CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS VILLAGE
EST. 1918

Continuing to move our legacy community forward . . .

December 2024 Newsletter

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

December 2 – Christmas Stocking Registration Deadline

December 4 – Charity Pick Up

December 21 – Winter Begins

December 22 – Santa at Bacci Park
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
***Must be registered to attend**

December 22 - Christmas Lighting Contest
Turn your lights on at 5:00 p.m.

December 24 – Village Hall/Service Department Closed

December 25 – Merry Christmas!
Village Hall/Service Department Closed

December 26 – Special Pick Up

December 31 – New Year's Eve

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & X!

At the Village Hall

Council Meetings
2nd Wednesday of the Month
Caucus 5:00 p.m.
Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Economic Development Committee /Public Works/ Finance Meeting
2nd Wednesday of the Month, if needed

Zoning Board Meetings
3rd Wednesday of the Month at 5:00 p.m.

Work Sessions of Council
4th Wednesday of the Month at 5:00 p.m.
**Only in January, February, March, April, May, October*

Village Hall office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Visit us online @ www.cuyahogaheights.com

Minutes of our council meetings are posted every month under the government tab.

From Mayor Bacci's Desk

I wanted to thank all who brought their children and/or grandchildren to our Halloween drive-thru. All the little ones were very excited and so many had great costumes! And, what a beautiful night we had in town; the rain stayed away for the trick-or-treaters and oh, so many—I know a few of us ran out of candy. I also wanted to thank our police and fire personnel for driving around town and making sure everyone stayed safe, as well as handing out candy and glow sticks to the kids.

Around Town

Mrs. Bea Duber, aka Aunt Bea celebrated her 85th birthday in November at her home surrounded by family and friends, and we heard a good time was had by all. Aunt Bea, you have reached a great milestone in life, and we wish you good health and happiness. Pictured with Aunt Bea are Stanley Schab, Vicki Franchino, Traci Herbruck and Lee Ann Schoeffler.

Service department employee Bob Krajewski's son Ryan recently enlisted in the Marines, and currently is stationed at Parris Island for basic training. We wish Ryan well and to stay safe, as to all the young men and women enlisted and to those who continue to serve our country.

Village residents and CHS seniors Nick Armbrust and Zach Unger were recognized as part of the Northeast Lakes All District First-team for Defense in Division VII football. In addition, CHS senior Paige Henley was invited to play in the Chagrin Valley Conference Volleyball All-Star game. We are very proud of these young and athletic residents, congratulations!

On the evening of Thursday, November 14 in the Cuyahoga Heights High School Auditorium, the standards of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Character, and Citizenship took on new meaning for selected students from Cuyahoga Heights Middle School (CHMS) and Cuyahoga Heights High School (CHHS). CHMS students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society while the CHHS students were inducted into the National Honor Society. Congratulations to the following village resident students. The NJHS inductees (eighth graders) are John Menkhaus and Talya Schoeffler, and the NHS members (tenth graders) are Benjamin Armbrust and Adham Gharib. Our sincere congratulations to these students on their hard-earned success.

From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

Councilman Todd Bloam is very proud of his daughter, Michaela Bloam. She recently was recognized by the Ohio Middle-Level Association (OMLA) during their fall conference and received the Regional Educator in Excellence Award. Michaela is an Art/7th Grade Science teacher at Independence Middle School. Michaela received this award in less than three years of being employed at the school and has made a remarkable impact on staff and students. Pictured with Michaela is IMS Principal Jamie Vanek. For those that might not know, Michaela works for our service department during the summer months taking exceptional care of the flowers in town.

Our next trip to the West Side Market is scheduled for Saturday, December 7. The village van will pick up residents at their home beginning at 7:45 a.m. (the market opens at 8:00 a.m.) and shoppers will have a couple of hours to shop.The van will then depart the market around 10:15 a.m. to bring you back to your residence. Residents must register by calling the village hall no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, the day before the trip. Please note that children 15 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult and there is a $5.00 non-resident fee.

Santa Claus is Coming to the Village!

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting Bacci Park on Sunday, December 22 from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This event is for our resident children and grandchildren between the ages of 0-12. You must sign up for this event by Monday, December 2 by contacting our staff at the village hall during regular business hours at 216-641-7020, or you can email Lee Ann in my office at l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com. We will need to know the name(s) of your children/grandchildren, their ages, your address, and most importantly your cell number. Just a reminder that this event is not a drive-thru and we ask that you park your vehicle at the parking lot across from the old salt bin, or by the lot next to the softball field. From there, walk on over to the boardwalk at the pond and check-in where you will be directed to the pond pavilion where Santa's helpers will have hot cocoa and cookies for the kids while they wait to have their picture taken with Santa. We'll also have a nice fire going to keep you warm. If it's snowing, kids should bring their sleds so they can sled ride down the hill behind the pond pavilion after visiting Santa, or if the pond is frozen, kids can enjoy skating on the pond. Dress appropriately for the weather and we hope to see you there!.

Christmas Decorating Contest

Turn your lights on at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 22 for our annual Christmas lighting contest. The judges will be going around town and awarding cash prizes to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place homes. Happy decorating and good luck!

From Mayor Bacci's Desk (continued)

Holiday Gift/Food Drive

For well over 13 years, our office has been assisting in a holiday gift and food drive that helps some of our folks here in town during Christmas. Anyone wishing to donate non-perishable food items can do so by leaving your items on your front steps/porch by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 22. Several of our employees will pick up the bag from your doorstep before noon that day. For those that would like to donate to our cause, please call our office. Thank you in advance to those that donate—we truly appreciate your kindness and generosity during the Christmas season.

December Birthdays

Birthday wishes to employees: (8) Jesse James, (15) Diane Simmons, (16) Damon Schreiber and (30) Frank Trusso.

Condolences

Village resident Barb Bartczak lost her companion of over 50 years, Frank Szell on November 4. Even though Frank didn't reside in town, he was always here. When the weather was nice, you would always see him and Barb riding around in his cherished red corvette. He always tagged along with Barb on our yearly August trip to Kelleys Island. He was a great guy—cordial, always smiling and telling a joke; he surely will be missed. Frank was 81 years old and a veteran who proudly served in the U.S. Navy.We went through our archives and found this gem of Frank and Barb along with Cleri and Barb Knapik from 2017 during our annual Kelleys Island outing. Please continue to keep Barb in your thoughts and prayers.

Offices Closed

The village hall and service department will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25. Please note that special pick up will take place on Thursday, December 26.

As 2024 comes to a close, we should try and slow down...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 yours a very Merry and Blessed Christmas. God Bless!

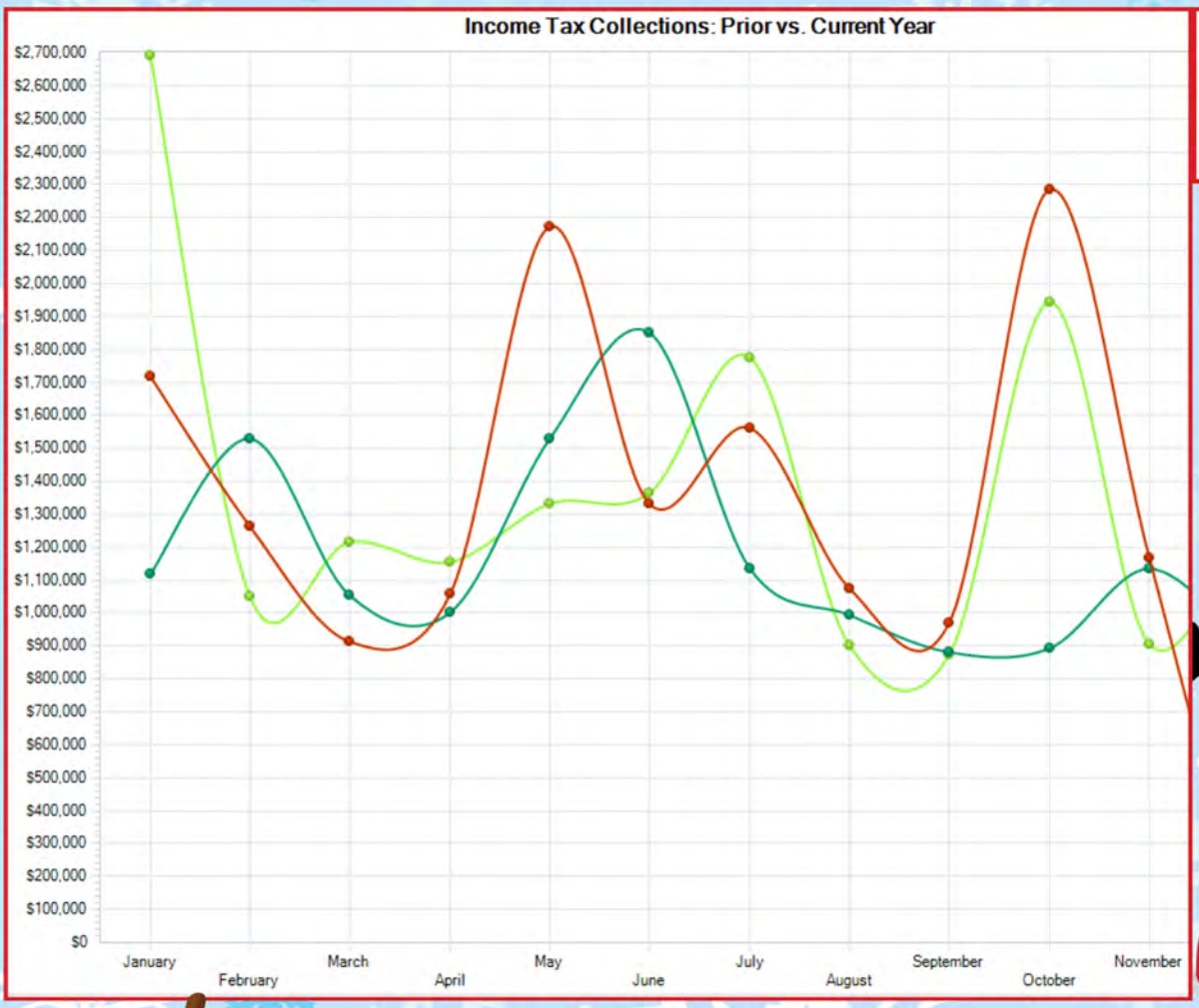
Jack M. Bacci

Village Hall 4863 East 71st St. Cuyahoga Hts. OH 44125 (216) 641-7020 cfo@cuyahogaheights.com

A Message From your CFO, Angel Meriwether

2024 Year to Date Municipal Income Tax Update

The Fiscal Office tracks revenue receipts back to a minimum of ten years to assist with trending and forecasting.



We are happy to report our Income Tax Receipts year to date are on track to finishing 2024 strong!

	Full Year Actual 2024
January	$1,719,822
February	$1,262,656
March	$912,284
April	$1,060,213
May	$2,173,980
June	$1,330,777
July	$1,560,214
August	$1,076,094
September	$969,590
October	$2,285,323
November	$1,165,406
December	$0

From everyone at the village hall,
we extend our warmest wishes to all
residents of Cuyahoga Heights
for a delightful holiday season and
a safe and Happy New Year!

Mayor Jack M. Bacci

Lee Ann Barb Angel

Norm Ken Christina

Mindy Mike

The entire Cuyahoga Heights Police Department wishes all our residents and their loved ones a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Fire Dept. 5480 Grant Ave. Cuyahoga Hts. Ohio 44125 216-641-6799 m.suhy@cuyahogaheights.com

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, MIKE SUHY

Christmas Tree Safety

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.

PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- **Almost one third** of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- A heat source too close to the tree causes more than **one in every five** of the fires.

Your Source for SAFETY Information
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

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Fire Dept. 5480 Grant Ave. Cuyahoga Hts. Ohio 44125 216-641-6799 m.suhy@cuyahogaheights.com

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, MIKE SUHY

Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Happy Holidays from the Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department!

As we reflect on the past year, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Cuyahoga Heights community for your continued support and trust. It's been an honor to serve and protect this wonderful village, and we look forward to doing so for many years to come.

The holiday season is a time for celebration, reflection, and togetherness. Our team is proud to be a part of your lives, and we are grateful for the partnerships and friendships we've built with so many of you. Whether it's responding to emergencies or participating in community events, we are always ready to serve, 365 days a year.

From all of us at the Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department, we wish you a safe, happy, and peaceful holiday season.

May the New Year bring health, joy, and prosperity to you and your loved ones!

Thank you for your continued trust and support. We're proud to serve you!

VILLAGE SERVICES

Garbage Pick Up – Recycling – Yard Waste

Our service department collects garbage every Monday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. at no charge to its residents. They 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 – NOW ONLINE!

If you need a special pick up for trash that is oversized, large amounts, or hazardous waste, you can now go online 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 submit your information by 4:00 p.m. on Monday to get on the list for Tuesday's pick up. Please visit www.cuyahogaheights.com at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Special Pick Up' tab. Please fill out your name, address, and all information regarding items you would like to be picked up and where they are located. You will then get an email response when the request has been successfully submitted. **If you have any questions, please contact Vera at 216-641-3505.**

Charity Pick Up – NOW ONLINE!

Our service department will pick up any small usable item at your residence that you would like to donate to charity on the first Wednesday of each month. Small household items, clothes, etc., are collected and donated. No tax receipts are given for this service. Please visit www.cuyahogaheights.com at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Charity Pick Up' tab. Please enter your address and select from the drop down. Fill out your name, phone number, email address and all information regarding items you would like to donate and where items are located. This must be submitted prior to the first Wednesday of the month for this service. You will then get an email response when the request has been successfully submitted. **If you have any questions, please contact Vera at 216-641-3505.**

Dumpsters – NOW ONLINE!

Residents may rent a village dumpster for personal use at their home by paying $30.00 to the village for each dumpster load. Dumpsters can be used for yard waste, construction debris or miscellaneous household items NOT including carpet, tires, or hazardous waste. Please do not mix materials. Please visit www.cuyahogaheights.com at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Dumpster Rental' tab. Provide your information and select a preferred delivery date for the dumpster & specify the location for placement. You can now conveniently pay the fee online through a link that will be sent to your email. You also can drop off cash or check payments at village hall. Use of the dumpster is for a maximum of two (2) weeks. After two (2) weeks, the dumpster will be picked up from the resident's home. If the resident needs to use it again, he/she will go back on the waiting list. Please note that the disposal of debris created from outside the village is prohibited.

Pest and Insect Control

Pest control services are available by contacting our service department at 216-641-3505 with your name, address, phone number, and the nature of your problem. We will then reach out to our pest control vendor. This service is free except for termites, bed bugs, and wildlife. The village also sprays the outside of your home in the spring to hinder any unwanted pests from entering your home.

VILLAGE SERVICES

Meals on Wheels (By Lori's Custom Catering) - NOW ONLINE!

Visit www.cuyahogaheights.com at the top select 'Online Services' & select the red 'Meals On Wheels' tab to fill out an application. This service is available to any village resident that is 60 years of age or older. A lunchtime meal will be delivered to your home daily, Monday through Friday, by our service department. This is an affordable option, the cost is $25.00 per week, which is only $5.00 per day ***(you must sign-up up for a full week.)*** To receive meals for a given week, payment must be made by the Thursday prior. **If you have any questions regarding this service, please contact Vera at the service department at 216-641-3505 or sd@cuyahogaheights.com.**

Table & Chair Rental

A limited number of tables and chairs are available for use by residents having parties at their residence, free of charge. Please contact the service department at 216-641-3505 to reserve your tables and chairs and to arrange a time when you can pick them up.

Leaf Pick Up

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.

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. If you are unsure if you have one on file, please contact Vera at 216-641-3505 or sd@cuyahogaheights.com.**

From all of us at the
Cuyahoga Heights Service Department,

SENIOR CITIZENS

Winter

CONCERT & LUNCHEON

DECEMBER 16 11-12:30

Cuyahoga Heights Schools Auditorium

If you are a member of your village's senior citizen club, please RSVP directly through your club. If you are not affiliated with a club, kindly RSVP to Tracy Deal at tdeal@cuyhts.org or call (216) 429-5702 by December 2.

THIS YEAR'S EVENT WILL BE HOSTED BY THE CLASS OF 2027

Save the Date!

Santa's Coming to Bacci Park!

Sunday, December 22nd

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

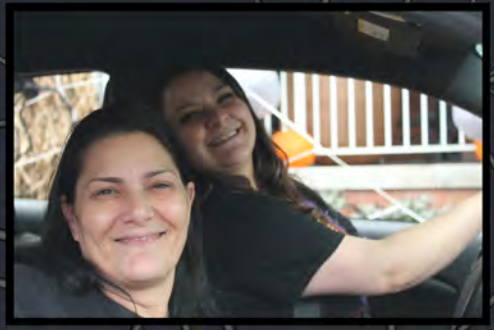
Village Resident children/grandchildren ages 0-12

Take pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus and then afterwards, warm up by the fire and enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and cookies!

Call the village hall at 216 641-7020 during regular business hours or email Lee Ann at l.schoeffler@cuyahogaheights.com to sign up

***Sign up deadline is Monday, December 2**

2024 Halloween Drive-Thru



2024 Halloween Drive-Thru

2024 Halloween Drive-Thru

Hope everyone had a spook-tacular time!

See you next year!

2024 Village of Cuyahoga Heights 2025

DIRECTORY

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS FIRE OR POLICE...911

Fire Department.....(216) 641-6799
5480 Grant Avenue.....Fire Chief Michael Suhy
Police Department.....(216) 883-6800
For non-emergency calls to the Police Department.....(216) 640-2045
5480 Grant Ave.....Police Chief Brian Sturgill

VILLAGE HALL.....(216) 641-7020
4863 East 71st Street.....Fax: (216) 641-8485

SERVICE DEPARTMENT.....(216) 641-3505
Fax: (216) 641-0315
5181 Canal Road.....Service Director Dave Sammons
SWIMMING POOL (Summer months).....(216) 341-7684

Website: www.cuyahogaheights.com

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR
Jack M. Bacci.....4863 East 71st Street.....(216) 641-7020

CFO
Angel Meriwether.....4863 East 71st Street.....(216) 641-7020

COUNCIL
Todd Bloam.....4897 East 71st Street.....(216) 299-3255
Rick Centa.....4795 East 71st Street.....(216) 406-7695
Renato Contipelli.....7143 Marcelline Court.....(216) 210-2307
Matthew Schoeffler.....4526 East 49th Street.....(216) 406-2620
Robert Unger.....4753 East 71st Street.....(216) 533-0089
David Volek.....4680 East 71st Street.....(216) 570-6239

LAW DIRECTOR
Ben Chjonacki.....1375 East Ninth Street.....(216) 623-0150
Roetzel One Cleveland Center, 10th Floor Fax: (216) 623-0134
Cleveland, OH 44144

VILLAGE ENGINEER
Todd Sciano.....7979 Hub Parkway.....(216) 642-1130
Donald Bohning & Associates Valley View, OH 44125 Fax: (216) 642-1132

BUILDING COMMISSIONER
Norm Casini.....(216) 641-7020

SCHOOL NUMBERS

Cuyahoga Heights High School.....(216) 429-5707
Cuyahoga Heights Middle School.....(216) 429-5757
Cuyahoga Heights Elementary School.....(216) 429-5880