



LEADERS & LEARNERS

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

marian.edu/REID

February 2026

The Annual REID Community Meeting is March 4th from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Marian University's Allison Mansion. **Mark your calendar and tell a friend.**

Get project updates, meet stakeholders, and be part of a community conversation.

Join us for delicious food, giveaways, and the big reveal of the new brand for the former Larue Carter property **plus** your chance to be among the first to win exclusive SWAG.

Postcards will be mailed out but, in the meantime, [share fliers in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole.](#)



Community Advisory Board - Member Highlight

Community Advisory Board member **Vanessa Bush** is a long-time West side resident and part of the [Northwest Landing Neighborhood Association team](#).

"The community is my happy place. I love to serve the people and help others to succeed. It is so much work to be done, I can't get tired yet, I have to keep serving"

→ The Community Advisory Board for the REID initiative is made up of 12 connectors who live, work, or worship in the Near Northwest Area and are part of an ongoing conversation about community feedback and engagement.



Top Three REID Updates

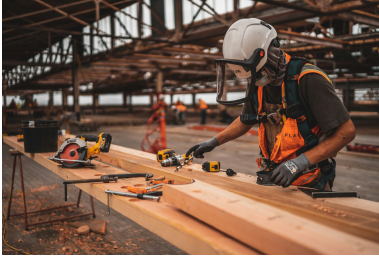
Here's what you need to know this month.

→ Interior demolition in the former VA Hospital is complete. Restoration of the historic lobby is underway. [Read the latest updates.](#)

→ Thanks again to neighbor input and feedback, work on a new brand for 2601 Cold Spring Road is in its final stages and will be unveiled at the community meeting prior to being shared with the general public.

→ AES Indiana volunteers are learning reading strategies from Marian's Center for Vibrant schools this month, to support early learners in Near Northwest Area of Indianapolis and beyond, as part of [AES Indiana's support of the REID initiative.](#)

Upcoming Events



Youth Build Indy - New Cohort for 18-24 year olds

Enroll in construction training & earn your High School Equivalency while getting paid. 24-week training starts March 2, 2026. Justice involved individuals are welcome.

Register by February 10th

Celebrating Community with
the Near Northwest Area



Summer camps

Athletic, overnight, and day camps available:
camps@marian.edu for information

February 14th, 11-2p.m. Free summer camp event!

Learn all about upcoming summer camp options at Marian University.

This fun family event at Marian University features music, activities, and refreshments. Register by February 13th.



Chess Club Meeting Twice a Month

Inner-City Chess Club had their first meeting of the year. Chess Club is two Sunday's a month.

Learn more about the program and get started.



[Team Building at the Wilbur Shaw Memorial Soap Box Derby Hill](#)

The Indianapolis Soap Box Derby hosts activities for all ages, including private team building events for schools, community organizations, and more.

Reach out to indianapolissoapboxderby@yahoo.com or (317) 414-8811 for more info.

Did you know, The Wilbur Shaw Memorial Soap Box Derby Hill, at 30th Street and Cold Spring Road, is the **longest Soap Box Derby Track in the country?**

Not the county. The COUNTRY.

The track is 1,000 feet!

Stay warm everyone. Spring is on the way



Diane Wade
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Riverside Education Innovation District

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