If you have questions, please e-mail us at atlantatimebank@gmail.com.

from each other's talents (and we ALL have them) and also help us all build community and exchange services, with an eye toward re-localizing our economy. It's a simple idea -- you earn a Time Dollar for providing a service and you can spend Time Dollars to receive services. But, Time Banking can strengthen our community in many ways. We believe that time banking could go a long way to helping us all benefit from each other's talents (and we ALL have them) and also help us all use our precious (and often scarce) time more efficiently.

If you have questions, please e-mail us at atlantatimebank@gmail.com.

If you'd like to read about what a time bank is, here are a few links you might want to peruse: www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8R6VxksaBY www.timebanks.org/how-it-works.htm

Introducing Ava Harper Capps

Born on February 17 to Corcelles and Scott Capps of Harold Avenue, minus an anticipated trip to heart surgery, this lucky little gal did much healing of a potentially tricky heart ailment in utero and came out in much better shape than anticipated. We are all relieved and grateful to welcome her home so soon! Big sister Scarlett is thrilled.

Happy B-earth Day, Lake Claire!

This issue is chock full of ideas, internet resources and more to help you celebrate Earth Day. Take time to celebrate our heavenly piece of earth and plan how you will up your investment in keeping it heavenly.

BIG Congratulations to Granmaw Gordon and her faithful stewards!

Granmaw Gordon Greenspace gets the GREEN light with a most successful day in court on March 18. We expected a “black or white” ruling and instead we got GREEN! The property owner agrees to work with the neighborhood, and the City of Atlanta gives us until July to work out the details! Litigation is over, so historic status for the tree will be re-applied for and efforts and raised funds will go toward purchase. Many thanks to everyone for their support and hard work.

-Teri Stewart

P.S. If you’d like to help further, please contact Atlanta Journal Constitution and request a follow-up story by contacting Public Editor Matt Kempner at 404-526-5819 or insidejc@ajc.com.

Local Time Bank Forming

A Lake Claire/Candler Park/Little 5 Points group is forming a Time Bank in our neighborhood (and possibly expanding at some point). Time Banking is an interesting way of bringing people together to build community and exchange services, with an eye toward re-localizing our economy. It’s a simple idea -- you earn a Time Dollar for providing a service and you can spend Time Dollars to receive services. But, Time Banking can strengthen our community in many ways. We believe that time banking could go a long way to helping us all benefit from each other's talents (and we ALL have them) and also help us all use our precious (and often scarce) time more efficiently.

If you have questions, please e-mail us at atlantatimebank@gmail.com.

If you’d like to read about what a time bank is, here are a few links you might want to peruse: www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8R6VxksaBY www.timebanks.org/how-it-works.htm

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust as Art

By Charlie Pope

A while back I received a curious request from a small art publication (Deconform) to discuss the Land Trust as Art. I was initially taken aback by the request because although art has always been considered an important component of the Land Trust, until then I had never considered the notion that the Land Trust itself is art. Curiously, once the question was asked I realized that it is. Intrigued by this request I decided to spend a little time gathering my thoughts prior to the interview...

Art is a (product of) human activity, made with the intention of stimulating the human senses as well as the human mind; thus art is an action, an object, or a collection of actions and objects created with the intention of transmitting emotions and/or ideas. (Thanks Wikipedia) Stimulating the senses and inspiring the spirit goes to the heart of the Land Trust. Be it in the gardens or the human collaborations that intertwine to motivate and move us as friends and neighbors. Art can be sensed everywhere. It is seen, heard, felt, smelled and tasted in the gardens, Friday night jam, drum circle, grill, sweat lodge...a cosmic convergence of landscape, structures and people echoing the sounds of work, play, music and exasperation interweaving to breathe magic into our delightful oasis.

The stage, gazebo and drum circle stimulate community activities involving larger dynamic groups while other areas stimulate quiet individual meditative experiences. The gardens stimulate all our senses as inspired by the unique visions of friends and neighbors. The drum circle, Music Fests and Friday night jams stimulates the natural rhythms that infuse and move larger groups in resonate harmonies.

During the early years as we actively began shaping the physical characteristics of the Land Trust the trustees realized that we were also shaping the very character of the Land Trust. Fortunately we opted to be true to the inherent eccentric characteristics of our unconventional neighborhood and followed the hearts and inspirations of those willing to help make it happen.

Our very first improvement was to hang a tire swing from an old pecan tree and then to build a 12 x 12 sand box for the kids. The whoops and hollers of swingers with ropes in their hands and sand between their toes soon began to reverberate in our sweet corner of the cosmos. The first structure built on the Land Trust was a Native American sweat lodge composed of bent saplings and layers of blankets...a structure intended to evoke an inspired sense of wonderment and communion. This survived for a couple of years but soon made way for the first permanent structure, a high efficiency low maintenance sauna/sweat that fit our peculiar needs. It was built to elicit a deep respect for the earth as well as to encourage an affirmation of our interconnectedness. The pentagon structure itself is built on a foundation that is dug into the earth necessitating an unconventional entrance that in itself alters the perception of the ordinary. Natural materials are intended to stimulate tactile, hands on, be here now, taste it, smell it, feel it experience. The gardens stimulate all our senses involving larger dynamic groups while other areas stimulate quiet individual meditative experiences. The gardens, Friday night jam, drum circle, grill, sweat lodge...a cosmic convergence of landscape, structures and people echoing the sounds of work, play, music and exasperation interweaving to breathe magic into our delightful oasis.

What's Inside?

2 Paws for a Great Cause
3 Lake Claire Officers/Newsletter Staff
4 Mark Your Calendars
5 Conscientious Gardener
6 Inman Middle School
7 Clifton Sanctuary
8 Tax Matters
9 Wife Swap - A Reality
10 LCN Safety Report
11 Crime Watch
12 Classified Ads
Walk Your Paws For A Great Cause!

On the morning of Saturday, May 2, 2009 over one thousand animal lovers and their pets will walk just over a mile through Candler Park and enjoy the event’s pet festival and activities. With a goal of raising $300,000 through the ‘09 walk, the Atlanta Humane Society needs your help now more than ever!

Pet Parade is Atlanta Humane Society’s largest fundraising event and all proceeds directly benefit the shelter’s homeless animals. Pet Parade participants follow a mile-and-a-half long scenic route through Candler Park (with or without their pets) and enjoy the special offerings of our festival, including an array of adoptable animals, vendors, games, contests, training demonstrations and displays by local rescue organizations.

Last year’s walk raised $250,000 - a portion of which is funding an adoption program that placed over 5,300 animals into loving homes in 2008. The goal for the ‘09 walk is to engage over 1,000 participants to raise $300,000 in support of the shelter’s animal welfare programs and services.

Be sure to use our new online tool to customize your own webpage. This is the purrfect opportunity to share your special pet’s story with the world while raising money (don’t forget to include cute pictures)!

‘Bark Around Town’ by sending this email to ten people you know! If everyone ‘barks around town’, we can surely raise the $300,000 needed to continue the shelter’s mission of ending pet homelessness and overpopulation.

Form a Pack!

Pet lovers can also come together to raise funds for the Society pets, all while having a good time! Groups typically walk in a ‘pack’ on the day of the event and can carry a banner or wear matching t-shirts to show team spirit. It only takes two people to form a team and there is no limit on the number of participants in your group!

For more details on the walk and online registration, visit www.atlan.
tapetparade.com or email questions to petparade@atlantahumane. org. We Look Forward To Seeing You On May 2, 2009!

Activities Agenda
9:00 - 10:45 am Registration
9:00am – Noon Mobile Adoption Bus Open
9:00am – 1pm Vendor Market & Micro-chip Clinic Open
9:30am – 10:30am Doggie Musical Chairs, doggie demos and pet contests
10:00am – Noon Canine Good Citizen Testing
10:30am Opening Ceremony
11:00am Walk Start time
11:30am Estimated Walk end
11:45am Awards Ceremony
Noon AHS alumni photo, pet contests
1:00pm Event ends

Join The Fun!
Pet Parade promises to be a tail-waggin’ good time! Throughout the morning there will be many things for you and your pet to do including:
• Pet Contests with prizes including:
  • Pet/Owner Look-A-Like
  • Best Trick
  • Largest and Smallest Pet
  • Pet Vendor Market
• Dog training demonstrations
• Appearance by A.H.S. celebrity, Hop-a-Round Hound
• AHS Mobile Adoption Bus and displays by local shelters and rescue organizations
• Raffle drawings
• AHS Alumni Photo
• Canine Good Citizens Certification, 10am – Noon (see below for details)
• Micro-chipping Station, 10am – Noon or based on availability
• Doggie Musical Chairs
• Additional activities will be added closer to the event date

*Admission is free for all activities excluding the walk.
Canine Good Citizen Certification is awarded to dogs who pass the American Kennel Club’s C.G.C. test by displaying good manners both at home and in the community. The CGC test consists of ten tasks all pet dogs should be able to perform: sit quietly while their owner greets someone, allow themselves to be touched and brushed by a stranger, sit, stay, come and more. Additional information can be found by visiting www.akc.org/events/cgc/program.cfm. No appointments necessary. Cash payment is preferred and will be a donation to the Atlanta Humane Society.

Trust - Continued from page 1

an isosceles trapezoid. There are no right angles. The trapezoid is an important design characteristic of the wall and roof structure as well. Again the intent is to imperceptibly stimulate a shift in perception. Years ago a monthly drum circle was introduced that has blossomed into the twice monthly magical event that it is today. It is a profound celebration of nature and community. Drums, bells and dancers rhythmically intertwine with the breath and heart beat of other friends and neighbors. A powerful sense of Wholeness!
And then there is the bathroom... probably the only bathroom in Atlanta that has a glass front door. Not to mention the peace garden, grill, water garden, medicine wheel, bulletin board, overlook deck, solar panels, well, water storage, Lou the emu, goats, chickens, Amata, Lake Claire Co-Housing and all of our eccentric friends and neighbors that actually make us who we are! The community tapestry of the Land Trust that has evolved is as amazing as it is subtle. On one hand it is very relaxed and welcoming. On the other it is a complex dance of community expectations and conflicting idiosyncrasies. An exquisite work of art!
Lake Claire Officers for 2009

President: Diane Moore - president@lakeclaire.org
VP-Zoning: Dan White - zoning@lakeclaire.org
VP-Finance: Cara Stevens - treasurer@lakeclaire.org
VP-Environment: Kathy Evans - environment@lakeclaire.org
VP-Safety: Sheila Finciguerra - safety@lakeclaire.org
VP-Communications: Glenn Frankel - comm@lakeclaire.org
NPU Rep: Jennifer Sams - npu@lakeclaire.org

Lake Claire Neighbors meets every third Thursday of the month. Social Time begins at 6:30 pm; Meeting begins at 7 pm. at the Frazer Center. Meetings are open to all. Past months’ newsletters and updates to agenda can be found at www.lakeclaire.org.

Thoughts on Leash Laws

By Christy Waehner of Hardendorf Ave.

I really appreciate the articles regarding the leash laws and cleaning up after your dog. However, there was no mention about cats, which are also subject to the leash law.

While I really dislike finding piles of dog poop on my lawn, I don’t relish digging in my garden to plant flowers, and uncovering the gift a cat has buried there either. Why is one any less tasteful than the other?

More important is the damage cats do to the birds. I’m pretty tired of finding remains of birds in my yard or looking out to see a cat hiding under a bush near my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder, to say nothing of the fact that the loose cats drive my bird feeder.

Bottom line is that the leash law applies to cats as well as dogs. According to the DeKalb County Code: “(Animal)” is defined as a living vertebrate other than a human being. “Sec. 5-5. Animals at large. It shall be unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow it to run at large unattended on or about the streets, right of ways, and highways of unincorporated DeKalb County; in any DeKalb County park, except in county parks that are specifically designated as off leash areas; unattended on or about the common property of any apartment complex or condominium community; or on the property of another person without out permission of the owner of that property. This section shall not apply to dogs being used for hunting in accordance with state law, rules and regulations. (Ord. No. 04-15, Pt. I, 12-14-04)”

It’s unfortunate that leash laws are frequently ignored and run an otherwise nice walk around the neighborhood. We’ve had several bad experiences—one where my dog’s ear was actually bitten off by a dog whose owner who said “oh my dog is friendly”. A moment later my dog was missing 1/3 of her ear and bleeding profusely. When I later asked if he would consider splitting the vet bill (I thought I was being nice just asking for half), he said that he felt no responsibility for it, that his dog was “just playing”. Not in my book.

More recently, my husband was walking our other dog when an off leash dog flew across the street all teeth and noise at our dog, and as he was yelling at the owner to GET YOUR DOG, she told him that she was not going to get involved in that. If she was too afraid of her dog to stop his attack, why would she have him off lead???? And I’ve been told we are not the only one to suffer an attack from this dog. Just last week, as I was walking the dog with the missing ear, I saw a loose dog clearly stalking us. The owner came after her dog, telling me that her dog ‘just wanted to play’. Noticing the dog’s body language, I told her that ‘play’ was not what he was indicating. She quickly came up and got a hold of him before anything happened. She had no clue what his body language indicated. Why was he offlead?

People need to be able to read their dog’s body language. Here are a couple sites that are excellent in helping do that: www.columbusdogconnection.com/AgressiveDogInformation.htm and www.doggonesafe.com/dog%20communication.htm

Puddy needs a home

Please help us find a home for Puddy. She is a year old, spayed, and up to date on shots. We need to downsize our pet population. Please email editor@lakeclaire.org or call Polly at 678-427-5945.
What Do I Do If I’m an Executor?
Probate in Georgia
By Dan Wright

What do you do if you’re named as an executor in a Will or are chosen to administer the estate of a person who dies without one? What are you asking a loved one to do in the event of your death by naming him/her as your executor in your Will? In general, probate in Georgia is relatively easy and inexpensive. Probate has, however, recently gotten a bad name as a veritable cottage industry pushing inter vivos (“during life”) trusts to avoid probate has sprung up. These trusts are offered as inexpensive alternatives to the “expensive” probate process. What they do not tell you is that the continuing administration of such trusts carries its own cost, both monetarily and in terms of convenience. In most cases, companies peddling these trust products do not manage them; the buyers must keep them in line. There are also significant pitfalls if the trust is not administered correctly or funded with the property intended to be held in trust. Often, probate is still required! There are good reasons for setting up an inter vivos trust, but avoiding probate expenses is not one of them, at least in Georgia.

If you are an executor, the first thing to understand is that you have time. There is rarely a need for a surviving spouse, child, other relative, or friend to rush to take stock of an estate. Deal with the sharpest aspects of your grief first, the property later. Once you’re ready, most issues can be addressed with a series of standard forms, and probate court clerks are generally very helpful. First, you will need to file a petition to be appointed executor or administrator. If it is a very simple estate, you may do this on your own or with minimal attorney help. Once the probate court grants the petition (dealing with any objections), you must take the executor/administrator’s oath to faithfully execute the will (or administer the estate) at the probate court clerk’s office. Now you’re ready for the actual execution/administration, which includes examining the estate for assets, notifying creditors (who get paid first), identifying appropriate heirs or grantees, and distributing the property. Once all of these tasks are complete, you then file to be discharged of the office by the probate court.

The executor (or administrator) must investigate the deceased’s property: Did he own a house? have life insurance? have financial accounts? Did he have a safe deposit box, and, if so, what’s in it? Often, hiring professionals like accountants can be helpful, depending on the size of the estate. Note that the executor/administrator can usually take a fee from the estate which is a percentage of assets, and can pay professionals like attorneys and accountants from estate funds.

There are of course exceptions to the general rule that probate is relatively inexpensive. Most exceptions, though, are a consequence of poor planning—either no Will is in place and there is property that needs to be administered or a Will has been executed but is defective in some way. And while probate is not especially expensive, you may be asking your executor to fulfill a time-consuming job. Hence, when you are putting an estate plan together, think carefully about whom you would want to take on these responsibilities. Also, to save your family time and expense, have a Will that is well constructed and properly executed.

If you want to learn more, please attend our free seminar on Saturday, April 25 at 10:00 a.m. at our office, 115-A North McDonough Street, Decatur Georgia 30030 (just across from Decatur High School.) Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

Dan is a lawyer, Lake Claire resident, and former LCN VP for Public Safety. Dan practices law with his wife, Sherry Neal, and, yes, they really do get along quite well working together.

Important Disclaimer: This article is not legal advice and establishes no attorney-client relationship between the reader and writer, nor may this information be relied upon to make legal decisions. Everyone’s situation is different. Please consult an attorney before making decisions about estate planning, and, yes, we would be glad to speak to you!

Mark Your Calendars

April 2 - Thursday - Yard Waste Pickup
April 5 - Sunday - Palm Sunday
April 9 - Thursday - First Day of Passover
April 9 - Thursday - Recycling Pickup
April 10 - Good Friday (Traditional deadline to have your veggie garden planted)
April 12 - Sunday - Easter
April 16 - Thursday - LCNA Meeting, Fraser Center, 7 pm
April 16 - Thursday - Yard Waste Pickup
April 18 - Saturday - Children’s Art Festival - Horizons School; 10 am - 3 pm. Fresh and open to the public, will feature lots of arts and crafts activities for kids to participate in, games, food and just general fun activities. We would love for the whole neighborhood to come out and enjoy being creative with us!
April 18 - Saturday - Recycling at Grady High School - Electronics and Cardboard; every third Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
April 19 - Sunday - Orthodox Easter
April 22 - Wednesday - Administrative Professionals’ Day
April 22 - Wednesday - Earth Day
April 23 - Thursday - Grady High School Orchestra Spring Concert 7 PM GHS Theater
April 23 - Thursday - Recycling Pickup
April 24 - Friday - Arbor Day
April 30 - Thursday - Yard Waste Pickup
May 2 - Saturday - Atlanta Humane Society Pet Parade through Can- dler Park (see article on page 2)
May 8-10 - Sweet Auburn Springfest (Atlanta)

Lake Claire’s list

Do you have a service or item that someone else might want? Something that perhaps can add to your income or be a thrifty option for a neighbor? Let’s help each other out through these tough times. We now have a list of home-based services and merchandise for sale, rent, loan, wanted, barter or free locally. Add your home-based services and items for FREE! Deadline: 15th of the month prior to publication. Email submissions to editor@lakeclaire.org.

Claire’s List
Atlanta Journal Constitution - We were given a gift subscription to the AJC Friday, Saturday, and Sunday paper. We would love to pass the paper on to someone who enjoys reading the paper. Contact Kate at katherine.brench@gmail.com.

Need help with your resume? Need a second pair of eyes to look over a paper you’re writing? Let a seasoned professional writer/proofreader help! Call Susan at 404.371.1229.

Looking for employment - Hello friends, I am looking for employment below is a list of my specialties, please forward this to all your contacts. Thank you, sincerely Melissa Bell. “Helping Hands”: * Thor- ough house cleaning * Child or elderly care * Gardening * Girl Friday; mature woman; references, own vehicle. 404.384.5989.

Need a file cabinet - I am looking for a 2-drawer file cabinet about 14 ’ wide and 18” deep. I have a collection of peach baskets - I think they are 1/4 bushel or maybe 1/2 bushel size and I have bed sheets - queen and single. Interested? Call Jane Merkle 404.371.1128.

Gym Station wanted - I need a multi-station home gym. If you have one to sell, please call 404.377.2288.

I need help with chores and gardening - Needed: help with mostly outdoor chores and gardening. If interested, call to discuss pay and needs. 404.377.2288.

Pet Sitting - Over 10 years vet & pet care experience. References available. Call Tina Smith 404.247.0914.

Wood for art projects - throwing away perfectly good, old wood in renovations? I’m looking for old heart pine or other seasoned wood to be used to make frames for art. Contact timganey@comcast.net.
The Conscientious Gardener

From "The Green Life", courtesy of The Sierra Club

Want to be the ultimate locavore? You needn’t go farther than your own backyard.
Tip: Protect Plants Without Pesticides.

If you’re a new gardener, chances are you’ll be surprised by some sort of infestation before the growing season is over. Connect with local gardeners to determine the most common problems in your region, then look for organic fixes. Many pest-control solutions can be concocted from household items. For example, aphids are deterred by garlic and cayenne pepper, slugs find eggshells unappealing, and ants (who can exacerbate an aphid problem) dislike coffee grounds and vinegar. Before you apply organic treatments, be sure to research their effect on beneficial insects like ladybugs.

Share your tips: What are your most effective recipes for organic pest control?

Sent In by Caroline Joe:
As spring is on its way and many homeowners will begin gardening, homeowners should not forget to remove ivy growing up trees on their property. I am concerned with the damage that ivy can do to our beautiful trees, especially since we have had several years of drought and many trees are already weakened. Ivy can very easily be clipped at the base of the tree.

I found this while searching on Google:

“The ivy climbs the tree to get more light so it can flower. But as it spreads out, it blocks the light the tree leaves need for photosynthesis. Ivy roots also compete with the tree’s roots, and ivy can form a very dense ground cover around the tree. Another danger is the sheer weight and mass of ivy. With vines growing up to half a foot or more in thickness, this added weight could easily topple a tree.” — Debbie Pickering, Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council, Portland, OR

Renewal - Continued on page 6

Neal & Wright LLC

Your Family... Your Business... Your Firm!

Free Seminar! April 25, 2009 10 a.m.

What Do I Do If I’m an Executor of a Will?
A Probate Primer

Coffee & Donuts will be served
No registration required

All free seminars are held at the Neal & Wright LLC office conveniently located in Downtown Decatur. Visit us online for directions and more information.

www.nealandwright.com

We’re in the neighborhood!

San Francisco Coffee Roasting Company

MORE THAN GREAT COFFEE

Our fresh baked pastries and yummy desserts are meticulously prepared in house by our pastry chefs.
Come by and taste what we’ve been baking.

Bring this ad in for a free small coffee with any purchase.
Virginia-Highland Poncey-Highland Candler Park
Get us on Twitter www.mystcoffee.com
Technology Spotlight at Inman

By Marie Godiers

My name is Marie Godiers and I’m a 7th grader at Inman Middle School. Over the years I’ve seen how technology has advanced and changed. Middle school is where I’ve seen most of those advancements. Ever since 6th grade my peers and I have been introduced to what is known as the Promethean Board. This is my absolute favorite invention because of the variety of things that it allows you to do. At Mary Lin we started with chalk boards, and soon moved up to white boards, and now at Inman we have Promethean Boards. Unlike white or black boards, Promethean Boards allow teachers to show online sites and display anything that is on their computer or laptop! With these boards you can say goodbye to old, heavy overhead projectors and projector sheets, and hello to easy to work, new software! I have one of these boards in almost all of my classes. They allow learning to be more graphic and interesting. With Promethean Boards, students can also interact by using a specific touch pen that allows us to come up to the board and click, drag, and/or interact with anything that can be seen on a regular computer. Promethean Boards are just like computer screens, just enlarged and interactive. I think this wonderful device makes it easier on the teachers as well. They don’t have to make or find projector sheets anymore. They can simply surf the web or use a document right on their computer! Teachers also don’t have to drag out the projector into the middle of the classroom. The Promethean Board’s projector is mounted to the ceiling and is never in the way. The board itself rests on the wall and the image is always in focus and easy on the eyes. It is worth every penny and the greatest investment Inman has ever made (in my opinion). Hopefully, all kids will get a chance to use this technology in the classroom. It really makes a difference. You can learn more by talking to students or visiting the Inman Middle School (www.inmantechologyfoundation.org) or Mary Lin Elementary (www.marylinfoundation.org) websites.

When does City Council meet?

Except for holidays, the City Council meets on Mondays of the first and third week of the month. The meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

City Hall, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30303
Telephone: 404-330-6030, Fax: 404-658-6454.
There is no central e-mail address.
To contact City Council members, e-mail, telephone, or fax them directly. For contact info go to www.atlantaga.gov, click on “city council,” and click on their pictures. If you need additional information, contact the Council Offices directly.

Renewal - Continued from page 5

Offer Good at Edgewood Retail Shopping Center Only

Regular Price $13 Adult & $11 Child (10 and under)/Senior

Lake Claire resident children will receive a Great Clips coloring book and complimentary lollipop! (while supplies last)

$8.99 Haircut
Sitting on the corner of Connecticut and McLendon is one of the prettiest pieces of property in the neighborhood – one that still continues to provide sanctuary to all who visit and to all who reside there. The origins of the facility that now houses Clifton Sanctuary Ministries go back to the late 19th century or early 20th century when the original structure was one of the farmhouses in the community. As times changed, Clifton Presbyterian Church purchased the home and made it their church, adding on the sanctuary and office space. The sanctuary they built for worship is still a sanctuary for men who are working diligently to change their lives and move to independent living.

The trees that were planted over the years, many in honor of church members and their families, are now huge and their canopies provide a wonderful space for relaxing. One landscape architect commented recently that the birch tree that is on the Connecticut Avenue side of the property may be the largest birch tree that she’s seen in Atlanta. The area that fronts McLendon is frequently used in the spring and summer for grilling and playing games.

In recent years, volunteers have planted trees, shrubs, and perennial flower to enhance the beauty. We also focus on making sure that all new plantings are hearty and can tolerate dry conditions without much watering.

The Clifton property has, over the years, served as grounds for Eagle Scout projects – the most recent project was completed last year when a worn dirt path from the parking lot to the sidewalk was replaced by a beautiful stone walkway.

Clifton - Continued on page 8

Pictured at left: Sam Artopoeus (on the left) chose a flagstone footpath construction project at Clifton last year to earn his Eagle rank in Boy Scouts.
**Tax Matters**

FAQs, courtesy of The IRS

**Question:** What should I do if I made a mistake on my federal return that I have already filed?

**Answer:** It depends on the type of mistake that you made:

Many mathematical errors are caught in the processing of the tax return itself.

If you did not attach a required schedule the service will contact you and ask for the missing information.

If you did not report all your income or did not claim a credit, you are entitled to file an amended or corrected return using Form 1040X (PDF), Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

When filing an amended or corrected return:

Include copies of any schedules that have been changed or any Form W-2 (PDF) you did not include.

The Form 1040X (PDF) should be submitted after you receive your refund or by the due date of the return, whichever is earlier.

Generally, to claim a refund, the return or within two years after you receive your refund or by the due date of the return, whichever is earlier.

- Include.

**Dependents & Exemptions**

- Question: Is there an age limit on claiming my children as dependents?

**Answer:** Age is a factor in the qualifying child test, but a qualifying child is unmarried and is your child, grandchild, stepchild, or adopted child.

- For head of household filing status, such as when the qualifying child is unmarried and is your child, grandchild, stepchild, or adopted child.

- Additional Information: Publication 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information.

**General Procedural Questions**

- Question: What are the tax changes for this year?

**Answer:** For highlights of any tax changes for the current tax year please refer to the “What’s New” section of the following:

- Form 1040 Instructions (PDF), the Form 1040A Instructions (PDF), or the Form 1040EZ Instructions (PDF).

- Additional Information: Publication 553, Highlights of the Current Year Tax Changes.

- Question: For head of household filing status, do you have to claim a child as a dependent to qualify?

**Answer:** In certain circumstances, you do not need to claim the child as a dependent to qualify for head of household filing status, such as when the qualifying child is unmarried and is your child, grandchild, stepchild, or adopted child.

- Additional Information: Publication 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information.

**e-file Solutions for Taxpayers**

Individual taxpayers, including first-time filers, Schedule C filers, and military personnel, can take advantage of a wide variety of affordable tax preparation and e-file services. You can file online or download software from the convenience of your home, or you can work with a tax professional.

Schedule D software is offered that can easily export data into leading e-file software. All of these options are available to you! Take a look to find out about these existing opportunities!

**Pay Your Taxes Electronically**

You can pay your taxes electronically through major credit card companies and electronic payment providers.

- Free File - Free File allows taxpayers with a 2008 adjusted gross income of $56,000 or less to e-file their federal tax returns for free.

- For more detailed and timely information on filing federal taxes go to www.irs.gov and check out the link to Free File.

**Sweet Auburn Springfest (Atlanta)**

Get ready for the largest African-American cultural arts & entertainment festival in the southeast. Join us as we celebrate 25 years of the Sweet Auburn Springfest. The event takes place May 8-10 and features several stages of entertainment and more than 350,000 people in attendance. If you are interested in participating, becoming a vendor or sponsoring or performing at this great event, contact us today! Space is limited. For more info www.sweet-auburn.com/springfest2009

**Recycling at Grady High School**

Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

**Every Third Saturday**

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Grady High School, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Midtown Neighbors’ Association join together to bring to the neighborhood electronics and cardboard recycling.

On the third Saturday of every month, you can recycle your e-waste in the parking lot at Grady High School on 8th Street.

**Grady High School**

- Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- Every Third Saturday

- Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

- Grady High School

**Operation Boot Camp**

**Results Start Here**

operationbootcamp.com Locations throughout Atlanta

**Don’t let your listing get OLD! GET IT SOLD!**

Under Contract in less than 2 WEEKS:

- 453 Euclid Terrace (Candler Park)
- 1533 Emory Road ( Druid Hills)
- 3229 Ambleside Court (Decatur)

**Call your neighbor, your agent: Jo Gibson**

Jo Gibson, A TOP PRODUCING AGENT '06, '07

- Accredited Buyers Representative, ABR. • Certified Selling Professional, CSP
- 404.405.5363
- JoiSellsAtlanta.com AtlantaInTown.com

A Candler Park
Resident Since 1975

**Sweet Auburn Springfest (Atlanta)**

Get ready for the largest African-American cultural arts & entertainment festival in the southeast. Join us as we celebrate 25 years of the Sweet Auburn Springfest. The event takes place May 8-10 and features several stages of entertainment and more than 350,000 people in attendance. If you are interested in participating, becoming a vendor or sponsoring or performing at this great event, contact us today! Space is limited. For more info www.sweet-auburn.com/springfest2009

**Recycling at Grady High School**

Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

**Every Third Saturday**

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Grady High School, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Midtown Neighbors’ Association join together to bring to the neighborhood electronics and cardboard recycling.

On the third Saturday of every month, you can recycle your e-waste in the parking lot at Grady High School on 8th Street.

**Grady High School**

- Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- Every Third Saturday

- Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

- Grady High School

**Operation Boot Camp**

**Results Start Here**

operationbootcamp.com Locations throughout Atlanta

**Don’t let your listing get OLD! GET IT SOLD!**

Under Contract in less than 2 WEEKS:

- 453 Euclid Terrace (Candler Park)
- 1533 Emory Road ( Druid Hills)
- 3229 Ambleside Court (Decatur)

**Call your neighbor, your agent: Jo Gibson**

Jo Gibson, A TOP PRODUCING AGENT '06, '07

- Accredited Buyers Representative, ABR. • Certified Selling Professional, CSP
- 404.405.5363
- JoiSellsAtlanta.com AtlantaInTown.com

A Candler Park
Resident Since 1975

**Sweet Auburn Springfest (Atlanta)**

Get ready for the largest African-American cultural arts & entertainment festival in the southeast. Join us as we celebrate 25 years of the Sweet Auburn Springfest. The event takes place May 8-10 and features several stages of entertainment and more than 350,000 people in attendance. If you are interested in participating, becoming a vendor or sponsoring or performing at this great event, contact us today! Space is limited. For more info www.sweet-auburn.com/springfest2009

**Recycling at Grady High School**

Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

**Every Third Saturday**

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Grady High School, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Midtown Neighbors’ Association join together to bring to the neighborhood electronics and cardboard recycling.

On the third Saturday of every month, you can recycle your e-waste in the parking lot at Grady High School on 8th Street.

**Grady High School**

- Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- Every Third Saturday

- Grady/Midtown Electronics and Cardboard Recycling

- Grady High School
Wife Swap!!!! (No Joke)
By Jessica Jorgensen, Associate Producer, Casting, Wife Swap

I am a casting producer for ABC Television’s hit reality show, Wife Swap. I am currently trying to cast a family that loves to participate in Drum Circles for a special episode of our show and thought perhaps you might know someone that would be interested in such an opportunity.

In case you are unfamiliar with the show, the premise of Wife Swap is to take two different families and have the Mom’s switch place to experience how another family lives. Half of the week, Mom lives the life of the family she is staying with. Then she introduces a “rule change” where she implements rules and activities that her family has. It’s a positive experience for people to not only learn but teach about other families and other ways of life.

Wife Swap airs on Disney owned ABC television on Fridays at 8 pm- the family hour! There is another show that copies ours. We focus on having fun, learning and teaching. They focus on conflict. I just want to make sure our show doesn’t get confused with theirs!

Requirements:
- Each family must consist of two parents and at least one child between 7 and 17 and should reside in the continental U.S. (There may be other children living in the home who are older or younger than the required age...as long as one child is in the required age range.)
- This is a very unique experience that can be life changing for everyone. In addition, each family that tapes an episode of Wife Swap receives a $20,000 honorarium for their time. Anyone who refers a family that appears on our program receives $1000 as a “thank you” from us. Please feel free to forward this email on to anyone that you feel might be interested.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this. If you have any questions, please email me at the address below. Thank you for your time!

Jessica Jorgensen, Associate Producer, Casting, Wife Swap
100 Avenue of the Americas, 3rd floor, NYC, NY 10013
646.747.7947 jessica.jorgensen@castingrfl.com www.rflusa.com

Grady - Continued from page 8

Renovations Creating More Living Space
By Beth Damon

More houses have been spotted in Lake Claire whose owners have a commitment to “going green,” with housing focused on renovating and expanding existing living spaces. This new roof on McLendon (see photo), created livable rooms without building another story that would have affected neighbors’ garden exposure to sunlight, yard privacy, rain runoff, etc., keeping the character of Lake Claire – and avoiding the expense of the extra heating and cooling. And this efficient attic renovation (the long dormer addition plus the two windows in front) created extra bedrooms and an extra bathroom, the result being plenty of space for a family of SIX – all the children have their own bedrooms. (Speaking of caring about one’s neighbors, during this renovation, the owners required the workers to start no earlier than 9 a.m. – 10 on weekends, and end by 6 p.m.)

Let’s applaud choices that support green, sustainable initiatives.

As you may know, our sister neighborhood Candler Park has a committee entitled “GPD Infill Development/Historic District Committee,” which discusses infill development and historic district-related issues. Is anyone in Lake Claire interested in exploring the possibility of forming such a committee in Lake Claire, with an intent either to try to obtain historic district status or brainstorm about what else we can do to maintain Lake Claire’s unique character? Perhaps there would be interest in renewing efforts to change the building codes to favor quality, not quantity, and mandating height and size restrictions in new construction, following the moratorium of a couple of years ago. (Note that would only be an exploratory discussion regarding historic district status; Lake Claire previouly rejected the idea. A formal proposal would have to be submitted to the Atlanta Urban Design Commission only after if it were approved by neighborhood residents.) If you share my concerns about Lake Claire, please contact me at playboss.beth@gmail.com.

Attention those fighting for Grandma Gordon and Gordon Ave Greenspace! Help regulate or curtail building of McMansions! Please contact Beth at playboss.beth@gmail.com to participate in an exploratory meeting to discuss options. It’s all part of the same fight for good zoning laws and maintaining neighborhood character!

Lake Claire pool

Join Today!
www.lakeclairepool.com
As crime goes up, keep your heads up. Watch out for your neighbors and report any suspicious activity by calling 911 immediately.

### AUTO THEFT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>Fri. morn.</td>
<td>2000 blk DeKalb Ave NE</td>
<td>1998 Green Dodge was seen driving away in her vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/7</td>
<td>Sat. late night</td>
<td>200 blk Connecticut Ave NE</td>
<td>A front window was smashed on each vehicle and property was removed. Taken: Digital camera, digital camera, Garmin GPS, GPS, Cell phone. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/19</td>
<td>Thurs. daytime</td>
<td>500 blk Claire Dr NE</td>
<td>A window was damaged on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: Tom Tom GPS. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18-2/19</td>
<td>Wed. overnight-400 blk Lakeshore Dr NE</td>
<td>2002 Volvo S60</td>
<td>Someone damaged a window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: I Pod. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/16-2/17</td>
<td>Mon. even.-1600 blk McLendon Ave NE</td>
<td>2008 Toyota COA</td>
<td>Someone smashed a passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Victim stated one of her credit cards had been used at a Citgo station. Taken: Purse and contents. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>Fri. afternoon- 2000 blk DeKalb Ave Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td>Window and door damaged. Someone damaged the victim's back door and a rear window. The home was then entered and property was removed. Taken: Cell phone, Laptop, digital camera. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27-2/28</td>
<td>Fri-Sat. 13 hour time frame- 2000 blk Palifox Dr NE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Apartment. Window damaged. A side window to the victim's apartment was damaged and property was removed. Taken: Laptop. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>Fri. even.</td>
<td>200 blk Connecticut Ave. Apartment</td>
<td>Unsecured window. Victims came home to find that someone had unscrewed the outside light bulbs and entered their apartment through an unsecured window. Property was reported missing. Taken: Laptop, Laptop with adapter. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13</td>
<td>Fri. even.</td>
<td>300 blk Southerland Terr. NE</td>
<td>Unsecured door. Someone entered the victim's home through an unsecured patio door and removed property. Taken: desktop, I Pod, Laptop, Laptop bag, cell phone, calculator, Jar of change. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>Sun. at midnight</td>
<td>400 blk Claire Dr NE</td>
<td>Residence. Door forced open. Officer responded to an alarm call (Rec. 23:03, Disp. 23:00, Arr. 23:00) and discovered that someone had forced open the victim's back door. Victim reported that she had left a weapon on the kitchen table and it is now missing. Taken: Smith Wesson Revolver. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>Fri. afternoon- 2000 blk DeKalb Ave Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td>Apartment. Window and door damaged. Someone damaged the victim's back door and a rear window. The home was then entered and property was removed. Taken: Cell phone, Laptop, digital camera. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27-2/28</td>
<td>Fri-Sat. 13 hour time frame- 2000 blk Palifox Dr NE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Apartment. Window damaged. A side window to the victim's apartment was damaged and property was removed. Taken: Laptop. Prints attempted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Numbers You Need

- **Atlanta Parks & Recreation/Office of Parks** (404) 817-6744
- **9 Hole Candler Golf Course** (404) 371-1260
- **Atlanta Police Zone 6 Precinct (East Atlanta)** (404) 371-5002
- **Atlanta Public Schools** (404) 802-3500
- **Mary Lin Elementary School** (404) 371-7158
- **Inman Middle School** (404) 802-3200
- **Grady High School** (404) 802-3001
- **Atlanta Sanitary Services/Garbage & Dead Animal Pickup, Sewer/Street Emergency repairs & Maintenance, Traffic Signals & Street light repairs** (404) 65WORKS
- **Atlanta Water Department (Emergency Repairs)** (404) 658-7220
- **Atlanta Zoning Enforcement** (404) 330-6175
- **Atlanta Building Permits** (404) 330-6150
- **Atlanta Building Inspectors** (404) 330-6160
- **Atlanta Arborist** (404) 330-6874
- **DeKalb Co. Tax Commissioner** (404) 298-4000
- **DeKalb Co. Animal Control** (404) 294-2996
- **State Motor Vehicle Tag & Title Information** (404) 362-6500
Saying Grace in a Restaurant
(from a circulated email)

Last week, I took my children to a restaurant. My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said, ‘God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!’

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, ‘That’s what’s wrong with this country. Kids today don’t even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!’

Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me, ‘Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?’

Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of the meal. My six-year-old son stared at his for a moment, and then did something I will remember the rest of my life.

He winked at my son and said, ‘I happen to know that God asked me for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes.’

As we bowed our heads he said, ‘God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!’

Buy a brick and help Mary Lin Elementary pave the way!

Mary Lin Elementary “Home of the Rockets”
586 Candler Park Drive – Atlanta, GA 30307
www.marylinelementary.com

Your personalized brick(s) will help provide grounds improvements not covered by the school budget. Visit the “Shop” area of our website for an order form or contact fundraising@marylinelementary.com.

Prices
4”x 8” brick - $45
8”x 8” brick - $65

Thank you for your continued support!

Going once... going twice...

Oakhurst Cooperative Preschool
Arts Auction Jubilee

The Solarium in Oakhurst • May 3, 2009, 3 — 6 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
• Unique Hand-Crafted Apparel & Gifts • Original Art from Local Artists •
• Beautiful Vacation Retreats • Children’s Activities • Live Music with Roxie Watson •

Cooperative Preschool

Crime Watch Block Captains:
Atlanta Police - Zone 6 (our zone) Ruby Naylor, Block Captain Liaison RNaylor@atlantaga.gov 404-371-5002
Adolphus Ave Cecily estevens1977@gmail.com
Arizona Ave Chris cmck61@yahoo.com
Claire Drive Anyone? If interested, email Sheila at safety@lakeclaire.org
Clifton Road Sheila - lakeclairesafety@yahoo.com
Clifton Road Scott - scott@citychurcheastside.org
Connecticut Ave Josh - jatino@ mindspring.com
Connecticut Ave Kay - kavuck2001@yahoo.com
Delaware Ave Alicia - megzill1776@comcast.net
Delaware Ave Beth - beth@bethdamon.com
Gordon Ave Cynthia - cim0118@vahoo.com
Hardendorf Ave Robert - robert.shults@intel.com
Harold Ave Sarah - sewynn@hotmail.com
Harold Ave Gay - gayarnieri@bellsouth.net
Harold Ave Kathy - kathieryan@bellsouth.net
Howard Circle Karla - kosp@mac.com
Indiana Ave Priscilla - priscillacross@yahoo.com
Lakeshore Drive David - davidgolin@mindspring.com
Leonardo Ave Tim - tkline@kellencompany.com
Leonardo Ave John - johnjsiebenaler@yahoo.com
Matthews Ave David - davidyasson@gmail.com
McLendon Ave Denessa - denessa@munsterman.com
McLendon Ave Cheri - cherismithson@yahoo.com
Nelms Ave Amy - abrid1@yahoo.com
New York Ave Reuben - reubenapple@comcast.net
Oxford Place Covered by Southern Terrace Captains?
Palifox Drive Kent - fisherfour@bellsouth.net
Palifox Drive Brandon - brandy@terminusrecords.com
Ridgcrest Road David - davepatil@yahoo.com
Ridgewood Road Anyone? Bueller?
Southern Terrace Ted - tedjohnson@ge.com
Sutherland Place Anyone? If interested, email Sheila at safety@lakeclaire.org
Tuxedo Ave Anyone? If interested, email Sheila at safety@lakeclaire.org

Leaning Toward Renovating?

CooperHewitt

Celebrating 18 Years
of Design & Renovation Excellence
www.HammerSmith.net
Me and Mini-Me! Here’s our photo entries!!

Pictured at left is Winky of Harold Avenue “biting” a sleep-over guest in the behind (all were laughing and having a great time - no injuries). Even Winky, at times, looks possessed.

And the winner is...

It’s a tie! Sammy and Auggie of Harold Avenue (sent in by Judy Fleming) were as adorable as Karma Kitty & Ki Pu of Arizona Ave. (sent in by Amy Jackson). They will receive a Lake Claire bumper sticker, our collective admiration, and extra copies of The Clarion for grandparents! Winky earned an Honorable Mention (not shabby). Many thanks to our participants. The photos were adorable. Extra copies of The Clarion are available for all. Also, thanks to our guest judge, Maya Hahn of Candler Park, a long-time supporter of Lake Claire Neighborhood Association.

Where were you on Saturday, February 28? In this beautiful snow?

Love Your Neighbors
Become a member of Lake Claire Neighbors

Membership Info
Lake Claire Neighbors is an incorporated non-profit, tax-exempt, homeowners association. In accordance with the by-laws, membership consists of all residents, property owners, and businesses within the boundaries of the Lake Claire Neighborhood. If you are a Lake Claire resident, your payment of dues helps us help you. Dues are voluntary (optional) and reasonable.

Yearly Membership Dues: $20/household. Two ways to pay your membership dues:

Option 1 - Pay online using a credit card
Go to www.lakeclaire.org. Secure online payment using PayPal, but does not require a PayPal account.

Option 2 - Send a check to our treasurer. Mail with name, address, email address and telephone number to: Lake Claire Neighbors, attn: Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107
Want to stay in touch with activities in and around the neighborhood? Go to our website www.lakeclaire.org and join our email “newscast.” We limit emails to a few a month.

Unfortunately dues and gifts to LCN are not tax deductible. However, they help us do great things such as maintain a security patrol, park and stream bank clean-ups, installation of neighborhood signs, community events, distribution of the monthly newsletter, and staying ahead of city planning developments.

Get involved! Help us keep Lake Claire lively, safe, and beautiful.