

# Village of Cuyahoga Heights

Continuing to move our legacy community forward...

# November 2023 Newsletter

# **Upcoming Dates and Reminders**

November 1 – Charity Pick Up

November 5 – Daylight Saving Time Ends Turn clocks back one hour

November 7 - General Election Polls open from 6:30 am - 7:30 pm

November 10 Village Hall/Service Dept. Closed \*In observance of Veterans Day

November 11 - Veterans Day

November 23 – Happy Thanksgiving Village Hall/Service Dept. Closed on Nov. 23 & Nov. 24

December 4 **Christmas Stocking Registration Deadline** 

## 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/ Finance 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 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







# From Mayor Bacci's Desk

First and foremost, I wanted to thank village hall, service, police and fire personnel, our elected officials, and all the countless volunteers who helped out at our corn roast. We had an amazing turnout—even though the weather didn't cooperate. We had light and heavy rain, gusts of strong winds, dark clouds, sun shining, and even hail. But that didn't seem to stop people from attending the event—we are beyond blessed. I was also glad that we were able to shoot off the fireworks which were incredible—as was the fireball at the end! Shortly after, the weather turned bad with heavy rain and then the thunder and lightning came and we had to close up and take cover. Again, thank you to everyone who helped in some way. It truly is genuine that it takes a village to pull off an event like this. Mark your calendar and save the date for next year's corn roast which will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2024. Pictured is Councilwoman Lois Henley with our corn roast mascot, Cornelius.



Tuesday, October 31 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. kids can go trick-or-treating in town. Residents that wish to pass out candy, please leave your front porch light on so that children know they are welcome at your home. In addition, our fire and police personnel will be riding around town at that time. Happy Halloween! Have fun, be respectful and stay safe.

#### General Election

Tuesday, November 7 is the General Election—noting that three council positions are up. Also, Ohio voters will have the chance to vote on statewide ballot issues: Issue 1 A Self-Executing Amendment Relating to Abortion and Other Reproductive Decisions and Issue 2 To Commercialize, Regulate, Legalize, and Tax the Adult Use of Cannabis. The official ballot language, explanation, arguments for and against, and the full text of the statewide issues is posted at VoteOhio.gov. In addition, the Cuyahoga Heights School District has a very important levy on the ballot.

#### Road Closure – Harvard Avenue

Harvard Avenue will be closed to through traffic between the Denison Avenue Bridge and Jennings Road. The road is closed to enable relocation of a water line for the City of Cleveland's Harvard Denison 42" Transmission Main Rehabilitation Project. The Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation Trailhead will still be accessible from Jennings Road. During the closure, a detour with signage will be provided for traffic maintenance.

The temporary road closure of Harvard Avenue from the Denison Avenue Bridge to Jennings Road will take place from November 6 through November 17, 2023. If the work does not proceed on the aforementioned dates, the backup dates for the project are November 9 through November 23, 2023.











# From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

#### **Veterans Day**

November 10 is Veterans Day, a day to honor our military veterans for their service to our country. It's a day to salute our heroes for the sacrifices they made for our nation. The origin of Veterans Day can be traced back to World War I. The Armistice with Germany, which formally ended the war, went into effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. It takes tremendous courage for a soldier to risk it all to protect his/her country—the least we can do is to offer our thanks to these extraordinary men and women. On behalf of our village, I would like to thank and acknowledge the following residents who are Veterans:

John Baranowski, Richard Cockrell, Howie Combs, Dave Domzalski, Ed Gaida, Rich Grabowski, John Lipnick, Tim Krenisky, Josh Murray, Tom Nova Sr., Ed Ranch, John Reiger, Bobby Santiago, Ray Smosarski, Frank Trusso Jr., Vince Trusso, Brad Unger, Scott Wadsworth and Richard Wallace.

If we missed any residents that have served, please call our office so we can include you in the future. Again, thank you and God Bless our Veterans!

#### Congratulations

Councilman David Volek and his wife Stephanie became grandparents for the very first time. Their daughter Samantha gave birth to twin girls. Evelyn Grace was born on September 30th and Catherine Elizabeth was born on October 1st. Grandpa and Grandma Volek are over the moon! Best wishes and God bless to first-time parents, Samantha and Garrett.

Recently, village resident Sandy Fouts received her milestone donor pin "be proud to wear it" from the American Red Cross for donating platelets—over 400! Sandy began donating in 1996 and continues to do so every two weeks at the American Red Cross on Euclid Avenue in downtown Cleveland. Millions of Americans need platelet donations to survive and fight cancer, chronic diseases, or traumatic injuries. On behalf of our village, thank you Sandy for your generosity—keep up the good work and God Bless. Pictured is Sandy pointing to her donor pin.

#### **Birthdays**

November birthday wishes to employees: (1) Pat Koran, Tom Nova; (2) Robert Stewart, (10) Tom Kekelis, (13) Carl Smith, (27) Councilman Bob Unger, and (28) Mark Hine.

#### Offices Closed

Please note that the village hall and service department will be closed on Friday, November 10; Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of the holidays.







# From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

#### Santa Claus is Coming to Cuyahoga Heights

It's almost that time! We received notice from our friends at the North Pole that Santa Claus and the Mrs. will be visiting Bacci Park on Sunday, December 17 from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This event is for our resident children and grandchildren between the ages of 0-12.Dress appropriately for the weather—we'll have a fire going, hot cocoa and cookies. Pictures will be taken and each child will receive a goody bag.Please note that you must sign up for the event. Please contact the village hall during regular business hours at 216-641-7020 or email Lee Ann in my office at <a href="lischoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com">lischoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com</a>. We will need to know the name(s) of your children/grandchildren and their ages. Deadline to register for the event is Monday, December 4.



#### **Christmas Decorating Contest**

Don't forget to turn on your lights at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 17 for our annual Christmas decorating contest. To participate, just turn your holiday lights on by 5:00 p.m. There will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place...good luck!



# From the desk of your CFO, Angel Meriwether





Did you know that all food ticket sales are 100% donated to Cuyahoga Heights School organizations?

After hosting our 11th Annual Corn Roast event, we are excited to share with you that the Village of Cuyahoga Heights has donated more than \$41,000 over the years to school district groups such as Music Boosters, Athletic Boosters, CHS PTO, Cheerleaders, Volleyball, Cross Country, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts.

The Corn Roast would not be a success without our volunteer base that runs the food booths every year.

Thank you again to all the students, parents, teachers and village residents volunteering!

# A Message from Your Police Department

#### As we 'Fall Back' to Shorter Days, Take Extra Care on the Road

Shorter days, fatigue, compromised night vision, rush hour and impaired drivers all contribute to making driving at night more dangerous than any other time of day. In fact, the risk of a fatal crash is three times greater at night, according to National Safety Council research.

When Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5, 2023, many people will find themselves spending more time driving in the dark. Depth perception, color recognition and peripheral vision can be compromised in the dark, and the glare of headlights from an oncoming vehicle can temporarily blind a driver.

Even with high-beam headlights on, visibility is limited to about 500 feet (250 feet for normal headlights) creating less time to react to something in the road, especially when driving at higher speeds.

#### What should you do to combat darkness?

Make sure headlights are working correctly and make sure they're clean

Dim your dashboard

Look away from oncoming lights

If you wear glasses, make sure they're anti-reflective

Clean the windshield to eliminate streaks

Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time

# **Drousy Driving Prevention Week**



Coinciding with falling back on Daylight Savings Time comes Drowsy Driving Prevention Week. This weeklong safety week (Nov. 5-11) encourages everyone to prioritize sleep and drive only when they are alert and refreshed. Not only does it help people get the sleep and rest they need, but it reduces the number of drivers who choose to drive while sleep deprived.

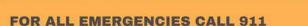
When you drive without adequate sleep, your motor skills become seriously impaired. Some will say people who have slept 3-5 hours in the last 24 hours are unfit to drive.

Most people believe it's risky, but the thing they don't think about are the consequences.

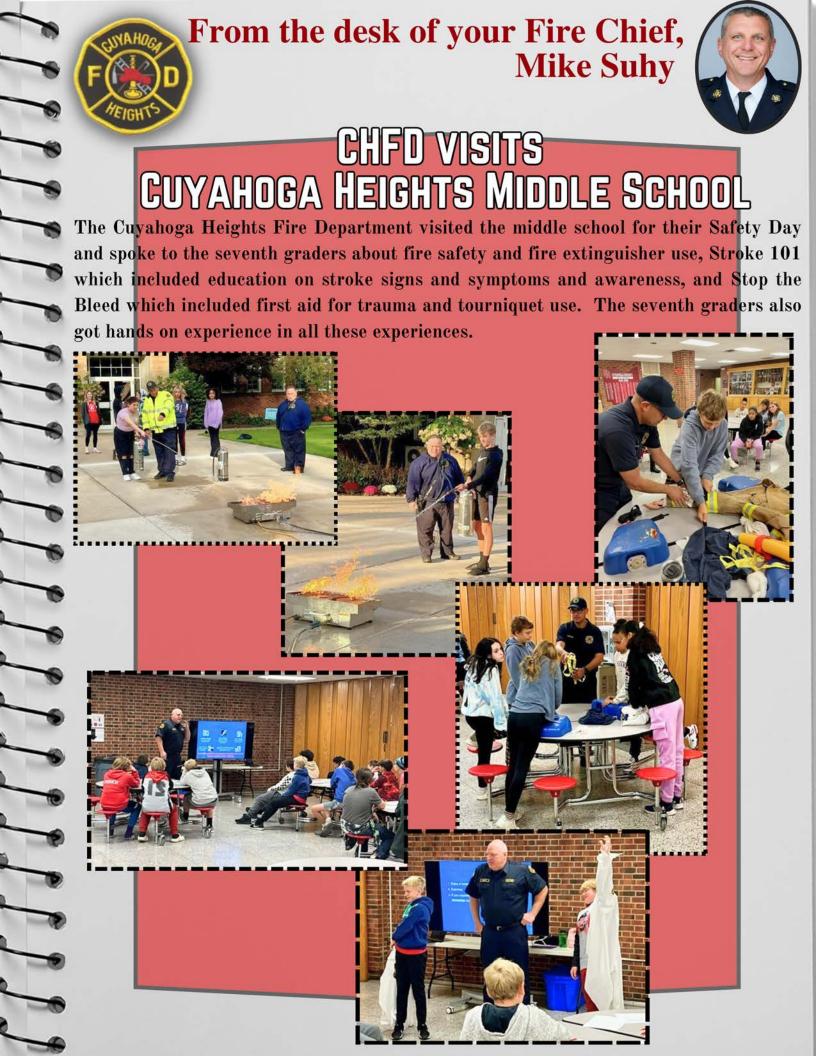
Drousy driving is really risky!

Drousy driving is dangerously common!

IMPORTANTLY, DROWSY DRIVING IS PREVENTABLE!











# FIRE SAFETY WEEK AT CHES

During the week of Oct 9, Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department visited the elementary school and spoke to the Pre-K – 5th Graders about fire safety and 9-1-1, including stop, drop and roll, staying low, checking doors for heat, and the importance of smoke detectors and escape routes.

SAFETY



FIRST

The firefighters also showed the kids around the fire truck and ambulance. Students were given a helmet and badge upon completion of their "training."

Thank you to the elementary school and parents for allowing us to visit and educate your children—it's an event we look forward to and enjoy every year.



# FROM YOUR BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Commissioner, Norm Casini 

Assistant Building Commissioner, Ken LaBella

The Building Department would like to thank all our residents for doing a great job on taking pride and maintaining their properties throughout this year. There has been a lot of improvements done on many properties and it shows. The George M. Suhy Grant program has assisted in over 70 Grants this year, great job by our Village Officials on approving this program. Keep up the great job in making the Village of Cuyahoga Heights a unique place to live!

The holidays are fast approaching, and the temperatures are dropping, with that being said please be aware of safety issues when cooking, heating (fires), electrical (heaters and Christmas lights), candles and live Christmas trees.

The holidays are especially family oriented and reminds us of family, friends and possessions for which we can be thankful for. They can also pose a preventable risk that may or may not directly present itself. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential fires followed by heating. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), space heaters account for about one third of the home heating fires and approximately 80% of the home heating fire deaths, 53% of residential electrical fires involve electrical wiring.

# Below are some guidelines and practices to keep your family safe and prevent the unfortunate incident of a fire or other related accidents.

#### Cooking

- The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
  - Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or baking food.
  - Keep anything that can catch fire, potholders, oven mitts and paper products away from your stovetop.
- Keep your children and pets at 3 feet away from any hot surfaces. Keep hot foods and liquids away from table and counter edges.
- · Never use aluminum foil or metal objects in a microwave oven. They can cause fire.

#### Heating

- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Always put fire out before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Do not burn green wood, paper or trash in your fireplace because they create heavy creosote buildup and hard to control.
- Always use a metal mesh screen at your fireplaces opening.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- · Make sure your fireplace damper is always in the open position when using.
- When using an electric space heater, keep combustibles at least three feet away.
- Make sure the wiring cord is not damaged when using.
- Do not use your space heater for drying clothes.

#### Electrical

- Frayed wire can cause fires. Replace all worn, old or damaged appliance cords.
- Electrical fires can be caused from misuse of electrical cords, such as overloading circuits, poor maintenance and running cords under rugs.
- Replace any electrical appliance if it causes electrical shocks, overheats, shorts out or gives off smoke or sparks.
- If an appliance has a three- prong plug, use it in a three- slot outlet. Never force it to fit into a two- slot outlet or extension cord.



# 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 - Now Online!

If you need a special pick up for trash that is oversized, large amounts, or hazardous waste, you can now go online 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 submit your information by 4:00 p.m. on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up. Please visit <a href="https://www.cuyahogaheights.com">www.cuyahogaheights.com</a> at the top select 'Online Services' &

select the red 'Special Pick Up' tab. Please fill out your name, address, and all information regarding the items you would like to be picked up and where they are located. You will then get an email response when the request has been successfully submitted. If you have any questions, please contact Vera at 216-641-3505.

#### Charity Pick Up – Now Online!

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. Please visit

<u>www.cuyahogaheights.com</u> at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Charity Pick Up' tab. Please enter your address and select from the drop down. Fill out your name, phone number, email address and all information regarding items you would like to donate and where items are located. This must be submitted prior to the first Wednesday of the month for this service. You will then get an email response when the request has been successfully submitted. If you have any questions, please contact Vera at 216-641-3505.

#### **Dumpsters - Now Online!**

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. Please visit <a href="www.cuyahogaheights.com">www.cuyahogaheights.com</a> at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Dumpster Rental' tab. Select your address from the drop down. Fill in your name, phone number & email address. Select a requested date for dumpster to be delivered & where you would like the dumpster to be placed. There is now the option to pay the fee online via a link sent to your email. You also can drop off cash or check payments to village hall. 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.

#### **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 your home.

# From your Service Department (continued)

#### 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 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.

#### Tree Trimming/Removal Service - Now Online!

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. Please visit online at <a href="www.cuyahogaheights.com">www.cuyahogaheights.com</a> under 'Online Services' & select the red 'Tree Trimming' tab.



#### Leaf Pick Up

Fall is upon us, and the beautiful colored leaves will soon be crunching under our feet. We would like to remind our residents to rake their leaves to the tree lawn; our service department will then dispose of them for you.



#### 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 <a href="mailto:sd@cuyahogaheights.com">sd@cuyahogaheights.com</a>.

# FROM YOUR REC DEPT

Recreation Coordinator, Vera Heinzman

#### **Sports**

Congratulations to those that participated in fall soccer, flag football and youth cheerleading this season!

If you have registered for fall basketball, coaches are currently working with the neighboring communities and they will be in contact after placement is complete. If you have not heard from your coach, contact Vera at 216-641-2702 or chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com

#### Cedar Point 2024 Season Pass Reimbursement

The Village of Cuyahoga Heights will reimburse \$75 to any resident who purchases or has already purchased a Cedar Point Season Pass for the 2024 season. Residents must show a valid 2024 season pass or receipt of payment (with pass holder name listed) and proof of residency for reimbursement. Reimbursement will NOT be given for anyone not currently residing in Cuyahoga Heights. Please email or bring your valid 2024 season pass or receipt of payment (must show passholder name) and proof of residency to village hall for verification. Reimbursement will be issued within three weeks of submission acceptance. Reimbursement is \$75 regardless of pass type purchased.

Contact Vera at 216-641-2702 or chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com with any questions.



Call Vera @ 216-641-2702 or chvrec@cuyahogaheights.com

# Yoga with Jessica Tresko

The village is proud in continuing partnership with Jessica and her yoga classes since 2016.

Join us twice per week via a virtual or in person format.

Ages 10 and above of all skill levels are welcome!

## Classes ranging from:

# Vinyasa flow

matches the breath with movements; works up a vigorous sweat

#### Relaxation

supported relaxing positions on the floor; props needed

#### Yin

deep stretching on the floor

#### When:

Wednesdays - In person format from 5:15 -6:15 pm Saturdays - In person format from 9:15 - 10:15 am

#### Where:

Virtual classes on Zoom - email & Zoom needed to access. In person classes - upstairs auditorium at the village hall located at 4863 East 71st, Cuyahoga Heights, OH 44125

#### Cost:

Residents - FREE

Non-resident guests - \$5 per class (can be pre-paid or paid day of class)

Pre-registration is required.

Forms can be found on our website at cuyahogaheights.com

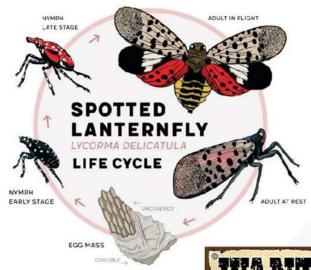
# From our friends at



# Spotted Lanternfly spotted in Cuyahoga County

Normally we wouldn't tell you to squish bugs but this time, we are encouraging you to do just that. The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive planthopper that poses a serious threat to our region's fruit plants and trees. It can weaken other plants and make them vulnerable to insects, pests and diseases. They also produce 'honeydew' and a type of fungus called "sooty mold" grows on honeydew which forms a black/gray layer of mold on the surface of the plant. That layer blocks the sunlight and starves the plant.

While Spotted Lanternfly will hang out on almost anything, the invasive Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is a host plant for them. Removing these trees can greatly reduce the number of these pests.



We need you to learn how to identify these invasive pests and scrape off the egg masses and/or squish the bugs. They can and should be eradicated at any point of their life cycle. For more information, check out our blog at: https://tinyurl.com/2p9d2p99.



www.cuyahogaswcd.org



# Want to learn more?

Visit www.cuyahogaswcd.org

for information about their programs, events, resources and follow their quarterly newsletters!











# Village of Cuyahoga Heights

## **DIRECTORY**

# ALL EMERGENCY CALLS FIRE OR POLICE ....911

FINE	UN PULIGE	<b>711</b>			
		(216) 641-6799			
Police Department					
			5480 Grant Ave		Police Chief Brian Sturgill
			VILLAGE HALL		(216) 641-7020
4962 East 71st Street		Fax: (216) 641-8485			
4863 East /1st Street		Pax: (210) 041-0403			
SERVICE DEPARTMENT		(216) 641-3505			
5181 Canal Road		Service Director Dave Sammons			
<b>SWIMMING POOL (Summer month</b>	ns)	(216) 341-7684			
	VILLAGE OFFICIALS				
MAYOR					
		(216) 641-7020			
ANGEL MERIWETHER	4863 East 71st Street	(216) 641-7020			
COUNCIL					
TODD BLOAM	4897 East 71st Street	(216) 299-3255			
RICK CENTA	4795 East 71st Street	(216) 406-7695			
		(216) 210-2307			
		(216) 410-3365			
		(216) 533-0089			
DAVID VOLEK	4680 East 71st Street	(216) 570-6239			
LAW DIRECTOR					
BEN CHOJNACKI	1375 East Ninth Street	(216) 377-1492			
		Fax: (216) 623-0134			
	*	2721 5990			
VILLAGE ENGINEER	ALMANIANA MARIO S. VIII				
		(216) 642-1130			
Donald Bohning & Associates	Valley View, OH 44125	Fax: (216) 642-1132			
BUILDING COMMISSIONER					
		(216) 641-7020			
NORM CASINI	••••••	(210) 041-7020			
SCHOOL NUMBERS					