



Annual Lake Claire Halloween Parade Returns!

The annual Lake Claire Parade is one of Lake Claire's signature events: a fun, informal get-together, where the entire neighborhood dresses up, and parades a few blocks to Lake Claire Park, where we hang out, and have fun and treats. We were so sorry to cancel last year because of Covid. So, grab your kids (if applicable) and a cocktail (if desired),

and come to join us **Saturday, October 30!** We gather between 4:30 and 4:45 p.m. on Marlbrook Drive, east of Ridgewood, and we parade at 5 p.m. sharp. We can't do it without neighborhood help, so please sign up to bring treats, "man" the tables, help with Covid protocols, and otherwise assist—remind your high school students that this can count toward

community service required hours.

We'll post a sign-up link later, but for now, just drop us a line at halloween@lakeclaire.org if you'd like to be involved. Is your business interested in being a sponsor? We welcome local businesses to donate goods (snacks or drinks) or bring a table.

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Do You Really Think This is Just a Drill?

by Boyd Baker

Life is the same as it ever was. If you keep up with the news and world events, life seems to be spinning out of control on so many levels. Between the pandemic, wildfires, misinforming social media, hurricanes, religious wars, and political chaos, it makes one wonder what kind of world we are leaving for future generations.

Remember the radio and TV notifications that interrupt normal programming with something like "This is a test. This is just a test of the Emergency Broadcast System. In the case of an emergency, we'd tell you what to do"? Seems like a good way to reach many folks in an emergency. Do you feel like we're living an emergency?

Other than alien attack or nuclear bombardment, I feel like the alarm bells need to be ringing now. Com-

ing together for the common good is tough, as we've learned. But that doesn't mean that we should throw in the towel, does it?

As I prepared to write this morning, this blog post from Seth Godin (seths.blog) crossed my screen:

We are not astronomers.

Unlike most of the sciences, astronomy is always done at a distance. You can see the stars, but you can't do anything about them.

Sometimes the media would like us to believe that we're all astronomers, simply passive witnesses in a world out of our control.

But the world is never out of our influence.

Remembrance, connection, possibility, invention, empathy, insight, correction, care and justice are all up to us.

We not only observe, but we make changes happen. Our participation (or apathy) leads to a different future.

The ocean is made of drops. And the drops are up to us. Who else is going to care enough to make an impact?

Great things have been achieved and changed in this world, but it only happens when one person decides to try. He or she then gathers friends, find solutions, and guides folks to a better place. This seldom happens in a news cycle or even in a year or two—but it has happened time and time again! Don't you think it can happen again?

I've felt for too long that we all have been overwhelmed with chaos

Cont. on p. 9

Possibility of Lake Claire Arts & Crafts Sale

by Beth Damon
and Annsley Klehr

In December 2020, we spearheaded the Lake Claire Arts and Crafts Sale. At about this time last year, we put out a call for artists/crafters/bakers, etc. for this annual arts and crafts sale traditionally held in December (inside) that we turned into a porch fest/walking tour around Lake Claire. For those who weren't there/don't know about it, we had artists/vendors/businesses/food trucks located on porches of homes and other outside places throughout the Lake Claire neighborhood, and we distributed a walking tour map. Two other neighborhoods that we know of liked the idea and did the same thing subsequently, and we already know that Virginia Highland will be doing it again the first week of December this year.

Fast forward to this year: At present, we are weighing the pros and cons of doing this again. There are three main factors we will consider. (1) We want to gauge the interest of artists (including your willingness to have people on your porches). (2) Importantly, we want to decide what would be the appropriate and safe thing to do considering the Covid situation/protocols. (3) Finally, if there is a high level of interest, and it seems that it would not be irresponsible to do it considering Covid numbers, we would need some helpers to whom we would assign tasks.

To that end, we would appreciate your thoughts regarding all of the above. Artists, please let us know if you would participate; people with some time or special skills, let us know if you would be willing to handle some tasks that fit your expertise and our needs; and others, let us know if you would feel comfortable

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

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

Calendar items are as of press time mid-September. We encourage you to check websites for other safe activities. Live music is highlighted on Page 5, and please check Page 11 for Lake Claire Land Trust events. ~Editor

October Calendar

1 Theatrical Outfit, *An Iliad*. Runs through October 10. See www.theatricaloutfit.org/boxoffice/season-subscriptions/ for tix and 2021-2022 season info. Lots of special packages.

1 (Not sure end date as of Clarion publication) Horizon Theatre, continuing virtual series, see www.horizontheatre.com/.

1-17 Actor's Express Theatre Company, *Heathers*, a musical. See www.actors-express.com.

2 & 3 Candler Park Fall Fest, begins Sat. 10 a.m., ends Sunday 7p.m. See candlerparkmusicfestival.com.

15 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/. Lake Claire's current info at lakeclaire.org.

24 Sunday afternoon 2-4 p.m., Hungry Hippo Food Truck in Lake Claire! Combining the flavors of Haiti and the American South, the truck will be on Connecticut Ave., across from the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (CSM) at the corner with Delaware Ave. CSM has given us permission for people to park there long enough to order and pick-up your food. If full, park on Connecticut elsewhere, but not Delaware, please. You can pre-order on their website for quicker service, at hungryhippoeats.com. "To die for"—their not-to-be-missed banana pudding!

Send us stuff for November & December!! To editor@lakeclaire.org.

Lake Claire Leadership October Nominations

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are in November. According to our by-laws, 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.



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Social Distancing at Midtown

by Ally Bliss

After a year of virtual school and the return to in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year, not all students are following the Covid-19 social distancing guidelines put in place by the administration.

As of August 27, Midtown has reported 12 students who have tested positive for Covid-19. This has sparked concern within the Midtown community and has made people question if the guidelines put in place will be effective. “The virus is out of control,” school nurse Wanda Taylor said. “When students bunch up in the halls and don’t wear their masks, it is frustrating. The students are causing this problem and we [the administration] are trying to help you.”

One of the requirements put in place by the administration includes an indoor mask mandate. When students are outdoors or eating, they can take their masks off, but are required to remain at least three feet apart from one another. While these requirements seem reasonable and effective, some students are concerned about how the school population is following these guidelines.

“I feel like there is going to be a bump in cases,” junior Aidan Walls said. “It’s hard to trace the students in each classroom. If I get Covid-19 and go from one class to another, I don’t know who I will come in contact with on the way to my next class. That makes me nervous.”

Midtown has a large student body of approximately 1,550 students, which contributes to congested hallways and stairwells. Returning to in-person school has challenged social distancing guidelines as the hallways and stairwells are considerably packed with people. Some students wish that Midtown would offer different options for schooling, fueled by fear of contracting Covid.

“No matter how hard you try, you’re always pushed up against someone,” junior Lucy Adams said. “I would like to think that students at Midtown are taking Covid-19 se-

riously, but I have noticed students congregating close together, which makes me nervous. I think that Midtown should let more students go back to virtual school.”

The staff at Midtown is working hard to ensure that Covid-19 guidelines are respected throughout campus. Teachers have been monitoring the hallways and enforcing mask-wearing and social distancing rules in congested areas, such as the cafeteria and courtyard.

“We try to keep kids moving in the hall instead of congregating,” Principal Dr. Betsy Bockman said. “We need to keep reminding students of the cases and the fact that Covid is very much here—we’re doing what we can with what we have.”

Students and staff are also concerned about lunchtime practices. Most students sit outside for lunch, and teachers have noticed that this is when social distancing practices tend to slip the most.

“I’d like to see students reminding themselves to follow the guidelines at lunch,” Dr. Bockman said. “I’d like to see a campaign from the students to hold themselves accountable. I have seen students eating and then putting their masks back on. I think people are trying.”

Although social distancing guidelines have not always been practiced, mask wearing has overall been respected. Some students have also signed up to take voluntary Covid-19 tests offered by the school. “I am not as concerned about myself,” sophomore Emma Tureman said. “I know that there are people who are at high risk, and there are people who haven’t had easy access to a vaccine. I just want everyone to get vaccinated and tested so we can have a normal school year again.” Students and staff are optimistic for a normal school year. As each day passes, they become more familiar with the new Covid-19 guidelines at school. The Midtown community has come together during such an unusual time,

The Clarion Wants You!

This is a repeat, shortened, from last month. The plea is for more regular contributions to the Clarion, on any topic relevant to the neighborhood: Lake Claire is full of families, and I constantly try to find issues relevant to them. And at the other end of the spectrum age-wise, I started a column in 2010, “30+ years in LC,” featuring older long-term residents, and would love someone to volunteer to take charge of that column. It is fun interviewing your “older” neighbors. Whatever your interest, I would love more involvement. If you have no time to write or writing expertise, then give your suggestions/ideas for articles. Speaking of “writing expertise,” don’t be shy or hesitate if you think you don’t write well; that’s why the editor is here. Please contact me at editor@lakeclaire.org if you have time and interest in getting involved with the Clarion. Even one or two folks with two–three hours *a month* would enhance the paper—and keep

me from getting burnout. I spent the last three months out of state (in the cool climes of Maine, poor me), and it would have been so useful to have someone in Atlanta to help with Clarion topics these last few months. I will be doing that again in 2022—I plan to continue to escape Atlanta during the *hot* months.

These days, many neighborhoods have small newsletters or online publications. Not many still have newspapers, printed and delivered to homes. And we completely pay for it with advertising! (Please support our dedicated advertisers when you or people you know need real estate agents and attorneys.) Lake Claire is unique in oh-so-many ways. Let’s keep the newspaper relevant to all diverse populations and all ages in our great neighborhood. I hope to do it with involvement from more folks. I hope to hear from you.

~Beth Damon, Editor



Halloween Parade

Continued from Page 1

In deciding to hold this event, we are paying close attention to Covid Safety. We will be strictly following CDC guidelines for safe events. Though the event will be outside, please maintain healthy social distancing from people outside your group during the parade and at the park. We will be making changes to allow for more spacing between the groups along the parade route. We encourage all attendees to be vaccinated if they are eligible and it is medically feasible. All volunteers should be vaccinated if eligible and it is medically feasible.

and staff administration wants a collective sense of unity with students, now more than ever.

“We want this to work, but there’s only so much yelling and reminding that you can do,” Bockman said. “For 15 to 17 year-old kids, we have to take care of each other. To keep the mindset that we’re keeping each other safe

We hope folks will wear masks here and in other crowded outdoor settings and for activities with close contact with others, keeping in mind that you do not know who is vaccinated AND that there will be children there who are ineligible for vaccinations. This is all as of Clarion press-time in mid September and subject to change based on current conditions, of course. **Keep an eye on the LakeClaire.org website, or the Candler Park/Lake Claire Families Facebook Group, for updates or changes. See you there!**

is really important. We’re all in this together, and we can’t forget that.”

Ally Bliss is a lifetime Leo resident and a student at Midtown High. This was written for and first published in the Midtown Southerner, and it is reprinted here with permission.



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Frazer Center Supports a Living Wage

by Dina Shadwell

In the face of a national hiring crisis, the Frazer Center’s board of directors voted unanimously to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour, effective this past September 6, Labor Day. The staff at Frazer Center provides direct care through two programs—inclusive early education for children with and without disabilities, and a supported employment and community access program for adults with developmental disabilities.

Early childhood educators and direct support professionals at Frazer and throughout the country are showing up on the front lines in spite of the uncertainty of Covid, many while providing care for their own children and families. “We are proud of Frazer’s health and safety record throughout the pandemic, but none of that would have been possible without the courage and strength of our front-line staff,” says

Paige McKay Kubik, Frazer Center CEO. Communities depend on their early childhood educators and direct support professionals to care for our youngest children and vulnerable adults, but for far too long, industry salaries have not reflected the profound value of these essential workers. And now, both these industries face a nation-wide hiring crisis. “We are feeling it very directly here at Frazer,” says Kubik. “We’ve been operating under capacity throughout the pandemic, primarily because we are understaffed. Our dedicated team is stressed and exhausted.”

Frazer’s board of directors and senior leadership have worked tirelessly and creatively to forge a 3-year sustainability plan, ensuring that Frazer Center staff receive fair wages from this point forward. The new minimum wage will increase Frazer’s annual costs by nearly \$250,000,



Yolonda Youngblood with a preschooler, and Angel White with an adult participant at Frazer Center

but the Frazer leadership team believes the time has come for everyone in the community—public entities, private corporations, and everyday families—to join together and demand fair wages for early education teachers and direct support professionals. Kubik says, “We can’t wait for a federal minimum wage mandate. We’re tightening our belts and

leaving no stone unturned—not just for the sake of our own staff, but for what we hope becomes an industry-wide sea change in both the disabilities and early education arenas.”

If you would like to help support the front-line team at Frazer Center, you can make a tax-deductible donation at frazercenter.org/give.

Live Music in October and November

This list is only accurate as of Clarion press time in mid-September. Please always contact venues to make sure of accuracy and to find out Covid safety measures.

Fri., Oct. 1	Cordovas	Eddie’s Attic
Fri., Oct. 1	Voodoo Visionary	Terminal West
Fri., Oct. 1	Seether	Tabernacle
Fri., Oct. 1	Brothers Osborne	The Fox
Fri., Oct. 1	Rodrigo Y Gabriela	Buckhead Theatre
Sat., Oct. 2	Lady A	Ameris Amp
Sat., Oct. 2	Flogging Molly	Roxy
Sat., Oct. 2	Madeleine Peyroux & Paula Cole	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Oct. 2	Thievery Corp	The Eastern
Sat., Oct. 2	The Steeldrivers	Buckhead Theatre
Sat., Oct. 2	Amplify Decatur Fest	Decatur
Sun., Oct. 3	Watkins Family Hour	Variety Playhouse
Tue., Oct. 5	Waxahatchee	Variety Playhouse
Fri., Oct. 8	Ben Sollee	Eddie’s Attic
Fri., Oct. 8	Stone Temple Pilots	Chastain
Sat., Oct. 9	Twiddle, Too Many Zooz	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Oct. 9	Tim O’Brien Band	Eddie’s Attic
Sat., Oct. 9	The Wild Feathers	Center Stage
Sat., Oct. 9	Toad the Wet Sprocket	The Eastern
Sat., Oct. 9	3 Doors Down	Chastain
Sun., Oct. 10	Pitbull	Ameris Amp
Sun., Oct. 10	Lakeside/SOS Band/EU	Mable House
Sun., Oct. 10	Iggy Azalea	Ameris Amp
Mon., Oct. 11	Jim Messina	City Winery
Tue., Oct. 12	Mt Joy & Trampled by Turtles	The Eastern
Tue., Oct. 12	Dead & Co	Lakewood Amp
Tue., Oct. 12	Future Islands	Have Tickets!
Thur., Oct. 14	Johnnyswim	Buckhead Theatre
Fri., Oct. 15	Here Come the Mummies	The Eastern
Sat., Oct. 16	Leftover Salmon, Keller Williams	Terminal West
Sat., Oct. 16	Old Crow Medicine Show/Molly Tuttle	Variety Playhouse
		The Eastern

Sat., Oct. 16	Lake Street Dive	Chastain
Sun., Oct. 17	Jerry Day	Terminal West
Sun., Oct. 17	Wavves	The Masquerade
Tue., Oct. 19	Elvis Costello & the Imposters	The Roxy
Thur., Oct. 21	Dumpstaphunk	Buckhead Theatre
Thurs., Oct. 21	X Ambassadors	The Masquerade
Thurs., Oct. 21	Turkuaz	Terminal West
Tue., Oct. 22, 2024	Shaky Knees Fest	Central Park
Fri., Oct. 22	Patti Smith!	The Roxy
Fri., Oct. 22	Randall Bramblett Band	Eddie’s Attic
Fri., Oct. 22	LANY	Chastain
Sat., Oct. 23	Tauk	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Oct. 23	Lynyrd Skynyrd	Lakewood Amp
Sun., Oct. 24	Boz Scaggs	Fox Theatre
Oct 28-31	Hulaween (String Cheese, JRAD, Greensky, etc.)	Live Oak, FL
Fri., Oct. 29	Cowboy Mouth	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Oct. 30	Needtobreathe	Ameris Amp
Sat., Oct. 30	Erykah Badu	State Farm Arena
Sat., Oct. 30	Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real	The Roxy
Sun., Oct. 31	Thundercat	The Eastern
Wed., Nov. 3	Tinariwen	Variety Playhouse
Wed., Nov. 3	Twenty One Pilots	Tabernacle
Thurs., Nov. 4	Twenty One Pilots	The Roxy
Fri., Nov. 5	The Mavericks	Variety Playhouse
Fri., Nov. 5	Shakey Graves	The Easter
Nov 5-6	Goose	The Eastern
Wed., Nov. 10,	Chevelle	Buckhead Theatre
Thur., Nov. 11	Robert Cray Band	Variety Playhouse
Thur., Nov. 11	Beabadoobee	Buckhead Theatre
Thur., Nov. 11	Watchhouse (formerly Mandolin Orange)	
Nov 11-12	The Magnetic Fields	City Winery
Fri., Nov. 12,	Drive By Truckers	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Nov. 13	Drive By Truckers	Variety Playhouse
Sat., Nov. 13	Dopapod	Terminal West
Sun., Nov. 14	Tesla	The Roxy
Sun., Nov. 14	Circles Around the Sun	Terminal West
Nov 14-15	Keb’Mo’	City Winery

Wild in Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

Here we are in October sitting on the precipice of the holiday season. First Halloween, then Thanksgiving, Chanukkah (Nov. 28 this year), Christmas, Solstice, and New Year's Eve and Day. And it seems that climate change is here. All the fires and floods that have been upon us are pretty scary. Watching the waters rushing into the New York subway was a wake-up call to me. I've been thinking how lucky we are to live in Lake Claire. No fires, no floods. Only a remote chance of earthquakes or tornadoes.

Well, let us duck into the safety of our 'hood... safety, at least from nature, considering Nextdoor lately. Meredith W. reports, "Our bald cardinals have feathers on their heads again, but now we have a bald blue Jay (normal feathers from the neck down, not a one from the neck up). They are pretty goofy looking, so worth googling a photo if you haven't seen them. I saw a gulf fritillary butterfly making passes on our volunteer passionflower vine a couple of times, but haven't seen any caterpillars, yet. All kinds of birds have been showing up to eat the many pokeberries and seeds of wild lettuce that my "relaxed" gardening style has encouraged (I consider them my no-cost, disease-free, self-cleaning bird feeders). I've also seen several hummingbirds on jewelweed, which is blooming beautifully now.

"I've seen osprey catching fish a few times in recent weeks in Candler Lake at Emory's Lullwater preserve, and today I saw a beautiful black snake (whether king or rat, I don't know) who was over five feet long. The other week, sadly, I saw a deer lying down who seemed not quite well. I called some rehabbers, and they said that unfortunately adult deer can't be taken to a facility because of exertional myopathy--the stress of captivity usually kills them within a few days. Makes me realize how deer really are the wild spirits of the forest. That said, the rehabbers assured me that deer can survive a lot, even a broken leg, as long as the skin isn't broken, so I'm hopeful this doe just needed some time to recover. I did go back later, and she was gone, so I took that as a good sign."

Sara G. observed, "while I was out for a walk one evening around dusk in late August, I noticed a flock of swifts whirling around the chimney of a house on McLendon at Arizona. I stopped to watch them for 15 minutes or so, and periodically 3-6 of them would dive into the chimney while the rest feinted chimney entry, but really just wheeling around, catch-



ing mosquitoes and other invisible insects. A few nights later, I stopped at the same spot with my husband, and we watched until all the chimney swifts had entered their roost for the evening. Other notable observations included a brown widow spider in a box containing a water faucet at the Land Trust (thanks for Bernard S. for removing it!) and oodles (that is a scientific unit of measurement) of black swallowtail caterpillars on my garden fennel."

From Ilene S., "Have seen lots of hummingbirds fattening up, mostly immature and females. Thrashers, blue jays. Various hawks."

Bernard S.'s nature musings:

"I recently received a picture of some fungus found on a path of the Frazer Forest (see above, this page). It looked like a variation of what people call "turkey tails," but with a stalk. I found some potential candidates for ID, although I would have needed the actual mushroom, or at least pictures from other angles to be sure.

The season for chanterelles is coming to an end for this year, although it is just a changing of the guard, as other species are poking their heads out of the ground. A number of friends have mentioned seeing hawks picking food (squirrels



and even one rat) off the ground. It is good that they keep the population in check and well-balanced. A magnificent owl was seen in Decatur a few days ago.

On a sad note, a legendary crea-

ture of the LC Land Trust pond has passed away. I had heard rumors of this large fish roaming the pond for many years, and had only glanced

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Lake Claire Arts & Crafts Sale

Continued from Page 1



attending. Business folks, please advise if your business would be interested in being a sponsor.

Of course, if we go forward, we would try to keep people socially distanced and require masks. As with our Halloween party, we would follow CDC guidelines for safe events: We would encourage attendees to be

vaccinated if they are eligible and able to medically. Send comments to editor@lakeclaire.org copying education@lakeclaire.org. We will make a decision by mid-October and announce it in the November Clarion and on the Lake Claire website as well as notify anyone who sends us an email.

Wild in Lake Claire

Continued from Page 6

at it once. Unfortunately, someone notified a neighbor this weekend of a white fish floating on top of the water. I did scoop it out (a foot and a half long), and Stephen W. buried our White Whale on a spot overlooking its previous habitat. We all wish "Moby" happy trails in the ocean beyond. And speaking of the pond, I learned a random fact. The duckweed that had infested the pond is apparently one of the smallest flowering plants on earth. That's it for now."

And speaking of duckweed, as reported last month, Bernard with help recently cleaned all the duckweed out of the Land Trust pond! I, Flora Fauna, take some credit for that because in the end he wound up using my kayak, and it certainly needed a workout.

Miriam H adds, "You have probably heard from Bernard that the duckweed that had infested the pond is apparently one of the smallest flowering plants on earth... Skimming is complete, hopefully for good. Fish and plants have been added, and turtles are sunning on the rocks again, as you can see in the picture."

Andrew F. checked in with, "for most of August I've seen bats do their late summer insect hunting at dusk by the Land Trust between Connecticut and Arizona Avenues. I also saw a racoon on the Trolley Line in Gilliam Park. He trotted away from me

and went up to the trees. I went to get a closer look, heard a growl, and I hightailed it out of there (it was also quite dark which made it even more scary).

Dorothy D. says, "I have seen a few hummingbirds visiting my feeder. I guess they will all be gone soon. I did visit my friends who have a house on the Chestatee, up above Dahlongea. A good sized bear climbed up on their second-story balcony and took a nap on the deck. Also the bear (or a* bear) came to their front door, stood up on his or her hind legs and put its paws on the glass. It was strong glass, apparently, as it didn't get in." Dorothy also reported that her nephew, James, saw a "bunch" of coyotes on Springdale and on Vickers, perhaps 10 to 25 total.

To end *Wild* for October on a pleasant note, with a nod to Broadway (which is coming back!), a question for you: why do demons and ghouls always hang out together?....

...Because demons are a ghouls' best friend.

Cheerily and scarily from Flora Fauna. Have a great Halloween!

If you have any sightings or garden happenings you'd like to share, please contact Flora Fauna at floweryfauna@gmail.com.



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White

Clifton recently held a Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in honor of those who provide regular dinners for our guests. We were so excited to celebrate these friends, and prepare and serve them a meal!! Food service is such a huge component of our ministry, and we are grateful to all the folks who serve our guests in this capacity. If you are interested in getting on our schedule and preparing a meal for our guys, please email lori@cliftonsanctuary.com. We love our volunteers!



Boyd Baker has spearheaded an effort to get folks of all ages to play Ultimate Frisbee in Lake Claire Park on Sundays at 3 p.m., for parents and kids. This picture is from the second week of the "Sunday Ultimate." BTW, no previous skills are necessary. It is a great way for kids to get introduced to the sport and/or pick up pointers. Middle School leagues are starting now and are welcome to come to play. Email boyd@sumowriter.com if you have any questions. He'll bring the discs. .

Recycling Tip of the Month: Good News About Glass

by Stephen Wing

The last time I wrote about glass recycling for the Clarion, it was sad news: the City was accepting glass, but not recycling it. This was a nationwide problem because of the damage to machinery and danger to humans posed by broken glass at the Materials Recovery Facilities that process all Single Stream mixed recycling. This time I'm writing a happier report. Pratt Industries, the City's recycling contractor, has built a new facility in East Point, and at the City's request it is equipped with innovative new technology that separates glass from other recyclables at the beginning of the sorting process.

It is still the case that glass separated by color—green/blue, clear, and amber—gets top dollar in the marketplace, and the nature of Single Stream technology makes sorting by color cost-prohibitive. But glass of mixed colors, known in the business as "cullet," is still recyclable. Glass from the East Point plant goes to Strategic Materials in nearby College Park, where it is turned into fiberglass or crushed for roadbed.

Glass can be recycled endlessly, but the 60% of bottles and jars made of clear glass cannot be mixed with green or amber glass without diluting the transparent clarity required for new clear bottles and jars. This is why sorted glass is worth more on the market, especially here in Georgia where a healthy bottling industry makes its home.

If you shop at the Dekalb Farmer's Market in Decatur or drop off recyclables at the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) in Chosewood Park, or any other recycling center that requires sorting glass by color, it is worth bringing your empty (rinsed) bottles and jars. You'll be helping to feed the market for recyclables.

But for those who enjoy the luxury of curbside pickup, as we do in Lake Claire, it's probably not worth an extra trip, even in your all-electric vehicle, because the City of Atlanta has finally made good on its promise to upgrade its recycling program to recycle our glass once again. Thanks for recycling.

Neighborhood Dues for Lake Claire

Suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. Lake Claire banners are \$45; a package deal of dues/banner is only \$60! Where do the dues go? See lakeclaire.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Clarion-junejuly-2021-web.pdf.

Please specify when you pay dues if you do not wish to be listed in the newspaper. Pay at lakeclaire.org via the link OR with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to Eileen O'Neill, Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107. Thank you to all these and others who have paid dues and/or contributed your time to our great

neighborhood, Lake Claire! Since the last Clarion, the following folks paid dues:

Beth Grashof
Lisa Osman
Elizabeth Young
Kathryn Halm
Jentes Malnar
Todd Rapposelli
Catharine Arrington

Pay at 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.

Walk Through Lake Claire's History

The Clarion Archives can be a fascinating walk through our neighborhood history, concerns, and features on past and present neighbors and activists. New residents with any spare time (and these days, why would you have that?) can go to the website at lakeclaire.org to view publications starting in 2000. As noted

on the banner on Page 2, Clarion's predecessors were a flyer that started in 1989, followed by a newsletter for many years, and in present times, a newspaper which is put into a pdf and posted online.



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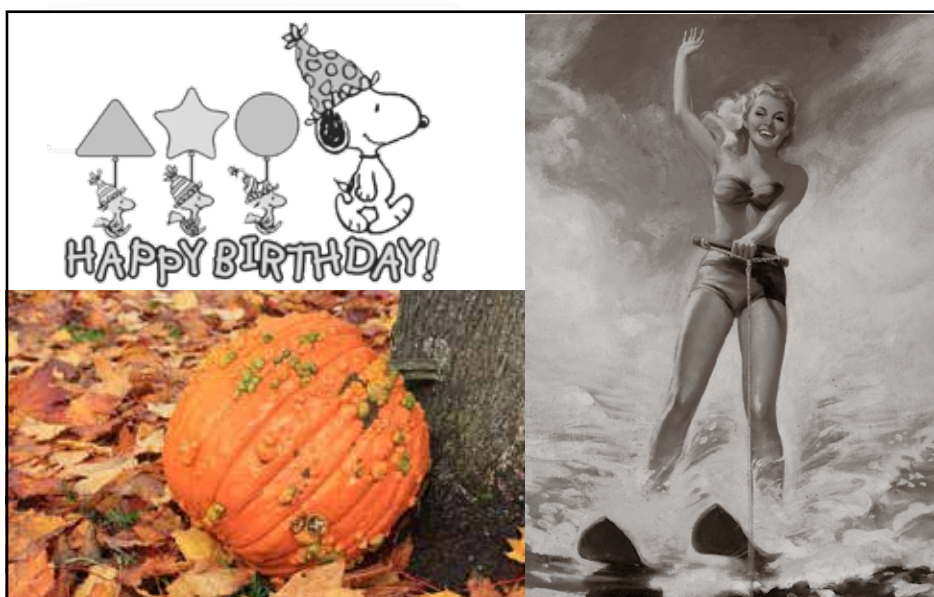
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Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

October Birthdays:

October 2: Margaret Witten (Tuxedo) Hugs from a secret friend who loves you.

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

October 5: Chloe Rachal will turn 10! (Howard Circle) and Emma DeBell (Harold) 14!

October 7: Todd Fernandez (Leonardo)

October 19: Kusher Thomas Tanguturi turns 8 (Harold Avenue)

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

October 23: Izzy Kaiser—Happy 14th birthday! ('dorf)

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

Marriage Anniversaries/Congrats:

October 6—Judy Langford and Bob Thompson (Harold)

October 15—Sara Rossi and Jeff DeBell (Harold)

Take a minute, and send life cycle events for the next issue, November, by October 15.

Do You Really Think This is Just a Drill?

Continued from Page 1

and tragedy so much so that we just kind of throw in the towel. We figure we can't fix everything, so we shut down and don't try to fix anything! That is not the American mindset that I grew up with. We have the power to do great things. It just begins with taking action. Agree?

The key is to treat ACTION like dieting—if you make every effort to do all or nothing, you won't stick with it. Just try. If everyone walked to the grocery store just once a month, we'd have less pollution, healthier bodies, and quality time walking with friends and family. So here are some ideas, I'm sure you can come up with better ones:

For a Better Earth and Climate

- Walk to the store, dinner, or a friend's house instead of driving 1 out of every 4 outings;

- Use dish towels, not paper towels;
- Buy organic, or actual farmer, produce at least once a month. Costs a few cents more but is healthier and helps small farmers at the same time.

- Try plastic-free cleaners. We've used Blueland and Tru Earth to clean clothes, dishes, and more with no plastic jugs! See www.blueland.com.

For a Better Government

- Call/email your City Council rep to voice your opinions: citycouncil.atlantaga.gov/other/council-contact-information

- Call/email your State legislators because they serve YOU: georgia.gov/contact-your-state-legislators
- Contact your Federal repre-

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

by Miriam Herbers

Crime is talked about in every political campaign and is discussed both locally and nationally. Reading Nextdoor in neighboring areas can keep a person on edge. While we should all be concerned with and alert to activity around us, I want you to know that I ran the APD scan for Beat 608 in Zone 6. For August (including a few days in September before this report was due), there were six entries reported for Beat 608, which includes LC and Candler Park. The most awful incident was a murder in CP but it was not a random act. Another was a stolen car. (60% of car thefts as reported by APD involve keys left in cars or left running.) I am NOT saying this was what happened in this situation be-

cause I do not know. The other four were larceny from vehicles. There is nothing more to say to convince people not to leave items in cars that appear valuable in sight. Forgetful moments happen, but we know what to do in that regard. Zero of these reports were in LC. Probably things happen that don't get reported but safety seems pretty good here. I believe the number of people out walking our streets with their children, dogs and families here has created a sense of community where people are actually looking out for one another. Keep doing that, keep staying alert, and remember to call 311, Option 1 for activity involving mental health behavior, rather than 911.

Dekalb History Center

by Beth Damon

We have a great resource in Decatur, at the Dekalb County Courthouse in the heart of downtown Decatur, about 2 miles from Lake Claire. The Dekalb History Center has a myriad of programs that we often include in the Clarion. These include walking tours of the building, one of which is the Happy Hour Courthouse Tour. There are architectural walking tours of many Decatur gems, with the opportunity to explore the dynamic floor plans, house types, and architectural styles, spanning 1830 to 1965. The tour is outdoors with a total walking distance of about one mile, and lasts about an hour and a half. Tours will happen rain or shine! Some stops

include: Decatur Library, Stamford Apartments, Cora Beck Hampton House, and School House. Check the website for times in October at dekalbhistory.org/programs/decatur-architectural-walking-tours/.

And, this being the "spooky season," there is a Halloween event on Thursday, October 28. The event, A Ghostly Night at the Courthouse, will feature guided tours throughout the building highlighting certain ghosts that are said to occupy the Courthouse. Guests can also expect a dance performance by Atlanta Historic Dance, and some other fun and spooky activities to participate in. Dressing up is highly encouraged!

sentatives: www.usa.gov/elected-officials

For a Better Society

- Pick just one cause that matters to you, find a current advocacy group, and offer to help somehow.
- If nobody is fighting for your cause, start a group! Ask neighbors, friends, the internet, who would like to help make a better world. Bet you'd be surprised who shows up.
- Take your kids with you to neighborhood, School Board, or other advocacy meetings. They learn

from you how to be better people.

Explain to them from early on how to make a positive difference.

As the saying goes, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step... or "Inch-by-inch, life's a cinch. Yard by yard, life is hard." We can solve our greatest problems not by complaining, posting on social media, or watching more television, but by getting involved in making change.

Life is not a drill. Just do one thing to start. Think you can do that?



From October into November in the Lake Claire Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton, knowltonew@earthlink.net

A reminder: this is the best month to plant shrubs and trees. And, since most of us live on small lots, choose trees and shrubs appropriate to the space. Why? You won't have to prune or eventually remove them, whereas larger ones will expand into neighbor's property, shade out your whole garden, and leave no room for other neat plants you will desire.

Limbing up does not increase the health of a tree. In a forest, supported by each other, trees will naturally drop shaded lower boughs. On a prairie, a native tree is a glorious monster, stretching its limbs. On the large campus of UNC-Chapel Hill, I admired *Magnolia grandiflora* (Southern magnolia), its lower limbs creating a skirt at ground level that naturally caught and held the large leaves that fell, no need for raking, a tree that should never be pruned like a grand dame in a mini-skirt. In parks, a little high pruning of deciduous trees may be necessary for safety, but not with a properly sized tree in a private garden. Lollipopping a tree not only limits its ability to photosynthesize but also creates a sitting duck in hurricanes and thunderstorms. And never pave over a tree's roots (that normally stretch beyond the length of its boughs); did you

see the completely healthy trunk of the Iverson Street tree that came down in tropical storm Ida, its small root area surrounded by pavement?

If a full-sized tree will not fit on your acreage, don't plant it—even if you flip houses every two years and don't deal with your errors. But do plant trees that will live longer than 20 years (not just dogwoods) and increase your property's value. The Internet has lists of trees grouped by size for Southern climes. And where a full-sized tree already nicely shades your house but you can see its years are numbered, plant its successor in good time.

Forty-two years ago, two full-sized pecans grew in our west-facing front garden, a space about 50 x 20 feet. One had been struck by lightning before we bought the house, its health threatening both us and our neighbors. The damaged tree was removed, and around 1990 a 6-foot willow oak sapling planted north of the remaining pecan. In 30 years, it has prospered, its circumference now 38 inches. Because pecans are open, airy trees, with leaves late to appear and early to fall, the willow oak has gotten plenty of sun, rises taller than the house, and is prepared to provide all the shade necessary once the ancient pecan has had its day.

If you go to Brent and Becky's link www.bloominbucks.com and select Lake Claire Community Land Trust, your bulb order can help the Land Trust as well as bring you excellent flowers. They ship through November, although some items will have sold out by now. Their wide variety includes many small species tulips that will please much better than the large hybrid tulips, which don't return in our climate, those of you for whom perennial bloom is vital. Under "Miscellaneous Tulips," look for the popular 'Lady Jane,' bakeri 'Lilac Wonder,' batalinii 'Salmon Gem,' humilis 'Alba,' and 'Little Beauty' at low prices for large amounts.

October is also an excellent month to plant peonies; good quality ones are offered at reasonable prices by John Scheepers. The old fashioned 'Festiva Maxima' and other early blooming types do best in the South. Follow directions for care, especially not planting too deeply. Like all plants, peonies prefer morning sun to afternoon and free-draining soil, not our heavy clay. As well as the perennial peony, plant the biennial foxglove, as many as you can afford, and sow more spinach and sweet peas. Soak the latter seeds overnight, and press about half an inch

into sunny soil near netting that they can climb. Seeds should sprout within a week. Both they and the spinach will continue to thrive through winter if you tuck around them a little mulch of shredded leaves. This enables both seedlings to grow quickly in spring and furnish you with flowers and salads before hot weather kills them.

Once again, save, rake, vacuum, and shred, with whatever implements you have, the valuable leaves that fall on your property. For millions of years leaves fertilized their trees and other plants by falling, uninterrupted, to the ground. Nobody took them away. Nobody came with bags of fertilizer and mulch. Do rake leaves from plants that would be suffocated (your lawn, delicate new purchases), but don't throw away your leaves. Try to keep whatever grows on your property on your property. You don't need to own expensive and noisy chipping equipment. The Sanitation Department can still haul away thick prunings and hardwood that you do not burn yourself in firepits or fireplaces. But if in autumn, you have healthy dead foliage, keep it to mix with kitchen waste in compost bins or mulch your winter garden beds or just sit quietly under trees and shrubs.

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Jerry Jam Canceled

We regret to announce that we have canceled Jerry Jam on Oct. 9 due to Covid/Delta variant concerns. We will try again in the Spring. Apologies for our irrepressible optimism!

2nd Annual Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Fest: Come Pick Up a Pumpkin and Share Pictures of your Jack-o-Lanterns with Lake Claire!

The Land Trust is sorry to announce that both of our community Halloween gatherings have been canceled this year due to Delta variant concerns -- Scary Fireside Stories on Oct. 23 and the traditional Pumpkin Carving on Oct. 30.

However, like last year, we are sponsoring a Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Fest to showcase the pumpkin-carving talents of Lake Claire families. Unlike last year, this time we will

be providing free pumpkins, as long as supplies last. The pumpkins will be available by Sunday, October 24. Take a photo, and email it to info@LCCLT.org by Halloween night, Sunday, October 31. The photos will be featured on our website and in the December Clarion.

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



Dear Lake Claire Gardeners and neighbors,

Many of you contributed plants from your yard to the first ever Lake Claire Community Land Trust plant sale this spring, and we thank you. The turnout was better than anticipated. We made money for the Land Trust in a year where our larger fundraisers had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.

We are planning to do it again on November 13. When you start dividing bulbs or thinning plants this autumn, please remember the Land Trust. Instructions for dropping off your donations will be given in the Clarion next month. Besides plants from around the neighborhood we will be selling over 1000 good quality bulbs ordered from Brent and Becky's Nursery.

~Miriam Herbers

October at the Land Trust

Sat. Oct. 2: Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (tentative)

Sun. Oct. 3 & 13: in-person socially distanced, but please check LT Facebook page or join LT mailing list for notice of possible change. \$10 suggested donation (ongoing, 1st & 3rd Sundays).

Sat. Oct. 9: Sorry! "Jerry Jam" canceled.

Sat. Oct. 16: Community Work Day, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Pizza follows.

Sun. Oct. 17: "Bringing Death Home" class, 3–5 p.m. \$35 per person (30% goes to LCCLT). Masks and social distancing required. See article below.

Sat. Oct. 24: Pick up your pumpkin for Virtual Jack-o-Lantern Fest, per above article. Happy Halloween!

NOTE: All of these events are subject to cancellation due to Covid. Check our Facebook page, or subscribe to our email list for updates.

Bringing Death Home: Options for Sacred Death, Home Funeral, Natural Burial, Healthy Grieving. Saturday, Oct. 17, 3–5 p.m. at the Land Trust

by Narinder Bazen

Since the dawn of time, we humans have known how to sit with our dying loved ones and how to care for their bodies once they have died. Yet in modern America, dying has now been taken out of our view. We outsource our dying, and we outsource our death care. We outsource our funeral and burial rituals. American culture teaches us to not even look at grief! Something very important is missing from modern "deathing," and that something is the option of a holistic, sacred, and respected dying and death experience.

Death is not just a medical event; it's a spiritual, emotional, and communal event as well. We need an opportunity to pause, to reflect, to honor, to wail, to hold sacred the journey we will all take... Death. Death Midwifery redefines our collective death values and manifests them in new choices about how we wish to experience the final transition in our own

life and the lives of our loved ones.

As a Death Midwife, I am a dying person's advocate, a guide for wayward dying times, and a liaison between families and open-minded funeral directors. I am also a Home Funeral educator who has walked many families through pre-planning their holistic death care options. My experience spans from sudden tragic death spaces to simple and elegant natural green burials. I bring to the Atlanta community a great passion for educating you about your death care and Home Funeral options. These choices are becoming widely available, and it is essential for you to be informed.

My workshop "Bringing Death Home" blends reverence, experience, storytelling, straight-talk, and humor to shed light on the great mystery of Death and share holistic death care options. You'll learn that

our bodies know how to die, just as they know how to be born. You'll learn all about the beautiful and sacred old ways of Home Funerals, and how caring for the body of our loved ones is a healthy way to start the grieving process. You'll get a "hands-on" lesson about caring for a loved one's body. You'll leave feeling informed and heart-warmed. And it may empower you, so be prepared!

Talking about death won't kill you. In fact, talking about death helps us so much with our death anxieties. I look forward to bringing this deeply moving class to the Lake Claire Community at the Land Trust. Join me for an event like nothing you have experienced before.

Narinder Bazen has been serving the Atlanta area as a Holistic Death Care Activist and Death Midwife for many years. She is a member of the National End of Life Doula Alli-



ance and a member of the National Home Funeral Alliance. She created the Nine Keys Death Midwifery Apprenticeship in 2018 and has been training holistic death workers from Ontario all the way to Southern California. Learn more about Narinder and her Atlanta Death Midwifery practice at www.narinderbazen.com.



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 London Alden. London is 12 years old and lives on Colebrook Street. She goes to David T. Howard Middle School. Her interests and

hobbies are art and drawing, acting, role-playing games, reading, writing, storytelling, bracelet making, Minecraft, Boy Scouts, and babysitting. We thank London and 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*, by **OCTOBER 15** for the next issue of the newspaper, which will be November.



London—and S'mores

Mary Lin 5th Grade Class Guinea Pig Alive and Well

by London Alden

For previous and future graduates of Mary Lin Elementary school, you might be wondering, "What happened to the 5th grade class pet guinea pig S'mores? Is she alive? Could she be dead?" Well, S'mores has finally found a home after years of being tossed around from house to house, sitting in a dark classroom, being poked by pencils, stuffed into Slinkys, and other not so fun stuff...

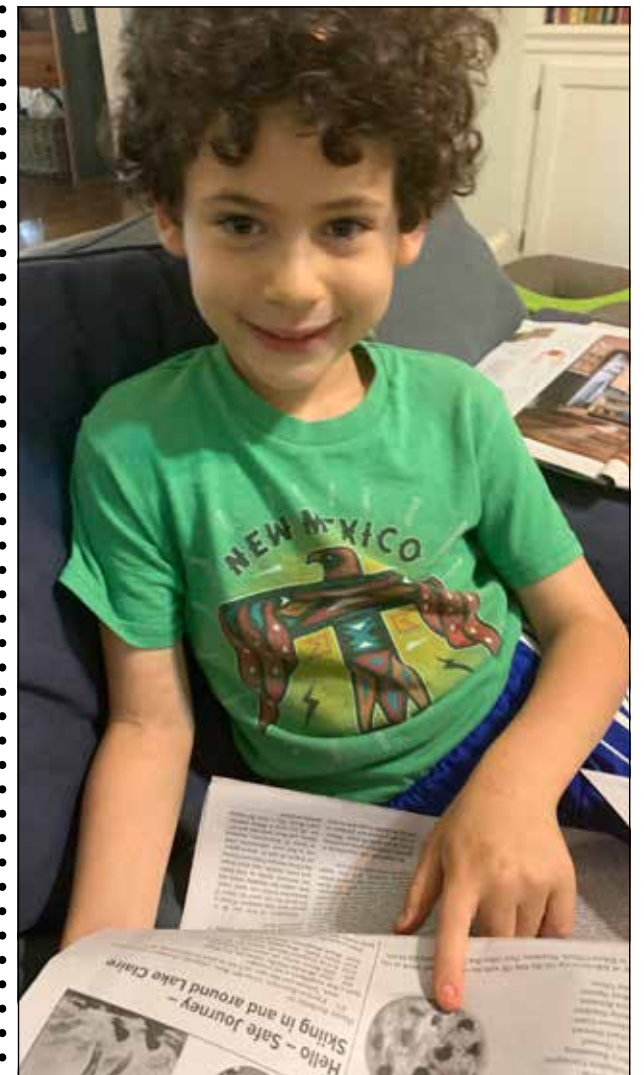
I had volunteered to take S'mores home with me for the first half of Summer 2020, then planned on giving her to another classmate to take care of S'mores for the remainder, but she stayed longer at the beach. With 5th

grade being over and quarantine in place, the teacher Mrs. Brennan said she could no longer keep S'mores in the classroom and asked if we would consider adopting her as our own. Without any hesitation, I said "YES!"

Although it took her a while and she STILL is afraid when we put her in the car, she finally seems to have a comfortable place to stay. And if you're wondering about Cinnamon Bun as you read this, unfortunately that was the last you'll see of him. He passed away in Spring 2020, but rest well knowing that both he and S'mores are in better places.

New Contest

Hi, kids! October is full of national holidays! To see some of these, you can go to *nationaldaycalendar.com/october/*. One of these is National Shawarma Day on October 15. It celebrates the Middle Eastern rotisserie method of cooking meats such as lamb, chicken, and beef and the dishes it makes. Bursting with a marinade of Mediterranean herbs and spices, Shawarma is great in a wrap or on a salad. Find the picture of shawarma somewhere in this issue, then send your guess in an e-mail to *editor@lakeclaire.org*, identifying its page number 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 your favorite ethnic food and why it's so good. 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 October 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**



Sawyer

Contest Winner

My name is Sawyer Klehr, and I turned eight a couple of weeks ago. I am in third grade at Mary Lin elementary school. My favorite subject is math, and I also love geography. I like to play video games, and Legos, and being with friends.

Congrats, Sawyer, for finding the hidden chocolate chip cookie! You won the contest over a VAST number of Lake Claire kids who participated. Your prize is your picture in the Clarion. We always appreciate your detailed reading of and writing for the Clarion, Sawyer, including your geography columns in the past.

Attention other Lake Claire kids— Add your name to the list of winners. To all of those kids who didn't win, many of you came close this time. Please do keep reading this page, and keep playing. See our new contest to the left.