



Cast members pose on the steps of the First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta, where they have been rehearsing for the March premiere of *All Over This Land*. Front row, from left, B. Marie Stephens, Earl Mays, Kelcey Seth, Athena Jones; back row, Mia Walters, Wade Marbaugh (masked), and Chad Hobbs.

## Father Pairs with Daughter in New Play

When long-time Lake Claire resident Wade Marbaugh had to recruit a cast for his upcoming play, he offered a key role to an actress he held in high esteem—his daughter Olivia Simonton.

Simonton accepted the role, and the two of them will be among a cast of ten performing in the world premiere of *All Over This Land*, showing in Conyers on weekends **March 15-24**.

“I’ve seen Olivia on stage, in indie film projects, and so forth, and I feel she is perfect for the part,” Marbaugh said. Simonton won acting awards at Grady High School and, currently living in Los Angeles, works on various film projects with The Sager Group. Marbaugh wrote the play as the third segment of *Human Apartheid Trilogy*. The first two plays, *American Apartheid* and *When Ali Came Back*, premiered in

Conyers in 2017 and 2018, respectively. The author also acted in those plays.

“It’s fun to see your play reach the stage and even get to act in it, but it’s really special this time to be on stage with Olivia,” Marbaugh said. Lake Claire residents Bob Caine and Sam Collier performed in *American Apartheid* in 2017, which Marbaugh described as “very special to perform with good **Cont. on p. 3**”

## Know Your LCN Officers: Carol Holliday

This continues a now-and-again series in the Clarion for you to get to know our neighborhood officers. They are a diverse group, ranging from one who grew up in her house in Lake Claire (recently retired from the board), to others who moved here in the 1970s-'90s, to our treasurer, whom we featured last month, Eileen O'Neill, who moved here in 2014 (see last month's issue). This month we feature Carol Holliday.

**Carol Holliday** is our VP of Planning and our representative to the NPU. As of September, she will have lived in Lake Claire for 42 (!) years. In an earlier pe-

riod, she served on the LCN Board in another capacity, and for many years she was the distribution manager for the newsletter that was the predecessor to this newspaper. Carol has been an activist for progressive neighborhood causes for many years, including representing Lake Claire for 20 years on the executive board of CAUTION (Citizens Against Unnecessary Thoroughfares in Older Neighborhoods, a coalition of neighborhoods opposing the proposed 4-lane highway then planned to go through Candler Park, Inman Park, and the Olmstead Parks), ending as Co-President of

CAUTION in the year that the organization transitioned into the Freedom Park Conservancy. A few years later she assisted in the formation of the current Lake Claire Neighbors Association (LCN).

Asked by the Clarion what she most loves about Lake Claire, Carol said, “Lake Claire is the closest you can get to living in a small town where all know their neighbors. Where else can you find so many beautiful trees? Where else do you have a wonderful asset like Frazer Forest?”



Jack Morris, left (first place), Kian Kastorf, middle (accepting 2nd place for his brother Soren), and Liam Kelleher (right), who finished 3rd in Pack 586 Pinewood Derby

## Cub Scout Completes Three-Peat of Pinewood Derby

by Kai Artley Nathaniel

Jack Morris successfully completed a three-peat in Pack 586's Pinewood Derby, held on Super Bowl weekend at the Neighborhood Church.

Jack, who lives on Sutherland Place, raced a sleek yellow wedge called “The Final Banana” down the 40-foot track at an average of 3.1552

seconds. Second place was Soren Kastorf with his Coca-Cola car at 3.1813, and third was Liam Kelleher's “Turbo laser” at 3.1841. Other top 10 Lake Claire racers were Luca Raimonde of Ridgewood Drive and Oliver Grosse of McLendon Avenue.

**Cont. on p. 11**

## Biracial History Project Free Walking and Bike Tours

by Edith Kelman

The Early Edgewood-Candler Park Biracial History Project will partner again this March with the Atlanta Preservation Center to offer free Walking & Bike Tours during the Phoenix Flies month-long celebration of Atlanta's historic sites.

**Our guided tours** visit 1870s–1980s African-American legacy sites in Candler Park. Reservations are required; call 404-577-2553 (each guided tour is limited to 20 guests).

**Walking Tours** are scheduled for Wednesday March 13, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and

Saturday, March 16, 1-2:30 p.m.

**Bike Tours with Civil Bikes** are on Wednesday March 13, 12:30-2 p.m., and Saturday March 16, 12:30-2 p.m. Bring your own bike.

All tours begin at the Old Stone Church/First Existentialist Congregation at 470 Candler Park Drive NE, Atlanta GA 30307. Free park-

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The Clarion is published monthly. The deadline for advertising and editorial consideration is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words or fewer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not those of Lake Claire Neighbors, Officers, or the Clarion Staff.  
 Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

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

## March Calendar

**1-3 Horizon Theatre**—only 3 days left—*The Wolves*, by Sarah Delappe, re a girls' indoor soccer team. Your editor saw it and highly recommends it. See [www.horizontheatre.com/plays/the-wolves/](http://www.horizontheatre.com/plays/the-wolves/). (13+, adult situations and salty language). Next play at Horizon: *Pipeline*, see below on March 22

**1-23 The Theatrical Outfit** presents *The Pitmen Painters*, by Lee Hall (1934-1947 in Great Britain: a group of miners and a dentist hire a professor to teach Art Appreciation & embark on one of the most unusual experiments in art history.) [www.theatricaloutfit.org](http://www.theatricaloutfit.org)

**2 & 16 Drum Circle at the Land Trust**, 8 to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend! Please help spread the word.

**9 Atlanta Ballet** will perform new works and selections from *Beauty & the Beast*, in the Frazer Center Atrium, at 2 p.m. This is a free public event. See details on Page 7.

**10** Daylight Savings Time begins, ending November 3

**13 & 16** Biracial History Tour, Walking and Cycle Tours, see article Page 1.

**15-17 & 22-24 Paula Vaughn Black Box Theatre** presents: Lake Claire's own playwright/actor's play *All Over this Land*. Please see details in the article on Page 1 and 3, and the ad on Page 9 (thank you, Wade, for supporting the Clarion—Hi, Lake Claire, let's go to Conyers).

**16 Land Trust Community Work Day**, 2 to 5 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow. Note winter hours!

**21 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting—and every 3rd Thursday, in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting.** Free pizza (THANKS, SAVAGE). Minutes on the website, and when room, in the Clarion.

**22 to April 21 Horizon Theatre**—*Pipeline*, nominated for five 2018 Lucille Lortel Awards, including 'Outstanding Play,' about Nya Joseph, a dedicated, inner-city public high school teacher who is committed to her students, but sends her own son to a private school. Get info and tix at [www.horizontheatre.com/plays/pipeline](http://www.horizontheatre.com/plays/pipeline)

**22-24** See above for 15-17 March

**23 to April 28 Actors Express** presents *Falsettos*, with a Tony-winning score a landmark musical. (Marvin leaves his wife Trina for a guy named Whizzer, and they all determine to salvage something from the fallout to form a new kind of family.) Info & tix: [www.actors-express.com/plays/falsettos](http://www.actors-express.com/plays/falsettos)

**24** Children's Garden Equinox & Faerie Doors, Spring Celebration with Ladybug, 4-6 p.m. at the **Lake Claire Community Land Trust**, 270 Arizona Avenue; see Page 11 for more information

Send calendar entries for the APRIL Clarion by MARCH 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org. I'd love to make this calendar relevant for YOU—send ideas!



## Atlanta Zoo Pandas love Lake Claire Bamboo

Late last month, members of the Atlanta Zoo staff harvested bamboo on Harold Avenue for the Atlanta zoo panda bears. Bamboo is the staple diet of the giant pandas, and many other animals at the zoo also enjoy bamboo. I'm glad someone does, since I (and my neighbors) have lived to regret planting it in my yard. If you have a surplus of bamboo, you can

help the zoo by donating. However, please be aware that the zoo cannot use cut bamboo brought to the zoo. Their staff will come to your location to determine if the species is the kind with nutritional value for the animals. Donate with this form: [zoatlanta.org/panda-cam/bamboo-donation-form-page/](http://zoatlanta.org/panda-cam/bamboo-donation-form-page/).

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## Father/Daughter Play

Continued from Page 1



Wade Marbaugh

friends and neighbors.”

Set in Atlanta in 2018 and 2028, *All Over This Land* opens with the Land Trust drum circle on Arizona Avenue—for a reason explained late in the play. Featuring descendants of the two families, one black and one white, that appeared in the first two plays of the trilogy, the story addresses how widespread and “normalized” hatred and bigotry could affect families and communities in the future. Musa Copelin, an African-American attorney, and his white wife, Karma Keough, struggle to make ends meet after they both become unemployed at a time of social upheaval in America.

Simonton plays Keough’s cousin Savanna Sanderson, who in 2028 uncovers a shocking government conspiracy to eliminate opposition. She must choose whether to look the other way, as advised by her grandfa-



Olivia Simonton

ther, or blow the whistle and endanger her life.

“I felt it’s time to be forthright about raging extremism in some segments of our society, and how that could affect our future quality of life,” Marbaugh said. “So, the play is hard-hitting, but there is a surprise ending. Hopefully, audiences will get into it.”

*All Over This Land* will be performed at the Paula Vaughn Black Box Theater in Conyers March 15-17 and 22-24. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays and 3 p.m. on Sundays. The theater is located at 910 Center St., Conyers 30012. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students with ID and seniors aged 60 and above. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at [www.conyersarts.org](http://www.conyersarts.org) or by calling 770-595-9136.



## Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

### March Birthdays:

- March 3—Judy Langford and Robin Singer, both on Harold
- March 6—Dalton Troxell-Cappello, Almeta, frequent Clarion winner, turns 11
- March 8—Kai Nathaniel, frequent Clarion writer and our featured writer this month (see page 1!), Lakeshore Avenue, turns 9
- March 8—Lawson Crutcher, 15, Hardendorf
- March 11—Zoë Steib on Palifox Drive, 14
- March 14—Jennie Caine, Leonardo
- March 18—Ben Farmer, Hardendorf
- March 19—Emily Allen, Harold
- March 23—David Damon, Forrest Avenue, Beth’s brother...
- March 29—Victoria Weldert – Happy Four!
- March 30—Darcy Troxell-Cappello, Almeta, another frequent winner, turns 8
- March 31—James Crutcher, Hardendorf

Send us stuff —birthdays and other life cycle changes for APRIL—help make this series inclusive ([editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org)) by MARCH 15.

## Thanks for Paying Neighborhood Dues!

Lake Claire suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire Banners are \$45, but a package deal of dues and banner is only \$60! Join these neighbors who have paid dues since the last issue:

- |                 |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Leah Williams   | Bonnie Lunceford                 |
| Sharon Pomeranz | Judy & Bob Thompson              |
| Evan Perlin     | Annsley Klehr                    |
| Valerie Sanders | Melissa Pressman                 |
| Jeff Bumgardner | Halley Manning & Jessica Jamison |
| Laura Rawlins   | Andrew Perrins                   |
| Susan Chu       | Deniz Zizzi                      |
| Tim Salomon     | Amy Chillag & Watt               |
| Mark Fidati     |                                  |

(Please specify when you pay dues if you do not wish to be listed.) To contribute to worthwhile and fun initiatives of our 'hood, pay dues at [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) via the link OR with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107. Thank you to all who have paid dues and/or contributed your time to our great neighborhood, Lake Claire!

## Biracial History Project

Continued from Page 1

ing is available on Candler Park Drive. Tours are appropriate for children 10 and older; but we regret, not universally accessible due to rough terrain. Tours will be cancelled during inclement weather.

Our mission supports community-based education and restorative justice work in the Early Edgewood-Candler Park neighborhood, respectfully reconnecting descendent stakeholders and today’s citizens with this historic African American community.

For more information on both the *Biracial History Project* and *Civil Bikes*, see their websites at [www.biracialhistoryproject.org](http://www.biracialhistoryproject.org) and [www.civilbikes.com](http://www.civilbikes.com). Last month’s *Clarion* featured



an article on the history of the Old Stone Church and the vibrant African-American working class community that resided in this neighborhood from the early 1870s. The community was

located in and around what is now Candler Park. Even beyond their mission as discussed above, the *Biracial History Project* presents and honors forgotten dimensions of our local histo-

ry, offering a respectful context for understanding our interconnected roles in the legacy and future of the intown communities in this broader neighborhood that includes Lake Claire. The Project welcomes everyone’s assistance in gathering documentation and presenting the living history of the current neighborhoods. Contact the organizers at: *Early Edgewood-Candler Park Biracial History Project*, Post Office Box 5567, Atlanta, Georgia 31107. For the fascinating article on the Old Stone Church, see last month’s issue. Online *Clarions* are always available at [www.lakeclaire.org](http://www.lakeclaire.org) in case you want to check this article out and you’ve already recycled your paper copy of the newspaper. ~Editor



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## Boomwhackers

by Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and Educator

What do you do in high school when you have an idea? I decided to interview Cate Crutcher, a Lake Claire resident and a Junior at Grady High School, to find out.

Cate Crutcher was surfing YouTube one day and found a video of Harvard THUD, its percussion club, playing “Don’t Stop Believin’,” on Boomwhackers. It totally excited her, but she did not think anything of it until she was sharing about Boomwhackers back in the fall in math class, and her friend (and technical co-founder), Daniel came up with the idea to start a club. By January, after mulling it over for a few months, Cate was ready to take action.

The question remains: What are *Boomwhackers*?!

**Boomwhackers** are percussive instruments made out of plastic tubes of different lengths. Each tube produces a different note. Similar to hand bells, each person in the group plays them in turn.

Cate explains her impetus for finally being ready to take action. She said that most teenagers are familiar with the “mid-High School crisis.” It is a realization that:

- a. your time in K-12 public education is almost up;
- b. you still aren’t friends with the people you always wanted to be friends with;
- c. it’s too late to become valedictorian;
- d. you took all the wrong classes as a freshman;
- e. you still don’t know what you want to do when your graduate; and
- f. if you don’t take the correct steps, you’ll be an unhappy adult.

Basically, “mid-High School Crisis” is a fear of being out of control of your own life. The good news is that that fear is not reality—in reality, you are in control of your life. “Starting the Boomwhacker Club was a way for me to exert my own will,” Cate explained.

Cate needed a teacher to sponsor the club, so she approached Mr. Hill, the chorus and AP music theory teacher. Not only was Mr. Hill willing to be a sponsor, but he was also able to source Boomwhackers, both from Inman Middle School and his wife. With a sponsor and instruments ready, Cate made some “awe-

some” posters and set the meeting for January 28. About 30 students attended the first meeting!

In that meeting, not only did Cate make brownies, but the Boomwhackers group also learned how to play its first few songs by looking up YouTube play-along videos for Boomwhackers. They played some hit songs, such as “How Far I’ll Go,” by Moana, and “The Banana Boat Song.” One of the debate students proclaimed that the Boomwhackers club was “objectively better than policy debate.” The club’s official title is **Alternative Instruments**, because the group is interested in exploring alternate ways of creating music.

Cate says that they are currently practicing “All Star” for the Spring Sing on April 25. And at the suggestion of her friend, Benjamin, the club is using a music-displaying app to help teach the melody of “All Star.” There are currently about eighteen students in the Boomwhackers Club, “all of whom are passionate about the team, even if they don’t read music,” says Cate. She pointed out that the best part of Boomwhackers is that “you don’t need to know how to play a music to play them.” She admits that she (and the club) do not entirely know what they are doing, but that this is new territory for everyone, and they are learning together.

“I love that I’m doing something to make Grady a fun and unique place. The people are really what make it such a creative community, and I’m glad to be a part of that,” Cate said.

If you want to catch the Alternative Instruments in action, a.k.a. The Boomwhackers Club, they are planning to perform at Coffeehouse on April 11, which is Grady’s quarterly variety show held in its black box theater. The dates can also be found on the Grady website: [www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/14413#calendar17238/20190413/month](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/14413#calendar17238/20190413/month). Also, you can follow Alternative Instruments on Instagram: [@alternativeinstruments](https://www.instagram.com/alternativeinstruments)

If you want your own set of Boomwhackers, check out [boomwhackers.com](http://boomwhackers.com).

*Special thanks go to Cate Crutcher for taking the time to be interviewed and sharing her inspiring ideas!!*

## #ThankATeacher

by Lynley Teras, Mary Lin PTA Co-President

Teacher Appreciation Week came early this school year to Mary Lin. Between state-mandated testing dates, May madness, and the no-snow blues, the Mary Lin community had the opportunity to shower the teachers, staff, bus drivers, and crossing guards with love during the first week of February. This week was a time for the Mary Lin community to pause and reflect on, and show our gratitude to, the educators and staff who nurture and develop our children, making a unique imprint on their lives every day.

Monday through Friday, our teachers and staff were spoiled by a Grab 'n' Go breakfast, morning coffee (San Francisco Coffee), an amazing BBQ lunch (Sweet Auburn BBQ!), refresh-

ing smoothies (Club After School), and a daily gift card raffle. In addition, each classroom decorated its classroom door in the most unique ways to celebrate the teachers. Through parent and student efforts, each teacher was showered with flowers, treats, and homemade cards & notes. Specifically, 4th grade Reading/ELA teacher, Ms. Tijerina stated, “My favorite part [of the week] has been the genuine, sincere appreciation from the students, families, and community. I was unaware of what was coming each day, so my desk overflowed with handwritten messages and enough individual flowers from families to fill multiple vases, forming an amazing cohesive display

**Cont. on p.6**



# #ThankATeacher

Continued from Page 5

of gratitude, symbolizing the close community within the classroom.”

There is quite a village of people who work to better the lives of the Mary Lin children every day. Their work and impact extends far beyond

the boundaries of the classroom. This week was a great time to show the appreciation from Mary Lin parents and students to the educators and staff of Mary Lin.

So, THANK YOU!



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## Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

March is here, and so is spring. And nature is heating up!

Let's first pay tribute to fauna. Shall we begin with the proverb, "Mad as a March Hare." Apparently, that designation came about as the result of the hare's behavior at the beginning of its long breeding season in Britain, from February to September. The male hare was known to be excitable and unpredictable at that time. Unreceptive females would have to hit overexcited males to keep them in their places. It was the incipient "#notme" movement.

Now to the flora. Here in the middle of February the flowers and trees are blooming. Daffodils and crocuses, and all sorts of trees in flower. We'll soon be ablaze in spring color. The dependable camellias are showing their succulent flowers. The only plant that bodes badly for spring is (to me) the Nandina, whose berries are poisonous to birds. The Nandina is a bamboo-like bush likely planted here because of those bright red berries.

**Ok, let's look at the real news of what's happening in the hood.**

Deer, deer, deer, deer. That's right, four deer in Frazer Forest reported by Virginia A. and Pete W., who are the parents of the well known Mr. Darcy. For those who don't know him, Mr. Darcy is the elegant Corgi often seen walking with his persons in the area of Indiana and Connecticut Aves. Andrew F reports "Nothing too exciting for me except occasional bat sightings around the Land Trust. (not sure of

what kind, likely Big Brown)".

One OTH (Outside the Hood) report: my friend Melissa had a big bright blue sighting in her neighborhood, Midway Woods. A flock of migrating Indigo Buntings were in her yard and on her bird bath. I am jealous! I've only had one Indigo Bunting in my yard ever. Those birds are so amazingly blue!

Brynan H. gave us this yummy report, "The only thing I have noticed is increased activity with Red Tailed Hawks...saw one this morning flying with his breakfast around 7:15. Long skinny tail hanging down. Yay!!!" Ilene S., our sharp-eyed contributor, saw quite a few things this past month: a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, a Phoebe, lots of Red-winged Blackbirds, and many Starlings. She saw two owls, one of which flew right in front of her car. In addition, one night she found her dogs were barking at a Cooper's Hawk which was chattering in return. Ilene said she's been disappointed not to have heard any Sandhill Cranes migrating overhead south to north. According to Georgann Smaltz's website: The cranes should be migrating from February 5 to March 24. I share Ilene's disappointment, though many in the hood may have heard them by now. They can be heard coming over a mile away.

Miriam H. reports that she and Ann S. will be helping Trees Atlanta survey trees in our neighborhood. That is all the news I have and will find out more about it for next addition. That should be interesting!

"I have had some encounters with wild birds recently. First, a few weeks ago I saw a great blue heron under the bridge by hole #9 at the Candler Park Golf Course," reports Meredith W. "The next day, I saw another one in the stream running through the Cator Woolford Gardens/Frazer Forest."

Meredith has had some unique encounters recently. A neighbor, Phil, who lives on Connecticut, and who keeps hens and bees, called her into his back yard, where a red-tailed hawk had been sitting on a barrel no more than four feet off the ground all day (at least five hours at that point). "It had been there so long that his chickens were no longer freaking out about it being only a few feet away and were going about their business. I reached out to AWARE\* to see if they would recommend bringing the hawk in since it wasn't normal hawk behavior, but by the time they got back to me, the hawk had left, hopefully having recovered from whatever was bothering it. It was strange, though, as we both approached it and got within a few feet and it barely moved."

Meredith also had an encounter with some abandoned roosters hanging out near the Candler Park Golf Course (hole #9) across from Mary Lin. "There were many posts on NextDoor but nobody claimed them, and they were sleeping outdoors. Unfortunately, two of them disappeared/were eaten before we could find them a good home, but Susan of Sweet Olive Farm (a sanctuary) finally offered to take the last one, hav-

ing been contacted by Debra, another neighbor. The rooster was a beautiful guy (an Ameraucana, I think), and so sweet—when I pulled him off his roost to give him to Susan, he melted into my arms and just stayed there for about 10 minutes." So beautifully put, Meredith.

Correction: Last month I mentioned the flock of goats trimming the flora at the church on Ponce and East Lake. I mistakenly referred to the church as Presbyterian when in fact it is the Episcopalian Church of the Epiphany. Hope I didn't get anyone's goat.

A Happy St. Patrick's Day to all. And to all a green spring and a good night.

Fondly,  
Flora Fauna

PS: Please contact my assistant [cvanderschaaf@bellsouth.net](mailto:cvanderschaaf@bellsouth.net) if you have any floral or faunal reports—or if you have any comments on this column.

\*AWARE, the Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort, rehabilitates injured and orphaned native Georgia wild animals and educates the public about peaceful coexistence with wildlife. Other worthy organizations, Project Coyote and The Atlanta Coyote Project, partners in the National Coalition To End Wildlife Killing Contests, reached a wider audience last month with a Plaza Theatre screening of *Killing Games: Wildlife in the Crosshairs*, a short film that shines a light on Killing Contests.

## Lake Claire Invited to Free Ballet at Frazer Center

by Dina Shadwell

The partnership between the Frazer Center and Atlanta Ballet is flourishing, and as part of the collaboration, the Ballet's second company, Atlanta Ballet 2, will perform in the Frazer Center Atrium on Saturday, March 9, at 2 p.m. This is a free public event thanks to a grant from the Building Community Network, which is led by Georgia Center for Nonprofits and The Home Depot Foundation.

Atlanta Ballet is the state ballet of Georgia and the nation's oldest ballet company. For the past several months, interested participants of Frazer's Adult Program have been attending classes twice weekly at the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education in Virginia Highland. The goal of the program is to offer safe and entertaining physical exercise as well as exposure to different art forms, and to assist participants in discovering different forms of dance

while finding enjoyment and health benefits in regular exercise.

Frazer Center CEO Paige McKay Kubik says, "This partnership is giv-



Photo by Kim Kenney, courtesy of Atlanta Ballet

ing the adults in our program the chance to broaden their horizons by learning new skills and meeting new people in the professional community. We are thrilled to host this Atlanta Ballet 2 event and hope to see our Lake Claire neighbors in the audience!"

The program will include new works choreographed by Atlanta Ballet company dancer Nadia Mara (titled "Volar"), Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education faculty member Armando Luna, and former New York City Ballet principal dancer Monique Meunier, as well as a section of "Atlanta Ballet 2 presents Beauty & the Beast," by Bruce Wells.

No reservations are required. To learn more about Atlanta Ballet 2, visit [centre.atlantaballet.com/atlanta-ballet-2](http://centre.atlantaballet.com/atlanta-ballet-2). For more information about the Frazer Center, visit [frazercenter.org](http://frazercenter.org).

## March into April in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Last year at this time I offered \$100 to anyone who could prevent rodents from eating half my crops. No one took me up on it, and things were worse, if possible, except that Pen Sherwood's suggestion of encasing ripening tomatoes inside recycled clear plastic produce containers (sealed with duct tape) did result in a few good sandwiches. This year I am growing only what has failed to interest animals in the past, which includes most flowers, lettuce, beans, okra, potatoes, leeks, carrots, and the like. I am about to cut my blueberry bushes to the ground. However, I would still like to hear from more successful gardeners.

As you are planning what to grow, look online at such sites as Harris Seeds (NY), Johnny's Selected Seeds (ME), Burpee (PA), Stokes (NY), and Botanical Interests (CO, and carried at Ace Hardware on North Highland Avenue). I recommend Southern companies like Seeds 'n Such (despite than annoying single apostrophe) and Park Seeds. Before investing in expensive trays and six-packs, consider what you recycle. Those same

plastic containers I mentioned above make a nice seed-starting setup. You can close the top before placing the sown seeds in a warm place, and then open it as soon as they sprout. I use special soil for germination. You can also plant seeds in expanding peat pellets, but the netting around them will not degrade for years.

Go ahead and sow cool crops like lettuce and carrots directly in the ground. Set out the brassicas that you have purchased or started indoors. And sow those tomato, pepper, and eggplant seeds in pots or other containers inside this month. Once they germinate, they will need weeks under bright lights to grow large and strong enough to set out in frost-free weather.

Many people ask me about fertilizers, especially nitrogen. Gardening is like food preparation. There are quick ways to do anything, to which I, as a lazy person, sometimes resort; but in general the least expensive way is the best way for both me and the planet. Although the air around us is filled with nitrogen, plants usually can absorb it only when mixed

with water. Have you ever noticed how your garden seems to perk up during a thunderstorm when lightning and rain together make that mix, unfortunately too little to supply all needed. Beans and peas grow nodules on their roots where bacteria called Rhizobium are able to pull nitrogen from the air for the plants; adding those chopped plants to the soil helps inoculate the next season's crop. Still, this does not provide enough nitrogen for all we grow.

Compost to the rescue: not purchased compost, but that made on your property from materials already there. Think about the millions of years and miles of forests feeding themselves from what falls naturally from their branches with little extras from rotting animals, their manure, and annual plants killed by frost. Not only does compost feed plants the next season but it also helps with aeration and feeds beneficial microorganisms, so important in our clay soil. According to an article by Lee Reich, "Each percentage of organic matter in 100 square feet of soil contains about two pounds of nitrogen, one to four per-

cent of which is released as nitrate or ammonium every year" through the process of compost breaking down. This is plenty of nitrogen for crops, especially as it is released slowly throughout the growing season. And compost also supplies phosphorus and potassium, as well as the many micronutrients needed for good plant growth. How can you lose?

An inch of prepared compost spread on top of the soil (covered with mulch in our land of hard sun and rain) should supply all you need. If, during the year, you plant a new, second crop (or third or fourth), then add more compost. If spring happens to be cool and dry, add a little water so that nitrogen is in solution. Actually, it is best to lay compost down in the fall, mulch, and pull it aside in the spring long enough for planting. But go ahead and use it now, too.

I still see mosquito spraying signs around. Please cancel those services. If you fear chemical repellents, cut or buy some fresh herbs such as rosemary, lemon balm, peppermint,

*Cont. on p. 9*

## News for Lake Claire from Councilwoman Natalyn Archibong

We wanted Lake Claire to know about the 2019 Focus Upon Senior Services (F.U.S.S.) seminar on March 2. We thank you for your attendance in years past, and we hope that you are available to attend in the upcoming year. This event is held to provide vital contacts, information, and resources to the crown jewels of the District 5 community; our senior residents. This year's F.U.S.S. will take place Saturday, March 2, from 10am to 1 p.m., at the Drew Charter School, located at 301 East Lake Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30317.

**Regulation of Electric Scooters:** After many months of deliberation and debate, Atlanta City Council voted to adopt an ordinance that will regulate how dockless, shareable, scooters and bikes are operated within city limits. There are several, notable regulations under the newly approved ordinance. Scooters are no longer to be parked anywhere other than a sidewalk, bike rack, or against a building. The scooter must also be

parked in a manner that doesn't obstruct the path of pedestrians. No scooters should be ridden on sidewalks, nor no faster than 15 mph. Should patrons fail to dock otherwise dockless vehicles outside of the public rights-of-way, operators could be liable to pay a \$1,000 fine per day. Lastly, the legislation sets a \$12,000 annual fee for a company to operate 500 scooters, and a \$50 fee for every additional device.

**Citizens Can Now File Online Police Reports:** Atlanta citizens can now file police reports online. The Online Crime Reporting page, on the City of Atlanta Police Department website, allows you to submit a police report, and print a copy of the report for free. The website allows citizens to report on the following crimes: lost property, harassing phone calls/texts/emails, damage to property, and identity theft. You can utilize the following link for online reporting: [www.atlantapd.org/services/online-reporting](http://www.atlantapd.org/services/online-reporting)

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## Early Land Ownership and Street Names in the Lake Claire Area

After the Trail of Tears and after the Europeans claimed ownership, the original Henry County was created in 1821. Henry County was later subdivided into several counties, one of which was DeKalb (1822, which included what became the original Fulton County). By 1853, Atlanta's prominence as an emerging city had been established, and the need for a new County seat (which was within a day's ride by horseback for a larger percentage of the population) became apparent. At that time, DeKalb was divided into two parts, mainly following the survey boundary between the 14th and 15th land Districts. The west side of Moreland Avenue (then and now) is in the 14th District, Fulton County, while the east side is in the 15th district, DeKalb County.

The earliest European surveying of Georgia counties created land Districts, each one typically being 81 square miles and containing 256 Landlots. An entire Landlot is approximately 202.5 acres. **Portions of six different Landlots contribute to the makeup of Lake Claire.** Tracing the ownership history of all of the six Landlots which comprise Lake Claire is difficult. However, some information is available at the DeKalb Historical Society and is noted here.

Between 1822 and 1851, names associated with the six different Landlots during different periods include Caty Bailey (1822), James Hagerdy (?), William Fain, who sold to Joseph Pitts (1843), and Frederick Foster, who sold to Andrew Reid (1850). A noteworthy sale included the east half of Landlot 239 from Joseph Pitts

to **Cabel McLendon** in 1862 (the eastern north-south boundary of 239 runs between Harold and Leonardo). Mr. McLendon had already acquired a large portion of Landlot 210, immediately south of 239. **At the time, he became one of only two landowners of the current Lake Claire.** A "McLindon" (sic) homestead near the intersection of Clifton and Dekalb Avenue appears on a pre-Civil War Union Army strategic map. Eventually, parcels owned by Cabel McLendon were transferred to **Lula Mell** (in the vicinity of Mell Avenue in Candler Park).

Noteworthy is the record of James Kirkpatrick, who had acquired Landlots 211, 212, 238, 237, one half of 243, and 70 acres of 244 (over 1000 total acres) during a period of time before his death in 1851. Except for Cabel McLendon's parcel, Kirkpatrick owned all of the land in Lake Claire and more. By 1860, all of his land had been transferred to Kirkpatrick male heirs. Another Civil War battle map shows a Kirkpatrick residence in the vicinity of the Decatur Wagon Road (DeKalb Avenue) and Durand Mill Road (Ridgecrest).

The Kirkpatrick heirs eventually sold 86.5 acres of land to General John Brown Gordon in 1871, which became his Atlanta estate "Sutherland." (See more details in "Blast From the Past," in the August 2012 Clarion.) J.B. Gordon had a brother who had married "a McLendon of Atlanta," so there may be some familial connection which resulted in Gordon's selection of a location so close to the McLendon homestead. Some of the Kirkpatricks also sold land

to the East Atlanta Land Company, which became the eastern portion of the Olmsted Parks. They also sold property to the Brooks family (as in Brooks Avenue, in Candler Park), part of which was subdivided and eventually became a land donation by Asa Candler in 1925 for use as the park "Candler Park." They sold land to Colonel **Howard** in the vicinity of Howard Circle (former Lt. Governor of Georgia, Pierre Howard, is a direct descendant of Colonel Howard).

**Here is some history of other street names.** There is DeKalb Avenue circa early 1900s—the original Decatur Wagon Road/Atlanta Road originally meandered across the Georgia Railroad tracks. La France Street is part of the original Wagon Road. **Sutherland Terrace:** (General Gordon's wife, Fanny Rebecca Haralson Gordon, had a maternal grandmother whose surname was Sutherland). **Hampton Terrace:** this was most likely named in memory of the very close and enduring friendship between General Gordon and General Wade Hampton of South Carolina. **Ivy Place:** Mrs. M. Ivy owned several parcels along the

east side of the current Ivy Place. Ridgecrest was originally a pre-Civil War road named Durand Mill (because of its route to vicinity where mills were owned by the Durand family at the confluence of Peavine Creek and South Fork of Peachtree Creek, below WAGA Channel 5's studios). **Claire Drive:** Shirley Claire Massell and Sam Massell, former Atlanta Mayor, were the children of one of the three Massell brothers who were the speculators of Lakeshore Drive and Claire Drive. **Lakeshore Drive** was the road that passed by "Lake Ponceana" at the intersection of Claire Drive. Eugene **Hardendorf**, Charles T. **Page**, and Mr. (?) **Harold** gave their last names to streets, as did three of Page's daughters: Lula (now **Marlbrook**), **Harriett**, and **Muriel**. Last, Manry **Nelms** was the land speculator of the **Nelms-Adolphus-Arizona** blocks.

*Editor's Note: Some of this was edited from 1999 issues of the Clarion's predecessor "Neighbors." My thanks to Bob Schreiber for some of it. He was involved in the neighborhood for several years.*

## Gardening in Lake Claire

*Continued from Page 5*

lavender, or catmint. Pull the leaves from stems and drop into a glass jar where you cover them with witch hazel. Place the jar in a dim corner, and shake daily. On the seventh day, strain the liquid into a measuring cup and add about 15 drops of any essential oil such as citronella. Store in tightly closed spray bottles. [Recipe from Country Gardens, spring 2017]

Try a new perennial this year. Coral Bells or Heuchera are a good choice for our shady gardens, and their bright leaves last all year. Just be sure to pick varieties with villosa parentage that tolerate our hot, humid climate, give them good drainage, and supplement with water in dry spells. Also, divide them every year or two because their stems grow

woody with age. Believe me, there is no perfect plant that is carefree. Believe me, no plant is care-free. And none of us is truly perennial.

*Elizabeth may be reached at knowltonew@earthlink.net. ~Editor*



The **BEING HUMAN PLAYERS**  
present the sequel to *American Apartheid* and *When Ali Came Back*

# ALL OVER THIS LAND

World Premier of a play by Wade Marbaugh

**MARCH 15-17 & 22-24**  
FRIDAYS 8 p.m.  
SATURDAYS 3 & 8 p.m.  
SUNDAYS 3 p.m.  
\$15 General Admission  
\$10 Students & Seniors 60+  
Tickets: 770-595-9136 or  
[www.conyersarts.org](http://www.conyersarts.org)

An interracial couple struggles to survive in a society polarized by racism, greed and poverty. Get a glimpse of the nightmarish future unchecked extremism could bring and the hope needed to overcome it. And don't miss the surprise ending!

**Paula Vaughn Black Box Theater**  
910 Center Street | Conyers, GA 30012

See article page 1 on Lake Claire playwright/actor Wade Marbaugh, and pictures on page 3. Hope to see you in Conyers for the play, one of the two weekends!

# THE LAKE CLAIRE COMMUNITY

## Community in Action: Take a Seat and Let's Get to Work!

by Stephen Wing

Once a month on a Sunday morning, the Lake Claire Cohousing Common House hosts a gathering of neighbors and friends for a couple of hours of convivial conversation. At least one person usually participates via speakerphone from out of state. The topic is the oddly shaped tract of greenspace across the cul-de-sac known far and wide as “the Land Trust,” and the monthly gathering is the heartbeat of the Land Trust community.

As a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, LCCLT, Inc. is required annually to elect a Board of Directors and a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. But because of that middle “C”—the one that stands for “Community”—our monthly gathering is more than a Board meeting. This is why it regularly attracts a variety of folks beyond those officially serving on the Board. On the surface, it is all about an agenda of proposals and concerns, Old Business and New Business. But the agenda is really just a cover for a monthly opportunity to get together and practice the art of *community*.

Our bylaws require a quorum of Board members to make valid decisions by majority vote. But it's rare that any decision is contentious enough for a formal vote. We make most of our decisions simply by conversation, and for that we need not just a quorum or even just the entire Board, but the widest possible representation from our very diverse community. To make decisions on behalf of neighbors, visitors, gardeners, playground users, drum circle par-

ticipants, work day attendees, etc., it is vital to hear the opinions and feelings and perspectives of everyone.

**Naturally, that includes you.** If you are interested in joining the conversation, even just to listen, we would be thrilled to have you. Just visit our website, *LCCLT.org*, click on the “Calendar” menu, and select “Next Board Meeting.” If you'd like to receive a monthly invitation by email, contact me at *info@LCCLT.org* to get on my list. You can even drop in for just part of the meeting if there is a particular topic you're interested in.

Our four committees are similarly open to the community. Each has a chairperson, but no membership list. Three of them meet only occasionally, because most of their work is done outside of meetings. The **Grounds Committee** is responsible for maintenance and improvement of the land and its various structures and systems. The **Events Committee** coordinates our fundraisers and oversees the Drum Circles, children's events, weddings and memorial services, etc. The **Communication Committee** deals with the website, signage, bulletin board, email lists, Clarion articles, and more.

The fourth committee, however, has no real function except to meet. The **Planning Committee** takes on long-term projects and major issues that require deeper examination than we can squeeze into the crowded agenda of a Board meeting. It meets as needed to delve into one particular topic and bring a recom-

mendation back to the Board. Planning meetings are populated by more or less the same cast of characters as the Board meetings, depending on their interest in the topic. And again, you are most welcome to participate. These meetings are not posted on the website, but announcements do go out to my email list.

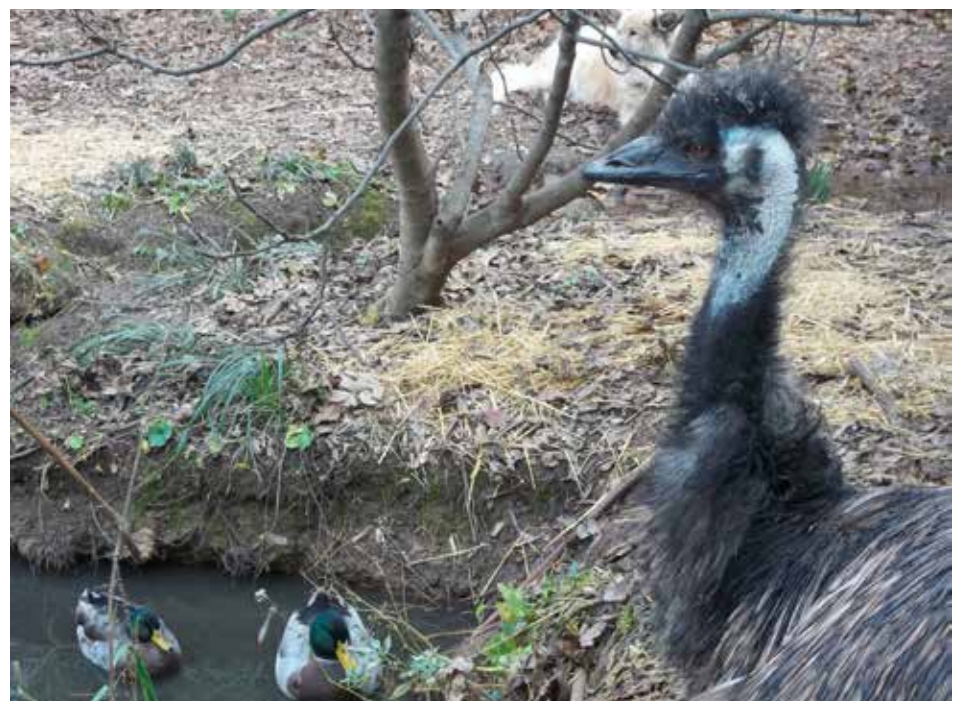
Sitting through a meeting is not for everyone, of course. If you would rather be outside playing in the dirt, you can join us for our **Community Work Day** on the third Saturday each month. But make no mistake, decision-making is work, too! Like the work days, these focused conversations are examples of community in action. And if membership in a community is defined by participation, the more participation we get, the stronger and healthier our community is.

In the long term, though, community must be not only strong and healthy but sustainable. This takes not just conversation but conversation *between generations*. Most of us on the Board are middle-aged or older. We need and encourage younger people to show up to listen, to speak from their own perspectives, and gradually to take on responsibility for whatever needs to be done. The old and young have much to learn from each other. Just as community is embedded in our DNA from our evolutionary past as a species, this is how human culture has passed down through generation after generation, adapting and evolving as it goes.

This once-natural process has been

altered by our society's extreme mobility. It is rare for the children of those involved in the Land Trust (or anything else) to stay in the neighborhood where they grew up and follow in their parents' footsteps. Many of the young people living in Lake Claire are renters who are likely to move on at some point. Their participation is invaluable, because everyone's perspective is unique, and a diversity of perspectives makes any community stronger. However, it is crucial to the future of the Trust that young homeowners with a long-term investment in the neighborhood also take an interest. The founders of the Trust are slowly aging out, and we younger Board members are wondering how the land will fare when the same thing happens to us. **Who will carry on the preservation of one of the last enchanting greenspaces in our urban neighborhood?**

There are so many worthy causes and campaigns out there to plug into and volunteer for. All of us who show up for Land Trust meetings are stretched in multiple directions with family, career, and community involvement. The common denominator that keeps us showing up is a belief that community is an essential piece of who we are as human beings, and that community starts where we live. A commitment to place leads naturally to taking our place in the community, playing a role that is unique to us, and contributing what we can—a contribution no one else can make.



*The Land Trust is fun for all—including kids and emus.*

# LAND TRUST



## Equinox - Knocks on Faerie Door! A Spring Celebration with Ladybug Events

*"Spring Plants are drinking the rain from above  
Growing and becoming the veggies we love!"*

Seasons and the changes in our environment are important to honor and recognize. Even with our varied weather patterns and changing climate, I find it very grounding to connect children and myself to the cycles of Mother Nature and the tasks associated with them. The chant above is how I start every lesson with my classes in the spring. At the Solstice I switch to our summer chant. These rituals help reinforce our presence in nature, our awareness of the changes, and our place in it. Join us on March 24 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. to celebrate

the official astronomical beginning of spring for our Northern Hemisphere at the magical Lake Claire Community Land Trust. We will be planting in our children's garden, decorating and making faerie doors to help our plant spirit friends come and go from our garden, and sharing yummy treats and musical fun!

We are Ladybug Events, and we partner with the LCCLT for Family Fun programming. Ladybug Events offers many services for birthday parties, camps, festivals, community events, schools, and more. Check us

out at [ladybugeventsllc.com](http://ladybugeventsllc.com). We look forward to celebrating the seasons with you!

Ladybug Events and Lake Claire Community Land Trust Family Fun Programs for 2019:

Select Sundays 4-6 p.m.

March 24: Equinox and Faerie Doors;

May 19: Garden Planting Party;

Sept. 29: Welcome Fall Garden Party;

Dec. 1: Jam-Along Kids Drum Circle and S'mores (vegan options available)

**Land Trust Supporters—Renew for 2019!** Anyone can be a Land Trust Supporter by donating \$10 a year.

Donate online via [www.LCCLT.org/stewardship](http://www.LCCLT.org/stewardship); mail a check made out to "LCCLT" c/o Treasurer, 270 Arizona Ave., Atlanta GA 30307; or use the mailbox in the cul-de-sac. Include your email, and we'll add you to our email list. Include your mailing address and we'll mail you a bumper sticker.

A donation is not required to get on this list! Sign up on our home page at [LCCLT.org](http://LCCLT.org).

## Pinewood Derby

*Continued from Page 1*

The derby had 66 heats and took 79 minutes to run. Each car raced on each of the four lanes of the aluminum track. The 10 cars with the faster average time were then advanced to the final round.

If Jack's car had been a full-size vehicle it would have been traveling at 156 mph. Instead "The Final Banana" weighed exactly 5 ounces. Unfortunately, there will be no four-

peat, as Jack is moving on to a Scouts BSA troop next year.

After winning the Derby, Jack happily shared some of his tips and advice for future racers. While "The Final Banana" looked like a slice of American cheese, its wood interior was hollowed out and filled with weights. Jack said that while the center of gravity is important for the cars, even more important for speed

is the wheels. Jack told future racers to look for the mold numbers on the wheels and find ones that matched up. The adult leaders of the pack will try to make sure all the cars have the same number of wheels next year.

Cooper Herzegh of McLendon Ave. was the winner of the overall "Style and Innovation" award given to the

**Cont. on p. 12**



## Calling all Community Gardeners!

**The Lake Claire Community Land Trust is renting garden plots for the 2019 growing season.** The annual fee for rental of a community garden plot is \$40 plus a \$20 maintenance deposit for new gardeners. If you maintain your plot as required in the Gardeners' Agreement, you get back your deposit. Otherwise, that fee will be used to pay for maintenance. Gardeners who do not maintain their plots will not be able to rent plots the following year. Special arrangements can be made for sweat equity (at least 4 hours of labor on the Land Trust grounds; we expect that gardeners planning to use sweat equity give that time prior to or very early (by May) in the gardening season, e.g., by attending two work days). Designated "Giving Plots" are available at no charge. This is for volunteer groups and individuals who will tend the gardens and dedicate the harvest to feed the hungry through established agencies such as the Clifton Ministries Shelter and Plant a Row. Plots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, and returning gardeners in good standing have first preference. Please contact the Garden Plot Coordinator, Sara Gottlieb, at [sara.gottlieb@gmail.com](mailto:sara.gottlieb@gmail.com).

*The drawing of the garden is by Sadie Gottlieb, a student at Grady & a Clarion delivery volunteer.*



# LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/writers/artists to participate.

This month Kai Artley Nathaniel wrote about the Scouts' Pinewood Derby (please note the beginning of the article is on Page 1). Kai Nathaniel lives on Lakeshore and

## Pinewood Derby

*Continued from Page 11*

most notable car. Cooper's green car was nicknamed "Razor Slime."

This year, a special Neighborhood Pinewood Derby Stock Car Race was held before the official pack race. The Webelos painted cars for Cynthia Baer Real Estate, Balance Design, Gato Restaurant, Candler Park Market, Moog Gallery, Moon Brothers Architects, and CNN. The winner of the race was the "Achieve With Steve" car sponsored by Lucca Raimonde's father. All the stock cars used the same wedge design as Jack Morris's.

Because of the great renovations done to the Neighborhood Church, Pack 586 was able to host the city-wide derby there the following Saturday. The pack race crew (Owen Herzegh of McLendon, Chris Scimone of Hardendorf, Dan Salmond of Nelms, and the Morris family) set up the track again and invited scouts whose packs didn't own a track and the scouts who had won their pack's races. A scout from the Lovett School pack set a new course record with a top speed of 3.04 seconds. The car, nicknamed the Punisher, was razor-thin with flashing tape on the bottom concealing the weights. Three Pack 586 scouts finished in the top five.

Pack 586 has committed to hosting the city-wide race again next year in February.



Lucca Raimonde with his car "Charizad" & his dad's "Achieve w/ Steve."

is a 4th grader at the Waldorf School. He turns ten years old on March 8, and he is a Webelo with Pack 586. Kai has been a frequent writer for the Clarion, including reporting other years on the Pinewood Derby and on the Lake Claire Park Clean-up on MLK, Jr. Day. We hope for more of

## Contest Winner

This month, Shanthi Acharya found the photo of the pig representing the Chinese New Year. Shanthi is six years old and in Kindergarten at Mary Lin. She lives with her family on Claire Drive.

Shanthi won the contest over vast numbers of Lake Claire kids who participate every month in the contest on the Clarion Kids' Page. **Congrats, Shanthi! You did it!!** To all of those kids who didn't win, please do keep playing. See new contest below



Kai Artley Nathaniel, Featured Kids' Corner Writer this Month



Cooper Herzegh won Style & Innovation for his "Razor Slime"

his contributions.

**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 this is a good start for future writing careers.



Shanthi Acharya

## NEW CONTEST!

MARCH! Spring is around the corner! Flowers are budding, and we are hoping for no more freezes that might kill those buds. March is the 3rd month of the year and has 31 days. It has St. Patrick's Day, Women's History Month, National Nutrition Month, and Fire Prevention Month. Zodiac signs are Pisces and Aries, and the flower is the daffodil. Ash Wednesday is at the beginning of the month. Sometimes Easter, Passover, and Isra/Mi'raj are in March, but this time they are all in April. Both Holi (a Hindu holiday) and Purim (a Jewish holiday) are celebrated March 21, though. Finally, Daylight Savings Time starts March 10. In honor of that, take a minute to find a cartoon about DST in this issue. The winner will have his or her photo in the April issue of the newspaper. To win, send an e-mail to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) identifying the page number, and you must include your name, your age, school, street, and grade. Ask a parent to take a picture of you, perhaps of you finding the hidden graphic, or in one of your favorite activities. For extra credit, tell us what is good and/or bad about DST, in your opinion. The extra-credit prize is that you'll be the featured writer/artist in the Clarion with your original work. **Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**