



Girl Scouts' Activities

by Keri Bulloch

The Girl Scout Troops at Mary Lin hosted a used children's book drive to celebrate National Girl Scout week. They placed donation bins at Mary Lin and collected over 1000 books, surpassing their goal of 300 books! These gently used books were then distributed to Head Start programs and other local classrooms dedicated to educating children in low income families. Mary Lin has nearly 80 Girl Scouts who reside in the Lake Claire, Candler Park, and Inman Park neighborhoods.

The Girl Scouts program focuses on building courage, confidence, and caring. Scouts have many adventures, service, learning, and lots of fun. Over the years, girls discover that there is so much more to Girl Scouts than selling cookies! The rich and meaningful scouting experience, the skills learned, and the memories made are sure to last a lifetime. For more information about Girl Scouts or joining a troop, please contact me at keri.bulloch@gmail.com.

The Home Team

After the implosion of the Georgia Dome in 2017, Mercedes-Benz Stadium became the new home for the Atlanta Falcons. Since then, the stadium has brought a lot of hype and money to the city, but what about the neighbors next door? *The Home Team* is a documentary film about the residents in English Avenue and Vine City, two long-neglected neighborhoods across the street from the new Mercedes-Benz Stadium. It is the residents' story. It is also about the unprecedented public investment contributed by the city and state to the \$1.6 billion stadium. (Editor's note: I wanted Lake Claire to be made aware of this when I saw the documentary in May at Manuel's Tavern, considering our own history of neighborhood activism, including our successful efforts fighting I-675, resulting in the Presidential Parkway. The way Atlanta's Westside communities have been harmed with the development of the new stadium is nothing short of shocking

and shameful.)

Camille Pendley, director of *The Home Team*, is a former resident of Lake Claire, and she now lives in Candler Park. She interviewed Tracy Bates, a longtime resident of English Avenue, president of Historic Westside Cultural Arts Council, and a producer of the film, about why she wanted to be a part of *The Home Team*. The interview has been edited for clarity and space. Find out more about how to see and support *The Home Team* below, or at thehometeamfilm.com.



CP: So Tracy, why did you want to work on making *The Home Team*?

TB: It was important to me to give the residents in the community an opportunity to have their voices heard and to speak about how the stadium impacted them.

CP: What was it about these perspectives that made you want to make sure they were included?

TB: Well, if someone were



to research the stadium deal and what happened during that period of time, and watch the footage that was shown in the media, it would seem as if there was nothing being done in the neighborhood prior to the Arthur Blank Family Foundation [and the Westside Future Fund] getting there.

Arthur Blank promised a highly publicized \$15 million investment into these neighborhoods in 2017. And from what I could see, this was an investment to further tell their own story and make it seem like they were helping the entire neighborhood.

CP: What's significant about that?

TB: It's not the whole story. I don't see them empowering any existing organizations in the neighborhood. That's important to me because resources are being funneled to them or through them, or alliances and partnerships are being made with them,

that don't really bolster community-based organizations. They don't empower those community organizations to do the work or to walk alongside them, the funders, as they do the work. There are a lot of people, residents, and organizations that have been in the community for years

that could have possibly been resourced to assist in the development of this community where they've been for so long. But that opportunity, in my opinion, was not given—it was given to a few, and those few were highlighted and publicized, giving the

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Know Your LCN Officers: Pen Sherwood

This continues a series in the Clarion for you to get to know our neighborhood officers. See the February through May issues of the paper on our website at lake-claire.org. These folks are a diverse group, ranging from one who grew up in her house in Lake Claire recently retired from the board, to two who have lived here 40+ years, to others who have moved here in the '70s through the 2000s; the group is also diverse in terms of country of origin, as in Pen Sherwood's case, whom we feature this month.

Pen Sherwood is an artist, originally from Thailand, who moved to Atlanta in 2009 to live in Lake Claire with her

husband, Andrew. Pen spent a year as VP of Safety and the past eighteen months as VP of Fundraising. She has helped with the Lake Claire Annual Arts and Crafts Sale, the holiday potluck dinners, and scavenger hunts and art auctions at the centennial barbecues. She sold her art for several years at the late-lamented Donna Van Gogh's in Candler Park. She now sells her ceramics online

Cont. on p. 3

THE CLARION WISHES EVERYONE IN LAKE CLAIRE
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STAY COOL, AND WE WILL BE BACK IN AUGUST!

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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.

June & July Calendar

JUNE

- 1-23** Actor's Express, *Jump*, about a bridge that spans a deep gorge; reeling from the death of her mother, 20-something Fay comes to the bridge looking for solace, but what she finds is a journey of self-discovery. Tix and info at www.actors-express.com/plays/jump
- 1-23** Horizon Theatre, *The Cake*, timely piece about a devout Christian asked to bake a wedding cake for her best friend's lesbian daughter and her struggle to reconcile her belief in "traditional" marriage with her love for the young woman she helped raise. www.horizontheatre.com/plays/the-cake
- 1-30** The Theatrical Outfit, *Five Guys Named Moe*. The tunes of R&B pioneer Louis Jordan, whose slant on jazz paved the way for rock and roll in the 50s, drive this musical tribute. Info and tix www.theatricaloutfit.org
- 1 & 15** Drum Circle at the Land Trust, 8 to 11 p.m. Walk/bike/carpool to the Arizona dead-end. (See further info on the Land Trust on page 11.)
- 2** Marx Brothers—1 performance only, Theatrical Outfit at the Bremen Museum. Tix and info: www.thebremen.org or call 678-222-3700
- 2** Lake Claire Softball!! Come out and cheer our team on! 1:15 p.m. at East Lake Park against Cabbagetown.
- 8** FCS Fest at the Lake Claire Land Trust, noon to 10 p.m.; see article page 11.
- 4 & 18** Get to know the Historic DeKalb Courthouse—in-depth walking tour on architectural styles along with its history, including Historic Decatur Square. Opportunity to go behind the scenes and climb up into the attic to see the beautiful clock face from the inside! Every other Tuesday starting June 4, through August. Member tix just \$5, non-member \$10. Info: Marissa Howard, 404-373-1088 ext 20, howard@dekalbhistory.org.
- 5** *Deep Roots in Dekalb*, led by Johnny Waits, President and Co-Founder of Flat Rock Archives, a series of tours in June. Every Wednesday during June. Space limited, so don't hesitate if you are interested in taking a tour, contact Rebecca at 404-387-1088, ext 24, selem@dekalbhistory.org.
- 9** Lake Claire Softball!! Come out and cheer our team on! 1:15 p.m. at Ormewood Park.
- 11** Dekalb History Center's June Lunch & Learn: Laurel Wilson, MHP, discussing the African-American Heritage of Decatur with emphasis on her research within "Section 6" of the Decatur Cemetery. 12-1 pm and is free and open to the public! 404-373-1088 ext 24, selem@dekalbhistory.org
- 13** Trees Atlanta present *Living with Coyotes in the City*, 7-8 p.m. Free but rsvp at treesatlanta.org/event/the-secret-life-of-coyotes-in-the-city-part-ii
- 13 to Sept. 1** Up for a drive? Check out Serenbe: *Pocahontas* will breathe new life into the story of America's first heroine. www.serenbeplayhouse.com/shows-events/current-season.
- 15** Land Trust Community Work Day, 3 to 6 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow.

16 Lake Claire Softball!! Come out and cheer our team on! 1:15 p.m. at East Lake Park against Edgewood

20 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting—3rd Thursdays, Rose Room in The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Free Pizza (THANKS, SAVAGE).

23 Theatrical Outfit Balzer Jazz Series, 7:30pm—*Lady Day Sings the Blues* with Special Guest Terry Burrell (Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill) and featuring Joe Gransden paying homage to one of the greatest jazz singers of all time, Billie "Lady Day" Holiday.

JULY

2, 16 & 30 Historic DeKalb Courthouse tours, see June 4 above for info.

3 to Aug. 18 HAIR! Attention my fellow baby boomers from your editor: it's the 50th anniversary of Woodstock (gulp!!)—what a great time to revive the Tony-winning rock musical HAIR in a brand new, larger-than-life production. TIX/Info: serenbeplayhouse.theatrisoft.com/#/Hair

4 Enjoy, and please be kind regarding fireworks (see article Page 4). Things to do include the P'tree Road Race, a 4th celebration at Stone Mountain, one at 6 Flags, Concerts in the Garden at the Botanical Gardens. See www.atlanta.net/Blog/Top-14-Cool-Things-to-Do-in-Atlanta-in-July/

6 & 20 Drum Circle at the Land Trust, 8 to 11 p.m. Walk/bike/carpool to the Arizona dead-end. (See further info on the Land Trust on page 11.)

17 to Aug. 25 Actor's Express, *Head Over Heels*, fresh from New York, where your illustrious editor saw it on Broadway. Love the Go-Go's? Fun and funny gender fluidity! Get your tix: A show not to be missed! www.actors-express.com

18 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting—3rd Thursdays, Rose Room in The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Free Pizza (THANKS, SAVAGE).

20 Land Trust Community Work Day, 3 to 6 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow.

27 Another Frazer Forest Stewardship Walk with Eco-A's Kathryn Kolb, 8:30–10:30 a.m. (See last month's Clarion, Page 2, and www.fraziercenter.org.)

27 Lake Claire Land Trust's 11th annual Jerry Jam, tribute to Jerry Garcia/Grateful Dead. Live music, food and drink, artists market, family-friendly fun. Volunteers needed! See article Page 11.

Editor's Note regarding summer theatre and festivals. As of press time at the end of May, it looks like Horizon Theatre's next show is not until August, The Curious Incident of the Dog and the Nighttime, www.horizontheatre.com/plays/the-curious-incident/, but do check their website. Ditto, as of now, I don't see anything for Theatrical Outfit for July, but check their website. Check out all the festivals in Atlanta this summer and into the fall at www.atlanta.net/events/festivals/summer/.

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



Safety in Lake Claire: CPLC Patrol Update

by Cecily Stevens

The Candler Park-Lake Claire Patrol is a neighborhood-run, non-profit organization that supplements customary policing by the Atlanta Police Department with neighborhood-specific patrolling staffed by off-duty APD officers. The CPLC Patrol was established in 2015. Since January, CPLC Patrol officers have patrolled 100 hours monthly on average.

From APD official crime records, some key stats comparisons from CPLC Patrol:

January-April: CPLC incidents are down 10% compared to Jan-April 2018. The largest category of CPLC incidents remained Larceny-From-Vehicle, which at 40 is down 1 incident compared to this period in 2018.

Burglary-Residence incidents were 3, which is down from 4 this time last year. Auto theft, at 5 incidents, is slightly up from the 3 incidents in this period 2018.

Zone 6 and Citywide Year-to-Date through April: Offenses in Zone 6

were down less than 1%, and City-wide were down 7% compared to the same period in 2018.

CPLC Patrol reminds you to clean out your car. Removing all valuables and boxes or bags - from residents' and houseguests' vehicles alike - can make the neighborhoods less inviting for vehicle break-ins. Such crimes of opportunity increase criminal foot traffic, so a clean car is an easy way to improve neighborhood safety!

Join the CPLC Patrol: More members = more patrol hours monthly. In addition to supporting a safer neighborhood, membership benefits include vacation patrols, access to the CPLC Patrol officers' phone numbers (always call 911 first), e-newsletter, and yard sign. Did you know you can refer a neighbor to join the CPLC Patrol for you and your neighbor to receive a \$10 Candler Park Market Gift Card? Visit www.cplcpatrol.com for more information and to join.

Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

Wild headline news! Unredacted Mueller report published here! Abortion Issues Solved!

Well now, I hope, that I have your attention, let's talk about wild things in the neighborhood...as we certainly don't want to mention, *The Uninhabitable Earth*, the recent book by David Wallace Wells, which reviewer Jennifer Szalai states is a "portrait of a planetary nightmare that...will soon take over our waking life." Well, enough of that. Back to the simple pleasures of the 'hood.

Exciting and, I hope, not fake news, I recently heard a rumor that several deer had been seen in the backyards between McLendon and Adolphus. I guess if we can take away their habitat they can enjoy ours as well.

Ilene S. reports a "flock of Cedar Waxwings stripping fruit off of my serviceberry tree....they were beautiful as always." Cedar Waxwings migrate through Atlanta in the winter and spring. They love fruit and berries and many, unfortunately, meet their ends as victims of the bright red berries of the non-native Nandina bush. (See article in April Clarion by Eli Garland, on the website.) Serviceberries (genus *Amelanchie*), however, are native and are a no-kill plant.

Will C. reports he has a resident rabbit in his yard. Will saw it 3 times in the past week (around May 12) and says that it doesn't seem to be afraid of him. When he sits out on his porch "he's not scared of me at all, he just hops around and munches." I believe Will is a rabbit whisperer!

Miriam H. reports that Trees Atlanta will be presenting a program on Living With Coyotes in the City on June 13 from 7 to 8 p.m. (treesatlanta.org)

Meredith W. reports several "joyful interactions" among fauna. A pair of Northern Cardinals built a nest, now with two babies in it, near her backyard. "The parents are flying around trying to find enough food to satiate the noisy youngsters. Meredith, we can use more joyful actions!"

Meredith had another visitor in her yard, this one, for the first time. I'll let her tell that story: "We've had a visitor we haven't seen before. Normally the squirrels get to our strawberries long before we manage to. This year, however, they've left them alone. We had a surprisingly good initial harvest before suddenly one night, all the rest disappeared. The next morning, my husband sent me a photo with a big arrow pointing to our 'intruder'—a young, very sweet-looking bunny rabbit. Yesterday I saw him again sitting on our front walk watching the street as if keeping an eye out for us, or for other, less friendly intruders." The question is: is this the same rabbit as Will has in his yard, or are they a couple maintaining separate quarters?

Other reported sightings from Meredith: a Pileated Woodpecker in Frazer Forest, and salamanders and crawfish in Deepdene Park.

Meta L., our fearless Candler Park photographer/reporter saw a snake moving (slithering?) along by the pond in the Candler Park Golf Course (see picture on p. 5). One of Meta's followers identified it as a "harmless Midland Watersnake." It seems that many of these snakes are clubbed to death by golfers with their (you guessed it), in the mistaken belief that they are Water Moccasins. Their actual mistake, according to another of Meta's followers, is that they are

Cont. on p. 5

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 in the last couple of months:

James Adrian Marshall
Christopher Campbell
Adam Harrell
Clinton Ayres
Deborah Green,
Stacey Howard
Barbara Ross
James Farmer
Eric Schumacher

Claudia Bilotto
Amanda Shipley
Kathleen Dougherty
Andrew Schwartz
Bob Arko
Catherine Bonk
Sherry McHenry
Mary Sloop.

(Please specify when you pay dues if you do not wish to be listed in the newspaper.) To contribute to worthwhile and fun initiatives of our 'hood, pay dues at 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!**



Pen and Andrew at 2016 Holiday Potluck Dinner, where she not only designs the table decorations but is famous for her Thai massaman curry.

Pen Sherwood

Continued from Page 1

through various artists' websites and will be in local shops in the near future.

Pen and Andrew have more than once thought of retiring to the mountains or the coast, but just seem un-

able to leave us. Something in Lake Claire keeps holding them back. "It is certainly not the pollen, not the mosquitoes, not the traffic, and not stray dogs," Pen says. "It must be the people and the trails!"

Fireworks! with Request

by Dawn Aura

With July 4 around the corner, many of us pet owners are hoping our neighbors are conscious of the sad effects on animals. We have an emu living in the back yard, and many of us in Lake Claire have dogs and cats. The noise of fireworks frightens animals tremendously. One time a piece of the

fireworks fell into Big Lou the Emu's sanctuary! We also have a sweet rescued pit bull named Ella (pictured). We don't know what her first year was like, but something happened to her that makes her completely terrified of loud noises such as thunder and fireworks. One New Year's Eve

she was trembling all over, and she wedged herself between the toilet and the wall.

Firework displays at public places usually last fifteen minutes or so, and you can expect that they will end shortly. But when residents shoot them for longer periods, usually spread over an hour or more, it becomes very difficult for the terrified animals to endure, not knowing when the next one will come or when they will stop.

Ella spent the next three days either under the bed or in the bath-

room; she was that traumatized. I have a compromise in mind. My request is that neighbors reconsider shooting their fireworks for so long a time. How about a more concise, finite 15 to 30 minute period like the displays in downtown Decatur or Piedmont Park? That would be so helpful, since so many of us have pets that live close by to the fireworks' shot-like sounds. Animals (including emus) would still be frightened, but I think it frightens them so much more when it goes on and on. Thank you for your consideration.





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Growing up with Mulberry Fields as my Backyard

by Zoey Phillips

It's unsuspecting from the street. All you can see is a pebbled, winding alleyway with an automatic wooden gate wedged open with fallen leaves. A painted, metal sign is nailed to a tree reading "Mulberry Fields Garden," but there are no directions of how to get there, just that alley, shaded by a canopy of trees. This alleyway is more familiar to me than the back of my hand. I know and love every protruding root and dip in the path.

After a bend, you are dumped out into a wide open space glowing with golden sunlight. To the left is an arch draped with crimson red tea roses, and to the right are wooden gardening plots decorated with blooming plants. A banana shaped tree swing hangs from a towering pecan tree. I was there for the hanging of that exact swing. I was sitting on my kitchen floor when my mom

came in with the box. When I opened it and saw the yellow rubber and chain, I knew exactly what it was, and I couldn't wait to have a tree swing of my very own. I can still swing for hours. It's my happy place.



This enchanting swing lives at Mulberry Fields Garden, and I was lucky enough to grow up in this slice of paradise. My family has been a part of the garden since the

beginning, and so I take a sweet sun-ripened tomato and fresh organic chicken eggs for granted. Ever since I was little, I have had access to this oasis in the middle of the city. I have eaten fresh pecans from the tree after

collecting them from the grounds with my friends. It's a whole other world when you can walk down the street to pick fresh veggies or collect an array of flowers for

the coffee table in the living room. In the summertime, I don't think my family has ever had to buy green beans from the store because so many grow in our plot. It's a luxury to have access to farm to table fresh foods in a city.

I have also owned some of the goats who live there. Helping to raise them, mixing formula and nursing the babies, and even bathing them, were commonplace experiences for me. One year I sat for hours combing lice out of my baby goats' fur. First we had to bathe them in a mixture of water and Dawn soap. This in itself was nearly impossible because goats do not like to get wet. Then, I had to painstakingly comb through every inch of wiggling baby goats' lice-infested fur with a human lice comb. And there were two baby goats who needed the spa treatment.

These experiences are rare

for a city girl. When I tell my friends that my only pet is a goat or that I will not eat the eggs at their houses because I am used to fresh ones and that the store-bought ones just don't taste as good, they think I am insane. But I am proud to have been exposed to this alternative way of living and to be able to consider the garden as my backyard.

You can bring your family to Mulberry Fields Garden, located in the Candler Park neighborhood. The garden is open every day during daylight hours and is located down the alley at 1301 Iverson Street. Children love the tree swing and visiting with the goats. Children also love creating imaginative forts under the branches of the evergreens, chasing butterflies through the plots, and running their fingers through the ocean blue pebbles in the vintage tub. It is all there waiting for you.

Wild in Lake Claire

Continued from Page 3

breaking the law in killing these harmless snakes.

Meta has also seen two broods of ducklings, most likely mallards. Add to her list a turtle, laying eggs!

Ken S. sent Wild information regarding the plastic waster agreement signed by 187 countries. The aim of the bill is to limit plastic waste pollution. The US, that's "us," did not ratify the treaty, one of only 2 countries who didn't. Fortunately US trade with countries that did sign will be affected.

I, Flora Fauna, recently saw two Gray Catbirds pop up in a bush in my yard. One was carrying what looked like part of a banana peel. That should make for a pleasant if slippery nest. Birds are so creative! And Catbirds do nest here. Listen to their little purrs, I mean meows, from which they got their name. Also, I've had pairs of cardinals, Eastern Towhees, and Carolina Wrens. I've seen a Brown Thrasher but have never seen more than one at a time so for all I know there can be one or two or ten out

there since they all look alike. I wonder if they can tell each other apart! Hmmm, makes for complicated affairs (literally)!

My hummingbird feeders are going strong. Usually I put them up in early April but this year I procrastinated until early May. But, of course, when I finally got them up, the hummingbirds did come. If you want to try to attract those little jewels boil 2 cups water and then put ½ cup sugar in the water and stir until the sugar is dissolved. No red dye please. **That is not good for the birds.** Think about putting your feeders in a shady spot, as it stays fresh a little longer when not in the hot sun. To keep ants out get a little moat cup you can put above the feeder. Also consider having lots of nectar-producing plants in your yard, such as cardinal flowers or bee balm near the feeder (or anywhere for that matter).

A reader commented on May's "Wild," "I liked your article in the Clarion, especially the part about chemicals ap-

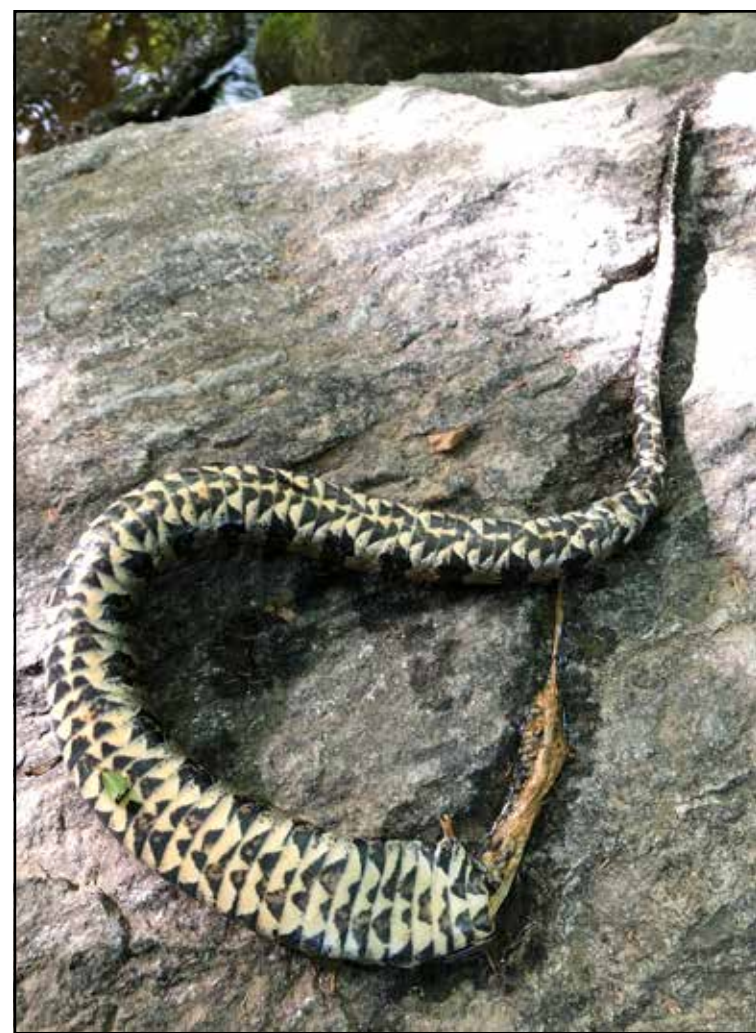
plied to lawns. In NY the lawn service has to give you a listing of the chemicals and the hazards. There are more than twenty, and they all are carcinogenic or teratogenic. I had an acquaintance whose dog had cancer of the paw. Never heard of that before. He had a weed-less and well-manicured lawn. It made me wonder if the dog had been a victim of his lawn service. It is ironic that we can now dispense hazardous chemicals on our lawns to a greater extent than a chemical company is (now) allowed (knowingly) to pollute the environment without reporting it to the EPA." ~Tom Campbell, Candler Park.

Well earthlings, it's time to say so long until August. Enjoy the summer while you can!

Your local seer of dystopia,
Flora Fauna

PS: Please refer any contributions, questions, or criticisms to my assistant, cvanderschaaf@bellsouth.net.

Editor's note—for detailed



Killed by a human who thought it was venomous? It is a watersnake. Harmless.

info on identifying snakes, see Flora Fauna's Wild article in the January 2016 Clarion

at: lakeclaire.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/clarion-jan2016-1.pdf, page 5.



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More Scout Stuff

These are the girls from Troop 19020, all current 2nd graders at Mary Lin the academic year ending now. They presented dozens of donated Girl Scout cookies to our Firefighters at Station 12 (on DeKalb Avenue, at Candler St.). Pictured here, from left to right, are: Katie Maeve Walsh, Annabelle Lindenmuth, Jordyn War-

ren, Zara Cola, Myna Welsh, Annie Ludlam, Lylah Kearns, Samantha Blum, Lila Lackey, and Darcy Troxell-Cappello; also in the troop, but not pictured, is Vega Sullivan.

Allison Troxell and Katie Ludlam were the troop co-leaders. It was a first-year troop. Lake Claire is very proud of these girls!



Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

JUNE Birthdays:

- 6/3 Yoni Williams—turns 7 (I think), Harold Ave., and proud Grandma on Delaware Ave
- 6/7 Pen Sherwood, Harold Ave. (see p. 1)
- 6/12 Steve Lamb's birthday, Delaware Ave. (the Clarion loves you, you'd better be reading this)
- 6/12 Happy birthday, Craig Allen, Harold
- 6/19 Zoe Kaiser's birthday, turns 6; Hardendorf
- 6/20 Sharon Doochin's birthday, Harold
- 6/28 Shawn Gillespy's 16th birthday, Marlbrook
- 6/28 Wendy Baker, happy birthday! Leonardo

JUNE Anniversaries:

- 6/23 Sue McAvoy & Bill McKinnon—1st anniversary—Leonardo (a year went by in a flash!)
- 6/27 Wendy and Boyd Baker's anniversary—20+ Leonardo (maybe that went by in a flash, as well!)

JULY Birthdays:

- 7/3 Brandon Bransford, Palifox
- 7/6 Missy Urda, Harold
- 7/9 Carrie Ericson, Gordon Ave, turning 17 years old
- 7/10 Happy b'day to the Clarion's buddy, Mike McGill, 12 years old!!!!—Delaware Ave
- 7/17 Happy b'day to Colin Calderera, Hardendorf.
- 7/24 Jason Weidert, Harold
- 7/29 Georgie Rogovin, Hardendorf, turns 4

Congrats again to all Lake Claire Graduates!! Way to go!

Send us life cycle changes for August's issue—help make this series inclusive (editor@lakeclaire.org) by July 15

Plea for the Honeybees and Avoiding Mosquito Spraying

Please folks, don't treat for mosquitoes! See previous Clarions or just Google for effective natural things to do. In addition to what everyone has already said, importantly, the effects last only as long as the insecticide is present: as soon as it drifts away or dries out, the mosquitoes are back... and the damage to bees and other wildlife (and your pets' and kids' bare feet) is done.

More than 100 studies link pesticides to an increased risk of up to 80 percent in Parkinson's Disease. In the United States, where approximately a billion pounds of pesticides are applied annually, just living or working in high-spray areas may increase one's Parkinson's risk. Pesticides may cause DNA mutations that increase susceptibility for Alzheimer's, and other illnesses.

The above paragraphs discuss the repercussions of insecticides on people: what about the sad story for the bees? In just one year, beekeepers have reported losing up to 90 percent of their hives. Bees are dying off at unbelievable rates, threatening our food supply and our way of life. The culprit? We know one of the biggest causes of bee die-offs is neonicotinoid pesticides, otherwise known as neonics. Not only are these pesticides still

widely used, but the Trump administration is now even allowing the use of these bee-killing pesticides in wildlife refuges.

We know what is killing the bees—so let's put a stop to it. Support the *Saving America's Pollinators Act*, but more so, you are in a position to protect bees from further exposure to dangerous pesticides...by not using them.

When I think of spring, I can hear the quiet buzzing of bees hard at work pollinating the new flowers around my home. I hope to hear that sound this summer and for many springs to come, not live in a world where that experience is only a memory. But even beyond that, without bees, we don't have food. Bees are vital parts of our ecosystem, working to keep our flowers beautiful and the plants we rely on for food pollinated. We can't let bees continue to die off when we know how to stop it. Take action for bees: Tell your U.S. House representative to keep our pollinators safe. Neonics have no place in areas that have been designated to protect wildlife. With strong legislation like the *Saving America's Pollinators Act*, we can protect bees. Because if we can't protect bees in wildlife refuges, where can they be protected?

If you must spray—spray it on yourself!



June into August in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Last year I devoted this issue to growing perennials, and those instructions are still in the June/July 2018 issue of the Clarion that is available on the website. I want to remind you to start those seeds during the long, hot summer days, a task that can be done in air-conditioned comfort. Various vegetables, like broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts, also need to be started indoors in July. The truth of it is that in the South there is almost no month except perhaps November and December that you are not planting vegetables.

And it is not too late to put out sweet potato slips and tomato plants, either. Tomatoes are the easiest plant to raise from the dead. No matter how root-bound, yellowed, or wilted they are, bury them in good soil up to their top four or so leaves, water them lavishly, and see them come back to life. Sow the following seeds directly into the ground in June and July: beans and field peas, pumpkins, squash, cucumbers, and corn. You will note that all these seeds are the large ones, easy for small children to plant. So, put them to work in the cool of the day, and keep the ground well-watered until seedlings

have sprouted.

The major work of the summer is harvesting, watering, weeding, and mulching. If you continue these activities, whatever you have already planted should do well. Picking produce leads to more fruits forming in order to produce more seeds, so do eat your vegetables.

The more you mulch, the less weeding and watering is needed. A variety of mulches is available for different types of plants. I was given rice straw (who knew there was such a thing?) in place of wheat straw last spring and will not make that mistake again. Wheat straw stays light and flexible around your vegetables. Mini-nugget bark is often useful under both tomatoes and roses if you remove diseased matter from around plants, feed and water them, and then apply this mulch that can cut down on the amount of splash between soil and leaves. And do not forget the mulch of eons, the very leaves some put on the curb. Resolve to keep your leaves on your property next fall. Either shredded and bagged by a vacuum (blower) for later use, raked into piles for composting, or left under

shrubs and trees (just not up against the trunks), leaves feed the soil in the most natural way. Never rake a yard bare. Only lawns need thick layers of leaves removed.

Besides keeping leaves and mulching, you can help the climate by using a push reel or electric mower on the tiny grass lawns of our neighborhood; by planting densely to keep carbon in the ground; by focusing on perennial trees, bushes, and flowers, OR on plants you sow yourself; and by avoiding tilling as much as possible. New research has shown that you do not need to prepare a new bed so light and fluffy that you can sink your arm into it up to the shoulder; in fact, such disturbance destroys the soil structure with all its uneven bits that allow water and nutrients to move freely and leads to compacted beds. Research has also shown that more important than specifically native plants is a densely planted, mixed cover of different kinds of plants that provide the widest amount of shelter and food for insects and other animals all the way up the food chain.

There is no doubt that the environment has changed. I have not seen

a snake in my yard in years, there are no more large spider webs, and most of the flying insects have disappeared. Once my clover would be covered with bees. Last year there were fewer. This year I rarely see any, two at the most. Many of the birds we purport to love depend on insects for their protein and cannot live off our artificial feeders. Meanwhile, the streets are filled with exterminator vans of various kinds.

But it is summer, lovely summer with windows open, crickets at night (we hope), the smell of vegetation drifting in, the sound of thunder storms. Any gardening done now should be finished before ten in the morning or, if you are a night owl, by artificial light after the sun goes down. There is no point in making yourself hot and miserable at a time of year meant for slowing down, sitting on your porch (are you sitting there?), drinking lemonade or a cocktail, chatting with neighbors, and enjoying our century-old neighborhood of bungalows beneath tall oaks and spreading pecan trees.

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



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Beth Damon

CSM has a new sign!!! Congrats, neighbors!

Clifton always appreciates volunteerism, which could range from a personal visit to help with dinner service, landscaping, success training, or other projects—to coming by with a donation drop-off of food, cleaning products, TP, paper towels, etc. See www.cliftonsanctuary.com/volunteer-opportunities. They also need volunteer nurses on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

A large number of CSM's guests

are in their 50s and 60s and have health issues consistent with age and lack of access to medical care. Volunteer nurses help to fill in the gaps by handling intake of medical information when guests arrive; medication education; BP checks; and providing over-the-counter medications and eye glasses.

Of course, monetary donations are welcome at www.cliftonsanctuary.com/donate. CSM has been a wonderful part of our Lake Claire neighborhood for over 40 years.

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The Future of the Grady Cluster

by Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and Mary Lin Representative to CINS

On April 17 at Inman Middle School, Atlanta Public School (APS) addressed the Grady Cluster on the State of the Grady Cluster. Yolanda Brown (APS K-8 Associate Superintendent for the Grady, Carver, and Washington Clusters) gave a run-down of the events held earlier in the year, Principal's Forum, and the data dig. (Usually, Superintendent, Meria Carstarphen addresses cluster concerns, but she was not there.)

In advance of the meeting, Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) sent to APS a list of cluster questions to be addressed. Although the majority of those did NOT get answered, the crowd did ask questions, most of which were school-specific and did not address pressing needs and/or concerns of the Grady Cluster. A list of the Cluster questions from CINS:

Needs and concerns of the Grady Cluster

Capacity/Facility Issues:

- Long-term plan for high school capacity in the Grady cluster? Grady's expected addition will only address current capacity. Has a committee been formed? Status?
- APS keeps alluding to the need to address capacity issues within the cluster but there is no conversation on the table. How will we accommodate the growing number of students in the cluster without either redistricting or adding high school facilities? When will APS propose a process for holistically addressing capacity issues?
- Capacities of surrounding buildings not currently being used as academic buildings (Coan, Crim, etc.)
- Centennial Academy is a conver-

sion charter that retains a dedicated attendance zone, by state and local school board policy, but it seems that APS has not yet really decided what this means. They are often left off of cluster presentations created by APS (the Centennial attendance zone is completely within the Grady school zone). Is the APS board of education addressing these policy discrepancies?

- When Howard opens, it will affect Inman and Centennial. Will Centennial have a seat at the table when the redistricting conversations happen? (Centennial is a school with an attendance zone that is contained within the Cluster.)

Equity Task Force:

- There is concern about existing and increasing racial and socioeconomic segregation throughout the school district. I am glad APS has created an Equity Task Force, but was hoping to see some mention of segregation as an opportunity barrier. What are the Equity Task Force's recommendations/How can stakeholders stay up to date and give feedback on APS' Equity initiatives and programs moving forward?

Leadership issues:

(1) We will someday face a change in leadership. Fulton County just named a new Superintendent and followed a very transparent process. What is APS's process for the identifying a new Superintendent?

(2) Has a date been set for the special election for Board of Education Seat 2 (Byron's old seat)?

Academic:

We are one of the few clusters that does not have a Spanish-immersion program. Is that under consideration?

The Past: For years Grady High School parents have worried about the future of Grady High School and the cluster. The burden has been left to the next generation of parents. The issues have not changed, but the host of superintendents who have made promises continues to change with no foreseeable plan. Carstarphen indeed has addressed Grady Cluster's temporary space issues and needs for building updates and improvements, but the Grady Cluster is already at maximum capacity. The renovations and additions do not actually address the capacity issues at Grady or the majority of the elementary schools in the cluster. Howard Middle School will be the only school with extra growing room.

In a Clarion article titled *Recap of Inman Expansion Meeting*, published in November 2015, Carstarphen detailed the Grady Cluster Expansion and then concluded with an acknowledgement: [...] that the next five-year piece of the plan is still missing, promising to go back and work on it if we were all in support of this plan. She valued audible concerns, still pushing upon the crowd the constraints of time and money. In her concluding statement she expressed her loyalty to the board and her commitment to APS by saying she is extending her contract for "us to stay together and be judged together. We're okay being held accountable. It's a two-way street."

The Present: In an email (5/1/19) Associate Superintendent Yolanda Brown explained that in December 2017, the BoE approved a process to engage the community around long-range planning for the cluster. We are now in Phase III of this process to address rezoning and overcrowding. The Board's wording: "Beginning in early 2018, the Administration will initiate Phase III of this rezoning, a larger conversation with the Grady Cluster about the need for rezoning in that area and the long-range plan for relieving school overcrowding. The district will work to finalize this plan by March 2020."

Brown spoke at the State of the Cluster about a long-range planning committee. In more detail in an email, she explained that in the spring of 2018, APS began conversations with the Grady Cluster Advisory Team. The Advisory Team wanted to make sure there were more voices at the table, and as a result, the long-range planning committee was created with one teacher, one parent, and the principal from each school in the cluster. Any community member or member of the public is welcome to sit in on these meetings. To date there have been two of these planning meetings, one in January (about causes of overcrowding) and one in March (focusing on a Design Thinking Process) of this year. Meeting notes can be accessed here: www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/52695.

Alva Hardy, Facilities Services Executive Director, reported there is an RFP for a comprehensive facilities assessment (happens roughly every 5 years). This is to assess the conditions and spaces of all APS buildings. From the RFP: To optimize the usage and efficiency of all APS facilities, the BoE would like to establish stra-

tegic, system-wide goals as the basis for future construction expenditures, planned facilities improvements, and community-wide consensus regarding issues of optimum facility size, use, and operational costs. Under the supervision of APS' Chief of Operations, data and analysis will be shared including demographic analysis of current student populations, inventory data on all APS properties including vacant land, and assessments of approximately 74 instructional facilities. APS staff members will provide expertise and analysis of facilities issues as needed.

The assessments of 74 instructional facilities mentioned above is a facilities condition assessment update of a similar study performed in 2013 and updated in 2015. A link to the study is: www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/43927. The reports are searchable within the high school clusters.

The scope of work in the RFP follows a 5-phase planning process that will not exceed 18 months in duration. The first 3 phases of the planning process will focus on the preparation of assessments, recommendations and implementation strategies related to school buildings and take approximately 8 months to complete. The latter 2 phases of the process will focus on assessments and recommendations for all other APS facilities and vacant properties. Implementation priorities, phasing, real estate disposition strategies, financial analysis, and final plan recommendations will be developed in detail. The results of this effort will be used to plan and inform the next SPLOST cycle Capital Improvement projects and to give guidance for district planning activities in to the near future.

The Future: We must look toward the future, knowing that The Grady Cluster's population is only continuing to grow. We must ask: What facilities can support the growth? How do we maintain the cluster that we worked hard to keep together and yet still address the growth? DeKalb County has a hired position that looks into long-range planning. Is this something that could benefit us? What makes the most sense, not for our own child(ren) or our own schools, but for the Grady Cluster at-large?

Special thanks to Associate Superintendent Yolanda Brown and Leslie Grant for helping to provide information for this article.



Outdoor News from Frazer

by Dina Shadwell

Summer is a great time to take advantage of the shade of the Frazer Forest canopy, and soon, people who use wheelchairs will be able to access the forest and all of its benefits as well. The Frazer Center is working towards the creation of an accessible outdoor pavilion that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA.) Visitors to the forest will have free access to the pavilion, which will also serve as an outdoor classroom for both Frazer's Child Development Program and Adult Program.

The pavilion will be named after two gentlemen who were recently honored at Gather in the Gardens, Frazer's annual fundraiser. George Atkins and the late Walt Moeling were often referred to as the right and left hands of co-founder Rebecca Frazer. They both served as Chair of Frazer's board, and their support of the Center continued over the course of five decades through many phases of Frazer's growth. Of the \$90,000 that was raised at Gather in the Gardens, \$22,000 is earmarked for the pavilion.

Lake Claire neighbor Carol Holliday says, "Being in a wheelchair often means that your view into nature is limited to parks and gardens that have not been created with accessibility in mind and thus, while beautiful, are not nature in its natural form. It is not often that we have the opportunity to view an old-growth forest. Frazer Center has made an amazing commitment—to create access points into Frazer Forest while ensuring we maintain the delicate balance required to protect this very fine old growth forest. This is an amazing opportunity for Frazer Cen-

ter clients—and for others, since the Frazer Center has been so generous in opening their grounds."

Beyond the forest, Frazer has formed a Garden Advisory Committee in an effort to find ways of collaborating with other "green" organizations. With experts from Woodlands Garden, Fernbank, Olmsted Linear Park, Trees Atlanta, Atlanta History Center, Atlanta Hospital Hospitality House, Lullwater Conservation Garden, North Georgia Camellia Society, as well as several master gardeners, the committee is in conversation about ways to leverage community resources and greenspaces, especially along the Ponce corridor.

This conversation has already created some collaborative opportunities, such as the recent international City Nature Challenge led by Fernbank in partnership with Frazer and many other local organizations. And while Ponce neighbor Woodlands Garden is under renovation, their volunteer team is hitting the road to help out other community organizations, including Frazer, until Woodlands reopens in the fall.

Frazer is fortunate to be part of a community that is committed to nurturing local greenspaces. Lake Claire neighbors are invited to be a part of that mission by signing up for the next Frazer Forest Stewardship Walk with Master Naturalist Kathryn Kolb of Eco-Addendum on **Saturday, July 27**, where you'll learn about tree species, "indicator" species, and how to "read" the forest in any season. Visit www.frazercenter.org and join Frazer's email list to stay updated on events and news. See you in the forest!

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. People are out walking the neighborhood and gardening. Many streets have basketball nets, and children are out playing.

On Thursday, JUNE 20 and Thursday, JULY 18, come early (7 p.m.) to the neighborhood meeting, for pizza/socializing and meeting neighbors; Savage Pizza provides free pizza, and the meetings start at 7:15 p.m. (information in the calendar, page 2).

The Home Team

Continued from Page 1

perception that the whole community is being helped and changed. And the reality is that there are a lot of people that I've seen displaced throughout this process.

CP: *How do you think The Home Team adds to that story?*

TB: The film gives a perspective to people who are residents in the community—who have a broad understanding of the community, who have a love and desire to stay in the community—to say how they see things. I mean, it is forever a reminder in history that, "hey, this community has people who have good hearts, even though they're challenged." And that the community is not all villains and thugs and crime-ridden. It is not only about the negative. The community has a lot of positives, too.



Homes in English Avenue

CP: *Describe it for us. What's that community like?*

TB: The film highlights the essence of the word "community"—people who look out for one another, who know each other, who help each other, and people who co-exist comfortably with one another. In the film, you'll see some really beautiful things—houses that are well-kept, manicured lawns; people are tilling the soil, working together; walking the streets, cutting the grass, looking out for their neighbors. That's the essence of this community.

CP: *What could have gone differently that would have changed things for the better for community residents?*

TB: A binding community benefits agreement could have done something major for the community—it could have given them a seat at the table. As the most impacted neighborhood by this development, given its proximity, I believe they're owed that. If there was a community benefits agreement in place that had teeth [or was legally binding], then it could have required that community members have a level of influence in how the neighborhoods would change. Not to stop the change entirely but to

have bargaining power in how it took place. The stadium and surrounding changes could have been interwoven into the existing neighborhood, and instead I feel like the community is going to soon be blanketed over with changes. Some people may be able to stay, but many may not. As I said, I've already seen many be displaced.

CP: *What else? What's next for the neighborhoods? The city?*

TB: This film gives residents an opportunity to have a voice, but we also captured the traction behind Wayne Kendall's lawsuit against the county for not collecting property taxes on the stadium from the Falcons—and I believe that legal perspective yields an even more powerful impact for people who don't live in the community.

Hearing from community residents seems like a "feel good" story, but when you talk about the legality of not paying taxes and the amount of money that is involved—an estimated \$26 million annually, and that's just the taxes that aren't being collected, not the public money that was granted to construct the stadium—it gives another perspective on how the community is treated that is tangible. If all of this public money that could be collected through the stadium has been foregone, then the public's benefit obviously suffers.

My hope for Atlanta is that we find a stronger balance in how the government works on behalf of residents of the city—not giving a greater share of power to the corporations but more power to the people of our city. We can't expect businesses to solve the issues of the people. We need people to solve the issues of the people.



You can support *The Home Team* by donating at thometeamfilm.com/donate. Check out thometeamfilm.com/screenings to find out where you can catch the film—or email the filmmakers at thometeamfilm@gmail.com if you have a venue in mind. The filmmakers are actively seeking opportunities to share the film in Lake Claire, if possible, and widely throughout the city (and beyond!).

The Home Team crew is small but mighty: In addition to crew members Camille Pendley and Tracy Bates, Laura Asherman co-directed the film and is the director of photography; Wayne Kendall is the executive producer; and Carmelle Kendall is the art director and a producer.

5th Annual Food, Clothing, and Shelter Fest, June 8

by Linda S. Vicks

The Food, Clothing, and Shelter Festival (FCS Fest) returns to the Lake Claire Community Land Trust for its fifth year on Saturday, June 8, starting at noon and continuing until 10 p.m. The family-friendly community event celebrating agriculture and sustainability is inspired by the award-winning documentary Food, Clothing & Shelter, Part 1, which addresses the three crucial necessities of any human being: food, clothing, and shelter. This year's festival is themed "The Seven Chakras." FCS Fest brings together hundreds of eco-friendly and self-sustainability conscious attendees. FCS Fest is hosted by a collaboration of local businesses, charities, and community influencers. This year's collaborative includes THEARLYSHOW ATL, Club

Ninja, Lake Claire Community Land Trust, United Artists Movement, Black Noize, WilSay Event & Media Group, and the Food, Clothing, and Shelter Foundation.

The festival will host farming/gardening workshops, community yoga, children's activities, and live musical performances on THEARLYSHOW ATL stage. We will also host a drive to collect toiletries and clothes for the less fortunate in the city of Atlanta for #IGotYourBack, a charitable initiative curated by FEEL Media LLC. to make a difference for the homeless population in Atlanta. Staying aligned with the festival mission, FCS Fest will continue its zero-waste initiative, in partnership with Fort Negritas.

The festival is excited to announce that critically acclaimed musician Raury, a Stone Mountain native, will be headlining THEARLYSHOW ATL stage at this year's festivities. Touring with such acts as Outkast, A\$AP Rocky, and Macklemore, he delivers blends of acoustic folk and Hip Hop with messages disconnecting his listeners from systematic cycles of division and a synthetic indulgence of life, reconnecting them to a more free, authentic existence in harmony with the world. Raury's global sonic vision inspires love and unity, aligning with the overall festival theme and mission. We hope to see the Land Trust's neighbors in Lake Claire well represented among the festival-goers!



11th Annual Jerry Jam, Saturday, July 27

1:30-3:30 p.m., suggested donation \$10, \$1 for teens, kids under 12 Free

Greetings Land Trust Lovers! We are so excited to celebrate summer once again and our 11th annual Jerry Jam! Bring the family and all of your friends and come to this amazing day of music and community to benefit our Oasis in the City. All proceeds go to the caretaking and maintenance of our beautiful Greenspace, which is now under a legal Conservation Easement to protect this precious land. As always, we will have food, drinks, arts and crafts for sale, face painting, a bake sale, and FUN for all ages! We will have a great line-up of bands, so put on your dancing shoes and come on down. Check out our Facebook page, or visit LCCLT.org in June to see who is playing this time around. See you on the dance floor!

Please respect our Land Trust, and our neighbors: Take MARTA, Uber and Lyft, carpool, walk, ride your bike. NO PETS!! We love our furry friends, but for the safety of everyone, please understand. Mind your children. We cannot have unsupervised kids wandering the Land Trust.

NO COOLERS! We will have healthy choices of food, beer and wine, and soft drinks for sale. BRING CASH for food and drinks. We will have an app available for festival admission and supporter table payments. Colorful Land Trust T-shirts will be on sale. Bring your washable, re-usable plates and utensils for \$1 off your meal. Bring your own cup too, why not? Tread Lightly! Recycle recyclables and throw trash in the trash.

Please respect our neighbors. We have a designated parking area on Connecticut. *Many streets around the land trust do not have driveways, and resident parking is in front of their homes.* Keep voices down when leaving. Cigarette smoking only in designated Smoking Area please, the Arizona Ave. cul-de-sac.

And of course: Have as much fun as possible!

We love our volunteers and couldn't do these events without them. Please contact Brynan for volunteer opportunities, brynan1865@gmail.com. We can't wait to see you all there!

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

JUNE

Sat. June 4 and 15—Drum Circle, 8 to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend! Please help spread the word. The Drum Circles are the Land Trust's gift to our community, but your donations help keep it going.

Sat. June 8—FCS Fest (see above article.)

Sat. June 15—Community Work Day, 3 to 6 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow.

JULY

Sat. July 6 and 20—Drum Circle, 8 to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend!

Sat. July 20—Community Work Day, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow. Note shift to summer hours!

Sat. July 27—11th annual Jerry Jam, a tribute to Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead. Live music, food and drink, artists market, family-friendly fun. Volunteers needed! See article this page.

Attention Land Trust Supporters: Renew for 2019 any time!

Anyone can be a Land Trust Supporter by donating only \$10 a year. Donate online via 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 address, 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.

Adopt Your Favorite Corner of the Land Trust!

Here is a new way for neighbors to get involved with the Land Trust—by adopting a particular area of the Land Trust to maintain. This would mainly include weeding, but also taking on any projects you envision to improve your chosen area, or any needed repairs, in coordination with the Land Trust Grounds Committee. Your area could be large or small, as long as it has definite boundaries. This could be a great way to spend family time or time with close neighbors, with a picnic afterwards.

Remember, y'all—it takes a village!

Help keep **your** Lake Claire Land Trust beautiful. Contact grounds@LCCLT.org to volunteer or to learn more.



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



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

This month's featured writer is Ian Cambas Stocking. He wrote a timely article about the Great Bunny Stump of Lake Claire moving to the Children's Garden at the Land Trust. Last year at this time, Ian was our featured kids' page writer, writing "The Bunny Story," about the children's rescue of the animals from the stump to their front yard. Ian and his siblings, Teo

and Sol, have been caring for the animals for the past year, and they have chosen to move the stump and the animal family to Miss Ladybug's magical garden at the Land Trust. You can read his earlier contribution at lakeclaire.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/May-2018-Clarion.pdf, page 12.

Ian turned 11 on May 19. He is a rising sixth grader. Brother Teo is 8 years old, a rising third grader, and Sol is 5 years old and a rising kindergartener. Ian loves

rock climbing, biking, and all things about outer space.

Hey there, Lake Claire kids of all ages: we want to see your creativity. You could draw a picture, write a poem, or join Ian in writing about something special to you. Submit your work to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **July 15** for the AUGUST issue. We hope this is a good starting place for kids' future writing careers.

The Great Bunny Stump Parade

by Ian Cambas Stocking

Eighteen years ago there was a tree on the corner of Nelms and Adolphus. Someone in the neighborhood set a ceramic bunny next to the base of the tree. Over time the tree roots grew around the bunny and covered it up. A few years ago the tree was cut down and my brother, my dad and I found the bunny in the stump. We unburied the bunny, and afterward someone set it on top of the stump. People in the neighborhood added more and more animal figurines to the stump, and an animal garden grew. Then on Martin Luther King day 2018, the city came and ground-out the stump. The animals had nowhere to live so we took them to our front yard where they lived as refugees for over a year.

The Great Bunny Stump Parade happened on May 19. The event happened to move the neighborhood animal garden that was living in our front yard up to the Lake Claire Land Trust. Miss Ladybug and Mr. Green Thumbs led the neighborhood kids in a parade from the Land Trust to my house to pick up the animals. Each child choose an animal and carried it up to the children's garden in the Land Trust. We each put our animal in the garden and gave them a new home. Mr. Green Thumbs and his band played live music, and Miss Ladybug helped us plant in the garden. We hope that you will continue to add animals to the garden so it grows bigger and bigger. Stop by and welcome the animals to their new home!!



Ian, Featured Writer

Contest Winners

This month, Sienna Zizzi of Indiana Avenue came in first. She is 10 years old and a student at Mary Lin in the 4th grade this past academic year. Lily and Evan Cornell came in 2nd place. Lily (4) and Evan (2) go to Frazer and Holy Trinity, respectively, and they live on Arizona. They noted that they love their next-door neighbor Zella most about the neighborhood. (What about the Clarion!—are we chopped liver? I *think* they like popsicles, too.) Coming in third place, by a hair (!), is Harper Green, ten years old, and in the 5th grade at Mary Lin. She lives on Lakeshore, and her favorite part of Lake Claire is the community. She has a sister named Hawkins, 4 years old. Sienna, Lily, Evan, and Harper win the contest for finding the graphic of the two moms and their daughter, in honor of Mother's Day, last month.

Congrats to the 4 of you!! To all of those kids who didn't win, please do keep playing. We know that competition is stiff. See the new contest below.



1st place Winner, Sienna



2nd-place Winners, Evan and Lily



3rd place Winner, Harper Green, with sister Hawkins



Folks gathering at the Cambas-Stocking Home for the Move

NEW CONTEST!

For the summer, the hidden graphic is of July 4. The child who wins will have his or her photo in the next Clarion, the **August** issue of the newspaper! To win, send an e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number, and you must include your name, age, school, street, and grade along with a picture. Ask a parent to take a picture of you, perhaps of you finding the hidden graphic, or doing whatever you like. For extra credit, tell us your favorite thing about summer in Lake Claire. The extra-credit prize is that you'll be a 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. The deadline is July 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**