



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY • DECEMBER 2021



**HOLIDAY IN THE VILLAGE
DETAILS ON PAGE 2**

PHOTO CREDIT: FRED HAASER

**New! K-9 Ricky's
Coloring Contest**

6

Breakfast with Santa

7

**Jazz Vocalist
Mandy Gaines Performs**

8

Holiday in the Village

Saturday, December 4

5 to 7:30 p.m.

5:00 Tree Lighting

Downtown Montgomery

Corner of Montgomery &

Cooper Roads

5:30–7:30 Activities in

Universalist Church:

Visit Santa

Create a craft with Mrs. Claus

Refreshments & snacks

KROGER GETS A FACELIFT

Have you been wondering what is going on at the Kroger on Montgomery Road? Kroger is upgrading the façade of the building to include a new entry and vestibule, as well as a refresh of the materials. The interior of the building will also be upgraded with more self-checkout lanes, additional space for Kroger Click-List, and an overall refresh of the interior. The project is expected to be completed by Winter 2022. The changes are designed to provide a welcoming experience to meet the needs of their customers today and for years to come.



The project is expected to be completed by Winter 2022. The changes are designed to provide a welcoming experience to meet the needs of their customers today and for years to come.

For more information on this project, contact Tracy Henao, assistant city manager, at thenao@montgomeryohio.gov or 513-792-8312.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Montgomery Square Shopping Center first opened in 1966. The shopping center was part of the 141 acre Montgomery Heights community plan, which included 256 residential lots, three acres of business along Montgomery Road and Montgomery Park. The original tenants of the shopping center included Kroger, Spreen's Pharmacy, The Beehive Card Shop, One-Hour Martinizing, Montgomery Square Barbershop, and Perkins Bakery. The shopping center was expanded in 1968, 1974, and 1983 and is now four times larger than the original plan. Many things have changed since this picture was taken in 1974; however, the Montgomery Square Shopping Center has remained a constant on Montgomery Road and is still anchored by Kroger. Be sure to check out all of the great stores this holiday season!



UNLIMITED YARD WASTE CONTINUES, AND HOLIDAY GREENERY PICK-UP BEGINS

The weekly unlimited yard waste pick-up continues through December 24. A special holiday greenery and unlimited yard waste pick-up will take place on the following three Saturdays:

- **Saturday, January 8**
- **Saturday, January 15**
- **Saturday, January 22**

Place Christmas trees, wreaths, and swags at the curb along with yard waste on Friday evening before the Saturday pick-up. Residents will not be required to use yard waste stickers.

Each item must be completely free of all plastic, flocking, tinsel and decorations. All yard waste must be placed in paper bags in the event of freezing temperatures.

As a reminder, regular yard waste collection will resume the first week in March.



COUNCIL MESSAGE

MONTGOMERY UNDERGROUND

BY MIKE CAPPEL

Ready for Montgomery Underground? It is and will remain an important part of our community. But it's not the latest restaurant to be announced in the Quarter. It's not even as exciting as a clandestine group of citizens ready to step up when a crisis hits our city. In fact, for most of us, it's so boring, we ignore it, except when it fails. Yet Montgomery Underground is necessary for us to have a healthy and orderly society.

Beneath our streets, sidewalks, yards, and sometimes our houses lie a matrix of laterals, tanks, pipes, mains, tubes, wires, sensors, meters, and cables. These connections provide us with potable water, gas, electricity, phone, TV, internet, alarm systems, traffic control, and even treat and remove our waste. This network is one of the true treasures of our community, even though much of it isn't owned by the City of Montgomery.

Property owners own their lines from their building to the connection in the right of way and are generally responsible for maintaining the private service lines. Two municipal water systems serve Montgomery: Cincinnati and Indian Hill.

Sewer service is provided by the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati through a mixture of combined and sanitary sewers. At the same time, a few residents and businesses may still have septic tanks, grease interceptors, or other private treatment systems. The City of Montgomery provides storm sewers to remove stormwater from public properties and conveys stormwater to Waters of the State. Duke Energy brings gas and electricity from producers we choose to our homes, and for those with solar panels buys electric back. A host of competing companies provide phone, internet, alarm, and TV services. Some intersections also have traffic sensors buried in the drive to help control traffic lights when a car arrives.

Montgomery recently embarked on a program to upgrade the storm sewers in our community by replacing and relining some pipes, upgrading storm inlets during street repaving, and partnering with residents to upgrade storm sewers in certain areas. And Montgomery continues to upgrade fire hydrants during street repaving as well. During the Montgomery Strategic Planning process, there was significant discussion on ensuring that Montgomery Underground continues to meet the needs of our growing community.

Before you dig for any reason, call 811. The cost of repairing a line you damage is far more than the cost of the call. For a fun, scary explanation of how to protect your pipes go to www.fearthefog.com and watch the 60-second trailer.

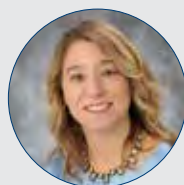
COUNCIL MEMBERS



Mayor
Chris Dobrozsi



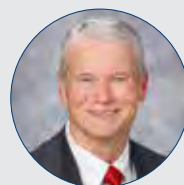
Vice Mayor
Craig Margolis



Member
Lee Ann Bissmeyer



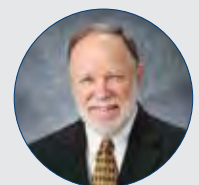
Member
Mike Cappel



Member
Ron Messer



Member
Lynda Roesch



Member
Ken Suer



COUNCIL CORNER

NOVEMBER 17, 2021 WORK SESSION

Montgomery City Council met in its regular monthly Work Session on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at City Hall. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m., with public comment welcomed on each item before City Council.

Pending Legislation

An **Ordinance** to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022 **(3rd Reading)**

An **Ordinance** Approving A Planned Development Overlay For Property Owned By Twin Lakes Located On Montgomery Road At Schoolhouse Lane **(3rd Reading)**

New Legislation

A **Resolution** Adopting A Five-Year Capital Improvement Program For The City Of Montgomery

A **Resolution** Adopting A Five-Year Strategic Plan For The City Of Montgomery

A **Resolution** Declaring A Moratorium On The Collection Of Building And Zoning Permit Fees For Solar Installations

An **Ordinance** Establishing a Diversity and Inclusion Commission

A **Resolution** Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With Humana Health Plan Of Ohio, Inc. To Provide Medical Insurance And Dental Insurance For Full-Time Employees

A **Resolution** Establishing City Contributions For Healthcare Benefits

A **Resolution** Designating A Portion Of The Montgomery Road Corridor As A Community Entertainment District

A **Resolution** Amending Resolution No. 9, 2020 And Resolution No. 39, 2020 To Approve A Modification To The Construction Agreement With Brandicorp, LLC For The Montgomery Quarter Project Improvements

A **Resolution** Authorizing The City Manager To Accept The Opioid Settlement And Enter Into The Participation Agreement With Opioid Manufacturers Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc

RECENT COUNCIL ACTION

Approved Legislation

November 3, 2021

RESOLUTION 36, 2021

A **Resolution** Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Labor Agreement With The Montgomery Firefighters IAFF Local 4391 For Wages And Benefits From April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2024 **(passed 7-0)**

These pieces of approved legislation can be reviewed on the City's website at www.montgomeryohio.gov.

ADMINISTRATION



City Manager
Brian Riblet



Assistant City Manager
Tracy Henao



Clerk of Council
Connie Gaylor

Emergency
911

Non-Emergency
• Police Dept.
513-985-1600

• Fire Dept.
513-985-1633

Public Works
513-792-8355

**Planning/Zoning/
Building**
513-792-8309

City Hall
513-891-2424

CITY PARTNERS WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR DEBT COLLECTION

Beginning in January, the City of Montgomery will be partnering with the Ohio Attorney General Collections Enforcement Office (AGO). At no cost to the City, the AGO will provide collection services for past-due taxes, penalties, and fines, which have become difficult to collect efficiently.

The Attorney General's Office has the authority, by law, to collect debt owed to the State of Ohio for state agencies, institutions, public universities, hospitals, and local government entities. If necessary, the AGO may withhold Federal and State tax refunds to settle debts.

When a balance due to the City becomes delinquent by 45 days or more, the account may be certified to the Attorney General's Office for collection. Once certified, collection costs and interest are automatically imposed by law and will be charged to the debtor. Once delinquent accounts have been certified to the Collections Enforcement Office, all responses, inquiries, and payments should be directed to the Ohio Attorney General Enforcement Office. The City cannot respond to inquiries from individual taxpayers regarding collection efforts.

Further information will be available on the City's website at montgomeryohio.gov.

HISTORIC LANDMARK ORNAMENTS

This year's featured Historic Landmark Ornament is the Sage Tavern. Ornaments are available for purchase at City Hall. One ornament is \$8 or two for \$15. Please visit montgomeryohio.gov for more information and a list of featured buildings.



LIGHT UP
Montgomery

Let's make the holiday season even more festive by Lighting Up Montgomery!

Add some festive lights to your house or property to help light up the community. Take a picture and share your display with

lightupmontgomery@montgomeryohio.gov

We will share your photo on the City's Facebook and Instagram pages!

K9 Ricky's
COLORING
Contest

January 3 - 27

Coloring sheets available at
City Hall or Montgomeryohio.gov

Ages 12 & Under

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 11**

Terwilliger Lodge in Dulle Park

**Space is Limited - Preregistration is Required
Event Details and Registration available at
montgomeryohio.gov**

**All you can eat pancakes served by City
of Montgomery employee volunteers.**

**Benefiting the Holiday Family Fund to
support local families in need.**

Matthew ²⁵ Ministries

**Share in the spirit of the season and help
others by bringing non-perishable food
items for Matthew 25 Ministries.**

BREAKFAST

with

SANTA

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is here, and many residents will be traveling to celebrate with friends and family. Others will also be shopping and hosting family gatherings. The Montgomery Police Department would like to remind all residents that while you are busy shopping and wrapping gifts, grinchers are trying to steal your holiday joy. Help keep criminals at bay during the holidays by following these safety tips:

- Make sure all windows and doors are locked, including your vehicle.
- Keep valuables and presents out of sight from prying eyes.
- Use lockboxes to receive packages or have them shipped to secure lockers.
- Mail cards with gifts or checks at the US Post Office.
- Make sure all entrances to your home are well lit.
- Use caution when there is a stranger at your door, and don't allow them in your home if you have any suspicions.
- Investigate any charity before donating.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your house and pick up mail and newspapers or stop them from being delivered while gone.
- Contact the Montgomery Police Department and ask to have your residence placed on the 'Vacation Check' list.
- Use timers for lights, stereos, and televisions.
- Be careful when setting out trash not to advertise new expensive toys. Break down boxes and place them in bags or trash cans.
- Take photos of new items you may receive, and document the makes, models, and serial numbers.

If you see anything suspicious, please report it immediately to the Montgomery Police Department so that we can investigate the matter before a crime occurs. Please stay safe, and we wish you all a safe holiday season.



VIRTUAL SAVE THE FOOD WEBINAR

Scheduled for **Thursday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m.**, this webinar will provide valuable information on how to prevent food waste in your home!

Don't miss this opportunity to register for this virtual program hosted by the City of Montgomery's Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) and conducted by Elise Erhart, Outreach Specialist for Hamilton County R3Source.

Join us for an interactive presentation that is intended to teach the prevention of food waste. Discussion will center on cultural shifts, misconceptions around food labeling, the impact of food waste, and how to save food from landfills.

To register for this program, follow this link: <https://bit.ly/SavetheFood>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



Live at the Uni Sycamore High

Sycamore High School Theater

For distancing reasons, **Live at the Uni concert series** takes place *inside Sycamore High School Theater* (7400 Cornell Road.)

1st Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
Post-concert receptions will not take place in 2021.

Admission is FREE.

Suggested donations: \$5 /adult to help defray the cost of the events.

Reservations are required. Please register online: montgomeryohio.gov.



Mandy Gaines: December 6

SPONSORED BY



Our 2021 series concludes **December 6** with **Mandy Gaines** (by popular demand) bringing exhilarating jazz vocals to spread holiday cheer.

Gaines has been recently inducted into the Cincinnati Jazz Hall of Fame.



KINDEL MEMORIAL HOLIDAY CONCERT

Date: **Sunday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.**

Location: Summit City Church (formerly Montgomery Assembly of God), 7950 Pfeiffer Road in Montgomery.

This year's theme will be "Ringin' in the Holidays." This concert has become the traditional beginning of the holiday season for Blue Ash and Montgomery residents. All BAMSO concerts are free to the public!



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY TIPS:

Did you know this holiday fire safety statistic? Per the American Red Cross, holiday fires cause approximately \$554 million in damages and injure 2,200 people every year.

You can help to keep your family safe and avoid holiday fire damage if you follow these **10-holiday fire safety tips**:

1. Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; change the batteries every year.
2. Get fireplaces inspected before using and use a fireplace screen.
3. Never burn wrapping paper, boxes, or other trash in your fireplace.
4. Don't leave a fire unattended; put the fire out before going to bed.
5. Candles are beautiful, but make sure they are in stable and secure holders and keep them away from combustible materials and small children. Never leave candles unattended.
6. If you have a real Christmas tree, put it in a stable stand and water daily. A dried tree is more susceptible to fire. Keep the tree away from heat sources that could dry it out. Most trees dry out after just two weeks, so don't leave your tree up long past the holidays.
7. Check holiday lights for cracked or broken bulbs, frayed wires, and loose plugs. Don't use lights that aren't safe.
8. Use lights approved by testing labs like Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM).
9. Use lights only in their designated areas; never use "indoor only" lights outdoors.
10. If your smoke, fire, or carbon monoxide detectors go off, get everyone outside and call 911. Don't try to solve the problem yourself.

Following these holiday fire safety tips will help to ensure that you enjoy a safer holiday season.



EAC COLLECTS STRANDED HOLIDAY LIGHTS, EXTENSION CORDS

The City of Montgomery Environmental Advisory Commission is expanding its monthly recycling collection for December and January to include the collection of holiday decoration lights (stranded) and extension cords.

Bring these items on either Dec. 18 or Jan. 15 to the Public Works facility, 7315 Cornell Road, for recycling from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Support the City's recycling efforts to reduce the amount of trash going into landfills. Please do not forget to bring cardboard for recycling as well.



HATS OFF...

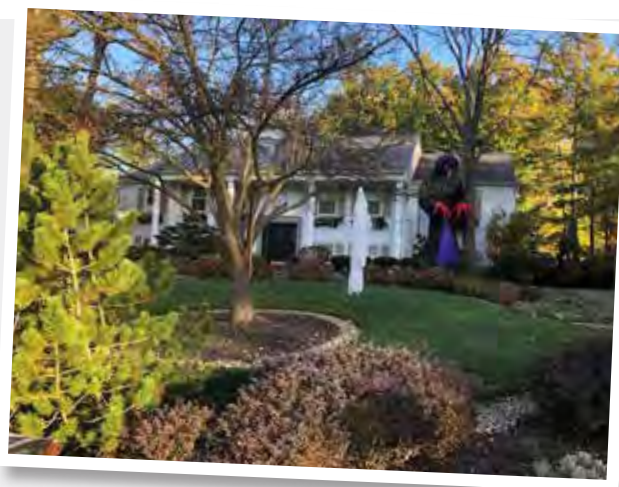
... to the myriad of **Montgomery Woman's Club members, Beautification and Tree Commissioners, individual volunteers, and Public Works staff members for their work on the Holiday Decorating Project.** These dedicated volunteers first prepared the many garlands, wreaths, and bows at a "fluffing" workshop. They then spent a morning putting up the decorations, turning downtown Montgomery festive for the holiday season. A GREAT BIG Winter Cap Off to the holiday decorating volunteers!

Make Plans Now to Help Prep Holiday Decorations for Storage

Additional Volunteers Needed

- **Thursday, January 6, 10:00 a.m. | Rain Date: Friday, January 7**
- **Recreation Annex Building, 10115 Montgomery Rd**

For specific information or to sign up, visit our website montgomeryohio.gov/volunteer or contact Shawn Cooper at 513-891-2424 or scooper@montgomeryohio.gov.



2021 FALL SEASONS OF BEAUTY AWARD WINNER

The City of Montgomery Beautification and Tree Commission has awarded the **2021 Fall Seasons of Beauty award to Paul and Penny Curtis.**

The Curtis family home was a favorite of many Trick-or-Treaters, decorated for Halloween and the fall season. The exterior of this traditional home was recently updated with neutral tones and accented with black flower boxes. The homeowner installed a drip irrigation system through each box so that the summer plantings of deep pink Impatiens and both purple and green sweet potato vines would last long into the fall. The flower beds were meticulously manicured with both mulch and stone and highlighted by a feature row of Quick Fire Hydrangea whose blooms turned a deep rosy pink in the fall and leaves that turned gold and burgundy.

The home was also a show-stopper during Halloween. The front yard featured a ghost, zombie, skeletal dogs, spider and spider web, hand-carved pumpkins, and a 20-foot tall Grim Reaper encased in fog. Eerie lighting and music also greeted the many Halloween visitors.

The Seasons of Beauty award recognizes homes and businesses in Montgomery with remarkable front yards, window boxes, and planters that peak during specific seasons and those homes and businesses with decorative features that celebrate the "season" or holiday.

Nominate your home or neighbor's home by emailing a photo and short description to aaronkellenberger@gmail.com. The winter award winner will be selected in January and will be announced in a future bulletin.



FITNESS

Experience updated group exercise equipment and classes. All equipment needed for classes is provided. Registration for **2022 - Session A** of fitness classes is open. Please visit the fitness page at montgomeryohio.gov for class descriptions, important information and registration.

Please contact Sarah Fink, recreation specialist, by emailing sfink@montgomeryohio.gov or by calling 513-792-8317 with any questions you may have.

Fitness Class Schedule 2022 - Session A

Day	Class Name	Dates of Session	Session Length	Time of Class	Res.	Non-Res.
Mon.	Mixed Level Yoga	1/10 - 2/28	8 classes	9:30-10:30 a.m.	\$40	\$45
Mon.	Chair Yoga	1/10 - 2/28	8 classes	11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	\$40	\$45
Tue.	Cardio Strength and Stretched	1/11 - 3/1	8 classes	9:00-10:00 a.m.	\$40	\$45
Tue.	Tai Chi	1/11 - 3/1	8 classes	10:20-11:20 a.m.	\$80	\$90
Tue.	Pilates	1/11 - 3/1	8 classes	6:00-7:00 p.m.	\$40	\$45
Wed.	Mixed Level Yoga	1/12 - 3/2	8 classes	9:30-10:30 a.m.	\$40	\$45
Wed.	Beginner Level Yoga	1/12 - 3/2	8 classes	10:45-11:45 a.m.	\$40	\$45
Thur.	Cardio Strength and Stretched	1/13 - 3/3	8 classes	9:00-10:00 a.m.	\$40	\$45
Thur.	Pilates	1/13 - 3/3	8 classes	6:00-7:00 p.m.	\$40	\$45

The Recreation Annex building will be closed December 17 - January 7 due to the holidays, holiday decorating, and annual maintance. We hope you have a wonderful holiday season and look forward to seeing you in 2022.

COLD WEATHER FITNESS TIPS

Whether you have a fitness routine or not, now is a great time to establish new fitness goals to propel you through the cold winter months and into a new year.

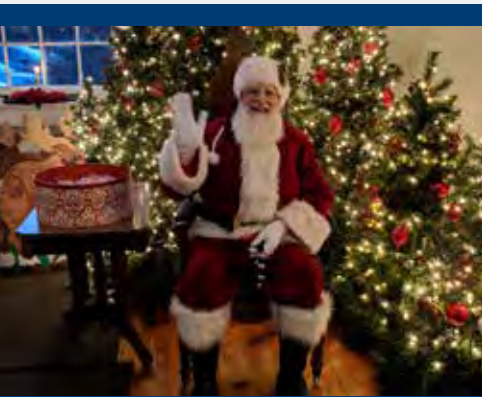
- Take advantage of the time change to fit in an active hour into the daily schedule.
- Be sure to do a proper warm-up and stretch fully. Doing this may help to reduce muscle soreness and lessen the risk of injury.
- When exercising in the cold, dress to stay dry, not just warm. Utilize moisture-wicking fabrics in layers that will keep your body dry and warm. Also, remember to dress to keep visible, utilizing bright colors.
- Cooler temperatures and winter fun provide new motivation to get outside and enjoy a run or walk in the park or playground and sledding time with the family.
- Transition your fitness indoors throughout the colder months. Taking a new fitness class can add variety to a fitness routine while staying motivated and on track with fitness goals well into the winter months.



Emergency
911
Non-Emergency
• **Police Dept.**
513-985-1600
• **Fire Dept.**
513-985-1633

Public Works
513-792-8355
**Planning/Zoning/
Building**
513-792-8309
City Hall
513-891-2424

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #2417
CINCINNATI, OH



HOLIDAY IN THE VILLAGE
SAT., DECEMBER 4, 5:00 - 7:30 P.M.



DECEMBER 2021 EVENTS

All event dates are subject to change or cancellation. Check the website and social media for the most up-to-date information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Council Business Session, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.			Holiday in the Village – Historic Downtown Montgomery, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
BAMSO Holiday Concert, Summit City Church (formerly Montgomery Assembly of God) 7:00 p.m.	Beautification and Tree Commission, Public Works, 9:00 a.m. Planning Commission, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.		Landmarks Commission, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.	Parks & Recreation Commission, City Hall, 6:30 p.m.		Breakfast with Santa, Terwilliger Lodge, Registration Required
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Environmental Advisory Commission, City Hall, 5:00 p.m.	Council Work Session, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.			Cardboard Recycling, 7315 Cornell Road, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Planning Commission, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.			City Offices Closed	Christmas Eve City Offices Closed, Trash Collection as usual	Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Arts Commission, City Hall, 5:00 p.m.	Board of Zoning Appeals, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.			New Year's Eve City Offices Closed, Trash Collection as usual	