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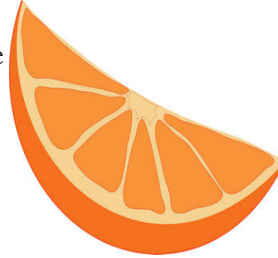
serving residents of the Fisher Park Neighborhood

Fisher Parker

June 2010

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Come out, chill out, and taste fruity flavors of Hawaiian Ice during our neighborhood's annual celebration of National Night Out Against Crime, Tuesday, August 3, 6:30 p.m., at the east Fisher Park playground. Fisher Park T-shirts are for sale for \$10 and Neighborhood Watch home window decals are three for \$1. You and your children will enjoy meeting our district police officers and firefighters.



All who work or live in our neighborhood, which spans from Church Street to Smith Street to Wharton Street to Wendover Avenue, are encouraged to participate in all Fisher Park neighborhood events. And we appreciate everyone who joins the Fisher Park e-mail listserv and posts issues of interest or concern, so neighbors as well as police are alerted promptly to suspicious or criminal activity. Turn on your porch lights, a National Night Out Against Crime habit encouraged year-round!

SOUTHERN STATES DONATES PLANTS

Admiring the begonias and portulaca blooming in concrete planters adorning entrances and walkways of Fisher Park? We have many people to thank. Southern States at 6199 Lake Brandt Road (336-644-7610) donated 10 floral flats and discounted additional flats, Stephen Dull of Fisher Park Circle and Sally Atwood of Simpson Street coordinated the "Adopt a Planter" project, and over 15 neighbors filled planters to the brim with multi-color flowers and promise to water them throughout summer.

Fisher Park is a City park, and public funds pay to mow, remove trash, and provide mulch. Yet, for over two decades our neighborhood has committed to a public-private partnership in which our Park Committee plans and neighbors volunteer to accomplish planting, pruning, and vine-pulling. There's always more to do, so share thanks to all who go the extra distance to ensure one of Greensboro's older city parks remains among the best.

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

More than 36 neighbors have committed to water the NeighborWoods trees planted in November 2009, assuring a healthy start. Thanks to prolific and repeated autumn and springtime rains, Mother Nature's relieved us from weekly watering. Still, all watering volunteers should be on alert for the watering call of Park Committee Co-Chairperson Sally Atwood. We anticipate Greensboro's traditionally dry summer ahead. NeighborWoods and Adopt-A-Planter projects have raised more volunteers than we've seen in years, a reflection of mutual appreciation of our core asset, Fisher Park itself.

CALENDAR

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 3, 6:30 p.m.
East Fisher Park Playground
336-209-5525

Park Summer Clean-Up

Saturday, June 26, 8:00 am
West Fisher Park
336-273-8286

Park Autumn Clean-Up

Saturday, October 16, 9:30 a.m.
East & West Fisher Park
336-273-8286

Children's Halloween Parade & Party

Sunday, October 31, 5:00 p.m.
Parade from intersection of Fisher Park Circle and Carolina Street to Temple Emanuel.
336-273-3365

Neighborhood Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 21, 4:00 p.m.
Broome Hall, Holy Trinity Church
336-545-5543

Luminaria Orders Due

Sunday, December 5
to Block Captains or to Rob Pope
803 Simpson Street
336-638-7706

Luminaria Kit-Building Party

Wednesday, December 8, 6:00 p.m.
Rob Pope's home
803 Simpson Street
336-638-7706

Luminaria Display & Neighbor Open Houses

Sunday, December 12, dusk
(Rain date is December 19)
336-638-7706

YET NOT A DROP TO DRINK?



Carolina Street neighbor Dr. Debbie Leiner Fields encourages us to be aware of the source and quality of our local drinking water. Prolific as water is this spring, summer droughts have become common. In 20 years, more than half the world's population is projected to face water shortages, and about half our American population receives drinking water from increasingly polluted lakes and streams.

Our local drinking water is primarily rain collected in Lake Higgins then Lake Brandt after which it's processed and flows to our homes for drinking. Water in the tiny stream through Fisher Park collects from rains and storm drains and flows into Latham Park's North Buffalo Creek, then flows northeast into the Haw River, then to Jordan Lake, and eventually into the Cape Fear River to the Atlantic Ocean south of Wilmington, NC.

We can all improve our water supply quality (reduce use of fertilizers and don't pour contaminants into drains) and reduce our water use (install low-flow shower/faucet aerators, repair leaky faucets, run dishwashers and washing machines only when full, and choose plants and grasses that thrive with natural rainfall). We can even learn more about our food choices ... a pound of beef requires over 1,700 gallons of water from field to table! To learn where local water comes from and goes to, see a map of the Cape Fear River Basin at <http://www.eenorthcarolina.org/public/ecoadress/riverbasins/riverbasinmapinteractive.htm>.

FATS, OILS, & GREASE

The City of Greensboro Water Resources Department aims to prevent excessive introduction of fats, oil and grease into local sanitary sewer systems and wastewater treatment plants. Accumulation of grease increases sewer blockage and overflows, and eventually reaches lakes and streams. You can help! Properly dispose of cooking grease by placing it in sealed containers and discard in the garbage, reducing the amount of fats, oils and grease that enter the local sewer system and our water supply.

LEAD-SAFE PRACTICES

Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, which can be harmful to adults and children. To protect against this risk, on April 22, 2008, the U.S. EPA issued a rule requiring the use of lead-safe practices aimed at preventing lead poisoning. Contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified by the EPA and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. Three simple procedures are most important: (1) Contain the work area, (2) minimize dust, and (3) clean up thoroughly. "Much of it is common sense techniques like sealing off rooms where lead dust is being generated, wet sanding, and collecting and disposing of lead paint chips," says Mike Cowhig, a Fisher Park Magnolia Street neighbor and Community Planner of City Housing and Community Development Historic District staff. For details visit <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm> or <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/lead/lhmp.html>.

CITY AND UNCG LAUNCH LANDLORD-TENANT DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The 2000 U.S. Census indicated that parts of Fisher Park and Aycock neighborhoods are almost 46 percent non-owner occupied. Landlords and tenants alike may be interested to know that the City's Human Relations Department and UNCG's Conflict Studies and Dispute Resolution Program recently launched a program aimed at resolving landlord/tenant disputes, reducing communication barriers and working together to solve problems.



Issues that can be mediated include damaged property, noise complaints, repairs, financial problems, etc. Participation is voluntary and both parties must agree to discuss issues before a mediator, skilled in assisting landlords and tenants to: (1) define and clarify issues, (2) reduce obstacles to communication, (3) explore possible solutions, and (4) reach a mutually satisfactory agreement. The City and UNCG schedule mediation sessions. For information about this partnership, contact the City's Human Relations Department, 336-373-2038.

ROCKS OF AGES

New World Vision International Christian Center (formerly Anderson Grove Baptist Church) at 200 Florence Street recently applied for and received a Historic District (HD) Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) to rebuild a toppled stone wall. The craftsmen replicated the wall's former appearance and also ensured that the failing wall's footing, backing, and drainage were corrected in the process.

The wall on the Green Street side of the property remains in-tact. This wall is made of "rusticated concrete blocks," inexpensive hollow blocks made to mimic expensive rough hewn stones, popular from the mid-1800s through the late 1920s. One early 1900s castle-like house (now an apartment house) on Summit Avenue is built entirely of "rusticated concrete block." Manufacturers are producing these again today in response to contemporary architectural trends. What was old, is new, and ready for another century's use.

NEW COLUMBARIUM APPROVED AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Presbyterian Church requested and received a Historic District Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) to build a new columbarium providing over 400 new cremation burial spaces near their campus' northern "front yard". Arborists and the City Urban Forester provided the Church with detailed instructions intent on preserving two large adjacent magnolia trees. Construction may begin this autumn.

Also, in May, Church representatives agreed to cease parking on one Elm Street parcel which never received a CoA for parking, and placed orange cones to stop parking in that lot until a CoA is obtained. Neighbors appreciate when all homes, businesses, and organizations within the local Historic District follow city Guidelines, available at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/Departments/hcd/historic/hdprogram/>.

DOWNTOWN GREENWAY ALONG FISHER AVENUE

The Downtown Greenway will create a four-mile linear park around downtown Greensboro and will feature a paved, multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians. It will connect more than a dozen neighborhoods and provide connections to several City parks and popular destinations. Fisher Park neighbors Dabney Sanders and John McLendon are active participants in Greenway planning.

Phase 2 of the Greenway will enter our neighborhood coming up Murrow Blvd., continuing along the north side of Fisher Avenue to Eugene Street, and then turning south toward Smith Street. GDOT, the Greenway Committee, and transportation engineers are preparing detailed designs. Portions of the Greenway along Fisher Avenue will be within the Historic District and will be reviewed by the City of Greensboro Historic Preservation Commission in 2011. A temporary detour route for the Downtown Greenway currently follows Bike Route 9 and sidewalks along North Greene Street, Fisher Park Circle, and Parkway Street to the Latham Park Greenway. For more information, visit www.downtowngreenway.org.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ASKS CITY TO REDUCE SPEED LIMITS



Traffic speed is an ongoing concern throughout our neighborhood, especially on through streets that have a 35 MPH posted speed limit. We continue to see and hear frequent accidents, especially at intersections, and speed contributes to many of these. Pedestrian safety is a serious concern. Although the downtown business district enjoys a 20 MPH speed limit, that limit increases to 35 MPH as vehicles enter our neighborhood at Smith Street. Several years ago, neighbors lobbied, and the speed limit on North Eugene Street and Bessemer Avenue was reduced slightly to 30 MPH.

Recently the FPNA Board of Directors voted to request that GDOT review and reduce speed limits to not more than 30 MPH on all through streets in and along the edge of the neighborhood including Church Street, Elm Street, Greene Street, Smith Street, and Fisher Avenue.

For better visibility and to emphasize the importance of the speed limit on all of these streets, the request also asks that the reduced limits be posted with orange bars on the top and bottom like the signs now posted on Eugene and Bessemer. Please share your traffic concerns and ideas with our neighborhood Streets & Sidewalks volunteer Sarah Jordan (336-574-3680) and neighborhood President John McLendon (336-545-5543).



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS AT 910 MAGNOLIA STREET

The unkempt exterior at 910 Magnolia Street has been a concern of neighbors for years. Now it presents a rare opportunity for purchase and updating. Built between 1915 and 1920, the earliest known occupant was J. T. Penn, a vice president of Southern Atlantic Lumber Company. Neglected for many years, on January 30, 2010 the house was placed under a City demolition order because of non-repair of several building code violations. Because this house is in the Fisher Park Historic District, it has a 365-day “stay of execution.”

Building inspectors, Historic District staff, and Preservation Greensboro staff have all visited the house and consistently report that exterior cosmetics aside, the house is in excellent structural shape. It features extraordinary Craftsman details, including post-on-brick-pier porch supports, multiple-pane upper window sashes, unusual exposed stick-work in the dormer gable, exposed rafter tails, and the original kitchen and baths.

The house made the front cover of Preservation Greensboro’s Landmarks News magazine in the summer of 2009 as a Treasured Places [Watch List](#) property. Recently, Preservation Greensboro Inc. (PGI) has entered into an agreement with the property’s owner (recently inherited) to seek a buyer. Through PGI’s Development Fund, a buyer would repair the structure in accordance with the Secretary of Interiors Standards. PGI can shepherd the sale and explain historic preservation tax credits available to the buyer. Neighbors on Magnolia Street look forward to this house being rejuvenated and once again becoming a neighborhood asset. Contact Benjamin Briggs at PGI (336-272-5003).

GATHERING OUR HISTORY WHILE WE CAN

A Friend of Green Hill Cemetery volunteer, Luke Glascock, grew up at 905 Magnolia Street and offers to share his many fond remembrances of the houses and families in that part of our neighborhood from over 50 years ago. Interested in hosting a gathering to hear Luke’s recollections? Contact lukeglascock@gmail.com and arrange a time and place. You’ll be enriched by Luke’s joyful recollections of Fisher Park past. Please invite your newsletter editors, too, as we’d enjoy capturing and sharing his stories for posterity.

Newsletter editor Ann Stringfield has begun to compile a unique resource; Fisher Park Neighborhood Archives. If you have archive-processing or grant-writing skills, please contact Ann and offer assistance. This will be a multi-year project, yet the sooner we begin the more complete our collection will be. If you’ve documented your home’s history, we’d appreciate hearing about that, too! Contact infocrofters@triad.rr.com.

DOWNTOWN AREA PLANNING UPDATE – COMMENT BY JUNE 24

Two planning efforts are currently underway for the downtown area – a *Downtown Area Consolidated Plan* and a proposed *Downtown Design Manual*. The City of Greensboro Planning Department coordinates both efforts with support from Action Greensboro and Downtown Greensboro, Inc. Fisher Park neighbors need to become familiar with these plans because the plans overlap six southern-most blocks of our neighborhood between Smith Street and Fisher Avenue. These six blocks are mostly outside the Historic District, not subject to the Historic District design guidelines, so new development there would be effected by these plans and design manual.

Public updates on the *Downtown Area Consolidated Plan* and *Downtown Design Manual* have been frequent, and final comments are encouraged through June 24. Priorities include completion of the Downtown Greenway, streetscape improvements to improve connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists, mixed-use development, promoting rehabilitation of historic buildings, and encouraging designs compatible with our residential neighborhood. Future development would follow a process similar to, but less rigorous than, the Historic District review process. Compliance with specific guidelines may be voluntary yet in certain situations may also involve a Property Owners Review Team and City Council.

If you live in or near – or if you are interested in – this area, please become familiar with and share your comments with John McLendon (336-545-5543) and City Urban Planner Mike Kirkman (336-373-4649) **before June 24**. Resources include the Manual at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Planning/urbandesign/manual/> and the Plan at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Planning/DowntownAreaConsolidatedPlan.htm>.

YOUNG AGAIN

In 2000, the U.S. Census recorded only a few dozen youngsters in our neighborhood. Babies were a rarity on any block and the median age of residents was about 46 – solidly middle aged. We expect the 2010 U.S. Census to show dramatic changes in the number of babies and youth. The northern blocks of Wharton Street and Eugene Street are especially prolific, now with 20 youngsters under the age of ten. There are probably more lurking under cabbage patches!

Please ensure you are counted in the 2010 U.S. Census, which not only helps determine equitable distribution of public services, but also helps us quantify changes in our neighborhood. Parents of young children, please note on the back page that two neighbors volunteer to organize children's activities. Rachel Cannon-Percival and Comer Wear coordinate "Kids Events," and Comer Wear coordinates "Youngsters Play Group." Children raised with a strong sense of neighborhood will cherish those relationships throughout life, and neighbors of all ages are better for it.

HISTORIC HOOTENANNY

A vibrant crowd attended our Saturday, June 5 "Historic District Hootenanny" on the grounds of Temple Emanuel, hosted by the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association with Aycock and College Hill neighborhoods all invited. Nicole Crews of Magnolia Street received cheers for orchestrating this pot-luck event, especially snaring an incredible bluegrass musical group, Dismal Stills.

Nicole also thanks David Craft for taking care of the garbage, Ann Stringfield for handling the recycling, Maria's Gourmet for supplying the ice, Chip Calloway for fresh pastel pink and blue hydrangeas, Sarah Jordan for water canteens, David Williams and Robert Kantlehner and Alex Clegg for their brawn, Angie Smits for her skills with a lemon, Rachel Cannon-Percival for conceiving of the idea last year, Amy Thompson for her patience and good humor and Dismal Stills for foot stompin' bluegrass entertainment. AGTWHBY=A good time was had by all! (Note: Planned after the March Fisher Parker newsletter and before this June issue, invitations were via our neighborhood e-mail list and word of mouth. If you didn't get wind of it, that's another reason to join the Fisher Park Neighborhood e-mail listserv, the only mechanism to alert neighbors to events between newsletter issues.)

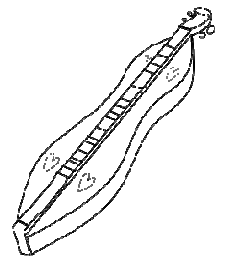


JOIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD E-MAIL LIST

If you're not on our neighborhood e-mail list, you miss out on many neighborhood activities. Those on the list help wandering cats and dogs return home, recommend the best house painters, roofers, water-proofers, plumbers, electricians, share pass-along plants, and are alerted to suspicious characters, break-ins, and announce upcoming neighborhood events that can't be covered in our quarterly *Fisher Parker* newsletter. Join the e-mail list via www.fisherparknc.org/communicate.html which directs you to Yahoo. **You make up** a username and password. Consider joining the Aycock and College Hill e-mail lists, too, through which we share mutual interests, events, and opportunities.

WANTED: YET ANOTHER MOUNTAIN DULCIMER PLAYER

Do you play, or would you like to learn to play the mountain dulcimer? One or more neighborhood mountain dulcimer players are invited to join a Fisher Park dulcimer trio/quartet. You must have, or agree to purchase, a three or four-string Mountain dulcimer with a 6+ fret, and have the ability to read standard music notation. Experience playing a mountain dulcimer is not necessary. "Learning to play is easy if you have the motivation," says Wharton Street neighbor Charles Van deZande. Contact Chuck at cvandy26@gmail.com. When they hit the charts, you'll recall they got their start in Fisher Park!



Fisher Park Neighborhood Association • P. O. Box 2004 • Greensboro, NC 27402

Board of Directors

Position (term ends)	Name	Address	Phone
President (ex officio)	McLendon, John	2 Magnolia Court	336-545-5543
Vice President	Kantlehner, Robert	306 Parkway Street	336-706-0428
Secretary (2010)	Sherry Rogowski	227 North Park Drive	336-275-2174
Treasurer (2010)	Angie Smits	706 Magnolia Street	336-574-1879
Board (2010)	Craft, David	605 North Church St.	336-274-3420
Board (2010)	Jackson, Jane	115 North Park Drive	336-271-6705
Board (2010)	Lowe, Sonya	710 Magnolia Street	336-209-5525
Board (2010)	Usry, Connie	908 Magnolia Street	336-279-8383
Board (2011)	Atwood, Sally	802 Simpson Street	336-273-8286
Board (2011)	Crews, Nicole	605 Magnolia Street	336-373-1051
Board (2011)	Rogowski, Sherry	227 North Park Drive	336-275-2174
Board (2011)	Vacant. Call John McLendon to volunteer!		
Board (2012)	Sarah Jordan	836 Olive Street	336-574-3680
Board (2012)	Robert Kantlehner	306 Parkway Street	336-706-0428
Board (2012)	Judy Morton	102 Fisher Park Circle	336-387-8351
Board (2012)	Angie Smits	706 Magnolia Street	336-574-1879

Other Contacts in the Neighborhood and Beyond

Kids Event Coordinators	Rachel Cannon-Percival & Comer Wear	336-273-3365 678-429-5250	purplepercival@yahoo.com cwear@centuryfurniture.com
Events Coordinator	Crews, Nicole	336-373-1051	ncrews2@triad.rr.com
Greeter Coordinator	Rachel Cannon-Percival	336-273-3365	purplepercival@yahoo.com
Southeast Greeter	Janet Craft	336-274-3420	JWolfeCraft@gmail.com
Southwest Greeter	Rebecca Woell	336-404-0898	woelljr@earthlink.net
Northwest Greeter	Todd McCain	336-333-2299	stmccain@aol.com
Northeast Greeter	Jane Jackson	336-271-6705	jjackson1@triad.rr.com
Neighborhood Watch	Sonya Lowe	336-209-5525	lowesonya@gmail.com
Newsletter Editors	Ann Stringfield & Liz Urquhart	336-370-0457 336-373-1250	infocrofters@triad.rr.com liz.urquhart@uqcorp.com
Park Committee	Carl Myatt & Sally Atwood	336-274-3554 336-273-8286	cmyatt3363@aol.com skda1@aol.com
Youngsters Playgroup	Comer Wear	678-429-5250	cwear@centuryfurniture.com
Streets & Sidewalks	Sarah Jordan	336-574-3680	sarahtjordan@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Ann Stringfield	336-370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com

Block Captain Coordinators

Southern Area	Cheryl Poole	336-275-0333	cherylpoole@triad.rr.com
Northern Area	Jim Willis	336-275-5092	NA

Civic Representatives of the Fisher Park Neighborhood

City Council	Zack Matheny, District 3 Councilman	336-272-0523	zack.matheny@greensboro-nc.gov
County Commissioner	Kay Cashion, District 6 Commissioner	336-274-6272	bwllia1@co.guilford.nc.us

Board Meeting Schedule	Board meetings 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church education building, Haywood Duke Room. 2010 Board meetings are Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 29, Apr 26, May 24, Jun 28, Jul 26, Aug 23, Sept 27, Oct 25, and Dec 6. (Nov/Dec meetings are combined due to holidays.) The Neighborhood-wide Annual Meeting is Sunday, Nov 21 at 4 p.m in Broome Hall of Holy Trinity Church.		
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Fisher Park Neighborhood Association Mission

*To preserve the historic and residential character of the Fisher Park neighborhood,
and to work with the City of Greensboro to help maintain the scenic park for the benefit of the general public.*

Department/Company	Other Helpful Contacts	Phone
City Customer Contact Center	Directs citizen calls to appropriate City departments.	373-2489 (373-CITY)
City Historic District Staff	Historic district guidelines, application for certificate of appropriateness, plus free design review advice.	336-373-2349
Zoning Enforcement	Parking in front yards, historic district guidelines enforcement.	336-373-2630
Ordinance Enforcement	Housing inspections, abandoned vehicles, lot cleanup.	336-373-2111
Duke Power	Streetlight outage.	1-800-POWERON (1-800-769-3766)
Police Central Division	Help for emergencies and non-emergencies.	Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: 336-373-2222
Police Central Division—Community Resource Officer	Officer Melanie Daniel	336-373-4645 melanie.daniel@greensboro-nc.gov
Fisher Park E-mail Listserv	Visit www.fisherparknc.org/communicate.html and follow directions. YOU make up your Yahoo username & password.	After joining the e-mail listserv, you may send e-mails to fisherpark@yahoogroups.com