

PUBLISHED BY THE MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF

Montgomery Memorial Day preparations underway

When: Monday, May 27, 2024 at NOON – Rain or Shine
Where: Town Center

Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it was formerly called, is the day we pay tribute to the men and women who have served or are serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard.

Everyone is invited!! Bring your parents, children, neighbors and friends and come to the observance and parade. You can decorate your bike, horse, car or wagon with red, white and blue and walk or ride in the parade to the cemetery. The fire trucks will be there and so will the GATEWAY BAND. The more people who participate – the better.

Since the Band is coming – I will be collecting cash donations and/or grocery store gift cards to feed the students. To avoid allergy issues – I get Big Y grinders. I also take donations of water, sports drinks and individual bags of chips/pretzels. As in the past, dessert donations can be brought to the Town Hall as well. The band members start very early on Memorial Day in Huntington so by the time they get to us they are hungry.

As usual I am looking for VOLUNTEERS to do readings of In Flanders Field, America’s Response and the Gettysburg Address. I will also welcome any other readings that are relevant to the day. Parents – please ask your children to participate – otherwise I will call the Middle School and they “find” students for me to check out.

Remember - it isn’t just a “Monday holiday” – almost everyone knows someone who served or is serving in our armed forces. Please take an hour out of your day to honor our Veterans.

Any questions, I can be reached by calling 413-862-4949. Thank you.

— Paula Chapman

“Regret for wasted time is more wasted time.”

— Mason Cooley

TOWN CLERK News

Here are some notable dates for upcoming events.

- **Current dog licenses** expire on 3/31. The renewal application is attached on page 5.
- **Presidential Primary** Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Polls open: 7am - 8pm.
- Please return your **Street Listing/Census Forms** as soon as possible!
- **Check your Voter Status Here:** <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>
- **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION:** Monday, May 6, 2024 12pm – 7pm
- **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7pm

Thank you!

Cheryl Masciadrelli
Montgomery Town Clerk
(413) 642-6927
clerk@montgomeryma.gov

Office Hours:

1st & 3rd THURSDAY 9am-2pm OR BY APPOINTMENT

Greetings from your Montgomery Ambulance Rep

Greetings from Steve Pitoniak, your Montgomery Ambulance representative.

Be on the lookout in the near future for HCAA and your town’s Selectboards to host a community meeting to share the results of an extensive study performed by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, this report will give a transparent and an in depth review of how we are providing emergency services to our member communities of Montgomery, Russell, Huntington, Blandford, Chester, and Worthington.

This being said, I also wish to share with you our unprecedented challenges operating a non-profit service, to maintain two aging vehicles, to maintain a home base that does not provide adequate resources to our employees, our own State of Massachusetts depriving and cutting critical funds to us, Medicare/Medicaid payments being delayed or decreased, and many more daily challenges keeps us on our toes.

Despite these challenges HCAA is still improving our paramedic coverage percentages (92% average paramedic coverage!) providing un-paralleled pre-hospital care,

Please turn to page 5.

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 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FIRE DEPT: 862-4505
FIRE CHIEF - CHRIS GALIPEAU 862-4599

TOWN CLERK - CHERYL MASCIADRELLI 413-642-6927
OFFICE HOURS - 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month - OR BY
APPOINTMENT Email: clerk@montgomeryma.gov

POLICE DEPT:
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT -
PAULA CHAPMAN Home 862-4949
Office 862-3386, x5

RUSSELL-MONTGOMERY POLICE DEPT: 862-6209
(Call 911 for emergencies)

TREASURER/COLLECTOR - RENEE CARNEVALE
OFFICE HOURS: Tues and Thurs 8 am to 2 pm.
862-3386, x1 or direct line 642-8139

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER -
NATHAN SPERRY 413-221-0139.

PLANNING BOARD:
PHIL CAMP, Chairman 862-4976

SELECT BOARD:
MIKE MORRISSEY, Chairman 862 3368 x1
DONALD WASHBURN 862-3301
JACOB CHAPMAN 862-4949
Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month (Tue., if on a holiday)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

LIBRARY:
LIBRARIAN - PAULA LONG 862-3894
montgomerylibrary3894@gmail.com

HOURS:
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:

NEW: Office hours of the Board of Assessors will be held on the 2nd Thursday from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm of each month. Assessors Clerk will hold hours from 11 am to 2 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Meetings will be scheduled and posted when deemed necessary.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION -
PAIGE LALIBERTE, Chairman (413) 222-7493

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 REP, 3RD HAMPDEN Nicholas A. Boldyga
454 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077,
(413) 569-3137, Ext 103

March Calendar

Mar. 6 6:00 pm – Yoga – Town Hall
Mar. 7 3:00 pm – Music in Montgomery– Town Hall
Mar. 13 6:00 pm – Yoga – Town Hall
Mar. 14 3:00 pm – Music in Montgomery– Town Hall
Mar. 20 6:00 pm – Yoga – Town Hall
Mar. 21 3:00 pm – Music in Montgomery– Town Hall
Mar. 27 3:00 pm – Yoga – Town Hall
Mar. 28 3:00 pm – Music in Montgomery– Town Hall

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

Paula L. Chapman

MONTGOMERY'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
OFFICE HOURS 6:30 PM TO 7:45 PM FOR
FIREARMS LICENSES ONLY

The office is in the basement of the Town Hall.

March 7	March 21
April 4	April 18
May 2	May 16

Subject to change if necessary

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

Chris Brown * Laurie Flechsig * Paula Long
* Julie Pike * Lori Conley

montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com

“Here comes Spring”



March is Nesting Time!

Fly on in! Find lots of birds and birdhouses at the Gray Catbird Gift Shop just waiting for you and your feathered pals.



Special Event:

Gray Catbird Pottery Studio's STUDENT SHOW

Friday, March 15, 4:30 - 6pm,

All are welcome to come see the fabulous pottery created by our Students!

[Heron by student potter Amanda Loiselle]

22 East Main Street, Huntington, MA (next door to B&D's Variety).

Wednesday: 10 am - 2 pm, 3 pm - 7 pm

Thursday: 10 am - 1 pm

Friday: 10 am - 2 pm, 3 pm - 7 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday: 2 - 6 pm



Contact: Dale Rogers, 413.875.5205

or graycatbirdpottery@gmail.com

22 East Main Street, Huntington, MA

Gray Catbird Pottery Studio & Gift Shop

etsy.com/shop/GrayCatbirdPottery

facebook.com/GrayCatbirdPottery

CREDITS: Bird Photography by Carolee Weigel; Birdhouses by Leo Zacharie, Joe Paquette, & Henry LaFleur; Chick by Ellen Desmarais

Throw shade to prevent sunburn on your houseplants

March is the month to:

- Water houseplants with room temperature water
- Check houseplants near windows to make sure they are not getting sunburned. Most tropical plants prefer low light environment. Now that sunlight is more intense as the sun rises higher in the sky, those plants should be shaded or moved back from windows. **Additional tasks:** begin increasing water and fertilizer to houseplants as they show signs of renewed growth.
- Rejuvenate overgrown shrubs by pruning them to the ground
- Ninebark, redbud, dogwood and potentilla benefit from rejuvenation pruning
- Woodpecker holes on ash indicate emerald ash borer infestation
- In mid March, wait to sow peas. They will take more than 30 days to germinate at 41 degrees F.
- At the end of March sow basil seeds indoors
- Pay attention to pruning chores. Cut back damaged tree

GardenNews

by Chris Brown



branches, remove suckers sprouting from bases of fruit trees and take out 1/3 of the oldest stems of the multi-stemmed shrubs, such as forsythia,

weigela, beautyberry and spirea to rejuvenate them. Remember to prune blueberries and raspberries too, as lack of pruning as a common cause for poor fruit yield.

Houseplants still available for a donation to benefit Library Friends. Call or email Chris Brown 413 3641510 or chrisbro40@yahoo.com, Available: walking iris, night blooming cereus, aloe, birdsnest sansevieria, citrus.

Also, there will be a plant sale in the spring. When you divide your perennials, plan on donating some of them for Library Friends

HONEY GINGER CHICKEN KABOBS

Thank you Jeanne Aras for this latest recipe

1 1/2 lbs Chicken Breast, boneless, skinless cut into 1" pcs
 1/4 tsp pepper
 1 red pepper, cut into 1" pcs
 1/3 cup hoisin sauce
 1/2 tsp. minced fresh ginger

1/4 tsp salt
 1 yellow pepper, cut into 1" pcs
 1 can baby corn, cut in 1/2
 1/3 cup honey
 1 clove garlic, crushed

Sprinkle Chicken with salt & pepper. Thread chicken, pepper pieces & corn on a metal skewers* (Jeanne uses wooden ones... presoaked so they don't burn). Combine hoisin sauce, Honey, ginger & garlic. Brush lightly on kebobs. Grill kebobs, turning and basting with sauce mixture.

MARCH RECIPE

Condolences

We have received word of the passing of Dorie Walmsley (Doris Goodlatte Walmsley), age 84, of Natchitoches, LA on January 30. Dorie's late husband David served as a selectman for a period of time before they moved to Springfield's Georgetown. They raised their two children here: Bill (William) Walmsley and Susan Walmsley (now Hyams) -- both of whom attended Gateway Regional High School."

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jenn Albano
 Colleen Bean
 Steven Brzoska
 Peyton Bucko
 Alex Chapman
 Jacob Chapman
 Joseph Croteau
 Pauline Croteau
 Bob Dowd
 Justin Fernengel
 Makayla Fernengel
 George Galipeau

Lynn Gebo
 Bob Hyjek
 Linda Hyjek
 Sandie Mann
 Andrea Moses
 Charlie Peckham
 Jason Stomski
 Kathleen Stomski
 Rachel Ward

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES
 None

\$250 REWARD! to eligible applicants

Open To: Graduating 2024 Montgomery HS Students

Eligibility requirements: Must be a resident of Montgomery (non-Gateway students may request an application from Montgomery Fire Department) (Contact Dan Flechsig – 862-8095 or email 83.mfd.association@gmail.com)

Criteria: Community Service, Academic Accomplishment, and Financial Need

Award amount: \$250.00

Application deadline: May 1st

Application requirements: Gateway common application, transcript

Completed application to: Montgomery Fire Department
 Attn: Scholarship Committee
 154 Main Road
 Montgomery, MA 01085

**You must provide official documentation of 2nd semester enrollment in educational institution.*

MHS seeks residents input on future events

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!!!

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all who celebrate that special day, and Happy Easter to everyone! Hopefully the warming weather will lift our spirits and bring us the energy needed for "spring housecleaning" and preparing our gardens for the coming season.

We are asking for the help of all Mountain Breeze recipients: we would like your suggestions for programs (i.e., speakers you would enjoy hearing, or similar events) and field trips (i.e., places of historical or cultural interest that you would like to visit, with the opportunity for group discounts if there is a fee [if we have enough people sign up to attend]).



In the coming month or two, we plan to develop a schedule of events for the enjoyment and education of our townspeople and nearby residents, but your input would be most helpful inasmuch as we plan these events with YOU in mind.

Please contact Laurie (862-8095) or Julie (862-4539) with your ideas and suggestions.

As stated above, we will begin our planning process soon, and will notify you of the upcoming schedule via the Mountain Breeze. We hope to hear from many of our friends out there about some historical or cultural activities we might coordinate for you... **HAPPY SPRING!!!**

The display case hosted by the Historical Society at the Grace Hall Memorial Library, Montgomery Center, will feature a new display as of early March. We will display items and collections related to Spring (and maybe a few St. Patrick's Day mementoes). Won't you take the time to stop in the Library to pick out some late winter reading materials, DVD's or other media, and while you're there, take a look at the exhibit of "spring-y" items? We hope the latest display will lighten your spirits and lift your mood!

As suggested in the past, your assistance in providing exhibit material for the display case is being requested. If you have anything you would be willing to display that might be of interest to your friends and neighbors, we urge you to call Laurie at 862-8095 to get your name and items on the display schedule for mid-April or beyond (or any other time in the year)!

• Montgomery Ambulance Continued from Page 1.

professionalism, and service to our towns every day and night 24/7. These HCAA folks are community members and are greatly invested in what they do, I have the pleasure of working alongside them on our fire and medical calls.

It is my humble opinion that there are no better options for our towns for emergency services, we must invest in this resource. For an example, our comparable services of Highland Ambulance which services Goshen, Cummington, Ashfield, Chesterfield, Plainfield, and Williamsburg charges an annual rate of \$60 per capita, South County EMS, a similar model serving Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately charges \$65 per capita....

HCAA currently is charging \$35.20 per capita for FY 2024. As a fellow taxpayer, I

understand the pain of increased taxes and inflation every day.

I will be approaching our Finance Committee and Selectboards to discuss what are fair increases to sustain and continue to grow our service.

Please reach out if you have any questions, concerns or would even like to see the HCAA base and meet the HCAA staff, we would be happy and proud to show you our service.

Steve Pitoniak 413-862-4456

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY DOG LICENSE APPLICATION 2024

LICENSE #: _____

EXPIRES: 03/31/2025

OWNER NAME/ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____ OWNERS SIGNATURE: _____

DOG INFORMATION

NAME: _____ BREED: _____ SEX: _____ SPAYED/NEUTERED (y/n): _____ AGE: _____

COLOR: _____ OTHER DETAILS: _____

RABIES CERTIFICATE #: _____ DATE OF VACCINATION: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ VET: _____

In reliance on the above certificate for payment fee of _____, the animal described above is licensed for the period of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025.

Dated: _____, Town Clerk.

DOG LICENSE FEES: \$6.00/EA spayed or neutered, or \$10.00/EA not spayed or neutered.
KENNEL LICENSE FEES: \$25.00 Fee plus \$5.00/EA spayed or neutered OR \$6.00/EA not spayed or neutered.
(A Kennel License is required for anyone with more than four (4) dogs).

Please refer to the website www.montgomeryma.gov for the Dog By-Laws.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Music in Montgomery

Montgomery Town Hall, 161 Main Road, Montgomery MA.

"Spring: the music of open windows. "

– Terri Guillemets

When: Every Thursday @ 3pm

Where: Montgomery Town Hall, 161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085

March 7 Eva Capelli & Friends
March 14 Ed Bentley & Friends
March 21 Barry Searle, Sarah Miller, & Pete Rzasa
March 28 Larry Southard

April 4 Ravenwood
April 11 Jerry & Kara Noble
April 18 Ed Bentley & Friends
April 25 Larry Southard

May 2 Eva Cappelli & Friends
May 9 Barry, Sarah, & Pete
May 16 Ed Bentley & Friends
May 23 Mennonite Hymn Sing (3pm)
Larry Southard (3:30 - 4:30pm)
May 30 Kara & Jerry Noble

We encourage donations of baked goods. Money donations for refreshments will be split between two worthy local causes: Montgomery's Volunteer Firemen's Association and our Town Library. We have a tip can for thanking our fabulous musicians as well.

IT'S A FINE TIME! All are welcome!
Contact Dale for more info: 413.875.5205

Sponsored by the
Montgomery Town
Library, and Gray
Catbird Pottery
Studio.





July 1984
Grace Hall Memorial Library
Montgomery, Massachusetts



LIBRARY NEWS

facebook.com/
gracehallmemorial

March 2024

December days were brief and chill, The winds of March were wild and drear, And, nearing and receding still, Spring never would, we thought, be here. ~Arthur Hugh Clough

- **Yoga Classes:** Join us for yoga every Wednesday night at 6 pm. To reserve your spot, please contact Chris Brown at chris-bro40@yahoo.com.
- **Music in Montgomery:** every Thursday at 3 pm
- **CookBook Book Club** March 21 at 6:30pm . This month Irish cooking, both contemporary and traditional. The library will have various cookbooks on Irish Cooking available. On March 21 bring your favorite recipe to share and learn about what others love in Irish cooking.
- **2024Monthly Motif Reading Challenge:** For March theme is “ Starting Over”

• **March 23 at 1 pm.** Meet local Huntington-based author Steven Cormier and learn about the history and mystery surrounding the life and death of Parley B. Hutchins. Parley B. Hutchins lived and worked in Huntington, MA in the mid to late 1800s on property that Cormier currently resides at. Hutchins's untimely death led to a murder investigation that was never resolved. The book "Life and Times of Parley B. Hutchins" not only focuses on Parley Hutchins but also on the history and growth of the area and the eventual creation of Huntington, Massachusetts in 1855



- **NEXT** Month *Sheryl Faye Presents* Historical Women “ Ruth Bader Ginsburg” April 27

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

Posting on Facebook

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

Hours

Tues: 10– 5:30

Thurs: 11-8

Sat: 9:30-12:30

Ebooks on Libby

Contact

Mail

161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085

Phone

413-862-3894

email

montgomerylibrary3894@gmail.com

Website

wghl.masscat.org
[facebook.com / gracehallmemorial](https://facebook.com/gracehallmemorial)

commonwealthcatalog.org

Don't forget to check out Wowbrary and Libby our online services.



1911-1914
Grace Hall Memorial Library
Montgomery, Illinois



Montgomery Library News KIDS Pages

facebook.com/
gracehallmemorial

March 2024

Q: What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four leaf clover?

A: A rash of good luck



Kid Reading Challenge 2024

From Jan. 1 to
March 31 for kids
ages 3 to 12

Read 26 books!
For each book you
check out of the
library and read
will enter you to
win one of 4 prizes

Ages 3-5: Pet Vet
play set

Ages 5 to 10 : Tur-
bo Pop STEM
Challenge

Ages 10 to 12: So-
lar BOT.14 robot
kit or a Mech 5
Robot kit

AMAZING AUTHORS A to Z Reading Challenge

Name: _____

Can you read 26 books with authors from
A to Z? After reading, record the author's
name next to the first letter of the
author's last name.

A	N
B	O
C	P
D	Q
E	R
F	S
G	T
H	U
I	V
J	W
K	EXtra Author
L	Y
M	Z

© Stephanie Trapp

LAST Month to
Win one of these
prizes by entering
in the A to Z
Reading Chal-
lenge! Get you're
A to Z forms in
before March 31.