



MARKTOWN UPDATE

A publication of the Marktown Historic District

January 2003

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA ONCE AGAIN A SUCCESS!

Santa Claus generally comes but once a year. The children of the Marktown Historic District have once again been given a unique opportunity to not only have Santa arrive twice in December, but also to have a chance to set and speak to the kindly old elf.

The Marktown Women's Club, a group that has been active in our community for the past four years, once again sponsored the event.

Judy Hicks, Judy Grindey, Kim Rodriguez and a number of other ladies assisted in decorating the community center for the holidays. They were eagerly assisted by many of the children of our community who not only helped to hand the festive decorations, but also hand made a number of the ornaments themselves.

Registration forms went out early and even though it was supposed to be for Marktown children only, there were obviously a number of nieces, nephews and grandchildren present for the festivities.

Santa's helpers were busy for well over a month selecting presents for 184 children. Gifts were selected by age and gender and were each individually wrapped with the specific child's name and address.

At precisely 9:00 AM Santa arrived sending his reindeer and sleigh on to the shop for a final tune up

before the big night on December 24th. The children were not only delighted to see Santa once again, but were amazed at the fact that he spoke Spanish to those who he thought might appreciate it.

The line of eager children, usually accompanied by their parents, stretched from one end of the community center to the other. While each child was on Santa's lap, Barbara Perez of the

Women's Club snapped a Polaroid photo of each.

After receiving their gifts, stocking and photo, each child was given juice and donuts.

We would be remiss in our duties if we did not mention the most generous support that the Women's Club received from the Foundations of East Chicago, ISG, USS, Councilman Adrian Santos, Mayor Robert A. Pastrick and a number of neighbors and friends of our community.

The week following Christmas, the Marktown Women's Club once again met at the Community Center and assembled thirty fresh fruit baskets for more than thirty senior citizens in our community. What a joy it was to not only have the opportunity to serve the children of our community, but to also take the time and opportunity to serve our seniors. The joy of the Holiday Season was spread far and wide in the Marktown Historic District this year, thanks especially to the

Marktown Women's Club.



Marktown Women's Club Breakfast With Santa Committee included (left to right): Judy Grindey, Ruth Plesha, Judy Hicks, Juanita McCormick and Kim Rodriguez with Barbara Perez (seated)



2003 MARKTOWN CALENDAR AVAILABLE

The 2003 insight calendar features six photographers from the Marktown Historic District. During the fall of 2002, the kids met with the staff of the Cesar Chavez Catholic Worker House on a weekly basis to have fun and gain an understanding of photography. With the help of amazing and sharing people, donations of equipment, time and love poured in to transform an empty room at the Cesar Chavez Catholic Worker House into a working darkroom. The students learned to handle cameras, use lighting and composition, load film and make prints in the darkroom. With these skills, we our their neighborhood through their eyes. We believe this project has been an opportunity for creative self-expression, social commentary and a way to learn while having fun.

Marktown participants included Joe Meegan, age 13; Mauricio Mata, age 12; Vanessa Vidaurri, age 12; Jorge Rojas, age 13; Sarah Herrera, age 13; and David Montanez, age 12.

Jose Bustos, who lived in Marktown for over two decades heads up the project which is conducted out of the first floor of his family home on Michigan Avenue in Indiana Harbor.

Special thanks must also be extended to the following groups and individuals, without whom this project would not have been possible. Patrias Construction, Karen Calloway, Hal Stead, Jerry Long Family, Burrell Colour, Father Francis Lazar, Catholic news Service, E. Jason Wambsgans, Steve Euvino, Andy Kirk, Mike McArdle and Jeff Nicholls.

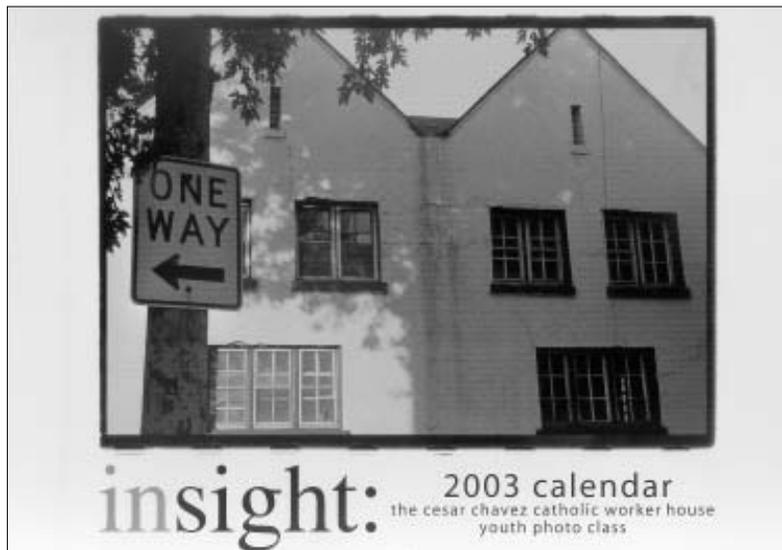
The calendars are available at the Marktown Community Center for a donation of \$10.00 each. Proceeds from the sales will benefit future

photography classes.

More about the Cesar Chavez Catholic Worker House

The Cesar Chavez Catholic Worker House in East Chicago is committed to working with area youth and offering them hospitality. Their idea of hospitality is not an effort to change people but to provide space where change can take place. To be sure East Chicago is in need of such a place, a space offering alternatives to the bad examples of violence, drugs etc. in the family, street, school and work place. Their projects spark the imagination and creativity of

the your through art, music, photography, popular education and work towards countering the violence's. Their house takes the name from the late founder of the Farm Workers Union, Cesar Chavez, a non violent activist who through out his life fought racism, economic exploi-



tation and social injustice.

They are getting ready to celebrate their 10th anniversary this coming Spring of 2003, and are hoping that the community support and prayer can continue to assist even more of the youth of East Chicago, by expanding their present photography, music and art projects.

For upcoming events sponsored by the Cesar Chavez House and the children of Marktown, stop in at the Marktown Community Center. They will probably have sign up sheets and further details.

For further information in relation to the Cesar Chavez House, please call Jose Bustos at 397-3392 or e-mail him at twoflexb2@hotmail.com.

MARKTOWN GIRL SCOUTS UNITE TO HONOUR THEIR LEADERS

Sunday, November 17th brought a group for former Marktown Girl Scouts to the Marktown Community Center for a grand reunion celebrating the dedication of Girl Scout Leaders Alice Camplin and Doris Brown.

The event was a surprise potluck dinner and was attended by more than twenty former Girl Scouts along with Rusty from the Girl Scout Little House.

The event was the brain child of Pam O'Malley Kubeck who now resides in Lowell, Indiana. Pam said, *"You know, we never do take the time we should to pay tribute to those who made a difference in our lives. If anyone helped to make the lives of all of these girls special, it was not just the love and joy of our parents, but also the friendship and fellowship that we all had under the direction of these two truly great Girl Scout leaders. We can never fully repay what they have given us in the past, but we can say THANK YOU one last time as a group."*

Flowers and gift certificates were presented to Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Camplin. There was a table of memorabilia from Brownies and Girl Scouts and also of Marktown. Pictures of the old school and the classrooms with class pictures of many of the ladies attending were

shown. Everyone enjoyed visiting with old friends that they haven't seen in years.

Mrs. Brown's daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter surprised her and came from Texas to attend the party. Alice Camplin's daughter had promised to take her to lunch that day with Alice's granddaughters, when the next thing she knew she was being driven to the Marktown Community Center and asked to go in for just a moment. Alice said *"I was speechless. I was so surprised I just didn't know what to say. It was a wonderful day that I will never forget."*

The ladies all sang old camp songs and reminisced about the good old days. There was a lot of crying and laughing during the entire day. A lot of the ladies had not been in the Community Center for tens of years. It was a pleasant flashback in time to remember how it used to be in the old days. They were delighted to hear that we will have a new center in a year or so.

Everyone said they hoped a community reunion could be planned at sometime in the future and they looked forward to returning someday soon.

If you would like to contact Pam O'Malley try her on the internet address of:



(standing left to right) Beverly (Doty) Pivovarnik, Wendy (Stan) Schwandt, Mary Ellen Kozanda, Sue (Sutter) Walters, Joanne Kender-Gootee, Nancy (Deiotte) Fink, Pam (O'Malley) Kubeck. Seated are Alice Camplin and Doris Brown



Mrs. Brown reminisces with some dear friends as the event progresses. A wonderful time was had by all present as their lives in the Girl Scouts and the Marktown Historic District are remembered.

qbeck@excite.com.

Water Pressure Up in Marktown

To make a long story short, the water pressure problems that we had this past year are totally resolved thanks to the leadership and perseverance of Mr. Mike Suty of the East Chicago Utilities Division. Mr. Suty said that all four water mains that service Marktown are once again in service. Another job well done and well appreciated.

Marktown Website Up and Running

Looking for information on the Marktown Historic District? Have a child who wants to do a school report on the history of our community? We are pleased to announce that our neighborhood now has a major website that not only details the history of our community, but much, much more. Visit the site at:

www.marktown.org

Marktown Women's Club to Celebrate Fourth Year of Service

It is difficult to think that it was only four years ago that a group of Marktown ladies joined together to formally form the Marktown Women's Club. The ladies usually meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, but the date and time are subject to change. The group is responsible in part for the annual Halloween Party and Easter Egg Hunt and is solely responsible for the annual Kid's Fest, Breakfast with Santa and much, much more. Membership is \$2.00 per person per month. Said Judy Hicks, "*We prefer not to have elected officers. We are just here to serve our neighbors and the children that make Marktown their home.*"

Marktown Residents in Military Service

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the more than six former residents of the Marktown Historic District who are now serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. Whether you agree with the rumblings of war or not, now is not the time to forget the young men and women of our neighborhood who stand in defense of this great country.

Women's Club Party a Great Success

Members and guests enjoyed a great potluck dinner this past December. The Women's Club donated the turkey and Paul Myers provided an outstanding ham. Door prizes for guests & members were enjoyed. Mayor Pastrick dropped in as well as Mary Leonard, Lonnie Randolph, Jim Ventura and 5th District Councilman Adrian Santos. If you missed it, you missed a great time.

Annual Turkey Bingo - Adults ONLY!

Over fifty Marktown residents (adults only) came together in November for our Turkey Bingo. Twenty games of BINGO were held and gift certificates from Strack & Van Til were awarded along with door prizes. Between games, coffee and cake were served. The only problem that we had was that a number of the participants children wanted to stay in the room and play too. Rules are rules and the children were sent home to spend the evening with other family members. It makes for a much quieter BINGO evening without the children.

Kid's BINGO in Marktown? Who would have thought?

After the Marktown Kid's weren't permitted to attend the adult turkey bingo this past fall, they wanted a BINGO of their own and they got it. Approximately 35 children all participated and everyone got a prize, even if it was a door prize. More than twenty games of BINGO were played with the winners getting to pick from a variety of different games, radios, walkie-talkies, makeup kits, craft kits and much, much more. Each child was required to donate canned goods for the local food pantry as an entrance fee for this great event.

CAR STEREO NOISE

Having problems sleeping because of a car stereo going by all evening? It's simple. Just pick up the telephone and call The E.C Police Department at 391-8400. Ask for ***communications*** and tell them what's up. They will take care of the rest.