



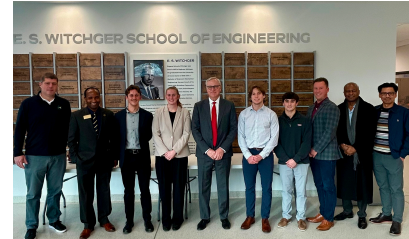
# LEADERS & LEARNERS

A Community Newsletter for **Riverside Education Innovation District**

[marian.edu/REID](http://marian.edu/REID)

December 2025

Civil Engineering students at Marian's E.S. Witchger School of Engineering did a great job presenting their Multi-Use Path Scoping & Feasibility Study to classmates and special guests.



Renovating the long-vacant Larue Carter property, is a key part of the Riverside Education Innovation District initiative.

**Early on, neighbors and leaders identified the need for improved safety and increased community-connectivity along Cold Spring Road from 30th to Lafayette.** This scoping document is an important first step in addressing these needs as the 2601 Cold Spring property is redeveloped into a hub for lifelong learning.

Special thanks to Avenew, Inc., the industry advisor to students on this project!

Thanks to each and every one of you, the REID initiative has gotten off to a strong start.

→ A **Community Advisory Board** has launched and will begin meeting quarterly in 2026, I'm excited to introduce you to this group of passionate community leaders.

→ This community **newsletter has grown 196% in 2025 but there is more room at this table!** Encourage a colleague or friend to subscribe for updates on events, progress, and ways to get involved. There is someone that only you can reach.

🏆 Congrats to Lori, from the Northwest Landing Neighborhood Association, for completing the branding survey for the former Larue Carter property & winning the SWAG giveaway!

## Upcoming Events

**Children's Book Giveaway and Five Dollar Book Sale!**  
2424 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St,  
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Dec 20th  
12 - 2 pm

Ujamaa  
MELZION'S LIVING DAYCARE

**Free activities!**  
Photos with Kwanzaa Claus!  
Letter to Santa writing station!  
Cookie & cocoa decorating bar!

The poster features a photograph of a young child sitting at a desk and writing on a piece of paper. The background is dark with white snowflake patterns.

### December 20th, 12-2 local bookstore event!

There's a children's book giveaway and \$5 book sale, with lots of other holiday activities going on at the Ujamaa Community Bookstore THIS SATURDAY!

Learn more at [Ujamaa's Facebook page](#).

# STARTING A BUSINESS?

FREE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLASSES, TAUGHT BY PROJECT BUILD - MARIAN UNIVERSITY'S ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM



## Starting January 2026 Free entrepreneurship classes

This series of evening classes taught by The Project Build, Marian's adult education program, is **FREE** and open to the community and students!

Share this invite with an entrepreneur in your life! Email Chris Matthews to [register](#).



**Home Repairs for Good** is [looking for volunteers](#) to help meet the growing need - they even have remote volunteer opportunities!

**Junior Achievement** offers programming in the Near Northwest Area and is [looking for volunteers!](#)

**Urban Youth Entrepreneur Academy** needs volunteers for their afterschool tutoring program - [learn more](#).

Meeting with neighbors, learning about the work being done by local organizations, and spending my dollars in the neighborhood - have helped me get to know the Near Northwest better this year.

I highlighted my favorites each month - **[now vote for your favorites and share your own!](#)**

- FEB: [Pizza Food Mart](#)
- MAR: [Cleo's Bodega](#)
- APR: [The Coffee Haus at Guggman](#)
- MAY: **YOU**
- JUN: [Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab](#)
- JUL: [Indy Fresh Catering](#)
- AUG: [Home Repairs for Good](#)
- SEP: [Witherspoon Presbyterian Church](#)
- OCT: [Flanner House](#)
- NOV: [Printing Partners](#)



Have a restful holiday season and a happy new year. I look forward to the great work we will do together in 2026!



*Diane*

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