

Village Of Cuyahoga Heights



August 2016

www.cuyahogaheights.com

Future Important Dates:

Labor Day – Monday, September 5
Village Hall and Service Department closed

Senior Citizens Flu Shot and Breakfast -
Friday, September 30 - Village seniors register
with Lee Ann **no later than September 23**

Corn Roast – Saturday, October 8
4:00-11:00 p.m. at Bacci Park

Election Day – Tuesday, November 8
Village Hall Auditorium
Polls open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.



Meeting Reminders:

Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Work Sessions of Council

4th Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.
only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

Zoning Board Meetings

3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Economic Development Committee

2nd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.
Only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

Finance Committee

2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
Only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May & Oct

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

Minutes of our Council Meetings are posted
every month under the Government tab and
under Village Council – Agenda/Minutes on our
website at www.cuyahogaheights.com

Village Hall

Phone: 216-641-7020

Fax: 216-641-8485

Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016



From the Mayor:

It's hard to believe that summer is over. All the "adults" in my life always said, "*as you get older, time continues to speed up.*" Madison is starting her third year in college; Brenna left for John Carroll University this past week, and little Miss Lily started kindergarten. The moral of the story....they were right!



Thank you

On behalf of our elected officials and administration, I would like to thank the voters of Cuyahoga Heights for passing the income tax increase on August 2. Due to decreased state revenue (*during the past four years about 60%*), we needed to pass this tax so that we are able to continue and maintain our infrastructures (*municipal buildings, roads*), as well as other capital projects. As you may or may not know, approximately 88% of our total revenue is generated from local income tax, noting that .45% of the remaining 12% of the budget is generated from residential property taxes. Simply said, as residents every service we enjoy are a direct result of the men and women working in our Village. The last income tax increase in our community was in 2002. Thank you again for your support as our administration continues working today, and every day, for tomorrow's future.

Once again, the Charter Review Committee has chosen unanimously to put four-year staggered terms for members of council on this November's ballot. I would like to thank the members for volunteering their time and putting forth their energy in serving our Village. Chairman Dave Volek, Recording Secretary Shireen Mitchell, Stanley "Rick" Centa, Scott Cerny, Cindy Krenisky, Wendy Santiago, Matt Sokolich, and Irma Schab who was unable to attend the meetings but was there in spirit ☺. So, don't forget that the General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8 from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall auditorium. If you are not a registered voter, or if you have changed your address/name, or just need a vote by mail application, you can pick up the appropriate forms at the Village Hall during normal business hours. For some of you that don't know, jury duty has nothing to do with registering to vote, it's a product of getting your driver's license and registration for your motor vehicle. Exercise your right to vote.

VOTE



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

From the Mayor (*continued*):

Our Business Community

There's been quite a bit of work going on around town. In fact, earlier this month I had a meeting with Charter Steel, Cleveland Partnership and Team NEO. Charter Steel continues to improve and expand their facility moving forward. Council and I will be working to foster Charter's efforts in some diversification of their facility, which in turn will add a small number of jobs, but will make the plant as a whole, sustainable long into the future. Charter is only second to Alcoa as it relates to employment (375+). We will keep you up-to-date as we are competing with their other plant in Wisconsin.

Last week my staff and I walked the facility of the former Heat Seal where a lot of construction is taking place. Consolidated Electrical Distributors will be moving into the front portion of the building, and The Cookie Cupboard will be in the back area. We are very excited and look forward to having them in our community later this year.

Everything seems to be up and running well with Heat Seal at their new facility on lower East 49th Street. They have done a remarkable job with the interior and exterior of the building, as well as the landscaping. They have kept our Building Department quite busy. Also, again I want to thank the Economic Development Committee and the body of Council for their continued support.

In case you didn't see the latest edition of the Neighborhood News, Council accepted the bid from Gibbs Construction for \$67,924 to demolish the former Hillside Party Center. The demolition was made possible with a grant, for the full amount of the bid, from the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. I would like to thank the County for grant opportunities like this. We should see activity at the location about the first of September, and work should take no longer than 20 days; we have already begun marketing this parcel for future development.

Our administration is very excited to see all the improvements going on in our business community and look forward to spending time with them at our annual Perch luncheon this fall. This is something we do yearly to show our appreciation to our businesses.

Events

Sadly, the pool officially closed this past Sunday evening. Our pool staff ended the season with an "*End of Summer Pool Party.*" Thanks to our pool managers, staff, and playground instructors. Everyone had a great time, whether they were in the pool, making crafts at the playground, or catching Pokémon. The kids had a fun, hot and carefree summer. Pictured below are several pictures from this summer.



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016



From the Mayor *(continued)*:

Our Village yoga sessions were well received this summer, and there was enough interest so we are going to continue it throughout the year. Additional information is attached with this newsletter.

Don't forget that we will be adding a transportation run beginning Saturday, October 1 to the West Side Market. The Village bus/van will pick up residents at their home beginning at 7:00 a.m. and shoppers will have several hours to enjoy the market. Departure time back to the Village is 9:45 a.m. This added trip will run the first Saturday of each month during October through April. Village residents must register by calling the Village Hall no later than 4:00 p.m. Friday the day before the trip. Please also note that children 16 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Our office is putting together a bus trip on Sunday, November 20 to see "Disney Live! Mickey and Minnie's Doorway to Magic." Additional details are under the "Village Hall" in this month's newsletter.

Senior Citizens

Just a friendly reminder to our Village resident seniors, deadline to register for your flu shot is Friday, September 23. Information on this event is under the "Village Hall" section of this newsletter. We will also be serving a warm breakfast for our seniors. Hope you're able to attend and enjoy the morning visiting with neighbors you might not normally see.

Birthday wishes

Milestone birthday wishes to resident, Dan Porter who turned 40 on August 24. Congratulations and happy birthday!

August Birthday wishes to employees: (1) Ross Patterson; (4) Randy Eliason & Brian Baciak; (5) Angel Motz; (11) Ted Mackiewicz; (14) Scott Schoeffler; (15) Jamie Lukas; (16) Wesley Unger; (20) Jasmine Wallace; (26) Michael Chase, and (30) Craig Morrow.

Thoughts and prayers

Please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: Theresa Bentlejewski, Mrs. Ernestine Deliberato, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Mrs. Helen Leciejewski, Mrs. Donna Pellini, Mr. Micky Sajetowski and Mr. Frank Schoeffler. And also to Barb Cash, our Head Dispatcher; her Mom Pauline Glass passed away on August 7.

Fishing

By allowing residential fishing only, our residents have enjoyed much better fishing. Pictured right is Mrs. Tracy Deal with a nice largemouth bass. The catch and release program will allow others to enjoy quality fish like this one, over and over again.



I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him. ~ Abraham Lincoln



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

From the Clerk:

The Village pool was a huge success this year, and the summer is coming to an end. We are into our eighth month of the year, and our finances are looking solid. Our General Fund is at 1.25 million, and we are looking to end the year with over a million dollars in the bank after all of our bills are paid.

The State has been in our offices since July auditing the books for Finance, Payroll, and Mayors Court for years 2014-2015, and we expect the details of their findings in the next couple of weeks. I will let you know the results in a future newsletter.

On August 2nd, the residents of Cuyahoga Heights overwhelmingly voted to increase the income tax from 2% to 2 ½%. As I have said in previous newsletters, this will increase our revenue by 2 million dollars a year, and secure the future of our Village for many years.

So let's talk about the tax increase. The tax increase is on payroll taxes, so the more workers we have in the Village, the more money we receive. The increase does not go into effect until January 2017, so it will not have an impact on our finances for 2016. We will not automatically get an extra two million dollars in January 2017, this is an incremental tax, and it is spread out over 12 months. It is not guaranteed that we will see an extra 2 million per year, there is always the possibility we go into another recession, people are laid off, companies move out of the Village, or downsize.

Although many things can affect the outcome of the tax increase, we are in a much better place financially because of the tax increase. My message is to continue doing what we are doing for 2016, closely watch the revenue for 2017, and towards the end of the 2017 when we have a better idea of the effect of the increase, we can make some decisions on what we want to do at that time. So we are looking at another year before we will see the financial picture more clearly.

I know this is a lot of information, but these are all the things we need to look at in order to make sound financial decisions. I want the residents to know that we will be good stewards of our finances, and continually inform the residents of any changes or decisions. If you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open.

Month Distributed	2013	2014	2015	2016	Difference from 2015	% change from 2015
JANUARY	644,593.83	701,203.65	806,899.10	742,767.00	(64,132.10)	-7.95%
FEBRUARY	638,258.93	542,645.46	626,184.73	838,249.20	212,064.47	33.87%
MARCH	817,199.06	929,321.38	838,149.44	1,156,108.74	317,959.30	37.94%
APRIL	636,179.02	711,647.56	623,337.78	557,419.65	(65,918.13)	-10.58%
MAY	633,944.39	617,963.16	783,999.52	707,171.63	(76,827.89)	-9.80%
JUNE	646,774.82	643,339.71	578,703.87	706,933.54	128,229.67	22.16%
JULY	590,649.46	744,253.53	630,699.68	634,398.50	3,698.82	0.59%
AUGUST	591,619.13	616,110.30	851,514.14	634,653.04	(216,861.10)	-25.47%
SEPTEMBER	641,230.39	607,652.11	422,410.26			
OCTOBER	598,372.95	676,923.26	772,784.21			
NOVEMBER	628,902.62	638,874.48	557,624.59			
DECEMBER	605,547.68	666,050.52	617,179.24			
TOTAL	7,673,272.28	8,095,985.12	8,109,486.56	5,977,701.30	238,213.04	5.09%



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Fire Department:

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.
- If a vehicle is following you, turn around and go the other direction.
- 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.
- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks
- Never run out into the streets or cross in between parked cars



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Fire Department *(continued)*:

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

**** The fire department will be out in October to check your smoke detectors and batteries.***

Dispatch:

School is back in session, please keep an eye out for the children coming and going to school. If you see anything suspicious please call the Police Department at 883-6800, we will send an officer to check it out. Also always remember to be very careful when pulling your car in and out of your driveway; sometimes children are hard to see when walking on the sidewalk. Parents, please remind your kids to watch for cars when waiting for the bus or walking to school.





Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Police Department:

It is that time of year again when students will be returning to school. The first day of classes for the Cuyahoga Heights School District was Monday, August 22. Please keep these helpful tips in mind. Together with your cooperation we can ensure that our young ones have a safe school year

Motorists:

- Please obey the reduced School Zone Speed limit of 20 MPH.
- Stay alert and watch for children as you back out of your driveways and when crossing sidewalks.
- Stop at least 10 feet from all stopped school buses receiving and discharging students.
- Please obey all traffic direction from Police and School Crossing Guards as they supersede any traffic signal.
- Please observe all parking regulations when dropping off and picking up students.
- Remember to stop at the stop line, if you stop beyond it you could be on the crosswalk.



Parents and Students:

- Please cross the street at designated pedestrian crosswalks and avoid stepping from between parked vehicles/school buses.
- Be alert to vehicles exiting from driveways and parking lots.
- Stay on the sidewalks and lighted areas while walking both to and from school.
- Avoid horseplay while adjacent to streets and roadways.
- Please escort younger walking students to the crossing area.
- Be alert to any suspicious persons and/or vehicles that may be along the route to campus and alert the Police ASAP!

August 17 – September 5 ***Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over***
www.nhtsa.gov/StopImpairedDriving

September 18 – 24, 2016 is ***Child Passenger Safety Week*** www.safercar.gov

Please feel free to stop and talk to any officer, whether it is to just say hello or inform us of any problems or suspicious behavior. We may not know of all problems within our community.

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911





Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Building Department:

The Building Department would like to commend the village residents on continuing efforts to maintain their homes and yards – each person's efforts make the Village of Cuyahoga Heights a beautiful place to live.

For additional work on your homes or yards, remember the George M. Suhy Grant Program can help defray the costs. This grant is available until the end of 2017.

If we can be of any help, or if you have any questions please call the Building Department.



Autumn Trip to Calvary Cemetery

Some residents have contacted the Historical Committee as to whether we would be doing another trip to Calvary Cemetery. Some folks wanted to go and couldn't make the date and some of those that went said they would go again. If anyone is interested, we will go again on September 17th at 11:00 a.m. (weather permitting). Please contact any member of the Historical Committee or Mark Chase at 216-409-1179 or jfkmarkchase@gmail.com to sign up and get further details.





Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Flu Shots

In cooperation with CVS Pharmacy and the Mayor's Office, we will be offering flu shots to our Village senior residents (60 years of age and older). Just like we have done in the past, the Village will pay for flu shots for our Village senior residents and employees. In addition, we will offer flu shots to our Village residents who are under 60 years of age; however, those individuals are required to pay for their flu shot at a cost of \$31.00; payment of "exact" cash or check is due the day of the shot.

The flu shots will be administered on Friday, September 30 in the Village Hall Auditorium between the hours of 9:00-10:00 a.m. As in past practice, **flu shots will be offered by reservation only**. Please call Lee Ann at the Village Hall at 641-7020, Monday through Friday during normal business hours to make your reservation. Also, please advise her if you need a ride to and from the event. **Deadline to register is 3:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23.**

Our well visit clinic will also be open that morning for our senior citizens beginning at 8:30 a.m. with our Village Nurse, Joanne Socausky – **no reservation is required**. If you plan on getting blood work, **please do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before**. We will have a light breakfast, as well as refreshments, for our senior resident participants.



Sports Registrations

Please note that there is a \$25 late fee for sports registrations that occur after the published deadline. The fee was established because late registrations create administrative and organizational difficulties when trying to plan leagues and schedules. In addition, late sign ups cause teams to grow beyond an appropriate size, which has an adverse effect on the ability of the participants to learn and develop. All registration dates are published in our newsletters, on our website, as well as promoted on our Village outdoor marquees.

Listed below are the dates of our annual deadlines for specific sports offered through our Sports Commissioner. Sports registration forms can be downloaded from www.cuyahogaheights.com under the "Sports Department" and are also available at the Village Hall. If you have any questions relative to our sports programs, please contact Sports Commissioner Stacey Vitanza at (440) 227-3801, or you can email her at stacey_vitanza@yahoo.com.

ACTIVITY

DEADLINE DATE

Spring Soccer Registration	March 1
Youth Baseball & Softball	April 1
Adult Men's & Women's Softball	July 15
Cheerleading	August 1
Youth Flag Football	August 1
Fall Soccer	August 1
Youth Basketball	October 15

Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016



Sports Commissioner:

Just because the summer is beginning to wind down, doesn't mean the kids can't still have fun! It's time to gear up for fall sports and we are working closely with Valley View to place our resident children on teams for cheerleading (3 kids), football (3 kids), and soccer (12 kids). Parents with children that have registered, you should be hearing from coaches by around the end of August.

Our Annual Corn Roast is coming up quickly, so that means it's time to start putting together your teams for the cornhole tournament and men vs. women softball game again this year. Please note that these events will be for those ages 16 and up.

If you have any questions about any of this information or sports in general, please feel free to reach out to me at Stacey_Vitanza@yahoo.com or on my cell phone at 440-227-3801. Thank you.

Service Department:

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 Village Hall 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 Village Hall by 4:00 on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up.** Your assistance is appreciated.

Pet Waste

Please remember to pick up after your furry friends when walking them in the Village, especially on sidewalks and tree lawns.

Table and Chair Rental

Tables and chairs can be rented from the Service Department (limit of three (3) tables and 30 chairs). You must pick them up and bring them back to the garage. You will need to stop in at the Service Department, see Angel Motz or Ross Patterson, and sign the loan form. Please be advised that tables and chairs are not permitted to leave the Village. If they are taken out of the Village, you will lose this privilege.

Yard Waste

Yard waste (i.e., grass clippings, tree branches, leaves, etc.) must be put in bags or separate trash cans, **not in the 95 gallon Village issued grey trash cans or blue recycling cans.**

Please note:

All trash must be placed in garbage bags prior to disposing of in the Village issued trash cans. In addition, dog litter must be bagged before placing in the trash can. Your cooperation is appreciated.





Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ August 2016

Garfield Heights Municipal Court Second Chance Program

Persons with warrants out for their arrest are getting a second chance to make good with the court. The Garfield Heights Municipal Court has created the "**2nd Chance**" program to allow people to pay outstanding balances without further legal action or costs.

The "**2nd Chance**" program applies to anyone who has not paid fines and court costs from a criminal or traffic case through the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. When a person does not appear in court, a warrant is issued for his or her arrest and the person's driver's license is suspended. The case is also sent to a collection agency that adds an additional 30% charge to the outstanding balance. The "**2nd Chance**" program allows the person to pay the court in full without penalty. The \$100 warrant cost and the collection agency added fees are removed. The person's driver's license will also be re-instated.

In addition, the person only has to go to the court cashier to pay the original outstanding bill. There is no need to go before the judge again or incur any additional court costs. Full payment can be made in cash or with a credit card. A 3% convenience fee is added to all credit card payments.

Persons can also pay over the phone by calling the court at 216-475-1900. The "**2nd Chance**" Program runs through October 31st. Garfield Heights Municipal Court is located at 5555 Turney Road. Court hours are 8:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Don't forget to check us out at www.cuyahogaheights.com



Have a safe Labor Day weekend
Village Hall/Service Department are closed on Monday,
September 5
Garbage pick up on Tuesday September 6
Special pick up on Wednesday September 7
Charity pick up on Thursday September 8