

MONTFORD

TEMPIE AVERY MONTFORD CENTER

Calendar

Aerobics with Karen Griffin

Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 PM

Pick-Up Volleyball

Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 PM, Fridays from 10:00-2:00 PM

Pick-Up Basketball

Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM Sundays from 3:00-6:00 PM

Adulting 101

Friday, November 21 from 6-7:30

PM, Ages: 14-17

Madden Mania

Tuesdays, December 2 and 16 from 6-7:30 PM

Ages: 13-17

Holiday Youth Camp

December 22-23, 29-31, and January 2

8:30-6:00 PM

Pre-Registration Required for Youth and Teens

Fun Day Out

November 26 from 8:30-6:00 PM Pre-Registration Required for Youth and Teens

The Grinch's Grub

December 21 from 2-4:30 PM Families Welcome \$5/person

Facility Closure:

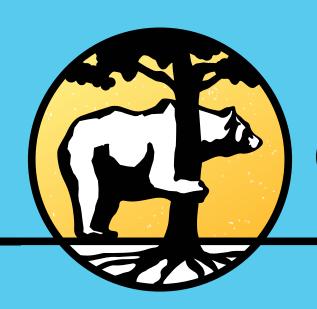
November 27-28 - Facility Closed December 24-26 - Facility Closed January 1 - Facility Closed January 5-9 - Gym Closed

For more Information Contact:

Seth T. Jackson, Recreation Facility Manager 828-253-3714

Tempie Avery Montford Recreation Center 34 Pearson Dr, Asheville, NC 28801

www.ashevillenc.gov/parks | Facebook | Instagram



828.712.2400 GrizzlybearArborcare.com

GRIZZLYBEARARBORCARE

tough love for trees

The Latest DirtBy Cherie Morris

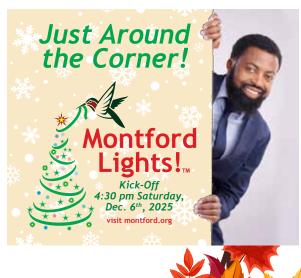
As I huddle by the fireplace and watch a solitary snowflake drift through my yard, I question whether autumn is officially a goner. Then when I scan the weather app, (and simultaneously ask myself "Why bother? It's Asheville.) I see some encouraging warmer temperatures on the horizon. So, we should have plenty of time to enjoy a walk through the Botanic Garden. (But who knows? It's Asheville.)

There are quite a few die hard fall bloomers still showing off their colors - asters, goldenrod and Joe Pye to name a few. The good news is with so many leafless trees, it's much easier to watch the birds. Come over to the newly renovated bird garden, bring a warm beverage, maybe a good book and sit a spell. Watching wildlife soothes your soul and lifts your spirits! Keep an eye out for mama bear and her cubs and maintain a respectful distance. They're just searching for food and bulking up for winter.

Meanwhile the Garden Path Gift Shop is doing its own bulking up for holiday shopping. We hate rushing the season, but we know some of you are, in keeping with the wildlife theme, early birds looking for the best worms! Our Christmas tree is lit up and decorated with hand made wooden critters from Women of the Cloud Forest. We have a limited supply of boxed holiday cards, hostess gifts and great stocking stuffers for adults and kids alike. And what kid (and maybe a few grownups) doesn't want his or her own owl pellet to examine?! We have even put together a table of gift ideas for those hard-to-buy-for friends and family. You know who you are! Your purchases help the Garden remain independent and growing. Be sure to remind us if you have a membership discount. (P.S. memberships make great gifts!)

This year we will shut down for one month of "hibernation" beginning on December 21st and reopen on January 18 after a little house cleaning and the joys of doing inventory. Our buyer ladies will be busily tracking down







VOLUME 30 NO. 11

BUNCOMBE COUNTY LIBRARIES

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.

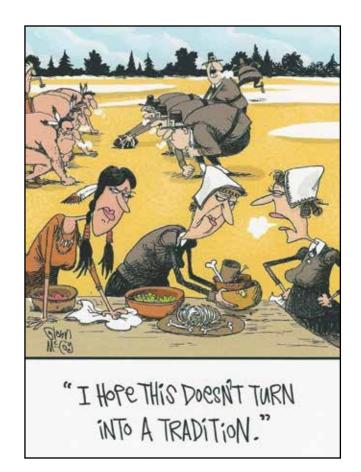
• Thousands of unique local historical records, photographs, maps, and memorabilia. The Buncombe County Special Collections Library provides researchers the resources and expertise they need to understand and interpret the history of Western North Carolina.

NOVEMBER '25

 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.







Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

Montford Action Agenda 10/08/25

Present: Chair Will Hornaday, Vice-Chair Sioux Oliva, Cecil Holt, Hans Skouby, Celesta Gorman, Amy Moxley, Robert Mays

Absent: Shannon Watkins, Jenny Bowen, Bill Roberts, Amy Gharst, Leslie Humphrey

Staff: Alex Cole, Jannice Ashley, Drew Wilson

Item, Summary and Action

5 East Waneta Street (PIN 9649123772) -

After the fact approval to replace five (5) multi-lite window units on the rear elevation with new Windsor Pinnacle wood divided multi-lite windows. Applicant: David Humphrey

Action—Approved with conditions

52 Cumberland Circle (PIN 9649047709)

- Removal of existing screens and kneewall on non-original porch on rear elevation, and enclosure of porch with new tempered glass single-lite sliding and fixed windows and door with Sandstone color aluminum framing and black mesh screening. All work will be in accordance with attached and approved drawings and plans. Applicant: Jane Havert **Action**—Continued to January 2026

54 West Chestnut Street (PIN 9649232044)

- Construction of a 395 square foot one-story addition on rear elevation; addition will have wood lap and shake siding, wood trim and soffits, 1/1 wood double-hung window, single-lite wood doors and CertainTeed Landmark asphalt shingle roof in Colonial Slate color to match existing; one existing wood double-hung window will be reused on addition. Construction of new 22' x 24' 6" gravel parking area edged with TBD in rear yard behind new addition. After the fact approval to demolish an historic accessory structure due to damage from Tropical Storm Helene. Applicant: Paul Heathman

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) for the full approved minutes after the following month's meeting.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

They make the newsletter POSSIBLE!

Forever Montforθ

Would you like to get in touch with your neighbors more easily?

Do you have hobbies or special interests that you would like to share with others?

Do you want to be more involved in the Montford community?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Montford Neighborhood Directory is for you. The Montford Neighborhood Association has created an online directory, making it easy to do all of the above. It is a secure directory which is stored on Google Docs, so you will need a Google account to

access the directory. No Gmail is required, just a Google account. No Google account? No problem, it is a few easy steps to create one and you can keep your old email address.

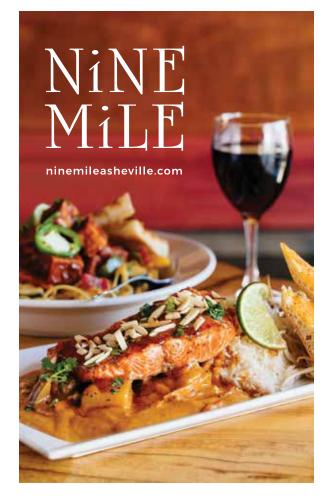
Neighbors have already started forming social groups using the Directory. They have expressed interest in Book Clubs, Supper



Club, Wine Club, Hiking, Yoga, Tennis, Gardening, Crafts, Cooking, Baking, Woodworking, Painting, Playdates and more. If you would like to join, simply send an email to montford.directory@Gmail.com

To date, we have 200+ neighbors who have signed up, and we invite you to join as well.





Forever Montford



WELCOME PACKET

Dan & Judith Sanford

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 listsery, Montford newsletter, neighborhood parks, events, 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.

For the first six months we had **24 new neighbors** move into Montford. 11-were from out of state, 5-were from the AVL area or in state, 8-were left an introductory letter, but did not ask for a welcome packet.

Dan Sanford: sanford.danielj@gmail.com Judith Sanford: sanford.judith@gmail.com Leslie Humphrey: leslieinmontford@gmail.com

Ashima Nair: ashimanair@gmail.com



Order your Montford Banner

Three colors to choose from: red, green, and mustard yellow. They are available at the Asheville Visitor Center, 36 Montford Ave. (828) 210-2726



Cheers to a joyful Holiday Season!

When I think about this time last year I am struck by how much we have to be grateful for. This community came together in ways none of us could have imagined. From our Montford home to your's, warmest thanks for being our neighbors and friends, and for supporting the Montford Neighborhood Association!

CATE SCALES | BROKER

cate.scales@nestrealty.com



MONTFORD

Green Corner Erin Hiatt

For this month's Green Corner, we are interviewing another local, sustainability-linked businesses that could use your support!

Our eighth feature is French Broad Co-Op, located at 90 Biltmore Ave. Current hours are everyday from 8am to 8pm.

Q: What is the French Broad Co-op and how did it get started?

A: We are Asheville's only community owned grocery store, established in 1975 as a buying club with products distributed from members' porches. 90 Biltmore (across from the Orange Peel) is our 3rd storefront location and we moved there in 1990.

Q: What range of products do you offer?

A: We offer a typical array of health food products but feature 100% Organic Produce (with a focus on locally grown) and a meticulously curated Health & Body Care (HBC) department unlike any other store in Asheville.

HBC's primary focus is herbal remedies and natural supplements.

Q: Do you offer any unique products or offerings?

A: We offer the largest selection of bulk food in the SE with a whole wall of medicinal herbs & spices. If you like to cook, you have to check this out. Also, the public can order case quantities on our website (Special Orders) at 20% off for owner/members and 10% off for the general public. This program includes any product available to us from



our many distributors, instead of just what's in the store. In addition we do a Truckload Sale quarterly that is generally 30% off or more for selected items.

Q: Any special offerings or activities shoppers be aware of, leading up to the holidays?

A: If you want high quality food and great prices for your holiday gatherings, the co-op should be your first stop. We are also a great spot to find a gift for the cooks, herbalists, and fair trade enthusiasts in your life.

Q: What is a common misconception about co-op shopping?

A: Sometimes people assume that only member/owners can shop here. In fact, the general public gets all our sale prices, but member/owners get 10% off the Co+op Deals program which is featured in our bi-weekly sales flyer.

Q: Where can readers follow you or stay up to date?

A: We're on Instagram @frenchbroadfoodcoop, Facebook as "French Broad Food Co-op" and our website has many features including a weekly email newsletter you can sign up for.

Let me know what other local businesses you would like to see interviewed at montfordgreencorner@gmail.com.











The Montford listserv is a neighborhood discussion list. This is the place where you can exchange news about the neighborhood.

Visit https://montford.org/montford-listserve/





MINUTES - MONTFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (MNA) QUARTERLY COMMUNITY MEETING

October 22, 2025 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

President: Randy Hall Treasurer: Susan Eggerton VicePresident: Bill Eakins Secretary: Tom Fehsenfeld

At Large: Marti Boyles, Susan Loftis,

Karen MacNeil, Lynn Raker **Ex Officio:** Ross Terry

Website: https://montford.org

Listserv: montford@googlegroups.com

1. Welcome & Introductions - Randy Hall

2. APD Community Resource Officer

- Officer Isaiah Senyak
- Contact Information: isenyak@ashevillenc.gov
- Officer Senyak reported that APD staffing has improved! The recent training classes have had 20+ cadets.
- His full report is attached at the end of these minutes.

3. 5 Points Neighborhood/Save the Woods - UNCA Millennial + Campus - Chris Cotteta

- Contact information: 215-859-6550
- A charrette visioning process came up with five alternative development options for UNCA. A preliminary report on the options can be found at thislandstudio.com/uncawoods.
- They have a goal to raise enough money to buy the woods from UNCA and put it into conservancy. This could cost as much as \$40 million. Although the property is assessed at \$11 million, UNCA believes they can gain \$40 million by developing the woods.
- There was a sign waving demonstration against the development project.
- Many Save the Woods signs have deteriorated. Save the Woods will replace them with better signs at no cost.
- They have hired an attorney to investigate status endangered animals in the woods.

Odyssey School, 90 Zillicoa St.

- UNCA has lost their CFO, General Counsel, and one other top administrator in the last month.
- UNCA announced they will form a commission for local input on their project plans. H.R.&A. Advisors will help form and facilitate the commission.
- The Montford Neighborhood Association Board is monitoring the situation and will keep the community informed. President Randy Hall says we expect to have a meeting with the UNCA Chancelor in January.

4. Neighborhood Services Specialist - Trey Irby

- Contact information: tirby@ashevillenc.gov, 828-337-5358
- There was discussion of notifications about the recent gas leak. There was discussion of notifications about the recent gas leak. Judith Sanford noted that the address given by the city for evacuation purposes was incorrect. Trey will share that concern with appropriate staff.
- Trey suggests signing up for both the city and the county alert systems. To sign up for the county system, go to buncombenc.gov and search for CodeRED. For the city, go to ashevillenc.gov and search for AVL Alert.
- The City will be making matching grants of \$5,000 for neighborhood projects this year. There will be a workshop on 10/29 about how to write successful grant applications. A flyer about the workshop is included at the end of these minutes.

5. How to Prepare for HRC Meeting - Bill Eakins (10-15 minutes)

- Contact information: wmeakins@gmail.com
- MNA Board VP Bill Eakins previously served on Asheville's Historic Resources Commission for seven years. Since many alterations to property and structures within the Montford Historic District require approval by the HRC, Bill recommends that you check with its

continued next page

website before plunging ahead. Here is a summary of the HRC role from its website:

- o The (HRC) reviews projects within local historic districts and local landmarks to ensure that the proposed work is consistent with the applicable design review guidelines. Once a project has been approved, a Certificate of Appropriateness (CA) is issued to the property owner or applicant, which should be posted on site with any other required permits. Please note that a CA is for design review approval only, and does not include approval for building, zoning or other permit types that may be required. If you are considering a project and are unsure of what permit types you will need to obtain, you should contact the Permit Application Center at PAC@ashevillenc.gov or 828-259-5846.
- When you are planning an alteration on your property, the first thing to determine is whether your proposed change is major or minor work. Minor work only requires staff approval while major work has to be approved by the entire Commission at their monthly meeting. The website is the first place to look to figure this out. If you have questions, you can contact the HRC staff person Alex Cole at acole@ashevillenc.gov or 828-259-5638.
- Commission meetings are the second Wednesday of the month.
- If you are requesting approval of major work, plan on a minimum of two months. Your request requires an application and a meeting with staff in addition to the commission meeting.
- In making their decisions, the HRC follows the Montford Historic District Design Review Standards. Bill cautions that the language in the historic standards is often flexible. Rather than saying you "shall" do or not do something, it sometimes says that the thing is "preferred." This means that the commission has the discretion to approve something that is not preferred, but also not prohibited.

6. Reed Creek Greenway Update/Kudzu

- Susan Eggerton/Karen MacNeil

- Contact: s.eggerton52@roastedgarlic.net, karenskyli@gmail.com
- We have \$3,700 to hire a contractor to eliminate kudzu that is overrunning an area by the intersection of Cauble and the Reed Creek Greenway.
- Research is continuing to find a solution that does not require the heavy use of pesticides. Susan invites you to contact her or Karen if you have any ideas about how to do this.
- We are hoping to find volunteers who would be willing to adopt a tree in the greenway. The volunteer's job would be to watch over and save "their" tree by removing any kudzu that starts to grow on the trunk.

7. Garden Tour Fund Projects - Lynn Raker

- Contact: lynn.raker@gmail.com,
- We had a successful Garden Tour fundraiser, bringing in \$23,000+.
- Our first goal to use funds from the Garden Tour is to replant trees to make up for those that were lost in Helene. We have ordered sixteen good-sized trees including white oaks, sweet gums, and red maples. Trees will be planted in Montford Park, at the Tempe Avery Community Center to shade the playground area, in the Reed Creek Greenway area, and at homes. There are a few trees that are still available. Notify Lynn if you are interested in receiving one.
- The second neighborhood priority for use of the proceeds is for a new stage for live performances in Montford Park. Michael McDonough and Dan Sanford are working on the design. A plan for fund-raising will be needed since the estimated cost exceeds currently available funds.
- Lynn also reminds us that we have an ongoing program to share the expense of planting trees 50/50 with home owners up to \$300.

continued next page

8. Holiday Home Tour - Lynn Raker

- Our thanks to Cate Scales (catescales@gmail.com) who is coordinating the event this year. Contact her if you have ideas or questions.
- This will take place on December 13, from 1:00 to 5:00 this year.
- Tickets will be \$30, or free if you volunteer to help out.
- Further information will be coming out on the listserv.
- Marti Boyles will be coordinating the distribution of cookies. If you are willing to donate a dozen or more home-baked cookies for the event, contact Marti at daveandmarti@gmail.com.

9. MNA Financial Report - Susan Eggerton

- Contact: s.eggerton52@roastedgarlic.net
- The association is in good financial shape and is following our yearly budget.
- Susan invites you to contact her if you have questions.

10. Community Space Uplift, FEMA, and I-26 Update - Susan Loftis

- Contact: sbloftis@gmail.com
- On 10/15, FEMA awarded Asheville an additional \$11 million grant for water infrastructure.
- Previously we have been awarded \$225 million in CDBG funding. A breakdown of how this will be spent is shown on a report at the end of the minutes. \$5 million has been reallocated to small business after public input.
- If you want to find out if you might be eligible for a grant, you can contact either Nikki Reed or James Shelton with the City of Asheville.
- The American Rescue Plan Upfit Program awarded \$7,500 to Montford for Odyssey School technology upgrades and bike racks. The technology upgrade will allow us to broadcast our meetings.
- On the I-26 Project: The Environmental Impact
 Statement (EIS) is under review given changes
 suggested by the selected contractor, primarily because

of the revision of the 26/Patton underpass to an overpass. However, the project is still on schedule as described on https://www.ncdot.gov/projects/asheville-i-26-connector/Pages/default.aspx.

11. Montford Lights - Marti Boyles

- Contact: daveandmarti@gmail.com
- This will be the fourth year. It is scheduled for December 6th
- It will be at the Montford Garden Park at the corner of E. Waneta and Montford Ave.
- There will be a fir tree erected in the park.
- At 4:30, a parade led by the Asheville High School drum corps will start at the lower parking lot of the Tempe Avery Center and wind through to the park.
- There will be Christmas carols at the park.
- The tree will light up at dusk.
- Globes at the corner of Cullowhee and Montford will also be lit—a contribution of Smart Fellers Tree Service.
- We encourage families to attend, especially those with small children.

12. Tempie Avery Community Center

- Seth Jackson
- Contact: sjackson@ashevillenc.gov
- Closures at the Center 11/11, 11/27, 11/28, 12/24-26, 1/1.
- The gym floor will be resurfaced. There will be about a five day closure, but the dates are not set yet.
- here will be increased security coming soon, but the details are not available yet.

13. Other

• No other business was brought up.

The next MNA meeting will be held at 6:30 at the Odyssey School, January 21, 2025. Hope to see you there!

Tom Fehsenfeld, Secretary



Resource Directory

Historic Walking Tours

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

777-1014.

Raven Invasive Plant Management

Saving trees and native plants from non-native invasives. Raven IPM is a local, organic, woman veteran-owned business specializing in mechanical removal of invasive plants. No chemicals, just hard work. • (828)866-3200 • RavenNC.com

Smart Feller Tree Works

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.

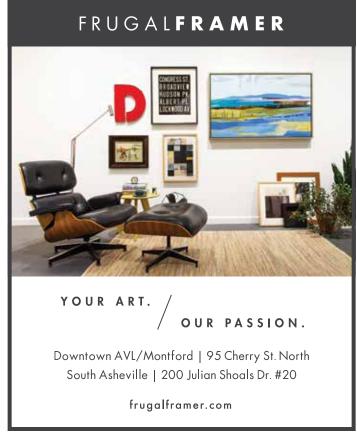
• 828.545.5503

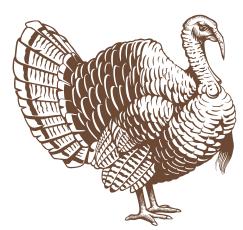
Square Peg Construction Inc.

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







Happy Thankgiving Montford



Montford Convenience Store

Your local neighborhood store

Hours:

Monday thru Saturday - 8am to 10pm Sunday - 9am to 10pm 231 Montford Avenue • phone 828-258-1879

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 Kelly Ross Terry at krtgraphicdesign@gmail.com, 230-7439 for more information.