

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

September 2024

If you're not already an MLPA member, please <u>join/renew</u> today! If you are a member, we really appreciate you. Email <u>volunteer@mlpa.org</u> to get involved!

# **OVERVIEW AND QUICK LINKS:**

- President's Note
- Good News on the Crime Front
- See Something, Say Something
- <u>Monroe Drive Update</u>
- Atlanta Botanical Garden Expansion Plan
- Events
- Parks
- <u>Zoning</u>
- Around Town
- <u>Neighborhood Meeting Schedule</u>





# **President's Note**

As we transition from summer's record-breaking heat to cooler autumn days, we're excited about the array of MLPA-hosted events coming up. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with neighbors and experience everything Morningside has to offer.

# Upcoming Events:

- **Concerts in the Park:** These concerts are FREE thanks to the generosity of our MLPA Sponsors and members like you.
- Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk: Bibs are on sale now for our second annual Monster Dash 5K. Following last year's success, we're expecting a large turnout. Come join us in your best Halloween costumes for a fun and fitness-filled event!
- **Morningside Mingle:** We're thrilled to present the Morningside Mingle, our signature endof-year event. Last year's Centennial Celebration set a high bar, and we aim to build on that success. MLPA members enjoy discounted tickets, and general public tickets are available at regular price. It's a great incentive to join MLPA!

**Board Nominations:** The nominating committee is nearing the completion of the 2025 board selections. There are still a few positions available. If you're interested in contributing to our community's leadership, please reach out to <u>the committee here</u>. It's not too late to get involved!

**Community Safety:** We want to extend a heartfelt thanks to MLPA Security Chair Phyllis Wingo, Major Rick Vazquez, the Morningside Patrol, the Security Committee, APD, Alex Wan's office, and all the residents who prioritize our community's safety. Over Labor Day, extended patrol hours—thanks to our partnership with APD and the MLPA Security Patrol—resulted in no new burglaries. Remember, if you notice anything unusual, please call 911 or submit home camera footage to the APD burglary unit at <u>NMoody@atlantaga.gov</u>.

We're planning additional patrols for other holiday weekends when crime rates typically rise. Increased <u>MLPA membership</u> means more funds for security, so help us spread the word. Let's make the last quarter of 2024 the most successful in membership growth!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Donald Campbell

# **NEWS & UPDATES**

# Good News on the Crime Front In Morningside

Last week on Tuesday and Thursday, a prowler was seen in the 1100 block of Cumberland Road and the 1900 block of Wellbourne. <u>See video</u>. The suspect was seen walking into backyards and checking for unlocked doors. This individual was arrested on September 12. It is unknown if he has some connection to the multitude of burglaries in Morningside so far this year. The burglaries are an ongoing investigation.

As a precaution, please continue to:

- Make sure your cameras are working properly.
- Lock doors and windows when you are at home or away from the house.
- Secure your back yard if possible.
- Lock up your jewelry and guns if you are going on vacation.

# AND call 911 if you see anyone or anything suspicious!



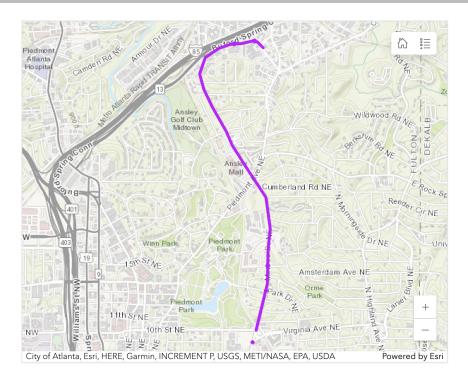


# See Something, Say Something

This past Thursday, on her morning walk, neighbor Carisa Quinn discovered a car in the creek between Lenox Rd and the tennis courts at Lenox-Wildwood Park. The car rolled 360 degrees downhill before landing upright in the creek. Thank you to Carisa for calling 911; she also shared that she did **not** have to wait on hold (hopefully a sign of improving emergency response services). The driver survived.

Friendly MLPA Public Service Announcements:

- Don't hesitate to call 911 and please don't assume that someone else has called or will call.
- Drive slowly with our neighborhood's many hills and curves (that goes without saying), but especially when there is rain after a long, dry period that is when roads can be extra slick.

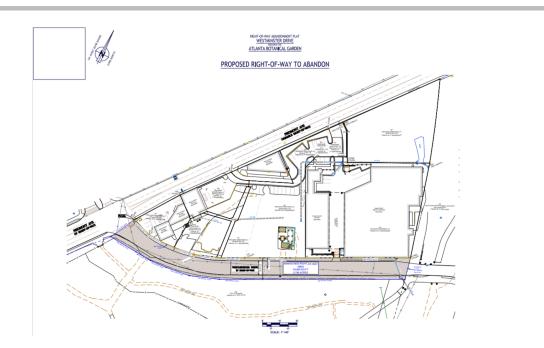


# Monroe Drive Update

Following July's community meeting with Alex Wan and ATL DOT, representatives from Morningside, Virginia-Highland and Piedmont Heights reviewed again the City's design plan for Monroe Drive. The goal is for the design phase to be completed by the end of this year so that an RFP can be released for construction.

Please note that Monroe Drive is no longer a Complete Street project because bike lanes were removed from the design (due to proximity to The Beltline). It is now a Safe Street project.

For additional project information and updates, <u>click here</u>.



# Atlanta Botanical Garden Expansion Plan

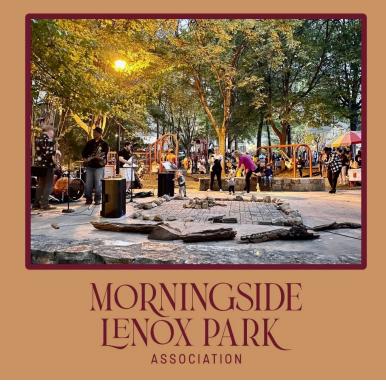
The Atlanta Botanical Garden (ABG) has filed a <u>Request for Abandonment of Public Right-of-</u> <u>Way</u> for Westminster Dr between Piedmont Ave and the Atlanta Beltline Trail - Eastside. Although the application is voted on by NPU-E, it is also on this week's NPU-F agenda as a 'Matter for Review and Comment.'

Along with this request for abandonment, ABG's expansion plans propose a new service road for maintenance building access off Monroe Dr from Dutch Valley Rd. City Councilperson Alex Wan shared at Monday's MLPA meeting that the Parks Department is holding ABG's expansion for review since it will be on City of Atlanta property.

To attend the NPU-F meeting this **Wednesday, September 18 at 7:00pm**, you can <u>pre-register</u> <u>here</u> and the Zoom link will be sent to your email. (NPU-F meetings, held on the third Wednesday of each month, can also be accessed with Meeting ID 845 9824 9006.)

# **EVENTS**

# **Fall Concerts In the Park**



# **Concerts in the Park**

We were super bummed for the last-minute cancellation of our Concert in the Park on August 30 due to inclement weather. But don't worry! You can groove with your friends and neighbors in **Sidney Marcus Park** at our next **Fall Concert in the Park** <u>THIS</u> **Friday, September 20 from 6:00 - 8:00pm**.

# Band: Cody Marlowe & Friends

American born singer-songwriter and roots-rock artist Cody Marlowe found his inspiration at an early age in the soulful sounds of B.B. King, Merle Haggard, and The Allman Brothers. Katie (sister) sings with Cody in concerts and on many recordings. He has performed around Georgia and the southeast United States for over 15 years now.

# Food Truck: C-Bo's BBQ Southern Cuisine

Steeped in classic Georgia BBQ tradition, C-BO's BBQ & Southern Cuisine is serving up all your smokey favorites, popping with home-cooked flavor. From wings to rib tips, C-BO's is smoking meats as well as anybody in the BBQ game. Don't sleep on their sides either, like their homemade greens or mac and cheese.

Don't forget to bring your picnic blankets, lawn chairs and extra drinks. These concerts are FREE thanks to the support of our generous sponsors and your membership dues. **Save the date for our final Fall Concert in the Park: Friday, November 1.** 



# Morningside Monster Dash 5K 2024

# **OVER 250 PARTICIPANTS ALREADY REGISTERED!**

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- **PHOTOGRAPHERS** We are looking for photographers in the neighborhood who are willing to donate their time and skills to help us capture the fun at the race's start, finish and along the route. Please email <u>communications@mlpa.org</u> if you're interested!
- **EVERYONE** Stay tuned for a Sign Up. We'll need volunteers to direct participants at turns on the route, manage the water station, and more!

Get ready to dash through the spooky streets of Morningside-Lenox Park in the most thrilling Halloween event of the year! Join us for the second annual Monster Dash 5K, where neighbors and ghouls alike can lace up their sneakers and embrace the spirit of the season.

With festive costumes and hauntingly beautiful scenery, it's a frightfully fun chip-timed run (or walk!) that you won't want to miss. Mark your calendars, gather your little monsters (strollers and well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome), and let's make memories that'll haunt us happily ever after!

# PRICE INCREASE AFTER TODAY - SEPTEMBER 15!

Saturday, October 26 8:30am Start/Finish Morningside Farmers' Market @ Morningside Presbyterian Church \$40 5K Individual Registration (Through Sept 15) \$25 5K Youth Registration (12 and under) FREE Kids Dash (10 and under; registration required for safety)

We sold out last year - and neighbors were playing all kinds of tricks to get a race number - so

don't think it's too early to snag your bibs. Prices will continue to increase!

# **USE CODE MLPA5 FOR \$5 OFF!**

# **Register Here**



# **Morningside Mingle**

Last year's Centennial Ball was a huge success. You won't want to miss this one! Bring your friends and meet new neighbors for an evening filled with delicious food, dancing and community spirit. Plus, be the first to check out Morningside's newest event space!

Friday, November 15 7:30 - 10:30pm The 1904 on Piedmont Park 559 Dutch Valley Rd NE

All net proceeds to benefit the Atlanta Police Zone 6 Holiday Toy Drive. We will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys at the event.

The Morningside Mingle is the perfect opportunity to meet your neighbors and contribute to making Morningside-Lenox Park a vibrant and safe neighborhood.

MLPA members received an email with a discount code to save \$25 per ticket! <u>Join now</u> and you'll receive a welcome email with the promo code.

Questions? Email communications@mlpa.org.

Tickets Here

Please Note: MLPA's Morningside Mingle is not associated with Morningside Presbyterian Church's Morningside Mingle, which will take place on September 28.

# PARKS

# Trail Opportunities

# Trails ATL

<u>Trails ATL</u> is conducting three rounds of surveys. The <u>Round 2 Survey</u> is now available. Review <u>the presentation for our District 6</u> prior to taking the Round 2 Survey. **This survey will close on September 30th.** Please send any questions or feedback via the contact page <u>here</u>.



# Piedmont Park Public Engagement Survey

The Piedmont Park Conservancy celebrates its 35th Anniversary, in partnership with the City of Atlanta, and is beginning work on the Piedmont Park Comprehensive Plan. Community input is integral to the process and feedback about park experiences, needs, and desires is encouraged.

<u>Click here</u> to submit comments about location specific topics and take a survey about your park experiences. You can also view project timelines and sign up to receive email updates.





# Friends of Herbert Taylor and Daniel Johnson

# New Georgia Native Plant Restoration Project Signs Erected

Herbert Taylor Park was designated a restoration project of the Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) in 2022. Now, just in time for the start of September's Native Plant Month, we have the signs! If you visit the Johnson Road or kiosk entrances you will see them. Simply scan the QR codes to learn more about the <u>Georgia Native Plant Society</u>'s Restoration efforts or the work being done at Herbert Taylor Park.

# Thanks City of Atlanta Planning Community Impact Grant & NPU-F

Herbert Taylor Park & Daniel Johnson Park is once again receiving a generous grant to acquire native plants for installation. This is the next step in restoring habitat for wildlife and one that needs your help!

We need your support to get these plants into their new forever home.

- Wednesday, September 25, 9 11 Weekday Workday
- Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 NOON, Second Saturday Workday
- Wednesday, Oct. 23, 9 11 AM Weekday Workday

Working in the park is a great way to learn about plants and wildlife, work up some sweat, and make new friends. Wear long sleeves, pants, and close toed shoes for protection. Bring your

favorite gardening gloves and tools or borrow some of ours. Come learn to use a weed wrench for a real power trip! Meet at the kiosk at 1343 Pasadena Ave. For questions or more information, email the Friends of the Park group <u>here</u>.



# **Morningside Nature Preserve**

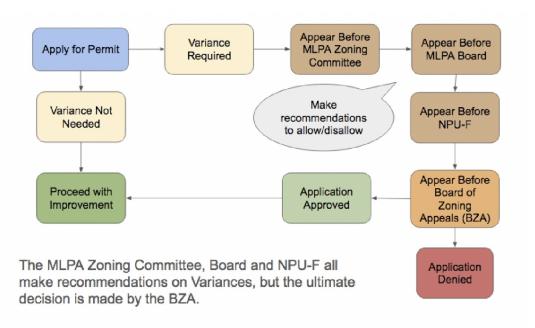
We continue to be grateful to Trees Atlanta for their efforts to maintain and restore the Morningside Nature Preserve. On the third Saturday of each month, they host volunteers for Forest Restoration from 9:00am-12:00pm.



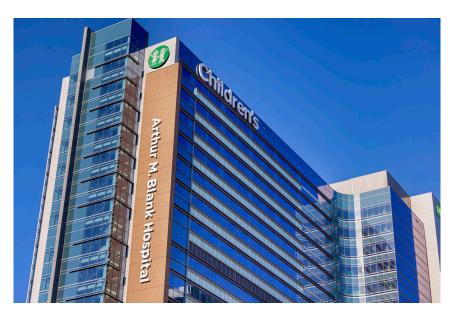
You can join them, as well, to promote a healthy plant community and a sustainable forest in the Morningside Nature Preserve. Your work will improve habitat for humans who use the greenspace for recreation and wildlife that call it home. Activities include hand-pulling and cutting invasive plants such as English ivy, Chinese privet, and kudzu in a densely wooded area off trail. For more information and to register for upcoming opportunities, click the button below.

# **Register Here**

# ZONING



# **AROUND TOWN**



# New Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Hospital

On Sunday, September 29, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta will open Arthur M. Blank Hospital and will move all patients from Eductor Hospital to the new hospital

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At 7:00 a.m. on September 29, the Egleston Hospital Emergency Department will close its doors and, simultaneously, the Arthur M. Blank Hospital Emergency Department will open for patients. If you are seeking pediatric emergency services on or after Sept. 29, do not go to Egleston Hospital.

Children's anticipates moving 340 patients from Egleston to Arthur M. Blank Hospital using 65 ambulances. In addition to Egleston patients, approximately 30 patients from the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center at Scottish Rite Hospital will move to Arthur M. Blank Hospital. If you are driving in or around the transport routes near Egleston, Arthur M. Blank and Scottish Rite Hospitals on Sept. 29, you may experience temporary road closures and/or traffic delays. For more about Arthur M. Blank Hospital, please visit <u>choa.org/future</u>.



Longtime regulars purchase The Colonnade, vowing to preserve its legacy (by Beth McKibben, *Rough Draft Atlanta*)





# **Celebrate Fall Flavors at Morningside Farmers Market!**

**Saturday, September 28th from 8:00 – 11:30 am**, Morningside Farmers Market will savor autumn with a fun-filled market day celebrating fall vegetables and delicious foods made on the spot. Every Saturday the market features organic produce, kids' activities, music and more!

As the temperatures cool and harvest season begins, you'll find more veggies in the stalls, as well as other goodies. Listen to music while selecting vibrant produce from **Diamond Hill**, **Serenbe**, and **Row by Rowe Farms** and pastured meats from **Smyly** and **Riverview Farms**. Sip coffee from **Recuerdos Cafe** and munch on pastries from **Chef Linton Hopkins' The Buttery ATL** or **Bake-N-Jam** breakfast delights. Dinner is planned for tomorrow with pasta from **Pasta Milani**, but lunchtime is right around the corner, so why not grab fresh specials from **Dandelion Food & Goods** or **Daily Chew**? For a sweet treat, visit **Elise Organic Ice Cream** for a sample or a pint to take home. Check out **Soul Food Holistic Healing** for delicious tea and **Live Well Dog** for treats.

Morningside Farmers Market has been offering organically grown produce, local meats, breads, and goods since 1995. The market is open every Saturday morning year-round at Morningside Presbyterian Church's parking lot (1411 N. Morningside Drive NE). SNAP/EBT (food stamp) dollars are doubled for an equal amount of tokens for fruits and vegetables at the information tent. The market's location offers a spacious, tree-lined setting for market goers.





# **Tour of Homes**

Support our neighborhood's neighbors!

- Ansley Park Tour of Homes October 5 6
- <u>Virginia-Highland Tour of Homes</u> October 20



# Atlanta City Council

<u>Click here</u> and sign up to receive alerts, updates and newsletters - plus view past communications - from our District 6 City Councilperson Alex Wan.





# **Atlanta Public Schools Updates**

# Be A Part of the Plan- Listening Sessions with Superintendent Bryan Johnson

• <u>Click here</u> to register to share your voice and ideas for the Midtown Cluster on **Monday**, **September 16** at Virginia-Highland Elementary School, as we embark on the Superintendent's first 100 days. Together, let's create a stronger foundation for our schools and community!

# **Midtown Device Discussion**

 Student devices are a hot topic in the Midtown community. Don't miss the Council of Intown Neighborhood Schools (CINS) <u>in-person panel discussion</u> with an APS Psychologist, APS Admin, Midtown High Admin, and an Atlanta Board of Education Representative. Join on **October 1** at Virginia-Highland Elementary to dive into the conversation and shape the future of student tech!

### **District 3 APS Board Member Ken Zeff**

- Get the newest information by signing up for his newsletter!
- Don't hesitate to reach out: kenneth.zeff@apsk12.org

# **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!

- MLPA Board Meetings 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm Contact
  - Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 841 3250 9005 Passcode: 797155
- MLPA Zoning Meetings Typically 1st/2nd Tuesday of every month (see Zoning above), 7:00pm Contact
- NPU-F Meetings 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm, Online via Zoom

**2024 MLPA SPONSORS** 

# PRESENTING



# Audi Atlanta

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# PREMIER

# ENGEL&VÖLKERS®

Celebrates Morningside

### ATLANTA CITY COUNCILMEMBERS



Alex Wan, Council District 6 Matt Westmoreland, Post 2 At-Large

# **BENEFACTOR**

<u>Alscan</u>

**Ansley Home Cleaning** 

**Catherine Wilson Interiors** 

**Copper Sky Design & Remodel** 

Joy Myrick | Atlanta Fine Homes/Sotheby's Realty

Savi Provisions

Stretch Lab Morningside

Varuni Napoli

# FRIEND

# Boutte Tree, Inc.

# Selig Enterprises

# **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
- <u>City of Atlanta</u> City's website
- <u>NextDoor</u> Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)

### **Contact Our Elected Officials:**

- Ken Zeff, APS Board of Education, District 3
- Council Member Alex Wan, Atlanta City Council, District 6
- State Rep. Becky Evans (D), District 83, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- State Sen. Elena Parent (D), District 42, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- <u>State Rep. Stacey Evans (D)</u>, District 57, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County
- <u>State Sen. Nan Orrock (D)</u>, District 36, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County

### **Neighborhood Schools:**

- Morningside Elementary School
- <u>Virginia-Highland Elementary School</u>
- David T Howard Middle School
- Midtown High School
- <u>Atlanta Public Schools</u>

# Join MLPA or Renew Membership

Please send questions, ideas and photos to communications@mlpa.org.

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