



# Village of Cuyahoga Heights

December 2018

*Continuing to move our legacy community forward.*

## Upcoming Dates and Reminders

**December 24 - Christmas Eve**  
Village Hall/Service Dept.  
Closed

**December 25 - Merry Christmas!**  
Village Hall/Service Dept.  
Closed

**December 26 - Rubbish Collection**

**December 27 - Special Pick Up**

**January 1 - Happy New Year!**  
Village Hall/Service Dept.  
Closed

**January 2 - Special Pick Up**

**January 3 - Charity Pick Up**

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



### At the Village Hall

#### Council Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
Caucus 6pm, Meeting 7pm

#### Economic Development Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
4:30pm

#### Public Works Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
5pm

#### Finance Committee Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
5:30pm

#### Zoning Board Meetings

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
at 6pm

#### Work Sessions of Council

4<sup>th</sup> 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 - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

# From the Mayor's Desk

## Around town

Even though our Cuyahoga Heights Redskins fell short to the Glouster Trimble Tomcats on November 24; we are still proud of these young men and their accomplishments. Thank you again to the players, their coaches and staff for another incredible season.

Village resident and former Redskin player Tyler Hughes, Class of 2018, continued his football career this past season with John Carroll University. The team finished with 9 wins and 2 losses. His parents Dan and Jennifer Ulery are very proud of Tyler, as we all are. Pictured to the right is Tyler, #49 in his JCU uniform.

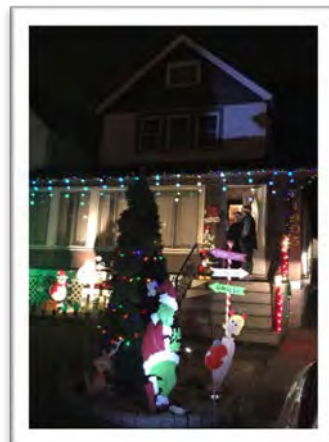


Congratulations to the following contest winners in this year's Christmas lighting contest: 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Rich & Linda Grabowski; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Brian & Candy Derbin; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Cleri & Barb Knapik. Thank you to everyone who decorated their homes this Christmas holiday...you all are "honorable mentions." Great job!



## Events

Our senior citizens had their annual Christmas party earlier this month in the auditorium at the Village Hall. A good time was had by all - the food and the music were perfect, and everyone enjoyed socializing with their neighbors. I've included an insert with several pictures from the party with this newsletter.



**Congratulations to  
our Annual Holiday  
Lighting Contest  
Winners**

## *From the Mayor's Desk (continued)*

### **Birthday wishes**

Milestone birthday wishes to Kathy Malek who celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 13, and to Lou Franko who celebrated his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 16. Happy Birthday and best wishes!

December birthday wishes to employees: (4) Brenda Poole; (6) Jason Deal; (8) Jesse James; (12) Vince Trusso; (14) Wendy Heinzman; (15) Diane Simmons; Damon Schreiber; (19) Michael Petti; (21) Howard Selig; (28) Hank Lemiec; and (30) Frank Trusso.

### **Thoughts and prayers**

I would like to convey our deepest sympathies to the Pellini family. Village resident Donna Pellini passed away on December 1; she was 91. For many of us, we remember Mrs. Pellini working in the high school cafeteria making those amazing rolls and cookies. Back then, much of the food we ate in school was homemade. Mrs. Pellini lived with her husband and children next to the swimming pool. During the summer months while she sat on her back porch, she would always say hello and talk to the kids. She was a very sweet and kind lady, and will truly be missed. Two of her daughters still reside in the Village so if you see either Sue or Bonnie, please give them your condolences.

Please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: Theresa Bentejewski, Mrs. Barbara Combs, Mrs. Ernestine Deliberato, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Mrs. Helen Leciejewski, Mr. Ed Ranch, Mrs. Dorothy Sonoda, and Mrs. Bernice Suhy.

As the year comes to an end we should try and slow down and think about all the things we are grateful for. We should appreciate the things in life that we take for granted - our health, our family, our community. Faith makes all things possible, hope makes all things work and love makes all things beautiful. Wishing you and your family a very Merry & Blessed Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Hope you enjoy our Centennial Christmas ornament for your tree which is included with this year's Christmas Card.

God Bless,



# From the Police Department

## From the desk of Chief Sturgill...



This holiday season don't let the spirit of giving distract you into giving the "bad guys" chance to do their dirty work. Homes jam-packed with glittering gifts, Stores, malls and downtown streets teeming with unsuspecting shoppers, People rushing around, stressed out and careless, looking for last-minute gifts, trying to get everything done. It's enough to make a crook giddy with holiday joy. The following are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season:

### If Traveling

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, shovel snow, and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.
- Contact the CHPD and place a "vacation watch" on your home.

### If Just Out for the Evening

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.

### If You Are Shopping

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and know where your exit points and escape routes are.

### Protect Your Vehicle

- Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Anything left in plain view—from holiday gifts to spare change, sunglasses, cell phones—may tempt a thief.
- Help prevent your vehicle from being stolen by always locking your car and using anti-theft devices. And although it's cold, never leave your vehicle running while you run inside your home or a store—even if for only a minute or two.



# From the Police Department (continued)

## If a Stranger Comes to the Door

- Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts, so be cautious when accepting a package.
- It's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity during the holidays by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.
- Report any solicitors to the CHPD.

## Take a Holiday Inventory

- The holidays are a good time to update your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. A detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file.
- Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment and power tools are on the list.


## Holiday Package Theft

- Track deliveries online and confirm delivery has occurred. You can sign up for email notifications to track your packages from initial shipment to its arrival at your home, or the recipient's address if you have the gift delivered directly.
- If you know a family member or neighbor will be home, ask them to pick up the packages as soon as they are delivered.
- Switch delivery location to work where it can be received by someone and not left on the porch.
- See if the post office or the store the product is being shipped from can hold the package for pick up.
- The post office will allow your package to remain safe and secure for up to 30 days.

## Enjoy the Season!

Last but not least, don't let holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends, and neighbors. And think about reaching out in the spirit of the season and helping someone who's less fortunate or lonely.



 The Cuyahoga Heights Police Department would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year!

*Respectfully,*

*Chief Brian Sturgill*

# From the Police Department (continued)

## 2018 "Shop-with-a-Cop"

On December 15, members of the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department and the George Murray #67 Fraternal Order of Police participated in the annual "Shop-with-a Cop." Funds are raised for this event through raffle ticket sales and local donations. Eighteen different law enforcement agencies and volunteers got together to take over 350 kids on a holiday shopping spree. After the shopping was completed, all returned to the Garfield Heights High School for a pizza party and a visit from Santa!



# From the Fire Department

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Thank you to Mayor Bacci for bringing our department a turkey for Thanksgiving. It is always nice to have a little home cooking when you are working for the holidays.

Our department rang in the season and celebrated with a number of our retirees. It was great to come together and reminisce with so many, including Chief Ken Nichols, Captain Ed Rudd, Lt. Don Pallini, Lt. Dennis Suhy, FF Randy Piasecki, FF Rick Bacci, and FF Pete Panizzutti.

Santa will be visiting our families this month during the station's annual Christmas party. Each year Local 702 and the Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department join together to host this special gathering.



Our Department has received a Grant from FEMA for 20 new SCBAs (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus). The FEMA Grant covered most of the cost and Cuyahoga County partnered to cover the remaining cost. In total we received \$116,906.00 in new equipment. This will replace our current equipment which is over 20 years old. We will complete training on the new equipment and have them in service early in 2019.



# *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.



Just a reminder to all our residents that 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 returning 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.



# *From the Village Hall*

## Pest Control Program

Pest control services are available by calling Rich or Jeremy Kozlovich at Pest Management, Inc., at (216) 661-3553. Please leave a message with your name, address and nature of problem. This service is free except for termites, bed bugs, and wildlife. In addition, they will also spray the outside of your home in the spring to hinder any unwanted pests from entering your home.

## Bus Trips

Our Village bus operates one to two times per week for our Village residents, free of charge; schedules are distributed with the Village newsletter. Reservations are required and obtained by call the Village Hall at (216) 641-7020 before 8:30 a.m. on the morning of the trip. For a Saturday, trip, please call the Village Hall before 3:30 p.m. on Friday. All trips leave approximately at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. In addition, pick-ups and drop offs are made at the resident's home. Please note that there is a \$5.00 non-resident fee.

## 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](mailto: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's newsletter. Please email the information to [w.heinzman@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:w.heinzman@cuyahogaheights.com).

## West Side Market

The bus will pick up residents at their home beginning at 7:00 a.m., and shoppers will have a couple of hours to enjoy all the market has to offer. The bus will depart the market at 9:45 a.m. to bring you back to your residence. Residents must register by calling the Village Hall no later than 3:30 p.m. on Friday, the day before the trip. Please also note that children 15 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Our next trip is scheduled for January 12.

# *From the Building Department*

## George M. Suhy Grant Update

At the June 13, 2018 Village Council Meeting, legislation was passed amending the George M. Suhy Grant. A homeowner may now receive three grants in a five-year period; however, if three different improvements are made within a year, the homeowner may apply for grant reimbursement for the three projects in the same year, but no further reimbursements will be made during the five-year period.

**In order to qualify for a grant, a property owner MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IN ADVANCE of the qualifying improvement being started. The Building Commissioner must be permitted to inspect the property BEFORE the qualifying improvements are made.**

If you need further clarification, please contact the Building Department at 216-641-7020 during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

# From the Service Department

## Dumpsters

Residents may rent a Village dumpster for personal use at their home by paying \$30.00 to the Village for each dumpster load. Use of the dumpster is for demolition, household goods, or yard waste only. Examples of demolition are: lumber, railroad ties, windows, doors, roofing material, flooring (*not carpeting*), drywall or plaster, stones, rocks, bricks, concrete, cement blocks, etc. Household goods include items typically found in a house clean out. Furniture and appliances should be set aside for special pick up. Yard waste is defined as anything that comes from the ground.

## Garbage Pick Up - Recycling - Yard Waste

The Village Service Department collects garbage every Monday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. at no charge to its residents. Our Service Department will come into your yard and take your garbage tote and recycling container to the curb; afterwards they will carry it back into your yard. Please note that if a holiday falls on a Monday; the service will commence on Tuesday.

## 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.**

## Charity Pick Up

Our Service Department will pick up any usable item at your residence that you would like to donate to charity on the first Wednesday of each month. Household items, furniture, clothes, etc., are collected and donated to the West Side Catholic Center. No tax receipts are given for this service, and you must call the Village Hall prior to the first Wednesday of the month for this service.

## Newspaper/Cardboard Recycling

Do your part in helping the environment; recycle cardboard and newspaper. Our Village has a recycling container which is located in Bacci Park in the rear of the back parking lot. The container is strictly for cardboard and newspaper. Stop on down and do your part in recycling. If you have a large amount and are unable to take it to the container, please call the Village Hall during normal business hours prior to Tuesday mornings; we will put it on our "special pick up" list.

## Good Canine Citizen

Pet owners, please remember to pick up dog droppings while enjoying Bacci Park with your pet. There are children that play in the area, and they are not as attentive to minding where they walk or what they are walking on. In addition, **please be sure to walk your pet on a leash for safety reasons.** Your cooperation is appreciated.



# *From the Service Department (continued)*

## Hazardous Waste Round-Up

This is a year-round program. Please call the Village Hall during normal business hours if you have hazardous waste that needs to be picked up.

## Snow Removal Program \* 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.



## *From the Sports Commissioner*

As we near the end of 2018, I am reminded of how blessed I am to have my family, friends, and this fine Village to call home.

Our youth sports programs continue to be a success as we work closely with our neighboring villages. The renovations to the fields at Bacci Park as well as the concession stand have been enjoyed by our high school, community teams, and even outside teams who have learned about our hidden gem.

As the sports program continues to grow, I have found it challenging to balance my full-time career, personal commitments, and what is needed to successfully support our village residents. Therefore, several months ago, I decided to step down as Sports Commissioner at the end of 2018.

I would like to welcome Jason Deal as our new Recreation Director beginning in 2019. I look forward to transitioning everything over to Jason in the coming weeks. Please feel free to welcome Jason into his new role by reaching out to him at [chvsports@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:chvsports@cuyahogaheights.com).

Thank you all for your support these past three years. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and the happiest and healthiest of New Year's.

*Stacey Vitanza*



### **HELP WANTED**

Part-time and substitute cafeteria staff positions are currently available at Cuyahoga Heights Schools.

If interested, please contact (216) 429-5818.

CONTACT AMANDA AT [A.DOMZALSKI@CUYAHOGAHEIGHTS.COM](mailto:A.DOMZALSKI@CUYAHOGAHEIGHTS.COM) TO JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER EMAIL LIST!

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