

Town of Fletcher

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

Telephone: 828-687-3985 Email: info@fletchernc.org Facebook: FletcherNC.Gov Website: www.fletchernc.org

300 Old Cane Creek Road Fletcher, NC 28732

<u>Town Council</u>

Preston Blakely, Mayor Phone......(828)215-7706

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 Emergency911
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 <u>https://www.fletchernc.org/aboutus/newsletter/</u>.

You are encouraged to contact us with your questions and/or comments by emailing <u>info@</u> fletchernc.org. For additional Town information, please visit www.fletchernc.org or visit our Facebook page found at <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> FletcherNC.Gov/.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

March 2023

News from the February 14th Fletcher Town Council Meeting

- Police Chief, Dan Terry, presented awards to six Fletcher Police Officers for their work solving difficult cases in our community.
- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
 - Approved property tax releases from the Henderson County Tax Office.
 - Set a Public Hearing for March 13, 2023, to consider Conditional Zoning Application # 2023-0 which requests the conditional rezoning of a portion of 49 Overton Place from C-1 to R-2 for use as a four-lot campground.
 - Approved Resolution R-23-01 for a lease agreement with Baabals Inc Cream to lease the concession stand in Bill Moore Community Park for \$450/month for 5 months.
 - Approved the 2022 year-end Tax Collector's report and granted approval to advertise delinquent taxpayers in the newspaper during March per NC General Statute §105-369.
 - Approved a new recycling contract with Curbside Management for a 5-year period, effective April 1, 2023. The cost to the Town will increase from \$3.07 per household for biweekly collection to \$4.20 per household, due largely to inflationary factors impacting collection and processing costs.
- A Public Hearing was held to consider economic incentives for "Project Expo". Brittany Brady, of the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development, recommended the Town of Fletcher consider economic incentives up to \$352,9008.48 over 5 years for this economic development project. This company is considering making a capital investment of \$2 million in real improvements and \$33.75 million in machinery and equipment while creating 92 new jobs. The recommendation was approved by Town Council.
- Ben Cathey, of McGill Associates, recommended awarding our fiscal year 2022 -2023 Powell Bill street resurfacing projects of Hawks Nest Drive and Sandpiper Court to C&T Paving of Leicester, NC. The bid opening was held on February 9th at Fletcher Town Hall and C&T Paving was the lowest responsible bidder at \$124,871.90. Council approved awarding C&T Paving the contract.
- Ben Cathey also recommended using Huntley Construction to perform repair and stabilization work on the damaged streambank and walking trail at Bill Moore Community Park. The damage occurred during a series of heavy rains in January and has been fenced off since then due to safety concerns. Huntley Construction, who has previously performed repair work at our Park, provided a quote of \$49,896 for this repair. Town Manager, Mark Biberdorf, also recommended approving this bid utilizing the emergency procurement process, allowed by NC General Statute \$143-129(e)(2), due to the high public usage of this area and the additional degradation of the trail due to heavy rains. Town Council approved contracting with Huntley Construction to complete the repairs.
- Mark Biberdorf provided an update on NC DOT required traffic mitigation improvements for the Fletcher Town Center project that were discussed at a meeting with NC DOT officials in late January.

Property Reappraisal Information

- You should have received your 2023 Notice of Assessed Value from Henderson County around mid-February. Please review this document promptly since the Henderson County Assessors Office asks that anyone requesting an appeal do so within 30 days of receipt of the new assessment. Additional details about your property can be found on the Henderson County website at https://ircpwa.ncptscloud.com/Henderson/. If you do not agree with the new assessed value because it is substantially above or below the market value of your property or because you think your property has been appraised inequitably as compared to the market value of comparable properties, there is an established appeal process which begins with completing and filing an "Informal Appeal" form with Henderson County.
- We have heard that some Fletcher residents saw some significant changes in their assessed property value. If you have particular questions about the revaluation process, you may wish to visit the Henderson County Tax website at <u>https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/</u> tax/page/frequently-asked-questions-0 to view their "Frequently Asked Questions" to possibly help answer some of your "process" questions.
- Please remember, an increase in your property value assessment does not automatically mean an increase in your Fletcher property taxes or a percentage increase equivalent to the assessment increase you experienced. The Fletcher tax rate has been \$0.34 for the last eight years with \$0.115 of that going to the Fletcher Fire Department. But for 2023, we are expecting a tax rate lower than 34¢; we just do not know how low at this point.
- Obviously assessed property value is a variable used to help calculate the Town property tax rate. However additional factors include other available sources of revenue, capital project improvements needed within the Town, and our operating budget needs in order to provide resident services such as trash and recycling collection, police protection, street lighting, etc. The tax rate is established during the annual budget process and should be established on or before June 30th. Our Town Staff and Council have already started working on our fiscal year 2023/2024 budget with their next Budget Workshop scheduled for March 29th.
- Also please remember that some property owners may be eligible for reduced taxes or participation in other deferment or special programs. To participate in these programs, taxpayers must meet certain requirements specified by NC statute. For detailed information regarding these programs, visit the Henderson County Tax Department website at <u>www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax</u>. These programs include Elderly, Disabled, and Disabled Veteran Relief. Applications must be received by the Henderson County Tax Assessor's Office by June 1, 2023 for any relief on 2023 taxes.

PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

Almost Time for Spring Leaf Pickup

Our Public Works staff will pick up <u>bagged</u> leaves during the first two weeks in April -- during the weeks of April 3th and 10th. We will begin accepting requests for leaf pickup in late March at 828-654-9208 (24 hours a day), via our website at <u>https://www.fletchernc.org/</u> <u>departments/public-works/brush-and-leaves-pick-up/</u>, or you may call 828-687-3985 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Public Works at Work

Our Public Works Department picked up the following from Fletcher residents in 2022...

- 2,133 tons of trash comparable to 2021
- 4,658 cubic yards of brush that equates to about 232 dumpsters that are 22' long, 7.5" wide and 4.5" tall, and is about 30 more dumpsters full when compared to our 2021 collection levels.
- 293 cubic yards of leaves that's a leaf pile 293 times the size of an average washing machine, which is down from 2021 collection levels.

From the Office of the Chief:

As the days of winter seem to grow old, we experience warmer days, and begin to think about spring time, gardening, being outdoors doing all the fun stuff we love to do; let's not let the behavior of a few bad actors steal our reason to celebrate. The spring and summer months historically see a significant increase in reported crime, particularly theft related crime. Warmer temperatures and less inclement weather present more opportunity for theft. In an effort to prevent these crimes, the Fletcher Police Department would like to remind you of the following:

- When outside working, playing and entertaining in your yard, restrict access to criminals by securing your home and not leaving valuables in plain sight where they will attract would be thieves.
- Always lock your vehicle and leave the windows up.
- Never leave valuables in plain sight, specifically in parking lots of health clubs, parks, and "drop off" locations such as schools and daycares, where offenders frequently target. Remove your purses, wallets, laptops, cell phones, or other electronic devices.
- Note any vehicles or people that may seem suspicious and report them to the police by calling 9-1-1. If possible, note the license plate number of the vehicle you are reporting.

Please welcome this new business to Fletcher!



WALK-INS WELCOME

Book your appointment online at <u>https://www.vagaro.com/themanestudio1</u> or call us at 828-684-7589.

Be sure to ask about our discount for first-time clients.

Hours: Monday - Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Saturday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm





ABC Board Job Opening

The Fletcher ABC Board has an opening for an Assistant Store Manager. This person will perform a variety of administrative and supervisory work in the management of the Fletcher ABC Store, including but not limited to:

- Managing and directing the day to day operations of the store
- Supervising and scheduling employees
- Developing retail objectives for the store
- Establishing policies and procedures maintaining compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- Maintaining proper store inventories

If you are interested in obtaining more information about this job or are interested in submitting your resume, please email your request to <u>fletcherabcstore@gmail.com</u> or mail to:

> Attention: Store Manager Fletcher ABC Board 37 Rockwood Road Fletcher, NC 28732

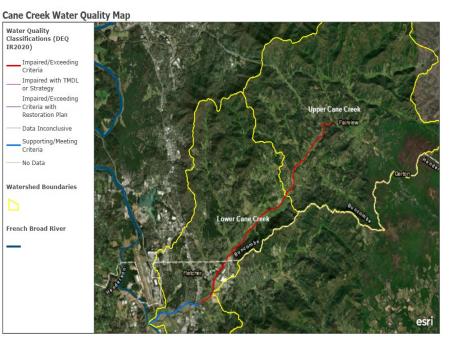
(**Please note**: This position is being hired by the Fletcher ABC Board and all related inquires should be addressed directly to the ABC Board rather than the Town of Fletcher.)

Cane Creek Community Meeting to Discuss Creek Health & Opportunities

Residents, business and property owners, please join us on **March 22, 2023 from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** at Fletcher Town Hall, in the 3rd floor Multi-purpose room, for a discussion about the health of Cane Creek, its importance to the French Broad River, and how we can work to improve its water quality.

Representatives of the French Broad River Partnership – a four-year old organization established to work on improving the river across eight counties, the Town of Fletcher, Buncombe County, and the Soil and Water Conservation District – will be present to share information and answer questions about opportunities for support and collaboration.

Doors will open at 4:00 p.m. Please join us and bring your neighbors!



NC CGIA, Earthstar Geographics | NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCCGIA) | State of North Carolina DOT, Esri, HERE, Garmin

Fletcher Library Opportunities in March

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 10:00 am on Friday, March 10th 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: Call the branch to sign up for next month's selection.

Family Story Time: Every Wednesday at 10:30 am.

Lego Club Thursday, March 2nd (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.

Book Review Book Club (Adults) Thursday, March 9th (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 9th (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 11th (10am - 12pm) 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!

Check 'Em Out Book Club (Adults) Monday, March 13th (11:00am - 12:00pm)

Come and discuss our March selection, Anxious People by Fredrik Backman. Registration required - Call the Fletcher Library at 828-687-1218. Spaces are limited.

Craft Day (All ages) Tuesday, March 14th (10:00am - 4:00pm) Come and do a fun craft with us!

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, March 18th (10:00am - 11:30am)

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Registration Required: Call 828-687-1218 or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

Fletcher Area Business Association (FABA)

invites you to network and learn with ...

Coffee Club

Meet local leaders & join us for a cup of coffee March 7 & March 21, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Lutheridge Conference Center



For more information on coffee club, other events and to get connected visit us online at https://fletcherbusiness.com/

Focus After 5

Fun networking opportunity on March 9th at 5:30 pm The Super Signguy at 1570 Patton Ave in Asheville

Resource Recess

Free professional development workshop March 22 from 12 pm - 1 pm at the Lutheridge Conference Center Listen to live speakers/panelists, have interactive breakouts, and grow your business.





Summer Day Camp Registration Begins: March 6th for Fletcher Residents March 7th for Non-Residents

Completed Kindergarten - completed 5th Grade Limited to 55 campers per week 8 different weeks available starting June 12th

Register online at: https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home by completing the camp application and forms and paying the \$25 deposit per child per week.









Optimum and Prescott Auto Reserve.

Fletcher Parks & Rec 828-687-0751 https://www.facebook.com/FletcherParksandRecreation/

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

The Town of Fletcher and the Fletcher Police Department are hosting a pill take-back and a document shredding event.

Saturday, April 15, 2023 9:00 to Noon South Parking Lot at Fletcher Town Hall

Bring your unused or outdated prescription medicine to be safely and legally disposed. Safely disposing of old medications through pill drop events instead of flushing them down the drain prevents chemicals from ending up in the water supply.

Bring your unwanted documents and protect your personal information as well as the environment. The National Crime Prevention Council recommends shredding all financial documents, billing statements, pre-approved credit card offers and any other papers containing personal information and identification numbers before discarding them.

Fletcher Town Hall 300 Old Cane Creek Road Fletcher, NC 28732

Two box limit

per household

Pill Drop & Document Shredding Event

OPERAT

For additional information or directions: Email: info@fletchernc.org

nail: info@fletchernc.org Phone: 828-687-3985