

the

serving residents of the Fisher Park Neighborhood

# Fisher Parker

JULY 2005

## UPCOMING SOCIALS

The emphasis is on neighborhood safety during our annual **National Night Out Against Crime** ice cream social set for August 2, 2005, at 7 p.m. Police and fire fighters (with the truck!) join us at the east Fisher Park playground for generous scoops of ice cream and conversation.



In October, youngsters will be excited about our first **Halloween Parade and Party** for Fisher Park children the afternoon of Saturday, October 29. We'll parade along Fisher Park Circle, ending at the Temple Emanuel Social Hall on North Greene Street, with treats and snacks for young ghosties and goblins. (Look for details in our October Fisher Parker.)

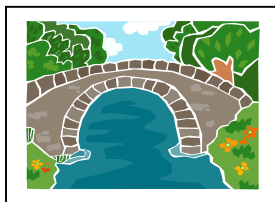
## KNOW THY NEIGHBORHOOD

We write, print, and deliver Fisher Parker newsletters at least four times/year to over 800 properties in the Fisher Park neighborhood, using significant volunteer efforts of about 35 neighbors (writers, editors, Block Captains, etc.) That's more communication than most neighborhoods ever imagine! Between newsletters, you can receive more current news by subscribing to the Fisher Park e-mail list and visiting our neighborhood Website (please see addresses on last page). Any board member can help you access these electronic resources, so just call and ask!

And if you wish to volunteer for neighborhood positions or tasks, there are plenty to go around. We seek five new members every year for our 15-member neighborhood Board. Self-nominations are encouraged! Please volunteer well before November 1, prior to our November 20 neighborhood annual meeting. Contact any Board member listed on the back page of this newsletter.

## STREAM ENHANCEMENT DISCUSSIONS

Neighborhood residents were invited – via e-mail and signs – to Fisher Park on Monday, July 11, at 6 p.m. to meet with David Phlegar of the City Stormwater Division and ask questions about long-discussed enhancements in Fisher Park. Seventeen neighbors attended. Phlegar reviewed the following primary points:



## CALENDAR

### CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUP

Most Wednesdays, 4 p.m.  
East Fisher Park Playground  
275-8833

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME – ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Tuesday, August 2, 7 p.m.  
East Fisher Park, Rain or Shine  
*Volunteers Needed, 333-2299*

### PARK WORK DAY

Saturday, Sep. 10, 9-11 a.m.  
East and West Fisher Park  
272-0999

### DOG SHOW-OFF

Saturday, September 24, 9-11 a.m.  
East Fisher Park – 272-3498

### HALLOWEEN PARTY/PARADE

Saturday, Oct. 29, Afternoon  
Fisher Park Circle. Details TBA.  
274-8361

### GREEN HILL CEMETERY TOUR

Sunday, October 30, 2 p.m.  
Southern-most gate. Weather permitting.  
370-0457

### 2006 BOARD NOMINATIONS DUE TO PAST PRESIDENT

Tuesday, Nov. 1 – Russ Clegg, 574-1879

### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Holy Trinity Church, Sun., Nov. 20, 4 p.m.

### LUMINARIA DISPLAY

Sunday, December 11, dusk  
Rain date Sunday, December 18

- The proposed project is to “daylight” 300 feet of stream, currently in an underground culvert immediately east of Elm Street.
- The primary gain would be improved stream habitat.
- The primary loss would be much of the grass area in that section of the east park.

The neighborhood Board wants to hear more neighbors’ reactions before making recommendations to City Parks and Recreation and Water Resources departments. This will be discussed at upcoming Board meetings, so please attend if you have questions, further insight, or preferences about whether or not the Board should support proposed Fisher Park stream enhancements. Monthly Board meetings are held in the Holy Trinity Church education building. Meeting dates and time are listed on the back of each newsletter.

### MAILBOX CONTEST WINNERS

**D**uring our Fisher Park **Welcome Summer** party on June 19, we announced the winners of our **Fisher Park Mailbox Contest**, originally advertised in the May Fisher Parker newsletter. Congratulations to our three winners! They received Italian Florentine note cards along with thanks for *enlivening* neighborhood mailboxes.



- Our most whimsical mailbox sports a doggie face and tail at 251 Isabel Street.
- Our most attractive nontraditional mailbox is a tin basket offering “BonJour” at 1003 North Eugene.
- And our Postman’s “favorite” mailbox is a sturdy 1950s classic “Post” box at 908 North Eugene Street.

Thanks to all who participated! We'd like to engage the neighborhood is similar just-for-fun contests in the future. Send your ideas for contests, and offer prizes if you can, via the newsletter editors (listed on back page.) And many thanks to Keith Hyler and Michael Byrd for hosting an elegant Welcome Summer party in their lovely back yard.

### SUCCESSFUL PARK WORKDAY IN MAY

**O**n Saturday, May 28 we enjoyed a record turnout for our Fisher Park Work Day. Bolstered by a large group of volunteers from Delancy Street house on Elm Street, 28 neighbors participated, cutting undergrowth, pulling weeds, spreading mulch, and removing debris from the stream. Thanks to our Park Committee for organizing this Park Work Day and capturing it in photographs. Bill (Buck) Nutt of Williamsburg on the Park townhomes is a new Park Committee volunteer, joining the other eight Park Committee members, plus Suzie the Dog. Our next Park Work Day is Saturday, September 10, 9–11 a.m. in both east and west Fisher Park. Will we see you there? For information, contact Park Committee Chairperson Carl Myatt, 272-0999.



### DOG DAYS IN FISHER PARK

**A**t the suggestion of neighbor Jamie Mollet, our Park Committee plans a Dog Show-Off in east Fisher Park on Saturday September 24, 9-11 a.m. This is a friendly, non-competitive get-together to “show off” friendly neighborhood dogs of all shapes and sizes. All participants will win! Organizers will also point out the locations of our new dog poop pickup bags and remind neighbors about city leash laws. Whether or not you have a dog, you’re invited to enjoy the event.

Participating dogs must be current on their shots, must obey a basic “sit” command, and must be leashed. The canine-inclined may contact Jamie Mollet, 700 Magnolia St., 272-3498.

### A MATURE TREE'S VALUE

**T**he *Council for Tree and Landscape Appraisers* reports that a mature tree can increase a property's value by \$1,000 to \$10,000. Mature trees, property placed, also reduce air conditioning bills dramatically. The Fisher Park neighborhood remains blessed with many magnificent mature trees. As these gracefully age, please consider planting new, young trees along our streets and in our yards to initiate the next generation of neighborhood canopy trees. And when contemplating landscape changes, please remember that those of us living in the Historic District require prior approval to remove any tree if the trunk is over 4-in. diameter at chest height. Each hot summer day as we trek along our shady streets, we can feel temperatures drop in the shade and pause to reflect on the economic and environmental value of our mature neighborhood trees.



### CLEARING THE AIR

**D**r. Debbie Leiner Fields, a local Pediatrician and Fisher Park neighbor, shares awareness of environmental concerns within in our neighborhood. “Summer is barely upon us and the Triad is already experiencing orange alerts warning us that ozone levels make it unsafe for even healthy children to play outdoors for prolonged periods.” What to look for:

- Pollutant: Ozone
- Value: 104
- Quality: Unhealthy for sensitive groups. Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.

Each of us can adopt personal behaviors to help keep our air cleaner and safer, especially for the many young children and elderly residents of Fisher Park. Living so close to recreational and commercial areas makes it especially easy for Fisher Parkers to walk more and drive less, one of many practices we can adopt as environmentally responsible citizens. Visit the Triad Chapter of the NC Division of Air Quality website to become “air aware.”

[www.co.forsyth.nc.us/EnvAffairs/triadair/tips.htm](http://www.co.forsyth.nc.us/EnvAffairs/triadair/tips.htm)

### PILATES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**C**an't generate enough enthusiasm to drive to the gym? There are exercise classes right in the neighborhood. Pilates classes are Monday and Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. in the Temple Emanuel Social Hall, 713 North Greene Street. \$15/class, or \$20 two classes/week, or \$122/month – you can simply participate when it's convenient. Since we've run out of excuses to exercise, perhaps we'll see you there! Contact Michael Byrd (274-8361).

### NEW BLOCK CAPTAINS AND NEIGHBORHOOD GREETERS

**W**e're pleased to announce that neighborhood business owners, Elisabeth Crosby and Barre Burks, CPAs at 107-A/B East Bessemer Avenue, have volunteered as Block Captains for the block bounded by Wendover Avenue and Bessemer, Magnolia, and Elm streets.

Their refurbished yellow brick house-turned-office retains its original residential character while functioning as their CPA business. They've gone out of their way to create a flower garden that calms summer traffic on East Bessemer, as drivers slow to admire the view. We encourage neighbors on the block to visit Elisabeth and Barre or contact them at [ehccp1@aol.com](mailto:ehccp1@aol.com) or [nitehiker9@aol.com](mailto:nitehiker9@aol.com) or 274-5440 or 272-2100, respectively.

Our volunteer Neighborhood Greeters listen and watch for new neighbors, and when they know about newcomers, attempt to visit the new household and provide information including recent Fisher Parker newsletters, a Historic District Guidelines Manual (when required), a neighborhood map, and many other items.

Due the size of our neighborhood, from Wendover Avenue to Church Street to Smith Street to Battleground Avenue to Wharton Street (and Green Hill Cemetery, our quietest neighbors), we've recently recruited additional volunteer greeters: Cara Medina, Janet and David Craft, Jacqueline Oliver, and Rachel Canon-Percival. Our greeters aren't yet clairvoyant, so if you are or have a new neighbor, please contact a neighborhood Greeter listed on the back page. If neighborhood businesses wish to donate small greeting "treats" or gift certificates, please contact our Greeters with your offerings. Thanks to these active new neighborhood greeters, we have the opportunity to both welcome and inform all those who choose Fisher Park as their home.

#### NEW NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR

**S**onya Lowe, a consulting Paralegal who lives in our neighborhood, has generously volunteered to assume our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator tasks. Sonya reminds us to call the Police Department (emergency 911 or non-emergency **373-2222**) to report suspicious activities.

- Provide your name and address (or report anonymously), briefly describe the event (what happened, when, where, and who was involved).
- Describe the suspect (gender, race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, distinctive characteristics such as beard, mustache, scars, or accent).
- Describe any vehicle involved (color, make, model, year, license plate, and special features such as stickers, dents, or decals.)

It also helps to let Sonya and other neighbors know by posting concerns/experiences on our neighborhood e-mail list. (Please see back page for addresses to subscribe and to post.)

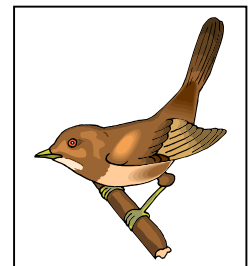
#### ANDERSON GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH SETTLES IN

**I**n 2002 we welcomed another church to the Fisher Park neighborhood when Anderson Grove Baptist Church purchased the former Temple Emanuel Educational Building at the intersection of North Greene and Florence Street. First organized by Rev. Eugene Anderson, meeting in a church member's home in 1940, the congregation of now close to 300 enjoys its fourth "home" at 424 Fisher Park Circle.

Among many ministries, two of special interest are LIGHT (Ladies In Christ Growing Healthier Together), as well as Pastor Adrian Starks's unique Tender Warriors men's ministry, created to raise men's spiritual awareness of their talents and responsibilities. To learn more about our new church neighbor, members of Anderson Grove Baptist invite neighbors to visit any day. 574-0202, <http://www.agbcgso.org/>

#### FINE FEATHERED FRIENDS IN FISHER PARK

**E**arly this summer, former Mayor Carolyn Allen led a group of bird enthusiasts through Fisher Park. She reported they observed 40 different species of birds. Allen provided us with a full list of birds sighted, in AOU (American Ornithological Union) order. A brief rundown of species they observed includes: doves, woodpeckers, swifts, flycatchers, peewees, jays, titmice, chickadees, nuthatches, wrens, catbirds, mockingbirds, thrashers, robins, waxwings, vireos, warblers, redstarts, yellowthroats, cowbirds, grackles, starlings, orioles, sparrows, finches, cardinals, grosbeaks, goldfinches, and towhees. Allen remarked, "Why Fisher Park remains such a grand place for migrating birds no one quite knows, but we certainly hope it keeps its allure." Allen offers to speak with anyone interested in local birding. Call 288-3045.



#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Thanks to our 30 Block Captains, five Greeters, a Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, 15 Board members, and various committee members (park, socials, newsletter, Web site, etc.), our neighborhood enjoys a high level of neighborhood volunteerism and participation *dispersed throughout* our neighborhood. *Yet there are plenty more tasks to share!*

Neighbors offering skilled experience with Web site HTML coding, spreadsheets, newsletter advertising management, and tracking city issues affecting our neighborhood (such as rezonings) would be appreciated. To increase your participation, contact neighborhood President Allison Manning or any neighborhood Board member.

## HOUSE SALVATION

**F**irst Presbyterian Church again seeks more parking spaces and intends to submit a request to Greensboro's Historic Preservation Commission to demolish the house/office at 620 North Elm Street and replace it with another paved parking lot. (They also own the adjacent parking lot.)

Over 20 years ago, forward-thinking Fisher Park residents slowed the onslaught of old home destruction on Elm Street by creating our Historic District at a time when Elm Street seemed destined to become nothing but a series of new big-box offices and asphalt parking lots. Historic District designation protects a building for 365 days, during which time there are opportunities to investigate and negotiate alternatives. Is there a new generation of preservation-minded neighbors prepared to step up and envision new solutions?



Creative alternatives can save this house. Hundreds of free, unused parking spaces nearby, in the School Board lots and Smith Street deck, are easily walkable and a quick shuttle ride. The house could be lifted up and fitted with an attractive foundation, creating protected parking on the first level, retaining the entire residential/office space. (Tall, three-story Magnolia Place condos will be next door. We'd hoped developer Stratton would accept the house, but his plans were set.) Nearby owners of less historic properties could be approached for a swap. And as a last resort, the house itself is offered free to anyone who will move it.

Over ten years ago, the larger McAllister house was moved from Greene Street, carried up Fisher Avenue, and resettled next to the Carlson property, making room for First Presbyterian's on-going Life Center project. Today, fewer accessible large lots remain nearby, but we are documenting available lots if a move were the last resort. Start envisioning! Can you envision this home set along the park's edge, on Elm Street, used as a neighborhood facility? Highly experienced local house movers gladly provide free cost estimates. We're listening for all suggestions you bring to the table to make good use of this graceful neighborhood home/office.

Whatever the choices, this project requires a significant effort to envision and plan alternatives to simple destruction for yet another asphalt parking lot. If you appreciate the preservation efforts our neighbors made in 1982, which insured North Elm Street today is not lined with big-box office buildings and parking lots, then step-up to participate in a mutually beneficial solution for this fine old home. Contact 370-0457 to conceive solutions!

## ASG PRESERVATION GRANTS

**V**olunteers of Architectural Salvage of Greensboro (ASG) are pleased to announce the availability twice a year of grant applications for projects that encourage the faithful restoration and maintenance of buildings, preserving Greensboro's architectural heritage. Repairing an original slate roof or restoring exterior decorative wooden brackets are examples of projects ASG considers for grant requests. Grants are between \$500 and \$10K, must meet U.S. Park Service Secretary of the Interior Standards, and will cover no more than 50% of the project's costs, yet certainly provide significant financial assistance. (Consider ASG grants when envisioning the previous article!)

Each year, volunteers with Architectural Salvage of Greensboro (several of whom are Fisher Park neighbors) contribute hundreds of volunteer hours salvaging materials such as doors, windows, mantels, sinks, light fixtures, decorative brackets, hardware, etc. from old buildings scheduled for demolition or remodeling. Donors receive tax deductions for donated materials. Salvaged treasures are for sale in ASG's retail showroom at 300 Bellemeade Street in downtown Greensboro. Income from salvaged material sales covers operating expenses and is directed toward local building preservation projects through ASG grants. For information about grant requirements, applications, or volunteering on local salvages, sale of salvaged items, or retail showroom hours, please e-mail [asg@blandwood.org](mailto:asg@blandwood.org).

Fisher Park Neighborhood Association P. O. Box 2043, Greensboro, NC 27401-1612 CONTACTS – 2005			
Board of Directors			
Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
President (2005)	Allison Manning	275-8833	abdmanning@yahoo.com
President-Elect (2006)	David Shub	274-0363	shub99@yahoo.com
Secretary (2006)	Roger Seel	275-3470	rseel@triad.rr.com
Treasurer (2006)	Blair Barton-Percival	273-3365	bfb4@cornell.edu
Past President ExOfficio	Russ Clegg	574-1879	russang@aol.com
Board (2007)	Erick Adamson	272-9515	eadamson.mail@earthlink.net
Board (2005)	Michael Byrd	274-8361	michaellbyrd1@aol.com
Board (2005)	Robert Carter	378-1974	abandrob@triad.rr.com
Board (2005)	Carla Copeland-Burns	274-4095	carlacopelandburns@hotmail.com
Board (2005)	Nina Dabbs	230-0422	nsdabbs@aol.com
Board (2007)	Jim Jeffries	691-8981	jimjeffries@mvalaw.com
Board (2006)	Todd McCain	333-2299	stmccain@aol.com
Board (2007)	Cheryl Poole	275-0333	cherylp@triad.rr.com
Board (2007)	Carol Stoneburner	379-9193	cstonebu@guilford.edu
Board (2007)	Ann Stringfield	370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
Board (2005)	George Weldon	379-0902	george_weldon@vfc.com
Other Contacts			
Newsletter	Ann Stringfield	370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
	Liz Urquhart	373-1250	liz.urquhart@ugcorp.com
Webmaster	Ann Stringfield	370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
Park Committee	Carl Myatt	272-0999	cmyatt3363@aol.com
Northeast Side Greeter	Cara Medina	275-9268	Carat78@hotmail.com
Southeast Side Greeter	Janet and David Craft	274-3420	chsyhkr@bellsouth.net
West Side Greeter	Jacqueline Oliver	273-0097	JacquiMM@aol.com
West Side Greeter	Rachel Cannon-Percival	273-3365	purplepercival@yahoo.com
Neighborhood Watch	Sonya Lowe	389-9686	srlowe@triad.rr.com
Young Fisher Park Playgroup	Allison Manning	275-8833	abdmanning@yahoo.com
Social Committee	Michael Byrd	274-8361	michaellbyrd1@aol.com
City Council Representative	Claudette Burroughs-White	379-0050	burroughswhite@prodigy.net
County Commissioner Rep.	Kay Cashion	274-6272	kcashion@co.guilford.nc.us
Schedule	Monthly neighborhood association meetings are held 6:00 p.m. the Monday before the final Wednesday of each month. Call Allison Manning, President, to confirm dates. Board meetings are open to all residents; currently set for July 25, August 29, September 26, October 24, and November 28. (December meeting is typically not set this early in the year.)		

City of Greensboro and Other Contacts		
Department/Company	Purpose	Phone
City Customer Contact Center	Directs citizen calls to appropriate City departments.	373-2723
City Historic District Staff	Historic district guidelines, application for certificate of appropriateness, <b>free</b> advice.	373-2349
Zoning Enforcement	Parking in front yards, historic district guidelines.	373-2630
Ordinance Enforcement	Housing inspections, abandoned vehicles, lot cleanup.	373-2111
Duke Power	Streetlight outage.	378-9451
Police Central Division	Help for emergencies and non-emergencies/enforcement.	Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: 373-2222
Police Central Division– Community Resource Officer	Corporal Greg Gardner	373-2486 Greg.gardner@ greensboro-nc.gov
Fisher Park ListServ	Subscribe: <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fisherpark/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fisherpark/</a>	Submit e-mail: <a href="mailto:fisherpark@yahoo.com">fisherpark@ yahoogroups.com</a>