# Report to the Richfield Joint Recreation District
# Friends of Richfield Heritage - October 2026

*This month, we'd like to thank John for including the Friends two most recent programs and articles in the RHP Footprint newsletter. John has also been working with our Winter Wonders Committee and our Historic Preservation Committee.*

**PROJECTS**

- **Mill bridge evaluation by GFT.** The new, dual contracts are acceptable to Friends' board of directors. Or if - RJRD chooses - the single contract method with all parties' names also remains acceptable.
- **Garfield Hall.** With the park director's permission, Permit/Change of Occupancy drawings have been submitted to GovWell, Summit County's Building Department Portal. The initial AI had concerns about the egress additions so Corey Ringle will call/email the building department to clarify with SCBD Monday morning. The park director is listed as the owner's rep and included in the list of contacts, therefore will be notified with updates while the set is reviewed by the plans examiner. Once we have stamped permit approved drawings, the contractor may submit for the construction permits.
- **North House Porch.** Measurements of the existing stone porch have been taken. These measurements will be used to draft backgrounds to send to the structural engineer to create drawings to be used for bidding. Once created, we will send to the park director for review.
- **Perimeter Fence.** Although our original plans were not accepted, we are looking into different ways that the job might be accomplished. The Park Director has also offered the possibility of staff assistance, but we are working on finding a day that the maintenance tech may be available.
- **Kirby Garage.** We have reached out to 9 x 9 Environmental to confirm their order of operation and current pricing structure for removal of mold. We have also provided the Park Director with a list of the tools we would need to re-roof the garage. All have been deemed acceptable.
- **Kirby House** will require use of an excavator to form a swale that will direct water away from the house foundations. Since the park insurance will no longer cover Friends who are operating this equipment to do this task, we are working with the Park Director to look at other options.

**RECENT SUCCESSES**

- **SPOOM Tour** 17 participants from the tri-state area enjoyed the tour of Kirby's Mill area.
- **Barbara Neal's Birthday Party at Amity House**. Barbara's grandparents built Amity House, North House, and Coach House. Barbara lived in Amity until she was 12 years old. This was the first time she had brought her husband and children to see it! The family loved everything and were impressed with all the work that has been done. In addition, the park loaned a golf cart to take Barbara around the grounds in style!
- **Cleveland Restoration Society SNOOP tour, a collaborative effort.** Park Director John, Anita of RJRD, Meg of the RHP Conservancy all helped introduce the visitors to the park. Members of the Friends were on hand to discuss the restoration process of Amity house and lead an outdoor tour to North and Coach Houses. John then drove the bus to the south end where Friends provided the history of Kirby's Mill and Garfield Hall.

FRIENDS OF
Richfield Heritage Preserve

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**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- **History Hike**: Sunday, October 18th from 2pm-4 pm. A one-mile slow walk studded with stories. Meet at the parking lot by Kirby's Mill
- **Winter Wonders:** Saturday, December 5th from 11am-3 pm at the Lodge. Fabulous Christmas cookies for sale, local vendors, Father Christmas, etc.
- **Lunches at Amity House:** Tuesday 12/8, Thursday 12/10, Monday 12/14, and Thursday 12/17 are a fundraiser to promote restoration.
- **Ohio Historic Preservation AWARDS CEREMONY**
  Garfield Hall and Amity House have both been selected for the 2026 State Historic Preservation Office Awards. The awards will be presented on Friday, November 6th, 2026, at the Thomas C. Moyer Judicial Center Conference Room 101, 65 S. Front Street in Columbus. The event is free to attend and will celebrate the outstanding achievements in historic preservation across the state.

  Please RSVP by Monday, October 26, 2026, at www.ohiohistory.org/hpawards

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