

une 2007

Newsletter of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association

V. 14, #6

## **Evolution of Lake Claire**

By Kathy Evans

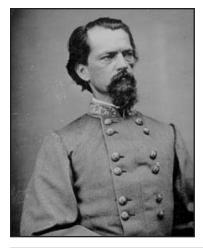
When Dekalb Ave. was the Decatur Wagon Road in the last part of the 19th century, the town center of this area, then (and now) known as Kirkwood, was on the south side of the tracks. The north side of the tracks was sparsely developed.

In 1871, Fanny Haralson Gordon and John Brown Gordon, who was a three-time U.S. Senator and two-term Governor of Georgia, purchased 86.5-acres in what is now the heart of Lake Claire. They chose a knoll above the wagon road to build their estate, known as "Sutherland." Their original home and a nearly identical replace-



The Sutherland Estate, current site of the Horizons School

ment following its destruction by an 1897 fire stood on the site until 1942. The Horizons School is on the wooded knoll today.



The surrounding area developed from at least six small independent "street car" communities, eventually evolving into the Lake Claire neighborhood.

#### What was the name of your historic subdivision?

Colquitt Hills, est. 1896 - Connecticut, Indiana, Delaware, New York, and McClendon.

Edgewood City Subdivision, 1907 - Adolphus, Nelms, Arizona, McLendon, Dekalb.

Edgewood Park Realty Co., 1910 - Hardendorf, Harold, Muriel, Harriet, Marlbrook.

Sutherland Terrace, 1911 - Hampton, Sutherland, Gordon Ave., Oxford. Oakwood Terrace, 1913 - Palifox, Tuxedo, Ridgecrest, McLendon. Massell Development Company, 1926 - Claire Drive, Lakeshore.

< John Brown Gordon, resident of the Sutherland Estate

## Lean, Mean, and GREEN

Those newer light bulbs (compact fluorescent) that are now the only legal electric light bulb in Australia and use a fraction of the electricity and last 30 times longer that our standard incandescent bulbs sound perfect. But there is one drawback – they contain small amounts of mercury. This means that they must be disposed of carefully. Instead of discarding them in the usual household trash, take them to a recycling center that accepts them. There was an announcement recently that Ikea accepts them for recycling. Do you know of any other locations to take them? Please email editor@lakeclaire.org if you have any information on this topic (or any GREEN topic). If there is no readily accessible recycling location we June want to set up a neighborhood recycling alternative.



## Lake Claire Officers for 2007

President: Kathy Evans - president@lakeclaire.org VP-Zoning: Dan White - zoning@lakeclaire.org VP-Finance: Diane Moore - treasurer@lakeclaire.org VP-Environment: Jonathan Lewis -

environment@lakeclaire.org

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

VP-Communications - Glenn Frankel -

comm@lakeclaire.org

NPU Rep: \*\*VACANT\*\* - npu@lakeclaire.org

#### **Newsletter Staff**

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Distribution: Troy Nielsen - distribution@lakeclaire.org Webmaster: Glenn Frankel - comm@lakeclaire.org

## **Box Tops for Education**

Ever wonder about those tiny emblems on the tops (or bottoms) of bake mixes and other shelf food



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404-296-7310 KOMERYHEATINGANDAIR.COM items that say "Box Tops for Education"? Our own Mary Lin Elementary School collects and uses them to purchase classroom supplies and media center furnishings. If you want to help, please clip the box or pouch tops/bottoms with the emblem and drop them off at Mary Lin Elementary, or at 431 Harold Ave. (on the front porch in the Lake Claire Drop Box). Thanks for helping out!



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#### VOLUNTEER needed!

We have an opening for Advertising Coordinator (all computer/email). This job involves keeping track of current advertisers and billing. For more information contact editor@lakeclaire.org.

## **Lake Claire Neighbors -Meeting Highlights**

Thursday, June 17, 2007 @ 7pm

Attendance: Approximately 20 people.

Officers present: Kathy Evans, President; Dan White, VP Zoning; and Glenn Frankel, VP Communications.

#### Announcements/discussions included:

- · Welcome to several first-time attendees.
- · LCN is authorizing second round of kudzu removal in Harold Avenue Green Space and Lake Claire Park. For third round, we would like to solicit financial contributions from nearby neighbors and
- The second set of neighborhood banners has been delivered (we've now distributed nearly 80). Order yours now at www.lakeclaire.org. Thanks Glenn Frankel for organizing!
- · A resident has sited coyotes in her back yard on Almeta.



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- LCN is looking for an alternate rep. to the Freedom Park Conservancy (to fill position next year); we will vote on pledge amount for our annual contribution to FPC once we review current Treasurer's Report.
- Zone 6 Police officer announced that several breakins have occurred around the zone with suspect on bicycle, taking small electronics and other items.

#### Land Use Issues/Voting Items:

Members voted not to support a variance request to reduce the side yard set back from 7 to 4.3 feet at 502 Harold to add a second story addition (13, opposed; 1 in favor). Numerous line-of-site neighbors were opposed to the plan and expressed an interest in encouraging the applicant to use a plan that would block less of the adjacent neighbor's view, compliment surroundings, and still meet his needs for square footage. The owner was not present at the meeting, but was represented. Neighbors extended an invitation to discuss supporting a modified plan.

The members present voted unanimously to support the proposed changes to the City's Zoning Ordinance proposed by the Mayor's Infill Development Panel; the vote specified that it was to support the original recommendations of the committee, as agreed upon by the American Institute of Architects, including definitions of basement and attic that reduce overall floor-area-ratio and bulk, and not increasing lot coverage maximums.



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## Next LCN Meeting: Thursday, June 21

7 pm, Frazer Center Social time 6:30 - 7:00 pm. Please join us! No voting items as of print date.

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# Think Globally, Refuel Lo y: Biodiesel Part III of III

By Troy Nielsen

#### Thinned and Tested

Diesel engines have been optimized for thin petrodiesel, not viscous fry oil. Vegetable oil is thinned out by removing glycerin. The solvent methanol removes the glycerin and then is recovered with potassium hydroxide. After recovery, the methanol can be re-used.

Lab testing is an important but unenforced step in biofuel production. Rob sends a sample to the National Renewal Energy Lab (NREL), which tests the fuel to the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Biodiesel Fuel Standard D 6751. Testing ensures that the sample is biodiesel fuel free of impurities like methanol.

With biodiesel's "gold rush" mentality and lack of testing enforcement, it's not surprising that a NREL study found that 55% of the biodiesel sold in the US is not tested. States, such as Tennessee, are creating enforcement programs in the department of agriculture. Georgia does not currently have an enforcement program.

#### The Biofuel Buzz

Biofuels are mentioned everywhere and it's easy to think "biofuel = automati y good for the earth". But recent studies have questioned their "net energy balance" and the environmental impact of "farm-

are you more than just your Realtor®. YOUR LAKE CLAIRE NEIGHBOR, LONG TERM RESIDENT AND FORMER BUILDER-DESIGNER INSPECTION SUPPORT When You're Ready REPAIRS/UPGRADES To List, Be Ready **RESOURCE** To SELI • DESIGN ASSISTANCE CONSTRUCTION **KNOWLEDGE** LINDA JACKSON 404-217-3376 Cell • LindaJackson@AtlantaIntown.com ing for fuel". Net energy balance is the difference between the energy required to produce the fuel and the energy delivered by the fuel. A positive net energy balance means that the fuel delivers more energy than required to make it. Refuel decreases the energy to make the fuel by recycling a "used" material like fry oil and lo y distributing the biofuel to local consumers.

Above all, the best thing to do, Rob notes, is to reduce fuel usage, increase fuel efficiency, and reduce need for transportation. Consider assisting Refuel by joining the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (www.cleanenergy.org/joinus) or contact Rob directly at Rob@cleanenergy.org. He can use supporting e-mails to convince local officials and business partners. Feel free to ask Rob "What can I do to help?" as there may be specific tasks that require assistance.

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Troy for such an informative article. Neighbors, here's your chance to pitch in if you were wondering what you can do to help efforts to reduce a major negative environmental impact. Think about making this a family project that can be initiated on the internet. Go for it!



More info at www.BioDiesel.Org - National trade association for the biodiesel industry and coordinating body for research and development in the U.S.





## The Conscientious Gardener

By Gay Arnieri



I have just one thing to say: potato vine. I have it everywhere this year. Not that lush ornamental plant that looks so appealing in pots. I'm talking about the stringy I-can't-believe-it's-still-coming-up stuff that seems to grow a foot a day. Last year I took a break from pulling the stuff up.

Have you ever seen the mature vine lined with all those tiny potatoes? They look deceptively cute. And if you let those cute little taters hit the ground and stay there, you will have many more potato vines come up next year. I have found that the only way that I can keep up with it is to routinely pull them up before they bear those little spuds. When I do that every week or two during the spring and summer, they become rare AND there are far fewer of them next year. Herbicides don't appeal to me because there are so many of the little devils that I would be dumping huge amounts of chemicals. I don't like adding chemicals to the environment and they don't seem to have much effect anyway. I have chosen hand weeding for this pest. Besides, it gets me out and around to the farther reaches of my garden and doesn't put chemicals out unnecessarily. Now, if you happen to like potato vines, disregard this article. Otherwise, go for the kill with hand-to-hand combat

as soon as you can. And take no prisoners. This month's tip: ORGANIC weed killer? You bet! Just check out this web site: http://site.cleanairgardening.com/info/vinegar-as-an-organic-weed-killer. html Let us know how it works for you! editor@lake-claire.org.



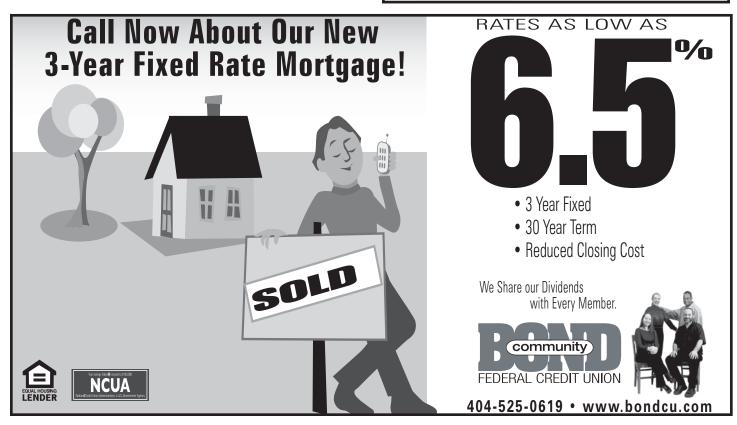
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## "Summer Cut For The Cure"

June 24th at 6:00pm – 8:00 pm Great Clips at Edgewood

Come get a haircut. All proceeds will benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure

By Traci Switzer

In October I will be walking in the Breast Cancer 3 Day with my 4 sisters. We are 5 Sisters for a Cure. My youngest sister is a 2 time breast cancer survivor at 37 years old.

The Breast Cancer 3 Day benefits Susan G. Komen for the Cure which is working to end breast cancer in our lifetime. We will walk 60 miles in 3 days. It will be an amazing journey.

Great Clips at Edgewood will generously donate all proceeds on this special Sunday (June 24, 6 pm – 8 pm). Join us for a haircut. Our entire family would appreciate your support. www.the3day.org/atlanta07/traciswitzer.



## Want to Advertise in The Clarion? Check out Our Display Advertising Rates

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#### Edgewood Retail District

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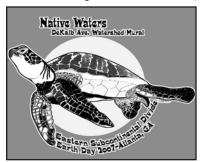


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Here's your one-stop shop for the things that show your LC Pride!



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Watershed Mural T-Shirts (shown left) \$15

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## **Mark Your Calendars!**

Preschool Visitors - Monday Book Nook and Garden Safari, Jimmy Carter Library

Mondays, June 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

Free and Open to the Public

On select Mondays, Jimmy Carter Library staff and volunteers will read from a selection of story books in our library and conduct an outdoor Garden Safari. Story time will be offered in the museum lobby, at the colorful bean bag seating area by the Book Nook sign. Themes we will include are the presidency, leadership, growing up, roles adults play, etc. Simple language and colorful illustrations are included in every book. Colorful beanbag chairs are available to sit in. Best for ages 3-7. For more information 404-865-7101.

NOTE: The "Garden Safari" tours are temporarily interrupted. They will resume July 2. "Book Nook" story time will continue as usual through June.

Wednesdays, June 6-August 1 - Log Cabin Hour for children 4-12 meets at the Dekalb History Park, Decatur - reservations required. 404-373-1088 or email director@dekalbhistory.org.

June 4 – Monday – The Carter Center, Book Nook 10 AM, for ages 3-7.

June 6 – Wednesday - Log Cabin Hour for children 4-12 meets at the DeKalb History Park - Decatur - reservations required - 404-373-1088 or email director@dekalbhistory.org.

June 11 – Monday – The Carter Center, Book Nook 10 AM, for ages 3 – 7.

June 13 – Wednesday – Log Cabin Hour for children 4-12 meets at the DeKalb History Park - Decatur - reservations required - 404-373-1088 or email director@dekalbhistory.org.

June 14 - Thursday - FLAG DAY

June 14 – Thursday - Planning, Urban Design, and Density, APA Preservation Division, 2007 Urban Design Forum Series at the Museum of Design Atlanta -

www.livablecommunitiescoalition.org/uploads/100012\_bodycontentfiles/100524.pdf

June 16 – Saturday - Scrub-a-Dub Doggie Dog Wash; 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.; : Red Bandanna Pet Food, 6649 G Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30328, (404) 943-9155,

www.redbandannapetfood.com (678) 318-1886 or visit www.aarfatlanta.org for more detail

June 17 – Sunday – FATHERS DAY

June 18 - Monday - The Carter Center, Book Nook 10 AM, for ages 3 - 7.

June 20 – Wednesday - - Log Cabin Hour for children 4-12 meets at the DeKalb History Park - Decatur - reservations required - 404-373-1088 or email director@dekalbhistory.org.

June 21 - Thursday - FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

June 21 – Thursday - Cocktails 4 A Cause, hosted by Hair of the Dog; 6-10 p.m.; Sweet Lowdown, 942 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30309, (404) 207-

1324, www.thesweetlowdown.com Cost (suggested donation):\$10 per person. More information: (678) 318-1886 or visit www.aarfatlanta.org for more details.

June 21 – Thursday – LCNA Monthly Meeting, Fraser Center, 7 p.m.

June 24 – Sunday - "Summer Cut For The Cure" at  $6:00 \mathrm{pm} - 8:00 \mathrm{pm}$ ; Great Clips at Edgewood; Come get a haircut. All proceeds will benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure

June 25 – Monday – The Carter Center, Book Nook 10 AM, for ages 3-7.

June 27 – Wednesday - - Log Cabin Hour for children 4-12 meets at the Dekalb History Park - Decatur - reservations required - 404-373-1088 or email director@dekalbhistory.org.

August 13 - Monday - APS Schools back in session.



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#### IMPORTANTCLIP'NSAVEINFORMATION

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Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin							
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Mary Lin Elementary School       (404) 371-7158         Inman Middle School       (404) 802-3200         Grady High School       (404) 802-3001							
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Emergency repairs & Maintenance, Traffic Signals & Street light repairs (404) 65WORKS Atlanta Water Department (Emergency Repairs)							
Atlanta Zoning Enforcement							
Atlanta Building Inspectors							
Dekalb County Tax Commissioner							
Dekalb County Animal Control							

## City of Atlanta Water Restrictions - SPRING 2007

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has declared a "Level Two" drought for the state. This limits water use to mornings only. The following watering restrictions were current as of 5/25/07. City of Atlanta customers may only water outdoors on Saturdays and

Sundays between midnight and 10 a.m.; even-numbered addresses on Saturday and odd-numbered addresses on Sunday. No outdoor watering is allowed Monday through Friday until further notice. This service area includes the City of Atlanta, Sandy Springs and unincorporated South Fulton County.

#### **Exemptions to City of Atlanta Watering Restrictions**

The following activities are exempted from the City of Atlanta's new watering restrictions:

- Personal Food Gardens
- Newly (in place less than 30 days) installed landscapes

These may be watered any day of the week between the hours of Midnight and 10 a.m. for a period of 30 days following installation.

There are additional exemptions for commercial outdoor water uses.

Note: Water restrictions are subject to change. You are responsible for keeping abreast of current watering restrictions.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Odd	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Even



## LAKE CLAIRE SECURITY REPORT

Compiled/reported by VP—Public Safety, Dan Wright

April, early May 2007 crime stats (Weeks 15-19 2007) for Lake Claire and Closely Surrounding Areas.

#### Rash of Stolen Cars

Several cars were stolen from the neighborhood and just outside the 'hood over this time period. Note that in every case but one (where the circumstances were unclear), the keys were left in the car, often IN THE IGNITION. Please use common sense: DON'T LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN THE CAR! Our neighborhood is among the safest in the City, but we are not immune to crimes of opportunity. If you don't make it easy, it probably won't happen. Note also that ALL of the car break-ins included in this report involved cars that were unlocked. The same concept that applies to prevent car theft applies to prevent car break-ins: keep the doors locked.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE CRIME AND THE TIME Date -- Time -- Block Address - Description

#### AUTO THEFT

Sunday - 4/21 -- overnight - 2000 Tuxedo Ave -

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Serving the Legal Needs of Your Family and Your Business Honda stolen from driveway of residence. No broken glass found at scene.

Thursday – 4/26 – overnight – 400 Candler Park Dr - 2 scooters stolen from parking lot outside apartments.

Friday -4/27 - 1:00 p.m. -300 Sutherland Ter. -Chevy stolen from construction site. Victim parked and left keys in ignition; when he returned, the vehicle was being driven away.

Sunday – 4/29 – morning – 400 Oakdale Rd – VW stolen. Keys to VW left on dashboard of Honda parked next to VW. Keys removed and apparently used to steal VW. Prints recovered.

Monday - 5/7 - late morning - 300 Oakdale Rd -Ford stolen from driveway. Keys had been left in ignition.

#### **BURGLARY**

Friday -4/13 -- evening -1300 Dekalb Ave - rear door of residence kicked in, electronics, other miscellaneous property removed. Prints recovered.

#### LARCENY FROM AUTO

Tuesday -4/17 – overnight -2000 Palifox Dr – Toyota car entered, miscellaneous property stolen. Victim believes left vehicle unlocked.

 $Tuesday-4/17-morning-1900\ Palifox\ Dr-Toyota$ truck entered, electronics, miscellaneous property stolen. Vehicle was not locked. Prints attempted.

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Tuesday – 5/7 – overnight – 400 Claire Dr – Ford SUV entered, computer and miscellaneous property stolen. Vehicle was not locked. Prints attempted. Note: Neighbors report that property was stolen from several unlocked cars on Tuxedo Ave. Police reports did not include this information. If you are a victim of crime, however minimal, please report it to the police so that they can adjust their patrols accordingly.

#### LARCENY - OTHER

Wednesday - 4/4 - evening - 1500 Dekalb Ave - Cash and personal checks stolen from victim. No narrative included in this report.

Sunday - 4/15 - afternoon - Flying Biscuit on

McLendon Ave – Victim's purse stolen at Flying Bis-

April 4/26 through May 6 – 400 Harold Ave – Generator, electric hedger stolen from underneath porch in back yard.

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.



## Coyotes in Lake Claire?

A Lake Claire Neighbor sent in the following on 5/18/07:

"I have personally spotted a coyote on two separate occasions in my backyard but it was over the winter and I didn't think any more of it until we had a spate of "lost cat" signs (including Guava, across the street from me).

No one knows for sure if the culprit is a coyote but when I went to my vet at Inman Animal Clinic, I was told they have been treating pets for coyote-inflicted injuries. In addition, neighbors of a vet they know reported that they came home to find two coyotes cir-

cling their cat. When they tried to scare off the coyotes, the animals ran taking the cat with them, killing it. I gather from what I was told that this was in the Candler Park area.

The AJC has reported on coyotes in the Lenox area and Norcross and the threat they pose to cats and small dogs. I researched coyotes on the web and was surprised to learn that they are not strictly dusk-dawn predators but essentially hunt at whatever time food is available, so that means pets are not safe outdoors at any time. Coyotes can both dig under and jump over chain link fences.

If you have room in the Clarion I think it would benefit the neighborhood to be alerted to the possibility that one (or more) covotes have decided to include Lake Claire in their territory so that folks will rethink leaving their cats outside or letting small dogs roam unaccompanied. Thanks! -Sari McCorkle

Editor's Note: Thank you, Sari!

## Casey's no Coyote! He's a great DOG!

Casey (shown right) is one of many wonderful pets on AARF's ever-growing waiting list. If you or someone you know can be a foster pet par-



mail foster@aarfatlanta.org. If any of you Lake Clairions have a pet that needs a new home, send us a photo and a short piece about the pet and we will print it. Contact editor@lakeclaire.org.





## **Personal Classifieds**

BUY•SELL•TRADE•RECYCLE•YARD SALE! List your personal stuff for FREE!! Not sure? Contact newsletter@lakeclaire.org.

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FAB WEBSITE If you haven't seen www.lakeclaire.org lately, you haven't really seen it. New resident info, neighbor-

hood facts and figures, planning documents, pics, one-click dues payment, newsletter ads, banners, and more.

## **Business Classifieds**

Business classified ads are ONLY \$3 per line prepaid! For more info contact newsletter@lakeclaire.org

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