

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Anthony Gimellia, Editor

The CITY EDITION

WASTE MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE GARBAGE PICK-UP SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Starting with the New Year, Richmond Heights residents began to receive garbage pick-up service from Waste Management who has replaced Republic Services. These changes have been made in order to serve you more consistently, effectively and with safety as the top priority.

NEW COLLECTION PICK-UP SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1

MONDAY ONLY will be the scheduled pick-up day for waste & recycling collection for the entire City of Richmond Heights.

Recycling collection will move to the first and third Mondays for the streets South of Highland and the second and fourth Mondays for the streets North of Highland.

Please note: You will now be able to co-mingle and mix the recycle items instead of separating them out. Please limit the amount of glass to a liftable bag.

When it is your recycle week, if possible please put the trash on one side of the drive & the recyclables on the other to assist with the collection.

Remember – items must be out for collection by 7:30 a.m. There will be a change in how residents are billed. They will no longer receive a quarterly bill from
(Continued on page 4)

A Message from Mayor Daniel J. Ursu

As most of you are aware, in 2013 the City of Richmond Heights is faced with less revenue from the State of Ohio due to reductions in the Local Government Fund, the elimination of Estate Taxes, the rolling back of the Commercial Activity Tax (C.A.T) and a new lower Cuyahoga County Property Tax valuation. This will create a hole in our budget of about \$750,000. In fact, most of these funds have been decreasing for years. See page three for details.

Knowing of this impending budget hole, in November of 2011 and again in November of 2012, Council and I placed revenue-raising issues on the ballot that would have addressed this shortfall. As neither passed, and since the City has already gone through reductions in personnel combined with numerous other cutbacks starting in 2009 (see past issues of the “City Edition” online at www.richmondheightsohio.org for details) to balance our budget the past few years, further unfortunate action to help balance our budget in 2013 is needed.

Accordingly, beginning January 1, 2013, City Hall will now be closed on Fridays. The Recreation Department will dramatically reduce its activities and staffing to the minimum level to still comply with Article VI, Section 9 of our Charter to provide some form of recreational activity. The Recreation Department will only be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I have accepted the resignation of Recreation Director Teri Drda after 16 years of excellent service and this position will go unfilled to save salary expenses. The pool will be closed this summer to save on operating, utility and maintenance expenses and the numerous seasonal employees such as pool managers and lifeguards who would otherwise be needed to operate the pool. There will continue to be no formal road repair and resurfacing program and most equipment that needs to be replaced will continue to deteriorate due to lack of capital improvement funds.

Lastly, Council and I passed legislation to put on the ballot another attempt at a modest 0.25% increase to the R.I.T.A. tax this May 7. This is needed to maintain our minimal level of services that we now provide.

The City will keep you apprised of other changes that might be necessary as the upcoming year unfolds. For a review of our City’s finances, please see Finance Director Paul Ellis’ article on page 3.

Let us continue to hope for an economic turnaround in 2013!

SPECIAL THANKS!

THE WINTER/SPRING 2013
CITY EDITION SPONSORED BY



University Hospitals
Richmond Medical Center
A Campus of UH Regional Hospitals

ANNOUNCING THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS UROLOGY INSTITUTE AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS RICHMOND MEDICAL CENTER

On January 1, 2013, UH Richmond Medical Center celebrated the official opening of the UH Urology Institute at our campus. Located in a newly renovated, expanded suite of offices and private exam and treatment rooms on the first floor of the hospital, the Institute offers advanced urology services for both men and women.

Our team of three urologists, a registered nurse, a medical assistant and an office coordinator work together to provide the most specialized diagnosis and treatment options to our patients with urologic disorders.

Two distinct centers exist within the UH Urology Institute.

At the **Female Pelvic Medicine & Surgery Center**, women receive compassionate, comprehensive care for pelvic floor disorders including incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse and chronic pelvic pain.

At the **Men's Health & Stones Center**, our male patients benefit from the expertise of our specialists in the treatment of urologic health issues such as prostate disease, kidney stone disease, urinary incontinence or retention and sexual dysfunction.

Additional urology services for both men and women include urodynamics testing for bladder control issues; pelvic floor rehabilitation; fertility issues and urinary tract infections; and screenings for the early detection of urologic cancers.

Appointments at the UH Urology Institute are available Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (440) 516-8700 or visit UHRichmond.org/Uro

Additional services for women within the UH Urology Suite at UH Richmond Medical Center

Women of all ages have convenient access to a full range of OB/GYN services including routine annual tests, pre and post natal care, menopause management, fibroid treatment and more. The distinguished University Hospitals OB/GYN group of Rzepka, Shawi and Snelson recently relocated from their Euclid offices and are now seeing patients in the UH Urology Institute suite at UH Richmond Medical Center.

For OB/GYN inquiries or appointments, call (440) 516-8701.

Advanced urology services for men and women.

At University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center, a campus of UH Regional Hospitals, we provide the highest level of urological care. Our **Female Pelvic Medicine & Surgery Center** and **Men's Health & Stones Center** offer patients highly specialized diagnostics, surgical and nonsurgical treatments and rehabilitation services for urology-related conditions, including:

- Urinary incontinence
- Overactive bladder
- Enlarged prostate
- Kidney stone disease
- Female pelvic organ prolapse
- Male sexual dysfunction
- Male infertility
- Prostate, kidney, bladder and adrenal cancers

To schedule a consultation, call **440-516-8700**.

At **University Hospitals**, our mission is you.



University Hospitals
Urology Institute

Located at

Richmond Medical Center

A Campus of UH Regional Hospitals

440-585-6500 | UHRichmond.org

27100 Chardon Road

Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143



No, this photo wasn't from Polar Express. This young boy was at the Breakfast with Santa event at the Kiwanis Lodge.

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 24 flower 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 by calendar year on the website.

www.richmondheightsohio.org/beautification.php

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO CITY BEAUTIFICATION SPONSORS

Mayor Ursu & City Council
in Memory of Elmer Headen Jr.

PROPOSED INCOME TAX ARTICLE

Financial Director Paul Ellis’ Overview of City Financial Position

The City of Richmond Heights continues to experience severe fiscal challenges caused by the loss of revenues from decreased real estate taxes, reductions in revenue from the State of Ohio, and ongoing fixed expenses. These revenue reductions have impacted the quality and level of services delivered to Richmond Heights’ residents. The City has taken steps to control and reduce expenditures but has limited options without eliminating vital services or compromising the health and safety of our residents.

Revenues from the real estate taxes fell \$305,000 from 2008 to 2012. Further, the 15% decrease in assessed value from the 2012 reappraisal will result in an additional estimated loss of \$200,000 in receipts to the General Operating fund. The adverse impact from the decline in property values across the county also affects other funds that depend on real estate taxes. These funds include the Fire Service, the Fire Pension, the Police Pension, and the Debt Service funds. Shortfalls in these funds require an increased subsidy from the general fund in order to meet mandatory pension and debt payments.

Intergovernmental payments to the City from the State and County Local Government funds have decreased by \$465,000 from 2008 to 2013. The change in the State formula for distribution to local governments will result in an additional loss of \$136,000 to the City. Further, the elimination by the State of the inheritance tax will result in a loss of revenue of \$145,000 from 2012 to 2013.

Expense reductions alone cannot keep pace with these losses in revenue. As has been noted in past City Editions, in 2009 the City implemented reductions in force in the Police, Building, Recreation, and Fire departments. Further, the hours of administrative staff were reduced. In 2012 the City bid the refuse contract and placed a special assessment on residential properties to cover the cost of pick up and disposal. To further cut expenses in 2013, the City will not open the municipal pool, has implemented reductions in recreation programs, reduced the expenses for street maintenance, and has closed City Hall on Fridays. Capital expenditures to replace deteriorating equipment are minimal.

The City’s financial statements have been audited for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 by the Auditor of State. The conversion of fiscal year 2011 cash statements is complete and the work for 2012 is underway. Bank reconciliations are up-to-date. The Auditor of State will be returning in 2013 to complete the audit of fiscal years 2011 and 2012. Due in large part to the above-noted declining revenues, the City’s current rating by Moody’s Investor Service has been downgraded to Baa1.

Through all of the above-mentioned cuts, the City was able to end 2012 with an unencumbered General Fund balance of \$689,000. The balance is approximately one month of General Fund expense. Although to most readers this might sound like a lot, the balance is close to the minimum standard set by the State in order for the City to avoid the first stage in State financial oversight.

The deficit between revenues and expenses will continue to be a challenge in the coming years for the City of Richmond Heights. We will continue to address the financial issues and work to implement steps to improve financial reporting. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to providing services and information to residents.

WASTE MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE GARBAGE PICK-UP SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
(Continued from page 1)

the garbage company. Rather, the charge will appear on their property tax statement. The new annual charge to residents will now only be \$101.00 which is a savings of \$17.92 over the expiring annual amount of \$118.92. This is due to a successful and efficient bid process that the City of Richmond Heights implemented to help keep costs down for residents!

FOR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS, CONTACT:

Your friends at Waste Management of Ohio, Inc. 1 (866) 797-9018
MIOHCustomerService@wm.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR HARD WORK

COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 10

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Kiwanis Lodge
27285 Highland Road**

Proceeds were used to support the Kiwanis Lodge operations

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CULTURAL COMMISSION INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE 7TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY-WIDE BOOK DISCUSSION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

The City of Richmond Heights Community Connections Cultural Commission, in conjunction with Richmond Heights Local Schools and Faith United Church of Christ, is pleased to present another cultural-related program.

WHAT: You are cordially invited and highly encouraged to read, either individually or with your children, any or all of the following selections being featured in this year's book discussion:

Rules by Cynthia Lord is a book geared toward children in Elementary School on up. This is the touching story of a twelve-year old girl and her autistic brother.

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam is a wonderful read for those in Middle School and older. Set in the 1960's, this is the memoir of a NASA engineer who grew up in a tough West Virginia mining town dreaming of someday getting out in search of making his dreams come true. This bestselling memoir inspired the film October Sky.

Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton is a book High School students and adults alike will want to read. This is the deeply moving story of a family facing South African apartheid and racial injustice.

WHEN: **Wednesday, March 13, 2013**
7:00 p.m. - Refreshments
7:30p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Book Discussions

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 our book discussion. Childcare will be available for children kindergarten and up.

Copies of all three (3) books will be available at the Richmond Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library located at 5235 Wilson Mills Road. The Cultural Commission enthusiastically encourages you to obtain the books, spend time reading as a family, and then on March 13 join other members of the community in a thoughtful discussion.

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



The Richmond Heights Garden Club "Trim-A-Tree" Committee did a wonderful job decorating the holiday tree at City Hall. (Left to Right) Dorothy Smirtnik, Ann Torer & Susan Myers. (Not pictured: Chairperson Dolores Sciaulino)

RICHMOND HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB

The Richmond Heights Garden Club "Trim-A-Tree" Committee headed by Dolores Sciaulino decorated the holiday tree at City Hall. (See photo to the left).

There are interesting garden-related programs planned for February through June 2013 including the "Annual Spring Luncheon" at Pine Ridge Country Club in April and a field trip in May.

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

If you are interested in joining the Richmond Heights Garden Club or for more information, please contact Aire Roche, President (216) 291-2207.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

**Richmond Heights Teen Citizen of the Year
JILLIAN KAY THOMAS**

**Richmond Heights Teen Citizen of the Year Runner-up
SAMANTHA ARLESIC**

RICHMOND HEIGHTS KIWANIS CLUB CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

Kiwanis Club members get together to improve lives and to serve our community. As a Kiwanis Club member, you can expect:

- * Fun and Fellowship
- * Education and Networking
- * Service Projects and Activities
- * Leadership Opportunities
- * Recognition and Personal Growth
- * Visibility in Your Community

As a Kiwanian you'll become part of a global organization of members who volunteer their time and dedication. Help point the way toward the future – by taking your place in a great tradition.

We are aggressively looking to add new members interested in becoming involved in our community. Contact David H. Roche, President davidroche@roadrunner.com



From L - R: Police Chief Gene Rowe, Samantha Arlesic (First Runner Up), Mayor Dan Ursu, Jillian Kay Thomas (2012 Teen Citizen Winner), and Sgt. Denise DeBiase. Other Teen Citizen nominees not shown in the photo are Michael Hurst, Simone Jasper (Semi-finalist), Brennan Karaba, Amber MacDonald (Semi-finalist), James R. Maher, Kayla Merritt, Meghan Roach, Kathleen Russell (Semi-finalist), Lita Shive.

POLICE PERSONNEL UPDATE

Although no additional staffing has been added since 10 Police Department employees were laid off in 2009, there have been a few personnel changes within the department. Sergeant Mickey Keri retired in April of 2012 after 25 years of service. In August of 2012, we also lost Sergeant Brian Rinas, who was forced to retire due to an off-duty injury. Sergeant Rinas had been with the department for 18 years. In July, two new officers were hired to replace the two retired sergeants. Officer James McVey and Officer Gregory Patterson joined the force in late July 2012. Both had prior police experience and had completed their basic police training requirements. The officers were assigned to work with Field Training Officers to learn about the city and the operation of the police department.

In addition, two patrol officers were promoted to fill the two sergeant position vacancies. Det. Darren Porter was promoted to Sergeant in June of 2012. Sgt. Porter has been a member of the department and has been serving the community since 1997. Sgt. Porter was assigned as the Detective Bureau Commander. Patrolman Todd Leisure was promoted to Sergeant in August of 2012. Sgt. Leisure has been a member of the department and has been serving the community since 1995. Sergeant Leisure was assigned Platoon "C" Commander in the patrol division.



This young girl enjoyed the Breakfast with a Santa event with a couple of recognizable characters.

RECREATION REVIEW & OUTLOOK

The Recreation Department had their 16th Annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 1 and had another amazing turnout. Resident Jerry Hoover brought his family 16 years ago and now he and his wife accompany their oldest son, his wife and their daughters! Santa and Mrs. Claus handed out child-sized boxes of cereal to the children after listening to all of the children promising to be good. Our smaller guests enjoyed pictures with our two famous mouse visitors, face painting, sticker crafts, and decorating Christmas tree cookies. Everyone loved the fresh, hot pancakes and sausage as well.

We, along with Richmond Heights Amateur Sports, are gearing up for another season of basketball. With severe cuts to the Recreation budget, the basketball program was slated to be cut this year. Amateur Sports along with two of our own Recreation Board members, Bill Delsanter and Joe Peterson, have volunteered to jump in to help rescue this program. University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center has again made a sizeable donation to be the 2013 Corporate Sponsor for the Recreation Department; donors are sponsoring our various basketball teams; AND with the generous cooperation from the Superintendent and the School Board, we are back in the game! Thank you to all who made this possible!

Unfortunately, the reality of Issue 83 not passing last fall is looming large in the Recreation Department this upcoming year. The department will now be open only two days a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Kiwanis Lodge will continue to be available for community meetings, as a rally point and shelter in case of a natural catastrophe or local emergency and for all of your social functions; however the pool will be closed for the summer of 2013. We are investigating the possibility of opening the Sprayground along with the concession stand and outdoor restrooms, however.

The Recreation Board will continue to meet on the third Monday of every month to determine potential programs or events that may still be affordable to continue. Please feel free to contact us at (216) 383-6313 if you have ideas or would like to volunteer!

PHIL SEYBOLDT APPOINTED NEW BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Phil Seyboldt was appointed by Mayor Ursu as our new Building Commissioner replacing Dan Spada who has taken a new position closer to home in Geauga County. Phil has 18 years experience as a Building Commissioner after a career in management of construction projects that spanned an additional 20 years. A native of Erie, Pennsylvania, Mr. Seyboldt moved to the Cleveland area in 1985 to take part in construction management activities at such projects as the Cleveland Clinic, St. John Westshore Hospital, and various RTA transit stations. He began his service as an inspector in 1994 as the Chief Building Official in Ashtabula County before moving to Bedford in 1998. Mr. Seyboldt lives in Concord Township with his wife of 44 years, Karen. Phil has 2 sons, a daughter and 6 grandchildren, all of whom live in the Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio areas.



IS ONE OF YOUR GOALS TO IMPROVE YOUR FLEXIBILITY?

GET FIT WITH MORNING EXERCISE

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

**KIWANIS LODGE
27285 HIGHLAND ROAD**

COST: \$3 PER CLASS

CINDY (216) 346-8909

UPCOMING CASINO BUS TRIPS

Hollywood Casino Columbus

Date: Wednesday, March 20

Cost: \$35/includes \$20 slot dollars

Departure Time: 7:00 a.m. from Richmond Town Square

Seneca Allegany Casino

Date: Wednesday, May 1

Cost: \$35/\$25 slot dollars

Departure Time: 6:00 a.m. from Richmond Town Square

For registration information, please call the Recreation Department (216) 383-6313. Seating is on a first come basis.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY AIRPORT INFORMATION

Since 2006, the Cuyahoga County Airport staff has been working diligently to acquire grant funding to improve the airport’s infrastructure. Last year, taxiway and apron improvements were completed and now the focus has shifted to runway improvements. The average lifespan of a runway is 20 years and the runway is now 30 years old. There is Federal Aviation Administration funding available for runway improvements but there are conditions. The airport does not currently meet FAA design standards for the Runway Safety Areas, so the safety improvements are necessary for funding the runway repair project.

The Cuyahoga County Airport is about to begin an Environmental Assessment (EA). This is the next step in evaluating the runway safety area improvements identified in the 2010 Airport Master Plan. An EA is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for almost all federal agencies—including the FAA—before a final decision is made to approve projects that could have environmental effects.

Public participation is an essential part of the EA. Electronic and print media tools will be utilized and two open houses and a public hearing will be held over the course of the 18-month project. The first open house was February 27 from 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at Cuyahoga County Airport, 26180 Curtiss Wright Parkway, Richmond Heights, Ohio. Details about the project and the future open houses are available on the project website: www.cuyahoga-airportEA.com. The website also has a 24/7 comment box and a place to sign up for monthly project updates. Watch for regular project updates!

Mr. Kevin Delaney, Airport Manager, Cuyahoga County Airport
26300 Curtiss Wright Parkway; Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143
Phone: (216) 289-4111

SANITARY SEWERS UPDATE

Due to inflow and infiltration (I & I) problems with the Sanitary Sewer System, the elimination of which is difficult and costly, Ordinance Number 44-2012 was passed by City Council and signed by the Mayor. Working with the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works, this enables residents to obtain up to a \$1500 reimbursement for work related to the elimination and/or reduction of basement flooding. Details are available at City Hall in the Building Department

REVISED PUBLIC WORKS TIMETABLE

Location	Type of Project	Estimated Construction Date
City Wide	Crack Sealing	Completed 2012
2013 Road Work	Concrete & Asphalt	On Emergency Basis
Highland Road (Richmond Road to Euclid Avenue)	Repair & Resurface (Richmond Hts./Euclid/Cuyahoga County)	2013 and/or 2014

KIWANIS LODGE INFO

The Kiwanis Lodge is located in the back of the Richmond Heights Community Park at 27285 Highland Road and is available for rental for Richmond Heights residents' parties only. The resident must be the contact for the party before, during and after the party.

At the time of applying for rental of the Lodge, you must present two proofs of residency in Richmond Heights:

- 1) Driver's license
- 2) Current utility bill with Richmond Heights address

The hall(s) can be rented two (2) times per year per household

Payment for the Lodge is divided into two parts:

- 1) The refundable deposit
- 2) The rental fee

The refundable deposit is due when the application is filled out in the Recreation Office. The deposit is returned by mail to the resident if the staff finds no damages and all rules were followed by the renter. The fee is due one month before the event. Payment may be made by check or cash previous to one month, but must be made in cash if it is made less than one month ahead. The costs for rental are:

	Deposit	Fee
SENIOR HALL	\$250	\$350
-tables and chairs for 164		
-air-conditioned		
-large dance floor		
-portable bar		
KIWANIS HALL	\$250	\$200
-tables and chairs for 100		
-air-conditioned		
-permanent bar/serving area		
BOTH HALLS	\$400	\$500
KITCHEN FEE		\$100
AUXILIARY FEE	\$20 per hour	

GREENWOOD FARM NEWS

The Board of Directors wishes to give a special thank you to the sponsors and donors of the 4th Fall Fun Fest held September 22, 2012. A sincere "thank you" goes to: K-9 Kingdom; University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center; Richmond Heights Kiwanis International; Dave's Market; Grande's Garden Center; Richmond Heights Key Club; Richmond Heights CERT Team; Friends of Greenwood Farm; and all the individual volunteers! **This year's Fun Fest will be held on September 21.**

Thank you also goes to **Boy Scout Troop # 461** for their work on Eagle Scout Projects at the Farm. Approximately thirty workers were involved in this project the weekend of October 12.

A spooky thank you goes to all those who participated in our very successful first Ghost Hunter Fundraiser on November 9. The Ghost Hunts will resume in the spring....so watch for dates.

The 4th annual **Junk in the Trunk** will take place on **Saturday, July 13;** so mark your calendars!

The Board of Directors always welcomes new members and volunteers. **New membership applications and membership renewals for 2013 are accepted at any time. If you are interested in becoming a member or helping in any way, please check the Greenwood website, www.greenwoodfarmassn.org, or obtain a membership form at City Hall.**

Every community needs to remember its beginning, for that in part defines what the community becomes.

2013 RECYCLING EVENTS

AT THE SERVICE GARAGE 26260 CHARDONVIEW ROAD

Computer Round-Up Dates

Months of April and August, every Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monitors, keyboards, CPU's, laptops, software, & cell phones are accepted.

Scrap Tire Round-Up

Whole Month of August, Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Tires must be removed from rims.

Phone Books

We accept phone books all year; just drop them in our paper bin.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Months of April, July & October, every Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Important Note: During the year we receive many phone calls regarding missed trash. Some of our residents get used to a certain time their trash gets picked up. Be aware of the fact that sometimes the rubbish company changes their routes or they have a new driver and this could change the time of day your trash is picked up. Richmond Heights ordinance #951.04 (a) states; all refuse containers shall be at the curb side for pickup by 7:30 a.m. on the day designated for pickup & ordinance #951.08 (a) states the rubbish company has until 7:00 p.m. to pickup trash.

SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

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

There is Bowling, Golf, Cards, Trips, and other entertainment; all in a friendly atmosphere with friends, neighbors and with refreshments!

Presently, bowling takes place in Wickliffe every Monday morning from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. After bowling the group has the highlight of the day: a great lunch at a local restaurant. A card party is held at City Hall on Tuesday afternoons starting at 12:00 p.m. (Please note new day for the card party) Special event dinner parties are held during the year. Presently membership is in excess of 50 individuals.

The officers for 2013 are: David Roche, President; Mitzi Binder, Vice President; Aire Roche, Treasurer; June Endres, Secretary.

Come join in on the fun. 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. Please come and give the group a try. For a schedule of the meetings or more information, please contact Senior Club President, David Roche at (216) 291-2207.

GET FIT & HAVE FUN!

ZUMBA CLASSES

MONDAYS

6:30 P.M. - 7:15 P.M.

KIWANIS LODGE
27285 HIGHLAND ROAD

COST: \$3 PER CLASS

CINDY (216) 346-8909

CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS COMMISSION ON AGING

A Commission on Aging has been established to serve in an advisory capacity to Council on all matters pertaining to the aging citizens of Richmond Heights. The commission shall consider and make recommendations in the following areas: Referral Services, Health Needs, Leisure Time Activities, Transportation, and Nutrition.

The City currently has in place, Meals on Wheels and Transportation for medical purposes. Library books are available for the homebound by registering at the County Library for the Library2You Program. Books to borrow will be mailed to the homebound free of charge with a postage paid envelope for the return of the books.

The Commission is currently working on volunteer services for home and yard work, retirement and nursing home information, and a means to better disseminate information to the elderly.

To be informed of the progress being made by the Commission, visit the web site of the City: www.richmondheightsohio.org and click on the portal to the Commission on Aging.

Commission members are: Chair: Marilou Bassett, Noella Burrows, June Endres, Marlene Hoageson, Frank Johns, Nancy Rice, and Betty St. John. By ordinance, Mayor Daniel Ursu and Council President David Roche are non-voting members.

The monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. at City Hall.

FOUR FORMER CITY EMPLOYEES GET ACKNOWLEDGED AT CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION



Congratulations and thanks for years of dedicated service to the City of Richmond Heights go to: (Left to Right) Former Recreation Secretary Nancy Benander, former Recreation Director Teri Drda, Mayor Daniel Ursu, former Assistant Building Commissioner Dan Spada and former Special Projects Coordinator Joyce Kandrach. Resolutions commending their careers with the City of Richmond Heights were presented to them at the February 26 City Council Meeting. Best wishes in their future endeavors!

COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING EVENT & ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Come one, come all to City Hall! On Saturday, April 27, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., you, your family and neighbors can help Reforest Richmond Heights. There will be an Arbor Day Celebration after the tree planting is completed.

Volunteers are needed for planting, mulching and donut distribution. If you'd like to be a team leader, and learn the proper way to plant and mulch trees so that you can teach others, training will begin at 8:00 a.m. Planting volunteers will gather in front of City Hall at 9:00 a.m. To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Cathi Lehn at (216) 241-2414 extension 307, or e-mail lehnc@crcpo.org.

Cuyahoga ReLeaf, a program that keeps woods working for watersheds, will hold a community tree planting beside the creek along Highland Road east of Richmond Road. ReLeaf partners and volunteers will plant more than a hundred trees, some large, some small, along 770 feet of Claribel Creek, which leads to Euclid Creek.

With funding from the U.S. Forest Service and ODNR Division of Forestry, and *at no cost to the community*, the project provides the trees, tools, equipment and training to communities throughout the area in an effort to reduce stormwater runoff and restore riparian areas to improve stream health. Trees and healthy urban forests are the most important pieces of a community's ecosystem, absorbing hundreds of gallons of stormwater, providing shade to aquatic life and habitat for birds, cooling the soil and cleaning the air, and beautifying our City.

NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEE

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Stormwater Management Program will begin collecting fees on Richmond Heights properties that are located in the Stormwater District only beginning January 1, 2013. For Richmond Heights, the Stormwater District is the same as the Wastewater Treatment District. The stormwater fees are based on the amount of impervious surface on your property. The basics of the stormwater fee are:

1. Residential property is grouped into one of three tiers and charged one of three flat fees per quarter. Residential property in Richmond Heights is either in Tier 2 or Tier 3. The quarterly fee for Tier 2 property is \$15.15 and the Tier 3 fee is \$27.27.
2. Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District customers qualifying for the Homestead Fee and/or the Sewer District's Cost Savings Programs will also qualify for these savings under the Regional Stormwater Management Program.
3. In order to determine what fee will be charged on your property, take the following steps.

- a. On the web go to www.neorsd.org
- b. Click "Stormwater and Watersheds" on the left side of the home page
- c. Click "Stormwater management program" on the left side of the page
- d. Click "Find your fee" in the blue box on the right side of the page
- e. Enter your address in the search box on the map and then click the magnifying glass on the left side of the search box
- f. Click your property outlined in red

Many residents of Richmond Heights are part of the Euclid Wastewater Treatment District and will not incur the above-mentioned fee. If you are unsure of whether the fee applies to you, follow the steps in #3 above.

CPR COURSE OFFERED BY RICHMOND HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Beginning in March, Richmond Heights Fire Department in partnership with UH Richmond Medical Center will offer bi-monthly CPR courses to residents of Richmond Heights. The Heartsaver® CPR AED Course is a classroom, video-based, instructor-led course that teaches adult CPR and AED use, as well as how to relieve choking on an adult. The course will be held at the Richmond Heights fire station on **March 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** Call City Hall at (216) 486-2474, if interested. Class size is limited to 12 students per class. These classes are **FREE** to residents of Richmond Heights. This course is for the general public; it is not the Healthcare Provider Course. Participants must be at least 16 years old to attend.

EUCLID CREEK WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION

The City Of Richmond Heights was awarded \$187,500 through Ohio EPA's SWIF program to green an historic, City-owned property called Greenwood Farm located on the East Branch of Euclid Creek near Chardon Road on Richmond Road. The project includes construction of new driveways and parking areas for volunteers and visitors. Instead of conventional paving systems, porous pavement will be installed to allow water to infiltrate into the ground versus sheet flowing and picking up pollutants that will enter nearby Euclid Creek. Bioretention areas will be installed to receive storm water runoff from the new driveway and parking areas, and from roof runoff from the main farmhouse and barn.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RICHMOND HTS. GRADUATING SENIORS

The Richmond Heights Garden Club and Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club sponsor annual scholarship programs. All Richmond Heights residents who are high school seniors are eligible for the scholarship. Area High School Guidance Counselors have been sent copies of the scholarship application to duplicate and distribute to students of the Richmond Heights community.

Applications are due in the Richmond Heights Guidance Office no later than Wednesday, April 10, 2013. Applications received after that date will **not** be eligible for consideration. Along with the completed application, please make sure each student who is applying for scholarship consideration includes a transcript and list of school activities. Keep in mind that the application process will be confidential and the material will be passed along from the guidance office to the Richmond Heights Garden Club and Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club Scholarship Committees only.

Completed applications should be returned by Wednesday, April 10, 2013 to: Mr. Dan Sadler, Guidance Office Richmond Heights High School 447 Richmond Road Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143 Attn: Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club Scholarship Or Attn: Richmond Heights Garden Club Scholarship

A copy of the applications along with the letter to the counselors is posted on our city website:

www.richmondheightsohio.org

Should school counselors have any questions, they should contact Richmond Heights High School Guidance Office at (216) 692-0094, extension 571241

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS & NOTES
This side of page 11 is printed on behalf of the Richmond Heights School Board for those residents who are part of the Richmond Heights School District.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR RICHMOND HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Richmond Heights Local School District wants to personally thank the community for voting for Issue 113 Levy. The passage of the levy will allow us to prioritize our current educational programs, to embark upon new ones and to balance our budget.

We want to invite everyone to visit our website to obtain vital information regarding our school system. We have updated the website and have added a link for parents and stakeholders to provide us with ideas and suggestions that will make our district a quality educational facility. Please leave your name, address, email address and telephone number for us to keep in contact with you.

Let me conclude by saying, we need and solicit your ongoing support as we continue to **Transform the District to Meet the Needs of our Students**. As Superintendent of Schools, it is my desire to provide every child with a quality and rigorous educational experience. With your assistance, we can accomplish this task.

The entire District wishes everyone a Prosperous New Year!!!!

Dr. Robert J. Moore, Superintendent



A special thank you to members of the Richmond Heights Key Club, for helping with the Breakfast with Santa event. The Key Club also did a fantastic job assisting the Recreation Department with the Craft Show.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOLS 2013-14 REGISTRATION
(216) 692-7395
“Transforming the district to meet the needs of our students”
www.richmondheightsschools.org

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The City with the *Forward* Look!

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