



When is the best time to dream big?

by Boyd Baker

Pandemic, social unrest, climate crises, political turmoil, and just daily survival... can feel kind of overwhelming, right? In turbulent times, many folks pull back from the world and hunker down until the “storm” passes. They put life on hold in some ways. Creators shelve projects they hoped to launch. Entrepreneurs hit pause until they can figure which way the wind is blowing. I say that’s the wrong mindset for happiness and success.

How can I be so sure? Well, to be honest I can’t, but I can throw some ideas out there that might give you a new perspective. In the stock market and real estate, do they take a break when the market turns down? Not in my world. Smart investors, especially those with deep pockets, expand. They buy and look for the deals that are surely out there because the majority are afraid and selling.

Now this isn’t the case in all markets but look at the number of new restaurants opening around us these days. If you take a look at *Eater Atlanta*, you’ll find sad news about local joints that have closed but then almost as many Opening Soon announcements. Inspired folks are looking to fill the void left by closures and cutbacks. It’s the same in almost every industry. Some take their toys and go home, while others jump onto the playing field and grow without the competition. I think that’s just human nature.

Look at music. So many artists ei-

ther pulled the covers up over their heads every morning and slept until noon, or they decided to screw up their nerve and beef up their online presence. Some dove headfirst into creating live online concerts while others disappeared from your view. There are musicians now making more money performing from their bedrooms than they did touring! *Boyd, come on! I think you’re pushing it a bit. I haven’t heard of this.* Two words: Taylor Swift. She recorded two gajillion-selling albums, *Folklore* and *Evermore*, remotely collaborating without leaving her

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What’s the future of work?

by Kevin H. Posey

For many Americans, work has meant going from their homes to a place of employment—until spring of 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic struck with full force. Lockdowns closed offices and other workplaces. People began to work from hastily arranged home offices. As the pandemic wore on and workplaces remained closed or limited on-site staff, people began to get accustomed to the home office lifestyle. As the Delta variant surged and receded, these workers grew more intent on staying home rather than returning to a potentially dangerous work environment (KTAR News, 2021).

Some employers have been reluctant to abandon plans to return to the office. Jamie Dimon, CEO and chair-

ly come back. And the executive said, very carefully, ‘That’s fine for Jamie Dimon.’ And I said, ‘What I think you’re saying is that it’s good for your recruiting.’ And he said, ‘That’s very intuitive of you (Zeitchik, 2021).’”

The Great Resignation is leading many people to leave unsatisfactory jobs (Morgan, 2021). That poses an implicit threat to employers who buck employee hesitancy regarding a return to the office. The option to stay away from the office would not be possible without advances in technology that make the home office viable for much of the workforce. Thanks to companies like Salesforce, Zoom, Microsoft, and Google, managers and employers can hold face-to-face meetings with multiple subordinates simultaneously, share documents, and monitor progress. Essentially, all of the interactions of the office can be replicated in a remote working context. This includes informal conversations, though without the physical presence of a water cooler to gather around. Chatting over Zoom isn’t the most advanced communication enhancement available. That title arguably belongs to Virtual Reality (VR). VR has the potential to allow workers to collaborate in a way that allows them to share not just an experience, but also emotions related to that experience (Mosher, 2021). In essence, if a team is wearing VR headsets, they could hold a virtual corporate retreat...on Mars. VR and other communications technology improvements have been a boon for the health industry, as well. Prior to the pandemic, Emory University Hospital was allowing for telehealth appointments to save time for staff. However, these appointments became mandatory as healthcare workers became sickened due to exposure to those with COVID-19. This telehealth system is now being made available beyond metro Atlanta into rural Georgia, where patients and EMS workers will have remote access to Emory doctors and specialists (Holloway, 2021).

Another factor weakening the dominance of the office is the gig econ-

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DeKalb Avenue Improvements

by Miriam Herbers

In the December Clarion, I reported that I attended the online meeting regarding pre-construction information webinar about DeKalb Ave. improvements. I said I would try to keep neighbors up to date on the sections of DeKalb Ave. road improvements that apply to Lake Claire. Although some action has started, it is not what we were told in the meeting would be happening, so I can’t report

the next steps in advance. The only thing I can ascertain from ATLDOT is that the project is 12% completed but that includes the whole length from Ridgecrest to Jackson Avenue. Curb cuts for ADA compliance appear to be complete in Lake Claire. That is all I can say at this time. Please continue to be careful and drive cautiously and safely.

man of JPMorgan Chase bank, insisted that all of his employees would return to the office because working from home “doesn’t work for people who want to hustle, doesn’t work for culture, doesn’t work for idea generation (Fottrell, 2021).” However, his competitors might have other ideas. Thomas Malone, director of MIT’s Center for Collective Intelligence, related a conversation with an executive at one of Dimon’s competitors: “I was talking to a very senior executive at a major bank, and we were discussing that Jamie Dimon quote that everyone has to absolute-

Lake Claire Officers for 2020
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 VP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, comm@lakeclaire.org
 VP Fun(d)raising: Pen Sherwood, fun@lakeclaire.org
 Education Chair: Annsley Klehr, education@lakeclaire.org.

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

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February Calendar

Please check Page 11 for Lake Claire Land Trust events, and check Page 9 for LIVE MUSIC.

1–27 The Alliance Theatre: (1) Hertz Stage through February 13: *Dream Hou\$e*; (2) Coca-Cola Stage through February 27, *Toni Stone*. alliancetheatre.org. See article to the right.

1–28 Horizon Theatre presents *Every Brilliant Thing*. (Check website to make sure no change and buy tix. As of press time, Season 38, opening in person). www.horizontheatre.com

2–27 Theatrical Outfit presents *Bright Half Life*. What if life came with a rewind button? Pulitzer Prize finalist Tanya Barfield brings the world this exciting new play. Pls check website to make sure no change and buy tix. www.theatricaloutfit.org/

5 Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday with Trees Atlanta, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Help restore and maintain our beloved neighborhood old-growth forest. Pre-registration required. Space is limited. frazercenter.org/about-us/events

5 Actors Express season previously announced to start January 5, moved to March (Covid). Tix on sale now for *Intimate Apparel*, which starts March 24. actors-express.com.

10 14th Annual, Black History Month Kick-off, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Adrian Miller, James Beard Award Winner, appears live via Zoom, then Chef Asata Reid and culinary historian Akila McConnell give dynamic presentations about the places, people, and recipes that shaped DeKalb's Soul Food history. Finally, enjoy a catered Soul Food meal prepared by Phenomenal Foods by Chef Holly. Historic DeKalb Courthouse, Second Floor, tix \$40 for Members and \$50 for Non-Members, both include lunch. Virtual option: \$5 for Members, \$10 for Non-Members. Tickets available for purchase NOW. Ticket link: dekalb-history-center.square.site/

13 Super Bowl LVI will happen, but more important to many women in Lake Claire, there will be no Women's Tea. As many of you know, Betsy Hoddinott and friends usually host an afternoon of tea, treats, and talk on "Superbowl Sunday." I'll miss the iconic tea pots and variety of teas, not to mention little cucumber sandwiches with the crusts cut off the bread! As the organizers stated, "Omicron won this round, but hopefully next year."

14 ♥

16–27 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival: This year AJFF will be taking place in iconic venues in Midtown Atlanta and Sandy Springs. There will also be streaming options. For more information on specific films, guest speakers, tickets, and venues, please visit www.ajff.org. Tickets go on sale on Feb. 9.

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

Alliance Theatre's Exciting New Plays

This month, on the Coca-Cola Stage, The Alliance presents *Toni Stone*. Declared the best new play of 2019 by the Wall St Journal, *Toni Stone* is a funny and fascinating story of race, gender, and ambition. Toni Stone was the first woman to play baseball in the Negro Leagues (making her the first woman to play professionally in any men's league). Against all odds, she blazed a path in the male-dominated sports world. This is Toni's journey to fight for equality, love, and a chance to do what she wants most: playing world-class baseball.

On the Hertz Stage, the world premiere of *Dream Hou\$e* follows two Latina sisters selling their family home and hoping to capitalize on the gentrification in their "changing neighborhood." One grapples with the family's

ancestral past while the other learns how much she's willing to sacrifice for the family future. What is the cultural cost of progress in America? The play won the 2021/22 Alliance/Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting Competition. Note that safety procedures are a top priority (including requirement to show IDs, vax cards, and required masking at all times, plus no food or beverage allowed).

My tix to Dream House aren't until Feb. 10, so as often happens with a monthly publication, I can't see it in time to review the play while it is still running; however, as frequent Clarion readers know, I love theatre, and I encourage you to check out these offerings at the Alliance. It is important to support local theatre, especially during these times.

The Clarion could use your help! We have a delivery route that will need to be delivered until the regular deliverer recovers from illness, perhaps several months.

The route is 40 homes, and it must be delivered to porches the last week of the month or first week of the following month.

Please contact Alicia, the delivery manager, if interested, or if you need more info.

Help is appreciated!!

Alicia McGill: distribution@lakeclaire.org



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A Path Forward

by Heather Friedman, CMO, LifeLine Animal Project

Everywhere we turn the pandemic continues to cast a looming shadow over daily life. Milk and bread have gone flying off the grocery shelves again. Our medical community (among others) is still exhausted after a two-year uphill battle. Supply chain logistics have caused shipping delays for our favorite products, and labor shortages have impacted the delivery of services across the nation. The long-term effects of these challenging times are simply taking their toll on everyone.

The animal shelters in Atlanta have also been hit hard by the pandemic. While it's not uncommon to see overcrowding during the summer months, a stroll through the DeKalb or Fulton County animal shelters will show you a startling sight for this time of year: the dog kennels are completely full.

2021 saw a 12% increase in animals entering the LifeLine shelter. The number of adoptions has decreased, as has the support of rescue partners—by almost 10%. This means more animals have entered the building than have left. The sheer number of pets that need caring for is hard work during the best of times, but with labor shortages and employees out of work due to Covid, the toil is harder than ever. Teams of staff and volunteers are working overtime (covering extra shifts and



Puppies at the shelter

wearing multiple hats) to provide care, love, and enrichment to these shelter pets in need of homes.

The need for support for the animals in our city is at a critical high.

There are many ways communities like ours can help make a difference for the animals that were lost, have been surrendered, or have otherwise found their way into the animal shelters in our city.

- Open your home to adopt or foster a pet (even if you can only foster for a few weeks, it makes a huge difference.)
- Help lost pets stay out of the overburdened shelters by posting on NextDoor and trying to get them back home.
- Consider becoming a monthly

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Choosing a Yoga Teacher

by Frani Green

How do I find a good yoga teacher? Well, it's like shopping for clothes. You do a little self searching... think about what you want to get out of it. Are you looking for a place of community? Are you wanting to become stronger and more flexible? Are you seeking a spiritual path to follow? Do you need to quiet your mind and calm your nerves? All of these things can be found in the practice of yoga. It is important to feel comfortable so that you can breathe, and that it is a good fit.

Search in your area of yoga studios and types of yoga and what they offer. There are many selections in and around Lake Claire. Then, you decide which place to go. And try it on. Go to a class, see if the teacher

resonates with you. Every teacher is different in his or her approach, the way they teach, speak, sequencing of the asanas (poses), and how you feel by the end of the class. You will know what works for you. Have fun trying out different teachers. No matter what, you will learn something, mostly about yourself. If you have any questions that I could assist you with or would like to try one of my classes, be it one-on-one or virtual, please feel free to reach out to me at franigreen@bellsouth.net, and check out my Facebook page Yoga with Frani for class schedules.

Blessings on your journey!

Namaste, Frani

It's Officially Girl Scout Cookie Season!

by Keri Bulloch

Each year beginning on January 1, you begin to see Girl Scouts in your neighborhood ready to tell you all about why you need to buy some Girl Scout Cookies. I'm sure you've had more than a couple knocking at your door! Just within the Lake Claire neighborhood, we have nearly 60 Girl Scouts that are working hard to reach their personal cookie-selling goals.

Did you know that Girl Scout Cookies are so much more than just a tasty treat? Every package you buy helps the brave and bold girls who sell them create unique adventures for themselves and their troops. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is also the largest girl-led business in the world and an unforgettable way to help girls become the next generation of female leaders. Every Girl Scout in Greater Atlanta benefits from the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Whether it's a trip to a breathtaking place they've never been, an op-

portunity to attend Girl Scout camp and revel in the power of the great outdoors, finding ways to give back to the community, or the chance to try something new, every experience helps each one find the best, boldest version of herself.

The cookie lineup for 2022 is much like last year with Lemon-Ups, Trefoils, Do-si-dos, Samoas, Tagalongs, Thin Mints, S'mores, Toffee-Tastic (gluten free), but with a new, must-try cookie, Adventurefuls. This new cookie is an indulgent, brownie-inspired cookie with caramel flavored crème and a hint of sea salt. It has quickly become a favorite among the girls (and adults) who have tried them. If you like chocolate, just add a box or two along with your favorite Thin Mints and Samoas, and don't forget to donate a few to Smiles4Military while you're at it.

If you haven't had the chance to buy cookies yet, no worries, there is still plenty of time. Just reach out to

your favorite Girl Scout. Don't know a Girl Scout? The Cookie Finder goes live on Monday, February 7, where you'll be able to find a Cookie Booth near you, or starting Friday, February 18, order online from a troop in your area that will deliver right to your door through March 11. You can visit this link to find cookies near you: www.girlscouts.org/en/cookies.html or send a message to PRSU725@gmail.com subject line: cookies, and we will help find your closest Girl Scout Troop. Thank you for supporting your Lake Claire Girl Scouts! They are:

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Gato Pop-ups: Mighty Hans and Gigi's Italian Kitchen & Restaurant

by Beatrice Wan

Walking down McLendon, you'll come across Gato, a favorite Lake Claire restaurant. However, depending on the day, you might see Gato transform into a Taiwanese-American or Italian-American establishment. The ever-changing storefront is a result of Gato's constant support of pop-ups, most recently Mighty Hans and Gigi's Italian Kitchen & Restaurant. We spoke with both Mighty Hans and Gigi's Italian Kitchen to learn a little bit more about who they are and the food they're cooking up on the border of Lake Claire and Candler Park.

Mighty Hans. Mighty Hans is a Taiwanese American pop-up created by Fu-Mao Sun, currently popping up for Saturday brunch at Gato. Born in Northampton, Massachusetts, he attended college in New Jersey and worked in corporate finance after graduation. He didn't see a future in corporate finance and always loved cooking, so he decided to attend culinary school in NYC after work for six months. To further his culinary pursuits, he also had an externship during the weekends at Gramery Tavern for about one year. Eventually, Sun quit his finance job on a Friday and started his cooking career on a Monday at the NoMad hotel, cooking primarily French and new American cuisine. He cooked at the hotel for five years, then decided to move to Atlanta about three years ago to help out with the family business, which imports and distributes soybean Asian condiments. With the recent surge of "pop-ups" in the food industry and the ability to provide his own creations at different establishments, Mighty Hans was off and running.

The name Mighty Hans comes from one of Sun's favorite songs, "Mighty Healthy," by Ghostface Kill

and his cousin's name, Han-Juang. He admires her support, love, and care for their family, so he decided to combine these two things to create "Mighty Hans." Just as the name comes from his family, the food is also reminiscent of the food his mom cooked when he was growing up. She is from Taiwan, and Sun took summer trips there as a child. Taiwan is known for its incredible street food, so he often went to night markets and morning street vendors. The influence of Taiwanese cuisine and the new American cuisine he cooked in restaurants can be seen in Sun's signature dishes, which include:

- Fan Tuan: sticky rice with pickled radish, pork floss,* scallions, garlic bean paste, and crispy youtiao wrapped inside; *[For the uninitiated, pork floss is dried pork, similar to jerky, but much more finely shredded, with a texture like cotton candy; it melts in your mouth with a sweet and savory taste.]

- Beef Noodle soup: 3-hour braised beef, noodles, pickled mustard greens, and chives;

- Scallion pancake, bacon, egg and cheese.

Sun's ultimate goal is to introduce his vision for Taiwanese-American food to a greater audience while paying respect to the food his family cooked. He plans to continue popping up in different locations and maybe even open up a brick and mortar restaurant one day.

Gigi's Italian Kitchen & Restaurant. The Sunday Scaries might drive anxiety for many, with the work week just around the corner, but there is no better solution than getting dinner with Eric Brooks and Jacob Armando of Gigi's Italian Kitchen & Restaurant. Offering



Mighty Hans' Big Breakfast Plate

dinner service Sunday-Tuesdays, walking into Gato, you'll be transported into a comforting, New York style Italian restaurant with tables adorned in red and white checkered tablecloths, topped with 2-3 flowers in a vase, and a single lit candle.

Brooks and Armando have been partnering together since March 2019 to serve Italian American cuisine with emphasis on local produce and modernized cooking methods. As they are both Atlanta natives, you are sure to see some Southern flare in their menu, as well. Some menu staples include:

- Beef Carpaccio: arugula salsa verde, Manchego, rice cracker
 - Caviar and Polenta: polenta cake with cultured cream and caviar
 - Tiramisu: classic preparation
- Sourcing locally is important to

them, and most if not all of their dishes are based on local farm availability. As a result, you'll see that their weekly menus often change depending on what is seasonally and locally available. Similar to other establishments in the food and beverage industry, the pandemic has been a challenge for Gigi's Italian Kitchen in the six months since they started their residency at Gato. Their set-up is constantly changing based on Covid-19 cases, from offering strictly to-go to hosting in-person dining, and everything in between. Their focus is the well-being of their staff and guests, and they want to provide the safest experience for everyone involved.

Brooks and Armando are aspiring restaurateurs with hopes to have

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Happy 73rd Birthday to Frazer Center!

by Dina Shadwell

On January 3, 1949, in the basement of a church on Peachtree Street, Frazer Center opened its doors for the first time to provide education to a small group of children with cerebral palsy. We provided an alternative to institutions for those children, making it possible for them to remain at home, included in their families and their communities. In the 73 years since, thousands of children and adults have lived full, meaningful lives because of the services at Frazer Center. Their families have been able to work, to receive respite, and to learn new ways to support their family members with disabili-

ties. And our community has been enriched by the inclusion of the people we serve and the gifts they have shared with us all.

As we start our 74th year of service, I want to thank you for your support of our mission of fostering inclusive communities for adults and children with and without disabilities. Many of our Lake Claire neighbors show up every month to volunteer in Frazer Forest. Many of you donate generously. Many of you have provided moral support during these difficult times. YOU are our community, and YOU make a difference in the lives of the people we serve.

The pandemic has brought Frazer many challenges, but it has also provided the opportunity for us to expand some initiatives, including our nature-based early education curriculum and our community access program for adults with disabilities, Project Achieve.

Early education and the disabilities industries are still in a nationwide hiring crisis, but we at Frazer are making headway since enacting our Living Wage policy. Hiring challenges still exist, but we are hopeful about our future and very excited about a new initiative we have in the works. Stay tuned!

Thank you again, Lake Claire, for caring about the Frazer Center and helping us to foster inclusive communities.

Sincerely,
Paige McKay Kubik,
Frazer Center CEO

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

Dream Big

Continued from Page 1

home. She makes a hard argument for leaning into your passion regardless of what the world is doing.

I'll readily admit that the past two years have been a wild emotional, mental, and professional ride for me. I've had some really low points, some amazingly creative bursts, but mostly just maintaining sanity days. At the beginning, I started baking and cooking more—a passion of mine. Then I thought, why don't I film these and share the lessons with anyone who could use kitchen advice from a shlep like I am? I made a few but I ran out of energy pretty quickly and being the talent, producer, and director made it hard to get done. At least when you cook/bake, you've got a product that folks can enjoy, and you get instant gratification. So I leaned into that. For a year, I baked and created food options at Waller's Coffee Shop in Decatur. He was in need of kitchen help, and I needed to be productive. It was a good match. I learned his recipes, added my own, and learned a ton about baking, customer service, and the insanity of trying to guess what customers will buy. One day I'd make Swiss & Bacon Scones, and they'd fly

off the shelf. Next time I made them, they'd just sit there looking sad and mocking me until we had to throw them out. Made me appreciate all those restaurants out there that survive regardless of the whims of customers. Now I understand how that thing I thought was so terrific just disappeared from the menu. Either I was the only customer who bought it, or they just didn't have the time to wait for it to get popular. Lesson learned.

So Boyd, why are you telling this rambling tale? Get to the point. Ok, my point is, there is no perfect time to dream big and take a risk on making it happen. Just like having kids, you want to wait for that perfect time but it doesn't exist. You'll never have enough money, time, or energy that you think you need. Pulling the trigger, putting your nose to the grindstone, and doing the work is all that's needed. If it's meant to be, you can make it work. Now don't take this as meaning you don't need to plan, research, and market your idea. Lord knows you want to engage people smarter than you to refine your idea and get

honest criticism but the best time to make your leap is TODAY!

For years I've had this idea of owning a small food shop where I could feed souls and build a community space. For a bit, I thought I had it worked out and was working to make it real. Then Covid slapped me to the ground, and I couldn't see which way was up. Now I can see just through the haze to that island I've been sailing towards. I've done my research, looked for suggestions, and believe I've found a location. Granted, all of this can disappear in the blink of an eye, but I'm not budging. I'm sticking to my plan to make my dream come true. If I can't convince the landlord to rent to me, it wasn't meant to be. I'll look for another location. It's up to me to decide when the idea I have is a good one and not someone else.

There will always be naysayers and that little voice inside your head that's telling you maybe you're not good enough or that you should just play it safe and do what you've always done... it might ALWAYS be there. But, if you want more, you've got to listen to that insane dreamer voice inside of you and find a way to



manifest your dreams. At least if you take a chance, you won't have to look back and say, "I wish I had." I'll bet you dollars to doughnuts that whatever adventure you take on—writing a book, changing careers, or opening a business—you will learn more than you ever imagined about yourself and the world. Best part is, you can always go back to what you were doing. You'll also be amazed at the love and support that will come out of the woodwork to help you make it happen. If you want to follow how my dream is going, check out www.HowdyATL.com. Glad to share, advise, commiserate—anytime. Dream big, and act now!



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Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

In the last several weeks as I write this, we have lost three giants of biodiversity conservation and science: E.O. Wilson, Thomas Lovejoy, and Richard Leakey. If you aren't familiar with their work, I highly recommend taking a moment to look them up and read or watch what they had to say about the loss of species around the globe, the human role in causing this crisis, and the ways we can (and must!) all work to solve it.

Making regular observations about the environment in our immediate surroundings at home and during our travels is one way we can all emulate great scientists and conservationists. The wonderful thing about taking up this habit is the benefits to your mental health and well-being that follow. E.O. Wilson himself popularized the idea of 'Biophilia' or humans' innate "urge to affiliate with other forms of life." Just as we need positive connections with other people to flourish, we also need to feel connected to the natural world around us. Fortunately, anyone can make connections to nature by simply looking up into a tree, or down at a dandelion, or across a field of grass.

My own interactions with nature lately included the delightful and delicious discovery of an enormous oyster mushroom flush growing on the stump of a tree we had cut down several years ago in CoHousing. The funny (not funny) thing is we put quite a lot of effort into inoculating carefully selected logs of freshly cut white oak as instructed by a company that sold me oyster mushroom spawn plugs last January; naturally, these logs have borne zero oyster mushrooms over the past year. With all the rain and mild weather we've had lately, many different kinds of mushrooms are popping up on stumps, logs and wood chips or other mulch—keep your eye out for them, and remember never to eat a wild mushroom unless you are ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN you have identified it correctly and confirmed it is not poisonous.

Bernard S., Indiana, said he had not seen much wildlife this month except the usual hawks and squirrels, plus bird groups in migration mode. Friends in north Georgia found plenty of oyster mushrooms, which is understandable with the rain we have had (aha! So it's not just me!). He did report seeing a bug, which he considered surprising in the winter. I believe I have identified it as a leaf-footed bug. These insects feed on the pods that grow on catalpa trees, of which there are quite a few in Lake Claire.

Ilene S. reported seeing a vari-

ety of winter migrants bathing and drinking from her backyard pond. While many people put out bird feeders to attract wild birds, water is just as important year round! One of Thomas Lovejoy's most famous quotes was, "If you take care of birds, you take care of most of the environmental problems in the world." This simply means that protecting the habitats that support birds is likely to have the effect of providing for the needs of all the other diverse species all over the world.

Other birds reported by Ilene S. included red-winged blackbirds, rusty blackbirds, robins, Carolina wrens, cedar waxwings, blue jays, cardinals, a lovely red-headed woodpecker, and a Cooper's hawk with a squirrel it had caught for lunch. She also reported seeing an eastern phoebe, though they can be difficult to distinguish from eastern wood-pewees. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology has an excellent website that allows for side-by-side comparisons that might help next time: www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern_Wood-Pewee/species-compare/.

Steve L. on Delaware Ave heard the "who cooks for you" call of the owls for several nights, immediately followed by the bark-howl sound of coyotes. And our neighbor on Delaware, J.R., caught sight of a coyote recently on his camera security footage.

Frank W., Arizona, reported seeing a young possum in his backyard, and then on a very cold sunset before a bitter cold night, he saw the same possum climbing a tree to get on the roof of the garage. Then the possum went down a branch and managed to get into the squirrel house by squeezing himself through the small hole. No wonder the squirrels weren't using it this winter! Frank also saw several small flocks of red-wing black birds around the neighborhood, numbering around 50 individuals; then they came to his backyard, which was a great surprise. A few days later there was another smaller flock of birds in the backyard, but this time they were robins. Most of Frank's neighbors do not use leaf blowers, which increases the chances for these bird flocks to form as they forage on insects bedded down in leaf mulch left on the ground. In addition, there are lots of large oaks that help to feed and house them.

In terms of larger birds, Frank says he disturbed a hawk on the ground at the Land Trust by accident and saw a red-tailed hawk downtown, but has not heard any owls recently. However, he did see a relatively large



woodpecker in the yard with a prominent red crest on its head, which was quite exciting (perhaps a pileated?). Later that same day, he spotted a small woodpecker with no red crest and with speckled wings (perhaps a female downy?). Frank notes with worry all the trees being cut down in the neighborhood, such as those on Adolphus and Nelms. **Please keep your trees alive**—prune troublesome branches over time rather than allowing the whole tree to become unstable and then having to remove the whole tree.

If you have any wildlife sightings or garden happenings/tips you'd like to share, please contact Sara Gottlieb at sara.gottlieb@gmail.com or Flora Fauna at floweryfauna@gmail.com. Sara and Flora will be alternating the writing of this column, leading



Oyster mushrooms

toward Flora's gradually passing it on to Sara with Flora having an occasional guest column.—Ed.

A Path Forward

Continued from Page 3

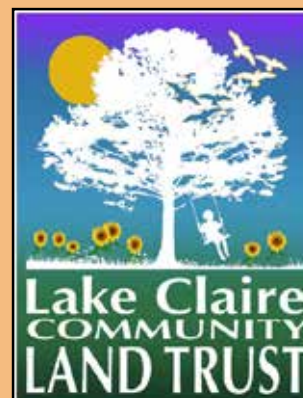
donor to support the ongoing work and programs LifeLine provides in the shelters, community, and through the clinics to help keep people and pets together.

Visit LifeLineAnimal.org to learn more about any of these meaningful ways to help. During times like these that are fraught with difficulty, animals can bring such joy and comfort into our homes and lives. If our community rallies together, for a greater



Professor

good, perhaps there is a path forward into the light at the end of the tunnel that is Covid.



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Neighborhood Dues for Lake Claire

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

Since the last Clarion, the following folks paid dues:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Christopher D. Campbell | Miriam Herbers |
| Lindsey H. Crawley | Scott Long |
| Monica Lindberg | Kristin Byron |
| Melanie Bliss | Sam Beresford |
| Beryl Berguist | Aalok Chandora |
| Thomas Stemen | Ben Lowenthal |



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- S & P - Lake Claire | Candler Park - Newer Construction up to \$1,300,000
- J & C - Lake Claire | Candler Park | Ormewood Park up to \$1,000,000
- M - East Lake | Decatur | Ormewood Park up to \$450,000
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- Z & A - Kirkwood | Oakhurst up to \$850,000

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What's the Future of Work

Continued from Page 1

omy. Prior to the pandemic, the speculation among business writers was that the gig concept might replace the traditional jobs economy, as the former emphasizes performance over attendance (Mulcahy, 2021). After the pandemic struck, gig employment exploded (Henderson, 2020). Necessities had to be delivered to those trapped by lockdowns. Those idled by employers with no telework option found gigs useful for primary or supplemental income. However, as this sector's employment has grown, so have its costs to employers. Proposition 22 in California allows employers to classify gig workers as independent contractors, but they still have to provide a healthcare subsidy and pay 120% of the local minimum wage (Henderson, 2020). Such costs will likely put a cap on the growth of gig work.

A glimpse of work's future beyond the gig sector can be found in the developing post-Covid employment practices of some of the largest, fastest-growing companies in the U.S. today: Google, Amazon, Meta/Facebook, and Apple. Their market capitalization, revenues, and trend-setting reputations give their decisions weight. Whatever they choose to do, other institutions will likely follow suit. Google wants all employees to return to the office, though the surge of infections due to variants of Covid-19 is forcing management to delay that (Grant, 2021). Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google and its parent company, Alphabet, justified his insistence on a return to the office by noting: For more than 20 years, our employees have been coming to the office to solve interesting problems—in a cafe, around a whiteboard, or during a pickup game of beach volleyball or cricket... Our campuses have been at the heart of our Google community and the majority of our employees still want to be on campus some of the time (Baron, 2021). Google's intentions and practices are mirrored by those of Apple, where CEO Tim Cook has also made it clear that everyone is to return to their offices. However, his employees are putting up a fight. Two petitions demanding the option to work remotely fulltime garnered over 1000 signatures (Ghaffery and Molla, 2021)." Amazon is trying to split the difference between the home office holdouts and executives' desire to get people back into the office. In October 2021, the company announced that tech and corporate workers could continue to work from home indefinitely, so long as they commute to their offices when necessary (Associated Press, 2021). Team directors will continue to have a say in whether such a hybrid

approach will be practical for their appointed tasks. For instance, most of Amazon's employees work in order fulfillment and transportation, the latter of which still cannot be accomplished remotely despite Amazon's (largely unsuccessful) research into drone deliveries (Wayt, 2021). Meta/Facebook has also opted to offer employees the opportunity to work remotely indefinitely. However, those working on hardware or in data centers won't be able to take advantage of this for reasons of practicality (Rodriguez, 2021). CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced his embrace of a hybrid office and remote work arrangement by noting: We've learned over the past year that good work can get done anywhere, and I'm even more optimistic that remote work at scale is possible, particularly as remote video presence and virtual reality continue to improve (Rodriguez, 2021).

Conceivably, the approaches of Amazon and Meta/Facebook stand to put them in good stead when recruiting new talent. That talent may come from Apple and Google, which are reluctant to abandon the traditional office arrangement. It could be a replay of the post-pandemic recruiting war going on in the banking industry discussed previously, but with Tim Cook taking on the role of Jamie Dimon.

Editor's Note: Kevin writes and consults on transportation issues. He and his wife have lived in Lake Claire since 2017. We welcome his contributions to the Clarion. Because of space limitations, I had to eliminate the references referred to in the citations; please write editor@lakeclaire.org if you'd like these.

Upcoming Music

by Beth Damon

The Atlanta music scene is working hard to find a new rhythm in spite of the Omicron surge. The past two years have been hard on performers and performance venues, and Omicron's rapid spread has led many venues to cancel or postpone shows. But that still hasn't stopped venues from looking ahead, and trying to maintain an optimism that 2022 could be the year when live music could make a broader return. People want to share experiences with people again. And live performance has always been an important way to do it.

As of press time, these bands will be playing live. Check venues for their Covid safety rules, and check to make sure about any changes/cancellations.

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White, Director of Community Relations

Thanks to our wonderful community of support, Clifton guests were able to have a special Christmas. To begin with, we had a sweet group of neighbors who came to sing carols to our folks, and it was quite the festive time! We were able to serve them cake and cocoa, and the carolers brought smiles to all of our faces as they sang dressed in their fun Christmas costumes. Each Christmas, we provide each guest with a big gift bag stuffed full of goodies. Thanks to our wonderful neighbors who contributed to this effort, we were able to fill the bags with day packs, t-shirts, toiletries, shower shoes, socks, belts, knitted hats and scarves, and other essential items that were useful to each guest. As one guest said, "This was the best Christmas I have ever had. I have never received so many gifts on Christmas!" We couldn't do

it without you, our wonderful Lake Claire neighbors. Thank you for caring, and for serving in all the different ways you do for our folks who are experiencing homelessness.

As we work to help them get their feet back on the ground, you partner with us on this mission. Heading into the new year, we wish for you all the good things your heart desires. Thanks for being our family, and for loving on us.

Editor's note: I see many of the same faces in this picture who helped us stuff the December Clarions. Thanks for thanking us, but WE also thank you all! As a Delaware neighbor, nearly next door to Clifton for 30+ years, I have always been impressed with the CSM guests over these many years. You are great neighbors!



Tues., Feb. 1
Fri., Feb. 4
Fri., Feb. 4
Sat., Feb. 5
Sat., Feb. 5
Mon., Feb. 7
Tues., Feb. 8
Wed., Feb. 9
Thur., Feb. 10
Feb 10-11
Fri., Feb. 11
Sat., Feb. 12
Sat., Feb. 12
Wed., Feb. 16
Feb 17-18
Fri., Feb. 18
Sat., Feb. 19
Sun., Feb. 20
Tues., Feb. 22
Wed., Feb. 23
Wed., Feb. 23
Thur., Feb. 24
Feb 25-26
Fri., Feb. 25
Sat., Feb. 26
Sat., Feb. 26
Wed., Mar. 2
Wed., Mar. 2
Sat., Mar. 5
Fri., Mar. 4
Sun., Mar. 6

Alan Parsons Live
Hiss Golden Messenger
Marshall Tucker Band
Billie Eilish
Old 97's
Shawn Colvin
Erasure
Kacey Musgraves
Dumpstaphunk
Papadosio
K.Flay
Pat Metheny
Dua Lipa
Rick Springfield
Peabo Bryson
Punch Brothers
Man or Astro-Man
Donavon Frankenreiter
Tower of Power
Bob Mould
Elle King
Hippo Campus
Greensky Bluegrass
Brett Dennen
The Floozies
Raul Malo
Parquet Courts
alt-J and Portugal. The Man
Marc Broussard
St Paul & The Broken Bones
Graham Nash

ASO
Terminal West
ASO
State Farm Arena
Terminal West
City Winery
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State Farm Arena
Buckhead Theatre
City Winery
Terminal West
Variety Playhouse
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Variety Playhouse
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City Winery
Variety Playhouse
State Farm Arena
Variety Playhouse
The Eastern
Variety Playhouse

Hello – Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire

1 – Linda Maynard, Delaware Avenue (Lake Claire misses your presence tons and tons.)

2 – Isla Roberts (Happy 9), Claire Drive; Daniel Babinslei, Harold Avenue; and Luke Mawson-Puckhaber, happy 10, Palifox Drive.

3 – Beth Damon, your illustrious and dedicated Clarion editor, Delaware Avenue. Just remember, other 60+ folks: 65 is the new 64, or fill in appropriate year for yourself!

4–5 – Ann Shirra (2/4) and Scooter MacLane (2/5) (+♥♥♥anniversary 2012), Arizona Avenue

6 – Happy b'day to Jennifer Ruddell, Hardendorf

9 – Amelia Roberts (happy 13), Claire Drive; Anne Weldert, Harold Ave

14 – Gillian Landgraff, Harold Avenue

16 – Joanna Babinslei, Harold Avenue

17 – Ava Capps, Harold Avenue, happy 13!

18 – Ben Farmer, Hardendorf

24 – Eamon, Emmett, & Brigitte McNulty—16 years old. + 16th year in L.C.

27 – Lucien DeMan, happy 7, and Esther Williams, rock star, happy 13!—both on Harold, Esther's proud grandma on Delaware and Daddy on Indiana.

Anniversary: Craig and Emily Allen—Harold Avenue—Feb 8—Happy Anniversary, y'all!

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

Recycling Tip of the Month: Everyday Re-Usables You Can Carry Anywhere

by Stephen Wing

High-end “Zero Waste” stores and websites will sell you all the fancy equipment you can afford to make Re-Use a lifestyle. But it's easier and cheaper to equip your purse, daypack, or glove-box with everything you need to avoid the dilemma of either accepting a disposable option or going without. Here are a few low-cost, or no-cost, fully tested suggestions.

(1) Handkerchief. Every time I blow my nose or sop up a spill, I am saving trees. At home, we have avoided paper towels for years by maintaining a supply of washable rags made from stained T-shirts and worn-out pajamas.

(2) Shoulder-strap. Empty plastic bottles are abundant. A detachable shoulder-strap ensures that you can carry life-giving water everywhere. Switch bottles fairly often, however, as plastic begins to disintegrate as it ages.

(3) Water bottle. For healthier but slightly pricier hydration, buy one made of stainless steel. Your shoulder-strap works for that one, too.

(4) Grocery sacks. Some people buy re-usable grocery bags made of canvas or heavy plastic and re-use them religiously. But a “disposable”

plastic grocery sack, rolled up tightly and secured with a rubber band, is almost weightless and takes up no room at all in a backpack, purse, or pocket.

(5) Produce and bulk bags. On trips to the co-op or supermarket, carry empty bread bags or used Ziplocs for bulk items and produce.

(6) Plate, mug, spoon. I carry a Frisbee and a spoon everywhere in my backpack, and can eat anywhere without accepting disposables... in addition to enjoying an occasional game of Frisbee. If I were a coffee-drinker, a mug would come in handy too. A complete set of portable dinnerware will cost you a dollar or so at the thrift store.

(7) Empty yogurt container. Any container that seals—and stays sealed—will work just fine for take-out or leftovers. **Why settle for styrofoam?** (Or spend good money on Tupperware?)

(8) Metal straw. Re-usable straws are now available, some even fashionably bent at the top. Be sure to wash them often; look for one packaged with a skinny bottle-brush for keeping it clean.

Gato Pop-Ups

Continued from Page 5

their own physical space one day, so they are most grateful for the opportunity to host a residency at Gato and work with Gato owner Nicholas Stinson. As Gato is an Atlanta institution with a history of hosting other pop-ups which launched into successful restaurants in Atlanta, Gigi's Italian Kitchen hopes to be the next.

You can find Mighty Hans at Gato on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Gigi's Italian Kitchen on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays, 5 to 10 p.m.

Beatrice Wan and her husband have lived in Lake Claire since 2018. She works at a medical device company and works on FDA submissions and clinical trials (i.e., a lot of technical writing). She is avidly interested in the restaurant scene, especially restaurants nearby, and Clarion readers reap the benefit of that interest with this article. Thanks, Beatrice, and we look forward to future contributions!



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Hand Sewing with Felt and Hot Cider Dance Party

Raise your hand if you absolutely love love! I do! I do! February is the month we traditionally think about and celebrate love, so I can think of no better month to teach kids how to hand-sew felt hearts at the launch of “Creative Class” at the

Lake Claire Community Land Trust. Join me Sunday, Feb. 27, 4–6 p.m. and bring someone you love! Learn how to hand-sew a colorful felt heart with a special wish inside. Make one for yourself or for someone else you love. Stay and play, and have some

hot cider and hot tunes to get to get your heart pumping! All supplies provided. \$10 per kid, masks encouraged. Please register online at www.cameraclassforkids.com/other-fun-stuff-i-do—or just show up. Masks encouraged!

Transition Time at the Land Trust:

Open Positions on Our Board & Finance Team

Treasurer: Our longtime treasurer has broken the news that as of our Annual Meeting this April she will retire from our board. Ideally, our next treasurer will be a Lake Claire resident who enjoys the Land Trust and sees the value of cultivating community in our neighborhood. Like all board members, the Treasurer is expected to attend monthly board meetings, so a tolerance for meetings is a pre-requisite, but occasional absences are understood. The Treasurer’s duties include overseeing our bookkeeper (and serving as backup bookkeeper); keeping the LT up to date in QuickBooks; managing the Land Trust’s financial and other accounts; handling our annual

tax and other filings; board MIS; and preparing annual budgets. Financial and accounting knowledge is required and familiarity with QuickBooks is helpful. State law requires every nonprofit organization to have a Treasurer, so this is not optional. But we are confident that the qualified individual we are looking for is looking for us. If interested, please submit any questions to treasurer@LCCLT.org. This email goes to our current treasurer, who can answer any questions and will be available to help with the transition. Whether you possess an aptitude for numbers or not, the board and its five committees are always open to input from our community. All are welcome to

sit in on board or committee meetings. Email info@lcclt.org for information about upcoming board and committee meetings.

Bookkeeper (Part-Time Contract Position): Our bookkeeper reports to the Treasurer, who provides general oversight. Flexible schedule; minimum six hours a month guaranteed. Lake Claire area resident preferred; most work can be done remotely with the exception of office hours one day per week. Weekly duties include taking in receipts, making bank deposits & transfers, paying bills & vendors, ongoing maintenance of accounting software, board reporting, and basic MIS. Volume of transactions is low-to-moder-



ate. Annual duties include prepping required IRS and other filings and assisting board Treasurer with the annual budget. Accounting experience preferred/accounting majors welcome to apply. Ideal for student or retiree with autonomy. Base rate \$20 per hour but pay is negotiable based upon experience. References required. Please contact treasurer@lcclt.org for more details.

“Earth Poetry” Winter Workshop

by Stephen Wing

Once each season, all active or aspiring poets are invited to join an expedition into the wilderness within. Each Earth Poetry workshop takes us to one of Atlanta’s many community greenspaces and nature preserves, not to visit as “tourists” but to explore our personal relationship with nature through the art of poetry. In the winter we come to the Land Trust so we’ll have access to the Gorilla Grill and its little woodstove in case the weather is chilly. It is Sunday, Feb. 13, 10:30–12:30 p.m.

“Earth Poetry” is a blindingly obvious notion that struck me when I realized that poets through the ages, in every language and culture, have drawn much of their inspiration from the living world around them. The earliest poets were indigenous shamans who used methods like fasting, drumming, and ritual to deepen their spiritual connection with nature. Often they brought back from these journeys a power song – a chant or prayer that invoked their relationship with a particular plant or animal ally. As civilization began to invade every corner of the Earth, poets and other artists kept the ancient human connection with nature alive. The Taoist poetry of ancient China, the Zen poetry of Japan,

the Romantics of 19th-century Europe and America, and modern poets like Gary Snyder, Mary Oliver, and Wendell Berry all drew on the underground river of natural inspiration. Earth Poetry is not a method or technique. All it requires is to spend time in nature, preferably in solitude, watching and listening for what the wild world around you – and within you – has to say. If words pop into your head, jot them down. You have now joined the ancient lineage of poets translating their experience of nature into language, ensuring that human culture remembers its origins in the wild ecosystems that sustain our lives.

The workshop is informal and free, though donations to the Land Trust are encouraged. I will open with a reading from my study of nature’s influence on poetry. If you like, bring something relevant to share that you’ve been reading, writing, or thinking about. After sharing, we’ll break up to wander on our own, observing and taking notes, or just soaking up inspiration from the winter landscape before re-convening. Dress warmly, and don’t forget your notebook and pen, drinking water, maybe a blanket to sit on. Masks and social distancing are optional. In

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

Sat. Feb. 5: Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (weather and Covid permitting) Donation requested

Sun. Feb. 6 & 20: Vinyasa Yoga with Ashley Brooks, 10–11 a.m. \$10/person (weather and Covid permitting). In the Green Field by the little gazebo

Sat. Feb. 19: Community Work Day, 1–4 p.m. Pizza follows.

Sun. Feb. 26: Hand Sewing with Felt and Hot Cider Dance Party Family Fun! (See article this page.).

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.

a time when civilization threatens to overwhelm nature completely, carrying us blindly toward catastrophe, poetry can’t save us. But at the very least, it is one way to cultivate your own personal relationship with your natural surroundings, transforming

yourself from a spectator to a participant in this precious and endangered planet. Join us!

For more information, contact Stephen Wing at swing1027@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 Lily Cornell is our featured writer. Lily lives on Arizona and is seven years old, in 2nd grade at Mary Lin. She tells us how to

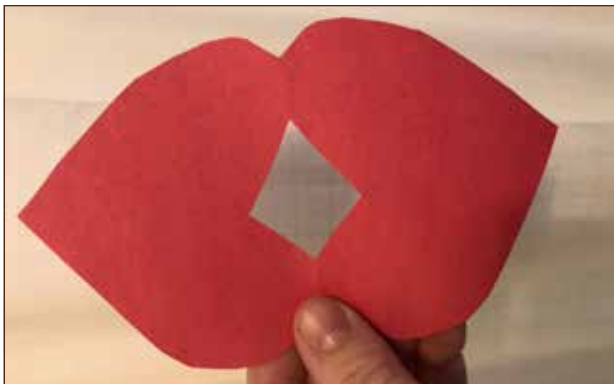
do a Valentine's craft project. Thank you Lily, and congratulations; it's great. Lily is featured after winning the contest last month! To all the Lake Claire children who read and contribute to the Kids' Page each month, we appreciate you.

Add **your** creativity to this page! Submit your work to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **FEBRUARY 18** for the next issue of the newspaper, which will be MARCH... SPRING IS COMING!

How to Make a Heart Banner

by Lily Cornell

1. Get some string and some paper, any color you want, and you need a pencil or crayon, a pair of scissors, and a glue stick.
2. Grab your paper and your pencil and scissors. You fold the paper in half and cut out a heart, so that way it can open up.
3. Use your pencil to trace it over and over until you have as many hearts as you want for your banner. Crease each one in half.
4. Then you open a heart, grab your string and glue. First lay out your string, but don't cut it.
5. Add some glue on the heart where you creased it. Then add some more glue on the bottom and put the string through the part where you creased it and fold it up so that way it stays.



Lily with Heart Banner

6. Then keep doing it over and over until your banner is as long as you want it.
7. Cut your string. Then you have your very own heart banner for Valentine's Day!"

Note from Lily's mom: See the picture to the left of the cut-out heart, pre-glue, so that it makes more sense. Also, if you want to write "Happy Valentine's Day," with one letter on each heart, you would need to make 20 hearts. :-)



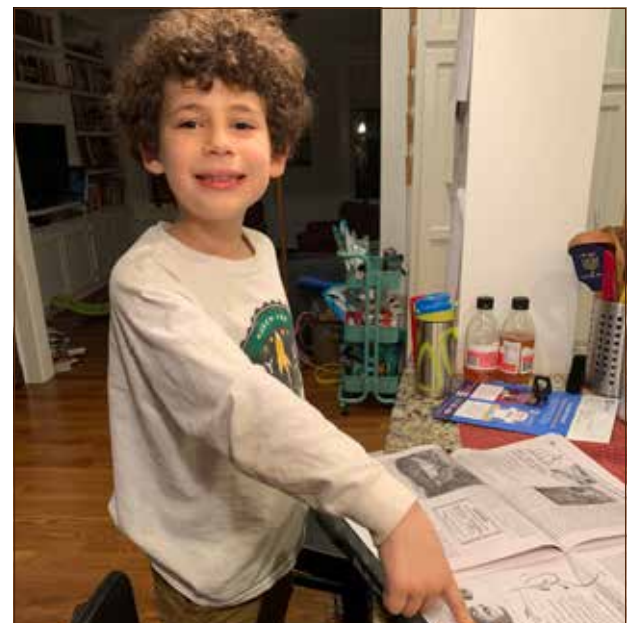
Grant—first prize contest winner



Lena—tied for second place



Lily, Owen and Sadie—tied for second place



Sawyer—tied for second place

Forget Wordle, Contest Here!

Hello, Kids! February boasts popular holidays like **Groundhog Day**, **Valentine's Day**, and **Galentine's Day** (which takes place on February 13 for you to celebrate loving your friends); it also contains key events like the Super Bowl and, in 2022, the start of the Lunar New Year celebrations. Somewhere in this newspaper is a picture of a groundhog. The child(ren) who find it are the winner/winners, who will have their pictures in the next Clarion. To win, send e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number where you find the little fellow, 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 child from Lake Claire is eligible**, except that you cannot win two months in a row. For extra credit, tell us anything else you know about the significance of the groundhog or another February fact. 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 FEBRUARY 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.**

Contest Winners!

Our monthly contest winner is Grant Campbell, age 4, who lives on Hardendorf and is in Pre-K. He found Martin Luther King, Jr., in the January Clarion. And before I could get up from my computer, a rush of emails came in, leading to 5 more winners, who are tied for second place: Lily, Owen, and Sadie Schragger, ages 8, 6, and 1, go to Mary Lin (Lily, 3rd grade; Owen, 1st grade; Saidie, Primavera Preschool) and live on Gordon. Sawyer Klehr is 8, in 3rd grade at ML, and lives on Hardendorf. Lena is 5, lives on McLendon, and is also in PreK at Primavera Preschool. The Schragger/Patzer kids won the extra credit, with their MLK activity: making cards/artwork for frontline healthcare workers! (Their prize is to be featured in next month's Clarion.)

Congrats, Grant, Lily, Owen, Sadie, Sawyer, and Lena! You won the contest over a **VAST** number of Lake Claire kids who participated this time. 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 to the left.