



# East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 6, ISSUES 2-3

FEBRUARY—MARCH 2022

## Letter from the President



Renee' White

Hello to all of the Neighbors old and new.

We are in the process of starting our Neighborhood Association meetings again in March. This letter is a plea to ask each one of you to get involved. We need everyone who cares about where they live to participate. The meetings are nonstop, the issues are nonstop and the commitment to sustain fair housing, crime prevention, beautification, fair property taxes and generational wealth are nonstop. We can no longer talk about it we have to be about it and

that means having a seat at the table whether its City or County. We have to show up and speak up. What happens in our Neighborhood does not affect some, it affects all. One or two people can not carry the load, it takes all of us. The meetings are on Zoom at this time and we are hoping to be able to meet in person maybe later in the year. I do know that some people may not have access to a computer and that may prevent you from attending but you can still reach out to me or any of the Executive Committee members to see how you can help. Just in the last couple of months major developments have transpired and major impacts could have resulted in us losing Cappadocia Church. Please come on board and help us in our efforts to keep East End rising.

We have to talk about land usage, we have to talk green spaces, we have to talk about the heritage trail, we have to talk about getting people out to vote, we have to talk about property taxes, we have to talk about our elders aging in place, we have to talk about drugs, we have to talk about our youth, we have to talk about food security, we have to talk about preservation, we have to talk about building neighbor relationships, we have to talk about what it looks like for 2000 people to attend an event at Memorial Stadium and the impact that will have on our neighborhood and we have to talk about reparations and what that looks like for East End.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER!!!

Best Regards,  
Renee' White

## East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association Meeting

**Thursday, MARCH 10 at 6pm via Zoom**

This meeting is for East End/Valley Street residents only. If you are not a resident and would like to present something to the neighborhood, please contact us so that we can see about fitting you into the agenda. To sign on to the meeting see Zoom details below:

Join Zoom Meeting  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85387825445?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85387825445?pwd=S2p1Q25mT21wU0x0eXVIWC9tTGxkdz09)  
[pwd=S2p1Q25mT21wU0x0eXVIWC9tTGxkdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85387825445?pwd=S2p1Q25mT21wU0x0eXVIWC9tTGxkdz09)

Meeting ID: 853 8782 5445      Passcode: 546869  
One tap mobile  
+13126266799,,85387825445#,,,,\*546869# US (Chicago)

## The Future of Memorial Stadium: Can tourism and community needs coexist?

by Sarah Honosky, City Government Reporter  
for the Asheville Citizen Times

Fearing the needs of residents in one of Asheville's oldest historically Black neighborhoods are being overlooked in favor of tourists, City Council member Antanette Mosley is pushing to fund a long-desired and contentious track at Memorial Stadium.



New turf was recently added to Asheville Memorial Stadium.  
Maya Carter/Asheville Citizen Times

As the city grappled with the allocation of \$17.9 million in federal COVID-19 funds at a Feb. 1 work session, Mosley asked that ARPA funds be considered for the project, "keeping our promises made to a community that had already been ravaged by urban renewal."

At the center of East End/Valley Street's story is the city-owned Memorial Stadium, built in 1925, a park that sits behind McCormick Field and has spent much of the last three decades in disrepair.

Mosley grew up in East End, daughter of the late Rev. Charles Mosley, and fourth generation of her family in the neighborhood. She remembers the park as a central place for Black children in the community to play, especially in the summer.

Though a public track has long been supported by the field's neighbors, she fears "the usage switched," and that a local soccer club's dreams for a competitive-sized field have directed focus away from neighborhood needs.

Mosley said she first learned of the issue before she was appointed to council in 2020, early in the pandemic. Her dad pastored for 40 years at Nazareth First Baptist Church at the apex of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. She still goes up there to run, and came across another woman walking who said she would be "glad when they get that track in, but they're never going to do what they say."

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## Cappadocia Church Saved by the Preservation Society

Cappadocia FBH Church, founded in 1906, is located in Asheville's East End neighborhood, a historically African American neighborhood.



### Kudos to the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County on their purchase of Cappadocia Church in Asheville's East End Community.

Cappadocia Fire-Baptized Holiness Church, which stands on Catholic Hill, is relatively unknown to Asheville's Euro-centric communities, but the church has been a significant part of the East End community for over a century. It is representative of the post-reconstruction struggle of African Americans in Asheville to survive and thrive in the long-segregated East End.

The Preservation Society, a nonprofit that serves to preserve, save, and restore neglected but historic area buildings, consulted with the East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association and found that the church property and the adjacent residence were a top priority for the community. With that knowledge, they moved forward with the purchase with the goal of restoring the historic property.

In speaking with members of the East End community, who were relieved and excited that this historic edifice was saved, Renée White, President of the East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association said, "After much anticipation and relief, the East End Neighborhood Community Association appreciates the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County acknowledgement of the African American history and legacy of our East End neighborhood. We look forward to our partnership and working together to make Cappadocia Church an integral and viable space that provides the neighborhood and region with a story to tell to future generations."

### Brief History of Cappadocia

Cappadocia Fire-Baptized Holiness Church was organized in Asheville in 1906. G. G. (Gustavus Guyhart) Gary, a church trustee who later became a Bishop in the Fire-Baptized Holiness Church organization, later recorded in a memoir that he had accepted Christ as his savior "in the beauty of holiness under the preaching of the FBH Founder, Bishop W. E. Fuller Sr. on March 10, 1907, at Cappadocia FBH Church in Asheville, North Carolina."

The church purchased a small lot in 1907 for a building, but it proved to be insufficient—they sold it later that same year. Then in 1909, trustees purchased a plot on the corner of Grail and Max Streets for the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars (a large amount at the time), and built Cappadocia on that property.

Although Cappadocia FBH Church managed to survive the Asheville urban renewal projects of the 1970s and '80s, the break-up of the community affected the growth of the church. Jesse Pulley, one of the last surviving church members, personally financed many of the improvements and upgrades to Cappadocia in its last active years, paying for new carpet, insulation, and furnace repairs. Despite his dedication, however, the church was officially closed in 2013.

### Origin of the Name

The name "Cappadocia" reflects the tradition of St. Matthias, who is said to have preached in Cappadocia, Jerusalem, on the shores of the Caspian Sea (in the modern nation of Georgia), and in Ethiopia. The term "Fire-Baptized" is also found in the Bible, in the Book of Acts, where the writer recounts the events of the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was sent by God to indwell the new believers' meeting at Jerusalem. While a lack of written records makes it difficult to confirm the congregation's choice of this name, it is noted that Cappadocia's neighboring church on Catholic Hill, the former Trinity Chapel, was rebuilt and renamed "St. Matthias" in 1894, indicating the tradition of

## Keith Young and Glenda McDowell will represent the East End Valley Street Neighborhood on the Asheville City Reparations Commission

The Community Reparations Commission is charged with developing recommendations to be presented to the City Council and County Commission to repair the harm done by decades of racial discrimination and systemic oppression against Black Asheville residents. The reparations process in Asheville will focus on five impact areas which include housing, economic development, health, education, and criminal justice.

The Commission will be composed of 25 members; 15 commission members will be nominated by persons from historically impacted neighborhoods, to include public housing and former historically African American neighborhoods (for example Stumptown). These members will be selected through a neighborhood nomination process and the selection is at the discretion of the neighborhood organizations who submit the nomination.

If you are interested, please contact one of these neighborhood associations. A neighborhood contact list is available on the City of Asheville [Neighborhood Services webpage](#). The remaining members of the Community Reparations Commission representing the five impact focus areas will be approved by City Council with five seat appointments and five seat appointments by the Buncombe County Commissioners. The Community Reparations Commission members will contribute approximately 5-10 hours per month, possibly up to 18 to 24 months.

### Coalition of Asheville Neighborhoods (CAN) Vice President of Marketing & Public Relations (PR)

#### GET INVOLVED! VOLUNTEER

#### WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER VP OF MARKETING & PR WHO CAN:

- ⇒ Construct and deliver consistent messaging that communicates CAN's advocacy and engagement efforts to our three target audiences: CAN's membership; the City; and the Asheville community at large.
- ⇒ Determine and execute a marketing and PR strategy that includes effective, consistent use of social media.
- ⇒ Increase CAN's visibility as an influential partner to the community, the City, and the media.
- ⇒ Set the strategy for CAN's website, social media accounts, and all advertising and PR
- ⇒ Work with CAN Executive Committee VPs to develop consistent messaging from all CAN committees
- ⇒ Participate in CAN Executive Committee decision making on all CAN actions

[Learn more...](#)

Interested? Contact [president@asheville-can.org](mailto:president@asheville-can.org)

St. Matthias, his preaching in Ethiopia, and the events of the Pentecost, were well known among the local African American clergy.

*Some reporting derives from Dale Wayne Slusser's "Cappadocia Church on Catholic Hill and the Rise of an African American Community: Asheville's East End Neighborhood," published by the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County.*

Source: *Urban News* By [Staff Reports](#) / February 11, 2022

## Tzedek Brilliance Awards Celebrate the Impact of Asheville Changemakers

Award honors Asheville’s leaders who have engaged in impactful, intersectional efforts to further racial justice and LGBTQ equality.

Source: *The Urban News* By [Staff Reports](#) / February 11, 2022

### The Tzedek Social Justice Fund (Tzedek) is excited to announce that **Renée White** and **Marta Alcalá-Williams** are the winners of this year’s Tzedek Brilliance Awards.

Tzedek Brilliance Awards honor Asheville’s leaders who have engaged in impactful, intersectional efforts to further racial justice and LGBTQ equality or to combat antisemitism. As opposed to the majority of Tzedek’s grantmaking that funds organizational work, Brilliance Awards are designed to cultivate the well-being of individual brilliant community leaders by recognizing and rewarding their past work to make Asheville a place where everyone can thrive. The Tzedek Brilliance Awards are a one-time, no-strings-attached grant of \$50,000.

#### Renée White

Renée received the Ella Baker Brilliance Award in honor of a Black community leader in Asheville who has empowered and organized others to address systemic oppression.



An Asheville native, White has served as the East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association president for ten years. She has led neighborhood advocacy for community investments and public policy changes for the historically African American neighborhood deeply impacted by the community destruction caused by urban renewal. White is also one of the key organizers of the annual East End/Valley Street Community Heritage Festival. She has spearheaded neighborhood clean-ups and beautification, neighborhood food distribution, and even community Covid-19 testing. White serves as the Vice President of Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust and is a board member of the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative.

She has been active in the awarding of Isaac Coleman Economic Community Grants, the development of Buncombe County’s Racial Equity Action Plan, and the E. W. Pearson Project Collaborative, which has led to the creation of Buncombe County’s Legacy Neighborhood program. She also recently was closely involved in the Preservation Society’s purchase and saving of the Capadocia Fire-Baptized Holiness Church. [See related story, “[Cappadocia Church Saved by the Preservation Society](#).”]

“I am honored to receive the Brilliance award and to be recognized for the work I do to make impactful positive change and to help people of all walks of life,” White says. “Equality is for all, and everyone should be included. There is no room for exclusion. Each day I work toward making the world better for generations to come. I am grateful for letting my little light to shine and planting seeds that will grow for years. This award means that my work has not been in vain but recognized in a mighty way by so many people.”

#### Marta Alcalá-Williams

Marta received the Pauli Murray Brilliance Award in honor of a community leader who, like Pauli Murray, has been involved in a wide variety of social justice efforts and who leads with the knowing that all struggles for liberation are connected.

Alcalá-Williams has worked for over thirty years in Asheville to create a culture of equity, racial justice, and collective liberation. As Execu-

tive Director of Equity and Community Engagement for Asheville City Schools, she engages principals, teachers, and parents to adopt asset- and justice-based thinking and practices. She partnered with Black mothers in Hillcrest to start Motherread, which brings diverse books to life through rich discussions about racial equity and collective liberation, and she co-founded Marvelous Math Club, in partnership with UNCA’s Dr. Sam Kaplan, which centers the gifts of each student leader, parents, and guardians in the Pisgah View community.

As a leader of the Racial Equity Institute (REI) Asheville Core Team, Marta has a deep commitment to bringing life-changing racial equity workshops to hundreds throughout Western North Carolina. She also volunteers with the Keep It Moving Coalition, leading conversations about racial equity for residents who have participated in REI or Building Bridges.

“I’m honored and humbled by receiving this award,” says Alcalá-Williams. “I can look back at a time when I allowed assumptions and a saving mentality to influence how I related to people in our community. Through truly listening and growing alongside community members I’ve learned to partner with community leaders and connect to resources. It hasn’t always been easy but being in genuine relationships connects us as lifelong learners.”

#### The Grantmaking Process

Tzedek (previously the Amy Mandel and Katina Rodis Fund) was founded in 1991. Currently, Tzedek’s organizational grantmaking funds Asheville nonprofits, grassroots and movement organizations, funder collaboratives, cooperatives, and community groups with fiscal sponsors that engage in systems change, community healing, and the redistribution of money, resources, and power. The Brilliance Award winners were selected by three Tzedek staff and three Tzedek Community-led Grantmaking Fellows, community leaders who design and implement Tzedek’s participatory grantmaking process.

Inspired by transformative grantmaking models that shift the power dynamic between funders and grantees, the Tzedek Brilliance Awards represent a trust-based, community-grounded approach to grantmaking.

“What we know is that there is amazing work that happens in this community that is not recognized. The two winners captured the essence of what we were trying to highlight in terms of the two different awards,” says Libby Kyles, Tzedek’s Director of Community-led Grantmaking.

“The struggle against systemic oppression requires many strategies and approaches. Conventional philanthropy often supports organizations, while ignoring the many strides made by individual leaders who have dedicated their lives to growing communities and who often work behind the scenes to keep the more visible collective work moving. The Brilliance Awards are a move to acknowledge and resource these efforts, in addition to collective work,” says Tzedek Executive Director Marsha Davis.

Learn more about the Tzedek approach to social justice philanthropy at [tzedeksocialjusticefund.org](https://tzedeksocialjusticefund.org).

### Little Free Library Moved

The Max Street Little Free Library is now located on MLK Jr. Drive next to the food pantry near the corner of Hildebrand Street!

[www.EastEndValleyStreet.org](https://www.EastEndValleyStreet.org)



Photo courtesy of Leslie Abbott

## **Future of Memorial Stadium (from Page 1)**

Mosley said the community is convinced that the promise for a track will never be fulfilled, and it's her goal to help make it happen. "It isn't just literally about the track. It's about a broader, long-standing tendency to reach out and say, 'We're going to work with the most disaffected members of our community.' Only to, at the last minute, make a decision that benefits another group," Mosley said. "And the folks are going to be told, 'We'll get to you at some point. We'll get to you.' And when, you know, these folks have been waiting over three decades. This is what they said they want, this is what they said they need, and this is what they were promised."

Mosley said the conversation has recently reignited, and she asked City Manager Debra Campbell if a track would be eligible for ARPA funding. Campbell responded in an email to Mosley and council Feb. 1 that staff had met the day before to discuss input received from council on the project. As a result, Campbell said staff will develop three potential concepts for the track, including two designed around the field. Definitive cost estimates for each design, along with pros and cons, will also be developed, she said.

City spokesperson Kim Miller said they don't have a set time for the completion of these concepts, and the costs and funding sources have not been identified.

Mosley told the Citizen Times it was her understanding that city conversations with the Asheville Buncombe Regional Sports Commission, the Asheville City Soccer Club and the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority over the last several years have moved the intent from a community park to a stadium. "Really, this is another form of gentrification. When it was dilapidated, we didn't want anything to do with it. But now that we're making improvements, we now find ourselves with a David and Goliath situation," Mosley said. "As a daughter of East End, I'm inclined in this instance to lean into people over profit."

Former Asheville Parks and Recreation Director Roderick Simmons called Memorial Stadium the only flat field in the city for public use, in high demand and disrepair for much of its life. Simmons left his post in summer 2021 after serving with the city for 15 years. At the heart of downtown Asheville, the 100-year-old facility was home to Asheville High School football and a number of recreation teams, like Asheville Youth League, and plans for a multipurpose track at the stadium would fill a gap in parks and recreation offerings, Simmons said. Improvements were incorporated into the 2009 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, but Simmons said the original plans drawn up in 2012, which included a public track at the behest of the East End community, never came to fruition.

When plans were initially created, there wasn't funding. But when the city got the go-ahead for \$17 million of parks and recreation bond funds after a November 2016 referendum vote, he said everybody started to have ideas. "That plan got sidetracked," Simmons said. "Typical Asheville, it became not about programming and operations, it became political." The TDA, Sports Commission and other user groups saw the facility as an asset that could help tourism, he said. In 2017, the field became the home of the newly-formed semipro Asheville City Soccer Club. Located on the east end of downtown, it was easily accessible and could draw in people from all over.

"It moved away from a public park for the neighborhood and our programming, to more of a regional tourist destination supporting professional soccer and hosting international soccer events," Simmons said. "It was a grander scale, but our budget from the bond wasn't enough to support that."

Renee White, president of the East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association, said the neighborhood has been lobbying to build a track for close to a decade. It was her understanding that bond money was always supposed to be dedicated to this project, along with a parking plan for the stadium that would lessen strain on the surrounding neighborhood and improvements to Mountainside Park. "Almost anything that we asked for we didn't get, and we haven't gotten," White said.

With the neighborhood, sports clubs, tourism boards and city each questioning how bond funds should best be used, Simmons said that is where the project stalled. It became a question of how the disparate projects could coexist, as the track planned for the field would interfere with competitive field dimensions or bleacher expansion. "A quagmire," Simmons said. "It became public community programming versus special events, tourism development. ... It's a political, no pun intended, football. Do you move it down the field or stop it here?"

The only bond-funded project to move forward for the stadium was a \$900,000 turf replacement that kicked off in August 2021 and wrapped in January. Simmons said turf replacement was a matter of public safety and could be done while conversations about bleachers, tracks and field dimensions continued. In a June 11 email thread between Simmons, then still director of parks and recreation, councilmembers and city staff, Mosley asked what happened to plans for the track. This thread came on the tail end of conversations about striping for the field, ahead of its bond-funded [turf and drainage replacement project](#).

Simmons responded that Asheville City Soccer Club and the Sports Commission were in opposition to installation of a public track as well as the initial project's seating plan, which would reduce its capacity. "The size field requested by the Soccer club for semi-professional play and the BCSC for tournament play did not allow for the inclusion of a community running track that was originally depicted in the stadium master plan," Simmons wrote. The public track would reduce the field size by 6 yards, still meeting FIFA soccer regulations, but limiting its ability to host national and international professional soccer matches. The small field size would impact their ability to move up in the professional soccer division, he said.



New turf was recently added to Asheville Memorial Stadium. City Councilmember Antanette Mosley, who grew up in the East End/Valley Street neighborhood around Memorial Stadium, is calling for ARPA funds to be used to build a track at the stadium for public recreation. *Maya Carter/Asheville Citizen Times*

*(continued on Page 5)*

## Future of Memorial Stadium (from Page 4)

Ryan Kelley, an owner of the Asheville Soccer Club, said he is aware plans for a track have been around for a while, and that the initial designs put forward several years ago for an eight-lane competition track would reduce the size of the field and seating. However, he said the club supports a walking track that would accommodate the field size and seating, and is supportive of any plan that allows them to coexist in the space. Kelley said the club is not actively pushing for more seating, and that its focus has been ensuring field size and maintaining the about 2,500-person capacity that is currently there. "For sure, we want to be neighbors. That's our goal," Kelley said. "And we realize that we're just one piece of a larger equation there and we want it to work for everyone."

### A disheartened neighborhood

On soccer game days, White, with the neighborhood association, said people descend on the neighborhood by the hundreds. Cars clog residential streets, beer cans are left strewn in the grass and limited parking means torn turf and muddy pits in parks and yards. The movement of the stadium toward special events and tourism has "impacted us greatly," she said, and despite a number of conversations between the city and soccer team, all parties seem to want different things. Though White has no hard objections to the club itself, she said if they come into her neighborhood, she wants her community to be respected. Ultimately, she doesn't feel heard by the city. She is disheartened, but refuses to stop her fight. She said they aren't asking for a 10-lane track — just a little walking track that people can enjoy, and right now "things are not looking good." "How are you going to sit down and talk about reparations, when you are continuing to do harm in our Black neighborhoods and think that it's OK?" White said. "If you're trying to help us, how are you going to help us and harm us at the same time?"



East End/Valley Street neighborhood residents are calling on City Council to fulfill a promise to build a track for public recreation at Memorial Stadium which was built in 1925.

Maya Carter / Asheville Citizen Times



According to a Feb. 2 emailed statement from city spokesperson Kim Miller, the city is developing concepts for the stadium, including designs for a 6- to 8-foot track around the field in response to input received from community check-ins. "Along with design, staff will evaluate costs as well pros and cons of each concept," Miller wrote. "City staff will then meet with the surrounding neighborhoods to discuss the concepts, for further input."

### What comes next?

In response to an email from Mosley, just before the topic was raised at the Feb. 1 work session, Campbell indicated in her email that the project could potentially be funded with ARPA funds under the category of city infrastructure. She said Jade Dundas, capital projects director, gave a cost estimate of around \$2 million for the track around the field, but the city does not yet have detailed estimates and it was only "a guess." Meanwhile, Kelley said with turf improvements finished, the club hopes to return to the field this summer.

Council member Sage Turner, council liaison for the Sports Commission, said Feb. 2 that the city is continuing outreach and due diligence on potential upgrades and amenities at Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park, including bathrooms, lighting, accessibility, turf size, track space and more. "My hope is to find a way to create the vision the neighborhood put forth in earlier years, including a walking track, in a way that does not displace field users," she said. "In the coming months, we'll produce some renderings of the possibilities and seek cost estimates and additional input."

Vice Mayor Sheneika Smith is in strong support of those advocating for the track, and said she believes the organizations can all coexist as long as there is regard for the "legacy users" of the field who have been "historically displaced." Like Mosley, Smith, who grew up in Southside, said she frequented the park growing up, and said if the city turns its focus to the original request, it will be a satisfying effort. "I think it's pretty clear there will be a track," Smith said. "We just have to come up with different scenarios on how to make it work."

Mosley called the Feb. 1 conversation a start in remedying a situation that was allowed to head in the wrong direction. "I think we will be able to rectify the situation, there is certainly enough ARPA funding to do just that," Mosley said. "My hope is that, at some point, conversations can be had with the Sports Commission. I'm not sure if they are truly aware of the history. If they are aware of the history, their position might change."



Sarah Honosky is the city government reporter for the Asheville Citizen Times, part of the USA TODAY Network. News Tips? Email [shonosky@citizentimes.com](mailto:shonosky@citizentimes.com) or message on Twitter at @slhonosky.

Source: Asheville Citizen Times

*"Too often we underestimate the power of touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn life around."*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*

### East End Valley Street Neighbors Helping One Another "2021" Report

#### Working on Community Phone Check — We had 4 neighbors:

- Two (2) laid on the floor for one day
  - One (1) laid out in the yard and crawled back in the house
  - One (1) fell in the house
- Listened to the people in our community  
Paid hospital bill for a Senior Citizen  
Passed out over 1,000 gloves, masks and hand sanitizers (ABIPA & Living Water)  
Provided Flowers (Florist Haywood Road) & Aloe plants (Living Waters ) for over 50 families  
Cleaned up around the neighborhood  
Assisted with cleaning up for the block party  
Provided new Air Conditioning for a family  
For three (3) weeks passed out over 300 boxes of grocery from the General Baptist State Convention

#### Passed out flyers to neighborhood for:

- Energy Savers Network . . . Free Service . . . Home repair
- Buncombe County & Asheville City program . . . Tax Relief (\$500.00)
- Signed over 75 people for the food program assist (Stephens-Lee Center)
- Passed out flyers and books for the food assist program (Stephens-Lee Center)

#### Neighborhood Outings:

- Grocery shopping
  - Rose's (Marion & Morganton)
  - Picked up medicine
  - Paid bills
- Fifteen (15) people signed up for the Dental program  
School supplies were given out to the neighbor children and youth  
Report trash has been dumped in the neighborhood  
Reported goats coming out of the fence twice (City Works Dept.)  
Bear Alert . . . Calling neighbors  
Working on a computer program with a Community College & Stephen Lee  
More programs down at Stephen Lee for Senior Citizens . . . Meeting  
Give aways: Clothes TVs Hotel furniture  
Dinners to the homeless and much, much more.

#### Thank you for all your love, wonderful gifts, cards, Christmas party and check donations to:

Accordius Health at Asheville 500 Beaverdam Road Asheville, NC 28804

- Angel House Family Care Homes  
60 G Hornot Cir, Asheville, NC 28806
  - Chunns Cove Assisted Living  
67 Mountainbrook Rd Asheville, NC 28805
  - Carolina Pines at Asheville  
91 Victoria Road Asheville, NC 28801
  - Hominy Valley Retirement Center  
2189 Smokey Park Hwy Candler NC 28715
  - Pelican Health At Asheville  
1984 Us Hwy 70 in Swannanoa, NC 28778
  - Stone Creek Health & Rehabilitation  
455 Victoria Road Asheville, NC 28801
  - The Laurels of Greentree  
70 Sweeten Creek Rd, Asheville, NC 28803
  - Hospice Care 68 Sweeten Creek Rd, Asheville, NC 28803
- Paid shopping bills for 5 people who did not have enough money for Christmas Gifts for family and grocery.

#### Thanks to all our:

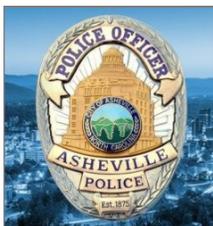
Churches & Families of Friends that are supporters of Nursing Home Gifts and Christmas Celebration. (Cards) Gifts: Home care, Senior Citizens and other places (Ministries) Youth: Socks & Clothes donated to families (Mothers) Clothes & Shoes, household give away

*Thank God for the loving neighbors who made this happen: East End Neighbors, Living Water Ministry, Stephen Lee, Rock Hill Church, Pastor Bacon's Church, Tabernacle Church, Benn Senior Help, Nazareth Church and others.*

More To Come . . .

Submitted by,  
Rev. Luella Whitmire

Matthew 6:4  
Believe That we are Blessed And Be Better By Helping Others.



### We are Working for You!

The safety of our community is always, and remains, a top priority for the Asheville Police Department (APD). Law enforcement is still functioning as normal. Officers continue to respond to calls for service, conduct proactive patrol efforts, and assist the community.

If you require emergency assistance, please contact 9-1-1. If you would like to speak with a police officer or file a police report, please contact our non-emergency number at (828) 252-1110. The public copy of incident reports can be downloaded by using the [Police to Citizen \(P2C\) tool](#).

Our partners in Buncombe County are a great resource for the latest information on our community's COVID-19 response.

[Sign up for AVL Alerts online](#) for information from the City of Asheville.

[Police - The City of Asheville \(ashevillenc.gov\)](#)

**See crime, text it anonymously.**

Tip2APP is for non-emergencies. For emergencies, dial 911.

Daylight Saving Time  
 **Begins**   
March 13

Easter Sunday  
April 17



At its regular meeting on Feb. 1, the Board of Commissioners proclaimed February the first-ever *Black Legacy Month*. Rachel Edens and Tiffany Iheanacho joined Commissioner Whitesides at the podium. Read the full [article here](#).

Normally in February Buncombe County likes to celebrate Black History Month. However, it is important to not just educate ourselves about the history of the black experience in our country, but to honor and raise up the black present, and support the black future in our country. So, this year, let's celebrate Black Legacy Month. Let's not only honor and remember the full history of the United States, but let's celebrate today's black local and national leaders whose legacies will shape future black histories.

[Check out Black Legacy Month at the Library reading collection.](#)

This month Buncombe County is going to honor Black Legacy month by acknowledging local black businesses and organizations, by educating about redlining, highlighting art, culture, and food, through honoring and recognizing our local and nationwide history, and through supporting the current physical and mental health needs of our black communities.

So, let us remember the lasting legacies of our civil rights leaders, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Rosa Parks, W.E.B. Du Bois, Claudette Colvin, Bayard Rustin, Malcom X, and many more (see "[The Undeafated: African Americans Who Shook Up the World](#)"). Let us honor the legacies being created every day today (see "[23 Black Leaders Who Are Shaping History Today](#)"). And let's empower and recognize the youth that will and are already making legacies for our future (see "[6 Young Black Leaders Share the Moments When America Made History Last Year](#)").

Stay tuned for more articles and information that hope to inspire, educate, make us reflect, and make us grow during this great month, and beyond.

Source: [County Center - February is Black Legacy Month \(buncombecounty.org\)](#)

"Won't it be wonderful when black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of U.S. history is taught from one book. Just U.S. history."  
*Maya Angelou*

I had to make my own living and my own opportunity. But I made it! Don't sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them."  
*Madam C.J Walker*

"I know that in life there will be sickness, devastation, disappointments, heartache - it's a given. What's not a given is the way you choose to get through it all. If you look hard enough, you can always find the bright side."  
*Rashida Jones*

"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times, I've been trusted to take the game-winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."  
*Michael Jordan*

Source: *Internet*



Weather Permitting! Join us for another community work day at the Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park on Friday, **February 25** and **March 25** from **2:30pm to 5:30pm!** The park is located at 30 George Washington Carver Avenue. There is parking in the Stephens Lee Recreation Center parking lot. Lynx Bergdahl, from Bountiful Cities, will be guiding us.

Please bring a mask to this event and expect to maintain social distance practices. We will have some extra tools for folks to use as well as hand sanitizer, but any gloves, loppers, pruners or weeding tools you can bring are much appreciated.

This month we'll be focusing on mulching, light tree pruning, and as always, clearing invasives. Will include a hands on demo of each technique as well as a tour of the park. Come give your time and support to Asheville's first edible forest ecosystem! We look forward to seeing you!

The community workdays being presented for the residents of the City of Asheville are in partnership with the City of Asheville.

We usually meet on the 4th Friday of every month from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. For the most up-to-date information, please visit the Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park Facebook

Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Dr-George-Washington-Carver-Edible-Park-620672487948577>

*Helen Lindberg*



## Report Issues

Use The Asheville App to let city workers know about common issues such as:



- Potholes, sidewalk hazards or accessibility issues, street lights, street sign damage, street sign requests
- Abandoned vehicles, injured or deceased animals, hazardous waste
- Overgrown lots, brush collection requests, graffiti
- Fire hydrant leaks, water leaks, stormwater or draining issues
- Planning and zoning, code, or short term rental violations
- Trash collection, litter, trees and right of way

[The City of Asheville - Your Asheville \(ashevillenc.gov\)](http://TheCityofAsheville.com)

# Stephens-Lee Recreation Center

Register at the Center or online at [avlrec.com](http://avlrec.com)

## West African Dance

Tuesdays, April 5 - May 24  
6:30-7:30pm

## Senior Bingo

Thursdays, March 10 and May 12  
10:00-11:00am

## Community Bingo

Fridays, March 18 and May 20  
6:30-9pm

## Second Chance Prom

Saturday, April 2  
7:00-11:00pm

Kimberly Kennedy, Facility Manager  
Stephens-Lee Recreation Center  
30 George Washington Carver Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828-350-2058  
828-552-1888 city cell  
[kkennedy@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:kkennedy@ashevillenc.gov)      [www.ashevillenc.gov](http://www.ashevillenc.gov)  
*She/Her/Hers*

## Information and Resources

**Health and Human Services News and Information** [www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/HHS](http://www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/HHS)

**Asheville Parks and Recreation**  
[www.ashevillenc.gov/departments/parks](http://www.ashevillenc.gov/departments/parks)

**Buncombe Rx Card**  
[www.coast2coastrx.com/buncombe-nc](http://www.coast2coastrx.com/buncombe-nc)

**United Way NC 2-1-1 Information Referral**  
Free and low-cost services and programs to assist you, but they can also connect your call and follow-up to ensure your needs were met. Help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

### Phone Numbers:

- APD Non-Emergency ..... 828-252-1110
- Animal Services..... 828-250-6670
- Justice Resource Center ..... 828-250-6401
- Parks & Recreation ..... 828-250-4260
- Public Health ..... 828-250-5000
- Voter Registration ..... 828-250-4209

**AVL! ALERT** is an emergency and non-emergency notification system that enables the City of Asheville to provide you with the information that you want to receive via the communication methods that you choose. Sign up to receive alerts at: [www.ashevillenc.gov](http://www.ashevillenc.gov)

**BC ALERTS** Sign up for BC ALERTS by texting BCALERT (not case sensitive) to 99411 or VISIT: [BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG/CODERED](http://BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG/CODERED) to sign up for the new system.

## Do you suspect abuse?

To make an adult or child protective services report any time, day or night, call the numbers below:

- Adult Abuse (828) 250-5800
- Child Abuse (828) 250-5900

## Executive Board

- President ..... Renee' White
- Vice President..... Alberta Williams
- Secretary ..... Laura McPherson
- Treasurer ..... Roberta Allen
- Assistant Treasurer ..... Jim Abbott
- Member at Large ..... Helen Lindberg
- Member at Large ..... Lupie Morgan
- Editor..... Vera Williams

Find us at:

[www.eastendvalleystreet.org](http://www.eastendvalleystreet.org)  
Facebook and Nextdoor.com  
Instagram   
[eastendvalleystreet@gmail.com](mailto:eastendvalleystreet@gmail.com)  
PO Box 7341 Asheville NC 28802

**SimpliCity** allows you to search for any address within the city limits of Asheville. Among many other features, SimpliCity provides crime statistics for the address. You can choose from several pre-selected date ranges and define the radius of your search parameter from an eighth of a mile to a mile. Crime information can be viewed on a map or in a data grid. Information provided is the type of crime, the date the crime occurred, block-level address and the incident number. The information can be downloaded into a .csv file. You can also search by neighborhood or along a street. <https://simplicity.ashevillenc.gov/>



Community Crime Map allows users to choose a date range to view criminal activity (up to one year), to select which crimes to view and the opportunity to sign up for a neighborhood watch report that automatically generates an email breakdown of recent criminal activity specific to a particular area. The crime information can be viewed on a map or a data grid. Basic information about the incidents, such as the type of crime, location type, block-level address, and date and time, is also available.

- <https://www.communitycrimemap.com/>
- <https://www.ashevillenc.gov/service/view-crimes-near-me/>

Helen Lindberg