A Message from Mayor Daniel J. Ursu

Just as the economic downturn across the U.S.A., the State of Ohio and in particular Northeast Ohio has adversely impacted each of us as individuals in some way, you might have read recently that it has also adversely impacted the operations of the City of Richmond Heights.

Our city government revenues depend on income taxes paid by persons working at employers in our City. As a result of the downturn, both large and small employers in Richmond Heights have had to lay off workers or have closed altogether in the case of some retail stores. Unfortunately, this directly results in a lower amount of income taxes being paid to Richmond Heights and hence a measurably lower budget for the City.

All cities are required by State of Ohio law to submit a balanced budget. Accordingly Council, Finance Director Lynda Rossiter and I have responsibly made the difficult choices necessary to balance our budget under this new economic reality, including trimming our work force.

I am proud that the vast majority of City employees have been fully cooperative in adjusting to our lower budget by accepting a combination of less compensation and reduced work hours. For example, administrative employees are now on a 35-hour reduced work week and all department heads and chiefs have accepted a reduction in salary to 2006 levels.

I am also proud that our employees under these circumstances continue to be dedicated to Richmond Heights and to deliver the best possible services to residents. Most residents have probably not noticed any changes. Council, Finance Director Rossiter and I will continue to do what we must to stay within the City’s economic means. We are also seeking relevant state and federal stimulus funds that might be available.

As of this writing, I am optimistic that there are many positive signs in the broader economy that give hope for improvement in the future. Let’s all count our blessings as our country works its way back towards better prosperity.

...and thank goodness that as you read this, Spring has arrived...

Lastly, when you go shopping, remember to patronize your Richmond Heights Merchants!!!
CITY REQUIRES RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTION

As of January 1, 2008, the City passed ordinance 28-2007. All rental properties located within the City are required to obtain a certificate of authorized occupancy.

The ordinance calls for an application to be made annually for the certificate of occupancy. It also requires inspections of the interior premises and exterior premises once every three years.

The City defines a rental property as “any dwelling unit where a person, not the recorded owner, is occupying the unit, whether or not such person pays money…”

Any person who violates or fails to comply with the ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree and shall be fined up to $1000 or imprisoned up to 180 days or both.

Applications can be obtained at the Building Department or by contacting them at (216) 383-6312. A $150 fee is required with the completion of an application.

GUIDELINES FOR PARK USAGE BY GROUPS

A Park Permit is needed for groups larger than 30 persons. The permit may be obtained at City Hall in the Recreation Department.

A Park Permit application needs to be completed by Richmond Heights residents for groups larger than 30 people.

A $100 deposit is needed for groups of 30 - 75 people.

If a group is larger than 75 people on a weekend or holiday, the Kiwanis Lodge must be rented.

If a group is larger than 100 people on a weekday the Kiwanis Lodge must be rented.

Violations of this ordinance will result in a $500 fine.

Call Recreation (216) 383-6313.

SUMMER DAY CAMP
JULY 21 - AUGUST 7

For children entering Kindergarten thru 6th grade in September 2008. This fun four-week camp includes sports, games, swimming and arts and crafts. The camp will take place at Richmond Heights Community Park. Early drop off (starting at 7:30 a.m.) and late pick up (ending at 5:30 p.m.) is available for an additional fee. Space is limited.

Forms and information available at www.richmondheightsohio.org or call Recreation at (216) 383-6313 for details and registration.

Fee: $210/3 weeks or $75/per week
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

“AT YOUR SERVICE” DEPARTMENT SUMMER NEWS

NEW HOURS: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

2009 Recycling Events – August thru October

Computer Round-Up
August 1 – August 31
Tuesdays 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Tire Round-Up
Tuesdays on: August 18 & 25 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays on: August 22 & 29 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Paint Round-Up
Tuesdays on: September 26 & October 3 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays on: September 29 & October 6 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Some Reminders
- Make sure your curb side recyclables are in separate bags (clear or blue): glass, plastic, cans
- Make sure your recyclables are out by 7:30 a.m.
- If you put branches out for chipping, make sure they are piled neatly; all branches going in the same direction
- If you have the new CFL light bulbs, you can take them to the Beachwood Fire Station, or any Home Depot will dispose of them.

*   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *

50th Anniversary for the City Charter of Richmond Heights

The City reached a milestone. To see the resolution, visit the City website at www.richmondheightsohio.org
Did You Know That You Are In A Watershed Right Now?

Information from the Euclid Creek Watershed (CSWD)

We all live in a watershed. Watersheds are the places we call home, where we work and where we play. We all rely on water for our existence. What you and others do within your watershed impacts the quality and quantity of water and other natural resources.

Why Care?

Healthy watersheds are not only vital for a healthy environment, but also for a healthy economy. Water from all streams in Cuyahoga County flows into Lake Erie. Lake Erie is not only the source of our drinking water, it also provides us with recreational and economic benefits. Since Lake Erie is the lowest point in the county, land use and pollution problems in the entire county affect the local streams, and subsequently Lake Erie’s water quality – especially after rainfall.

What Can I Do For My Watershed?

Five tips to protect your water
* Put paper wrappers, bottles, cans and other trash in the garbage – not in the street.
* Keep grass clippings, paper and all other waste out of storm drains.
* Reduce toxic substances at home and on the lawn.
* Report illegal dumping! Call the Service Department or the County Board of Health.
* Never place motor oil, antifreeze, pet waste or any other substance in storm drains.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS ‘BIGGEST LOSER’ SUMMER COMPETITION

The City of Richmond Heights is sponsoring a 12-week weight loss competition beginning on June 1! Your weight will NOT be made public and only the total number of pounds and percentage lost will be announced. The winner will be chosen based on the greatest percentage of weight lost. A cash prize will be given to the winner dependant on the number of participants as well as a $300 gift certificate from Majority Fitness!

Majority Fitness will be conducting both the nutrition counseling and the workouts. You may sign up for one of the three packages offered below to participate in this contest. All classes can be scheduled in the evening on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and/or on Saturday mornings. Package #1 and package #2 include the “Measure4Less” which is a weekly weight management accountability program and “Power” workouts. Once a certain level of fitness is achieved, participants may also choose to include a high energy “Boot Camp”.

*The “Measure4Less” consults will take place on Saturday mornings*

Package #1 includes 30 hours of workouts and a weekly 30 minute consult with a personal trainer for $410 over a 3 month period.

Package #2 includes 50 hours of workouts and a weekly 30 minutes consult with a personal trainer for $600 over a 3 month period.

Package #3 $108 for weekly 30 minute consult only with a personal trainer over a 3 month period.

Call the Recreation Department at (216) 383-6313 to register by May 27, 2009.

FAMILY DAY SUNDAY JULY 19  SAVE THE DATE!

Family Day activities will be held at the Community Park commencing at 1:00 p.m. The Family Day Committee is working to provide many fun family-friendly activities for all ages. Some of the activities planned are the extreme trampoline, a giant firetruck slide, caterpillar inflatable, cornhole, bocce, horseshoe and Zenn tournaments, swimming, music from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. with DJ Jammin Joel, and much more. A wonderful variety of delicious foods and beverages will be available for purchase.  www.richmondheightsohio.org

LIFEGUARDING CLASS AT RICHMOND HEIGHTS POOL

Participants must be 15 years old by June 15th, 2009. Class size is limited to 10. Saturday, May 30 Swimming Test 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Monday, June 1: Classroom only 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 2: Classroom & pool 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 3: Classroom & pool 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 4: Classroom only 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (First Aid)
Friday, June 5: No class, study CPR
Saturday, June 6: CPR #1 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 7: CPR #2 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, June 8: Classroom/pool 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (deep water)
Tuesday, June 9: Classroom/pool 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (deep water)
Wednesday, June 10: No class, study/practice for test
Thursday, June 11: Test Day, Classroom & pool 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Monday, June 15th: (re-test day)
FEE: Resident: $200 Non-Resident: $220  www.richmondheightsohio.org
Pool Opens June 5, 1:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Pool Closes: September 7, 7:00 p.m.

NEW POOL HOURS:
   June & July
   Monday - Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
   Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
   August
   Monday - Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
   Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
   August 17-Sept 7
   Call Recreation Department for pool hours.

Please note: Pool may be closed without notice because of weather or staffing shortages.

REGISTRATION
Register for pool passes and identification cards at the Pool.
Register for the Swim Team in the Recreation Department at City Hall.
*Please note new fees*

FEES
Identification Card.......$4
Resident Individual Pass......$50
Resident Family Pass.........$110
Non-Resident Individual Pass......$70
Non-Resident Family Pass......$155
General Admission...........$8
Swim Team registration fee $45
Swim Team Booster fee $25
*The Swim Team Booster's fee will be used for Championship Meet entrance fees and a party at the end of the season. Please make a separate check payable to the Richmond Heights Swim Team.

BOOK A POOL PARTY
WITH USE OF THE SPRAYGROUND
Sundays 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Call Recreation for details
(216) 383-6313

For more detailed description of the programs listed below and other Recreation activities, please visit the City of Richmond Heights online at www.richmondheightsohio.org

2009 SWIMMING LESSONS SCHEDULE/SIGN-UP AT POOL
SESSION 1: 3 weeks, June 8 - June 25, Monday-Thursday
Register at pool: (Richmond Heights residents ONLY Friday, June 5)
Open registration at pool: Saturday, June 6 & Sunday, June 7
SESSION 2: 3 weeks, June 29 - July 16, Monday-Thursday
Register at pool: (Richmond Heights residents ONLY Friday, June 26)
Open registration at pool: Saturday, June 27 & Sunday, June 28
SESSION 3: 3 weeks, July 20 - August 6, Monday-Thursday
Register at pool: (Richmond Heights residents ONLY Friday, July 17)
Open registration at pool: Saturday, July 18 & Sunday, July 19
Swimming Lessons Fees: The cost for each Learn to Swim Session is $20 with pool pass, $40 without a pool pass. To qualify for $20.00 fee, children under 5 must have a parent with a pool pass.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS & PROGRAMS

Preschool Soccer Camp
June 8 - June 12
Fee: $30
Ages 3-5 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Soccer Camp
June 8 - June 12
Fee: $40
Ages 5 - 12 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Safety Town
June 8 - June 19
July 13 - July 24
Fee: $45 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Baseball Camp
June 15 - June 19
Fee: $40
Ages 5 - 14 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Girls Volleyball Camp
June 15 - June 19
Fee: $50
Ages 6 - 14 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Basketball Camp
June 22 - June 26
Fee: $50
Ages 5 - 14 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Track & Field
June 22 - June 26
Fee: $60
Ages 6 -12 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tennis Camp- 3 weeks!
June 29 - July 17
Fee: $60
Ages 7 - 10 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Ages 11 - 16 11:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Beginning Golf
July 20 - July 23
Fee: $80 Ages 5-9 9:00 a.m. - Noon
FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN THE PARK
2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
at Richmond Heights Community Park Gazebo

Wednesday, June 10 Ron Sluga
Wednesday, July 8 Straight Six Dixie
Wednesday, August 12 Rick & Sharona

This schedule is subject to change or substitution.

Bring lawn chairs! If the park parking lot is full, extra parking is available in the school parking lots next door to the park. In case of rain, concerts will be held at the Kiwanis Lodge in the park.

SPECIAL COUPLE CELEBRATES 62 YEARS OF MARRIAGE!
Ken & Julia Sohl, April 26.

Ordinary people performing EXTRAORDINARY WORK

Kiwanis, through guidance and example, works to develop future generations of leaders. Every day, Kiwanians are revitalizing neighborhoods, organizing youth programs, tutoring, building playgrounds, and performing countless other projects to help children and communities. Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club meets on Thursday evenings for dinner, at the Kiwanis Lodge in the Richmond Heights Community Park. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

FLOWER BASKET PROGRAM

Individuals and businesses can contribute to Richmond Heights beautification through the support of the Flower Basket Program. The City plans to purchase and install 18 baskets at the main intersections in Richmond Heights, City buildings and park locations. The Service Department will maintain the flower baskets through the summer months.

Suggested minimum support is $100 for a business and $50 for individuals. Please make checks payable to “City of Richmond Heights Flower Basket Program”. Please mail to: Finance Director; City of Richmond Heights; 26789 Highland Road; Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143. Donations will be accepted throughout the year. Recognition will be made in the “City Edition” and for the calendar year on the website.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CITY BEAUTIFICATION SPONSORS
Richmond Heights Garden Club
Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club
Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club in memory of Robert Netherly
Richmond Heights Senior Citizen Club
David & Aire Roche
Dolores Yankauskas
DIGITAL TV TRANSITION (DTV)

Due to a congressional mandate which becomes effective on June 12, 2009, full power television stations can no longer broadcast in analog and must switch to digital broadcasting.

There are several options that you have to convert to DTV but, most importantly, do not wait until June to prepare – you need to be ready beforehand.

Option 1: To help consumers with the DTV transition, the government established the converter box coupon program. Every household is eligible to receive 2 coupons worth $40.00 each toward the purchase of converter boxes. This is a one time cost. For more information or to apply for coupons, visit www.dtv2009.gov or call 1-888-388-2009.

Option 2: Purchase new digital TV(s).

Option 3: Subscribe to cable TV or satellite TV. Time Warner cable and AT&T Uverse are companies that service Richmond Heights.

BE KIND TO THE PLANET!

Want to be friendlier to the environment while helping the city reduce solid waste collection costs? Richmond Heights is providing recycling bag packets to help our residents participate in the citywide curbside recycling program. Best of all, the bag packets are available free to city residents, as part of a 2009 Community Recycling Awareness Grant that was awarded to Richmond Heights by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. Packets will be available at Richmond Heights Family Day on July 19 or at City Hall after July 1. Be sure to stop by to get yours.

Do You Need Sidewalk Repairs?

The City of Richmond Heights has taken bids for replacement or leveling of sidewalks city-wide, to take advantage of current prices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4” Replacement</th>
<th>6” Replacement</th>
<th>4” or 6” Leveling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4” Replacement</td>
<td>6” Replacement</td>
<td>4” or 6” Leveling</td>
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<tr>
<td>$3.50 per square foot</td>
<td>$4.06 per square foot</td>
<td>$2.00 per square foot</td>
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Call the Building Department at (216) 383-6312 for the details.

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of Project</th>
<th>Estimated Construction Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richmond/White/Chardon</td>
<td>Sanitary Sewers</td>
<td>Completed/Assessments to follow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Road Side Streets</td>
<td>Sanitary Sewers</td>
<td>Completed/Assessments to follow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swetland (part)</td>
<td>New Concrete Pavement</td>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swetland (part) &amp; Nan Linn</td>
<td>Curbs &amp; Gutters, Repair &amp; Resurface</td>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraldine (East) &amp; Ruth Ellen Drive</td>
<td>Repair &amp; Resurface</td>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catlin (East - West), Dundee, Edgemont, Euclid-Chagrin Parkway (East)</td>
<td>Asphalt Rejuvinating Agent</td>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Energy Conservation = $ Savings for the District – Go Green!

With limited resources, the Richmond Heights Schools needed to find a creative way to make necessary improvements to the district without eating up scarce financial resources. That’s why the district entered into an agreement with Siemens to participate in a House Bill 264 Energy Conservation Project. Utilizing this vehicle, the district was able to reallocate the funds normally spent on utilities to pay for new, energy efficient boilers in the middle school and high school and lighting and plumbing upgrades district-wide. Not only do the schools benefit from upgraded infrastructure systems, but our environment benefits because we will use 1/3 less energy to operate the systems. The old boilers were remnants from the 1960’s. The improvements have been noticeable. The majority of the installation took place last summer, but the systems have been fine-tuned and the project was finalized in February. Go Green!

Will the Governor’s Stimulus Plan Affect RH Schools?

Superintendent Herrholtz presented the Governor’s Education Reforms which includes over $925 million increase in the State’s budget for education. He emphasized these are proposed reforms and do not automatically include additional funding for schools. Based on the formula for determining the amount of money each district will receive, it appears that the Richmond Heights schools would not be among the top recipients of these funds.

The Governor’s aggressive proposal addresses setting rigorous standards for innovative teaching, increased “learning days”, health, family and community services, educator licensure and tenure changes, increased teacher collaboration, revisions to testing, increased accountability by ODE, and funding changes, among others. The Superintendent will continue to keep the Board and community aware of reforms that affect our district.

EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

After filling the vacant seat on the board in January, the Board Of Education had their team in place to tackle the financial challenges facing the district. One of the first steps the Board agreed on was to assemble an Educational Summit to provide community involvement to guide the Board.

Roughly 80 attendees at the first meeting of the Educational Summit shared dinner, were entertained by the High School’s award-winning choir, listened to presentations by the Board President, Superintendent and Treasurer, and participated in a data gathering exercise.

The cross-section of the community was represented by the folks at this gathering. Current and former elected officials, alumni, parents, students, teachers and administrators all participated in the process. Committees were created to help move the district forward.

The Educational Summit continued its work Saturday, March 28 when participants had the opportunity to share creative suggestions with the Board. Thanks to all those who attended these sessions for generously contributing their time and energy to improving our school district.

There’s still a lot of work to do. If you would like to participate on a committee, please contact Phyllis Sargi, Board Secretary, at (216) 692-8485 or by email at psargi@richmondheightsschools.org. The committees include Communications, Family, Community, Co-Curricular, Levy, Finance, Facilities, Student Achievement and Strategic Planning.

CHOIR SINGS AT THE QUICKEN LOANS ARENA

Congratulations to the award winning Richmond Heights Choir, which sang the National Anthem at the Cleveland Monsters Hockey game on February 25, 2009. We are so proud of their accomplishments. They did a wonderful job.
The City with the Forward Look!

Editor's note: I would like to thank Nancy Benander, Teri Drda, Dina Griesl, Joyce Kandrach, Judy Karla, Nick Loerch, Dori Mittinger, and Christine Znidarsic for their assistance during the production of this City Edition. I also want to thank everyone who submitted an article for their contribution.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS & NOTES  
Pages 7 - 8  
Printed on behalf of the Richmond Heights School Board for those residents who are part of the Richmond Heights School District.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS WRESTLING COACH RECOGNIZED

Richmond Heights wrestling coach Keith Manos was recently inducted into the Ohio State Wrestling Coaches & Officials Association Hall of Fame.

During his coaching career, Manos had 29 state qualifiers, 21 state place winners and three state champions. The Willoughby resident also oversaw as many as five tournaments in a season after retiring as coach, including the Richmond Heights Division III Classic. Congratulations Keith on a great accomplishment!

PASTA FOR PENNIES DRIVE

The 7th and 8th grade students, about 150 in all, collected a grand total of $690 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The winning homeroom was Mrs. Leonard's, and the class was awarded an Olive Garden Luncheon. Mrs. Leonard purchased donuts for second and third place homerooms (Ms. Duffy and Mrs. Daugherty). “I was really proud of our kids. They really worked hard and gave all that they could!” (Tina Leonard)

POWER OF THE PEN REGIONAL COMPETITION

Sabra Baker, a 7th grade student, placed 14th in the Regional Power of Pen competition. This was quite an accomplishment considering approximately 400 northeastern Ohio students participated in the event. Congratulations to our Gold Medal winner!

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST

The Richmond Heights Senior Class graduation ceremony will be held on June 2 at Tri-C East’s Performing Arts Center. This is the largest graduating class in decades with 115 students. Good Luck to all graduates!