# Northcrest News





# Hi, I'm Meg

As a Northcrest homeowner and REALTOR®, I'm thrilled to help keep my neighbors informed on our local market conditions and guide them towards making the best decisions for their real estate investments!

MEG COUNCILMAN REAL ESTATE

right where you belong

Want to stay up-to-date on the latest real estate happenings in our neighborhood?

Scan to sign up for a monthly Northcrest Market Report!



### HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SELLING YOUR HOME? NOW IS THE TIME.

I offer individually-tailored packages:

Free Personalized Consultation • Social Media and Print Advertising • Home Staging Consultation Professional Photography and Video • Your Listing will be Marketed on Over 40,000 Websites

# MEG COUNCILMAN

REALTOR®, Top 10% BHHS Agents Worldwide

c: 404-824-7348 | o: 404-537-5200 Meg.Councilman@BHHSGA.com

# BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

HOMESERVICES

GEORGIA PROPERTIES

www.MegCouncilman.BHHSGA.com

# **A Note From Our President**

Hello, Northcrest Neighbors!

Welcome to 2023, and Spring is springing! All that said, I don't know about you, but I really love winter in Northcrest. Yes, we're all rightly proud of all the trees in our neighborhood. (On that note, do see our January news posting about DeKalb County's tree ordinances on our website's news page at northcrestcivicassociation.com/blogs/news). But the lack of leaves during the colder season does open up some surprising vistas, like being able to see Lori Lane from Hidden Acres Drive, and suddenly noticing house beyond house across the neighborhood. Have you got any photos of your favorite winter neighborhood views. Do send them to us at northcrestcivicassociation@gmail.com, and maybe we can include them in a future issue!

This is the first Northcrest News since the summer of 2022, and, since then, quite a lot has changed. The Northcrest Civic Association, who are responsible for producing this newsletter, has an (almost) entirely new board, including myself! You can find out all about your (mostly new) board members elsewhere on later pages. We really want to get to know all of our members and neighbors better, and we hope you enjoy reading about us! And we do all want each member of the board to be much more visible and accessible to everyone around here - expect to see some yard signs appearing in the near future, so that you can know where your board members live, and can hopefully start putting some names to faces.

You may have quickly noticed that this is a relatively slimmed-down version of the newsletters you might have been used to. Well, that's really a natural consequence of us all having to quickly get to grips with our new roles, picking up where past board members left off, and familiarizing ourselves with all the various tasks the NCA has traditionally taken on. However, when the new board had its first meeting in late October 2022, one thing we all agreed on was that we wanted to continue with the newsletter in some form or other. We all felt that it served as a real glue for the whole community, was a fantastic way to receive information about the neighborhood, and helped to make new arrivals to Northcrest feel welcome and part of something bigger. But we've also realized we probably can't carry on producing the newsletter all on our own. We're looking for any of our neighbors who might be interested in helping out with producing future newsletters. Are you an avid photographer? Do you have an idea for an article? Do you see ways the newsletter could be improved or revamped? We'd love to hear from you, so please get in touch with us at northcrestcivicassoication@gmail.com.

Another thing the new board is very conscious of is that we can't rely solely on the newsletter and Facebook to keep all of our Northcrest neighbors informed. To that end, we're hoping to relaunch the NCA website and make it a much more up-to-date and go-to source of information for everyone. We've also recently set up a Northcrest Civic Association Instagram account (northcrestcivicassociation), and we're even thinking about launching a regular podcast, which would include news, interviews with Northcrest residents, and interesting facts and history about our lovely neighborhood. However - and you may start to notice a recurring theme here - again, to get these ideas up and running, we would love to hear from any one of y'all who might want to get involved. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

As many people know, the pandemic put paid to many of Northcrest's traditional events and gatherings, which have always been a fantastic opportunity to get know all of our neighbors. We are very keen to get these back up and running during 2023. Do head to the website for more details. We're hoping to organize a communal creek clean-up some day when the weather isn't too hot! Also expect to see the return of the 4th of July parade, as well as a block party or two (or three, or more). We hope have the Northcrest 5K back this fall. And I especially wanted to give kudos to our new Social Committee chair, Debbie Talasek, who managed to organize the return of our Black Friday Market back in November, in an incredibly short amount of time! Despite the threat of torrential rain, it was a roaring success, and you can read all about it, and see some photos from the event, elsewhere in the newsletter. And, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, anyone who's interested in helping out with any of our future events, or even has ideas for new ones, just contact us and let us know. We really would love to hear from you.

And, finally, just a quick reminder of what the Northcrest Civic Association is here for. We aim to bring all of our Northcrest neighbors together, respond to community concerns, generally improve the quality of life in the neighborhood, and foster a community spirit. As well as ensuring the return of the Black Friday Market last year, the NCA has worked diligently with Silverbacks Park's management to resolve parking issues on event days, and, of course, our National Register of Historic Places Historic District sign-toppers are now proudly displayed at intersections throughout Northcrest! To help us continue to advocate for the neighborhood and bring it together through our various events, do please remember to renew your NCA membership! Don't forget that membership covers the calendar year, so payments are due by January 1 each year (though of course, we always accept late payments from those who forget or need some nudging!) The easiest way to pay the dues is to go online to our website www.northcrestcivicassocation.com and then click on "membership." We have deliberately kept the membership payment amount the same as in recent years. And, if you have already paid this year, do please encourage your Northcrest friends and neighbors to do the same. \$20 a year is really not so much, and your membership fee means we can all keep celebrating and supporting beautiful Northcrest.

Thank you, everyone, and see you around!

Jo - NCA President

# **Meet The New Board**



### **President - Joachim Hillier**

Hello! My name is Joachim ("Jo" to everyone but my mother) Hillier, and I live on Eaglerock Drive. I moved to Northcrest from Buckhead with my husband, Stuart, in early 2018. I'm originally from London, England. I used to work in the TV industry, and first came to the Atlanta area in 2016 to set up an international office here. When that project finished, I ended up staying because I'd fallen in love, and because I liked the city so much. I went back to college at GSU, got a Master's degree, and now I'm an architectural historian working at an environmental consultancy firm. That means I get to travel around Georgia and South Carolina documenting old buildings, farms, cemeteries, you name it... You'll probably most likely see me around the neighborhood out for a run, or taking my lovely little dog, Hildy, out for a walk. Please say hi!

## **Vice President - Jazmine Neary**



HI! My name is Jazmine Neary. My husband Thomas and I bought our first home in Northcrest last summer. We live on Foxford Drive with our three-year-old chocolate Lab, Winnie. You may see us on our after dinner walk around the neighborhood so feel free to say hello!

I am a lobbyist with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, advocating for the medical needs for all of Georgia's children. I've been working in government relations for 7 years and have a passion for public policy. In my spare time I can be found tending to our garden and compost pile, reading a book in the hammock or up in North Georgia hiking the AT. I am excited to be a member of the Northcrest Civic Association and look forward to serving our neighborhood.



### **Secretary - Sarah Phaff**

Hello! My name is Sarah and we moved to Northcrest from Midtown in 2021. I am involved on the alumni board at my undergraduate university, Oglethorpe University (Go Stormy Petrels!), and have loved being back in the area. I love exploring all the food and drinks the neighborhood has to offer! We are real foodies in our house. You will see me walking the neighborhood with my Springer Spaniel or enjoying the pool right here in Northcrest. Please stop and say hi!

## **Treasurer - Holly Golebiowski**



Hello! My name is Holly G (since nobody can pronounce my last name!) I live on Northcrest Rd with my husband, Piotr. We moved in during the fall of 2020. I'm originally from Northwest Ohio and my husband from Warsaw, Poland. Our move to the Greater Atlanta area was supposed to be temporary but we fell in love with the people, weather and all the things to do! I own and manage Emerald Property Management and I am an Executive Coach as well. I am lucky enough to operate both businesses from my home here in Northcrest. We tend to spend most of our weekends on our boat on Lake Lanier but we hope to get to meet more of our neighbors in the Northcrest Community and have a reason to hang here some weekends! My husband and I enjoy walks around the neighborhood and hope to meet many of you soon!



### **Director - Debbie Talasek**

I moved to Northcrest from Culver City, CA on August 2, 2014. Before moving to Georgia, I lived in the Los Angeles area for 24 years. It's always challenging to start over in a new city, but my Northcrest neighbors were so welcoming and friendly, I knew I had landed in the right place. A few months later, my husband Paul and I were married in our home on Northlake Trail. I'm a musician (pianist/singer/songwriter) and I've owned a private piano studio for about 29 years. I teach several Northcrest kiddos and truly love the studio I've been able to develop here. My students and most friends know me as Debbie Talasek but I use the name "Debra Tala" on social media. And yes, you can call me Deb! I'm looking forward to meeting more neighbors this year and helping to bring back several of the events that we have enjoyed over the years.



### **Director - Laura Baker**

LHey Y'all, I grew up in Northcrest back when Doraville was still "a touch a country in the city." After 30+ years over in Gwinnett County, I returned with my husband and most of our 5 kids to my "childhood home." Recently I joined the financial services and estate planning industry, and am enjoying new challenges daily. My husband and I are truly enjoying the blessings of life and looking forward to the adventures to come.



### **Director - Laura DeBuys**

Hello! I have been a resident of Northcrest since April 2021. The community already established here is a real rarity, and I wanted to get involved since we plan to be here a while. I live here with my husband, Sean, and our son and daughter. I work remotely as a data analyst, but am much more passionate about home projects, anything having to do with food, and reading library books.



# Immediate Last President - Chuck Hunt (Legacy Member)

Hi. I'm Chuck, better known as Elsa's husband, and I'm pleased to be serving again on our neighborhood civic association board. Elsa and I have been neighbors here in Northcrest since 1979, raising our two children, David and Cristina, who both now reside with their families in the greater Tucker area. In addition to serving on our association board, I currently serve on Commissioner Patrick's District One Community Council, looking out for our interests on current zoning matters. Elsa and I love the excitement and diversity of all the new families that have moved to Northcrest the past few years, and can't wait to see where all our new neighbors and association members take the association in the future.

# **Membership Drive**

The Northcrest Civic Association (NCA) is currently rebuilding our membership. If your household was a member of the NCA in the past but you haven't joined or renewed for 2023, we need you to join again. If you're new to the neighborhood, we'd love for you to join us. Membership for the rest of this year is only \$20.

What the heck is the Northcrest Civic Association anyway???

First and foremost, the Northcrest Civic Association is not an HOA. We are not in the business of limiting your choice of exterior paint color or measuring the height of your lawn. Secondly, we are a separate and different type of organization from the Northcrest Swim & Tennis Club, although they graciously allow the NCA to host events there.

The NCA is a community organization founded by neighbors to foster harmonious relationships within Northcrest and engage in activities that bring our neighborhood together. We serve as a liaison with governmental and nongovernmental entities and give voice to Northcrest when a serious issue affects us, such as tracking re-zoning requests impacting the neighborhood.

Your membership helps support and fund community events and social activities. We need our membership numbers to increase so we can best serve our awesome neighborhood. We have several goals on the horizon, one of which is establishing a plaque for Northcrest Historic District, which was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 2017 which was also a NCA project.

We welcome your input and participation! Your membership in the Northcrest Civic Association grants you a platform for your opinions and an organization in which to utilize your talents and ideas. We encourage you to visit www.northcrestcivicassociation.com to learn more about us and join!

### This QR code will take you directly to our sign up page:

Or go directly to our website @ https://northcrestcivicassociation.com/products/renew-membership



# **Upcoming Events**

### April/May

Keep Northcrest Beautiful - Creek cleaning project to remove trash and debris to prevent blockages and potential flooding. Sign and street cleaning day.

#### June

2024 Black Friday Market Design Contest - Calling all artists! We are looking for a new design to be used on posters, social media and t-shirts. Thanks to our neighbor Becca Barnes for this fabulous idea!

### July

July 4th Parade - We welcome floats, classic cars, decorated golf carts, bicycle brigades and decked out strollers! We also welcome any and all musicians to play in the Northcrest Marching Band. If it rolls or marches, you're in the parade. Of course, we need spectators too! If you play an instrument, or even the kazoo, please email us at northcrestcivicassociation@gmail.com to let us know you're interested in participating.

### **August**

Pop-up Party! - Be on the lookout for a sudden fun time in the neighborhood!

### September/October

Northcrest Atomic Dash 5K - The Northcrest Civic Association and the Northcrest Swim & Tennis Club will pull together to make this fun event a success in the fall. Did you know that Northcrest has a certified 5K course that is a qualifier for the Peachtree Road Race? Now you do!

Stay tuned for more details on all of these activities and events!

Do you have any ideas for events you would like to see? Or would you like to assist in holding events? Email us @

northcrestcivicassociation@gmail.com

# Black Friday Holiday Market 2022

By Debbie Talasek

The return of the Northcrest Black Friday Holiday Market was a highlight of 2022. After being dormant for 3 years due to the Covid pandemic, we were motivated to try to bring it back to life. There was much uncertainty whether we could interest vendors again and have enough of them to qualify as a true market. Would our neighbors turn out and help make it the success it once was?

The Black Friday Holiday Market was begun in 2016 and ran for 4 consecutive years, growing and becoming more popular with each one. The annual event was the brainchild of one of our former neighbors, Deb Knott. (Many of us have Deb to thank for so many of Northcrest's past activities and events.) Along with approximately 30 vendors selling their arts, crafts and goodies, the Market was also a place for Santa to set up for photos with our neighborhood kiddos and hear their Christmas wish lists.

After the new NCA board was inducted in September, one of our first decisions was whether to bring back the Market. Our decision was unanimous and with much hope, we began contacting the past year's vendors one by one. The responses were immediate and positive. Most often heard were "I LOVED that market" and "I'm so glad it's happening again!" In the end, we were able to reserve over 30 vendors for our Market's comeback.





Of course, Atlanta's weather had other ideas. We had several days of off again, on again rain prior to Thanksgiving. The forecast for Black Friday called for rain in the morning, which would be occurring during set up. Even so, we still managed to have over 25 vendors show up and, like magic, the sun started shining just before the Market opened!

Another special annual event returned on Black Friday. Santa took a ride around Northcrest on a DeKalb County Fire Department truck before landing at the Market. Special thanks to our local firefighters for coordinating with the Northcrest Civic Association for the reinstatement of this neighborhood tradition.

Another special thanks goes to Michele Baker and Peach Slice Creatives for their drone footage of the Black Friday Holiday Market. The NCA will be adding this to our website and our social media sites soon so be on the lookout!

We would also like to thank each and every vendor for participating in the Black Friday Market this year. If you were able to attend and support the return of the Market, we thank you too. Looking forward to the SIXTH annual Black Friday Holiday Market in November 2023!

# Halloween in Northcrest 2022

By Debbie Talasek



# The Haunted Trail

By Paige Lozier



The Haunted Trail of Northcrest started on a whim as we sat around the pool late summer 2021, dreaming of cooler fall days and the fun activities that come with them. In 2020, two families that back up to the Northcrest Swim & Tennis Club property hosted small, COVID-friendly Halloween parties and coincidentally each had a "haunted trail" for their guests. We began brainstorming how awesome it would be to combine the trails, using all the woods behind their properties, for a neighborhood-wide fundraising event to benefit the Club. Trails were cleared, props were made, scare actors were procured, and costumes were donned. Rain postponed the event until the week after Halloween, but the crowd was still strong. We returned in 2022 bigger and better, with a longer trail, a larger group of volunteers, and more hair-raising scares! It even turned out to be one of the most profitable fundraisers for the Northcrest Swim & Tennis Club last year. We'll be back next fall with more antics, so join us in the field at dusk for bonfires, hot dogs, s'mores, and other treats. Then...if you dare...enter the woods with care. For what awaits you is sure to SCARE!!!!



# Northcrest Swim and Tennis Club

In 1962, Northcrest was a very new, quiet oasis away from the rapidly growing city of Atlanta. Young families were getting their start and looking for a common place to spend time together. Led primarily by several garden club members, neighbors worked hard to secure land, recruit local talent and raise funds to create the Northcrest Swim and Tennis Club.

Members have come and gone through the years and countless volunteers have invested significant sweat equity into making this private club a safe and beautiful place for members to enjoy time with friends and family. Now entering its seventh decade of operation, the latest generation of volunteers and supporters have been busy over the past year and a half directing the largest remodeling project in club history.

#### **NEW POOL**

After lengthy discussions with membership, tedious planning with contractors and county officials, primary work on a completely new, 105,000-gallon pool and 2,000 wading pool is now complete. Over the winter, crews took both pools down to their foundations and rebuilt every working part, including all-new, modern filtration systems that will keep it sparkling all summer long. The shells of both pools have been completely replastered and final curing is being handled with care.

#### **NEW AMENETIES**

These completely NEW pool facilities are just the latest additions made over the past few years. An enormous pavilion is now host to a healthy calendar of social events, private party reservations and impromptu BBQ gatherings among neighbors.

If there was anything that members learned from the recent pandemic, it's that having seven acres of private, park-like space within walking distance from home is more valuable than ever. Members have really made great use of the space to enjoy peaceful nature walks on over 1,000 feet of new trails, practice their favorite sport with neighbors or teach their kids to ride a bike on Christmas Day in a safe, controlled environment.

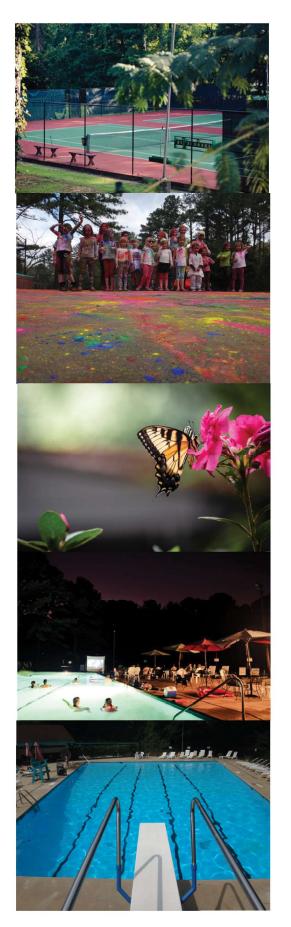
Northcrest Club is so much more than "the pool." It's a place where friends and neighbors "work from home" on blazing fast Wi-Fi, meet for weeknight dinners, learn to play tennis, exercise, fly kites, launch model rockets, join a soccer match, take in a dive-in movie, camp with friends, tailgate during football season, observe so many beautiful species of wildlife or just... BE their happiest.

#### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Whether you are new to the community or just never got around to exploring the full potential of what this amazing neighborhood has to offer, Northcrest Club invites you to be your happiest. Join the club and join the fun. Learn more at northcrestclub.com or contact a board volunteer at membership@northcrestclub.com.

Membership options range from full club access to tennis and grounds only packages, to meet the needs of any individual or family. Join today and discover your new favorite place to recharge the mind and spirit without the need for car keys or all-day commitments. Members come and go as they please in a club that has become an extension of their own backyard.

We hope to see you this spring - The Northcrest Swim and Tennis Club Board



# Pleasantdale Elementary Update

Pleasantdale's 2023 Career Day was an absolute success! Our students enjoyed learning about various careers. A special thank you to the entire Northcrest Community for their continuous support of Pleasantdale Elementary!

Please view these photos from our wonderful Career Day! Thanks for all you do!

We have two more volunteer opportunities this school year where we would love to see some Northcrest Civic Association Members.

#### May 1 - 5, 2023 Scholastic Book Fair

Please contact Pleasantdale's Teacher Librarian, Elizabeth Wagner (Elizabeth\_Wagner@dekalbschoolsga.org), if you are interested in volunteering to help students find books, run the cash register or set up the book fair.

#### May 4-5, 2023 Field Day

Please contact Pleasantdale's Physical Education Coach, Dwight Villafane (dwight\_l\_villafane@dekalbschoolsga.org), if you are interested in volunteering to help with a station during field day. To make field day successful and fun, we are in need of a lot of volunteers. Please consider coming out to help!



# Tidbits and other notes

Calling all volunteers: Do you have a skill set that you think could help the NCA? We are always looking for volunteers for everything from putting together the newsletter, finding advertisers, photography, planning events to hosting get togethers!

Northcrest Civic Assocation

Find us on
Instagram to follow
news and tag us on
Northcrest posts!
@northcrestcivicas
socation.



**Northcrest Civic Assocation** 

Have you completed a unique renovation to your home? Or have you solved a problem that likely other owners in our neighborhood have faced? If yes, please let us know so we can include in future issues!

**Northcrest Civic Assocation** 

Happy Spring! From your NCA Board!

Northcrest Civic Association

find us on facebook for the latest news and tag us on Northcrest posts! Northcrest Civic Assocation.



Northcrest Civic Assocation

Membership Dues: This QR Code will take you directly to our six

page!



**Northcrest Civic Assocation** 

Is there a topic or update you would like to see in this newsletter in the future? If yes please let us know! We are open to new ideas and content!

Northcrest Civic Assocation

Do you have a home that we could showcase in future issues? If interested email us at northcrestcivicassoci ation@gmail.com

Northcrest Civic Assocation

Did you know that we post real time updates on local and county news on our website? Click on "news" to see the latest info!

Northcrest Civic Assocation

Are you an original or long time resident to Northcrest? We would like to interview you for future issues!

Northcrest Civic Assocation

We welcome feedback! Please let us know if you have any suggestions for the future on how we can better serve our community!

**Northcrest Civic Association** 

Would you like to advertise in future issues? If yes please let us know! Please send us an email!

Northcrest Civic Assocation



#### ST PATRICK'S PARADE

MARCH 11

atlantastpats.com

#### SPRING FESTIVAL ON PONCE

APRIL 1-2

festivalonponce.com

#### SANDY SPRINGS ARTSAPALOOZA SPRING

APRIL 8-9

sandyspringsartsapalooza.com

#### ATLANTA DOGWOOD FESTIVAL

APRIL 8-10

dogwood.org

#### **GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL**

APRIL 15 - JUNE 4

www.garenfest.com

#### ATLANTA FILM FESTIVAL

**APRIL 20-30** 

www.atlantafilmfestival.com

#### INMAN PARK FESTIVAL

**APRIL 28-30** 

festival.inmanpark.org

#### **DULUTH SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL**

**APRIL 29-30** 

www.duluthartsfestival.com

#### SWEETWATER 420 FEST

APRIL 29 - MAY 1

sweetwater420fest.com

#### SHAKY KNEES MUSIC FESTIVAL

APRIL 29 - MAY 1

www.shakykneesfestival.com

#### DECATUR ARTS FESTIVAL

MAY 5-7

decaturartsfestival.com

#### **ROSWELL SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL**

MAY 6-7

www.roswellartfestival.com

#### SWEET AUBURN SPRINGFEST

MAY 7-8

www.sweetauburn.com

#### CHASTAIN PARK SPRING **ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL**

MAY 14-15

chastainparkartsfestival.com

#### ATLANTA CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL

MAY 27

www.atlantacarnival.org

#### ATLANTA JAZZ FESTIVAL

MAY 28-30

atljazzfest.com