

Easter Celebrated In The Marktown Historic District

Spring is here and with it Easter was celebrated once again on both Saturday, April 8th and Saturday, April 15th. The morning of the 8th saw a number of children present for the usual Easter Egg Hunt run by the Marktown Women's Club. The following Saturday found the Marktown Park adjacent to the pavilion once again filled with children and adults alike for what is rapidly becoming an Easter Tradition in our neighborhood.

The Freedom Church of Hammond and East Chicago, under the direction of Pastor Scott Marciniac, once again came to tiny little Marktown to spread the Word of God to the residents of this community.

The focus was not the Easter Bunny, candy or prizes, but more importantly the true meaning of Easter. The program included song and dance by the youth ministry of the Freedom Church. Boys and girls from their church sang songs and acted out a music video

based upon modern Christian music.

The highlight of the morning program was a Passion Play performed by members of the church. Marktown residents watched and listened as the story of the crucifixion was explained and acted out in the Marktown Park once again.

While the various portions of the program were taking place, church members placed candy in several areas roped off by age group of participants. Upon completion of the Passion Play the children were dispatched to the various areas to collect the much unneeded but highly appreciated candy.

The last order of business for the day was the drawing of names for the larger than life Easter Baskets that were given out at the end of the program

Easter was once again celebrated in Marktown, and once again, it was done without politics. We thank Freedom Church and Pastor Scott Marciniac for their efforts.



Arbor Day Celebrated Once Again In Marktown

Since 2002, the City of East Chicago has been designated as a Tree City USA, one of but 50 cities in all of Indiana to hold that distinction. Over the past several years well over thirty trees have been added to the public parks and parkways here in the Marktown Historic District under this year round program. The trees are being paid for in part by grants from the DNR, the Foundations of East Chicago and municipal gaming revenues.

Arbor Day was once again celebrated in East Chicago. April 28th found city officials planting another tree in the Marktown Park. That brings the total this spring to eleven trees in Marktown alone. Plans are already being made to bring another ten or more trees to Marktown this fall. It should be noted that all of the trees are planted in the parks or on public parkways.



Above: Gina Darnell, the Urban Forester inspects a tree before having it planted in Marktown this Spring.



Left: Parks Supt. Rudy Byron, Paul Myers and Councilman-At-Large Richard Medina plant a wonderful Spruce Tree in the Marktown Park on Arbor Day 2006.

Marktown Cleanup & Historic Preservation Tours

While virtually every neighborhood in East Chicago gets a spring cleaning from the various city departments, the Marktown Historic District gets just a bit more concentrated clean up, and probably a bit more often. This Spring the process began the last week of March when residents of Riley Road worked together with the Marktown Preservation Society to see to it that all of the cars were parked elsewhere just for one short day. The results were obvious: a much needed street sweeping made the entire area look 100% better.

With the National Traditional Building Show being held in Chicago the first week of April, and participants coming to Marktown on April 5th, memos went out to several municipal departments and most importantly to Mayor Pabey. Without hesitation, the

crews were dispatched to the Marktown Historic District, making us the first neighborhood to be cleaned up in 2006.

It began with two dead trees being removed from the park and parkways. They also policed the park and picked up all of the trash. Special thanks goes to all of the Parks Department and Superintendent Rudy Byron for getting the job done. Next up was the Street Department who sent in the crews to pick up the debris in our neighborhood. Superintendent Frank Rosado and all of his workers deserve our thanks. Last but not least was a neighborhood street sweeping. Monsi Corsbie and all of her workers deserve the last round of applause for cleaning up Marktown this Spring. You see, historic tours benefit everyone!



Historic preservation saved this community from the wreckers ball in 1975 and should be the foundation for this neighborhood for generations to come.

Memorial Day In Marktown: Lest We Forget

THE MEMORY OF ALL THE YOUNG MEN OF
MARKTOWN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY

WORLD WAR II

P.F.C. Frederick Henry Roller

May 8, 1921 - April 14, 1945 Died in Germany

P.F.C. Robert Charles Hall

Dec. 30, 1925 - March 1, 1945 Died at Iwo Jima

Sgt. Stephen John Grecnik

Dec. 26, 1921 - Mar. 25, 1944 Died in the Aleutian Islands

M.M.3C Ernest Ferninand Schramm

Sept. 25, 1923 - Jan. 18, 1946 Died in the Pacific

S/Sgt. John William Kochopolous

Jan. 14, 1924 - Sept. 18, 1944 Died in Italy

Sgt. Quenten Warren Anderson

April 30, 1921 - Nov. 22, 1944 Died in Germany

S/Sgt. Robert Boyd Anderson

Aug. 11, 1916 - Jan. 22 1944

Died in training at Langley Field, Virginia

VIET NAM

Cpl. John Edward Urbelis

January 1, 1948 - November 1, 1968

DESERT STORM - IRAQ

PFC Luis A. Perez

August 20, 1985 - August 26, 2004

Spring Is Here And Marktown Is In Bloom

Spring is in the air and the Garden City neighborhood of the Marktown Historic District is in bloom once again. Tulips, and other spring bulbs have sprouted along side the flowering lilac bushes and crab trees.

It is nice to see so many of our neighbors out and about preparing their gardens and cleaning up after another long winter.



*Above: Tulips always bring a flair of bright vibrant color to gardens in the Spring.
Right: Lilacs in bloom = fragrance!*



Above: Lining your walkway with a variety of flowers is always an inviting way to say hello to neighbors and friends alike.

Resolution of the Common Council

City of East Chicago, Indiana

A Resolution To Memorialize PFC Luis A. Perez

By Naming All Blocks of Spruce Avenue

Honorary PFC. Luis Perez Way

WHEREAS: The United States Armed Forces is currently fighting a war in Iraq in order to establish a democracy

WHEREAS: We pray that peace and order be restored through our efforts

WHEREAS: East Chicago experiences its first loss in the Iraq war with the death of PFC Luis A. Perez on August 27, 2004

WHEREAS: Luis Perez was born on August 20, 1985 his formative years shaped by McKinley Elementary School and his beloved Marktown Historic District

WHEREAS: The Marktown community has spoken in favor of causing a street to be named by canvassing a petition

WHEREAS: Let it be remembered by all that visit or reside in the Marktown Historic District of the personal sacrifices that are made to defend democracy

WHEREAS, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of East Chicago, Indiana that every block bearing the Spruce Avenue name now be accompanied with aN honorary sign titled **PFC LUIS PEREZ WAY**.

Adopted by a unanimous vote of the Common Council on February 22, 2006. Sponsored by Anthony Copeland, Christine Vasquez, and Adrian A. Santos.

With most Marktown yards being as small as they are, it doesn't take a great deal of work to add a flower garden or to maintain your yard.

For a good idea as to how flowers make a difference each year, stop by 513 Liberty Street around Memorial Day and see the wonderful Peonies in Mr. Dunlap's Yard. He has maintained the Peonies there for decades.

The height of your accomplishments will equal the depth of your convictions.

Traditional Building Show A Great Success

"It wasn't just a trade show, it was an event." said Erica Taylor of the Calumet Office of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. *"It was an event that mixed historic tours like the Pullman/Marktown tour, with lectures, round table discussions and a really great exhibition with suppliers and non profit organizations all working together for the same cause - the preservation of our nation's architectural heritage."*

And so it was that on Wednesday, April 5th the first of the tours departed Chicago's Navy Pier bound for the Pullman Historic District on Chicago's far south side, and the Marktown Historic District here in East Chicago. The charter bus was filled to capacity for the all day event, and yes, EVERYONE loved tiny little Marktown amidst the mills and refinery.

The Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference (formerly Restoration & Renovation) ran from Wednesday, April 5th through Saturday, April 8 and literally thousands of participants from across all of North America and Europe attended the event.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana played a significant role in the event. They were asked by the conference coordinators to arrange for the Marktown portion of the **"Industrial Housing Tour."** Historic Landmarks also had a great display on the exhibition floor which included the Marktown Historic District.

As Erica Taylor mentioned, the conference included round table discussions, presentations and lectures on a variety of topics from making your home energy efficient to green technology. Specific renovation and restoration projects were also included.

There was a series of various lectures in reference to the restoration of original windows in both commercial and residential buildings. Bob Yapp's presentation titled **"Old Windows Aren't a Pane, They're A Gold Mine"** was one of the best attended presentations of the conference.

Bob was by no means the only presenter from HLFI who participated in the conference. As we noted, Erica Taylor, the HLIF Director for the Calumet Regional Office in Gary, Indiana assisted Paul Myers with the Marktown portion of the Wednesday tour titled **"Living in Company Towns: Pullman and Marktown."**

Todd Zeiger, the Director of the Northern Regional Office of HLIF in South Bend, Indiana took the podium on Wednesday morning with a presentation titled **"Restoring Houses of Tomorrow: 20th Cen-**

ture Houses of Progress in the 21st Century."

On Friday, April 7th, Mark Dollace, Vice President of Preservation Services and Director of the Central Regional Office of HLIF presented **"Preserving Landmarks With Conservation Easements."** The presentation included an in-depth review of the tax credits and other advantages of placing a conservation easement on properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (neighborhoods and individual properties like the Marktown Historic District.)

Saturday, April 8th found a capacity crowd for Tommy Klechker's presentation **"From Portico to Patios: Architectural Styles in the U.S."** Tommy is the Director of the Western Regional Office of HLIF and is a young, articulate and highly motivated preservationist who brings his formal educational and enthusiasm to his presentations.

From Peter H. Miller, President of Restore Media had this to say:

We seek to create great places. What defines great places? This answer was well articulated by His Royal Highness, Prince Charles of Wales in a speech I heard him give last November. "Places that people love to live in. Where the essential character of harmonious proportions, human scale and hierarchy, strike a common chord with our hearts. These are the subtle qualities of architecture that so many people find instinctively beautiful. But their origins lie in a shared human psychology; which, new research is confirming, is intimately connected to human well being." *(It makes me wonder of Prince Charles wasn't referring to Marktown when he made those comments.)*

This was not the first conference to have come to Marktown this year, nor will it be the last or the only tour of this neighborhood. Those who attended the Pullman/Marktown Tour greatly enjoyed the experience and many have inquired as to how they can help to improve things in our neighborhood.

Special thanks must go to Judy Hayward, the Conference Director from Restore Media and to the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana for asking the Marktown Preservation Society, Inc. to participate in the event.

We would also like to point out that the MPS DOES NOT charge for tours such as this. They are offered, according to our charter, for educational purposes only. What a great way to spend a day: sharing OUR NEIGHBORHOOD with others!

What we do for ourselves dies with us.

What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal!

Right: Mike Wagenbach, Site Superintendent of the Pullman State Historic Site, was joined by Linda Beierle Bullen, curator of the site for an impressive tour of the Pullman Historic District. Lunch was served on the veranda of the Hotel Florence following the tour and then it was off to the Marktown Historic District that afternoon.



Left: Marktown resident Paul Myers begins the walking tour of Marktown by explaining the various architectural profiles of the traditional worker homes in Marktown.

Right: Both profit and nonprofit organizations took the floor at the trade show from Thursday through Saturday. Vendors from as far away as England displayed their services and wares.



Left: HLIF staff members Mark Dollase and Erica Taylor chat with visitors at the HLIF booth. Note the photo of Marktown in the background.

Right: Former television host Bob Yapp has joined the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana team and now works at their South Bend Northern Regional Office. Bob made an hour and a half presentation on the importance and economics of restoring the original windows in historic & non historic homes and commercial building. His presentation was so well attended that they had to not only move him to a larger room, but it was still standing room only. Bob also conducts what he lovingly referred to as a Windows College. It is a two day event in which the participants learn the process of restoring vintage windows.



**Historic
Landmarks
Foundation
of
Indiana**

Please contact us via the internet at mrmarktown@sbcglobal.net

Safety Kleen Celebrates Earth Day 2006

So, Just where did the concepts of Earth Day begin you ask? In 1969, as a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson came up with one of the most powerful ideas of his time: Earth Day. Inspired by the teach-ins dealing with the Vietnam War, Earth Day was an instant success, drawing 20 million participants the first year (1970). American Heritage Magazine called the first Earth Day "one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy."

36 years later individuals, communities and corporations all take but one day of the year to celebrate the preservation of our environments. Safety Kleen, just down the street from the Marktown Historic District is one of the best corporate stewards in the area. Friday, April 21st found just about everyone from the plant manager Michael Ebert to clerical staff policing the grounds and surrounding right-of-ways of their recently acquired property at the corner of Indianapolis Blvd. and Riley Road. They have also been working hard to remove some of the industrial debris that littered the site for decades. Well done Safety Kleen. We do appreciate your efforts.



L-R: Mike Ebert - VP, U.S. Refinery Operations, Naveed Khan - Chemist, Steve Janunas - Chemist and Greg Stachnyk - Chemist. It was Steve Janunas who came up with the idea of policing their western property for Earth Day 2006.

Restore Michiana Conference

A Place For Marktowners And Preservationists Alike

So, you've heard about historic preservation and now you want to find out about tax credits and historic review boards and just how more economical AND PROFITABLE restoring you home can be as opposed to making costly and expensive alterations? Well, mark your calendars for May 20th and plan on a nice easy drive to South Bend, Indiana.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, the nation's largest state based non profit historic preservation organization is holding an event titled Restore Michiana. Don't get scared by the name, what they will discuss in this outstanding one day event will work just as easy in East Chicago and Marktown as it will in any part of the Michiana Region of South Bend.

The event is broken down into two tracks. One is for historic property owners and the other for Historic Review Board Commissioners. Both events begin promptly at 9 AM and conclude at 5 PM - so it is all day long.

The Historic Property Owner Track will include the following segments:

Old House Additions That Work
Paint It Right

Maintenance Planning

Hands-On Steel Window Restoration

Brick & Stone Repair

Planning A Ground Up Rehab

Hiring & Working With A Contractor

Turning Neighborhoods Around

The Commission Track will include:

TEA-21 Funding for Preservation

The Recent Past

Managing The COA Process

Can the Mainstreet Program Work For You?

Certified Local Governments

What Style Is It?

Mock HPC Meeting

The event will also include a mini-trade show where you can meet national vendors and see some of the great supplies available for restoring historic properties. The cost for the seminars is \$60.00 for non HLF members and \$45.00 for members. And if you only want to go to the trade show the cost is \$5.00 per person. For additional information please call the South Bend Office at (574) 232-4534. It will be a great way to find out what historic preservation is all about!

**With TEAMWORK all things truly are possible.
You don't have to be elected to be a leader in a community.**

Response To An Information Request

Last month we reported that Barbara Luft of Froid, Montana had inquired about the location of her grandparents home at 308 3rd Street in East Chicago and the name of the company that her grandfather, Herman Harvey Geutzke worked at.

The company was simple. It was the Mark Manufacturing Company. As for the address, that was a bit more difficult. Between 1918 and 1923, the street names and house numbers in the Mark Town Site were different from those adopted by the E.C. Common Council in 1923. That was the year Mark Manufacturing Co. sold Indiana Harbor Works and recorded the plat in Crown Point. 308 3rd Street was later changed to 508 Grove Street (see photo below).



Right: Original Mark Manufacturing Police Department badge No. 5 worn by Herman Harvey Geutzke.

Below: From the archives of the Marktown Preservation Society we find the proposed street names selected by Clayton Mark and Howard Shaw. The proposed names were never used. However, between 1918 and 1923 the street names and house number in Marktown were different from those used today.



Proposed (1917)	1917-1923	1923-present
National Road	K Street	Pine Ave.
Freedom Road	L Street	Spruce Ave.
Ore Court	U Street	Oak Ave.
Iron Road	1st Street	Riley Rd.
Ingot Court	2nd Street	Lilac St.
Steel Court	3rd Street	Grove St.
Vulcan Court	4th Street	School St.
Honour Road	5th Street	Park St.
Pilgrim Court	6th Street	Liberty St.
Battle Court	7th Street	Spring St.
Noble Court	8th Street	Prospect St.
Post Road	9th Street	Broad St.

Picnic Season Begins

Due to the nice weather, picnic season opened early this year when a Marktown family and their friends used the pavilion in the park for a family get-together in mid April. While permits are not always required, if you want to guarantee the use of the pavilion for your event it is suggested that you fill out an application and get a permit from the Parks Department. Otherwise, it is first come, first serve. It is always nice to see the Marktown Parks used in this fashion. The Park Department office is at 1615 E 142nd Street in Indiana Harbor - 391-8474.



Handicapped Accessible?

First place for their gallant effort has to go to Safety Kleen once again for stepping up to make the Marktown Community Center handicap accessible. With the Help America Vote Act requiring that all polling places be handicap accessible, some work was needed to bring the center closer to that standard. Even though the L.C. Board of Elections signed off saying that we could continue to use this for polling purposes, it should be noted that the Marktown Community Center IS NOT handicap accessible. But then again, all some people wanted was a polling place.

