2nd Quarter Real Estate Taxes are due November 1st

MONTGOMERY
MT. Breeze

October 2021
Printed 9/27/21
Circulation 375

Published by the Mountain Breeze Staff

Selectmen discuss website, ARPA funds usage

The Board of Selectmen have begun gathering information and data for the new web site. The selectmen are looking for scenic pictures that would be appropriate for the various web pages. Any pictures displaying our community, unique landscape, points of interest and historical photos of the town would be appreciated. If you would like to submit pictures, please email them to Selectboard@montgomeryma.gov

The town has received over $250,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act. There are specific programs that the town can use the funds for. Recently there was a joint meeting between the Finance committee and the Selectmen to discuss possible usage of the funds. There will be additional meetings to develop a list and to prioritize the projects.

A Joint meeting of the Selectmen and the Planning board was held on 9/21/2021 to discuss the potential acceptance of Avery Road and Sunset Lane as public ways.

Others that attended the meeting were a representative from the town's engineering firm and several of the affected residents to discuss the proposed layout.

This is the first step in a process required by the state.

Heads up, heating season right around the corner

154 Main Road
Montgomery, MA

Now is the time to have your chimneys cleaned and inspected, along with your heating appliances.

Chief Frye Memorial update;
There will be a Memorial Dedication **December 4th at 1 pm** with a rain/snow date set for December 5th at 1 pm.

As always, we are **looking for volunteers** for the Fire Department. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month are our training/meetings. If you would like to become a member please call 862-4505.

Thank you for all your support.

Bulky Waste Drop Off Notice

Bulky Waste Drop Off – **Saturday, Oct. 16, from 8 am to 1 pm.** Look for more details about this event on page 7.

Questions? Call Chris Brown at 413-862-4591 or Karen Bouquillon at 413-563-5433.

See updated changes to "Important numbers" list on page 2.

"The secret to life is to fall seven times and to get up eight."
Paula Coelho

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 - CHERYL MASCIADRELLI	**862-3386, x3**
	or direct line 642-6927

OFFICE HOURS - THURSDAY 10 am - 4 pm or by appointment.

POLICE DEPT:	
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE CHIEF - PAULA CHAPMAN	**Home 862-4949**
	Office 862-3386, x5
TAX COLLECTOR - JANE THIELEN	**862-3386, x1**
	or direct line 642-8139
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - PHIL CAMP	**862-4976**
SELECT BOARD:	
DONALD WASHBURN	**862-3301**
MIKE MORRISSEY	**682-3386, x1**
JACOB CHAPMAN	**862-4949**

Meetings for the Select Board are held at 7:00 p.m. every other Thursday.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

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:
Office Hours of the Board of Assessor's are held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from noon to 4:00 pm; and 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm. Meetings will be scheduled and posted when deemed necessary.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION - PAIGE LALIBERTE, Chairman	**(413) 287-2167**

The Conservation Commission meets on the first Monday of each month.

COUNCIL ON AGING	**862-3386, x6 or 642-8143**
	COA@Montgomeryma.gov
STATE SENATOR JOHN VELIS	**(413) 572-3920**
	Office address: 52 Court St., Westfield, 01085
STATE REPRESENTATIVE LINDSAY SABADOSA:	
info@lindsaysabadosa.com	**(413) 539-8599**

October Calendar

Yoga Practice: sponsored by Montgomery Library, returns to the Town Hall on **Wed. Oct.6th at 6:30 PM**. You must register in advance. Bring 2 yoga mats. Contact Paula at the Library to join in. It costs $10 per session.

COFFEE HOURS ARE RESUMING, (masks are suggested for those unvaccinated)

Oct. 5 **10:00 am** – COA Coffee Hour – Town Hall
Oct 16 **8:00 am-1 pm** – Bulk drop off – DPW yard
Oct 19 **10:00 am** – COA Coffee Hour – Town Hall

Scheduled events and times are fluid at this time and subject to change.

Paula L. Chapman

Administrative Chief of Police for the Town of Montgomery

OFFICE HOURS: 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm

The office is in the basement of the Town Hall.

October 14	**October 28**
November 11	**November 18**
December 9	**December 23**

CEMETERY LOTS AVAILABLE

Anyone wishing to purchase a cemetery plot/lot, please contact Cemetery Commission members Joanne Hebert at 862-4586, Patty Little at 862-3830 or Scott Darling at 862-3378, not the Town Office or Town Clerk. The price per plot is $200, lots of 4 plots are $800. Each plot can be used for two cremations after a burial, or 4 cremations. Sales are limited to legal residents or property owners in Montgomery.

Also, anyone having a cremation burial must notify Joanne Hebert at 862-4586 or Patty Little at 862-3830 as to the location, if more than one plot was purchased.

MOUNTAIN BREEZE AD POLICY

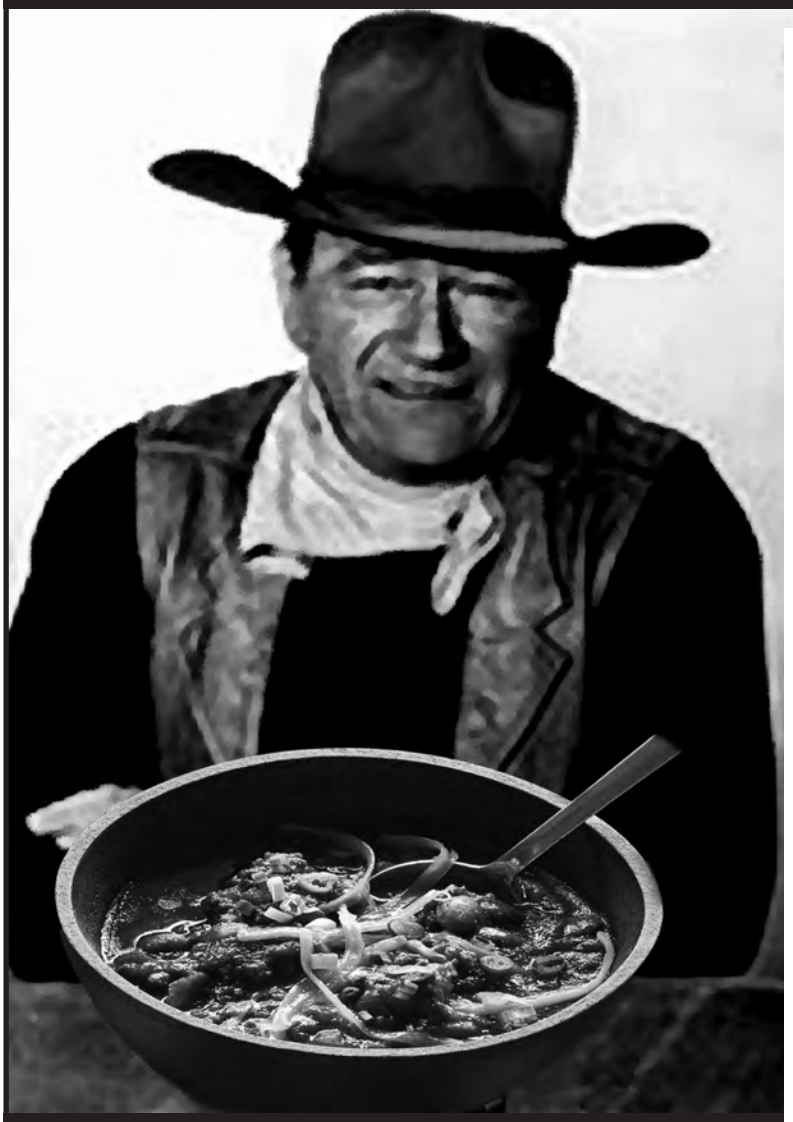
Montgomery resident ads: $3.50 for ¼ page, $7.00 for ½ page, $10.50 for ¾ page and $14.00 for a full page.
Non-resident ads: $5.00 for ¼ page, $10.00 for ½ page, $15.00 for ¾ page and $20.00 for a full page.
Political ads: $15.00 for ½ page and $30.00 for a full page. (Political ads must include the 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

Editor: T.Lak 413-237-2818
Helen Allyn * Chris Brown * Laurie Flechsig * Paula Long * Julie Pike * Jane Thielen * Lori Conley

montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com

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



"Courage is being scared to death… and saddling up anyway."

– John Wayne

Well folks, here we are going into the best time of year. As the weather gets a bit colder, the soups get a little thicker. That's right…I think it is time for the return of **Cheeseburger Chowder!** Maybe some **Shepard's Pie**, New England style AND maybe John Wayne style. I'm thinking of bringing back a chili I used to make on the Cape. It was called **John Wayne Chili**. Think of anything the Duke might have come across while being a cowboy and it may be in the chili. Saddle up, don't be scared to try it!

And don't forget about the **Saturday Craft Fair** in front of the Grille every Saturday through October. If you have any questions about the fair, just check in with Dale across the hall in her very nice shop, **The Gray Catbird Gift Shop**.

You all may have noticed I haven't mention the 'C' word and I'm not going to. I know I'm tired of talking about it as I am sure most of you are too. **So happy Fall everyone!**

God bless,
Scott

Montgomery Grille

AT THE MONTGOMERY MARKETPLACE

46 Main Rd, Montgomery, MA

montgomerygrillema.com
email address: grilleofmontgomery@gmail.com

862-FOOD (3663)

Hours:
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:00 am to 2:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday: 7:00 am to 2:30 pm
Lunch starts 11:00 am

Time to start Fall clean up in your garden

October is the month to: Start Fall clean-up by raking leaves and cutting back spent perennials. Leave cone flower heads to feed the finches.

- Put vegetable garden to bed; remove crop debris, then plant a cover crop.
- It is a good time to transplant ferns.
- Stop fertilizing and reduce watering houseplants.
- Mow over raked leaves before adding to compost pile; they'll break down faster.
- Wait until the spring to cut back ornamental grasses.
- Plant garlic (choosing larger cloves, to yield bigger garlic heads) by late Oct.
- Pot up amaryllis bulbs in two to three week intervals through Nov. & Dec. for a continuous show of large and showy flowers. Blooms appear about a month from the time bulb is started.
- Place mulches over flower beds and around roses when the ground begins to freeze. A 3″ or 4″ layer of pine needles, pine boughs, straw, salt marsh hay or shredded oak leaves can be used for mulching. The purpose of winter mulching is to prevent root injury from alternative freezing and thawing cycles rather than to protect the plants from cold temperatures.

GardenNews
by Chris Brown

The above information taken from Oct. '18 Garden Clippings and UMass Garden Calendar

ZUCCHINI AND/OR SUMMER SQUASH PICKLES

OCTOBER RECIPE

1 large onion
¼ cup pickling salt
¾ tsp. turmeric
6 cups (about 4 – 6 small) thinly sliced Zucchini or Summer Squash
2 cups cider vinegar
2 cups sugar
1 tsp. celery seed
2 tsp. mustard seed

Peel onions and slice 1/8 to ¼ inch thick. I use a mandolin that can be purchased at Walmart for about $14 – it quickly cuts even slices. Slice squash 1/8 inch thick. Place in a large bowl. Sprinkle pickling salt over entire top. Cover with cold water, let stand 2 hours. Drain, rinse in cold water, drain again.

Combine spices, sugar and vinegar in a small pan. Bring to a boil. Simmer 15 minutes.

Pack veggies into clean pint jars. Fill to within ½ inch of the top with pickling solution. Seal. Process in boiling water bath for 10 minutes. Makes 3 pints

These pickles are super simple and taste like bread & butter pickles! You may substitute cucumbers for the squash in this recipe – they're just as yummy either way.

'Grandma Ruth' was a beloved fixture in town

Ruth Marie McKay, (1928-2021)

Ruth McKay was a fixture in the town of Montgomery since she moved there in 1971. She was energetic, intelligent and full of life. She loved her family and her town. She was the first female firefighter on the Montgomery Fire Department and dedicated herself to the Grace Hall Memorial Library for decades. She served on the Montgomery Building Committee and volunteered to help with elections. She was a teacher in the Gateway School System for sixteen years. She loved the Town of Montgomery with her whole heart.

Ruth McKay, known to most as "Grandma Ruth", passed away on August 3 0, 2021. Ruth McKay was many things ... a mother, wife a teacher, but to me she was Grandma. She baby sat me for quite a bit and her house became a second home to me. The tree outside was my personal jungle gym and walks to the pond were an adventure!! Dinner at Grandma 's was always fun too. As a small child I remember the huge encyclopedia that was used to help little bodies reach food. The promise of chocolate milk and ice cream also sweetened the deal. All too soon we grew out ofthe encyclopedia and chocolate milk turned into seltzer and wine.

Her energy never wavered throughout her life and that is how she should be remembered. Although tears may trail down our faces, let us remember to smile, for Grandma wouldn't want us to mourn her death, but to celebrate her life.

I hope you were one of the lucky ones who had Grandma touch your life. If you were very lucky, you got a seat at her infamous kitchen table for a fabulous "Greek Dinner" and had a drink onher very special back porch.

Thank you for the memories. Thanks for the love. You will be missed.

xoxo
Montana and Family

Condolences to...

the family of Roland Avery, long time resident of Montgomery (58 years) who passed away July 24 in Florida and was buried in Montgomery Center Cemetery.

the family of Ruth McKay, former Gateway teacher at Murrayfield Elementary School and long time volunteer at Montgomery's Grace Hall Memorial Library, who passed away August 30 and was also buried in Montgomery Center Cemetery.

Come on by the Montgomery Marketplace at 46 Main Road, Montgomery, MA - it's our community center for the Arts, pleasant company, and really good food!

Beauty is all around us.

Credit: Photo by Pleun Bouricius

On January 1st, 2021, Gray Catbird Gift Shop opened with just seven artisans offering their wares. Nine months later, Gray Catbird represents 35 wonderfully talented artisans and artists - twelve from Montgomery and nearly all the rest from nearby communities. These artisans' fine, unique, handmade gifts are available here for you - reasonably and fairly priced for the benefit of us all. Their beautiful work has spilled out into and down the hallway, and every Saturday in October - even into artisan booths on the lawn **(every Saturday, 10 to 3, weather permitting).**

On behalf of the Artisans of Gray Catbird Gift Shop & Art Gallery, Thank You All for your ongoing support, friendly visits, and overall kindness. It's such a pleasure every day to keep a little Artisan Shop in the midst of this warm and lovely village of Montgomery and its surrounding communities. There are many new & old treasured friendships that have grown from this adventure. I, Dale Rogers, am delighted to be on this path with all of you. Beauty - we can see it all around us in the natural world; we can and we all do create Beauty with our hands, hearts, words, songs, actions, & thoughts.

Gray Catbird
GIFT SHOP

LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE DELICIOUSNESS OF THE MONTGOMERY GRILLE

413-875-5205

NEW HOURS: 9 AM TO 3 PM, WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY!

Etsy etsy.com/shop/GrayCatbirdPottery

facebook.com/GrayCatbirdPottery

Credit: bouquet by Mary Cantler & Lydia King, vase by Dale, tiny framed photo by Agatha O.

Outdoor activities planned for October

Historical Happenings

To Historical Society members, neighbors, and friends… we're "good to go" with our planned, mostly-outdoor activity for **mid-October** – a wonderful opportunity to visit one of the Town's former one-room schoolhouses, privately owned and converted into living quarters some years ago. We will meet at the Historical Building (Town House) in the center of town on **Sunday, October 17 at 2:45 p.m.** (departing for our destination at 2:50 p.m.). Your choice will be to car-pool with others or "caravan" to the location on Carrington Road. Please join us if you are interested in this unique bit of history.

Many of you have probably enjoyed reading the late Clifton J. (Jerry) Noble, Sr.'s stories in Southwoods magazine as well as from his several books, excerpted from his journal kept from a young age into his senior years. In the early 1940's Jerry and his widowed mother were able to purchase what was formerly known as the "Russell Street School" after its use as a school was discontinued by the town in the late 1930's. The old school was adapted and served as a dwelling for several years.

All are invited to hear the story of how the schoolhouse came to be connected with the Noble family. Please plan to join us on Sunday, October 17. All are welcome to participate in this Historical Society event planned for your enjoyment and education.

The display case in the Grace Hall Memorial Library at Montgomery Center, curated by the Montgomery Historical Society, has been empty since early in the pandemic. We hope to start scheduling displays of treasured items and collectibles by the beginning of autumn – conditions allowing. We will keep you posted in the Mountain Breeze. In the meantime, if you are willing to lend your own historical gems or items of interest to others, please call Laurie at 862-8095 so that we can schedule your exhibit.

Outside the bird feeder with Lori Conley

THIS HALLOWEEN, MEET 4 'SPOOKY' BIRDS

1. American Crow

Large, all-black birds found in a variety of habitats worldwide, crows have long been associated with death and darkness, thanks to their coloring and certain behaviors—namely a fondness for the flesh of dead animals, including humans. The birds prefer soft tissue such as eyes or the meat inside an open wound. One superstition holds that if a crow lands on a roof, death or misfortune will befall the home's inhabitants. The American crow is a common, wide-ranging North American species that has adapted well to living near people. The birds are known for their intelligence, and in scientific studies they have proved to be excellent learners and problem solvers

2. Common Raven

All black including legs, eyes and beak. Like crows, which are close relatives, ravens have long been viewed as symbols of evil or death. (Think of Edgar Allen Poe's classically creepy poem, "The Raven.") Also carrion eaters, ravens are likewise highly intelligent birds that can learn to mimic other species, including humans. In Sweden, their harsh calls traditionally were considered to be voices of murdered people who were inappropriately buried. Germans believed that ravens could locate the souls of the dead and that witches hitched rides on the birds' backs!

3. Barn Owl

Silent, stealthy hunters that fly about at night, owls have been associated with magic, evil and death for thousands of years. The Aztecs portrayed their god of death as an owl, Native Americans linked the birds with black magic, and Romans considered it unlucky even to catch sight of an owl. More recently, author J.K. Rowling, in her Harry Potter series, depicts owls as messengers for wizards and witches. The birds' unearthly hoots and shrieks, and a tendency to roost in the attics of abandoned (haunted?) houses, add to their spooky reputation. It has excellent night vision. Still, an owl's ability to locate prey by sound alone—demonstrated in both field and laboratory experiments—is the best of any animal species tested so far.

4. Turkey Vulture

Scavengers that feed primarily on the dead, vultures have long been scorned and feared across many cultures. When a wild animal dies, large numbers of vultures have an unnerving knack for showing up quickly. In ancient Greece, the birds were considered bad luck, and according to Persian lore, a pair of vultures guards the gates of Hell. Vultures, except on the wing, are also considered ugly birds: dark and hulking with hooked beaks and bare heads (which keep the birds from soiling feathers when feasting on a rotting corpse). The turkey vulture has an excellent sense of smell, which allows the bird to detect carrion hidden beneath trees and other vegetation.

Happy fall and happy halloween!

Sources: Cornell Lab of Ornithology's "All About Birds" and National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Birds of North America.

More information for Oct. 16th Bulk Drop-Off

Bulk Drop-Off Is scheduled for **Sat. Oct. 16 from 8 am to 1 pm**, behind the Town House. There will be 2 roll-offs available for the disposal of household items. One is for metals and the second for other household items.

It is open to Montgomery Residents only and each household is allowed to bring up to 3 medium sized items.

The following **CANNOT** be placed in the roll-offs:

- Tires of any kind
- Mattresses/box springs
- Computers/Monitors or TV sets
- Items containing Freon (refrigerators, freezers, A/C, dehumidifiers)
- No yard waste
- No hazardous waste
- No asbestos materials
- No batteries

Please Note: "White Goods", such as metal washing machines, dryers, etc are permitted.

This is a volunteer project, so you may have to help unload your items. Any questions, you can call either Chris Brown 862 4591 or Karen Bouquillon 413 563 5433.

Heat for the needy

Offering free seasoned firewood to town residents who really could use it. Most in 4 foot lengths from small to large. If interested call 862-3395. Please not intended for resale; only for those in need.

Thanks,
a Montgomery neighbor

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Bill Aras
Kendra Berndt
Ronald Brewster
Cassidy Cinelli
Addison DuCharme
Andrew Ellis
Jakob Fernengel
Carolyn Fuller
Joshua Galipeau
Henry Lafleur
Nathan Labay
Barbara Lee
Tim Lord
James Lutat
Chris Mann
Linda Morse
Carol Nummy
Emily Osden
Scott Osden
Montana Paradis
Julie Pike
Jean Wall
Renee Whitaker

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jeanne & Bill Aras
Sheri & John Bucko
Laurie & Dan Flechsig

Your creative challenge

I have just learned how to create this hollow 'torus' on the wheel.

This idea could roll a lot of different ways. What would you do? How could you create it to be useful as well as decorative? Please send your ideas to Dale at: graycatbirdpottery@gmail.com

Or come by and share your idea at the Gray Catbird Gift Shop! Collaboration is Great!

Lafond Septic has moved to Montgomery!

LAFOND SEPTIC SERVICES

We'll get your system back on track and back on schedule, call today!

413-667-3622
lafond.septic@gmail.com
Montgomery, MA

New owners focused on lasting customer relationships based on excellent service provided.

Library News

facebook.com/gracehallmemorial

October 2021

October is crisp days and cool nights, a time to curl up around the dancing flames and sink into a good book. ~John Sinor (1930–1996)

Yoga returns* on Oct. 1 at 6pm $10. Please bring two mats and sign up with Chris Brown (chrisbro40@yahoo.com)

Book Sale will be on ***Oct. 16 from 9 am to 2 pm*** at the Little Red School house on Pitcher St. Donation will be received at the library through out Sept. by appointment.

eBooks and eAudio books are available through Libby and Boston Public Library. Stop by the library to pick up a flyer on how to download your eCard.

Wowbrary
The Newest Stuff at Your Library

Sign up at wowbrary.org for our weekly newsletter see new items in the Library.

** Masks and proof of Vaccine may be required*

Posting on Facebook

We will post updating news to our Facebook page , such as when new items come in or change in hours.

Returning Library Items

Can now be brought into the library.

Libby– mobile app for eBooks and eAudio books

Hours
Tues: 10– 5:30
Thurs: 11-8
Sat: 9:30-12:30

Contact
Mail
161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085

Phone
413-862-3894

email
Montgomerylibrary@yahoo.com
Website
wghl.masscat.org
facebook.com/gracehallmemorial

commonwealthcatalog.org

Montgomery COA

COUNCIL ON AGING • *Serving the citizens of Montgomery* • October 2021

Calendar

COFFEE HOURS ARE RESUMING, *(masks are suggested for those unvaccinated)*

Tue – Oct. 5 - Coffee Hour – 10 a.m.

Tue – Oct 19 - Coffee Hour – 10 a.m.

Birthdays

Barbara Lee	Henry Lafleur	Jean Wall	Ronald Brewster
Carolyn Fuller	Julie Pike	Linda Morse	William Pattison
Carol Nummy	James Lutat	Christine Soderquist	Kendra Berndt

Elder Abuse – 800-922-2275

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

Shine Counselor – Buliah Thomas – 413-667-2203

Veteran's Agent – Daniel Flechsig – 413-862-8095

Annual Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinic, - September 21st, TBD p.m. @ the Town Hall.

Montgomery's Council On Aging again hosted a Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinic at the Town Hall on September 21 from 1:30 to 3:30 where 44 people received the flu vaccination. Many thanks go out to those how participated in this event and to Walgreens Pharmacy and staff for the vaccine's availability to residents and for their professional services.

911 House Number Signs

911 House Number Signs are still available to residents of Montgomery through the Council On Aging. Interested residents may contact Mark Chretien at 413-862-4078 to request a sign for their property. The Montgomery Fire Department, Hilltown Ambulance Service and the Massachusetts State Police have expressed gratitude for those who have placed signs at the roadside in front of their property aiding 1st Responders in finding you in a timely manner in the event of an emergency.

The signs are available to All Residents of Montgomery regardless of age.

With colder weather in our future, now is the time to order your sign before the ground freezes and forces delays of any inground installations until spring. The deadline to order a sign has been extended to October 17, 2021. An order will be submitted for the requested signs on October 18th , 2021. In March of 2022 we will advertise on this page for additional 911 Sign requests for spring availability. Any questions may be made to Mark Chretien at 413-862-4078 or my cell number 803-223-1270.

This newsletter is partially funded by a grant of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs
Council Members are: Mark Chretien 862-4078, Anne-Marie Buikus 862-3257,
Sandy Haas 862-3829, Jean Bush 862-3645, Geraldine Larrabee 862-3884,
Darlene Brewster 862-3347
Email: COA@montgomeryma.gov