

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Anthony Gimellia, Editor

The CITY EDITION

RICHMOND HEIGHTS
RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
presents a
"SPRING SAFARI"
with JUNGLE TERRY

Saturday, March 19
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Richmond Heights
Kiwanis Lodge



Tickets must be purchased in advance at Richmond Heights City Hall. For information, please call Recreation Department (216) 383-6313



Bring Your Camera --
Many Photo Opportunities
*children under age 2 are free

A Message from Mayor Daniel J. Ursu

As I write this, the recent heavy snows, sleet, rain, and severe weather conditions in December, coupled with the subsequent freezing, thawing, and refreezing have presented our Service, Police, and Fire Departments in Richmond Heights and the entire Hillcrest area with many unique challenges.

When severe winter weather occurs over many hours or days, the Service Department snow plow drivers work continually around the clock to clear the main roads, with only short breaks to sleep and eat. The Service Department's priority is to assure that main roads are traversable so that residents leaving subdivisions and/or side streets can safely reach their destinations. Please know that when severe weather hits, the Service Department plows are doing all that they can, within the above limitations, to keep the main streets clear. Once done, they then address the side streets as quickly as possible.

In severe winter weather, the frequency of traffic accidents and vehicular breakdowns increases dramatically. Under these circumstances, our Police Officers are crucially needed to assist disabled vehicles and to respond to accident scenes, in order to help the involved motorists safely on their way. Intuitively, sometimes a traffic accident site or disabled vehicle will hamper Service Department plow efforts to clear snow, slush and ice from our roads. Please know that our Police Officers are professionally trained for these situations and are doing everything possible to clear the scene safely for the motorists involved and for those traversing the area.

Severe winter weather also impacts the Fire Department's ability to make paramedic and fire runs. On such calls, the Fire Department encounters the same snow, slush, freezing temperatures and ice that we all do except that they must professionally work through it to accomplish their mission. Fire fighting and rescue under these conditions is a daunting task since moving parts on equipment lock up and the firefighters' water freezes underfoot, on equipment and on the bodies of our men, making an already challenging situation all the more difficult.

The men and women of our Police, Fire and Service Departments work hard for us all year round, but especially hard when responding in the winter elements. Let us recognize their superb efforts that are greatly appreciated and needed now more than ever!

Although we are in the midst of a uniquely difficult winter, let us count our blessings especially relative to the unfortunate citizens of Southeast Asia who are enduring the devastating effects of the December 26th Tsunami.

POLICE PERSONNEL

Lieutenant Joseph Steffen retired from the Police Department on October 17. Joe joined the department in 1981, after serving with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office. Joe was promoted to Sergeant in 1985 and to the rank of Lieutenant in 1988. He began teaching the DARE Program to Richmond Heights students in 1989 and continued to teach until 2000. In concert with his interest in the students, he was instrumental each year in determining the recipient of the Teen Citizen of the Year Award.

Lt. Steffen played a key role in the construction of the new police building, overseeing much of the building technology and the construction of the jail area. He became the "go to" person for computer and technology problems in the department.

The lieutenant and his wife and son will continue to reside in Richmond Heights. He also hopes to have more time to spend pursuing his interest in scuba diving.

DARE PROGRAM

The Police Department was once again the recipient of a grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office to



conduct the DARE Program in the Elementary School for the 2004-2005 school year. This grant helps to offset some of the costs to the department to administer this program. This year's grant was for \$ 2,362.00.

AT YOUR SERVICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

SLOW DOWN TO GET AROUND

The Service Department would like to remind everyone to be patient with the snowplow trucks; they are working to make the roads safer for you.

Also, please be careful when the road crews are working. It is very dangerous to work on the roads when drivers are not observing speed limits or safe driving when the roads are snow covered or icy.

The Service Department now has two bins for clothing and shoes provided by: **Planet Aid**.

Planet Aid is a non-profit organization. The clothes are either sold in Planet Aid stores or donated to People organizations in Latin America or Africa, as well as here in the United States. Proceeds from sales are used in Planet Aid's projects or donated to other programs.

The two bins are for clothing and shoes **only**. All items must be in plastic bags. You will find the bins located near the recycling area at the Service Department. The Service Department would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy New Year!

A Note from the Service Director: Don Lazar

I would like to wish the best of health and happiness to Fran Baldner who has retired after working 30 years for the Richmond Heights Service Department. He was the Department Foreman for over 25 years. Thank you for your many years of outstanding service.

2005 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The Building Department will embark on the second installment of the residential housing inspection program again this spring as the weather allows. The program, conceived in 2004, has been designed as a systematic and detailed inspection of the exterior property areas and premises of the City's housing stock. Approximately 1/3 of the City is scheduled for inspection each year. Streets designated for this year's program are: Albert Court, Audrey Drive, Brush Road, Brushview Drive, Cary Jay Boulevard, Catlin Road, Celestia Drive, Douglas Boulevard, Dumbarton Boulevard(south of Euclid-Chagrin Parkway), Edgewood Road, Gleeten Road, Harris Road, Highland Road, Huckleberry Drive, Jeannette Drive, Karl Drive, Kenbridge Drive, Loganberry Drive, Meadowlane Drive, Mulberry Circle, Rachel Lane, Radford Drive, Sandy Hill Drive, Snavely Road, Steven Boulevard, Trebisky Road, White Road, Whiteway Drive and Wilson Mills Road.



RICHMOND HEIGHTS NIGHT AT THE GUND ARENA WITH THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

This is your chance to see the Cleveland Cavaliers! As a resident of Richmond Heights, join us Tuesday, March 15 for

Richmond Heights Community Night with



the Cleveland Cavaliers. LeBron James and the Cavaliers will be battling the Utah Jazz and former Cavalier Carlos Boozer. Limited tickets are available on a first come basis. The group rate cost of a ticket is \$20. Please register at City Hall in the Recreation Department. For more information, please call (216) 383-6313.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS GIRL'S SOFTBALL INFORMATION

Although it's still snowing and cold outside, it is not too early to start thinking about the girl's youth summer softball leagues. Richmond Heights Girl's Softball is gearing up for the 2005 season and wants to inform families about the upcoming softball program.

They are considering once again offering slow pitch softball in addition to the current fast pitch teams. The Recreation Department would like to receive your input and interest in this addition by calling (216) 383-6313.

The sign-ups for Richmond Heights Girl's Youth Softball start on Sunday, February 27 at the Kiwanis Lodge in the Richmond Heights Community Park between the hours of 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Registration will continue at City Hall in the Recreation Department office through Friday, March 18. The participants sign-up date will determine placement on teams.

Terry Yerkic, Girl's Softball Commissioner looks forward to a fun and exciting summer of softball for the girls, and he hopes to see you at the opening day of sign-ups.

School's Out for President's Day on Monday, February 21 Join us at Alpine Valley for a Snow Fun Day!

The fees are as follows:

***Tubing:** \$25

***Skiing:** with ski rental: \$45 without: \$35

***Snowboarding:** with rental: \$50 without: \$40

*If you would like lessons in skiing or snowboarding add an additional \$4.

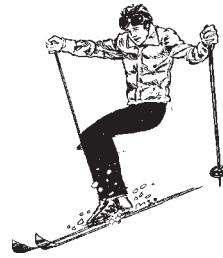
Also, if you would like to purchase a lunch ticket for your child, the cost is \$6. This would include either a hot dog, hamburger, pizza or soup and fries and a medium drink. The above fees include lift tickets, busing and chaperones.

The bus will leave the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and return by 5:00 p.m.

Early drop fee (8:00 a.m. – 8:45a.m.) an additional \$5

Late pick-up fee (5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) an additional \$5

Please call Recreation at (216) 383-6313 for information. Seats are limited!



Otto Orf with the Cleveland Force visits the Richmond Heights Recreation's soccer program. If you have an interest in Soccer, be watching for future Soccer programs in the spring and summer.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS SWIM TEAM

Although it's still cold to think about outdoor swimming, the warm months are just around the corner.

Registration for the Richmond Heights Swim Team will be on February 27 at the Kiwanis Lodge from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining the team, stop in for information. The Swim Team will have experienced parents who can answer your questions.

Upcoming dates include the fun-raiser at Sam's Club on Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5. All friends of Richmond Heights are invited to stop in and purchase the tastiest in brats, burgers and hot dogs. See you then...

Coming Soon To A Lodge Near You

Mark Your Calendars for this Upcoming Kiwanis Lodge Event

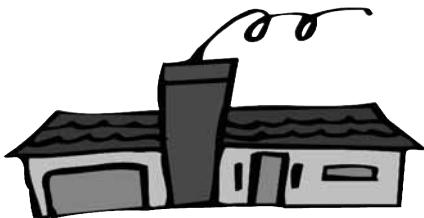
Sunday, February 27 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Richmond Heights Boys & Girls

Baseball, Softball & Swim Team Summer Registration

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. **DO NOT RENT THE HALL FOR SOMEONE ELSE!** 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 \$250

-tables and chairs for 164

-air-conditioned

KIWANIS HALL \$250 \$150

-tables and chairs for 100

-air-conditioned

-permanent bar

BOTH HALLS \$400 \$350

UPCOMING CASINO BUS TRIPS

Date: Wednesday, March 9 **Seneca Allegany Casino** in Salamanca, New York

Cost: \$25/\$15 coin voucher & \$5 food voucher given

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

Date: Wednesday, April 6 **Wheeling Island Race Track & Gaming Center**

Cost: \$20/\$5 coin voucher & racing program given

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

Date: Thursday, May 5 **Mountaineer Casino** in Chester, West Virginia

Cost: \$17/\$5 coin voucher, \$5 food voucher & free keychain given

Departure Time: 6:30 a.m. from Richmond Town Square

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

EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Recreation would like to thank the following for making Breakfast with Santa and our Holiday Walk in the Park so wonderful!

- *Kathy and Terry Yerkic for making your annual trek in from the North Pole!
- *Mark Paluf, Danny Spada, Lenny Velotta for making the best pancakes and sausage!
- *Don Lazar and members of Service for the beautiful lighting display at the park!
- *Garden Club members Theresa Simmons and Betty Weber for assisting at the Breakfast with Santa event.
- *Senior citizen volunteers for decorating the Kiwanis Hall for the Holidays.
- *Richmond Heights High School, Regina High School and Benedictine High School for providing us with great volunteers!
- *College students home for winter break that volunteered for Breakfast with Santa.
- *The Recreation Board for all their assistance at our annual events: Terry Yerkic, Sookram Phalguo, Lisa Taylor, Eloise Henry, Tony Hocevar and Allison Ciferno.
- *The choirs of Richmond Heights Schools, Richmond Heights Church of the Nazarene and Saint Paschal Baylon – thank you for the beautiful caroling!
- *Thanks also to Gina Destro and Newf Neighborhood for bringing your beautiful Newfoundlands, aka reindeer, to share in the holiday festivities!



(Left to Right) Theresa Simmons and Eloise Henry assist with the Breakfast with Santa event.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB

If you like interesting programs and field trips pertaining to gardening, social luncheons, and delicious homemade refreshments, then the Richmond Heights Garden Club is a must for you. The Club meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m., September thru June. Meetings are held at the Kiwanis Lodge in Richmond Heights Community Park. Dues are \$10 per year. For more information, please contact the Membership Chairperson, Karen Murray at (216) 371-1578.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

From your local Richmond Heights Town Planner Calendar Publisher: Please accept our apologies for the printing errors on the local events listed throughout the 2005 Town Planner calendar. The events throughout the calendar are all listed one day behind their scheduled time. Please, as always, check with the event holder to verify date and time.

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.

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 Seniors Club.

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

We are presently actively recruiting new young thinking seniors. Come alone; better yet, bring a friend or neighbor. Remember to bring some fresh ideas; we are open to organizing new and interesting activities. The Senior Citizens Club is the place to be.

Our general meetings with snack and entertainment are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Presently we are bowling every Monday morning 9:30 a.m. - Noon (special discount rates-\$2.50/3-lines) then have the highlight of the day, lunch at a local restaurant; several card games are on tap for Fridays. Special event dinner parties are held during the year. We also participate in the evening event on first Wednesday of the Month music/dancing and entertainment sponsored by the City of Richmond Heights with refreshments that are provided by the Richmond Heights Boosters. Trips to interesting locations and entertainment out of town are also being planned. Presently our membership is in excess of 125 individuals, with 60 to 80 active members attending our general meetings.

Come join in on the fun. You meet new people and make new friends. The dues are only \$5.00 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 us a try. For more information, please contact newly-elected Senior Club President June Endres at (216) 486-4552.



On Wednesday, January 12, the Senior Citizens Club had its installation luncheon. The 2005 newly-elected Senior Citizens Club Officers are (left to right) Richard Binder, Treasurer; Elizabeth Duncan, Secretary; Pat Bromley, Vice President; and June Endres, President.

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 457 Richmond 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 and special 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 for Senior and handicapped services, voter forms, and County assistance applications. Also available is current information regarding special events and programs.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

WHAT'S NEW IN TOWN

Lil's Florist

5182 Wilson Mills Road

Contours Express

5115 Wilson Mills Road

Budget Dry Cleaners

5218 Wilson Mills Road

RICHMOND HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL'S 'ONE MAGIC MOMENT' SMASHING SUCCESS!

May 21 and May 22, the Richmond Heights Middle School Vocal Music Department proudly presented 'One Magic Moment' composed by: Mary Donnelly, George L.O. Strid, & Bob Dingley. Both nights were well attended and appreciated by the community. One hundred plus middle school students performed in the play! Congratulations to Mrs. Caswell – Vocal Music Teacher and the entire cast for a fantastic first musical production. Reserve your seat and mark your calendar now for May 20 – May 21, 2005 for the new production entitled – 'Annie Jr.' composed by: Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse & Martin Charnin. 'Annie Jr.' will run both nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Auditorium. The Richmond Heights Middle School PTO will be selling refreshments and snacks during the intermission. Additional information is available at the Middle School office (216) 692-7395.



Revised Public Works Timetable

Location	Type of Project	Estimated Construction Date
Richmond Road, Swetland to Horizon	Sanitary Sewers	Completed
Euclid Chagrin Parkway	Resurface	Completed
Douglas Boulevard	Recycle & Resurface	Completed
North Harris Road	Recycle & Resurface	Completed
Dumbarton Boulevard	Recycle & Resurface	Under Construction
Richmond Road (Chardon & White)	Sanitary Sewers	Under Construction
Meadowlane	Resurface	Spring 2005
Richmond Road Side Streets	Sanitary Sewers	Summer 2005

The above dates are the latest estimates submitted by City Engineer, Lee Courtney.

For further information regarding Public Works, please call (440) 449-4005.

American Legion Post 775

Sunday, April 17
27th Annual Pancake Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Kiwanis Lodge
Cost \$5.00
Under age 6: FREE

People who have served in the service are welcome to join American Legion Post 775.

For Legion Post 775 information, call Bob Montgomery at (440) 255-9198.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

SUMMER FORESTRY CAMP
June 12 - June 17

Six one-week scholarships available on a first come basis

Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation

Contact Jan Rybka immediately

(216) 524-6580 Extension # 13

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:

Steve Nagy 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.

VOLUNTEERS Hillcrest Meals on Wheels Needs You!

Volunteers are the lifelines of Hillcrest Meals on Wheels. As little as two hours per week will give homebound elderly and handicapped people assurance that a hot meal will be delivered to them by caring volunteers.

We Need Your Help To Make It Happen!

Hillcrest Meals on Wheels is more than just a food service. We are a friendly face. As a volunteer you take a special interest in the client's well being. We are a non-profit, volunteer agency. Established in 1983, we provide approximately 20,000 meals annually to residents of Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Richmond Heights and South Euclid.

Now More Than Ever We Need You and Your Neighbors Need You!

Show That You Care!

Please call (440) 449-3551

HOLIDAY FUN IN RICHMOND HEIGHTS



INSIGHTS AND ILLUMINATIONS

Residents of Richmond Heights and all Hillcrest communities are cordially invited to join business leaders, community leaders, and clergy from Richmond Heights and the surrounding communities to participate in a series of community-building discussions for Richmond Heights and its Hillcrest neighbors. The workshops are called "Insights and Illuminations" and are being co-sponsored by the Heights Community Congress, City of Richmond Heights, and made possible by a grant from the Cuyahoga County Department of Development.

The workshops are designed to enhance perceptions about the Hillcrest area cities and to serve as a catalyst for positive change toward a stronger community. **All three sessions will be held at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge at 27285 Highland Road, just east of Richmond Road in the rear of the Richmond Heights Community Park. The workshop dates and times are as follows:**

Wednesday, February 16 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Bridging the Race, Culture, and Generation Gap

Wednesday, March 9 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 29 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

You are welcome to attend one or all three sessions. Please call **(216) 321-6775 to register** or to find out more about this thought provoking series of discussions.

Respectfully yours,

Daniel J. Ursu, Mayor

Editor's note: I would like to thank Nancy Benander and Alyssa Perkowski 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.

CITY *The* **EDITION**

Anthony Gimellia, Editor
457 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143-1493

Daniel J. Ursu, Mayor/Safety Director
216-481-2534

Lee E. Gase, Council President
216-289-7277

Donald O'Toole, Council at Large
216-291-3586

Dave Davies, Council at Large
216-731-6155

Marcia Starkey Morgan, Council-Ward One & Editor Emeritus
216-732-9514

Kathryn Gambatese, Council-Ward Two
216-481-1685

David H. Roche Council-Ward Three
216-291-2207

Mark Alexander, Council-Ward Four
216-481-9015

Emergency
9-1-1

Richmond Heights City Hall
216-486-2474

Richmond Heights Information Number
216-383-6300

The City with the Forward Look!

UPCOMING DANCE SCHEDULE

First Wednesday of the Month

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

February 2 Ron Stark Orchestra

March 2 Carmelina / Masquerades

April 6 Jacobs Field Band

May 4 Busmen's Holiday

This schedule is subject to change or substitutions.

Dances feature a live band and light refreshments are served. Dances are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Cost is \$3 at the door. The Kiwanis Lodge is located at 27285 Highland Road in the back of Richmond Heights Community Park.

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