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Montgomery Bulletin

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY

January 2006

Montgomery Council sworn in for 2006 term

Harbison tapped as Mayor, Suer is Vice Mayor

Montgomery's new City Council was administered the oath of office at the start of the December 7 business session. Council supported the appointment of Gerri Harbison as Mayor and Ken Suer as Vice-Mayor. Mayor Harbison has served on Montgomery City Council since 1999. Vice-Mayor Suer, who was re-elected to Council in November, has served on City Council since 2000.



Mayor Harbison and Vice-Mayor Suer take their oaths of office at the December 7th swearing in ceremony.

Yard waste collection ends until March

Don't forget, yard waste pick up has ended until the first week of March. The only exception will be the pick up of Christmas trees, swags and wreaths on consecutive Saturdays, December 31, January 7 and January 14.

Remember, all tinsel and other decorations must be removed from the greenery in order for the items to be picked up.

Two new members, Barry Joffe and Mark Combs, were elected in November to seats vacated by retiring Mayor Gary Blomberg and Councilman Ed Daniel. Lynda Roesch, also re-elected in November, began her second term on Council.

As part of its business session, City Council unanimously supported resolutions of appreciation for Mayor Blomberg and Councilman Daniel in recognition of their years of work and dedication to the City. Returning members Lynda

Roesch and Ken Suer were also re-elected in the November 2005 election.

Also serving on City Council are William Niehaus and Todd Steinbrink, both elected to four-year terms in 2003.

Meet Montgomery's newest Councilmembers

Councilmember Mark Combs and his wife have been Montgomery residents since 1983. He is currently the Court Administrator for the Court of Appeals, First Appellate District. His legal career also includes 13 years as Magistrate and Court Administrator for the Probate Court. Councilman Combs has also practiced law for 13 years. In addition, he is a high school football official and serves on the Board of Directors for the Ohio Valley Football Officials Association.



Mark Combs



Barry Joffe

Councilmember Barry Joffe has been a resident of Montgomery since July 1993. He and his wife Melanie have three children. The family was featured in the Great Neighborhoods Section of the Cincinnati Enquirer in October 2003, showcasing growing social diversity and the opportunities for community involvement in Montgomery. In his professional capacity, Barry is District Managing Consultant for DBM Inc. (Drake Beam Morin), a leading global human capital and transitions consulting firm.

City Officials

**Mayor
Gerri Harbison**

**Vice Mayor
Ken Suer**

**Council Members
Mark Combs
Barry Joffe
William Niehaus
Lynda Roesch
Todd Steinbrink**

**Clerk of Council
Susan Hamm**

**City Manager
Cheryl A. Hilvert**



to retiring Mayor, Gary Blomberg, who has been a strong advocate and active participant in Montgomery's Volunteer Program. "Walking the talk" while serving on City Council, Gary "dug in" on a variety of hands-on projects that included litter removal, flowerbed planting, holiday decorating and hanging basket planting. A grateful "thank you" is extended to Gary for graciously sharing his time and enthusiasm to serve on numerous volunteer teams to enhance our City.

COUNCIL CORNER

Montgomery City Council will meet in its regular monthly business session on January 4 at the City Hall. Meetings begin at 7 p.m., with public comment welcomed on each item before Council. Items on the agenda for consideration include:

An Ordinance amending temporary sign regulations (*2nd Reading*)

An Ordinance adopting revisions to the Land Usage Code to implement a Montgomery Road Corridor design standard (*2nd Reading*)

A Resolution authorizing an amendment to the current contract with Donnellon, Donnellon and Miller for legal services to the City of Montgomery

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Statewide Ford for the purchase of police cruisers

A Resolution

authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Nortrax-Great Lakes Inc. for the purchase of a 2007 John Deere 310 G Backhoe/Loader.

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with CDS Associates, Inc., for professional services related to general engineering and architectural services

Recent Council Actions

DECEMBER 7 BUSINESS SESSION

An Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Montgomery during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2006 (*passed 7-0*)

An Ordinance amending temporary sign regulations (*passed to 3rd reading, 7-0*)

An Ordinance adopting revisions to the Land Usage Code to implement a Montgomery Road

Corridor design standard (*passed to 3rd reading, 7-0*)

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Chard, Snyder & Associates, Inc. to administer a flexible benefit plan (*passed 7-0*)

A Resolution adopting a five year Capital Improvement Program for the City of Montgomery (*passed 7-0*)

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into

a contract with Creative Microsystems, Inc. for professional services related to the City's Financial Accounting Management System (*passed 7-0*)

DECEMBER 21 WORK SESSION

An Ordinance to modify appropriations for current expenditures of the City of Montgomery during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2005 (*Housekeeping Ordinance*) (*passed 7-0*)

Recycle plastic bags beginning in January

From January to March, the monthly cardboard recycling collection sponsored by the Environmental Advisory Group will be expanded to include a pilot project to recycle plastic bags. If you wish to recycle your plastic bags, please bring them to the monthly cardboard recycling drop-off site on the third Saturday of each month. The drop-off site is operated at the Montgomery Service Department Building at 7315 Cornell Road (across from



Sycamore High School) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ACCEPTABLE BAGS

HDPE (#2) plastic and the LDPE (#4) plastic bags (*triangle recycling emblem can be found on bags*)

Grocery and other shopping bags
Newspaper delivery (*must be dry, inside and out*)

Dry cleaning

Door Store and other fliers (*bags containing weekly circulars delivered door-to-door*)

BAGS NOT ACCEPTABLE

Zip lock bags
Anything having touched

food, including bags from a produce department

Trash bags

Bags printed with a number 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, or "other" in the recycling emblem.

It is important that the plastic bags are clean, dry and free of food. The plastic bags cannot contain any paper, cardboard, rubber bands, twist ties, receipts, handles, staples or food residue of any kind.

The plastic bags collected will be taken to 3R Recycling in Sharonville. From there, they will join a recycling stream to be used in new products.

**Please remember to
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.**

SNOW EMERGENCY! What you need to do

With winter weather upon us, residents are reminded that Montgomery has snow emergency legislation in place. As of last winter, when the city adopted snow emergency legislation, a snow emergency would be declared when winter storm snowfall totals three inches or greater during a single storm, or when other adverse winter weather conditions such as ice storms indicate that parked vehicles on city streets would impede access to city streets by Service Department trucks and equipment assigned to complete deicing or plowing.

Vehicles left unattended along

city streets during significant winter storms make the task of clearing streets difficult and frequently block access required by large trucks utilized to clear ice and snow from the public street network.

In order to keep residents and visitors informed about on-street parking prohibitions during times of inclement weather, "Snow Emergency"



advisory signs have been posted along public street "entryways" to the City of Montgomery. During winter storms necessitating a snow emergency declaration,

local television and radio stations will be notified and requested to include regular and consistent messages to their viewers and listeners that a City of Montgomery "Snow Emergency" has been declared and that on street parking is prohibited.

During heavy snow storms it may take many hours for road crews to get to the lesser traveled areas in the City, particularly when snowfall continues over several hours and crews need to go back over the main roads multiple times.

Pavements will be de-iced and/or plowed in the following order:

- 1 bridges and major arterials
- 2 primary streets (Collectors and other residential through streets)
- 3 secondary streets (minor residential)
- 4 Cul-de-sacs, other non-through streets, or parking lots

Sensory Sundays returns February 19

The popular Sensory Sundays, has been planned for February 19, March 5 and March 19. Each installment of the three-part music and arts series will be held at Terwilliger's Lodge from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Registration for the series begins January 9th, with tickets on a first come, first served basis. Due to space limitations, only 90 tickets will be available.

Tickets will be available at Montgomery City Hall for \$25 per event or \$65 for the three-part series.

A delightful collage for the senses, this event caters to your sight with a variety of art displays, your hearing with the talented and soulful sounds of area musicians and your taste with specialty samplers from local chefs.

During the event, participants can enjoy close-ups of the art, face to face interactions with the featured chef, and conversations with the musicians about their talents. The focus is on the blend of the talented jazz sessions, eclectic cuisine, complimentary wines and fine art.

This year's Sensory Sundays will feature:

February 19: Annette Shepherd will sing soulful jazz standards and gypsy swing style jazz; The One Restaurant of Mason will serve delightful twists on American cuisine; Bren Riesch's colorful canvases will be the events featured art.

March 5: Vocalist Eugene Goss and his ensemble will perform; kitchen creations will feature Jean Robert of Pigall's; a featured artist will be announced later.

March 19: The Faux Frenchmen will produce the saucy sounds of French style jazz; Germano's Italian cuisine will present a cultural accent; a featured artist will be announced later.

For more information, call City Hall at 891-2424.

Montgomery Volunteer Fair to debut January 26

The first annual Volunteer Fair is scheduled for January 26, at City Hall with two time periods (9:00-11:00 a.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m.) available for your convenience. The event will be an excellent opportunity for community members to learn more about the City's volunteer leadership opportunities-service on our boards and commissions, in addition to a myriad of episodic volunteer opportunities-staff support and assistance for City projects and events.

The City appreciates your patience and understanding of the necessity of prioritizing pavement areas during snowstorms. Information regarding the snow emergency policy and on the City's snow and ice control policy may be found on the city's website or by calling Montgomery Public Works Director Bob Nikula at 792-8311.

City Council Members, City staff and current volunteer leaders will be available at these informal sessions to provide detailed information about specific, volunteer opportunities. The 2006 Volunteer Handbook, a valuable resource for community participation, will also be distributed at the event.

Stop by, meet your City leaders and learn more about the invaluable role that volunteers play in our community.

Fitness Fever: Catch it today!

Catch Fitness Fever and jumpstart a new, healthier, fit and well year for yourself by taking advantage of fitness classes offered through the City of Montgomery Recreation Department. Make a change so those resolutions will work in the new year! (Detailed descriptions are available at www.montgomeryohio.org.)

TUMMY TUCKS

Jan. 17 - March 9; Tuesdays & Thursdays; 6-7 pm; Annex Building. This innovative Pilates class is geared towards using core body muscles (abdominal, obliques, back, and gluteals) to get effective results in your mid-section. This workout gets results in all the problem places by working on

lengthening of the spine, proper alignment and posture, and a strong center to give you a slimmer profile. Some equipment provided. Register at Montgomery City Hall by Jan 13. Limit 20 participants. Cost \$60R/\$65NR

20/20/20... BOOMER'S STYLE

Jan 17. - March 9; Tuesdays & Thursdays; 9 - 10 am; Annex Building. This class offers light cardiovascular exercises, light strength training, and light stretching for 20 minutes each. The instructor has experience in teaching to people over 50, and will teach to your fitness level, taking into account common physical concerns and the value of gaining and maintain-

ing muscle strength. Some equipment provided. Register at Montgomery City Hall by Jan 13. Limit 20 participants. Cost \$60R/\$65NR

HAVING A BALL

Jan. 14 - March 4; Saturdays; 8:30 - 9:30 am; Annex Building. This new 8-week class uses a Swiss therapeutic ball to emphasize basic strengthening and stretching exercises with Pilates movements for balance, core control and flexibility taught by Monica Stamper, a certified fitness instructor. Dress comfortably and bring mat, ball, towel, and water bottle. Register at Montgomery City Hall by Jan. 11. Limit 20 participants. Cost \$40R/\$45NR

Art classes for students and adults

DRAWING WITH EASE FOR ADULTS

January 22 (Saturday); 1 - 4 pm; Terwilliger's Lodge Drawing is a learnable skill of knowing how to see and fine-tune your techniques. Drawing should be a pleasurable visual process without anxiety and frustration. Participants will learn basic techniques in eye-hand coordination, shading, proportion, and perspective.

These will be a result of combining successful methods of drawing "on the right side of the brain" and some traditional standards as practiced in the professional field. Call City Hall at 891-2424 to register. Class size: minimum is 8 and the maximum is 12 artists. Cost \$28 (all supplies included)

YOUNG REMBRANDTS PRE-SCHOOL DRAWING CLASSES

Ages 3 to 6 years

January 18 - March 8 (Wednesdays); 4 - 4:45 pm; Terwilliger's Lodge (All new lessons in each session!) Young Rembrandts instructors provide a positive, nurturing environment for your child in

each 60 minute class. Each week, we'll draw something of interest to these little ones, from fish to teddy bears, rainbows to cowboys, and we'll talk about the subject matter as we learn to draw it together. We'll concentrate on the skills of drawing and coloring, but also work on developing fine motor skills, focus, listening, staying on task, spatial organization and patience. Classes are 45 minutes, all materials are provided. Call City Hall at 891-2424 to register. Class size: minimum is 6 and the maximum is 10 artists. Cost \$75

YOUNG REMBRANDTS ELEMENTARY DRAWING CLASSES

Ages 6 to 12

Jan. 18 - March 8 (Wednesdays); 5 - 6 pm; Terwilliger's Lodge (All new lessons in each session!) Young Rembrandts' innovative, step-by-step drawing method can teach any child how to draw regardless of artistic ability, giving them skills to express their creativity that will last a lifetime. We provide all materials and brand new subject mat-

ter every week, ranging from animals, landscapes, still lifes, even art history. Our philosophy is to give children a very positive, nurturing environment, as we teach fundamental drawing techniques. You will see increased ability, self-confidence and self-esteem. Call City Hall at 891-2424 to register. Class size: minimum is 6 and the maximum is 20 artists. Cost \$75

DRAWING WITH EASE Ages 12 to 16 years

January 29 (Saturday); 1 - 3:30 pm; Terwilliger's Lodge Drawing is a learnable skill of knowing how to see and it should be fun! Learn to relax as you draw by trying basic techniques in eye-hand coordination, color, proportion, and perspective. Enjoy seeing your own 'before' and 'after' drawings of still life and portraits. Materials to be supplied: crayons, pencils, color pencils, sketch paper, felt-tip pens, markers and straight edges. Call City Hall at 891-2424 to register. Class size: minimum is 8 and the maximum is 12 artists. Cost \$25 (all supplies included)

How to reach us



City Hall
891-2424

Police Department
(non-emergency)
985-1600

Fire Department
(non-emergency)
985-1633

Service Department
792-8355

Planning/Zoning/
Building
792-8309

Code Enforcement
Action Line
792-8316

Galette des Rois January 15

Start the year off by attending a unique, family event that celebrates Galette des Rois, viewed as the most popular activity of the French Alliance of Cincinnati. The Epiphany event will be held on January 15, at Terwilligers Lodge and will feature children's activities and, of course, the Galette that is baked by J. P. Chocolatier. Space is limited so please call 389-9100 to make your reservation as soon as possible for the 2 to 5 p.m. seating.

Helping hands needed to remove holiday decorations

Volunteers did a fantastic job decorating the Heritage District for the holidays. The City received numerous accolades on the "hometown" holiday welcome that the decorations elicited. Once again, we thank the abundance of volunteers that shared their time on this annual project.

Volunteer assistance is now needed to remove, inventory and store the holiday decorations. Members of the Montgomery Woman's Club and the Beautification and Tree Commission would welcome additional helping hands on Wednesday, January 4, at 10 am.

Those volunteers preferring to do the "take down" work will meet at the Universalist Church (corner of Remington and Montgomery Roads) while those volunteers focusing on inventory and storage will meet at the City Service Bldg. (7315 Cornell Rd.)

Contact Joyce Yock (792-8329) to sign up or for additional information. Donating even an hour of your time to this project would be most appreciated!

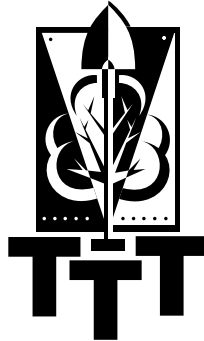
Terry's Tree Tips

A Christmas tree can be useful after the season

There are several innovative ways to put your live-cut Christmas tree to further use after the holidays. Trees can be recycled into a variety of uses, including mulch, compost or as a small scale wildlife habitat.

Some local park districts offer drop off programs for trees for to be chipped into mulch. Montgomery offers two tree recycling options; collection by Rumpke on the Saturday collection program scheduled on December 31 and January 7 and 14, or keeping the tree over the winter months and placing it curbside for collection during the City of

Montgomery spring brush collection program.



Home composting is another option.

Cutting the tree into smaller pieces for introduction into piles will be necessary for successful composting. Adding finished compost from home composting piles to home

gardens and planting beds will improve soil quality and plant health.

If a resident chooses to keep their tree over the winter months, wildlife protection habitats can be created into outdoor brush piles that include densely branched Christmas trees. Dense brush

piles make an ideal temporary winter home for small wildlife by providing shelter during those cold and windy winter days ahead.

Some park districts or owners of private ponds may also accept trees that will be weighted down and sunk in ponds to provide a protective habitat for smaller fish.

Before disposing of a live-cut Christmas tree, remember to:

Remove all trimmings such as tinsel, ornaments, lights and garlands.

Seek permission before discarding trees on public land, private land or in ponds. Discarding trees without permission could result in a litter violation.

Dog Park: What are YOUR thoughts?

The City of Montgomery is considering the development of a dog park or off leash recreational area for dogs within, an open, passive park space at Pioneer Park. As we begin this process the City is asking for your input and guidance. Please take a few moments to answer the following questions. You can fill out the survey form below and return it in person or by mail before January 13 to the City of Montgomery, 10101 Montgomery Road, or visit the City's website at www.montgomeryohio.org to fill out an on-line version of the survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Are you a dog guardian/owner? Yes No Number of dogs in household

If there was a dog park in Montgomery, how many days a week would you visit it?

Would you want the City of Montgomery to develop a dog park or off leash recreational area for dogs within an open, passive space at Pioneer Park? Yes No Why or why not:

Have you and your dog ever visited a dog park? Yes No If yes, what features did you like:

Please indicate the days and times you and your dog would use a neighborhood dog park:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Weekend Would rarely use

If you would visit the park, when would you and your dog likely make a visit:

Dawn - 12 noon 12 noon - 6 p.m. 6 p.m. - dusk



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meeting to learn more

uled for January 26, at

the privacy of residen-

ALL AROUND TOWN...

Opportunities for Volunteer Leaders

Make a positive difference in your community. Learn more about City government. Meet other community leaders. Share your talents. Contributing your time to serve on a City board or commission may be your ticket to accom-

plishing all of the above in 2006. Volunteer positions are available on the following: Board of Zoning Appeals; Environmental Advisory Group; and the Arts, Landmarks, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Sister Cities Commissions. If you would like to attend an upcoming

about the board or commission's projects and to meet the current members, contact Joyce Yock, Volunteer Coordinator, at 792-8329; visit www.montgomeryohio.org; or glean a better understanding of these leadership roles at the Volunteer Fair sched-

City Hall. (*See Volunteer Fair article on page 3 for details.*)

Preservation group meets January 24

The Montgomery Historical Preservation Association will hold its annual meeting at Swaim Lodge on Tuesday, January 24. The organization's business meeting begins at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Twin Lakes opens McKinley Place

In late October, Twin Lakes completed McKinley Place, specifically designed for the health and rehabilitation needs of older adults. Assisted living, nursing services, therapies and memory support services are all available in one convenient location.

Hannaford Court offers

tial living in one and two bedroom apartments with just the right amount of assistance.

Shepherd Court, with spacious rooms, wireless call systems, country kitchens and courtyard gardens re-create all the comforts of home with the finest in nursing services.

Walden Court offers compassionate assistance and support for individuals with memory impairments. Aquatic programs, salon and spa services, banking and postal services are readily available in the adjacent Community Center.

McKinley Place residences are filling fast! Schedule a tour of this one of a kind community by calling 719-3500.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

January • January • January

4	Council Business Session	City Hall	7 pm
7	Sycamore Baseball Sign-ups	City Hall	9 am - noon
9	Beautification Commission	City Hall	9 am
9	Arts Commission	City Hall	7 pm
9	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
11	Landmarks Commission	City Hall	7 pm
12	Parks & Recreation Commission	City Hall	6:30 pm
13	Health District Immunizations	Safety Center	8:30-11:30 am
15	Galette des Rois	Terwilligers Lodge	
16	Martin Luther King Day/City Offices Closed - trash pickup as usual		
16	Sycamore Schools Closed		
17	Sister Cities Commission	City Hall	7 pm
18	Council Work Session	City Hall	7 pm
21	Cardboard Recycling	7315 Cornell Road	10 am - 1 pm
23	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
24	MHPA Annual Meeting	Swaim Lodge	7 pm
30	Environmental Committee	City Hall	7 pm
31	Board of Zoning Appeals	City Hall	7:30 pm
31	Fourth Quarter 2003 Taxes Due		