

Village Of Cuyahoga Heights



January 2016

www.cuyahogaheights.com

Future Important Dates:

Sunday, February 14 – Valentine's Day



Monday, February 15 - President's Day
Village Hall and Service Department closed.
Garbage pick up and special pick up delayed one day.



Save the Date:

Join us for sledding at Bacci Park on Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Weather permitting, snow required).



Meeting Reminders:

Council Meetings (regular)
2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Work Sessions of Council
4th Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.
only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

Zoning Board Meetings
3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Economic Development Committee
2nd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.
Only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

Finance Committee
2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
Only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

Village Hall office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Minutes of our council meetings are posted every month under the Government Tab and under Village Council – Agenda/Minutes on our website at www.cuyahogaheights.com.

Village Hall

Phone: 216-641-7020

Fax: 216-641-8485

Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ January 2016



From the Mayor:

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays.

Our administration understands the hard times its neighbors may experience. We have been very fortunate to help those in need for the past several years as generosity comes from individuals that appreciate their blessings. At this time, I would like to take a moment and thank the individuals, organizations and companies who generously helped out this past holiday season. To the employees of Charter Steel for adopting a family in the Village and providing them with a memorable Christmas. To the employees of SAFC (*formerly Research Organics*), and the many Village residents, students and staff of the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, including Councilman Matt Schoeffler for the overabundance of food. We were able to help out three families in our Village, as well as assist the St. John Paul II Ozanam Center's food pantry at Holy Name which was organized by Councilwoman Lois Henley. To our police officers for the fifth year – our Mayor's Court dismissed traffic citations in lieu of defendants donating Giant Eagle gift cards. As part of our Mayor's Court outreach program, we presented St. Herman's House of Hospitality and The Greater Real Truth Church with the gift cards. Additional kudos to CHPD for participating in the "Shop with a Cop Program" – they were able to help out two families in our Village. To the members of AFSME Local 2798 (NEORS) for Giant Eagle gift cards. And to former Council President Renato Contipelli and his wife Michelle; Village residents Bill and Traci Nichols; and Cuyahoga Heights firefighter Bryon Borowy and his wife Deanna for donations of Toys-R-Us gift cards which helped out several children in our Village. **THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU!** I cannot emphasize those two words enough.

Long-term economic development

After a lengthy application process, we received notification that the Cuyahoga County Demolition Fund Review Committee recommended awarding our Village \$100,000 for its Round 3 Property Demolition Fund Application subject to approval by the Cuyahoga County Board of Control. The grant will enable our Village to raze the building on the former Hillside property creating a shovel ready parcel for future economic development. The committee is slated to meet the first part of February.

Charter Steel is making improvements to its building and roadways, and we are assisting them with this through the ODOT Jobs and Commerce Economic Development Grant.

We continue to work with one of our business residents to facilitate potential expansion of the Cuyahoga Heights Business Park at the north end of East 71st Street.

I want to thank council for their continued support as it relates to our vision of bolstering new economic development opportunities, as well as to our staff, Todd Sciano our Village Engineer, and Dennis McAndrew of Silverlode Consultants. None of this is possible without team effort. Thanks again to everyone involved.

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From the Mayor *(continued)*:

Grants

With council's support and the grant application process, we were able to secure the application and ultimately awarded the SAFER grant once again. This grant assists fire departments to hire, retain or return laid-off firefighters to work. With that being said, the following firefighters will return to work in February: Brian Baciak, Jason Grabowski and Brad Unger. The grant allows them to return back to work for a two-year period, and hopefully through attrition (retirements), these three officers will remain in a full-time capacity. Congratulations to all.

Fire Chief Michael Suhy is working on additional grants: (1) FEMA Aid to Firefighters (AFG) grants. This program provides grants to assist fire departments to purchase needed equipment. We submitted our application on January 15. (2) MARCS grants. This radio program provides grants to assist fire departments to purchase MARCS emergency radios. We submitted the application in conjunction with other nearby communities and are awaiting status update.

Our administration is pleased to announce that we are renewing our contract for 2016 with the Heritage Home Program. This program offers free technical assistance advice on preserving and improving homes that are over 50 years old. Representatives from Heritage Home will assist our homeowners in finding contractors, help review estimates from contractors, and consult colors for exterior painting. In addition, they offer low-interest equity loan programs. For more information, call (216) 426-3116 or visit www.heritagehomeprogram.org.

Events

Last month our newsletter carriers delivered the 2016 Village of Cuyahoga Heights calendar to our residents. Information in the calendar includes rubbish collection, charity pick up, Village events, meetings, sports registration deadlines -- just to name a few. If for some reason your residence didn't receive one, please contact Lee Ann and we will make sure you get a calendar.

Our office is in the process of putting several group outings together for Village residents this year which include: sled riding at Bacci Park, a Monsters game, a day at Kalahari, an Indians game, and the circus. We will advertise the information in future Village newsletters. In addition, we are also considering utilizing the Village bus for downtown events this summer as easy transportation. We will keep you informed as the availability.

Kudos

Thank you to Ken Schoeffler for his dedication and leadership for the past eight years as Scoutmaster of Troop 28, and congratulations to Frank Trusso who took over the position on January 1. Even though Ken is stepping down as Scoutmaster, he will continue to be involved in the troop. Best wishes to you both and thank you for everything you do for the boys.

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From the Mayor (*continued*):



Congratulations to Village resident and CHHS Senior Michael Hartman (*pictured to the right*) for his outstanding performance in football this past season. Michael received the following honors: All Ohio Honors, 1st Team All Conference, and 1st Team All District, in addition to receiving the Bill Jacobs Award (for best lineman in 2015.) Great job Michael— continue to live strong, both mentally and physically.



Senior Citizens

Our transport program continues to be one of the most utilized services our Village provides. This service is available for our senior citizens (60+) who are otherwise unable to get to their doctor appointments. If any senior citizen has a doctor's visit and are in need of transportation, please contact Lee Ann during normal business hours one week prior to the scheduled doctor's visit.

Thoughts and prayers

Please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: Theresa Bentejewski, Mr. Howard Combs, Mrs. Ernestine Deliberato, Mrs. Helen Leciejewski, Mr. Guy Mitchell, Mrs. Donna Pellini, Mr. Dave Porter, Mrs. Kim Schoeffler, and Mrs. Tomi Sonoda.

Birthdays

January birthday wishes to employees: (4) Richard Friedl & Dan Coutleur; (8) Councilwoman Cheryl Harris; (12) Councilwoman Lois Henley; (13) Reno Contipelli; (16) Jimmy Henley; (19) Kyle Zuber; and (24) Jacquelyn Kaminski.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."
-- John Quincy Adams





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From the Clerk:

We have closed the financial books on 2015 and are ready to start a new year. We will begin 2016 with a surplus of 1.56 million dollars in our General Fund. We accomplished many projects in 2015 that made our Village a beautiful place to live and work, and we have enough money in the bank moving into the New Year to feel financially secure.

Last year, we estimated that we would end the year at 1.3 to 1.5 million dollars in our General Fund, and we were right on the money. This is the fund designated by the State to pay bills and salaries. The General Fund is the largest and most important, and it is the fund that I will focus on in future newsletters.

The Mayor and department heads are beginning the budgeting process for 2016, when completed; it will be a roadmap of all of our costs for 2016. Just know that we are being good fiscal stewards of the Village money, and will continue to do our best for all the residents, and the Village.

The Finance Department will again be vigilant in watching our costs and revenue, and make sure Council has the information they need to help them make informed decisions.

If you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open.

| Month Distributed | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | Difference from 2015 | % change from 2015 |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| JANUARY | 644,593.83 | 701,203.65 | 806,899.10 | 742,767.00 | (64,132.10) | -7.95% |
| FEBRUARY | 638,258.93 | 542,645.46 | 626,184.73 | | | |
| MARCH | 817,199.06 | 929,321.38 | 838,149.44 | | | |
| APRIL | 636,179.02 | 711,647.56 | 623,337.78 | | | |
| MAY | 633,944.39 | 617,963.16 | 783,999.52 | | | |
| JUNE | 646,774.82 | 643,339.71 | 578,703.87 | | | |
| JULY | 590,649.46 | 744,253.53 | 630,699.68 | | | |
| AUGUST | 591,619.13 | 616,110.30 | 851,514.14 | | | |
| SEPTEMBER | 641,230.39 | 607,652.11 | 422,410.26 | | | |
| OCTOBER | 598,372.95 | 676,923.26 | 772,784.21 | | | |
| NOVEMBER | 628,902.62 | 638,874.48 | 557,624.59 | | | |
| DECEMBER | 605,547.68 | 666,050.52 | 617,179.24 | | | |
| TOTAL | 7,673,272.28 | 8,095,985.12 | 8,109,486.56 | 742,767.00 | (64,132.10) | -7.95% |



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Police Department:

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Plan Ahead

- Check the weather, road and traffic conditions. Leave early if necessary.
- Familiarize yourself with directions and maps before you go, even if you use a GPS system. Let others know your route and expected arrival time.
- Keep gas tank close to full. If you get stuck in traffic or snow, you might need more fuel to get home or keep warm.
- If possible, avoid driving in hazardous conditions or wait until conditions improve before venturing out.

Stock Your Vehicle

Carry items for common winter driving tasks and supplies you might need in an emergency:

- Snow shovel, broom and ice scraper;
- Abrasive material such as sand or kitty litter, in case your vehicle gets stuck in the snow;
- Jumper cables, flashlight and warning devices such as flares and markers;
- Blankets;
- Cell phone with charger, water, food and any necessary medicine (for longer trips or in lightly populated areas).

Stopped or Stalled

- Stay with your car and don't overexert yourself.
- Put bright markers on the antenna or windows and keep the interior dome light on.
- To avoid carbon monoxide poisoning, clear the exhaust pipe and run your vehicle only long enough to stay warm.

Tips for driving in the snow:

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- Drive slowly. Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, and turning – nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.
- The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to ten seconds. This increased margin of safety will provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.
- Know your brakes. Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold breaking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.
- Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible.
- Don't stop going up a hill. There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some inertia going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.
- Stay home. If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.



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Police Department (*continued*):

DID YOU KNOW?

432.205 DRIVING WHILE APPROACHING STATIONARY PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE WITH FLASHING LIGHTS.

(a) The driver of a motor vehicle, upon approaching a stationary public safety vehicle, emergency vehicle, road service vehicle, vehicle used by the Public Utilities Commission to conduct motor vehicle inspections in accordance with R.C. §§ 4923.04 and 4923.06, or a highway maintenance vehicle that is displaying the appropriate visual signals by means of flashing, oscillating, or rotating lights, as prescribed in R.C. § 4513.17, shall do either of the following:

(1) If the driver of the motor vehicle is traveling on a highway that consists of at least two lanes that carry traffic in the same direction of travel as that of the driver's motor vehicle, the driver shall proceed with due caution and, if possible and with due regard to the road, weather, and traffic conditions, shall change lanes into a lane this is not adjacent to that of the stationary public safety vehicle, emergency vehicle, road service vehicle, vehicle used by the Public Utilities Commission to conduct motor vehicle inspections in accordance with R.C. §§ 4923.04 and 4923.06, or a highway maintenance vehicle.

(2) If the driver is not traveling on a highway of a type described in division (a)(1) of this section, or if the driver is traveling on a highway of that type but it is not possible to change lanes or if to do so would be unsafe, the driver shall proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle, and maintain a safe speed for the road, weather, and traffic conditions.

SNOW BAN

Residents, please remember that whenever the snow exceeds 2 inches, the snow ban will be placed into effect. We ask that you refrain from parking on the streets if the weather forecast predicts snow that will accumulate 2 inches or more. The CHPD will attempt notify residents if their vehicles need to be removed from the street. **Vehicles may be cited, and as a last resort towed to allow the the Service Department to clear the streets.** This way you and your safety forces can safely navigate the streets. Please pass along this information to your guests.

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911 -- All other calls please use (216) 883-6800

Fire Department:

The Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department is dedicated to finding solutions that support the independence of older adults. One of these solutions is the Phillips Lifeline System—ideal for a variety of needs. Have you fallen and require assistance? Are you having trouble breathing and need an ambulance? Find yourself locked out of the house and must find someone with a key? Philips Lifeline can help connect your loved ones and the fire department. Signing up is easy. We will come to your home and show you how the system can work, install the equipment, maintain all your products, and assist you with any questions along the way.

- 33% of people age 65+ will fall. At 80, that increases to 50%
- Seniors who receive help within an hour have a better rate of survival
- The faster help arrives, the less likely an injury will lead to hospitalization or the need to move into a long-term care facility.

If you would like a consultation and/or a Phillips Lifeline System unit installed, call Assistant Chief Selig at the Fire Department (216) 641-6799.



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2016 Cuyahoga Heights Village Scholarship Program

Again this year, Council has passed legislation for a Village Scholarship to assist Cuyahoga Heights graduating seniors with their future college tuition. Recipients will be awarded a \$500.00 scholarship in the form of a tuition reimbursement.

To be eligible, the recipient must:

- 1) Be a resident of Cuyahoga Heights
- 2) Be a graduating High School senior in the Spring or Summer of 2016
- 3) Be enrolled either full or part time at an accredited college, university, community college, vocational or technical school for the fall of 2016
- 4) Complete the Fall 2016 term with a grade point average sufficient to be in good standing

Applications are available at the High School Guidance Office, or at the Village Hall, and must be submitted to Clerk Unger's office by May 1, 2016.

This Administration encourages and promotes higher education for all of our students, and is proud to continue the Village Scholarship tradition to help our graduating seniors.

Thank You,
Clerk Unger



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New Residents

If you recently moved into our Village, we need your help! Please contact the Village Hall during normal business hours with your name, address and phone number so we can update our records. You may also email the information to Lee Ann at l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com.

Newsletter

If you wish to submit information for our newsletters, please make sure that it is turned in to Wendy Heinzman by the 15th of the month, to be included in the following month newsletter. Please email the information to w.heinzman@cuyahogaheights.com.

Sports Registrations

Please note that there is a \$25 late fee for sports registrations that occur after the published deadline. The fee was established because late registrations create administrative and organizational difficulties when trying to plan leagues and schedules. In addition, late sign ups cause teams to grow beyond an appropriate size, which has an adverse effect on the ability of the participants to learn and develop. All registration dates are published in our newsletters, on our website, as well as promoted on our Village outdoor marquees.

Listed below are the dates of our annual deadlines for specific sports offered through our Sports Commissioner. Sports registration forms can be downloaded from www.cuyahogaheights.com under the "Sports Department" and are also available at the Village Hall. If you have any questions relative to our sports programs, please contact Sports Commissioner Stacey Vitanza at (440) 227-3801, or you can email her at stacey_vitanza@yahoo.com.

| <u>ACTIVITY</u> | <u>DEADLINE DATE</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Spring Soccer Registration | March 1 |
| Youth Baseball & Softball | April 1 |
| Adult Men's & Women's Softball | July 15 |
| Cheerleading | August 1 |
| Youth Flag Football | August 1 |
| Fall Soccer | August 1 |
| Youth Basketball | October 15 |

Please note: In this month's attachments there are flyers for a Youth Pitching Clinic and Youth Baseball and Softball Clinics. If you wish to participate, the Village will reimburse you for the cost upon completion of the Clinics

Building Department:

Homeowners: If you rent or lease your home or part thereof, you must provide the Building Department with an "Application for Rental Certificate Renewal" prior to April 1, 2016 and every year thereafter.

Applications are online at www.cuyahogaheights.com or call the Building Department for assistance at (216) 641-7020.



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Service Department:

Special Pick Up

If you need a special pick up for trash that is oversized, large amounts, or hazardous waste, don't forget to call the Village Hall to be put on the Special Pick Up list. Special Pick Up day is on Tuesday mornings, unless there is a holiday on Monday, at which time, the Special Pick up will be taken care of on Wednesday. **You must call the Village Hall by 4:00 p.m. on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up.** Your assistance is appreciated.

Pet Waste

Please remember to pick up after your furry friends when walking them in the Village, especially on sidewalks and tree lawns.

Table and Chair Rental

Tables and chairs can be rented from the Service Department (limit of three (3) tables and 30 chairs). You must pick them up and bring them back to the garage. You will need to stop in at the Service Department and sign the loan form. Please be advised that tables and chairs are not permitted to leave the Village. If they are taken out of the Village, you will lose this privilege.

Yard Waste

Yard waste (i.e., grass clippings, tree branches, leaves, etc.) must be put in bags or separate trash cans, **not in the 95 gallon Village issued grey trash cans or blue recycling cans.**

Snow Removal Program

Residential Snow Removal Program for our 2015/2016 season.

- All Village roadways will be plowed first and maintained prior to any driveways being plowed.
- Once the Service Director feels that the roadways and municipal buildings have been maintained, the driveways of our **senior citizens** will be plowed (*using the same criteria that applies to our grass cutting service*).
- Afterwards, taking into consideration manpower, time and safety issues the Village will **help** residents with their driveways in the event of a storm that produces more than 2-4 inches of snow at the resident's request.
- All residents must have driveway markers in place in order to allow the Service Department to plow their driveway. The Village will provide markers and place them for all seniors who qualify for the "grass cutting program." Residents with shorter driveways need 4 markers in place, and long driveways must have 6 markers. They need to be placed at the beginning, middle (if long drive), and at the end of your drive. If you wish to purchase markers from the Village for \$1 each, please stop at the Service Department. Should you have any questions please contact Service Director, Scott Waldemarson at 216-641-3505.
- Please note that residents are responsible for cleaning their driveway aprons, as it is difficult to plow them over again after the streets are plowed. Each homeowner and/or resident must have a waiver of liability on file at our Service Department. If you already have filled out a waiver of liability and there have been no changes to it, there will be no need to fill out a new one.





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Senior Corner:

Hi Everyone,

Well here we are at the start of a new and, hopefully, great year.

We ended 2015 with some really mild weather and it was great, but here we are now in the deep freeze. Monday it was so cold, my skin actually hurt from the exposure to the cold. Please make sure you bundle up good when you go outside and don't take any chances with exposure. It can happen so fast.

We don't have much going on in January. Probably best to stay inside and stay warm. The only thing coming up this month is our Social on Tuesday, January 26th. We are going to have a guest speaker for about 15 minutes at the start of our evening from AMVETS. Molly will be giving us information on benefits that are available to husbands or wives of military veterans that they may not aware of. I thought it would be interesting to listen to what she has to say. Since this is not a business meeting, anyone is welcome to join us. We usually get started around 6:30 p.m.

In February we have our Valentine's party which is on the 9th. Don't eat before you come to the meeting members, as we will have food. On the 22nd of February, we are going to a place called Brick and Barrel Brewery. The bus leaves at 5:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

3/10 – Bubba's – Avon – 11:00 a.m.

4/20 – Miss Molly's Tea Room – Medina – 11:00 a.m.

5/17 – Samosky's Pizza and Bakery – Valley City – 11:00 a.m.m

6/10 – Mr. Divits – Miniature Golf and Lunch

I will keep you informed of any additions or changes. Please call me at (216) 509-5278 with any questions.

*Noel Centa, President
Cuyahoga Heights Seniors*





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Upcoming CVCC Events:

STEM Career Showcase

For Students in grades 7-12 and their parents

Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 9:30-11:30AM at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC).

Students and parents can explore a variety of STEM careers (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) through interactive presentations, learn why companies seek STEM skills; talk to employees from leading companies and professional societies, participate in hands-on-activities and demonstrations; meet college representatives and students who will discuss STEM majors and recommend classes to take now. Students can take an online assessment to identify their skills and interests. Free event, no registration required. For more information contact Marie Elias at melias@cvccworks.edu or visit cvccworks.edu.

HER Ideas in Robotics

For girls ages 11-14

Saturday, February 20, 2016, 9:30AM-1:30PM at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC).

Students learn how to program a robot that can roam around, sense its environment and perform a wide variety of tasks. Register at www.cvccworks.edu/StudentWorkshops.aspx \$40.00, includes lunch. For more information email Nanci Coleman at ncoleman@cvccworks.edu

Video Game Design Workshops

(Grades 7 -9) 9 a.m. to 12 noon; cost \$20.00/workshop, includes snack.

Saturday, February 20, Create a "Breakout" Arcade Style Video Game

Saturday, February 27, Intro to Platform

Register at www.cvccworks.edu/StudentWorkshops.aspx

Summer Camps 2016

Registration opens Monday, February 9th. All camps held at the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center from June 6 – June 10 and June 13 - June 17. Camps for students who will be in grades 5 - 7^{and} 8-10 (Fall 2016) will be offered both weeks. All camps run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Camps fees are \$195 per week for in-district students and \$205 per week for students residing outside of CVCC's eight member districts. Early Bird (registrations by March 31st) and Sibling discounts are available. New camps being offered this year include: 3D Design & Printing, Graphic Arts, VEX Robotics, Health Careers and Outdoor Education – Honey Beekeeping. For a complete list of camps offered or to register, visit www.cvccworks.edu/CAREERCAMPS.aspx.

Attention Employers! Need Student Employees? Attend the Student Job Fair Registration required by February 26, 2016

Job Fair to be held on Thursday, March 10, at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) from 3:30-5:30 p.m. students ages 16 and older will be applying for summer, part-time or seasonal positions. You can review their resumes & applications and conduct interviews on the spot. Register for an event table at <http://www.cvccworks.edu/STUDENTJOBFAIR.aspx>