



Town of Fletcher

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732
Telephone: 828-687-3985
Email: info@fletchernc.org
Facebook: [FletcherNC.Gov](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov)
Website: www.fletchernc.org

March 2022

Town Council

Preston Blakely, Mayor
Phone.....(828)230-2838

Sheila Franklin, Council Member
District #1.....(828)684-5676

Keith Reed, Council Member
District #2.....(828)367-7130

Bob Davy, Mayor Pro-Tem
District #3.....(828)687-0313

Trevor Lance, Council Member
District #4.....(828)338-9338

Town Phone Numbers

Town Manager.....(828)687-3985

Town Fax.....(828)687-7133

Police/Fire Emergency.....911

Police Dispatch.....(828)697-4911

Police Non-emerg..(828)687-7922

Parks & Rec.....(828)687-0751

Public Works.....(828)654-9208

Town Meetings

Town Council Agenda Meeting

1st Monday of month at 6:00 pm

Town Council Regular Meeting

2nd Monday of month at 6:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm

All meetings are held at the
Town Hall located at 300 Old
Cane Creek Road in Fletcher.

The Town of Fletcher Newsletter
is published for residents of the
Town and reports on issues and
events that affect our community.
Past issues of our newsletter can
be found on our website at
[https://www.fletchernc.org/about-
us/newsletter/](https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/).

You are encouraged to contact us
with your questions and comments
by e-mailing info@fletchernc.org.
For additional Town information,
please visit our website at
www.fletchernc.org or visit our
Facebook page located at
[https://www.facebook.com/
FletcherNC.Gov/](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov/).

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider.

News from the February 14th Town Council Meeting

- Town Council recognized Mr. Robert Lance, outgoing member of the Fletcher Planning Board / Zoning Board of Adjustment, for his six years of service on the Board.
- Bob Davy, Mayor Pro-Tem, shared project updates from a recent NC DOT meeting he attended. He noted that the project bid let date for the installation of the signal light at Fanning Bridge and Rutledge Road is set for October 2022.
- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
 - Approved property tax releases from the Henderson County Tax Office.
 - Reappointed George Clayton to the Fletcher Planning Board / Zoning Board of Adjustment for another 3-year term.
 - Approved the audit contract with Lowdermilk & Church for the 2021/2022 fiscal year at a cost of \$17,000.
 - Approved Resolution R-22-01 for the financing terms of a new garbage truck at \$300,000 for a 3-year 1.45% interest loan with Truist bank.
 - Approved the 2021 year-end Tax Collector's report and approved the advertisement of delinquent property tax owners in March 2022, per NC GS § 105-369.
- Town Council held a secret ballot election for three current Planning Board / Zoning Board of Adjustment vacancies for the District 2 seat and two at-large vacancies. Lee Bowser was elected for the District 2 seat with James Bruggeman and Jeff Groh being elected to the at-large seats.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, provided an update on the approximate \$2.6 million 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) allocation received from the Federal government which the Town has been holding in a separate bank account until a determination can be made on eligible projects to fund. Town Staff had previously discussed several project areas for consideration while awaiting the final rule determination from the Federal Government. With the final ruling having been released, Mr. Biberdorf explained that Staff now recommends the following projects: (1) a 1.3 mile trail extension of the Cane Creek / Meritor Greenway and (2) a multi-use facility for the Fletcher Library, EMS, and a satellite community college located on the north side of Town Hall on the Town Center property. This proposed facility would provide space for these three organizations with the Town partnering with Henderson County to utilize a portion of their ARP allocation for this project. Town Council voted to send a letter to the Henderson County Board of Commissioners to formally request their consideration of the multi-use facility project.
- Ben Cathey from McGill Associates discussed the bids received for our Powell Bill Street Projects, with Tarheel Paving being the lowest bid at \$329,609. Since the bid was over our budgeted amount however, Staff recommended that the approximate \$57,000 difference be taken from our Powell Bill Reserve account. Council approved Tarheel Paving as our contractor and also using a portion of the Powell Bill Reserve funds for the three street resurfacing projects of Glensprings Drive, Barrington Court, and Hedgewood Court and the culvert pipe replacement on Belmont Drive.

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February 14th Town Council Meeting (continued)

- Mark Biberdorf shared the bid results for the demolition services associated with the sale of certain Town Center properties on Hendersonville Road. Town Council approved D.H. Griffin Wrecking Company, Inc. as the lowest bid at a cost of \$168,000.
- Mayor Preston Blakely presented a proposal for consideration by Council regarding an employee paid family leave plan for up to six weeks. Town Council approved the Paid Family Leave Policy as presented.

Keith Reed, Newest Town Council Member

Keith Reed, elected by Town Council on January 24th to fill the vacant District 2 Council seat, was sworn into office as a Town Council member on February 7th during the Agenda Review Meeting.



PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

Almost Time for Spring Leaf Pickup

Public Works will pick up bagged leaves two weeks in the Spring starting April 4th and 11th. We will begin accepting requests for leaf pickup in late March at 828-654-9208 (24 hours a day), via our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/public-works/brush-and-leaves-pick-up/>, or if you wish to talk with someone you may call 828-687-3985 (8am-5pm).

Free Mulch

Public Works has a limited supply of free mulch that is currently available to Town residents on a "first come, first serve basis". Just bring a shovel and a container and come to Parrish Municipal Drive. The mulch pile is beside the green metal building, on the left, after turning off of Howard Gap Road.

Who Do I Call with Water Issues/Questions?

Hendersonville Water & Sewer (HW&S) provides the water and maintains the water lines in the Town of Fletcher. If you have a problem with your water, please call 828-697-3073 from 9:00am - 5:00pm or outside of those hours call their Emergency # at 828-891-7779. HW&S will notify customers of outages and boil water advisories, via their notification system, using customer contact information provided when customers initially signed up for water service. If you need to update your phone numbers or email address, please contact Customer Service at 828-697-3052 Monday-Friday from 9am - 5pm or via email at customerservice@hvlnc.gov. You can provide a home, mobile, and work phone number along with an email address so more than one person at your residence can be informed of issues affecting your water. The HW&S website also offers specific information about what to do during and after a boil water advisory so please visit <https://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/water-sewer/customer-center/outages-and-boil-water-advisories> for more information.

Help Keep Our Water Clean

Stormwater runoff is water from rain or melting snow that "runs off" across the land into the nearest stream, creek, river, or lake instead of seeping into the ground. On its way, runoff can pick up and carry many substances that pollute including pesticides, fertilizers, oil, pet waste, leaves, and grass clippings. The runoff may also include sediment from construction sites, bare soil, dirt roads, or agricultural lands. Water runoff is also created by watering outdoor plants, car-washing, cleaning decks or pavement, or any other activity that puts a lot of water on the ground.



Beyond picking up pollutants, stormwater runoff is also polluted by dumping into storm drains and from illegal (illicit) hook-ups to the pipes that carry rainwater to the streams. The Town of Fletcher has an ordinance to prevent these "illicit discharges". To learn more about ways you can prevent stormwater pollution and our related ordinance, please visit the Town's website at www.fletchernc.org and go to the "Planning and Zoning Department" tab and click on "Storm Water Management" from the drop-down menu.

Please Excuse our Repair Work

Due to a mid-February water leak inside Town Hall, we have temporarily relocated some staff to different work spaces within the building. When visiting Town Hall, please be aware of the following:



► The lobby of the Fletcher Police Department is temporarily closed, including the Town's pill box. Visitors to the Police Department should go to Administration, on the 2nd floor of Town Hall, for walk-in police services rather than going to the Police Department lobby. Police services can also be obtained by calling the main police number at 828-687-7922.

- Visitors to Town Hall should utilize the elevator to access the 2nd and 3rd floors or should enter through the front door, rather than utilizing the back hallway stairs from the ground floor.
- The Community Room is currently unavailable to the public for use as a meeting room.

As noted, the above changes are only temporary until the repair work is completed. Thank you for your patience.





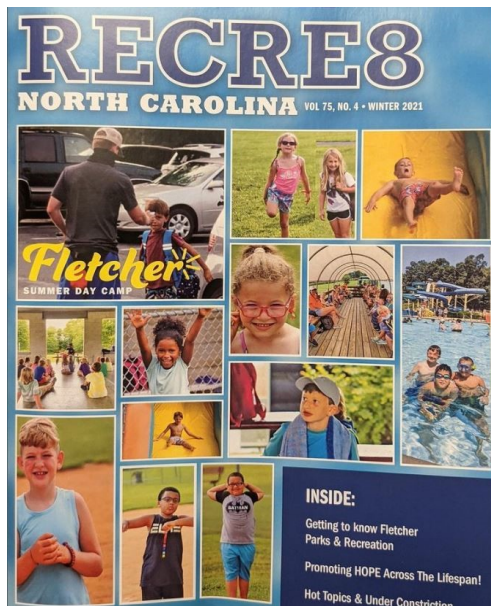
WE'RE HIRING!

SUMMER CAMP STAFF

Apply Online at:

<https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/>

Monday-Friday \$12/hr.



Sports Leagues at the Park

Caution... Traffic in the park will increase in early March when Baseball, Softball, and Lacrosse teams start practicing. Please contact these organizations directly for details about their sports leagues: <https://www.facebook.com/Fletcheryouthbaseball> or <https://ashevilleempire.com/contact/> (lacrosse).



Thank You,

optimum.

for sponsoring our Father Daughter Dance!

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

828-687-0751



Summer Day Camp Registration Begins...

March 1st at 8:00 am for Fletcher Residents

March 2nd at 8:00 am for Non-Residents

for those having completed Kindergarten through 7th grade.

Space is limited to 50 campers per week. Register online at <https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home> by completing the camp application and forms and paying the \$25 deposit.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/fletcher-summer-day-camp/>.

Town of Fletcher Register at: <https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com>
EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA
 Fletcher Residents begin registering March 11
 Non-Residents begin registering March 14
Registration is required: \$1.00/ child
 100 children per field Date: April 9th, 2022
 Age Groups: 0-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 Time: 12:00-2:00 pm

Save the Date

Tuesday March 1	Summer Camp Registration for Fletcher Residents Begins	8:00 am
Wednesday March 2	Summer Camp Registration for Non-Fletcher Residents	8:00 am
Monday March 7	Fletcher Youth Baseball/Softball & Empire Lacrosse Practices	4:00 pm
March 11 or March 14	Egg-Stravaganza Registration Begins for Residents (3/11) and Non-Residents (3/14)	12:00 am
Wednesday March 16	Spring Yoga Begins (registration open now)	6:15 pm
Saturday April 9	Fletcher Easter Egg-Stravaganza	12:00 pm
Saturday April 30	Robert G. Parish Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament	9:00 am

New Fletcher Library Partners Update

The NFLP will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the Fletcher Town Hall Council Chambers. This evening meeting is designed especially for those who are unavailable to meet in the afternoon. Library usage is recovering from the COVID closing and slowdown so now is great time to visit the library and get involved in helping to make plans for a new, modern library in Fletcher. Please join us at this evening meeting and learn how you can help in a variety of areas. For more information, please visit <https://newfletcherlibrary.org/>.



March 13 Daylight Savings Time begins
April 17 Easter Holiday
April 23 Paper Shred & Pill Drop Event
9:00 am to noon
Fletcher Town Hall Parking Lot
(more details coming next month)

Join us for our
FREE SHREDDING EVENT

Free At-Home COVID Tests via the USPS

Place your order for four free individual at-home rapid antigen COVID-19 tests, by visiting <https://special.usps.com/testkits>. The USPS will ship one order free to each residential household who requests them. Due to high demand, the USPS is fulfilling orders as soon as they receive tests from manufacturers. They appreciate your patience.



FEMA Updates Shelter Locator Texting Feature

None of us ever want to be faced with a disaster that requires evacuation from our homes, but the Federal Emergency Management Agency has updated a resource that you, or a loved one living apart from you, might find helpful. The below information is copied from a February 8, 2022, FEMA Press Release:

"Having the right information at the right time is often key to surviving a disaster. FEMA's updated texting feature allows the public to access shelter addresses when they need it most. Users can **text "shelter" and their ZIP code to 43362** to get a list of nearby shelter locations. This effort is made possible through collaboration with the American Red Cross.

"Disasters frequently disrupt communications systems which can leave survivors feeling overwhelmed and helpless when they are trying to locate shelters," said FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. "Since texting capabilities are often unaffected during disasters, our updated Text to Shelter option is an easy and accessible way survivors can locate nearby shelters with a tap of a button. This feature will help keep our communities safe."

FEMA's old text feature only showed shelters within the requested ZIP code. This new feature uses Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities to give users shelter addresses within 200 miles of their ZIP code. The texting feature is available across all 50 states and U.S. territories. Standard texting rates with the user's carrier may apply, but there is no additional fee to use this service. In phones with a standard map feature, users will be able to click on the shelter address inside the text message and view directions. The text can be easily shared with friends and family so they know where the user is going or where they themselves can take shelter. Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. Save this number, **43362**, in your phone today so you'll be able to find a safe space to shelter during a disaster."

To read the entire FEMA article, visit <https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20220208/fema-updates-shelter-locator-texting-feature>.

Fletcher Library Opportunities

20 Library Road, Fletcher NC 28732 828-687-1218

HOURS: Monday 9am - 6pm; Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 5pm; Friday - Saturday 9am - 3pm

Delayed Opening - We will open at 10:00am on Friday, March 11th due to a staff meeting.

Tech Time Appointments: Want to learn how to download an e-book or digital audiobook? Watch a movie for free using Hoopla or from NC Digital Library? Learn a new language using Transparent Language? Baffled by your new tablet or smartphone? One-on-one tech time, by appointment, is offered for free at Fletcher Library. Call the library or stop by to schedule an appointment.

Knitting for a Cause Donations: If you have donations of yarn, knitting needles, or knitted or crocheted items, please call the library at 828-687-1218, we are always looking for donations. Our group makes hats, scarves, gloves/mittens, and blankets for the Interfaith Assistance Ministry in Hendersonville to give to children and adults. Thank you to all those that have donated.

Check 'Em Out Book Club: Our very own staff member Ali will be leading our very own book club. The first book to be read will be National Book Award Finalist Pachinko by Min Jin Lee. First meeting will be in April. *You must sign up by calling or coming by the branch, spaces are limited.*

Family Story Time: Story time will be Wednesday at 10:30am. No registration required.

Lego Club

Thursday, March 3rd (3:30pm - 4:30pm)

All ages are welcome to come out to the Fletcher Library on the 1st Thursday of the month for Lego Club. We will provide Legos to use while you are here. Please do not bring your own. We have Duplo blocks for younger children as well. We can't wait to see what you will create! *Please be aware that all children under 11 must have an adult stay with them.*

Craft Day (All ages)

Tuesday, March 8th (10:00am - 4:00pm)

Come and do a fun perler bead craft with us!



Book Review Book Club (Adults)

Thursday, March 10th (10:30am - 11:30am)

Read what you want and bring it to the table for discussion. This group meets on the second Thursday of each month.

Writers Guild (Adults)

Thursday, March 10th (1:30pm - 3:30pm)

All writers are invited to join a lively discussion about the guild's current projects related to publishing and the marketing of your work. Learn tricks and techniques from published authors and aspiring writers and reveal your own convictions. This group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Knitting for a Cause Group (All Ages)

Saturday, March 12th (10:00am - 12:00pm)

Yarn and patterns are provided. Please bring your size 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8 circular or straight knitting needles if you have them OR your crochet hook! Have fun knitting or crocheting to help others!

Basic Computer Classes (Adults)

Monday, March 21st (4:30pm - 5:30pm)

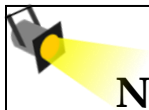
Come and learn basic terminology and handling of a laptop computer. *Must call or come by library to sign up. Spaces are limited.*

VAYA Health – A Rainbow of Mental Health: An Introduction

Wednesday, March 23rd (3:30pm - 4:30pm)

This introductory course is designed to support an understanding of the most commonly diagnosed mental health-related conditions in the aged population. This curriculum takes a person-centered approach to understanding classifications and care delivery. Must register through the VAYA health website (<https://www.vayahealth.com/calendar>) or by calling the branch.

TOWN OF FLETCHER
300 OLD CANE CREEK ROAD
FLETCHER, NC 28732



New Business Spotlight

Please welcome this new
business to Fletcher!



Come experience *the best* at Mercedes-Benz of Asheville's
RECENTLY OPENED STATE OF THE ART FACILITY
at 649 Airport Road Fletcher, NC 28732.
Visit mercedesbenzofasheville.com or call us at 828.609.1500

Fletcher Area Business Association

FABA is a nonprofit organization focused on helping local businesses, of all sizes, connect and expand their business reach through networking opportunities. FABA also supports our local community through charitable events and by hosting ribbon cuttings for new businesses. FABA monthly events include:

Coffee Club

Networking and
business promotion.
1st & 3rd Tuesday
8:00 - 9:00 am

Focus After 5

An after-hours event hosted by
members to provide a social
environment for building
business relationships.
2nd Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Resource Recess

A monthly education forum
providing helpful information
for businesses and residents.
The community is invited to
attend these events.
4th Wednesday 12 - 1:00pm



The **FABA Snack Pack Program** provides
snacks to local elementary schools through snack
donations or monetary contributions.



Visit FABA at <https://fletcherbusiness.com/> or
<https://www.facebook.com/FletcherBusiness/>.