



1904 Adair Realty Company Advertisement, from Atlanta Historical Society

Early Land Ownership & Street Names in the Lake Claire Area

The earliest survey of Georgia counties created “Land Districts,” each typically about 80 square miles and containing 256 landlots of approximately 202.5 acres each. Portions of six different landlots comprise Lake Claire. Information on the ownership history of all of the six landlots which make up Lake Claire is available at the Dekalb Historical Society. Between 1822 and 1851, names associated with the six different landlots during different periods include Caty Bailey (1822), James Hagerdy, Frederick Foster, who sold to Andrew Reid (1850), and William Fain, who sold to Joseph Pitts (1843). About 20 years later, 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, imme-

diately south of 239. So, at the time, McLendon became one of only two landowners of the current Lake Claire. A “McLendon” homestead near the intersection of Clifton and Dekalb Avenue also 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).

James Kirkpatrick 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 Du-

Cont. on p. 9

Lake Claire Neighbors’ President’s message

Dear Neighbors,
A few months ago, I penned a letter for new residents of Lake Claire, included below. After finishing the note, it immediately hit me: “Wow, how lucky we are to live in such a neighborhood surrounded by beautiful parks, forests, and green spaces!” Then just a few days ago Boyd Baker, 16-year resident of Leonardo Avenue and proprietor of the Won-

dershop on McLendon, interviewed me for a documentary about the history of the famous Presidential Parkway Battle begun in 1981. After reflecting on my memories of that crucial period, it also struck me how different this area would have been had the Georgia DOT completed its original plan of building a four-lane highway taking what is now the Freedom Park with a bridge over Mo-

reland Avenue, then cutting through Goldsboro Park and the lower half of Candler Park, finally emptying out via the Olmsted Shady Side Park into Ponce de Leon. Only the grand coalition of Lake Claire, Druid Hills, Candler Park, and Inman Park, with hundreds of neighbors continually protesting for several years, prevented the

Cont. on p. 5

Sweet Water Taste, at the Horizon through August 25

by Beth Damon

From local writers, actors, and directors, to Broadway musicals, Atlanta’s theatre scene has a lot to offer, including our own Lake Claire residents who are actors and directors, and whom we’ve featured many times. We are lucky to have so much talent in our neighborhood and in greater Atlanta. In that vein, the play currently at The Horizon Theatre is one that I highly recommend. *Sweet Water Taste* is an award-winning comedy making its South-

eastern premiere. Horizon’s press release describes the play this way: “All hell (and a little bit of heaven) breaks loose when Elijah Beckford, a prominent southern black undertaker, approaches his wealthy white cousins...” Elijah, an African-American descendent of Carrie, a slave, and Beckford, the plantation owner, is obsessed with being buried in his white relatives’ whites-only cemetery.

The subject matter has the potential for the play to be an uncomfortable two hours

of modern-day racism, but instead there are wonderful comedic exchanges even in the most dramatic and emotional moments (there are many), situations that makes a serious statement, keep the stakes high, but are full of humor.

The playwright is Gloria Bond Clunie, a founding member of the Playwriting Ensemble of Chicago’s Regional Tony Award-winning Victory Gardens Theatre. With a BA in Theatre and an

Cont. on p. 7

Frazer Center and Compassionate Atlanta

by Dina Shadwell

What is a radically welcoming community? What is accessible to all of us? What can each individual do in his or her own life to spread compassion?

These are questions that Frazer Center is tackling, thanks to a new partnership with Compassionate Atlanta, a grassroots movement raising awareness about the benefits of compassionate action in the Greater Atlanta area. This local movement is inspired by a worldwide

initiative to put into action the Golden Rule. It all began with a TED Talk by Karen Armstrong, a writer and scholar of religion. Winner of the TED Prize in 2008, Armstrong called for the TED community to help build a Charter for Compassion, and in 2009 she unveiled a document that has inspired acts of compassion among individuals, organizations, and cities around the world. Frazer Center is one of 137 Compassionate Atlanta

Charter Partners which include faith-based organizations, businesses, and nonprofits. Decatur, Clarkston, and Berkeley Lake are also partners, and in 2014, Atlanta became one of the largest cities in the U.S. to have signed the charter. Natalyn

Cont. on p. 9

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 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.

August Calendar

1 - 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. I saw it on July 19—it is worth the drive, and the stress of the risk of rain. TIX/Info: serenbeplayhouse.theatrisoft.com/#/Hair

1 - 25 Horizon Theatre, *Sweet Water Taste*, recommended by your Clarion editor, who saw it on July 20, and coincidentally ran into your Clarion advertising manager there. See article on Page 1, and get info/buy tix at www.horizontheatre.com or phone 404-584-7450.

1 - 25 Actor's Express, *Head Over Heels*, fresh from New York, where your theatre-loving editor saw it on Broadway. Do you love the Go-Go's? Come see this play, full of fun and funny gender fluidity! tix/info at www.actors-express.com.

3 & 17 Drum Circle at the Land Trust, 8 to 11 p.m. Walk/bike/carpool to the Arizona dead-end. And see lots of info every month on the Land Trust on the Clarion penultimate page (this time, Page 11).

10 Back-to-School Bash, Georgia World Congress Center Halls C2 and C3. APS students kick off the new school year right! This free event is exclusively for Atlanta Public Schools students and their families, with over 50 exhibitors, fun activities for children, free health screenings, and educational, after-school and community resources. Students receive a free backpack filled with school supplies by showing their APS report cards (while supplies last). Info: www.atlantapublicschools.us/backtoschool

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

16 - 25 Concerts in the Garden, Botanical Gardens: 8/16 Toad the Wet Sproket/Big Head Todd & the Monsters; 8/17 Melissa Ethridge; 8/25 The Mavericks, and Marc Broussard. See atlantabg.org/concerts-in-the-garden

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

17 *Ralph Breaks the Internet*—Candler Park Movie Night, presented by the Candler Park Neighborhood Association and sponsored by Cynthia Baer and Park Realty (two kind supporters of the Clarion, as well). They have new projectors! Bring your blankets and short lawn chairs, Movie night festivities start at 7-ish, and the feature presentation will go on as soon as it gets dark enough, in front of the pool house. In the event of a rainy day check www.friendsofCandlerPark.org. Rain days are typically the following weekend. You will want to get there early for the best spot! Please leave pets at home. Feel free to bring your own coolers but be aware that glass containers or bottles are strictly forbidden in city parks. The last movie of this season is **September 7: Spider-man: Into the Spider-Verse**.

23 to October 11 Jazz in the Garden at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. The Callanwolde Fine Arts Center is a community arts conservatory and renowned venue located on a historic 12-acre campus in the heart of Atlanta, with the mission of preserving, restoring, and developing the Callan-

wolde Estate to be a premiere public arts and cultural center. Hear classic and contemporary jazz, swing, fusion, smooth, and blues. Cash bar and BBQ food for sale. Info/tix at callanwolde.org/events-calendar/jazz-on-the-lawn/.

27 - September 29 Theatrical Outfit presents *Our Town and the Laramie Project*. One cast, two essential American stories. Considered by many to be the greatest American play ever, *Our Town* depicts the town of Grover's Corners in three acts: "Daily Life," "Love and Marriage," and "Death and Eternity." Narrated by a stage manager character and performed with minimal props and sets, this classic chronicles the Webb and Gibbs families as their children fall in love, marry, and eventually—in one of the most famous scenes in theatre—die. In 1998, university student Matthew Shepard was kidnapped, beaten, and tied to a prairie fence outside Laramie, Wyoming. When he died days later, the world learned Shepard was targeted because he was gay. A breathtaking collage of the local residents, *The Laramie Project* is virtuously determined to find the light in an event of harrowing darkness and exposes the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which we are capable. "Laramie is a latter-day Grover's Corners, a cozy place where everyone appears to know everyone else's business and actually finds comfort in this. *The Laramie Project* is *Our Town* with a question mark, as in, 'Could this be our town? It can't happen here,' followed immediately by 'And yet it has.'" Info and tix: www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/our-town-and-the-laramie-project.

30 - September 1 (Labor Day Weekend) Decatur Book Festival. The annual book fair, author readings, signings, panel discussions, children's parades & activities, live music, cooking demonstrations, poetry slams, and writing workshops in Decatur. www.decaturbookfestival.com.

NEXT MONTH—In case you don't see your Clarion in time:

September 7 6-11 p.m., Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde. See Page 5.

...and (same date) Candler Park movie, at dark, Candler Park Pool. See August 17 above.

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



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Wild in Lake Claire

by Carol Vanderschaaf

Here it is in the middle of July, and shortly after July 4, folks were beginning to call each other names. Especially one person and one name. We won't get into it here, except to say that we believe in diversity and liberty and justice for all. Now let's go on to the small pleasures of our 'hood.

Bernard S. reports that on the evening of July 10, he saw a blue lizard at a friend's yard. It was the first one he had ever seen, so he did some research on it. Its name is *Plestiodon fasciatus*, also known as the five-lined skink. It feeds on insects. It has a reputation of being poisonous, but this is false. It does have a bad taste, which wards off predators, and it will break off its tail to escape capture.

Miriam H. had the pleasure of seeing a little brown rabbit over by the Land Trust pond.

Rabbits seem to be everywhere. A friend of mine saw a group on rabbits on the front lawn of my next-door neighbors' home, and Will C., who lives behind me, has a rabbit who visits regularly. The rabbit is completely comfortable when he sees Will and just "goes on munching."

Will also has seen a "small, beautiful green hummingbird." I haven't

been as lucky. The hummer that came by when I first put my feeders up disappeared a few weeks ago. I saw another one come to the bright flowers by my front steps. I had two fresh feeders up within the hour but never saw that bird again.

Ilene S. has, I believe, a great sighting record this month. She saw a catbird, and has "numerous" frogs in her pond. She believes they could be juvenile bull frogs. She hasn't been able to see them but hears them jumping in the water when she goes out at night. Also she has started seeing male Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. "They're fattening up at my feeders." (She promised to forward some to me.) More sightings by the keen eyed Ilene: some rabbits on McLendon, and in her yard, a brown water snake, most likely attracted by Ilene's pool.

Another person who has had multiple sightings is Meredith W. She and her husband "saw lots of bird babies: a wren, another batch of cardinals, the song sparrows, and a pair of what I think were Eastern phoebes. I also saw a coyote in Deepdene. I thought it must be a dog, but the coloring and size were right on, there were

no people anywhere nearby, and it was startled and then disappeared completely, so I'm pretty sure it was a coyote."

I didn't see it, but Meredith told me that several people on NextDoor reported that a male deer was run over and killed in Springdale Park just off Ponce. So sad.

Meredith is, unfortunately, moving out of Lake Claire but she's promised to keep us up to date on happenings in Deepdene and Frazer Forest.



Simonton / Marbaugh backyard on Tuxedo

And this from Tuxedo Avenue: Stell Simonton and Wade Marbaugh reported that they had the pleasure of distinguished guests on July 16, who dined in their back yard and perched for quite a while on a decorative stonework and deck railing. The Audubon website lists Broad-winged Hawks as their visitors, and one of their photos matches the visitors. Audubon notes that these hawks typically hunt and perch at the edge of woods, which describes their backyard, says Wade. In addition to eating small mammals, Broad-winged Hawks eat large insects. Simonton and Marbaugh hope they were grazing on roaches. Broad-winged Hawks are here in the summer and migrate completely to Central and South America for the rest of the year.

WARNING—Change of subject—Heads-in-the-Sand-Time (HITST), while I note a few things regarding climate change. Picture me, Flora Fauna, with one eye (to see) and my right hand (to type) sticking out of that sand to say this:

The British paper *The Guardian* now uses the phrase, "climate emergency" rather than "climate change," and "climate science denier" rather than "climate skeptic." *The New York Times* has had a desk dedicated to climate change since 2017. Their reporters are in touch with similar bureaus around the world.

Apparently, journalists do know that climate change is a crisis, though they are not sure of the most effective

way to present this idea to the public. Many think that honestly portraying the urgency of the matter would lead people to despair, depression, paralysis, and denial. Especially if no effort is made to provide them with information regarding what they might do to improve things. At the other end of the scale, there is a group called "Extinction Rebellion," whose members feel that journalists have not met the climate crisis with enough urgency. This group, which started in Europe, has been holding demonstrations recently in Atlanta.

And BTW, as temperatures warm, growing zones for flowers, trees, and shrubs are shifting northward. And just so you know: the temperature in Anchorage reached 90 degrees for the first time recently. And today, as I'm writing this, the weather will exceed 100 in many northern cities.

Now for a more pleasant subject. How about fireflies and lightning bugs? Such exciting little flying lanterns. As the summer began, much to my surprise and enchantment, I began to see them in my yard as I sat outside at night with my little dog, Nattie. Only one at a time, but beautiful nonetheless. That light comes from a chemical reaction in their bodies. For them the light serves two practical purposes: to attract mates and to deter predators. (Wow, where can I get one?!)

Georgia is lucky to have 56 species of fireflies, more than any other state. The South also has two fairly nearby places to see the miracle of synchronous fireflies, i.e., groups of fireflies that light up at the same time and give a glorious display. This can be seen in late May or early June at the Great Smokey Mountains National Park in Tennessee, or in Congaree National Park in South Carolina.

No one is sure why the fireflies flash synchronously. Competition between males may be one reason; they all want to be the first to flash. Or perhaps if the males all flash together they have a better chance of being noticed, and the females can make better comparisons.

Fireflies are declining all over the world, especially in cities. The probable causes are pesticide misuse and habitat loss.

Well it's time to say so long for now. Let's think about how we might save our planet and our democracy before we have to say goodbye.

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LCN President's Announcement

Continued from Page 1



construction of this environmentally destructive highway. Because of this, we now enjoy the wonderfully landscaped Freedom Park, whole Candler and Goldsboro Parks, and the beautifully restored Olmsted Parks, not to mention escaping the noise and fumes from a major highway with Ponce de Leon becoming far more clogged and dangerous than it already is.

So, yes, we are very lucky to be living where we are, but it didn't happen by accident. I am convinced that much of the spirit of coming together for the common good and protection of the environment is still alive and well in Lake Claire.

Welcome to Lake Claire!

Let's start out with some vital information. First, there is no lake in Lake Claire, but that is no reason we shouldn't have "Ski Lake Claire" bumper stickers and maybe do a little surfing in our minds. On a more practical level, although Lake Claire contains roughly 1,200 households, it is not necessarily a well-known section of Atlanta. It is sometimes confused with Candler Park that sits on the other side of Clifton Road, which serves as a dividing line between our two neighborhoods. Lake Claire has a distinguishing identity that accounts for why many want to live here. We pride ourselves on inclusiveness and diversity of all lifestyles. Care for the environment and concern for others are reflected in our local institutions. Although there is no commercial development, we can boast of a community land trust at the end of Arizona Avenue that provides a public greenspace and promotion of environmental awareness while hosting unique events to include a Jerry Garcia Jam and a peace and love celebration every year, along with music jams, gardening opportunities, and bi-weekly drum circles! For many years, the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries on McLendon Avenue has operated a wonderful program to help homeless men make a successful reentry to the work world and beyond. For medita-

tion and massage, there is the Kashi Atlanta Urban Yoga Ashram, also on McLendon in Lake Claire. And let's not forget the Frazer Forest, 39 acres of one of the few old-growth woods left in Atlanta maintained by the Frazer Center that houses a model program for children and adults with disabilities along with a very popular daycare center serving Lake Claire residents and others. The Center also cares for the beautiful Cator Woolford Gardens and an elegant old estate converted into a hospitality house (The Atlanta Hospital Hospitality House provides short-term or long-term lodging and companionship in a home environment for out-of-town patients and families in treatment at Atlanta area hospitals and medical facilities.) Then right in the middle of our community we have Lake Claire Park, with a recently renovated playground and tennis court with ongoing improvements to its greenspace.

An important adjoining neighborhood is Candler Park, mentioned above, that not only has a large green expanse by that name but also includes a 9-hole public golf course, a swimming pool, and even a beaver pond. In addition, Mary Lin Elementary, considered one of the best primary schools in Atlanta, is located in this neighborhood, with Lake Claire included in the same APS school district. Finally, just on the other side of Clifton Road on McLendon, there are several excellent restaurants and the Candler Park Market with a delicious deli and an amazing selection of wines.

For more information and a way to experience the vibe of the neighborhood, you're invited to attend the regular meetings of the Lake Claire Neighbors, Inc. (LCN) held on the third Thursday of every month, except December, at the Frazer Center beginning at 7:15 with a social time at 7:00 catered by Savage Pizza in Little Five Points. Everyone is welcome to continue eating during the meeting; just don't leave crumbs on the floor. In the meantime, you can not only meet new neighbors but also find out what's going on with regard to a variety of activities and projects sponsored by the LCN and other organizations in the neighborhood. Another great way to meet people, and volunteers are always welcome! A crucially important activity involves variance and zoning requests that concern our neighborhood organization's role in the City's Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) process, which allows for input on the impact of construction projects whether they concern new or old structures. Last but not least, our unique neighborhood Lake Claire newspaper, the Clarion,

Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde 20th Anniversary Inviting Lake Claire

by Sara Hampen

Save the date for Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde—the annual fundraiser for Mulberry Fields Garden—on Saturday, September 7 from 6 to 11 p.m., at 1301 Iverson Street. Hosted by Wylde Center and Friends of Mulberry Fields, this year's event will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the beautiful community garden that has provided an array of resources to the Candler Park neighborhood (and certainly to many in the Lake Claire neighborhood) now for two decades.

What should you expect at Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde? Alongside the garden, chickens, and goats, Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde will surely be a great time for the whole family. Guests will be treated to live music by local Atlanta favorite Webster. Vendors including Greater Good Barbeque, Mariposa Pops, Just Bakery Atlanta, and Doggy Dog, who will be selling family-friendly food; adult beverages will be available for those over the age of 21. The young and the young-at-heart will also have the opportunity to get their faces painted and play yard games among the landscape of the garden. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair to relax while you take in the evening with family and friends at this annual event. Don't forget about this year's raffle, where Disney tickets for a family of five will be up for grabs!

How can you support the event? Anyone interested in supporting beyond attending the event on September 7 can consider sponsoring on behalf of his or her business or supporting individually by becoming a party host. Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde party hosts are asked to do three things: (1) make a meaningful donation, (2) help spread the word, and (3) celebrate with us at the event! Party hosts receive special perks, including access to a pre-event cocktail hour from 5 to 6 p.m.,

and a limited edition commemorative t-shirt! If you are interested in learning more about becoming a business sponsor or party host for the event can reach out to me at sara@wyldecenter.org.

Thank you to our current Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde business sponsors: Cynthia Baer Realty, Greater Good BBQ, Chicory Wealth, Food Well Alliance, Greenehead Construction Inc., Park Realty, Candler Park Neighborhood Organization, Small Business Services, Boutte Tree Inc., Sevananda Natural Foods Market, Premier Grease, Little 5 Points Pharmacy, Brand Bird, and the Georgia Piedmont Land Trust. Thank you to our current Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde party hosts: Jesse & Dick Bathrick, Martha & Jean-Francois Ille, Joanna Colrain, Elaine Harris, Mary Shaltis & John Skatch, Nancy & David Porteous, Lesley Lochridge & Steve Johnson, Greg Loughlin & Natallie Keiser, Sam & Korin Bathrick, Leslie Harris & Peter Basch, Shannon & Dave Cofrin Gaggero, Debra & Marc McElhaney, Jean Douglas, Christine Tryba-Cofrin, Stacy Appleson & Steve Phillips, Gus Kaufman, Betsy Goss, Roger Bakeman & Daryl Nenstiel, Mathieu & Jennifer Marchand, the Welsh Family, Stacy Funderburke & Helaine Woodroof, Carla Roncoli & Tom Painter, Erin Smith & Rich Pater, C Brittany & Alan Schwartzwald, Ollie Green, Aimee & Scott Nash, Dr. Ilene Schroeder, Logan Ritchie, Allen Broyles & Rachel Scales, Betsy Abrams & Matthew Crowther, Susan Rose, Judy & Don Bender, Linda Sheffield & Walter Lowthian, Sarah Ferguson & James Tomach, and Polly Sattler.

How do you get tickets? Tickets for Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde are available for purchase on Wylde Center's website (wyldecenter.org/mulberry-fields-gone-wylde) and the **Cont. on p. 9**

is produced by volunteers and delivered by volunteers monthly to your door. It contains a calendar of events, including Lake Claire events and events of interest in greater Atlanta.

Please note that LCN dues are only \$20.00 per year. They are voluntary, but help a great deal in maintaining your neighborhood organization and local institutions. You can use the convenient PayPal link on the LCN website: lakeclaire.org. Then click on "Membership," at the top of the page. Next go to "Get involved," where you will see the link: "Don't forget to pay your dues." You can also send a check

to Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer, Lake Claire Neighbors, P.O. Box 5942, Atlanta, GA 31107, or even pay in cash or by check at meetings.

I hope the above has provided an adequate introduction to the neighborhood you've recently chosen. Of course, there is much more to be discovered about Lake Claire as time goes on, and I'm confident you'll find it to be one of the most unique areas of Atlanta, where you will want to continue making your life!

Sincerely,

Joe Agee

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Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

Happy Birthdays to:

8/1 Patricia Emerson, turns 85! (She says, “please put the age, as I am so glad to have made it!”)

8/3 Jazz Melodie Sibille, turns 13, Ivy Place

8/5: Ally Bliss, turns 14 years old, Leonardo

8/6 Fallou Diouf, former pogo stick champion, turns 14 years old, Arizona. What are you champion of, now? Send us something!

8/13 Lyriq Gaspard Sibille, turns 7!—Ivy Place

8/16 Peter Belle, McLendon Avenue

8/18 Mark Haggerty, Harold Avenue

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

Lake Claire Meeting Minutes

Lake Claire Neighbors' monthly meetings are the 3rd Thursdays at the Frazer Center, with pizza provided by Savage Pizza (**thanks, Savage!**), at 7 p.m., for socializing, and the business beginning at 7:15 p.m. Thanks to Nancy Dorsner for providing meeting notes, below. We include the neighborhood minutes in the Clarion when space allows, but you can always find the minutes at lakeclaire.org.

President Joe Agee welcomed all. Sgt. Smith, Atlanta Police Department Zone 6, spoke first, noting that the majority of the crime this month, as always lately, has been vehicle larcenies. He reminded people that the best way to avoid break-ins is to keep your cars cleaned out and to put bags in your trunks. There has been a rash of stolen catalytic converters from Hondas, he said. And finally, he noted, you should either secure bikes or take them inside.

LCN officer reports

Melissa Pressman (Environment): nothing new; Nancy Dorsner (Communications): nothing new.

Treasurer's report (Eileen O'Neal): Mural Fund - \$3,988; Savings Account \$4,044; Checking 5,577; PayPal \$4200. She also noted that we've received \$1430 in dues in 2019 and \$3130 in 2018.

Carol Holliday (NPU): Annual vote for renewal of NPU bylaws passed unanimously, 16 - 0. Carol will update us on a riparian buffer encroachment on Palifox.

Zoning (Robin Singer): V-19-148,

545 Hardendorf Ave.: Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required half depth front yard from 17.5 feet to 10 feet. Motion to approve conditioned on the site plan stamped by the city July 10 2019. 15-0 approved.

Other announcements

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries looking for donations for renovations.

The next regular meeting will be Aug 15, 2019.

Stay informed! Since we cannot always fit the minutes in the newspaper, to receive occasional e-mails about happenings in, around and concerning Lake Claire, as well as reminders of upcoming meetings, please sign up at lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/.

Horizon Play

Continued from Page 1

MFA in Directing from Northwestern, she has won the Theodore Ward African-American Playwriting Prize and a myriad of other prizes. She is also the founding Artistic Director of Evanston's Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre, where she directed scores of productions, including *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Ceremonies in Dark Old Men*, *Home*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*. Her own plays include *SMOKE*, *Sing*, *Malindy*, *Sing!*, *BLU*, *Buck Naked*, *DRIP*, *Merry Kwanzaa*, *Mercy Rising*, and *QUARK*. Her works have been published in the anthologies *Seven Black Plays*, *Reimagining A Raisin In the Sun*, and *The Bully Plays*.

Sweet Water Taste features an ensemble of seven of Atlanta's top actors, with whom Atlanta theatre-goers will likely be very familiar. The black and white “cousins” are played respectively by LaParee Young, a 47-year stage veteran (Horizon's *How To Use A Knife*, productions at Kenny Leon's *True Colors*, *110 in the Shade* at the Theatrical Outfit, *Tiny Tim is Dead* at 7 Stages, etc.) and Chris Kayser (a Georgia Shakespeare Company member for more than 20 years, the Alliance Theatre's longtime Ebenezer Scrooge, Alliance Theatre's *Ever After*, and more). Jen Harper and Lala Cochran play the wives. Jen Harper has spent 30+ years in Atlanta theatre, including multiple roles for Horizon, Jomandi, 7 Stages, Alliance Theatre, Theatre in the Square, and the Theatrical Outfit. Lala Cochran is a longtime veteran of Actor's Express (*Spring Awakening* and *The New Century*),

Horizon (*The Waffle Palace*, *Superior Donuts*, *Night Blooms*, and *True Love Lies*), the Georgia Ensemble Theatre (*Bullets Over Broadway*), the Alliance (*Good People*), the Aurora Theatre (*Walter Cronkite is Dead*), and others.

Brittani Minnieweather, Justin Walker, and Markell Williams play the adult children. They are also veteran actors in the Atlanta theatre scene (Minnieweather most recently in *Jump* at the Actor's Express).

Playing the black and white wives, respectively, Harper and Cochran gave winning performances, with perfect comedic timing, that helped “make” the play for me, keeping it from devolving to a mere reinforcement of offensive stereotypes. Instead, the characters were complex and engaging. Initial scenes establish the dynamics of the relationships while demonstrating the similarities and race-specific traits of each family. (Young and Harper are real-life spouses.) The content may be uncomfortably familiar to all Southerners, but this play softens it by laughing at some of the hypocrisies.

Editor's Note: slightly off-topic but of special interest, in addition to her career as a performing artist, Jen Harper is a medical doctor practicing western and eastern medicine, licensed in acupuncture, who has been on a plant-based diet for 30 years, and says she never looked back. In her “spare time,” she studies Christian and Jewish thought, history, and archeology. She was even tutored by Ian McKellen and Judi Dench.



From a meeting earlier in the year

August into September in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

“... whatever your garden is like, it has to be owned by you,” said Celia Hargrave, who spends 50-100 hours a week immersed in her garden in Sheepscombe, Gloucestershire, England. “If you’ve got any maintenance you’ve got to have creativity as well so it doesn’t become a chore... It doesn’t matter if it’s something very small, like a flower pot, or putting a different plant in, you need the sense of something new being created.” (*The English Garden*, Feb/Mar 2019, p. 48)

Many of you have just moved to your plots of land, fortunately smaller than Celia’s, and are taking time to inventory what is out there and what you would like to see in the future. One of my neighbors has planted creeping fig to cover very bare concrete on his steep front yard because it crawls up vertical surfaces and masks them with small dark green leaves. I later noticed it was widely used in Charleston gardens to do the same thing, where earth is at a premium. I recommend it as long as you also monitor its growth and trim it back before it threatens foundations, windows, or the rest of your garden,

usually by the third year.

The Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin has arrived, with its handy Fall Vegetable Planting Chart. If you are new to this zone, know that you can grow many things more successfully for fall than in spring, but they do have end planting dates: bush beans, collards, cucumbers, kale, and summer squash need to be seeded this month and cauliflower plants put in by Aug. 15. Extremely high temperatures or low rainfall will require you to shade plants and do additional watering. The same hoops that hold frost-protection garden fabric can hold shade cloth.

Plants have their own minds and often do unexpected things. Early last spring I planted some columbine seeds in an indoor pot with the idea of getting the perennials big enough to bloom this year. The packet said they needed a freeze to germinate, so I watered the soil, actually stuck an ice-cube in it, covered it with plastic wrap, and stored it in our freezer. One little pot—the Cook would never notice. She didn’t, and I forgot about it. Sometime in June I was looking for

ice-cream and spotted the green pot. I snatched it up, removed the plastic wrap, pulled the ice-cube, then wondered what to do. Finally, I replaced the plastic loosely and set the pot under the grow lights. Believe it or not, the seeds germinated within two weeks, every one of them, a tiny forest of waving columbine leaves. Now I have potted up seedlings of various sizes (to get a better range of colors) and plan to set them out in the garden this fall. Always something new.

There are two huge things we can do to reduce to global warming (besides getting elected World Dictator), and both include our property. One is to reduce emissions by not using gas-powered tools. Who needs a gas mower on our tiny lawns? They still make push reel or rotary mowers. Rake your lawn, and sweep your walk, instead of turning on a blower. If you are too disabled to do this, try an electric model. One gallon of gasoline puts 20 pounds of CO₂ out there.

Speaking of lawns, a four-step lawn fertilization program produces 960 pounds of CO₂ year. The best thing you can do for the earth is to leave it

the way it is; so if you do not really like gardening, return your property to Southern forest with trees of different sizes and a variety of native shrubs, all mulched with the free leaves each fall. Adding leaf litter or compost to your soil is another way to capture carbon plus adding nutrients and increasing water retention. Letting as little plant life as possible actually leave your yard is the best recipe.

It is true I constantly lecture about the death of our environment and bemoaned the loss of snakes in my garden in the last column. Well, only weeks later, as I was tidying up dead foxglove leaves from a bed practically on the corner of two streets, there slithered out from between my fingers a garter snake about ten inches long and the diameter of my smallest finger! And, when I last went to Lowe’s, who, like Home Depot, pledged to give up the use of neonicotinoids in their nurseries, the place was buzzing with bees, more than in my own garden.

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



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Frazer Center + Compassionate Atlanta

Continued from Page 1

Archibong, Atlanta's District 5 City Commissioner, was instrumental in making this happen.

Frazer's first step as a Compassionate Atlanta Charter Partner was to create a focus group from among the Adult Program participants. Leanne Rubenstein, Co-Director of Compassionate Atlanta, and Tonja Holder, Frazer's Development Director, facilitated a discussion about activities that the participants enjoy doing in the larger community and the barriers they experience that keep them from doing those activities.

Next, the two organizations held a Welcoming Communities Conversation in Frazer's atrium to discuss how we can create better access for everyone in our community. Among the attendees were neighbors from Lake Claire and beyond, members of the original focus group, and Commissioner Archibong.

Participants in the conversation noted several barriers in their day-to-day living, such as MARTA bus stop shelters that don't have accessible curb ramps. Similarly, several establishments in older renovated buildings along the Beltline have cre-

ated rooftop seating areas, but people who use wheelchairs are excluded from these spaces.

As usual, Commissioner Archibong wasted no time. As soon as she was aware of these issues, she contacted leaders at several organizations and institutions to get moving. This is what Compassionate Atlanta does. "We are very much a connector," says Rubenstein.

Moving forward, Frazer plans to host quarterly conversations to continue making these community connections, particularly along the Ponce corridor. At Frazer, we hope that more and more of our Lake Claire, North Druid Hills, and Decatur neighbors join the ongoing conversation about creating a more compassionate and radically welcoming community.

To read the Charter for Compassion, visit the link www.charterforcompassion.org. To learn more about Compassionate Atlanta, visit www.compassionateatl.org. To subscribe to the Frazer Center newsletter and stay informed about future community conversations and other happenings, visit www.frazercenter.org.

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.

Lauren Kelly	Jennifer Lund	Joseph Sinkule
Patricia Wheeler	Sydney Boggess	

(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!**



Street Names in Lake Claire

Continued from Page 1

rand 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, found in the archives on our website.) 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. 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 (cf. Brooks Avenue, in Candler Park), part of which was subdivided and eventually became a land donation by Asa Candler for use as the park "Candler Park." They sold land to Colonel **Howard** in the vicinity of Howard Circle. The 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 be-

tween 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" (leading to the name "Lake" Claire, located at the intersection of Claire Drive). Eugene **Hardendorf**, Charles T. **Page**, and Mr. (?) Harold lend 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.

I've been publishing this and other history every once in a while, especially for those new to the neighborhood; I've updated it slightly in the past two years. Some of this information was from 1999 issues of the Clarion's predecessor "Neighbors." Bob Schreiber contributed to the history of Lake Claire; he was Lake Claire's NPU representative and involved in the neighborhood for many years. ~ Editor

Mulberry Fields

Continued from Page 5

Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde Facebook event page. Admission is FREE for Wylde Center members and children ages 12 and under. Non-member admission is \$15. Raffle tickets and t-shirts may be purchased online or at the event.

More about Mulberry Fields Garden:

Mulberry Fields Garden is a hidden oasis in the heart of the Candler Park neighborhood. Originally the site of an old dairy farm, the land has been kept protected by a band of passionate neighbors and landowners since the late 1990s, including Jesse & Richard Bathrick, who officially turned the property into a community garden in 1999. In 2007, the land was placed in a conservation easement securing its continuity as green space and protecting it from development. Now managed by local 501(c)3 non-profit Wylde Center and

the volunteer committee Friends of Mulberry Fields, the garden is celebrating its 20th year of existence and offers an accessible green space for recreation, environmental education, community building, and organic growing.

You may bring your family to Mulberry Fields Garden during daylight hours; it is located down the alley at 1301 Iverson Street. Children love the tree swing and visiting with the goats, 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.

Wylde Center is at the forefront of environmental and farm to school education. In addition, Wylde manages five gardens open to the community, including Mulberry Fields.



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Music Fundraiser for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust

Webster is a popular local band formed here in the neighborhood in 2005, with a history of playing at Candler Park Festivals and the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. Over the past few years, the band has hosted an annual fundraiser for the Land Trust, with proceeds donated to the beloved non-profit community

property.

On **Saturday, August 24**, starting at 4 p.m., three excellent bands will perform in support of the Land Trust. Webster will headline the bill, with the Jess Goggans Band and the Foothill Brothers opening the festivities. It promises to be a fun-filled kid-friendly event, with wonderful music

and friendly neighbors. Food and beverages will be available. There is a \$5 suggested donation, and kids under 12 enter free.

Come out to enjoy a great time out at our neighborhood gem, the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/webster.atlanta.

“Come Set a Spell!”

by Richard Powers

My dad, Ed Powers, offered to build a gazebo in our old back yard on Nelms Avenue, all expenses paid. He pre-cut sections, and we hauled them from my childhood home in Tifton, Georgia. Joanne and I helped him when we had time off from our full time jobs, otherwise leaving my then 86-year-old dad to do the project alone.

“I just can't do it like I used to,” he said, one late afternoon. On the following Saturday, I returned from work to find him watching neighbors

finishing the basic structure. This called for a party! Thus, Dad met several fine folk, as described in his poem (below), written after he returned home. He also donated many lighter pine stumps collected during his years as a U.S. Forester in the South Georgia woods. These are now on display around the gazebo, one decorated with a seashell bird-bath.

The Land Trust purchased the rear portion of the Powers' back yard around 2003, and now the “hill top” can be shared and cherished by y'all.

“The Greenfield” and its gazebo is a great space for children's parties, since it is flat, has no wood chips, and is mostly enclosed. It has also hosted memorial services and at least one wedding. The gazebo itself currently needs some TLC, such as painting and minor repair, and the Greenfield could use a renewed garden and entrance stones. A new side fence is on the Land Trust's to-do list, but its hospitality is available to all. As Dad's hand-carved bench used to say, “Come set a spell.”

High on a Hill Top, by E.O. Powers

There is a couple in Atlanta I know
To visit them I sometimes go
Joanne and Richard are their names
Keeping up with them is like playing games

Their small house on a hill is perched atop
Should it tumble down it would never stop
Climbing up those steep steps drains me dry
But tomorrow I'll give it another try

Their neighborhood is one of cordiality
Everyone seems to enjoy the hospitality
Hippie types, engineers, to cat retrievers,
They work together, and none is a deceiver

Once a year they block off their street
Each brings his own special treat to eat
Friends, children, and oldsters too
All have a jolly time like I never knew

Up the hill behind their home
A good place where J and R like to roam
Vegetables here, flowers there, shrubs everywhere
They spend hours and hours on their care

Farther up the hill near the crest
Is an ideal place to stop and rest
There stands a gazebo built by all
Here tales are told – some sorta tall

Hot dogs grilling and hamburgers on fire
Ear corn steaming and potatoes on bake
When do we eat, for heaven's sake?

Chatting this and that in groups they stand
On one foot, then the other, with food in hand
Discussing politics, work or whatever
First pro, then con – some are even quite clever

Decisions are made, and some are broken
Each has his own say until all have spoken
None is called a liar – no blow is struck
Then they depart, wishing each other luck

A neighborhood living so well together
So unusual that I wonder whether
Dark clouds may be gathering thunder
That eventually will blow it asunder

This concludes my saga of all
I wish them well and all good things
That loving care and compassion brings

Dad – March 28, 1990



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.

Land Trust Supporters – Have you renewed for 2019?

Anyone can be a Land Trust Supporter by donating \$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.

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

Sat., August 3 and 17 – Drum Circle, 8 to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Bring a friend!

Sat., August 17– Community Work Day, 4 to 7 p.m. Pizza and drum circle follow. Note summer hours!

Sat., August 24– Summer Concert/LCCLT fundraiser. Live music, food and drink. See article this page.

Next Miss Ladybug Event: September 29, Welcome Fall Garden Party—details in the next Clarion!



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 Michael McGill. He wrote a timely article about his summer vacation in Mexico.

Michael lives on Delaware Avenue, turned 12 years old on July 10, and is

Friendly Dogs of Chicxulub Puerto

by Michael McGill

I spent ten days this summer at a place in Mexico called Chicxulub Puerto, where stray dogs were everywhere. You could just be walking to a market, and you would be able to see more than ten dogs. It is sad that you will see so many dogs without loving families, but they are actually well-fed and seem happy.

There were three dogs in particular that we were feeding and socializing with. We named them Boog, Tuna, and Favorite. They were all very friendly. Boog reminded me of a dog in our neighborhood. Tuna reminded my sister of "Big Tuna," from the TV show The Office. Favorite was named by my sister because he was her favorite dog.

For more information, check out Fundación Corazón Animal, a rescue organization at corazonanimal.org, to learn how you can help the dogs and cats of Mexico.



Michael with Tuna

starting seventh grade at Renfroe Middle School. He is into skate-boarding, reading, and from what I can tell (from next door) basketball, pogo-stick jumping, and frequent hanging out with Fallou and Sam... and Juno the kitty, who did *not* get to meet the dogs in Mexico.

Contest Winner

This month, Hoyt Schroeder found the hidden graphic on Page 9 of the last issue. Hoyt is six years old and lives on Clifton Road, "the Lake Claire side." He is starting first grade at Mary Lin this month. Last month's Clarion said that for extra-credit, tell us about your favorite thing in the summer. Hoyt wrote that he loves Lake Claire Park and Pool in the summer, and the hot weather! The prize for extra-credit is to be the featured writer/artist in a future issue, so we look forward to seeing something that Hoyt writes or draws sometime soon.

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

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



Contest Winner Hoyt Schroeder Finding the Hidden Picture

NEW CONTEST!

For this month, the hidden graphic shows a back-to-school scene. The child who wins will have his or her photo in the next Clarion, the **September** 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 coming back to school. The extra-credit prize is that you'll be a featured writer/artist in the Lake Claire 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 August 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**



Jamie with Favorite