

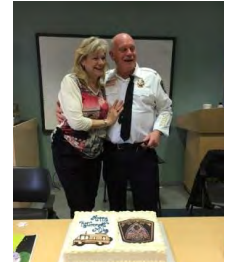


Village of Cuyahoga Heights Newsletter ~ March 2017

Police Department:



On Friday, March 10, 2017 the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department held a retirement luncheon for Lt. Michael Stack. At 4:00 p.m. on March 10, 2017 Mike called out of service for the final time with the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department after 34 years of service.



Mike was hired on February 14, 1983. Mike served under 5 different police chiefs and 4 different mayors during his time in the Police Department while holding the ranks of patrolman (11 years) and Lieutenant (23 years). Mike was a hostage negotiator with S.W.A.T., a trained accident reconstruction officer, an active member of PAPA (Polish American Police Association), and an active member in the F.O.P. (Fraternal Order of Police). He was an F.O.P. representative for the CHPD and was part of the first "Shop with a Cop" event in 1996. Mike also served as a contract negotiator on several collective bargaining contracts including the first one.

Mike's leadership and guidance will be missed by the community and department. We wish Mike the best as he plans to cruise around the country in his R.V. with his wife Sandy.



Fishing: As always, fishing in the front pond at Bacci Park will only be allowed during park hours and by permit obtained from the Village. Permits shall only be issued to Village residents holding a valid State of Ohio Fishing License (if required). The fee for the Village permit shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) and shall be valid for 2017. A permit can be obtained from Chief Sturgill's office at the Cuyahoga Heights Police Station (M-F 0800am -0400pm). No boats, kayaks, and/or canoes are permitted.

A complete list of rules for Bacci Park can be found in section 1076 of the village's codified ordinances.

432.205: DRIVING WHILE APPROACHING STATIONARY PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE WITH FLASHING LIGHTS.

The driver of a motor vehicle, upon approaching a stationary public safety vehicle, emergency vehicle, road service vehicle, vehicle used by the Public Utilities Commission to conduct motor vehicle inspections in accordance with R.C. §§ 4923.04 and 4923.06, or a highway maintenance vehicle that is displaying the appropriate visual signals by means of flashing, oscillating, or rotating lights, as prescribed in R.C. § 4513.17, shall do either of the following:

- (1) If the driver of the motor vehicle is traveling on a highway that consists of at least two lanes that carry traffic in the same direction of travel as that of the driver's motor vehicle, the driver shall proceed with due caution and, if possible and with due regard to the road, weather, and traffic conditions, shall change lanes into a lane this is not adjacent to that of the stationary public safety vehicle, emergency vehicle, road service vehicle, vehicle used by the Public Utilities Commission to conduct motor vehicle inspections in accordance with R.C. §§ 4923.04 and 4923.06, or a highway maintenance vehicle.
- (2) If the driver is not traveling on a highway of a type described in division (a)(1) of this section, or if the driver is traveling on a highway of that type but it is not possible to change lanes or if to do so would be unsafe, the driver shall proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle, and maintain a safe speed for the road, weather, and traffic conditions.



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Police Department *(continued)*:

April 3 - 7, 2017 is National Work Zone Awareness Week

In order to minimize the risk of traffic accidents, motorists should consider the following safety tips when driving through road construction zones:

- Slow down when approaching the road construction work zone.
- Follow posted speed limits. In some situations, you may need to drive slower than the work zone speed limit if weather conditions and traffic patterns dictate. It is important to follow posted work zone speed limits even if there are no construction workers as most construction zone fatalities and injuries involve drivers and/or passengers.
- Allow plenty of room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. You should also keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment, and workers.
- Don't pass on the median. Doing so can put construction workers and other motorists in danger, and result in a hefty fine.
- Avoid cell phone use and other forms of distracted driving. Texting and driving under any circumstances is incredibly dangerous. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), five seconds is the average time that a driver takes his or her eyes are off the road while texting, which is enough time to cover the length of a football field when traveling at 55mph. Even the simple act of reaching for the phone can be dangerous. In fact, the NHTSA says that reaching for a phone, dialing, texting and other uses of portable devices increases the risk of getting into a crash by three times. The dangers of distracted driving are exacerbated in construction zones due to the increased traffic, smaller lanes, and additional obstacles.
- Merge in a timely manner. Construction zones often involve lane closures and late lane merging can result in traffic accidents.
- Avoid unnecessary lane changes.

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Ohio Revised Code: 4511.204

Village of Cuyahoga Heights Codified Ordinance: 432.45

If you're under age 18:

It is illegal to use any electronic wireless communications device while driving in Ohio.

This means:

- No texting
- No e-mailing
- No talking on your cell phone, Bluetooth, Bluetooth speakers, On-Star or any similar device
- No computers, laptops or tablets
- No playing video games
- No using your GPS (unless it's a voice-operated or hands-free device)
Even when you are sitting at a light or stuck in traffic

It's a Primary Offense: Law enforcement can stop you for any of the above reasons.

- *First violation:* \$150 fine, driver license suspended for 60 days
- *Second and/or subsequent violations:* \$300 fine, driver license suspended for one year

Exceptions: Pre-programmed GPS, vehicles in a stationary position and outside a lane of travel, emergency calls to law enforcement, hospital, fire department, etc.



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Police Department *(continued)*:

Adult drivers (18 years or older):

It is illegal to use a handheld electronic wireless communications device to write, send or read a text while driving in Ohio.

Minor misdemeanor, could face a fine of up to \$150

As always, please feel free to stop and talk to any officer, whether it's just to say hello or inform us of any problems or suspicious behavior. We may not know of all problems within our community. Let's be partners in keeping our community a safe place to live, work, and play.



FOR ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911. All other calls please use 216-883-6800

Dispatch:

Just a reminder to all of our residents, if you are going on vacation you can call dispatch at 883-6800 to put a special attention on your home. We are going to ask you when you will be leaving and when you will be coming home, if you have stopped your mail and paper, if you are going to leave any lights on in your home, if anyone will be stopping at your home during your absence and an emergency telephone number in case there is a problem. Dispatch will then forward that information to the Police Officers so they can check your residence throughout the day and night.



SWIFTRREACH™ NETWORKS

Residents:

We have sent out SwiftReach notifications over the last couple of weeks, if you did not receive one and would like to be in our system you can either use the SwiftReach portal on the Cuyahoga Heights Village Website on the Police page or contact Dispatch Supervisor Barb Cash at the Police Department directly at 216-883-6800. The SwiftReach system is used to notify our residents and businesses, by telephone, of any emergency situations that may occur in Cuyahoga Heights. The telephone numbers you supply the Police Department are kept strictly confidential and are not given out to the public.