



CITY OF
MONTGOMERY
A CHARMING PAST. A GLOWING FUTURE.



BULLETIN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY • DECEMBER 2023



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from the City of Montgomery

Picture submitted by the Chesar Family

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COUNCIL MESSAGE

THANK YOU, MONTGOMERY! BY CRAIG MARGOLIS

My tenure as your mayor is ending, I now have a chance to reflect on the incredible journey we have shared over the past two years in Montgomery, our great city. Together, we have achieved milestones, faced challenges, and built a stronger, more united community.

During my term, we focused on creating pathways for both young and old to be engaged in our community, fostering inclusivity, and enhancing our small town's quaint ambiance. We have supervised the continued build-out of a new neighborhood, Montgomery Quarter, one more step to economic growth and economic sustainability. All this activity while remaining vigilant and sensitive to the health of our environment.

We initiated community projects that brought us closer. Our Know Your Neighbor presentation series is unique among other communities in Ohio. Additionally, parks were revitalized, local businesses thrived, and cultural events flourished.

Together, we tackled challenges head-on, showing resilience and determination in the face of adversity. Our community has been able to bounce back from a punishing pandemic with vigor greater than before. By making tough decisions regarding growth and operations in prior years, we have been able to improve infrastructure and maintain Montgomery as a desirable community to work and live. We are ensuring our city's foundation is sturdy and resilient. And your City Council will continue to do so!

I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished together. Your support, ideas, and passion have been the driving force behind every decision our united council has made and every milestone achieved. Our city stands as a testament to what a great city council, committed staff, and united community can accomplish.

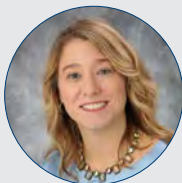
As I step down from the role of mayor, and as of writing this message, uncertain whether you, our residents, will re-elect me to another term on City Council, I am confident that our city's future is brighter than ever. We have been blessed with a fantastic location, a wonderful story to tell about our history and quality of life, and the value our government adds to our lives. Let us continue to work hand in hand, supporting each other and nurturing the spirit that makes our city genuinely great.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your mayor. Here is to the continued success and prosperity of our beloved city.

COUNCIL MEMBERS



Mayor
Craig Margolis



Vice Mayor
Lee Ann Bissmeyer



Member
Mike Cappel



Member
Chris Dobrozsi



Member
Ron Messer



Member
Sasha Naiman



Member
Ken Suer



COUNCIL CORNER

NOVEMBER 15, 2023 WORK SESSION

Montgomery City Council met in its regular monthly Work Session on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at City Hall. Meetings begin at 6:00 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, 2024 (3rd reading)

New Legislation

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Contract With National Inspection Corporation For Professional Services To Serve As Building Official And To Provide Plan Review And Field Inspection Authority And Services For The City's Building Department For The Calendar Year 2024

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With CT Consultants, Inc. For Professional Services Related To General Engineering And Architectural Services For Calendar Year 2024

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

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

A Resolution Establishing City Contributions For Healthcare Benefits

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With Community Insurance Company D/B/A Anthem Blue Cross And Blue Shield To Provide Medical Insurance And Dental Insurance For Full-Time Employees

A Resolution Accepting A Bid And Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc. For Waste Collection Services In The City Of Montgomery For Calendar Year 2024

An Ordinance Rezoning a Portion of the Vintage Club Planned Unit Development District from Single-Family Residential A District to Multi-family Residential D-3 District

RECENT COUNCIL ACTION

Approved Legislation

November 1, 2023

RESOLUTION 33 2023

A Resolution Adopting The Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan **(passed 7 yes, 0-no)**

RESOLUTION 34 2023

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With SwimSafe Pool Management For Professional Services Related To The Operation And Management Of The Montgomery Municipal Pool **(passed 7 yes, 0-no)**

RESOLUTION 35 2023

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Labor Agreement With The American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO For Wages And Benefits For Employees Within The Department Of Public Works From September 1, 2023 Through August 31, 2026 **(passed 7 yes, 0-no)**

These pieces of approved legislation can be reviewed on the City's website at www.montgomeryohio.gov or in the Safety Center vestibule at 10150 Montgomery Road, Montgomery Ohio 45242.



City residents can now download tax forms, file City tax returns, and make payments online at www.ritaohio.com.



FastFile Use this option to file your taxes without setting up an account.

MyAccount Use this option to register your account so you can access all payments and filings made through RITA. You can also use this link to file your return and send emails to RITA.

FastPay Use this link to make payments on your account. No login or password is required.

If you need help with filing, RITA's taxpayer support is available at 1-800-860-7482. City residents may also contact the City of Montgomery Tax Department at 513-792-8333 with any additional questions or concerns. We also still offer help in person.

Individual tax returns filed by mail can be sent to the following addresses:

Without Payment	With Payment	Refund
RITA PO Box 94801 Cleveland, Ohio 44101-4801	RITA PO Box 6600 Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2004	RITA PO Box 89409 Cleveland, Ohio 44101-6409

Any tax returns sent to the City Municipal Building will be forwarded to RITA. Please see RITA's website for more information at www.ritaohio.com.

UNLIMITED YARD WASTE PICK-UP CONTINUES

The weekly unlimited yard waste pick-up continues through December 22.

Residents will **not** be required to have yard waste stickers during this time.

All yard waste must be placed in bags in the event of snow, due to freezing.

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





SHOP LOCAL FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As we enter the holiday season, there's no better time to celebrate the spirit of Montgomery by shopping locally. Small businesses are such an important part of the community and by choosing to shop locally, you can make a meaningful impact on the local economy.

When you shop locally, you're not just buying products; you're helping to create job opportunities, sustain local businesses, and maintain the unique charm of the city. Plus, you'll often find one-of-a-kind gifts that can't be found in big-box stores.



While you're at it, encourage your friends and followers to support local businesses by sharing their posts so those in your circle can support them too. Sharing a post won't cost you anything more than a click and it may encourage support from others in the community. Leaving good reviews for your favorite local businesses is another great way to support business and can lead to more potential customers and more business.

So, this holiday season, consider purchasing gifts from local retailers, dining at neighborhood restaurants, and using the services of Montgomery's many service businesses to help build a brighter future for all.

LIVE AT THE UNI CONCERT SERIES CONCLUDES WITH HOLIDAY CONCERT

Our Live at the Uni Series concludes with Mandy Gaines on Sunday, December 10, inside Universalist Church. You will be delighted with this spectacular holiday concert filled with exhilarating jazz vocals to spread holiday cheer. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts about an hour. As always, concerts are free; a voluntary donation is certainly appreciated. Thank you to Twin Lakes, the presenting sponsor of Live at the Uni, for making these concerts possible. Although all seats have been reserved for this concert, we encourage you to put your name on the waiting list by calling Montgomery City Hall at 513-891-2424 or visiting online at montgomeryohio.gov - so far, we've been able to seat everyone who wants to attend! The Live at the Uni music series is presented by the Montgomery Arts Commission.





Spotlight

ON MONTGOMERY BUSINESSES

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE PLUNGE AT CONTRAST STUDIOS?

The City of Montgomery would like to welcome Contrast Studios to the City. The business offers Contrast Therapy, which combines hot and cold temperatures to help reduce pain and inflammation.



“Our business is the first private sauna and cold plunge studio in the Midwest,” said Patrick Coyne, owner of Contrast Studios. “Each member spends 30 minutes in our private rooms. They spend 15-27 minutes in the sauna and 3 minutes in the cold plunge tub. We specialize in recovery and rejuvenation. We believe in getting people into an optimal state of mind to dominate everything thrown in front of you.”

Coyne says contrast therapy is a scientifically backed

approach to self-care and explains why he opened the business in Montgomery.

“I got started within my own mental health and recovery journey,” said Coyne. “I was

plunging at a client of mine, Kirk Herbstriet’s house, and realized I couldn’t do this anywhere in the Midwest. I thought I was very selfish of me to withhold these amazing contrasting protocols to myself; thus I created contrast studios with Chris Chicinelli.”

Contrast Studio is open seven days a week at 9725 Montgomery Road. For more information, go to contraststudio.com or call 513-832-0300 and have a staff member will walk you through your first session.

NEW BOUTIQUE OFFERS ANTIQUES AND VINTAGE JEWELRY IN HISTORIC SETTING

Shoppers can find hand-selected antiques, vintage fine jewelry, furniture, accessories, and accent pieces inside the Gilded Indigo Boutique.

Carrie and Matt Lamping opened the business in October. The shop also features an artwork gallery on the second floor, interesting kitchen, and bar/party entertainment products.

“We are striving to create a welcoming atmosphere for spouses to browse while enjoying the charm of the historic Montgomery area and the DORA district,” said



Carrie Lamping, owner of Gilded Indigo. “We are thrilled to be part of the vibrant Montgomery business community!”

Gilded Indigo is located at 7789 Cooper Road in the historic Snider House. The frame saltbox home was built in 1870

and is a Montgomery Landmark. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information about Gilded Indigo, including their store hours, go to gildedindigo.com.

KINDEL MEMORIAL HOLIDAY CONCERT

Sunday, December 3, 7 p.m., Summit City Church at 7950 Pfeiffer Road in Montgomery. This year’s theme will be “Ringing in the Holidays”. This concert has become the traditional beginning of the holiday season for Blue Ash and Montgomery residents. All Blue Ash/Montgomery Symphony Orchestra concerts are free to the public!



Holiday in the Village

Saturday, December 2

5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m. Tree Lighting



**Downtown Montgomery,
Neuilly Plaisance Plaza, 7833 Cooper Rd.**

Gather around and count down the tree lighting with Santa, the 15 coloring contest winners and the Victorian Carolers.

Sponsored by: MPH Brewing

North Pole Workshop

**Historic Universalist Church
Montgomery & Remington Rd.**

Sponsored by: Legacy Builders Group

After 5:30 p.m., visit Santa, create a craft at Mrs. Claus' workshop, enjoy a horse and carriage ride, and free refreshments.

Toy Factory—Building Christmas Cheer

Twin Lakes Davies Center

We Ho-Ho-Hope you stop by to build a sweet toy and take a photo with the elves! Remember, cookies and milk aren't just for Santa! We'll have treats and drinks to refuel your sleigh ride.

Visit Twin Lakes on Facebook or lec.org.

Winter Wonderland

**Bethesda North Hospital at the
Harold & Eugenia Thomas Center**

Don't miss a fun game for kids with the holiday model train displays. Enjoy cookies and hot chocolate and a free gift for the children.


**CITY OF
MONTGOMERY**
A CHARMING PAST. A GLOWING FUTURE.
Corner of Montgomery
and Remington Rd


**Bethesda North
TriHealth Hospital**
Harold & Eugenia Thomas Center
10506A Montgomery Rd


Twin Lakes
A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY
The Choice in Wellness Lifestyle.
9840 Montgomery Rd

**Tree Lighting and North Pole
Workshop sponsored by:**

 **LEGACY
BUILDERS GROUP**
DESIGN | BUILD | REMODEL

 **MPH
BREWING**

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

As winter weather approaches it is important to drive safely to protect you and your family. In 2020, the United States had 374 fatal crashes and about 25,000 injury crashes that took place in wintry conditions (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistic). Preparing you and your vehicle is an important step in the right direction.



Inspect your car.

Check to make sure all the lights work so you can be seen by other motorists. Inspect the tires to make sure they have enough tread and replace them if necessary. This is also a good time to fill up the windshield washer fluid and replace your wiper blades. You can have a mechanic perform these inspections as well.



Parents should know that putting children with thick winter coats can interfere with car seats.

Instead, consider putting a blanket around them after they are buckled in. Inspect the car seat to make sure they are installed and adjusted for your child.



Keep your gas tank full in case you get stuck in traffic or slide off the road.

If you have an electric car keep it charged as well. Cold temperatures decrease battery effectiveness and using the heater and heated seats will decrease your range. Remember these cars will self-heat the batteries in cold temperatures, further decreasing your range.



The most important thing you can do is slow down!

Most of the crashes are a result of drivers operating too fast for the conditions. Decrease your speed and increase the gap between you and the vehicle in front of you. Stopping distances can be up to nine times greater on snowy or icy roads. When you do brake, brake early and slowly. Slamming on the brakes can cause you to lose control.



Lastly, use caution around snowplows.

Give them distance and give them room to work! Remember these vehicles are large and the drivers will have decreased visibility due to blind spots. Generally, you should avoid passing snowplows. Remember snowplows may not stay exactly in the center of a traffic lane. To better clear all of the road, they may not travel in a predictable path.

EAC COLLECTS STRANDED HOLIDAY LIGHTS, EXTENSION CORDS

The City of Montgomery Environmental Advisory Commission is expanding its monthly recycling collection for the months of December and January to include the collection of holiday decoration lights (stranded) and extension cords. Bring these items on either Dec. 16 or Jan. 20 to the Public Works facility, 7315 Cornell Road, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for recycling.

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.



RUMPKE IS IMPLEMENTING THE HEFTY RENEW™ PROGRAM IN MONTGOMERY

You can now recycle more material than ever before!

As part of Rumpke's ongoing commitment to ensure their customers can recycle the most material possible – they are once again growing their acceptable items list by implementing the Hefty ReNew™ program in Greater Cincinnati.

People who participate can purchase Hefty ReNew™ orange bags at their local Kroger store or at Kroger.com. For additional online options, visit HeftyReNew.com. Each orange bag features a list of hard-to-recycle items that can be collected in the bag for recycling. Simply fill the bag with those items, and when it's full, tie it up and then place the bag in a Rumpke



Recycling bin. It's that easy! Rumpke will then collect the recycling bins and sort each material by commodity type as it typically does while pulling out the Hefty® ReNew® orange bags. The bags will then be sent to specialized recyclers that use the materials to create new and valuable products, including plastic lumber and irrigation blocks.

The Hefty ReNew™ program is intended to complement, but not replace, current recycling routines. Therefore, Rumpke Recycling customers need to continue putting paper, cardboard, cartons, glass and plastic bottles, tubs, cups, aluminum cans, and steel cans in their Rumpke bins or community drop boxes loose and unbagged.

Hefty ReNew™ PROGRAM

Check this list for the many hard-to-recycle plastics that can go in your Hefty® ReNew™ orange bags. All items must be clean, dry and free of foil lining:



PLASTIC PACKAGING - NO FOIL LINING

- See-through chip bags
- Snack food bags
- Plastic pet food bags
- Fresh/frozen vegetable & fruit bags
- Salad bags
- Shredded cheese packages
- Cheese stick packages
- See-through granola & energy bar wrappers
- See-through candy wrappers
- See-through stand up pouches
- Pudding cups
- Yogurt tubs
- Butter/Margarine tubs
- Sour cream tubs
- Dry mix liners (cake, powder mixes)
- Cereal box liners
- Cookie/cracker box liners



PLASTIC BAGS & WRAPS*

- Plastic air pillow packs
- Plastic bubble wrap
- Plastic grocery bags
- Plastic food wrap
- Food storage bags



FOAM PRODUCTS

- Foam cups, plates & bowls
- Foam to-go boxes
- Foam packing peanuts
- Foam egg cartons
- Foam block packaging



PLASTIC DINNERWARE

- Plastic straws and stirrers
- Plastic utensils
- Plastic colored cups
- Plastic plates and bowls
- Rigid plastic clear glasses



The following items ARE NOT accepted in the orange bags

NO



NO batteries or electronics



NO food, liquid or coffee grounds



NO cans, glass or plastic bottles



NO 1, 2, or 3 plastics



NO paper, cartons or boxes



NO medical products or hazardous waste



NO hoses, tubes or rope



NO foil or aluminum

*Please include plastic bags & wraps if store drop-off recycling programs are not available locally.



ENSURING DECEMBER FIRE SAFETY: PROTECTING YOUR HOME AND LOVED ONES

As December unfolds, the warmth of holiday festivities fills the air. While decorating, celebrating, and cozying up by the fireplace are cherished traditions, it's crucial to prioritize fire safety during this season of merriment. Here are essential tips to help safeguard your home and loved ones from potential fire hazards.

Mindful Decorating

The glittering lights and decorations that adorn our homes during December can bring immense joy. However, it's essential to use caution. Opt for flame-resistant or flame-retardant decorations and lights, especially when placing them near curtains, trees, or other flammable materials. Ensure all electrical cords are in good condition and avoid overloading outlets.



Candle Caution

Candles add a warm, inviting glow to any holiday setting. However, they can also pose significant fire risks. Never leave candles unattended and keep them away from flammable materials. Consider using flameless LED candles as a safer alternative to enjoy the ambiance without the associated risks.



Safe Fireplace Practices

Gathering around a crackling fire is a cherished December tradition but requires careful attention. Have your chimney inspected and cleaned by a professional before the season begins. Use a fireplace screen to prevent embers from escaping, and never leave a fire unattended. Keep flammable objects, like stockings or decorations, at a safe distance.



Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers

Regularly check and test your smoke detectors to ensure they are functioning correctly. Install detectors in key areas of your home, such as near bedrooms and in the kitchen. Additionally, keep a fire extinguisher on each floor of your home, particularly in the kitchen and near the fireplace.



Proper Tree Care

For those who celebrate with a live Christmas tree, it's vital to keep it hydrated. A well-watered tree is less likely to catch fire. Keep it away from heat sources and ensure that the lights you use are in good condition, with no frayed wires or damaged sockets.



Emergency Escape Plan

Prepare a clear and rehearsed emergency escape plan for your family. Everyone should know the quickest and safest way out of the house in case of a fire. Designate a meeting place outside and practice the escape plan regularly.



By following these simple yet crucial fire safety measures, you can enjoy a December filled with warmth, joy, and peace of mind. These precautions protect your home and belongings and, most importantly, ensure the safety and well-being of your loved ones during this festive season.



GROUP FITNESS

Group Fitness Class Schedule 2024 - Session F

Day	Class Name	Dates of Session	No Class	Session Length	Time of Class	Res.	Non-Res.
Mon.	Mixed Level Yoga	11/13 - 12/18		6 classes	9:30-10:30 a.m.	\$30	\$35
Mon.	Chair Yoga	11/13 - 12/18		6 classes	11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	\$30	\$35
Mon.	Yang Style Tai Chi New!	11/13 - 12/18		6 classes	7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	\$60	\$70
Tue.	Cardio Strength and Stretched	11/14 - 12/19		6 classes	9:00-10:00 a.m.	\$30	\$35
Tue.	Tai Chi	11/14 - 12/19		6 classes	10:20-11:20 a.m.	\$60	\$70
Tue.	Pilates	11/14 - 12/19		6 classes	6:00-7:00 p.m.	\$30	\$35
Wed.	Mixed Level Yoga	11/15 - 12/20		6 classes	9:30-10:30 a.m.	\$30	\$35
Wed.	Beginner Level Yoga	11/15 - 12/20		6 classes	11:00-12:00 a.m.	\$30	\$35
Wed.	Bootcamp	11/15 - 12/20		6 classes	6:00-7:00 p.m.	\$30	\$35
Thur.	Cardio Strength and Stretched	11/16 - 12/21	23-Nov	5 classes	9:00-10:00 a.m.	\$25	\$30
Thur.	Restorative Yoga	11/16 - 12/21	23-Nov	5 classes	11:00 - 12:00 p.m.	\$25	\$30
Thur.	Pilates	11/16 - 12/21	23-Nov	5 classes	6:00-7:00 p.m.	\$25	\$30

Please visit the fitness page at montgomeryohio.gov for class descriptions, important information and registration.

Note: there are no classes the week of November 6 due to Holiday Decorating in the Annex.

Also note: the next group fitness session will begin the week of January 15, due to Holiday Decorating Take Down.

OUR VOLUNTEERS SHINE!

Our November volunteers were awesome! On November 4, the City welcomed over 80 volunteers who placed labels on storm sewers, prepared holiday decorations, and decorated Hopewell Cemetery for Veterans Day. Many volunteers returned days later to decorate Downtown. The Montgomery streets are dressed up and look beautiful! Thank you to all our volunteers!

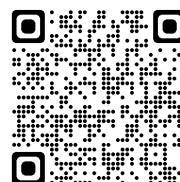


Thursday, January 4

Holiday Decoration Takedown and Storage

Help prepare the wreaths and greenery for storage.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. At the Recreation Annex,
10115 Montgomery Rd



Scan the QR Code to sign up to

volunteer. If you have an account but can't remember your login information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Wendy Grethel at wgrethel@montgomeryohio.gov or call 513-891-2424.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities!

Saturday, December 2

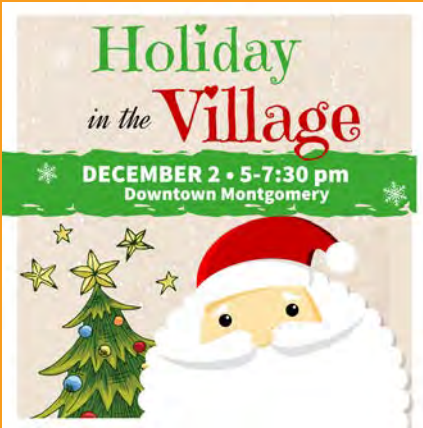
Holiday in the Village

Assist Mrs. Claus with holiday crafts or snacks.
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. inside the Universalist Church,
9467 Montgomery Rd

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



DECEMBER 2023 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 Holiday in the Village, Historic Downtown Montgomery, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
3 BAMSO Holiday Concert, Summit City Church, 7:00 p.m.	4 Beautification and Tree Commission, Public Works, 9:00 a.m. Planning Commission, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.	5	6 City Council Business Session, City Hall, 6:00 p.m.	7	8	9 Breakfast with Santa, Terwilliger Lodge, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m., Reservations Required
10 Live at the Uni, Universalist Church, 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Environmental Advisory Commission, City Hall, 5:00 p.m.	13 Landmarks Commission, City Hall, 6:00 p.m.	14	15	16 Cardboard Recycling, 7315 Cornell Road, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
17	18 Planning Commission, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.	19 Board of Zoning Appeals, City Hall, 7:00 p.m.	20 Council Work Session, City Hall, 6:00 p.m.	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day City Offices Closed Trash Collection delayed one day	26 City Offices Closed Trash Collection as usual	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						