

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Anthony Gimellia, Editor

The CITY EDITION



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JOIN THE FUN!

RECREATION DEPARTMENT
LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS
TO HELP AT CITY EVENTS.
(216) 383-6313

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DAVID H. ROCHE

As we enter the fall season, I would like to remind you that all ages are invited to the 8th annual Family Fall Fun Fest at the Farm, which will take place Saturday, September 17, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the historic Greenwood Farm, located at 264 Richmond Road in Richmond Heights. Come and enjoy music, food and much more. See Page 2 for more information.

Our City's 100-year anniversary is quickly approaching and will take place in 2017. Plans are presently underway for a continuous series of celebrations. We have a lot to be proud of, so stay tuned for announcements regarding our upcoming celebratory activities.

As a result of a grant awarded to the City by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development, the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, City of Richmond Heights and community stakeholders have been engaged in developing a new Masterplan that will enhance both long and short-term goals. The Masterplan will focus on seven different geographical areas within the City, starting with a more robust use of our airport and its surrounding land. Another major area of focus is our retail landscape. As part of our planning, we will develop ways to encourage expansion of our area businesses. The City is developing a strategy through the Masterplan for how the community wants to progress and grow in the future.

The present tax configuration in the City of Richmond Heights gives residents who work in other cities a 100% income tax credit toward their City of Richmond Heights tax liability. With our existing structure, as neighboring municipalities increase their income tax rate, City of Richmond Heights' income tax revenues decrease. This reduced revenue has the potential to interfere with needed police and fire/EMS, service department offerings, infrastructural repairs, recreational programs and other City services. As such, it is critical that residents have a solid understanding of the effects of the City's current income tax policies, and the need to improve this tax structure to better match the City's funding needs. It is only with sufficient funding that we can proudly sustain a safe, healthy and vibrant community. Please See Page 3 for additional details.

I am looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, September 17, at the Family Fall Fun Fest!

FALL FAMILY FUN FEST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

SEE PAGE 2
FOR THE DETAILS

SHRED DAY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
RICHMOND HEIGHTS CITY HALL
26789 HIGHLAND ROAD

8TH ANNUAL FAMILY FALL FUN FEST AT THE FARM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 12 P.M. TO 6 P.M.



AT THE HISTORIC GREENWOOD FARM
264 RICHMOND ROAD, RICHMOND HEIGHTS



FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

LIVE MUSIC, GREAT LOCAL FOOD, KIDZ ZONE, INFLATABLES, GAME TRUCK & MORE!

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS OR BLANKETS

FREE ADMISSION, FREE PARKING AND COMPLIMENTARY HAYRIDES

HOT DOGS, CHIPS AND SODA COMPLIMENTS OF SALVATION ARMY (12 P.M. - 2 P.M.)

RICHMOND HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB WILL BE SELLING A VARIETY OF PLANTS

BAND LINEUP:

- 2:00 P.M. – THE CLASSICS
SPONSORED BY HOLLYWOOD SCAPES
- 4:00 P.M. – THE PRIME TIME BIG BAND

PURCHASE TICKETS FOR CHANCE TO WIN:

- \$100 TARGET GIFT CARD
- FOUR TICKETS TO SEE ANY 2016 SHOW AT THE AGORA THEATRE AND BALLROOM
- MUSIC BOX SUPPER CLUB PACKAGE
- & MORE! (SEE BELOW)

WWW.RICHMONDHEIGHTSOHIO.ORG



THANK YOU TO OUR FAMILY FALL FUN FEST RAFFLE SPONSORS!

Thanks to the generosity of various sponsors, we will have an expansive raffle at our 2016 Family Fall Fun Fest, through which participants will have the opportunity to win a variety of fabulous prizes. Offerings include a one-night stay at the Hilton Garden Inn of Mayfield Village; a \$100 Target gift card; a Mayfield Heights Fox & Hound gift basket that includes a free party for 10 or more people, plus two cheese pizzas, 24 wings and two hours of pool for each guest; a \$30 gift card to Austin's Smokin' Steakhouse; a gift certificate to Chagrin Valley Little Theatre; free valet parking, concert tickets, and a food and beverage voucher for the Music Box Supper Club; four tickets to see any 2016 show at the Agora Theatre and Ballroom; 10 bowling passes for Wickliffe Lanes; batting cage tokens for Lost Nation Sports Park; four passes to the Improv Comedy Club; a gift certificate for Beachland Ballroom & Tavern; a golf outing at Berkshire Hills Golf Course that includes an 18-hole round of golf for a foursome and one power cart; a \$25 Costco gift card and tickets to see a show at Ensemble Theatre. We appreciate this year's raffle sponsors!

RICHMOND HEIGHTS TOTAL TAX OBLIGATION COMPARES FAVORABLY TO SURROUNDING CITIES

With regard to planning and looking ahead to the future, we have come to a critical milestone in keeping our community safe and strong. Recently, the Mayor recommended and City Council unanimously passed legislation to put a charter amendment on the ballot that would establish an income tax credit limit of 1.25%. This charter amendment would allow residents to support existing City services, while the City continues to receive less funding from the State of Ohio.

The proposed Charter amendment to alter the City's income tax credit limit would enable the City to continue providing necessary services to the residents of Richmond Heights. Currently, our City has a 2.25% tax rate, a 100% tax credit, and a 2.25% credit limit. (Note: The City does not tax interest, dividends, capital gains, pensions, social security or veteran benefits.) The draft ballot language proposed is: *Shall Article XII, Section 2, of the Charter of the City of Richmond Heights be amended to establish a credit limit on city income taxes paid by a city resident who pays income taxes to another municipality so as to provide for a credit limit of 100% of up to 1.25% of the total taxable income earned or attributable to another municipality of employment or business activity?*

So, why is the proposed Charter amendment beneficial for the community as a whole? First, making this change ensures that our City can maintain basic services—such as police, fire, EMS and recreational programming. If we don't make a change, our current tax base will decrease; therefore, we will not be able to maintain the current quality of City services. In other words, when other cities raise their taxes, our City's tax collections go down, which can have a profound impact on the City's services. For example, Cleveland is proposing changing their rate from 2% to 2.5% this fall. If that happens, our City loses about \$140,000 in tax collections. Residents will pay more to Cleveland, and Richmond Heights will lose all of that revenue.

During the past five years, our City has lost about \$800,000 in funding from the State of Ohio due to decreases in the Local Government Fund and phase out of both tangible personal property taxes and the inheritance tax. Passing the credit limit change will generate approximately \$1 million dollars in additional revenues for the City. This credit limit change will make up for lost revenues and enable us to maintain a safe, robust community.

Peer City Taxes: Income and Real Estate Taxes (Current)

	<u>Resident Working in Home City</u>			<u>Resident Working in Different City</u>	
	*(1) Real Estate	*(2) Income Tax	Total Taxes Owed	*(3) Income Tax	Total Taxes Owed
Beachwood	\$2,112	\$1,000	\$3,112	\$1,000	\$3,112
Highland Hts.	\$2,290	\$1,000	\$3,290	\$1,000	\$3,290
Mayfield Village	\$2,297	\$1,000	\$3,297	\$1,000	\$3,297
Mayfield Hts.	\$2,474	\$500	\$2,974	\$1,250	\$3,724
Richmond Hts.	\$2,774	\$1,125	\$3,899	\$1,125	\$3,899
Lyndhurst	\$3,101	\$1,000	\$4,101	\$1,500	\$4,601
Euclid	\$3,269	\$1,425	\$4,694	\$1,425	\$4,694
South Euclid	\$3,264	\$1,000	\$4,264	\$1,625	\$4,889
Cleveland Hts.	\$3,698	\$1,125	\$4,823	\$1,750	\$5,448

***(1) \$100,000 market value home at current real estate tax rates**

***(2) \$50,000 annual taxable income**

***(3) Typical work city tax rate of 2.0% used as an example**

Welcome to the City of Richmond Heights Service Department!

Service Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Address: 26260 Chardonview Road

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Phone: (216) 731-7014

Leaf Collection: The Service Department will start picking leaves up the third or fourth week in October. For residents' convenience, any scheduling changes will be posted on City Hall's message board. City staff could be injured and equipment could be damaged if sticks, rocks or any other materials are placed in with your leaves, so to ensure everyone's safety, please be careful to avoid these materials when raking. Please rake leaves as close to the street as possible, but do not put leaves in the street. The Service Department posts its daily route online during leaf season at: www.richmondheightsohio.org.

Snow Season: In regard to City plowing, main roads are given priority, followed by secondary, then side streets and cul-de-sacs. The City is not responsible for removal of snow thrown into any driveway by City snow plows.

Piles of snow in the road can create dangerous obstacles for motorists and the City snowplowing equipment, so residents and snowplowing contractors should avoid plowing, shoveling, or blowing any snow onto the road surface. If a person is reported placing snow in the roadway, he or she could be subject to a possible citation.

Residents should stress to their children to stay out of the path of snow being thrown off the plows, since there could be rocks or ice that could injure a child in its path. Also, children should **NOT** dig tunnels in the snow or build igloos near the roadway or roadside ditches.

Please be patient with our snowplow drivers when inclement conditions occur; it is our utmost goal to serve residents in a timely fashion, but inclement weather can delay service. Please, leave ample distance when driving behind a plow truck, as they have blind spots and may stop suddenly or back up.

Rural Mailboxes: Mailboxes should be kept in good condition so they can withstand being hit by the force of snow being thrown off plow trucks. Post mount boxes should be positioned 6-8 inches from the curb and approximately 42-46 inches high measured from the lawn to the top of the installed mailbox, not the top of the post. If the post has a vertical arm, the arm should not extend any closer than 6 inches from the curb. If a mailbox is damaged or the post is broken because of thrown snow or improper placement, the City is not responsible for repair or replacement. **The City only repairs or replaces a mailbox that has been hit directly by the snowplow equipment.** If the City does have to replace a mailbox post, the replacement post will not exceed 4'x4'. All mailboxes and posts that the City is responsible for replacing because of a direct hit from City plows will be replaced with a conventional box and wood post. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, and may each resident have a safe and fun fall and winter!

SNOW PLOW PERMIT REQUIRED

City ordinance 783.01 requires any person removing snow from private driveways or parking lots by means of a snow removal vehicle, to obtain a snow plow permit from the Police Department. The permit fee is \$10 per vehicle and is valid October 15 - April 15. A new permit is required each year. Persons are prohibited from depositing snow onto a roadway. Snow removed from any driveway or sidewalk must remain on the property the snow was removed from.

SNOW PARKING BAN

Whenever snow accumulates in excess of 2 inches on City streets, a snow parking ban shall exist which prohibits vehicles from parking on any and all City streets. Vehicles found in violation will receive a citation and may be towed at the owner's expense.



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER AND CONCERT

Volunteer help and sponsors are essential to the success of the many activities that the Richmond Heights Recreation Department has offered to its residents. On Saturday, November 5, the Recreation Department is hosting a Volunteer/Sponsor Appreciation Dinner and Concert to say thank you and recognize the individuals who volunteered or were a sponsor for a City event in the **last calendar year**. This fun-filled event will take place from 6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. at the Kiwanis Lodge. If you have volunteered and would like to attend, please contact the Recreation Department at (216) 383-6313 before October 5.

19TH ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Richmond Heights Recreation Department and the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club are teaming up on Saturday, December 3, for the City's 19th Annual Breakfast with Santa.

Enjoy fresh, hot pancakes and delicious sausage while waiting for the scheduled



appearance of that special visitor from the North Pole, right here at the Kiwanis Lodge! Breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ticket prices are \$5 each and free to children under 2. Children will be able make a holiday craft. There will also be face painting and other characters to meet! Tickets will go on sale in City Hall at the Recreation Department on Monday, November 7. **Tickets must be purchased in advance.** This event has sold out every year, so don't wait to purchase your tickets!

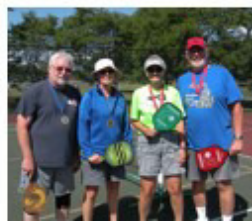
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT HELD AT CITY HALL AUGUST 2

National Night Out was held at Richmond Heights City Hall Tuesday, August 2, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This police-community partnership brought police and neighbors together in a family-friendly environment. Special highlights included a SWAT vehicle, EMS and police vehicle demonstrations, a food truck from La Taqueria of Richmond Heights, children's activities such as sidewalk chalk drawing and a "match the ducks" game, free popcorn and snow cones, various giveaways, music, free child identification cards and more! Thank you to everyone who participated in the event. This was the City's first National Night Out, and we hope to make the event an annual tradition.

2016 COED ADULT BOCCE LEAGUE SEASON A SUCCESS

The 2016 Richmond Heights coed adult bocce league included four teams consisting of 20 players, which finished its season on August 4. The winning team was the Richmond Rollers. Players not only competed in the Thursday night bocce games, but also developed new friendships through weekly cookouts before each game. The league proved beneficial for people of all skill levels and abilities. If you would like to join a team next year, please plan on signing up through the Recreation Department, and don't forget to invite a friend!

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS



On Thursday, September 1, 2016, the inaugural Pickleball Richmond Heights Doubles Tournament was held in the Richmond Heights Community Park. This was the culmination of the first season of Pickleball in Richmond Heights. Thank you to all who participated, and congratulations to our winners! Thank you to our season sponsor, Brookdale Senior Living of Richmond Heights.

ATTENTION ALL BOYS & GIRLS KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 8 RICHMOND HEIGHTS YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Registration for the Richmond Heights Youth Basketball League has begun. The deadline to register to play in the league will be on Tuesday, October 18. Team practices will begin in November. All teams will practice once a week. Team practices are held at the Richmond Heights Elementary School. The first game will be played on Saturday, January 7. The season will conclude on February 25. Regular season games for the Kindergarten - 8th grade leagues are mostly played at the Richmond Heights Middle School Gym. Register for the league at the Recreation Department inside City Hall. For more information, call (216) 383-6313. **Fee: \$70**



GENERAL ELECTION DAY: NEW VOTING LOCATION FOR WARD 1

Tuesday, November 8, is General Election Day. Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections recently announced a new voting location for Ward 1, which will now vote at Christian Assembly, located at 25595 Chardon Road in Richmond Heights. Ward 2 votes at the Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road, in the back of Richmond Heights Community Park. Ward 3 will vote at Saint Gregory of Narek Church at 678 Richmond Road. Lastly, Ward 4 votes at Richmond Heights Church of the Nazarene at 499 Trebisky Road.

Please note: Richmond Heights City Edition Page 6 REVISED September 13, 2016

NOISE ABATEMENT MEETING

Cuyahoga County Airport
Area B Conference Room

Thursday, October 13, at 10:00 a.m.

SET THE CLOCKS BACK: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Don't forget it's time to "FALL BACK." Set your clocks back one (1) hour on Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 a.m.

This is also the time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

FIVE FIREMEN RECOGNIZED FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS



Five members of the Richmond Heights Division of Fire were recognized during the August 23 City Council meeting for 25 years of service with the City of Richmond Heights. (From left to right) Lt. John Boos, Kenneth Ratkosky, Kenric Pinter, Phillip Salvia and Lt. Michael Libens.

Five members of the Richmond Heights Division of Fire were recognized by Mayor Roche and City Council for 25 years of service with the City during the August 23 City Council meeting. Lieutenants John Boos and Michael Libens, and firefighters Kenric Pinter, Kenneth Ratkosky and Phillip Salvia all went to work for the first time in the City on August 26, 1991. In all, six were hired that day in 1991 and served as the City's first paramedics. Fire Chief Marc Neumann presented each individual with a plaque at the City Council meeting, and a reception was held in their honor.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS: RICHMOND HEIGHTS SEEKS TEAM PLAYERS FOR VARIOUS LEADERSHIP ROLES

Do you want to take an active leadership role in the City of Richmond Heights? If so, please consider joining:

- CERT
- Civil Service
- Board of Review (Taxation)
- Ethics Commission
- Senior Commission on Aging

Call Richmond Heights City Hall at (216) 486-2474 for more details!

NEW FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR-ALAN ZWEGAT

Alan Zwegat has been hired as the Fire Safety Inspector for the City of Richmond Heights. Mr. Zwegat brings a wealth of fire prevention knowledge to the City as he recently retired from the City of Willoughby where he served as the Fire Chief for many years. In his role as Fire Safety Inspector Mr. Zwegat will be inspecting businesses, multi-family dwellings, and educational facilities to ensure that federal, state, and local fire codes are met, and ultimately a safer community. We are pleased to have Mr. Zwegat as a part of the Public Safety team.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB NEWS

As part of the Richmond Heights Senior Citizen Club, you will reap the benefits of an accepting, friendly atmosphere coupled with the joy that comes with mingling with friends and neighbors. You must simply be a Richmond Heights resident who is 50 years of age or older to enjoy this highly social, intrinsically rewarding group.

If you are not a member yet, now is the time to join! Senior members of the club are currently recruiting new, young-thinking individuals. Currently, the group's membership consists of a few dozen people, with numerous members actively attending general meetings. We are looking to grow, so come alone—or better yet, bring a friend or neighbor who is also 50 years or older. Dues are a mere \$10 annually, and general meetings include a snack, in addition to entertainment or a live speaker. General meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Kiwanis Lodge, located at 27285 Highland Road. For more information, please contact Senior Club President Mitzi Binder at (216) 531-1585.

GARDEN CLUB PROGRAMMING OFFERS SOCIAL, CIVIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Richmond Heights Garden Club programming is about to be in full swing, and Viola Scott, one of the founding members of the club, said the organization provides members with multiple opportunities to get socially and civically involved in the community. She became involved with the Garden Club in the late 1960s, when it was first originated. "It's an immensely social group of individuals who share a passion for gardening," Scott said.

While gardening can be hard work, it is certainly worthwhile and enjoyable, Scott explained. She has enjoyed planting flowers at the Kiwanis Lodge, Community Park and at her personal residence. At times, members make their personal gardens available for open viewing to other members, so that they can see each other's creations. "We're a tightknit group of old and new friends that is always looking to grow," Scott stated.

The Richmond Heights Garden Club is entering its 48th year. Re-elected officers for the coming 2016-2017 year are: President, Aire Roche; Vice President, Myrna Yeager; Recording Secretary, Susan Myers; Corresponding Secretary, Eleanor Riznar; and Treasurer, Dolores Sciaulino.

The Garden Club meets on the third Thursday of the month from September through December and February through June at the Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road, located at the rear of the Richmond Heights Community Park. Annual dues, set at just \$10, are kept low to ensure all interested individuals can participate.

If you are interested in joining the Garden Club or for more information, please contact Dolores Sciaulino at (216) 382-7866. The September meeting will be a meet-and-greet format at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS KIWANIS CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

With nearly 50 years in the making, the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club is a place where you can grow, give back and aid in sustaining the local community. The club has a variety of short-, mid- and long-term visions for the future, but it needs more members to make these visions a reality.

"Most individuals want to give back, and as someone focused on giving, it makes you feel good to be part of a like-minded organization of people. The amount of satisfaction you get from accomplishing something that benefits the community is incredible," said Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club President Jerry Hoover. He added one of the Club's missions is to take the desires and needs of people who want to give back and give them an outlet to fulfill their passions. "This is a club in which you can really thrive," he explained.

The club is open to folks ages 21 and older—including both males and females—and members pay a small annual membership fee of \$110. General meetings are held each Thursday at the Lodge at 6:30 p.m. The group starts with a standard opening, and then members enjoy a delicious meal together (cost, \$8) before engaging in a general meeting format. At times, meetings include a special guest speaker. On occasion, the group engages in special entertainment, such as hosting clam bakes, organizing Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and other holiday festivities, attending horse harness races, enjoying a Kiwanis Night at the Captains, and more. The Kiwanis Club annual Clam Bake will be held on Thursday, October 13. In addition, a Christmas party will be held in December.

"We're free to check out, so feel free to stop by our general meeting if you're new to the club. We'll even throw in a free guest meal. Simply give me a call at (216) 780-4087 to indicate you will be attending," Hoover said.

CITY ^{The} EDITION

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The City with the *Forward* Look!

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Editor's note: I would like to thank Chief Correspondent Kyla Price, Valerie Stevenson and Ken Stray for their assistance during the production of this City Edition. I also want to thank everyone who submitted an article or photo for their contribution.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THE RICHMOND HEIGHTS BI-MONTHLY E - NEWSLETTER?

Please e-mail
special.projects@richmondheightsohio.org
Please type in the subject field
"RH E-NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION"

Congratulations to the new Recreation Board members, who are:
Charlotte Camp
Angela Jordan
Tamitra Peavy
Patricia Thompson
Zachary Tomsick

HAPPY HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION PRESENTS

PASTA WITH A PURPOSE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

KIWANIS LODGE

\$15 Early Bird Tickets (Until 10/1)

\$20 Adults

\$11 Seniors & Children 12/Under

For more information, contact Jackie Tinsley (216) 855-4566

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Every Saturday in October from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Richmond Heights Service Garage

Accepted items: Oil or solvent-based paint, sealers, primers or coatings (aerosols or liquid); varnishes, polyurethanes, shellacs; paint thinner, mineral spirits, turpentine; pesticides, herbicides, fungicides; caustic household cleaners; pool chemicals; automotive fluids, motor oil, car batteries, adhesives, roof tar, driveway sealer; kerosene, gasoline, lighter fluid; fluorescent bulbs (6 foot max).

Materials not accepted: Latex paint; explosives, gun powder, ammunition flares; medical waste, medicine, smoke detectors; tires; electronics, appliances, business or commercial waste.