



June/July 2017

The Lake Claire Neighborhood Newspaper • www.LakeClaire.org

V.25, #6/7

Exploring Local Historic District Designation

by Molly McLamb and Emily Taff

As residents in both Candler Park and Lake Claire are exploring the possibility of becoming a Local Historic District, many questions are naturally being raised about the benefits and reasons for being designated as such.

WHY would we want to be a Local Historic District? The City of Atlanta's Historic Preservation Ordinance provides for the designation of Local Historic Districts, which give residents a real voice in the alteration of their neighborhoods' built

environments through the establishment of design regulations and a design review process.

Local Historic Districts offer guidance for future development. Take Inman Park, for instance. There is no shortage of development there, but years ago the neighborhood became a Local Historic District, writing design regulations for new construction that would harmonize with the neighborhood—but also allow for changes. Most interestingly, they also established Sub-areas within

the District with different sets of guidelines, anticipating significant future growth in these portions of the neighborhood. Keeping those areas within the Historic District boundaries allowed there to be some review of development plans by the Urban Design Commission, and afforded an opportunity for neighbors to have a meaningful voice, without creating a serious impediment to development. Meanwhile, in the historic residential core of Inman Park, where more

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Lake Claire BBQ Was Fun for All

The Third Annual Lake Claire Centennial Celebration on June 11 was a great way for neighbors to re-connect, children to enjoy face-painting, bubbles, games, and for all to win prizes. And celebrate being 103 years old! Don't fret if you didn't win some Lake Claire tchotchkies; just go on our website—where you can also pay LC dues (\$20) if you haven't done so in 2017. **Go to Page 9** for memories of the great 2017 Centennial event. Thanks to all who helped and attended!

Ten Years of Lake Claire Wahoo Swimming

by the Lake Claire Wahoo Media Department

How do you get 150 kids to hit the Lake Claire Pool six mornings a week for a potentially grueling workout? Turns out you just have to ask. A ride to the pool and some occasional fried dough helps.

This is the life of a Lake Claire Wahoo. They've been piling up laps in the friendly, if chilly, confines of Lake Claire Pool since May 1, preparing for the 2017 season, the squad's tenth!

The idea of a local swim team is only minutes younger than the establishment of the Lake Claire Pool. Eric Ericson approached Stosh Bennett, one of the founders, about a team to represent the pool and greater Lake Claire/Candler Park. Bennett, a confirmed swimming lifestyle enthusiast, embraced the idea.

Ericson was a four-time All-American swimmer at UNC, coached that first team, and like any young father,

got his butt kicked. "It was a successful season even though we didn't win any meets." Ericson, now President-Emeritus of the team, says. They had fewer than forty swimmers that first year, but among them were Goineses, Joneses, Pressmans, and Hinsons. These families and others were critical to the rapid growth of the program, and those swimmers became the competitive core of the Lake Claire Wahoo. If those names are familiar, it's likely from seeing them so often on the Wahoo record board.

That record board and the frequent need to update it are leading indicators of the team's current success. Lake Claire remains a small community team, but now goes head-to-head with larger neighborhood pools. Ten years ago, competing with an established program like crosstown behemoth Venetian was a brass ring.

In 2016, the Wahoo beat **them**. The next contest in that natural rivalry was on May 30 when the Wahoo crossed Ponce to open the 2017 campaign at Venetian.

Ericson believes that along with dedicated parents, good coaching is critical to the Wahoo's success. In the case of the past two seasons, good co-coaching by a pair of Georgia State graduate students, Carmen Carrion and Jelani Watkins. Coach Carmen, she of the Winslow McCay-inspired lower torso body art, has been with the team for more than half its life—and has taught, seemingly, every other 30307 youth how to swim. Coach Jelani is in his fourth year with the team, and in addition to being an excellent teacher and motivator, he's introduced some of the traditions that make the Wahoo so preciously Lake Claire: drumming the squad through pre-meet chants and live

performances of the national anthem at home events by his voice students. Both coaches ask all Wahoo to work as hard as they can in the pool and be decent human beings out of it.

More swimmers need more coaches. In the same way the Wahoo refreshes ranks with young swimmers from the Junior Wahoo Academy, Coaches Carmen and Jelani rely on older swimmers who've displayed leadership qualities to serve as coach/athletes. This season, Dylan Suna and Ben Rockaway return in that capacity, joined by newcomers Davi Pressman and Sebastian Gerz-Escandón.

After the Venetian meet, the Wahoo will swim three meets at Lake Claire and once more on the road. The faster the Wahoo swim, the more challenging their schedule. 2016's 3-2 record featured losses against Clairmont and Winding Vista, two of the best teams in the state.

The season wraps up with the ASA Championships at Georgia Tech's **Cont. on p. 8.**

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The Clarion Newspaper (and its predecessor Neighbors Monthly Newsletter and its predecessor Lake Claire Neighbors Flyer) has been written, edited, and distributed by volunteers since 1989.

SUMMER STUFF—JUNE-JULY CALENDAR**June**

- 1-11** Actors Express, a great theatre company, presenting “Father Comes Home From the Wars” www.actors-express.com/plays
- 1-25** Horizon Theatre (Little 5 Pts), a wonderful neighborhood resource, “How to Use a Knife.” See information below.*
- 13** The Sierra Club meeting, 2nd Tuesdays, sierraclub.org/georgia/atlanta
- 13** 5 p.m., Wahoo LC Swim team vs. Lindmoor, at the Wahoo Pool
- 14** Frazer Center comedy fundraiser, 8 p.m., at the Punchline, info: p.kubik@fraziercenter.org
- 15** **Lake Claire monthly meeting, 3rd Thursdays, in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Pizza provided free from Savage (THANKS, SAVAGE!)**
- 16** Decatur Beach Party, celebrate summer at “Decatur Beach,” 5-11 p.m., where beach meets the street. And it’s the Brick Store Pub’s 20th anniversary! 60 tons of sand, kids’ activities! decaturdba.com/events/beach-party
- 17** Drum Circle at the Land Trust, sunset to 11:00 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend! Please help spread the word.
- 20** 5pm Lake Claire Wahoo at Clairmont (Emory)
- 21** Mary Lin monthly dine-out at the Flying Biscuit, 3rd Wednesday of every month. Simply show up for dinner and **mention Mary Lin**, and Flying Biscuit’s management will generously donate 5% of your ticket to the Mary Lin Education Foundation.
- 24-25** Old 4th Ward Arts Festival, Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. A vibrant component to the newly completed Historic Fourth Ward Park, all ages, races, customs, and interests. The Festival is a major celebration of the arts honoring the rich history of this nearby community. www.oldfourthwardparkartsfestival.com
- 26-30** Garden Theatre Camp with Miss Ladybug at the LC Land Trust. See details P. 15.
- 26** 5pm Lake Claire Wahoo vs. HLHK at Wahoo LC Pool
- 28** 5pm LC Wahoo Division II Championships at GA Tech

***Horizon Theatre’s production** of How to Use A Knife is a sharp-edged comedy playing through June 25. In Will Snider’s provocative and energetic play, the chaotic hustle and bustle of a Wall Street restaurant meets Immigration sneaking in to look for a wanted man. “Smart, funny, profane and provocative, this is a deeply personal story of two men from different cultures seeking second chances in the same busy restaurant kitchen,” says Co-Artistic Director Lisa Adler. (Spicy language/not intended for children: equivalent to PG-14). www.horizontheatre.com/plays/mainstage

July

- 1** AAA Championship Swim Finals at GA Tech
- 1&15** LC Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 p.m. Stay for the closing circle if you can!
- 4** **LCLT Independence Day Potluck & Cook-Off** (Be sure to check Land Trust website. This great, traditional annual event needs volunteer help, or it will not happen.) See Page 15.
- 4** Fireworks at Stone Mountain Park. But consider staying home with doggies, they get scared! (And that morning, the Atlanta signature event, the Peachtree Road Race)
- 15-Aug 20** Actors Express, a great theatre company in the King Plow Center, “West Midtown” area, presenting “Little Shop of Horrors,” a deviously delicious musical comedy. See www.actors-express.com/plays
- 19** Mary Lin monthly dine-out at our favorite kids-always-eat-free Flying Biscuit, 3rd Wednesday of every month. Simply show up for dinner and **mention Mary Lin**, and Flying Biscuit’s management will generously donate 5% of your ticket to the Mary Lin Education Foundation.
- 20** **Lake Claire monthly meeting, 3rd Thursdays, in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Pizza provided free from Savage (THANKS, SAVAGE!)**
- 23** Land Trust Community Work Day, 1:00-5:00 p.m. See p. 15.
- 29** 9th annual “Jerry Jam,” 3:00-11:00 p.m. at the Land Trust. Our annual tribute to Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead, with live music onstage, food, drink, and family fun. See article with full details pp. 14-15.

Send calendar entries for the August Clarion by July 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org

Beginning of August: August 5, penultimate Candler Park movie “Sing”—begins at sundown in Candler Park, bring blankets or short chairs (don’t block others) and no dogs. (Great animated film with voices of Matthew McConaughey and Reese Witherspoon)

Thank you from the Frazer Center

Merci Beaucoup! Thank you for making Goodness in the Gardens 2017 such a success! We’re still calculating our final totals, but we know your generosity and record-breaking attendance helped us raise tens of thousands of dollars to support the work at Frazer Center, building a more inclusive community where children and adults, with and without disabilities, can gather, learn, and flourish together. On our fund-a-need auction alone, we broke through our original goal of \$8,000 to raise \$13,000 for new equipment for our accessible playground. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

MESSAGE FROM JOE AGEE, PRESIDENT OF LAKE CLAIRE NEIGHBORS

Dear Neighbors,

In a 2000 edition of the Clarion, I noticed that Dennis McCarthy, in writing a message on behalf of the LCN Executive Committee, made some general philosophical comments about days such as Halloween and Thanksgiving. So in order to maintain our neighborhood traditions, and since I've devoted a large part of my existence to the subject, it seemed appropriate to continue in the same vein. Let's look at Mother's Day, which took place on May 14. Although it doesn't go back to ancient times like Halloween, there is still a thought-provoking background. Based on extensive research via Wikipedia, the idea for a special day originated with Anna Jarvis, a peace activist, in 1910. However, the notion is also associated with Julia Ward Howe, an active feminist and pacifist as well, who, in addition to authoring "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," wrote a "Mother's Day Proclamation," in 1870. Essentially it urged mothers to take a stand against having their sons killed in wars that men created, something Anna surely would have agreed with. Then Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, signed a proclamation recognizing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day, but he soon began advocating for the U.S. to enter WWI, which it finally did in 1917. Without judging the appropriateness of going to war at the time, there does seem to be more than a little irony associated with the decision. Had Julia lived, she would have been horrified, and I doubt Anna was any happier. Later, Anna was also upset because she thought that Mother's Day had mostly become a commercial event (Hallmark Cards was already on it) and was finally arrested during a protest in 1925. No good deed ever goes unpunished? Admittedly, the story isn't all that philosophical, but I thought it was interesting.

Well, it's that time of year again. Along with Mother's Day celebrations, everything has turned green, birds are singing, blue skies (except for a few thunder storms and tornados), etc. Following tradition, the Lake Claire Land Trust contributed its Spring Peace and Love Fest, followed the next day by its Annual Easter Egg Hunt (see picture this page). Then there was the Frazer Center's **Goodness in the Gardens** event. However, and fortunately, spring wasn't over, so there was still time to fit in the Lake Claire 3rd An-



nual Centennial BBQ and celebration at the Cator Woolford Gardens at the Frazer Center on June 11. See the pictures on Page 9.

And, of course, it's hard to miss the construction going on in Lake Claire Park! I make it a point to go by the Lake Claire Park frequently to see the great new playground equipment and wooden walkways in the process of being installed. The completion date is still not certain, but June may be a good bet. Some things that aren't so noticeable are the removal of the cookout grill and canopy near McLendon that had turned into a place for unsavory activities and the improvement of the path going up to Marlbrook Avenue from the park. Many thanks are due to Judy Hammock, the Friends of Lake Claire Park, and Natalyn Archibong, who worked hard to get the \$500,000 grant from the City that is making all this possible.

Other items of interest: most of you have probably seen the notice on NextDoor about an \$8-million offer by Atomic Entertainment LLC. to purchase Kirkwood's Pullman Yard. Although it was a surprise that the Georgia Building Authority accepted the bid without considering other offers, it appears to be a fortunate arrangement, since the buyer has agreed to preserve the historic structures on the site as well as maintain the forest land as a nature sanctuary with biking and walking trails. I'm sure the Kirkwood Neighborhood Organization will be vigilant to ensure that the agreement is kept. And just in case you thought bowling was totally defunct in the area, some, maybe many, will be happy to know that the long-time bowling alley in Suburban Plaza has reopened under the name of Comet Pub and Lanes; more importantly, they have a much more upscale food menu. So don't throw away those old bowling shoes just yet.

~ Joe



Easter Egg Hunt at the Land Trust, by Danielle Carter



Report from Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Robert Bryan Davis

Summer is upon us. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries is gearing up for the season.

Summer holds more volunteer activity for CSM. We have summer groups returning to be with us that were here last year. Mt. Bethel United Methodist in Marietta (mtbethel.org) will be with us on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mt. Bethel welcomes young people from all over the United States to participate in civic and ministry work. We are lucky to have them back. Passion City Church (passioncitychurch.com) will also be with us this summer.

If you would like to visit us or volunteer, please give us a call. You are most welcome. Thank you, Lake Claire, for being a great neighbor.

Want Local Veggies this Summer?

Skye McKinney and Gabe Eisen here! We have started a small urban farmlet on New York Ave., growing tomatoes, okra, beans, and cucumbers this summer. We are selling our produce around the neighborhood, and you can sign up for a regular email of our produce availability by contacting geisen@emory.edu.

Come by and check us out!

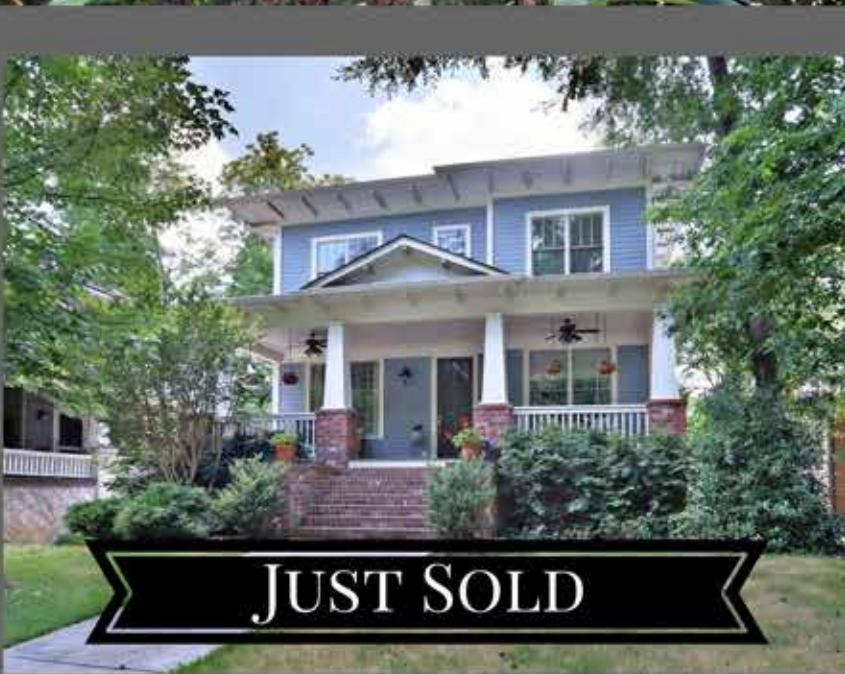
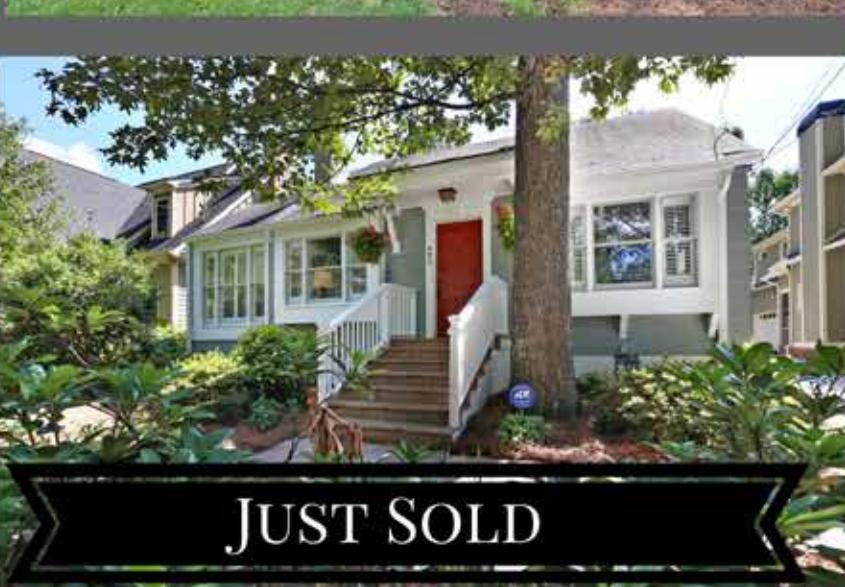


Skye is a student at Decatur High School. She began the Decatur High School Environmental Club and is an active member in the school's garden. She works with Wylde Center's Farm-



to-School program; she is passionate about environmental issues and believes that it is crucial to create communities that value their relationship

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Wild in Lake Claire

by Guest Columnist Meta Larsson

Everybody loves birds of prey. Is there anyone who doesn't enjoy seeing a hawk soar in the sky or hearing owls hooting in the night? In intown Atlanta, partly because of the many big old trees, we have resident hawks and owls—including Piedmont Park's recently acclaimed screech owl and Lake Claire's and Candler Park's barred owls. On the street where I live—Druid Place, which runs along Freedom Park in the Candler Park neighborhood—a pair of barred owls, a few years ago, nested in an old magnolia. That spring, we delighted in spotting two adorable little owlets huddled together on a branch. (See picture here; if interested in reading the article, please see June 2010 Clarion in the online archives, www.lakeclaire.org/clarionarchives)

The owlets/"branchlings" weren't quite ready to fly, but they needed to get out of their lice-infested nest. For those of us watching them, the little puffballs were a joy as they hopped along branches for the few days before they became airborne and left.

This spring two baby barred owls were born in a nest in Jyll Thomas' backyard on Sterling Street in Candler Park. "Owls are such exquisite animals, aren't they? We were very fortunate to experience the family," said Thomas. Indeed, we are fortunate that such magnificent birds share our neighborhood. On Druid Place last year, we had a nesting pair of hawks living amongst us. Their yearlings remain in the neighborhood, and on many mornings enjoy their breakfast in a stately white oak whose branches overhang our street.

Hawks and owls are definitely carnivores; and some people may find it unpleasant watching them in the messy act of devouring their prey. However, it's a good idea to keep in

mind that they help to keep our rodent populations in check.

In fact, owl parents, to feed their families, may catch as many as **3000 rodents** in one season (hungryowl.org)—and a season is only about 4 months. However, **when people use rat poison, the birds who eat poisoned rodents are killed by the poison, too.** In Georgia, wildlife is generally not tested for cause of death, but the wildlife hospital,



WildCare, in San Rafael, California, which has tested dead wildlife since 2006, reports that an astonishingly high number—over 80% of wild animals—owls, hawks, foxes, and other predators—test positive for deadly anti-coagulant rat poison (wildcare-bayarea.org).

A few months ago, a neighbor on Druid Place found a dead red-tailed hawk in his back yard. It was not tested, but chances are that the bird died from eating poisoned rats. The deaths of birds and mammals that consume poisoned rats are like that of the rats they consumed: slow and painful as the victims bleed to death internally by powerful anti-coagulants.

The organization Raptors Are the Solution, or RATS, states on its website: "It has been demonstrated that rat poison, including first and second

generation rodenticides, commonly sold both over the counter and used by the pest control industry (Diphacinone, Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone, Chlorophacinone, Bromethalin and others) **slowly, and cruelly, poison hawks, owls, eagles, bobcats, foxes, bears, mountain lions, coyotes, songbirds, raccoons, fishers, and kit foxes, in addition to our children and our beloved pets**" (raptorsarethesolution.org).

So what do we do?

The Hungry Owl Project, at hungryowl.org, suggests that the best solution, involves exclusion, prevention and trapping with snap-traps, and that a collective effort is the most effective. Exclusion refers to sealing up any holes through which mice and rats can enter a house. Prevention entails removing whatever it is that attract rodents--such as fallen bird seed, pet food or trash. Removing English ivy and other thick vegetation is another form of prevention since rodents love to nest under cover.

And for trapping, although not that appealing to deal with, using traditional snap traps is the best option. Snap traps work efficiently and there are no side effects beyond the victim itself. And of course, snap traps need to be put in places where only rats can get to them in order to protect other animals.

More importantly, we can let our resident hawks and owls do their job. Inviting owls by putting up owl boxes is another solution suggested by the Hungry Owl Project. However, we can't all have our own private backyard owls, but we can stop poisoning the birds that work for all us of and provide so much joy.

Meta Larsson, a native of Sweden, lives on Druid Place in Candler Park and teaches English as a second language at Georgia State University.

One Famous Pecan Tree Named “Granmaw Gordon”

by Teri Stewart

The tree was on the original Gordon estate; circa 1900, it was mature enough to use as a support for a cattle fence. A rare aerial photo from the 1940s shows a large imposing tree. Over many decades she was referred to as the “old,” “big,” or “good” pecan. In the ‘70s, ‘80s, and ‘90s, many

neighbors came with sticks and buckets to collect her papershell nuts. African American families from Kirkwood called her “The Granny Pecan,” and residents in Lake Claire named her “The Gordon Pecan.” Over time the two names combined to become “Granmaw Gordon.”

Teri is a Lifetime Georgia Master Gardener and longtime Gordon resident. Please note that this is a clarification of a statement in the last Clarion saying that Teri Stewart named the tree. What a fascinating history of the tree!

Where You Fell

The hooked beak
of a predator,
down
beside the phone booth
as I hung up on the busy signal
your neck rolling luxuriously
back
as I bent to cradle you up
your wings still limber,
fanning out
in a grey-brown brocade
your talons clamped on
nothing
that could hold you
your spirit flown
I take just one
of your chest-feathers,
brother,
to remind me
hunter of these rainy streets
The rest of you I bury
in the back yard
six blocks from where you fell

Stephen Wing is the author of Free Ralph! An Evolutionary Fable, a comic novel with an environmental theme, available at www.WindEaglePress.com.

Please, everyone, **please** consider NOT putting down rat poison for reasons above and NOT spraying your yard or having a company spray your yard for mosquitoes treat your yard at all... because insecticides are toxic to a wide variety of wildlife, including beneficial insects, songbirds, fish, and bees, **AND** cats and dogs, and children's bare feet. Please see articles in April and May Clarions for more detail, available on the website if your paper has been recycled.

Please, let's fight against the mainstream gut reaction to kill everything that is a nuisance, from harmless but pesky carpenter bees to mosquitoes; thoughtful, humane options exist. ~ Editor

FDR Pools to be Restored

by Dan White

In the fall of 1924, a private citizen from Hyde Park, New York came to rural west central Georgia. He was a man in the prime of his life, who had been stricken by infantile paralysis and whose legs were left useless. Despite his having innumerable resources, improvement in his condition was very slow. **That desperate man was Franklin Delano Roosevelt.** He came to Warm Springs seeking treatment in the 88-degree mineral water that flowed naturally from the side of Pine Mountain. This spring, now considered one of Georgia's natural wonders, has a flow rate of 914 gallons per minute. Swimming in this warm mineral water would eventually help Roosevelt recover psychologically from the devastation that polio inflicted on him. The waters also allowed him to stand unassisted in the pool for the first time since his paralysis.

The therapeutic effect of these waters both physically and psychologically enabled FDR to return to political life as Governor of New York and as President of the United States. Without these waters, there would be no New Deal, no March of Dimes—and no cure for polio. FDR's

life in rural Georgia changed him profoundly, and we are all the better for it.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources has undertaken a project to restore the Historic Roosevelt Pool and Polio Museum Complex in Warm Springs. The project has as its goal the redesign of the museum to include the complete story of the eradication of polio worldwide that began with FDR in Warm Springs, Georgia. In addition, the historic three pools that Roosevelt and other "polios" exercised in will be restored, allowing for regular public access to swim in the same warm buoyant waters that helped heal a President.

If you would like to be part of this project you can make a tax deductible donation, made payable to:

The Friends of Roosevelt's Little White House, Attention: Pool Project, 401 Little White House Road, Warm Springs Georgia 31830. For further details, please call 706 655 5870.

Dan White, longtime LCN volunteer in a myriad of capacities and longtime Lake Claire resident on Harold Avenue, is on the FDR Warm Springs Advisory Committee.



Security Reports—Where are our stats?

Regular Clarion readers (isn't that everyone?) may have noticed no crime statistics in the last few months' issues of the newspaper. At our neighborhood meeting in May, our new officer in Zone 6, who now coordinates the officer patrols for the Candler Park/Lake Claire Security Patrol, mentioned that Zone 6 is reorganizing the system and that reports

should be coming soon. Our VP for Safety, Pen Sherwood, will begin submitting the stats once the APD begins to send them to us again. In the good old days, our Safety VP had actually to go down to the precinct and search through notebooks to find Lake Claire addresses in the APD records. Now we have e-mail reports and other modern technology!

June into August in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Gardening, like child-rearing, always has surprises, bad and good. What a disappointment this spring to realize that the peonies that brought such pleasure to passersby on our street for 20 years were—gone. I poked around in the soil, sure that the emerging buds must be there; nothing remained but the stumps of last year's stalks. I finally realized that the drought had taken them away sometime in the fall or winter. The 2016 drought of 45.7 inches of rain (only 0.3" the entire month of October), compared with 75.4" in 2015, had taken its toll.

But wait! As the transplants of lavender Camelot foxgloves I started last summer opened in our corner street bed, they were surrounded by the blue-pink flowers of an intentional weed, *Oenothera speciosa*, a wildflower perennial also known as pink evening primrose, I got from a friend happy to thin it from her garden. Not a primrose at all, this vigorous plant survives in hot, dry conditions and blooms its head off for months. In the deep South, like Georgia, it opens in the morning rather than the evening and has a stronger coloring than farther north. The display of foxglove rising out of a sea of almost identical lavender primrose was so striking (although unintended) that I saw parents posing their children behind it for a photo opportunity. I doubt I could have created this display on purpose.

Some of it was caused by weather, first too dry (for the peony), then too warm (for about half my usual plant-

ing of 650 tulips), and then cooling off with a couple of frosts that ruined my azalea but has kept an amazing confluence of Gloire de Dijon rose, apricot foxgloves, pastel sweet peas, and crimson snapdragons going outside the dining room windows for weeks.

In addition, the broccoli and kale, the Chinese cabbage, and now the collards are producing well long after they usually go to seed just because the nights remained cool into May and they were under screens or netting. I am sure it did not hurt that I sent three grown possums to other neighborhoods last fall. The long spring has also enabled hot weather crops, such as tomatoes planted out in April, to set fruit in a few weeks.

Speaking of vegetables, how does your garden grow? Continue planting the seeds of beans, corn, field peas, okra, pumpkins, and squash. If your squash always succumbs to squash vine borer, think about starting seeds in peat pots under grow lights inside and then transplanting them out to the garden in late July or August. I once did this and had success because it was somehow between times when the moths lay their eggs on the squash stems. Planting very early also helps if you re-

member next year. It is also not too late to transplant well-watered tomato seedlings and sweet potato slips in June.

If you have not tried planting seeds directly before, do start with bush beans because they are large, easy to handle, productive, and enjoyed by most people. The only caveat is that you might get infestations of Mexican bean beetles. But, again, even these are easy to outwit. As I always say, inspect your plants on a frequent basis. For one thing, beans need to be picked regularly to keep setting new beans. If you see tiny yellow eggs or little fuzzy yellow beings, the larvae, on the undersides of the leaves, squish them. Please, no hysterics. Surely this is easier than changing diapers, something I have avoided for sixty years. After a bit you will be able to recognize the adult beetles that have managed to hatch; they look like yellow to orange lady beetles with 16 black spots on their backs, and they are getting ready to eat all your bean leaves, so squish them, too.

Now, wasn't that easy? Pole beans will continue to produce far longer than bush beans but will need something to climb on, a trellis or poles. All beans must be

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APS High School Students' Panel Gives Feedback

by Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair

On Tuesday, May 2, about 20 representatives from many of the Atlanta Public School high schools got together at Therrell High School in Southwest Atlanta to talk about what school is like for them. Georgia Board of Education Kenneth Mason of District 5 moderated. Grady, Therrell, Carver, Coretta Scott King, the Best Academy ("Best"), North Atlanta, home schoolers, and Mays High School all had representatives.

These students were asked questions regarding climate and culture, guidance and advice, and parent participation. Below is a summary of comments from the students.

Climate and Culture

- Illogical policies relating to tardies
- Not enough time to retrieve things from lockers
- Lack of encouragement and motivation from teachers and staff to participate in extra-curricular activities, especially for students whose parents are not involved
- Substitutes get in the way of student learning by trying to exert power over students
- Wish principals would choose better teachers who care about education
- Request for SAT/ACT prep classes
- Not enough funding at Carver for all students in AP classes to take AP exam
- Feel preparation and expectations of what is needed to get into college is lacking

Guidance and Advice

- Over populated school creates class disruptions that take away from learning
- Some feel that students with habitual discipline problems should be sent to an alternative school
- Feel suspension is not effective, because it's like a mini-vacation for the student
- When students are tardy, they don't end up getting checked by metal detectors, or they get away with carrying things in because of where they are placed in their backpacks
- Students at Best worry for their safety when there are shootings in the area and the school does NOT get put on lock down
- Some feel unsafe with resources officers who are extremely physical with the students and should not be allowed to use unnecessary force

Parent Participation

- The majority of students believed that parents positively impacted

their learning and their environment

- Would like to see more involvement with parents, not just around report card grades
- Teachers should encourage parent participation
- Teachers need to accommodate their schedules to meet parents around parent work schedules
- Students need advocates and if there isn't enough parental involvement, students need to see familiar faces around school that makes them feel comfortable enough with whom they can share their experiences
- Request more than one back to school night for parents
- Other students' parents can still positively impact other students' lives besides their own children
- If the administration is stand-offish, it creates barriers between parents

Solutions

- Bring trained counselors that care
- Initiate programs that deal with conflict resolution and help cultivate a sense of self-worth
- Students' voices being heard & the teachers not putting you down=fewer discipline issues
- The teachers need to have mutual respect for the students

Across the board, these students feel that there are not enough layers of support, whether it be socially, emotionally, or academically.

In addition to this student panel, the Atlanta Board of Education will convene a council of high school Student Government Association members (Student Advisory Council) to establish a formal process of including student voices in the decision-making in our district. Their Board Policy is still under draft. To be eligible one must: maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0; demonstrate good citizenship and leadership qualities throughout their board service; be the duly elected Student Government Association officer for their high school.

If you are interested in more information, e-mail Eshé Collins at epcollins@atlantapublicschools.us



The Future of the Jackson Cluster by Annsley Klehr

After a Jackson Cluster Meeting on Tuesday, February 7, Atlanta Public School Superintendent Meria Carstarphen put together a bunch of Q & As about the future of the cluster. Below is a quick recap of some of these Q & As.

What is the difference between a merger and a closing?

A *merger* happens when attendance zones of two or more schools are combined and consolidated into a single school. According to APS policy and practice, staff from both schools must apply for a position at the newly merged school. The board appoints a naming committee to determine a new name for the school.

A *closing* occurs when the attendance zone of a school is redrawn into the attendance zones of one or more existing schools. Staff positions are abolished at the closed school, and staff is encouraged to reapply within the district.

How will the district handle the hiring process for teachers and staff affected by changes to their schools?

Employees currently working at any school impacted by a closing or merger would be placed on priority status for interviews. Additionally, the district will provide "Interview Days" for these staff members, giving them the opportunity to meet with principals.

Priority status does not guarantee employment; employees must remain in good standing and meet performance standards for the remainder of the school year to be eligible for hire at other APS schools and will receive priority interview consideration from March through November. Principals will select employees for interviews based on certifications, past experience, evaluations, attendance history, and student growth data.

Principals [conducted] interviews beginning Tuesday, March 7. Employees not selected for a consolidated school [could] apply for vacant positions district-wide between March 1 and April 14 using the standard internal online application at www.apsrecruits.us.

DH Stanton shows a projected Pre-K enrollment of 54 children. How many classrooms does this represent assuming that most

Pre-K classrooms have between 20-22 children?

The 54 students represent the current Pre-K students at D.H. Stanton (31) and Benteen (23). The presentation has been updated to accurately depict the two Pre-K classrooms D.H. Stanton is anticipated to have with a maximum Pre-K enrollment of 44 students.

What is the potential impact if Edgewood Court closes?

There are 112 students (KK-05) in that apartment complex, and all of them attend Whitefoord. They will attend Toomer under the proposed rezoning. It is not going to impact enrollment numbers at Burgess-Peterson. We have not received any confirmation that it will close.

What will happen to the autism/moderate intellectually disabled (MOID)/severe intellectually disability-profound intellectual disability (SID/PID) units at Whitefoord?

The two autism units from Whitefoord will be relocated to Burgess-Peterson. The two MOID and SID/PID units will be relocated to Toomer. Teachers and paraprofessionals associated with these programs will be transferred as well.

Explain why budget enrollment numbers do not match for Burgess-Peterson.

Burgess-Peterson has a current enrollment of 388. There are 56 Pre-K students that are not accounted for in the budget numbers; budget numbers for 2016-2017 would use 332. If looking at 2017-2018 enrollment projections for budget planning, there are 388 students projected for enrollment at Burgess-Peterson for Kindergarten through 5th grade. The schools that would be impacted on the proposed changes have two different sets of enrollment projections—one that represents if the proposed changes go into effect and one if they are not approved.

What is the process to handle vacant buildings in the Jackson Cluster?

On Dec. 15, 2016, the Board voted unanimously to form a task force to explore the district's ability to achieve positive affordable housing outcomes by repurposing some of its surplus properties for residential development.



Dear Editor,

I love the position the Clarion takes opposing spraying for mosquitoes and other bugs—we HAVE to find other non-toxic ways. Initially we kill the pests, but then the helpful creatures, and then, us.

I wish people would stop putting chemicals on their lawns—aside from pets, kids are running barefoot on them, as well as breathing in these chemicals. I know everyone cares about their kids and just haven't thought this completely through, but it is something to consider seriously. There are repercussions for your children, and it seems that should take precedence over a perfect lawn.

~ Christy Waehner

Editor Replies:

Thank you. In addition to the April and May Clarions' valuable information on ridding your yard of mosquitoes naturally, not killing carpenter bees, and other topics—the signs below show just a few of the many companies killing valuable wildlife in Lake Claire, photographed during one hour of walking my dogs. I hope anyone with contracts with these folks and others killing bees and songbirds will let their contracts expire! Don't let the word "natural" fool you in the case of these companies.



Nice Mosquito Tip from Rick Lassiter on NextDoor:

I built some mosquito ovipositor traps (ovitraps) out of plastic juice bottles, an old sock, and small pieces of screen. Cost is negligible, and they only hurt mosquitoes. This is my first year, so I can't speak to the overall effectiveness so far, but certainly I can tell you we are having fewer bites in my yard. Essentially, the female mosquito lays eggs that fall through the screen into your trap of standing

water, but the adults can't escape. It was a fun project to get the kids involved in. I had the boys put black paint inside the juice containers and shake them up instead of spray paint.

For more details, see [www.instructables.com / id / Mosquito-Killing-Ovtrap/](http://www.instructables.com/id/Mosquito-Killing-Ovtrap/)

See more comments from NextDoor about the dangers and sadness of treating for mosquitos, on Page 11.

Ten Years of Wahoo Swimming

Continued from page 1.

McAuley Aquatic Center, site of the 1996 Olympic swimming events. Coaches Carmen and Jelani play Gene Hackman in Hoosiers, keeping everyone from getting starry-eyed at the big venue. It's still two molecules of hydrogen and one of oxygen. In 2016, two dozen Wahoo swam past the rest of the league and into the finals.

Swimming is the most quantifiable of sports. A Wahoo knows if she beat the girl next to her or if she was beaten. Even in defeat, a swimmer finds

victory. These kids know their best times by heart, and beating themselves is another kind of win.

If you're a member of the Lake Claire Pool, you've no doubt seen the Wahoo in their natural element. They're comfortable and confident in the water, cutting through it with Coach Carmen-built strokes. These kids are rarely seen out of the water; the fifteen minutes per hour of adult swim are the longest of their summer.

Wahoo Schedule

Home events in bold:

1 June	5 p.m. Swim-a-thon/Season Opening Party LC Pool
6 June	5 p.m. Leslie Beach Club v Wahoo LC Pool
13 June	5 p.m. Lindmoor v Wahoo LC Pool
20 June	5 p.m. Wahoo at Clairmont (Emory)
26 June	5 p.m. HLHK at Wahoo LC Pool
28 June	3 p.m. Division II Championships GA Tech
1 July	AAA Championship Finals GA Tech



Photos by Gretchen Connell



Local Historic District Designation

Continued from page 1.

restrictive covenants protect properties from the development boom at the edges, the neighborhood has maintained its authenticity.

Yes, it means design regulations.

The big thing about living in a Local Historic District is that there are design regulations and review. There is no way around it. Historic District regulations are written to protect the historic architectural integrity of the neighborhood, and in doing so, they encourage better quality design. Better design leads to a greater sense of cohesiveness, more innovative use of materials, and greater public appeal. By protecting the *historic integrity* of a district, Local Historic District designation protects the aesthetics and amenities that attracted us here in the first place.

Design regulations should not be onerous, however, or prevent property owners from repairing, upgrading, and renovating their homes. Regulations apply only to what is visible from the street, and, since the neighborhood proposes their own regulations, they are tailored

to target design issues that property owners feel are important in their district. By writing meaningful regulations, we can have a say in what our neighborhood will look like in the future and, further down the road, the design review process provides an avenue for neighbors to have a meaningful voice in new construction projects.

Historic Preservation at its best *should not deny change but should provide a plan for accommodating necessary change and growth in a manner that is sensitive to its surroundings*. This is exactly what Local Historic Districts set out to do. There are other benefits, of course: technical and design assistance from the city; the steady rise of property values in the face of volatile market forces; environmental friendliness by promoting re-use rather than demolition and new construction; and, of course, historic districts are educational, providing a tangible link to the past and a way to bring meaning to history and people's lives (paraphrased from savingplaces.org).

Ultimately, Lake Claire is a place

where people live. For myself, without the ambiance of this neighborhood, my house would have very little value to me. Without our bungalows marching up McLendon, or the front porches with an eye on the street, and backyards for children and parties, we would lose much more than its historic architecture.

Lake Claire, along with Candler Park, is at a point where we need seriously to consider how much control we want over the future of our neighborhood. Will market forces decide what our neighborhood will be like, or will we take control now so that we ourselves can have a say in what happens down the street or next door?

Stay tuned for public meetings and find out more at an **Introductory Presentation by a City of Atlanta staff person on Wednesday, June 21, 7pm, at the New Church at 1561 McLendon Ave.**

For more information and to engage, check out whyhistoricdistrict.com.



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Veggies

Continued from page 3.

with their resources and food. Gabe graduated from Paideia and took a gap year working on farms and living in the Open Door Community. He just finished freshman year at Emory Oxford, studying historic materialism (how material circumstances shape the formation of society & self). Gabe enjoys the physical labor of farming.”



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More on the Tragedy of Spraying for Mosquitos

Continued from Page 8 and previous Clarions

Mark C: I would like to chime in on behalf of beekeepers. Last year my neighbor had a company spray for mosquitos, I thought we were far enough away, though knowing the insecticides are airborne. However, my hive shortly went from a **thriving** community to collapse, in 2 *short days*. If we can manage rain barrels and stop standing water we can cut down the number of mosquitoes instead of the use of harsh chemicals.

(*Editor's note—A neighbor had the same thing happen when someone used a company recently, who claimed their insecticide is "all natural." The next-door neighbor has a fountain in the front yard from which honeybees from a hive on Connecticut traditionally hang out and drink—the same day that the company treated, several bees were found dead on the neighbor's yard.*)

Jinny H: Mosquito treatment also killed all our frogs and fireflies last year. It's a neurotoxin. Look up the chemicals used. Don't trust the guy profiting from selling it to you... my neighbors sprayed last year after I'd nurtured a season of Tree Frog orphans in my pond. All were killed, and the nighttime songs ceased.

Sherry B: Yes, Jinny, for the first time in many, many years, all frogs gone from my pond, and bees walking in circles on the ground and dying.

Caryn K: Maybe suggest to people to plants the following in their yards: Marigolds, Citronella, Catnip, Lavender, Basil, Lemon balm. All of them are great to have—and keep mosquitoes away.

Eva B: Just looked up the typical insecticide used for mosquito control. It is also **toxic to cats**. Glad my cat is an indoor cat. Now I only have to explain to my kids why the pond fish they raised are **dying**.

Alicia S: (on topical applications) I use citronella essential oil in my body lotion; it works great but please test the oil on a small patch of your skin first, as some people have reactions (i.e., rash or hives). Plus all the things folks recommended above are good: plant mosquito repellent plants, get rid of ivy and standing water, put in bat houses, etc. The worst thing about spraying insecticide is, **it kills everything, good and bad**, but with the first rain, the mosquitoes come right back while everything else does not, so it is a terrible and only temporary solution.

Christine T: I lost my hive shortly after my neighbor started spraying. I also came home early one day and caught the pest control technician dumping/spraying in my yard. Had his hose over my fence and was spraying. An investigation followed, by the GA Dept. of Agriculture; they found the chemical on my property but ruled that it could have been caused by "drift." My neighbor across the street and I witnessed the spraying, there was no drift, but a deliberate act. The company denied at first that they even sprayed my neighbors' yard but I told them I had pictures. They did nothing. So sad.

Leah G: I do believe that people who have their yards sprayed most often don't understand the repercussions. Is it possible to share the information with them? I know it is hard to do this face to face, but couldn't it be done in a gentle way. Has anyone tried this? (*Editor's note—all of us hereby share the information!!!*)

Bartow C: My neighbor has an organic garden in his front yard, and he asked me not to spray.... and I complied and found other organic solutions to my mosquito and weed problems. Takes a little research and Respect [for life]! I have cats, too, and think I inadvertently poisoned one years ago with Round-Up. (*Round-Up is evil!*)

May Meeting Minutes

Lake Claire Neighbors, May 18

Meeting began with PIZZA (**Compliments of Savage Pizza—thank you, Savage**) 15 minutes before the meeting.

Welcome by Pres. Joe Agee.

Guest speakers (Representatives of the City Council, and Atlanta Police Department)

Lt. Gruen now coordinates the Lake Claire/Candler Park Security Patrol. Commenting on the surveillance cameras in the City, he cited an incident in which these cameras allowed the police directly to track down a crime. Pen Sherwood, VP for Safety, asked about the current lack of police reports. He responded that Zone 6 is reorganizing the system and reports should be coming soon.

Valencia Hudson also gave information on the security cameras throughout the city, including Lake Claire Park. She noted there are some that are set up to only track license plate numbers so that police can get immediate information on the whereabouts of a car of interest.

LCN officer reports: Pen reminded neighbors not to leave anything visible in their cars that will attract break-ins. Carol Holiday, NPU Rep, asked for a vote on the renewal of the NPU Bylaws. She noted that there have been no changes since last year. Melissa Pressman, VP for the Environment, gave a report from Judy Hammack of Friends of Lake Claire Park. The projected date for the park to be opened is June 1, although it's not firm. There has also been some vandalism in the park, which may delay the opening.

Annsley Klehr, Education Chair, gave an update on the Atlanta School Board elections in November. Candidates will be invited to speak at the LCN meetings. She also noted that Matt Westmoreland, Dist. 3, current representative for the Lake Claire area, will not be running again.

Joe Agee, President, gave the treasure's report for Jim Rockaway, VP for Finance. Currently, the LCN has \$10,495 of available funds. He noted

Cont. on p.13.



Hello-Safe Journey

Skiing in and around Lake Claire

June birthdays & anniversaries

First, congrats again to all Lake Claire Graduates!! Way to go!

6/3 Yoni Williams—birthday—turns 5, I think, Harold Avenue and proud Grandma on Delaware Ave

6/7 Pen Sherwood, Harold Avenue

6/8 Patricia and Ben Farmer—**anniversary**—Hardendorf

6/9 Jacquelyn Howard-Fleming's birthday, Harold

6/12 Steve Lamb's birthday, Delaware Avenue (the Clarion loves you)

6/12 Happy birthday, Craig Allen, Harold

6/13 or 17, we're not sure: Ellen Ericson, happy birthday on Gordon Avenue

6/19 Zoe Kaiser's birthday, turns 4; Hardendorf

6/20 Sharon Doochin's birthday, Harold Ave

6/27 Wendy and Boyd Baker's **anniversary**—20? Wow...Leonardo

6/28 Shawn Gillespy's 14th birthday, Marlbrook

6/28 Wendy Baker, happy birthday Leonardo

July birthdays

7/3 Brandon Bransford, Palifox

7/6 Missy Urda, Harold

7/9 Carrie Ericson, Gordon Avenue, turning 15 years old

7/10 Happy birthday to the Clarion's buddy basketball and pogo-stick whiz, Michael McGill, his 10th—Delaware Avenue: keep rappin', Mike.

7/17 Happy birthday to Colin Calderera, Hardendorf.

7/24 Jason Weidert, Harold Avenue

Take a minute right now, and send life cycle events/important rights of passage, etc., for the month of August to editor@lake-claire.org, by July 15. Please help us make this feature inclusive of our LC 'hood.

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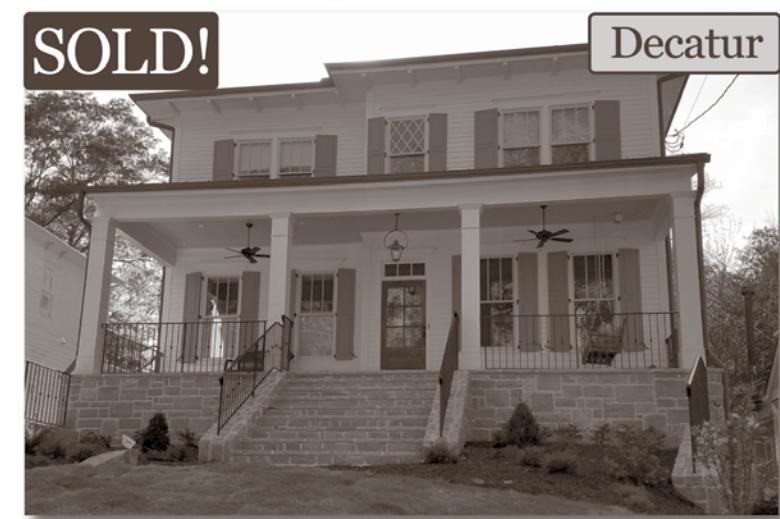
2084 McLendon

SOLD!



609 Avery

SOLD!



605 Avery

It was the summer of 2014 and one of our Lake Claire neighbors asked me about helping their family buy a new home. She wanted Lee and I to help find a property to build their dream home on. She went on to explain that over the last 15 years she and her husband had been living next door to their best friends and that they had been raising a little community of 7 kids between the two families. This is where it got interesting... both families wanted to move and build their Dream Homes and live next-door to each other again! As you probably know there are basically no lots left intown and finding two side by side was going to be quite challenging. Over the next 2 years we found them five opportunities to build homes side by side but, for different reasons none of those properties were right for them. We never give up on our clients dreams and we knew sooner or later we would find them the right properties! We uncovered every stone and spoke to every agent and seller intown. About a year ago we found the two lots that they were looking for. We were able to connect them with a custom home builder who built their dream homes on the two beautiful lots we found them in Decatur.

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More Wild Things in Lake Claire

by Carol Vanderschaaf

Kathie Ryan reports that she and her sister spotted this snapping turtle in the middle of the street near the Harold Avenue Greenspace. As they pondered how to get it back into the woods, Robin Singer came along and saved the day. After snapping at the flathead shovel, the turtle was returned to the safety of the wooded area near a stream bed. The turtle was so prehistoric looking—all angles and plates! They are dangerous biters, known for their combative disposition when out of the water. Common snapping turtles are very aggressive if caught, and have a strong enough bite easily to amputate human fingers. They have powerful beak-like jaws, and highly mobile heads and necks. In water, they tend to flee and hide themselves underwater in sediment.

Snapping turtles have a life-history strategy characterized by high and variable mortality of embryos and hatchlings, delayed sexual maturity, extended adult longevity, and iteroparity (repeated reproductive events) with low reproductive success per reproductive event. Lifespan in the wild is poorly known, but long-term mark-recapture data suggest a maximum age of over 100 years.

The common snapping turtle is not an ideal pet. Its neck is very flexible, and a wild turtle can bite its handler even if picked up by the sides of its shell. The claws are about as sharp as those of dogs, but cannot be trimmed as can dog claws.

It is a common misconception that common snapping turtles may be



grasping the carapace above the back legs. There is a large gap above the back legs that allows for easy grasping of the carapace and keeps hands safe from both the beak and claws of the turtle. It can also be picked up with a shovel, as Robin did, from the back, making sure the shovel is square across the bottom of the shell. The easiest way, though, is with a blanket or tarp, picking up the corners with the turtle in the middle.

Let Flora Fauna know about your wildlife sightings via cvanderschaaf@bellsouth.net.

Advertising income is enough to pay for the printing. ~Editor

Needed: Someone to organize the Lake Claire Neighbor's Annual Christmas Potluck for Dec. Date not yet fixed, but around December 14. Kathie Ryan, who has done it for several years, will be happy to advise. Sara Rockaway, VP for Funding will head up the Lake Claire Arts and Crafts sale scheduled for Sat., Dec. 2, in the Atrium of the Frazer Center.

Local Historic District initiative for Candler Park and part of Lake Claire: Molly McLamb and Emily Tiff presented on a Local Historic District initiative for Lake Claire and Candler Park. They gave examples of the variety of historic

Gardening in Lake Claire

Continued from page 6.

safely picked up by the tail with no harm to the animal; in fact, this has a high chance of injuring the turtle, especially the tail itself and the vertebral column. Lifting the turtle with the hands is difficult and dangerous. Snappers can stretch their necks back across their own carapace and to their hind feet on either side to bite.

It may be tempting to rescue a snapping turtle found in a road by getting it to bite a stick and then dragging it out of immediate danger. This action can, however, severely scrape the legs and underside of the turtle and allow for deadly infections in the wounds. The safest way to pick up a common snapping turtle is by

picked regularly to stay productive, the same as with any annual flower or vegetable. Other things to do during the next two months are: 1) order the flower bulbs you will plant next fall, being sure to give the company the delivery date you want; and 2) begin to plant seeds of fall vegetables and of biennial and perennial flowers.

Each year I recommend Brent and Becky's in Virginia for their bulbs, especially their narcissus or daffodils, some of which they have developed themselves. You may be shocked at the prices, often running over \$1 a bulb, but narcissus reliably return and bloom if foliage gets enough sun in the spring. Don't get carried away and order too many because daffodil bulbs are large and need to be buried at least six inches in the ground. There are eight divisions of narcissus, and trumpet types are only the first, so explore and enjoy.

Don't you just drool over foxgloves each spring? But big plants offered for sale then are expensive. The solution is to sow seed in pots this summer. When they get to a good size by fall, plant them out in your garden and watch the incredible display next spring. Foxgloves are the easiest biennials to treat this way, but you can succeed with columbine, delphiniums, and hollyhocks also. Experiment with perennials too because they usually require a winter of cold to begin to flower.

In addition, it is time in July to sow seeds of broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and cauliflower in protected pots, ideally indoors under grow lights. By August they will be large enough to transplant outdoors, kept watered, fed, and perhaps shaded, ready for your fall season.

Contact Elizabeth with questions / comments—knowltone@earthlink.net. ~Beth

Thanks for Paying Your Neighborhood Dues

LOTS of Lake Claire dues payers since last time:

Meghan Parham; Amy P. Reilly; Norm Glassman; Bonnie Mitchell Lunceford; Christopher Campell; Norman Peter Bell; Caron Gordon; Dan White; Christopher Walker; Lee Posey; Steve Friedman; Thomas Steman; Susan Chu; Bronwyn McLaren Adam Ross; Kristin Byron; Marc Macchiavina; Molly and Brad McLamb Cynthia Baer .

Thanks, Lake Clairions. We appreciate your support of our many wonderful neighborhood initiatives. Lake Claire suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household—but just

like with National Public Radio, any amount is certainly appreciated. A Lake Claire Banner package deal is only \$50 if combined with annual dues! You may pay your dues at any time of the year, but the Clarion recommends paying now—and in exchange, we put your name in print! If we have missed anyone who paid your dues and hasn't been noted in the Clarion, we are happy to include you next time. Pay by PayPal at lake-claire.org or with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to LCN, Attn: Jim Rockaway, Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107.

May Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 11.

that the LCN supports its local institutions with yearly donations to include Mary Lin, the Clifton Ministries, the Frazer Center, and the Lake Claire Land Trust, and gives Christmas gifts to the local police and Fire Depts. Currently 70 people have paid annual neighborhood dues.

Announcements and current issues: 2017 dues reminder—\$20 per household.

Joe recognized Cynthia Baer for her continuing support of the neighborhood and the LCN. (*And the Clarion!!—See page 4 here!*—Among many other initiatives, Cynthia has supported the Clarion with a whole-page-ad for many years – this contributes to our not needing to take money from the LCN budget, when our ad-

districts that are possible. An important part of any proposal is the neighborhood's determination of what it wants to include such as style, size, etc. (SEE ARTICLE PAGE 1.)

3rd Annual Lake Claire Centennial Celebration and BBQ: Sara and Jim Rockaway are coordinating the event to be held in the Carter Woolford Gardens at the Frazer Center on Sun., June 11 (see Page 1 – and Pictures on Page 9!).

Vote on renewal of NPU By-laws: Motion passed unanimously with 17 votes.

V-17-092-1986, 1986 Palifox Dr., NE. Applicant seeks a variance from zoning regulations to reduce the required front yard setback from 35 ft. to 29ft. and 9 inches, to construct

a 2nd story addition to an existing single family dwelling. The variance request passed unanimously, with 17 votes in favor.

Beth Grashof invited neighbors to the **Olmsted Linear Park Alliance's** 20th Annual Celebration Garden Party, Saturday, June 17, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Lilian Bakhtiari, who is running for the City Council District 5 seat, spoke about her candidacy.

Stay informed! To receive occasional e-mails about happenings in, around, and concerning Lake Claire, as well as reminders of up-coming meetings, please sign up at lake-claire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up

(Submitted by Joe Agee)

Lake Claire Land Trust

Upcoming and Ongoing at the Land Trust

Sat. June 17—Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend! Please help spread the word. The Drum Circles are the Land Trust's gift to our community, but your donations do help keep it going.

Mon. June 26–Fri. June 30—Garden Theatre Camp with Miss Ladybug. See details on opposite page.

Sat. July 1 and 15—Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 p.m. Stay for the closing circle if you can!

Tues. July 4—*Independence Day Potluck & Cook-Off * (This great, traditional annual event needs a new coordinator and volunteer help, or it will not happen. See announcement Page 15.)

Sun. July 23—Community Work Day, 1:00-5:00 p.m. See article, opposite.

Sat. July 29—9th annual "Jerry Jam," 3:00-11:00 p.m. Our annual tribute to Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead, with live music onstage, food, drink, and family fun. See article with full details.

Visit LCCLT.org/calendar for the complete Event Schedule for 2017.

For all Land Trust activities, please respect our Land Trust *and our neighbors!*

Park at Clifton Sanctuary, 369 Connecticut Ave., not other streets near the Land Trust. Do not block driveways or move orange cones, often our neighbors' residential parking spots. Tread Lightly. Recycle recyclables, put trash in marked containers. Mind your children. Absolutely NO PETS, as in NO DOGS. Smoking only in the cul-de-sac.

Thanks for your support!!!

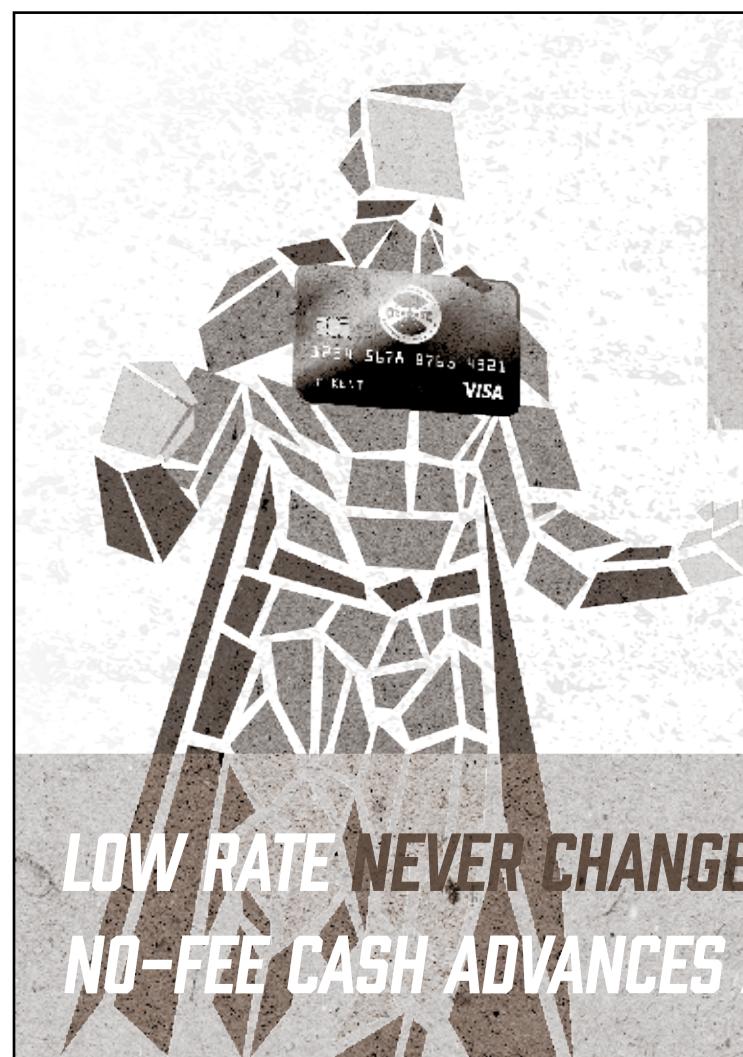
Support the Land Trust Just by Shopping!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Land Trust every time you were intending to shop at Amazon anyway, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, the exact same prices will appear as on Amazon.com, with the added bonus that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can use your existing Amazon.com account. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. On your first visit, select "Lake Claire Community Land Trust Inc." from the list of charitable organizations. Every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. Tens of millions of products are eligible for donations. Just look for "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on the product detail page. Thank you for painlessly supporting LCCLT!

Land Trust Supporters—Renew late for 2017 or early for 2018 (or both)!

Anyone can be a Land Trust Supporter by donating \$10 a year. Donate via www.LCCLT.org/stewardship; mail a check made out to "LCCLT" c/o Treasurer, 270 Arizona Ave., Atlanta GA 30307; or donate via the mailbox in the cul-de-sac next to our gate. (The old chute in the bulletin board is now closed.) Include your email address and we'll add you to our new MailChimp email list. A donation is not required to get on this list! Sign up on our home page at www.LCCLT.org.





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Ladybug Garden Fun Continues with Summer Planting

by Andrea Zoppo

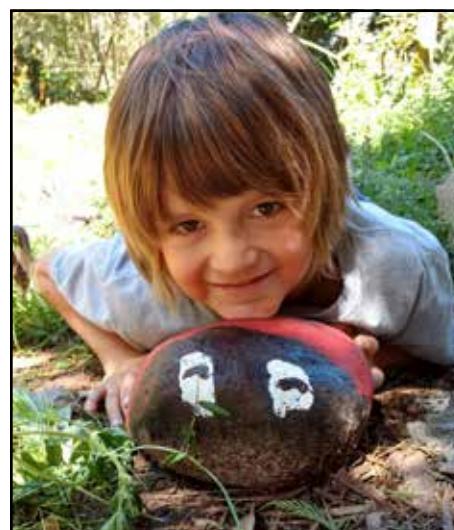
Have you seen our new Children's Garden at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust? Come join us!

We have come far in our garden project, creating a welcoming and beautiful space with the support of families, community partners, and the Land Trust. On June 4, we planted beautiful native pollinator-loving plants. And we unveiled the new name of the Children's Garden, as well as placing our first gnomes.

During the last few months we have been fighting off invasive bamboo and air potato vines. Children of all ages have helped build stone walls, move dirt, and create a bean teepee with heritage bean plants

that I have been growing and saving seeds from for years. For Earth Day we were **donated close to a million live native ladybugs**, and we released them in all parts of the Land Trust. And, if they are not killed by companies spraying insecticides for mosquitos (see this issue and others re dangers of insecticides), they will hopefully be in the neighborhood for a long time.

The Children's Garden is not just a



Upcoming Garden Parties— Select Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Brought to you by the team of Ladybug Events and the Lake Claire Community Land Trust.

July 23: Beautification / Summer/Fall Planting

August 27: Beautification / Fall Planting

Sept 24: Beautification / Equinox Celebration

Nov 12: S'mores for All Garden Fundraising and Garden Show

missladybug@ladybugeventsllc.com

garden to pass through on your way to visit Big Lou! It's a place for you to stop and watch the bees pollinate, explore smells and colors, and soak in nature's wonders. From this garden we will be creating theatre with children inspired by our discoveries. (See sidebar on theatre camp.)

Last month we launched a fundraiser with a fun video about our plans for the space. Please check it out at Youcaring.com/Childrensgarden, and help us stay on target with our goals to create impactful programming. Join us in creating memorable programming and a wonderful space that will be enjoyed for years to come!

JERRY JAM 2017

by Frani Green

Greetings Beautiful People! Summer is approaching, and that means it's time for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust Annual Jerry Jam!

This year we are adding a spin to the usual...stepping outside the box a bit. Of course, you will hear and dance to all your favorite Jerry and Dead tunes, but this year we are adding some funk into the mix...

This is one of our annual **FUND**raisers to benefit the Land Trust. It takes a lot of time, effort, cash, and love to keep the magic alive. The workday to make this all happen will be on **Sunday July 23** (see article above). We will need some loving volunteers to get the Land ready for the party! Keep an eye out for more info to come in June on the LCLT website. Save the date! More details on the way soon! That's **Jerry Jam 2017, Saturday, July 29, 3-11 p.m.**, for all ages, NO PETS please.

**Lake Claire
COMMUNITY
LAND TRUST**

Community Work Day!— Sunday, July 23, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Concluding with pizza

The Land Trust currently has 4,787 "Likes" on Facebook. Countless non-virtual visitors have impulsively declared, "I love this place!" But how many of you are ready for commitment?

If you're ready to get serious in your relationship with your neighborhood greenspace, here's your chance. Land Trust lovers will be gathering on **Sunday, July 23**, to prepare the land for "Jerry Jam" the following weekend. Projects include spreading wood chips on paths, staining picnic tables, weeding, repairing gutters, cleaning rain barrels, and more.

If you've read past Work Day invitations, all that sounds familiar and routine. But that's life in a committed relationship, right? Bring work gloves and water bottles. Extra wheelbarrows welcome. Pass the word! Bring a friend! Join our community!

For more info, contact Grounds coordinator Brynan Hadaway at brynan1865@yahoo.com.



Last Year's July 4 Cook-Off Winners

Garden Theatre Camp at the Land Trust, June 26-30

Only 6 spots left!

During the week of June 26, Ladybug Events is holding its first Garden Theatre Camp every day from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This small camp of up to 15 children is focused around art and the environment, hosted by Miss Ladybug. We will be creating yummy snacks together, learning how to make puppets and props, telling and listening to stories, and more. It's for ages 4 and up, and a few spaces are still available. The cost is \$200, and you can register at ladybugeventsllc.com. For more information, contact Miss Ladybug at missladybug@ladybugeventsllc.com.

Attention Patriots of Lake Claire!

New Coordinator Needed for July 4 Neighborhood Potluck

The traditional and well-loved Independence Day Potluck & Cook-Off at the Land Trust will fade into history if a new coordinator is not found! Ev-

ery Fourth of July, our community gathers to share a potluck feast and a "Cook-Off" contest for neighborhood chefs. The afternoon concludes with kids' games, including our world-famous watermelon seed-spitting contest, ending in time to get to our favorite fireworks displays.

Each year's Cook-Off has a theme, a particular ingredient to be used in any creative way the individual chefs dare to try. (Prior years' themes include tomatoes, peaches, honey, beans, figs, berries ... you get the idea.) First, Second, and Third place winners are awarded certificates, and their photographs and recipes published in the August *Clarion*. (See photo of last year's winners.)

Gatherings like this are a priceless opportunity for neighbors to get to know neighbors, for families to talk and relax while the children play. This is what community is all about, and what the Land Trust is for. Help keep a neighborhood tradition alive!

The coordinator's tasks include publicity, setup, cleanup, and most importantly, lining up other volunteers to help, so it's a fun project instead of a chore. You also get to choose this year's theme! Retiring coordinator Debbie Livingston has all the materials you need to take this on without reinventing anything. Call Debbie for more information at 404-547-0368.



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/writers/artists to participate. This month, we feature Ryan Levs.

Ryan is ten years old, and a rising fifth-grader at Mary Lin. Ryan lives on Harold Avenue with his parents, brother Jordan,

and their little sister Abby, 3 1/2. He loves reading, Roblox, and coding. He also loves Star Wars, so he says the Clarion contest was "easy."

And also this month, Latha Wright wrote the 4th comic strip in her series "Q.T. Kitten." Latha is 10 years old, a rising sixth grader at

Mary Lin (see past issues for #s 1-3).

Hey there, Lake Claire kids of all ages—we want to see your creativity. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to editor@lakeclaire.org. We hope to hear from you!

Summer Plans

by Ryan Levs

During the summer, we will have two months off from school. Here are some good ideas of what you can do during the summer.

- Visit scratch.mit.edu to learn how to code on the computer. You can make games and animations. Someday, you can even have a job creating games!
- Read books, magazines, and other stuff. The libraries have summer reading programs, and so do bookstores like Little Shop of Stories and Barnes & Noble, where you can get prizes for the number of books and number of hours you read. It's also fun to try books in genres you have not read yet. I like mysteries, realistic fiction, and historical fiction.
- Go to camps. Some of them are kind of expensive, but it is worth it. You can learn new things like cooking and coding and playing different sports. Just make sure you use sunscreen and drink a lot of water during the day. Summer is so hot!
- Swim. If you don't belong to a pool, you can go with a friend who is a member. Also, Candler Park pool is for everyone, and there also are other public pools in Atlanta [including Lake Claire pool, see page 1]. There are also some really fun splash pads such as Old Fourth Ward Park. Being in water helps you cool off. Drink water too!
- Sleep in. Your parents will appreciate it. (My mom made me write that one.)



Contest winner!

CONGRATULATIONS, RYAN!!

Ryan saw his little brother, Jordy, in the Lake Claire Clarion in May, and he wanted 'in'! He was excited to find Yoda on page 9 of last month's issue. Congrats, Ryan! Your prize is having your picture in the newspaper, plus being able to write for the Clarion, which we appreciate your doing on very short notice. And we love your writing and sense of humor! May the force be with you! Readers, do you want in?! See new contest on the right!

Two pencils hadn't seen each other in a long time. What did the 1st pencil say when he saw the 2nd pencil?

"Man, you are looking sharp!"

NEW CONTEST:

Summer is hot in Hot-lanta. How do you cool off? Find some of your fellow Lake Claire kids cooling off in a water sprinkler in this Clarion. The winner/winners will have their pictures in the next Clarion.

To win, send an e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org with the page number of the picture. Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you can't win two months in a row. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize. And do send us your writing and artistic contributions!