



## Oct 15: Nurturing Our Spirits at the Lake Claire Neighborhood Picnic

by Lisa Vitello

Come to say “hello” to your neighbors old and new, at our first community gathering since before masking and social distancing! An annual potluck dinner used to be our tradition; on Sunday, October 15, we are ready once again to strengthen societal bonds! The Lake Claire Community Land Trust, along with Lake Claire Neighbors, will be co-hosting a neighborhood potluck picnic from 1 to 3 p.m. (rain date the following Saturday).

In the years since our last event, we’ve seen an influx of new families, and we’re eager to welcome them officially. Guests will not only socialize and meet other neighbors, but will also have an opportunity to learn more about what the non-profits right in our own backyard do for the community. We will also have a musical guest; hint—the beloved Mary Lin Training Chorus might be serenading us!

As this is a potluck, we ask that you bring a dish to share. The Lake Claire Community Land Trust has

graciously offered to host the picnic; we’ll be dining al fresco on the grounds.

We will need help with set up and clean up, so please volunteer to come early, or to stay late. As always, be mindful of the Land Trust’s immediate neighbors; parking at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (corner of Connecticut and McLendon) is therefore encouraged.

Although no RSVP is required, make sure to sign in upon arrival for your raffle ticket. We’ll be giving away great prizes, including artwork from local artisans—another great way to get to know about our neighbors! Watch the Lake Claire Neighbors website ([lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org)) and the Lake Claire Community Land Trust website ([LCCLT.org](http://LCCLT.org)) for more details. #lcclt #lakeclairecommunitylandtrust #lakeclaire

Come on over to the Land Trust, where friendships are waiting to be made!

## Lake Claire Annual Arts & Crafts Sale (smaller venue)

The Lake Claire Craft Fair will be held on a slightly smaller scale, to include less streets. If you are an artist on a street in Lake Claire that is not included, a host home will be found for you to use their porch or yard. The Fair takes place the first Saturday in December with the following Sunday as the rain date. This year’s fair date is Saturday, December 2, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, December 3, same time.

It will take place in Lake Claire on the south side of McLendon Ave. Included streets will be McLendon, Arizona, Indiana, Delaware, New York, Connecticut, Matthews, and Casson Streets, which include in front of the Land Trust and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (spaces to be assigned). Artists of ALL ages are included. 10% of your proceeds go to funding some

of the Midtown Cluster Elementary Schools, with a small portion to Lake Claire Neighbors for reimbursement of expenses/hosting. Please note that the registration deadline for artists and for volunteer host homes is November 5.

**Artist Requirements:** 10% of your proceeds go to funding some of the Midtown Cluster Elementary Schools, with the small portion to LCN noted above. You must hand-make your items to be included in this craft fair; they cannot be hand-made by anyone other than yourself; they cannot be handmade in another country. You will be in charge of bringing any supplies you need, including a table, chairs, tent, water, tape, etc. You must be able to use some form

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## Oct. 28: Halloween Parade and Party in Lake Claire Park

by Lindsey Aprati

Please join us on Saturday, October 28. The parade line-up starts at 4:30 p.m., on Marlbrook Drive at Ridgewood. The parade begins at 5 p.m., and as always, we will march to Lake Claire Park for food and treats!

We love our neighbors who join the parade and those who line up to cheer for our tiniest ghouls, goblins, Harry Potter characters, witches, ghosts, and more. Don’t miss the return of the costume competition!!

**Please, no pets, whatsoever.**

**VOLUNTEERS:** We need your help! Can you photograph the event or sling treats? Teenagers can help, too. There are several ways to help, so please reach out to Meg Hanna, [meglyonhanna@gmail.com](mailto:meglyonhanna@gmail.com).

**SPONSORS:** We need you! Please reach out to Meg Hanna, [meglyonhanna@gmail.com](mailto:meglyonhanna@gmail.com).

We hope to see you there.

## Updates on Mary Lin

by Patrick T. McGrath

Doors opened at Mary Lin on August 1 for the start of a new school year! Some good news greeted the parents and educators at Mary Lin at the start of the year: Mary Lin moved up five spots, to 9th in the Georgia Elementary School Rankings as determined by School Digger ([www.schooldigger.com/go/GA/schoolrank.aspx](http://www.schooldigger.com/go/GA/schoolrank.aspx)). Teachers, staff, students, parents, and community members have worked together to achieve this incredible accomplishment.

In other news, Atlantic Public Schools replaced superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring, choosing not to renew her contract. She has been replaced by Dr. Danielle Battle as interim superintendent of APS. Dr. Battle has 19 years of experience in Atlanta Public Schools, including serving as a principal of Parkside Elementary

and Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School. Dr. Battle will serve as interim superintendent through July 2024. A national search firm has been hired to find a replacement. The Board of Education will play an important role in choosing the new superintendent, and Lake Claire will have the opportunity to vote on three of the nine positions: District 3 and at-large Districts 7 and 9. Elections will take place in November. The Candler Park Neighborhood Organization recently hosted a Q&A session with each of the candidates for the three positions. A recording of this event is available here: [tinyurl.com/CPNO-QANDA](http://tinyurl.com/CPNO-QANDA). Specific questions about redistricting were asked at 33:30 on the recording.

Finally, Mary Lin Elementary

**Cont. on p. 9**

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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.*

## October Neighborhood Events

For Land Trust events, see Page 11. For live music, see Page 9.

**Editor's Calendar Note**—In the years that I've run the Clarion, I've spent a lot of time researching local arts performances, music, theatre, and other arts, "non-neighborhood" activities that I reflected here. Please weigh in if you have found this useful, and as space allows, I could go back to including those. Thanks, Beth ([editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org)).

**7** Please vote for SPLOSTII (funding helps animal shelters), see article Page 6.

**7** Annual *Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde* fundraising event, 3–8 p.m. For more info, see [www.wyldecenter.org](http://www.wyldecenter.org).

**15** Neighborhood Picnic, 1–3 p.m. at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. See article Page 1.

**18** Dine out and support Mary Lin PTA. This month, at Varuni Napoli. See article below.

**19** Lake Claire monthly meeting via Zoom, 3rd Thursdays. Go to [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) for Zoom link. This month, nominations for officers; election next month. See article Page 3.

**28** Annual Lake Claire Halloween Parade Party! 4:30 p.m., Marlbrook at Ridgewood. See article Page 1.

### EARLY NOVEMBER:

- Kickball!—Sunday, Nov 5: Lake Claire vs. Candler Park adult kickball game at 2 p.m. Location TBD. \$5 per person. Lake Claire wears red; CP wears blue. See info and location when available at [candlerpark.org/kickball/](http://candlerpark.org/kickball/).
- Pub Crawl—Thursday, Nov 9. It's the pub crawl you've all been waiting for. Kicking it off at Hudson Grill at 7:30 p.m. with 2 llamas. First fifty tickets are \$10, \$15 after that. Come one come all. Friends don't let friends miss the pub crawl. Tag your neighborhood pals so they don't miss out! [candlerpark.org/pubcrawl/](http://candlerpark.org/pubcrawl/)
- Frazer Forest Volunteer Workdays with Trees Atlanta will resume in November. To stay informed, join the Friends of Frazer Forest email list at [frazercenter.org](http://frazercenter.org).

## October Dine-outs to Support the Mary Lin PTA

Please support Mary Lin PTA and the generous local restaurants in this column each month, and, of course, have delicious food while doing so! This month, only one restaurant as of Clarion going to press:

October 18: Varuni Napoli, dine-in only. 1540 Monroe Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Save the date, and spread the word. For info: Aviva Berman, [avivaberman@gmail.com](mailto:avivaberman@gmail.com).

### Project Updates:

#### MAY 2023

- Candler Park Neighborhood Approval

#### JUNE 2023

- Lake Claire Neighborhood Approval
- Lake Claire submits request for legislation of stop signs

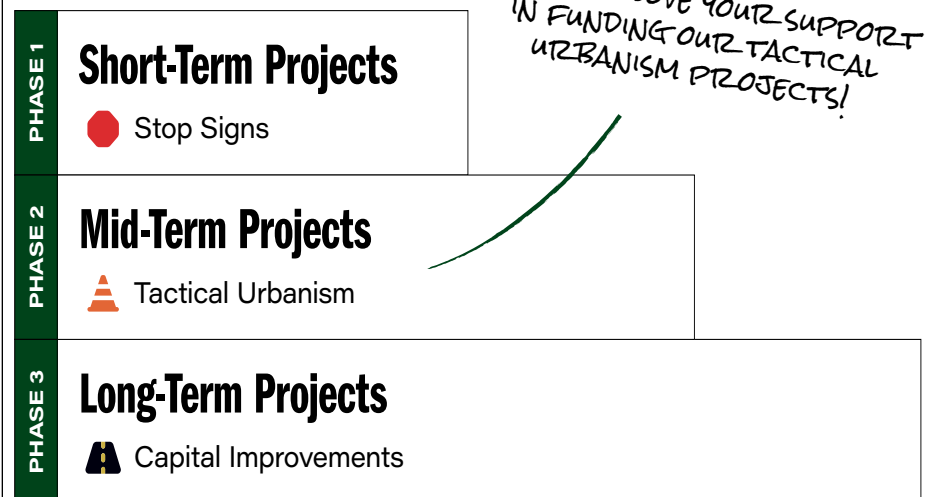
#### AUGUST 2023

- Candler Park meets with Council Member Amir Farokhi

#### SEPTEMBER 2023

- Candler Park submits request for legislation of stop signs

### Phased Approach:



Timeframe

### Please Share Your Thoughts!

As we continue to advance McLendon into a safer street, we want to know what you think we should focus on next!

Please fill out the short questionnaire to let us know.



[safermclendon.org](http://safermclendon.org)



## Lake Claire October Nominations

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are in November. According to our bylaws, all nominations must be made at the regular LCN meeting in **October**, i.e., **at this** month's meeting. The basic requirement for nomination, whether self-nomination or by another, is attendance at a minimum of four regular meetings since last November. A slate of officers is

also presented. So, if you would like to serve the neighborhood in this valuable fashion, and you will meet the requirement as of the October meeting (you will have already attended at least 3 meetings, and the October meeting is your 4th or more), do consider leadership in the neighborhood, a very good cause. The October meeting is Thursday, October 19.

## Safer McLendon

As Atlanta continues to densify, Lake Claire is seeing an increasing amount of traffic, and hazardous conditions that result. The Safer McLendon project is an effort to identify and help resolve safety issues for drivers, pedestrians, and bikers on the entirety of McLendon Ave.

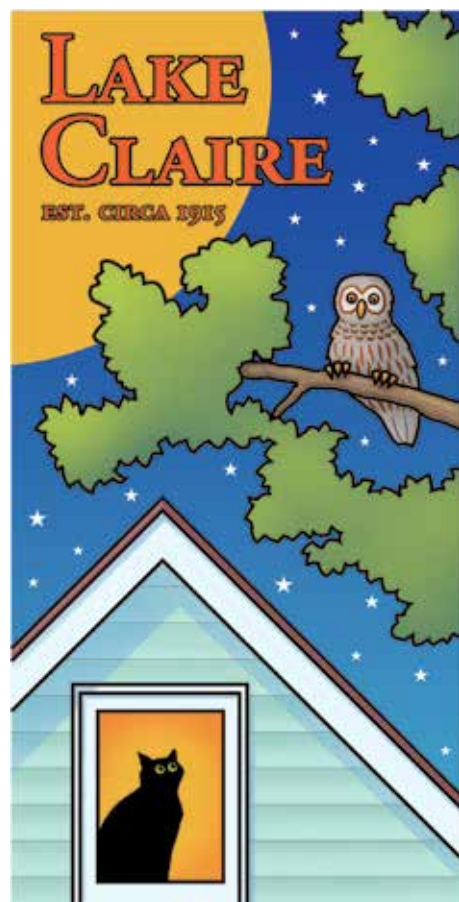
After having multiple community input sessions over the past year to identify trouble spots and to solicit feedback on improvements, a design framework was developed by urban design and planning firm Lord Aeck Sargent. Both the Lake Claire and Candler Park neighborhoods overwhelmingly voted in support of the framework this past spring. (For more information, visit [safermclendon.org/design-concepts/](http://safermclendon.org/design-concepts/) and download the Improvement Plan booklet.)

In the short term, with the support of Councilmember Liliana Bakhtiari's office, requests have been submitted for repair of the digital speed signs, legislation of stop signs, clearing of overgrowth, and cleaning off graffiti from signage. Now the ef-

forts transition to mid-term initiatives, which include fundraising and Tactical Urbanism (a short-term, lower-cost, action-oriented approach to making meaningful civic changes).

Fundraising will require several sources potentially including TSPLOST/General Obligation Bond renewal program (council district allocation), scheduled City repaving programming, grants, The Path Foundation, Safe Routes to Schools, and the Atlanta Department of Transportation Tactical Urbanism program. Tactical Urbanism also requires donations and participation from the community to help realize the vision and goals. While Tactical Urbanism is an interim process in making temporary changes during larger fundraising efforts for permanent solutions, it is a critical and highly effective step that will enable improvements to be made more rapidly. It can also be a great experience for the community to come together and help shape how McLendon will be transformed. (*More detail to be provided soon on volunteer opportunities during the Tactical Urbanism implementation phase.*)

If you are wondering what you can do now to help improve safety and support the Safer McLendon effort, donations are being accepted at [candlerpark.org/safestreet/](http://candlerpark.org/safestreet/). Also, please be sure to stop by the Safer McLendon table at the Candler Park Fall Fest, the Lake Claire Halloween Parade party in the park (October 28), and the Lake Claire Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair in December. Please share your thoughts in a brief q&a, using our link, at bottom of Page 2.



Lake Claire Banner, by Leslie Hodges

## Buy Lake Claire Merchandise

Lake Claire in collaboration with the FineArtAmerica offers a way to buy neighborhood items online, including our Lake Claire banner (pictured above), the 'Ski Lake Claire,' logo, and the '30307 Not Just a Zip Code' logo. Coffee mugs, clothing,

## From Lake Claire Neighbors President

Dear Neighbors,

First, let me take this opportunity to promote the Lake Claire Community Picnic, co-sponsored by the Land Trust and Lake Claire Neighbors, on **Sunday, Oct. 15** from 1 to 3 p.m., to be held at the Land Trust! It's a great way to get together with friends and neighbors you already know, but also to connect with people you haven't had the good fortune to meet yet. From years of experience, I can assure you that Lake Claire has one of the most fascinating mixes of human beings in Atlanta. That said, here are some of the details: The best way to get to the Land Trust is to walk; however, the Clifton Ministries parking lot on Connecticut Avenue will be available. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share and, if possible, a folding chair. Drinks will be provided. For entertainment, the Mary Lin Chorus may perform (to be confirmed), and possibly a fire truck will be there for the children once the adults get out of the way. Clifton Ministries, Frazer Center, and Lake Claire Neighbors will have information tables. It portends to be a lot of fun, so please make every effort to attend, and don't forget to encourage other neighbors in order to make this a memorable event! We are still in need of volunteers to help with setting up and taking down the items we need to use. Please contact Miriam Herbers at [mherbers@yahoo.com](mailto:mherbers@yahoo.com) for more information.

Regarding another very special gathering, I'm fresh off from the BOND Community Federal Credit Union's annual membership meeting that took place on Sat., Sept. 16, held at the Lake Claire Land Trust. It is important to know that this is not just any credit union. BOND has been intimately involved with our neighborhood and other surrounding ones for years by providing crucial support since the early 70s to reverse years of decline for intown communities caused by a constant exodus to the suburbs. So, a little history is in order. The name BOND highlights its exact mission: the **Bass Organization for Neighborhood De-**



velopment. The word "Bass" was the original name of the area surrounding Little Five Points that was established at the end of the 19th century. Although the BOND Credit Union didn't come into existence until 1972, the important part is that its only purpose was to fill the funding gap left by all the banks and financial institutions at the time who refused to invest in the area. Exemplifying the character of the new residents during this difficult period, a group of determined neighbors began a major effort to turn things around. Quoting from their website ([bondcu.com](http://bondcu.com)): "In 1970, the local citizens decided they'd had enough. They formed coalitions, acquired funding, organized demonstrations, and united for a common cause: to take the neighborhood back...They had a bright idea: if banks wouldn't lend to locals to buy their own homes, they'd form their own financial institution. Word spread quickly..." Fortunately, BOND is still alive and well, helping the community with sponsorships and donations to events, schools, neighborhood organizations, and more. And, of course, they continue to offer valuable services for their customers. Quoting again from the website: "Our loan portfolio now includes auto, personal & secured loans, plus our own no-bull credit cards. We offer personal & business checking accounts, and we take great pride in delivering free certified financial counseling. Our members also enjoy unprecedented account access on par with big, national banks with online banking, mobile banking, 5,000+ branches (called 'Shared Service Centers') and over 25,000 free ATMs worldwide."

In summary, please attend the LT/LCN potluck picnic, the Halloween parade (see Page 1), and last but not least, the annual Arts and Crafts Sale (also Page 1); and take advantage of our local credit union that has done, and continues to do, so much for our neighborhood.

~ Joe Agee, President,  
Lake Claire Neighbors, Inc.





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with Cynthia Baer**







## Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Expansion

by Lori White

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries has recently expanded its footprint and is partnering with Intown Cares to provide comprehensive and intensive case management for our guests. Our Case Management Service, provided within our Night Hospitality Program, is at the core of the successful outcomes of our guests. Each guest who comes to Clifton is given an Individual Service Plan (ISP) to help achieve his goal of self-sufficiency and independent living. Each guest explains what led to his

homelessness and the goals he seeks to achieve. The Case Manager then develops a plan that will help enable each guest to accomplish his goals. Our assertive Case Management and goal focused intake process to create ISPs help to provide the foundation for our guest's transformation.

Clifton is excited about this partnership and is proud to be able to provide these vital services to our guests. Neighbors, thanks for loving on us, helping to make our ministry possible.

## Frazer's Sandra Reese Celebrates 36 Years as DSP

by Dina Shadwell

When the movie Rain Man premiered in 1988, Dustin Hoffman won a Best Actor Oscar for his portrayal of Raymond, a character described as "an autistic-savant." Rain Man became the highest grossing film of the year, and it garnered three more Oscars, including Best Picture. Sandra Reese remembers seeing Rain Man when it came out. Like most people at the time, she was not very familiar with autism spectrum disorder. But the subject intrigued her, particularly because she had recently been hired to work with people with disabilities at the Cerebral Palsy Center—now the Frazer Center.

Sandra has now been with Frazer Center longer than any other current staff members. A lot has changed during her 36-year tenure, but Sandra's love for the adults she works with remains constant. "I have a connection with them. They're what keeps me coming back," she says. Sandra's penchant for helping people started early. She grew up in Oakhurst and went to Decatur High School. She



spent a lot of her free time with the elders in her community, helping them with whatever they needed. After graduating from high school, Sandra took a summer internship with the Oakhurst Boys & Girls Club, then studied to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. She returned to a full-time position with the Boys



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

### Happy b'day, belatedly:

Sorry we missed you September folks last time due to space considerations; happy belated, to:

September 1: Thomas Mayer turned 10 (Gordon Avenue)

September 7: Vickie Smith (Harold)

September 10: The Fabulous Alicia McGill (Arizona and honorary Delaware Ave!)

September 13: Lilly Amato—15th birthday (Marlbrook) (Clarion deliverer for many yrs, thank you)

September 15: Harper Gamble turned 13 years old. (McLendon Avenue)

September 20: Keely Baker—20 this year (Leonardo)

September 22: Rene Godiers (Marlbrook)

September 23: Miles Judy (Lakeshore Drive) 4 years old! And Alyssa Olson (Leonardo)

### Happy b'day in October:

October 2: Happy b'day, Margaret Witten (Tuxedo) Hugs from Maine!

October 5: Chloe Rachal will turn 11! (Howard Circle) and Emma DeBell (Harold) 15!

October 7: Todd Fernandez (Leonardo)

October 11: Scarlett Capps turns 17! (Harold)

October 19: Kusher Thomas Tanguturi turns 9 (Harold Avenue)

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

October 23: Izzy Kaiser—Happy 15th birthday! ('dorf)

October 27: Happy birthday, Wing! Much appreciated faithful contributor to the Clarion

### Marriage Anniversaries

October 6: Judy Langford and Bob Thompson (Harold)

October 15: Sara Rossi and Jeff DeBell (Harold)

*Send us life cycle changes for the next issue—November!— and help make this series inclusive! Send announcements to editor@lake-claire.org by October 18-ish.*

& Girls Club and stayed for a couple of years before searching for something new. That's when she came to the Cerebral Palsy Center.

"I was welcomed with open arms," Sandra says. There were only about 15 adults with disabilities coming to the Center then. Over the years, Frazer's Adult Program has expanded to serve 60-80 adults. The job of Direct Support Professional (DSP) has expanded too. DSP trainings, and expectations were not nearly as stringent as they are today. The documentation required by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) for each adult receiving support services has grown exponentially. DSPs now need to have administrative skills in addition to the soft skills required to provide effective, compassionate support.

Sandra continues to evolve along with the profession. "Her longevity in the field sets her apart," says Unondus Walker, Director of Frazer's Adult Services. "Sandra's dedication is unparalleled, and her commitment to providing exceptional care and support to individuals with developmental disabilities is unwavering. She has grown with the participants and become a cherished part of their extended family."

Sarah Greenlaw is one of those extended family members. She was attending Frazer when Sandra was hired. Today, they enjoy one-on-one time in the community. "We talk," says Sarah, "and sometimes she makes me laugh." Sarah has a goal of reading more library books, so Sandra is working to get her a library

**Cont. on p. 8**



## SPLOSTII is Vital to Dekalb (An expanded animal shelter is on the long list of capital improvements.)

by Scott McLane

**How can you support services for pets and their families? Vote for SPLOSTII on November 7!!**

House Bill 431 signed into law by Governor Kemp on May 3 allows Dekalb County to place a referendum before the voters to approve SPLOSTII to replace the very successful SPLOSTI one penny sales tax that will expire on March 31, 2024. This SPLOSTII greatly expands the categories of capital improvements that can be made by the county, including funds for an EXPANDED ANIMAL SHELTER.

SPLOSTI, and now SPLOSTII, has, and will allow, Dekalb to start to make up for **decades** of underfunded infrastructure.

In 2017, DeKalb was one of the last major counties to pass a SPLOST, having lost decades of opportunity to fund vital infrastructure maintenance and improvements. Gwinnett County, for example, has had a SPLOST since the mid '80s, collecting more than \$2.9 billion for capital improvements. SPLOST has also had the benefit of minimizing long-term debt in Gwinnett and saved more than \$1 billion in financ-

ing costs compared to issuing bonds.

This November, voters in cities and in unincorporated DeKalb County will consider two related ballot measures. One is an extension of the Equalized Homestead Option Sales Tax (EHOST), which is expected to save taxpayers \$1 billion over the next six years. The other is the special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST), that's expected to generate \$850 million for capital improvements such as: transportation, public safety, animal services, mental health facilities, water and sewer, parks, libraries, and senior center, et.al. In DeKalb County, EHOST and SPLOST go hand-in-hand. Both referendums have to be approved by voters in order for EHOST and SPLOST to be extended.

EHOST provides property tax relief for DeKalb residents. It is a one-percent tax and 100 percent of its revenue is used to reduce property taxes for qualified homeowners.

CEO Michael Thurmond said EHOST is an investment in housing affordability. "The EHOST is one of the largest investments in housing affordability in the history of Georgia," Thurmond said. DeKalb County



*Daffodill and Poppyseed, rescues from the Dekalb Animal Shelter. Poppyseed (right) is available for adoption from Scott McLane 404-786-0325.*

Commissioner Ted Terry praised the commission's decision to put these items on the ballot calling it "great news all around."

SPLOST II allows DeKalb County citizens the opportunity to direct significant investments back into our community, positively impacting our county both in the short term and long," Commissioner Terry said. "These tax dollars are able to 'action' critical needs to address mental health, animal services, and environmental justice—just one more layer toward a better DeKalb for all of us!"

**Please get the word out to support SPLOSTII. It is vital for the health of our county and our four-legged friends!!**

*Editor's Note: This is SUCH an important article! Please make time to vote on November 7. And please adopt and foster rescued animals, not purchase them from pet stores; as always, **YOU** are essential for the success of the shelters' keeping animals alive, promoting community involvement, and helping people and pets stay together. Thank you!*



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## Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

As late as a few days before I started considering what I would write for this month's column, I was thinking that I hadn't made many wildlife observations recently. And then they started coming fast and furious—a monarch butterfly on the joe-pye weed at the Land Trust, later seen with ragged wings [see photo by Sara] and eventually on the ground serving as food for a swarm of ants; a praying mantis on the late boneset in the Peace Garden; the chrysalis of an eastern black swallowtail butterfly on my bronze fennel [see photo by Sara]; Joro spiders spinning their messy, golden-silk webs in the low branches of trees in CoHousing [see photo by Sage Bader-Gottlieb]; a juvenile possum wandering around CoHousing [see photo by Sara]; and finally a hawk perched on the chicken coop near the Nelms corner at the Land Trust [see photo by Sara]. Others reported quite an abundance of wildlife, some of it quite surprising, as well.

Meredith W. reports the jewelweed blooming in her yard, and the goldenrod are getting ready to flower. She has had lots of hummingbirds enjoying the jewelweed and the feeder, and they've gotten increasingly territorial as they get closer to migration time. Oddly, Meredith reports seeing a few fireflies in her yard in mid-September—quite late in the summer! Meredith was excited to observe crane fly orchids, tree frogs, a pair of fawns, and two praying mantises while walking recently.

While walking at the Lullwater Preserve she heard an odd cheeping noise she couldn't identify, but followed the sound and saw a baby squirrel on the ground under some grass. She had fur but her eyes still hadn't opened. Almost immediately after Meredith approached her, the mama began scolding her from a nest directly above. Meredith was concerned the baby had fallen from a nest, so she went back with a box, which she tied to the tree with the baby in it, hoping the mother squirrel would retrieve her. The baby was gone by the next time Meredith went back, so she assumed the mother got her. Meredith spoke with a neighborhood wildlife rehabilitator afterward about it to make sure she did the right thing. The expert said she did, and that it's likely the baby didn't fall from the nest but the mother put her on the ground while she tidied up. She said it's common for squirrel moms to take up to four hours to move all the siblings out and tidy the nest before getting everyone back inside.

Andrew F. reported that while vacationing on Tybee Island, swimming about 20 feet off the beach, a bottlenose dolphin popped its head up about 8 feet from him. The dolphin was going up and down the shoreline eating the fish that he'd observed while swimming earlier that morning. He described it as truly one of the coolest animal encounters of his life. His family also saw the prerequisite seagulls and pelicans diving for fish and/or looking for spilled chips left by beachgoers. Andrew also reported seeing his first otter live in the wild. It was along Burnt Fork Creek in Mason Mill Park. He'd longed to catch otters there along the more wild trail along the creek before but had never been successful. After giving up after a 20-minute trek as the bugs were starting to get to him, by a beaver dam he saw something large and long swimming and bent down; it was indeed an otter. Unfortunately, by the time he got his phone out to record, it had apparently heard his excitement and hid out of sight.

Interestingly, Marcy C. passed along the news from a friend of a sighting of two otters spotted playing in the creek at Candler Park. Marcy shared a video clip captured by her friend's child [see frame clip] which clearly shows these playful animals enjoying themselves in the murky water.

Frank W. recently saw a large owl at night perched high in a tree. Fifteen minutes later, it flew off, displaying its huge wingspan spread in great majesty. Frank reports hearing a sound that he thought was a hawk but then went outside and found that it was a bluejay. However, later that day, he actually did see a hawk, which was a surprise. Frank has also seen a lot of hummingbirds congregating around the wildflowers in his backyard, along with many butterflies. One morning, he saw three butterflies that were different colors, one after the other. One was yellow with black etchings, another was orange with an intricate pattern, and a third one was very dark, almost purple, and iridescent [Sara notes: probably an eastern tiger swallowtail, Gulf fritillary, and an eastern black swallowtail, respectively]. Speaking of threes, one day Frank heard a lot of commotion outside and went to look and was surprised to see three hawks squawking in the backyard. He also reports seeing some other interesting insects in addition to butterflies including a grasshopper on a stalk of grass that was an inch and a half long, and a large wood spider that was nearly the size of a child's



Monarch butterfly on *Eupatorium* sp.



Black swallowtail chrysalis on fennel



Joro spider



Juvenile possum



Hawk at Nelms Corner



Otters playing

hand—hopefully, it eats up all the mosquitoes in the neighborhood!

As fall gets underway and all the wild things around us seem to be winding down in one way or another, remember to keep an open mind and seek out nature's gifts. The fall colors will be peaking within a few weeks of the publication of this column—there is a handy map published at [smoky-mountains.com/fall-foliage-map/](http://smoky-mountains.com/fall-foliage-map/) or you can follow **#GaLeafWatch** on social media to plan your hikes for optimum fall color viewing. Be observant of other surprises while you enjoy the splendor of the leaves. As mathematician and philosopher Alfred North Whitehead said, "Nature,

even in the act of satisfying anticipation, often provides a surprise."

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





## 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. Since the last Clarion, the following folks paid dues:

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pen and Andrew Sherwood | Sarah Roberts         |
| Christie Hartley        | Julie Roseman         |
| Elizabeth Young         | Carol Statella-Harris |
| Callie Waters           | Kristin L'Esperance   |
| Christine Mekenna       | Jason Thomas          |
| Colin Calderera         | Tyler Lewis           |
| Cara Stevens            | Elizabeth Perry       |
| Lucas Gosdin            | Sarah Herbert         |
| Andrew Perrins          | Patricia Emerson      |
| Sarah Herbert           | Joe Fallon            |
| Kelle Butler Waterhouse | Carol Holiday         |
| Emily Reimer            | Carol Bales           |
| Tyler Higgins           | Mary Jo Bryan         |
| Judy Hammack            | Kristy Perez          |
| Audra Melton            | Lesley Lochrige       |
| Matthew McNeil          | Sharon Jackson        |

Thank you, everyone!:

## Frazer Center's Sandra Reese

*Continued from page 5.*

card and make sure Sarah understands the responsibilities that come with it. Sandra fosters a family atmosphere with her co-workers as well. "She plays a crucial role in molding the newer generation of DSPs," says Unondus. "She willingly shares her knowledge and expertise, nurturing a culture of learning and growth among her colleagues." That nurturing may be one of Sandra's most valuable contributions at Frazer. According to the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities, the state has been in a DSP workforce crisis since before the pandemic. There is a 45% annual turnover rate among DSPs, and demand for services is only growing as the life expectancy of people with disabilities continues to rise.

Although Frazer Center pays

a wage that is above the state and national average for DSPs, the organization is not immune to the hiring crisis. Sandra says the benefits that Frazer provides are a big help, but it's the familial environment that really keeps her coming back. Things have changed a lot since Rain Man premiered. Although some argue that Hoffman's portrayal is problematic, the movie did a lot to spread awareness about autism spectrum disorder. In her own corner of the world, Sandra Reese has done a lot to spread awareness about people with developmental disabilities and to shatter the stigmatic stereotypes that were prevalent for so long. Sandra's work, and the work of all Direct Support Professionals, is essential.

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# Updates on Mary Lin

*Continued from page 1.*

School welcomed baby chicks to the school (see picture to the right)! Over the summer, the Mary Lin Foundation purchased and installed a brand-new chicken coop. The school would love some help and guidance as we start this new adventure. If you have suggestions, expertise, interest in learning and helping, please reach out to Stephanie Shumacher at [slshumacher@apsk12.org](mailto:slshumacher@apsk12.org). Additionally, if you are interested in volunteering to help the school with various gardening projects, please contact Stephanie as well! I know our neighborhood is filled with amazing gardeners. Even if you don't have kids, we would love your help.



Sorted Clarions waiting to be picked up by delivery teams

## Need for Clarion Volunteers Once a Month

We can always use volunteer delivery folks for placing monthly Clarions on neighbors' porches. Great way to help the neighborhood, to get steps, and (high schoolers) to earn community credit. The only commitment is the time-sensitive delivery, which is usually between the last week of the previous month and the 5th of that

month, except no paper in July & August. (Even when we have enough volunteers for current routes, we need back-ups for when regular volunteers can't deliver by the deadline for any reason.) It could be a family outing! Email Alicia at [distribution@lakeclaire.org](mailto:distribution@lakeclaire.org).

## Clairon Kids' Contest Winners!

The winner this month, who spotted the punctuation tip in last month's issue, is **Leo Ross**. Leo lives on Connecticut Ave. and is in 1st Grade at Mary Lin. Coming in 2nd place is **Hudson Norvell**, age 9 and a 4th grader at Mary Lin, who lives on Hampton Terrace. For 3rd place, there was a tie between **Nicolas Sanders** (8 years old, 2nd grade at Hess Academy, on Southerland Terrace) and **August Goldstein** (age 7, a 2nd grader at

Mary Lin, on Indiana Ave. August's mom said he laughed at the great punctuation joke when he found it!). There was a 3-way tie for 4th place, among **Pern Melvin** (9 yr old in 4th grade at Mary Lin, on Ridgewood Rd), **Ethan Lee** (age 8, Mary Lin, 3rd grade, on McLendon Avenue), and **Ryder Durham** (age 9 at Mary Lin, 4th grade, on McLendon). Congrats to

*Cont. on p. 12*

# Live Music!

by Beth Damon

DATE	BAND	LOCATION
Sept. 30–Oct. 1	Candler Park Fall Fest	Candler Park
Sunday, Oct. 1	Chris Pureka w/Kym Register	Eddie's Attic
Monday, Oct. 2	Tegan And Sara	Tabernacle
Oct. 1 & 18	Jonas Brothers	State Farm Arena
Oct. 1–2	Roy Ayers	City Winery
Oct. 2–4	Run The Jewels	The Eastern
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Shinyribs	City Winery
Thursday, Oct. 5	Black Legacy Project	City Winery
Thursday, Oct. 5	The Lil Smokies & Town Mountain	Terminal West
Thursday, Oct. 5	Rob Ickes & Trey Hensley w/Surrender Hill	Eddie's Attic
Thursday, Oct. 5	Spyro Gyra	Variety Playhouse
Friday, Oct. 6	Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin	Buckhead Theatre
Friday, Oct. 6	The Bonaventure Quartet	Botanical Gardens
Friday, Oct. 6	Neighbor	Terminal West
Friday, Oct. 6	Janelle Monae	The Fox
Saturday, Oct. 7	Michelle Malone Duo	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, Oct. 7	Daniel Donato's Cosmic Country	The Loft
Saturday, Oct. 7	Pink Zeppelin	Napoleons
Saturday, Oct. 7	Grant Green Jr & Gaurav Malhotra	Botanical Gardens
Sunday, Oct. 8	Will Kimbrough	Eddie's Attic
Sunday, Oct. 8	Durand Jones	Terminal West
Sunday, Oct. 8	Khaliko	Smith's Olde Bar
Oct. 7–8	Gregory Alan Isakov (Lucius opening)	Tabernacle
Monday, Oct. 9	John Mailander's Forecast	Eddie's Attic
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Chromeo	The Eastern
Oct. 10–11	Suzanne Vega	City Winery
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Three Days Grace and Chevelle	The Roxy
Thursday, Oct. 12	Morrissey	The Fox
Thursday, Oct. 12	Dan Rodriguez	Eddie's Attic
Friday, Oct. 13	Samantha Fish & Jesse Dayton	City Green
Friday, Oct. 13	Duane Betts	FTE
Friday, Oct. 13	String n Bones	Botanical Gardens
Friday, Oct. 13	Deer Tick	Terminal West
Friday, Oct. 13	Michael Mcdermott	Eddie's Attic
Friday, Oct. 13	Tire Fire	MOMS
Friday, Oct. 13	The Tallest Man on Earth	Variety Playhouse
Friday, Oct. 13	Macy Gray	The Eastern
Friday, Oct. 13	Gritz & Jelly Butter	City Winery
Saturday, Oct. 14	DSO	Tabernacle
Saturday, Oct. 14	Magnolia Express	American Tavern
Saturday, Oct. 14	Caroline Aiken	Botanical Gardens
Oct. 13–14	Wire & Wood Fest (Susto, Eliot Bronson etc)	Alpharetta
Oct. 14–17	Eric Roberson	City Winery
Oct. 14–17	Aerosmith	State Farm Arena
Sunday, Oct. 15	Porch Rockers	Napoleons
Sunday, Oct. 15	St Paul & the Broken Bones	The Eastern
Sunday, Oct. 15	Depeche Mode	State Farm Arena
Sunday, Oct. 15	Clem Snide	Eddie's Attic
Monday, Oct. 16	Raye Zaragoza	Eddie's Attic
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Gucci Mane & Friends	Tabernacle
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Gone Gone Beyond	Terminal West
Wednesday, Oct. 18	The Cadillac Three	Terminal West
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Ben Ottewell and Ian Ball	City Winery
Thursday, Oct. 19	Unknown Mortal Orchestra	The Eastern
Thursday, Oct. 19	Allison Russell	Terminal West
Thursday, Oct. 19	Scary Pockets	Variety Playhouse
Oct. 19–20	Mt Joy	Tabernacle
Friday, Oct. 20	Seth Walker	Eddie's Attic
Friday, Oct. 20	Sweet Melissa's Blues Revue	Cajun Blues
Friday, Oct. 20	Nick Cave	ASO
Friday, Oct. 20	JGBCB	The Loft
Saturday, Oct. 21	George Strait, Carrie Underwood, Willie Nelson	Mercedes Benz
Saturday, Oct. 21	Kesha	The Eastern
Saturday, Oct. 21	Magnolia Express	Botanical Gardens
Saturday, Oct. 21	Phillip Phillips	Center Stage
Oct. 21–22	Highball Fest (Band of Hours, the Head and Heart etc)	Pullman Yards
Oct. 21–22	Hippie Fest	Milledgeville
Sunday, Oct. 22	AJ Lee & Blue Summit	Eddie's Attic
Sunday, Oct. 22	Thundercat	The Roxy
Sunday, Oct. 22	Stephen Marley	Center Stage
Sunday, Oct. 22	Evan + Zane	City Winery
Sunday, Oct. 22	The Whigs	Pullman Yards
Wednesday, Oct. 25	John Mayer	State Farm Arena
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Mipso	Terminal West
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Hot Club of Cowtown	City Winery
Friday, Oct. 27	Webb Wilder	Eddie's Attic
Oct. 27–28	Graham Nash	Variety Playhouse
Saturday, Oct. 28	Ralph Roddenbery Trio	Botanical Gardens
Saturday, Oct. 28	Lukas Nelson/POTR	Buckhead Theatre
Sunday, Oct. 29	Jonathan Richman	Terminal West
Wednesday, Nov. 1	The Brian Jonestown Massacre	Variety Playhouse
Thursday, Nov. 2	Louden Swain w/Hayden Lee	Eddie's Attic
Thursday, Nov. 2	Shakey Graves	The Eastern
Thursday, Nov. 2	Pimps of Joytime	Aisle 5
Nov 2–4	The Eagles with Steely Dan	State Farm Arena
Friday, Nov. 3	Tre' Burt	Vinyl
Friday, Nov. 3	Trombone Shorty	The Eastern
Friday, Nov. 3	California Honeydrops	Variety Playhouse
Nov 3–4	MMJ	The Fox
Saturday, Nov. 4	Andy Frasco	Variety Playhouse
Wednesday, Nov. 8	Vince Herman/Airshow	Smith's Olde Bar
Wednesday, Nov. 8	Kevin Kinney	Eddie's Attic
Thursday, Nov. 9	Better than Ezra	Buckhead Theatre
Friday, Nov. 10	Griffin House	Eddie's Attic
Friday, Nov. 10	Hiss Golden Messenger	Terminal West



# Lake Claire Arts & Craft

*Continued from page 1.*

of electronic payment—10% of your proceeds must be sent by PayPal or check to Lake Claire Neighbors.

**Host Requirements:** You must be a Lake Claire resident and live on one of the streets listed above. Host an artist either on your porch or your yard and allow artist to use your toilet. Artists will be in charge of bringing any supplies they need, including a table, chairs, tent, water, tape, etc. Must be able to communicate directly with the artist that you are hosting.

**Confirmation required:** The link here is the submission form only. You will hear back from the LC Craft Fair within a week of your submission. If not, please email [lake-clairecraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:lake-clairecraftfair@gmail.com). Please do not assume your participation is confirmed until you receive the written confirmation.

**Note:** It is possible that your location from past years will change.

**Registration forms:**

Artist Registration form:

[docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceYClMgclq7TTPmqCA7SWHFqJ6WOalVNqJMAqAggLAhpu7PQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceYClMgclq7TTPmqCA7SWHFqJ6WOalVNqJMAqAggLAhpu7PQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Host Registration form:

[docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoM2K0UBtrUaj6TvCYw6EU-V9Di66TpDc5BPuDNbaIDEsZeeg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoM2K0UBtrUaj6TvCYw6EU-V9Di66TpDc5BPuDNbaIDEsZeeg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Sponsor Registration form:

[docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5OHSyOG4bogLO4h0tU1skfeiTvrtkzX1VwqA2z5NZnS6fsQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5OHSyOG4bogLO4h0tU1skfeiTvrtkzX1VwqA2z5NZnS6fsQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Food Vendor

[docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSekO2d2Y0ZFtwU2GrWzK9JPE5-lQ1QjJHtBREDm-F866y2YT1Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSekO2d2Y0ZFtwU2GrWzK9JPE5-lQ1QjJHtBREDm-F866y2YT1Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)

We are thrilled that you want to be a part of this community event that benefits the whole neighborhood as well as our public schools!

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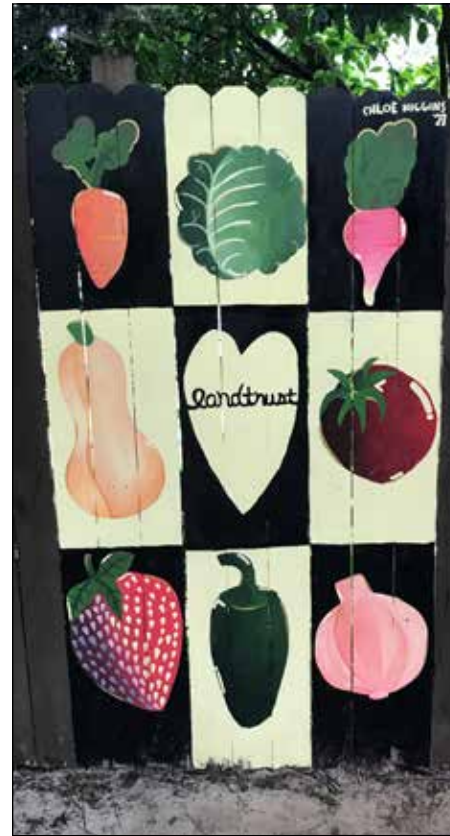


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Chloe Higgins was a 12-year-old Lake Claire resident and 6th grader at Howard Middle School when she contacted the Land Trust about her vision of a mural to beautify her favorite greenspace. The Grounds Committee accepted and chose the back fence of the playground for her project. The mural is now complete, and to the left is Chloe's description. Thank you, Chloe, for loving the Land Trust and adding your own creative touch!

*Editor's note: Please see the online Clarion so you can see Chloe's beautiful work in color! Better yet, go check it out at the Land Trust.*

## Beautifying a Beautiful Place

by Chloe Higgins

When I began planning my mural back in 2022, I had no idea what a journey it would take me on. Once I had decided on my best designs, I sent them to the Land Trust to make the final choice. An artist named Sunshine heard about my project and offered me just the kind of good quality, durable outdoor paint I needed, in just the colors I sought. Sitting in the sand, I sketched my design with blown-up proportions onto the fence. Then I began painting in layers of color, and after a few visits I got an

opaque coat. Later I added dimension by shading, adding highlights, details, and golden lines for interest. I was not able to work on weekdays, but looked forward to painting every weekend. All the while, I met kids at the playground who were curious about the mural, from a girl who wanted me to bring pink paint, to a boy who always gave me sticks to mix with. Like Sunshine, they all inspired me to keep going. If it weren't for them, I believe that fence would still be empty!

## The Land Trust's Fall Plant & Bulb Sale

It's Fall again – time to start thinking Spring! The Land Trust has ordered 300 jonquil bulbs from the respected and family-owned Brent and Becky's nursery ([brentandbeckybulbs.com](http://brentandbeckybulbs.com)) for our annual Fall sale of bulbs and plants. We chose Ice Follies, the white ones, along with Carlton, the large and sturdy yellow variety, plus Fragrant Mix, the most popular selection from last year. Meet us at the Land Trust entrance on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m. to noon to get a head start on beautifying your

yard next spring. The success of this sale increases when neighbors bring plants from their yards. Please keep the LT in mind when you are thin and divide your garden for autumn. You can bring your plants to the entrance to the Land Trust Friday evening (Nov. 17) or at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. It would be a helpful bonus if you added identification and a price to your donation. As always, the proceeds from this sale will go towards the upkeep of this increasingly rare green haven in the city.

## Upcoming and Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

See [LCCLT.org/new-events](http://LCCLT.org/new-events) for details, sign-up and payment info.

**Tues. Oct. 5 & 17: Hoopla Workshop** with with Mona Mariposa, 6:30–8 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tues. every month). \$22/person (20% goes to LCCLT; sliding scale available for Black or Indigenous folk.) Please pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see [LCCLT.org/new-events](http://LCCLT.org/new-events).

**Sat. Oct. 7: Drum Circle**, 8–11 p.m. (1st Sat. every month), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. Rain date: Sat. Oct. 21.

**Thurs. Oct. 12: Land Trust board meeting**, 7–8 p.m. (2nd Thurs. every month) in the Greenfield or via Zoom. All are welcome! Email [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org) for a Zoom link. Rain location: the Gorilla Grill.

**Fri. Oct. 13: Land Trust Community Potluck**, 6:30 p.m. in the Greenfield (and every month on the 13th). Bring your own re-usable dinnerware, and something to share if you can. Label ingredients, please! Rain location: the Gorilla Grill.

**Sat. Oct. 14: Tarot Class** with Chakura Kineard, 1:30–2:30 p.m. (2nd Sat. every month). \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT; sliding scale available to women of color and LBGTQIA+ community). Pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see [LCCLT.org/new-events](http://LCCLT.org/new-events).

**Sun. Oct. 15: Lake Claire Neighbors/Land Trust Annual Picnic**, 1–3 p.m. See article this page.

**Sat. Oct. 21: Community Work Day**, 1–4 p.m. (3rd Sat. every month). Note the shift to cool-weather hours. Bring drinking water and work gloves. Pizza follows. Rain date: Sat. Oct. 28.

**Sat. Oct. 28: Edible & Medicinal Plant Tour & Picnic** with Morgan Stickland, 2–4:30 p.m. Tour \$30 (2 hrs.), picnic \$25 (30 min.; 10% goes to LCCLT. Learn to identify and use 15 edible and medicinal southeastern plants; picnic features three seasonal dishes and four herbal teas. Sign up in advance at [www.flourishandflora.com](http://www.flourishandflora.com).

**Sun. Oct. 29: Community Pumpkin Carving**, 3–4:30 p.m. Bring kids, knives and candles. We'll provide the pumpkins!

**Save the date: Sat. Nov. 18 LCCLT Fall Plant & Bulb Sale**, 10 a.m.–noon. See article this page.





# 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 Luna Herbers, who is six years old and in

first grade at Mary Lin. This is her rendition of the swing at Mrs. Shumacher's house (Mary Lin STEM teacher whom the family loves). Congrats on your talent, Luna! 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](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), by **October 15-18** for the **NOVEMBER** issue.



Mrs. Shumacher's swing, by Luna Herbers

## Contest Winners!

Continued from page 9

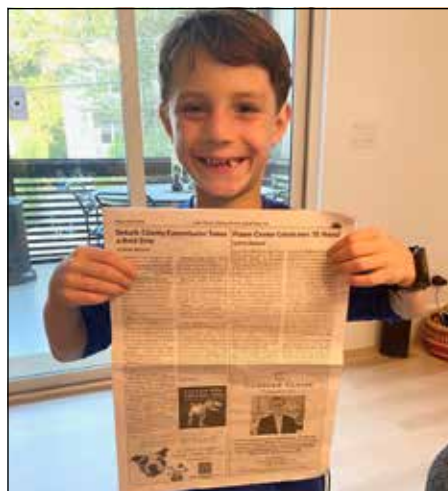
you seven clever winners! To all Lake Claire kids, do keep reading the Kids' Page and sending in your guesses. See our new contest below. Also pictured here is Carolina Lupo, with the editor's apology. Carolina's mom emailed her guess in time for last month when Carolina found the hidden bees, but I missed her email. Sorry about that! Carolina said, "Bees make honey, so never touch a honeybee! Just shoo them, don't hurt them." Carolina is 4 years old, attends Freedom Park Preschool, and lives on Gordon Ave. -Beth



Hudson, 2nd place winner



Nicolas, 3rd place tie



August, 3rd place tie



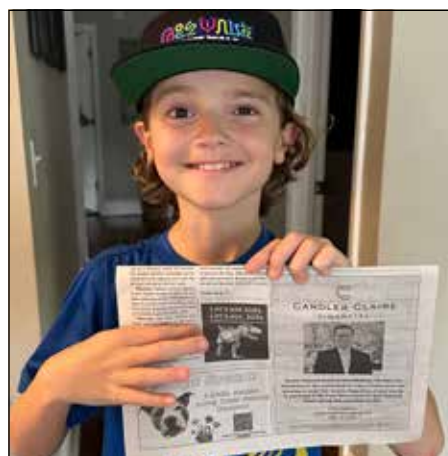
Leo, 1st place winner



Pern, 4th place tie



Ethan, 4th place tie



Ryder, 4th place tie



Carolina

## New Contest

Did you know that October is National Book Month, ADHD Awareness Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Depression Awareness Month, LGBTQ+ History Month, and Adopt a Shelter-Dog Month? Wow! Many good causes! And of course, Halloween falls

in October, so to win this month, find a picture of the carved pumpkins and tell us the page number. The pumpkins were carved at our own Land Trust last year! The winner/winners will be pictured in the next Clarion. For extra credit, in honor of National

Book Month, tell us a book you are reading or just finished reading, or one that a parent is reading to you. Email [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 child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row. The deadline is **OCTOBER 15-18**. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.