

MARCH  
'24



# HISTORIC BROOKHAVEN

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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## Three Year Results of HBNA's 28 License Plate Reader Cameras

HBNA's 28 Flock license plate reader cameras at all 14 entrances are protecting **ALL** HBNA residents better than expected. An in-depth study of 36 months since the January 2021 installation shows declining vehicle threats entering our neighborhood. Also, the cameras have operated superbly, currently working at 100%.

Here are 3 examples of criminal "alerts" of inbound vehicles

### Inbound Alerts 2021

Stolen Plates: **151**  
Stolen Vehicles: **34**  
Sex Offenders: **8**

### Inbound Alerts 2022

Stolen Plates: **44**  
Stolen Vehicles: **8**  
Sex Offenders: **3**

### Inbound Alerts 2023

Stolen Plates: **38**  
Stolen Vehicles: **13**  
Sex Offenders: **2**

Additionally, more police officers from both Brookhaven and Atlanta receive "instant notification alerts" to their patrol cars. Alerts are automatically sent within 15 seconds to the closest patrol car near the alert location.

Nationally, 83% of property crime goes unsolved due to a lack of actionable evidence. 70% of these crimes occur with a vehicle. Our cameras not only read license plates but also capture a vehicle's make, model, and color. They are also vital in solving police investigations.

These Flock cameras are **NOT** paid by Brookhaven Security Association's (BSA) \$425 annual dues, which pays for off-duty police patrols and vacation checks. They are paid by HBNA's \$200 annual dues, and roughly half the \$200 is budgeted towards our Flock system. They are HBNA's largest expense and these expenses have not increased in the 3 years since installation. We have budgeted for increases in these costs for 2024.

We **all** receive protection from Flock cameras so we should **all** contribute to this benefit. Otherwise, HBNA will either start limiting other services, including the cameras, or HBNA dues will increase significantly. Boosting the participation rate of dues payment will prevent both. Currently, we are at **69%** participation rate of households. If you have not joined HBNA with your \$200 dues, we need you to do so ASAP. It's a small price to add valuable protection for your family and your property.

### There are Two Ways to Pay:

- Online at the HBNA website: <https://www.historic-brookhaven.org/join--pay-dues.html>
- Mail check to: HBNA | 4062 Peachtree Rd, Suite A Box 427 | Brookhaven, GA 30319

### | CONTACT INFORMATION

4062 Peachtree Rd, Suite A427 | Brookhaven, GA 30319

Visit our website for more information at:  
[HistoricBrookhaven.org](https://www.HistoricBrookhaven.org)





## President's Letter

I so enjoy walking or driving through Historic Brookhaven this time of year. Today, I saw jonquils emerging, the first signs of the yellow blooms of the forsythias, and the beginning buds on the hardwoods. I saw the crisp landscape and benches in our pocket parks, new monuments announcing the entry into our neighborhood, the new Blue Star monument, and some of the 28 security cameras keeping watch of our streets. I passed the nearly completed construction of the storm drain system improvements. I even saw new asphalt on East Brookhaven Drive.

I drove past the site of our annual street party and thought of the fun my family has had at that event over the years. I saw where the new time capsule was recently buried. I saw the house I recognized in a movie filmed there a few years ago (and where I saw Jim Carrey pass by in his car). I remembered the new neighbor party we attended in 2006 and how that made us feel welcome. Then, I came home to write this message to my neighbors.

We live in a fine place. A place of beauty, hospitality, and history. The Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association plays an important role in maintaining and enhancing our experience here and had a hand in each of those scenes and memories in my drive and walk today from managing and paying for the Flock security cameras to hosting the new neighbor and street parties. From planting new shrubs and flowers in our pocket parks to removing invasive plants from the ravines. From collaborating with TV and film producers to publishing this newsletter and sending communications about news that is important to us. From building and maintaining the entry monuments to working with the cities of Brookhaven and Atlanta to develop and deliver critical infrastructure projects. From providing neighborhood input on zoning issues to working with traffic engineers to enhance the safety of our streets.

The HBNA is a volunteer organization, both in terms of membership and dues and in organizing neighbors to get things done. Thank you to all our members for your contributions of time and resources. I encourage all our neighbors to be a part of helping us this year. You can join the HBNA and volunteer for our important work on our website at [www.historic-brookhaven.org](http://www.historic-brookhaven.org).

Here's to us all enjoying the spring season.

*Mark Bryson*  
HBNA President





## Trailblazing Scouting in the Historic Brookhaven Area

Many may not be aware that in 2019 the Boy Scouts of America expanded their program to allow for the formation of all girl troops. Local Scoutmaster John Embleton for the boy's troop 379 at St. Martin's Church was just wrapping up his scouting career after his son Jack completed the requirements for Eagle Scout when this announcement was made. However, his daughter Zoe age 14 at the time heard the news and decided that she wanted to be among the first women in the United States to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

John and some other leaders from the boy's troop started Scouts BSA Troop 160 at St. Martin's with twelve young women. They worked on the exact same programs that their male counterparts were working on with camping, attending meetings to earn merit badges along with several service projects out in our community. During the impact of the covid years, the troop decided to combine with local Troop 372 at St. James Church to keep the quality of the program for the women in place. Leslie Evans is the Scoutmaster for that troop, and the combined troop currently has close to thirty women scouts as members. The troop has awarded the rank of Eagle Scout to approximately fifteen young women so far. John's daughter Zoe was the latest to earn the rank after completing her Eagle project and her Eagle Board of Review.

Troop 372 was founded on February 1, 2019, the first day that troops for girls could exist. They are proud to be a part of the scouting movement of the Boy Scouts of America. They are non-denominational and welcome all girls ages 11 to 18 to Scouting. Scouts do not need any prior experience to join the troop, so whether you were a Webelo or you just want to hop in now you're all welcome! The chartered organization, St. James United Methodist Church, and the brother troop, Troop 370 work side-by-side to provide a quality scouting program that has five main goals for the girls:

- *To grow in moral strength and character*
- *To actively participate in citizenship*
- *To develop physical, emotional, and spiritual fitness*
- *To be comfortable in the outdoors and appreciate outdoor activities*
- *To develop leadership skills*

The troop strives to make your daughter the best person she can be and to give her the fundamental tools to be successful in whatever path she chooses in life. These skills are learned by Scouts working together and doing things themselves. As the parent of a Scout, you can expect to share these rich experiences with your daughter as she becomes more confident and knowledgeable by living the Scout Oath and Law.

Troop 372 meets each Wednesday at 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the St. James Youth Room. If you would like more information, please contact Leslie Evans at [evansclan@bellsouth.net](mailto:evansclan@bellsouth.net).





## Ladies of Historic Brookhaven Update

The Ladies of Historic Brookhaven Social Club is a neighborhood group to discuss events for the Historic Brookhaven neighborhood in order to increase socialization and the sense of community. The monthly meetings are half business planning for upcoming neighborhood events, half guest speaker demonstration and of course lots of socializing! Ladies of all ages and stages in life are welcome. Justine Regnier and Rebecca Webb run point on this group for our neighborhood.

The first meeting in November was at Rebecca Webb's home where Elizabeth Ryll from Bizzy Lizzy helped the ladies learn to decorate a thanksgiving table and arrange flowers with 40 neighbors who attended. The second meeting in January had 60 neighbors at Julie Train's home where Anna Wooten Loggins shared classic interior design tips. The third meeting was in February at Rebecca Clement's home where guest speaker Anne Irwin of Anne Irwin Fine Art shared tips on buying art.

Come join the fun and get to know more of your neighbors in March. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being a guest speaker for April or May or who wants to chair an event in our neighborhood please contact Justine Regnier at [Justineregner6@gmail.com](mailto:Justineregner6@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Events:

**March Ladies of Historic Brookhaven Meeting:** The meeting will be at Helen Parker's home where Sara Wolf Mixon of Tootsies will share spring fashion tips on March 26th at 7pm. Look out for emails from HBNA and join the Facebook group to get the latest information. We still need guest speakers for April and May if you know anyone who is interested. Please reach out to Rebecca Webb [rebeccadietz@hotmail.com](mailto:rebeccadietz@hotmail.com) and Justine Regnier [justineregner6@gmail.com](mailto:justineregner6@gmail.com) for more information.

**Meal Trains:** If you know of anyone who is need of a meal train please reach out to our neighborhood Meal Train Chair, Sarah Cyrus [sarahlcyrus@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlcyrus@gmail.com) to add a neighbor to receive meals from friendly neighbors.

**Mardi Gras Parade:** The Krewe Du Foret 11th Annual Celebration is March 17th at 3 pm at Carter and Club Valley. Join your neighbors for live music, gumbo and cocktails. Contact Gene Hoof 678-545-8096 for questions.

**Firefly Fete:** Join your neighbors for a fun evening of cocktails and live music benefiting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Leela Maxa's home on April 27th at 7 pm. Tickets go live March 14th at [Choa.org/firefly](http://Choa.org/firefly). Contact Julie Train [jhall312@gmail.com](mailto:jhall312@gmail.com) or Justine Regnier [justineregner6@gmail.com](mailto:justineregner6@gmail.com) for more information.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** A family friendly Easter egg hunt will be held on March 31st at 4pm in Club Forest. Please drop two dozen treat filled eggs at 1190 Angelo Court NE sometime the week before the hunt. Contact Emily Hyde 478-290-3157 for more information.





## Women’s Groups in Historic Brookhaven

There have been several questions regarding all of the different women’s groups in Historic Brookhaven so Justine Regnier has given us a brief description each group:

**Ladies of Historic Brookhaven Social Club** - Previously Women of Historic Brookhaven or the Mom’s group. We have revamped the group to include monthly meetings with guest speakers for the ladies, special holiday events and activities around the neighborhood. We spend a few minutes talking about events in the neighborhood. The guest speaker will then give tips while the ladies learn and socialize with neighbors. We would also love to hear about additional events you would like to see. However, if there isn’t a chair, it’s unlikely there will be an event. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all the latest updates or check out the HBNA email communications. Ladies of all ages and stages in life are welcome. This group is chaired by Justine Regnier and Rebecca Webb.

**Friends of CHOA Historic Brookhaven** - Friends is the community volunteer organization of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. We have members throughout greater Atlanta who raise funds each year to fulfill crucial needs. Neighborhood Friends groups are encouraged to plan fundraisers and provide a fun opportunity to interact with friends and neighbors while supporting the patients at Children’s. Our yearly events are the heart swap yard signs for Valentine’s Day, Boo yard signs for Halloween, Mailbox Decorating Brigade for Christmas and an every other year a Spring party called the Firefly Fete. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all the latest updates or check out the HBNA email communications. Ladies of all ages and stages in life are welcome. This group is chaired by Julie Train and Justine Regnier.

**Club Estates Garden Club** - Historic Brookhaven’s garden club is for ladies in the neighborhood who are interested in studying flowers, gardening tips, civic beautification and social activities with ladies in the neighborhood. This club was established in 1939 and the current president is Cheryl Durham. If you are interested in joining you must live in Historic Brookhaven and be nominated by an active member. To learn more visit [clubestatesgardenclub.com](http://clubestatesgardenclub.com).

**HBNA Events** - Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association Events committee holds two events annually for the neighborhood and contributes to other events in the neighborhood. The Annual Street Party is a fun fall celebration with cocktails, food trucks, music and kid activities that all ages will enjoy. The Spring General Meeting is held by HBNA board members to update neighbors of projects and progress throughout the neighborhood. The meeting starts with cocktails and social time and then a guest speaker. Please reach out to Rebecca Harvill for more information.

### Brookhaven Security Association (BSA) Update

BSA recently updated their Board of Directors.

Deborah Wurtsbaugh	<a href="mailto:dwurts65@yahoo.com">dwurts65@yahoo.com</a>	314-422-0178
Kea Whatley	<a href="mailto:keawhat@aol.com">keawhat@aol.com</a>	843-408-8704
Mike O’Kelly	<a href="mailto:mikeokelley@bellsouth.net">mikeokelley@bellsouth.net</a>	404-374-3710
Susan Helms	<a href="mailto:susanrhelms@outlook.com">susanrhelms@outlook.com</a>	404-317-0068

Remember to call the Vacation Line if you are going to be out of town and want our off-duty police officers to look in on your property : 404-365-8196.





## Women's Bible Study

The Brookhaven Bible Study was started in January of 2011 as a way for the women of Brookhaven to get to know one another and to study the Bible together. From the beginning, we have enjoyed welcoming new members and studying the Bible, sharing our prayer concerns, doing service in the community and having times of fun and fellowship!

For several years now, we have enjoyed participating in Samaritan's Purse's Boxes of Love project. We purchase small toys and gather one evening in November to pack the toys into shoeboxes for boys and girls around the world. The evening is fun and festive and a great way to kick off the Christmas season! In addition, we have also enjoyed serving dinner at both Trinity Community Ministries and Covenant House as well as collecting new household items for residents moving out of Atlanta Mission's transitional program.

This group loves socializing together! Each Spring, we close out our year of study with a Spring Breakfast and each Christmas, we enjoy a time of fellowship at a festive Christmas breakfast. In addition, last year, we had a wonderful New Member's Luncheon in January and a retreat at Lake Burton in April, as well as a Couple's Dinner Party in the Spring!



Women in the Bible study are very warm and welcoming, and we are thrilled that the group includes those who are first investigating faith as well as those who have studied the Bible for years. All are invited! January is a great time to join us as we have had a break for the holidays, and we will be starting a new study! We meet each Thursday morning from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at St. James Methodist Church, and our first meeting of the year was Thursday, January 11th at 8 a.m. While our meeting time is early, many find it convenient to go on to work or other commitments afterwards. Please join us! You can simply come to our first meeting or for questions or more information, please contact Suzy Brister at [suzbrister@aol.com](mailto:suzbrister@aol.com).





## Welcome New Neighbors

Jaimi and Michael Sharkey  
 Nelson Franklin  
 Steve Short  
 Barbara Vazquez  
 James Matthews  
 Meaghan and Richard Sorenson  
 Aushlee and Aston Motes  
 Nancy Rafuse  
 Juli-Ann Stickney  
 James Mullins  
 Lindsay and Bynum Jaeger  
 Marc and Christine Castelo  
 Greg and Kati Weller  
 Steven Aiello  
 Carolyn and Robert Schaffer  
 Monica Aguirre  
 Susan and Murray Van Lear  
 Shawn and Jennifer Ryan  
 Rachel Cropper and Jorge Griswold  
 Carolina Amaya and Marcello Boffi  
 Roberto and Sara Mercade  
 Brady Young

1188 Bellaire Drive  
 1167 Brookgate Way  
 8 Brookhaven Drive  
 3667 Brookhaven Manor Crossing  
 2470 Brookhaven Place  
 4582 Club Circle  
 3907 Club Drive  
 4436 Club Drive  
 1063 Club Place  
 4590 Club Terrace  
 4630 Club Valley Drive  
 4569 East Brookhaven Drive  
 1109 Fuller Road  
 1088 Hunters Brook Court  
 1049 Mabry Oaks Drive  
 2799 Mabry Road  
 3726 Paige Way  
 4115 Peachtree Dunwoody Road  
 999 Stovall Boulevard  
 4339 Town Commons Circle  
 4270 West Club Lane  
 934 Winall Down Road

*If you are a new neighbor and have not been listed, please email Mark Roberts at [maroberts65@yahoo.com](mailto:maroberts65@yahoo.com).*

### HBNA General Meeting Save the Date

On the evening of **Tuesday, April 9, 2024**, HBNA will be hosting its annual Spring General Meeting, which will also include the New Neighbor Welcome cocktail hour. It will be held at Capital City Club. More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches regarding the agenda and guest speakers. Until then, Please mark your calendars! We look forward to seeing another great turnout.

THE KREWE DU FORÊT ANNUAL  
 MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION  
 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

LIVE MUSIC • FREE BEER • GUMBO

SUNDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>

RAIN OR SHINE  
 PARADE: 3:00 PM SHARP  
 PARTY 3:30 PM

Parade Start  
 Club Valley  
 Angelo Drive  
 Angelo Court  
 Lower  
 Upper  
 Party!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!  
 INTERESTED IN JOINING THE KREWE?  
 CONTACT CAPTAIN GENE HOOFF AT GENEHOOFF@GMAIL.COM





## Membership Update

HBNA had a very successful membership drive for 2024. Out of the 1100 homes in Historic Brookhaven, 742 have joined our Association as of 2/7/2024. We ended 2023 with 760 members of the Association and we hope to surpass that number during this year. The following streets had a very high rate of membership renewal:

Angelo Court  
Bellaire Drive  
Brookgate Way  
Brookhaven Court  
Brookhaven Lane  
Brookhaven Walk Way  
Carter Drive  
Club Drive  
Club Terrace

Davidson Avenue  
East Brookhaven Drive  
East Club Lane  
Farmington Lane  
Forest Lane  
Hunters Brook Court  
Lakehaven Drive  
Mabry Road  
Moore's Club Place

Stovall Boulevard  
Town Commons Circle  
Vermont Place  
Vermont Road  
West Brookhaven Drive  
West Club Drive  
West Club Lane  
Winall Down Road

### The following streets had a 100% renewal rate:

Bellaire Lane  
Brookhaven Square  
Calvert Lane  
Club Station Drive  
Fuller Road  
One Brookhaven Drive  
Stone Brook Park

Thank you to all neighbors who have paid their \$200 dues for 2024. If you have not yet joined, please go to <https://www.historic-brookhaven.org/join--pay-dues.html> and pay your dues today. You can also send a check made out to HBNA to:

HBNA  
4062 Peachtree Road  
Suite A Box 427  
Brookhaven, GA 30319







## A Conversation with Madeleine Simmons Regarding City of Brookhaven

*You ran for Council unopposed this year, which is great. But if you'd had opposition, what points about your goals and aspirations for COB would you have told the voters about?*

I truly love serving our community. We have been busy over the past four years, improving and expanding parks and greenspace (including Brookhaven Park ownership, finally!), supporting our police department through the expansion of the mental health and crisis intervention department and innovative drone program, working with our small businesses during Covid to find creative ways to keep their doors open safely, re-paving tired streets, encouraging connectivity with new sidewalks, beautifying neighborhoods and everything in between! Brookhaven is a wonderful place to live because we have high standards for our City and community. Over these next four years I will continue to prioritize the importance of maintaining the high level of services our neighbors have grown to expect. I will also continue to look for ways we can improve our quality of life in Brookhaven, through solutions on traffic, storm-water, and other day-to-day issues that overall impact our community.

*What do you see as important for the next 5 years for Brookhaven? Can you envision further out?*

Continuing the conversation on connectivity I believe will be a benefit to our neighbors. The multi-use path on Ashford Dunwoody will soon be complete from Johnson Ferry to Peachtree Road, to North Druid Hills, to Briarwood and down to the Peachtree Creek Greenway. We have wonderful businesses and restaurants in Town Brookhaven, Dresden Village, Porter Square and the Dresden Entertainment district, but currently, it is difficult to get to them for pedestrians, bikers, walkers and those not in a car. CHOA will soon break ground on the pedestrian bridge that will go over Interstate 85 and depending on its success, perhaps that is something we can look at building across Peachtree Road, to better connect the Dresden area with the businesses and neighborhoods across Peachtree Road.

*Can you tell us what's going to be in the new City Center and what won't? Will it be similar to Sandy Spring's where they have event space?*

Yes, in part of the city centre planning, there was extensive community engagement through pop-ups around town, meetings, surveys and social media. It was very clear that Brookhaven residents were interested in an indoor/outdoor community space where people could gather and attend events like movies on the green, artist/farmers markets, live music and cocktails and everyday activities like meetups at the coffee shop, which will be inside the building. Roughly 60% of the space will be for the community. Additionally, city administration offices and city council meetings will be there. There have been rumors that the Dekalb Library on N. Druid Hills will be moved to that space but is not accurate. Dekalb County owns the library and has plans to re-build it at its current location.

*Continued next page →*





***Traffic is a major concern for our residents. What do the Mayor and City Council plan to do to rectify the congestion on Peachtree/N. Druid Hills and Dresden? Any plan to improve the Duncan Donuts exit on Brookhaven Drive?***

We have already been discussing with GDOT and our Traffic Department ways to improve this intersection. Changing the traffic light timing and “don’t block the box” striping are just two of the options being considered. They are still considering the matter and we can expect some improvements in the near future. Also, I am keenly aware of the cut-through traffic our neighbors experience. I am committed to exploring creative solutions to help lighten and/or remedy the increased cut-through traffic in our neighborhoods.

***Can you give us an update on the City’s plan to improve the Peachtree Road corridor. What’s the timeline on that?***

There was a Peachtree LCI improvement plan approved several years ago but it was never funded. I don’t think we’ll see the total re-vamp of the Peachtree corridor that the plan called for. What I anticipate seeing is an improvement at the Peachtree and Osborne intersection after the re-do of Brookhaven Park is completed and funding becomes available. We’ll have a beautiful new park but congestion to get into it and out of it. Re-doing that intersection should help considerably.

***Now that St. Martin’s has backed out of the Morrison Farms land, we’ve heard multiple different things that the city intends for the property. Can you tell us what is planned?***

The City purchased the land in early 2024 as part of our initiative to preserve and expand our City’s green space. Thank you to Mayor Park and my fellow councilmembers for supporting me in purchasing it! There have apparently been rumors that it might be sold for housing development but those rumors are false. Initially, it will be cleaned up and maintained for the neighbors to enjoy, as one of the City of Brookhaven’s goals is to have a park within a 10-minute walk of all residents. Down the line, if and when funding becomes available, community engagement will begin to see if there is an appetite to program it into a more formal park space.

***Brookhaven Park is still under construction. Is it on schedule?***

I am ecstatic that the Brookhaven Park improvements are well on their way!! It is a year long construction schedule that broke ground at the end of summer, 2023, and we anticipate will be completed on time, by end of summer/early fall, 2024. In addition to the new bathrooms, pavilions, paths and totally remodeled and expanded playground, a new community garden space is being installed. It will be for all types of gardeners (old, young, experienced and inexperienced!) and people interested in getting involved should contact me at [madeleine.simmons@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:madeleine.simmons@brookhavenga.gov) For dog lovers, Skyland Park off Dresden has been remodeled and it has a dog park available with partitioned areas for small and large dogs.

