

NEWSLETTER



Town of Fletcher

Pride in our Past ~ Faith in our Future

July 2026 Edition

- 📞 828-687-3985
- ✉ info@fletchernc.org
- 🌐 www.fletchernc.com
- 📘 FletcherNC.Gov
- 📍 300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732

Town Council

Preston Blakely, Mayor

(828) 215-7706
p.blakely@fletchernc.org

Amber McKinney, Councilwoman

District 1
(828) 699-2954
ambermckinney128@gmail.com

Keith Reed, Councilman

District 2
(828) 367-7130
k.reed@fletchernc.org

Jim Player, Councilman

District 3
(828) 702-4200
j.player@fletchernc.org

Trevor Lance, Mayor Pro-Term

District 4
(828) 338-9338
trevorlance@gmail.com

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

Parks & Rec Advisory Board

3rd Tuesday of month at 5:30 pm

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

All meetings are held at
Fletcher Town Hall

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/>.

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

News from the June 8th Town Council Meeting

- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
 - Approved a letter to express support of the Governor’s proposed funding to advance passenger rail service along the Western North Carolina Corridor between Salisbury and Asheville. This investment represents an important step toward strengthening mobility, economic development, tourism, and regional connectivity across our state.
 - Reappointed John Brandon Olsen to serve another 3-year term on the Fletcher ABC Board.
- Karen-Eve Bane, STEAP Director, presented the Fletcher Mural Banner Initiative, a proposal to install a wall mural on a private building along Highway 25. The project aims to enhance the Highway 25 corridor through public art. Potential themes include Fletcher’s history, music, agriculture, and community life. Council discussed possible locations, expressed support for the initiative, agreed to provide a letter of support, and designated Councilwoman Amber McKinney to serve as liaison throughout the project.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budget totaling \$10,553,424 in revenues and expenditures. The initial recommended property tax rate was \$0.295 per \$100 of assessed property value, representing a 1.5-cent increase from the current rate of \$0.28, with the increase dedicated entirely toward contracted fire protection services. Due to a recent increase in the County property tax rate, Mr. Biberdorf outlined an anticipated loss of at least \$100,000 in sales tax revenue for the FY 2026-2027 Town budget. To help mitigate these impacts, Mr. Biberdorf recommended increasing the Town’s proposed property tax rate by an additional half-cent, or one full cent. Following discussion and a Public Hearing, Council approved a half-cent increase, resulting in a total 2-cent tax increase from the current rate of \$0.28 to continue the Town’s commitment to providing high-quality services while addressing the needs of its growing community.
- Mark Biberdorf also provided updates on several ongoing issues:
 - The street resurfacing project for Meadow Pathway Drive and Meadow Walk Court is complete.
 - The French Broad River MPO is seeking public input on transportation projects under consideration in the current prioritization process. Projects include roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, transit, and rail improvements throughout the region. Public input will help local and regional leaders understand community priorities as funding recommendations are developed. Residents are encouraged to complete the survey by the July 22 deadline.
 - The Town Center development project continues to generate interest from potential developers, including ongoing discussions with Lewis Real Estate Group. A portion of Town-owned property on Highway 25 was recently reappraised at approximately \$2.85 million. Additionally, the Express Design project and traffic planning efforts are underway in coordination with NCDOT to proactively address future infrastructure needs, focusing on key intersections near the Town center area along Highway 25.

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



JULY EVENTS

TUE JUL 7 **COFFEE CLUB**
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Mountain View Cremation & Funeral Care
336 Rockwood Road, Unit 101, Arden, NC 28704


THU JUL 16 **FOCUS AFTER FIVE**
5:30 PM
A-American Electric
25 Sheehan Rd, Fletcher, NC 28732

TUE JUL 21 **COFFEE CLUB**
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Mountain View Cremation & Funeral Care
336 Rockwood Road, Unit 101, Arden, NC 28704

FRI JUL 24 **BUSINESS & COMMUNITY EXPO 2026**
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Bill Moore Community Park
85 Howard Gap Road, Fletcher, NC 29732

FIND US AT
<https://fletcherbusiness.com/>

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4

Town Hall will be **closed** July 3rd due to observance of Independence Day. Trash and recycling scheduled to be picked up Friday, July 3rd will be picked up Monday, July 6th.

2026-2027 APPROVED BUDGET

Budget Highlights:

- **Property Tax Rate:**
 - \$0.30 per \$100 of assessed property value.
 - The 1.5 cents rate increase is dedicated toward contracted fire protection services.
 - Remaining 0.5 cent is to offset lower-than-expected sales tax revenue received from Henderson County.
- **Public Safety Investments:**
 - Rebuild Naples Fire Station following damage from Hurricane Helene.
 - Improve Hoopers Creek Fire Station
 - Enhance equipment and staffing
 - Maintain strong fire safety rating
- **Supporting a Growing Community:**
 - Solid waste collection
 - Police services
 - Parks and recreation
 - Planning and development
- **Operational Support:**
 - Convert part-time Planning & Zoning role to full-time
 - Cost-of-living adjustments and merit pay continuation for eligible employees.
- **Capital Improvements:**
 - Funding to maintain and enhance Town facilities, infrastructure, equipment, and services.

Town Council remains committed to responsible stewardship while maintaining high-quality services.



FROM THE OFFICE OF CHIEF TERRY



Wishing everyone a Happy Independence Day!

Let's never forget the sacrifices required to obtain our independence and the freedoms we hold dear. A thank you to the men and women serving our country today, and throughout generations, so we may continue to be free.

As we look forward to celebrating the country's 250th birthday, please do so safely and responsibly:

- Fireworks are dangerous. Please leave those to the professionals.
- Driving While Impaired arrests and related traffic crashes increase during the holiday as well. Don't become one of those statistics. If you drink during your celebration, let someone else drive.
- Safety on the water, during one of the busiest boating weekends of the year, is also important. "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive"

Let's enjoy the holiday. Be safe and be happy!



Attention Business Owners

The Town of Fletcher annual Business Registration renewals will be sent out July 1st with a due date of August 1st.

The registration is required of any business maintaining a physical presence within Town limits.



If you have not received your renewal invoice or are a new business, please send an email to m.calvillo@fletchernc.org.



Summer Concert Series

COME SEE GOTCHA GROOVE LIVE AT
BILL MOORE COMMUNITY PARK!

JULY 31ST AT 6:00PM



85 Howard Gap Rd, Fletcher, NC 28732




Upcoming events

FRI JUL 31 **Summer Concert Featuring Gotcha Groove**
6:00 PM
Bill Moore Community Park

FRI AUG 14 **Art in the Park**
TBD
Bill Moore Community Park

SAT SEP 19 **Fall Family Festival**
TBD
Bill Moore Community Park

ADVANCED BEGINNER

PICKLEBALL LADIES LEAGUE

PRICE
RESIDENTS - \$40
NON-RESIDENT - \$50

BILL MOORE COMMUNITY PARK
85 HOWARD GAP RD,
FLETCHER, NC 28732

SAVE THE DATE
MONDAYS
8/3 - 8/24 ,
5:30 - 7:30



FLETCHER

Farmer's Market

EVERY TUESDAY
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
BILL MOORE COMMUNITY PARK



Shop fresh produce, handmade goods, delicious treats, and more while supporting local farmers and artisans. Bring your family, meet your neighbors, and enjoy an afternoon of community fun. *We can't wait to see you there!*

SUMMER CAMP



Summer is better at camp! From exciting field trips and water days to games, crafts, sports, and new friendships, Fletcher Summer Day Camp is packed with fun and adventure.

Our campers stay active, engaged, and busy all summer long while making memories that will last a lifetime.

Thank you for spending your summer full of laughter, learning, and unforgettable experiences!



Recycling Collection Changes



Curbside Management will implement changes to recycling collection beginning **July 1**, introducing automated side-load (ASL) trucks across all routes in Fletcher.

Please follow these instructions on your recycling day:

- Place your cart at the curb with the opening facing the street (handle away from the street).
- Do not use straps or tie-downs, as they interfere with efficient collection.
- Ensure 3' clearance around cart (away from other carts, vehicles, poles, mailbox, fire hydrant, etc.)
- Residents may continue to stack broken down cardboard not to exceed 4'x4'. After emptying the cart, the driver will place the loose cardboard into the cart and use the ASL to empty the cart into the hopper.

For more information, please contact the Fletcher Town Hall at 828-687-3985.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

PRIORITIZATION SURVEY

Help shape the future of transportation in our region!

Your input will help the MPO prioritize projects for funding through North Carolina's prioritization process.

**Deadline:
July 22nd**



Together, we can build a stronger, more connected region.



Take the survey today!
publicinput.com/prioritization



Western North Carolina Home Repair Readiness Program

This program is designed to help residents affected by Hurricane Helene in the Western North Carolina counties.

01

What is the WNC Home Repair Readiness Program?

This program provides essential home repairs and energy-efficiency upgrades to help households create safer, healthier, and more weather-ready living conditions. Focused on repairing homes, the program prioritizes work that enables weatherization and improves long-term energy performance.

02

Who can apply?

Homeowners may be eligible for up to \$25,000 in repair assistance if their owner occupied home needs essential fixes to support weatherization. Applicants must show that the work is not already covered by insurance or other disaster-recovery programs.

03

Eligible Applicants

- Homeowners that experienced direct damage from Hurricane Helene will be prioritized to the fullest extent feasible.
- Priority is given to households earning below 80% Area Median Income (AMI), with eligibility available up to 120% AMI in designated counties.

04

How do I apply?

Visit <https://wncready.org/> or scan the QR Code



For more information about this program, visit <https://wncready.org/>. Alternatively, you may call Jane Pies at (828) 470-0257 or send an email to jane@landofsky.org.

FLETCHER LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENTS IN JULY 2026



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

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

The library will be closed on Friday, July 3rd and Saturday, July 4th for Independence Day.

Summer Reading Program ends July 31st! Pick up a reading log at the library, or track your reading on the Beanstack app.

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.

Family Story Time Every Wednesday (10:00am-10:30am)

Goodwill Career Connections Every Thursday (1:00pm-3:00pm)

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.

PAWS for Reading Every Saturday (10:30am-12:00pm) **Registration Required Call 828-687-1218**

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! *Call or come by to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.*



Teen Improv Class (Teens) Wednesdays, June 10th - July 29th (2:30pm - 4:15pm) **Registration Required**

Learn the elements of story, collaboration, and social skills, as well as improv fundamentals! This series is for teens of all experience levels and abilities. Registration Required: You only need to register once for the entire series of 8 classes.

Lego Club (Children) Thursday, July 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) Wednesday, July 8th (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, July 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.

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

Join the Fletcher Library Book Club for good books and good conversation! We will discuss *Founding Brothers* by Joseph J. Ellis.

Craft Day (All ages) Tuesday, July 14th (10:00am-4:00pm)

Drop by the Fletcher Library for fun crafts for all ages. Everyone is welcome.



Family Yoga- Preschoolers Monday, July 20th (10:00am-11:00am) **Registration Required**

Come bond with your preschooler and teach them the joy of movement! This class is tailored to the interest level and development of children ages 4-6. Registration Required- Please register yourself and each child separately. Exercise Waiver Required.

Language Learning with Transparent Language (Adults) Monday, July 20th (2:00pm-3:00pm) **Registration Required**

Join us to discover the library's free language learning app, Transparent Language. With over 110 languages to choose from- including ASL- now is the perfect time to begin your language journey. Sign up today! Registration Required: Register online or call 828-687-1218 for assistance.

PAWS for Reading (Children) Tuesday, July 21st (10:30am-12:00pm) **Registration Required**

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.

Critter Keeper (Children) Tuesday, July 21st (2:00pm-3:00pm)

This high-energy show features up-close encounters, enabling participants to see and touch live snakes, reptiles, and insects. The audience will also learn interesting facts about these animals. This program is always a favorite, so you are guaranteed to have a scary good time!

Paws for Reading (Children) Monday, July 27th (10:30am-12:00pm) **Registration Required**

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.