



## Safety on Our Streets; Safety in Our Schools

by Ann Mauney

During the past two months, some in our neighborhood have felt insecurity on our streets, and our young people have taken the lead in demanding more security in our schools. These events call attention to the ongoing need for us to do all we can to create a more secure environment in our communities.

The police have no leads on a disturbing incident that occurred March 25, according to Major Neil Klotzer of the Atlanta Police Department Zone 6. Just after midnight, a Hardendorf Avenue resident saw people apparently breaking into a car on the street; when they became aware of him, they took off. The resident called the police, who found nothing. The next morning, another neighbor found a bullet

hole and a bullet inside her house, and a second call was made to the police. At that time, the first neighbor remembered hearing noise the night before; other neighbors remember a noise resembling a car backfiring. While the two events are logically related, the police have no information to help in apprehending the perpetrators. Fortunately, all escaped a potentially tragic situation.

Major Klotzer reminds us of our best course of action, given the national epidemic of car break-ins. First, minimize our risk by leaving nothing in our cars. Secondly, if we witness an unfolding crime, call 911 rather than responding ourselves, thus protecting our own safety and increasing the

*Cont. on p. 3*



*Brave Grady Students Risked Repercussions Joining National Walk-Out*

## Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (CSM) Still Seeking Volunteer

by Robert Bryan Davis

CSM seeks a Volunteer Coordinator to manage volunteer services. CSM relies on the support of over 200 individual volunteers each year. This is a part-time position, approximately 10 hours per week. Primary responsibilities: Managing monthly Evening Host Calendar and Activity Calendar; scheduling special projects for volunteer groups; Scheduling presentations; Contributing articles and other content to CSM communication efforts; Greeting new volunteer groups and providing instructions. The person should have

excellent organizational and interpersonal skills; strong computer and telephone skills; ability to work with volunteers, guests, staff, Board of Directors, and representatives from partner agencies. Knowledge social media is a benefit. Previous experience with a non-profit agency and office management is highly recommended. Please e-mail Bryan Davis at [rbddbr@icloud.com](mailto:rbddbr@icloud.com) or call 404-379-4500 if interested. [www.clifton-sanctuary.com](http://www.clifton-sanctuary.com) for additional information.

## 30307: A Fitness Lifestyle

by Cecily Stevens

Can fitness really be fun? Yes! Especially when you work out with your neighbors! As a fitness instructor with a weekly class in the neighborhood, I was curious about other exercise activities our neighbors enjoy. I reached out and discovered favorites in Lake Claire, Candler Park, and beyond. 30307 clearly appreciates the many physical, mental, and social benefits of a good workout.

We are fortunate to live in Lake Claire, the perfect neighborhood to run in, walk, or bike. With PATH running through Lake Claire and Candler Park and connecting to the Beltline, beautiful greenspaces, interesting homes, and lots of hills and flats, our neighborhood makes the perfect place to exercise outdoors. For runners looking to join a group, the Candler Park-Lake Claire Run Club meets Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. in front of the Candler Park Market. This fun, welcoming group has been meeting for six years and always welcomes new members. Typical runs are about four miles at an 8:30 or 9 minute pace, but the group also welcomes and accommodates new runners. Current group members' ages range from 20s to 50s. There are about 10 regular members. Post-run, the group enjoys pizza and beer at Fellini's. Ready to give it a try? Show up at Candler Park Market at 7:30 p.m. this Tuesday. You can also find the group on Facebook: Candler Park & Lake Claire Running Club.

For another outdoor option, check out Fit Club. Owned by Lake Claire residents Maya Abbroushi and Monique Mikrut, Fit Club meets at Candler Park at 9 a.m. sharp on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, rain or shine (not during thunderstorms). Fit Club workouts are 45 minutes including a 5-minute warm-up and a 5-minute cool-down. Mondays are cardio-focused, Wednesday is weight day, and Fridays focus on short runs that incorporate strength moves. Fit Club welcomes men and women of all fitness levels. Drop-in for \$15, or purchase a punch card with ten classes for \$120. To join, meet up with Fit Club at Candler Park or find them on Facebook: @FitClubCandlerPark.

If you prefer an indoor workout, there are lots of options in and around Lake Claire. Yoga is very popular among

Lake Claire neighbors. Our own Kashi Atlanta boasts a very full schedule including yoga, Pilates, specialty classes like prenatal yoga (moms-to-be can meet new friends), Yamuna Body Rolling, Egoscue Postural Alignment Therapy, and massage: [www.kashiatlanta.org](http://www.kashiatlanta.org). Other neighborhood favorites are Tough Love Yoga in Candler Park, which offers a packed schedule including specialties like Metal Yoga: [www.toughloveyoga.com](http://www.toughloveyoga.com). Solstice Yoga + Barre, just across DeKalb Avenue on (the other) Arizona Avenue, offers yoga, Pilates, and barre classes as well as childcare and family yoga: [www.solsticeatlanta.com](http://www.solsticeatlanta.com).

If you love Latin and world music, try my Zumba Fitness class on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Nazeem Allayl Belly Dance Studio in Candler Park. Zumba is an upbeat dance fitness workout that mixes low- and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning workout "party," with emphasis on fun. The choreography is easy; no dance experience is necessary. Drop-in for \$10, or purchase a 5-class punch card for \$40. Learn more at [cecilystevens.zumba.com](http://cecilystevens.zumba.com).

If you're a member of the popular Decatur YMCA, try Turbo Kick on Mondays at 9:15 a.m., taught by another Lake Claire resident, Rachel Scimone. Turbo Kick is a fun, high-energy choreographed calorie-burning kickboxing class created by Beach Body. Learn more at [www.ymcaatlanta.org](http://www.ymcaatlanta.org).

In addition to area YMCAs, many Lake Claire residents work out at FitWit. Lake Claire resident Melanie Levs is a longtime participant at FitWit Kirkwood. She says of FitWit, "I hate exercising, yet somehow I manage to hit this place three times a week at 6 a.m. It's because of the program AND the people." FitWit's cross-training workouts can include everything from sprints to kettlebell training to old-school bodyweight exercises and more. FitWit strives to provide a noncompetitive, supportive environment and also provides tips and advice on nutrition, mobility,

*Cont. on p. 5*



**Lake Claire Officers for 2018**

President: Joe Agee, president@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Finance & Treasurer:  
 Eileen O'Neill, treasurer@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Planning & NPU Rep:  
 Carol Holliday, npu@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Zoning: Robin Singer, zoning@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Environment: Melissa Pressman,  
 environment@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Safety: Ann Mauney, safety@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, comm@lakeclaire.org  
 VP Fun(d)raising: Pen Sherwood, fun@lakeclaire.org  
 Education Chair: Annsley Klehr, education@lakeclaire.org.

**Clarion Staff**

Editor: Beth Damon, editor@lakeclaire.org  
 Advertising: Pat Del Rey,  
 advertising@lakeclaire.org  
 Distribution: Monique Mikrut,  
 distribution@lakeclaire.org  
 Layout: Véronique Perrot, layout@lakeclaire.org  
 Contact Lake Claire Neighbors at PO Box 5942,  
 Atlanta, GA 31107, 404-236-9526 or  
 www.lakeclaire.org.

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

**May 2018**

**1 - 14** Actor's Express presents *The Flower Room*. Info at [www.actors-express.com](http://www.actors-express.com).

**1, 11, 18 & 25** Dekalb History Center High Noon History, walking tour EVERY Friday in May—history of the Decatur Square, \$3 non-members, free for members. Info: 404 373 1088 or [forgey@dekalbhistory.org](mailto:forgey@dekalbhistory.org)

**5 & 19** Lake Claire Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend, and spread the word! See Land Trust stuff on Page 7.

**10** Dekalb History Center Public Programs—Tour of Herndon Home Museum, noon. Contact Marissa, 404.373.1088 ext 20.

**12** 4th Annual Food, Clothing & Shelter Fest, 12 noon-9 p.m. at the Land Trust. See p. 7.

**17** Lake Claire monthly meeting—and every 3rd Thursday, in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Pizza provided free from Savage (THANKS, SAVAGE)

**18 - 24 June** Horizon Theatre presents *Citizens Market*, a hopeful group of immigrants as they form an unlikely family, working to master the ups and downs of language, love, and staying afloat in the city. [www.horizontheatre.com/plays/citizens-market](http://www.horizontheatre.com/plays/citizens-market).

**19** Land Trust Community Work Day, 3 to 6 p.m. . Pizza and drum circle follow. The Land Trust needs your help to stay beautiful!

**20** National Day of Action against Gun Violence. **Find out what you can do.**

**20** 4-6 p.m.—Miss Ladybug at the Lake Claire Land Trust for the Faerie Home Building and Children's Harvest Garden Party (see p 7)

**27** Memorial Day Weekend Music at the Lake Claire Land Trust, 4 p.m. until... Details p. 7

**31 - 24 June** Theatrical Outfit, *110 in the Shade*. 1936. July 4. Three Point, Texas. In the middle of a heat wave, while locals are desperate for rain, Lizzie Curry daydreams away fears of becoming a spinster in a tiny, dusty town. [www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/110-in-the-shade](http://www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/110-in-the-shade).

**Spring Festivals**

- May 2-6 Shaky Knees Festival  
 May 5-6 Atlanta BBQ Festival  
 May 11-13 Shaky Beats Festival  
 May 12 Sweet Auburn Springfest



Neal & Wright  
 Your Family... Your Business... Your Firm!

125 E. Trinity Place, Suite 300  
 Decatur, GA 30030  
 (404) 257-6494  
[www.nealandwright.com](http://www.nealandwright.com)

Sherry Neal, J.D. Dan Wright, J.D.  
[Sherry@nealandwright.com](mailto:Sherry@nealandwright.com) [Dan@nealandwright.com](mailto:Dan@nealandwright.com)  
 Jodi Greenberg, J.D.  
[Jodi@nealandwright.com](mailto:Jodi@nealandwright.com)

**\* Adoption****\* Commercial Real Estate****\* Wills & Estate Planning****\* Corporate & LLC Formation****\* Other Business Legal Services**

*For all your  
 real estate  
 needs...*



**Sherry Warner**  
 Associate Broker &  
 Lake Claire resident

*Sherry Warner  
 Homes*

**COLDWELL  
 BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

404 784 8848 mobile  
 404 874 2262 office



**sherry@SherryWarnerHomes.com**

Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.

## \* \* \* EDUCATION MATTERS \* \* \*

### Grady Cluster Data Dig touches on demographics, achievement, economic disparity

by Ellen Mayer

On March 21, the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) hosted its annual Grady Cluster Data Dig, where Atlanta Public Schools (APS) researchers presented the latest trends and insights into the eight cluster schools. The event was held in the Hope-Hill Elementary School media center.

Speakers were Michael Lamont, Executive Director of the APS Data and Information Group, and Mary Hartigan, Director of Research and Evaluation. They spoke to an audience of parents, prospective parents, school board members, and principals on topics that included enrollment trends, performance comparisons within APS, statewide and nationally, graduation rates, and college enrollment.

The Grady Cluster includes Hope-Hill, Mary Lin, Morningside, and Springdale Park elementary schools; charter schools Centennial Academy and Kindezi Old Fourth Ward; Inman Middle School, and Grady High School. LaMont and Hartigan reported that cluster schools continue to shine at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In most cases, Georgia Milestones scores have been consistently high, and in instances where scores have lagged, progress has been consistent over the last three years.

Across the Grady cluster, which includes 5965 students (not including Kindezi Charter), enrollment has increased by about 2,000 students over

the last 17 years, with white students accounting for more than half of that increase. Asian students, Hispanic students, and students of two or more races showed smaller but significant increases. The number of black students has remained relatively steady.

A recurring theme during the presentation was the negative effect of poverty on academic achievement. To define this relationship better, LaMont and Hartigan shared a new Challenge Index, which puts schools on an even playing field by taking the populations they serve into account. When paired with Milestones test scores, the Index explains over 90 percent of variance in test scores, they said. It also underscores the severe economic disparity within Atlanta Public Schools, where Grady and North Atlanta High Schools serve relatively affluent student populations compared to the district's other seven clusters.

To review LaMont and Hartigan's presentation, please visit [www.cinsatlanta.org](http://www.cinsatlanta.org), where both the presentation slides and a video of the meeting are available.

CINS is a nonprofit organization that supports the Grady Cluster through advocacy, investment and community engagement.

Resources: [www.cinsatlanta.org/uploads/3/4/1/8/34184947/grady\\_data\\_dig\\_20180321.pdf](http://www.cinsatlanta.org/uploads/3/4/1/8/34184947/grady_data_dig_20180321.pdf); [www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hgkD8q-5Pk&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hgkD8q-5Pk&feature=youtu.be); [apsinsights.org/](http://apsinsights.org/)

### Gun Safety

*continued from p. 1*

likelihood of the police apprehending the suspect.

On a more encouraging note, young people in Lake Claire have joined the nation-wide activism of school students following the murders in Parkland, Florida, on February 14. Hardendorf residents Diego Gonzalez, a Grady High School freshman, and his brother Felipe, a junior, were organizers and participants in the National Student Walkout on Wednesday, March 14. With the support of teachers, Principal Betsy Bockman, and a superintendent more open to the protest than most in metro Atlanta, 80 to 90 percent of Grady students walked out of class and held a moving program in their stadium, which included student speeches, a moment of silence and, at the end, walking laps

around the track in memory of those killed. Diego and Felipe joined about 300 students who, wanting to make a stronger statement, remained outside for an additional two hours after others returned to class, setting up 17 backpacks for those killed and sitting in small groups along the length of the field. Most students received a consequence of detention for this extended action.

Diego Gonzalez expressed concisely his motivation for joining the protest: "I don't want to feel in danger for my life in school, where I should feel safe." He holds strong convictions about guns in our society and presents them with impressive maturity. His most fundamental belief is that private citizens should not own guns and that prohibiting guns would mean less vio-

### Centennial Academy and the Westside Boom

by Chadd Jonesmith, Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools Representative

You may have heard that the west side is booming, and it's true! New neighborhoods and multi-family buildings are going in everywhere, from Atlantic Station to Downtown, and west out to Bolton Road. It's a great place to be "in-town" and get a little more "bang" and property for your buck. Many newly married couples and young families were happy with the westside school zoning, when being a part of the Grady Cluster meant having Inman Middle School. That was until the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, when we learned Inman was no longer our middle school, and that we are now zoned into Centennial Academy, a Grady Cluster Charter School.

Having attended community input meetings, this was a surprise. Our middle school choices appeared to be to remain at Inman, go back to Sutton, or move to Kennedy. Thirteen years ago, when my young family decided to buy a house in Howell Station, we were zoned for the North Atlanta High School Cluster and then Grady, but before that the neighborhood had even been zoned for Hope Elementary and the Centennial Place Elementary. We have always felt like the stepchildren of APS, getting bounced around. We were not going to let them put us at Kennedy, so our neighborhood fought hard against it. The result appeared to be that we won the battle, because instead APS decided to close Kennedy and let us remain at Inman. But apparently the conversation was not over at APS, and instead, they made us a part of a dual enrollment zone. Centennial Place Elementary was lobbying hard to become a charter school and add on middle school grades. APS decided to grant them most of their wishes and make it a Conversion Charter, meaning they would still be a part of APS zoning. The plan was to allow three years for Centennial Academy to add-on its middle grades and staff, while also constructing the building for the middle school (no construction to-date). In the meantime, the school brought in "learning lofts" for middle schoolers and start to establish the middle

ence. His near-term goals are to pass stricter gun laws, including a ban on assault rifles. Although he will not be voting for four more years, he has thought about the low voting rate of young adults, which he attributes to their opinion that voting won't make a difference and to their feeling that voting is "lame," not fun or exciting. Clearly, Diego will be trying to change

school culture. The kicker is that at the end of those three years, beginning 2017-2018, most of the West side would be taken out of Inman and put into Centennial, but only a handful of people seemed to know this. (Just to give a comparison, at Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School (ANCS) K-8, in the Jackson Cluster, you have to be get lotteried to go there; but, once you are in, you can still choose to go to King Middle school).

Last spring, as parents tried to enroll rising sixth graders at Inman, we started to learn what had transpired. There was much confusion and unhappy people, because not only had we lost Inman, but were also put into a school that was lower performing and lacking a lot of what Inman has. Luckily the kids that were already at Inman were grandfathered in, receiving bus service until the last kids complete the eighth grade. But there was no community outreach about this major change until we started to make some noise.

Now that we are approaching the end of that time, we want to have a community discussion with representatives from Atlanta Board of Education (ABOE) to find out what their plan is. Centennial is not ready for us and is already approaching capacity, and we should not have to go to a charter school. We just want some assurance that the BOE recognizes how quickly the West side is growing and that we deserve better! We would like to be assured that either APS will open the rest of Sutton, staff it, and let us go there, or zone us into the Howard Middle School when it is complete.

*"Westside" can mean the entire west side of Atlanta. The name West Midtown is used by the neighbors' association in Home Park, the largest constituent neighborhood, and by the West Midtown Business Association. And thanks to Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire's Education Chair, for her contributions, either writing herself or lining up other experts and folks in the know for education matters. ~Editor*

this perception and increase young adults' voting rate. During an April 10 interview, Diego expressed his hope that Grady students would again be active in the April 20 National Day of Action against Gun Violence, marking the nineteenth anniversary of the Columbine High School killings in Colorado. Thank you, Diego and your fellow students, for your leadership!





## Hello—Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

### May Birthdays

- 3 Sarah Wynn, Harold Avenue
- 4 Bill Fleming, Harold Avenue and North Georgia
- 4 Jennifer Hubert, Harold Ave.
- 5 Jake Landgraff, turns 17
- 6 Lock Rogers, Ridgewood
- 7 Gay Arneri, Harold
- 9 Bob Caine, getting younger on Leonardo, and Reece Barclay on Hardendorf
- 11 Adler Waugh, turning 7, Leonardo
- 16 Peter Olson, Leonardo
- 18 Jett Friedman, Delaware Avenue, will be 6  
(WE MISS YOU SO MUCH, JETT, HEATHER, AND MATT)
- 19 Joseph McGill, Delaware Avenue, will be 17
- 20 Aiden Rogers, Ridgecrest, turns 14
- 23 Mayla Carper, Leonardo, turning 5
- 27 Edie Haggerty, Harold, turns 7
- 28 Sadie Stevens, Leonardo, turning 8 (they grow up so fast)

*Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Please help us make this feature inclusive. Take a minute right now, and send life cycle events / important rites of passage, etc., to [toeditor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:toeditor@lakeclaire.org) by May 15, for the June / July combo issue of the newspaper.*

## Sunshine Bright by Miriam Herbers

On Easter Sunday ten “old timer” neighbors gathered together to plant a rose bush in memory and in honor of Marilyn “Sunshine” Bright. Sunshine died February 11. Sunshine moved to Arizona Avenue in 1982 and lived in Lake Claire until she moved recently to a house in East Point owned by her dear friend Alvin Lindsay. Her health was declining, and the house location made it easier for her to get to her downtown office.

Sunshine was a character, to say the least. Most neighbors will remember her walking her basset hounds. First Sandy, and later Andy and Iris. She called them her furry children and got them treats on Sunday morning from the Flying Biscuit. She



*Sunshine, a little younger, with her dad*

also grew roses in her back yard. I remember her being most proud of the “Mr. Lincoln” variety. But I believe she should be remembered for her legal work. My late husband once told me she did a very complicated kind of law for small farmers in rural Georgia at risk of losing their



farms to agribusiness. Once when she stayed at my house a few days when she did not have heat in her house, she had her office calls transferred to my phone. From the sound of the callers on my answering machine I understood she represented the poorest of the poor. Alvin often said many poor people would not have gotten the legal representation if not for Sunshine. Charging the usual fees was not part of her practice.

Sunshine was a person not well understood, but while cleaning out her house in East Point my wonderfully gracious neighbors and I found notations reminding her to get home in time for Stitch and Bitch or the Women’s Tea or something happening at the Land Trust. Having no family herself in Georgia, her neighbors meant more to her than we knew.

Sunshine is the third member of our Arizona family to die since I have lived here, and I am so incredibly grateful to those who stand up and by each other in times of sadness and joy. Good bye, Sunshine. You were one of a kind.



**PARK  
REALTY**  
JOHN MORGAN

# Putting People Before Sales

## YOUR LISTING HERE

**Now in the heart of our neighborhood  
to serve you better than ever!**

Come visit us at  
1651 McLendon Ave NE,  
across from Candler Park Market

*Call for a free pre-selling  
consultation and market analysis*

**JOHN MORGAN**  
Phone: 770-655-9423  
Email: [jmorgan@parkrealtyatlanta.com](mailto:jmorgan@parkrealtyatlanta.com)



Like our facebook page for more information about neighborhood events and other exciting news:  
<https://www.facebook.com/parkrealtyatlanta/>





# Teaching Children about Disabilities

by Pam McClure

A very special aspect of the Frazer Center is our commitment to inclusivity. The benefits of inclusion are many. Students in an inclusive early childhood educational environment learn the rewarding power of embracing all people, regardless of ability level or background. Children with disabilities in inclusive programs achieve better learning and behavioral outcomes than those served in non-inclusive programs, and children without disabilities gain a number of benefits from an inclusive setting, including social skills, tolerance, and patience.

Frazer Center mirrors the world around us, with children and adults who are all unique. We look different, learn differently, and have different skills and challenges. As children get older, they notice these differences. How we respond to their questions and actions is likely to affect the way a child thinks about disabilities, and how they treat others as they grow up. Here are a few tips to help guide our conversations with children.

**Address your child's curiosity.** Kids are naturally curious, so when they see someone with a disability or difference, their first instincts are to ask about it. If you see your child staring at someone with a disability or difference, take the lead and start a conversation. A short and matter-of-fact description will answer your child's questions while showing him/her that it is okay to notice that we are all different. If you see a child in a wheelchair, you could say to your child, "I see you looking at that little girl in the wheelchair, and you might be wondering why she needs it. Some people's muscles work a little differently, and her wheelchair helps her move around, just like your legs help you."

**Keep your explanations positive and respectful.** Children are like sponges and absorb everything. So, it's important not to use terminology that would make someone feel left out, or imply that he or she is "less than" anyone else. Avoid using derogatory terms, and talk about disabilities and differences in positive

terms. Examples include: glasses enable sight, hearing aids enable hearing, sign language enables communication, and various braces and casts enable movement. Hearing aids help others hear, and wheelchairs help others move around, instead of a negative connotation (he can't hear, she can't walk, etc.).

**Use person-first language.** Don't use a disability as a way to describe an individual. Person-first language puts the person before the disability. For example, instead of saying "autistic child," it's better to say "a child on the autism spectrum."

**Emphasize similarities and create commonality.** It's important that children learn that a person with a disability or difference is still the same in a lot of ways—she/he has feelings, likes to have fun, loves his/her family, etc. Take care to separate the person from his/her disability by talking to your child about how your child and the person with the disability are similar.

For example, maybe your child has a classmate who has Down syndrome, and they both love to watch cartoons and go swimming. Perhaps they are the same age, or maybe they both have a pet fish. Talking about similarities will show your child that having a disability or difference does not define a person, much like your child's physical characteristics don't define him/her.

**Talk about disability in a way that creates commonality.** Even when the differences aren't physical, kids tend to pick up on them. Parents can set a tone of reciprocity through the way we talk about social/emotional and behavioral challenges.

For example, William came home from preschool and told his mom that his friend Ashley screamed a lot in school. Mom knew that this friend had behavioral challenges. Instead of saying, "She can't help it, honey," and asking him to tolerate her behavior, mom talked with him about what his friend was good at ("running around") and what was hard for her ("listening"), and what he was good at ("listening") and what was hard for him ("color-



Pam McClure reading to a Pre-K class

ing"). Then they talked about how they could help each other. Instead of focusing on her challenges, they were able to identify their commonality as human beings who both had challenges and strengths. These conversations invite reciprocity and relationship rather than division and pity.

**Teach understanding and empathy.** Children are all similar in many ways, and they are also all different in their own ways. It's important for children to learn that just because someone can't do something or struggles in one area, it doesn't mean he or she doesn't excel in other areas. Ask your child, "How would you feel in somebody else's shoes? How would you want to be treated?" And then teach your child to treat others the same way. Learning empathy early on is an important life lesson. Help your child see that all humans have their own strengths and weaknesses and that we should help others just as we should want others to help us in areas which we struggle.

If you would like to add to your children's book collection at home, here are a few of the books that we use in the classroom, to help reinforce the guidelines listed above.

*Susan Laughs*, by Jeanne Willis, Tony Ross (Illustrator); *Don't Call Me Special*, by Pat Thomas; *How Full Is Your Bucket? For Kids* by Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer; *The Family Book*, by Todd Parr; *My Brother Charlie*, by Holly Robinson Peete & Ryan Elizabeth Peete, Shane W. Evans (Illustrator); *I'm Gonna Like Me: Letting Off a Little Self-Esteem*, by Jamie Lee Curtis, Laura Cornell (Illustrator); *All Bears Need Love*, by Tayna Valentine, Adam Taylor (Illustrator); *I Like Berries, Do You?*, by Marjorie W. Pitzer; *Me and You*, by Geneviève Côté; *No Two Alike*, by Keith Baker; *Can I Play Too?*, by Mo Willems.

Pam McClure is the Director of Frazer Center Child Development Program.

## 30307: A Fitness Lifestyle

*continued from p. 1*

strength, and endurance. FitWit also offers FitWit Kids. FitWit Kids uses games, workouts, team-builders, and skill practices to improve children's confidence, strength, and more. Lake Claire resident Nancy Dorsner's son loves FitWit Kids: "My son has never been really into sports," Nancy says, "but he loves the fun atmosphere and the idea of competing against yourself. And I love that he's getting exercise!" Learn more about FitWit and FitWit Kids at [www.fitwit.com](http://www.fitwit.com).

Here are a few more options for a great workout in 30307:

- Smugs Fitness in Kirkwood, just across DeKalb Avenue on College Avenue. Smugs offers a variety of personal and small group training, weightlifting, kettlebells, and more. [www.smugsfitness.com](http://www.smugsfitness.com)
- Crossfit RX in Candler Park offers a free hour-long intro class. [www.crossfitrx.com](http://www.crossfitrx.com)
- Nazeem Allayl Belly Dance Stu-

dio, Get Fit Belly Dance class: an hour-long belly dance fitness class (all-female class). Saturdays at 11 a.m. [www.atlantabellydance.com](http://www.atlantabellydance.com)

- Candler Park Golf Course: Walking the golf course and carrying a bag burns tons of calories. \$9-\$11 for 9 holes. Memberships available. [cityofatlantagolf.com/candler-park-golf-course](http://cityofatlantagolf.com/candler-park-golf-course)

- Operation Boot Camp: [operationbootcamp.com](http://operationbootcamp.com)

- Karen the Fitness Girl: Core+More fitness classes. [www.karenthefitnessgirl.com](http://www.karenthefitnessgirl.com)

And don't forget our neighborhood pools and tennis courts, and even the stairs at Mary Lin! You don't need to venture far to get a great workout, meet your neighbors, and make new friends, so get your workout shoes and grab your water bottle. If you are new to exercise, always get your doctor's permission first. With so many options, go ahead and try something new in 30307 and get moving!

## Welcome to Intown CPR!

Here you will find lifesaving classes right in the comfort and ease of your own neighborhood.

Great for teenage babysitters, new parents, coaches, fitness/yoga instructors or medical professionals.

Gather your friends and family members to form a class today!

**Classes are offered**

Saturday mornings 9-12:30 & Sunday afternoons 2-5:30  
at Wondershop, 1392 McLendon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307.







Cynthia's Average Listing in 30307

**10 Days on Market**

**101% of List Price**

Call Today to Sell at the Highest Price in the Least Amount of Time

**678-358-3369**



Cynthia Baer  
 Broker, Associate  
 Cynthia@CynthiaBaer.com  
 315 W. Ponce de Leon Ave.  
 Suite 100  
 Decatur, GA 30030





## Spring Bling Mosaics Party at the Lake Claire Land Trust

by Germaine Appel

The folks at Ladybug Events are no strangers to creating magic and fun in sync with the seasons. Miss Ladybug and Co. worked with the kids to bring some serious bling to the mosaics. Kids were creative, and the atmosphere was festive with fantastic musical contributions from Mister Greenthumbs and Melabee. Their enthusiasm was infectious and had a crowd of parents and kids toe-tapping and singing along. Local gal Chef Ger-

maine was slinging New York Style Pizzas, and smiling parents looked on approvingly as the kids followed Miss Ladybug to the garden to harvest arugula, kale, and lucky wood sorrel to add seasonal delight to top the pizzas. If there were any reservations about the leafy green additions to their pizzas, well, the sauce-stained faces said it all. The kids said it was “the best pizza ever!”—What a perfect way to welcome Spring.



Be sure to catch Ladybug again: May 20, 4-6pm for the Faerie Home Building Party. Awesome music and entertainment plus tasty bites courtesy of Chef Germaine. **Don't miss out!!**

## Lake Claire Community Land Trust Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 3, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, Lake Claire Co-Housing Common House

Hello neighbors! As a nonprofit organization, the Land Trust is required to hold an Annual Meeting every year. We like to invite our friends and neighbors, provide refreshments, and turn it into a little celebration. This year we're adding something more: a formal request for feedback, especially from those of you who live close enough to be impacted by our events, activities, and casual visitors.

Unlike last year, we will not subject our guests to the routine business of running a Land Trust. The Board will meet at 10:30 to handle our monthly

agenda, and you are welcome to join us if that interests you. But the actual celebration begins at 11:30 with food and socializing, followed by a “listening session.” We need to hear how well we are meeting our goal of balancing the needs of our neighbors and those of our wider community.

The Annual Meeting is also our opportunity to invite you to take a more active part in what we do, and answer any questions you may have. Our little crew of volunteers is often stretched thin, handling everything from finance to fighting invasive spe-

cies to carpentry and plumbing. The Land Trust needs younger people with a commitment to Lake Claire who see the value of community and greenspace and will steward our land into the future. It is rewarding work, and good company. You can play a small role or a large one. At the very least, please join us on Sunday, June 3, for a little refreshment and conversation.

The Land Trust is not just a greenspace, but a community. Why not make it your greenspace and your community?

## May into June in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

What a wonderful spring we have had! Grumpy as I love to be, I cannot help but exalt at how flowers bloomed early and kept blooming for weeks with the warm February followed by a cool (but not freezing) March and April. Although we got little rain, there were many cloudy days with just a touch of drizzle, as if we were in England or the Pacific Northwest. The dogwood that began opening around the tenth of March is still in flower as I write, April eleventh. Azaleas have colored our yards for similar lengths of time, and bulbs (even tulips, which are annual here) have been going strong for four months.

In the midst of so much glory, bulb companies know to mail their catalogs, reminding us that if we wish to match or increase our show next spring, it is time to place orders for autumn planting. No matter what your favorites, I hope you will try something new next year. Narcissus (called daffodils in the North and jonquils in the South) come in more shapes, colors, and sizes than the division one giant trumpet daffodil, popular in yellow but also available as white and bi-color. There are narcissus with short trumpets, in miniature, with petals blown back, as

doubles or with split coronas (though I do not recommend them here), with multiple flowers, heavily or slightly scented, 13 divisions in all, some with ivory or orange or coral trumpets, but almost all guaranteed to rebloom next year if only their foliage gets enough sun.

Don't limit yourself to the big bulbs. Snowdrops (*Galanthus*) and the later snowflakes (*Leucojum*), autumn and spring crocus, grape hyacinths (*Muscari*), Dutch hyacinths, the Siberian squill (*Scilla siberica*) and Camassia, are among the many tiny bulbs that will return each year unless, like the *Crocus vernus*, they are eaten by squirrels or don't get the few weeks of sun their foliage needs to reform the bulb for another year. Many of these are in lovely shades of blue as well as white, yellow, and pink and would work to cheer the small front yards of our bungalows.

Catalog companies carry many more species than local stores, and you can depend on getting good quality bulbs from them that have not sat at room temperature for weeks. Nowadays most are happy to ship in November or even December to accommodate our need to plant later in the fall. Just avoid catalogs full of huge

pictures, amazingly low prices, and very little print. Good narcissus bulbs run a dollar a bulb or more nowadays unless you buy in bulk.

But don't spend all your time indoors doing this because early summer is here by May 1, and there is still planting to do in the garden. Sow seeds of cucumber and squash early in the month, and set out eggplant seedlings. Most squash must be protected from squash vine borer, a task only one step more difficult from protecting tomatoes from squirrels. See the Internet for many arduous fixes, most of which will not work. I have never harvested too much zucchini here. Cantaloupe, corn, okra, and pumpkin seed, plus pepper seedlings and sweet potato slips can be planted the rest of the month. I assume that your planting beds are prepared, but you can add compost, manure, and organic fertilizer as you go. Water deeply at first and mulch most vegetables with wheat straw (I find the quality to be better than at the big box stores) or, for tomatoes, mini bark chips.

Don't neglect earlier crops either. If the weather continues cool, you will still be harvesting broccoli, cab-

**Cont. on p. 8**



## Memorial Day Dance at the Land Trust

This year's Memorial Day Dance features Webster, Honeywood, and Atlanta Groove Collective.

A fun-filled day May 27, starting at 4 p.m. No dogs. Please park in designated area on Connecticut, not on neighboring streets, or walk or bike. Come join us!

## 4th Annual Food, Clothing & Shelter Fest

Inspired by the award-winning documentary film *Food, Clothing & Shelter*, this community event brings together hundreds of eco-friendly and self-sustainability conscious individuals to celebrate agriculture and sustainability. Family activities, music, food, farming workshops, guest speakers, local vendors, children's corner and more. Sat. May 12, 12 noon-9 p.m. For more information, contact Vici at 404-438-7097 or [vici@fcsfest.org](mailto:vici@fcsfest.org).





# 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 Ian Cambas Stocking. Ian is 9 years old and in fourth grade at Mary Lin. He has a 7-year-old

brother, Teo, and a 4-year-old sister, Sol. Ian loves rock climbing, biking, and all things about outer space. Thanks, Ian, for sharing your dream to keep the bunnies safe. And this must be COUSINS month. By coincidence, the contest winner, is Ian's cousin Eva. See below! Hey there,

Lake Claire kids of all ages—we want to see your creativity. Write about anything that grabs you. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, etc., to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org). What have you done in 2018 so far? What do you love about Spring? We hope to hear from you!

## Contest Winner

Eva Florez, Age 8, from Nelms Avenue, found the Lake Claire Owl enduring April showers on page 8 in the April issue. Eva is in third grade at Mary Lin Elementary. She lives on Nelms Ave with her brother, Emilio (pictured with Eva), who is in first grade. Eva's favorite things to do are to read, color and draw, play with her cousins (Ian, Teo, and Sol, who live one door down on Nelms), and her cat, Chewy. Eva likes to ride her bike, play soccer, swim, and play piano. When she grows up she wants to be an illustrator and author. Good job, Eva! And how lucky that all of you cousins live so close to each other!



Contest Winner Eva (and her brother)

## The Bunny Story

by Ian Cambas Stocking

On March 17, Ian and his brother, sister, and dad were looking for good mulch from a tree that was cut down in front of their house on Nelms at Adolphus. Their neighbors told them that there was a cement bunny in the tree trunk that someone put in 16 years ago, and the tree had grown over it. They found the bunny in the tree trunk. It had a broken ear then they tried to glue it back on but they could not get it out of the tree. A few days later someone took out the bunny and set it on top of the stump. Shortly after, someone put a green ceramic bunny on the stump next to the old bunny. Slowly more and more neighbors set ceramic bunnies and ceramic animals like frogs, birds, turtles, and dogs on the stump. Everyone enjoyed the animal garden.

Then sadly on MLK day 2018 the City came and shredded the stump with a giant chain-saw. But Ian, his cousin Eva, and his brother Teo, went and saved the animals and put them in their front yard. They would like to move the animals to a public location, like the Lake Claire Land Trust, where everyone can enjoy them and the animal garden can keep growing but first want to ask the neighbors what they think. Please write the Clarion to give us your ideas about a good new home for the animal garden.

## Gardening

*continued from p. 7*

bage, lettuce, radishes, and peas. But when crops become bitter, leaves yellow, and the plant tries to set seed, it is time to move the plants to the compost bin, even if you are a conservative person like myself. Space can be used for any of the warm weather plants you have begun indoors or for fresh seed. As long as Swiss chard continues to produce in the heat, continue to water and fertilize as you cut. If nothing else, put in some annual flowers enjoyed by bees and butterflies. I always plant some scarlet runner beans along with the pole types. In addition, marigolds, nasturtiums, zinnias, and (in spring or fall) calendulas are good flowers for vegetable beds. Give leeks a little fertilizer since they will not be harvested until fall.

For those new to this area, you will need to be in the garden before ten in the morning or after five in the evening, moving from shade to shade. My night-owl friends garden under lights after the sun goes down. But do take the time to sit in your garden and enjoy it with a cup of coffee or tea or a glass of wine. Everything is still that unbelievable green, the memory of which will carry us on even when July and August arrive.



## PLEASE NOTE:

The next Clarion is a double issue, June/July, so please send in your summer news items by **May 15!**

## NEW CONTEST!

The month of May has fun and interesting days, many that have to do with books. Examples are National Family Reading Week (the first week of May), Children's Book Week, Screen-Free Week, and Reading-is-Fun Week. Find this month's hidden graphic of a family reading for National Family Reading Week. The winner will have your picture in the June/July Clarion. To win, send e-mail to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) identifying the page number. For extra credit, tell us your fun screen-free activities. 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.

## Attention Lake Claire Tree Lovers!

1900 DeKalb Avenue is the current home of Horizons School, but the property has been sold to a developer who plans to build 43 single family units. About half of the units will be shared-wall townhomes; the remainder will be detached.

The current plan will remove 235 of the 268 trees on the property. An appeal

has been filed in the hopes that the Tree Conservation Commission will review and require that the plan be amended to save more of the trees.

Individuals interested in actively working to preserve urban forest in our neighborhood/the metro area see [www.cityintheforest.org](http://www.cityintheforest.org) to get involved.