

the

serving residents of the Fisher Park Neighborhood

Fisher Parker

OCTOBER 2003

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Note: some events
have been rescheduled!

FISHER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC. ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, Nov. 16, 4-6 pm
Holy Trinity Parish Hall



NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD rescheduled for holidays

Monday, November 17, 6 pm
Monday, December 15, 6 pm
Holy Trinity Parish Hall



GREEN HILL CEMETERY TOURS \$5/person

Sunday, Oct. 26, 2-3:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 16, 2-3:30 pm
South Wharton St. entrance



Halloween Party cancelled!



LUMINARIA DISPLAY SCHEDULE

Orders Due: Sun., Dec. 7
Kit Assembly: Wed., Dec. 10
Kits Delivered: Sat., Dec. 13
Lighting: Sun., Dec. 14. dusk
Rain Date: Sun., Dec. 21. dusk

ANNUAL MEETING OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Please join neighbors Sunday, November 16, 4 – 6 pm, Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 607 North Greene Street, Heywood Duke Room. Our agenda will include:

- 2003; significant events in our neighborhood's 101st year!
- Nomination and election of Board members
- Presentation of Captain Fisher Award
- Report on and continuation of neighborhood planning – neighborhood goals and priorities, followed by social time to meet, greet, and enjoy snacks and beverages with your neighbors.

NEXT GENERATION FISHER PARK

In the evening of October 14, a roomful of Fisher Park neighbors gathered in the Temple Emanuel Social Hall to feast on desserts and ideas about the future of our neighborhood. We heard results of the neighborhood-wide survey. (Details are posted at www.fisherparknc.org and can be e-mailed to you if you contact eschwartz@triad.rr.com). Then, led by facilitator Sue Schwartz, Chief Neighborhood Planner for the City of Greensboro, neighbors identified opportunities and threats they feel are important for our neighborhood to focus on as it plans for the future. The Fisher Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) **Next Generation Group**, which leads this planning effort, will compile all ideas and present proposals based on them at the November 16 annual meeting. Please attend to contribute to the planning process.

PRESERVATIONISTS TOUR EUGENE ST. HOMES

Many thanks to Fisher Park neighbors who opened their homes for casual tours as we hosted the annual conference block party for Preservation North Carolina (PNC) November 13th. Katrina Solomon, Teresa & Tom Bews, Stephanie & Mark Osada, Ann Stringfield, Cate Parker, Karine & Arch McCutcheon, Erica & Brad Harder, Elizabeth Knight, and Alison Webb graciously opened homes and/or gardens along the Cleveland/Eugene corridor with luminarias lighting the way. Hosts received an annual membership in PNC! Preservationists are a great group to host as they clearly appreciate work accomplished to improve properties. And as you can imagine, the tour inspired us to finish a few projects we'd put off, too!

CORRECTION

The **Stern** family was the original contributor of our former wooden playground equipment in east Fisher Park. Although recently replaced in a city-wide play equipment update, it was enjoyed by neighborhood children and nursery groups for years. Parents and growing children thank the Sterns for their generosity!

NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT SUCCESS

October 10-11 neighborhood volunteers throughout Greensboro successfully hosted Greensboro's first Neighborhood Summit. Leaders from 50 neighborhoods met at the Coliseum Special Events Center for leadership sessions, exhibit booths highlighting City services, and a bit of fun. The overarching goal is to foster a Neighborhood Congress: a forum for networking across neighborhoods, educating neighborhood leaders, and increasing the influence of neighborhoods on municipal decision-making. Greensboro has hundreds of neighborhoods, many choosing to participate in a Neighborhood Congress. To learn more about this growing organization visit www.gnc-nc.org. Ann Stringfield, 273-1393, has been attending meetings and urges others to become involved!

PILATES AT TEMPLE SOCIAL HALL

Everyone in the neighborhood is invited to Pilates exercise classes at the Temple Emanuel Social Hall, every Mon. and Wed. at 8:15 pm. \$20/session. \$15/session if attending twice/week. For details contact Michael Byrd, 274-8361.

RED CROSS NEEDS BLOOD -- GIVE FOR HALLOWEEN!

Our local Red Cross Blood Center, only a few miles away at 1501 Yanceyville Street, urges you to donate blood to rebuild local blood supplies to a safe level. Please call 333-2111 to make a donation appointment.

For information about the Fisher Park Neighborhood, please visit our web site:

WWW.FISHERPARKNC.ORG

To receive neighborhood e-mails, send your e-mail address to eschwartz@triad.rr.com

POOPED OUT?

One message coming through loud and clear in our neighborhood survey is that we really hate to find dog poop as we walk on our property, through the neighborhood, or in the park. Hey dog owners, let's make this problem go away. Leash the dog and grab a plastic bag before heading out to walk. Use the bag to scoop up the poop. Throw the bag away in the next public trash can (several new cans in & around the park) or take it home. Of all neighborhood issues, surely this is the easiest one to take care of. Please, scoop the poop.

SEASONAL REMINDERS

Leaf pick-up begins Nov. 3. Just before then, please rake leaves to the curb, but not into the street. Any time of year, **yard waste** can be placed at the curb in **trash cans, clear plastic bags, or bundles** under 5 feet long. Yard waste not canned, bagged, or bundled won't be picked up by City collection.

City ordinances require we each **maintain the lawn space between sidewalk and street and keep our sidewalks free** of weeds, shrubs, vines, and overhanging branches. Next time you're gardening, walk along your sidewalk and cut back excess growth, so neighbors can walk without ducking, dodging or being scratched.

Street cleaning crews work daily from 6:30 am to 5 pm cleaning streets several times a year. Storm damage clean-up took priority over street sweeping this year. But our streets will be swept soon by City Crew #17. Those on the Fisher Park e-mail list received prior notice and hopefully informed others. Once notified, please park cars in your driveway or in off-street parking areas during the day so your street gets a clean sweep all the way to the curb. Sweeping close to the curb helps to clear curb weeds. This City street sweeping service helps keep our neighborhood looking great. ~ Alison Webb, Simpson Street.

WHARTON STREET POEM DISCOVERED

Sifting through old files at work, a neighbor's coworker found a collection of poems authored by Charlie Sharpe, now deceased. Among them was a poem titled "**Wharton Street**". A friend of Mr. Sharpe gave permission to share it.

Notes accompanying the poem indicate "This poem was written about 1936 or 1937 after I had visited some friends who lived on **Wharton Street**, which runs alongside the Greenhill Cemetery in Greensboro, NC." The poem expresses a gentle observation about living near a cemetery. Fortunately, folks living on Wharton Street today are a **very lively crowd!**

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These are Good People, Lord who live out this way
and face the Closeness of death all day.

A wicked man with sin on his breath
couldn't endure this nearness of death.

Hardly a season can come and pass
but we see the quiet and merciful grass

Hiding new scars in the cool earth
we call it "death" some say "re-birth"

But we don't see that, Lord ... No
we don't see life come we just see it go

Day after day and year after year
it's awfully hard, Lord, to live out here.

VOTERS TURNED OUT

On Primary day, October 7, Greensboro citizens voted against an ordinance to prohibit new stadiums in the Central Business District, paving the way for a new minor-league baseball stadium on North Eugene Street. The majority of our voting Precinct voted to prohibit new stadiums, yet abide by the city-wide vote. Many neighborhood residents, especially in our southwest quadrant most affected by a new stadium, worked to ensure the opportunity to vote, appealing a lawsuit by the Bats et. al, which attempted stop the referendum. To move on, we ask all neighborhood residents to support southwest Fisher Park neighbors as we continue communications with City officials to limit negative effects of stadium-specific parking, traffic, noise, and lighting, especially on Eugene, Wharton, and Florence streets. These homeowners are among the strongest supporters of downtown redevelopment, and their personal investments and sweat equity helped make the Bellemeade area ripe for development. With commercial encroachment along all neighborhood boundaries, the next challenge may be on your block! Share a healthy dose of empathy and support for affected neighbors.

Several excellent outcomes arose from this citizens' engagement, including a large new neighborhood e-mail list of neighbors who responded to a neighborhood stadium survey, friendships from monthly fund-raising parties across all downtown neighborhoods, and a dramatic increase in neighbors voting in a primary, over 20%. Although a sad reflection of our voting habits, still a great improvement!

Thanks to a North Carolina law, early "no excuse" voting for the November election is available, Monday to Friday 8 to 5 through October 31, downtown at the old County Courthouse, 301 West Market Street. Early voting is easy, fast, and ensures citizens have "no excuse" for not voting! Please vote now or November 4, Election Day. **Questions? 641-3836.**

PARTICIPATE IN NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD MEETINGS

Minutes of every monthly neighborhood Board meeting are available at www.fisherparknc.org about a month after every meeting, once they are typed by our Secretary and approved by the Board. And you can request them via e-mail from eschwartz@triad.rr.com. As an example, our September 2003 Board meeting included: opportunities for neighbors to initiate a **Community Watch** program, bylaws adopted clarifying neighborhood **boundaries** and bylaws amendment procedures, Board commitment for **support and education** but not enforcing or policing issues enforced by the City, **nominations** to replace Board members recently resigned due to other commitments, request for City Council to appoint **Mike Stout** (900 N. Eugene St.) as our Historic Preservation Commission representative, sympathy and appreciation to the family of **Dr. Richard (Dick) Spencer** for memorial contributions to our neighborhood, as well as review of Historic District applications. October's meeting will **review neighborhood plans, historic street lighting, playground dedication plans, etc.** Please know you are welcome at all monthly Board meetings!

BOARD NOMINATIONS

Several new neighborhood Board members have stepped up to replace former members who couldn't serve their full three-year term: Blair Barton-Percival and Nina Dabbs of N. Eugene St., Cheryl Poole of Magnolia St. and Rich Richards of Olive St. Neighbors agreeing to serve on the Board for full 3-year terms include: Weston Hatfield of N. Park Dr., Roger Seel of Magnolia St., David Shub and Todd McCain of W. Bessemer Ave. All these folks will be nominated for our 2004 Neighborhood Board at the November 16 Annual Meeting. Contact Genie Schwartz 456-7594 for **your name** to be considered for nomination for future Board openings. We fill at least five openings each year, and are always looking for new representatives from all quadrants of Fisher Park. As attributed to Ghandhi, **“be the change you wish to see.”**

- FOR THESE CONCERNS, contact:**
- City Historic District Staff 373-2349**
Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA)
Historic District Guidelines & Tech
Advice. www.ci.greensboro.nc.us/hcd
 - Historic Preservation Commission**
meetings usually the last Wednesday of
each month. Rescheduled near holidays.
 - Fisher Park Neighborhood Association**
Board meetings usually Monday before
HPC meeting. Rescheduled near holidays.
 - Zoning Enforcement..... 373-2630**
Historic District Regulations
Zoning Violations
 - Local Ordinance Enforcement 373-2111**
Housing Standards, Lot Clean-Up
 - Traffic Violations 373-2332**
Parking in Yard or Right-of-Way
 - Creek Water Pollution 373-2055**
 - Duke Power Streetlights ... 378-9451**
 - Young Fisher Park Playgroup ... 275-8833**

FISHER PARK BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003			
Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
President	Genie Schwartz	456-7594	eschwartz@triad.rr.com
Pres. Elect	Russ Clegg	574-1879	russang@aol.com
Secretary			
Treasurer	Kay Quinlivan	272-3758	kayequin@aol.com
Past Pres.	Ann Stringfield	273-1393	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
Board	Blair Barton-Percival	273-3365	bfb4@cornell.edu
Board	Michael Byrd	274-8361	michaellbyrd1@aol.com
Board	Mary Lee Copeland	274-7826	mcope13@juno.com
Board	Lawrence Cox	274-6322	lcox@haganproperties.com
Board	Nina Dabbs	230-0422	ninadabbs@aol.com
Board	Anne Daniel	275-4050	annerdaniel@aol.com
Board	Carol LaJeunesse	272-5564	opexcel@aol.com
Board	Allison Manning	275-8833	abdmanning@yahoo.com
Board	Todd McCain	333-2299	stmccain@aol.com
Board	Cheryl Poole	275-0333	cherylpoole@triad.rr.com
Board	Rich Richards	275-5506	rrichards@firstpresgso
Board	George Weldon	379-0902	george_weldon@vfc.com
Newsletter	Ann Stringfield	273-1393	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
	Liz Urquhart	373-1250	liz.urquhart@ugcorp.com
West side Greeter	Rachel Canon-Percival	273-3365	bfb4@cornell.edu
East side Greeter	Melissa Ouellette	273-2036	Meliso1026@msn.com

LUMINARIA ORDERS DUE Sunday, December 7!

Over 25 Fisher Park volunteer Block Captains will soon deliver annual Luminaria order forms. Block Captains gather and submit your orders then distribute Luminaria kits door to door. It's the one time of year you're personally reminded who your Block Captain is! Please share a "thank you" with your Block Captain for another year's deliveries.

Luminaria kits are our neighborhood's only annual fundraiser, funding newsletters, neighborhood gatherings, and projects throughout each year. For a great Luminaria evening, plan holiday caroling, a Block Party, or at least a peaceful walk around the 'hood. See page 1 for dates. Questions? Contact Ann Stringfield, 273-1393, infocrofters@triad.rr.com.