

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Anthony Gimellia, Editor

The CITY EDITION**DID YOU KNOW?**

1. The Village of Claribel, later known as the City of Richmond Heights, was incorporated in 1917. The territory was originally known as Euclid Township, then Richmond Settlement before becoming a village.
2. Claribel derived its name from a woman whose name was Clara Bell. Clara was the daughter of Franklin Bell, the second postmaster of the Claribel Post Office at 444 Richmond Road. Clara resided near the intersection of Richmond Road and Highland Road for several years.
3. The creek behind Richmond Heights City Hall was recently named Claribel Creek.
4. A petition signed by about 30 resident freeholders of Claribel Village to change the name to Richmond Heights was presented to the Court of Common Pleas on November 27, 1918. The change was granted, and on February 3, 1919, Council acted to have a sign erected on their meeting place to read, "Richmond Heights Town Hall."
5. Greenwood Farm, a National Historic Landmark located in Richmond Heights, is celebrating 100 years of history in 2017.

A Message from Mayor David H. Roche

2017 marks 100 years of vibrant history in Richmond Heights. United, we enjoy a small-town feel with outstanding services and the convenience of a much larger community. Our offerings span from top-notch Police and Fire/EMS services, to family-friendly recreational programming, the community pool, Kiwanis Lodge, ballfields, tennis and pickleball courts, pavilions, gazebo, DeSan Park, Greenwood Farm and Richmond Heights Community Park. Examples of other amenities include the Cuyahoga County Airport, University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center and Richmond Town Square regional shopping center. Plans are presently underway for a continuous series of themed celebrations. Be sure to visit richmondheightsohio.org and click on the Centennial Celebration logo to keep abreast of celebratory events.

Thanks to the community's support in passing the Issue 88 charter amendment, we are able to stay strong and safe. In November, two new members were sworn in to the Division of Police, Kevin Watts and Marlon Webb. (See Page 4 for details.) In 2017, we are planning to replace our 14-year-old EMS vehicle. This purchase will include buying a stretcher system, which will be partially funded by the Bureau of Workers' Compensation Safety Intervention Grant.

James W. Teknipp began fulfilling the role of Director of Finance effective January 3, 2017. He is a former Finance Director of Willowick, Willoughby Hills and Bedford. See Pg. 5 for more information.

We continue regional initiatives through our regional technical rescue team, support of the Suburban Police Anti-Crime Network (SPAN) and collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. The Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team (HTRT) may soon merge with the Heights Area Special Rescue Team (HASRT). On December 20, 2016, City Council passed legislation approving the consolidation of the teams. See Page 5 to read about the benefits of merging the two units into one. We are also taking regional initiatives by supporting the SPAN Drug Enforcement Unit, which works diligently to keep member communities safe. Since June 2016, the City has been working with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission to create a new master plan for Richmond Heights. We are now approximately halfway through the master plan process, with the County Planning Commission having identified seven target areas. Be sure to read more about the master plan on Page 2.

Currently, the City is investigating contracting with the County to house our prisoners. Relieving the patrol division from duties that are necessary when housing prisoners would potentially provide more time for patrolling activities and community policing. Discussions are ongoing to ensure an effective and efficient transition.

I am pleased and honored to serve as your Mayor. I hope to see you soon at our upcoming Centennial activities and wish each resident a happy, healthy New Year.



**RICHMOND HEIGHTS
YOUTH BASKETBALL
TEAM SPONSORS
THANK YOU FOR
SPONSORING A TEAM!**

- Benander Games/Sports Data
- Central Exterminating
- C.H.A.N.G.E. Volunteers Inc.
- Cleveland Jet Center
- Destiny Transportation
- Done Right Automotive
- Gas And Go
- Hillcrest Sunoco
- La Taqueria
- Little Giants
- Richmond Heights Kiwanis
- Richmond Town Square
- Step By Step Learn And Play



PICKLEBALL RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Christian Assembly Church 25595 Chardon Road
6 sessions - \$25 1 session - \$5
Open to players of all skill levels! Come join the fun!

NEW RECREATION PROGRAMMING! YOUTH BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER SPRING OUTDOOR LEAGUE

In April and May, the Richmond Heights Recreation Department will be offering a spring outdoor soccer league in conjunction with the Ohio North Youth Soccer Association. Players are taught game strategies, tactics, skill development, and teamwork by U.S. Soccer licensed coaches. All games are played within a recreational environment. Register at the Richmond Heights City Hall beginning February 1.



Grades: Kindergarten - Grade 4
Location: Richmond Heights Community Park **Fee:** \$35

**8th ANNUAL
"JUNK IN THE TRUNK"
Garage Sale & Flea Market
Saturday, July 15**

at Greenwood Farm

Vendors Spaces \$30

Volunteers Needed



**Call (216) 383-6313
for more information**

COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR ALL TO BE HELD ON APRIL 27

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Where: The Hub at Richmond Heights High School

The Computer Science For All (CSforAll 2017) event is an opportunity for all community members in Richmond Heights to become familiar with The Hub, a technology resource located in Richmond Heights High School. There are many topics being developed regarding technology usage for all ages and skill levels that will be meaningful to residents. More specific information about the event will be distributed in the near future.

SHRED DAY AND HARVEST FOR HUNGER DRIVE

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS CITY HALL

26789 HIGHLAND ROAD



POLICE DEPARTMENT ADDS TWO NEW MEMBERS

The City added two new members to the Division of Police in November. Patrolman Kevin Watts was hired as a full-time officer upon successful completion of the Civil Service hiring process. Kevin had previous experience as a part-time officer for communities in Lake County. Patrolman Marlonn Webb was hired as a part-time officer. Marlonn is currently a full-time officer with the University Hospital Police Department and had previous experience with the CMHA Police Department and the Highland Hills Police Department. Both new officers will be required to complete a minimum of 90 days training with a training officer. Kevin and Marlonn are eager to begin their service to the residents of Richmond Heights.

POLICE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

Det. Sgt. Darren Porter attended and graduated from the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) in November 2016. PELC is a three week leadership school established by the Law Enforcement Foundation, which is a branch of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police. This prestigious school prepares and develops supervisors in the law enforcement profession. In addition to attending classroom studies one week per month, many additional hours of work out of classroom are necessary to complete the course of training. Sgt. Porter is the seventh member of the police department to attend this training.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT NEWS AND NOTES

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

Phone: (216) 731-7014

- If you have carpeting you need to get rid of, you must roll and tie it and cut into lengths of 4 feet and put it out with your trash on Monday. Make sure the rolls are not too heavy for one person to pick up.
- Any large items, such as a sofa, chair, television, dresser, etc., also go out with your regular trash on Mondays. It's a good idea to call Waste Management if you are going to have larger items put out on trash day. The number is: **1 (866) 797-9018**.
- If you have mattresses you need to get rid of, you must wrap them in plastic and tape them before putting them out in your trash, or Waste Management will not pick them up.
- For pickup of stoves, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, and hot water tanks: call the Service Department at **(216) 731-7014**. Please give them at least a day's notice for this so they can work it into the daily schedule.
- The Service Department chips branches from small clean ups in your yard. They do not chip branches from cutting down large trees, or from work done by a contractor. The equipment cannot handle that type of work. They follow the recycling route for chipping, the north side the 2nd and 4th week of the month and the south side the 1st and 3rd week of the month. They do the chipping on Wednesdays, weather permitting. If there is snow or ice on the roads, they will not be out chipping. Another option for you to get rid of your branches is to bundle them up, tie them and put them out with your trash on Mondays. Make sure they are no longer than lengths of 4 feet and are manageable for one person to pick up.
- Recycling **must** be in either a blue, clear, or white bag, and separated from your trash. They need to be able to see that it is recycling. They can't see through a black bag.

Thinking about Winter...

- Please be patient with the City snowplow drivers in snowy conditions, as they are doing the best that they can. Don't drive too closely behind a plow truck, because they may stop suddenly or back up, and they may not see you. We want everyone to stay safe on the roads.
- Make sure to check your rural mailboxes throughout the winter months. Snow coming off the snowplows can loosen mailboxes and eventually knock them off. We are not responsible for repairing or replacing them.
- Do not push snow from your driveway or apron into the street. If you are seen doing this, you could get a citation. Also, the Service Department **does not** remove snow from driveway aprons. That is the responsibility of the homeowner.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DISTINGUISHED VALOR AWARD

Ptl. Gregory Patterson was awarded the "Distinguished Law Enforcement Valor Award" at the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on October 5, 2016. Ptl. Patterson received the award for his valiant actions on December 6, 2015, when a suicidal man shot Sergeant Mike Gerl. Ptl. Patterson was able to quickly react and prevented the attacker from firing again at the sergeant or at him.

HILLCREST TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM MAY MERGE WITH HASRT

The Richmond Heights Division of Fire belongs to the Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team (HTRT), a group of highly trained rescue technicians that may soon consolidate with the Heights Area Special Rescue Team (HASRT). On December 20, 2016, City Council passed legislation approving the consolidation of the teams. Benefits of consolidation include lower vehicle and equipment costs, a more even distribution of resources, reduced operating costs, greater opportunities for outside funding and better implementation of standard procedures. City Councils from each member municipality must approve the merger to bring the two teams together, and approval is pending in several other communities. However, it is expected that the merger will be completed by March 2017. If approved, the merger would bring the HTRT communities of Gates Mills, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Pepper Pike, Richmond Heights, and Willoughby Hills together with the HASRT communities, which include Beachwood, Cleveland Heights, Euclid, Shaker Heights, South Euclid, and University Heights. The new team would be called the Heights-Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team, or HHTRT.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Congratulations to the Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce (HRCC) Bright Star for 2016, Christel Best!

Each year, chambers who are members of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) each get to nominate a member who has “made a significant impact on the chamber through membership, retention, sponsorship, economic development, operations and/or education.” Christel Best, Economic Development Director for the City of Richmond Heights, who serves on the HRCC Board of Directors as the City’s representative, was recognized at a special awards ceremony at October’s NOACC leadership meeting, held at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton.

Christel co-chairs HRCC’s Civic Involvement/Economic Development Committee and has been instrumental in creating dialogue and cooperation among and between HRCC’s six member cities.

Halle Barnett of Media Schmedia L.L.C. said, “Our member volunteers are the heart of our success, and we are thrilled to be able to honor Christel for exceptional efforts and exemplary modeling of what it means to create community.”

CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS INTRODUCES JAMES W. TEKNIPP AS NEW DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Effective January 3, 2017, James W. Teknipp began fulfilling the role of Director of Finance for the City of Richmond Heights. Most recently, he served as Payroll and Benefits Coordinator at the City of Wickliffe. He is also a former Finance Director of Willowick, Willoughby Hills and Bedford.

Teknipp earned his dual major Bachelor’s degree in Economics and Accounting from Edinboro University in Edinboro, Pennsylvania. At age 23, he began serving as Councilman of the Village of Lakeline, Ohio, a role which he fulfilled for one term. He was also a part-time Finance Director and Clerk/Treasurer of Lakeline. Formerly, he was a Certified Financial Planner and held a Series 7 Stock Broker’s License.



Teknipp has received more than 20 years of clean opinion audits by the Ohio Auditor. On two separate occasions, he was awarded the Ohio Auditor of State “Auditor’s Award.” In addition, as former Fiscal Officer and Business Manager of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library, he was instrumental in the library receiving the “Making Your Tax Dollars Count” award, which is given annually to fewer than five percent of all Ohio government agencies.

Mr. Teknipp considers himself to be a creative thinker who enjoys working with his hands and building and rehabbing. His passion is to lead by example and help others. He has been happily married for 31 years to Kim and is the proud father of two sons, Ryan and Anthony.

“I look forward to being a long-term part of the fabric of Richmond Heights, working with the Mayor, City Council and the staff of Richmond Heights,” Teknipp said. “I plan to help continue the City’s upward trend and support ‘the City with the Forward Look’ with a forward-looking mindset.”

**RICHMOND HEIGHTS
EASTER EGG HUNT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8
12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.**

**TICKETS ON SALE AT CITY
HALL STARTING IN MARCH**

R & B LINE DANCE EXERCISE BY TINA

Are you trying to lose weight or start living a healthy lifestyle? This fun class is a great form of exercise.

WEDNESDAYS
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Kiwanis Lodge

For more information,
contact Tina (216) 347-4551

SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES

Seniors come join the Wednesday & Friday morning fitness classes at 9:30 a.m. Light weights, chair exercises, Zumba Gold (Latin dance & fitness moves) and Zumba toning. Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes with light traction. Bring light hand weights, hand towel and water. No registration required, open to all.

Cost: \$3.00 per class.

STRONG BY ZUMBA

“Ok, so dancing may not be your thing, come check out Strong by Zumba, a totally new fitness format.” This 60 minute class is for those who want to rev up their workouts to get the heart pumping with quadrants that include intervals, bursts, muscle toning and strengthening using your own body weight. Floor exercises that work not only your core but your upper body as well. Items required... you and a floor mat. This workout program can be modified to fit all fitness levels. Saturday mornings: 10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$5.00 per class Zumba punch cards available \$50.00 for 10 classes with 2 free classes

For more information on any of these classes, please contact Cindy at (216) 346-8909

2016 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA EVENT A SUCCESS

Thanks to many helping hands, the 2016 Breakfast with Santa event was a success. More than 140 attendees plus approximately 30 volunteers participated, making 2016's Breakfast with Santa a sell-out and one of the largest we have ever hosted.

Thank you to the Kiwanis Club for aiding with the event and helping sponsor Santa's toy workshop pillow pet giveaway. Also, we extend a heartfelt thanks to Nick Lopardo, Lenny Velotta and Tim McConaughy, who donated their time to cook; the



Richmond Heights Senior and Garden Clubs; Richmond Heights Key Club, St. Paschal Baylon Catholic Church; the Richmond Heights Recreation Board; CERT; the Breakfast with Santa Committee and all of our volunteers who helped make this event possible.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS KIWANIS CLUB

The Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club is a place where you can help sustain the local community, with a special focus on supporting youths.

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club President Jerry Hoover said members are beginning to plan activities for the City's 2017 Centennial Celebration. This year, the Kiwanis Club is also celebrating an anniversary, with 55 years in the making. “We are the longest, continuously running service organization in Richmond Heights,”

Hoover said. “We are youth-focused. Our whole organization is designed to support children,” he added.

Kiwanis members will do several service projects in 2017 that will be youth-oriented. “We're getting more involved with the schools and non-profit organizations that support children,” Hoover said.

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 is free to check out, and members of the public are welcome to join a general meeting to explore what the club is about. “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. Also, be sure to look up #KidsNeedKiwanis on Twitter for more information on how Kiwanis members nationwide are supporting youths.

 **Kiwanis**
Richmond Heights

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, MARCH 5
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
KIWANIS LODGE

REMINDER: CITY OFFERING SIMPLE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Simple Recycling, based in Solon, Ohio, offers weekly curbside pick-up of clothing, shoes and reusable household items (that do not exceed 50 pounds) on your regularly scheduled trash pickup day at no cost. Please place your provided Simple Recycling bags of material or items with the proper green Simple Recycling tag near your curb in plain sight before 8:00 a.m. Reminder: Simple Recycling does not accept large items such as mattresses and sofas. For a complete list of accepted items or to request additional bags, visit simplerecycling.com/supplies or call 1-866-835-5068. Your Simple Recycling pickup driver should leave replacement bags upon collection of goods, but extra bags are also available at City Hall.

CULINARY CLUB STARTED

Richmond Heights Secondary School has started a Culinary Club for students interested in cooking and food service careers. This club is headed up by veteran English teacher, Jaclyn Davey, who has volunteered her spare time to provide students with rich, real-world experiences that span beyond the classroom. The students participate in monthly culinary experiences through hands-on cooking, as well as field trips to farms, local eateries and other food service entities. The Culinary Club has partnered with Faith United Church, located on Richmond Road, where they have the opportunity to utilize their full cooking area to prepare foods as well as view demonstrations. This club is fostering partnerships within our community and providing students with authentic learning and life experiences.

GARDEN CLUB PROGRAMMING CONTINUES IN MARCH

Richmond Heights Garden Club programming will continue in March, with members on break in January and February. The club is currently in its 48th year. Officers for 2017 are: President, Aire Roche; Vice President, Myrna Yeager; Recording Secretary, Susan Myers; Corresponding Secretary, Eleanor Riznar; and Treasurer, Dolores Sciaulino.

Club members kept busy during December 2016 decorating City Hall and the Kiwanis Lodge. Garden Club member Karen Mansi decorated the City Hall Christmas tree. Mansi has been assisting with this annual project for approximately four years. She also decorated the Kiwanis Lodge tree for the second year in a row, in addition to creating the centerpieces for the Senior Club Christmas Luncheon and crafting wreaths and bows to make the lodge festive. She has been a florist for 54 years and chooses to be an active member because of the rewards her actions have for both herself and the City. "I like helping the City because it's fun for me, and helpful to the City. Anything they want me to, I do," Mansi said.

The Garden Club meets on the third Thursday of the month 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.

On March 16, the club will be making miniature terrariums. The Garden Club's annual Spring Luncheon will occur the following month on April 20 at Pine Ridge Country Club. On May 18, members will be able to enjoy a program entitled, "All About Lavender;" and on June 15, the club will host its Installation of Officers Luncheon. If you are interested in joining the Garden Club for any of the aforementioned activities and for more information on how to become a member, please contact Dolores Sciaulino at (216) 382-7866.



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.

The CITY EDITION

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Emergency 9-1-1

Richmond Heights City Hall (216) 486-2474

Richmond Heights Information Number (216) 383-6300

The City with the *Forward Look!*

Editor's note: I would like to thank Chief Correspondent Kyla Presto, 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 took photographs for their contribution.

CHECK CENTENNIAL PAGE ON WEBSITE FOR CELEBRATORY UPDATES



2017 marks 100 years of vibrant history in Richmond Heights. Please be sure to visit richmondheightsohio.org and click on the Centennial Celebration logo to keep abreast of upcoming celebratory activities. Also, be sure to subscribe to the City of Richmond Heights e-newsletter if you haven't already done so, as we will be announcing activities via our e-blasts, as well.

SCHOOL NEWS

For the latest Richmond Heights Local Schools news, be sure to visit richmondheightsschools.org

SET CLOCKS AHEAD DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Don't forget it's time to "SPRING AHEAD." Set your clocks ahead one (1) hour on Sunday, March 12, at 2:00 a.m. This is also the time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

WOMEN LEADERS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Women in Northeast Ohio are helping to spur economic growth through an organization called Women Leaders in Economic Development ("WLED"). The WLED organization is led by Linda Barita, Director of Strategic Alliances from the Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (MAGNET).

WLED met Thursday, December 8, at the Cleveland Jet Center in Richmond Heights for their fourth quarter session. The fourth quarter meeting focused on how the Cuyahoga County Airport is a business gateway from our region to the world. Mayor David H. Roche was among the highlighted speakers. Linda Barita said, "The speakers were great, and the tour was really an eye opener. We saw a fantastic facility we have right here in Richmond Heights—so impressive!"



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"

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