

December 17, 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 December 14, 2015 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. Breakfast with Santa occurred this past Saturday with 248 attendees enjoying hot cakes and sausage while giving their Christmas wish list to jolly old Saint Nick. Thanks to all who helped from Recreation, Police and Fire.
2. Tracy Roblero and I met with representatives from the Village of Indian Hill and representatives from Twin Lakes to discuss the potential for connecting an existing access easement for the manor homes south of the Safety Center. This connection would allow for Twin Lakes to construct additional villa homes on the property located in the City of Montgomery south of the Safety Center without an additional curb cut on Montgomery Road. The representatives from the Village of Indian Hill stated that they will get some preliminary feedback on the concept from their Planning Commission to allow Twin Lakes to make decisions moving forward.
3. Tracy Roblero, Fire Chief Paul Wright, Assistant Fire Chief Ben Shapiro, Fire Inspector Mark Stagge and Chief Building Official Scott Young met with representatives from Twin Lakes, their engineer and architect to discuss the preliminary concept plans for the addition to the Main Campus. Several issues were identified from an emergency access standpoint that will need to be worked through prior to submission for any approvals.
4. On Wednesday morning, Julie Prickett attended a training session in Springfield Township on "Recruiting Top Talent" which was presented by the Center for Local Government. In addition to sharing ideas and information with fellow human resources professionals, Julie had the opportunity to meet Springfield Township's new Executive Assistant, Kathleen Kennedy. Kathleen is a graduate of our MCLA program and she stated it was her experience with the Citizens Leadership Academy that led her to pursue a career in local government.
5. Tracy Roblero, Terry Donnellon, Brian Riblet, Michelle Greis, Frank Davis and I met on Wednesday for an internal analysis of the Gateway Project proforma. While we are still in the very early stages of the project it is important to begin the discussion of public versus private costs as well as funding strategies.
6. Wednesday afternoon, Brian, Gary, Jay Korros (CT Consultants) and Jeff Heimann (Strand Associates) met with ODOT officials regarding the preliminary traffic study that was completed at the interchange of Ronald Reagan Highway and Montgomery Road which included proposals for modifications. The meeting went well and ODOT officials advised the City to move forward with collecting additional data and submitting a request for certified traffic to ODOT.

7. The Civil Service Commission met Wednesday evening to certify the patrol officer eligibility list based on results from the December 5 written exam. A total of 32 candidates took the exam and all candidates received a passing score. Police Chief Simpson presented the test results to the Commission. Fire Chief Wright also outlined and received approval for an exam process for firefighter/paramedic to take place in 2016. Although currently there are no vacant full-time positions or any anticipated vacancies in the fire department, this is a step to ensure that we have an eligibility list in place for the next two years.
8. Michelle Greis, Kelly Beach and I conducted interviews with candidates for the Financial Advisor and Underwriter roles for the Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA). These individuals and their organizations will work closely with the internal team throughout the project. We hope to have a recommendation by the end of the year.
9. Arrangements for the Community Leadership Forum have been finalized. The forum is scheduled for February 6, 2016 from 8:15 to 11:00 a.m. and will be held at the Golder conference room at Bethesda North Hospital. Senior Staff is working to finalize the program's agenda in time to send out invitations during the week of January 4, 2016.
10. Please find attached Montgomery-related news articles that appeared in the local media since our last update.
11. City offices will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, December 24 and 25, and also New Year's Day, January 1, 2016.
12. Given the short work week for the next two weeks, we will not plan on distributing a Thursday update unless it is warranted.
13. Best wishes to all in celebrating Christopher Hartkemeier Day today, and Stephen Hartkemeier Day tomorrow, December 18. The accomplishments of these two Eagle Scouts (47 and 49 merit badges, respectively!) is quite impressive, and should serve as an inspiration to all of us. A job well done by the Hartkemeier family.
14. Best wishes to all of you for a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a wonderful holiday break with your families and friends and a healthy and prosperous new year!

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

# City Council elects new mayor, vice mayor

The Montgomery City Council swore in three council members and voted on the Mayor and Vice Mayor positions at the ceremony and meeting held on Dec. 2 at Montgomery City Hall.

Council members Gerri Harbison and Craig Margolis were re-elected on Nov. 3 to each serve on the Montgomery City Council for a four-year term. Margolis will be serving his second full term after having been appointed in June 2010 to fill the unexpired term that was created as a result of a resignation. Harbison will be serving her fifth term. Joining them in the ceremony was Mike Cappel, who was sworn in for his first term, taking the seat previously held by Todd Steinbrink.

Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge Curtis E. Kissinger swore in these three council members requiring them to "uphold the constitution and laws of the United States and Ohio, the charter and laws of the City of Montgomery, and fairly and faithfully perform the duties of their office."

The seven seated Montgomery City Council members elected Chris Dobrozsi to serve as mayor and Lynda Roesch to serve as vice mayor. Dobrozsi has served on City Council since 2009 and as vice mayor since 2013. Dobrozsi said, "I am honored to be elected by my City Council peers to serve as Mayor of the City of Montgomery. This is a great community I am proud to call home and I intend to continue to serve the residents of Montgomery to ensure that

it stays a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family."

Roesch has served on City Council since 2000. She thanked the audience for their support. "I also thank my fellow Council members for their vote of confidence. I look forward to serving the community as the Vice Mayor and working with my colleagues on City Council, City staff and members of our community to realize our vision for Montgomery."

*Faith Lynch, City of Montgomery*

## Community leaders to participate in Lessons and Carols

Montgomery City Council member Gerri Harbison will be among community leaders who will read passages during the annual Lessons and Carols program produced by St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Montgomery, OH.

The service, which is open to the public, will take place Sunday, Dec. 20, at 4 p.m. at the church, 10345 Montgomery Road.

Lessons and Carols is an Anglican tradition dating from the 1800s that features traditional Christmas carols and hymns along with spiritual readings that tell the story of Jesus' birth. The music will be performed by the adult, children's and bell choirs of St. Barnabas. The service typically lasts about an hour.

Other community members who will participate in the readings include Adena Warner, Faith Relations Coordinator for Habitat for Human-

ity of Greater Cincinnati, and Alexis Kidd, Executive Director of the Findlay Street Neighborhood House.

The program offers a peaceful, contemplative and spiritual way to reflect on the holiday season. Lessons and Carols is a beautiful musical offering all can enjoy, regardless of religious preference.

For more information, call the church at 513-984-8401, or go online to [www.st-barnabas.org](http://www.st-barnabas.org).

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church has resided in Montgomery more than 33 years. It offers Sunday services at 8 and 10 a.m. It will hold a 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service tailored for families with children, and a 10:30 p.m. Festive Choral Eucharist. All are welcome to attend.

*John Nolan*

## Montgomery rezoning for residential developments

Montgomery is planning to rezone two pieces of property to encourage residential development in the city.

The city is rezoning 9876 Montgomery Road, the old Honda dealership site, from commercial to multi-family residential. Twin Lakes Senior Living Community is planning to use the land for its planned expansion.

Twin Lakes is adding 45 independent-living apartments, a casual dining venue, a community center, a retail development and a new building with about 40 to 56 memory-support assisted living accommodations as part of its \$52 million planned expansion.

"I'm very encouraged by the plans

we are starting to see and the entire direction you are going. I think it is going to be very interesting and very positive for Montgomery," Councilman Ken Seur said.

Community Development Director Tracy Roblero said the city is usually against changing Montgomery Road properties from commercial uses, but the property is small and does not have frontage on Montgomery Road.

"Having (Twin Lakes) in our community is a wonderful thing and the fact that you are expanding the way you are, taking down some buildings that have passed their useful life is a wonderful thing," Mayor Chris Dobrozsi said.

The city is also rezoning 9941 Orchard Club Drive, the old Montgomery Swim and Tennis Club site, to single-family residential. Camden Homes is planning to build a neighborhood of 29 luxury single-family homes on the property.

Despite hearing numerous concerns from residents about the density of the development and increased traffic on Orchard Club Drive, the Montgomery Planning Commission approved the plans in October.

One resident spoke at the council meeting, also about the density of the project and problems with the small than usual buffer and trees being eliminated.

The city had first readings on the both of the ordinances and will have second readings at the Jan. 6 meeting.

*Marika Lee, Community Press*

# Montgomery rezoning for residential developments

**Marika Lee**

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PROVIDED

A rendering of the \$52 million expansion planned for Twin Lakes Senior Living Community in Montgomery.

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*Want to know more about what is happening in Montgomery? Follow Marika Lee on Twitter: @ReporterMarika*

# Montgomery sends off Steinbrink

**Marika Lee**

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Montgomery swore in three members of city council Dec. 2. Councilwoman Gerri Harbison and Councilman Craig Margolis were re-elected during the November election. Mike Cappel was sworn in for his first term, taking former mayor Todd Steinbrink's seat. Steinbrink did not seek re-election.

Council elected Chris Dobrozsi as the new mayor and Lynda Roesch as the new vice mayor. Dobrozsi has been on council since 2009 and served

as vice mayor since 2013.

"I am honored to be elected by my city council peers to serve as mayor of the city of Montgomery. This is a great community I am proud to call home and I intend to continue to serve the residents of Montgomery to ensure that it stays a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family," Dobrozsi said, in a press release from the city.

Roesch has been on council since 2000.

"I look forward to serving the community as the vice mayor and working with my colleagues on city council,

city staff and members of our community to realize our vision for Montgomery," Roesch said, in the release.

The city honored Steinbrink during the Dec. 2 council meeting. He was elected to council in 2004 and served as mayor since 2013. He is the vice president and lead adviser at Wealth Planning Corporation.

"Todd served the community as a professional, open minded leader, who always had the best interest of the city at heart," Dobrozsi said.

Dobrozsi added Steinbrink was instrumental in



MARIKA LEE/THE COMMUNITY PRESS

Former Montgomery Mayor Todd Steinbrink, left, receives an honorary gavel from newly elected Mayor Chris Dobrozsi as part of the city honoring Steinbrink, who served on council for 12 years.



THANKS TO FAITH LYNCH

Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge Curtis E. Kissinger administers the oath of office to newly-elected Montgomery Mayor Chris Dobrozsi, center, and Vice Mayor Lynda Roesch.

fostering better relations with Montgomery's sister city of Neuilly-Plaisance, France. Steinbrink traveled to city for its Fourth of July celebration to honor Montgomery and hosted members of the delegation when they visited Montgomery. Steinbrink also presided over the city's annual Bastille Day Celebration to honor Neuilly-Plaisance.

"Largely, it was a team effort and I don't think any of us are up here as ingenious leaders. You are all genuine. I have seen a tremendous amount of work from staff. For those of us on the inside, we know how much work goes into running this city day to day," Steinbrink said.

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