond makes the first of several deliveries to the Marktown portion of the project.



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Changers and made arrangements for one more crew just to paint Kevin's house and garage. Now that's fair, isn't it?

There are two other reasons that the decision was made to paint Prospect Street. It was decided that painting buildings was more important than just painting 1/2 of a duplex and that painting the street in a uniform fashion was more important than just painting buildings throughout the neighborhood. Add to this the fact that Paul Myers agreed to paint three additional buildings on Prospect this summer

and fall, and what do you have? A model street in Marktown that can help to set the standard for all of the neighborhood.

And what about the cost? At the homes in Hammond and Calumet where the World Changers have done such projects, the homeowner is responsible for purchasing the materials. In Marktown we asked prior Marktown resident Dan McArdle to lend a hand and without hesitation,

Top left: World Changer crews busy painting at one of the Grand Blvd. projects.

Center: A two story stucco home on the 135th block of Grand Blvd. gets a new paint job.

Bottom right: That same home nearly completed.



he did. As for the Grand Boulevard project, the Redevelopment Commission approved a motion to cover the cost of the paint and supplies for that neighborhood.

Next on the agenda was finding the ladders for the project. Shawn Myers of the E.C. Housing Authority said *"When I realized we needed nearly 90 extension and step ladders for the projects I just didn't know what to do. We called to find out what it would take to rent that many ladders and found that it would be less expensive to just buy them. Mr. Artis gave his approval and the ladders were delivered directly to the job sites. It was amazing seeing all of this project come together this way."*

With the equipment and paint delivered the next step was to wait for the crews to arrive. Sunday, July 3rd saw vans and busses filled with young energetic people in Marktown and Grand Boulevard trying to get a feel for the jobs and the neighborhoods. They had more questions than you could imagine. They returned early on July 4th with their work clothes on and a song in their hearts. In Marktown much of the prep work had already been done. The residents used a power



washer to clean the exteriors of most of the homes. At the Grand Boulevard location the World Changers crews had to start that process themselves.

"It was wonderful," said John Artis "to see young people come together in the name of Jesus Christ and to volunteer their time and efforts to serve total strangers. They may have come as strangers, but they left as family members. Seeing them start and end each work session in prayer touched us all deeply."

By Wednesday most of the projects were well underway. That afternoon the entire group took the rest of the day off for a field trip to Chicago. From the Magnificent Mile to Navy Pier and up to Wrigley Field, World Changers could be seen doing what kids do best, enjoying life. That was soon to end as Thursday morning brought them back to Indiana and back to work.

While we could spend the rest of this special edition talking about the paint jobs and how much better things look, that just would not be fair. After having watched these young people in



Top: World Changers crews begin the work on two of the five buildings in the Marktown Historic District.

Center: Kevin Truttling of 401 Broad Street takes time the week before the project begins to power wash and prep his home for the new paint job. Kevin gave permission to use his garage for the staging area for the Marktown portion of the project

Bottom: Mayor Pabey made it a point of stopping at both World Changers sites to visit with the team members and see how the project was doing.

both neighborhoods it is obvious that their mission is not to change paint colors but more importantly to change people and just possibly bring the best out in all of us. That was the case in Marktown when Darrell and Cyndi Gray offered to fix lunch for the entire crew on Friday. Before we could even discuss it other neighbors were there volunteering to help and to donate for the project. The same happened on Grand Boulevard when one of the home owners set up two grills and cooked a traditional Mexican lunch for EVERYONE.

There is an even better story than this. On the 135th block of Grand Boulevard one family who wasn't even having their home painted decided to cook for the kids next door. They opened their home up to the crew so they wouldn't have to go far to use the washrooms. That crew supervisor, Mike Reynolds from Bowling Green, Kentucky realized that the family didn't have kitchen cabinets in their kitchen. He made a telephone call to his church, spoke to his crew and the rest was history. Some of the

crew stayed over on Thursday evening to finish up the paint job next door. They worked well past 8 PM and missed their evening prayer service. The next morning found them at the local lumber yard picking up the much needed cabinets. They were delivered and installed. Everyone cried. Everyone knew that this is what it is all about. Moments like this change lives and neighborhoods.

This same type of generosity occurred time and time again. People who weren't getting their home painted loaned ladders and pitched in and helped. World Changers crews even went out and purchased flowers for some of the homes in the neighborhood.

As we mentioned, both neighborhoods sponsored a lunch for the World Changers crews and the neighborhood on Friday afternoon. The work was finally done and the crews and neighbors finally had a chance to relax. Mayor Pabey and several members of his staff and various council members toured both job sites.



Top: World Changers crews lunch in the shade of the trees in the Marktown Park before going back to work.

Center: A Grand Boulevard resident cooks a traditional Mexican lunch for the entire Grand Boulevard crew.

Below: Marktown residents unite to provide an outstanding lunch for 100 participants in the program. Community pride and spirit have been revived due to this outstanding project.

"This is unbelievable," said Mayor Pabey. "These young people have not just painted houses and changed the appearance of these two neighborhoods, they have changed the way our residents think about this city and our future. This is more than a paint job. This is an awakening to what Jesus Christ intended us all to do. Next year we need to get our youth and our churches involved in this program. We can rebuild the pride in each of our neighborhoods, one block, one street, one neighborhood at a time."

More about the World Changers

The World Changers crews are primarily made up of high school sophomore, junior and senior students and a crew leader. While more than 300 participants were in the Calumet Region the week of July 3rd through July 9th, twelve crews totaling approximately 150 people were in Marktown and East Chicago. We should point out that these young men and women actually pay in excess of \$250.00 per person

for the privilege of going to other cities and towns and making a positive difference in the communities that they visit. Their adult supervisor or crew leaders take vacation time and drive across country just to participate, and many of them will go from one city to another, week after week doing this time and time again.

And where are all of these great people from? Everywhere! From East China, Michigan to South Carolina. And from Virginia to New Mexico. The came from every walk of life to make a positive impact on the lives of two communities in East Chicago. Bobby Tucker of the World Changers staff said *"We do this because the Bible says it's better to give than receive. If we can make a difference, if we can show people a new way of thinking about their neighborhood and get them involved in making positive changes after we are gone, then we have done the Lord's work here on earth. As for those who made negative comments about these two blocks of homes being painted - well, the Devil's always had more disciples than we have. That's just the way it is. But from my perspective, the best*



Above: Mayor George Pabey presents a "World Changers Blvd." sign to Bobby Tucker and his staff.

Center: A "World Changers Way" street sign is added to the sign post in the Marktown Historic District.

Bottom: Project coordinators Paul Myers from Marktown and Shawn Myers from the Grand Boulevard project.



thing that happened here was to see your Mayor, Mayor Pabey stepping up and helping us get this job done. We didn't expect the great lunches or any of the other things that happened. That makes it special for us and we look forward to coming back and working with you folks in the future."

What about next year? World Changers are more than willing to come back to East Chicago and yes, to tiny Marktown. In fact they are planning on it, but we need to make it happen. We need to begin working together in Marktown and all of the thirteen other neighborhoods in East Chicago to make this a better, cleaner and safer place to live, work and to raise our families. Neither World Changers nor the City of East Chicago can paint each and every home in this great city. But if we follow the examples of community cooperation and charity that were brought to us by this most remarkable group of people, then we can make a positive difference in the lives of all of our residents. That's what life is supposed to be all about - helping others first! Let's all become World Changers! Let's make a positive difference in E.C.

Contact the editor via email at: mrmarktown@sbcglobal.net

WORLD CHANGERS CREWS IN EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

CINDER BLOCKHEADS

401 Broad Street - Marktown

Katlin Davis	Columbia	SC
Lauren Ashenfelder	Fletcher	NC
Alyssa Luppino	Horse Shoe	NC
Elizabeth Hubanks	Sayre	OK
Victor Aranza	Winston-Salem	NC
Cindel Fish	Sweetwater	OK
Adam Cummings	Louisville	KY
Kristine Hall	Sayre	OK
Jacob Roney	Louisville	KY
T.J. Michel	Winston-Salem	NC
Lloyd Kemp	Alvaton	KY
Aaron Ward	Farmington	NM
Verica Deslaurier	Farmington	NM

BRUSH BUNCH

402-404 Prospect Street - Marktown

Aaron Pickard	Louisville	KY
Leslie Castleberry	Sayre	OK
Hank Hester	Sayre	OK
Sallie Gregory	Columbus	SC
Caroline Howle	Bowling Green	KY
Jessica Remy	Chesapeake	VI
Susan Newman	Chesapeake	VI
Lauren Felker	Irmo	SC
Caleb McCracken	Bowling Green	KY
Heath Gillham	Hayden	AL
Joseph McAbee	Woodruff	SC
Terrell Parker	Hayden	AL
Stephen St. John	Irmo	SC
Hunter Patton	Woodruff	SC

COOL CAULKERS

406-408 Prospect Street - Marktown

Heidi Jones	St. Claire	MI
Krista Anderson	Irmo	SC
Abby Daniel	Irmo	SC
John Desonier	Bowling Green	KY
Jessie Kitz	Smithfield	VI
Tierney Medved	Chesapeake	VI
Amanda Wilson	Fletcher	NC
Alicia Harris	Bowling Green	KY
Sean Maxwell	Louisville	KY
Luke Hawthorne	Farmington	NM
Suzanne Robinson	Hayden	AL
Nylene Wilds	Fletcher	NC
Jacob Potter	Farmington	NM

CROW BARS

409-415 Prospect Street - Marktown

Laura Smith	Farmington	NM
Bryan Bell	Columbia	SC
Amanda Tinker	Enoree	SC
Wyatt Lowrey	Columbia	SC
Josh Ballentine	Columbia	SC
Erika Myers	Kingsport	TN
Megan MacDougall	Irmo	SC
Jennifer Scott	Louisville	KY
John Griffith	East China	MI
Tim Blackman	Hayden	AL
Sean Howard	Louisville	KY
Drew Neel	Russellville	KY
Josh Everitt	East China	MI
Chris Starnes	Kingsport	TN

DANDY SANDERS

417-419 Prospect Street - Marktown

Doyle Bales	Sayer	OK
Susan Bales	Sayer	OK
Rebecca Patton	Columbia	SC
Dona Edwards	Chesapeake	VI
Erica Callaheer	Chesapeake	VI
Andrew Austin	Bowling Green	KY
Jennifer McLawhorn	Irmo	SC
Chris Peret	Lexington	SC
Westin McCary	Ashville	NC
Gregg Emery	Horseshoe	NC
Tim Jones	Horseshoe	NC
Craig Kemp	Alvaton	KY
Allie Loague	Bowling Green	KY
Michael Anderson	Columbia	SC

Dirty, Dusty & Down Right Determined

3518 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

Paul Dobbins	Woodruff	SC
Bruce Davis	Columbia	SC
Chris Lazwek	Ashville	NC
Dru Dickert	Lexington	SC
Stevi Robinson	Aayer	OK
Celia Gilpin	Louisville	KY
Ashley Trubul	Bowling Green	KY
Alison Viers	Sayre	OK
Ron Wilson	Bowling Green	KY
Patrick Marion	Bowling Green	KY
Chad Hoye	Chesapeake	VA
Kris Bowie	Woodruff	SC
Annette McAllister	Ashville	NC

DRIPS & RUNS

3515 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

Mike Reynolds	Bowling Green	KY
Donna Gunter	Columbia	SC
R.J. Lavigne	Columbia	SC
Ryan Jones	Louisville	KY
T.J. Marshall	Kingsport	TN
Melissa Lovin	Kingsport	TN
Cameron Bell	Columbia	SC
Jeremy Rittenhouse	Louisville	KY
Nathan Reese	Chesapeake	VA
Preston LaDoux	Hendersonville	NC
Robert Henderson	Farmington	NM
Ben Lawson	Ashville	NC
Natalie Espinosa	Farmington	NM

HARD HATS

3609 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

Pam Biemer	Farmington	NM
Brandi Wenzel	Farmington	NM
Heather Hall	Columbia	SC
Andrew Blich	Columbia	SC
Tyler Bush-Conn	Farmington	NM
Clark Ireland	Chesapeake	VA
Mandie Walker	Rural Hall	NC
James Jones	Chesapeake	VA
Anna Vaughan	Pfafftown	NC
Emma Hughes	Roebuck	SC
Daniel Craig	Woodruff	SC
Lynne Barnett	Waynesville	NC
Larry Sloan	Hayden	AL

HAND SAWS

3612 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

DeeDee Reimink	Arden	NC
Kent Tuttle	Pfafftown	NC
Debbie Stafford	Winston Salem	NC
Araceli Aranza	Winston Salem	NC
Katie Stevens	Farmington	NM
Karen Warren	Chesapeake	VA
Brooke Carson	Columbia	SC
Andrew Zwicker	Louisville	KY
Von Kaufman	Chesapeake	VA
Amanda Armstrong	Chesapeake	VA
Addison Price	Louisville	KY
Michael Gantt	Irmo	SC
Phillip Crawford	Farmington	NM

GOOFUS ROOFERS

3618 & 3611 Grand Boulevard

Jill Austin	Bowling Green	KY
Matthew Smith	Waynesville	NC
Susie Riner	Church Hill	TN
Christopher Gunter	Columbia	SC
Diana Sugia	Winston Salem	NC
Stephen G. Tador	Bowling Green	KY
Stephanie Warren	Chesapeake	VA
Hannah Trivitt	Louisville	KY
Nicole Kearse	Canton	NC
Moises Rosso-Kelly	W-S	NC
Ethan Bayer	Louisville	KY
Judson Wenigfer	East China	MI

HAMMER HEADS

3614 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

Ronnie Ward	Farmington	NM
Britteny Clark	Canton	NC
Rebekah Gosnell	Canton	NC
Emily Pinkston	Waynesville	NC
Carol Anne McAbee	Woodruff	SC
David Reese	Chesapeake	VA
Ryan Leonard	Woodruff	SC
Alex Smathers	Canton	NC
Len Parker	Hayden	AL
Megan Robinson	Hayden	AL
Cindy Parker	Hayden	AL
Phil Rice	Louisville	KY
Julia Black	Chesapeake	VA

GLUELESS

3620 Grand Blvd. - Carnegie District

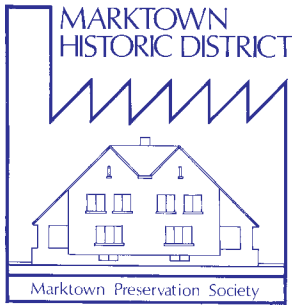
Ron Tabor	Bowling Green	KY
Adam Hix	Woodruff	SC
Nathan Craig	Woodruff	SC
Meredith Tyson	Chesapeake	VA
Cierra Wilds	Fletcher	NC
Megan Pierik	St. Clair	MI
Michelle Boucher	Chesapeake	VA
Cidi Heintz	East China	MI
Deanna Weniger	St. Clair	MI
Ryan Jackson	Columbia	SC
Greg Vititoe	Louisville	KY
Heather Kicklighter	Columbia	SC
Andrew Moore	Asheville	NC

God Bless you one and all!



Top left: A Grand Blvd. home with World Changers crews beginning work.
Top right: Lunch is served on a daily basis in driveways and porches at the Grand Boulevard project.
Center left: Prospect Street was closed off to traffic during working hours to facilitate a greater degree of safety for the World Changers crews.
Center right: The Marktown Crew!
Left: 5th District Councilman Robert Garcia holds a ladder for a World Changers crew chief. What a day!
Right: Councilman-at-Large Jesse Gomez not only becomes a ladder buddy, but provided safety tips each time he visited.
Below: Roller handles and paint brushes dry out overnight in preparation for the early morning start time.





Marktown Preservation Society

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21 July 2005


To All Of Those Who Made It Possible,

The week of July 4th through July 8th was an outstanding week for both the Marktown and Carnegie Library Historic Districts. While we have made it a point of sending thank you letters to each and every one of the World Changers who visited this great city, we would be remiss in our duties if we did not take this opportunity to at least attempt to thank those in Marktown and elsewhere who helped to make this outstanding project possible. With this in mind it is with great pleasure that we thank each and everyone of the following individuals and groups.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mayor George Pabey | Mr. Bobby Tucker | Mr. & Mrs. Vitto McCormick |
| Mr. Jesse Gomez | World Changers | Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hicks |
| Councilman-at-Large | Mr. Keith Speaks, Exec. Dir. | Mr. & Mrs. Jim Fink |
| Mr. Roberto Garcia | Neighborhoods, Inc. | Mr. & Mrs. Javier Madrigal |
| 5th District Councilman | Mr. Dave Ryan, Exec. Dir. | Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Gray |
| Mr. Adrian A. Santos | Lakeshore Chamber | Mr. Kevin Truttling |
| 1st Dist. Councilman | Mr. Rudy Byron, Superintendent | Mr. & Mrs. Loren Stewart |
| Mr. John Artis, Exec. Dir. | E.C. Parks & Recreation | Mr. John Baker |
| Dept. of Redevelopment | Mr. Frank Rosado | Staff Sgt. Henry Padilla |
| Mr. Shawn Myers | E.C. General Services | Mr. Bill Hicks |
| E.C. Housing Dept. | Mr. Chuck Pease, owner | Mr. Rafael Bejar |
| Mr. Charles Pacurar, | C.J. Printing | Mr. David Rodriguez |
| City Controller | Mr. Steve Segura, | Mr. & Mrs. Comacho |
| Mr. Ernie Jones, | E.C. Mulit-Media Dept. | Ms. Paula Cox |
| City Engineer | Mr. Don Cook & Staff | Mr. Paul Vercel |
| Mr. Gary McCracken | ICI Delux Paints | Mr. Mark Barsich |
| E.C. Central High School | Calumet Lumber & Supply Co. | Mr. Mike Gonzalez |

We must also thank Mr. Dan McArdle who without question or hesitation donated the paint for this project. While we had less than 30 days to put this program together the Marktown Preservation Society did not do it alone. This was by all means a team effort. If by some chance we have forgotten someone who assisted in any way what so ever, we most sincerely apologize. If we can do this well in just 30 days think of what we can do next year given the fact that we have nearly a year to plan and get ready.

Respectfully,


 Rafael Bejar, President


 Paul A. Myers, Exec. Dir.