

State Representative Richard Dell'Aquila

Ohio House District 15

(614) 466-3100 | rep15@ohiohouse.gov | [@RickDellAquila](https://twitter.com/RickDellAquila) | facebook.com/RepDellAquila



| August 2023

Committees:

- *Financial Institutions (Ranking Member)*
- *Aviation and Aerospace*
- *Commerce and Labor*
- *Economic and Workforce Development*
- *Ways and Means*
- *Emergency Services Internet Protocol (ESINet) Steering Committee*

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you are all enjoying your Summer as we approach the beginning of Ohio's Fall legislative sessions. As you may know, the August 8th special election has concluded and Issue 1 has failed.

Now the legislature will likely move on from that "culture war" issue to the next, which may include questions of parental privilege, the fundamental right of parents to make decisions concerning the care, custody and control of their children.

This legal privilege extends to both parents and guardians of children and those acting "*in loco parentis*" on behalf of a child. Think of teachers, police, and other emergency responders, etc., as examples. Courts may also step in to protect the best interest of children in cases of neglect or abuse.

The Supreme Court decisions regarding parental rights under the Constitution generally focus on a minor's incapacity to make decisions and the need for the support and guidance of a parent in decisions on education, health care, who is entitled to a relationship with their child, and the like.

If the past few months are a prologue, it is probable that the right of parental privilege will be important to our deliberations. It is critical to preserve the inherent right of parents to make decisions on behalf of their children, and also the right of children to have this care and support.

While Summer is coming to a close and we have completed our work on Ohio's two year bipartisan budget, our work is only increasing. There are a variety of issues that I would like to address this Autumn when our state legislature returns. As always, it is an honor to serve and be a resource to you and the rest of our community. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office should I may ever be of service to you. I can be reached at the above contact information.

Sincerely,

Richard Dell'Aquila

State Representative Richard Dell'Aquila
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Office: (614) 466-3100





Advocacy Updates: June 2023

On August 21st, National Senior Citizen's Day recognizes the achievements of our senior citizens. The day provides an opportunity to show our appreciation for their dedication, accomplishments, and services they give throughout their lives. Our senior citizens are pioneers of science, medicine, psychology, civil rights and so much more. House Democrats will continue to support our elderly citizens, ensuring they have the ability to thrive here in Ohio.



SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY

August 21, 2023

Ohio House Democrats



WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Today, we celebrate the adoption of the **19th Amendment**, which prohibits the states and the federal government from **denying the right to vote** to U.S. citizens on the **basis of sex**.

National Women's Equality Day celebrates the anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted women in the U.S. the right to vote. The adoption of the 19th Amendment brought America closer to the promise of equality for all. While we are still working toward a society where we are all equal, days like today remind us of the progress we've made.

STUDENT LOAN RELIEF

Although a federal matter, we have all nonetheless been following the intense debate over student loans with considerable interest. As an attorney over four decades, including in the area of bankruptcy law, I have some thoughts to share on the subject. The first is that there is already some student loan relief available to qualified Debtors under U.S. bankruptcy law with regard to federal student loans as modified by a new policy guidance recently announced by the Biden administration. This would not apply to private student loans.

Student loans are treated differently under the bankruptcy code than other kinds of debt. Under current law, a student loan can only be discharged in a Chapter 7 proceeding if the borrower proves to the court that repaying their student debt presents an "undue hardship." This can be a subjective standard and exceedingly difficult to prove. The process to seek a student loan discharge begins by filing an adversary proceeding within the original bankruptcy case.

Under the new policy guidance, a Debtor seeking to discharge a federal student loan would complete a form to demonstrate the claimed undue burden. Then, the Justice Department and Department of Education would use that information to determine whether to contest the adversary proceeding. If there is no opposition to the adversary proceeding or the Debtor proves the undue hardship, the court may grant the bankruptcy discharge of that debt.



For more information on the Income-Driven Repayment Plan, visit <https://studentaid.gov/idr/>. Any further expansion of the bankruptcy code would likely require an act of Congress. However, utilizing existing bankruptcy procedures would assure that relief is granted only to those who cannot afford to repay their student loan instead of a blanket forgiveness not based upon need or hardship.



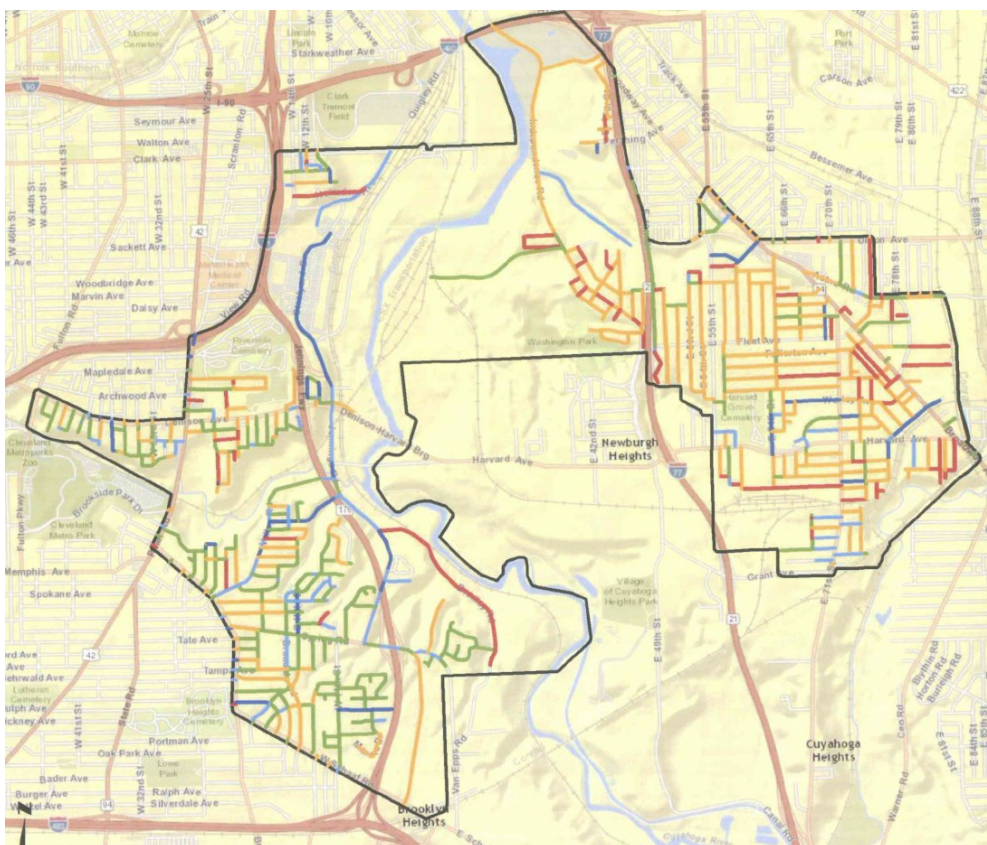
Around the District



SEVEN HILLS– The Farmers’ Market will be open on each Thursday through September 28th, all from 4pm to 7pm at the corner of **Broadview Road and Hillside Road**.

Especially as we approach late Summer and early Fall, it is a fantastic opportunity to meet with neighbors and local vendors from our District 15 communities.

WARD 12—Thanks to Councilwoman Maurer, this ward-wide map gives a better picture as to the current status of Old Brooklyn, Slavic Village, Brooklyn Centre, and Tremont’s roads. Roads with Orange and Red colors are D and F-rated streets, respectively.



While road repairs are ongoing, hopefully this gives a snapshot as to the status of our infrastructure and the process of how certain roads are selected to be repaired under limited city funds.



CLEVELAND—I had the pleasure of participating in several events this past weekend; [Cleveland’s Puerto Rican Parade and Cultural Festival](#) has been celebrating and educating Puerto Rican culture and community since the late 1960’s. I was privileged to participate in the parade and to meet with so many wonderful people in the district!

Additionally, I participated in the 23rd Annual-Northeast Ohio Buddy Walk, part of the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio.



DSANEO provides educational programming as well as one-on-one tools for families and expectant parents to ensure that all children with Down syndrome are giving the support and advocacy that they deserve. To learn more, visit www.dsaneo.org.

Around the District (continued)

MALTZ MUSEUM VISIT

This past week, along with State Representatives Mike Skindell, Casey Weinstein and Dani Isacsohn, and State Senator Kent Smith, I had the opportunity to visit the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, a private non-profit museum in Beachwood, Ohio.

The museum celebrates the history of the Jewish community of Greater Cleveland and Northeast Ohio with film, exhibits and interactive programs. It currently features an exhibit of the famous cartoonist, Rube Goldberg. Did you know that Superman was created by two Jewish young men from Cleveland?

A big **“Thank You”** to Dayan Gross, Director of Development, for sharing a thoughtful and enlightening experience in this place of remembrance of the Holocaust, one of the darkest periods in human history, of heroism, fortitude, and reverence. For more information, please visit Maltzmuseum.org.

BROOKLYN—There are now new market dates and hours for the Brooklyn Farmers Market! See the attached dates this upcoming August and September.



Farmers MARKET
OLD BROOKLYN

New Market Hours & Dates!
Saturdays* 10am-1pm
Every 2nd Thursday 4pm-7pm
*there will be no Saturday market if there is a Thursday market

June	July	August	September
24	1, 8, 13 (Thurs), 22, 29	5, 10 (Thurs), 19, 26	2, 9, 14 (Thurs), 23, 30

June 24 through September 30
4200 Pearl Road
Volunteer at the market!
www.OldBrooklyn.com/volunteer

@oldbrooklynfarmersmarket
www.oldbrooklyn.com/market

OLD BROOKLYN



137TH NORTH ROYALTON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

August 25-27
Parade 3 p.m. Aug. 27
Fireworks by NOPEC, IBEW 38, Town Planner at dusk Aug. 27
CITY GREEN

SPONSORED BY THE NORTH ROYALTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COME CELEBRATE NORTH ROYALTON PRIDE!

- rides ·
- games ·
- exhibitors ·
- entertainment ·
- parade ·
- fireworks ·
- food ·
- and more!

For more information visit: www.nroyaltonchamber.com

NORTH ROYALTON—The city’s 137th Community Festival is happening later this month; come spend a weekend with friends and family and celebrate North Royalton Community Pride!