



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

November 2021

We hope your Fall is off to a great start and that you are able to enjoy the vibrant red, orange and yellow leaves around our neighborhood. If the change in weather serves as a reminder for how fortunate we are to live on these beautiful streets, please take a moment to [join or renew](#) your membership today (if you haven't already)!

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President's Note

What did I tell you last month? That went fast - and here we are again.

1. School survey results. Thank you to the 450+ neighbors who participated in our survey about the future of Morningside Elementary School (MES). There are more details below but 81% of respondents opposed the recommendation by Atlanta Public Schools to make Inman a 4th/5th academy, which would make MES a K-3 program. Although we will leverage the data to work with city leaders to get more insight into neighborhood impacts, below are also ways you can reach APS and Board of Education decision-makers if you'd like to express your own opposition or support.

2. Annual meeting recap. In our meeting last Monday we voted on a new board for 2022, welcoming three new members to the team in roles such as parks and traffic. We are always glad to have new neighbors join us! We also voted on updates to the by-laws, which will be available on the MLPA website. One notable change is that we now have a 4-year term limit on presidents, which means 2022 will be my last year in this role. While we have many capable people on the board, we're going to need a new generation of volunteers to get involved to ensure transition of initiatives in the years ahead – and we have a lot of committees across security, zoning and parks to help you get involved at your own pace. We do not want to be in a position this time next year with turnover and no one to fill the spots. We also approved a new digital speed reader for Wellbourne Drive that was recommended in our master plan – with the ongoing Cheshire Bridge detour, we hope this will help that area relieve the pressure of increased traffic and speeding.

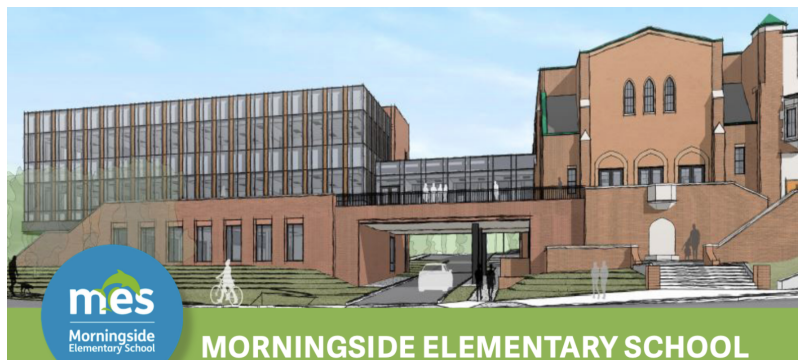
3. Show your holiday spirit. We have a lot of opportunities to support others this season – including supporting a toy drive with Atlanta Police Department and co-hosting Winterfest with Virginia-Highlands on December 4. Details below! The MLPA will also be doing its annual gift card distribution to the local fire station and police precinct that supports us.

We are still monitoring the License Review Board agendas for its review of the alcohol license application for Octopus Kitchen and Bar. It was scheduled for November 9 but suddenly removed from the agenda – when we have more details we'll share. Regarding [the homicide outside Loca Luna](#) in Amsterdam Walk on October 24, we have been made aware that an arrest warrant is out for the suspect.

And as if you don't have enough to do, don't forget to VOTE in the runoff elections on November 30! We are looking forward to new direction, particularly on the public safety front. As always please reach out with feedback – hope you all are looking forward to a less-virtual but safe Thanksgiving.

Ben Nemo, president@mlpa.org

PS We are starting to look to buy or lease a new vehicle for our Security Patrol. If you have a connection to a car dealership or know of another way to help us get the right vehicle (likely a small/medium SUV) for a super deal, please contact me!



Future of Morningside Elementary

Thank you to the 450+ residents who took our survey last week regarding the recommendation by Atlanta Public Schools (APS) to make Inman a 4th/5th academy, which would result in Morningside Elementary School (MES) and other elementary schools in the Midtown High cluster becoming K-3 programs in fall 2023. If you still have not taken the survey, it is available [here](#).

As an elementary parent myself I am sure we can count on our strong community to rally around our students and our schools no matter what form MES takes in the coming years. That being said, the results indicate overwhelming opposition to this recommendation. With healthy representation across current parents, future parents and residents who do/will not have K-5 children, **81% oppose the recommendation** while only 9% support it. Reasons in the comments range from academic and social concerns, impact on traffic from additional buses/longer school commutes, the fact the new Inman building would not provide enough capacity for students within three years resulting in higher costs, and disruption to families with several children. Some examples of feedback both against and for the recommendation follow:

- *It is disappointing APS made this recommendation without taking into account the feedback from the community (spoken from someone who attended the community engagement meetings dating back to 2019)*
- *This proposal is a bandaid that causes almost, if not more, problems than it solves. I appreciate the effort that went into it but it does not make sense.*
- *I think a dual elementary school (for MES or Spark) would be a much better option. Other schools in Atlanta like Sarah Smith and Jackson already have dual elementary campuses which are much less disruptive.... This is already a proven, successful model.*
- *We moved our kids from APS due to superintendent changes and virtual school. Our current school has K-3, 4-6, and I have noticed how well the 4th graders fit in this environment. They are older, more pre-teen than K-er, and I think it's a good time for a change.*
- *Our child went to MES and it was a wonderful experience. It was in 5th grade where we saw her confidence boosted to new levels and that has made the transition to middle school so much better. I believe pulling kids in 4th grade from one school and putting them in another would be disruptive to the way children mature and grow confidence-wise.*
- *Please do not split K-3 and 4/5 into two separate locations. We have 3 children and this will affect our decision to continue with APS. If the 4/5 Academy goes forward, we will be forced to pull our children and go to private school for logistical and academic concerns. I do not feel the 4/5 academy benefits the Morningside community and will cause disruption and decreased engagement within the school district.*

The MLPA will work to reflect the feelings of the neighborhood and engage with city leaders to make sure the community as a whole is represented in this decision, which is expected to happen in an Atlanta Public Schools Board of Education meeting in Q1 2022. We will also consider a new education committee to help with the communication and workload that will be involved.

If you would like to view the results of this survey, you can access them through this [link](#). If you are not yet familiar with the topic, I recommend spending a little time reading the comment section to educate you on the different points of view regarding the recommendation.

Below is contact info for APS board members to express support or opposition for this recommendation. You can also send feedback to APS leadership directly via [Let's Talk](#) and clicking on "Hot Topic: Future Use of Inman". We encourage all to express their opinions quickly as the board will likely vote on this topic in early Q1 2022.

At-Large Seat 9: [Jason Esteves](#) | Board Chair

District 1: [Leslie Grant](#)

District 2: [Aretta Baldon](#)

District 3: [Michelle D. Olympiadis](#)

District 4: [Manny Maister](#)

District 4: [Nancy Meister](#)
District 5: [Erika Mitchell](#)
District 6: [Eshé P. Collins](#) | Board Vice-Chair
At-Large Seat 7: [Kandis Wood Jackson](#)
At-Large Seat 8: [Cynthia Briscoe Brown](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



ENGEL & VÖLKERS[®]
KRISTEN POLLOCK

Become an MLPA Sponsor in 2022

Start the new year off as an MLPA Sponsor in 2022! We are excited to share partnership packages that will further support our work in the neighborhood. With three levels for engagement, the MLPA Business Partnership Program will connect you with our members and other Morningside homeowners and residents. Click [here](#) to see our different tiers, their benefits and to become a sponsor. For more detailed information, click [here](#) or contact our Partnerships Chair, [Mark Smith](#), with any questions.



Fall Membership Drive

Do you have a little red and white yard sign that shows your house number? If not, why not?

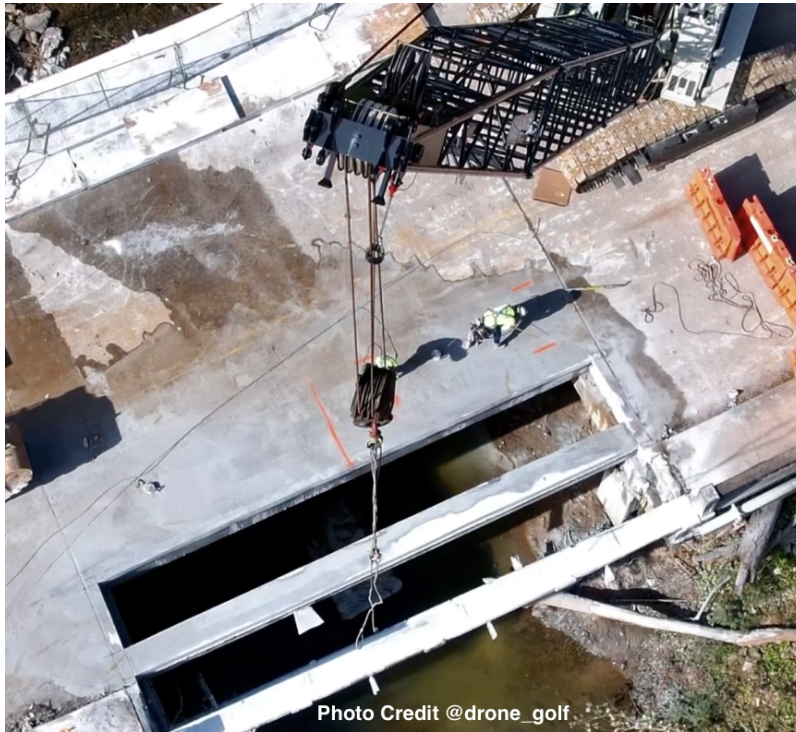
Morningside is very lucky to have an excellent, well-run private patrol in the neighborhood. The Morningside Security Patrol is 100% supported by members of the Morningside Lenox Park Association (MLPA) and staffed by off-duty Atlanta police officers who know our neighborhood very well and are committed to keeping us safe. And yet, the patrol is supported by less than 25% of the neighborhood. That's right, only about 25% of our neighborhood pays to have APD officers patrol our streets, call in suspicious situations, and catch 911 calls when on duty. While most of us have security systems, and the police response can be slow, these guys KNOW what is going on in Morningside. We need them particularly now at a time when our police departments are under-staffed and morale is low. See more about the patrol below.*

In addition, but no less important, the MLPA supports many other community activities. The MLPA is behind concerts and movies in the park, park renewal and restoration (think Sidney Marcus and Herbert Taylor), meet the candidates for local elections, participation in the NPU and city License Review Board meetings, newsletters providing pertinent up-to-date information about the renovation of Morningside Elementary School and the rebuilding of the bridge on Cheshire Bridge, implementation of projects identified by the Master Plan adopted by the City in 2018, etc.

So... Do YOU have a little red and white yard sign with your house number? Does your neighbor have one? Sign up [here](#).

*The Morningside Security Patrol is primarily staffed by officers who have worked with us for several years. They conduct vacation checks for Security Plus members who are out of town. The Patrol checks their houses once a day for newspapers in the driveway, trashcans in the street, packages visible on front steps or porch, or anything that seems suspicious, or out-of-place. They send an email once a day to report that all is well or a specific issue.

QR tags have been installed in 98 locations around the neighborhood to maximize coverage in all quadrants. Specific locations were selected and optimized with the help of software technology and the officers on patrol. When the officers drive around, they scan these locations. All locations are scanned every 48 hours, with most scanned more than once. So, they can tell you specifically when they were last on your street.



Cheshire Bridge Demolition

Last week, demolition of the bridge on Cheshire Bridge Road began.

Excerpts from the [ATLDOT News Release, November 4:](#)

The City of Atlanta Department of Transportation (ATLDOT) announced utility relocation work is complete on the fire-damaged Cheshire Bridge over South Fork Peachtree Creek, clearing the way for demolition work to begin ...

... The bridge was closed to traffic after a fire severely compromised its safety and efficacy in August of this year. A demolition contractor was selected in late September and vendors have been working to move power, water, gas, cable and phone lines off the bridge and around the construction zone.

“We are grateful for the patience and continued support of the local community in the face of the tremendous inconvenience caused by the Cheshire Bridge closure,” said ATLDOT Commissioner Josh Rowan. “Issues encountered during the utility relocation process have delayed the start of demolition, but work should progress well from this point.”

The designated contractor will work seven days a week on a 24-hour-a-day schedule to complete the demolition. This aggressive schedule will ensure the safety of the public, while preparing the bridge for construction in 2022.

“We are currently preparing a bid package for design and construction and expect to have a contractor on board soon after demolition is complete,” Rowan said. “We remain committed to getting the bridge demolished and replaced as safely and quickly as possible.”

Please continue to support those businesses along the corridor, especially as we approach the holiday season. For additional insight as to how they continue to be impacted, read Atlanta Intown's article [Cheshire Bridge Road businesses suffer as road closures continue](#).



**Russell Landscape
&
Ed Castro Landscaping, LLC.**

ARE AUTHORIZED CONTRACTORS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

- Contractors work a day ahead of SWS crews to collect yard debris.
- Continue to leave bagged items curbside until collected.
- Place bagged items away from storm drains.
- Contact 311-(404) 546-0311 to report any issues.

Thank you for your patience.

Connect with us: [@AtlantaPublicWorks](#) [@ATLPublicWorks](#) [@ATLPublicWorks](#) [Nextdoor](#) @City of Atlanta, Department of Public Works

Yard Debris Collection Updates

Last month, the Commissioner of Public Works addressed yard debris pickup concerns with NPU Chairs. You can view the presentation from Public Works [here](#), and the following are take-aways provided by our NPU-F Chair:

- They are sincerely working on it. Many problems have been caused with the labor shortage and their inability to recruit the number of employees that are needed (they've hired 40 but need more) - despite using cash and other incentives. Office staff have been reassigned as truck drivers until they can get staffed up and caught up. New employees are not familiar with some of the neighborhoods and miss some of the streets. Temp agencies are not interested in supplying workers because of the liability with work that requires folks to hang off a truck.
- One of the problems discussed is how the truck routing has worked. Once the truck is full with debris, they leave the route and travel to the only City dump site which is on the Atlanta/Cobb border. Sometimes that happens in the middle of the block. Usually they don't return to where they left off because of the travel distance.
- The City has antiquated trucks, systems and processes that they are working to update. They are buying new software that will do a better job scheduling routes and 8 new trucks that will only require one person. They are also looking to expand the number of dump sites to different parts of the city.
- The Commissioner says that if your yard waste hasn't been picked up in 3 weeks, it's not on their radar. You may put it in your regular trash until they can get the system fixed. It won't be recycled, but it won't be sitting on the street.
- They have hired two landscape companies to pick up yard waste. They will be in marked trucks and focusing on the areas that have been most neglected.
- If your area is being neglected, please email communications@mlpa.org and we can help elevate your issue.

Office of Solid Waste Services – Yard Debris Collections & Drop-Off Sites

- Yard trimmings are **not** scheduled for collection the week of November 15.
- Residents who are experiencing a delayed yard trimming collection of one week or greater should contact [ATL311](tel:404311).
- Residents also have the option of dropping off yard debris at one of three drop-off sites, M-Fr, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., and Sat., 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Yard Debris Drop-Off Locales:**
 - 1320 Key Rd. SE
 - 1540 Northside Dr. NW
 - 2175 James Jackson Pkwy

SERVICE CHANGE NOTIFICATION

November Yard Trimmings Collection Schedule

NOVEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
No Yard Trimmings Collected						
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Yard Trimmings Collected						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No Yard Trimmings Collected						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Yard Trimmings Collected						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
No Yard Trimmings Collected						
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Yard Trimmings Collected						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No Yard Trimmings Collected						

***Garbage & Recycling Collected Weekly**

- Yard trimmings are collected every other week on your scheduled garbage collection day.
- Yard trimmings should be left curbside until collected.
- Residents experiencing collection delays should visit www.atl311.com or call 404-546-0311

Yard Debris Drop-Off Sites

Key Rd Landfill
1320 Key Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30316

Northside Warehouse
1540 Northside Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

Hartsfield Landfill
2175 James Jackson Pkwy., Atlanta, GA 30318

MONDAY - FRIDAY • 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
SATURDAY • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Find Your Yard Trimmings Collection Day:
www.atlantaga.gov/solidwaste
Questions:
www.atl311.com or 404.546.0311

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Holiday Toy Drive for ADP Zone 6

Last year for the first time, Morningside participated in the Atlanta Police Department Zone 6 Annual Toy Drive for needy families residing in the Zone 6 catchment area. Because of your incredible generosity, we had a very successful drive.

MLPA is partnering with Zone 6 again this year, and we are hoping you will join us. Officers in Zone 6 identify families in need through their connections within the community. In addition, toys are donated to the local [PAL](#) unit and the [Atlanta Dream Center](#).

We already have Disney watches, a Melissa and Doug gardening set, puzzles and Frozen dolls - to name a few. Toys are needed now through December 10th. Soon thereafter, the precinct will have a party for these families. All toys need to be new and unwrapped, and suitable for children younger than 11 years old. Officer Russel Stanio is managing this effort. He is the Quality of Life Officer for Zone 6 and a really terrific guy.

So ... during the next few weeks, please leave your contributions at any time on the porch at the following location:

1220 Cumberland Road (Phyllis and Rick Wingo)

Many thanks for your kindness to help another family.

Winterfest

Winterfest

Supporting the [Virginia Highland District](#), MLPA is excited for the inaugural Winterfest taking place the first weekend in December. Full of festivities, check out these events happening in our neck of the woods. We hope to see you there and **supporting all of our wonderful neighborhood businesses and restaurants in Morningside Village!**

[Run in the Jingle Jog](#) Saturday December 4, 10:00-11:00am

Come dressed in your holiday gear and bells, jogging from Morningside Village, then down Lanier Blvd and back (approx 2 mi). Each registered runner (\$25) will receive a pair of Winterfest socks and a bib. Check in is from 9:30-10:00am.

[Join the Walking and Motor Parade](#) Saturday, December 4, 11:00am-12:00pm

Have you always wanted to be in a parade? This is an easy one! Invite your friends, family, or street to cruise down Lanier Blvd spreading your VaHi holiday cheer. Parade ends at the Artist Market and Live Music stage. Check in is from 10-11:00am. Prices vary.

You can also support the jog and parade by lining up along Lanier Blvd, from University Ave to Los Angeles Ave to cheer on the runners, community organizations, businesses and families.

Check out the full line-up of Winterfest activities [here](#).





Street Captain Meet and Greet

On Saturday, November 13, at Sidney Marcus Park, Stephanie Aron (MLPA's Neighborhood Watch Lead), Sue McHale, and Camille Richardson hosted a meet & greet event for all MLPA street captains. The weather was cool, but a dazzling sun brilliantly lit the tree leaves with fall colors invigorating all attendees.

The meet & greet provided a perfect opportunity for street captains to meet each other, to share experiences, to exchange ideas and specially to receive a much deserved thank you. The event included special guests Phyllis Wingo (MLPA Security Chair) and Rick Vasquez (MLPA Security Patrol Lead), who provided contemplative security insights, such as the reason why the majority of cars are stolen is because keys are left in the car or the unlocked car is left with engine running.

Discussion also included ideas on how to quickly inform neighbors of potential safety issues. One idea offered is having multiple adjacent streets join together in using a listserv email system that makes it possible for participating residents to send real-time alerts to each other. The Beech Valley and Pasadena streets have implemented this method of communication with 85% of their residents participating. Neighborhood Watch is also looking into using text messaging as a way to quickly warn MLP residents of nearby crime incidents -- Be On the Look Out (BOLO alerts.)

Our community's street captains are the foot soldiers of the Neighborhood Watch Program. Along with stay-at-home Moms, persons working at home, and retirees, they are the eyes on the streets who can report suspicious goings on. They have volunteered to assist their neighbors, the MLPA and the police in monitoring the safety and security of their streets. They deserve a big shout-out and thank you from the entire neighborhood.

For the Neighborhood Watch Program to have continued success, its team needs help in finding street captains on streets that are currently without. If someone is looking for a great way to meet their neighbors, perform meaningful work, and give back to our wonderful MLP neighborhood, being a street captain is the answer. One of the first insights a street captain realizes is that you meet so many wonderful, helpful, concerned neighbors - which not only leads to safer streets, but also long-lasting friendships.

Here is the list of Morningside Lenox Park streets that currently need street captains (Street Name, House Numbers):

- Avalon PI NE, All
- Courtenay Dr NE, 839 - 949; Wayne Ave to N Highland Ave
- Cumberland Rd NE, 886 - 1090; N Morningside Dr to N Highland Ave
- Dutch Valley Rd NE, All
- Dutch Valley PI NE, All
- E Pelham Rd & Rockmont Dr NE, All
- Greystone Pk NE, All
- Highland Park Ln NE, All
- Hillpine Dr NE, All
- Hillpine Ln and Ter NE, All
- Johnson Rd NE, All
- Lanier PI NE, 1337 - 1500; N Morningside Dr to Cumberland Rd
- McLynn Ave NE, 990 - 1121; N Highland to Lanier Blvd
- McLynn Ave NE, 1165 - 1265; Lanier Blvd to Amsterdam Ave
- Marstevan Dr NE, All
- Middlesex Ave NE, All
- Morningside PI NE, All
- N Highland Ave NE, 1209 - 1357; Amsterdam Ave to Lanier PI
- Piedmont Ave NE, 1572 - 1825; Monroe Dr to N Rock Springs Rd
- Pine Ridge Dr NE, All
- Plymouth Rd NE, All
- Reeder Cir NE 1114 - 1190; N Highland to Bonnie Lane

- Roader St NE, 114 - 130, N Highland to Bonnie Lane
- Wayne Ave NE, All

If you are interested in becoming a street captain or do not know who is your street captain, please contact one of the following:

1. Stephanie Friese Aron at stephanie.friese@chamberlainlaw.com
2. Sue McHale at suemchale@bellsouth.net
3. Phyllis Wingo at security@mlpa.org



New Moms' Brunch

On the heated patio at Whiskey Bird yesterday (November 14), a group of Morningside Lenox Park expectant moms and those with a baby under one year enjoyed a delicious brunch and had a wonderful time meeting each other - plus MLPA representatives - at our neighborhood association's first New Moms' Brunch. By connecting with others to discuss this wonderful (and sometimes trying!) stage of life, it was a great opportunity to share experiences, recommendations and advice - and hopefully form new relationships with nearby neighbors.

Many thanks to Jennifer Schweidel for her thoughtful organization of this event, [Whiskey Bird](#) for their generous accommodations, and [The Ten Spot](#) for providing everyone with an all natural lip butter balm and 10% off any service! Stay tuned for more events!



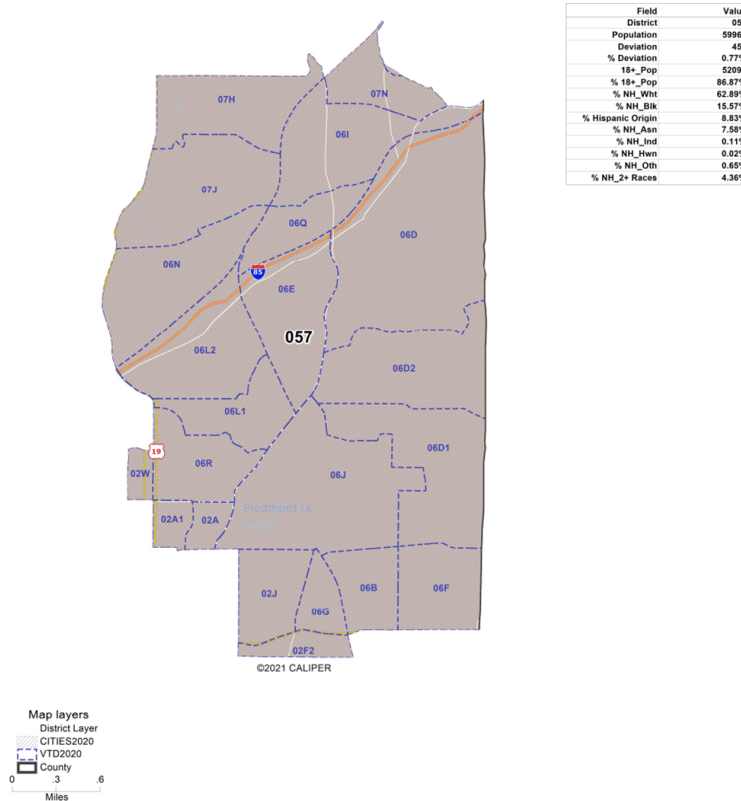
Fall Concert Series Recap

Thanks to our Morningside neighbor, [Sonny Jones Real Estate Group of Dorsey Alston Realtors](#), we hosted our last Fall Concert in Sunken Garden Park on the evening of Friday, November 5. Our presenting sponsor's generous support, along with MLPA memberships, kept these family-friendly concerts FREE and open to Morningside Lenox Park and surrounding communities. Carter Rude and Friends closed it out, which brought this year's series full circle.

Carter moved to Morningside in 2009. Not knowing anyone in the neighborhood and with an eight-month-old at the time, he and his wife, Gina, were wondering how to meet people. After attending and playing for a fellow musician friend who started a family-friendly concert series at Chastain Park in Buckhead, Carter approached the MLPA board and presented this idea. In 2010-11, the annual neighborhood event began in Sidney Marcus Park with Carter as the core entertainer; he then invited other musicians and performers to step in and showcase their talents.

Through COVID-19 and with Sidney Marcus Park set to undergo a renovation, this year's concert series was moved to Sunken Garden Park with food trucks, the Haygood Happy Camper and fun surprises for the kids. Many neighbors safely took advantage of three opportunities over the past two months to picnic, relax, mingle and hear from a variety of entertainers. We can't wait to do it again!

District: 057



State House Representative Updates

We appreciate that our House District 57 Representative Stacey Evans - and/or members of her staff - attend our monthly board meetings. Please see the latest updates from our meeting last week:

- On Tuesday, November 9, the new State House Map ([HB 1EX](#)) was passed out of the House Legislative & Congressional Reapportionment Committee—less than one week after being released to the public. Then, the very next day, the map passed out of the full House. On Friday, the Senate adopted the map. It is now on its way to the Governor for signature. You can view a copy of the map [HERE](#). MLPA will remain in District 57 from what we can see. We will have a new district by the next MLPA meeting!
- If you would like to watch any of the special session or any committee hearings you can go to the house website (<https://www.legis.ga.gov/>). For hearings, just click the little video icon next to the meeting you want to watch.
- Please remember to vote in the run-off elections on November 30!

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Olivia Buckner](#). Also, Rep. Evans will be attending our December 13 MLPA meeting to give a report on the special session.



Tree Protection Ordinance Re-Write

NPU-F has been asked to join other NPUs and neighborhoods and endorse the *Citizen's Blended version of the Tree Protection Ordinance* (as opposed to the Department of City Planning Tree Ordinance draft). You can review the background of the TPO re-write and a copy of the draft letter at this [link](#) and a [comparison](#) of the current and two proposed drafts. Join tonight's NPU-F meeting via Zoom at 7:00pm (Meeting ID: 928 1513 1493). Click [here](#) for voter eligibility.

Also on this month's agenda: Election of 2022 Officers for the following positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Co-Secretaries, and chairs for NPU committees). Nominations will be taken from the floor at the meeting, as well.

Parks



Morningside Nature Preserve

City of Atlanta Parks has temporarily closed the Morningside Nature Preserve (MNP) suspension bridge for repairs. The bridge's current condition is a serious safety hazard.

Without the bridge, MNP is divided into two parts on either side of South Fork Peachtree Creek. To reach the east side of South Fork Peachtree Creek (stairs, boardwalk, beach area), use the Lenox Road entrance. To reach the west side of South Fork Peachtree Creek trails, use the Wellbourne Drive entrance or the unmarked Wildwood entrance. Please plan accordingly.





Herbert Taylor and Daniel Johnson Parks

From the [Friends of Herbert Taylor Park and Daniel Johnson Park \(HTDJ\)](#):

Prehistoric Morningside

Thousands of years ago, humans lived in our neighborhood. On Saturday, some of our amateur archaeologist-neighbors led a walk to Dog Wallow, Georgia Archaeological Site #9-DA413, at the confluence of Rock Creek and South Fork Peachtree Creek in Herbert Taylor Park. John Mayes brought along some of his collection of projectile points and pottery shards shown above. He and Ansley Abraham are regularly down at the creek after rains when artifacts come to the surface. Over the past two decades, these two have developed an 'eye' for ancient items that sometimes surface.

We were all amazed at the variety and intricacy of the items on display. The oldest are from the Archaic period, 8000 BC-1000 BC! These ancient tools and bowl fragments are testament to the people who hunted and gathered in our area thousands of years ago. Many of the projectile points and more detailed pottery date to the Woodlands period (1000 BC-1000 AD). It was fascinating to see the various pieces that illustrated the evolving sophistication of the artists. The Archaic pieces were mostly utilitarian, but those from the Woodlands feature decorations, beginning with punctations, then fabric pressings, then what is known as Swift Creek complicated stamped pieces where elaborate wood carvings were pressed into the moist clay before firing.

Our early neighbors engaged in trade, acquiring materials from the coastal plain and the mountains—as the projectile points made of chert attest. Almost all of the artifacts we viewed were made long before the first Europeans came into our area. It certainly provides a new perspective on the history of our neighborhood. Watch the kiosk at Herbert Taylor Park (1343 Pasadena) for news of other walks in the park, or join our email list at visittaylorpark@gmail.com.





SIDNEY MARCUS PARK

Sidney Marcus Park

From the [Friends of Sidney Marcus Park](#):

Groundbreaking and Food Drive

After a long wait for permission from the City of Atlanta and the Department of Parks and Recreation, renovation at Sidney Marcus Park will begin in December. Expected to last 3-5 months, this is a milestone for the community and the effort of Friends of Sidney Marcus Park (FSMP) that began in 2017. By the group, the MLPA and the neighborhood raising over \$100,000, FSMP was awarded a Legacy Grant from Park Pride, matching the neighborhood investment. The upcoming renovation is slated to cost \$200,000 and will focus on drainage, erosion control and watershed management. Based on the FSMP Vision Plan, it is the first major step towards realizing the vision for the park.

What has been a yearlong delay due to Covid, groundbreaking on this project will begin in early December. A celebration will be held at the park at **11am on Saturday, December 11**. This festive event will have live music and offer the opportunity to review the renovation plans, discuss next steps, learn the history of the park and meet the core team behind this project and FSMP.

That same weekend, the groundbreaking event will cap off the 5th quarterly Sidney Marcus Park Food Drive from **9 to 11am on Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11**. During the Pandemic, FSMP found a way to safely rally the neighborhood with quarterly food drives at the park. To date, FSMP, in collaboration with [Intown Collaborative Ministries](#), has collected over 5,000 pounds of food and personal hygiene products. The group hopes to capture the holiday spirit and bring the community together in support of those in need. Personal hygiene products and canned proteins, fruits, peanut butter, vegetables, cereals, and pasta are items most requested.

Click [here](#) for the full article.





Zoning

Time to engage in zoning! The department of City Planning has started the public process for its multi-year Zoning Ordinance rewrite, ATL Zoning 2.0 on November 3, 2021. They need YOUR input and involvement! Join them as they kick-off the rewrite process with a series of virtual meetings, "Idea Labs," presented as food for thought on topics that shape the new Zoning Ordinance. It's time for a new set of rules. [Register](#) today.

Recent events have demonstrated a strong interest in the City's plans in this area. We need to be at the table to provide input based on the specific needs of our neighborhood. NPU-F recently voted to oppose the DCP proposal for changes to the Comprehensive Development Plan and Amir Farokhi zoning legislation. These proposals were largely opposed on the grounds of the process and lack of community engagement. This is our chance to change that process for the better.

Four zoning case were heard in November by the Zoning Committee and MLPA Board:

- [V-21-221](#) 1039 Reeder Circle NE
 - Applicant seeks a special exception from the zoning regulation 1) allow active recreation in a yard adjacent to a street (High Point Place) in order to install a swimming pool in the side yard and 2) exceed the maximum height of a fence in the front yard from 4 feet to 5 feet for the construction of a privacy fence in the front yard where it is otherwise prohibited.
 - Approved
- [V-21-236](#) 1972 Wellbourne Drive NE
 - Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required south side yard setback from 10 feet to 7.4 feet in order to construct an addition onto an existing single-family residence.
 - Approved
- [V-21-275](#) 1729 Lenox Road NE
 - Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulations to 1) reduce the required south side yard setback from 10 feet to 6 feet, 2) increase the allowable cumulative floor area of all accessory buildings from 30 percent to 80 percent of the main structure in order to construct a new accessory building.
 - Approved
- [V-21-286](#) 1174 Cumberland Road NE
 - Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required west

- Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required west side yard setback from 7 feet to 1 foot for the purpose of constructing a new detached garage.
- Approved

The next zoning meeting will be held online via Zoom on November 7 at 7:00 pm. Any neighbors interested in variance outcomes should come to these meetings. All neighbors are welcome to attend; come to three meetings to qualify to vote. For more information, contact MLPA Zoning Chair, Rebekah Falkler, at zoning@mlpa.org.

Meet the Board



Phyllis Wingo, Security Chair

How long have you lived in Morningside?

We have lived in Morningside since 1994. We moved here from Stone Mountain, where we raised our daughters.

Where are you from originally?

I grew up in Baltimore, Maryland.

Where did you go to school?

I have an undergraduate degree in math, an MS in Statistics from UGA, and a PhD in Epidemiology from Emory University. I spent most of my career as a cancer epidemiologist at CDC, in addition to teaching 7th and 8th grade math in an inner city school in Baltimore, and 7 years at the American Cancer Society.

Tell us about your family.

Rick and I have 2 daughters, who live close by with our 4 grandchildren.

How many years have you served on the board?

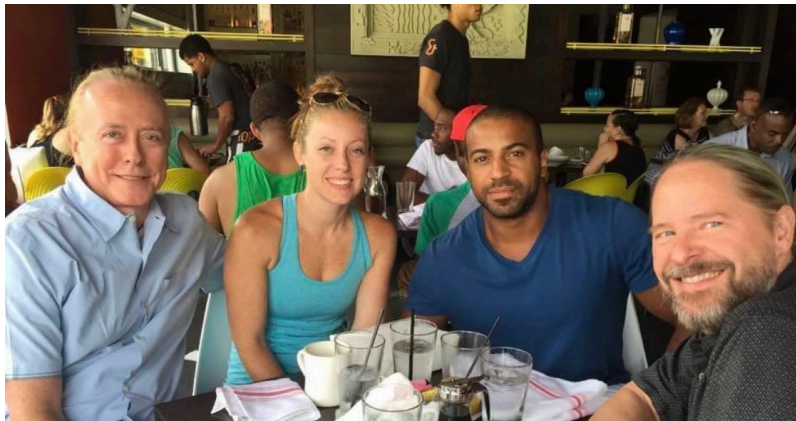
I served on the board as a member at large in 1995-1996, as Neighborhood Watch Chair 2016-2019, and Security Chair since then.

How do you spend your time when you're not volunteering to serve our neighborhood?

Before Covid, Rick and I travelled extensively outside the US, primarily to developing countries. We prefer travel to less developed places because so much more of local culture is intact. I also like playing with my grandchildren, walking in the woods, working in my garden, scrapbooking, sketching, to name a few.

What do you enjoy most about living in Morningside?

I enjoy being close to everything, especially restaurants.



Don Campbell, Vice President

How long have you lived in Morningside?

I moved to Morningside in 2002, so we have been here almost 20 years now.

Where are you from originally?

I was born in Pennsylvania but grew up in southern New Jersey. We moved to Georgia when I was 15 years old.

Where did you go to school?

I attended Oxford College of Emory University then continued on at Emory in Atlanta for one year. I was accepted to Emory's dental school after my junior year at Emory undergrad and completed my education there.

Tell us about your family.

I met my husband in 1982 and we have been together going on 40 years. We have an "adopted" son who has been with us for many years now; he and his finance live with us along with our very spoiled pit bull Ares!

How many years have you served on the board?

I started on the board as an at large member four years ago. Almost immediately, a need arose for a liaison for the film industry in our neighborhood. So I created that position and have worked over the last few years to develop relationships with location scouts and production companies to ensure that our neighborhood is properly represented in film, as well as compensated financially for the inconvenience the productions cause on our streets. Last year I was voted in as Vice President but continue to hold the film liaison position also.

How do you spend your time when you're not volunteering to serve our neighborhood?

I am an avid traveler and try to get away as often as possible. I've been to 50 countries and all 50 states except North Dakota. During Covid, you could see me almost every day riding my bicycle in the park and on the Beltline. I love to cook and spend way too much time thinking about new recipes and ideas for dinner. If I weren't a dentist, I guess I'd probably own a restaurant and be a chef.

What do you enjoy most about living in Morningside?

Of all the neighborhoods in Atlanta, Morningside ranks among the most pleasant. The tree lined streets and large lots make living here feel less like the center of a major city and more like a small town with immediate access to all the amazing activities our city offers. The diversity of house styles makes our neighborhood feel unique and special instead of a cookie cutter development where every house looks the same. The green spaces and parks are abundant, the two nature preserves and four recreational parks offer outdoor activities most cities just dream of. Community involvement is a big priority for many of those who live here, and that type of engagement continues to contribute to the growth, safety and overall quality of life here in Morningside.



Morningside Farmers' Market Special Updates

Special Guests and Pop-Up Chefs

11/20: Vinetta and Holiday Market

12/4: Holiday Market

12/18: Maricela Vega

Upcoming Changes to Market Hours

12/25: Closed

1/1: Select Vendors Only

Thank you for understanding!

Visit the farmers, artisans and vendors at [Morningside Farmers' Market!](#)

Atlanta's Organic Market

Every Saturday, year-round, from 8am - 11:30am

Morningside Presbyterian: 1411 N. Morningside Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

(Street parking or spots available in the small lot accessed from Wessyngton Rd NE)








Craft Crawl Returns

The next neighborhood [Craft Crawl](#) takes place on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 11:00am - 4:00pm. Start on Courtenay Drive NE and continue around the block on Northview Avenue, Wayne Avenue and Berwick to discover more than 40 Atlanta-based creatives including live music by four bands. The show route is approximately one mile in length and also walking distance from the shops and restaurants of Virginia Highlands and Morningside Village. Rain date November 27.



Midtown High Name Change and Renovation Ribbon Cutting

As Vanessa McCray covered in [this AJC article](#), "After being known for decades as Henry W. Grady High School, the Atlanta campus across from Piedmont Park celebrated its new name and a bigger building." On October 27, Atlanta Public Schools held a ceremony at the school to honor the renaming and celebrate the \$34.9 million campus expansion and renovation. For more details and a photo gallery of the event - including the picture taken above - visit [this page](#) of Midtown High's award-winning student publication, *the Southerner Online*.

<p>LOT #1: HOWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL</p> 	  <p>SAVE THE DATES!</p> <p>HOWARD PTO ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALES</p> <p>Open Daily Starting November 26</p>
 <p>LOT #2: MORNINGSIDE ELEMENTARY (FORMERLY INMAN MIDDLE)</p> 	

Howard PTO Christmas Tree Sales

Save the date for Howard Middle's Annual PTO Christmas Tree Sale. It begins on November 26 and supports the PTO's vision to make every child's potential a reality.

Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

All neighborhood meetings are open to the public and your involvement is always welcome. There will be a public comment period at the beginning of each MLPA Board meeting if you would like to share an idea or concern. Or just join us to learn more. We hope to see you there!

would like to share an idea or concern. Or just join us to learn more. We hope to see you there:

- **MLPA Board Meetings** - 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm [Contact](#)
- **MLPA Parks Committee Meetings** - 1st Thursday of every month, 7:00pm [Contact](#)
- **MLPA Zoning Meetings** - 1st Tuesday of every month, 7:00pm [Contact](#)
- **NPU-F Meetings** - 3rd Monday of every month, 7:00pm, [Online via Zoom](#)

Around Town



Department of Parks and Recreation: Activate ATL. The Department of Parks and Recreation will begin the public comment period for the Activate ATL: Recreation and Parks for All Comprehensive Master Plan. The plan is available for review [online](#). Activate ATL is a comprehensive parks and recreation system plan that provides recommendations for provision of facilities, programs and services; parkland acquisition and development; maintenance and operations; and administration and management over the next ten years. Comments are welcome **through November 19th**. Activate ATL will be presented during the CDHS Quarterly CDP Public Hearing on November 29th. Send comments via the [website](#), [email](#), or by U.S. mail to: Tara Buckner, Activate ATL Project Manager, Department of Parks and Recreation, 55 Trinity Avenue SW, Atlanta 30303.



MARTA Bus Network Redesign. The [MARTA NextGen Bus](#) project is a system-wide reimagining of the MARTA bus network: where the buses go, and how often. MARTA hasn't done this in a long time, but the region's needs and goals have changed. We need to make sure that the bus network is right for today, and tomorrow. We can't afford to expand bus service much right now, so we have to think about how to arrange the service we have. This conversation is about priorities. What's more important? What's less important? Take the 10-minute survey [here](#).

SEE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

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ASSOCIATION

Sponsor

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Quick Links

- [MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website
- [NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website
- [APD](#) - Atlanta Police website
- [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](#) - Stacey Evans, Georgia State Representative
- [House District 83](#) - Becky Evans, Georgia State Representative
- [Atlanta Public Schools](#), [Morningside Elementary School](#), [David T. Howard Middle School](#), [Midtown High School](#)
- [VHMPA](#) - Virginia Highland Morningside Parent Association
- [NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)

Join MLPA or Renew Membership

This is your newsletter. Please send questions, ideas and photos to communications@mlpa.org.

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