

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

Town of Fletcher

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

Facebook: FletcherNC.Gov

April 2024

News from the March 11th Town Council Meeting

By Consent Agenda, Town Council:

- Approved Proclamation P-24-01 in support of the NC DOT Spring Litter Sweep from April 13 - April 27 and encouraging all residents to participate in making our roadside clean and beautiful.
- Approved Resolution R-24-01 to grant a 5-month lease, from April 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024, to Baabals Ice Cream for operation of the concession stand at Bill Moore Community Park.
- Approved the appointment of Susan Heafner as Deputy Tax Collector.
- Approved Budget Amendment #3 to the fiscal year 23/24 Budget Ordinance for an additional \$20,226 in contractual funds due to Mills River Fire & Rescue as indicated by the recent audit.
- Town Council selected Robyn Mondin to fill an at-large vacancy on the Fletcher Planning Board/Zoning Board of Adjustment.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, shared that at the upcoming April Council Meeting a representative from Retail Strategies will present information about their consulting services which might be helpful with the Town Center project Retail Strategies is a retail consulting and a real estate development and brokerage firm which assists communities in creating a retail recruitment strategy.
- Town Council voted to remove 6.76 acres of Town owned property, which faces Rockwell Road near the Meritor plant, from an industrial property sale listing being maintained by the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development.
- Heather Taylor, Assistant Town Manager, reminded Council that the Town's financial reserves Fund Balance Policy states that unassigned fund balance should be a minimum of 45% of General Fund total expenditures and a maximum of 65% of General Fund total expenditures. This fund policy is used to help guard residents against service disruption in the event of unexpected Town temporary revenue shortfalls or unpredicted one-time expenditures. The Town's unassigned fund balance is currently 75%. Mrs. Taylor recommended the \$850,0000 excess fund balance be applied to the Town's existing debt for two separate loans which would save a total of \$650,000 in interest and eliminate one loan while shortening the other loan by slightly more than 4 years. Council approved the recommendation and a budget amendment will be prepared for the April meeting.
- Mark Biberdorf shared updates on several issues:
 - He recently met with Rebecca Robinson, with Conserving Carolina, to discuss logistics for the "Connecting Communities to State Trails" grant program. More information will be provided to Council in April on the next steps.
 - Town Staff is trying to set up meetings with our state and national representatives to share the Town's legislative priorities.
 - The Auction House Food Hall, on Fanning Bridge, is projected to open at the end of March with three restaurants, a wine bar, and a bourbon bar.
 - Meetings have been set up for Council and the Mayor to talk with the pay classification study consultant to review the process for the pay and classification update.

Town Council

Preston Blakely, Mayor Phone.....(828)215-7706 Sheila Franklin, Mayor Pro-Tem District #1.....(828)684-5676

Fletcher, NC 28732

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

District #3.....(828-702-4200)

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 To live stream or view previous Town Council Meetings, please visit https://www.youtube.com/ <u>@TownofFletcherNC/streams.</u>

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm

Parks & Rec Advisory Board 1st Thursday of month at 6:00 pm

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

This newsletter is published for Town residents and reports on issues and events that affect our community. Past issues of our newsletter are found on our website at https://www.fletchernc.org/ about-us/newsletter/.

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

> This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

TRASH PICKUP AND RECYCLING CHANGES

** IMPORTANT **

Due to the need to balance our trash and recycling routes more evenly, some Fletcher residents will experience a change in their trash and/or recycling pickup dates STARTING APRIL 15TH. The affected neighborhoods are:

Sycamore Cottages: Cardwell Lane, Gorman Lane, Greenly Lane, Harrelson Lane, Mann Lane, Pullen Lane, and Riddick Lane

Trash: pickup will change **to Monday** Recycling: pickup will change to Monday Route B

The Authors: N. Christie Court, S. Christie Court, and Orwell Drive

Trash: pickup will change **to Monday** Recycling: pickup will change to Monday Route B

Chadbury Park: Chadbury Court

Trash: pickup will change to Thursday Recycling: pickup will change to Thursday Route B

Livingston Farms: Meadow Pathway Drive, Meadow Walk Court, Misty Valley Road, N. Sunberry Trail, Running Briar, S. Sunberry Trail, and Wild Meadow Road

Trash: pickup will remain on Friday Recycling: pickup will change to Friday Route B

An informational reminder and a new recycling schedule will be placed on the trash carts of affected households. If you have any questions about these changes, please contact us.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 1

Applications for 2024 property tax relief must be turned in to the Henderson Co Assessor's Office by June 1st.

Elderly or Disabled Exclusion: The property owner must have a 2023 federal income tax amount less than \$36,700. Other guidelines apply.

Disabled Veteran's Exclusion: Owners must be veterans with a total and permanent service-connected disability or receiving benefits for specially adapted housing or their surviving spouse. Other guidelines apply.

https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax/page/ Visit exemptions-exclusions-deferment for specific information about these programs or contact the Henderson County Tax Assessor's Office at 828-697-4870.

PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

Leaf Pickup During Early April

We will pick up bagged leaves the week of April 1st and April 8th. We will begin accepting leaf pickup requests the last week in March. Please do not include grass clippings, pampas grass, mulch, dirt, rocks, or sticks with the leaves since the leaves will be recycled. To make your request, call 828-654-9208 to leave a voice message 24-hours/7-days a week; visit our website at https://www.fletchernc.org/leaf-brush-pickup/; or Town Hall at 828-687-3985. After this spring leaf pickup, the next leaf pickup will be in the fall.

Mulch Giveaway

Public Works will load free mulch on Saturday, April 20th from 8:00 am - noon at our Parrish Municipal Drive location, off Howard Gap Road. The mulch pile is located beside the big green metal building -- just bring your truck, trailer, etc. We will also load during the week by appointment, Monday - Friday from 7:00 am - 3:00 pm. Call 828-654-9208 to schedule an appointment.

If you do not need assistance loading mulch, you may access the mulch pile at your convenience.

From the Office of Chief Terry:

This month's article is a "lock it or lose it" reminder. It looks like spring is here. As the weather gets warmer however, we tend to experience an increase in theft related



crimes. As we hit the outdoors more frequently, we can slip back into old habits that increase our chances of being a victim of those theft related crimes.

Theft of lawn care equipment and other assorted tools goes up as more of us are outside working, playing and entertaining in our yards, and more likely to leave doors open that provide unrestricted access to thieves. As we travel to and from various outdoor activities, we need to be mindful of all of the valuable items we may leave in plain sight inside our unattended vehicles, becoming a temptation to would-be criminals.

Many criminals commit crimes of opportunity. So, the simple steps of locking doors and keeping valuables out of sight may keep you from becoming one of those victims. Be aware of your surroundings as you enjoy the nice weather, and if you see something suspicious, say something. You know who to call!

Please welcome these new businesses to Fletcher!







Are you or a loved one seeking exceptional support solutions in North Carolina? Look no further than North Carolina Outreach - your trusted partner in enhancing lives!

As a leading Support Solutions Company, we specialize in offering a range of services tailored to individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). Our comprehensive offerings include:

Alternative Family Living: Experience the warmth and support of a nurturing family environment, tailored to meet your unique needs.

Community Based Services: Embrace independence while receiving personalized care within your community, fostering growth and empowerment.

Day Programs for Adults with IDD: Explore enriching activities and opportunities that promote skill-building, socialization, and personal fulfillment.

At North Carolina Outreach, we're dedicated to helping you live "your best life" every step of the way.

For more information, reach out to Nick Bell at 828-333-8733 or visit **supportsolutionsms.com**. Take the first step towards "your best life" today!



APRIL EVENTS

COFFEE CLUB

Featuring Carrie Ann with EXP Realty

April 2nd 8:00 am - 9:00 am Lutheridge Conference Center 2049 Upper Laurel Dr. Arden, NC

https://www.facebook.com/events/1165094231141654

Please join us for Coffee Club and bring a guest!

FOCUS AFTER FIVE

Featuring Southern Quality Company and Designing Spaces

April 11th 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm 427 N Church St. Hendersonville, NC 28792 https://www.facebook.com/events/1093251262003543

COFFEE CLUB Featuring Leslie King

April 16th 8:00 am - 9:00 am Lutheridge Conference Center 2049 Upper Laurel Dr. Arden, NC

https://www.facebook.com/events/210524708796080

Please join us for Coffee Club and bring a quest!

April Showers are on the way...

Are your storm drains ready?

Fletcher residents play a crucial role in assisting Town employees in keeping storm drains open and flowing as they are designed. With April showers on the way, it's time to start thinking about how water is currently entering and exiting your property. Individual property owners are responsible for maintaining, repairing, and/ or replacing any ditches, drainpipes or other drainage systems on their property.

To help keep your drainage system and the Town's working properly, please do not rake grass clippings, leaves and other debris into ditches and storm drains which can lead to clogged and overflowing ditches, drains and drainpipes. This will help avoid safety



hazards caused by pooling water on roadways, minimize water damage to the pavement, and be much appreciated by your neighbors.

Fletcher Library Opportunities in April

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

HOURS: Monday 9am - 6pm; Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 5pm; Friday & Saturday 9am - 3pm Delayed Openings and Closing: We will open at 10:00 on Friday, April 12th 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. Thanks to all those that have donated.

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

Goodwill Career Connections Every Wednesday (10:00pm-1:00pm)

Do you need interview practice or help creating a resume, filling out an online job application, or getting started with your job search? Drop in to get help from a Career Connections Coordinator.

Lego Club (Children) Thursday, April 4th (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.

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

Come and discuss our April selection, The Maid by Nita Prose.

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

Come and do a fun craft with us!

Chair Exercises (Adults) Wednesday, April 10th (2:00pm-3:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED **

These classes focus on strength training exercises that support increased strength, increased mobility, and reduced fall risk. They are great for people just getting started with an exercise routine or looking to exercise with others. Hand weights will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Please consult with your medical professional before attending. Class members will be required to sign a waiver before participating.

Book Review Book Club (Adults) Thursday, April 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, March 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.

Knitting for a Cause Group (All Ages) Saturday, April 13th (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.

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, April 20th (10:30am-12:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED **

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

Chair Exercises (Adults) Wednesday, April 24th (2:00pm-3:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED **

These classes focus on strength training exercises that support increased strength, increased mobility, and reduced fall risk. They are great for people just getting started with an exercise routine or looking to exercise with others. Hand weights will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Please consult with your medical professional before attending. Class members will be required to sign a waiver before participating.

Eating the Mediterranean Way (Adults) Thursday, April 25th (11:00 am-12:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED **

Eating like those who live in the Mediterranean region has been shown to promote health and decrease the risk of many chronic diseases, including certain types of cancers, Alzheimer's disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular disease. These classes will explore how to incorporate the Mediterranean way of eating into our everyday life. Together we will look at some simple, delicious, and satisfying recipes and make a recipe together that we can taste.

Zaniac: Ice Oasis Innovation (Children) Thursday, April 25th (11:00am-12:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED ** Unleashing STEM Excellence in the Shelter Challenge. Prepare to embark on an exciting venture where we'll channel our creativity to design and craft a cutting-edge container. Our mission? To defy the inevitable melt of ice, drawing inspiration from coolers and even refrigerators. Join us as we delve into the world of innovation, exploring the art and science of crafting a revolutionary ice-preserving solution! This free program is funded by the Friends of the Library.

Getting Started on the Computer (Adults) Monday, April 29th (10:30am-12:00pm) ** REGISTRATION REQUIRED **

Want to learn how to use the computer, but don't know where to start? Start here! Learn to use the computer mouse through handson practice. Get a basic overview of computer terms, parts, and concepts. No computer experience required. This class prepares learners for basic computer classes and self-paced online learning through Northstar. Register online or call 828-687-1218 for assistance.





FLETCHER PARKS & RECREATION - 828-687-0751

HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FLETCHERPARKSANDRECREATION/

Summer Camp Info

- Our Summer Day Camp and Middle School registration is full with waiting lists on all Summer Day Camp weeks. If we do have openings due to camper withdrawals, we will fill open slots from the respective waiting list.
- If you registered your child for camp and opted for a monthly payment plan, your payments are due by April 1st, May 1st, and June 1st. Payments may be made by credit/debit card on our website at https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home or with no fee by cash, check, or money order in Town Hall - no credit/debit cards accepted in Town Hall.

Park Reminders

- Fletcher Youth Baseball & Softball "Opening Day Celebration & Food Pantry Benefit" is April 6th starting at 10:00am at Bill Moore Community Park with games all day. Please be observant as you are driving in the park and watch for extra children and vehicles.
- If you want to rent a shelter for a special event, remember that both of our parks, Bill Moore Community Park and Kate's & Pete's Park (beside the Fletcher Library), have shelters for rent. You may make your reservation and payment online at https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/online-registration/. Reserve now.





Concession Stand Opens at Bill Moore Community Park



Baabals Ice Cream will open the concession stand at Bill Moore Community Park starting April 6th. Operating hours will be:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 5:00pm - 8:00pm and Saturday & Sunday from 1:00pm - 5:00pm.

Concession items include: ice cream, snow cones, popcorn, and drinks with additional menu items during park events.

	SAVE THE DATE	
Saturday April 6th	Concession Stand Opens at Bill Moore Community Park	See article above
Friday, May 17th	Robert Parish Mem Golf Tournament Cummings Cove Country Club	11:00 am
Monday, June 3rd	Summer Day Camp and Middle School Camp begins	7:30 am

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

SECOND PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ONLY

Voting will be held May 14th from 6:30am - 7:30pm at your assigned precinct

OR

Early Voting will be held **only** at Henderson County Board of Elections from April 25th through May 11th, excluding some Saturdays. For exact dates and times of Early Voting, please visit the Board of Elections website at https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/elections.

In this second primary, ONLY registered REPUBLICANS can vote and registered UNAFFILIATED can vote IF you who chose the Republican ballot in the First Primary or did not vote at all in the First Primary.

For questions, please visit the Henderson County Board of Elections website at https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/elections or contact them at 828-697-4970.



This free event provides Fletcher residents a way to help reduce clutter at your home, stay organized, reduce your chances of becoming a victim of identity theft, safely dispose of old medications, and help the environment.

Saturday April 20, 2024 from 9:00 am - Noon Fletcher Town Hall South Side Parking Lot

- Please bring your medicines in their original containers.
 We will empty the containers and return them to you since they contain your personal information.
- Limit 2 boxes of shredding per household.
- This is a residential shredding event only; no business shredding accepted.