



# MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD  
Vol. 28 No. 2  
FEBRUARY '23



## Forbes Home Selects the 30 Most Beautiful Cities in the U.S.

*“Asheville is an outdoor haven surrounded by the Blue Ridge Mountains. The city is known for its many hiking trails, waterfalls and parks. Asheville is also home to the largest home in the country – the Biltmore Estate, which currently operates as a resort. It’s also known for its craft beer scene and charming architecture.” - Geraldine Orentas, contributing writer at Forbes.*

Well, it looks like we have already made a list this year. We are number 9 on **Forbes Home’s 30 Most Beautiful Cities in the U.S.** That puts us in the top 10 on this list, together with some impressive cities. **Here’s the list:**

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <a href="#">1. Charleston, South Carolina</a> | <a href="#">9. Asheville, North Carolina</a>   | <a href="#">17. San Francisco, California</a>     | <a href="#">25. Taos, New Mexico</a>       |
| <a href="#">2. Savannah, Georgia</a>          | <a href="#">10. Boston, Massachusetts</a>      | <a href="#">18. Santa Fe, New Mexico</a>          | <a href="#">26. New Orleans, Louisiana</a> |
| <a href="#">3. Seattle, Washington</a>        | <a href="#">11. Madison, Wisconsin</a>         | <a href="#">19. Newport, Rhode Island</a>         | <a href="#">27. San Diego, California</a>  |
| <a href="#">4. Anchorage, Alaska</a>          | <a href="#">12. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</a> | <a href="#">20. Telluride, Colorado</a>           | <a href="#">28. Annapolis, Maryland</a>    |
| <a href="#">5. Chicago, Illinois</a>          | <a href="#">13. Nashville, Tennessee</a>       | <a href="#">21. Sedona, Arizona</a>               | <a href="#">29. St. Augustine, Florida</a> |
| <a href="#">6. Honolulu, Hawaii</a>           | <a href="#">14. Salt Lake City, Utah</a>       | <a href="#">22. Washington, D.C.</a>              | <a href="#">30. Medora, North Dakota</a>   |
| <a href="#">7. Las Vegas, Nevada</a>          | <a href="#">15. Portland, Maine</a>            | <a href="#">23. Carmel-By-The-Sea, California</a> |  |
| <a href="#">8. New York City, New York</a>    | <a href="#">16. Naples, Florida</a>            | <a href="#">24. San Antonio, Texas</a>            |  |

<b>INSIDE</b>	<b>Tempe Avery Center ..... 2</b>	<b>Montford and Stumptown.... 8</b>
	<b>Removing Kudzu ..... 3</b>	<b>Resource Directory ..... 12</b>
	<b>Green Corner..... 4</b>	<b>It’s a boy! And a girl! ..... 12</b>
	<b>Community Meeting ..... 6</b>	<b>Pack Memorial Library ..... 13</b>
	<b>HRC..... 7</b>	<b>Welcome Packet ..... 14</b>

## TEMPIE AVERY MONTFORD CENTER

### MONTFORD UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

**Montford Story Time**—\$5/class Wednesdays from 11:00-11:30am March 15, 22, and 29

**Pokemon The Trading Card Game: Learn to Play**—\$5/class Saturdays from 11:00-1:00pm February 4, March 4, April 1, and May 6

**Adult Glow Dodgeball**—\$5 pre-registration required March 25 from 6:00-8:00pm

**Art and Soul**—Fridays from 6:00-7:30pm February 3 and 24, March 7 and 28 Ages: 50 and older

#### Montford Pinewood Derby

**Competition**—\$10 pre-registration required Fridays from 6:00-7:30pm May 5, 12, 19, and 26 (4 week program)

**Roll for Initiative - Dungeons and Dragons**—\$5/class - include set of dice to take home Saturdays from 5:00-9:00pm Second Saturday of the Month through May

**Open Play Pick-Up Volleyball**—\$2/per visit up to 35 players Saturdays from 9:00-1:00pm February 11, 18, and 25

**Open Play Pick-Up Basketball**—Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00-2:00pm Sundays from 3:00-5:00pm Contact Staff at 828-253-3714 about closure dates

**Summer Camp Registrations**—We will open registrations for all APR summer camps to the public on February 13 at 6:00pm.

**Montford Summer Teen Program**—We will for the first time be offering a teen summer camp for rising 6th-9th graders at the Montford Center.

**Descriptions and registration for all programs can be found at [www.avlrec.com](http://www.avlrec.com)**

#### For more Information Contact:

Seth Jackson

Recreation Facility Manager

Tempie Avery Montford Center

Asheville Parks and Recreation

828-253-3714 - Office

828-337-2403 - Business Cell

[sjackson@ashevilenc.gov](mailto:sjackson@ashevilenc.gov)

Tempie Avery Montford Center

10 BOOKS

\$5 per class

Wednesdays 11:00-11:30 AM

Get A Free Book with Registration

March 15 - Inky the Octopus  
 March 22 - Unicorns, Magic, and Slime, Oh My!  
 March 29 - When the Sky Roars

www.avlrec.com to register

ASHEVILLE Parks & Recreation



## Removing Kudzu

**Karen MacNeil**

Workshop Abstract: Kudzu Culture is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that reconnects people with kudzu while growing a regenerative kudzu economy in the Southeastern United States. Kudzu Culture partners with stakeholders like Urban Forest Alliance to host educational, hands-on workshops that teach community members how to responsibly and effectively interact with kudzu. The kudzu growth existing along the Reed Creek Greenway and adjacent treeline negatively affects native species and must be eradicated. The goal of Kudzu Culture, Urban Forest Alliance, MNA, and other stakeholders is to strategically remove sections of kudzu growth through a multi pronged approach that includes private contracted removal and ongoing community hands-on removal occurring during seasonal workshops. Community removal, facilitated through Kudzu Culture workshops, circulates removed biomass into crafts and products like baskets, wreaths, paper, wovens, and non-woven materials. Biomass will also be processed into fertilizer and mulch that can be fed back into the site.

### Winter: “Weaving Birdhouses from Kudzu Vines”

**March 5, 1-4pm** (part of Invasive Awareness Week)

Learn to identify kudzu vines when the leaves are dormant; Harvest old-growth vines and runner vines for bird houses, basketry, woven fencing, and wreath making; Hot kudzu root tea samples will be served.

### Spring: “Ephemerals in the Kudzu”

**April 29, 10am-1pm**

Learn to identify young kudzu growth shoots; Harvest shoots; Identify and mark clusters of native ephemeral species emerging in kudzu growth; Pickled kudzu shoot snack samples will be served.

### Summer: “Kudzu Blossom Harvest”

**August 5, 10am-1pm**

Learn to identify kudzu blossoms and how to prevent seed pod development; Harvest kudzu blossoms; Kudzu blossom drink samples will be served.

### Fall: “Making the Mulch of Kudzu”

**November 5, 1-4pm**

Learn how to “chop and drop” kudzu to make mulch, compost tea, and other materials for farming and gardening; Hot kudzu root tea samples will be served.

Ask questions and learn more by contacting Karen MacNeil at [urbanforestalliance@gmail.com](mailto:urbanforestalliance@gmail.com).

## Update: Awareness Week

Asheville City Council will be announcing a proclamation for National Invasive Species Awareness Week on Tuesday, Feb 14 at the beginning of their regularly scheduled meeting at 5pm. Dawn Chavez of GreenWorks, Susan Sertain of Treasured Trees, Raven Sterling of Raven Invasive Plant Management (RIPM), and Karen MacNeil of Montford Neighborhood Association will be there to receive it.



**Paul Dixon**  
828.215.7772

[PDIXON77@YAHOO.COM](mailto:PDIXON77@YAHOO.COM)

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## Green Corner

Erin Hiatt

This month, let's continue to explore how to live more sustainably when it comes to the life cycle of our stuff. We have previously discussed recycling (October), refill (November), and resale & refurbished (December & January).

This edition, reuse – specifically the so-called sharing economy. The environmental impact of our stuff can be greatly reduced simply if it gets used more often before it gets tossed (or hopefully, repurposed or recycled). This is because opportunities to share or rent mean that instead of everyone owning their own item and each item having its own environmental footprint, one item can serve the needs of many people.

If you've borrowed a truck from a friend or family member; checked out a book from the library; or rented a venue or supplies for an event, you're being more sustainable just by acting on situations where buying or owning something outright doesn't make sense, for whatever reason. Even if your primary "why" is financial, lack of space/avoiding clutter, etc., you're also making a greener choice.

Here are a few items that you may not have realized you could borrow or rent:

### Home and yard care tools/resources

- Borrow (w/ membership)
  - o [Asheville Tool Library](#) - Also have basic tools (not just special jobs) and many other unique tools
- Rent
  - o [The Home Depot](#)
  - o [Sunbelt Rentals](#)
  - o [United Rentals](#)
  - o Goats via [Mountain Goatscapes](#), [The Goat Squad](#) - Great for land clearing/management



### Camping/outdoor gear

- Borrow (w/ membership)
  - o [Asheville Tool Library](#) - Not exhaustive, but more than you might expect!
- Rent
  - o [Asheville Adventure Rentals](#)
  - o [Blue Ridge Hiking Company](#)
  - o [French Broad Outfitters](#)
  - o [Rental Me This](#) - Games and tools as well!
  - o [UNC-A Gear Rentals](#) (Students, faculty & staff)

### Clothing & accessories

Beyond classic "prom and tux"-style local rentals, special occasions are where borrowing and renting shine, but some renting programs include high-end everyday items, too.

- Rent
  - o [Tulerie](#) - You can rent out your own closet, too!
  - o [Rent the Runway](#)
  - o [Armoire](#)
  - o [Vince Unfold](#)
  - o [Nuuly](#)
  - o [Switch](#)
  - o [Adorn](#)
- Locally, Asheville has seen borrow pop ups for things like prom dress borrowing.

### Miscellaneous

- Borrow (w/ membership)
  - o [Asheville Tool Library](#) - Food dehydrator, pressure canner, medical walking boot, mic and speakers, mushroom log inoculation tool, and more... it's just an amazing place.

And if you own useful items that are gathering dust, (clean them, and then) consider donating specifically to an organization like the Asheville Tool Library that will provide low cost accessibility for many other people to enjoy them too!

As always, if you have an addition or suggestion, let me know at [montfordgreencorner@gmail.com](mailto:montfordgreencorner@gmail.com).

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*Love you, Montford!*

I've been living, working, and playing here for over 20 years, and am grateful to be part of this community. Whether you're curious about the market, want advice about making the most of your investment, or just need referrals for services, I can help. I'm here for you... as a trusted resource and neighbor.

*Let's talk!  
Cate*



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[nestrealty.com/asheville/catescales](http://nestrealty.com/asheville/catescales)





## Montford Neighborhood Association

### Community Meeting January 25, 2023

President Michael McDonough called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

- APD Community Resource Officer (CRO) Carrie Lee provided some insight on the current APD structure. There are only 2 CRO and staffing remains down 40% overall. The future looks brighter as they are training more recruits than attrition is taking away officers. Her contact information is clee@ashevillenc.gov and the non emergency number is (828) 252-1110. She will provide a direct phone number to Michael to share with Montford. She indicated that the new substation on Broadway should be operational sometime in May. She was asked about neighborhoods that have good interaction with APD and she indicated that Shiloh has a good community watch.
- Financial update. Currently have \$55,400 in the bank. No income producing events have occurred lately due to Covid. The 2023 budget is predicting a deficit for the year. We have about \$10K in fixed costs annually.
- Ellen Nutter detailed the changes to the bylaws; the first modification since 2009. The three tenets of the modifications are: Preserve historic character of Montford, Neighborhood communication and community engagement, and engage with outside groups like City of Asheville, etc. A motion to adopt the modifications was made by Bill Eakins and seconded by Marti Boyles. No discussion and the vote was unanimous to adopt the amended by laws.
- Board nominations were discussed. Three current board members are departing due to the new term limit contained in the new by laws. The proposed slate is as follows: Leslie Humphrey - President; Randy Hall - Vice President; Susan Eggerton - Treasurer, Dan Rogers - Secretary. Current board members Lynn Raker and Karen MacNeil will remain as at large and the suggested new at large board members will be Bill Eakins, Marti Boyles and Tom Fahsenfeld. If others feel strongly about nominating additional folks, please contact the current board by March 1 for consideration.
- Kudzu removal project was discussed. We are working with Raven Technologies and the upcoming workshop is scheduled for February 26 on the Reed Creek Greenway as part of Invasive Species Awareness Week. The publicity kit is forthcoming. Thanks to Karen MacNeil for all her hard work in obtaining the matching grant from the City of Asheville.
- Solar in Montford was discussed by Susan Loftis. There will be a forum on April 12 in the Lenoir Rhyne boardroom beginning at 6:30pm for approximately two hours. The focus is on four arenas of conservation. Bring your questions for the expert panel.
- The Montford Garden Tour is scheduled for June 3, 2023, from 10:00am til 4pm. Lynn Raker is chairing the tour. Tickets should be on sale by May 1 at the latest.
- Lynn also advocated the tree grant program. A homeowner may receive up to \$300 in reimbursement for planting trees. Do make sure you obtain approval prior to purchase and planting.
- Crime was discussed by Leslie Humphrey. Marc Voorhees did extensive work on scrubbing numbers on crime. He posted his survey on impressions and possible actions to take via the Listserv. The MNA Board consensus was that off duty APD officers was not an efficient use of funds due to the lack of measurable results of such an effort. Neighborhood watch would be ideal but we need a champion to lead the effort.
- Ellen Nutter detailed the Montford Lights which was held on December 9, 2022 and had great attendance. The afternoon began with a performance at HRA, marching band to the Montford Garden, tree lighting, and an enthusiastic ensemble playing along with Christmas carols.
- Ellen also detailed the Reed Creek Greenway efforts. Currently the greenway goes from Elizabeth Street to the WT Weaver Blvd. Plans are to go South to Ashton Park and North to the French Broad River. The committee will hire a consultant to recommend routes, both North and South.
- Leslie Humphrey will work with Dan Sanford to modify our communication. Listserv only reaches a percentage of neighbors and these two will brainstorm to establish an improved system. Please consider saying yes if they reach out to you to volunteer.

Adjourned at 7:47pm.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Rogers





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

**Montford Action Agenda 01/11/23**

**Present:** Chair Emily Kite, Vice-Chair Emily Spreng, Will Hornaday, Sioux Oliva, Maria Delsasi, Amy Moxley, Chris German, Annie McDonald

**Absent:** Sara Groce, Shannon Watkins, Leslie Carey

**Staff Present:** Alex Cole, Avery Tew, Jannice Ashley

**Item, Summary and Action**

**240 Flint Street (PIN 9649-13-4684)** - Replace vinyl windows with new wood windows; replace front porch columns and steps; construct covered entry on rear elevation. Applicant: Joyce McCune

**Action**—Approved

**2 Woodlawn Avenue (PIN 9649-22-6482)** - Construction of 4' tall wood picket fence in front yard. Applicant: Rachel Clegg

**Action**—Approved

**25 Elizabeth Place (PIN 9649-32-0428), 99999 Starnes Avenue (PIN 9649-32-0479) & 99999 Starnes Avenue (PIN 9649-32-1513)** - Demolition of existing structure; construction of two (2) new 3-story 8 unit multi-family structures. Applicant: Robin Raines

**Action**—Approved with conditions

**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](http://www.ashevillenc.gov)) for the full approved minutes after the following month's meeting.



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Asheville Citizen-Times Sunday 2/6/1949, Page 29

**Editor's Note:** The Montford community has a long history of neighborhood storefront businesses. In future issues, I plan to highlight some that have disappeared and others that have evolved into present-day businesses. For example, the Montford Pharmacy still existed when we moved back home to Asheville in 1984. It is now the Montford Convenience Store.

## Montford and Stumptown Fund Updates

By the Montford Community Club

We're happy to share these updates from the Montford & Stumptown Fund (M&SF) of the Asheville-Buncombe Community Land Trust (ABCLT). We appreciate all of the support of our efforts to date, and we look forward to continuing to grow this initiative in 2023.



### Montford & Stumptown Stories

This February (Black History Month) we are releasing the next three episodes of the Montford & Stumptown Stories docuseries on [montfordandstumptown.com](http://montfordandstumptown.com). This video series is produced by STM Multimedia and Garnet Prose + Projects, and filmed and edited by Major Moments. The new episodes feature current and former Stumptown residents the Brown sisters (pictured) and Ms. Sophie Dixon. Thanks to Alternate ROOTS and the Preservation Society of Asheville & Buncombe County for their support of this important storytelling and historical documentation. May it positively inform our neighborhood's future.



### Property Tax Assistance and Home Repair

The goal of the Montford & Stumptown Fund is to create and protect affordable housing for Black families in Montford and Stumptown. As part of the "protect" part of this goal, we connect legacy neighbors with ABCLT's property tax assistance and home repair programs. In 2022, we are proud to report that we were able to provide property tax assistance to prevent foreclosure on a home in Stumptown. If you or a neighbor would like to apply for these programs, contact Crystal Sherriff, Community Relations Manager, [crystal@abclt.org](mailto:crystal@abclt.org) or 828-380-4222.



### Partnerships

We are deeply thankful to all of the individual donors, volunteers, and house party hosts who have invested their time, talent, and treasure in the M&SF, increasing our scope and impact. We also want to thank our organizational and business partners for their support. We particularly want to express our appreciation to All Day Darling for their ongoing fundraising and donation of food for our Paint & Sip last fall. We also are grateful for a generous gift from the Tzedek Social Justice Fund, whose offices are in Montford. If your business or organization would like to partner with ABCLT to grow this meaningful work in our neighborhood, contact Crystal Sherriff.

### Stay in Touch

Visit [montfordandstumptown.com](http://montfordandstumptown.com) for more information, to make a donation, to get involved, and to request a yard sign. Neighbors are also invited to email [montfordclub@gmail.com](mailto:montfordclub@gmail.com) to schedule an in person chat with us about the fund.





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**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](http://Montford.org) to learn more.

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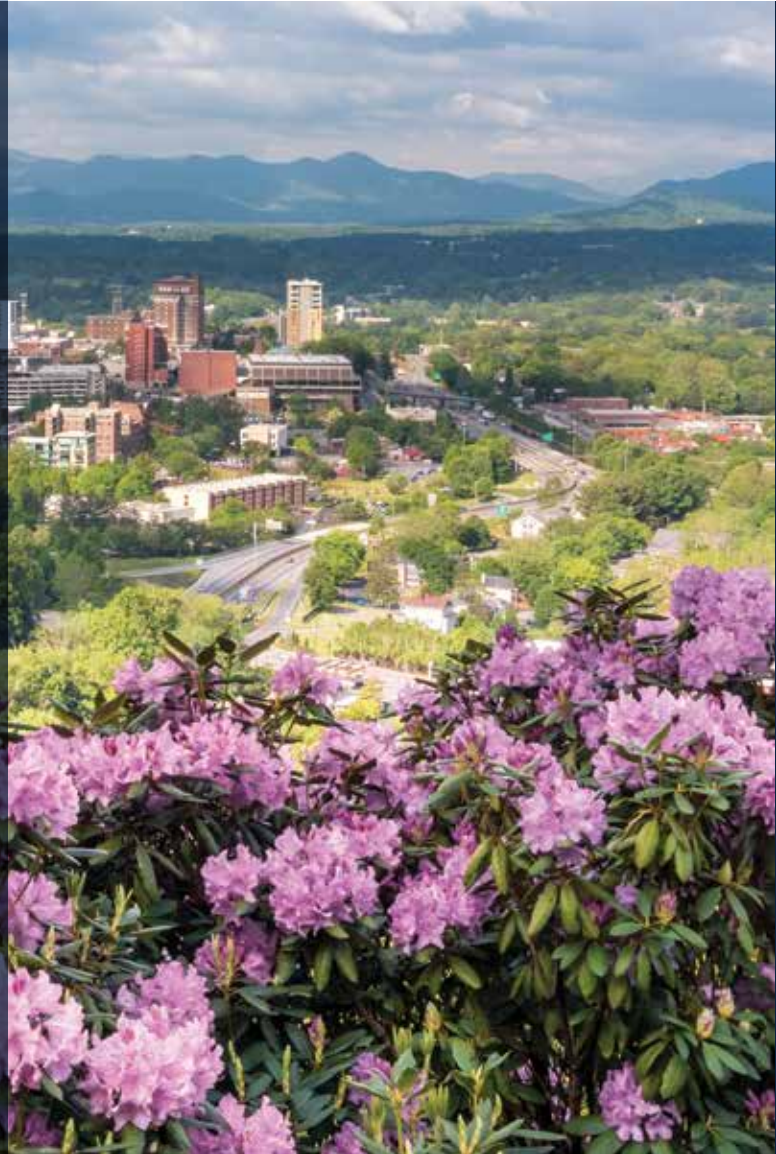
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While the media focuses on national trends, real estate is local in nature.

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Margaret Atwood



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Text "MONTFORD" to (828)-771-6027 for inquiries!

## 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.

### Smart Feller Tree Works

• Ira Friedrichs • 545-5503 (NEW cell) • irafriedrichs@gmail.com.


Down trees got you down? Contact us for all your tree removal and pruning needs! We are locally licensed and insured. Please call for free estimates. Montford references available. Thanks.

### Square Peg Construction Inc.

Add beautiful custom woodwork to your historic home: New upgrades like wood paneling, built-in cabinetry, trim, doors, stairs and railings. Small details add big impact! Montford references.

• Call your neighbors, Leslie and David Humphrey 277-5164

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## It's a boy! And a girl!

If bears had birthday parties, they'd all be in January and February. That's when winter dens across the country turn into nurseries as most pregnant bears give birth to cubs weighing in at less than a pound that would easily fit into your hands.

Human moms would probably envy a mother bear's ability to give birth to one, two or three or more tiny cubs while half-asleep.

Even though cubs are born with their eyes closed, unable to hear or smell and weak and uncoordinated they instinctively find their mom's nipples and start nursing. Soon the den will



**Bear biologist Adam Hammond examines a newborn bear cub near the den (courtesy of Georgia Department of Natural Resources).**



be filled with mom's snores and the happy sounds of cubs humming and purring while they snuggle up to mom and their siblings and fill their tummies with a steady diet of rich, warm milk. Bear's milk has a fat content around 33%, so nursing cubs have no problem gaining weight.



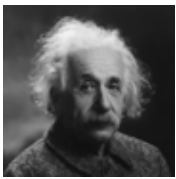
Over the next several weeks, cubs will keep eating, sleeping and growing and eventually start cautiously exploring their winter quarters. As winter slowly gives way to spring, their eyes will open, their teeth will come in and the fine hair they're born with will be replaced by fur coats.

To find out how many cubs are usually born, what a very large litter could mean and more fascinating facts, [Read more at bearwise.org](http://www.bearwise.org)





## Pack Memorial Library 67 Haywood Street in downtown Asheville



*“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”*  
—Albert Einstein

Are you new to the neighborhood or has it been a long time since you last visited Pack Memorial Library in downtown Asheville? There are endless resources to explore or to discover:

- **Over 150,000 items available for browsing and lending.** These resources include books, periodicals, CDs, DVDs, and research materials. The library also participates in statewide resource sharing and offers inter-library loans.
- **Free internet access, public computing, and Wi-Fi.** Photocopy and printing services are available for a small fee.
- **Free laptop and hotspot lending program.** Laptops and hotspots are now available for a free 30 day loan with a library card.
- **Free tickets to local attractions.** Use your library card to sign up for Zoom passes, which are free tickets to local attractions like the WNC Nature Center, the NC Arboretum, or the Asheville Museum of Science.

- **Free digital audiobooks, e-books, magazines, and movies.** The Libby app from Overdrive provides downloads of these items to your smart phone, tablet, or computer. It's like an Audible subscription service, but free with your library card.
- **A vibrant and inviting children's library.** The library has books for all ages and reading levels, and board games, and sporting equipment available to lend.
- **Thousands of unique local historical records, photographs, maps, and memorabilia.** The Buncombe County Special Collections Library provides researchers the resources and expertise they need to understand and interpret the history of Western North Carolina.
- **Bookends Used Bookstore offers bargain prices for a wide variety of books and media, including vintage and collectible materials and bestselling fiction.** Proceeds from the sales benefit the library programming.

For more information, visit the library or their website: <https://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/library/branch-locations/pack-memorial.aspx>

Parking in the Civic Center parking ramp is free for the first hour. The library is also walkable from the Montford neighborhood.

H A P P Y  
*Valentine's Day*

*from the  
Montford Neighborhood  
Association*

### Montford Convenience Store

*Your local neighborhood store*

**Hours:**

Monday thru Saturday - 8am to 11pm

Sunday - 9am to 10pm

231 Montford Avenue • phone 828-258-1879

## 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](mailto:cpabanker@yahoo.com)

Leslie Humphrey: [leslie@squarepeginc.net](mailto:leslie@squarepeginc.net)

Ashima Nair: [ashimanair@gmail.com](mailto:ashimanair@gmail.com)

Lynn Raker: [lynn.raker@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.raker@gmail.com)



**828.712.2400**

**GrizzlybearArborcare.com**

**GRIZZLYBEAR  
ARBORCARE**

*tough love for trees*

*The Montford Newsletter* is published online by the Montford Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 7181, Asheville, NC 28802, for the residents of Asheville's first historic neighborhood. We welcome articles and advertising by the 20th of the month.

Note: Opinions expressed in this newsletter by contributing authors do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the MNA.

Contact Editor Ross Terry at [ross@krtddesign.com](mailto:ross@krtddesign.com), 230-7439 for more information.