EAST CHICAGO life

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR EAST CHICAGO NEWS AND EVENTS

City of East Chicago
Hope & Progress
INDIANA

DOG LICENSE REMINDER

It's that time of year to update your license for your furry friends.

The yearly fee is $2 for an unspayed female and $1 for a male or spayed female.

Households are limited to three dogs and a copy of rabies vaccine is required.

Visit the city controller's office, 4525 Indianapolis, to renew your license from 8:30-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

QUESTIONS?

Call animal control at (219) 391-8364.

Stand up and be counted East Chicago – in our census and upcoming career fair!

Are you getting excited about April 1 yet? I know I am.

Once every 10 years, the first day of April is the day when we stand up and get counted, an opportunity for our city to get the maximum amount of federal funds possible.

This year, it's the day when the 2020 national census officially begins.

ABOUT THE CENSUS

The government uses our census numbers to decide how much federal funding we'll get in the next 10 years.

We use those dollars for big road projects and economic development. Our schools use them to bring new educational programs for the benefit of our children. Our pre-K's use them for Operation HeadStart.

However, most communities are under-counted because people simply don't fill out a form.

Our Complete Count Committee is hard at work with our schools and libraries to provide every tool we can to get every household in the count. **Questions?** Check out page 2 for answers to frequently asked questions.

I hope you're ready. I will be one of the first in East Chicago to submit my census form. Please, join me.

ANNUAL CAREER FAIR

If you are looking for a job – or want the opportunity to change jobs – we have just the ticket. The city is already booking employers for its April 22 career fair at Heritage Hall.





Big recruiters join East Chicago Mayor Anthony Copeland in welcoming job candidates to the city's annual career fair last year.

More than 50 businesses will attend, bringing their best recruiters in to find new employees. It's a great opportunity to find your next best job.

Avoid the line and register by April 16 at eastchicago.com. **More info:** Contact Esperanza at (219) 391-8205 or ecramirez@eastchicago.com.

I look forward to seeing you there!

ANTHONY COPELAND
Mayor City of East Chicago

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT HAPPENS IN MARCH?

Every household in East Chicago will receive a notice this month with detailed information on how to complete the 2020 Census online, by phone or by mail. "We encourage residents to participate," City Planner Richard Morrisroe said. "A complete count of all residents – including infants and children – benefits the city in so many ways."

IS MY INFORMATION SAFE?

Your responses to the 2020 Census are secure and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. They cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way – not by the FBI, not by the CIA, not by the DHS, and not by ICE.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED?

You will be asked a few simple questions, like age, sex, and the number of people who live in your home. The census will never ask for Social Security, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything about political parties.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Your responses determine how much of **$675 billion in federal dollars is distributed to East Chicago** for road improvements, schools, social programs.

Census data gives city leaders **vital information to make decisions** about building community centers, opening businesses and planning for the future.

Your responses are used to **redraw legislative districts** and determine the number of seats Indiana has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

WHAT'S NEXT?

April 1: Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.

"Stay tuned for citywide events and initiatives to encourage participation and help families and individuals fill out information," Morrisroe said.

Shape your future
START HERE >

United States® Census 2020



ABOUT THE RECOGNITION

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) AQUARIUS program recognizes DWSRF-funded projects for exceptional focus on sustainability and protection of public health.

EAST CHICAGO RECOGNIZED FOR QUICK ACTION DURING LEAD CRISIS

The Environmental Protection Agency has recognized East Chicago for the work the city did to implement a full Lead Service Line Protection Replacement Program. The new pipes replaced water lines for residents at greatest risk for lead exposure in an area surrounding a copper and lead smelting operation that had been in place for most of the last century.

As part of the remediation, East Chicago paired excavation and replacement of 18 inches to 24 inches of contaminated soils with lead service line replacement to reduce project costs and impact to homeowners. **The cost of one line replacement is around $4,500, which is free to homeowners.**

"Any recognition is always welcome," Mayor Anthony Copeland said. "What is nicer is knowing that we have been able to protect our residents from further contamination and that the water they drink is safe."

Phase I of the project is complete. In all, $1.1 million in Drinking Water State Revolving Fund dollars were used for the replacement of 331 lead service lines that supply drinking water to 1,350 residents.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATER LINE REPLACEMENT - PHASE II

The city asks all property owners in Zones 2 and 3 of the USS Lead Superfund site, who have not already done so, sign a consent form and schedule an appointment to have their lead water service lines replaced.

The goal of the program is to improve water quality by replacing existing water service lines that contain lead. Because the state is assisting with the cost, **the replacement will be performed at NO COST to the resident.**

Calumet City Plumbing, who was awarded the contract in 2018, has completed 133 houses at the average cost of $5,188.84 per household. **Please note:** Your property must be cleared by the EPA prior to work being performed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact the East Chicago Water Department at (219) 391-8469 or email wguzman@eastchicago.com to obtain a consent form or additional information about this program.

DID YOU KNOW? If your meter has been replaced with a new Master Meter, you can download the newly developed smartphone app, My Water Advisor, which allows consumers to track and monitor their water consumption. My Water Advisor provides a consumption forecast, detailed graphics and leak alerts. QUESTIONS? Contact the East Chicago Water Department at (219) 391-8469.

TEAM UP TO CLEAN UP

A few leaves still clinging to the fence? How about soda bottles that somehow didn't make it into the recycle bin?

Mayor Anthony Copeland is asking residents to **team up to clean up**!

"Help the city's spring cleanup crews by getting all unwanted items and outside trash to the alley or curb in time for pickup," Copeland said.

While you're at it, remove and dispose of yard debris that is lying on top of storm water catch basins and curbs.

"Spring Cleanup offers an opportunity to interact with the East Chicago Public Works Department and help make the City of East Chicago a more beautiful place to live," Public Works Director Keith Selvie said.

CLEANUP SCHEDULE

The district spring cleanup will be held from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. as follows:

DISTRICT 3:
April 6-10

DISTRICT 4:
April 13-17

DISTRICT 5:
April 20-24

DISTRICT 1:
April 27-May 1

DISTRICT 2:
May 4-8

DISTRICT 6:
May 11-15

HELPFUL TIPS

- Place large items in the alley or curbside where alleys do not exist.
- Secure all items that may be blown away by the wind.
- Properly bag all yard-waste materials and place at the curb.

Please note: All abandoned vehicles, expired plates and parked vehicles where "No Parking" signs are placed will be towed at owner's expense.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call East Chicago Public Works at (219) 391-8463 or (219) 391-8464.



GARBAGE CANS: Overflowing garbage cans are an eyesore and invitation to critters looking for an easy meal. If your garbage cart is consistently overflowing, call Public Works at (219) 391-8463 to inquire about a second cart. The same goes for apartment owners, who can rent an additional dumpster from the city for an additional charge. **INFO:** Call Public Works at (219) 391-8463.


NEW BUSINESS

HOAGIE LEGACY

3804 Main Street | East Chicago | (219) 354-0172

When East Chicago's **Beatrice Pichardo** decided to start a business, she talked to neighbors, family and friends and found that residents were craving a great carryout kitchen focused on hoagies, steak sandwiches, burgers and wings. With that, Taurus – now Hoagie – Legacy was born. The name was changed to Hoagie Legacy in February to better reflect the eatery. Stop in to say a quick "hello" to Pichardo and her nephew, **Gustavo Leon**, while they create your order with the freshest ingredients around.


NEW LOCATION

BIG FRANK'S SAUSAGE

918 Carroll Street | East Chicago | (219) 378-9556

Stan Stefanski is now featuring his famous food at a new location on Carroll Street – just a couple blocks from the original Big Frank's, where Polish food will always be the star. "We have stuffed cabbage, pierogi and the Polish sausage that was created especially for the restaurant by my brother, Frank. We also serve beer and wine and have live entertainment on the weekends," Stefanski said. "We get customers from all over, including Chicago and the suburbs. Stop in. Let us serve you the best Polish food in the region."


CONVENIENT SERVICES

LALYLAND SPEED WASH & DRY CLEANERS

4202 Euclid Avenue | East Chicago | lalylandspeedwash.com

When **Jesse Leal Jr.** and his mother **Carmen Cervantes** decided to take over the former Helen's Speed Wash just two years ago, they went all in – replacing washers and dryers while creating a gleaming interior. "The first year was all about renovation. During the second year, we have been focusing on the business," Leal said. "We are not a regular laundromat. We have drop-off laundry services at great prices and perform alterations as well. Not only that, we are the only dry cleaner in East Chicago."

BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL: It's that time of year to renew your Business License. Deadline to register is March 31. Applications are available online at eastchicago.com or the City Controller's Office, 4525 Indianapolis Blvd. Business hours are from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. QUESTIONS? Contact the City Controller's Office at (219) 391-8300.

PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES

Check out these indoor Parks & Recreation activities that are free to members:

DAVE'S KID

Learn about nutrition and health during our weekly workshops. March theme: Kidney Cancer Awareness

HERITAGE HALL: 4:45-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3

UNITY CENTER: 4:45-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 10-31

CARDIO DANCING

Let dancing be your cardio! Learn the new slides as well as the old classics.

AGES: 8+

HERITAGE HALL: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Mondays through March 23

UNITY CENTER: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays through March 28.

YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

Relaxing exercises, breathing and meditation restore good health.

AGES: 13+

HERITAGE HALL: 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, March 18 through April 29

UNITY CENTER: 5-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 4 and 11

SENIOR CHAIR YOGA

A gentle way to stretch muscles, reduce stress and improve circulation.

AGES: 55+

HERITAGE HALL: 10-11 a.m. Thursdays, March 19 through April 23

UNITY CENTER: 10-11 a.m. Thursday, March 5 and 12

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more info on these and other Parks & Rec programs, call at (219) 391-8474.

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