



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](mailto:info@fletchernc.org)  
Facebook: [FletcherNC.Gov](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov)  
Website: [www.fletchernc.org](http://www.fletchernc.org)

## October 2024

### Town Council

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

Sheila Franklin, Mayor Pro-Tem  
District #1.....(828)684-5676

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/  
@TownofFletcherNC/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@TownofFletcherNC/streams).

#### 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 web-  
site at [https://www.fletchernc.org/  
about-us/newsletter/](https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/).

You are encouraged to contact us  
with your questions and/or com-  
ments by emailing them to  
[info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org). For addition-  
al Town information, please visit  
our website at [www.fletchernc.org](http://www.fletchernc.org)  
or visit our Facebook page at  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
FletcherNC.Gov/](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov/).

This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to Hurricane Helene, we were unable to publish our October newsletter at the end of the month per our normal publication schedule. This edition contains information we originally planned to share along with some hurricane related assistance information for our residents. Thank you for your understanding.

### News from the September 9th Town Council Meeting

- Mayor Blakely read a proclamation recognizing September 2024 as National Recovery Month in the Town of Fletcher.
- Mayor Blakely read a proclamation recognizing September 2024 as Suicide Prevention month in the Town of Fletcher.
- Mayor Blakely and Eric Rufa, Planning and Zoning Director, recognized Duane Gentle for his many years of service on the Fletcher Planning and Zoning Board as the extra-territorial jurisdiction representative. He has served in this volunteer capacity since the late 1990's and is now retiring from this Board.
- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
  - Approved property tax releases from the Henderson County Tax Office.
  - Approved Resolution R-24-02 accepting seven Sycamore Cottage streets, along with their related curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, into the Town of Fletcher street system. The newly accepted streets include Cardwell Lane, Greenly Lane, Gorman Lane, Harrelson Lane, Mann Lane, Pullen Lane, and Riddick Lane.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, discussed his continuing research efforts regarding the possibility of establishing a farmers market in Fletcher. His next steps include gauging merchant interest in a farmers market, determining a good location in Fletcher for the market, and determining which day of the week would be best to operate the market.
- Mark Biberdorf shared the proposed Retail Recruitment Plan recently submitted by our consultant, Retail Strategies. The Plan discussed their role and strategy in generating retail communication about the Fletcher Town Center property and their efforts in telling our story in a way that connects with retailers. Their plan included nationwide consumer data along with local retail data on market supply and market demand accompanied by a retail opportunity gap analysis for Fletcher.
- Mark Biberdorf noted that as Fletcher continues to position itself for the development of the Town Center property, the condition of existing retail developments along the Highway 25 corridor may have a bearing on our success. He mentioned the possibility of establishing a grant program or incentive policy, similar to what has been used successfully in other cities, to help existing Highway 25 retail sites enhance the aesthetics and the use of their property.

# Community Shred Event



**Postponed**  
Oct 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

 **First Citizens Bank**

2900 Hendersonville Road in Fletcher

Serving hot dogs,  
chips, & soft drinks  
from  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm.



Fletcher Police Department  
will also be present to collect  
your old medications.

## **Fletcher Canned Food Drive - Cancelled**

Due to the destruction caused by Hurricane Helene and our current restoration focus, we have decided to forgo our annual Fall Food Drive. For those residents that are still able and interested in contributing canned goods, the Calvary Episcopal Church Food Panty and the Fletcher United Methodist Church are distributing food to residents in our area who need assistance. Please consider making any canned food donation directly to one of these churches this year.



## **Thank You to Our Litter Sweep Volunteers**



Christ School students



Thank you to  
Christ School  
students,  
Fletcher resident  
Olaf Snyder, and  
other volunteers  
whom we may  
have been  
unaware.

## **Storm Debris & Brush Removal**

Henderson County will provide free curbside storm debris removal to county residents. They are working with a contractor to pick up storm debris on DOT, municipal, and private roads. **Due to this service, the Town has suspended our brush pick-up and leaf order requests at this time.**

Residents will need to place all items along the road right-of-way or curbside in order for pickup. Please be patient as debris will be up picked as soon as possible, but we have not been told yet as to when they will begin in Fletcher. Storm debris includes tree branches, leaves, logs, building materials, furniture, paint, etc. Please separate household garbage, construction debris, vegetative debris, large appliances, electronics and hazardous waste to expedite the removal process. [This graphic shows how to properly separate trash to expedite the debris removal process.](#)

Another option for cleanup assistance includes contacting the Crisis Cleanup Hotline at 1-844-965-1386 per one of Congressman's Chuck Edwards recent newsletters to WNC residents.

## **From the Office of Chief Terry:**



The Fletcher Police Department participated in the response and subsequent recovery efforts pertaining to Hurricane Helene in many ways. Officers were required to work overtime in response to the hurricane carrying out various tasks. Officers blocked flooded roadways, assisted in evacuating homes, participated in rescuing motorists stranded in flood waters, and conducted approximately 50 welfare checks requested from out-of-town individuals who could not locate or contact friends or family. In addition, officers assisted with the Distribution Center located at Town Hall where food, water, and other necessities were provided to those in need.

As the Fletcher area shows signs of recovery, the department remains mindful of the many that are still struggling through the aftermath of the hurricane as recovery continues. Some lost little, some a lot, and some everything. Throughout the catastrophe, a lot of good has been observed as residents stepped up to help other community members. Let's continue to stand and do what we can for those that continue to struggle.

I'm thankful for the many "givers" who have supported us and helped the department and community during this tough time. I personally have been the recipient of compassion and grace by several people and I am truly grateful to be considered a part of this wonderful community.

# **HURRICANE HELENE RESPONSE INFORMATION**

## **Food Distribution**

The distribution of food at Fletcher Town Hall has been discontinued. Below are areas where food can be found by those needing assistance:

- **Fletcher United Methodist Church** located at 50 Library Road in Fletcher. Open weekdays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. **NOTE:** Please check their Facebook page to ensure they are open as their schedule is based upon their availability of supplies.
- **Calvary Episcopal Food Pantry** located at 2840 Hendersonville Road in Fletcher. Temporarily open Wednesday's from 8:00 am - 11:00 am and every Saturday from 8:00 am - 11:00 am.
- Henderson County is moving to 1 Resource Hub location at 118 McAbee Court, Flat Rock, NC 28731. The Resource Hub will be open: Friday, October 11th, from 12 Noon to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, October 12th, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Each family unit will be provided supplies for one day's meal and water as it is available. Individuals are asked to enter the drive-through Resource Hub and remain in their cars unless instructed otherwise by volunteers, to ensure an efficient process.

## **Financial Donations & Volunteering**

- The Community Foundation of Henderson County has set up a special page for Hurricane Relief and Recovery found at <https://www.cfhcforever.org/donors/helene-relief>. Donors may choose among funds specifically for Henderson County and the surrounding area, WNC recovery, and Lake Lure and Chimney Rock.
- If you are interested in volunteering, the United Way of Henderson County is managing volunteers in our County. You can sign up to volunteer at <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/3613728180100/false#/invitation>.

## **Rebuilding in Town of Fletcher Floodplain Areas**

New construction in designated floodplains must meet current regulations in the Town of Fletcher. If you have been damaged by Hurricane Helene and are located within a FEMA designated floodplain, you must wait until your structure has been assessed to determine if "substantial damage" rules will apply to your repairs and/or reconstruction. Starting on or around Tuesday, October 15th, representatives from McGill Associates will begin important work within Fletcher on the Town's behalf. They will be doing assessments of properties within officially designated floodplains to compile a list of properties damaged beyond 50% of their value. In cases where a structure is damaged beyond 50%, the owner would have to rebuild in compliance with current floodplain guidelines. McGill representatives will have identification showing they work for McGill Associates and our Fletcher Planning and Zoning Director, Eric Rufa, will also be with them as much as possible.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Eric Rufa at 828-687-3985.

## **Town Information Updates**

- Town of Fletcher trash and recycling pickup remain on their normal schedule.
- The Town has temporarily stopped our brush and leaf weekly pickup. Please ensure you read the newsletter article entitled "Storm Debris & Brush Removal" on page 2 for how this service will be continued.
- Please visit the Town of Fletcher Facebook Page found at <https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov> for changes in services, road closings, etc. that we become aware of daily. We are also posting these same important updates on the first page of our Town website found at <https://www.fletchernc.org/>.

## **Emotional Health & Recovery Resources**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, many in our community are facing tough challenges. You do not have to navigate this alone, support is here. If you or someone you know is struggling or in a crisis, help is available.

You can call or text 9-8-8, or chat [www.988Lifeline.org](http://www.988Lifeline.org) to reach a trained counselor who can provide support in a mental health, substance use, or suicide crisis. Visit the Behavioral Health & Recovery Resources page of Henderson County at <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/em/page/henderson-county-behavioral-health-recovery-resources-helene-response> for additional updates and information for support.

## **Henderson County Curfew**

Henderson County has lifted the county-wide curfew, effective at 7:00 a.m., Thursday, October 10, 2024.

## **Henderson County Information**

For additional information regarding Henderson County restoration efforts and resident assistance, please visit the Henderson Co. Emergency Management website at <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/em/page/emergency-information>.

## Fletcher Library Opportunities in October



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

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

**CLOSINGS:** We will be closed Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, for staff training. Normal operating hours resume on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**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. Thank you to all who donate to this program.

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

**Goodwill Career Connections** Every Wednesday (10:00am-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.

**Knitting for a Cause Group (All Ages)** Saturday, October 12th (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.

**Chair Exercises (Adults)** Tuesday, October 15th (2:00pm-3:00pm) **\*\* REGISTRATION & EXERCISE WAIVER REQUIRED \*\***

This class is a low-impact strength training program that involves both seated and standing exercises. Hand weights and/or ankle weights are helpful for the class if you have those available. Please consult with your medical professional before attending. Class members will be required to sign a waiver before participating.

**Pilates Mat Exercise (Adults)** Thursday, October 17th (1:30pm-2:30pm) **\*\* EXERCISE WAIVER REQUIRED \*\***

Whole body fitness! Strengthen your core and improve your spinal flexibility and balance. Classes are free and open to the public. No registration required. Contact the Fletcher Library for more information. This free program is funded by the Friends of the Library.

**Paws for Reading (Children)** Saturday, October 19th (10:30am-12:00pm) **\*\* REGISTRATION REQUIRED \*\***

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

**Check 'Em Out Book Club (Adults)** Monday, October 21st (11:00am-12:00pm)

Join the Fletcher Library Book Club for good books and good conversation! We will meet on the third Monday this month.

**Medicare Fraud, Scams, and Abuse Protection and Reporting (Adults)** Monday, October 21st (2:00pm-3:00pm) This program is for those currently on Medicare and their caregivers. Learn how to protect and report Medicare fraud. The Council on Aging of Buncombe County in conjunction with the SHIIP (Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program) is offering a free educational series all about Medicare insurance and understanding how the parts work together.

TOWN OF FLETCHER PRESENTS:

# HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT



Registration required - Opens:  
Oct. 14th for Fletcher Residents  
Oct. 15th for Non Fletcher Residents

Candy - Inflatables - Face Painting  
**OCT 26TH: 12-2 PM**  
HOSTED BY HUNTER SUBARU  
220 HUNTER AIRPORT DR.  
FLETCHER, NC



Sponsors:






Town of Fletcher Presents:

# VETERAN'S SALUTE & BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND - 9:00AM  
AT FLETCHER TOWN HALL  
Keynote Speaker - Alan J. Yeck

**HONORING ALL WHO SERVED**

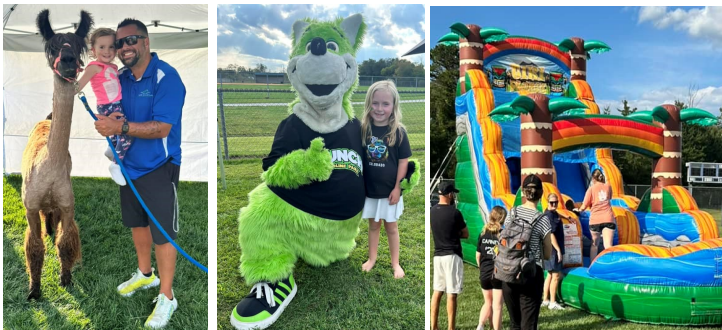
Following the presentation, continental breakfast will be provided to all veterans and guests

Event made possible by:



MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
Saturday, Oct 26th	Halloween Carnival <b>**NOTE EVENT CHANGES ABOVE</b>	Noon - 2:00 pm
Saturday, Nov 2nd	Veteran's Salute Breakfast Fletcher Town Hall	9:00 am
Sunday, Nov 3rd	Daylight Savings Time Ends Kates & Pete's Park Hours Change	Park closes at dark
Saturday, Dec 7th	Christmas Event	To be determined

**Fun at the Fletcher Family Festival on September 21st**



**Update on Bill Moore Community Park**

Unfortunately, Bill Moore Community Park sustained significant damage from Hurricane Helene winds, rain, and flood waters. As a result, Bill Moore Community Park is **CLOSED INDEFINITELY** and we are not accepting usage reservations of any kind for Bill Moore Park. There are trees down, fences down, fields under water, dog park equipment found floating in the park, pickleball courts under water and covered with mud, etc. In order for the Town of Fletcher to work with our insurance company and FEMA assistance, we need the park to remain closed undisturbed without any visitors. There will come a time in which volunteers will be needed, but we are not at that point yet. Instead, now we seek your assistance by **NOT ENTERING THE PARK.**

Kate's & Pete's Park located beside the Fletcher Library is still open however and has a playground, a walking track, and picnic tables. It is open to the public from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm with no reservations being accepted for it at least through October.

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

### [2024 General Election Early Voting Info](#)

#### **ONLY ONE EARLY VOTING LOCATION:**

Henderson County Board of Elections  
75 E. Central Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28792

#### **Early Voting Dates and Times:**

October 17-18	8:00 am to 7:30 pm
October 19	8:00 am to 2:00 pm
October 21-25	8:00 am to 7:30 pm
October 28-November 1	8:00 am to 7:30 pm
November 2	8:00 am to 3:00 pm

#### **Sample ballots can be found at:**

<https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/elections>

For more information on voting in this election, contact the Henderson County Board of Elections at 828-697-4970 or email them at [hcelections@hendersoncountync.gov](mailto:hcelections@hendersoncountync.gov).

**November 5th Election Day voting will be at your assigned precinct**

### **Hurricane Financial Assistance**

For any residents that sustained damage, you have 60 days to complete the FEMA application if you plan to apply for FEMA assistance (unless the deadline is extended). There are several ways to apply: online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) (ensure it ends in .gov rather than any other extension); download the FEMA App on your cell phone; or call 800-621-3362 from 7am to 11pm EST daily. Be prepared to share personal info such as your social security number, banking info if you choose direct deposit, your property insurance info, etc. If you need assistance completing the FEMA application, Pisgah Legal Services is providing assistance at 828-210-3404.

NC Disaster Unemployment Assistance information is available for those who have lost jobs due to the hurricane at [www.des.nc.gov/dua](http://www.des.nc.gov/dua) or by calling the Disaster Unemployment Assistance hotline at 919-629-3857. Small business loan information is available at <https://lending.sba.gov/search-disaster/> or by calling 800-659-2955. Most of these resources have application deadlines, so you need to act somewhat quickly.