



# MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD  
Vol. 22 No. 6 JUNE/JULY '17

## Montford Welcomes Summer Again!



### Ben Scales, Festival Director



On Saturday, May 20, we had another fabulous day at this year's Montford Music and Arts Festival, our 14th annual, courtesy of the neighborhood association and its generous sponsors. I appreciate this opportunity to revisit that very special day and offer some heartfelt thanks to the hard-working volunteers who made it all possible.

The weather was perfect all day long, bordering on the warmer side, but the rain stayed away all day, unlike many previous festivals. As in years past, we had a juried art show and wonderful music on two stages highlighting the rich musical and demographic diversity that makes Montford such an exciting place to live and work.

The awards for the juried Art Show were as follows: 1st place: **Patricia Spangler** – Language of Leaves; 2nd place: **Rachael Icard** – Cotton and Cursive; and 3rd place: **Bryan and Bridgette Davis** – Artifactual Adornments. Our congratulations go out these fine artists.

As for the Music, **The Midnight Plowboys** opened the day on the Soco Stage. Their brand of comfortable, down home, old time bluegrass was a great way to start the day. **Liz Teague** was up next, delivering her sweet songs of motherhood, love, and home like a big batch of freshly baked cookies. The searing technicality and pitch-perfect vocal harmonies of **Dear Brother** came after that, kicking

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# Montford Turns Out for Spring



# Day of Music, Arts, Food, and Fun



# Montford Turns Out for Spring

## Music and Arts Festival Juried Art Contest Winners



**FIRST PLACE:** Language of Leaves, (left to right) Patricia Spangler, judges Anna Helgeson and Stephanie Moore. Patricia was last year's first place winner also.



**SECOND PLACE:** Cotton and Cursive, Rachael Icard (center).



**THIRD PLACE:** Artifactual Adornments, (From the left) Bethany Davis, Kayla Davis, Bridgette Davis and Bryan Davis (far right). They have won both first and third place prizes in past Montford Festivals.

The Festival had a large variety of artists, nonprofits and vendors. They are the biggest supporters of the festival through their booth fees. Many of them return year after year. Some say that our festival is well organized and one of their favorites. The website [www.montfordfestival.org](http://www.montfordfestival.org) will have the artists and vendor information on it so you can look up your favorites. The judges for the juried artists this year were **Stephanie Moore**, Executive Director of the Center For Craft Creativity and Design (CCCD) and **Anna Helgeson**, Grants and Programs Coordinator at CCCD. This was Stephanie's second time as a festival judge. Thanks to both Stephanie and Anna for a job well done. (See pictures for names and awards). We also had a few new food vendors this year including Jamaican Flavors and Le Bon Cafe and some standbys like Mac Daddy's Lemonade. Thank you to all the vendors.

## Thank You Festival Volunteers!

Rebecca Banner	Mary Elswick	Alison Lyke	Constance Richards	Margot Sutton
Michelle Bedard	Vic Fahrer	Christina McGregor	Dan Rogers	Jackson Tierney
Lonnie Blakesly	Sharon Fahrer	Janice Mead	Alan Rosenthal	Mary Trauner
Sid Border	Bonnie Gilbert	Cherie Morris	Kelly Ross Terry	Dave Werle
David Boyless	Chris Gilbert	Ellen Nutter	Lewis Rothlein	Gary Wiles
Lee Brown	Ginger Harding	David Nutter	Susan Rothlein	Jinny Wilker
Susan Clark Muntean	Gretchen Henn	Justin Ommen	Betsey Russel	Andrew Willhide
Jerry Conner	Leslie Humphrey	Susan Paoletti	Sue Russell	Rita Yerby
Linda Copley	Chad Kimpel	Terry Peters	Mitch Russell	Frederick Zarro
David Copley	Eleanor Lane	Bob Presley	Ben Scales	
Kathleen Cronin	Darcie Layne	Susan Presson	Will Sibbald	
Foster de la Houssaye	Lon Levi	Lynn Raker	Adrienne Sparks	
Susan Eggerton	Susan Loftis	Steve Raker	Tom Stork	

*Hopefully, we have not missed anyone. If we have please let us know.*

# Day of Music, Arts, Food, and Fun

THE MONTFORD MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES  
these sponsors for their GENEROUS SUPPORT in 2017...

Please go to [www.montfordfestival.org/2017\\_sponsors](http://www.montfordfestival.org/2017_sponsors) for  
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...and all of the volunteers that make this festival possible!

If your business would like to become a sponsor, there is still time! Contact [sponsor2017@montfordfestival.org](mailto:sponsor2017@montfordfestival.org)

© 2017 All proceeds from the Montford Music & Arts Festival help fund the community activities of the Montford Neighborhood Association.

CALENDAR

Montford Community Center

June - July 2017

Table Tennis; Mondays 5:30pm-8pm and Saturdays 11-2pm, Free

Badminton; Thursdays 5:30-8pm and Saturdays 9-11am, Free

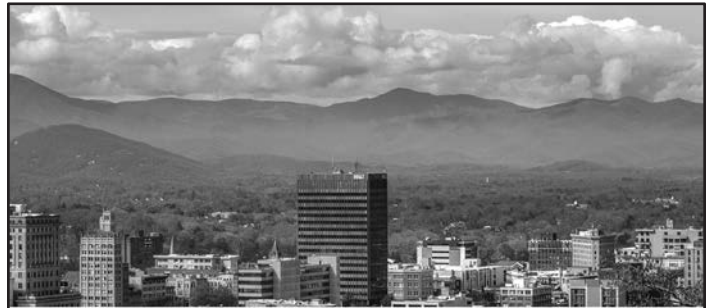
Ukulele; Mondays 6-8pm, Free

Martial Arts; Tuesdays 5:30-7:30pm, \$15 per person

Community Basketball; Tuesdays 6pm -8pm

Capoeira; Saturdays 10am-noon

For more information contact Shana Kriewall at skriewall@ashevillenc.gov or at 253-3714.



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Asheville Jewish Community Center



### Remembering Helen Merrill with a Tree Memorial in Montford Park

Helen Merrill and her husband of fifty-eight years, Lewis Merrill, lived in a cottage on Danville Place on the estate of her son, Scott Merrill and son-in-law,

**Helen Merrill (1918-2015)**

Brian May. Born on October 30, 1918 in Paterson, NJ, Helen enjoyed ninety-seven wonderful years living most them in New Canaan, Connecticut. Her career as a secretary included positions in New York City and Connecticut. She enjoyed living in Montford for eighteen years. Helen was an avid gardener and seamstress. Everyone that knew her, knew that she was a remarkable person.

Asheville Parks and Recreation Department has a tree and bench donor program for city parks. Montford Park now has three memorial trees. Besides Helen, there are trees for Jeff Kelley and Irma Cantor. Jeff lived on Tacoma Circle. He was an active member



**left to right: Scott Merrill, Sharon Fahrner and Lewis Merrill**


of the Montford community serving for many years as the editor of the Montford Newsletter. Irma Cantor lived next to the park and loved her adopted Asheville community. She enjoyed volunteering as a docent for the Tour of Homes.



**left to right: Sharon Fahrner and Lewis Merrill**

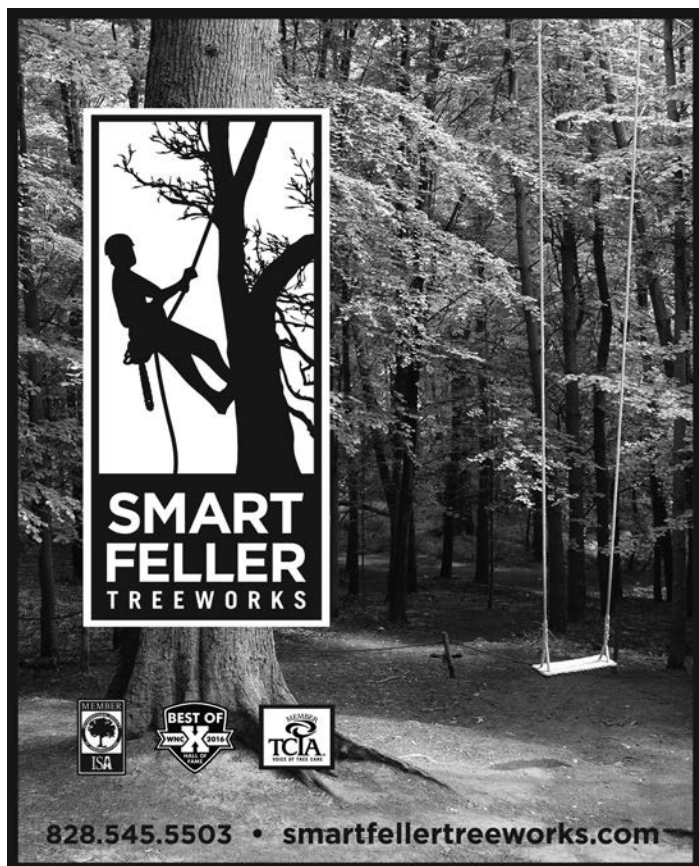
For more information about donating to Asheville parks you can contact Paula Garber at the Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundation at [info@parksgreenways.org](mailto:info@parksgreenways.org) or check out the website: [myashevillesparks.org](http://myashevillesparks.org). This is a great way to insure continued enjoyment of our parks for future generations. We also hope to have a gazebo in Montford Park one day.

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**Sid Border**  
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Sid is a Montford resident  
and a long-time supporter  
of the annual *Montford  
Tour of Homes* and the  
*Montford Music & Arts*

*Festival*. His specialty is historic homes and he  
has participated in the sale of over 20 Montford  
homes and many others in Asheville's historic  
neighborhoods. If you are thinking of buying or  
selling a historic home, *experience counts*.



Contact Sid for details about  
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homes's history, references,  
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new listings and recent sales  
in Historic Montford.

**Resource Directory**

**Advertise in the Resource Directory**

Send a brief description (30 words or less) and contact information. **More than 1,500 newsletters** are distributed monthly throughout the neighborhood and are also available on the **Montford website** and at the Pack Memorial and North Asheville Public Libraries. Call 258-2207 for more information.

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**Editor's Note:** Excerpt from an article originally published in the February 2006 issue.

## The Exciting History of Your Double-Hung Sash Windows

**By: Dillon Cashman and Sam Soemardi, Asheville Window Restoration.**

Did you know that it took a thousand years of human innovation so that you can close your windows against the winter chill and comfortably watch the snowflakes fall?

Originally a window was just a hole in the side of a building to let in air and light. Having a hole in the side of your house in a warm climate might not be such a big deal; in fact, it would be a necessity if you had your goats living in the house with you. But what if you lived in cold dark Norway?

Before advances in glass technology made plate glass affordable, people used all sorts of different things to shut up those holes in their walls. Very early windows were shielded with hide or cloth stretched over the opening or with wooden shutters. These methods kept the elements out, but they also blocked all the light. Consider a winter in a Siberian yurt: cold and dark with no means for sunlight to enter the house on the short days. Later

various types of coverings were invented that allowed light but not weather to pass into a building: paper in Japan and China, flattened pieces of translucent horn in Northern Britain, and plates of thinly sliced marble or sheets of mica in Rome.

Glass windows started making an appearance about 100 AD in Roman architecture. Fragments of glass in a bronze frame were found in the ruins of Pompeii. By the 12th century, stained glass was used in Gothic cathedrals, but domestic glass windows were not a practical proposition until the early 16th century, and then only in the houses of the wealthy.

The first glass windows to appear in houses were fixed panes of leaded glass, usually above shuttered openings. This allowed for some light and some control of the temperature of the house.

By the 17th century, the homes of the upper classes were outfitted with windows completely made of glass that could be opened and shut. These windows were made from small panes of glass held together with lead, stone, or wooden mullions. These windows worked on hinges like small doors, and are called casement windows. By the way, mullions are those vertical and/or horizontal pieces of wood in the multi-paned windows that are so common in the historical houses of Montford. From there it's a pretty quick leap

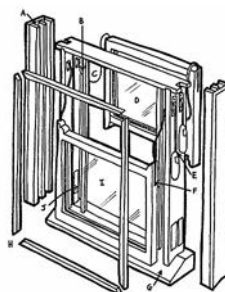
from the mullioned casement windows to the modern double-hung sash windows that you have in your house. They were developed in England around 1670.

In America, as in England, the first windows were also casement windows. In the beginning of the eighteenth century single- and double-hung windows were widely introduced. Subsequently, many styles of these vertical sliding sash windows have come to be associated with specific building periods or architectural styles, such as Victorian, Craftsman, American Colonial, and Queen Anne. You can find examples of all these architectural styles in Asheville. In case you missed our last article, a double-hung sash window is a frame holding a large area of glass that is easily raised up or down because of a weight on each side, concealed in the wall, balances the sash by means of a cord running over a pulley.

An interesting historical note: in 17th century England, glass making was costly and the use of glass for windows and other purposes was even costlier because of a tax levied specifically on it. The tax was introduced in 1696 under King William III and was designed to impose tax relative to the prosperity of the taxpayer. The bigger the house, the more windows it was likely to have, hence the more tax the occupants would pay. The richest families in the kingdom used this tax to set themselves apart from the merely rich. They would commission a country home or a manor house whose architecture would make the maximum possible use of windows. In extreme cases, they would have windows built over structural walls. It was an exercise in ostentation, spurred by the window tax.

By the late 19th century, glass technology had raised the availability of affordable sheets of glass for windows. Suddenly it was not uncommon to see houses with as many large windows as were once the privilege of the wealthy mansion owner. Many of the houses kept shutters for protection from severe storms, but by the mid 20th-century shutters were mere architectural fashion.

### Replacement of Window Sash Cords



Are you a "Do it yourselfer"? If you live in Montford you probably are.

Check out this how-to video courtesy of *This Old House* general contractor Tom Silva.

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/how-to/how-to-replace-window-sash-cords>

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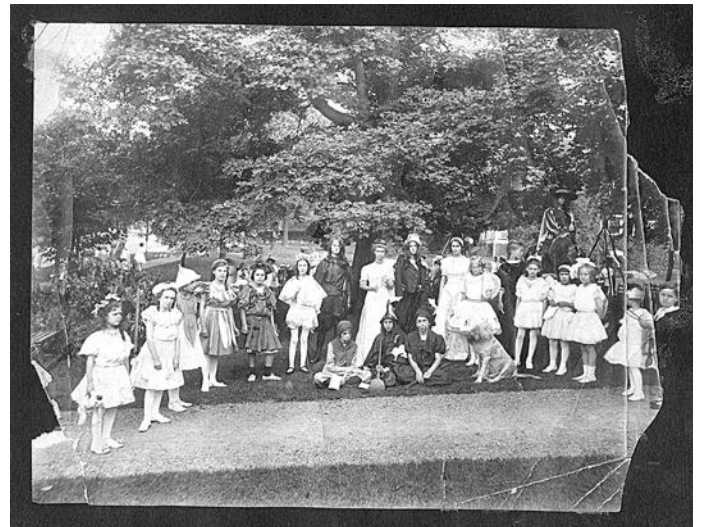
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# Still A Mystery

Ross Terry

The mystery photo on the right will be included in the historic panels to be installed on the new Montford Avenue bus shelters. Does anyone know anything about this photo? It appears to be an all girl group in costume posing in someone's yard. Could it be a May Day or Midsummer celebration on Cumberland Avenue? Send me your comments and/or guesses.



**The Moore house**—which stood on the site of the current Greek Church on Cumberland Avenue. Mr. Moore owned a clothing store (M.V. Moore) located at 11 Patton Avenue.

**Mystery photo**—This photo was found glued to the back of the mat on the Moore house photo.



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**Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County**

**Montford Action Agenda, April 12, 2017**

Members present: Staff present: Stacy Merten, Alex Cole, Jannice Ashley

**Item, Summary and Action**

**117 Flint Street**—Enclosure of rear porch on first floor with glass; railing and pickets will remain and glass will be installed within; enclosure of first floor patio with mesh screening..... **Action:** Continued to May

**54 West Chestnut**—Demolition of one-story accessory structure; construction of a one-story addition on the rear elevation..... **Action:** Continued to May

**77 Cherry Street**—Replacement of asphalt shingle roof with metal roof.....**Action:** Approved

**20 Watauga Street**—Expansion of parking area, terracing of rear yard and installation of new fence..... **Action:** Continued to May

**42 Cumberland Avenue**—Construction of one-story 384 sq. ft. accessory structure..... **Action:** Approved with conditions

Please refer to the website ([www.ashevillenc.gov](http://www.ashevillenc.gov)) for the full approved minutes after the following month's meeting.



**Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County**

**Montford Action Agenda, May 10, 2017**

Members present: Staff present: Stacy Merten, Alex Cole, Jannice Ashley

**Item, Summary and Action**

**54 West Chestnut**—Demolition of one-story accessory structure; construction of a one-story addition on the rear elevation.....**Action:** Continued

**117 Flint Street**—Enclosure of portion of rear porch on first floor with glass; railing and pickets will remain and glass will be installed within..... **Action:** Approved

**117 Flint Street**—Enclosure of first floor basement area with mesh screening.....**Action:** Approved

**20 Watauga Street**—Expansion of parking area, terracing of rear yard and installation of new fence ...**Action:** Continued

**90 Montford Avenue**—Replacement of all existing windows and cleaning/replacement as needed of glass block; construction of 225 square foot side addition to accommodate elevator tower; installation of new rooftop mechanical equipment and access ladder; replacement of roof membrane.....**Action:** Approved

**327 Montford**—Removal of wood deck in rear yard and terracing area to create a native stone and pebble patio .....**Action:** Approved

**75 Starnes Avenue**—Removal of four windows on rear elevation and installation of two new doors; removal of rear stair and construction of 15' x 20' deck ..... **Action:** Approved with conditions

**111 Pearson Drive**—Construction of new gable-end roof form at front façade entry way.....**Action:** Continued

**6 Birch Street**—Replacement of wood windows with new wood windows due to fire damaged.....**Action:**Withdrawn

**85 Zillicoa Street**—Replacement of five original window panels with new windows.....**Action:** Continued



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up the all-acoustic bluegrass format several notches. **Buncombe Turnpike** delivered, as usual, their wonderful vocal harmonies and music with a real touch of comedic flair. They had the crowd in stitches.

Then as the day grew hotter, so did the music. **Dirty Badgers** jumped on stage and melted faces, complete with singing lead guitar, howling vocals, and blaring saxophone. The crowd was awake and THEY WERE DANCING! **Alarm Clock Conspiracy** stepped up at 4:30 and played warm, tight rock a la Pink Floyd and Guided By Voices, cruising the crowd into late afternoon. Then, as the finale, **The Crooked Beat** kept the street festival atmosphere going with upbeat, rollicking covers of yesteryear and original tunes reminiscent of Texas outlaw Americana. Overall a fantastic day on Soco Street!

Over on the Montford Stage, the **Billy Jonas Band** kicked off the morning with a blend of Billy's crowd favorites, such as "What Kind Of Cat Are You?," as well as material from his new releases. Following Billy, **Lyric** wowed the crowd with her electric guitar and 7-piece funk and soul band, rocking through original songs and covers ranging from Prince to Aretha Franklin. Next up was **Krekel and Whoa!**, our Montford neighbors, who were previously known as the Mad Tea Party and the Moodies. Jason and Ami cranked through a powerful set of their signature quirky rockabilly that had the crowd dancing despite the heat. Following that was **WestSound**, pumping their fiery R&B up the avenue for us. And as in years past, all the lovely ladies were shaking it hard with singer Regina Duke on her powerful rendition of "Brick House."

The next three acts were the **Pond Brothers** (George and Andy Pond), the **Sufi Brothers** (Jason Krekel and Woody Wood) and the **Cat Dragons**, which combines the two previous acts with the addition of your humble scribe. The Ponds were joined by Billy Seawell on drums, and the Sufis were joined by Paul Leach on bass. Both Billy and Paul joined the Cat Dragons for a jam for the ages.

In between acts, we were treated to terrific performances by the **Asheville Morris Men and Ashgrove Garland Dancers**, and the **Chinese Lion Dance by the Mountain Dragon Gong Fu School**, ensuring that our set change-overs were as entertaining as the sets themselves.

I'd like to send out a special thank you and mad props to the incredible team of volunteers who pulled together to make this wonderful event happen this year. A festival like ours takes a village. Here are a few of our characters.

**Shana Kriewall** pulled together and coordinated a cohesive team of over 80 volunteers and trained them well to do all the various

jobs we needed to get done. With an all-volunteer festival like ours, all of the work that had to be done was performed by volunteers who Shana recruited and trained. We literally could not have done it without them.



**David Baker** and I served as the festival's entertainment committee this year, working together to fully showcase the depth and breadth of what Montford's musicians had to offer. David also served as chair of the fundraising committee, working tirelessly to collect the sponsorships necessary to put on the event. And on festival day, David was

the stage manager for the Soco Stage. David's commitment to our festival and to our neighborhood has been exemplary, and we thank him for it.

New Montford residents (relatively speaking) **Rita Yerby** and **Sue Russell** did yeoman's work on the signage and the new banners for the Festival. **Jerry Conner**, who tried to retire from the festival last year, was back to coordinate the food vendors and the t-shirts, as well as other various odds and ends that had to be handled. And **Mary Trauner** kept the website that she built running like a top, managing the vendor and artist applications and many other computer-related responsibilities.

Finally, as usual, the festival would not have happened but for the heroic efforts of Vic and Sharon Fahrer. Sharon founded the festival back in 2004, and no one knows how to put one on like she does. This year, Sharon managed all the vendors and artists, who are the only groups of attendees who are paying to be here. Sharon made sure all the vendors were following all applicable regulations, assigned the booths, communicated with vendors, and set up the juried art show. Vic took charge of the weighty task of securing the City permit for the festival, wrote the vendor instructions for check-in and load-out, personally marked every booth in the street, and was our all-around problem solver. **Vic and Sharon**, for all you do, we love you!!!

So on the hottest May day we've had for any of the previous festivals, we had one of the best festivals I can remember. Perhaps as a necessary result of our city growing so fast, there were several other large events going on at the same time as our festival, but those who visited us were treated to a fabulous day of music, art, and wholesome family fun, courtesy of the neighborhood association and its generous sponsors. Next year will be the 15th Annual Montford Festival, tentatively set for Saturday, May 19, 2018. I can hardly wait!

## June's Dog of the Month: Grady, a dog about town!

### Kassie Moore

Seamus O'Grady Moore ("Grady") moved to Asheville 3 years ago with his owner, Kassie, and he's quickly made Asheville his own. His favorite pastime is hiking and, despite turning 12 years old this spring, Grady hits the trails regularly. His favorite hiking spots include Bearwallow Mountain (particularly when there are cows at the summit) and the Deep Gap Trail in Mount Mitchell State Park.

When he's not hiking, Grady enjoys leisurely strolls through Montford, winding his way from Starnes Avenue, where he lives, down to the Reedy Creek Greenway so he can dip his feet in the water. His favorite route zig zags between Cumberland and Broadway where he stops to check out some of Montford's more interesting animals – chickens, goats, and even a pig!

Grady also loves to cruise the downtown scene, particularly Pritchard Park, where he once found an entire hamburger, and South Slope, where the combination of food trucks and his owners' increased beer consumption often results in a food "jackpot" situation.

It's not all play for Grady, though. During the week, he puts in a few hours of work (snoozing beside his owner's desk) at Town and Mountain Realty's dog-friendly office. All in all, Grady couldn't be happier with his life in Asheville. To check out his many adventures, from the city to the mountains, follow him on social media (#GradydoesAsheville).



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- For emergencies, call 911.
- For nonemergencies and to report suspicious activity, call 252-1110.
- For the Crime Prevention Division, call 259-5834.
- For Police Dispatch, call 259-5888.
- For Montford's Community Resource Officer Justin Wilson call Cell: 828-450-3719



**Montford is published bimonthly by the Montford Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 7181, Asheville, NC 28802 for the residents of Asheville's first historic neighborhood. The newsletter is distributed by more than 50 volunteers.**

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**We welcome articles and advertising emailed by the 20th of the month to Ross Terry.**

**Thanks to Jim Parker for distribution help.**

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