

April 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 April 4, 2016 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, the Government Affairs and Public Works Committees of City Council have rescheduled their meetings to Monday, April 25 at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m., respectively. The Parks and Recreation Committee has cancelled their regularly scheduled meeting. Due to the rescheduled meeting date there will be no May meetings for these Committees.
2. Last week, Melissa Hays attended the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati 2016 Spring Building Officials Forum. Presenters at this event included Jeff Bechtold with the International Code Council, and also Ric Johnson from the Ohio Building Officials Association. This event is scheduled twice a year and allows for building officials throughout southwest Ohio to meet and discuss changes to code and provide any updates on issues within each represented community.
3. Tracy Roblero attended the American Planners Association National Conference in Phoenix, Arizona from April 2–6. This annual conference provides a platform for city planners throughout the country to meet and participate in various training sessions and mobile tours to stay current on land use policies and emerging trends in development and technology as it relates to city planning.
4. School Resource Officer (SRO) Paul Payne recently returned from a 10-day European excursion with 61 Sycamore High School students. They visited Rome, Paris, and London, but the highlight of the trip was Normandy where chaperones and students paid tribute to the soldiers that lost their lives on Omaha Beach on D-Day. Paul was personally responsible for 17 students during the trip and he was happy to report no major issues occurred. Welcome back Paul, and thanks for being a great role model for the kids!
5. A job offer for the position of finance director has been accepted by Katie Smiddy. Katie has over 15 years of public sector finance experience and is currently the Supervisor of Financial Services for MetroParks of Butler County. Katie will be starting employment with us on April 20.
6. The City's internal team (Matthew Vanderhorst, Brian Riblet, Gary Heitkamp, Faith Lynch, Ben Shapiro, Wayne Davis and Connie Gaylor) met on Tuesday to continue work on the upcoming three-day visit from Tony Gardner from April 19 – 21. This visit represents the first time that Tony has been back to work with the City since 2010, and will help us in revisiting our work culture and philosophy, and expose our new staff and City Council members to the theory and history of the high performance organization (HPO) model, which has served us so well over

the years. Pending final review of the proposed schedule with Tony, our plans will include three sessions to which City Council members are invited to attend:

- April 19 at City Hall – 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Working Lunch and HPO Introduction
- April 20 at City Hall – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ; HPO Introduction (continued)
- Prior to the Work Session on April 20, Tony will meet with City Council and Wayne beginning at 6:00 p.m. and leading up to the City Council Work Session.

If you plan to attend, please let me know which sessions you plan to attend.

7. On Tuesday, 20 volunteers lined moss baskets, planted flowers and attached hanging wires to complete the Basket Planting project. Public Works staff and the Beautification and Tree Commission work in conjunction with the volunteers to complete the 260 flower baskets that will grace Montgomery once warm weather arrives. Many thanks to these eager gardeners.
8. On Wednesday, Scott Schulte and Brian Riblet attended a “Back Safety” seminar held at the City of Mason. The seminar was sponsored by MVRMA with Michael Hayslip providing the presentation which focused on techniques and best practices to reduce the risk of injury.
9. Work continues on the City’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) with updates and information being provided to Schonhardt and Associates, the City’s vendor for this annual financial report, from all members of the finance department and Brian Riblet. We remain on schedule for the completion of this document and the financial audit of the report.
10. The traffic sub-committee of the GRA met on Wednesday to review and discuss potential modifications to the interchange of Ronald Reagan Highway and Montgomery Road as well as the surrounding area. Staff reports that it was a very productive meeting and next week they are scheduled to meet with ODOT officials to continue discussions before preparing an official IOS submittal to ODOT.
11. A report on the Social Media Performance Measures for March 2016 is attached to this update. If you have any questions, please contact Faith Lynch.
12. On Monday, April 11, at 1:00 p.m., Matt Davis, Brian Riblet and Wayne will be attending the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District on behalf of the City. Updates on this meeting will be provided in next week’s Thursday Update.
13. The Montgomery Citizens Leadership Academy (MCLA) 2.0 session on April 14 at Maple Dale Elementary has garnered much interest from our MCLA Alumni. We currently have 66 alumni registered. This graduate-level seminar is billed as a “conversation on housing” and the Community Development Department is working with Liz Blume from Xavier University’s Community Building Institute to create an informative and dynamic presentation on national and local trends in housing. This is also a terrific example of partnership with Sycamore Community Schools as they will also be serving the meal this evening. The conservation starts at 6:00 p.m. If you wish to attend, please contact Faith Lynch.
14. On April 28, Matthew Vanderhorst and Ray Kingsbury will be attending part two of the Alliance for Innovation panel discussion about civic trust and engagement which is being held in Dublin, Ohio. Ray will be speaking about Montgomery’s experiences with the Montgomery Citizens’ Leadership Academy (MCLA) and how it has engaged and energized our citizens to be positive and active participants in the community.
15. The Neighborhood Leaders Team will host the Neighborhood Leaders Forum on Tuesday, May 10 at the Terwilliger Lodge from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. to discuss the challenges, opportunities and services available to those who want to stay in their home while growing more mature. Our

guests will include speakers from the Montgomery Fire Department, the Council on Aging and the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber will present information on their member businesses which provide services to those who want to stay in their homes as they age. The Community Development Department will wrap up the session and touch on considerations to make if a homeowner wishes to retro-fit their home as they age. Please contact Faith Lynch if you would like to attend.

16. Please find attached the March department report from the police department.

17. Please find attached Montgomery-related news articles that appeared in the local media since our last update.

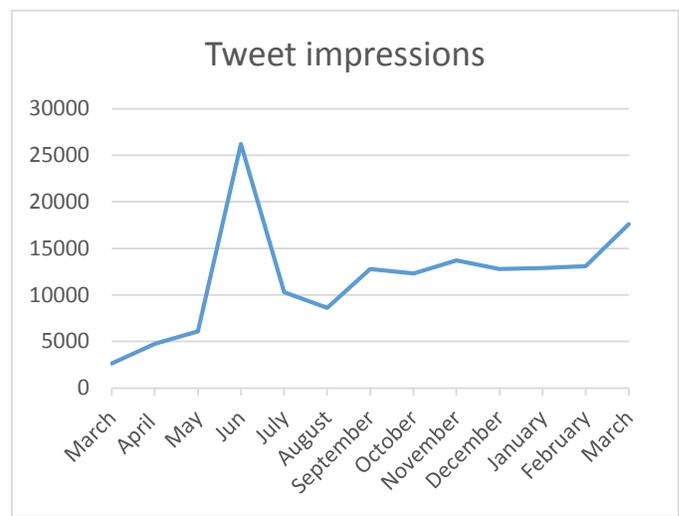
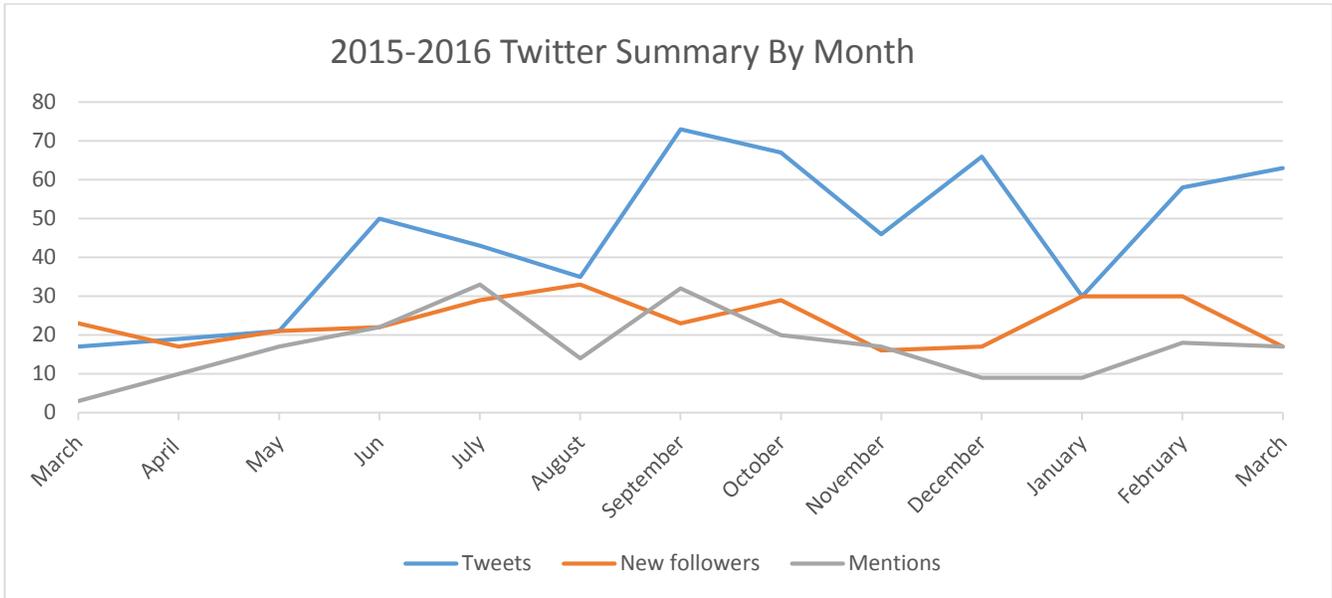
Should you have questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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

Social Media Performance Measures

March 2016

Twitter



Twitter Analysis:

Tweets have increased with the number of a spring activities to promote. Impressions and profile visits have also increased. The top tweet with 2,145 impressions (most views) was a tweet about the Weil Road closing in Indian Hill. The top mention (194 engagements) was a mention by National Flag Company thanking Sycamore Schools and Montgomery for a flag order. The top media (attached photo) tweet (559 impressions) was a tweet about the Photo Contest winning entries on display at the Christ Hospital Outpatient Center. The top card tweet (237 impressions) was a tweet about Fly Fishing 101 and 102 classes. A card tweet is when you attach a visual aid to the tweet to boost characters.

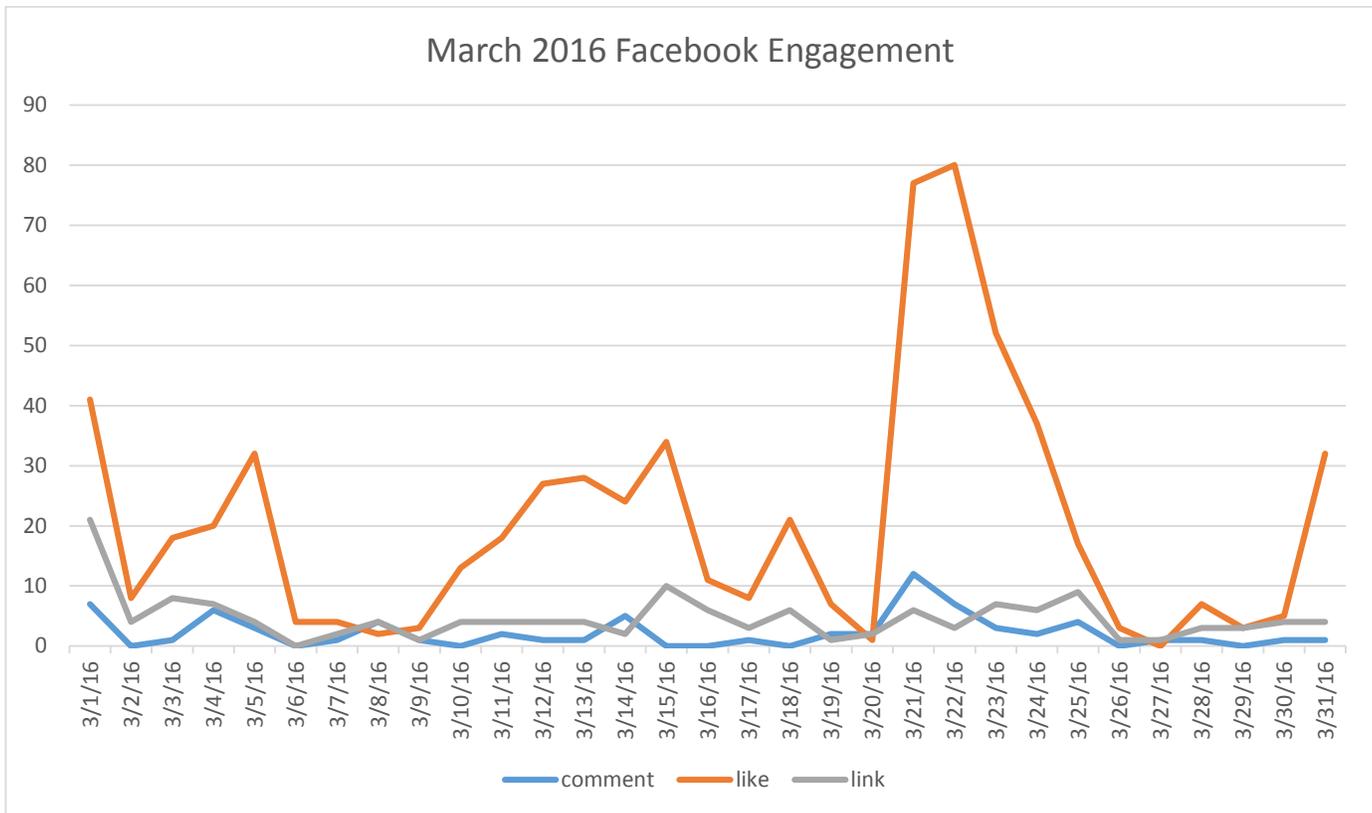
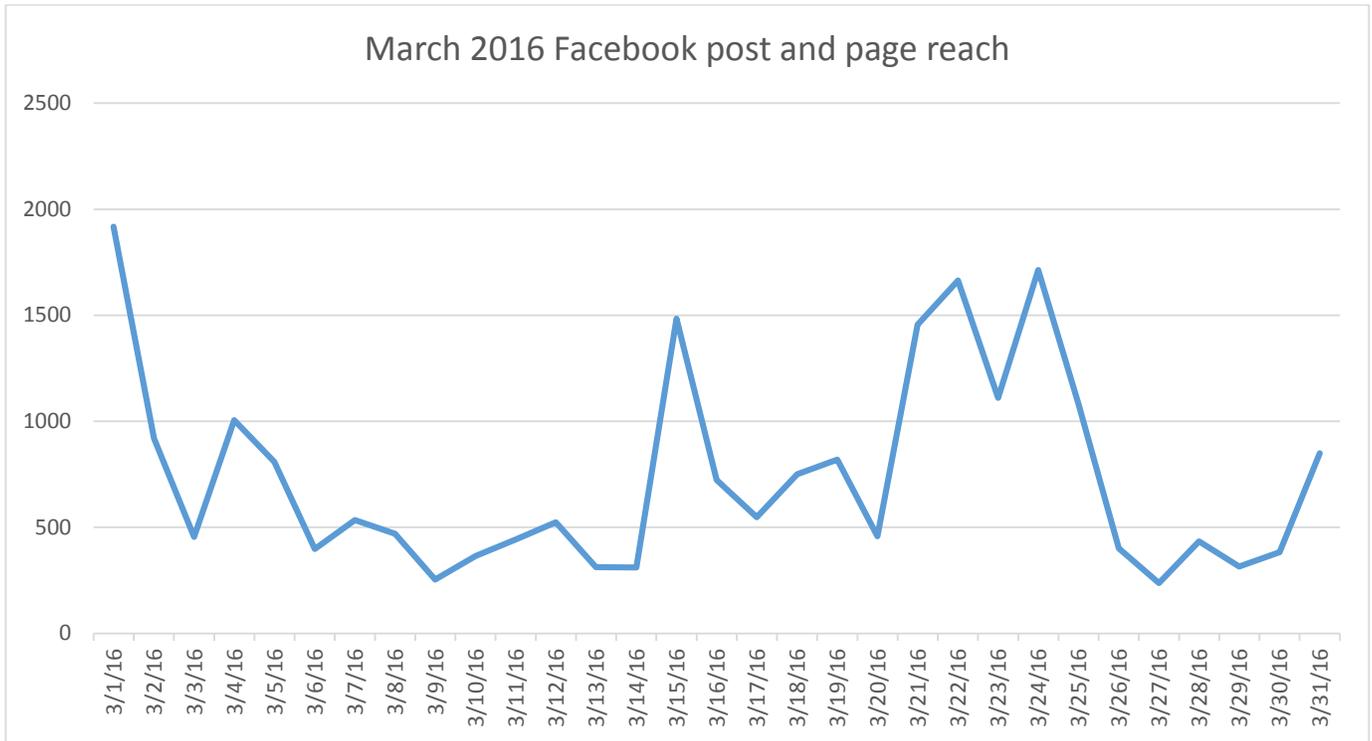
Twitter Definitions:

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 Analysis:

We had great engagement on Facebook in March, 2016. We experienced a 52% increase in the daily reach from February to March. The daily reach is the number of people who visited the page or saw one of the City posts on their news feed. On

March 1, a link to the City website with the Council message on heroin generated 1,917 impressions. A post made on March 24 generated 1,714 impressions. This post was a link to a story on Cincinnati Business Courier citing Montgomery as a safe community. I posted two photos I took of pansies planted in downtown Montgomery planters. These photos generated a reach of 1,664 impressions.

In terms of engagement with our posts, the post made on March 21 about Sgt. Vonden Benken's graduation from the FBI academy generated 68 likes, 14 shares, 1 WOW, 14 comments and 2 shares!

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)

MEMO

TO: Wayne Davis
City Manager

FROM: Greg Vonden Benken
Police Sergeant
Greg Vonden Benken

DATE: April 1, 2016

REFERENCE: March 2016 Council Report

-
- 3/1 2nd shift officers responded to the B-North ER for a disorderly subject who threatened hospital security. The man had been brought to the ER by Reading Fire and admitted to drinking 4 Loco alcoholic beverages. The man has been charged and is currently banned from Tri-Health properties.
- 3/2 A man was in the lobby of B-North and put his Verizon cell phone on a table, and then left the room. When he returned the phone was missing. Unknown suspect took the phone, but it was turned off by victim through Verizon.
- 3/3 Dayshift officers responded to the 9700 block of Montgomery Rd for an auto accident which required several wreckers to tow the disabled vehicles from the scene. The at-fault driver was cited for Failing to Yield from a driveway.
- 3/4 2nd shift officers were notified of a missing person from Sycamore High School. The 17 year old had apparently planned on running away with an older boyfriend. She returned home approximately 4 hours later. Parents are handling the situation and plan on seeking family counseling.
- 3/5 A nursing assistant at B-North was charged with assault after she struck a patient in the ER with her hand. Another employee witnessed the incident. Suspect charged with assault in Hamilton County Municipal Court.

- 3/6 Sgt Mike Davenport and Officer Lauren Helgeson arrested two drivers under the influence of alcohol at approximately 2:30 A.M. These were separate incidents. One driver is charged in Mayor's Court and the other in Hamilton County Municipal due to drugs found in vehicle as well.
- 3/7 A man on Convo Ct., filed an identity theft report after someone opened up a bogus AT&T account in the state of Georgia. The victim is working with AT&T Loss Prevention at this time.
- 3/8 2nd shift officers responded into Indian Hill on Weil for an attempted drug overdose. Officers assisted Rangers with calming family members down and assisting with life squad transport.
- 3/9 A Forestglen resident called for police after she realized that she had been scammed out of \$349 thru Paypal. An unknown suspect called her residence and stated that her desktop computer was malfunctioning and that he needed access to fix it. Victim is now working with Identitytheft.gov due to possible credit card issues at this time.
- 3/10 SRO Paul Payne responded to Sycamore Jr HS for a report of threats from a student via texting. The juvenile was located and was transported to Children's Hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.
- 3/11 Officer TJ Shreve stopped a vehicle for speeding in a school zone and discovered several occupants were wanted for various criminal and traffic charges and one person was in possession of a small amount of marijuana when a search was conducted. Wanted persons turned over to other jurisdictions and one person cited to Mayor's Court for drug abuse.
- 3/12 Several people were identified in a shoplifting incident at the Montgomery Kroger store. Employees were able to obtain a license plate of the getaway car in the lot. Warrants for their arrests have now been issued and they should be located in the near future.

- 3/13 Officer Alex Janszen stopped a motorist for speeding and during the course of the investigation he believed the person was under the influence. He performed poorly on roadside field sobriety and refused a breath test at the police station.
- 3/14 Officer Nick Nimeskern stopped a vehicle on Montgomery Rd for weaving. When he spoke to the driver he noticed a strong odor of alcohol. The driver performed poorly on roadside tests and was arrested for OVI. The driver tested .158 at the station. Charges pending in Mayor's Court.
- 3/15 Officer Alexis Guilkey was called to investigate a domestic on I275. A man was allegedly shaking a crying woman on the roadside. Multiple units responded but were unable to locate the altercation. An incorrect license plate description made it impossible to conduct follow up after the incident.
- 3/16 SRO Paul Payne was called by school administration to assist in a search of a student's vehicle for drugs. A trace amount of marijuana was located in a plastic bag. School officials are handling discipline and no charges are being filed.
- 3/17 SRO Paul Payne and Sgt Kevin Gruber investigated a sexting complaint at Sycamore Jr HS. They conducted a meeting with several students, parents and school administration on the dangers of the offense. Several parents are seeking counseling for their children and believe that this matter will better resolved within the school and no charges will be filed.
- 3/18 SRO Paul Payne and Officer Bob Otte conducted an investigation at Sycamore Jr HS for a student that threatened another student with bodily harm. No assault actually occurred but charges for menacing are pending in Montgomery Unofficial Juvenile Court.
- 3/19 Officer TJ Shreve and Officer Alex Janszen stopped a vehicle on Deerfield Rd for erratic driving. The driver was highly intoxicated and became belligerent after being arrested. He refused to take a breath test at the station. He was transported to the justice center after processing. Charges pending through Hamilton County Municipal Court.

- 3/20 A man was reportedly stumbling in the street near Perin Rd. The man was transported to his residence on Applewood to prevent him from injuring himself due to his intoxicated state. No charges were filed.
- 3/21 Officer James Martin responded to a retirement community complex for a reported theft of a vehicle. The victim's purse was stolen earlier in the week at the Sycamore McDonald's which contained her car keys. The vehicle has been entered as stolen into a crime database. Officers continue to investigate the theft.
- 3/22 Dayshift officers assisted the Montgomery Fire Department with a man who suffered a seizure in his yard near the 11000 block of Montgomery Rd. The man was transported to B North for further treatment.
- 3/23 Officer Lauren Helgeson responded into Symmes Township to assist with a female that had been arrested for OVI. Officer Helgeson conducted a pat-down and with the chemical testing of the arrestee.
- 3/24 Officer Bob Otte responded to a dress shop for dispute over payment. The matter is considered civil by the courts and no further police intervention is necessary.
- 3/25 Officer TJ Shreve stopped a juvenile speeding on Montgomery Rd, during curfew hours. She was also in possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. Charges are pending in Hamilton County Juvenile Court.
- 3/26 A man was arrested for stealing a water shut off tool from the bay of the Montgomery Fire Department. The man worked for a local company and needed the tool to complete the work, however he did not ask permission to use the tool. He is being charged with theft in Montgomery Mayor's Court.
- 3/27 A male juvenile crashed his car into a tree near Village Green Drive after making a turn. Officers believed that he may have been drinking. He submitted to a breath test and was found to have .02, which is approximately one alcoholic beverage. He was charged with failing to maintain control and underage consumption.

- 3/28 While students were playing Dart Wars, a female accidentally scratched the paint of a 2015 Audi, and then ran from the scene. The juvenile was identified and SRO Paul Payne is working with the parents to pay for the damage.
- 3/29 Dayshift units assisted Warren County Probation looking for a wanted juvenile at an apartment complex. The juvenile is wanted for failing to appear in Warren County. Warrants are being filed, and Montgomery officers continue to be on the lookout for him.
- 3/30 Officer Nick Nimeskern was dispatched to B-North for two separate theft of drug cases. An RN is suspected in one of the thefts and there is no suspect in the other. Follow up with the suspect is expected for possible charges in the future.
- 3/31 Dayshift officers responded to a residence on Traverse for a vehicle that was loaned to a friend and never returned. The man needed to go to UDF for cigarettes and 6 hours later was not back. The resident called later in the evening and stated that the man had wrecked the car somewhere in the tristate area and was in UC medical center. The man declined to file any charges against the driver.

MARCH 2016 MONTGOMERY POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Officer Greg Schill	First Responder Explosives Response	The ROC
Sgt Mike Davenport	Police Executive Leadership College Week 1 Columbus, Ohio	
Sgt Kevin Gruber	Weapon Armorer	Opota
Officer TJ Shreve	Weapon Armorer	Opota
Officer James Martin	Single Officer Response to Active Threats	Opota

GREEN IS AS GREEN DOES

Promoting environmentally-friendly communities takes planning, teamwork

Community Press Staff Report

Local communities are encouraging environmentally friendly practices through numerous different programs.

Blue Ash residents recycled 25 percent of their household waste in 2015, public relations and community relations coordinator Mary Grace Fitzgerald said.

Madeira residents also recycle about 25 percent of their waste each year.

Indian Hill residents recycled nearly 881 tons of metal, glass, plastic and paper in 2015.

And village residents donated nearly 17 acres of land to the Green Areas Trust last year, bringing the amount of property permanently protected by the trust and by the Greenacres Foundation to nearly 3,000 acres.

"Our residents understand the importance of this program for both environmental and financial reasons," City Manager Tom Moeller said.

Loveland provides curbside recycling and the Loveland Sustainability Council recently applied for a grant to buy additional recycling bins for special events, Loveland City Manager Dave Kennedy said.

"Loveland's proximity to the bike trail and Little Miami River attracts people seeking an active, sustainable lifestyle. We promote this lifestyle by providing residents with educational information and opportunities to easily engage in earth-friendly practices," Kennedy said.

Sycamore Township provides recycling program through recycling drop-off centers plus document shredding, leaf pick up and brush chipped and a special trash day. Symmes Township also provides recycling drop-off centers.

Fitzgerald added Blue Ash also has a water recycling program in Summit Park to counteract the negative impacts due to underground fuel



PROVIDED

Blue Ash has community gardens at the Hunt House, which residents have to enter a drawing and pay \$35 to participate.

YOUR TURN

Earth Day is April 22. In what "green" efforts do you partake?

Email responses to rmaloney@community-press.com.

storage tanks, a waste dump and shooting range while it was a part of the Blue Ash Airport.

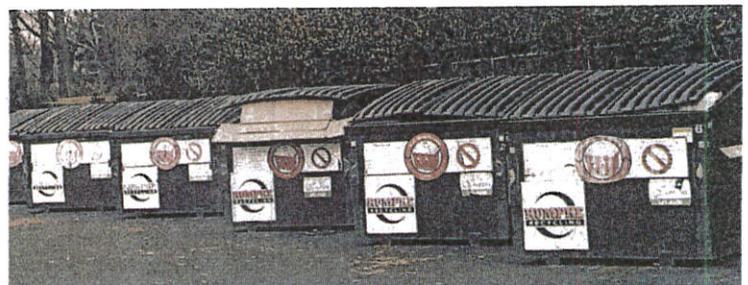
"Now the site itself is transforming into an environmental benefit with sustainable water harvesting efforts, plantings and a significant focus on conservation. All of the rainwater within the developed park site will be collected to sustain the beautiful lawns, gardens and manicured portions of the park," Fitzgerald said.

Deer Park has a Beautification Awards program that recognizes residents and businesses for the beautification efforts on their properties, but does not have a city beautification committee. Blue Ash's Beautification Committee judges gardens on properties in the city and gives gardening award. Loveland has a Tree and Environmental Commit-



PROVIDED

Montgomery City Arborist Terry Willenbrink discusses the benefits of a shingle oak tree planted in the Johnson Nature Preserve during the annual Arbor Day Walk hosted in April of each year.



FILE PHOTO

Sycamore Township provides community recycling centers like this one at the township administrative offices on Kenwood Road.

Green

Continued from Page 1A

tee that recommends the development of policies and practices to provide environmental prosperity in the community.

Montgomery has an Environmental Advisory Commission that provides environmental education and information to the public.

"(Montgomery) has a seven-member Beautification and Tree Commission which is responsible for annually developing and updating a plan for the care of trees, shrubs and flowers in all public areas," community engagement coordinator Faith Lynch said.

Blue Ash has community gardens at the Hunt House, which residents have to enter a drawing and pay \$35 to participate. The city also offers discount vouchers for residents living in the community reinvestment area to buy trees.

"For those surrounded by residential development, a one-time 50 percent discount voucher for the planting of a tree may be obtained for planting in public view," Fitzgerald said, adding vouchers are also available for people looking to plant buffer trees for properties abutting non-residential areas.

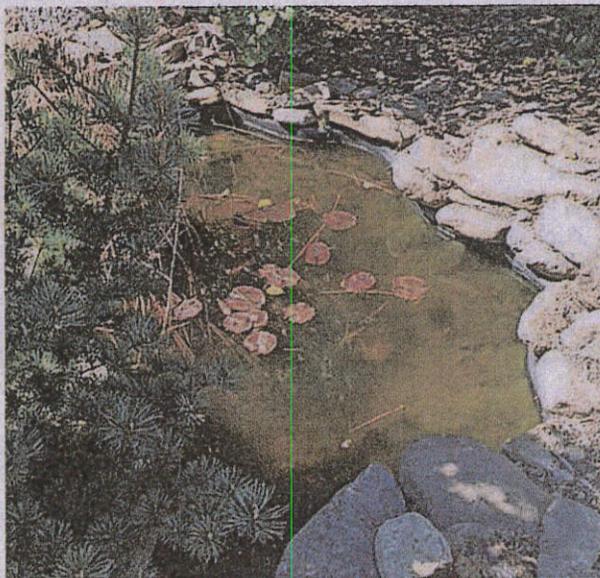
Montgomery has a similar program that allows residents to buy trees at a discounted rate that can be planted in the public right-of-ways in front of their homes.

"The Commemorative Tree program also allows for the purchase of a tree



PHOTOS BY JEANNE HOUCK/THE COMMUNITY PRESS

A great day for a walk in the Rowe Arboretum in Indian Hill.



A small pond with fish at Rowe Arboretum in Indian Hill.

in honor or as a memorial to a friend or loved one to be placed in a city park. These programs are a benefit to our communi-

ty and our environment," Lynch said.

Loveland's tree program is currently inactive, but a local resident



This beauty is ready for its close up.

has been planting trees on her own.

"Cindy Kessler, a former Loveland Tree Program member, has been actively planting trees at local businesses throughout the city at no charge to the business owner," Kennedy said.

The brightest-gleaming jewel in Indian Hill's environmentally con-

scious crown is the Stan-

ley M. Rowe Arboretum. Rowe Arboretum at 4600 Muchmore Road was willed to the village by Rowe and his wife, Dorothy, who founded the arboretum in 1926.

It passed to Indian Hill in 1987, but the village no longer subsidizes it.

Rowe Arboretum now is operated as a non-profit organization and supported by an endowment and fundraisers.

Which is where Saturday, April 30, comes in.

That's when Rowe Arboretum will host its annual plant sale from 9 a.m. to noon.

"There will be an assortment of trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals for sale, and there will be some great used gardening items, houseplants and even donated succulents and cactus specimens," arboretum Manager Chris Daeger said.

Members of the "Friends of Rowe Arboretum" booster group can shop the plant sale from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, April 29.

To become a member, email rowearb@ihill.org or call 561-5151.

Rowe Arboretum is open daily from dawn to dusk. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

Daeger encouraged people to visit the arboretum soon.

"Enjoy the thousands of trees and shrubs, see the wildlife that it attracts and bask in the solitude of the gardens," Daeger said.

- Reporters Jeanne Houck, Marika Lee and Sheila Vilvens contributed.