



Robby sitting on the newly terraced hillside.

The Garden at Clifton: Seeing What Has Taken Root

Since April of this year, Robby Handley has been planting and tending the organic garden at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. He had seen a small note in the *Clarion* that spring month:

"There is great interest in helping CSM install a vegetable garden that will help provide [them] with significant groceries. If interested, please respond to help with labor, tools, other materials, plants, seeds, expertise, whatever. Let's see what takes root!"

Robby, who lives directly across from Clifton on Ivy Place, responded right away. He enjoys helping others, and he is passionate about gardening. That was seven short months ago. Now the garden is thriving, to the point that Pete, the chef at Clifton, has even had to turn food away.

On my recent visit to the garden, Robby gave me a tour. It's a nice-sized plot of land full of life and color, and he has big plans for it. He was in the process of pulling up mulch and planting buckwheat, a cover crop that suppresses weeds, creates a dense canopy, and reserves nutrients (calcium and potassium) from the subsoil. He walked me around and showed off the broccoli and cauliflower that were planted where the compost used to be, so much bigger and fuller than their siblings planted next to them. (The compost has been relocated a few feet away.) He pointed out rows of cabbages—

kale and Chinese cabbage and bok choy, among others—radishes, mustard greens, carrots, cilantro, Brussels sprouts, and collard greens. He stopped and rubbed a leaf of mountain mint between his thumb and finger, and took in a deep breath of it. Later on, he showed me strawberries and lemongrass and Jerusalem artichoke. Flowers now grow up where the tomatoes used to be.

A full-time musician, Robby is at the garden nearly every day. He is at home here, and knows the work well, but he is also eager to experiment and try new things. He says the garden is "a step beyond an organic garden"—not only does he use organic fertilizer, but he eschews pesticides, saying that even the organic ones can put beneficial insects, like butterflies, bees, and ladybugs, at risk.

While he cares for the garden as if it's his own, one of his main goals is to provide for Clifton—to grow as much for them as he can, and also to establish it in a way that makes it easy for the men to assume it as their own one day. To that end, he is planning to redesign the garden next year, so that it better meets their needs. He has learned which items are most important—onions, garlic, herbs (sage, lavender, rosemary), berries, fruit—and which may be

Garden continued on Page 2

Vote for LCN Executive Committee Officers!

Nominations for Lake Claire officers for 2010 have been submitted. Come to the LCN meeting on November 19 to vote on the following positions (current nominations are listed):

President: Glenn Frankel
VP, Zoning: Dan White
VP, Finance: Cara Stevens
VP, Environment: Elise Cormier
VP, Safety: Jennifer Horn
VP, Communications: Tish Ganey
VP, Fund-raising: Diane Moore
NPU Rep: Kathy Evans; Jennifer Sams, alternate

If you are interested in serving as an alternate for any of the above positions, e-mail Diane Moore at president@lakeclaire.org. All executive committee members need volunteer help in the form of alternates. We are especially interested in finding an alternate for VP, Safety.

From the Editor

We're calling this the "Giving + Thanks" issue, because we want to highlight a few of the many ways in which we can help our fellow neighbors, Atlantans, and citizens (of the state, the nation, and the world) during the upcoming holiday seasons. With so many ways to help, and so many people in need, we can make a big impact. If you want to draw attention to a local charitable activity important to you or your family, please let us know by e-mailing editor@lakeclaire.org. We'll continue this theme in the December issue!

And thanks to Teri Stewart of Donna Van Gogh's, extra issues of the *Clarion* can be found in her store and also at Candler Park Market and the Flying Biscuit.

Get to Know the Clarion Staff Featuring: Tish Ganey, Layout

The *Clarion*: Where do you live?

Tish Ganey: I live in one of the best spots in Lake Claire! I live on Harold Avenue, and my house backs up to the Frazer Forest.

TC: How long have you lived in Lake Claire?

TG: Five years.

TC: Who makes up your household?

TG: There's Tim and I; the youngest of our four daughters, Camille; our cats, Romeo and Ms. Phatty; and our dog, Jesse.

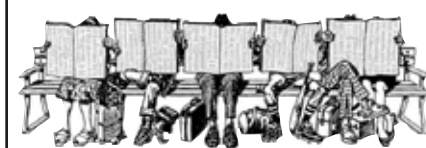
TC: When you're not putting together the *Clarion*, what do you do?

TG: I make stuff up! I have a corporate job in marketing that keeps me from doing all those things I really like to do, like work in the yard, make art, and track down my family tree members on ancestry.com. Actually, my day job doesn't sound all that different from what I do on my days off!

TC: What do you like best about working on the *Clarion*?

TG: I really like working on publications, because you have the chance to build on a foundation and improve with every issue. The *Clarion* is no exception. We have a great paper that lends itself to a professional treatment. I really enjoy working on the *Clarion* be-

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THE CLARION IS PRINTED
ON RECYCLED PAPER.

Mark Your Calendar

Sun, November 1: Clifton Sanctuary Ministries' 30th anniversary party, 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Come celebrate thirty years of radical hospitality at CSM, 369 Connecticut Ave. NE. Enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs, music, and more (minimum donation of \$5 per plate). Halloween costumes are welcome. Visit www.cliftonsanctuary.com or call (404) 373-3253 for more information.

Sat, November 7–Sun, November 8: Pirate Weekend at Fernbank Museum of Natural History, on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 3:00 p.m. Features family-friendly, pirate-themed fun and games. Activities include temporary tattoos, a limbo contest, a museum treasure hunt, a visit by the Georgia Bubbleman, and more. Special prizes will be given to children wearing a pirate costume. Pirate Weekend activities are included with museum admission and are free for members. Museum admission is \$15 for adults, \$14 for students and seniors, and \$13 for children ages 12 and under. For tickets, visit www.fernbankmuseum.org or call (404) 929-6400.

Sat, November 7–Sat, November 28: Uncle Grampa's Hoo-Dilly Storytime at Dad's Garage Theatre, every Saturday in November at 11:30 a.m. The beloved, zany kids' show is returning for another two rounds of storytelling fun, and the whole Hoo-Dilly gang will be there! Each week, the cast will choose a brand-new, never-been-told story to tell. The kids help fuel the story by choosing characters, giving suggestions, and even telling jokes along the way. So ditch those Saturday morning cartoons and come have some fun with us for a price that can't be beat. This show is recommended for children ages 2–8 and adults alike. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids. Children under 2 are admitted free. Dad's Garage is located in Inman Park at 280 Elizabeth St., Suite C-101. Visit www.dadsgarage.com for details.

Sun, November 15: Community workday for Frazer Forest trail maintenance, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Help spread mulch on trails and fill and place sandbags. Park in the upper lot at the Frazer Center but meet in the lower lot (across from Hospitality House). Bring work gloves and hard rakes. To volunteer, or for more information, contact Jack Chapel at jackchapel@mac.com

Thurs, November 19: LCN meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Frazer Center.

Sun, November 22: 25th Annual Inman Park Holiday Sale and Auction, 3:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m., at the Trolley Barn, 963 Edgewood Avenue NE. This event benefits the students at Inman Park Cooperative Preschool, a school that focuses on teaching children to embrace, protect, and restore the environment, and one of Georgia's oldest cooperative preschools. More than four hundred items—including get-aways, a private music performance, and children's books and toys—will be up for the silent and live auctions. Purchase gifts, retail and restaurant gift certificates, museum tickets, and more—all at great prices, and to help the school maintain its nature-based educational opportunities. Cash, check, and credit cards accepted. Entry to the event is free and open to the public. For more details, visit www.ipcp.org or call (404) 827-9796.

Thurs, November 26: Thanksgiving
Coming up in December...

Thurs, December 10: The annual Lake Claire holiday dinner, 6:30 p.m. at the Frazer Center.

Lennon and McCartney. Rogers and Hammerstein. Martin and Lewis. Burns and Allen. Ferrante and Teicher. Lucy and Desi. Bert and Ernie. Barbie and Ken. Bill and Hilary. Abbot

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and Costello. Barnes and Noble. Jules et Jim. Lewis and Clark. Lone Ranger and Tonto. Mork and Mindy. Nancy and

Garden continued from Page 1

less so (when Pete had to turn away cucumbers this summer, in part because of a great amount of donations from other sources, Robby took them home and pickled them for him). He wants to make the garden more perennial and stocked with less "traditional" produce.

To accomplish this, he is hoping for some help: donations of plants or money for plants, fencing (to fence along the hillside so he can grow beans, kiwi, and other items), help to expand the garden along Ivy and toward McLendon, and watering supplies (soaker hoses, drip lines, and more rain barrels).

His other goal is to make the place a demonstration garden for neighbors who want to garden but may need support, guidance, inspiration, or assurance that it's not impossible. His gardening philosophy is simple: You must have patience, and you must be willing to fail (and learn from your mistakes). He is an easy educator; on our tour, he encouraged me to eat nasturtium (an edible flower that doesn't taste good to pests, but to this person had a sweet lettuce-like flavor, followed by a peppery aftertaste); described a permaculture technique called the keyhole bed, which allows for more planting space and less paths; and explained how to use dog hair to keep squirrels away from tomato plants (chasing them with rocks works too, he says).

He is proud of his recent project, terracing the soil on the hillside along Ivy, by shovel, and incorporating a trench to capture water as it runs off from the Clifton parking lot, and any topsoil that erodes—all just a day's work for a neighbor whose garden feeds and nourishes so many.

If you would like to donate to the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries garden, or visit, contact Robby Handley at oklahomarob@hotmail.com.

—Heidi Hill

Staff continued from Page 1



Tish Ganey with Jesse

cause we have wonderful photos of the interesting places and people in Lake Claire, and there are many chances to creatively highlight the wide variety of topics we cover.

TC: What's your favorite spot in Lake Claire?

TG: There's an obelisk at the Land Trust that reads, "The center of the known universe," and just a few steps away from that point is a deck overlooking DeKalb Avenue. Atop that high ridge you can sit in very tall Adirondack chairs and look across the city and the Eastern Subcontinental Divide at the same time. It is an amazing spot that really does make you feel like you are at the center of the universe!

Editor's note: After more than two years of devoted work making our paper beautiful, fun, and easy to read, layout designer Tish Ganey is stepping down. Tish will be greatly missed, but her vast talents will be put to good use on our Web site and in our e-mail newscasts. If you are interested in filling our soon-to-be-vacant position of layout designer, please contact Heidi Hill at editor@lakeclaire.org. Come join our team!



The Clarion is searching for a volunteer layout designer.

Get on the case and solve this mystery!
Contact Heidi Hill for details
at editor@lakeclaire.org



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Next LCN Meeting

Thursday, November 19

Lake Claire Neighbors meets every third Thursday of the month at the Frazer Center. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m.; the meeting begins at 7:00. Meetings are open to all. Check www.lakeclaire.org for updates to the meeting agenda.

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 Vinciguerra, safety@lakeclaire.org
 VP, Communications: Glenn Frankel, comm@lakeclaire.org
 NPU Rep: Jennifer Sams, npu@lakeclaire.org

Lake Claire Neighbors, P.O. Box 5942, Atlanta, GA 31107

Visit www.lakeclaire.org to sign up for the newscasts—timely updates on happenings in Lake Claire!

Newsletter Staff

Editor: Heidi Hill, editor@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 publication.

Claire's List

Do you have a service or an item that someone else might need or want—something that might add to your income or be a thrifty option for a neighbor? Let's help each other out in these tough times. Claire's List offers home-based services and merchandise for sale, rent, loan, barter, or free locally. It's also a place where you can post items or services you want. Add your posting for free by the 15th of the month prior to publication (e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org).

Bookkeeping service. Lilith Management, Inc., is a bookkeeping service located in Atlanta that provides both virtual and on-site services. Small to medium-size businesses are our specialty. More than 25 years experience. Call (404) 377-1502 or visit www.lilithmanagementinc.com

Local filmmakers. We are documentary-style filmmakers who specialize in creating original and affordable video. Visit our Web site, www.karmalized-pictures.com, to see some of our products. We are all about eco-

living and helping people, animals, and Mother Earth—Mark Burch and Amy Jackson.

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

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Handyman looking for work. Doug Bryant is looking for handyman work, specializing in driveway, patio, foundation, and retaining wall repair/maintenance. Local references, reasonable rates. Call (678) 497-5429 or e-mail rdbjr79@yahoo.com.

Looking for employment. Hello, friends. I am looking for employment. My specialties in-

clude helping hands, thorough house cleaning, child or elderly care, gardening, Girl Friday. Mature woman, references, own vehicle. Call Melissa Bell at (404) 384-5989. Thank you.

Minor electrical repairs and installations. Also cable, phone lines, Wi-Fi setup. Neighborhood references. Rate is \$35/hr + \$20 for house call (within three miles of Little Five Points only). Contact Norman Glassman at (404) 704-5546 or nglassman5@gmail.com

Need firewood? Will swap logs cut to fireplace size for help pulling backyard kudzu. Call Alice Bliss at (404) 373-8169.

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.

Neighborhood call: It's time for some smart recycling! The Smart Landscape Demonstration Gar-

dens are under way at Epworth UMC and are ready for hard-scape, landscape, any-scape donations. The Neighborhood Social Corner, Love and Forgiveness Garden, Children's Natural Playspace, and Wildlife Habitat areas need pavers, bricks, lumber, shrubs, fruit trees, delicate ferns, benches, perennials, bulbs . . . Clear out those yards and garages, knowing that your "extras" will have a happy new life right down the street! To arrange donation pickups, contact Elise Cormier (demonstration gardens designer and Lake Claire neighbor) at (404) 309-5889 or TendrilsEdge@gmail.com. Thanks a million, Lake Claire!

Pet sitting. Over ten years' vet and pet care experience. References available. Call Tina Smith at (404) 247-0914.

Join Your Lake Claire Neighbors to Help Children in Need

Last year, a group of neighbors on Leonardo got together as a street to participate in the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. For those not familiar with Angle Tree, it is a program designed to provide toys and clothing to the less-fortunate children of our community. Through the Salvation Army, you "adopt" a child during the holiday season, providing one new outfit, one pair of shoes, and two to three age-appropriate gifts.

This year, I wanted to invite the entire neighborhood to participate. The process is easy: if you commit to adopt a child, I will deliver a form to you in the second week of November with your adopted child's age and clothing sizes, as well as a bag for your items. You will have two weeks to make your purchases and deliver the unwrapped clothes and toys to my home. I will deliver the donations as a group to the Salvation Army headquarters. If you wish to participate, please send me an e-mail with the number of children you wish to adopt by Saturday, November 7. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the program or the process. Thanks! For more info, contact Emily Veazey at (404) 963-2722, emily.veazey@gmail.com.



The Nurture Decatur Lecture Series Continues

Nurture Decatur is a new resource for parents who seek to make informed choices as they create a whole, healthy family environment. The free lecture series continues this month at the Solarium at Historic Scottish Rite, 321 West Hill Street, in Decatur. November topics include Babywearing 101: Beyond Baby Bjorn, with guest speaker Wendy Yang, babywearing expert and local Koala Mommas leader, on November 2; Cesarean/VBAC Awareness: Cutting through the Myths, with guest speaker Maureen Finneran Hetrick, co-leader of the Atlanta chapter of the International Cesarean Awareness Network (ICAN), on November 16; and The Doula Advantage, with guest speaker Teresa Howard, owner of Labor of Love Doula & Childbirth Services, on November 30. All lectures run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and are limited to thirty attendees. They are also family friendly—so bring the kids along! For details about these lectures and more information on Nurture Decatur, visit www.nurturedecatur.org or e-mail nurturedecatur@gmail.com.



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Ten (Local) Ways to Give This Holiday Season

Are you looking for a way to help someone in need, give a little extra during the holidays, or expose your family to the importance of giving? Below are just a few of the options available in Atlanta to help others. Special requests for the holiday season are listed, but most of these organizations have ongoing needs for donations and volunteers as well.

1. The Salvation Army: USA Southern Territory

About: The Salvation Army was founded in 1865 to bring salvation to the poor, destitute, and hungry. It is an evangelical Christian movement that provides assistance to people of all creeds.

Special request: Donations for the Angel Tree Program; see "Join Your Lake Claire Neighbors to Help Children in Need," page 3.

Learn more:

www.uss.salvationarmy.org/uss/www_uss.nsf
(800) SAL-ARMY

2. International Rescue Committee (IRC)—Atlanta Office

About: The IRC provides opportunities for refugees to thrive in America. In Atlanta and many other regional offices across the country, the IRC helps them rebuild their lives.

Special request: If you are updating your wardrobe and have some extra warm coats and jackets on hand, IRC Atlanta can put them to immediate good use! We are collecting and distributing coats to everyone from toddlers to grandparents. Most of our refugee families arrive from warm climates and find Atlanta's autumn and winter to be quite cold. You can drop off coats, scarves, mittens, and cold weather hats anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 4151 Memorial Drive, Suite 201-C, Decatur, GA 30032.

Learn more:

www.theirc.org/us-program/us-atlanta-ga
Atlanta@theIRC.org
(404) 292-7731

3. CARE Southeast

About: CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. We place special focus on working alongside poor women, because, equipped with the proper resources, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty.

Special request: Throughout 2009, Delta SkyMiles members can donate their miles to CARE to make a real difference in the lives of women around the world. The donated miles help CARE further its mission in two important ways: they enable CARE to reach people in the countries where we work, and allow CARE to channel even more resources directly into our projects that empower women worldwide.

Learn more:

www.care.org/getinvolved/regional/se/index.asp
info@care.org
(404) 681-2552

4. Our House

About: In 1988, a group of local citizens founded Our House, a homeless-specific childcare center, recognizing that the lack of affordable childcare kept many families from overcoming homelessness. Our founders envisioned more than free childcare: they wanted a loving, safe haven where a parent could confidently leave her child while she sought employment and permanent housing. With that commitment and love, they created Our House, which over the years has evolved into a beacon of practical assistance and encouragement through valu-

able supportive services for the entire family.

Special request: Fulfill the Wish List by donating center materials (diapers, wipes, laundry detergent, etc.), clothing for adults and children, bedding, classroom materials, and gift cards. Donations are accepted on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please call Our House if you need to arrange another drop-off time.

Learn more:

www.ourhousega.org/index.htm
711 Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA 30030
(404) 378-0938

5. Atlanta Children's Shelter (ACS)

About: Founded in 1986, the Atlanta Children's Shelter provides free, quality day care, emotional support, an educational curriculum for homeless children, and focused social services for their families. Dedicated to helping families overcome the issues that contribute to homelessness, including domestic violence and job loss, the Atlanta Children's Shelter focuses on the long-term self-sufficiency of the family.

Special request: Order your holiday cards here this year and help ACS stabilize homeless families with young children. The 2009 holiday card cover was made by Jelisha, age 3, in the preschool room and volunteer Desiree. One hundred percent of the proceeds support our programs. Cards and matching envelopes are \$1.50 each and come in blocks of 10, 20, 50, 100, or 500. The inside of each card reads: May peace and joy be with you/This holiday season/And always.

Learn more:

www.atlantachildrensshelter.com
info@atlantachildrensshelter.org (404) 892-3713

6. Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta

About: The Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta was founded in 1988 in response to the lack of furniture resources for homeless people who secure housing. Before the Furniture Bank, many of these individuals and families had no furniture and were forced to sleep and eat on the floor.

Special request: Bring in or schedule a free pickup of the following needed items (all must be in good condition, without need of repair or cleaning): mattresses, box springs, bed frames; dressers, chests, armoires, mirrors, nightstands, TV stands; dining tables and chairs; cribs, changing tables, highchairs; buffets, hutches, china cabinets; coffee tables, sofa tables, end tables; sofas, loveseats, armchairs, ottomans; lamps, kitchenware, linens, microwave ovens.

Learn more:

www.furniturebankatlanta.org
info@furniturebankatlanta.org
(404) 355-8530

7. Samaritan House of Atlanta

About: Founded in 1986, Samaritan House of Atlanta transforms lives by helping homeless men and women gain self-sufficiency through personalized employment readiness and life-stabilization programs. We fulfill our mission through The EDGE, a comprehensive daytime employment readiness program; Café 458, a case-management and support service (including a restaurant-style lunch); and Samaritan House Clean Street Team, a transitional employment and training program with the City of Atlanta and the Georgia Department of Transportation engaging thirty homeless men and women working on beautification projects throughout the city.

Special request: Thursdays Are Thanksgiving is a chance to per-

form a small act of kindness that will be deeply appreciated by Café 458 guests. Our goal is to make every Thursday feel like Thanksgiving. For many, this is the only full meal that they will eat all day. A contribution of \$100 sponsors sixty meals for one Thursday. Your name as sponsor will be showcased in a framed sign located in Café 458 on your day. We also encourage you to volunteer on your selected day!

Learn more:

www.samhouse.org
info@samhouse.org
P.O. Box 89125, Atlanta, GA 30312 (404) 523-1239

8. Atlanta Community Food Bank (ACFB)

About: Founded in 1979, the Atlanta Community Food Bank currently distributes nearly two million pounds of food and other donated grocery items each month to more than eight hundred nonprofit partner agencies

Give continued on Page 5

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Lake Claire Resident Honored for Work with Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

Since 1979, thousands of volunteers have served the men who are in residence at Clifton Night Hospitality. Truly, the great things that happen each and every day wouldn't happen without our volunteers, who prepare dinner, wash laundry, drop off peanut butter and jelly, and make sure that each day our guests know that they are loved.

Each year at our Graduation and Honors Dinner, we honor the volunteers who have done something outstanding during the past year. This year, it was an easy decision, as one of our Lake Claire neighbors clearly demonstrated that dedication and commitment to the men of Clifton each and every week. Elise Cormier, along with her fiancé, Andy Smits, received the Volunteer of the Year award at our annual dinner, on October 4, 2009.

Through their church, Epworth United Methodist Church, Elise and Andy got involved with Clifton two years ago, at about the same time that we began our program to provide lunch bags to the guests each day. Realizing the need, Elise committed to making sandwiches and assembling lunch bags once a week. Elise's lunch bags aren't just plain brown bags—they often are decorated or have words of encouragement printed on the outside. She also recruited her friends, Suzanne and Bill Lomas, who are also members of Epworth UMC, to assist with the sandwich making, and they share in our Volunteer of the Year award.

In addition to their prowess with sandwich assembling, Elise and Andy have volunteered to help individual guests prepare their résumés and sharpen their job-seeking skills. The couple is also ready to assist in preparing dinners on the evenings when Epworth UMC serves dinner at Clifton.

Thanks, Elise and Andy, for your hard work and the love you show to the men of Clifton. We couldn't do it without you!

—Leslie Prince



(L-R) Alice Jenkins, Leslie Prince, and Elise Cormier at the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Graduation and Honors Dinner.

Give continued from Page 4

in thirty-eight counties in Metro Atlanta and North Georgia. We support a wide range of people in need, from children to the working poor.

Special request: The ACFB will distribute millions of meals this holiday season to those in need, but we need your help today. For every dollar donated, we are able to provide \$5.66 worth of food and services to the community.

Learn more:
www.acfb.org
info@acfb.org
(404) 892-FEED

9. Atlanta Animal Rescue Friends (AARF)

About: AARF works to assist abandoned, abused, and stray animals in finding new, loving homes. AARF works with all breeds of dogs and cats. We utilize a network of foster care providers to house the rescued animals, provide them complete medical care (including spaying or neutering and microchipping), and then place them into loving, permanent homes.

Special request: A \$1 bill in your wallet may not go very far these days, but it can really go the distance for homeless pets. Help Atlanta Animal Rescue Friends raise a FULL mile of dollar bills, with all the proceeds going to support our Foster Program and Silver Paws Program, by the end of 2009! We know in this current time, thousands of pets are the unseen and unheard victims of economic hardship. Since a \$1 bill is approximately six inches long, we will need 10,560 bills to raise a mile of money. Learn more about the four-step process at the AARF Web site.

Learn more:
www.aarfatlanta.org
info@aarfatlanta.org
(678) 318-1826

10. Atlanta Toys for Tots

About: Over the fifty-six years of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, Marines have distributed more than 313 million toys to 151 million children.

Special request: The Atlanta Toys for Tots foundation has teamed up with Publix to accept toy donations this year. You can take your toys to any local area Publix, and it will ensure they are brought to our warehouse.

Learn more:
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The Conscientious Gardener

By Gay Arnieri

Hi there. Miss me? I've missed passing on my thoughts as I wander around the garden and see what's going on in other gardens. Take, for example, the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries garden. I went by the other day to check out the progress and was absolutely amazed. The fall garden is poking through clean beds. Paths and fall flowers are welcoming. I hear that the shelter has had little expense for fresh veggies this past season thanks to the production of this garden and the generous sharing of other community gardens. Here are a few views of the CSM garden as I recently found it.

On another note, here is a reminder to prep your poinsettias for the holidays. It's time to feed them and lock them away from sunlight. I cover the plant with a heavy black trash bag (or two) so I don't have to move the whole plant to the basement, which means I will forget to continue watering it. I have varying luck with this method, but it beats killing the plant altogether.



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Arrows point to the stump of the larger tree.

Timber!

A builder recently razed a home at 1709 McLendon, and in the process of the demolition and excavation, two hardwood trees—a thirteen-inch circumference and a thirty-one-inch circumference—were destroyed. Neither tree was approved for removal as part of the building project. However, if the builder had sought prior approval for the trees to be removed, in all likelihood it would have been granted.

The fees for the illegal destruction of the trees amounted to only \$2,520, which may be just a drop in the bucket for the builder, who stands to make a substantial profit selling the five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bathroom house with a two-car garage that is being built on the lot. If either tree had been approved for destruction, the fee would have been only

\$1,500, but this could have been offset by the builder simply replanting two trees—what a deal! Why wait for the city arborist to approve the legal removal of trees when you can just pay the fee and not have to replant any trees? Apparently, there is no way to build an oversized house on a Lake Claire lot and keep the trees.

Some may take the viewpoint that illegal destruction of trees is simply a part of doing business. And it's a good business when the fines don't put a dent in the builder's pockets. Our city codes favor "more is better," as in more out-of-proportion houses squeezed onto postage-stamp lots, more tree loss, more runoff, more landfills, more noise, more utility consumption—you name it.

Do you share our concern over the continued canopy loss in the city, or for building codes that allow behemoths to be built on small lots? We want to continue to apprise Lake Claire neighbors of tree destruction, in a time when supporting green, sustainable initiatives has become mainstream. Please let us know what might be coming soon to your street by e-mailing bethonbass@gmail.com.

—Linda Maynard and
Beth Lynn Damon

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LC Safety Report: August–September

Please be sure to remove items from your cars and to inform guests and visitors to do the same! Watch out for your neighbors and report any suspicious activity by calling 911 immediately. Report crime to 911 first and then to lakeclaireneighborhoodwatch@yahoo.com.

AUTO THEFT

9/23–9/24 Wed 10:00 p.m.–Thurs 8:30 a.m.—1600 blk DeKalb Ave. NE
Chevy C10

Vehicle was stolen from a parking lot. Victim purchased the car in April and did not have a tag for it.

ENTERING AUTO

8/31 Mon 9:00 a.m.—200 blk Connecticut Ave. NE
2005 Toyota MTX

Front passenger's side window broken. Taken: Nothing. Prints not attempted due to wet surfaces.

9/1–9/2 Tues 11:00 p.m.–Wed 7:30 a.m.—1400 blk Iverson St. NE

2005 Dodge Caravan
Passenger's side window broken. Taken: iPod. Prints attempted.

9/3 Thurs 11:00–11:30 a.m.—1600 blk McLendon Ave. NE
2004 Black Ford XPL

A witness heard glass breaking and when he came to investigate observed the arrestee reaching into the victim's vehicle through a broken front passenger window. The arrestee fled on
Safety continued on Page 7



Alice Bliss signs a book at her publication party.

Focus on Local Talent

Lake Claire Elder at Work

Alice Bliss of Gordon Avenue recently published her twelfth novel, *The Lees*, a self-published work of fiction that chronicles, as do her other works, the lives and times of Southern families. Her writing has a take-me-away relaxing pace with interesting characters and circumstances. She is in the good company of other local authors (such as Stephen Wing, *Free Ralph*) who write and publish within our prolific Lake Claire. To obtain a copy of Alice's latest novel, contact her at 297 Gordon Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA., 30307. Copies sell for \$24.25 each.

—Gay Arneri

Freedom Park the New Home to Kempler Sculpture

New Endings, a bronze fountain sculpture conceived and executed by internationally known sculptor Diane Kempler, was installed in Walton Springs Park, on Andrew Young International Boulevard, in 1996. When it was suggested that a new sculpture honoring Andrew Young be installed at that location, Kempler selected a location for New Endings in Freedom Park. In mid-July 2008, three large boulders that were part of the original installation were moved to their new location in Freedom Park near the intersection of Euclid Avenue and North Avenue. The permanent installation of the sculpture is now complete. According to Emory University, where Kempler is a professor of ceramics, her work "deals with transformations and transitions as they exist in nature and human beings."

The Lake Claire Security Patrol Still Needs Members!

Since the community survey in which respondents were overwhelmingly in favor of establishing a security patrol in Lake Claire, a number of households have pledged their \$250 annual membership fee. But many more members are needed to make this vision a reality—and help get officers on the streets in time for the holiday season. To sign up, go to the public safety page on the Lake Claire Neighbors Web site, <http://www.lakeclaire.org/lcn/safety.htm>, and pay with PayPal, or send a check with your completed registration form (located in the files link of the Yahoo neighborhood watch group) to Lake Claire Neighbors, Security Patrol, 2009 McLendon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Horn at jen@policeshift.com.

Come One, Come All: The Lake Claire Holiday Dinner to Be Held December 10

Get ready for another great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new faces at the annual holiday dinner, hosted by Lake Claire Neighbors at the Frazer Center, on December 10 at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will be catered and is free and open to all Lake Claire residents. More details will be available at www.lakeclaire.org. Happy holidays!

News from the Mary Lin Education Foundation

The Mary Lin Education Foundation is pleased to announce that the parent mixer held on Saturday, October 3, at the First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta raised over \$1,500. Special thanks go to all the parents and teachers who helped prepare, set up, and clean up the event. Many thanks go to those who provided entertainment and food and beverages: for the poster and the invitations: Liz Sullivan and Lisa Lester; for the music: Webster, who rocked the house and kept the dance floor hopping; for the lighting: Lester Dragstedt; for the delicious assortment of food: Wicked Que, Publix, Doc Chey's—Emory, Raging Burrito, Corner Tavern, The Mercantile, MoJo's Pizza, Luna Nueva, and Alon's Bakery; for the yummy desserts: Peggy Edwards, Jackie Cottrell, Dempsey Werthman, and Cherrie King; for the adult beverages: Two Friends Imports, 5 Seasons Brewery, and Sweetwater.

The Mary Lin Education Foundation organized and cosponsored the children's area at the Candler Park Fall Fest on October 10 and 11. Thanks to our cosponsors—Great Clips (Edgewood), Sit Means Sit, and Home Depot Kids Workshop—and with expert guidance from Regina Brandt, we were able to provide six different free crafts for the children. The children were also able to jump or slide all day for only \$5. Thanks to the many volunteers who helped during the event, and special thanks to the Inman Park Middle School students, the Grady High School students, and the men of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries for serving as volunteers. The event raised over \$2,900 for the foundation.

Grady High School Named "Best"

Creative Loafing rated Grady High School the "Best private-school education for public-school cost" in its Best of Atlanta 2009 issue. Bravo, Grady faculty and staff, who earn this rating with your creative work.

Kirkwood Historic District Listed in the National Register

The Kirkwood Historic District in Atlanta (DeKalb County) was listed in the National Register on September 24, 2009. Kirkwood had only a few farmhouses and country estates when the first electric streetcar from Atlanta arrived in 1891. By the time it was annexed by Atlanta in 1922, it was a booming middle-class streetcar suburb. The height of growth was in the early decades of the twentieth century, spurred by the efforts of several prominent real estate developers, such as George and Forrest Adair. A new housing boom occurred after World War II, but it reached its capacity by the late 1950s and early 1960s. In the 1960s, Kirkwood experienced racial tensions and "white flight" after its schools were integrated. It is currently undergoing another resurgence and demographic shift. The Kirkwood Historic District is a large and diverse neighborhood of single-family homes, apartments, commercial buildings, schools, churches, gas stations, industrial buildings, and parks. Its historic resources reflect the evolution from rural area to independent city to Atlanta streetcar (and later automobile) suburb.

—From the *Georgia Historic Preservation Division, Department of Natural Resources*

Safety continued from Page 6

a bicycle when the witness spoke to him. A patrol officer spotted the arrestee, who was taken into custody after attempting to elude officers. The arrestee had in his possession items from the victim's vehicle. Taken: GPS, case with CDs. Arrestee: Tristan Scott, B/M, 27 YOA.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

9/19-9/20 Sat 9:00 p.m.—Sun 1:55 a.m.—2000 blk DeKalb Ave. NE

Burglar pried the bars off one of the victim's rear windows and entered the home. Taken: Digital camera. Prints attempted.

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Thanks to Sherry Neal of the neighborhood parents group for organizing the fun on October 24!



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