



EHCO Voice

Published by the Emerson Heights Community Organization

We're having a Benefit Concert

EHCO is excited to announce that we are hosting an EHCO Benefit Concert. This concert will be held on Friday, May 4, 2007 at 7:00pm at the Wallace Street Presbyterian Church. Contemporary Christian artists Luke Austin Daugherty and Christopher Ames will perform.

The Benefit Concert was the idea of resident Scott Wiederoder. Wiederoder, who has spearheaded several fundraisers for his church, brought the idea of a concert to the Executive Committee in February. He felt that a concert was an excellent opportunity to raise much-needed money for EHCO as well as provide an evening's worth of low-cost entertainment to many folks. After seeing Wiederoder's plans, the Executive Committee agreed. The idea was presented to residents at the March meeting and was overwhelmingly approved.

Both artists are known in the Christian-music community. Daugherty, who currently resides in Mooresville, is a singer/songwriter, 2005 Pulitzer nominated poet, painter, and storyteller. He has performed over 100 concerts in the last three years and has been honored to perform at some very large venues. He performed first stage for the Bruce Springsteen concert at Verizon Wireless Music Center in May, 2006. Daugherty opened the ROCK INDY concert at Conseco Fieldhouse and also provided a concert at the gallery showing for the internationally known painter, Thomas Kinkadee, in October, 2006. In 2006, Daugherty also performed at the Arts Garden, Indiana State Museum, Indiana State Fairgrounds and at the historic Madame Walker Theatre in December, where he received a standing ovation for his rendition of "To Save a Life" by The Fray.

Ames, who lives in New York, is an acoustic folk/rock performer. He "blends the raw sounds of an acoustic guitar with honest lyrics born of a life filled with both thorns and grace." In 2005, Ames won the KCCM AWARD (Kansas City Christian Music Award) for Acoustic Rock Artist of The Year and in 2006, received two additional KCCM Awards for Songwriter of the Year and Artist of the Year. In addition, Ames was selected to be the recipient of the Spirit of Unity Award presented at the first ever Indie Momentum Awards held in Nashville, Tennessee. The Spirit of Unity Award recognizes an artist for his commitment to community and fellowship.

Tickets for this event are on sale now and are \$7.00 per person with general admission seating. Due to limited seating (300 seats available), tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis and **must** be paid for in advance. Tickets can be ordered by calling 375-1696 (leave a message if there is no answer) or by e-mailing EHCOtickets@sbcglobal.net.

Payment can be by cash, check or money order (please make check or money order payable to Emerson Heights Community Organization). If you live within the Emerson Heights boundary, tickets will be hand-delivered to you and you can pay when they are delivered. Otherwise, payment should be mailed to Emerson Heights Community Organization, PO Box 11686, Indianapolis IN 46201 and the tickets will then be held in your name at the door.

To listen to a sampling of the artists' music, please visit their websites at www.lukeaustindaugherty.com and www.christopherames.com. Please help support your neighborhood and join us Friday evening, May 4th.

Sources: www.lukeaustindaugherty.com and www.christopherames.com

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Incorporation presentation


At the March meeting, Sheila Jenkins, an attorney with the Community Organization Legal Assistance Project (COLAP), spoke to the residents about incorporating EHCO. Jenkins strongly recommends that EHCO incorporates in order to help protect the organization.

As Jenkins explained, if EHCO holds an event (such as the biannual clean-up) and someone gets injured, the members of EHCO can be sued. The members being sued could be anyone involved with the event, not just the officers. By incorporating, we can protect ourselves from possible lawsuits. By law, a corporation is treated as an individual, not a group of individuals. Therefore, any lawsuit would be against EHCO, not an individual.

One other reason for incorporation is that ECHO would be more likely to qualify for tax-exempt status. This is a status, specifically a 501(c)(3), that ECHO would eventually like to become. Tax-exempt status would allow ECHO to receive donations and the donor would be able to write the donation off on their taxes. With tax-exempt status, ECHO could make purchases without paying taxes.

Jenkins is willing to help EHCO complete and file all necessary paperwork at no cost to EHCO. The only other cost would be \$30.00 to file the paperwork with the State of Indiana and \$10.00 each year after to keep our incorporation status.

Jenkins passed out information regarding incorporation and tax-exempt status. You may view it on our website, www.emersonheights.org (look for "Incorporation information" under the heading **Neighborhood Resources**). We plan to have Jenkins back to discuss this topic further. We hope that you will attend that meeting to ask questions and voice your concerns. Watch for more information in the coming months.

 <p>Oval Office Words from Don Bailey EHCO President</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;"><u>Home Security</u></h3> <p>We have all seen the ads on TV for Home Security. If we watch those ads, it appears that only people living in upscale neighborhoods have to worry about their families, break-ins, stolen property, and vandalism. Well, as we all know, the suburban neighborhoods are not the only ones who concern themselves with these issues.</p> <p>Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department tells us that Emerson Heights has one of the lower crime rates on the east side. We still want to protect our property and our families. This month Emerson Heights is focusing on Security and Security Systems. At our monthly meeting, we plan to have speakers tell us about the various options available for security systems, security equipment and security monitoring.</p> <p>We expect to have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. LaRon Avery of KPA Lock Service2. Jim Scrum, local installer and Fred Needham with King Electronics3. Greg Squires with Guardian Protection Services. <p>The three presentations will focus on the service each offers so that our neighbors can see what is available and can make informed choices if they decide to invest in a security system.</p> <p>Emerson heights Community Organization is not endorsing or recommending any of these systems. The decision to invest in a system is an individual choice. What we are doing is to let our community know what is available so that you can make an educated choice if you decide to purchase a system.</p> <p>We feel that this topic will be interesting to everyone in our neighborhood. So whether you come to every meeting or have never been, come to the meeting on the 19th April, meet your neighbors and learn about security systems.</p> <p>See you Thursday!</p>
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Marker Fund donations

EHCO would like to thank the following people for their donation to the Marker Fund. Want to see your name here? Donate today by completing the form above and either mail it to EHCO or give it to an EHCO officer.

\$100.00 *

Don Bailey - \$20.00

Patricia Heberden - \$25.00

Pauline, Jim & Ralph Schrum - \$100.00

Ann Sombun & Frederic Withrow - \$10.00

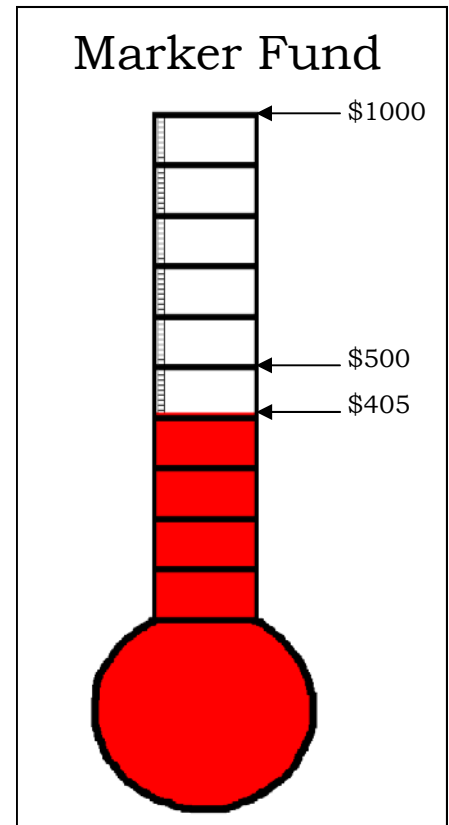
Grace Taddeo - \$20.00

Heather Nieman - \$25.00

Jackie McGovern - \$5.00

Joe Wade - \$100.00

* Awarded to EHCO after Don Bailey's completion of an INRC leadership course and designated to this fund by the residents in attendance at the January 2007 meeting.



I want to help! Here's my donation of \$_____ to help with the marker fund.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Make check or money order payable to:
Emerson Heights Community Organization

Mail form and donation to:
Emerson Heights Community Organization
PO Box 11686
Indianapolis IN 46201



Are you on our e-mailing list?

You can stay up-to-date on happenings in our neighborhood by being on EHCO's e-mail list. Not on the list and want to be? Just send an e-mail to emersonheights@aol.com with "Add me to the list" in the subject line. Please include your name, address and phone number in the body of the e-mail.

Revitalization efforts in Emerson Heights and the Eastside

The **Emerson Heights Revitalization Committee** has been meeting for the past two years in an effort to bring about positive changes in the Emerson Heights Neighborhood and on the east side of town. Some of the initiatives that have come out of this committee in the past year are:

The Emerson Avenue Corridor Gateway Project

The Emerson Avenue Corridor Gateway Project adds momentum to the revitalization of the eastside community by complementing several other projects including:

- Great Indy Neighborhoods Initiative
- Irvington Nation Road Streetscape
- Future bike lanes on Michigan and New York Streets to downtown
- Pleasant Run Trail – Part of the statewide National Heritage Trail and connection to the downtown Cultural Trail The Eastside Revitalization Area

In addition to creating an entry to eastside neighborhoods, the project will promote walkable communities and enhance multi-modal transportation, including routes and way-finding for pedestrians, bicycles and buses. “A multi-use path will link an amazing number of trails, bike paths, parks, schools, and cultural assets,” said Committee member Kurt Wiegand. “We are really fortunate to have such great resources and strong community organizations on the eastside that can work together to make this happen.”

A Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant was submitted March 8, 2007 to help fund this initiative.

Emerson Heights Children to Attend Neighborhood Schools in 2007 – 2008

In 2006, EHCO had several neighborhood meetings in which schools were discussed. Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) School Board members Marianna Zaphiriou and Clarke Campbell were guests at two of those meetings. The November 2006 meeting featured IPS Superintendent Dr. Eugene White as our guest speaker. In response to a request by EHCO, in their November 2006 meeting, the IPS School Board unanimously voted to alter the IPS school boundaries so that children in the Emerson Heights neighborhood will attend neighborhood schools starting with the 2007-2008 school year.

Specifically, children who live south of 10th street who attended grade School #11 (Edgar H. Evans) and School #43 (James Whitcomb Riley) will now attend the elementary school in our neighborhood, School #58 (Ralph Waldo Emerson), located at Linwood Avenue and New York Street, beginning with the 2007-08 school year.

Middle and high-school students who live in the area between East 19th Street, North Bosart Avenue, East Michigan Street and Emerson Avenue, currently assigned to Forest Manor Middle School and Arsenal Technical High School, will be reassigned to Thomas Carr Howe Academy near Emerson Avenue and Washington Street.

The change in school boundaries comes out of a larger EHCO initiative that recognizes the connection between good schools and good neighborhoods. We greatly appreciate the IPS Board and Dr. White for being willing to have a dialogue with our neighborhood and being responsive to our requests. Also, a big thank you to the EHCO leadership for making these meetings happen.

Revitalization Goals for 2007 – 2008

National Historic Register Application — the neighborhood of Emerson Heights qualifies to be on the National Historic Register. Work is underway to find funding to hire a consultant to write the application. Revitalization Committee member Tina Jones is heading up this effort.

Block Clubs — along with good schools, block clubs are a way to further strengthen the neighborhood one block at a time. The Revitalization Committee has a goal to establish 3-5 block clubs in 2007. Starting a block club is

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Revitalization efforts

(Continued from page 4)

fun, and the rewards are great—it really does benefit the neighborhood! If you're interested in starting a club of your own, the 10 tips in the March newsletter should get you off to a good start. ***If you have more questions or concerns, neighbors are here to help! Joe Wade is spearheading the effort to establish more block clubs in Emerson Heights and you can reach him at 353-6002. George Hanlin is also glad to give you advice and suggestions. You can reach him at 322-0866 or georgehanlin@yahoo.com.***

Green Neighborhood Initiative — to explore ways to make Emerson Heights Green through making our homes energy efficient.

Realtor Marketing Materials — Emerson Heights is a hidden jewel that we all recognize. One of the initiatives of the Revitalization Committee is to compile a packet of information about our Emerson Heights to give to realtors who have homes in our neighborhood. For more information about this initiative, contact Rebecca Seifert at rseifert@indy.rr.com.

Last, but not least, if you would like to become involved with the revitalization efforts currently underway in Emerson Heights – JOIN US on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at Irvington Public Library in the room off of the children's section. For more information contact Rebecca Seifert at rseifert@indy.rr.com.

Contributed by Rebecca Seifert

EHCO Spring Clean date set

Volunteers are needed for the biannual EHCO Spring Clean on Saturday, May 19th. In the event of rain, the clean-up will be held on Sunday, May 20th. This project has been an annual EHCO event for years and is sponsored by Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Incorporated (KIBI).

The Spring Clean starts at 9:00am. Volunteers should meet near the dumpster on the northwest corner of Dequincy Street and Walnut Street. Groups will then be formed and streets assigned. Garbage bags and some gloves will be provided. If you have a trash grabber, you are encouraged to bring it.

Again this year, volunteers will be treated to a backyard barbeque. Last year, volunteers were served hamburgers, hot dogs, and an assortment of side dishes and desserts.

Show residents that you care about the way our neighborhood looks. Join us on Saturday, May 19th and help us Spring Clean Emerson Heights.





**Jin's Alterations
& Tailor Shop**
4742 E. 10th Street
317-353-0799

New Neighborhood Liason

Emily Mack has been named as the Mayor's Eastside Neighborhood Liason, replacing Katy Brett. Mack, an Irvington resident, has been the Liason for the Southside and is looking forward to serving the Eastside.

Brett, the Ralph Waldo Emerson Award for Community Service recipient for 2006, is transitioning to a newly created position within the Mayor's Office and will implement the recommendations of the Community Crime Prevention Task Force published in January 2007.

Congratulations and good luck to both women.

Ask Beth White, Marion County Clerk

(Editor's Note: Last month, you may have noticed this section. I was approached by Tim Moriarty with the Marion County Clerk's office and asked if EHCO would be interested in printing articles from Beth White, the Marion County Clerk. He stated that the Clerk's office often gets questions regarding marriage licenses, registering to vote and other matters the Clerk oversees and believes these articles might be an effective way to answer these questions. I am a believer that the more information a person has, the better off they are. Thus, I agreed to print these articles.)

Dear Beth,

I don't think I'm gonna vote this year. One vote never makes a difference anyway.

Sincerely and sorry,

I.M. Apathy

Dear I.M.,

In the 2006 election, thousands of votes were cast in the race for Warren Township Trustee. Both candidates knew it was going to be close, but what they didn't expect was that their months of hard work would come down to 11 people just like you, registered voters.

Whether at the national, state, or local level, there are vital issues that will be decided by this year's election. The push for stricter environmental regulations, the future of education in Indiana, and the fight for mass transportation will be decided in voting booths in November of 2007 and 2008.

Many people do not know that even though it is an "off" year, ending in an odd number, we do have municipal elections—Mayor and City-County Council. There are 29 total members of the City-County Council—25 elected in geographic districts and four at-large. The City-County Council in Marion County has responsibility for passing the budget for local government and can raise your taxes, which I know you care something about. Surely you want a voice in who these people are.

If what's stopping you from voting is that you don't know where your polling place is, need help finding a way to the polls, or want information about early voting by mail or in person, **call the Marion County Election Board at (317) 327-5100. We're here to help.**

So, my dear friend, before you decide you can't take a few minutes to cast your ballot, and even if you've decided politicians can't do anything for you, remember the people whose lives you can change by casting your ballot.

Remember your co-worker's son whose asthma will only get worse if things don't start to change in the air he breaths.

Remember your friend's 75-year old mother who stands for hours every three days waiting for a bus to take her to a pharmacy or grocery store.

New Zoning Representative named

Jay Harpring has been named the EHCO Zoning Representative after John Yergin stepped down for health reasons. Yergin still wants to be involved in the zoning process but felt that, as chair, he would not always be able to devote the time needed.

Harpring and Scott Weideroder were approached by the Executive Committee and asked if they would be interested in the position. Harpring agreed and the Executive Committee named him representative effective immediately.



*The Emerson Heights
Community Organization
proudly presents the first*



EHCO

Benefit Concert

Featuring

Singer/songwriter, poet, painter, storyteller

Luke Austin Daugherty

And

Contemporary Christian Acoustic Folk/Rock

Christopher Ames

Friday, May 4th at 7:30pm

(Doors open at 7:00pm)

at the

Wallace Street Presbyterian Church

4805 East 10th Street

Indianapolis IN 46201

Adults \$7.00 (18 & over)

Students \$4.00 (5 through 17) (4 & under free)

Tickets available:

By phone at 375-1696

By e-mail at EHCOTickets@sbcglobal.net

Advance payment is required.

All proceeds benefit the Emerson Heights neighborhood.

EHCO

*Serving the Emerson Heights
Community*

Meetings begin at 6:30pm on the third Thursday of each month and are held in the basement of the Wallace Street Presbyterian Church (on the southeast corner of Wallace Street and 10th Street).

Meetings are open to all homeowners, tenants, landlords, and business owners in the Emerson Heights neighborhood and surrounding area.

Please come!



Emerson Heights Community Organization
PO Box 11686
Indianapolis IN 46201

The mission of the Emerson Heights Community Organization is to preserve and protect the historic, cultural and economic value of our community Through organization, education, Empowerment and action.

Dates to remember in 2007

EHCO Meeting Schedule

April 19
May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 20

Heavy Trash Pick-up

April 13
May 11
June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14
October 12
November 9
December 14

Next Meeting...

The agenda for the April 19th meeting is:

- Call to order and introductions
- Reports from the City Neighborhood Liaison*, the Prosecutor's Office*, and the Indianapolis Police Department*
- Security for your home

*Provided when information is available

Place Community Health Network here

The deadline for newsletter article submissions is 11:00pm on the evening of our monthly meeting. You can submit an article or an idea for an article by e-mail to dmoore1220@sbcglobal.net. EHCO reserves the right to decline to print any article submitted and to edit article as necessary.