



Village of Cuyahoga Heights

January 2020

Continuing to move our legacy community forward...

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

February 2 - Groundhog Day

February 5 - Charity Pick Up

February 15 - Spring Soccer Registration Deadline

February 17 - Presidents' Day - Village Hall/Service Department Closed

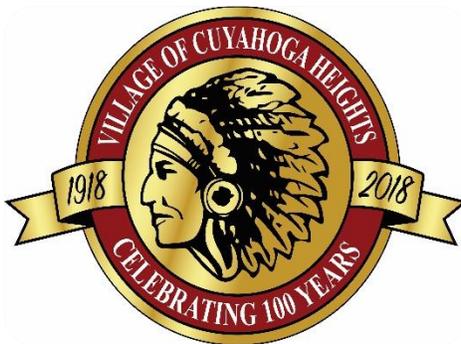
February 18 - Rubbish Collection

February 19 - Special Pick Up

March 4 - Charity Pick Up



Agenda/Minutes of our council meetings are posted every month under the government tab



At the Village Hall

Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month
Caucus 6pm, Meeting 7pm

Economic Development Committee

2nd Wednesday of the Month
4:30pm

Public Works Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the Month
5pm

Finance Committee Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the Month
5:30pm

Zoning Board Meetings

3rd Wednesday of the Month
at 6pm

Work Sessions of Council

4th Wednesday of the Month
at 6pm (Only in January, February, March, April, May, Oct.)

Village Hall office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

From the Mayor's Desk

Christmas blessings

I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and thank those who generously gave during the Christmas holiday. Our village is truly blessed to have so many wonderful individuals—looking after those who truly need that extra help.

Thank you to the *employees of Charter Steel and MilliporeSigma* for adopting several families in our community and providing them with an incredible Christmas. To *our residents* who graciously donated food during Santa's visit—we were able to help out several families in town, as well as assist the food bank at Holy Name Church. To our *police officers*—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 the *Cuyahoga Heights Police Department* for participating in the "Shop with a Cop Program;" they were able to help out several families in town. And lastly, to *Bryon & Deanna Borowy, Councilman Renato Contipelli and his wife Michelle, Norman & Laura Merhaut, Local #702, and AFSCME 2798 (NEORS)* for also donating gifts cards that helped several families in town. Again, thank you to all for their helping hand and generosity. God Bless! *Pictured to the right are some of the employees from Charter Steel and MilliporeSigma.*

Programs

Our village will continue their agreement with Seven Hills for our residents to use their recreation center. What a perfect opportunity to start the New Year in getting fit and healthy. We will pay 100% of the rate for bona-fide village residents that are 62-years of age and older, U.S. Veterans, and disabled residents. We will also pay 50% of the rate for all other bona-fide village residents desiring to secure a membership as outlined in our price sheet. In order to purchase a membership, please come to the Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall, Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Each resident/family must show proof that he/she is a bona-fide resident of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights. At that time, you will also need to pay your 50% of the membership (**cash or check only**) for those not covered under the 100% rate. A copy of the approved application, along with rules and regulations will then be given to the resident. It is then up to the resident to take the approved application to the Seven Hills Recreation Center so that you can receive your official pass.



MilliporeSigma Employees



Charter Steel Employees

From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Events

If you have the opportunity, stop by our school this Sunday, January 26 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. for their annual community open house and showcase. I also wanted to inform our residents that the school will be hosting the annual CVC wrestling tournament on January 31 and February 1—so you'll see a lot more traffic in the area.

In last month's newsletter we included the 2020 village calendar. Please go through it so you're aware of all upcoming events in town. This year's Corn Roast will be held on Saturday, October 3.

Senior citizens

Just a friendly reminder that our transportation program continues to still 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 the village hall during normal business hours one week prior to the scheduled doctor's visit.

Birthdays

Milestone birthday wishes to Councilman Renato Contipelli who turned "60" on January 9 and to Ms. Barbara Bartczak who turns "80" on January 31. Wishing you both a joyous year with health and happiness.

January birthday wishes to employees: (8) Councilwoman Cheryl Harris; (12) Councilwoman Lois Henley; (13) Kelli Jachym & Reno Contipelli; (16) Jimmy Henley; and (19) Brian Fragua.

Thoughts and prayers

Please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: John Baranowski, Mrs. Barbara Combs, Mrs. Irene Kloss, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Ms. Marti Malek, Dennis Tritsarolis and Joe Vitanza. And to all the men and women in the armed forces.

"We must dare to be great; and we must realize that greatness is the fruit of toil and sacrifice and high courage."

~ President Theodore Roosevelt



Renato & I at his retirement party from NEORS - 2012



Barb Bartczak during our annual trip to Kelleys Island - 2012



From the Chief Financial Officer



A dark blue banner with white and green text. The main text reads "MAKES IT EASY" in large, bold letters, with "TO FILE YOUR MUNICIPAL TAXES" in smaller white text below it. At the bottom left, it says "MUNICIPAL TAXES ARE DUE APRIL 15, 2020". At the bottom right, there is a green button with the text "LEARN MORE" in white.



The Regional Income Tax Agency will no longer be mailing a postcard to remind you to file and pay your municipal income taxes.

Instead, you'll be seeing digital notification ads to remind you your municipal taxes are due April 15th. Check out RITAOhio.com for information about how to file your taxes online through MyAccount or FastFile.

Given the rise in electronic filing and use of tax preparation software, beginning tax year 2020, **RITA will no longer supply tax packets to the member municipalities**, for tax year 2019, consider the following options available to taxpayers:

- Tax returns can be filed electronically on RITA's website at www.ritaohio.com.
- Tax forms can be printed or downloaded by visiting RITA's website at www.ritaohio.com. (If you need assistance please stop in my office and I will be happy to print forms for you.)

Contact Information for the Finance Department

p: 216-641-7020 f: 216-641-8485

Chief Fiscal Officer: Angel Meriwether ~a.meriwether@cuyahogaheights.com

Payroll: Amanda Domzalski ~a.domzalski@cuyahogaheights.com

Accounts Payable: Christina Caporuscio ~c.caporuscio@cuyahogaheights.com

Questions about your individual **Income Tax** returns? Contact Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A) 1-800-860-7482

Questions about your **Property Tax**? Contact Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office 216-443-7010

From the Police Department

From the desk of Chief Sturgill



Pedestrian Safety Tips for Winter

Pedestrians need to be more aware than ever these days. Distracted drivers are everywhere, leading to more and more car accidents and auto-pedestrian accidents. This is why walking defensively becomes even more important during the icy, snowy winter months.

The following are some wintertime Pedestrian Safety tips:

Wear the Right Footwear

Your footwear makes a big difference in your ability to avoid a slip and fall. Wear boots with good rubber tread, manufactured specifically for winter walking. Carry your other shoes with you, even if you are just going to walk a few steps from the curb to your place of work. Those few steps can be a disaster if you have slippery, smooth footwear.

Watch for Vehicles

You may feel safe when walking on the sidewalk or waiting on a corner to cross a street, but during the winter months, this is not necessarily true. Vehicles lose control more easily on slick roads, sliding into intersections, across crosswalks and onto sidewalks. Stay very aware of the movements of traffic and when crossing the street, observe the traffic before you take the risk of stepping out. **Don't step out in front of oncoming cars, assuming they will stop.**

Wear Gloves Rather Than Using Pockets

If your hands are in your pockets, you can lose your ability to break a fall with your arms thus increasing the potential for a serious head or brain injury. Wear warm gloves and keep your hands free and use any handrails or other supports when available.

Snow Emergency Parking Ban- Codified Ord. #452.13

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 **two (2) inches or more.**

CHPD officers will attempt to notify residents if their vehicles need to be removed from the street. **However, vehicles may be cited, and as a last resort towed to allow the the Service Department to clear the streets.** This way, you, the service department and safety forces can safely navigate the streets. Also, please advise all guests of this information.



From the Police Department (continued)

Super Bowl Safety Tips



This year **Super Bowl LIV** is **Sunday, February 2, 2020**.

The Super Bowl is one of America's biggest national sporting events where friends and families gather to socialize and watch the big game. Yet, it has also become one of the nation's most dangerous days on the roadways due to impaired driving.

Impaired-driving crashes and fatalities can be prevented. **Designating a sober driver** should be on the top of everyone's Super Bowl party list, but there are other ways you can help save lives, too.

If you are attending a Super Bowl Party:

- Designate your sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys.
- Avoid drinking too much alcohol too fast by pacing yourself - eat enough food, take breaks, and alternate with non-alcoholic drinks.
- If you don't have a designated driver, ask a sober friend for a ride home; call an Uber/LYFT, friend, or family member to come and get you; or just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.
- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired. Remember, Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk.
- Always buckle up - it's still your best defense against other impaired drivers.

If you are hosting a Super Bowl Party:

- Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up in an impaired-driving crash.
- Be sure all of your guests designate their drivers in advance or help arrange ride sharing with sober drivers.
- Serve lots of food and be sure to include plenty of non-alcoholic beverages at the party.
- Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game and begin serving coffee and dessert.
- Keep the contacts/apps for local transportation companies handy and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving while impaired.



From the Fire Department



Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet (one metre) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot (one metre) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.



Heating Equipment Smarts

Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you **smell** gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the house immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related issues

From the Village Hall

Concession Stand Cashiers & Park Monitors Wanted

Job Requirements for all the above:

1. All Cashiers and Park Monitors must be 16 years old by **February 18, 2020**.
2. All cashiers must possess proficient math skills, have an outgoing personality, and must be available to work weekends.
3. Applications **must** be turned into the Village Hall by 4:00 p.m. on **March 27, 2020** for *Concession Stand and Park Monitors* and by 4:00 p.m.
4. Applications **will not** be accepted after these dates.

New Hire & Rehire Applications are available online at www.cuyahogaheights.com under "Employment" or at the Village Hall during normal business hours.

Park Monitors and Park Concession Stand Cashiers will start as soon as the weather permits!

Bacci Park Concession Stand opens on Tuesday, May 26th at 9 a.m.

Please be advised that submitting an application does not guarantee employment.

Bus Trips

Our Village bus operates one to two times per week for our Village residents, free of charge; schedules are distributed with the Village newsletter. Reservations are required and obtained by call the Village Hall at (216) 641-7020 before 8:30 a.m. on the morning of the trip. For a Saturday, trip, please call the Village Hall before 3:30 p.m. on Friday. All trips leave approximately at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. In addition, pick-ups and drop offs are made at the resident's home. Please note that there is a \$5.00 non-resident fee.

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's newsletter. Please email the information to w.heinzman@cuyahogaheights.com.

West Side Market

The bus will pick up residents at their home beginning at 7:00 a.m., and shoppers will have a couple of hours to enjoy all the market has to offer. The bus will depart the market at 9:45 a.m. to bring you back to your residence. Residents must register by calling the Village Hall no later than 3:30 p.m. on Friday, the day before the trip. Please also note that children 15 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Our next trip is scheduled for Saturday, February 8, 2020.

Pest Control Program

Pest control services are available by calling Rich or Jeremy Kozlovich at Pest Management, Inc., at (216) 661-3553. Please leave a message with your name, address and nature of problem. This service is free except for termites, bed bugs, and wildlife. In addition, they will also spray the outside of your home in the spring to hinder any unwanted pests from entering your home.

From the Village Hall (continued)

2020 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 \$1000.00 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 2020
- 3) Be enrolled either full or part time at an accredited college, university, community college, vocational or technical school for the fall of 2020
- 4) Complete the Fall 2020 term with a grade point average sufficient to be in good standing
- 5) Must submit proof of grades to the Clerk's office by March 1, 2021

Applications are available at the High School Guidance Office, or at the Town Hall, and must be submitted to Clerk Unger's office by May 1, 2020.

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



From the Service Department

Garbage Pick Up - Recycling - Yard Waste

The Village Service Department collects garbage every Monday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. at no charge to its residents. Our Service Department will come into your yard and take your garbage tote and recycling container to the curb; afterwards they will carry it back into your yard. Please note that if a holiday falls on a Monday; the service will commence on Tuesday.



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 on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up.**

Charity Pick Up

Our Service Department will pick up any usable item at your residence that you would like to donate to charity on the first Wednesday of each month. Household items, furniture, clothes, etc., are collected and donated to the West Side Catholic Center. No tax receipts are given for this service, and you must call the Village Hall prior to the first Wednesday of the month for this service.

Newspaper/Cardboard Recycling

Do your part in helping the environment; recycle cardboard and newspaper. Our Village has a recycling container which is located in Bacci Park in the rear of the back parking lot. The container is strictly for cardboard and newspaper. Stop on down and do your part in recycling. If you have a large amount and are unable to take it to the container, please call the Village Hall during normal business hours prior to Tuesday mornings; we will put it on our "special pick up" list.



Dumpsters

Residents may rent a village dumpster for personal use at their home by paying \$30.00 to the village for each dumpster load. Use of the dumpster is for demolition only. Examples of demolition are lumber, railroad ties, windows, doors, roofing material, flooring (*not carpeting*), drywall or plaster, stones, rocks, bricks, concrete, cement blocks, etc.

From the Service Department (continued)

Meals on Wheels (meals now prepared by Lori's Custom Catering)

This service is available to any village resident that is 60 years of age or older. A lunch time meal will be delivered to your home daily, Monday through Friday, by our Service Department. This is an affordable option, the cost is \$25.00 per week, which is only \$5.00 per day (must sign-up up for a full week). **To receive meals for a given week payment must be made by the Thursday prior.**

If you have any questions regarding this service please contact Mindy Armbrust at the Service Department at 216/641-3505 or m.armbrust@cuyahogaheights.com.



Snow Removal Program * Residential Snow Removal Program

- 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, Dave Sammons 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.

From the Sports Commissioner

With the new year in full swing, please note the registration deadlines for the first two youth recreational sports in 2020, starting with the Spring Soccer. Registration forms for these activities (as well as all youth and adult sports and activities) can be found on the village website by clicking the Recreation tab in the ribbon at the top of the home page. You will then find the registration forms in the drop-down menu under Sports tab. Forms received after the noted deadlines will incur a late registration fee of \$25.00, and while we do our best to place all children on teams, rosters do fill up quickly and late registrations can impact placement on a team.

Sport

Spring Soccer

Youth Baseball & Softball

Deadline

February 15, 2020

March 15, 2020

Over the holiday break, members of the pool staff hosted kids from Cuyahoga Heights and Brooklyn Heights for a couple of special holiday events. In what hopes to become an annual Village Christmas tradition, the first was a Christmas tree ornament decorating session on December 23, 2019 and as you can see (see insert) the kids did a great job. Lots of unique ornaments were crafted, as well as more than a few laughs and discussions about Santa's arrival. The second event was a trip to the movies to see *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* on January 4, 2020. 15 kids made the trip and between the special effects and popcorn, there were plenty of smiles to go around. Thank you to those pool staff members that gave up time over their breaks to assist with both events and a special thanks to Mayor Bacci and CFO Angel Meriwether for their assistance in making these events possible. Please see the inserts with this newsletter for photos.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to send me an email at chvsports@cuyahogaheights.com. You may also leave a message at 330-703-9175.

Jason Deal



CONTACT AMANDA AT
A.DOMZALSKI@CUYAHOGAHEIGHTS.COM TO JOIN
OUR NEWSLETTER EMAIL LIST!

Don't forget to check out our web site at www.cuyahogaheights.com for updated pictures. Click on the "photo" tab on the top of the home page to find all photos from around town.