

We thought you'd like to know...

## What's in a Name... Essex Park

For nearly 130 years, the property that is now Essex Park was part of the Porter County Farm – the home that was maintained by Porter County Government on behalf of the residents of the county who were infirm or indigent. So we thought that it was only appropriate that the name of the neighborhood should reflect the history of the property.

Porter County is named for Captain (later Commodore) David Porter, hero of the “Battle of Valparaiso”, fought off of the coast of Chile, South America, during the War of 1812. Captain Porter’s Flagship was the U.S.S. Essex, (a sister ship of the U.S.S. Constitution, “Old Ironsides”), and where we got the name for Essex Park.

Funds for the construction of the Essex we raised by subscription from the citizens of Essex County Massachusetts, where the U.S.S. Essex was built, and all of the streets in Essex Park derive their names from the various villages and towns in Essex County, Massachusetts.

The eastern half of what is, today, Morgan Township, to the southeast of Valparaiso, was originally called “Essex Township”. When living in Essex Park, you are participating, in at least some small way, in helping to preserve Porter County’s history.