

300 Old Cane Creek Road Fletcher, NC 28732

# 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

## *May 2023*

#### **Town Council**

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

## District #4.....(828)338-9338 **Town Phone Numbers**

Trevor Lance, Council Member

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 <a href="https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/">https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/</a>.

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## **News from the April 10th Fletcher Town Council Meeting**

- Mayor Preston Blakely presented Town proclamations in honor of the "Week of the Young Child" and for "Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month".
- Police Chief Dan Terry presented Life Saving Awards to officers Isaiah Dwyer, Sydney Interlicchia and Sergeant Josh Kilby. The trio responded to a call at Bill Moore Community Park of an unconscious person who was not breathing and had no pulse. The officers provided CPR and were able to restore a pulse before the victim was transported to the hospital by EMS. This individual has since recovered - thanks in part to these officers' actions.
- During the Public Comments section of the meeting, two Fletcher residents spoke.
- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
  - Approved Proclamation P-23-01 in support Spring Litter Sweep from April 15th April 29th in the Town of Fletcher.
  - Approved a fiscal year 2022-2023 audit contract with Lowdermilk Church and Company for a cost of \$17,500.
  - Approved Budget Amendment # 6 (0-23-05) to the fiscal year 2022/2023 Budget Ordinance for \$215,000 to complete the funding needed for the new construction of the Bill Moore Park multi-use courts by Patton Construction.
  - Approved a market study pay adjustment in April of 2.5% for full-time Town employees.
  - Appointed Leslie Cuevas to a three-year term on the Fletcher Planning Board.
  - Approved Ordinance # O-23-04 amending the speed limit from 25 mph to 20 mph on all streets in the Windsor Forest Subdivision effective April 12, 2023.
  - Approved Resolution # R-23-04 asking NC DOT to consider authorizing measures to restrict Fanning Bridge Road from being used as a through truck route by heavy trucks.
  - Approved Budget Amendment # 7 (0-23-06) to the fiscal year 2022/2023 Budget Ordinance for \$65,000 for interior security updates to Town Hall as recommended during a facility security assessment.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, shared updates on several pending issues:
  - Polco has released their final report from the recent Fletcher citizen survey. Mr. Biberdorf is still reviewing the information for follow-up with Council and communication to Fletcher residents.
  - We continue to hear from Wildwood subdivision residents regarding the need for sound walls along I-26. Several conversations have been held with external parties in hopes of persuading NC DOT to reexamine the area for sound wall consideration.
  - Custom Wood Designs was the low bid for a Town of Fletcher gateway sign for the south end of Town on Highway 25 near Southern Concrete. The sign will basically be the same as the north end sign except for the addition of columns at each end.
  - Mr. Biberdorf met with a member of our State Legislative Delegation on March 24th to share our legislative priorities and a list of project funding assistance requests.
  - FernLeaf Community Charter School has asked to postpone their petition request for voluntary satellite annexation of their new wilderness school.
  - We have received final NC DOT comments on proposed traffic mitigation improvements for the Fletcher Town Center project. Next, we will need to determine the developer and Town contribution requirements for these improvements in order to obtain driveway permits.

## On Memorial Day, let's remember and honor those who died in military service for our Country.



Fletcher Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day. No Town services will be affected by this closing.

## Fletcher ABC Board Opening

The Town of Fletcher is seeking to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Fletcher A.B.C. Board. This board is appointed by the Town Council and is responsible for running the A.B.C. Store and hiring the employees who work in the store. This board is separate from the other boards in the Town since it handles its own affairs and also has an independent audit. Interested persons must be residents of Fletcher and be willing to serve a three-year term. The application for the Board vacancy can be found online at https://www.fletchernc.org/towngovernment/town-committees/board-openings/ or obtained by contacting the Fletcher Town Clerk at 828-687-3985. Applications will be accepted through May 31, 2023. Applicants will need to be available to attend the June 5th Town Council meeting as part of the application process, if requested.

## Stormwater Runoff Impacts All of Us

Stormwater runoff is water that "runs off" across the land into the nearest water source instead of seeping into the ground. Runoff comes from everyday events such as rainfall, watering outdoor plants, washing vehicles, cleaning decks/driveways, etc. On its way, this runoff can pick up and carry substances that pollute our water including pesticides/fertilizers, pet waste, leaves, grass clippings, and petroleum by-products from leaking vehicles.

## PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

#### Free Mulch - Still Available

We still have free mulch available to Town residents on a come, first serve basis". Bring a shovel, a container, a truck, or trailer and come to Parrish Municipal Drive. After turning off Howard Gap Road, the mulch pile is on the left beside the metal building.

#### **Noise in the Wildwood Area**

**THANK YOU** to the 31 residents in the Wildwood subdivision who shared your experiences and thoughts on the I-26 noise reducing berm. The vast majority of you expressed a need for additional sound barriers. The Town of Fletcher has already used your input as we continue to talk with NC DOT and others about this situation.

## From the Office of the Chief:

Thank you to all our residents who attended our Pill Drop event on Saturday, April 15th at Town Hall. We collected 62 pounds of medication, equal to 46,500 pills. This is four times the amount collected last year and more than twice the amount from 2021. We appreciate you taking the time to help keep others safe by disposing of your old medication and helping to keep chemicals from entering our water supply instead of flushing them down the drain.

If you missed this event and have some medications you wish dispose of, as a reminder we have a pill box located in the Police department lobby at Town Hall, where medications can be turned in Monday - Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.



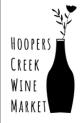
Chief Dan Terry and Officer Richard Gibbard at their recent Pill Drop event

Since much of our land area is now paved or covered due to roads, parking lots, driveways, houses, buildings, etc. actual grassy area for the water to run into has decreased. However, there are some ways we can help prevent and reduce stormwater runoff and its pollution of our water:

- > Scoop up after your pet, even on the grass.
- > Apply fertilizers and other garden products sparingly.
- > Make sure your septic system is in good condition.
- > Plant, mulch, or contain any areas of bare soil.
- > Clean up any oils, antifreeze, or chemical spills with cat litter then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash. > Redirect downspouts at your house or use a rain barrel to capture rainwater from your roof.
- > Plant a rain garden, vegetation, or trees at your house to help soak up water runoff.

For more information about Fletcher's stormwater management program, visit https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/ planning-and-zoning/storm-water-management/.

## PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW BUSINESSES TO FLETCHER!



## HOOPERS CREEK WINE MARKET.

located at 142 Hoopers Creek Road, was created with the goal to bring thoughtfully curated environmentally low-impact wines to Fletcher. Featuring mostly natural

and small family farmed wines, we pledge to bring forth wines that we have tasted ourselves and believe in. Aside from wine, we are committed to bring locally made goods to our shop such as local cider, mead, pre-packaged artisan goods, and artwork.

> Open: Wednesday - Sunday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

> > Phone: 828-483-6309

Email: hooperscreekwinemarket@gmail.com

## Find out more about us by visiting:



hooperscreekwinemarket



"THOUGHTFUL WINES AND LOCAL GOODS"





## FORMERLY New Life Appalachia

IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS! HOURS: MON-SAT 10-7 THURS 12-7 3741 HENDERSONVIILE RD.

WE SELL: DELTA-8 CBD/CBG SKINCARE TICTURES SALVES SOAPS HERBS MEDICINAL-MUSHROOMS

JOIN US ALL DAY AS WE REMEMBER MARTY GROVE AND CELEBRATE HIS LEGACY! WHEN: MAY 20, 2023 AND MAY 22, 2023 FREE FOOD, FUN. GAMES. AND PRIZES!

## Fletcher Area Business Association (FABA)

invites you to network and learn with community business leaders



## **Coffee Club**

Meet local leaders and join us for a cup of coffee May 2nd & May 16th, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Lutheridge Conference Center

## Focus After 5

**Networking at Warren Restoration** 

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

## Resource Recess

FABA members and the public is invited to a free professional development workshop on marketing and growing your business: "Marketing on a Shoe String Budget" May 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am - 1 pm at the Lutheridge Conference Center

## Fletcher Library Opportunities in May

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

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

**OPENING CHANGES:** We will open at 10:00 am on Friday, May 12th due to a staff meeting.

We will be closed May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

**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 (Children) Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> (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! <u>Please be aware that all children under 11 must have an adult stay with them.</u>

## Check 'Em Out Book Club (Adults) Monday, May 8th (11:00am-12:00pm)

Come and discuss our May selection, <u>Our Missing Hearts</u> by Celeste Ng. Registration required - Call the Fletcher Library at 828-687-1218. Spaces are limited.

## Retirement Planning Educational Workshop (Adults) Tuesday, May 9th (9:00am-12:00pm)

Financial Literacy is the proven foundation that allows individuals to make informed and effective decisions that build certainty and security for their retirement and financial future. This FREE workshop will discuss topics such as: How Social Security benefits impact your retirement; Strategies that protect against the high cost of health care; Stress-testing your retirement portfolio; Understanding and evaluating your risk tolerance; Avoiding tax increases in monthly Social Security, Medicare benefits, and other retirement income; Sequencing longevity, health care, inflation and market risks, and other topics of consideration regarding retirement planning.

## Craft Day (All ages) Tuesday, May 9th (10:00am - 4:00pm)

Come and do a fun craft with us!

## Book Review Book Club (Adults) Thursday, May 11th (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, May 11th (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.

## NC Medicaid Managed Care (Adults) Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> (10:00am-12:00pm)

Drop by for information about the health care options available to you.

## Knitting for a Cause Group (All Ages) Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> (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

## Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (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.





	Save the Date
5/19/23	Robert G. Parrish Golf Tournament
12:00 pm	Cummings Cove Country Club
6/12/23 7:30 am	Summer Day Camp Begins
6/24/23	Summer Concert in the Park
6:00 pm	"Gotcha Groove Band"
7/9/23	Summer Concert in the Park
6:00 pm	"Flashback Band"
8/19/23	Family Movie Night in the Park
8:00 pm	Disney-Pixar "LUCA"

## **Permanent Part-time Park Maintenance Position**

Like working outside? Need some additional spending money? If so, Fletcher Parks and Recreation is currently taking applications for a permanent part-time Park Maintenance position to work 16 hours per week.

Work hours will be varied and might include weekend work. The position is responsible for performing a variety of maintenance and repair tasks. Job duties include mowing, trimming, ball field prep, landscape maintenance for park facilities, as well as other duties as assigned.

Salary is \$15.00/per hour. The Town of Fletcher is an EOE, and a pre-employment drug screen and background screen will be required for the successful applicant. To obtain an employment application, go to <a href="https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/">https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/</a>.



Special thanks to our Easter Egg event sponsors who helped make our Egg-Stravaganza fun for everyone: First Bank, State Farm-Tabitha Hamlin, Blue Ridge Orthodontics, A-American Electric Inc, and FABA.



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FLETCHER, NC 28732	
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## <u>APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 1, 2023</u>

If you qualify for one of these property tax relief programs, they will reduce your Henderson County & Fletcher taxes: <u>Elderly or Disabled Exclusion</u>: Excludes the greater of the first \$25,000 or 50% of the appraised value of the permanent residence and up to a one-acre homesite of NC residents age 65 or older, or totally and permanently disabled, whose 2022 income tax does not exceed the \$33,800 income eligibility limit. If you are currently receiving this exclusion, you do not need to apply again, unless you have changed your permanent residence, received a Compliance Review Application, or have a change of income.

<u>Disabled Veterans Exclusion</u>: Excludes up to the first \$45,000 of the appraised value of the permanent residence of a Henderson County resident who is a disabled veteran whose character of service at separation was honorable or under honorable conditions and who has a 100% total and permanent service-connected disability or who received benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C. 2101. There is no age or income limitation for this program. This benefit is also available to a surviving spouse (not remarried) of either (1) a disabled veteran as defined above, (2) a veteran who died as a result of a service-connected condition whose character of service at separation was honorable or under honorable conditions, or (3) a service member who died from a service connected condition in the line of duty and not as a result of willful misconduct.

<u>Circuit Breaker</u>: Taxes for each year are limited to a percentage of the qualifying owner's income who is a NC resident and is at least 65 years of age or totally and permanently disabled, and has owned and occupied the property for the last 5 full years. For an owner whose income amount does not exceed the income eligibility limit of \$33,800 for the 2022 tax year, the owner's taxes will be limited to 4% of the owner's income. For an owner whose income exceeds the income eligibility limit (\$33,800) but does not exceed 150% of the income eligibility limit, which for the 2023 tax year is \$50,700, the owner's taxes will be limited to 5% of the owner's income. However, the taxes over the limitation amount are deferred and remain a lien on the property. The last 3 years of deferred taxes prior to a disqualifying event will become due and payable, with interest, on the date of the disqualifying event. Interest accrues on the deferred taxes as if they had been payable on the dates on which they would have originally become due. Disqualifying events are death of the owner, transfer of the property, and failure to use the property as the owner's permanent residence. Exceptions and special provisions apply. You must file a new application for this program every year.

To obtain more information about these programs, visit <a href="https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax/page/exemptions-exclusions-deferment">https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax/page/exemptions-exclusions-deferment</a> or call the Henderson County Tax Assessor's Office at 828-697-4870. Completed forms should be mailed or taken to the Henderson County Tax Assessor's Office at 200 N. Grove Street, Suite 102 in Hendersonville 28792 by June 1, 2023.