



December has been full of surprises from weather in the high 70s to snow that lasted through last weekend...turning MLP into a winter wonderland...scroll down for pictures.

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## New Board to Take Office

The January 8th MLPA Board Meeting at 7 PM in Room 201 of Morningside Presbyterian Church (MPC) will be presided over by the new board which was duly elected by the membership during the Annual Meeting on November 13 in the Fellowship Hall at MPC.

The slate that was adopted includes:

Charlie Nalbone, President

Sally Bayless, Vice President

Grant Gandy, Secretary

Lynn Ayers, Treasurer

Marti Breen, Communications

Sonny Jones, Membership

Phyllis Wingo, Neighborhood Watch

Julia Payne, Parks

Ben Nemo & David Hecht, Security

Kim Cobb, Traffic

Austin Hall, At Large

Kevin Tanner, At Large

Marianne Scharbo-DeHaan, At Large

John Ayers, Zoning

The group takes over from the [2017 MLPA Board](#) (pictured above) retiring members, Drew Gandy, Secretary; Chase Horner, At Large; Kevin McGlynn, Security; Sharon Ferguson, Traffic; Amanda Strawser, Education; and Alex Munoz, At Large. The neighborhood owes a debt of gratitude to all these volunteers who work tirelessly to conduct the business of our beloved community.

The MLPA Board meets the second Monday of each month in Room 201 of Morningside Pre

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### Half-Priced Wine

*Stop by Tuesday and Wednesday for half-priced bottles from our Italian wine selection with the purchase of any artisan pizza.*

**Tuesday** – Half priced bottles of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay

**Wednesday** – Half priced bottles of Montepulciano and Pinot Grigio



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## MLPA Brightens Holidays for First Responders

One use of your membership funds is an annual contribution to holiday meals for our first responders. MLPA is fortunate to enjoy the vigilance of personnel at Fire Station 29 and Police Zone 2. We recognize their service with meals over the Thanksgiving-New Year's holidays. It is a small thanks for the work they do every day to protect our homes and families

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### Stand Up Morningside Results

MLPA thanks the 200 new or renewing Security Plus and Security Plus 62+ members who signed up during our Stand Up Morningside Campaign. The revenue generated by their dues will support:

- Expand security patrols – the new memberships have already funded an additional late-night shift. This is in addition to the daytime, evening and late-night patrols already funded. The hope is that the extra patrols will deter the car break-ins and other petty crimes that have occurred.
- Establish camera network - the campaign has energized new volunteers who are working with local businesses to install a system of license plate reader (LPR) cameras at key points in the neighborhood. These cameras will be installed and maintained by the Atlanta Police Foundation and will be connected to Atlanta Police Department's Video Command Center.
- Strengthen neighborhood connections - by adding participants to the Neighborhood Watch Program, sending prevention tips (see the article below) and security updates, and holding events where neighbors can get together, we can establish a network of diligent neighbors who know and look out for each other.

To add an incentive to spur members and potential members to action, the Board approved the awarding of a free year's membership to a member who signed up between September 1-November 30. The winner of the free membership is Mark Strand and Kristina Rundquist. They live on Lanier Place—they were thrilled to hear that their membership has been extended until October, 2019.

Thanks to all the neighbors, old and new, who responded to the campaign. While we fell a bit short of our goal of 350 new memberships, your support has strengthened our neighborhood/organization. If you have not yet joined, it's not too late to add your support to the effort. Urge your neighbors to join you in supporting MLPA by becoming Security Plus members. The more members we have, the safer we can keep our streets, homes, and families.



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### Friends of Sidney Marcus Park DBA Barbecue Dine Out

There's no better way to support our favorite park and feed the family than the recent Dine Out to benefit Sidney Marcus Park. Thanks to our friends and neighbors at DBA Barbecue, a portion of our checks will go to the [Sidney Marcus Park Restoration Fund](#). It was loads of fun and a great way to get out and see the neighbors!



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### **Morningside Lenox Park Seeks Input on Master Plan January 9 at 5:00 PM**

The MLPA Board of Directors is excited to announce that it has engaged Aaron Fortner with Canvas Planning Group to guide Morningside Lenox Park in the creation of a master plan for our neighborhood. Aaron has a wealth of experience advising neighborhoods that face complex challenges and opportunities in and around Atlanta. He recently consulted on the preparation of master plans for the Candler Park and Virginia Highland neighborhoods. Aaron is working closely with a steering committee established by the MLPA board.

The final draft of the master plan for Morningside Lenox Park will reflect the consensus of our neighborhood. Although it is anticipated that the master plan for Morningside Lenox Park will make recommendations on traffic, land use, and development issues, it is possible that other initiatives may emerge from the process. Neighbors will have numerous opportunities to express themselves in stakeholder interviews, surveys, web-based mapping tools, and two large community forums. The forums will take place in the Fellowship Hall at Morningside Presbyterian Church on January 9 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and February 5 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please make your voice heard in this process! Your input is vital to the development of a successful master plan.

If the master plan is approved by MLPA's Board of Directors, it will be submitted to the Department of City Planning and to the City Council. If the City Council adopts Morningside Lenox Park's master plan, it will be incorporated in Atlanta's master plan. In the past, the City has prioritized the recommendations of neighborhood master plans when making decisions regarding infrastructure spending.

More information regarding the master plan can be found at <http://www.mlpa-masterplan.com/>

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### **Alex Wan Funds Several Projects for Morningside Lenox Park**

As reported in the District 6 Newsletter below, our City Council Representative Alex Wan, has made a significant gift to our neighborhood which will fund several projects. At the December MLPA Board meeting we learned that we will receive \$65,000 from Wan's fund which will go towards:

- Sidney Marcus Park Renovation
- Noble Park Renovation
- Restoring Old Growth Forest in Daniel Johnson Nature Preserve
- Funds for License Plate Reader Cameras (LPR)
- Matching Funds for Traffic and Master Planning

This gift represents a significant proportion of the budget for each of these efforts and will allow us to accelerate our efforts to complete these projects. The board has submitted the paperwork so that the funding can be transferred. We are very grateful and want to publicly thank Alex Wan on behalf of the neighborhood.

At the December meeting, the board voted to add \$1,000 to the gift from Wan's office to purchase our first LPR for our neighborhood. The Security Team's Camera Committee is working with adjacent neighborhoods and the Atlanta Police Foundation to coordinate fundraising and the placement of cameras. The plan is to eventually place LPRs around the neighborhood to make it easier to apprehend criminals after events occur.



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### Home Security Assessments

We are fortunate to live in a neighborhood where the volume of crime is low and where the types of crimes are mostly petty, with car break-ins being the most common. In general, we do not experience (knock on wood) violent crime, such as robberies, assaults, or murders. Note: There are a couple of exceptions--we have the occasional home break-ins, usually during the day when no one is at home, and at the end of October, a pedestrian was robbed near the ATM by Morningside Village.

Recently, a neighbor proposed using a [security assessment](#) to characterize the occurrence of crime in Morningside. The most common crimes in our neighborhood, in order of volume, are car break-ins, larcenies not involving a vehicle (stolen mail, stolen packages from porches, stolen yard equipment from landscapers' trucks and residents' yards, etc.), and stolen cars. Car break-ins occur mostly during early morning hours, roughly between 2:00-5:00 AM. Videos from neighbors' cameras typically show the involvement of 3-4 individuals. One is driving the car slowly down the street while the others are walking up and down driveways and shining flashlights into cars. Typically, the thieves come from outside the neighborhood and are looking for guns, loose change, laptops, cell phones, and items that can be sold quickly for cash. They keep coming back to our neighborhood because they are being "successful" here. PLEASE KEEP YOUR CARS CLEANED OUT!!!

The Atlanta Police Department (APD) offers several services for crime prevention and improving security for your home or business. The APD Crime Prevention Unit has a self-survey assessment that can be completed by the resident or business owner (\*\*\*Add link to form on MLPA website). In addition, citizens can request that the APD Crime Inspector come to their home or business to conduct a security assessment. To make arrangements for a security assessment, contact Senior Inspector McMurray at the Zone 2 precinct on Maple Drive by email [mmcmurray@atlantago.gov](mailto:mmcmurray@atlantago.gov) or phone 404-309-7615.

The APD also encourages individuals to make an inventory of valuables (could be photos) in the household and to store this in a safe place. Individuals may also go online and purchase bar codes that can be placed on possessions to help identify items if a burglary or break-in occurs.

So be on the lookout (BOLO) and stay safe!!

**Susan G. Schlittler**  
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### Cub Scouts Selling Holiday Greenery

For its annual fundraiser, Haygood Cub Scout Pack 17 will again be selling fresh mistletoe in decorative artisan containers from November 25 to December 16 in Morningside and Virginia-Highlands for \$10 (or \$15 online). Our scouts will be selling mistletoe at numerous locations including the Morningside Farmers Market, the Freedom Farmers Market at the Carter Center, High Country Outfitters, San Francisco Coffee, and Haygood United Memorial Methodist Church as well as online at <http://goo.gl/yoyioQ>. Bulk mistletoe orders for shipment in December can be placed by contacting [pack17scouting@gmail.com](mailto:pack17scouting@gmail.com).

	<b>MONDAYS</b> 1/2 Price Burgers	<b>TUESDAYS</b> @ 4pm 1/2 Price Raw Dozen Oysters	<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> 11lb. Snow Crab Legs \$15	
	1025 1/2 N. HIGHLAND AVE. NE 404-872-0869 <i>Freshest Oysters in Atlanta</i>			

### Love Our Parks with Your Year End Giving

Morningside Lenox Park truly has a precious resource in our city parks. Did you realize that we have 14 in our community, including two amazing nature preserves! We see every day how our neighborhood enjoys these parks and how they provide a place to build community and spend quality time outside with family and friends.

As we head into the holiday season and reflect on giving to our family, our friends and our community, we hope you will consider a donation to our community volunteer efforts at Sidney Marcus Park and at Noble Park. Both parks have strong volunteer efforts underway, but we can't do it alone and can't do it without funding. Please give this holiday season through the donation system at Park Pride by going to: <https://goo.gl/ZvfjPD>. Use the pull-down menu to select Sidney Marcus Park and/or Noble Park. Park Pride is a non-profit 501(c)(3) so your donations may be tax deductible.

Happy Holidays and thank you!

### Northeast Beltline Trails and Art Update

If you kicked off December by running the annual Atlanta Beltline Eastside 10K then you know that the latest section from Irwin to Memorial in Kirkwood is almost complete. A short portion along the new development at 670 DeKalb Avenue remains incomplete, but for the most part MLP residents can now walk, run, or bike on a trail that extends from our neighborhood all the way south to Memorial Drive!

At the quarterly Atlanta Beltline meeting (click for presentation), the receipt of a grant to design the extension of the Eastside Trail north from Monroe to Mayson was announced. This portion is being undertaken by the Atlanta Beltline in partnership with Georgia Power who needs access to the area to maintain transmission lines along the trail. Once design is completed, it is hoped that funding to complete this extension will be found.

Lastly, if you haven't had a chance to take a walk along the trail since the Art on the Beltline installation in September, you may still be able to catch some amazing pieces along the way. Favorite recent additions include the recycled plastic auto parts god at the foot of Dutch Valley and the solar wind vane near it. If you'd like to comment on the art that you would like to see become a permanent part of the beltline, you can contact Miranda Kyle, Art of the Beltline Director at [mduncan@atlbeltline.org](mailto:mduncan@atlbeltline.org). And it's not too early to get involved in Art of the Beltline 2019—Kyle is taking nominations for the jury that will select the art. Neighbors with a Fine Arts background may contact her to express interest.



### Zoning Committee Report

At the December meeting, the Zoning Committee heard [V-17-323 1323 Northview Ave N.E.](#) It was approved 8-0-0. The committee also heard [V-17-338 1141 Reeder Cir. N.E.](#) It was also approved 7-1-0

Z-16-079 Hedgewood was at the Piedmont Heights meeting and could not make it by the time we were finished so we ask that they come to the MLPA meeting to present.

The next Zoning Committee Meeting will be held at Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 2. The cases to be covered will be posted at [www.mlpa.org/zoning/](http://www.mlpa.org/zoning/). Any neighbors interested in the outcome should come to these meetings. New committee members are always welcome, simply come to three meetings to qualify to vote.

The next Zoning Committee Meeting will be held at Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, December 5. The cases to be covered will be posted at [www.mlpa.org/zoning/](http://www.mlpa.org/zoning/). Any neighbors interested in the outcome should come to these meetings. New committee members are always welcome, simply come to three meetings to qualify to vote.

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## Atlanta District 6 News Summary



This is Alex Wan's last newsletter as his tenure as our City Council Representative comes to a close. In January the new City Council will take office and our representative will be Jennifer Ide. In the meantime, Wan's [December District 6](#) newsletter covers:

- District 6 Neighborhood Support
- Run-Off Election Voter Information
- Virginia Highland Tour of Homes
- Holiday Safety Reminders

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## MLPA Events Listing

**Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**, [CHARM Recycling](#), 1110 Hill Street, SE. Check the website before visiting for holiday schedule changes.

**Saturday, December 16, Cub Scout Mistletoe Sale**, Intown Ace Hardware, the Family Dog, the Freedom Farmers Market at the Carter Center, High Country Outfitters, San Francisco Coffee, and Haygood United Memorial Methodist Church or see article above for online ordering.

**[Monday, December 18, 7:00 PM, NPU-F Meeting](#)**, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Dr. NE. All neighbors welcome and able to vote.

**Saturday, December 23-Sunday, January 7**, Atlanta Public Schools Winter Break.

**[Tuesday, January 2, 7:00 PM, MLPA Zoning Committee](#)**, Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1401 North Morningside Dr. Visit <http://www.mlpa.org/zoning/> for variances to be heard.

**[Monday, January 8, 7:00 PM, MLPA Board Meeting](#)**, Morningside Presbyterian Church, Room 201, 1401 North Morningside Dr. All neighbors are welcome.

**[Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 PM, Morningside Lenox Park Traffic & Master Planning Input Meeting](#)**. All neighbors are urged to attend and help us define what makes our neighborhood such a special place to live and what we would like to improve to make it even better.

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## Morningside Lenox Park or a Winter Wonderland?

This is your newsletter. Please send us your ideas for articles, interviews, and photos for inclusion. Send them to [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org).

See below for some pictures from this past weekend:



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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.*

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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

[Senate District 36](#) - Nan Orrock, Georgia State Senator

[House District 57](#) - Pat Gardner, Georgia State Representative

[Atlanta Public Schools](#), [Morningside Elementary School](#), [Inman Middle School](#), [Grady High School](#)

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

NextDoor - Neighborhood list serve- not affiliated with MLPA

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