

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Small Business Workshop for University Park East Residents

**May 12 • 10:30am–noon**

**1085 Broadway (former Post Tribune), Gary, IN**

For those with an entrepreneurial spirit. Please contact Diana Sandlin at [dsandlin@ci.gary.in.us](mailto:dsandlin@ci.gary.in.us) and/or call 219-741-8568 to save your seat.

## Veteran Employment Transition Seminar (VETS)

**May 16–20 • 9am–4pm**

**WorkOne Gary • 3522 Village Court, Gary, IN**

WorkOne Gary is hosting Operation: Job Ready Veterans. This 5-day comprehensive developmental and empowering seminar, prepares veterans to re-enter the job market. Register with Rico Nash at 219.981.4100 ext. 365 or [rnash@gotoworkonenw.com](mailto:rnash@gotoworkonenw.com).

## Gun Lock Giveaway sponsored by the Gary Police Dept.

**May 19, 20, 21 • 10am–2pm**

**Community Room of Gary Police Department**

## Launch Your Own Business Workshops

Our Launch Your Own Business Workshops are for emerging entrepreneurs who are at the initial stages of business ownership. Cost per session is \$25. Pre-registration is required. Call 219.644.3513 for more information or email [northwest@isbc.org](mailto:northwest@isbc.org).

**May:** Tuesday, May 17 • 6–8pm; Swale Conference Room, Northwest Indiana Forum • 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN; Register online at [bit.ly/mayisbdc](http://bit.ly/mayisbdc)

**June:** Thursday, June 23 • 6–8pm; Purdue Technology Center • 9800 Connecticut Drive in Crown Point; Register online at [bit.ly/juneisbdc](http://bit.ly/juneisbdc)

## NAACP Monthly Meetings

**6pm • Multi-Purpose Room • Ivy Tech Community College**

**June:** Thursday, June 5

## Federal Contracts for Your Business

**June 23 • 8:30am–noon • 504 Broadway • Gary, IN**

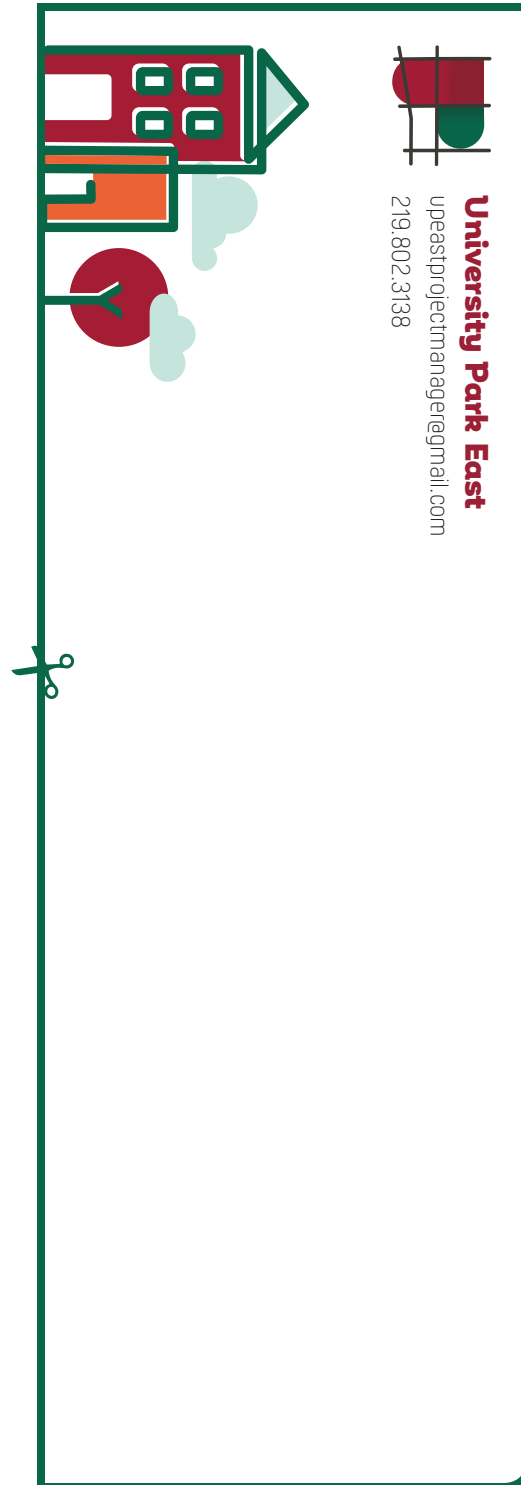
Want to bid on federal contracts? Please join us for an on-site open registration event for HUD and other federal contract programs. Small Business training and resource providers will be available.

## UP East Community Meeting

**June 30 • 6–8pm • Multi-Purpose Room**

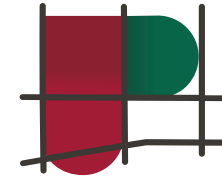
**Ivy Tech Community College**

Residents are invited to the UP East Planning Team's June community meeting.



MAY / JUNE Edition

2016



University Park East

## What's UP Newsletter



## FEATURED ARTICLES

### Our Voices Create Change

Learn how we've turned your survey results into goals and how we're meeting them.

### The Truth About Mental Health

May is Mental Health Awareness month. Learn how to maintain good mental health.

### Learn 2 Live Provides Training and Education to Students

Read about the initiative working to bridge the trustgap between police and the community.

## LEARN 2 LIVE PROVIDES TRAINING AND EDUCATION TO STUDENTS

On March 31, the Gary Community School Corporation hosted Learn 2 Live at West Side Leadership Academy. Gary and IUN Police officers participated in the event along with students from the community.

Learn 2 Live is a collaborative effort between Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). The initiative addresses the trust gap between police and the community. Learn 2 Live provides awareness about community policing, legal rights facts, and strategies and tools to use when dealing with police, with the goals of decreasing hostile encounters, and most importantly, preserving lives.



Learn 2 Live will feature community forums nationwide throughout 2016 in Chicago, New York, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and more.

NOBLE and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. represent 4,000 law enforcement officials and criminal justice practitioners and 150,000 members across 700 chapters, respectively. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. also operates the Guide Right youth-based leadership training program which has approximately 450 national presences.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Chris Huggins moved to UP East in 2005. He is an active member in the community, volunteers with various organizations, and helps feed the homeless. “Bag it For the Hood” is a program Chris is implementing by placing garbage cans on community blocks to encourage residents to participate in the neighborhood’s beautification efforts. Chris would like to see implementation of annual “Spring Clean Block Parties” and Ben Franklin school become a “safe haven” for youth development that stays open late and on weekends. He is excited about the neighborhood’s future and hopes to see more community involvement.

**Want to share your story?  
Visit [UniversityParkEast.com](http://UniversityParkEast.com)!**

## UP EAST SWOT ANALYSIS

### Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

At our last community meeting, you helped us identify our neighborhood strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

#### Strengths

- ▶ People maintain their properties
- ▶ Access to I-65 and I-80/94
- ▶ Educational amenities (i.e., IUN, Ivy Tech, Gary Area Career Center)

#### Weaknesses

- ▶ Abandoned homes and vacant lots attract crime.
- ▶ Streets are in poor condition (pot holes, littered with broken glass)
- ▶ Many homes are in poor condition

#### Opportunities

- ▶ Redevelopment of vacant elementary school site
- ▶ Repurpose vacant lots for alternative uses
- ▶ Infrastructure improvements (sidewalks, streets, lights, bike lanes)
- ▶ Partnerships with non-profits to rehab homes

#### Threats

- ▶ Frequent illegal dumping in vacant lots
- ▶ Break-ins and home invasions
- ▶ Weak to non-existent code enforcement

## THE TRUTH ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

We typically pay a lot of attention to our physical and dental health yet we have a tendency to ignore our mental health. Why? One reason is that there is an element of mystery to what mental health actually means. Essentially, mental health reflects our state of mind and how we handle stress.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Here are a few ideas for maintaining good mental health:

- ▶ **Talk about your feelings**  
you don't have to face challenges alone
- ▶ **Exercise regularly**  
this is a great way to alleviate stress
- ▶ **Spend time with family and friends**  
they are there to support you
- ▶ **Find ways to relax**  
take time to enjoy your hobbies

Let's debunk the myths about mental health! Marram Health Center offers behavioral health services including screenings and treatments, counseling, and medication management. Don't face life's challenges alone—visit [MarramHealth.org](http://MarramHealth.org) or call 219.806.3000 to learn more.

## Window Sign Contest

Share your neighborhood pride! Encourage your neighbors to place window signs in their homes and win. The residents who can inspire the most neighbors to display our UP East neighborhood sign will win cash prizes.

**1<sup>st</sup> \$100**

**2<sup>nd</sup> \$75**

**3<sup>rd</sup> \$50**

Fill out the form and send to Neighborhoods, Inc (NI). An NI staff member will contact you about your contest starter pack, which contains 25 window signs and a resident signature form.

**Conditions:** Contest entrant must use the NI resident signature form to collect the name, address, email and phone number of the resident at each sign location. Window signs must be placed in the front window or door of the home and be visible from the sidewalk. Deadline for placing signs and collecting signatures is July 11, 2016.

### Any questions please call:

Neighborhoods, Inc at  
219.844.1876.

## Window Sign Contest Entry Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
How long have you lived at your current residence?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number of people in household

Are you familiar with Choice Neighborhoods?

Yes

No

\_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, what do you know about it?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please mail to:** Neighborhoods Inc., 6340 Kennedy Ave, Hammond, IN 46323  
**Or fax to:** 219.844.3274

Sponsored by the Knight Donor Advised Fund at Legacy Foundation.

## OUR VOICES CREATE CHANGE

In October, we asked you to complete a neighborhood resident survey and more than 300 of you did. In the survey, we asked what you believe are the most pressing issues in the neighborhood. Your results made it apparent that we needed to focus our attention on vacant/abandoned homes and businesses and beautification of the neighborhood.

We are excited to share our accomplishments in the last year that help address your top two concerns.

### Demolitions

- 1 Demolition completed—3437 Pennsylvania
- 2 Demolition completed—3645 Massachusetts
- 3 119 properties currently on City's demolition list pending available resources

### Neighborhood Clean-Ups

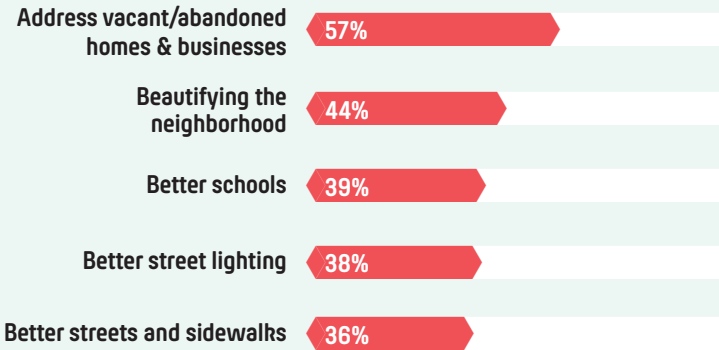
- 4 Ivy Tech Minority Male Initiative and IUN Brother 2 Brother Earth Day Clean Up in April 2015 along 35th Avenue
- 5 General Services cleaned and cut 18 vacant areas in UP East between June and October 2015
- 6 Ivy Tech Minority Male Initiative and IUN Brother 2 Brother Earth Day Clean Up in April 2016 along 35th Avenue

### Progress of Colonial Gardens 1 & 2 Demolition

- 7 Colonial Gardens 1 and 2 have been approved for demolition by HUD
- 8 Residents in both properties have been relocated by Gary Housing Authority
- 9 Colonial Gardens 2 to be demolished pending approval to use Hardest Hit Funding

## Resident Survey Results

### Most needed improvements



## Neighborhood Victories

April 2015–April 2016



## Ivy Tech/IUN Earth Day Clean-up

April 2016



## STAY CONNECTED

### UP East is on Facebook

Like us at [facebook.com/GaryUniversityParkEast](https://www.facebook.com/GaryUniversityParkEast)

### UP East Website

Visit the [www.universityparkeast.com](http://www.universityparkeast.com) for more information on working group meetings, community meetings, or to contact the planning team.

### Sign up for the What's UP Newsletter

Stay up-to-date on all things University Park East! Sign up to receive this newsletter by contacting Diana Sandlin, Choice Neighborhoods Community Engagement Coordinator, at 219.741.8568.