



# Council Newsletter

102 Willow Street N.R. OH 45157 • Phone 553.4146 • [www.newrichmond.org](http://www.newrichmond.org) • Volume 14 • Issue 2 • February 2012

## BE INFORMED!

Get important notices, advisories, updates and other community information.

Sign up for NIXLE at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) or text zip code 45157 to 888777.



## RITA e Services

**FREE** online services for filing, making payments or registration

[www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com)

Phone – 1.866.252.0913



## IRS Tax Forms

available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

## VILLAGE HALL CLOSED

Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>  
Presidents' Day

## FREE CO Detectors

New Richmond Fire and EMS has FREE carbon monoxide (CO) detectors available for New Richmond-area residents while supplies last; this program is open to all income levels. Visit the 300 Hamilton St. fire station to receive yours or call 553-2117 for more information.

Homes that use fossil-fuels or wood for heating or cooking are the most vulnerable to poisonous CO fumes and the target of this injury prevention program by NRFEMS. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, and potentially harmful gas produced by improperly operated or maintained heating and cooking equipment. CO detectors sound a loud alarm to warn occupants when fumes are present.

## FREE TAX HELP & FREE E-FILE!

AARP Tax-Aide offers free tax preparation and electronic filing of federal and state tax returns. The program is targeted to senior citizens and low to middle income taxpayers, although others with uncomplicated returns are welcome. For village residents, the New Richmond site will also prepare local (RITA) tax returns with the federal and state forms. The New Richmond site at Steamboat Trails will be open on Tuesday afternoons February 21 - March 13. Hourly appointments are from 3-6 pm. To schedule an appointment, call Terri at 553-1620 during her daily office hours 9am-1pm. Steamboat Trails is located at 1221 Bethel-N.R. Rd.

For other locations, call 1-888-AARPNOW or see [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide).



The National Flood Insurance Program has launched the FloodSmart marketing and education initiatives. This campaign encourages individuals and business owners to better understand their flood risk and connects them to flood insurance specialists to explore their flood insurance options.

Help is available for Americans to reduce the devastating effects of flooding. Everyone is encouraged to get FloodSmart by knowing their flood risk and how they can help keep their home or business secure. Being FloodSmart can make the difference in helping Americans rebuild their lives after a flood.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Floods are the #1 natural disaster in the United States.

There is a 30-day waiting period on new flood insurance policies.

*Floods are like highways.....  
They Run Through All 50 States!*  
[www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

## KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Feb. 11th. 7 - 10 A.M.  
at the Community Center  
212 Market Street



## FREE Weather Spotter Training

The Clermont County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) invites you to attend FREE Weather Spotter Training on Wednesday, February 8, 2012. The training, conducted by the National Weather Service (NWS), will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Miami Township Civic Center, located at 6101 Meijer Drive. The training will help you identify severe weather conditions, said EMA Director Pam Broughton. Trained weather spotters assist the National Weather Service in issuing timely and accurate warnings to the community for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods. □

The NWS estimates that in an average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods, and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States. Those storms have killed thousands of people and injured thousands more. Because of weather spotter reports, advancements in radar technology and improved warning capabilities, many lives are being saved today, added Broughton.

The Weather Spotter Training is open to all interested community members. Citizens, Scout troops, first responders, and members of civic organizations are encouraged to attend. To reserve a seat at the FREE training session, call the Clermont EMA at 732-7661.



## UTILITY DEPT. NEWS

Utility payments are due the 15th. day of every month. Payments not received on the 15th. of the month will have a 10% penalty assessed (minimum of \$10.00) to any unpaid account balance. After hours payments can be made in the drop box located in front of the building and will be considered as the next business day receipt. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve the customer of the responsibility to pay the account balance in full including any additional fees or penalties.

Method of payments accepted: cash, check, money order, charge cards (visa & master card) & ACH (call the office for details). As a reminder trash collection is on Wednesday mornings. All trash must be put in an appropriate receptacle and placed out at the curb on Tuesday after Noon and retrieved by 7P.M. on Wednesday. For a large item pickup you must contact Rumpke directly prior to collection day at 1-877-786-7537. Failure to schedule the large item pickup with Rumpke will result in non-collection.



## CPR COURSE

NRFEMS will host an American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course on Saturday February 18, 2012 beginning at 9:00 AM. It will be held in the 2nd floor council meeting room of the New Richmond Village Hall, located at 102 Willow Street. Pre-registration is necessary by calling NRFEMS at 553-2117. For complete information and future course dates visit [www.nrfems.org](http://www.nrfems.org).

## POLL WORKERS NEEDED

If interested you must be at least 18 years old, registered to vote in Clermont County, free of any felony convictions and you should enjoy working with other people. All you have to do is call the Board of Elections at 732-7275 or e-mail [Elections@ClermontCountyOhio.Gov](mailto:Elections@ClermontCountyOhio.Gov). We'll schedule you for one of our February training classes at the Eastgate Holiday Inn, and you will be able to work at the Primary Election on Tuesday, March 6. We hope to hear from you within the next few days so we can get you signed up.

## SIGNS

It's the time of year when the office receives calls regarding signs. It seems that many folks don't appreciate the political signs polluting the landscape, especially if they are not for "their candidate". Political signs are protected free speech and the only regulations available to the village to control them have to do with location. They cannot be placed in the right of way or fastened to utility poles. These regulations apply to all signs.



### From the Community Development Office

One of the responsibilities of the community development office is the ongoing maintenance of the village's website: [www.newrichmond.org](http://www.newrichmond.org). We have recently upgraded the website in an effort to make it more user friendly. We hope that residents will utilize the website regularly. Access to current legislation, council minutes, monthly newsletter and upcoming events are just a few of the items readily available on our website. If you have any suggestions or other information that you would like to see on the village website please call village hall at 553-4146 or email us at [richmond.gov@fuse.net](mailto:richmond.gov@fuse.net)

### Drainage System Maintenance

Flood season is once again upon us. One of the many activities the village conducts in an effort to lessen flood damages is the protection of our creeks and ditches.

We encourage all village residents to do their part by not dumping anything into ditches or streams. Even grass clippings and branches can accumulate and plug a channel necessary for handling rainwater. Every little bit helps!

Dumping in ditches or streams is a violation of Ordinance 1992-49. To report any dumping or debris in the ditches or streams, call the Public Works Dept. at 553-2954.

### ANGEL'S REST Animal Sanctuary

Looking to help a worthy cause?

Have you considered donating?

Angel's Rest Animal Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Contact information can be found at [www.angelsrestanimalsanctuary.org](http://www.angelsrestanimalsanctuary.org) THNAK YOU for your support!



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

On the 75th anniversary of the 1937 flood and the 15th anniversary of the 1997 flood it is important to remember that living along the Ohio River can be beautiful along with presenting some risks. On January 26th, 1937 the Ohio River crested at 80 feet and the village was nearly destroyed. Some homes were literally ripped from their foundations. So many people were homeless or displaced from their homes that the Clermont Sun had articles listing where individuals and families were known to be staying.

The Ohio River Flooding in 1997 while not as devastating as the 1937 flood affected numerous homes and businesses and the recovery process was very time consuming. The village has learned much since 1997 and we consider ourselves a very "flood smart" community.

The village participates in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) program. By participating in this program which requires communities to complete flood education and other activities our residents receive a discount on the annual flood insurance premiums. The village is one of only 14 communities in the State of Ohio that participate in this program. Through our activities flood insurance policy holders in the village receive a 10% discount on their annual premiums.

Along with educating our residents, Fire/EMS Chief Mark Baird leads village officials in preparedness trainings so we can better serve our residents during floods. Included in this training are updates to village flood data which allows us to be aware of how many buildings will be affected based on predicted flood levels.

We welcome residents to visit our website to view flood information on the flood link at the bottom of our home page. You can also keep up to date with river levels.

We hope that everyone enjoys the charm that the Ohio River brings to our village while at the same time tries to spend a little time each year making sure you are flood prepared. If you have any questions about your properties elevation, flood insurance information or building within the floodplain please contact the community development office at 553-4146.

Thanks!

*Ramona Carr, Mayor*