



Village of Cuyahoga Heights

January 2018

*Continuing to move our legacy
community forward.*

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

Around Town

February 14 – Valentine’s Day

February 15 – Spring Soccer
Registration Deadline

February 19 – President’s Day
Village Hall/Service Department Closed
**Garbage pick-up delayed one day*

March 11 – Daylight Saving Time
**Spring forward one hour*

March 15 – Youth Baseball & Softball
Registration Deadline

March 17 – Saint Patrick’s Day

Agenda/Minutes of our council meetings are posted every month under the government tab and under Village Council on our website.
www.cuyahogaheights.com



At the Village Hall

Council Meetings
2nd Wednesday of the Month
Caucus 6pm, Meeting 7pm

Economic Development Committee
2nd Wednesday of the Month
4:30pm

Public Works Meeting
2nd Wednesday of the Month
5pm

Finance Committee Meeting
2nd Wednesday of the Month
5:30pm

Zoning Board Meetings
3rd Wednesday of the Month
at 6pm

Work Sessions of Council
4th Wednesday of the Month
at 6pm (Only in January,
February, March, April, May, Oct.)

**Village Hall office hours are Monday
through Friday from 8:00 am –
12:00pm and 1:00pm – 4:30pm**

From the Mayor's Desk

Happy New Year...hope everyone enjoyed the holidays!

By now, all of our residents should have received a letter from my office explaining several pieces of legislation that were passed at the January 10th council meeting. One of the issues was the agreement between our Village and the Seven Hills Recreation Center. I understand that since it was announced, we have received numerous inquiries from our residents about obtaining a membership - we are so very pleased to hear that!

Christmas blessings

I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and thank those who generously gave and helped out this past Christmas. Thank you to the employees of Charter Steel, MilliporeSigma, and Roshon and Tanya Stewart of R & T Roadside Service for adopting several families in our Village and providing them with a Christmas they will never forget. To our police officers - for the 6th year in a row our Mayor's Court dismissed traffic citations in lieu of defendants donating Giant Eagle gift cards. As part of our Mayor's Court outreach program, we presented St. Herman's House of Hospitality and The Greater Real Truth Church with the gift cards. Additional kudos to CHPD for participating in the "Shop with a Cop Program." They were able to help out three families in our Village. And finally to Bryon and Deanna Borowy, Renato & Michelle Contipelli, Norman & Laura Merhaut, and our Fire Department's Local #702 for donations of Toys-R-Us and Giant Eagle gift cards which helped out additional families in town.

Congratulations

The annual Christmas decorating contest winners were: 1st Place - Rich and Linda Grabowski; 2nd Place - Mrs. Bea Duber; and 3rd Place - Mark Chase. I would like to thank all the residents who decorated the outside of their homes. They all looked great which made it difficult for our judges to choose the top three homes.

Councilwoman Barb Biro became a grandmother for the first time. Her daughter, Beth Naelitz gave birth to Lilly Mae on December 23. Best wishes to the family!

Senior citizens

Just a friendly reminder that our transport program continues to be one of the most utilized services our Village provides. This service is available for our senior citizens (60+) who are otherwise unable to get to their doctor appointments. If any senior citizen has a doctor's visit and are in need of transportation, please contact the Village Hall during normal business hours one week prior to the scheduled doctor's visit.

Birthdays

January birthday wishes to employees: (4) Dan Coutleur, (8) Councilwoman Cheryl Harris; (9) Councilman Renato Contipelli; (13) Reno Contipelli; (16) Jimmy Henley; and (24) Jacquelyn Kaminski.



Employees from MilliporeSigma with their gifts they provided to two of the families.



Barb Biro's granddaughter Lilly Mae.

From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Condolences

Mrs. Helen Kosicki, one of our eldest residents passed away on January 18; she was 95 years old. Also, Mrs. Katharina "Kitty" Wey passed away on January 9; she was 83 years old. Both ladies were always smiling and upbeat; they were well liked by their fellow residents and will deeply be missed.

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. Frank Schoeffler, and Mrs. Dorothy Sonoda.



Mrs. Wey with her granddaughters.

"To be good, and to do good, is all we have to do."
~ John Adams

Mrs. Kosicki at our Easter egg hunt in 2017 with her daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughters.



From the Clerk

2018 CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS VILLAGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Again this year, Council has passed legislation for a Village Scholarship to assist Cuyahoga Heights graduating seniors with their future college tuition. Recipients will be awarded a \$1000.00 scholarship in the form of a tuition reimbursement.

To be eligible, the recipient must:

- 1) Be a resident of Cuyahoga Heights
- 2) Be a graduating High School senior in the Spring or Summer of 2018
- 3) Be enrolled either full or part time at an accredited college, university, community college, vocational or technical school for the fall of 2018
- 4) Complete the Fall 2018 term with a grade point average sufficient to be in good standing
- 5) Must submit proof of grades to the Clerk's office by March 1, 2019

Applications are available at the High School Guidance Office, or at the Town Hall, and must be submitted to Clerk Unger's office by May 1, 2018.

This Administration encourages and promotes higher education for all of our students, and is proud to continue the Village Scholarship tradition to help our graduating seniors.

Thank You, Clerk Unger



From the CFO

As we start off the 100th year of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights, we also start a new era. This year the village began the year with an appointed Chief Fiscal Officer, Angel Meriwether, as the head of finance. We also have maintained an elected Clerk, Robert Unger. Clerk Unger will be working part-time, with Clerk of Council responsibilities, while assisting with transition financial responsibilities.

You will also see a new look in the newsletter, a CFO (Chief Fiscal Officer) section will replace the Clerk's section, where we will highlight information corresponding to the financial state of the village, economic forecasts or capital projects.

January Finance Update

R.I.T.A. Revenue

(Regional Income Tax Agency,
Local Income and Net Profit Tax)

Total 2016: \$ 8,572,776.00 Total 2017: \$ 9,732,328.00

The R.I.T.A. revenue in 2017 increased as shown above, this is due to the passage of the income tax increase from 2% to 2.5% starting tax year 2017, we should continue to see increased revenue in 2018, as long as the local economy stays status quo. The village will not realize the full tax increase until 2019. Five percent of all net revenues received have been allocated to our capital projects fund, to assist in maintaining our premier community status, by updating and preserving items such as roadways, municipal buildings, parks and recreational facilities in town.

Introduction of CFO, Angel Meriwether

I am honored to be the first Chief Fiscal Officer for the Village of Cuyahoga Heights, I am the third generation of my family to live here in the Village. My mother, Donna, moved into the Village as a child in 1972, with her parents Mavis and Farrell and siblings Kathie, Joanne and Glenn Snoddy. Before living in Cuyahoga Heights, they lived in Brooklyn Heights, on Old Brookpark Road (by Richardson's off Schaaf Road), they were forced to move when I-480 was being built. This led to my grandparents buying their first home on Marcelline Court. Forty-three years after my grandparents bought their first home here, my husband and I were excited to purchase our first home in Cuyahoga Heights on Willowbrook Drive. My husband David and I couldn't be more thrilled to be raising our children Paige, Kendall, and Zander in our village. As alumni of Cuyahoga Heights High School, David and I are both supportive of our community and schools.

After graduating from high school, I attended David N. Myers College and earned a Bachelor's of Science and Business Administration in Accounting. I worked in the private sector for ten years before joining the village hall staff in 2010, when I was hired to do payroll, and assist village residents, council, the Clerk and the Mayor.



Chief Fiscal Officer
Angel Meriwether

Administrative Accounting Assistants
Amanda Domzalski, Payroll
Christina Pace, Accounts Payable

2018 Budget

In December, council passed the 2018 Budget, here you can see the estimated distribution of funds for 2018.

VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS 2018 TOTAL BUDGETED DISTRIBUTIONS	
Personal Service	7,388,332.23
Training & Travel	26,300.00
Constructual Services	2,328,222.00
Supplies & Materials	802,250.00
Capital Outlay	1,062,100.00
General Fund Budget	11,607,204.23
Other Funds Budget	5,982,367.50
Total 2018 Budget	17,589,571.73

From the Police Department

As many of you may have heard by now, during the very early hours of Wednesday, January 17, 2018 several vehicles around East 71st Street and side streets were entered and gone through. The vehicles were parked on the street as well as in driveways. Some of these vehicles were just ransacked and others had items taken from the vehicle.



Lt. Joe Wallace, while patrolling noticed a male walking down the middle of East 71st Street and after he passed by, he noticed interior lights on in a truck parked on the street. Realizing that it was unusual for the lights to be on he quickly turned around to speak to the male. Also on scene were Ptl. Frank Trusso and Ptl. Ted Mackiewicz. After some investigating, it was determined that the male they stopped was in possession of several items that belonged to the residents.

The male was placed under arrest and is currently serving one year in jail for the crimes he committed in Cuyahoga Heights.

Tips for Theft Prevention

Lock your car doors - Even if you are only going to be away from your vehicle for a short amount of time. Most vehicle break-ins occur when the door is unlocked. The criminals are looking for quick and easy targets.

Do not leave valuables inside your vehicle

Do not leave valuables in plain sight - Leaving a purse, backpack, laptop, wallet, and a cellphone (to list just a few) in plain sight will tempt a criminal to break in to your vehicle.

Do not leave your keys inside your vehicle - This includes a spare house key

Close all windows and sunroofs.

Just as a reminder, although we are out there patrolling and watching out for this kind of stuff we are not always lucky enough to see the incident happen. There are a few things you can do to protect yourself from this happening to you. (See insert to left).

Something else to think about is that most people also have a garage door opener inside their vehicle. This would make your garage and home (if attached to garage) accessible to the criminal as well. Remember to always lock your door between your house and garage.

If you see something, say something. Even if you aren't sure, call us and we will check it out. It is better to be safe than sorry.

From the Police Department

On Saturday, December 9, 2017, members of the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department participated in the "Shop-With-A-Cop" program. The "Shop-With-A-Cop" program is organized and sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) - George Murray Lodge #67. Every year members of the FOP raise funds in order to take local children on a holiday shopping spree. The children are picked up at their homes by escorting police officers and they are then transported via a large police procession to a department store for the shopping extravaganza. After the shopping was completed, the procession then returned to the Garfield Heights High School for a pizza party and treats.

This year approximately \$2,000 was raised, which allowed for the sponsorship of 10 children from the village. Over 100 police officers and FOP volunteers from 23 surrounding departments were on hand to make the event a success. This was the 22nd year of the FOP "Shop-With-A-Cop" program. Thank you to all the businesses, residents, and police officers who contributed to this event. A very special thank you to R&T Roadside Service for their generosity and assistance.



From the Dispatch Department

The Three S's of Winter Prep: Season, Storm, Supplies

❖ Seasonal Maintenance is Critical

Have snow-removal equipment and the heating system serviced on an annual basis, which includes testing to make sure the heat is working throughout the home.

Insulate any pipes that are susceptible to freezing and unhook hoses from outdoor faucets. Plus, it's a good idea to locate your water shut-off valve and ensure it is in working order.

❖ Storm Preparation is Important

Pay attention to local TV and radio stations for important weather updates.

Become familiar with how to trip the manual release on overhead garage door openers and have shovels ready ahead of the storm.

Make a family communication plan in case you're not together when the storm hits.

When a storm is imminent, move vehicles off the street.

❖ Supplies are Crucial

Have bottled water and non-perishable foods, clothing and blankets, batteries and flashlights, snow shovels and other snow-removal equipment on-hand in the event of an extended power outage.

Keep a supply of rock salt, other ice melt or sand, in case the stores run out during a particular storm.

Don't forget your pets - bring them inside during bad weather.



From the Fire Department

Our Department has put 4 new CPR Training Equipment in service this month. This training equipment came to us courtesy of ArcelorMittal through a Community Investment Grant. The equipment we were able to get are 1 AED Trainer, 4 Baby CPR Manikins, 4 Adult CPR Manikins, Adult CPR Trainers, and CPR Face Shields. We would like to thank ArcelorMittal for this opportunity and look forward to our continued partnership.

CPR training is provided to local industry, residents, students and staff of Cuyahoga Heights Schools. Planning and participation in training and emergency drills are provided both in house and with local agencies and fire departments. Contact Assistant Chief Selig at 216.641.6799 or h.selig@cuyahogaheights.com for more information.



Training equipment courtesy of ArcelorMittal.

From the Building Department

Fireplace/Wood Stoves:

1. Ensure that all fireplaces and wood burning stoves are clean and inspected for proper use.
2. Provide combustion air to all wood burning fireplaces and wood burning stoves to minimize creosote build-up.
3. Fireplace glass doors should be open during fire and closed when not in use.
4. Verify that chimneys have metal screen spark arrestors.
5. Stock all wood away from the house.

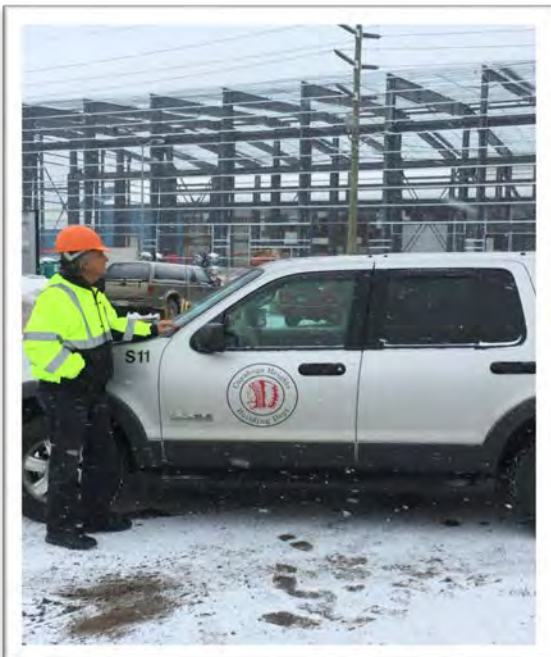
Smoke Alarm Reminder:

1. Test all smoke alarms.
2. Change batteries at least once a year, preferable every six months.
3. Smoke alarms must be installed in every level of the house, in hallways of the bedrooms and in all bedrooms.
4. Install carbon monoxide alarm on all levels.

Maintenance Review:

1. Homeowners, please review your maintenance requirement list issued in 2017 and advise the Building Department of completion and outstanding items.
2. The George M. Suhy Grant Program will be in effect for the next five years 2018-2023.

Please call the Building Department for any advice or list of certified contractors you may wish to employ.



Building Department is working with Charter Steel on their new 150 million dollar expansion.

From the Service Department

* 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.

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.



Seniors Corner

Hi Everyone.

Well this has been one cold winter blast we are having. I don't think I will warm up until June. Fortunately we had a few warmer days so we could get our Christmas decorations down. I think even our Snowman was cold and ready to be put away.

I hope all of you had a good Christmas. Sharing the holidays with family and friends is always so nice. Well, most of the time anyway. Sometimes it is so rushed, we are almost glad when it is over. Every year I say I am not going to put up so many decorations, but then I get into the spirit and do it anyway. It is always about the kids though so I don't mind.

We are starting to plan our Senior events for 2018 and have some good ideas so far so I hope all of you will take advantage and join us for our fun times. I will keep all of you informed as we go along so you will have plenty of time to sign up.

Well this is going to be an exciting year. We are going to celebrate our Centennial. I am sure our village will do everything in their power to make sure that this is going to be a nice celebration. They always do such nice work in organizing activities for our village and I personally would like to thank everyone on our village staff for all that they do.

A couple of people have asked me if we could do another recipe book with recipes submitted by our residents for our Centennial celebration. I made a couple of inquiries and it does seem possible. It would probably depend on how many recipes we get. So fellow residents, let us take pen in hand and write down your favorite recipes and we will see what we can do. I am sure all of you have something that you like to cook or bake that everyone raves about, so how about it. Just write out your favorite recipe and put your name on it and let's get this thing started. You can mail it to my attention at 4795 East 71st Street and I will see that it gets to the proper people. It can be more than one. I have a few that I love and would have a hard time deciding which one to submit.

Well everyone, I will write again next month and let you know of any new trips we are planning. Even if it is just a lunch or short trip, at least it gets us out of the house. Look forward to seeing you at our next event.

Noel Centa, President

Cuyahoga Heights Seniors

(216) 509-5278

From the Sports Commissioner

As a reminder, below are the registration deadlines for all recreational sports in 2018. As you'll see, the Spring Soccer deadline is quickly approaching. Please be sure to turn in your registration forms on time to help ensure that your child/children are placed on teams. Special thanks to everyone that has already turned in their forms.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Spring Soccer	February 15, 2018
Youth Baseball & Softball	March 15, 2018
Men's & Women's Softball	July 1, 2018
Fall Soccer	July 15, 2018
Youth Flag Football	July 15, 2018
Cheerleading	July 15, 2018
Youth Basketball	October 1, 2018

Registration forms received after the above deadlines will incur a late registration fee of \$25. While we will always do our best to place all children on teams, please note that we are unable to guarantee this will happen for late registrations due to roster restrictions.

If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to me at Stacey_Vitanza@yahoo.com or on my cell phone at 440-227-3801.

Village Want Ads

Seeking Babysitter for 1.5 year old

Few hours a week, Tuesdays approximately 5:00-7:00pm with potential "date nights." Must be comfortable with two huskies. Also must be okay with a two story house (exercise via stairs)
Call/Text Rachel at (216) 224-4773 or email @ MacGurl14@gmail.com

CONTACT AMANDA AT
A.DOMZALSKI@CUYAHOGAHEIGHTS.COM TO JOIN
OUR NEWSLETTER EMAIL LIST!

Dog Walker/Sitter

High school student or someone who just enjoys walking needed for Shar-pei dog, few days a week with possible dog sitting when out of town. For more information, call Mrs. Gerry Sajetowski at (216) 441-8979

NEED TO SPREAD THE WORD? CONTACT THE VILLAGE HALL @ (216) 641-7020 TO GET YOUR AD IN OUR NEWSLETTER.