

Village Of Cuyahoga Heights



September 2016

www.cuyahogaheights.com

Future Important Dates:

Annual Corn Roast – Saturday, October 8
Event opens at 4:00 p.m., see attached flyer for details.

Basketball Sign Ups – Deadline October 15.
Forms are available on our website and must be returned to the Village Hall by October 15 to avoid a late fee.

Halloween Party – Sunday, October 30
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Klima Gardens.

Election Day – Tuesday, November 8
Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.



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



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From the Mayor:

Autumn is officially here and we are only two weeks out from the Corn Roast. Our Village Hall staff and Service Department are gearing up for our 6th annual event, and we hope many of you will join us. This tradition has really become an anticipated event for all ages! Additional information about the adult cornhole tournament, schedule of events and map for that day are included in this month's newsletter. Also, we are looking for high school student volunteers to help out at the Corn Roast. Available jobs and times are posted in the Guidance Office at the Cuyahoga Heights High School. This is a great opportunity for our students to receive community hours. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, September 28.

Events

Our yearly trip to Kelley's Island with our seniors started out with several hiccups along the way. A severe storm blew in that weekend with heavy rains, downed trees and power outages. In fact, the morning of our trip, Kelley's Island was without power. Luckily, it was restored about 1-1/2 hours before lunch. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to take any of the seniors on a boat ride because the water was very rough, and would have made for a miserable trip for some. However, the day turned out beautiful and everyone enjoyed themselves, as well as a delicious fish dinner at the Captains Corner. Thank you to my senior staff and senior citizens for a fun day away from town. Pictured below to the left are Mrs. Jean Dell'Anno, Mrs. Dolores Len and Mrs. Bea Duber. Pictured to the right are Clarence and Barbara Knapik. Also below is a group picture of me and all the seniors that attended that day.





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From the Mayor (continued):

Last Friday we held our annual networking luncheon with the businesses in our community at Klima Gardens. Once again, it was well attended and our guests enjoyed themselves. Several individuals from Consolidated Electrical Distributors were in attendance and we introduced them to our business community; they will be moving into town very shortly. Also in attendance was our newest staff member, Law Director Bill Mason, who replaced Jonathan Greenberg. Bill spoke to our audience about medical marijuana and how it will impact businesses. Pictured below to the right are Asst. Law Director Ben Chojnacki, myself and Law Director Bill Mason. Pictured to the left is me and our business friends from Charter Steel. We look forward to seeing our business community again next spring at our annual breakfast.



Our office staff put together a Village outing to watch the Cleveland Indians last Sunday. Unfortunately, the Detroit Tigers beat the Indians with a score 9-5. Even though we succumbed to a loss, our residents had a fun and enjoyable time at the stadium. Pictured to the right are residents Charlie Nichols and Zander Meriwether.



Saturday, October 1, will be our first transportation run to the West Side Market. The Village bus/van will pick up residents at their home beginning at 7:00 a.m. and shoppers will have several hours to enjoy the market. Departure time back to the Village is 9:45 a.m. This added trip will run the first Saturday of each month beginning with October and ending in April. Village residents must register by calling the Village Hall no later than 4:00 p.m. Friday the day before the trip. Please also note that children 16 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

The Presidential General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8 and the polls will be open in the Village Hall Auditorium from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. If you are not a registered voter, or if you have changed your address/name, or just need a vote by mail application, you can pick up the appropriate forms at the Village Hall during normal business hours. In addition to choosing candidates for the US and Ohio Senate, US Congress and State House Representatives, issues; our Charter Review Committee has put four-year staggered terms for our members of council on the ballot as well. Voter registration deadline is Tuesday, October 11. Applications for Vote by Mail ballots must be received at the Board of Elections on or before noon November 5, 2016.



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From the Mayor *(continued)*:

Economic development

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, Gibbs Construction completed the work at the former site of the Hillside Party Center, and as you saw in my letter earlier this week, we are applying for yet another grant to assist us in making this property ready for redevelopment. *"Hats off"* to our contractor, the Gibbs family, who did the demolition work not only in a timely fashion, but with minimum disruptions. They are an incredible family to do business with. Pictured below are several pictures before and after.



Food for thought

I recently had the opportunity to have breakfast at "Scratch," a new restaurant in Independence, and wanted to let our residents know how good the food is. CHHS Alumni, Brad Behrend - Class of 2013 is the chef. Stop by and support a fellow alumni; they are only open for breakfast and lunch. We've included a menu for your perusal with this newsletter. In addition, we have also included a menu from the 49th Street Tavern. They are offering a 10% discount to our residents. We haven't tried it yet, but will do so very soon.

Birthday wishes

Milestone birthday wishes to Mrs. Mary Casavecchia who turned "80" on September 1 and to Mrs. Robyn Nobili who turned "70" on September 6. *"Life's milestones aren't supposed to be counted, they're supposed to be celebrated!"*

September birthday wishes to employees: (5) Deputy Chief Mark Davis; (9) Councilman Todd Bloam; (17) Debbie Reiger; (18) Brad Unger; and (24) Traci Ricco.

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. Donna Pellini, Mr. Micky Sajetowski, Mr. Frank Schoeffler, Gina Snoddy, and Tyler Snoddy.



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From the Clerk:

Summer is coming to an end, and the Village looks great. Everyone has taken pride in keeping up our housing stock, the flowers on the poles are beautiful, and the streets and vacant land are meticulously maintained by the Service Department. Our new Service Director, Dave Sammons has worked hard to continue the tradition of keeping our community clean and beautiful. These are the things that keep our Village desirable, increase the price of our housing stock, and make it a great place to raise a family. Everyone has taken pride in our community, and it shows.

We started the year with 1.56 million in our General Fund, and we are on track to finish the year with 1.2 to 1.3 million in our General Fund after paying all of our bills and salaries. Again, the Council and Administration have wisely invested in many projects this year in infrastructure and economic development, and still maintained a balance of over a million dollars in our bank account. As of the end of September, after paying all of our bills, we have 1.53 million in our General Fund. We are balancing the budget, and keeping a close eye on our expenses.

The residents had a great time this summer at the pool, and Bacci Park. We employed many of our local children and seniors to work there, and they did a great job. Unfortunately, summer is coming to an end, and we are all looking forward to fall. I think it is the most beautiful time of the year!

Although our finances look good today, we are always watching the changing business environment to make sure the economy doesn't change. We will continue to monitor the finances and be good stewards of the Village's money.

If you have any questions or concerns, my office is always open.

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			
NOVEMBER	628,902.62	638,874.48	557,624.59			
DECEMBER	605,547.68	666,050.52	617,179.24			
TOTAL	7,673,272.28	8,095,985.12	8,109,486.56	6,571,541.40	409,642.88	9.04%



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Building Department:

Helpful Pre-Winter Tips:

- Disconnect and drain garden hoses
- Empty all external flower pots
- Drain all lawn sprinklers
- Fertilize lawn after your last cut
- Clean all gutters during and after all leaves have fallen
- Vents (soffit/roof) must be open for attic ventilation
- Protect your AC compressor with a cover and disconnect power
- Winterize pressure washer and lawn mowers by removing all water and gasoline
- Change furnace filters
- Make sure supply vents and return vents are not blocked
- Check all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors



Dispatch:

Tips on calling 911

1. **Try to remain calm.** Take a deep breath when you're asked "What is your emergency?" This will help both you and the dispatcher to interact efficiently.
2. **Cell phone or land line?** Yes, we are in the age of the smartphone, but 911 calls from cell phones may not tell the 911 dispatcher where you are. With land lines, however, the address associated with that number will show up on a dispatcher's screen.
3. **Know your location.** If you do call 911 from a cell phone, this is crucial and important. The more accurate and detailed your location report is, the quicker dispatchers can get emergency crews to answer your call. Describing major cross streets and landmarks.
4. **Be aware of your surroundings.** This is not only helpful in determining your location, but it's crucial in helping you to describe other victims, the suspects, or other details.
5. **Don't hang up.** The dispatcher may keep you on the line until an officer arrives, and if you call 911 by mistake just let the dispatcher know.
6. **Let the 911 dispatcher guide the conversation.** They will ask you for pertinent details that are usually required in any given situation.
7. **Be patient.** The call may seem to take forever, but the dispatcher is most likely typing information into the system while simultaneously alerting services to your whereabouts.



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Fire Department:



The Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department will be delivering Fire Prevention literature and batteries for your smoke alarms on 3 consecutive Sundays during the month of October. During our visit we will be available to assist you in replacing your batteries or answering any fire prevention questions you may have. If you are not at home on your scheduled Sunday we will leave the bag at your door. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to schedule a return visit to your home.

Non-emergency number - 216-641-6799

Sunday, October 9th

East 49th Street
Grant Ave.

Sunday, October 16th

East 71st Street

Sunday, October 23rd

Willowbrook Drive
Bletch and Marcelline Courts
East 72nd Place
Dressler Court



Wanted: Student Volunteers

If you are a student in need of volunteer hours, your help is needed at the Village Halloween Party which will be held on Sunday, October 30th. Please call Jennifer Ulery at (216) 513-3508. *Thank you!*



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Police Department:

Top 10 Simple Ways to Discourage Break-ins

When thinking about how to prevent break-ins from happening to you, there are a few things you should keep in mind. When thieves break into homes, there's a greater chance of them doing so during the day when many people are at work. Also, around 40 percent of annual household burglaries in the United States are not forced entries, meaning someone was able to walk, climb or crawl inside of houses almost as easily as if the owners left a key in the door. To keep unwanted intruders out of your home, you don't have to turn your property into a suburban Fort Knox. There are many solutions that require no money at all -- just a little common sense.



1. Don't Showboat

Don't leave items lying around the yard that could spark the interest of a would be burglar. If you buy a new T.V., appliance, or electronics, cut the box up before discarding it. Leaving it on a tree lawn could bring attention to your home. Open your blinds / curtains and see what can be seen from the street. If you can see it so can they.

2. Tricking Burglars

Remember, more break-ins occur during the day when many people are at work. For that reason, when you leave the house, create an illusion that someone's still there. You can leave a light on, along with music or your television for good measure.

3. Secure Sliding Doors and Windows

Sticking a pipe in the track for the sliding door will keep the slider from pushing open if the lock is picked. The same goes for windows, although a simple nail in the door frame could do the trick.



4. Don't Leave a Spare Key Out

If you have to leave it out think of a unique place and use a combination lock box. Here are a few bad places: a fake rock, under the flower pot, or under a door mat. Or leave a spare with a trusted neighbor or nearby friend.

5. Secure Your Yard

Tall shrubs and overgrown trees are welcome hiding places for criminals to wait until the coast is clear to get into your house. Low shrubs in front of windows remove additional covering for thieves if they attempt to break in through one. Cut away any tall tree branches that reach upper story windows

6. Get Police Help

If you're leaving town for a while, let the police know and request a house watch. We will do a perimeter check of your house a minimum of three times a day.

7. Prepare Before Vacation

Besides the house watch, inform a trusted neighbor(s) to keep an eye on your house. Stop or have someone collect your newspaper and mail. Make arrangements for the grass to be cut if gone for more than a week. In the winter make sure someone plows or shovels the snow.



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Police Department *(continued)*:

8. Know Your Neighbors

Getting to know the people you live around is one of the most important safety steps you can take. Closer-knit neighborhoods generally report fewer break-ins because strangers will stick out, and people are more likely to keep a casual eye on other people's security.

9. Stay Vigilant!

Although it's nice to know you have people watching out for you in your neighborhood, you also need to watch out for yourself. If you aren't paying attention to what you're doing, you could unknowingly be rolling out a red carpet for a burglar to waltz through your front door. Be careful of social media. Most of us are guilty of posting those vacation pictures or checking in on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. That just tells people that there might just be an empty home.

10. Lock it Up

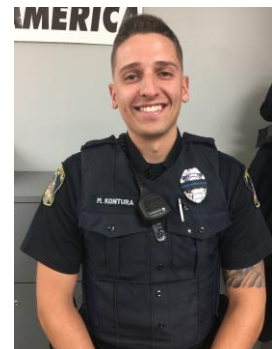
As mentioned earlier 40 percent of break-ins happen without the use of force. That means a lot of people are leaving their houses without locking the doors and windows.

Also don't forget to lock your cars in your driveway.

Although we try to make sure the road is covered at all times, there may be instances when you may not see a patrol vehicle for the CHPD for an extended period of time. It is not because the officers are just sitting around drinking coffee and gossiping. Most of the time the reasons for this could be a traffic accident, arrests, building searches, or criminal investigations.

Unfortunately, we cannot be in two places at one time, so we need your help. The CHPD would like to remind everyone that if you see a suspicious person walking around the neighborhood to please call and inform us. We will go check that person. **You are not bothering us** and we are more than happy to assist you in any way possible.

Some of you may have seen a new officer around town the last couple of months. His name is Matthew Kontura. Matt was raised in Brooklyn Heights and graduated from Cuyahoga Heights High School. Matt was sworn in and started his field training program on July 5, 2016 and is set to complete his training at the end of next week. Prior to joining the CHPD Matt was employed by the Cleveland Clinic Police Department. If you see Matt out and about, feel free to introduce yourself to him and welcome him to the village.



As always, please feel free to stop and talk to any officer, whether it is to just 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



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Cuyahoga Valley Career Center News

45th Anniversary Celebration!

Join us as Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) celebrates 45 years of building careers in your community. CVCC is inviting all of its community members to the 45th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, October 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Every five years, CVCC pauses to reflect on its history, celebrate its accomplishments, and look forward to its future. This event will be a jam-packed day of fun, food, activities, free workshops and demonstrations for all ages! For further information about CVCC or the 45th Anniversary Celebration, visit the CVCC Web site at <http://www.cvccworks.edu>

FAFSA WORKSHOP, Wednesday, October 19 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

This free event is an opportunity for college bound seniors and their parents hear the Director of Financial Aid at John Carroll University give an overview of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as well as a line-by-line explanation of the form and the **BIG CHANGES** for 2017-2018 school year. Also, learn how to accurately report assets and how to deal with special financial circumstances. Reserve a seat by contacting Darden Blake, 440-746-8242 or at <http://tinyurl.com/FAFSA-10-19-16>. For more information consult www.cvccworks.edu.

Community Wellness Presentation: “The Diabetes Diet: Enjoying Food & Fitness.” Tuesday, October 25, 2016 from 1 – 2 p.m. in CVCC’s Valley Inn Restaurant

CVCC, in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic, will host this presentation. Cleveland Clinic’s Cheryl Reitz, RD helps you have fun with planning your meals, learn what you can or can’t eat, and thrive with diabetes. Light refreshments, prepared by CVCC Culinary Arts students will be served. This presentation is free, but registration is required by October 18. Register online at: <http://tinyurl.com/CVCC-10-25-16> or email Marie Elias at melias@cvccworks.edu.



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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, if you call after this time, your pickup will be scheduled for the following Tuesday.** Your assistance is appreciated.

Pet Waste

Please remember to pick up after your furry friends when walking them in the Village, especially on sidewalks and tree lawns.

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.

Yard Waste

Yard waste (i.e., grass clippings, tree branches, leaves, etc.) must be put in bags or separate trash cans, **not in the 95 gallon Village issued grey trash cans or blue recycling cans.**

Leaf Pick Up

Fall will be approaching us quickly and we would like to remind our residents to rake their leaves to the tree lawn; our Service Department will then dispose of them for you.

Pest Control Program

Pest control services are available to our residents free for the inside and outside of your home. However, this service does not cover termites and bed bugs.

Pest Management Inc. will assist our Village residents with their pest problems. Rich and Jeremy Kozlovich will be wearing green vests so they are easily identified by our residents. If you are having a pest problem, please leave a message with your name, address, and the nature of the problem with the Kozlovich's. You may reach them at (216) 661- 3553, 1-800-794-2035, or Rich's cell phone at (440) 343-1316.





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Garfield Heights Municipal Court Second Chance Program

It's the *first* time Garfield Heights Municipal Court is giving people a *second* chance to pay outstanding court costs and fines. The **2nd Chance** Program began August 1st on a three month trial basis. During the first month, more than 50 cases were cleared. But, many more people could have taken advantage of the program. "At any given time, we have between 8,000 to 10,000 outstanding warrants for people's arrest. And many of those are because people did not come back to court on hearings on their fines and costs," Garfield Heights Municipal Court Judge Deborah Nicastro said.

The **2nd Chance** Program involves both criminal and traffic cases. When a person does not appear in court to pay the outstanding fines and court costs, an arrest warrant is issued and the person's driver's license is suspended. The case is also sent to a collection agency and an additional 30% fee is added to the outstanding balance.

The **2nd Chance** Program allows people to pay the original bill without any additional charges. The \$100 warrant cost and the added collection agency fee are forgiven. "By law, we can't suspend the fines, but we can suspend these additional costs. And, we are willing to do it to give everyone a second chance," Judge Nicastro added.

With the **2nd Chance** Program, there is no need to go before the judge again or incur any additional court costs. Payment can be made in-person or over-the-phone to the Garfield Heights Municipal Court Cashier. The court accepts cash or credit card payments. A 3% convenience fee is added to all credit card payments.

Clearing up these outstanding court cases also means the person will again have a valid driver's license. "The more you drive without a license, the more times you can get charged for driving under suspension. The points go up and your insurance becomes outrageous when you drive under suspension. So, this is a good time to clear it up," Judge Nicastro said.

The **2nd Chance** Program runs until October 31st.

