



RICHFIELD PARKS AND
RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
2017 YEAR END
REPORT

(Where is this?)

RUTH JOCEK, DIRECTOR
RICHFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION

2017

The Richfield Parks and Recreation Department has had a very busy year. We also assisted with the Richfield Jubilee year long celebration

We started the year with the kick off **Jubilee** celebration that was held in the Richfield Village Town Hall. Music, a children's play, our local boy scouts presenting the colors, a lot of reminiscing and camaraderie was had by all.

Approximately 150 people attended this event that was held in the Richfield Town Hall.



Community Project Pride, Arbor Day and Tree Giveaway

When spring has sprung and the snow melts our thoughts turn to the cleaning up our community. **Community Project Pride** is in its tenth year and we have accomplished just what the program was intended to do. We now have residents who pick up road side trash when they are out for their regular walk each day. Revere High Seniors start the day with designated streets that they help clean up in both Richfield and Bath. We encourage residents to participate in cleaning up their neighborhood as well as many of our local business. And they do..

One of our fastest events is the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway. It starts at exactly 9 am and as fast as the line can move the trees are gone. We have started in 2017 to give away larger trees so that the trees have a better chance of taking.



The Service Department tagged all the trees so that the residents would know what they received and would follow the planting suggestion.

We involve the Bath School students in making posters for the Revere schools to hang on the walls to encourage and enlighten students about picking up trash and to recycle.

Easter Egg Hunt 2017

The fastest and best event we sponsor is the Easter Egg Hunt. It starts at 11 am and is over in a flash. We hope for great weather but this past year we had a coating of snow, the eggs stood out better! We have approximately 400 children ages 2- 10 years of age.



Partnering with National Interstate

Most of our fitness instructors agreed to participate in National Interstates Fitness Fair. We did demos of our programs and even had the employees do a mini workout. From this event we ran three months of a fitness program in their building.



Another Spring Event The ART Show

We are on our 3rd year of The ART Show. We encourage local artists to participate and sell their wares at the show. There are a variety of media that the artists use. Pottery, jewelry, watercolor and more are just a sampling of what is offered.



2017 The Tornado Siren

Richfield Woods Park

In 2017 a tornado siren was placed in Richfield Woods Park. The siren goes off every Saturday at noon, April through October.



Paving of the Johnson Parking Lot at Richfield Woods

The project was finished in October of 2017. This will be a big asset to our summer day camp program.



Masonic Hall

Replaced the Foyer Carpeting in Masonic Hall.

This is a major improvement to the facility and makes it much more appealing to rent.



Adult Programs

In the second half of 2017 we decided to offer programs for adults. This included an informative speaker on Social Security. We also offered investment programs, the how to's of investing.

Watercolor class

The Watercolor class that we offer in the Recreation Center has been part of our programming since the day I have arrived. Bev Braun started the program in the basement of the old Township building. Since Bev has moved to St. Louis, Amy Podojil has taken over the classes. She offers drawing as well as watercolor. Because of this program we have created **The Art Show** which is in the spring and is held at the Masonic Hall. It is a juried show and open to local artists.

Hillcrest and Revere Programs

We offer to the Revere Community many different programs to the students and to community members. Our regular program is a Multi Sport class that runs for five weeks and we run that program four times a year. We also ran in 2017 a Lego program for 5 weeks, once a week, which was four times during the school year.

We have run a men's over 30 basketball program at Revere High for over 25 years. This program runs from October until the end of April.

Summer Sports Camps

We offer a variety of camps in the summer. We contract with many instructors to run these camps mostly for the younger children. Pictured is our Hummingbird Soccer program that runs at the Town Hall pavilion area. We also run a golf program and a T-bird T-ball baseball camp for the little ones.

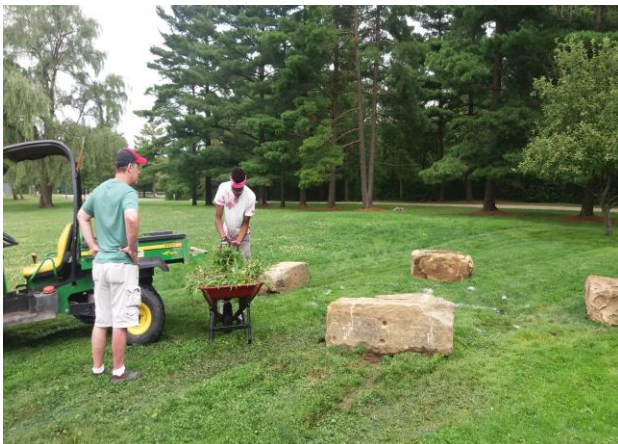


Welcome TO Camp Richfield

We offered seven weeks of Day Camp with before and after care. We estimated that there were 325 children who attended the camp. We also offered before and after care for parents who work. The camp was held at the Johnson Barn where we have a temporary occupancy permit to use the barn for only the summer months. We also acquired a mobile bathroom facility for \$38,000. This gave us two units and a handicapped unit. It has a self contained water system and air conditioning. With the addition of the asphalt parking lot, camp will be much nicer in 2018.

EAGLE SCOUTS

Again, this year we have had request for projects so that young men from the local Boy Scout troop can complete their Eagle Scouts. This year J.J Katcher created a fire pit at the Johnson Barn area. We used it twice this year, once for the Halloween Hayride and the second time for the Jubilee Winter Solstice. The Parks and Recreation Department has helped over 30 young men with projects that we have suggested and that benefit the Richfield Parks and Recreation and our parks.



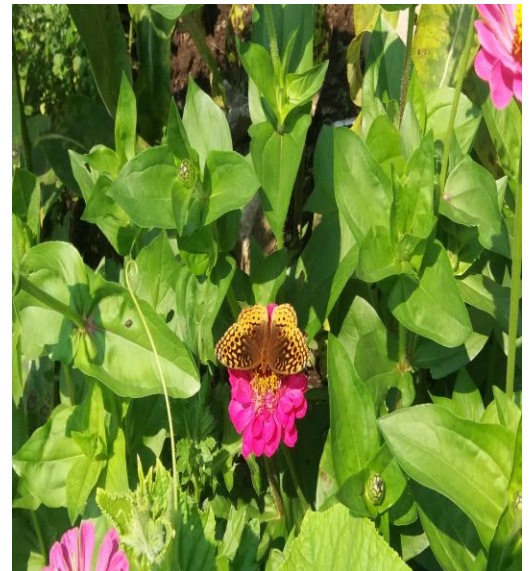
The Summer Brings Fun Events



Our summer Farmer's Market took place from June until the first week of October. A variety of vendors participated. It is a fun service that Richfield provides.

Magical Butterflies

Ellen Daniels and Richfield Parks and Recreation continue to have both educational programs about the importance of Monarch Butterflies and other butterflies. This year we have helped over 120 butterflies to grow and be released at the Eastwood Preserve. We plant over an acre of mixed flowers and encourage our gardeners to plant nectar producing plants for the bees and butterflies to eat from. We are very conscientious of the lack of butterflies and the importance of bees and their contribution to our food system. One of our butterfly programs was held at the Eastwood Preserve **Fall Fest**. Mrs. Daniels showed the stages of the Monarch and even had some that were ready to emerge. A Revere High School student created a wood cutout for us to use to take pictures of visitors to look like a Monarch. Eastwoods is a certified Monarch Way Station; we refer to it as the McDonald's for Monarchs.





Community Garden

The Eastwood Community Garden continues to grow, pardon the pun. In 2017 we had a full garden and we even planted six fruit trees some of which have already produced. These trees can be donated in memory of a loved one. Gardeners have taken “ownership” of their plots and continue to enhance them with better soil and different types of produce.





We have started to plant fruit trees at the Eastwood Preserve. Some of the trees are donated as memorial donations. We are planting them inside the garden to protect them from the deer. We have apple, cherry, paw paw (a native Ohio fruit tree) and quince.

Summit Soil & Water

Walt Dorsey, Kier Murphy and Ken Yunak of the Richfield Service Department and myself along with Sandy Barbic from SWCD planted a rain garden near the Senior Center as part of our community participation requirements. The Service Department finished it by putting stone around the garden to absorb and divert the rain runoff from the upper part of the Village Town Hall property. The “island” was planted with local perennials.



The Green House at Eastwood Preserve

The Village was very fortunate to connect with a group of Akron University Mechanical Engineering student who were required to do a volunteer project related to mechanical engineering. I suggested that we had wanted a green house and that we needed someone to assemble it for us. The group agreed and got approval from their professor to do the project. From the start I knew that I had the right group of students doing the project. The six students each had their own talent and without much conversation the work was divided up by each and away they went. It was a pleasure to watch them at work and I suggested that they start their own company. We cannot wait to get the seeds growing in the greenhouse and hopefully we will start them not only for the gardens but for flowers for Richfield.



Lee Paulson, Master Gardener

Lee, along with various other Master Gardeners, provides a wealth of information to not only our gardeners, but to the residents of Richfield. The Summit County Master Gardeners give lectures at the Eastwood Preserve house throughout winter and spring. Lee, who is known as the “Tomato Man”, who knows everything you need to know about tomatoes.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Haunted Halloween in the Park

Due to the fact that we cannot use the Johnson Barn except for day camp we chose to do a Haunted Halloween in the Park event. We had a Service Department employee drive the tractor and pull the hay wagon. We also provided an outdoor “spooky” movie in the parking lot.





Richfield Village Trick or Treating At the Fire Station

The things recreation does
for the Village of Richfield!



“How the Grinch Stole Christmas”

A play by the Illusion Factory was our
holiday event this year. We had a
wonderful turnout. The children and
even the adults enjoyed themselves.



Jay Nye, Local Resident

Resident, Jay Nye, has graciously volunteered his time to giving concerts for the community. Last year he performed an Easter concert and a Holiday performance. We are very lucky to have Jay perform for us.

Fall Fest at the Eastwood Preserve

Each year our annual Fall Fest continues to grow both with new activities and with the amount of people who attend. There were many vendors who not only educated visitors on bees and animal rescue, but sold wonderful products that go along with the natural idea.



We offered hayrides, Monarch Butterfly education, crafts for children, vendors, food and more.

Community Days

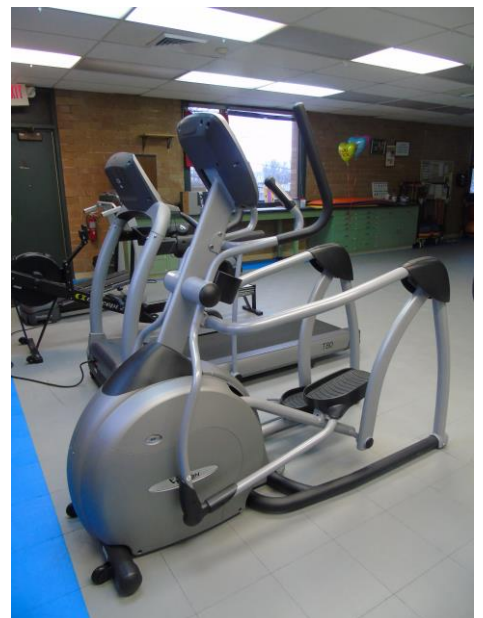
Each year the Bath/Richfield Kiwanis Community Day and the other events that are put on by the Masons, Amvets, Police and Fire are the highlight of the year. We are very lucky to have such great community participation by many volunteers as well as participants to our events.

In connection with the community day weekend I participated with the Police department on the Bike Rodeo. This is where children are tested on how well they can control their bike by how they ride around the obstacles.



Our Fitness Programs

We offer a variety of fitness classes along with the machines that we have started to acquire. PIYO, Walk 15, Tribal Grooves, Functional Fitness and Body Sculpting are some of the programs we offered in 2017. We have a variety of machines and we have applied for the Silver Sneakers plan. This will give residents the use of the machines and it will be paid for by their health insurance. Each week we pick up additional memberships for the fitness program.



Richfield T-shirts and Sweatshirts

Richfield Recreation created new Richfield t-shirts for the community. They are available at the recreation center and special functions.



Facts:

- We maintain 5 miles of trails throughout Richfield
- We have over 136 acres of park land
- 4 ball diamonds one of which is a lighted field
- Two full size soccer fields
- Three rentable pavilions
- 40 community garden plot and 30 gardeners, who garden in them, some maintain two plots. Of the 40 plot the fruit trees are included in this area.
- We offer a variety of community programs both at the recreation center and at Hillcrest and Revere High Schools
- Rentals: Pavilions; \$1,385/18 rentals:
Masonic Hall; \$2,040/ 14 rentals:
Fellowship, \$3,170/30 rentals

THIS IS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
THE PRESERVATION OF THE BEAUTY OF RICHFIELD



Mission Statement

Provide recreational and leisure activities, facilities, and public spaces that create opportunities for health, fitness, relaxation, enjoyment, learning and community interaction.