

December 14, 2017

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 December 11, 2017 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, City Council Business Session is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14 immediately following the Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) meeting scheduled at 6:45 p.m.
2. Breakfast with Santa was held this past Saturday where record breaking attendance occurred with 375 people attending, which is up from the 206 served in 2016. Volunteers counted 101 members of the community who came within the first 10 minutes of the event starting! \$1,286 was raised for the Holiday Family Fund which is also up from 2016, when the fund received \$712. Two full bins of staple food items were collected for Matthew 25 Ministries to help those in need. New this year, was the inclusion of Rudolph and Santa's elf attended and this character experience was well received by the community. A special thanks to Santa Paul Payne for his abundant energy during the event and to all the staff who contributed to this successful event.
3. A special thank you goes to Cindy Abner, Sharon Savitt and Katie Smiddy for being Santa's helpers last Saturday and delivering all the gifts collected for the kids at the orphanage in Clermont County. Thanks to all the other Santa's helpers (too numerous to mention) for their generosity!
4. 100+ attended the new Holiday Live at the Uni performance by No Promises Vocal Band on Sunday, December 10 at Universalist Church. Community members were treated to men's a' Capella holiday songs that warmed the spirits of all. The Arts Commission collected \$396, which is a little higher than average. Two of the members of the vocal band are Sycamore graduates. This was the first holiday Live at the Uni concert and it was a hit with a standing ovation at the end. The Holiday Live at the Uni concert was presented by the Montgomery Arts Commission.
5. The Academy of Medicine of Southwestern Ohio completed their five-year audit of the Fire Department's Paramedic Program. Assistant Fire Chief Shapiro met with the two-man audit and answered all their questions and reviewed equipment and procedures with them. The audit team advised us that we passed with flying colors.
6. The internal Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA) team met to discuss the status of the project. The team discussed several key areas including the construction phasing, project design, finances and cost estimates for the project. The team discussed important issues and upcoming deadlines to keep the project moving forward.

7. The Greater Cincinnati Finance Officers Association (GCFOA) held their December meeting at the Montgomery Inn on Tuesday. The group was hosted by Officers Paul Payne and James Martin. Paul and James gave an informative presentation on Active Shooter encounters and situational awareness.
8. Matthew Vanderhorst reports that during the early morning hours of December 13, the City telephone and computer network went down. Following exhaustive testing, the problem was traced to a cut fiber optic cable at a utility pole. Who did this dastardly deed? Believe it or not, a mouse looking for a warm place to stay during the cold weather. The mouse found its way down the underground conduit, where it turned to the glass fiber optic strand for its next meal. Once it discovered that glass doesn't taste good, it stopped at one and left the other five strands alone. Each strand is the diameter of a human hair. In case you think this was a one in a million incident, Matthew learned that it's quite common, especially when the temperature drops, forcing rodents to go underground for warmth. Matthew is hopeful that the temporary patch made will hold until the cable is replaced. He is currently working to get that scheduled.



9. Wednesday morning, Officer Kenny Bertz and Police Chief Crowell responded to a Hamilton County SWAT call for a report of a barricaded subject in North College Hill. Chief Crowell reports that the subject was peacefully apprehended. As always, we are glad that Officer Bertz and the Chief safely returned.
10. On Wednesday, members of the T3 team met to continue developing HPO training modules. These training modules will be used to provide a more comprehensive knowledge base regarding the HPO work culture for our newer employees. In addition, shorter HPO training modules will be used to facilitate discussion in our new employee Safety and Performance meetings (which replace PEERS meetings beginning January 19, 2018.)
11. The Landmarks Commission met on Wednesday, December 13 to reconsider the replacement of windows on the Country Arts Building at 9383 Main Street. After much discussion and debate, the Landmarks Commission voted to approve wood window inserts with true divided light.
12. Wednesday evening, Council members Mike Cappel and Craig Margolis, Brian Riblet, Sarah Fink and Connie Gaylor attended the WeTHRIVE! Annual Recognition Banquet. This marks the third year that the City has been recognized for meeting all the criteria to retain our WETHRIVE! community status. Thank you to all the team members who participate in creating and executing our Chronic Disease and Emergency Preparedness pathways. Team members are: Lynda Roesch, Matthew Vanderhorst, Sarah Fink, Ja'net Crawford, Ben Shapiro, Tom Wolf, Greg Vonden Benken, Julee Nies and Justin Liming. Great job everyone!

13. Ja'net Crawford will be out for a short period of time recovering from shoulder surgery. We wish her the best as she recovers.
14. On Thursday morning Terry Donnellon, Brian Riblet, and Katie Smiddy met with representatives from Brandicorp and Traditions to discuss the Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA). The team discussed updates to the Service Agreement and maintenance Agreement, important issues and upcoming deadlines to keep the project moving forward.
15. Officers at the Police Department completed the required firearm qualifications early this week.
16. Chief Crowell reports that the Police Department received a \$10,000 donation from a resident. Chief Crowell will work with staff and City Council in the new year to put the money to good use. We are thankful to the resident who so generously gave to support the efforts of the Police department.
17. Congratulations! Due to engagement in the Humana Go365 program, the City was entered into the "Don't Go365 Alone Small Business Sweepstakes". We are proud to announce that the City of Montgomery was chosen as a winner. Because of this we have received a prize package valued at \$284, which includes Go365 gear and fitness devices. Sarah Fink, Wellness Team chair, drew names from a list of all current City employees for a chance to win one of the 17 prizes in the package. An email was sent acknowledging the employees who have won. Thank you to all employees who participate in the City's Wellness program.
18. The Employee Holiday Luncheon is on Friday, December 15 at 11:00 a.m. at Terwilliger Lodge. Food from Montgomery Inn will be served at 11:30 a.m. A Best Dessert contest will occur with a fabulous prize. Appetizers are also welcomed.

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

C: Brian Riblet, Interim City Manager
Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director