



# LEADERS & LEARNERS

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

marian.edu/REID

March 2026

At our community meeting last week, we unveiled the new name and brand for the former Larue Carter property - **The Grove At Cold Spring** - with a video featuring Marian President, Dan Elsner, and neighbors Laura Barton and Dennis Bland.

📺 Catch their 30-second clip on [REID socials](#) or see the full video at [The Grove's new website](#).

**Laura has lived directly across from the property for the last decade, and Dennis grew up in Riverside and now leads the Center for Leadership Development.**

Laura and Dennis, with other community leaders, neighbors, and business owners, have been generous with their feedback, their stories, and their hopes for what this long-vacant property could become. Thank You!



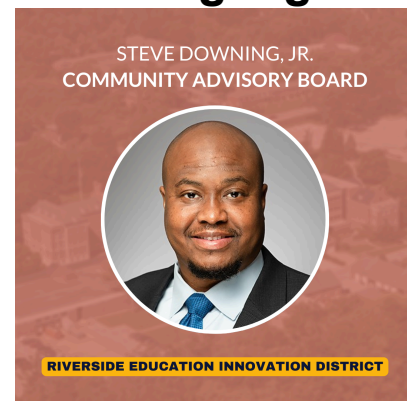
*Special thank you to Brenda Harris, retired educator and longtime neighbor who wasn't able to join us on the day we recorded, but has coined the phrase, "Let's groove at The Grove!"*

## Community Advisory Board - Member Highlight

Community Advisory Board member **Steve Downing, Jr.** is a lifelong resident of the Riverside community and new president of the [Riverside Civic League](#).

He's also currently enrolled in Marian's Doctoral Program for Organizational Leadership.

"It has been a privilege to witness the growth and transformation of our neighborhood over the years. I'm excited to be partnering with Diane and the Riverside Education Innovation District."



➡ 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.

## Upcoming Events

It's time to get outside! So many wonderful events happening

➡ **TOMORROW** March 14th, 12 - 4 p.m. Gear Swap & Meet at Riverside Park 2420 E. Riverside Drive. Hosted by our very own Riverside Riders, Major Taylor Indy, and Black Girls Do Bike Indy.

➡ March 25-29th [Pinewood Derby at Indiana State Museum](#)

→ April 18th, 8a.m. - 12p.m. Riverside Civic League neighborhood clean-up. Not sure if that's your neighborhood association? [Find out here and get connected.](#)

→ April 25th, Groundwork Indy's is hosting a fundraiser to celebrate their 10th birthday!

👉 New Boxing Gym, [The Right Jab](#), is now open & led by our very own Lamon Brewster.

🔥 And did you know [Municipal Gardens](#) has a Friday night Inferno Step Hip Hop Class?

🚣 When you're ready to cool down, check out [Frank's Paddlesports Livery](#), located inside the Parks Alliance Building.

→ And follow Flanner House on their socials - as always they have too many things to list! Like [Live music on Friday](#) at Cleo's Bodega and the [book crawl](#) happening at Ujamaa's Community Bookstore.

**What amazing things are going on in your neighborhood?** Tag us on [Facebook!](#)

I learn about many of these wonderful events by attending neighborhood association meetings held throughout the Near Northwest Area.

If you don't see me at your meetings (yet), reach out and let me know how I can get involved and better get to know you and your neighbors.



*Diane*

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