



August  
2009

Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association

## Bates Hendricks Newsletter

### Original Hook's Drugstore On East Street

By Robert Carey

The world in which we live is very interesting. It is built on layers of ever increasing complexity. The most amazing events have occurred on seemingly non-descript street corners. Many have gone unreported. However, every now and then, we can enjoy an "aha" moment.

For many, such a moment comes when they are told that the first Hook's Drugstore was on the southeast corner of Prospect and East streets, catty-corner from the Immanuel United Church of Christ.

The little German apothecary was started by a young John A. Hook in the year 1900 after he graduated from the School of Pharmacy in Cincinnati. He was immediately successful. The little corner soda shop and drugstore multiplied and covered the state with about 50 stores before eventually being sold to the CVS chain.



Location of the original Hook's Drugstore today at the corner of Prospect and East.

There are many photographs, including interior and exterior shots of that very first store. The building lasted for a long time until it was torn down to widen the street. (There is a used car lot there now.) However, much of the actual store still exists and for decades was displayed at both the Indiana State Museum and the Children's Museum. During the State Fair, you can still see the partially restored drugstore.

The original 1900 store was a social center for our neighborhood. It dispensed tonics, seltzers, and soda waters for medicinal purposes. Coca Cola, Dr. Pepper, Hires Root Beer were all originally touted as health aids. Turns out they tasted good too. A hundred years ago, people in our neighborhood were walking to Hook's drugstore, on the corner of East and Prospect, to order a tasty soda and a taste of real Americana.

### August Meeting Unveils East Street Plans

On Monday, August 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. the Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will host its August meeting at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect. The focus on the meeting will be on plans for beautifying and economically reviving the East Street corridor. Consultants will be soliciting input from residents and business owners on plans to beautify East Street. In addition, experts will provide information on the economic viability of the East Street corridor. As always, we'll have the usual reports from the police and the mayor's office.

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## **From the President:**

New York City has Broadway. Chicago has Lake Shore Drive. Los Angeles has Hollywood Boulevard. In each of these situations, the life and vitality of those cities is directly connected to the life and vitality of those streets. It's what visitors see. It's what people remember.

Bates Hendricks has East Street.

Unfortunately, it has been many years since East Street was alive and vital. I remember driving down East Street about 25 years ago, long before we lived in the neighborhood. We'd gone downtown for the fireworks and been funneled down East Street by the police. As we sat in traffic, I turned to my wife and said, "Wouldn't you hate to live in this neighborhood?"

We laugh about that. Today, though there is no neighborhood I'd rather live in, I understand East Street does not create a positive impression for those driving through our neighborhood. Much of the housing is substandard, the storefronts are boarded, the bars look dangerous, and a strip joint sits at one of its most prominent corners.

It hasn't always been that way. In this newsletter, Robert Carey writes about a time when East Street was a major retail artery. Hook's Drugs started in our neighborhood. Many of the storefronts housed groceries, hardware, florists, and restaurants. Residents of our neighborhood could purchase most of their needs within walking distance. Unfortunately, as with many city neighborhoods, businesses moved elsewhere or were run out of business by the big box stores.

Though East Street will never be what it was, I believe it can once again be a source of pride, life and vitality. We can clean up the trash. We can fix up the worst houses. We can restore some retail. We can add restaurants. We can make the street beautiful.

This will take a plan and it will take time, but for those of us who have decided to call this neighborhood home, we have the time. At the August meeting, we'll be reviewing a beautification and an economic development plan for East Street. Much of it will be dreaming, but I happen to believe that with lots of hard work dreams can come true!

*Jim Mulholland*

North East Street today.



## Thank You!

We would like to send a big thank you to all of our newsletter carriers who are so faithful about delivering the Bates Hendricks Newsletter each month. Thanks to Emily Vanest, Debbie McNeely, Robyn Toole, Jerry Barnaby, Esther Hollas, Ray Cunningham, Samara Myers Duff, Jeff McDonald, Carolyn Quinette, Chris Dockery, Mary Goad, Stacey Hudson, Foster Pilcher, Charlie McDowell, Dennis Burton, Jim Mulholland, Martha Myers, Lydia Brasher, and our newest carriers, Sally Nordoff and Joyce Maynard. Another big thank you to Jim Mulholland, Gail Brown and Greg Allen who put the newsletter together.

We do have some streets that are not being covered so if you are willing to help please contact Lydia Brasher, 636-0831 or [lydia.brasher@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.brasher@gmail.com)

## National Night Out – Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

Once a year, neighborhoods across America gather to stand against crime and for community. On Tuesday evening, August 4<sup>th</sup>, you are encouraged to gather your neighbors, turn on your lights, roast some hot dogs, and retake the streets of your neighborhood. If you'd like a police officer to visit your gathering, contact IMPD or the neighborhood association. Remember, the streets belong to the people paying for them – that's you and me!

## August Recipe: Peach Chicken

### Ingredients:

3 lbs of chicken, cut up.  
1 cup of whole wheat flour.  
1 cup of white wine.  
½ cup of butter.  
½ cup of water.  
8 cups of sliced peaches.  
1 cup of chopped walnuts.

### Instructions:

Roll the chicken in the flour, then place in a baking dish.

Melt together the white wine, butter, and water; then pour over the chicken.

Bake at 350°F (180°C) for 30 minutes.

Add the sliced peaches and chopped walnuts.

Bake for another 30 minutes or until done.



## **Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association**

The Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will work to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents.

We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30 p.m. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Emily Vanest, 720 Sanders, Indpls. 46203.

### **August Calendar**

**August 2** – Family Bee Day, 3-4 pm Garfield Park Conservatory. Come learn about the fascinating world of bees and beekeeping. Join a real beekeeper and explore bee biology—with a special look inside the hive in our garden. See how honey is extracted and sample a taste. Space is limited. Ages 3+. Free.

**August 3 - Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting, 6:30 p.m.** Immanuel United Church of Christ at 6:30 p.m.

**August 13** – Book Discussion: "Tree of Smoke" by Dennis Johnson, 1:30 p.m. Fountain Square Library. Registration required, call 275-4390 for more information.

**August 15** – Cathy Morris, 7 pm MacAllister Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Park.

**August 18** - Family Game Night, 6 - 8 pm, Fountain Square Library.

**August 22** – Beautiful Butterflies, 10:30 - 12 pm Garfield Park Conservatory. Butterflies are every where this time of year! Stop by the Conservatory to learn more about these winged creatures and explore the Garden for caterpillars and butterflies. Get some tips on attracting butterflies to your own yard. Space is limited. Ages 3+. Free.

