

PUBLISHED BY THE MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!!!!



SATURDAY - DECEMBER 21, 2019
(TIME SCHEDULE - TIMES ARE APPROX.)

SNOW DATE FOR SANTA RUN: SUNDAY DECEMBER 22, 2019

THE MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATION WILL ONCE AGAIN BRING SANTA TO THESE LOCATIONS AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

- 11:00 a.m. Main Rd. at Fuller Rd.
- 11:05 a.m. Main Rd. at Old Main Rd.
- 11:10 a.m. Professional Center - 46 Main Road
- 11:25 a.m. Main Rd. at North Rd.
- 11:35 a.m. Pitcher St. at Pitcher St. Cemetery
- 11:40 a.m. Pitcher St. at Mountain House Rd.
- 11:45 a.m. Pitcher St. at the end
- 12:00 p.m. Pine Ridge Rd. at Birch Bluff Rd.
- 12:15 p.m. Russell Rd. at Old House Rd.
- 12:35 p.m. Russell Rd. at Tekoa Rd.
- 12:40 p.m. Russell Rd. at Pomeroy Rd.
- 12:45 p.m. At the FIRE STATION
- 1:00 p.m. Main Rd. at New State Rd.
- 1:10 p.m. Avery Rd. at Sunset Rd.
- 1:25 p.m. New State Rd. at Jourdan Rd.
- 1:40 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Main Rd.
- 2:00 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Thomas Rd.
- 2:30 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Russell Rd.
- 2:40 p.m. Back at the FIRE STATION



SANTA WILL ARRIVE IN MONTGOMERY'S RESCUE TRUCK AND HAND OUT TREATS TO THE KIDS!!!!

New date planned for dedication

Christmas already!!! Winter is here, holidays are here. Stay safe, stay warm!!

The MFD Association thanks all involved and all donations made to the Steve Frye memorial fund. Unfortunately, the dedication to the memorial scheduled for the beginning of December 2019 needs to be postponed. Due to conflicting schedules, contractor



154 Main Road
Montgomery, MA

availability, time restraints, weather, etc. we will be rescheduling the memorial dedication to the spring of 2020. Anyone wishing to donate any time or assistance to help with this project,

please contact one of the Fire Dept members or call 862-4505 and leave a message.

Anyone wishing to become a volunteer member of our fine Department should contact any Fire Dept member, call the station (862-4505), or show up at the Fire station Tuesday evenings at 7pm to fill out an application and see what we are all about. It does take a lot of effort and dedication but is rewarding. Junior volunteers are welcome but need to be at least 16 years of age with documented parent/guardian permission.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

“The crisp path through the field in this December snow, in the deep dark, where we trod the buried grass like ghosts on dry toast.”

Dylan Thomas

Important numbers

FIRE EMERGENCY 911
AMBULANCE 911
STATE POLICE 911

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 862-4037

GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL 685-1102
GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL 685-1202
GMS ATTENDANCE 685-1201
LITTLEVILLE ELEMENTARY 685-1301

TOWN HALL OFFICE 862-3386

Listen to the following extensions of each office.

townhall@montgomeryma.gov
Administrative Secretary Hours, Tuesdays &
Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FIRE DEPT: 862-4505

FIRE CHIEF - CHRIS GALIPEAU 862-4599

TOWN CLERK - JUDY MURPHY 862-3386 ext 3
or direct line 642-6927

Office hours are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
from Noon - 4:00. Or you may call for an appointment.

POLICE DEPT:
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE CHIEF -
PAULA CHAPMAN Home 862-4949
Office 862-3386 ext 5

TAX COLLECTOR - JANE THIELEN 862-3386 ext 1
or direct line 642-8139

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER -
PHIL CAMP 862-4976

SELECT BOARD:
DONALD WASHBURN 862-3301
MIKE MORRISSEY 862-3386
JACOB CHAPMAN 862-4949
Meetings for the Select Board are held at 7:00 p.m. every
other Thursday.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
MADELYN AUSTIN 862-4004
mrrrr@verizon.net

LIBRARY:
LIBRARIAN - PAULA LONG 862-3894
montgomerylibrary@yahoo.com

HOURS:
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Thursday 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:
Meetings of the Board of Assessors are held on the 1st & 3rd
Wednesday of each month from 8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Please
call 862-3386 ext 2 or direct line 642-8105 for an appoint-
ment. Assessors' Clerk hours 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each
month from Noon - 4 p.m.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION -
PAIGE LALIBERTE, Chairman 862-3245
The Conservation Commission meets on the first Monday of
each month.

COUNCIL ON AGING 862-3386 ext 6 or 642-8143

STATE REPRESENTATIVE LINDSAY SABADOSA:
info@lindsaysabadosa.com
(413) 539-8599

December Calendar

No coffee hours or Tai Chi this month.

Dec. 4 9:00 am – Tai Chi – Town Hall

Dec. 4 Noon – 4 pm – Town Clerk Hours – Town Hall

Dec. 4 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Dec. 4 Noon – Gateway Brunch and Concert – Gateway RS

Dec. 6 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Dec. 10 Recycling day

Dec. 11 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Dec. 11 9:00 am – Tai Chi – Town Hall

Dec. 13 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Dec. 13 Noon – COA Christmas Brunch – Town Hall

Dec. 18 Noon – 4 pm – Town Clerk Hours – Town Hall

Dec. 18 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Dec. 20 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Dec. 24 Recycling day

Dec. 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Dec. 27 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Dec. 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

MOUNTAIN BREEZE AD POLICY

Montgomery resident ads: \$3.50 for ¼ page, \$7.00 for ½ page, \$10.50 for ¾ page and \$14.00 for a full page.

Non-resident ads: \$5.00 for ¼ page, \$10.00 for ½ page, \$15.00 for ¾ page and \$20.00 for a full page.

Political ads: \$15.00 for ½ page and \$30.00 for a full page. (Political ads must include the name of the payer.)

Ads: email (preferably pdf file) to montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com, put in the MB box at the Library, or mail to: **Montgomery Mountain Breeze, c/o Grace Hall Memorial Library, 161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085-9525**. Include your name and phone number. Payment must be received by deadline date (usually on the 16th of the month) or ad will not be run. No cash, please; make check payable to Montgomery Mountain Breeze and put in the MB box at the Library, or mail to above address.

MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF

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Helen Allyn * Chris Brown * Laurie Flechsig * Paula Long * Julie Pike * Jane Thielen

montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com

The Grille is *the place* to meet your neighbors!

BAH HAMBURGERS!

TIME FOR SOME NICE HOT SOUP TO GET YOU THRU THE COLD!

The winter wind is bringing the temperatures down. Warm up with some great, hot soup with a sandwich.



Maybe a warm burrito with hot sauce. It'll make your heart melt and bring a Christmas Carol to your taste buds.

Montgomery Grille

AT THE MONTGOMERY MARKETPLACE

46 Main Rd, Montgomery, MA
862- (FOOD) 3663

NEW HOURS: 6:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

ALSO in the works: We will be again collecting food for the Huntington Food Pantry and clothes for the "Dress for Success" program. Let's show our holiday spirit by helping those in need.

Hours:
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
5:30 am to 2:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday:
6:00 am to 2:30 pm
Lunch starts 11:00 am

Forcing spring bulbs is an uplifting endeavor during winter

FORCING SPRING BULBS- A pot of spring bulbs, blooming in the middle of winter can be very uplifting during the dreary, flowerless days of winter.

With a little preparation, you can have tulips or daffodils blooming in about 10 to 12 weeks. Smaller bulbs like crocus, snowdrops or scilla bloom in 6 to 9 weeks.

Use clean pots and good potting soil. Half fill the pots with moist soil, arrange the bulbs in the pots and cover them with soil. Water well, drain and put the potted bulbs into cold storage. The pots should be kept above 32 degrees and below 50 degrees.

The potted bulbs can be stored in a cold frame, surrounded by leaves to insulate the pots. Or the pots can be stored in heavy-duty plastic lawn or leaf bags stuffed

GardenNews

by Chris Brown



with leaves and kept in an unheated basement, garage, bulkhead or barn. For added insulation put the bags in clean trash cans or large cardboard boxes filled with additional leaves. The storage time allows the roots to develop.

When it is time to bring the potted plants into the house, acclimate the plants slowly to light and warmth. Keep them out of the bright sunshine for the first few days until the tops are truly green. Then place in a sunny window and keep watered, but not soggy wet, while the flowers develop. Once the flowers bloom, cool temperatures will keep the blooms for a week to 10 days.

Do not keep the pot near the woodstove or other heat source.

SHRIMP APPETIZER SPREAD

Recipe for Dec. 2019 Thank you, Jeanne Aras for this latest recipe. It is good for the holidays.

Ingredients

1 pkg. 8 oz. cream cheese, softened	½ cup sour cream
¼ cup mayo	1 cup seafood cocktail sauce
12 Oz. frozen cooked salad shrimp, thawed	2 cups (8oz.) shredded mozzarella cheese
1 med. green pepper, chopped	1 small tomato, chopped
3 green onions with tops, sliced	assorted crackers

In large bowl, beat cream cheese, sour cream and mayo until smooth. Spread mixture on a round 12" serving platter. Top with seafood sauce. Sprinkle with shrimp, mozzarella, green pepper, tomatoes and green onions. Cover and refrigerate. Serve with crackers. (About 20 servings).

DECEMBER RECIPE



Outside the bird feeder with Lori Conley

THE BIRDS OF THE '12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS'

"The 12 Days of Christmas" song has become so familiar we rarely think about its weird lyrics. From Swans a swimming and geese a laying to that partridge, the various feathered gifts from the popular song deserve a closer look.

Carolers routinely rattle off its six avian gifts before moving to even larger quantities of maids, ladies, lords, pipers and drummers. But whether they're literal or symbolic, what kinds of birds are we singing about? Here's the six bird 'stars' of the song: The Partridge in a pear tree is probably the red-legged partridge, native to continental Europe, introduced as a game bird in the 1770's and is still common in the U.K. They are ground birds and almost never perch in trees - even pear trees.

Next up, TWO European Turtle Doves that were once widespread in the U.K. The birds' common name comes

from a turr-turr sound they make. Our mourning doves here are closely related.

The THREE French Hens are female chickens probably just from France (the song may be based on an older French song) and not a distinct breed.

FOUR Calling Birds. This one's trickier. There isn't a species named "calling bird", but there is a clue in an earlier version of a children's book where the line read "four colly birds", using an old English word for black. That suggests that "calling birds" were originally blackbirds - most likely the Eurasian blackbird.

SIX Geese-a-laying. The six nesting waterfowl are greylag geese, ancestors of most domestic goose breeds....also the largest and bulkiest of any wild geese native to the U.K. and Europe.

FINALLY the SEVEN swimming waterfowl are most likely Mute Swans. They were introduced to North America in the 19th century from England. They make less noise than other swans but they're not exactly mute.

(From the Mother Nature Network site)

Peace and Happy Holidays to everyone!



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HAPPY HANUKKAH and MERRY CHRISTMAS!

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS FROM YOUR MONTGOMERY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

HS announces Post-Christmas dine out evening

Your Historical Society concludes its program year with the annual Post-Christmas evening of "dining out" **Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m.** (The snow date will be **Thursday, January 9.**)

This year, we will visit the Comfort Kitchen at 4 Main Street, Huntington. We've had some good comments on this latest restaurant at that address. Reservations for the dinner may be made by calling Laurie at 862-8095 at any

Historical Happenings



time through the end of December. We will provide additional information about the restaurant in the January edition of the "Breeze."

Why not add your name to the list right now? We hope you'll be able to join us for this fantastic evening filled with fun, food and fellowship! **All are welcome to attend any program or event scheduled by the Historical Society – no need to be a member to join us for the fun!**

Montgomery's Grace Hall Memorial Library at the Town Center is the site of a lovely display case donated by Helen Allyn and the late Susan Allyn. The Historical Society provides the exhibits and currently is hosting "A Jim Shore Christmas" of fantasy Santa Clauses and Angels designed by that artist and loaned by one of our Historical Society members.

The next exhibit will be...well, we need your help! We are running out of ideas and would really appreciate more participation from our fellow townspeople and Hilltown neighbors. Won't you please take a moment and let us know what YOU would be willing to lend for a display at the library? Please call Laurie at 862-8095 to discuss the details. Thank you so much!

View the current and back issues of the Montgomery MT Breeze at the Town of Montgomery website: montgomeryma.gov



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Maggie Bean-Ducharme
Curtis Bush, Jr.
Jean Bush
Philip Camp
Cade Fuller
Terry Hall
Mary Senatore
Marianne Swiatek

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Kathy and Rich Couture
Sandie and Chris Mann

Please help us keep our celebrations of birthdays and anniversaries up-to-date by emailing the MT Breeze with any names that we may include in our monthly listings. (Likewise, if we should delete someone.) Thank you for your help!

Looking for Christmas Gifts?

The 2020 Taste Coupon Book –
\$25.00 ea

AMVETS Post 96, Russell, MA

Proceeds will benefit the Holyoke Soldiers Home Entertainment Fund

Included inside are coupons for local & "chain" restaurants in: Agawam, Chicopee, Easthampton, Hadley, Holyoke, Ludlow, Northampton, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield & many other towns in Western Mass – including our "own" Montgomery Grille.

Big Y is back. Need to down load app for digital coupon to receive \$10.00 off, see 2nd page in book.

Restaurants Include: Arby's, Burger King, D'angelo, Denny's, Domino's Pizza, Dunkin Donuts, KFC, Sonic, McDonalds, Moe's Southwest Grill, Munich Haus, Outback, Red Robin, Texas Roadhouse, Uno, and MANY more.

Also included are coupons for: Amelia Park, Big Y (electronic coupon), Eric Carle Museum, Fenway Golf, Firestone, Look Park, Lupa Zoo, Old Sturbridge Village, Springfield Symphony, Springfield Thunderbirds, Taylor Rental Volleyball Hall of Fame, & many others.

Over 200 Western Mass Merchants & Restaurants – most with 2 or 3 coupons each.

**If interested, call Dan Flechsig
862-8095**

Pike's Peak Christmas Tree Farm

1689 Russell Road, Montgomery is officially open for the season as of **Saturday, December 7**, continuing every weekend through **Sunday, December 22**. (Please call if you need a special time.) Hours are **9:00 a.m. through dusk** – remember, there are no lights out in the fields!



Many sizes available – small through tall, primarily Fraser Fir and Colorado blue spruce, and the cost is the same for any tree – **\$30.00 for any size** – choose and **cut your own**. We also have fresh, **hand-made evergreen wreaths** on a grapevine base, plus **door swags and kissing balls!**

Be sure to stop in the cabin to warm up with free hot cider or hot chocolate.

Please call us with any questions. 862-4539 or 862-8095.

Santa Claus will pay his annual visit to the Christmas Tree Farm on Saturday, December 21 (from 9 a.m. until dusk) for all the children to see and share their Christmas wishes. Come chat with him if you are able! Also, on Saturday, December 21st, Santa will be visiting all the children around town on the fire rescue truck. His schedule can be found elsewhere in the Mountain Breeze – he'll be happy to see you near your home!

The very best of Christmas wishes from all of us at Pike's Peak Christmas Tree Farm!



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Library News

facebook.com/
gracehallmemorial

**December
2019**

The cold is coming. December's winter solstice. Start of the season.
~Robert Pettit, "Winter Solstice"

**Yoga Wednesday nights at 6:30pm \$10 Please contact
Chris Brown at 862-4591**



Cookie Exchange

Dec. 19 at 6:30 pm. Please make 4 dozen of your favorite Holiday cookies and bring an empty container to fill. Join us for some good holiday cheer and yummys to bring home. All are welcome and bring a friend!

Holiday Hours: Dec. 24 & 31 we will close at 3pm

New at the Library

Michael Crichton's Andromeda evolution by Daniel Wilson

Olive, again by Elizabeth Strout

Secret commonwealth by Philip Pullman

Sam Houston & the Alamo avengers by Brian Kilmeade

Rise of Magicks by Nora Roberts

Life on the edge by Carrie Fisher

Twisted twenty-six by Janet Evanovich

Minute to midnight by David Baldacci

Final option by Clive Cussler

And MUCH more!! Stop in and see!

Winter Drop Box policy: Please do not drop DVD's and audio books into the drop box. Cold temperatures can make the cases brittle and break.

Winter Closing Policy: The Library will close with the Gateway District. No Fees will be issues if closed by weather

**Trustees Meeting
Dec. 5 at 6:30pm**

Museum Passes

Old Sturbridge Village

Springfield Quad

Norman Rockwell

Mystic Aquarium

Deerfield Historical Mu-

USS Constitution

DCR State Park Pass

MassMoCa

Hours

Tues: 10- 5:30

Thurs: 12-8 **NEW HOURS**

Sat: 9:30-12:30

Contact

Mail

161 Main Road, Montgomery,
MA 01085

Phone

413-862-3894

email

Montgomerylibrary
@yahoo.com

Website

montgomeryma.gov

wghl.masscat.org

facebook.com/
gracehallmemorial

commonwealthcatalog.org

COUNCIL ON AGING

Serving the Citizens of Montgomery
December 2019

Calendar

Fri – Dec 13 Christmas Brunch – noon

Osteoporosis Exercise Class
Town Hall – Friday – 9:30 – 11am

December Birthdays

Jean Bush Richard Kent
Lorna Washburn



Join us on Friday, December 13th for our annual Christmas Brunch at the Town Hall.

Call 862-3257 by Monday, December 9th if you can attend.

The Medicare open enrollment period will close on December 7th.

If you have questions on your plan now is the time to act.

Buliah Mae Thomas, SHINE representative, can be reached at 667-2203 if you would like to make an appointment. She is extremely busy but always manages to find time to help our seniors.

The Annual Senior Citizen Gateway Regional School District Brunch and Concert

The annual Holiday Brunch and Concert will take place at Gateway Regional on **Wednesday, December 4th**. Please join us for a special holiday celebration with Gateway student musicians.

Doors open at 9:15 a.m.
Brunch is from 9:30-10:30
Concert is from 10:30-12

Free of Charge. All are welcome. Parking will be available in front of the Middle/High School complex.

Please call 862-3257. They would like an estimate of people attending by **November 25th**, but as always, will accommodate late arrivals.

Would You Like To Take Tai Chi?

The COA is planning on sponsoring a Tai Chi class in March. Date and time to be decided. The classes will be taught by Ellie D'Allesandro from the Westfield YMCA. This ten-week program is especially for seniors. If you would be interested, please call 862-3257 for more information.

Elder Abuse – 800-922-2275 or 413-586-2000 (Elder Abuse refers to any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult 60 or older)

Hilltown Social Services – 667-2203

Meals On Wheels – Highland Valley Elder Services 800-322-0551 or 413-586-2000 Donation requested.

Veteran's Agent – Daniel Flechsig – 862-8095

PREPARING FOR WINTER WEATHER

MEMA Offers Tips to Help Keep Massachusetts Families Safe

A winter storm in New England can range from a moderate snowfall over a few hours to a chilling Nor'easter, bringing blizzard conditions with blinding win-driven snow that lasts several days. People can become stranded in their automobiles or trapped at home, without utilities or other services. The aftermath of a winter storm can have an impact on a community or the entire region for days, weeks or even months. Storm effects, in New England include large snow accumulation, "extremely cold temperatures, heavy, wet snow or icing on trees and power lines, roof collapses, coastal flooding and beach erosion.

Winter storms are also deceptive killers because most deaths are indirectly related to the actual storm. The major causes are automobile or other transportation accidents, exhaustion and heart attacks caused by overexertion, "freezing to death" and asphyxiation from improper heating sources. House fires occur more frequently in the winter due to lack of proper safety precautions when using alternate heating sources, like unattended fires and space heaters.

Over the next couple of months we will share important winter safety information. Areas to be covered will include the proper steps to take to prepare your family and home for the winter season, automobile and driving safety, protecting your pets, and responding to power outages.

WINTER EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable radio or NOAA Weather Radio with extra batteries
- Charged cell phone
- First-aid kit
- Essential prescription medicines
- Non-perishable food
- Manual can opener
- Water (one gallon per person/per day)
- Extra blankets and sleeping bags
- Fire extinguisher

FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Develop a "Family Emergency Communication Plan" in case family members are separated from one another during a winter storm and have a plan for getting back together.

- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact". After a disaster, it is often easier to call long distance than across town. Also, calling outside the area will probably be easier than calling into a disaster area.
- Make sure everyone knows the name, address and telephone number of the contact person.
- Sometimes an emergency could impact your neighborhood or small section of town. Decide on an alternate meeting area for family members.

This newsletter is partially funded by a grant of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs
Board Members: Anne-Marie Buikus 862-3257, Jane Thielen 862-4482, Sandy Haas 862-3829
Jean Bush 862-3645, Geraldine Larrabee 862-3884, Darlene Brewster 862-3347
E-mail: COA@montgomeryma.gov