



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: Open
Newsletter Editor: Mariam Alam
Social Media: Heather Keely

**Emerson Heights Community Organization
2025 Annual Meeting**

Thursday, December 4, 6:30-8:00

at the Living Faith Church, Corner of Wallace and Michigan

To make the meeting a little more social, some of the members are going to bring cookies to share. Join us! Who knows, if there are left overs maybe we can do a cookie exchange!

Neighborhood Business:

- **Annual report:** Looking back at our accomplishments this past year.
- **Officer Elections:** Be a part of the leadership team!
Nominations for all offices are accepted until the vote is taken. To run for any office, please email president@emersonheights.org to get on the ballot.
 - President** presides over meetings, signs off on all expenditures and represents the organization to other organizations.
 - Vice-president** fills the duties of the president in their absence, acts a parliamentarian and performs other duties as assigned.
 - Secretary** produces minutes, is responsible for maintaining correspondence and records.
 - Treasurer** is responsible for receiving and depositing income and recording expenses.
 - Member At-large** performs duties as delegated by the President.
- The property at Linwood and Michigan is to be rezoned. The petitioner will attend to discuss the property. The property is currently zone D-5, but has been operating as a garage with use variance. The new/perspective owner would like it zoned C-3 to permit the property to function as a garage.

If you have ideas for speakers for next years meetings, write president@emersonheights.org. Minutes of monthly member meetings are being posted on www.EmersonHeights.org EHCO does not meet during January or February. The next membership meeting is March 5, 2026

A Word from the President, 2025 in Review

The end of the year is an excellent time to look back at what the organization achieved this year. As we roll into the end of the year I want to share with you the long list of accomplishments the executive committee and volunteers made happen in 2025. A big thanks to everyone who made all this happen!

Neighborhood activities and events:

- Partnering with Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, we held three neighborhood cleanups this year, including a new event in July with the use of a packer truck.
- We held a successful community yard sale with 23 households registering to be on the Emerson Heights yard sale map.
- We had a fun National Night Out with many residents hosting neighbor gatherings and EHCO officers distributing ice-cream through out the neighborhood. The event was attended by the prosecutor's office, the mayor's office, police department, and our City-County Councilor.
- We held a very successful Emerson Heights Day with face painting, kids activities, and where 72 hot dogs were consumed by residents and guests.
- Continued our Speaker Series at our meetings hosting speakers from organizations relevant to the community, including:
 - Indygo on the Blue Line rapid bus project;
 - DPW on the Michigan 2-way conversion updates;
 - Indy Neighborhood Cats on the Trap-Neuter-Release program;
 - representatives from Ellenberger Park and the Irvington Library;
 - Westminster's Food Pantry/Soup Kitchen and programs;
 - Alex Richards on the Trusted Mentors;
 - Amber Quinn from Soul Food Project Indy;
 - Citizens Energy Group talked about their residential Lead Service Line Replacement program; and,
 - FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic and the Spay It Forward fund.

Committee accomplishments:

- We distributed the 4 issues of the paper newsletter (including this one) with the help of 13 regular volunteers and 3 new ones.
- The Emerson Heights Neighborhood Cats group trapped, fixed, and vaccinated 83 neighborhood cats!
- Dick Kraimer, chair of the Welcome Committee, continued to send out letters to new property owners. Dick passed away recently so we need volunteers to continue his work welcoming new residents.
- Facebook has over 2.5k members with new requests daily. The E-newsletter has had an increase in subscribers and an open rate of about 50%.
- The Executive Committee members continued the yard sign project putting out signs to advertise our meetings and events.
- The Halloween Decorating Contest was fun and we're planning on another Christmas Decorating Contest too.

City services:

- We reported an overflowing manhole at Michigan and Carlye to Councilor Jesse Brown and to our Citizens contact. The issue has since been resolved.
- We got DPW to address the sinkhole forming in the Bancroft/Emerson alley which resulted in the alley also getting repaved.
- We worked with Councilor Brown and DPW to have a collapsed area of pavement filled in the alley between Linwood, Dequincy and 10th.
- We repeatedly engaged the city services on the hoarding and trash situation at the corner of Walnut and Carlye, and it has greatly improved.
- We reported the local porch pirate to Community Police Officer Stacy Riojas who is working on the case, and the pirating seems to have abated.

Grant projects:

- We put up neighborhood signs along the streets that comprise the borders of our neighborhood, and we put up signs on Michigan street facing both west and east.
- We sold the old aluminum neighborhood sign after having a new sign installed at Dequincy and 10th.
- We received a grant from Indy Arts Council to complete the Signal Box Art Project we started in 2023.

Administration:

- We sold quite a few Emerson Heights shirts and house signs throughout the year. We ordered more shirts because we ran out of XL and XXL.
- We shifted accounts to a new bank and computerized our ledger.
- Continued to improve the website by adding the newsletters, adding the yearly schedule, We added google analytics to the EHCO website.
- Continued to attend meetings of partner organizations like Near East Side Community Organization.

Honestly, I may have missed something. With everything going on there should be ways for all our neighbors to feel like they are a part of a thriving community. If you have ideas for the neighborhood or if you feel like you can help with the many projects, please let me know at president@emersonheights.org. And if you see one of the committee members around please thank them for their efforts this year.

Joe Tucker, EHCO President

If your business is interested in sponsoring a newsletter, contact: News@EmersonHeights.org

Family 412: After School Program

Every Thursday, 4:30 - 6 pm, at Living Faith Church, 4717 E Michigan St.

All 4th to 12th graders are welcome to join. The program is led by Talor Clark and Carrie Poor with **ForYouIndy**, a nonprofit whose goal is to provide safe spaces for kids and teens to be in community with each other. We'll have Snacks, Homework Help, Social Emotional Learning Tasks, and Themed Activities in art, music, cooking and so much more.

Join us on December 11 for a Christmas party!

Any Questions: Please contact Carrie Poor at carriep@foryouindy.org

Light up Emerson Heights!

It's time for our annual Holiday Lights and Decorations Contest and we can't wait to see your creative displays. Whether you go all-out or keep it cozy and classic, this is your chance to spread holiday cheer and show off your festive spirit.

Winners will receive a special prize provided by EHCO and, of course, neighborhood bragging rights! To encourage everyone participate, prizes will also be awarded by a random drawing.

Information on how to submit your pictures will be posted on the EHCO website, EmersonHeights.org, and on Facebook @Emerson Heights Discussion Group.

Voting for your favorite house display will be on Facebook.

Let's make our neighborhood shine this season!

10th Street — An Emerging Cultural District

The Little Flower Neighborhood Association received a \$30,000 grant from a new city-funded program to create a stronger identity for the 10th Street corridor. An emerging cultural district is an area with a visible cultural identity, but not yet formally recognized as a cultural district. The stretch of 10th Street between Sherman Drive and Leland Avenue and anchored by the Emerson Theater could be Indy's next go-to neighborhood. Little Flower will partner with the other adjacent neighborhoods to use the grant to create a name and logo for the area, signage to help identify it, and beautification projects to make it more welcoming.

Aaron Klauber spoke at the November meeting about:

FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic Services

- Spay/Neuter benefits include the reduction of pet overpopulation, disease risk, and problematic behavior. Reducing unnecessary euthanasia through spay/neuter is the core of our mission.
- Vaccine visits include a basic assessment, vaccinations, and parasite prevention recommendations.
- FACE offers low-cost heartworm treatment for dogs to provide them with a long, healthy life.
- Community Cats are cats who live outdoors in our neighborhoods without a particular home or owner. Our goal is to spay/neuter community cats in order to reduce unnecessary euthanasia. FaceAnimalClinic.org for more information or to schedule an appointment. Or call 317-638-3223



Spay It Forward Our donor-supported fund allows us to offer financial assistance for spay/neuter and vaccine services when our low-prices remain insurmountable to clients. This critical, lifesaving fund bridges the gap to high-quality vet care and keeps pets with their families rather than in area shelters.

- Call our clinic at 317-638-3223 and speak to a client support representative about financial assistance needs.
- Or, Email us at records@faceanimalclinic.org and let us know your financial needs.

Please be a good neighbor. It is unfortunate that the organization has been asked to remind residents that they need to pick up after their dogs. There have been conversations about stationing boxes with pet waste disposal bags around the neighborhood for emergencies. But you really shouldn't take your dog out without being prepared to pick up after it.

Dog and Cat Curbing Requirements (Sec. 531-203)

- An owner of a dog or cat is forbidden from knowingly allowing their pet to defecate on public or private property without the owner's permission.
- If the pet does defecate on such property, the pet owner must remove the feces and dispose of it in a proper waste container.
- Fines for violation of the curbing requirements start at \$25 and may lead to higher penalties for repeated or severe violations.

To report a violation of this ordinance, file a complaint online through the RequestIndy web portal or mobile app. Or call the Mayor's Action Center during work hours, 317-327-4622.

Update: Signal Box Art Project

In 2023, EHCO held a community art contest to develop a design to paint on the traffic signal box at Linwood and Michigan. Although the neighborhood voted on the winning design, it wasn't installed because of the road construction. Exciting news: the Indy Arts Council has awarded EHCO with funds to go toward the installation of the art! Watch for more updates in early 2026.

Coming to Emerson Heights in 2026

- ✓ April: Spring Cleanup with a dumpster
- ✓ May: Neighborhood Yard Sale
- ✓ July: Summer Cleanup with a packer truck
- ✓ August: National Night Out
- ✓ September: EMERSON HEIGHTS DAY!
- ✓ October: Fall Clean up with a packer truck
- ✓ November: Cleanup focusing on leaves.
- ✓ December: Annual Meeting

Things going on at the Irvington Library:

<https://www.indypl.org/locations/irvington>

- **An Evening with Author Tim Mulherin**, Tuesday, December 2, 6:30 - 7:30.
- **Storytime - Babies & Toddlers**, Wednesday, Dec. 3, Dec. 10, Dec. 17: 10:30 - 11:15am
- **Teen Improv - with Fonseca Theater**, Thursday, December 4: 4 - 5pm. Unleash your creativity and quick thinking in this high-energy teen improv workshop.
- **TYPE-IN, Unexpected Adventures**. Drop in and try a typewriter. Typewriters and paper provided. Tuesday, December 8, 6 - 7 pm.
- **Meet a Reindeer - with Silly Safaris**, Tuesday, December 9: 6:30 - 7:30pm. Meet a reindeer and other animals. Ask your questions and take a picture with the critters. All ages and families are welcome.
- **Teen: Cookies & Careers - with Dave Haughs—Engineer, Woodworker, and Founder of Deeply Ingrained**, Thursday, January 8, 4 - 5pm.
- **Free gun locks are available.**
- 317-275-4450 for questions and registration.

Things going on at Ellenberger Park:

- **Ellenberger Park's Pre K Open Play** Children 1-6 years old, drop in every Thursday November-May 26 from 2:00-4:00 pm for \$3 per kid. Games offered include floor scooters, giant bowling, jump ropes, giant connect four, youth hockey sticks and more. Children must be within arms reach of an adult all times.
- **Arts for All**, all ages. Free drop in, Mondays 5:30-6:30. Create a project, supplies provided. Aug 11 thru Dec 22.
- **Special Event | Jingle Jars** Dec 13, Sat 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM, \$5.00, Enrollment required Love Hot Chocolate? Love Crafting? Join Ellenberger Park in making Hot Cocoa Jingle Jars! Participants will enjoy festive music and a nice warm cup of hot cocoa while filling their jingle jar with instant hot cocoa mix as well as all your favorite toppings!



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. Children sizes XS, Kids S, Kids XS: New Special Price: \$12!

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 with information about how we can deliver the items to you.

To place an order without PayPal, write info@emersonheights.org and we'll make arrange-

SPECIAL: KIDS SIZES \$12!

XS, Kids S, Kids XS



PayPal

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 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. Check it out.
- If you have additional ideas on how we can better communicate with the neighborhood, tell us at info@emersonheights.org



EmersonHeights.org