



# *Celebrating 100 Years*



*Dedicated to the residents and legacy of  
the Village of Cuyahoga Heights*

## Cuyahoga Heights 2018 Centennial

# *A Special Place*

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of our Village...one of the most incredible and unique communities in Northeast Ohio. This year we've celebrated our history, our achievements, our school district, the folks that do business here, and we've remembered the incredible men, women, and their families that came before us and what they've taught us.

To that, it is said, that history balances the frustration of "how far we have to go" with the satisfaction of "how far we have come." It teaches us tolerance for the human shortcomings and imperfections which are not uniquely of our generation, but of all time.

Today, I think that we have embraced that very sentiment. I also believe that our forefathers would be proud of what we've become and how we've learned to work together. One common goal, to keep moving forward...with pride.

100 years later, the energy is as strong as ever, and I can't thank those enough that took the time to put all this together. So please, enjoy this collection of our village's memories. 100 years...just like the song says, "it goes faster than you think, so don't blink."



As always God bless,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack M. Bacci". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a question mark at the end.

**Jack M. Bacci, Mayor  
Village of Cuyahoga Heights**

# Memories of Home

This centennial publication grew out of a strong desire by the mayor and other village residents to document what life has been like the first one hundred years in this community. Taking on a project of this scope, from concept through final art and printing, turned out to be a monumental task.

Leading our all-volunteer team, was resident Laura Bacci Merhaut, returning home in 2017 to where she was born and raised. A published author in her own right, Laura's connection to public service, politics, history and everyday life of the village made for a perfect fit. Rounding out the editorial team was Laura Nicklas Hine. Her husband, Mark Hine, was born, raised and went to school in the village. An active member of the Cuyahoga Heights Historical Committee, Laura's interest in genealogy turned out to be a wonderful asset in assembling and writing the history sections of the book. Former longtime village resident, Kathy Swartout, helped Laura with the task of researching the deeds for the *Century Homes* chapter. Other sections of the publication were authored by Laura Bacci Merhaut, Kathy Swartout, Sue Pellini and Dianne Suhy.

As all the words, photographs, maps and information came together, Lee Ann Schab Schoeffler, Wendy Heinzman, Amanda Domzalski, Angel Snoddy Meriwether and councilwomen Cheryl Billi Harris and Lois Marek Henley, all volunteered to help with the initial proofing. Final proof reading and fact-checking fell on the shoulders of Lee Ann. Her eagle eye caught many mistakes, inaccuracies and missing information. While we fully acknowledge there may be a few things we didn't catch, we're very appreciative of the efforts everyone put into the project to make the information presented as accurate as possible.

Bringing all the content together to create the book you're holding was the responsibility of the village's design and marketing consultant, Kim Zarney. Printing and final production was handled by one of our local businesses, Angstrom Graphics, who celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2017.



Laura Bacci Merhaut



Laura Nicklas Hine



Lee Ann Schab Schoeffler



Kim Zarney

# Acknowledgments

by Laura Bacci Merhaut

This 100th Anniversary Centennial book is dedicated to our Historic Committees who have worked diligently over the years to capture the treasures that oft times are tossed or destroyed in any assortment of ways. Without their enthusiasm, on so many levels, we would not have the abundance of great information, photos, memorabilia, household goods, uniforms, and numerous other items that we now hold in our historic Kennedy House and within the pages of this book. Thank you all. A special thanks goes to Nancy Molnar, Molnar Reporting, for donating her time to record and transcribe the personal interviews with Harriett Koren and Delia Trevisani.

## **2018 to 2019 Historical Committee**

Sandy Fontana Waldemarson, Chairwoman

Brian Derbin, Barbara Bartczak, Mark Chase, Kathy Waldemarson Grattino, Laura Nicklas Hine  
and, working from afar, Kathy Swartout

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## **2016 to 2017 Historical Committee**

Sandy Fontana Waldemarson, Chairwoman

Barbara Bartczak, Mark Chase, Laura Nicklas Hine and Irma Billi Schab (who passed away in May 2016)

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## **2014 to 2015 Historical Committee**

Kathy Swartout, Chairwoman\*

Sandy Fontana Waldemarson, Chairwoman

Barbara Bartczak, Mark Chase, Laura Nicklas Hine and Irma Billi Schab

\*Resigned October, 2014 and moved to Arizona.

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## **2012 to 2013 Historical Committee**

Kathy Swartout, Chairwoman

Barbara Bartczak, Laura Nicklas Hine, Irma Billi Schab and Sandy Fontana Waldemarson

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## **2010 to 2011 Historical Committee**

Kathy Swartout, Chairwoman

Laura Nicklas Hine, Irma Billi Schab and Sandy Fontana Waldemarson

## Cuyahoga Heights 2018 Centennial

### **2009 Historical Committee**

Kathy Swartout, Chairwoman

Barbara Bartczak, Cheryl Billi Harris, Laura Nicklas Hine, Dianne Suhy and Sandy Fontana Waldemarson

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### **2008 Historical Committee**

Kathy Swartout, Chairwoman

Barbara Bartczak, Cheryl Billi Harris, Danny Schoeffler, Dianne Suhy and Sandy Fontana Waldemarson

Danny Schoeffler stepped down in September, 2008.

Cheryl Billi Harris was appointed to the committee in October, 2008.

Kathy Swartout asks Mayor Bacci that Laura Nicklas Hine, nonresident, be put on the committee.

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### **2007 Historical Committee**

Barbara Bartczak, Chairwoman

Jim McManus, Irene Blue Masek, Kathy Swartout and Sandy Fontana Waldemarson



### **Historical Committee Booth at the 2012 Corn Roast**

*(Left to Right)* Kathy Swartout, Barbara Bartczak, Sandy Fontana Waldemarson,  
Irma Billi Schab, Laura Nicklas Hine

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