

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

Summer goes by so quickly. In the blink of an eye we went from end of school events and graduation to planning for back to school. And for my youngest child, this year that means college.

In between are many (many) graduation parties to help celebrate this milestone. For our family, that meant a small gathering at the Waterfront Shelter. Even with the short rain shower that sprung up out of nowhere, everyone had a great time. Because, come on, who doesn't enjoy s'mores by the fire and talking with friends in a beautiful, outdoor setting?



I'm proud to be part of such an amazing park that offers so many unique spaces and experiences to enjoy. There really is something to discover for everyone.

- Holly Price, RJRD Board Trustee

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

Time sure does fly by! Here we are in August with the dog days of summer.

I am excited for this month as it will feature our Waterfront Music Festival! We have 7 bands playing throughout the day and there will be vendors along with food trucks and beverage stations. This is a family friendly event, and we know that there will be plenty for everyone to enjoy. Tickets are just \$15 and will be selling fast, so please do not wait until the last minute or you might get closed out!

Don't forget that next month our fall/winter program guide will be out with all our programs.

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



- John Piepsny,  
Park Director

If you have a suggestion for a program, or would like to be a program leader or facilitator, please contact the RHP office at 330-888-0511 or [office@rjrd.org](mailto:office@rjrd.org). We would like to offer opportunities that interest you!

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

***Please see <https://rjrd.recdesk.com> for a complete program listing and to register.***

**July 31-Aug. 4 - SUMMER CAMP WEEK 7;** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**August 3, 5, 31 - "TOUR THE TREASURE" CAMPAIGN HIKES;** 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Aug. 3; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Aug. 5, 31

**August 6 - SUMMER INSECTS: POLLINATION & NECTARING SURVEY;** 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**August 10, 17, 31 - RICHFIELD LIBRARY STORY HOUR;** 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Register through Richfield Library.

**August 12-13 - CAMPING SKILLS 101: FIRE MAKING;** 9 a.m. Saturday - 6 p.m. Sunday

**August 13 - PADDLE YOGADVENTURE;** 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. OR 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**August 19 - WATERFRONT MUSIC FEST;** noon - 8:30 p.m.  
\*\*\* Park will be CLOSED to regular activities this date \*\*\*

**August 22 - LATE SUMMER HIKE: LOOKING GOOD WITH AGE;** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**August 26 - KIRBY DAY;** noon - 4 p.m.

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

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

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



**This month's photos of drawings in Garfield Hall were contributed by Carmen Billings. They were taken August 28, 2022. Thank you, Carmen, for your contribution.**

## Oviatt House Inc.

It is the summer of windows at the Oviatt house! Volunteers spent many hours removing all of the old replacement windows and aluminum-track storms, repairing the exterior window sills and casings, and fitting the new window sashes to the openings.



The new window sashes are now ready for painting after being prepped, masked, and primed. What color will the new window sashes be? Stay tuned to the next phase of this remarkable window transformation to find out.

- Tricia Steiner, Secretary, Oviatt House, Inc.



## Shelter Rentals Available

Looking for a beautiful spot for your next small gathering? Richfield Heritage Preserve has several shelters with picnic tables and grills available for rental. A few shelters have firepits and firewood available.

Go to [rjrd.recdesk.com](http://rjrd.recdesk.com) to create and account on RecDesk. To guarantee availability on your selected date, click the Shelters button to choose your shelter and reserve in advance. Bring a picnic, relax, and enjoy the surrounding forest!



## Volunteer Update

Volunteers make a difference at RHP! For several years, dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to improve the park's facilities, structures, and visitors' overall experience. They often work year-round to make a positive impact, and their contributions are invaluable. Volunteers also play a vital role in ensuring the success of numerous programs and events at the park.

Interested in learning about the incredible impact of volunteer efforts at the park or in scheduling a tour? Please contact [volunteer-info@rjrd.org](mailto:volunteer-info@rjrd.org) or call 330-317-2597.

- Susan Czaplicki,  
RHP Volunteer Coordinator



On Aug. 19, Richfield Heritage Preserve will be the scene of an eight-hour music festival showcasing some of the best bands in the country. The Waterfront Music Festival, presented by Otter Entertainment, will offer seven musical groups from noon to 8:30 p.m. at two locations in the park.

Tickets cost \$15 and must be purchased in advance. A limited number will be sold. To purchase go to [rjrd.recdesk.com](http://rjrd.recdesk.com) to create an account, then click Event Tickets and register. To purchase multiple tickets, register for the event more than once within your RecDesk account. Please list each ticketholder's name in notes on each registration when registering for additional tickets.

Enjoy an evening of exciting music in the park!

## Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve

The Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve (Friends) will be celebrating **Kirby Day** on Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 12 -4 p.m., at Richfield Heritage Preserve (RHP). Event parking will be at the 3771 Oviatt Road entrance (off Rt. 303).



Participants will embark on an "adventure quest" featuring kids' crafts, games, marbles, and fascinating/fun STEM-related activities. They will be able to have their picture taken with Sunny the Pioneer Horse and will marvel at the Friends' "Slipped Through the Cracks" (comprised of creatively arranged miscellaneous items left behind over the years at the former Girl Scout camp) and other park history displays. Some of RHP's historic structures will be open to tour. Refreshments (grilled hot dogs, chips, root beer floats and lemonade) will be offered for a donation, and Friends' keepsakes will be available to

purchase.

Richfield Heritage Preserve was once home to well-known inventor Jim Kirby. His gorgeous multi-level Swiss chalet style home, unique Garfield Hall (a dance hall he built on streetcar springs) and the mill he constructed to produce hydroelectric power for his home and workshop still stand on the property. Kirby was said to be an expert marbles player, and it is thought by some that this childhood game may have inspired his innovative design for the water wheel of his mill.

This free, family-friendly event will be held rain or shine. All donations go toward the continued restoration of the iconic and much beloved Kirby's Mill. For further information, visit [friendsofrhp.org](http://friendsofrhp.org).



- Karen Smik, Kirby Day Event Co-Chair