



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

www.MontgomeryOhio.org

Montgomery Bulletin

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY

March 2007

Recap of curbside pick-up services

City Chipper

Ice storm brush and limb curbside pick-ups begin March 5. A second round will begin March 19. (see story at right)

Regular curbside brush and limb pick-ups begin April 16 (more information to be online and in the next Montgomery Bulletin.)

Rumpke Yardwaste Pickup

Weekly curbside collection of yard waste will begin March 5 on the same day as regular trash collection (see story at far right)

Rumpke Recycling

Curbside pick-ups of materials for recycling is year-round on the same day of regular trash pick-up (see story on page 6 for items which can be recycled.)

Ice storm causes downed limbs

Special curbside brush pick-up begins March 5

With the February ice storm downing so many limbs, the Montgomery Service Department will provide special curbside bulk collection of brush and limbs. The special program will include two separate collections throughout the City. The first collection will begin on Monday, March 5. The second collection will begin two weeks later on Monday, March 19. Each collection will include one pass through every street in the community.

Guidelines for pick-up

Since crews will only make one pass throughout the community, piles must be placed curbside prior to the start of each collection. Pick-ups will begin early in the morning, so residents are urged to place brush curbside by Sunday, March 4, or Sunday, March 18.

Material placed curbside after the chipper crew has passed will not be picked up during that collection period.

Since brush and limbs will be loaded manually by Service Department personnel into a brush chipper, the following guidelines have been established for the bulk brush collection program:

- Brush containing nails, metal, stones or excessive dirt will not be picked up
- Vines and branches with thorns will not be picked up
- Stumps, root balls and logs are not to be placed curbside for

brush collection but may be placed out for waste collection on regularly scheduled day.

- Each item should weigh no more than 60 pounds each.
- 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 may be placed in yard waste bags, cans, or bundled per Rumpke yard waste collection guidelines.*) (see story below).

■ Brush and limbs must be placed at the edge of the road or along the curb with the "cut" ends of brush toward the street in small piles. Do not create large stacks or interwoven piles with "cut" ends placed in different directions. Doing so will make the material difficult for crews to separate for collection.

■ Brush piles that are tied into bundles or tangled will not be picked up as part of the brush chipping program.

For additional information, contact City Hall at 891-2424.

Spring pick-ups also planned

For residents not able to gather their brush and limbs in advance of the special collection program will have another opportunity for pick-up when the City's spring brush collection program begins on April 16.

The annual brush and limb collection service will continue for five weeks after the April 16 start date. Additional information will be announced in the April issue of the *Montgomery Bulletin* and on the City's website at www.montgomeryohio.org.

Weekly Rumpke yard waste collection resumes March 5

With Spring around the corner, weekly yard waste collection will return starting on March 5. Curbside yard waste collection will continue through December. The weekly yard waste program will include all one and two family residential homes.

additional cans, bags or bundles will require one \$1.50 Rumpke Waste Sticker per item. Additional 90 gallon totes will require three stickers.

■ Stickers are available for purchase at Montgomery Kroger or Montgomery City Hall during regular business hours.

Yard waste guidelines

■ Each household has a three bag, three can or three bundle limit (or one 90 gallon yard waste "toter"). Any

■ Brush should be bundled with cotton twine in sizes no

Continued on Page 3

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**

City to conduct open house on April 14

The City of Montgomery will conduct an open house for citizens on Saturday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to noon in the City Hall Council Chambers. The event is planned as part of Tax Office's extended hours program. (See story at top right.)

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



City taxes filings due April 17; help available

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

Taxes due April 17

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 announced

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.

COUNCIL CORNER

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

NEW LEGISLATION

■ A resolution authorizing lawn mowing contract

extensions for the mowing of various parcels throughout the City of Montgomery during 2007

■ 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

■ 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

Recent Council Actions

FEBRUARY 7TH BUSINESS SESSION

■ A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Konica Business Technologies, Inc. to lease photocopiers (Passed 7-0)

Here's looking at YOU Montgomery!

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



This month's message by Vice Mayor Ken Suer

High, noxious weeds. Graffiti. Inoperable junk cars. Twelve inch high grass. Gutters and drainpipes falling off. Peeling paint. Rusted out appliances on the front porch. Does this sound like Montgomery to you? Of course not. However, in many communities choice examples of all of these unsightly items can easily be found and are often on display for a long time.

One of the things that enables Montgomery to thrive as a premier community is the fine appearance of the City as a whole. A person coming to Montgomery quickly sees that they have entered an area where the residents and business owners take pride in the way things look.

A typical residential street features attractive houses on well-maintained lots. Things are repaired and painted. Landscaping is kept up. The grass is cut on a regular basis. Trash gets donated to Rumpke — not used to decorate the property. In the business community, the same type of situation exists.

Business owners know they are operating in an area where a sharp appearance is necessary for success with the type of customers they encounter. Even the occasional vacant storefront looks pretty good — no boarded up windows and rubble and litter strewn lots here!

What if you, as a Montgomery resident, see a home or business where maintenance problems exist? What can you do? First, everyone should be

aware that Montgomery has a Property Maintenance Code. Our City website at www.MontgomeryOhio.org will enable you to find out about property maintenance standards by reviewing Title IX Chapter 93 of the General Regulations. The "Action Line" item on the opening page of the website takes you to a process to file a report online. You can also call Jesse Bundy at 792-8356 or Tracy Roblero at 792-8312 and just give them your information. If you do not want to furnish them with your name, you don't have to.

Unlike a lot of communities, Montgomery takes tips we get seriously — and our people DO look into the matter.

What normally happens with Code violations? The first step is a conversation — Jesse or Tracy talks to the resident or business owner and tries to resolve the issue. If this doesn't work, warning letters and eventually a citation to court may follow.

In some cases the City may deal with the nuisance itself and arrange to have a lien placed on the property to cover the expense of remediation. Keep in mind that these procedures may take quite some time

because of the legal steps required to ensure due process for all citizens.

At the other end of the spectrum, Montgomery has residents and businesses who not only just maintain their properties, they go above and beyond with their efforts to improve appearance. Every year the City presents "Beautification Awards" to recognize superior efforts to enhance the community. Many volunteers get involved every spring with the "Great American Clean-Up" and with planting thousands of flowers in numerous beds throughout the heart of the City. Our Beautification Commission works tirelessly to make the City an exceedingly attractive place.

Any problem property in Montgomery is a problem property for all ten-thousand of us. We live here for a reason. If we did not care about our property values, we could be living in any number of places where "anything goes and no one cares."

As we "march into spring" I would encourage everyone to look around and be thankful for what we have. . . and resolve to do what it takes to preserve it.

Regular brush and limb pick-ups...

Continued from Front Page

more than four feet in length and two feet in diameter.

■ Limbs also need to be cut into four foot lengths and can be no larger than six inches in diameter.

■ Leaves, grass and other yard waste should be placed in paper yard waste bags or proper containers (*materials in plastic trash bags will not be collected.*)

■ Loosely place yard waste in trash cans labeled "yard waste" or in paper yard waste bags available at grocery or hardware stores.

■ For Rumpke personnel to quickly identify yard waste, place yard waste materials on the opposite side of your driveway from your regular trash. In addition, leave the lids off cans used for yard waste materials.

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

Montgomery named Tree City

For the eleventh consecutive year, Montgomery has been named a Tree City USA community by the National Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to its community forest.

Montgomery is also the recipient of a Tree City USA Growth Award for progress in its community forestry program in areas of education and public relations, publications, tree planting and maintenance, street tree pruning, plans for donations.

The prestigious Growth Award recognizes environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities.

Budget review shows positive 2006 results

In 2006, the city experienced a positive year, on both sides of the budget ledger. Total City revenues, based upon unaudited results, were up \$661,129 – 4.02% – over 2005. The general fund, where the bulk of City services are financed, experienced revenues that were up \$982,145 – 12.72% – over 2005.

There are a handful of revenue sources (i.e., earnings tax, property tax, investment earnings, property tax roll back, estate tax, gasoline tax) that account for about 80% of City revenues. The earnings tax, which accounts for 50% of the general fund's revenues and 37% of the City's total revenues, realized stronger than forecasted results, accounting for a large portion of the City's revenue increases.

Specifically, earnings tax revenues of \$6.4 million were up 5.4% – \$333,000 – over 2005. In addition, because of rising interest rates, investment income was up by 68% over 2005 investment revenue.

As a strategy, the City revenue and expenditure estimates are conservative. Still, there were some results that were not positive. Actual rollback revenue sharing, for example, is down in the general fund (-\$25,495 or -11%) and fire/EMS fund (-\$63,123 or -27%) as the effects of House Bill 66 that reduces those revenues are realized. This is the second year that those funds did not meet estimates.

Another revenue decrease was in the Environmental Tax Fund as the revenue effects of the hospital's 2005 building expansion ended.

On the expenditure side, total City expenditures were under budget for the year. The same was true for the general fund, enabling the City to continue to

operate within its budgeted resources. The City's 2006 total ending fund balance was \$25 million; in 2005 it was

\$21.8 million. The general fund's comparable figures are \$12.5 million in 2006 and \$10.7 million in 2005.

Safety Center open house set April 28

Montgomery's 10th annual Safety Center Open House has been scheduled for Saturday, April 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event includes both the Montgomery Police and Fire Departments.

Residents can talk with many of the staff that protect the City of Montgomery, 24 Hours a day, 365 Days a year.

Tours of the Safety Center will be provided, along with demonstrations and booths for all ages. Special events include prize drawings, free food and refreshments, and landing of The UC Air Care Helicopter (weather permitting).

The Montgomery Safety Center is located at 10150 Montgomery Road. Due to limited parking at the Safety Center, extra parking is available at St. Barnabas Church, 10345 Montgomery Road, just north of the Safety Center.



"Mt. Adams Through Ice Cave Window" by photographer Barrett Frobose, was among the winning photographs from the 2006 photography contest.

Montgomery hosts 20th annual photo competition

All photographers are encouraged to focus their attention on Montgomery's annual Photo Competition scheduled for Sunday, March 18, from 1-4 pm in the Universalist Church. Sponsored by the Arts Commission, the contest is open to students, amateurs and professionals.

Photographs must be entered in only one of the following categories:

STUDENT

Captured Visions

No restriction on photo location

OR

Montgomery Moments

Must be taken in Montgomery

ADULT

Captured Visions

No restriction on photo location

OR

Montgomery Moments

Must be taken in Montgomery

No more than three entries per photographer will be accepted. A non-refundable fee of \$5 (student) or \$10 (adult) is required for each entry.

To enter the competition, pick up an entry form at City Hall or at local photo labs and framing galleries. You may also request a brochure by mail by calling 891-2424 or by visiting the City's website at www.MontgomeryOhio.org.

Corson Hirschfeld, celebrated photographer and novelist, will jury all qualifying entries. Up to twenty cash prizes of \$100 each will be awarded at the photo reception. A "best of show" award will be presented to one student and one adult entrant.

Photographers with exhibited works will also have an opportunity to sell their photos at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.

Arts Commission keeping busy!

Photographs provided by Rick Lisi

Photo Contest 2006



Juror Corson Hirschfeld (left) critiques a winning photograph at the 2006 competition. Arts Commission Chair, Mark Mallette (right) presented the awards.



Approximately 200 photographs were exhibited at the 2006 event.

Artists in the Park



Deanna Escobosa, Z Place Pastry Chef, demonstrates the making of Pastel de Tres Leches (3 milk cake) while Meg Robinson, resident artist for DollFace Portrait Arts, works on an oil painting depicting the Weller House Landmark Building while Celtic Harper, Lindsey Duncan, adds a musical element to the event.

Fine Arts Sampler Weekend



Approximately 70 community members attended the February 11, Fine Arts Sampler Weekend Event sponsored by the Arts Commission. While some folks lingered at the exhibit of 17 original Ansel Adams photographs; others were drawn to the musical sounds provided by the Blue Ash Montgomery Symphony Orchestra trio.

Want to help with Arts Commission projects?

Volunteer opportunities are available to assist the Arts Commission with its upcoming projects and events: the annual Photography Competition (March), the Antiques Appraisal (May) and the "Artists in the Park" (August) event. If you would like to lend a hand with these "hands on" projects or would enjoy sharing your creative ideas, contact Joyce Yock, Volunteer Coordinator at 792-8329. Community members are always welcome to attend the Arts Commission meetings, held on the first Monday of each month at 5 p.m. in City Hall.

Did You Know?

Montgomery's Police and Fire Departments have rich histories.

The first signs of a police force in Montgomery began in 1809 with three men being chosen as the Justices of the Peace. Later in 1910, when Montgomery achieved village status, a town Marshall was appointed. In 1956 a full time police department was created and headed by Chief Richard Moore.

The Montgomery Fire Company incorporated on October 14, 1929. In June 1930, a firehouse building committee was formed to build the first firehouse on West Street (now Shelly Lane). The 1930 station was rebuilt in 1950. Throughout the years, the fire department grew and even changed locations. In 1992, City Council voted to include emergency services with the fire department. Currently, the Fire Department has seven full time and 30 part time firefighters.

In 1997 the Police and Fire Departments moved their facilities together to the current Safety Center at 10150 Montgomery Road.

90,000 visitors expected

Flurry of activity underway for Homearama

Planning is in full swing as the City of Montgomery prepares to host HOMEARAMA 2007. The event marks the return of the home showcase to Hamilton County after more than 10 years. The last show held in Montgomery was in 1995 was the largest attended HOMEARAMA in the event's 46 year history!

City officials have partnered with the Home Builders Association of Cincinnati to ensure this event will be the most successful they have ever held. HOMEARAMA 2007 will be held Saturday, June 9,



through Sunday, June 24, at the new Great Traditions development, the Vintage Club of Montgomery on Montgomery Road north of the Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

A flurry of activity has been apparent at the Vintage Club, the site of the event. Builders and developers have been preparing for the June debut. Even the recent spate of winter weather has not deterred contractors and construction workers from their work on these impressive home sites.

With just over three months until the premier home show, the event site will see quite a transformation in anticipation of the grand opening.

The 16-day event is expected to attract an anticipated 90,000 visitors and guests. City staff will be preparing informational mailings and online updates to keep residents and businesses apprised of the many aspects of hosting the event. These updates will address event specifics, opportunities for business and community outreach, items of interest for residents and visitors, as well as traffic and public safety concerns. In addition, the City website will be updated regularly with HOMEARAMA details and specifics.

Admission to this year's HOMEARAMA will be \$12 for adults, with free admission for children under 12 when accompanied by an adult. Hours for the event will be 4 to 11 p.m. weekdays, and Noon to 11 p.m. on weekends. All parking, restrooms and concessions will be located directly on the event site.

Have you "bin" recycling?

When Rumpke personnel picks up your trash each week, they also collect recyclables the same day. Participation in the recycling program is easy and has a significant impact on our environment. Not only can items be economically reprocessed with much less energy, but also recycling keeps materials out of limited landfill space.

Simply rinse out cans and bottles and place the items in your recycling bin. The bin is collected weekly on the same day as trash pick-ups. If you need a free recycling bin, stop by City Hall and pick one up.

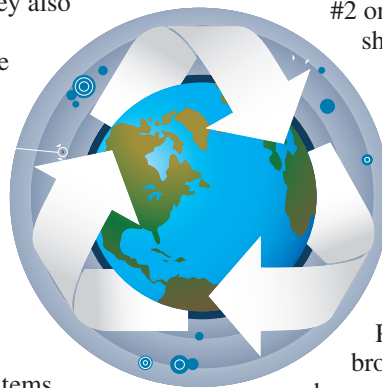
Cans/Bottles: Acceptable items for recycling include aluminum cans, steel and tin food cans and empty aerosol cans. Rinse and — if possible — flatten cans to conserve space in your bin.

Plastics: Plastic bottles or containers that have #1 or #2 on the bottom should be rinsed and flattened. Caps and lids should be discarded.

Glass: Glass bottles and jars can be included. Discard the lids. Please note that broken glass cannot be recycled due to safety issues.

Paper Products: Newspaper, magazines and phone books can be included. To prevent them from blowing, place them in a brown paper grocery sack.

Cardboard: Cardboard is now accepted for curbside recycling. Materials must be broken down to a size no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet in order to fit onto the conveyer at the recycling plant. You can also take cardboard to the Montgomery Service Department at 7315 Cornell Road on the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Four gain top honors in BAMSO Young Artist Competition

The winners of the 20th Annual Blue Ash/Montgomery Young Artist Competition were announced at the December 2006 Orchestra's Holiday Concert. Twenty-two talented young artists vied for first prize this year, playing instruments ranging from violin to saxophone.

In the end, the Orchestra selected two first place winners – 15-year-old pianist Tiffany Woo from Kettering, Ohio, and 16-year-old violinist Janet Carpenter from Liberty Township.

Second place was awarded to 17-year-old pianist Sonoka Itj from Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky and a special performance award was made to 10-year-old pianist Kevin Bao from Mason.



Tiffany Woo



Janet Carpenter



Sonoka Itj



Kevin Bao

All four of the 2006 winners will appear at the special 2007 Labor Day Concert celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Orchestra's founding.

The Blue Ash/Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, sponsor of the Blue Ash/Montgomery Young Artist Competition, began its 2007 Concert Season with a Valentine's Concert at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church on February 18.

All concerts are free to the

public. For more information, visit www.bamsso.org or call Susan Pace, Business Manager, Blue Ash/Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, at (513) 232-0949.

Residents of Blue Ash, Montgomery and surrounding communities are encouraged to support the Orchestra through membership in the Friends of the Symphony or the Symphony Guild, which promotes cultural and educational projects and plans social and fund raising events

CCO
offers
free
concerts

The Cincinnati Community Orchestra will perform in two free concerts, both at the Church of the Saviour United Methodist, 8005 Pfeiffer Road. Concerts are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 and May 5.

The March 3 performance features "A taste of Spain," with music of Edward Elgar, Manuel de Falla, Georges Bizet, Isaac Albeniz and Maurice Ravel. The May 5 concert is entitled "MYTHS & LEGENDS," featuring the music of John Williams, Danny Elfman, Hans Zimmer, John Barry and Howard Shore.

March & April episodic volunteer opportunities

Short term (episodic) volunteer opportunities are a great way to get involved in our community without committing to a large time requirement. Sharing your time and talents to assist with any of the following projects and events would be most appreciated:



Recreation Dept. Chaperones

Spring Break-A-Way/March 26-29
Bus departs from Swaim Park

Chaperone a group of children (ages 7-12) on fun outings in the Cincinnati area. A one day commitment is acceptable.
(TEENS/ADULTS)

upcoming July 14, Bastille Day Celebration. Monthly daytime meetings. (ADULTS)

July 4th Pet Show Committee

March-July (Meetings to be determined)
City Hall
Share your leadership and creative talents to provide a new "twist" to this long time, Montgomery tradition.
(ADULTS)

Arbor Day Seedling Project

Thursday, April 26
Service Dept. Bldg.
This is an ideal volunteer project for students (ages 10 and above) to engage in the Arbor Day tradition by helping to "bag & tag" 1,000 tree seedlings for distribution in the elementary schools. (STUDENTS/ADULTS)

To sign up for any of these opportunities or for additional information, contact Joyce Yock, Volunteer Coordinator, at 792-8329.

Sensory Sundays

March 11 and March 25
Terwilliger Lodge/Dulle Park
Assist with event set-up, take down and food/wine serving.
(ADULTS)

Service Dept. Assistants

Flexible scheduling.
7315 Cornell Rd.
Provide "hands on" assistance on a variety of tasks ranging from park bench restoration to spring, park maintenance projects. (ADULTS)

Data Entry Clerk

March 26-May 1
City Hall
One hour per week, flexible scheduling. Enter pool membership applications into the membership program.
(TEENS/ADULTS)

Bastille Day Committee

March-August
City Hall
Join the Bastille Day Committee to share your creative ideas and "hands on" assistance for the



to members of the Arts Commission who successfully featured two, art related events last month-the second, quarterly "Artists in the Park" event and participation in the Greater Cincinnati Area Fine Arts Sampler Weekend.

For numerous months the commission operated with only five members-Mark Marlette, Kathy Hollo, Cliff Goosmann, Andrea Wilson and Rosalee Stocker. Most recently, however, two new members were gratefully welcomed aboard-Chuck King and Ray Miller. A well deserved, THANK YOU is extended to all these commission members for exemplifying their mission of "fostering and promoting the visual and performing arts for our community embers."

A special acknowledgement is also extended to the previous Chair, Lisa Pellegrino, whose leadership and creativity were instrumental in developing the "Artists in the Park" events.

Triangle development lands impressive tenants

The "Triangle" project at the southeast corner of Montgomery and Cooper may look like a construction zone right now, but within the next six months the site will be transformed into an exciting downtown business complex. Peoples Community Bank has just opened its offices in the smaller second building on the south end of the property, and Montgomery Gateway Partners has announced seven new businesses that will lease space in the 35,000 sq. ft. two story main building.

Stone Creek in Montgomery, the largest tenant, will occupy most of the first floor along the Cooper Road frontage. Other first floor tenants include a showroom for Marsh Building Products; the Woodhouse, an upscale day spa; and a reception hall/museum featuring a display of rare baseball memorabilia. On the second floor, Jim Daniels, one of the principals of Montgomery Gateway Partners, will relocate his office, Huff Realty will open a branch, and Endres Gateway Family Dental Practice has also signed a lease. As a result, the first floor is entirely leased and 80 percent of the project in total has been placed under lease.

City council recently entered a contract with Langenheim and Thomson, a general contractor, to construct the Triangle Point Plaza at the south end of the site. The project will feature a custom designed fountain, benches, game tables, and extensive landscaping.

The two story underground parking garage, which is nearing completion, will accommodate the customer parking needs. Additional valet restaurant parking has been secured on Main Street.

The project has been a source of pride for the City of Montgomery. The Landmarks and Planning Commission invested countless hours trying to ensure the buildings are both

aesthetically pleasing and financially viable. This Spring, as the streetscape is completed and the shops begin to open for

business, the project is expected to be a popular destination for residents and visitors to the City.

Stone Creek Dining Company coming to Triangle property

Mike and Tom Cunningham grew up in Cincinnati, along with 6 brothers and a sister. While Mike's career led him to Indianapolis, Tom has remained as a local business owner and is currently a resident of Montgomery. Mike has defied the odds, becoming a successful independent restaurateur in Central Indiana. The two brothers are now joining forces to share that taste of success with their hometown as they open the Stone Creek Dining Company in downtown historic Montgomery Ohio in the summer of 2007.

Each restaurant is based on the same foundation of casual elegance, mouth-watering entrees, excellent customer service and great value yet each also has its own personality. Boulder Creek has a mountain lodge ambiance while Charbonos (Avon, Indiana) could easily be a Tuscan countryside. Stone Creek Greenwood added an Asian flair to the warmth of Boulder Creek, Stone Creek Plainfield blends contemporary and rustic styles and Stone Creek Zionsville welcomes guests into a warm, rich interior that is upscale casual.

Stone Creek in Montgomery will have its own style while continuing on with the tradition of a varied menu including house-made salad dressings and sauces, tender steaks and chops, and unique twists on traditional seafood and pasta dishes. Tom will oversee the local operations, working with his younger brother Mike to build on the success already achieved in the Indianapolis area. The Cunningham's hope that Montgomery residents will want to return to Stone Creek often, just as they have returned to their hometown.

Fire Marshall earns prestigious award

Fire Marshal Fred Horsley has received the 2007 Syrian Fire Prevention Award. Fred was one of seven candidates nominated in the area of contributions to fire prevention.

Fred has been the Fire Marshal for

Montgomery for 17 years, joining the City after a fire prevention career with the City of Norwood. Combined, Fred has worked a total of 43 years in the fire service, a majority of the time in the area of training and prevention activities.



Protect your trees and help them recover from damage

There are many ways or situations that can cause damage to trees. Not every instance is as dramatic as damage that may be caused by high winds, lightning or even ice storms such as what we experienced on February 13.

A very easy and attractive way to reduce or eliminate preventable damage caused by lawn mowers or weed eaters is to create a mulch ring that extends anywhere from 12 - 36 inches outward from the trunk of the tree. This mulch zone will keep fragile tree bark safe from lawn care equipment that can inflict serious damage in an instant. Keep mulch to a minimum, no more than 2-inches in depth.



Other ways that tree bark can become damaged are by small rodents that chew or gnaw at the base of trees. Deer also damage tree bark during rutting season. This rutting season typically occurs between mid August and late December and damage to the bark of small trees can be quite extensive.

While bark damage can be life threatening to the tree, you can take steps to help the tree heal itself. The first step is to remove all loose or damaged bark with a sharp knife or pruners. The goal is to remove all bark to a point that the bark that remains is firmly attached to the underlying tree trunk. This bark removal should result in an oval, circular or even a football shape. Once you have completed this work, do nothing else. Applying pruning paint or wound dressing can slow the healing process. You should periodically check on the tree to make sure that the wound is healing and that no additional bark has loosened itself. Allowing loose bark to remain not only prevents healing but

also provides a breeding ground and safe haven for insects that could be detrimental to the health of the tree. Damage or loss of limbs caused by wind, ice or snow is another problem. Whether limbs to be removed have been damaged, or are simply part of maintenance and pruning, take precautions to remove branches carefully to avoid causing damage to the tree. When removing a limb or branch greater than an inch in diameter the best method includes removing the branch in smaller or shorter sections. If you attempt to remove the entire branch with a single pruning cut, it is very likely that the weight of the branch will peel or strip the bark from the trunk of the tree and leave a larger wound to heal. A very small protrusion of a half inch or less will remain after a proper final pruning cut. Do not leave a long stub or make a flush cut as either will slow down the healing process. It is important to use proper maintenance techniques and to develop an appropriate course of action to help your tree recover quickly and fully from any type of wound that may be inflicted, accidentally or by acts of nature. Sometimes the damage can be catastrophic, such as was evidenced in the February ice storm. While some tree maintenance can be done by the typical property owner, for more extensive work, consider utilizing the services of a certified arborist or other tree professional to evaluate the condition of your trees and to develop an appropriate course of action for your trees' health.



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It is important to use proper maintenance techniques and to develop an appropriate course of action to help your tree recover quickly and fully from any type of wound that may be inflicted, accidentally or by acts of nature. Sometimes the damage can be catastrophic, such as was evidenced in the February ice storm. While some tree maintenance can be done by the typical property owner, for more extensive work, consider utilizing the services of a certified arborist or other tree professional to evaluate the condition of your trees and to develop an appropriate course of action for your trees' health.

Officer Dave Reuther honored for averting fire disaster

A recent fire at the Montgomery Service Building could have been disastrous for City equipment had Police Officer Dave Reuther not been in the right place at the right time.

When fueling his vehicle, Officer Reuther heard a high pitched noise. As he approached the sound, it quickly became apparent that the sound was a smoke detector triggered by a fire.

He immediately called the Fire

Department, allowing the fire to be extinguished before doing major damage. His awareness of the sound and willingness to investigate earned Officer Reuther the City Quarterly Achievement Award, to be presented in March.

“Thanks to Dave’s quick response, a near disaster was averted in this fire,” said City Manager Cheryl Hilvert. “Dave clearly demonstrated a stewardship role in helping to protect the City’s property against further damage.”

Don't miss out on Sensory Sundays

Some tickets are available for both of the March Sensory Sunday lineups, presented at Terwilliger Lodge from 5 to 7:30 p.m. If you haven't indulged in this yearly jazz lovers retreat, sign up now to join in the tradition of combining great jazz talent, beautiful artwork and delicious cuisine. Tickets are \$27 and include an entrée, two glasses of wine, and two sets of great jazz music surrounded by fabulous art. Tickets can be purchased online at www.montgomeryohio.org or at City Hall.

The March 11 event features the smooth jazz renditions of Deron Bell (www.deronbell.com) paired with the creative American dishes of One Restaurant and the photographs and wooden bowls designed by Cliff Goosmann.

The final event on March 25 spotlights Jeremy Long on saxophone (www.jeremy-long.com) along with the tastes of Brazil from Amor Fieri Steakhouse and the vibrant canvases of Brian Thoman.

2007 Pool Rates

Summer will be here before you know it, so plan now to get in on the fun with a pool membership. Rates are as follows:

Resident Rates

Family
\$235

Family with sitter
(Sitter must be at least 3 years older than oldest child to qualify)
\$330

Couple
\$175

Single
\$120

Senior
(60 & over)
\$90

Business Rates

Family
\$285

Single
\$140

Senior
(60 & over)
\$100

Non-Residents

Family
\$425

Single
\$195

Senior
(60 & over)
\$125

Forget the ice and snow

Plan ahead for summer fun!

If your summer plans include a cool water lineup for family fun, then you need to sign-up for your Montgomery City pool membership starting on March 19. Pool memberships go on sale with a limited number of non-resident passes available.

Early registration provides the pass-holder with five free passes to bring guests and friends to the pool. The free passes are valued at \$35, with each free visit to be recorded at the pool when used.

Residents registering online receive an additional five free visits, giving them 10 free passes for friends!

Membership forms will be mailed directly to all residents and businesses. They are also available at City Hall and can be completed online for residents at www.montgomeryohio.org.

A Montgomery Pool membership offers numerous benefits, including an onsite basketball court, two cornhole sets, rental gazebo for family gatherings or summer celebrations, more healthy choices at the concessions, monthly special events for the family, a water slide, kiddie pool, zero-depth entry and diving boards. Add to that swim lessons, water aerobics, swim team and professional staffing, and the pool becomes a great all-round family fun spot for the hot summer season.

The pool is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Members can enjoy the facility daily from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. While Sycamore schools are still in session, the pool will be open from 3 to 8 p.m.

Pool available for events

After regular hours of operation, the pool is available for private evening rentals, offering a

unique opportunity for family reunions, birthdays, graduation parties. Rental includes two hours of private use of the pool, lifeguard staffing and use of facility amenities such as grills, gazebo, courts, cornhole and slide.

Rental information is available online or by calling 891-2424.

Swim Lessons

Swim lesson open registration begins May 7 for pool members and May 16 for non-members. Details on times, lesson level swim requirements and session dates are available at www.montgomeryohio.org and will be published in the April *Montgomery Bulletin*.



Makos make 'o splash

Swim team registrations begin on March 19 for returning members. Registration then opens for general registration to all pool members beginning April 9. The 2007 Montgomery Makos Swim Team will have a maximum of 30 members per age division. Cost is \$90 for the first swimmer and \$70 for additional swimmers in a family.

A member of the Tri-County Swim League, the Makos will participate in six or seven season meets, local swim invitationals and league championships at Miami University, held at the end of July. Specific dates of the meets will be announced in early April.

Summer practices are held from June 4 to July 26. Each practice

lasts for one hour and is scheduled between 8:30 - 11 a.m., depending on age and skills. A Meet the Coaches Night will be held to welcome all team members and assess swimming abilities.

The Montgomery Makos focuses on individual skill development, teamwork and summer fun.

A parents informational meeting will be held in April. For information about the swim team, call Kelcey Nelson at 489-3015 or Lynn Gottshalk 793-3658

A parent's packet and detailed schedule are available by visiting the City website at www.montgomeryohio.org.

Forums seek input on Parks & Rec planning

The City of Montgomery is creating a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to complement the City's Strategic Plan. Opinions are sought regarding Montgomery's parks, athletic fields, playgrounds, trails, open space and events.

To facilitate discussion, three open houses/public meetings have been scheduled to provide residents a chance to talk with master plan consultants. Staff and consultants will be available to discuss thoughts on current

parks and recreation services, programs and facilities.

Residents are encouraged to share their vision and hopes for Montgomery's park and recreation system for the next 5 and 10 years. Three open house/forums have been scheduled.

The first hour of each meeting will be an open house for one on one discussion between consultants and citizens. The second hour starts with a short

presentation discussing planning methods and posing some questions to promote discussion. A question answer period for comments and discussion will follow the presentation.

Each observation, impression and vision is of critical importance to the success of the planning process.

FORUM DATES

March 8

6 - 8 p.m.

Good Shepard Church

6 - 7 p.m. (Open House)

7 - 8 p.m. (Presentation,

Questions & Answers

March 12

6 - 8 p.m.

Swaim Lodge

6 - 7 p.m. (Open House)

7 - 8 p.m. (Presentation,

Questions & Answers

March 19

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Terwilliger Lodge

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. (Open House)

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. (Presentation,

Questions & Answers)

Joel Siegel visits Montgomery to concludes MWC Lecture Series

The Town Hall Lecture Series of the Montgomery Woman's Club will conclude its current season on March 21 & 22 with movie reviewer Joel Siegel as the featured speaker. A member of Good Morning America since 1981, he is a six-time Emmy Award winner.

A few tickets remain available for the Wednesday evening lecture at Sycamore Junior High School at 8 p.m. and for the Thursday morning lecture at the theater inside Kings Island at 11 a.m. For ticket information, visit www.montgomerywomansclub.org or call 513/684-1632.

Fit for you...

TUMMY TUCKS

March 27 - May 17 (16 classes); 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. Taught by a Tri-Health certified instructor, 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 online at www.montgomeryohio.org or at Montgomery City Hall by March 20. Minimum of 12 needed. Limit 25 participants. Cost \$65R/\$70NR

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

March 27 - May 17 (16 classes); 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 maintaining muscle strength. Some equipment provided. Register online by logging onto www.montgomeryohio.org or at Montgomery City Hall by March 20. Minimum of 12 needed. Limit 20 participants. Cost \$65R/\$70NR

KARATE

Mondays and Wednesdays; 6:30 - 7:30 pm OR 7:30 - 8:30 pm; Annex Bldg. Join instructor Tom Hardy in this year-round course for all ages in Taekwondo Korean Karate. You may join at the beginning of any month by registering prior to the 10th of that month. If you register for three months, receive a FREE uniform. Emphasis is placed on self-defense, stretching, kicking and promotion to the next belt. Cost is \$35R/\$40NR per month.

Spring Break-A-Way

Youth from 7 to 12 years old are invited to take a walk on the wild side during this unique Spring Break-A-Way, entitled "Where the Wild Things Are." The four-day program is planned March 26-29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. participants can be dropped off and picked up at Swaim Park lower lot.

Monday: "Ohio's Wildlife Zoo and Hands-On Discovery" at Boonshoft Museum Center

Tuesday: "It's a Jungle Out There" at Jungle Jim's International Market and CiCi's Pizza

Wednesday: "Danger, Danger, Danger" with endangered species at Cincinnati Zoo

Thursday: "Climb Like a Monkey & Swim like a Fish" at the University of Cincinnati Campus Rec Center.

Trips limited to 25 paid registrations. Waiver forms are required. Bring a packed lunch and snacks (except on Tuesday, which includes a pizza lunch buffet). Dress appropriately for each trip, especially good walking shoes for the wildlife safari adventure week! Register by March 19th online or at City Hall. Cost: \$40 day/\$150 week (\$45 day/\$170 week NR)



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ALL AROUND TOWN...

March 17 & 18 MWC antiques show marks 35th anniversary

Montgomery Woman's Club will hold its 35th Annual Antiques Show & Sale at Sycamore High School, 7400 Cornell Road on Saturday, March 17, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and on Sunday, March 18, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Admission is \$7 at the door (good both days).

Included in admission is a special presentation, "Decorating with Antiques," on Sunday at 1 p.m. featuring interior decorator John Harrison, A.S.I.D. of Closson's Interior Design in Montgomery.

The Montgomery Woman's Club Antiques Show & Sale is one of the longest running and most prestigious successful antique shows in the Midwest. The Antiques Show & Sale is managed exclusively by the volunteers of Montgomery Woman's Club, Inc.

There will be more than 40 dealers from 8 states displaying some of the country's finest examples of American and English antiques furniture, crystal, silver, china, jewelry, pewter, folk arts and more. Each year the show is bigger and better than ever. By supporting the event, you will not only enjoy a fabulous show but

will also help Montgomery Woman's Club support its community projects.

Homemade lunches and desserts will be available for purchase during the show for all

to enjoy!

For information, call (513) 852-1901.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MARCH • MARCH • MARCH • MARCH

5	Arts Commission	City Hall	5 pm
5	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
7	Council Business Session	City Hall	7 pm
8	Parks and Recreation Commission	Good Shepherd Church	6 pm
11	Sensory Sunday <i>(reservations required)</i>	Terwilliger Lodge	5 pm
12	Beautification Commission	City Hall	9 am
14	Landmarks Commission	City Hall	7 pm
17	Cardboard Recycling	7315 Cornell Road	10 am - 1 pm
17	MWC Antiques Show and Sale	Sycamore HS	10 am - 6 pm
18	MWC Antiques Show and Sale	Sycamore HS	11 am-4 pm
19	Pool Registration and Swim Team sign ups begin	City Hall	7:30 am
19	Planning Commission	City Hall	7:30 pm
20	Sister Cities Commission	City Hall	7 pm
21	Council Work Session	City Hall	7 pm
25	Sensory Sunday <i>(reservations required)</i>	Terwilliger Lodge	5 pm
26	Sycamore Schools spring break begins		
26	Rec. Dept. Spring Break Camp Week begins		
26	Environmental Advisory Group	City Hall	4:30 pm
27	Board of Zoning Appeals	City Hall	7:30 pm