



Montgomery's Mission:
Taking responsibility together
to provide superior services.

www.MontgomeryOhio.org

Montgomery Bulletin

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY

April 2007

Open House

City Hall

The City will conduct an open house for citizens on Saturday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to noon in the City Hall Council Chambers as a part of the Montgomery Tax Office's extended hours program.

The open house is designed to provide an informal forum for citizens to stop in to meet Council members and City staff to discuss questions, concerns or ideas.

Safety Center

The annual Open House at the Montgomery Safety Center will be held Saturday, April 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For the 10th consecutive year, the event will spotlight both the Montgomery Police and Fire Departments.

Guests can meet police officers and firefighters, take tours of the Safety Center, and enjoy events, demonstrations and booths for all ages.

Special events include prize drawings, free food and refreshments, and a landing of The UC Air Care Helicopter (weather permitting). Due to limited parking, extra parking is available at St. Barnabas Church, 10345 Montgomery Rd., just north of the Safety Center.

June 9 - 24

HOMEARAMA: 10 points to keep in mind

The City of Montgomery is rolling out the welcome mat for the return of Homearama in June. The last Homearama in Montgomery was in 1995, when thousands of visitors had an opportunity to see not only the showcase of homes, but also the community. As planning continues for the event, here are 10 points to ponder about the importance of Homearama in our hometown:



1 Montgomery welcomes HOMEARAMA 2007!

The City of Montgomery welcomes the return of HOMEARAMA to our community. City officials are partnering with the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati to ensure a terrific success that positively impacts the community.

2 City officials are working to ensure HOMEARAMA is a smooth-running event for all residents, guests, business operators and their employees.

An event of this magnitude will bring many visitors to Montgomery. City officials have extensive plans in place to address traffic and safety issues, as well as all city services. Solutions are already in place for anticipated traffic volumes, exit and entrance routes, necessary signage and onsite parking.

3 A great opportunity for businesses, local organizations, schools and other civic groups to display their support for this highlight event.

The 2007 HOMEARAMA will showcase Montgomery as a premier place to live, work, shop and dine. The City will be developing "Welcome HOMEARAMA" signs to display in the windows of all interested businesses and organizations. (More info coming soon!)

4 The last show in Montgomery in 1995 was the largest attended ever!

HOMEARAMA locations have varied throughout the entire Greater Cincinnati area in the show's 46 year history. In 2007, the show returns to Hamilton County for the first time in more than 10 years, and historic Montgomery was chosen as the prized location.

5 The Vintage Club north of I-275 hosts HOMEARAMA.

The Vintage Club, a gated, pedestrian-friendly community of homes, businesses and shopping and dining facilities will be the site of HOMEARAMA 2007. Upon completion, the development will consist of 40 luxury homes, 66 club and courtyard homes, and 100

Continued on Page 3

Volunteer greeters in great demand

An army of volunteers is needed to represent our City as we welcome thousands of guests to our community for the prestigious HOMEARAMA event being held at the Vintage Club of Montgomery. The annual event, sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati, will open to the public on Saturday, June 9 and will run through Sunday, June 24. Two volunteer representatives—a City employee or City Council

Member—accompanied by a community member or two are needed for each shift to greet the public and to distribute materials. Choices for the Monday-Friday time frames are 4-7 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday time frames are 12-4 p.m.; 4-7 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. If you are interested in participating in this highly acclaimed community event, please contact Joyce Yock, Volunteer Coordinator, at 792-8329.

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

Did You Know...

How Montgomery, Ohio, got its name? The first founders of Montgomery, Ohio who settled here in 1795 were originally from the City of Montgomery in Orange County, New York. That city was named for General Richard Montgomery, a brigadier general in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. These early settlers decided to name this new settlement after General Montgomery too. Over the years, Montgomery grew, achieving the status of "village" in 1910 and then finally, the "City of Montgomery" in 1971.

COUNCIL CORNER

Montgomery City Council will meet in its regular monthly business session on April 4, 2007 at the City Hall. Meetings begin at 7 p.m., with public comment welcomed on each item before Council.

PENDING LEGISLATION

■ An ordinance amending Section 50.02 of the Code of Ordinances governing the disposal of real estate pursuant to an urban renewal/urban redevelopment plan or through the Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation (2nd Reading)

NEW LEGISLATION

■ A resolution accepting a bid and

authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Brock & Sons, Inc. for the construction of the Jolain Drive sidewalk project

■ A resolution authorizing an agreement between the City of Montgomery and the Board of Hamilton County

Commissioners relative to the improvement of Remington Road from Montgomery Road to the Montgomery/Indian Hill corporation limits

■ A resolution adopting rules and procedures for council

■ An ordinance

amending Ordinance No. 20, 2006, which established the procedure for the receipt and disposition of personal property

■ An ordinance granting an access easement within Safety Center lot to Twin Lakes in Ohio, not for profit corporation

Recent Council Actions

MARCH 7TH BUSINESS SESSION

■ An ordinance amending Section 50.02 of the Code of Ordinances governing the disposal of real estate pursuant to an urban renewal/urban redevelopment plan or through the Montgomery Community

Improvement Corporation (*Passed 1st Reading, 7-0*)

■ A resolution authorizing lawn mowing contract extensions for the mowing of various parcels throughout the City of Montgomery during 2007 (*Passed 7-0*)

■ A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Federal Local Let Project Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the project known as the HAM-US22-15.29 Project, PID No. 81422 (*Passed 7-0*)

Montgomery 2006 tax forms due April 17

The City of Montgomery recently sent out tax forms for 2006. If you did not receive a form or have questions about the form you received, call 891-2424 and ask for the tax office.

Due to April 15 falling on a Sunday, and the holiday of Emancipation Day being observed on April 16 in Washington D.C., your 2006 completed tax return or extension request will be due on Tuesday, **APRIL 17, 2007**. Your form was printed with the due date of April 16, 2007, however the city will be following the federal and state guidelines for tax due dates.

Extended hours planned

In addition to our regular hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, the Tax Office will be providing

extended hours for the convenience of residents, using the following schedule:

Monday, April 2:
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 7:
9 a.m. - noon

The week of April 9 - 13, the Tax Office will mirror the front desk hours of 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. with the exception of:

Wednesday, April 11:
8 am - 6 pm

Saturday, April 14:
9 am - noon

Monday, April 16
8 am - 6 pm

Tuesday, April 17
8 am - 6 pm

For assistance completing your tax return, please bring your W-2 form(s), applicable Federal

1040 form and any supporting federal schedules with you. The Tax Office will prepare your local return without cost and no appointment is necessary. For your convenience, and new this year, there is a locked container at the front desk of city hall for an easy and safe drop-off of your forms and information.

Don't forget that your Montgomery tax return or your extension request is due on or before Tuesday, **APRIL 17** this year. Your return will be considered 'on time' if your envelope is postmarked on or before April 17.

For any questions, please call (513) 891-2424 and ask for the Tax Office, or visit our website at www.montgomeryohio.org and click on Tax Forms and Information on the home page.

Death and taxes: thoughts about estate tax reform

This feature appears regularly, allowing Montgomery's elected officials to communicate directly with residents.



This month's message by Council Member Mark Combs

You may have seen articles recently about a proposal in the General Assembly to eliminate the Ohio Estate Tax. While I generally welcome tax relief, I would be remiss if I neglected to mention the consequences. Most Ohio residents are not aware that the Ohio Estate Tax has been a significant revenue source for municipalities, particularly the more affluent communities, for nearly 40 years. Although there have already been major changes to the Ohio Estate Tax since 2001, its elimination would not go unnoticed by municipalities. So, what is it and how will it affect us here in Montgomery? I offer three comments to put this in perspective.

First, the Ohio Estate Tax is levied against the value of a decedent's estate. Unlike an inheritance tax which is paid by beneficiaries of an estate, the estate tax is paid from the assets of the decedent's estate. It is an unpleasant topic for discussion since it only comes upon the death of one of our friends or

family members. Until 2001, the State of Ohio shared the Ohio Estate Tax revenue so that 36% went to the State and 64% was returned to the municipality where the decedent lived. In 2002, the State's share was reduced to 20%, resulting in 80% going to the municipality. Although the percentage share going to local government increased, the general assembly also made *substantial* tax cuts. This was good news for taxpayers, but it created financial hardships for some municipalities who were accustomed to that revenue stream.

Second, for most municipalities, formulating its annual budget is challenging enough, but estate tax revenues are exceedingly difficult to predict from year to year. In addition to the obvious reason stated above, Ohio Estate Tax reform made it more unpredictable than before. The inset chart reveals just how random the estate tax revenue actually is for the City of Montgomery.

TAX YEAR	ESTATE REVENUE
2000	\$616,831
2001	\$1,213,351
2002	\$270,154
2003	\$1,268,743
2004	\$608,288
2005	\$339,302
2006	\$222,831

For decedent's estates with a date of death before January 1, 2001, the estate tax credit was \$500, so that estates more than \$40,000

paid taxes. The estate tax credit was increased to \$6,600 in 2001 and then raised to \$13,900 in 2002. In essence, decedent's estates less than \$338,333 pay no estate tax. There were modifications to the marital deduction as well as tax relief for farms and family owned businesses. Since the actual payment of the estate tax occurs about nine months after the date of death, it takes time to evaluate the impact on revenue.

Third, the City's finance department, legal counsel, and members of council have been monitoring these tax changes and have anticipated that the day would come when the Ohio Estate Tax would cease to be a revenue source. For budget planning purposes in 2008 and beyond, we project no estate tax revenue. This conservative budget planning has served our City well in the past, and until we receive other direction from the legislature, we intend to apply those same principles to keep the City fiscally sound in the future.

For more information on the Ohio Estate Tax, visit the Ohio Department of Taxation at <http://tax.ohio.gov/divisions/estate/index.stm>.

HOMEARAMA...

Continued from Front Page

condominium homes, with a pool and exercise facilities.

6 Visitors will tour luxury homes built with the latest architectural design.

Visitors will see the latest in architectural features, unique furnishings and home decorating, as well as premier landscaping design. Contractors will have information available for all HOMEARAMA visitors.

7 Two of the ten luxury homes featured are sold!

The ten luxury homes featured are projected to have an average sales price of just under \$2 million each. These premier homes are already gaining widespread interest from Realtors and buyers.

8 HOMEARAMA 2007 takes place Saturday, June 9, to Sunday, June 24.

Show times are 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays, and Noon to 11 p.m. weekends. Admission is \$12 for adults. Children 12 and under are admitted free with an adult. All parking, restrooms and concessions will be available on site.

9 Visit us while touring HOMEARAMA 2007.

The City of Montgomery will have a tent at the show to highlight some of the unique features of the community. City officials and volunteers will be on site each day to welcome residents and guests. Stop by and say hello!

10 How can you find out more?

We invite you to visit the HOMEARAMA section on the City of Montgomery website at www.montgomeryohio.org, or feel free to contact City Hall at 513-891-2424 during office hours.

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
792-8356

Free movies monthly in Weller Park

Starting May 4, the City of Montgomery will present vintage family movies on the first Friday of each month in Weller Park. Light refreshments will be available, with proceeds to benefit park enhancements. All movies begin at dusk:

May 4
Raiders of the Lost Ark

June 1
Ferris Bueller's Day Off

July 6
Grease

Aug. 3
The Goonies

Sept. 7
Ghostbuster's

Noise barriers being installed along I-275



The week of April 22 has been designated as National Volunteer Week. It is an annual opportunity to recognize the enormous contributions of volunteers nationwide. In our "neck of the woods," Montgomery volunteers continue to enhance our community's lifestyle and increase the taxpayer's dollar by generously sharing their time and a myriad of talents.

Making a long term commitment, 63 volunteers serve in a leadership capacity on one of our City's 10 boards or commissions. These teams are the backbone of our Volunteer Program. Over 500 additional volunteers, however, prefer an "episodic" (short term or on call) approach and assist with "hands on" projects or help to bring our community together by lending a hand at the City's special events.

A grateful "THANK YOU" is extended to each and every one of these volunteers that has made civic participation a priority. Their dedication and civic pride have helped to make Montgomery a unique "community" in which to work and reside.

For the Montgomery residents who live along or near I-275 east of the Montgomery Road interchange, relief from highway traffic noise is on the way. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

recently awarded a contract to the Complete General Construction Company of Columbus to install noise barrier walls along the stretch of I-275 between the Montgomery Road and Loveland-Madeira Road interchanges.

According to ODOT, this 7.4 million dollar noise barrier wall project is expected to reduce noise levels to surrounding residential properties by 6.2 decibels. That noise reduction should be

welcomed by the approximately 40 Montgomery households with direct property frontage along the I-275 highway right-of-way, as well as their neighbors that live further away from the highway.



The noise barrier walls will be constructed of concrete, but will have a tan hue with a rock wall pattern. The height and length of noise barrier wall segments will vary, however the walls will generally be between 10 and 15 feet tall.

All project inspection and coordination of contract work will be completed by the Ohio Department of Transportation personnel. The City of Montgomery will periodically post project updates on www.MontgomeryOhio.org.

Information about contacts familiar with or responsible for construction activity will also be posted so residents will have direct contact phone numbers for questions or comments about construction as it progresses.

ODOT was scheduled to host a project pre-construction meeting after this article went to press so additional information regarding where wall construction is slated to begin was not available for this article.

According to ODOT, the project would begin in mid-March and continue until October 2008.

For more information, check the City of Montgomery website, call ODOT District 8 offices at (800) 831-2142 or visit the ODOT website at www.DOT.STATE.OH.S/DIST8 for the latest information regarding this project.

Winners announced in annual Photo Contest

Twenty photography winners were announced at the March 18th Photography Reception and Exhibition sponsored by the Arts Commission. Each of the award recipients received a professional critique of their winning photo by the renowned juror, Corson Hirschfeld, in addition to a \$100 prize.

The 2007 winners are...

Students: Kari Cooper, Lydia Bullock, Erin Jackson, Rachael Robinson, Sarah Thomas, Dylan Bauer (Milford H. S.) and Emma Robitaille (All Saints Elementary), two time winner Esther Freeman (School for Creative and Performing Arts) and "Best of Show" Kristen Corbett (Milford H. S.).

Adults: Jodi Brinn, Linda Erhart, Suzanne Lorenz, Jim Barrett, Tom Rielage, Paul Liebat, two time winners Todd Moore and Tom McFarlane.



Above: "Vanity" by Kristen Corbett (Best of Show/ Student). Top Right: "The Narcissist" by Tom McFarlane (Best of Show/Adult). Right: "In Her Shoes" by Emma Robitaille (Student Division)



Safety Village opens in June

Magical town to reappear in Montgomery

In the 1954 hit Broadway Musical *Brigadoon*, a village appears for a brief time once every 100 years. While the theatrical love story depicted a fantasy town, there really is a village that regularly appears... then disappears: Montgomery's Safety Town.

While *Brigadoon* appears in the midst of a field, Safety Town makes its appearance at Swaim Park. As soon as it appears, little people (*KIDS! not*

Munchkins... that's the Wizard of Oz!) will be invited to participate in a variety of important learning programs that help prepare them for the real world.

When Safety Town appears this summer, children entering Kindergarten or First Grade (5-6 years of age) can participate in a one-week, summer safety camp where children learn about various aspects of child safety.

This year's Safety Village will be held at Swaim Park for two one-week sessions. Each week will offer children entering kindergarten or first grade the option of a morning or afternoon three-hour program.

Sessions will be offered June 18 - 22 and June 25 - June 29. Morning programs will be from 9 a.m. to noon. Afternoon sessions will be from 1 to 4 p.m.

During the week, children will learn to make wise decisions in potentially dangerous situations, as well as how to handle emergencies they may encounter. Students will also learn basic rules of pedestrian and traffic safety, in addition to fire, personal, animal, water and school bus safety.

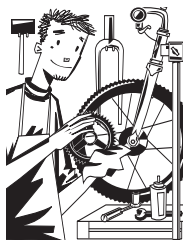


Each day, safety specialists will visit the classes and teach about their particular area of expertise.

Safety Village is operated by a Montgomery police officer and a certified teacher, with assistance of junior high school,

Bike tune-ups and kids' sale planned during open house

During the annual open house at the Safety Center on April 28 (*see story on front page*), two programs have been planned just for area youth. The programs include a spring bicycle tune-up and a "swap & trade" sale.



Bicycle Tune-Up

During the Safety Center Open House from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., experts from Montgomery Cyclery will offer FREE routine maintenance and adjustments to ensure the safety

high school and college students. Teens interested in volunteering to assist the staff with this year's important Safety Village are invited to contact the City's Volunteer Coordinator Joyce Yock at 792-8329.

Safety Village is offered free to children who reside in the City of Montgomery. Non-residents may participate at a cost of \$25 per child. Residents whose children reside in Montgomery may pre-register their children by visiting the Safety Center, 10150

Montgomery Road, beginning April 30 at 8 a.m. Registration will be open to non-residents on May 7. Registration is limited and is offered on a first come, first served basis. Mail-in registrations cannot be accepted for Safety Village.

of each bicycle. Seat and handlebar adjustments, brake and tire check, chain tune-up and helmet fittings will be provided as part of the Police and Fire Open House.

Swap and Trade

Kids ages 8 to 15 are invited to participate in a little spring cleaning by bringing out their books, toys, and collectables to sell for cash or swap for new stuff. This year's event is to be held along the sidewalk at the Municipal Pool from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 28. Only 20 tables will be available for the "swap and Trade" program, so register early at City Hall for a table or call 891-2424 to get your reservation in now.

Boy Scout Directories to be available April 15

The new 2007 Montgomery Residential Directory will go on sale beginning April 15. Boy Scouts from Montgomery Troop 258 will be going door-to-door selling the Directories until the end of May. The Directories will also be on sale at the Montgomery Fifth Third Bank for a limited time.

The 2007 Directory is an attractive, 6 x 9-inch, 150 page spiral-bound book to be kept near your phone for easy reference. It contains city government and emergency information, city history, school information, residents listed by alphabet, residents listed by street, advertisers listed by alphabet, advertisers listed by type of business, and a fold-out map of Montgomery.

Troop 258 would like to thank the Montgomery businesses and residents for supporting the Boy Scouts.

Week of pick-up determined by day of trash service

Curbside brush pick-up begins April 16

In addition to the massive brush chipping project undertaken after the February ice storm, the Service Department will also provide a spring and fall curbside collection of bulk brush and limbs. The spring program is scheduled to begin on April 16 and continue over a five week period. The week of pick-up in each neighborhood will be determined by the day of regular trash pick-up.

Since a daily schedule for each neighborhood cannot be predetermined, residents are encouraged to place their materials curbside on the Sunday night of their respective collection week.

The curbside collection is undertaken manually by Service Department personnel and placed into a brush chipper. The following guidelines have been established for the bulk brush collection program:

Locations offered for yardwaste drop-off

In addition to curbside yardwaste pick-ups and brush pick-up in the spring and fall, Montgomery residents may have occasions on which they need to dispose of large amounts of natural debris (i.e. removal of overgrown bushes, or bulk amounts of brush). Residents can take advantage of three yardwaste management sites operated for residents of Hamilton County.

Materials should be prepared in accordance with yardwaste guidelines (*see story above*).

Residents may also be interested in managing their own yardwaste. Call the Yardwaste Hotline at 513-946-7755 to receive a FREE copy of the *Yardwaste at Home Handbook*.

TRASH PICK-UP DAY	WEEK OF BRUSH PICK-UP
MONDAY	APRIL 16 - 20
TUESDAY	APRIL 23 - 27
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 30 - MAY 4
THURSDAY	MAY 7 - 11
FRIDAY	MAY 14-18

Collection Guidelines:

■ Brush containing nails, metal, stones or excessive dirt will not be picked up.

■ Vines and branches with thorns will not be picked up.

■ Limbs must be between 3 feet and 10 feet in length and between 1/2 inch and 8 inches in diameter. Shorter branches, twigs and clippings should be placed in yard waste bags and/or cans to be picked up by Rumpke on your regular waste collection day.

■ Brush and limbs must be placed at the edge of road or

along the curb with the "cut" ends of brush toward the street in small piles. Please do not create large stacks or interwoven piles with "cut" ends placed in different directions as this makes the material difficult for crews to separate for collection.

■ Stumps, root balls and logs are not to be placed curbside for brush collection but may be placed out for yard waste collection on regularly scheduled trash days. Each item, however, cannot weigh more than 60 pounds.

■ Each item should weigh no more than 60 pounds each.

■ Brush piles that are tied into bundles or are tangled will not be picked up.

For additional information, call City Hall at 891-2424. Brush collection will occur again starting in late September. Watch for the in the September issue of the *Montgomery Bulletin*.

Yardwaste Drop-off Sites

North

Rumpke Sanitary Landfill
Struble Rd. & Colerain Ave
Colerain Township

West

Kuliga Park
6717 Bridgetown Road
Green Township

East

Turpin Farm*
3295 Turpin Lane (off Rt. 32)
Anderson Township

Yardwaste Site Hours

All sites will be closed Sunday, April 8.

March 31 - November 25

Saturdays and Sundays
11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

January 5 - 12, 2008

Saturdays ONLY
11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

* The Turpin Farm location is also open Monday - Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Turpin Farm is closed July 4 for Independence Day, September 3 for Labor Day, and November 22 for Thanksgiving Day.

Need to toss out a large item or appliance?

If you need to dispose of a large item such as a couch, dresser or refrigerator, Rumpke crews will pick it up. The pick-up, however, must be arranged by calling Rumpke at 742-2900. If the item contains freon, you must have a HVAC person remove the freon. A tag will be placed on the appliance to indicate the freon has been properly removed. After the tag has been attached, Rumpke will pick up the item.

Terry's Tree Tips

Baldcypress gains 2007 "Tree of Year" designation

This month the City of Montgomery Beautification & Tree commission is distributing Baldcypress tree seedlings to students in grades K-2 at Montgomery Elementary, Mapledale Elementary and Symmes Elementary schools to celebrate Arbor Day on April 27. So I thought this would be a great time to talk about one of my favorite trees, the Baldcypress.



Baldcypress grow in a large part of the United States having Hardiness Zones between 3 and 11. Our location in southwestern Ohio is considered Zone 6 so Baldcypress is well suited for our climate. With a mature height of 70 feet and mature width of 20 feet, these trees do grow quite large so it is important to find the right location for a Baldcypress if you do decide to purchase and plant one of these wonderful trees.

Baldcypress will perform very well in either wet or dry soils although a sunny location is necessary. These trees have some very interesting and unique features that may also make them one of your favorite trees as well.

In wet or saturated soils the Baldcypress develops "knees", known more technically as pneumatophores which is Latin for "breathing structures". Baldcypress knees are believed to assist the tree in obtaining oxygen during flooded conditions. A local example of Baldcypress "knees" can be seen in a grove along the pond in Pioneer Park where these trees have been growing for about 15 years.

Baldcypress are conifers, yet shed their needles. In this regard they are deciduous conifers with the added peculiarity of also dropping needle-bearing twigs in the fall. This gives the Baldcypress a "bald" appearance during winter months although vigorous regeneration does occur in the spring.

The new needle color starts as a bright yellow-green in the spring and changes to a soft sage green in summer. The needle then changes to a russet or soft brown and eventually to a mellow orange brown in the fall before needle drop occurs.

With warmer temperatures right around the corner, our Baldcypress groves will be "leafing out" soon so please visit our City parks to see our Baldcypress groves. A couple of locations other than Pioneer Park where you can see these wonderful trees include along the banks of Todd Pond located in Swaim Park and at the Gateway Falls along Pfeiffer Road just east of I-71.

The City of Montgomery is proud of our urban forest and the recognition of being named a Tree City USA for the 11th straight year and also earning the Tree City USA Growth Award for the 7th out of the past 8 years. Please keep the spirit of Arbor Day alive by selecting the "right tree" and planting it in the "right location" to keep our urban forest growing!

The scientific name, *Taxodium distichum*, is a fusion of Latin and Greek: "Taxodium" means "like taxus" referring to the leaf appearance, and "distichum" means "in two ranks," referring to the leaf arrangement.

Park planning seeks input

Residents who were unable to attend one of the three public meetings on the park master plan announced in last month's *Montgomery Bulletin* will still have an opportunity to voice their thoughts in writing. Comments on the following questions would be helpful in the planning process. Submissions can be sent to Jess Parrett of LSM Inc., who is assisting in the development of the master plan. Comments can be sent via e-mail to jparrettLSM@fuse.net.

The following four questions have been beneficial in helping respondents in their thinking regarding park and recreation planning.

Comments can be limited to these points or on thoughts in general about future expectations or past experiences.

1 How do you/your family currently use Montgomery Parks and Recreation services?

2 What can we do better in providing park and recreation services to meet your needs?

3 What do you believe will be the major challenges for the Parks and Recreation Departments over the next ten years?

4 What could be added to Montgomery Parks and recreation services so that they continue in providing quality and valued service?

Public input is being sought through April 15, at which time the feedback will be compiled for a draft proposal for public review by August.

After receiving feedback on the initial proposal, a final proposal will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to City Council for adoption.

Join the team to help the environment

Do your share to improve our community's environment by participating in the nation's largest organized litter removal project—the Great American Clean Up. Montgomery will participate in this national endeavor on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The project focus will be to remove litter from our roadsides and to spruce up our City's parks. Volunteers will meet in the City Hall parking lot for registration, project assignments, distribution of supplies and light refreshments. Individuals, families, scout troops, civic organizations, church groups and businesses are all encouraged to join over 2 million volunteers across the country that are "Making a Difference."

To sign up or for additional information, contact Susan Hamm at 792-8314.

Seasonal Programs

provided by the Montgomery Recreation Department

Program Registration

Please register at least three days prior to the start of the program, or by the noted deadline.

All registration takes place at City Hall, 10101 Montgomery Road. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Registrations must be made in person or by mail unless otherwise indicated. Checks should be made payable to the City of Montgomery.

No refunds will be issued unless you cancel at least three days prior to the start of the program.

There is a \$25 Cancellation fee for all programs.

Montgomery Recreation reserves the right to cancel any class due to low enrollment.

Questions?

For further information, please call 792-8317 or 792-8348.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

TAEKWONDO

EVERY Monday and Wednesday at Annex Building;
Group 1: 6:30 -7:30 p.m.;
Group 2: 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Emphasis is placed on self-

defense, kicking, stretching and promotion to the next belt. This is a year-round course for all ages interested in Taekwondo Korean Karate. Cost: \$35R/\$40NR per month.

YOUNG REMBRANDTS SUMMER CAMPS

\$48 for each session (90 minute classes), all materials provided, Classes held at the Annex Building, a minimum of 6 students needed

EGYPTIAN CAMP

Ages 7-13 yrs

June 11-13 (M, T & W),
10:30 a.m. to Noon

Explore the mysterious world of Egypt! Students will dig into how the Egyptians lived and investigate decorative objects in the treasured tombs, including sarcophagi, hieroglyphics and more. Students will create drawings full of artifacts and Egyptian imagery using a variety of media.

JUNIOR MONSTER CARTOON CAMP

ages 5-8 yrs

June 11-13 (M, T & W)
1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn to draw wild faces, exaggerated features and scary bodies. Children will learn a variety of basic cartoon techniques, while enjoying the fun our creatures offer. Pencils, color pencils and markers will be used.

JUNIOR PRINCESS CAMP

Ages 5-8 yrs

July 9- 11 (M, T & W), 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Everybody loves to play dress-up! In this camp we will learn to draw ourselves in "glamour" wear. Day One we will draw accessories including purses, crowns and jewelry. Day Two will focus on simple faces with crowns and hats. Day Three will

revisit the first two days while drawing figures wearing fancy gowns with a variety of accessories.

SUMMER ART CAMP

Updated drawings for 2007!

Ages 7-13 yrs

July 9- 11 (M, T & W)
1 to 2:30 p.m.

Spend time exploring the Wild West! We will draw a variety of objects, people and scenes found in the adventurous Wild West, while exploring different types of media. We will create a full scene using markers, as well as a collection of fun cartoons. No experience necessary. Wear an old t-shirt or art smock on the last day.

YOUNG REMBRANDTS CLASSES

PRE-SCHOOL DRAWING CLASS

Ages 3½-5 years

Mondays, April 16 to May 21, 4 to 4:45 p.m., Terwilliger Lodge
Instructors provide a nurturing and strong learning environment that expands image vocabulary while drawing familiar images (fish, teddy bears, rainbows). Students concentrate on the skills of drawing and coloring, as they develop fine motor skills, focus, listening, staying on task, patience and spatial organization. Session Fee: \$60 per child. Minimum of 6 to offer.

BASIC POTTERY WHEEL Grades 1-8

Mondays, April 30 and May 14,
4-6 p.m. at Annex Building

This course includes an introduction to the basic use of the pottery wheel. Students will complete one vessel of their own creation, glazed and fired. All supplies are furnished. Students will need to bring an old over-sized t-shirt or apron for cover-up. Cost: \$50. Minimum of 6 to offer.



JAPANESE CARTOONING

Ages 7-13 yrs

August 6-8 (M, T & W), 10:30 a.m. to noon

We will spend time learning about and drawing cartoons in the Anime style. In addition, students will learn to create their own original Anime characters using a variety of facial expressions, action and movement to illustrate scenes ending with a large comic book type scene using the Anime style.

NOAH'S ARK CAMP

Ages 7-13 yrs

Aug. 6-8 (M, T & W), 1 to 2:30 p.m.

We will explore the world of Noah and the ark he built. We will draw a wide variety of animals using different media, then combine them together in a large ark scene, including Noah himself.

ELEMENTARY DRAWING Ages 6-12

Mondays, April 16 to May 21, 5 to 6 p.m., Terwilliger Lodge

We will teach basic to advanced drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary and work on their skills to express creativity. All materials are provided with new lessons taught each week and each session in a positive and nurturing environment. You'll see increased art abilities, learning skills, self-confidence and self-esteem. Session Fee: \$60 per child. Minimum of 6 to offer.

HOME ALONE

3rd through 6th Grades
Monday & Friday, June 18 & 22,
noon to 2 p.m., at the Annex
Building

This course is designed to guide parents and teach children about being home alone. The student will feel more confident, learn to think and act appropriately if an unusual situation should occur while home alone. *Session Fee: \$40. Minimum of 6 to offer.*

BETTER BABY SITTERS

5th through 8th Grades
Monday & Thursday, June 25 &
28, noon to 4:30 p.m., at the Annex
Building

Would your child know what to do if the child they were babysitting were choking? Would they know what to do if a stranger came to the door? Your child will be taught the skills needed to be safe when baby sitting, as well as CPR, First Aid, Growth and Development, Diapering and Feeding. Guest speakers from the Police and Fire Departments *Cost: \$70. Minimum of 6 to offer.*



ADVENTURE CHALLENGE WEEK!

Ages 10-16
Monday - Friday, July 23 - 27, 9
a.m. - 4 p.m., Meet at Annex
Building, *Cost: \$40 per day (\$45NR) or \$175 per week (\$225 per week NR)*

Monday: Hike Hueston Woods, **Tuesday:** Team Build and Climb High Ropes, **Wednesday:** Horseback and Canoe, **Thursday:** Amazing Race Challenge, **Friday:** Hit the BEACH

MAKE-A-SPLASH CAMP WEEK

Ages 10-16
Monday - Friday, August 6 - 10, 9
a.m. - 4 p.m., Meet at Annex
Building, *Cost: \$40 per day (\$45NR) or \$175 per week (\$225 per week NR)*

Slip and slide through the week on all of our splashtacular trips!
Monday: Coney Island, **Tuesday:** Discover Scuba, **Wednesday:** Beach Waterpark, **Thursday:** Kayaking & Team-building at Miami U, **Friday:** Boomerang Bay

YOUTH & ADULT

SPORTS PROGRAMS

TENNIS ANYONE?

(Meet in Weller Park) Mondays, June 11, 18 & 25; PeeWees (5-7) meet from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.; Juniors (8-15) meet from 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Adults (16+) meet from 6:30-8 p.m.

Learn the basics of tennis through group lessons. Instruction is provided by local tennis pro from Harper's Point on stance, strokes, and scoring. Register at City Hall or online at www.montgomeryohio.org by June 1. Makeup date(s) added to end if raining. *Cost (all ages): \$15 for 3-week session.*

GOLF: HIT 'M STRAIGHT

(Meet at Kings Island Golf Center) Adults (16+): Thursdays, May 3, 10 & 17, from 5:30 - 7 p.m.; Juniors (Ages 8-15): Wednesdays, June 13, 20 & 27, from 6 - 7 p.m. Group golf lessons at King's Island Golf Center. There are limited openings, so register NOW online at www.montgomeryohio.org or at City Hall. Final sign up dates are: April 27 for Adult Session and June 8 for Junior Session. *Class size limited to 10. Cost: \$40 Juniors/\$60 Adults*

SKYHAWK SPORTS ACADEMY

Skyhawks Sports Academy was built on the guiding principle that children of any athletic or financial ability deserve the opportunity to participate in sports. Skyhawks helps children develop life skills through athletics. We engage participants at their skill level, ranging from beginners to elite prep athletes and provide an exciting, safe and challenging atmosphere where social and team skills are improved. Register online at www.montgomeryohio.org.

MINI-HAWK SSA65677 (Soccer, Baseball & Basketball) Ages 5-7

M-Th, July 30 - August 2,
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at
Weller Park *Cost: \$60*

MULTI-SPORT SSA65676 (Soccer, Baseball & Basketball) Ages 8-14

M-Th, July 30 - August 2, 1 - 4
p.m. at Weller Park. *Cost: \$70*

TINY-HAWK SSA65678 (Soccer, T-Ball & Basketball) Ages 3-4

M-Th, July 30 - August 2,
9 - 10 a.m., at Weller Park.
Cost \$45

BEGINNER GOLF SSA71102 Ages 5-9

M-Th, July 16-19, 10:30 a.m. -
12:30 p.m., at Weller Park.
Cost \$60

PRE-K GOLF SSA71101 Ages 3-4

M-Th, July 16-19, 9 - 10 a.m.,
at Weller Park. *Cost \$45*

LACROSSE SSA71100 Ages 9-14

M-Th, July 9-12, 5 - 7 p.m., at
Weller Park. *Cost \$60*
*(Additional equipment required,
see www.skyhawks.com for info)*

SOFT LACROSSE SSA71099 Ages 6-8

M-Th, July 9-12, 5 - 7 p.m., at
Weller Park. *Cost \$60*
*(Additional equipment required,
see www.skyhawks.com for info)*

CHEERLEADING

Ages 5-8 SSA65675
Ages 9-12 SSA71098
M-Th, June 25-28, 5 - 7 p.m.,
at Dulle Park. *Cost \$60*

What To Bring: All programs require participants to bring equipment or supplies; visit www.skyhawks.com for what to bring, weather policy and additional programs. Bring two snacks & water. Lacrosse will require the appropriate stick, protective gloves, helmet, full mask and mouthpiece

THE LITTLE LEAGUE OF
BICYCLE RACING

KIDS ON BIKES PROGRAM

Ages 8-14 (Youth)
Ages 11-14 (Juniors)
(Meet at Pioneer Park; Five meets are held in other locations in Loveland, Lebanon, and Montgomery)

Mondays, June 11- July 30 (plus meets)
This fun event offers skill building with low-key, team-based competition. Learn and develop basic bicycle racing skills on a grass oval track. Test skills against other local teams. Riders will participate in league fun meets, local road and criterium races, learn to ride on the Major Taylor Velodrome in Indianapolis, and learn how to participate in the sport of bicycle racing the rest of the year. The series is taught by experienced and nationally certified cycling coaches. Riders must supply a properly functioning bike and proper safety helmet.

The schedule includes eight 90-minute Monday evening practice sessions. For detailed information call 403-1951. Register online at www.montgomeryohio.org or call City Hall at 891-2424. *Cost: \$60 (\$65 for Non-Residents) includes a T-shirt and events.*

SWIMMING LESSONS

Registration for pass holders begins May 7.
Non-pass holders may begin registration May 16.

- Session A:** June 4 - 14 (Registration May 7 to June 2)
Session B: June 18 - 28 (Registration June 14 to 2 pm, June 17)
Session C: July 9 - 19 (Registration June 28 to 2 pm, July 8)
Session D: July 23 - Aug. 2 (Registration July 19 to 2 pm, July 22)

Swim lessons are offered Monday through Thursday for a two-week time frame, with Fridays as a make-up day in case of cancellation. All lessons are taught by a trained instructor in the water with the participants. Classes are planned so that no more than six students are with an instructor. Four sessions are offered for the summer season. Lessons are \$35 per session for current pool members and \$50 per session for non-members. Children must be at least 4 years of age to participate. Parents and siblings are NOT permitted on the pool deck during lessons, so please be sure your child is willing to go with the instructor and classmates. No refunds will be given once the first class begins. Classes must have a minimum of four participants, with a maximum of six participants, to be offered. Registration is limited to one session per child, with no advanced registration permitted for later levels in order to be sure the child first masters the skills in the current class in which enrolled.

Lesson Times & Levels				
	Session A	Session B	Session C	Session D
9:00 a.m.	1 2 6 8	1 2 4 7	4 5	4 5
9:35 a.m.	1 2 3 7	1 2 6 8	1 2 8	1 2 8
10:15 a.m.	2 3 8	2 3	2 3 8	2 3 8
6:00 p.m.	1 3 7	1 3 7	2 4 7	2 4
6:35 p.m.	2 4 6	2 4 6	1 3 6	1 3

Skill Levels

Skill levels detailed at www.montgomeryohio.org

- LEVEL 1 WATER EXPLORATION:** child must be able to leave parent and test water
- LEVEL 2 PRIMARY SKILLS:** comfortable up to 2 feet of water; able to submerge
- LEVEL 3 STROKE READINESS:** able to float; able to use arm stroke and kick 5 yards
- LEVEL 4 STROKE DEVELOPMENT:** able to swim front crawl with rhythmic breathing for 20 yards and swim back crawl
- LEVEL 5 STROKE REFINEMENT:** able to dive in deep water; able to perform front, back, breast and side strokes for 15 yards

Special Classes

Levels 6 7 & 8

FUN WITH ME SWIM CLASS: Get wet and wiggle introductory swim lessons for an interactive parent-child setting in the water for ages 6-18 months (LEVEL 6) or ages 18 to 36 months (LEVEL 7).

SPLASH AND PLAY: (LEVEL 8) The class is an early-age water play environment designed to help little ones get more comfortable with being in the water, splashing and playing safely in the baby pool. Children, ages 1-4, must be supervised by a parent for this explorative class.

POOL MEMBERSHIPS

	Resident	Business	Non-Res
Family	\$235	\$285	\$425
Singles	\$120	\$140	\$195
Seniors 60 & OVER	\$90	\$100	\$125

Resident Couple: .. \$175

Resident Family plus
Childcare Provider: ..\$330

(PROVIDER MUST BE AT LEAST THREE YEARS OLDER THAN OLDEST CHILD)

POOL RENTALS AVAILABLE

The Montgomery Municipal Pool is available for private evening rentals for up to 400 people during times it is not open to the public. This is a great opportunity for employee functions, family reunions, birthdays, graduation parties, or whatever your special need to have a unique event with entertainment built right in. Rentals include two hour exclusive use of the pool and all of its facilities, including the gazebo and grill, waterslide, diving boards, basketball courts and corn hole sets. The cost also includes certified lifeguards.

If a day venue is more appropriate, consider renting the Montgomery Pool Gazebo for your special occasion. Youth birthday parties and summer

celebrations will be set apart in the beautifully landscaped gazebo with a private grill where summer time aromas of hamburgers sizzling will bring your guests together after a cooling swim.

TWO HOUR POOL RENTAL

Guests	Lifeguards Required	Cost
1 - 99	3 Lifeguards	\$325
100 - 149	4 Lifeguards	\$375
150 - 400	5 Lifeguards	\$430

The gazebo shelter will be available for group rentals at the rate of \$30 per the first hour and \$10 for each additional hour. Groups that rent the shelter will be allowed to bring food into the pool area to be served

and eaten under the shelter. A group rate fee for non-members will be charged at \$3 per person upon entering the facility the date of the event.

Reservations can be made in advance by contacting City Hall at 891-2424. Detailed rental information and contracts are posted online at www.montgomeryohio.org under pool or rentals.

Beautification Day fast approaching

Volunteers will be “digging in” to plant thousands of annuals in our City’s medians and ramps on Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Individuals, families, neighbor-

hood groups, civic organizations, churches and businesses are all encouraged to participate in this highly visible project that “beautifies” our community in just a few hours. Children, supervised

by adults, must be 13 years of age to participate.

The week of May 14 is designated as Children’s Park Planting Week. Flowerbeds are reserved in several of the City’s parks for the young folks to plant. This is an ideal project for church groups or scout troops. Adult supervision, however, is required.

For more information or to reserve a flowerbed, contact Joyce Yock at 792-8329.

“Green Thumbs” welcomed

For the past several years the hanging baskets that decorated Montgomery’s streetscape have been gorgeous! The City has received countless accolades from both residents and visitors to our community. Now’s your chance to join the volunteer team for this annual project that results in approximately 250 flower filled hanging baskets!

volunteers working the entire day.

Contact Joyce Yock (792-8329) to sign up or for additional information.

Volunteers will meet at the Service Center Bldg, 7315 Cornell Rd., on Monday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Any amount of time that you can donate will be immensely appreciated! The project will “kick off” with coffee and muffins. Box lunches will be provided for those

Spring Plant Swap set for April 28

Spring has FINALLY sprung and with it comes an opportunity to trade perennials with your neighbors at the 12th annual spring Plant Swap. Sponsored by the Beautification and Tree Commission, the event is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, from 9-11 a.m. in the City Hall parking lot.

bags or containers for transporting their newly acquired plants. Flower bulbs and tubers are also welcome at the “Swap.”

Those wishing to take plants home should come prepared with

In addition, the commission will display one of the 250 hanging baskets that was flower filled by volunteers at this month’s hanging basket project. Stop by and get a sneak peak of what is yet to come in the Heritage District streetscape this spring.

Park “Adopt-a Bed” program blossoms

Beautiful flowerbeds in our parks have added hometown charm to our City for numerous years. A little background on the project... On Beautification Day (May 19), an army of volunteers will gather to plant annuals in our medians and parks. Prior to project day, members of the Beautification and Tree Commission expend an inordinate amount of time selecting all the flower varieties and after planting day the Service Department staff waters the flowerbeds throughout the growing season.

Responsibilities from June through September include checking the designated flowerbed twice a month, removing weeds and deadheading the plants as needed. In addition, the commission would welcome input on the plants’ progress to

assist with next year’s flower selection process. Training will be available for those who wish it and flowerbeds will be assigned on a first come basis. Contact commission member, Jodi Keith at 984-2150 to request a flowerbed to nurture in your favorite park.

Last year the commission added a new dimension to this annual project...the “Adopt-a-Bed Program. Based on its success, the commission members are recruiting additional volunteers for this year’s program.

Spring Volunteer Opportunities

- Finance & Payroll Depts. Clerical Assistance (flexible times)
- Holiday Tree Light Repair & Inventory Project (flexible times)
- Butterfly Garden Maintenance Project (flexible times)
- Hanging Basket Planting Project (Tues. & Wed., April 16 & 17)
- Recycling Project—Service Dept. (Sat., April 21)
- Arbor Day Tree Seedling Bagging & Tagging Project (Thurs., April 26)
- Great American Clean Up Project (Sat., April 28)
- July 4th Parade/Event Planning Committee (TBA)
- July 4th Pet Show/Event Planning Committee (TBA)

For more specific information about any of these short term or flexible scheduling projects, contact Joyce Yock (792-8329).



Committee members sought for the July 4th parade event

City staff is looking for some fresh ideas from community members to enhance the July 4th Parade event—a long time, Montgomery event tradition. The committee will focus its attention on various aspects of event planning with emphasis on recruiting a larger variety of parade entries, increasing the publicity formats and fine tuning the event day procedures.

This is a great opportunity to share your creativity and current skills and talents while enhancing your event coordination experience. If you are interested in learning more about the July 4th Parade event and the role of the committee members, please contact Joyce Yock (792-8329).

ALL AROUND TOWN...

Woman's Club DeLong lecture re-set for April 25 & 26

The Montgomery Woman's Club Town Hall Lecture Series has rescheduled the lectures of Candice DeLong, *My Life on the Front Lines as a Woman in the FBI*, for April 25 & 26, 2007. Wednesday and Thursday morning lectures will be held at the theater inside Kings Island at 11 a.m. The Wednesday evening lecture is at 8 p.m. at Sycamore Junior High School on Cooper Road. The originally issued tickets will be honored for this event. For additional information contact www.montgomerywomansclub.org or call 513-684-1632.

Local businesses to help with benefit for Children's Hospital

Kindervelt Group #49 is working in conjunction with a number of Montgomery businesses to raise money for the Children's Hospital Medical Center. The group is planning a "Springtime in the City" shopping day on Friday, April 20, for the downtown and surrounding areas of Montgomery.

Montgomery businesses participating in the event include: Ute's Unique Lifestyle Jewelry, Friends & Co., Germano's Ristorante, Le Salon, Little Liza Jane's Children's Boutique, Neon Lites, The Weiner-Eisele

Gallery, ZPlace, EDB's Diamond Showcase and Pilates Center of Cincinnati.

These Montgomery businesses have already made commitments, though many others are

expected to get on board as the date approaches. Mark your calendars!

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

APRIL • APRIL • APRIL • APRIL

2	Arts Commission	City Hall	5 pm
2	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
4	Council Business Session	City Hall	7 pm
7	Help filing tax forms	City Hall	9am - noon
9	Beautification Commission	City Hall	9 am
10	Environmental Committee	City Hall	4:30 pm
11	Landmarks Commission	City Hall	7 pm
12	Parks & Recreation Commission	City Hall	6:30 pm
14	Help filing tax forms	City Hall	9 am - noon
16	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
16	Basket Planting Project	Service Dept.	9 am
17	2004 City Income Taxes Due		
17	Basket Planting Project	Service Dept.	9 am
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
24	Board of Zoning Appeals	City Hall	7:30 pm
28	Great American Clean Up Day & Spring Plant Swap	City Hall	9 am
28	Kids Garage Sale	Safety Center	9-11 am
28	Safety Center Open House	Safety Center	11 am - 2 pm



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