

# THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

Anthony Gimellia, Editor

# The CITY EDITION

## ATTENTION: SENIORS & DISABLED ADULTS

TRANSPORTATION BUS AVAILABLE MONDAY - FRIDAY

Call 1 (800) 983-4782

## FALL FESTIVAL FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30



Richmond Hts. Community Park  
27285 Highland Road

Fall crafts, fun games and delicious snacks. Feel free to come in costume. Tickets must be purchased in advance beginning October 1 at City Hall in the Recreation Department.

Fee: \$3 for kids, \$1 for adults

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The Recreation Department would love to have your help at the Richmond Heights Craft Show on November 7. Call (216) 383-6313 if you can help.

AMOUNT OF VISITORS ON THE RICHMOND HEIGHTS WEBSITE HITS NEW HIGH.

PLEASE SEE WHAT'S NEW!

[www.richmondheightsohio.org](http://www.richmondheightsohio.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL J. URSU

I am excited to let you know of the new Richmond Heights Community Mediation Service (RHCMS) which has now been established through our Cultural Commission. As you might have been aware through the media, Police Chief Gene Rowe, Commission Chair Colonel Carl Carter and I have been working on this for some time to provide a forum to resolve differences among neighbors at an early stage, thereby reducing animosity and stress.

The mediators are highly dedicated and motivated Richmond Heights resident volunteers who have undergone an extensive twenty hours of professional Mediation Certification Training to help provide this program to our community. The program can be accessed by calling (216) 486-3777. Both interested parties must agree to utilize mediation.

The mediation process allows neighbors to resolve disputes privately with the help of a Mediation Team before they turn into larger issues requiring the potentially expensive and more time consuming court system. This less-stressful dispute-solving tool results in a fair settlement to the satisfaction of the parties.

Examples that might benefit from the mediation process include property damage, condition of neighbor's yard, trespassing, garbage/trees/fences, animals, noise and unsupervised youths. Mediation represents a free and convenient alternative to an escalating conflict by early resolution instead of calling the police, going to court or endlessly arguing with each other. You will be contacted within three business days of calling the above phone number.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season in the comfort and enjoyment of family and friends!

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Richmond Heights Teen Citizen of the Year  
William Cook**

**Richmond Heights Teen Citizen of the Year Runner-up  
Mary Jane King**

## RICHMOND HEIGHTS RECREATION FALL CRAFT SHOW

Mark your calendar now for the Recreation Department's Eleventh Annual Fall Craft Show which will be held on *Saturday, November 7* from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Over 50 crafters will display their homemade creations at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road. Great food and refreshments will be available. This is a perfect opportunity to purchase beautiful autumn or winter decorations and get an early jump on that holiday shopping!

**GOURMET VEGETARIAN****Monday, September 21**

Cooking without meat does not mean your food has to be tasteless or boring. In fact you can create terrific gourmet meals and your guest will never miss the meat. In class you will learn how to make nutritious foods elegant, too. there will be plenty of foods to try and recipes to take home. Food fee of \$8 payable at class.

**Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**Instructor:** Judi Strauss

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

**Fee:** \$15 Pre-Registration required.**MAKING SENSE OF FOOD****Monday, September 28**

Confused on what to eat? This class will teach you which foods to focus on and which foods to limit. There will be a discussion on how to navigate through any grocery store. Other topics will teach you how to incorporate good fats into your diet and avoid bad fats. Quick & easy snack foods will be discussed. Food tasting & recipes for easy and practical food preparation.

**Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**Instructor:** Janee Kuta-Iliano

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

**Fee:** \$15 Pre-Registration required.**ONE POT MEALS****Monday, October 5**

You can create tasty meals for your family without creating chaos in your kitchen. This class is all about making meals that cook in one dish for easy preparation and easy clean up. From casseroles to soups you'll get to sample a wide array of dishes and you'll get plenty of time saving tips as well as recipes to take home. Food fee of \$8 payable at class. **Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **Instructor:** Judi Strauss  
Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge  
**Fee:** \$15 Pre-Registration required.

**FOOD THAT HEALS****Monday, October 12**

Learn to cook delicious, healing dishes that are high in fiber and complex carbohydrates and offer a hearty protein base. Dishes are low in fat and contain practically no cholesterol-only fresh vegetables, organic whole grains, beans and other legumes, sea vegetables, and soy products. Food fee of \$7 payable at class. **Fee:** \$25

**Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**Instructor:** Osbon Woodford

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

Pre-Registration required.

**COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES****Tuesday, November 10**

What could be friendlier than a plate of fresh baked cookies? In class you'll get hands-on experience making both traditional and innovative cookies including Holiday Fans, Ginger Cookies, Snow People and many more. Bring an apron and baking sheet and be prepared to have a sweet time. There will be cookies and recipes to take home. Food fee of \$7 payable at class.

**Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**Instructor:** Judi Strauss

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

**Fee:** \$15 Pre-Registration required.

Information, call (216) 383-6313.

**POWER LUNCHES, SOLUTIONS FOR BROWN BAGGERS****Wednesday, November 18**

If you pack your lunch and are tired of the same old same old why not expand your horizons? Take lunch beyond the peanut butter and jelly to fun, easy and different ideas. From seasonal salads to make ahead and freeze dishes you will learn how to make lunchtime fun and still save money over eating out. You will learn how to make some convenience foods, too. There will be dishes to sample in class and recipes and ideas to take home. Food fee of \$8 payable at class. **Times:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**Instructor:** Judi Strauss

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

**Fee:** \$15 Info (216) 383-6313

Pre-Registration required.

**Learn To Invest In Mutual Funds for Retirement****Wednesday, October 21**

Learn about the basics of mutual funds. We teach you to become self-sufficient, compare your mutual funds to a benchmark and show you specific reports and web sites to help you practice using the fundamentals. Ultimately, your funds will contribute to your wellbeing and security in retirement. BetterInvesting instructors: Suzette Cohen and Henry Curtis.

This program will take place at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road.

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

**Fee:** \$15 in advance/ \$20 at the door. Send a check payable to Northeast Ohio Chapter/NAIC, P.O. Box 284126, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124 or call Bea Musarra at (440) 449-1427 to register.

**COOKING CLASSES****SIGN-UP AT LEAST****ONE-WEEK****BEFORE CLASS BEGINS****AT CITY HALL****IN RECREATION**

**SUMMER SPRINKLING PROGRAM**

This program is designed for residential customers and is open to Richmond Heights homeowners (you must own and occupy the home) who are customers of the City of Euclid Wastewater Treatment Plant. Under this program, summer residential sewer bills are based on average winter consumption. If you used more water during the summer billing period (May 1<sup>st</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup>) than you used during the previous winter billing period (October 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 30<sup>th</sup>), you should see a reduction in your sewer bill. There is a one time fee of \$10 due with the application form. The application form must be returned by January 1, 2010.

**Complete information and application forms will be available at City Hall beginning September 28, 2009.**

If you are a customer of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) you may also be entitled to a reduced sewer bill. There is no fee for the application or to participate in the program. For additional information, contact the District's Customer Service Department at (216) 881-8247.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**ROTARY TASTE OF HILLCREST**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15**  
**6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.**  
**EXECUTIVE CATERERS**  
**AT LANDERHAVEN**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**  
**"TOP DOG" AWARD**

The Department's police dog, "KUBO" won the honor of "Top Dog" at the Ohio Law Enforcement K9 Association's "Top Dog" competition on July 12, 2009. Several Law Enforcement K-9 teams in northeast Ohio participated in this event, which was a test of how well the dogs and their handlers performed in three areas: the search of narcotics, apprehension of resisting suspects, and obedience. The Richmond Heights Police K-9 team, handler Ptl. Tim Casto and "Kubo" won two of the three events and took home the honors and the trophy for the "Top Dog" in the competition. Ptl. Casto and Kubo have been with the Department since 2004 and have been a valuable addition to the agency's capability and service to the community.



**PERSONNEL**

Betty Sutch, the Secretary to the Police Chief, retired in June after 30 years of service. Betty began as a volunteer Auxiliary Police Officer in 1979 and was hired later that year as a police dispatcher. In 1984 she became the Chief Deputy Clerk of Courts, a position that later became the Secretary to the Chief. We wish Betty all of the best in her retirement.

Jennifer Schultz is the new Secretary to the Police Chief. Jennifer was hired as a part time dispatcher in 2006, and also served for a brief period as a Detective Bureau Secretary before that position was eliminated due to budget cuts. Jennifer has 10 years of experience working in police agencies.

**WHAT IS A WATERSHED**

A watershed is the land area that drains into a common body of water, such as a river or lake. You can improve the health of your watershed by incorporating good conservation practices at your home or business. Reduce impervious surfaces, install a rain barrel or rain garden, clean up after your pet, keep waste out of storm drains and streams, and most importantly, get involved with your local conservation groups and take part in keeping your watershed clean and healthy.

For more information, contact the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District at (216) 524-6580 or visit the website at [www.cuyahogawcd.org](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org)

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**  
**TRICK OR TREAT**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**SET CLOCKS BACK**

Don't forget it's time to "FALL BACK".

Set your clocks back one (1) hour on Saturday night, October 31. This is also the time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

**SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY COUPLES!**

The Richmond Heights citizens celebrating 40 years or more of marriage in 2009: **Larry & Phyllis Huston, 50 years on June 3; Jean and Hank Suszek, 60 years on June 25; Dominic & Angie Corsaro, 60 years on July 30; Karen & Dale Leinweber, 40 years on August 23.** Heartiest congratulations to all couples from your home town!

**ANNUAL FLU SHOT PROGRAM**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 21 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road

Residents 65 years of age and older and adults who have a chronic illness, such as asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, HIV/AIDS or kidney disease are eligible.

- **NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE SCHEDULED.**
- **YOU MUST COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN BY MAIL OR DROP OFF AT CITY HALL BY OCTOBER 14.**
- If you have Medicare Part B as your primary insurance, you must bring your Medicare card with you.
- If you have a Medicare HMO or a Senior HMO, Medicare **CANNOT BE BILLED** for the flu vaccine through our program. These residents should receive their vaccine from their HMO provider. You do have the option to self pay for the flu vaccine if you decide to do so. The cost to you is \$30.00 (CASH or CHECK ONLY).

**FLU SHOT REGISTRATION FORM**

PLEASE CLIP AND MAIL BY OCTOBER 14 TO: City of Richmond Heights  
ATTN: Flu Shot Program  
26789 Highland Road  
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

NAME(S) & DATE(S) OF BIRTH: include first and last names of all person(s) registering

NAME(S) & DATE(S) OF BIRTH: include first and last names of all person(s) registering

COMPLETE ADDRESS: include zip code

TELEPHONE NUMBER w/area code CHECK ONE: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDICARE or \_\_\_\_\_ SELF PAY

**IF YOU HAVE A MEDICARE HMO OR SENIOR HMO YOU MUST SELF PAY**

## PLEASE HELP US, HELP YOU

Residents who would like to update their City services information and new residents who need information regarding City services and rules are encouraged to contact City Hall for information. Informative flyers are also available for your convenience.

Got a complaint or a problem? Please call City Hall or any of your council representatives to report **specific** complaints. This procedure expedites the investigations and ultimate handling of problems, helps save money (your tax dollars) and gives concerned citizens some satisfaction and peace of mind! (Emergency situations should still be reported to the Police or Fire Departments).

During these difficult economic times and in spite of budget and staffing cuts, our City personnel are working hard to keep service to our citizens at the maximum. Occasionally, some infractions are missed. Please let us know! Serving you is our job! All officials' phone numbers are listed on the last page of the City Edition.

Marcia Starkey Morgan

Ward One Council Representative  
& Editor Emeritus

## FAIR TRADE SALE

Faith United Church of Christ will hold its annual fair trade sale from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21.

Products from Ten Thousand Villages will be featured. Fair trade is a concept that gives artisans throughout the world a fair price for their labor. The goal is to eliminate sweatshop conditions that are common in developing countries. What better gift to give this holiday season than a fair trade craft which shows that you care. Faith United Church of Christ is located at 575 Richmond Road - just north of the Richmond Mall.

**To All City Residents... Please Take The Time To Read The Information Below; It Will Help Us All Get Through Our Very Busy Fall & Winter Seasons**

**Leaf Season...** Just a quick reminder, the Service Department starts to pick up leaves the last week of October; any changes will be posted on City Hall's message board and on the City website under Information Board. Please **do not** put sticks, rocks, or any other materials in with your leaves; our men could be injured and equipment could be damaged.

**Winter News/Snow Season...** We realize it is a little early to be talking about snow but this City Edition covers the months from October thru January, and we had a **VERY** inclement weather season last year. The following will help us get thru the winter months...

\* Residents should be prepared for poor weather conditions at all times. If poor road conditions are forecast, you need to make arrangements to leave earlier.

\* If you encounter poor road conditions, it would be wise to reduce your vehicle's speed and allow ample stopping distance between you and another vehicle. This is also important when traveling behind a City plow truck. These trucks throw blinding snow off their plows and could make sudden stops, often back into intersections after dumping snow to plow the return lane of a road.

\* During heavy snowfall conditions it takes a longer time to remove the accumulations from the roadways and therefore, patience is required by our residents while our Service Department makes every effort to remove the snow.

\* The City is **Not Responsible** for the removal of snow thrown into any driveway by City snowplows. Residents or snowplowing contractors should avoid plowing, shoveling, or blowing any snow onto the road surface. Piles of snow in the road can create dangerous obstacles for motorists and the City snowplowing equipment. If a person is reported leaving snow in the roadway, he or she could be subject to a possible citation. Residents should stress to their children to stay out of the path of snow being thrown off the plows; there could be rocks or ice which could injure a child in its path. **Children should not dig tunnels in the snow or build igloos near the roadway or roadside ditches.**

## Sensible Salting Practices for this Winter Season

*Please note all surrounding cities are expected to follow similar guidelines*

**1. There will be no salting between the hours of 11:00 pm. & 4:00 am. 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.*

**Rural Mailboxes...** Mailboxes should be kept in good condition so they can withstand being hit by the snow thrown off the plow trucks. If a mailbox is damaged or the post broken because of thrown snow the City **will not** repair or replace it. **The City will only repair or replace a mailbox that has been hit directly by the snowplow equipment.** If the City does have to replace a mailbox & post it will be done with a post that is no larger than 4"x4". All mailboxes & posts that the Service Department has to replace because of a **direct hit from a plow** will be replaced **with a conventional box and & wood post only.**



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CORNER

### GARDEN CLUB

The Richmond Heights Garden Club is entering its 41<sup>st</sup> year. Newly elected officers for the coming 2009-2010 year are: President – Beverly Zebold, Vice President – Aire Roche, Recording Secretary – Albertine Hoover, Corresponding Secretary – Eleanor Riznar, Assistant Secretary - Marjorie Zlatoper, and Treasurer – Dolores Scialino.

Congratulations to Richmond Heights students: Samantha Tse, Christopher Mittinger, and Kristen Schmidt, who were each awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Richmond Heights Garden Club.

The Garden Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### UPCOMING BUS TRIP

**Date:** Wednesday, October 21

**Seneca Allegany Casino**

**Cost:** \$30 per person

\$15 slot dollars/\$5 food voucher

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

**Return:** 7:00 p.m.

To register, please call the Recreation Department at (216) 383-6313.

### NEIGHBOR PROFILE

RealestateMSN.com states that getting to know your neighbors is one way to build strong neighborhoods. In some cities, multiple streets are blocked off each summer so that residents can bond with and get to know each other through backyard barbeques, block parties, clean-up days, and other organized activities. But, the benefits of knowing your neighbors extend far beyond the fun and camaraderie that one develops by participating in these activities. When neighbors know each other, they tend to watch out for and grow to respect one another and each other's property. They also develop strong community spirit that other communities envy. Participation in community activities are proven fun, effective ways to promote neighborhood spirit, boost community partnerships with police and build strong support for local businesses and school system support. This, in turn, advances efforts to keep the neighborhood safe, fun and economically viable.

My name is Sheari Rice, and I am the Neighbor Profile columnist for the City Edition. I have lived in Richmond Heights since 2002 with my husband, Eddie, and our sons who both attend schools in Richmond Heights. Our nephew is also a Richmond Heights student. I earned both BSEE and MSEE degrees from the University of Cincinnati, and will be pursuing a Doctor of Engineering degree at Cleveland State University beginning this fall. I worked at various companies as an engineer since 1991. However, for the past 5 years, I have worked for STERIS Corporation designing surgical tables and lights. Fun times for me include family get-togethers, movies with the kids, and working as a United Way volunteer. Richmond Heights is my home because I love its small town feel and because its cultural diversity provides the perfect environment for teaching my sons tolerance and respect, while preparing them to live in this diverse world. It also provides a secure environment that moms like me want for their children.



Getting to know your neighbors can be the difference between merely residing on a street and living amongst a community of friends. I enjoy doing my part in building a stronger Richmond Heights by helping others to get to know their neighbors through the City Edition Neighbor Profile. If you would like to provide a referral for the next Neighbor Profile, please contact City Hall at (216) 486-2474.

### BE KIND TO THE PLANET!

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



**FALL SOCCER CLASSES**

**Mondays, 9/14 thru 10/19**

For boys and girls ages 5-14 interested in learning and playing soccer skills. Coach Jerry Drda will run a series of fun classes and games for both beginners and more advanced soccer players. The classes will take place at Richmond Heights Community Field. **Fee:** \$25

**Times:** Ages 5-8, 6:00-6:45 p.m.; Ages 9-14, 6:45 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**LEARN ZENN FROM THE MASTER**

**Mondays, 9/21 thru 10/26**

This class is perfect for kids ages 7 and up who want to learn the 101 Zenn games from the inventor himself! Each of the six classes will be held at the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge, and each participant will receive his or her own Zenn game (a \$25 value).

**Fee:** \$25 **Times:** 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**GAME NIGHT**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16**

Join us for an entertaining night of music, food, and games galore! At Game Night, you'll get the chance to meet new people, have fun with your friends, and play a number of great games. Snacks are included with the cost of a ticket!

**NOTE:** Participants must fill out Kiwanis Lodge release form in order to participate in Game Night.

**Fee:** \$3 in advance, \$5 at the door

**Grades:** 4- 6 **Times:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**"Family Fun Fest At The Farm"**

**Sunday, October 4  
(Rain Date Sunday, October 11)**

**2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**at Greenwood Farm  
264 Richmond Road; Richmond Heights**

**Fun activities for all ages:  
Naturalist, Music, Antique Cars, Games & Story Time**

**Bring Your Own Chairs or Blankets**

**For more details & parking information, please visit  
[www.richmondheightsohio.org](http://www.richmondheightsohio.org)**

**YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

Registration for the Richmond Heights Recreation Department Basketball League has begun. The deadline to register to play will be on Monday, October 19.

Team practices for the league will begin in November. All teams will practice once a week. The first game will be played on Saturday, January 10. The season will conclude on February 28. All regular season games for grades 1-6 are played at the Richmond Heights Middle School Gym. Register for the league at the Recreation Department inside City Hall. For more information, call (216) 383-6313.

**Fee:** \$50 **Leagues:** Grades 1-2, 3-4 & 5-6



**2009 Teen Citizen of the Year Ceremony.** Top row (L to R): Emily Ursu, Mayor Daniel Ursu, Emmanuel Tavares, Anthony Hurst, Police Chief Gene Rowe, Mr. Dwayne Dawson for Daniel Dawson. Bottom Row (L to R) Paul Rozman, Teen Citizen of the Year Runner-up Mary Jane King, Katie Behra, Teen Citizen of the Year, William Cook.

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS NOTIFICATION

The General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 3. Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

If you are not registered to vote, you can pick up a voter registration form at City Hall



between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Registrations are to be mailed to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections and must be postmarked by October 5.

Currently Ward 1 and Ward 2 vote at the Kiwanis Lodge, 27285 Highland Road, in the back of Richmond Heights Community Park. Ward 3 will vote at Faith United Church of Christ, 575 Richmond Road. Ward 4 votes at Richmond Heights Church of the Nazarene, 499 Trebisky Road. The Board of Elections will notify registered voters directly should there be any changes to these locations. For more information call (216) 443-3298.

## THE SAAVY SHOPPER

**Monday, September 21**

“The Coupon Guy”, will be teaching his shopping skills. He has built his saving ways to the point where he typically saves 70% to 100% when shopping for groceries. He has also received money back from some stores including one trip to Giant Eagle that netted him \$7.02 along with \$41.35 worth of groceries. As an example, a shopping trip to Tops Supermarkets cost him \$49.81 for \$444.10 worth of groceries, an 89% savings.

**Times:** 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**Instructor:** Joe Daugirdas

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge

**Fee:** \$5 Pre-Registration required.

Information (216) 383-6313

## CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS ON NOVEMBER 3 BALLOT

Pursuant to City Charter requirement, Mayor Ursu appointed a Charter Review Committee of nine City residents to review the City's Charter and to recommend amendments thereto, if any. After 6 months of review and deliberation, the Committee submitted its proposed amendments to the City Council on July 24. Although there were several minor wording changes to the Charter recommended by the Committee, the more substantive proposed amendments that will appear on the November 3 election ballot are:

1. As the need may arise, City Council meetings would be permitted to be held elsewhere in the City other than at the Council Chambers.
2. Clarifies that City Council may hold executive sessions during Council committee meetings for any reason provided by state law.
3. Clarifies that the Clerk of Council need not be an existing “officer” of the municipality as a prerequisite to being eligible for election to the position of Clerk by the Council.
4. Clarifies that certain legislative matters, whether passed by ordinance or resolution, shall not go into effect earlier than thirty (30) days after the final passage by Council.
5. Provides reference to the City Code in general when referring to the duties of the Commissioner of Building, Zoning, and Housing.
6. Retains only one deadline for Council to adopt the annual appropriation ordinance which must occur within 90 days from the beginning of the fiscal year.
7. Increases the threshold for requiring competitive bidding of City contracts from the current threshold of more than \$15,000 per contract to match the state law of more than \$25,000 per contract.
8. Clarifies the exception to competitive bidding for professional services.
9. Sets forth an exception to competitive bidding for the City's participation in cooperative purchasing programs of the State of Ohio and its political subdivisions where bids or quotes are received by those cooperative purchasing programs.
10. Permits the Chiefs of Police and Fire to reside within Cuyahoga County or any county adjacent to Cuyahoga County rather than the 15-mile radius from City Hall set forth in the current Charter provision. (An amendment is necessary so as not to violate the Ohio Supreme Court's recent decision with respect to residency of city employees.)
11. Requires that no member of the Recreation Board shall hold any other public office or position in the municipality.
12. Specifies that the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Recreation Board of the City are not required to meet monthly if they do not have an application or other matters before them to consider.
13. Specifies that the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Recreation Board of the City may have executive sessions as provided by the laws of the State of Ohio.

Please consider these proposed amendments and vote on November 3.

Submitted by R. Todd Hunt, Richmond Heights Director of Law



**RICHMOND HEIGHTS SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB NEWS**

Come have fun in a friendly atmosphere with friends and neighbors.

If you are a Richmond Heights resident and 50 years of age or older, there is an activity for you with the Senior Citizens' Club. The group is looking for new seniors that want to be active and participate in the many activities available. Come and bring your ideas for programs and activities that can be enjoyed together.

The Senior Citizens' Club is the place to be this fall. They are looking forward to bowling on Monday mornings and the highlight of the day- lunch at various nearby restaurants; weekly golf on Saturday mornings at Green Ridge Golf Course in Wickliffe, until the weather changes; and playing cards on Friday afternoon at City Hall. Several trips and parties are sprinkled in for variety.

Come join in on the fun. On October 14, the Richmond Heights School Choir will be entertaining the group. October 28 is the Halloween Party and December 9 is the Holiday Party. You meet new people and make new friends. Come alone; better yet bring a friend or neighbor. The dues are only \$5 per year. General meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Kiwanis Lodge. Entertainment is planned for every meeting; refreshments and pastry are available for \$1. Please come and give the group a try. For more information, please contact Senior Club President Nancy Rice at (216) 382-2926.

**KIWANIS BENCH PROGRAM**

Richmond Heights Kiwanis has initiated a bench program for the City. They have provided three benches in special locations around the City for people to sit and enjoy the surroundings or just to rest after an energetic walk. To help perpetuate and expand the activity, personalized plaques will be available for \$250 each for mounting on the benches – up to two plaques per bench will be used. Please assist the Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club in providing additional benches for the community. For more information contact: David H. Roche, President of Richmond Heights Kiwanis (216) 291-2207 – davidroche@roadrunner.com



**DO YOU NEED SIDEWALK REPAIRS?**

Public sidewalk repairs are the property owner's responsibility. If the sidewalk in front of your property needs to be repaired or replaced, the City of Richmond Heights has taken bids for repairs and replacement and property owners can voluntarily take advantage of this pricing in 2009. (All necessary sidewalk repairs/replacements, as determined by the Richmond Heights Building Department, will be mandatory in 2010). If you are interested in the Sidewalk Program, call the Building Department at (216) 383-6312

<b>4" Replacement</b>	<b>6" Replacement</b>	<b>4" or 6" Leveling</b>
\$3.50 per square foot	\$4.06 per square foot	\$2.00 per square foot

**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, (216) 481-4461 Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Free Cardiovascular Screening**

**Monday, October 19  
& Tuesday, October 20**

**Kiwanis Lodge  
27285 Highland Road**

**To make an appointment,  
(216) 383-6313**

**Sponsored by  
University Hospitals  
Richmond  
Medical Center**

**BASKETBALL CLINIC**

**Saturday, November 14**

For kids 5 to 14 years old. Coach Vince Benander and the B.G.S.D. staff will be teaching the FUNdamentals of the game of basketball! The campers will enjoy fun basketball games and drills during camp. **Fee:** \$15  
**Times:** 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

**EXPANDED HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION ON PROPERTY TAX**

The Homestead Exemption allows **senior citizens and permanently and totally disabled Ohioans** to reduce their property tax burden by shielding some of the market value of their home from taxation. The exemption, which takes the form of a credit on property tax bills, allows qualifying homeowners to exempt \$25,000 of the market value of their home from all local property taxes. For example, through the Homestead Exemption, a home with a market value of \$100,000 would be billed as if it is worth \$75,000. The exact amount of savings will vary from location to location, but overall qualified homeowners should save an average of about \$400 per year. To qualify you must:

- Be an Ohio resident
- You must own and occupy your home
- Be at least 65 years of age **OR** totally permanently disabled

For 2010, the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office will be accepting applications from January 4 through June 7, 2010. Applications should be available at City Hall beginning in December or at the Ohio Department of Taxation website at [www.tax.ohio.gov](http://www.tax.ohio.gov). If you have any questions, you may contact the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office-Homestead Exemption Department at (216) 443-7050.

If your application is approved, the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office will notify you by enclosing a notice showing the calculation of your tax reduction with the first tax bill you receive. If the county denies your application, you will receive a notice explaining the reason for denial.

Once you begin receiving the Homestead Exemption credit, you **do not** have to re-apply each year. However, if your circumstances change (no longer own the home; no longer occupy it as your primary place of residence, or if your disability status has changed), you must notify the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office.

**REVISED PUBLIC WORKS TIMETABLE**

Location	Type of Project	Estimated Construction Date
Richmond/White/Chardon	Sanitary Sewers	Assessments being certified
Richmond Road Side Streets	Sanitary Sewers	Completed/Assessments to follow
Swetland (part)	New Concrete Pavement	Completed
Catlin, Dundee, Edgemont, Euclid-Chagrin Parkway (East)	Asphalt Rejuvenating Agent	Completed
Swetland (part) & Nan Linn	Curbs & Gutters, Repair & Resurface	Under Construction
Geraldine (East) & Ruth Ellen Drive	Repair & Resurface	Under Construction
Richmond Road (South)	Joint Repairs	Under Construction
2010 Road Program	Concrete & Asphalt	Spring/Summer 2010

**RICHMOND HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS & NOTES**

**Page 11**

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

**Administrative Changes**

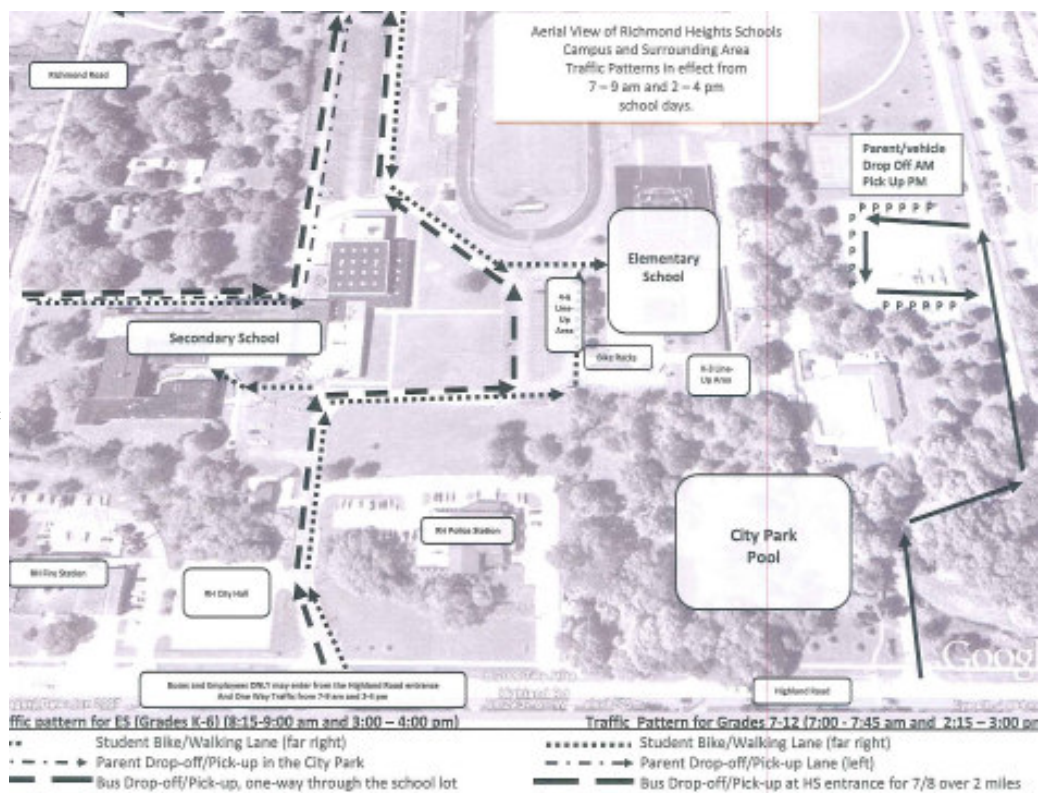
Mrs. Betty Mateen has been named Principal of the Richmond Heights Elementary School. Mrs. Mateen's first position in the district was as Middle School Principal in 2003 and was promoted to High School Principal in 2007. She is the grandmother of two and a resident of Richmond Heights. We wish Mrs. Mateen the best of luck in her new position.

Mr. Nate Bishko has been promoted to the position of Principal of the Richmond Heights Secondary School serving students in grades 7 - 12. Mr. Bishko started his career in education as a teacher in the East Cleveland School District and was hired as our High School physical education teacher in 2005 and became the Secondary School Assistant Principal in 2007. He is married, the proud father of three and an avid golfer. We extend best wishes to Mr. Bishko in his new position.

Mrs. Pam Barovian, former Elementary School Principal, retired in June after 31 years of service in education. Mrs. Barovian is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, children and grandchildren, but also plans to work part-time as a substitute in an elementary setting. We wish Mrs. Barovian all the best in her retirement.

**TRANSPORTATION NEWS**

Due to financial constraints, the Board of Education reduced the District's transportation services to the minimums as prescribed by State Law. Only students in grades K-8 who live beyond two miles from their schools will be provided transportation as well as all students with special needs in grades Pre-K through 12. Therefore, some changes have been made to the method of delivering students to school. The map below shows the route buses, parents and students must take to enter and exit school grounds during the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. on school days. Although school has already started and these traffic patterns have already begun, the general public should be aware of the changes and how it might affect travel in the vicinity of the schools.



**GENERAL OPERATING LEVY ON NOVEMBER 3 BALLOT**

The Richmond Heights Board of Education has placed a 4 mill, general operating levy on the November 3 ballot. The 4 mill levy was considered following a general survey of Richmond Heights residents conducted by the Board earlier this year. The levy will generate \$1,036,320.60 per year for our students. The levy would cost a homeowner of a \$100,000 home, \$122.50 per year (just 34 cents a day), after Homestead and Rollback Exemption. Remember our kids on November 3.

# *The* CITY EDITION

Anthony Gimellia, Editor  
26789 Highland Road  
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143-1493

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

David H. Roche, Council President (216) 291-2207

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

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

Eloise Henry, Council-Ward Three (440) 473-0903

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

Donald O'Toole, Council at Large (216) 533-9697

John Keyerleber, Council at Large (216) 201-9260

Emergency 9-1-1

Richmond Heights City Hall (216) 486-2474

Richmond Heights Information Number (216) 383-6300

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CLEVELAND, OH  
PERMIT NO. 982

## The City with the *Forward* Look!

*Editor's note: I would like to thank Nancy Benander, Teri Drda, Dina Greisl, Joyce Kandrach, Judy Karla, Nick Loerch, Dori Mittinger, Sheari Rice and Chris 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.*

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2009 FAMILY DAY SPONSORS

Associated Estates Realty Corporation	Little Caesars Hot-n-Ready \$5 Pizza
Barri Lee/Michelle Cleaners	Longstreet Auto Body & Sales Inc.
Benander Games/Sports Data	McDonald's (G-N Distributing)
Budget Dry Cleaners	Michael's Bar & Grille
Cardinal Community Credit Union	Monticello Gospel Church
Christian Assembly	Mrs. Field's Cookies/TCBY Yogurt
Cuyahoga County Public Library	Muslim Association of Cleveland East
Eaton Corporation	Richmond Heights Garden Club
Eyewear 20/20 - Dr. Cynthia Jemiola & Assoc.	Richmond Heights Key Club
Faith United Church of Christ	Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club
Fatica Hardware	Richmond Heights Senior Club
Foot Doctor V. Glukh	Stephen Hovancsek & Associates, Inc.
Grande Point Healthcare Community	Strassman Insurance Services Inc.
Highland House/Brittany Residential, Inc.	The Waterford at Richmond Heights
K-9 Kingdom	U.H. Richmond Medical Center
La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant	Zagara's MarketPlace

The City of Richmond Heights would like to thank the following corporations who so generously donated to our Teen Citizen of the Year 2009 nominees and recipients:

Barri-Lee Cleaners  
Benander Games/Sports Data  
Cardinal Community Credit Union  
Regal Cinemas  
UH Richmond Medical Center  
Wendy's  
Zagara's Marketplace

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CITY BEAUTIFICATION SPONSORS

American Legion Post # 775	Kiwanis Club/Evelyn Roche	Mrs. Dolores Yankauskas
Barri Lee/Michelle Cleaners	Little Caesars of Richmond Heights	Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Yuko/John & Georgene
Better Investing- NEO/ Evelyn Roche	Longstreet Autobody	Richmond Heights City Council/Evelyn Roche
CSC Master Leasing Co., LLC/Grande Point	McDonald's (G-N Distributing)	Richmond Hts. City Employees/Evelyn Roche
Greenwood Farms Board/Evelyn Roche	Michael's Bar & Grille	Richmond Heights Garden Club
Kiwanis Club of Richmond Heights	Mr. & Mrs. Allen Berquist/Grace Chamberlain	Richmond Heights Senior Club
Kiwanis Club/Roland Doubek	Mrs. Martha Mordecai/Trevor Mordecai	State Representative Kenny Yuko
Kiwanis Club/Robert Netherly	Mr. & Mrs. David H. Roche/Eliza Greenwood	

**Please note: / In Memory of**