

# From Mayor Bacci's Desk



As we enter the month of February, I'm amazed as to how bitter cold it has been, as well as the lack of snow. However, we'll wait to see if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow or not on Friday, February 2.

2024 through 2025 is going to be a very busy and challenging time with significant construction in town. With that being said, I wanted to let our residents know that I will be putting together a letter which will be mailed out to each residence detailing what is to come. Please look for this letter within the next few weeks about these positive, but stressful projects that will impact our community in many different ways.



## *Elected Officials*

During the January 10th council meeting, I had the pleasure of swearing in the 2024-27 councilmembers: Stanley "Rick" Centa, Renato Contipelli and Matthew Schoeffler. Family members of several council members were in attendance, one of them being Jameson Schoeffler who was celebrating his 10th birthday. Since it was his special day, I asked him to assist me with the motion of adjournment and gave him the gavel to end the meeting. If you could have seen his face as he pounded the gavel three times to end the meeting—his expression was priceless. Councilman Schoeffler stated that Jameson said to his family later that evening while eating dinner at Cozumel, "it was the best birthday ever!"



I also wanted to take a moment and thank former Councilwoman Lois Henley for all her hard work and dedication she has given to the village while serving as an elected official—she truly was the ultimate public servant. Even as a resident and prior to becoming an elected official, Ms. Henley was always there for our seniors and youth. Her last council meeting as an elected official was Wednesday, December 13, 2023. Ms. Henley began her career as a councilwoman in 1986 with a combined total of 30+ years as a public servant. One of her biggest accomplishments was fostering our first Arbor Day event which was held on April 25, 2008, along with her Beautification & Go Green Committees. Ms. Henley was able to get over 100 residents and friends in attendance for this celebration. She managed to do so by making a wager with me—if there were more than 100 people, I had to jump into the pond. Well, I lost the bet, and had to jump into the very cold and murky fishing pond fully clothed. Thank you again Ms. Henley for everything that you have done for our town—and I believe that she will continue to be active in the community. On behalf of our administration, elected officials and residents, we wish you the very best—stay well and healthy!





# From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

## *Around Town*

Please note that there was an error in our 2024 village calendar. On Friday, April 26, 2024, there will **not** be an Arbor Day celebration at Bacci Park. The event is held every two years, and in the odd years. This went into effect in 2015 due to the low number of participants. So, our next Arbor Day celebration will be Friday, April 25, 2025.

Voting polls will be open for the 2024 Primary Election on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the village hall from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. If you have moved or changed your name since you last voted, you must complete a new registration form to reflect your new address and/or new name. Voter registration forms must be postmarked 30 days before an election in order to be eligible to vote. The registration form, as well as the "Vote by Mail" applications, are available for our residents at the village hall during normal business hours. You can also go online at [boe.cuyahogacounty.gov](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov) and fill out the forms. If you need additional information, the board of elections' phone number is (216) 443-8683.

Our annual village Easter egg hunt will take place on Saturday, March 23 at Klima Gardens at 11:30 a.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 for the egg hunt can do so by dropping off your item at the village hall during regular business hours prior to Thursday, March 21. Please make sure your children bring an Easter basket or bag with them so they have something to put their eggs in during the egg hunt. We also were advised that the Easter bunny will be making an appearance to take pictures with all. We hope that many of our residents are able to attend this long-standing tradition.

## *Senior Citizens*

If you are 55 years or older, why not consider joining the Cuyahoga Heights Senior Citizens organization. It's a great way to make new friends, participate in fun holiday parties, and enjoy group lunches and trips. Their first meeting of the year will take place on Tuesday, February 13 which is also their Valentine's Day party and includes dinner. Yearly dues are \$20 and are payable at the first meeting. If you would like to join and attend their party on the 13th, please contact Noel Centa at (216) 509-5278.

Medical transports are available for our senior citizens (60+) who are otherwise unable to get to their doctor appointments. If any senior citizens has a doctor's visit and in need of transportation, please contact Vera Heinzman at (216) 641-2702 during normal business hours one week prior to the scheduled doctor's visit.



# From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

## *Birthdays*

Special birthday blessings to Mrs. Irene Kloss who turns 93 on February 3. And very special birthday wishes to Ron Trzeciak who turns “60” on leap year — February 29. Apparently, it was a very big deal back in the day at St. Alexis Hospital when a child was born on Leap Year. Ron was born on February 29, 1964. Pictured is a newspaper clipping of Mrs. Rita Trzeciak holding her son Ron while in the hospital. Congratulations Ron and enjoy your very special 60th birthday!



February birthday wishes to employees: (2) Lance Hatcher; (5) Jason Sagan, Dave Palucki and Keith Faron; (7) Nicholas Dalton; (14) Assistant Building Commissioner Ken LaBella; (15) Building Commissioner Norm Casini; (16) Joe Cipriano and Councilman Rick Centa; (24) Todd Sciano; and (28) Lee Ann Schoeffler.



If you would like to share any exciting news with us (milestone birthdays, newborn, achievement, award, etc.) please email the information and picture to our office at [l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com](mailto:l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com) and we will put it in the newsletter.

## *Holiday*

In observance of Presidents’ Day, our village hall and service department will be closed on Monday, February 19. Please note that rubbish collection will take place the following day, Tuesday, February 20 and special pick up on Wednesday, February 21.



**“Live simply, love generously, care deeply,  
speak kindly, leave the rest to God.”**

**~ Ronald Reagan**

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# Village Hall Employee Spotlight

Michael Dentkos, Part-time Village Wide IT Specialist

Mike joined the village in October 2023 as a part-time IT Specialist. He brings over 30 years' experience in the IT Industry and has spent time as a field tech, project manager and people supervisor. His new responsibilities consist of delivering technology assistance to Village staff department wide. He is also expected to be "forward thinking" by making recommendations and contributing on projects that will improve upon the overall technology and security of our community. To that, Mike is teaming up with several vendors in the design and implementation of increasing our security camera footprint. This will be a multi-phased project over the next few years, and we will see additional cameras within our parks, public buildings and streets.

Mike grew up and went to school in Brooklyn, Ohio and is married to Sue for 32 years and live in Parma with their dog Yeti. They have 1 daughter (Kayla), son-in-law (Drew) and granddaughter (Stowe) who also reside in Parma. Outside of work, Mike spends plenty of time in the Catawba area where he enjoys fishing, kayaking and boat trips to the beaches & islands.

