



## Make Lake Claire more Beautiful, and Support the Land Trust

by Miriam Herbers

Good news! The Lake Claire Community Land Trust recently linked up with Brent and Becky Bulbs. Many gardeners know this family-owned and operated business for their reputation of selling quality bulbs. Brent and Becky have been selling bulbs while raising their children, and now their grandchildren, up in Virginia, since 1900, starting with Becky's grandfather.

Most of the daffodils around the Peace Pond at the Land Trust, directly behind my house, came from Brent and Becky. It has also been a secret pleasure of mine to plant (stealthily) "ninja bulbs" in friends' yards for a spring surprise. This year, as I was dreaming of spring flowers and reading through the B&B catalogue, I noticed a feature I had not seen before.

They offer 25% of sales to selected 501(c)3 nonprofits. I applied for the Land Trust, and we were accepted!

The amazing coincidence is that just this past February, Boyd Baker, our Leonardo neighbor and frequent writer in the Clarion, suggested that we dazzle the neighborhood with row-upon-row of brightly colored daffodils in front of every house, between the sidewalk and the street. Boyd's idea was to distinguish Lake Claire from other neighborhoods by our colorful display of daffodils in the spring. We have all had to describe our Lake Claire location as "next to Candler Park," or "near Decatur." Why not simply say "the neighborhood with all the flowers"? Next spring, perhaps we can say that—and help provide funds for the Land

Trust at the same time! There are three different ways to participate:

1. Visit [www.bloominbucks.com](http://www.bloominbucks.com), and select **Lake Claire Community Land Trust** in the drop-down list of eligible organizations. We will automatically earn 25% of all your purchases.

2. Order by phone, and tell them you'd like to support the **Lake Claire Community Land Trust**. You have to remember to tell them that every time you order.

3. Write **Lake Claire Community Land Trust** in the blank at the bottom of the order form in the Brent and Becky catalogue whenever you order.

The Land Trust will have another bulb sale this fall, probably in November. We have not decided which

bulbs to order yet, but it will be the ones we think will be popular. However, if you want to select and order on your own, Brent and Becky's paper catalogue has 82 pages of gorgeous bulbs—daffodils, tulips, alliums, anemones, and many others. (You can **view** at [brentandbeckybulbs.com](http://brentandbeckybulbs.com), but **order** from [www.bloominbucks.com](http://www.bloominbucks.com).) **No matter when you order, your bulbs will be sent to you at the correct time to plant them.** There is also a discount for ordering and paying before July 1.

You could order now while you are reading this so you won't forget, or wait and buy from the Land Trust in the fall. Either way you will be supporting the Land Trust—and beautifying our neighborhood. Thank you for both!

## Three-Year Changes to the APS Schedule?

by Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and Preschool–8th Grade Certified Teacher

On Friday, May 7, the Atlanta Public Schools sent an email to all households' in-boxes in the Atlanta Public Schools with a link to click. The link pulls up a letter from the APS superintendent, Dr. Lisa Herring, with the subject line, "National Teacher Appreciation Week, Val/Sal/STAR Awards, and Other Updates." You can imagine the surprise when, embedded in this letter of National Awards and deadlines, Dr. Herring writes:

### **Bell Schedules for SY2021-2022**

*Due to the pandemic, we know that our students experienced unfinished learning last school year and some levels of learning loss over the course of this school year. Research, however, suggests that extended learning time can exponentially help to address learning gaps and levels of learning loss. Our Academic Recovery Plan includes the implemen-*

**Cont. on p. 5**

## A Message From Our LCN President: How we use our Monies

Dear Neighbors,  
As we continue on in the second year of the pandemic, hopefully on the downswing at least in the U.S., let me say a few words about an important but much less dramatic topic. First, I want to thank those who pay the completely voluntary dues to the Lake Claire Neighbors. These actually make up the largest part of our fundraising that averages about \$3,000 per year—meaning 150 households contributing. We would definitely like more!

The annual sale of LCN merchandise comes to around \$800. Pen Sherwood, our VP for Fundraising, has recently launched a new link (see the tab Shop and Support at the top of the page of the Lake Claire website and Page 1 of last month's Clarion) in collaboration with FineArtAmerica to produce any number of items and designs the buyer wants, except banners and bumper stickers (which we sell on our own website). Because of

**Cont. on p. 3**

**THE CLARION WISHES EVERYONE IN LAKE CLAIRE A FANTASTIC SUMMER —  
STAY COOL, AND WE WILL BE BACK IN AUGUST!**



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[www.lakeclaire.org](http://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.*

Summer calendar items are as of press time at the end of May. We encourage you to check websites for summer theatre, festivals, and other safe activities that may open up. ~Editor

## June Calendar

- 1** This will play throughout June: *Working – A Musical*, at the Alliance Theatre, the “Under the Tent Series.” Includes songs by Lin-Manuel Miranda. For detailed info on all the artists and logistics, see [alliancetheatre.org/production/2020-21/working-a-musical](http://alliancetheatre.org/production/2020-21/working-a-musical). Also, to say thank you, Alliance offers many new digital works for **FREE!** See [website](http://www.alliancetheatre.org).
- 1** Horizon Theatre, part of the “Horizon at Home” series, free and you decide the day, anytime throughout the month: *Love M, A Letters Play*, by Clarinda Ross. Based on letters by mothers, sons, and AIDS activists. Watch free at [horizontheatre.com/love-m](http://horizontheatre.com/love-m).
- 1–6** Actors Express, Virtual Threshold New Play Festival, a line-up of new play readings by writers poised to make a mark. And coming June 12, *Walkathon*. For all info, see [www.actors-express.com](http://www.actors-express.com).
- 5** Next Bizarre Bazaar, noon to 6 p.m. Little 5 Points Center for Arts & Community, 1083 Austin Ave NE, corner of Euclid. Contact: [boyd@sumowriter.com](mailto:boyd@sumowriter.com).
- 11** Theatrical Outfit, starting June 11 and running through June 27, *Fires in the Mirror*, live streaming. A compelling view of racial & class conflict. Get info at [www.theatricaloutfit.org](http://www.theatricaloutfit.org)
- 12** Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday, see details in the article Page 9. 9 a.m.–noon. Led by Trees Atlanta. Pre-registration required/Space limited. Help maintain our beloved neighborhood old-growth forest.
- 17** Lake Claire monthly meeting, via Zoom. Always the third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m. To receive occasional informational e-mails about and happenings in Lake Claire, as well as reminders of upcoming meetings, please sign up at [lakeclaire.org/resources/news-cast-sign-up/](http://lakeclaire.org/resources/news-cast-sign-up/). Lake Claire’s current info can always be found on the website at [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org). You have to get your own pizza, though.

## July Calendar

- 1** For all virtual theatre offerings mentioned for June, check websites to see if they are still available in July.
- 10** Frazer Volunteer Workday, details above on June 12, on Page 9, AND [fraziercenter.org/about-us/events](http://fraziercenter.org/about-us/events).
- 15** Lake Claire monthly meeting, via Zoom. Details on June 17, above.
- 12** Fire Cider Workshop, at the Land Trust, 2–4 p.m. Fire Cider is a wellness and immune-boosting vinegar-based tonic made with superfoods. See complete details on Page 11.

Calendar entries for the Fall to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) by July 18.

## Lake Claire Artwork/Images

Dear Neighbors and Artist Friends,  
 I’m asking for the donation of your artwork or photographs as a fundraising effort for Lake Claire Neighbors. I’d like your permission to use them on the LCN website, in the Clarion, and for printing on merchandise to be offered for sale to the public. The art should be suitable for all ages, and we’re accepting children’s artwork, such as drawings, pets, flowers, gardens, etc. I’m particularly looking for :

- Photographs (color, b&w or sepia) of landmarks, landscapes, nature subjects, architectural structures, etc. in our neighborhood or nearby.
- Artwork that will inspire, uplift, be fun, have good vibes, or send positive messages.

The size of digital files should be from 1600 x 1200 pixel minimum.

See some of the works at [lake-claire.pixels.com](http://lake-claire.pixels.com). Please contact me for more info at [fun@lakeclaire.org](mailto:fun@lakeclaire.org).

Thank you,  
 Pen Sherwood—Your Fundraiser

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## Where Our Monies Go

*Continued from Page 1*

the COVID 19 crisis, we weren't able to have many fundraising events this year, such as the annual centennial Lake Claire BBQ and the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair, that in the past have provided somewhere between \$2,000–3,000 each year. However, we did have an innovative and wildly successful outdoor Arts and Crafts Fair last December, thanks to Annsley Klehr and Beth Damon, our education chair and newspaper editor, respectively, where neighbors sold items from their front yards and porches with live music at various homes, and food trucks catering to the large crowds that took advantage of a rare opportunity to enjoy mingling with their neighbors while responsibly wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Since this was experimental, there wasn't an expectation for making much, but thanks to a group of wonderful donors (Cynthia Baer, John Morgan, Hill Manufacturing, and BOND Credit Union) and 10% of artists' proceeds, we were able to cover expenses and make a nice donation to Mary Lin School. Another important source of revenue comes from the paid advertisements in the Clarion. After printing costs, the surplus comes to approximately \$2,000 per year. Periodically, we get



donations from film companies working in the neighborhood through the efforts of Jennifer Silver who is our representative to the City of Atlanta Film Department.

### So, what happens to the money?

It covers a variety of expenses for the LCN, such as our website, state incorporation fees, post office box, PayPal fees, purchasing merchandise for sale, printing costs for the Clifton Ministries fundraising flyers, and miscellaneous things such stationary, tips for pizza delivery (when we actually had live meetings), the annual Lake Claire Holiday Potluck dinner, etc. But it is important for you to know that by far the largest part

## 2021 COWABUNGA—La Bestia Won!

by Boyd Baker

Sunday, May 2 found stalwart competitors and a few dozen friends, neighbors, and race fans gather for the 2nd COWABUNGA gravity race in Lake Claire.

The first COWABUNGA was held seven years ago with the main rules being you had to build your own ride without a motor, you had to have some sort of brake system, and you had to have fun. That first year we had four Old Fogeys (20+) and three or four Youths (under 13) enter. There were three Youth competitors this year, who raced on a beautiful afternoon and managed to escape any injury or vehicle disasters. Candler Park's Abby Woodworth joined Lake Claire's Ian Cambas Stocking and Guthrie Nash as the official racers, though there were a few friends who jumped in to try out their rides. At first, they raced just the clock, and then they

went head-to-head with the other competitors. They offered up these stories of their first gravity race.

"We got the inspiration from Colombian soapbox racers that build cars with whatever materials they have on hand. They do a cool race in the mountains outside of the city of Medellin. The name of our car was La Bestia. It was decorated with skulls and bones," said Ian.

Abby said, "Once my dad convinced me that I was not going to die, it was super fun. I was iffy about racing but, after the first race, I was fine."

"My ride was designed to be aerodynamic like a bobsled. We called it the Flying Coffin," said Guthrie.

Ian said that the most fun part of the whole thing was building the car and seeing all the people who came

*Cont. on p. 6*

of our revenue goes for donations to local institutions. These are the Mary Lin Foundation, the Clifton Ministries, the Frazer Center, Christmas gift cards for the APD 6th precinct and the Atlanta firefighters, Sta. 12 on DeKalb Avenue, the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, Candler

Park/Lake Claire Security Patrol, the Candler Park and Freedom Park Conservancies, the Friends of Lake Claire Park, Olmsted Linear Park and the Ponce de Leon Public Library. Last year donations totaled \$5,800.

Be safe and well!  
Joe Agee

## Seeking Justice Together in Community

by Michelle Hettmann

In case you haven't met us yet, Neighborhood Church is a group of collaborative Christian neighbors building relationships for community and justice. Our mission is to work for restoration through relationship with God and community. As a United Methodist community, part of our vows once we get baptized are to "resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves." We use these to guide much of the work we do together.

One of the ways we actively live out these vows is through our justice work here in the Neighborhood Community. Our justice work is not limited to people who consider themselves a part of the Neighborhood Church community—everyone in the neighborhood is invited to join in these important initiatives as we seek justice and liberation for all people as well as address more immediate needs to feed, clothe, and love our neighbors. Here are some things we're celebrating this month:

- **Literacy = Liberation:** During our first quarter Literacy initiative, we collected over 400 new and gently

used books for the youth at Metropolitan Regional Youth Detention Center. There were so many books, they were able to share with four other youth facilities, as well. They haven't had their library updates since the '90s, so the chaplain expressed deep gratitude for this initiative. Thanks to everyone who donated!

- **Earth Day:** We had a fun Earth Day celebration and spent time preparing garden beds and picking up trash as a way to celebrate and recommit to the work of caring for creation. Be sure to take a look at the plants that are growing as you're walking past the church building this spring!

- **Blood Drives:** We've held monthly blood drives in our Sanctuary for almost a year now. One great way to help out is to volunteer to help with taking temperatures and checking people in when they arrive for the drive. You can always keep an eye out for appointments and donate blood if you're a person who is able to do so. We're glad to be able to share our space for this tangible way to share resources and save lives.

You can find upcoming blood drives at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), sponsor code: "neighborhood."

Here are ways you can get involved:

- **Resource Redistribution:** We are currently assembling Care Kits for individuals experiencing homelessness/transitional living within the LGBTQ+ community. Our goal is to collect enough items to make up 100 full bags. You can find a list of items that should be included at [neighborhoodchurchatl.com/justice](http://neighborhoodchurchatl.com/justice). All items can be dropped on the porch at 1517 McLendon Ave. through the end of June!

- **Wealth Redistribution:** The NC Solidarity Fund collects funds in an effort to express our love and support for businesses and organizations working for justice. We prioritize groups not only impacting the LGBTQ+ and Black community but specifically led by persons of the community as well. This quarter, our goal is to raise \$1,000.00 and we will support our friends at Southern Fried Queer Pride. You can donate today at [neighborhoodchurchatl.com/giving](http://neighborhoodchurchatl.com/giving).



- **Spread the Word:** If folks are looking for ways to get involved with justice work here in Atlanta, let them know they can keep an eye out on our social media (@neighborhoodchurchATL) and website for the latest updates and initiatives!

The work of seeking justice is a community effort, and we are grateful to get to be in relationship and community with so many great folks here in the Candler Park and Lake Claire area. We're so glad to be your neighbors!

*Michelle Hettmann is the Neighborhood Church Communications Consultant.*





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# APS Schedule Changes

## Continued from Page 1

tation of school-based intervention. To ensure that all elementary schools have time and can effectively implement these interventions, we are extending the elementary school day by 30 minutes for the next three school years. Working with our Operations and Transportation team, we have reviewed our bell schedule to accommodate the needs of our tiered transportation schedule.

For the 2021-2022 school year, our bell schedule will be as follows:

Elementary 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (changed from 8 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.);

Middle School 9:05 a.m. – 4:05 p.m. (no change);

High School 7:45 a.m. – 2:40 p.m. (changed from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

We will provide additional updates, including transportation pick-up and drop-off schedules soon.

You can read the full letter at this link: [tinyurl.com/yf4y8jpp](https://tinyurl.com/yf4y8jpp)

## Questions We Should Ask about this Plan

As we all know, chunks of academic time were lost during the pandemic, and it is important that we help students rebound from that loss. It is important APS is looking to address that issue, but we must ask ourselves:

- Why is that crucially important issue embedded in a weekly letter that came out Friday night, placed where most people will not read it?
- And why are they proposing a 3-year plan before their students' needs have been thoroughly assessed?
- Why is the "Academic Recovery Plan" not spelled out?
- Whose research, and what research are they referencing?

## Analyzing the APS Proposal

APS seems to have overlooked some best practices and research in their letter, that I outline here:

1. Where is any research that supports children working harder or later into the day would help them excel? There is no research that supports an extended day in isolation, and most research supports only struggling students, not all students. There is research that demonstrates that engagement of children in the classroom is more indicative of higher achievement than extended daily time. Children need time to be children, to socialize, (which was not as accessible in this pandemic year), play outside, and gain gross-motor skills. Their brains need rest—and not stress. Does that mean there is more to this plan?

2. Releasing Elementary schoolers an hour later means later activities and later bedtimes for little people, which research does not support for cognitive brain development.

3. What research has APS found that supports high schoolers' functioning at early hours of the morning? And how is it that the new high school schedule actually loses minutes of academic time?

4. What about families who count on high school older siblings to see their younger siblings off to school? How does this fit into the APS plan?

5. Before this letter came out, teachers had previously signed their contracts for the 2021-2022 school year. This means that it is impossible for teachers to get out of their contracts in which the terms have now been changed. It also means that teachers cannot transfer out of district now if they wanted to do so. Teachers could not have had input in this plan, which indicates that teachers did not get asked their needs, i.e., working second jobs, taking care of family, or family obligations, etc. Nor are the teachers now being compensated properly for the time added.

## How can we meet the needs of our children and also use best practices?

- APS can/should:
- hire extra elementary school teachers and/or support staff to **decrease class size** and **increase ENGAGEMENT** when learning in the classroom in order better to help struggling learners
  - identify struggling learners and target those who need extra academic time to have extended days
  - absolutely give no homework for an extended day
  - switch elementary and high school start times, with elementary school beginning at 7:45 a.m. and high school beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Please continue to share your concerns and thoughts and moments of brilliance, and please help APS hear the thoughtful voices of our community, and feel free to share these with:

The Clarion: [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org)  
Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair: [education@lakeclaire.org](mailto:education@lakeclaire.org)

APS Superintendent, Lisa Herring: [lisa.herring@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:lisa.herring@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

District 1 Atlanta Board of Education Member Leslie Grant: [grant@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:grant@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

# Response Letter from Dr. Herring

Below is the response (as of Clarion press time at the end of May) to letters such as Annsley Klehr's and others with concerns and questions about the changes. The Clarion hopes that as more concerned parents voice

concerns, APS will consider possibilities, such as implementing their plan as a temporary plan to assess results for the various ages of students before declaring it a longer-term plan..

=====

**From:** Atlanta Superintendent's Office <[suptoffice@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:suptoffice@atlanta.k12.ga.us)>

**Date:** May 12, 2021 at 12:42:17 PM

**Subject:** School Start Times

Good Afternoon Ms. Klehr,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concerns surrounding the changes to the bell schedule. It is important for our stakeholders and parents to understand the steps that we are taking to support student intervention and enrichment. The additional 30 minutes in the elementary school schedule allows for schools to have dedicated time to effectively implement the intervention/enrichment block for all students, while protecting the integrity of the other core (extended core) curriculum, and signature programming.

*[missing text in the email]* ... ways been at the forefront of every decision we have made. Historically, the district implemented extended day schedules (30 additional minutes) to accommodate the needs of students at various schools. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we know that our students experienced unfinished learning.

We also know that our students experienced some levels of learning loss over the course of this school year, and in addition, 60 percent of our students have not been physically present in our school buildings for over a year.

To address this need, the APS Ac-

ademic Recovery Plan was created. The plan includes three components:

1. Adoption and implementation of a new K-12 Universal Screener
  - a. A universal screener helps teachers identify students' learning strengths and needs in reading and mathematics. The district has not yet determined which new universal screener will be used.
2. Implementation of a Summer Academic Recovery Academy (ARA)
  - a. For more information, visit [www.atlantapublicschools.us/summeraps](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/summeraps).
3. Implementation of a required school-based intervention blocks, classes, or courses (enrichment/acceleration) at all schools for all schools:
  - a. Elementary School: minimum of 30 minutes, four days per week
  - b. Middle School: minimum of 45 minutes, four days per week
  - c. High School: minimum of 90 minutes, four days per week

This bell schedule which supports the intervention and enrichment blocks certainly presents a change to the normal school day. We have reviewed practices, engaged with stakeholder advisory groups, and weighted multiple options for this time sensitive decision. We will continue to engage with the community to further share the goal and commitment for addressing learning in the new year.

Yours in service,  
Dr. Herring

# Superintendent Town Hall Follow-Up

by Annsley Klehr, LCN Education Chair and Certified Pre-school-8 Teacher

On Thursday, May 20, at 5:30 p.m., Dr. Herring, Superintendent of APS, followed up her letter (which starts herein on Page 1) with a district-wide Town Hall. The town hall was broadcasted live on Facebook. One could post questions and comments in a running feed, but there was no face-to-face contact. Questions were picked through and answered by Herring's team.

The messaging was the same as in the email letter, **expressing that all changes would be in place for 3 years.** The only new information

communicated was that elementary teachers would receive \$3000 to supplement the extended day. K-12 will have a standardized assessment from the same company, and the remediation program will be a scripted program for all identified students by this new assessment. Those who did not need remediation would be put into Enrichment Class—an additional 30 minutes for elementary school, 40 minutes for middle school, and 90 minutes for high school.

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## Lake Claire Runner in Record-Setting Run

At a track meet organized by the Atlanta Track Club and sanctioned by USA Track & Field Association in Smyrna, Georgia, on May 8, Lake Claire resident Andrew Sherwood captained an octogenarian team that set a pending American Club Record of 20 minutes 2 seconds for the 4 x 800 meter relay race for men 80 and over.

The photo shows Andrew on the right. At "only" 81 years old, he was one of the younger members of the team!



## More from the Atlanta Track Club

The Atlanta Track Club has events for all ages, including the Peachtree Road Race. For example, Peachtree Junior is an event for kids of all ages to experience the pageantry, prestige, and excitement of the AJC Peachtree Road Race. It will be on July 2. See *at-*

*lantatrackclub.org* for offerings, including some in June and July. This year's Peachtree Junior will be "race by appointment," to provide a socially distant and safe experience, with two events, "The Mile," for 6-14, and "The Dash," for 6 years and under.

## COWABUNGA—La Bestia Won!

*Continued from Page 3*



out to watch, and Guthrie agreed.

"I got second in the timed races and second overall. I love gravity cart racing!" said Abby.

The contestants' creativity in designing the cars was amazing. As with any engineering project, once you put the vehicle to test, you realize all of the things that could make it better. "You can make cool, fun things out of scrap materials," said Ian. Guthrie said, "I want to do it again but would definitely change

my wheels. Tiny wheels are not good for going fast, and plastic wheels don't work great on roads."

What was their overall takeaway? They feel the need for speed and want more racers to join them! We're looking to find another date, maybe in the fall, to give it another try with more Old Fogeys, Teens, and Youth. Start searching for some good designs and design treasures that people leave by the side of the road!

**Please be careful when moving these friends off the road.**



**Holding them by their carapace is painful. ALWAYS PUT YOUR HAND UNDERNEATH, swoop, and support.**



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## Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

“In the good old summertime, in the good old summertime” was written by George Evans (music) and Ron Shields (lyrics) for the 1949 movie of the same name. The song continues, “strolling though the shady lanes with my baby, mine...” Well, we are about to take a deep dive into summer, and between climate change and Covid, it should be quite a ride.

But let us stroll through our own shady lanes; I was captivated by a post to Nextdoor by KK. “I wanted to share an observation with you. I’ve been walking through the neighborhood for many weeks now and have seen only 5 bees. I may be one of the few to notice. What I am seeing is mosquito companies raking in the big bucks as people continue willingly to poison their own properties. This poison floats through the air to property not owned by them.

“There are so many plants (see link below) that are natural, poison-free repellents. Killing our pollinators is only doing humans and our environment harm. I am asking you please to employ landscapers (or self gardening) using “mosquito plants” instead of extermination companies that poison our environment and kill the bees.” See link: [www.gardensign.com/plants/mosquito-repellent.html](http://www.gardensign.com/plants/mosquito-repellent.html).

Meredith W. has been having an interesting time. “First, she says, “I found a luna moth in our chicken coop last month. It had overwintered there and was gorgeous. I know a lot of people don’t like sweetgum trees but they are hosts for the luna moth, and we have three right next to the coop. Totally worth all those little balls on the ground, if you ask me.

“I’ve seen bunnies running around with nesting materials, and a house wren moved some twigs into our bluebird house and sat on top, singing his heart out for days, I assume to let any eligible females know that he and the nest were available. I also saw a green anole (a tree-dwelling species of anole lizard) on a post in our yard doing his impressive display of push-ups and bright orange/pink balloon inflation. And, three vultures were eating a bunny that had gotten hit by a car in the middle of the road. Cars were driving by right next to them, so I pulled the bunny off to the

side. It was a good reminder to slow down and keep an eye out for critters when driving, as well as to pull any who are killed off the road. AWARE says many of the raptor injuries they treat are for birds that are hit by cars as they try to eat roadkill. Also a good reminder not to throw food out the car window, as it endangers not only the animals that try to eat it, but the animals that might try to eat those animals, as well.

“I saw the owlets at Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve when they were getting ready to fledge, and they were adorable. And right now there are four groups of goslings at Emory’s Lullwater Park, all of different ages. They’re adorable. Finally, this weekend I saw a giant leopard moth for the first time. It was stunning. I’ve never seen anything like it (photo here).

“As for flora, the rain caused the creek in our yard to flood, carrying off a wax myrtle, inkberry, and some yellow-root I’d planted (ironically) to hold the creek banks in place. Mother Nature has her own plans, which don’t always coincide with mine.”

I, Flora Fauna, had two catbirds rush into my backyard just as I changed chairs to get out of the sunlight. Both landed on my birdbath. One flew away immediately. The other lingered, eyeing my dog and me. Finally the bird decided to take a bath. He sat in the water like a duck, then began to fluff himself up and splash water all over. What fun. And I have a pair. I believe they nest in bushes, of which I have many. Meow.

Cher B, who walks my little dog Nattie, AKA, Natasha, told me an interesting wildlife tale. Last week while walking said little dog, Cher saw a big squirrel eating some seeds on the ground. A little brown bird (that’s what birders call all brown birds they don’t quite recognize) walked up bravely behind the squirrel and beaked it in the butt. At the same time a larger bird dive-bombed the squirrel from the front. The double whammy worked, and the squirrel discretely exited the scene.

Miriam H. has, in addition to two grandchildren, “at least two bunnies in my yard. I like them, but I hope they will stay away from my tomatoes.”



Giant leopard moth

Frank W. writes “I saw a small group of Canadian geese flying far overhead. Closer to the ground but still high up, I saw several bats flying above my house on Indiana on a gorgeous morning in early May. Also in early May, I saw a hawk or owl, very large, flying about 30 feet off the ground, who perched on the top of a telephone pole on Arizona for a while. On ground level I saw a cardinal father feed his fledgling baby that was about half his size, but with short feathers and tail; a baby chipmunk made him jump up into the tea olive tree. I got a good look at the baby cardinal’s head and could see it had much shorter head feathers and a very cute little baby bird face. I also saw a mother and father robin feeding their baby fledgling in the same tea olive tree, on branches not too close to the ground to assist escape from predatory cats. I have also seen squirrels using my squirrel house on cold April and May mornings.”

Andrew S reports, “We had a rose-breasted grosbeak at our feeder on Harold Avenue for the first time this year. Other colorful visitors on the feeder this week included bluebirds, cardinals, goldfinches, and downy and red-bellied woodpeckers. A young cottontail rabbit has been enjoying the clover on our lawn early on recent mornings, while a larger one kept cautiously to the other side of the street.”



Rose-breasted Grosbeak, photo by Pen Sherwood



Well, folks, have a happy summer, and if you need something to do, remember there are many environmental holidays to celebrate: June 5, National Trails Day and World Environment Day; June 15, Global Wind Day; and June 16 is World Sea Turtle Day. In July, there are Shark Awareness Day and World Orca Day, both on July 14, and World Snake Day is on July 16.

PS: Flora always welcomes contributions to Wild. Please send them to my excellent assistant, C. Vanderschaaf, c/o me at: [floweryfauna@gmail.com](mailto:floweryfauna@gmail.com).

## Live Bird-Friendly in Lake Claire

Birds are in trouble, but we can help bring them back. Live bird-friendly by starting with these seven ways to make our homes and lifestyles better for birds:

- Turn lights out, and treat windows to keep birds safe.
- Perhaps feasible for some: Keep cats indoors to save some of the birds. (Bonus: coyotes won’t get ‘em.)
- Plant native plants in order to shelter and nourish birds.
- Don’t use pesticides!-- for a bird-friendly and a bee-friendly home.
- Avoid single-use plastics to protect birds --and the environment.
- Share your sightings on eBird. More information on this: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSSxt5NHrtQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSSxt5NHrtQ)

Clarion suggestion: Join Facebook group

“END TOXIC YARDS,” committed to stopping the poisoning of our neighborhoods,

[www.facebook.com/groups/252017342965086](http://www.facebook.com/groups/252017342965086)



# Clifton Sanctuary Ministries



You can make a difference for the guests at CSM. There are many ways to get involved, including providing meals, either cooking/preparing/serving on-site or dropping off food; health professionals could provide time to educate the guests about health and wellness; and professionals and former professionals could help to prepare guests for job success. So think about whether you have time to cook a meal, do some

landscaping, plant some flowers, wash some clothes, do an art project with guests, take a guest to the doctor, make some lunch bags, or teach someone to read or use the computer. Please contact CSM to learn more about their commitment to success and the role you can play, by clicking the link at [www.cliftonsanctuary.com/volunteer-opportunities](http://www.cliftonsanctuary.com/volunteer-opportunities). You can make a difference—and have fun!

# Dues for Lake Claire

Suggested annual neighborhood dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire banners are \$45; a package deal of dues/banner is only \$60! Have you ever wondered what happens with your dues? Please see the President's Message on Page 1.

Please specify when you pay dues if you do not wish to be listed in the newspaper. Pay at [lakeclaire.org](http://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 these and others who have paid dues and/or contributed your time to our great neighborhood, Lake Claire!

Since the May Clarion, the following folks paid dues.

- Bonnie Mitchell Lunceford
- Judy Hammack
- Renata Creekmur
- Sarah Jane Reedy
- Tiffany Girten
- George Engelhard
- Kelly Comiskey
- Sherry Neal
- Mary Sloop

Pay at [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) via the link OR with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer, Post Office Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107.



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





## Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

### Graduations:

Congratulations again to our Lake Claire grads, who studied and graduated in challenging times!!

### JUNE Birthdays:

- 6/3 Yoni Williams—turns 9 (I think), Harold Ave., and proud Grandma on Delaware Ave
- 6/7 Pen Sherwood, Harold Ave.
- 6/12 Steve Lamb, Delaware Ave.
- 6/12 Happy birthday, Craig Allen, Harold
- 6/15 Kathi Kelley, Delaware Avenue (the Clarion loves you! Apologies we missed you on other years, but this is a “big-un,” right? Hint, friends, starts with a “6.”)
- 6/19 Zoe Kaiser turns 8, Hardendorf
- 6/20 Sharon Doochin, Harold
- 6/21 Hayden Pittman, turning 9, Marlbrook
- 6/28 Shawn Gillespy’s 18th birthday, Marlbrook
- 6/28 Wendy Baker, happy birthday! Leonardo

### JUNE anniversaries

- 6/23 Sue McAvoy & Bill McKinnon — Leonardo (3 yrs went by in a flash!!)
- 6/27 Wendy and Boyd Baker — 20+ Leonardo (maybe that went by in a flash, as well!)

### JULY Birthdays:

- 7/3 Brandon Bransford, Palifox
- 7/6 Missy Urda, Harold
- 7/10 Happy b’day to the Clarion’s buddy, Mike McGill, 14 years old!!!!—Delaware Ave.
- 7/17 Happy b’day to Colin Calderera, Hardendorf.
- 7/24 Jason Weidert, Harold
- 7/29 Georgie Rogovin, Hardendorf, turns 6

Send us life cycle changes for the next issue—August!—**help make this series inclusive (editor@lakeclaire.org) by JULY 18.**

## Superintendent Town Hall

### Continued from Page 5

In addition, a recent APS survey went out to ask the community’s input for a preferred school start time schedule:

#### Current Schedule

- Elementary: 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- High: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Middle: 9:05 a.m. – 4:05 p.m.

#### Scenario 1: (This is the one they gave in the email.)

- Elementary: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- High: 7:45 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Middle: 9:05 a.m.- 4:05 p.m.

#### Scenario 2:

- Elementary: 7:45 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.
- High: 8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
- Middle: 9:15 a.m.- 4:15 p.m.

Many questions were left unanswered, included the following:

- whether or not this assessment will replace any of the others was not answered.
- where there is research that sup-

## Frazer Center

The Frazer Center and Trees Atlanta continue their ongoing, long-term project of restoring Frazer’s precious old-growth forest, with a volunteer work day on June 12, 9 a.m. to noon. No experience is necessary. Staff will provide training and guidance. Projects may include: removal of exotic invasive plants; mulching and trail maintenance; replanting of native species; erosion control. Teens 13-17 are welcome to volunteer if accompanied by an adult. Frazer Center relies heavily on volunteers to help maintain the Frazer old-growth forest. Thank you for caring about our

neighborhood greenspace and inclusive communities.

And, protecting and nurturing the native growth in the forest is one reason that dogs must be leashed at all times when in Frazer Forest. Unleashed dogs are a primary spreader of invasive seeds, especially Japanese chaff flower. Unleashed dogs have also created spur trails throughout the forest, contributing to erosion and the suppression of native species—plus, terrorizing the dogs appropriately on leashes. Thank you for respecting this request. Enjoy the Frazer Woods, Lake Claire friends—both human and canine!

## Keeping an Eye on the Crime and the Time: Lake Claire Security Report

by Miriam Herbers



I previously mentioned the City of Atlanta’s 311 line partnership with the Policing Alternatives & Diversion Initiative (PAD) to accept referrals for community concerns involving unmet mental health needs, substance use, and extreme poverty? When a PAD 311 Community Referral is made, a PAD response team travels to the area to meet individuals, address their immediate needs, and provide ongoing support if needed. All of PAD’s services are consent-based, which means they never transport or engage with someone against his or her will. However, the teams are creative and persistent, and they work hard to gain the trust of individuals so we can begin to

work together. To learn more, please visit [atlantapad.org](http://atlantapad.org).

The success of this new resource depends on strong connections with community members. To get input from as many as possible, they have a short survey. Go to Atl 311 and give any feedback about ways to increase this service, give information about our neighborhood, and other ideas to increase well being and safety. Your input will help shape our services and future engagement with your community. This survey will take only 5-10 minutes, and all responses are anonymous.

## A Walk Through Lake Claire’s History

Newcomers to Lake Claire may find the Clarion Archives of some interest. And for longer-term residents, as well, it is fun to see the neighbor-

hood history and concerns, and identify neighbors and activists from the past. Go to [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) to view our publications, starting in 2000.

ports extending desk work for elementary schoolers was not answered.

- how we can be closing a gap when we are enriching some kids and remediating others?
- the purpose of GATE if there is an extra 30 minutes of enrichment for those who do not qualify for remediation
- where is the research that supports taking away art, music, and connections classes from Middle

Schoolers?!

- where there is research that supports a three-year plan?

Please feel free to share your questions, comments, and concerns to your Atlanta Board of Education Members: APS Superintendent, Lisa Herring ([lisa.herring@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:lisa.herring@atlanta.k12.ga.us)) and District 1 Atlanta Board of Education Member Leslie Grant ([grant@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:grant@atlanta.k12.ga.us)).



# June into August in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton, [knowltonew@earthlink.net](mailto:knowltonew@earthlink.net)

Last year was so quiet and rained so prolifically that we cannot expect its delights a second summer. The major advice a Southern gardener needs now, as our early summer (mid-May – June) arrives, is to weed, water, mulch, and pick both crops and pests.

Weeds are easy to pull or hoe when they are small. Mulch will prevent or slow them down: wheat straw or shredded leaves for vegetables and flowers and pine straw or small pine nuggets for large plants. Avoid mulch made from free-growing forests as opposed to lumber companies or pine tree farms. Try to do your watering deeply and less often, early in the morning, not under beating sun. If you do not pick vegetables as they ripen, the plant will cease production, thinking it has produced all the seeds it needs for future generations. With flowers, this is called dead-heading. If you are not an early bird, aim to work in shade or after the sun sets.

And while you hand-water or pick, scan the area for insects or diseases that appear to be endangering your plants. I find insects rarely a problem anymore now that there are so few of them—I have not found a Mexican bean beetle in years, for instance. The few cabbage moths I see now appear to have some neurological problem that

prevents them from settling down to egg-laying. Really my last nemesis is the squash vine borer who lives safely inside the stalk, munching away until the plant collapses. Of course, every pesticide added to your garden will affect everything alive in the soil, in the air, on other plants, and around your friends. Most often, some other insect or bird will take care of the problem. Squishing the offender or removing it with a blast from the hose also works. Black spot and molds can respond to more air space around the plant, picking off affected leaves, or switching to a variety less prone to problems.

Find a private nook in your garden to sit and order your spring and summer bulbs. By doing this now, you get the best selections and prices from reputable companies who will ship spring bloomers to you in late fall. First on my list is Brent and Becky's Bulbs, and see Miriam's article on Page 1, telling us how we can help the Land Trust as well as get the bulbs we want. Originally named the Daffodil Mart, B & B's is a Virginia company that carries a wide selection of spring bloomers, including camassia (native to the Pacific NW and consumed by its early inhabitants), chionodoxa, crocuses (two pages), cyclamen, galanthus (snowdrop), hyacinthoides (wood

hyacinth), ipheion (a dreadful spreader), Dutch and dwarf iris, muscari (grape hyacinth), nectaroscordum, and scilla, all tiny bulbs with tiny prices that you can easily squeeze into our small gardens. And of course, they carry narcissus (jonquils, daffodils), tulips, hyacinths, and lilies.

Another excellent company is John Scheepers in Connecticut that also carries many of those bulbs. Their only downside is that they stop shipping by early November, so you must refrigerate your bulbs until planting time, now verging on early December. Tulips average \$1 apiece, and daffodils (which are perennial) even more. Don't waste your money on "deals" advertised on the backs of magazines or buy dried up or soft bulbs that have been sitting in stores all fall.

Also consider ordering some German iris for August planting, and they will bloom next April. I have used Schreiner's near Salem, Oregon, almost 100 years old, several times. They maintain some of the historical irises and also carry their own hybrids on 200 acres of farm. I still grow their Hello Darkness and the peach-colored Beverly Sills. The best blue for me was Pacific Panorama, but it appears to be out of stock every site I checked.

The large iris require a lot of sun and will not bloom without it. Fortunately, healthy iris have attractive, stiff, sword-shaped leaves for the eleven months not in bloom. The rhizomes, not bulbs, will lie almost along the top of our heavy soil with their roots extending into it and should not be mulched with anything smaller than bark, or they tend towards rot. Their major pest is the iris borer, which shows its presence by riddling rhizomes with holes and weakening stems; a little attention and clean-up can keep your iris bed healthy for years, however. After their bloom, I plant annuals around and through them for color the rest of the growing season.

July is a good time to seed both perennial and biannual flowers and cool weather vegetables indoors. Fill four-inch pots with germinating soil, a fine, light soil that does not contain fertilizer because seeds do not need that to germinate and put out their first few leaves. Follow sowing directions on the package for planting depth, watering, and heat and light requirements. Some perennials need a chilling period that you can supply in your refrigerator. Planted out in October, they are fine productive plants by spring.



↑ AFTER / BEFORE →

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# Lake Claire Community Land Trust Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 12, 1 p.m. (on Zoom) All invited!

In 1980, a small group of neighbors began meeting informally to discuss a tract of uninhabited land along Dekalb Avenue. Last year marked 40 years since the idea of a Land Trust in Lake Claire was hatched in that series of meetings, and 35 years since those young families pooled their savings and bought the land. Unfortunately the coronavirus pre-empted our commemoration of this amazing milestone, and we were forced to cancel last year's Annual Meeting. But on June 12, after a year of suspend-

ed events and a padlocked restroom, we will pick up where we left off to celebrate 41 years (!) of community and nature preservation. As always, all our neighbors and friends are invited.

Though we have hopefully made it through the worst of the pandemic, to be on the safe side, we will be holding the celebration on Zoom. Everyone on our email list will receive the link. Join the list by clicking "Subscribe" at the top of any page of our website, [LCCLT.org](http://LCCLT.org), or email us directly at

[info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org). Our agenda will include introducing our new Board members and officers, a 10-minute video telling the Land Trust story, reports from each of our newly re-structured committees, a financial update from our Treasurer, and an opportunity for questions and feedback. Please join us to learn more about your neighborhood greenspace and to share your ideas and inspirations for our future together. See you in cyber-greenspace!



## Camera Class for Kids Visits the Land Trust!

Former elementary school art teacher and professional photographer Brook Hewitt has been teaching and working with kids since she was a kid herself. Now she brings her "Camera Class for Kids" to the Land Trust, on Sunday, June 27, 2 – 3:30 p.m. (\$15), for 2nd-5th grades (ages 7 and up). Cameras and equipment will be provided.

Geared toward "tweens," this fun nature photography class teaches kids the basics of how cameras work and the "rules" of photography. They'll also explore fun tricks and hacks as well as how to incorporate



the elements of art and science into their photography. They even get to print a picture on Hewitt's portable printer.

Hewitt is the author of the children's photography book *Max and the Attitude Adjustment* and the forthcoming *Photography Playground*. She has taught photography and photojournalism at the Boys and Girls Club of Atlanta, Westminster Art and Science Camp, The Main Street School of Art, Discovery Montessori, Pace Academy, Freedom Park Preschool and several art studios. To register: [cameraclassforkids@gmail.com](mailto:cameraclassforkids@gmail.com), and for more information: [www.cameraclassforkids.com](http://www.cameraclassforkids.com).

## Land Trust Plant Sale

The first annual Land Trust Plant Sale was a huge success, featuring plants donated by neighbors from their yards and tomato plants purchased from a wholesale nursery. Thanks to all who donated, all who stopped by to browse, and special kudos to the Weather Committee! We hope to see you next year. (And please, read Miriam Herbers's article on Page 1 regarding the next sale.)

## Jerry Jam Update

by Frani Green

Greetings Lake Clarions and Land Trust Lovers!

The Land Trust is our Oasis in the City, and to keep it that way, we usually have events to help raise funds for the maintenance of our sacred Land. We have had many inquiries as to when these events will happen, and at every monthly meeting our Board of Directors has been discussing this. There have been thoughts about having events at another venue, but after much discussion and consideration, we believe that our first post-COVID event should be on the Land Trust.

Therefore, we are happy to announce that our grand re-opening

event at the Land Trust will be our Fall Fest/Jerry Jam on Saturday, October 9. We have much to plan and prepare, but please keep your social calendar open for that date because by then, hopefully, all restrictions will be released, and more importantly, when it feels safe to gather together to dance and play again as a community. We are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you there!

Meanwhile, we still need support from our neighbors for monetary purposes, since the maintenance of the land is our number one priority. Magic comes at a cost! Please donate and/or volunteer. We always need help.

## Reminder about Big Lou

Please remember: do not pick random leaves or berries from the Land Trust for Big Lou. He gets very sick from improper feeding, most recently last month. To complicate matters, his veterinarian is a special large-animal vet who drives from Lithonia. He should eat **only**:

**WHOLE** — grapes, blueberries, strawberries, blackberries, peanuts (shelled),

## How to Make Fire Cider



*Discover the satisfying and empowering experience of creating wellness through plants.*

Fire Cider offers a workshop on Saturday, July 24, 2 – 4 p.m. Fire Cider is an overall wellness and immune-

boosting vinegar-based tonic made with "superfoods," such as turmeric, ginger, garlic, horseradish, onion, and many other pungent and healing ingredients you may find in most kitchens. It can be used as a daily addition to wellness regimens to support overall vitality and the immune system. The local wellness justice collective Herbalista Health Network is offering this educational hands-on workshop to our community at a nominal cost in exchange for hosting a Fire Cider class for disadvantaged and low-income folks. Their mission statement reads, in part: "Herbalista recognizes healthcare as a fundamental human right. We sponsor health services and herbal education through a variety of programs, empowering folks to care for themselves and their neighbors."

**CHOPPED UP BITE-SIZED** — apples, melon (he doesn't like watermelon), lettuce (any kind), spinach, celery, and green beans.

Please, folks, better not to feed him at all! Any questions? Contact the emu keeper: Dawn Aura, 678-643-5671, [dawnaura12@gmail.com](mailto:dawnaura12@gmail.com).





# LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/writers/artists to participate. For these two months we feature two talented children. For June, Estelle Legee has written useful information on what to do when bored. Estelle is ten years old and a fifth grader

at Mary Lin who lives on Lake Claire Court. For July, Lorelei Farnsworth a short piece on the Smoky Mountains National Park and illustrated it. Lorelei is age 7 and lives on Arizona Avenue. Lorelei is in first grade at Mary Lin. She loves reading and drawing.

We thank all the Lake Claire children who read and contribute to the Kids' Page each month. Add your creativity to this page! Submit your work or your suggestions to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), by **JULY 15** for the next issue of the newspaper, which will be August.



Estelle, Our June Featured Writer

## What to do When You're Bored

by Estelle Legee

When you get bored, and can't think of anything to do, here are a few recommendations to do on and offline: Minecraft, Roblox, reading, and drawing.

First, I want to talk about Minecraft. This is probably my favorite thing on screens. I love this game because I love to build and want to be an engineer when I grow up. Minecraft has two game modes, survival and creative. I find it hard to choose a favorite between the two because both are equally fun. In Creative, you can build with any single block, or material you want. In Survival you have to craft and enchant items to build or create.

I don't play Roblox, but I know a lot about it from watching my brother talk about it to his friends and me. From my friends, I also know that Roblox allows you to meet and interact with other gamers. Some popular games are; Adopt Me, Meep City, and Royal High. My favorite games are Tycoons and Obbies. My brother's favorite games are Tropical Resort Tycoon, Piggy, Imposter, Jailbreak, and The Impossible Obby.

When your parents tell you to get off devices, reading is the best thing to do. My favorite book is *Auggie and Me*, by R. J. Palacio. Some good books to read are *The Hunger Games*, *All the Impossible Things*, and *Wonder*. Reading is definitely fun, but you need to take breaks every now and then. I love bookstores. You can roam around in them for hours. My favorite bookstore in Atlanta and Decatur is Eagle Eye Bookshop. Eagle Eye is located in North Decatur Plaza.

Drawing is one of my favorite things to do. There are so many things you can draw, but my favorite things to draw are birds. I love all types of birds, but owls are my favorite. I love to watch birds in

## The Great Smoky Mountains National Park

by Lorelei Farnsworth

Theodore Roosevelt created the national parks to protect the land. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee is one of them. They are called that because it's foggy. The Great Smoky Mountains are beautiful. You get to go on hikes, and you can see bears and wild turkeys. There are rivers and streams too. I have been to the Great Smoky Mountains before. I love it so much! You should visit this summer!



Lorelei, Our July Featured Writer



Arden

## Contest Winners

We had two contest winners this month. Arden Joiner-Clark was first, by a hair. Arden is 7 years old and a first-grade student at Paideia who lives on Claire Drive. The graphic illustrated Screen-Free Week last month, and the extra credit prize was to say what it means to you or what you would do to celebrate. Arden said, "I'm going to like Screen-Free Week because we have a family thing called 'Screen-Free Saturday.' On screen-free days I like to play board games, read books, and work in the garden with my parents.

Estelle Legee came in a close second in finding the family reading together. Estelle is also one of the featured writers this time, and we think she is the first-ever winner from Lake Claire Court! Congrats, Arden and Estelle, and thanks for participating. **Attention other Lake Claire kids**—Add your name to the winners' list in the future; please do keep reading this page and playing. The new contest is to the right.

my backyard and take pics to draw them. Another thing that is fun to draw are bananas. I love drawing these because you can just make the shape into any round thing. We have a hill as a backyard, and I get to see lots of unique birds. This is special to me because lots of people don't get to see these won-

## New Contest

**Summer!** Summer has many environmental days, including National Trails Day, World Environment Day, Global Wind Day, Shark Awareness Day, World Orca Day (See "Wild," page 7 for the dates), and June 16 is World Sea Turtle Day. In honor of that, find something about turtles in this issue, then send your guess in an e-mail to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), identifying the page number where you find it, and including your name, age, school, street, and grade, and a photo of yourself. **(Please tell your parents to send large picture files, 1mb+.) Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row.** For extra credit, tell us how you help improve the environment. The extra-credit prize is that you'll be a featured writer/artist in a future Lake Claire Clarion with your original work. **The deadline is JULY 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**

ders on a daily basis. My hill has lots of squirrels. My dad dislikes squirrels, so he's glad when hawks swoop down and pick them up in their beaks.

When all else fails, go to CPM (Candler Park Market) and buy some candy.