

Village Of Cuyahoga Heights



November 2016

www.cuyahogaheights.com

Future Important Dates:

November 24/25- Thanksgiving Day observed. Village Hall and Service Department closed.

Friday, December 2 - Christmas Stocking registrations due to Village Hall.

December 18 - Santa Claus is coming to Town. Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit resident children.



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 ~ November 2016



From the Mayor:

Moving into the holiday season, as always, we should stop and give thanks in valuing our fine community in this great nation. *"Be Thankful – Show Gratitude – Live Blessed."*

It is with great sadness that yet again, we lost another long-time resident. Mrs. Jean Bloam passed away on Sunday, November 13 at the age of 85. Many years ago, Mrs. Bloam served on Village Council, as well as being our Pool Manager; a great lady that always kept me on my toes, she truly will be missed. On behalf of our Village, we convey our deepest sympathies to the family.

Redskin pride

Congratulations to the Cuyahoga Heights Redskins' Football team for beating our archrival, Kirtland last Friday for the second time this season, 17-0 and advancing to the State Semifinals on Friday, November 25. The Redskins will play against New Catholic Green Wave at Orrville Red Rider Stadium, game time is 7:30 p.m. Best of luck to Coach Martin and the entire football team.



Our business community

On November 1, I was invited to Alcoa's facility on Harvard Avenue to give a short speech to their employees in celebration of the launch of their new name, Arconic. Arconic is a premier innovator of high performance, multi-material products and solutions, and a global leader in precision engineering and advanced manufacturing. The Arconic brand fuses the extraordinary Alcoa heritage with the promise of an exceptional future in supplying to the aerospace and automotive industries. Our Village has known Alcoa Cleveland Works since 1917, but will begin a new era with Arconic Cleveland Operations. We are very excited for Arconic and foresee many positive things in the near future as far as employment and growth. Next year they will be celebrating their 100th anniversary.





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From the Mayor (continued):

Events

Thank you to those residents that came out and attended our annual Halloween party. The Flower Clown was a tremendous hit with our little ones, as well as adults, and I've been told we have already secured him for our party next year. We received a lot of positive feedback on the event, and I want to thank Dan and Jennifer Ulery for volunteering their time in making this annual party a success.



We again will have transportation on Saturday, December 3 to the West Side Market. The van will pick you up at your home beginning at 7:00 a.m., and shoppers will have several hours to enjoy the market before the van departs back to Cuyahoga Heights at 9:45 a.m. Residents must register by calling the Village Hall no later than Friday, December 2 by 4:00 p.m.

Don't forget that Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting our resident children ages 0-12 on Sunday, December 18. If you and your children will be home on that day and want Santa to stop by, please make sure to fill out the *stocking registration form* which is included in this newsletter. The deadline to register is Friday, December 2. Also, as in past practice, anyone who wishes to donate non-perishable food items can do so on December 18. Since 2008, our office has been assisting with a holiday gift/food drive that helps some of our folks here in town during the Christmas holiday. Please leave your non-perishable items on your front porch by 11:00 a.m. and our helpers will pick up the bags on Sunday, December 18 during Santa's visit. If you would like to donate to our cause, please contact our office. *"Help others without any reason and give without the expectation of receiving anything"*

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From the Mayor *(continued)*:

Birthday wishes

Very special birthday wishes to Mrs. Sue Revak who celebrated her 90th birthday on November 18. Wishing you health and happiness. Pictured to the right is Mrs. Revak at our flu shot event this past September.



November birthday wishes to employees: (1) Pat Koran & Tom Nova, (3) Councilwoman Barb Biro, (10) Tom Kekelis, (27) Clerk Bob Unger, and (28) Mark Hine.

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, Miss Nancy McAleer, Mrs. Shireen Mitchell, Mr. Curtis McLaughlin, Mrs. Donna Pellini, Mr. Micky Sajetowski, and Mr. Frank Schoeffler.

In observance of Thanksgiving, the Village Hall and Service Department will be closed on Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25. Wishing everyone a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving.





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From the Clerk:

As another year comes to an end, our finances are stable, and we project finishing the year with one million dollars in the General Fund after all our bills are paid. This is a comfortable amount of money as a surplus moving into 2017.

At the beginning of the year I projected a 2% increase in RITA tax revenue for 2016, and after 10 months, we are up a little over 6%. These figures are directly related to the economy and jobs. The better the economy, the more jobs, and the bigger our tax revenue.

In February of 2017, we will begin to see an increase in our monthly RITA revenue due to the tax increase we passed in August of this year. This extra income will be used for capital projects, infrastructure, and debt management. This will allow us to do many of the street and other projects we have put off for many years, and to purchase equipment that is outdated.

All the departments have watched their spending this year, and continue to monitor their budgets on a monthly basis, and we are on track to finish the year under budget in most areas.

The Mayor, Council, and I have all worked very hard to make the right choices regarding the budget and spending while maintaining a surplus in the bank for emergencies. As the Clerk, I am very comfortable with our cash position, and will continue to work with the Mayor and Council to keep our Village financially solvent, and a wonderful place to live.

Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy spending time with loved ones.

If you have any questions or comments, my door is always open. Please call or stop in my office anytime.

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	593,840.10	171,429.84	40.58%
OCTOBER	598,372.95	676,923.26	772,784.21	671,155.91	(101,628.30)	-13.15%
NOVEMBER	628,902.62	638,874.48	557,624.59	501,188.13		
DECEMBER	605,547.68	666,050.52	617,179.24			
TOTAL	7,673,272.28	8,095,985.12	8,109,486.56	7,743,885.44	308,014.58	6.82%



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Police Department:

For most, the holiday season is about spending time with family and friends, and usually involves parties, good food and laughter. Another facet of the holidays is the additional amount of travel that comes along with attending various functions coupled with the increased amount of holiday shoppers on the road. So while the holidays can be an exciting time, there are some important things to consider to help keep you and your guests safe this season.

If you're hosting a party, there are lots of things to take into account, whether it's trying to bake the perfect dessert, making sure you have enough food or worrying whether there's enough parking in your neighborhood for all your guests. With all that goes into planning a seasonal get-together, it's important not to overlook your holiday party safety plans.

Holiday parties often involve alcohol, and while you want your guests to enjoy themselves, it's also important to make sure they are being responsible. This involves keeping an eye out for anyone who may be drinking too much, and either providing a place to stay or a means to get home with a designated driver.

Here are a few steps you can take to prevent holiday drinking and driving.

When you are attending a party or event - Make a plan!

Before – not during, not after – this year's ugly sweater party, plan, plan, plan.

During the holiday season there is increased socialization, often with drinking involved. We want people to plan ahead as to how they are going to get back home. It doesn't make sense to come out of the club or a party and start figuring it out.

If spending the night or walking home aren't options, do some research in the days leading up to the event on the options that are available to you. Have a designated driver. It's one of the simplest rules to follow, but also one of the most effective in keeping people safe on the roads.

You can also use services like LYFT and UBER (Similar to a taxi but easier to get, just download the app on your phone and you are in business!)

Hosting? Assume responsibility.

- Have cab numbers on hand. If someone should not be driving and they insist on going home, call a cab for them instead of allowing them to take the risk of driving home.
- Offer plenty of non-alcoholic drinks. While many guests may want to enjoy the holidays with an alcoholic drink, offer non-alcoholic drinks as an option.
- Offer food if you're offering alcohol. Drinking on an empty stomach can cause a person to become intoxicated faster. Offering food along with drinks may help prevent guests from over-indulging on alcohol alone.





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Police Department *(continued)*:



So you slept it off? Maybe not.

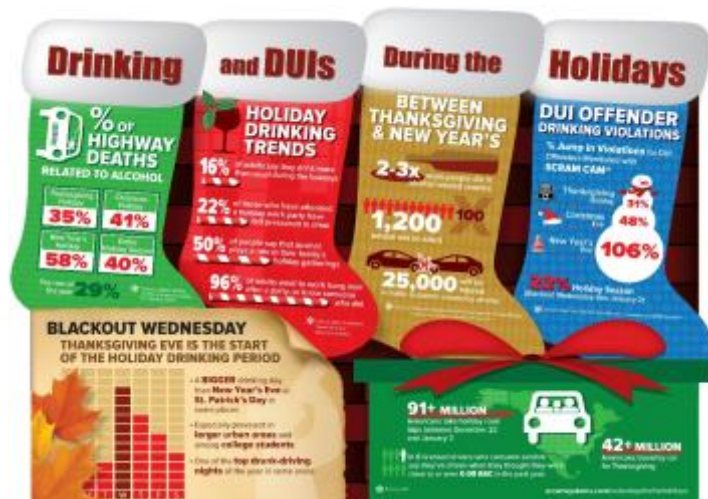
Catching a few Z's after a night of binge drinking does not make a sober driver. It's one of the biggest myths surrounding drunk driving. If you go out and get really intoxicated, double the legal limit or more, and go home at 2 a.m., but he takes a cab home, then if you get up at 6 a.m. and hop in the car for work, you'll still be above the legal limit.

Sleep has no impact on reducing a person's blood alcohol content. While blood alcohol concentration peaks within a half hour of the last drink, the rate by which it falls is far slower than the rate it rises. Even if enough time has passed to lower it to a legal level, a person still may be impaired. Bad hangovers can also seriously hamper judgment and cognitive function.

Holiday Driving Tips

If possible, drivers should try to stay off the road between the hours of midnight and 3 a.m. when drunk driving accidents are most likely, according to research from the U.S. Department of Transportation. And if the weather is bad, which can easily happen in the northern and central states, consider revising your plans so you won't have to travel on icy or snowy roads. With a little foresight and by taking precautions, you can enjoy your holiday season and stay safe as well.

By now, it's just common sense: if you plan to drink over the holidays, plan to leave your keys behind!





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Dispatch:

Residents, it's time to start thinking about snow! Please remember that if two or more inches of snow falls in a twenty-four hour period the Village will declare a snow emergency and all vehicles must be removed from the Village streets. This will make it easier and more efficient for the Service Department to plow our streets. If your vehicle is not removed from the street, dispatch will need to call you or we will need to have an officer stop at your home.



Thank you for your cooperation.



Have a Happy Thanksgiving from the Dispatchers at the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department.

Building Department:

REMINDER:

Before winter months set in, owners and occupants of homes should review and be proactive of the following tips:

- Change your furnace filters
- Shut off and drain lawn irrigation systems
- Check fireplace to ensure dampers work properly
- Check that windows and doors are properly weather protected
- Check roof gutters and down spouts. Remove accumulation of leaves, sticks, etc. to allow rain water to flow freely
- Now is the time to clean up yards by trimming trees, shrubs and flowerbeds
- Check/replace smoke alarm batteries



The George M. Suhy Grant Program ends December 31, 2017 unless extended by Council. Take advantage of this wonderful grant program from the Village. "A beautiful home helps all of our property values."

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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.

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 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.

Leaf Collection

The village leaf pick-up service will continue until all leaves have fallen. Leaves only, will be picked up at the curb or tree lawn. No brush, rubbish, grass or animal waste should be mixed in with the leaves. Please do not put leaves on the street.



Snow Removal Program

Residential Snow Removal Program for our 2016/2017 season.

- 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, David 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.



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Fire Department:

The Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. As you prepare for Thanksgiving please remember the following safety guidelines listed below.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.





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Village Hall:

New Residents

If you recently moved into our Village, we need your help! Please contact the Village Hall during normal business hours with your name, address and phone number so we can update our records. You may also email the information to Lee Ann at l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com.

Newsletter

If you wish to submit information for our newsletters, please make sure that it is turned in to Wendy Heinzman by the 15th of the month, to be included in the following month newsletter. Please email the information to w.heinzman@cuyahogaheights.com.

Doctor's Appointments

Transport services are available for our senior citizens who are otherwise unable to get to their doctor appointments. If any senior citizen has a doctor's visit and is in need of transportation, please contact Lee Ann at the Village Hall during normal business hours one week prior to the scheduled doctor's visit.



Holiday Lighting Contest

Grab your garland – track down your tinsel – don't forget the lights and extension cords.

It's time for the annual holiday lighting contest. Dress your home in its holiday best. Be sure to turn your lights on during the early evening hours on Sunday, December 20th. Mayor Bacci and his band of elves will be judging the best display.

There will be cash prizes awarded for first, second and third place.

Have fun and good luck!





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News from Garfield Heights Municipal Court:

Four letters: g-h-m-c hold an abundance of information about the workings of the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. That information is just a click away by logging onto the court's website: www.ghmc.org.

The website has the latest information regarding both criminal and traffic cases. One can search the docket by name to see the status of cases to be heard in the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. The website also has information on which offenses require a court appearance and those that can be paid on line.

There is also information on how a person can file a small claims case. The Garfield Heights Municipal Court hears cases involving money damages up to \$6,000 in value in Small Claims Court. Claims over \$6,000 but less than \$15,000 are heard in Civil Court.

The Garfield Heights Municipal Court also handles landlord and tenant disputes. The most common procedure involves evictions. The website also has information on Rent Depositing. This is when the rent is held by the court when a tenant believes the landlord is not fulfilling the obligations outlined in the rental agreement.

A person can also get the necessary documentation to get various court proceedings started. Printable forms are available on the website regarding Small Claims, Evictions and Driving Privileges.

If a wedding is in your future, a marriage ceremony can be performed at the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. The website has information on what needs to be done before the couple says "I do."

The Garfield Heights Municipal Court is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except on legal holidays. The court website: www.ghmc.org is always available.

The court jurisdiction covers eight neighboring communities: Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Newburgh Heights, Brecksville, Independence, Valley View and Walton Hills.

