



Happy Holidays

November–December 2020

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Letter from the President



Renee White

Happy Holidays to all of the East End Community and to your families!

This year certainly has been a challenge to say the least. Our lives have been forever changed and our normal has been uprooted to become abnormal. We have not been able to physically see each other in person or even give each other a big hug. Many of us spend many hours glued to a computer or on cell phones because you are working or it's the way to communicate with each other.

We are still in the midst of a huge pandemic and our Country is still divided in many ways. Even with all of the negative there is still hope. Hope that we will continue to be strong and resilient. Hope that our Nation will heal and repair all of the racial injustices, racism, hate and bigotry that exists. Hope that we will get to see each other person to person and be able to show love again. Hope that our Communities will grow and prosper. Hope that every human being is treated with respect and kindness. Hope that the homeless will find a home, hope that the hungry will have food, hope that the children will become our future leaders, hope that love will replace hate, hope that our Leaders will have compassion and lead with dignity, hope that everyone will recognize there is no big me and little you, and hope that tomorrow will be a brighter day. I hope that we all know **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER!!!**

Happy Holidays and I look forward to a brand new beginning in 2021.

Renee' White, President



Please let us know the best way to contact you about events in the neighborhood or updated on what may be happening in East End. Send information to our PO Box 7341, Asheville NC 28802.

Email us at our website or call 252 258 9744 to talk to President Renee White.

East End /Valley Street Neighborhood Association

Conference Call Meeting

Thursday, **January 14, 2021 at 6 pm**
Phone number to call is **1-602-610-2079**
and the code is **259858**.

Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park Update



After many months on hiatus due to the pandemic, the Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park workdays are up and running again. The park is located at 30 George Washington Carver Avenue. There is parking available in the Stephens - Lee parking lot. The workdays will be a recurring event every third Friday of the month led by Bountiful Cities' Alex Bergdahl.

If you plan on attending the workdays, please wear a mask and maintain social distancing. There will be 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. Stephens-Lee is not open to the public so restrooms will not be available. You might see children in and out of the facility, but Stephens-Lee is only open for the learning pods program for right now due to Covid-19.

The start and end time varies. For the most up to date information about the workday, please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/Dr-George-Washington-Carver-Edible-Park-620672487948577> or contact EastEndValleyStreet@gmail.com

Alex Bergdahl

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CONGRATULATIONS

2020 Cothinkk Leadership Award Winners

On November 14, EEVS President Renee' White and EEVS Community Gardener Tamarya Sims were awarded Cothinkk Leadership awards! This year's event was hosted virtually on Zoom due to the pandemic and the theme was "Interrupting the Now: Reimagining the Future".

CoThinkk is an organization dedicated to social change philanthropy by investing in communities of color to accelerate positive changes in Asheville and Western North Carolina.

Helen Lindberg



Renee' White

Tamarya Sims

New Community Resource Officer Assigned to EEVS Neighborhood

The East End/Valley Street Neighborhood has a new Community Resource Officer, **Sarah Baker**. Should you need to contact Officer Baker her email address is sbaker@ashevillenc.gov.



The Police non-emergency number is (828) 252-1110. If it is an emergency, call 911.



"Be present in all things and thankful for all things."

Maya Angelou

Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.

William Arthur Ward

Be thankful for what you have, you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough.

Oprah Winfrey

"Thank you' is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding."

Alice Walker

EEVS New Community Garden



East End/Valley Street has a new community garden next to the Stephens-Lee Recreation Center parking lot and the Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park. It was established in September with funds from a National

Recreation & Parks Association Nutrition Grant that was awarded to Stephens-Lee Recreation Center and with help from EEVS Community Gardener Tamarya Sims, Bountiful Cities' Alex Bergdahl and volunteers. The garden will get it's official name soon. If you have an idea for the name of the garden, please send it to EastEndValleyStreet@gmail.com. Volunteer opportunities are limited right now due to Covid-19 but keep an eye out for opportunities in the spring.



Helen Lindberg

See crime, text it anonymously.

Text the keyword
TIP2APD
 and your tip to
847411

Tip2APD is for non-emergencies. For emergencies, dial 911.

The Christmas Wreath Meaning and Symbolism



Each part of the Christmas wreath has a meaning in keeping with the season.

The Circle: Traditional wreaths are in the form of a circle. This circle has numerous meanings, both to Christians and non-Christians alike:

- ~The eternal presence of God, with no beginning and no end
- ~The cycle of the seasons, from spring to winter and eventually to spring again
- ~The hope of life renewing itself
- ~The hope of eternal life through Christ, the Savior
- ~The unending love of God

Materials in the Wreath: The early wreaths were made out of several evergreen materials. The evergreens in general represent continuity and survival through difficult times. Each evergreen used, however, also has a meaning:

- ~Holly represents the crown of thorns that Christ wore at the Crucifixion
- ~Pine, holly and yew symbolize eternal life
- ~Cedar stands for healing
- ~Laurel represents the conquest over pain and suffering
- ~Pine cones, seeds, and nuts represent birth and rebirth

Colors: The traditional Christmas colors of red and green also have symbolic meaning. Green represents the life and growth. For Christians, it stands for the eternal life of the soul. Red signifies the blood Christ shed on the cross.

Source: christmas.lovetoknow.com

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Health and Human Services News and Information www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/HHS

Asheville Parks and Recreation
www.ashevillenc.gov/departments/parks

Buncombe Rx Card
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



Housing Assistance Program Available for Those Affected by Pandemic-Related Losses

Buncombe County residents who **are struggling to pay for rent, mortgage or utilities**, **Buncombe County's COVID Housing Assistance Program may be able to help.** According to Economic Services Director Phillip Hardin, "We want our community to know that financial assistance is available to support community members impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic who need support with rent, mortgage, or utilities." To qualify to receive relief funds earmarked for the Housing Assistance Program, households must meet the following eligibility requirements: (1) The applicant/household lost income due to COVID-19; (2) There is a sustainability plan to pay shelter expenses going forward after the County assists with past due bills; (3) Income limit of 200% of the federal poverty level (\$52,400) for a family of four.

Buncombe County is now accepting inquiries and applications. Please fill out the Inquiry Assistance Form at: <https://www.buncombecounty.org/countycenter/news> and return to Buncombe County Health and Human Services or call (828) 250-5500 to be connected with a caseworker to start the application process.

Source: buncombecounty.org

Food Pantry Coming Soon!



The Pantry is a collaborative effort with Bountiful Cities of Asheville, St. James AME Church and East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association. The pantry will provide free food and supplies for anyone in need. We are asking that nonperishable items you wish to donate to the Pantry are given to the

Church or Neighborhood Association before they are placed. Due to Covid, items will be sanitized. The Pantry will be located at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Hildebrand Street, across from St. James AME Church.

Renee' White
Photo Credit: Leslie Abbott



City of Asheville's Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Through a variety of boards and commissions established by Asheville City Council, citizens can provide input on the policies that shape their government and their city. There are currently more than 30 boards and commissions that advise the Mayor and City Council on a array of issues. Board members and commissioners generally serve as unpaid volunteers. **Want to be notified when new vacancies are announced?** Contact boards@ashevillenc.gov to be added to the distribution list.

Unless otherwise stated, the **application deadline for these vacancies is December 28 at 5:00 P.M.** City Council is scheduled to make appointments at the January 12 Council Meeting. For more information visit: <https://www.ashevillenc.gov/department/city-clerk/boards-and-commissions/>

Give the Following Gifts:

- To your enemyforgiveness
- To your opponenttolerance
- To a friend your heart
- To a customerservice
- To all men charity
- To every child a good example
- To yourself respect

Author Unknown: www.thoughts-about-God.com
 Reprinted from 2017

Stay Safe
and Healthy



Executive Board

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