



Spring has Sprung!

Signs of Spring?

Unsettling as it may seem, indeed spring brings our most unstable weather. Pictured above left is Sheila Swan and her "remodeled" garage, and at right is Megan Swift's totaled car.

Lean, Mean and Green

Did You Know That...

Toilets are responsible for about 40 percent of total indoor water use. If you have an older toilet, use a water displacement device to reduce the amount of flow per flush. A plastic bottle filled with sand makes an easy DIY toilet modification. If you're upgrading a bathroom, invest in a high efficiency toilet. -*The Green Life/Sierra Club*



Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

You've probably seen the term "carbon footprint" before, but might not know what it means. Your carbon footprint refers to the impact your activities have on the environment, with regard to greenhouse gas emissions and their effects on climate change.

We rely on the burning of fossil fuels like coal, heating oil and gasoline to generate energy. When these fuels are burned to produce electricity, heat your home or power your vehicle, carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" are released into the atmosphere – where they accumulate and trap excess heat. As the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere increases, so does the overall temperature of the planet. Increased global temperatures may lead to future problems like rising sea levels, changes in weather patterns, the spread of disease and the loss of some animal and plant species. The more greenhouse gases produced by your actions and the decisions you make, the larger your carbon footprint.

So how can you reduce your impact on the environment? It's not as hard as you think, and you can save money while you help save the environment.

10 ways to reduce your carbon footprint:

1. Carpool or ride a bike to work. The less you drive your car, the better.
2. Run all your errands at the same time, instead of taking multiple trips in your vehicle.
3. Buy compact fluorescent light bulbs. They cost more than standard incandescent bulbs, but in the long run will save you a lot in energy costs.
4. Set the thermostat a few degrees lower in winter (and a few degrees higher in summer if you have an air conditioner in your home).

5. Turn everything off when not in use. That includes lights, TVs, computers, etc. Also, talk to your office manager about asking employees to shut off everything before they head home at night.
6. Turn the water heater down a few notches. Water requires a tremendous amount of energy to heat.
7. Air dry clothes after you wash them, using a clothesline or drying rack.
8. Fully fill your washing machine and dishwasher each time you use them.
9. Buy local produce and products, since they weren't shipped long distance to reach you. Farmers' markets are a great place to find locally grown produce.
10. Recycle. When you throw things away instead of reusing them or allowing the materials to be recycled, more resources and energy will be needed to produce replacement products.

Sources: <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/>
<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/index.html>

- *Sierra Trading Post newsletter*

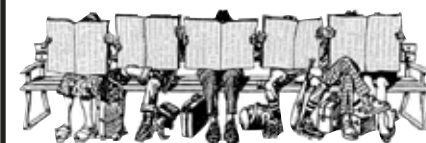
What is a CSA?

We are looking for someone to give us a primer on Community Supported Agriculture with a run-down on the several CSAs functioning in our neighborhood. If interested, please contact editor@lakeclaire.org.

Claire's List and Bartering: Two Great Resources for Recessionary Times!

By Susan Drake

Tim Gramling was casually browsing through a copy of *The Lake Claire Clarion* while visiting his mother, Gay Arneri of Harold Avenue. For those readers who haven't made it to the masthead yet, Gay is the peripatetic editor of *The Clarion*. In the middle of his reading, a small item caught his eye: "Need help Barter - Continued on page 2"



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ON RECYCLED PAPER.

Barter (cont'd from page 1)

with your resume?" it inquired. "Let a seasoned professional writer/proofreader help!" the notice continued, listing a name and telephone number.

Eureka! It just so happened that Tim—a student at Georgia State University—was looking for help with his resume. But times are tough everywhere and funds are tight. He called the number anyway—and was pleasantly pleased to discover that the writer, Susan, had been looking for a GSU student. Assignment? To post flyers touting her proofreading and editing services on bulletin boards at the university.

Et voila! In short order, Tim and Susan had bartered a deal. She would reconfigure his resume and, in return, he would distribute her flyers. It's a win/win situation for both!

How many deals languish out there in the ether just waiting to materialize? With the recession in full bore and tough times all over, Lake Clairians are fortunate enough to have access to two recessionary-proof resources—

not only the ancient art of bartering, which many Lake Clairians already practice by listing their personal items for free in *The Clarion's* Personal Classifieds, but also *The Clarion's* brand new feature called Claire's List.

Claire's List provides a fertile venue for neighbors who want to broadcast their particular skills. In order to encourage participation, listing in this community talent bank is free. If you possess abilities or products that you'd like to sell to your neighbors—and potential customers—just contact editor@lakeclaire.org.

Like Tim and Susan, you too can negotiate a win/win deal! See below for this month's Claire's List. 🌸

Claire's List

Ebony GRAND PIANO in excellent condition. Beautiful lyrical sound! Maker is Knabe, first piano of The Metropolitan Opera Company. Matching bench. Call 404.370.0882 for details.

The Land Trust needs your stuff! It's Spring! Time to clean out those closets and donate to

the Land Trust Yard Sale May 23. Good condition stuff and clothing (please, no rags). Need to move it sooner? Contact Chris McKenna and she'll put it in her basement. Christine.Mckenna@atl.frb.org. Want to play with us? We need volunteers for the Grill, the gate, the yard sale and set-up and clean up. This is one of our major fundraisers to help maintain the LT and keep it running, looking good and current on taxes so please help us make it a good one. Contact McKenzie at mckenziwren@gmail.com with area of interest and to get volunteer info.

Bookkeeping Service - Lilith Management Inc. is a bookkeeping Service located in Atlanta. Both virtual and on site services are provided. Small to medium size businesses are our specialty. More than 25 years experience. Call 404-377-1502. www.lilithmanagementinc.com.

Get Ready: We're Having A Giant Yard Sale! Academe of the Oaks is gearing up for its annual giant yard sale on Saturday, May 9th, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the corner of College Avenue and New Street to raise money for the high school. So mark your calendar, and stop by to pick up some great treasures and super deals! You'll find furniture, small appliances, cd's, art, household goods, baby equipment, books, toys, sporting goods, lawn equipment, and lots of other great items at our giant sale. An opportunity not to be missed! Contact: Eva Handschin 404-405-2173

Need help with your resume? Need a second pair of eyes to look over a paper you're writing? Let a seasoned professional writer/proofreader help! Call Susan at 404.371.1229.

Looking for employment - Hello friends, I am looking for employment, below is a list of my specialties, please forward this to all your contacts. Thank you, sincerely Melissa Bell. "Helping Hands": * Thorough house cleaning * Child or elderly care * Gardening * Girl Friday; mature woman; references, own vehicle. 404.384.5989.

Pet Sitting - Over 10 years vet & pet care experience. References available. Call Tina Smith 404.247.0914.

Got used gutters? I'm looking for gutter scraps to cover about 25 feet. 404-377-2288.

Wood for art projects - throwing away perfectly good, old wood in renovations? I'm looking for old heart pine or other seasoned wood to be used to make frames for art and other handmade stuff. Contact timganey@comcast.net.



Are you ready?

This is the first in a series of articles to help you prepare for emergencies of all types. Watch for web sites, personal accounts, and clip-n-save information. Go to www.ready.gov for Emergency Preparedness

information from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528.

Through its Ready Campaign, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security educates and empowers Americans to take some simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. Ready asks individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses. All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive for at least three days if an emergency occurs. Following is a listing of some basic items that every emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important that individuals review this list and consider where they live and the unique needs of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet these needs. Individuals should also consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller portable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.

Epworth at Candler Park's Old Fashioned Fun

BINGO!
Friday, May 15 at 6pm
Bingo, Hot dogs, Prizes!
\$3 adults, \$2 children under 6
epworthumc@bellsouth.net for info

SCREEN ON THE GREEN
May 30 in Candler Park
Prizes, hot dogs & popcorn
Fun begins at 6pm, movie begins at dark. Free!

OTHER EVENTS

Summer Camp - June 8-26. Ages 3-10.
Small Groups - Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays.
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Next LCN Meeting

Thursday May 21

Lake Claire Neighbors meets every third Thursday of the month. Social Time begins at 6:30 pm; Meeting begins at 7 pm. at the Frazer Center. Meetings are open to all. Past months' newsletters and updates to agenda can be found at www.lakeclaire.org.

Lake Claire Officers for 2009

President: Diane Moore - president@lakeclaire.org
 VP-Zoning: Dan White - zoning@lakeclaire.org
 VP-Finance: Cara Stevens - treasurer@lakeclaire.org
 VP-Environment: Kathy Evans - environment@lakeclaire.org
 VP-Safety: Sheila Finciguerra - safety@lakeclaire.org
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The Clarion is published monthly. The deadline for advertising and editorial consideration is the 15th of the month preceding each published edition.

Clip-N-Save Emergency Supply List

Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- * Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days (minimum), for drinking and sanitation
- * Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- * Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- * Flashlight and extra batteries
- * First aid kit
- * Whistle to signal for help
- * Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- * Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- * Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- * Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- * Local maps

Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- * Prescription medications and glasses
- * Infant formula and diapers
- * Pet food and extra water for your pet
- * Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- * Cash or traveler's checks and change
- * Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- * Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- * Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- * Household chlorine bleach

and medicine dropper – when diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.

- * Fire Extinguisher
- * Matches in a waterproof container
- * Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- * Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- * Paper and pencil
- * Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

First Aid Kit

In any emergency a family member or you yourself may be cut, burned or suffer other injuries. If you have these basic supplies you are better prepared to help your loved ones when they are hurt. Remember, many injuries are not life threatening and do not require immediate medical attention. Knowing how to treat minor injuries can make a difference in an emergency. Consider taking a first aid class, but simply having the following things can help you stop bleeding, prevent infection and assist in decontamination.

Things you should have:

- * Two pairs of Latex, or other sterile gloves (if you are allergic to Latex).
- * Sterile dressings to stop bleeding.
- * Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towelettes to disinfect.
- * Antibiotic ointment to prevent infection.
- * Burn ointment to prevent infection.
- * Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes.
- * Eye wash solution to flush the eyes or as general decontaminant.
- * Thermometer
- * Prescription medications you take every day such as insulin, heart medicine and asthma inhalers. You should periodically

rotate medicines to account for expiration dates.

- * Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment and supplies.

Things good to have:

- * Cell Phone
 - * Scissors
 - * Tweezers
 - * Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant
- Non-prescription drugs:**
- * Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
 - * Anti-diarrhea medication
 - * Antacid (for upset stomach)
 - * Laxative

Remember the unique needs of your family members when making your emergency supply kit and family emergency plan.



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Troy!

Troy Nielsen, local jazz guitarist performs Sunday's at Candler Park coffee shop

Lake Claire resident Troy Nielsen performs solo jazz guitar every Sunday at San Francisco Coffee shop in Candler Park. The music can be heard from 10 AM to 12 Noon every Sunday. The coffee shop is located at corner of Clifton Rd. and DeKalb Ave.

Troy Nielsen, who has been playing guitar over 30 years, performs jazz standards from the Great American Songbook, original compositions, and also jazz classics from the likes of Miles Davis and Duke Ellington. The music makes for an ambient Sunday morning experience. In addition to music, San Francisco Coffee features great coffee, pastries, and free wifi.

Information about Troy Nielsen can be found at www.atlantajazzguitar.blogspot.com.

Coupons for a Cause

By Teri Stewart

Neighbors can now get great deals on local goods and services AND help raise money for Granmaw Gordon. Come by Donna Van Gough's and pick up your coupons! Donations are also accepted, no matter how small. We are also seeking volunteers who can help make phone calls, send e-mails and assist in funding research.

To help simply give me a call at 404-373-7672 (home) or 404-370-1003 (work).

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Thanks, Readers!

We have been getting more and more compliments on the content of *The Clarion*. It is largely due to the fact that more of you read and respond. More neighbor-authored articles come in every month which is an indication of relevance and interest. It really doesn't matter what side of an issue you are on. Please keep your thoughts, comments, articles and photos coming in. We all are loving it!

Child Study Center at Emory University

Sent in by Kelly Yates of Claire Drive

How do children learn and grow? What and how do they think and remember? How do children move from one stage to the next in their development? The Child Study Center of Emory University is working hard to find out!

The Center studies language, learning, memory, and questions such as how children understand space and numbers. They also study the role that brain development plays in child development. Emory faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students conduct specific studies on each of these fascinating and critical issues. The studies are typically designed to be like games for the children, and the researchers work hard to come up with play activities that tell them what they want to know about how children think and learn. For example, they might place a toddler in a circular room with special hiding places in particular locations and investigate what information she uses to keep track of where a special toy is hidden. Or they might ask a preschooler to divide up a set of special "tokens" between him-



self and a researcher, and then observe what he does when he discovers that the tokens can't be divided up evenly. The Center uses toys, puppets, books, videos, tents, and curtains to make the activities interesting as well as informative.

Emory has five research labs that focus on different types of child development and each lab has several age-specific studies going on at any given time. For each study, local families are invited to participate when there is an appropriate study for their children. Most studies involve one or two brief visits to the Center, located in a comfortable setting on the Emory campus. Parents stay with their child the entire time and enjoy the chance to play with their children in this context and to observe the study sessions. Infants and children enjoy it too!

The Child Study Center is always seeking families who want to be part of our studies, from newborns through school-age children and adolescents. If you are interested in participating or finding out more, please check out the center's website: www.psychology.emory.edu/child-studycenter or send an email to childstudies@emory.edu.

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Mark Your Calendar

May 2 - Saturday - "City in the Arboretum: Trees Atlanta's 1st Annual Arboretum Conference" will be held at the Trees Atlanta Kendeda Center. We invite Lake Claire neighbors to sign up for a day of learning about tree museums. Whether you wish to help create tree museums in Atlanta, or simply want to learn more about trees, this will be an educational and exciting day! \$25 for Trees Atlanta Members, \$35 for Non-Members. For info contact Bethany Clark, Program Assistant, Trees Atlanta 404-681-4898, Bethany@treesatlanta.org.

May 2 - Saturday - Atlanta Humane Society Pet Parade through Candler Park. www.atlantapetparade.com.

Activities Agenda

10:45 am Registration

9:00 am – Noon Mobile Adoption Bus Open

9:00 am – 1 pm Vendor Market & Micro-chip Clinic Open

9:30 am – 10:30 am Doggie Musical Chairs, doggie demos and pet contests

10:00 am – Noon Canine Good Citizen Testing

10:30 am Opening Ceremony

11:00 am Walk Start time

11:30 am Estimated Walk end

11:45 am Awards Ceremony

Noon AHS alumni photo, pet contests

1:00 pm Event ends

May 7 - Thursday - RECYCLING PICK-UP

May 8-10 - Sweet Auburn Springfest (Atlanta)

May 9 - Saturday - Academe of the Oaks is gearing up for its annual giant yard sale from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the corner of College Avenue and New Street to raise money for the high school.

May 9 - Saturday - DeKalb County GREEN COMMISSION Kickoff Celebration; 9:30 am – 12 pm, Porter Sanford III Performing Arts and Community Center, 3181 Rainbow Drive in Decatur (see announcement below)

May 10 - Sunday - Mothers' Day

May 14 - Thursday - YARD WASTE PICK-UP

May 15 - Friday - Deadline for advertising and other submissions for next issue

May 16 - Saturday - Grady High School Electronics recycling; Third Saturday of every month, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 8th St. parking lot.

May 21 - Thursday - RECYCLING PICK-UP

May 21 - Thursday - LCNA Meeting, 7 pm at Frazer Center

May 23 - Saturday - Lake Claire Land Trust Memorial Weekend Festival (see article, this page)

May 25 - Monday - Memorial Day

May 28 - Thursday - YARD WASTE PICK-UP

June 4 - Thursday - RECYCLING PICK-UP

June 11 - Thursday - YARD WASTE PICK-UP

June 14 - Sunday - Flag Day

June 15 - Monday - Deadline for advertising and other submissions for next issue

June 18 - Thursday - RECYCLING PICK-UP

June 18 - Thursday - LCNA Meeting, 7 pm at Frazer Center

June 21 - Sunday - Fathers' Day

June 25 - Thursday - YARD WASTE PICK-UP

DeKalb County Green Commission Kickoff Celebration

Saturday, May 9, 9:30 am-12pm at Porter Sanford III Performing Arts and Community Center at 3181 Rainbow Drive in Decatur. Hosted by DeKalb County Commissioner Kathie Gannon and CEO Burrell Ellis, this event celebrates the formation of the County's Advisory Green Commission. County Departments will display sustainable projects like energy efficiency and recycling. Local businesses and non-profit organizations are also invited to showcase their green initiatives and products. Activities will include tours of DeKalb's own Wonderland Gardens and ideas and demonstrations of ways to green your own everyday activities. Come join us for lots of fun, food and green facts.

The Land Trust's Memorial Day Fundraiser Rides Again!

By Stephen Wing

The Memorial Day Street Dance and Yard Sale, a fundraising tradition for many years at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, has been revived for 2009. The Yard Sale (technically a cul-de-sac sale) will take place all day on Saturday, May 23, at the end of Arizona Ave. The Street Dance (re-located to the Land Trust stage, The Mark) will rock the neighborhood Saturday with a variety of local bands throughout the afternoon and evening.

The Land Trust is asking neighbors to donate any and all items. Donations must be in good condition, particularly clothing. For information about when and where to drop off your items, contact the Land Trust at info@lclt.org. If you have items you are unable to store and must donate immediately, email ChristineMckenna@atl.frb.org.

The weekend extravaganza will also feature art, food, and a silent auction. Naturally, volunteers are needed to staff the Gorilla Grill, the gate, and the sale, and for set-up and clean-up. Contact McKenzie Wren at mckenziwren@gmail.com if you can help.

"This is one of our major fundraisers to help maintain the LT and keep it running, looking good and current on taxes, so please help us make it a good one," says McKenzie. If you enjoy having the Land Trust in your neighborhood, here's your chance to give back. Pass the word!

P.S. As part of the Lake Claire Community Land Trust's Memorial Day Fundraiser, we are adding a 'silent auction'. Select donated goods & services will be bid on throughout the day & the high bidders announced/posted at the close of the auction on Saturday. Help the Land Trust pay its insurance & taxes & get the word out about your service or skill by donating. Examples include massage, acupuncture, offering to cook a meal for eight, childcare, a weekend at your vacation house at the beach/mountains, knitting lessons, your artwork or craft, etc. Be creative-put together extra objects-a wine bucket, bottle of champagne & two glasses-attractively packaged, for example.

Trust continued on page 8

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An annual event: A Day of Beauty for 110 special needs teens



By Gay Arneri

Gloria Owczarski's Day of Beauty, a labor of love for special needs teens and their teachers, took place on April 20, 2009. This is an event that is picking up steam over several years of dedicated effort and organizational challenges. This year approximately 110 students were served to top-of-the-line hair, grooming, make-up and massage services. Breakfast and lunch was also provided for participants. And as if that were not enough, participants were treated to visits by our own Ruby the Clown (of Lake Claire), Atlanta Hawks cheerleaders, a professional wrestler (The Relic), and Dr. Irving M.D. (Monkey Doctor; there's nothing more special than having a monkey butt planted on your head!). . . A talented DJ Davinci kept the atmosphere electric and provided inspiration for dances like the Electric Glide, the Macarena, the "stinky leg" and other fun line dances.

The host facility was the Paul Mitchell School - Atlanta, a lovely, spacious and well-equipped location. It was staffed by volunteer artists from about 20-plus of Atlanta's top salons like Steve Hightower Hair

Artists' Studio (www.stevehightower.com). To view all the wonderful participants and sponsors go to www.mydayofbeauty.net. Does this sound like fun? It was! Imagine, setting up a day of fun and pampering for some of society's most invisible. Great job, Gloria! (Gloria also coaches a Special Olympics swim team). While you enjoy the photos imagine next year's celebration. Gloria is hoping to DOUBLE participation!

"A great big THANK YOU. My daughter looks great. She has not stopped smiling..."

"I cannot begin to tell you how wonderful you made all of us feel yesterday. My students are still talking about "Day of Beauty" today. We were so proud yesterday when we walked back into the school building...we wanted to let everyone know how much we appreciated their hard work... Stephenson High students were just simply elated!!"

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Need mortgage or down payment help to buy a home?

From Atlanta Development Authority's Pulse of Progress - Atlanta's Economic Monitor, April 2009 Newsletter

If you're considering buying a home in the city of Atlanta, there are multiple programs available that can help with a down payment or mortgage.

The Atlanta Renewal Community has developed a Mortgage Assistance Program to help prospective homeowners. MAP provides assistance of up to \$50,000 toward the purchase of homes located within the original boundaries of the former Atlanta Empowerment Zone census tracts. These second-lien loans are available to those eligible borrowers who do not currently own a home and whose household income does not exceed 100 percent of the area median income.

The amount of the loan will be determined by the borrower's financial need and household size and income. Borrowers with a household income below or at 50 percent of area median income can receive up to \$50,000, while those between 51 and 100 percent of area median income are limited to no more than \$30,000. For more information on MAP, contact the Bureau of Housing at (404) 330-6390 or follow this link: http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/housing-map_032609.aspx

The Atlanta Development Authority offers many other programs to assist homebuyers. The Opportunity Down-payment Assistance Program provides borrowers with additional down-payment assistance of 10 percent of the sales price at a zero-percent interest rate. The 10 percent deferred loan requires no payments

and is forgiven if the borrower occupies the property for at least 10 years. A \$1,000 program administration fee is charged to the borrower at closing.

The Vine City/English Avenue Trust Fund program provides a deferred zero-percent interest rate loan of up to 10 percent of home purchase price up to \$15,000. The loan provides mortgage assistance in the form of a second mortgage and covers up to 50 percent of the closing costs on the home. The loan is deferred for five years, and repayment is due in full upon sale, transfer or refinancing of the home. Borrowers may pool Trust Fund Home Ownership Assistance funds with other non-Trust Fund mortgage or down-payment assistance programs, and must select one of ADA's participating lenders. Properties eligible for this program include newly constructed or existing single-family detached homes, attached townhouses, condominiums and manufactured housing. Properties must be located within the Trust Fund Program boundaries: Joseph Lowery Blvd to the west; Donald Hollowell Pkwy to the north; Northside Drive to the east; Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to the south incorporated limits of Atlanta.

The Atlanta Affordable Homeownership Program provides a loan for mortgage assistance in the form of a zero-percent interest second mortgage that will cover up to 50 percent of the settlement costs, up to \$10,000. Proceeds from the loan may not be used to pay off other loans, advances, or consumer debts. The loan is deferred for five years, and repayment is due in full upon sale, transfer, or refinancing of the home, or when it is no longer owner-occupied. Borrowers must use ADA's participating lenders and closing attorneys, and may

pool AAHOP funds with other down payment assistance programs. This loan is to be used with fixed-rate mortgages only. Finally, the BeltLine Affordable Housing Trust Fund provides down payment assistance of up to 20 percent of home sales price at a zero-percent interest rate as a soft second mortgage to homebuyers who have purchased a property within the BeltLine tax allocation district. The first mortgage, secured by ADA's participating lenders, must be a conventional, FHA or VA 30-year fixed-rate loan. The deferred loan requires no payments and is forgiven if the borrower occupies the property for 15 years. There is no first-time homebuyer requirement for borrowers moving into the incorporated city limits of Atlanta, but the buyer's current residence must be sold prior to closing on the new home. Qualified buyers may pool funds from other down-payment assistance programs (except ODPAP) as long as the borrower qualifies under the guidelines of each program.

For details on each of these programs, visit the affordable housing page on ADA's website, www.atlantada.com. Income limits and other restrictions may apply.

Trust continued on page 8

Don't have something to offer yourself? Please solicit a restaurant or business you patronize on our behalf. I'm coordinating this element of our fundraiser, so let me know what you can offer, so I can write up the appropriate bid sheet to go with your generous donation as well as coordinate collection of any gift cards, objects, etc that goes with your offer. Thank you so much in advance for being part of the magic of the Land Trust Community. Genise Spenle genisejoy@earthlink.net 404-378-8954.



The Conscientious Gardener

Last month we printed a call for help with establishing a vegetable garden for Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, one that will hopefully produce groceries for CSM. Here are a few words about this project from it's new God-parent/steward:

"It's great to witness this huge interest in vegetable gardening. I have lots of plans for the space and would love help, tools, and resources. I'm currently planning a system for organizing work parties and volunteers. I have received several volunteer requests already. I was thinking about a couple Saturdays or Sundays in May (maybe 16/17th and/or 23rd/24th) for having people come out to help with things like spreading mulch, pulling weeds, putting up fencing, setting out transplants, etc.

Regarding the wish list... I think the garden will definitely need some things that hopefully the community can provide. I would really love to put in a fence to keep out curious mammals. If we can get some fencing donated, that would be great. Lumber to make raised beds would be nice. I think I have got enough tools for the job, but seeds and seedlings would definitely be appreciated. Things I'm lacking are watermelons, cucumbers, zucchini, lettuces, and turnips. I pretty much have everything else covered. You can never have too much compost. I've wanted to try and set up a community compost bank for a while now. Maybe this would be a good opportunity to experiment with that.

Another thing would be a drip irrigation system and eventually installing a rainwater catchment system for the sanctuary. If there is anyone in the community with experience in that, I would love to meet them.

I would like the garden to be an all year round organic food producing landscape utilizing smart crop rotations and permaculture methods. I could see expanding the space and incorporating more perennial food plants like berries, more fruit trees, asparagus, etc. Thanks for your interest."

To help with this project, please contact Robby Handley at oklahomarob@hotmail.com.

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Lake Claire Safety Report

March-April 2009 (weeks 11-15)

Auto Theft

3/31-Tue Eve- 200 blk Connecticut Ave NE

2005 Gray Ford 500. Someone stole the victim's vehicle. The vehicle was recovered with a broken window on Dearborn St. Victim stated a key may have been in the center console. Prints attempted.

3/17- Mon. overnight- 200 blk Arizona Ave NE

1997 Silver Honda Acc. Someone stole the vehicle after the victim left it parked at the dead end of the street. The victim has the keys and no broken glass was found. Vehicle was involved in a burglary in Clay St and was recovered.

Commercial Robbery- Candler Park Market

3/21(21:38-21:40) Sat. even. -1600 blk McLendon Ave NE

Weapon: gun. Suspect approached the counter to pay for a sprite and reached for the money in the cash register. Victim closed the register on the suspect's hand but released the pressure after the suspect made threats to shoot him and began to cry. Victim and a witness escorted the suspect out of the store. Taken: Nothing. Suspect: B/M, 17-23YOA, white t shirt, blue jeans.

Entering Automobile

4/3- Fri. overnight- 500 blk Lakeshore Dr

2008 Honda. Someone smashed a passenger side's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: USB. Prints attempted.

3/28- Sat. early morn. -1500 blk DeKalb Ave NE

2002 Chevy TBZ. Someone smashed the rear passenger's side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: Laptop. No prints taken due to rain.

3/22- Sun. even.- 1600 DeKalb Ave NE

1995 Honda. Someone smashed the driver's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: \$2 in change. No prints taken.

3/22-3/23-Sun. overnight -2000 blk Tuxedo Ave NE

2008 Ford EPD. Someone smashed the driver's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: Garmin GPS, No prints taken, vehicle had been cleaned.

3/15-Sun even.- 1700 blk Adolphus St NE

2004 BMW 525 F1 Tag X216MA

2007 Toyota PRI Ga Tag AWX0345. Someone smashed a driver side's window on both vehicles. Witnesses reported seeing the suspect break a window on one of the vehicles and enter it. Taken: Nothing. Suspect: Someone wearing a black hood. No prints taken due to wet surfaces.

3/20- Fri even.- 400 blk Claire DR NE

2002 Honda Acc. Someone smashed the front driver side's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: I Pod, Back Pack, Clothing. Prints attempted.

3/17- Wed morn. -400 blk Hardendorf Ave NE

2001 TOYT RAV. Someone smashed a passenger side's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: Purse and contents, GPS. No prints taken due to wet surfaces.

3/17-3/18-Tues. overnight-400

blk Leonardo Ave NE Street

2007 Honda Acc. Someone smashed a passenger side's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: \$10 in change, GPS. No prints taken due to wet surfaces.

3/17-3/18- Tues. overnight- 400 blk Ridgewood Rd NE

2003 Honda CIV. Someone smashed a passenger side's window on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: MP3 Player. No prints taken due to wet surfaces.

3/15-3/16- Sun. overnight- 200

blk Southerland Ter NE

2008 Ford XPL. Someone smashed a driver side's window

on the victim's vehicle and removed property. Taken: Garmin GPS. No prints taken due to rain.

3/7-3/8- Sat. overnight -200 blk Connecticut Ave NE

2000 Volks JET

2000 Olds INT. A front window was smashed on each vehicle and property was removed.

Taken: Digital camera, digital camera, Garmin GPS, Cell phone. Prints attempted.

3/10-Tues Eve- 1700 blk DeKalb Ave NE

1991 Blue Mazda PRO

Someone broke the front passenger's side window and stole property from the vehicle.

Taken: Purse, IPOD. Prints attempted.

3/13- Fri morn.- 1800 blk Marlbrook Ave NE

2001 Volvo S40. Witness heard glass breaking, looked outside, and saw the suspect

running away from the victim's vehicle. The passenger side's window had been smashed and property was removed. The suspect was last seen running towards Lake Claire Park.

Taken/ recovered: flash light, emergency kit pouch. Suspect: B/M, 5'08 Dark clothing. Prints attempted.

3/8-3/9- Sun. overnight -McLendon Ave NE @ Leonardo Ave NE

2005 Saab . Someone smashed a window on the victim's vehicle and removed property.

Taken: NUVI GPS. Prints attempted.

Residential Burglary

4/9-Thurs even.- 200 blk Mathews Ave NE

Door kicked in. Someone kicked in the victim's rear basement door, entered his home, and removed property. Taken: Laptop, \$44 cash. Prints attempted.

4/8- 4/9- Wed. overnight -400 blk Ridgewood Rd NE

Window smashed. Victim's neighbor reported that someone smashed a rear window on the victim's home, entered, and pulled open the dresser. Victim is out of town and it is not known if anything was taken. Taken: Unknown. Prints attempted.

4/3-Fri even.- 1800 blk Marlbrook Dr NE

Door glass smashed. Someone smashed the glass in the victim's porch door, entered his home, and removed property. Taken: Laptop. Prints attempted.

3/24-3/28 (4 day time frame) -2000 blk McLendon Ave NE

Door kicked in. Someone kicked in the victim's basement door, entered the home, and removed property. Taken: Video camera. Prints attempted.

3/7-Sat even. -2000 blk McLendon Ave NE

Rear window damaged. Victim returned home to discover the rear door open, a rear window damaged and her computer was missing. Taken: Laptop. Prints attempted.



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Thanks to the legions of Lake Clairians who have paid their dues for 2009:

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Mary Ann Frerman & Mike McGirr
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Did we forget anyone? Please email treasurer@lakeclaire.org. If you are ready to pay your dues go to www.lakeclaire.org for a link to pay dues.

The Humongalaw and the McNugget: An Opinion regarding new construction

By Chad Polazzo

As a lifelong resident of Lake Claire/Candler Park, I've seen dramatic changes over the years. Burglar bars removed, brush cleared, sidewalks restored, vacant lots developed. Bit-by-bit as Atlanta has morphed into an international city our neighborhood has become more diverse and vibrant, and with that, more dense and developed. Houses are larger; second stories and additions are added, even some small homes have been torn down and replaced with larger ones. However, I take issue with the frequently written criticism that each time a new home is built in the place of an older one it harms the environment, the view and the neighborhood as a whole.

The subject of a recent article published in the New York Times is the energy inefficiency of older homes. It raises the counter point to the McMansion criticisms that, while older homes have the character and quality construction materials that many new homes lack, they also often have outdated systems, old single pane windows, high flow-rate faucets, water wasting toilets, and inadequate insulation. The article goes on to talk about what we as homeowners can do with our homes to make less of a carbon footprint and save ourselves money on the power bills in the process.

Even though small older homes may likely be less energy efficient than the new, larger one down the street, it would be unfair to assume they are all that way. It would be wrong to demonize their owners by assigning their homes a catchy nickname with a negative connotation like, say...Mc-

Nugget - they're little and cute but still as bad for you as a Big Mac. Virtually everyone agrees that we need more efficiency, more green, and less waste.

In most cases, I believe that homes in our neighborhood should be preserved. As a real estate professional, I know that the best way to ensure that pres-
McNugget continued on page 11



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McNugget continued from page 10

ervation happens is to invest in updating older homes. Once they have fallen into terrible disrepair, their future becomes uncertain. However, if an older home has been renovated with high efficiency systems, energy star appliances, thermal pane windows, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and up-to-date insulation, they usually become too nice (and too expensive) for the numbers to work as a tear-down/re-build project. (this is even more so if they have solar water heaters, gray water systems, geothermal, gerbil powered turbines, etc.).

With a neighborhood as diverse and tolerant as ours, shouldn't we expect it to have a diverse housing situation? I see a world where the Humongalow and the McNugget can live happily side-by-side. With our troubled economy and environment people don't need homes that are super-sized, but ones that are value-sized.

Please e-mail me to let me know your thoughts at chad@chadsells.com.

Dogs on the Run...Again.

It is Tuesday morning and I have already seen two ownerless dogs in my yard--a red chow-like medium-haired dog, without a collar; and a tan, shorthair with black markings on its muzzle, with a collar.

Recently, someone was bitten by a free-roaming dog that he approached, so I am wary of approaching these. A few days ago, my son avoided a nearby corner because there was a black, medium-haired ownerless dog barking there.

Please folks, do not let your dogs roam wild. It is dangerous for them and possibly dangerous for those of us living here. I do not mind if they are old and stay in or near their yards, but is there something we as a group can do about the others? I do not want to call animal control.

All the best, Leah Pine

In addition to the physical dangers, there is also the concern about how frightening barking dogs off a leash can be to young children. Micah was pretty traumatized by a dog off-leash at the land trust several months ago. And there is also the inconvenience of unscooped poop in one's yard. With the vegetable gardens at the Land Trust, unscooped poop is probably more than an inconvenience as well, but also a health issue. I agree with Leah that dogs should be on the leash,

or with their people when off leash. I'm afraid I don't have any ideas about how to resolve the problem other than calling animal control, but I hope someone else does.

-Lisa Hovelenad Eisen

Being the mother of a child who was bitten on the eye by our "friendly" dog, I learned that a dog is a dog. If provoked or spooked or has its territory threatened, the dog will behave as dogs do and react. And, a friendly dog is just as much a danger. Imagine a horse (with sharp claws!) jumping on you! That's what it is like for little children around jumpy, large dogs.

All dog owners out there, please please please be sensitive to your neighbors- especially the little ones. -Alicia McGill

Since there seems to be quite a stink over the leash laws in the Clarion lately, I thought it only fair for you to share with us the Law. Most of us live in DeKalb County, City of Atlanta. Therefore we are not unincorporated DeKalb. Here is the City of Atlanta's Ordinance Code for Dogs. I have included in this email only the relevant part,

ARTICLE III. DOGS

Sec. 18-61. Applicability to portion of city within DeKalb County.

(a) Generally. The following shall apply to that portion of the city within DeKalb County:

(1) Duty of owner to keep dog under control. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or for any person having a dog in such person's possession and control to permit the dog to be out of control and unattended off the premises of the owner in that part of the city within DeKalb County or upon the property of another person without permission of the owner or person in possession thereof.

(2) Definition of dog under control. A dog is under control if the dog is controlled by a leash, is at heel or is beside a competent person and obedient to that person's commands or is within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets or is within the property limits of the dog's owner. (Code 1977, §§ 14-4041, 14-4042, 19-14.012)

This ordinance covers most of, if not all of Lake Claire. I am not advocating dogs running wild, but the law clearly states that a leash is not required. We all need to be responsible people, which I feel I am, so if I am with my dog and we aren't bothering you, please let us be.

-Brian Maddox

I had the unfortunate experience of a huge dog that came up to my door as I was entering my house with my young child. The dog pushed to pass by me, and I barely managed to close the door before the dog went in. My son was terrified...I have a dog that has been attacked twice while I walked him on his leash. The other dog was loose and without its owner. I had to pay the vet bill myself. It is really dangerous with loose dogs, please keep your dogs on a leash or in a fenced in yard.-Eva Bell

Editor's Note: These reports keep coming in. Obviously, loose dogs are a problem and a concern. These folks are representative, I think, of people who love dogs and are reluctant to "turn in" the loose ones, yet realize the inherent hazards. What are neighbors to do? We must protect our kids and ourselves. However they end up loose, dogs are subject to being picked up by Animal Control. Please mind your pets. If you have any helpful information to share, email_editor@lakeclaire.org.

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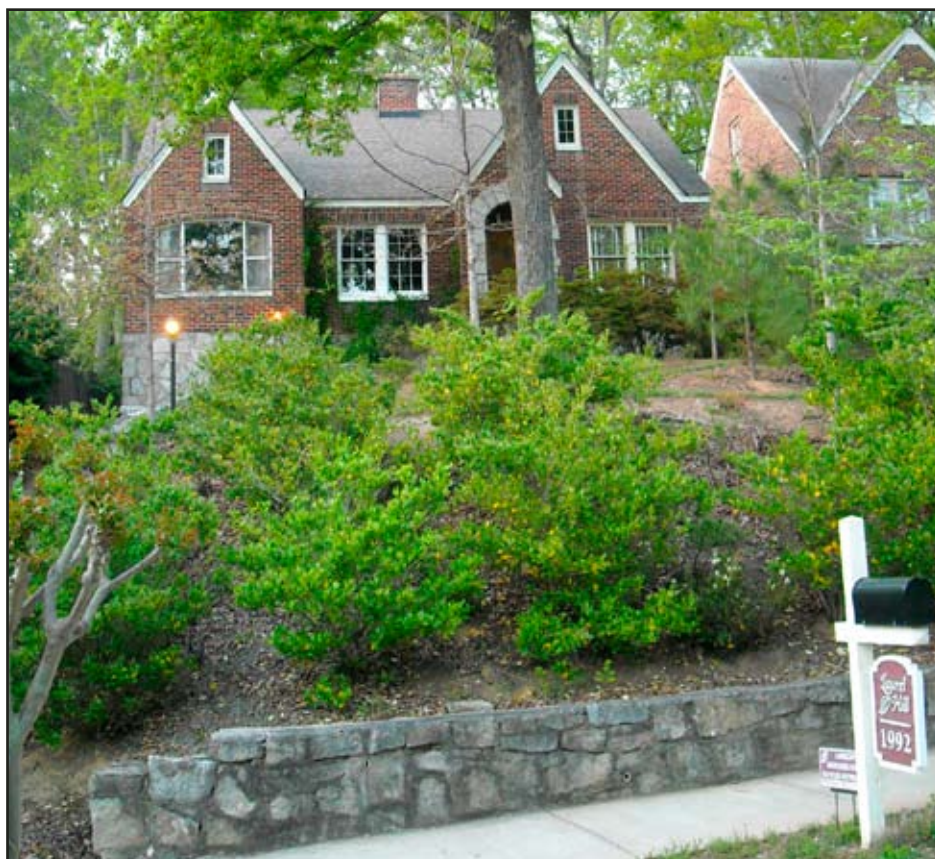
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Laurel Hill Bed-&-Breakfast Welcomes You!

By Susan L. Drake

It's graduation time in Atlanta; are you expecting out-of-town guests for the ceremonies but don't know where you'll house them? Do you yourself just want to steal away for a relaxing, romantic evening? Don't give this situation a second thought—let Dave Hinman of Lake Claire's

own Laurel Hill Bed-&-Breakfast take care of your company and you!

Since 2001 Dave and his conscientious staff have been welcoming guests to Lake Claire and Laurel Hill. Here at 1992 McLendon Avenue, two handsome Tudor homes have been reincarnated as an inn. Laurel

Hill offers charming architectural features—hardwood floors, crown moldings, fireplaces, plantation shutters, ceiling fans. And the B&B boasts every amenity—whirlpool tubs, prized antiques, oriental carpets, and original art work as well as fresh flowers.

The meticulously landscaped yards tempt visitors to stroll along blooming garden paths and—if the weather is just right—to partake of breakfast outside. There you'll feast on one of Dave's mouth-watering, made-to-order three-course breakfasts. Laurel Hill specializes in an open schedule breakfast; all guests do when checking in is to write their desired serving time on a blackboard in the dining room and Dave takes it from there.

This chef cooks with a passion and presents his guests with a splendid menu to choose from. You may nibble on assorted sweet breads and fresh fruit while he concocts your meal from scratch. Two much-asked-for treats are the Yogurt Parfait, consisting of bananas and berries layered with crushed granola and drizzled with honey, and the ever-popular Eggs Benedict. Since Laurel Hill serves so many returning guests, Dave gets to know who likes what and will serve your favorite dishes without even being asked. Dave also offers his returning patrons the freedom of self-check-in.

Remember, if you're faced with a space dilemma, just pick up the phone (404.377.3217) or visit their web site (www.laurelhillbandb.com). Dave Hinman and his Laurel Hill B&B look forward to welcoming you! 🌿



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HOUSE REPAIR Rotted wood repair, siding, porch columns, railings, porch floors, windows, etc. Sheetrock repair, interior-exterior painting, trim carpentry, small projects. 15 years experience. Candler Park resident for 15 years. Free estimate. Lee Nicholson 404-378-1343.

Become a member of Lake Claire Neighbors

Membership Info

Lake Claire Neighbors is an incorporated non-profit, tax-exempt, homeowners association. In accordance with the by-laws, membership consists of all residents, property owners, and businesses within the boundaries of the Lake Claire Neighborhood. If you are a Lake Claire resident, your payment of dues helps us help you. Dues are voluntary (optional) and reasonable.

Yearly Membership Dues: \$20/household. Two ways to pay your membership dues:

Option 1 - Pay online using a credit card

Go to www.lakeclaire.org. Secure online payment using PayPal, but does not require a PayPal account.

Option 2 - Send a check to our treasurer. Mail with name, address, email address and telephone number to:

Lake Claire Neighbors, attn: Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107

Want to stay in touch with activities in and around the neighborhood? Go to our website www.lakeclaire.org and join our email "newscast." We limit emails to a few a month.

Unfortunately dues and gifts to LCN are not tax deductible. However, they help us do great things such as maintain a security patrol, park and stream bank clean-ups, installation of neighborhood signs, community events, distribution of the monthly newsletter, and staying ahead of city planning developments.

Get involved! Help us keep Lake Claire lively, safe, and beautiful.