



THE FISHER PARKER

APRIL 2019

SOMETHING OLD. SOME THINGS NEW.

In 2018, Fisher Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) leaders initiated a number of innovative monthly events such as Curbside Cocktails, Accidental Gardeners, Let's Roll, and Book Club. Participation has been tremendous!

The calendar on the right lists events in general. For event details, please visit our new website's online calendar at www.FisherParkNC.org. Then please join www.Nextdoor.com so event details can be sent to you.

Most events need hosts, so please volunteer or recommend topics and locations. Don't use social media? Any FPNA Board or Committee member can instruct you or provide additional information (see back page). Our neighborhood thrives through your input and participation.

HIGH TURNOUT FOR 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

Holy Trinity's Broome Hall filled to capacity for the FPNA November 2018 annual meeting. Applause showed our gratitude for 2018 committee member's successes: Mike Chapman's service as President, Sally Atwood for Park, Jim Brady for Streets & Sidewalks, Yvonne Cousino for Neighborhood Watch, Katy Danforth for Children's events, Michelle Felt for Socials, Cheryl Pratt for Communications, Kay Quinlivan for Luminaria, outgoing Board members Ashley Meredith, Sam Mjalli, Steve Rubin, Cris Schamp, and continuing Board members Secretary Keisha Hadden, Treasurer Lane Hayes, Sue Hunt, Beth Nilsson, all block captains, and the newsletter editors.

Significant discussion addressed the potential rezoning of the newly restored Julian Price "Hillside" house from its 1929 single-family residential zoning to potential commercial rezoning for use as an event center. The property currently is zoned single-family residential.

Subsequent to the Annual Meeting, a Hillside Committee was formed at the request of Hillside owners to address issues related to the property. Our City Land Development Ordinance allows tourist homes/bed and breakfasts in single-family residential zoning if a Special Use Permit is granted by the Greensboro Zoning Commission. This is subject to several development standards including the use of the property as the principal residence of the owner/operator. See all development standards for Tourist Homes/Bed and Breakfasts in Article 8, Section 30-8-10.4 Q at <http://online.encodeplus.com/regs/greensboro-nc/>.

2019 CALENDAR

NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS' EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.
East Fisher Park playground.
Contact Katy Danforth 478.714.4228

PARK WORK DAY

Saturday, May 4, 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 10:30-12:30 a.m., whichever works well for you. Meet at the concrete animals in the southwest park.
Contact Beth Nilsson 336.549.8436

BOOK CLUB

2nd Monday most months, 7:30 p.m.
Contact Cheryl Pratt 336.202.6543

ACCIDENTAL GARDENERS

2nd Wednesday most months, 6 p.m.
Contact Cheryl Pratt 336.202.6543

CURBSIDE COCKTAILS

2nd Friday most months, 5:30 p.m.
Contact Michelle Felt 336.509.1708

PARK COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3rd Monday most months, 5:30 p.m.
Contact Beth Nilsson 336.549.8436

LET'S ROLL: WALKING/ DRINKING/DINING

3rd Saturday most months, 6 p.m.
Contact Sue Hunt 336.681.1313

FPNA BOARD MEETINGS

Last Monday most months, 6:30 p.m.
Dates are listed on the back page and are open to all FPNA neighbors.

FOR ALL 2019 FPNA EVENTS

Please visit www.FisherParkNC.org and click on the online CALENDAR for each event's details. Join www.Nextdoor.com to receive official details of FPNA events and announcements.

2018 LUMINARIA INCOME NEARLY \$7,000

Thank you, Kay Quinlivan of 910 Olive Street, for managing our December 2018 Luminaria event! Despite inclement weather delays, the successful merriment proceeded in West Fisher Park as a jolly Santa settled into the King's Chair while neighbors shared sweet treats and warming libations. Thanks to Michelle Felt for park preparations, Tracey Pratt for cider, Tom Bews for Santa-ing, food providers, dozens of Luminaria kit building volunteers, the block captains who delivered to your doorstep, and hundreds of participating neighbors, the 2018 Luminaria event net income was \$6,930—\$1,645 from Luminaria kits sold and \$5,285 received as donations! Best of all, Kay has agreed to manage Luminaria again in December 2019.

INTRODUCING FPNA'S NEW WEBSITE LOOK

Thanks also to Lane Hayes of 1001 North Eugene Street for crafting FPNA's welcoming, picturesque, contemporary website! Visit www.FisherParkNC.org to view our new image and features. Contact Lane you'd like to see additional content: 704.231.1696, tlanehayes@gmail.com

NEXTDOOR.COM IS NOW FPNA'S OFFICIAL ONLINE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM

Throughout several meetings, the FPNA Board discussed at length pros, cons, and options of many social media platforms, and then chose Nextdoor.com as FPNA's **official** online social media platform. Going forward, FPNA Board and Committee members will post official FPNA events, invitations, and news only onto Nextdoor.com.

What prompted this decision? Simply put, our neighborhood Communication and Committee volunteers have worn thin posting all FPNA events, invitations, and news onto multiple—typically three or more—social media sites. Neighbors are encouraged to copy FPNA events, invitations, and news onto any social media sites you enjoy. But you'll officially see these first on Fisher Park's Nextdoor.com site.

Using your Internet browser, visit www.Nextdoor.com, enter your email address and

residential street address, then click to select our neighborhood. Complete the required fields. **You** choose to make your address private or public! Click **Sign up**. Lastly, verify your address. Once you've joined Nextdoor.com you can:

1. See our neighborhood **map**.
2. Limit to receive posts related to the categories of **your interest only**. (Sorry, we can't eliminate ads!)
3. Categorize your posts (lost and found, for sale, general, crime/safety, recommendations)
4. Optionally, indicate **your own** interests if desired, such as walking, volunteering, and gardening.
5. Limit or expand the distribution of your posts, to reach only Fisher Park neighbors **or** to reach nearby neighborhoods.
6. Consistently receive news/alerts directly from City of Greensboro departments including Planning, Recycling, Transportation, Emergency Management, and especially from City Police who post neighborhood-relevant news and alerts.

Our long-time www.YahooGroups.com/FisherPark e-mail site, along with the Fisher Park [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/fisherparknc) site that was initiated by neighbors, remain active social media sites. A FPNA events calendar is now online at the new www.FisherParkNC.org website. FPNA event details—such as a meeting location, topic, or what you can bring—will be posted on Nextdoor.com.

And for those who don't care to partake of online social media, dozens of other neighborhood volunteers continue collecting, composing, printing, and hand-delivering printed Fisher Park newsletters three to four times/year to our neighborhood's 900-plus doorsteps. Thanks to all of these technologies and willing volunteers, our Fisher Park neighborhood remains one of the most engaged in town.

PARK WORK DAY OFFERS TWO SESSIONS ON MAY 4, 2019

All neighbors who use and admire our urban park are invited Saturday, May 4, to either (or

both) of two volunteer park work sessions. At 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., volunteers first learn to identify common invasive plants before we proceed to remove English Ivy from many park tree trunks. Bring your gloves, clippers, and a helpful spirit!

SURPRISE! YOU MIGHT BE EGGED!

Beginning on April 1 and continuing until April 20, several west and east FPNA neighbors will awaken to find their homes have been “egged”—metaphorically and in fun! Michelle Felt initiated this game, in which a few neighbors are treated to artificial eggs, which are hidden in their yards and contain treats. In turn, they’re asked to pass along their own choice of treats to entertain another neighbor. Watch for it in April!

PRESERVATION GREENSBORO INC (PGI) AWARDS FISHER PARK NEIGHBORS

At PGI’s annual meeting and banquet in February, four Fisher Park property owners received accolades for major impact in the local historic preservation community.

Chris Redmond, a metropolitan DC resident and UNCG graduate, embarked on a thorough renovation of a quadraplex at 111 East Hendrix Street.



These four apartments, constructed in 1926 for Emily Leftwich by her husband, real estate developer L.B. Leftwich,

were originally described as “attractive modern apartments with every convenience.” Redmond used Historic Tax Credits for income-producing properties to restore the foundation, façade, and windows and install all new plumbing, electrical, HVAC, kitchens, baths, laundry, hardwood floors, walls, and finishes. While enjoying tax credits, his investment has paid off, and all units in the quadraplex are rented.

Eric and Michael Fuko-Rizzo were again recognized for dramatic restorations at Hillside, the 1929 Ethel and Julian Price House at 301 Fisher Park Circle. Their partnership with PGI for an April 2018

Designer Showhouse fundraiser brought more than 9,000 visitors to our neighborhood.

Linda Lane of 805 Magnolia Street earned PGI’s Volunteer of the Year award for her role in orchestrating the Hillside Designer Showhouse, a transformative event that engaged hundreds of volunteers and raised critical funds for PGI.

And we’re pleased to note that our neighbor and City Council District 3 Commissioner—Justin Outling—has joined the Board of Preservation Greensboro.

Congratulations to these neighbors!

FROM HOUSE TO HOME

For decades, Camilla Ruzicka used her 1920s vintage house at 915 Olive Street as office space.

Although Camilla and her husband Stephen are long-time Dunleath neighborhood residents, over the years their devotion to this house amplified such that they have meticulously restored it for residential use. They’ve recently requested this property be rezoned from Office to R-5 residential single-family zoning.

Thanks to the Ruzickas, whose heart-felt determination returns this Dutch colonial style house to a home.



PLAN AHEAD FOR CoAs

Remember, if you live in the Fisher Park Historic District, which is smaller than the Fisher Park Neighborhood, plan your exterior renovation projects and obtain a City Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) ahead of time, *before construction starts*.

Greensboro’s Historic District Guidelines and Design Manual are available online. About 95% of CoA’s are approved—many quickly by City Historic District staff. Others are often approved with minor mutually agreed-upon changes, frequently benefiting owners using Commissioner’s experienced advice.

In historic districts, a growing number of property owners apply for and receive significant federal and state tax credits for historically appropriate capital improvements, inside and out. When projects meet U.S. Secretary of the Interior and State of NC Historic Preservation Office guidelines, 15% or more of pre-approved renovation expenses can be subtracted directly off the bottom line of the owner's annual taxes. Within Greensboro's three Historic Districts, Fisher Park property owners have taken the greatest advantage of these beneficial tax credits.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Please extend thanks to Yvonne Cousino of 917 North Eugene Street for her recent work as FPNA Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, using social media to update neighbors about security concerns and



recommending proactive safety measures.

Beginning in 2019 Karen Andersen of 402-F Fisher Park Circle will assume responsibility for this task. Karen recently met our City Police Community Resource

Officer (CRO) Corporal David Ciser and prepared an overview of neighborhood safety tips. Concise reminders include: lock your car, light your home's entrances, keep some interior lights on timers, promptly alert City Police of suspicious persons loitering nearby or living in the park (which by law closes dusk to dawn), report park or street light outages to 336.373.CITY (336.373.2484), and communicate with Police CRO David Ciser whose contact is on the back of every *Fisher Parker*.

Ciser posts City Police news to [Fisher Park's Nextdoor](#) site. Karen recently mapped neighborhood streetlights and identified 11 blocks that may benefit from improved night-time lighting. To request additional streetlights, neighbors on your block need to develop a petition, have it signed by 75% of your block's neighbors, then present the petition to Jeff Minor 336.373.4683 in City Parks & Recreation for approval.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS FOR HISTORIC AND NEWER HOMES

Whether our furnace or air conditioner is operating, we all aim to improve our home's energy efficiency and lower costs. Two of the most effective energy-saving modifications are: (1) insulate your attic floor and attic door, and (2) caulk gaps in your home's "envelope." City Historic District staff, Mike Cowhig, quips, "Caulk is cheap!" Caulk gaps in stair risers, between floors and baseboards, and around window trim, wherever you feel air infiltration. Repairing old hardwood windows is usually less expensive and more long-lived than window replacement—especially when adding storm windows. Other energy efficiency tips for old homes are available from the [National Park Service](https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/3-improve-energy-efficiency.htm)



(<https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/3-improve-energy-efficiency.htm>). Also, Duke Energy will mail free LED light bulbs to residential customers who request them at <https://www.duke-energy.com/home/products/free-leds>.

WHOSE MAIL IS THIS?

For Fisher Park residents without a regular mail carrier, things can get a bit confusing! Automated sorting at the Post Office can result in held mail, packages, and flat envelopes or magazines being delivered to the right number on a home, but on the wrong street. One recent mix-up of this sort resulted in delivery of three weeks' held mail to 403 Victoria rather than 403 W. Bessemer. Fortunately, the owners know each other, but in some cases, we don't.

If you receive someone else's mail, please write a notice on the item (or attach a note) so the postal carrier can see it at or directly beneath your box and redeliver. It's not always their fault that items are mis-sorted, and carriers are happy to reroute. Plus, your neighbors who are looking for mail will appreciate the extra effort.

BENEFITS OF SEMI-PERMEABLE SURFACES

As rainy days accumulate, we recognize the long-term value of water permeable surfaces such as lawns, gardens, and even semi-permeable surfaces such as pavers and gravel. All of us who've added impermeable concrete driveways thoroughly enjoy the convenience, until rain water accumulates in our own and our neighbor's yards. Although it's too late for many of us who've "paved paradise", trust our voices of experience as we suggest that you first investigate paving products that are permeable, or at least semi-permeable, to rain water. Until then, invest in galoshes!

THANKS TO PAST PRESIDENT MIKE CHAPMAN

A note of thanks to Mike Chapman, past president, who served the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association with humor and energetic leadership throughout 2018.

Under Mike's oversight, the board extended neighborhood activities established by 2017 FPNA President Todd McCain, represented the neighborhood in official meetings and City interactions, and helped ensure the sustained appeal of Fisher Park to households of all ages and makeup.

A MESSAGE FROM 2019 PRESIDENT JIM HALSCH

It's my pleasure to head up the FPNA for 2019. I join a group of talented and dedicated volunteers who are committed to the protection of our neighborhood for the enjoyment of all residents.

As the Triad's long, wet winter ends, there's lots to do in our great neighborhood.

Please consider joining Park Committee members and other volunteers for Park clean-up on May 4. Working with City Parks representative Mike Simpson, we'll work exclusively on small overgrown sections of the Park throughout the spring. For more information about planned clean-up events, contact Beth Nilsson at 336.549.8436.

Also, please join us for scheduled events throughout the year including the monthly Curbside Cocktails, the Easter Egg hunt in April, and book and

gardening clubs. All events are casual—a great way to get to know your neighbors while having fun.

Please let me (or any Board member listed on page 6) know what's on your mind, whether it's an idea for a new recurring event/effort or a neighborhood or park improvement. The Board meets the last Monday of each month that immediately precedes the City's monthly Historic Preservation Commission meeting (the final Wednesday of each month). See listing on the back page). We'll address your concerns and ideas, and as always, you're welcome to join us. Bring a guest, too.

Again, it's my honor to serve as FPNA president this year. I look forward to working with and seeing you throughout 2019.

WE'RE WELL POSITIONED

The three Historic Districts in Greensboro are perfectly positioned for enjoyment and services. Walking in our Fisher Park neighborhood, we can easily frequent coffee shops, restaurants, groceries, breweries, quick marts, a donut shop (and then a fitness center), large public parks, places of worship, AirBnBs/VRBOs, about 150 businesses in offices and in homes, a gas station, and even a historic cemetery that's been called an accidental arboretum!

Stroll a few blocks farther to explore our public library, hotels, children's museum, history museum, dozens more restaurants, eclectic shops, a YMCA, soon a performing arts center, car repair shops and Greensboro's only remaining downtown service station. Equally close are miles of walking/biking trails, several tennis courts, and fields for casual soccer games and romping dogs. Movie theaters, live theaters, hundreds of medical offices plus Greensboro's largest hospital are five minutes away.

For music buffs, nearby Preyer Brewing offers monthly "First Friday Jazz" featuring a three-hour block of local jazz players in the taproom starting at 8 p.m. Across the street, Joy Mongers features various N.C. musicians Tuesdays 7:30–9:30 p.m. and The Finns band on Thursdays 8:30–10:30 p.m.

No matter where you wander, we can all feel fortunate to be where we've landed.

**FISHER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (FPNA)
P. O. BOX 2004 • GREENSBORO, NC 27402**

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.

2019 FPNA Board of Directors

Term Ends	Name	Phone	Email	Address
2021	Jim Halsch, President	336.302.3728	jhalsch1@triad.rr.com	812 Olive Street
2019	Michelle Felt, Events Coordinator	336.509.1708	michellefelt@yahoo.com	403 Victoria Street
2019	Jim Brady, Streets & Sidewalks	336.382.9636	jimbrady6301@yahoo.com	225 Florence Street
2019	Sue Hunt	336.681.1313	sue@susanhuntlaw.com	812 Olive Street
2019	Steve Rubin	336.509.8225	d0crub1n@earthlink.net	224 South Park Drive
2020	Keisha Collins Hadden, Secretary	229.326.3944	khadden2@gmail.com	404 West Bessemer Avenue
2020	Beth Nilsson, Park Committee	336.549.8436	efnilsson104@gmail.com	104 Fisher Park Circle
2020	Lane Hayes, Treasurer, Webmaster	704.231.1696	tlanehayes@gmail.com	1001 North Eugene Street
2020	Cheryl Pratt, Social Media	336.202.6543	cpratt3@att.net	910 Magnolia Street
2021	Karen Andersen, Neighborhood Watch	336.456.2260	kwandersen26@gmail.com	402-F Fisher Park Circle
2021	Nancy Schmidt	314.941.0319	schmidtwhite@gmail.com	901 Magnolia Street
2021	Mark Lytle	734.625.5331	marklytle7@gmail.com	207 West Bessemer Avenue
2021	Kate and Tim Tobey	336.337.3452	timothytobey@gmail.com	802 North Eugene Street
2021	Tom Hyde	203.505.4882	tom.hyde@boardevaluations.com	202 Fisher Park Circle
2019	Mike Chapman, Past President	336.324.5805	mpchapman4739@gmail.com	818 North Eugene Street

2019 Board meetings for April through December are at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 North Greene Street. Dates are April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, and October 28. The annual neighborhood-wide meeting is Sunday, November 17, 2019, 4 p.m. in Broome Hall of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 North Greene Street (enter from back of building off Simpson Street). **Call any Board member to confirm dates and times.**

Additional Neighborhood Volunteers:

Children's Events	Katy Danforth	478.714.4228	demanigold@yahoo.com	305 East Hendrix Street
Newsletter Editors	Liz Urquhart Ann Stringfield	336.373.1250 336.370.0457	lizurquhart@yahoo.com ann@infocrofters.com	403 West Bessemer Avenue 1005 North Eugene Street
Webmaster	Lane Hayes	704.231.1696	tlanehayes@gmail.com	1001 North Eugene Street
Block Captain South Coordinator:	Cheryl Poole	336.275.0333	cherylpoole@triad.rr.com	601 Magnolia Street
Block Captain North Coordinator:	Jim Willis	336.275.5092	galoot00074@att.net	307 East Hendrix Street

Find your volunteer Block Captain's contact information at www.fisherparknc.org

Helpful Contacts and Organizations

City Council	Justin Outling, City Council District 3	336.373.4638 or justin.outling@greensboro-nc.gov
County Commission	Jeff Phillips, County Commissioner District 5 Kay Cashion, County Commissioner At Large	336.337.2955 or jphillips@guilfordcountync.gov 336.274.6272 or kcashion@guilfordcountync.gov
City Customer Contact	Directs your calls to the appropriate City department	336.373.CITY = 336.373.2489
City Historic District Staff	Historic district guidelines, applications for Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA), plus free design review advice.	336.373.2144 directly or simply call 336.373.CITY
City Zoning Enforcement	Historic district guidelines enforcement, property owner housing concerns, signage concerns, etc.	336.373.2753 directly or simply call 336.373.CITY
City Code Compliance	Rental housing inspections, abandoned vehicles, overgrown property cleanup, and other issues.	336.373.2111 directly or simply call 336.373.CITY
Duke Energy	Streetlight outage or electrical power outage.	1.800.POWERON (1.800.769.3766)
Police Central Division	Police assistance during emergencies and non-emergencies such as suspicious activities or noise abatement	Emergency: 911 Non-emergency: 336.373.2222
Police Community Resource Officer (CRO)	Corporal David Ciser: 336.373.4643 (desk phone) or davidciser@greensboro-nc.gov . For emergency, call or email Corporal Ciser. NextDoor is not routinely monitored by police. To report homeless people using the park: call 911, and police will come OR call or email Corporal Ciser.	
Social Media Options	Fisher Park Nextdoor Visit https://fisherparknc.nextdoor.com , and follow Nextdoor instructions to join.	
	Fisher Park Yahoo Groups E-mail Listserv 1. Create your own Yahoo account . 2. Email TO: fisherpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com	3. Then send e-mails to: fisherpark@yahoogroups.com 4. To unsubscribe at any time, e-mail a blank (no actual message) TO: fisherpark-unsubscribe@yahoo.com
	Fisher Park Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/70093789136	
Historic Homeowner Contractor Referrals	Positive referrals to contractors, provided by neighbors and hosted by Preservation Greensboro Inc. (PGI) PreservationGreensboro.org/about/preservation-resources/	
Greensboro Neighborhood Congress	Greensboro alliance of neighborhoods meeting bimonthly to address city-wide issues and empower neighborhoods to resolve neighborhood-specific concerns. www.GreensboroNeighborhoodCongress.org	