



MONTFORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASHEVILLE'S MOST HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD
VOL. 16 No. 4
APRIL '11

This Old House Names Montford Best Old-House Neighborhood in North Carolina



WOHLFARTH-RODGERS (c.1909), 216 PEARSON DRIVE.
One of Montford's great old houses.

Magazine Ranks Our Neighborhood among 64 Best in U.S.

New York, NY—The editors of *This Old House* magazine have tracked down 64 great neighborhoods that have promising futures, strong communities, and homes that truly deserve a long-term commitment. The Best Old-House Neighborhoods appear in the April issue and online at www.thisoldhouse.com/best-places.

The fourth annual list, which honors the 64 Best Old-House Neighborhoods—one in every state, the District of Columbia, 12 Canadian cities, and one town in Puerto Rico—**names Montford as North Carolina's best.**

Grouping the winning neighborhood into categories, *This Old House* also recognizes Montford as among the best for the South, Bargains, College Towns, Retirees, Family Friendly, Outdoor Activities, and History Happened Here. For the full list, see the April issue of the magazine or visit www.thisoldhouse.com.

Selection Criteria Included Architecture, Craftsmanship, Preservation, Amenities

This Old House scoured the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico to find unique, tight-knit neighborhoods for its annual search for the Best Old-House Neighborhoods. These places might not be on your radar, but deserve to be, according to the magazine's editors.

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Get Ready for the Biggest and Best Festival Yet

On May 21, Enjoy Arts, Crafts, Food, and Two Stages of Music and Dance

Sharon Fahrer

Take the best entertainment around, add in some good food and unique art, locate them in the historic Montford neighborhood, and voila! You have the Eighth Annual Montford Music and Arts Festival on Saturday, May 21.

Star-Powered Music

In keeping with our goal of furthering the growth of pride in our community and celebrating its diversity, the festival will expand to two stages this year. Take a look at the lineups inside on pages 2 and 3. The musicians include Grammy Award winners and acts that have toured nationally and worldwide. As always, every act has ties to the Montford neighborhood.

continued on page 3...



DAVID HOLT. Four-time Grammy winner to play Montford Fest.

The Health Adventure Declares Bankruptcy Will Meet with MNA about Future of Momentum Site

Joe Newman

The Health Adventure (THA) announced Chapter 11 bankruptcy as this issue of the newsletter was going to press. THA CEO Paige Wheeler informed MNA representatives that although Park Ridge Health has stepped in as a new partner to keep the Pack Square facility open, THA has officially put the Momentum project on hold.

With about \$3 million in debts, THA lacks the funds it needs to move forward with the Momentum Museum in Montford, which carries a price tag of \$25 million. THA has secured funding commitments to cover less than half that cost.

MNA President David Patterson and past President Tim Schaller will meet with Ms. Wheeler during the first week of April. Montford residents are concerned, to say the least, about the future of the construction site, once a beautiful forest and now a neighborhood eyesore.

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Festival Preview

Music and Dance on the Main Stage

Ben Scales

We're really excited about this year's music, which has combines a bit of star power with wide diversity of styles we've all come to expect from this festival. As always, every act has direct ties to our neighborhood.

In between musical acts, we'll be entertained by **The Asheville Shakesperience**, the professional touring company of the Montford Park Players; Morris dancing from **Asheville Morris Men** and **Ashgrove Garland**, including a Maypole celebration; and the return of the **Mountain Lion Chinese Dragon** dancers. Plus, there will be surprise performers and a special guest MC or two.

Here's our schedule of musical performances

11:00 a.m. - Braidstream. From Celtic to Baltic, classical to the edge of jazz,

Braidstream is an eclectic mix of musical styles, backgrounds, and cultures coming together to create a whole greater than the sum of its parts. Since 1985, Braidstream has offered an evocative musical mixture of themes and dreams that wraps the audience in an aural tapestry. www.braidstream.com



Noon - Free Planet Radio. This ensemble is composed of award winning multipercussionist/composer River Guerquarian; Eliot Wadopian, a two-time Grammy Award winner, proficient on string and electric basses; and Chris Rosser, an accomplished pianist and composer/producer who also performs on a variety of indigenous stringed instruments. Their individual talents have garnered recognition in concerts around the world. www.freeplanetradio.com



1:00 p.m. - Billy Jonas. Billy is one of those rare performers who can engage and delight young and adult audiences alike. Making innovative use of "found objects," Billy's concerts across the U.S. and Canada have generated an enthusiastic following. His CD *What Kind of Cat Are You?!*, recorded right here in Montford, and his videos have received multiple awards, including a Parent's Choice Gold and a *New York Times* "Best" listing. www.billyjonas.com



2:00 p.m. - Ira Bernstein and John Herrmann. Ira is a world-class percussive step dancer and one of the cofounders of the Montford Festival. As in years past, he'll be joined for this performance by John, the legendary Zen Master of Old-Time, on fiddle, banjo, and guitar, and by other musicians for a classic set of music and dance celebrating the rich traditions of the Southern Appalachians. www.tentoepercussion.com



3:00 p.m. - Firecracker Jazz Band. We're so glad to have one of our favorite bands back with us this year. With jubilant vigor that spills from the stage to the streets, Firecracker Jazz Band revitalizes the energy of the roots of Jazz. In paying homage to the pioneers of early 20th Century Jazz, including that of Dixieland and New Orleans, the Firecracker Jazz Band carries the torch that was once lit by such greats as Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, Bix Beiderbeck. www.firecrackerjazz.com



4:00 p.m. - WestSound. The sensation of the past two years' festivals, WestSound will once again rock the avenue with high-energy Motown, blues, R&B, and soul that had everybody humming, singing, and dancing. They're one of Asheville's hottest bands. Don't miss them! www.facebook.com/pages/WestSound/215017765645?v=info



5:00 p.m. - David Holt and the Lightning Bolts. For over three decades, David's passion for traditional music and culture has fueled a successful performing and recording career. He has earned four Grammy Awards and performed and recorded with many of his mentors including Doc Watson, Grandpa Jones, Bill Monroe, Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff, and Chet Atkins. Today he tours the country performing solo, with Doc Watson, and with the band he's bringing to our festival—The Lightning Bolts. www.davidholt.com



6:00 p.m. - Free Flow Band. Making their Montford Festival debut, this trio plays a unique brand of "Old Skool R&B and Funk." Lead singer and percussionist Lil' Rog shows his love of Motown and R&B. Sharing lead vocals and playing keyboards is Free Flow's founder Kevin "Kazual" Collins, whose influences range from blues to hip-hop, jazz to soul. Darrell "BNote" Griffin, on bass and vocals, is the deep-pocket heartbeat of the band. Together, these guys will take you to a place they like to call Planet Funk! www.freeflowband.info



We hope this line-up will provide a little something for everybody during our eighth annual celebration of all things Montford.

Volunteer!

Contact Sharon Fahrner at 777-1014
to help with events throughout the year.

Festival Preview

Music and Dance on the Soco Street Stage

Dave Baker

Booking musical groups is like herding cats, and coordinating the music for the new Soco Street Stage at this year's MontfordFest has been no different. This will be the first year we are attempting a second stage and, to date, these are the fine acts who have committed to perform for us.

10:00 a.m. - LEAF in Schools and Streets Drummers from the Montford Community Center

10: 30 a.m. - Two of Us. Wanda and Joe Newman play pop standards using guitar, piano, ukulele, and autoharp to back up their close harmonies.

11: 15 a.m. - South French Broads. This "eclectic two-piece ensemble incorporates bass, drums, sax, harp, vocals, and sound toys into an energetic mix of rock, punk, jazz, comedy, and the-atrics." www.thesouthfrenchbroads.com

Noon - MLK Crew Breakdancers from the Montford Community Center

12: 35 - Fifty Year Flood. Here's neo-roots, psychedelic, indie-folk to "systematically dismantle every music venue around from the rafters down." www.facebook.com/FiftyYearFlood

1:30 p.m. - Songwriters in the Round, featuring -

Paul Edelman, winner of the 2009 Flat Rock Music Festival emerging songwriter contest. www.myspace.com/janglingparrows

Dave Desmelik, voted 2010 "Best Of" in Folk and Regional Musician categories, *Mountain Xpress* readers' poll. www.davedesmelik.com

Jeff Markham, "I write songs about the human condition. . . . love for family, love for friends, hardships, and the trials and tribulations of everyday life." www.myspace.com/jeffmarkham



Dave Desmelik

2: 20 p.m. - Spicy Moustache and the Flavor Savors. "This combination of funk, hip-hop, soul, and rock 'n' roll is the musical panacea the Earth has been waiting for." www.spicymustacheandtheflavorsavors.bandcamp.com

3: 15 p.m. - Chompin' at the Bit String Band. Five eager young musicians play rowdy old-time/string band music. www.reverbnation.com/chompinatthebitstringband

4: 05 p.m. - Leigh Glass Band. "Glass is a heartbroken, blues-infected troubadour, using her acid-etched voice to weave tales of loss, lament, and love" (*Mountain Xpress*). www.leighglassband.com

5: 05 p.m. - Pick Your Switch. "Comes out of the gate with a heavy Americana wall of sound" (*Mountain Xpress*). www.pickyourswitch.com



Leigh Glass Band

6: 05 p.m.- Cobra Horse. These dudes play sensitive yet masculine riff rock, like if Led Zeppelin, The Kinks, and Sweet went on a date and it got hot. soundcloud.com/cobrahorse

This Stage Needs Your Support!

The Soco Street Stage is a significant expansion from previous years' festivals and is not in this year's festival budget. We are still raising funds to pay for the new stage and to be able to offer the musical acts a small honorarium for their years of hard work honing their talents. Besides doubling the number of musical acts festival-goers can experience, the stage is also designed to draw people to the dozens more artist and food vendors added this year who will line the festival's expansion down Soco Street.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor to make the Soco Street Stage and the festival expansion a success, please contact me at 279-3160. Remember that all sponsorships are tax-deductible. We look forward to seeing you at this year's festival on Saturday, May 21.

Best Festival Yet

Continued from front page...

Tasty Food, Healthy Plants, Cool Arts and Crafts

Vendor and artist applications are coming in, and many of our crafters are returning. We're getting comments like "This is our favorite festival"—always a good thing to hear from your vendors.

The Flying Falafel Brothers will be back again with their delectable falafel and hummus dishes as well as veggie chili cheese fries. Come hungry. You're sure to find delicious treats. Save room for the Greek pastries. New this year will be Avery's hot-dogs—veggie and meat.

We will have more booths of plant growers this year. You may recognize some from the tailgate markets or meet new ones like Willow Creek Nursery. They're just the folks to help spruce up your yard.

For a list of arts and crafts vendors as well as other festival information, check out www.montfordfestival.com.

Generous Sponsors

Kudos to Greenlife Grocery for hanging in with us, year after year, and becoming our top sponsor in 2011. With the new stage on Soco Street, we're still fundraising in earnest. Many thanks to Daphne Young (see her article on page 4) for doing an excellent job coordinating our sponsorships. We appreciate donations in any amount.

The Festival on Social Media and Video

Special thanks to Margaret Japp for volunteering to keep us current on Facebook. Friend the Montford Music and Arts Festival and find out for yourself. Also coming soon will be a video produced by Stone Media Design which will go on all the social media. We'll let you know the release date.

How We Got Started

The festival has grown so much since that windy March day we held our first "festival" in Pypers Place and the Montford Arts Center. Ira Bernstein has been with us every year, first helping to coordinate and always as a performer. Thank you Ira! Ben Scales took over the monumental task of coordinating the music and dance from Ira, and now David Baker has joined for the addition of the Soco Stage.

This festival will be our best yet. I'm looking forward to seeing more of you than ever as we again do our neighborhood proud.

Streets Will Close during the Festival, Saturday, May 21

- Montford Avenue between Cullowhee Street and West Waneta Street
- Cullowhee Street between Montford Avenue and Pearson Drive
- East Waneta Street
- Soco Street

All will close at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday and reopen by 9:00 p.m.

No driveways will be blocked in the event of an emergency.

Please remove any vehicles parked on the street no later than 7:00 a.m. on Saturday.

 CALENDAR

MONTFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETINGS:

- THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, MONTFORD COMMUNITY CENTER, PEARSON DRIVE
 - NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 7:00 P.M.
- ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME! EVERYONE IN MONTFORD IS A MEMBER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION.
- NEW PARKING REGULATIONS: NO ON-STREET PARKING ON THE COMMUNITY CENTER SIDE OF PEARSON DRIVE FROM COURTLAND AVENUE TO WEST CHESTNUT STREET.

MONTFORD COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITIES:

- SPRING COMMUNITY YARD SALE, SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 8:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. \$5 PER TABLE. PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.
- SPRING BREAK FAMILY ACTIVITIES, APRIL 11-14, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
- EASTER EVENT, SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 11:00 A.M., MONTFORD PARK.
- YOUTH DANCE, MAY 6. CONTACT THE CENTER FOR INFORMATION.
- HERSHEY TRACK AND FIELD COMPETITION FOR YOUTH 9-14, SATURDAY, MAY 7, 9:00 A.M., ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL. FREE REGISTRATION AT THE CENTER.

CONTACT KIM KENNEDY AT 253-3714 OR MONTFORDR@ASHEVILLENC.GOV.

MONTFORD PARK PLAYERS:

- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON SATURDAYS IN APRIL TO HELP RENOVATE THE HAZEL ROBINSON AMPITHEATRE. CONTACT JOHN RUSSELL AT 254-5146 OR JOHN.RUSSELL@MONTFORDPARKPLAYERS.ORG.
- AUDITIONS FOR THE ASHEVILLE SHAKESPERIENCE, SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M., AND SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1:00-4:00 P.M. CONTACT INFO@MONTFORDPARKPLAYERS.ORG OR 254-5146.

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON AND BAKE SALE:

- SUNDAY, APRIL 17, HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, 227 CUMBERLAND AVENUE. CAFETERIA DINING, 11:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M., TAKEOUT STARTING AT 10:30 A.M. CALL 253-3754.

RIVERLINK EARTH DAY CELEBRATION:

- SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. VOLUNTEER TO ASSEMBLE RAIN BARRELS, COOK HOT DOGS, AND MORE. CONTACT DAVE 252-8474, EXT. 11, OR VOLUNTEER@RIVERLINK.ORG.

EIGHT ANNUAL MONTFORD MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL:

- COMING SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011! TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT SHARON FAHRER AT 777-1014 OR FAHRER@CHARTER.NET. TO BECOME A SPONSOR, CALL DAPHNE YOUNG AT 254-0690.

YWCA STAND AGAINST RACISM:

- DIVERSITY FAIR, YMI CULTURAL CENTER, 39 SOUTH MARKET STREET, FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
- CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY AT THE YWCA, 185 SOUTH FRENCH BROAD AVENUE, FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 5:00 P.M. CONTACT 254-7206, EXT. 203 (PHONE), 258-8731 (FAX), OR WWW.YWCAOFASHEVILLE.ORG.

HOW TO CONTACT THE HRC:

- STACY MERTEN, DIRECTOR, ASHEVILLE CITY BUILDING, 259-5836 OR SMERTEN@ASHEVILLENC.GOV.

Montford Neighborhood Website

- VISIT MONTFORD'S REDESIGNED AND ENHANCED WEBSITE WWW.MONTFORD.ORG.
- CONTACT WEBMASTERS LAURA AND TRAVIS LOWE AT WEBMASTER@MONTFORD.ORG.

MONTFORD LIST SERVE

- GO TO WWW.MONTFORD.ORG AND CLICK ON JOIN THE MONTFORD LIST SERVE.

Thanks to These Neighborhood Friendly Businesses, We Can Put on Another Amazing Festival!

Daphne Young

Here's the list of the sponsors who've committed to the festival so far. Notice our four **New!** sponsors who signed on in March.

Please be good to all these businesses. They're generous to our neighborhood.

All Kids Pediatrics - 131 McDowell Street, Suite 100, Asheville 28801, www.allkidspediatrics.com, 350-KIDS (5437)

Chinese Acupuncture and Herbology Clinic - 369 Montford Avenue, Asheville 28801, www.ashevilleacupuncture.com, 258-9016

Earth Fare - 66 Westgate Parkway, Asheville 28806, www.earthfare.com, 253-7656

828:design - 32 Broadway, Suite 120, Asheville 28801, www.828design.com, 254-9200

NEW! Gray Line Trolley, Asheville Trolley Company, LLC - 36 Montford Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801, www.graylineasheville.com, 251-8687. "There is no better way to discover what Asheville has to offer than on a Gray Line Trolley Tour. Hop on board one of Gray Line's Nostalgic RED trolleys for a fully narrated journey, highlighting the history, homes and hot-spots of this 'city of surprises.'"

Greenlife Grocery - 70 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville 28801, www.wholefoodmarkets.com, 254-5440

LaZoom Tour Company - 90 Biltmore Avenue, Asheville 28801, www.lazoomtours.com, 225-6932

NEW! Mountain Song Guitars - Candler, North Carolina 28715, www.facebook.com/MountainSongGuitars, 828-665-0505. "Mountain Song Guitars specializes in steel string acoustic guitars and stringed instruments made by hand, deep in the heart of Western North Carolina."

Come see my latest creation or restoration on Facebook or at sculptorjones.com/section/34255_Mountain_Song_Guitars.html.

Nine Mile Restaurant - 233 Montford Avenue, Asheville 28801, www.ninemileasheville.com, 505-3121

NEW! 98.1 The RIVER - 1190 Patton Avenue, Asheville 28806, www.981theriver.com, 259-9695. "98.1 the RIVER is about the album, the artist, and the music, playing 30 years of tracks from established superstars like Dave Matthews Band, Van Morrison, Jackson Brown plus the best newer artists like Ray LaMontagne, G Love & Special Sauce, and the Raconteurs. Hosts on the RIVER are musicologists who share insight about the music heard on the station in a no-hype way."

Progress Energy - 555A Brevard Road, Asheville 28806, (800) 452-2777 - Customer Service, (800) 419-6356 - Power Outages, www.progress-energy.com

NEW! Stone Digital Media - www.stonedigitalmedia.com, 708-7033. "At Stone Digital Media we produce compelling videos that deliver your message, build your brand, and tell your special story. There is no doubt about the power of online video marketing and we know what it takes to successfully produce and distribute video."

Suspect Device, LLC - 175 Patton Avenue (Echo Mountain), Asheville 28801, www.suspectdeviceaudio.com, 333-2160

Contact me at mgm1013@charter.net or 254-0690 for more information on becoming a sponsor, or visit our festival website at www.montfordfestival.com. See you next month with an even longer list of generous businesses!

All proceeds from the Montford Music and Arts Festival help fund the community projects and activities of the Montford Neighborhood Association.



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Here's the Word on Animals and the Festival: City Says, Leave Them Home!

Sharon Fahrer

Many festival-goers may be surprised to learn that the City of Asheville prohibits pets from being present at outdoor special events. Due to public safety and health guidelines, events must restrict attendees from bringing pets and animals into an event site by way of posting signs and educating event staff on the proper means of communicating and enforcing this ordinance during the activity.



The City of Asheville Outdoor Special Event Guide spells out the restrictions: "Except as provided under special resolution by Asheville City Council, it is unlawful for any person owning or having possession, charge, custody or control of a domesticated animal, wild animal, or livestock to take the animal into picnic areas, pond areas, children's play areas of any city park or into any areas designated or permitted by the city as part of a community festival or event area.

"This restriction shall not apply to animals assisting persons impaired in sight, hearing, or mobility. Farm animals and undomesticated animals are expressly restricted in proximity to residences and businesses."

AT&T Stops Installation of U-Verse Boxes in Montford

Utility Boxes, Concrete Pad Pulled from the Avenue

Stan Hubbard and Randy Hall

In late February, the Montford neighborhood joined a dilemma faced by historic districts across the nation when AT&T began installing large pieces of equipment supporting its U-Verse Internet, television, and phone service. Two gray metal utility cabinets, approximately 4 feet tall, 4 feet wide, and 2 feet deep, were installed curbside on concrete pads in front of the Whiting-Lipinsky House at 211 Montford Avenue.



OUT OF CONTEXT, NO PERMITS

continued on page 15...

Thanks to Greenlife Grocery for Years of Generosity to the Music and Arts Festival

Top-Level Donor, 2011: Montford Preserver

Stop by the Store During April for Earth Month Deals & Ways to Stay Green All Year Long.

Greenlife is a Proud Sponsor of:

Asheville Earth Day

April 16th 2011

Pack Square Park

70 Merrimon Ave • Asheville
828-254-5440
wholefoodsmarket.com

The Ladies Philoptochos Society
of The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Asheville, NC
invites you to our annual

Palm Sunday

Music! Dance! *Bring the family!*

Luncheon & Bake Sale

SUNDAY APRIL 17, 2011

Hellenic Hall -- 227 Cumberland Avenue, Asheville
Cafeteria Dining 11 am until 2 pm.
Carry out available starting at 10:30 am.

Your favorite Greek Foods

- Spanakopita
- Baked Lamb Shank
- Pastichio
- Dolmathes
- Greek Salad
- Chicken Oreganato
- Keftethes (Meatballs)
- Plaki (Fish Athenian Style)
- Vegetables
- & Homemade Bread

....And Pastries

- Baklava
- Melomakarona
- Napollans
- Galatombouriko
- Koulourakia
- Paximadia
- Kouramblethes
- Diples
- Karidopita
- Tsoureki (Greek Easter Bread)

Order In Advance for Easter!

PHONE ORDERS WELCOME

Office: 253-3754 9-1 WEEKDAYS
Hall: 254-7424 DAY OF LUNCHEON

"Proceeds benefit our Philanthropic Projects near & far"

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON MAY 8
GREEK FESTIVAL SEPT. 23, 24, 25

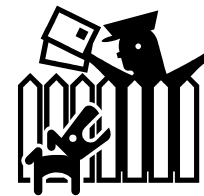
BELE CHERE BOOTH: JULY 29, 30, 31
FALL LUNCHEON: NOV. 13

A Request from Montford's Letter Carriers:

Please Restrain Your Dogs

Joe Newman

Two of our Montford letter carriers have asked me to post this friendly request regarding unrestrained dogs—animals left outside in front yards, whether fenced or unfenced, including those on leashes that allow them to reach visitors.



When unrestrained dogs threaten the folks who deliver our mail, the result can be trouble. Letter carriers have been nipped and, on several occasions, bitten deeply. When they have to open a gate and go inside a fence, for instance, an unrestrained dog doing its outdoor guard duty can go on the attack. In the case of a substitute carrier who doesn't know the animal, the situation can quickly escalate out of control. Even when neighbors are out walking their pets, unleashed animals sometimes harass our letter carriers.

Let's help these folks out. They want to emphasize how much they love working in Montford and getting to know people here, but sometimes our dogs are taking things a little too far.

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Green Corner

Eight Ways to Celebrate Earth Day 2011

Mitch Russell

Looking for something to do for Earth Day and the week of? Here's a list of events ranging from getting your hands dirty to walking in the woods to partying for the cause.

Saturday, April 16, TBA. Asheville Earth Day at Pack Square. Music, kids' village, and ecovillage. Free. Visit avleearthday.org for more information. Cosponsored by Asheville GreenWorks. Check out Asheville GreenWorks, www.qualityforward.org, for more April events.

Sunday, April 17, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. WNC Alliance-Off the Beaten Path with Alan Muskat: Hiking for Morels. Contact lori@wnca.org or call 258-8737. Space is limited.

Tuesday, April 19, 1:00-3:00 p.m. NC Arboretum Guided Forest Walk. Find more information at www.ncarboretum.org/plan-a-visit/guided-trail-walks-and-natural-history-activities/guided-trail-walks.

Wednesday, April 20, TBA. Trail Maintenance. Email John Soldati, jr4152@bellsouth.net, for more information.

Thursday, April 21, 7:00 p.m. social and 7:30 p.m. program. French Broad River Keeper: Hartwell Carson presentation on effects of coal ash on the French Broad River. Unitarian- Universalist Fellowship, 1 Edwin Place.

Friday, April 22, TBA. Self-directed trash pick-up on your street.

Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. RiverLink Earth Day Celebration! Volunteer to assemble rain barrels, cook hot dogs, and more. Contact Dave 252-8474, extension 11, or volunteer@riverlink.org.

Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Botanical Gardens at Asheville Wildflower Walk. For more information, visit www.ashevillebotanicalgardens.org/Programs/AdultPrograms.htm#April.

Urban Garden Thrives on Ocala Street

Grayson Pastis and Matt Coffay

My partner Matt Coffay and I have worked hard to transform an unused yard into an urban garden and to feed ourselves from it year-round. We get many comments and questions from passers-by and love to share what we have learned. I'm the worker bee/designer of the partnership, so I'll leave it to Matt, who started the garden, to tell you about what we do.

Matt here. I'm happy to finally have something to contribute to the newsletter after having lived and worked in Montford for several years. I started our garden in February of 2010. Initially, it was tiny: two square raised beds, a mere 32 square feet. We've now prepped more than 10 times that amount of growing space and grown vegetables through the winter (even in the snow!) along the way.

continued on page 15...



MATT WORKING THIS WINTER



Community Garden Grows at the End of Pearson Drive

Now Open for the Season

Dina Lewallen, Garden Administrator, The Bountiful Cities Project



THEY STILL LAY

The seeds of community are being planted nearby. As you may have read in the March issue of the *Montford Newsletter* or on the list serve, the Pearson Drive Garden is sprouting its inaugural year as a membership-driven, community-supported garden.

The garden, which has been maintained by The Bountiful Cities Project as a demonstration, will grow into a community-supported agriculture (CSA) this year. We aim to provide a variety of produce, flowers, and herbs as well as access to fresh eggs and Simple (brand) Bread.

We will also host community events during the growing season. Please feel free to come by on Wednesday afternoons through October 26 for our community work parties. We welcome volunteers or those interested in learning more about farming, gardening, chicken keeping, and bread baking.

Memberships are limited and are selling quickly. There are also a small number of CSA shares available that we have reserved for Montford neighbors to encourage lessening our carbon footprint. If you are interested in a full share (\$800 for the entire season) or summer share (\$400 for now through mid-July), please reach out to me directly at (425) 591-7089 or dinalewallen@hotmail.com.



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Montford Neighborhood Association Minutes

Pam Brown, Secretary

Minutes of the MNA's March 15 meeting are available on the neighborhood website at montford.org.

Stand Against Racism with the YWCA on April 29

Ami Worthen, Marketing Director, YWCA of Asheville

For the second year in a row, the YWCA of Asheville is inviting the community to participate in a Stand Against Racism. This year's event will be on Friday, April 29. Stand Against Racism is a program of the YWCA aimed at raising awareness that racism still exists in our communities and that it can no longer be ignored or tolerated.

The YWCA created the Stand Against Racism in order to combat the spread of hate and intolerance and to honor and celebrate the richness of diversity.

Participants commit themselves to a lifetime of promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all people in their community and in the world. This powerful, unified effort has helped raised awareness that racism hurts everyone. Last year, participants ranged from school-age children to elected officials, executives of large corporations, church leaders, and others. Racism affects everyone.

"The YWCA of Asheville is calling on all local organizations, corporations, faith groups, government agencies and individuals in Western North Carolina to join with us by becoming a participating site of the 2011 Stand Against Racism on April 29," announced Holly Jones, YWCA Executive Director. "Any group of any size that believes in a society free of racism is invited to join us."

Any organization or group of individuals can become a participating site by signing up through the Asheville Stand Against Racism website, www.ywcastand.org. A participating site can host its own Stand Against Racism event at its own location, which can be private or open to the public. Participation in the Stand Against Racism is free, and becoming a participating site is very simple. The YWCA will provide all the necessary materials and documents. Groups can also participate by attending the Diversity Fair at the YMI Cultural Center, 39 South Market Street, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on April 29. Everyone is also invited to a family-friendly Celebration of Community at the YWCA, 185 South French Broad Avenue, at 5:00 p.m.

The persistence and pervasiveness of racism divide our community and keep individuals from achieving success in education, economics, employment, and quality of life. Strength comes from numbers.

The YWCA of Asheville seeks to bring people together across communities for one common goal—the elimination of racism—and we ask you to please make your voice heard by joining the Stand Against Racism. For further information, contact the YWCA of Asheville at 254-7206, extension 203 (phone), 258-8731 (fax), or www.ywcaofasheville.org.



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Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County

April 13, 2011, Meeting—Tentative Agenda for Montford

Asheville City Building, First Floor North Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.
Contact Stacy Merten: 259-5836 www.ashevillenc.gov/business/development_services/planning_zoning/historic_dist/

Old Business: Public Hearings—Certificates of Appropriateness

Public right-of-way at 211 Montford Avenue—install two utility boxes (withdrawn)
Montford Avenue at Cullowhee and Soco Streets—install sidewalk extensions

New Business: Public Hearings—Certificates of Appropriateness

14 Blake Street—replace front door, deteriorated windows
26 Cumberland Circle—flexible development to reduce setbacks for existing accessory structure

Preliminary Review

155 Flint Street—new single-family home

Other Business

Sondley Award
Nomination of new officers
Comments from commissioners, public, and staff

March 9, 2011, Meeting—Action Agenda for Montford

Members present: Ashley Black, Hillary Cole, Diane Duermit, Joe Carney, John Dean

Staff present: Stacy Merten, Cristin Moody, Jannice Ashley

Item and Summary

Action

Montford Avenue at Cullowhee and Soco Streets—install sidewalk Continued to April meeting extensions
Public right-of-way at 209 and 211 Montford Avenue—install two utility boxes Continued to April meeting
Please refer to the website (www.ashevillenc.gov) for the full approved minutes after each month's meeting.

Montford Park Players Meet Donation Goal for Amphitheatre Renovation

Travis V. Lowe

The Montford Park Players, an all-volunteer non-profit theatre company, have officially exceeded their goal in pledged donations for renovating Asheville's beloved Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre, insuring a fine run of free Shakespearean shows in the park this summer.



The players are now seeking volunteers to help with construction. Swing a hammer or a paintbrush on Saturdays throughout March and April to help keep this 38-year-old Asheville tradition alive. You can volunteer by contacting the theatre at 254-5146 or montfordparkplayers.org, or help financially by donating to the theatre at montfordparkplayers.org. For more information, contact John Russell, Managing Director, at the phone number or website above.

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MNA Seeks Nominations for May Elections

David Patterson, President

The Montford Neighborhood Association will hold its annual election for officers and at-large board members at the May 17 meeting. Nominations are due by the April 19 meeting. Neighbors may bring nominations to the April meeting or send them to me at montford33@bellsouth.net or to Secretary Pam Brown at pamjobrown@charter.net.



Montford Community Center News

Kim Kennedy, Center Director

The spring Montford Community Center Yard Sale will be held Saturday, April 9, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Over 30 vendors will be selling their gently used items, so stop by and take a peek.



During Spring Break week, April 11-14, Montford Center will be open from 1:00-5:00 p.m. for families to play board games, basketball, and table tennis and check out racquets to use on the outdoor tennis courts. We will also have a limited schedule for the climbing wall. All activities are free.

Visit Montford Park on Saturday, April 23, at 11:00 a.m. for some free family fun. We will be playing games, getting tattoos with the Easter Bunny, and holding an Easter egg hunt for youth 12 and under. This event is sponsored by the Montford Neighborhood Association, Asheville Police Department, and Montford Community Center.

Put on your dancing shoes for the first Montford Youth Dance to be held on Friday, May 6. Call the center for more details.

The Hershey Track and Field competition will be held at Asheville High on Saturday, May 7, at 9:00 a.m. for youth 9-14. Register for this free event at Montford Center.

For more information on the Montford Community Center, call me at 253-3714



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HRC Representatives to Attend MNA's April 19 Meeting

David Patterson, President



The commissioners and staff of the Historic Resources Commission want to know how the newly revised *Design Review Guidelines for the Montford Historic District* are working. Several HRC representatives will be at our April 19 meeting to hear our concerns and suggestions and to share theirs.

Do any of the guidelines need fine-tuning? How's enforcement? Did we overlook anything in the last round of revisions? Join the discussion by coming to the meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, in the Montford Community Center on Pearson Drive.

Montford Hills Neighbors Ask Our Help Family of Ill Child Needs Assistance

Roxanne Semon

Neighbors in the Montford Hills area have been helping out their letter carrier, Greg Tullock, whose baby was born last fall with a serious heart condition and requires ongoing care. Greg, known for his infectious smile and cheerful attitude, is an integral part of the community.

Thanks to the efforts of Katie Rice, several local businesses and many neighbors are helping the family by providing meals. Many thanks to those who have already graciously donated their time, energy, and money to such a wonderful cause, especially Nine Mile, Tod's Tasties, and Swallow Soups.

The need, however, is ongoing, and our community goal is to provide random acts of food for this loving family as long as they need it. You can help too. Please email Katie Rice at katie@bellwetherbuilders.com for more information on how YOU can make life easier for the Tullocks.



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Send a brief description (30 words or less) and contact information. Sixteen-hundred 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

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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.

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A Stumptown Postscript

George Holmes Gets a New Mule

Jenny Wilker

Just after my second installment about Stumptown went to press, I found out my neighbor Bessie Brown Joyce had grown up in Stumptown during the 1950s and 60s, first on Morrow Street and then on Gray. Mrs. Joyce has been sharing with me many wonderful memories and stories about Stumptown—former neighbors, fish fries, and crooners under the street lights, long-ago juke joints, and more.



GEORGE AND OL' FRANK

One of the most heartwarming stories concerns George Holmes of 45 Jersey Street. Mrs. Joyce's mother had saved a 1966 clipping from the *Citizen-Times* that features a large photograph of Mr. Holmes positively beaming at his new mule Ol' Frank.

George Holmes's former mule had recently fallen into a ditch and had to be put down. Since the 79-year-old man made his modest living by farming, plowing, and hauling with that mule, this was a huge loss for him. After reading about his plight in the *Citizen-Times*, folks from all around Western North Carolina, and beyond, sent in a total of \$460—a small enough sum, but enough to buy him an eight-year old mule called Ol' Frank, a new wagon, rent for his house, and some coal to heat it. And so, thanks to the kindness of the neighbors and strangers, George was able to keep on going.

Andrea Clark's photograph, above and on the front page of last month's newsletter, shows George Holmes and Ol' Frank two years later. George is still smiling.

Correction

It was actually Pat Fitzpatrick, not Pat Fitzgerald as I mistakenly wrote, who authored "Growing Up in Stumptown," in Robert S. Brunk's *May We All Remember Well* (2001). If you have noted any other errors, or if you have any Stumptown stories to share, I'd love to hear from you; please call me at 298-0937.

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Montford Easter Event

Saturday, April 23, 11:00 a.m., Montford Park

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- *4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- *4 slices of reduced fat monterey jack cheese or reduced fat provolone
- *4 thin slices of prosciutto ham - use the one that is pre-packaged
- *1 TBSP low-fat milk
- *1 cup whole wheat panko
- *1/4 tsp of each of following: dried oregano, basil, kosher salt, black pepper
- *Toothpicks
- *1/4 cup canola, olive or peanut oil
- *1 egg



*Delicious Ideas From
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DIRECTIONS:

1. Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees. Put chicken breasts individually into large plastic freezer bag and pound until uniformly thin using a mallet. Put one slice prosciutto and then one slice cheese atop each of breasts and roll up.
2. Secure with toothpicks. Make egg wash with milk and beaten egg in a bowl. Make breading with panko and dried herbs/spices in another bowl.
3. Dip each prepared breast into egg wash and then roll in panko mixture. Coat a non-stick pan with cooking spray and then add oil. Heat oil mixture and then add chicken breasts to brown on each side (about 4 minutes).
4. Remove from pan and transfer to baking dish, cover and cook in oven until interior temperature is 160degrees. Turn heat to low broil and move to upper rack and broil for approximately 3 minutes. Remove from oven and serve.



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This Old House

Continued from front page...

This Old House magazine's April issue (p. 52) and thisoldhouse.com feature 64 great spots that fit the criteria of old-house neighborhoods—architectural diversity, craftsmanship of the homes, and preservation momentum in the area as well as neighborhood amenities including walkability, safety, and community. With the help of PreservationDirectory.com, neighborhood groups, real estate agents, and preservation societies, *This Old House* compiled its list of the best places to track down, fix up, and fall head over heels for.

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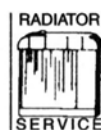
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AT&T Boxes

Continued from front page...

"While we are interested in AT&T's new service, Montford residents are frustrated by the lack of communication and consultation that led to the installation of such an eyesore right in front of a historic home," stated MNA President David Patterson.

No Prior Consultation with the Neighborhood, HRC, Other City Departments

Workers installed the equipment without consulting the neighborhood or obtaining the required permits and certificates from the City of Asheville. Had AT&T applied for city permits for street cuts and electric service, the HRC would have been notified. As it was, neighbors' inquiries made the city aware of the work, and AT&T had to apply to the Historic Resources Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness (CA) after the fact.

Residents, Architects, Preservationists Speak Out

The HRC reviewed the matter at its March 9 meeting. AT&T representatives confirmed the equipment's purpose and testified that similar clusters of boxes would be required at five additional Montford locations, adding that more might be required in the future.

Representatives of the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County testified about the incompatibility of the installed equipment's appearance and location with the HRC's *Design Review Guidelines for the Montford Historic District*. Several Montford residents and local architects testified, asking that the HRC deny AT&T a CA for the completed installation and urging AT&T to explore with the MNA options for providing U-Verse service while complying with the *Guidelines*.

Suggestions included locating units in less visible locations or installing them in locations where landscaping and structures could screen them from view. The HRC voted to grant AT&T a continuance, requiring that a revised plan be presented at the April meeting.

AT&T Shelves Its Plan—for Now—and Removes Boxes

On March 14, AT&T notified David Patterson that due to budget and scheduling constraints, AT&T was rescheduling any further work on U-Verse equipment installation in Montford until January 2014—and that AT&T will plan to work with neighbors when the project is revisited.

On March 22, the boxes and concrete pad were removed from the front of the Whiting-Lipinsky house. "Over the next couple of years we look forward to working with AT&T to find the best Montford locations for their U-Verse equipment," Patterson stated.

Urban Garden

Continued from front page...

Our goal with our garden has been basically threefold: 1) to grow as much as possible from our own seed (which involves starting transplants indoors); 2) to grow as much food as possible in as small a space as possible; and 3) to grow food throughout the year, including the winter.

Growing from Seeds

Starting seeds inside can be intimidating, especially if you don't have a lot of sunny windows. The idea is to give everything a head start so you can transplant mature plants outside as the weather gets warmer. With limited indoor sunny space, our solution is to germinate everything indoors and then put the little seedlings outside each day under the protection of a cold frame. They spend the night indoors, protected from the cold temperatures.

Small Space, Much Food

It's possible to grow a lot of food in a very small space. We've taken some of the ideas from Mel Bartholomew's *Square Foot Gardening* and adapted them to our tastes, aesthetically and practically. By marking raised beds off into square foot sections, it's easy to keep track of what you've planted and where. Seed waste is minimized, and close spacing is used to maximize the number of vegetables growing in each bed.

Growing Year-Round

This past winter, we were able to feed ourselves daily from our garden thanks to the advice found in Eliot Coleman's *Four-Season Harvest*. With the use of glass cold frames and/or plastic tunnels, it's possible to grow a lot of different vegetables straight through the Asheville winter, even when temperatures are dipping into the teens every night. Several varieties of salad and cooking greens, root vegetables, and even certain herbs like cilantro and parsley can last through the winter if they're already well-established when the temperatures start to drop.

If you're ever out in Montford and see us in our garden, please feel free to stop and chat. In addition, please come by and join us for dim sum and lychee tea at our Grow Our Garden Sale on Saturday, April 23, at 45 Ocala Street (the corner of Flint and Ocala). We'll have organic plants starts and other items for sale, and we'd love to give you a tour of our garden and talk about planting times and techniques. Hope to see you there!



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Editor Emeritus: Sharon Fahrner. Send articles by the 20th of the month to Joe Newman: 254-5111, jnewman@usouthal.edu



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