



MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD
Vol. 21 No. 10-11
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER '16

First Annual Montford Artwalk October 29

We are excited to announce the first annual Montford Artwalk, October 29, 12-5pm. Join us for a celebration of many talented artists, designers, and crafts persons. Enjoy an autumn afternoon as you stroll through the historic neighborhood and learn about the many talented individuals who live and work in Montford. More than a dozen creative people will open their studios for this free event.

continued on page 15...



I-26 CONNECTOR



Note from the Editor: *The author of this article, Suzanne, was also the mediator of the forum with NCDOT. Some audience members objected to Suzanne's biased agenda during the forum, and might object to the tone of this article. I generally welcome articles, biased or not, anytime. Anyone is welcome to write an article. One more point; without the work of Suzanne and David Patterson, there wouldn't have been a meeting with Montford neighbors. Sometimes, with a heated issue, starting a conversation, or continuing one, is better than no conversation.*

Musings from the I-26 Connector Forum

Suzanne Devane

The September 20 MNA forum marked a great turnout of 200-plus community members interested in hearing from North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) about what the consequences continued on page 9...

TOUR OF HOMES

2016 Tour of Homes, December 10, 1-5pm

The Montford Holiday Tour of Homes is a wonderful community event that raises funds for the Montford Neighborhood Association and selected neighborhood projects. The MNA strives to keep our neighborhood safe, progressive, and lively, and the Holiday Tour of Homes is a huge part of this endeavor.

Details:

- Date & time: Saturday December 10, 2016, 1-5pm
- Ticket Price: \$25 (brochure/ticket required for entry into homes)
- Ticket Sales: Tickets will be available starting December 1 at the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor's Center Gift Shop, 36 Montford Avenue.

Here are a few of the homes on the Tour this year. There will be more than what you see here. They'll all be described in the next newsletter.

249 Cumberland Ave, Pinecrest B&B

This 1905 English Tudor style B&B inn, listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, overlooks an acre of lush grounds and woods and has been restored with elegance and grace.

In 1913 Richard Sharp Smith, a prominent Asheville architect who worked extensively in Montford and for the Biltmore Estate, was commissioned to design an addition to the house for Mrs. Alexander Cowley. Initially the house was an asymmetrical cottage that included only the right turret and a simple entrance. When the sister of Mrs. continued on page 4...

When, Where, and What Do I Need to Vote?

Susan Presson

After many NC legislative decisions, laws, and legal battles, it might be confusing about when we can vote and what we need to take with us, short of promising our first born. **Early voting** starts October 20 and runs through November 5. Vote early! There are 16 sites for Early Voting, 10am-6pm.

Where to Vote

The easiest voting site for us in Montford is the former Randolph/ Isaac Dickson

School (now called by the school system the Fusion Campus) at 90 Montford Avenue. Also all the county libraries will be open for voting. All the libraries will also be open Sunday October 30, 1-6pm. On election day polls are open 6:30am-7:30pm.



Same Day Voting Registration

There is same day voting registration only during the Early Voting window. If you want to vote on election day, you must have been registered by October 14. I've got voter registration forms (4pressons@gmail.com) or one can go to the Board of Elections at 77 McDowell St. You do not need a photo ID or license to vote. You can register as Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Unaffiliated, or Other, and may still vote in primaries.

Absentee Voting

An absentee ballot can be requested by an individual or by a family member. The absent voter's date of birth, last four numbers of social security number, and mailing address are required. Absentee ballots must be signed by two witnesses and post-marked by election day. It must be received by the Board of Elections by

CALENDAR

Montford Neighborhood Association Meetings

- October 18 at 7pm, Montford Community Center, Pearson Avenue. Bring your ID.

Agenda so far: speeding vehicles, I-26 connector status, HRC rule changes discussion.

All residents are welcome. Everyone in Montford is a member of the neighborhood association.

Community Recreation News

As the leaves fall and Halloween season comes, so comes Montford Center's annual **Fall-O-Ween** event on Saturday, October 22, 5-7:30pm. Bring the kids to



this free event for fun, games, music, activities, and a great picture booth for a photo keepsake. This will be a great, safe,

and family-friendly event provided by the Montford Recreation Center and Montford Neighborhood Association.

Our new **Adult Yoga** class will be held Thursdays, October 6-November 10, 6:30-



7:30pm for \$50 for the series of \$10 for drop-ins. Call us for more information.

We are looking for vendors for our 3rd Annual **Holiday Craft Fair** Saturday, November 12, 10am-4pm. Booth space is just \$15.

Youth Fun Day Out programs are held on most teacher workdays and holidays. The cost is just \$5 plus field trips. Program runs 8:30am-6pm. Preregistration is required. We are hosting dates on October 10 and November 8, 11 & 23. We also have a **Holiday Camp** during the winter break December 21-23 and 27-30, \$40 per child. This program will fill, so sign up early.

For more information on the Montford Community Center, 34 Pearson Drive, contact Kim at 253-3714.

November 14, and the return envelope must be signed.

Felons

Anyone convicted of a felony has voting rights restored once the sentence and parole have been served.

Volunteers Needed

There is a big need for poll greeters for all hours polls are open at all the

different sites. It can be a fun way to meet and greet your neighbors and thank them for voting. Please contact me (4pressons@gmail.com) if you are able to be a poll greeter or need to register at your current address.

Democracy only works when its people participate.

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Montford Neighborhood Association Meeting

Tuesday October 18, 7pm, Montford Community Center, 34 Pearson Drive

Bring your ID—everyone is welcome

We'll be talking about vehicles speeding in the hood, the current status of the I-26 Connector project, and feedback on suggested HRC changes, which you can find here: montford.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/HRC-suggested-changes.pdf

OLLI Art Bazaar, Nov. 11-12, 2016



Mark your calendar to attend the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Art Bazaar, Friday November 11, 11am - 4pm & Saturday November 12, 11am - 3pm at the Reuter Center on the campus of UNC Asheville.

You will discover a delightful selection of paintings, fiber arts, photography, jewelry, scarves, assemblage (mixed media), handcrafted soaps & lotions, cards and paper art, pottery, wood art and so much more!

For directions: <http://olliasheville.com/directions>

Tour of Homes

Continued from front page...

Cowley moved into the residence in 1907, she requested a bedroom in an identical bayed turret. While in the planning stages of the left turret, architect Smith included the rear 'sleeping porch' and redesigned the front porch and entrance. The end product is a symmetrical front facade, something Mr. Smith refused in other Montford designs.

In 2016 Dan and Diane Rogers purchased Pinecrest and became the resident innkeepers. After their two children were grown, they decided to reinvent themselves and turn their passion for hospitality and entertaining into a rewarding experience for the guests at the inn.

315 Montford Avenue

This beautiful colonial, built in 1926, was completely remodeled with all electrical, plumbing, zoned heating and cooling, new high-end kitchen and all-new baths, custom closets and built-ins throughout. It's a new house in an historic shell.

Mason (Gene) Miller and Rita Yerby, moved from Birmingham, Alabama, purchased the home in July 2014, and just completed renovations.

46 Short Street

Affectionately known as Le Maison Fleurie, which is lousy French for Flower House, was constructed by Jade Mountain Builders and completed in December, 2015. While the exterior is classic arts-and-crafts style, the interior is more open and airy and decidedly modern.

The owners are fond of bright colors and eclectic decor, reflecting their love of travel and exotic locales, with occasional whimsical touches like the tree in their living room.

55 W Chestnut Street

Built circa 1915. A two-story asymmetrical shingle over stucco dwelling. Clipped dormer. Altered. Includes an art studio.

Heather will have her studio open during the tour, with fiber art, handspun yarn, and finished products for viewing and for sale.

104 Flint Street

Built in 1920 as a gabled Tudor with wood exterior, this is a half-timbered, stucco gable end dwelling. Apparently, the scale of the new structure was a surprise and created a long-standing feud between the families living at 104 and 116 Flint Streets. 104 Flint street also operated as a boarding house soon after it was built.



104 Flint Street

In 1981, The Flint Street Inns was established and continued the relationship between the properties at 104 and 116. The Flint Street Inns brought back together these two side-by-side distinguished old family homes with all the rooms furnished in turn-of-the-century style, and offered old Southern charm.

Around 2005, The Flint Street Inns closed and both homes were on the market. A private homeowner bought the property at 104 Flint but never lived in the home—for five years it sat empty. The current family purchased it in 2010 and have been working hard on the home with renovations and landscaping projects. They are raising their young family here.

20 Sylvan Ave

Built in 1926 as a colonial design. This home has been totally remodeled, finished in 2015. We'll have more information next newsletter.



20 Sylvan Ave

Continued from page 4...

2 Arborvale Road

Originally 2 Pisgah Avenue; the street name changed in 1932.

Built 1910. An early 20th century two-story vernacular shingle style dwelling with multiple gables and a wide porch with rounded end, square porch posts with molded trim, multiple gables, brick foundation. More information to come!

46 Cumberland Circle, Abbington Green B&B

Stop by for an amazing refreshment stop and Christmas décor like you've never seen. Nick and Steve have welcomed Tour guests before and there is always something new to see.



46 Cumberland Circle, Abbington Green B&B

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VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE TOUR!
Contact Cate Scales at 280-1576

VOLUNTEER TO BE A DOCENT ON THE TOUR!
Contact Joan Miller,
JoanAdrienne@gmail.com or
650-966-1957

Garlands and Wreaths For Sale

The Asheville Garden Club will begin taking orders in October for their annual wreath and garland sale.

Wreaths come in three sizes (based on the inside hold of the wreath): 8" (\$12), 10" (\$15), and 14" (\$17).

Garlands are 25 feet long. White pine: \$25, Leyland cypress: \$35, and Frazier fir: \$45.

Order deadline is November 18.

I would be happy to deliver to Montford residents if you cannot be available for pickup on Nov. 26, 9-12. Order forms available first week of October. Questions and orders can be directed to Cherie Morris, 785-2584, or email L1011fa@ gmail.com.



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Awesome Foundation Strikes Again

We're giving away \$1000 to some kids!!!

Awesome Foundation Asheville, a local chapter of the Awesome Foundation, is pleased to announce that our next grant cycle will focus on projects from elementary through high school students. We are contacting schools in the Asheville area and encouraging them to help their students submit projects that can be funded by a \$1000 grant from our chapter.

We believe great ideas can come from all parts of our community and if we only focus on adults, we will be missing out on some great opportunities.

Projects

Projects can be anything from an arts performance to a charitable activity to a fun activity to anything they can dream up to do with \$1000 that will help make Asheville a more awesome community. Students should focus on projects that will make their community more awesome (not just their schools more awesome). We will judge the projects on 3 criteria: creativity, feasibility, and impact on the community.

Applicants must be aged 18 years or under. Both students attending local schools and those being home schooled are encouraged to participate. Deadline for applications is November 6th. Individual students as well as groups of students can submit applications at: awesomeavl.com

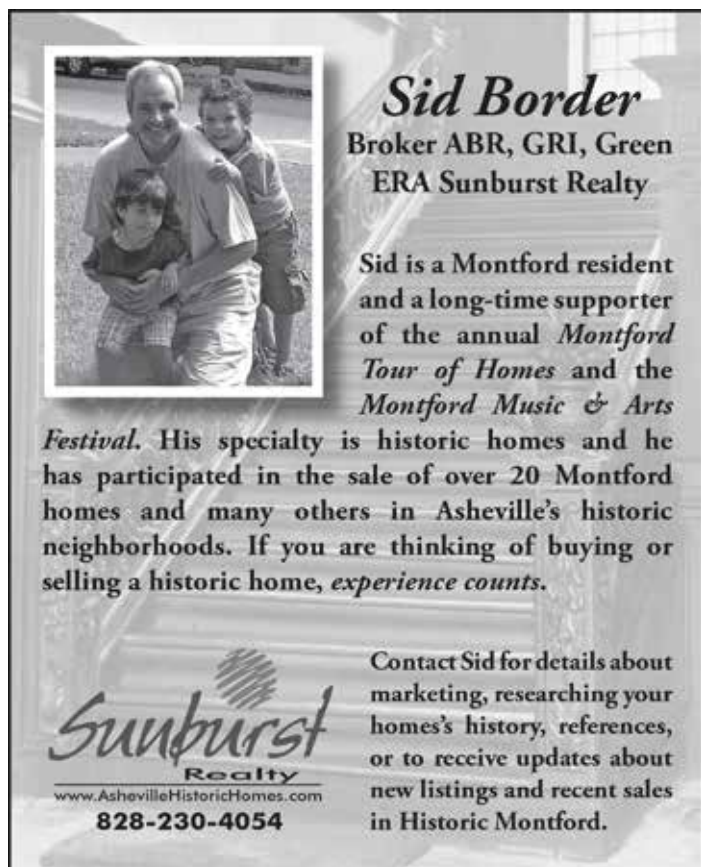
We will choose a group of finalists to present at a pitch party on December 4th. At the pitch party students will have 7 minutes to present their projects followed by a quick Q & A session.

About the Foundation

We all know how Awesome it is to live, work and play in Asheville. This group wants to help those who can make our community even better with just a little help from some friends. Awesome Asheville gives out grants of \$1000 to those who can articulate and deliver great projects to make our town even more vibrant and awesome to live in. The Awesome Foundation has 83 chapters in 18 countries and has given over \$2 million micro-grants since its inception. For more information visit: awesomeavl.com

Media Contact

Andrew Celwyn
215-589-0263
andrew@herbiary.com



Sid Border
Broker ABR, GRI, Green ERA Sunburst Realty

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 marketing, researching your homes's history, references, or to receive updates about new listings and recent sales in Historic Montford.

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I-26 Connector Forum

Continued from front page...

of the 4B Alternative would be on the western edge of downtown Asheville. NCDOT's prepared verbiage fell far short of what the crowd wanted to hear. In fact, it seemed like state officials were all set to provide a series of generic presentations that could have been germane to just about any neighborhood in North Carolina where a massive highway was to be plopped down.

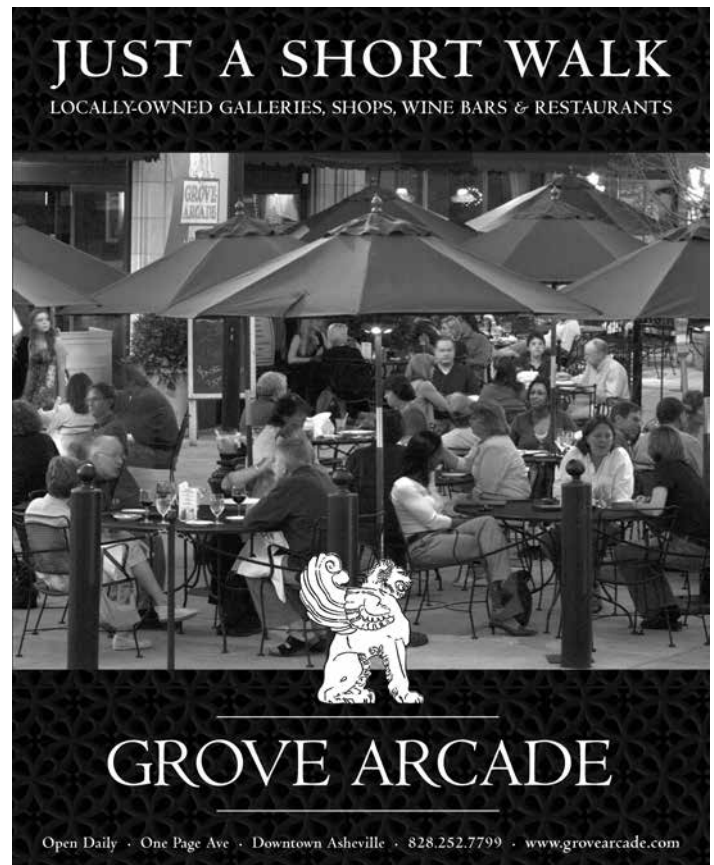
To their credit, NCDOT did provide some partially completed visualizations that showed a towering wall of highway looming over historic Riverside Cemetery. They did show massive retaining walls meant to hold up the hillside underneath the homes in Montford once they've cut into the hills to add eight additional lanes of elevated highways. And according to the misleading visualizations provided, NCDOT apparently has the ability to insert all these elevated highways into the landscape without eliminating any of the mature trees that remained intact to make the highway structures look pretty in their visual mock-ups.

NCDOT—when pressed—did fess up to the reality that if the Hillcrest community wants any noise relief resulting from this project, the people living there will be facing a 25-foot sound wall just a few feet from their bedroom windows. (NOTE: Disregarding this fact, the 2015 NCDOT draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) actually claims that Hillcrest would experience a “moderate benefit” because the neighborhood plans provide for a sidewalk direct to Patton Avenue.) And finally, NCDOT's Derrick Weaver admitted that Alternative 4B is not set in stone AND that the current highway location decision was because of decisions made way back in 1997 when Asheville's government and community leaders were desperately looking for a way to revitalize the City and wanted to direct more outsiders into our downtown.

But, now it is 2016. The City of Asheville is looking to manage growth and our population has increased by nearly 30%. It's hard to understand why NCDOT believes the decisions that were made to address Asheville conditions two decades ago are still relevant in the Asheville of today and tomorrow. In fact, as recently as 2014, U.S. public information research group (PIRG) used the I-26 expansion as an example of a “highway boondoggle” stating that “since 2004, traffic has not increased significantly along that stretch of road.” So, the outstanding top-of-mind question came from an insightful man in the audience who finally asked, “Why is any of this even necessary?”

With these thoughts in mind, the MNA Board is considering how best to approach this issue in light of the overwhelming sentiment against this project that was evidenced in the room that night. Time

is short and the next few months will be critical. As NCDOT cautions in the DEIS document: “construction of this project would require certain irreversible and irretrievable commitments of natural resources.” Given the high stakes involving this project, it would seem that someone in charge may wish to examine why former Democratic Governor Bev Perdue squelched the whole I-26 project back in 2010. It might be informative to both decision-makers and the public.



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Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

**Public Hearings – Certificates of Appropriateness
Tentative Agenda September 14, 2016**

Old Business

83 Starnes Avenue—Construction of 344 square foot rear addition

New Business

57 Pearson Drive—Construction of deck and modification of two windows to convert to French doors

116 Flint Street—Construction of two story rear addition; modification of one window opening and one door opening on front elevation

51 Starnes Avenue—Modification of front porch railing to raise height from 30” to 36”

Other Business

Montford guideline amendment update

Comments from Commissioners, Public and Staff

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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Natural Neighborhoods: Fall Color

Lisa Wagner

We live in a region of fall color.

Reddening leaves of dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) often lead the way, although droughty conditions (not uncommon) may also encourage early leaf color in maples, probably as leaves have shut down production of chlorophyll

early this year. My sister (then living in Central Texas) sent me an e-mail a number of years ago, asking about what really triggered the change in color in leaves—temperature, day length, moisture, or a combination. Her dog park group wanted to know!

Well, what are sisters for, after all, especially if she's a botanist and garden educator (I'm now a volunteer one)? I had some fun reviewing the details and look forward to seeing how it will play out this season, with the warm and dry conditions forecast for this fall.

Why the Colors?

Basically, our fall colors in the Eastern U.S. are revealed as chlorophyll production slows down, cued by the shortening days and lengthening nights. The interplay of pigments in leaves determines the fall colors of different species, with the temperature and moisture determining color intensities. As the chlorophyll (which provides the overriding green color of leaves) breaks down, the other pigments in the leaves become evident. The carotenoids produce the yellow and oranges and *anthocyanins* produce the purple and reds. *Anthocyanins* are actively produced as a reaction between sugars and proteins—in the watery vacuoles of leaf cells, and their colors are influenced by acidity. They start showing up as the chlorophyll breaks down, and corky deposits start blocking the downward flow of sugars between leaves and stems.

Diversity of Trees

Different trees have different combinations of the basic pigments, and here in Eastern North America, we have the largest diversity of species of trees that exhibit fall color, so many of our natives are prized in Europe for fall color—our sweet gums and tulip poplars for example.



Some of the trees that are shades of oranges, reds, and purples include the red, white, and scarlet oaks, persimmon, sassafras, dogwood, sweet gum, as well as the maples. Hickories, river birch, redbud, tulip poplar, and sycamore turn yellow and gold, although the last two frequently turn brown and drop leaves early in droughty years like this one.

Conditions for Intensity

Beech leaves also accumulate tannin, adding a bronze color to the underlying yellows. The fall weather plays a key factor in whether it's a particularly good year for color, especially in the reds and purples. Day and night temperature and general moisture levels are important. Warm sunny days (with lots of sugar production) with cool crisp nights produce the best reddish and purple colors—from the *anthocyanin* pigments—at the same time chlorophyll production is declining. These are the “best” fall color years for bright red and orange hues.

Yellows are fairly consistent from year to year, since the carotenoids aren't so affected by weather variations. Overly dry weather will produce more brownish leaves and early leaf drop, with washed-out colors in general.

So no two falls are alike!



“Do not let Margot's youthful appearance fool you! She is a true professional who is with you every step of the way. She's a great listener and really takes your preferences to heart. Our experience with her was top notch and we will refer others to her without reservation.”

-Michele



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Artwalk

Continued from front page...

The Montford Artwalk will feature painting, fiber art, jewelry, printing, graphic design, woodwork, and more. Don't miss this unique opportunity to meet local artists and see their work spaces.

Where To Find Maps

Maps will be available at the Asheville Visitor Center, 36 Montford Avenue and the Montford Recreation Center, 34 Pearson Drive, on the day of the event.

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/MontfordArtwalk/ or Twitter at twitter.com/montfordartwalk, or Instagram at instagram.com/montfordartwalk.

We hope to see you at the Artwalk for a celebration of Montford's unique energy and positive vibes. The Montford Neighborhood Association is sponsoring this event.

Artwalk Participants

Jacque Allen—Furniture designer and maker. Jacque is also a woodturner who makes bowls, salt and pepper grinders, cutting boards and other wood pieces. She has taught at Penland School of Craft and various other crafts schools around the country. www.jdallenstudio.com jdenbyallen@gmail.com

Heather Baird—Fiber artist. hjbiard@gmail.com

Alexandra Baker—Working medical illustrator. Current projects include an embryology book, an immunology book and website, two anatomy books and a book on acupuncture for deep sea divers, along with various medical magazines. alexandrawbaker@gmail.com www.dnillustrations.com

Dan Blake—Realism portrait artist who works in oil on canvas with a focus on creating a degree of tension between the background and the model. dan.blake@dhhs.nc.gov

Tabitha Burnett—Sculptor who makes expressive figures in clay. tabithaburnett.com

Nat Dickinson—Artist who focuses on landscape and cityscape paintings of Asheville and Maine. www.natdickinson.com. Also at Riverside Studios, 174 West Haywood Street, Asheville

Kathy Goodson—Original silk painting artist. www.kathygoodson.com

Margaret Goodson—Handmade jewelry artist. www.etsy.com at GRITGOODS.

Toni Graves—Bead, yarn and crochet artist and craftsperson. tgraves77@gmail.com <https://www.etsy.com/shop/BeadYarnCrochet> <https://www.facebook.com/beadyarncrochet>

Kevin Hogan—Artist and print maker. <http://ashevilleartlink.com/hogan/>

Linnea Heide—Painter of original abstract paintings of all sizes, colors and price ranges. www.linneaheide.com

Dana Irwin—Landscape painter and board member of the Saints of Paint, an organization which produces fine art fundraisers to support local non-profits. irwindana@bellsouth.net

Mary McDermott—Painter, print maker and art facilitator at the Urban Art Retreat and Studio. <http://marymcdermottart.com> <http://www.theurbanartretreatandstudio.com>

John Morris—Photographic restorer and family history video artist. <http://www.nexusphotographics.com/>.

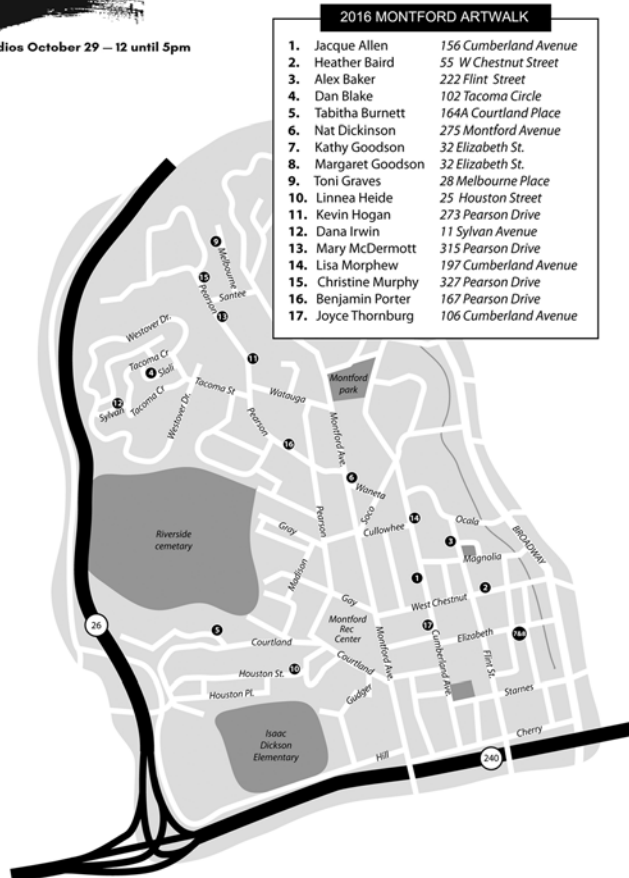
Lisa Morphew—Decorative art tile maker. lisamorphew51@gmail.com www.yanceycraftedtile.com

Christine Murphy—Artist and designer of one of a kind hand-made clothing and paintings. Rise from the Ashes Unique Apparel

Joyce Thornburg—Figurative expressionist painter. joyce-thornburg@att.net <http://www.joycethornburg.net>

MONTFORD ARTWALK

open studios October 29 – 12 until 5pm



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"It takes truly exceptional service for me to write a referral ... and this is how I describe my recent experience with **Amy Giles** as our Realtor ... exceptionally good service. We were looking for a Realtor who understood our Montford neighborhood, the unique value of our historic home, and was able to clearly communicate a detailed marketing strategy. Amy (a long-term Montford homeowner, a WNC native, and experienced Asheville Realtor) used an evidence-based approach to help us establish a listing price and collaborate on an effective marketing strategy. We received a full price offer the first week our house was available to show. It was painful enough to leave Montford ... but at least the experience of selling our house was painless. Throughout the entire process, from the first interview to closing, Amy was on top of every detail. A truly exceptional experience."—Paul Zmick