



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.

2026 Officers:

President: Joseph Tucker
Vice President: Elizabeth Gabriel
Secretary: Kevin Sweetland
Treasurer: Jaden Drury
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
Community Cats: Tess Mangine



COMMUNITY SOUP PITCH-IN / MARCH 14, 5 -7

at the Living Faith Church, Corner of Wallace and Michigan

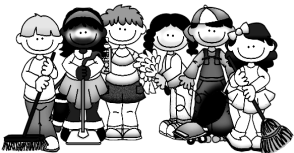
Instead of a neighborhood meeting, ECHO wants to do something a little more fun and neighborly. And nothing brings folks together like food! All you have to do is bring a crock pot of your favorite soup, and a ladle. We'll take care of the rest. If you don't have anything to bring, come anyway. We always have lots to share.

We will still have a guest speaker. **Gabi Weldy from Little Flower** will talk to us about 10th Street Cultural District, a traffic calming test project at Bosart and the re-pavement schedule. ECHO is participating with the committee doing these projects, along with Grace Tuxedo and Community Heights. Little Flower is the fiscal agent and taking the lead.

So join us for a little warm, neighborly soup and share your thoughts on 10th Street.

Annual Spring Cleanup Saturday, April 11, 8:30 till Noon

Meet at the corner of Walnut and Dequincy



Join your neighbors as we work as a team to keep our neighborhood the wonderful place it is. We will meet at 8:30 am to sign in, have coffee with our neighbors, and pick up supplies. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful is providing a dumpster, bags, and gloves. If you can't join us, please take the time to do a clean up around your home on your own. The dumpster is available for neighborhood residents (but please do not leave trash outside the dumpster).

Coming to Emerson Heights in 2026

- ✓ March: Community Soup Pitch-In
- ✓ 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

Neighborhood Yard Sale

May 29 - 31, 8am till 2pm

The annual yard sale has been moved to May because it's too hot later in the summer. As in the past, you can have your address added to the participant map.

Watch for more information and registration instructions on EmersonHeights.org or on Facebook @Emerson Heights Discussion Group.



EHCO Committees and Projects:

Emerson Heights Neighborhood Cats:

The Emerson Heights Neighborhood Cats group trapped, fixed, and vaccinated 83 neighborhood cats in 2025. The group is lead by Tess Mangine and Amy King. This group partners with Indy Neighborhood Cats in an effort to trap-neuter-return free roaming cats in the neighborhood. INC provides ongoing colony care support such as warm winter shelters, food, Spay/ Neuter resources and medical care to cats living outdoors.

The next TNR training is March 21st, 1:00 - 3:00, at 1505 N Sherman Dr. If you are interested in volunteering with your neighbors, send a message to Tess Mangine at T.mangine1002@gmail.com.

Reach out to us at info@emersonheights.org

There are many opportunities to get involved with the organization. Currently, the **Beautification Committee** hasn't been active. If you have ideas and would like to take up the mantle, please volunteer.

Someone is interested to doing maintenance on the **median gardens**. Would you like to help? Please let us know.

We lost Dick Cramer last year so we no longer have anyone from the organization greeting new residents. If are able to run the **Welcome Committee** or have any new ideas, please volunteer.

There have been suggestions for other groups that haven't yet solidified. Would you be interested in an **Emerson Heights Artist and Makers** group?

A Word from the President

Welcome to 2026! The executive committee has a lot planned for this year: neighborhood clean ups, neighborhood yard sale, an Emerson Heights day celebration and more! If you would like to help plan and execute this year's events we would love to have your help. Please contact us at info@emersonheights.org and let us know how you would like to help!

If you're planning any major home improvements this year, keep in mind that our neighborhood participates in the **Indiana Residential Historic Rehabilitation Credit program**. The program allows you to get 20% of the expense of a home renovation back as a tax credit. If that sounds appealing to you then please look into the details of the program on our website:

www.emersonheights.org/emerson-heights-historic-tax-credits/

Or go directly to the state's site about the program:

www.in.gov/dnr/historic-preservation/help-for-owners/financial-assistance/rehabilitation-credit/

Joe Tucker, EHCO President

EHCO Community Meetings are held every first Thursday, 6:30-8:00

Held in the basement of the Living Faith Church, at the 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:

- **April 4: Sharon Logan from the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center on their training and grant opportunities.**

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

If you wish to add an item to a meeting agenda or have ideas for a topic or guest, please email president@emersonheights.org.

John Boner Neighborhood Center is an anchor institution on the near east side, providing social services and community development. It's main address is 2236 E. 10th Street. Get more information about the center at jbncenters.org.

Through April 15, the John Boner Neighborhood Centers offers **free tax preparation services** as part of the IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. If you made \$66,000 or less you may qualify. Appointments are accepted Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturdays the site is open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and walk-ins are accepted. Find a handy "what to bring" checklist on our website. <https://jbncenters.org/free-tax-preparation/>

Boner Fitness & Learning Center

727 N Oriental Street

New classes have landed at the Fitness Zone Indy! Try Cycling with Jasz on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Or sign up for Full Body Weight Training which is now offered at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. And don't forget the Canal Squad workout on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. You belong here! <https://fitnesszoneindy.org/classes/>

Some good news about the high cost of utilities:

Gov. Mike Braun signed House Bill 1002 into law on Feb. 26, finalizing the state's new approach to utility regulation.

- Will level out budget plans for qualifying customers.
- Similar to the winter moratorium, suppliers cannot terminate electric or gas service to certain residential customers during extreme heat events, when the NWS issues heat indexes of 95 degrees Fahrenheit or above.
- Switches to performance-based ratemaking, which requires companies to meet affordability and reliability requirement goals to collect their full return on investment. If a utility's average residential bill increases significantly faster than national electricity prices, the utility's return will be cut by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

The zoning hearing for the Metrobloks data center in Martindale Brightwood has been continued to April 1st.

What's the deal with data centers?

A Data Center is a physical location of the internet. It houses servers, routers, switches and firewalls, as well as supporting facilities like backup equipment, fire suppression facilities and air conditioning. These buildings are very big and require lots of electricity and not just to run the computers. Computers must be kept cool and require constant air-conditioning. The bigger AI centers can use as much electricity as a small city.

Here are some community concerns:

- Data centers require an amazing amount of electricity to operate. There are concerns about how this will effect the existing electric grid and how the community will bare these costs. Currently, customers pay for construction (and risk) of expansions before electricity is even produced.
- Some cooling systems require a lot of water. New electric plants are being built that require a lot of water.
- Air conditioners and fans make a lot of noise. And near by residents complain about the drone.
- There is concern about the large centers being developed on farmland or land zoned for lighter uses, such as housing.
- Many of these data centers receive tax credits or other government incentives but provide very few jobs.

Things going on at the Irvington Library:

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

- **Storytime - Babies & Toddlers**, Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:15am.
- **Paws to Read at Irvington**, Tuesday, March 17: 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Beginning or reluctant readers ages 6 - 11 are invited to take a turn reading to a registered therapy dog
- **Adult Book Discussion**, Monday, March 16: 6:30pm - 7:45pm. The book to be discussed is "The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year" by Margaret Renkl.
- **Senior Tech Academy: Introduction to Google Apps:**
Week 2: Introducing Gmail & Photos, Tuesday, March 10: 10:30- 12:30pm
Week 3: Introducing Docs & Sheets, Tuesday, March 17: 10:30- 12:30pm. Create a shared holiday menu and a grocery tracker.
Week 4: Calendar, Tasks, Keep, & Passwords, Tuesday, March 24: 10:30- 12:30pm. Make a shared family calendar, use Tasks and Notes.
- **Type-In at Irvington - Funny Bones**, Monday, April 06: 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Drop in and try Irvington's array of typewriters! This month's optional typing prompt - Funny Bones.
- **Getting Started with Cricut Design Space - Learn. Design. Create**, Tuesday, April 07: 10:30am - 12:30pm. We will guide you step-by-step through Design Space, the software for Cricut die-cut projects.

The Seed Library is Open!

The Indianapolis Public Library Seed Library service makes free seeds available for pick-up at all branch locations each growing season. In addition to free seeds, check out resources and attend workshops about growing and using plants from your seeds!

Things going on at Ellenberger Park:

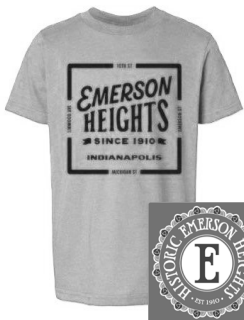
<https://parks.indy.gov/programs/>

- **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.
- **Arts for All**, all ages. Free drop in, Mondays 5:30-6:30. Create a project, supplies provided. Jan 12 - May 18.
- **Cards & Coffee**. Feb 3, 2026 - May 26. 10:00 AM - Noon. A drop in program where Active Adults can engage in a variety of Card games and fellowship with a nice warm cup of Coffee
- **Special Event | Nerf Blaster Battle, Mar 28**, Sat 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM, \$3.00, Enrollment required. Bring your own Nerf blaster and foam darts.
- **Special Event | Easter Egg-Stravaganza!** Apr 4, Sat 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM \$5.00, Enrollment required. This Indoor activity is for Children 6 and under. Games, Prizes, Candy, and of course an epic Egg Hunt!



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

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 arrangements.

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