

MLPA News October, 2018

Fall is a busy time in Morningside Lenox Park, as our concert season comes to a close and we look forward to Halloween:

- 1. Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan Goes Before City Council--MLPA Board Meeting Cancelled
- 2. MLPA Celebrates Halloween at Concert in the Park, Friday, October 19 at 6:00 PM
- 3. Early Voting Starts Monday, Oct. 15
- 4. MLPA-VHCA Candy Crawl, Monday, Oct. 29
- 5. Trees Atlanta Leads Restoration at Morningside Nature Preserve
- 6. Morningside Business Assn Plans Wine Walk, Thursday, Nov. 15, 5:30-7:30 PM
- 7. Neighbors Clear Invasive Plants at Johnson Taylor Preserve
- 8. APD Installs New Online Crime Reporting System
- 9. Plant a Tree
- 10. Getting Social in MLP
- 11. MLPA Garden Club
- 12. Solarize Atlanta Deadline Halloween
- **13.** Zoning Committee Update
- 14. Ponce Library Book Sale, Saturday, Nov. 10
- 15. News from Atlanta City Council District 6
- 16. Calendar of Events
- 17. Scene Around MLP

## Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan & Atlanta City Council

On Monday, October 8, the MLPA Board meeting was cancelled so that members could attend a public hearing on the Master Plan before the City Council's Community Development Human Resources Committee. The Board anticipates that the Master Plan will be formally adopted by City Council at the meeting scheduled for October 15.

Thanks go out to all the neighbors that participated in creating the plan, coming to the meetings held throughout the past year plus. We owe a special debt to the Master Plan Steering Committee members John Ayers, Kim Cobb, Sharon Ferguson, Aaron Goldman, Austin Hall, Ryan Howard, Jori Mendel, Charlie Nalbone, Susan Szabo, Magan Ward, Kari Watkins, and Randy Young.

Now we are on to the next phase, implementation. The Master Plan is simply a collection of recommendations for our neighborhood. The recommendations will not be implemented without a great deal of energy from the community and advocacy with City Council and various City Departments. Regardless of the amount of time you can contribute, we need your help! If you

are interested in working on any aspect of the implementation Master Plan, contact volunteer@mlpa.org with your area of interest. It will take the entire neighborhood to realize a dream as large as we have created!



### Last 2018 MLPA Concert Halloween Warm Up, Friday, Oct. 19th at 6:00 PM

Get the whole family ready for Halloween at the final MLPA Concert in the Park at Sidney Marcus Park between Cumberland & Sherwood. It is sure to be the biggest and best of the year as presenting sponsor, Sonny Jones, will have free pumpkins for the first 50 families.

Carter Rude & Friends Band will play, making time for a set by John Moye and Lawson Feltman. Willy's Food Truck will be back with tacos, burritos, nachos, and all the fixings so bring some cash/cards and come hungry. Of course, King of Pops will be there with frozen confections to cool down after the hot music!

Thanks to our series sponsor, Sonny Jones, Dorsey Alston Realtors, and all the members of the MLPA, these concerts are free. They offer some of the best family entertainment in the city, so invite your friends and neighbors to come along and sample the music and movie.

After the food and music, make sure you have your blankets / chairs arranged in time for the movie, sponsored by Varuni Napoli. In keeping with the Halloween theme, we will feature Hotel Transylvania 3 from Sony Pictures. Drac and the Monsters take a vacation from the hotel aboard a luxury monster cruise



ship. It's a mapcap adventure as the monsters indulge in all manner of monster fun and mayhem, including excursions to exotic locations. Featuring voice talent from Selena Gomez, Andy Samberg, Adam Sandler, and Steve Buscemi, this PG film is great for the entire family.



# Early Voting Starts Monday, October 15th

Voters are encouraged to cast their ballots early for the November 6, 2018 General Special Election. Early voting locations vary by county, but generally will be open Monday, October, 15 to Friday, November 2, 2018. Both DeKalb & Fulton County will also provide some weekend early voting hours, but these are pretty limited. Make plans now to vote early by visiting your respective county's early voting schedules:

DeKalb County-https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/sites/default/files/user305/2018%20GE%20-%20Advance%20Sites.pdf

# 2018 North Highland Candy Crawl Comes to Morningside, Monday, Oct. 29, 5:30-7:30 PM

MLPA is teaming with the Virginia-Highland Civic Association to host the 2018 Candy Crawl. After the event was a rousing success in Virginia-Highland, we have decided to expand the fun to include MLPA businesses along North Highland for 2018!

This fun family-friendly event is meant to show support for our N Highland Avenue corridor businesses, bring our neighbors together, and of course there will be candy for everyone. Some businesses, like Doc Chey's Noodle House and Atkins Park, will offer dinner specials for kids in costume.

N Highland shops from Ponce to University will have candy for the kids. Each participating business will display the Candy Crawl poster in their window, so bring out your spookiest Trick or Treaters for candy and fun.



Keeping the Candy Crawl safe for everyone is our first priority--therefore, we need volunteers to help monsters, princesses, and ghouls safely cross the streets. Contact volunteer@mlpa.org with Candy Crawl in the subject line to sign up for a one-hour shift.



## **Restoration in the Morningside Nature Preserve**

Over the past 3 months, Trees Atlanta has worked with volunteers to remove invasive plants and vines from



the Morningside Nature Preserve. This green-space in our neighborhood is one of 5 parks where Trees Atlanta has been working on forest restoration. Pictured at left are some of the workers from the September 28th clean up. We removed an impressive mound of Chinese Privet and other invasive plants from the refuge in preparation for replanting with native species this fall.

Trees Atlanta has created an interactive map that summarizes the work done to date:

Restoration work completed in Morningside Nature Preserve

Trees Atlanta is seeking volunteers for a project at Morningside Nature Preserve in October--this is listed in events but go ahead and mark your calendar now for Friday, October 26. You can sign up on the Trees Atlanta website for the morning (8:00 AM-11:00 AM) or afternoon (12:00 PM-3:00PM) session. They would like to know how many folks to expect.

They will be meeting at the park entrance off of Wellbourne Drive NE. All tools (including gloves), instruction, and plant identification will be provided. Please wear long pants, closed toed shoes, and a smile.

# Newly Formed Morningside Business Association's Wine Walk, November 15, 5:30-7:30 PM

In August, the recently organized Morningside Business Association had their first event, a Wine Walk in

Morningside Village. As these pictures show, the event was well attended leading the group to plan a follow up for November.

This time the association is planning to sell tickets for the Wine Walk, with the proceeds helping to raise funds for neighborhood initiatives. Once again, neighbors can come out to sample the best of Morningside businesses and restaurants. And you can be sure to run into lots of friends, both old and new on the sidewalks of Morningside Village, at the corner of North Highland and University.

Phyllis Wingo, MLPA Neighborhood Watch Chair, attended the last meeting of the group and relayed plans for funding additional License Plate Reader cameras through the Atlanta Police Foundation. The membership decided to devote the some of the funds raised to this effort, as well as supporting the weekly Morningside Farmers' Market.



Make plans now to attend the Thursday, November 15, 5:30-7:30 PM event. Visit their Facebook page to learn more.



## Neighbors Attack Invasive Species in Johnson Taylor Preserve

On Saturday, September 15th more than a dozen neighbors and other volunteers spent the morning removing Japanese Chafflower and assorted invasive plants from Johnson Taylor Nature Preserve.

Led by Will Hazelton and assisted by Frederich Bien, under the auspices of Rock Creek Watershed Alliance, we spent a hot morning making a noticeable dent in the problem. Much more to do. The next removals morning with be Saturday, October 20th--hopefully it will be cooler by then. Come have fun spending time with good neighbors on an important project.

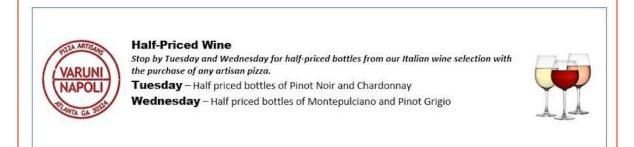


#### Atlanta Police Department's NEW Online System for Reporting Some Types of Crime

The Atlanta Police Department has launched an online reporting system to allow city residents to submit reports about a variety of crimes. The public can submit reports at their convenience and without waiting for an officer to show up to take a report. The system is expected to free up officer resources and to encourage more complete reporting from the public. If you do not report, then the crime volume for our neighborhood will appear less serious than it really is.

Car break-ins are the biggest law enforcement problem in Morningside and can be reported in the new system. Other crimes that can also be reported include: harassing phone calls/texts/emails, damage to property, lost property, identity theft, theft less than \$10,000, burglary from a building or storage facility, damage to vehicles on private property- like a minor traffic accident in a shopping center parking lot, fraudulent use of a credit card, etc.

To file an online police report, click here or view an information video on the form here. Please remember, you can always call 911 and have an officer respond to your location or file a report directly with the Zone 2 police station on Maple Drive.



## Preserving the Morningside Lenox Park Tree Canopy--Free Trees

Trees Atlanta's Neighborwoods free tree program is just the thing for homeowners wanting to plant a tree. In our neighborhood, each property is eligible for up to three trees to be planted in the front, back, side yard or the right-of-way. You select the trees you want, choose your spot (Trees Atlanta can offer advice), and then folks arrive with your trees and plant them - it's kind of like magic!

While the original program only offered trees for front yards, thanks to a new grant, Trees Atlanta is offering Morningside neighbors trees for any part of their yard. You may have some say about the kind of tree planted, but you will be limited to non-invasive species. The planting is estimated for January in Morningside (30 gallon trees, approx 12-15 feet tall). And if you don't have space for a large canopy tree or would like to increase the food production of your property, they also offer edibles including persimmon, pawpaw, serviceberry, and possibly apples, peaches and pears.

Folks say the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago, but the second best time is now. I hope you'll join us in getting the next generation of Morningside's tree canopy rooted

#### **MLPA Social News**

The Morningside Book Club met last month for a discussion of Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing*. It recounts the saga of the descendants of one woman through tribal Ghana and slavery-liberation in the US. The next meeting is in November when we'll cover *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles. All are welcome--contact Jill Cobb for more information.

The MLPA Dinner Club is back up and running after a short hiatus. Our founder has even returned to the neighborhood so come back to meet old friends and make new ones. Contact Mark Reaves to be added to the email announcements.



## MLPA Garden Club Tours Botanical Docent's Garden

Sally Crowe, MLPA Garden Club founding member, hosted us for a tour of her expansive garden on Courtenay. Because of the course of the creek running behind her property, Crowe has a deep back yard



that contains a number of treasures. When Crowe moved into her home, the backyard was covered in wisteria vines. Upon closer inspection, there she discovered the hard scape of an elaborate garden that she has spent several years restoring.



She concentrated the tour on the productive plants in her garden -- these are planted because they contribute

more than just beauty. She has an Edgeworthia or Paper Bush, a winter bloomer that is prized for the high quality paper that can be made from its bark. Next we viewed a buttercup witch hazel which natives used for potions to heal a variety of ills. Other productive plants she highlighted were buckeye, serviceberry, and beauty berry.

After the tour we enjoyed refreshments and a short business meeting--we will work on our adopted garden at the Lanier/Amsterdam monument on Sunday, October 21 at 1:30 PM.



#### Solarize Atlanta Deadline for Homeowners is Halloween

Homeowners and businesses in Atlanta have until Oct. 31 to sign up for the program to access free rooftop evaluations. Almost 1,000 have already signed up for the free evaluations, the first step in going solar.

Once property owners sign up, residential applicants have until Dec. 31 to sign contracts while the deadline for commercial customers has been extended to April 2019. The program hopes to encourage businesses and residential customers in the state to consider the benefits of installing solar panels on their rooftops.

"I think the program is accomplishing what we wanted. It's giving the people of Atlanta a chance to kick the tires of solar, become more comfortable with the idea and then take the step to actually put it in their own roof," said Jeanette Gayer, director at Environment Georgia, one of the organizations supporting the program.

The program works this way; the more people who sign up for the program within a community, the lower the cost of installation. The sponsor organizations have done research on all the different materials that are in to a program, making it more affordable with negotiated the bulk pricing. Old Fourth Ward residents Ruth and Larry Menter were the first beneficiaries to the program in the city of Atlanta. They completed installing solar panels and a battery for their home several months ago.

After an investment of about \$20,000, the couple anticipates cutting their energy costs by half in coming months. Menter commented, "The renewable energy side of it and reducing carbon emissions was probably the number one reason we were looking to do it."

The City of Atlanta's office of Resilience supports Solarize Atlanta efforts in encouraging the market for rooftop solar panels. "Programs like Solarize Atlanta are critical to reaching our clean energy goals," said Amol Naik, the city's chief resilience officer.

Solar contributes 6% of the city's energy needs.



Activcore Launch Party November 1st 6pm

> Click here for the Facebook Event

Champagne, Light Bites, and Entertainment

#### **Zoning Committee Report**

 V-18-279
 591 Cumberland Rd.

 V-18-282
 1104 Zimmer Dr.

 V-18-283
 1590 West Sussex Rd

 V-18-292
 733 Sherwood Rd.

 V-18-307
 1282 Pasadena Ave

Approved 4-0-0 Approved 4-0-0 Approved 4-0-0 Approved 4-0-0 Approved 2-1-1

The next zoning meeting will be held at Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, Novtember 6 at 7:00 PM. The cases to be covered will be posted at 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.

#### Looking for a Good Book?

Enhance your bookshelf and do some good in the process at the Friends of Ponce Library Fall used book sale on Saturday, November 10, 2018, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Library at 980 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE, Atlanta 30306. Come support the library while taking the opportunity to pick up some really great titles at bargain prices. Choose from a variety of hardback and paperback books in all genres including fiction, non-fiction, biographies, history, science fiction, home and gardening, children's and young adult. While you're at the sale, why not join the Friends of Ponce Library or renew your membership for a \$10 yearly fee. All



• 48th Annual Pride Festival & Parade

membership and sale funds are used to purchase books and supplies for the branch as well as support children's and community programs hosted at the Library.

## News from Atlanta City Council District 6 Representative, Jennifer Ide

Click to view and sign up for the latest newsletter from our Atlanta City Council District 6 Representative, Jennifer Ide. It covers:



### **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.

**Saturdays during October, 8:30-11:30 AM,** Morningside Farmers' Market, Morningside Village lot next to Nowak's. Now in its 23rd year, the market features totally organic produce grown by local farm families. Email manager@morningsidemarket.com to get on the email list and see which vendors are coming.

**Saturdays during October, 9:00-Noon**, Engel & Voelkers in Morningside Village, Coffee, Donuts, & Game Day. Stop by after your Morningside Farmers' Market visit for some sustenance and football!

Friday, October 12-Sunday, October 14, Piedmont Park, Atlanta Pride Festival.

**Monday, October 15, 3:00-4:00 PM**, MES Kindergarten Center Tour at Atlanta Metropolitan Cathedral, 999 Briarcliff Rd. Click as RSVPs are required.

Monday, October 15--see article above, Early Voting for Fulton & DeKalb County Residents.

Monday, October 15, 7:00 PM, NPU-F Meeting, Hillside Center, 1301 Monroe Dr. NE. All neighbors are invited and those 18+ have a vote.

Friday, October 19, 9:15-10:15 AM, Inman Middle School Principal's Coffee.

**Friday, October 19, 6:00 PM,** Sidney Marcus Park, the Last MLPA Concert in the Park with Free Pumpkins for the first 50 families and a movie!

Saturday, October 20, 9:00 AM-Noon, Johnson Taylor Preserve Clean Up. See article above.

Saturday, October 20, 4:00 PM, Little Five Points Halloween Parade.

**Thursday, October 25, 5:00-7:30 PM,** Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1411 North Morningside Dr., Food TrucksTex's Tacos (https://texstacos.com/),South of Philly(https://www.southofphillyfoodtruck.com/), and a sundae station by Morningside Presbyterian Children's Ministry. \$1 donations for sundaes will go to Thornwell Home forChildren. There will also be a bounce house and other activities for children. All are welcome!

Friday, October 26, 8:00-9:00 AM, Morningside Elementary School Prinicpal's Coffee.

Friday, October 26, 8:00-11:00 AM and 12:00-3:00 PM, Morningside Nature Preserve, Trees Atlanta Forest Restoration. See article above.

**Saturday, October 27, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**, Morningside Elementary School Monster Bash. Rain date is Sunday, October 28.

Saturday, October 27, 10:00 AM, Piedmont Park, Drawchange 5K.

**Monday, October 29, 5:30-7:30 PM,** MLPA / VHCA North Highland Candy Crawl. Bring your ghosts, princesses, and ghouls out for free candy from businesses along North Highland between Ponce & University

displaying the Candy Crawl Stop poster.

Monday, October 29, 7:00 PM, Grady High School Parent/Principal Coffee, Grady High School Theater.

Tuesday, October 30, 7:00 PM, MLPA Garden Club. Contact Marti Breen for details.

**Wednesday, October 31**, Solarize Atlanta Deadline--Halloween is the last day to sign up for the Solarize Atlanta discounts for homeowners.

Saturday, November 3, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, CHARM, 1110 Hill St. SE, The City of Atlanta Fall Scrap Tire Drive.

**Tuesday, November 6, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM**, Midterm Elections for Federal, State, & City/County. Go to mvp.sos.ga.gov to find your polling location.

Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 PM, Morningside Book Club discusses A Gentleman In Moscow, contact Jill Cobb for details.

Saturday, November 10, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Friends of Ponce Library Book Sale. See article above.

**Monday, November 12, 7:00 PM**, MLPA Annual Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1401 North Morningside Dr. We will present the annual finances and slate of new board members for 2019. All neighbors are welcome but only active members may vote.

#### SAVE THE DATE

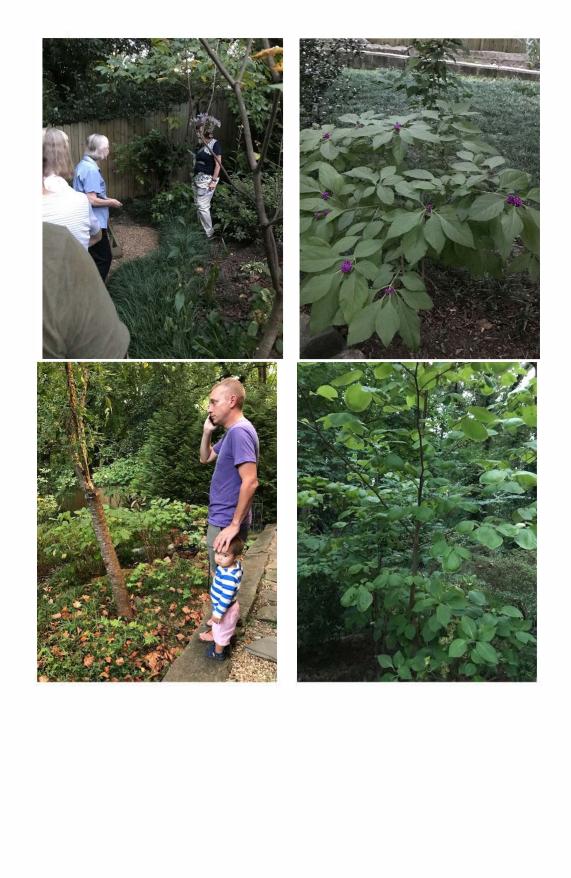
Thursday, November 15, 5:30-7:30, Morningside Village Shopping Center, Morningside Wine Walk. See article above.

Monday, November 19, 7:00 PM, NPU-F Meeting, Hillside Center, 1301 Monroe Dr. NE. All neighbors are invited and those 18+ have a vote.

Friday, December 7, 7:00 PM, Ladies Night,, Midtown Family Wellness, 1259 Monroe Dr. NE, RSVP & more info.

#### Scene Around Morningside -- More From the Crowe Garden

An absolutely breath taking display of plants, and idle for animals, and a refuge for the weary!





This is your newsletter. Please send us your ideas for articles, interviews, and photos for inclusion. Send them to 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.

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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