



MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD
Vol. 18 No. 9
SEPTEMBER '13



School Year Gets Off to Good Start at Relocated Isaac Dickson

Joe Newman

When Isaac Dickson Elementary students, faculty, and staff went back to school on Wednesday, August 21, nobody knew quite what to expect.

But by late that afternoon, when all the students had either walked or ridden home in cars and buses, everyone breathed a sigh of relief.

The first day in the Randolph School building on Montford Avenue, Dickson's temporary home while its brand-new campus rises on Hill Street, had gone much better than expected. Most importantly, students and teachers were able to get their work done and make a good beginning on the year ahead.

More Compliments than Complaints

Despite a few bugs in the new traffic patterns around the school, the parents and students I've talked with have voiced few complaints but offered many continued on page 15...



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Who Named Montford? Part Two of Rediscovering Montford's Early History

Zoe Rhine, North Carolina Collection, Pack Memorial Library

The Asheville Loan, Construction and Improvement Company (ALCI) first announced in the *Asheville Daily Citizen* of June 10, 1890, that it had closed the deal that day on "one thousand acres of land to be made a garden spot . . . laid out in parks and lakes, with drives and electric cars running through the property."

The article (reproduced along with my comments in the August newsletter) mentioned that ALCI had closed a contract for a "passenger depot on the company's continued on page 14...



Richmond Pearson. North Carolina Collection, Pack Memorial Library, Asheville.

Introducing the Newsletter's New Co-editor Joan Miller Will Gradually Take the Reins

Joe Newman

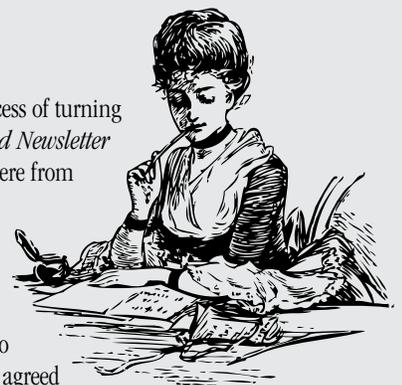
The search is over. I'm in the process of turning over the editorship of the *Montford Newsletter* to Joan Miller, who's just moved here from Mountain View, California.

Under Joan's direction, the newsletter will be in capable hands.

For several years, she edited a neighborhood newsletter similar to ours in Mountain View. When she agreed to become co-editor and then editor of this newsletter, I could hardly believe the good fortune.

Several people I've told about Joan have said to me, "You mean, she's had this gig already, and she's willing to do it again? You'd better sign her up—fast!"

continued on page 15...



CALENDAR

Montford Neighborhood Association Meetings:

- Third Tuesday of every month, Montford Community Center, Pearson Drive.
- Next meeting: September 17, 2013, 7:00 p.m. City Traffic Engineering representatives will present revised plans for the Montford/Soco/Cullowhee intersection. Watch the list serve for more agenda items.

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

Trash to Cash Montford Community Yard Sale:

- Saturday, September 7, at Community Center and yards throughout Montford. Contact Sharon Fahrer, 777-1014 or fahrer@charter.net, for information and a map of sale sites.

8th Annual WNC Run/Walk for Autism:

- 5K run/walk and 1K walk. Saturday, September 14, 9:00 a.m. at UNC Asheville. For information go to wncrunwalk-forautism.org or contact Simone Seitz at (828) 236-1547 or sseitz@autismsociety-nc.org.

Mother Bear—Families for Mental Health:

- Our new neighbor at 65 Hill Street near the Chamber. Community dialogue with Dr. Dan Fisher. Wednesday, September 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Family Mental Health Support Groups every Wednesday, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Contact Jennifer Maurer, Jennifer@motherbearcan.org.

27th Annual Asheville Greek Festival:

- September 27-29, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 227 Cumberland Avenue. See invitation and ad in this issue. More information at www.holytrinityasheville.com/greek_festival or 253-3754.

Montford Park Players:

- *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark* by William Shakespeare, Fridays-Sundays, August 23-September 14, 7:30 p.m. Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre, 100 Gay Street, Montford. Free, but donations gratefully accepted. Last show of the summer outdoor season!
- Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Othello, the Moor of Venice*, October 10-27, 7:30 p.m., on days to be announced. Asheville Masonic Temple, 80 Broadway, downtown.
- For more information, see www.montfordparkplayers.org.

Montford Farmers Market:

- Wednesdays, now through November, 2:00-6:00 p.m., Chamber of Commerce parking lot.
- September 4—Pepper Tasting, October 2—Autumn Market Feast.

www.montfordfarmersmarket.com.

Montford Community Center Activities:

- Developing Future Male Leaders program, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-7:00 p.m., starting September 17. Montford Center Assistant Director William Hoke will lead young men in grades 3-5 and up to grade 8. Call for more information.
- Afterschool Program for children in grades K-5, Monday-Friday, with all-day care on most teacher workdays, holidays, and snow days. Call for more information
- Adult yoga, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:50-8:50 a.m., \$1
- Youth martial arts, Tuesdays, 6:00-6:45 p.m., \$10 per class
- Adult martial arts, Tuesdays, 6:45-8 p.m., \$10 per class
- Juggling, Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Call for dates and details.

Contact Kim Kennedy and William Hoke at 253-3714 or montfordr@ashevillenc.gov.

How to Contact the Historic Resources Commission (HRC)

- Stacy Merten, Director, Asheville City Building, 259-5836 or smerten@ashevillenc.gov.

Montford Neighborhood Website

- Visit Montford's information-filled and user-friendly website www.montford.org.
- Contact webmaster Ross Terry at webmaster@montford.org.

Montford List Serve

- Go to www.montford.org and click on Join the Montford List Serve.

Montford/Soco/Cullowhee Intersection Plans to be Presented at September 17 Meeting

City Traffic Engineering representatives will attend the MNA's September 17 meeting to present the revised plans for the Montford/Soco/Cullowhee intersection. The plans will address traffic and pedestrian safety. Join the discussion at 7:00 p.m. at the Montford Community Center.

Sharon Fahrer Thanks the Neighborhood

On the front page of the August newsletter, the MNA Executive Board announced the creation of the Sharon Fahrer Community Fund to support neighborhood service projects such as "scholarships" and holiday gift baskets for students at the Montford Community Center. The board recognized Sharon for her 20 years of neighborhood leadership, service, and fundraising and noted the strong personal commitment she and her husband Vic have to helping families who are struggling financially.



We managed to keep this honor a secret from Sharon until she picked up the newsletter. Here's her thank-you note.

Dear Montford Neighbors,

When I saw the August newsletter, I was speechless, touched, stunned, surprised. What can I say? What an honor, what a reward!

For so many of our efforts, our wonderful people resources, our neighborhood bonding events, we can be proud of Montford. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, who helped to turn around our faded, neglected, crime-ridden neighborhood. Hopefully we will continue to find creative ways to protect our diversity, strengthen our neighborhood pride, and continue in a positive direction.

All those things the MNA Executive Board attributed to me in the article have happened because I never felt indispensable and I could spot those with strengths in the needed tasks. That is when I dived in to draft the unsuspecting, never hesitating to delegate necessary parts to make a successful whole.

Look around at those of you who have picked up the ball and run with it. Don't be afraid to recruit new folks to join in. Every hand makes the job easier and more fun.

My thanks to those who continue to make Montford an even better place to live and who talk about it positively to outsiders. Thank you, MNA Board, for the designation of the special fund. Are you now hinting I should raise some more money for the Sharon Fahrer Community Fund?

Your neighbor,

Sharon

Come to the MNA meeting on September 17.

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HRC Adopts Revised Guidelines on Accessory Structures

Historic Resources Commission, Accessory Structures Working Committee

At its August 14 meeting, the Historic Resources Commission adopted revisions to the *Montford Historic District Design Review Guidelines* pertaining to accessory structures in Montford. The vote was the culmination of efforts by an HRC working committee made up of HRC commissioners, HRC Director Stacy Merten, and MNA executive board members.

The revisions are designed to respect historic relationships between main and accessory structures in Montford. They clarify what defines an accessory structure

and its size and placement in relationship with the main building on the property.

The following changes were made:

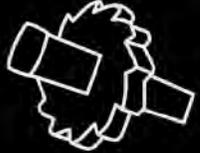
- The proportions of new accessory structures should be compatible with the proportions of the main building. New accessory structures should be no larger than 30 percent of the scale of the main building and no taller than 1 1/2 stories in height (unless reconstructing a historic accessory structure which was taller).
- Garages shall not exceed two bays unless replacing an existing three-bay garage.

The revised guidelines go into effect immediately. They will be available in the HRC's section of the City of Asheville website, www.ashevilenc.gov/Departments/CityClerk/BoardsCommissions/HistoricResourcesCommission.aspx, early in September.

This was the first revision of the Montford design review guidelines since the current ones were adopted in April 2010. We look forward to a more sensitive scaling of accessory structures in the future.

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An Invitation to the 27th Annual Asheville Greek Festival

*September 27-29 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church,
227 Cumberland Avenue*

Greetings Neighbors!

Once again it's Greek Fest time in Montford. There will be lots to learn, see, do, and definitely EAT on Friday and Saturday, September 27-28, 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and Sunday, September 29, 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.



Photo by Maria Katsigianis

Music, Dance, Culture, Tradition

Come and enjoy the lively Greek sounds of Nick Demos and Greek Islanders. Experience a world of dance as you watch our youth groups and adult teams performing in intricate authentic costumes.

Tour our church to experience the rich 2000-year-old religion of Greek Orthodoxy, the cornerstone of our culture and tradition. Join us for Vespers Service on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Divine Liturgy Service on Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Join Us! Shopping and Cooking with Your Greek Neighbors

Shop in our Agora (marketplace) where you can take a little of Greece home with you. There you will find imported Greek jewelry, luxurious silk Pashmina wraps, Pysanky Easter eggs, Greek sailor hats, religious icons, and other Greek items and gifts.

Enjoy live cooking demonstrations. Stock your pantry with Greek food items from the Bakaliko (grocery store) which includes Greek cheeses, olives, olive oil, spices, and other imported delicacies.

And, There's the Food!

The scents of oregano, garlic, and cinnamon take you away on a culinary excursion to the Mediterranean. Feast upon a cornucopia of the best Greek cuisine outside of Athens. Each area you visit offers a different surprise from tangy tzatziki-topped gyros, to the Arni (lamb shank), spanakopita, pistachio, and moussaka inside at the traditional food line to the handmade pastries, like baklava.

For information about the festival, including our great food, go to www.holy-trinityasheville.com/greek_festival, Facebook us at Asheville Greek Festival, or call 253-3754.

We at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church are so grateful for the support you, our fellow neighbors, have given us during our Greek Festival and over the past 60 years we have been part of Montford. We invite you back again and thank you for allowing us to hold our three-day party at our home in the heart of Asheville's Most Historic Neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Constantine "Dino" Zourzoukis, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Asheville Greek Festival, 2013 Chair

Dawn "Pebbles" Stucker, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Asheville Greek Festival 2013 Co-chair and your neighbor at 218 Cumberland Avenue

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 227 Cumberland Avenue, Asheville

**Montford Park Players
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Shows to Open
with Othello**



Travis V. Lowe

The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

Hamlet is often called "the greatest play ever written in the English language." *Hamlet* explores themes of treachery, revenge, incest, moral corruption, duty, and madness. The play takes the audience through Hamlet's own roller coaster of emotions from grief to rage, trickery to madness, comedy to tragedy. Come enjoy the drama as we close our summer outdoor season with *Hamlet*.

FREE SHOW!

Friday-Sunday, August 23-September 14, 7:30 p.m., at Montford's Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre, 100 Gay Street.

Find out more at www.montfordparkplayers.org.

The Tragedy of Othello, the Moor of Venice

This tale of racism, love, jealousy, and betrayal is another of Shakespeare's greatest works. When his trusted ensign, Iago, convinces Othello, the Moorish general of the Venetian army, that his lieutenant is sleeping with his wife, Othello begins a slow descent into a jealous rage and leaves us with a tragedy for the ages. Featuring one of Shakespeare's greatest villains, one of his greatest heroes, and one of his greatest love stories gone wrong, *Othello* is a must-see classic.

October 10-27, 7:30 p.m., on days to be announced at the Asheville Masonic Temple, 80 Broadway, downtown.

For more information, see www.montfordparkplayers.org.

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257 Montford - 100 Years, Two Families

Part Three of the Soco Triangle Series

Bill Jacobs

257 Montford Avenue was built by William H. Shoffner and first occupied as his family home about 1909. As discussed in the August newsletter in part two of the series, the residence was part of life-long real estate activity that culminated in ownership of ten houses located contiguously on Montford, Soco, and East Waneta.

Architecturally, 257 Montford is a blocky shingle-style home. While the tall south side is flat, the north side is broken by protruding rooms, and the front and back each feature two porches, one for each floor. The complex roof lines also add visual interest.

The first floor includes three largish rooms, a small bath, and a roomy kitchen, and the original second floor included four rooms and a small bath. The various rooms all open off sizeable foyer/hallways and were flexible as to their assigned uses. Heating originally was by seven coal fireplaces, a coal or wood stove in the kitchen, and a whole-house coal furnace with a chain to control the flue opening (and thereby roughly control the heat output).

The Shoffners and Their Children in the Triangle

William, who was a jeweler/watchmaker by trade, lived with his wife Alice at 257 Montford until their deaths. They raised two sons and a daughter born between 1898 and 1906. At one point in the late 1920s, the two sons and their spouses also occupied the home, which was testimony to its flexible design.

By 1930, all three children had moved on from 257 Montford. However, initially two, and after 1935 all three, lived with their families in neighboring homes among the Shoffner holdings, so there must have been a steady stream of children and grandchildren through the family homeplace.

About 1930, after the children had moved out, the Shoffners duplexed the home by adding a second front door and partitioning off the stairwell and by adding an upstairs kitchen and a rear stairway/fire escape. The Shoffners rented the upstairs unit to tenants who included a welder and his wife and child and a Bon Marche saleswoman and her two children.

William died in 1938. In 1942 Alice was joined by her daughter Bonnie and her husband, Douglas Arden, who first brought telephone service into the household. Alice died at home in 1944. Each of the Shoffner children was deeded one of the ten homes, and the others were sold, principally to investors as rental properties.

Bonnie and her husband Douglas became the owners of 257 Montford and kept it in the Shoffner family for another 30 years. Douglas had come to Asheville from Savannah in search of opportunity. After operating a filling station in Biltmore, he spent a number of years with the Grove Park Inn, first as an auditor, later as assistant manager, and for a year or so around 1945 as manager. After that, until his retirement in the late 1960s, he was a self-employed audi-

tor/accountant with his office in the front room of the house. Being a gentleman of his era, he always wore his tie, reportedly even when mowing the lawn.

He and Bonnie raised a son, Jack, who became a senior executive at Stroup Sheet Metal Works. They also continued to rent out the upstairs unit to tenants including a nurse, a Southern Bell repairman, and a city fireman. Sometime along the way, they converted to an oil furnace, apparently continuing to use the original duct system. In 1976 they sold the home and lived their final years in West Asheville.



257 Montford Avenue today

Racial Diversity in the Triangle

The new owner of 257 Montford was Lonnie H. Whitener, who had incurred disabling injuries as a soldier and long-term POW in the Korean War. Recording stamps indicate that he paid \$17,500 for 257 Montford, with a \$6,000 mortgage. He shared the home with his two sisters, Lola Mae King and Lucille Young, who helped care for him.

After Lonnie Whitener's death in the early 1990s, ownership of the home passed from his estate to the sisters and his two brothers, but for occupancy purposes it was divided between the sisters. Following the death of Lucille Young in 2003, her son and his wife, Tommy and Gwendolyn Garrett, continued to occupy the downstairs unit with two young daughters.

As one of the first black families on this stretch of Montford, the Whiteners were not uniformly welcomed, but over time they became accepted members of the neighborhood. They were concerned with security, particularly with trespassing by people cutting through to East Waneta and Soco, as well as the habit of some area residents to take on a bit too much of the corner store's wine. These concerns resulted in the installation of a chain link fence around the perimeter. I understand that J.G. Earley, who has lived next door at 249 Montford for over 40 years and was a Buncombe County Deputy Sheriff, was a good neighbor who helped keep a watch on things.

Renewal for the Twenty-First Century

In 2008 the Whitener siblings and their descendants sold the home and ended a century of ownership by only two families. The purchasers were Tony and Roxanna Preston, who embarked on a multiyear renovation project. Taking the interior walls and ceilings down to the studs and joists and replacing all of the home's systems, they saved and reinstalled doors, door frames, and hardware as well as the rich heart-of-pine flooring. The Prestons also de-duplexed, although not without hassle from the Historic Resources Commission, which required proof that the second front door was not original. After they moved into the home with their child, Tony used two of the downstairs rooms for his music recording and post-production work.

We bought the home in 2012. Because of the Prestons' interior restoration, we have had a comfortable base of operations for our own efforts, which have focused on remaining exterior projects. We have also spent many hours cleaning and reclaiming the concrete-floored basement, which over the years had suffered from coal storage, oil leaks, water, grime, and the accumulation of all manner of long-forgotten miscellany.

While searching through the basement, we found a beautifully rendered charcoal drawing signed in 1984 by an artist named J.E. Giles. Giles was a friend of Tommy Garrett. Giles and Garrett had jointly conceived this piece, and Giles drew it for Garrett while Giles was serving time in Craggy Prison. For many



Plymouth Rock (1984) by J.E. Giles

years it hung in a place of honor on the wall opposite the front door. Unable to retrieve the work after the sale of the home, Garrett thought it was gone. I have returned it to him, but with his permission I have kept a photographic copy.

Having a white man's perspective, I referred to the piece as *Black Mt. Rushmore*. However, Garrett tells me it is actually *Plymouth Rock*, inspired by Malcolm X's statement that "We didn't land on Plymouth Rock –

Plymouth Rock landed on us." In any event, for me, it serves as a poignant reminder of the era during which the Whiteners and their kin occupied the home.

Should you be interested in visiting 257 Montford, our home will be open for the Montford Tour of Homes on December 14, 2013.

Note on sources: Historical material in this series of articles is based on research in the *Asheville City Directories*, Buncombe County deed records, obituaries, and interviews with former residents and their kin.

Paul Dixon
828.215.7772

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Contact Sharon Fahrer at 777-1014.

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 828-777-1014. A self-guided CD or downloaded MP3 tour of Riverside Cemetery is available online at www.history-at-hand.com Cemetery tour CDs are also available at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center or by calling the number above.

Haunted Montford Strolls

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Montford Neighborhood Association Minutes

Tuesday, August 20, 2013

Pam Jo Brown, Secretary

The Montford Neighborhood Association held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Montford Community Center on Pearson Drive. MNA board members present included David Patterson, president, Brian Elston, vice-president, Pam Brown, secretary, and at-large board members Daphne Young, Ross Terry, and Joe Newman. Community Resource Officer (CRO) Todd Brigman and several other neighbors also attended.

President David Patterson called the meeting to order and circulated the financial summary prepared by Treasurer Susan Eggerton.

Safety and Security

CRO Todd Brigman stated that several arrests have been made recently in the Woodfin and North Asheville areas. He reported that the highest areas for crimes are in high foot-traffic areas. Scooters, bicycles, and lawn mowers have been targets, and he reminded us to keep them locked or put away.

Also discussed was the importance of asking neighbors to watch your house when you are away. It was a vigilant person from the neighborhood who saw perpetrators leaving a house with "the goods" on July 4 and called the police. One subject was arrested shortly afterwards. Officer Brigman also mentioned that alarms are good deterrents.

I-26 Update

David Patterson reported that he had received a letter/update from Julie Mayfield, executive director of the Western North Carolina Alliance. David made the letter available for anyone wishing to read it. While there are many steps to be taken and funding yet to be finalized, it appears this project is moving forward.

Isaac Dickson School's Relocation to William Randolph School Building: New Traffic Lanes on Montford Avenue

The group briefly discussed the new lane configuration and traffic patterns required for the relocation of students from Isaac Dickson Elementary to the William Randolph campus. All agreed that alternate routes should be taken if possible during the mornings and afternoons while students are arriving and leaving and that it will take patience and time for the traffic patterns to develop.

A motion was made that the neighborhood send a letter to the city complaining about the quality of the fence that was installed in front of the school for student safety. The motion was approved. It was discussed that in its current condition, the fence is an eyesore to the entrance of our community and for visitors coming to the Visitor Center. See the story on the front page of this newsletter.

Montford/Soco/Cullowhee Intersection

David Patterson reported that Ken Putman, director of the City of Asheville Transportation Department, will attend our September meeting to present and discuss the new plans and configuration.

Montford Park Signs

Board member Susan Murray forwarded information about the process of repairing the deteriorating signs at the park. Kim Kennedy has also spoken with the city's Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts. There will be more information available at the September meeting, and volunteers will be recruited to complete the repairs.

Montford Community Center

Kim Kennedy introduced William Hoke, the new assistant director of the Montford Center. William discussed the program he is leading, called Developing Future Male Leaders, and told the group that the students in the program will attend the MNA's October meeting as part of their training. He also invited neighbors to call him at 253-3714 to suggest volunteers who will meet with the students to discuss careers and with any other ideas for these future leaders.

Revisions to Montford Historic District Guidelines on Accessory Structures

David Patterson discussed changes made to Montford Historic District Guidelines regarding accessory structures and new construction size and scale. He reported that the guideline revisions have been made at the request of the neighborhood. The new guidelines are now in effect, and the online guidelines will be updated by HRC soon. The article on page 3 provides further information.

Special Announcement – New Co-editor for the Newsletter

Joe Newman, editor of the *Montford Newsletter* for the last six years, announced that his search to find a new editor has been successful. He introduced Joan Miller and her husband Joe Murphy – newly arrived from Mountain View, California. Joan will be working with Joe Newman as co-editor for the next few months before taking over as editor. The group praised Joe for the work he has done bringing the newsletter to its current standards. The group recognized Ross Terry for his work as layout artist for the publication.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17.



***EMPOWER YOGA
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* Yoga practitioner for over 35 years; certified teacher since July 2000

Montford Community Center News

Gym Renovation Tops the News

Kim Kennedy, Center Director

The big news at the Montford Center is OUR GYM IS BEING RENOVATED! We are very excited about this project. Unfortunately this means the gym is not available to the community until sometime in December. We will keep you posted.



The Montford Community Center is still open with fun programs:

Yoga classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00-9:00 a.m., \$1 per visit

Youth martial arts on Tuesdays, 6:00-6:45 p.m., \$10 per class

Adult martial arts on Tuesdays, 6:45-8 p.m., \$10 per class

Afterschool program, homeschool fun, and Kid's Day Out on teacher workdays.

Juggling on Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Call the center for dates and details.

Our staff members are planning new fall programs including recreational tennis, kickball nights, cartooning workshop, and toddler special interest classes. Call the center or watch the Montford list serve for more details.

Developing Future Male Leaders Program with Assistant Director William Hoke

The fall session of our Developing Future Male Leaders (DFML) program starts in September. Montford Center Assistant Director William Hoke leads the DFML program, focusing on young men in grades 3-5 but open up to grade 8, on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5:00-7:00 p.m. beginning September 17.

Program goals are to help young men develop higher self-esteem, get extra help in school, learn how to be gentlemen, develop and grow, be around positive male role models, and have fun. Cost is \$5 for the fall session.

For more information on the Montford Community Center, call me at 253-3714 or kkennedy@ashevillenc.gov.

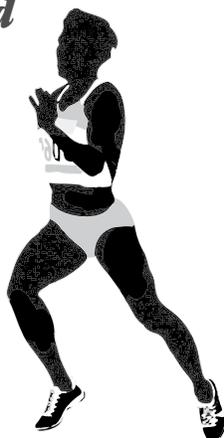
Hot August Night 5K The Little Race That Could

Kim Kennedy

Despite a dismal day of rain, the Ninth Annual Hot August Night 5K was held on Saturday, August 17. Eighty-three runners braved the elements to participate in this community event.

Top male honors went to Victor McHenry with a time of 17:59 and top female honors went to Kathy Hogan with a time of 21:58. We want to give special mention to our youngest finishers, Shane Mandia and Julie Janus, and our most experienced finishers, Dawson and Barbara Hunter.

We received many positive comments from runners who said they appreciated the community's support and encouragement along the route. We hope to see more runners next year!



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American Red Cross Blood Drive

Save the Date



American Red Cross

**Paul Knott, Director,
Lenoir-Rhyne University Center for Graduate
Studies of Asheville**

Mark your calendar for the afternoon or early evening of **January 14, 2014**, for the American Red Cross Blood Drive at 36 Montford Avenue, sponsored by Lenoir-Rhyne University. If you are an active donor and plan to donate that day, refrain from donating after **November 19, 2013**. And thank you, blood donors!

Questions? Contact me at paul.knott@lr.ed.

Trash to Cash Community Yard Sale

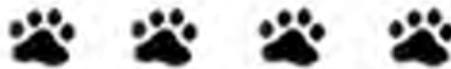
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Autumn Market Feast 10/2

Featuring All Souls Pizza

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Follow us on Facebook or Twitter
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www.montfordfarmersmarket.com

Rotary Gives Montford High Schoolers a Chance to Study Abroad

International Students Placed in Local Homes and Schools

Tom Rightmyer

Rotary Youth Exchange sponsors American high school juniors and seniors to study abroad and also receives students from many countries to live with local families and attend area public schools.

In 2013-2014, nine students from Asheville and other western North Carolina communities will attend school and live with host families in Austria, Brazil, Germany, India, Italy, and Spain. Five students from Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, and Turkey will spend the academic year with families in Asheville, Brevard, Hickory, and Morganton.

The primary goal of the Rotary program is to foster world understanding by way of intercultural exchange. Exchanges are either long term—for an academic year during which the student lives with more than one family (usually three) and attends school—or short term, for several weeks, when school is not in session.



Application Procedures and Requirements

Rotary Clubs are now accepting applications from students between the ages of 15 and 17 ½ to study abroad during the 2014-2015 school year. We also need to begin hearing now from families interested in serving as volunteer hosts for 3-4 months in the school year 2014-15.

High school students in the upper third of their class apply now. Requirements are good character, an outgoing and pleasant personality, and the ability to accept discipline and adjust to new and sometimes challenging conditions. A desire to learn about other countries and cultures and to appreciate these differences is essential. The program is non-discriminatory.

Challenge and Opportunity

Hosting a Youth Exchange student is a challenge and an opportunity. Life with an exchange student challenges a family to become familiar with another culture and provides the opportunity to share a young student's hopes and ambitions. Host parents provide room and board and exercise the general parental supervision of the student's natural parents.

The program is run by volunteer Rotary members who offer regular training, supervision, and problem solving to both students and host families.

“Rotary International strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse.” *Adopted by the Rotary International Board of Directors, November 2006*

Interested? Email me—I'm a Montford resident—at trightmy@juno.com or call me at 225-0515.

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Solarize Asheville Reduces Solar Costs to Asheville Homeowners

How to Go Solar for Less

Katherine Bray, Director

Solarize Asheville, a groundbreaking solar project for city homeowners, presented an educational workshop in August. The workshop was just the first step for anyone who lives in the city and has ever thought about going solar. Solarize Asheville reduces costs through a competitive bidding process, taking out the guesswork that can otherwise paralyze the homeowner.

Group Purchasing Power

The first project of its kind in the Southeast, Solarize Asheville serves as a support system for neighborhoods and neighbors, using the power of group purchasing to install solar panels. The installation cost of solar exceeds the price of inverters, panels, racking, and labor. There are also the soft costs, those associated with customer acquisition, permitting fees, financing, interconnection, and inspection, which can account for 30-40 percent of the price of a residential system.

Asheville residents have an opportunity: City processes are necessary to safely regulate the electricity grid, but a lot can be done to reduce processing costs. The program is open to every homeowner within the Asheville city limits.

Solarize Asheville chose Sundance Power Systems as the installer for this phase of the project. Proposals were accepted from solar-photovoltaic installers across the Southeast. They were asked for five-tiered pricing in which the savings would increase for everyone as more people signed up. The project is an initiative of the Blue Ridge Sustainability Institute.

Enrollment ends **October 11**. To sign up or find out more, go to www.solarizeasheville.org. Contact me directly at kbray@blueridgesustainability.org with your questions.

MeticulousReferences



PAINTING
By Dominique Amarante

Interior & Exterior828.232.9195



How to Contact the Asheville Police Department

- 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

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NOTES:

Contact Joyce Thornburg at joyce-thornburg@att.net or 258-2207 to place an ad. Layout and ad creation are available by contacting Ross Terry at Ross@KRTdesign.com or 254-3509. 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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Green Corner

How Can We Ebb the Flow of Garbage and Trash?

Mitch Russell

I was out recently for a trail run at Bent Creek, and the amount of trash strewn along the trail was a little disconcerting. Unfortunately it's pretty darned pervasive along trails not only in Bent Creek but also along the Mountain to Sea Trail between the Arboretum and Walnut Cove Overlook. We can hope, at least in Bent Creek, that the new Bent Creek Volunteer Patrol will help to ebb the garbage flowing, sometimes literally with all the rain, in and around the trails and parking lots.



Volunteer to Help

This brings me to my broader point of trash and what we can do about it. I emailed Susan Roderick, former Executive Director of Asheville GreenWorks, about this article, and she mentioned she had just been out picking up trash in front of her house. Now that's passion! I'd like to encourage all of us to do like Susan and take a few minutes a few times a week to pick up trash in front of our homes or while on walks.

I've been to several larger cities, Boston in particular, that are much cleaner than Asheville. We are supposed to be one of the happiest cities in the country. I think we'd be even happier if our neighborhoods were cleaner.

You can find out how to help at **Asheville GreenWorks**, www.ashevillegreenworks.org; **RiverLink**, www.riverlink.org; and **Swat a Litterbug (NCDOT)**, www.ncdot.gov/doh/operations/dp_chief_eng/roadside/beautification/litterbug/

Help Celebrate the Career of Montford Resident Susan Roderick

Finally, you can honor Susan Roderick and benefit Asheville Greenworks by attending her retirement party on **September 22 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** at the Historic Manor Inn. See www.ashevillegreenworks.org/retirement-celebration.html.



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Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

August 14, 2013, Meeting—Action Agenda for Montford

Asheville City Building, First Floor North Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.
 Contact Stacy Merten: 259-5836 www.ashevillenc.gov/hrc
 Members present: Capi Wampler, Brendan Ross, Nan Chase, Jo Stephenson, Patricia Cothran, J. Ray Elingburg, David Carpenter, Woodard Farmer, Tracey Rizzo
 Staff present: Stacy Merten, Peggy Gardner

Item and Summary	Action
5 Birch Street—window on front façade	Approved
101 Cumberland Avenue—rear addition.....	Approved with conditions
152 Montford Avenue—rehabilitation for commercial use	Continued to September 11
Please refer to the website (www.ashevillenc.gov) for the full approved minutes after the following month's meeting.	

September 11, 2013, Meeting—Tentative Agenda for Montford

Asheville City Building, First Floor North Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.

Old Business: Public Hearings—Certificates of Appropriateness

- 101 Cumberland Avenue—north elevation: add new window on second level and relocate lower level window (continued)
- 152 Montford Avenue—rehabilitation for commercial use (continued)
- 41 Starnes Avenue—side porch addition

New Business: Public Hearings—Certificates of Appropriateness

- 4 Birch Street—tree removal
- 183 Pearson Drive—renovations including demolition, new door and windows

Preliminary Review

- 19 Soco Street—new accessory structure
- 139 Montford Avenue—new accessory structure
- 109 Santee Street—new single-family residence and accessory structure
- 8 Short Street—new single-family residence

Other Business

Comments from commissioners, public, and staff

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Who Named Montford?

Continued from front page...

grounds to be known as the Montford Park station,” which is the first known use of Montford as an Asheville place name.

Richmond Pearson

The same article named the officers and the board of directors of the new company, with one of the directors being Richmond Pearson. Pearson (1852-1923) was a legislator, congressman, and diplomat. He had recently built his home, Richmond Hill, across the French Broad River.

A followup story in the *Daily Citizen* on June 19, 1890, divulges additional facts about the ALCI's plans. As the article explains, “it is now contemplated to build two lakes, one on this side the river and one in Montford Park on the other side the river. The contract for the one in Montford Park has already been let for \$10,000 to be completed by the 15th of September.” Also, “an iron bridge will be built across the river for the purpose of connecting Montford Park by electric cars with the company's lands on this side.”

By closely reading all the newspaper coverage, I've concluded that the land owned by the ALCI on the *west* side of the French Broad—across the river from the neighborhood we now call Montford—was being referred to as Montford Park, and the depot to be built there as Montford Park Station. It was not until May of the following year, 1891, that newspaper articles began referring to the whole property on *both* sides of the river as Montford Park.

But who came up with the name? An article in the *Daily Citizen* of March 31, 1891, titled “Montford Park Station: Asheville's New Suburb on the French Broad” reveals that “for the privilege of naming the station, Mr. Richmond Pearson, last summer, agreed to erect a station building to cost not less than \$2,000.”

Why Montford?

In an article that is not found on the microfilm of the newspapers but survives in the library's newspaper clipping volumes, filed under “Festivals/Fourth of July,” I found the answer to this often-asked question. Richmond Pearson's son Thomas returned in the late 1950s to live in Asheville at Richmond Hill with his sister Marjorie. Thomas Pearson brought to our library an old yellowed newspaper article concerning a “land development scheme” his father was involved in with the ALCI in 1890.

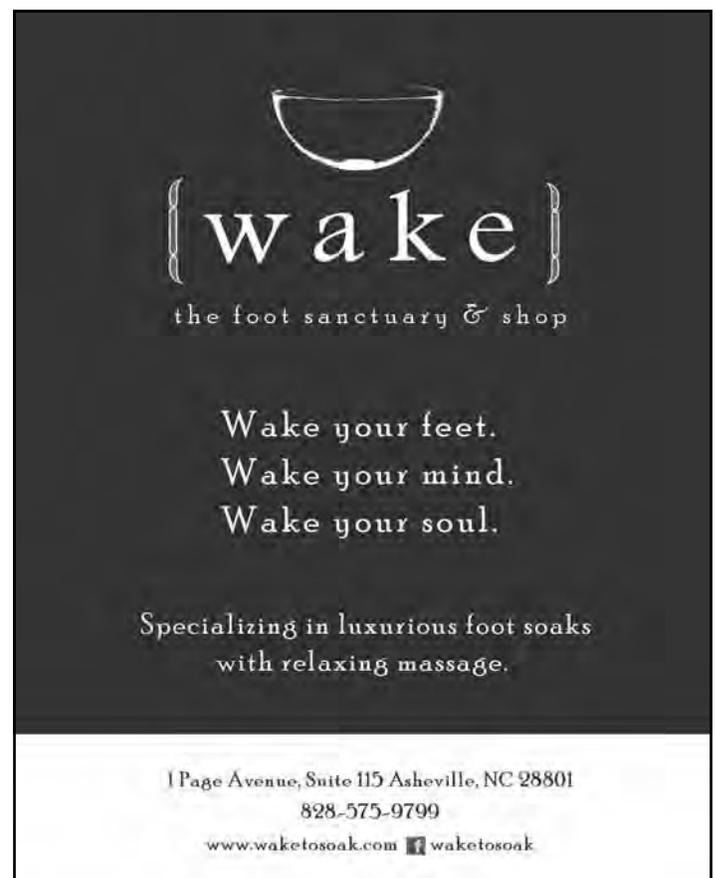
That article, from an *Asheville Daily Citizen—Extra* dated July 4, 1890, commented that Richmond Pearson “**named the new park Montford, the family name of his grandmother**” [emphasis added]. The father of Asheville's Richmond Pearson was Richmond Mumford Pearson, who lived in present-day Yadkin County on a plantation that was also named Richmond Hill. Richmond Mumford Pearson's mother was Elizabeth Mumford, the daughter of Robinson Mumford, a former officer in the British navy who had come to North Carolina before the American Revolution. She was related to the Elder William Brewster of New England, an English official and Mayflower passenger.

Sources on surnames say that Mumford (English) is a variant of Montford and that the surname Montford is “French and English (of Norman origin); habitational name from any of the numerous places called Montfort, from Old French *mont* ‘hill’ + *fort* ‘strong’, ‘impregnable.’” Place names such as Montford-sur-Risle in Normandy, Monfort-sur-Risle in Eure, and Montford,

Shropshire, Great Britain are given. Sources agree to various surname spellings for Mumford and Montford: Montford, Mounford, Mountfort, and Mun(d)ford. One source said that in “the ‘Modern’ idiom, the name is spelt Montford” with all variants having a French origin.

[*Dictionary of Surnames*, Oxford, 1988; *Dictionary of American Family Names*, Patrick Hanks, editor, Oxford, 2003; and www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Mumford#ixzz2cWco87cw]

In part three, we'll look into the “land development scheme” on the west side of the river and how this other half of Montford got lost in time.



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**Mother Bear—Families
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See calendar listing in this issue.

Isaac Dickson

Continued from front page...

words of praise for the advance planning that is helping things run “very smoothly, under the circumstances.” One of the main issues I’ve heard parents raise is the length of the automobile pickup line for students, which snakes down Courtland Avenue and then along Gudger Street toward Hill Street.

But That Fence!

Most of the Montford residents I’ve spoken with say traffic around the school seems lighter and flows better than they expected, but they see the chain-link fence and traffic barricades in front of the school as an “eyesore” that mars the gateway to Asheville’s first historic neighborhood. City and school officials are aware of neighborhood dissatisfaction with the fence and barricades. The Montford Neighborhood Association is working with the city Transportation Department to improve the situation.

Dickson Principal Brad Johnson believes “good schools build good neighborhoods” and says he wants the two years Dickson will spend at the top of the avenue to be positive for Montford as well as the school.

New Co-editor

Continued from front page...

Joan and I aren’t wasting any time. She co-edited this issue with me, working with our longtime layout and design specialist Ross Terry—the guy who gives this paper its crisp appearance and visual appeal. Our veteran advertising manager, Joyce Thornburg, and our billing agent, MNA treasurer Susan Eggerton, will also stay in place to work with Joan. Over the next several issues, she’ll assume full responsibility for the editorship.

Joan and her husband Joe Murphy are both professional writer-editors. Both have played active roles in neighborhood work. Now they’re building a home in Montford Hills, and they have a tremendous contribution to make to our neighborhood.



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Montford Farmers Market Monthly Recipe

How To Use What’s Fresh On Our Stands This Month

Ratatouille

The traditional Provençal French casserole, and not the Disney Pixar movie about a rat, is so wonderfully easy to make and uses so many of the wonderful vegetables fresh from the market in September. The best thing about this recipe is you can freeze it for up to three months. Enjoy September’s bounty in December!

Total time, one hour. Eight servings (makes a great vegetarian main dish or a side).

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 large eggplants (2 pounds), peeled in strips and cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 4 to 5 medium zucchini (2 pounds), cut into 1-inch cubes
- Coarse salt and ground pepper
- 3 yellow or red bell peppers, ribs and seeds removed, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 1 can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh basil



Method

1. In a Dutch oven (or other heavy 5-quart pot with a tight-fitting lid), heat oil over medium heat. Cook onions, stirring occasionally, until soft, about 5 minutes. Add garlic; cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Stir in eggplant and zucchini; season generously with salt and pepper.
2. Add 3/4 cup water; cover, and simmer until vegetables are beginning to soften, stirring once, about 5 minutes. Stir in bell peppers; simmer, covered, until softened, 5 minutes.
3. Stir in tomatoes and thyme; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low. Partially cover; simmer, stirring often, until vegetables are tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from heat. If serving immediately, stir in basil. If freezing, leave out basil.

**ARE YOU ON THE
MONTFORD LIST SERVE?**

**Sign up at
www.montford.org**

**Montford Community Center
has something for everybody.
Check it out.**

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.

Staff: Co-editors—Joe Newman, jnewman@southalabama.edu, 254-5111; Joan Miller, JoanAdrienne@gmail.com, (650) 966-1957. Layout and Design Specialist—Ross Terry, ross@krtdesign.com, 230-7439.

Advertising Manager—Joyce Thornburg, joyce-thornburg@att.net, 258-2207. Assistant Editor—Jenny Wilker. We welcome articles emailed by the 20th of the month to Joe Newman. We also welcome advertising arranged with Joyce Thornburg and emailed by the 20th of the month to Ross Terry.

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Delicious Ideas From Your Neighborhood Ingles!

Grilled Lime Pork Chops With Black Bean & Corn Salad

INGREDIENTS:
 * 1/4 cup Fresh lime juice
 * 3/4 cup Olive oil (plus additional for coating grill)
 * 2 tsp. Garlic, minced
 * 1-1/2 tsp. Kosher salt
 * 1 tsp. Fresh ground black pepper, to taste
 * 1 tsp. Ground coriander
 * 6 Boneless pork chops, fat trimmed

DIRECTIONS:
 STEP 1: In a small bowl, whisk together lime juice, oil, garlic, salt, pepper and coriander. Place pork chops in a large zip-top plastic bag and pour marinade over pork chops. Refrigerate for 2 hours. STEP 2: Preheat grill on medium heat. Oil grill rack with oil. STEP 3: Place pork chops on grill and grill 3-4 minutes. Using tongs, turn pork chops a quarter turn to create hatch marks and grill 3-4 minutes. Flip pork chops over and repeat the process. Hold chops using the tongs to create grill marks on the edges, if desired. Proper internal temperature is 150°. STEP 4: Serve pork chops with Black Bean and Corn Salad.

Black Bean and Corn Salad
 * 2 medium Ears of corn, husks and silk removed
 * 1/4 cup Black beans, rinsed and drained
 * 1 small Tomato, small dice
 * 1 small Jalapeño pepper, finely chopped
 * 2 Tbsp. Green bell pepper, small dice
 * 2 Tbsp. Red bell pepper, small dice
 * 1/4 cup Jicama, peeled, small dice
 * 2 Tbsp. Green onions, chopped
 * 1 Tbsp. Vegetable oil
 * 2 Tbsp. Fresh cilantro, chopped
 * 1 clove Garlic, minced
 * 2 tsp. Fresh lime juice
 * Dash Ground cumin
 * 1/4 tsp. Kosher salt

DIRECTIONS:
 Step 1: Grill corn over medium heat, turning frequently, until corn is golden brown, about 10-15 minutes. Remove corn from grill and let cool; cut corn from cob. Step 2: In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients and mix until well blended.

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