



Scooting in Same Space as Bikes. Photo by Lourdes Lopez-Castro

## Saving the Atlanta BeltLine: A Shift from Transit to Micromobility

(Adapted from a previous version in The Saporta Report)

by Kevin H. Posey

Atlanta's BeltLine path is the city's best-known landmark. Travel writers point it out as a key stop for those visiting Atlanta. However, that popularity poses a threat to its viability.

The BeltLine is over capacity and in need of expansion. To fix this, the long-dormant plan for a BeltLine streetcar must yield its unused right-of-way for a second, parallel path for users on wheels, such as bikes and standing or seated scooters. This would allow pedestrians to enjoy the path without risk of collisions, while those on wheels would be free to reach their destinations quickly and without impediment. The Atlanta

BeltLine would fulfill its promise as a significant transportation corridor, rather than just a sidewalk, but without the high costs of a streetcar or the decimation of the trees in its path.

The corridor on which the Atlanta BeltLine runs was originally a series of railroads built around the latter 19th and early 20th centuries as bypasses of downtown Atlanta. In 1999, Georgia Tech graduate student Ryan Gravel came up with a streetcar plan for his Master's thesis. The concrete path was later developed by the City of Atlanta in conjunction with the PATH Foundation.

*Cont. on p. 7*

## MLK Service Day Opportunities

One of the things that Martin Luther King, Jr., said was, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" Atlanta has the honor of having the King Memorial here, a vital contribution to our City's vibrancy, diversity, and history. Each year on the third Monday of January we observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and re-

flect on the work that still needs to be done for racial equality. This January 17, make the holiday more than just a day off and take time to reflect and take action on civil rights issues.

The Atlanta History Center invites you to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King,

*Cont. on p. 6*

## Krog District Brings Change

by Ally Bliss

On any given weekend, Krog Street Market, a shopping complex with space for dining, retail, and commercial use, located off the BeltLine trail in Inman Park, is alive and abuzz with pedestrians. Now, the development is expanding and being rebranded as "the Krog District" and will lease space for retail and commercial purposes to allow BeltLine pedestrians and visitors more recreational opportunities.

Jonas Gravel, an eighth grader at Howard Middle School, is not particularly impacted by the expansion, but is curious to see what it will bring to the community. "Krog is a fun place to go," Gravel said. "I didn't even notice that they were adding a new building until I saw the construction recently. I'll bet whatever

they put there will be unique, and I'm hoping that they will bring in a good combination of shops and businesses that I might like."

Junior Elizabeth Martin, who lives in Inman Park, where the development is located, often visits Krog Street Market and is excited to see how the expansion will affect the community. "I love going to get food and hang out at Krog Street Market with my family and friends," Martin said. "It's super convenient and a great option for takeout or a nice dinner out. I hope that the new building will have even more restaurants and cool shops that I can go to."

Some Inman Park residents are concerned about how the increased

*Cont. on p. 7*

## Thanks for Attending Lake Claire's Arts & Crafts Fair

by Beth Damon

Many of us had to give up or amend holiday traditions in 2020 and in spite of availability of vaccinations, into 2021 as well. Thankfully, however, many of us have made new traditions that might turn out to be better than the old ones regardless of Covid. One of these is our Lake Claire Arts & Crafts/Holiday Fair, which we put on last month for the second year as an outside porch and driveway event.

Neither virus variants nor politics or weather (2nd year in a row in the low 70s!!) could dampen the spirit of Lake Claire. The crafters, neighbors, and food vendors created community in the way that has attracted people to our neighborhood for many years. It was invigorating to see so many friends and neighbors interacting safely, enjoying music and food, and exhibiting and buying beautiful arts and crafts.

Thanks again to our generous sponsors: **Copper Sky Renovations, John Morgan (Park Realty), Cynthia Baer, BOND Community Federal Credit Union, Sherry Warner Homes, Direct**

**Furniture Modern Home, Gotta Have it Catering, 24/7 Moving, Candler Park Market, Anna K Intown, Steve Raimonde, Hill Manufacturing Company, and Beryl Firestone Design.** Thank you to all the creative talent who took the time to display their wares so beautifully; to Hill Manufacturing Company and Cynthia Baer for keeping us sanitized; to Neighborhood Church for providing free hot chocolate and games for kids (such a big hit); to Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (CSM) for providing their parking lot; to the homes for our porta-potties; to super-volunteers Allison Troxell (for getting many of the sponsors, the porta-potties, and several other essential tasks), Jill Stanley, Beryl Firestone, Michele Feeney, Christy Johnson, Debbie Livingston (for capturing the essence of the day in photographs--see centerfold, pp. 6-7); to our non-artist hosts who allowed folks from adjoining neighborhoods to participate; and to anyone else I've neglected to mention (with

*Cont. on p. 8*

## Lake Claire Officers for 2020

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Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

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

## January Calendar

Please check Page 15 for Lake Claire Land Trust events.

**5** Actors Express presents *Intimate Apparel*, in 1905 New York, an independent woman creates lingerie for a range of clients from society mavens on the upper East Side to prostitutes in the Meat District. Runs through February 6. [actors-express.com](http://actors-express.com).

**17** MLK Jr. Day. A day of service. Even with Covid, it is possible to help, see article Page 1.

**20** Live from Lake Claire (via Zoom)! Lake Claire monthly meeting. [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) for updates and Zoom information. Always the third Thursday of the month. Keep informed—Sign up for mailings at [lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/](http://lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/).

**22** Alliance Theatre presents *Dream House*, Hertz Stage, through February 13. See [alliancetheatre.org](http://alliancetheatre.org)

**28** Horizon Theatre, *Every Brilliant Thing*, a mother battles chronic depression, and her child creates a list of everything that makes life worth living. Runs through February 27. [www.horizontheatre.com](http://www.horizontheatre.com).

### HEADS UP FOR FEBRUARY:

**1** DeKalb History Center Lunch and Learn, noon to 1 p.m., bring lunch. Guest of honor Judge Clarence “Chuck” Seeliger, Emory Law 1970, discussing his collection at the DHC & his judicial career. In-person or virtual. Details at [www.dekalbhistory.org](http://www.dekalbhistory.org).

**2** Theatrical Outfit starts next production, “Bright Half Life,” [www.theatricaloutfit.org/](http://www.theatricaloutfit.org/).

**5** Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Help restore and maintain our beloved neighborhood old-growth forest. Pre-registration required. Space is limited. [fraziercenter.org/about-us/events](http://fraziercenter.org/about-us/events)

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## President's Note for The New Year

by Joe Agee

As we enter 2022, the coronavirus is still with us but now with a new variant that cropped up just as we were getting used to the last one. Some restrictions have been removed such as wearing masks in certain places, while others have been added, including mandatory vaccinations for many employments and entry into certain locations. A while ago, most countries began requiring a no more than 3-day old Covid test for entry but, not to be outdone, the U.S. now insists on a 1-day old test to get back in. So what to do. Beyond getting vaccinated and a booster when eligible, we should all keep taking precautions. In the meantime, it's important to go on living as best we can under the circumstances. A prime example was the last two Lake Claire Arts and Crafts Fairs that take place during the first week of December. Thanks to Beth Damon, the editor of the *Clarion*, and Annsley Klehr, the Lake Claire Neighbor's Education Chair, this event has been exceptionally successful, bringing out hundreds of neighbors, in the greater safety of an outdoors environment, to enjoy and buy the work of the many talented artists, musicians, and craftspeople that grace our neighborhood.

When the pandemic first got the world's attention almost two years ago, I wrote about the similarity with WWII when everyone in the country had to make sacrifices on the home front such as the rationing of vital products needed for the war effort. Then came the atomic era with the threat of mutual annihilation that characterized my growing up years in the '50s, often affecting the daily lives for many of us. Although the threat was real enough, some of the officially promoted protective measures were not only bizarre, such as home bomb shelters, but almost comical as children were told to shelter underneath their school desks if a mushroom cloud appeared. But just recently I came across an archived documentary from 1954 that is not only up to the standard of a Saturday Night Live skit but also hauntingly evocative of our current zoning code enforcement nightmares. This will take some explaining.

In the early 1950s (I'm not making this up), the National Clean Up, Paint Up, and Fix Up Bureau was established to help Americans better survive a nuclear attack. In the 1954 film, promoted by the Fix Up Bureau and sponsored by the Federal Defense Administration, three types of homes were portrayed. The most desirable model had been recently

painted and well-kept on the inside and out. Next was one with some paint peeling and not as well-kept. Finally, there was one with almost all the paint peeled off and a total mess on the inside, including lots of trash outside. These structures were placed at an atomic testing site in Nevada to show what would happen if they were near a blast. After the initial shock wave of heat, it was clear the well-maintained house didn't collapse while the others suffered more damage with the worst one almost obliterated. Apparently fresh paint provided some protection from the extreme heat but, more importantly, there wasn't a lot of trash on the inside to catch fire. The moral of the story was, of course, that a recently painted and well-maintained home would protect you if in the vicinity of an atomic explosion. Notably missing was any reference to what would happen to a human, or any other living organism, if "lucky" enough to be sheltering in the one left standing. Based on the first heat wave blast, starting out at around 4,000 degrees Fahrenheit (not to mention the radiation), anyone in a painted or unpainted home would have died instantly or been horribly burned just like the unsightly trash left around on the floor. Ending the documentary, the narrator authoritatively proclaims that choosing to live in the right house will likely be rewarded with survival.

Beyond the twisted logic of the above example, there was something else hard to miss. Rosy scenes of communities enjoying rows and rows of well-maintained houses with beautiful gardens were shown; all in the name of how to best survive an atomic explosion. Clearly the producers were not content with a few warnings and advisories but wanted to start a national campaign. But here's where things get more interesting. It turns out that The Fix Up Bureau was actually created by the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association with the obvious intent of selling its products, which brings us up to present times. A book by David Monteyne, *Fallout Shelter: Designing for Civil Defense in the Cold War*, explains that the film was also "clearly drawing on the sort of urban planning research that was used to justify slum clearance." Unfortunately, it seems this mentality is still alive and well when it comes to zoning code enforcement, as home owners in Atlanta have been cited for exceptionally arbitrary reasons such

**Cont. on p. 12**



## Annual Lighting of Leonardo

by Melanie Bliss

The 14th Annual Lighting of Leonardo was Sunday, December 5. By one count, we had approximately 70 attendees, which was absolutely lovely. We met in the Bliss back yard with tables set up on the outdoor patio area and screened-in porch, and noshed on sweets and savory while we mixed and mingled. We upheld our tradition of donating to a local nonprofit by giving to the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center this year ([www.centraloac.org](http://www.centraloac.org)); this organization provides critical services to help people experiencing hard times and homelessness. We paused to reflect on our gratitude for our cozy, warm, safe street in contrast with the harsher conditions that

many of our homeless neighbors face in Atlanta.

After the excited children had their fill of cookies and we took our annual "kid picture," the real "magic" began. As is our custom, we started on Marlbrook and sequentially moved our way through the participating Marlbrook homes and then down Leonardo. At each house we would pause, offer a count down from five (or ten, or repeating "one, one, one!") while the neighbor(s) for each home turned on their holiday lights. We watched the inflatables fill, the lights twinkle, and the street light up in its festive glory. Happy holidays to one and all from those of us on Leonardo!

## Frazer Center Striving for "Georgia as Model Employer"

by Dina Shadwell

Anthony Lake has been a participant in Frazer's Adult Services for almost ten years, and for two of those years, he has also been a Frazer employee. He works in the Child Development Program assisting Kitchen Manager Velecia Wright. "I can depend on An-

thony every day; he's on time, and he does his job," says Velecia, or Ms. V, as she is known at Frazer. "He's a very hard worker. Once he learns how to do something, he comes in

**Cont. on p. 6**





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## Wild In Lake Claire

by Flora Fauna (aka Carol Vanderschaaf)

Don't let anyone fool you. *Over the River and Through the Wood* is not a Christmas song. No matter how much nor how little snow there is on the ground, it is still a Thanksgiving song. Seasons are different in different places and as seen through different eyes. Take the views of our Wild contributors (meant in the broadest sense) as follows:

Meredith W reports, "I've seen quite a few ruby-crowned kinglets around, in addition to the usual songbirds. We saw a jay taking some eggshells out of the compost we put in our new garden beds before we had a chance to lay dirt on top, and we found out that they have a higher need for calcium than most other birds and have been known to eat paint in an attempt to find it. The hooded mergansers are back at Candler Lake at Emory's Lullwater Preserve. And now that the leaves are down, I'm seeing lots of hawks—red-tailed, red-shouldered, and Cooper's mostly. Surprisingly, I just saw some goldenrod still in bloom as late as December 7. I saw a large marbled orb weaver last week on a walk with my husband, and a grass spider built a web under our car cover. (What a clever, dry, protected place for it to find!) Other than that, the biggest action I've seen has been deer preparing for mating. One buck passed quite close to me at the Lullwater Preserve, on his way to a nearby doe and to chase off a smaller buck. I saw another doe who had been lying less than 20 feet off the main path around the lake and a large buck watching over her just up the hill. Sadly, I saw another buck in South Peachtree Creek not far from where it's crossed by Clairmont Rd. I'm not sure what happened to him, but he was still dressed in his finest mating antlers."

Miriam H. let me know that she saw a flock of cedar wax wings in a holly tree in her back yard, and it was the first of the season.

Dorothy D. reports the death of another deer. "There was a mention in the last newspaper about a buck, a doe, and a fawn that were seen by someone," she said. "A doe was killed a few days ago on Ponce or South Ponce. Sadly, too many people have taken over former deer territory. It was near the entrance to the Frazer Center, on the sidewalk. Though found on South Ponce, it seems more likely it was hit on Ponce. On a cheerier note, I saw a big hawk in that area today, in Shadyside Park. Also, one afternoon I surprised a big barred owl in my back yard. He was



Owl at the Land Trust  
Photo by Kyle Brown.

in a tree, but flew off into someone else's yard."

Frank W. spotted a possum about a month ago and more recently a bunny rabbit on Harold Avenue, and a bunch of noisy crows have stopped by a few times at his house on Indiana. He also spotted a red-headed woodpecker on Terrace Avenue and a few days ago witnessed a hawk almost nab a squirrel on the Freedom bike path almost at Moreland.

Wade H. wrote that as he was looking to the north out the upstairs window of his and Sara's home in Lake Claire Co-Housing, he spied a red-tailed hawk soaring west-to-east; it was flashing its tail to slow its stealthy arrival at a large agglomeration of dead leaves in the limbs of an oak tree along Connecticut Avenue. It seemed to disappear into this aerial leaf-pile, which Wade presumes was the nest or "drey" of a gray squirrel. Though it's too early for squirrel babies, the hawk worked that nest long enough for Wade to wonder, trying to distinguish eagle parts from tree parts as the nest trembled, then to run downstairs, retrieve binoculars, and run back upstairs, before he finally saw the hawk make a quick and explosive "exit stage right." It was seemingly carrying something in its talons, but happened too fast to be sure whether it was clingy leaves or an unfortunate nest-builder herself. The leaf-nest looked a little flimsier and airier afterward, but still hangs



## Cumberland Island Crisis

by Debby Lightfoot

Can you imagine having actual rockets launched over the Lake Claire neighborhood? Though not likely to happen here, some of our fellow Georgians are bracing for just that. A proposed rocket launching facility called Spaceport Camden is threatening to impact the few residents of Cumberland Island and Little Cumberland Island, and wildlands and wildlife on the islands and in surrounding waters. This would significantly and adversely affect threatened and endangered species such as the loggerhead sea turtles, green sea turtles, Kemp's ridley sea turtles, West Indian manatees, North Atlantic right whales, migrating humpback whales, and birds such as bald eagles, piping plovers, wood stork and red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Camden County has been working for several years to obtain its license to operate the facility five miles from Cumberland Island. The county must obtain a license from the FAA, who have been reviewing the license proposals and environmental studies, and as of Clarion going to press in mid December, they expected to announce its decision on December 15 (which means by the time you see this January Clarion, it could be done). In spite of several environ-

mental protective acts in place both on the federal level and on the state level, the FAA could give the green light to launch a rocket every month. With each launch comes the possibility of explosions, fires, and falling debris. The potential danger is so great that there will be a mandatory evacuation from Cumberland and Little Cumberland at each launch. The wildlife will not have an opportunity to escape any possible disaster.

Cumberland Island is the largest wilderness area on the east coast. With rockets blasting and continued threats of development on the island, Georgia's wild places are threatened and need your help. Several organizations are trying to protect this treasure. Feel free to contact me at [debbylightfoot@comcast.net](mailto:debbylightfoot@comcast.net) for further info.

*Editor's note: The Georgia chapter of the Sierra Club: [www.sierraclub.org/georgia/wildlands/cumberland](http://www.sierraclub.org/georgia/wildlands/cumberland). Also see [www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/cumberland-islands-historic-sites-may-soon-be-in-a-rockets-flight-path](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/cumberland-islands-historic-sites-may-soon-be-in-a-rockets-flight-path) and also [protectcumberlandisland.org/facts/problems-2/](http://protectcumberlandisland.org/facts/problems-2/). Now is not the time for complacency or silence, though it may be too late. #saveCumberlandIsland.*

in the oak limbs. Wade says the hawk was on the nest for at least a full minute, maybe more, and whether that time was filled simply with very persistent searching through vacant but squirrel-smelling oak leaves, or by a slow, dreadful, and meticulous cornering of a would-be squirrel parent between wing, beak, and talon... who knows?

I (Flora Fauna) think that New Year's Baby is beginning to grow some stubble on its chin or leg hair on its shins, depending on its gender,

so I will step out of its way to say a very happy and inclusive new year!

*If you have any wildlife sightings or garden happenings/tips you'd like to share, please contact Flora Fauna at [floweryfauna@gmail.com](mailto:floweryfauna@gmail.com) and Sara Gottlieb at [sara.gottlieb@gmail.com](mailto:sara.gottlieb@gmail.com). Sara and Flora will be alternating in writing this column, leading toward Flora's gradually passing it on to Sara with Flora having an occasional guest column.—Ed.*

## Frazer Center

*Continued from Page 3*

and goes right to where he needs to be. I love him." This is Anthony's first actual job with a competitive salary. His mother, Lucy, says, "Anthony looks forward to going to work. He enjoys helping people. It gives him a sense of pride that he has a job."

As a Supported Employment service provider, Frazer Center works with businesses to help create perfect employment matches that are a win for both the employer and employee. Sometimes a job can be customized to match a job seeker's skills. In Anthony's case, Frazer had an existing position that needed to be filled, and Anthony fit the bill. Initially, Anthony's job coach worked alongside him to provide training and support. Now that he knows his routine, Anthony no longer requires support. "His confidence has grown, and he takes initiative," says Ms. V. "He's there to help me out when I need it."

This is the kind of employment success that Frazer strives to create with other businesses throughout Atlanta. It is also the kind of success we hope to see more and more of across the state, especially since Georgia is now an "Employment First" state. In 2018, Governor Nathan Deal signed into law the Employment First Act, declaring that employment should be the first option for anyone who wants to work, regardless of disability. The law also declares that employees with and without disabilities should be integrated and interacting in all aspects of their jobs, and they should receive competitive salaries and benefits. Passing the Employment First Act was a step in the right direction, but more needs to happen on a policy level for Georgia actually to BE an Employment First state.

Bill Payne, Director of Frazer's Adult Services, is doing his part to help with that. Representing Frazer Center, Bill is one of several em-

ployment support providers who are convening with researchers from Advancing Employment, an organization "dedicated to building a community for inclusive employment in Georgia." These providers and researchers are discussing the obstacles that are built into the state system for employment support. They are also creating a list of priorities for implementing state-wide changes with the help of the policy experts at the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities. The cohort is pushing for Georgia to be a "State as Model Employer." In other words, if Georgia's government agencies make a practice of hiring people with disabilities, then the state serves as a model, leading the way for Chambers of Commerce to follow suit. Payne has said, "State legislators can talk to Chambers to promote, 'This is what Georgia's policies are, this is what we do. We hire people because they're capable, because it's the right thing to do, because it's good for business.' Then Chambers can talk to businesses," and together we create a sea change.

It only makes sense that Frazer would hire people with disabilities. Anthony is a perfect match for his position. He loves getting a paycheck and the greater independence it gives him. He's learning to manage his money, and he's developing enriching work relationships. Lucy Lake always knew her son had the potential. "Everybody may not see that at first, but I feel you have to give [people with disabilities] a chance. At the end of the day, it's a win."

If you are an employer interested in learning more about hiring people with disabilities, contact Bill Payne at [b.payne@frazercenter.org](mailto:b.payne@frazercenter.org). To learn more about Frazer Center's Supported Employment Program, visit [www.frazercenter.org/adult-program](http://www.frazercenter.org/adult-program).

## MLK Service Day Opportunities

*Continued from Page 1*

Jr. in his hometown through a variety of virtual and in-person educational family activities, including simulations, crafts, and story time, as well as offerings for adults including author talks. Covid policies will be in place for the in-person event, and capacity will be limited. A small number of same-day passes will be available at the door, but advanced registration is strongly encouraged to guarantee admission. Tickets are free. ([www.atlantahistorycenter.com/event/mlk-day-2022/](http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/event/mlk-day-2022/))

Georgia Tech will host its annual MLK Day of Service, which honors

the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. Participants will serve in teams and participate in service projects with metro Atlanta community partners. To learn more and to register, visit [gatech.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/civic-engagement](http://gatech.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/civic-engagement). For more info, contact: [sarahstroh@gatech.edu](mailto:sarahstroh@gatech.edu).

The King Center will have a week-long celebration. See [www.atlantaparent.com/event/king-holiday/](http://www.atlantaparent.com/event/king-holiday/).

More day-of-service activities may be found at [www.atlantaparent.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day-events/](http://www.atlantaparent.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day-events/).

The Atlanta Police Department reminds you to follow the rules of our Clean Car Campaign. Never leave valuables in your car in plain sight. By doing this, you can prevent one of The most common crimes:



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# Beltline

*Continued from Page 1*

The BeltLine’s rail component is a planned feature of Atlanta’s streetcar plan, which is currently just a short line connecting the World Congress Center with the Sweet Auburn neighborhood. A streetcar probably won’t run on any part of the BeltLine until well late in the next decade, despite the passage of a dedicated sales tax. That’s because the tax will only gradually accumulate the funds necessary, while costs continue to rise.

The busiest section of the Beltline is the Eastside path. According to Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., approximately 70-80% of users are pedestrians, while 20-30% are cyclists. Approximately 6000 cyclists per day passed the Ponce City Market counter in the summer. Scooters only began to appear in the spring of 2018, but they have grown quickly in popularity. Complaints by pedestrians and cyclists about scooter user behavior led the city to ban them from sidewalks, though they became fully legal on the BeltLine. However, the city required scooter-share companies to enact a geofence on the BeltLine that would limit speeds to 8 MPH. Unfortunately, that won’t fix the speed differential problem. Privately owned scooters cannot be geofenced. Conventional and privately owned e-bikes won’t be affected either. No posted speed limit exists on the path, so it is hard to see what legal framework exists to narrow the yawning speed differential between those on foot and those on wheels.

That is a problem as usage rises. Nearly every new residential and commercial complex along the BeltLine features direct access. That means more people entering the path filled with people traveling at varying speeds. Walking out of a restaurant onto the BeltLine on a busy Saturday

will be akin to pulling onto a 12-lane freeway from a stop sign. Detouring wheeled users from the BeltLine to alleviate congestion would require the creation of a bypass route with safe, separated lanes along streets. However, this would pose significant problems for user safety and comfort as the parallel routes are:

- The Monroe Drive/Boulevard corridor to the west.
- Local access streets east through the Virginia-Highland neighborhood and the existing multiuser path in Freedom Park.

Both have many busy, wide grade-level street crossings. The rolling terrain would also be a challenge to those who aren’t in peak condition or on expensive e-bikes. Putting the BeltLine’s streetcar reservation into service as a paved path for wheeled users would make the entire corridor safer and more comfortable. Conflicts due to differences in user speed would evaporate, while the most direct connection between destinations like Piedmont Park, Ponce City Market, and Krog Street Market would be kept.

Significantly, easing congestion will ease use of the BeltLine for those with mobility impairments. Providing space for users in motorized wheelchairs and seated scooters means that they need not deal with cumbersome streetcars. Even with level boarding, space within these for the physical dimensions of a wheelchair could be unavailable due to crowding. Yet with a parallel, wheels-only path, getting around would be as simple as pulling out on the BeltLine and setting off. That’s likely why mobility-impaired users are a common sight in Dutch cities that are laced with bike paths. Neither a streetcar nor local service bus is to be found in most Dutch downtowns, as they aren’t needed.

# Krog

*Continued from Page 1*



*In the Krog District*

urbanization in the area will contribute to gentrification and overcrowding in the area. Inman Park resident Shawn Brines has reservations about the current and future changes in the neighborhood. “It’s all happening so fast,” Brines said. “In the 12 years that I’ve lived here, Inman Park has changed so much. I think it’s great that there’s so much growth in the area, but there’s a point when it can all be too much. It’s been slowly harder to find parking and navigate traffic as the area densifies.”

Lauren Head, an employee at the

Little Tart Bakeshop, has seen notable changes in Inman Park in the three years she has worked at Krog Street Market and expects to see even more changes. However, she does recognize that the market has had some negative consequences. “Krog brings in really cool people locally, and also people from out of town, and it’s really cool to watch our concept disperse to a diverse and broad variety of people,” Head said. “As Krog grows, we just get more and more customers here, and they take our brand elsewhere to get it known; but, on the other hand, I have noticed that the growth has brought a lot more traffic and people, and there are not many affordable places to live anymore.”

The new businesses at Krog District are yet to be determined, and current vendors are curiously awaiting the future businesses. Head is confident the addition of new businesses will not negatively impact the current businesses and instead, invite new concepts to the area. “From my understanding, the property manager does her best to make sure that businesses don’t overlap,” she said. “I [foresee] a lot of cool concepts that are similar and unique in their own ways.”

*Ally Bliss is a lifelong Lake Claire resident on Leonardo and a student at Midtown High. This was written for and first published in the Midtown Southerner, and it is reprinted here with permission. Ally has been a freelance writer for the Clarion since 2015.*

It is unlikely that many BeltLine users, regardless of ability, will wait on a streetcar to go 2.5 miles, its initial length along Eastside path.

They will use more readily available options like scooters and e-bikes. As *Deloitte Insights* recently pointed out: “...the majority of public transit trips are also short: on average, roughly five miles for rail, four miles for bus, and two miles for streetcars—those journeys are also potentially susceptible to substitution by micromobility.”

Given that a survey by Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., shows that building the streetcar is not even in the top three of the public’s priorities, it is time to let go of the streetcar and welcome the bike, scooter, and motorized wheelchair to its planned space.

*Editor’s Note: Kevin writes and consults on transportation issues. He and his wife moved to Lake Claire in 2017. We look forward to future contributions from him in the Clarion.*



*This is a cross-section that Kevin Posey made of how the BeltLine would look per his suggestions.*

# Lake Claire Holiday Fair—our annual neighborhood



*Cont. from p. 1*

apologies). There is no way we could have pulled this off so successfully without all of these people and all of you who attended.

Annsley and I are so pleased that proceeds from the vendors sales were close to \$4000, \$3500 of which will go to Mary Lin Elementary School PTA and the rest to

Lake Claire Neighbors. Many vendors donated more than the required 10% of their profits (and in one case, all of their profits). The donation greatly helps the school continue their excellent programming and helps pay for much needed supplies in classrooms.

Please see more pics on Page 10.





# Arts & Crafts Fest 2021



*Pictures by Debbie Livingston*

## More Pictures of Lake Claire Holiday Fair



### Glass – NOT!

As you've heard recently in the Clarion, NextDoor, and in other publications, the City now recycles glass. However, we at the Clarion implore you NOT to put your glass in the city recycling (blue) bins. After every Wednesday, shards of glass fill our streets. We are not sure how this happens, but fellow dog owners know that it is happening. Please save your glass to take to the DeKalb Farmer's Market or to The Center for Hard to Recycle

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

### January 3: Fruitcake Toss Day

Fruitcake Toss Day is your opportunity to throw away the old fruitcake. After the Christmas holiday is over, it's time to bring in the new, and toss out the old.

There is no one way to toss out the old fruitcake. Why not make a little fun out of it? Gather up a few friends who also are fortunate enough to have received a fruitcake for the holidays. Go out to a field and see who can toss it the farthest. Caution: do not toss the cake at anyone. This weighty

steel-like mass of sugar, flour, and fruits could injure someone, if he or she is hit by it. Important Note: Fruitcake Tossing runs counter to the tradition of many people to pass the fruitcake around from one person to the next. In that tradition, the person who is holding the fruitcake on New Year's day must store it away until the next Christmas season. Or at least until April Fool's Day. And if you think your editor is going bonkers, write [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org).



## Recycling Tip of the Month: What's So Special About an Orange Trash Bag?

by Stephen Wing

Not so long ago, I tipped you off about recycling plastic bags at the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) in Chosewood Park. The catch, if you recall, was that it had to be stretchy, like a grocery sack or a ziploc bag. This includes stretch wrap, shrinkwrap, and deflated bubblewrap—but leaves us stuck with the stiffer, crackly type of plastic used to package chips, grapes, pet foods, etc. However, plastic recycling technology is evolving rapidly, and plastic that crackles is no longer doomed to be landfilled. It too can be dropped off at CHaRM, though not in the same bin as the stretchy kind. This too has a catch: the crackly plastic must be “see-through,” which means it cannot have a shiny foil inner lining. A non-foil lining may appear to be opaque, but hold it up to the light and look inside; if the printed labeling is visible from the inside, it’s “see-through.”

To recycle your see-through crackly plastic, all you need is a fancy new invention called the Hefty EnergyBag, developed by Reynolds Consumer Products. To the naked eye, this appears to be no more than an ordinary trash bag colored an attractive translucent orange. But it comes with instructions, including a long list of previously forbidden plastics it can be stuffed with – not just crackly bags but straws, utensils, and certain candy wrappers. Which candy wrappers? Well, see-through ones, of course. No shiny linings. The program also accepts other items recycled separately by CHaRM, such as the stretchy kind of sheet plastic, styrofoam, and plastics #4, #5 and #6, which are accepted by Atlanta’s curbside program but rarely recycled. If you don’t generate enough of these materials to recycle them separately, just stuff them in your orange bag.

The bags can be purchased at Kroger and Target stores, or by searching online, for around \$10 for a box of 26. Instructions are included, but a more detailed list of acceptable plastics can be found at *Hefty.com*, along with other information about the program. The instructions don’t require rinsing, but it is only polite to remove crumbs and sticky residue.

Lucky residents of Cobb County can drop their stuffed orange bags in their curbside recycling bin, but the rest of us have to drop them off at a designated recycling center. For

Lake Claire, CHaRM is the closest drop-off point, located at 1110 Hill St., just south of Grant Park, but you’ll need to visit [livethrive.org](http://livethrive.org) and make an appointment for drop-off. Of course you’ll want to check out CHaRM’s complete list of accepted materials and save up a carload before making the trip.

And what exactly happens to all these previously unrecyclable plastics after you drop off your orange bag? Like all plastics, recycling them is not exactly “clean and green.” CHaRM’s orange bags go to an Atlanta-based company called Nexus Circular LLC, which converts them “into feedstocks for plastic production through thermal depolymerization (pyrolysis),” according to the company’s website. This means the materials are heated until a chemical reaction occurs which breaks down the plastic polymers (long chains of molecules) into molecules identical to the original ones used to create the polymers. This process can turn food-grade plastics into new food-grade plastics, unlike the older mechanical recycling process which “downcycles” them into lower-grade plastics. Though pyrolysis uses energy, it is far less energy-intensive than making virgin plastic from petroleum. But it does emit methane, hydrogen, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide as byproducts of the process.

As the long-term prospects of fossil fuel production begin to wane, pyrolysis is one of a new wave of “chemical” or “advanced” recycling technologies the petroleum and plastics industries are funding and promoting to justify drilling more oil and manufacturing more plastic. We should resist the temptation to adopt the same faulty logic, recycling our plastic as an excuse to justify purchasing more plastic. Plastic production is projected to triple by 2050, not because we need it but because industry stockholders “need” dividends.

Consumers, beware! Convenience is addictive! For the sake of our planet’s future, keep your eye firmly on the goal of reducing your reliance on disposable plastic by investing in durable re-usable bags, straws, utensils, bottles and containers. Take it from a recycler: recycling is not the answer.

## Editor's Note

### Editor's note 2022:

The beginning of a calendar year is a good time to think back on the accomplishments of Lake Claire—and to think ahead to what we hope to achieve or initiate in the coming years. The executive committee meets early in the year to discuss what we want to do as a neighborhood, and how best to work together in the coming year. Of course, Covid threw a wrench in the works, but we’ve shown we are still vibrant with the great attendance at our recent Arts Fest.

I am delighted to continue to run the Clarion; it continues to be a labor of love, though I would love some new contributions, such as we have this month on the Beltline, on the front page.

One of my favorite features is the column I started for children (featured on the back page), “Kids’ Corner.” The young contributors have been fantastic. Reading some of the past columns; I feel certain that these will be the first efforts of future writers and artists. If you are new to Lake Claire, do go back and read the past columns on the website ([www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarion/clarion-archives/](http://www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarion/clarion-archives/)). At this link you will find pdfs of the Clarion newspaper and its predecessor newsletter “Neighbors,” back to 2000. It is so fun looking back in the Clarion archives, where I recently found an article that Ally (another writer on the first page) wrote when she was about nine, and now she is a writer for the Midtown High Southerner. Over the years, she and many

other Lake Claire kids have grown up before our eyes in the Clarion. Many kids are also on our volunteer delivery team.

This newspaper has been edited, written, and distributed to homes, businesses, and churches in the area, by volunteers, since 1991. As with many of our neighborhood efforts, it takes many hands. Thanks to the Clarion team, without whom production of the Clarion would be impossible: Véronique Perrot, Pat Del Rey, and Alicia McGill, for Layout, Advertising, and Distribution. Of course, we always appreciate our advertisers, and I hope you will strongly consider using their products and services. And as always, thank you to our team of delivery volunteers, the “Clarion Carriers,” who bring the newspapers straight to Lake Claire porches through sun and rain—and even some occasional sleet and snow.

One more note: The biggest expense for our Arts Fest was the printing. Are there any neighbors with printing companies out there who would like to contribute to next year’s fest with an in-kind contribution to help cover or partially reduce printing costs? If so, please write me at [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) to discuss our needs. Please also write me at that address with any other suggestions or offers to participate in the newspaper in any way, including writing or even guest-editing an issue to put your feet in new waters!

Happy 2022, everyone!

~Beth

## A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My cat Fitz loves to go on walks outside, and I actually can walk her with a harness on. Up until today it’s been great, but today we had a pretty scary encounter with an off-leash dog. Pretty much right after the dog spotted Fitz, he went after him, headed toward us. Luckily no animals were harmed, but Fitz was so scared that he tore me up when I grabbed him up. If he had wiggled out of his harness and tried to run away I might never have seen him

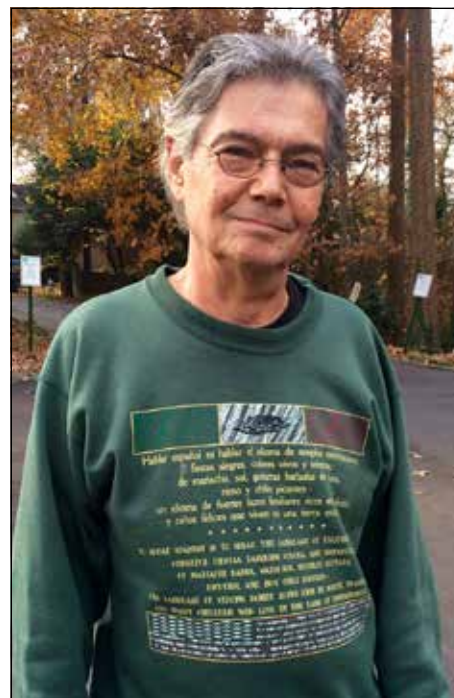
again. The owner did apologize so this isn’t to criticize her per se—I just wanted to post a reminder that even if your dog is friendly most of the time he or she does still have a “prey drive,” and you can’t predict how a dog will react when seeing an unexpected animal. And certainly other dog owners won’t want an unplanned dog encounter. Please leash your dogs in Lake Claire, and for that matter, in all residential areas!

Signed, AK



# President's Message

Continued from Page 3



es the suspicion that unscrupulous developers file complaints in hopes that the stress and cost of required improvements will force the elderly to simply give up. This is a far cry from responsible code enforcement that actually targets homes used for illegal purposes or are unsafe and relies on anonymity to protect a complainant from retaliation.

In short, we must always keep in mind the human factor when it comes to setting up standards that are more for aesthetics and the creation of expensive homes than what is appropriate for people to be able to live in a neighborhood within their means. And as we all know, when most older homes are sold, whether for legitimate reasons or because an elderly resident is intimidated, they are usually replaced with much more costly ones, and the result is continued gentrification. In this light, let's be careful that any zoning changes for the purpose of more affordable housing, although well intentioned, don't end up adding to the already increasing number of high-end homes and consequent rise in taxes making it even more difficult for the elderly and those of any age to live in desirable places. This is the sentiment and vision I'd like to project for the neighborhood as we move into 2022. Happy New Year!

P.S. Don't forget your \$20 neighborhood annual dues to help us carry out our work to preserve the progressive character of our neighborhood as well as supporting our local and surrounding institutions!

as high bushes or even having toys stored on a back porch. And if that were not enough, when repairs are not completed within a specified period of time, an appearance in court is required, and once cited inspectors can return to find more supposed violations making it a virtual nightmare. In addition, anyone can file a complaint whether they live in the neighborhood or not, and there is no way to find out who made it. So even though the nuclear threat is not now emphasized, the ideal of beautifully kept homes, as opposed to anything that may be judged as non-conforming according to vague standards, hasn't gone away and paves the way for getting rid of older homes as so-called major eyesores that need to be developed just as slums were cleared out in the past. Frequent approaches to older homeowners to sell also rais-

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

### January Birthdays:

- 3 – Leah Braun, Claire Drive, turns 15
- 3 – Lisa Morris, Sutherland Place
- 5 – Dave Kaiser, Hardendorf
- 6 – Nancy Noland, Leonardo
- 8 – Sam Elalouf, McLendon Ave.
- 9 – Reese Kruskamp, Clifton Rd, turning 5!
- 12 – Tamar Williams, Harold Avenue
- 12 – Tiffany Mawhinney, Howard Circle
- 15 – Sophie Oren, Leonardo, six!
- 16 – Theo Emanuel, Marlbrook, six!
- 18 – Some famous people's bdays... Pat Del Rey, illustrious Clarion ad manager, Leonardo; Cynthia Baer, Longtime Clarion and Neighborhood supporter, Gordon Avenue; and Jake Craney, Leonardo
- 19 – Genise Spenle, Arizona Avenue
- 21 – Amelia Stevens is turning 14!
- 28 – Tom McGill, Delaware Ave.

Take a minute, and send life cycle events for the next issue, February, by January 18.

## Notes about Some Food We Miss

by Beth Damon



Zesto: As many know, the L5P location of Zesto is closed after a large tree fell onto the restaurant in May, following two days of heavy rain and storms. No one was injured. The 58-year-old iconic burger and ice-cream joint remains closed while the company repairs the damage, most of which was sustained in the back of the building. Meanwhile, management asks people to visit Zesto's other locations on Ponce de Leon, Cheshire Bridge, and in Buckhead. We at the Clarion thought you might

enjoy some history while you wait for the malteds to come back.

Initially meant to compete with Dairy Queen, the Taylor Freezer Corporation originally owned Zesto. John Livaditis opened the first Zesto in Atlanta in 1949 as a soft serve ice cream shop on Peachtree across from Brookwood Station. After Taylor Freezer Corporation began cutting ties with its Zesto franchisees, Livaditis moved the original restaurant to Piedmont Road in the 1950s and added hamburgers to the menu.

He opened four additional Atlanta-area locations, including the Zesto in L5P in 1963. A student from Georgia Tech came up with the name "Chubby Decker" named for the rock and roll singer Chubby Checker. It is still the most popular food item at Zesto. Many of us in Lake Claire and Candler Park have enjoyed ice cream, fries, or foot-longs over the many years Zesto served the neighborhood. It is unclear what the future holds for this key corner, but

the L5P CID has supported the owners through their recent driveway negotiations with GDOT, resulting in a good compromise tailored gently to mitigate their archaic "endless" curb without taking away their unique parking configuration. We hope to have an update in the near future about this L5P store. Still family-owned and operated, Zesto is an Atlanta tradition!

Cont. on p. 14

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## Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White



We have made it through another crazy year, and we are happy to share some good things that have happened around Clifton.

- Throughout the entire pandemic we have only had one guest test positive for Covid. We jumped into action and took necessary steps, and the situation was quickly remedied. Praise!
- Volunteers have returned to the shelter, serving meals, hosting cookouts and clean-ups around campus, organizing our clothing closet and food pantry; the list goes on. Thankful!

- Boy Scout Troop 101 and neighbors pitched in and cultivated a beautiful garden on our campus that has provided us with fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Blessing!
- Our Clifton family has sustained us with in-kind and financial gifts that have made our mission possible. Provision!

The picture above shows our staff (L-R): Lori White, Mia Covington, Jimmy Farmer, and Sarahkate Abercrombie.

The staff, board, and guests of Clifton want to say a big "thank you" to our wonderful Lake Claire neighbors. The way you love on us is incredible! The meals, in-kind and financial donations, serving around our campus, and checking in on us to see what we need is so appreciated. We love being your neighbors and are grateful for being a part of such a wonderful community. Blessings to all for a wonderful new year!!



## New Year. New You!

How to Make Health and Fitness Your Priority in 2022

by Jaye Crawford

The Times Square Ball has dropped, the party horns have been blown, and the feasts have been consumed. Another year has passed, and we all find ourselves with a blank canvas of a new year in front of us. No matter where we live or where we come from, it's probably safe to say that over the past two years we've all been through a lot. Despite the challenges we've faced or adversity we've experienced, there is good news!

A new year offers a chance to hit the reset button and create a fresh start. What matters most is choosing to make the best of the next 365 days we're presented with. Whether you're a resolution maker or not, committing to your personal health and fitness is empowering, helps you feel good, and is full of rewarding benefits. Who doesn't want to feel good?

Regular exercise reduces stress, anxiety, and the risk of many diseases. Staying fit lowers blood pressure, improves arthritis, helps achieve and maintain weight loss, slows the aging process, and promotes longevity, just to name a few benefits. In short, exercise keeps us healthy, happy, and thriving. While making changes can sometimes feel overwhelming, taking small steps adds up, and can help you get back on track. Where there's a will, there's a way!

Start somewhere: Begin by incorporating little things into daily life, such as going for a walk, making smarter food choices, and getting enough sleep. Changes build on momentum and produce an adaptation response in the body. You're on your way. How exciting! Get a check-up: An annual physical exam is a smart way to begin the new year, especially when embarking on a new fitness regimen. Consulting your doctor or healthcare practitioner first will help to identify any medical issues, and provide an opportunity to discuss concerns and receive valuable advice. Find your flow: In order to ensure your success, it's important to get to know yourself and the types of workouts you enjoy. Are you a morning person? Do you have more time and

energy in the evening? Do you love exercising outdoors in nature? Choosing the ideal time and training environment that works best for you is key.

Fun Fitness offers several training options: In-Person Training: 1-on-1 Instruction in-home or Fun Fitness Studio; Video Call Training; Outdoor Training: On P.A.T.H., at-home, greenspace, or favorite outdoor location. With guidance, you can create a strategic, weekly schedule that feels natural, meets your needs, and gets results. Set S.M.A.R.T goals: Every great journey begins with a plan. This is true for a fit and healthy new you! Goal setting and charting your progress are important steps in the process. While some goals are easy to articulate, others might be awkward to express. With guidance, your goals can be identified as short term or long term and assured that they are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound. Learning how to make and manage "smart" goals constructively is an integral key to your success. Strengthen fitness friendships: Good energy is contagious! Studies show that people who have supportive exercise partners have a stronger chance of staying fit and meeting goals. Go ahead, phone a friend! Make it your lifestyle: People who make healthy living a part of their daily lifestyle find a "flow." By giving it their best, they learn the ways to balance their health, along with family and work responsibilities. It's not always easy, but with the right attitude and guidance, it can be done. You've got this!

Jaye Crawford, owner of Fun Fitness, Inc., has been helping clients achieve their personal health and fitness goals, serving the Lake Claire community, since 1999. She is a Fitness Trainer and Holistic Lifestyle Coach certified by the CHEK Institute, specializes in individual program design, with affordable rates for any budget, and offers a complimentary consultation to learn how to get started. Contact Jaye at 404.610.7878 or jaye@funfitnessonline.com.



Jaye Crawford



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## Neighborhood Dues for Lake Claire

Suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household. 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.

Congrats and thanks to these 10, the first to pay 2022 dues!

- |                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pat Del Rey            | Véronique Perrot            |
| Marilyn Schertz        | Linda Hooper & Jack Feldman |
| Haley Stoop            | Pam Haggerty                |
| Yetnayet (Yeti) Aberra | David Leege                 |
| Roger Burgess          | Brian Smith                 |

## Some Food We Miss

*Continued from Page 12*

**Krispy Kreme:** And speaking of food service disasters, the twice fire-ravaged Krispy Kreme on Ponce De Leon in Midtown, partially owned by basketball legend Shaquille O'Neal, plans to rebuild and reopen the historic shop later this year. No one was injured in either fire.

Krispy Kreme also has a long history. Its doughnut recipe is kept secret at the company headquarters in Winston-Salem, where founder Vernon Rudolph purchased the secret formula for the yeast doughnut in 1935. As an Atlanta native, however, I can attest that the Ponce store is

also an Atlanta tradition; for many of us, the beguilement of the Krispy Kreme doughnut transcends the doughnut itself. (Take that, Dunkin Doughnuts...)

Once rebuilt, the historic doughnut shop will again prominently display its iconic sign on Ponce. For now, the doughnut company has opened a temporary pop-up food truck on the site! (Thanks, Margaret W., for noticing.)

And, though you can't watch your original glazed doughnut in the fryer and coming down the assembly line, it still awaits you at the pop-up!

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## Happy New Year 2022!

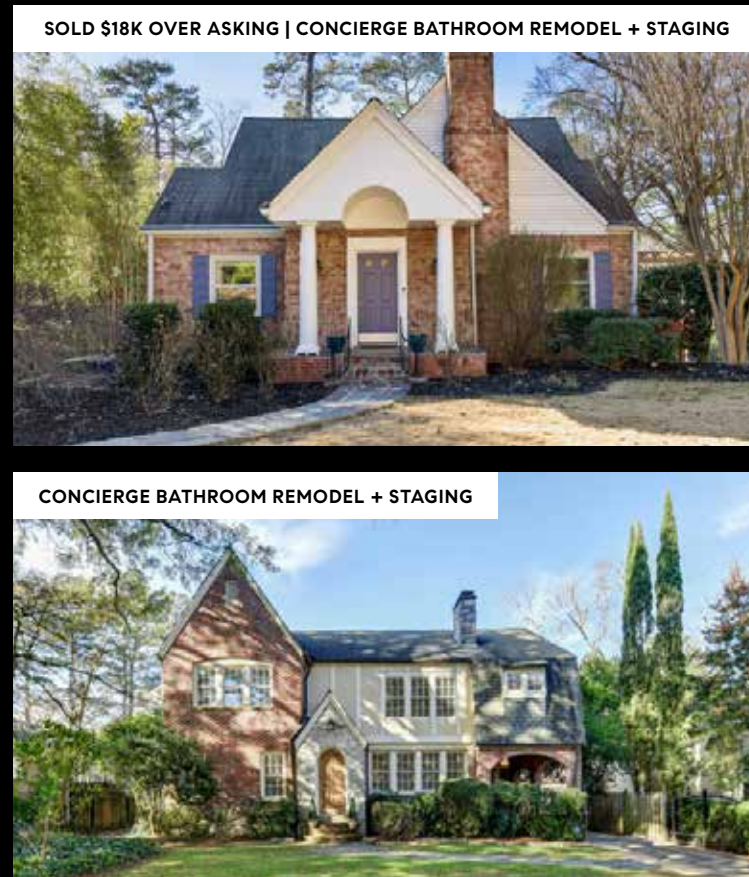
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## Save the Date! Have S'more Party, January 23

by Andrea Zoppo (Ms. Ladybug)

Since I am no longer living in Atlanta, I've been working with the incredible Brook Hewitt on 2022 programming for families, starting with our "Have S'more" party on Sunday, January 23, 4–6 p.m., and we can't wait to see you there! As in the past, we will have regular, vegan, and gluten-free options, but now we will have extra precautions for health and safety. Masks are encouraged. We have missed gathering and are grateful to get to be with you s'more!

The amazing Ms. Brook will be leading monthly events for the rest of the year. She led the Camera Class for Kids this summer and loved it—and loved the Land Trust. (See Brook's article below to learn about her, and check out her planned fun family events.) Suggested donation: \$10/extra \$5 for each extra kid.

**Announcing the Children's Garden Family Program:** At our Have S'more Party we will be celebrating

two special families who have stepped up as guardians of our beloved "Ladybug Rocks" Children's Garden! Big thanks to the Gierraltowski and Handler crews for stewarding the space with care and light! These two families have agreed to help maintain and improve the garden from November until the end of January. We met, toured the space, identified invasive plants to remove, reviewed fun project ideas, and then they helped prepare garlic for planting and shell beans from my new farm in Tennessee. It was a great time sharing and learning together. We are so grateful to these families for their time and attention. The magical creatures and statues living in the garden are delighted to see new colorful rocks appearing, pathways cleared, bee hotel renovations, and creeping weeds torn asunder. Here is a recent update from them: "We visited the garden last weekend. We did some Creeping



Charlie removal, moved some treasures around, cleaned up litter, filled the bug hotel with some fresh material and sticks, and painted some new rocks and hid them in the garden. We also painted faces on acorns and hid them. We removed 3 stepping stones and will paint them at home and return them."

Thank you again, Gierraltowski and Handler families, for your contributions. These efforts by local families are the essence of what makes community spaces thrive and be re-



silient. Participation is key! Meanwhile, we invite more families to get involved. Please contact me if you are interested in being a fairy special guardian of the Children's Garden for February to May, [andrea.zoppo@yahoo.com](mailto:andrea.zoppo@yahoo.com).

## Meet Brook Hewitt, Our New Children's Garden Coordinator!

Hello, Lake Claire! I started teaching when I was just a kid; I had a natural ability and desire to create fun activities for other children. Now I am three decades deep into the art of creative education and experience-making for kids and families. I worked in the school system for several years as an elementary art teacher, and many private institutions as a freelance teacher. I've taught just about everything you can imagine. You can find me running around the metro Atlanta area teaching cooking, physical wellness, acting, sewing, fashion design, technology, crafting, clay, painting, drawing, mixed media, and s'more. In 2009, I started a photography business, a lifelong dream. I soon realized that I could teach photography to kids—an even bigger dream! For the last ten years I have run a one-of-a-kind photography education program, "Camera Class for Kids." I teach ages 3-18 how to use cameras in a fun way. I have taught photography and photojournalism to 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 at several art studios. I have been a hired consultant for many teachers and schools on creating photography lesson plans. More recently I have switched to online education to meet the needs of families and children during this unique time. Making the



switch to online has been a ton of fun! I have taught children literally all over the world for organizations like Girls Rock Camp and Salesforce. I also published a children's book on photography, *Max and the Attitude Adjustment*, and am working on a second book called *Photography Playground*. Like my classes, all of the projects in the book can be done by any child with any type of camera.

We are looking into the possibility of a monthly drum/dance circle for families, starting this Spring, and even a weeklong Summer Camp at the Land Trust in July, so stay tuned. My mission statement for living is to create and make space for as much joy as possible. I am deeply excited about spreading creativity and joy to the families of the Lake Claire Land Trust!

## Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

- Sat. Jan. 1 & 15:** Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. Donation requested
- Sun. Jan. 2:** Vinyasa Yoga with Ashley Brooks, 10–11 a.m. \$10/person
- Sat. Jan. 15:** Community Work Day, 1–4 p.m. Pizza follows.
- Sun. Jan. 23:** Have S'more Party with Miss Ladybug and Brook Hewitt (article above).

## Lake Claire Community Land Trust T-Shirts Still Available!

Colorful 100% cotton tie-dyed shirts with silk-screened LCCLT logo, sizes M to 2XL in men's/ladies' styles (robin's egg blue or dark green, \$25), children's small and medium (bright green, \$15).

Order or info: [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org).

### Projected Children's Garden Event Schedule for 2022:

(All will be on Sundays 4–6 p.m., exact dates TBA.)

- January – Have S'more Party with Ms. Brook and Ms. Ladybug;
- February – Hand Sewing with Felt and Hot Cider Dance Party;
- March – Hello Spring Tea Party and Scavenger Hunt;
- April – Snail Appreciation Crafting Workshop;
- May – Rainbow Science and Fun;
- June – Crazy for Cyanotype Workshop;
- July – Cooking in the Garden;

August – Ice Ice Baby, Water and Ice Crafts, and Play;

September – Rock Spa and Painting;

October – Not-So-Scary Scarecrow Workshop;

November – Stupendous Stick Crafts;

December – Gifts of Nature: Making Gifts With and For Nature.

For more info, visit [www.cameraclassforkids.com](http://www.cameraclassforkids.com). Land Trust activities are under the tab "Other Fun Stuff I Do." You can also email at [cameraclassforkids@gmail.com](mailto:cameraclassforkids@gmail.com).



# LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/writers/artists to participate. This month some Lake Claire members of Girl Scout Troop 17097 wrote their thoughts

about the neighborhood arts and crafts fest. Thank you, Zoe Bulloch, Gabriella Inestroza, and Brynn Roll, of Casson Street, Southerland Terrace, and Sutherland Place, respectively.

Add **your** creativity to this page! Submit your writings, art, or suggestions to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), by **JANUARY 18** for the next issue of the newspaper, which will be FEBRUARY 2022



Gabriella is in both pictures wearing the dark green sweater and elf hat. Zoe is in the yellow hoodie and Santa hat, and Brynn is in the pink shirt on the end of the row. These two pictures combined show 8 of the girls who participated with Troop 17097 at the fair December 4.

(L-R) Evan and Lily

## Thoughts about the Holiday Fair from some Lake Claire members of Girl Scout Troop 17097

**Zoe Bulloch** (age 10, Casson Street, N.E.) — My favorite part about the holiday fair was coming up with what we wanted to make and sell at the booth. That was one of the best parts of the fair. We polled friends to see what they would like to buy and then made prototypes to figure out how to best make them. Our hot chocolate gift jars and holiday scented soaps were very fun to make, and I think many people liked them! I really enjoyed buying things at other booths too, and found some perfect things for myself. I would definitely want to participate again next year... and also buy more gifts!

**Gabriella Inestroza** (age 11, Southerland Terrace) — I liked participating in the Lake Clair Holiday Fair because I liked seeing what other people at the fair would sell, I also just liked selling the products overall. Another reason I liked participating in the fair was because I loved working with my Girl Scout troop to make our things

we sold. My favorite part of the fair was that I could talk to people about the hot chocolate gift jar, soap, and cookies we made and seeing my friends stop by the booth.

**Brynn Roll** (age 10, Sutherland Place) — My favorite part about the fair was selling cookies, soap, and hot cocoa. When people would stop by it was fun to sell it to them and see the boxes of things we were selling slowly empty as the day went on. There were also so many booths! You couldn't look anywhere without seeing 2 or 3 booths. While looking around you could see all the creative people who had probably spent weeks working on what they were going to sell. Overall it was a great experience doing the craft fair, and I definitely recommend making your own booth next year.

*For information regarding Girl Scouts, please reach out to Keri Bulloch at PRSU725@gmail.com.*

## Contest Winners!

We had a tie finding the mistletoe! First by a hair were Lily and Evan Cornell on Arizona. Lily is age 7, in 2nd grade at Mary Lin, and Evan is age 5, in kindergarten at Mary Lin. They also mentioned they loved the arts & crafts fair and had so much fun! Tied with them was Hayden Pittman. Hayden is eight years old, lives on Marlbrook, and she goes to Mary Lin. Hayden and her little sister Drew are among our frequent winners over the years! Congrats to all three of you: you won the contest over a VAST number of Lake Claire kids who participated. Your prize is your picture in the Clarion. **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 below.

## New Contest

Hello, Kids! Somewhere in this newspaper is a picture of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "MLK," as we sometimes refer to him, was born in Georgia in 1929. He became a famous American leader, one of the main leaders of the civil rights movement. Dr. King hoped to make things equal for people regardless of their race or the color of their skin. The winner/winners will have their pictures in the next Clarion. To win, send e-mail to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade,

along with a photo of yourself. **(Please tell your parents to send large picture files, 1mb+.) Any Lake Claire child is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row.** For extra credit, tell us something special you will do on MLK Day. 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 JANUARY 18. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize!**



Hayden

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE CLARION.  
STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!  
SEND US YOUR IDEAS — ANYTIME!