

September 3, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Wayne S. Davis, City Manager
Department Heads

SUBJECT: Thursday Update

The following information is provided to you as a summary of activities for the week of August 31, 2015 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, City Hall offices will be closed on Monday, September 7 to celebrate the Labor Day holiday.
2. As a reminder, the Financial Planning, Planning Zoning and Landmarks, and Law and Safety Committees of City Council will be rescheduled for Tuesday, September 15 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
3. Lieutenant John Crowell attended the Miami Valley Risk Management Association (MVRMA) quarterly Risk Management Committee Meeting on Monday, in Centerville. Meeting topics discussed were: the use of drones and obtaining insurance coverage for their use, member fund contributions and pending litigation among the various member agencies.
4. Attached is a thank you letter from the Sanker Family regarding the tragic death of their daughter, Amy, a recent Sycamore High School graduate. Sergeant Greg Harris and School Resource Officer Paul Payne spent many hours with the Sanker Family consoling them during this extremely difficult time. The City sends the Sanker family many heartfelt condolences and wishes them the best as they move forward.
5. The annual pavement marking program with Aero-Mark, Inc. began on Wednesday. Aero-Mark, the City's contractor for this service, will be adding paint to the existing pavement markings on portions of Montgomery Road, Cooper Road, Remington Road, Weller Road, Zig Zag Road, as well as stop bars and crosswalks at various locations throughout the City.
6. Income tax revenues for the month of August were \$674,343, which is an increase of 8.7% compared to collections of \$620,183 for August of 2014. Year-to-date revenues are up 4.4% over last year and exceed estimated revenues by 3.2%. The August Income Tax Variance Report is attached for reference.
7. Only a few items remain on the Montgomery and Pfeiffer Roads Improvement Project, and only a few punch-list items need to be finalized on the Street Resurfacing Program. Staff will assure all punch-list items are finished and it is anticipated that all projects will be completed at or below the budgeted amounts.
8. The wall for the salt barn expansion at the public works facility is complete. Work will continue on the new salt barn, including the re-wiring of electric service.

9. Public works staff continued to work on drainage issues this week, including catch basin repairs on Montgomery Road close to Valley Creek, catch basin modification on Weller Road, drainage improvement at the gazebo in Pioneer Park and a drainage ditch on Margaret Lane.
10. Public works reports that the electrostatic fence painting of the tennis courts at Dulle and Pioneer Parks is complete. This is another nice touch from Public Works as they wrap up summer maintenance projects.
11. On Tuesday, Paul Wright met with Frank Forsthoefel of Sycamore Schools to begin partnering with his new role as Superintendent. They discussed how the fire department is involved in the Sycamore Schools with safety education, fire prevention, safety plans, building inspections and fire drills. Both enjoyed getting to know each other and look forward to future opportunities to meet and work together.
12. This Friday, the City and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) will begin a mediation process as part of on-going collective bargaining efforts. The City and the IAFF were unable to reach a tentative agreement for a new labor contract and are seeking assistance from a mediator to resolve outstanding issues and reach a tentative agreement.
13. Chief Simpson will have lunch with new Sycamore School District Superintendent Frank Forsthoefel on Friday. Although the two have previously worked together, Don wants to discuss new ideas and/or programs which the school district may be considering. This will be a great opportunity to build on an already fantastic partnership.
14. Dogfest and K-9 Kerplunk will be held on Labor Day from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Montgomery Community Pool. The cost to participate is free for pool members, and \$3 per dog for nonmembers. Pet People and Puppywood Pet Resort are the main sponsors for the event. Vendors on site will include Professional Pet Grooming by Kathie who will be giving free nail trims for dogs, Pawjoggers, EarthWise Pet Supply, Cincinnati Hills Animal Clinic, Petwants, Circle Tails (a non-profit adoption group), and Meals on Wheels for Pets. Participants that bring a non-perishable pet food item to donate to Meals on Wheels for Pets will be entered into a drawing. New this year is an animal communicator (Kimberly Billings). There will be fun activities on stage and in the pool and participants will receive great prizes, many of which were donated. Thank you in advance to City Council member Gerri Harbison for judging the on-stage contests. Thanks to the Dogfest Team for all of the hard work in planning the event. This elite team includes Cindy Abner, Sharon Savitt, Sarah Fink, Mark Stagge, Greg Schill, Tony Brothers and Julie Machon.
15. Rogers Paving is currently sealing the driveways in the cemetery and this project is anticipated to be completed by next week.
16. Please remember to plan to attend the Montgomery First Responder Appreciation Day next Thursday, September 10 at the Safety Center from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. This a great opportunity to interact with this great group of people and thanks to City Council for taking the time to acknowledge all they do for the community.
17. Please find attached monthly department reports from the fire and police departments for the month of August.
18. I will be out of state beginning this evening, travelling to Vermont to attend the funeral of my sister. Paul Wright will serve as Acting City Manager in my absence. I will return to the area on Tuesday, September 8. I thank everyone for your support, decency and kind words.

19. Happy Labor Day to our City Council and staff. We are all very fortunate to have a great community to serve, and the time to spend with our family and friends. Enjoy the weekend and be safe!

20. 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



September 1, 2015

To: Wayne Davis, City Manager
From: Kelly J. Beach, Assistant Finance Director/Tax Commissioner
Subject: 2015 August Income Tax Variance Report

KJB

Month-to-Date

For the month of August 2015, the City's total income tax receipts were \$674,343, which is an increase of \$54,160 or 8.7% compared to the actual amount collected in August 2014.

	2015	2014	% Change
August Actual	\$674,343	\$620,183	8.7%
YTD	\$5,959,605	\$5,707,117	4.4%

Year-to-Date

Year-to-date actual income tax receipts show an increase of 4.4% over the year-to-date receipts received through August 2015 compared to the same period in 2014. In addition, year-to-date revenues exceeded estimated revenues by 3.2%.

	YTD Actual	YTD Estimate	% Change
2015	\$5,959,605	\$5,775,795	3.2%

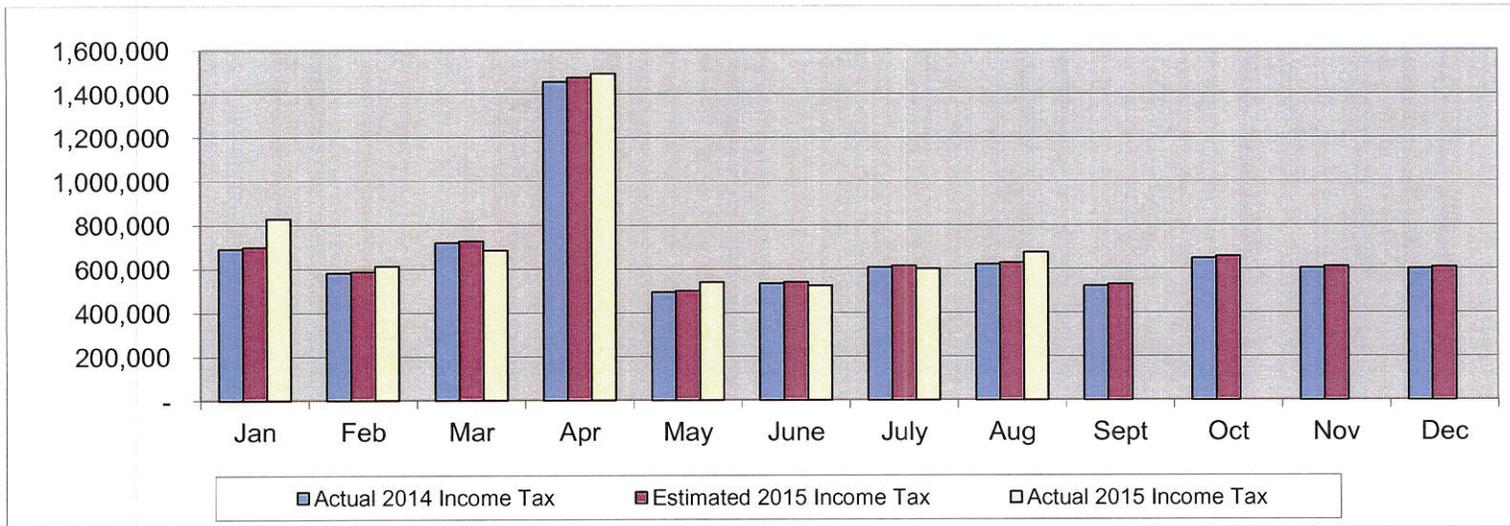
A breakdown by category for August 2015 is as follows:

- *Withholding*- August withholding collections were \$597,442, which is an increase of \$90,234, or 17.7%, when compared to August 2014 collections of \$507,208.
- *Business*- In August 2015, net profits from businesses located within or doing business within Montgomery were \$11,565. This is a decrease of \$7,855 or 40.4% compared to August 2014 collections of \$19,420.
- *Resident*- Revenues of \$65,336 were collected in August 2015 from residents living in Montgomery, which is a decrease of \$28,218, or 30.1%, compared to August 2014 collections of \$93,554. Collections in August 2014 were 89% higher than 2013 due to a large estimate payment and a couple of large balance due payments.

The following schedule breaks down collections by source and provides a graph comparing actual and estimated income tax revenues for 2014 and 2015. There is also an End-of-Month report attached showing the comparison between month-to-date and year-to-date.

**Schedule of Income Tax Collections by Source
Actual 2014 Compared to 2015 Estimate & Actual**

	Actual 2014				Actual 2015				2015 Estimate	Estimate Variance	%	Actual Variance	%
	Business	Resident	Withholding	Total	Business	Resident	Withholding	Total					
Jan	30,088	98,434	561,961	690,483	23,513	107,848	697,917	829,278	698,792	130,486	18.67%	138,795	20.10%
Feb	19,555	35,972	526,121	581,648	23,144	35,600	554,901	613,645	588,647	24,998	4.25%	31,998	5.50%
Mar	65,548	93,913	560,970	720,431	32,625	59,799	591,955	684,379	729,101	(44,721)	-6.13%	(36,052)	-5.00%
Apr	162,578	871,032	423,547	1,457,156	200,522	809,884	483,267	1,493,674	1,474,691	18,983	1.29%	36,518	2.51%
May	12,931	27,158	456,056	496,145	4,704	46,282	489,079	540,065	502,115	37,950	7.56%	43,921	8.85%
June	57,580	70,483	406,036	534,100	53,215	45,207	425,373	523,795	540,527	(16,732)	-3.10%	(10,304)	-1.93%
July	39,265	98,569	469,139	606,973	43,778	119,709	436,938	600,425	614,277	(13,852)	-2.26%	(6,548)	-1.08%
Aug	19,420	93,554	507,208	620,183	11,565	65,336	597,442	674,343	627,646	46,697	7.44%	54,160	8.73%
Sept	53,690	64,101	404,766	522,558	-	-	-	-	528,846	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Oct	50,812	191,017	406,637	648,466	-	-	-	-	656,270	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Nov	9,662	53,034	540,512	603,207	-	-	-	-	610,466	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Dec	37,624	169,962	393,800	601,386	-	-	-	-	608,623	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Totals	558,753	1,867,230	5,656,752	8,082,734	393,067	1,289,667	4,276,871	5,959,605	8,180,000	183,809	3.18%	252,488	4.42%



CITY OF MONTGOMERY
END OF MONTH REPORT
31 AUG 2015

	2013 Month-to-date	2014 Month-to-date	2015 Month-to-date	2015 vs 2014 Month percent	2015 Year-to-date	2014 Year-to-date	2015 vs 2014 Year percent
May							
Business	13,310.59	12,930.75	4,704.39	-63.6	284,508.80	290,699.62	-2.1
Resident	54,670.56	27,158.29	46,281.83	70.4	1,059,413.48	1,126,508.18	-5.9
Withholding	387,344.83	456,055.64	489,079.05	7.2	2,817,118.80	2,528,653.94	11.4
Non-resident							
TOTAL	455,325.98	496,144.68	540,065.27	8.8	4,161,041.08	3,945,861.74	5.4
June							
Business	28,959.95	57,579.92	53,214.95	-7.5	337,723.75	348,279.54	-3.0
Resident	67,751.43	70,483.42	45,207.48	-35.8	1,104,620.96	1,196,991.60	-7.7
Withholding	400,626.99	406,036.16	425,372.81	4.7	3,242,491.61	2,934,690.10	10.4
Non-resident							
TOTAL	497,338.37	534,099.50	523,795.24	-1.9	4,684,836.32	4,479,961.24	4.5
July							
Business	18,181.88	39,265.30	43,778.14	11.4	381,501.89	387,544.84	-1.5
Resident	93,122.34	98,568.92	119,709.27	21.4	1,224,330.23	1,295,560.52	-5.4
Withholding	396,199.36	469,138.51	436,937.69	-6.8	3,679,429.30	3,403,828.61	8.0
Non-resident	88.58						
TOTAL	507,592.16	606,972.73	600,425.10	-1.0	5,285,261.42	5,086,933.97	3.8
August							
Business	22,832.21	19,419.83	11,565.02	-40.4	393,066.91	406,964.67	-3.4
Resident	49,365.17	93,554.36	65,336.37	-30.1	1,289,666.60	1,389,114.88	-7.1
Withholding	492,187.96	507,208.45	597,441.74	17.7	4,276,871.04	3,911,037.06	9.3
Non-resident							
TOTAL	564,385.34	620,182.64	674,343.13	8.7	5,959,604.55	5,707,116.61	4.4

Hello Greg & Paul;

Pammy & I are very appreciative of your professionalism, compassion, and sincerity with Amy's recent accident and death. Needless to say, our lives have taken a dramatic change [REDACTED] I attach Amy's obituary which will be in the Enquirer this morning. We will regroup as a family and hopefully be much stronger & closer.

While we cannot change what happened, at some point I would like to compare notes on what activities actually preceded the accident that night. As I recall Paul was going to talk with [REDACTED] who was with Amy that evening, and Amy had dropped off immediately preceding the accident. From what we can piece together, there were also 2 other boys who were also with them earlier that evening.

Once again, many thanks for all your support and condolences. We are very proud to live in a community where we have such an excellent and caring police force.

Best regards,

Pammy & Lowell Sanker

**MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPT.
DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION
MONTHLY INSPECTION REPORT
August -2015**

OCCUPANCY CLASS	TOTALS		
	Initial	Re-inspections	Total
RESIDENTIAL _____	1	0	1
PUBLIC BUILDINGS _____	2	2	4
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES _____	0	0	0
CHILD CARE FACILITIES _____	1	0	1
EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS _____	1	0	1
CHURCHES _____	1	0	1
MERCANTILE _____	51	15	66
Sub Totals:	57	17	74

Other Misc. Inspections:

- 5 Inspections with NIC
 - 2 Fire Alarm trouble follow ups
 - 3 City Fire Alarm issues with Koorsen Fire

TOTAL INSPECTIONS → 84

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS

VIOLATIONS ISSUED _____	53
VIOLATIONS CORRECTED _____	44
TOTAL VIOLATIONS ISSUED IN 2015 _____	363
TOTAL VIOLATIONS CORRECTED IN 2015 _____	314
RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED _____	03
RECOMMENDATIONS CORRECTED _____	02
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 _____	02
ALARM SYS. TESTS OBSERVED _____	01
FIRE DRILLS OBSERVED _____	00
TORNADO DRILLS OBSERVED _____	00
SYSTEMS TEST CERTIFICATES RECEIVED _____	15
PLAN REVIEWS MADE _____	11

PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT :

Center Learn – Inspector trainings
Meeting with South West Ohio Fire Safety Council (SWOFSC)

LT. Mark S. Stagge
Fire Safety Inspector

MEMO

TO: Wayne Davis
City Manager

FROM: Don Simpson
Police Chief
Don Simpson

DATE: September 1, 2015

REFERENCE: August Council Report

Activity

- 8/1 Officer Nick Nimeskern investigated a single vehicle crash at the 17.9 mile marker on North I71 in which the driver lost control and struck the median wall. Upon further investigation, Nick asked driver to submit to roadside sobriety tests which he declined to perform. He was charged with OVI, and failing to maintain control.
- 8/2 Officer TJ Shreve and Sgt Mike Davenport reported that they witnessed a pickup truck strike a curb in the 9200 block of Montgomery Rd. Upon further investigation, they discovered the driver had an open container of alcohol and was extremely intoxicated. The driver now faces OVI and open container charges in Montgomery Mayor's Court.
- 8/3 Officer Bob Otte and Sgt Greg Vonden Benken investigated a bicycle crash involving a Time Warner truck in the crosswalk on Cornell Rd near the entrance to the high school. A teen-aged bicyclist entered the crosswalk before determining that it was safe to cross. As a result of being struck the teen suffered a broken collarbone and facial injuries.
- 8/4 Officer Greg Schill and Officer Alex Janszen were called to the scene of a hit-skip auto accident on Montgomery Rd. The at fault driver was pulled over near Steak & Shake. Upon further investigation it was determined the man had been drinking alcohol. When he performed poorly on roadside field tests he was arrested and charged with OVI.
- 8/5 Second shift cars responded to a 9 vehicle auto accident on IR 71 south where a naked man was observed running along the median wall. The Ohio Highway Patrol witnessed the initial crash and took the man into custody with the assistance of an off duty officer and others. Air care was called to the scene due to the severity of the injuries and crash. The naked suspect is facing numerous charges through Hamilton County Municipal Court.
- 8/6 Officer James Martin responded to a Main St. business where a person advised that someone entered her car and took a camera valued at \$5000. Detectives are assigned to the case and are actively checking for the property through pawn shops.
- 8/7 Detective Pat Giblin is investigating a rape allegation from an incident in January 2014, involving a juvenile and an ex-boyfriend. The victim is scheduled for an

interview at the Mayerson Center in Cincinnati for a thorough investigation process. The outcome of the interview and investigation could be many months away as Investigators comb through the evidence and interviews.

- 8/8 Dayshift officers responded to a domestic situation on Terwilliger's Trail. This situation has been ongoing for several months between parents and a juvenile daughter. There are no allegations or proof of a physical fight or threats, but the mother stated she may leave the residence for a few days to let things cool off.
- 8/9 Officer Dan Long responded to a Deerfield Rd address where the victim stated that a series of checks had been stolen from her checkbook while she was in the Pavilion at Pioneer Park. The checks have been cancelled and have not been used as of this date.
- 8/10 Officer Greg Schill responded to Perin Rd where a semi-truck failed to negotiate a turn and struck a nearby car. There were 3 other accidents recorded on this day as well.
- 8/12 Sgt Greg Harris responded to a 911 call on East Kemper Rd, where he met the caller who was very confused about the whereabouts of her daughter. Sgt Harris located the 50 year old daughter who told him that the elderly female was suffering from dementia and was in the probate process. All ok at the residence.
- 8/13 Officer Lauren Helgeson caught 4 male juveniles "Ding-Dong Ditching", in the area of Weller Rd. The 4 boys were identified and returned home to their parents. The boys promised that they would not repeat this behavior again.
- 8/14 Officer Bob Otte spoke to a theft victim on Fairwind. The victim had several items removed from his vehicle including an IPOD, and several gift cards. His vehicle was unlocked.
- 8/15 Dayshift units were dispatched an active auto theft on Montgomery Rd. The victim was following the vehicle which was reported stolen to another police agency. Sgt Mike Plaatje was working a traffic post for the pavement construction near Pfeiffer Rd and he spotted the vehicle near the intersection. Mike attempted to stop the vehicle and was nearly struck. Officer Pat Giblin and Officers Bob Otte and Dave Mulcahy were close behind in cruisers. A chase ensued and the suspect crashed on IR 71 south near Madeira where he attempted to flee on foot. He was quickly taken into custody alongside the interstate. There are multiple charges pending in Hamilton County Municipal Court. No injuries were reported during this entire chase and apprehension.
- 8/16 Officer Paul Payne responded to a Laurelview address where he met a victim of an online scam. The victim sent a check for a wheelchair donation in the amount of \$2845 and was supposed to get a rebate and not have the entire amount charged to her account. Several days later her account was overdrawn in the amount of \$2600. This is a common tactic for online scammers to send fraudulent checks and rebates which leaves many unsuspecting victims with a smaller bank account. There are no suspects at this time.

- 8/17 Sgt Mike Plaatje responded to Krogers for a stolen purse report. While shopping a lady turned her back on her shopping cart and an unknown suspect took her purse without her consent. Several credit cards and checks have been cancelled and have shown no activity for fraudulent activity. She does not wish any follow up unless the cards and checks are used. No known suspect information is available.
- 8/18 School Resource Officer Paul Payne received a thank you from a parent regarding an assault case that he investigated several years ago at Sycamore High School. The parent was concerned about ongoing bullying issues. School officials are aware of the situation and continue to monitor the case.
- 8/19 Officer Bob Otte responded to a Cooper Rd address for a reported rape. The victim stated she had been sexually assaulted at Mt Airy Forest. Cincinnati Police Department was notified of the alleged offense and victim was transported to B North for follow up care.
- 8/19 Second shift officers responded into Blue Ash for a robbery at a Chinese restaurant on Cornell Rd. A Sheriff's K-9 picked up a scent but quickly lost the track in a nearby neighborhood. Mutual aid runs are common between the two Cities.
- 8/20 Officer Greg Schill was dispatched to a heroin overdose on IR 71. The subject was unconscious in his grandmother's back seat. The Fire Department transported him via life squad to B North for further medical treatment.
- 8/21 On three occasions on this date, officers responded to a domestic disturbance at a Timberknoll address between a mother and her two grown daughters. Alcohol was involved each time but no criminal offense had been committed. On the final visit, the mother stated that she wish to ban one of the daughters from the residence. One daughter was advised to leave and after calling officers "ugly", she left.
- 8/22 Officer Greg Schill responded to an accident on Montgomery Rd near Forest glen where a vehicle slammed into the rear of another stopped vehicle. The vehicle that was struck sustained heavy damage and required a tow truck. The at-fault driver was cited for assured clear distance ahead and awaits a trial date in Montgomery Mayor's Court.
- 8/23 Second and third shift officers responded to IR 71 south of Pfeiffer Rd for a fatal auto accident. The driver lost control after striking another vehicle and hit the median wall. The driver was then partially ejected from the vehicle and sustained fatal trauma to the head. Accident investigators continue to investigate the causes of the crash and hope to have results from a blood test in the near future. SRO Paul Payne and Sgt Greg Harris spent several hours with the local family during this difficult time.
- 8/24 Officer Tom Wagner responded to a roll over auto accident at the entrance to Sycamore High School. The accident led to several injuries and parties were transported to and released from B North. The inexperienced driver who failed to yield was cited and is awaiting trial.
- 8/25 A business manager for a MRDD care house called and advised that an unusual

amount of money was lost in several transactions and she suspected the house manager. The home is on Delray Drive. No charges are being filed, however it is being pursued civilly in Hamilton County Municipal Court and they were required to notify the Police Department of the incident.

- 8/26 Detective Pat Giblin is following up on leads related to a cloned credit card. The card was used at several area businesses for approximately \$500 before the victim realized it was occurring. Detective Giblin is currently researching store videos in an attempt to reveal a suspect.
- 8/27 Officers responded to 5 separate auto accidents on this date.
- 8/28 Officers responded to Goodwill after a person called and stated that a woman left 5 children sitting in a car while she shopped. The air conditioning was on in the car, however the woman had an unpaid traffic citation. She was given a re-cite and sent on her way. The children were in no danger.
- 8/29 Officer Greg Schill responded to Convo Ct for a domestic dispute. A woman alleged that her husband pushed her and caused her to fall, but the husband claims the fall was related to low-blood sugar. No injuries were noted and wife did not wish to pursue any criminal charges.
- 8/30 Officer Lauren Helgeson stopped a vehicle for weaving and expired plates. When she spoke with the driver he seemed highly impaired and the odor of alcohol was extreme. He was given an opportunity to complete several roadside sobriety tests but after numerous attempts he quit. He was taken to the Police Department but failed to answer any questions and did not take the breath test. He was charged with OVI, marked lanes, and is awaiting trial at this time.
- 8/31 Sgt Mike Davenport reported a place found open while checking businesses on the midnight shift in the 9200 block of Montgomery Rd. Sgt Davenport secured the unlocked door after checking the business and notified the owner of his finding.

AUGUST 2015 POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Paul Payne	Police Instructor Skills	OPOTA
Paul Payne	OSROA	SRO Conference
Pat Giblin	Below 100 Training	WCSO
Lauren Helgeson	Advanced Crash Investigation	OSP
Kevin Gruber	1 st Line Supervision, Mastering Leadership	Columbus PD
Dave Mulcahy	RCIC Certification	Great Oaks
Alexis Guilkey	RCIC Certification	Great Oaks

Date set for Montgomery community-wide garage sale

The joint city of Montgomery community-wide garage sale and Twin Lakes' Whale of a Sale is set for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

Registration is open to Montgomery households interested in hosting a garage or yard sale at their home and wanting to be listed on a directory. Households can sign up on the city's website, montgomeryohio.org, or by calling 891-2424. There is no fee to participate. Deadline to sign up is Friday, Sept. 4.

A garage sale treasure map, with a complete listing of locations, will be available at Montgomery City Hall, 10101 Montgomery Road, starting on Thursday, Sept. 10, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on the website montgomeryohio.org, to help shoppers prepare for the sales and map out deal-finding strategies. Treasure maps will also be handed out at city hall on the Saturday morning of the sales, beginning at 8 a.m.

In addition to the community wide garage sale, Twin Lakes Senior Living Community of Montgomery will also host its annual Whale of a Sale from

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9876 Montgomery Road (former Century Honda dealership) Saturday, Sept. 12.

After the sale is over, participants may bring leftover items to the One Stop Drop Recycling Event on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Public Works Facility, 7315 Cornell Road. For more information and a list of accepted items, visit the city's website montgomeryohio.org.

This grassroots public awareness campaign organized by the Montgomery Environmental Advisory Commission promotes reuse, repair and resale opportunities in the city of Montgomery.

MONTGOMERY

Delicio owner opens gourmet popsicle shop

Delicio Coal Fired Pizza owner and operator Randy Key is expanding his unique Montgomery restaurant into gelato popsicles.

"We started looking at desserts and we came across gourmet popsicles as an option because paletas are a staple in Mexico, especially the west side of Mexico," Key said.

Key said after everything had fallen into place with Delicio, which blends Italian food with flavors from Mexico and the American Southwest, the restaurant wanted to expand its dessert options.

Key said The Pop Shop blends the Southwestern spices and Mexican tradition of paletas, or popsicles, with Italian gelato, similar to how Delicio merges flavors and cultures.

"We just thought, 'pizza and popsicles, how could we go wrong?'" Key

said.

The Pop Shop, which shares Delicio's location at 9321 Montgomery Road, started selling its gourmet gelato popsicles, such as spicy pineapple and hibiscus pomegranate June 9.

The popsicles are made in front of costumers to carry over the performance element from Delicio.

"We really wanted to have a theater like show, so we put the performance kitchen right out in the middle of the dining room and then we created the seating as an arch around it. Everything right there and up front for you to look at," Key said of Delicio.

Key said he is planning another expand for both restaurants.

Marika Lee, Community Press

Montgomery seeks entries for holiday card contest

The City of Montgomery is looking for contributors to dedicate their creative energy to design its holiday card. The winning design will be used on the cards that City staff and volunteers

send out as a holiday greeting in 2015.

Designs must incorporate a scene or design element related in some way to the City of Montgomery. Holiday scenes, particularly set in Montgomery, are encouraged. Any medium will be accepted, but the artwork must not consist of three-dimensional features or techniques that will not reproduce effectively. Art work incorporating any copyrighted or trademarked features will not be accepted, unless accompanied by written approval by the owner of the copyrighted feature or object. Winner

receives a Montgomery-themed gift basket.

Deadline to submit work is Friday, Sept. 18, and work must be in digital format to be considered. Artists can apply online at the City's website, montgomeryohio.org, and do not have to be a resident of Montgomery; anyone can enter.

A decision on the winning artwork will be announced in early October, and cards will be printed in November for use during the holiday season.

For more information, please call Julie Machon at 792-8316.



PROVIDED

The winning design in Montgomery's 2007 holiday card contest.