

### ***A note from the RJRD Board***

April was a busy month at the park. We're gearing up for the summer season. That means some spring cleaning which got done in a flash with a couple of hours of contributions by about 100 Revere High School students.

The two most notable improvements this month involve, first, the paving of the drive leading up to and in front of the Lodge. The other major improvement involved the grading of the drive down by Garfield Hall (near the Lower Lake). Gravel was laid down after the grading and will tamp down nicely!

Things just keep getting better! Please come out and enjoy all that spring has to offer at RHP.

*- Anita Gantner, RJRD Board Chair*

### ***Upcoming Events -***

***Please see [rjrd.recdesk.com](http://rjrd.recdesk.com) for complete program listing and to register.***

**May 2 - PROTECTING OHIO WILDFLOWERS;** 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please see [friendsofrhp.org](http://friendsofrhp.org) or [rjrd.recdesk.com](http://rjrd.recdesk.com) for details.

**May 6 - MIGRATORY BIRD HIKES;** 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., and 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**May 6 - YOGA HIKE;** 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**May 6 - GOAT DERBY** - 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; **FREE**

A fun celebration on Amity House Lawn in honor of the Kentucky Derby! Food Trucks, Beer and Beverage Stations, Goat Wagers, Raffles, Best Dressed Awards. Wear your finest Derby attire!

**May 6 - MAY DAY CELEBRATION AT OVIATT HOUSE;** 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Please visit [oviatthouse1836.com](http://oviatthouse1836.com) for details.

**May 8 - SUPER SENIORS NATURE HIKE;** 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.

**May 12 - 4 p.m. - May 14, 4 p.m. - CAMPING SKILLS 101**

**May 13 - YOGA HIKE;** 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**May 17 - OFF TRACK TREKS;** 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; **May 20,** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; **May 21,** 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**May 20 - NATURE CYANOTYPES WORKSHOP;** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**May 20 - May 21 - HIGH LEA 6/12/24-HOUR RACE;** 7 a.m. Saturday - 7 a.m. Sunday; Fast Girls Running Co.

**May 21 - HIKE YOGADVENTURE: SUNDAY SERIES;** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**May 21 - DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES - SPRING SPECIES;** 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**May 24 - "DANGER AT DUSK" BOOK CLUB;** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**May 27 - YOGA HIKE;** 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

***Look at all that's happening in RHP!***

### ***From our Park Director***

Welcome to the May issue of the monthly newsletter. This month we have our new brochure available for you to view listing all of our Spring/Summer programs and special events. Also, on May 6<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting our inaugural Goat Derby! We hope to see you at this wonderful event!



You may have noticed that we made some improvements to our trail heading South towards Garfield Hall. We will continue to make as many improvements as possible to the park, but we do have a very limited budget. Unfortunately, this dictates how much work that we can accomplish at the park each year and although we would like to do more, the reality is that we just can't financially.

As the park starts to come alive this spring and the leaves return to the trees, we hope that you can find time to visit and enjoy the park for all that it has to offer.

Until next time, I hope to see you out on the trails!

*- John Piepsny,  
Park Director*

### ***See your photo in print!***

Reminder: Please email your beautiful or interesting photo of Richfield Heritage Preserve to [office@rjrd.org](mailto:office@rjrd.org) for a future newsletter. We want to see what *you* see in your park!

Thank you to all those who have submitted pictures so far. They are great photos, and we appreciate seeing Richfield Heritage Preserve through your lens.



**This month's photo of a waterfall upstream from Garfield Hall was contributed by Tom Fritsch. It was taken on April 30, 2016. Thank you, Tom, for your contribution.**

## Oviatt House Inc.

Oviatt House Incorporated was thrilled to receive a generous donation of hardwood flooring from Ohio Hardwood & Upholstered Furniture and after two days of hard work by a team of terrific volunteers, the new flooring has been installed at Oviatt House! A huge "thank you" to Pascal at Ohio Hardwood as well as our to our wonderful volunteers who were instrumental in getting this job done.



Please join us for our May Day Celebration on May 6, 11am-3pm for kids crafts and games, picnic refreshments, house tours, and a native plant pre-sale, which is going on now! Help sustain the local ecosystem while supporting our restoration efforts. Visit [oviathouse1836.com](http://oviathouse1836.com) for more details.

- Tricia Steiner, secretary,  
Oviatt House Inc.

## Volunteer Update

The inaugural youth art contest display was held on



Sunday, April 23rd. Summit County students in grades K-6 entered original artwork that depicted native plants, animals, and natural landscapes found in Ohio. Thank you to everyone who entered the contest!

Grade K-3

Grade 4-6



**"Danger at Dusk" Book Club** - Join us at the Mable Smith shelter on May 24th at 6:30 pm to make s'mores and discuss The House on Vesper Sands by Paraic O'Donnell. Register online, in person, or by phone at 330-659-4343.

- Susan Czaplicki,  
Volunteer Coordinator

To learn more about volunteers or how you can make a difference at RHP, please contact the RHP Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer-info@rjd.org](mailto:volunteer-info@rjd.org) or call/text 330-317-2597.

**Thank you to everyone who donated items for our Summer Camp program! Every item is much appreciated. They will help create an amazing Summer Camp in RHP!**

## Tool Tuesday!

Every Tuesday, we feature a tool on RHP's social media. Park volunteers and staff work hard to keep the park a beautiful and safe place to visit. We hope you will consider donating an item from the tool registry to provide them with the tools to continue this important work. <https://www.myregistry.com/wishlist/richfield-heritage-preserve-richfield-oh/3370498/giftlist> Thanks so much for supporting your park!

## Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve

There are a wide range of benefits to hiking. Walking strengthens your heart as well as improves blood pressure, glucose, and bad cholesterol numbers. It also helps improve balance, brain training, bone density and muscle building. Being in nature eases stress, enhances sleep, and builds community. What's holding you back from taking the opportunity to reap these benefits and more at our amazing park---which features gently winding streams, two tranquil lakes, magnificent forests, interesting critters, wondrous woodland wildflowers and fascinating historic structures?



The Friends of RHP have offered guided hikes through this 336-acre Heritage Preserve for over four years, with hike leaders presenting topics covering a diverse variety of interests, and they will continue to provide this opportunity in 2023. All hikes start in front of The Lodge. Be sure to visit the Friends' website, [friendsofrhp.org](http://friendsofrhp.org), for registration details and any updates as well as additional event information.

**Saturday, May 6**, 7:30 & 9:30 a.m. - Migratory Bird Hikes led by professional birder Fred Dinkelbach

**Saturday, June 10**, 2-4 p.m. - RHP History Hike led by Friends historian Lynn Richardson

**Sunday, July 9**, 2-4 p.m. - RHP Architecture Hike led by Friends president and professional architect Corey Ringle

**Sunday, September 10**, 2-4 p.m. - RHP Critters Architecture Hike led by Corey Ringle

**Sunday, November 12**, 2-4 p.m. - "Symbols of the Season" presentation by Ohio certified volunteer naturalist Chuck Jakubchak at Richfield United Church of Christ (4340 W. Streetsboro Road) followed by a hike at RHP

- Betty Vandermeer, Friends of RHP  
Hike Committee Co-Chair



Richfield  
**HERITAGE**  
PRESERVE