



The Lake Claire Halloween Parade!

It's almost that time again! Please join us as we celebrate Halloween ... Lake Claire style!

The annual Lake Claire Parade is a fun, informal event where the entire neighborhood dresses up, and parades a few blocks to Lake Claire Park, where we hang out, have fun, and eat treats. Grab your kids (if applicable) and a cocktail (if desired), and come join us Saturday, October 26! We gather between 4:30 and 4:45 p.m.

on Marlbrook Drive, east of Ridgewood, and we parade at 5 p.m. sharp!

We can't do it without the neighborhood, so please sign up to bring treats, person the tables, or otherwise help out—and remind your high school students, this can count toward community service required hours. Visit our "Signup Genius" at tinyurl.com/y5rxvuf0 to sign up. If you're interested in a larger role, just drop us a line at halloween@lakeclaire.org.

Is your business interested in being a sponsor? We welcome local businesses to donate goods (snacks or drinks) or bring a table. For details, contact Matt Stacy: halloween@lakeclaire.org.

Keep an eye on the Lake-Claire.org website, or the Candler Park/Lake Claire Families Facebook Group for any updates or changes, since the Clarion goes to press a month in advance. **Please, no pets, whatsoever.** SEE YOU THERE!!!

October Nominations

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are in November. According to our bylaws, all nominations must be made at the regular yearly LCN meeting in October. The basic requirement for nomination, either self-nomination or if nominated by another, is attendance at a minimum of four regular meetings since last November. An official slate of officers will also be presented. So, if you would like to serve the neighborhood in this valuable fashion, and you will meet the requirement as of the October meeting (i.e., you have already attended at least 3 meetings, so the October meeting will be your 4th

or more), do consider leadership in the neighborhood, a very good cause and lots of fun. Meetings are on the third Thursdays, in the Rose Room at the Frazer Center: 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Savage provides free pizza for the meetings. **Nominations (the complete listing of positions are in the masthead at the top of Page 2), will be at our meeting on Thursday, October 17. We hope to see you there.**

This is the slate that we know of so far, with the starred names re-upping from this year.: Miriam Herbers for Safety VP; Beth Grashof for Zoning VP; *Melissa Pressman for Environment VP; *Nancy Dorsner

for Communications VP; *Eileen O'Neil for Finance VP; *Pen Sherwood for Fundraising VP; *Carol Holiday for Planning VP and NPU Rep.; *Joe Agee, President.

Clarion seeks volunteer:

We need just FIFTEEN minutes each month, but it must be on or within a day of the first day of the month. Each month the physical paper Clarions are distributed to 1400+ homes by our volunteer deliverers. In addition, we need one person to upload the web version to the LC website, each month, rain or snow -- it literally takes no more than

Dress Coded at Inman

by Abby Hyken

Dress codes are a very controversial topic. Some schools enforce a dress code, while others do not. At Inman Middle School, the dress code stated in the handbook is currently as follows: "... *Shorts and skirts are allowed if they are mid-thigh length both front AND back. Pants or shorts cannot have tears or holes that expose skin above mid thigh length. Leggings can be worn as long they are worn with a shirt that extends to mid-thigh length both front AND back. Shirts that expose the stomach or back are not permitted (halter tops, tank tops, midriffs, strap tops, or see-through clothing are pro-*

hibited)." The dress code is now under fire. Many parents and students are protesting against the dress code and hope to change it because dress codes sexualize young girls and can be detrimental to their mental and emotional health.

A petition that was started by Inman moms was presented to Inman principal Dr. Maxwell at the latest PTA meeting held in September. This petition hopes to change the dress code so it is not geared towards girls. There was a protest on August 30 that urged girls at Inman and Sutton Middle Schools **Cont. on p. 14**

Time to Start your Art

by Julie Roseman

Calling all Artists and Crafters! Kids and Parents, alike, it is time to get crafty, because our Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair is coming again!

Do you make jewelry? Or maybe you know how to knit scarves? How about key chains, ornaments, or candles? We want you to have a chance to sell your work!

On Saturday, December 14, Lake Claire Neighbors and Mary Lin Elementary are hosting the 2019 Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair.

A share of the proceeds will help both organizations support local charities and community work. Mark your calendars: Saturday, December 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Atrium in the Frazier Center, 1815 S. Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307. FREE admission.

We are looking for local artisans, crafters, photographers, painters, potters, jewelers, and more, to sell their original artwork. All items must be handmade—no mass-produced, store-bought, resale, or imported items.

Cont. on p. 8

**Breaking News:
APS Not Renewing
Superintendent
Carstarphen's
Contract—See Page 7.**

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

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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.

October Calendar**1, 7, 15, 21 & 28**

Lake Claire Softball Upcoming games: October 1, 7 p.m. against Westside; October 7, 9 p.m. against Kirkwood; October 15, 8 p.m. against Reynoldstown; October 21, 7 p.m. against Cabagetown; October 28, 7 p.m. against the Argonauts. All games at East Lake Park. See article Page 8.

1-6 Alliance Theatre presents *Becoming Nancy*. It's 1979 in the south London suburb of East Dulwich, and David Starr is unquestionably one of the smartest, most talented kids in the 12th grade—he's got a wild imagination, a vocal range to die for, and a bedroom plastered with posters of his beloved pop idols: Blondie, Sting, and Kate Bush. But smarts, talent, and great taste in music may not be enough to get him through secondary school, where, to his great surprise, he's just been given the female lead of Nancy in the school play. The unconventional casting sends shockwaves through David's small town, first with David, and then with his parents, his aunt, and his classmates. alliancetheatre.org/production/2019-20/becoming-nancy

1-13 Actor's Express Theatre Company presents *Skintight*, a blistering comedy that hilariously excoriates America's obsession with youth and physical beauty. Playwright Joshua Harmon, directed by Freddie Ashley. When Jodi Isaac flies across the country to visit her famous fashion mogul father for his 70th birthday, she finds that his posh downtown New York townhouse has a new resident: dad's new boyfriend. Who is 20. And other shocks that we can't print in this family-friendly newspaper. Last weekend is October 11-13. Info/tix: www.actors-express.com/plays/skintight

1-27 Wow! Horizon Theatre presents *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*!!!!—by Simon Stephens and on Broadway recently, based on the best-selling novel by Mark Haddon. Winner of 7 Olivier Awards and 5 Tony Awards including 'Best Play,' tenacious and intelligent, about an autistic teenager who is better at solving equations than navigating a world stubbornly out of sync with how his mind works. After being wrongly accused of murdering his neighbor's dog, he resolves to find the real culprit. When his investigation uncovers painful truths about his family, he dares to strike out on his own, embarking on a thrilling adventure that upturns his whole world. Info/Tix: www.horizontheatre.com

8 to January 2020 Volcanoes 3D is ready to erupt at Fernbank's Giant Screen Theatre. Experience the story of volcanoes stretching from Earth's beginnings to modern day "Amazing footage showing the constructive and destructive forces of volcanoes and how they have changed and shaped the planet over time," said Fernbank Museum's Dr. Bobbi Hohmann. "It is a perfect film to feature alongside our newest permanent exhibition, Fantastic Forces, that explores earth and physical science topics through hands-on participation." Tix are \$13 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$11 for children, and \$8 for Museum members. Save on movies with the purchase of a Value Pass combination ticket, offering the movie and museum admission for \$23-\$27. FernbankMuseum.org or call 404.929.6400 for more information.

5 & 19 Drum Circle at the Lake Claire Community 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's penultimate page (this time, Page 15).

12 Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden, exciting work day, corner of North Ave. and Candler Park Drive. 9 a.m. until noon. Laying out plans for garden expansion. Educational talks given before planting begins. Next work day is November 9. Join us!

16 to Nov. 10 Theatrical Outfit presents *Safety Net*, about the first female fire captain in an Alabama town at war with opioids, and she's facing it head-on, heart-out, and under scrutiny. Meanwhile, her spitfire-of-a-mother, Xenia, tries to conjure stability with bundt cake and Bible verses. When Chris' mysterious childhood friend, Val, drifts into their lives, daughter and mother find themselves at a tipping point between what's safe and what saves. Tix/info: www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/safety-net/

17 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting—3rd Thursdays, Rose Room in The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. At this meeting: nominations for LCN Officers (always in October; election at the November meeting; see Page 1 article). Free Pizza (THANKS, SAVAGE).

19 Land Trust Community Work Day, 9 a.m. to noon. Pizza follows. See info on the Land Trust every month on the penultimate page of the Clarion.

23 Hops at the History Center Author Event is hosting authors Ron Smith and Mary O. Boyle as they discuss their book *Prohibition in Atlanta: Temperance, Tiger Kings & White Lightning*. Info: selem@dekalbhistory.org, www.dekalbhistory.org.

26 Pumpkin Carving at the Land Trust, 5:30 p.m. Pumpkins provided. Bring knives and candles. Please check the LT website in case I've gotten the time wrong. ~Editor.

26 One of Lake Claire's signature events of the year!—the Halloween Parade and Party—Gather 4:30-4:45 p.m. on Marlbrook—see details on Page 1 and map on Page 8.

26 A new Halloween tradition—2nd annual Scary Fireside Stories at the Land Trust Fire Pit (see full details on Page 15.) 6:30 p.m., after the pumpkin carving, but the latter is not for young kids.

27 Fall Festival at Frazer Center, 3-6 p.m., Food, music, and family fun for all ages. More info and tickets at www.frazercenter.org.

27 3-5 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, McLendon @ Connecticut, celebration of CSM Founding. See more on Page 14.

Send calendar entries for the November Clarion by OCTOBER 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org.

UPCOMING:

Early November, in case it's before your November Clarion arrives:

November 1-3: ABCs of Organic Gardening! Please see Page 15 for full details.

November 9: Freedom Park Bird/Butterfly Garden Exciting Work Day. Working with Cub Scout Troup #568 to plant some new native plants. Educational talks will be held before planting begins. 9 until noon.

Early December (mark your calendars): Lake Claire Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale December 14, see Page 1.

E • D • U • C • A • T • I • O • N M • A • T • T • E • R • S

Thank you to Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and Mary Lin Representative to the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS).

APS Did Not Renew Superintendent Meria Carstarphen's Contract

by Annsley Klehr

Atlanta Public Schools (APS) has been known for its less-than-perfect school system, where cheating scandals reigned, many schools were low performing, and changes in leadership constantly disrupted its reputation. Most people sighed a sigh of relief when Meria Carstarphen was hired five years ago as the APS superintendent, APS' latest solution. It seemed like a perfect fit. Carstarphen dazzled us all with her wit and wisdom; she connected with the Grady Cluster, and we felt we were heard. The years of no transparency were over, though scars of redistricting had yet to fade. When Carstarphen talked, little by little, these scars faded, and the Grady Cluster had hope and promise of a better future, a future of which we were to be a part.

Carstarphen had been plucked out of Austin, where after three years her contract had not been renewed. And three years before that, she had another school stint, with St. Paul schools, where again, her contract was not renewed. APS felt lucky and proud of this young, determined woman with grace, outspoken, yet refreshingly honest, with political savviness, who also made in-roads with Atlanta businesses.

So, on Monday, September 9, when the Atlanta Board of Education (ABOE) did not renew Carstarphen's contract, many people were shocked, disappointed, and outraged, while others were relieved. How could this situation have two polar opposite responses?

A Brief History. The previous ABOE voted twice to extend Carstarphen's contract. In 2015, it was unanimous. In 2017, the nine-person board voted 7-0 to renew the contract, with 2 members absent, extending it until June 30, 2019. Then, on June 4, 2018, with a 6-3 vote, her contract was extended until June 30, 2020. Therefore, by July of 2019, Carstarphen knew that her contract would not be renewed again. In the 2018 vote, those three that did not want to renew her contract expressed that District 5 constituents worried about school culture, safety, and its teachers (Erica Collins), fiscal accountability, and responsibility. Strengths included:

- APS Graduation rates at an all-time high (The rates fall short of the state average and are not satisfactory for all student populations.)
- Less leadership turnover

**Board Chairman
Jason Esteves came out of a
three-hour, closed-door
board meeting to announce
there was not
a majority board consensus
to extend Carstarphen's
contract past its expiration
date of June 30, 2020**

- Relationships with Atlanta businesses

- Public Speaking
 - Risk Taking
 - Energy, Passion, & Perseverance
- Areas of Controversy included:

- Fiscal Accountability
- Grady Cluster, with a growing population, does not have the physical space to educate and accommodate the growing numbers. Carstarphen promised at each town hall to discuss the matter before decisions have to be made. So far, no discussions have taken place. (Thankfully, the Grady Cluster Advisory Team has developed a long-term planning

committee, and the ABOE has embarked on a facilities plan being facilitated by the Sizemore Group.)

- Carstarphen contracted charter operators to run seven of the district's lowest performing schools.

- The closure and merging of schools in low enrolled communities without adequate rationale of purpose or outcome.

- Lack of Transparency on district Milestones Outcomes.

- Relationships with necessary collaborators.

- Systemic district issues that are still unresolved, i.e., bus driver/routes, potential success in the most recent food service contract.

What Does Carstarphen Say? (after the decision not to renew her contract): "The disparity in educational outcomes for Atlanta's children has been intergenerational and systemic. The solutions are not easy, which is why I so passionately wanted to stay and finish the job I was hired to do. The Atlanta community entrusts its children and its hard-earned tax dollars to us. We owe it to our community to continue to get

up each day and show up for our children. I am incredibly humbled by the support and grateful for our community of students, caregivers, principals, teachers, staff, alumni, and partners who have been so supportive of the work we have done. I've said many times: I love Atlanta. I believe in Atlanta. I believe in you, and I believe our team will continue to get the job done for children. Despite progress and gains, this work is not done."

What Carstarphen Didn't Say. Rumors say that over the past 5 years she has applied for multiple jobs across the nation, including Los Angeles, but she has never been a finalist.

What does the APS community say? Opinions span the gamut from those that are incredibly irate about the decision, to general surprise, to those that expressed pleasure. Where schools have been doing well, there seems to be more disappointment and anger surrounding the decision, whereas in underperforming school districts, the general sentiment is

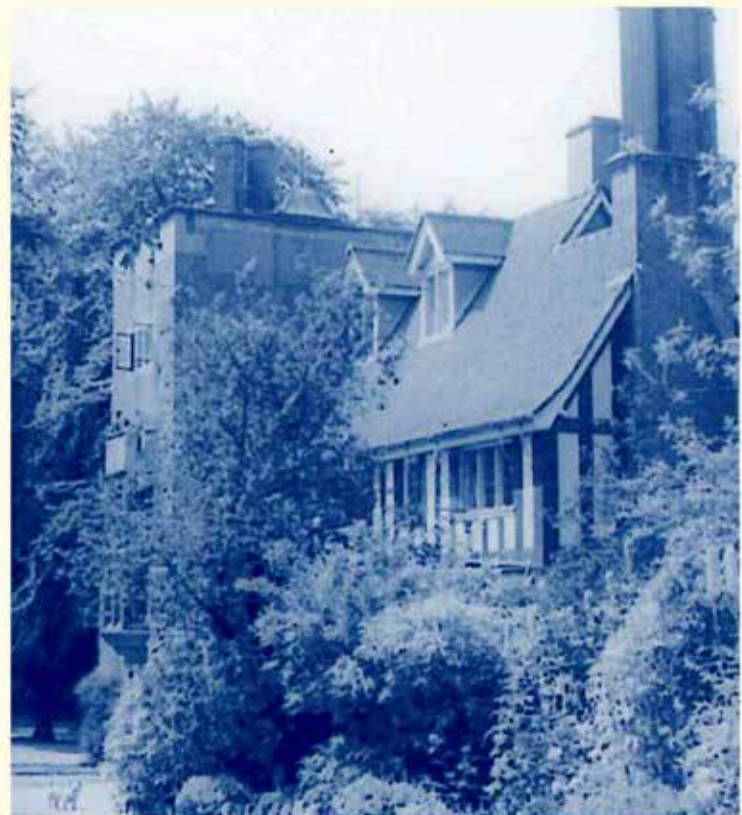
Cont. on p. 7

Lake Claire Resident Publishes Memoir

Andrew Sherwood of Harold Avenue just published a memoir, *A Drift In The Deer Park*, describing his childhood in wartime and postwar Britain, up to the end of his student years. Topics include tuneless singing in an air-raid shelter, hitchhiking across France in a kilt, crawling upside-down through a rain-soaked Cuillin crag, and sharing a beer with a future king. We will need to read it to find out what that is all about! — Sounds intriguing!

The book's cover design is by Andrew's wife, Pen, our VP of Fun(d) raising. The book is available as an e-book at Apple Books, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other on-line retailers for what Andrew says is "the princely sum of \$3.99." Depending on demand, an illustrated print edition may be available at a later date.

A DRIFT IN THE DEER PARK STORY OF AN ENGLISH CHILDHOOD ANDREW SHERWOOD





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Wild in Lake Claire: Happenings in the 'Hood

by Flora Fauna (*aka* Carol Vanderschaaf)

...the hot 'hood, that is.

I thought October was the start of autumn, but, as I write this in the middle of September, the temperature has been over 90 for ten days in a row. Then again, we had a new and self-appointed weatherman this month, so who knows what the sharpies may have done.

Miriam H., who is heading to Washington State, saw what she thought was a Red-shouldered Hawk on her deck. Miriam couldn't get close enough to see the tail. Later Miriam put out a sunflower head on her deck, and two juvenile Cardinals came out to eat at it. She also reports that the pond on the Land Trust is beautiful with all the zinnias around it blooming. Two young boys, Everett and Sam, have been catching fish there and then throwing them back in. The Great Blue Heron has been doing some fishing, too, but it doesn't throw its catch back in.

Meredith W. saw a Great Blue Heron in Frazer forest in the Cator Woolford gardens last week. She and her husband "had a lovely encounter with another Barred Owl in my parents' backyard in Druid Hills. It was sitting on the low branch of a dogwood tree and stayed still for a long time, allowing lots of staring and admiration." That's pretty much it, aside from some baby crawfish and two different types of salamanders in Deepdene.

Andrew F. reports seeing a baby squirrel, which "while not a novelty, fell from a tree yesterday in front of our house. The little fella was definitely hurt in the fall, so a wildlife rehab picked it up for mending." Also it's good to hear that he and his wife have continued to see bats flying around our parking lot in the dusk hours....and also more passion butterfly caterpillars than I've seen in prior years; they're a lot this year!" Andrew speculates that this is "possibly connected to our going a year without spraying for mosquitos... (we used to do the "pollinator safe" servicing but stopped when we realized that was inaccurate marketing, also....lack of spraying...correlated with seeing more spiders, and honestly the amount of mosquitos is the same as in years prior; not any worse." (FF: So great to hear! BD, editor: "Ditto!—"pollinator safe," my __.)

My friend Melissa reported seeing a "giant praying mantis" recently when she was helping a friend clean up her front porch. "I saw it in a spider web and thought it was dead. As I

moved my broom toward it, the creature jumped, or should I say flew, toward me, and skimmed my head." Fortunately no damage was done.

Dorothy D. reported seeing a hedgehog in the north Georgia Mountains. No jumping nor flying was involved. I wish I'd been there. I've never seen a hedgehog, except for a rubber one that was a toy for one of my friend's dogs. No details will be told of that relationship.

The inimitable Ilene S. reports she has been seeing lots of Blue Jays. Also, she has observed a "very active and loud flock of Chimney Swifts." Ilene has just returned from Colorado and "hasn't gotten back to looking yet."

Brynan H. reports that, "in addition to the baby hummingbird experience, I just saw Bluebirds in our back yard yesterday—the first time this year. There was at least one couple—male and female. Love how they fly together. Very exciting. I was concerned, as I usually see them earlier in the summer. Also, the Goldfinches have been amazing at the Land Trust—on the sunflowers and rudbeckia. Both male and female. (FF regrets not seeing either Bluebirds or Goldfinches, two of her favorite birds.)

Lastly, I, Flora Fauna, report that "I still have lots of Gulf Fritillaries around and two hummingbirds, one of which is plump enough to start the journey across the Gulf."

Now, to leave the comforts of our mostly cozy little 'hood and go out to the wide and wild Big World swirling all around us. Out of this tsunami, I've grabbed three lessons.

First, from Jonathan Franzen in his recent essay in the New Yorker ("What if we Stopped Pretending"): He believes that human-induced climate change is inevitable, and the fight against it is useless; instead, each of us has an ethical and moral obligation to take care of the things we love. He feels there is little hope of averting the catastrophe, as draconian measures would have to be taken. The present group of government-hating folks would never agree to those measures which would cost much more in taxes—and curb their lifestyles.

Next, I have found a new hero. Greta Thunberg, a young (teen-aged) Swedish climate activist, recently sailed across the ocean to address several environmental organizations here. She has Asperger syndrome, and while acknowledging that her

Cont. on p. 13

Finnegan, a Lake Claire Resident

by Dawn Aura

Finnegan was a six-week-old kitten when I found him, crying loudly, under a car in a parking lot. I called my husband, Stephen Wing, who quickly brought our humane animal trap. We baited the trap, said a prayer and left. An hour later we returned, and there was tiny Finny in the trap. Finny had saved himself! He grew into a beautiful kitty, and loved his days in the backyard with the emu and the ducks and the hens. They all respected each other, and along with Ella the pitbull, we had a peaceable queendom.

Time passed, and before I knew it, Finnegan had been with us eleven years. He had become my closest friend, right along with Wing. We looked into each others' eyes for long minutes. He made it very clear that he loved me a lot. One year we saw him through a serious surgery for a blocked urethra, and a long recovery. I was there for him, and sang the

same songs to him over and over. We would say "I love you" to each other by slowly blinking our eyes. He was big and handsome, a beautiful light brown tabby.

Then, around midnight on May 27 of this year, I heard a cat scream. I assumed it was a short cat fight. But the next morning and all the next day, Finney was not to be seen. After that day, we went looking and calling. Finnegan knew the entire Land Trust very well. I knew that if he could come home he would have. We contacted three animal communicators over the next week. They all said different things, and none of it helped. We posted on NextDoor and the Land Trust yahoo groups, as well as websites that specialize in finding pets. We put flyers out for folks that might not use the internet. Nothing.

After a few weeks, maybe a month,

Cont. on p. 8



Speaking of "Wild" in Lake Claire... Invasive Plant Emergency

by Sara Gottlieb

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust—and many other areas around Atlanta—are being invaded by Japanese Chaff Flower, an extremely invasive non-native plant. It is now going to seed, and its seeds are very sticky, so if you or your child or your dog brush up against the seeds, they will stick to you, and you will unwittingly spread this plant wherever you go - your yard, another park, or outdoor green space, etc.

The best way to control this plant is to dig it up and dispose of it; however, the roots are extensive and difficult to dig, especially in the dry soil conditions we have right now. I

suggest that you take every opportunity you can, whenever you see this plant, to pull it up or cut it as close to the ground as possible, and dispose of it in the trash, not in yard waste or compost, ever. We need to get rid of these plants that are going to seed now. Check yourself for seeds after pulling or cutting this plant!

This plant is very prevalent at every entrance to the Land Trust, on the margins of Amata and CoHousing, and other areas in the neighborhood. **Please see the picture of it on Page 8 so that you will recognize it.**

JUST SOLD | 2006 Mclendon Avenue NE, Lake Claire

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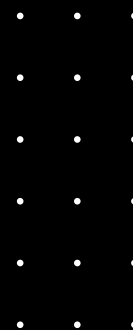
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Annual Arts & Crafts Sale

Continued from Page 1

Details: artists keep 80% of their sales; payment by check, cash, or credit card accepted. Only hand-made items accepted. Children artists are welcome and encouraged. Exhibits must be supervised by a parent at all times. Artists are asked to stay with their art exhibit during the entire sale period. Artists are asked to contribute a baked good or other finger food.

Volunteers are needed for set up,

break down, and cashier positions (a sign-up genius will be posted in November). Please fill out this online application form to become a vendor: form.jotform.com/82388603894167. For more information, please contact Julie Roseman (julieroseman@yahoo.com) or Annsley Klehr (anzoid@yahoo.com), Holiday Sales Coordinators, for more details.



Last year's Holiday Sale, Sara McGill's Jewelry (above) and Janie Wright's Gourds (below).



Meria Carstarphen's Contract

Continued from Page 3

one of relief.

A teacher in the Jackson Cluster expressed that, "... she would talk a good game, but not necessarily listen to us little folks." She believes that the little struggling schools got overlooked unless something made the news. The Washington Cluster has struggled no less. A community leader explained how Washington High does not even have money to buy books, and yet the ABOE and Carstarphen created a charter school, Grove Park Academy, on the Westside. Not only were several properties acquired through eminent domain, but also APS agreed to put \$18,000,000 into the project with matching funds from Chick-Fil-A, diverting of funds away from the non-charter cluster schools in dire need. "Carstarphen is a great manipulator and great orator when it comes to spinning the truth...We have got to demand equity for resources across the district. Black people do not envy ... your schools; we're just saying let it be equitable." An involved parent in both the Mays Cluster and an involved community member of the Jackson Cluster echoed this view. "We really were neglected, and we tried to get her help to turn us around," explained the parent, describing how the data has gone down—SAT/ACT scores, enrollment, CCRPI overall, content mastery, and gifted children. Carstarphen ignored pleas for help, and "in any area you can look at in her five-year reign, we [the Mays Cluster] are worse off under her leadership." The latter person spoke about the empirical evidence not matching Carstarphen's views on progress, describing the cluster as being "flat" or "stagnant." Graduation rates, he noted, were based on some complicated formula, but back in the 1980s, he explained, a student had to take a proficiency exam to graduate high school. "Today if you are socially promoted, that is all it takes to graduate. I understand people's shock, but this is an elected board, and we want to trust the people we elect." He paralleled this current situation to the

politics around Carstarphen's end days as Superintendent in Austin, an inability "naturally to align with our [APS'] partners."

There are also those in the clusters that were angry that the board was not transparent about the non-renewal of the contract. On Facebook, Grady Cluster parents wrote anything from, "There is zero justification for this; it is purely a political move" to "the deciding factor was personality conflict."

Quite opposite to what was expressed by members of the Jackson and Mays Cluster, a Grady Cluster parent believes Carstarphen to have made significant progress from "basically zero." Some political officials and legendary Atlanta leaders have come out in support of Carstarphen, and "and yet the BOE completely disregarded their advice and Dr. Carstarphen's actual record of success." The solution this Grady parent sees is for the ABOE and the Superintendent to collaborate to solve financial issues, and she does not believe that one person can solve the systemic issues ("income disparity, food insecurity, lack of early childhood education, homelessness, and other challenges that get in the way of their learning"). Some stakeholders felt surprised, and did think they knew enough, but what they knew seemed good. "I was surprised that her contract wasn't renewed, because she seemed like she was doing a great job," stated a parent in the North Atlanta Cluster.

There are many sides surrounding the ABOE not renewing Carstarphen's contract. There is no right answer, but hopefully, we can engage in thoughtful discourse around this topic.

What Questions Can We Be Asking? Of the ABOE, Leslie Grant, Michelle Olympiadas, Erika Mitchell, Cynthia Briscoe-Brown, Jason Esteves, was this a political decision by the board members? What is at stake personally for this vote? Are the board members being transparent? Do we have all the facts? Do we reach out

to our board members to understand more? How transparent was the process, and how can it be improved? How navigable and how forgiving was the ABOE's work environment? How much of the graduation rate is due to gentrification and upturn in the Social Economic Status (SES)? Are things improving at a rate that they should, given the financial support, board support, and community support Carstarphen has received during her tenure? What will a new superintendent decide to do if renovations at Grady High School have not begun yet?

There is no perfect superintendent, and the job is far from easy. Will we be able to find another good one? It takes someone strong, with sometimes definitive views, to make changes happen. A leader cannot please all. During the process of letting Carstarphen's contract lapse, the ABOE stated that they are looking for a future superintendent who

will help maintain "a spirit of continuous collaboration."

To read more about APS in the recent news, check out: gradingatlanta.blogspot.com; www.ajc.com/news/local-education/divided-atlanta-school-board-meets-today-discuss-superintendent-future/udqiT86GLYtGnEpXUCQPJL/; thesoutherneronline.com/72689/news/atlanta-school-board-to-begin-search-for-new-superintendent/; deaturish.com/2019/09/school-board-member-michelle-olympiadis-discusses-superintendents-contract-at-kirkwood-meeting/.

Feel free to contact Leslie Grant at: lgrant@atlanta.k12.ga.us or Michelle Olympiadas at: michelle.olympiadis@atlanta.k12.ga.us if you have questions or would like to understand more. A special thanks to all of those anonymous interviews that helped give perspective to this difficult decision.

Finnegan

Continued from Page 5



I stopped looking. I knew there were coyotes around, and since he had vanished without a trace, and I didn't find him injured or dead, I thought that a coyote had gotten him. I grieved greatly, as he was my feline soulmate, my feline partner.

Almost three months passed, and I was continuing on with life without him when we got a call from a neighbor just a few blocks away. They had found Finny, who still had his ID tag on, but was severely injured and lying in their driveway. We were there in three minutes. I looked at him lying there on the concrete, and I said "Finnegan!" And as injured as he was, at hearing his name and my voice for the first time in three months, he looked straight into my eyes. He knew that at last he was with us again. But he was so weak and thin, and he couldn't use his legs at all. It was a Sunday, so we took him immediately to the ER vets at St. Francis, where they said he needed a neurologist, so we took him to Blue Pearl, where they admitted him to their ER. He had serious neurological damage, and the doctor wanted to do an MRI the next morning. But that morning we got a call that he had gone downhill during the night and couldn't lift his head.

When we got there I held him on my chest, and I felt that he was beginning to pass away. So we took him home, holding him close the whole way. My grief was overflowing. When we walked into our home, which Finny hadn't seen for three months, he lifted his head slightly and sniffed. He knew he was home. I needed to bring him home where he belonged,

to have him here with us once again. He was passing away before our eyes, so we called a kind female vet, who showed up to help Finny avoid any further suffering. He died on our bed on August 27, three months to the day after he went missing.

I can't explain the strong need I had to bring him home—probably because I had wished for it more than anything for three months. But I never expected to find him only to lose him again. That only happens in fiction, I thought. Since then, I feel two things at the same time. One is that I feel eternally thankful that I got to see him again, that beautiful face that I loved for so long, and so grateful that I got an extra bit of precious time with him, and that he died at home with the people who loved him, not alone in the street. But I also am grieving at finding him only to lose him again. And I think of all the "if onlys"—if only someone had seen him, as he must have been in the neighborhood for those three months. And why did I give up looking for him, thinking he'd either be alive and come home, or was dead somewhere? Why didn't I think that he might be injured, and keep looking? If only he'd been found sooner, etc. etc. Sometimes, with all our good intentions and actions, people we love slip through our fingers.

Tragedy hits us all; it's part of life. If there is one person I'd like to see again on the other side it would be Finnegan first, even before my mother and father and brother. It's just like that. I hope we meet again.

Thanks to my husband Wing, who was with me every step of the way.

Lake Claire Softball!

S.E.A.L.S. (Southeast Atlanta League of Softball) is the Atlanta In-town Neighborhoods Co-Ed Softball League in which Lake Claire participates. There are two seasons each year, Sundays in Spring and Monday/Tuesday evenings in Fall. The Fall Season began September 3. Games are at East Lake Park. Gato is the team sponsor, and Adam Brookner is captain. The team is a combo of veterans and newbies, and includes lots of prayers for good weather game days, which in the current drought does not seem to be a problem. In Spring of 2018 the Lake Claire team was the champion.

Upcoming games: October 1, 7 p.m. against Westside; October 7, 9 p.m. against Kirkwood; October 15, 8 p.m. against Reynoldstown; Octo-

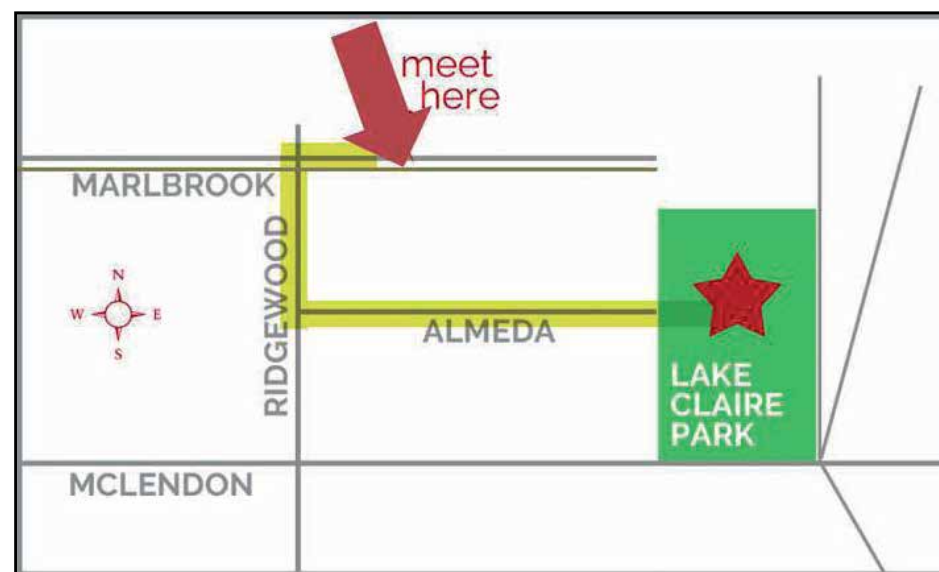


ber 21, 7 p.m. against Cabbagetown; October 28, 7 p.m. against the Argonauts.

So...find your magic socks in your top drawer, don your fave cleats, and dig your well-worn glove out of the closet. It is time to play softball! Support the team! (Team: let's have some pics of you guys IN these shirts!)

Neighborhood Halloween Parade/Party

Continued from Page 1



Invasive Plant Emergency: Japanese Chaff Flower

Continued from Page 5





Illustration by Sadie Bader-Gottlieb

Costumes Optional— Imaginations Required! A New Halloween Tradition: Scary Fireside Stories at The Land Trust

by Brian Kirk

Back by popular demand! It's the 2nd Annual "Scary Fireside Stories" live reading event at the Land Trust. What better way to celebrate the coming of Halloween than with the time-honored tradition of telling spooky stories by the fire while roasting marshmallows for s'mores?

Hosted by Hardendorf resident and suspense author Brian Kirk, the event will feature eleven of Atlanta's most prominent authors of spooky tales reading original stories in celebration of Halloween. While these stories will send chills up your spine, they will be appropriate for a PG-13 audience (my nine-year-old twin sons, Ben and Dean, will be there), though parent discretion is advised. The material will be spooky, but the goal is to have fun.

The event takes place on Saturday, October 26, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the amphitheater/fire pit at the Land Trust. Arrive at 6:30 to receive ingredients for making s'mores around the fire pit. Stories

Cont. on p. 15

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Warner (Coldwell Banker)]
and those are typically
the ones consistently
supporting Lake Claire's
neighborhood initiatives.

Gordon Avenue Pink Lemonade Party

by Beth Damon

Patricia Emerson of Gordon Avenue has been holding her signature Pink Lemonade Tea Party for little girls on her street for several years. This picture shows this summer's event. Patricia, an octogenarian, is a long-term Lake Claire/Gordon resident, featured in the April 2016 Clarion in my occasional series 30+ Year Residents of Lake Claire. She likes the mention here of her age, since, she says, "I am so glad to have made it!"

Dr. Patricia Deane Griffin "Tish" Emerson moved to Lake Claire in August 1983, into her passive solar home on Gordon Avenue with heat-pump backup, designed by Kelly Jordan (whom some may know played a huge part in the revitalization in the '70s of Little 5 Points). The house design is allergy-conscious, with tile floors and other passive-solar features, a roomy one-story home, minimizing energy costs due to the thick walls. She holds the party in her open-design living room, the angles calculated so that the summer sun ends at the window sills, and the winter sun floods the room. The room is

full of kids' playspaces (Patricia is a nanny and a "chosen" grandmother), unique art, and books.

Patricia remembers when the "Sutherland Sub-division" (Gordon Avenue, Oxford Avenue, and Sutherland Terrace) used to have a little newsletter, and everyone knew each other and kept each other apprised of goings-on. When younger, she used to be involved in LCN and many neighborhood initiatives, but at 80+ she has found that life

goes better with retiring in the early evenings.

The daytime tea party is a perfect project for her, she shared with her usual smile. Patricia had noticed that there is now an abundance of little girls on Gordon Avenue, even more since Lily, daughter of my former neighbors on Delaware (Patzner/Schrager family) moved to Gordon. This year's theme was the rainbow. Adults and kids alike had a wonderful time.





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Theatrical Outfit Announces New Artistic Director

by Beth Damon

The Board of Trustees for Theatrical Outfit, Atlanta's second-oldest professional theatre, has voted unanimously to name Matt Torney as its new Artistic Director. Torney will succeed current Artistic Director Tom Key in 2020 when Key completes his 25th year (!!) at the helm of the downtown theatre.

Torney, a native of Belfast, Ireland, is currently the Associate Artistic Director at Washington, D.C.'s Studio Theatre, a leading regional theatre that is approximately three times the size of Theatrical Outfit. When he steps into his new role in June of 2020, Torney will become the sixth Artistic Director in Theatrical Outfit's 43-year history.

"The response from so many accomplished, inspiring, and committed artists who applied for this job was thrilling," said Key. "Matt emerged as a leader who is truly ready to serve our world with the glorious gifts of the theatre. In his already successful and impactful career, he models our values: artistry, community, inclusion, and integrity.

In short, Matt is a joy. I know deep in my soul, he has the heart, the mind, and the character to take our beloved Theatrical Outfit to its brightest and best level yet."

Theatrical Outfit was founded in 1976, as an ensemble of young theatre artists who created original plays that included music, dance, spoken word, and innovative staging. Originally, the Company was housed in a laundromat in Virginia Highland that was converted into a 99-seat performance space. Atlanta actor/director David Head was a founding member and one of the first visionary Artistic Directors of Theatrical Outfit. In 1981, the success of the Theatre inspired a group of Atlanta professionals to form a board of directors to help the Outfit renovate the historic Kress Five and Dime Store at 1012 Peachtree Street, creating a 200-seat, black-box theatre. In the mid-1980s, Sharon Levy, Producing Artistic Director, spearheaded more than 40 productions, helping cement the theatre's place in the Atlanta arts landscape. Be-

transitioned to Eddie Levi Lee and Philip DePoy. Key moved Theatrical Outfit downtown to the Rialto Center for the Arts in 1999, and in 2005 led the Company through the creation of its award-winning downtown home, the Balzer Theatre at Herren's. The Balzer Theatre is the historical site of Herren's, the first restaurant in Atlanta voluntarily to desegregate in 1962, and is the first U.S. theatre to achieve LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Key's programming of classics, regional and world premieres, and musicals tell soul-stirring stories, with themes that explore diversity, equality, ethnicity, race, and faith; and often feature the best writers of the American South. Now, after retiring its mortgage, the staff, trustees, and artists are activating a Strategic Plan designed around great art, a diversified audience, and building community.

The 2019-2020 SEASON: From a groundbreaking repertory to a smash Broadway hit to the return of a favorite, this season at Theatrical Outfit promises to be one for the history books—especially because it also marks Tom Key's last season as Artistic Director.

- **Our Town & The Laramie Project In Repertory:** August 27–September 29, 2019
- **Safety Net (A World Premiere):** October 16–November 10, 2019
- **The Wickhams Christmas at Pemberley:** November 27–December 29, 2019
- **Slow Food (Atlanta Premiere):** January 22–February 16, 2020
- **Indecent (Atlanta Premiere):** March 4–29, 2020
- **Cotton Patch Gospel:** April 22–May 17, 2020

Some Atlanta History: Herren's

by Beth Damon

Who remembers Herren's Restaurant and the cinnamon rolls?! When I was growing up in Atlanta, what is now the Balzer Theatre was a restaurant that served world-class Southern cuisine to thousands of happy customers. Other Atlanta natives will remember Herren's as the place to go for lunch in the '70s and '80s. Originally opening in 1934 as Ye Olde Herren's Restaurant (by Charlie Herren), it was renovated in 1963 and owned by the Negri family until 1987.

Its in-house bakery made the famous cinnamon rolls and other breads and desserts from scratch every day. In particular, Steve Negri noted that all of the Negri family got to know how to make the cinnamon rolls, because people got very upset if they ever ran out of them. "We could be out of anything but sweet rolls, and nobody would be disturbed," he said. Also notable in Atlanta history was the restaurant's reputation as the first restaurant in Atlanta voluntarily to desegregate in 1962. As soon as the restaurant was integrated, they began to receive hate mail, and many southern rednecks swore never to set foot in Herren's again. The result was a huge loss that year of \$50,000 plus. Read more about the restaurant's history, and see more photos at stevenegri.wordpress.com/2015/08/18/ye-olde-herrens-restaurant/.



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Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

October Birthdays

October 2: Margaret Witten (Tuxedo) Happy b'day, you look mah-valous. Now it's as it should be; you are once again older than DPS. XO from a fan/friend who loves you...but who doesn't; you have friends in high places....

October 4: Richard Harvey (of Ellenwood)—one of our mail carriers and an honorary Lake Clarion. He loves and reads the Clarion every month, knows everyone on his route. Happy birthday, Richard!

October 5: Chloe Rachal will turn 8! (Howard Circle) and Emma DeBell (Harold) 12!

October 19: Kusher Thomas Tanguturi turns 6 (Harold Avenue)

October 19: Boyd Baker – happy b'day (Leonardo, also faithful Clarion contributor)

October 23: Izzy Kaiser – Happy 12th birthday! ('dorf)

October 27: Happy birthday, Wing! Faithful contributor to the Clarion LT page (and the LT, of course)

Marriage Anniversaries

October 6: Judy Langford and Bob Thompson (Harold)

October 15: Sara Rossi and Jeff DeBell (Harold)

Safe Journeys

Frida, doggie beloved by Beth Damon, and the McGills! (5/1/2010 - 7/26/2019)

Finny, kitty cat beloved by Dawn and Wing (2008 - 8/27/2019) (See article Page 5)

Life cycle events editor@lakeclaire.org, by October 15. Please help us make this feature inclusive of our LC 'hood.

Update on Security

by Cecily Stevens, Lake Claire's VP Safety

Larceny from auto continues to be the number one crime in Lake Claire. During the first week of September, Zone 6 Beat 605 had 14 crimes, nine of which were theft from autos, according to Captain Antonio Clay, APD Zone 6 Assistant Commander. Captain Clay urges Lake Claire neighbors to remove all visible items from vehicles when parked. As of September 12, APD had made one arrest (and still has one outstanding arrest) in the two August armed robberies at Fellini's.

The CPLC Patrol, established in 2015, is staffed by off-duty APD officers who patrol Lake Claire and Candler Park for 100-120 hours per month. Please consider joining the CPLC Patrol. More members means more hours patrolled. Visit www.cplcpatrol.com to join or renew your membership. There is also an option for automatic renewal.

For security info—or to learn more about Zumba, contact cecilystevens.zumba.com. ~Ed.

Thanks for Paying Your Neighborhood Dues

Lake Claire suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire Banners are \$45, but a package deal of dues and banner is only \$60! Join these neighbors who have paid dues since the last Clarion: Lisa Holloway, Peggy Wyvill, Judy Hammack, Seth Holladay, Morgan Strickland, Benjamin Momo, and Mary Swan Lamar.

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!



Frazer Center Fall Festival

It's time for Frazer Center Fall Festival 2019, hosted by the Frazer Center Parent Teacher Action Committee. On Sunday, October 27, 3 to 6 p.m., rain or snow, grab your favorite fall sweater or your Halloween costume, and join us for tons of fun at the Cator Woolford Gardens! We'll have food, music, and family fun for all ages. Check Frazer's website (www.frazercenter.org/about-us/events/fall-festival-2019) for updates on exciting activities! Thanks to our sponsors, Tucker Brewing Company and the Seed & Feed Marching Abominable Band. For more information or to learn more about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, email fallfest@frazercenter.org.

frazercenter.org/about-us/events/fall-festival-2019 for updates on exciting activities! Thanks to our sponsors, Tucker Brewing Company and the Seed & Feed Marching Abominable Band. For more information or to learn more about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, email fallfest@frazercenter.org.

Check out the Lake Claire products, including

“30307 Not Just a Zip Code,” at lakeclaire.org/shop—also carried in the Candler Park Market

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October into November in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

I encourage those of you without the time or energy to garden to work towards a property layered with tree(s), shrubs, and tough native perennials rather than keeping up an unused lawn. Once these plants are established with an early watering and mulching in composted soil (and autumn is the best time to plant them), they will shelter and feed wildlife with minimum upkeep by you. No spraying, continual watering, and feeding. No leaf blowing, no pruning if you select for eventual size, no fertilizing or mulching if leaves are allowed to fall and disintegrate in place. How about a red maple (zones 3-9) for its fall color if you have no full-sized tree on your property? Or a sourwood (z 5-9) for a smaller specimen? If yellow is your color, a sassafras (z 4-9) might fill the bill. Under-plant with a doublefile viburnum shrub for spring flowers and red fall leaves. Or pick a camellia or holly that keeps its leaves and has flowers, fruit, or both.

Woodlanders (www.woodlanders.net) is a wonderful nursery in South Carolina that recently increased its shipping months to October through April, extending the time, I suppose, for Northern customers. We, however, need to get those plants into

the ground before March, and now is ideal as long as you can initially keep them watered.

October is the month for planting Ss and Ps: spinach, sweet peas, and garden peas. Water them every day until they germinate, keep them watered if it is dry. Mulch with wheat straw or shredded leaves. It is amazing how much cold some seedlings can tolerate if watered and mulched. And foxgloves: if you did not start seedlings in the summer for next year's bloom, buy yourself some plants to establish now, and they will flower before heat next spring. The Ace Hardware on Scott Boulevard has had the best selection the last two years. Neighbors admired my Camelots, which need no staking and come in four shades.

Besides spinach, this is the month for planting cover-crops and even potatoes. In the cold frame, sow collards, lettuce, scallions, and more spinach. Transplant garlic and onions. The one fall that I tried garlic, they were, I thought, a failure. I did not pay attention to directions, that they need extra feeding and good moisture in the spring and would then die back in the summer. I thought they had died and never looked underground for the fat cloves. Yeah, double 'Duh'!

Do not, however, plant flower bulbs yet. Even the narcissus, which needs to root in fall, should be held back until early November. If your bulbs have already been delivered or purchased from a store, they need refrigeration, not freezing, in their paper or mesh bags until they go into the ground in late November or early December. Just make sure they are not stored near fruit, as the ethylene given off, particularly by apples, will kill the flower in the bulb. Tulips, an annual in this climate, are chancy anyway. An occasional too few chill hours (a problem for peach and blueberry growers also) in the winter will result in the failure of tulips to bloom.

I write this on September 13, and it has not rained as much as an inch since August 1. The total rain for the latter month was 3.4," ditto for July. Most of these rains were such tiny percents of an inch that they did not dampen the ground under trees, and since August 23 it has not rained at all. To intensify matters, it has been a hotter and sunnier September than in July with lower humidity. Although this seems delightful to those who work in air-conditioned offices all day and step out into dry air after the sun sinks behind the (still-

standing) trees, it is the kiss of death to most plants. If not for our heavy clay soil that retains the moisture we usually get, the Southeast would not be covered with its huge forests, Lake Claire included. I have been running two hoses, four hours a morning, three days a week all summer, and still plants are dying, the streets filling with dried leaves long before fall color. Drought has been an ongoing problem in northeast Atlanta ever since the large increase in skyscrapers downtown and along Peachtree beginning in the 1980s. The rains that are still coming up from the Gulf now often drop their water south and west of the city or swing wide of it on each side as they proceed northeast.

The only upside of this drought and warmth is that we can enjoy the outdoors longer, especially if we have planned for shade and moisture retention with trees, soaker hoses, rain barrels, and mulch. Gift yourself a place to rest in a chaise lounge or hammock. Strong colors and scents are not needed. The spot should be secluded and shady and, hopefully, quiet. The sway of some tall grasses would be nice, a fall-blooming reed grass perhaps.

Wild in Lake Claire

Continued from Page 5

diagnosis "has limited me before," she does not view her autism as an illness and has instead called it her "superpower." She is one of the greatest threats to the fossil fuel industry. She thinks the most important thing to be done is for people to learn about the climate change crisis.

And last but not least, the group Green America has been advocating that more Americans build gardens. This would help hold off climate

change for a while and would provide food for possible emergencies in those times of upheaval ahead.

So, let us all retreat into our neighborhood and dig a little dirt up. I'm game. (And BTW, Franzen believes that anyone born from 1960 on will get to witness the beginnings of the catastrophe.)

Take care and enjoy the calm,
~ Flora Fauna



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40 Years and now 40 More

by Robert Bryan Davis

40 years ago, as many of us know, a small group of parishioners belonging to Clifton Presbyterian decided to put into action what they were talking about on Sundays in the church. The parishioners took the church van and went downtown to engage with people living on the street, asking them if they wanted a place to stay the night, or several nights. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries was born. And we are still around today, thanks to our founders taking a chance that few are willing to take.

We will be celebrating our founding this October 27. We hope to have several of our founders there with

us. Please join us for this celebration, mostly because you, Lake Claire neighbors, are an important part of our success. Some of your *are* those founders, and others play an integral part in the current effort to help people get back on their feet. Lake Claire and Candler Park neighborhoods have been good friends of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries for 40 years now. That's a long time. And we are thankful.

Please join us on October 27 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries at 369 Connecticut Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30307, just off McLendon.

Dress Coded

Continued from Page

to wear shorts that they would normally wear outside of school. I participated in this protest and spent the whole day dreading being dress coded. I have been dress coded before, and in one particular instance I wore leggings to school. I was pulled out of class and made to bend over in the hallway. The teacher then asked me if I was going to the club

in my outfit. Getting dress coded can be very humiliating and degrading. I believe that the dress code can be improved so that it treats boys and girls equally. I think that the dress code should allow shorts and leggings, but they should not reveal anything. As of right now, no changes have been made, but we are waiting to hear back from the school administration.

The Legend of the Loch Claire Monster

Gather children, and I'll tell you a tale as old as our hills, the Tale of the **Loch** Claire Monster. Many years ago, long before houses lined our streets, flowers lined a peaceful body of water they called Lake Claire. For thousands of years, the lake was a gathering place for birds and other animals who came to drink, and eat fish from the lake. But they were not the only creatures that called this place home. A gentle beast who had outlasted an ice-age, European explorers, and a Civil War, lived here too. The Creek Indians called her *Enhessee*, their word for Friend, and she lived here in harmony for eons. Years later, when the Creek Indians were driven out and the animals were hunted, Enhessee was left all alone. One day people came to build in our

area, and Enhessee spent all of her time hiding in the water, away from the people.

Then, in the early 1930s, a team of Olympic bound water skiers came to practice on Lake Claire. Enhessee was afraid of the sound the boats made. So she learned to hide at the bottom of the lake, only to come up for air when she had to. If anyone caught sight of her, he or she would scream, "It's a **monster!**"

From that day on, no swimmers dare go in Lake Claire, and the famed ski team went their own way. A mean interloper (developer) insisted that the lake be drained, and it was. They found nothing, and only a small creek was left in what is now Lake Claire Park. But like it is to so many of us, Lake Claire was Enhessee's home. She couldn't bear to leave it. She did what she had done for years. She hid.

Now the story of Enhessee has gone untold for decades, and neighbors believe she is gone forever... **Or is she?** Recent rumors tell of a large, dragon-like creature in the depths of Frazer Forest. **Could it be Enhessee?**

BREAKING NEWS: As of Friday, September 13, Inman Middle School has changed the dress code. Students are now allowed to wear shorts of any length as long as they are not revealing. This is a victory for all!



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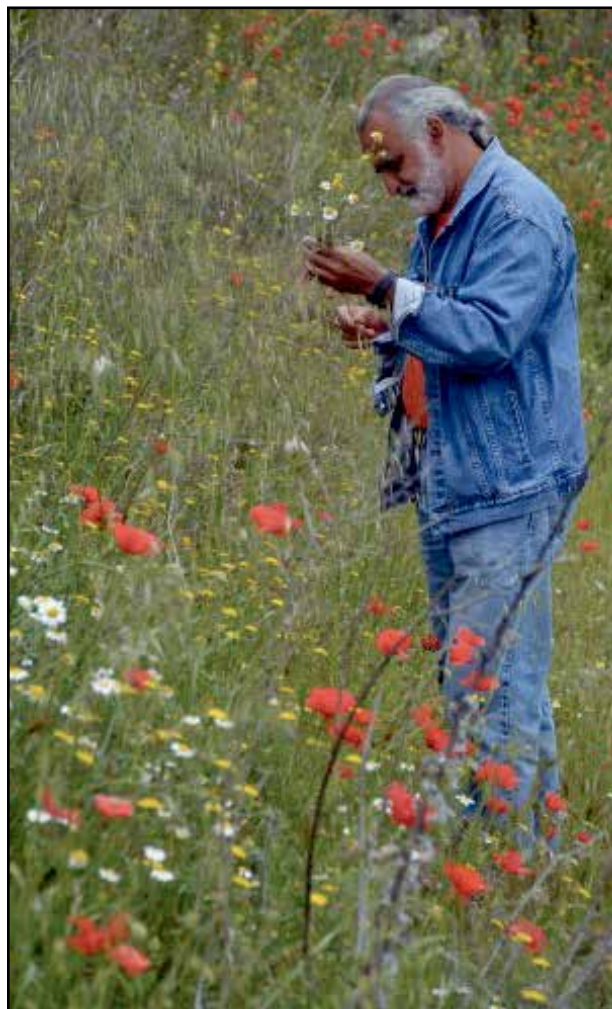
by Jose Cambas and
Meredith Stocking

We are excited to invite you to learn the art of organic growing with Jairo Restrepo of La Mierda de Vaca. This is a very unique opportunity, as it is the first time Jairo Restrepo's flagship course will be offered in the United States! A premier thought leader, educator, and activist on regenerative agriculture, Jairo Restrepo, originally from Columbia, teaches across Latin America, Africa, Europe, and Australia and is a sought-after consultant with the United Nations, international NGOs, and governments worldwide. The main focus of Jairo's approach to organic agriculture is growing high quality, nutritionally balanced food by regenerating biologically fertile and mineral rich soils. Jairo's methods allow farmers to disengage from a dependence on external inputs and become sustainable, organic growers.

Over the 3-day workshop, Friday-Sunday, November 1-3, participants will engage in a dynamic combination of lectures and hands-on demonstrations to learn to how make organic fermented, bokashi type fertilizers; liquid biofertilizers made with cow manure; native microbe brews; and mineral brews for nutritional deficiencies and crop pests and diseases. We believe that Restrepo's workshop has the potential to make a profound impact on organic agriculture in the Southeast if a diverse set of stakeholders is present. We would be honored by your participation. Don't miss the opportunity, and please disseminate and share this invitation widely. For course registration visit: sites.google.com/view/abcatlanta/home.

Adopt Your Favorite Corner of the Land Trust!

A new way for neighbors to get involved with the Land Trust—adopt 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 Land Trust beautiful. Contact grounds@LCCLT.org to volunteer or to learn more.



A New Halloween Tradition: Scary Fireside Stories at The Land Trust

Continued from Page 9



will be told from 7 to 8 with time to speak with the authors afterwards—or to let your heart rate settle before returning to reality. Books by the performing authors will be available for people inter-

ested in checking out more of their work. We hope to scare you see you there! For more information, please contact me at brian@kirkcopy.com.

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

Sat., Oct. 5 and 19 – 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., Oct. 19 – Community Work Day, 9 a.m. to noon. Note new hot-weather work day hours! Pizza for lunch.

Sat. Oct. 26 – Pumpkin carving, 5:30 p.m. Bring knives and candles; pumpkins provided. (Please confirm the time on the LT website closer to the date.)

Sat. Oct. 26 – Scary Fireside Stories, 6:30 to 9:30 pm. (See article this page.)

Friday-Sunday, November 1-3 - ABCs of Organic Agriculture (see article this page.)



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 writers are Abby Hyken, who is in the eighth grade at Inman, and Luke Mawson, who is 7 years old and in the second grade at Mary Lin. Abby's article is on Page 1. She lives on

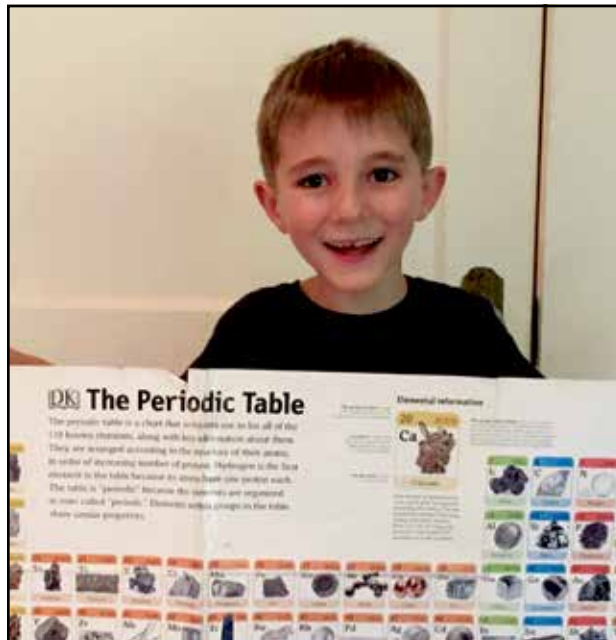
Clifton Road, whose residents get to be both in Lake Claire and Candler Park. She tells us that Dress Code is very much a hot topic in middle school. Abby, please keep us apprised of the progress. Luke lives on Palifox Road and is impressive in his knowledge of the periodic table. We thank them both for giving us their time

in writing about these timely topics.

Hey there, Lake Claire kids of all ages: we want to see **your** creativity. Submit your work to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **OCTOBER 15**, for the November issue of the newspaper. We hope this is a good start for kids' future writing careers.



Abby Hyken, Featured Writer (article on Page 1)



Luke Mawson, Featured Writer

Contest Winners

This month, **Hazel Dodds** won the prize for finding the hidden graphic. Coming in second, we have a tie between **Noah Jaffe** and **Cora Anne Morgan**. Hazel, Noah, and Cora Anne won the contest over a vast numbers of Lake Claire kids who participate every month in the contest on the Clarion Kids' Page.

Hazel Dodds is 3½ years old, and goes to Inman Park Cooperative Preschool. She lives on Hardendorf Avenue. Noah Jaffe, age 4, is at Frazer Center Pre-K, and lives on McLendon Avenue. Cora Anne Morgan is six years old, and she is in first grade at Mary Lin. She lives on Dekalb Avenue. Noah also won extra credit, answering the question about his ideas about peace. He said "nap time is peace." His mom agrees!

Congrats to all 3 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.

The Mysteries of the Periodic Table of Elements

by Luke Mawson

I first became interested in the periodic table of elements when I was about five years old. I was interested in the chemical reactions of all of the elements. Like how lithium would burn up on contact with heat, how gold doesn't react at all, and how oxygen makes fire. There are literally thousands of reactions! My favorite element is seaborgium because I just like the name.

For a long time I wondered why Mendeleev sorted the elements by the number of electrons instead of the atomic weight, until I realized that two of the

really new elements have the same atomic weight. So then I thought that organizing by atomic number did make sense after all.

People used to believe that there were four elements: earth, air, water and fire. The first real element that was discovered was gold. Or maybe phosphorous. I don't really know absolutely all of the elements' discovery dates.

Lead is deadly, and so is mercury. And that is the end of this article. Bye bye.



Hazel Dodds



Winner 2nd place tied Cora Anne Morgan



Winner 2nd place tied Noah Jaffe

NEW CONTEST!

Find an October graphic somewhere in this issue. 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 Halloween or your favorite scary story. The extra-credit prize is that you'll be a featured writer/artist in a future 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 OCTOBER 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**