



Village of Cuyahoga Heights

February 2019

Continuing to move our legacy community forward...

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

March 10 - Daylight Saving Time - *Spring Forward One Hour*

March 15 - Youth Baseball & Softball Registration Deadline

March 16 - West Side Market Trip

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 20 - Spring Begins

March 27 - Arbor Day Memorial Tree Application Deadline

April 6 - Kennedy House Open 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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 - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

From the Mayor's Desk

Around town

Our condolences to village resident, Joe Vitanza and his family. His grandmother, long-time resident Mrs. Stella Bohdan passed away on February 12; she was 92 years old. I had the privilege of knowing her my entire life as she was the finest "Mrs." to a councilman I ever knew. She was married to Mr. John Bohdan, who was one of the village's councilmen for many, many years. She was always poised and never let politics interfere with raising her family. Please continue to keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

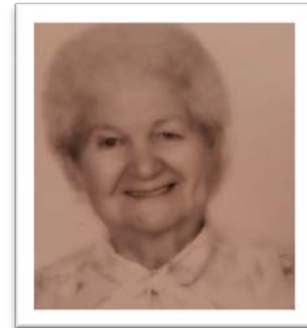
I had the honor of marrying village resident, Jacqueline Albondante to Justin Moran at the village hall on Valentine's Day. Congratulations and best wishes to you both. Pictured are Gary and Nichole Tritsarolis, me, and the newlyweds.

If you recently moved into our village, please contact the village hall with your name, address, phone number(s) and email address so we can update our records. You can also email the information to Lee Ann at l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com.

Events

Earlier this month, I was invited to the elementary school to attend a "Wax Museum" event which involved third, fourth, and fifth graders. Students dressed up as famous people and did presentations on them. For example: Amelia Earhart, Steve Irwin, and Michael Jackson, just to name a few. The event was neat, and I was very impressed on how well our students did.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we will be celebrating Arbor Day on Friday, April 26 at 5:30 p.m. at Bacci Park, and invite our residents to honor departed family members through the planting of a memorial tree. Village residents may purchase a tree through the Village for \$200 which includes your choice of a tree (*Pin Oak, Red Oak, Norway Maple, Green Mountain, Sugar Maple or Red Maple*), its planting and initial maintenance, and a memorial plaque. Village residents interested in purchasing a tree must turn in their application along with payment to the village hall c/o Lee Ann by **Wednesday, March 27**. Applications are available at the village hall or on our web site. Go to the "Department Tab" on our home page and click on "Village Hall."



From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Even though the temperatures dipped into the low teens, it didn't stop some of our resident children from utilizing Bacci Park by snowboarding, sled riding, and playing in the snow. Pictured are: Lily Bacci, Harper Deal, Jason Kostura, Brody Mahoney, Kendall and Zander Meriwether, Sarah Nolan, and Evan and Kalyn Wojtyszyn.

Our annual village Easter egg hunt will take place on Saturday, April 20 at Klima Gardens at 1:00 p.m.; rain-or-shine. The egg hunt is open to all Cuyahoga Heights' children and grandchildren; 0-12 years of age. Anyone wishing to donate Easter baskets, stuffed animals, gift cards, etc., for the egg hunt can do so by dropping off your item at the village hall during regular business hours prior to Tuesday, April 16. All items raffled will benefit our Cuyahoga Heights Boy Scout Troop 28. The boys will be on hand during the event selling raffle tickets. Also, any students that need community service hours, or adult volunteers that are willing to help, please contact our staff at the village hall.

Birthdays

Our office continues to collect dates of our residents' birthdays. If you would like to share this information with us, please email it to l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com.

Very special birthday wishes to Mrs. Adeline Lipiec who turned 94 on February 8th. *Pictured is Mrs. Lipiec from our senior flu shot event last September.* Additional birthday wishes to Building Commissioner Norm Casini who celebrated his 86th birthday on February 15, and Sue Pellini will celebrate her 60th birthday on February 27. *Wishing each of you that your day is filled with lots of smiles and laughter.*

February birthday wishes to employees: (4) Tiffany Contipelli; (5) Danielle Short, Jason Sagan; (13) Jack Pietraszkiwicz; (14) Ken LaBella; (16) Councilman Rick Centa, Joe Cipriano; (24) Todd Sciano; and (28) Lee Ann Schoeffler.

Thoughts and prayers

Good luck to Cleri Knapik on his upcoming surgery. Take it easy and rest up for the next 4 months. So no work!

As always, please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: Theresa Bentlejewski, Mrs. Barbara Combs, Mrs. Ernestine Deliberato, Mrs. Donna Derbin, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Mrs. Helen Leciejewski, and Mrs. Dorothy Sonoda.

"That some achieve great success, is proof to all that others can achieve it as well." ~ Abraham Lincoln



From the Chief Fiscal Officer

2018 Year End Finance Update

I am happy to report that the village ended 2018 with 1.4 million dollars in the general fund. We have worked diligently through the year to increase the general funds revenue reserve. It is recommended that municipalities have a reserve that could cover three months of general fund expenses. Income tax revenue in 2018 has increased as shown in the R.I.T.A. chart below. This is due to the passage of the income tax increase from 2% to 2.5% starting tax year 2017. As a reminder, five percent of all net revenues received have been allocated to our capital projects fund, to assist in maintaining our roadways, municipal buildings, slope stabilization, parks and recreational facilities.

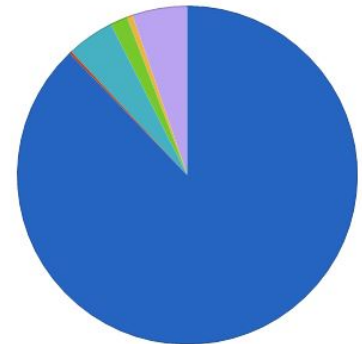


Where does the money come from. . .

	Full Year Actual 2018
41 LOCAL TAXES	\$11,407,829
42 SHARED TAXES	\$27,491
45 CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$589,988
46 MISC. FEES	\$214,099
48 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$71,560
49 TRANSFERS & NON-REVENUE	\$680,018

R.I.T.A. Revenue

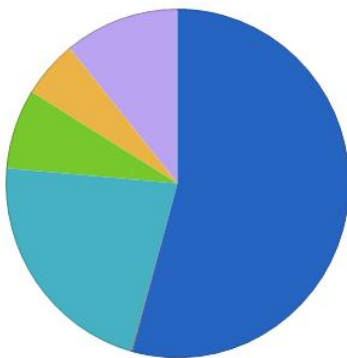
General Fund Revenues



Month Distributed	2017	2018	Difference from 2017	% change from 2017
QUARTER 1	2,220,644	3,012,764	792,120	35.67%
QUARTER 2	2,515,581	2,862,226	346,645	13.78%
QUARTER 3	2,411,841	2,481,142	69,301	2.87%
QUARTER 4	2,584,263	2,579,346	(4,917)	-0.19%
TOTAL	9,732,328	10,935,478	1,203,150	12.36%

Where does the money go . . .

General Fund Expenditures



	Full Year Actual 2018
51 PERSONAL SERVICES	\$6,670,698
52 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION	\$8,766
53 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$2,708,587
54 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	\$910,035
55 CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$658,480
57 TRANSFERS	\$1,332,382

Contact Information for the Finance Department

p: 216-641-7020 f: 216-641-8485

Chief Fiscal Officer: Angel Meriwether

Payroll: Amanda Domzalski

Accounts Payable: Christina Caporuscio

Questions about your individual **Income Tax** returns? Contact Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A) 1-800-860-7482

Questions about your **Property Tax**? Contact Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office 216-443-7010

From the Police Department

From the desk of Chief Sturgill...

St. Patrick's Day is on the way and green beer will be flowing! If you're planning to partake of the festivities, be sure to plan for the safety of yourself and others first.

Here are some tips to ensure that you're not relying on luck to have a safe, fun St. Patrick's Day whether it's at home or out on the town.

1) **Have a designated driver.** It goes without saying: Don't ever drink and drive. Plan in advance for someone in your party to abstain from alcohol. Thank them by picking up their (non-alcoholic) tab and reimbursing them for their gas.

2) **Have an alternate plan.** If no designated driver is available, make other arrangements (before the evening starts, if possible) for a ride home. Options include calling a friend or family member or renting a room at a hotel within walking distance. Many Cleveland areas offer safe driving alternatives, RTA; UBER, LYFT, etc.

3) **Drink water and eat food.** Don't drink on an empty stomach and keep your belly full.

4) **Don't leave your drink unattended.** Also, never accept a drink that has been opened for you.

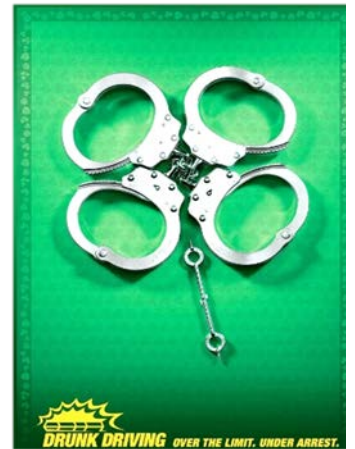
5) **Keep an eye on your friends.** Make sure your friends stay within their limits, and never let anyone drive drunk. If you have to, take their keys and help them find an alternate way home or to a hotel.

6) **If you're the designated driver, drive carefully.** Even though you haven't been drinking, others on the road may well have. Drive extra defensively and make sure everyone in your car remains buckled up. Keep a keen eye out for pedestrians, who may not have all their wits about them after a night of partying.

Have a Safe St. Patrick's Day!!!!

Respectfully,

Chief Sturgill



From the Building Department

Contractors performing construction work within our village must be registered per our village code chapter 1448 registration.

Our building department requires contractors and owners contracting work to register by filing a form issued by the building department and providing a certificate of insurance and bond as follows:

- Registration per application form
- Bond of \$20,000
- Certificate of insurance
- Workers compensation insurance
- State licenses and village registration for electrical, HVAC, plumbing, hydronics, refrigeration and fire alarm
- Register with the village tax agency RITA
- Registration fee \$100.00

Our village is a certified department for residential and commercial buildings

Note:

Rental renewals

- Due April 1
- Fees double after April 1
- Code Section 1494.02(c)

Out of County Owners

- Yearly registration
- Code Section 1492.26

Exterior Maintenance Inspection

- Spring 2019
- Code Section 1490.14

For your convenience, you can find many forms needed for the above on our website at www.cuyahogaheights.com, under Departments/Building Department.

George M. Suhy Grant Program - may apply for residential construction improvements. Construction work must be approved and permitted prior to any construction work, otherwise grants may not be approved for payment.



From the Fire Department



On January 25, we teamed up with the Cuyahoga Heights Elementary School (CHES) to assist with Donuts for Dads. In an occupation that has us working 24 hour shifts, we understand that dads often cannot be at every one of their kids' activities. Therefore, we offered to take part in the CHES Donuts for Dads and escort the students whose dads could not be at the school that day. Our firemen surprised the children at their buses and walked with them to their classrooms--joining them for breakfast. This experience was as much, if not more, fun for our department as it was for the students. Thank you to everyone at CHES for the opportunity and allowing us to be part of this special event.



Doing laundry is most likely part of your every day routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a qualified professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

AND DON'T FORGET...

Dryers should be properly **grounded**.

Check the **outdoor vent** flap to make sure it is not covered by snow.

Keep the area around your dryer **clear** of things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, etc.

Clothes that have come in contact with **flammable substances**, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

FACT

- ❗ The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.

From the Dispatch Department

The emergency warning sirens are tested the first Saturday of every month at noon, the siren will run for one minute. Our village has three sirens located throughout the village, one is on the roof of the fire department, one is on Chapek Drive and the other is on one of the buildings at the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. These sirens are used mainly to inform the public of any tornado warning in Cuyahoga County.



Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week:

March 17-23, 2019

Statewide Tornado Drill:

March 20, 2019 at 9:50 a.m

Tornado Safety Tips

Whether practicing in a tornado drill or sheltering during a warning, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness encourages Ohioans to DUCK!

- D - Go **DOWN** to the lowest level
- U - Get **UNDER** something
- C - **COVER** your head
- K - **KEEP** in shelter until the storm has passed

The sirens will be set off on March 20th at 9:50 am for one minute.

Please do not be alarmed when you hear the sirens.



Cuyahoga Heights Schools

Pre-Kindergarten Registration/Screening

Registration/Screening for students enrolling in pre-kindergarten during the 2019/20 school year will take place on **Friday, March 22**. If you have a child, or know of a child in our school district who is eligible to attend next year, please call the elementary school office at 216-429-5880 to make an appointment for registration. Children who will be **four years old on or before August 1, 2019** are eligible for the pre-kindergarten program.

The tuition rate for PK students living outside the district for 2019/20 is \$1500.



Garfield Heights Municipal Court Fresh Start Program

The Garfield Heights Municipal Court is helping people clear their outstanding court cases and get their driver's licenses reinstated. The Court is initiating the Fresh Start Program. This is for people who have not paid their fines and court costs. As a result, the Court has suspended their driver's license and issued a warrant for their arrest.

The Court is willing to give them a Fresh Start. It starts with the person paying \$200 to the Clerk of Court. The person will get a release for their driver's license and a date to come back to set up a payment plan for any balance due. "If the offender has multiple cases, the release will be issued on all cases with the payment of \$200 being applied to the oldest case first," Garfield Heights Municipal Court Judge Deborah Nicastro said.

The Fresh Start Program does not apply to offenders who failed to appear for a court date and they were never sentenced. "In these cases, the offender must post bond and get a new court date," Judge Nicastro added.

But, as long as the person sticks to the payment plan, they will be considered in compliance and their driver's license will remain valid. This is all done without any additional court proceedings or having to go before the judge again.

The Fresh Start Program also enables the offender to apply to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles for its Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Program. More information on that program can be found at www.bmv.ohio.gov/susp-fees-amnesty.aspx.

The Fresh Start Program runs until July 31st. It pertains to both outstanding criminal and traffic cases in the eight communities served by the Garfield Heights Municipal Court: Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, Brecksville, Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, Newburgh Heights, Valley View and Walton Hills.

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.

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.

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 March 16.

Seasonal Employment

Concession Stand Cashiers • Park Monitors • Summer Service Dept Laborers • Lifeguards • Pool Attendants • Pool Cashiers • Playground Monitors

Job Requirements for all the above:

1. All Cashiers and Park Monitors must be 16 years old by **March 1, 2019**.
2. Lifeguards and Playground Monitors must be 16 years old by **June 1, 2019**.
3. All cashiers must possess proficient math skills, have an outgoing personality, and must be available to work weekends.
4. Applications **must** be turned into the Village Hall by 4:00 p.m. on **March 22, 2019** for *Concession Stand and Park Monitors* and by 4:00 p.m. on **April 1, 2019** for *Pool*.
5. Applications **will not** be accepted after these dates.
6. Lifeguards must be a Certified Lifeguard, CPR Certified and WSI (Water Safety Instructor - *if applicable*).

Applications are available online at www.cuyahogaheights.com under "Employment" or at the Village Hall during normal business hours.

Park Monitors and Park Concession Stand Cashiers will start as soon as the weather permits!

The Swimming Pool opens on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Please be advised that submitting an application does not guarantee employment.

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 Sports Commissioner

Thanks to those of you that submitted your children's registration forms for the Spring 2019 soccer season. And a special thanks to the folks over at the Valley View and Brooklyn Heights Recreation Departments as they are currently working to build the team rosters so our kids will be all set to enjoy another competitive season on the pitch.

Also, a quick reminder to everyone that the summer youth baseball and softball season registration deadline is March 15, 2019. Any registrations that arrive after this date will be subject to the \$25.00 late fee.

The Village of Valley View is offering two youth baseball clinics this spring which will be held at Winik Field (or the Valley View Community Center in case of rain). If anyone is interested, please email me and I will forward a copy of the registration form(s).

Lastly, preparations are also starting to come together for the 2019 pool season. Anyone that is interested in applying for a seasonal pool position or any returning seasonal pool employees can access the various job descriptions and applications on the village website. This information can be found under the Recreation tab on the ribbon at the top of the website page. The various bits of pool and seasonal employment related information can be found by then clicking on the pool tab in the drop-down menu. Applications for summer pool employment may be dropped off at the village hall or emailed to me by April 1, 2019.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to send me an email at chvsports@cuyahogaheights.com or leave a message on my cell phone at 330-703-9175.

Jason Deal

PICTURES NEEDED:

Do you have old pictures of Cuyahoga Heights elections, campaigns, or voting activity? We are working on a project that could use your help! If you have any of these items, please bring them to the village hall, we will scan them, and return your original to you. Your help is very much appreciated.

Local Avon Representative!

CANDY DERBIN

Let me know if you would like a catalog. Email or text me at twinsmom614@gmail.com or 216-800-2613.

You can order 24/7 from my Avon website at <https://cderbin.avonrepresentative.com>

I'm also on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/CandyDerbinAvon/>

CONTACT AMANDA AT

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.