



Lake Claire Leadership 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. A 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 fun. Meetings as of now are being held via Zoom, but once things are back to “normal” after Covid precautions, will be in the Frazer Center, Rose Room, again. Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting begins. Savage has provided free pizza for the meetings. **Nominations (the complete listing of current positions are in the masthead at the top of Page 2), will be at our meeting on Thursday, October 15. We hope to see you there.**

Theatre, Arts, and Music

Atlanta is a city bursting with creative energy. In these highly unsettled times, most theatre, arts, and music venues are still dark, and over the past six (!) months, those of us who are avid patrons have gotten used to viewing productions via Zoom, Youtube, and other virtual platforms. Here are some updates.

Both the Alliance Theatre and Atlanta Symphony have announced that they will try to kick-start their 2020-21 season later this fall with social distancing in mind. The Alliance plans to reopen in November (its 52nd season) with drive-in movie style productions, socially distanced shows on the Coca-Cola Stage, and a brand-new streaming platform. The season will begin in November with *A Very Terry Christmas*. In February 2021 they will produce *Hands Up*, depicting the realities of Black America from

the perspectives of varying genders, sexual orientations, skin tones, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The Atlanta Symphony musicians will be playing on the stage with audiences watching from home on the ASO Virtual Stage platform through December 31. By year-end they will announce plans for January through June 2021. Visit aso.org to view the reimagined virtual season.

Theatrical Outfit has a brand-new lineup that embraces digital programming and includes: *Downtown Dialogues*, *Made In Atlanta*, *The Welcome Table*, *The Unexpected Play Festival*, and *A Return to the Mainstage*, this coming Spring 2021. (www.theatricaloutfit.org/)

Horizon Theatre, our venue in Little Five Points, has several “at home” programs, including *Sing with Keena*, a professional voice teacher/singing coach. Horizon



Previous Parade - photo by Gretchen Connell

Lake Claire Halloween / Clarion Costume Contest!

It's almost Halloween, but what a different Halloween it will have to be. **Halloween Lake Claire style** has always meant our annual Lake Claire Parade, the fun signature event where the entire neighborhood dresses up, and parades a few blocks to Lake Claire Park to hang out, have fun, and eat treats.

But, as we all know, 2020 is different.

At this point, we've mastered the Zoom party, the socially distanced backyard soirée, and safe ways to host family and friends. But how to use these newfound safe socializing skills for the first big event of the fall/winter holiday season? With Hal-

loween falling on a Saturday this year and several challenging months behind us, it is only natural that people want to celebrate. But many of the traditional things to do on Halloween—parties, parades, haunted houses, and crowds of kids trick-or-

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plans on staying connected through social media and streaming events, play readings, interviews with actors (past and present), and other live events to be viewed from the safety of one's own home (www.horizontheatre.com). 7 Stages Theatre says, “We like it over here when things get weird, but this is certainly not what we had in mind.” As of press-time, all of their events are cancelled, and they are doing their part to practice social distancing. Stay tuned via the website.

Actor's Express intends to deepen its commitment to the community while staying true to the core of what makes the organization so special. As of press time, no other information is available.

Out Front Theatre Com-

pany in Midtown announced it has postponed its remaining 2020 productions—*Xanadu* and *Judy's Scary Little Christmas*—until at least next year due to the outbreak. Both were to take place this fall. Out Front plans to premiere *The Pink Unicorn* on January 21 as its first in-person production, if conditions allow.

The Atlanta Opera: The 2020-21 season-opening production, *La Bohème* will be November 7-15. *Madama Butterfly* will take place November 12, 14, and 17 in a slightly reduced staging, in order to accommodate the production concurrently with *La Bohème*. Both productions will be held at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre. Information is changing daily, so check

www.atlantaopera.org/coronavirus/.

Beyond the brick-and-mortar venues with which most folks may be familiar, there are virtual opportunities. Some interesting scripts are published on this English-based on-line catalogue: www.smithscripts.co.uk. These include some by Emory Professor Hank Kimmel, *Confessions of a Hit Man*, and *Divided Among Themselves*. There is a virtual production that is timely, considering that the Jewish New Year has just passed, entitled *An Answer to Their Prayers.: The Days of Awe*.

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 Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

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

October Calendar

2... and every Friday: Black Lives Matter peaceful protest. Join other Lake Claire folks at Clifton and Ponce Friday evenings from 5:15 to 6 p.m.

5-30 Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot: Deadline to register online to vote is Monday, October 5, deadline for registering in person or by mail—postmarked by Oct 5; Deadline to request a ballot by mail is October 30. Early voting runs from Monday, October 12 to Friday, October 30.

15 Lake Claire Neighbors monthly meeting 3rd Thursdays. Please check website to see when this meeting will be back in the Rose Room at The Frazer Center (7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Pizza provided free from Savage) or via Zoom (and get your own pizza!!). Check lakeclaire.org for updates and Zoom information. **Important Note: This October meeting is the one for nominations for the LCN Exec. Committee, election at the November meeting. Please see details on Page 1.**

30 Lake Claire Land Trust Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Carving Contest—send pics of your carved pumpkin by October 30. Details on Page 11

31 Put on your Halloween costume! Deadline for Clarion Halloween Contest is November 1! Kids (and adult kids), send pictures in your costume(s) for \$\$ prizes! Send a file that is 1mb-plus, and note name and street, to editor@lakeclaire.org. See article Page 1.

Frazer's Early Childhood Inclusion Program Evolves

by Dina Shadwell

It was always in the plans, but the pandemic put Frazer's Early Childhood Inclusion Program on fast-forward. Three years ago, Frazer began a partnership with the Adaptive Learning Center (ALC) which specializes in inclusive early education. ALC specialists would come into the classrooms to observe the environment and work with the teachers and children to determine what adaptations could be made to better support the children with special needs. This model of inclusive education has been tremendously successful, but maintaining it would prove to be a challenge without extra grant funding. So last fall, with an eye toward sustaining the program in the long term, Frazer brought on a full time Inclusion Coordinator, Courtney Kiser.

Courtney first discovered Frazer when she toured the facility with a family whose child she was supporting. She fell in love with the environment and knew she wanted to work at Frazer. As fate would have it, Courtney was perfectly suited for the new Inclusion Coordinator position, which allows her to combine her skills and passions: early childhood development and Applied Behavior Analysis within the natural environment of the classroom. In March, when the pandemic hit and Frazer temporarily closed, the administration was forced to take a good, hard look at the partnership with ALC. Frazer Center's Inclusion Program was designed to grow, and the pan-

Cont. on p. 5

A President In Our Midst: FDR in Georgia

by Dan White

"On April 12, 1945 at 3:35 p.m., as World War II slowly wound down, life stopped in the United States. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt had died at his beloved Little White House in Warm Springs, Georgia, of a cerebral hemorrhage. Word soon got out via radio, newspaper, telegrams, and neighbor telling neighbor."

I want to tell my Lake Claire neighbors about a new documentary film in production that tells this story further, A President In Our Midst: FDR in Georgia. The people of Georgia had an immeasurable impact on our nation's 32nd president, and he, in turn, had a substantial impact on the people of Georgia during his twelve years in office and in the decades since.

Did you know that President Roosevelt spoke at Georgia Tech and Atlanta University about creating public housing? Today many people don't understand the dire need for housing during the Great Depression. The public housing that was created in Atlanta replaced slums that would horrify us all today.

Did you know that President Roosevelt served as the commencement speaker at Oglethorpe University's 1932 graduation ceremony and outlined the economic policies of the New Deal? As difficult as things are today for some, things were worse in 1932.

Today, Georgians living outside of Atlanta and other cities are concerned with rural broad-band Internet access. During Franklin Roosevelt's presidency, Georgians were concerned about access to basic electricity. Most rural homes didn't have it, just as today there are still many people who don't have Internet access at home or don't have high-speed Internet access. During a visit to Barnesville, Georgia, Roosevelt "turned on the lights" through the Rural Electric Administration (REA). Today's Electric Membership Cooperatives (EMCs) still serve 10 percent of America's citizens and are poised to provide broad-band Internet to our



neighbors around the state, including some in metro Atlanta counties.

This documentary film project is being produced in partnership with the Georgia Humanities Council. If you wish to be a supporter, please consider a donation to help reach the goal of \$10,000 from the general public, at www.georgiahumanities.org/donate-form/. Choose "FDR in Georgia" Film Project. All donations are tax deductible and much appreciated. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be featured in the film credits.

Filming begins this fall with the expected airing on Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) stations by April 12, 2021, the 76th anniversary of FDR's death in Warm Springs, Georgia. Please use the following link to watch a 90-second preview of the documentary which aired on GPB this year on the 75th anniversary of FDR's death: vimeo.com/405907339.

Thank you for your interest and support as we preserve on film this remarkable period in Georgia history. I'll end with a thank you to one specific neighbor, John Kelly, for his ideas and recommendations regarding production and filming.

Importance of Voting November 3

A new national survey finds high voter engagement with the presidential election coming in November—and an all-time high record of those who say it “really matters” who wins in November for making progress on important national issues. Yet, the coronavirus outbreak continues to cast a large shadow. Half of U.S. registered voters say it will be difficult to vote in person in the upcoming elections, a substantial change since the October 2018 midterm, when 85% of registered voters said it would be easy to vote. We are all keenly aware of how important it is to vote, considering how significantly even one piece of legislation can impact the lives of many—and how the decisions of officials shape our daily lives.

There is a group called March for Our Lives (MFOL) that young survivors started in the days after the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. To raise awareness about gun violence, they travelled the country, registering new voters. Inspired by the Freedom Riders of the 1960s, they held voter registration events with 200+ mayors, helping registering 800,000 people on National Voter Registration Day—an all-time record. MFOL now has hundreds

of chapters around the country and has reached Lake Claire with their program “Our Power in the States.” The program involves collaboration between artists and organizers to engage young people in the election and on issues such as voting and voter suppression, with “Tiny Voter Registration Centers.” About the size of the Little Free Libraries, boxes contain forms to (1) register to vote, (2) request an absentee/mail-in ballot, and (3) volunteer to be a poll worker in the upcoming election, plus pre-stamped envelopes, clear instructions, and even pens and hand sanitizer! Volunteers include local artists who designed the boxes, those who helped to install the boxes, and neighbors who volunteered to host the boxes in front of their homes.

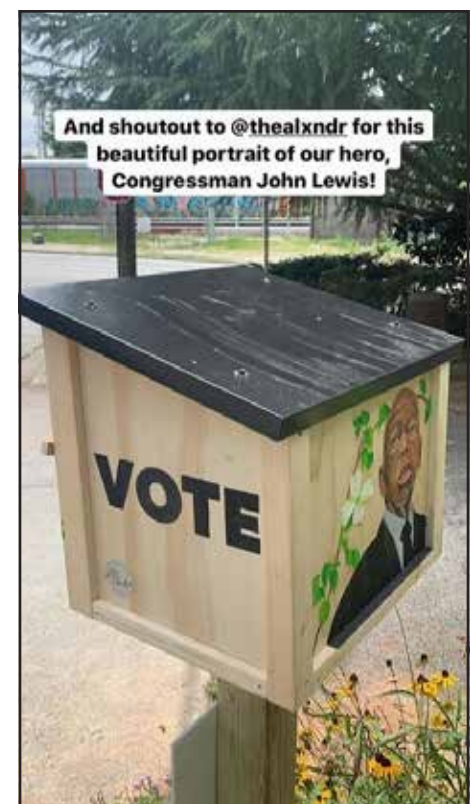
One of these get-out-the-vote boxes is in Lake Claire at the Lake Claire Co-Housing on the corner of Connecticut and Dekalb (pictured above), and another one is at 360 Elmira Place in Candler Park. The Clarion spoke with Royce Mann, recent Grady High graduate and resident of Lake Claire Co-Housing, who, along with friends, installed the boxes. (Individual artists’ Instagram handles are found on the boxes.)

Voter suppression of voters of color and young voters has been a

scourge in our country, and as many know, a primary this summer was rife with mismanagement, irregularities, unbelievably long lines, and more, for some voters.

Voting is the bedrock on which our community’s future and ambitions are built. In his New York Times op-ed published posthumously on July 30, Congressman John Lewis entreated, “Though I am gone, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe.” He wrote, “The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society.” A great way to honor his legacy would be to exercise your right to vote on November 3. The deadlines to vote and request absentee ballots are coming fast—see Page 2 in the calendar. The early voting period runs from Monday, October 12 to Friday, October 30. See websites for locations and hours. If interested, you can sign up at securevotega.com to be a poll worker in Georgia.

If anyone experiences problems pertaining to the voting process, you can contact is Fair Fight: fairfight.com/about-fair-fight. Also, Georgia 55 Project offers ways (virtual and in person) to support voter participation in the metro Atlanta area



Get-Out-the-Vote Box at the Corner of Dekalb Ave / Connecticut in Lake Claire

through community and food-centric outreach. They also have helpful info on registration, vote by mail, early voting etc. on Instagram (@georgia55project) and at www.georgia55.org. A shout-out to Royce Mann and his friends, and to the neighbors who put the boxes in front of their homes. Check them out.

Please vote on November 3!



Namaste, Lake Clarions!

by Frani Green

We hear this word a lot, NAMASTE, but what does it really mean?

It is a reverent greeting from the Hindu culture. It is a non contact greeting when meeting someone, male or female. It is usually accompanied by a gesture of hands in a prayer pose, when both hands come together, palms touching and fingers facing up. Some people bow their heads as they say this word. The translation in long form means:

“I honor the light within you as you honor the light within me.”

We yogis say it when we begin and end our classes, creating a start and finish. We also say it when we see each other, with big smiles on our faces. It creates a feeling of connectivity and community, which now is so important for us in this crazy time.

Blessings, and
Namaste to all of you,
Frani

Dear Lake Claire Neighbors,

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (“Clifton”) has been excited to take in 10 new guests since July 2020. Since that time, we are happy to report that three of the men have obtained full-time employment: John B., Tony A., and Landrick D. Way to go guys! We are proud of you!

Little by little in my Clarion updates, I am trying to introduce you to the people around Clifton who keep the operations running successfully: highlighting different staff and Board members to make you familiar with the heartbeat of Clifton. One such person is Robert Petite, pictured at right. Robert is a resident at Joe’s Place and is our Resident Manager here at Clifton Sanctuary. I am sure you have run across him if you have dropped meals off on the weekend or have done any volunteer work around the property. A few of Robert’s responsibilities include monitoring and assisting residents at Joe’s Place and at Clifton. He also handles keeping the grounds looking nice, and light maintenance work at Clifton and Joe’s Place. If you see Robert around, be sure and tell him thanks for his efforts!



Robert Petite

Thank you, Lake Claire, part of our Clifton family, for stepping up and providing dinners for us as the need has arisen. If you are interested in providing meals on a more regular basis, for example, once a month, please email me at lori@cliftonsanctuary.com. We always have nights open for which we need dinners.

As always, we appreciate our Lake Claire neighbors. You enable us to do what we love, making an impact one life at a time. We hope this letter finds you healthy and happy.

Blessings,
Lori White,
Director of Community Relations



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Java Cats Café

by Kris Byron, Volunteer and Foster Parent, PAWS Atlanta

Behind an unassuming storefront in Grant Park on Memorial Drive near Oakland cemetery is Atlanta's first cat café. Since March 2017, Java Cats Café has partnered with PAWS Atlanta, Atlanta's oldest no-kill shelter. This incredible partnership has been a lifesaver for Atlanta's homeless cats. Since opening, nearly 400 cats from PAWS Atlanta have been adopted through Java Cats Café.

If you are interested in adopting a kitten or cat, please consider visiting Java Cats to meet some of the adoptable felines waiting for their "forever" homes. Visiting Java Cats is so much better than watching cat videos on YouTube. (Please note that, as of this writing, they are limiting entry to fewer visitors and are open fewer days, so please check the website for days and hours of operation.)

Not interested in adopting? No problem! You can still go to Java Cats to get your kitten fix. Visiting a cat café is so much better than watching a cat video because the experience is interactive. You can visit up to 15 to 20 kittens and cats at Java Cats Café by making a reservation on-line at www.javacatscafe.com/cafe. Admission is \$12 for adults and children and includes coffee or tea. You can



upgrade your beverage for an additional charge if you like. Like many businesses, Java Cats Café could use your support during this time—as the café had to close temporarily at the beginning of the pandemic.

Not interested in visiting but want to support this social enterprise in other ways? You can purchase great merchandise for cat lovers in advance of the holiday season. The online shop includes cute t-shirts, hats, mugs, and even an onesie for infants. Alternately, you can make an online donation or contribute via their Amazon wish list.



Wild in Lake Claire

by Guest Columnist Bernard Spenle

Amid the flora of our planet, and more particularly our quadrant of this country, there is a fascinating and widely varied category: mushrooms. We mostly think of this group as food, or poison, but they are very interesting plants/fungi for many reasons. For one, they come in many more shapes than the typical round cap over a stalk. They grow in a range of environments. One aspect of mushrooms that I find so interesting is the ingenious way in which they reproduce. I guess nature wanted to cover all its bases in devising so many options.

The basic idea is that all mushrooms produce spores. These spores are disseminated, and when some find a favorable environment, they send out one or more hyphae, which start producing a web of root-like hair called mycelium. When two mycelia from different spores, but of the same specie, connect, they become capable of producing a fertile fruiting body (that we know as the mushroom).

The mushroom's job is to disseminate the spores, and I suppose that they have adapted and taken advantage of their specific situation. For example, some puffballs (white balls on an almost nonexistent stalk, see picture) grow in clusters on dead logs. When they have matured, a hole opens up at the top of the envelope, and if a branch falls onto the mushroom, it shoots the spores into the air, and the wind carries them away. Another is the stinkhorn. They come in a variety of shapes, but most involve a phallus-like growth which has a foul smelling slimy tip. That odor attracts specific kinds of flies and beetles, which swarm the area and walk on and roll in that spore-filled slime. They then proceed to carry the spores away.

What we think of as the "typical" mushroom has a cap with the underside covered by gills, or a sponge-like texture, as in the Boletus family. With the cap being on a stalk that elevates it from the ground, it gives room for the wind to carry away the falling spores.

My favorite dissemination method is that of the bird's nest group (Nidulariales). They mature into a cup- or saucer-like shape the size of a nickel, with one to four capsules containing spores. When a drop of rain falls into the "cup," it splashes the capsules out of the nest, where the spores are released from the capsules after their shells decay.

There are many other ways used to keep mushrooms reproducing. They have an important place and are useful in nature. And, if you find the RIGHT ones, they can also become a delicious meal.

Go to Page 6 for color pictures of some of Bernard's finds, and for more Wild news.

Frazer Center Update

Continued from Page 2



Courtney Kiser

demic fast-tracked its evolution. After the pandemic, an ALC specialist will eventually return to the building for ten hours a week. But Courtney is now our on-site go-to person for all inclusion matters within the children's program.

Courtney is responsible for coordinating communication with each child's team—including parents, therapists, teachers, and Frazer administrators. Her goal is to empower the teachers. For example, since some children learn better with visuals, Courtney provides picture cards for the teachers to show the children what is expected of them during large group activities. These visual cues become an inclusive tool when the teachers use them with everyone in the classroom to help meet the needs of each individual child.

"Her knowledge, her ideas, her tools are very crucial to me," says Yolonda Youngblood, a veteran teacher at Frazer. "Courtney will come into the classroom, make an observation, and demonstrate what needs to be done with a particular challenge a child has. It makes my life smoother once I know what to look for and how to redirect or intervene to support that child." Courtney now has the help of a second full time inclusion staff member. Inclusion Coach Brittany Redding has a similar background in Early Childhood Education and Applied Behavior Analysis, and floats from classroom

to classroom to help model behavior for both children and teachers.

Based on the feedback from parents of children with special needs, Frazer's Inclusion Program is working. Relationships, trust, communication, and teamwork are the cornerstones of the program, and with Courtney Kiser's guidance, all of Frazer's children are bound to soar.

If you would like to support Frazer's inclusion programs for children and adults with and without disabilities, visit www.fraziercenter.org/give. And thank you for keeping dogs on leashes while in the Frazer Forest—Frazer's outdoor classroom.



Dark Stages

by Beth Damon

As we know, many Atlanta theatre, music, and dance venues have now been shuttered for several months (see details of individual venues' plans in the article on Page 1). Atlanta photographer Michael Boatright has been focusing on bringing awareness of the theatres' economic challenges and the impact of their closures on the culture and economy with a series of photographs of empty stages. He photographs dark stages to underscore theatre as a live art form, in which performers, stagehands, and craftspeople basically cannot work, and that they and their companies/communities/houses need help. His website currently features images from thirty theatres and music venues in and around Atlanta. Balzer Theatre's Theatrical Outfit is pictured above.

"There are approximately 14,000 empty seats, just in the thirty theatres that I have photographed," Boatright told Lois Reitzes, on

WABE's "City Lights." He and I corresponded by email, and he said, "just take a theatre season of five shows, at a low-ball number of \$30 a ticket, that is a \$50-million impact on the economy, just in empty seats in the theatres of Atlanta. Considering that only a portion of a show's income comes from ticket sales, the impact is actually much larger. And, a further hit to the economy is that money is not being spent on the performers', stagehands', and craftspeople's pay (who would then pay rent, buy groceries, etc.), purchases of materials for sets and costumes, concessions, etc. It is an industry with a huge impact."

Michael's list doesn't include any of the outdoor amphitheaters and several other significant houses that he couldn't get in (including Emory, Spelman, Morehouse, Agnes Scott, The Variety, Terminal West, and a

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Clarion Costume Contest

Continued from Page 1

treating—may feel questionable. As of the Clarion going to press in mid-September, we aren't sure if the organizers of the Lake Claire Parade will have something virtual for Halloween. BUT don't cancel your Halloween costume order or forget your ideas for easy Halloween costumes just yet. We have a way for kids (and adult kids) to participate.

Please plan a Halloween costume as usual, whether you will use it for small gatherings or not, and send your family or individual Halloween costume photo to the Clarion by November 1. Twenty five pictures will be featured in a photo spread in the December issue and on the Lake Claire website. **The top ten will win \$10 gift cards to Candler**

Park Grocery to buy your favorite Halloween candy (or something more healthy). Suggested photo categories are "family," "cute babies," "couples," and "cool or scary kid," or anything that grabs you! It will be exciting to see everyone's creativity. Please be sure to send files that are 1 mg or larger to editor@lakeclaire.org, anytime before November 1.

Final note: please check the Lake Claire website for updates on any neighborhood Halloween plans in addition to the Clarion contest, since, as we mentioned, this Clarion went to press in mid-September. Either way, the contest will be held, so send your pics!



Mushrooms seen by Bernard in Lake Claire



Flora's Factoids

Flora has noticed and/or been made aware of a small invasion of raptors in the LC hood. I, FF, will give you my personal observations first and the other person's, Kylie (see her picture of a certain owl).

On a recent Sunday morning I was having coffee with two of my sister COVID captives, Lynda D. and Debby D. (distanced & with masks except when sipping our coffee) when we saw a large silhouette flying overhead. It disappeared behind the trees before we could ID it but luckily it flew out again in the clear blue skies, accompanied by a second shadow. What a thrill it was to see that pale tail and realize they were two red-tailed hawks.

Earlier in the week I had looked out my side window past some ferns, impatiens and a hummingbird feeder, and saw not Ruby-throats but a Cooper's hawk! It didn't leave, even though s/he saw me staring from behind my windows. The hawk was enjoying lunch. It could have been a towhee or a chipmunk. I couldn't make it out even with my binocs.



And more! I recently heard from Kylie on Nelms, referred by correspondent Mr N., that she and her spouse Bryan had seen a Barred Owl. They live in the house behind the Land Trust and saw this "beauty" (above) in June. Though they've only seen (and photographed) the owl once) they hear it all the time. Kylie, I bet a lot of your neighbors do too, "Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all?"

Your Fount of Optimism,
Flora Fauna

Wild in Lake Claire is a monthly column by Flora Fauna, aka Carol Vanderschaaf. For sightings of wild things in the LC hood or nearby, contact her at her new email address, aseachange1771v80@gmail.com. Flora asks that past contributors send their email addresses to her, as her computer recently went WILD and erased her contacts.



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Lake Claire Speaks

(These signs are from a cross-section of the neighborhood.) As a reminder, Lake Claire folks are still peacefully protesting at Clifton and Ponce, Friday evenings from 5:15 to 6 p.m. One neighbor brings a tote bag full of signs, so you can just show up.

Safety in Lake Claire

by Miriam Herbers

Labor Day and the start of school marked the end of the summer season. Crime all over the city was down at the start of the coronavirus pandemic, but since July there has been a slight increase in Beat 608 with car break-ins and two stolen cars. It does not seem “slight” to the people involved, but Lake Claire still has a low crime rate.

Knowing your neighbors goes a long way toward creating a safe neighborhood. Greet people when out walking. Sometimes it is diffi-

cult to recognize folks if they have sunglasses and hats on with their masks, but it shows a mindfulness that we are all part of a community to say “hello.”



Thanks for Paying Your Neighborhood Dues

Lake Claire is open for dues payments, Covid or not. Thanks, everyone who has continued to send yours during these challenging times. Suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire banners are \$45; a package deal of dues/banner is only \$60! Since September's Clarion, the following folks paid dues:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Matthew Woehrmann | Richard Lorenc | Patrick Rickard |
| Patrick McNulty | Tori Campbell | Laura Briceno |
| Joseph Koval | Barney Spratt | Joseph and Heather |
| Carol Holliday | Brian Smith | Steven and Judith Friedman |

Pay at lakeclaire.org OR with the old-fashioned check in the mail, while to Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer, Post Office Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107. Stay safe!

Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

October Birthdays:

October 2: Margaret Witten (Tuxedo) Virtual hugs from a secret friend who loves you... but who doesn't?!—You have friends in high places... and thanks for being a Clarion deliverer.

October 4: Richard Harvey (of Ellenwood)—one of our longtime mail carriers. He knows everyone on his route. Happy birthday, Richard, from Lake Claire!

October 5: Chloe Rachal will turn 9! (Howard Circle) and Emma DeBell (Harold) 13!

October 7: Todd Fernandez (Leonardo)

October 19: Kusher Thomas Tanguturi turns 7 (Harold Avenue)

October 19: Boyd Baker—happy b'day and thanks (Leonardo, much appreciated Clarion contributor)

October 23: Izzy Kaiser—Happy 13th birthday! ('dorf)

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

Marriage Anniversaries:

October 6—Judy Langford and Bob Thompson (Harold)

October 15—Sara Rossi and Jeff DeBell (Harold)

Welcome to the Neighborhood, New Leos!

Sharon Greene and Todd Fernandez—Welcome Leonardo neighbors! And happy b'day, Todd!

Life-cycle events to editor@lakeclaire.org by Oct. 15 for November issue. Please help us make this feature inclusive of our LC 'hood.

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Theatre, Arts, and Music

Continued from Page 1

When two young strangers meet in the back pew of the synagogue during Yom Kippur services, they must decide whether it's destiny or these pretzels that are making them thirsty. The production through virtual reality will allow the audience to see the show from a 360-degree vantage point. It's very cool. See:

Instagram: www.instagram.com/pocket.vr.theatre; Reddit: www.reddit.com/r/Pocket_Theatre; Facebook: www.facebook.com/Pocket.vr.Theatre.

From October 25 through 27, The Alliance of Jewish Theatre will have a virtual conference. See www.aljewishtheatre.org. The Jewish Repertory Theatre (based in Buffalo, NY) is another good resource.

"Arts Atlanta" has a calendar on their website. They note that though Atlanta is a city that never stops burning, fire needs oxygen. Their mission is to guide audiences to the best Atlanta has to offer, to breathe air to those artistic fires. In a feature "In Our Own Words," artists and arts leaders share thoughts about the impact of racism and

the pandemic on their practices and institutions. See www.artsatl.org/?s=in+our+own+words. Finally, check out www.workingtittleplaywrights.com to see ways that playwrights continue both to grow and respond to the crises of our times.

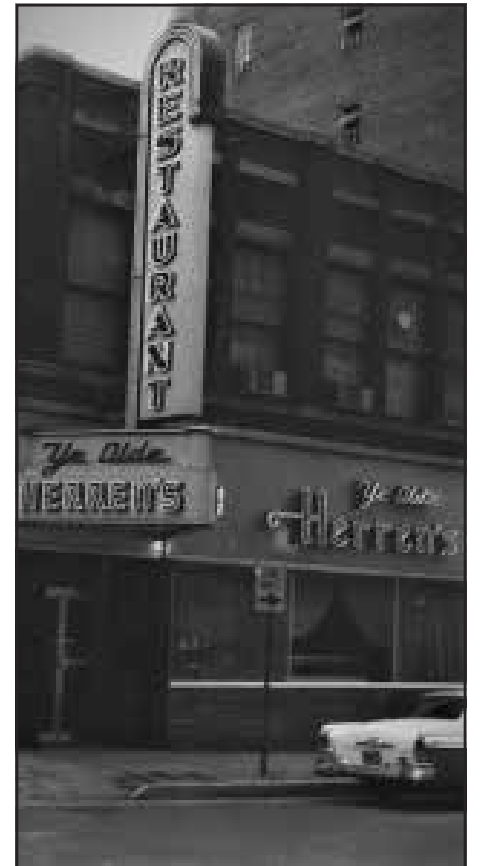
The performing arts industry is one of the hardest hit industries locally and nationally, with forced closures from small production houses to Broadway, costing billions of dollars and thousands of jobs. Even those theatres that do open are not going to be open with anywhere near capacity, through at least the first quarter of next year. That's an entire season of shows. And for many of us, theatre, comedy, and music venues are a big part of what connects us—and are essential to our souls. See more about the terrible impact in the article Dark Houses on Page 6. If possible, please consider supporting your favorite venues; go to their individual websites to find out how. And please also visit saveourstages.com and tell your legislators to save independent music venues from closing permanently!

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 literally to thousands of customers. Other Atlanta natives will remember Herren's as the place to go for lunch in the '70s and '80s along with Rich's, where one would have lunch (and during the Xmas season, visit the Pink Pig). Herren's originally opened 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/.

As many of you will know, in 2005, Theatrical Outfit (TO) moved to the Balzer Theater at Herren's. TO notes on their website how proud they are to be located at the historical site of the first restaurant in Atlanta voluntarily to desegregate. That theatre company started out in 1976 at a laundromat in Virginia Highland.

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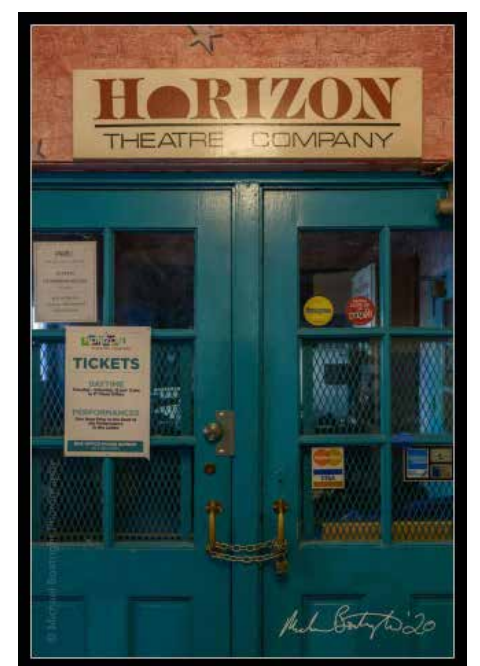
Dark Theatres

Continued from Page 6

number of smaller houses). State-wide, the impact could extrapolate out to half a billion dollars or more a year. Theatre workers don't qualify for unemployment, so they were basically subsisting on the \$600 a week they were getting from the CARES act back in March, and that money ran out.

Michael Boatright's gallery of images can be viewed at: www.dark-housesatlanta.org. The images are more than just the 30 pictures themselves. You can click on a picture, which takes you to a description of that venue, lots of other pictures of the venue, and in some cases, history and descriptions.

In "normal" times, Boatright did portraits for commercial and private clients, and for the theatre, dance, and music communities. His fine art projects also have included landscape photography on four continents and abstract impressions of real-life subjects. His studio is located in the TULA Arts Center in Buckhead, Atlanta. Boatright is not



personally soliciting donations. He suggests that folks visit the Atlanta Artists Relief Fund Facebook page or their website at atlartsrelief.org. Alternately, people could consider making donations to favorite local theatres, or you could buy tickets to future shows and/or seasons. Thank you for pulling back the curtain, Michael Boatright.

October into November in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton, knowltonew@earthlink.net

Last month I wrote about my pretend lawn and this month will tell you about my pretend pets. Twenty-eight months ago, our cat Babs succumbed to cancer. This was the first time I was without a cat since age ten, either at my parents' house or my own. For various reasons we did not adopt another, and soon I did not miss a cat's special requirements and care, even in exchange for eating the mice, rats, and chipmunks.

Instead, I grew aware of the great increase of birds in the garden. Not only our own cat was gone, but visiting cats had died or moved to the mountains during the pandemic. The garden had become an avian paradise. I had never been bird-ignorant, just bird-bored, living with a father who could identify a bird by its silhouette high over an expressway ("Daddy, Daddy, the road, the road!"). Regardless, I had somehow inhaled a general knowledge of birds, and a copy of Peterson's always resided on the bookshelf.

Now when I hear fledglings have left a nest, I no longer tense for the view of a cat finishing one off on the lawn. Instead I am treated to: birds of

many ethnicities lining up to splash in a large tray I put out on a table when bees kept them out of the bird-bath; a mother cardinal feeding offspring a piece of green caterpillar but carefully leaving the rest of it for him to find himself; probably the same fledgling, now mostly grown, trying to my great amusement to fly straight up under a table where he must have seen some goody in a spider's nest but failing each time to find a perch there, unable like a hummingbird to hover. Most of the world has lost 25-30% of its bird population since 1970 from things like pesticides and loss of habitat, skewing the environment where the loss of one creature has a multiplying effect on everything around it. The American Bird Conservancy tells us that individuals can make a difference by marking reflective windows, leaving shrubs and low trees unpruned for nest sites, and keeping cats indoors. I am enjoying the brown thrashers, cardinals, robins, towhees, grosbeaks, hummingbirds, chickadees, tufted titmice, goldfinches, mockingbirds, catbirds, doves, woodpeckers, hawks, owls, and unknown varieties of sparrows in my garden,

eating seeds and insects, now undisturbed.

As leaves begin to fall, make a vow to keep them all on your property. If you do not garden, rake leaves from lawns under trees or shrubs where they will break down on their own. If you do garden, they can be vacuumed and shredded to make compost or mulch beds. I used to drive around and collect plastic bags of leaves from curbs. The bags have rightly been outlawed, but paper bags disintegrate too soon for my needs without a dry place like a large shed or car port to store them. It sometimes seems that every action has its downside.

Sow more carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, and turnips this month, also Asian greens and spinach, always more spinach to have it fresh in early spring. Start flowering sweet pea seeds outdoors also, another plant that needs to get a head-start in fall. And I will put in foxgloves once more despite human thieves pulling them up last spring. Whoever thought gardening was a peaceful enterprise?

October is a good month to prepare beds for spring planting. Unless you have hard ground to break for the first

time, try to avoid rototilling because it disturbs the network of healthy capillaries and organisms already in place; in addition, the tines will compact soil beneath the tiller even as it breaks up a shallow layer. If you are a new gardener, you may actually do very well your first year because your soil has not yet been "gardened." Spread any composted materials you have over the bed area, dampen it, and cover with a thick layer of leaves, straw, or even cardboard weighted down with some stones. Then just leave it alone until spring when you are ready to plant. A lot of good gardening is leaving things alone.

Because of the huge 2019 acorn crop and the die-off of squirrels in the months before, I do not exaggerate when I say I have pulled thousands of oak seedlings from the garden already this year—and this after shoveling piles of acorns off to woodlands first. The early seedlings were easy to pull, but now I recommend needle-nosed pliers as the best tool for removing deeply-rooted ones. Be sure to pinch the tiny tree right at soil level in order to pull out the whole root.

Dear Neighbors,

We hope you and your loved ones remain healthy and in good spirits during these challenging times. We want to share some good news relative to the housing market and give you an update on how the real estate industry is responding during the pandemic.

For the past several months, buyers have signed an increasing number of contracts to purchase homes – well above where the market was at this time last year.

CNBC notes there are no signs of slowing buyer demand this fall: "The usual summer slowdown in the housing market is not happening this year. Buyers continue to show strong demand, spurred by the new stay-at-home world of the Coronavirus and by record low mortgage rates."

Homeowners who are willing to sell their houses right now will play a big role in whether the trend continues. The market needs more homes to satisfy ongoing buyer demand. Maybe it's time to leverage your equity and move up while eager home shoppers are ready to purchase a house just like yours.

If you or anyone you know neighbors, co-workers, family members or friends are thinking about making a move please let me know.

Don't forget about our interest free Compass Concierge Program. Concierge helps you get your home ready for market by immediately providing the upfront costs for repairs and updates. This added value is a game changer for Sellers.

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The Land Trust presents our Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Carving Contest!

Greetings Lake Claire! In lieu of the Land Trust’s annual pumpkin-carving get-together, this year we’re somewhat grudgingly thrilled to announce our first (and hopefully only) **Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Fest**.

You’ll have to purchase your own pumpkin(s), and clean up your own mess afterward, but you can enter as many jack-o-lanterns as you want.

- Make your jack-o-lanterns as scary, funny, or creative as you can.

- This is not limited to neighbors in Lake Claire.
- Take a photo (preferably in the dark) and post it to our Facebook page and Instagram **by Friday, Oct. 30 at 9 p.m.**
- Stay tuned for updates on Facebook, Instagram, and *LCCLT.org*. Details will also go out to our email list. (Join the list via the website.)

We look forward to seeing Lake Claire glowing in the dark this Halloween!

Welcome to the Land Trust—Please Wear a Mask When Near Others!

by Stephen Wing

As a white American middle-class kid growing up in the suburbs, I took for granted that the world was put here purely for my benefit. According to psychologists, this is a normal attitude at a certain stage of child development, which we all outgrow sooner or later . . . in theory. Some kids not much older than I was outgrew it the hard way when they were drafted and shipped off to Vietnam. Others outgrow it by joining the workforce or becoming parents, ready or not. Still others never get to experience it at all due to skin color, poverty, abuse, etc.

I was more fortunate, a code word for privileged. From the suburbs I headed directly to college, which, like everything else in my world, was put there purely for my benefit. After graduation I hit the road and continued to explore that world of privilege and youthful indulgence. But before long my wanderings led to the global epicenter of youthful indulgence: the Rainbow Gathering, a temporary village re-created every summer in a different National Forest. Here was one more fabulous thing put here for my

benefit! But as I returned each summer, I began to see that the deeper joy of the Gathering came from joining the volunteers who served the needs of the whole. That change of attitude -- from indulging my personal whims to serving the needs of the whole -- is called becoming an adult. Like the Gathering, society cannot function unless young people grow up and become responsible adults.

Unfortunately, some people never do. What makes the concept of adulthood so confusing to kids today is that the ones in charge are the ones who never actually grew up. The billionaires who profit from ruining the Earth and its climate. The politicians who rubberstamp their abuses in return for campaign funding. The lobbyists and executives who grow rich off the poverty of others, without a thought for the future. That’s right: our planet’s future is in the hands of people who look like adults, but still believe the world was put here solely for their benefit. No wonder the kids are confused.

At the Land Trust, we’ve been patiently waiting for the swarms of young people who visit every day to catch on. Obviously, they see the Land Trust as something put here for their benefit. They don’t wonder who put it here, or how, but they seem quite clear on why. We board members were once kids ourselves, so we know they’ll get it when they’re

ready; no one can make them graduate to adulthood. But we could use their help: their youthful brawn, their innovative brains, their enthusiasm and openness. Most of all, we would love to see their appreciation for this land blossom into responsibility.

I think about all this when I see young people walking around the Land Trust blissfully unaware of the pandemic. It’s not their fault; people who appear to be adults are telling them on TV that the coronavirus is under control, the pandemic is a hoax, young people are immune, wearing a mask won’t help, stay-at-home orders are some left-wing conspiracy. It’s true that we are safer from infection outdoors, so the Land Trust is more popular than ever. But with so much irresponsible information going around, we finally decided to speak up. It’s impossible to stay six feet apart when passing someone on the path, after all, and community means caring. So we have joined the voices urging people to err on the side of caution. “Welcome to the Land Trust!” our signs say. “Please carry a mask and wear it when near others.” Of course, to young people who still believe the world was put here for their benefit, such a sign is one more example of the conspiracy to interfere with their fun -- or, as some older children put it, to limit their freedom.

In a way, the pandemic is a microcosm of our planetary crisis. A

handful of children who never grew up claim the right to maximize their profit at any cost. They live in total denial even as yet another wildfire ravages California and another hurricane devastates the Gulf Coast. Worst of all, the virus of denial is highly contagious, and our children are watching. If we fail to limit the freedom of unregulated profit, all of us will pay the price. Especially the kids who will inherit a ruined world.

What can we do about it? Vote, of course. Volunteer for a candidate, become a poll-worker, convince everyone we know to register and vote. And after the election, keep up the pressure. Make sure our elected officials know we expect them to act like the responsible adults we voted for. Meanwhile, if you visit the Land Trust, please carry a mask. And when you pass others on the path, put it on. Children of all ages are watching.

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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 kids who shared their perceptions of a culture of peace, Naomi Busk, Sawyer Klehr, Lily Schrager, and Owen Schrager. Read about them below in the article on Contest Winners. The extra-credit challenge in last month's is-

sue was to find the hidden peace dove and tell us what a culture of peace would look like. You can see their answers below, and for winning the extra-credit prize, each of them is invited to contribute to a future issue of the Clarion.

Thanks to all the Lake Claire children who read and contribute to the Kids Page each month. Add *your* creativity to theirs. Submit

your work to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **OCTOBER 15** for the next issue of the newspaper, which will be November. We hope this column is a good starting place for kids' future writing—and artistic—careers.

AND, kids AND adults: Don't miss the Halloween Costume Contest (See Page 1 for details)!

Children's Thoughts on a Culture of Peace

Naomi Busk (age 7) thinks a culture of peace would look like this: "No hate. Work hard. Everybody is treated fairly. Love is stronger than hate. Don't copy someone else. If people work hard, they should get a fair amount of money. Be brave, and make right decisions. Don't be selfish because the beauty is found inside."

Sawyer Klehr (age 7) says, "In a cul-

ture of peace, there would be no guns or weapons."

Lily Schrager (age 7) says, "A culture of peace is sharing and being nice to everyone."

Owen Schrager (with words of wisdom, though only 5 years old), said, "A culture of peace is beautiful, and there is love everywhere."

CONTEST WINNERS

Naomi Busk was the first person to find the hidden peace dove from the last issue. Naomi is seven years old and is in the second grade at Mary Lin Elementary School. She lives on Ridgewood Rd. She also won the extra credit prize (see at left for her wise observations). Naomi has never entered before! Sawyer Klehr came in second. Sawyer lives on Hardendorf, is 7 years old, and is in the 2nd grade at Mary Lin. He told us that he loves to read *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, play Beyblades, and study geography. In the future, he hopes to travel the world, especially to go to the great pyramids of Giza. Sawyer also won extra credit (see his comments to the left.) Two sets of siblings came in third and fourth by a hair! Coming in third, William and Robert McLamb, 7-year-olds, are in the first grade at Mary Lin and live on McLendon. And the fourth prize goes to Lily and Owen Schrager on Gordon Ave. Lily is seven years old and a 2nd grader, and Owen is five, and a Kindergartener, at Mary Lin. And Lily and Owen also won extra credit, and all of their thoughts are noted above.

Naomi, Sawyer, William, Robert, Lily and Owen, congrats to all six of you! You won the contest over the VAST numbers of Lake Claire kids who participate every month in the contest on the Clarion Kids' Page. Attention Lake Claire kids—Add your name to the list of winners! To all of those kids who didn't win, please do keep reading and keep playing. See our new contest at left.

Editor's note: I must confess. As a Boomer, I have no idea what "Beyblades" are!!! I assume the readers of this page are familiar with this!



Naomi Busk—1st-place winner



Sawyer Klehr—2nd place



Lily and Owen Schrager—4th place



Robert and William McLamb—3rd place

NEW CONTEST!

This month's hidden graphic commemorates Halloween. Isn't that what we always think about in October, even during this time of Covid? The winner will have your picture in the **November** Clarion. To win, send an e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number of the hidden graphic, and 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 something else. (Please tell your parents to send large picture files, 1mg+. They can choose the size on their phones.) For extra credit, tell us what you will do or already did differently for Halloween because of Covid. 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.**