



# NEWS FROM HISTORIC EMERSON HEIGHTS

September 2025

Provided by the Emerson Heights Community Organization

PO Box 69602, Indianapolis, 46201

www.emersonheights.org

Founded in 1983, the mission of the Emerson Heights Community Organization is to preserve and protect the historic, cultural and economic value of our community through origination, education, empowerment, and action.

### 2025 Officers:

President: Joseph Tucker  
Vice President: Jaden Drury  
Secretary: Kevin Sweetland  
Treasurer: Tess Mangine  
At Large: Mariam Alam

### Committees and Representatives:

NESCO Representative: Tess Mangine  
Zoning Representative: Kevin Sweetland  
Beautification: Open  
Welcome Committee: Dick Kramer  
Newsletter Editor: Mariam Alam  
Social Media: Heather Keely

**HOTDOGS!**

**KIDS GAMES!**

# Celebrate!

## EMERSON HEIGHTS DAY!

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**  
**11:00 till 1:00**  
**Living Faith Park**  
**Corner of Wallace and Michigan**

**FACE PAINTING!**

**MUSIC!**

Join your neighbors as we get together to celebrate our community!

### It's Nice to Meet You! National Night Out in Emerson Heights

Emerson Heights tried something a little different for *National Night Out* on August 5th. Instead of hosting a big event like many other neighborhoods, we asked folks to host porch parties or front yard picnics. The purpose was to promote neighbor-to-neighbor relationships. Besides, we're having our big community event on September 6 with Emerson Heights Day. The community organization wanted to support all the neighborhood parties so we devised two plans. First, we held a gathering at Mariam Alam's house where anyone could stop by. We had 24 people sign in there. We also had appearances from Dirk Cushing and Marianne from the County Prosecutor's office, City-County Councilor Jesse Brown, Mayor's Advocate Rosie Stockdale, and 3 IMPD Community Police officers including Stacy Riojas who

attends our community meetings.

The second plan — and the most brilliant — EHCO passed out ice cream to all the gatherings. **A Big Thank You** to Randy Turner, who decorated his little truck, and Heather Keeney, who rode around passing out ice cream.

Now we need some feed back. What did you do for National Night Out? How many attended your gathering? Did any officials drop by? Do you have any suggestions for future events? Write [info@emersonheights.org](mailto:info@emersonheights.org). We really need some feed ack if we want to do it again next year.



## GET READY FOR THE FALL CLEAN UP!

**Saturday, October 11, from 9-12**  
**Meet at the corner of Walnut and Dequincy.**

**Come early to sign in, share coffee and donuts, get supplies and head out.**

We will be using the dumpster again and will be supplying gloves and bags. The dumpster is available for anyone in the neighborhood — but don't overfill it or leave garbage the ground.

**Incentive: EHCO house signs will be given to all households participating in a neighborhood clean up for the first time.**

### Summer Cleanup Success!

On July 12th, we had an amazing turnout (22 signed in) and awesome teamwork by neighbors, KIB and Indianapolis Department of Public Works. We used a packer truck for the first time and focused on alleys, starting from the west.



As we walked up the alleys we were able to through stuff directly into the truck. We couldn't get to all the alleys before the truck was full, but we made a big difference! EHCO will request a packer truck again next summer. Thank you to everyone who participated in this great show of community and commitment to our neighborhood!

### A Word from the President

It has been a busy year so far! We have held two neighborhood clean-ups, a neighborhood yard sale, an Indy Neighborhood Cats training, a National Night Out celebration. We have had five speakers come in to speak so far at our monthly meetings, including an excellent presentation from the Irvington Library on the services they offer. The Michigan Street conversion project completed and we got a new Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate. What's more, we still have several events coming up: Emerson Heights Day (Sep 6th), the last cleanup of the year (Oct 11th), and our annual meeting and elections! I hope everyone has been enjoying our events so far! I thought the National Night Out celebration was particularly fun and including ice cream delivery to people participating from their porches! As always a big thanks to our residents and executive committee members who make all of our wonderful events happen!

*Joe Tucker, EHCO President*



The Emerson Heights Community Organization wants to thank Theresa and Brian Flaherty from Ball Park Pizza for being a vital part of our neighborhood and a supporter of our organization. They have been closed since February while Brian faces health concerns. Theresa announced this week that they will not be re-opening. It will be hard to imagine an Indy Eastside without Ball Park Pizza — Theresa and Brian have been a part of our community for 31 years.

Theresa wants to have a "One Last Hurrah" event to celebrate their loyal customers and friends. She is looking for input. If you want to send Theresa and Brian a message, you can find them on Facebook @Ball Park Pizza or you can email [BallParkPizzaEastside@gmail.com](mailto:BallParkPizzaEastside@gmail.com).



# Neighborhood Meeting: FIRST Thursday

September 4, 6:30-8:00

at the Living Faith Church, Corner of Wallace and Michigan

The General Membership Meetings are an opportunity to meet some neighbors who share your love for Emerson Heights. It's a good way to bring up a problem for us to try to resolve together. Continuing the Speaker Series, every meeting we try to have guest speakers to give us information relevant to Emerson Heights. Upcoming speakers:

- **September 4th:** Susan Vogt on Westminster's Food Pantry/Soup Kitchen and upcoming Back To School events *AND* Alex Richards on Trusted Mentors
- **October 2nd:** Amber Quinn from Soul Food Project Indy on equitable and sustainable food systems in the neighborhoods we farm in *AND* Alex Haberfield, Public Outreach Coordinator from Citizens Energy Group, to talk about their residential Lead Service Line Replacement program.
- **November 6th:** not confirmed
- **December 4th:** Annual Meeting and EHCO Elections

EHCO member meetings often include representatives from Marion County Health and Hospital, IMPD, and the Mayor's Office. Topics and guest speakers will be announced by e-mail and social media. Minutes of monthly member meetings are being posted on [www.EmersonHeights.org](http://www.EmersonHeights.org). If you wish to add an item to a meeting agenda or have ideas for a topic or guest, please email [president@emersonheights.org](mailto:president@emersonheights.org).

## Shout out to Emerson Heights Neighborhood Cats

A big Thank You to Tess Mangine and the volunteers of the Emerson Heights TNR Team. Since this Spring, **over 60 cats** have been caught, received vet care, and been returned to the neighborhood. Indy Neighborhood Cats joins volunteers in an effort to trap-neuter-return free roaming cats. INC provides ongoing colony care support such as warm winter shelters, food, Spay/Neuter resources and medical care to cats living outdoors. If you are interested in volunteering with some neighbors, send a message to Tess Mangine at [mangine@att.net](mailto:mangine@att.net).



- **Community Compass.** Find Free Food Near You <https://www.communitycompass.app/>
- **IMPD East District Task Force Meetings:** 201 N Shadeland. September 10, November 12. 6-7pm. More info on Facebook @IMPD East District
- **City-County Councilor Jesse Brown. District 13 Townhall:** September 9th, 2025, at 5:30 pm at the John Boner Neighborhood Center on 10th Street. topic of affordable housing, especially senior citizen apartments, and unmet security concerns. <https://www.jesseforindy.com/>
- **From US Congressman Andre Carson's Office:**
  - <https://carson.house.gov/know-your-rights-immigrants-rights>
  - <https://carson.house.gov/help-from-andre/help-federal-agency>
  - [carson.house.gov/7th-district/congressional-app-challenge](https://carson.house.gov/7th-district/congressional-app-challenge) This national public competition established by the US House of Representatives encourages kids to learn how to code, celebrates the ingenuity of our young people, and reinforces the importance of STEM education. **Ends October 30.**

## Things going on at the Irvington Library:

- Did you know the library has a seed exchange? In addition to free seeds, check out resources and attend workshops about growing and using plants from your seeds! Seeds Available: March - September
- **TYPE-IN, Unexpected Adventures.** Drop in and try a typewriter. Type-writers and paper provided. Tuesday, September 9th, 6:30 pm.
- **Free gun locks are available.**
- Teen Zone, after school activities. Adult book club. Adult tech learning.
- Rainbow Reads Book Club, Paws to Read, Pajama Storytime, Babies and Toddlers Storytime.
- 317-275-4450 for questions and registration.

Irvington Halloween Fest, October 18—October 25.

[www.irvingtonhalloween.com](http://www.irvingtonhalloween.com)

## Things going on at Ellenberger Park:

- **Pre-K Open Play,** Every Thursday in September, 1-2pm, \$3 drop off fee.
- **Cards and Coffee,** Adults 55 and up. Tuesday Afternoons, 4 to 5:30. Cards, coffee, and fellowship provided, August and September.
- **3rd Annual 80's Skate Night,** Saturday, September 27, 6-9:30. Bring your own skates. Nostalgic 80's music, snacks and photo opportunities provided, \$5 per person.
- **Arts for All,** all ages. Free drop in, Mondays 5:30-6:30. Create a project, supplies provided. Aug 11 thru Dec 22.
- **Irvington Farmers Market,** Ellenberger Park. SUNDAYS June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, and October 12: 12-3 pm. Ellenberger Park.



**Friends of Ellenberger Park** hosts monthly cleanups every second Saturday, April through October. 9am-12pm. Meet at the ice rink building.

## Halloween and Fall House Decorating Contest



Get ready to showcase your creativity and neighborhood pride in our 3rd Annual Halloween & Fall House Decorating Contest!

Whether you love spooky Halloween vibes or the cozy colors of fall, this is your chance to decorate your home and bring festive spirit to Emerson Heights.

Find the registration form here or use the QR code. <https://emersonheights.org/halloween-house-contest/>

**Themes: Halloween or Fall**

- Exciting prizes donated by EHCO and local businesses
- The last day to enter is **October 26**
- Homes will be judged based on creativity, effort, and overall theme execution
- Categories: You can go all out for Halloween, embrace the beauty of Fall, or do a combination of both!

## Get Your EHCO Swag Here!

Historic Emerson Heights house signs are now available and cost \$20. Emerson Heights t-shirts are also available for \$25. Adult sizes M-2XL

The easiest way to buy a sign or shirt is:

- Step 1. Use PayPal to treasurer@emersonheights.org and donate the amount required.
- Step 2. Make a note in the memo what it's for.
- Step 3. Then email [info@emersonheights.org](mailto:info@emersonheights.org) with information about how we can deliver the items to you.

To place an order without PayPal, write [info@emersonheights.org](mailto:info@emersonheights.org) and we'll make arrangements.



**SPECIAL: KIDS SIZES \$12!**  
XS, Kids S, Kids XS



PayPal donation

## Neighborhood Communications: How we're getting the word out.

EHCO is striving to stay in touch with the residents and businesses in our neighborhood. Here's how:

- A paper newsletter is delivered door to door quarterly by neighborhood volunteers.
- An e-newsletter is being sent out monthly. Sign up to receive the e-newsletter [www.emersonheights.org](http://www.emersonheights.org) or scan this QR code.
- Join us on Facebook and @Emerson Heights Discussion Group and @Emerson Heights (for business stuff)
- We are now on Instagram, follow us at @EmersonHeightsIndy
- A web site is in development at [www.emersonheights.org](http://www.emersonheights.org). Check it out.
- If you have additional ideas on how we can better communicate with the neighborhood, tell us at [info@emersonheights.org](mailto:info@emersonheights.org)



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