# Clarion



December 2006

newsletter of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association

V. 13, #12

# Party for the Parks on Ponce Benefits All

The third annual *Party for the Parks on Ponce*—set for Sunday evening, January 28, 2007—will feature Roaring Twenties music and costumes designed to dazzle even the dinosaurs at Fernbank Museum of Natural History, the venue for the event.



Volunteers Quigg Fletcher and Jennie Richardson are decked out to attend the 1920s-themed Party for the Parks on Ponce benefiting the Olmsted Linear Park on January 28. (Model A Ford courtesy of Charles Scott and Bubba Wilson)

"The push is on to complete Deepdene, the last segment of the Olmsted Linear Park, so we hope to make this the most successful fundraiser ever," said Gloria Seymour, chair of the gala. "If you appreciate the beauty of the first five parks and you're eager to explore the forest and stream in Deepdene, then make your reservation today! You can support the restoration and enjoy a great evening at the same time."

To put it in the context of Lake
Claire, Deepdene is the eastern-most segment of
the Olmsted Linear Park, which includes Dellwood,
Shadyside, Oak Grove, Virgil Lee and Springdale
parks. Dellwood and Shadyside straddle Clifton
Road at S. Ponce. Deepdene is at the north end of
Lakeshore Drive and is a continuation of the Frazer
Forest. The gala will feature silent and live auctions
to benefit the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance
(OLPA), the nonprofit organization that is raising
the last \$800,000 in the seven-year campaign.
Guests will enjoy sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a
full bar. Although flapper dresses and raccoon coats

are optional, members of the planning committee have already begun practicing the Charleston!

Reservations are \$75 each and can be made online at <a href="www.partyfortheparksonponce.org">www.partyfortheparksonponce.org</a>. Information about OLPA is available at <a href="www.atlantaolmstedpark.org">www.atlantaolmstedpark.org</a>.

### Lake Claire Neighborhood HOLIDAY DINNER: Thursday, DECEMBER 14

7pm Frazer Center - 1815 S. Ponce de Leon or back entrance at end of Ridgewood Road

All neighbors are invited to attend the annual holiday gathering for food, fun, and festive movie viewing! If you're planning to attend the Mary Lin PTA meeting that evening, please join us afterward.

The meal is potluck, so all neighbors are asked to bring a casserole or other main dish to share. LCN will provide salad, bread, drinks, and dessert. We will be showing a few short holiday movies on the Frazer Center's new movie screen (donated by LCN!) during the evening.

For information on how to help with preparations, set-up, or clean-up, contact Sherry at sherry v neal@yahoo.com.



### Hundreds Respond to Call of the Pool

by Jennifer Roberts

Thank you to the **nearly 300 people** who completed the Pool Survey. 60% of responses were from people who are not (*yet*) pool members.

The pool is undergoing major renovations to bring the pool and bathhouse in compliance with the Americanswith-Disabilities-Act. Beyond these improvements, the City asked us what other changes we want.

The top priorities are: (1) Adding a young child wet play area, (2) installing shade structures, and (3) improving seating around the pool.

We have shared your views with Karyl Clayton from the City of Atlanta. She honored our wishes and included a splash and spray children's area and shade structures in the contractor bids. Check CandlerParkPool.com for updates.

While member hours (after 4:15) are quiet and serene, we are aware of the need for better supervision during the day. This is an issue that the Pool Board has made top priority for 2007. The board is interviewing for new pool management, consulting the police on how to best enforce the rules, and considering our options for full-time supervision. Pool membership is a fun, relaxing way to spend time with your family and be part of the community. We want to create a pool that everyone – *you!* – will want to join.

We look forward to seeing you at our new pool in 2007! Please join your neighbors at a special dinner benefiting the pool at Flying Biscuit on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information call Jennie Roberts at 404-372-

6418.

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#### **Newsletter Staff:**

Editor: Susan Johnson - editor@lakeclaire.org

Ad coordinator: Gay Arnieri – newsletter@lakeclaire.org Layout coordinator: Boyd Baker – layout@lakeclaire.org Distribution: Troy Nielsen – distribution@lakeclaire.org Webmaster: Glenn Frankel – comm@lakeclaire.org



### The Conscientious Gardener

by Gay Arnieri

I was thinking about poinsettias recently bloom for Christmas. But I haven't abandoned layers of black plastic (trash bags) and continue not succumbed to heat and inconsistent water-

Sources I have read recommend a rou-September, some sources say for part of the day moving a fairly large potted plant around. So it



and realized that it is probably too late to get them to mine yet. I plan to cover "it" with a couple of watering and feeding. I have only one left that has ing, so it must be hardy.

tine of restricting sunlight to plants as early as only. I don't have that much time or energy to keep will have to stay in place with the sun blocked until

I'm ready to look at it again. I did this last year with a bit of success. I think that starting the process of "forcing blooms" (a misnomer in this case) as early as you can in the season may be the trick.

So, in the absence of timely advice on preserving poinsettias and getting them to bloom on time, how about this. This year, let's put our "spent" plants at the street NEXT TO the trash/recycling to allow neighbors who want to keep them going to pick them up. This is also an opportunity to recycle planting soil from the dead plants.

There are many sources of seasonal decorative materials in plants found in your yard and around the neighborhood. Holly sprigs and berries, magnolia leaves, mahonia sprigs, mistletoe, lavender and rosemary among others.

### This month's tips:

Harvest the seeds of your favorite annual and perennial flowering plants for spring planting. Even if you are unsure of what the seeds look like, just pull the dead dry flower heads. Store them in paper envelopes or partially open plastics. You can also make small air holes if needed. They need to be kept quite dry. Ones that will grow reliably are zinnias, coreopsis, coneflower and mums among others. Liatris, a striking narrow purple wand-shaped flower, is less reliable but worth the effort.

Hopefully you have a sunny place for your potted plants to live over the winter. It will be time to bring them in soon. The indoor air will likely be too dry for optimum plant health so either provide them with a humidifier or frequently (every day or two) spray with water. Most plants will do better if the soil is kept moist.





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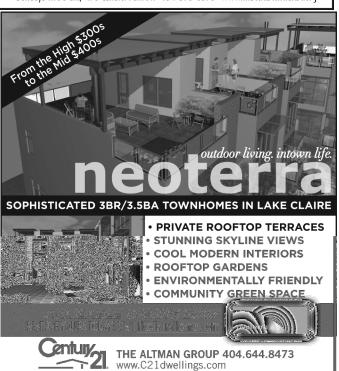


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## Better Safe Than Sorry for the Holidays

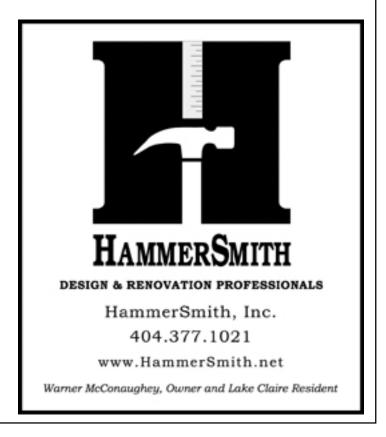
by Dan Wright

The holidays are upon us! Along with the fun and festivities, this is high time for crimes of opportunity. Baddies will be looking for vacated houses for easy pickings and possibly cars left behind for days. There are a few things that can be done to prevent yourself from becoming a victim of crime during the holidays. Most importantly, **TELLYOUR NEIGHBORS THAT YOU WILL BE GONE AND HOW LONG YOU WILL BE GONE**. Neighbors and the community are the best defense against crime. I have received several accounts over the past few weeks of neighbors watching out for their fellow neighbors which directly resulted in the prevention of crime. The preventive steps are usually a neighbor simply stepping outside and making his/her presence known to the perpetrator (in one case, a neighbor actually followed the perpetrator's car to a house while having the police on the line; the police were able to arrive within minutes and make the arrest. Additionally, the Atlanta Police Department has set up a program where residents can notify the APD that they will be leaving the City for an extended period of time; the APD will run occasional patrols out to/by your house to check it out. (Note that this is far less likely to actually prevent crime unless the perpetrators are caught in the act; again, neighbors are your best defense!). The vacation patrols may be requested by filling out a form that you can obtain from our Zone 6 officers: please contact Zone 6 at (404) 371-5002 to request the forms.

Want to learn more? The APD is accepting nominations for participants in their Citizens Police Academy Training Course. The CPATC provides training on law enforcement and explanations of police activity and modern crime prevention techniques. More information can be obtained at <a href="http://www.atlantapd.org/index.asp?nav=CPA">http://www.atlantapd.org/index.asp?nav=CPA</a>. Please send your recommendations to Officer M. M. Kimbrough at <a href="mkimbrough@atlantaga.gov">mkimbrough@atlantaga.gov</a>. Also, if you are interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch Program, the APD can help you and your fellow neighbors organize. Usually NWPs are formed around a street or blocks of a street. They are essentially a more regimented version of keeping your neighbors informed about when/where you will be and asking them to keep a look out for you. We have a couple of active NWPs in Lake Claire; if you are interested in putting one together with your fellow neighbors, please contact Ruby Naylor at Zone 6 at the above number.

Finally, there have been a few incidents of car-jacking by apparent homeless persons at the Edgewood Retail District and the Publix shopping center on Ponce de Leon Ave. The APD has reported arrests in both cases; however, please note that the police expect, based on prior years, for more of this kind of activity to take place on and around the holidays. Please be aware of suspicious persons—don't let your guard down! Have a safe and happy holiday, everyone!







### **Empty Nest? What Empty Nest?**

by Gay Arnieri

Seems I heard of something called the "empty nest syndrome". It supposedly referred to the longing or loneliness of the household once kids grew up, went off and moved out.

I remember what seems now to be a rather brief period when my son went away to college. Just before he went away, he had wondered aloud what I would do once he was gone. Would I be lonely? It was a sweet and

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tender moment. As I write this I am tempted to place the emphasis on the word "moment" because it was all too brief. I didn't have the heart to tell him in that moment not to worry, I'd be just fine, in fact I was looking forward to the peace and quiet and the time to focus on me for a change.

Since then, he has moved back in for a time and subsequently moved back out to be "on his own" with his now 3 year-old son. Don't get me wrong, I love them all

> dearly. Grandchildren are the greatest. But I find myself groveling for free time, cleaning up after people who supposedly don't live here, and basically starting all over again as I help raise a grandson.

On the other hand, children do help you stay young. It is true. And my little guy has the good fortune of having a winning smile and a lovely disposition. What's a Grammy to do?

And then there's the out-of-state elders to watch over... ah, we'll hold that thought for another day.



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### KEEP AN EYE ON THE CRIME AND THE TIME by Dan Wright

### **AUTO THEFT**

Tuesday 10/17:1700 block Adolphus St. – Lexus stolen from driveway of residence.

Monday 10/22: 400 block Clifton Rd. – Toyota stolen from apartment complex parking lot. Car was locked.

Wednesday 10/25:200 block Casson St. - Chevy stolen while parked in street. Car was locked.

### OTHER LARCENY

Tuesday 10/10: 300 block Arizona Ave — Bicycle which was secured to front porch stolen.

Tuesday 10/10: 1300 block Dekalb Ave – Recycling bin stolen from street.





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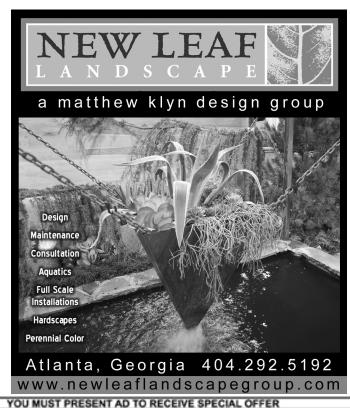
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### **BURGLARY**

Monday 10/9: 400 block Clifton Rd. – Apparent entry through open window of house. Gold watch stolen. No prints taken. Monday 10/9: 1200 block Dekalb Ave — \$80 in change stolen from house. Front door was unlocked. Prints attempted. Monday 10/30: 1800 bock Indiana Ave – Witness reported seeing suspect knock on victim's door. When no one answered, suspect went around side of house and entered via window. Suspect came out of house carrying a blue bag. Witness followed suspect to a residence on Chipley St. Suspect, Daryl Young of Moreland Avenue, arrested.

Monday 10/30: 1300 block McLendon Ave – Suspect appears to have entered residence via open bedroom window. Electronic equipment stolen. Prints recovered.

Tuesday 10/31:400 block Clifton Rd – Electronic equipment stolen from residence; point of entry unknown. Suspect entered house, locked dog in bedroom, took property.

### **COMMERCIAL BURGLARY**

Tuesday 10/23:1600 block McLendon – Front glass door of business broken, glass jar with \$700 stolen. Suspect: Nathaniel Jones, black male, approx. 52 YOA; homeless. Suspect spotted hanging around area before close of store.

### **ROBBERY - PEDESTRIAN**

Monday 10/16: 400 block Oakdale Rd – One suspect pointed black colored handgun at victim while victim in car. Other suspect jumped in passenger seat, hit victim on head. Victim forced from vehicle, 2002 Honda Civic stolen. Suspects: (1) Black male, 5'10", 180 lbs; (2) Black male 5'8", 170 lbs.

\*\*\*Special Note—Identification of Suspects: All information relating to the identification of any suspects as reported by the police to us is included in this report. The goal of providing descriptions is to aid in the arrest of the identified suspects; hence, all identifying information whatsoever is included. Where information appears to be missing, it is because it was not reported and not because it has been edited by this organization.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season from your neighbors
The Lake Claire Clarion Staff



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All proceeds benefit Lake Claire Neighbors, which puts the money right back into our neighborhood. Roger Swift, an artist who lives in Lake Claire, has graciously donated the use of his design for the benefit of LCN. Contact us at **banner@lakeclaire.org** with any questions.

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