

Save the Date/Lake Claire Annual Arts & Crafts Sale

We hope that the 4th annual Lake Claire Arts and Crafts Sale as a walking/porch event will be held this year. **IF we have it, the date is Saturday, December 2, raindate the next day, Sunday, December 3.** At present, we are assessing volunteer bandwidth, as the organizing behind the scenes has been extensive. IF we have it, it may be on a smaller scale this year, possibly limiting the locations to less streets, in the central part of the neighborhood. Details to be announced in the October Clarion, the LCN website, and Facebook pages. This popular Lake Claire event involves artists and crafters exhibiting and selling their own creations. The only entry requirement is 10% of proceeds, which we donate to

schools, with a small amount going to the neighborhood to cover expenses. There would be food and music, as usual, but the focus is arts & crafts.

Volunteers: If you are able to volunteer for tasks (e.g., arranging porta-potties, seeking hosts, food trucks, sponsors), please contact lakeclaire-craftfair@gmail.com. Significant help would make a difference.

SPONSORS: Business folks, please advise if your business would be interested in being a sponsor, amount up to you. Sponsors' monies pay for porta-potties, flyers, and other necessities, with the balance going to the schools. Write to the address noted above.

We hope to hold this exciting and fun day. Please stay tuned.



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White

Clifton's mission is to provide a transformational environment to homeless men through comprehensive life skills training and counseling that empowers their pursuit of self-sufficiency and independent living. We are in the business of restoring hope and giving men a new purpose and direction in their lives. We connect them to our many resources within the community that can assist. This past month we had six men complete a job training program at the Atlanta Center for Self-Sufficiency (ACSS), which provides

job counseling, resume development, job search, placement, and training. Three of the Clifton graduates have obtained full-time employment; the other 3 are in the process of being placed.

Clifton is not a place for individuals who want to remain homeless. We provide a sanctuary for men who want to get their feet back on the ground and become productive, contributing members of society. Arriving guests immediately meet with our Case Manager, and they work together to formulate a tailored Indi-



Ann Shirra (2nd from right) & LCCLT board members Lisa Vitello, Miriam Herbers, and Morgan Strickland. Photo: Brennan Wall, Trees Atlanta

Lake Claire Land Trust Wins Coveted Award

by Ann Shirra

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust earned the Trees Atlanta City Forest Certification in July. As the first community space to be assessed by Trees Atlanta for this honor, the Land Trust showcases exceptional tree stewardship through both social and environmental practices and behavior. Some of the best practices include: re-use of rainwater; community plant sales and swaps; classes to promote composting, gardening, and native plants; removal of invasive plants; care for existing trees.

Visit the Land Trust to see our new sign and the ways we support nature in this community space. We'd also love to see you at a volunteer workday, held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Learn more about the Land Trust at www.LCCLT.org, and be sure to check out more information each month in the Clarion (in this issue on Page 7).

Consider participating in the Trees Atlanta certification program in your own yard at www.treesatlanta.org/cityforest. After you submit an online application, a Trees Atlanta representative will visit your yard and assess its water, energy and waste reduction; environmental volunteering, community initiatives, and education; planting, land management, and tree-friendly practices; creating wildlife-friendly habitats and practices.

Their review provides great insights on the positive ways you are helping the environment and lots of ideas to enhance your efforts. You can also go above and beyond with stewardship tracks for amphibians, bats, birds, climate, fireflies, food, pollinators, and/or water. If you'd like to learn more about my own experience in earning the City Forest Certification for my yard, contact me at shirraa@bellsouth.net.

Need for Clarion Volunteers Once a Month
 We welcome volunteer delivery folks for placing monthly Clarions on neighbors' porches, usually the last week of each month, except none in July/August. Email Alicia at distribution@lakeclaire.org.

vidual Service Plan. The Case Manager goes over each guest's situation to chart out beneficial goals and services. Our goal is for each guest who graduates from our program to leave with one or more of these: stable housing, employment, reunification with families, enrollment in a reha-

bilitative program, and/or continuation of their education.

We are grateful to the Lake Claire neighborhood for partnering with us in ministry. Your support is vital to our success, and you help make a difference in so many lives within the community.

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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.

September & early October

- * Lake Claire monthly meeting via Zoom, 3rd Thursdays. lakeclaire.org for Zoom link. This month: September 21.
- * Mary Lin PTA Dine-Outs (article below)
- * Frazer Forest Work Days resume in November.
- * Land Trust events (see Page 7).
- * Sept. 23, 10:30 a.m., free general estate planning seminar on common will mistakes. At Neal & Wright offices, 40 Franklin St., Suite 100, Avondale Estates. Please RSVP to frontdesk@nealandwright.com.
- * Annual Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde fundraising event, 3-8 p.m. Oct. 7.

Safety in Lake Claire

by Dorothy Dabbs

Do you have a neighbor who has health problems? Or one who is a senior and lives alone? Have you not seen him or her lately? Do a wellness check! Knock on the door to make sure everything is ok. You might be told to

mind your own business, but chances are the neighbor will appreciate your concern. And you could be the only one who has noticed that there may be a problem. There is something to be said for nosy neighbors!

Dine-outs to Support the Mary Lin PTA

Please support Mary Lin PTA and these generous local restaurants, AND, of course, have delicious food while doing so! (More dine-outs coming in the October Lake Claire Clarion)

- * Sept. 12: Naan Stop (pre-order through link.)

- * Sept. 26: Bona Fide Deluxe sandwiches in Edgewood (mention "Mary Lin" at register or online).

Save these dates, and spread the word. For info: Aviva Berman, avivaberman@gmail.com.



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Dekalb County Commission Takes a Bold Step

by Scott McLane

In response to the dangerous and obscene number of abandoned dogs in the Dekalb County Animal Shelter, the Dekalb County Commission unanimously passed the following Resolution on July 25, 2023.

A Resolution in Support of DeKalb Citizens and Their Pets, Facility and Service Expansion, and Prevention of More Homeless Pets. Below is a considerably shortened summary of the Resolution, but you can read it in full at: www.dekalbcountyga.gov/sites/default/files/users/user3621/OPS/OPS%20Agenda%202023.07.10%20SC.pdf.

Whereas 57% of Dekalb County residents share their home with pets; and,

Whereas DeKalb County is projected to grow another 33% to a population of one million citizens in the next 25 years, bringing with them more households with pets; and,

Whereas Dekalb County joined progressive counties and cities throughout the nation in 2018 to become a No-Kill Community,

Whereas Dekalb County is held up as a national model for successful shelter services including its remarkable and ongoing save rate for an open admission shelter; and,

Whereas, DeKalb County opened a new animal shelter in 2017 as another indication of its commitment to improve quality of life, provide temporary shelter, & find permanent homes for DeKalb's homeless pets; and,

Whereas, the new shelter featured qualities absent in the previous shelter, including adequate air circulation, lighting, plumbing, and a veterinary clinic, but was filled shortly after it opened; and,

Whereas, during the pandemic, many DeKalb citizens stepped forward to adopt shelter pets, giving the shelter a brief period when it was not filled to capacity; and,

Whereas, many DeKalb citizens have been negatively affected by the continuing economic conditions following the pandemic and, as a result, have had to make the difficult decision to surrender their pets; and,

Whereas, despite operating on emergency procedures during the pandemic and for nearly two years afterward, these extensive intake suppression efforts have not stemmed the high tide of shelter intake adequately to reduce space needs; and,

Whereas, the resumption of Court operations has increased the number of animals held by the Court to over 150 (1/3 of shelter capacity);

Now, therefore be it resolved that the DeKalb Board of Commissioners, as the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia, (1) supports the immediate expansion of the shelter to a capacity meeting projected needs; (2) supports the immediate identification of an ancillary site or on-site temporary shelter; (3) urges the use and adoption of policies quickly to reduce and, over time, stem the future flow of Court-held animals; (4) supports expansion of services for free, affordable, accessible pet care, food, shelter, and medication for families with pets in need

Cont. on p. 7



Frazer Center Celebrates 75 Years!

by Dina Shadwell

On the first Monday of 1949, Frazer Center opened its doors at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on Peachtree Street, and the name of the organization was the Cerebral Palsy Center of Atlanta. Over the decades the organization has changed names, and in 1951 Frazer moved to its current 39-acre campus in the Lake Claire and Druid Hills neighborhoods. But the vision has remained constant: to offer research-based education, vocational support, and therapeutic intervention to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Frazer's founding mothers, Anne Lane and Rebecca Frazer, wanted to provide opportunities for people with disabilities—including Anne's daughter Anita—to live and thrive in their own communities among family and friends rather than being sent away to live at institutions like Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, which was standard fare at the time. Frazer Center continues to evolve, taking our inspiration from Anita, and from Anne and Rebecca.

In Frazer Center's very recent history, our Refugee Intern Program has made national news as a model for addressing the hiring cri-

sis in early childhood education. Our staff has presented at national conferences about creating and implementing our inclusion nature-based curriculum with our own students as well as students from Decatur's Our House, a nonprofit serving families experiencing homelessness. And we continue to expand our supported employment and community access programs for adults with disabilities as we work to fulfill our mission of fostering inclusive communities.

As we celebrate our 75th Diamond and Platinum anniversary this year, we hope YOU will join in on our mission! Whether that's attending our special 75th anniversary Gather in the Gardens gala in the spring, volunteering in Frazer Forest, or sharing your own story of how Frazer Center has impacted your life, we want you to know that you not only belong in our community, you ARE our community.

If you do have a story to share about growing up or living near Frazer Forest and Cator Woolford Gardens, we'd love to hear from you. Please reach out to me, the Marketing & Communications Director, at communications@frazercenter.org.

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Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

This summer found me in something of an arms race with the squirrels while my husband and I redoubled our efforts to attract birds to our backyard so we can enjoy watching them even while working from home or enjoying a meal on the back porch. Of course, the squirrels are extremely crafty, acrobatic, and always capable of outwitting every strategy we come up with to thwart their efforts to raid the bird feeder. Eventually, I caved in and got them their own little picnic table which is attached to the side of a tree, and once a day I provision it with feed corn and peanuts in the shell. It is highly amusing to watch them crouched on the table, eating their little snacks, as well as the antics that ensue whenever more than one squirrel or an interloping chipmunk attempts to move in on the offerings.

While walking in Frazer Forest, Wade H. saw a pale patch of something underneath a green leaf, turned over the little branch that leaf was on to investigate, and quickly grabbed the picture that accompanies this article. Then he let go, and the snap-back of the branch made the moth let go, and it kind of slowly rose up and fluttered away from him like a little fairy creature. Something about the dim light and heavy still greenness of the forest around him, and this pale ghostly fluttering moth amid all that, took Wade's breath away.

Lisa F. also saw a Luna moth at the Candler Park pool while there with her family. Fun fact: Luna moths have no mouths or digestive systems. They are the adult form of the organism, which spends most of its life (only about 10 weeks, total) as pupae and larvae (caterpillars), and their only purpose at this stage of life is to mate and die.

On June 11 at about 9:30 a.m., Ilene S. saw a deer in her next door neighbor's Mathews Avenue backyard; it then moved into a backyard of a house on Dekalb Avenue. Ilene reports that this is a definite first since she has lived in her Lake Claire home since the late 1980s. [Sara notes: I wonder if this is the same deer reported around the same time in the Children's Garden at the Land Trust?] Ilene also reports seeing lots of ruby throated hummingbirds at her feeder as they get ready for their southern migration. And her dogs have had the greatest time chasing rabbits out of the yard (never in all these years have they ever caught one).

Miriam H. carefully watched two immature hawks all spring trying to determine what kind they were. The chest spots got larger and redder until she decided she can say without a doubt they are red-shouldered hawks.

On top of a retaining wall on McLendon Ave, Bernard S. and a friend saw a completely white water roach. At first they thought that it was sick, but this albino roach was moving normally. This is the first and only time he has seen one of these. [Sara notes: another possibility was that it was a leucistic morph. Albinism is a genetic mutation that causes complete lack of pigment, leucism is only partial loss of pigment in various amounts and is an issue at the pigment cellular level. Leucism can occur in almost any kind of animal, but it seems to be most common in birds.]

Frank W. has seen quite a few rabbits in the neighborhood, including most recently, a small bunny on Brooks, several in Candler Park, three on Indiana Ave., close to his

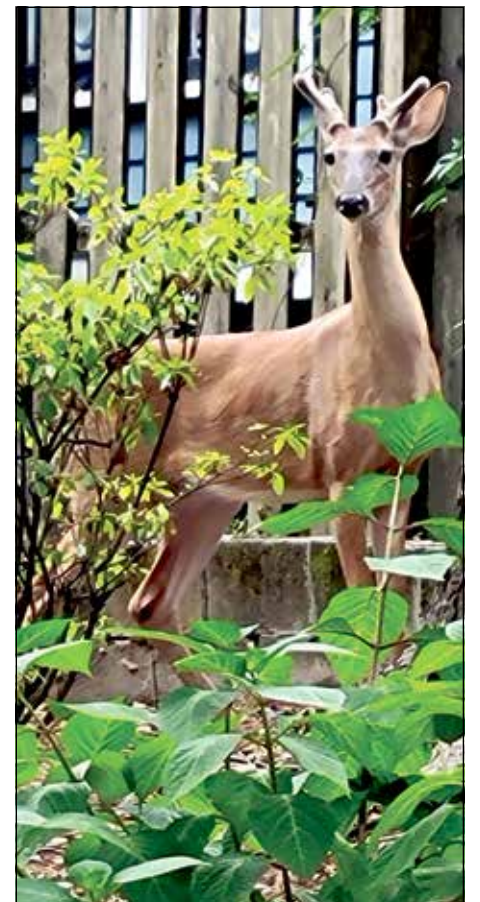


Box turtle in Frazer Forest

house, and one on Arizona. He has also seen an opossum twice, possibly the same one both times. One time it had a dead branch on its back that it didn't seem to notice. It looked a bit like a hula-hoop skirt. Frank also saw a hummingbird in his backyard. He suspects all of the noise from the construction of new homes on Arizona Ave. is disturbing the wildlife and hopes they will finish soon.

Besides the bird and squirrel follies I encouraged in my backyard this summer, I also observed a variety of other wild creatures around the neighborhood. There was a box turtle in Frazer Forest, a praying mantis and an orb weaver spider in the Peace Garden at the Land Trust. Green anoles suddenly seem to be everywhere and in every size. I've seen many baby anoles barely more than an inch long on multiple occasions lately.

The last discovery I made this summer that I'd like to share is a new podcast by the lyrical Georgia nature writer, Janisse Ray, called *The Wild Spectacle* (tracklesswild.substack.com/podcast). Each episode is less than 20 minutes long, and Janisse interviews guests about their experiences in nature. It is a lovely, inspiring, and often educational break in the day. I'll leave you with one of her memorable quotes: "In the wild world, relationship is evolutionary, time is geologic, beauty is intelligent.



Deer on Mathews/Dekalb

There we find ourselves under a powerful spell." ~Janisse Ray, *Wild Spectacle: Seeking Wonders in a World Beyond Humans*

If you'd like to report a wildlife sighting for inclusion in a future column, please email sara.gottlieb@gmail.com.



Luna moth



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with Cynthia Baer**



Hello Land Trust Lovers!

by Frani Green

Please join us on Saturday September 23, 3–10:30 p.m. for our annual Jerry Jam Fall Fest! As always, we will have lots of local bands honoring and playing the songs of the Grateful Dead, food trucks, art vendors and face painting. Put on your danc-

ing shoes and come on down to this FUNdraiser, benefitting the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, our oasis in the city! This is an all-ages show. Adults 21 and over \$20, 12–20 years \$1, and kids under 12 are free. Stay tuned to our website at www.lcclt.org

and our Facebook page for updated information on tickets sales. If you want to volunteer, please contact brynan1865@gmail.com.

See you on the dance floor!

Calling All Community-Minded Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers, Tree-Trimmers, and Jacks-of-All-Trades!

For many years now the Land Trust has relied on one dedicated neighbor for all of the above kinds of help and more. He has donated his skills and expertise to keep our electrical and plumbing systems going, deal with hazardous tree limbs, repair the well pump and the pond pump, replace the decking on the Pond Overlook and the railing of the Little Gazebo, and many other projects large and small. This fall he will undertake his greatest and final contribution: completely rebuilding our toolshed with the help of any volunteers out there with carpentry experience. If that's you, please get in touch with us at

info@LCCLT.org.

Our mild-mannered neighbor, who disguises his true identity under the pseudonym "Bernard," claims he is getting too old to keep up with the Land Trust's "honey-do" list. Though we suspect he secretly wants to dedicate more time to his nocturnal crime-fighting career, we must respect his decision. So, this is a call to our community for logistical and mechanical support. If you have any skill with building, fixing, repairing, wiring, plumbing, tree-climbing, or other tasks required in maintaining a greenspace with a couple of outbuildings and a stage, again, please get

in touch at info@LCCLT.org. If you have questions about what might be involved, we will forward your email to Bernard. He will be happy to give you a tour of the land's hidden infrastructure and advise you as needed.

Bernard has never charged a fee for his assistance; he says the satisfaction he gets from seeing the Land Trust running smoothly—things most visitors will never notice until they go awry—is payment enough. This is a true community attitude. We can't expect any one person to re-



place all his invaluable skillsets, but we hope to recruit a cadre of Land Trust-lovers with various skills to call on when we need help. Likewise, we can't expect all these folks to help out for free, but any kind of non-profit price-break will be appreciated. If you'd like to volunteer your services, or help us out at a discount, again, please get in touch. The land and its community will be grateful.

Upcoming and Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

See LCCLT.org/new-events for details, sign-up and payment info.

Sat. Sept. 2 Drum Circle, 8–11:00 p.m., \$5 donation requested. Rain date: Sat. Sept. 16.

Tues. Sept. 5 Hoopla Workshop with with Mona Mariposa, 6:30–8 p.m. \$22/person (sliding scale available for Black + Indigenous folk; 20% goes to LCCLT.)

Fri. Sept. 8–Sun. Sept. 10 Battery Recycling with Ridwell. Free! Seattle-based re-use and recycling service Ridwell will collect household batteries at the entrance to the Land Trust all weekend. A QR code to sign up at a 10% discount will be available. More info: www.ridwell.com.

Sat. Sept. 9 Community Yard Sale (Swap Style), 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Bring your gently used and no longer needed household items, clothing, books, CDs, artwork, decor, jewelry, etc., for giveaway or trade. Donations to LCCLT welcome.

Sat. Sept. 9 Tarot Class with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 1:30–2:30 p.m. \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT; sliding scale available to women of color and LBGTQIA+ community).

Wed. Sept. 13 BOND Community Federal Credit Union Annual Members Meeting, 5–8 p.m. Sorry, BOND members only! Land Trust Community Potluck Dinners will resume on Oct. 13. See graphic this page.

Thurs. Sept. 14 Land Trust Board meeting, 7–8 p.m. Join us around a picnic table in the Greenfield or via Zoom. Contact us at info@LCCLT.org for a Zoom link.

Sat. Sept. 16 Community Work Day, 9 a.m.–noon. Bring drinking water and work gloves. Pizza follows. Rain date: Sat. Sept. 23.

Tues. Sept. 19 Hoopla Workshop with with Mona Mariposa, 6:30–8 p.m. \$22/person (20% goes to LCCLT.) See Sept. 5.

Sat. Sept. 23 Jerry Jam / Fall Fest Fundraiser, 3–11 p.m. See article this page.

Sat. Sept. 30 Edible & Medicinal Plant Tour & Picnic with Morgan Stickland, 2–4:30 p.m. Tour \$30 (2 hrs.), picnic \$25 (30 min.). Maximum 16 people per tour, first come, first served; 10% goes to LCCLT. Sign up in advance at www.flourishandflora.com.



Crucial Pet Shelter Situation

Continued from page 3.

of help; and (5) urges the enforcement of existing ordinances related to pet transfers and sales, as well as the development of licenses for breeding.

Please write our Commissioners: Please email our District 3 and District 6 commissioners Larry Johnson larryjohnson@dekalbcountyga.gov and Ted Terry ted@dekalbcountyga.gov and urge them to include funding for the animal shelter expansion as part of SPLOSTII.

Please also thank them for passing the resolution included in this article and urge them to find immediate funding, in addition to SPLOSTII, to make these changes asap.

Editor's note: As always, YOU are essential for the success of Lifeline's mission of reimagining sheltering by promoting community involvement and helping people and pets stay together. Thank you!

LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers, writers, and artists to participate in our 'hood. Our featured artist for the month is Sophie Mawson-Puckhaber. She drew this picture for the Kids' Page of her family's house on Palifox Drive. Sophie is 8 and in

the 3rd grade at Mary Lin. Sophie states that she drew the picture "because my family was thinking to plant some flowers in our garden soon, and I thought I could draw what it might look like." What detail! Congrats on your talent, Sophie. To all the Lake Claire children and young adults who

read and contribute to the Kids' Page each month, we appreciate you. Add **your** creativity to this page! Send contributions to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **September 15-18** for the **October** issue.



Sophie



Elodie

Contest Winners!

The winner this month, who spotted the honey bees on page 11 in last month's issue, is Elodie Garrett, 2½ years old, who attends Primavera and lives on Clifton Road. She intuitively knows that we can help bees by not spraying for mosquitoes: When asked how to help bees, she said "flowers." Hudson Frank came in second, "by a hair," succeeding in finding all of the bees. Hudson is 7 years old, in 2nd grade at Mary Lin, and lives on Hardendorf. Our third-place winner is Celeste Young, 6 years old, in first grade at Mary Lin, who lives on Gordon Avenue. Congrats to you three clever winners! To all Lake Claire kids, do keep reading the Kids' Page and sending in your guesses. See our new contest below.



Hudson

New Contest

Did you know that September is National Happy Cat Month? And Sept. 11 is National Hug your Hound Day! September 19 is Talk Like a Pirate Day. But my personal favorite (after all, I'm an editor!) is Sept. 24, National Punctuation Day. To win this month, find a graphic about correct punctuation in this issue and tell us the page number. The winner/winners will be pictured in the next Clarion. Email editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade, along with a photo of yourself. (Parents: send large picture files, 1mb+.) Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row. The deadline is SEPTEMBER 15-18. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.



Celeste

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No filter.

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You're Invited to one of our S'mores & More events!

Please join us for some fun and to learn more about Girl Scouts—it's all FREE! Girls will engage in fun interactive activities to get a glimpse at what girls experience through Girl Scouts.

Register for one of our upcoming events:

- August 12: Neighborhood Church
- August 21: Kirkwood Library
- September 10: Neighborhood Church
- September 12: Kirkwood Library

Questions? Scan the QR code or contact:

Monica Moreno, Area Executive
mmoreno@gsgatl.org | 470-596-8191



Scan me!



Be a Girl Scout.