

Fisher Parker

September 2011

6th ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE & PARTY

One of the most enjoyable 20 minutes we spend each autumn is our neighborhood's Halloween parade. Children of those who live or work in the Fisher Park neighborhood are all invited to don costumes and parade.



Many parents take advantage of the opportunity to dress out, too! The parade route is short, so children of any age can participate, whether walking or in strollers. We begin at the intersection of Fisher Park Circle and Carolina Street, stroll along Fisher Park Circle up to Greene Street. Then we're welcomed into Temple Emanuel's Social Hall where children and parents enjoy treats, beverages and playtime.

Please call Erica Levy-Ringel (<mailto:ericagail@gmail.com> or 336-370-4135) to volunteer to make this another engaging event for our neighborhood children. If you don't have children, **youngsters appreciate neighbors cheering along on the short parade route on Sunday, October 30, 4:00 p.m.** You'll receive great pumpkin-sized smiles in return!

LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY CHAT AT FPNA ANNUAL MEETING

Please plan to attend our Fisher Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) annual meeting, **Sunday, November 20, 4:00 p.m. in Broome Hall of Holy Trinity Church.** We'll conduct a brief business meeting, and then invited guest Bob Powell, AIA, will lead discussions about local sustainability opportunities. Powell is an architecture graduate of Stanford University and MIT, Assistant Professor at NC A&T State University, and Co-Chair of Greensboro's Community Sustainability Council.

Powell will update us about a federally funded Piedmont Triad Sustainable Community Planning Project and the current status of the Greensboro Sustainable Action Plan. How do Fisher Park neighborhood residents envision future-sustainable housing, transportation, economic development, and health in this community? Neighborhood Board members will provide ample refreshments and encourage conversations after the annual meeting!

YOUR INVITATION – JOIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

Please contact **any FPNA Board member** listed on the back page to volunteer to join the Board. Self-nominations are appreciated prior to our **Sunday, November 20, 4:00 p.m.** neighborhood-wide annual meeting. We seek equal representation across the four quadrants of our neighborhood. Serving within your own neighborhood is rewarding, simultaneously helping your family, your friends, and yourself. Many volunteer opportunities are available at www.fisherparknc.org/files/Volunteer_Opportunities_2010.pdf.

CALENDAR

"Take Back The Park" Week!
Saturday, October 8, 9:00 a.m.

Possible Organic Weeding Demo!

Saturday, October 15, 9:00 a.m.

Team assignments at concrete animals. Look for details and updates via e-mail and signs.

336-273-8286

Halloween Parade & Party
Sunday, October 30, 4:00 p.m.

Carolina/Hendrix Street Intersection

If rainy, meet at Temple Emanuel.

Contact Erica Levy-Ringel
336-370-4135 ericagail@gmail.com

Neighborhood
Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 20, 4 p.m.
Broome Hall, Holy Trinity Church
336-274-4530

Luminaria
Kit Building Party
Wednesday, December 7, 6 p.m.

803 Simpson Street
336-638-7706

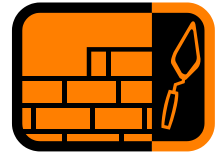
Luminaria Display
Sunday, December 11, dusk
Rain Date Sunday, December 18
336-638-7706

(To offer your home or office for a holiday open house, call Rob Pope at the above number ASAP.)

Most neighborhood events are posted all year long at www.fisherparknc.org/News.html
For event updates and real-time news, please join the neighborhood e-mail listserv. See the back page for listserv instructions.

KNOW YOUR MORTAR

We've recently read two excellent articles that stress the importance of identifying the type of mortar originally used in your home's foundation or brick walls prior to repairing or repointing damaged mortar.



“Know your Mortar” in *Old House Journal* January/February 2008, pp. 56–61, informs us that the mortar in our older home's walls and foundations may be lime-based or Portland cement-based, or a combination of those. Those constituents determine its hardness. Using a new mortar mix that is “too hard” can cause irreparable damage! When new mortar is harder than the old bricks or stone, water enters the bricks or stone, which then become the sacrificial portion of your structure. Foundations and walls become brittle and degrade – not a stable situation!

“Repointing Right: Why Using Modern Mortar Can Damage A Historic House” in *Old House Journal* July/August 1977, pp. 46–51, confirms that applying modern mortar between old bricks is a recipe for disaster. The hard composition of new mortars create severe moisture problems which later will crush old masonry. Both articles explain how to sample and test your existing mortar to determine its composition. Correct mortar repair saves significant trouble and expense in the long run. Issues of *Old House Journal* are available for free browsing at Architectural Salvage of Greensboro, 300 Bellemeade St., Greensboro.

WINDOWS – THE SOUL OF A HOME



Architects and preservationists often say “Windows are the soul of a home.” Windows provide character, enlivening the brick, wood, or stucco body. Fisher Park homeowners are fortunate that most of our home's old-growth hardwood windows are 75 to 100 years old, and a single round of window repair readies them for another century of use. Energy efficiency studies repeatedly demonstrate that simply adding storm windows atop original windows provides energy efficiencies comparable to new windows, providing many decades longer use and much less expense than new windows.

Significant research confirms the financial and environmental benefits of repairing and retaining your old-growth hardwood windows, as does a quick read of any replacement window warranty. Even high-end window manufacturers' warranties offer at best an “exclusive 20-year warranty,” which is considerably short compared to the life of your original windows. And new warranties are laced with fine print disclaimers and exceptions, sometimes as little as 5–10 years for the glass, 1–5 years for the wood, etc. Vinyl windows warp, and double pane glass is famous for fogging, requiring glass replacement. The sad truth is **“they're called ‘replacement windows’ because, once replaced, you will be replacing them again!”**

With minor repair and expense, your home's original windows are ready for another century. We're especially fortunate to have a historic window repair business located right here in Greensboro! Original old-growth hardwood windows afford money savings, retain original character, and preserve the “soul” of our unique homes. [Note: Homes within the local Fisher Park Historic District require a Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) to replace exterior features, whereas window repair does not require a CoA.]

CLEVERLY DESIGNED INTERIOR WINDOW SCREENS

When volunteering to empty the contents of 910 Magnolia Street, we noticed cleverly designed interior screen windows that others might like to copy. Most screen windows are positioned *outside* windows. But here, *inside* a traditional double-hung window sash, the ~1915 builders attached two thin vertical strips of interior wood trim. A wood framed window screen was fashioned with grooves up each side and set into the vertical trim tracks. The result is an *interior* screen window that can be raised or lowered to either the upper or lower pane, screening whichever half of the window sash you wish to open – as clever and useful today as in 1915 for those who enjoy fresh air!



Update: The Preservation Greensboro Development Fund (PGDF) received many excellent proposals to purchase and renovate 910 Magnolia Street! The winning bid has the opportunity to take advantage of significant historic preservation tax credits and will adhere to preservation easements placed with the deed by the PGDF, ensuring the house will be well maintained and preserved into the future. Years of neighbor's patience will be rewarded – a “Win-Win” for our neighborhood and local historic preservation efforts!

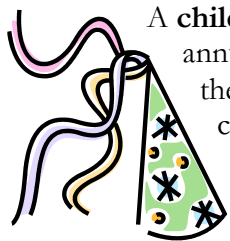
MEET KIM CONRAD – NEW GREETER COORDINATOR

Kim Conrad of Isabel Street volunteers as our neighborhood's new Greeter Coordinator, following in the able footsteps of Rachel Cannon-Percival, who has performed yeoman's duty for us over a number of years. Kim says, "I'm excited to become more involved in the neighborhood. My husband John and I moved to Isabel Street almost two years ago. We share a love for historic houses and wanted to be in walking proximity to downtown. Our newest hobby is three backyard chickens which just began laying eggs. That should get us some new friends in the neighborhood! We both have busy work schedules, but in our free time we love walking downtown for dinner or sitting on our front porch. I am interested in volunteering to become better connected to our neighborhood community - we plan on being here for a while!" Many thanks to Kim for her volunteerism. (Contact Kim at 336-580-1887 or kimconrad_1@yahoo.com.)

Our Greeter Coordinator helps four neighborhood Greeters – one in each quadrant – provide welcoming information to those who move in. Remember, Greeters don't know **your** new neighbors until **you** inform them! So please contact any of our Greeters when you **are** a new neighbor or **have** a new neighbor.

WELCOME

WANTED: CHILDREN'S EVENT COORDINATOR



A **children's event** coordinator sets event dates, recruits parents to help, then promotes our children's annual Egg Hunt and Halloween Parade and Party. Delancey Street residents generously facilitate the entire Egg Hunt whereas parents contribute to the Halloween event. Other children's events can be organized, limited only by your imagination: splashing in backyards, pizza in the park, and regular playgroups are a few ideas.

Rachel Cannon-Percival has kindly filled this youthful opportunity for several years. She'd appreciate another neighborhood parent (or parents) taking the reins of this energizing assignment through which you'll have the pleasure to meet our neighborhood's growing number of children. Contact Rachel Cannon-Percival at purplepercival@yahoo.com or 336-273-3365. Please thank Rachel for her exemplary past and present volunteerism!

REFRESHING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

About 40 neighbors attended our annual National Night Out Against Crime social in East Fisher Park, refreshed with multi-flavored snow cones and meeting City Central Police Division officers and several local politicians. Thanks to volunteer Community Watch Coordinator Sonya Lowe for organizing the event. Please continue to alert Police at 911 (emergency) or 373-2222 (non-emergency) and also post to our neighborhood e-mail list whenever you notice suspicious behaviors in our midst. One quick call and posting may alleviate great concern for yourself and others.



CAPTURING REMEMBRANCES WHILE WE CAN

Kit Ravenel grew up at 106 Fisher Park Circle, daughter of a prominent and well loved local pediatrician. Many years later Kit returned to enjoy retirement at Baker Place condominiums, nestled in opposite her childhood home. Before Kit moves to Tennessee to live near a daughter, we asked her to share some neighborhood memories. She sent this adorable photo of herself (left) with two childhood buddies (Dottie Carter and Mary Ann "Piff" Pfinger) strolling along Fisher Park's dirt paths in June 1940. The paths were worn from frequent use and "you could see straight through the park" as there were no extra plantings – only grass and trees. An iconic granite bridge is evident behind them yet an earlier rustic wooden bridge was long gone; thanks to "older, wilder neighborhood boys who built a fire on the wooden bridge one Halloween night and burned it beyond use."



Kit remembers WWII years when children collected foil inner wrappers of chewing gum for the war effort and when actors Ronald Reagan and wife Jane Wyman came to Greensboro to promote purchase of War Bonds. A humorous remembrance involved the distinguished Mr. Julian Price, a founder of Greensboro's prestigious Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, who lived at 301 Fisher Park Circle in one of this neighborhood's grandest homes.

According to Kit's recollections ... "Greensboro was a 'dry' city in those days; that is, absolutely no alcohol was publicly available for sale. This seemed a hardship for soldiers passing through Greensboro during WWII. One weekend a soldier checked into the King Cotton Hotel and asked the Bell Captain where he could get a bottle of whiskey. The Bell Captain explained that Greensboro had no whiskey; however there was an excellent bootlegger in town named 'Julian Price', who'd deliver to the hotel if discretely contacted by phone. But the Bell Captain did not share the actual bootlegger's phone number with the soldier.

Ever resourceful and thirsty for whiskey, the soldier consulted the local phone book and found a phone number for a Julian Price at a Fisher Park Circle address. Ignorant of that family's prominence and of the influential address, the passing soldier simply called the number and inquired directly 'Mr. Price, I am at the King Cotton Hotel, on leave from Fort Bragg, and I need a bottle of whiskey. Can you help me?' The Mr. Julian Price who resided at Fisher Park Circle and who was **not** a bootlegger humorously replied 'Of course, do you want scotch or bourbon? Be on the corner in front of the Hotel and I will deliver to you in ten minutes.' Mr. Price's chauffeur reportedly was horrified that Mr. Price insisted on driving himself and making this unusual delivery." The story concludes that Mr. Price astonished the soldier by sharing his own whiskey, refused payment, and equally enjoyed knowing that somewhere else in Greensboro there likely was a genuine bootlegger with his identical or similar name, Julian Price. Thank you to Kit Ravenel for sharing colorful remembrances of earlier times in our neighborhood! When you meet others who grew up in Fisher Park, please capture and share their stories with us. Happy trails, Kit!



LIVING AT "THE DOLLY"

In an ongoing series, one by one, we're highlighting all eight condo and townhome Associations which provide 117 residences throughout our neighborhood. Each Association reflects a different time period and appeals to different audiences. This issue features a place fondly referred to as "The Dolly," 24 units within the Dolly Madison Condominium Association at 1013 North Elm Street.



Thanks to a central trolley line and convenient urban location, in the early 1900's our Fisher Park neighborhood offered more apartments than any Greensboro neighborhood. Dolly Madison Apartments were built in the mid-1920's featuring Mediterranean Revival style architecture, originally a four-story dark brick exterior with a flat roof fringed by green terra cotta tiles. All three entrances were – and remain – decorated with a magnificent green glass canopy. Interior stairwells lead to twenty four apartments. Each apartment offered a large living room, a hall leading to one or two bedrooms and a single bathroom, and a kitchen at the rear with access to exterior stairs and an extensive covered parking garage. Two-bedroom units on the east and west of the building also offered a dining room. An early semi-circular driveway allowed tenants to drive up to the entrances, facilitating grocery delivery and gentlemen's courtesies under the boughs of old magnolia trees.

Today's residents of "The Dolly" may know that in 1926 the builder, Claude Cole Pierce, was completing an identical apartment building named "The Wilmont" at 3200 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh – now a Raleigh Historic Landmark. Since he and his wife Macye were living in Greensboro, he commenced construction of the Dolly Madison Apartments that same year. To learn more about "The Dolly's" sister building in Raleigh, visit <http://www.thewilmont.com/> and <http://www.rhdc.org/Portals/0/WilmontWeb.pdf>.

At some point the semi-circular driveway was removed and most front yard magnolias were decimated by hurricane winds. During a 1983 conversion from apartments to condominiums, the Dolly Madison was painted gray and rooftop tiles were painted red. Welcoming wooden benches and landscaping now grace each original entrance. Carpeting was recently removed in one stairwell revealing handsome hardwood stairs and a fresh stairwell paint scheme is in the works. A permanent grill, table, and chairs out back encourage socializing. Most residents are owners, some of whom rent out their condos, which facilitates a nice mix of residents. Association fees are a few hundred dollars/month which also covers basic utilities.



Today's residents of "The Dolly" enjoy much of the same character and convenience that attracted original residents in the 1920s. Many thanks to Jesse Stone who shared his enthusiasm about his home in "The

Dolly!” (U.S. history fans recall that **Dolley** Payne, born in the New Garden area of western Guilford County, was First Lady from 1809 to 1817, married to our 4th U.S. President, James Madison. The building, however, is unmistakably engraved with the name **Dolly** Madison, without the “e”.)

\$10,000 AND 10 DEGREES COOLER

As autumn approaches, every gardener’s fancy turns to planting. Yet even if you’re not a gardener, you’ll appreciate knowing that planting a large deciduous tree in your yard or the grassy strip in the right of way can save you a bundle of money in the future. It is projected that a properly placed tree can add \$10,000 to the value of your property and simultaneously reduce your home’s summer temperatures by 10 degrees! So if only for your own financial benefit, plant trees alongside the street or in your front and back yards. Park Committee members or the City Urban Forester gladly suggest appropriate trees for your specific location. Your editor planted two tiny acorns in the grassy right-of-way at her North Eugene Street home eight years ago and now enjoys the shade and cooling of oak trees that already have grown taller than the house. Planting a tree doesn’t need to cost money and surely can save money!



GOODWILL INITIATES NEIGHBORHOOD DONATION PROGRAM

Angie Smits of Magnolia Street is organizing neighborhood participation in a voluntary program for routine at-your-door donations to Goodwill Industries. Participants contact Angie to sign up and receive a free plastic donation bin. One assigned day each month, a Goodwill truck will drive to participant’s homes, pick up the bin, sort the contents into their truck, and return the empty bin and a door-hanger donation card to your doorstep. The goal is to make donation convenient, keep reusable items out of the landfill, and help Goodwill provide job training in the local community. The FPNA Board approved this project. Contact Angie at 336-574-1879 or RussAng@aol.com if you wish to participate.



GARBAGE CANS IN AND OUT IN 24-HOURS PLEASE

Neighbors remind us to place garbage bins, recycling bins, and bundled, bagged, or canned yard waste at the street the evening before pick-up, and return them to back yards the evening after pick-up. Pick-ups are Thursday in east Fisher Park and Monday in west Fisher Park. Not only is this courteous to your immediate neighbors, it’s a City of Greensboro ordinance.

“TAKE BACK THE PARK” WEEK

Responding to massive spring and summer overgrowth, the week of October 8 through 15 we proclaim as “Take Back the Park” Week!

- Saturday, October 8, 9:00 a.m. we hope to offer a unique organic weeding demonstration. (Confirmation pending. Look for e-mails and signs.)
- Saturday, October 15, 9:00 a.m., our autumn park clean-up day, meet at the concrete animals in the southwest park for team assignments.



If you cannot attend or don’t relish weeding and clipping, you can still help. **Loan us your yard service!** If your business, association, or private residence uses a yard service, the Park Committee asks that you **call and donate an hour** of your yard services’ expertise to Fisher Park during the week of October 8–15. **Please contact Park Committee Co-Chairs** listed on the back page to schedule park work areas that can profit from a professional’s touch and professional equipment. Everyone can participate in “Take Back the Park” Week. We look forward to seeing you there! (Both events are weather dependent. Watch for neighborhood e-mails and signage for updates.)

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUMS NEARBY

After this autumn’s Primary elections yet before final elections the Greensboro Neighborhood Congress will host convenient **City Council Candidate Forums** in the Nussbaum Room of the Central Public Library. Details and times will be posted on our neighborhood listserv. Informed voters will want to save these dates: Monday, October 17–Mayoral Forum; Monday, October 24–City Council District Representatives Forum; Thursday, October 27– City Council At-Large Representatives Forum. Then please turn out to vote November 8th!

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

Board of Directors			
Position (term ends)	Name	Address	Phone
President	Robert Kantlehner	306 Parkway	336-274-4530
Vice President	vacant		
Secretary (2011)	Sherry Rogowski	227 North Park Drive	336-275-2174
Treasurer (2012)	Angie Smits	706 Magnolia Street	336-574-1879
Board (2011)	Sally Atwood	802 Simpson Street	336-273-8286
Board (2011)	Nicole Crews	605 Magnolia Street	336-373-1051
Board (2011)	Cate Wineburg	902 Magnolia Street	336-272-2390
Board (2012)	Sarah Jordan	836 Olive Street	336-574-3680
Board (2012)	Judy Morton	102 Fisher Park Circle	336-387-8351
Board (2012)	Angie Smits	706 Magnolia Street	336-574-1879
Board (2013)	Elizabeth Knight	225 Florence Street	336-382-1829
Board (2013)	Anne Marsh	1 Magnolia Court	336-314-0526
Board (2013)	Daintry O'Brien	801 Simpson Street	336-273-9488
Board (2013)	Don Smith	308 Parkway	336-362-1511
Other Contacts in the Neighborhood and Beyond			
Children & Youth Event Coordinators	Rachel Cannon-Percival & Comer Wear (Seeking a new volunteer for this!)	336-273-3365 678-429-5250	purplepercival@yahoo.com cwear@centuryfurniture.com
Events Coordinator	Nicole Crews	336-373-1051	ncrews2@triad.rr.com
Greeter Coordinator	Kim Conrad	336-580-1887	Kimconrad_1@yahoo.com
Southeast Greeter	Janet Craft	336-274-3420	JWolfeCraft@gmail.com
Southwest Greeter	Carla Burns	336-327-5019	cecopelan@gmail.com
Northwest Greeter	Todd McCain	336-339-4089	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@ugcorp.com
Park Committee	Carl Myatt & Sally Atwood	336-274-3554 336-273-8286	cmvatt3363@aol.com skda1@aol.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	336-232-1900	zack.matheny@greensboro-nc.gov
County Commissioner	Kay Cashion, District 6 Commissioner	336-274-6272	bwillia1@co.guilford.nc.us
Board Meeting Schedule	Board meetings are 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church education building, Haywood Duke Room or Roe Library. Board meetings in 2011 are Mondays, January 24, February 21, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 29, September 26, October 24, and December 5. The Neighborhood-wide Annual Meeting is Sunday, Nov 20, 2011 at 4 p.m in Broome Hall of Holy Trinity Church.		
Fisher Park Neighborhood Association Mission			
<i>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.</i>			
Department/Company	Other Helpful Contacts	Phone	
City Customer Contact Center	Directs citizen calls to ANY appropriate City department.	336-373-2489 = 336-373-CITY	
City Historic District Staff	Historic district guidelines, applications for Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA), plus free design review advice.	336-373-2349 directly or simply call 336-373-CITY	
Zoning Enforcement	Parking in front yards, historic district guidelines enforcement.	336-373-2144 directly or simply call 336-373-CITY	
Ordinance Enforcement	House/Apt. inspections, abandoned vehicles, lot cleanup.	336-373-2111 directly or simply call 336-373-CITY	
Duke Power	Streetlight outage.	1-800-POWERON (1-800-769-3766)	
Police Central Division	Help during emergencies and non-emergencies.	Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: 336-373-2222	
Police Central Division-Community Resource Officers	Officer Heather Burns heather.burns@greensboro-nc.gov Officer Douglas Campbell douglas.campbell@greensboro-nc.gov Officer Melanie Daniel melanie.daniel@greensboro-nc.gov	336-412-3921 336-373-4644 336-373-4645	
Fisher Park E-mail Listserv	Visit www.fisherparknc.org/communicate.html and follow directions. YOU make up your Yahoo username & password. For help, contact Genie Schwartz at schwartzgenie@gmail.com	After joining the e-mail listserv, simply address e-mails To fisherpark@yahogroups.com	