



# Village of Cuyahoga Heights

September 2022

*Continuing to move our legacy community forward...*

## Upcoming Dates and Reminders

**September 5** - Labor Day  
Village Hall/Service Dept. Closed

**September 6** - Rubbish collection

**September 7** - Special pick up

**September 8** - Charity pick up

**September 11** - Patriot Day



**September 16** - Senior citizens flu shot event

**September 22** - Autumn begins

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



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### At the Village Hall

#### Council Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
Caucus 5:00 p.m.  
Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Economic Development Committee  
Public Works Meeting

Finance Committee Meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, if needed

#### Zoning Board Meetings

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month at 5:00 p.m.

#### Work Sessions of Council

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month at 5:00 p.m.

\*Only in January, February, March, April, May, October

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

[www.cuyahogaheights.com](http://www.cuyahogaheights.com)

## From the Mayor's Desk

The pool and concession stand are closed, the kids are back in school, and before you know it—fall will be here. But the good news...we still have food trucks every Wednesday evening from 4:00-7:00 p.m. during the month of September at Bacci Park.

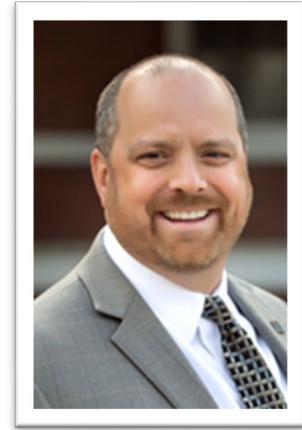
### Senior Citizens

**LAST CALL!** In cooperation with Independence Discount Drug Mart, Nurse Socausky, and my office—we are offering flu shots to our village senior residents (60 years of age and older) on Friday, September 16 at Klima Gardens. So that we can safely manage the event, blood work appointments will begin at 8:30 a.m. in 10-minute increments; flu shots will begin at 9:00 a.m. in 3-minute increments. As a reminder, if you plan on getting blood work, **please do not eat or drink anything**, except water, after midnight the night before. Please contact Lee Ann at the village hall at 216-641-7020 during normal business hours. **Deadline to register is next Friday, September 2.**

Drug Mart will provide us with registration forms which we will drop off at your home prior to your appointment. You will need to fill it out and bring it with you on the day of your appointment. We will again be serving a warm breakfast for our senior citizens (packaged in individual containers)—so you can either eat it at Klima's or take it home with you. If you are 65 years of age or older, please bring your Medicare Card as we will seek Medicare payment for qualifying seniors. Our village will pay for flu shots for our village senior residents and employees just like we've done in the past. **Flu shots and blood work will strictly be by appointment only.**

### General Election

Tuesday, November 8 is the General Election. If you have moved or changed your name since you last voted, you must complete a new registration form to reflect your new address and/or new name. Voter registration forms must be postmarked by 30 days before an election in order to be eligible to vote. The registration form, as well as "Vote by Mail" applications are available for our residents at the village hall during normal business hours. Otherwise, you can go online at [boe.cuyahogacounty.gov](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov) and fill out the forms. If you need additional information, the board of elections' phone number is 216-443-8683.



# From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

## NEORSD

After a two-year hiatus, NEORSD is bringing back their Clean Water Fest which will be held on Saturday, September 17 right here in town at their 4747 East 49<sup>th</sup> Street facility from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. This is a family-friendly event with games, tours, trucks and much, much more.

During my NEORSD August board meeting, I was given a picture of the *Sludge Dogs*—they're employees from the District. It just so happens that Dustin Bellanger and Josh Smosarski are in the picture, and I wanted to share it as their parents reside here in town.



## Corn Roast

*All hands-on deck*—Village employees are gearing up for our big event which will take place on Saturday, October 1 at Bacci Park beginning at 4:00 p.m. We will be providing our residents with a schedule of the events as we get closer to the date in our weekly Neighborhood News. Pictured below are some of our senior citizens who worked in their booth from last year's event.



Annual  
Corn Roast  
2022

## Congratulations

Village residents Drake and Kristin Brauer welcomed their new baby boy into the world. Andrew Jacob was born on Tuesday, July 26 at 5:28 a.m. weighing in at 8-lbs., 15-oz.; 20.75-inches long! Little sister Catherine was very excited about her new baby brother. Best wishes of health, happiness, and plenty of sleep to the family!



# From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

## Birthdays

September birthday wishes to employees: (3) Eric McKenzie, (4) Sean Coubrough, (9) Councilman Todd Bloam, (11) Dean DePiero, (17) Debbie Reiger, (18) Brad Unger, and (21) Justin Gvora.

Milestone birthday wishes to Bonnie Weber who turns 60 on September 15. Pictured is Bonnie with her husband Ed during our trip to Kelleys Island in 2018. Mr. Tom Borowy turns 80 on September 20. We found this picture in our archives of Mr. Borowy attending our 2013 Memorial Day parade and service. Wishing you both a birthday that brings a smile to your face, happiness to your heart and many blessings throughout your life. Happy Birthday!



## Deepest Sympathies

Village resident Mrs. Helen Krusinski passed away July 31 at the age of 87. Many of you may remember her working at the school in the cafeteria; she worked for the school district for 33 years. She had four sons and two of them, John and Mike, live in the village. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Pictured is Mrs. K. alongside Mrs. Pat Miller during our 2011 senior citizens trip to Kelleys Island.

*Wishing everyone a very safe and happy Labor Day holiday.*



*"It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn't."  
~ Martin Van Buren*

# From the Chief Financial Officer Angel Meriwether



## NOPEC

As previously stated in the Mayor’s section of the last newsletter,

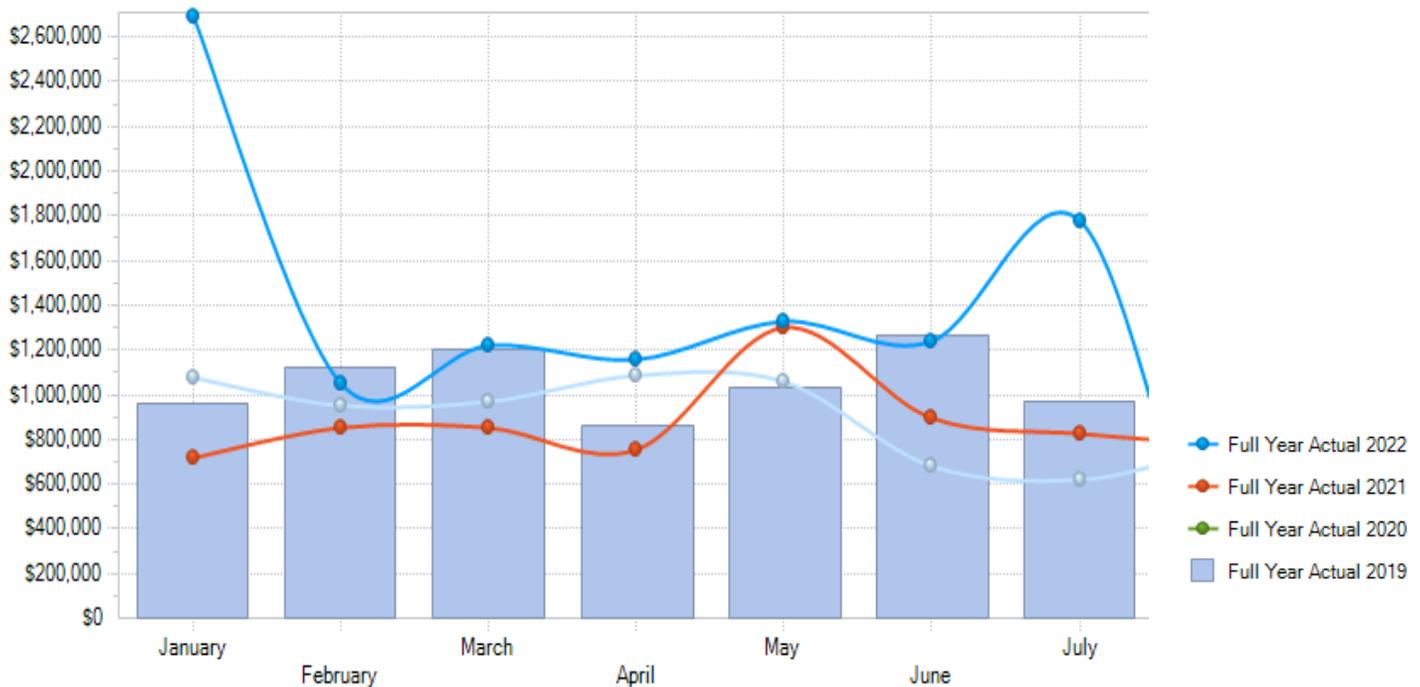
“The current NOPEC electric price is more than the current utility Price to Compare (PTC). The current PTC is low because the utility began purchasing the power more than 11 months ago when prices were much lower. This difference will continue until May 2023 when the utility’s pricing is expected to adjust to the current market and will likely increase.”

Last month utility customers were encouraged to call NOPEC to request to be dropped to the utility default services at no charge, which lowers your electric bill. We just received an update from NOPEC that all 550,000 **NOPEC customers will automatically be dropped down to the utility default service until Spring of 2023** so everyone can take advantage of the significantly lower pricing until markets stabilize. It will take one to two billing cycles for residents to see bills lower.

However, Opt-in customers, those on either fixed price or “percent off” NOPEC price programs will NOT be returned to PTC at this time.

For additional questions and concerns please contact NOPEC Customer Care Center at 855-667-3201

## Income Tax Revenue



# From the Police Department (continued)

## A Message from Your Police Department



Dear Residents,

As the summer draws to an end, schools in the area will be back in session. This means that school buses will be back on the roadways and our children will be crossing the street more frequently. To help ensure the safety of these children, the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department urges you to review the following information.

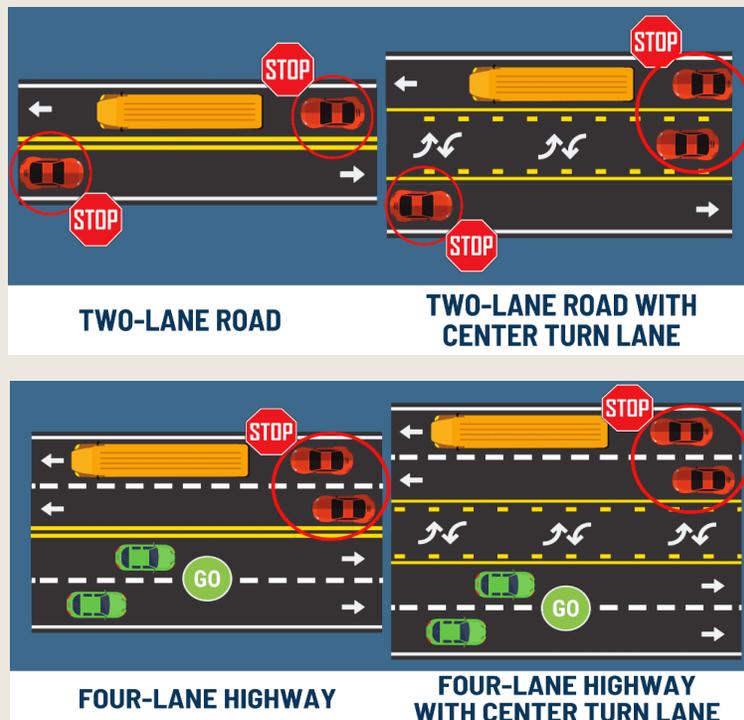
### Never Pass A School Bus With A Flashing Light(s)

- In the state of Ohio, you must stop when driving from either direction (does not apply to multiple-4 lane or divided highways) until the children are safely off the street and the school bus lights stop flashing. The yellow flashing lights signal you to slow down and prepare to make a complete stop. When the red-light flashes, your vehicle must be fully stopped, even if the "stop sign" arm is not extended on the side of the bus.

**Please Note:** A turn lane is not counted as "lane" for this application.

### You Must Stop in Both Directions On a Two-Laned Road

- On a road with fewer than four lanes, all traffic approaching a stopped school bus from either direction must stop at least 10 feet from the front or rear of the bus and remain stopped until the bus begins to move or the bus driver signals motorists to proceed. According to Ohio traffic laws, motorists can receive up to a \$500 fine and possible suspended license for up to a year for failure to stop. If the bus is stopped on a street with four or more lanes, only traffic proceeding in the same direction as the bus must stop.



# From the Police Department (continued)

## Always Maintain a Safe Distance

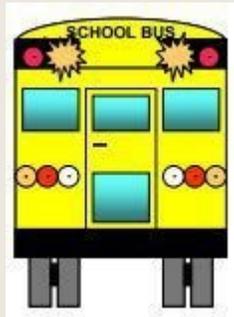
- School buses make frequent stops, including at all railroad crossings. Always maintain a 2-3 second distance from the bus, even before the bus puts on its yellow lights. Be mindful that school buses drive at a slower speed than regular traffic. Do not pass a school bus unless the driver signals you to do so. Remember, you may be in the blind spot of the school bus! Also, you must stop no less than 10 feet behind the bus, so maintain your distance.

## What Do the **YELLOW** & **RED** Lights Mean?

- **Yellow/Amber Flashing Lights** - The bus is preparing to stop and pick up or discharge students. Normally turned on approximately 300 feet before bus stops. Motorists should prepare to stop as soon as the bus comes to a complete stop and/or the red flashing lights come on.
- **Red Flashing Lights** - Motorists must stop. Students are exiting or boarding the bus. Stop 10 feet from the front or rear of a school bus and do not proceed until the bus resumes motion. Never pass a school bus that has red flashing lights on, **even if the "stop sign" arm is not extended.**
- **Stop Sign** - Motorists must stop. Students are exiting or boarding the bus. Stop 10 feet from the front or rear of a school bus and do not proceed until the bus resumes motion. Never pass a school bus with the red stop sign is displayed or the red lights are flashing.

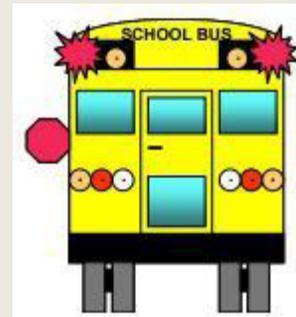
### **YELLOW LIGHTS**

Prepare to Stop



### **RED LIGHTS**

"Must Stop"



## Always Obey School Zone Speed Limits and Traffic Controls

- The school zone speed limit is **20 MPH** and is **strictly enforced**.
- The school zone is active **06:30 am to 03:45 pm** Monday through Friday.
- The E.71<sup>st</sup> St. school zone is clearly marked by pavement markings, signs and flashing lights.
- The south border of the school zone is located at Bletch Court.
- The north border of the school zone is located at the north St. Mary's Cemetery driveway.
- Always stay alert for students crossing (especially during the arrival and dismissal times).
- Never stop on or park within 20 feet of a crosswalk or block any intersection.

STAY SAFE!

Respectfully,

*Brian D. Sturgill*

Brian D. Sturgill, Chief of Police

# From the Fire Department

## Fire Employee Spotlight

Firefighter Stan Schab - Full-Time Firefighter Paramedic

- Hired in 1992
- CHFD Local 702 past President, Vice-President, and Treasurer
- CPR Instructor
- Graduated from CHHS in 1983 and CSU with a degree in Marketing
- Worked as paramedic in local Emergency Rooms



*“Being a resident of Cuyahoga Heights I enjoy working for the Fire Department. I can give back to the community, friends, and family that I have known for a lifetime.”*

## BACK TO SCHOOL

As summer draws to a close, back-to-school season is in full effect. Remember to safely share the roads with school buses, pedestrians and bicyclists, and provide children with the necessary knowledge to stay safe at school.

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they - and the motorists around them take proper safety precautions.



### Traveling to and from School

#### Walking To School

- Parents should walk or bike the route prior to school starting and look for any possible hazards the child may encounter and identify a safe place to go if the child needs help.
- Stop, look and listen before crossing the street. Always cross at the crosswalk and obey traffic signals.
- Walk or bike with a friend. It is safer and more fun with a buddy.
- Go directly to school and directly home afterward.
- Do not play in vacant fields or lots.
- Stay on the sidewalk or bike path and do not take short cuts.
- If someone approaches you or makes you feel uncomfortable, don't talk to them, and keep walking or riding.

## *From the Fire Department (continued)*

- Don't put your name on clothing, backpacks, books or lunch boxes that are visible to others.
- If approached by a dog, do not run. Do not touch the dog. Stand still and tell the dog to go home. If the dog will not leave, slowly back away from the dog putting distance between him and you; then continue walking.

### Biking To School

- Bright colored clothing will make you more visible to drivers.
- Always wear a bicycle helmet.
- Backpacks should be tight on the upper back and not dragging on the rear tire.
- Respect traffic lights and stop signs.
- Ride on the right, going the same direction as traffic.
- Use appropriate hand signals.

### Bus Stops

- Know your bus number.
- Stay in a group while waiting for the bus.
- Do not play in the street. Stay on the sidewalk or grass.
- Wait for the bus to completely stop before approaching it.
- Look both ways before crossing the street to get on the bus. Make sure to always remain in clear view of the bus driver.
- Stay seated while on the bus and keep hands and head inside the windows.
- If someone offers you a ride, say **NO**.
- A parent could be at the bus stop before and after school for extra safety.

### For Parents Vehicle Traffic

Here are some simple reminders for drivers:

- Slow down and be especially alert in the residential neighborhoods and school zones.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Watch for children on and near the road in the morning and after school hours.
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
  - Put down your phone and don't talk or text while driving.
  - Give children right-of-way in crosswalks and school zones.
  - Avoid backing your vehicle at schools.
  - Children should exit to the right side of the vehicle.
  - Do not leave until your child is completely on school property.

### Reminder for your Kids

- They should cross the street with an adult until they are at least 10 years old.
- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Never run out into the streets or cross in between parked cars.
- Make sure they always walk in front of the bus where the driver can see them.



# From the Village Hall

## Parks and Playgrounds

The village owns, operates, and maintains Bacci Park with a pond for fishing in the summer and ice-skating in the winter. Bacci Park also has its own playground, two ball fields, three pavilions, and a soccer field. *\*Please note that fishing in the pond at Bacci Park is for residents only, and by permit which can be obtained from the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department.*



## Notary Service

Several of our employees at the village hall are Notaries for the State of Ohio, Cuyahoga County and would be happy to notarize items for village residents, *free of charge* during regular business hours.



## Newsletter

In order to keep our residents informed, the village publishes and delivers a monthly newsletter to the residents each month. In addition, the newsletters, minutes from council and workshop meetings are posted to our web site at [www.cuyahogaheights.com](http://www.cuyahogaheights.com).

## Sleeping Mat Project

Please be advised that the village hall will not be collecting anymore plastic bags for the sleeping mat project—but *thank you* to all that provided us with the bags! Just so you know, we continue to meet once a week making these special mats.

## Seven Hills Recreation Center

Our village has an agreement with the Seven Hills Recreation Center for our village residents to use their facility. The village 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. In addition, the village will also pay 50% of the rate for all other bona-fide residents desiring to secure a membership as outlined in the contract. Residents must register/pay for their membership at the village hall during normal business hours with proof of identification.



## Social Media

Follow Cuyahoga Heights on all our social medias for daily reminders and upcoming events around town!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cuyhtsvillage>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cuyhtsvillage/>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CuyHtsVillage>



# *From the Service Department*

## *Service Employee Spotlight*

**Eric McKenzie, Head Landscaper**

I began working for the Village of Cuyahoga Heights as the Head Landscaper in February of 2019. I have an associate degree in horticulture from Ohio State ATI in Wooster. I had previously worked in the landscape industry for two other employers for 20 years. The education and on the job knowledge I brought with me has helped me to continue beautifying the grounds of the village. I share that knowledge with my co-workers so that by working together we can maintain the high standards the village has always been known for by its residents and visitors.

I was born and raised in Avon, Ohio and lived there for forty years. I currently reside in North Ridgeville. In my free time I enjoy attending concerts, hunting and fishing. I spend my weekends in Southern Ohio at our hunting camp.



## *Service Employee Spotlight*

**Keith Meriwether, Full-Time Laborer**

I was born and raised in Valley View, Ohio. In August of 2021 I began working part-time for the Cuyahoga Heights Service Department and in February of 2022 I was made full-time. At the Service Department I drive the recycle trailer, mow senior lawns, plow driveways, and help out wherever else I may be needed throughout the year.

Outside of work I enjoy the outdoors, especially fishing and camping. I also enjoy cooking.

# *From the Service Department (continued)*

## **Garbage Pick Up - Recycling - Yard Waste**

Our service department collects garbage every Monday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. at no charge to its residents. They 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 service department 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 service department at 216-641-3505 by 4:00 p.m. on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up.

## **Charity Pick Up**

Our service department will pick up any small usable items at your residence that you would like to donate to charity on the first Wednesday of each month. Small household items, clothes, etc., are collected and donated. No tax receipts are given for this service, and you must call the service department at 216-641-3505 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 located at Bacci Park in the rear of the back parking lot. The container is strictly for cardboard and newspaper. **Please make sure to break down your cardboard boxes before placing them in the container.** 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 service department 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. Dumpsters can be used for yard waste, construction debris or miscellaneous household items **NOT** including carpet, tires, or hazardous waste. Please do not mix materials. Contact the service director at 216-641-3505 for this service. Use of the dumpster is for a maximum of two (2) weeks. After two (2) weeks, the dumpster will be picked up from the resident's home. If the resident needs to use it again, he/she will go back on the waiting list. Please note that the disposal of debris created from outside the village is prohibited.



# From the Service Department (continued)

## Table & Chair Rental

A limited number of tables and chairs are available for use by residents having parties at their residence, free of charge. Please contact the service department at 216-641-3505 to reserve your tables and chairs and to arrange a time when you can pick them up.

## Pest and Insect Control

**Pest control services are available by contacting our service department at 216-641-3505 with your name, address, phone number, and the nature of your problem.** We will then reach out to our pest control vendor. This service is free except for termites, bed bugs, and wildlife. The village also sprays the outside of your home in the spring to hinder any unwanted pests from entering into your home.



## Meals on Wheels (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 (*you 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](mailto:m.armbrust@cuyahogaheights.com).



## Tree Trimming/Removal Service

The village will provide a professional tree trimmer to remove or trim a tree on a resident's property. Please note that tree trimming/removal is limited to two (2) trims per year and one (1) removal. If a crane is needed for tree removal, it is the responsibility of the homeowner to pay for the service. In addition, if a stump needs ground, it is the responsibility of the homeowner to pay for this service, whether the homeowner uses the tree company that the village has a contract with or another tree company. Forms can be found on the village website and once completed can be returned to [SD@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:SD@cuyahogaheights.com) or dropped off at the village hall.

# From the Building Department

Permits are required!

Even small jobs require a permit. This includes but is not limited to:

- ✓ roof replacement
- ✓ installation of a swimming pool
- ✓ placement and construction of storage sheds, decks & fences
- ✓ replacement of hot water tanks, furnaces, A/C units, windows & doors
- ✓ siding replacement
- ✓ electrical panels
- ✓ painting of home
- ✓ driveways
- ✓ masonry work

Inspections will be needed to ensure proper installation and compliance with state and/or local codes. Also, if you are using a contractor, they must be registered with the village.

Please contact the building department at **216-641-7020** for regulations, permitting, grants and procedures prior to beginning any work.

Permitting applications and contractor registration packets are on our website at [www.cuyahogaheights.com](http://www.cuyahogaheights.com) in the building department.

Please keep in mind that inoperable and /or unlicensed vehicles are not permitted to be stored in the open.

Let's keep Cuyahoga Heights a BEAUTIFUL place to live!!!

Thank you,

*Norm Casini, Building Commissioner*

*Ken Labella, Assistant Building Commissioner*

## “ DID YOU KNOW:

When installing a fence on your property, you must submit a building permit application with drawing showing the following:

1. Location of property line pins.
  2. Description of proposed fence you will be installing with gates
  3. Location of the fence on the property.
  4. Design and color of fence with linear footage and height
  5. Your contractor must be registered with the Village and a permit needed.
- ”



# ***Sports and Recreation Department***

## **Sports**

If you have registered for flag football, cheerleading or soccer you should be hearing from your coaches soon to begin the season.

Listed below is the remaining registration deadline for the year. As always, registration forms can be found on the village website.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Youth Basketball	October 1, 2022

## **Concession Stand/Food Trucks**

The 2022 concession stand season has come to an end. A huge thank you to Concession Stand Manager Kelly Hartman and her staff for another wonderful summer of delicious treats!

Food trucks will continue Wednesday nights during the month of September. Take a night off from the kitchen and stop down to enjoy a dinner in the park!

## **Swimming Pool**

Another summer of fun in the sun has come to an end at the pool. Many thanks to Pool Manager Sandi Sturgill and her staff for a safe and fun summer splish-splashing at the pool! Please see the enclosed flyers with photos from the end of season pool party enjoyed by many pool patrons.

## **Cedar Point Season Pass Reimbursement**

Please see the attached flyer with details regarding the continuing Cedar Point Season Pass Reimbursement.

As always, if you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to send me an email at [chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com) or contact me at 216-641-2702.

*Mindy Armbrust*  
*Recreation Director*

Check out our web site at [www.cuyahogaheights.com](http://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.

Contact Christina to join our newsletter email list at  
[c.caporuscio@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:c.caporuscio@cuyahogaheights.com)