

June 2006

newsletter of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association

V. 13, #6

# Watershed Mural Nearing Completion!



### Lake Claire Neighborhood Meeting: JUNE 15

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.



## Moultrie of Frazer Center Receives Barbara F. Wood Award

The American Association of Mental Retardation (AAMR) presented Nadine Moultrie with The Barbara F. Wood Award in honor of her dedication to the field of disabilities. Nadine was chosen out of entries submitted throughout the state of Georgia.

The Barbara F. Wood Award was started to honor the dedication of professionals who support persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Frazer Center nominated Nadine Moultrie to reward her for bringing a love of creativity to adults at The Center. Her passion has empowered the adults by teaching them new



- **Q:** What do 300 of your neighbors have that you don't have?
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skills that promote self-confidence.

Nadine has worked in the Life Skills Department at The Frazer Center for 5 years. She teaches relaxation and sensory awareness to adults with developmental disabilities. The adults are truly inspired to creatively transform ordinary objects into one of a kind art work. Nadine spends much of her personal time scouring flea markets and yard sales looking for old purses, boots, and other objects for the adults to redecorate.

One of the many activities that Nadine has initiated with the adults is a talent show. Adults who participate in the talent show can sing, dance, act or model. Last year Nadine took the talent show to a senior center in order to share entertainment with the community. She hopes to



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#### **Lake Claire Officers for 2006**

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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

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share the talent show with other groups in the future. Nadine commented that, "These individuals have continually maximized my abilities to show that there is nothing you can't achieve and that we all have the ability to do anything."

The Frazer Center is a fifty-seven year old organization whose mission is to serve adults and children with disabilities because of cerebral palsy, spina bifida, fetal alcohol syndrome and global developmental delays. While the program began as an agency that served children with cerebral palsy, it has evolved over time to include other disabilities and typically developing children as well.

The Frazer Center has assisted thousands of adults and children and their families over the years as they strive to realize their maximum potential moving through their environment, communicating with their family and friends and becoming as independent as possible. Corporate, individual and foundation contributions help ensure that the program will continue to provide its unique services to the community at large and the disability community in particular.

submitted by Cynthia Byrd Turner, Executive Director of The Frazer Center







Random, unrelated, arty photo

# Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign

After two years of effort, numerous phone calls and the help of Councilwoman Natalyn Archibong, stop signs have been installed at some secondary intersections scattered throughout the neighborhood. Almeta and Ridgewood Avenues and Adolphus and Nelms avenues are two intersections receiving this much needed traffic calming. In conjunction with newly installed pedestrian crossing signs along McClendon Ave, the LCNA is slowing traffic down in our neighborhood. More needs to be done, but significant strides have been made in making this neighborhood safer for walkers, cyclists, and children at play.

submitted by Dan White, LCNA President

- 1. 418 Ridgewood Rd SOLD
- 2. 2045 Howard Circle SOLD
- 3. 1942 N. Decatur Rd UNDER CONTRACT
  - 4. 411 Leonardo Ave. **SOLD** 5. 256 Casson **SOLD** 
    - 6. Who will be next?

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### KEEP AN EYE ON THE CRIME AND THE TIME

<u>Crime-avoidance tip</u>: We have two violent crimes to report, both occurring in the wee hours and involving assaults on pedestrians (see "Robbery-Pedestrian" below). Two thoughts on avoiding those kinds of crime: (1) Don't walk along the street very late at night, especially the two busiest streets in our neighborhood (McClendon and Dekalb Avenue). (2) If you must walk late at night, be aware of your surroundings— take note of persons around you. Do not be embarrassed to run or hurry away from someone you feel appears threatening.

#### **AUTO THEFT**

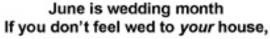
- \*Friday 4/28 overnight 1600 McClendon Ave Chrysler stolen from street.
- \* Friday 4/28 over the weekend 400 Candler Park Dr. Driver side key-hole, steering column damaged while Dodge parked on street.

#### LARCENY FROM AUTO

- \*Monday 4/9 overnight 1200 McClendon Ave Sunglasses, purse taken from BMW; driver's side door had been left open.
- \* Tuesday 4/11 mid-day 500 Page Ave Cash and other items taken from unlocked Nissan.
- \*Thursday 4/20 1:40 p.m. 500 Goldsboro Rd Victim saw suspect breaking into his vehicle and taking briefcase. Suspect fled in black mini-van heading west on Euclid Ave. Suspect description: black male, 20-25 years of age.
- \*Wednesday 4/26 overnight/next morning 1200 McClendon Ave – Miscellaneous items taken from Toyota. \*Wednesday 5/3 – overnight – 600 Terrace Ave – Passenger side window broken with large rock; no items taken.

#### **LARCENY—OTHER**

\*Thursday -4/27 - 500 Sterling St. – Trailer and assorted tools stolen from residence. Trailer later recovered.





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#### **ROBBERY—PEDESTRIAN**

\*Saturday 4/29 – 1:30 a.m. – 600 McClendon Ave. – Suspect approached Victim from rear; when Victim turned around, Suspect pointed pistol at Victim's face and told him to get down and give Suspect his money. Suspect took \$20, got in 1991 Lexus and fled south on Ferguson St. Suspect description: black male, 20-30 years of age, 5'10"-6'0", 180-200 lbs.

\*Wednesday 5/2 – approx. midnight – 600 Dekalb Ave. at intersection with Southerland Terrace – Victims approached by Suspect who was armed with a box cutter. Suspect slashed both Victims, then demanded money. Victims gave suspect \$200. Suspect description: black male, 25-30 years of age, 6'0"-6'1", 175-195 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





# Freedom Park Bird & Butterfly Garden Update

Well, Spring has sprung and so has the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden. All the plants we put in with the help of Ellen Powell' Challenge Classes at Mary Lin school in October have survived the winter months and several, including Native Azalea and Blueberries, have already bloomed. The Cumberland Rosemary, Heather, Trumpet Vine and Fringed Bleeding Heart are all blooming now. As the season continues we have many colorful flowers to look forward to-Swamp Hibiscus, Cardinal Flower, Bee Balm and Gayfeather to name a few.

The Atlanta Audubon Society volunteers along with Phil Edwards and the Dekalb Master Gardener Association are in the process of weeding and then mulching the garden. So far, watering is taking care of itself since all our plants are native and do well once established in our Atlanta climate.

Two weeks ago Audubon's Art Hurt put the bluebird house, which was built by the students at Lin, up near the garden, as well as a second box behind the school. A few days later a bluebird was spotted across the street from the garden on a post in the Candler Park Golf course. We're hoping maybe that bird will set up housekeeping in our box. The bad news is that a starling was seen checking the box out a little later. Lets keep our fingers crossed that its the bluebird who wins!

In addition to the bluebird box we've also put up several feeders to hopefully attract some birds while the garden is maturing. There's a thistle feeder up for American Goldfinches. who should be migrating through til the first weeks in May. Also there's a nectar feeder for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds who have been passing our way for a couple of weeks. Hummers can actually nest in Atlanta though they don't seem to be seen here very often during the summer. Lastly, there's an "all-purpose" suet feeder which can attract any number of birds from Northern Cardinals to Tufted Titmice to several kinds of woodpeckers.

There has been some other bird activity at or near the garden. A resident Mockingbird seems to consider the garden his / her territory-this bird, too, has perched on our well-trodden bluebird box. Birds whose calls have been heard near the garden include the Cardinal, Red-bellied Woodpecker and White-breasted Nuthatch. Also far above the garden a Turkey Vulture was spotted-just passing through-we haven't planted for TV's (as they're familiarly called). The bird must have mistaken us for the Body Farm in Tennessee.

The garden itself is a work in process. Our sign has been up for a couple of months now (see attachment). Soon the Master Gardeners will put a permanent border around the garden. And now that we've gotten all our basic native plants in, we hope to set up a water feature and also plant some evergreens for shelter. Lastly, we hope to get a seed feeder up that would be inaccessible to squirrels.

Please let us know if you have any comments, questions, or would like to volunteer to help with the garden-or if you see any birds or butterflies hanging around the corner of North Avenue and Candler Park Drive.

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submitted by Carol Vanderschaaf, carovan@mindspring.com



### **UPCOMING Events**

\*\*Congratulations to Dan and Sherry Wright, the new parents of Latha Lois Wright, who is named after her two living great-grandmothers – Mom's grandmother, Latha Virginia Rachels Merritt; and Dad's grandmother, Mary Lois Williams Barkley.

Latha was born 8:36 a.m. on May 4, 2006 at Piedmont Hospital weighing 6 lbs. 14.1 ounces (Daddy thinks the .1 is very important!)

#### \*\*Candler Park Parents Connection is looking for a leader in Lake Claire!

CPPC was started as a way to connect with other parents, share information and make our community a more safe and (if possible) better place to raise a family. CPPC is looking to team up with parents in Lake Claire and we need someone to help us head this up. Please email or call me if you are interested. Thank you. Christie Kuropatwa at 404-521-2899 or kuropatwa@comcast.net

\*\*The Atlanta Philharmonic, a non-profit, all volunteer, GLBT orchestra (and GLBT-friendly) is giving its second performance since its inception in January 2005.

#### **Concert info:**

June 27, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Moore Chapel at 3180 Peachtree Road (west side of Peachtree between Piedmont and Roswell Road)

Tickets cost \$15; over 62 and students \$5; a reception will follow.

On the program: Schubert, Saint-Saens and Handel, to name a few

More information at: atlantaphilharmonic.org.

#### \*\*Get your woodchips!

Our neighborhood's own Glen Law is working to haul woodchips. For \$40 he will fill his pick-up and bring it to you. A percentage of his proceeds goes to the Land Trust. Get a chip off the old block!

Contact: Glen Law, 678-698-4902







#### \*\*Lt. Governor Debate

On June 6, Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in conjunction with the League of Women Voters will host a debate of candidates for Lieutenant Governor of Georgia. The debate will begin at 7:00 and last an hour and a half. Candidates will be asked a series of questions that the League of Women Voters and the Church feel are important to the people of Georgia. Invited candidates include: Casey Cagle, Greg Hecht, Griffin Lotson, Jim Martin, Steen Miles, Ralph Reed and Rufus Terrill. Druid Hills Presbyterian Church is located at 1026 Ponce De Leon Avenue across from the Majestic Diner. Free parking is available at the church. Please visit our web site at www.dhpc.org for directions and additional information about the church.



### Waldorf Admitted to NAIS

The Waldorf School of Atlanta, an independent, pre-K - 8 day school in Decatur that serves over 200 students, was recently admitted to the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). WSA] joins a diverse network of approximately 1,200 independent schools in the United States.

Independent schools are private, nonprofit schools that are governed by boards of trustees. To gain membership in NAIS, schools must prove that they are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that are nondiscriminatory in hiring and admission.

The Waldorf School of Atlanta, in only its 20th year of operation, inspires in its students a life-long love of learning through a balanced curriculum that includes academic, artistic and practical life skills. Providing an approach to education that respects the inherently unique abilities of each individual child, WSA fosters in its students a capacity to think with clarity, to feel with compassion, and to act with purpose and social responsibility in their world.

There are approximately 27,000 private schools in the U.S. (about 25% of all schools), and of those, roughly 2,000 are independent. Governed by independent boards of trustees, independent schools are primarily supported by tuition, charitable contributions, and endowment income, rather than through taxes or church funds.



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# City Council Supports US Department of Peace and Nonviolence

The Atlanta City Council, by a 12-2 vote, passed a Resolution on Monday May 1st, 2006 in support of creating a U.S. Department of Peace and Nonviolence. The Resolution, offered by Cheryl Tarr, State Coordinator of the Georgia Alliance for a U.S. Department of Peace, specifically referenced two bills currently in several committees in Congress. HR 3760, the House version of the bill, has 64 co-sponsors, including Georgia Representatives John Lewis (D-GA 5th) and Cynthia McKinney (D-GA 4th). It's counterpart in the Senate, S. 1756, is virtually identical to the House bill and has two co-sponsors.

The Resolution, originally introduced April 17th by Councilmember Felicia Moore, passed the Finance and Executive Committee on April 26, on a 3-2 split vote. Yesterday 's vote, however, represents near unanimous support for creation of a US Department of Peace and Nonviolence. "I think that Atlanta," Tarr said, "is once again at the forefront in the peace and civil rights movement. We talk about peace, justice, and equality a lot in this town," she continued, "the Atlanta City Council has just proven we mean what we say."

If established, the Department of Peace would research and analyze foreign policy for the Secretary of Peace, whose primary international responsibility would be to recommend to the President ways to address the root causes of war and propose nonviolent means of resolving conflict. A Peace Academy, on par with the Military Academies, would train civilian peacekeepers and support the military with complementary approaches to ending violence.

Domestically, the Department would be a funding partner in government to address issues such as child abuse, domestic violence, gang violence, and cultural and racial violence with proven programs and practices. Statistics reveal that each year, medical expenses from domestic violence alone total at least \$3 to \$5 billion. Businesses forfeit another \$100 million in lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and non-productivity due to domestic violence. Teaching violence prevention and mediation to America's school children is just one of the many ways a U.S. Department of Peace would reduce violence in our country.

The Georgia Alliance for a U.S. Department of Peace is affiliated with The Peace Alliance, a non-partisan, non-profit organization leading the effort to establish a U.S. Department of Peace. Established in 2004, the Georgia group has about 350 supporters statewide, and Atlanta joins a growing number of cities from around the country that have passed similar resolutions. "The United States remains a global leader in so many areas," Tarr said, "it is only fitting that we lead the world in the pursuit of real peace, and it is only fitting that Atlanta helps lead the states in convincing Congress that now is the time for a U.S. Department of Peace and Nonviolence."

For more information on this legislation and The Peace Alliance, please visit The Peace Alliance website at: www.thepeacealliance.org

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