

the  
serving residents of the Fisher Park Neighborhood

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# Fisher Parker

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SEPTEMBER 2008

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWBIES

If you've recently moved into the neighborhood, or know of a new neighbor on your block, please contact one of our volunteer greeters who look forward to welcoming neighbors. Our greeters, listed on the back page, deliver a helpful neighborhood information packet and share experiences laced with enthusiasm. Unsure which greeter to contact? Call volunteer Greeter Coordinator Rachel Percival at 336-273-3365, and she'll set you on the right track.



## FALL PICNIC IN THE MEADOW

Please join neighbors for an autumn picnic in the park Sunday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m. (No rain date). Meet in west Fisher Park, where balloons will mark our gathering. Please bring your own food and drink, lawn games, musical instruments, chairs, blankets, and whatever makes you comfortable. Encourage your neighbors to come along! For questions, or in case of questionable weather, please call Rachel Percival 336-273-3365.

## DOG SHOW-OFF

Join our annual non-competitive Fisher Park Dog Show-Off, Saturday, October 18, 10:00 a.m. Dog owners, securely leashed to their well-behaved dogs, will proclaim why their pooches should earn certificates for attributes such as the most prodigious spots, double trouble, or personality plus. Whether or not you own a dog, you'll enjoy meeting canine-friendly neighbors. Contact Jamie Mollet 272-3498 for Dog Show-Off details, or to offer to help.



## HALLOWEEN PARADE AND PARTY

Dress up and parade – or simply step out to wave your support – for our annual Fisher Park children's Halloween Parade around Fisher Park Circle on Saturday, October 25 at 4 p.m.. We begin at the junction of Fisher Park Circle, Hendrix and Carolina streets and parade to Temple Emanuel at Green and Florence streets, where the children's Halloween party begins. (In case of rain, please gather at the Temple's basement on Florence Street.) Children of neighborhood businesses and neighborhood churches are always welcome. Parents, we depend on you to help plan the party, manage the spooks, and contribute snacks, so please contact Rachel Percival now at 336-273-3365 or [purplepercival@yahoo.com](mailto:purplepercival@yahoo.com).

## CALENDAR

**Park Work Day**  
Saturday, September 27  
8:30-Noon  
336-274-3420

**Fall Picnic**  
Sunday, September 28  
5:00 p.m.  
West Fisher Park  
336-273-3365

**Dog Show-Off**  
Saturday, October 18  
10:00 a.m.  
East Fisher Park  
336-272-3498

**Halloween Parade & Party**  
Saturday, October 25  
4:00 p.m.  
336-273-3365

**Park Work Day**  
Saturday, November 8  
8:30-Noon  
336-274-3420

**Annual Meeting**  
Sunday, November 16  
4:00 p.m.  
Broome Hall  
Holy Trinity Church  
336-545-5543

**Luminaria Display**  
Sunday, December 14, dusk  
Rain date:  
Sunday, December 21, dusk  
336-638-7706

## AUTUMN PARK WORK DAYS

Two Park Work Days are coming up September 27 and November 8. Don your gloves and bring gardening tools to help us tidy up Fisher Park before winter sets in. Arrive any time from 8:30 until Noon, and there will be a task that suits every ability. To volunteer for the Park Committee as they consider park plans, please contact David Craft, 336-274-3420 or John McLendon, 336-545-5543.



## LUMINARIA NIGHT FESTIVITIES

If you enjoyed a neighborhood open house last December on our Luminaria night, then consider volunteering to host (or help host) an open house for our 2008 Luminaria night Sunday, December 14, 2008. Last year generous neighbors, Dabney and Walker Sanders on the west side and Ashley and Jeremy Williams on the east side, hosted festive open houses for the entire neighborhood! If you'd like to host an open house, please contact Rachel Percival at 336-273-3365, or e-mail [purplepercival@yahoo.com](mailto:purplepercival@yahoo.com). We'll advertise locations in the November Fisher Parker. Early thanks go to Rob Pope of 803 Simpson Street who has volunteered to manage our December 2008 Luminaria display. Look for Luminaria order forms in your November Fisher Parker to support our neighborhood's annual fundraiser.

## THE TIES THAT BIND

Tremendous benefits arise when neighborhood children play together, developing life-long bonds to the neighborhood we call home. Rebecca Woell voluntarily facilitates an informal Fisher Park neighborhood children's playgroup. Autumn get-togethers might include a pizza night or movie night. To participate, neighborhood parents please contact Rebecca Woell at 336-404-0898 or [woelljr@earthlink.net](mailto:woelljr@earthlink.net).

## T-SHIRTS DELIVERED

Your new Fisher Park t-shirt can be delivered directly to your door, thanks to the mobile sales initiative of our neighborhood Vice President Vicky Vanstony Saunders. All sizes, children's and adult's, are available at \$10 each. The light gray t-shirt sports a Fisher Park stone bridge logo on the back and names our neighborhood on the front. These tees make great casual gifts for neighborhood friends and family. To purchase, simply contact Vicky at 272-7661 and she'll deliver. Thank you, Vicky, for promoting Fisher Park pride!



## RUCO BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2009

By January 1, 2009, every residential rental property in the City of Greensboro is required to have been inspected and received from the City a Rental Unit Certificate of Occupancy (RUCO), confirming that the rental property meets a standard International Property Management Code. As of January 1, landlords cannot legally rent a residence – and will incur fines – without the RUCO inspection certificate. Tenants may ask landlords for a copy of their Rental Unit Certificate of Occupancy (RUCO) or may contact the City Ordinance Enforcement office at 336-373-2111 to ensure their rental unit has passed inspection.

The RUCO inspection is intended to protect renters from unsafe housing conditions and to protect landlords by confirming that a rental property has met certain minimum housing standards at the date of inspection. The initial RUCO inspection is free! 2000 census figures suggest our census district is more than 45% rental property, and we encourage all neighborhood landlords to obtain required RUCOs before January.

## PLEASE! PICK UP THE POOP!

You know what to do, right? So please improve your dog's self-esteem and your neighbor's attitude by bagging your outdoor pet's poop. Forgot a baggie? Convenient bag dispensers are located at park entrances.

## **PRESERVATION . . . THE ULTIMATE CONSERVATION**

Preservationists and environmentalists agree . . . “the greenest building is one that's already built.” Whereas new buildings represent a new impact on the environment, older buildings represent a prior investment of resources and energy already embodied in their structure. Embodied energy is the energy previously expended to extract or manufacture the building’s materials (wood, metal, bricks, and other materials), transport materials to the construction site, and erect the building. Construction of a new 2,000 square foot home generates waste on average of 3,000 lbs of wood, 2,000 pounds of drywall, and 600 pounds of cardboard! (Excerpted from *Preservation Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2008.) Keeping older buildings in use conserves resources. Certainly not all, but “most older buildings were built to last . . . the very essence of sustainability.” (Excerpted from *Old House Journal*, 2008.)

## **HOLLEMAN HOUSE UPDATE**

Preservation Greensboro, Inc (PGI) and First Presbyterian Church representatives initiated a dialog to discuss ways to save the Holleman House at the corner of Fisher and Greene streets. One discussion point is parking for the elderly and disabled. PGI volunteers demonstrated how existing parking spots near the church could be realigned to create additional convenient parking without loss of the Holleman house.



The 365-day protective delay of demolition, provided by our Historic District, ends on February 1, 2009, after which Holleman house can legally be demolished. Please bring any solutions to save the Holleman House to PGI at 336-272-5003 or Fisher Park neighborhood President John McLendon at 336-545-5543.

## **JOIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD**

Each year, our neighborhood solicits five neighbors to join the 15-member Fisher Park Neighborhood Association Board. Self nominations are encouraged! We strive for representation from all sections of the neighborhood especially from our neighborhood’s fragile edges. If you have the time, commitment, and enthusiasm, please call neighborhood President John McLendon, 336-545-5543, to learn about our neighborhood Board and self-nominate. New Board members are voted in during our neighborhood's annual meeting Sunday, November 16, 4:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity. You’ll discover that active participation in your neighborhood brings innumerable neighborly rewards. Visit [www.fisherparknc.org/Volunteer\\_Opportunities\\_2006.doc](http://www.fisherparknc.org/Volunteer_Opportunities_2006.doc) for neighborhood volunteer opportunities.

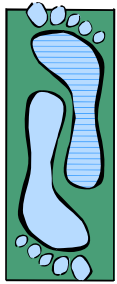
## **MEDITATION INVITATION**

The Sacred Garden Bookshop operated by Holy Trinity Church (at the corner of Fisher Avenue and Simpson Street), has reopened in an older home the church refurbished as a bookstore. You’ll find a landscaped meditation garden in the rear and a coffee/tea machine in the kitchen (\$1/cup). The bookshop stocks current titles in servant leadership, spiritual direction, and social justice. Fisher Park t-shirts are also for sale at the bookshop! Neighbors are welcome to visit and partake, whether browsing books, conversing over a cup of coffee, or simply finding respite in the peaceful meditation garden.

## **DON'T GO TOPLESS!**

Fisher Park is the first neighborhood in Greensboro to request, facilitate, and purchase neighborhood street sign toppers. This year, your FPNA Board authorized purchase of 20 toppers (the limit the City Department of Transportation allowed, for starters) for \$75 each. City staff installed our sign toppers along the perimeter of our neighborhood and along our midline, Elm Street. Neighbors who favor these street sign toppers are encouraged to donate and mail a check for \$75 payable to the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association, to our post office box (please see the address on page 6). Thanks to neighbors Mary Lane-Smith of Parkway and Marty Digby of Fisher Park Circle for inaugurating our street sign topper program!

If topper donations are successful, we expect the City will eventually allow us to purchase more, perhaps one for every street-sign post. If there are few topper donations, the Board and City may assume a lack of interest in the street sign topper program. So please demonstrate your enthusiasm by contributing! Toppers are an easy, meaningful, and highly visible gift to honor your neighbor or family pride in Fisher Park. All Fisher Park street sign topper donors will be acknowledged in our November newsletter!



### “WALKABLE” NEIGHBORHOODS

University of Utah researchers report that people who live in older, more “walkable” neighborhoods are at a lower risk for being overweight or obese. The study published in the September issue of *The American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, tracked the body mass index of nearly a half million Salt Lake County, UT residents aged 25 through 64. Neighborhoods built before 1950 tended to offer greater overall “walkability,” because they were designed for pedestrians. Men, on average, weighed 10 pounds less if they lived in a walkable neighborhood versus a neighborhood less conducive to walking. The average woman weighed six pounds less. “It is difficult for individuals to change their behavior,” said Ken Smith, co-author of the study and professor of family and consumer studies at the University of Utah. “But we can build environments that promote healthy behavior.”

Last fall, *Stanford Medicine Magazine* also looked at the effect neighborhoods have on health. Researchers found that among people who were trying to be more active, living in walkable neighborhoods dramatically improved their odds of exercising for at least two-and-a-half hours a week. In one study of people trying to change their exercise habits, 67 percent of people who lived in walkable neighborhoods achieved their goals, compared to just 30 percent of those who lived in pedestrian-unfriendly areas. But does a walk to our neighborhood’s new Dunkin’ Donuts perhaps change the equation?

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT A SUCCESS



Thanks to Sonya Lowe, sporting her grass skirt and lei, for organizing another great neighborhood gathering in east Fisher Park on Tuesday, August 5 for National Night Out Against Crime. Sonya, our enthusiastic Neighborhood/Community Watch Coordinator, keeps us informed of neighborhood safety issues and maintains communication with our Police Community Resource Officer throughout the year.

All who turned out enjoyed a wide choice of refreshing Hawaiian Ice and met neighbors new and old. Kids were able to explore the inside of a slick red Greensboro Fire Truck. Red and blue lips from cherry, watermelon, and berry flavored ices became the fashion of the evening. Thanks to FPNA Board members who shared neighborhood information and t-shirts for purchase, and all neighbors whose participation makes each neighborhood event a treat!

### “SNUGLING” CARS

Many Fisher Park neighbors share driveways, or have no driveways, and must park on the street. For the most part, this actually facilitates positive neighborly exchanges and sidewalk chats.

When parking on our neighborhood streets, please remember to park cars as close as possible, nose to tail, thereby not taking up two spaces with one car. “Loose” parking is an issue on Magnolia Street, yet it can easily be rectified by “snuggling” cars closer together. We’re also asked to remind neighbors that parking in front lawns is prohibited in Historic Districts, and city-wide parking ordinances restrict parking on or obstructing sidewalks.



## TILE ROOF RESTORED

The 900 North Eugene Street home of Mike Stout and Dennis Diegel is one of a few dozen Greensboro homes that retain a classic terracotta tile roof. Knowing the scarcity, and minor leaks that required new underlayment, they applied for assistance through a competitive Historic Restoration Assistance Program from Architectural Salvage of Greensboro (ASG).

This brick house was built in about 1922-23 by master stonemason Alexander Leopold Schlosser for his son E.W. Scholsser. Schlosser's signature stonework – Mount Airy granite with grapevine mortar – is evidenced throughout the Fisher Park neighborhood, including Avalon Center (originally built for Schlosser's other son), Galloway House on Elm Street, retaining walls at Baker Place, the cemetery entrances, and many other locations. (Mike and Dennis purchased the home from May Wilson whose home-baked cakes for sale were highly acclaimed by real estate agents for gifts to new homeowners.)

In August 2008, every roof tile was carefully removed and stacked, a new membrane underlayment was applied, then each tile was replaced. Anticipating breakage, Mike and Dennis salvaged and hauled thousands of extra terracotta tiles from a retiring tile roofer in Winston-Salem. Yet the original tiles were in such good condition, the extra tiles instead were used to reroof the original garage, previously altered with ordinary asphalt shingles. The house and garage now present a complimentary synergy, ready for another 80 years.



Architectural Salvage of Greensboro (ASG) is a volunteer-operated non-profit project of Preservation Greensboro, Inc, with support from the City of Greensboro. ASG volunteer S.W.A.T. teams (Saving Worn Architectural Treasures) rescue architectural elements from buildings doomed for demolition. Donors claim a tax deduction for charitable contributions. Salvaged materials are lightly cleaned and resold at ASG's downtown retail showroom at 300 Bellemeade Street. Proceeds support the Historic Restoration Assistance Program providing competitive financial assistance for the "faithful restoration and maintenance of the architectural heritage of Greensboro," such as this quality project at 900 N. Eugene.

Twice each year (January 31 and July 31), ASG evaluates requests and awards financial assistance of between \$500 and \$10,000 to individual homeowners who carefully plan, invest in, and carry out a restoration project. Selected projects must meet the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Rehabilitation.

Interested? January 31, 2009 is the next deadline to apply for ASG's Historic Restoration Assistance Program. To receive an application form, contact ASG at 336-272-5003 or e-mail [asg@blandwood.org](mailto:asg@blandwood.org) or visit [www.blandwood.org/documents/ASG\\_Restoration\\_App\\_20080211.pdf](http://www.blandwood.org/documents/ASG_Restoration_App_20080211.pdf)

Congratulations to Mike and Dennis for their successful tile roof restoration. And thanks to ASG volunteers, many of whom live in our neighborhood, for the time and effort they contribute toward this local Historic Restoration Assistance Program. You're invited to volunteer with ASG for salvage missions, work-sessions, or the retail showroom. ASG volunteers put the passion in preservation!

## STAY IN TOUCH!

For the latest on neighborhood developments, breaking news, and community events, consider joining the Fisher Park e-mail listserv for more current news, neighbor-to-neighbor. Visit [www.fisherparknc.org/communicate.html](http://www.fisherparknc.org/communicate.html), or request help from any Board member (see next page).

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

**Board of Directors**

<b>Position (term ends)</b>	<b>Na.m.e</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
President (2009)	McLendon, John	2 Magnolia Court	336-545-5543
Vice President (2008)	Saunders, Vicky Vanstory	400-A Fisher Park Circle	336-272-7661
Secretary (2009)	Graham, Lutie	204 Leftwich Street	336-706-1335
Treasurer (2009)	Pope, Robert	803 Simpson Street	336-638-7706
Board (2008)	Atwood, Sally	802 Simpson Street	336-273-8286
Board (2008)	Myatt, Wanda	213 N. Park Drive	336-272-0999
Board (2008)	Rhyne, Dick	110 Fisher Park Circle	336-333-1731
Board (2008)	Rubin, Steve	224 South Park Drive	336-271-8086
Board (2009)	Cannon-Percival, Rachel	912 North Eugene St.	336-273-3365
Board (2009)	Luebke, Rick	1115 Virginia Street	336-273-5080
Board (2010)	Craft, David	605 North Church St.	336-274-3420
Board (2010)	Grieve, Greg	225 Florence Street	336-402-6443
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

**Other Contacts**

<b>Newsletter</b>	Ann Stringfield	336-370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
	Liz Urquhart	336-373-1250	liz.urquhart@ugcorp.com
<b>Webmaster</b>	Ann Stringfield	336-370-0457	infocrofters@triad.rr.com
<b>Park Committee</b>	David Craft	336-274-3420	chsyhkr@gmail.com
<b>Northeast Greeter</b>	Sonya Lowe	336-209-5525	lowesonya@gmail.com
<b>Greeter Coordinator</b>	Rachel Cannon-Percival	336-273-3365	purplepercival@yahoo.com
<b>Southeast Greeter</b>	Janet Craft	336-274-3420	chsyhkr@gmail.com
<b>Southwest Greeter</b>	Prudy Strong	336-379-7209	
<b>Northwest Greeter</b>	Rebecca Woell	336-404-0898	woelljr@earthlink.net
<b>Northeast Greeter</b>	Vacant – Contact Rachel Cannon-Percival to volunteer! (See above.)		
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>	Sonya Lowe	336-209-5525	lowesonya@gmail.com
<b>Playgroup</b>	Rebecca Woell	336-404-0898	woelljr@earthlink.net
<b>Social Committee</b>	Rachel Cannon-Percival	336-273-3365	purplepercival@yahoo.com
<b>Streets &amp; Sidewalks</b>	Greg Grieve	336-402-6443	

**Block Captain Coordinators**

<b>Southern Area</b>	Cheryl Poole	336-275-0333	cherylpoole@triad.rr.com
<b>Northern Area</b>	Jim Willis	336-275-5092	
<b>City Council Rep.</b>	Zack Matheny, District 3 Councilman	336-272-0523	Zack.matheny@greensboro-nc.gov
<b>County Commissioner</b>	Kay Cashion	336-274-6272	kcashion@co.guilford.nc.us

**Board Meeting Schedule**

Board meetings are usually the Monday before the last Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church education building, Haywood Duke Room. Remaining 2008 Board meetings are September 22, October 27, (November 16 FPNA neighborhood ANNUAL meeting), and November 24. December meeting is usually cancelled due to holidays.

**Fisher Park Neighborhood Association Mission Statement**

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.

**City of Greensboro and Other Contacts**

<b>Department/Company</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>City Customer Contact Center</b>	Directs citizen calls to appropriate City departments.	373-2489 (373-CITY)
<b>City Historic District Staff</b>	Historic district guidelines, application for certificate of appropriateness, <b>free</b> advice.	336-373-2349
<b>Zoning Enforcement</b>	Parking in front yards, historic district guidelines enforcement.	336-373-2630
<b>Ordinance Enforcement</b>	Housing inspections, abandoned vehicles, lot cleanup.	336-373-2111
<b>Duke Power</b>	Streetlight outage.	336-378-9451
<b>Police Central Division</b>	Help for emergencies and non-emergencies/ enforcement.	Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: 336-373-2222
<b>Police Central Division–Community Resource Officer</b>	Officer Melanie Daniel	336-373-4645 mailto:melanie.daniel@greensboro-nc.gov
<b>Fisher Park ListServ</b>	Subscribe: mailto:fisherpark-subscribe@yahoo.com	Submit e-mail: fisherpark@yahoogroups.com