



# MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD  
VOL. 21 NO. 6-7  
JUNE/JULY '16

## Muchas, Muchas Gracias Festival Volunteers!

It was our 13th successful year with 6371 attending. The Montford Music and Arts Festival gave residents, vendors, and visitors of all ages local music, arts, and fine al fresco dining. We owe so much to volunteers (and, particularly, volunteer organizers Jerry Connor, Kim Kennedy, David Baker, and Ben Scales for months of preparation and a unified effort on the day itself). Thank you!



Our locals **Brian May** and **Scott Merrill**, and **Hernán** and **Lou Ann Navarro** continue to make this a rewarding local event by contributing a matching donation of \$1,000. Can you imagine? These are our dear neighbors who make our lives better.

- |                 |                |                    |                |                   |                                |                                      |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Keith Aitken    | Jason Boyer    | Susan Eggerton     | Roy Hall       | Taylor Kennedy    | Destiney Moss                  | Rothlein                             | Margo Sutton     |
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| Suzanne Bolding | Leon Dreyfus   | Kim Goodspeed      | Kim Kennedy    | Michael McDonough | Tony Peirfelice                | Will Sibbald                         | Dave Werle       |
|                 | Pamela Dupuis  |                    | Logan Kennedy  | Janice Mead       | Terry Peters                   | Lisa and Shea Smith                  | Gary Wiles       |
|                 |                |                    |                | Joan Miller       | Bob Presley                    | Caroline Snead                       | Jane Yokoyama    |
|                 |                |                    |                | Cherie Morris     | Jared Reggi                    | Rachel Stein                         | Daphne Young     |
|                 |                |                    |                | Lucy Morris       | Lewis & Susan                  |                                      | Fred Zarro       |

## Our second sign goes up—the Montford Sign Grant Program

Are you a Montford business? Need a sign? Who you gonna call? **BETTER CALL SUE:** (828) 778-7747.



Second sign unveiled



Smith Sisters singing gospel



Our first sign in place



# MONTFORD *Music and Arts* FESTIVAL







CALENDAR

Montford Neighborhood Association Meetings

- Third Tuesday of every month, Montford Community Center, Pearson Drive.
• Next meetings: Tuesday June 21 and Tuesday July 19, 7pm. Watch the listserv for agenda items.

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



Community Recreation News

Kim Kennedy, Community Center Director

Ukulele Mondays, 6-8pm, FREE

Developing Future Male Leaders/ Diamonds in the Rough

Fridays thru May 27, 6-7:30pm, \$5 per season (youth learn leadership skills)

Community Basketball

Adults - Tuesdays noon-2pm and Sundays 5:30-7:30pm, FREE

Adult Martial Arts

Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm, \$10 per person

Table Tennis

Mondays 5:30-8pm, Wednesdays & Saturdays 11am-2pm, FREE

Badminton

Thursdays 5:30-8pm and Saturdays 9-11am, FREE

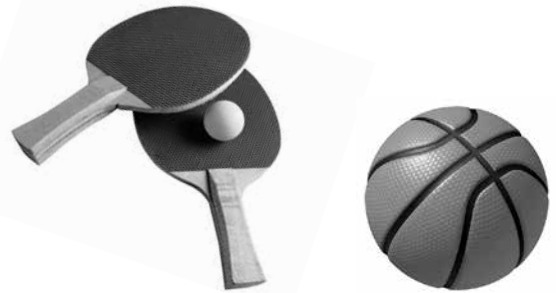
\*The Montford Center gym will be closed Wednesday, April 20-24 for floor maintenance.

Hot August Night 5k run

August 27 at 7pm. Start training yesterday!

Montford Community Center info:

Contact Kim Kennedy, Montford Center Director at 253-3714 or email her at montfordr@ashevillenc.gov.



We continue to look for a new Montford Newsletter Editor.

It might just be your road to happiness!

Advertisement for Jeff Stewart's Broker Asheville and Surrounding Areas, featuring a group photo and contact information.

Advertisement for Allegra Print & Imaging, featuring the company logo and contact information.

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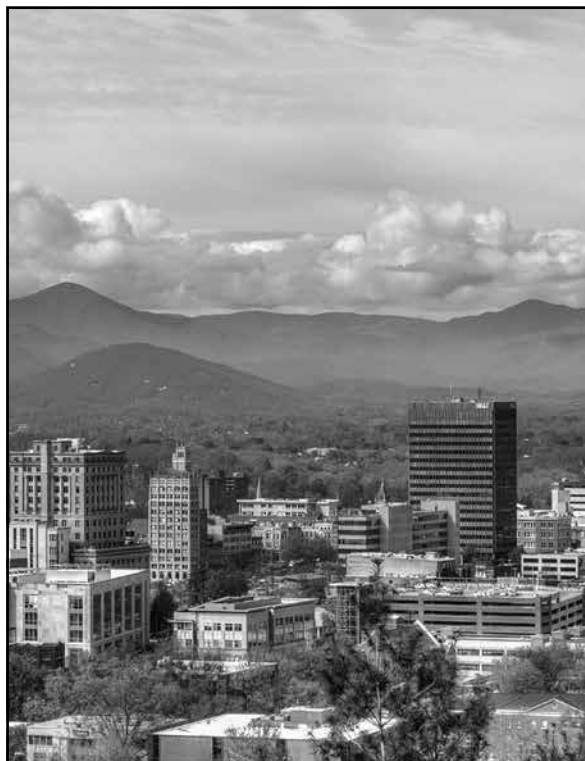
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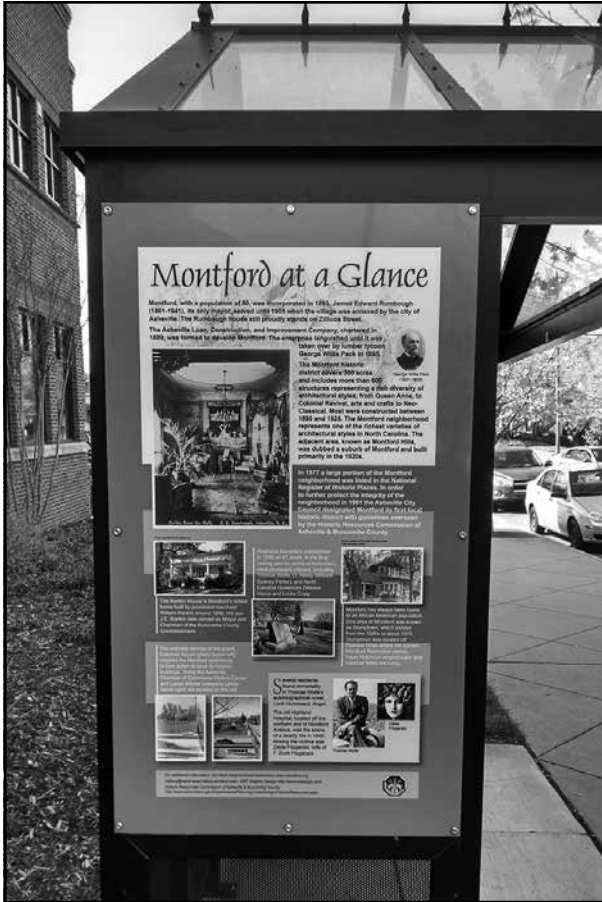
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**Montford is the first to display its history on a neighborhood bus shelter!**

Have you noticed as you drive or walk past the bus shelter in front of the Chamber Visitors Center there is a panel that gives a brief glimpse of Montford history? What a great way to show pride in our neighborhood and give the casual passerby an idea of Montford's story. Pack Memorial library, North Carolina room (downstairs) has a collection of material relating to Montford if you are interested in additional information.

Ross Terry of KRT Graphic Design did the design work and Sharon Fahrer of History At Hand wrote the copy. Here's hoping other neighborhoods will follow our example and Asheville can create a "history museum without walls."

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Asheville

**Note from the editor:** This is one of my favorite submissions in the newsletter since I've been the editor. If any of you have an interesting tale of your home, please do send it my way, along with a photo or two.

## 27 Blake Street—A Tale of Two Owners

*"...Ye've got to love each brick an' stone from cellar up t' dome:  
It takes a heap o' livin' in a house t'make it home."*

— from **It Takes a Heap O'Livin'** by Edgar A Guest (1881-1959)

### Rachel Stein, owner 1977-79:

When I bought 27 Blake St. in 1977, it stood empty, abandoned by the former owners, young members of the Communist Party of Atlanta who moved here hoping to organize the neighborhood, but gave up and donated the house to the Party. I couldn't get a bank loan, even though the house was in good condition and very inexpensive—rumor had it that banks were redlining Montford, particularly the streets closest to downtown. So the Party owner-financed the house for me!

I moved in and rented the other bedrooms to an assortment of teachers, students, and artists. We stripped the many layers of peeling wallpaper, exposing the wonderful plaster walls, and dug up the back yard for a vegetable garden. In the 1970s, Montford was seen by many Ashevilleans as a risky place to live—but although the houses were shabby and needed TLC, our diverse block was friendly and homey. While I kept the house for less than two years, I believe that I saved it for better times—since the city was letting the fire department torch empty houses for practice burns—which they did to the house next door.

### Carolyn Spain, owner 1985-to present:

In 1985 I brought my mom over to 27 Blake St. to show her my new abode. Her immediate response was "They law, bless your heart, you'll be murdered." In community meetings this block and adjacent SE were referred to by City Council members and police as the "blight area."

A diverse parade of people helped guide the neighborhood in a more positive direction; common folks, bohemians, young energetics, the artistic, the economically struggling who wanted to create a home, those who could foresee a brighter future, those already here who desired better, the optimist. These neighbors worked hard to achieve the safer, more respected community it is today.

In the years that I have been here, I have cobbled together a history of 27 Blake St. The Bosse-Bryan house was built in 1897 by John H. Bosse, a German immigrant who moved his family

to Asheville in the 1890s. He opened a grocery store on Haywood St. and built this modified Queen Anne. While doing some remodeling, I found an old parched paper, dated 1900, on which his daughter Agnes was practicing her English lesson.

In 1920, L.M. Bryan purchased the home. He was a druggist who also suffered from TB. He succumbed to the disease two years later, as did thousands of others, including several of my own ancestors. Sleeping porches were incorporated into homes so that folks could "take the mountain air" to help their TB-scarred lungs. The enclosed sleeping porch of 27 Blake St. has a series of pocket windows that slide down into the wall rather than up. The Bryan family owned this home from the 1920s into the 1970s. Ms. Jamie Bryan was an educator. An elderly neighbor of mine, Mrs. Rezutto, stated that this house has always been filled with writers, artists, and educators.

She also stated that "it has always been a happy home."

As for me, I am also a retired educator who finds great enjoyment in living in a house that became my home, and in making gardens all over the yard, and over the empty lot where the house next door was burned in a practice fire. Oh yes, contrary to Mom's forecast, I am still very much alive and yes, my heart has been blessed many times.



**NEWSLETTER AD RATES**

SIZE	RATE
Classified	\$15
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Contact Ross Terry (KRT Graphic Design) at ross@krtdesign.com or 230-7439 to place an ad. Layout and ad creation are also available from Ross.

Invoice questions: Contact Susan Eggerton at s.eggerton52@roastedgarlic.net. Please help us with budgeting, saving paper, and reducing postage costs by prepaying several months of advertising.

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**LaZoom Fundraising Comedy Bus Tour Tickets Are Selling Fast**

Okay, LaZoom is on-on-on! June 26th, Sunday, departing 4:30 for a 90-minute comedy ride. Just \$25 a ticket with free snacks and free drinks! If you haven't been on a LaZoom tour, now's the time to join your neighbors for a super fun ride. If you have been on a tour, you know how worth it it is.



A remarkable thank-you and fundraiser, post-Music and Arts festival!

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## Get Buzzed About Bees at Asheville's 4th Pollination Celebration!

**Phyllis Stiles, Director, Bee City USA**

At the head of Montford, Isaac Dickson school garden coordinator, Joan Pinegar, has collaborated with Monarch Rescue to create a vigorous educational pollinator garden in the school's courtyard.

Apparently bees feel welcome there, too; the school's sandy bank along Montford Avenue is peppered with small nest holes where solitary ground bees (mining bees) are busily raising a new generation of hard-working pollinators.

Pollinators' search for pollen and nectar enables about three-quarters of the world's plant species to reproduce and allows us to enjoy some of our most delicious and nutritious fruits, vegetables, nuts, and even dairy products.

Most of us have heard that honeybees and monarch butterflies are in trouble, but did you know that almost all pollinators need our help? In Montford, many homeowners are adding native plants to their yards to meet the nutritional and nesting needs of native pollinators that co-evolved with those plants over millions of years.

To raise pollinator consciousness, every certified Bee City USA® community commits to holding at least one educational event each year, usually during National Pollinator Week in June. Being the inaugural Bee City USA, Asheville goes a little crazy and hosts Pollination Celebration! for the whole week—Ingles Markets and Tupelo Honey are the lead sponsors for this year's **Pollination Celebration!**

Whether you want to learn about pollinator-friendly gardening, taste honey from around the world, touch a monarch caterpillar, or hear from or take a guided walk with national experts on pollinators, there's sure to be something both children and adults would enjoy this year.

The fun kicks off June 16, 5 – 8 pm, at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel with a sampling of the week's activities along with libations, music, and finger food. For full details on each **Pollination Celebration!** event, visit [beecityusa.org/2016](http://beecityusa.org/2016).



### Buzzin' for Bees in Foodtopia

For the first time in Pollination Celebration's four-year history, all week long, participating restaurants and bars are featuring a dish or beverage made from honey or with ingredients pollinated by some kind of bee. They will donate 10% of their proceeds from the item featured to support the work of Bee City USA in making America's urban areas more "PC" (pollinator conscious). A full list of participating restaurants and bars is posted at the top of the event webpage: [beecityusa.org/2016](http://beecityusa.org/2016).

### Keynote Speaker: Author Heather Holm

The Asheville and Hendersonville affiliates of Bee City USA and the North Carolina Arboretum teamed up this year to bring highly sought-after lecturer Heather Holm to the Arboretum on June 21. Holm will give two presentations back to back with the first (Gardening for Bees, Butterflies & Beneficial Insects) starting at 6pm and the second (Selecting Native Trees and Shrubs that Support Pollinators) at 7:30. While Holm is a frequent presenter at conferences in the Midwest and Northeast, this will be a rare opportunity to hear her in the Southeast.

Holm is an environmental educator, landscape designer and consultant specializing in pollinator landscapes and native landscape restorations. She studied horticulture and biology at the University of Guelph in Canada, and for the past 20 years has worked as a horticulturist and landscape designer in the Great Lakes and Mid-Atlantic regions. She is a passionate advocate for the use of native plants to attract and support pollinators, beneficial insects, and wildlife in residential and commercial landscapes, organic farms, and restored landscapes.

Here are two reviews of her latest book, *Pollinators of Native Plants*: "The photography is astounding, particularly the pictures showing how each of the insects and plants interact. Reading it has profoundly deepened my appreciation for the beauty and complexity of these amazing habitats, and I will never think about insects the same way again." (Scott Fulton) "For anyone interested in a better understanding of pollination and your role as a gardener, practitioner, small grower or farmer, this is a must-have book. It will add to your understanding of insects and wild plants and their role in the intricate web of life on earth." (Ken Peterson)

Because seating is limited, even Arboretum members should pre-register for free tickets for each presentation by clicking on the link at [beecityusa.org/2016](http://beecityusa.org/2016). Non-NC Arboretum members who have

not preregistered will be charged \$12 for parking. A \$5 donation is suggested at the door.

### Other Pollination Celebration! Events: Garden Talks & Tours, Honey Tastings, Guided Walks, Garden Plantings

- June 16, the Renaissance Asheville Hotel will launch Pollination Celebration! with a sampling of the week's line-up 5-8pm, served up with appetizers and live music on the patio. The Renaissance will premiere its video of a day in the life of the bees living on the Renaissance' roof. The Asheville Bee Charmer will feature tastings of some of their most unusual honeys from around the world; monarch expert Ina Warren will give guests an up-close look at live monarch butterflies; Twin Leaf Brewery will unveil its honey tea Belgian Saison beer; and bee hotel builder, Ricky Manning, will demonstrate simple construction designs. That evening, ten percent of proceeds from "Bee-tinis" sold at the Hotel's Writers Bistro will benefit Bee City USA.
- Pollinator experts Kim Bailey and Dr. Nancy Adamson will lead a free pollinator walk at the Audubon Sanctuary at Beaver Lake Saturday morning, June 18. Prepare to be spellbound. Children may participate with adult supervision.
- Monday, June 20 at 5-7:30pm, taste an array of honeys from around the world at the Asheville Bee Charmer, routinely featured in southeastern and national articles about experiences not to be missed when in Asheville.
- Join naturalist, plant ecologist, and garden educator Dr. Lisa Wagner to learn how to encourage native pollinators by using native plants that provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season, at the Botanical Gardens of Asheville Saturday morning, June 25. (Preregister on [ashevillebotanicalgardens.org](http://ashevillebotanicalgardens.org).)
- Saturday June 25, Asheville GreenWorks hosts a tour of 9 private gardens in Kenilworth, in which Bee City USA will showcase examples of what gardeners can do to provide healthy habitat for pollinators. Tickets are \$25 or \$20 in advance.

### Family-Friendly Activities

- West Asheville Library and the NC Arboretum have teamed up to present Six Legs, Two Antennae: Insects for ecoEXPLORERS 11am, June 24. This program is targeted for children ages 7-13. Tickets are free but should be picked up at the library beginning June 10.
- Saturday June 25, Hop'n Blueberry Farm in Black Mountain invites families to visit the butterfly meadow and house, and build native bee houses. Cost is \$10 per family and preregistration is required.


"If lots of individuals and communities begin planting native, pesticide-free flowering trees, shrubs and plants, it will create large-scale change for thousands of species of pollinators at risk—including bees we all depend on for our food production," said Bee City USA director, Phyllis Stiles. "How each city celebrates pollinators is up to them, but we especially encourage educational programs for children, like school gardens. When a child falls in love with pollinators, they are friends for life."

Bee City USA urges municipalities, individuals, organizations, corporations, and communities to promote and establish



pollinator-friendly landscapes free of pesticides. So far, nineteen cities across the nation have been certified. For more information about the application process for becoming a Bee City USA community, visit [beecityusa.org](http://beecityusa.org).

For full details on each Pollination Celebration! event, visit [beecityusa.org/2016](http://beecityusa.org/2016).



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

**Montford Action Agenda, April 13, 2016**

**Item And Summary and Action**

- 139 Montford Avenue—Construction of new accessory structure ..... Continued
- 23 Tacoma Street—Construction of one-and-a-half story primary structure ..... Approved with conditions
- 8 Short Street—Construction of two-story primary structure ..... Approved with conditions
- 32 Soco Street—Replacement of existing metal roof with asphalt shingle roof ..... Approved
- 45 Pearson Drive—Construction of rear addition, rear screened porch, and side entry porch ..... Approved

**Tentative Agenda, May 11, 2016**

**Item And Summary and Action**

- 139 Montford Avenue—Construction of new accessory structure ..... Continued
- 111 Pearson Drive—Modification of existing rear addition and deck ..... Approved
- 19 Short Street—Modification of rear window to convert to a door and installation of wood picket fence in front yard ..... Approved
- 6 Arborvale Road—Construction of new accessory structure ..... Approved with conditions
- 339 Cumberland Avenue—Removal of mature sycamore tree for installation of previously approved driveway ..... Withdrawn

**Public Hearings – Certificates of Appropriateness**

**Old Business**

139 Montford Avenue—Construction of new accessory structure

**Other Business**

Committee reports

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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## Habitat Brewing Company Opens Soon

Mitch Russell

Jonathan Myers and Matt Addis, with ties to WNC, met in Portland, Oregon and wanted to bring the age-old tradition of community or commons that is inherent in English pubs and taverns to Asheville.



While sitting around with friends having a pint in Portland they were discussing what they valued in life, with spirituality and community rising to the top of the list along with caring for the environment, and of course high-quality beer. They were already thinking about opening a brewery and were bouncing around ideas when a friend suggested they open a brewery called Habitat.



Jonathan Myers and Matt Addis

Matt began home brewing six years ago and will be the head brewer, crafting traditional English-style ales with some nods to West Coast IPAs. They'll start out small, focusing on quality and using local ingredients as much as possible.

In line with local ingredients to up the sustainability aspect of their brewery, Jonathan and Matt have re-used a number of existing materials in the brewery. They've left existing tin ceiling tiles and removed plaster to expose brick underneath. Both of these processes were completed in an environmentally safe manner.

Jonathan says, "We want to offer the brewery as a common space for the neighborhood to recreate, come together for fellowship and great beer." He said they will offer space for rent and are considering game nights, movie nights, and other options to help the business grow with the neighborhood.

It all gets back to their name and passion; As Matt explains, "a habitat, like us, needs to be healthy to sustain life."

Habitat Brewing Co. will be opening at 174 Broadway between Moog & High Five Coffee Bar. For more information visit [habitatbrewing.com](http://habitatbrewing.com)

# MONTFORD PARK PLAYERS

### *Much Ado About Nothing*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S  
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING  
JUNE 3 - JULY 2  
FRIDAY - SUNDAY 7:30 PM

### *Titus Andronicus*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S  
TITUS ANDRONICUS  
JULY 8 - 30  
FRIDAY - SUNDAY 7:30 PM

Director: Scott Keel, June 3 – July 2

This comedic conspiracy to get the bickering Beatrice and Benedick hitched is one of Shakespeare's most popular plays to this day!

Director: Michael McCauley, July 8 – 30

Shakespeare's brutal revenge tragedy has not been presented by Montford Park Players for many years. **This one is NOT suitable for children!**

See the website for times and details.

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## Sycamore Tree

Breanna Stockham



Photo by Jenny Wilker

*Have you ever  
noticed when you  
look at the trees  
in the winter  
they're all brown  
once they've lost all their leaves?*

*Except one,  
the Sycamore.  
It stands proud and white,  
It shines bright  
like a star  
on the darkest of nights.*

*But the Sycamore isn't  
white on its own.  
Like the rest, it is brown,  
Then it sheds  
its rough bark  
and is the brightest around.*

*So when you're lost  
and you're wondering  
just how you should be,  
shed your bark  
and shine bright  
like a Sycamore tree.*

After a thoughtful and informative discussion at the HRC meeting, the owner of the lot at 339 Cumberland Avenue withdrew his application for permission to cut the large sycamore by the edge of the driveway into the lot.

Thank you involved neighbors and the owner of the land for considering an alternate path.

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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