



Welcome to the  
**City of Richmond Heights, Ohio**  
e-newsletter

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE FOR "A BRIGHTER TOMORROW"



As I glance out my office window at the signs of spring, the sky is many shades of blue, the trees are starting to bud, and the sun is shining bright. Spring is a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be. April brings laughter on April Fool's Day, awareness on National Autism Day, rebirth over the religious holidays, renewal on Earth Day and Arbor Day, appreciation on Administrative Professional's Day, and an abundance of growth every other day of the month.

I believe in my team, in positive change, and a metamorphosis of our City into "A Brighter Tomorrow"!

Yours truly,  
Mayor Kim A. Thomas



**APRIL  
FOOL'S  
DAY**

**APRIL 1, 2022**



Mayor Thomas is scheduling  
Civil Wedding Ceremonies

for Richmond Heights Residents.

Please contact the

[Mayor's Special Assistant,](#)

[Tara Grimm,](#)

for more details.



## MARCH EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

**Tom DiLellio - Finance Dept.**

**Lt. Jason Buss - Fire Dept.**

**Officer Joe Klepac - Police Dept.**

**Tim McConnaughy - Service Dept.**



Officer Joe Klepac is being recognized as a March Employee of the Month for his fine work as a field training officer (FTO) which is critical in helping shape the future of our Police Department, as well as his excellent work as a firearm range instructor where his efforts are making officers proficient and safer with their handgun while serving.



Lieutenant Jason Buss is being recognized as a March Employee of the Month. Lt. Buss was hired by the City in 2004 and has almost 18 years of service with the Division of Fire. Jason was promoted to Lieutenant in 2012 and has excelled in the supervisory position. Jason is a Paramedic, Fire Inspector, and is the Fire

Training Officer for the Division of Fire. In 2019, Jason earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire & Safety Engineering Technology from the University of Cincinnati where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. Jason also works part time for Northfield Village where he serves as a Fire Chief. Lt. Jason Buss is also the Grant Writer for the Division of Fire, having obtained over \$2 million in grant funding over the past 10 years. Lt. Buss consistently demonstrates his dedication to the City of Richmond Heights through hard work, participation in many committees, and work projects. Lieutenant Jason Buss is commended for his exemplary service and for his many contributions to the Division of Fire and indeed, all of Richmond Heights.

[Legal Aid](#) secures justice and resolves fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services. Legal Aid is free - they never charge clients for

**Register Now for  
ReadyNotify**



**Register for ReadyNotify  
for all emergency communication alerts**

All current system users are encouraged to re-register on the new system (CodeRed) to enable the new functionality including targeted weather alerts.



**DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR HELPING OTHERS? BECOME A COMMUNITY**

**AMBASSADOR!** Help develop positive relationships with the community by volunteering at events, assist in planning events, help with community outreach, and so much more.

**Contact**

**Anthony Gimellia, Assistant Recreation Director**

at 216-383-6313 or

**[assist.recdir@richmondheightsohio.org](mailto:assist.recdir@richmondheightsohio.org)**

**CALLING ALL CONTRACTORS! ELECTRICAL PLUMBING, HVAC, GENERAL, FIRE, SEWER - DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE CITY'S BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND BECOME PART OF OUR "PERMITTED CONTRACTOR DATABASE???"**

Homeowners trust and look for registered contractors to make repairs improvements to their homes or property. Many of those repairs and improvements will require a permit. A building permit serves as formal and legal permission to start a project and that submission of plans etc. meets the adopted building and zoning codes. Call the City of Richmond Heights Building Department at 216-383-6312 for more information on how to become a registered contractor and to be added to our database. Homeowners can go to our website or click on the link [Permit-Contractor Database](#) to find a registered contractor in our City. **PLEASE NOTE ALL CONTRACTORS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH OUR CITY TO PERFORM ANY WORK.**



**CAREER & COMMUNITY SERVICE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
WITH THE CITY OF RICHMOND  
HEIGHTS**

Now Hiring for full-time and part-time positions as well as Boards & Commissions:

- **Human Resources Manager**

- Tax Administrator
- Planning Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Board of Ethics

**Ohio  
MEANS  
Jobs.  
.com**

**CLICK HERE for JOBS**



## HAVE YOU NOTICED MOBILE TELESCOPING LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAILERS AROUND THE CITY?

Cuyahoga County partners with RHPD in crime prevention by sharing their surveillance trailers with us, which are operated by Chagrin Valley Dispatch (CVD).

**The beautification of our special city is  
a team effort.**

**Please do your part by avoiding littering.**

**It is also against the law and subject to a  
\$500 penalty.**



## PANCAKE BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022**

**9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

**Adults \$ 7.00/ Students & Seniors 60+ \$6.00/ Children 5 & under – Free**

*Free breakfast for children ages 2-12 participating in  
the Egg Hunt and accompanied by a paying adult.*

Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge  
27285 Highland Road

### EGG HUNT

**BEGINS 10:00 A.M.**

**Richmond Heights Community Park**

*Bring your own basket*



*Proceeds go for Richmond Heights Kiwanis Scholarships and Service Projects*



**EARTH DAY, FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND and**

# EARTH DAY 2022

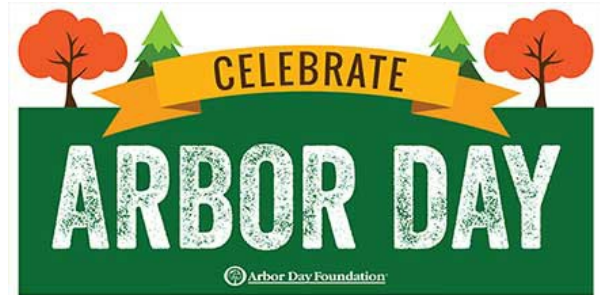


[EarthDay.org](#)'s theme is "Invest in Our Planet". The difference between Earth Day and Arbor Day is that while Earth Day recognizes humankind's negligence regarding the environment and aims to take steps to correct the imbalance, Arbor Day, while similar in purpose, is one day dedicated to the planting

of trees, which in turn lowers the carbon footprint. Click on [EarthDay.org's Tips link to discover 52 ways to Invest in Our Planet.](#)

## ARBOR DAY FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

[The Arbor Day Foundation](#) is celebrating its 50th year and has planted and distributed nearly 500 million trees in more than 50 countries around the world to fight global issues facing humankind. Richmond Heights has been a member of [Tree City USA](#) at the Arbor Day Foundation and recognized as a ["Tree City" for over 23 years.](#)



[Highland Heights Green Task Force](#)'s mission is: To promote and organize community educational programs and projects with an emphasis on environmentally friendly living. The Highland Heights Green Task Force is a 501(c)(3) non-profit who serves Greater Hillcrest Communities & beyond.

Their campaign for 2022 is "Climate Change and What We Can Do". Meetings are held at the Highland Heights Community Center located at 5827 Highland Road 1st Wed of the month at 7:00 p.m. Check out their events by clicking on the link above or [here.](#)



## SAVE THE DATE - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. FOR RICHMOND HEIGHTS COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

Come for free information and resources from local community partners for you and your family!

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION TO COME

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The City of Richmond Heights is hosting a **SHRED DAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** at Richmond Heights City Hall. The Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club will be collecting food and cash donations for the Harvest for Hunger Food Drive.



## [ELECTION DAY WORKERS NEEDED - APPLY TODAY](#)

Ever wonder what it would be like to help conduct an election? People are needed on Election Day to help staff the polls, transport ballots and materials, and maintain political balance. Be a part of history, support democracy, and have fun by becoming an



Election Day Worker. Starting pay is \$220.  
Your community needs you! Click on this [link](#) or call 216-443-3277 for more information.

## NEWS, EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday, March 24, 2022, I had the pleasure of attending the "Local Officials Introduction to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA)" meeting. The relationship between public transit and local government is meaningful to our community. Public transit increases access to opportunity, stimulates community and economic development, and gets people to where they need to go for healthcare, education, work, and entertainment. Last year GCRTA underwent a strategic plan that emphasized connections. A significant outcome of that work included changing RTA's mission to "Connecting the Community".





Cuyahoga County  
Together We Thrive

Dept. of Health and Human Services  
Cuyahoga Job and Family Services

# Cuyahoga Job and Family Services *Virtual* Hiring Information Session

Do you have a passion for helping people grow?

We want you to join our team of  
Employment and Family Service Specialists.

## JOB SEEKERS CAN:

- ✓ Learn about the job and services we provide
- ✓ Hear from the Cuyahoga Job and Family Services leadership team, direct supervisors, and employment and family service specialists
- ✓ Get tips on applying for the position from the Health and Human Services Human Resources team

## REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Applicants must have an Associate degree and at least one (1) year of experience in a public service position **or** any equivalent combination of education and experience; **OR** three (3) years relevant direct services experience with Cuyahoga Job and Family Services.

Join us on

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

**4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

No registration is required. Click the date link above to join us  
on a computer/laptop, tablet, or smart phone.

[www.cuyahogacounty.us/human-resources](http://www.cuyahogacounty.us/human-resources)



CJFS 500/TMC 03/21/2022



# ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®

## Fight Alzheimer's on Purple Sunday

April 3, 2022

Join the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter and Greater East Ohio Area Chapter for Purple Sunday as we raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease in the African American community.

Find out about free Alzheimer's Association care and support resources provided to families impacted by the disease.

### Purple Sunday Partners

- The Progressive Baptist Association
- The United Missionary Baptist State Convention
- The Baptist Minister's Conference of Cleveland
- The Greater Cleveland Clergy Alliance
- The Ohio Baptist State Convention
- The United Pastors In Mission

### Questions?

Contact Rev. Frederick Knuckles, Sr., Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Program Manager at the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter [frknuckles@alz.org](mailto:frknuckles@alz.org)

### 2022 KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

The Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club sponsors an annual scholarship program. All high school graduating seniors who reside in the City of Richmond Heights, regardless of the high school they attend, and all high school graduating seniors from Charles F. Brush High School are eligible for the scholarship. [Click here](#) for more information. *Application deadline is April 8, 2022.*



**Kiwanis®**  
RICHMOND HEIGHTS, OHIO



**Thurs. April 21  
11am-2pm**

**Food, Fun and Prize Drawing for Attendees.**

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**FLEX Students and their families will explore  
Ohio's great local college programs.**

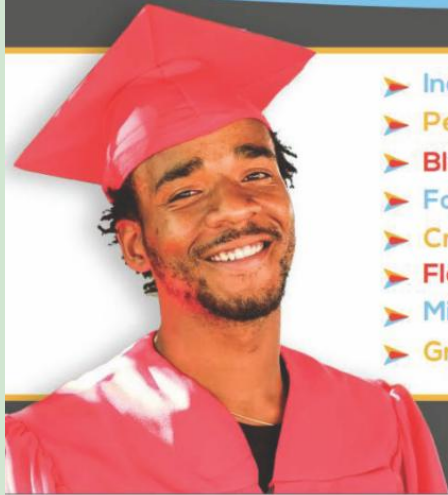
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**5222 Wilson Mills Rd.  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143**

[FlexHighOhio.org](http://FlexHighOhio.org)

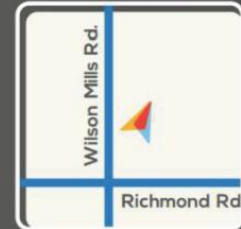


The Charter School prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, national origin, ancestry, race or ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, immigration status, potential or actual parental, family or marital status, age, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics, or any other basis protected by federal, state or local law.



- Independent Learning at Your Pace
- Personalized One-on-One Instruction
- Blended/Virtual Learning Options
- For 14 - 22 Year-Old Students
- Credit Recovery Program
- Flexible Schedule and Free Tutoring
- Minimum Twice a Week Attendance
- Grades 9 - 12

**100%  
FREE**



5222 Wilson Mills Rd.,  
Richmond Hts, OH 44143

**(216) 310-9750**

We are open year round! Enroll any time by calling one of our centers, or visiting us online at : [www.flexhighohio.org](http://www.flexhighohio.org) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Facebook](#) [flexhighohiocleveland](#) #FLEXHigh

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age, religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information.



Did you know you can borrow a [HOTSPOT](#) from the new [Richmond Heights Branch of Cuyahoga Libraries](#) located at 449 Richmond Road?

Check out all the new library has to offer.

#### BRANCH HOURS

Mon – Thu 9 A.M. – 9 P.M.

Fri & Sat 9 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Sun 1 – 5 P.M.

## BELLE OAKS MARKETPLACE TIMELINE UPDATE

*Anticipated Construction Schedule as of March 2022 (Subject to Change)*

Check out the Belle Oaks “Scope of Project” website [here](#)

- Sitework/Mall Demolition: Commences in Spring 2022
- Leasing Center: Construction begins June 2022; Opens February 2023
- Phase I Apartment Buildings: Construction begins Spring 2022, Opens June 2024
- Meijer’s Store: Construction begins February 2023, Store Opens May 2024

**BELLE  
OAKS**  
MARKETPLACE



Customers of First Energy experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact the company as soon as possible to set up affordable payment arrangements or obtain assistance before **electricity**

**shut-offs for non-payment resume on April 15th.** Individuals interested in learning more about utility assistance programs can do so in two ways:

- Visit the First Energy Bill Assistance web page at [www.firstenergycorp.com/billassist](http://www.firstenergycorp.com/billassist) and to see available programs based on income and household size.
- Contact the dedicated customer service team Mon.- Fri., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 1-800-589-3101

Again, winter utility disconnection moratoriums will soon be lifted so it is extremely important

those in need contact First Energy as soon as possible.

For the first time, the City of Richmond Heights has partnered with [HERITAGE HOME PROGRAM](#) to provide residents with FREE technical assistance and advice for repairs, remodeling, and low interest financing programs for homes 50 years or older. The program operates in all of Cleveland and 38 cities in Cuyahoga County. They estimate there are 2,062 homes in Richmond Heights that are eligible for their services. For more information, visit their [website](#), call 216-426-3116 or email [hhp@heritagehomeprogram.org](mailto:hhp@heritagehomeprogram.org)



## PANTRIES



**RICHMOND HEIGHTS  
MOBILE PANTRY  
EVERY 3rd THURSDAY  
FROM  
10:00 A.M. - NOON AT  
RICHMOND HEIGHTS  
UPPER SCHOOL  
*Enter from Richmond  
Road***



**MACE MOBILE FOOD PANTRY EVERY 4th THURSDAY  
FROM 5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M** located at the [M.A.C.E. Islamic Center](#), 26901 Chardon Rd. They distribute a variety of produce and food with a drive-through service. Please wear a mask!

**[CC'S CUPBOARD PET FOOD PANTRY](#)** Located inside the K-9 Kingdom, 26700 Highland Rd. the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month. *Please use side door.* They provide pet food & supplies to animal rescues and struggling pet owners. Imagine having to decide between feeding yourself, your children, or your pets. This should not be an issue. Sadly, it is a very real issue for many. That is how CC's Cupboard came

to be. Kelli, at K-9 Kingdom, donated a back room for the pantry and with help from friends and family alike, our non-profit was started.



## SENIORS CORNER



**NEW!!! FREE BINGO SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPARTMENT** will take place at the Kiwanis Lodge starting on Wednesday, April 6th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Bingo will be held on the first, second, and third Wednesday of each month. Win Prizes! Call the Recreation Department at 216-383-6313 for more information.

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ON AGING (CPA)

Community lunch program locations:

- \*Mondays: Richmond Hts. Kiwanis Lodge & Lyndhurst CC
- \*Tuesdays: Frozen entrée drive-through at Lyndhurst CC
- \*Wednesdays: Highland Hts. CC ONLY (NEW SITE)
- \*Fridays: Highland Hts. CC

The number for all Cafe' Services reservations is 216-970-0347. You will still call 216-650-4029 for weekly meal/box orders and you will still call 440-473-5138 for program reservations/questions. Click on this [link for current Cafe' Services](#) offerings or link for [April 2022 menu](#); Go directly to [CPA's website here](#) to see all they have to offer our Seniors; View their [April Newsletter here](#); or sign up for their monthly newsletter to be delivered directly to your inbox [here](#).



**AARP Foundation**  
**TAX-AIDE**

[COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ON AGING \(CPA\) ANNOUNCES AARP FREE SIMPLE TAX RETURN PREPARATION FOR SENIORS \(60+\)](#)

### Age Well. Be Well. with University Hospitals

University Hospitals is dedicated to meeting the health and wellness needs of today's older adults. In addition to the many specialized clinical services they offer, UH has established the Age Well. Be Well. free membership club to help keep adults 55+ active and socially engaged. Download their [calendar](#) for current health screenings and education opportunities. Once a member, they will send you the calendars as they are updated. If you are not yet a member, [click here](#) to register.





**SERVICES** The Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services (DSAS) empowers seniors and adults with disabilities to age successfully, by providing resources and support that preserve their independence. DSAS is the mandated provider of Adult Protective Services (APS) in Cuyahoga County and provides home-based care services, benefits assistance, outreach, and senior center programming while advocating for the needs of the County's older adults. DSAS strives to keep seniors safe, supported, and independent, so they can live their best lives.

## **SENIOR TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION (STC)**

Senior Transportation Connection (STC) provides coordinated, efficient, and affordable transportation to seniors and adults with disabilities throughout Cuyahoga County. STC serves individuals who have mobility challenges

due to age, lack of access, disability, frailty, or inability to drive. More than 12,000 registered riders live in 36 zip codes covering 75% of Cuyahoga County. Two-thirds of passengers use a wheelchair, walker, or other aid to mobility. STC will take you to a medical appointment, including dialysis, rehabilitation and treatment, senior centers meals and programs, grocery shopping, personal service appointments, and social opportunities. We'll take you places so you can remain independent, healthy, and connected to the community. Click [here](#) to learn more or call 216-265-1489 to register.



CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

## **COVID-19 TESTING RESOURCES**

**GET FREE AT-HOME COVID-19 TESTS**

Check the City's [Event Calendar](#) for detailed meeting information or the entire website at [www.richmondheightsohio.org](http://www.richmondheightsohio.org)

**FACE MASKS ARE NOW OPTIONAL, BUT ENCOURAGED, TO ENTER ANY CITY BUILDINGS**

### **APRIL 4, 2022**

Architectural Review Board  
9:30 a.m. @ Caucus Room

### **APRIL 5, 2022**

Audit Committee  
6:45 p.m. @ Caucus Room

Planning & Zoning Committee  
7:30 p.m. @ Council Chambers

Service & Recreation Committee  
8:30 p.m. @ Council Chambers

### **APRIL 12, 2022**

Committee of the whole  
7:30 p.m. @ Council Chambers

City Council  
8:15 p.m. Council Chambers

### **APRIL 13, 2022**

Planning Commission  
7:00 p.m. @ Council Chambers

### **APRIL 15, 2022**

**CITY OFFICES CLOSED  
TO OBSERVE GOOD FRIDAY**



## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Like and follow our [Fire Department](#), [Police Department](#) and

the minute news and events.

our [Recreation Department](#) on their Facebook pages for up to

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**[Connect](#) with any department in the City  
by following this link to an easy-to-fill-out form on the City Website.**