

**City of
Richmond Heights**

Recreation Department

2014 Annual Report

Director of Recreation Deniese Spencer

April, 2014 – August 2014

Assistant Director of Recreation Anthony Gimellia

2014

Richmond Heights Community Park 27285 Highland Road

DeSan Park 475 Trebisky Road

Greenwood Farm 264 Richmond Road



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Organizational Chart

01/01/2014 – 12/31/2014

Deniese Spencer

04/2014 - 08/2014

Recreation Director

Anthony Gimellia

Assistant Recreation Director

2014 Recreation in Review

In March, 2014 the City of Richmond Heights was again awarded the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Community Recycling Awareness Grant. The Recreation Department was able to use this grant for hosting two Shred Day events on June 21 and on October 4. People from Richmond Heights and surrounding communities to shred their personal documents securely. Each car was restricted to five boxes. The grant was also used to purchase and distribute the durable blue recycling bags to the Richmond Heights residents. The City spent some of the grant money on advertising the events. We advertised in the Sun Messenger, the News Herald, the Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com.

Casino bus trips continued to be a popular form of entertainment for many of our residents. In 2014, the participants traveled to the Seneca Allegany Casino and to the Presque Isle Casino.

On Saturday, April 10 the Recreation Department hosted an Egg Hunt at the Richmond Heights Community Park. A large crowd of people enjoyed the fun activities and the children that participated loved gathering eggs at the Egg Hunt. Richmond Heights Amateur Sports gave hot dogs to all that attended.

On Saturday, May 10 the Recreation Department implemented a Mother's Appreciation Day Brunch. Pancakes, sausage, yogurt and fresh cut fruit were the highlights for the breakfast. The Richmond Heights Choir performed wonderfully for the people in attendance. All moms were able to attend the event for free and received a carnation when they arrived.

The Father's Day Picnic and Barbeque was held on Saturday, June 28 at the Richmond Heights Community Park. The event was free to all who attended. Hot Dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, chips and refreshments were served. A DJ was there to provide entertainment. There was a raffle in which lucky winners won some nice prizes geared towards fathers.

In June, the Richmond Heights Municipal Pool re-opened after being closed in 2013. The grand opening was held on Friday, June 13. The Step by Step Day Camp returned in 2014 to provide some additional revenue for the Recreation Department.

Recreation had its 16th annual Richmond Heights Craft Show on Saturday, November 1. Forty-three craft tables that cost either \$35 or \$40 were sold for this event. The Garden Club raffled the themed baskets again this year, with the proceeds benefitting the Garden Club Scholarship Fund. All in all, it was another very successful event.

This was our 18th year for our Breakfast with Santa! The Breakfast with Santa Committee that consisted of Nancy Benander, Christel Best, Anthony Gimellia, Jerry Hoover, Judy Karla and Linda Staccho did a wonderful job coordinated this very popular event. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Claus (Terry and Kathy Yerkic), we had "Mickey and Minnie Mouse" posing with the younger children giving out candy canes. Santa and Mrs. Claus gave out small bags of reindeer soup to the children that came to visit the famous Santa sleigh. The children also enjoyed fantastic face painting, making Christmas tree crafts, Snowman Soup and decorate-your-own reindeer cupcakes. The children and their parents enjoyed fresh hot chocolate chip pancakes and sausages made by our Service Department volunteers. Volunteers from Richmond Heights, the Garden Club and students from the Richmond Heights Key Club and St. Paschal Baylon assisted at various activities. Once again, a true community effort!

The Richmond Heights Youth Basketball program continues to be a very popular activity for children to participate in. The league was comprised of 96 children at different grade levels from Kindergarten – Grade 8. The league works extremely hard to make the teams fair and have it be a fun and learning experience for the players. We achieve that by having competitive games each Saturday, that are well-attended by the Richmond Heights community.

Recreation sponsored the following programs in 2014:

Exer- Swim	Basketball Leagues
Swim Lessons	Exercise Classes