

September 15, 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 September 12, 2016 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, City Council is scheduled to meet in Work Session on Wednesday, September 21, at 7:00 p.m.
2. Council Member Craig Margolis, Assistant Chief Ben Shapiro and Sister Cities Commission Members, Marcallene Shockey and Jack Wild visited our National Sister City in the Village of Montgomery in honor of General Montgomery Day. Craig, Ben, Marcallene and Jack were met by Village employees, Commission Members and volunteers for a very nice dinner. They all participated in the parade with Craig, Marcallene and Jack being escorted in a Rolls-Royce and Ben proudly driving the fire department's command unit. They all had front row seats to the evening fireworks display. Ben relays that it was a wonderful experience and opportunity to meet a lot of people that are passionate about what they do and where they work. Following are pictures from the weekend.



3. This week the Healthcare Benefits Committee (James Martin, Patrick Morgan, Julie Prickett, Mike Rogers and Katie Smiddy along with Julie Tople and Sharon Savitt) coordinated three group insurance open enrollment sessions for fulltime employees. As a reminder, employees interested in learning more about voluntary supplemental insurance plans can sign up to meet next week with a Humana representative. Also, please remember to submit your enrollment forms to your HealthCare Benefit Committee representative no later than September 23.
4. New fitness classes are starting this month, with the additions of chair yoga and an after school kid's fitness and yoga program. Both classes will be held at the Annex building. Chair yoga will take place on Monday's from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., with the session running eight weeks and the kid's fitness and yoga program will take place on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., with the session running four weeks. Both of these classes are in line with the WeThrive initiative to help provide additional opportunities to our students and older population to become or continue to be active.

5. Registrations for the September sessions of fitness classes have increased 190% as compared to September 2015. Last September we had 51 participants registered for fitness classes and this September we have 148 participants registered. All fitness classes are meeting or exceeding the registration amount required to successfully run the classes.
6. Wayne Davis, Brian Riblet and Tracy Roblero met with Mark Rippe, Nisbet Property Holdings, Ltd., on Tuesday afternoon to discuss the Gateway Redevelopment Area. Nisbet Property Holdings, Ltd. owns the building at 9305 Montgomery Road which is occupied by Avis Rent-a-Car, Nordic Motors and the Auto Salon of Montgomery. The City team reached out to Mr. Rippe to discuss the proposed interchange modification at the intersection of Montgomery Road and Ronald Reagan Highway and the proposed traffic signal at the intersection of Montgomery Road/Main Street and the development. This proposed traffic signal would be aligned with the driveway for Montgomery Gateway Center East and staff wanted to get initial feedback on the location and potential impacts to access. Wayne, Tracy and Brian also met with John Kennedy, owner of Houdini's Room Escape, last week to discuss the proposal.
7. Wayne Davis, Terry Donnellon, Katie Smiddy, Tracy Roblero and Brenda Wehmer, Dinsmore, to discuss the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for the Vintage Club Village Section on Wednesday morning. The team discussed various options structuring the Service Agreement given new projections on phasing and building values provided by the developer and plan to meet with the developer later in the week to discuss in further detail.
8. This week the fire department had all the ladders and the 105-foot aerial tested per the Bureau of Worker Compensation requirements. This annual test assures that all the ladder equipment is in working order. The testing company was contracted in collaboration with the ten fire departments that make up the Eastern District Fire Chiefs' Work Group. This allowed each department to receive better pricing since the company from Arkansas was able to test multiple departments in one visit.
9. The fire department began with vehicle maintenance for all the units in preparation of the upcoming winter. The vehicles are checked over and received oil changes with any necessary mechanical repairs being made.
10. The police and fire departments were honored by Houdini's and Meadowbrook Care Center this week in honor of Patriots Day. Houdini's allowed department members and their families the opportunity to "escape" from one of their rooms and Meadowbrook Care Center provided a meal to the firefighters and police officers. It is a pleasure to work in a community that is appreciative of the service our employees provide.
11. On Wednesday the HPO Culture Team (Connie Gaylor, Greg Harris, Faith Lynch, Mike Nelson and Julie Prickett), along with Tracy Roblero, met to discuss strategies for strengthening our organization's High Performance Organization work culture. The Culture Team focused on ideas developed during the April 2016 Tony Garner visit and refined during a recent Managers' Forum.
12. This morning Tonyia and Cindy attended the monthly Concerned Managers of Income Tax (CMIT) meeting in Blue Ash. Tax discussion items included the compliance of municipal tax forms as well as discussion about new HB 5 Loss carry forward provisions which are expected to be effective with tax year 2017.
13. On Wednesday morning, Tracy, Katie, Wayne, Terry Donnellon and Brenda Wehmer met to review financial data and Tax Increment Financing numbers regarding the latest proposal for the site.

14. The Landmarks Commission met on Wednesday evening to hear an application for a new projecting sign at 9401 Montgomery Road, to discuss the design of the Morgan's Raid plaque to be installed at Neuilly-Plaisance Plaza and to review a report on the Montgomery Inn outbuilding at 9411 Main Street done by Beth Sullebarger, Historical Consultant for the Landmarks Commission.
15. On Thursday afternoon, Wayne, Brian, Tracy, Katie, Terry Donnellon and representatives from Brandicorp and Traditions held a conference call to review the proposed project phasing and construction schedule. The team also discussed the financial data and TIF numbers regarding the latest proposal for the site.
16. On Thursday afternoon, John Crowell and Katie Smiddy met with Craig Blair from MVRMA for the annual claims visit. The team reviewed the City's loss experience to date with the Claims Manager. The City has a good claims experience which will be factored into the annual premium calculation.
17. Tracy Roblero will be attending the OKI Regional Planning Forum on Friday morning. The topics for discussion that morning include parklets and medical marijuana dispensaries. This regional forum provides an opportunity for planners across the region to discuss timely issues and trends that are common amongst the communities and share best practices.
18. For the 2015-2016 insurance plan year that just ended, the City received \$16,782.05 in discounts as compared to the previous plan year, where the City received \$7,056.77 in discounts. These discounts are received when employees reach "Silver Status" within the Humana Vitality program. This accomplishment helps to keep our Health Care premiums low and shows a great commitment by employees to engage in active and healthy lifestyles. This increase in participation has been seen not only in the Humana Vitality program, but also within our TriHealth employee wellness program.
19. The Montgomery Car Show will be held on Saturday, September 17 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Montgomery Square parking lot. Columbia Hyundai/Acura/Genesis, Camargo Cadillac, Columbia Chevrolet, The Audi Connection, Twin Lakes Senior Living Community, Montgomery Inn and Myers Y. Cooper are sponsoring the event. Eighty to one hundred cars on average are entered into the event. The Four Hubcaps will be playing live on stage and the Montgomery Police Department will have volunteers serving food with proceeds going to the Holiday Family Fund. Former Mayor Todd Steinbrink and Police Chief Don Simpson will serve as two of the judges at this event. A big "Thank You" is extended to public works and the Car show Team for all of their time and efforts with planning and preparing for the show.
20. The Environmental Advisory Commission will hold the annual One Stop Drop event this Saturday at the Public Works facility. This recycling event will run from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will collect household items, electronics and latex paint. Goodwill Industries, Matthew 25 Ministries and Habitat for Humanity are the vendors that are participating in this year's event. If you have anything to donate, please feel free to bring your items on Saturday, all items get tallied and are reported on the City's Residential Recycling Incentive grant application which helps to fund recycling services we offer to our residents and also furthers the City's commitment to recycling.
21. Deadline for the Montgomery Citizens' Leadership Academy is September 30 and we currently have 23 applications. Thank you for your assistance with recruitment. We will continue to recruit applicants for the Class of 2017 until the deadline.

22. Making A Difference Day is October 22. Twelve community groups have identified worthwhile service projects to benefit the community. A complete list of service projects is found on www.connectmontgomery.org. Faith is currently filling 50 spots open for volunteers at Matthew 25 Ministries, 11060 Kenwood Road, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on October 22. Tasks include sorting and preparing items for disaster relief. Please let her know if you would like to fill a spot. Please let her know if you have any additional questions.
23. 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

Keeping history alive

By Debra J. Botti

For the Times Herald-Record

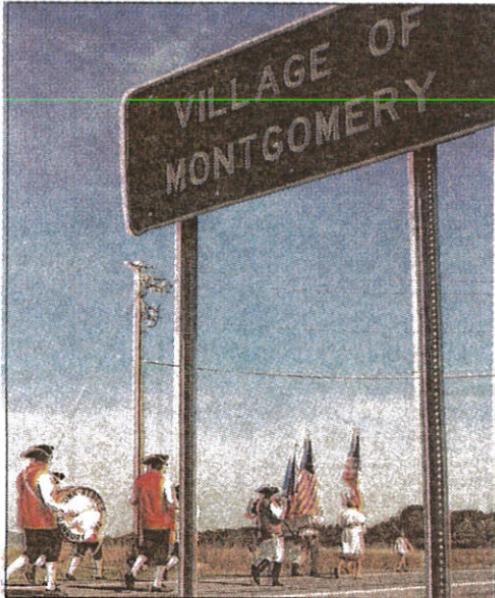
In the spring of 1795, six families infused with the pioneer spirit left the Village of Montgomery. The Felter sisters and their husbands, Cornelius Snider (the leader), Jacob Roosa and Nathaniel Terwilliger, along with three Felter brothers and their wives, gathered their possessions and embarked on a journey that led them to what is today the City of Montgomery, Ohio.

A delegation from that Ohio sister city will arrive in time for dinner tonight in the Village of Montgomery and participate in the 10:30 parade tomorrow morning, headed by Grand Marshall Randolph "Rags" Rosenberg, which marks the 27th annual General Montgomery Day.

"We are proud of our history and proud of our connection to Montgomery, N.Y. Sending a delegation to the General Montgomery Day celebration solidifies our strong familial ties ...," says City Manager Wayne Davis. (Though it should be noted that no direct descendants from that original pioneer crew are thought to be living in the Ohio Montgomery today.)

Still, those ties are sturdy. They trace back to Gen. Richard Montgomery, who was born in Ireland, joined the British Army, married Janet Livingston and settled in Rhinebeck. He was favored by Gen. George Washington and held in high regard by the men he led. He was killed at the age of 38 at the Battle of Quebec, the same battle where Benedict Arnold was wounded.

"Every Montgomery is named after General Montgomery," says Patricia Umbrian, of the



A marching band from Danbury, Conn., marches down Route 211 into the Village of Montgomery at the start of a previous General Montgomery Day Parade. RECORD FILE PHOTO

acclaimed leader whose second burial was at St. Paul's Chapel in Manhattan. She has chaired the celebration since its inception.

And since the very first celebration nearly 30 years ago, General Montgomery himself - aka retired Valley Central High history teacher Marc Newman - has come home for the event. His wife Brenda Newman attends too, as Mrs. Montgomery. This year is no exception. And, every year, the Newmans bring a gift from their own collection of General Montgomery treasures, says Umbrian, which are on display in the Village Hall meeting room. Last year's gift was a picture of the general.

Enjoy the fall season at Harvest Moon Festival

One of Montgomery's most popular festivals returns Oct. 8 with a fantastic line-up of kids' activities.

Join us in Swaim Park from 5-8 p.m. for family fun including: roast s'mores on the fire, make a free craft, enjoy a hayride around the park, delight in a pony ride, see a juggling show, face painting and participate in sack races and archery games. Pony rides and face painting require a small fee. Kids can also explore a smokehouse and a firetruck with the Montgomery Fire Department staff.

New this year, Pit-to-Plate will be serving coney, mac and cheese and pulled chicken and pork barbecue and Funnel Vision will be selling gourmet funnel cakes. Participants can also enjoy the popular Sweet Maize kettle corn.

The Wilder-Swaim House will be open for guests to enjoy this historic treasure. Members of the Montgomery Historic Preservation Association will be available to guide visitors through the house.

Join us for this fantastic family event and celebrate the fall season at beautiful Swaim Park, at the corner of Cooper and Zig Zag Roads.

Information: montgomeryohio.org; 513-891-2424.

Faith Lynch, City of Montgomery

Montgomery shares concept plan for dealerships site

A roundabout, boutique hotel and more than 900 parking spaces could be coming to Montgomery.

The city of Montgomery hosted an open house to discuss the concept plan for the Gateway Redevelopment Area, which is the 11.6-acre site that was the old Ford and Chevrolet dealerships at the south entrance of the city.

The site, which is being called Ga-

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taway on the Green, is being developed by Gateway Partners LLC, which is made up of Great Traditions, Brandicorp, Greiwe Group, North American Properties and Sibcy Cline.

The plan is in the concept stage, Montgomery Community Development Director Tracy Roblero said, but include space for offices, condominiums, town homes, retail, restaurants, a boutique hotel and a 900-space parking structure.

"We are asking for some retail and restaurants along Montgomery Road. We are looking to do a 'restaurant row' because you have this nice open space and some gathering areas that would contact to the existing Point Park," Roblero said.

She said there will be office space throughout the development and Gateway Partners is hoping to convince a corporate headquarters to relocate to the property.

"There will be underground parking (on the left side of the property) and potentially in other places. Right now, they are proposing an above-ground parking structure (at the back of the property), taking advantage of the grade so it would sit low," Roblero said.

The city has applied for federal grant funding and approval for the Ohio Department of Transportation to build a roundabout at the Ronald Reagan Highway interchange.

"That would open all (of the site) up for redevelopment. We would take out the bridge and bring the property up to grade so the roundabout is sitting where the bridge is today," Roblero said.

ODOT will make its decision on the roundabout in mid-October, Roblero said, adding if the roundabout plan

and the federal funding is approved construction could start in July 2019.

"So you aren't going to see construction of a roundabout for several years. (Gateway Partners) is looking to do the central portion hopefully in 2018. That would be the first portion, then the residential would fill in behind it. You are not going to see the (left portion) until 2024, 2025. So it is very long term," Roblero said.

The plans are all concept and will eventually need approval from Montgomery Planning Commission and City Council.

The city of Montgomery used bond money to buy the old dealership sites for a combined \$5.6 million. The city also received a small piece of land from Hamilton County, to bring the site to 11.6 acres.