

Gnomes of the LC, Ludwig and Leopold, fell miniature holiday tree in Frazer Forest

(story on page 9)



Season of Giving Charity

Helped out by Hoopla

There are many opportunities to get in on the giving. Hoopla of Downtown Decatur is sponsoring a local giving effort. Visiting the Hoopla toy store in Decatur will be even more magical this holiday season. Owners Sabrina Lilly and Linda Beckstein were concerned that the charity *Season of Giving* would not be able to reach their goals because of the economy. So instead of asking people to adopt whole families, Hoopla adopted the families and is listing their individual requests in the store. Now visitors can do what they can, allowing one child to give to another child. And whatever wish lists haven't been fulfilled, the store will donate all the items left.

"We always love to give back this time of year. We are excited to be working with such a wonderful local group. *Season of Giving* is an amazing charity. They typically need whole families to be adopted which at this time of year can be a large commitment, so we decided that we would adopt the families, then our customers could come in and purchase a gift for any member of the family we have adopted," explains Lilly.

Hoopla will offer a 30% discount on gifts bought for donation and,

in order to make the store even more fun for the holidays they have a packed the calendar with family friendly activities, crafts and special shopping nights planned. The entire schedule can be found at www.hooplakids.com.

"We love the holidays, of course we own a toy store, how could we not! But this year is so special for us. This year we were thrilled to find a way to give back to a community who has been so supportive of us over the years. Taking this step really brings in to perspective what the holidays are all about," states Beckstein.

Hoopla is located at 414 Church Street in downtown Decatur. Season of Giving can be contacted at 404-378-8068 or email aseasonofgiving@decaturga.com. Make donations to A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur, P.O. Box 220, Decatur, GA 30031.



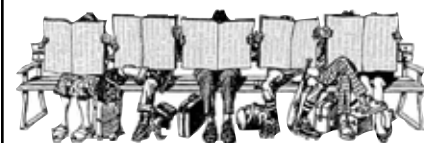
Thoughtful Giving? Consider these:

This giving season remember that your dollar goes a long way to support projects right here at home. Consider neighborhood service charities such as: Clifton Sanctuary Ministries and The Frazer Center. And don't forget the local causes like the Lake Claire Land Trust and expansions, The Lake Claire Park extension, Granmaw Gordon, and, of course, the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association which brings you this newsletter, supports green space projects such as the Harold Avenue Greenspace, Friends of Lake Claire Park, and Friends of the Frazer Center Forest, as well as fun neighborhood activities and other good causes in the neighborhood! Don't forget your favorite charities this season. Get contact information

for these neighborhood organizations at www.lakeclaire.org.

Mark Your Calendars

December 2 – ELECTION DAY
December 4 – Thursday - Tours for Prospective Mary Lin Elementary School Parents.
December 21 – Winter Begins
December 22 – Hanukkah
December 25 - Christmas



What's Inside?

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THE CLARION IS PRINTED
ON RECYCLED PAPER.



Kashi Lends a Hand

Atlanta Ashram Community celebrates the holidays by providing blankets, clothes and food for 500 homeless in downtown Atlanta. In an effort to help the growing number of homeless men, women and children in downtown Atlanta survive the bitter winters, volunteers of all ages in the Lake Claire/Candler Park community once again will gather at Kashi Atlanta on December 12-13 to prepare and deliver over 500 gift bags with necessities for people living on the streets during the winter. The gift bags are part of Kashi's Holiday Street Meals, which is part of its regular Street Meals Program. The packages will contain blankets,

scarves, hats, cough drops, chap stick, toiletries, and homemade cookies and candies, donated by local businesses and individuals throughout the community. Kashi's Street Meals Program was created in 2000, and this is also the eighth year of Kashi's Holiday Street Meals program. The program benefits not just the recipients of the packages, but also those who prepare and distribute them. "Kashi Atlanta was created on a foundation of service to humanity, of helping the less fortunate in the community," said Kashi Atlanta Executive Director Jaya Devi Bhagavati. "It is amazing to see how people who partici-

pate for the very first time really enjoy themselves. It definitely awakens the desire to serve." In addition to bringing the packages, Kashi volunteers will spend time with the residents of the shelter. They even plan to bring instruments and sing Christmas carols. Kashi has a variety of service programs. In addition to its regular Street Meals programs, Kashi provides free yoga classes to children at Eggleston Children's Hospital, Seniors at Fulton County Seniors Centers, and residents of local penal institutions. Kashi also has a KidsArt programs for patients at Scottish Rite and Eggleston Children's Hospitals. For

more information on these programs, visit www.kashiatlanta.org or contact Kashi Atlanta at 404-687-3353.

Kashi still needs donations of:
Blankets

(Men's) Winter Socks

Hats

Gloves

Kleenex

Chapstick

Personal Hygiene Items

Cookies & Candy

Money

No other clothes, please. For more info contact Sadhu at Kashi Atlanta: 404-687-3353. 404-316-4454.

Celebrating Polar Exhibitions Now on View

Fernbank Museum of Natural History has launched a monthly series of Sunday Snow Days in conjunction with the current

exhibitions Ends of the Earth: From Polar Bears to Penguins and Penguins of the Antarctic, and the IMAX® film Antarctica.

Throughout 2008, Sunday Snow Days will be held the second Sunday of each month and will feature free samples of cold treats, special activities for children, and screenings of popular polar themed films in the Auditorium. Sunday Snow Days are included at no additional charge with Museum admission. The remaining Sunday Snow Days schedule is: December 14 noon to 3 p.m.* Free ice cream samples from Bruster's Real Ice Cream, Free gelato samples from Saba Restaurant, Polar Puppet Factory with the Center for Puppetry Arts, Polar habitat toss game, Snow flake craft. These special family programming days further enhance the popular hands-on activities in Ends of the Earth: From Polar Bears to Penguins, an exhibition that appeals to all ages as it transports visitors to the fascinating and freezing worlds of the North and South Poles through a combination of hands-on interactives, artifacts, specimens and multimedia experiences. Penguins of the Antarctic, which is on view in conjunction with

Ends of the Earth through January 2, 2009, gives visitors a closer look at the varied species of penguins that live within the white-on-white wilderness of Antarctica through this collection of 90 color photographs by J.J. L'Heureux. The IMAX® film Antarctica (separate ticket required), highlights the extreme environment of Antarctica as it explores life above the mountains and beneath the glaciers of this icy continent—the coldest, driest and windiest continent on Earth. Fernbank Museum of Natural History is located at 767 Clifton Road NE. Museum tickets include access to Sunday Snow Days and are free for members and for children ages 2 and younger. Museum admission is \$15 for adults, \$14 for students and seniors, and \$13 for children ages 3-12. To reserve tickets, call 404.929.6400. For more info go to www.fernbankmuseum.org. *Schedule is subject to change. Free samples available while supplies last. Special screenings will be in Fernbank's Auditorium and are not presented in IMAX® format.



Come Grow with Us!

Enrollment Information Sessions

Oakhurst Cooperative Preschool will be holding three information sessions for the 2009 - 2010 school year.

January 24, 9:00 a.m.

January 29, 7:00 p.m.

January 31, 9:00 a.m.

OCP is located one mile west of downtown Decatur in the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE.

404.474.7255

www.oakhurstcoop.com

LCN Holiday Dinner!**Thursday, December 11****Lake Claire****"Neighbor it Up!"****Holiday Dinner**

6:30 pm at the Frazer Center.

Dinner will be catered.

Bring canned or boxed food item to donate to the local food bank. Please join us!

Lake Claire Officers for 2008President: Diane Moore - president@lakeclaire.orgVP-Zoning: Dan White - zoning@lakeclaire.orgVP-Finance: Cara Stevens - treasurer@lakeclaire.orgVP-Environment: Kathy Evans - environment@lakeclaire.orgVP-Safety: Sheila Finciguerra - safety@lakeclaire.org

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(Rose Goff to take over Distribution beginning January)Webmaster: Glenn Frankel - comm@lakeclaire.org**The Design Corner***By Jill Makinen of Palifox Drive*

All my life, I've had a passion for design. I believe everyone deserves and can obtain good design, regardless of income level or creativity. It can be intimidations and overwhelming to incorporate "design" into your home, so in the coming months I will be sharing some strategies and tips to help you create your own look.

Since we spend so much time in our kitchens, I thought it would be a logical place to begin our design discussion. The kitchen has come full circle. In the 17th century the kitchen wasn't just a room where food was prepared. It was often the only room of the house. During the Victorian era, the kitchen regressed from a home's central hub to a small functional room tucked away in the back of the house. With the introduction of electric appliances the kitchen has once again become a room of prominence in the home, where it continues to evolve.

When you have family and friends over, where do you congregate? Most people would say the kitchen. Kitchens have become the new show room of our homes. Appliance manufacturers provide an array of color choices and sleek designs and ordinary laminate counter tops have given way to slabs of granite, marble, concrete, even recycled glass. Realtors suggest that investing in your kitchen will return the highest resale value. Even if you don't have the budget for major renovations there are many cost effective projects you can do to freshen up your kitchen.

Cabinets are typically the greatest investment in the kitchen. If your cabinets are dull or lifeless, how about a fresh coat of paint? Gone are the days of neutral colors only, so don't be afraid of bright colors! For that matter, how about two different colors? Select a vibrant accent color for the upper cabinets, like red or lime green, and ground your base cabinets with a darker, rich color, like dark gray. Not ready for color shock? Try adding a fresh coat of white paint and replace your existing knobs and handles with brushed nickel or oil rubbed bronze hardware.

If you want to replace your plastic

laminate counter tops, but can't afford granite slab a cost effective alternative is granite tiles. Granite slabs cost upwards of \$30 per square foot and require professional installation. You can pick up granite tiles for \$3 to \$5 per square foot and they are not too difficult to install yourself. Select a dark tile color to contrast your wall cabinet color and make sure your grout and caulk is in the same color range as the tile. The smooth edge of granite tile will allow you to set your tiles close together, giving the appearance of a solid slab.

Back splash tile out of date? Instead of trashing it and filling our landfills, think about re-glazing. A professional re-glazing will change the color of your tile via a wide array of color choices. This can give you an entirely different look to your kitchen, and no one will ever know your tile used



to be avocado green.

Jill Makinen is a professional interior designer and design enthusiast. If you have other areas of

homes you would like Jill to discuss, or questions you would like Jill to answer, feel free to email her at jillmakinen@gmail.com.

Greetings from Pat and John Goese-Marsh from Hawaii!

"Love the newsletter . . . Always well done and really keeps me in the know on LCN."

Just read your Winky saga . . . whew, how lucky for the pup to have bounced back.

AND speaking of dogs, meant to send this shot of Wendell sooner. Well, happy trails, keep up the good work, hey to everyone over there on the mainland.

Aloha- Pat Marsh, Kailua Kona Hawaii

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Stephen Wing

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LC Safety Report

October-November 2008 Crime Statistics (Weeks 41-44)
KEEP AN EYE ON THE CRIME AND THE TIME!

The bad news this month: it was a bad month for cars and their owners in Lake Claire.

The good news this month: there are no other types of crimes to report!

ENTERING AUTOMOBILE

11/1- Sat Morn- 500 block Clifton Rd NE

2004 Honda Accord

Passenger's side window smashed on the victim's vehicle and property removed.

Taken: I Pod

Prints attempted

10/31- 11/1- Fri. overnight-300 block Sutherland Pl NE

1997 Honda Accord

2000 Ford Win

2008 Chevy IMP

Driver's side window smashed on each vehicle and property removed.

Taken: cell Phone, GPS

Prints attempted

10/30-10/31- Thurs. overnight-2000 block Howard Cir NE Street

2003 Volkswagen Jetta

Someone smashed the front passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property.

Taken: cell phone and charger

Prints attempted

10/30-10/31- Thurs. overnight-300 block Lakeshore Dr NE

1999 Volvo S70

Passenger's side window smashed on the victim's vehicle and property removed.

Taken: backpack, clothing

Prints attempted

10/30-10/31- Thurs. overnight-2000 block McLendon Ave NE

2003 Audi AA4

Someone cut a hole in the victim's convertible top then pried open the glove box. Nothing was reported missing.

Taken: Nothing

Prints attempted

10/30-10/31- Thurs. overnight-1900 block Palifox Dr NE

Mazda MPV

Driver side window smashed, then rummaged through the victim's vehicle.

Taken: nothing

Prints attempted

10/30-10/31- Thurs. overnight-2000 block Palifox Dr NE

2000 Toyota LCR

The victim's rear passenger's side window was smashed then the vehicle was ransacked.

Taken: Nothing

Prints attempted

10/29-10/30-Wed. overnight-400 block Ridgewood RD NE

2005 Black LINC LS

Someone smashed the front passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property.

Taken: Canon Digital Camera

Prints attempted

10/29- Wed. Morn- 1500 blk S Ponce De Leon Ave NE

2003 Honda ODY

A passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle was smashed and moved property. One of the victim's credit cards had been used at an Amoco.

Taken: Purse and contents

Prints attempted

10/19- Sun. Morn- 1500 blk DeKalb Ave NE

2001 Jeep LBV

Someone smashed the rear driver's side window on the victim's



The Conscientious Gardener Those Pesky Squirrels

Excerpted from text provided by Elizabeth Knowlton of the Lake Claire Garden Club and long-time resident of Arizona Avenue

When discussing methods of discouraging Squirrels, Elizabeth shared the following:

The most successful spray I have used on non-food crops to stop chewing, gnawing, licking, nibbling, and biting by rodents, squirrels, dogs, deer, etc. has been Ro-Pel Animal Repellent (Grant Laboratories, FL). I have also used Shot Gun Repels-All Animal Repellent (Bonide, NY) but did not find it as effective.

vehicle and removed property.

Taken: I Pod, Hand bag, camera, camera lens, flash unit, camera bag, filter, camera, sd cards, batteries

Prints recovered, turned in to ID

10/19-10/20 -Sun overnight- 200 blk Mathews Ave NE

2006 Mini Cooper

The driver's side window on the victim's vehicle was smashed and property was removed.

Taken: Lap top

Prints recovered, turned in to ID

10/11(20:30) 10/12(13:00) Sat/Sun -300 blk Arizona Ave NE

2001 Honda Civic

Someone smashed a passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property.

Taken: I pod

Prints recovered, turned in to ID

10/12(20:30) 10/13(09:10) Sat/Sun - 100 blk Clifton St NE

2005 Volvo V50

Someone smashed the driver's side window on the victim's vehicle. The victim thinks 2 old check books may have been taken but she is not sure.

Taken: Unknown

No prints taken due to rain

10/7- 10/8- Tues. overnight-200 blk Arizona Ave NE

1998 Subaru

A passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle was

smashed and property was removed.

Taken: Lego set, in dash factory stereo

No prints taken due to rain

10/1(12:00) 10/2(12:00) Wed/Thurs- 400 blk Claire Dr NE

2007 Ford ECP

Someone took two checks from the victim's vehicle. There were no signs of forced entry, and the victim is not sure when they were taken

Taken: 2 checks

No prints taken

Safety Note: Or lack thereof

Are you aware of City of Atlanta's 2 day a month furlough of city employees, with no PUBLIC SAFETY EXCEPTION! That does not bode well for our increase in crime problem. This means that there will be fewer officers on the street. Be aware.



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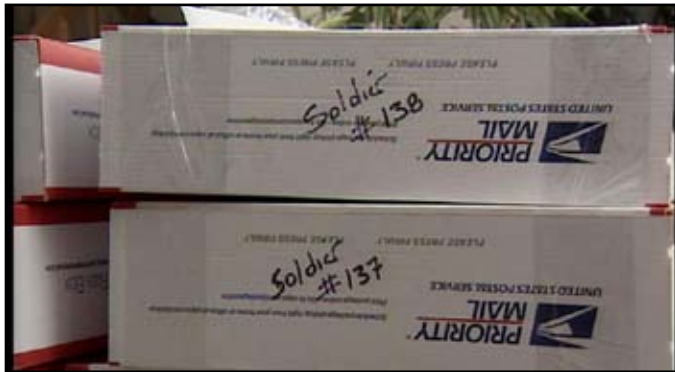
Mail Call

By Rose Goff of Tuxedo Avenue

In 2000-2001, I had the privilege of representing a National Guard Lieutenant Colonel. Now a "full bird," he has just returned from a tour as Battalion Commander in Iraq. Colonels don't want for much, but a lot of soldiers do.

Soldiers and sailors get lonely and bored. "Everyday is Groundhog Day over here." Mail is a tremendous boost. It IS the thought that counts." The Colonel's base is "paved" with gravel, and they were polishing rocks with sandpaper. Somehow, this didn't seem quite right; so I contacted a number of manufacturers. Edmund Scientific donated a first-class rock polishing kit to the Battalion. They had a ball with it and have willed it to the next crew from their state deploying to replace them. Never hurts to ask.

Stuffing a priority mail envelope or box with small stuff is fun. It's amazing what you can fit in if you try. Allow me to "undaunt" this for you.



You can no longer send mail addressed to "Any soldier," so, you'll have to find a contact. Don't know anybody? The best website I've found is "anysoldier.com." Check out "Tango Mike" when you visit.

On the site you will find a very well maintained database of volunteer and individual recipients, their location and needs, so you know you're doing something that will be appreciated. You can search it by several criteria: need, state of origin, branch of service or location. I've seen requests for toiletries, tennis shoes, socks, batteries, etc. There are simply not enough granola bars on Earth to satisfy the U.S. military. Fruit chews are also hard to get. I recommend things that smell good. If you live in a shipping container, and it's 117 degrees outside, well, that can't be too pleasant. Also, cosmetics are not on the top of the PX priority list. Don't worry about sending something someone doesn't need. Soldiers share everything (except maybe rock tumblers). Priority mail to military members is "US" mail, regardless of its destination. You do, however, have to use a USPS form PC72, a Customs declaration. It is not necessary to place a copy inside the box or envelope. Use only the APO (city) and AE (country), NOT the actual country. Designate the mail as a "gift," and give it minimal value. Also, in case your contact isn't available upon its arrival, you might select the base chaplain or "anysoldier" volunteer as the alternative recipient. (S)he will make sure that mail gets to the loneliest soul.



Allow for temperature extremes. Don't send chocolate or heat-sensitive things. Seal anything with odors or tastes in plastic bags. Soldiers like to reuse them. Pictures of the local environs are welcome reminders of home. Books are pooled at the base library. You can get LOTS more ideas from the website. Packages are good, but correspondence is most important. "Tango Mike" explains this better than I can. As General Honore said, "it is what it is." But maybe we can make a difference.



Leaning Toward Renovating?



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Granny Jam!

An Arts & Music Festival Benefitting the Granmaw Gordon Greenspace happened Saturday Nov. 15th at the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park.

Featuring Stories and Music from "De Gin'ral an' Miss Fanny" By Caroline Lewis Gordon circa 1870-1900

Musical Guests included:

Brooksie Wells

Pamela Juelharte

Heather Luttrell

Matthew Shelton

The stories and particularly the music performed in the original style and presentation, without accompaniment other than spontaneous percussion (clapping, etc.) was mesmerizing. For those of you who missed this event, the music alone was well worth the effort of attending. It was beautiful and beautifully performed.

A variety of art provided by local artists was offered at a silent auction to benefit the efforts to rescue Granmaw Gordon, our historic pecan tree and the surrounding green space.



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries offers a Musical Sanctuary

For the vast majority of you who missed the Thanksgiving Day nearly spur-of-the-moment concert on the lawn, we will help you recoup the loss. A family musical group called "The Alaska String Band" performed an enchanting concert. Musicians are Paul and Melissa Zahasky and their children Laura, Quinn and Abi-

gail. Quinn played bass primarily while the rest of the family traded around with guitar, violin-fiddle, ukulele, mandolin and voice. A Sanctuary guest added remarkable percussion to the performance as well. Their repertoire included bluegrass, gospel, blues, celtic and other styles as well. Voices were so sweet and the members

were charming complements to each other in so many ways. Paul says, "Melissa and I have been making music together in Juneau and beyond for the past twenty-seven years. Having informally instructed the children at home from an early age, we are pleased to find that each one shares out passion for music. With the for-

mation of the Alaska String Band audiences have delighted in the youthful exuberance of our family which exhibits extraordinary musicianship, technical skill and interpretative ability. Learn more about us at www.alaskastringband.net. We take joy in the gift of music and the privilege to share it with you."



Granmaw Gordon supporters are still seeking funds to cover the costs of litigation. See past issues of *The Clarion* online at www.lakeclaire.org for details.

**Park Pride Donation Form
(For the Save Granmaw Gordon Project)**

I would like to make a donation of:
\$ _____

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to Park Pride

☐ I would like to make a gift by credit card. Card information provided below

☐ Please designate my gift to: _____

☐ Please consider this my pledge. My pledge terms are as follows:

(Pledges may be made in up to 3 installments; with final payment requested by Dec. 31, 2008)

☐ Please check here to indicate your company has a matching gift program, and we will contact you for more information.

We truly appreciate your support! Park Pride is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by state and federal guidelines.

Name: _____

Gift Listing: _____

As you wish to be recognized (if different from above)

Address: _____
circle type: home work

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____
circle type: home work cell

E-Mail: _____

Gift Levels:

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Card No. _____

Expiration. Date: _____

Security Code: _____

Billing Address (if different from address on front):

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____



Mary Lin Students Make Things Happen

By Carol Vanderschaaf

Mary Lin Elementary School Fifth Grade Challenge Classes helped put 40 native plants in the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden in early November. In addition, each student brought a jug of grey water for the project. Pictured here with their teachers is one of the two Challenge Classes. Left to right starting on the first row: Grace Hawkins, Josey Allen, Hannah Ferguson, Grace Dusenbury, Maddie Herbik, Max Calderon, Mac Leonard, Ben Lashley, Skylar Brillante, Graham Kidd, Sohon Dongol; Row two- left to right: Kyle Mulholland, Ian Hawkins, Theo Roper, Marlena Hager, Ms. K. Manning, Sydney Allen, Dr. F. Smith, Max Grum, Will Taber, Max Rafferty."



The Santaland Diaries

November 28, 2008-January 4, 2009

Horizon Theatre Company reprises the outrageous holiday comedy *The Santaland Diaries* written by NPR comic genius David Sedaris. With more holiday sneer than cheer, this rebel without a Claus recounts the true-life tale of an out of work writer who must take a job as a Macy's Department Store elf.

Performances run through January 4, 2009. Tuesday – Friday at 8 PM, Saturdays at 8:30 PM, Sundays at 6 PM. Performances on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, & New Year's Day. Tickets: \$25-\$30, VIP Reserved Seating \$40-\$45, Special 10th Anniversary VIP Seating \$100. Group discounts available. Horizon Theatre 1083 Austin Avenue in Little Five Points. 404-584-7450.

www.horizontheatre.com

Solve Your Dinner Dilemma!

By Susan L. Drake

Is the clock moving toward dinner time but you're not in the mood to cook? Well, here's the answer to your dinner dilemma: just visit The Mercantile at the corner of Clifton Road and DeKalb Avenue! Whether you're looking for artisan sandwiches for lunch or gourmet meals for supper, you'll find it all at The Mercantile. Located next door to The San Francisco Coffee House, The Mercantile opened its doors this fall and ever since a steady stream of Candler Park and Lake Claire denizens have been stopping by.

For lunch, Chef Samantha Enzmann and her culinary team whip up scrumptious sandwiches with names like "The Inman," "The Kirkwood," "The Candler" and "The Claire." In case you're curious, "The Claire" features a complex, flavorful blend of Italian prosciutto, roasted tomato, arugula and homemade lemon aioli on classic white bread. Serving hours start at 11a.m. and last throughout the day; prices range from \$6.99 to kids' selections at \$3.99.

For dinner which begins at 5p.m., The Mercantile posts the daily specials on their website at www.themercantileatl.com. Just click This Week's Menu to be presented with a smorgasbord that changes every day. On this particular day, the menu is celebrating Oktoberfest with Chicken Schnitzel, Spaetzle and Braised Red Cabbage with Apples.

Each day sees the presentation of two kinds of soup, for instance French Onion as well as Creamy Tomato. And every day The Mercantile offers two flavors of their renowned free-range Rotisserie Chicken. You

can also take home their tasty desserts which are made fresh daily. For other specialties of the house, just call 404.378.0096 or visit The Mercantile's website and sign up for their weekly email newsletter. Thanks to The Mercantile, just like Scarlett, you'll never go hungry again!

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For each home sold in Lake Claire, Maya will donate 2% of her net commission to the Lake Claire Neighborhood Org. For every referral you send her, she'll donate \$40 to the Lake Claire Neighborhood Org. or to Mary Lin School, if you prefer.

Fall Happenings at Mary Lin Elementary School

Fall has been an exciting time for Mary Lin students (along with their parents and the community)! After meeting nearly 90% of the APS Superintendent's targets for the 2007-2008 school year, Mary Lin's more than 500 students have been busy learning by using research-based strategies that provide the opportunity to apply learning to real-life situations, with a focus on higher-level questioning. Mary Lin supplements the classroom activities through visiting artists, incorporating new technologies for student use on our nearly 300 computers, and science equipment that allows student to have more hands-on experiences.

In addition, we have had several special events:

The Artist Market and Carnival was Saturday, November 8th – in addition to numerous local artists showcasing clothing, jewelry, art and other lovely items, there were games for the kids, food, and a giant inflatable slide.

Science Night was Tuesday, November 18th – we had guest scientists from Emory, Georgia State and Zoo Atlanta providing lots of hands-on science experiments that the students all enjoy, in addition to showcasing our students' class and individual projects.

Mary Lin participated in the national Mock Election during the week of October 27th. This nonpartisan event provided the opportunity for each student to register and actually vote in an election, the results of which were nationally broadcasted.

Mary Lin students and parents and also involve in several charitable activities, including a Thanksgiving food drive for local families, and the Penny Harvest, which provides students the opportunity to learn about issues affecting their community, collect pennies, and turn those pennies into grants for community-based charities.

You may have noticed the new marquee installed in front of the school, which provides current information on Mary Lin activities. This sign was provided by Atlanta Public Schools.

The next tours for prospective Mary Lin parents will be on Thursday, December 4th and Thursday, January 8th at 9:30 am. Further information about the school can be found at <http://marylinelementary.com> or by calling the school directly at (404) 802-8850.



Another Dog Bite

Sent in by Richard Powers, Palifox Drive resident

Today (11/6) I asked the new mailman what happened to our regular mail lady. He said that she was bitten by a dog on McLendon and hasn't recovered enough to come back, if she wants to come back to this route. There are many unanswered questions, but I'm embarrassed for Lake Claire. This is not a case of "stuff just happens" but of irresponsibility.

Editor's Note: There is a reason for leash laws.

LAKE CLAIRE

P O O L

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Old-fashioned Fun With Pinewood Derby

Photos are from the 2008 Pack 586 Pinewood Derby race. Boys in first through fifth grade can join the Pack, based at Mary Lin, in time for the January 2009 Derby. For info or to purchase yummy Cub Scout popcorn, contact Gus Persons at gehjpersons@bellsouth.net.



2008 Pinewood Derby Race winners (L to R): Logan Casey (3rd); Holden Clemmons (2nd); and Cole Clemmons (1st)

Gnomes of the LC: Ludwig and Leopold

The picture of the two gnomes on the cover of this month's *Clarion* was sent to us in response to our regular call for photos from the neighborhood.

The arrival of this photo corresponds to a recent phenomena of "gnome spotting" that has been occurring at an amazing rate among children of all ages in the LC.

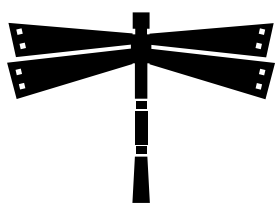
The observant youth of Lake Claire have been reporting sightings of two small, brightly colored gentlemen. These odd and increasingly frequent "stories" are being heard around the neighborhood from a large cross-section of youngsters of all ages. From toddlers to teens, detailed descriptions of the gnomes are

cropping up around dinner tables from Clifton to Ridgewood. For months now, children have been largely ignored on the subject. With the arrival of this photo (origin unknown) it now appears

likely that the duo, dubbed "the Gnomes of LC" are living right under our noses in Lake Claire. Identified as Ludwig and Leopold, the short men are exhibiting classic gnome behavior

by brazenly "gardening" in the Frazer Forest by chopping down a four inch evergreen.

The Clarion will keep you posted on new gnome developments. Until then, keep your eyes open!



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Sydney needs a home again!

Sydney is a wonderful German Sheppard mix. She is about 8-9 yrs. old and is very sweet, easy going, gets along great with cats and kids, is healthy, has all her vaccinations, and likes to go on short walks, but doesn't need much exercise. She really likes to lounge around the house. Sydney, being a large, senior dog, is sometimes a little slow getting up and down from the ground. She seems to do fine around other dogs, but I haven't seen her interact much with them. She is a good security dog, also.

I rescued Sydney from DeKalb Animal Control in June. I fostered her through a rescue group, who, in my opinion, made a poor choice as to who they let adopt Sydney. Sydney was recently found abandoned and DeKalb Animal Control picked her up again. She had been outside for days in the freezing cold weather. They recognized her and contacted me. The lady that adopted her has not even tried to find her.

I really need to find somewhere for her to live. I would love to keep her myself, but the foster dog I have currently, is dog-aggressive. I'm desperate. The foster group would not take her in. They say they have no space for her.

Please help this beautiful and very low maintenance dog! She deserves better than what she has been through. For more information contact Erin Bradley erinbradley@comcast.net

A Forever Home for these?

A couple of our feline Lake Clairians need your help.

Two lovely kittens, one male, one female, about 4 ½ months old, well-socialized, spayed/neutered, shots are up-to-date and need forever homes. If you are considering getting a pet this season, please give some thought to adopting one or both of these deserving little creatures. For more information call 404-373-8169.



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Atlanta Public Schools
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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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Atlanta Building Permits
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Atlanta Building Inspectors
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From the Editor:

Thank you for the many inquiries and well-wishes regarding Winky. She is doing just great and asks me to remind you to consider adopting one of the great pets featured in The Clarion this month. Best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

Got Beef? Here's Your Atlanta City Council:

Shirley, Franklin, Mayor.
Office of the Mayor, 55 Trinity Ave. SW, Atlanta, GA 30303; Tel. 404-330-6100; E-mail: may-orfranklin@atlantaga.gov
Councilwoman Mary Norwood, Post 2 At-large.
Atlanta City Council, 55 Trinity Ave. SW, Atlanta, GA 30303; Tel. 404-330-6302; Fax 404-658-6156; E-mail: mnorwood@atlantaga.gov.
Also, Georgia Robert, Council Assistant, E-mail: mnorwood@atlantaga.gov.
Councilwoman Anne Fauver, District 6.
Atlanta City Council, 55 Trinity Ave., SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303; Tel. 404-330-6049; Fax 404-658-6073; E-mail: afauver@atlantaga.gov.
Also, Sheila Parrott, Sr. Legislative Aide to Councilwoman Fauver, E-mail: sparrott@atlantaga.gov

District Council Members

Carla Smith, District 1 404-330-6039 404-658-7156 csmith@atlantaga.gov
Kwanza Hall, District 2 404-330-6038 404-658-6454 khall@atlantaga.gov
Ivory Lee Young Jr., District 3 404-330-6046 404-658-7093 ilyoung@atlantaga.gov
Cleta Winslow, District 4 404-330-6047 404-658-6454 cwin-slow@atlantaga.gov
Natalyn Mosby Archibong, District 5 404-330-6048 404-658-6659 narchibong@atlantaga.gov
Anne Fauver, District 6 404-330-6049 404-658-6073 afau-ver@atlantaga.gov
Howard Shook, District 7 404-330-6050 404-658-6510 hshook@atlantaga.gov
Clair Muller, District 8 404-330-6051 404-658-6454 cmuller@atlantaga.gov

Felicia Moore, District 9 404-330-6044 404-658-7966 fmoore@atlantaga.gov
C.T. Martin, District 10 404-330-6055 404-658-6263 cmartin@atlantaga.gov
Jim Maddox, District 11 404-330-6054 404-658-6061 jmaddox@atlantaga.gov
Joyce M. Sheperd, District 12 404-330-6053 404-658-6454 jmsheperd@atlantaga.gov

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.

LC Annual Holiday Gathering

Please join us for the Lake Claire Annual Holiday Dinner, Thursday, December 11, 6:30 pm at The Frazer Center. There will be NO regular LCN meeting on the third Thursday. Details at lakeclaire.org.

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