



August 11, 2016

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Your MLPA has been busy this summer--read about what is happening and join our efforts. The more members and volunteers we have, the better!

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MLPA Traffic Focuses on Monroe Drive Project



The MLPA Traffic Committee has been working hard on several issues from potholes on Johnson Road to continued speeding concerns throughout the neighborhood.

The critical issue we are now focused on is the Monroe Drive/Boulevard



Monroe Drive/Boulevard Complete Street Project Community Engagement Meeting

Please join the City of Atlanta and Atlanta City Councilmembers Kwanza Hall, Alex Wan and Natalyn Archibong for a community engagement meeting to discuss the future of Monroe Drive/Boulevard from Piedmont Circle to Woodward Avenue.

Based on previous community planning studies, the corridor will be transformed into a complete street that is safe and efficient for all users and modes of transportation.

Residents are encouraged to attend to provide their input.

Tuesday, August 23, 2016
6 – 8 p.m.
Henry W. Grady High School
929 Charles Allen Drive, Northeast
(Meeting will be held in the cafeteria on 8th Street)

The meeting is accessible by MARTA bus routes 36 and 109 and parking is available in the Grady High School parking lot on 8th Street.

For more information about the project, please contact the City of Atlanta at 404-330-6165 or visit www.renewatlantabond.com.

Renew Atlanta is an infrastructure improvement program for the City of Atlanta. The \$250 million program is the most significant investment in Atlanta's above-ground infrastructure in more than a decade and is a first step toward resolving an infrastructure repair backlog of more than \$900 million.

on is the **monroe Drive/Boulevard Complete Street Project**. The entire MLPA Board is fully engaged in analyzing and discussing Traffic Calming and Reduction ideas to minimize potential negative effects on our streets. We are working on a short list of potential solutions to address these possible effects.

The first Community Engagement Meeting is Tuesday, August 23rd at Grady High School from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Hosted by the City of Atlanta and City Councilmembers Kwanza Hall, Alex Wan and Natalyn Archibong, the meeting will preview the plans. There will also be an opportunity for public comment.

MLPA is planning to hold a separate meeting for our membership to further discuss the intricacies of Smart Street concepts and any of our neighborhood's issues or concerns raised by the Monroe Drive/Boulevard proposal. Watch your email box for an announcement of this meeting very soon.

Please know that we continue to work hard to protect MLPA streets and

safety. As always, feel free to contact us with any concerns at traffic@mlpa.org.



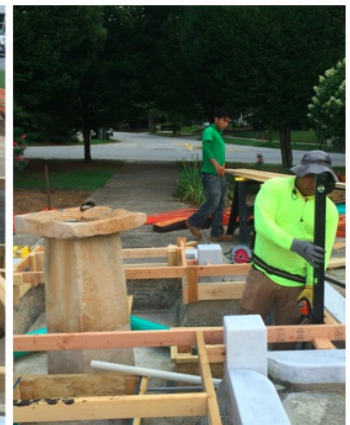
Bottomless Brunch @ Varuni Napoli

Every Saturday and Sunday until 5:00 PM, Varuni Napoli is offering bottomless brunch specials for singles and couples! Enjoy one of our incredible brunch pizzas with a bottomless mimosa to wash it down!

25.00 single / 40.00 couple



Smith Park Fountain Progress Report



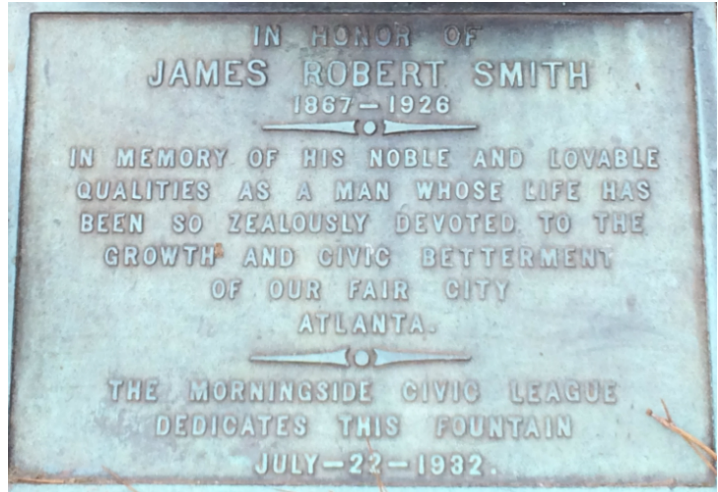
If you've recently driven past the corner of Piedmont and Monroe, the orange fencing surrounding the fountain has been hard to miss.

The MLPA Parks Committee has worked with neighbors, the city, non-profits and local businesses to secure the funding to refurbish this neighborhood landmark.

Work continues with Surrounding Landscapes almost ready to pour concrete and install the pumps. Once everything has been completed and tested, we will schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the restoration of the fountain in Smith Park.

This most visible entrance to our neighborhood marks the spot where the Morningside Civic Association dedicated a park and fountain to Morningside's founder, James R. Smith, on July 22, 1932. Now, a bit over eighty-four years later, we will soon realize our goal of making the waters flow once again.

As always, feel free to contact us with any concerns at parks@mlpa.org.



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Zoning Committee Hard at Work

The first Tuesday of every month a group of neighbors meets to review zoning variances in our neighborhood. All neighbors are welcome to attend-anyone wishing to join the committee need only attend 3 meetings to qualify.

In August, the Zoning Committee heard two variance applications. The next steps in the process are for the applicants to go before the MLPA board on August 8th, 7:00 PM at Morningside Presbyterian, and then NPU-F on August 15th, 7:00 PM at Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Drive (see Events below). Neighbors supporting or opposing the variances are encouraged to attend these meetings that are open to all MLPA residents.

- The first variance was for property at **1414 North Morningside Rd**. The applicant wishes to place a second story addition on an existing home, but needs a variance as the existing home was built too close to the set-backs. The committee approved the variance to allow the second story addition to the existing footprint.
- The second covered property at **2015 & 2040 Rockledge Rd**, which is across Cheshire Bridge Road. The property borders Manchester and is near the WABE studio. The applicant plans to build a townhome community, seeking a variance to reduce the required sidewalk width to 5 ft. from 10 ft. and to allow landscaping between the sidewalk and building. When the zoning for this area off Cheshire Bridge Road was initially created, it was believed the area would mainly be used for retail, hence the requirements for wide sidewalks to accommodate pedestrian traffic. The committee felt that a 5 ft. sidewalk would not be enough to allow for comfortable pedestrian traffic which we hope will develop as more residents move into this area and improvements continue on Cheshire Bridge and Piedmont. Therefore we voted to 1) deny a five foot wide sidewalk clear zone in lieu of the required ten foot wide sidewalk clear zone; and 2) support that portion of the variance to allow for a landscaped supplemental zone instead of the required hardscaped supplemental zone conditioned on the supplemental zone being landscaped.

In addition, the zoning committee continues to work with the city and Modera Apartments (Sprouts location) on issues with lighting on the roof and in their parking deck.

Please contact zoning@mlpa.org with any comments, concerns or suggestions.



1397 N. Highland Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
www.Morningside-Kitchen.com
404-347-9747

We love e-mailing special offers and news only to our closest Morningside Neighbors so don't be left out!

Sign up on our secret page at
www.Morningside-Kitchen.com/neighbors

Weekend Brunch 10am-3pm reservations accepted
Dinner Sun-Thu 5-10pm, Fri-Sat 5-11pm

Featuring wood fire grilled fish & meats
and Peruvian style rotisserie chicken



Let's Get Social

MLPA's Events Committee wants you!



The MLPA is an all-volunteer organization that works to keep our neighborhood one of the best places to live in the entire Southeast. There are many ways you can serve, so consider putting your talents to work for your neighborhood by [volunteering](#) with the MLPA. Use 'volunteer' in the subject line and note any talents / interests in the comments section of the contact form.

It's a great way to meet your neighbors, make new friends, build your resume and generally stretch your wings.

Another great way to start is to volunteer for the Events Committee. We are having a meeting on Monday, August 22nd at 7:00 PM. Contact events@mlpa.org for details.

School News by Amanda Strawser, MLPA Education Chair

In late June, Atlanta Public Schools (APS) expanded its Police Department to include a chief of police and 67 certified police candidates.

The inaugural swearing-in ceremony launches the school district's fully-staffed police department and approach to providing security and safety services to 50,000 students, and nearly 5,000 employees in more than 100 learning sites and facilities. The new police officers will be assigned to APS middle and high schools to serve as school resource officers (SROs) to support students, staff and parents, and to secure its campuses and facilities.

The APS police department will continue to partner with APD and other local jurisdictions to provide various levels of emergency, safety and security services across the district as needed.

APS Superintendent Dr. Meria Carstarphen is the former superintendent of Austin Independent School District which maintains a similar number of police officers for its 125 campuses. The department website claims, "our sustainable approach to safety and security translates to less time responding to and investigating calls for service. This adds time and resources back where they count the most-the classroom. Education is the ultimate mitigator of risks."

Back to School News

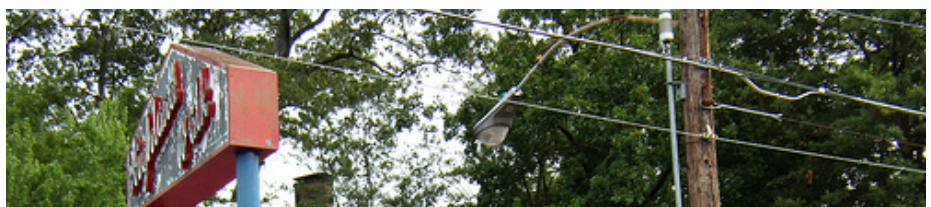
Atlanta Public Schools began August 3rd. Check your child's school websites for the supplies list, dates for meetings, to sign up for newsletters and other important information:

- [Morningside Elementary School](#)
- [Inman Middle School](#)
- [Grady High School](#)

Please contact education@mlpa.org with any comments, concerns or suggestions.

MLPA History Corner

One of the amenities that draws so many of us to Morningside is the proximity to shops and restaurants. As we walk to our favorite shop, eatery or outdoor market, we are following in the footsteps of early residents who



visited some of the same shopping areas. Here's a short, not nearly complete history of one retail area within our boundaries.

Morningside's first retail area sprung up on the corner of North Highland and University in 1925. That's the spot where Byron Kistner developed a bungalow-style shopping center that housed Shackleford's Drug Store, Henry's Dry Cleaning, Haver's 5 & 10 and Van Orner's Hardware^[1]. Across the street



an A&P Grocery store completed this retail hub. The shopping center, aptly named Highland Walk, drew neighbors and drivers passing through Morningside Lenox Park, with its variety of shops and services.

After the end of World War II, a Standard Oil station was built nearby at 1394 North Highland. With its addition, people hardly needed to leave the neighborhood to meet all of their needs, from buying groceries, health & beauty items and gifts to filling their gas tanks, servicing their cars and having their clothes cleaned and pressed.

Then sometime in the 1960s, a fire in the shopping area at University and North Highland forced most of the businesses to relocate. The gas station fell into disuse as older residents moved out and the growth of the suburbs pushed Atlantans even further from the city's core. The neighborhood was in jeopardy as the Georgia DOT's plans called for demolishing homes and businesses to make way for a freeway ([see July 2016 for article detailing the fight to save the neighborhood](#)).

As it became clear that the neighborhood would survive, it began to rebuild. The old Standard Oil station was bought in the early 1980's by Randy Feinberg. He remodeled and expanded the building and grounds into what eventually became Allen's Alley, named after the 1940's radio personality, Fred Allen. Feinberg first used the building to house a tennis business he owned, but in the early 90's he moved out, making room for Alon's in 1992

which continues in this location today, along with Lenox Park Cleaners, a tenant since 1997.

Highland Walk also rebuilt at North Highland and University, becoming home to a real estate agency, shops and restaurants. Then in 2009, Highland Walk became Morningside Village. Over the years the tenants have come and gone, but this thriving retail hub continues to draw residents.

Today Morningside Village is not only home to restaurants, shops, realtors, a spa and healthcare/veterinarian offices, but it also hosts the Southeast's first totally organic farmers' market, the [Morningside Market](#). The market, which operates year round in the parking lot on Saturday mornings, draws farmers from all over Georgia and shoppers from throughout the metro region looking for locally grown, certified organic produce. An added bonus during the Spring-Fall are cooking demonstrations by celebrated chefs that include tasty morsels highlighting some of the market's fare.

For most of its history, MLPA residents have had the best of all worlds. We have great shopping, restaurants and services available to us within walking distance, making this a wonderful urban setting in which to live!

[1] Auchmutey, Pam, [MLPA Newsletter](#), Volume 11, No 2, Autumn 1990, pg. 23. Pam Auchmutey, a member of the Historic Preservation Committee, interviewed long-time Morningside residents, Margaret & John Ezell, who lived on Fordham Court from 1944-1989.

Movies at Piedmont Park Returns





Later this month the Piedmont Conservancy and Turner Classic Movies return to Piedmont Park for showings of Casablanca and Jaws on the Promenade. Tickets are required for both, see details and [click here for tickets](#).

Alex Wan's Newsletter

[Click here](#) for a copy of the latest news from our City Council Representative, Alex Wan, District 6. It covers the 0.4% TSPLOST Sales Tax November referendum, the Monroe Community Engagement Meeting, a Refresher Course on Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (like on Monroe between Yorkshire and Cumberland), Downtown Connector/I-75 Resurfacing, and the APD 2015 Annual Report.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 13, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Matthew Basford, Canoe, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

Thursday, August 18, 8:00 PM Movies in Piedmont Park on the Promenade showing of Casablanca. Tickets required-see above.

Saturday, August 20, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Joey Ward, Gunshow, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

Monday, August 22, 7:00 PM MLPA Events Committee Meeting, email events@mlpa.org for location.

Tuesday, August 23, 6:00-8:00 PM Renew Atlanta Meeting to Discuss the Monroe Drive/Boulevard Complete Street Project, Grady High School.

Thursday, August 25, 6:00-8:30 PM Morningside Elementary School Back to School Night. This is a parents only event-see the Digital Dolphin for details.

Thursday, August 25, 8:00 PM Movies in Piedmont Park on the Promenade showing of Jaws. Tickets required-[see above](#).

Saturday, August 27, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Edwin Molina, Double Zero, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

Sunday, August 28, 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM 16th Annual Festival Peachtree Latino Festival, Piedmont Park.

Saturday, September 3, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Michael Semancik, Livingston, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 PM MLPA Zoning Committee Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1411 North Morningside, enter through the small parking lot off Wessyngton Road.

Saturday, September 10, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Savannah Haseler, Twain's, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

Saturday, September 10, 7:30-11:00 PM Art on the Beltline Lantern Parade. For a full schedule including signing up for lantern making classes [click here](#).

Friday, September 16, 6:00-8:30 PM [Concerts in the Park](#), Sidney Marcus Park. Carter Rude & Friends are joined by Wildlife Food Truck, Savannah Dessert Truck and face painting.

by Willy's Food Truck, Snoboyou Dessert Truck and face painting.

Saturday, September 17, 9:00 AM Morningside Farmer's Market Chef Demo featuring Panos Karatassos, Kyma, the porch at Morningside Kitchen, 1397 N. Highland.

This Is YOUR Newsletter

Please contact communications@mlpa.org with comments on our newsletter. We welcome your input and will consider all suggestions.

Neighborhood Meeting Schedule:

MLPA Zoning Meetings - 1st Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm, Morningside Presbyterian Church

MLPA Board Meetings - 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm, Morningside Presbyterian Church

NPU-F Meetings - 3rd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Drive

All neighborhood meetings are open to the public and your involvement is always welcome.

Quick Links:

[MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website

[NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website

[APD](#) - Atlanta Police website-- we are in Zone 2

[PEDS](#) - A quick link to report pedestrian hazards to city

[City of Atlanta](#) - City's website

[Atlanta District 6](#) - Our City Council District website

[VHMPA](#) - Virginia Highland Morningside Parent Association

[NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood list serve- not affiliated with MLPA

Morningside Lenox Park Association

www.mlpa.org