



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION



MLPA News | November 16, 2017

Fall is finally here and Morningside Lenox Park is bursting with color and activity.

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## STAND UP MORNINGSIDE Attracts New Members & Renewals

Late this summer, the MLPA launched the Stand Up Morningside Campaign to publicize the value of the Morningside Security Patrol (MSP) in making our neighborhood safer. The campaign had ambitious goals:

- 1) Increasing our Security Plus membership by 50% by the end of November. To do that we need to attract 350 new members.
- 2) Establishing a camera network throughout the neighborhood. At the Security Forum in October, MLPA Security Committee member David Hecht related plans to fund the installation of a network of 10 license plate reader (LPR) wireless, solar operated cameras that can be tied to the APD command center. The cost of the cameras is \$10,000, but the added members can help us attain that goal.
- 3) Improving community engagement by connecting more neighbors to the neighborhood watch program and encouraging street captains to host meet and greets on their streets.

The campaign has been supported by a combination of Facebook ads, event recruiting, and flyers explaining the benefits of MLPA Security Plus membership.

We're pleased with the results to date, but need all of our members to help spread the word about the benefits of the MSP to get us across the goal line. Please tell your neighbors about the benefits. At \$225 a year – only \$0.61 a day – Security Plus membership is a great value that improves our safety and the value of your home. And it compares very favorably to the fees other neighborhoods in our area pay for their security patrol.

To make joining even more enticing, new members will receive a new Security Plus sign—these new three-color signs will be much more visible and will have each member's house number clearly displayed, making it easier for visitors and emergency responders to find your home. In addition, those signing up before November 30, 2017 will be entered for a chance to win a free year of Security Plus membership.

So ask your friends to join you in making our neighborhood even better by joining as MLPA Security Plus members.

MLPA is working with the Atlanta Police Foundation to place the first cameras that are tied to the VIC in our neighborhood. Plans are in the works to raise additional funds and use some of the proceeds from the campaign to add to these cameras.

Lastly, you've undoubtedly seen several block parties in the neighborhood. These opportunities to share time with our neighbors is one of our best ways to make Morningside Lenox Park a safer place. The MLPA Neighborhood Watch--neighbors looking out for each other--is the best deterrent to crime.

Email [neighborhoodwatch@mlpa.org](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@mlpa.org) to find your block captain and sign up.

*The image above is from a Facebook ad to encourage more neighbors to sign up as MLPA Security Plus Members. Thanks to Ben Nemo for his help in promoting the campaign.*



**Morningside Lenox Park Association**  
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**STAND UP MORNINGSIDE! Only 20% of neighbors are MLPA Security members - but if more join we can attack crime with our three-point plan.**



**Expand Security Patrols**

[Sign Up](#)

**Establish Network**

GT698L



### 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



### MLPA Annual Meeting Elects New Board for 2018

Neighbors gathered Monday, Nov. 13 at Morningside Presbyterian Church for the MLPA Annual Meeting. The current board presented the financial report and gave an update on current activities. Sally Bayless, President, then recognized all the members of the 2017 Board of Directors for the MLPA and thanked them for their service to our community.

Alex Munoz, Chair of the Nominating Committee, introduced the slate of candidates for the 2018 MLPA Board of Directors including Charlie Nalbene, President; Sally Bayless, Vice President; Grant Gandy, Secretary; Lynn Ayers, Treasurer; Sonny Jones, Membership; Marti Breen, Communications; John Ayers, Zoning; Kim Cobb, Traffic; Julia Payne, Parks; Phyllis Wingo, Neighborhood Watch; ???, Events; Ben Nemo & David Hecht, Security; Austin Hall, At Large; Marianne Scharbo-Dehaan, At Large; and Kevin Tanner, At Large. Nominations were taken from the floor for ???.

The membership approved the slate of candidates by voice vote. Thanks to all the members who attended the meeting. Note that the MLPA Board will meet the second Monday of the month throughout 2018. All neighbors are welcome to attend.

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### Membership Renewal Easier with Improved System

You should have received notice of the change in membership system earlier this month. If you have not already done so, you will need to go to the MLPA home page and click [MY ACCOUNT](#) (or use the link to take you there). If it's your first time on the page, you'll need to set your password by following the steps outlined and then log in to the site and accept the terms. If you are coming back to the page, you may need to hit the red [MY ACCOUNT](#) button under the photo banner. Once that's complete, you should be able to take advantage of the new system:

1. View/change your profile—after logging in, click your name in the upper right to display your profile. It shows your Membership level, Status, Member since, and Renewal date. This makes it easy to keep up with your membership—the renew button is right there on the profile to make it simple to access. You will also see the Edit profile and My directory profile tabs. These allow you to change your information and your privacy settings. The default is set to display your name, address and email in the member

directory—this information can only be viewed by other members who are logged in. Note: Ignore the Member since data. It is simply the date when the database was activated.

2. Use the member directory—scroll over the MEMBERSHIPS tab in the menu bar to display the option for the Member Directory. This will bring up a listing of members and a search function that you may use to find your neighbors. Note: You must be logged in as a member in order to use the membership directory.
3. Renewal—besides making it easier to see your renewal options, the system also allows you to use an autorenewal option so that your membership doesn't lapse.

One last note about the nomenclature used. The software allows up to 2 persons per membership to be listed. They are allowed to have separate log ins. This is known as a bundled membership. Whoever logs in first will be the bundle administrator and will be able to grant access to the second person to be listed on that account. Once access is granted, that person can follow the instructions to set up their log in.

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### **Friends of Sidney Marcus Park Plan Clean-Up/Community Input Day**

There is a new volunteer group in Morningside called friends of Sidney Marcus Park. We are now getting up and running. And we are looking for members who want to see our park get even better. We are kicking things off with a volunteer cleanup day on the 18th (see events calendar in this issue). We not only want to work on sprucing up the park on Saturday, but we also want to hear from the community on what we want the park to be and how we can improve it. Bring your ideas, garden tools, gloves and give us whatever time you can spare on Saturday. We will be at it from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Mission:

Friends of Sidney Marcus Park is focused on the wellbeing, usefulness, and beauty of Sidney Marcus Park. Our mission is to provide financial support, community awareness, historical relevance, and stewardship for the evolution and preservation of Sidney Marcus Park. We promote volunteerism and community involvement and are a sustaining focus for our park.

Our vision for the park is:

- Develop a park that is useful, attractive, and safe for all age groups, residents, and visitors
- Keep our park an oasis for urban landscape
- Be a focal point for neighborhood and MLPA activities
- Develop park harmony with its adjacent residential neighbors

We will begin monthly meetings starting in December and will let you know the schedule very soon. We welcome your membership, your time (whatever you can give) and your money. We are now set up through Park Pride to accept tax deductible donations, specifically for Sidney Marcus Park. Visit [www.parkpride.org](http://www.parkpride.org) and look for partner donations. There is a pull-down for specific parks and you will find our gem. Or you can go directly to: <https://goo.gl/ZvfjPD>

We look forward to working with the community and right now, we need your input. Please contact us:

[Julia Payne parks@mlpa.org](mailto:Julia_Payne_parks@mlpa.org), [John Pappas johnleopappas@gmail.com](mailto:John_Pappas_johnleopappas@gmail.com),

[Christa Martin mart791@bellsouth.net](mailto:Christa_Martin_mart791@bellsouth.net)

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### **Run- Off Elections December 5**

The city-wide elections in November did not decide the final occupants of several offices since a single candidate failed to secure more than 50% of the vote in those races. As a result, there is a run-off election scheduled for

December 5. Mark your calendars now and remember to go vote for Mayor, City Council President, and other positions that will be on the ballot.

You can check your polling location and get a copy of a sample ballot to speed your time at the polls on the [Georgia My Voter](#) page.



### Security Committee Explains Citizens' Court Watch

With all the recent postings on Nextdoor about the disconnect between police and the judicial system, it seems a good time to outline the activities of a citizen advocacy program established by the Fulton County District Attorney's Office: Citizens' Court Watch. It is a program that functions as the "eyes and ears of the community in the court." Court Watch gives the community the opportunity to participate actively in the entire judicial process from arrest and bond consideration through to conviction and sentencing.

The activities of Court Watch include:

- providing information about criminal offenses that occurred in our community;
  - targeting repeat offenders; before Court Watch, too many individuals were being convicted of crimes in a specific community and then immediately released from the judicial system only to commit the same crimes again in the same community;
  - with a focus on our neighborhood concerns, helping citizens address the courts through written or oral community impact statements to the judges; before Court Watch, communities were frustrated with increasing crime volumes and the contributions from repeat offenders;
  - informing citizens about the court system through community education;
  - working with the community prosecutor to provide case updates during neighborhood meetings.
- Brenden Dougherty, Assistant District Attorney, is the community prosecutor for Zone 2, which includes Morningside Lenox Park.

Your community prosecutor will contact the neighborhood (usually with only a day or two notice) about when a defendant will appear before the judge. The community will be asked to attend court and to provide community impact statements.

Community impact statements have proved to be effective in persuading judges to take actions that protect the community. The community impact statement should include:

- your name
- how long you have lived in the community
- how the crime has affected you and/or your community
- your thoughts on this particular crime
- what sentence or punishment would you like the defendant to receive.

The statement should not include your home address or email address. With input from the community prosecutor, you might choose not to include your name.

Recently a Morningside resident was robbed near the Wells Fargo ATM next to Alon's. If we are lucky, and if the robber is arrested, then Courtwatch would likely ask the neighborhood for community impact statements when the defendant appears before a judge.

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### Fulton County Tax Bill Update

A dispute between Fulton County and the Georgia Department of Revenue led to the delay in issuing tax bills. The courts have intervened on Friday, Nov. 4 and are allowing the issuance of tax bills. The Atlanta Journal Constitution reports that the bills are scheduled to go out Nov. 15 and will be due Dec. 31 in Atlanta.

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### MLPA Garden Club Falls into Container Gardening

The MLPA Garden Club met Thursday, Nov. 2 at one of our member's home for conversation, snacks, and a very informative presentation on creating winter container gardens. Sally Crowe, one of the MLPA Garden Club members, related how one should go about selecting plants and the correct soil for winter containers. She also gave pointers on care and feeding for winter pots and some innovative ideas for planning ahead for spring. Here are some of the beautiful containers that Crowe had created to share with us.



The program was very apropos as the membership is planning on creating a garden at Sidney Marcus Park during the park clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 18, 8:30-12:30. The club has agreed to adopt the granite stone planter near the playground. Plans for planting the five-foot bed were proposed and members agreed to bring materials from their gardens to add to the space.

The MLPA Garden Club welcomes new members. If you would like to join us, contact Marti Breen, [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org) to be added to the email list.

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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 [goo.gl/DWbaqN](http://goo.gl/DWbaqN). Bulk mistletoe orders for shipment in December can be placed by contacting [pack17scouting@gmail.com](mailto:pack17scouting@gmail.com).

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### **Zoning Committee Report**

At the November meeting, the Zoning Committee heard [V-17-307, 1184 Reeder Circle](#) and approved the request 8-0-0.

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**



Alex Wan's [November District 6](#) newsletter covers:

- Important Voter Information
- Solid Waste Rate Increase Public Hearing
- Open Houses for City Planning "Quick Fixes"
- Emory/CDC/CHOA Annexation Update
- Peachtree Creek Clean-up Saturday, November 4th
- Watershed Management's Care & Conserve Program

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### MLPA Events Listing

**Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**, [CHARM Recycling](#), 1110 Hill Street, SE.

**[Saturday, November 18, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM](#)**, Help Sidney Marcus Park – Volunteer Day. We are going to work to clean up, straighten up, and spruce up Sidney Marcus Park. Bring your work shoes, gloves, rake, shovel, wheel barrow, and any other of your favorite outdoor tools. And most of all, your thoughts on how to make our park better. Friends of Sidney Marcus Park will be there and soliciting input on our efforts to improve the park for you. Contact [parks@mlpa.org](mailto:parks@mlpa.org) for more information.

**[Monday, November 20, 7:00 PM](#)**, NPU-F Meeting, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Dr. NE. All neighbors welcome and able to vote.

**Monday, November 20-Friday, November 24**, Atlanta Public Schools Thanksgiving Break.

**Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 PM**, <http://www.mlpa.org>/MLPA Zoning Committee, Morningside Presbyterian Church. Visit <http://www.mlpa.org/zoning/> for variances that will be discussed. All neighbors are welcome.

**Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM**, Run-Off Election Day. Several races not decided by at least 50% of the vote in November will be decided so check the Georgia Secretary of State [My Voter](#) site for your polling location.

**Saturday, December 9, 10:00 - 3:00 PM**, [Keep Atlanta Beautiful Recycling](#), at NEW LOCATION, Coan Middle School, 1550 Hosea Williams Dr.

**Monday, December 11, 7:00 PM**, <http://www.mlpa.org> MLPA Board Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1401 North Morningside Dr. All neighbors are welcome.

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### Scene Around Morningside Lenox Park

Fall brings out all sorts of interesting characters, not to mention some fabulous colors.





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### Send Us Your Ideas and Photos

This is your newsletter. If you have ideas, please submit them to us, write an article, or make a suggestions. We also welcome photos of the neighborhood. Send them to [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org).

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  
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