



Back-to-School Time at Mary Lin Elementary

by Lori M. Blank

Many of you may recall from your own childhood the joy (or dread) of back-to-school time. Shopping for a new lunchbox that had the latest cartoon characters - Scooby Doo, anyone? Picking out a backpack that you thought was cool AND that your

parents thought would last the whole year. Buying a new dress that your friends would think was groovy, but had the modesty your grandmother required. Ah yes, seems like just yesterday...

Many here in Lake Claire are now going through the same pro-



Elena (L) and Sari (R) D'Agostino, Lake Claire residents, ready for the first day of school

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Last Month's Tree Losses

by Beth Damon



Tree top blown against deck on Hardendorf - Photo by Lore Ruttan

Atlanta has a reputation as the "city in a forest" due to its abundance of trees, unique among major cities. Yet, a staggering 50 acres of trees are lost in Atlanta daily. Tree loss affects our environment in many ways, including a decrease in the qualities of our air, water, and even our lives. In the past ten years, tree loss in metro Atlanta has re-

sulted in water runoff that had to be treated in sewage systems – at a price tag of \$2 billion. The city's lush tree canopy, which filters out pollutants and cools our sidewalks and buildings, has increasingly been under assault – from both man and nature. The latter is due to the heavy rains, drought, aged forests and new

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More Than 30 Years in Lake Claire Marion Smith - a neighbor's remembrance

by Susan Beeching

When Sean and I started building our house on the lot next to Ms. Horton's on Connecticut Avenue in 1986, Mr. Smith began visiting Sean at the site every day. First it was to shoot the breeze. Then it was to offer advice. And before Sean knew it, he had an unpaid helper – someone to help with the heavy lifting. And help he did, never skimping on the advice. When we painted our partially below-grade bedroom bright yellow (to compensate for the gloomy light) he opined "guess you weren't planning on getting much sleep". I interviewed Mr. Smith



Marion Smith's 80th birthday party - Photo by Doug Barlow

The Lake Claire Home Tour

The Lake Claire Home Tour will not be taking place this November, unfortunately, but possibilities will be re-visited in the Spring. Anyone who is interested in participating, please contact Heidi Hill at heidihill@ yahoo.com.

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THE CLARION IS PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER.

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Lake Claire Officers for 2012

Lake Claire Officers for 2012
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The Clarion is published monthly. The deadline for advertising and editorial consideration is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words or fewer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the

Banner art by Lore Ruttan, Illustrator, www.loreruttanillustration.com

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to send a quick thank you for the historical information article in the latest issue of the Clarion. Until reading your article, most of the history I had been able to find reached back only until the origin of the neighborhood name. As a very proud resident of Lake Claire I was quite interested to learn a bit more about our history. Thank you for the great article!

-Sara Rockaway

Editor's note:

Thank you, Sara. It is always nice to have tangible evidence of folks' reading and enjoying the Clarion. And if other neighbors have any history of Lake Claire, please send it to Editor@lakeclaire.org.

Also, **if you are a parent of a child at Inman, or a parent or student at Grady**, and are interested in contributing, please let me know. Most of my contacts

are connected with Mary Lin.

Clarion Delivery to your door. The Clarion comes out the first of the month, and the delivery folks commit to delivering it to each Lake Claire household within a week if at all possible. If you do not receive your Clarion by the end of the first week of the month, please let us know, and we will check to see if your delivery person needs help.

We have a **volunteer opportunity** for someone who is a bit of a "techie." We are looking for someone to handle Lake Claire's website management. Tish Ganey has done a fantastic job, but plans to leave soon, so we are currently seeking a volunteer to replace her. Knowledge and general experience for the position of website management would include: WordPress site administration; Web hosting tasks such as set up of e-mail alias and sub directories, etc.; FTP file uploading, directory management and creating hyperlinks; Availability

only 3-4 hours every calendar quarter for as-needed tasks. This would be a great way for someone to help the neighborhood – and ideal for someone who wants to choose his or her own hours. If interested, write to the president at president@lakeclaire.org or if you have specific questions, write to me, editor@lakeclaire.org, and I'll have Tish contact you – she is happy to answer questions.

Enjoy the end of summer/beginning of the Fall. –B.D.

Volunteer Opportunities

1. Annual Lake Claire Halloween Parade
The Lake Claire Halloween Parade needs your help! Each year, families come out dressed to impress and to parade through Lake Claire in costume. This year, the Lake Claire Executive Committee would like to make this event bigger and has plenty of ideas, but we need volunteers

- to head up the planning.
- If there is an organization, club, or individuals who love this annual celebration and can help, please contact fun@lakeclaire.org.
2. Clarion Delivery
The Clarion needs a new delivery volunteer for Clifton Road. The long-time volunteer who has been delivering the neighborhood newsletter on the east side of Clifton Road from Dekalb Avenue up to Marlbrook Drive has had to step down. If you live on or near Clifton Road and would be willing to deliver The Clarion to about 30 households on this route, we need your help! It's a great way to get some exercise and say hello to your neighbors - and it's just once a month, typically the first week. Please contact Sarah Wynn at distribution@lakeclaire.org if you'd like to help out.
 3. Clarion seeks Webmaster/Website Management – about 3 or 4 hours a quarter. See last paragraph in Editor's Note for job description and contact information.

Building Bridges at The Frazer Center

by Joe Agee

I'm very happy to report on an important event evolving at the Frazer Center (FC), the 62-year-old neighbor to the entire Lake Claire Community and surrounding area. A grass-roots campaign was launched just a few months ago to repair the bridge on the road leading up to the FC from the Ponce de Leon entrance. The goal is to make it possible for vehicles weighing over 4 tons to use that entrance, which will significantly reduce heavy traffic coming into the FC from the Ridgewood side. So far, \$18,630 has been raised to compliment a challenge grant of \$100,000 from an anonymous donor to begin this costly project. It should be noted that the above

project is part of an overall effort by the FC to improve conditions for all of the neighbors of the surrounding community, something it has been dedicated to since its founding.

In addition, plans are in the works to make a number of enhancements, such as electronic vehicle and pedestrian gates at the Ridgewood entrance further to control traffic, new areas and fences for dumpsters, upgrading of the lower parking area, and noise abatement for events at the Cator-Woolford Gardens. The projected costs for the bridge are \$125,000 plus another \$25,000 to cover the additional projects listed.

As a resident on Harold Ave-

nue for nearly 40 years, I've personally experienced the benefit of the FC's presence in Lake Claire. Twenty years before I arrived, the FC had been an anchor for the area at a time when many people were leaving for the suburbs. Its charitable work with children and adults with disabilities continues to be widely recognized as well as its outreach for serving those living in Lake Claire whose family members attend FC and/or volunteer for a variety of programs. Several recent interviews with FC staff members in the Clarion have outlined the numerous events and activities now open to the public.

Another major contribution to the area is the FC's stewardship of the ecologically crucial Frazer Forest that adjoins the Fernbank forest and the maintenance and renovation of the original Cator-Woolford estate and gardens. Both these areas are open to the public providing all Lake Claire residents with one of the most

beautiful and natural venues in Atlanta. Countless people visit the gardens and walk through the forest, making it a major attraction for people wanting to move to this area.

This is a perfect moment to acknowledge how vital the Frazer Center is to the health and vitality of our entire community and demonstrate our support by contributing to this important campaign. As was mentioned at the last Lake Claire Neighbor's meeting, "The Frazer Center is Lake Claire."

For further information regarding donations to this worthy cause, contact Ms. Sherri Breunig, Community Relations Coordinator at The Frazer Center: s.breunig@thefrazercenter.org

Wild Lake Claire: the Natives Among Us

by Carol Vanderschaaf

Continued from last month. Please note: we printed the wrong butterfly picture with the first part of this article, but the correct one, the beautiful Variegated Fritillary, appears in the on-line Clarion, page 5, at: <http://www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarionarchives/2012/current.pdf>. -Ed.

Consider yourself lucky if you catch a glimpse of the beautiful Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), as I did at the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden recently (see picture on the centerfold). This striking red, white, and black bird may fly over the garden occasionally because of our four large White Oaks: oak mast is one of its favorite foods. It is a native bird and is found over most of eastern United States.



Red Headed Woodpecker - Photo by Roger Lakhan

The Red-headed breeds in deciduous woodlands, especially those with beech or oak trees, as well as river bottoms, open woods, groves of dead and dying trees, orchards, parks, open country with scattered trees, forest edges, and open wooded swamps with dead trees and stumps – in other words, almost everywhere. It is attracted to burns and recent clearings, which provide nesting, roosting, and foraging sites. The bird winters in mature stands of trees, especially oaks.

Red-heads are about 9 inches long, weighing 2.5 oz., with a wingspan of 17 inches. Males and females look alike, an advantage to them in their disputes with other birds, since they both appear heavy on the testosterone. The Red-headed Woodpecker is one of only four woodpeckers known to store food, and it is the only one known to cover the stored food with wood or bark. It hides insects and seeds in cracks in wood, under bark, in fence posts, and under roof shin-

gles. Grasshoppers are regularly stored alive (ouch), but wedged into crevices so tightly that they cannot escape (double ouch). Red-heads are the most omnivorous woodpecker: on their menu are beech and oak mast, seeds, nuts, berries, fruit, insects, bird eggs, nestlings, and mice.

Nests of the Red-headed Woodpecker are usually placed in barkless or dead tree cavities between 8 and 80 feet above the ground. The cavities are exca-

vated by both parents in 6 to 17 days. The birds will also nest in natural cavities. Clutches are of 3 to 7 white eggs. Both birds incubate the eggs for about 13 days.. The young are altricial (naked and helpless like us) when born. They fledge in 27 to 30 days.

Native peoples had some interesting ideas about this woodpecker, whom they considered extremely opportunistic. Those claiming this bird as their totem would attest to its ability to shake up awareness. Each tree the bird alights on is seen as a door, revealing sweet bits of food (grubs and ants are their favorites). Other trees will yield against their beak-hammering to provide great lovely homes for their young. When the woodpecker comes tapping into awareness, it's also a signal to use our heads. Just as the woodpecker uses its head (beak) to hammer out solutions (food, shelter), we too can use our intellect in finding solutions to our own barriers. In an opposite view, the bird was

a war symbol of Cherokee Indians, and its head was used as a battle ornament.

The once abundant the Red-headed Woodpecker populations have seriously declined since 1966 due to increased nest site competition from European Starlings and removal of dead trees (used as nesting sites). Starlings have actually been known to evict the Red-heads from their own cavities. Many Northeastern states no longer have nesting Red-headed Woodpeckers. On a positive note, Red-headed habitat is increasing in areas where beavers are increasing and creating more flooded beaver mead-

ows with dead snags. Perhaps our resident beavers in next-door Candler Park will benefit this birds' population! In the past, Red-heads did benefit from the chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease. The horrible tree diseases killed many trees, which then provided nest sites for the woodpeckers.

□
The August and September articles are based on Carol's experiences in her own Lake Claire yard, as well as in developing the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Native Plant Garden.

Copperhead Spotted in the Neighborhood

Jeanne St. Romain spotted this copperhead at Deepdene (Ponce @ Lakeshore Drive) last weekend. It was 10:30 a.m., which is odd since they are supposed to be nocturnal in mid summer. They are not aggressive, but if you step on them or disturb them, they might bite. Their venom is poisonous but not lethal to adults – it can, however, be a serious threat to children, the elderly, and the sickly. Dogs and cats have been known to die from its bite, but this is rare.

Copperheads are actually the only potentially dangerous snake that is still quite common in Atlanta. The copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*) has an angular, spear-shaped head, pattern, coloration, and disposition that make it readily recognizable. Copperheads found in and around Atlanta are usually short, fairly chunky, and patterned in shades of brown. They almost always have plain brown, patternless tops of their heads. Their crossbands are a contrasting darker brown than the body color; they are hourglass shaped but may not be completely connected where the thin part of the

hourglass would be, at the midline of the snake's dorsal surface (back). Usually a few dark spots are found along the midline and occasionally within the wide portion of the hourglass. Juveniles have a more vividly colored, distinct pattern and a bright yellow tip on their tails. When fully aroused, Copperheads may stand their ground, striking out at anything that gets too close. This is how most dogs and cats are bitten.

They usually turn up in older, established sections of Atlanta, particularly during the spring and fall when they move back and forth from suitable wintering sites. Like Copperheads found elsewhere, they appear to need to congregate at a specific den site (hibernaculum) for the winter: a rocky ledge, old foundation, abandoned well, or similar place offering deep fissures where they can escape freezing. Copperheads are most closely associated with moist, rocky, wooded areas, so there are several sizable populations known on the north side of town, where this type of habitat abounds.



Copperhead Snake at Deepdene Park - Photo by Jeanne Romain

Mark Your Calendars

September

1 & 2 AJC Decatur Book Festival, largest independent book festival in the U.S. Downtown Decatur. Includes Books for Sale by the DeKalb History Center, Booth #127 in front of the historic Courthouse, new and used history books for sale. Local authors book signings. See <http://www.decaturbokfestival.com/2012/index.php>

3 Action Dash - family-friendly 5K Walk/Run in Piedmont Park on Labor Day. Details page 8.

8 Peace & Love Harvest Fest, a fundraiser for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, 1:00 - 11:00 pm.

10 Learning Grove parent/child music class for newborns to 4 yrs with Mr. Victor. Free demo class - Druid Hills Presbyterian 1:30, 2:30. <http://tinyurl.com/TLGwithMrVictor>.

13 ...through Sept 16. Fun & Furry Monsters become Musicians in "Elmo Makes Music" at Philips Arena - information: <http://www.philipsarena.com/events/detail/sesame-street-live-elmo-makes-music>

14 Horizon brings Broadway to Atlanta. Southeastern premiere of Donald Margulies' Time Stands Still, Sept 14-Oct 14. Atlanta actors Carolyn Cook and Chris Kayser. Details at marketing@horizontheatre.com

14 Photo Exhibit "Georgia Natural" opening night reception 7- 9 pm, at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Admission is free and the public is invited.

18 DeKalb History Center invites Lake Clarions for a very special Lunch & Learn - Judge Clarence F. Seeliger's unique perspective of 32 years on the bench, including his elections in 1980 and 1984, and the symbolic yet real removal of the Confederate battle flag from his courtroom. Free/bring your lunch. Noon to 1:00 p.m., Historic DeKalb Courthouse, 101 E. Court Square, Decatur GA 30030, Second Floor, Superior Courtroom

20 (and 3rd Thursday every month) Lake Claire Neighbors meeting, **The Frazer Center, 1815 S. Ponce de Leon Avenue. 7:00 p.m. social time, 7:15 prompt start time. The Rose Room (not the Atrium).** This month: **PIZZA ! (**SEE BOX BELOW**)**

22-23 Fernbank "Out of This World" Weekend. Saturday, September 22 and Sunday, September 23: ready for blast-off! -- learn more about space, astronomy, and how scientists learn about our universe through hands-on activities and demonstrations. Cost Included with Museum admission & free for members. <http://www.fernbankmuseum.org/calendar-of-events/out-of-this-world-weekend/>

25 Oakhurst Community Garden Project **Recycling Crash Course**, 7 pm - 8 pm. Recycling is one of the first steps many people take when trying to "green" their lives. Learn about how the City of Decatur's progressive **Pay as You Throw** system for landfill waste encourages recycling through economic incentives, what you can and can't recycle, & what happens to recyclable materials. SP Recycling with Sean Woodson.

28 Family Storytelling, Emerging Voices - Callanwolde Fine Arts Center - showcasing the South's stories. See <http://www.callanwolde.org/events/index.html>

30 Clifton Sanctuary Ministries 2012 Annual Dinner, North Avenue Presbyterian Church, 6:00 p.m. - make reservation as seating is limited. \$40 person or \$325 for table of 8. Purchase at <http://www.cliftonsanctuary.com> or send a check to the Clifton office. 607 Peachtree Street, at the corner of North Avenue & Peachtree Rd.

1st week of October:

4 through 28: Georgia Shakespeare presents Macbeth. Commemorating the 75th anniversary of Orson Welles' dynamic 1936 Voodoo Macbeth, this production features a predominately African-American cast, including local favorite Neal A. Ghant as Macbeth. <http://www.gashakespeare.org/home>

5 Fernbank - opening of Genghis Khan exhibition. One of the world's greatest and most misunderstood conquerors - Immerse yourself in his world of conquest, diplomacy, innovation, and destruction. Genghis Khan features the largest collection of 13th-century Mongolian artifacts ever gathered in a single showing, many which have never been on display to the public. <http://www.fernbankmuseum.org/calendar-of-events/genghis-khan-opens/>

6-10 Rhea Lana's of Decatur / Druid Hills children's consignment event at North DeKalb Mall. Here is the website with all the info: decaturn.rhealana.com - It's going to be a lot of fun!

Send calendar items for **October's** Clarion by **SEPTEMBER 15** to editor@lakeclaire.org.

Pizza, Pizza

Mark your calendars to attend the LCN meeting on Thursday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. We are foregoing the usual cracker and wine nibbles for a heartier refreshment of Little Caesar's Pizza.

Come by, meet your neighbors, and hear the latest about Lake Claire's police reports, District 5 updates, NPU news, school board information, and upcoming social events. Our neighborhood needs your support, input, and voice in order to make decisions. These meetings and discussions are critical to how we operate as a neighborhood in the City of Atlanta. Meeting agendas are posted online at www.lakeclaire.org.

Lake Claire Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

You can always find the minutes on the website at www.lakeclaire.org. AND (as I've been requested by some self-identified "old timers without computers"), I will be happy to print a copy for you. Just leave a message specified for the editor of the Clarion on the Lake Claire Neighbors voice mail (404-236-9526) with your request and providing your address, and the minutes will appear on your doorstep, as does The Clarion, by magic (and volunteer effort).

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The Garden in October

by Elizabeth Knowlton

September and October have never been my favorite months, as they are for so many people. I spent too many years in the north where autumn meant only that everything died, it was cold, and the ground was covered with ice and snow, on which I fell down. Even though I now live somewhere "winter" never comes, old feelings are hard to break.

In actuality, plants grow and bloom here all year long, and the day that the temperature does not rise above freezing is a rare one. However, we do need to estimate our first frost date for the best production of fall vegetables. I was surprised when I consulted the Internet to find first frost dates for Atlanta ranged from Oct. 25 to Nov. 18 as I have never observed an October frost date, maybe somewhere like Tucker but not in Lake Claire. A graph that gave actual dates from 1995 to 2007 had the earliest as Nov. 3, the latest as Dec. 25. This is more like it. My minimum-maximum thermometer is by the back door in a sheltered location, so sometimes the vegetable beds do succumb before it registers 32 degrees. Nevertheless, my last four frosts have come on Nov. 18, Dec 6, Dec 2, and early January. My advice to you is to count back from mid-November when you are estimating days to frost.

A nice little article in the July/August Horticulture magazine allows you to do just this. (See hortmag.com) Taken from a book called Little House in the Suburbs, blocks labeled "17 weeks before frost" all the way to two weeks give lists of seeds and transplants you can plant in each time period. For instance, if you are reading this in late September, you can still put out sets of broccoli, cauliflower, and head lettuce. You can sow beets, broccoli, cauliflower, chard, carrots, greens, head and leaf lettuce, kohlrabi, kale, mustard, radishes, and turnips. In October, add spinach to this list.

And if your nightshade plants (tomatoes, eggplants, peppers) are surviving, don't rip them out. Look closely. The cooler temperatures have probably allowed them, particularly the peppers, to set more fruit. I have picked beautiful yellow bell peppers in December. Sure there was ice on the row covers, but the peppers beneath were perfect (more on row covers and cold frames next month).

For all of you who love to go to

big box stores and nurseries, October is the month to buy trees, shrubs, and other perennials; however, you do have to plant them right away so they can establish roots before winter. Dig a generous hole bigger around than the plant ball. Do not fertilize; instead, add compost to the soil way out and around, the way all your soil should be amended, with your compost. New guidelines say not to amend the dug hole, which makes sense because then why would the roots want to leave it? Instead, scratch compost into the ground everywhere you want plants to grow and mulch then with ground leaves, wheat straw, or pine straw. Water your plants well, and keep watering them if there is not an inch of rain a week. Once established, they will not need as much attention.

Speaking of leaves, I bet you are low on compost and have no more leaves to use as mulch. OK, this is the beginning of gardening season. SAVE THOSE LEAVES. I don't want to see bags of them on the street, particularly the paper bags that fall apart when you try to drag them away. Even if you do not have a "garden", you can rake your leaves under bushes, around trees (just not against the trunks), or into a secluded corner of your yard. They will disappear, I promise. Think of the woods. If leaves did not break down and provide nutrients for everything growing in a forest, there would be mountain-sized piles of leaves covering the face of the earth. Human beings would never have evolved.

Now is the time to start a compost pile if you do not have one. You can buy a plastic bin in which to put limited amounts of leaves and weeds and all your kitchen waste that is not from animals. I personally find these difficult to empty and not large enough for year around composting. (But they are better than removing waste from your property.) Purchased wire bins or constructed three-part bins allow you to either lift your structure and begin anew when the old bin is full and finishing or to turn the composting waste into a new bin. Last winter I showed you a photo of my old three-part bins. Too lazy for all this? Just pile the leaves up in an out of the way corner. If you are adding kitchen waste, dig a shallow hole and layer in waste, soil, and leaves as they become available. I cannot stress too much that it is important to keep as many free and available sources of nutrients as possible on your property.



"Honey Bee" by Lore Ruttan

What sorts of shrubs and perennials should you plant? Walk around the neighborhood and make a note of what you like. I am not a good source because I have killed at least one of everything I have ever tried, sometimes ten or more. I remain dedicated to having Japanese anemones in the fall and have just lost two of the three new ones I put in last

autumn. Fortunately, the old clumps of them at the west end of my street bed have survived the droughts (with regular watering) and the city pruning back their shade. I have killed hydrangeas and viburnums, roses and dogwoods, edgeworthias, echinacias, abelias, and many fuchsias. Most of these are considered quite easy and hardy, yet our droughts alternating with floods, our hot summer nights, and our sudden freezes with no snow cover can all stress plants.

We have had over half our average rainfall this year in Lake Claire, yet it has not fallen when we most need it. Only January, March, and July had over 4 inches. Much of England has less average rainfall than we do; however, mere tenths of an inch drizzling over a day there can actually reach plant roots. When we have four tenths of an inch, as we did for the whole month of April, that rainfall rarely penetrates our clay soil. After a year of drought, it can pour rain, and the soil is still hard and dry beneath the surface. In July 7.7" fell after three dry months but often in tiny amounts, which, with temperatures in the 90s and above, evaporates from the ground as fast as it falls. It may rain at the airport. It may pour in southwest Atlanta. It may storm all around the metropolis. However, the northeast quadrant remains the driest section of our city.

You may write to Elizabeth Knowlton, longtime resident of Lake Claire, with your gardening questions and comments at knowltonew@earthlink.net. Have you missed some of Elizabeth's articles this year? Each issue targets gardening hints for the following month. See them on the website.

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Tree Loss cont. from p. 1

pests, and the former, of course, due to urban construction. Ironically, removing trees may eventually slow growth and development. Tree Next Door member and ISA certified arborist Peter Jenkins, along with Greg Levine of Trees Atlanta, note that not only do we have many trees that were planted during the early part of the last century that are reaching the end of their life expectancy, but that the rapid development Atlanta has experienced has created a "heat dome" over the city, which has led to overall higher temperatures and less rainfall within the city. The added heat may create miniature weather patterns.

It takes decades for newly planted trees to develop a mature urban canopy. Thus, aging urban forests, like Atlanta's, are suffering. It is important to preserve as many of our older trees which are still healthy, even if they are not expected to live more than another ten or twenty years. These "grandfather trees"



Broken Maple Tree on Hardendorf - Photo by Lore Ruttan

serve a vital purpose in keeping our tree canopy intact while we wait for the next generation of Atlanta's trees to mature.

Last month, heavy storms brought down trees and power lines, knocking out power for around 2,500 houses, and fore-

casters issued a flash flood warning for parts of Fulton and DeKalb counties. At many houses in Lake Claire, heavy rains with intense gusts of wind damaged our stately trees. At Lore Ruttan's house on Hardendorf, for example, winds tore off the top half of a Box Elder and threw it fifty feet across the yard, through other trees, to dash itself against the side of a deck, where it is now hanging. (See picture on p. 1) Another large chunk landed in a Hardendorf neighbor's yard, and two small to medium trees were broken in half or ripped up (pictured on this page). Another huge tree came down on South Ponce de Leon.

At Fox Brothers BBQ in neighboring Candler Park, a 100-year-old white oak tree came down on the main dining rooms during a torrential downpour. The dinner rush was just beginning, and customers were in the restaurant at the time, but one of them realized what was happening and warned folks in time to leave. No one was hurt, but "it sounded like the end of the

world," Justin Fox of Fox Brothers BBQ said. The tree crashed down on the building, a new catering van, and an employee's car.

On Delaware Avenue, in mid-August, the City took down Linda Maynard's beloved old oak tree in front of the house (see below); it had some dangerous large dead branches hanging over the street and power lines. Without the tree, sun beats down on the formerly shaded roof; so much for one of the last holdouts to having central air conditioning.

If you see or hear a tree being cut down, check for a permit; lacking that, immediately call the Arborist Division (open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) at 404-330-6836. For more information on saving Atlanta's trees, see The Tree Next Door's website at <http://treenextdoor.org>.

More Bits of Lake Claire History

From the Clarion archives,
WRITTEN IN 2000

This comes straight from the horse's mouth, as it were. McLendon Gardens apartments is a Section 8 (Subsidized housing) complex at the end of Hampton Terrace Avenue, with an entrance off Sutherland (not a typo - the street signs are wrong, according to neighborhood historian Bob Schreiber) Terrace. McLendon Garden's ninety units were built in the early 1970s as housing for single mothers, but, sadly, the buildings have been in a state of neglect for at least the last fifteen years. The construction is plywood siding with slab on grade foundations. They have not weathered well; there is sig-

Cont. next page



Remains of an Old Oak Tree - Photo by Beth Damon

Thank You Intown Atlanta!

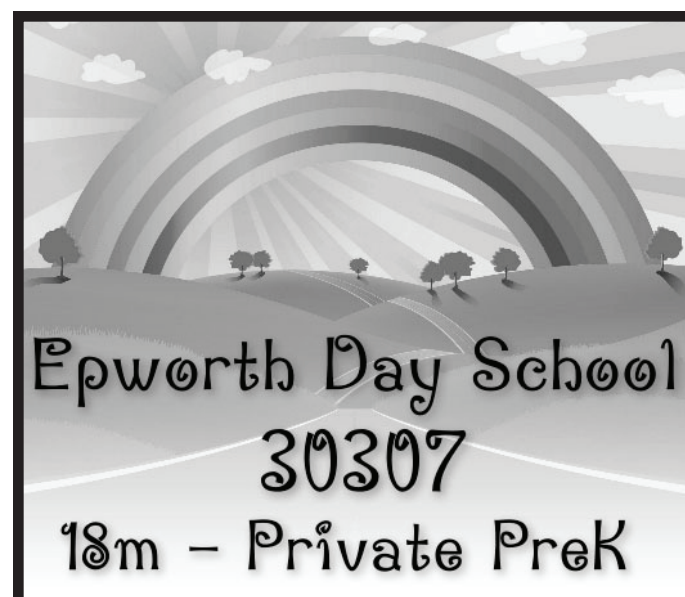
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nificant deterioration of the exteriors and roofing. Many units flood in heavy rains, thanks to poor drainage, and many of the interiors are heavily damaged. What has happened is the value of the land has surpassed the value of the buildings and the owner has agreed to sell the complex to a developer. The developer plans to demolish the apartments and replace them with homes of various types. Meanwhile, work is in progress on the important task of re-accommodating the current McLendon Gardens residents in suitable housing elsewhere in the city and, where possible, elsewhere in Lake Claire or in nearby neighborhoods.

The real estate agent referred the developer to me, and he has hired my firm to plan the community. We are currently working on the plans and, as I learned during the Neighborhood planning process, the current zoning does not promote pedestrian friendly, nor environmentally sensitive design. But these issues will be paramount in our design process. Early in the design process we will be consulting the neighborhood, because adhering to the neighborhood priorities of pedestrian friendliness, sustainability, environmental sensitivity and diversity will more than likely require variances.

Today on the property sits the Sutherland Terrace subdivision built along Gordon Avenue, Oxford Avenue, and Sutherland Terrace just north of DeKalb Avenue, which indeed was constructed with green spaces and walking paths. Thanks to Bob Schreiber for much of this information. For many years, Bob was Lake Claire's NPU representative and actively involved in the neighborhood.

Marion cont. from p. 1

and his wife, Rudean, many years ago for the Lake Claire newsletter. Mr. Smith had many stories to tell. One of my favorite was that most of the houses on Connecticut were duplexes in the 1930s and 40s. A wall would be built down the middle of a regular house. As long as each side had a sink, they qualified, according to zoning regulations at the time.

Mr. Smith passed away on July 28, two weeks shy of his 90th birthday. He moved out of the neighborhood several years ago after suffering a stroke and was living with family in Hoschton, Georgia. Sean and I attended the service, as did several other neighbors. There were two lovely remembrances offered by two of Mr. Smith's grandchildren. Two neighbors (Bob Arko and

Rick Hidding) also shared their "Marion Stories." What moved me the most was that Mr. Smith touched the lives of everybody he met in a most positive way. Everyone at the service had an anecdote to recount. What a wonderful legacy! Those of us who knew Marion know that his was a life well-lived.

Here's what another neighbor, Janie Wright had to say:

"Marion was the first neighbor to introduce himself when I moved here in 1985, and I adored him. I called him "my favorite squirrel".... I often found little treasures from him on my front

porch..... a handful of pecans he had gathered on a walk, a book, a vase, or some other item someone had thrown away or put on the street. He knew that Rudean (his very patient wife) was not going to welcome more of his "pickings," but he had a great eye for the beauty and possible uses in such cast-off items. He had lived on Connecticut Avenue almost all of his life and had great stories to tell. Listening to those stories while sitting on the Smiths' always-welcoming front porch is a favorite memory for me -- and for his many other friends and neighbors."

The Facts - John Marion Smith: July 18, 1923 - July 26, 2012



Mr. Smith served his country proudly as a medic in the US Army Air Force in WWII. He was a proud native Atlantan, who lived in the Atlanta area his entire life. He was considered an elder and historian of the Lake Claire community and was well loved by his Lake Claire friends and neighbors. He retired from C.E. Smith Plumbing. He was a Master Gardner who gave freely of his knowledge and wisdom. Mr. Smith was a loving husband, father and "Pepaw." He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Jan & Carl Britt; son, Allen Smith; daughter, Tina Smith; son, Scott Smith; sister, Mildred King; grandchildren, Mark Britt, Monica Britt, Brian Smith, Jessica Smith Burns; and great grandchildren, Hunter Britt, Mason Smith and Kayden Burns. Mr. Smith was predeceased by his beloved wife, Rudean Smith and

parents Lee Roy and Myrtle. *These pictures are from Marion's 80th birthday party at the Land Trust (in 2005), all taken by Doug "Brotherhug" Barlow, formerly Lake Claire neighbor and now of Asheville, N.C.*



My Favorite Marionism

by Genise Spenle

This is my favorite "Marionism" back from when I first moved into the neighborhood (1978), and he was the neighborhood 'welcome wagon' as he walked around each day. Since my prior gardening experience was from a different climate (Illinois), I was not familiar with many of the plants here. I was asking him if something was a weed or a flower, and he told me "there is only one sure way to tell, pull up everything, and what grows back are weeds." I really liked Marion.

My Memory of Marion Smith

by Linda Maynard

Marion was a plumber by trade. In his retirement, he walked around the block daily, stopping to visit along the way. He had one dog that practically walked Marion around the block. I didn't know about Marion's plumbing experience until he asked about my latest home improvement project, and I mentioned a concern for the old hot water heater.

Marion proceeded to go back to his house just around the corner, for some tools, and then he pretty much did the entire repair work with me standing by. I remember when he was flat down on the floor working that he said "one of these days I'm going to get stuck on the floor and won't be able to get back up." His daily cheerfulness was welcome during those days of my home improvement.

To Help You Keep an Eye on the Crime and the Time:

Lake Claire Safety Report Weeks 26-29

Auto Theft

500 block Clifton Rd. 7/9-10/12 22:00-06:43 No vehicle description; parked on street
 300 block Connecticut Ave. 7/12/12 15:30-17:30
 2008 Honda Odyssey Victim stated that after arriving home he may have left the car running with the door open.

Attempted Auto Theft

300 block Brooks Ave. 7/14-15/12 18:00-16:22
 Honda Civic Damage: driver side rear window, steering column, ignition key hole, driver side door lock
 Taken: nothing Print lifted

Other Larceny

400 block Clifton Rd. 7/04/12 18:00-23:40
 Taken: A four year old black and white microchipped male American Bulldog was stolen from his backyard. His frightened female bulldog companion was left inside the fence.

Residential Burglary

2000 block DeKalb Ave. 7/11/12 13:30-21:56
 Damage: back door kicked in Taken: Mac Book and Net computer. Latent print taken
 Theft from Auto

400 block Lakeshore Dr. 6/25-28/12 22:00-07:15
 No vehicle description Damage: none (vehicle left unlocked)
 Taken: clothing Prints obtained

2000 block Palifox Dr. 6/23-24/12 22:30-11:00
 2006 Toyota Highlander parked in driveway Damage: none (vehicle left unlocked). Taken: change

2000 block McLendon Ave. 7/1-2/12 20:00-09:30
 No vehicle description; parked on street Damage: front passenger window broken. Taken: tool set Print taken

1800 block McLendon Ave. 7/3-4/12 16:00-10:00

2010 Ford F150 pickup truck Damage: passenger side window broken Taken: change and checks Prints taken

2000 block Tuxedo Ave. 7/5-6/12 22:30-07:00

1999 GMC Yukon parked on street Damage: driver side window broken Taken: Apple iPod Prints taken

400 block Lakeshore Dr. 7/8/12 00:15-03:30
 No vehicle description; parked on street Damage: passenger side mirror broken

Taken: purse, camera, credit cards, money, sunglasses, cell phone

300 block Sutherland Terrace 7/13/12 15:00-18:33

No vehicle description; parked on street Damage: window broken
 Taken: purse containing wallet, cards, cash Prints not attainable due to rain

500 block Lakeshore Dr. 7/20/12 01:00-07:45

2001 VW Passat parked on street Damage: rear passenger side window. Taken: camera. Print recovered

30307 – a note about population -- and crime

The Atlanta Metropolitan Statistical Area is currently the ninth largest in the country with a population of 5,268,860. Our 30307 zip code has 4.57 square miles of land area and 0.01 square miles of water area. As of 2010, the total 30307 zip code population is 18,004, which has grown 8.16% since 2000.

The population growth rate is much lower than the state average rate of 18.34% and is lower than the national average rate of 9.71%. The 30307 zip code population density is 3,937.47 people per square mile, which is much higher than the state average density of 163.02 people per square mile and is much higher than the national average density of 81.32 people per square mile.

This is important information for us all to remember when we see these crime reports, leave things in our cars, discuss transportation issues, etc. We are incredibly fortunate to live in a very nice neighborhood, but by no means is our neighborhood bucolic or pastoral - it is just too densely populated for that adjective to apply.

This information is from usa.com and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_metropolitan_statistical_areas

The Monsanto Riders

by Robert Shepherd

Unless a citizens' army of farmers and consumers can stop them, Congress is likely to ram these dangerous riders through any day now. So-called 'Monsanto riders' were quietly slipped into the multi-billion dollar FY 2013 Agricultural Appropriations bill. They would require - not just allow, but require - the Secretary of Agriculture to grant a temporary **permit for the planting or cultivation of a genetically engineered crop**, even if a federal court has ordered the planting be halted until an Environmental Impact Statement is completed. All the farmer or the biotech producer has to do is ask.


If you are interested in signing the petition, go to <http://signature.org/sign/stop-the-monsanto-rider?source=mo&id=47143-9101851-%3Dq%3DsmPx>.

In a statement issued last month, the Center For Food Safety had this to say about the biotech industry's latest attempt to circumvent legal and regulatory safeguards: "Ceding broad and unprecedented powers to industry, the rider poses a direct threat to the authority of U.S. courts, jettisons the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA)

established oversight powers on key agriculture issues, and puts the nation's farmers and food supply at risk."

Whom do we have to thank for this sneak attack on USDA safeguards? The agricultural subcommittee chair Jack Kingston (R-GEORGIA) - who not coincidentally was voted "legislator of the year for 2011-2012" by none other than the Biotechnology Industry Organization, whose members include Monsanto and DuPont. As reported by Mother Jones (<http://www.motherjones.com>), the Biotechnology Industry Organization declared Kingston a "champion of America's biotechnology industry" who has "helped to protect funding for programs essential to the survival of biotechnology companies across the United States."



Editor's note: lovers of Cumberland Island might remember that it was Jack Kingston in 2004, who slipped a rider into the "Omnibus Spending Bill" just hours before it passed, taking the route of the Greyfield Inn motorized tours out of Wilderness designation, as well as the entire north end of the island and the beach.. Never before in history has Wilderness been removed from the U.S. system. The reality of that backdoor deal is shocking. See excellent summary at "Line in the Sand," http://www.cimuseum.org/Line_in_the_Sand.pdf.



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Clifton Sanctuary Ministries -- 2012 Annual Dinner

by Lynn Nomad

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries' 2012 Annual Dinner & Graduation Celebration is less than a month away, on September 30. This year the gathering takes place at the North Avenue Presbyterian Church. The festivities will begin at 6:00 p.m., but plan to arrive early to spend time with Clifton's current guests, the graduates, and other supporters and volunteers. Make reservations in advance at the website <http://www.cliftonsanctuary.com/archives/1517>.

In addition to an evening of fellowship you will hear about the accomplishments of the past year and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries' plans for the future. The personal stories of recent graduates will be the highlight of the evening. In addition staff and officers will use the opportunity to recognize those individuals and churches that have made a special impact on the ministry in the past year.

There is a long history between Clifton Sanctuary Ministries and Lake Claire. Part of it was highlighted by Marilyn Schertz in one of the Clarion articles on 30+year residents of Lake Claire. "Back in the day," Marilyn had attended Clifton Presbyterian Church (now Clifton Sanctuary Ministries) because their next door neighbor was the student preacher there, and it was just around the corner from their house. Like the neighborhood at that time in the 1970s, it was made up of mostly elderly members, and the Atlanta Presbytery

fully expected to close this church. As a handful of younger people started attending, the church grew and changed. All of them were within walking distance of the church, and it became the center of their lives. They started a program of outreach to the children of McLendon Gardens, the low-income housing project on Sutherland Place where now sits the complex of new houses. They were interested in expanding outreach to the poor, and under the leadership of Ed Loring and Murphy Davis (now partners in The Open Door), they decided to provide housing to homeless men. They started this on November 1, 1979, and though the church eventually closed, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries is the homeless ministry that started from those early efforts and continues to this day on the corner of Connecticut and McLendon Avenues.

CSM is now an emergency shelter, a two-year transitional housing program, and a rapid-rehousing program. They welcome approximately 30 homeless men to a place of shelter each night, providing a caring environment offering meals, assistance with medical forms, employment services, and physical, mental, and spiritual healing. Their mission statement defines this deeper objective. "Sharing the love of God we are a sanctuary to men seeking to overcome homelessness." To learn more about how you can help our neighbors at Clifton visit their website at www.cliftonsanctuary.org.

Many Lake Claire Clarions are involved volunteers, such as James Crutcher, a Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Board Member representing Lake Claire Neighbors.

With the 2012 Annual Dinner at the end of this month, time is short, and seating is limited, so make your reservation today. **Can't fit the dinner into your schedule? Please consider making a donation that will allow a guest to attend.**

Tickets for the dinner are \$40 per person or \$325 for a table of 8. (Reservations are required in order to plan food quantities.) North Avenue Presbyterian is located at 607 Peachtree Street, at the corner of North Avenue & Peachtree Road.

School cont. from p. 1

cess with our own children as we prepare for a new year at Mary Lin Elementary (what's that expression about payback being hell?). Lin begins the year with unchanged boundaries, following a sometimes-heated and decidedly protracted 'dialogue' with the Atlanta Public Schools. For the first time in several years, enrollment is down; in 2011-12, Lin had 588 students and was projecting 642 for 2012-13. Current enrollment stands at 576, with 91 Kindergarteners eagerly entering Lin's halls. Education of the students is supported by 55 faculty and staff, including specialists in Art, Music, Spanish, PE, ESOL, Special Education, and is led by Principal Dr. Brian Mitchell and Assistant Principal Ashley Adamo.

Mary Lin students will be using a new set of curriculum standards this year in Language Arts and Math, the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards ("Common Core"). The standards

are designed to be "robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success," according to the Common Core State Standards Initiative, the multi-state coalition that developed the standards in 2010. For more information on what this means for Georgia students, visit <http://www.georgiastandards.org>.

While the long-promised expansion/ renovation is on the short-list for projects to be completed this year, Lin parents and faculty are awaiting details about the what, where, and how. The project currently includes adding several classrooms, enhancing the Media Center, and redesigning the school entrance to improve traffic flow/ student safety. If you've ever seen the Habitrail-type configuration of portables behind the school, you know that the addition is much needed.

The PTA has been hard at work welcoming new and returning families to Mary Lin. The annual Open House, held the Friday before classes started, was very well attended and netted PTA enrollment of over 375 parents and teachers. Many exciting activities are planned for the next few months, including a Home-Run-A-Thon, a Farmers Market, Science Night, and Movie Night at Candler Park – just to name a few. According to the newly designed PTA website, their mission is "not simply to fundraise, but to support Mary Lin and our teachers by providing our students with the best learning environment possible." In addition to supporting the school, benefits of PTA membership include local and national discounts, a copy of the school directory, and access to e-newsletters and publications. For more information or to make a donation to the Mary Lin PTA, visit: <http://www.marylinelementary.com>.

Finally, with school in session and more children on our neighborhood streets, please remember to be extra watchful and adhere to the driving rules regarding pedestrian crosswalks and school bus stops. We are lucky to have a walkable/ bikeable neighborhood school – it's one of the things that makes Lake Claire great – so let's ensure it's a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Lori is a Lake Claire neighbor and Mary Lin PTA Health & Sustainability Committee Co-Chair.

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Five Questions You Need to Ask Before Hiring a Pet Sitter

by Erica Gomez, Owner of Whoa Doggy! Pet Sitting

Summer is here, and there is no better time to plan a quick getaway or a long vacation. There are many great options for pet care to keep your furry family members safe and happy while you are away. Many people choose in-home pet sitting, in which a sitter cares for your pet in your own home. Selecting the best sitter for your pet's needs is extremely important. Once you've found someone that you and your pet are fond of, there are a few questions you should ask during the interview process to help determine whether he or she will be the best fit for you and your family.

1. **Are you insured?** A professional pet sitter will always be insured. While having insurance does not guarantee that the pet sitter is a good fit for you, it's a good start to your interview. A pet sitter who is insured not only covers your pet and your home in the event of an unforeseen incident, but also shows you that the pet sitter takes his or her business seriously.

2. **How much notice will you need for scheduling?** It is important to know how quickly your sitter will be booked and if

he or she will be someone you can rely on for future trips. Likewise, a sitter that is always booked solid will have little time for unexpected situations that may require extra attention (e.g., a sick pet).

3. **How will my key(s) be treated?** The trust you put in your pet sitter with your home and your pets is of the utmost importance. You should understand and be comfortable with the way your keys (and alarm code) will be handled.

4. **How can I ensure the accuracy of my schedule?** When you request a specific schedule, you need to be confident that your sitter has correctly added your visits to his or her calendar. A professional pet sitter should always confirm your schedule in detail, in advance.

5. **Is there a plan in the case of emergency with my pet or home?** A professional, experienced pet sitter will have a plan in place for any situation that may arise, whether it is a sick pet, a flooded basement in your home, or even if the pet sitter himself or herself has a personal emergency that prevents him or her from visiting your pet during

a scheduled visit. It is important to discuss these plans in advance so you can understand the kind of care your pet and home will receive, even in less-than-ideal situations.

The relationship between you and your pet sitter should be rewarding and fulfilling for both you and your pet. Be sure to leave your interview with an equal dose of peace of mind and the warm fuzzies.

Lake Claire's Stitch and Bitch

by Miriam Herbers

Some years ago while visiting my youngest daughter at college in Connecticut I spotted a notice for a "stitch and bitch" group on a coffee house bulletin board. Knowing my friends don't do much of the latter, but some do a lot of the former, I thought the spunkiness of the name fit our neighborhood. Lake Claire's "stitch and bitch" was born and is six-seven years old now.

Presently, we meet from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Usually some kind of needle is moving, but always good conversation is

happening. We discuss politics, books, movies, theatre, food, and anything that comes up. Although there are some regulars, attendance is like the conversation: it is always changing. Often we go just for friendship and conversation.

To me, the specialness of the Lake Claire neighborhood is created by the longevity of groups like this one. This consistency is how friendships and bonds are made and strengthened to create a shared history. We all need this sense of belonging. The host location changes and is posted on the Land Trust yahoo group at lcclandtrust@yahoo.com. You can join this group to get the site announcement and other LT news as well. Most homes are in the Land Trust area. Newcomers are always welcome, and stitching is not required. Contact me at 404-373-0549 or mvherbers@yahoo.com.

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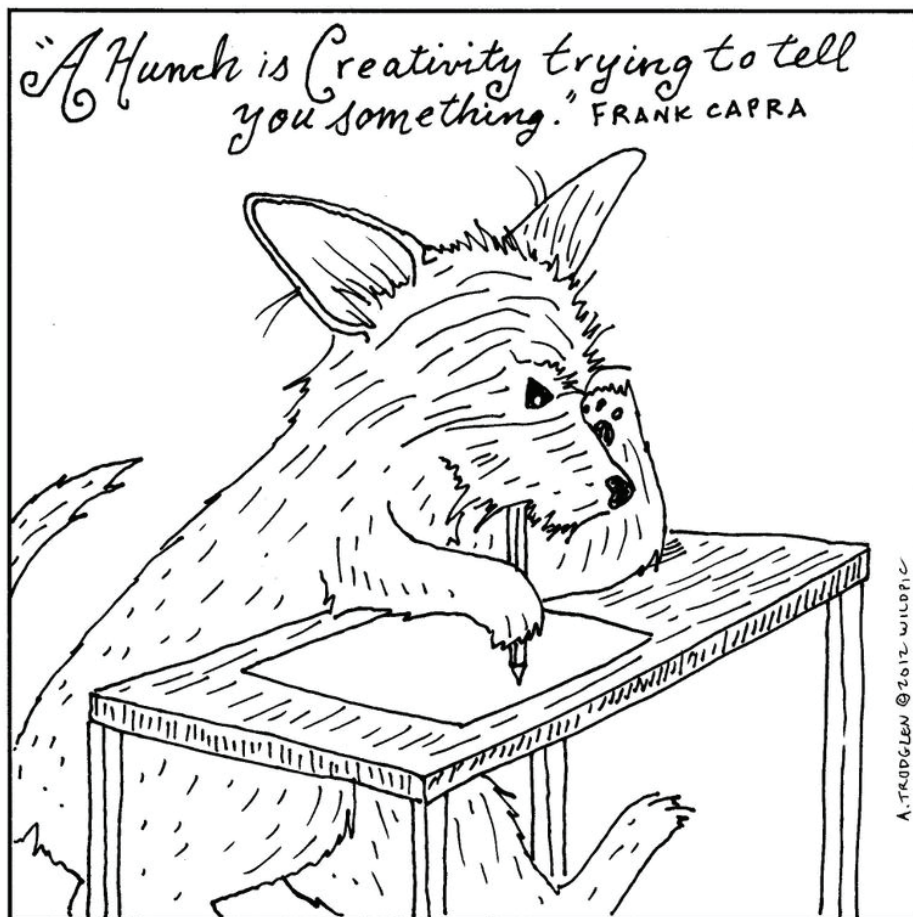
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Anna Trodglan draws our *Biscuits and Bellyrubs* series. A life-time Atlanta resident, Anna grew up on the edge of Lake Claire. She lives in East Atlanta Village with her husband Dugan, three terriers, and a Black Cat. Find Anna's greeting cards and prints at Donna Van Gogh's, owned and operated by Lake Claire residents.

Time to Reap What We've Sown in 2012 . . . Peace & Love Harvest Fest at the Land Trust, Sept 8

by Stephen Wing

Once again Summer is history, and **it's time to celebrate Autumn at the Land Trust.** On Saturday, September 8, the 2012 Peace & Love Harvest Fest brings you a full afternoon and evening of entertainment featuring a variety of musical styles, headlined by the Glenn Phillips Band. A founding member of Colonial **Bruce's Hampton Grease Band**, Phillips has released 12 critically acclaimed albums as a guitarist and composer.

The Mark, our open-air stage, will be rocking from 1:00 until 11:00 pm. As usual, the afternoon belongs to our talented neighborhood kids and their music - 6th graders **Spaghetti Junction**, 10th grader **Lauren Matthews**, 9th graders **My Homework Ate My Dog**, and parental units **My Imaginary Band**. At Clarion press time, the evening line-up features folk-jazz outfit **Dapple Grey**, blues from the **5 O'Clock Shadows**

with singer Heidi Polyea, and the **Etta James Gang** playing rhythm & blues.

The Gorilla Grill will be serving food and drinks all day, and the Bake Sale table will tempt you with various desserts. **(Hint #1: Bakers, drop off your contributions at the table when you arrive!)** We'll also be raffling off a spectacular array of prizes between the acts onstage. **(Hint #2: Prize-worthy items needed, including gift certificates from local businesses!)**

While you're here, be sure to visit the pond, the overlook, the gardens, the Emu Sanctuary and more. However, keep in mind that the gate to the rear of the property will be closed at dark. Of course the playground will be open for kids to enjoy throughout the festival.

We'll be doing our best to minimize garbage and waste, but at this point we can't avoid using disposable dinnerware. (A paper

plate cannot be recycled if contaminated with food or grease.) Help us out by bringing your own washable cup, dish, and silverware, and get a free raffle ticket.

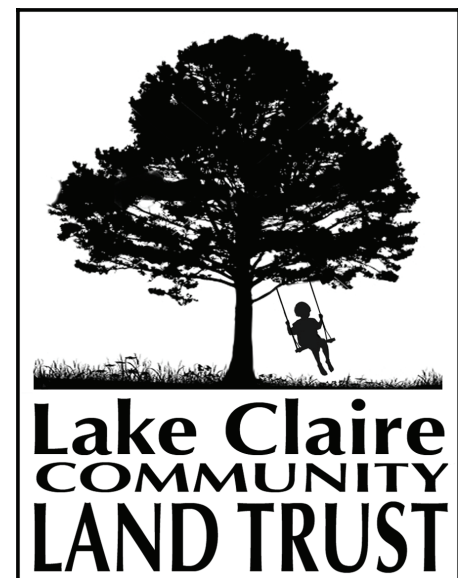
Our suggested donation for all of this family-friendly fun is just \$10 for adults, \$1 for kids and teens. Since the Land Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit, your donation is tax-deductible.

Traditionally we kick off our annual Membership Drive at the fall festival. Become a member, or renew your membership, and enjoy the festival for free. This year, the Membership Booth will even be processing credit cards!

Of course we can't pull off a successful festival without plenty of volunteers. **(Hint #3: Email info@LCCLT.org to sign up for a two-hour shift!)** Vendors, you are invited to set up a table and try your luck. Just make a donation at the gate when you arrive, and if you do

well, consider a second donation as you leave.

As always, we encourage everyone to walk, bike, carpool, and use MARTA to attend the Fest. **If you drive, please park at Clifton Sanctuary, 369 Connecticut Ave., to reduce the impact on our neighbors.**



Pondside Birdhouses Ready for Occupancy

by Stephen Wing

In July a group of neighbors gathered at the home of Miriam Herbers on Arizona Avenue to paint birdhouses for placement around the Land Trust pond. The party was a present given to Miriam by her daughter Elizabeth, and it came complete with sangria and snacks. Creativity and camaraderie abounded as we sat around the table for hours, each working on our special design. It

was fun to see how different and unique the eleven birdhouses turned out. The birdhouses were donated by Connecticut Avenue neighbor Janie Wright. On your next walk through the Land Trust, come see the display! Hopefully we will attract some bluebird families, but we can be sure the wrens will find their way to some pretty nice looking digs. Maybe the cotton bolls by the pond will be in bloom by the time this is printed, too.

These pictures, taken by Dawn Aura, are even more beautiful in color - see the online version of the newspaper at <http://www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarion> (click on current issue).



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LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young readers to participate. This month's article is by Shawn Gillespy, who lives on Marlbrook Drive with her mom (Darlene) and dad (Lee). They have lived in Lake Claire for fifteen years. Shawn tells me she is an only child, but she has a dog, Lucy, a cat, Jezebel, and a guinea pig, Fudge. She is a 4th grader at Mary Lin Elementary. Shawn swims on the Lake Claire Pool Wahoo swim team. She loves to read and play kick ball at school. She likes to walk to Lake Claire Park with her dog – and, she says with a smile, to Candler Park Market and Dr Bombay's to get treats!

Hey there, Lake Claire kids – Let's put some of your creativity on this page. Submit articles, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to editor@lakeclaire.org. Be creative...we'd love to hear from you

Jar

by Shawn Gillespy, age 9

Hi, My name is Shawn Gillespy and I have lived in Lake Claire for about....well my whole life....which is 9 years.

I am going to tell you about saving money. If you have some empty Jars in your house, go and get them. You are going to need at least one. Instead of going out and buying something every time you get money, which I do a lot, you can also save money. You can save up for something that you have been wanting for a long time. This way of saving can work faster than you think. If you have, say \$3, you get your jar and put that \$3 dollars in it, and do not take it (you can count your money ever month if you want to).

There are lots of ways to get

your jar money, like if you go to your grandparents' house and it's Christmas or your birthday and they give you money, you put it in your jar. Anytime you go to the grocery store, the park, or on a walk, or even on a family vacation and you see a penny, a nickel, a dime, or a quarter, you pick it up and put it in your pocket and when you get home you can put it in your jar. Now, I am going to give you one more idea, if you work for an allowance every week, that is a good way to put money in your Jar.

Remember you can have as many jars as you want, for different things. I am going to give you some examples of things that you can put your savings jars towards: a homeless shelter, your church, Disney World, your college fund, something at Target that you want to get, or even a car...

Now here is what I am saving up for. I want for me, my mom and my dad to go to Disney, so I have a Jar for that. I also have a Jar for my and my Mom's business we want to open up when I get older. If you want, you can decorate your Jar, and you can put on stickers or get some newspaper and cut the words out and glue them on, it looks really cool. I also write on my Jars with sharpies saying what I am saving up for.

If you were to give your Jar to a Homeless Shelter or charity, that is a bonus. It means you are re-



Shawn and Lucy with the money jars - Photo by Darlene Gillespie

ally nice and generous enough to do something that helps people or animals in need. If you do that Thanks!!!!!! Every month you can save for something that you pick.

I hope you have as much fun as I do saving for different things!!!!!!

Bye and happy spending...oops I meant happy saving!

P.S. After you put the money in the jar it is not allowed to take it out!!!!!!!!!!!! UNDERSTAND!!!!!!!!!!!!!! THANKS!!!!!!



Shawn's jars - Photo by Darlene Gillespie

Kids In and Around Lake Claire

L: Preschool girls at the Fraser Center,
R: Friends at the FC helping one another.



L: Lucy Sturn and Sara McGill on their last day; R: Hazel Brady selling jewelry.



Kids: find the honey bee in the Clarion each month!

