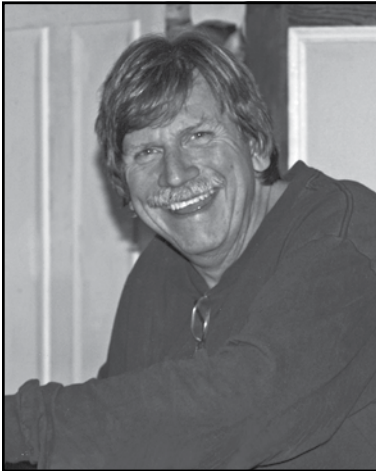




# MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD  
VOL. 20 NO. 2 FEBRUARY '15



## In Memory of Fred Eggerton July 28, 1951 - December 9, 2014

Researched by Joan Miller

Fred Vernon Eggerton, Jr., neighbor, good friend, owner of the Rankin House B&B, and early Montford historic renovation craftsman, was born in New Orleans and grew up alongside and close to his beloved siblings Steve and Susan Eggerton. A gifted and creative craftsman, he had a deep love of animals, a good prank, and the people around him.



### Joe Newman on Fred

Fred knew a lot about Montford and Asheville history and loved to talk about it. Almost 20 years ago, he and John Best, a historian neighbor, examined and inventoried a collection of Richard Sharp Smith architectural drawings and personal papers, a task that gave Fred a good stock of stories to tell. If you got Fred started on the Rankin family, he could hold forth with tales full of romance, tragedy, and comedy. He built up an impressive collection of photographs, maps, and other documents on the Rankins that he enjoyed showing to visitors and friends.

continued on page 14...

### What's Good in the Hood?

I had to pass on this email, sent to neighbor Cate Scales, Director of The Montford Tour of Homes. There is so much right about this.

“A group from Asheville Greenworks is planning a day of service to help you beautify Montford Avenue before the Tour of Homes.

We'll be meeting in front of the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday at 2pm to plant pansies, pick up trash, and put out mulch. If

you know anyone in the area who would like to join, consider this an invitation. Vests and bags will be provided and I will be donating plants and mulch. If we have some talented gardeners, we'll tackle some pruning in the islands. The tour of homes has been my favorite holiday happening. Good luck this weekend!”

Annie Higgins  
Higgins Horticultural Services, LLC



### Inside This Issue

- Calendar 2
- Holiday Donations 2
- Our Generous Sponsors 3
- Montford's New Garden 4
- Super Saturday 5
- In the Shadow of the Indigo 6
- Lend Us Your Words 7
- Resource Directory 7
- Front Yard Sale—A
- Collaboration of Fine Art 11
- MNA Minutes 12

☾ CALENDAR ☀

**MONTFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

- Third Tuesday of every month, Montford Community Center, Pearson Drive.
- Next meeting: February 17, 2015, 7pm. Watch the list serve for agenda items.

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

**SUNDAY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES**

- February 8 & 15  
19 Zillicoa Street, 4-6:30pm; \$6/\$5 (for Old Farmers Ball members). Beginner's session, 3:30pm. Mostly first and third Sunday afternoons. Check schedule for changes. oldfarmersball.com, 230-8449. Caller with live music. Newcomers welcome; dress comfortably with comfortable shoes; fragrance-free.

**FRONT YARD ART SALE**

- February 14 & 15, 8am at 73 & 74 Cumberland Avenue.

**MONTFORD COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS**

**Kim Kennedy**

***Diamonds in the Rough***

Females in grades 7-9 work with adults to develop leadership skills. This program is designed to encourage sisterhood, self-esteem, and education among girls, and focuses on developing good study habits, goal setting, and lifestyle education. Field trips include college tours. Program meets Tuesdays 6-8pm through May. Pre-registration is required.

***Drum Circle: The Rhythm of African American History***

Learn the history of drumming and what it means to the African American Culture. Bring your drum or try one of ours. Saturday, February 21, 6-7pm.

***Bump Set Spike Youth Volleyball***

Youth in grades 3-6 learn the basics of volleyball through drills and recreation games. Program meets Tuesdays, March 3-April 14 (no class March 31) from 6-7pm for \$20. Pre-register by Friday, February 27.

***Lucky Leprechauns***

Follow the rainbow and turn into a leprechaun. Fun includes shamrocks, making green slime, and a treasure hunt. Program will be held Monday, March 16, 4-5pm for youth 4-7 years old. Cost \$5. Pre-register by calling the Montford Center by Wednesday, March 11.

Contact Kim Kennedy at Montford Center, 253-3714 or [kkennedy@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:kkennedy@ashevillenc.gov).



**Holiday Donations**

**Kim Kennedy**

Thanks goes out to the donations from the Montford neighborhood for our holiday donations drive. This year, the money paid for 31 backpacks for the afterschool youth, stuffed with supplies and gifts, 32 youth to attend the Holiday Camp program and 39 weeks of afterschool for youth struggling to pay. Words cannot express the gratitude I feel toward the neighborhood for making all of this possible.

I would like to thank Russell & Jean Ann Wheelock, Bob Thompson, Mary Trauner, David and Deb Patterson, Carol Stangler, Joe Murphy & Joan Miller, Susan & Lewis Rothlein, Helen Harris, Joe & Wanda Newman, Lucy Morris & Paula Sellars, Mitch & Elizabeth Russell, CMSA of WNC, and the

Montford Yoga program for donations.

Thanks also to Sharon and Vic for donating and for coming to our holiday dinner and helping pass out goodies to our youth and parents. You ROCK!

Our second annual donation request will be for summer camp donations. We begin taking registration in February, so we can accept donations at any time. Please send to 34 Pearson Drive, Asheville, 28801. Attention Kim Kennedy. Checks should be made payable to the Montford Recreation Center.



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## Our Generous Sponsors

### Susan Eggerton

A time to give thanks . . . We are so fortunate to live in Montford during this period of vitality. I've lived here for over 30 years, have loved it the whole time, and this may well be the most vibrant I have seen our community. The success of the recent Holiday Home Tour is proof that Montford is on a roll. The homeowners deserve a special thank you from us all. It is no small amount of work to prepare for and clean up after hundreds of visitors. We thank you!

Our sponsors need a huge thank you as well. We couldn't do the Holiday Home Tour every year without sponsors, and this year many came forward to support our effort. Their monetary support ensured that we would have tickets, advertising, signage, and more. Please support them whenever you can, as they have supported Montford!

**Town & Mountain Realty**, as I said last year, is a stalwart friend of not only Montford but of Asheville. They are officially Ashevilleans (is there such a thing) and know real estate. If you don't want to fool around, but want to sell your house, or buy one, you know who to call.

**La Zoom Comedy Tours:** Who hasn't seen the purple bus or Sister Bad Habit slowly weaving through the neighborhood? I said slowly, not quietly! Seriously, this is a win/win relationship. The folks at La Zoom are huge supporters of Montford. They offer a wonderful product that all should enjoy many times... they always give back.

### Friends of Montford Sponsors:

This category is new and very special. These are folks that are supportive, and I mean supportive! A few of these Friends are Jeff Stewart of Keller Williams Realty, Greg Austin of Let's Pawty Pet Concierge, David Jackson (if you went to Carol Stangler's studio on the tour, you saw how



talented he is) and just plain old good neighbors, Barbara & David Driscoll.

**Gray Line Tours** also features Montford in its historic tours of Asheville. And they, too, give back to our community by supporting not only the Holiday Home Tour but The Montford Music & Arts Festival. And their tours are excellent, in case you haven't been on one!

**Historic Resources**, we thank you for supporting our efforts to keep Montford eclectic & fun, while respecting and honoring the past.

**Chiesa**, the new kid on the block. How nice to have a gorgeous new restaurant offering in Montford. We are all rooting for Robert and Melissa Willingham's great success. They are offering family-style church suppers some Tuesdays. Closed Mondays, and open every other night.

**The City Pros/ Trillium Realty** are a team of true experts. Jeanette & Bonnie have quite a lot of Montford experience under their belts. Their projects have largely contributed to some fine renovations and fine home offerings in the neighborhood. So nice to have them as Holiday Home Tour sponsors and volunteers!

**The Frugal Framer** may be losing Ken Pitts to retirement, but thankfully we are keeping the excellent framing services

nearby. Ken had been in Asheville for so many years, it will not be the same without him. But we welcome the Frugal Framer's continued support and will reciprocate.

**Builtwright Construction** seems a relatively new face to Montford. Their work speaks for itself, and their signs just keep popping up. Welcome Builtwright; you are a great resource to our community. Maybe we can get your new project in Montford on the tour next year!

**Square Peg Construction** yet again showed the quality of their craftsmanship at the McLean's renovation on Montford Ave. If you need cabinetry, why would you call anyone else? They are excellent, live in Montford, and are huge supporters of our community.

**Tod's Tasties** is my favorite place to eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner. I bet it's yours too. Easy, delicious, neighborhood. Let's get their house on Pearson on next year's tour!

**Sunburst Realty** and Sid Border . . . talk about supporters of Montford! Not only the Holiday Home Tour, they are newsletter advertisers, Montford Music & Arts Festival supporters, all around good neighbors. Let's call him if we need real estate help.

**Michael McDonough**, Architect and Jade Mountain Builders . . . who hasn't noticed the quality of the projects of this team? I know who I would call if I were building. And the Montford Neighborhood Association would not be nearly the same without Michael's diligence. His knowledge and skill continue to amaze me. Glad to call him a neighbor!

**Peter Rocks** work has caught my eye for some time as I walk the Westover Drive loop. What talent! This is stonework taken to a new level, and we are glad to have Peter as a new sponsor.

## Bees and Butterflies in Montford's New Garden

Nina Veteto

It hasn't been easy for Isaac Dickson in its temporary location at William Randolph, but the gardeners intend to leave the site "better than they found it," according to Joan Pinegar, the school's garden coordinator. There have been many challenges, including vermin, sewage, and a homeless colony. Regardless of these setbacks, "the gardening must go on"—and on it goes.

### Isaac Dickson's New Demonstration Garden

With a recent grant from NC Beautiful's *Windows of Opportunity* fund, the Isaac Dickson gardeners are about to begin work on Asheville's first Native Pollinator Demonstration Garden on the William Randolph site. Featuring appropriate perennials, a variety of habitats, and educational signage, the garden will teach the public how to provide food and sustenance for our stressed bees and butterflies. Second and third graders at Isaac Dickson will do the research and planting, working closely with community pollinator organizations Bee City, USA, and Monarch Rescue.



### Pollinator Corridor's Anchor Garden

The new garden will also serve as anchor for the Montford Pollinator Corridor Cooperative. This cooperative was begun last year in an effort to spread native, pollinator-friendly plants throughout the Montford neighborhood. Members joined for \$30 and were given native perennials, which they planted in their own gardens, with the idea that they would, in turn, divide and share their plants as they grew. Once the school's demo garden is established, co-op members will gather twice a year to help "thin" the garden and take home a variety of beautiful perennials that will further beautify their own properties and help bolster city pollinators. Co-op members and Isaac Dickson families will also have access to



a community potting shed to be established with funds from the grant.

The new garden will be maintained on the William Randolph site after the school relocates to its new facility in 2016.

For more information about joining the Pollinator Corridor Cooperative, contact Phyllis Stiles at [beecityusa@gmail.com](mailto:beecityusa@gmail.com).

### Next Month: Who Are Our Native Pollinators Anyway?

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## Super Saturday For Kids at UNC

Lori Davis

Each year UNC offers Super Saturday for Kids in the fall and spring, which has been successfully run at UNC Asheville for over 30 years. This five-week Saturday morning educational enrichment program is for creative, highly motivated, and/or academically gifted students in grades 3-8



**UNC Asheville**

**Super Saturday  
Spring 2015 Save the Dates!**



March 14, 21, 28  
April 11, 18

Inclement weather make-up date: April 25

**We hope to see you!** Super Saturday provides opportunities for students to explore new ideas and broaden their perspectives by offering a wide array of experiential, "hands-on" courses in the arts and sciences!



Check our website in January for class listings and registration:  
<http://cesap.unca.edu/super-saturday-program>

## ***In the Shadow of the Indigo***

**Jane Hallstrom**

Montford: we love it! We have the Greenway, the bed and breakfasts, our fabulous houses, Riverside Cemetery, Highland Hospital, soon-to-be Net Zero Isaac Dickson Elementary School, the Red Trolley (the Grey Line!), Tod's, Nine Mile, and Chiesa. Know what else we have? The longest-running Shakespeare festival in the state of NC—third longest outdoor Shakespeare in the nation—right here in our own back yard. **The Montford Park Players!**

We are in our 43rd year of production, still committed to the mission of bringing Shakespeare to all. Nestled in the back corner of the Montford Community Center park, the Hazel Robinson



Amphitheatre is named after a long-time Montford resident and visionary. Hazel Robinson had the resources, and now, every summer five Shakespeare plays are produced and presented free of charge to appreciative and delighted audiences. This unique theatrical opportunity, right in the middle of historic Montford, offers starlit skies, majestic trees, glittering fireflies, good food and wine, and Shakespeare. "I thought I was in Central Park; the show was so good," said Steve Samuels, a NY transplant of his experience at the 2014 production of *Henry V*.

### **The Best of the Montford Park Players**

**The wildly successful 2nd annual Masquerade Ball** took place in November 2014. Thanks to over 40 business sponsors, food and beverage contributions from some of Asheville's finest restaurants, and donations large and small, for the silent auction, raffles and live auction, the event netted over \$9000. These funds are helping to finance improvements to the theater. As Montford residents and business owners, we hope you'll be at this year's Third Annual Masquerade Ball in November, and play a part in helping Montford Park Players become one of Asheville's finest cultural attractions.

**A Montford Midsummer Faire** has been scheduled for June 20, 2015 (rain date, June 27) to celebrate our new facility and to have a family-friendly frolicking good time! The Renaissance-style faire will feature vendors, artisans, games, food and drink, fun, and will be followed by that evening's MPP production of Shakespeare's

perennial favorite, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After the show we are inviting any who would like to join other families of Montford for a sleepover on the grounds—**A Midslumber Night's Dream** if you will—with activities and food and drink available all through the night under the stars. This is a ticketed fundraiser for MPP. The midsummer revels will be fun for all and we sincerely desire your support and hope you'll come and enjoy this stellar event.

### **The 2015 Season Off and Running**

*Private Lives*, by Noel Coward, Masonic Temple, March 12 - 29

*Romeo & Juliet*, Amphitheatre, May 15- June 6

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, June 12 - July 4

*Twelfth Night*, July 10 - August 1

*Richard III*, August 7 - 29

*As You Like It*, September 4 - 26

*King Lear*, Temple, October 8 - 25

*Christmas Carol*, Temple, December 10 - 23

### **What's Ahead**

Exciting developments are underway for Montford Park Players. The City of Asheville Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts is engineering stunning improvements to the community park where the amphitheater is located, including more footpaths, lovely landscaping, and more. With our recent grants and fundraising efforts, the audience area and the theater are also slated for improvements. Most exciting is the visitors' center and plaza designed by local architect, William Wheeler, where theater patrons can learn about the shows and other cultural opportunities in Asheville. We just keep getting better and better, and adding to the pride of this great neighborhood. Our website, also currently undergoing improvements and construction, is [montfordparkplayers.org](http://montfordparkplayers.org).



## Montfordites, Montfordians, Lend Us Your Words

This is a community newsletter. I need to hear more from the community. Contribute to your local newsletter, one of the most respected in Asheville. Are you a birder--how about four articles a year on what's happening with local birds. There are so many possibilities.



Gardeners--Month by month how-to's for new and seasoned gardeners alike.

Ask Alice (or whomever)--anyone interested in solving hardships--love, traffic, sidewalk issues, Montford history--anything you can think of--if you have a personality and like to solve problems, step up, baby!

Crossword puzzles--Montford-centric, that'd be cool!

Spotlight on interesting individuals in the 'hood. Who isn't interesting in this neighborhood. Want to write something up with a photo or two about your neighbor?

Think of your own ideas. This is a creative, diverse, kooky and beautiful neighborhood. Surely I can get more submissions from more of you.

Give me your ideas, please.

JoanAdrienne@gmail.com

## 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.

### House Histories

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

- For more information call Sharon at 777-1014

### Historic Walking Tours

For by-appointment walking tours of historic Montford, Riverside Cemetery, and downtown Asheville, call 777-1014. A self-guided CD or downloaded MP3 tour of Riverside Cemetery is available online at [www.history-at-hand.com](http://www.history-at-hand.com) Cemetery tour CDs are also available at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center or by calling the number above.

### Daoist Traditions College of Chinese Medical Arts

- 382 Montford Avenue • 225-3993 (school)
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- [www.daoisttraditions.com](http://www.daoisttraditions.com)

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### Square Peg Construction Inc.

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

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- For emergencies, call 911.
- For nonemergencies and to report suspicious activity, call 252-1110.
- For the Crime Prevention Division, call 259-5834.
- For Police Dispatch, call 259-5888.
- For Montford's Community Resource Officer, Todd Brigman, call 777-0455 or email [tbrigman@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:tbrigman@ashevillenc.gov)



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*In addition to my work as a real estate broker, I have a separate historic preservation consulting business that I have owned and operated in Asheville for thirty years. Being a long-time Montford resident, I am very familiar with this community, and what it means to own a home in this incredible neighborhood! Buying or selling, I'll be there every step of the way.*



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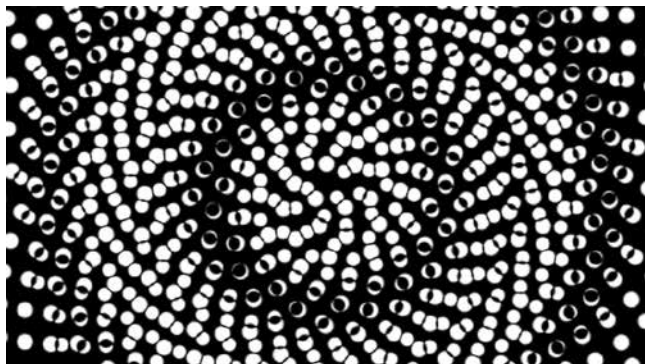
There are lots of yard sales in our neighborhood, but this one has a real Montford feel, and I hope you stop by to support Livy and Kim.

Artists Livingston Stout and Kimberlina Marie will present their oil and mixed media paintings for purchase Saturday, February 14 and 15 at 8am, 73 and 74 Cumberland Avenue.

**Livingston Stout** is an abstract painter and filmmaker influenced by avant-garde film and African-American vernacular art. His work has been shown at Princeton University, Yale University, and Anthology Film Archives. Livy says, “I’ve lived in Montford since June and it’s my favorite place I’ve lived of many places: NJ, NY, GA, MN, SoCal, NorCal, Prague. If my art career gets some traction in Asheville, I’d certainly like to stay! I felt so lucky to find a place in Montford, not to mention one of the awesome historic homes I admired when I visited in 2009. Walking around the Montford neighborhood is literally my favorite part of living in Asheville.”

**Kimberlina Marie** has lived in Montford for seven years and enjoys it here immensely. Kim has her Bachelors of Fine Art, and her passion is figurative and landscape paintings.

“I intend my paintings to capture fleeting moments of mysterious tranquility and the pursuit of true love through form, line, and most importantly color. If my images bring the viewer to a place of comfort, peace and harmony, then I have achieved what I perceive to be a personal calling as an artist.”



**Livingston Stout** - *Meditation video still*



**Kimberlina Marie** - *The Journey Inward and Outward*


  
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# MONTFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

**December 16, 2014**

**David Patterson, Secretary**

The Montford Neighborhood Association held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at 7pm, at the Montford Community Center on Pearson Drive. MNA Board members included Brian Elston, President, Michael McDonough, Vice-President, David Patterson, Secretary, and at-large board members Ellen Nutter and Daphne Young. There were 19 total in attendance for the meeting.

Brian Elston, president, called the meeting to order.

### Safety and Security

Asheville Police Officer Brigman gave the CRO report for Montford. His report emphasized package theft prevention during the holidays. His handout provided suggestions such as having neighbors pick up packages and tracking deliveries online

He reminded us that reports on suspicious activity should be called in to the Asheville Police Department at 828-252-1110 and that 911 should only be used for true emergencies. Officer Brigman's contact info is tbrigman@ashevillenc.gov or 828-777-0455 (cell)

### Treasurer's Report

Financial summary was not available at meeting time. Ellen Nutter reported that Tour tickets totaled over 600, with over 450 paid tickets.

### Asheville Design Center Proposals

Brian Elston informed the group of a request from Asheville Design Center for new project proposals. Submit proposals by January 16,

2015, through the website [ashevilledesigncenter.org/designbuild-studio](http://ashevilledesigncenter.org/designbuild-studio).

### 141 Courtland Ave Redevelopment

Jeff Stewart and Lucy Crown of Keller Williams gave a brief presentation of the proposed redevelopment of the former group home properties located at 141 Courtland Ave. They described the redevelopment of the three existing structures into eight condominiums, and the subdivision of remaining lot into seven additional lots with one single family home to be built on each. Pricing for the condos would range from \$250K to \$300K. Pricing for the single family homes had not yet been determined.

- Builder is RPMM Properties, LLC located in SC.
- Proposed plan would require that the existing zoning be increase from RS8 to RM8CZ.
- Timeline for approval is as follows: TRC January 4, 2015 for conditional zoning; P&Z January 7, 2015; City Council TBD (but most likely February 10, 2015).
- Concerns raised by the group included the need for rezoning entire parcel, density, off-street parking, design of the new structures.

Stewart and Crown confirmed that this was a preliminary neighborhood meeting with more information follow.

Meeting adjourned.



## Be Involved

We need an advertising manager. It's a great way to be involved with your neighborhood, and will take 2 to 3 hours a month. We need someone who will help us solicit ads and be organized and communicate well. You won't be responsible for money. Help us with our newsletter. You'll meet cool people with a purpose.

Contact JoanAdrienne@gmail.com or 650-966-1957.



### Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

**February 11, 2015 at 4pm**  
**Tentative Agenda for Montford**

Asheville City Building, First Floor North Conference Room, 4pm.  
Contact Stacy Merten: 259-5836

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

#### New Business

- 23 Short Street .....Replacement of wooden fence in the front yard
- 20 Watauga.....Add new window opening on rear elevation

## MONTFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

**January 20, 2015**

**David Patterson, Secretary**

The Montford Neighborhood Association held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2014, at 7pm at the Montford Community Center on Pearson Drive. MNA Board members included David Patterson, Secretary, and at-large board members Ellen Nutter, Sue Russell, and Joan Miller. There were 14 total in attendance for the meeting.

David Patterson, secretary, called the meeting to order.

### Safety and Security

Asheville Police Officer Brigman gave the CRO report for Montford. Residents asked questions about a breaking and entering on Pearson Dr. No other reports for Montford

Four other police officers also attended the meeting, including Lt. Geoffrey Rollins and Sgt. Diana Loveland. The reason for the visit was to promote community policing by the Asheville Police Department and to gather resident input. Lt. Rollins also indicated that the APD is working with UNCA Police to improve police coverage.

Reminder: To report any suspicious activity, call the APD at 252-1110. Dial 911 for true emergencies. Officer Brigman's contact info is tbrigman@ashevillenc.gov or 828-777-0455 (cell)

### Treasurer's Report

A written financial account summary was provided by Susan Eggerton, treasurer (not present). An update on the Montford Tour of Homes showed that the Tour netted over \$8800.

### Montford Banners

Sales of the new Montford banners are going well. An additional banner order was placed at the end of October and those banners should arrive soon. They will be available for purchase for \$40 in 3 different color schemes. For more information, contact Joan Miller, JoanAdrienne@gmail.com, 650-966-1957, or David Patterson, montford33@bellsouth.net, 252-5348.

### Asheville Design Center Proposals

David Patterson informed the group that the Asheville Design Center has extended its deadline for new project proposals until February 13. Submit proposals through the website [ashevilledesigncenter.org/designbuild-studio/](http://ashevilledesigncenter.org/designbuild-studio/)

Several suggestions from the group included bus shelters, landscaping for the Montford/ Waneta community garden, and a gazebo for Montford Park.

### Edible Landscape

Resident Brian Medlin gave a brief description of efforts by the Fruit & Nut Club to establish edible landscaping in Montford. Brian can be contacted at Brian at [montford.brian@wholefruit.org](mailto:montford.brian@wholefruit.org)

Brian also informed the group that the former Montford Commons property had been purchased by Duke Energy. MNA to follow up with Planning and Zoning.

Meeting adjourned.





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## Fred Eggerton

Continued from front page...

### Joe Newman, continued...

Fred and his sister Susan researched the history of the Rankin-Bearden house (c. 1843) at 32 Elizabeth Place, the oldest frame house in Asheville and by far the oldest in Montford. Over the course of several decades, Fred restored the house—largely with the labor of his own hands—and recently opened it to the public as the Rankin House Inn. If Fred had done nothing else, this work would be significant enough to guarantee him a place as a Montford institution, a modern pioneer who helped turn the neighborhood into what it is today.

Fred was a gifted carpenter who lent his skills to a number of homes in the neighborhood. He was known for doing a careful, even meticulous job. Once he gently rebuked me for suggesting he could take a shortcut on a project he was doing for my wife Wanda and me, joking that the work on a historic home should never be “Goobered.”

Fred had an outrageous sense of humor that required some getting used to. You had to learn how to take him. When I changed my profile picture on Facebook to a photo that showed me with my daughter and granddaughter, Fred posted, “What are you, Muslim....Two wives???” He was known to introduce himself as the Mayor of Montford, and when someone would counter by mentioning another hard-working neighbor who equally deserved the title, Fred would smile and say, “She’s the *Queen* of Montford. I’m the Mayor.”

Fred was generous, patient, and kind. Several years ago, my daughter and I dropped by his house unannounced, found him working outside, and asked if we could walk around the grounds. Fred put aside the project he was doing and gave us a guided tour.

The week before Fred passed away, I was having lunch at the counter of the Five Points Diner when I felt a tap on my shoulder. I turned around and there stood Fred, looking happy and healthy. He grinned and said we should get together soon. Although we never got the chance, I felt privileged to see him again and, without realizing it, to say a last goodbye.



The Rankin House - before and after

### Ellen Nutter on Fred

Fred Eggerton was a pioneer of the Montford renaissance, and was one of first people to renovate a house in Montford. Dave and I met Fred in 2009, when we stayed at what became the Rankin House Inn. Our studio there was charming, including Fred’s signature eclectic style—a wonderful combination of modern elements, while remaining true to the house’s venerable history.

We were looking for our now house in Montford, and Fred was a treasure trove of information about the neighborhood, its history and its quirks. Fred later helped us work on our house, and we so enjoyed getting to know him better. His liveliness, quick smile, intelligence, and devotion to Montford will be sorely missed.

### Memorial Service

A memorial service is planned for March 18 at Fred’s home, The Rankin House Inn, at 11:30 am. From the Asheville Citizen-Times, “With a lifelong affection for his hometown of New Orleans, his family knows there’s a great big jazz band and plate of oysters waiting for him on the other side.” Susan Eggerton, Fred’s sister, found this newspaper clipping on his refrigerator:

**“QUOTES”  
of the  
WEEK**

• “It’s not an unidentified flying object,” said Asheville Council member Jim Skalski at Council’s May 21 work session. Skalski made the quip after urging the city to do a thorough job of getting the word out to residents about community meetings.

• “[Historic Resources Commission members] asked me ... whether I was going to restore the Rankin House to the way it was in 1846, and I said, ‘No, I’m going to put the plumbing indoors,’” said renovator Fred Eggerton. Eggerton — responding to Vice Mayor Barbara Field’s asking whether he is a “pure” preservationist during an interview with Council members for a spot on the Historic Resources Commission — is renovating the Rankin House in Montford as a home for his own family.

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Montford is published monthly by the Montford Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 7181, Asheville, NC 28802 for the residents of Asheville's first historic neighborhood. The newsletter is distributed by more than 50 volunteers.

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Assistant Editor—Jenny Wilker. Circulation Manager—William Saupe, aws@anchorlaw.com, 907-952-1809.

We welcome articles emailed by the 20th of the month to Joan Miller. We also welcome advertising arranged with Joyce Thornburg and emailed by the 20th of the month to Ross Terry.

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