Lake Claire Tour of Homes: October 4, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

From Funky to Refined and Everything in Between: Get to Know Your Neighbors' Nests

Almost 25 years ago a group of our neighbors collaborated on a project to share the spirit of Lake Claire and spotlight its many hidden treasures. This collaboration turned into the first Lake Claire Tour of Homes. At the beginning it was officially named the Lake Claire Tour of Funky Homes and Gardens. The tour showcased homes with 'funky' features such as mousetrap art on Palifox, a colorful artist studio on Connecticut, and a jail cell door turned dining room table on Gordon. Tour-goers were treated to the entertainment stylings

of various dancers, acrobats, jugglers, comedians, and the Tree Climbers International offering climbs on Nimrod and Diana (the two giant white Oaks at the corner of Arizona and New York) for \$1. Their ears were greeted by the lovely words of poets and music, music, music with bands such as Atlanta Swamp Opera, Zen Dixie, Whirligig, and more, playing at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. Following suit of the diverse nature of our neighborhood, the tour also featured a home with beautifully crafted hardwood details on Howard Circle, a fantasy bed and bath on Harold, and an enchanting garden on Mathews with perennials, herbs, vegetables, and butterflies galore that was also a beautiful dedication to fallen horticulturist and friend of all living things, Raven Wolfdancer.

To say our neighborhood has changed in the last 25+ years would be an understatement, indeed. New homes, new neighbors, expanding families, and the passing of time itself are just a few of these changes. In addition to traditional artists, musicians, and dancers, we now have talent-



ed graphic artists, software developers, and bloggers. In addition to flyers and the Clarion, we are now able to share neighborhood information on Facebook, Lakeclaire.org, and the various Lake Claire yahoo groups – and access this information from our smartphones at that!

However, the spirit of Lake

Cont. on p. 3

Update on Safety for Children on Clifton Road

In October 2013, and at the end of the past school year, the Clarion covered efforts by the Crutchers on Hardendorf and other neighbors in both Lake Claire and Candler Park, to make Clifton Road safe for our school children. Now that school has started, Kelly Crutcher recently wrote to Zone 6 APD to remind them of neighborhood concerns and ask yet again for immediate assistance. She particularly noted pedestrian safety hazards

at the crosswalks of Marlbrook at Clifton, Harriett at Clifton, and Muriel at Clifton. As noted in past discussions, there have been multiple reports of incidences (some reported online with the City) where pedestrians have nearly been stuck by cars. Our children have to RACE through crosswalks because of speeding cars that VERY OFTEN speed and don't stop--sometimes even when the school bus is stopped and actively loading! The speed

limit on Clifton Road is 30 mph, and along this major thoroughfare, cars are going much faster and not slowing or stopping for pedestrians.

Valencia Hudson, Public Safety Liaison from Natalyn Archibong's office, called Kelly on August 15 and discussed our concerns and requests. Some of the crosswalk requests (like centerlane paddles) can be taken care of through Public Works, and Valencia is working on it. Other

solutions may require a traffic study and more resources. They are communicating with Kwanza Hall's district (Candler Park) so that the safety concerns and proposed solutions for both districts make sense for Lake Claire but also make sense within the larger framework of the Candler Park master plan.

Thank you to Kelly Crutcher, who has worked tirelessly making sure the City keeps this issue on a front burner.

Good Gracious!! Another Good Gracious Show!

Saturday, September 13, at the Variety Playhouse will showcase the bluegrass sounds of The Packway Handle Band, comedy of Dad's Garage Theatre, ragtime jazz of Penny Serenade, author Kate Sweeney, poet Jon Goode, animated short by Adam Floeck, East Atlanta Kids Club philanthropy, dancers from Atlanta Belly Dance, and more. Show starts at 7:30pm. Kids are welcome. Lake Claire Leo our own Boyd Baker strikes again. Tickets and details at www.GoodGraciousShow.com. If you missed the last one, or attended the last one, the Clarion recommends it as a "must see."

Many thanks to all of our neighborhood volunteers, including the executive committee, the fun(d)raising committee who've worked tirelessly on the Tour of Homes, and the Clarion staff and delivery crew, all of whom volunteer their time for Lake Claire. If you have not had time and are interested in volunteering for the neighborhood, even if you just one hour at any time to spare, the Clarion could use your help in approaching

Many thanks to all of our neighborhood potential new advertisers by phone or e-mail. Contact editor@lakeclaire.org for more information. And don't forget there are many volunteer jobs needed for the Tour of Homes on October 4 – see the article on Page 1.

And when needing a new service – such as a real estate agent, a dog groomer, a new restaurant to try, or even a roof! – please consider using our advertisers.

Highlights of this issue

- **2** September calendar
- 4 Security/Crime Stats
- 6 Monthly Gardening Feature
- 7 Lake Claire Land Trust
- 8 Lake Claire Kids' Corner

THE **CLARION** IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.



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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 authors and not those of Lake Claire Neighbors, Officers, or the Clarion Staff.

Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

The Clarion welcomes Alicia McGill as the new distribution coordinator.

SEPTEMBER

1-October 27 "Mommy and Me" at Fernbank EVERY MONDAY. Details at http://www.fernbankmuseum.org/mommydeal

6 & 20 Drum Circle at the Land Trust, dark until midnight. Please walk, bike or carpool. Donation requested.

13 The next Good Gracious Variety Show, 7:30 p.m., details at http://goodgraciousshow.blogspot.com and on Page 1 herein. Created and brought to you by our own Boyd Baker on Leonardo Avenue.

September 13-14 Book Sale, Literacy Alliance Metro Atl 12-5pm, more info literacyallianceatlanta.org, email laura-1hauser1@yahoo.com

14 8:30-10:30 a.m. BIRD WALK for kids! The Family Project asks just \$2. See details on Page 8

18 and the 3rd Thursday of every month - Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, The Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting start. Pizza from Savage

 $19\text{-}October\ 19\ \operatorname{Horizon}\ \operatorname{The atre}\ \operatorname{presents}\ \operatorname{``Detroit"-a}\ \operatorname{backyard}\ \operatorname{bbq}\ \operatorname{spirals}\ \operatorname{to}\ \operatorname{bacchanal...''}\ \operatorname{http://www.horizontheatre.com/}$

20 & 6 Drum Circle at the Land Trust. See 6th.

24 The Atlanta Children's Shelter 12th Annual Achiever's Celebration, Marriott Marquis. Reception, silent auction & dinner. Formerly homeless families will be honored. www.acsatl.org for info.

27-28 Candler Park Fall Fest. 5,000+ families will flood into historic Candler Park for the annual, free Fall Fest. Great food, kids' village, 110 artists' booths, Tour of Homes, a 5K, and the music!---16 acts in 2 days! – includes Francine Reed. See website for all the details: www.CandlerParkFallFest.org

Calendar deadline for the OCTOBER Clarion: SEPT 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org. Submissions welcome AND HOPED FOR—The Clarion is your newspaper; we want to make it relevant for you.

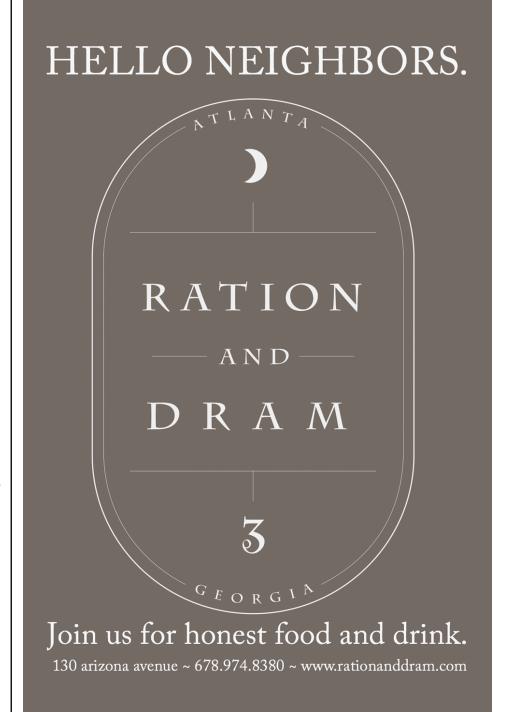
Future Months "Please Hold the Date":

Saturday, October 4: Lake Claire Tour of Homes (see article page 1). Please make an effort to attend. Fundraiser for the Lake Claire neighborhood.

Saturday, Oct. 11 Peace & Love Harvest Fest, Land Trust Fall fundraiser, stay tuned in Clarion & Land Trust website.

Sunday, November 2 Lake Claire Halloween Parade joint event with Frazer Center Fall Fest, 3-6 pm.

Thursday, December 11 Lake Claire Neighbors Holiday Party



Fairy Dusters

Home cleaning like nature intended!

Contact Oakhurst resident Sally
at 404-914-8288 for appointment.



Lake Claire Tour of Homes

Cont. from p. 1

Claire and her residents remains the same. We are fortunate to be surrounded by so many talented individuals. Our neighbors are business people, artists, politicians, healthcare givers, parents, empty-nesters, volunteers, entrepreneurs, pet lovers, environmentalists, and much more. Above all, our neighbors are just straight up good people - accepting, supportive, generous, and kind. The neighbors of Lake Claire are what makes us Lake Claire! On October 4, from 10am to 4pm, come out and see where these amazing neighbors call home. Partake in the opportunity to get to experience up close the items they surround themselves with to display proudly what makes them, well,

Lake Claire's approximately 1,200 homes are an eclectic mix

from the Revival, Victorian, and Modern periods: Craftsman bungalows, 1950s cottages, and Con-

temporary Folk styles of architecture, in addition to homes recently renovated or constructed within the new millennium. This year's tour will spotlight the variety of architectural and individual styles that our neighborhood is known for as well as celebrate the fun and the funky that makes us Lake Claire.

They say "birds of a feather flock together." Well, we chickens, hawks, owls, and more have successfully flocked to Lake Claire. So come on out and Get to Know Your Neighbors' Nests! The tour supports Lake Claire Neigh-

bors, who support your greenspaces, Lake Claire Park, and the DeKalb Ave. wall mural, among

other things. Tickets can be purchased in advance at **LakeClaire-HomeTour.com** or LakeClaire.org for \$12, or on the day of the tour for \$15.

Want to get a free ticket? Easy! Volunteer for the tour, and get to know your neighbors' nests for free! Volunteers are still needed! Opportunities include taking a shift as a house greeter, hosting

a directional sign in your yard, helping with set up and take down, getting sponsorships, and distributing flyers. Wanna volunteer, spread the word, and love to dance? Volunteer to be a Disco Directional (ok, hold a sign and dance) on the day of the event. Donations are of course also always very much appreciated. Contact Lake Claire Neighbors VP of Fun(d)raising, Sara Rockaway, at fun@lakeclaire.org. Visit LakeClaireHomeTour.com, LakeClaire.org, or our Lake Claire Tour of Homes Facebook page for more information. The Lake Claire Home & Garden Tour is a project of the neighborhood association, Lake Claire Neighbors, Inc. (LCN).

Just as our funky neighbors in the early 90s wanted to share all that we are so fortunate to be surrounded by in Lake Claire, we hope that this 2014 Lake Claire Tour of Homes and Gardens will remind us that 30307 is more than just a zipcode — it's our home. SEE YOU THERE!

Hello...Safe Journey — Skiing in and around Lake Claire

Birthdays:

September 1 Thomas Mayer will turn 1! (Gordon Avenue)

September 13 Lilliana Amato's 6th birthday! (Leo)

September 20 Keely Baker – the big 11 this year! (Leo). (See last month's Kids' Corner)

September 22 Rene Godiers (Marlbrook)

September 23 Alyssa Olson (Leo)

September 24 Artist Olivia Ledbetter, to be 13 (McLendon Ave) (See March 2014 Clarion)

And belatedly – August 13 - Elena Godiers (Marlbrook)

To help us continue this feature on neighborhood life cycle events, send dates to editor@lakeclaire.org -- birthdays or other celebrations for the upcoming month, births or deaths or important rights of passage. As space allows, we will include in the newspaper. Let us know your suggestions by SEPTEMBER 15 for the October Clarion.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Early August 7, a burglary took place in a house adjacent to Lake Claire Park. [The Clarion has left out details due to space consideration, and since details are or will be reported in our normal security update on Page 4.] The crime report in the Clarion has a considerable lag in time, a fact

I have wondered about. There must be a reason for this. In over thirty years of local reporting on crime, in our four-block area, I have been able to furnish crime news in a matter of a few days to a week via a neighborhood broadside.

Thank you, Alice Bliss Reply: Thank you, Alice. The newspaper's security report is often a little late, since it is a monthly publication, so that in order for us to get it typed, ready for publication, and printed, it is closed to two weeks after the security VP submits the statistics. In addition, the reports come from APD, which runs behind, though

not as behind as they previously did. Note, however, that crimes are usually reported promptly on our yahoo security listserv (see Page 4 for details) and our website, as well as the commercial website "Nextdoor," which is used by City officials.



Personal and Business Classifieds

Pet Sitting, Dog Walking, House Sitting. Lake Claire resident w/Lake Claire references. Roberta 404-631-

7761 or schultero77@gmail.com

Peter and Paul Landscape Cleanup and Maintenance, Call or email Lake Claire resident Pat Del Rey, 404 933 3053 or pdelrey@uga.edu



Keep An Eye on the Crime and the Time:

Lake Claire Security Report, June 22 - August 9, 2014

Compiled from Atlanta Police Department (APD) Report (regularly a little behind, plus the Clarion comes out once a month)

Join the Lake Claire Neighborhood Watch listserv (lakeclaireneighborhoodwatch@yahoogroups.com) for up-to-date security reports. If you are connected to that listserv or Facebook, or to the commercial site "Nextdoor," and you see crime information relevant to Lake Claire on one but not all, please forward it on to the other media outlets. Our VP of safety (safety@lakeclaire.org) will forward pertinent information to the Yahoo watch group and the Lake Claire website, which will automatically post it on our Facebook page. This will help all of us to gain information from each other quickly.

Auto Theft

1800 block Gordon Manor 7/31/14 2014 green Fiat 600, Victim left his keys in his apartment door overnight and awoke to discover them missing along with his car from the parking garage.

Burglary

400 block Lakeshore Ave. 8/1/14 Taken: cash, wallet, cards, Mac-Book, laptop, iPads, book bag, smart phone Note: no forced entry – key hidden outside was still there

One of their vehicles was stuck in the grass of their neighbor's yard with keys in the ignition & gear in Drive.

Other Larcenv

1900 block DeKalb Ave. 7/10/14. Taken: Tablet, iPad, iPhone. A victim at Horizons School stated that she woke up and found suspect in her room. She asked him what he was doing there, and he said, "I made a mistake," and ran outside. Two other victims had items stolen from their rooms overnight.

Theft from Vehicle

1700 block Delaware Ave. 6/30/14 parked on street Taken: iPod

Damage: window broken Suspect and an arrestee were attempting to kick in one victim's back door, but were scared off when the lights came on. While on the call officers heard a prowler call come up at the house behind the victim's, one street over. The arrestee was found lying flat down by a black Ford Focus with the rear window broken out of it and a flashlight in his hand while wearing black gloves. The suspect ran away and escaped. The arrestee confessed.

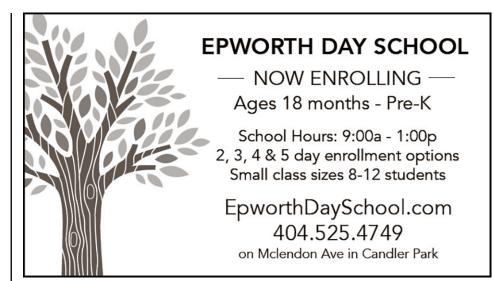
400 block Hardendorf Ave. 6/30/14 - parked on street. Damage: none Taken: cloth shoulder bag, wallet containing cards. Windows were left partially open.

Ridgewood 7/2/14, parked on street Taken: iPad Mini. Damage: door lock. Victim noticed a silver Chevrolet with two males circling the area.

1800 block DeKalb Ave. 7/8/14 Parked at residence. Taken: money order. Damage: passenger side door keyhole, steering wheel's ignition, dashboard cracked

600 block Clifton Rd. 7/21/14 parked on street. No damage; car left unlocked; taken 3 pairs of sunglasses, small tactical flashlight 7/28/14 Parked in driveway, Taken: am-500 block Harold Ave. plifier. Driver side door punched out

300 block Nelms Ave. 8/5/14 Parked on street. Taken: vehicle title Damage: driver side door was ajar (not mentioned if door had been locked)





September into October in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Carolina Gardener about thugs in our gardens, plants that do not stay where we want them to but expand aggressively throughout our property. It listed creeping Jenny, goldmoss stonecrop, sweet autumn clematis, rose campion, elephant's ear, gold and silver chrysanthemum, the pink Southern evening primrose (Oenothera speciosa), spiderwort,

culprits.

As one who battles English ivy, privet seedlings, wild grape vine, wild climbing rose, honeysuckle, wild blackberries, and something that resembles kudzu. I find this humorous. I have killed the creeping Jenny that Brynan gave me twice. It took several attempts before neighbor Jane's Oenothera speciosa has finally

Recently I read an article in woodruff, and of course mint as gained a toehold in the strip between my sidewalk and the street where it had flourished 35 years before, when we bought this house. Sweet woodruff is my replacement for baby's breath that refuses to survive in the South, and it has never given me a lick of trouble. As for rose campion, we love the plant that sows its silvery rosettes, resembling lambs' ears, in the dry sun of the

"hell strip." Some years they almost disappear, depending on our droughts. Those that survive send up stalks the second year with magenta and, occasionally, white flowers. I try to leave some seeds for the next year even as I deadhead. I think the key here is where plants are placed. Now that I think of it, my thug chrysanthemum is in the hell strip

Cont. on p. 5



September into October in the Garden

Cont. from p. 4

too. These flowers all flourish with almost no assistance from me, while I have to baby along the Japanese anemones for their beautiful autumn display.

I do agree with the caveat about the clematis, however. Once many years ago I planted it (I think I even bought it) next to my mailbox. It has never done much there, but the seed heads are plume-like and carried by the wind. Now I am pulling it up all around the front yard as I mow. Perennial vines are just spreaders. Trumpet vine at least attracts hummingbirds and provides screening; but carefully locate it at the edge of a garden where it can be somewhat contained, mowed, or easily pulled up as it sends up shoots from the roots. A beautiful example of this vine is on the southeast corner of Candler Park Yoga where it flourishes in the heat.

My tomato tactics listed last month did give me ten more days than usual of tomato harvesting; however, on July 22 the squirrels attacked in full force, making off

with even small, green tomatoes. Fortunately, I had already harvested many and was able to rescue even large, intact Cherokee Purples and Persimmons. My hope is that the new tomatoes setting in late July and early August may be ripening at the same time as acorns and pecans. I know, "Hope springs eternal" Once I built a huge roofed cage of chicken wire to protect my plants: but it was hideous and dark in there, difficult to enter, and not very productive. I tore it down after one year. Particular cats and dogs in the garden can protect vegetables from squirrels, but they are rare.

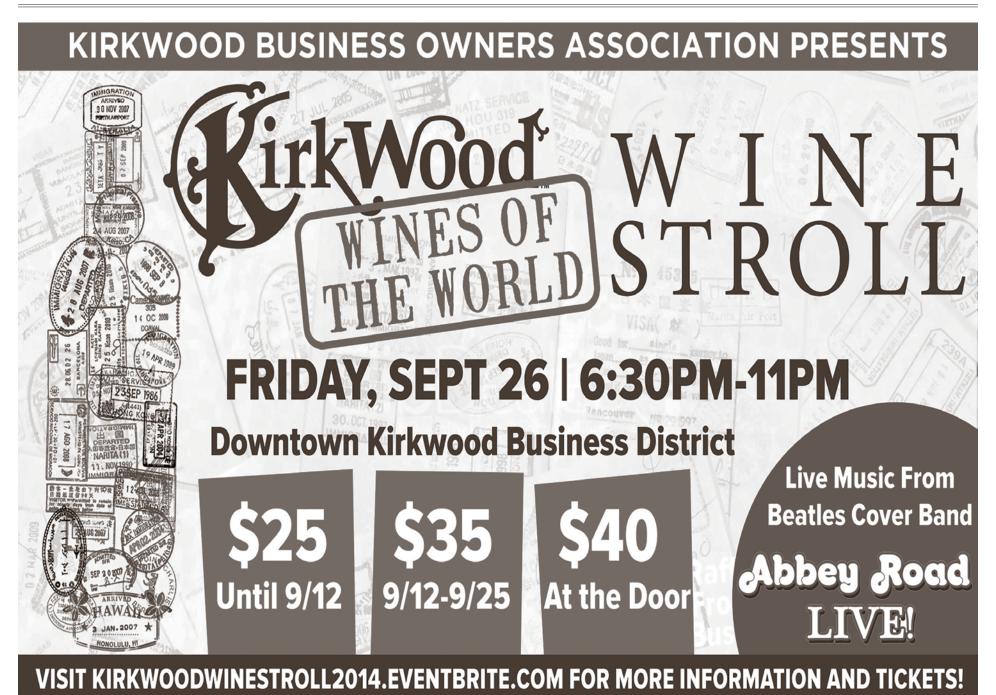
September is still summer here in Atlanta. When you despair of the heat, remember that in the North leaves are already dying, cold winds are blowing, and winter is not far behind. Soon it will cool off here, our October through December often clear with cool nights and warm days. Frost will come no earlier than November, sometimes a month or more later. However, you will need to con-

tinue watering vegetables and annuals if we do not get an inch of rain a week, and pots will dry out every couple of days. At the same time, be sure water does not sit anywhere in the garden because it leads to more mosquitoes. Mosquito dunks will keep your birdbath safe, while fish enjoy mosquito larva in your pond. We used to be able to count on hurricanes bringing us rain and cooler temperatures in early fall, but lately they have all gone east or west of us.

Carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, spinach, and turnips can all be sowed directly into the garden this month. Follow last month's suggestions for good germination. If some of your summer vegetables have died or ceased production, be sure to remove them and put the nightshade refuse directly into the herby to prevent the spread of diseases. Most other crops can be composted. Do not leave the soil bare. Either add compost and manure and replant; or mulch the ground to protect it from hard rains, the

leaching of nutrients, and the growth of weeds.

This is the time to think about roses and other perennials for next year. When you become an avid gardener, you will find that local stores will not give you the varieties you want—hell, lust after. Plants you order through the mail are small because of shipping costs and root balls; it will be up to you to protect and feed them as they grow. Some well known Southern nurseries are in North Carolina, two being Plant Delights and Niche Gardens. I often order from Bluestone Perennials in Ohio because of their large selection, but fall purchasing is a must for most plants since they cannot ship early enough for us in spring. I have also had good experiences with Forest Farm in the Pacific Northwest and Roses of Yesterday and Today in California. Alas, so many fine old nurseries have died away as they are unable to survive in today's economy.





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City of Atlanta Awards Second "Love Your Block" Grant to the Land Trust

by Linda Pace

Last fall, the Lake Claire Community Land Trust received the benefit of a "Love Your Block" grant from the City of Atlanta, thanks to an application filed by Lake Claire Neighbors. The project funded by that grant involved the restructuring of the amphitheater seating on the west side of the stage and fire circle. Stone benches were placed on the hillside and plants added to the embankment to stop erosion and enhance the beauty of the large gathering space at the Land Trust. River oats, bracken ferns, and Japanese yew were planted by volunteers during one of several volunteer work days. Other volunteers constructed additional picnic tables to add seating and function to the area at

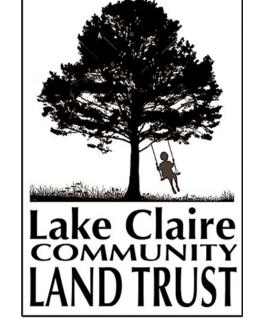
the top of the tiered seating.

Due to the success of that first grant project, the granting agencies encouraged the Land Trust to apply for the 2014 grant cycle. This time the proposed improvements included the creation of a small Japanese garden to beautify and buffer the property line behind the Gorilla Grill, and a water tower for collection of rain water in the upper garden plot area. The grant was awarded on April 21, 2014, and the improvements are now in progress.

The water tower, which is to the left of the path into the Land Trust just before you reach the playground, is nearing completion. Credit for the vision, design, and much of the construction goes to Bernard Spenle. Still to be added is a large rectangular metal "funnel" that will sit on top of the tower structure and capture rain water to fill the barrels. The stored water is to be gravityfed to the gardens.

Some site work has been done on the new Japanese garden area. Design is in progress. Plants, a water feature, and a gravel and stone path are to be included in this phase of the grant project. The completed garden will add additional space for quietness and contemplation.

Please keep an eye out for volunteer work days associated with this project. These work days will be scheduled soon and are expected to take place in early September. Volunteers are rewarded with pizza and loads



of good karma. Contact info@ LCCLT.org to join our email list and be notified of these and other upcoming Land Trust events, or just watch our web site (www. LCCLT.org) or Facebook page.

As always, the Land Trust thanks you for your support!

Doggie Styles

by Patricia Del Rey

Alejandro Marquez is the new owner of Doggie Styles, the dog grooming business underneath Abbadabba's right off Moreland. I was very impressed with his business. I went there because ALLof the reviews from YELP were so positive. And I was not disappointed. The dogs are not in cages. They are interacting with each other and with Alejandro. He fell in love with dogs as a child, and it began with his dog, named Cosita, whom he had for 13 years. He knew he wanted to be around dogs, and you can see it clearly. His sign as you enter his place says, "I live my life in the company of dogs."

Alejandro grew up in Mexico City until he was 14 and then came to Atlanta and went to high school here. He was trained by the Atlanta Academy of Pet Design, attending for 8 months. There he learned to groom dogs of every breed, every size, and every age. Once he graduated he worked with two companies where he groomed dogs. He has a total of 8 years' experience grooming dogs. In his business his doggies come from Candler Park, Inman Park, and Lake Claire neighborhoods. I completely recommend Alejandro and cannot imagine a better dog groomer.



 $Owner, Alejandro\ Marquez$



Lola Before



Lola and her "new do"



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LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for younger readers to participate. This month we feature Maya Mikrut, age 8½, on Harold Avenue. Maya's mother, Monique, confirmed that Maya drew this picture of their house on Harold Street *from memory*, sitting at the kitchen table. Notice the new Lake Claire banner to the left of the front door. The family has lived on Harold for just over

a year, and they absolutely love it! Said Monique, "There are a lot of kids to play with and friendly neighbors." They moved from Carmel, CA two years ago and rented while they looked for and "found the perfect house on the perfect street!" Maya and her sister Bethany love taking walks in the Frazer Forest. They have two cats, adopted from a shelter, Bobby and Marley.





Maya and her sister Bethany

Come watch some birds with us!

by Tyralynn Frazier

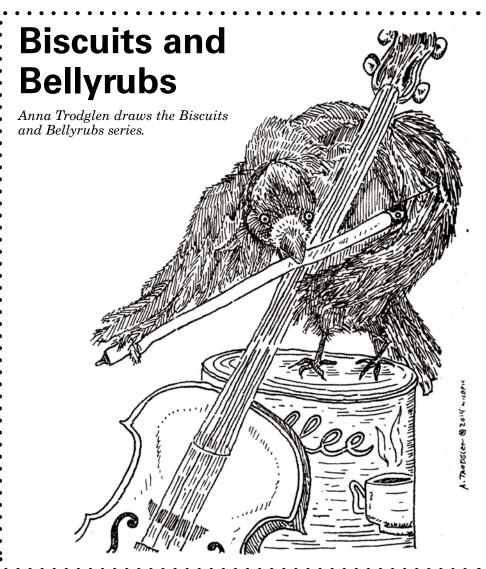
Ken Boff will be leading a kid's bird walk **Sunday**, **September 14, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** Ken became a Master Birder through the Audubon Society in 2012, but he has been participating in bird watching activities for years. He loves birding with children because of all the great questions they ask.

"Once, a little girl asked me why the little birds flap their wings so fast, when the big birds don't flap much at all." This simple question became the theme of the whole walk, and the kids tried to identify the birds that flapped the fastest.

This project is sponsored by the Land Trust

Family Project. We are asking for a small fee of \$2.00 per child (accompanying adults are free) simply to cover project preparation expenses. If you have any questions please email Tyralynn Frazier: tfrazi2@gmail.com.

The Lake Claire Land
Trust Family Project, as
has been noted in the Clarion many times and at several neighborhood meetings,
has as its mission: to help
families engage with the
wonderful resources in the
Lake Claire neighborhood,
centered around the neighborhood's and the Land
Trust's ideals of community
and civic engagement. --Ed.



Hi, Lake Claire Kids, next issue let's put some of your creativity on this page. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to editor@lakeclaire.org. Choose any topic of your choice. Be creative...we'd love to hear from you – **by SEPTEMBER 15** for the October issue.