

Montgomery County

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today

Spring 2016

FY 2016-17 budget keeps tax rates the same

The Board of Supervisors recently approved its FY2017 spending plan that goes into effect July 1.

The \$182.2 million budget represents a \$5.9 million increase over the current budget. It keeps tax rates and fees the same. The real estate tax rate is 89 cents per \$100 assessed value and property taxes are \$2.55.

The schools budget totals \$109.6 million, which includes \$1.3 million in new County funding for school operations.



The spending plan also includes two new County positions and a compensation regrade of 3 percent for

County employees effective July 1. The current fiscal year ends June 30. For more details, see www.montva.com.



Emergency alerts: here's how to register

Residents, businesses and others are encouraged to register their contact information to receive messages from Citizens Alert concerning severe weather and critical events.

Montgomery County will use the Everbridge emergency notification system to alert residents about a variety of events, ranging from severe weather, fires, floods and other emergencies, to more routine announcements, such as road closures and water utility maintenance.

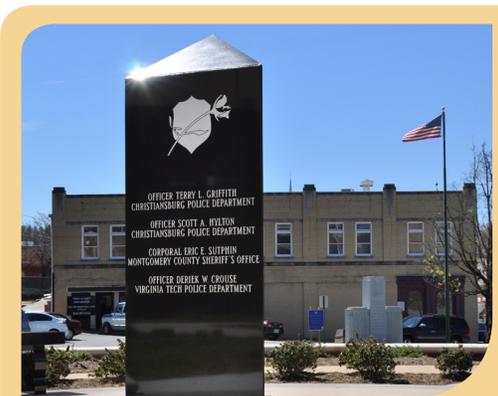
“Whether it be a man-made or natural catastrophic event, Citizens Alert gives us the opportunity to communicate

directly with our citizens,” said Emergency Services Coordinator Neal Turner. “The earlier we alert them, the better prepared they will be to handle the situation.”

Citizens Alert messages will be sent to residents based on their preferences, such as cell phone, text, home phone and email, to ensure real-time access to potentially lifesaving information.

Residents listed in the County's 911 database will be automatically subscribed to alerts by landline phone.

Please register at www.montva.com to provide additional contact information.



Fallen Heroes Memorial Dedication

A public safety monument for fallen law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel in Montgomery County was dedicated May 16.

The black granite monument with three benches honors public safety personnel who have lost their lives serving our community.

The monument is located on the memorial plaza in front of the Public Safety Building in Christiansburg at West Main and South Franklin Streets.



Animal Care and Adoption Center update

The new Animal Care and Adoption Center that will meet the needs of the County's growing dog and cat population is currently under construction.

The new center's primary goal is to increase animal adoptions by expanding visitation and maximizing visibility through attractive design, in a setting where prospective pet owners will be able to visit dogs in an outdoor courtyard and cats in the community room.



Montgomery County Friends of Animal Care and Control brought adoptable dogs to the Center groundbreaking this past December. All dogs in the photograph have since found homes!

The 16,300-square-foot-facility will be located at 434 Cinnabar Road, adjacent to the current outdated facility that currently only houses dogs. There will be 12,600 square feet enclosed and 3,700 square feet covered space capable of housing 68 dogs and 64 cats.

Through partnerships with local animal

groups and volunteers, the center will emphasize adoptions and the return of lost pets to their owners.

The Animal Care and Adoption Center is intended to serve as a recreation destination where people can volunteer to walk the dogs, care for the cats or just visit with the animals.



Sign up today for Citizens Academy

Classes on Wednesday evenings, Aug. 31 - Oct. 19

Montgomery County residents are invited to learn more about the inner workings of local government and get a hands-on look at police, fire and rescue operations and much more!

New residents, retirees and others who want to learn more about where they live and how their tax dollars are spent may sign up for this free eight week course. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings, Aug. 31-Oct. 19, from 6-8:30 p.m.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older, and either live or work in Montgomery County. The news media is also encouraged to participate.

"Being new to the area, our eyes have been opened by this Academy and we recommend this course to every taxpayer."

- Academy participant

Applications may be found at www.christiansburg.org, www.montva.com, Christiansburg Town Hall and the Montgomery County Government Building. Register by Aug. 15.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Ruth Richey at (540) 381-6887 or richeyrl@MontgomeryCountyVa.gov.

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