



Village of Cuyahoga Heights

January 2023

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

happy New Year

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

January 1 - Happy New Year!

January 2

Village Hall/Service Department Closed

January 3

Rubbish Collection

January 4

Special Pick Up

January 5

Charity Pick Up

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

Follow us on Facebook,
Instagram & Twitter!
Click the icons to head to
our pages!



At the Village Hall Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month
Caucus 5:00 p.m.
Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Economic Development Committee Public Works Meeting

Finance Committee Meeting
2nd Wednesday of the Month,
if needed

Zoning Board Meetings

3rd Wednesday of the Month
at 5:00 p.m.

Work Sessions of Council

4th 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

From Mayor Bacci's Desk

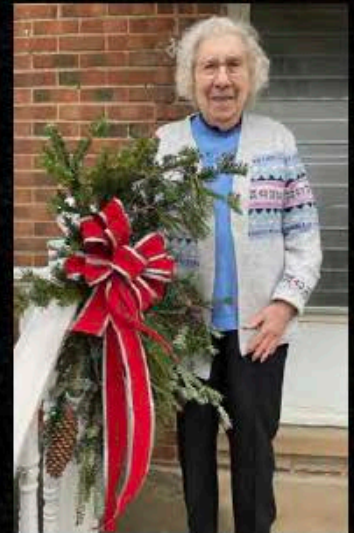
Dear friends, family, and neighbors...

Christmas is now upon us, a time to count our blessings and enjoy one another's company. Our village continues to be blessed, knowing our world, even our country at times (more so lately) seems to be upside down and turned inside out—but I continue to believe that most people are good, and we all should remain humble, simply knowing what others have and continue to endure. So here's to a bright New Year and a fond farewell to the old; here's to the things that are yet to come, and to the memories that we hold.

This past Sunday, we had our first-time ever event with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Bacci Park. Just about everyone that attended liked the new venue. We know it was a bit cold, but we do live in Cleveland and the kids loved it. They were having a good time running around on the grass chasing each other. Our gingerbread helper—Miss Mindy did a great job serving the little one's hot cocoa with marshmallows, the smile on their face—priceless! It was also heartwarming to see their expressions as they stepped outside the pavilion and saw Santa and Mrs. Claus in their sleigh. Most of them were overjoyed, and only a few little ones that were scared or crying. But oh the joy! The children waited with anticipation as Mrs. Claus read through Santa's scroll, to see if they were on the naughty or nice list. It turns out they were all on the nice list! There were quite a few people who stuck around in the pavilion and drank hot cocoa and talked with staff and neighbors—it was wonderful to see such a great sense of community. I wanted to thank Miss Christina from our office who did an amazing job with painting and cutting all the Christmas cutouts that were placed throughout the area. Many of the children took their parent and/or grandparent to see the cutouts so they could take their picture with their favorite character. Also, thank you to council and all the employees who put forth their time and energy in making this a truly wonderful and fun event. And special recognition to Santa and Mrs. Claus for spending time with us away from the North Pole.

Christmas Swag Night

I wanted to thank my big sister, Laura Merhaut and retired village employee, Wendy Heinzman for teaming up and putting together a Christmas craft night earlier this month at the village hall. We couldn't believe how well-received the event was with over 25 participants! We understand that everyone enjoyed themselves, made some beautiful swag pieces, and relished time with their neighbors. With that being said, it looks like Laura and Wendy will again be doing a Christmas craft next December. These amazing ladies came in for several days after the event and made additional swags that have been placed throughout the village. They also made swags for some of our seniors who couldn't attend the event. Councilman Renato Contipelli dropped off one to Miss Delia Trevisani who was thrilled with receiving her decoration. Resident Angie Balog wrote us a thank you card..."thank you so much for the lovely swag that I'm enjoying on my front porch. I'm honored to be a Cuyahoga Heights resident."



From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Christmas Blessings

I wanted to take a moment and thank those who generously gave and helped out several families in our community this Christmas season. To the employees of Charter Steel & MilliporeSigma for adopting several families in town and providing them with a special Christmas. To our residents who graciously donated food during our food drive this past Sunday. We were able to help out several families in town, as well as assisting the food bank at Holy Name. To CHPD for participating in the "Shop with a Cop Program" earlier this month. They were able to help out several families in town by taking them Christmas shopping at Target in Macedonia. And lastly, to the following individuals: Kris & Mindy Armbrust, Bryon & Deanna Borowy, John Deliberato, Norman & Laura Merhaut, Dave & Angel Meriwether, CHFD Local #702 and a long-time 49th Street couple—for all donating gift cards to our cause with helping families in town. Thank you again and God Bless!

Christmas Decorating Contest

Congratulations to the 2022 winners of our annual decorating contest: 1st Place: Mark Chase; 2nd Place: Ron & Beverly Trzeciak; and 3rd Place: Jason & Tracy Deal. It was very hard to judge the homes as they all looked great. On behalf of our administration, thank you to everyone for their hard work and efforts that decorated their homes.

Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Our senior citizens organization held their annual Christmas party on December 10 in the auditorium of the village hall. It was a beautiful evening with a wonderful dinner, enjoyable music, and friendly conversation. Our seniors are truly a special group of warm and inviting individuals. Councilwoman Lois Henley was the photographer that evening and we've included her pictures within the newsletter.

Offices Closed for the Holidays

The village hall and service department will be closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26. Please note that rubbish collection will take place on Tuesday, December 27 and special pick up on Wednesday, December 28.

In addition, the village hall and service department will be closed on Monday, January 2. Rubbish collection will take place on Tuesday, January 3, special pick up on Wednesday, January 4, and charity pick up on Thursday, January 5.



From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Construction

I wanted to make everyone aware that when there is work being done in the village, we notify our residents. Unfortunately, some utility companies do not always advise our administration which causes frustration to our residents. One instance recently happened on Willowbrook Drive where we were unaware of work being done. Please accept our apologies for any inconveniences, and in the future, if you see something taking place, please contact the village hall or building department. We can then make sure that the contractor has the proper permits, as well as making the residents aware of the work that is going on.

Volunteers Needed

Don't forget that village resident Cheryl Harris is always in need of volunteers to help make sleeping mats for the homeless. She and her volunteers meet every Wednesday from 2:30-4:00 p.m. at the village hall.

Senior Citizens

For those residents that might not know, our senior citizens organization is opened to village residents who are 55 years of age and older. Their meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, and in addition to meetings they have holiday parties, dinners, bus trips and much, much more. For additional information on becoming a member, please reach out to Noel Centa, President of the Cuyahoga Heights Senior Citizens Organization at 216-509-5278.

Birthdays

January birthday wishes to employees: (9) Councilman Renato Contipelli; (12) Councilwoman Lois Henley; (13) Reno Contipelli; (16) Jimmy Henley; and (19) Brian Fragua.

Deepest Sympathies

Please keep the following village residents in your thoughts and prayers.

David DeRoberts lost his son Sebastain suddenly on December 11; he was only 29 years old. Kris Armbrust lost his father, Michael on December 1 who had been battling cancer. Mr. Armbrust had recently moved in with Kris, Mindy and the boys. Michelle Rhome's mom, Shirley Klaas Nowak, passed away on November 21; she was 91 years old. Shirley grew up on East 49th Street and was a descendant of Frederick Klaas whose name was on the list of electors for the special election held on March 16, 1918 to separate from Newburgh Heights and establish the Village of Cuyahoga Heights.

And to our neighboring community, former Brooklyn Heights Police Chief Joe Kocab passed away on December 11 after losing his battle with cancer; he was 64 years old.

Please keep all the families in your thoughts and prayers.



***Calling all
Seniors***



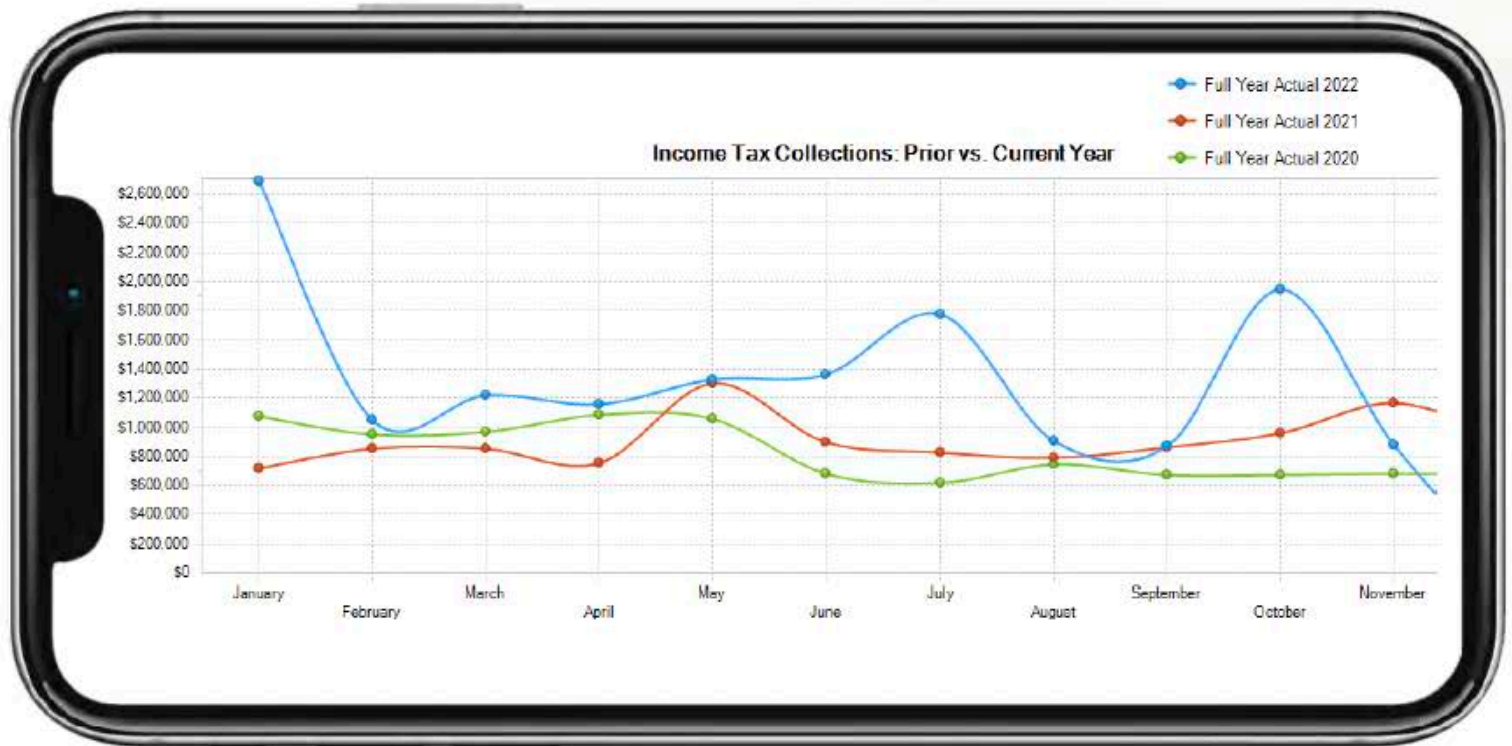
Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
May peace, love, and prosperity follow
you always.

Mayor Jack M. Bacci



From the desk of your Chief Financial Officer

Angel Meriwether



On December 14, the finance department and I attended the Municipal Finance Officers Association (MFOA) Annual Holiday Luncheon held at the Independence Holiday Inn.

These luncheons are a great way for our staff to catch up
with neighboring municipalities.

Our department wishes everyone a safe and wonderful holiday!





A Message from Your Police Department



On Saturday December 10, 2022, members of Cuyahoga Heights Police Department participated in the "Shop-With-A-Cop" program. The "Shop-With-A-Cop" program is organized and sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) - George Murray Lodge #67. Every year members of the FOP raise funds in order to take local children on a holiday shopping spree. The children are picked up at their homes by escorting police officers and they are then transported via a large police procession to a department store for the shopping extravaganza. After the shopping was completed, the procession then returned to the Garfield Heights High School for a Santa visit, pizza and treats.

This year approximately \$37,000 was raised, which allowed for the sponsorship of 248 children. Over 100 police officers and volunteers from 16 local departments were on hand to make the event a success. This was the 27th year of the FOP "Shop-With-A-Cop" program.



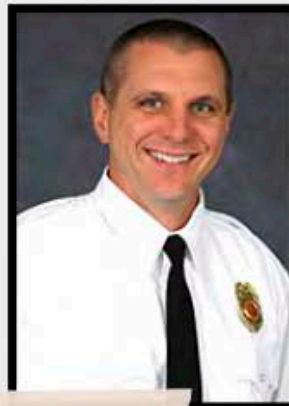
The entire staff of the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department would like to wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!!!!

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911





FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF MIKE SUHY



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



We would like to wish everyone a safe and
happy holiday season!



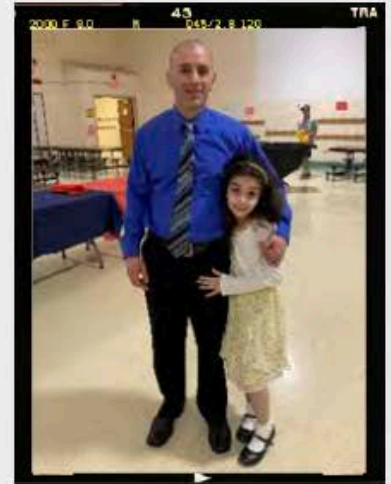
FIRE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS

Marc Sherriff
Part-time Firefighter/Paramedic

- Hired in 2019
- Full time Firefighter/Paramedic for City of Maple Heights for 7 years

What Marc enjoys about working for CHFD:

"The work environment here and the fellow co-workers."



Rich Sweeney
Part-time Firefighter/Paramedic

- Hired in 2020

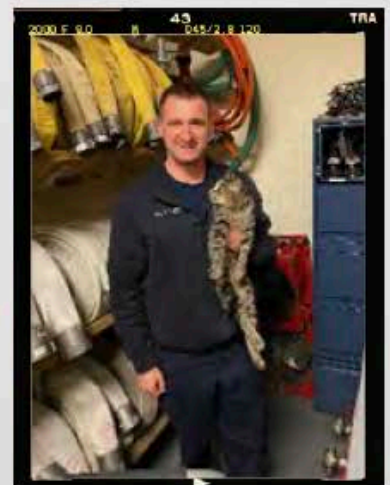
Richard "Richie" Sweeney has been a full-time firefighter/paramedic for the city of Cleveland Heights since 1993. Throughout his years there, often serves as an acting Lieutenant, and was recognized as Firefighter of the Year in 2015. He joined the Village of Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department in 2020 and also worked for the City of Brecksville for more than 9 years. He has been married to his wife Irene for 27 years and is the proud father of 3 Buckeyes and a Golden Flash who are the reason he works at so many fire departments. As a new empty-nester, he fills the time previously spent at baseball diamonds and hockey rinks pursuing his first hole-in-one. Or at least par.



Growing up with a father who was the Fire Chief of the City of Lyndhurst and a brother who is the current Fire Chief of Shaker Heights, firefighting was a natural career path for Richie. He also owned and operated Sweeney's Carpet Cleaning for over 30 years but hung up his carpet cleaning wand once his wife went back to work full-time.

Keith Faron
Part-time Firefighter/Paramedic

- Hired in 2022

"I am new to the Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department but in my short time I have seen how close everyone is at the station and why they love working for Cuyahoga Heights."





From your Building Department

Building Commissioner, Norm Casini

Assistant Building Commissioner, Ken LaBella

Great news for the new year, Council has approved the George M. Suhy Grant program for another five-year period, starting 2023 thru the end of 2027. All paperwork for the grant program will be available at the Building Department. Please remember to follow all guidelines when using the grant program.

If you have questions regarding grant availability, please call the Building Department at 216-641-7020.

With Christmas a week away, safety is always a concern. Here are a few safety tips for the Holidays:

Live Christmas Trees

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Before placing your tree in a stand, cut 2-3" off from base of trunk.
- Make sure your tree is positioned at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, space heaters, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure your tree is not blocking egress or an exit.
- Be sure to add water to your tree as needed.
- Always turn your Christmas lights off when going to bed or when you leave your house.
- Be sure to remove tree when it begins dropping needles.
- Never put tree branches or needles in the fireplace.
- Dried out trees are a fire hazard and should not be left in the home or garage.



Candles

- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- When using candles, make sure they are placed in a sturdy holder.
- Be sure to extinguish candles after each use.
- Keep children away from matches, lighters and candles.
- Never put candles on or near a Christmas tree.
- Be sure to always put your candles out before leaving or bedtime.

Finally, as in every season, have smoke alarms installed on every level and all bedrooms of your home. Make sure you test your detectors monthly and keep them clean and always equipped with fresh batteries. Know when and how to call for help and remember to know your homes escape plan. Properly smoke detectors save lives.

With that said, The building department wishes you a blessed and safe Holiday Season!



DID YOU KNOW:

To obtain a building permit, the application for building permit must be filled out first and submitted to the building department for review.

Happy Holidays
from The Building Department,
Norm & Ken



From your Service Department

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 item 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 your 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 Vera Heinzman at the service department at 216-641-3505 or sd@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. If you are unsure if you have one on file, please contact Vera Heinzman at 216-641-3505 or sd@cuyahogaheights.com.



FROM YOUR
**RECREATION
DEPARTMENT**



Cedar Point Season Pass Reimbursement

We are still accepting Cedar Point Season Pass Reimbursement requests! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vera Heinzman at chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to send me an email at chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com or contact me at 216-641-2702.

Vera Heinzman
Recreation Coordinator



Youth Trips

Do you have a New Year's resolution to be more creative in 2023? Join us for our first Village Youth Trip of the year at Artist For A Day! A paint-it-yourself pottery studio where you will paint your own masterpiece! This trip is opened to families of all ages. Please see flyer for all the details.

SPORTS NEWS!

Basketball season is off to a great start! If you would like to follow along with schedules, game results or standings, please visit the league website at <https://villageofbrooklynheights.sportngin.com>

Sports Registrations

With the new year upon us, that means its time to register for the first two youth recreational sports in 2023!

If you are interested in participating in Spring Youth Soccer, the registration deadline is February 15, 2023.

If you are interested in participating in Youth Baseball & Softball, the registration deadline is March 15, 2023.

Christmas Swag Craft Night 12/6/22





Senior Citizens Christmas Party









CHRISTMAS WITH SANTA







*Merry
Christmas!
Warm wishes from the
North Pole,
St. Nicholas*



CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS VILLAGE

YOUTH TRIP



Open to all Cuyahoga Heights Village Residents

When: Thursday, January 5th, 2023 from 9:15 am-12:45 pm

What: Spend a few hours out with friends & family at Artist For A Day for a paint-it-yourself pottery experience. Located in North Olmsted, it's a great place to get creative for all ages!

Cost: \$5 per resident

Who: This event is open to all village residents young and old. Children under the age of 6 that would like to participate must be accompanied by an adult.

Transportation: The Village will provide transportation for this outing. There are limited spots on the bus, so it will be resident children that are unaccompanied first, then first come first serve for families. If you would like to drive your personal vehicle and meet the bus at the location, you are welcome to do so.

Includes: 1 pottery piece to paint. You can choose one piece that cost up to \$22. A pizza lunch will be provided for the participants after we return to Village Hall at 12:45 pm.

(FYI: Completed painted pottery will NOT be available to take home same day. Projects will be finished in the kiln and will be delivered to residents' home when they are ready. About two weeks.)

Please complete the form included in the village Neighborhood News and return to Village Hall with the \$5 per resident by Tuesday, January 3rd.

Spots are limited and are so please sign up early!

CONTACT VERA AT CHVREC@CUYAHOGAHEIGHTS.COM WITH ANY QUESTIONS.