



NORTH BUCKHEAD Newsletter

North Buckhead Civic Association – March 2018

Mailed three times each year to 4,400 North Buckhead homes
www.nbca.org - NorthBuckhead@yahoo.com - Newsletter Archive: www.nbca.org/newsletters.htm

NBCA Annual Meeting, Tuesday, March 20

NBCA is holding its annual meeting on the last day of winter. We hope you will attend. We have a great program planned again this year.

NBCA's 2018 Annual Meeting Celebrating NBCA's 46th Year

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Social: 6 to 7 pm (free to NBCA members)

Program: 7 to 9 pm (free to all)

St. James United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

4400 Peachtree Dunwoody Road
(at Loridans Drive)

We have invited the elected leaders listed below and will announce confirmed speakers via email.

- Update: *Atlanta Mayor Bottoms can't attend*
- City Council President **Felicia Moore**
- City Council Member **Howard Shook**
- Fulton Commissioner **Lee Morris**
- Georgia Senator **Jen Jordan**
- Georgia Representative **Beth Beskin**

We also have presentations on topics affecting our neighborhood:

- **Blue Heron Nature Preserve's BlueWay**
With **Kevin McCauley**
- **Update on PATH400 and Parks**
With **Denise Starling**
- **NBCA Security Camera Pilot**
With **Garrett Langley**, Flock Safety
- **North Buckhead Beautification Ideas**
Including NBCA Board members

We will have an election of some of the NBCA Board and take care of similar matters.

Our 6 pm Social is a good opportunity to see old neighbors and meet new ones. You can also get to know some of our elected officials. We also provide you with an informal supper (from Chick-fil-A and Subway for everyone, including vegetarians). The Social is free for members of NBCA households and there is a small charge for non-members. Bring cash or a check if you want to join NBCA.

Please plan to join us. You'll learn a lot about what's happening in North Buckhead.

NBCA Security Camera Pilot Project

By Gordon Certain
NBCA President

Compared to much of 2016, crime in residential parts of North Buckhead is down. That's the good news. The bad news is that it's down, not gone. There is still work to be done.

Fortunately, crime in our part of Atlanta generally means property crime and not violent crime. Still, it's crime and we need to fight it.

The City has made a large and impressive investment in technology. They have a state-of-the-art Video Integration Center (VIC) which manages the effective utilization of the 400+ city-owned cameras and the 10,000+ privately owned cameras linked to the VIC.

The VIC and 911 center are co-located on the same floor of a Peachtree Street building, separated by a glass wall. When a 911 call comes in, the APD system is smart enough to activate the four cameras physically closest to the 911 call. The cameras' feed is reviewed by VIC analysts and can be "rewound" so events leading to the call can be reviewed to provide key information that responding officers need. It is an impressive demonstration of technology

that makes me proud to be an Atlantan. The City has an effective system to respond to high profile (violent) crimes.

But what happens at the VIC if someone breaks into a car parked in a yard in North Buckhead?

(Continued on page 5)

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Recycling that Works like a CHaRM

By Sue Certain
Associate Editor

On a rainy Saturday morning, Gordon and I loaded up the car with used clean plastic containers, used clean glass containers, old household chemicals like Roundup, old electronics, old medications, aluminum cans, used batteries, used wine corks, clean Styrofoam, old toys, and more, and drove to the CHaRM Facility. This place is 13 miles from our home, so it is the farthest away of the recycling centers we have visited. Its advantage is that it takes a larger variety than any other center we know: after all, CHaRM is an acronym for Center for Hard to Recycle Materials. They accept paint (latex and oil based), old household chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, household cleaners), electronics (including computers), tires, toilets, mattresses, propane tanks, large appliances, thermometers, smoke detectors, light bulbs, plastics, plastic bags, paper, glass bottles, metal, printer cartridges, carpet, political signs, books, musical instruments, sports equipment, furniture, households items, and more. So if you have, say, old leftover carpet, you could take it there. Its hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-4pm, and Saturdays 8am-4pm.

This facility is near Turner Field. We took mostly GA400 and I85 to get there, then interesting brick roads through a gentrifying area of Peopletown. It is a large center in terms of land: it needs to be, due to all the materials that they accept. They greeted us and helped us unload our car, and soon the car was empty of everything except some syringes with medications in them. It was a little bewildering, with so many things going in so many different bins, but before long it was all taken care of. They told us that Saturdays are usually very busy. This Saturday, due to the rain, it wasn't, so we were able to speak with staff at length.

We spoke with Odessa Beckham, the on-site manager that day, as well as Bridget Mullaney, a supervisor, and Tony Williams, staff member. We asked about recycling batteries. Ms. Mullaney informed us that there is no longer mercury in alkaline batteries, so no one recycles them anymore: they are safe to throw in the trash. They do take nickel and cadmium batteries, which they recycle. She endorsed buying rechargeable batteries.

What about glass, we asked? Does it get thrown in the landfill, as with City of Atlanta curbside recycling? It does not. It is picked up separately by Strategic Materials, a glass processor located two miles from CHaRM.

They take computers. These are run through a series of magnets to wipe the data. They also take paper that needs to be shredded.

We noticed that, in the back of the facility, there were rows of trailers: one each for mattresses, metal, toilets, and carpeting. There was a trailer for the American Kidney Fund, their



Odessa Beckham, on-site manager at CHaRM

clothing and household goods vendor, plus other trailers.

They don't take anything with sharp needles or syringes. They recommended taking these to a pharmacy. So they gave these items back to us, but they took everything else. (We took these items to the pharmacy but they didn't want them, either.)

I had thought it was a City of Atlanta facility, but not so. It is run by LiveThrive, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. LiveThrive used to have big recycling drives in Buckhead, before these operations were moved to a permanent, on-going operation. The City of Atlanta does give CHaRM some funds; so do private donors. CHaRM will serve anybody who brings them recyclables, but most of their customers are from the City of Atlanta. They need monetary funding and volunteers. They accept cash, checks, and credit cards. Contributions can be made in person, by mail, and online. Their address is 1110 Hill Street, SE, Atlanta, Georgia 30315. Their phone number is 404-600-6386. Their web site is www.livethrive.org/charm. The Executive Director and Founder is Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe, longtime North Buckhead resident.

This is a good facility to know about, to add to the list of recycling centers serving North Buckhead. The disadvantage to this center is that it is not nearby. The advantage is the enormous variety of hard-to-recycle items that it accepts. As with all the recycling centers we have visited, the staff is enthusiastic and helpful.

In a later Newsletter issue, we plan to publish an article listing the recycling options available to residents of North Buckhead, and the advantages and disadvantages of each. This proposed article will summarize what we have covered in our recycling series in the North Buckhead Newsletter.

Parts of PATH400 an Atlanta Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary

By Dottie Head
 Director of Membership and Communications
 Atlanta Audubon Society

A section of PATH400 in North Buckhead was recently designated an Atlanta Audubon Certified Wildlife Habitat as part of a collaborative effort between Atlanta Audubon Society, Livable Buckhead, and the North Buckhead Home and Garden Club. The Atlanta Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary Program encourages both private and public properties to enhance their land for birds and other wildlife by installing native plants and providing food, water, and shelter for birds and other wildlife. The certified section runs between Lenox Road and Old Ivy Road, and was the first completed segment of the trail, opened to the public in January 2015.

To gain certification, invasive plants, including privet and English ivy, were removed from the area. In addition, a variety of native Georgia plant species, including oakleaf hydrangea, serviceberry, dwarf Yaupon hollies, sumac, and others, were added to the landscape to provide invaluable sources of food and shelter for birds and other wildlife. Atlanta Audubon Society's goal is to create a network of certified wildlife sanctuaries throughout metro Atlanta to counter the loss of wildlife habitat to urbanization and to provide additional habitat for the hundreds of birds and other species.

"Atlanta Audubon is excited to add a section of PATH400 to our network of more than 450 certified wildlife habitats in Atlanta and north Georgia," says Melinda Langston, Atlanta Audubon board member and Wildlife Sanctuary Program Coordinator. "The welfare of birds and other wildlife is directly linked to the quality of food and shelter available to them. The PATH400 project is a great opportunity to showcase simple changes that anyone can make to create valuable habitat for birds and other wildlife."

Some of the birds and wildlife species observed along the certified portion of the trail include American Goldfinches, Carolina Wrens, Northern Mockingbirds, Brown Thrashers, White-breasted Nuthatches, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and a va-

riety of wildlife species including squirrels, deer, raccoons, and opossum.

"This certification underscores one of the unique aspects of walking or jogging on PATH400," said Denise Starling, Executive Director of Livable Buckhead. "Although the trail is immediately adjacent to a major highway, many portions of it feel as if you're in the middle of the woods. Preserving that natural habitat has always been an important part of the PATH400 design, and we hope that future segments of the trail will be able to earn this certification from Atlanta Audubon as well."

PATH400 is the first step toward implementation of the Buckhead Collection, a planned network of 106 acres of parks and trails in the neighborhood. Livable Buckhead is spearheading the PATH400 project in partnership with the Buckhead Community Improvement District (Buckhead CID) and the PATH Foundation. Several other agencies and organizations are involved in the development of PATH400, including Georgia Department of Transportation, the City of Atlanta, MARTA, Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Unit B, and Trees Atlanta.

For more information on certifying a property as an Atlanta Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary, visit www.atlantaaudubon.org/wildlife-sanctuary-certification.html. For more information on PATH400, visit path400greenway.org/.

Atlanta Audubon Society is committed to building places where birds and people thrive. We create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and advocacy.

NBCA Board Transitions

Richard Newton and **Robert Patterson** were elected to interim NBCA Board terms by the board in December. Both had made significant contributions to the association, Newton in Land Use/Zoning and Patterson in Transit/Mass Transportation. Both will stand for election to regular board terms at March's Annual Meeting.

Andrea Bennett has resigned from the NBCA board and moved outside the City of Atlanta. Andrea was NBCA's representative to NPU-B and was serving in her second term as Chair of NPU-B. Andrea also served as Vice Chair of NBCA's Land Use and Zoning Committee. She made many important contributions to NBCA and to all of Buckhead. Andrea will be profoundly missed.

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Donation Offers Expansion for Mountain Way Common

By Denise Starling
Executive Director of Livable Buckhead

Mountain Way Common kicked off 2018 by adding a small, but important, piece of land — a 0.56-acre parcel at the corner of North Ivy Road and Mountain Drive, donated by Mid Broadwell Partnership.



The community has wanted to add this land to Mountain Way Common for quite some time because its location across from the main gateway makes it a perfect place to add a feature that invites people into the park and raises its overall visibility.

The donation was initiated years ago when Dan Weede, the former president of the Friends of

Mountain Way Common, approached Robert Green about the possibility of purchasing the land. Green and the other members of Mid Broadwell Partnership — the estate of Jack Bradford and Gordon Mosley — decided to donate the land instead, and Livable Buckhead facilitated the process in 2017's closing months.

Livable Buckhead and Friends of Mountain Way Common will soon begin to make plans for integrating the space. The 2012 Mountain Way Common conceptual plan identifies the parcel for use as a playground, gathering and eating, and restroom facilities.

The expansion of Mountain Way Common is the latest acquisition in pursuit of the Buckhead Collection plan's goal of 106 acres of additional greenspace. The Buckhead Collection, initiated by Atlanta City Councilman Howard Shook, is the plan for an interconnected network of parks, trails and greenspaces. Livable Buckhead is implementing the plan. Since 2011, it has added approximately 34 acres of greenspace.

Millions of \$ for PATH400!

By Denise Starling
Executive Director of Livable Buckhead

In case you missed the big news back in December, Livable Buckhead got a great Christmas present — \$12.66 million for PATH400. The funding will come from a combination of city and federal sources, and is enough to complete the original 5.2 miles of the greenway that are planned in Buckhead. Atlanta City Council voted to allot \$5 million in TSPLOST funding to the project, while the Atlanta Regional Commission included \$7.42 million in its transportation improvement program project list that allocates funding from the Federal Highway Administration. Another \$240,000 in Federal Highway funds are slated for design of a PATH400 extension from Loridans Drive to the Sandy Springs city limit.

I would like to thank Councilman Howard Shook who advocated strongly on behalf of PATH400, submitting legislation that allocates funds from the second year of TSPLOST and lining up support from Mayor Reed and the other City Council members to get it passed. Competition for TSPLOST dollars is fierce, and we really appreciate having him go to bat for PATH400.

By the time you read this, we will have broken ground on the next segment of PATH400 — a one-mile section that will run from Miami Circle and across GA 400 to the back of Lenox Square. This is a critical piece of the trail, as it will provide access to the Lenox MARTA station via a spur trail being built by the Buckhead CID as part of its East Paces Ferry complete street project. Construction on the Miami Circle to GA 400 segment will take approximately one year.

Visit path400greenway.org to learn more about PATH400 or sign up to receive project updates.

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NBCA Security Camera Pilot Project—continued

Well, not much. There are only so many work stations and analysts at the VIC, and they have appropriate crime priorities. After a while, an officer will show up at the North Buckhead home to prepare a police report.

The NBCA board has been researching actions that our neighborhood might take to help APD defend us. We have often tried to gauge neighborhood interest in security patrols. But patrols have never been supported since their cost is seen as high for the few hours they work.

The technology available today is awesome and cheap. We can rent cloud-based cameras capable of reading license tags and recording vehicle type and color. Cost on a 24x7 basis? About \$4 a day. Great. So why not cover the neighborhood with cameras? Sounds good, but if you have pictures of a hundred cars, which one is driven by the burglar who broke in an hour ago? We need a smarter approach.

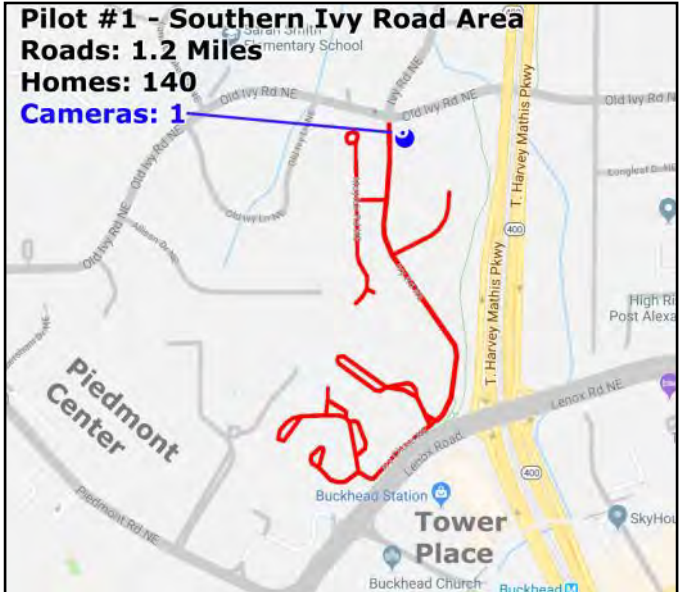
We found an approach that seems to be cost effective and efficient if implemented carefully. We need to break the neighborhood into small areas with only a couple of ways in or out. Dead end streets are ideal.

We think the approach is feasible and we want to do real world tests on some pilot locations. The two pilot sites we have chosen involve dead end streets.

Since thieves don't hang around after they have loaded their car with stolen goods, the security cameras will be pointed to photograph the back

ends of the cars leaving the pilot area. This enables the system to record the license tag number and, if it's daytime, the vehicle's color and type.

No attempt will be made to photograph the driver or passengers. Further, we want to respect neighbors' privacy, so there will be an "opt out" provision for neighbors who don't want to be tracked. In addition, images will be erased from the system after 30 days. Residents may get access to recorded images when a relevant police report has been filed.



Security Camera Pilot Site #1: Southern Ivy Road. The red lines shows streets affected by the pilot. The blue dot near Old Ivy Road shows where the camera would be located to monitor outgoing traffic.

The first site selected for a pilot project is Ivy Road, south of Old Ivy Road. It's an ideal area since there's only one way in and out. It has 140 homes including low-rise townhomes and single-family homes.

We will be able to tell in two ways whether the camera systems work: we'll know if it helps APD to catch crooks and we'll know if the crime rate drops, a sign the word is out among crooks that North Buckhead has good security cameras and they need to conduct their trade elsewhere.

The other pilot street is Alexander Road. It includes the Park Regency Condominiums and hundreds of apartments. See www.nbca.org/pilot for more about NBCA's plan. If we run into problems, we may pick another area. We might encounter unforeseen issues and re-evaluate. That's why we're doing a pilot, to learn without making expensive mistakes.

The vendor we're working with is Atlanta-based **Flock Safety**, www.flocksafety.com. Its CEO, Garrett Langley, is a Georgia Tech electrical engineer and a Buckhead resident. Our pilots will cost about \$6,000 (\$3,000 each) over two years, paid from NBCA's cash reserves. (See page 11.) While seeming to be a lot of money, the cost per home protected per year is low.



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Neighborhood Opinion Survey—Second Try

We published the article below in our October edition. The article was at the bottom of page three, surrounded by an article about the schedule for road repaving and other articles full of information about the upcoming November election. Apparently few noticed the article about the survey about how MARTA service might be improved and about the proposed PARK over 400 project. The October response rate was low, with less than 100 responses.

We will recirculate the survey with the same questions as last year. Please take this survey even if you responded before. All survey responses will be reported. Separate tallies will be published for responses to the October and March versions. It will be interesting if any shifting of opinion in the past half year is detectable. Inputs for the 2018 survey need to be made by April 20, 2018 when the survey will be closed. Survey results will be published in the July edition of this newsletter and by email.

Last year's election is over and maybe we can spend more time on other issues. Hopefully more will participate this time.

Original article (updated with current Internet links and dates):

Periodically, NBCA asks residents how they feel about current issues. This issue we're asking about two topics that we haven't explored in much detail: The **Park Over 400** proposal and **MARTA's role in North Buckhead**.


Park Over 400

This is a proposal approved in a 4-3 vote by the Buckhead Community Improvement District (BCID) board for a new park. It would be a major gathering space built in the space above GA 400. It would be big, extending north-south half a mile between Lenox Road and Peachtree Road. It would be very expensive: cost estimates mention amounts around a quarter of a billion dollars! Most people wonder who's going to provide that kind of money (and hope it's someone else). It would definitely raise Buckhead's profile. Some think it somehow won't make our traffic congestion worse. Others wonder how that could possibly be.

MARTA's role in North Buckhead

Last fall, Atlanta voters approved a 40-year sales tax increase to fund improvements to MARTA within the city limits. Some are excited about this initiative helping to address one of the city's biggest problems: traffic. Others wonder if North Buckhead will see any benefits at all. We want to explore your thoughts about MARTA. Would you ride MARTA if the "last mile" issues in North Buckhead were addressed? Or, is there nothing that you can think of that would get you on a MARTA bus or train?

March 2018 Opinion Survey includes these two topics as well as others that may concern you. The survey is being announced both in this newsletter and by email. If you don't receive the email, take it at www.nbca.org/survey18. We'll publish all responses (fit to print) without identifying names or full addresses.



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Bios—NBCA Board Candidates

Each year, about half of NBCA's board stands for election to two-year terms. This year we have four candidates: two incumbents and two new board members who were appointed by a majority vote of the board last fall to terms expiring in March.

NBCA Members

Vote for NBCA's Board candidates at www.nbca.org/2018board on or before March 20, 2018.

Rita Christopher (Incumbent)

Rita has lived on Loidans Circle with her husband Jerry since 1991. A native of Charlotte, she graduated from UNC-Greensboro with a nursing degree. She has worked in the field of infertility since 1988 and is employed by Georgia Reproductive Specialists. Rita chairs the New Neighbor Committee which provides greeting packages for new residents. In addition, she does community outreach to our local police and firefighters.

Richard Newton

Richard relocated from the New York area to Atlanta in 2012, and has lived in Buckhead for four years, now on McClatchey Circle. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland and spent most of his career in the hospitality industry. Richard became a realtor shortly after

moving to Atlanta, and is currently affiliated with Dorsey Alston Realtors.

Richard grew up in Europe, and has dual US/French citizenship. He is also a member of the French American Chamber of Commerce. He has served on the board of his townhouse community, and was active on the board of his New York co-op.

Richard was introduced to the NBCA during the permitting process for his own renovation, and subsequently joined the zoning and land use committee where he remains active.

Richard's wife Jennifer is an executive with World 50, and his 16-year-old daughter is a junior at North Atlanta High School.

Robert Patterson

Robert's bio was not available at press time. It will be posted at www.nbca.org/2018board when available.

Robert Sarkissian (Incumbent)

Robert has lived in North Buckhead for twenty years, after relocating from Northern California. A native of New Jersey, he and his wife Erica, who grew up in the small southwest Georgia town of Sylvester, reside on Old Ivy Road with their daughter, Annabelle. Robert is a partner with a consulting organization that specializes in model-based systems engineering to help companies optimize designs and processes through advanced simulation techniques. He holds a degree in Physics from Florida Tech. Erica has worked at Delta Air Lines for the last 28 years and is General Manager for In-flight Training Operations and Flight Attendant Hiring.

Robert is Vice-President of NBCA. He has served as chair of the NBCA Traffic Committee for the last fourteen years. He actively participates in initiatives intended to make our neighborhoods pedestrian and traffic friendly. Twenty years ago, as part of his professional career, he helped pioneer the use of advanced statistical simulation methods to model and predict traffic behavior for the state of California. He is actively investigating the impact of new technologies that will lead to autonomous and networked automobiles. He is an advocate for measures that influence and enforce adherence to reasonable speed limits in and around our neighborhood streets. He is also one of the two neighborhood representatives serving on Sarah Smith Go-Team governance. Prior to arriving in Atlanta, Robert was Vice-President of the Antigua Homeowners Association in Foster City, California for ten years.

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Updates from the Amphibian Foundation

By Mark Mandica
Executive Director
The Amphibian Foundation

Hello Neighbors! Last year, we had the opportunity in this newsletter to introduce ourselves and write a bit about our mission to save globally endangered amphibian species right here in Buckhead. If you are unaware, the Amphibian Foundation, located at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve, works with state, federal and global agencies to conserve amphibians and their habitats. Our highest priority projects focus on native imperiled species from Georgia and the southeast U. S. such as the Gopher Frog, Striped Newt and Flatwoods Salamander. This winter, we have been busy building a one-of-a-kind conservation resource on the preserve — nicknamed “Metamorphosis Meadow” — a series of 20 mesocosms (controllable artificial wetlands) where imperiled amphibian species can be reared, bred and experimentally released into protected habitat in partnership with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For updates on this project and more, please sign up for the Amphibian Foundation mailing list at StayInformed.amphibianfoundation.org.

Also, this coming summer will be the 4th year of our reptile and amphibian summer camp — Critter Camp! Critter Camp is a science-based summer and school-break camp at The Blue Heron Nature Preserve. Critter Camp is open to ages 6-14 and is a safe, hands-on exploration



amphibianfoundation

Frosted Flatwoods Salamanders, *Ambystoma cingulatum*, have suffered a 90% loss in population since 1999 and are considered at imminent risk of extinction. The Amphibian Foundation in Buckhead, which is the only organization permitted by the federal government to work with this species in captivity, plans to breed these salamanders in their new conservation resource — Metamorphosis Meadow — located at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve.

into the world of amphibians, reptiles and their habitats. Campers are taught to safely handle the delicate, rare and sometimes endangered animals available — for the safety of the animals as well as the campers! Particular attention will be paid to the biology, diversity, stewardship and conservation of amphibians and reptiles. Campers will be encouraged to ask questions about the animals and discover their own answers through hands-on observation.

For more information on the Critter Camp, please see: critter-camp.org. Registration is available through the Blue Heron Nature Preserve website: bhnp.org.

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NBCA Land Use and Zoning Committee

By Walda Lavroff

Chair, NBCA Land Use and Zoning Committee

Our committee did not meet in October 2017, because we received no applications.

In our November 2017 meeting we reviewed V-17-315, application for a "Special Exemption to include active recreation in a yard adjacent to a street". This turned out to be a swimming pool at **3806 Ivy Lane**. We found that ongoing construction of a home was about 80% complete. The pool was an afterthought; hence its location on the property was not optimal but feasible.

The applicant assured us that a solid privacy fence at least five feet high would shield this pool so as not to be visible from the street. The fence would be equipped with an outward opening, self-latching door.

Pool builder Desjoyauxpools had contacted adjoining property owners and encountered no opposition. We voted to recommend approval.

In December we received one application V-17-377: **3959 Wieuca Road**, Zoned R-3. Owner Dennis Story needed a variance to "increase accessory structure from 30% to 48% of the existing house". The variance was to permit the addition of a garage to the home. The owner planned to remodel the existing house within its existing footprint.

Statements of support from several neighboring property owners were submitted. Our committee voted to recommend approval.

Our committee did not meet in January 2018, because we received no applications.

NBCA's Web Site is 20!

In March, 1998, www.NBCA.org went online for the first time, making North Buckhead one of the first Atlanta neighborhoods with a web site.

The web site was the inspiration of **John Mulinax**, NBCA board member and resident of McClatchey Circle, supported by **Gordon Certain**, North Ivy Road, who had joined the NBCA board the previous month.

As reported in the May 1998 *North Buckhead Newsletter* (See www.nbca.org/Newsletters/news0598.htm), NBCA's web site was funded by **Jackie Goodman**, who is now NBCA Secretary.

We plan a modernization of our web site soon with technical help from **She's Wired**.

Jackie Goodman



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Little Nancy Creek Park Legacy Club Campaign Ends Soon

By Anne Wilkie
Little Nancy Creek Park

We'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their amazing support of Little Nancy Creek Park! Thanks to your generosity, we have only a few spots remaining in the Legacy Club. This will mark the final phase of capital improvements to the park, so we hope to get as much participation and support from the community as possible.



Bench at entrance to playground where the plaque honoring Legacy Club members will be placed

Legacy Club donors will be recognized on a bronze plaque at the front entrance of the playground. Several donors have used this as an opportunity to honor loved ones while others simply have been looking for a way to give back. Certainly, all have welcomed the chance to help create a place that adds so much joy to people's lives. Whatever your reason, please go to www.littlenancycreekpark.org/portal/index.html to donate today. In addition to being a great way to ensure your contributions to the community are permanently remembered, your generosity will serve as an inspiration to future generations of park-goers!

In other news, there has been a lot going on at the park. Last fall, we held another wonderful concert at the park with music from Carter Rude & Friends along with great food from Southern Crust Catering and King of Pops. A big shout-out goes to Atlanta Orthodontic Specialists for sponsoring the concert and making such a fun evening with family and friends possible! If you are interested in sponsoring our spring concert, please get in touch with us as these sponsorships go quickly.

We also continue to make huge improvements to the park based on feedback you've provided to us. Our newly-built pavilion overlooks the park's lawn at the far corner and affords a serene setting to keep an eye on your kids, read a book, or just take a moment to relax. Our new bench-swings sit across the creek from the playground and provide a fantastic view of the



Recently completed bench swings and pavilion overlooking the back meadow

park. Further, we have added a stepping stone path in the middle of the creek to make for a quick crossing of the creek. We expect this last addition to be ever more popular as the weather warms up.

We've also listened to you about parking, and while we cannot buy additional land, we have added spaces, improved the overall parking surface, and made the entry and exit easier to navigate. We are very grateful to the City of Atlanta for the repairs it made to the bridge and other areas of the park after the damage done by floods last year. Many of you may remember the overturned trees the City of Atlanta removed after they collapsed on the chimney of the old hunting lodge. There are lots of other improvements and happenings too numerous to mention here, so we invite you to stop by and take a look for yourself.

Thank you again for your generosity and ongoing support of the park. As always, we hope to see you there!



Newly resurfaced LNCP parking area with 17 defined spaces and improved entry/exit

2017 Financial Summary

By Dieter Franz
NBCA Treasurer

The North Buckhead Civic Association is financially healthy. We operated at a surplus of \$7,769 in 2017, resulting in our ending cash balance of \$34,481. The positive financial results are mainly due to the fact that we raised our membership dues in 2016 from \$35 per year to \$50 per year. This was slightly offset by discounts for prepayment of dues, and discounts for homeowner and condominium associations if they participate as a group rather than as individuals.

Our revenues in 2017 amounted to \$48,230, the majority being from membership dues with newsletter ads being second. The Board decided not to continue Christmas tree sales because of rising deficits. NBCA expenses amounted to \$40,461 with the largest being for the Newsletter. The table below shows this in more detail. This created a surplus of \$7,769.

NBCA Financial Report Calendar Year 2017

As recorded

Beginning Cash	\$26,712
Ending Cash	\$34,481
Net Change	\$7,769

	Expenses	Revenue	Net
Newsletter	\$13,790	\$0	-\$13,790
Newsletter Ads	\$0	\$6,855	\$6,855
Legal Fund	\$6	\$330	\$324
Insurance	\$2,765	\$0	-\$2,765
Membership	\$1,713	\$38,840	\$37,127
Park Maintenance	\$3,398	\$350	-\$3,048
Social	\$6,235	\$50	-\$6,185
Donations	\$3,950	\$0	-\$3,950
Greenspace	\$6	\$405	\$399
Committee Expenses	\$5,034	\$0	-\$5,034
General	\$3,565	\$1,400	-\$2,165
Total	\$40,461	\$48,230	\$7,769

Historically, many NBCA members have chosen to pay dues one or more years in advance to receive multi-year dues rate discounts. The net balance of \$34,481 includes prepaid dues amounting to \$6,372 at current dues rates. That leaves \$28,109 for current operations, projects such as the \$6,000 security camera pilot project (see article on page 1), and provision for any emergency needs.

Pay NBCA Dues Online

To pay dues and/or make other donations, go to www.nbca.org/dues.htm. You will receive an email confirmation of your payment. We have added the capability for you to select a one or two year renewal period. These actions can be repeated to get reduced cost membership periods longer than two years.

Holiday BBQ for APD

In appreciation for their service, a dozen area neighborhoods, including North Buckhead, treated Atlanta Police Department personnel to Christmas Eve lunch or dinner. The barbeque was delivered to the Zone 2 Precinct office on Maple Drive. This annual event was once again organized by Susan Kanellos of the Piedmont Heights neighborhood.



Officers Frudden and Hernandez, getting ready for their barbeque dinner. They were two of the many APD Zone 2 officers enjoying this police appreciation lunch/dinner event.



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weekdays from 5-6:30
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**www.basils.net
2985 Grandview Avenue
404-233-9755**

Much More than Just Another Date Night

By Marianna Lee, North Buckhead Drive

Look around. Our lives are — for the most part — quiet and comfortable. But sometimes we want more than quiet and comfortable. Sometimes the comfortable life might get a little boring. Sometimes we want more than a dinner out but we don't want to go too far. Sometimes we need **a local comedy club**.

Good news, folks. Look no further than just beyond and along Roswell Road for two opportunities to have really fun nights out, and you don't have to drive far at all. The Basement Theater and The Punchline Comedy Club await with lots of shows.

The Basement Theater, billed as "Atlanta's Best Underground Improv Comedy Theatre!" sits at 175 West Wieuca Road. And The Punchline, relocated after many years in Sandy Springs to 3652 Roswell Road — inside the Landmark Diner, is billed as "Atlanta's Number One Comedy Club, by any metric."

They're both right here in the immediate North Buckhead area.

Each club offers improv-style theatrical art where you're making up scenes on the spot with no script. You often get a whole range of emotions while in an improv show! These shows can be based on suggestions from the audience; some shows even include audience participation.

Check each website for specific shows/artists/events/classes, but here is a quick recap of some of the differences between the clubs.

The Basement

With a house cast called The Basement Players, who perform most of the shows, they often have guest improvisers from around Atlanta, the country and the world. Also you can see new student talent on Thursdays. The price for the show is \$12 (\$8 with student ID), but many Thursday shows are just \$8. At the Thursday 10 pm show, you can put your name in the bucket to play an improv game. Tickets to that show are "roll the dice": roll 1 to 5, pay \$1 to \$5; roll a 6 and you get in free!

The Basement offers family-friendly comedy. On Fridays at 8 pm, there is a family-friendly, G-rated show. This performance is not only for kids, it is kid/family friendly, so all ages can enjoy the show. Saturdays at 8 pm, it's somewhere around PG-13. The Thursday 10 pm show is R-rated, but all ages are welcome.

Celebrate your birthday or any other event with a private show. A flat fee covers rental of the whole theater, which holds up to 65 seats. They also offer an improv camp for 12-15 year olds during the summer. The camp takes place Monday-Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, and costs \$200. Students learn more than how to improvise; they learn how to trust and develop oratory skills.

There is a concession area with candy, chips, sodas and water priced at \$1. Most adult drinks are \$4. Popcorn is \$2.

The Basement: 175 West Wieuca Road NE. It is in the basement of an nondescript office building; you enter on the back side. www.thebasementtheatre.com 404-277-3071. Free Parking.

The Punchline

Known as the longest running and continuously operated comedy club in Atlanta, The Punchline Comedy Club has served a large number of customers since opening in 1982. They offer many shows per week and attract a tremendous list of nationally recognized and industry honored comedians. The greatest number of Comedy Central's Top 100 Comedians of All-Time have appeared onstage here. Some say it is the most honored comedy club in Atlanta, because of its loyal customers.

Legends like Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor, Chris Tucker, Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfeld, Tim Allen, Dane Cook, Jackie Mason, Dave Chappelle, Larry the Cable Guy, Ron White, and Jeff Foxworthy have stood on their stage and entertained audiences.

An ideal place to have a first date, to entertain an important business client, relax with the family, or laugh with friends, The Punchline is ready for you with professional comedians featured each week. Ticket prices vary depending on the particular comedian. Most shows at The Punchline start at 6, 8, or 10 pm.

They have a strict 21-year old, adults-only policy, and they have partnered with The Landmark Diner to provide a full-service bar with scrumptious drinks and a complete menu. The Punchline requires a two-item minimum purchase per person.

The Punchline can host your corporate event or private party.

Each comedy club is unique and caters to specific interests. Do something different soon. But be sure to place your ticket order online before heading out; the shows often sell out.

The Punchline: 3652 Roswell Road NE. www.punchline.com 404-252-LAFF (5233). Free Parking.

NBCA Standing Meetings

(NBCA meetings are open to the public)

Board — 6:30 pm, 4th Monday of month except March, Nov., and Dec., Room S-103, Wieuca Road Baptist Church. March meeting: the Annual Meeting. Joint Nov./Dec. meeting on Dec. 3, 2018.

Land Use/Zoning — 6:30 pm, 3rd Monday, Room S-103, Wieuca Road Baptist Church.

Blue Heron Nature Preserve Education Programs

By Amy Zvonar
Education Director, Blue Heron Nature Preserve
Summer Camp 2018 at Blue Heron

Blue Heron Nature Preserve is excited to host another summer of outdoor adventures at the Preserve! Our talented and qualified staff of professional educators have organized 11 weeks of nature play and excursions for children ages 2-13 years. We are also actively seeking youth ages 13-18 to be counselors-in-training, and we need adult volunteers. This year, we are offering adult volunteers who commit to one week of service a discount on summer camp registration for their child, grandchild or even a friend's child. Visit our website to learn more: www.bhnp.org/summer-camps.

You may also email Education Director, Amy Zvonar, amyz@bhnp.org with questions.

Twilight Hikes at Blue Heron Nature



Preserve

Blue Heron is hosting two Twilight Hikes this spring! Join a Blue Heron Naturalist on March 31st from 7:30-8:30 pm or April 28th from 7:30-8:30 pm for an evening hike through the Preserve, and explore the sights and sounds of nature at this special time. These hikes are limited to 20 participants, to ensure an intimate experience with nature. You must pre-register for these events. Visit our website to learn more: www.bhnp.org/public-programs/.

Eagle Scout Merit Badge Clinics at Blue Heron Nature Preserve

Did you know Blue Heron hosts Eagle Scout Merit Badge Clinics? Our expert naturalists plan programs that are engaging, get scouts outside, and provide valuable assistance in earning several important Merit Badges. Scouts must register in advance to attend. Please contact Linda Reed, Scout Programs Coordinator, at scouting@bhnp.org for more information. We are hosting the following Badge Clinics this Spring:



- Environmental Science:
March 17th, 9 am - 2:30 pm
- Insect Study:
March 24th, 9 am - 2:30 pm
- Reptile and Amphibian Study (co-hosted by The Amphibian Foundation):
May 12th, 10 am - 1:30 pm

Adult Natural Science Illustration Series

Adults interested in nature and natural science illustration are sure to find this series at Blue Heron Nature Preserve engaging. Open to artists of all abilities, Christy Knight offers individualized instruction and step-by-step guidelines for creating art inspired by nature. We are hosting 3 workshops this spring, so be sure to attend one and bring a friend!

- **Hearts and Flowers:**
February 24th from 1 pm - 4 pm
- **Capturing Spring Greens in Watercolor:**
March 24th from 1 pm - 4 pm
- **Drawing Birds 101:**
April 29th from 1 pm - 4 pm

Each workshop is \$75.00, or attend all three for \$200.00. More details and registration can be found here: www.bhnp.org/adult-education/.



Nuccio's Pearl Camellia by Christy Knight

NBCA's Email Updates

This newsletter is published only three times a year, but neighborhood news happens more often, sometimes so fast we can't cover it here.

So we also communicate via emails we call North Buckhead Updates. You don't have to read our emails to find out what they are about. Each email's subject line lists the contents so recipients can skip emails about topics they don't care about.

NBCA has 2,200+ addresses on its email list. Our typical 50% "open rate" means that NBCA emails are read. Join our list at www.nbca.org or email us at NorthBuckhead@yahoo.com.

NBCA membership is not required to be on our email list. It's free for everyone.

We don't sell or share our email list. If you want to be removed from our list, use the option at the bottom of each email.

If you lose a pet or find one, send an email to NorthBuckhead@yahoo.com with a description of the pet, your contact information, and a photo of the pet, if you have one.

NBCA Officers, Board, Staff

NBCA Officers

President Gordon Certain	Vice Pres. Robert Sarkissian
Secretary Jackie Goodman	Treasurer Dieter Franz

NBCA Board

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Beautification

Liaison Lauren Panetta
Kevin McCauley
Kim McCauley

Pedestrian (Sidewalk)

Liaison Peter Rogers

Code Enforcement

Liaison Open

Social/Special Events

Liaison Adam Pollock

Crime Reporting

Liaison Peter Rogers

Traffic

Liaison Robert Sarkissian

Land Use and Zoning

Chair Walda Lavroff

Transit

Liaison Robert Patterson

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Liaison Gordon Certain

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Liaison Open

New Neighbor Greeting

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Facebook Sue Certain
Jackie Goodman
Tessa Turner

Newsletter

Editor Gordon Certain
Assoc. Ed. Sue Certain
Proofing Jackie Goodman

NPU-B Representative

Gordon Certain

NBCA is a 501(c)(4) Georgia Non-profit Corporation.

McClatchey Park

Design work for North Buckhead's newest park will start soon. Right now there are no details to share other than the dimensions of the heavily wooded site and a little about its history.



The park site is large. It occupies a little over five acres. It stretches 210 feet along Loridans Drive and extends 360 to 530 feet southward.

McClatchey Park got its name from the once nearby McClatchey Elementary School. Its campus included the park site. The school stood nearby, where GA400 is now located.

The historic Lowery Stevens family cemetery occupies the northeast corner of the park. It dates from 1852, making it one of the oldest family cemeteries in the city. It has two marked graves and over two dozen unmarked graves.

A key aspect of the park site is its location relative to PATH400. As PATH400 is extended from Mountain Way to Loridans Drive, it will pass between the GA400 soundwall and the western edge of the new park.

The park will be both a neighborhood park and a PATH400 feature. The light blue street highlighting in the map indicate neighborhood areas within a 10-minute walk of the park.

Park Pride will conduct a park visioning exercise later this year. They will collaborate with the public to establish a consensus vision of this future park. A formal master plan for the park will be developed later.

North Buckhead Parks

If you are interested in parks, we have lots of information on North Buckhead area parks on our web site. Go to www.nbca.org/Parks/.

If you have suggestions or would like to volunteer to keep our neighborhood beautiful, go to NorthBuckhead@yahoo.com.

Area Businesses Support NBCA

These businesses support your neighborhood association with their NBCA business memberships. Please support them.

10 Terminus Place Condominium Association
Atlanta Audubon Society www.atlantaaudubon.org
Blue Heron Nature Preserve www.bhnp.org
Brookhaven Oaks Homeowners Association
Buckhead Coalition 3340 Peachtree Road #560
Buckhead Grand Condos 3338 Peachtree Rd
Buckhead-Midtown Vacuum 2000 Cheshire Bridge Rd
Buckhead Tire & Auto Repair 3830 Roswell Road
CALIBER enterprises www.calibereliteconsulting.com
Diazo Specialty Printing 3872 Roswell Road #A8
Laura Dew, Realtor Atl.FineHomes404-974-4372
Domain at Phipps Plaza domainatphippsplaza.com
DWH Interiors DWHInteriors.com
Shirley Irek Piano Studio 404-467-9451
Ivys Condominium Association

Jones & Kolb, CPAs 404-262-7920
Kazoo Toys 3718 Roswell Road
McManamy McLeod Heller www.mmhfirm.com
Paramount at Buckhead 3445 Stratford Rd
Park Avenue Condo Association 750 Park Ave
Park Regency Condo Assn. 700 Park Regency Pl
Peachtree Mosquito Control 404-447-6607
Piccadilly Puppets 404-636-0022
Private Bank of Buckhead 3565 Piedmont Rd #210
Realtors, *The Hinsons* 404-231-1113
Remarkable Real Estate Services 404-233-MARC
ScotlandWrightAssociates www.scotlandwright.com
St. James United Methodist Church www.stjamesatlanta.org
Elsie & Holden Thompson, HN Realtors 404-814-5421

Can you think of another way to get visibility for your area business for so little money? Businesses, join NBCA and get listed here. Send \$100 (non-profits, \$50) with the coupon below or join online.

NORTH BUCKHEAD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Join Renew

Pay Online at www.nbca.org/dues.htm
 Or Mail to: NBCA, PO Box 420391, Atlanta, GA 30342



Name(s) _____ **Date** _____
Please print carefully

Address _____ **Year you came to North Buckhead** _____

Email #1 _____ **Email #2** _____
Please print very carefully so you will received NBCA's Email Updates.

Phone (Home) _____ **Cell #1** _____ **Cell #2** _____

Able to Help North Buckhead?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement (Eyesore Resolution) | <input type="checkbox"/> Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping / Streetscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalks / Crosswalks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal/Professional Services (for NBCA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Events (Fall Fling, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Houses <input type="checkbox"/> Condos <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuff Envelopes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Cleanup Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood History and Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Web site / Facebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Neighbor Greeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning/Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One-time, quick volunteer jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks / Playgrounds | |

Pay By Mail

Dues: \$50 year—Business \$100

One year **Two years \$90** / Bus \$200 \$ _____

Optional donations:

Park Landscaping \$ _____

Legal Fund \$ _____

Greenspace \$ _____

General Fund \$ _____

Total Check Amount \$ _____

Make check payable to NBCA

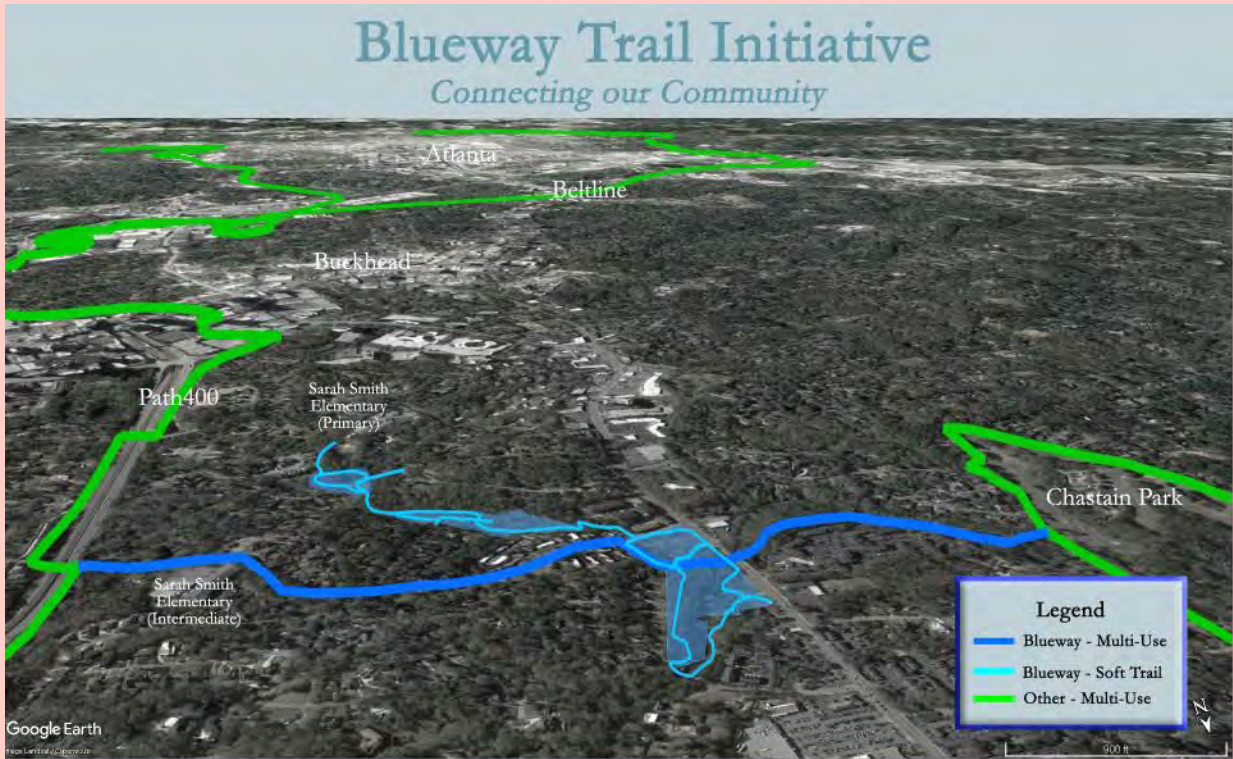
Comments, skills, interests, questions:



**North Buckhead
Civic Association**
PO Box 420391
Atlanta, GA 30342

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Blueway: Painting the Nature Preserve Blue

Work has begun on the first phase of the Blueway Trail Initiative at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve. The Preserve isn't literally being painted blue, but work is underway to complete nearly three miles of internal trails that we call the "Blueway". The Blueway will connect the Preserve on a complete, safe and easy-to-navigate pedestrian trail system.

Tailored Trails, our trail builder, is currently making improvements to the existing bridges and trails at Emma Lane and along Roswell Road. The improvements include widening the trails using compacted slate chips making trails accessible to all, where possible. Boardwalks will be built in low-lying areas and new bridges and road crossings will be installed to complete the connections.

All this is possible through the generosity of donors like the Buckhead Coalition, Park Pride, and neighbors like you. More funds are needed to reach our goal of completing the Blueway soft trails in the Preserve by the end of 2018. We need your support. Visit our website at bhnp.org to find out more and to make a donation. Thanks!

— Kevin McCauley, Executive Director, Blue Heron Nature Preserve