

Mayor Jack M. Bacci
Inauguration Speech
Sunday, January 6, 2008

Good afternoon to my family, friends and neighbors. First of all, I cherish your friendships and need your continued support. Perhaps now, I need it more than ever!

I have a vision for our Village. My vision was inspired through conversations that I had with each and every one of you, as well as ideas that I personally feel will best serve my school-age children's generation, my own generation of hard working parents and friends, and very importantly, my mother's generation of senior citizens. My generation also has the privilege and the responsibility of being caretakers for our children, as well as for our parents during a time in their life when they have dependency on us. My vision includes local economic security so that our children grow up in homes that can provide for their needs. That same vision will also plan and develop a supportive network of continued services that provides for the needs of the generations that come before us.

In the year 2008, our Village will achieve ninety years of history. We will certainly celebrate this wonderful historic marker. However, the mere celebration of age is not good enough. I will start immediately on a ten-year plan to bring back the esteem of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights: a new level of success, a new vision for economic stability and a new use of our resources. Then in the year 2018 we will celebrate achievement along with 100 years of history. We will have a celebration of the successful rebirth of our **great** Village. I'm setting a ten-year deadline to plan and implement an improved infrastructure, enhanced lifestyle and strategic economic plan for the greater welfare of our citizens and the workers who come to our village each and every day. I envision cleaner neighborhoods, more effective public services, more efficient budgeting and a better revenue stream. One of our first projects to be accomplished this summer is to work with all industrial and commercial land-owners to clean up their properties and street fronts.

Again, I will need your support to accomplish this. I will need to consult with the best minds available. I will need the cooperation of a Village council that wants **progress**, not for themselves, **but for our Village!** My desire is to have council members who fully participate in the successful development of progressive ideas. These council members will be encouraged to either support the ideas proposed by my administration or to suggest ideas that could actually enhance those proposals. In either case, **our Village wins!**

One thing I'm looking forward to is developing a camaraderie with other local leaders. Our Village will benefit from a working relationship with men and women who themselves are already successful as leaders of their villages and cities.

(Continued on Back Page)

The Village of Cuyahoga Heights will reestablish its importance as a regional voice and resource for economic stability. We have a **great** location and a **renewed** willingness to once again serve the needs of those who can benefit from shared resources.

The future greatness of our Village depends on the energy and ideas that my administration will propose. Again, the cooperation of Village council is necessary and anticipated. At this time, let me state the difference between a politician and a leader. ***A politician thinks of the next election, whereas the leader thinks of the next generation.*** I plan to lead!

I am going to clearly suggest to all members of council, that if we work together to change and improve our Village, ***we all win!*** We all get reelected. We all get credit for the greatest skill in life, the skill of cooperating with each other to accomplish goals that benefit everyone.

During Tuesday's snowstorm it was brought to my attention that there is a distinct difference between our part of East 71st Street and the part that extends to the north of us. That reminded me of the urgent need to reestablish that same distinction related to the safety of our village.

Visitors are always welcome in our village. **In fact, it is my desire to help them understand that we value a safe and clean residential neighborhood that honors its elderly and protects its children.** It is my plan to reestablish the borders of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights. I will work with our police department to effectively and efficiently patrol our streets and clearly communicate to people from outside our Village that law, order and safety are **top priorities** in this Village.

My clearest thoughts are about our local school system. The future of our Village is directly dependent on the success of that wonderful school across the street. We hope new families want to move to our Village because of the greatness of the school. We **want** this Village to be the school's greatest ally. I want to clearly state that Lea and I have our own children receiving a great education and outstanding character development because of our school. I pledge to work with school officials to support their needs. In fact, I pledge to treat all public personnel with great respect.

The "*Jack Bacci for Mayor Partnership*" was successful but it was only the beginning. We now need that partnership to become fully operational to create the strong community that I referenced in my campaign.

I am going to represent my commitment to the leadership of this Village by giving you the names of four residents who will be watching every decision I make: Lea Bacci, Madison Bacci, Brenna Bacci, and of course, Lillian Bacci. I will not disappoint these women, nor will I disappoint any of you. I promise to begin my leadership by honoring my family and finish by honoring my community. ***Thank you and welcome to a new and clear vision for our Village of Cuyahoga Heights!***