

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

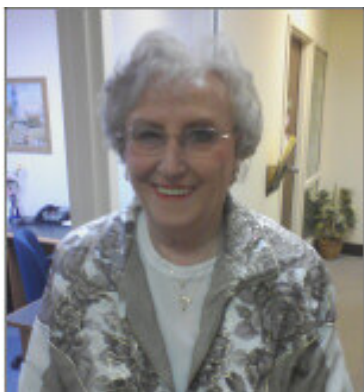
Anthony Gimellia, Editor

The CITY EDITION

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 36 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. Baskets can be purchased “in honor of” or “in memory of” someone special. 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.



*In memory of our dear friend and co-worker
Ina J. Stout
October 7, 1940 - March 14, 2008*

A Message from Mayor Daniel J. Ursu

Good news – several new or existing businesses in Richmond Heights are adding employees in our city. This is important, because most of the revenues used to pay for City services such as Police, Fire/Paramedic and Service Departments come from persons working during the day within the borders of Richmond Heights.

Moving soon into the Horizon Building on Curtiss Wright Parkway, will be Tranzonic Interior, a manufacturer of cleaning supplies and safety products. They will employ about 60-100 persons once they begin operations. Secondly, the Capital Senior Living Project, The Waterford, which has been under construction on the east side of Richmond Road at Merit Drive, should be open by the time you read this. They will provide a high quality living environment for seniors and will employ roughly 30-35 persons. Thirdly, it was with great excitement that University Hospital Richmond Medical Center relocated its Department of Psychiatry from its University Circle Campus to Richmond Heights. The hospital has recently remodeled an entire floor to accommodate its adult in-patient and geriatric services. This state-of-the-art renovation will result in employment of numerous persons in Richmond Heights.

Congratulations to University Hospital Richmond Medical Center on its January 8th Grand Opening of this facility.

Finally, I want to give you advance notice of a new initiative which will start in the near future – a Neighborhood Mediation Program. This will be sponsored by the Richmond Heights Cultural Commission which I began several years ago. Colonel Carl Carter, Commission Chairperson; Police Chief Gene Rowe and I have been busy interviewing volunteer mediators who will be undergoing their training in 2009. Once the program is established, resident neighbors who have differences of opinion over issues such as the color of a backyard fence can access the program to work towards a gratifying resolution for all parties involved. You will be hearing more about this as the program becomes a reality.

Spring time is right around the corner. See how you can be recognized for helping beautify our City in the months ahead on page 3 of this issue!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

2008 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: Colonel Carl J. Carter

2008 CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: Mark Alexander

Looking for Volunteers to Serve on the "City Beautiful Commission"

The Mayor's Community Connections Cultural Commission will interview applicants and recommend to the Mayor the appointment of two representatives from each of the City's four wards. The City Beautiful Commission will begin their mission of overseeing a "Main Street Award" program. Members of the CBC will photograph 6-10 homes in their assigned areas to nominate for a Main Street Award. Photo taking will commence in mid June till mid July. Judging will be done by the CBC committee. CBC members do not select winners within their own assigned area.

The "Main Street Award" criteria are:

- * Home is free of violations
- * Home has a well-kept exterior including but not limited to landscaping and/or gardens that can be seen from the street. (CBC members do not take pictures of any backyards) Nominees will be asked for permission to submit their homes.
- * Categories of the Main Street Award for a beautiful home are:
Rose =1 home, Tulip =2 homes in a row, and Bouquet =3 or more in a row.

Winners will be notified by City Hall in the early fall

- * A Civic Awards program will be held mid to late Fall at a designated time and place yet to be determined.

* A winning home is not eligible for the award again for 5 years.

The CBC will be asked to plan and oversee other programs such as an annual Paint-and-Clean-Up week, an annual flower sale in May, an Annual Spring Planting (Lawn and Garden) Seminar in April, and other programs intended to develop neighborhood pride in community. Don't miss this opportunity to promote civic pride and preserve the character and beauty of our wonderful City.

To volunteer, please contact The City Beautiful Commission at (216) 486-2474.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CULTURAL COMMISSION INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE 3RD ANNUAL Community-Wide Book Discussion Wednesday, March 4

The City of Richmond Heights Community Connections Cultural Commission is pleased to present another cultural-related program.

WHAT:

You are cordially invited to read either or both of the following selections being featured in this year's discussions. *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Moshin Hamid is the story of a Pakistani man who is Princeton-educated, working at a top-flight Wall Street firm and living the high life in New York City. Hamid takes the reader inside the head of Changez, the young Pakistani, who tells the story of his post-September 11 transformation. The Cultural Commission once again has chosen one of this year's Anisfield-Wolf Book Award winners to discuss.

The Skin I'm In by Sharon G. Flake, a winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, depicts a young girl's battle against insecurity and peer pressure. Through her struggles and with the help of her new teacher, she finds the key to gaining the confidence and self-acceptance she has been searching for in her life.

WHEN:

Wednesday, March 4

7:00 p.m. - Refreshments...7:30 - 9:00 p.m. – Book Discussions; You are welcome to participate in either mixed-aged discussion group.

WHERE:

Faith United Church of Christ, 575 Richmond Road, (North of & next to the Richmond Town Square Mall)

WHO:

The Rev. Dr. Eugene McAfee and the Faith United Church of Christ book discussion group have graciously offered to once again host the discussion of these books. Childcare will be available for children kindergarten and up.

Both books will be available at the Mini Library located at the Richmond Town Square Mall and may be available as books on tape (both cassette and CD). Copies of both books, provided by Barnes & Noble, will be available for purchase at a discounted rate through City Hall. The Cultural Commission enthusiastically encourages you to obtain the books, spend time reading as a family, and then on **March 4** join other members of the community in a thoughtful discussion.

REGISTRATION: Please call City Hall at (216) 486-2474 by **February 27** to indicate your attendance.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CORNER

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

If you're a Richmond Heights Resident and 50 years of age or older, there is an activity for you with the Richmond Heights Senior Citizens Club.

There is Entertainment, Bowling, Golf, Cards, Dancing, Trips, Refreshments, all in a friendly atmosphere of friends and neighbors.

The general meetings include snack and entertainment are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Presently, bowling takes place every Monday morning 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. (special discount rates-\$4/3-lines) then having the highlight of the day: a great lunch at a local restaurant. Several card games are on tap for Fridays at the Kiwanis Lodge. Special event dinner parties are held during the year. Presently membership is in excess of 125 individuals, with 60 to 80 active members attending the general meetings.

Come join in on the fun. You will meet new people and make new friends. The dues are only \$5 per year. General meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Kiwanis Lodge which is located at the back of the Richmond Heights Community Park. Please come and give the group a try. For more information, please contact Senior Club President Nancy Rice at (216) 382-2926.

NEIGHBOR PROFILE

Our neighbor profile this month is of Mr. Eddie Endres. Mr. Endres has lived in Richmond Heights for 28 years. His wife of 61 blissful years is June Endres. Together they have 6 children, 17 grandchildren and several great grandchildren. Three of their children still reside in the greater Cleveland area.

When asked about his greatest accomplishments in life, Eddie was quick to point out that raising 6 children with his lovely wife, June, was one of his biggest life accomplishments. All of his children are very successful. Together he and his wife have raised a company president, a nurse, a manufacturer, two teachers, and a sales manager.



His second biggest accomplishment was the 45 years of service that he was able to dedicate to Parker-Hannifin Corporation where he designed various valves and fittings for several models of Boeing commercial airplanes. Eddie truly loved designing products for Parker-Hannifin. He also enjoyed serving as President of the Parker-Hannifin PACO Federal Credit Union for 10 years. The love for his design work combined with the friendly work environment and multitude of travel opportunities at Parker-Hannifin motivated Eddie to dedicate 45 years of service to the company.

Eddie is also a military veteran. He served in the army for 2 years before a knee injury abruptly ended his army career. However, he was proud to serve his country over that brief period of time.

His favorite activity is celebrating holidays and special occasions with his huge family, especially with his grand and great grandchildren. His past hobbies included bowling and woodworking. Throughout the years, he has hand-carved custom wooden toys for many of his grandchildren and built many custom shelves.

Mr. Endres said that he enjoys living in Richmond Heights because the community is full of friendly neighbors and provides a safe, secure environment, thanks to the commitment and dedication of our fire and police departments. After residing in Cleveland Heights for 19 years and in South Euclid for 8 years, he certainly understands the recipe for a great community. He puts Richmond Heights at the top of the list.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY COUPLES!

The Richmond Heights couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2009: **Robert & Bertha Popovic, 50 years on November 22; Edward & Priscilla Douglas, 50 years on January 2.** Heartiest congratulations to the anniversary couples from your home town!

**CITY HALL,
AT YOUR SERVICE!**

Richmond Heights City Hall business hours are weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The address is 26789 Highland Road, Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143. The phone number to City Hall is (216) 486-2474. The information line, (216) 383-6300, can be accessed 24 hours a day/seven days a week. Recorded information includes: Council meetings, **rubbish collection schedule changes**, cancellations, various registration information, and the Recreation Department’s major City events. Information is updated on the 1st and 15th of each month.

Numerous forms and applications are available at City Hall including current information regarding special events and programs.

Dance Like the Stars in a Dick Blake Ballroom Dance Class!

Who: Adult Couples (partners only)

Dates: Sundays, February 8 – March 1

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Location: Mayfield Village Civic Center

Cost: \$95 per couple

Details: Dance with the pro who has taught the pros...celebrity dance master, **Dick Blake!** Learn the basic dances needed for any social occasion: swing, jitterbug, foxtrot and salsa. Be the star of the party! Get fit, stay healthy and have fun! Each couple attending will receive a certificate from **Alfredo’s at the Inn** Italian Restaurant (inside the Holiday Inn at Beta/Wilson Mills) for a free fried dough tower with the purchase of a dinner entrée. **Registration Deadline: Tuesday, Feb. 3.**

EASTER EGG HUNT AT THE KIWANIS LODGE

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.
SNACKS AND CRAFTS COST: \$2 PER PERSON

TICKETS ON SALE IN MARCH IN RECREATION
NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

All meetings are held at City Hall in Council Chambers

Formal City Council Meetings
Second & Fourth Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.

Council Committee Meetings
First & Third Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.

Architectural Review Board
First & Third Mondays 1:30 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals
First Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission
Second Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Recreation Board
Third Monday 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE LYNDHURST MUNICIPAL COURT

Judge Mary Kaye Bozza believes one of the most exciting parts of her job is her opportunity to educate the community:

“During a recent speaking engagement at Sherri Park apartments, a resident asked me my views about what I will call a “good Samaritan accident”. This type of accident occurs when a driver is trying to enter a four-lane roadway from a private drive or side street without a traffic light in order to make a left turn. A great example is when exiting Ferrara’s to go left onto Mayfield Road. Typically, as the exiting vehicle approaches the roadway, the driver of the nearest vehicle in the eastbound curb lane of the road stops and motions for the exiting vehicle to proceed. However, another vehicle traveling eastbound on Mayfield Road in the left lane does not stop. Often, neither the exiting driver nor the driver already on Mayfield Road sees each other, and serious accidents occur.

It is important to know that under Ohio law, despite being motioned by the good Samaritan driver to enter the roadway, the exiting driver is at fault for failure to yield. The law does not permit you to rely on another driver’s opinion as to whether the roadway is clear for you to enter. So make sure that you rely on your own observations and not someone else’s before entering a roadway. After all, while the good Samaritan is just trying to be nice, he or she won’t be paying your traffic ticket”.

In July, she addressed five scholarship recipients at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club Awards Night. Congratulations to Richmond Heights residents Mui D. Choi, Catherine Clampitt, Gabriel Gomes and Nathaniel Kinkoff, who graduated from Richmond Heights High School, and Megan T. Keleshian who graduated from Regina High School. These students achieved excellence throughout their high school years and were recognized with a college scholarship from the Kiwanis Club.

Afternoon Ballroom Dance Class with Dick Blake

Who: Retired couples &/or any couple seeking a fun-filled afternoon (partners only)

Dates: Wednesdays, February 4 - 25

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Location: Mayfield Village Civic Center

Cost: \$95 per couple

Details: Update your dancing in a fun filled afternoon ballroom dance class with Dance Master Dick Blake! Add some new moves and a little romance to the classic dances:foxtrot, waltz, swing & cha cha! Invite your sweetheart to join you and make it a day to remember! Get fit, stay healthy and have fun! Each couple attending will receive a certificate from **Alfredo’s at the Inn** Italian Restaurant (inside the Holiday Inn at Beta/Wilson Mills) for a free fried dough tower with the purchase of a dinner entrée.

Registration Deadline:
Friday, January 30.

Service Department – Winter News & Notes

SENSIBLE SALTING PRACTICES FOR THIS WINTER SEASON

Please note: all surrounding cities will be following similar guidelines

1. **There will be no salting between the hours of 11:00 p.m. & 4:00 a.m. EXCEPT for hills, and MAIN intersections.**

During these hours it is not feasible to salt main roads. Due to low traffic volumes, the salt is not effective and in some instances can create even worse conditions. The goal of the Service Department will be to provide a “passable roadway” which is defined as “a roadway surface that is free from drifts, snow ridges, and as much ice and snow pack as is practical and can be traveled safely at reasonable speeds.”

2. **Salting during snow events.**

During periods of snowfall of 1” or more per hour, main roads will be plowed as frequently as possible but will only be salted at intersections, hills, curves, bridges, and school zones. “Spot salting” defined as “intermittent spreading of salt at 150’ intervals”, will also be utilized when practicable.

3. **Limited salting on secondary roads.**

Secondary roads will be plowed as often as possible, but will not be salted except for 200’ at each intersection, and at hills, curves, bridges, & school zones. Spot salting will be utilized on secondary roads when practicable.

2009 RECYCLING EVENTS AT SERVICE GARAGE

Computer Round - Up: April 1 – April 30 (tentative dates)

Paint Round – Up: Tuesdays on: April 28 & May 5 (tentative dates)

Saturdays on: April 25 & May 2 (tentative dates)

REVISED PUBLIC WORKS TIMETABLE

Location	Type of Project	Estimated Construction Date
Richmond/White/Chardon	Sanitary Sewers	Completed/Assessments to follow
Richmond Road Side Streets	Sanitary Sewers	Completed/Assessments to follow
Skyline & Glen Oval	Watermain & Paving	Completed
Fairlawn & Swetland (part)	New Concrete Pavement	Completed
Hillary (Trebisky to Lindsey), New Catlin & Lindsey (Hillary Southwest)	Repair & Resurface	Completed
Audrey, Cary Jay, Hillcrest & Sunset	Asphalt Rejuvenating Agent	Completed
2009 Road Program	Concrete Replacement, Curbs, Repairs & Resurfacing	Spring/Summer 2009

SENIOR POWER CLASS

**Mondays & Wednesdays
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Kiwanis Lodge**

Beginner to moderate level.

Classes are FREE for residents.
Must bring current driver's
license or valid State of Ohio I.D.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Aircraft Complaints: Call the Cuyahoga County Airport Office, (216) 289-4111, to register complaints on aircraft operating between 11:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. Call the Control Tower, (216) 261-0550 for complaints on aircraft operating between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Preferably, write to:

Kevin Delaney Manager
Cuyahoga County Airport
26300 Curtiss Wright Parkway
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

Animal warden:

Call (216)486-1234

Richmond Heights Post Office:

454 Richmond Road, (800) 275-8777
Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

20 Hours of "Power" beginning January 27

20-hour passes and 10-hour passes available

All classes are on a continuous basis at the Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road, with a variety of payment options available. To confirm class availability or for any questions, please call Mary Jacobs at (216) 402-7070.

Visit www.Majorityfitness.com for additional information

"Power" Strength Training Tues & Thurs 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Beginner to advanced Cardiovascular Strength Training Class that shapes and tones the entire body and helps to strengthen your muscles to support your body as you age. Amazing results! Bring a set of 3 - 5 lb weights (or 6-8 lb for advanced) and an exercise mat. Get ready to work in this dynamic new class! Men welcome, too!

"Power" Core Cardio Tues & Thurs 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

60-minute Interval class. This combination class involves segments of cardiovascular exercise endurance routines, i.e., kickboxing, high to low impact aerobics, jogging and other high to low intervals varying in intensity, in addition to many Core training moves. Core training has many benefits for increasing your balance, flexibility, and strength. Amazing results! Bring a set of 3 - 5 lb weights (or 6 - 8 lb for advanced) and an exercise mat. Get ready to work in this dynamic class!

HILLCREST COUNCIL OF COUNCILS

The Hillcrest Council of Councils is comprised of the communities of Beachwood, Gates Mills, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Pepper Pike, Richmond Heights and South Euclid.

The Association promotes cooperation among the member municipalities'; exchanges information and ideas that are of mutual concern, and proposes and promotes joint agreements of benefit to the member municipalities.

Recent Elected Officers

Ed Hargate - President

David H. Roche - Vice President

William Buckholtz - Treasurer

Congratulations to all the nominees for the 2008 Citizen of the Year Award!!!



(Pictured from left to right) Mayor Daniel J. Ursu, 2008 Citizen of the Year Nominee, Albertine Hoover, 2008 Citizen of The Year Nominee, Theresa Simmonds, 2008 Citizen of the Year Nominee, Annette Gomes, 2008 Citizen of the Year, Colonel Carl J. Carter and 2008 Employee of the Year, Mark Alexander. (Photo courtesy of Robert Rodic)

Pre-Wedding Dance and Etiquette Workshop with Dick Blake

Who: Future brides, grooms and parents of the bridal couple

Dates: Sunday, February 8

Time: 6:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Location: Mayfield Village Civic Center

Cost: \$20 per person, \$40 per couple

Details: The most special day of your life should leave no detail to chance. Mr. Blake has choreographed some of the top weddings in the country. Your wedding dance should have that same elegance and style. In addition, learn important tips on wedding etiquette and protocol that will ensure a smooth, seamless and fabulously entertaining event! Make your wedding an affair to remember! **Registration**

Deadline: Tuesday, February 3.

Parent and Child Etiquette with Dick Blake

Who: For Boys and Girls 1st – 4th grade

Dates: Sundays, February 8 and 15

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Location: Mayfield Village Civic Center

Cost: \$45 parent/child

Details: This course has been one of Mr. Blake's most requested classes for years. Mrs. Blake, a retired elementary teacher, now joins him. Children learn the social skills and table manners that not only teach them to act like young ladies and gentlemen but also help them to be successful throughout their lives and future careers. Parents get to share the experience and maybe learn a little something, too!

Registration Deadline:

Tuesday, February 3.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB



The Richmond Heights Garden Club Tree Trimming Committee – (Left to Right) Bernice Blue, Dorothy Smirtnik, Dolly Sciaulino, Marjorie Zlatoper and Eleanor Riznar decorated the Christmas tree at City Hall with the assistance of Mitzi and Richard Binder who set up the lights and tree. (Photo courtesy of Dolly Sciaulino)

There are interesting garden related programs planned for February through June:

February 19 – “Getting The Most From Your Containers” – speaker from Eagle Creek Garden Center

March 19 - “Backyard Birding” - speaker Andy Lilani from Wildbirds Unlimited

April 16 - “Annual Spring Luncheon” at Pine Ridge Country Club

May 21 - Field trip to “Rockefeller Greenhouse” and lunch at “The Harp” Restaurant

June 18 - Installation of Officers Luncheon

The Garden Clubs meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month from September thru June at the Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road located at the rear of the Richmond Heights Community Park. Yearly membership dues are \$10.

If you are interested in joining the Garden Club or for more information, please contact Karen Murray, Membership Chairperson at (216) 371-1578.



**Please visit the
City of Richmond Heights
online at
www.richmondheightsohio.org**

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS & NOTES

Pages 9 - 12

Printed on behalf of the Richmond Heights School Board for those residents who are part of the Richmond Heights School District.

Please visit our website at www.richmondheightsschools.org for more news, photos and information about our schools.

Fall Sports Wrap-Up

Football. The Spartans had another exciting football season, but fell short of a division title with a record of 6-4. However, many of our players received honors and awards from the CVC, NE Ohio Lakes Division, All-Ohio and the Richmond Heights Athletic Department.

CVC All-League Honors

Offensive Co-MVP- Allante' Staten
 1st Team Offense – QB – Allante' Staten
 1st Team Defensive Back - Ryan Smith
 2nd Team Wide Receiver - John Coleman
 2nd Team Linebacker - William Cook
 2nd Team Offensive Line - Tyler Lowe
 2nd Team Defensive End - Joshua Sitgraves
 Honorable Mention – Linebacker - Greg Beckham
 Honorable Mention – Linebacker - Daniel Yallah
 Honorable Mention – Def. Line - Louie Virant
 Honorable Mention – Wide Receiver - Chris Mittinger
 Honorable Mention – Wide Receiver - Charles Primm

Northeast Ohio Lakes Division V Honors

1st Team Quarterback – Allante' Staten
 2nd Team Running Back – Ryan Smith
 2nd Team Receivers – Chris Mittinger
 2nd Team Linebacker – William Cook
 2nd Team Def. Lineman – Joshua Sitgraves
 2nd Team Lineman - Ronnie MacLellan
 2nd Team Linebacker – Daniel Yallah
 2nd Team Defensive Lineman - Louie Virant
 2nd Team Defensive Back - Johnathan Tinsley
 Honorable Mention – Tyler Lowe

Fourth Year Awards went to Ryan Smith, William Cook, Ronnie MacLellan, Johathon Tinsley and Gary Malcolm Todd.

All-Ohio awards went to Allante Staten for Second Team Quarterback, and John Coleman and Josh Sitgraves earned Area Special Mention.

Volleyball. The Lady Spartans, under the direction of their new coach, Deniese Spencer, showed improvement in their record this Fall. Individual efforts were rewarded by the CVC and Athletic Department. Honors went to:

CVC Second Team	Sara Gulich
CVC Honorable Mention	Jazmyn Thompson, Ebony Williams
Fourth Year Award	Sara Gulich

Fall 2008 CVC All Academic Honors went to Sara Gulich, William Cook, Chris Mittinger, and Gary Malcolm Todd.

Basketball season is well underway for both our boys and girls teams. Visit our website under the Athletic Department for a complete schedule of games. Please come out to support our young athletes.

TERRI WADE LYLES APPOINTED AS NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Richmond Heights Board of Education accepted and considered applications from three community members to fill the open board seat. At the December 8 meeting, the Board chose Terri Wade Lyles as its newest board member. The other candidates were Aaron Burko and Miesha Headen. Mrs. Lyles is a teacher in the Cleveland Schools, and she and her husband have 4 children. We wish her only the best in this position. Thank you to all the candidates for their time and dedication.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS & NOTES

Pages 9 - 12

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARTIST RECOGNIZED

At the December 8 Board meeting, approximately 50 Elementary students were recognized for their exceptional artwork. During the months of October and November, the Richmond Town Square



Leroy Turner painted this image of St. Michael for Kyle Roth (an area military soldier) and his unit in Iraq. Kyle has recently been re-deployed to Iraq where we are shipping his symbolic work of St. Michael watching over soldiers represented throughout history. The district's Art Department at all levels has consistently developed the artistic talents of our students.



Starbucks displayed the portraits drawn by our students for the entire community to enjoy. The Elementary School has a program called H.A.T.S. (Helping All To Succeed). Art Teacher, Carol Tizzano, instructed her students to create a portrait of themselves or others wearing their favorite hat.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ART CLASSES SEND THEIR CREATIVE ARTWORK TO MILITARY VETERANS

The Seventh Grade art classes created Veterans Day cards with original artwork for veterans at the Department of Veterans' Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Painesville, Ohio. The art students have been sending well wishes and lovely artwork like this to veterans for the past seven years.



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Richmond Heights Key Club

The Richmond Heights Key Club was internationally recognized as a showcase club by Kiwanis International as a unique Club which overcame the local school financial limitations. The Key Club joined forces with the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club and presently meets weekly at the Kiwanis Lodge during the same night as the local Kiwanis Club meeting. Presently, membership exceeds 25 students. The Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club is the sponsoring Club with David H. Roche as the Key Club advisor.

Key Club is the oldest and largest service program for high school students. What makes Key Club so successful is the fact that it is a student-led organization that teaches leadership through serving others. Members of the Kiwanis International family, Key Club members build themselves as they build their schools and communities. Showcased in December issue of Kiwanis International Magazine.

Ref: <http://66.29.197.80/magazine/1208ohio.asp>

Ref: <http://www.keyclub.org>

Attention
RICHMOND HEIGHTS
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS

Recreation is looking
for volunteers to
help with
fun events. Please
call (216) 383-6313

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

On the Local Report Card, as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, the Elementary School fell into the category of “School Improvement”. This means that for the past two years, we did not meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) in one or more categories. As a result, we have to comply with four basic requirements of the State:

- inform the parents of students in the school of the categorization,
- offer school choice, (*not* a voucher system)
- provide professional development opportunities for teachers, and
- develop and implement a plan to improve.

Because we have only one elementary building in the district, we asked nearby districts if they would accept our students. This request was declined. In accordance with the federal and state guidelines, the only other choice we can offer is a charter school not in school improvement. There are two such charter schools in the area, one already has a waiting list of students for the current year, and the other is a virtual, cyber school.

Plans for professional development opportunities for our teachers are coming together, and the improvement plan is off to a good start with the Ohio Improvement Planning process. The district recently received federal funds to help finance some of these efforts.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

One advantage of our Elementary School’s status as a school in “School Improvement” is our inclusion in the Ohio Improvement Planning process. At least once monthly, a team of teachers, administrators, counselors and community members led by representatives from the Ohio Department of Education meets to develop a plan to improve the delivery of instruction to our students. To date, the Team has identified areas in need of improvement and developed an action plan to be implemented by the entire staff.



The Richmond Heights Key Club (Photo courtesy of David Roche)

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VARIETY SHOW

If you were fortunate enough to find a seat, you enjoyed the performances put on by the Richmond Heights High School and Seventh and Eighth Grade Choirs as well as a select group of very talented musical stars. The large groups sang a wide range of music from gospel to rock to holiday songs. Solos, duets, and small ensembles performed songs from the 60's through to current hits receiving a tremendous response from the audience. Mrs. Caswell's students performed before a standing-room-only crowd.

For a small school district, we are able to nurture the artistic talents of our students. Congratulations to all the talented performers and their gifted teacher!

Editor's note: I would like to thank Nancy Benander, Mike DeSan, Ben Drda, Teri Drda, Dina Greisl, Joyce Kandrach, Dori Mittinger, Sheari Rice, David Roche and Christine Znidarsic 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.

LUNCH WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Jim Herrholtz hosts lunch with students periodically throughout the school year. In December, he dined with a delightful group of elementary students, one from each grade level K-6, selected by their teachers. The students were served pizza, salad and brownies and talked about current events, their pets, what they wanted to be when they grew up, their favorite subject, and vacations.



Seated at the Board table with Elementary Principal Pam Barovian, these children could be future members of the Board of Education.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Linda Pliodzinskas filled the position of Board President effective November 18. At the same meeting, Charles Tyler, Sr. was elected to serve as the Board's Vice President. Mrs. Pliodzinskas is a long-time resident and senior member of the Board of Education. She and her husband have 2 sons who have already graduated from our schools, and their youngest son will graduate this spring. Mr. Tyler is relatively new to our community. He is an attorney, and he and his wife have two young sons.

PRESORT STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

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