



# MARKTOWN UPDATE

A publication of the Marktown Preservation Society

April 2003

## Old Fashion Town Meeting Held in Marktown

For the third time in less than a year, Mayor Robert A. Pastrick, Councilman Adrian Santos and a number of officials from the City of East Chicago came to our neighborhood to address issues and talk about the future of the Marktown Historic District.

Top on the list was a discussion about the new community center. One of Councilman Santos opponents in the upcoming election had been going door to door telling people that we would never see the new center built. These rumors were put to rest when Mayor Pastrick announced "The money is in the bank, the plans are being finalized and the final approval of the project has already been obtained from the Common Council. We will be breaking ground in April or May of THIS YEAR and I hope that everyone from the community will come out for the ground breaking ceremony."



As we reported in a previous issue of UPDATE, the new community center will be approximately 13,000 square feet, more than ten times the size of the current community center. It will include a full sized basketball gym, a computer center and library, a kitchen and dining room area, crafts area and much, much more. The plans also include a fountain that I am sure we would all like to see. The new community center should take about 12 to 16 months to complete. A set of plans for the new center are on display at the present center, thanks to the architectural firm and the Marktown Preservation Society.

Dr. Raykovich addressed some of the is-

ues that were brought up at the previous two meetings. He noted that as the new community center is being built, the park behind it will be regraded and a new sprinkler system will be installed in all of the Marktown Parks.

Problems had persisted in the past with residential sewers backing up due to clogged sewer mains. The Utilities Division has made it a point of cleaning the various mains and has inspected the sewers on a regular basis to see that the problems do not occur again. Dr. Raykovich also noted that they are considering a backup generator for our current pump house.

The East Chicago Fire Department was also represented at the meeting and noted that after the night club disasters in Chicago and New Jersey, Mayor Pastrick has put together Operation Safety which includes representatives from the Building Department, Police and Fire Departments, Health Services and the Law Department. The mission of the

group is to see that similar disasters do not occur in East Chicago and to prevent the problem as opposed to respond to the disaster.

In closing Mayor Pastrick noted that each and every home in Marktown should be restored to its former glory and that he will be working

with his various department heads and the residents of the Marktown Historic District to see that this concept is no longer a dream of a few citizens, but a reality for all of the residents and property owners of the Marktown Historic District. A great deal more went on at the meeting than what we can report in a one page article in a newsletter.

If you really want to make a difference in OUR community, get active and get involved. Come out to the meetings and participate! While the neighborhood participation was good, it was not what was expected. With some luck, maybe we can get the meeting notices out a bit earlier next time.

# **Marktown Young Men and Women Defend and Serve Our Nation**

Once again we find our great nation stepping forward to secure the liberties and freedoms of those less fortunate than us; those liberties and freedoms that we so often take for granted. In the 85 year history of Marktown, our residents, our neighbors, our sons and daughters have stepped forward to defend and serve the United States of America in the Armed Forces of our country.

Back in 1917, when Marktown was just being completed, one of our first residents, Albert Smith, the loving husband of Alma Smith enlisted in the United States Army. During World War II more than forty young men and women from our neighborhood alone served in defense of our country.

During the Korean War we know of at least one who served, a young James Bruner who was in the U.S. Marine Corps.

In Viet Nam we had at least two known to have served on foreign soil. One was John Urbelis and the other Jeff Brown.

During Operation Desert Storm there were over a dozen young men and women from Marktown who served, including all three of August Rake's children.

Today, following the most tragic events of September 11th, we find ourselves at war once again. This time, as in the past, we do so not only to protect the United States of America directly, but more importantly to end the tyrannical rule of a man so inhumane that he would kill his own people rather than to feed them.

Whether you agree with our involvement in the war or not, we must all agree to work together to lend aid and comfort to the Marktown residents who have family members serving in the armed forces of the United States.

Several weeks ago Judy Hicks began contacting Marktown residents and asking them to please provide a photograph of their family members now serving in the military. She has put together a wonderful wall display in the community center with their names and photographs.

Our prayers go out to each and every

one of the families of our young servicemen and women and we pray that their missions are accomplished and that each and every one of them returns home safely to their families and loved ones.

If you know of anyone from Marktown who is currently serving in the Armed Forces, please provide their names and address to Judy Hicks at the Marktown Community Center. If you have a 5X7" color photograph for inclusion in the display, that too would be greatly appreciated.

While the list is still incomplete, we would like to publish what we do have:

**Ms Rosa Gonzalez** of Spring Street has three of her five sons in the military.

**Fernando Gonzalez U.S. Navy**  
**Rudy Gonzalez U.S. Marine Corps**  
**Albert Gonzalez U.S. Army**

**Mr. & Mrs. Darryl Gray** of Prospect Street have their youngest daughter in the military.

**Jenna Gray U.S. Air Force**

**Mr. & Mrs. Jose Madrigal** of Spring Street have one son in the in the military.

**Jose Perez U.S. Army**

**Lourdes & David Hicks** of Grove Street have the nephew of Lourdes in the military

**Daniel Munoz U.S. Army**

**Mr. & Mrs. Ron Grindey** of Liberty Street have their son-in-law (married to Jennifer) serving as a Sergeant in the military.

**Bill Herr U.S. Army**

**Mr. & Mrs. William McShane**, who lived in Marktown for well over fifty years have their only son serving as a Colonel in the military

**Tom McShane U.S. Army**

**Mr. & Mrs. Vitto McCormick** have a nephew and a friend of theirs serving in the military.

**Lee Smithermen U.S. Marine Corps**  
**Raquel Gomez U.S. Marine Corps**

**Pam (O'Malley) Kubeck** who is formerly of Marktown has her son serving in the military.

**Nathan Kubeck U.S. Navy**

Please remember each one of these brave young men and women in your prayers and give solace to their families.

# ***The Safety of Marktown Residents is Addressed by Emergency Management Department***

This past February found a number of residents wondering what to do when it was noted that the BP (AMOCO) plant had evacuated its non essential employees during a fire. Smoke and flames could be seen from Marktown and several telephone calls were placed to the Community Center enquiring as to whether or not we would be evacuating Marktown. Let's make this simple; if they are going to evacuate Marktown, YOU WILL KNOW IT!

It should be noted that emergency personnel from the City of East Chicago were in constant communication with the Whiting Fire Department and BP in reference to the problem on that day. Had they thought for one moment that any of the resident of Marktown were in danger, steps would have been made to evacuate our neighborhood.

## ***How would that evacuation have taken place?***

To begin, if ever there is a sever storm, tornado, major industrial catastrophe or an overt act of terrorism that may potentially harm our resident, the first thing you need to do is to turn your radio to **AM 1620** for information and instruction. If it is a tornado,

you will be advised to take cover in a basement of your home or workplace. If the problem requires that Marktown be evacuated, the same radio station will give you directions as to where to go.

***What do you do if you don't have a radio that has AM?*** The City of East Chicago has covered that also. The Emergency Management Department, under the direction of George Shulock, has installed the **Community Action Network** which is an automatic system that will call all of the listed and unlisted telephone numbers in any precinct or district within our city. A message will be given as to what the problem is and what the residents should do immediately.

Before we go much further, it should be

noted that during the AMOCO fire of 1955, Marktown was not evacuated and there was virtually no damage to any of the properties. There were a few broken storm windows from the initial explosion, but that was about it. The fire of 1955 was a major industrial catastrophe that began with a devastating explosion and was not totally contained for quite some time.

***Back to the business at hand. What about an evacuation of Marktown?*** Once the situation has been assessed and the decision is made to evacuate our neighborhood, **AM 1620** will begin broadcasting the notice, the **Community Alert Network** will call the residents and you will have more police cars in Marktown than you have ever seen before. Officers will go from door to door assisting residents in the evacuation. Buses

will be present for those at home without transportation, and all of the residents will be taken to a safe place, probably within our city.

While the community is evacuated, the area will be protected to prevent anyone from taking advantage of the fact that the neighborhood has been evacuated.

***What else do we need to do?*** The City of East Chicago has thought of that also. The Emergency Management Department is currently putting together a brochure (in both English and Spanish) that will be distributed in the next few weeks and will provide all of the residents of East Chicago with some helpful hints and guidelines that should help each of our residents through these most difficult times.

It should be noted that this type of evacuation has NEVER HAPPENED in Marktown or in East Chicago. It is nice to know that the City of East Chicago under the direction of Mayor Robert A. Pastrick, the Common Council, and our own Councilman Adrian Santos is looking out for our safety and well being.



# CITY OF EAST CHICAGO PHONE DIRECTORY



## EMERGENCY

### CITY DEPARTMENTS

Building Dept./Public Safety, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8294
Bus Transit, 5400 Cline Ave.	391-8465
Business Development, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8205
Central Services, 5400 Cline Ave.	391-8463
City Clerk, 2301 E. Columbus Dr.	391-8491
City Controller, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8220
Finance Department	391-8534
City Court, 2301 E. Columbus Dr.	391-8489
City Hall, Operator, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8300
Data Processing, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8386
Dog Pound, 5400 Cline Ave.	391-8364
Engineering, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8355
Emergency Medical Service, 2301 E. Columbus Dr.	391-8493
Filtration Plant, 3330 Aldis St.	391-8487
Fire Department, 3901 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8472
Health Department, 100 W. Chicago Ave.	391-8467
Environmental Inspection	391-8467
Nursing Services	391-8467
Vital Statistics	391-8413
Human Rights Commission, 4506 Tod Ave.	391-8477
Housing Authority, 4920 Larkspur Lane	397-9974
Housing & Redevelopment, 4920 Larkspur Lane	397-9974
Inquiries & Services, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8402
Law Department, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8291
Robert A. Pastrick Marina, 3301 Aldis St.	391-8482
Mayor Pastrick's Office, 4527 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8200
Park Department, 1615 E. 142nd St.	391-8474
Personnel, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8479
Police Department, 2301 E. Columbus Dr.	391-8400
Public Information/ECTV News, 400 E. Chgo. Ave.	391-8206
Recreation Department, 1515 E. 142nd St.	391-8476
Safety Department, 4522 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8504
Sanitary Solids, 5400 Cline Ave.	391-8464
Traffic Department, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8241
Treasurer's Department, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8350
Utility Operations, 5200 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8466
Waterway Management District, 4522 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8535
Water Department, 400 E. Chicago Ave	391-8469
Emergency nights and weekends	391-8487
Weights and Measures, 5400 Cline Ave.	391-8241

### COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTERS

Bessie Owens, 4001 Alexander Ave.	391-8478
Heritage Hall, 4506 Tod Ave.	391-8380
Marktown Community Center, 3509 Spruce St.	391-8370
Martin Luther King Center, 4802 Melville Ave.	391-8481
Penn Center, 3550 Pennsylvania Ave.	391-8480
Roberto Clemente Center, 3616 Elm St.	391-8485
Roxaria Center, 900 Shell St.	391-8369
151st Street Center, 4925 Gladiola Ave.	391-8392

### EAST CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library, 2401 E. Columbus Dr.	397-2453
Robert A. Pastrick Branch, 1008 Chicago Ave.	397-5505

### PUBLIC HOUSING

Nicosia Senior Citizen Building, 4720 Railroad Ave.	397-9237
Hunter Senior Citizen Building, 3625 Pulaski St.	397-9337

### THE COMMON COUNCIL

1st District, Don Koliboski, 4101 Homerlee	397-7139
2nd District, Gus Kouros, 5129 Ruth St.	391-4093
3rd District, Randy Artis, 443 Vernon St.	397-7667
4th District, Frank Kollintzas, 4208 Elm St.	391-4059
5th District, Adrian Santos, 3743 Parrish Ave.	397-4396
6th District, Levones Tolbert, 3932 Fern St.	397-3974
At-Large, Joe De La Cruz, 4230 Hidalgo Lane	391-8431
At-Large, George Pabey, 4218 Elm St.	398-2119
At-Large, Richard Medina, 3819 Fir St.	397-0526

## 911

## SCHOOLS

Carrie Gosch Elementary, 445 W. 148th St.	391-4172
Field Elementary, 3551 Block Ave.	391-4180
Franklin Elementary, 4215 Alder St.	391-4077
Harrison Elementary, 4406 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-4192
Lincoln Elementary, 2001 E. 135th St.	391-4096
McKinley Elementary, 4825 Magoun Ave.	391-4186
Washington Elementary, 1401 E. 144th St.	391-4169
St. Mary Elementary, 816 W. 144th St.	397-4404
St. Stanislaus Elementary, 4930 Indianapolis Blvd.	398-1316
Indiana Harbor Catholic Elem., 3916 Pulaski St.	397-1122
Block Junior High, 2700 Cardinal Dr.	391-4084
West Side Junior High, 4001 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-4068
Ivy Tech State College, 410 E. Columbus Dr.	392-3600
E.C. Central High School, 1100 W. Columbus Dr.	391-4000
Physical Fitness Center, 1100 W. Columbus Dr.	391-4039
School City Administration, 210 E. Columbus Dr.	391-4100

### THE NUMBER TO CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT...

Graffiti Removal	391-8464
Recycling	391-8464
Downed tree limbs	391-8463
Furniture/Rugs/Refrigerators	391-8463
Broken Water Line	391-8469
Air Pollution	391-8467
Bus Schedules	391-8465
E.C. TV News	391-8206
Recreation Activities	391-8476
Garbage Cans	391-8464
Stray Animals	391-8DOG
Birth or Death Certificates	391-8413
Winter Boat Storage	391-8482
Building Permits	391-8294
City Licenses	391-8220
Sewer Repairs	391-8466
Street Repairs	391-8463
Bagless Leaf Collection	391-8464

### GOOD NUMBERS TO KNOW

E.C. Business Empowerment Center, 720, W. Chgo. Ave. (Gary, E.C. & Hammond Empowerment Zone)	397-3738
East Chicago Community Service	398-4673
Twin City Community Services	397-7924
E.C. Community Health Center 100 W. Chicago Ave.	397-6623
E.C. Enterprise Assoc, 1402 E. Chicago Ave.	392-3660
Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, 5246 Hohman	931-1000
Foundations of East Chicago, 400 E. Chicago Ave.	391-8547
Head Start, 4522 Indianapolis Blvd.	391-8289
Healthy East Chicago, 100 W. Chicago Ave.	397-6863
Katherine House Boys & Girls Club, 2009 138th St.	398-1344
LakeFront Café, 3330 Aldis St.	391-7102
St. Catherine Hospital, 4321 Fir St.	392-1700
U.S. Post Office, Chicago and Kennedy Avenues	397-2415
U.S. Post Office, 909 W. Chicago Ave.	397-2416
U.S. Post Office, 3813 Main St.	397-2417
Vehicle License Bureau, 2001 E. Columbus Drive	397-6400
Food Stamps, 3720 Main St.	398-4163
Lake County Superior Court, 3711 Main St.	398-2442
Social Security 418 Douglas St., Hammond	800-772-1213
Welfare Office, 3720 Main St.	398-4163
Harrah's Casino, 777 Harrah's Blvd.	378-3000
Lake County Government Complex, Crown Point	755-3000
Public Access Studio/ Channel 16	398-4840
Health Visions, 4522 Indianapolis Blvd.	397-4335
Intergenerational Center, 1402 E. Chgo. Ave.	392-3660
North Township Trustee, 2105 Broadway	398-2435
Women, Infants & Children, 100 W. Chicago Ave.	397-4577
Work Force One & Futures Program, 720 W. Chgo. Ave.	398-2601

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PHONE DIRECTORY OR ABOUT EC.TV NEWS PLEASE CALL 391-8206**