



## 2018 Lake Claire Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair on December 1

Just in time for the holidays is the **2018 Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair** on Saturday, December 1. Arts and crafts lovers will enjoy a lovely shopping experience for unique holiday gifts made exclusively by creative friends and neighbors.

Original, one-of-a-kind art can be purchased from the artists. Make a morning of relaxing, shopping, and eating cookies, all while finding great gifts and decorations that are made with love and care! Also, don't miss the beautiful voices of the **Mary Lin Advanced Chorus**, who will be performing holiday songs for us. Lake Claire Neighbors and Mary Lin Elementary are co-hosting the 2018 Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair. A share of the proceeds will help both organizations support local charities and community work. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 1, 2018, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Atrium in the Frazer Center.

There are a few spots left for local artisans, crafters, photographers, painters, potters, jewelers, and more, to sell original artwork. All items must be handmade—no mass-produced, store-

bought, resale, or imported items.

**Details:** Artists keep 75% of their sales; payment by check, cash or credit card accepted; only hand-made items accepted; children artists are welcome and encouraged; their exhibits must be supervised by a parent at all times; artists are asked to stay with their art exhibits during the entire sale period; artists are asked to contribute a baked good or other finger food; volunteers are needed for set-up, break-down, and cashier positions. Please fill out the application form to become a vendor at [form.jot-form.com/82388603894167](http://form.jot-form.com/82388603894167).

For more information, please contact Julie Roseman ([julieroseman@yahoo.com](mailto:julieroseman@yahoo.com)) or Annsley Klehr ([anzoid@yahoo.com](mailto:anzoid@yahoo.com)), Holiday Sales Coordinators, for more details.

*Editor's Note: We have a sponsor for this event! **Georgia Plumbing Co.**, 6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Building 3, Suite 250, Atlanta, Georgia 30328. Phone number: 770-773-0212. It's always great if we can support our sponsors and advertisers, who support us and our community efforts. ~B.D.*

## Important Neighborhood Meeting this Month

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are this month, on **Thursday, November 15**. As our bylaws instruct, nominations were made at the October meeting, and voting takes place at the November meeting. We hope you are able to come and cast your vote in support of your neighbors who willingly volunteer their time for the neighborhood. And thank you to everyone who volunteers her or his time to make our neighborhood great, whether elected or not, including those who deliver the Clarion every month to 1500+ porches, those who advertise in the Clarion (which

allows us to cover our own printing costs), and everyone who helps the neighborhood financially with your dues and purchases of Lake Claire items at [lakeclaire.org/shop-support](http://lakeclaire.org/shop-support) (which allows our neighborhood to contribute to so many worthwhile neighborhood initiatives).

(Speaking of which, consider helping the Clarion—an easy job that can be done on your own time—helping delivering the Clarion—see ad at the bottom of the page.) See you November 15, we hope, as well as December 1, and December 13, all at the Frazer Center.

## Welcome to Lake Claire!

If you are new to Lake Claire, you've come at a time with many opportunities to get to know your neighbors. On Nov. 15, come early to the neighborhood meeting for pizza/socializing; hang out at the Arts & Crafts Fair December 1, with many long-time and newer residents of the neighborhood (details on this page); and, join us at our annual end-of-year potluck December 13 (invitation just to the right—no RSVPs, just show up with a dish (and the kids, if applicable)).

## Neighborhood Halloween Celebration Great Success!

This October 27 many Lake Clarions enjoyed one of Lake Claire's signature parties of the year, the Annual Lake Claire Halloween Parade and Party. Kids (of all ages, including many adult kids-at-heart) paraded through the streets of Lake Claire, ending up in Lake Claire Park. Please go to pages 6-7 to see some of our own little pirates, princesses, super heroes, monsters,

witches, and dragons. Thanks to organizer Matt Stacy and many other volunteers, who helped in a myriad of ways. A real example of its "taking a village," this was once again a great event. Please go to the Centerfold and check out the photos!

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



**Lake Claire Officers for 2018**

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

**Clarion Staff**

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

**November Calendar** (send us *your* contributions!)

**1-18** Actor's Express, *Reykjavik*, a tour-de-force "of sex and danger," in which playwright Steve Yockey demonstrates that the supernatural is closer than we think. "PG"—as in, full male nudity.

**1-Dec. 23** The Theatrical Outfit presents *Royale*, by Marco Ramirez, ends NOV 4. In 1905-1910 America, Jay "The Sport" Jackson dreams of being the first Black heavyweight champion of the world, but in the segregated world of boxing, his chances are as good as knocked out. **Then Nov. 21 - Dec. 23**, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberly*. [www.theatricaloutfit.org](http://www.theatricaloutfit.org)

**3** Trees Atlanta in Lake Claire!!! See article on page 1 of the October Clarion; if you don't have it anymore, it's on the website at [lakeclaire.org/2018/09/30/october-2018-clarion](http://lakeclaire.org/2018/09/30/october-2018-clarion)

**3 & 17** Land Trust: Drum Circle, sunset to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend! Please help spread the word.

**9-11** Candler Park Biracial History Project partnering for a full week-end of Sankofa Communities/InterPlay ATL activities at the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park. Local history research will be a focal point in workshops & performances related to displacement and gentrification, racial healing, and meaningful engagement. On Friday night, Katrina Browne, producer of the documentary *Traces of the Trade: Stories from the Deep North* about her family's (DeWolf) large slave trading industry out of Rhode Island, will be showing the film & leading discussion.

**10** Collegium Vocale presents *Make Them Hear You*, an evening of choral repertoire, with guest ensemble Milton High School Chorale. Doors open at 7:30, General Admission \$20, Seniors/Students \$15. Ticket link forthcoming here: [cvchorus.org](http://cvchorus.org). Don't miss the chocolate buckeyes (also can be pre-ordered at that site)! (Our own Véronique Perrot is a member.)

**15** Lake Claire Neighbors 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). Minutes on the website, and when room, in the Clarion. ELECTION at this meeting, see Page 1.

**13-Dec. 9** Alliance Theatre, *Knead*, by and starring Lake Claire resident Mary Lynn Owen—see Page 8 for details. (Also, see October 2017 Clarion, highlighting actors and directors in Lake Claire, and specifically Tuxedo Avenue.) Mary Lynn is an actor, teacher, director, and playwright. The Alliance Theatre workshopped *Knead* last year, and it is now part of the 2019 season.

**16-Dec. 30** Horizon Theatre—the season ended in October. The rest of the year, plays for the Xmas season, including *Madeline's Christmas* and *Waffle Palace Christmas*. See [www.horizontheatre.com/blog/waffle-palace-christmas/](http://www.horizontheatre.com/blog/waffle-palace-christmas/).

**17** Land Trust Community Work Day, 3 to 6 p.m. Note shift to winter hours! Free Pizza provided and drum circle follows. Read articles about the Land Trust on page 11, particularly one about community work days.

**17** Volunteers needed 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to sort, organize, and distribute Thanksgiving food baskets. Also need food donations, bags, cardboard boxes. Sign up to donate items [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0F4CAEAB2FA64-2018](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0F4CAEAB2FA64-2018). And see [www.liftupatlanta.org/2018-thanksgiving-food-drive](http://www.liftupatlanta.org/2018-thanksgiving-food-drive)

**Early December:****Please mark your calendars for these important dates in December:**

- 2018 Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair—Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Atrium in the Frazer Center. We need volunteers now, see article Page 1 for contact information.
- 2018 Lake Claire Annual Xmas/Holiday Potluck—Thursday, Dec. 13—details in the graphic Xmas tree on Page 1, and below.
- December 2—Last Ladybug event at the Land Trust—see Page 11.

**Annual End-of-Year Neighborhood Potluck****Mark Calendars now for December 13!**

Only a few weeks left of 2018!... how did that happen? December is around the corner, and, believe it or not, December is "**National 'Hi, Neighbor' Month.**" (*I'm not kidding.*) So come to connect with your neighbors at two annual Lake Claire events, first the Arts and Crafts Fair on December 1, but if the Clarion got to your porch too late to remind you, don't miss the second opportunity, the annual December Xmas holiday potluck. Come for conviviality, good chow, good cheer, and to catch-up with folks you haven't seen in a while—or relax with those with whom you've been working and playing throughout the year. Our December tradition is to have this pot-luck gathering and no neighborhood meeting. Vegetarian and meat lasagnas, cake, and beverages are

provided, and we ask neighbors to bring sides, salads, bread, etc. As always, the party will be in the Atrium at the Frazer Center, who has graciously hosted our monthly meetings and get-togethers again all year. In addition to neighbors' contributions and lasagnas, beverages will include wine and non-alcoholic selections. Bonus for the second year in a row: Joe Reed, a great local folk rock singer, will perform Christmas songs.

Please remember that the Ridgewood gate to the Frazer Center will probably be closed to vehicles (open to pedestrians), so if you drive in from Lake Claire, you'll enter/exit on Ponce de Leon. Finally, please note that the party is **the second Thursday, not the customary third Thursday of the month.** We hope to see you there, **6:30-8:30 p.m.**

**Thanksgiving Volunteer Opportunities**

U.S. Census figures show a drop in Georgia's poverty rate, but several charity leaders say they see just as much need, if not more – especially during the holiday season, which includes Thanksgiving as well as Christmas. Starting this Thanksgiving, we can pass along more than treasured family recipes—a tradition of volunteerism. Lake Claire kids already frequently demonstrate this at our neighborhood events—and with their help on the Clarion. The Atlanta Community Food Bank has several opportunities available through its partner agencies to provide Thanksgiving baskets, serve food, and offer basic needs for families. See [acfb.org](http://acfb.org), email [help@acfb.org](mailto:help@acfb.org), or phone 404.892.FEED (3333) x2004. Hosea Feed the Hungry always needs volunteers: see [4hosea.org/programs/holiday-dinner-events/](http://4hosea.org/programs/holiday-dinner-events/), phone 404-755-3353, or email [contact@hoseafeedthehungry.com](mailto:contact@hoseafeedthehungry.com). Another opportunity is with Lift Up Atlanta—see info on the calendar across from this on November 17.



## Freedom Park Pollinator Garden

by Jeff Killingsworth, Beech Hollow and Wildflower Farm (edited)

In 2005, Carol Vanderschaaf started the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden with Phil Edwards and the Dekalb Master Gardener Association, along with Catharine Kuchar of the Audubon Society. Together, they initially planted a small selection of native plants and shrubs. The site is atop a small hill between a retaining wall and the PATH trail that runs through the park. Three large White Oaks in an east/west line, a north facing slope, a well mowed southern boundary, and several old driveway excavations make for a lot of niches with different conditions. In the following 13 years, the garden has expanded 3 times, and now contains over 40 different species of native grasses, herbs and shrubs, 2 bluebird nesting boxes, and a bird bath. Many volunteers from the neighbor-

hood, students from nearby Mary Lin Elementary, and other organizations have helped to install plants, remove invasives, control erosion, spread mulch and generally maintain the garden for the benefit of pollinators, birds, and other wildlife (including the human kind). Carol managed the garden for 10 years!

She passed the care of the garden to the staff at **Beech Hollow Farm** in 2015, and they are still working it, along with any volunteers that care to help. The main issue facing the long-term success of the garden is non-native, invasive plants out-competing the native plantings that nourish the birds, butterflies and bees. Seeds from the Bradford Pear trees that line the nearby golf course are continually deposited in the garden and often sprout thorny

little trees with leaves that no native caterpillars will eat. Porcelain berry vines climb over the native shrubs and rob them of sunlight, and the only bug that seems to eat them are Japanese beetles, which Beech Hollow doesn't want to encourage with more free food.

**Volunteers and caring people are the reason that the garden exists and continues to thrive at the corner of North Ave and Candler Park Dr.** Check it out if you should happen to be in the neighborhood. It's not obvious from the street, but up close you're bound to see something blooming, hear birds calling in the trees overhead or frolicking in the birdbath, and see a few butterflies and bees sipping nectar in the shade.

If you are interested in volunteer-



ing on a Sunday morning to help the garden grow, please email [pandra@beechhollowfarms.com](mailto:pandra@beechhollowfarms.com) for information about the next volunteer day.

*Editor's Note: Thanks to our own Carol Vanderschaaf for this valuable garden resource, and thanks, Miriam H., for bringing this to my attention.*  
- B.D.



## Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

I can't believe as I write this article, that just over a week ago, I was sitting on the beach at St. George Island, Florida, with my toes dangling in the Gulf of Mexico. I had not yet heard of Hurricane Michael. In fact, though I tried NOT to keep up with the news, Michael seemed to be no more than a twinkle in the weather forecasters' eyes. We started home to Atlanta about 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 7 and had no traffic—nor Michael news along the way.

The previous week we had dinner for my friend Peggy's birthday at The Owl, an upscale restaurant in Apalachicola (well worth the price). A few days ago, I saw a photo of The Owl's owner cooking all the food he had in the fridge on an outside barbecue grill. He had no electricity and decided he might as well feed his neighbors before the food went bad.

We also had dinner at one of my favorite downscale spots, Boss Oyster, which sits right on a dock on Apalachicola Bay. I wonder if it is still

there. Probably it is, and the oysters taste better now. But FYI, The Owl had bigger oysters than The Boss.

**Here in Lake Claire**, cooler and cozier, my head is slowly peeking out of the sand to muse about the latest environmental news. By now, I've heard more than I thought I'd ever hear about the big M., He who devastated the Florida Panhandle. And the more I hear about him, the more I think of other disasters—and as much as I try to bury my head in the sand, I think about global warming and climate change. I guess I should go back to Florida, where the governor has banned those words from his state's lexicon

I am especially in need of a longer shovel to get my head further down in the sand so that I not hear more about the United Nations' scientific panel on climate change, which "paints a far more dire picture of the immediate consequences of climate

**Cont. on p. 5**

## Congratulations to Frazer Teacher Caitlin Macon

by Dina Shadwell

Caitlin Macon, one of Frazer Center's Pre-K teachers, has been honored with the 2018 Peggy A. Gallagher Award for Inclusion of Young Children with Special Needs. The award is given by the Georgia Association for the Education of Young Children (GAEYC) to recognize "distinguished service to quality educational improvements for all of Georgia's children."

"I am beyond honored to receive this award!" says Caitlin. "It feels amazing to be recognized for the emotional investment we put in every day." To qualify for the award, recipients must "actively promote the inclusion of young children with disabilities through friendship, play, social and cognitive activities with typically developing children of the same age," and teach "in a classroom with children with identified disabilities...along with typical children

ages birth to 8 years." Caitlin was nominated by Child Development Program Director (now Director of Operations) Pam McClure, who said:

*Caitlin goes above and beyond to ensure that all students in her classroom are included, regardless of the disability. She partners with parents, therapists, and other support professionals to ensure that she knows about each child's strengths and areas of need. This teamwork approach allows Caitlin to meet each child where he or she is at the beginning of the year and to help each develop and grow throughout the school year. Even during the most challenging times, Caitlin demonstrates professionalism and patience. She never gives up, and her dedication pays off. Several parents have written to us*

**Cont. on p. 5**







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## Members Needed to Serve on the APS Budgetary and Finance Advisory Committee (BFAC)

by Annsley Klehr

Jay Vinicki, the new budget director for Atlanta Public Schools, is looking for parents of school-age children and other community members to serve on APS's Budgetary & Finance Advisory Committee (BFAC). "We are trying to diversify our affiliations, levels, and clusters this upcoming year and are asking for help in extending participation," Jay said. The first meeting (for the FY2020 Budget Process, believe it or not) was held on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 6 p.m. Other currently scheduled meetings are listed below, and meetings take place at 130 Trinity Avenue (CLL). If

you are interested in serving, please respond with your current information to Jay at [jon.vinicki@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:jon.vinicki@atlanta.k12.ga.us), with your name, phone, email address, and affiliation (e.g., Community Member, Parent, Central Staff, Teacher, School Support Staff, Level: Elementary, Middle, High, Other, and Cluster).

The remaining meetings are Nov. 15, Jan. 17, Feb. TBD, Mar. 21, Apr. 18, and May 16.

For more information, feel free to contact Jay at 404-802-2414, or at the email address above.

## Grady Cluster Data Dig Presented by Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS)

by Annsley Klehr

Are you curious how schools in the Grady Cluster compare to those across town? Wondering where we excel and what needs work? Trying to understand how our student body has changed and what the future may hold? If so, please join CINS and Atlanta Public Schools' Data and Information Group for the State of the Grady Cluster on **Wednesday, Nov. 7 at noon at Mary Lin Elementary School**. Formerly known as the Grady Cluster Data Dig, this event is intended for parents of current and prospective students and community stakeholders who want to know more about where our schools stand and

where they're heading. Bring your questions and your friends! Brown bag lunches are welcome; drinks will be provided. Onstreet parking is plentiful; please allow a couple of extra minutes to sign in at the school office. RSVP at [www.eventbrite.com/e/state-of-the-cluster-tickets-51080571364](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/state-of-the-cluster-tickets-51080571364). For more information or to join CINS visit [www.cinsatlanta.org](http://www.cinsatlanta.org).

*Annsley is the Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and the Mary Lin Elementary School Representative to the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS).*

## Congratulations to Caitlin Macon

*Continued from Page 3*

*sharing the gratitude they have for their child's experience in Caitlin's classroom. She is truly making a difference in the lives of her students.*

One family recently had a son graduate from Caitlin's pre-K class. Hank has autism spectrum disorder, and his parents had tried several learning environments for him, with little success. They would drop him off at a school, then get a phone call thirty minutes later asking them to come pick him up. Once he started attending Frazer, "It took about two weeks, and he was a different little kid. He was happy, he was sweet," says his mom. "He told me 'I love you' more in that first month than he ever had in his whole life."

Frazer Center serves almost 200 children, ages six weeks to five years, twenty percent of whom have a developmental delay or disability. "In an inclusive classroom, every day

presents a new set of challenges and rewards," says Caitlin. "The rewards, of course, always outweigh the challenges and make the work we do every day that much more meaningful." Whether she is modifying a lesson or the classroom to meet students' particular needs, providing new tools to help students regulate emotions or communicate more effectively with their peers, the "skills we are teaching them now are not just temporary fixes for the year, they are life-long, and that's really our goal."

As Hank's mom says, "Frazer Center has been transformative for our whole family."

You can help transform lives by remembering the Frazer Center on **Giving Tuesday** (Nov. 27, 2018) at [www.gagives.org/c/GGD/a/fraziercenter](http://www.gagives.org/c/GGD/a/fraziercenter). Your donation of any size helps create a stronger, more inclusive community. Thank you!

## Wild in Lake Claire

*Continued from Page 3*

change than previously thought" and says that avoiding the damage requires transforming the world economy at a speed and scale that has "no documented historic precedent" and would not be "politically feasible."

In addition, it said, the United States along with Bangladesh, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam are home to 50 million people who will be exposed to the effects of increased coastal flooding by 2040, if 2.7 degrees of warming occur. At 3.6 degrees of warming, the report predicts a "disproportionately rapid evacuation" of people from the tropics. "In some parts of the world, national borders will become irrelevant," said Aromar Revi, Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements and an author of the report. "You can set up a wall to try to contain 10,000 and 20,000 and even one million people, but not 10 million."

In that scenario, some damage

would be irreversible, the report found. *All coral reefs would die.* The good news, however, is that the sea ice that would disappear in the hotter scenario would return once temperatures had cooled off. It dodges the question of whether the whales and the polar bears reappear as well.

Well, my head is aching in this storm of environmental destruction. I need to get down down down in the sand and concentrate on our little neighborhood where destruction doesn't seem so imminent. So....

**Ilene S.** of Seminole reports: "I had a sharp-shinned hawk hanging out in my backyard for about a week. I saw it sitting on top of one of my bird feeder poles. And then one of my serviceberry trees. And on a fence."

"I see birds on my walk but nothing extraordinary," notes our Candler Park star reporter **Meta L.**: "Bluebirds are in the Freedom Park Bird, Butterfly, and Pollinator Garden." Eastern Bluebirds, by the way, stay year-round in Georgia. Cardinals will also be around all year, so we will have those magical bright red colors flashing around, particularly lovely in the snow should there be any snow here again.

Ruby-throated hummingbirds should be around until November 13, fattening themselves up for their flight across the Gulf of Mexico. If you spot one after that date, let the Georgia Hummingbird Society know.

Until we meet again,

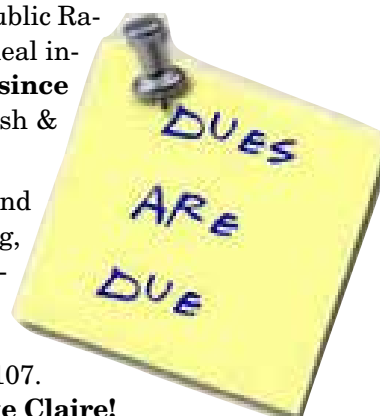
*Flora Fauna*  
(with sand in her eyes...)

## Thanks for Paying Your Neighborhood Dues!

Lake Claire suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household—but just like with Public Radio, any amount is much appreciated. Lake Claire Banners are \$45, but a package deal including dues and banner is only \$60! **Join these neighbors who have paid dues since the last issue:** Scott Russell, Susan Chu, Ashley Fowlkes, Raphael Siebenmann, Josh & Colleen Golden, Allyson & Chris Strauss

Get **your** name in print! But more important than that, contribute to worthwhile and fun initiatives of your 'hood. Feel free to bring your check to the November meeting, when you come to vote in our neighborhood election, or to the Christmas party December 13, when you come to celebrate with all of us! Or, to pay at [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org): go to Membership and to the link using PayPal) or with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to LCN, Attn: Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer/VP Finance, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107.

**Thank you all who have paid your dues and/or contributed your time to Lake Claire!**





# LAKE CLAIRE HALLOWEEN PARADE AND PARTY



Mom!!! Please more popcorn!!!



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# SATURDAY, OCT.27, ENDING IN LAKE CLAIRE PARK



**Boss Baby!**  
←

Thanks to Janet & Steve Cywilko of Claire Dr., who have provided the popcorn, the popper, and the "sweat equity"—every year for sixteen years!!!



**Thanks to everyone who helped and to our sponsors!**



Photos pp. 6-7 by Beth Damon



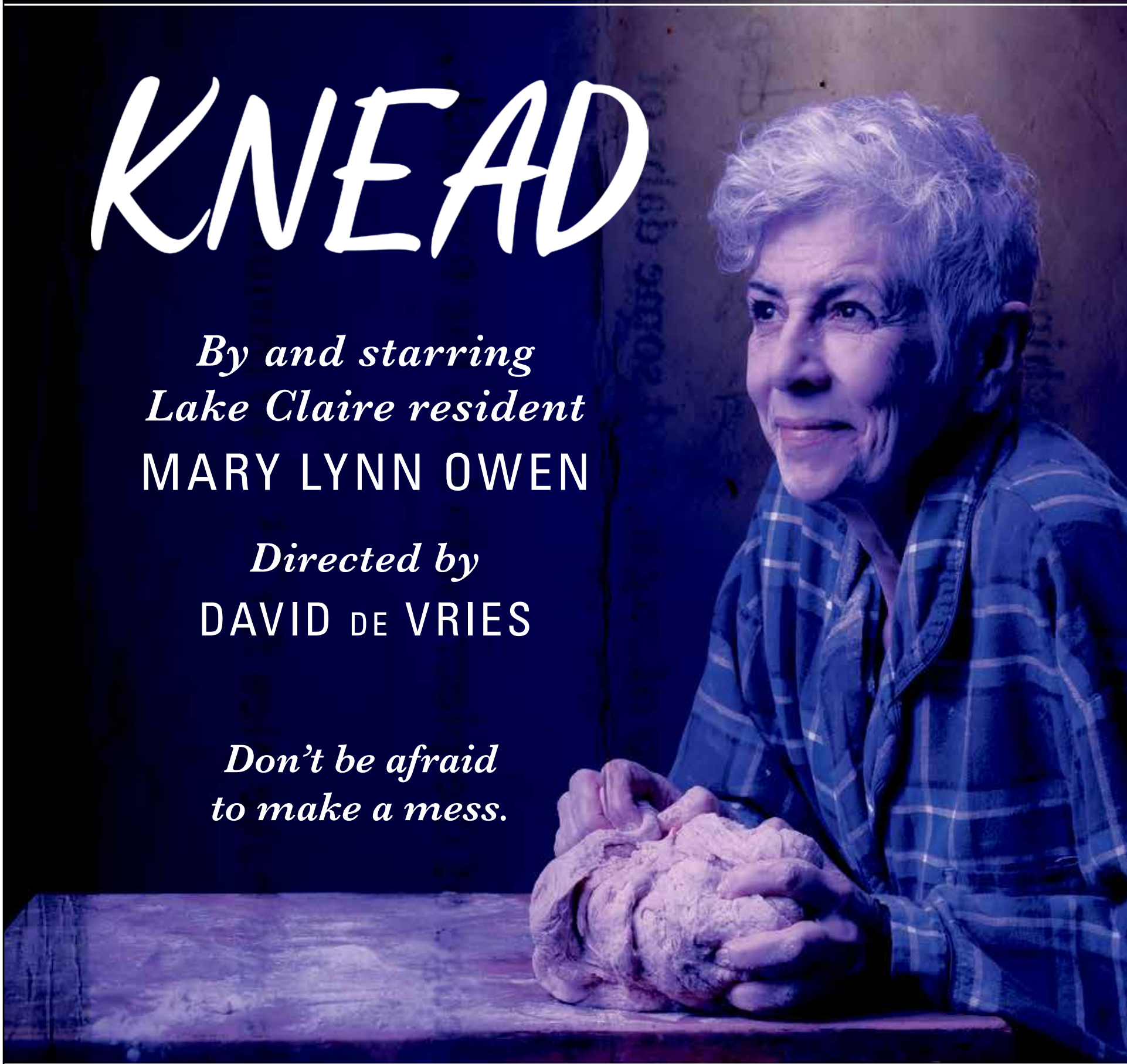
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## November into December in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

At last the cooler weather has arrived. Since October was like the old September, I don't expect frost to arrive until December at the earliest. A few years ago it came once in February and then never again. Pray for at least some chilling hours, however, to help not only your plants but also the peach crops of our Georgia farmers that require a certain number of hours below 45 degrees in order to form fruit. Speaking of those farmers, I recommend once again *The Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin* published by our state agricultural department and now over 100 years old, [agr.georgia.gov/market-bulletin.aspx](http://agr.georgia.gov/market-bulletin.aspx). Not only does it offer plants and services provided by ordinary citizens, but also the content nowadays often focuses on Georgia-grown foods, agro-tourism, and even organic gardening. Since our state is majority rural, it behooves us to learn what is going on outside Atlanta.

If you are new to the neighborhood or to gardening, you will want to know that fall is a great time to start a compost system in your back yard. A set-up with three wire bins would suffice, either shifting the compost from one to another as it decomposes, or lifting your cage from the pile to begin using

it for another round. I have a wood and wire structure built long ago that allows access to rodents, but I figure they add as much as they take away. A neighbor has a metal composter that has lasted many years. You can buy expensive set-ups, but remember, just as with bird feeders, rodents can gnaw through plastic.

Nobody fed the forests during the millions of years before people arrived on earth. Their shed leaves turned to compost beneath them. Every bag of leaves set out on the curb is a bag of free nourishment leaving your yard. Let fallen leaves remain under trees. Rake leaves off lawns to decay under shrubs. Shred and bag leaves (using the reverse part of your blower) for flower bed mulch the rest of the year or to add to compost bins when pulled weeds are scarce.

If you have a bed of cool weather vegetables, you can continue harvesting all winter. The same metal hoops you used for shade or insect protection can hold covers of plastic or of heavy-duty spun-bonded polypropylene or polyester. I like the woven covers because they allow rain and air as well as light to pass through during our relatively warm and dry winters.

**This is the month to begin plant-**

**ing spring flower bulbs:** narcissus (jonquils, daffodils), tulips, crocus, and other small bulbs that are inexpensive and easy to grow. If you did not put in an order with one of the reputable bulb companies I recommended in June, look for bulbs in local hardware stores. There will not be much variety, and the quality varies. Inspect them before purchase, looking for firm bulbs with no soft places. The heaviest bulb of one type will be the healthiest. Peeling skins and a little powdery mildew are OK on the exterior. Store them immediately in a refrigerator, not near fruit, until you are ready to plant. Narcissus come in yellow, white, and peach (called pink) shades, plus bicolors. They need to be planted deeply (three times their diameter) but will last for many years as long as they get full sun in the springtime and you do not cut back their foliage. Set them out where they are unlikely to have their leaves mowed. They are also poisonous so remain uneaten.

Squirrels love crocus. I find, however, that they are mainly interested in the large, vernal type and do not generally dig up species crocus, the smaller, earlier ones. I try to be surreptitious, planning where they will go and getting them quickly into the ground, not

leaving them scattered around while wandering off to do something else. Remember, you are being watched by beady eyes in the trees as you work. Grape hyacinths are also small and perennial, come in lovely blue shades, and remain relatively undisturbed by rodents. I like that their foliage appears at a different time of year than the flowers so that I know where they are.

Tulips are large and beautiful, blooming in every shade but true blue. They are also annuals here in Atlanta. Wait until mid-November or later before planting, and use them in groups of five (or ten or twelve!) of one color for best effect. Squirrels love these also, but tulips need to be six-eight inches underground anyway. Purchase an anti-animal spray such as Repels-All, and use it on tulip buds in the spring if you notice squirrels are biting them off. Unlike 2017, my 2018 tulip bloom success was almost 100%. I think that in addition to the colder 2017/18 winter, storing them for a longer period in Ann and Scooter's basement refrigerator helped.

*Elizabeth Knowlton welcomes hearing from Clarion readers with questions—or your own tips—at [knowltonew@earthlink.net](mailto:knowltonew@earthlink.net). ~Editor*



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# THE LAKE CLAIRE COMMUNITY

## Sweat + Pizza × 6 (or 60!) = Community

by Stephen Wing, Land Trust Secretary

Every month on the third Saturday, our Community Work Day comes around at the Land Trust. So we rent the port-a-potties, reserve the parking lot at Clifton Sanctuary, and hire extra security to direct traffic, getting ready for a crowd. Surely all the folks who show up for our music festivals will eagerly return to help sustain and beautify this treasure that has given us all so much? Surely the neighbors who bring their kids to the playground, the drummers and dancers who attend the Drum Circle, the teenagers who meet here to socialize, the sweat-lodge enthusiasts, and the gardeners will all come flocking together for a chance to make a good thing even better? And they even get pizza!

But every month, only a handful of volunteers show up to help. We are mystified. There we sit afterwards, staring at four hundred pizza boxes, scratching our heads and wondering how we could have miscalculated so badly. We had a blast—all six of us—but where is the rest of the multitude we expected? Don't they know that if

anything is more fun than dancing to rock'n'roll, it's a work day at the Land Trust?!? Don't they know why we call it not just a work day, but a *community* work day?

Maybe that's it. Maybe "community" is an old-fashioned word that has lost its meaning in a time when people text instead of talking and "friend" each other instead of making friends. Maybe some of our neighbors in Lake Claire think a "community" is just a population that happens to reside within a certain boundary. Maybe they vaguely recall learning that a "barn-raising" was a medieval levitation rite, and a "potluck" was a quaint custom of old-time Indians. And "community"—wasn't that a primitive early form of Communism?

Well, actually, no. The Lake Claire Community Land Trust is not a Land Trust that happens to be in a community called Lake Claire. It got that name because the people who envisioned it, founded it, cleaned it up, and re-shaped it wanted to live in a community, and they knew there was only one way to get there. Yes,

they partied—their street dances in the Arizona Avenue cul-de-sac are legendary. But they understood that the only way to build real community is with picks and shovels, rakes and wheelbarrows, hammers and nails. Not just working, but working together.

Visitors, to this day, are stunned speechless the first time they stroll around the Land Trust. It's a beautiful space, of course, but what they are really sensing is the power of a shared vision and the determination it took to manifest it in an actual place. Not just group mind, but group muscle. Ten or fifteen families with kids in tow, individually as diverse as any random group of neighbors can be, coming together to do what none of them could have done alone.

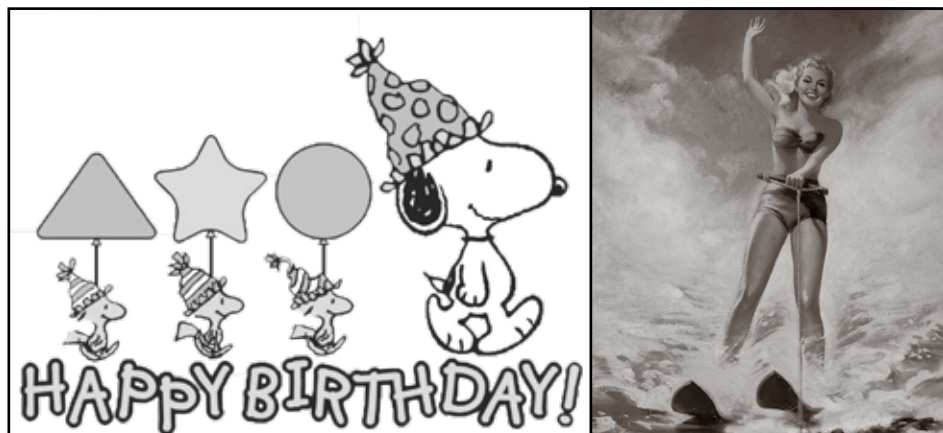
No contractor or government agency could have done it, either, because such beauty can spring only from a vision, and unless the vision is shared, no group of individuals would willingly pool their musclepower to make it real. Yes, they sacrificed something—they could have taken their families to Six Flags that weekend, to the Smoky Mountains, or off to the beach the next—but what they gained was clearly worth it. Surrounded by the evidence of their dedication, we can only imagine what motivated that sacrifice. We can take for granted that they did it for us, so we would have a beautiful space to stroll around in. Or we can feel the lingering power of what they gained in doing it, weekend after weekend, year by year.

It's called community, and it's

available to all of us. But we can't get there just by partying, no matter how fine the music or the company. It takes work, actual physical work—steady progress toward a shared goal. Working together transforms us just as it transforms the place where we focus our efforts, one wheelbarrow of wood chips, or sack of pulled weeds, at a time. Digging into our pizza at the end of a hot, sweaty Community Work Day, we look around at the small step we have accomplished toward a distant vision. A vision we share; a step we have accomplished together. Community doesn't arrive when we finally take the last step and the vision becomes real. Community is the journey that takes us there.

Maybe as the demographics of the neighborhood change, and the new people moving into Lake Claire don't see physical labor as recreational, let alone transformational. But community is in our DNA, an inheritance of the tribal interdependence that enabled early humans to survive and successfully migrate to every part of the Earth. If you feel something is missing in 21st century society, or in your own busy life, maybe it's community. Maybe you could use something simple and basic and shared with others. A few hours of physical exertion. A slice of pizza. A little sweat equity in a vision.

*Editor's note: Next LT Community Work Day is Sat. Nov. 17, 3 to 6 p.m. Note shift to winter hours! Pizza and drum circle follow. Let's surprise Wing!! ~B.D.*



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

### November Birthdays:

- Nov. 1 Jane Merkle (Connecticut)
- Nov. 2 Woody Spivey (Harold) turns 10
- Nov. 3 Seija Olson -(Leonardo) turning 6
- Nov. 6 Cora Elisabeth Weeks (Leonardo) turns 3
- Nov. 7 Sue McAvoy (Leonardo) xoxo
- Nov. 10 Avery James Cooper—5 years old (Leonardo)
- Nov. 11 Susan Ledbetter (McLendon), Elizabeth Knowlton (Arizona)
- Nov. 14 Marilyn Schertz (Arizona)
- Nov. 15 Aileen Mary Styczynski—5 years old (Harold)
- Nov. 18 Debbie Livingston (Connecticut)
- Nov. 19 Sarah Shalf (Harold)
- Nov. 24 Anne d'Agostino (Connecticut)

**Born!** Congrats to Anna Kilinski and Spencer Brent, and to big brother Ford, on the Lake Claire side of Clifton Rd, who welcomed baby Jones Robert Brent to the family on October 12.

Send us stuff! ([editor@lakeclair.org](mailto:editor@lakeclair.org)) by NOVEMBER 15.

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Jodi Greenberg, J.D.  
[Jodi@nealandwright.com](mailto:Jodi@nealandwright.com)

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# LAND TRUST

## Community Gardeners Tour the Land Trust

by Sara Gottlieb

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust boasts over 50 community garden plots, where neighbors each year grow everything from asparagus to zinnias. As the local food movement continues to gain momentum, and cities including Atlanta promote urban agriculture, community gardening is an important aspect of our food ecosystem. Community gardens give equal access to people who may not have their own land or enough money to keep fresh food on the table. Gardeners at the Land Trust are varied each year, from young folks renting rooms in the neighborhood to those more “seasoned” folks who have been tending gardens for years. Kathie Ryan has said, “I started gardening at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust in 2010, and I have been gardening there ever since. I have found more than the sunshine I need for my vegetables to grow; I have found like-minded people who have become treasured and reliable friends.”

This year, the American Community Gardening Association (ACGA), which is based in College Park, Georgia, held its annual conference in Atlanta and arranged for seven separate tours of community gardens around the Atlanta Metro area on September 15. The Land Trust was featured on a bike tour of gardens in the east side and was themed the Tour de Resurgens. About 30 participants from as far away as California, Maine, and even North Carolina (which was experiencing the worst of Hurricane Florence at that very moment) were led by Nedra Deadwyler, who runs Civil Bikes, from the Edgewood/Candler Park MARTA station to Mulberry Fields, before arriving at the Land Trust around 11 a.m. on a lovely Sat-

urday morning.

Gardeners and other volunteers at the Land Trust had spent hours during the preceding weeks spiffing up their plots and the surrounding pathways, which had begun to suffer from a bit of late summer “funk,” and the place looked beautiful. Brynan Hadaway, President of the Land Trust, and I (Land Trust Board Member and Community Garden Plot Coordinator, aka Garden Goddess), along with Andrea Zoppo (Miss Ladybug) led the group through our magical plot of land, describing the history and current state of things. Richard Powers stood guard over the bikes stashed near the playground.

Participants learned about the fruit trees planted along DeKalb Avenue by Trees Atlanta under the direction of Leah Pine and Miriam Herbers; the “farm” run by Robert Pue as part of a separate non-profit aimed at providing mentorship to boys without fathers; and the Children's Garden directed by Andrea Zoppo as a place where children can experience sensory delights, such as the zesty scent of lemon balm, the fuzzy leaves of mullein, and the eye-popping color of a hibiscus flower. We described the origins of the Land Trust, how the Peace Garden was established as part of a worldwide event in 1997, the Lake Claire Compost Project run by Terra Nova Compost, the festivals held several times a year to help support Land Trust operations, as well as the process for identifying gardeners and renting plots each year.

One of the tour participants, Teague Weybright, who is a Community Gardens Specialist for the City of Santa Monica, California, remarked, “When I saw there was a Bike Tour of Com-

munity Gardens, I didn't even read about the others: the opportunity to see the communities on a commuter level gives one a sense of what is around the area and better engages individuals in the community. I'm still talking about the goats; I love goats, and I was so impressed that communities in Atlanta had accepted and embraced this animal husbandry effort. It is always fun to see the energy and pride that community garden leaders have for their programs. From after-school classes to drum circles to community composting to produce donations, Atlanta has it going on!”

Brynan Hadaway reflected, “It was such a pleasure to be part of the Atlanta Community Garden Tour and meet such a lovely group of people. There were people from all over the country—Colorado, Texas, California, Pennsylvania, just to name a few. What a passionate group of people travel to this event. The attendees were full of questions and absorbed everything like a sponge. What a wonderful opportunity to share the Land Trust with such like-minded people.”

Bike tour leader Nedra Deadwyler sent these thoughts after the event: “The tour with the American Community Garden Association was a great success! There were six sites to visit. At one of the gardens, we had an impromptu discussion where participants gave various examples of models for how community gardens serve as an answer to food access needs experienced in some communities. Each site was drastically different, though the tour could have been shorter and more intensive to showcase work, problem solve, and strategize for the future. Personally, I did enjoy seeing up close the Lake Claire Land Trust,



learning more about its history, and what was located on site. We need to have more conversation on the small ways people can conserve public spaces, green spaces, wild spaces in more community-wide events and across all socio-economic groups, because it is something that all communities can to preserve. The knowledge needs to be more widely distributed.”

Michelle Gambon, a volunteer with the ACGA host committee, had this to say about the experience of organizing the tour: “Friends come in all different shapes sizes, and from different experiences. From the moment I stepped into collaboration with some of the finest garden leaders in greater Atlanta, I felt connected. I am thankful to be ‘of like heart.’ Praise to us all for how we gave of ourselves to host community gardeners from across the Nation.”

Find out more about the American Community Gardening Association here: [communitygarden.org](http://communitygarden.org)

Find out more about the Lake Claire Community Land Trust here: [www.lcclt.org](http://www.lcclt.org) or on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lcclandtrust](http://www.facebook.com/lcclandtrust)

## Ladybug Garden Fun! Have Smore Garden Show!

by Andrea Zoppo (aka Miss Ladybug)

Join us at the Land Trust for our next and last event of 2018, on Dec. 2, 4-6 p.m. We will have vegan and regular smores and our new interactive puppet show! Join us for our biggest party of the year! With music, fun, and entertainment. surprises, we will have a great time together! \$5+ donations are cheerfully welcome!



Brynan Hadaway introduces Robert Pue to the American Community Gardening Association's bike tour of the Land Trust (photo by Sara Gottlieb)





# 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 Seija and Synnove Olson of Leonardo. Seija is a Kindergartner at Mary Lin Elementary. She loves reading, art, music, and PE. She takes Spanish, Hip Hop Dance, Math Su-

perstars, plays soccer, and is a member of the Homeless Pet Club. Synnove is a Second Grader at Mary Lin Elementary. She loves math, reading, art, and music. She takes Spanish, Hip Hop Dance, Math Superstars, Comics Creations, and sings in Chorus. See the Olson sisters pictured here; also pictured is younger brother

Naven (two years old), who helped them find the hidden black cat.

Hey there, Lake Claire kids of all ages—we want to see your creativity. Write about anything that grabs you. Submit your work to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org). We hope to hear from you!

## • • • Contest Winners • • •

Anders Cooper on Leonardo Avenue, a 2nd grader at Mary Lin, came in first, finding the black cat on page 9 next to the reminder for dues. Anders is seven years old, and he loves to give out candy on Halloween. As of press time, we hadn't received Anders's picture, but we will put it in the next issue!

Seija and Synnove Olson came in second (by a hair), and they are our featured writers this month. Seija is six years old, and Synnove is eight. Synnove said, "my favorite thing about Halloween is that my birthday is the day before it." Seija added, "My favorite part about Halloween is that you

get candy, and you get to dress up in costumes."

Emmy Ross was our very close third-place winner! Emmy is six years old and lives on Connecticut Avenue. She is in 1st grade at Mary Lin. Emmy says, "my favorite thing about Halloween is getting so much candy!"

Anders, Seija, Synnove, and Emmy won the contest over the hordes of Lake Claire children who participate every month in the Clarion Kids' Page. Keep up the good work and congrats, all of you!!! And to those kids who sent entries in and didn't win, please keep playing!

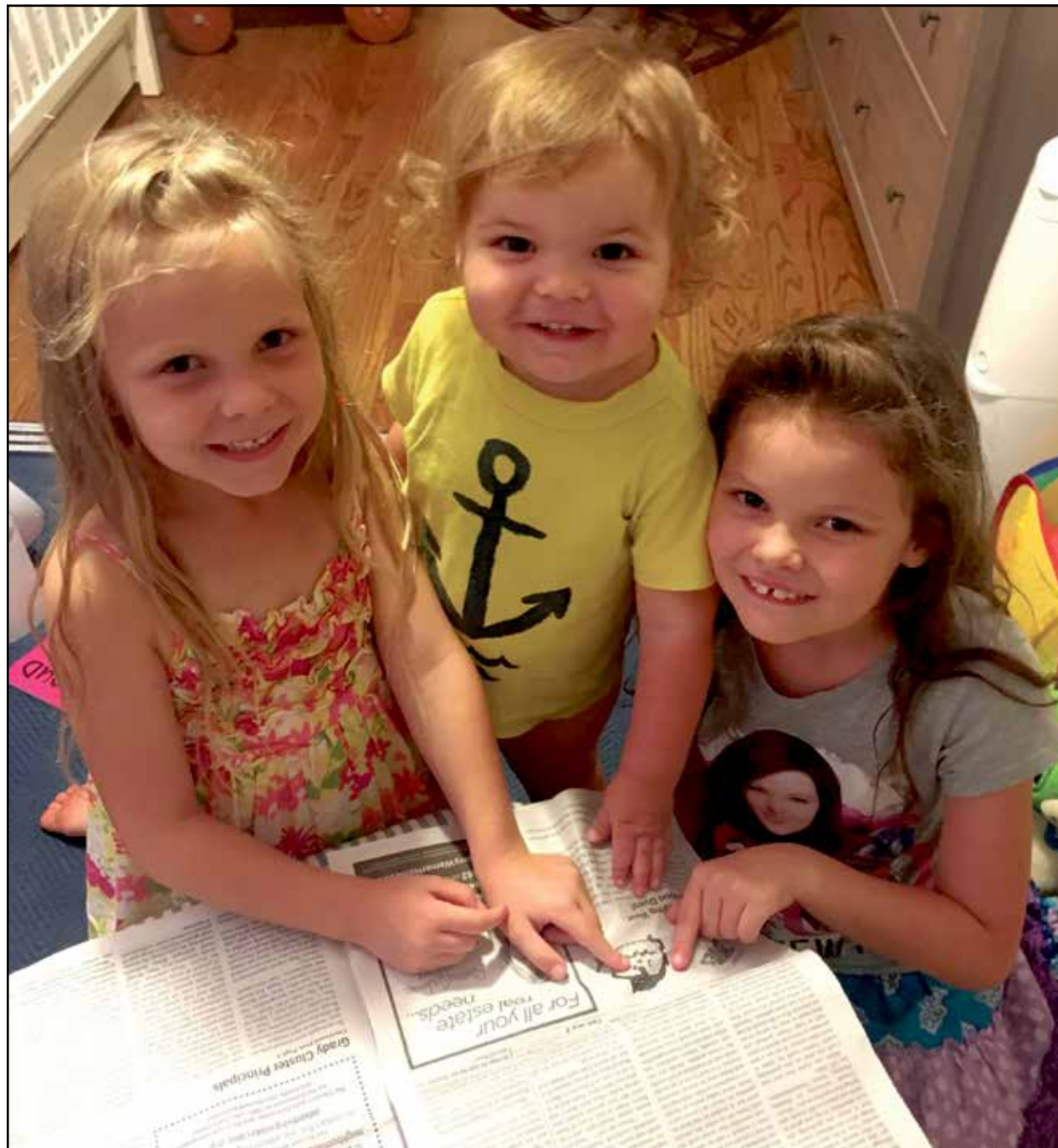
## What we Love about Lake Claire

by Seija and Synnove Olson

We love living in Lake Claire! "I love living in Lake Claire because we have lots of neighbors, and my friends at school live nearby," says Seija. "I love living in Lake Claire because I have a lot of friends, and I love my school. AND I love making new friends, too." (Synnove). We had so much fun looking for the hidden black cat.



Contest winner Emmy Ross



Seija & Synnove (featured writers for this month and 2nd place contest winners) with little brother, Naven

## NEW CONTEST!

Take a moment to find a fall tree to become the Clarion prizewinner for next month. The winner will have his or her photo in the December Clarion. To win, send e-mail to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) identifying the page number. For extra credit, tell us your favorite thing about Halloween or your favorite holiday. 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.