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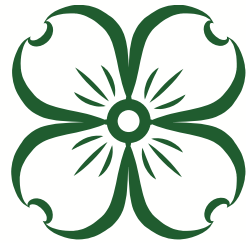
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COMMUNITY CORNER

Get updates on groups and events in and around the neighborhood



HISTORIC BROOKHAVEN

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Police Chief of the Year in Georgia *Brookhaven- Chief Gary Yandura*

Congratulations to Brookhaven Police Chief Gary Yandura! Chief Yandura was recently named Police Chief of the year in Georgia. This award is generated after receiving nominations from police departments throughout Georgia. "Chief Yandura is one of Brookhaven's pioneering leaders," Mayor John Ernst said in a press release. "Through his leadership, the Brookhaven Police Department has become a model for other jurisdictions to follow."

Brookhaven reporter article –

<https://bit.ly/2YgsEIA>

Stephanie McGarity recently interviewed Chief Gary Yandura to get a better understanding of the challenges they are facing during these turbulent times.

What are the policing challenges you are facing in these current times?

The diversity of the Brookhaven police department officers is the same or very similar to the population of the city. They have developed relationships with General Council of Mexico and the Latin America Association. They also have the full support from the mayor and city council.

One thing the citizens interested in this subject can do would be to follow the Brookhaven Police Department Facebook page – Transparency Project Initiative. Starting on June 5, they posted for a six-day period talking about transparency in the police department. Chief Yandura did the first segment and officers did the next segments. Attorney General Chris Carr called Chief Yandura with high praise of this Initiative.

The best way to learn about Brookhaven Police Department is to attend The Citizens Police Academy which requires attendance 1 day a week for 10 weeks. One gets a snapshot of police training, management, and operations of the department. Participants learn about police functions, investigations, traffic enforcement, use of deadly force, and crime scene investigations. You even go to the range and you get a T-shirt!



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Visit our website for more information at:

HistoricBrookhaven.org





Interview with Chief Yandura continued...

The biggest problem currently facing the department is the homeless. The number of homeless and crimes involved around the homeless are spiking. In addition to this, copper in air conditioning unit thefts in new construction is increasing.

How has the pandemic affected the police department?

One officer is in daily communication with DEMA (DeKalb County Emergency Management) as all officers are out there on duty 24/7. They have a contract with a company that supplies them with COVID self-test kits and they transport the tests to the lab, and get the results right away.

“We changed how we respond to some calls. If it can be handled over the phone, then it is. Daily Roll Call is not in person. Each officer is in his/her vehicle during roll call. Civilian employees are still working from home. Detectives are doing follow ups from home to keep everyone as healthy as possible and are only called in for serious cases.”



What can Historic Brookhaven neighbors do to support BPD?

The Chief asks that we as neighbors support the Brookhaven Police Department Foundation. “A \$28K check from The Foundation allows us to add 2 more Canines units so there will be a canine unit on every shift. Canines have been great and have apprehended several suspects and have been involved in more than 40 arrests and helped us seize over \$100,000 worth of illegal narcotics.”

Chief Yandura stated that he feels the support of the local community. “We get meals delivered every day from someone or group. We get letters, cards, posters to hang on the walls. One neighborhood had organized a BBQ for not just the officers but included their families but it was cancelled because of the uptick in COVID. The pandemic is not only hard on the officers but it affects their families as well.”

What should we individually do to be as safe as possible?

“Stop leaving valuables in the car. No purses, no guns, and no jewelry should ever be left in the car. The number of guns stolen from cars is crazy.”

What are the new technologies being utilized by the Brookhaven Police?

“We have 2 new cars per shift equipped with “Star Chase”. The system is mounted inside the grill of the car and the control panel is mounted inside the car, so once the officer gets close enough, say to a stolen car, the officer shoots a laser and ejects a projectile at the stolen car. It is sticky, has a magnet and GPS in it so the car can be tracked and identified. It’s an expensive system but it will eventually save lives by reducing the number of high-speed car chases. Supporting the BPD Foundation is one way to fund more Star Chase systems.”



Police products article - <https://bit.ly/2Q3gnfR>

“There is more technology on the way. I just can’t release it yet but it will be soon and it’s amazing.”

“Last year, 40 stolen autos were recovered worth \$650,000 with the use of License Plate Readers and Cameras throughout the city.” Historic Brookhaven installed this system 3 years ago and it has been a great help to both the City of Brookhaven and the City of Atlanta as they try to prevent crimes in and around our neighborhood.





Dr. EJ Aspuru: *A Neighborhood Physician speaks to the challenges of COVID*

Dr. EJ Aspuru, OB/GYN Northside Hospital interviews with Courtney Schickel.

We hear so much information about the pandemic, some of it contradictory and confusing. What are the straight forward or simple things families need to stay safe?

1. Wear a mask. Studies show that if you are an asymptomatic carrier that you will lower the risk of exposing innocent victims. Two people wear a mask, even better and the exposure is reduced or stays very low. If we all wear a mask, we can help reduce the spread.
2. Clean your hands. Ideally washing them - if you can't wash them with soap and water then using sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol is effective. Do one of these before/after bathrooms, changing mask, touching your face, computers, touching common things, going to a gym
3. Maintain the 6 feet apart distance. (Note: we were sitting a good 6 ft from each other). Maintain that proper distance, it's like 2 arm lengths away from others. You are less likely to get exposed at this distance. With kids, outside, in a restaurant....keeping that space will help maintain your safety, much more than being in a crowded area. In regard to outdoors versus indoors, the outdoors is much safer. If I am going to dine out, I am looking for outside seating. Ideally, we are avoiding situations where you know you can't maintain these parameters - make sure you can control this if venturing out.
4. High Risk situation - just stay home. (Pregnant, immuno-compromised, elderly) If you know you are at risk, just stay in. Try to find ways to reduce your risk, if you can work from home, use delivery services, order take out, telemedicine, try to find ways to avoid the public - do your part.

How is the pandemic affecting your business and your patients?
OBGYN - so there is some built in longevity there, but now dealing with psychological issues that we were not before. Often family members are relied upon, to be part of the support and watching other children, supporting the new mothers, right now this is not as possible. Often families come to help (as long as 6 months in some families or grandparents visit or they are dependent upon help) and you need the additional support but that cannot happen with the restrictions and guidelines in place. So, determining what the priorities are for the patient is most important. Is it the husband or a labor support person that needs to be there? do the grandparents need to self-quarantine for 3 weeks? what can we do to create a plan to support these needs. We are focusing on the ways we can help them feel supported despite any restrictions. First-time parents, or first-time grandparents - can't participate in the ways they were anticipating. Also seeing a lot of anxiety and



depression in patients overall on they GYN side. Adding to the marriage stressors or going through a crisis. As a Gyn, you are seeing a lot of anxiety or depression increased in our patients in dealing with being home and dealing with the stress of the isolation or quarantine challenges. A lot of scenarios that can make or break a marriage through all of this.

What do you anticipate the long-term impacts to your business being?

I think we will see more work from home options, telemedicine will become more and more popular. Certain facets of medicine like psychiatry, or simple things like incision checks, they don't have to actually come in. Post-partum depression, contraceptive counseling, several scenarios can all be accomplished through telemedicine as long as insurance companies continue to reimburse it. Secretaries, schedulers, many parts of the office will run from home. Families may start doing more in their homes. playing games, watching movies, instead of going out. People are more focused on the home and family unit.

Neighborhood Street Party: Postponed

We will let you know once new date is determined.



Interview with Dr. EJ Aspuru continued...



I hear pool sales are through the roof right now! People are exercising from home and getting creative, using remote trainers, treadmills, bands, outdoor activities. Learning we don't have to get in a car and travel to do things. Maybe that's part of the silver lining. We see families cooking fun meals together, buying groceries, spending more time as a family cooking. And people will hopefully continue to do this. Our neighborhood specifically - out walking, meeting more neighbors now. Walking dogs, seeing kids out and about. The traffic - good and bad! There are so many people out in the streets so obviously drive slower but we see more people enjoying the area. People in their yards, sitting outside enjoying a drink while making small talk to people passing by. We pay more attention to things around us, we look at the architecture and details of all the homes and we really appreciate what a great neighborhood this truly is.

What is a common misconception about the pandemic that you find you have to clear up with people you talk to?

People only need to be concerned about themselves. As a young healthy non-immunocompromised person - the general misconception is that you don't need to worry about yourself, but you go home to your parent, or your grandparent and you give it to them. It's very self-indulgent to think that it only involves you. So when you see the young spring breakers or stories of parties/games of teens being careless - they are exposing their families. The other thing people don't consider is that there is nothing worse than dying alone, if you have corona virus and you are in the hospital, they don't let your wife or children visit you in the ICU - you are totally alone. For someone to feel life escaping them and they are shutting down, to not have a family member with them is tragic. And we can't predict who that person is going to be that is going to get it. No one wants to die alone, people want their loved ones around and people want to be able to say goodbye. If people realize this, it should hit home. It's changed the grieving process as well.

Direct affect or other medical affects that people don't think about- People are dealing with the direct effect of the livelihood of their businesses, we see alcoholism creeping back in, depression from the corona virus, people have put off medical conditions for months because they were afraid to be seen. And then because they put it off for months, a woman with a breast lump that delayed getting checked may now have a more serious condition. A person may now die of cancer, but if they were taking care of themselves in the months before instead of waiting to be seen - could there have been a better outcome? It is part of the ripple that is related to the effects of corona virus.

When we all look back on this pandemic in five years, what do you think the main lessons we would have learned from the experience?

I think it is allowing us in some ways to Press the Reset Button. Which is needed. Spouses and families are reconnecting in ways because the distractions aren't there that we were accustomed to in our day to day. Reorienting as parents, looking at what my child needs, what can we do as a family? It's allowed us to look internally at our families and re-engage. From a work perspective people will continue to be more efficient and continue to find ways to work remotely.

I think people will learn to be more cognizant of our actions and the ripple effects on our loved ones. Less self-indulgent lives, more encompassing of those around us.



Vermont Park Progress

We are excited to announce that the clean-up of Vermont Park is almost complete, and we will be landscaping the point of the park this fall. Additionally, we will install another granite retaining wall and planting this fall at the Carter Drive park.



Membership Updates: Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association

Got Leaves?

Please remind/instruct your yard crews not to blow leaves down the storm drains. And if you do use leaf bags for street pickup, do not place them in front of storm drains where they block the water flow.

Leaves washed into local streams decay and release phosphorus into the water. This causes an overgrowth of aquatic plants and algae. Both the decay process and the additional plant growth lead to a decrease in the water oxygen levels necessary to support fish and aquatic life.

Instead of putting leaves into streets, storm drains or drainage ditches, consider composting the old leaves. That will help save our streams and benefit your plants from all the rich compost.

Total number of households in Historic Brookhaven 1098

1/3 Dekalb
2/3 Fulton

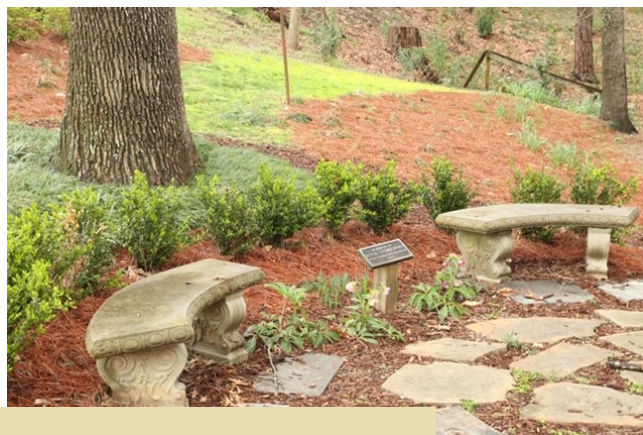
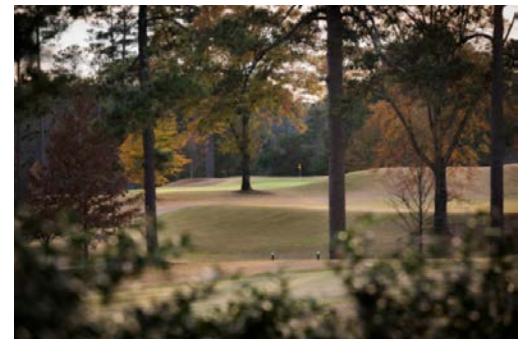
728 members of HBNA for 2020 or 2/3 of all households

Streets with 100% membership participation:

Bellaire Drive
Bellaire Lane
Brookhaven Square
Calvert Lane
Fuller Road
Hunters Brook Court
One Brookhaven Drive
Stone Brook Park

In October, HBNA will be mailing out the invoices for the 2021 dues. Along with the invoices, we will send out the information that we have for each household.

This information is very important as it is the source that is used to print our neighborhood directory (distributed in February to all members). Membership dues go to support all the initiatives within the neighborhood, including cameras and license plate readers.



THE "RULES OF THE ROAD"

Walk/jog on the left facing traffic.

Bike on the right rolling with traffic.

And if you're driving a car, please observe the speed limit.





Keep Brookhaven Beautiful

We are excited to announce that we are starting a new campaign in the neighborhood. We will attach metal signs to existing metal posts which will say the following:

Keep Brookhaven Beautiful
No littering please

If you walk in the neighborhood you have probably noticed and been bothered by the amount of trash and poop bags thrown on yards, ivy, curbing and lawns particularly at the major entrances to the neighborhood and under bushes around our gorgeous golf course. It is our hope and desire to raise awareness with walkers from Marta, visitors and residents that we need to keep the most beautiful neighborhood in the city as beautiful and inviting as possible.



COVID Reminders

1

Do not dispose of wipes and paper towels (and like items) in the toilets. The sewers are not equipped to handle these. Put them in your household trash (like you did before the quarantine went into place).

2

Remember the 6 foot distancing rule. The sooner we all comply with this the better off we'll all be. This particularly pertains to those outside walking, etc. We're glad you're getting fresh air but the 6' rule still should apply.

3

Lastly, when outside walking, biking, jogging, etc. please observe the rules about which side of the road and stay out of the center of the street. If you're driving through our residential streets, please use extra caution and obey the speed limits (25 in most places).

