

September 24, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Wayne S. Davis, City Manager *WSD*
Department Heads

SUBJECT: Thursday Update

The following information is provided to you as a summary of activities for the week of September 21, 2015 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, the Financial Planning, Law and Safety, and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of October.
2. As a reminder, City Council is scheduled to meet in Business Session on Wednesday, October 7 immediately following the Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) meeting at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.
3. As most of you already know, Monday was a major event date for two employees. Jim Hanson officially retired on Monday and we celebrated with Jim and his family at a luncheon reception held in his honor. Also on Monday, Michelle Greis started her employment with the City as our new Finance Director. We extend our best wishes to Jim for a happy life of family, golf and Hilton Head vacationing while we look forward to working with Michelle as the newest member of our team!
4. Lieutenant John Crowell attended the quarterly MVRMA meeting in Centerville on Monday. In addition to a comprehensive review of claims, the committee has declined to cover the use of "Drones" by member agencies. Should an entity decide to utilize one for government business purposes, it will need to find an independent insurance carrier. One example that was reviewed, is the use of a "DRONE" to inspect overhead power lines.
5. The City received a very generous donation on Monday from Montgomery residents Irwin and Melinda Simon in the amount of \$10,000 to be credited to the Living Memorial fund. This fund is used for the purchase of commemorative trees, benches and bricks. A portion of the donation is in memory and honor of loved ones and friends with the placement of trees at Pfeiffer and Weller Parks. The remaining funds are earmarked for the planting of trees throughout Weller Park. The Simon's have been collaborating with Terry Willenbrink to choose locations and tree types for Weller Park. These funds will definitely change the landscape of the park and enhance the natural beauty for years to come. We are very fortunate to work in a community where residents partner with us to enhance the quality of life. We extend a sincere "Thank You" to Mr. and Mrs. Simon.
6. Paul Payne was recently sworn in as the President for the Ohio School Resource Officers Association (OSROA) effective July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016. Paul is very active in the association so this is a perfect fit! Congratulations to Paul as he assumes his new duties and what another great example of Montgomery employees leading the way!

7. Connie Gaylor returned on Monday after attending the LEAD (Learning, Educating, And Developing) conference hosted by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia. This week long conference focuses on leadership development and the functions of the HPO (High Performance Organization) model that has become our work culture here at the City. Connie will speak about her experience throughout the week at the Managers Forum next Thursday, October 1.
8. Tracy Roblero attended an economic development forum presented by HCDC, Inc. (formerly referred to as Hamilton County Development Company) on Tuesday morning. This annual presentation provides economic development professionals with an overview of the Greater Cincinnati market in the industrial, office and retail/restaurant sectors. The Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA) was mentioned as a project to watch as a Class A office location within the Greater Cincinnati Region.
9. Frank Davis gave a presentation to Sibcy Cline realtors on Tuesday morning to update them on happenings within the City including the GRA, Vintage Club, the former Montgomery Swim and Tennis Club as well as a general update on the housing market in the City.
10. The Board of Zoning Appeals met on Tuesday night to hear four residential variance cases. The Board considered an encroachment into the side yard setback for an addition on Delray Drive, an encroachment into the rear yard setback for a covered porch on Legacy Lane in the Vintage Club, a variance to allow for encroachment into the front yard setback for a new home on Weil Road and a variance to allow for the top of foundation to be one foot eight inches over the pre-existing top of foundation for a new home on Zig Zag Road.
11. Michelle Greis and Kelly Beach are attending the Ohio Government Finance Officers Association annual conference in Cincinnati Wednesday through Friday of this week. The conference offers continuing professional education credits and covers topics in treasury management, debt management, the Affordable Care Act and technology and will allow both Michelle and Kelly to earn professional credits to maintain their CPA certifications.
12. The asphalt base was installed this week for the rock salt bin expansion at the public works facility. It is anticipated that the existing roof and installation of the new roof will be completed in late October or early November in advance of the upcoming winter season. This expansion will double the capacity of salt storage for our winter operations.
13. Public works staff planted nearly 800 yellow and orange mums this week throughout the City in various landscape beds, planters, and right-of-way areas. This annual project provides a splash of color throughout the next several weeks as we transition from summer to fall.
14. Brian Riblet and Tracy Roblero met with representatives from Capital Telecom today to discuss possible locations for a monopole cell tower.
15. Matthew Vanderhorst is attending a National Association of Government Web Professionals (NAGW) Annual Conference this week in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Matthew has attended these conferences for many years now and always finds the sessions to be beneficial to the development and management of the City's website as well as the City's use of technology in service delivery.
16. As of today, we have 22 applications for the Montgomery Citizens' Leadership Academy Class of 2016. The official deadline is September 30, however we have extended the deadline to October 9 to allow for additional applicants. Thank you for your referrals and quick response in

solicitation of other prospects for the Class of 2016. Our ninth class should be much like the previous eight...full of interesting and passionate citizens who care about our community.

17. Chief Paul Wright is currently in Phoenix attending an updated Blue Card training session. This training will ensure that we stay on the cutting edge of the ever changing fire service and is being instructed by retired Phoenix Fire Chief Brunicini who is the creator of this incident command systems training. We look forward to Paul's safe return and learning about the information he was able to glean from the guru of incident command.
18. Mark Stagge operated the Command 400 (Hamilton County's Mobil Command Unit) at the Sharonville Convention Center during Republican Presidential Candidate, Dr. Ben Carson's speech and fund raiser. Mark was on stand by, along with other law enforcement officials and the Hamilton County SWAT Team (Special Weapon Attack Team) during this campaign event. This was part of an Incident Action Plan in case there was an incident. Fortunately there were no incidents, but it was still a great hands on exercise and training for all of those involved.
19. Fire Department members attended a seminar this week at the Blue Ash Fire Department regarding the new Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy laws and regulations. This training was conducted by attorneys from the law firm of Dinsmore and Shohl. Thanks to Blue Ash Fire Department for hosting this free training.
20. Members of the Beautification and Tree Commission will sponsor their annual Fall Plant Swap this Saturday at City Hall from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. This popular event is a great opportunity for residents to share various perennials as well as discuss gardening tips.
21. Planning Commission will be meeting on Monday, September 28, to consider the planned development and rezone of the former Montgomery Swim and Tennis Club from Camden Homes. They are proposing a 30 lot single family subdivision with reduced lot sizes and setbacks and are requesting an equivalency in regards to open space. Camden Homes projects that the price point is in the \$600,000 to \$700,000 thousand price range.
22. I will be out of the office beginning Friday, September 25 and returning to the office on Friday, October 2. I will be in Denver, Colorado through Sunday, September 27 for a wedding. On Sunday morning I will depart for Seattle, Washington to attend the International City/County Management Association's Annual Conference. I appreciate the opportunity given to me to be able to participate in professional development opportunities with my peers and I look forward to bringing valuable resources back to the City. Brian Riblet will serve as Acting City Manager in my absence.
23. 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: Connie Gaylor, Administrative Coordinator
Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director

Canines made a big splash at Dogfest and K-9 Kerplunk

More than 400 people and their furry best friends joined the fun on Labor Day at the City of Montgomery's annual Dogfest and K-9 Kerplunk. The event was held at the Montgomery Community Pool, 8075 Hopewell Road. Families filled the pool with their canine companions and ended the summer with a dip in the pool.

Montgomery's Top Dog, Miley, led the parade and Miley's owner Kate Munz read her essay as to why Miley is Montgomery's Top Dog. Other categories and winners included:

- » Lucky, Casey, Andie and Fiona for Most Fit; owner, Charles Pescovitz
- » Cody, Most Talented; owner,

April Schnelle

» Kylie, Miss Congeniality; owner, Emily Haberman

» Stella Luna, Most Athletic; owners, Loren and Eli Cook

» Charlie Dickens, Most Loveable; owner, Walter Frank

The event featured on-stage contests and prizes, a doggie parade, an animal communicator, a dog race and, of course, fun in the pool.

For more information on future events, visit www.montgomeryohio.org or call 513-891-2424.

Faith Lynch

Montgomery hosts International Reception Oct. 11

Community members are invited to attend Montgomery's International Reception on Sunday, Oct. 11, sponsored by the Sister Cities Commission. Children and non-Montgomery residents are encouraged to attend. The event is from 5-7 p.m. at Terwilliger Lodge in Dulle Park, 10530 Deer-

field Road.

Participants should bring a favorite covered dish, appetizer or dessert to share. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided by the Sister Cities Commission. For reservations or more information, contact City Hall at 513-891-2424 or register online at montgomeryohio.org by Oct. 1. This free event is limited to 50 reservations.

Faith Lynch

Montgomery sister cities commission hosts international reception

Community members are invited to attend Montgomery's International Reception on Sunday, Oct. 11, sponsored by the Sister Cities Commission. The yearly event encourages the connection of all Montgomery residents' one friendship at a time. Children and non-Montgomery residents are also encouraged to attend.

The social event is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 11, from 5-7 p.m. at Terwilliger Lodge in Dulle Park, 10530 Deerfield Road.

Participants should bring a favorite covered dish, appetizer or dessert to share at the international buffet table. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided by the Sister Cities Commission.

Thanks, good luck to bike rider

A heartfelt thank you to Sam Chamberlin for raising our collective awareness of the deadly affliction HLH, and good luck on the bike ride I have only dreamt of.

Sam is a dedicated father and engaged resident of Montgomery. Sam, thank you for your contributions.

Craig Margolis
Montgomery

Did I miss something?

This time I apparently did. Montgomery entered the twilight zone.

When we left for vacation Montgomery was going to vote on leaf vacuuming. The people voted 45 percent to 29 percent for vacuuming. So when does it start?

Wait a minute! When confronted with a direct democracy vote for the vacuuming, city council decided that it knew better.

I guess I'm a little old fashioned, I thought the public servants were to yield to the public's wishes.

It seems they are worried about the money, but if so I have a few questions:

1. If going in they knew it was going to be cost prohibitive, why initiate a UC study to ask the public's choice? (Didn't it cost money?)

2. Did they call a private contractor?

3. They say it is a net \$140,800 more, but are we buying new equipment (included in the estimate) every year?

I would say find the money. On our street alone this year, they have torn down six \$300,000 houses and replaced them with \$600,000 to \$2 million houses. How much more tax money is that? Plus the inhabitants salaries.

Next time save the money Montgomery, we don't need another worthless UC study.

John Dawson
Montgomery

MONTGOMERY

Live at the Uni music series returns Oct. 5

The ever-popular music series, Live at the Uni, kicks off Monday, Oct. 5, with a performance by CSO musicians Steven Rosen and Stacey Woolley. The violin/viola duo will perform classical favorites.

On Monday, Oct. 19, Montgomery resident Tom Steele (and friends) will delight with his jazz, folk and pop renditions. Steele leads two popular local ensembles, Toast and Slice, which appear regularly at Parker's Blue Ash Grille and Desha's Tavern. In addition to performing popular standards, Steele writes and performs his own music as well, and has worked as a session musician for advertising jingles for many years. Steele recently won two Emmy Awards for his original theme music for locally-produced documentary films.

On Monday, Nov. 2, the series concludes with the exciting music of The Klezmer Project.

All concerts will be held at the historic Universalist Church at the corner of Montgomery and Remington Roads. Each concert begins at 7 p.m. and will last about an hour. Montgomery Inn will once again sponsor the post-concert receptions.

Twin Lakes is presenting sponsor for the 2015 Live at the Uni series.

There is no charge for admission; however, a free will offering is welcome. Due to limited seating, reservations are required, and can be made by calling City Hall at 513-891-2424 or online at montgomeryohio.org.

Faith Lynch

Harvest Moon Family Festival set for Oct. 10

Join the City of Montgomery for great family fun at the Harvest Moon Festival on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 5-8 p.m. at Swaim Park (corner of Cooper and Zig Zag Roads). This fall festival offers s'mores, crafts, hayrides, food and all sorts of entertainment. Festival admission is free. There will be free pumpkin painting, harvest bag crafting and face painting (\$5). Families will be able to join in a s'mores roast around the fire pit. Hayrides and pony rides (\$3) will entertain your littlest family members.

True tastes of the fall season such as hot cocoa and cider, kettlecorn and s'mores kits will be available for purchase. Montgomery firefighters will be serving cones. Kids can also explore a firetruck. The Wilder Swaim House will be available for tours and will host a fun challenge game on the lawn. Music will be performed by P's

in a Pod at the Wilder Swaim Home and Jim Gillum will be on guitar at the large picnic shelter.

"The Harvest Moon Festival is a great event that is perfect for families," explains Julie Machon, recreation coordinator for the City of Montgomery.

Volunteers are still needed for this event. If interested in volunteering or for more information, call 513-891-2424 or visit montgomeryohio.org.

Faith Lynch