

April 2006

newsletter of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association

V. 13, #4



Nabil Hammam (NPU Rep.), Dan White (President); Dan Wright (VP of Safety); Kathy Evans (VP of Environment); Jim Curtin (VP of Zoning).

## Exec Board Reviews 2006 Goals

The Lake Claire Neighborhood's executive board met at the end of February at the Frazer Center to discuss current issues affecting the neighborhood and assess its goals for the rest of the year. Items of discussion are as noted:

- \* 1) Harold Avenue green space: The lingering issue over the Harold Avenue green space involves the memorandum of understanding between the city of Atlanta and Frazer Center (which has agreed to take on maintenance and liability insurance for the Harold Avenue green space). The city of Atlanta wants a one-year notice should the Frazer Center want to transfer their responsibilities over the green space to the city. Frazer Center, however, wants only a sixmonth window. The LCN executive board has voted to cover the other six-months in order to bring a closure to the fight to preserve Harold Avenue's green space.
- \* 2) Infill proposal: LCN executive board agreed that it is important for Lake Claire Neighborhood Association to develop a stance on the infill issue. The group is looking into putting together a committee or group to draft a

see p.3

# Make the Mural Part of Your Earth Day Plans!

David Fichter, the muralist, will return to Atlanta for the second half of April. He will begin work in collaboration with experienced painters and artists to complete the first half of the wall. He will then draw the entire second half of the design and coordinate "All-Painter Workdays" daily from Friday, April 21 through Sunday, April 30! What a great way to spend Earth Day, April 22! See the website for updates www.lakeclaire.org or write Kathy Evans at mural@lakeclaire.org.



Reuben Haller and McKenzie Wren paint from their perch in January

#### Lake Claire Neighborhood Meeting: APRIL 20

Frazer Center - 1815 S. Ponce de Leon or back entrance at end of Ridgewood Road Lake Claire Neighbors meets every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Meetings are open to all and cover:

- Planning neighborhood events
- Reviewing variances to city zoning within Lake Claire
- Providing a community voice to city elected representatives
- Allowing neighbors to voice their concerns, meet and/or share interests

Meetings from past months' meetings, upcoming meeting agenda and more can be found at www.lakeclaire.org.



Dear Editor,

Many thanks for your efforts in keeping the neighborhood informed. I am concerned though about your manner of reporting on incidents of crime. In the February issue of the newsletter, whenever the perpetrator of a crime is described, and information about race is available, the criminal is identified only as a "black male." Certainly other information is included in descriptions provided by the police record. "Black Males" have other characteristics including height, weight, clothing worn at the time the crime was committed, hairstyle, and age, etc.

I live with two men who may be described as "black males". They do however have other attributes such as "good neighbor" (we have lived in the neighborhood for 18 years and my son was born here). My son is a good student and



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excellent athlete. He has wonderful friends in the neighborhood and is often out and about in the neighborhood socializing and visiting. I'd hate for him to be racially profiled or stereotyped because of the incomplete and inappropriate descriptions you have provided in you column. My husband as well is invested in the community and is a professional, a church elder, and is on the board of the men's shelter at Clifton Ministries. I'd hate for his presence in the community to be "misunderstood" by persons who may react negatively based on the incomplete information you have published about the descriptions of incidents of crime.

I hope that greater care will be taken in the reporting of crime, keeping in mind that Lake Claire is a neighborhood that includes persons of many racial and cultural backgrounds, many of whom have been living here contributing to the community for a long time.

#### Respectfully,

Lake Claire Neighbor Wendy Philips



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#### 2006 OFFICERS OF THE LAKE CLAIRE NEIGHBORS

#### Lake Claire Officers for 2006

**President:** Dan White – president@lakeclaire.org **VP-Zoning:** Jim Curtin – zoning@lakeclaire.org **VP-Finance:** Diane Moore – treasurer@lakeclaire.org **VP-Environment:** Kathy Evans - environment@lakeclaire.org

**VP-Safety:** Dan Wright – safety@lakeclaire.org

VP-Communications: Glenn Frankel - comm@lakeclaire.org

NPU Rep: Nabil Hamam - npu@lakeclaire.org

#### **Newsletter Staff:**

Editor: Hlee Vang -editor@lakeclaire.org

Ad coordinator: Gay Arnieri – newsletter@lakeclaire.org Layout coordinator: Boyd Baker - layout@lakeclaire.org **Distribution:** Elizabeth Hamilton – distribution@lakeclaire.org

Webmaster: Glenn Frankel - comm@lakeclaire.org



#### LCN Response:

In response to the letter from Lake Claire resident Wendy Phillips about the reporting of crime statistics, we would like to explain the way we report information about crimes in the newsletter. We receive statistics in batches from the Atlanta Police Department (APD), usually weekly, and report the crimes that occurred in and around Lake Claire. We include all identifying information about suspects provided to us and do not edit this information in any way. Unfortunately, this information, which is usually provided to APD by victims of crimes, often is very limited.

Wendy's letter stimulated a great deal of discussion among the members of the LCN Executive Committee about how to most appropriately report the information we receive. While we have not been able to reach consensus about whether and when we should change our reporting practices when race is the only identifying characteristic taken down by the police, we will continue to study this issue, and in the meantime we will continue to publish information as provided by APD.

We very much appreciate Wendy's comments and the input of all neighbors. The primary purpose of LCN is to represent this community and to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood for all residents. Please let us know your concerns about the neighborhood at any time.

Respectfully,
Lake Claire Executive Committee





#### from p.1

position agreeable to Lake Claire.

- \* 3) Traffic calming: The board is looking into the possibility of putting together a Traffic Committee for the neighborhood to deal with traffic-related issues, such as the current debates over how to bring about traffic calming on McLendon and Clifton avenues.
- \*4) Fundraising for the neighborhood: Fundraising remains a much-needed effort in the neighborhood in order to further community betterment projects or maintain quality of life for the neighborhood. Some ideas for fundraising for Lake Claire include opening an organic market and a park to park run/walk from Lake Claire Park to Candler Park friendly to participants of all ages. Ideas for fundraising and getting participants to help out with the activities will be an ongoing effort.
- \* 5) Duties of officers: The by-laws will be refined to better describe the duties of the officers on the LCN executive board.
- \* 6) Crime listings in newsletter: The board discussed the best way to list the identities of the suspects on the crime stats listing in the newsletter following a neighbor's concerns over how listing race may promote discrimination in the neighborhood.
- \* 7) Recognition of neighbors: The board would like to recognize the efforts of neighbors in Lake Claire who put in that extra effort to make the community a better place to live with an event at the end of the year that honor individuals with awards such as "Volunteer of the Year."
- 418 Ridgewood Rd SOLD
   2045 Howard Circle SOLD
   1942 N. Decatur Rd UNDER CONTRACT
   411 Leonardo Ave. UNDER CONTRACT
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## KEEP AN EYE ON THE CRIME AND THE TIME

February crime listing for Lake Claire and immediate surrounding area

#### **AUTO THEFT**

- Mon. 1/30 1500 DeKalb Ave. Chevy Vehicle left in parking lot stolen.
- Mon. 2/6 2000 Dekalb Ave. Honda Vehicle stolen from parking lot, later recovered by APD.
- Wed. 2/8 300 Sterling St. Honda Vehicle stolen from driveway overnight.
- Mon. 2/26 400 Lakeshore Dr. Honda Vehicle stolen from driveway.

#### **BURGLARY**

- Tues. 2/28 Approx. 2:45 a.m. 400 Oakdale Rd. Front door of residence kicked in; Victim confronted Suspect. Suspect had already ransacked house but taken nothing. Suspect: black male, age 30-35, thick mustache.
- Tues. 2/28 Approx. 2:35 300 Glendale Ave. Victim heard glass breaking in front of house; Victim hit panic button. Front window was broken; house was not entered and nothing was taken.
- Wed. 3/1 1400 McClendon Ave. Jewelry stolen from bedroom. Suspect likely aware of how to enter house; probably not stranger-to-stranger crime.
- Fri. 3/3 1500 McClendon Ave. Victim returned home to find rear window of house pried open; computer, cell phone, other miscellaneous items taken.
- 400 Page Ave. Door window broken, jewelry box missing. No on in home for several days; date and time of burglary undetermined.

#### **LARCENY FROM AUTO**

- Thurs. 2/2 – 400 Leonardo Ave. – Passenger-side win-

Featured Lake Claire Home
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- dow of vehicle broken, radio stolen.
- Fri. 2/3 200 Matthews Ave. Large speaker taken from vehicle.
- Thurs. 2/8 Morning 400 Sterling Ave. Front passenger window of vehicle smashed, I-pod taken.
- Sat. 2/24 2000 Howard Cir. Driver-side rear vent window of vehicle broken, miscellaneous property taken.
- Mon. 2/19 400 Harold Ave. Window of vehicle broken, stereo taken.
- Fri. 2/23 2000 Tuxedo Ave. Vent window smashed, miscellaneous property taken.

#### **ROBBERY-PEDESTRIAN**

- Wed. 2/8 – 12:45 p.m. – 1500 Dekalb Ave. – Suspect called for taxi; Victim, who was taxi-driver, picked Suspect up. Suspect grabbed Victim, held knife to throat, demanded money. Suspect: "Monica": black female, 30-35 years old, 5'5"-5'9", 135-150 lbs.

#### **ROBBERY – COMMERCIAL**

- Sun. 2/19 – Approx. 9:03 p.m. – 377 Moreland Ave. (Zesto's) – Suspects entered Zesto's wielding 2 black semi-automatic Glock pistols. Suspects demanded money from register and safe. Victims stated that the heavier of the two suspects was giving orders. Suspects fled in white 1990s 4-door Cadillac. Suspect 1 description: black male, 25-29 YOA, 6'1", 220-240 lbs; Suspect 2 description: black male, 20-25 YOA, 5'10"-6'0", 190-210 lbs. Prints not recovered as suspects wore gloves. No injuries.

see p.5







Cub Scout Den 1 of Pack 586, led by Michael Barnett, enjoys a frozen treat after hiking to the top of Stone Mountain.

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#### **ROBBERY - RESIDENTIAL**

- Tues. 2/28 – Morning – 400 Callan Cir. – Victim awoke to find Suspect in house. Victim screamed at Suspect to "get out." Suspect fled. \$6.00 and shoulder bag taken. Suspect description: black male, 30-35 YOA, 5'9"-5'10", 190-200 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.

-reported by VP-Public Safety, Dan Wright



# The Conscientious Gardener

from Pike Family Nurseries

Spring has finally arrived and it's prime time in the landscape. Flowers are blooming, temperatures are warming and our daylight hours are lengthening. There is so much that you can accomplish in the garden at this time of year. Let's take a look at a few gardening tips for the month of April.

- \* Remove faded blooms from spring flowering bulbs, like Daffodils and Hyacinths, but allow the leaves to die back naturally. After blooming, bulbs store food for the next year through photosynthesis.
- \* Buy Azaleas and other spring flowering plants while they are in bloom, so you can be sure of the color you are getting.
- \* Time to fertilize Fescue lawns for the second time. For best results, fertilize Fescue for the first time in early March, then again six to eight weeks later.
- \* Fertilize warm-season grasses, like Bermuda and Zoysia, when the grass is at least 50% green. This usually occurs in mid to late April.
- \* Although unlikely, be prepared to protect flowers and newly planted shrubs in the event of a late season frost.
- \* Plant warm season annuals and vegetables after the threat of frost has passed. The average frost date in Atlanta is April 15. We rarely experience freezing temperatures after this date.
- \* Fertilize and prune spring-blooming plants, such as Azaleas and Forsythia, after they finish blooming.
- \* Buy summer blooming bulbs, like Cannas, Dahlias and Gladiola now while selection is best, but wait to plant them until soil (not air) temperatures warm to 65 degrees or more.
- \* Don't trash your Easter Lily when it quits blooming. Plant it outside. Cut off the spent flowers, remove the plant from the pot and plant it in a sunny location with good drainage. Don't cut off the leaves until they yellow. They may not return exactly on Easter Sunday, but you should experience beautiful white lilies again next year.



1419 Meridian St in Edgewood UNDER CONTRACT in less than 2 mos.
New Listing: 674 Atlanta Ave in Grant Park 2/2.5 \$189,900!
New Listing: 189 Avery Dr. in Ansley Park 2/2 \$895,900!
New Construction: 1832 New York Ave. in Lake Claire 4/4.5 \$749,900

When you're ready, call your Lake Claire expert & neighbor Andre' Golubic 678-TURNKEY andre@serendipityrealty.net



# **UPCOMING** Events

The Mary Lin Auction will be held 7 p.m., Saturday, April 22 at the Stoveworks complex on Krog Street. Tickets are \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door) and include buffet dinner and drinks - there will be music for your entertainment as well! Come mingle with your neighbors and bid on vacation homes, airline tickets, dinners, merchandise, professional services, Children's artwork and much more. We will have a silent and live auction. Your support for Mary Lin Elementary will benefit the children's classrooms and improve technology they use at school. If you have any items you would like to donate to the auction, please e-mail Shawn McDaniel at mikenshawn@bellsouth.net.

CraZy MoOn aRt RoOM is offering three themed summer day camps that combine yoga/movement with art projects: "Build Your Own Board Game!", "Create Your Own Comic Book!," and "Fashion Your Own Bling!" Camps include lots of creativity, outdoor time, art projects, the history of the theme, yoga & stretching, and more. Camps are held at T-Shirt Construction Co. in Inman Park, conveniently located on Highland. For more information, contact Montine Blank, owner, at 404-588-0003, or Debbie George at debbie@buildtshirts.com or 404-409-9310.

The Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 12,

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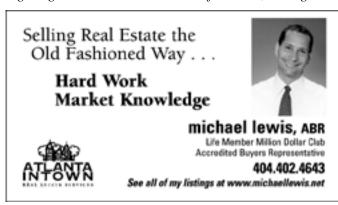
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2006 at noon at C.W. Hill Elementary School. The topic will be "Georgia Performance Standards - Adoption Update." Last year, Georgia adopted new performance standards for Kindergarten through 12th grades in math, language arts, sciences and social studies curricula. Please join us at our April meeting as Alicia Derin, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning for the Atlanta Public Schools, gives us an update on how the implementation of these standards is progressing. If you are concerned about what, when and how subjects are being taught in our schools and how learning is measured, then this is a meeting that you should not miss. C.W. Hill Elementary School is located at 386 Pine Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30308, and their phone number is 404.853.4011. The Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) is a not-for-profit organization working to empower public schools in the Grady cluster while enhancing neighborhoods in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia. For







more information on CINS and its mission, please visit: www.cinsatlanta.org.

The Georgia Law Center for the Homeless proudly announce the third annual online auction, "Bid for Justice." All proceeds will directly benefit the work of the Law Center. From April 17 – 28, 2006, the public is invited to visit the Law Center's website, www.galawcenter.org, to bid on auction packages featuring items such as Air-Tran airline tickets, weekend stays at downtown Atlanta hotels, sporting equipment, handmade jewelry and crafts, vouchers for Atlanta theaters and restaurants and much more.

The Georgia Law Center for the Homeless is a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides free civil legal services to homeless people. Located in downtown Atlanta, the Law Center has served clients and effectively addressed issues that cause homelessness for more than 20 years. The Law Center's staff works to obtain birth certificates for clients to help them become eligible for housing, provide divorces so victims of domestic violence can restart their lives, reverse wrongful evictions so families can avoid homelessness and demand unpaid wages so workers can access the income they earned.

# Meet Your LCN Board

It's hard for me to believe that I've owned my home for over 20 years and have lived here for more than ten. I live on Palifox in what feels like an urban comfort zone. I have peace of mind and the neighbors are the best! Right now I'm working with neighbors who are interested in forming a weekend organic market in Lake Claire. At first we approached this as a fund-raising project for the 'hood but the idea has evolved into creating an organic/urban market emphasizing the neighborhood experience aspect more then the fundraising aspect. We're looking for locations, ideas, and people to help. Let me know if you'd like to participate. Email me at treasurer@lakeclaire.org

Diane Moore's volunteerism started in 2000 as editor of the LC newsletter. Known as Trixie St. Claire by comembers of the esteemed tour ladies group, she's worked on the last three tour of homes. She has served as Lake Claire's treasurer for 3 years past and represents the neighborhood on the board of Freedom Park Conservancy. She works in external affairs at Georgia State University's business school and is Director of Instruction at the Farsight Institute, a non-profit organization that studies consciousness through the practice of remote viewing. She is married to Bruce Kaufman.



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## YOU can make a BIG Difference!

Add your name to the growing list of neighbors who are willing to invest in their quality of life. All it takes is \$20 from 500 of the more than 1,300 Lake Claire households to raise the necessary funds for neighborhood initiatives. Please stop what you're doing and write that check! It'll only take a few seconds. Make your checks payable to Lake Claire Neighbors and mail to LCN, attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 5942, Atlanta, GA 31107.

Thanks to the following neighbors who've paid their 2006 dues:

Dan White & Sarah Wynne

Candler Park Market

Mary & Blake Williams

Michael & Theresa Krause

Virginia Apperson & Charles (Pete) Williams III

Tim & Mary Yoder

Susan & Sean Beeching

E.J. Braun & L.M. Blank

Derek & Sarah Eiler

Sarah Colley & Michael Mikula

Corey Goldman & John Massey

Howard Bradley

Evelyn & Carranza Pryor



Congratulations to Glenn Frankel and Adam Cohen who are new fathers to baby Lucy Maya!

Betty McGarity Jennifer Lund & Bryan Anderson Kim Reimann Laura & Bruce Taylor James E. Smith Angela Rhoton Mitchel & Michele Jaffe Sandra & Ronald Simblist

# **CLASSIFIED ADS**

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### 

New feature listing your stuff for <u>FREE!!</u> Not sure? Contact newsletter@lakeclaire.org

**YARD SALE:** Interested in a neighborhood yard sale in April? If so, contact Gay Arnieri 404-377-2288 or Mary Jo Bryan 404-371-8816

FREE: Sections of black corrugated drain tubing; Infant wardrobe and misc. toys. 404-428-8991

WANTED: Stationary bicycle. I need a simple bike for knee rehab. Will buy or trade. 404-428-8991

WANTED: Used or new Playstation 2. Will buy or trade. 404-377-2288.

WANTED: Used keyboard/guitar for youth's first music lessons. No room for piano. 404-373-4884.