



## A Night in the Life of Beat 210

**O**n December 21, 2001, Van Hall, co-editor of MLPA News, rode with an Atlanta Police Department patrol officer on Beat 210 of APD's Zone 2 during the evening watch (3 PM to 11 PM). Beat 210 includes the Morningside-Lenox Park neighborhood. He was accompanied by Officer Dimas Vega, a native of El Paso, Texas, and a five-year veteran of the APD. Officer Vega is bilingual, (English & Spanish), with Panamanian and American Indian parentage. He is bar-

rel-chested, no-nonsense, and short spoken, precisely the sort of person you want on your side in a dispute.

The following is a minute-by-minute chronology of Officer Vega's 8-hour shift. The weather on the evening of the 21st was clear; pre-holiday traffic was extremely heavy. Remarks in quotation marks are those of Officer Vega.

**3:05 PM.** Roll Call at the Zone 2 precinct, located at the rear of

**Continued on page 4**

### PUBLIC SAFETY FACTOID

Average functional life-span of an APD patrol car: **24 months**  
Reason: Patrol cars are driven around the clock, 7 days a week.

## Crime in Morningside: A Look at the Numbers

by Mike Carew, co-chair MLPA Public Safety Committee

**T**he summer saw a trend of relatively few crimes in our neighborhood. The trend continued through September, with a total of only six reported crimes for the month. October, however, saw an increase to thirteen reported crimes, and November with fifteen, for a total of 34 for the three-month period. Last year, during this same period, neighborhood crime statistics showed a total of 45 crimes. It is worth noting that in November, Morningside Patrol Officer Dave Stewart arrested a prowler on

**(Continued on page 5)**



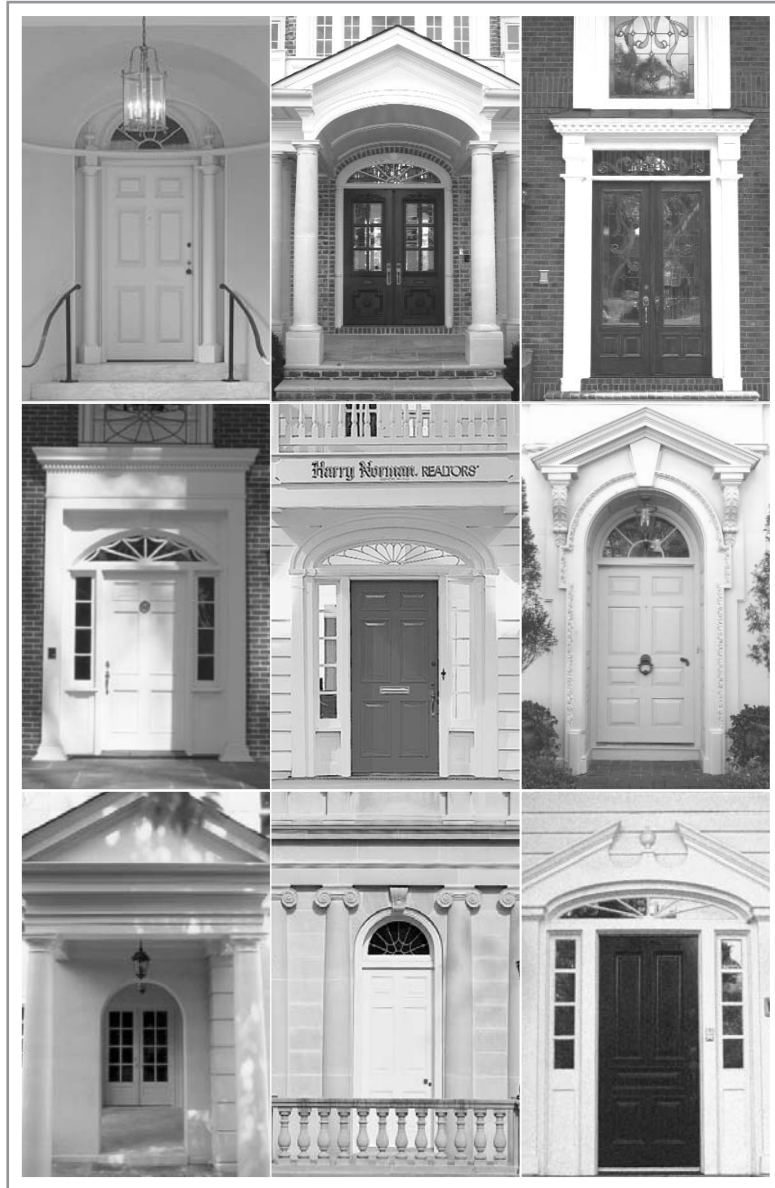
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# MLPA NEWS



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Dianne Olansky

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our focus this issue is on Public Safety. We are fortunate to live in a relatively safe neighborhood within the city. Thanks to our Security Patrol, we enjoy increased patrols through our neighborhood, which makes

*The Security Patrol Chairs and our Officers constantly remind us to lock our doors and cars. The steady decrease in thefts shows we have been good students and have done what we can to protect ourselves.*

Morningside Lenox Park less desirable to criminals. The Security Patrol Chairs and our Officers constantly remind us to lock our doors and cars. The steady decrease in thefts shows we have been good students and have done what we can to protect ourselves.

I'd like to focus on a troublesome area of public safety that often seems to be socially acceptable. I'm talking about those who break our traffic laws. It only takes a minute on one of our busy street corners to see folks running red lights, cruising through stop signs, ignoring pedestrians, and generally exceeding the speed limit more than just a little. I know many of those folks are passing through but I also know many of those folks are us. We have to stop fooling ourselves. Speeding and ignoring other traffic laws kill people and neighborhoods. This is an area of



public safety that we can impact on a daily basis and have profound results. Commit to respecting our neighborhoods and abiding by the posted traffic laws. We'll improve the safety of Morningside Lenox Park and our quality of life as well.

Moving Slowly Through Morningside,  
Dianne Olansky, President

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**President**  
Dianne Olansky  
(404) 885-9846  
olansky@mindspring.com

**Vice President**  
Norman McKay  
(404) 876-3574  
hawkeyenorm@mindspring.com

**Secretary**  
Alan Perry  
(404) 876-0199  
mlpamember@aol.com

**Treasurer**  
Ruth Alexander  
(404) 874-9022 (h)

**Immediate Past Co-Presidents**  
Jodi and Ross Mansbach  
(404) 892-5881  
jromsach@mindspring.com

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**  
**Zoning**  
David Garr  
(404) 881-6846  
pel53437@aol.com

Steven Rowell  
(404) 892-3661  
srowell@mindspring.com

**Security Patrol**  
Bob Silvia  
(404) 815-8150  
bob.silvia@attws.com

Mike Carew  
(404) 607-9209

**Traffic**  
Bill Ellis  
(404) 874-0216  
billellis@mindspring.com

Bruce Maloy  
(404) 872-6844

**NPU Representative**  
Mae Reich  
(404) 876-1614 (h)

**Beautification**  
Pat Gardner  
(404) 873-6208

**Parks**  
David Robertson  
(404) 350-4828  
jrobert9@mindspring.com

Charlotte Gillis  
(404) 562-375

**Education**  
Joe Giardina  
(404) 885-1071 (h)  
jgiardina@aol.com

**Membership-Communications**  
Alan Perry  
(404) 876-0199

**Membership-Data Base**  
John Schwartz  
(404) 874-8082

**Special Events**  
Mike McCool  
(404) 872-2633 (h)  
mccool@mindspring.com

**Newsletter**  
Van and Martha Hall  
(past president)  
(404) 876-2520  
marthaporterhall@mindspring.com

**At Large - North MLPA**  
Lee Kintzel  
(404) 876-9198  
kintzellee@aol.com

**At Large - South MLPA**  
position open

**Morningside Tour of Homes**  
Zac Pasmanick  
(404) 874-7653  
zac@thezacteam.net



# PUBLIC SAFETY IN MORNINGSIDE



Photo: Van Hall

*"Seventy percent of my time is taken up with traffic incidents, up to 90% when it rains."*

**4:55 PM.** Dispatch call to an alarm at an apartment complex on Lindbergh. Arrives at apartment at 5:10 PM. Alarm has been turned off, no sign of entry.

**5:11 PM.** Dispatch call to the Waffle House at Lindbergh Plaza. A customer is loitering in the restaurant and refuses to leave. Arrives at the scene 5:17 PM. Loiterer has left. Vega searches for him in the parking lot, but without success.

**5:25 PM.** Dispatch call to another hit-and-run, this time on I-85 northbound. Because of the peculiar layout of the expressway system, Vega has to drive all the way to Northside Drive on I-75 and turn around to get on I-85 northbound.

**5:42 PM.** Stops on I-75 northbound to issue a warning to the passenger of a car stopped in the emergency lane who appears to be urinating on the pavement.

**5:50 PM.** Reaches the accident site. The accident involves four cars, including the hit-and-run driver. Vega writes up the accident in the emergency lane while northbound traffic speeds by at 60-70 mph. Completes the accident reports by 6:20 PM.

*"The interstate is a scary place to work. I try not to think about the speed of the traffic while I'm working on the expressway. After everything else I've done, I'd be really angry if I got killed working an accident on I-85."*

**6:25 PM.** Rousts a panhandler on the exit ramp of I-85.

**6:34 PM.** Arrives back at the precinct to work on reports. Completes paperwork at 7:09 PM.

**7:11 PM.** Dispatch call to Eckerd's in Ansley Square where a nearby resident used a payphone to report a dispute with his landlord. Vega arrives at 7: 22 PM. The resident, who lives further south on Piedmont, is intoxicated and claims that his landlord assaulted him with a flashlight. Since the resident lives outside

Zone 2, Vega calls dispatch to have a Zone 5 patrol car meet him at the resident's boarding house. Once at the boarding house, Vega receives a dispatch for back-up to investigate a break-in at Morningside School.

**7:35 PM.** Vega meets Officer Chad Armstrong

at Morningside School. The door to the school has been propped up with a dust mat, setting off the alarm. Both officers enter with 9mm pistols drawn, pointing down. At 7:47 PM they are joined by an Atlanta school detective (one of two on duty for the entire Atlanta school system). The three clear the building by 7:55 PM. There is no sign of disturbance.

*Vega meets Officer Chad Armstrong at*

*Morningside School. The door to the school has*

*been propped up with a dust mat. Both officers*

*enter with 9mm pistols drawn, pointing down.*

## A Day in the Life of Beat 210

*Continued from Front Page*

Lindbergh Plaza.

**3:21 PM.** Dispatch call to check out an alarm at an apparel store. Call is diverted to another patrol car in the area.

*"I like to get to know the store owners, especially those that stay open late and are more vulnerable."*

**3:55 PM.** Dispatch call to the intersection of Lenox and Buford Highway for a stalled car with the driver slumped over the wheel. Upon arriving at the scene, Vega cannot find the car. Dispatch says the car is located further up Lenox Road, nearer Lenox Square, outside Vega's beat. Another patrol car on the scene is dispatched to locate the car.

**4:01 PM.** Dispatch call for a hit-and-run accident at LaVista and Cheshire Bridge. Vega arrives at the scene at 4:20 PM, after cruising through the parking lot twice before locating the vehicle. The driver of a tan truck was hit by an older VW. The hit-and-run driver was on a cell phone.

Officer Vega (right), accompanied by Officer Chad Armstrong (center), and an Atlanta School Detective, clear the first floor of Morningside School after answering an alarm at 7:35 PM

## PUBLIC SAFETY FACTOID

Standard equipment for each APD patrol officer on duty:

- 9mm service pistol
- bullet-proof vest
- shoulder radio
- handcuffs
- data terminal with a direct link to the Zone 2 dispatcher
- expandable baton
- canister of pepper spray
- 12-gauge shotgun stowed in the car's trunk.



Photo: Van Hall

Officer Vega (rt) rousts the Lindbergh Loiterer from McDonald's after receiving four calls from area merchants.

**8:01 PM.** Dispatch call to Ansley Forest for a domestic disturbance. Arrives on the scene at 8:05 PM. The call was placed by an ex-boyfriend who says that his former lover refused to return his personal belongings. The caller had left by the time Vega arrived. Vega makes sure that the resident does not feel threatened by the ex-boyfriend.

**8:10 PM.** Vega leaves Ansley Forest and cruises through Ansley Mall.

*"Maybe if we cruise real slow through here we can prevent something."*

**8:28 PM.** Vega heads north on Piedmont to Cheshire Bridge and stops at the El Molino grocery store at the corner of Faulkner Drive. The owners were robbed two nights ago of \$1,100. Now they keep the door locked at night and open it only to customers they know. Vega speaks briefly with the owner in Spanish and ascertains everything is OK.

**8:32 PM.** Dispatch call to a Chevron station at Lindbergh Plaza about a loiterer who refuses to leave the store. Arrives at the store at 8: 38 PM. The loiterer has left.

**8:44PM.** Vega cruises through the Morosgo Apartments.

**8:49 PM.** Dispatch call to Sherwood Road in Morningside to check out a blue and white truck reportedly casing the neighborhood. Arrives in the neighborhood at 9:05 PM. No sign of a blue and white truck.

**9:06 PM.** Dispatch call to Chevron Station at Lindbergh Plaza for second time to check out a loiterer.

*Continued on page 6*

*Continued from Page 1*

## Morningside Crime Stats: A Look at the Numbers

Wessyngton Road while on duty. Although car break-ins are usually the leading crime in our neighborhood, the incidence of house burglaries increased during the last two months of the Fall season, reflecting a traditional increase in this kind of crime during the holiday season.

For the APD Zone Two's Beat 10, which includes the Morningside/Lenox Park neighborhood, the crime numbers were more mixed [see accompanying chart]. While total larceny crimes were down (673 for 2000 vs. 580 for 2001), auto thefts and residential burglaries were up slightly. Wesley Derrick, Deputy Chief of the APD and Morningside resident, noted that violent crimes reported for Beat 10, such as homicides, rape, and aggravated assault, generally do not occur in residential areas such as Morningside, but reflect activity in commercial corridors along Piedmont and Cheshire Bridge.

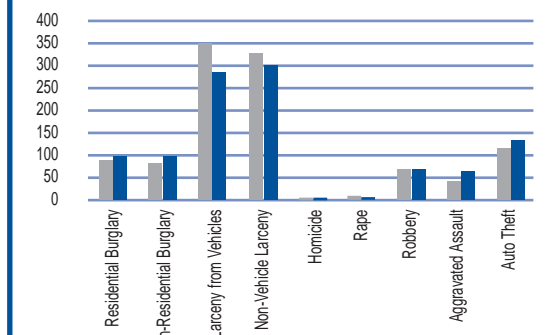
The simplest way to prevent vehicle related theft is to remove cell phones, lap tops, and any other sort of package from your car while it's parked. If you are going out for the evening, make sure your doors and windows are locked, and leave some lights on in your house. Report any unusual or suspicious activity to 911. Our Morningside Patrol Officers on duty will pick up the call on the APD dispatch radio and respond as may be appropriate.

As a member of the Morningside Security Patrol, you can submit a vacation patrol request to the Security Patrol. We encourage you to take advantage of this special service, whereby our officers will check your home at least one a day while you are out of town. You can mail your request, preferably one to two weeks prior to your departure, or drop it in the MSP message box in the parking lot of Morningside Presbyterian Church at 1411 N. Morningside. The black box is located on your right as you enter the church parking lot from Morningside Drive. If you have questions, call the MSP number at 404-817-9664, and leave a message. ☺

## PUBLIC SAFETY FACTOID

*You can pick up a FREE smoke detector, complete with batteries, at the Atlanta Fire Department Station at the corner of North Highland and Los Angeles Avenues.*

APD Zone 2, Beat 10, Crime Statistics, 2000 vs 2001 YTD through 12/22



MORNINGSIDE CRIME STATS 9/1/01 - 11/1/01

CRIMES	9/01	10/01	11/01	3 mos. Total
Car Break-ins	2	6	4	12
Burglaries	1	5	6	12
Auto Theft	2	2	1	5
Larcenies (other)	1	0	4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>



## A Day in the Life of Beat 210

Continued from Front Page

**9:07 PM.** Dispatch call to check out an alarm at a residence on E. Rock Spring. Because the house has no visible street number, it takes Vega several passes to locate it. The alarm is off, no sign of entry. Vega leaves for Lindbergh Plaza at 9:14 PM.

**9:15 PM.** Dispatch call to investigate a fire in the parking lot behind Rhodes Bakery. "It looks like somebody is trying to keep himself warm," says the caller. Arrives at the bakery at 9:17 PM, no sign of a fire or of anyone trying to warm themselves.

**9:22 PM.** Arrives at Lindbergh Plaza to check out loiterer. Loiterer has left. Vega cruises the Plaza parking lot.

**9:25 PM.** Dispatch call to McDonald's to check out the "Lindbergh Loiterer." Arrives at 9:31 PM. Loiterer is sitting at a table, intoxicated. Vega escorts him out of McDonald's, warns him that if he gets another call, he will lock him up.

The loiterer asks Vega for a handout. Vega advises him to leave the area.

*"I'll probably get another call about him tonight. I've got no reason to lock him up. He's broken no laws except maybe being down on his luck."*

**9:36 PM.** Dispatch call to El Molino's to check out an alarm. En route, Vega comes up behind a GMC sports utility vehicle at a light on Cheshire Bridge. A woman on the passenger side comes back to Vega and complains about the slowness of the traffic light. Vega assures her it is operating properly. He then calls in to dispatch for an ID on the GMC's Texas tag. "Texas plates don't have an expiration month and year on the tag, so you never know." The tag checks out OK.

When the GMC pulls out of the light, Vega notices that the driver keeps looking in his rear view mirror. The driver turns into Faulkner Drive just as Vega does the same to check out El Molino's. There is no alarm at the store, and the door is secure. Vega pulls the patrol car up to the parking lot's entrance on to Faulkner and turns off his lights, waiting for the GMC to return. As it comes up Faulkner, the driver sees the patrol car and turns into another parking lot. After some moments the GMC exits the parking lot and proceeds to the light at Cheshire Bridge. Vega pulls up behind him and turns on his blue light. The GMC pulls into the Heretic bar parking lot.

Vega gets out of his car, approaches the parked GMC with his hand on his service pistol, and talks briefly with the driver. He returns to the patrol car

with the driver's license and insurance documents. He calls dispatch for an ID on the driver. A moment later dispatch advises that the driver has an outstanding warrant for his arrest in Smyrna. Vega returns to the GMC, asks the driver to step outside the car, frisks him and handcuffs him. While he's doing this, the passenger tries to leave the car. He orders her back in the car. When he finishes handcuffing the driver, he puts him in the patrol car and tells the passenger in the GMC to go home to wait for a call from Fulton County Jail. He leaves the scene at 10:00 PM for the precinct to book the driver.

**10:10 PM.** Arrives at the precinct. The prisoner is wanted for failure to appear on a charge of running a red light in Smyrna. Also, he is driving with suspended Georgia and Texas driving licenses.

**10:15 PM.** Vega leaves the precinct to deliver the prisoner to Fulton County Jail. He arrives at the jail at 10:35 PM. As the patrol car approaches the 10-story jail through 12-ft high razor-wire fencing, the prisoner asks Vega, "What is this place exactly? Is this a prison? My god, I can't stay here. I disputed the red light ticket." Vega assures him he'll have plenty of time to talk to the authorities in Smyrna about the ticket. He takes the prisoner inside and leaves the jail at 10:44 PM.

**10:45 PM.** As Vega is leaving the jail premises he receives a dispatch call to investigate an armed robbery at the Bolton Apartments. An 18-year-old Hispanic male was robbed of \$70 at gunpoint on his way home. Vega arrives on the scene at 10:50 PM. He is soon joined by an officer from Zone 2, Morning Watch (11 PM to 7 AM). Vega translates for the victim.

*"Friday nights are bad for Hispanics. They're usually paid their week's wages in cash on Fridays, and the bad guys know that. He's lucky he didn't get killed. The bad guys are cold-blooded. If they don't get enough money, they'd just as soon kill you. They're mean."*

**11:05 PM.** Leaves the scene to return to the precinct.

**11:15 PM.** He stops a car on I-75 southbound going 85 MPH in the HOV lane. He lets the driver off with a warning.

*"I didn't give him a ticket. He's only 19 and he'd get hammered on points. Besides, he won't do it again. His mother was asleep in the back seat. I woke her up."*

**11:25 PM.** Vega arrives back at the precinct for the end of his 3:00 to 11:00 PM shift. He has not yet eaten dinner. Total miles driven: 79. Total dispatch calls answered: 16. Average response time: 10.2 minutes. Total number of face-to-face interactions with civilians: 22. Number of warnings issued: 4. Number of arrests: 1.

*"What was the most important thing I did tonight? Translating for that Hispanic kid. He was scared and needed help. Contrary to what some people think, police like to help people."* ☺

## Morningside's Man in Blue: APD Deputy Chief Wesley Derrick

by Susan Drake

As attendees of Morningside/ Lenox Park Association (MLPA) and Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) F meetings can readily vouch, a frequent presence at those gatherings is our very own man in blue. With silver hair and impressive demeanor, Atlanta Deputy Police Chief Wesley F. Derrick keeps in close touch with our neighborhood and our concerns because they are his neighborhood and his concerns too.

A Georgia native, Deputy Chief Derrick grew up in Atlanta, frequently visiting his grandmother on Rock Springs Road in Morningside and graduating from Grady High School. After majoring in Education at the University of Georgia, he joined the Atlanta Police Department (APD) in 1971. In 1995 he was appointed Deputy Chief and in 1999 took up command of the Field Operations Division.

As the APD web site explains: "Deputy Chief Derrick manages the division of the police department responsible for all Atlanta Police officers who deliver direct service to our communities. Most of the uniformed officers of our department work in the Field

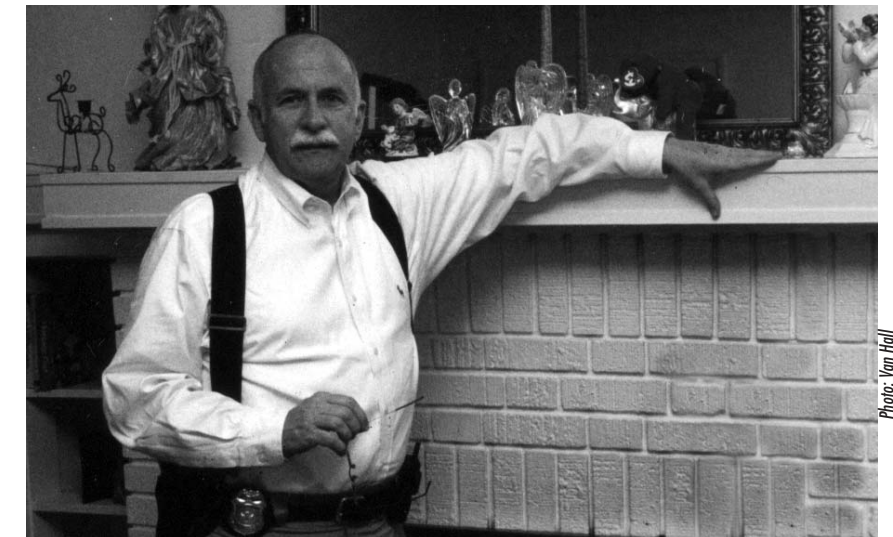


Photo: Van Hall

Operations Division." (For more information about the APD and its 2300 employees, click [www.atlantapd.org](http://www.atlantapd.org).)

Deputy Chief Derrick elaborates, "The officers

APD Chief Derrick relaxes by the mantel of his Morningside home.

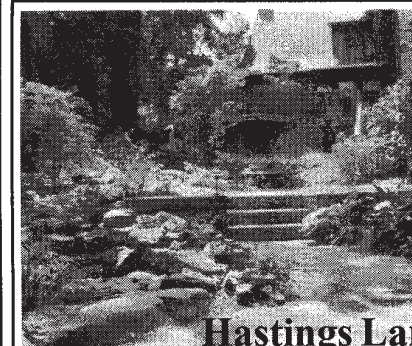
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### Hastings Nature & Garden Center A Southern Tradition Since 1889

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# News from the Hood

## City Council Report

From 6th District Council Member Cathy Woolard

My term as your District Six Councilmember is drawing to a close. On January 7, your new District Six Councilmember will be Anne Fauver, and I will be taking office as President of the City Council. I have enjoyed serving our district these past four years, and I look forward to continuing to

work with you in my new position. I am excited about the potential for positive change that the new year and new Council will bring for the city. You will still receive regular e-mail updates from my new office to keep you informed about important issues around the city. If you wish to be removed from the list,

just send me a message to that effect.

### Water and Sewer Rates

The City Council has adopted new water/sewer bill rates for 2002 that will raise the average household bill by 10 percent. The increased rates are necessary to fund the sewer infrastructure improvement projects required by the federal consent decree. To view the legislation, cut and paste the following link: <http://www.ci.atlanta.ga.us/city-coul/2001/IMAGES/Proposed/01O1719.pdf>

Cathy Woolard

Atlanta City Council, District Six  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW, Atlanta, GA 30335  
ph: 404-330-6049, fax: 404-658-6073  
email: [cwoolard@ci.atlanta.ga.us](mailto:cwoolard@ci.atlanta.ga.us)

## Morningside Mothers' Day Out Kids' Market

The Atlanta spring children's clothing consignment sale season will begin with Morningside Day Out's KIDS MARKET. This consignment sale features all seasons of children's clothes, accessories, maternity wear, toys, books, videos, and equipment. The sale begins with a preview sale January 31 for consigners and volunteers only, then runs Friday, February 1 and Saturday, February 2 from 10 am to 1 PM. No kids allowed on Friday; Saturday everything is half price. The sale is located at Peachtree Baptist Church at the corner of Briarcliff and LaVista

Roads. For more information go to [www.morningsidedayout.org](http://www.morningsidedayout.org) or call 404-634-5889 after 2 PM for more information.

## Park Pride Takes Up Big Tree Search for 2002

Park Pride and the Arbor Day Partners are looking for the largest tree of each Georgia native species in Metro Atlanta. The Big Tree Search recognizes the trees, the owners, and the nominators.

To view a list of current winners go to [www.parkpride.org](http://www.parkpride.org). All trees will be measured by a certified arborist.

### Big Tree Search Nomination Form

Tree Species \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Person Nominating \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated Circumference at 4 ft. above the soil line: \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated Height: \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated Crown Width: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location/address of Tree: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to:

**Park Pride** 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue 8th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30308, Attention: Big Tree Search  
(404) 817-6745 (FAX)

-or- **Nominate online** at [www.parkpride.org](http://www.parkpride.org)  
For more information, call (404) 817-6761 or  
(404) 817-7969

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Be an MLPA Volunteer Street Captain!

MLPA is looking for one representative from every street in the neighborhood to go door-to-door and encourage people to join their neighborhood association. This is an excellent chance to get to know your neighbors and boost MLPA's membership. Contact Kristine Rudolph at [rudolph\\_resource@yahoo.com](mailto:rudolph_resource@yahoo.com) or 404-874-6198 to volunteer!

Volunteers are needed for the following:

Avalon Place	Johnson Road	Robin Lane
Bardlay Place	Kay Lane	Rockmont Drive
Beech Valley Road	Kings Court	San Antonio Drive
Berwick Avenue	Lanier Boulevard	Spring Valley Lane
Charline Avenue	Lanier Place	University Drive
Courtenay Drive	Marstevan Drive	W. Sussex Road
Drewry Street	McLynn Avenue	Wayne Avenue
E. Morningside Drive	Merton Road	Wellbourne Drive
E. Rock Springs	Mifflin Place	Wessington Road
E. Sussex	Monroe Drive	Wildwood Place
Fordham Court	Morningside Place	Windemere Drive
Greystone Park	N. Highland Avenue	Windham Park
Helen Drive	N. Rock Springs Road	Woodcliffe Terrace
High Point Drive	Northview Avenue	
Highland Park Lane	Plymouth Road	

Kristine Rudolph

Rudolph Resource Development  
634 Hillpine Drive NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30306  
P 404-234-4604, F 404-874-6198

### Beautification Begins at Woodrow Wilson Traffic Island

A number of volunteers on North Rock Springs are about to begin beautification activities on the Woodrow Wilson Traffic Island (located at the merging of N Rock Springs and Morningside - the monument was highlighted as a "Where Is It?" feature in a previous newsletter).

In an effort to make the area more usable and attractive the holly bushes will be trimmed back to reveal the existing benches and monument and prepare the planting beds for annuals in the spring. The area of trees at the west end of the island will remain untouched. Please be patient as the trimming of the hollies will reveal the less appealing underside; however, as new growth emerges the hollies will regain

their beauty.

In the spring there will be additional planting on the island at the eastern point and, ultimately in conjunction with traffic calming efforts, the planting will reach from the monument to the point. If you wish to volunteer with beautification efforts at this Morningside Greenspace or others near you, please call Beautification Chairs: Kerry Brown 404.685.1685 or Pat Gardner 404.873.6208.

## Parks

Over the last three months we have all become more aware of our communities and how important it is to be a part of something larger than ourselves. One of our neighbors has suggested that the community erect a memorial to the Americans who died or were injured in the September 11th attack in New York as well as celebrate the firefighters, police officers and others who have made recovery possible. This idea has been passed along and has become one of the community service projects of the Cub Scouts of Pack 17 at Haygood Memorial United Methodist Church and we need your help!

We are raising \$8000 to be used to erect a flagpole and plaque in Smith Park at the corner of Piedmont Road and Monroe Drive.

We have presented this idea to the Morningside-Lenox Park Civic Association and NPU-F. Each group has endorsed the idea and pledged their support. Our next step is to go before the City Parks department and, upon their approval, obtain a building permit and begin construction.

Contributors have already come forward. The Pack 17 Cub Scouts are donating the flag and have solicited and received the contribution of the necessary architectural, structural, electrical and landscape design services. All that is left is the labor and materials for the flagpole and plaque.

All donations are tax-deductible and checks can be made out to Park Pride, a neighborhood 501(c)3 organization (be sure to designate the contribution as being for the Smith Park Memorial). Please join us with your contributions.

Please join us in making this symbol of our community more than just an idea.

Les Spencer, Cubmaster Pack 17



*One of our neighbors has suggested that the community erect a memorial to the Americans who died or were injured in the September 11th attack in New York as well as celebrate the firefighters, police officers, and others who have made recovery possible.*

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## Morningside Tour of Homes Wraps Up A Successful 2001 Event

**T**hanks to both a phenomenal group of volunteers and a fortunate break in the weather, I am pleased to announce that this year's Morningside Tour of Homes was our most successful Tour ever! Attendees from all over the state accepted our invitation to discover the architectural diversity that exists throughout our neighborhood. The money raised by ticket purchases will fund numerous beautification projects within Morningside. As our largest fund-raiser of the year, the Tour of Homes is an integral part of fulfilling the needs of our neighborhood. Funds raised at this year's event will go towards pedestrian safety, park beautification, traffic management, sidewalk repair and other areas.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to a few people who went above and beyond to make this a successful Tour. The Selection Committee, headed by Kathy Kuna, did a fabulous job selecting a wide array of homes, which reveal Morningside's depth and diverse character. Ranging from the traditional Tudor homes for which Morningside is famous to some awe-inspiring renovations, Kathy and her staff truly chose an architectural melting pot.

Sara Nunn and Carol Almond handled the Hospitality responsibilities with grace and class. Their dedication ensured repeat attendance by many of this year's participants, and I can't thank them enough. The mighty task of handling Sponsorships once again fell to Lee Kintzel and Norman McKay, and once again they helped us create another spectacular event! Without their efforts, the Tour could never serve the large amount of people it does every year. Speaking of serving, our ticket maestro Warren Rakoski once again took on ticket sales duties and did a super job.

The Tour of Homes is supposed to reflect not only the diversity but also the great beauty of our neighborhood. Our very own flower child Margo Dixon did a superb job accenting the beautiful homes by acquiring the astounding floral arrangements from local flower shops. And while we're on the topic of attractive visuals, thank you Mary Beth Robertson for once again creating an impressive set of eye-catching graphics!

Our resident party guy Wash Dender deserves applause, as well as Avalon Catering, for throwing the greatest volunteer party ever at the beautiful home of Roger and Lee Kintzel. Thanks for a great celebration of this year's success! Of course, someone has to help pack everything up after such a huge event, and Kathy and Jeff Morris were responsible for both installing and uninstalling all the signs. A huge thanks to both of you for taking care of that time-

consuming detail.

The list goes on and on, and it would take the entire newsletter to thank everyone involved. A final and very special thanks goes to the 300 plus volunteers who spent so much time making sure every little need was addressed. There is no way we could have done it without your help.

The Tour of Homes ensures the necessary improvements that occur through time can be made to our lovely community. We are already gearing up for the 2002 Tour, which will be on October 5 & 6. We have lots of opportunities available, from heading up major committees to a four-hour shift on the days of the Tour. If you are interested in volunteering your home, or know someone with a Tour-quality home, please e-mail me at [zac@thezacteam.net](mailto:zac@thezacteam.net). Again, thank you so much to everyone involved in this year's Tour. Let's make 2002 even better! ☺

*Zac Pasmanich, Chair, Tour of Homes*



*Funds raised at this year's event will go towards pedestrian safety, park beautification, traffic management, sidewalk repair and other areas.*

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*Continued on page 17*



# Neighborhood School Reports

*Looking for ways to become involved at Morningside? You might consider becoming a tutor for one of our students*

## Morningside School

Morningside School has adopted a new curriculum model to enhance the instructional program with Core Knowledge. With the new year approaching, a committee of teachers, administrators, parents and business partners is working on a new, two-year School Achievement

Looking for ways to become involved at Morningside? You might consider becoming a tutor for one of our students. If you have an hour a week you'd like to volunteer to this rewarding task, please call Amy Stephenson at 404-876-7563 or Carolyn Wood at 404-875-0304 to find out more.

Parents who are considering enrolling their children at Morningside can find out more about the school at our Prospective Parent Meetings at noon on February 8, 2002 or at 9:00am on April 18. ☺

Liz Coyle, Morningside PTA President

## Inman Middle School

The Inman Middle School Eagles continue to soar as the highest scoring school-wide Title 1 school in Georgia.

Our annual magazine sale/family donation campaign was the most profitable ever. The money goes to fund teacher grants, supplemental curriculum, technology, athletics, academic competitions, music programs, clubs, dances, and more. In October, we had our first annual Inman Blues and Barbecue bash at John Howell Park with music, food, and fun for all ages.

AOL Time Warner chose Inman to kick off their new AOL@School program (an internet research tool) and Governor and Mrs. Barnes were in attendance. The photography club was awarded a grant from the Arthur Blank Foundation that will continue to enhance the excellent photography program at Inman. ☺

Martha Rusche, PTA President, Inman Middle School

## Council of Intown Neighbors and Schools

Upcoming meetings of the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) will give attendees a look at three important subjects and three area schools.

On February 13, the group will meet at Mary Lin Elementary at noon and hear from Margaret Coleman, chief financial officer for Atlanta Public Schools.

On March 13, CINS will meet at Centennial Place Elementary at noon for a meeting that will bring together a number of organizations involved in planning for the future of Grady High School.

Lunch is served for \$5.00 at noon meetings. For more information on CINS, call Sarah Fedota (404/874-6988) or Cecily Harsch-Kinnane (404/874-4913), co-presidents. ☺

## Grady High School

The second semester will offer opportunities to hear the school band and chorus during a Spring Concert on the lawn. The Drama department students will perform in a spring production and a new sports season will begin. Look for these and other happenings at Grady.

Great plans are in the works for Grady. Atlanta Public School system, as part of its ongoing facilities master plan, has developed detailed plans for Grady HS. The proposal called "The Build Smart Project" will improve Grady HS and other school facilities throughout the city. The plans for Grady include renovation of the existing gym and old building on Charles Allen Drive, reconstruction of the eighth street wing to include new classrooms, media center and cafeteria, additional fine arts space, new girls lockers, additional parking and a series of courtyards, building on the work of the Grady Foundation. The school could start construction as early as 2003, but only if funds can be identified. The Build Smart Project in its entirety is estimated to cost \$350 million and will take five to seven years to complete. The cost will be funded by a proposed 1% sales tax, known as a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or "SPLOST."

Atlanta voters will be asked to approve the 1% sales tax in a March 2002 referendum. This sales tax, if approved, will replace an existing 1% sales tax which is set to expire. Your support for this funding to improve our schools is greatly needed. ☺

Diane Terrell, Grady HS PTSA President.

www.gradyhighschool.org

## Where in Morningside Lenox Park?

Last issue's puzzler was definitely not traditional Morningside (see photo at near right). We got several interesting answers: a lost Martian, a found Miami motel, a post-modern mailbox, none of them on the money. Barbara Feinberg, however, did get it right: she was the first to suggest that the structure in question is one of the brightly colored capitals atop the front and side of the building on the west side of the Highland Walk retail area. A tip of the MLPA News hat to the ever-vigilant Ms. Feinberg.



**This Issue's Puzzle** Not a puzzle exactly, but who can tell us exactly how many traffic signs and traffic bumps there are at the roundabout at the intersection of Pelham and East Rock Spring? Let's include all the signs within a 50-yard radius just to make sure

we get them all. The answer is probably worthy of the Guinness Book of Records. For extra points, does anybody remember the names of the Morningside residents who worked so hard to put the intersection garden in place? ☺

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Jan. 6 - Jan. 30



General Election & Special Run-off Results

MORNINGSIDE: How We Voted

Yes, folks, we have hanging and dimpled chads right here in Morningside.

The precinct and city-wide data below were compiled from the "Statement of Vote" provided by the Fulton County Elections Department. We have shown only the Mayor, City Council President, and 6th District elections; lack of editorial space does not allow for other races including the Council At-Large Posts, Board of Educations seats, and various elective judge-ships.

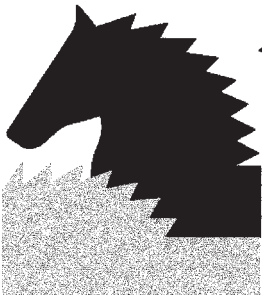
Note that in many races there are some discrepancies between the sum of votes for all candidates and

the Total Ballots Cast column. This is due partly to the fact that not everybody who cast a ballot voted in that particular race. The discrepancy could also be due to overvote or undervote counts not reported in the tabulation below. As you will remember from the national presidential election vote count in Florida, these over/under votes are either multiple votes cast on a single ballot in a single race (overvote) or an undeterminante vote on a single race (undervote). Yes, folks, we have hanging and dimpled chads right here in Morningside.

- Precinct Poll Locations:**
- 6C** Morningside Elementary School (northern Morningside area)
  - 6H** N. Highland Firestation (SE Morningside area)
  - 6J** Inman Elementary School (SW Morningside area)

GENERAL ELECTION				
Mayor	6C	6H	6J	Citywide
Brownell-Tinubu	185	174	240	12,969
Franklin	347	228	429	40,715
Kitchen	1	3	6	294
Osborne	0	0	1	225
Pitts	364	278	382	26,844
Total Ballots Cast	913	690	1,065	82,499
Percent Turnout	51.2%	50.6%	43.3%	41.4%
President City Council	6C	6H	6J	Citywide
Bond	27	26	35	24,140
Emmons	222	120	188	14,155
Finley	4	3	8	2,221
Thomas	5	7	21	13,198
Woolard	609	499	769	21,247
Total Ballots Cast	913	690	1,065	82,499
Percent Turnout	51.2%	50.6%	43.5%	41.4%
Atl. City Council, 6th Dist.	6C	6H	6J	District-wide
Bruno	269	244	259	2,190
Fauver	405	268	445	3,904
Gerds	189	132	286	2,781
Total Ballots Cast	913	690	1,065	9,694
Percent Turnout	51.2%	50.6%	43.3%	41
SPECIAL RUN-OFF ELECTION				
President City Council	6C	6H	6J	Citywide
Bond	26	15	26	18,213
Woolard	621	495	741	22,057
Total Ballots Cast	654	513	768	40,862
Percent Turnout	36.7%	37.6%	31.2%	20.5%
6th District	6C	6H	6J	District-wide
Fauver	382	280	426	3,354
Gerds	251	209	310	2,794
Total Ballots Cast	654	513	768	6,459
Percent Turnout	36.7%	37.6%	31.2%	27.6%

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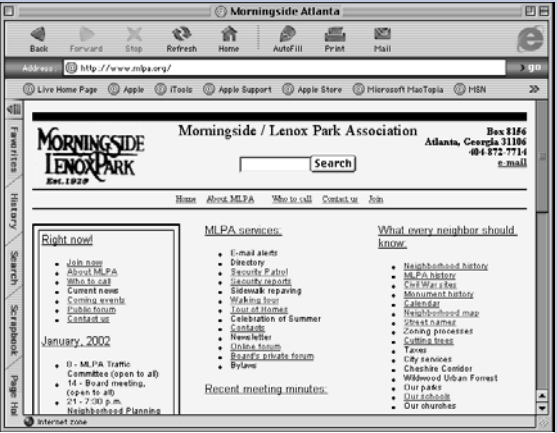
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- Sign up for MLPA membership and Security Patrol online
- Check out what's going on in the neighborhood
- Click on hotlinks to School, NPU, City, County & State Government websites.
- Check out technical stuff like the new MLPA By-Laws

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Continued From Page 7

## Morningside's Man in Blue

*Chief Derrick grew up in Atlanta, frequently visiting his grandmother on Rock Springs Road in Morningside and graduating from Grady High School.*

in my division are the first responders, the ones in marked cars who answer 911 calls." Many of the officers who staff our Morningside Security Patrol serve in this division; others come from the Detective Division.

In his thirty-year career Deputy Chief Derrick has earned many awards, among them the APD Meritorious Award for Bravery, the Midtown Neighborhood Award for Leadership, the Midtown Business Association Award for

Leadership, and, most recently, the APD Manager of the Year.

The award that means the most to him? "The Award for Leadership given by the Midtown neighborhood because it involved a neighborhood."

Wesley Derrick returned to Morningside in 2000. In addition to frequenting MLPA and NPU meetings, he serves on the boards of the Downtown YMCA and the Academy Theatre. In his few hours of leisure, he hunts and fishes.

"I chose to live in Morningside because I thought it was one of the best neighborhoods in the city," Chief Derrick states. "And the Morningside Security Patrol is the perfect enhancement to the neighborhood, the perfect partnership between the APD and the neighborhood." ☺

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## Don't Forget!

*January is the time to renew your MLPA and Morningside Security Patrol dues. Check out the form on page 18*

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New Neighborhood Businesses

## Tapas-&-Sangria Sundays at Zoë's Mediterranean Grill

— by Susan Drake

There's no more pleasurable way to spend a Sunday afternoon than dining with friends under the trees on the patio of Zoë's Mediterranean Grill! Located at 931 Monroe Drive NE in the Midtown Promenade, Zoë's offers a delectable array of tapas (Spanish hors d'oeuvres). Each diner orders the tapas of her fancy and then shares with others at the table, to the delight of all.

Here're just a few of the mouthwatering concoctions:

- Gorgonzola-stuffed date wrapped in prosciutto with almonds
- Fire-roasted red pepper stuffed with goat cheese, topped with capers, garlic and olive oil
- Herbed wild mushrooms with browned potato medallions
- Spicy grilled shrimp with sun-dried tomato pesto and leeks

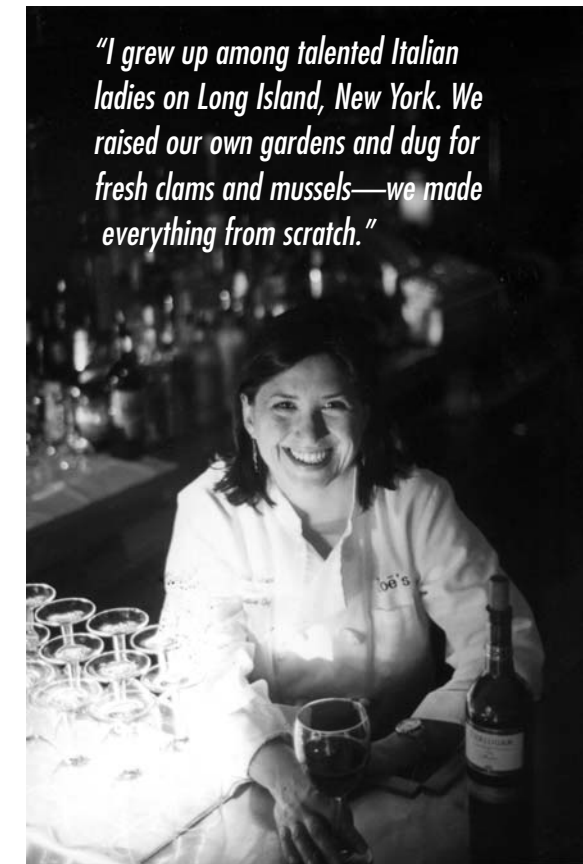
And the list goes on and on—to 21 offerings! Order a pitcher of sangria, breathe in the scent of potted herbs on the patio, and visit with friends to your heart's content.

The culinary genius behind Zoë's is Chef Angela Rihacek, who comes from a long line of restaurateurs. "I grew up among talented Italian ladies on Long Island, New York," remembers Angela. "We raised our own gardens and dug for fresh clams and mussels—we made everything from scratch."

That cuisine inspired Angela to open Zoë's three years ago this month, after apprenticing ten years. "My goal is to provide a real neighborhood restaurant for Midtown, Virginia-Highland and Morningside," she says, "the sort of place neighbors can drop in a couple of times a week."

Zoë's is open Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30pm until 10pm and, of course, Sundays from 3pm until 9:30pm. They accept reservations one day in advance at 404.817.0807.

And the name? "Zoë is a pug I once house sat for," Angela reveals. "She had the best outlook on the world. After all, her name is Greek for life!" ☺



*"I grew up among talented Italian ladies on Long Island, New York. We raised our own gardens and dug for fresh clams and mussels—we made everything from scratch."*

## Zoë's Data

**Where:** 931 Monroe Drive NE in the Midtown Promenade

**When:** Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30pm until 10pm and Sundays from 3pm until 9:30pm.

**Reservations:** Not required, but they will accept reservations one day in advance at 404.817.0807.

## Tour of Homes Sponsors

Continued from Page 11)

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**Friends of the Tour - \$100**  
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# Join Your MLPA!

**S**upport our civic association and security patrol by your membership. Ongoing traffic, zoning, security, parks, beautification and other programs of mutual interest need adequate financial backing to be effective. Vigilance on such a broad front quickly gets expensive, especially in a volunteer organization. You're invited to attend MLPA Board meetings on the second Monday of every month at 7:30 pm at Morningside Presbyterian Church. You'll soon see that your support does make a difference!

**Renew now for 2002!**

MLPA membership dues are now payable on a calendar year basis.

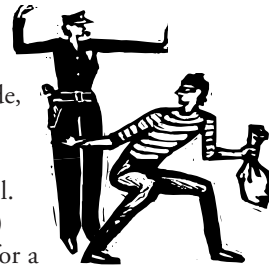
The Morningside Security Patrol has completed its sixth year of operation. Our off-duty police officers have logged thousands of patrol miles in an effort to deter criminal activity. They are currently averaging 5-15 hours of patrol daily, providing coverage to the entire neighborhood -- over 3,000 residents. They continue to check MSP members' homes who have requested special vacation patrol. Your ongoing membership is vital in order to maintain this productive service. Thank you in advance for your financial support and volunteer efforts!

**Support Your MLPA!** You'll get the benefit of:

- Up-to-date news and info about our neighborhood & intown community
- Advocacy for important issues such as parks, traffic, schools, and zoning
- Information about organizations and activities close to home

## Six Very Excellent Reasons to Become A Member of the Morningside Security Patrol

Any resident of Morningside, Lenox Park, or Johnson Estates may join the Morningside Security Patrol. Here are six (very excellent) reasons to join. See below for a membership form, or go to our website at [www.MLPA.org](http://www.MLPA.org)



- **Daily security check** of the neighborhood, night and day
- **Complimentary security assessment** of your home on request
- **Vacation security checks** of your home while you're away
- **Neighborhood crime alerts**
- **All security patrol officers are off-duty police officers** empowered to enforce the law.
- **Security Patrol Officer** may respond to neighborhood 911 calls.

**For more info about the MLPA, you can contact:**

**Dianne Olansky**  
President  
(404) 885-9846  
[olansky@mindspring.com](mailto:olansky@mindspring.com)

**Jodi Mansbach**  
(404) 892-5881  
MLPA Membership Chair

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**Mike Carew**  
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### Morningside-Lenox Park Association and Security Patrol Annual Membership

Check one: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Civic Association only** - \$20 (residents over 62 pay only \$12)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Homes  |
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**The MLPA Newsletter is published**

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MLPA Phone: (404) 872-7714

MLPA website: [mlpa.org](http://mlpa.org)

**MLPA NEWS STAFF**

*Co-Editors: Martha Porter Hall & Van Hall*

*Graphic Design: Van Hall*

*Contributing Editor: Susan Drake*

*Business Manager: Debbie Goldsmith*