



MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD
Vol. 23 No. 12
DECEMBER '18 / JANUARY '19

Dear Tour Homeowners...

Thank you so much for participating in the Montford Holiday Tour of Homes. Your homes all looked beautiful, and we are grateful for your willingness to be on the Tour. We so appreciate all your hard work of preparation and especially your coping so graciously with the snow. I hope there was not too much clean-up involved.

For those who were not at the party last night, we grossed over \$16,000, of which \$9,600 was from sponsorships and ads, and \$5,600 was from ticket sales.

Sales were slower than normal in the days before the Tour, as weather reports began to predict the storm. Nevertheless, we did sell quite a few on Tour day, and we got many reports of how much people enjoyed themselves. We are particularly pleased with how many neighborhood residents participated in and work on the Tour. It is a real community-building event, and we could not have done it without you.

As you may know, the Tour is the primary fundraiser for the Montford

Neighborhood Assn., and this money will allow us to continue supporting the Tempie Avery Center, the spring Montford Ars and Music Festival, and the fall Montford Art Walk. This year the board is concentrating on neighborhood beautification and should be able to do a lot with this new infusion of cash.

I hope that you have power today and that you are enjoying the beauty of Montford in the snow. You deserve it!

12/10/18 Ellen Nutter

Home-Owners

Susan Eggerton and Richard Brown • Pat and Ron Hart • Susan and Gerald Kirksey • Tracy and Len Levi • Stephanie Presenza and Rhett Mays • Kim Romano • Mary and David Stanley • Trudy and Ross Terry • Linda and Marc Voorhees • Valeria and Steve Wyda

---Thank You, Sponsors and Volunteers!---

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Special Thanks

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Asheville Visitor Center, Marie Ramsay

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Rebecca Sandoval, State Farm Insurance

Ross Terry, Graphics and Website

Rita Yerby, Graphic Designer

Lenoir Rhyne University

Merrimon Florist

Metro Wines

Wanda and Joe Newman

Whole Foods

TEMPIE AVERY MONTFORD CENTER

Calendar

Fall Yard Sale—November 10. 8am to 1pm. An entire gymnasium full of goods! **Free.**

Badminton—Join this active group of players on Friday nights 5:30pm - 8:00pm and Sunday mornings 9am - 11am.

Capoeira—Learn the Afro – Brazilian art which combines martial arts, dance, and culture. Saturdays 10am - noon.

Recommended donation of \$6 per class.

Table Tennis—Meets every Monday 5:30 - 8pm, Wednesday 11-2 and Saturday 11am - 2pm.

Ukulele—Mondays 6pm - 8pm. This self-led group welcomes all levels of talent including beginners. **Free.**

Volleyball—Pick up games every Sunday 11-2. \$5/person.

Martial Arts—Tuesday nights 5:30pm.

For information regarding any of our programs, facility hours or special events, call 253-3714 or email skriewall@ashevillenc.gov
Shana Kriewall, Facility Manager,
Tempie Avery Montford Center

Green Corner

The dire news from last month's Fourth National Climate Assessment compiled by the US Global Change Research Program has me concerned about our collective existence on this planet. The subject line in my email to Ross, our esteemed newsletter designer of over 15 years, was: Green Corner if not too late since I got behind my deadline with Thanksgiving...

It's not too late if literally everyone in our neighborhood, city, county, etc. does their part to reduce consumption. The reason I write this segment is to encourage and inspire others to make our one planet a better place and truly one planet since we all have to live here unless we're Elon Musk.

Many of the actions require little effort and can be done on a daily basis. If you recall the Energy Crisis of the



'70s then you probably already "flip a switch" when you leave the room or house. Do the same w/small appliances and computers by putting them on a power strip and turning it off or unplugging it when the items aren't in use. Another is to take an extra bag when you go for a walk to pick up trash, especially near drains or the creek/river. Speaking of bags and picking up.....be sure to do the same after your dog since their fecal matter isn't good for water quality. Leaking oil from your car? Fix it, because that is also detrimental to aquatic species and water quality. Compost provides a ready source of rich garden amendment for soil. Finally, recycle since this reduces trash that will create pollution from plastics and recycled material requires less energy vs raw material to produce new products.

You get the idea: we all do our part and maybe we have a chance to correct the course we're on before it's too late.

Be well, Mitch Russell



Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

Montford Action Agenda Nov. 14, 2018

Members present: Chair Bryan Moffitt, William Eakins, Woodard Farmer, David Carpenter, Emily Spreng, Charles "Ed" Flowers, Valeria Watson, Hillary Mannion, and Benjamin Mitchell

Staff present: Stacy Merten, Alex Cole, Jannice Ashley

Item, Summary and Action

24 Elizabeth Street—After the fact approval to install post and wire fence in front yard

Action—Approved with conditions

339 Cumberland Avenue—Amend previously issued CA for construction of new driveway with retaining walls in unopened right of way exiting from Cumberland Avenue

Action—Approved with conditions

246 Cumberland Avenue—Install 34' x 14' in-ground swimming pool in rear yard with surrounding deck, pergola, and outdoor showers; install new retaining wall, gravel walkways, water feature; construct 13' x 6' greenhouse in rear yard; install fence in rear yard; remove one mature tree to allow for construction; expand parking area in side yard

Action— Continued

178 West Chestnut Street—Construction of 2' tall stone retaining wall along sidewalk at front property boundary; install minor landscaping

Action—Approved

178 West Chestnut Street—After the fact removal of one original chimney

Action—Denied

178 West Chestnut Street—After the fact approval to replace front porch and rebuild one original chimney

Action—Denied

315 Pearson Drive—After the fact approval to replace asphalt shingle chimney with standing seam metal chimney

Action— Continued

182 West Chestnut Street—Convert one door opening to a window opening with diamond pane wood window on east elevation; replace two non-original windows on north and east elevations with new wood diamond pane windows; install wood porch railing along side of front porch; in area of existing gravel driveway, install concrete tracks and concrete parking area; install gravel walkway in front yard; construct wood deck on rear elevation

Action—Approved with conditions

Please refer to the website

(www.ashevillenc.gov)

for the full approved minutes after the following month's meeting.

Join the Montford listserv.

The Montford listserv is a neighborhood discussion list. This is a place where you can exchange news about the neighborhood. Visit Montford.org to learn more.

Holiday Tour of Homes

23RD ANNUAL



Photos courtesy Gary E. Holstein, Tour Photographer

*Happy Holidays from the Montford Neighborhood Association and the
Montford Tour Committee,*




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Resource Directory

House Histories

Learn the story of your house. Who lived there, who owned it and what they did for a living.

- For more information call Sharon at 777-1014

Historic Walking Tours

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"Mike is not about selling or pushing - he is all about earning trust & developing a relationship. He respected my thoughts during the negotiating process & represented us well. As a lifelong Asheville resident Mike had excellent recommendations on folks to help out with inspections, survey, closing attorneys & more (including restaurants & music venues). His team at Town and Mountain Realty is professional and friendly. Going to their office is a cross between visiting a real estate office & visiting someone's home. You cannot go wrong working with Mike Miller!" - Don K.



Photo courtesy Trudy Terry



*Happy Holidays from the
Newsletter Staff*

North Star Academy Work Day Lynn Raker

A big “Thank You” to Montford Neighborhood residents who helped with the front landscaping at Montford North Star Academy on November 17! The weather was perfect, as was the volunteer turnout from the neighborhood and the school. With outstanding teamwork, we were able to move a small mountain of topsoil, plant 32 shrubs and 72 native perennials, spread 300 cubic yards of mulch, fill about 30 bags of leaves and lay 54 stepping stones in just in 2 ½ hours, instead of the allotted 4 hours. The leaves were collected the next day and used by an Isaac Dickson School volunteer.

Participating in the landscaping project were 11 students and 10 adults from the school, a representative from the Asheville Roots Foundation and these Montford residents: Jan Crofford, Susan Eggerton, Vic Fahrer, Randy Hall, Dean Holt, Lesley Humphrey, Myo Koongnoo, Lynn Raker, Steve Raker, and Mark Voorhees.

Montford North Star Academy currently serves 6th and 7th graders as a STEAM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Math) and project-focused learning environment. In 2019-2020, it will expand its curriculum to 6th-8th grades. The recent building renovation did not include a landscape plan, so it was fortunate the MNA could help with the installation of durable, shade-tolerant shrubs and ground cover to help soften the 1950’s architecture.

The work on November 17 focused on the area between the mature maple trees and the building façade. The



open sunny “knoll” at the south end next to the driveway, which provides an excellent opportunity for additional colorful plantings, will be addressed with another workday in the spring. So, if you missed the November work day, please consider helping with Phase 2 this spring! Look for the announcement in a couple of months.

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SAY HI TO THE NEW NEIGHBORS!



GIVE A WARM MONTFORD WELCOME

to Steve and Karen Wilson, new innkeepers at The Lion & the Rose! Steve and Karen are excited to be a part of this vibrant community and are happy to call Montford home.

Wishing Lisa Merritt all the best for her retirement - Montford will miss you!



Millie Farmer

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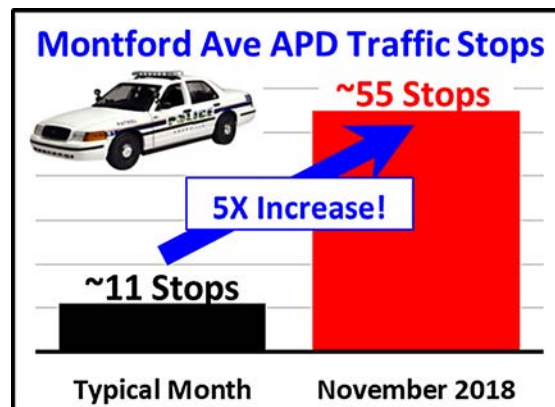


Increased Montford Avenue Traffic Enforcement by Asheville Police

Lynn Raker (lynn.raker@gmail.com), Montford Neighborhood Association Board member, and Marc Voorhees (SlowDownMontford@gmail.com), Montford resident, met with Asheville Police Captain Gary Gudac (ggudac@ashevillenc.gov) on November 29th to discuss the results of the City's recent traffic study on Montford Avenue.

The results of the traffic study were shared in the November issue of the Montford Newsletter, but as a reminder, the traffic study showed speeds consistently in excess of the posted speed limit as well as a significant increase over the prior study in June 2014. More than 60% of the vehicles are now exceeding the posted speed limit of 30 mph. Approximately 260 vehicles per day are traveling in excess of 40 mph, with some of those traveling at 50, 60 and even 70 mph. Research shows that a pedestrian has a 50% chance of survival if struck at 30 mph, and only a 10% chance of survival if struck at 40 mph. This is clearly a dangerous situation given the amount of vehicular, pedestrian and bicyclist activity on Montford Avenue. Those drivers that speed on Montford Avenue are also likely to continue to do so as they move onto the side streets of Montford.

The Asheville Police Department has recognized this as an unsafe traffic environment, and as a result, has shifted significantly more police resources to Montford Avenue in terms of police patrol cars and radar traffic enforcement. The Asheville Police Department typically makes only about ~11 traffic stops in an average month on Montford Avenue. However, with the recent increased APD focus, the number of traffic stops increased to ~55 stops in November, which is a 5X increase!



With 260 vehicles per day speeding at >40 mph, that works out to about ~8000 vehicles per month traveling at >40 mph down Montford Avenue. So even at ~55 traffic stops per month, that is still stopping less than 1% of those >40 mph speeders. Clearly, APD has a daunting task to get the traffic situation safely under control. But APD has promised to maintain their recent increased presence for as long as they have available resources to do so. In addition to working with APD, we continue to work with the Asheville Department of Transportation to look at design changes to calm traffic on Montford Avenue and across Montford. We also continue to work to educate the community on the perils of speeding through this newsletter, bumper stickers, yard signs and discussion at MNA meetings.

We also discussed with Captain Gudac the potential of supplementing the APD presence with off-duty APD traffic enforcement patrols funded by the Montford Neighborhood Association. Unfortunately, APD is not able to support that request for several reasons. First, their off-duty program is aimed more at event control/visibility, not enforcement (eg, making arrests or writing tickets). And secondly, even if they were to focus on traffic enforcement, they lack the resources to do so. Only about half of their patrol cars have radar (radar is expensive to buy and maintain) and only some of the police officers are trained to use radar (radar training is expensive), so it would

be very/very unlikely that an off-duty patrol car would even have the capability to enforce the speed limit.

But for the foreseeable future, there will be an increased police presence on Montford Avenue. The risk of getting a speeding ticket has significantly increased. The cost of a ticket including fees is around \$200. Pass the word to friends, neighbors,

renters, and visitors. . . please respect the safety of the community by driving at or below the posted speed limits in Montford. . . or suffer the legal/financial consequences.

Montford Reflections

Twenty-Three years ago the **Montford Holiday Tour of Homes** was known as the **Montford Culinary Tour of Homes**. Ticket sales were used to purchase supplies for the participating homes and to help support the APD substation—know as the Montford Resource Center located where Nine Mile is today.

The **Montford Culinary Tour of Homes** was mentioned in the third issue of our Newsletter. This brings up another subject, however. I have heard rumors of the existence of an earlier newsletter effort. Well, it's not a rumor. Sharon Fahrer told me that the North Carolina Room has scanned copies of this newsletter going back to 1987. This is very interesting, something to investigate after the Holidays!

MONTFORD

DECEMBER 1995

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

VOL. 1 NO. 3

MONTFORD HOSTS FIRST ANNUAL CULINARY TOUR OF HOMES

In an effort to bring the spirit of community and the holidays to our neighborhood, some of Montford's residents have voluntarily coordinated the First Annual Culinary Tour of Homes. Six historic houses are involved in the tour.

Each home will open its doors for four hours so that neighbor can meet neighbor over good food and warm drinks. It is a chance to view the interior restoration work in some of Montford's finest turn-of-the-century homes. The tour also provides an opportunity to glean a few holiday decorating ideas.

The complete tour is only \$5 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the

Montford Resource Center or from participating homes on the tour. A map of the tour is printed on the back of the tickets. All proceeds from the tour will help operate and maintain the Montford Resource Center for the coming year.

Following is a bit of information about each home on the tour:

* 97 Flint St. was built in 1898 as a two-story Queen Anne dwelling with simple details. Current owners Deborah Bryant, and Emily and Sunny Bryant Hutchinson, will serve hot, spirited apple cider and home-made egg nog.

* 50 Cumberland Ave. dates back to around 1890. It originated as a one-story farm house before the area became a neighborhood. After Montford was established, Architect Richard Sharp Smith reportedly was responsible for adding a second story to the house in the early 1900s. Renovator Fred Eggerton received a Griffin Award for his work on the house. Current owners are Jim and Deena Knight. They will be serving coffee, tea, and homemade desserts.

* 64 Cumberland Ave.: When Architect David Hill purchased this 98-year-old property in March 1995, it was a true monument to the bad things that had

happened to Montford over the years. However, David — along with friends and relatives — are finishing renovation of the interior and beginning work on the exterior. David will be serving hors-d'oeuvres out of his newly remodeled kitchen.

* 135 Cumberland Ave. was built in 1897 by O.D. Revell to resemble an English country cottage. This Queen Ann Victorian was recently converted into a bed and breakfast. Current owner Caroline Logie will offer tour guests a selection of heavy hors-d'oeuvres.

* 46 Cumberland Circle is a Colonial Revival-style home built in 1908 by Architect Richard Sharp Smith for businessman D.L. Jackson. A Griffin-award winning renovation transformed it to its present use as the Abbington Green Bed & Breakfast in 1993. The home is owned by Valerie Larrea. A selection of holiday desserts will be served on the tour.

* 61 Cumberland Circle was built around 1921 as a residence for Dr. John Donald MacRae and his wife. Caroline and Vann Boyd bought the house in 1994 and are in the process of restoring it to its original floorplan. A recent visitor to the house, Jane Garrigan, was Dr. MacRae's daughter. (See "I Remember When, page 3.) The Boyds will be serving specially prepared heavy hors-d'oeuvres.

UPCOMING

WISHING ALL OUR NEIGHBORS HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

- Saturday, December 9. Culinary Tour of Homes. 4:30 — 8:30 p.m. (See story this page.) Get your tickets at the Montford Resource Center at 235 Montford Ave. Tickets for the complete 6-house tour are \$5 per person. Proceeds benefit the MRC. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

- Wednesday, December 13. Historic Montford Holiday Potluck Dinner at the Greek Center on Cumberland Ave. at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited!

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Montford Park Players Presents ALL-TEEN version of *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens

Montford Park Players, an Asheville theatrical tradition, is overjoyed to present the local holiday tradition, *A Christmas Carol!* All performances will be held at Land of the Sky UCC, 15 Overlook Place, off Tunnel Road in Asheville, from **December 14th** through the **23rd** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7:30pm. This performance like ALL of Montford Park Players' shows will be absolutely **FREE** to attend. (No performance on Saturday, Dec. 15, due to the church's schedule).

This year, the Montford Park Players' Education Division takes over, with all of the acting, designing and even the technical elements being run by the Montford Moppets, MPP's squad of talented tweens and teens. Under the guidance of longtime Moppets instructors, Ashleigh Goff and Skyler Goff, this year's version promises a youthful vibrancy for this family-friendly classic.

More info here: <https://www.montfordparkplayers.org/>
And here: <https://www.facebook.com/MontfordParkPlayers/>

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