



MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD
Vol. 26 No. 09

SEPTEMBER '21



The Montford Neighborhood Association

Invites You to Join us to make Montford Festive and Kick Off our Holiday Season with MONTFORD LIGHTS! Saturday, December 4

4:00-4:30 pm: Montford Park Players, Holiday Performance, Hazel Robinson Amphitheater, 90 Gay St.

4:30-5:00 pm: Parade led by Asheville HS Marching Band, Amphitheater to Montford Garden (corner of Montford Ave. and Waneta St.)

5:15 pm: Christmas Tree Lighting, Montford Garden

5:30-6:00 pm: Asheville HS Marching Band, Concert, Seasonal Music

6:00: Stroll through Montford and see Montford Lights!

Help make Montford festive for the Holidays. Decorate and turn on your lights on December 4, 2021. Looking forward to seeing you then!

TEMPIE AVERY MONTFORD CENTER

Mark Your Calendar

Afterschool—Begins August 23, 2021 Will also be offering an afterschool program specifically for pre-teens this year.

Seth Jackson
 Manager, Tempie Avery Montford Center
 253-3714, sjackson@ashevillenc.gov.



MONTFORD PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

3RD FRIDAYS | 6 - 8 PM | AGES 7 - 11 | FREE

DATES:
 AUGUST 20
 SEPTEMBER 17
 OCTOBER 15
 NOVEMBER 19
 DECEMBER 17

Need a night away from the kiddos? Let the Montford staff watch them while you take a break! Staff will have lots of fun activities planned to entertain your youth.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

ASHEVILLE
 Parks & Recreation



What's on the menu at your house?

In fall, bears are hard at work searching for plenty of food so they can fatten up for the winter ahead.

The hunt for food starts in late summer as berries and fruits ripen and shifts into high gear when calorie-packed nuts and seeds are available (soft and hard mast). By fall bears are foraging up to 20 hours a day in a race against the clock. This annual power-eating marathon is called hyperphagia.

During hyperphagia, bears need to eat ten times the calories they normally consume – that's at least 20,000 calories a day.

Their goal: put on as much weight and insulating fat as possible before turning in for the winter. Even bears that live in warmer climates and den up later or sometimes not at all still go into hyperphagia in the fall.

Make your place a no-bear-food zone

BBQs – Ever noticed how a fall cookout or tailgate party can fill the whole neighborhood with enticing smells? Just imagine how good that smells to a hungry bear. So, don't leave food unattended. After the party's over, clean up any spills and wipe down all the surfaces, thoroughly clean your grill including the drip tray and grease pan. Put yummy-smelling (to a bear) trash and leftovers in bear-resistant containers or take inside. Don't leave trash, empty cans and bottles or anything else with an odor on your porch or anywhere else bears could access it.

Visit: <https://bearwise.org/>



Be BearWise
OUTDOORS

Six Outdoor BearWise Basics



Stay Alert & Stay Together

Pay attention to your surroundings and stay together. Walk, hike, jog, or cycle with others when possible. Keep kids within sight and close by. Leave earbuds at home and make noise periodically so bears can avoid you.



Leave No Trash or Food Scraps

Double bag your food when hiking and pack out all food and trash. Don't burn food scraps or trash in your fire ring or grill. *Leaving scraps, wrappers, or even "harmless" items like apple cores teaches bears to associate trails and campsites with food.*



Keep Dogs Leashed

Letting dogs chase or bark at bears is asking for trouble; don't force a bear to defend itself. Keep your dogs leashed at all times or leave them at home.



Camp Safely

Set up camp away from dense cover and natural food sources. Cook as far from your tent as possible. **Do not store food, trash, clothes worn when cooking, or toiletries in your tent.** *Store in approved bear-resistant containers OR out of sight in locked vehicle OR suspended at least 10 feet above the ground and 10 feet from any part of the tree. Local regulations vary.*



Know What To Do If You See a Black Bear

If you see a bear before it notices you, don't approach. Stand still, enjoy, then quietly move away. **If a bear sees you**, back away slowly. Never run; running may trigger a chase response. **If a bear approaches**, hold your ground, wave your arms and yell "Hey Bear" until it leaves. Stay with your group. **If it keeps approaching**, use bear spray. **If a black bear makes contact with you**, do NOT play dead; fight back aggressively.



Carry Bear Spray & Know How To Use It

Bear spray is proven to be the easiest and most effective way to deter a bear that threatens you. It doesn't work like bug repellent, so **never** spray your tent, campsite or belongings.

Learn More:
BearWise.org

Helping People Live Responsibly with Black Bears

BearWise® CREATED BY BEAR BIOLOGISTS, SUPPORTED BY STATE WILDLIFE AGENCIES





**BUNCOMBE
COUNTY
GOVERNMENT**
— NORTH CAROLINA —

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Community Update for Sept. 14, 2021

COVID Cases, Rates, and Percent Positivity Remain at High Levels

Although cases per 100,000 per week decreased slightly to 351 this week from 366 the week prior, COVID cases, rates, and percent positivity remain at high levels. The percent positivity continues to show stabilization in the mid-9% range for roughly 3.5 weeks. The current percent positivity is 9.4%, a slight decrease from 9.6% in the week prior.

“While it is encouraging to see the case rate decrease, we are just now entering the period after the Labor Day holiday where, if previous post-holidays trends have taught us, we are likely to see a bump in cases,” said Public Health Director Stacie Saunders.

The majority of new cases in the last week continue to be in the 25-49 year old group (38.4%). The most vaccinated of the population, individuals 65 years and older, made up 10.9% of new cases. New cases in individuals less than 18 years old (0-17 years old) made up over 26% of all new cases, a six-point increase from two weeks ago.

Hospitalizations remain high with almost half of all ICU beds occupied with patients suffering from COVID-19. The number of deaths per 100,000 per week increased for the second week and is now 5.3 per 100,000, up from 3.1.

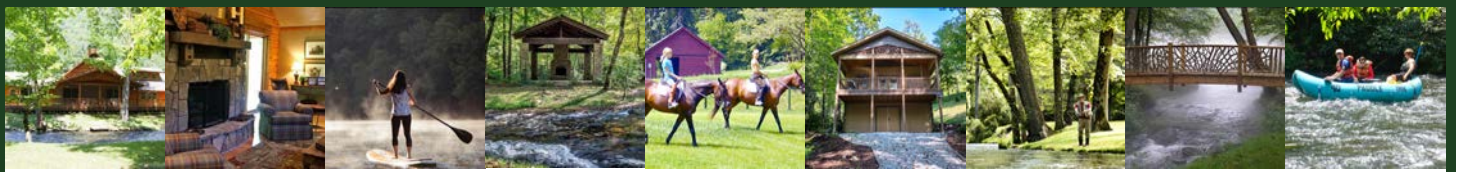
Buncombe County Health and Human Services (BCHHS) has administered more than 99,270 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine since December 2020. Approximately 73% of the eligible population (those 12 years and up) have received at least one dose of vaccine, while 69% of the eligible population is fully vaccinated. Currently, 64% of the total population in the county has received at least one dose of vaccine, and 61% of the total population in the county is fully vaccinated.

According to recent NC DHHS data, unvaccinated individuals have a risk that is 4.4 times that of their vaccinated counterparts in becoming ill with COVID-19. Additionally, unvaccinated individuals have a risk of death that is over 15 times that of their vaccinated counterparts.

“These are not chances anyone should take. There are safe and effective vaccines that reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death,” stated Saunders. “Don’t gamble your health, and possibly your life, with COVID-19. Please take steps now if you are unvaccinated to protect yourself including getting your vaccine as soon as possible plus wearing a mask and keep distance to further reduce your risks.”

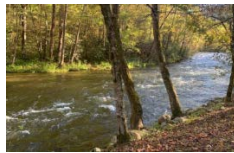
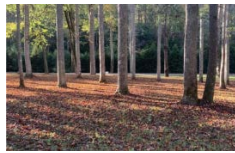
Get more information here:

<https://www.buncombecounty.org/countycenter/news-detail.aspx?id=18543>



Nantahala Whitewater Homesites!

Beautiful Waterfront homesites Right on the Nantahala River! **Our final phase of waterfront lots ever!** This riverfront community is well-established with around a dozen homes already completed, several under construction and residents already living in the neighborhood.



Unrivaled amenities: from two clubhouses - lakefront at Queens Lake (with boat storage) and on the Nantahala whitewater river (with guest quarters you can stay before you build), to an equestrian center, to miles of trails, to a fishing pond, and even a celestial observatory w/ rotating dome, all surrounded by the National Forest. All fully built and ready for you to come see and enjoy today. Build when and with whom you choose. Excellent vacation home potential! Waterfront homesites starting at 295K!



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Forever Montford

WELCOME PACKET

Randy Hall

Forever Montford, a committee of the Montford Neighborhood Association (MNA) has created a Welcome Packet for new Montford residents. The packet contains information such as a brief history of Montford, a list of MNA board members along with contact information, Montford listserv, Montford newsletter, neighborhood parks, events (due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns, be sure to confirm event dates/times), restaurants, maps, volunteer opportunities and much more. Packets are being delivered by MNA board and Forever Montford committee members upon learning of new residents. Recipients of the Welcome Packet have shown great appreciation with one neighboring writing, "Looks like we lucked out in the neighbor and neighborhood department! I appreciate the history and local information. Well done, and thank you for your thoughtfulness." If you are new to Montford or know of a new resident, please



contact one of the below, and we will coordinate delivery of a Welcome Packet.

Randy Hall: cpabanker@yahoo.com

Leslie Humphrey: leslie@squarepeginc.net

Sherree Lucas: sherree.l.lucas@gmail.com

Lynn Raker: lynn.raker@gmail.com

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Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

Montford Action Agenda 08/11/21

Present: Chair Emily Kite, Stephanie West, Will Hornaday, James Vaughn, Sara Gardner, Sioux Oliva, Georgene Falcon, Shannon Watkins

Absent: Emily Spreng, Gail Lazaras

Staff present: Alex Cole, Shannon Tuch, Avery Tew, Jannice Ashley

Item, Summary and Action

240 Pearson Drive (PIN 9639848399) - Modify door and window openings on existing accessory structure; construct new section of 4' tall metal picket fencing in front and side yards; construct stone pillars adjacent to driveway and install 4' tall metal picket.

Action—Approved with conditions

119 Cumberland Avenue (PIN 9649127798) - Modifications to existing noncontributing structure to accommodate new residential use.

Action—Approved with conditions

288 Montford Avenue (PIN 9649031806) - Installation of a new fabric awning over porch on front elevation.

Action—Approved

95 Cherry Street (PIN 9649215539) - Modifications to front entry.

Action—Approved

99999 Elizabeth Place (PIN 9649229707) - Construction of a new 3,567 square foot, two-story primary structure.

Action—Continued

HRC Application Portal

The city is now accepting HRC applications digitally via the Development Portal at this address:

<https://develop.ashevillenc.gov/>

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



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Resource Directory

Historic Walking Tours

Stroll the neighborhood or downtown. Walking tours of historic Montford, Riverside Cemetery, Biltmore Village and downtown Asheville, call 777-1014.

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Advertisement for Downtown Books & News, including address, phone, website, and a woodcut-style illustration of a crow and birds.

Green Corner

Mitch Russell



There is a famous social science study that was conducted in the late 1960's/early 1970's to essentially test personal responsibility or lack thereof in potentially traumatic experiences.

You ask what does this have to do with column? I say everything since if we don't take personal responsibility then our environment will eventually be so fouled that we won't be able to survive.

Case in point, microplastics. These are, as the name implies, tiny bits of plastic. They are formerly part of a larger piece of plastic that can be a grocery bag, plant pot, pet toy or any other item made of plastic, ie vinyl, polyethylene or any other type of "plastic".

Microplastics were the topic of a recent email from Mountain True, a WNC environmental organization based here working on a variety of issues. From the email: "Early data shows 15-20 pieces of microplastics per liter in the French Broad River". So we're polluting our main water source and potentially killing fish and other wildlife, Hellbenders, otters, waterfowl, etc. due to our lifestyles of convenience and laziness. Yep, I went there since the environment that sustains us doesn't deserve to be treated this way. Just like someone that you live with doesn't deserve to be mistreated.

Good news is we can take action, responsibility, to help the environment and ourselves and the ones we love in the process. Stop buying/using single-use plastics, ie grocery bags, straws, sandwich bags, etc. If you must use single-use bags then re-use & recycle. Recycle at your favorite grocery store that accepts them. Do not put in curbside recycling. They won't be recycled & contaminate all the other recycling. It's a lot easier to buy 10 re-usable bags & stash them in your car or bike pannier vs using

single-use bags since you don't have to worry about recycling them or feel guilty.

When you're walking in the neighborhood or anywhere for that matter take a pair of nitrile/vinyl (I know!) or work gloves & a plastic bag (again) to pick up plastic & other trash. Tie the bag & place in your trash bag.

Make sure your trash bags are tied & there is no loose trash in your trash can.

Don't get plastic straws, plastic forks/knives/spoons or frequent establishments that use plastic to-go containers or styrofoam.

We're almost to the point of a traumatic global experience, depending on your perspective. Personally, I think we're past that.

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▣
Asheville

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.