

July 7, 2016

TO: City Manager, Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: All Department Heads
Connie Gaylor, Administrative Coordinator

SUBJECT: Thursday Update

The following information is provided to you as a summary of activities for the week of July 4, 2016 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder the Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of July.
2. On July 4th Sergeant Greg Harris entered into his new role as the Department's Administrative Sergeant until January of 2018. Sergeant Greg Vonden Benken, who had previously filled this position for the Department, has returned to the Patrol Division as the second shift supervisor.
3. The July 3rd and 4th holiday celebrations had a myriad of volunteers lend a hand this year. Thirty-nine volunteers helped with the concert, parade and festival. In addition, 75 Church of the Saviour members cleaned up after the Parade and eight church members managed games at the Festival. Also, eight U.S. Naval Academy cadets managed games at the Festival. All of these volunteers contributed to a perfect celebration of our Independence Day despite the weather.
4. Despite the weather forecast and a bit of rainy weather, we had a good turnout for the July 3rd and 4th events. On Sunday, July 3, the Blue Ash Montgomery Symphony Orchestra (BAMSO) performed a mix of patriotic selections and music from some of the all-time great TV programs. Mayor Chris Dobrozsi welcomed an estimated 1,000 concert goers and also announced and honored three veterans. On Monday, July 4, 5,000 people lined the parade route to celebrate our Independence Day. 73 parade units ranging from the Emerald Society and Military Order of the Purple Hearts to the Shrine Clowns and Percheron horses traveled down Montgomery Road to the Festival taking place at Montgomery Park. This Festival included food vendors, kid's games, pony rides and the Kevin Fox band. Thanks to everyone who participated in the planning and implementing of these events!
5. Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Henderson suffered a broken ankle at a house fire that occurred during the early morning of July 4th. The fire occurred at 10330 Penderly Drive at 3:15 A.M. The fire started in the first floor attic and spread to the den and a bedroom. Fire crews quickly knocked down the fire and stopped its progress in a timely fashion. Firefighter Henderson's injury occurred while he was advancing a fire hose in the front yard and stepped into a depression in the yard which in turn caused his fracture. It is anticipated that he will be off work for six to eight weeks. We wish Michael the best during his recovery.
6. On Tuesday, Wayne Davis, Brian Riblet, and Katie Smiddy met with the development team for the proposed Vintage Club North project to review and discuss proposed costs associated with the public improvements of the project as well as next steps in the overall process. The

meeting was very productive and a follow up meeting has been scheduled to continue our momentum.

7. Faith Lynch met with Pastor Michelle Bacon of the Montgomery Ministerial Association on Tuesday. Pastor Bacon is also an MCLA Class of 2013 graduate. They discussed several items including the health of her and other local church congregations, engaging with the Muslim faith community and an August Montgomery Ministerial Association lunch. Over the next few months and as an extension of the Business Calling program, Faith will arrange meetings with the leaders of the other local churches.
8. The Miami Valley Risk Management Association (MVRMA) has completed the 2015 Law Enforcement Best Practices Checklist for the City of Montgomery Police Department and is recognizing the Department for being in 100% compliance with these recommended Law Enforcement Best Practices.
9. On Wednesday, Wayne Davis and Brian Riblet along with Matt Davis and Megan Hube met with Melissa Taylor, Economic Development Department, from ODOT to provide her with an update of our status associated with the GRA and to discuss additional opportunities for funding sources as we move forward.
10. On Wednesday afternoon the City and the Fraternal Order of Police Bargaining Unit met for the third time in labor negotiations. The groups reached tentative agreement on a new three-year labor agreement. The next step in the process is for the bargaining unit to bring the tentatively agreed to contract before its members for consideration of ratifying the contract, at which time the contract will be presented to City Council for its consideration of the agreement. The FOP Bargaining Unit team consisted of Representative Ross Rader, Sergeant Greg Harris and Patrol Officers Bob Otte and James Martin. The City's negotiating team consisted of Police Chief Don Simpson, Assistant Police Chief John Crowell, Finance Director Katie Smiddy, Human Resource Manager Julie Prickett and Labor Counsel Joe Scholler.
11. On Wednesday evening, Gary Heitkamp, Brian and Wayne met with five homeowners who live on Jolain Drive and who continue to have concerns about storm water management issues behind their homes. The homeowners continue to search for consensus amongst the seven homes impacted by the storm water issues which are of concern to them. City staff, led by Gary and Brian, have continued to search for solutions to their concerns and will present an update on the status of this work to the Public Works Committee at a future Committee meeting should a viable solution or recommendation be achieved. Please find attached the June Social Media Report. Please direct any questions you may have regarding the report to Faith Lynch.
12. Please see the attached email sent by Frank Forsthoefel, Sycamore Schools Superintendent, relaying his appreciation for Chief's Simpson and Wright for their continued support in ensuring school campus safety as well as their partnership in vital programs and community relations. Great job to both Chiefs and their respective departments.
13. On Friday morning, Council Member Suer, Katie and Wayne will meet with Greg Jarvis of the Hamilton County Auditor's Office and Robert Giuffre of the Great Oaks Joint Vocational Schools in the Annual meeting of the Tax Incentive Review Council. This meeting is required to provide an update of the City's Tax Increment Financing Districts, of which the City has four --- Montgomery Commons, Village Corner Development, Montgomery Triangle Development and the Vintage Club. Sycamore Schools is normally a part of this Council, but will be unable to send a representative due to conflicts with scheduling. As a reminder, the Montgomery Commons and Village Corner TIFs are due to expire on November 4 of this year.

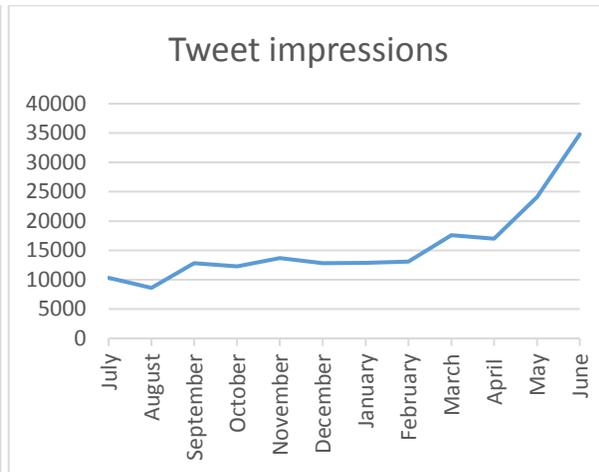
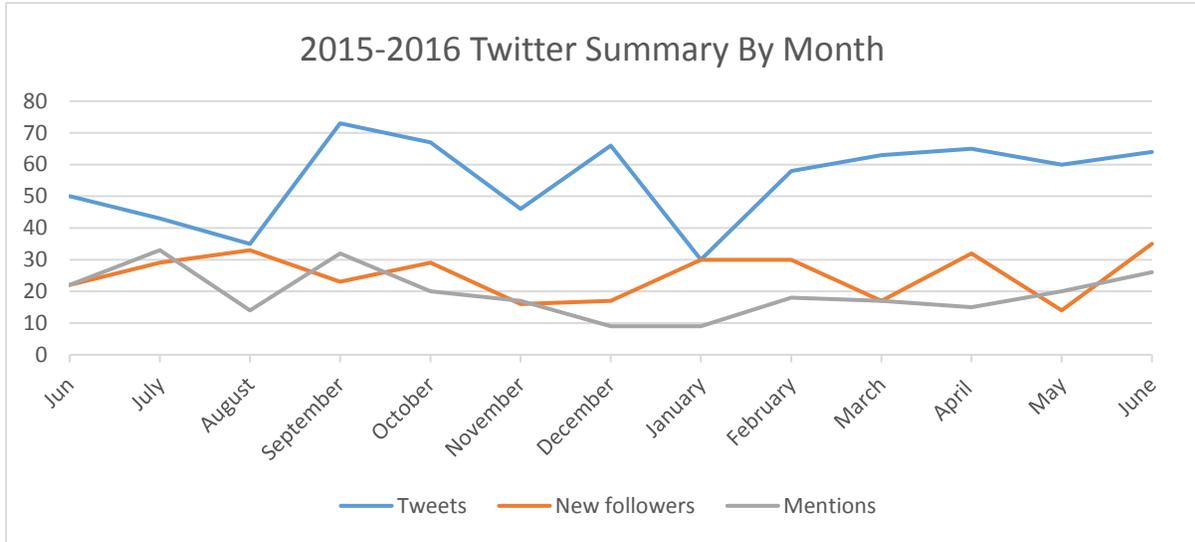
14. Please find attached monthly reports from the police and fire departments for the month of June.
15. Please find attached Montgomery-related news articles that appeared in the local media since our last update.

Should you have questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Wayne Davis, City Manager
Mayor and City Council Members
Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director

June 2016 Social Media Report

Twitter



Twitter Analysis:

Total number of new followers climbed by 35 new followers for a total of 926 followers. The top tweet was a tweet about the Zig Zag Road closure on June 16 with 2,714 impressions. The top media tweet was a photo from Big Rig Gig tweeted on June 7 with 2,139 impressions. This media tweet included a photo of a police officer showing a cruiser to a group of participants. The top mention was a tweet done by @sycamoreschools about retiring Sycamore Schools administrator Phil Hackett and his Phil Hackett Day in Montgomery. This tweet garnered 202 engagements. The top Card tweet was a link posted on June 2 to the City website about August 4 Touch a Trunk event with

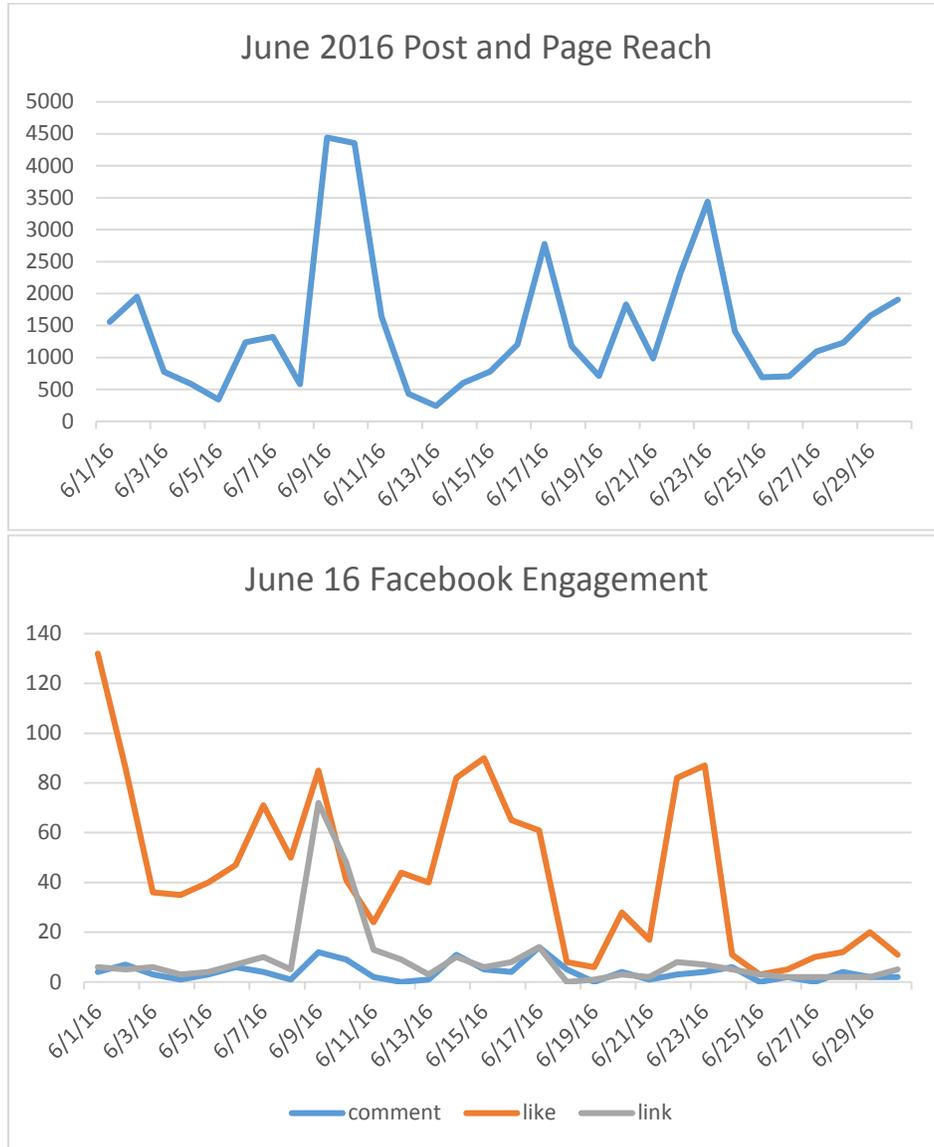
Twitter Definitions:

Profile visits: Number of users who visited our Twitter site.

Mentions: Any tweet that contains @montgomeryohio (our username)

Tweet Impressions: Total number of times that our tweet may appear in other user's Twitter feeds, both followers and their followers etc. through shares, mentions and retweets. Shows the reach of the City's brand.

Facebook



Facebook does it again. They have changed their algorithms for what appears in your news feed.

According to TechCrunch "Facebook is also making a feed ranking change today that literally puts its primary value that "Friends and family come first" into practice. The News Feed will now show posts from friends higher up in the feed than posts from Pages like news outlets. Pages should expect a decline in reach and referral traffic, especially if they rely on clicks directly to their posts rather than re-shares by their followers."

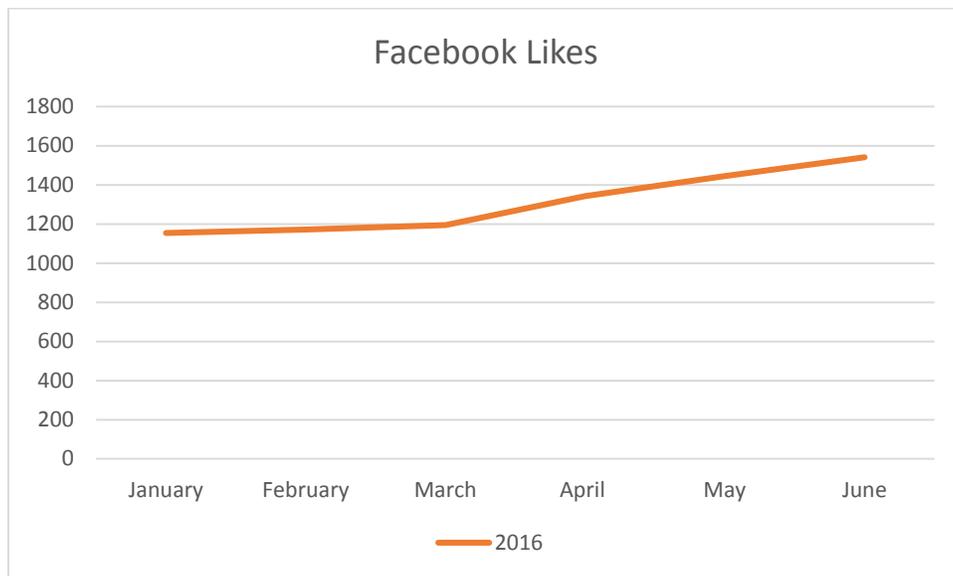
This change to the news feed may have a significant impact on the City page’s performance. “In fact, choosing what appears is getting tougher over time since more users and publishers are joining the social network, and they’re sharing more frequently,” writes [John Constine of TechCrunch](#).

What this means is that Facebook prefers people have personal interaction with Facebook, but pages will have to buy ads to get eyeballs on their information. This is our predicament. Facebook is giving the advantage to personal pages in order to sell more ads to fan pages, which is what we have.

Stay tuned to see how this impacts Montgomery’s reach.

Facebook Analysis:

The significant spike in terms of likes on June 1 and June 2 can be attributed to the post regarding Phil Hackett’s mayoral proclamation. The gray spike on June 9 represented the number of shares that a post garnered. This post asked for the public to identify a person seen on a surveillance photo and netted 8,800 impressions. The significant number of likes on June 15 may be attributed to an ad purchased to promote the Independence Day festivities. We currently have 1541 likes on Facebook and I attribute this steady increase in Facebook likes to Facebook ads we have bought over the last three months. The final peak on June 22 represents the post documenting Ron Brooks Day and his mayoral proclamation from City Council.



Facebook Definitions:

Daily Reach: The number of people who visited our Facebook Page, or saw our Page or one of its posts in news feed or ticker. These can be people who have liked your Page and people who haven't. (Unique Users)

Daily Positive Feedback (engagement): The number of times people have given positive feedback (like, share link, leave comment) to your Page, by type. (Unique Users)

Instagram:

As of June 30, the City page has 102 followers. This is a 67% increase from last month.

From: Frank Forsthoefel [<mailto:forsthoefelf@sycamoreschools.org>]

Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 1:49 PM

To: Wayne Davis <wdavis@ci.montgomery.oh.us>; David Waltz <dwaltz@blueash.com>

Cc: Chad Lewis <lewisc@sycamoreschools.org>

Subject: Kudos

Gentlemen

I wanted to take a moment to extend my appreciation for each of your Chief's collaborative spirit with Sycamore. Your police and fire leaders have simply been outstanding in supporting us in our mission to ensure student, staff and visitor safety. From ensuring representation on our Safe and Secure Schools Committee to most recently refining our Emergency Operations plan, Chiefs Simpson, Wright, Hartinger and Brown have been amazing in their expertise and planning. The list of their support efforts is long and distinguished. We talk frequently about strong community-school partnerships. Your chiefs embody that each and every day! Please accept my thanks for your efforts and for those of your leaders. All the best!

Frank

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Frank A. Forsthoefel

Superintendent

Sycamore Community Schools

513-686-1700

Twitter @TopAviator

MEMO

TO: Wayne Davis
City Manager

FROM: Greg Vonden Benken
Police Sergeant
Greg Vonden Benken

DATE: July 1, 2016

REFERENCE: June 2016 Council Report

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- 6/1 Officer Alex Janszen responded to B North for a reported hit skip involving a motor vehicle and a tree. The driver left the scene before the officer's arrival and currently no eyewitnesses have been identified.
- 6/2 Officer Steve Hoy responded to Tanagerwoods Drive for a reported vehicle break in. Change was taken from the console area and one of the windows was broken by the thief to gain entry. Detective Lacalameto responded to the scene in an attempt to recover physical evidence. The case remains under investigation.
- 6/3 Two parties called about a custody dispute. Many times these situations are civil in nature and generally the courts deal with the situations in mediation type hearings. In this case, children did not want to go with their dad on the weekend visit and the dad became upset and yelled obscenities at both mom and children. The father will follow up with his attorney.
- 6/4 Officers were called to B North after illegal drugs were found on a person brought in for a heroin overdose. The person did not have a valid prescription for the pills and was charged through Mayor's Court and released.
- 6/5 A Golf Green resident called the police to say that a fawn was in a backyard. Many times the mother deer will return and retrieve the fawn at dusk, so it is best to leave them alone.

- 6/6 Officer Steve Hoy and Field Training Officer TJ Shreve stopped a vehicle on Deerfield Rd for In Park After Hours. Upon speaking with driver, an odor of marijuana was observed. The man was cited for possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia and sent on his way.
- 6/7 Officer Paul Payne responded to the parking garage of One Financial Way for graffiti spray painted on the wall. The maintenance department is advising it will cost \$1000 to clean up. There are suspects on surveillance camera footage that Officer Payne is attempting to identify for criminal charges.
- 6/8 Officer Steve Hoy was called to I71 for a report of a man riding a bicycle northbound. After a thorough check of both north and south, the man could not be located.
- 6/9 Dayshift units responded to Cooper Rd and Montgomery Rd for two early morning Breaking & Entering reports into businesses. Officers believe they were committed by the same suspect as the glass was broken in a similar fashion and occurred several minutes apart. A man and woman were arrested in Montgomery after breaking into the Sprint store in Kenwood in the same time frame, but deny committing any burglaries in Montgomery. They were taken to the Justice Center and are awaiting trial.
- 6/10 Midnight officers responded for several car break-ins, near the north part of the City. Several car windows were broken and items of value removed. A well-known suspect was caught in the act several nights after this and denies knowledge of these incidents. He was charged and awaits trial in Municipal Court.
- 6/11 Officer Paul Payne responded into Blue Ash for mutual aid on a suicidal person that took an overdose of drugs. The person was transported to the hospital for mental and medical evaluations.
- 6/12 A female teenager advised that she may have been sexually assaulted within the last year. It occurred while partying in the backyard of her house and allegedly several people were watching. After speaking with the parents, they declined to pursue any action due to lack of evidence and the possibility of mental issues involved.

- 6/13 2nd shift officers took a mentally ill child to Children's Hospital for a psychiatric evaluation. At the parent's request, an officer drove the child and the family followed him. If no medical care is needed, it is common for officers to transport mentally ill persons.
- 6/14 A man was arrested for domestic violence after he threatened and struck his niece. The intoxicated man fell down a set of stairs prior to the officer's arrival and needed medical care before being transported to jail. Charges are pending in Hamilton County Municipal Court.
- 6/15 A well-known area thief was arrested for breaking into cars near Windzag. Officer Alexis Guilkey spotted the man and took him into custody. He had approximately \$33 in loose change in a sock he carried with him to store his ill-gotten gains. Charges pending in Hamilton County Municipal Court.
- 6/16 A man had his work cell phone taken from his unlocked vehicle overnight in his driveway. Officers were unable to ping the phone due to it being powered off. The man is attempting to locate the serial number so that it can be entered in a stolen property database.
- 6/17 A man was found passed out behind the wheel at the Hopewell Cemetery. He was observed by a person walking in the cemetery. He had just taken an overdose of heroin. The man was checked out and taken to the Justice Center where he faces possession of drug charges.
- 6/18 Officer Steve Hoy arrested a person for Open Container and Physical Control of a vehicle after the person was found passed out drunk behind the wheel of their vehicle in the street. The breath test registered a .302 BAC which is extremely intoxicated.
- 6/19 A female was arrested for a hit/skip auto accident and apparently was intoxicated when the crash occurred. Damage was done to her vehicle and a traffic sign near Montgomery Rd. She admitted to taking Xanax and smoking marijuana prior to the crash.

- 6/20 Officer Payne responded to the Kroger's lot for a report of a female sleeping in her vehicle and had done so for several days. She was warned and sent on her way. No arrest was made.
- 6/21 3rd shift officers responded to the Jr High for a report of juvenile drinking alcohol and breaking bottles near the track. Officers located the juveniles and found a cooler with several bottles of alcohol. The juveniles were tested and it was confirmed that they had been drinking. They were charged with trespassing and possession of alcohol in Montgomery Unofficial.
- 6/22 Several vehicles were broken into in the overnight hours. The unknown suspect appeared to have pried the doors with open with a tool in an attempt to look for valuables. Officers are constantly on the lookout for suspicious activity at night, as this is usually when this type of criminal activity occurs.
- 6/23 A man called and stated that his car was stolen from the business district. It turns out that he was just too drunk to remember where he parked it, and his friends had driven him home. The vehicle was recovered by the embarrassed man the next day.
- 6/24 Dayshift units responded to I71 for a rollover auto accident and an ejection. There were several reported injuries. The accident was caused as a vehicle attempted to merge into traffic causing a chain reaction.
- 6/25 Officers Shreve and Bierer stopped a vehicle for running a stop sign on Deerfield Rd. They noticed the smell of burnt marijuana and found a "roach" in the ashtray, along with some unused in a glass jar. The man was cited and released from the scene.
- 6/26 A resident discovered a \$1200 charge on his credit card for Justin Bieber tickets. He did not make the charge. He is unsure on how his card was compromised, but Detectives are working with loss prevention to identify a suspect.

6/27 A Sycamore School bus driver called in and stated that she was being followed by another vehicle. Officer Bob Otte stopped the vehicle in question and determined that it was a parent that was curious about the bus route. No violation was committed.

6/28 Officers responded to four separate auto accidents on this date.

6/29 A lady had her purse stolen from her shopping cart at Kroger's. The unknown suspect used one of her credit cards at CVS several minutes later. A Detective is following up at CVS to identify the suspect via surveillance video.

6/30 A juvenile observed a known juvenile in his room going through his belongings as he walked past the bedroom door. The victim noticed \$107 of cash was taken. The incident is being investigated and drugs are believed to be the contributing factor in the case.

JUNE 2016 MONTGOMERY POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Officer TJ Shreve Weapons Training OPOTA

Officer Paul Payne Ohio Resource Officer Conference Columbus, OH

All Officers underwent Firearm Qualifications at the Indian Hill Range.

**MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPT.
DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION
MONTHLY INSPECTION REPORT
June -2016**

<u>OCCUPANCY CLASS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>		
	Initial	Re-inspections	Total
RESIDENTIAL _____	5	1	6
PUBLIC BUILDINGS _____	4	0	4
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES _____	9	0	9
CHILD CARE FACILITIES _____	1	0	1
EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS _____	0	0	0
CHURCHES _____	1	1	2
MERCANTILE _____	84	19	103
Sub Totals: _____	104	21	125

Other Misc. Inspections:

- 2 Inspections with NIC
- 9 Annual Fire alarm tests of city owned buildings
- 1 underground fuel tank removal inspection on Symphony Lane

TOTAL INSPECTIONS → 137

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS

VIOLATIONS ISSUED _____	96
VIOLATIONS CORRECTED _____	49
TOTAL VIOLATIONS ISSUED IN 2016 _____	252
TOTAL VIOLATIONS CORRECTED IN 2016 _____	201
RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED _____	01
RECOMMENDATIONS CORRECTED _____	01
COMPLAINTS ANSWERED _____	00
REFERRALS MADE TO OTHERS _____	00
PERMITS ISSUED _____	00
PERMITS WITHHELD _____	00
APPLIANCES RED TAGGED _____	00
CITATIONS ISSUED _____	00
WARNING TAGS ISSUED _____	00
SUPPLY SYSTEMS INSTALLED _____	00
SPRINKLER SYS. TESTS OBSERVED _____	00
ALARM SYS. TESTS OBSERVED _____	00
FIRE DRILLS OBSERVED _____	00
TORNADO DRILLS OBSERVED _____	00
SYSTEMS TEST CERTIFICATES RECEIVED _____	04
PLAN REVIEWS MADE _____	07

PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT :

Center Learn – Fire pre-plan training

Annual service of all Portable Extinguishers

Annual testing of Sprinkler Systems -Safety Center and Terwilligers Lodge

**Lt. Mark S. Stagge
Fire Safety Inspector**

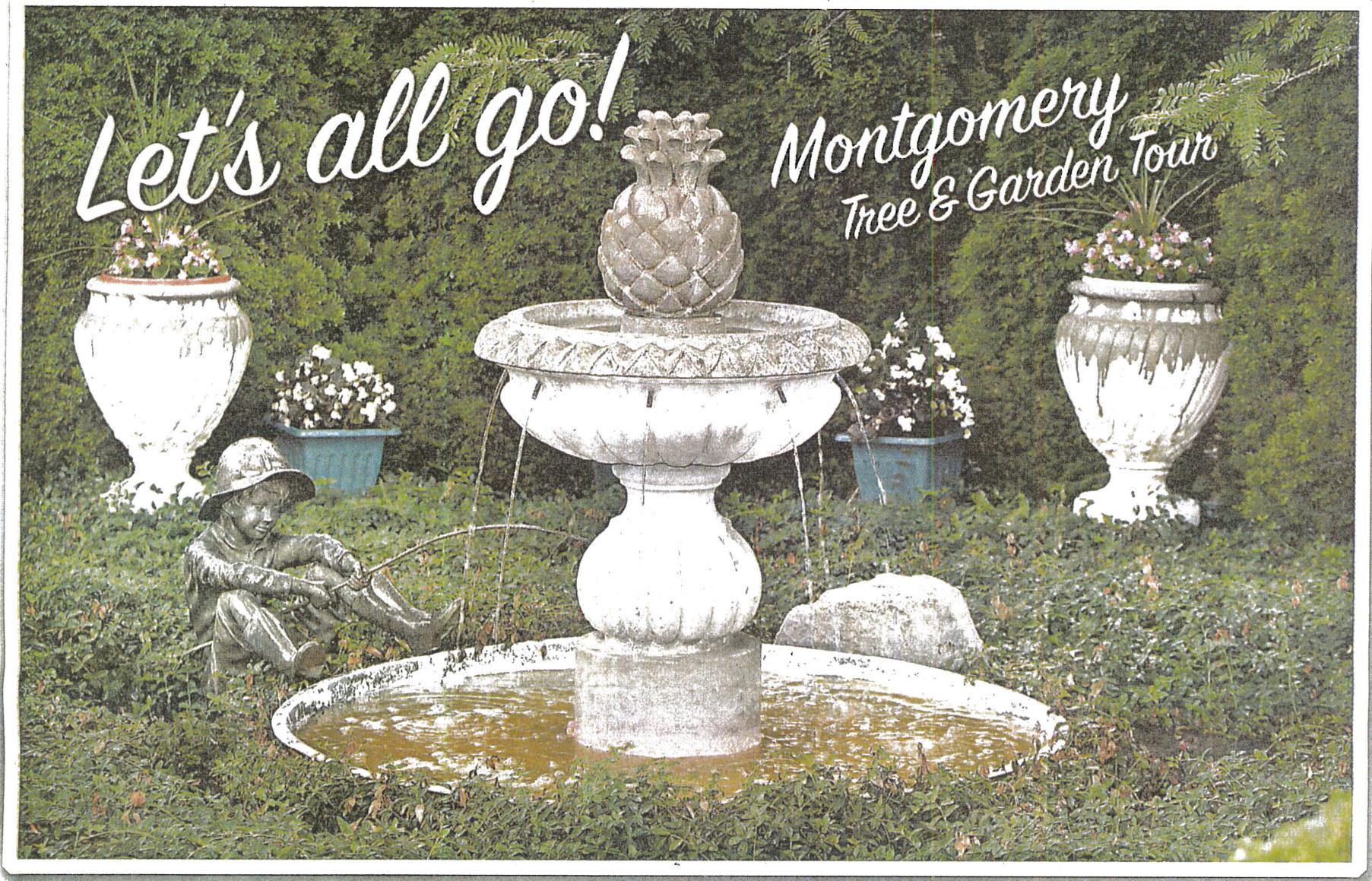
Montgomery recognized for innovation in government

The City of Montgomery received the Outstanding Achievement in Local Government Innovation Award from the Alliance for Innovation. This award recognized the city's successful technology service sharing partnership with Sycamore Community Schools.

Sycamore Community Schools and the City of Montgomery partnered on extending the fiber optics cabling system from Sycamore High School to the city's public works facility, 7315 Cornell Road, to the rest of the city's network. This resulted in significant financial savings to the City, improved and faster network efficiencies and provided Sycamore Community Schools with additional resources to deliver services to both teachers and students.

"The cost savings for the city have been significant but more importantly, the technology partnership with Sycamore Community Schools has allowed the city to enhance service capabilities beyond what could have accomplished on our own and Sycamore Community School receives additional resources to support the students and school staff," community and information services director Matthew Vanderhorst said.

The Outstanding Achievement in Local Government Innovation Award is given to local governments that have shown dedication to stretching and improving the boundaries of day-to-day government operations and practices, implementing creative business processes, and improving the civic health of the community.



A fountain topped with a pineapple, a symbol of welcome, in a backyard garden at Gary Blomberg's Montgomery home. It is among the stops on the Montgomery Tree and Home Tour happening on Sunday.

THE ENQUIRER/PATRICK REDDY

WELCOME TO MONTGOMERY

Montgomery Tree & Garden Tour puts unique gardens and public parks on display

The Enquirer

The city of Montgomery has long been an official Tree City. And it's long had a beautification program that celebrated the glories of the best front yards in town.

Now comes a chance to see the great trees (and gardens) of the city's backyards.

Montgomery's second annual Tree and Garden Tour is set for Sunday, from 2 to 5 p.m. It includes a variety of landscaping strategies behind six private homes and the lush and native splendor in two of its parks.

Jodi Keith, chair of the city's Beautification & Tree Commission, said Sunday's visitors will see gardens that range in age from older to those that

have been "works in progress for 15 years" to those just getting rolling.

The tour will start at both Swaim and Pioneer parks. The former is known for the 1815 Wilder-Swaim House gardens; the latter, for its proliferation of native trees and for its butterfly garden.

See GARDENS, Page 2D

There is no charge. Refreshments (and restrooms) will be available at both parks.

THE STOPS

Swaim Park Gazebo

Park in either Cooper or Zig Zag parking lots. Visit Todd Pond, the herb and perennial garden maintained by the Lazy Daisy Garden Club, explore the many identified trees in the park, and celebrate volunteerism with beds of marigolds planted by Montgomery's young school children.

Ken & Kathie Goode

Beautiful pond and waterfall. This work-in-progress garden re-used some perennials from a previous design, new shrubs (with more to come), wildflowers planted from seed by grandchildren. And follow the path to a very special fairy garden village.

Sharon Stengel

In its current state of evolution, the back gardens have a great variety of perennials. The stone border of river rock/gravel draws your eyes – and your feet – from the patio, around the yard and back again. This is also a great way to naturally control erosion in a yard with several slopes. Lantana and verberna in pots around the patio invite butterflies and hummingbirds.

Twin Lakes North Campus Clubhouse

Twin Lakes North Campus features informal gardens with native trees and plants around the Clubhouse and Lake. All plantings here were designed, planted and are maintained by Twin Lakes' Landscape Staff (Viox). Note the bald cypress near the lake and the grove of small dogwoods at the edge of the woods across the lake from the clubhouse, a gift of a resident – 80 trees for his 80th birthday.

Derek & Alyson Rathel

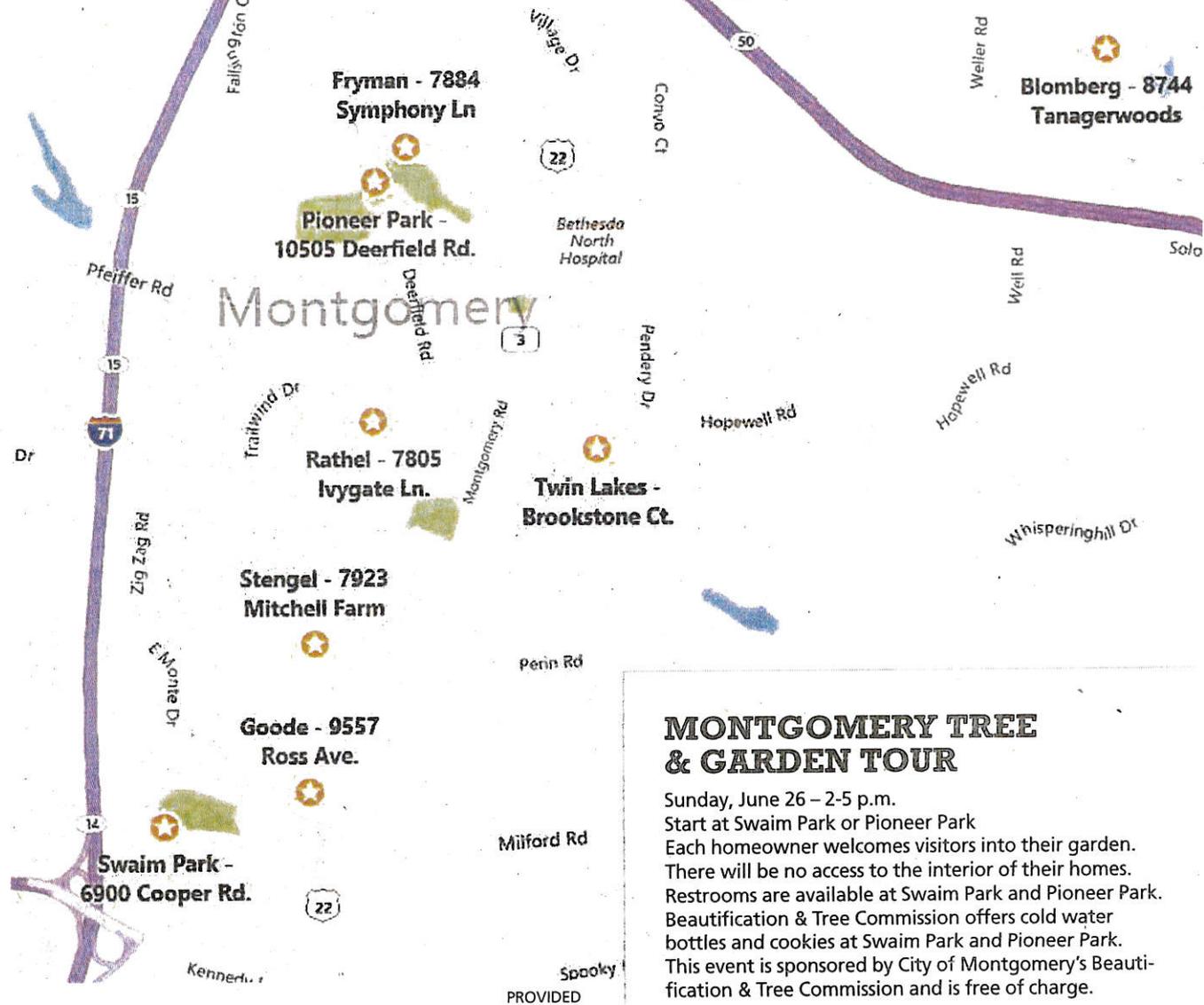
This backyard features seven trees (dogwoods, maples, magnolias and pines) that are all uplighted for a fantastic look in the evening. In the back left of the house you will find a village of hostas of different varieties. In the back beds there are variegated grasses and a few more hostas along the walking paths. The front yard features nine knockout roses and a gumball tree. Several liriopie welcome visitors to the front door.

Pioneer Park

Pioneer Park is the most natural and interactive park in the Montgomery Park System. Sycamore Creek meanders through and the pond's beauty can be enjoyed from the unique dock swings. This park emphasizes native trees with a natural wildflower meadow and the special butterfly garden. Plaques about the history of Montgomery's founders and a tree grove memorializing citizens who have served the community add to this park's diversity.

Tom & Colleen Fryman

This is a naturalist garden, 14 years in the making. Trees include: a Japanese umbrella pine, a horse chestnut, a Pagoda Dogwood, a Weeping European Hornbeam, a blackgum, a Contorted Beech, a Forest Pansy Redbud, an American yellowwood, a Japanese stewartia, many paw paws, a hybrid dogwood, an American hornbeam, an American holly, a yellow buckeye, an Ohio buckeye, a Persian Parrotia, some small Vanessa Parrotia, a Bur Oak and a white oak.



A map of the different stops on the tour.

Gary & Ann Blomberg

Start at the trellis entrance from the driveway to enter the "secret garden" hidden by tall Norway and an Oriental spruce as well as magnolias and arborvitae. Enjoy the serenity of the well-manicured lawn with a bronze statue of a boy and dog, fountains, urns, colorful annuals, a kinetic lawn sculpture and garden benches. The brick patio is shaded with mature locust trees. Exit the rear gate to see the waterfall and side garden. When leaving, notice the front entrance with planted bronze urns, the Japanese maple and Knockout roses as you walk down the brick sidewalk.

MONTGOMERY TREE & GARDEN TOUR

Sunday, June 26 – 2-5 p.m.

Start at Swaim Park or Pioneer Park

Each homeowner welcomes visitors into their garden.

There will be no access to the interior of their homes.

Restrooms are available at Swaim Park and Pioneer Park.

Beautification & Tree Commission offers cold water bottles and cookies at Swaim Park and Pioneer Park.

This event is sponsored by City of Montgomery's Beautification & Tree Commission and is free of charge.

WHAT IS PICKLEBALL?

A paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong that is played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court with a slightly modified tennis net.

Source: USA Pickleball Association

» To see how the game is played, go to Cincinnati.com - <http://cin.ci/297a45X>

WHERE ELSE YOU CAN PLAY

MONTGOMERY

Montgomery lined its tennis courts in Dulle Park for pickleball after receiving requests from the community.

"Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in America. It is fun, provides great exercise and can accommodate all ages and abilities of those who participate. It is exceptionally popular among seniors," recreation specialist Sarah Fink said.

The city has been attached net adjusters so the height of the nets can be lowered for pickleball.

SYCAMORE CITY SCHOOLS

The Sycamore Community Schools has been teaching pickleball during gym classes for more than 20 years, said Mallory Bonbright, chief public relations and communication coordinator.

"It is introduced in our Lifetime Sports class as a lead-up game to tennis," Bonbright said.

The students play on the tennis courts or badminton courts and has no plans to build pickleball courts.

OTHER LOCATIONS

Clermont Family YMCA, 2075 James E. Sauls Sr. Drive, Batavia

Beechmont Racquet & Fitness Club, 435 Ohio Pike

Clear Creek Park, 6200 Cincinnati-Batavia Pike,

Sayler Park Recreation Center, 6720 Home City Ave.

Sharonville Recreation Center, 10990 Thornview Drive

Evendale Recreation Center, 10500 Reading Road