



Volunteers Flock to Lake Claire Park for MLK Day Clean-up

by Kai Artley Nathaniel

B r r r ! Monday, January 20 was cold. January finally decided to be January just in time for the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day clean-up in Lake Claire Park.

In the morning, to drive the point home, I found clothes that I had gotten muddy in Lake Claire Park and left out to soak overnight were frozen solid! Also, I found ice at the park when we arrived before the bright sun reached over the tree line.

About seventy (!!) volunteers braved the cold. More than half were Cub Scouts from Pack 586 and their parents. Dr. King was a Cub Scout here in Atlanta, so the day carries extra meaning for Cub Scouts living Intown.

The tasks were nearly identical to past cleanups. Volunteers spread pine straw in the planted areas next to the playground and spread mulch along the path from Marlbrook into the park.



Trash line at the Clean-up. Photo by Angela Coulliette

Parker Herzegh, Lucca Raimonde, and Anna Connor, helped find long branches to line the trail, while Kai and

Ari Mitchell and Vince Quinones diligently spread the mulch.

Cont. on p. 3

Sending Love to John Lewis

If not us, then who? If not now, then when?

These are the words that inspired the DEAR JOHN 5K—a walk/run to celebrate the life of Congressman John Lewis and support his battle against pancreatic cancer, that will take place on Saturday, February 15. “While researching a documentary, I’ve learned a ton about the tremendous work John Lewis has done for the city of Atlanta and our neighborhoods especially. I wanted to find a way to say, ‘Thanks, and get well,’ and remind others, too,” says organizer and Lake Claire resident Boyd Baker. “I’m hoping folks will bring notes of remembrance or get well cards to the race, so that we can send them to Mr. Lewis and show how much he is loved and supported.”

This is an event that honors a man, John Lewis, and a place, Freedom Park. It is thanks to the hard work and vision of people like Congressman Lewis that Freedom Park exists, so making the trail from Candler Park

to Old Fourth Ward is a fitting path. From the 1960s through the 1990s, there were neighborhood activists and local politicians locked in a battle for the soul of Atlanta. Some wanted highways to crisscross the eastside of Atlanta to allow people from the suburbs to commute easily intown from the suburbs. Others wanted to preserve the neighborhoods like Morningside, Virginia-Highland, Inman Park, and Candler Park. With John Lewis’s help, the neighborhoods remained, and most of the roads were never built.

That is why the DEAR JOHN 5K will start at Olmstead’s Shadyside Park on Ponce de Leon and follow the path to its end at the MLK, Jr National Park. “This will be a point-to-point walk/run that will show folks our amazing city from a different angle. Being on the Path will make it one of the safest events in Atlanta that is

Cont. on p. 9

Neighborhood Safety Reminders

It is imperative that all dogs remain **on leash** while in the Frazer Forest. Aside from being the law, it helps keep invasives from spreading, protects the native plants that are re-emerging from the forest floor, and protects the children and adults in our outdoor classroom.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. (See article this page.)

Second, please **respect stop signs** in Lake Claire. The Clarion has received several reports about cars not stopping or not coming to complete stops in the neighborhood; in particular, at Harold@Marlbrook, a pedestrian narrowly escaped being hit by a car. Lake Claire is full of kids on foot, bikes, basketball nets in front yards, etc. Let’s keep Lake Claire safe for all! (See Security Report, Page 3.)

Frazer’s Forest-based Curriculum is Sprouting

by Dina Shadwell

Frazer Center’s Child Development Program has received grant money from the Ivy Head Family Foundation, as well as prize money from a recent Harvard University competition, to develop a forest-based curriculum for infants through Pre-K students.

Three Frazer teachers and two administrators recently attended an educator training program held at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center. Leading the training were representatives from three environmental education projects: Project WILD,

a program of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, and Project WET, a water education program of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division; and Project Learning Tree, is a program of the Georgia Forestry Commission.

In addition to augmenting the skills that children are developing in preschool, all three of these programs are designed to assist teachers with outdoor activities that will nurture students from having a basic awareness of nature to becoming responsi-

ble stewards of the environment.

Later this month, Frazer will send a team of three to Jekyll Island to receive further training that will certify them to train other educators in environmental learning techniques. But already, after their first training experience at Charlie Elliott, the Frazer team brought back to the entire teaching staff

Cont. on p. 7

THE CLARION
IS PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER.

Lake Claire Officers for 2020

President: Joe Agee, president@lakeclaire.org
 VP Finance & Treasurer:
 Eileen O'Neill, treasurer@lakeclaire.org
 VP Planning & NPU Rep:
 Carol Holliday, npu@lakeclaire.org
 VP Zoning: Beth Grashof, zoning@lakeclaire.org
 VP Environment: Melissa Pressman,
environment@lakeclaire.org
 VP Safety: Miriam Herbers, safety@lakeclaire.org
 VP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, comm@lakeclaire.org
 VP Fun(d)raising: Pen Sherwood, fun@lakeclaire.org
 Education Chair: Annsley Klehr, education@lakeclaire.org.

Clarion Staff

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

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

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

February Calendar

1-9 *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. It is well worth driving to Lawrenceville, where it will be at Aurora Theatre through February 9. www.auroratheatre.com/productions-and-programs/view/the-curious-incident-of-the-dog-in-the-night-time/.

1 & 15 Drum Circle at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, 8-11 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, P. 11).

1-16 Theatrical Outfit presents *Slow Food*, www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/slow-food/, directed by Ryan Oliveti. "Everything (and nothing) is on the table in this zesty comedy about painfully slow service."

1-16 Alliance Theatre, Coca-Cola Stage, *Maybe Happy Ending*, (recommended for ages 13+) and on the Hertz Stage, next play starts **Feb 14**, *Seize the King*. alliancetheatre.org.

1 to March 8 Horizon presents *Once, the Musical*. See article Page 3.

2 Annual Women's Tea for Lake Claire Women. Please join Betsy Hoddinott and friends on Sunday, February 2, 2-5 p.m., for an afternoon of tea, treats, and talk. Please bring your favorite pastry or tea sandwich, and your smile. Hats and gloves encouraged! 1759 Indiana Avenue. Also this date—**that** sporting event.

2 Bach Bowl on Superbowl Sunday, 4-5 p.m., Schwartz Center for Performing Arts, Emory University, info: www.vegaquartet.com/calendar. The Vega Quartet joins Emory University organist Timothy Albrecht and faculty friends to play an hour-long concert of Bach chamber music.

7 5th Annual Land Trust benefit at the E-Church, 7 p.m. *Make America Grateful Again!*. Please see details on Page 11.

8 to February 16 Actor's Express Theatre Company presents *Fun Home*, the wholly original Tony Award-winning musical about what happens when you finally see your parents through grown-up eyes. Based on Alison Bechdel's bestselling graphic memoir of the same name. More info and tix at www.actors-express.com/

10-27 The ANNUAL February Atlanta Jewish Film Festival: cutting-edge films, many running at multiple cinemas, including Tara, the Plaza, and Landmark Midtown Arts Cinema (www.ajff.org/). The "anchor" location is the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center at City Springs, which will host AJFF's Closing Night festivities. The Opening Night film will be at the Cobb Energy Center. Tickets are on sale now—best to purchase ASAP. Guest speakers include TCM's Ben Mankiewicz and a host of others (www.ajff.org/festival/guest-speakers).

13 12th Annual Black History Month Celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., including presenters and *The Jazz Age in the South*, re 1920s jazz age! DeKalb History Center, Info: selem@dekalbhistory.org; www.dekalbhistory.org. Tix: dekalbhistory.org/programs/black-history-month-celebration/.

14 *Seize the King* at the Alliance Theatre, Hertz Stage. alliancetheatre.org. See also 1-16 above, *Maybe Happy Ending*, on the Coca-Cola Stage

15 Lake Claire Land Trust Community Work Day, 2 to 5 p.m. NOTE: WINTER HOURS! Pizza and drum circle follow.

15 John Lewis 5K, see details in the Page 1 article.

16 Fernbank Forest Bird Walk, 8 a.m. Learn more about the feathered inhabitants of Fernbank Forest during a guided walk. See www.fernbank-museum.org/visit/events/

20 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting—and every 3rd Thursday, in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. **Pizza provided free from Savage (THANKS, SAVAGE).** Minutes always on the website, and when room, in the Clarion. .

23 Ladybug Fun S'more Children's Garden Party with Special Guest, 4-6 p.m. at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust (See article Page 11).

25 Lunch & Learn at Dekalb History Center, re: the African-American culinary history of Atlanta, presented by Akila Sankar McConnell. Bring your lunch. Free! 12-1 pm.

Coming soon:

Mark your calendars now—*Sweeney Todd* to be performed as Grady High's Spring Musical, March 26-28.

*For all your
real estate
needs...*



Sherry Warner
Associate Broker &
Lake Claire resident

*Sherry Warner
Homes*

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

404 784 8848 mobile

404 874 2262 office



sherry@SherryWarnerHomes.com

Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.

Lake Claire Park Clean-Up

Continued from Page 1



Vince Quinones cleans the wheel barrow Oliver Grosse piloted to the dump point. Photo by Kai Nathaniel

The new wrinkle in this year's cleanup was the addition of a trash line to gather the tiniest pieces of rubbish in the field. Oliver Grosse and Zachary Hebler helped lead the line across the length of the park. Henry Kodesh won an informal contest by collecting eight pieces of trash.

Judy Hammack, Gerry Percival, and Boyd Baker were part of the stalwart crew that has carried on this great Lake Claire tradition year after year.

The Cub Scouts started off the service project with a quick reminder that scouts "help other people at all

times," and that the work of the volunteers would be enjoyed by all the visitors. Lake Claire Park is regularly used by the Cub Scouts for our meetings. The park clean-up was scheduled to last two hours, but since many hands make loads lighter, the park clean-up was finished 45 minutes early. The extra time allowed kids to play and enjoy the spiffed up park.

Kai Artley Nathaniel lives on Lakeshore Drive and is a fifth grader at the Waldorf School. He is 10 years old and is in the Airbelow Den of Pack 586. ~Ed.



Spreading mulch. Photo by Kai Nathaniel

Keeping An Eye on the Crime and the Time: Lake Claire Security 12/11/2019 - 1/16/2020

by Miriam Herbers

Four incidences of larceny from cars were reported during this period. I heard of another on Nextdoor that was not reported, on Harold Avenue. Please report so that APD knows where and when to increase patrols. The incidences were: 12/15 Ridgewood; 12/29 Claire Dr.; 12/30 Ridgcrest Rd.; and 1/16 Connecticut Ave.

During January 1 to 14, there was an incident on Adolphus Ave.; an alarm system scared away someone entering an accidentally unlocked residence. Check and double check your doors. This happened around 3 a.m.

Please note: STOP means STOP: A pedestrian was nearly hit by a car that rolled through the stop sign in the neighborhood. There are a lot of people walking in our neighborhood. You will feel terrible for the rest of your life if you harm a neighbor...not to mention the victim.

Finally, membership in Candler Park/Lake Claire Patrol (CP/LC) was down in 2019. While crime remains down in our zone, Zone 6, keeping the patrol hours up instead of declining can be done by joining or renewing online at www.cplcpatrol.com. Auto-renewing with Paypal makes it easy not to forget

Once, the Musical Coming to Atlanta!

by Beth Damon

I am thrilled that The Horizon Theatre Company opened its 36th season on January 31 with one of the most critically acclaimed musicals of recent history, *Once*. Recipient of eleven 2012 Tony Award nominations, and winner of eight, including Best Musical, Best Actor, and Best Book, *Once* is a musical based on the 2007 film of the same name by John Carney. I was so disappointed that I missed it on Broadway, and I can't wait to see it this month.

As sometimes happens with a monthly newspaper, timing won't work this time for me to review the actual performance after I see it in February in time for you to see it, as it runs only through March 8. But I feel certain, based on the film, the accolades on Broadway, the soundtrack, and Horizon's consistent excellence, that I can recommend this play.

Like the film, music and lyrics are by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, including the Academy Award-winning song *Falling Slowly*, runs until March 8. Musical direction is by Ed Throver, who recently led the creative team for Serenbe's production of *Hair*.

"With beautiful, soaring music, *Once* is a love story about two musicians from different cultures that takes place in one whirlwind week," Co-Artistic Director Lisa Adler stated recently. "We have nine amazing actor/musicians who sing, dance, and play multiple musical instruments—fiddle, mandolin, cello, piano, accordion, guitars, bass, percussion and more. With our in-the-round staging,

you'll be surrounded by the streets of Dublin and the folk rock music of the show."

"*Once* is a remarkable theatrical experience of energy, movement, music and life that you absolutely cannot get on the screen," Heidi Mc Kerley (director) added: "With the actor/musicians in and around the audience in our staging, you'll feel wrapped up in the music of the show and immersed in its energy."

Once is based on the true story of Hansard and Irglová. On the streets of Dublin, the Irish musician and a Czech immigrant were drawn together by their shared love of music. Over the course of one fateful week, their unexpected friendship and collaboration evolved into a powerful but complicated romance, heightened by the raw emotion of the songs they created together. Featuring an ensemble cast of gifted actor/musicians, *Once* is a joyously uplifting show that strikes an unforgettable chord in audiences and speaks to the power of music to connect us all.

All music and lyrics are by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová. The two musicians had collaborated musically before co-starring in the movie. Headlining the cast is Chase Peacock starring as Guy, the Irish musician (original Broadway cast, *American Idiot*, *Hairspray* at City Springs and *Jekyll and Hyde* at Atlanta Lyric Theatre) and Maggie Salley as Girl, the Czech immigrant (*Jekyll and Hyde*, Atlanta Lyric Theatre and *Footloose*, Theatre Buford).

Cont. on p. 9



Cynthia's Average Listing in 30307

4 Days on Market

105% of List Price

Call Today to Sell at the Highest Price in the Least Amount of Time

678-358-3369



Cynthia Baer
 Broker, Associate
 Cynthia@CynthiaBaer.com
 315 W. Ponce de Leon Ave.
 Suite 100
 Decatur, GA 30030





Lake Claire Appreciates our Police and Firefighters

Every year Lake Claire Neighbors is pleased to donate to several charities and other good causes, including the Frazer Center, Mary Lin, Zone 6 Police, Station 12 Atlanta Firefighters, the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Candler Park/Lake Claire Security Patrol, The Freedom Park Conservancy, the Candler Park Conservancy, The Friends of Lake Claire Park, the Friends of Ponce Library. Donations are voted on by the membership at the November meeting each year.

Pictured here are President Joe Agee and then VP of Safety Cecily Stevens presenting the neighborhood gift to our first responders. We so appreciate them, and all of these folks and organizations.

Membership dues, sales of Lake Claire products, and some proceeds of Clarion advertising (though most of those proceeds pays for the newspaper printing costs), allow us to support these worthy organizations. Thanks for *your* support!



Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (*aka* Carol Vanderschaaf)

Hello, neighbors! After checking with my far-flung correspondents, I've learned that, unfortunately, most of them (like Flora Fauna) have been spending the recent cold days indoors. But some wild things have been seen.

M, who walks my little dog N, several days a week, has on a recent foray around the Land Trust, heard a very loud bird. She finally found the noisy culprit, which turned out to be a pileated woodpecker! His great crested crown is about the size of a cardinal. This is a rare sighting for the 'hood, as these birds prefer woodlands near water. Of course, it might be noted that much of their habitat is being eliminated by "progress."

JM and E report seeing the cedar wax wings come through in mid January. A flock of many, 50-100, flew over. They are fabulous birds; seeing them, JM noted "feasting on privet and cherry laurel, I wondered what other (native) plants provide food for them. Here are some: dogwood, winterberry, elderberry, eastern red cedar, serviceberry, hawthorn. I have referred to a great website, American Bird Conservancy (abcbirds.org). I really recommend it. It gives charming information about the waxwings sharing food, as well as passing a berry down a row of birds or to a potential mate." Further, she added, "Thanks to you and Flora for your great column." I'll give Flora most of the credit.

DA, on Arizona, reports, "I just removed the most beautiful soft green velvety salamander, or lizard, or gecko—I really don't know the difference—from my cat's paws. It was fully intact and alive. So sweet, and it had a faint rose color, a beautiful grass green velvety 2-inch body." (Note from the editors: this was likely a green anole (*Anolis carolinensis*). These are able to change colors between brown and bright green.)

BD, on Delaware, but reporting

from her office at Emory Law School, spotted what appeared to be a Cooper's Hawk, perched on a branch guarding its prey. This is on the corner of North Decatur Road and Clifton, and the trees there seem to be particularly enjoyed by hawks, so much so that some of the employees have brought binoculars to the office. The Cooper's hawk specializes in eating medium sized birds. It is often seen at feeders trying to nab a plump mourning dove, jay, robin, or starling. It also eat mammals such as chipmunks, squirrels, mice, and bats. Cooper's hawks kill their prey by grabbing it in their feet and squeezing it to death. They have also been known to drown prey by holding the hapless creatures under water until they stop moving. Sometimes bird-watching isn't for the faint of heart.

MH on Arizona reported, "I feel as if I am bragging, but it was so cool to see white pelicans in Patzcuaro (Mexico). They are from Canada. When they fly overhead, the tips of their wings are black."

And let Flora Fauna leave you these inspirational words by e e cummings regarding winter:

*Spring we welcomed when we met,
Summer was a blessing;
Autumn points to school, but yet
Let's be acquiescing.
Spring had many precious
pleasures;
Winter's on a different rating;
She has greater, richer treasures...*

As always, Flora Fauna

Edward Estlin (E.E) Cummings (1894–1962), often attributed as "e e cummings" in many of his published works, was an American poet, painter, essayist, author, and playwright. He wrote approximately 2,900 poems, two autobiographical novels, four plays, and several essays. And he's a favorite of Flora and Beth, thus his poems' fairly frequent appearances in the Clarion! ~Ed.

Speaking of WILD—Don't touch those leaves!

Tired of raking and bagging leaves? Don't! In nature, falling leaves blanket the tree roots, protecting them from extreme cold in winter and drying heat in summer. It takes a surprising short time for leaves to break down and nearly disappear. Atlanta trees help remove pollutants from the air, reduce flooding, and make our city more beautiful. That's why the tree protection ordinance requires that you obtain a permit before re-

moving trees (including hardwoods and pines). Permits for removing dead, dying, or hazardous trees are free of charge online at www.atlantaga.gov.

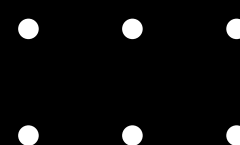
This information came from our Water bill! (For further info, contact the Department of Atlanta Planning, Arborist Division, www.atlantaga.gov/city-planning/office-of-buildings/arborist-division, 404-330-6874.)

The hassle-free way to maximize the value of your home.

COMPASS

Compass Concierge is the hassle-free way we can help you sell your home faster and for a higher price. From staging to renovation, Compass will cover the upfront costs, with no hidden fees or interest charged. Gipson & Co. will manage the home improvement projects, so you don't have to.

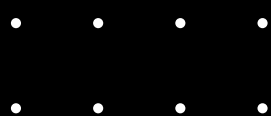
Jo Gipson, Candler Park Resident since 1995; Realtor since 2002



Before



Original Asking Price \$875K



After



Sold for \$1.1M

Let our real estate family help yours.

Whether you are an experienced investor, a first time buyer, or are selling your beloved home, we can help.



GIPSON AND COMPANY

404.405.5363 direct
404.668.6621 main
jo@gipsonandco.com
@gipsonco
@GipsonAndCompany

Julie Beaty



NMLS: 545251
Vice President
& Mortgage Banker
404.456.1725 direct
julie.beaty@amerisbank.com



Rules & Exclusions apply. Compass offers no guarantee or warranty of results. Subject to additional terms and conditions. Gipson and Company is a team of real estate licensees affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by equal housing opportunity laws.

Frazer's Forest-based Curriculum

Continued from Page 1

everything they learned as well as their excitement for all the new possibilities with their students. All of the teachers got their hands dirty as they discussed ways to adapt the outdoor activities for toddlers and even infants. Frazer's preschool and pre-k teachers are already taking their students into the Frazer Forest outdoor classroom twice a week, experimenting with the newly acquired resources and making discoveries of their own.



But this is just the beginning of Frazer's forest-based curriculum development project. Eventually, every teacher will be heading into the forest, teaching lessons that complement the Creative Curriculum themes they already use in the classroom. The ultimate goal is for Frazer to share access to the forest along with the newly developed forest-based curriculum at no cost to other early learning centers, with priority given to those that serve primarily low-income families. The research behind nature-based learning is expanding and confirms the many benefits for children, such as increased confidence and development of critical creative thinking. Clinical Psychologist and Harvard Professor Margaret Sheridan says, "Preschool students need a lot of tactile and

kinetic experiences. It is a natural thing to want to be active, but the indoor physical environment is restraining. Preschool children should be outdoors for an hour to an hour and a half every day. This isn't frosting. This is whole-grain wheat. It is absolutely essential."

The families who attend Frazer realize what a gem the forest is, right here in Lake Claire. Frazer is excited to share this gem with more children who might not otherwise have access.

As a reminder to our neighbors who also love the old-growth Frazer Forest, it is imperative that all dogs remain on leash while in the forest. Aside from being the City of Atlanta and Dekalb County law, many of the children and adults we serve have a fear of dogs, and we've heard from some neighbors who no longer use the forest because they share that fear. We're sending this reminder now because, unfortunately, someone recently reported seeing a dog fight on one of the Frazer Forest trails when an off-leash dog approached a leashed dog and its owner. In addition to safety, keeping dogs leashed in the old growth Frazer Forest helps prevent the spread of invasives that choke out native plants, and helps prevent the creation of spur trails that can impact tree roots and erosion in the forest. We appreciate our neighbors and are grateful for your understanding and cooperation in ensuring the safety of all who enjoy the Frazer Forest. Thank you.

Editor's note: And the same for Lake Claire Park! Keep 'em on-leash! Most of us dog lovers know this instinctively. There are great dog parks where dogs can be off-leash very convenient to Lake Claire. Also, if you would like to keep up with "Friends of Frazer Forest" news and volunteer opportunities, you can sign up for email updates at this address: tinyurl.com/FrazerForest.

PAWS Featured Pet (Available for Adoption)

by Kris Byron

Her name is Hush, but it is no secret that this sweet gal loves belly rubs. Hush is approximately two years old and, while she enjoys a nice stroll, she loves nothing more than cuddling with her human. Hush is dog-friendly and passed her "cat test" at the shelter (indicating she may be good with cats in a home). This beauty queen has long eyelashes and the most perfect eye and lip liner. Her smile lights up a room, and she greets everyone with enthusiasm. She is the definition of a people pup.

To meet Hush (or other PAWS pets), go to PAWS Atlanta (5287 Covington Highway, Decatur) or contact PAWS Atlanta at 770-593-1155 or info@pawsatlanta.org.

Editor's Note: December's Clarion introduced PAWS Atlanta, where, every weekend, Kris Byron, Russ Rubenstein, and other Lake Claire volunteers go to walk dogs amidst tall pines on trails on four acres of land on Covington Highway. PAWS Atlanta is Atlanta's oldest no-kill shelter. They always need more volunteers to help out, and they would love to see more Lake Claire residents become PAWS volunteers. You can drop off



donations at 430 Leonardo Avenue, N.E., anytime. Please feel free to reach out to krisbyron1@gmail.com or ross.rubenstein@gmail.com to find out more about PAWS Atlanta.

Hello—Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

February Birthdays

1 – Linda Maynard, temporary ex-pat from Delaware Avenue (we miss you tons and tons—WOW, Linda, this is a biggie!!)

2 – Isla Roberts (happy 7), Claire Dr.; Daniel Babinslei, Harold Ave., and Luke Mawson-Puckhaber, happy 8, Palifox Dr.

3 – Beth Damon, your illustrious and dedicated editor (happy 60-something to me—gulp!), Delaware Ave. 60 is the new 59, or fill in appropriate year for yourself...

4 – Ann Shirra, and Feb 5 Scooter MacLane (+♥♥♥ anniversary 2012), Arizona Ave.

6 – Happy b'day to Jennifer Ruddell, Hardendorf

9 – Amelia Roberts (happy 11), Claire Drive; Anne Weldert, Harold Ave

14 – Gillian Landgraff, Harold Avenue

16 – Joanna Babinslei, Harold Avenue

17 – Ava Capps, Harold Avenue, happy 11!

18 – Ben Farmer, Hardendorf

24 – Eamon, Emmett, & Brigitte (the triplets of 'dor!) McNulty—14 years old. + 14th year in L.C.

27 – Lucien DeMan, happy 5, and Esther Williams, happy 11!—both on Harold

Anniversary: Craig and Emily Allen— Harold Ave.—Feb 8—Happy Anniversary!

Send us stuff—birthdays and other life cycle changes for March—help make this series inclusive (editor@lakeclaire.org) by FEBRUARY 15.

30 days have **September, April, June and November.**
All the rest have **31** except **February** alone which has but **28** days clear and **29** in each Leap Year

Thanks for Paying Your Neighborhood Dues

Lake Claire suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire Banners are \$45; a package deal of dues/banner is only \$60! Join these neighbors who are among the first to pay in 2020!

Hiram Maxim, Brittany Copeland, Dawn Aura & Stephen Wing, Angela Rhoton, Patricia Emerson, JC Merkle, Dan Geller, William Roberds & Julia Anne Bourne, Rob Baker, Christina McKenna, Debra

Livingston, and Ashley Cragin

Please specify when you pay dues if you do not wish to be listed in the newspaper. Pay 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!

NEW LLC
Neal & Wright
 Your Family... Your Business... Your Firm!

125 E. Trinity Place, Suite 300
 Decatur, GA 30030
 (404) 257-6494
 www.nealandwright.com

*** Adoption**
*** Commercial Real Estate**
*** Wills & Estate Planning**
*** Corporate & LLC Formation**
*** Other Business Legal Services**

Sherry Neal, J.D. Dan Wright, J.D.
 Sherry@nealandwright.com Dan@nealandwright.com

Jodi Greenberg, J.D.
 Jodi@nealandwright.com



Pelvic Pain? Bladder Problems? Preparing for Baby?

We can help!

www.renewpelvichealth.com

1392 McLendon Ave NE

Atlanta, GA 30307

404-769-5544



Amanda Shipley, PT, DPT, MTC



Tessa Elliott, PT, DPT, COMT



↑ AFTER / BEFORE →



What if you could sell your home faster, at a higher price, without spending upfront on home improvements?

Exclusive to Compass clients, our Concierge service lets you easily increase your property's market value by fronting the cost of home improvement services.

Services can include

- Cosmetic Renovation
- Landscaping
- Kitchen Improvements
- Fencing
- Bathroom improvements
- Roofing
- Strategic Staging
- HVAC

Call us today to find out how you can sell your home faster and for the highest market price!

Your Lake Claire Neighbors Since 1996



L&D TEAM

Your Atlanta Neighborhood Realtors
Lee & Darlene Real Estate Team

404.932.3003 | 404.668.6621
leeanddarlene@compass.com



Just Listed
Kirkwood
150 Rockyford Road NE | \$600,000



Coming Soon
Druid Hills
578 Ridgcrest Road

COMPASS

compass.com/concierge

John Lewis Run

Continued from Page 1

great for the whole family, while giving you some great views of historic Atlanta,” continues Baker.

Funds raised during the event, and other donations, will support Pancreatic Cancer research and the Freedom Park Conservancy. Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States. More research is needed to identify early detection of this disease. Freedom Park is one of Atlanta’s largest and is a terrific way to walk, run, or bike from downtown to Candler Park and beyond.

Get details and sign up for the race at www.DearJohn5K.org or www.Active.com. You can learn about one organization fighting pancreatic cancer at www.pancan.org and the Freedom Park Conservancy’s work to maintain the 200+ acres of Atlanta park at www.freedompark.org/fpc/about.



John Lewis at the 2019 Women’s March

Once, the Musical

Continued from Page 3

The versatile ensemble includes Sophia Sapronov, a New York City actress making her regional debut as Reza in *Once*; Hayden Rowe as Andrej (Atlanta Lyric Theatre’s productions of *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Tarzan*); Skyler Brown as Svec (roles at Aurora Theatre, Georgia Ensemble Theatre and Actor’s Express shows including *Merrily We Roll Along* and *The Wedding Singer*), Paul Glaze as Bank Manager (Gainesville Theatre Alliance productions of *Chicago*, *Ain’t Misbehavin*, and *Blues in the Night*), Daniel Burns as Billy (*Ragtime* at Serenbe Playhouse and *110 In the Shade* at Theatrical Outfit),

Jessica De Maria playing Baruska and Eamon (*Falsettos* and *Sweeny Todd* at Actor’s Express and *The Threepenny Opera* at 7 Stages) and Chris Damiano as Da (*Ring of Fire* at Georgia Ensemble Theatre, and *Sanders Family Christmas* at Atlanta Lyric Theatre).

Performances at the Horizon are Wednesday through Sunday (Wednesday-Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m.). No matinee on Sat. Feb 1. Special Super Bowl Sunday time: 2 p.m. on Feb. 2. Morning matinee at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27.

The Horizon Theatre Company is

located close to Lake Claire in the Little 5 Points Community Center. They produce professional, regional, and world premieres of smart, funny and provocative contemporary plays. They also are committed to developing the next generation of diverse artists and audiences. For more information about tickets, group sales, or to receive a season brochure, call 404.584.7450 or visit www.horizontheatre.com. I encourage you to support local theatre, and in that vein, I make sure to tell you in the Clarion calendar about current and upcoming productions. See this month’s offerings on Page 2!

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (CSM) reminds us of how much they appreciate Lake Claire, and states that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more. In that spirit, CSM looks forward to 2020, as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. In 2019, they served 236 men, including 98 veterans, as guests in the Night Hospitality program. Some of the men have graduated and gone on to secure full-time positions with MARTA, SecurAmerica, and UPS, among others.

During the last year, they welcomed volunteers from Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church M25 Mission Camp and the youth groups that participated in the camps. They completed their Home Aid remodeling project this year. Some of the hallmark projects included cleaning and painting the dining room, remodeling the men’s restroom, repairing the sign in front, manicuring the grounds, and rebuilding a parking lot wall.

CSM has welcomed two new employees: Jeffrey Harris as the new Case Manager and Lori White as the new Director of Community Relations.

There are many projects with which you can help, including cooking food, serving food, doing yardwork, or a myriad of small projects at the shelter. Clifton so appreciates the Lake Claire volunteers and looks forward to working with Lake Claire this year—to share your talents and to make a difference in a person’s life.

The Neighborhood Church: Wellness and Community

by Kristen E. Vincent

Neighborhood Church has always felt that the church building—the one that takes up an entire block and sits in a prime location directly across from Candler Park—should be the neighborhood’s building. Especially since the entire building just got a gorgeous facelift a year ago, it should be a place where people feel comfortable gathering, meeting, playing, and working. Whether you are Christian or not, whether you are a member of Neighborhood Church or not, you are welcome in this building.

When the pastors learned that Candler Park Yoga (CPY) was closing its doors, they knew immediately

that they wanted a yoga studio in the building. Not only would it be one more way to welcome people from all walks of life into the building, but it would provide a home for the many teachers and students who had loved and called CPY home. Bonus: it would make good use of the church’s former fellowship hall in the basement. The pastors told me about the studio, and I decided to buy and manage the business; we moved all of CPY’s furniture and equipment over to the church. Just that quickly, we were ready to go.

And so it was that “Be Kula: Space for Wellness” opened its doors in

March 2019 with a restorative yoga class. You might think a church basement wouldn’t be a great place to practice wellness, but what a difference a building renovation and some nice touches can make! Indeed, most people comment on how calming and lovely the space is with its fairy lights overhead, candles, and artwork that invites you to “be.” This fits, because Be Kula’s purpose is to help people be. Well. We are not the hip, sweaty yoga studio; those places are great and have a wonderful purpose, but that’s not us. Instead, Be Kula is focused on offering yoga, tai chi, and other classes and events that

help people learn how to “be.” To slow down, let go, re-center, recalibrate, and experience wellness. And that seems to be working. It has been almost a year, and people of all ages, body types, abilities, faiths, economic levels, and experiences have been coming together to be with us, which is lovely because “kula” is Sanskrit for community. We are a community of people learning to be. well. Classes for all in a building that is welcoming to all. That’s pretty good stuff. To learn more, visit bekulanow.com.

The Lake Claire Garden: February into March

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Winter doldrums got you down? Consider a trip to the Atlanta Botanical Garden (atlantabg.org). Even indoors, one can enjoy the ABG Flower Show, Friday, Feb 21-Sunday, Feb 23 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.), now a biennial event. The competitions include: Horticulture, Landscape Design, Photography, and Floral Design. There will be displays of Japanese floral arranging (ikebana—literally: “making flowers alive”) and even children’s contests.

Another indoor event at ABG, this one annual, Orchid Daze, extends from February 1 to April 12. If you are an admirer of orchids, which I am not, you will love this display. Even I am tempted to visit by this year’s inspiration, stemming (sorry) from the Mexican architect, Luis Barragan, who designed intimate enclosed gardens for his houses.

And, just outside the display buildings, lies the live garden waiting to be explored. Those of us who have *Edgeworthia chrysantha* or paper bush in our gardens suffered a real disappointment when the lowest temperature so far this winter arrived November 13 and froze the flowers of this normally hardy shrub that scents the air each January. An

enormous specimen on the northwest corner of the Decatur Recreation Center was zapped, as was my two-year-old bush with its 20 buds.

Fortunately, there are other late winter shrubs, and the ABG has fragrant wintersweet (Feb.), Early spiketail (*Stachyurus praecox*, Feb.-Mar.), and my beloved winter hazel (Mar.), not to be confused with witch hazel. My only advice about the latter is to give it plenty of room because my specimen has to be hacked back yearly to allow visitors to pass by. Visible from the south windows, it is enjoyed in early spring with hellebores, *Crocus tommasinianus*, epimediums, a viburnum, an azalea, and an oak leaf hydrangea, before summer’s heat causes us to draw the curtains.

Happy have I been to see that the November frost had no effect on my tiny sweet pea seedlings, just beginning to attach their tendrils to netting outside the dining room windows. By April they should be tall and strong, full of blooms before being slain in summer heat. For real peas, sow seeds in February, as well as onion sets. Start broccoli and cabbage seed indoors and in a cold frame where you can also sow lettuce and kohlrabi. An-

nual flowers require many weeks of growth to handle the garden bed, and their tiny seeds are easily disturbed if planted directly. So, except for quick-growing flowers like zinnias and marigolds, start them and the brassicas in pots now, using the directions I gave in last month’s Clarion.

Looking ahead, I recommend Brent and Becky’s bulbs for their summer-flowering ones as well as the old spring standbys. Including everything from *Acanthus* (bear’s breeches) to *Zephyranthes* (rain lilies), a catalog or the website www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com can supply you with colorful dahlias, sweet-smelling lilies, and tropical cannas to keep your garden bright even in the hottest summers. Plus most of these do not need to be dug and stored during our warm winters. Apparently many abhor gladioli as much as I did until I found the species *Gladiolus* such as *G. calianthus* ‘Murielae’ or *G. nanus* ‘Nymph,’ only 1-2 ft. tall, arching and graceful.

Part of the pleasure of gardening is that it is never the same two years running; part of the pain of gardening is ... the same. Snowdrops, however, never fail. Sometime after Christmas

or just into the new year, there they are again, petals drooping from each flower on its fresh, green stalk. Yes, they are small, but their brilliant white makes their presence known across the drab garden floor. Unlike crocus, they are not fancied by squirrels, and somehow they multiply, not just in numbers but also in range; my original dozen expanded at least ten times around the shady front yard.

Native to neither the UK nor North America, snowdrops are easily grown in both places (Zones 3-8) as long as they get enough moisture and protection from the broiling sun. In northern states they apparently do not bloom until March or snowmelt. In England, snowdrop flowering, walks, and talks occur in February. For us, the snowdrop has pretty much finished by then, unneeded with our cornucopia of spring colors. You will not regret planting them, however, once you see a small bee visiting each flower in early January. I am telling you this now because I never remember to tell you in fall: plant snowdrops.

And, last, I apologize to you and Emily Dickinson for the incorrect spelling of her surname (twice) last month.



**PARK
REALTY**
JOHN MORGAN

Putting People Before Sales

YOUR LISTING HERE

**In the heart of our neighborhood
to serve you better than ever!**

Come visit us at
1651 McLendon Ave NE,
across from Candler Park Market

*Call for a free pre-selling
consultation and market analysis*

JOHN MORGAN
Phone: 404-969-5740
Email: jmorgan@parkrealtyatlanta.com



Like our facebook page for more information about neighborhood events and other exciting news:
<https://www.facebook.com/parkrealtyatlanta/>



Sorry, We're Closed (Come Back Tomorrow!)

by Stephen Wing

For years the Land Trust Board has wrestled with the issue of closing time. It used to be simple: "Closed At Dark." Not "Closed After Dark," because that begs the question, "Exactly how long after dark do you close?" But "At Dark" turned

out to be not so simple either. Believe it or not, when asked to leave at dark, some people will argue that it isn't really, completely, totally dark, quite yet . . . Between day and night, it turns out, lies an infinitely expandable grey area.

But assigning a specific time for closing the Land Trust is problematic, too. One of the most popular times to hang out at the Trust is sunset, a.k.a. "magic hour," which lasts pretty much through the entire grey area between day and night. Closing our gates at the same time 365 days a year would mean either locking people out for the sunset hour in the summer, or locking up hours after dark in the winter.

The solution I proposed was "Closed at Sunset." There are several apps anyone can download that give a specific time for sunset each day, a time which cycles with the season. No one can argue with a phone app, right? But our friend Lom, who lives next door to our main entrance and is responsible for closing the gate at night, decided he would rather not have to whip out his phone when

confronting people who trespass after hours.

So, the compromise we ended up with was a closing time that changes not daily, but several times a year along with the season. Please make a note of it: **the Land Trust closes at 6 p.m. in the winter, 8 p.m. in the spring and fall, and 9 p.m. in the summer.** (Daylight Savings Time throws an extra complication into the calculation.)

But how do we explain all of that on a sign? The answer is now posted for all to see at all three of our entrances: at the Arizona Avenue cul-de-sac, on the Nelms Avenue corner, and on the path up the hill from the neighboring Amata community. Each sign has a center section that is removable and replaceable as our closing time cycles through the seasons.

Of course, a sign announcing that the Land Trust is closed gradually fades into irrelevance as "at dark" transitions into "after dark." Running a wire to each entrance to light up our signs is one option, but our trusty technical consultant, Bernard Spenle, came up with a better one. The lights he rigged are solar-powered and turned on and off by a photo-cell sensor.

Now all we have to worry about is that one trespasser in a million who is illiterate . . . or claims to be.




5th Annual Land Trust Winter Benefit Show Rocks the E-Church!

by Dave Fasano

On Friday, February 7, at 8 p.m., the Ex-P.A.N.D. Band will take the stage at the First Existentialist Congregation to raise funds to help the Lake Claire Community Land Trust continue celebrating the arts, nature, and community. This is the fifth time the E Church has collaborated with the Land Trust and the Ex-P.A.N.D. Band to ensure we all can benefit from the Land Trust's beauty and openness. This year, the music of the Grateful Dead will help us all "make American grateful again."

MAKE AMERICA GRATEFUL AGAIN



Ex P.A.N.D. BAND

Friday, February 7, 2020

Doors at 7:00; Music at 8:00

First Existentialist Congregation

470 Candler Park Drive, Atlanta 30307

Land Trust Benefit



The members of the Ex P.A.N.D. Band (formerly "Performers Against Nuclear Devices") are Bob Visentin on bass guitar, Gayle Tompson on fiddle, Craig Rafuse on guitar, Doug Landesberg on drums, and Lake Claire's ex-pat Bill Fleming on pedal steel. These folks are truly gifted, and their talents will help us dance into the night while supporting the Land Trust.

The E Church is located at 470 Candler Park Drive, Atlanta, 30307. Doors open at 7. Suggested donation is \$10; kids get in free, of course. Please come out and join us as we honor Lake Claire and revel in the sound of music!! Peace and Love!!

Correction: Jennifer Lee took the photo on Page 15 in the last (January) issue.

Ladybug Fun S'more Children's Garden Party with Special Guest!

Sunday, Feb. 23, 4-6 p.m., suggested donation \$5

Join Miss Ladybug and friends for our first 2020 event at the magical Lake Claire Community Land Trust! We will have S'more Garden fun with super special artistic guest Ben Brill of Asheville!

Ben Brill is a performer, puppeteer, and music producer. His life is centered around creating positive music and video content for children, teaching music, and creating inter-

active musical experiences for family audiences. Kids are sure to laugh, dance, sing, and have their imaginations activated at each event Ben is part of. Learn more at benbrillmusic.com. As always we will have regular s'more supplies plus vegan options. We are super excited to share the talents of Ben with our Land Trust lovers. Please spread the word and invite your friends.





LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



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

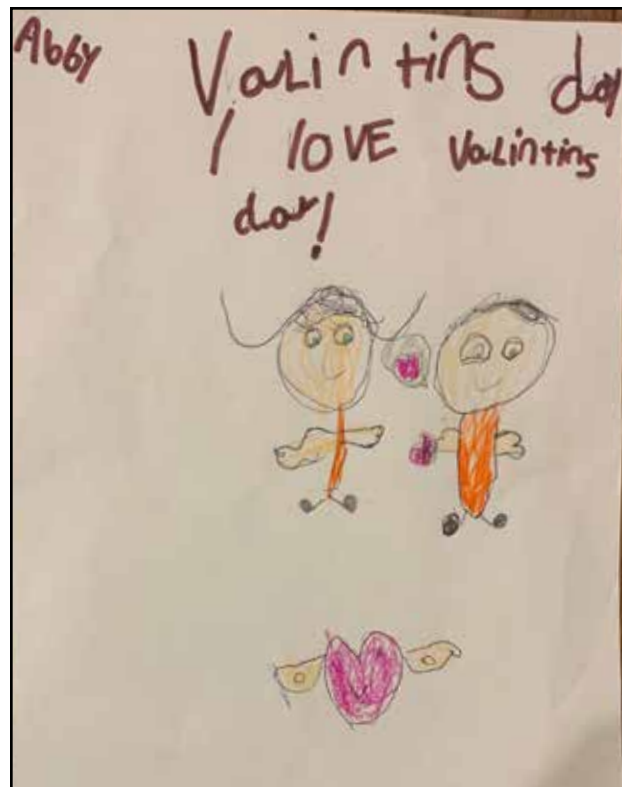
This month we feature the art of Abigail—*Abby*—Levs., who drew this lovely Valentine's picture. Abby is the featured writer because she won the extra-credit prize last month, for writing a letter and

mailing it—complete with a stamp. She is six years old and in kindergarten at Mary Lin. She also has two older brothers, one a seventh grader at Inman and one a 4th grader at Mary Lin. Abby loves to draw, and that is evident. (This picture is even better in color: please look at the Clarion on-line to see it, at lakeclaire.org/clarion.)

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



Abigail Levs, Artist



Drawing by Abigail Levs

CONTEST WINNERS

This month, sisters Synnove, Naven, and Seija Olson won the prize for finding the hidden graphic of Martin Luther King, Jr., in January's issue. This gorgeous team of Synnove, Seija, and Naven won the contest over a vast number of Lake Claire kids who participate every month in the contest on the Clarion Kids' Page. The Olsons live on Leonardo; Synnove is 9 years old, in 3rd grade at Mary Lin; Seija, age 7, is in 1st

grade at Mary Lin; Naven, age 3, is at the Freedom Park Preschool. But don't forget Rocket! Rocket is the class guinea pig from Ms. Derrico's 1st grade class, and he (she?) apparently assisted in finding the hidden graphic!

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.

NEW CONTEST!

This month is Valentine's day, but that happens every year, so la-de-da! Something more special only happens every four years: leap year! Did you know that a leap year occurs every four years to help synchronize the calendar year with the solar year, or the length of time it takes the earth to complete its orbit around the sun, which is about 365¼ days? Our hidden graphic this month is a picture showing this important calendar fact. The winners get their

pictures in the next Clarion. To win, send an e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number of this graphic, 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. (Please tell your parents to send large picture files, 1 to 2 mb. They must choose the size on their phone.) For extra credit, tell us anything else you

know about leap year. If your birthday is February 29, does that mean you only have a birthday every 4 years? 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 FEBRUARY 15 for the MARCH 2020 issue. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**