

November 17, 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 November 14, 2016 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. Each year during fire prevention week Mark Stagge hosts a fire safety poster contest in conjunction with the recreation department and Sycamore Community Schools. This year there were a total of 10 winners with three grand prize winners. The grand prize winners and their families were treated to lunch at the fire department with the fire crew.



2. Planning Commission met on Monday evening to consider a request for the expansion of a conditional use permit for Montgomery Presbyterian Church at 9994 Zig Zag Road. Skyward Academy currently operates out of the church with a total of 45 students enrolled. The Academy has been in operation since 2015 and has been very successful and therefore requested an expansion to allow for a total of 60 students to be enrolled. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the expansion of a conditional use to City Council.
3. On Tuesday, Faith Lynch, Justin Liming and John Crowell attended the Ohio Community Wildlife Cooperative Annual Conference at The Ohio State University 4-H Center. Speakers covered such topics as Urban Coyote Conflict Resolution, Coyote Behavior and Real and Perceived Conflicts, and Goose and Deer Management. A team from the Clifton Deer

Sterilization Working Group also presented their research. The intent is to provide the information in future publications and/or on social media to educate the public on wildlife behavior and management.

4. Tracy Roblero attended the Hamilton County Business Retention Council meeting on Tuesday afternoon sponsored by Hamilton County Development Company (HCDC). Presentations were given by Steve Sievers, Assistant Administrator for Operations for Anderson Township on their economic development projects and Dr. Steve Feagins, Vice President Medical Affairs for Mercy Health, concerning their growth in Anderson Township and the medical sector in general. Raj Chundur, Administrator for Cincinnati Area Geographic Information Systems (CAGIS) also gave a presentation on the benefits of belonging to the CAGIS consortium and HCDC presented an update on their economic development efforts throughout the region.
5. On Wednesday, Sarah Fink attended Humana's Champ Camp in downtown Cincinnati. This meeting covered important changes regarding the Humana Vitality program. Sarah will share the information with the wellness and health care benefits teams.
6. The next session of yoga classes which include Beginner Level Yoga, Mixed Level Yoga, and Chair Yoga begins next week. These classes continue to exceed registration requirements and continue to make a positive impact on the community. A chair yoga participant stated on their evaluation, "In the few weeks I've been taking this class, and doing no additional exercise, my flexibility, endurance, strength, have increased 10 fold while my knee pain is now almost completely gone."
7. On Wednesday, public works staff completed installing the holiday lights throughout the Heritage District and other identified locations in the City. Keeping with tradition, all lights will be turned on the eve of Thanksgiving.
8. This afternoon, crews from Barrett Paving Materials completed the final asphalt surface course on Kemper Road. Weather permitting, final pavement markings and restorations will be completed by the end of the week. Public works staff will work towards project close-out before the end of the calendar year.
9. This afternoon, Julie Prickett and Ben Shapiro attended the Greater Cincinnati Safety Council monthly meeting. Safety Council meetings are a component of the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's efforts to educate and inform employers regarding workplace safety issues and other related topics. The November meeting topic was "Total Health and Safety Coverage including the Family and Medical Leave Act, Workers' Compensation and the Americans with Disabilities Act" and was presented by a panel of experts from Taft Law.
10. As a reminder, the City will host the Montgomery Citizens Leadership Academy (MCLA) Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA) Open House this evening from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The Open House will allow MCLA graduates and the incoming class to be exposed to the latest concept plan for the GRA, and to offer comment on the round-about and the latest concept plan.
11. Public works staff completed a thorough inspection process of our entire roadway network this week. This data has been incorporated into our new PAVER software system and will benefit staff in managing and forecasting future roadway maintenance and improvements.

12. Each year, staff and City Council Members send holiday cards to those who have served or enhanced the community of Montgomery during the past year. This is the second year the Arts Commission coordinated an art contest to generate new choices for the card's front panel. Selected for the 2016-2017 holiday card is a photograph by Montgomery resident, Fred Haaser. Mr. Haaser's art was chosen from a field of a little over a dozen entries. It depicts the Neully-Plaisance fountain in downtown Montgomery during the holidays. He will receive recognition as artist on the card, as well as a Montgomery-themed gift basket. Please see attached artwork and a photo of Mr. Haaser, and our thanks to Mr. Haaser for contributing his passion and his talents.



13. Wayne Davis and Matthew Vanderhorst met with Gary Khan from Flamingo Touch, Inc. to discuss the possibility of creating augmented reality 3D models of the proposed GRA development and traffic modifications. The 3D models would allow staff and the community to view the GRA development before anything is built and see it in context with the existing surrounding structures. It would also allow changes to be made over time as details become available. The proposed partnership would include an internship opportunity for a Sycamore High School senior who participates in the Sycamore computer science program. Mr. Khan would serve as a mentor and educator for the student to teach them how to create the digital 3D models that would be used in the augmented reality 3D app. This would be a win-win-win partnership for the student, the community and Flamingo Touch and create a potential best practice for future development efforts locally and throughout the region.
14. The past mayor's roundtable video is nearing completion. Waycross Communications is completing the final round of editing. The full video is approximately two hours long, however Waycross created many small vignettes about specific topics that are approximately two minutes each. These topics include the 1999 tornado, Hurricane Ike, MCLA, Sister Cities, economic development, community vision, zoning, wise words for newcomers to local government, the evolution of Montgomery and funny recollections. Copies of the videos will be provided to everybody who participated. These videos will be used in many ways such as during MCLA, Community Leadership Forum, social media campaigns, website, digital history book addendum and many other educational opportunities.
15. Riley and Rees Remodeling recently refinished the floors in the pool bathrooms, concession area and manager's office by grinding, sanding, etching and refinishing with an epoxy paint.

Sand was added to the finish to help with slip resistance. The refinishing of the floor not only enhances its appearance but also safety.

16. A total of 21 applicants have registered for the Civil Service Commission police patrol officer exam which will be conducted at the Safety Center on Saturday, November 19. There are currently two vacant patrol officer positions to be filled. The Civil Service Commission is scheduled to meet on December 6 to review and certify the written exam results.
17. Please find the attached thank you letter from Sycamore Community Schools regarding the City's support of their 6th Annual Flight Fest. The support came through the involvement of the police department in providing security and general assistance with traffic and the people attending the 10K run, 5K run/walk and festival. This event raises money for extracurricular and educational opportunities for students at Sycamore Junior High School, as well as providing support to Operation Give Back. We thank the staff at the police department for their continued commitment to Sycamore Schools and most importantly the students.
18. The time is getting closer to the Annual Holiday Luncheon which will be held on Friday, December 9, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Terwilliger Lodge. More information regarding signup for desserts and other goodies will be available soon. We hope to see everyone there as we celebrate the holiday season together.
19. The 2017 MCLA 2.0 session has been set for Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Montgomery Inn. This graduate level session will cover Montgomery's Commercial Corridor and allow participants to examine the evolution of the Montgomery Road Commercial Corridor, the City's efforts to become more business-friendly and to generate discussion on a vision for the Montgomery Road Commercial Corridor.
20. Please find attached Montgomery-related news articles that appeared in the local media since our last update.
21. As a reminder, City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.
22. Given the short work week next week, we will not plan on producing a Thursday Update unless it is warranted. Best wishes to everyone for a safe, happy and wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends!

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

Sycamore Junior High School

Traci Rea, Principal
Damon Davis, Assistant Principal
Lisa Zelvy, Assistant Principal

November 1, 2016

City of Montgomery
10101 Montgomery Rd
Montgomery, OH 45242

THANK YOU!

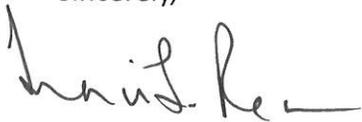
You helped us raise over \$30,000 at this year's 6th Annual Sycamore Junior High School Aviator Flight Fest. Your donation was truly appreciated. And for that, we thank you so very much.

The process of planning the event, the event itself, and the money raised is used to develop the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of the students at Sycamore Junior High. Through the funding of numerous extra-curricular and educational opportunities, the faculty at the Junior High as well as the community at-large hope to inspire the Jr. High Students to become outstanding community members.

In addition, a portion of the proceeds were donated to Operation Give Back, "a non-profit organization committed to making a positive impact in our communities by promoting education, personal/spiritual growth, and civic duty".

Thank you again. We look forward to continuing our partnership next year.

Sincerely,



Traci Rea
Principal



Lisa Zelvy
Assistant Principal



Ted Powers & Janine Tismo
PTO Flight Fest Co-Chairs



FILE PHOTOS

Montgomery residents collect food for the Montgomery Food Share, which is the third largest donor to the Freestore Foodbank.

Montgomery Food Share is growing, continuing to serve

Marika Lee

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A food share that started in one Montgomery neighborhood has spread into 19 and become a force for food donation in the region.

Planning started for the Montgomery Food Share in December 2012 with resident Wendy New, who read a national news story about a food donor network and thought the idea could be replicated in Montgomery.

“Wendy, thank you for what you started. How we deal with our own personal humanity starts with how we help those less fortunate than us. You’ve given us a vehicle to accomplish that,” Councilman Craig Margolis said during the Nov. 2 Montgomery City Council meeting where the food share received a certificate of appreciation from the city.

The food share encourages residents to buy non-perishable items each time they go grocery shopping and store them in the reusable bag provided by the food share. On the first Saturday of every other month, volunteers collect the donations and bring them to the Freestore Foodbank.

The first pickup was on June 1, 2013, and collected 865 pounds of food for the foodbank from the Montgomery Woods neighborhood.



Wendy New started the Montgomery Food Share, which has grown into 19 neighborhoods.

The food share is now in 19 Montgomery neighborhoods and averages 5,000 pounds of food per pickup.

“It wasn’t anything we could even conceive of when we first started. We were doing cartwheels with 865 pounds and now we cry when we see 5,000. It is really amazing,” New said.

The Montgomery Food Share is the third largest donor to the Freestore Foodbank. Since 2013, the food share has donated more than 65,000 meals.

“It takes one person to think about this and it really shows what the power of one is. I know that everyone has to pick in and help but one person came up with the idea and pitched it to

JOIN THE FOOD SHARE

Resident can join the Montgomery Food Share through its website: <http://connectmontgomery.org/join-the-montgomery-food-share/>

the community,” Vice Mayor Lynda Roesch said.

New said the food share couldn’t have grown into what is has become without the volunteers.

“Nineteen neighborhoods is not a one-person job. Almost every neighborhood has a captain, who coordinates the drivers and the maps and the pickups. It is a labor of love for all of us and we see 40 barrels full of goods that are going to help people that aren’t as fortunate as us that is the greatest blessing,” New said.

Councilwoman Gerri Harbison thanked the food share for raising awareness about food insecurity, adding that most people don’t realize that it affects all communities including Montgomery.

“To think that we have gotten almost 40 tons in three and a half years. It is an amazing accomplishment and it takes a community to do this,” New said.

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