



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION



MLPA News April, 2019

Morningside has been blessed recently with blooming daffodils, tulip trees, and even cherry. As we welcome Spring, please take a moment to consider all this area means to you and [join us or renew](#) and volunteer to help maintain our wonderful neighborhood.

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Note from MLPA President, Ben Nemo

Happy Spring! I wanted to share my monthly Top 3 with the neighborhood:

1) Q1 Progress. We are making progress against our stated objectives in the first three months of the year. Funding has increased thanks to new members (membership funding is 9% ahead of budget, having added 17 new members alone in March) and production contributions (\$5500 YTD!), reported car break-ins are down (by 3, or 9%) and we have funded additional License Plate Reader cameras to further curb, our Master Plan committee has been formed and is meeting monthly to determine the first initiatives to prioritize, and we now have friends' groups established for all our recreational parks among the 160 volunteers involved in our green spaces.

2) 2019 Budget. In our Q2 executive session we put together our budget for the year to allow for some additional recurring and one-time expenses. We will finalize in our May meeting and publish details on our website, but while protecting our reserves we are excited at the prospect of supporting new measures against our objectives.

3) Shout Outs. I want to keep highlighting the volunteers that make all of this work happen. Beyond the new names added to the LPR contributor list in this month's security report (we are only \$2,000 shy of our goal...wink wink), I want to say a huge thank you to Marla Johnson, Bryce Harvey, John Limestone and Jill Wolfe (in addition to our own Micah Coleman) who have all stepped up to form the friends' group for Sunken Garden Park. We can't do these things without the time and elbow grease of neighbors like these. If you also know them, please thank them!

In our April board meeting we also agreed that we would organize future monthly meetings to focus on specific topics – e.g. parks or security - and will advise of topics in hopes those of you with specific interests or ideas will join us for the matters that motivate you most. One great idea in the last meeting from a neighbor who had previous association experience in Sherwood Forest: host some of them in places where we can serve alcohol and mingle. Twist my arm!

That's all for now. Hope to see you this Friday at the concert!

Ben



Concert in the Park April 12



CONCERTS IN THE PARK SIDNEY MARCUS PARK

Join us this Friday for 2019's second Concert in the Park. These family friendly events include an evening of live entertainment, tasty food, and friends. The concerts are FREE and under the trees at our favorite park, Sidney Marcus Park. Grab your coolers, chairs, kids, friends, pets, and neighbors and head over to the park to see the best local entertainment and meet the awesome people who live in our neighborhood.

If you have not yet taken advantage of the wonderful MLPA Concerts in the Park, NOW is the time to do so. Kicking off at 6pm, this concert features the [Rev. Jeff Mosier](#) and his ensemble playing progressive bluegrass. Follow the link for a sampling from last year's Bear on the Square Fest. Bring your chairs / blankets, the family and friends out for a great evening in the best neighborhood in Atlanta, Morningside Lenox Park. Picnic fixin's will be available from [Smokin Mo's BBQ](#) and [King of Pops](#).

Concerts in the Park are FREE thanks to our generous series sponsor, [Sonny Jones, Dorsey Alston Realtors](#), and MLPA members. [Join](#) MLPA to keep these family-friendly events FREE and open to Morningside Lenox Park and surrounding neighborhoods. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, contact advertising@mlpa.org.

Upcoming Dates

All concerts are held at Sidney Marcus Park, 786 Cumberland Rd. NE. In case of inclement weather, check our home page mlpa.org and the [MLPA Facebook page](#) for up-to-date plans.

Friday, May 24th, 6:00PM

Friday, August 23rd, 6:00PM

Friday, September 20th, 6:00PM

Friday, October 18th, 6:00PM



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N Highland Corridor Survey

MLPA and VAHI board members, working with local business owners, recently formed the N Highland Corridor Alliance to help return the vibrancy to our four N Highland business nodes. As a first step, we need to understand the your opinion on the good and the bad of these areas. Please visit and complete the [survey](#) to help gauge what needs to be done to make our neighborhoods even better.

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Festive Friday Block Party to Support Zonolite Park

Festive Friday, a neighborhood block party and benefit for Zonolite Park and Nickel Bottom Garden, will return on May 3, 2019 from 5:30pm – 8:30pm with drinks, food trucks, live music by Caroline and the

Ramblers, an artisan market, and activities for kids. Admission is \$5 donation to the park and you will receive your choice of 1 free drink ticket or 1 free Kid's Playground ticket.

"After a one-year hiatus, we're really excited to bring back this beloved neighborhood event," said Donna Rooks, Director of Operations Floataway Community. "Funds from past Festive Friday events, along with grants from Park Pride and assistance from DeKalb County, have enabled us to add a pavilion in the Zonolite Park meadow, improve the South Fork Conservancy trail system in Zonolite Park, and expand Nickel Bottom community garden. These improvements have greatly enhanced the park and provided welcome gathering and green spaces for the enjoyment of the entire community."



Floataway Community, part of the Zonolite Business Association, is a loft office community on Zonolite Road in Atlanta, Georgia. Zonolite Park is a 12-acre DeKalb County park, featuring a pollinator garden, Nickel Bottom Community Garden, a public pavilion, open meadow, wetland conservation area, access to South Fork Peachtree Creek, and 1 mile of South Fork Conservancy trails that connect Zonolite Park to neighboring Herbert Taylor Nature Preserve.





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Garden Club Activities

The Morningside Garden Club has been busy with regular meetings as well as joining local park cleanups. On March 27, a group of volunteers cleaned up, weeded, and made some new plantings at the MLP Monument at Lanier and Amsterdam.

Thanks to everyone who showed up to help out with weeding/restoring our adopted gardens in Sidney Marcus and at the Amsterdam/Lanier monument. See photos below of the efforts--we were visited by neighbors who appreciate our efforts.



MLPA Garden Club Meeting April 30

Make plans now to join the MLPA Garden Club for our April 30 program where we will host a visitor from Atlanta Audubon to speak on creating a wildlife friendly environment. Contact [Marti Breen](#) for details.

Dust Off (or Order) Those Mosquito Traps

Spring is the perfect time to get out your mosquito traps and clean them up to get ready for the season. This is also the perfect time to do an audit of your yard and scope out any places where water may accumulate, making a breeding haven for mosquitoes. You can either devise a method to drain these areas or plan to use a larvaecide to minimize summer populations.

Trapping and destroying mosquitoes is the preferred method of control to minimize the impact on other wildlife. If you've noticed a decline in our bee and firefly population, it is directly related to the use of pesticides (including "natural" mosquito sprays which kill almost all flying insects), light pollution, and habitat destruction. Mosquito traps are a much more pollinator friendly approach to mosquito control. If you don't already have traps or need supplies, contact [Wesley Aycock](#) with Green Environmental, Inc.



MLPA Garden Club Plant Sale Saturday, May 18, 9-11:30 AM

Looking for plants that will thrive in Morningside Lenox Park? Look no further than the MLPA Garden Club plant sale, Saturday, May 18 at Sidney Marcus Park. There will be a variety of sun and shade loving plants that have been culled from members' gardens just for you. Sale proceeds benefit the work of the MLPA Garden Club's adopt-a-green space and community outreach programs.



Atlanta Step up and VEO

The Step Up VEO Thrift Store located at 1840 Cheshire Bridge Road is a thrift store focused on helping homeless veterans in recovery. We are always in need of good-quality donations for our Thrift Store.

We embrace homeless veterans in recovery into a “family” of people who have been there, replacing the cues of abuse in their current environment with a system of support for sobriety. We teach and live the values of Self-Help and Self-Respect leading to Independence and Self-Sufficiency.

We employ veterans at our store and also support the work of the Veterans Empowerment Organization – VEO. VEO provides full wrap-around services for homeless veterans and is located on Atlanta’s West Side (www.veohero.org).

Your donations enable us to fund our mission of helping homeless veterans. Donations of furniture, large and small appliances, tools, clothing and shoes, bicycles, toys, and athletic equipment are always welcome. Please drop off donations at 1840 Cheshire Bridge Road or call for pick-up at 404-892-3392.

-Sumarie Forrester, Director of Development



Half-Priced Wine at Varuni Napoli

Stop by Tuesday and Wednesday for half-priced bottles of Montepulciano and Pinot Grigio with a purchase of any artisan pizza.



Clean Car Campaign

Help Reduce Car Break-ins in Morningside

Car break-ins are the biggest crime problem we have in Morningside. These incidents occur far too frequently and are incredibly frustrating to all. As such, the MLPA Security Committee has initiated several activities to try to reduce the occurrence of these crimes this year. One step is to assess lighting in the neighborhood. For example, we are working to get additional lighting in Morningside Village. **We need to hear from you about other areas where more lighting is needed. Please let us know these locations by sending an email to neighborhoodwatch@mlpa.org.**

Another step is a renewed Clean Car Campaign. The Atlanta Police Department suggests never leaving valuables in your car in plain sight.

Clean Car Campaign Checklist

- Place valuables in trunk **BEFORE** you arrive, not **AFTER**.

Every time you leave your car:

- Lock all windows and doors.
- Remove GPS and mounts.
- Remove cell phones, laptops, tablets.
- Remove ALL cords and power sources for electronic devices.
- Remove book bags, back packs, brief cases, shopping bags, and purses.
- Do not leave money, bills or coins, out in the open.
- Do not leave a firearm in your vehicle. In Atlanta, more than 900 guns were stolen from vehicles in 2018.
- Tell your visitors to clean out their cars, even if they are just visiting for the evening.
- By doing this, you can prevent becoming a victim of our neighborhood's most common crime. Never keep a spare key inside the car.
- Please look for our new fun signs at Morningside Village.

Please send your comments or questions to neighborhoodwatch@mlpa.org and security@mlpa.org.

Bulk Collection Can Now Be Scheduled

Got Bulk? Well now there's no more waiting for that unpredictable monthly pickup! Now, you just call or visit [ATL311](tel:404311), and choose a day and time to have your items picked up. It's convenient and easy, and residents have already scheduled 12 collections as of April 1, 2019. Visit bit.ly/ScheduleBulkCollection or Learn more at the [Solid Waste Services website](#).for more info.

Bulk Collection Made Better...



Free Parking Meter Test Run on N Highland

In a "temporary experiment", parking meters in sections of N Highland will be covered over, and there will be no charge for the parking. This was a major effort on behalf of Jennifer Ide's office and local owners and landlords. The experiment will determine positive impacts on area businesses by having more free parking available.

Meet the MLPA Board

We have begun to introduce members of the MLPA Board who serve our neighborhood. This month we feature Dr. Donald Campbell, DDS, a new Member-at-Large who is leading our filming liaison activities.

A graduate of Oxford College and Emory University school of dentistry, Dr. Donald Campbell has lived in Morningside for the past 17 years with his partner of 37 years, Lanier. Serving his first term on the MLPA board, Don is currently serving as the filming liaison, hoping to build solid relationships in the filming community while preserving our unique neighborhood and protecting the rights of its residents. When not working or volunteering, Don and Lanier love to travel and have visited more than 50 countries and 48 of the 50 states. They believe our beautiful neighborhood is the perfect location for walking their two pit bulls Ares and Zeus, and their adopted son Tim and his girlfriend Beth love to use the Lenox/Wildwood tennis courts. Next year Don and Lanier look forward to sharing some honey from their house's two newly installed beehives.



MLPA Social News



The Morningside book club will be meeting on May 14th to discuss *Small Country* by Gaël Faye. The group uses Facebook and the book club app [BookMovement](#) for communications. Contact [Jill Cobb](#) for more information.

Another way to meet neighbors is over a meal with the Morningside Dinner Club. It's a wonderful group of singles and couples that gather monthly for a potluck in a member's home or at a local restaurant. This month we'll meet at 6 PM on Sunday, April 28 at Atmosphere on Piedmont Road. Contact [Sarah Chatel](#) to RSVP or for more details.

Atlanta's official kickoff to spring, the 83rd Annual [Atlanta Dogwood Festival](#) brings fine art, live music and entertainment on two stages, and family fun to Piedmont Park April 11-14. With 250 artists selected from more than 1,000 entries each year, the juried Artist Market welcomes art lovers to peruse and purchase.

Locals Only Party (We ♥ Our Neighbors!)

Thursday, April 11 from 6pm-10pm

The festival kicks off in the Meadow a day early with a [Locals Only Party!](#) This is your chance to enjoy in style with your Midtown neighbors. Your \$20 wristband includes unlimited rides, access to the Meadow beer garden, and discounted concessions from select food vendors. AND all advance ticket holders will receive a complimentary dogwood sapling at the event! Be sure to get your tickets in advance – prices go up at the door.



Zoning Committee Report

At the April Zoning meeting, the committee heard two variances.

V-19-063 1356 Lanier Blvd. N.E. Approved 5-0-0

V-19-064 1650 Homestead Ave. N.E. Approved 5-0-0

The next zoning meeting will be held at Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 7. 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.

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.

MLPA Events Listing

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

Saturdays, 8:00-11:30 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.

Every Fourth Saturday, 9:00 am - 12:00 PM, [Morningside Nature Preserve Volunteer Day](#)

Friday, April 12, 8:00 AM, Morningside Elementary School Principal's Coffee Talk

Friday, April 12, 6:00 PM, Concerts in the Park, Sidney Marcus Park

Sunday, April 14, 10:00 AM, Haygood UMC Palm Sunday and Procession from Sidney Marcus Park

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

Wednesday, April 17, 6:30 - 8:00 PM, Inman Middle School Auditorium

Tuesday, April 23, 8:45 AM, Grady High School PTSA Parent/Principal Coffee

Wednesday, April 24, 7:00 PM, APD Zone 6 [Coffee with a Cop](#)

Friday, April 26, 9:15-10:15 AM, Inman Middle School Principal's Coffee

Sunday, April 28, 6:00 PM, Morningside Dinner Club, contact [Sarah Chatel](#) for details

Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 PM, MLPA Garden Club, contact [Marti Breen](#) for details and location.

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 PM, MLPA Zoning Committee Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church 1411 North Morning7ide. See mlpa.org/zoning/ for the variances to be reviewed.

Monday, May 13, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Board Meeting](#), Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1411 North Morningside. All neighbors are welcome.

Friday, May 17, 9:15-10:15 AM, Inman Middle School Principal's Coffee

Saturday, May 18, 9:00-11:30 AM, MLPA Garden Club Plant Sale, Sidney Marcus Park

Monday, May 20, 7:00 PM, [NPU-F Meeting](#), Hillside Center, 1301 Monroe Dr. NE. All neighbors are invited and those 18+ have a vote.

Friday, May 24, last day of school for APS

Friday, May 24, 6:00 PM, Concerts in the Park, Sidney Marcus Park

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