



Lived in 2+ Homes in Lake Claire

by Beth Damon

This continues the series on Lake Claire folks who have lived in two or more homes in Lake Claire. Some people downsized, some upsized, some moved from rental properties to buy in the 'hood. The commonality was that they wanted to stay in Lake Claire, universally recognized as a unique neighborhood. This month's article features Susan and Sean Beeching (Connecticut) and Richard Lorenc and Colin Calderera (Hardendorf).

Richard Lorenc and Colin Calderera moved into Lake Claire in the summer of 2015. 626 Hardendorf was their first home. Although they knew that they loved the feeling of the Lake Claire neighborhood and the older house itself, they said that they had no idea what a tightly knit community they had practically stumbled into. "Especially, being on Hardendorf's dead-end gave us the opportunity to get to know our neigh-

bors very well—and to co-host the annual street block party," Richard said. He grew up in Buckhead, so he had never lived in a neighborhood like Lake Claire before. Colin, growing up in suburbs outside of New Orleans, was more familiar with a place where kids are always outside, neighbors stop to talk, and where there was always something good to eat within close walking distance.

Richard and Colin said that they quickly learned that Lake Claire (and in particular Hardendorf) is the best neighborhood in Atlanta—and the best in which to raise a family. In mid-2021 they began to explore options to have children, and the fact that their home only had a single bathroom posed some challenges. They had heard from some neighbors (who have since become close friends) that 608 Hardendorf was going to be placed on the market, so they knocked on the homeowners' door and quickly



Colin & Richard at first home, 626 Hardendorf

made a deal. They moved into their new, bigger home of the same vintage as the old home that summer, using Radio Flyer wagons to move their possessions, piece-by-piece. (See the picture of the Lorenc/Caldarera home at 608 on Page 8.)

"Our current home is only four doors down from our old one, and moving such a short distance for "more home" was the easiest decision in the world to make—despite the fact that our new driveway is even narrower than our old one! We still have friends who park in front of our old house when visiting, and our new neighbors who own our old home

bring mail to us every so often, especially around the holidays (thanks, Sarah and Stephen!)."

Colin and Richard make the three-mile loop from Hardendorf to Freedom Parkway daily, passing Mary Lin while thinking how lucky they are to live in a community where parents are so involved in their children's schooling. "That will be us before we know it!" they said. "Now as we expect our twin boys to arrive this summer, we are more grateful than ever to live in such a place as Lake Claire. When you see us walking

Cont. on p. 8

Safer Streets Are Possible!

by Kevin H. Posey

Seven years ago, my wife and I moved to Lake Claire from Alexandria, Virginia, a close-in suburb of Washington, D.C. While I was in Alexandria, I served on a number of boards and commissions. One of those was the city's Transportation Commission, which I served on as Chairman. One of the happiest outcomes of my tenure was the implementation of a Complete Streets policy, which basically declares that accommodations must be made for more street users than just motorists. This meant that more sidewalks, better crosswalks, and bike lanes had to be built.

When you look around Atlanta, you might wonder if such a policy exists here. Many of the streets are still geared towards making it easier to accommodate more motorists at higher speeds. Yet Atlanta does have such a policy, though its implementation is very uneven.

Residents are forced to band together to form advocacy groups for

safe streets, such as our own Safer McLendon, to persuade city hall to make the changes that they should be doing without having to be lobbied. It's akin to having to picket outside Council chambers to get a gushing water leak in a street fixed.

If the mayor and City Council of Atlanta became more proactive on Complete Streets, the results would be dramatic. Alexandria has continued to work to make their streets safer by reengineering them via road diets and other measures. The result is a road fatality-free 2023 in a city of over 160,000 that serves as a prime commuter route into the District of Columbia.

One example of this reengineering was a recent road diet on Seminary Road, a formerly four-lane street through residential neighborhoods built in the mid-20th century that was known for speeding and sim-

Cont. on p. 7

Our Neighborhood Transportation Improvements

by Chad Durham, Kristin L'esperance, Melissa Pressman

Lake Claire residents have reason to celebrate as recent transportation improvements promise safer streets and enhanced community experience. The latest developments include the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of McLendon and Palifox, as well as double yellow striping along McLendon Avenue from Ridgewood/Connecticut to Howard Circle.

These enhancements mark additional progress in addressing traffic safety concerns within our neighborhood. However, Councilmember

Liliana Bakhtiari and her dedicated team recognize that more comprehensive improvements are necessary to ensure the well-being of all residents. In response to these needs, they recently hosted a district-wide transportation meeting that welcomed members from the Atlanta Department of Transportation.

During this gathering, community representatives had the opportunity to advocate for crucial projects in their respective neighborhoods.

Cont. on p. 7

Lake Claire Officers

President: Joe Agee, president@lakeclaire.org

VP Finance & Treasurer:

Leigh Reynolds, treasurer@lakeclaire.org

VP Planning & NPU Rep:

Carol Holliday, npu@lakeclaire.orgVP Zoning: Beth Grashof, zoning@lakeclaire.orgVP Environment: Melissa Pressman,
environment@lakeclaire.orgVP Safety: Miriam Herbers, safety@lakeclaire.orgVP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, comm@lakeclaire.orgVP Fun(d)raising: Pen Sherwood, fun@lakeclaire.orgEducation Chair: Annsley Klehr, education@lakeclaire.org

Clarion Staff

Editor: Beth Damon, editor@lakeclaire.orgAdvertising: Pat Del Rey,
advertising@lakeclaire.orgDistribution: Alicia McGill,
distribution@lakeclaire.orgLayout: Véronique Perrot,
layout@lakeclaire.orgContact Lake Claire Neighbors at PO Box 5942,
Atlanta, GA 31107, 404-236-9526 or
www.lakeclaire.org.

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

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

April

See P. 15 for Land Trust news & events, and P. 13 for live music.

5 Callanwolde's Spring Concert, Phillip-Michael Scales, blues musician by his uncle B.B. King. Others are 4/19, Russell Cook, 5/3, Ruby Velle; info and tix at callanwolde.org/events/.

6 Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday with Trees Atlanta. 9 a.m.–noon. Help restore/maintain our beloved neighborhood old-growth forest. Pre-register/Space limited, frazercenter.org/about-us/events.

8 Total Solar Eclipse of the Sun!
See Sara Gottlieb's article on Page 5

12 Mary Lin Dine-Out at The Daily, mention Mary Lin, and 10% will go back to Mary Lin's PTA. In Inman Park, 100 Hurt Street.

16 7 p.m., Sunset Yoga, all levels, with Lee Lindsey, fundraiser for Candler Park. candlerpark.org/sunsetyoga/

18 7:15 p.m. Lake Claire Neighbors meeting. See lakeclaire.org for info on whether meeting is hybrid and/or Zoom link. Always 3rd Thurs.

19 Callanwolde Spring Concert, Russell Cook. Info and tix at callanwolde.org/events.

20 Frazer Center, Gather in the Gardens, 6 p.m. Info: www.frazercenter.org/about-us/events/gather-in-the-gardens-2024

20 Fiddler's Green (every 3rd Saturday at the E Church). See article to the right.

23 DeKalb History Center Lunch & Learn, Hank Aaron story b Randy Louis Cox. Info: howard@dekalbhistory.org

27 9–10 a.m. Candler Park sunrise bootcamp, led by Lauren Pendleton. candlerpark.org/workout

28 Mary Lin Rocket Run! 5k and 1 mile. For details, scan the code at right.

30 Mary Lin Dine-Out at Chef Wang's (563 Memorial Drive in Grant Park), mention Mary Lin, and 10% will go back to Mary Lin's PTA.

Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse

Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse's monthly concert series features traditional music, singer-songwriters, poetry, and even storytelling. April 20, Dirty Cello and Tan Naccarato perform. Dirty Cello is a San Francisco cello-led blues, Americana, and rock band. Naccarato is an amazing songwriter,

composer, & instrumentalist. Presented by Atlanta Area Friends of FolkMusic (AAFFM). \$10/\$8 AAFFM and 1st E. Congregational members. Cash/check at door. More info: aaffm.org/aaffm-events, 404-444-2334.



Mary Lin Class of 2017/Seniors Class of 2024

Seniors Walk the Halls/Clap-Out Graduation Tradition

Graduates: Please join us on Tuesday, May 21 at 1:30 p.m. at Mary Lin. All high school seniors (from any high school) who attended Mary Lin (graduating class of 2017) are invited to Walk the Halls and receive a Clap-Out as they move on to their next journey.

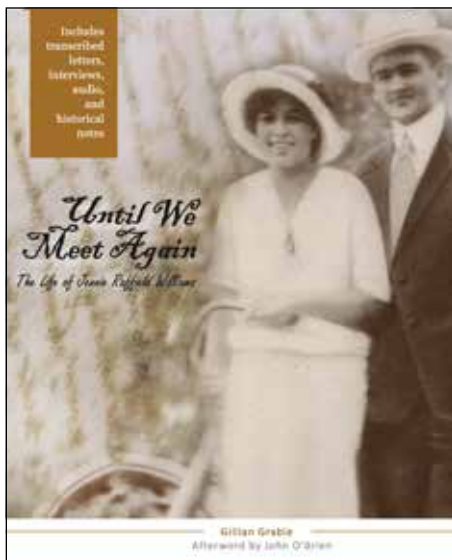
Please have your senior arrive at 1:30 p.m. wearing cap and gown!

The walk will start promptly at 1:45 p.m. Parents are welcome to attend and line the halls to clap (and cry!)

Congratulations to our 2024 graduates! We are so proud!



THE CLARION IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.



Gillian Grable: Writer Giving Voice to the Vulnerable

by Jane Branscomb

Around the time that she moved to Lake Claire in the early 1980s, Gillian Grable's career path as a supporter and advocate for people with disabilities was set. What sealed it was a job as a sort of helpful "auntie" to developmentally disabled young people who were forging their way in an independent living program.

"I fell in love. I just had a really, really great time learning alongside these young people who wanted to grab hold of a better life, a bigger life. They were so eager to learn, and I was eager to support their learning."

Since 2010 Gillian has worked at the University of Georgia's Institute on Human Development and Disability. In that role, an initiative to build a special collection on disability history at UGA's Richard B. Russell Library brought her together with the library's director, Sheryl Vogt. Sheryl mentioned in the course of their collaboration that her own grandmother, Jennie Williams, had lived for 55 years at the Georgia Lunatic Asylum, known as Central State Hospital. Sheryl had a trove of memories of going with her mother to visit her grandmother in Milledgeville, sometimes taking her out for picnics, along with photos and the full set of Jennie's letters to her mother.

Gillian recalls her jaw dropping: "At that point I'd never written a book before, but I knew that original source material, like letters, is really powerful for a book." Her institute's director approved Gillian's proposal to tell Jennie's story, and Sheryl, as she writes in the book's Introduction, "realized how important personal stories are in the disability community and readily agreed to facilitate the book."

Until We Meet Again, the Life of Jennie Raffield Williams is the central product of Gillian's labors over the ensuing five-and-a-half years. I say "central" because Gillian uses a variety of approaches and mediums

to nudge the story and its underlying message further into the world. Recordings of some of her interviews for the book are available online; she reads and leads conversations from the book in all sorts of venues; there was even a unique performance of the book—a mash-up of scripting, improvisation, and audience interaction—with friends playing roles from the story. That was held (and videotaped) at the Neighborhood Church in Candler Park, and there are stirrings to repeat it in Macon.

The book is genre-bending itself: part biography and part fiction, part history and part exposé. Gillian reconstructs Jennie's life from interviews, correspondence, and public records. She animates Jennie's experience with fictionalized friends, conversations, and vignettes drawn from her careful research into the places and times in which Jennie lived, her long experience accompanying people with disabilities, and her commitment to giving Jennie's life story the dignity and recognition it deserves.

The story is contextualized with a wide array of supplemental material in insets and sidebars. In addition to family photos and letters, there are maps and images of locations and structures; quotes from medical records, state laws, poets and advocates; historical notes, and photographs of artifacts exemplifying aspects of Jennie's life. The overall result is a beautiful book — as one reader said, a work of art — that engages the reader's senses and memory, imagination, and empathy. (Gillian is quick to credit Whitney Ostrander for the book's handsome and effective design.)

One sidebar quote is from a scrap of paper Gillian has guarded since the 1990s. It is the words of Kathy Stamp, a self-advocate on the Georgia Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities: "Just because I

Mary Lin Updates: Principal Sharyn Briscoe to Retire

by Patrick McGrath

For the past nine years, you could typically find Principal Sharyn Briscoe each morning at the doors of Mary Lin Elementary School to greet students with a hug or words of encouragement. Last month, Ms. Briscoe announced in the Rocket Blast that this year would be her last, as she planned to retire at the end of the year.

Ms. Briscoe leaves behind a lasting legacy at Mary Lin. She encouraged the Mary Lin Elementary Foundation to start the Rocket Fuel Fund, a major annual giving campaign to ensure the ongoing academic success of the students. Projects funded under this initiative include teacher trainings in cutting-edge methodologies, interventions systems in math and ELA, and funding the Outdoor Classroom. Under her leadership, the academic success of Mary Lin students has rocketed to the top of APS, as measured by both standardized testing scores and performance in academic competition.

Most importantly, Ms. Briscoe has helped foster the spirit of Mary Lin where the students' happiness

is the most important outcome. A common message she shared with students was to "remember the only person that you have to compete with is yourself. Strive every day to be a better, smarter, kinder, healthier, version of YOU."

Ms. Briscoe originally grew up in Freehold, New Jersey and came to Atlanta in 1990 to attend Spelman College. After graduation, she stayed in Atlanta to become a teacher at Whiteford Elementary. She first came to Mary Lin in 1999 as a 4th and 5th grade teacher in science and ELA. She left in 2002 and entered administration at APS, eventually coming back to Mary Lin as the Principal in 2015.

You can still find Ms. Briscoe around the neighborhood, most likely on Iverson Street, where she has lived since 2000. She reminds us that "Mary Lin will always be my home. Once a Rocket, always a Rocket!" Her next chapter will include work with non-profits, coaching Principals, and spending more time with her mother in Florida.

Mary Lin Elementary Foundation's Annual Fundraising Results:

To the Victors Go the Spoils

by "Jeannie" Yoo Beckett

On behalf of the Mary Lin Education Foundation and the entire Mary Lin Elementary staff, thank you for your generous support in keeping our

school the absolute very best. The winning teachers were over the moon with joy with their prizes.

couldn't speak, they thought I had nothing to say."

Gillian explains that this quote resonated with her for this story "because it represents the stories of so many vulnerable people. Not only people with disabilities, but people whose voices have not been given the chance to be heard and whose life experience is missing in their community, in their family, in their faith community, in any of the places where our stories are known. To me, reclaiming and giving voices to these stories enriches our community."

Gillian has found that "Until We Meet Again" lends itself well to discussion, as she had hoped and intended it to do. When she concludes presentations and readings, she likes to invite her audiences to consider and discuss, "Who in your life is at

risk of erasure, at risk of being sent away, at risk of living on the edge of your community or organization? Who's at risk of losing their identity, and how can you help them hold on to their identity?"

The book is available from the UGA IHDD bookstore (fcs.uga.edu/ihdd/bookstore), and the next reading on Gillian's calendar that is in Georgia will be hosted by Allied Arts in Milledgeville on April 20 (MilledgevilleAlliedArts.com).

This article is part of a new "Lake Claire Creatives" series, about creative individuals from diverse fields, who you may not have known were neighbors. Contact JaneBranscomb@gmail.com to recommend someone to be featured or to volunteer to write a piece for the series.



LAKE CLAIRE REAL ESTATE



Unlock your real estate dreams this year!

🔑 John Morgan, Managing Broker and Founding Partner of Park Realty, has been a trusted expert in the dynamic world of Atlanta real estate since 2007.

🏠 John specializes in helping people buy and sell homes, townhouses, condos, and investment properties across metro Atlanta. He is a committed client advocate focused on maximizing your return on investment and understanding your priorities.

🏘️ As the only locally-owned real estate company in the neighborhood, Park Realty offers a boutique experience and unmatched local insight. John has been an intown Atlanta resident since 1993 and a Candler Park/Lake Claire homeowner since 2000, so he knows the community inside out.

🏡 John also manages several of his own rental properties (long- and short-term rentals, including Airbnbs), giving him a unique investor's perspective.

👊 In this complex and changing market, John's well-honed negotiating experience ensures you get the best outcomes possible in every transaction.

🤝 John puts relationships first. If you're ready for a seamless and neighborly real estate experience, contact John today! 🗝️🌟

RECENTLY SOLD ↘



622 HAROLD AVE
ATLANTA GA 30307
\$875,000

SOLD PRE-MARKET
FOR 50K OVER
LIST PRICE



2112 PALIFOX DR
ATLANTA GA 30307
\$730,000

SOLD FOR 30K OVER
LIST PRICE IN 5 DAYS



337 CLIFTON RD
ATLANTA GA 30307
\$700,000

SOLD FOR 15K OVER
LIST PRICE IN 4 DAYS



1792 DEKALB AVE
ATLANTA GA 30307
\$601,000

SOLD FOR 16K OVER
LIST PRICE, HIGHEST
PRICE IN COMPLEX
EVER

COMING SOON!

4 BR | 3.5 BA | 2160 SQ FT | 2-CAR GARAGE
MARY LIN SCHOOL SYSTEM!



✉️ JMORGAN@PARKREALTYATLANTA.COM
☎️ 770.655.9423
📍 1651 MCLENDON AVE, ATLANTA GA 30307



Wild in Lake Claire: Eclipse Edition

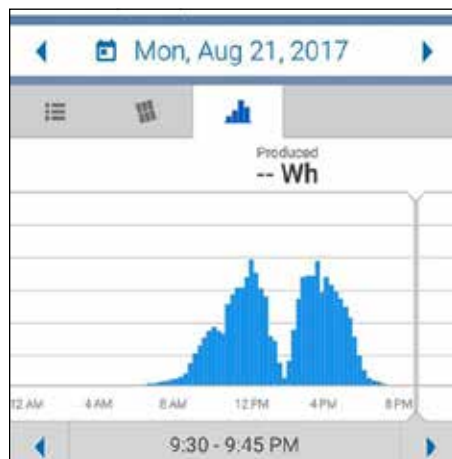
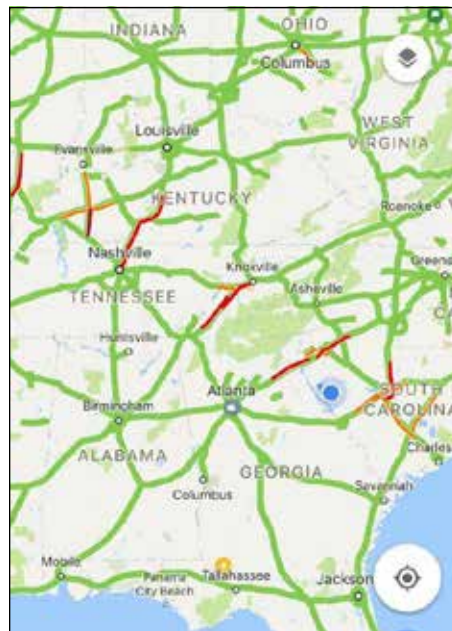
by Sara Gottlieb



And now for something a little different. Occasionally, and in astonishingly predictable ways, celestial bodies align and create conditions that demand our attention and delight our senses. One of these is the earthly phenomenon of the Total Solar Eclipse. We experience this as the darkness of night in the middle of the day, when the moon passes between Earth and the Sun, briefly blocking the sun and casting a shadow over a portion of the Earth. Areas where the Sun is blocked completely are within the “Path of Totality,” and other places may experience a partial eclipse, which looks like a wedge or bite has been taken from the Sun, and the ambient light level may dim somewhat.

The last Total Solar Eclipse in North America occurred on August 21, 2017, and the next one will be on April 8, 2024. There will not be another in our corner of the world until 2044. The Path of Totality in 2017 crossed directly over my husband Wade’s family property in Bradley, S.C., and so our ability to observe it there was comfortable and stress-free. This time around, the path is farther to the west (see NASA map, above, top picture), and I have spent quite a while making plans that involve renting an RV and reserving a camping spot at Tennessee’s Reelfoot Lake State Park, in the farthest northwest corner of the state. From there, we’ll drive further west still, to near Cape Girardeau on the Mississippi River in Missouri, to observe the event itself. Since weather can be unpredictable, we wanted to be as flexible as possible, while also avoiding crowds and traffic [see traffic map along the Path of Totality in 2017, above at right]. Some cities, including Dallas, St. Louis, Indianapolis, and Cleveland will be jammed with Eclipse tourists.

The Total Solar Eclipse on April 8 this year will begin at 12:58 p.m. in Cape Girardeau and will last for 4 minutes and 6 seconds, which is twice as long as the one we observed



Pictures better in color. Please see lakeclaire.org/clarion/clarion-archives/, April 2024.

in South Carolina in 2017. While the phenomenon was and will be much less dramatic in Lake Claire, it will still be observable; my solar panel array in 2017 measured the impact quite clearly (see solar array graph, above), with a dip to almost zero from its normal mid-day maximum on what was a clear, sunny day.

You can read about the orbital mechanics and other physical details of eclipses in a variety of places, including on this NASA website: science.nasa.gov/eclipses/. I wanted to write a bit here about my experience and emotional response to the one

Cont. on p. 11



Maleki

A Gut-wrenching Decision at the Dekalb Animal Shelter! ... and the Hope that Followed...

by Scott McLane

This email was sent out to Dekalb Animal Shelter volunteers on February 21:

“The shelter has been over-capacity for quite some time. We must find a way to help more animals find homes and keep the shelter at a capacity that is humane for the pets in our care. The heightened sense of urgency and focus on specific at-risk dogs has not reduced the overall shelter population, and it is the overcrowding itself that is putting more dogs at risk. We need to course-correct and focus everyone’s efforts and resources on getting more dogs out so that those animals at risk can get the time that they need to find a home.

We have been working to find better ways to communicate with our community about how to help and have updated our process for at-risk dogs and space euthanasia decisions. We want to empower our community to come and adopt and foster and to make the best matches for their homes and lifestyles. Any dog who finds a home from the shelter makes a big impact and directly contributes to saving lives. Starting Wednesday, March 6, we will be implementing a new incremental process to get us below our optimum humane capacity of 475 dogs. Every Wednesday, we’ll post an update on our website and share:

- our target optimum population to reach that week, on our way to under 475 dogs;
- the current number of dogs in the shelter.

Any dog who leaves the shelter through any means will contribute to reaching the weekly goal. This includes adoptions, fosters, returns to home, rescue transfers, or euthanasia. Weekend Warrior will count as well.

The urgent (or at risk) page on the website will still reflect dogs who are most at risk of euthanasia. This may include risks associated with behavioral concerns, quality of life concerns, behavioral deterioration in the shelter, length of stay, etc. At-risk dogs are those who need some extra advocacy to make it out of the shelter. However, any dog who finds a home will make an impact on the total number of dogs leaving for the week. This will encourage and empower those who come to adopt or foster to make the best matches for their homes and lifestyles while still saving lives.

We need help ensuring we hit the target goal each week by encouraging adoptions or fosters from either our general population or from the at-risk page. The number of dogs in the shelter will be updated each evening on the website based on the number of dogs who left and the number of intakes that day. If not enough dogs find homes by the close of business on Tuesday, we will have to make space euthanasia decisions for the dogs on the at-risk list. The staff will take into account the severity of any behavioral concerns along with the quality of life for each

Cont. on p. 13



Cynthia's Average Listing in 30307

6 Days on Market

104% Sales to List Price

MOVING OR PUTTING DOWN ROOTS?

REACH OUT TODAY FOR INSIGHT AND
ADVICE ON NAVIGATING TODAY'S
REAL ESTATE MARKET

678-358-3369



Cynthia Baer

Broker, Associate

#1 Agent for Keller Williams Realty
Metro Atlanta 2021 (volume & units)
#3 Dekalb Board of Realtors 2021

[cynthiabaer30307](#) cynthia@cynthiabaer.com

cynthiabaer.com [Around 30307 with Cynthia Baer](#)



Signs Down – or Taken

by Beth Damon

In recent weeks, it seems apparent that some individuals object to addressing the speeding problem on McLendon.

In the spring of 2023, Lake Claire and Candler Park neighborhoods voted to approve the Safer McLendon project plan. (There is much info online, and also see the article herein, beginning on Page 1 and continued at the bottom of this page) As part of the first phase of the project, stop signs were added at key intersections along McLendon. Sadly, unknown individuals knocked over or removed several of the new stop signs along McLendon, as recent as the one pictured here, the 3rd week of March. Many of these signs are at Atlanta Public Schools' bus stops, including one of the removed stop signs at the intersection where a student was hit crossing the road before the stop signs were installed. A missing sign endangers pedestrians and bikers and causes driver uncertainty due to the presence of road markings without proper signage.

Theft of road signage is larceny (theft of property). Lake Claire and Candler Park volunteers have en-



gaged with Atlanta DOT and the Atlanta Police Department Zone 6 leadership team in the investigation of these crimes.

Please, if you observe anyone removing or vandalizing signs, call or text 911 immediately. Also, if you have any information regarding the recent theft or if you notice that a sign is missing from the new intersections, please contact president@lake-claire.org or safety@candlerpark.org.

Safer Streets Are Possible

Continued from page 1.

ply devastating crashes. The road diet involved removing two motorist through-lanes and replacing them with bike lanes plus a turn lane at key intersections.

The conversion wasn't universally acclaimed at first, but the results made the effort worthwhile. As *The Washingtonian* noted, "While some residents pushed back against the move, a 2022 report from the city found that average annual crashes on the thoroughfare had since decreased by 41 percent."

Granted, the city's declining traffic fatality count is helped by the fact that a small but dense part of the city—the colonial-era Old Town—is laid out in a pre-automobile grid that naturally encourages walking. However, the Seminary Road project represents an effort to make the rest of town, largely developed during the heyday of the motorist (the mid 20th century), less car-centric.

If Alexandria can do it, why can't Atlanta?

Our Neighborhood Transportation Improvements

Continued from page 1.

Among the key items discussed for Lake Claire and Candler Park were improvements outlined in the Safer McLendon plan (safermclendon.org) including Howard Circle updates, an engineering study for the McLendon/Lakeshore/Claire/Southerland intersection, the installation of a speed table in the Candler Park business district on McLendon, and intersection enhancements at McLendon and Candler Park Drive. Additionally, attendees highlighted the importance

of maintenance tasks such as restriping and cleaning up signage throughout the neighborhood.

While progress is evident, the realization of larger, long-term solutions hinges upon city funding, planning, engineering, and execution. In the interim, shorter-term efforts in the realm of Tactical Urbanism are underway. Tactical Urbanism involves implementing temporary interventions to test and improve urban spaces. These endeavors require

Election Bill Updates from your State Representative – Part 2

by Saira Draiper

In my March column I wrote about good legislation that would make voting easier and more accessible. I also wrote that in my April column I would discuss legislation that would do the opposite, make it harder to cast a ballot, throw up obstacles to voting, and create ways to discriminate against one political party while helping the other.

The key to democracy is free and fair elections. It was that belief that led me to run for House District 90 two years ago and to qualify to run for HD 90 again this year. My years as a voting rights attorney showed me the many ways bad actors can manipulate the system. They are a clever and determined group, and they continue to come up with new twists to get rid of the "problem" voters - people who don't view the world through the same political lenses that they wear.

As I write this, we are in the final days of the 2024 legislative session, a time when things change quickly, and seemingly good legislation can be co-opted and turned into something nefarious. There are on-going conversations about combining several voting and elections bills into one omnibus. It will likely contain some moderately positive elements, but make no mistake, there are clear directives from the highest levels of the Republican party and the Trump campaign to make voting harder in Georgia. Biden won Georgia in 2020 by less than 12,000 votes. Waiting until the last few days of session to reveal the omnibus election bill, and ramming it through, is a strategy for evading scrutiny and minimizing outcry. I predict the omnibus election bill will be lengthy, contain many unrelated provisions, and will be released just hours before the committee will take a vote on it. There will

be little time to scour the document for hidden mines that can damage the existing system.

My foremost concern is provisions that will make voter challenges easier. Under existing Georgia law, a resident of a county has the right to challenge the eligibility to vote of any other voter in the same county through the voter challenge process. Once a voter's eligibility is officially challenged, the county must notify that voter and then hold a hearing to determine whether the challenged voter stays on or comes off the voter rolls. You may be aware that thousands of meritless voter challenges have been filed over the past three years in DeKalb county targeting certain voters -- transient voters, college students, the unhoused, naturalized citizens, and voters with less common names. And it's no coincidence that these groups tend to vote for Democrats.

It's important to note that even when mass, meritless voter challenges are unsuccessful at taking voters off the rolls, they are still deeply harmful. They scare voters, are a significant administrative burden to the county election offices that must process them, and they undermine confidence in the maintenance process of our voter rolls.

The first large-scale abuse of the voter challenge statute came just weeks before we elected Sens. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff in the January 2021 runoff election. Through a coordinated effort led by a conspiracy-peddling organization out of Texas, 360,000 voter challenges were filed, swamping county offices all over the state at a time when they had their plates full administering the runoff. And that coordinated

Cont. on p. 12

**SAFER
McLendon**



community support and fundraising efforts to thrive.

To this end, the community is encouraged to contribute to fundraising initiatives that will facilitate ongoing progress in transportation improvements. Every donation plays a crucial role in advancing the safety and accessibility of our streets. Those interested in supporting these efforts can donate at candlerpark.org/safestreet/ or scan the code at right.

As Lake Claire continues its jour-

ney toward safer and better transportation infrastructure, the collective effort of residents, local authorities, and community partners remains paramount. Together, we can create streets that prioritize the well-being and vitality of our neighborhood.

More than One Lake Claire House

Continued from page 1.

around with our big stroller this fall, please say hello!"

Susan Beeching has lived FIFTY years in Lake Claire, in three houses, and in one of them twice. She had a dalliance in Midtown in the late 70s. She moved to Atlanta permanently in 1975, after a year at Emory. "I landed at 429 Ridgewood Road, the home of Jennifer and George Wiley," Susan told me. "During my year at Emory, I met the Wileys when they needed a babysitter for their toddler daughter. They offered me a room in their home while I got a job and got my bearings. I moved in during October 1975 and moved out in December 1975, having secured full-time employment and an apartment on Seal Place, in Midtown."

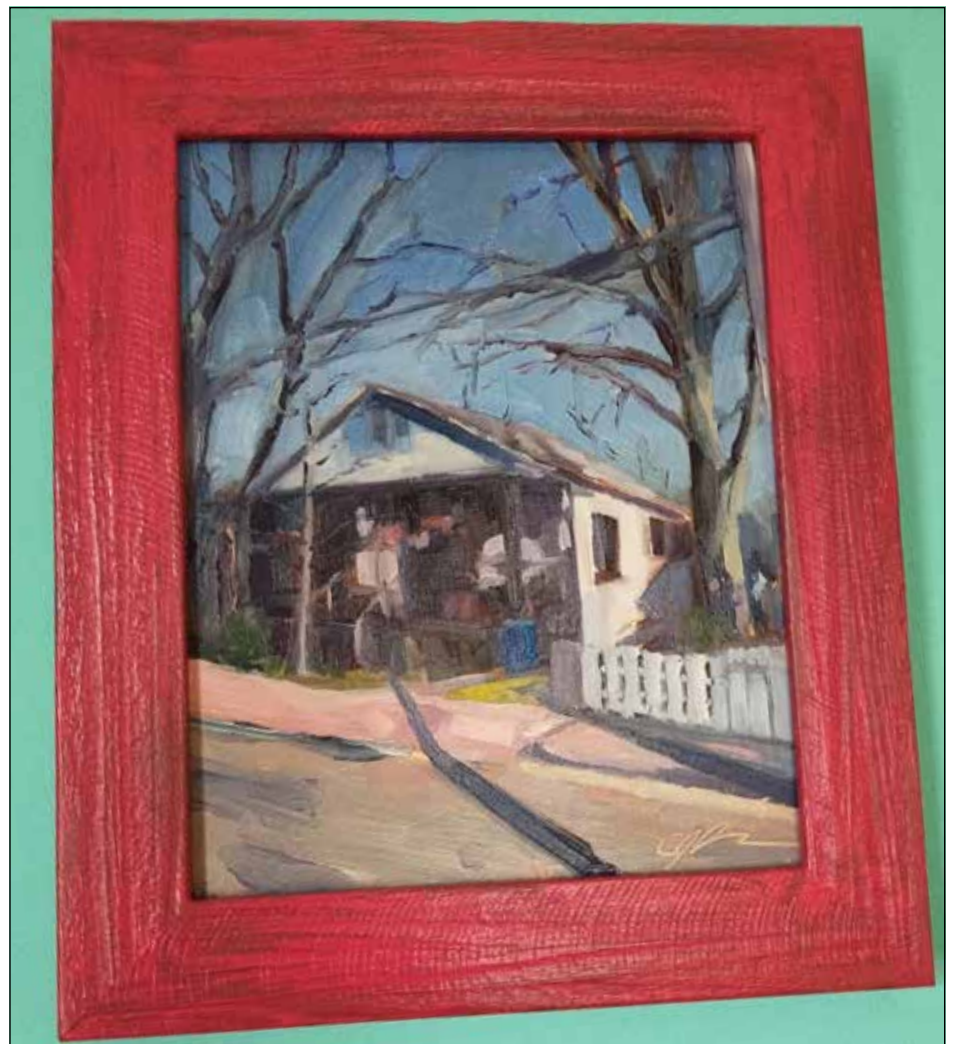
Fast forward five years. Susan had resumed a relationship with Sean, whom she had dated in high school, and she talked him into moving to Atlanta. Susan continued: "The Wileys, who had moved out of state, had kept the Ridgewood house as a rental property. Sean and I ended up renting the house I started out in! In fact, we had our wedding ceremony in that

house. (See picture to the right.) We stayed for a couple of years until the Wileys decided to sell the house. We did not want to buy it, so we moved up the street to 361 Ivy Place, renters still.

At the Ivy Place house, we build a "see-ment" pond in the back, which we stocked with koi, "feeder" goldfish, and shubunkins. We named every fish, stipulating that they needed to be named after dead Americans who had three names. For example, we had William Henry Harrison, Henry Wellington Wack, and Augustus Vincent Tack. We made two exceptions: Citizen Genet and Rutherford B. Hayes. During our residence on Ivy Place, Ruby Horton, who lived at 305 Connecticut Avenue, sold us the vacant lot next door, at 301 Connecticut Avenue. Sean, with the help of his friend Frankie and our neighbor, Marion Smith, built our house there, which we live in to this day. We raised two children in this house, and the kids have great memories of the Land Trust, Amata, Candler Park soccer field, Candler Park Market (when it was "Mr. Lee's"), and walk-



Front door of 429 Ridgewood Rd: Susan and Sean Beeching, with Rev. David Downing (who performed their marriage ceremony in the house)



A painting by the Beechings' friend Chris Lohman of their home, 301 Connecticut



Colin & Richard in front of current home

ing to school. Both of my children still have close friends that they met while attending Mary Lin. Living in this neighborhood is great. I'm so glad I landed here 50 years ago!"

Stay tuned for more personal histories in future issues. If you have lived in more than one house in Lake Claire, I'd love to include you. This series complements my former series "30+ Years in Lake Claire," some of whom were 2nd generation owners in the 'hood, in or near houses they grew up in, and I welcome anyone who fits that category, too; please contact me at editor@lakeclaire.org. B.





Photo by Sara Rethinger

Birdy Biscuits in our 'Hood

by Beth Damon

When the fine dining spot Redbird closed last year, on Howell Mill on the Westside, it meant that the owner Zeb Stevenson's famous "birdy biscuits" disappeared. The weekend-only biscuits were known for "lines around the corner." Happily, last month, Stevenson collaborated with Gigi's owner Eric Brooks to bring the biscuits to our 'hood, for one day only.

On March 10, the team got together at Gigi's, serving their signature biscuit sandwiches, and selling boxes of four biscuits (with a limit of one box per person). And, as you can see

in the picture here, the venture lived up to the long queue reputation—the line was around the corner into the Candler Park Market parking lot. Will we see more "Birdy Biscuits" in the future? Stevenson says, "Maybe; I don't need to sell biscuits to keep the lights on—it's a privilege." He added, "If the pop-up goes over well, and if four, six, or nine months down the road we feel like doing it again, we will. If not, we won't."

Editor's note: Some of the info above came from Atlanta Magazine.



Girl Scouts at Juliette Gordon Lowe house, Savannah

Girl Scout Troop 19060

by Elisabeth Weeks

Girl Scout Troop 19060, a fifth grade troop, went to Savannah recently to visit the Juliette Gordon Lowe house. Juliette Gordon Lowe was the founder of the Girl Scouts, and the house is

her birthplace. We spent a day in Savannah touring the house, shopping, eating dinner at the Pirate's House, and going on a Ghost Tour.

The next day the scouts loved touring Tybee Island, visiting the Tybee Marine Science Center, touring the Savannah Bee Company to learn all about bees and sample honey, and walking on the beach.



Troop 19060 at Pirate's House, Tybee



Pack 586 welcomes returning families with an annual canoe trip in August; join now for the next trip!

Explore Cub Scouting with Pack 586 This Spring

by Raphael Siebenmann

Cub Scouting offers adventure, learning, and community engagement in our neighborhood. As the den leader of the Pack 586 Wolves, i.e., second graders, I've seen firsthand the program's positive impact on young scouts. It's especially great to see a group of kids come together over the year to make friendships and build trust, year after year.

Cub Scouting introduces children to the outdoors and community service. This year, the pack organized both a fitness day and a fire safety day, teaching scouts about exercise, fire making, and how to extinguish

a fire properly. Over the past few years, our den has explored local trails at Deepdene, Arabia Mountain, and Dunwoody Nature Preserve, to name a few places, emphasizing nature and conservation, including the principles of Leave No Trace, so that others can enjoy the beauty of the outdoors.

Visits to local fire stations and participation in events like the upcoming Inman Park Parade strengthen our ties with the community, demonstrating our dedication, and allowing us to learn from those who serve and protect us.

Pack 586's schedule coincides with the school year, so we start in August and have activities planned through May. Boys and girls from Kindergarten through Fifth grade are welcomed to join. Each den meets around once a month, and we typically have four camping trips per year. Our camping trip in April promises fun and learning, as well as lots of s'mores around a campfire. There is still time to join in on the fun. So, if you're interested in joining, just head to our website: atlantacubscouts.com.



Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

April Birthdays:

- April 2, Tyler Bliss, Leonardo, turns 16!
- April 6, Bridgette Maddux turns 14, Harold Ave
- April 10, Kelly Crutcher, Hardendorf
- April 12, Aarini Kakkar, Southerland Terrace
- April 17, Joe Agee, Harold Avenue
- April 18, Deacon Baker, Leonardo
- April 19, Emily Allen, Harold
- April 21, Jamie McGill, my favorite Jamie in the world, Arizona Ave.
- April 23, Dan Geller, Marlbrook
- April 27, Claudia Restler, Lakeshore Drive
- April 28, Sara McGill, my favorite SARA in the world, Arizona Ave.
- April 28, Kevin Restler, Lakeshore Drive
- April 30, Beth van Arkel, Southerland Terrace

Happy Anniversary:

- April 3: Pen and Andrew Sherwood of Harold. Congrats!
- Belated, March 15: Kim McRae & Frank Zamor, Delaware Avenue

Memories:

4 years this month since Janie Wright passed away in 2020; 5 years since Gay Arnieri passed away in 2019. They both made a deep impact on this neighborhood and many people. Rest in Peace, Lake Claire misses you guys.

Take a minute, and send life cycle events for the MAY issue by April 18.

Neighborhood Dues for Lake Claire

Suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household, but as with NPR, any amount is appreciated. Pay at lakeclaire.org via the link **OR** by check in the mail to Treasurer, Lake Claire, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107.

Since the MARCH 2024 Clarion, the following folks paid dues:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Brooke Ullery | Mary Jo Bryan |
| Raphael Siebenmann | Carol Holliday |
| Nick Metheny | Kathy and Bob Watson |
| Harsha Tanguturi | |



Frazer Center – Opportunity to see the Gardens!

Pollen allergies aside, April is a glorious time to be outside in Atlanta, and Frazer Center's children and adults are taking full advantage. And you can, too!

Join us to enjoy the springtime beauty of Frazer's grounds while supporting the inclusion, nature-based programming that Frazer provides. Gather in the Gardens is an annual fundraising gala in Cator Woolford Gardens on Saturday, April 20, at 6 p.m. An added bonus, this year is

Frazer's 75th – Diamond – Anniversary year. You'll enjoy a cocktail reception, live entertainment by acoustic trio Lilac Wine, a seated dinner catered by Zest, and live and silent auctions. Your attendance ensures that the adults and children who benefit from Frazer's programming will continue to learn and flourish. Tickets and information for Gather in the Gardens are available now at www.frazercenter.org/about-us/events/gather-in-the-gardens-2024.

Achieve with Steve!

Looking to Buy or Sell a Home?

As an Atlanta REALTORS® consistent TOP PERFORMER, Steve's goal is 100% client satisfaction.

209 Garland Ave - **\$1.15M**
Sold without listing

431 Harold Ave - **\$560K**
Bought before listed

486 Lakeshore Dr - **\$625K**
Sold at 104% of list

404-434-1500
steve@kellerknapp.com

Neal & Wright
Your Family. Your Business. Your Firm!

40 Franklin Street
Suite 100
Avondale Estates, GA 30002
(404) 257-6494
www.nealandwright.com

Sherry Neal, J.D. Sherry@nealandwright.com	Dan Wright, J.D. Dan@nealandwright.com
Jodi Greenberg, J.D. Jodi@nealandwright.com	Jessica Cole Jess@nealandwright.com

- * Commercial Real Estate
- * Wills & Estate Planning
- * Corporate & LLC Formation
- * Other Business Legal Services



Wild in Lake Claire

Continued from page 5.

in 2017, as well as my observation of responses by other living things, because it was so incredibly dramatic and memorable. First, at the time of the eclipse in 2017, the world felt fractured and divided, separated and unmoored, as if nothing could ever unite us. The eclipse, an inexorable celestial event, predictable and predicted by astronomers for hundreds of years in advance, was something that everyone could and would experience simultaneously and without any doubt about its origins or impacts.

I found the thought of the unification of millions of people on earth with the heavenly bodies to be incredibly profound. Bill Nye The Science Guy said, “Experiencing an eclipse changes the way we feel about space and how we are connected. I hope this moment reminds us all that we share a common origin among the stars, and that we are all citizens of the same planet.”

To be honest, I wasn’t that excited about the 2017 eclipse before it happened. My husband is a bit of a “space geek,” and I let him lead the way on our plans, figuring it would be fun and maybe interesting, but I wasn’t expecting much. We got some cardboard eclipse safety glasses and pulled some items, including a colander with round holes, from inside the house to play around with the weird shadows that accompany the initial and final phases of the moon’s passage in front of the sun. I relaxed on the porch swing and posed for photos, but then the totality happened and what I experienced then was a borderline religious experience.

There is simply no way to describe in words or photos alone what it feels like when the sky goes from full sun at mid-day in August to the darkest depth of night. The wind stills. The temperature drops. The birds stop singing. Stars appear. Crickets chirp. And then, a few minutes later, day returns as if it never left. It’s easy to imagine how ancient people without the benefit of astronomical prediction would experience a total solar eclipse as the world coming to an end followed by a Divine reprieve. I felt ecstatic, and I finally understood what all the excitement was about. I’m not the type of person who experiences awe this way, so it really stayed with me, and I immediately started thinking about how I could experience this again.

The Eclipse
by Deborah Trustman

Birds nest at midday, chirp night songs in midday twilight—night without sunset, the sun noon high
bruised black by the moon.

Charmed beasts dance to bells and flute,
forgetting fear and fierceness, gentled
bears and lions tamed for the length
of a chiming whistle tune.

Strangers fall in love; a prince and a princess, parrots. Planets perfectly align for three long minutes, as long as a song
until the sun heals white. Costumed
parrots mock the wounds of magic.
Strangers once more have lost the crown of the queen of false night.

This time around, I’m the one making the plans and preparations to view the eclipse. Wade thinks there’s probably no way we can top or even match our 2017 eclipse experience, which found us in perfect weather conditions in a familiar location with sentimental significance. This time, we’ll spend much more time and money, with no guarantee we won’t be sidelined by sub-optimal weather, traffic hangups, or any number of other uncontrollable variables. But I’m undeterred—I could not forgive myself if I didn’t at least make an honest effort to experience this phenomenon that won’t come again (without international travel) for another twenty years.

Here are some more websites to learn more about eclipses:

- Interactive maps: xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/SolarEclipses-GoogleMaps.html
- National eclipse: nationaleclipse.com/
- Great American Eclipse: www.greatamericaneclipse.com/
- Nature Guys Podcast episode on the eclipse, includes recommendations of books for kids of all ages: natureguys.org/eclipse-lovers/

I hope to write about our eclipse experience on April 8 for the May Wild in Lake Claire column. If you have an eclipse story to share, please send it to me at sara.gottlieb@gmail.com.



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Hosts Life Prep Ministries

by Lori White

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries loves our volunteers. We were so excited to host Life Prep Ministries on our campus in March. Life Prep is a ministry based in Florida that prepares high school seniors for young adulthood. The program works with students, teaching them about finances, life skills, and how to keep the faith. Life Prep coincides with the school year and ends with a one-week mission trip serving at various non-profits. Neither the students, nor the parents, know where the kids will be serving during the mission week. This is to instill trust in the Lord while not knowing what comes next. Their year ends with a special senior dinner banquet where the kids are recognized for their participation in the program.

Some of the projects they completed while serving at Clifton included: repainting the men’s bathroom, staining the handicap ramp, pressure washing, repairing the gutter and fascia, and providing fellowship and lunch with our guests. We are so thankful for all of their hard work and improvements they provided around our campus.



Election Bill Updates from your State Representative – Part 2

Continued from page 7.

campaign to thin the voter rolls has continued in the years since, but it has become more targeted. Mass challenges are now being filed only in certain counties like DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Cobb, where the Democratic vote is already strong and building.

The new proposal that I believe will be included in the omnibus election bill comes from language in Senate Bill 221, and will increase the likelihood that a voter challenge will successfully kick a voter off the voter rolls. Currently a challenger must present evidence that a voter is improperly on the rolls, and that evidence must meet a certain evidentiary standard. As such, most mass challenges—historically supported by low quality, problematic data—are rejected. But the language in SB 221 essentially lowers that evidentiary threshold, and says that certain types of dubious data are sufficient for proving voter ineligibility.

I also expect to see language that protects lawyers who represent challengers from being sued for their representation. This is a red-flag and harbinger of what's to come; what kind of bad-faith challenges are lawyers planning if they are pushing for a law to absolve them of liability?

Something I don't expect to see in the omnibus election bill? Language

from a bill I filed earlier this year that would allow counties to recoup some of the cost of processing voter challenges by charging the challengers a reasonable fee.

Any law that makes voter challenges easier will likely have an impact on election outcomes. We will see a sharp increase in the number of voter challenges filed, and eligible voters will be taken off the voter rolls. County offices will struggle under the weight of processing so many challenges.

There is another bill that would have a huge and immediate impact on voting in Georgia. It is a provision that would eliminate automatic voter registration through the Department of Drivers Services (DDS).

For years Georgia has been a leader in automatic voter registration. Any time a citizen contacted DDS either to apply for a license or to renew a license, their information was sent to voter registration officials unless they specifically opted out of the program. Through this initiative, without any extra effort to register voters, about 95 percent of those eligible to vote in Georgia were registered.

Switching from an automatic registration system to an opt-in system—as Senate Republicans proposed earlier this year—is not as innocuous as it sounds. It would result in a sharp

decline in voter registrations, and it would make voter data less accurate. Because Gov. Kemp's spokesperson has come out against this specific proposal, I'm hopeful we will not see it in the omnibus election bill.

Eliminating drop box usage and reducing the number of early voting days have also been topics of debate this legislative session. If these proposals make it into the omnibus election bill, we must be prepared to push back.

Who can vote and how should not be a partisan issue. It is a good government issue. It's good for de-

mocracy. I continue to be dismayed at the many ways some legislators have found to politicize our election laws and attempt to steal people's fundamental right to vote. But I am committed to calling it out, debunking the pretextual explanations they offer, and fighting for the right of everyone to make their voice heard.

Saira Draper is an attorney, voting rights expert, and the State Representative for Georgia House District 90. Thank you for taking the time to keep Lake Claire informed, Rep. Draper, and thank you for all you do.

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 by the 5th of the

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.

Classified:

Home Organization:

Need help getting organized? Spring into function and flow with Exquisitely Organized. We'll help you design a plan to create order, restore balance, and optimize space in any room.

We'll even help you maintain clutter-free rooms, as needed. Save 50% off regular rates! Spring Special: Four Hours for \$99.

Locally owned. References available. 25 years experience providing professional service in 30307. To schedule a complimentary consultation or for more info, contact Jaye at 404-610 7878 or email exquisitelyo@proton.me today. See our EO makeovers on FB & IG @exquisitelyorganized.

Pet Sitting and Dog Walking:

Your friendly neighborhood pet sitter: Longtime Lake Claire resident now accepting new clients. Pet sitting (dog, cat, and exotics) and dog walking. Former vet tech and now 18+ years of pet sitting experience. References from your neighbors available. I offer a free meet & greet.

And \$10 off the first visit if you mention the Clarion. Tina Smith, 404-247 0914.

Electrician:

SA Electrical Services is a small company based in the Lake Claire neighborhood, serving metro Atlanta for over 20 years. We're still going strong and look forward to the opportunity to serve your electrical needs, big or small.

Contact: mail@saelectric.net, Ph. 404-731 6415

*For all your
real estate
needs...*



*Sherry Warner
Jones*



Sherry Warner

Associate Broker &
Lake Claire resident

**COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY**

404 784 8848 mobile

404 874 2262 office

sherry@SherryWarnerHomes.com



Affiliated real estate agents are independent contractor sales associates, not employees. ©2020 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker logos are trademarks of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. The Coldwell Banker® System is comprised of company owned offices which are owned by a subsidiary of Realogy Brokerage Group LLC and franchised offices which are independently owned and operated. The Coldwell Banker System fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act.

PLEASE SUPPORT CLARION ADVERTISERS!

♪ Support Live Music! ♪

by Beth Damon

Live music as of Clarion press time is noted below; please check venues for confirmation. As I've mentioned, when I include this column, I've lightly edited a list that a dear friend who doesn't live in the neighborhood (Lorie Flacker) produces. Lorie includes music at bars, breweries, large venues, small music halls, etc. She has a website, loriesmusiclist.com, which has Spotify lists of the artists, so if you haven't heard of an artist/band, you can check them out. Also on the website are items to purchase. I'd love to know at editor@lakeclaire.org if my inclusions in the Clarion of live music, as well as plays, and other events, are of use to you, as I always hope the Clarion is relevant to the readers.

Come on out to support live music and our local venues!

Monday, April 1	Ledisi	ASO
Monday, April 1	Madonna	State Farm Arena
Tuesday, April 2	Circle Jerks/Descendants	Masquerade-Heaven
Wednesday, April 3	Brothers Osborne	The Roxy
Wednesday, April 3	Kevin Kinney	Eddie's Attic
Wednesday, April 3	The Black Crowes	The Fox
Thursday, April 4	Cha Wa	Center Stage/Vinyl
Wednesday, April 3	The Zombies	Variety Playhouse
Thursday, April 4	BoDeans	City Winery
April 5-6	Mental Awakening Fest	Westside Motor Lounge
Friday, April 5	Drew Holcomb & the Neighbors	The Eastern
Friday, April 5	Drivin'N'Cryin'	Buckhead Theatre
Friday, April 5	Gr8tful Dude	Oak St Bottle Shop
Friday, April 5	Sugarcane Jane	Eddie's Attic
Friday, April 5, 19	Phillip Scales (5th), R. Cook (19th)	Callanwolde (see details, Calendar Page 2)
Friday, April 5	Sweet Melissa's Blues Revue	Napoleons
Saturday, April 6	Michelle Malone	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, April 6	The Mountain Goats	The Eastern
Sunday, April 7	Rosanne Cash	Buckhead Theatre
Tuesday, April 9	The Strumbellas	Terminal West
Tuesday, April 9	Ally Venable	Eddie's Attic
Wednesday, April 10	AJ Lee & Blue Summit	Eddie's Attic
Thursday, April 11	The Verve Pipe	City Winery
Thursday, April 11	Jeezy	Buckhead Theatre
Friday, April 12	Martin Barre (Jethro Tull)	City Winery
Friday, April 12	Live Dead & Brothers	Buckhead Theatre
Friday, April 12	Rebirth Brass Band/ Wasted Potential Brass Band	Smith's Olde Bar
Saturday, April 13	Amplify Decatur	Decatur Square
Saturday, April 13	Disco Biscuits	Tabernacle
Saturday, April 13	Griffin House	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, April 13	John Oates	Buckhead Theatre
Saturday, April 13	Magnolia Express	Madlife Patio
Saturday, April 13	Sweet Melissa's Blues Revue	Peace and Love Fest
Saturday, April 13	Jupiter Coyote	Tucker Brewery
Saturday, April 13	Demola	City Winery
Sunday, April 14	Adam Ant/English Beat	The Eastern
Sunday, April 14	Cowboy Junkies	Variety Playhouse
Monday, April 15	STRFKR	Variety Playhouse
Thursday, April 18	Molly Tuttle & Golden Highway	Center Stage
Friday, April 19	Brandy Clark	Variety Playhouse
Friday, April 20	Fiddlers Green	E. Church. Details, see Clarion Calendar, Page 2
Saturday, April 20	Dixie Dregs	Variety Playhouse
Saturday, April 20	The Grapes	MOMS
Saturday, April 20	Tim O'Brien	Eddie's Attic
Sat/Sun Apr 20-21	420 Fest (Beck, Moe. Etc)	Pullman Yards
Sunday, April 21	New Jazz Underground	Eddie's Attic
Monday, April 22	Laufey	Tabernacle
Tuesday, April 23	Belle & Sebastian	The Eastern
Tuesday, April 23	The Bros. Landreth	Eddie's Attic
Wednesday, April 24	We Three	Terminal West
Thursday, April 25	Leftover Salmon/Infamous Stringdusters	The Eastern
Thursday, April 25	Samantha Fish	Variety Playhouse
Friday, April 26	Maxwell Street	Napoleons
Friday, April 26	The Teskey Brothers	The Roxy
Saturday, April 27	Saxon/Uriaiah Heep	Buckhead Theatre
Sunday, April 28	Ruston Kelly	Terminal West
Sunday, April 28	Revival (Indigo Girls, etc.)	The Fox
Tuesday, April 30	Social Distortion and Bad Religion	The Roxy
Tuesday, April 30	The Accidentals	Eddie's Attic
Wednesday, May 1	One Night of Queen (Gary Mullen & the Works)	ASO
Friday, May 3	Runaway Gin	The Garden Club Wild Heaven
Friday, May 3	Three Dog Night	ASO
Friday, May 3	Oh Jeremiah	Eddie's Attic
May 3-5	Shaky Knees (The Killers, Greta Van Fleet, Flaming Lips etc)	Central Park
May 4-5	Larry Campbell & Teresa Williams	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, May 4	Casting Crowns	The Fox
Saturday, May 4	Pond	Terminal West
Saturday, May 4	All Them Witches	The Earl
Saturday, May 4	Chris Smither	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, May 4	Dinosaur Jr.	Center Stage/The Loft
Saturday, May 4	Snake Oil Medicine Show/ CJ Jones & The Spirit Bones	559 Terrace Ave
Saturday, May 4	Magnolia Express	Napoleons

Dekalb Animal Shelter News

Continued from page 5.

at-risk dog in the shelter when making the euthanasia list, and we will send a courtesy notification email to DCAS volunteers who have opted in to receive euthanasia updates on Tuesday evening. The euthanasia would take place the following morning. If enough dogs find homes, we will not need to euthanize for space. This process will repeat each week, Wednesday through the following Tuesday at close of business.

We are starting this with smaller, incremental goals to make our way to an optimum humane capacity of 475 dogs, and we're using data from our average intakes as well as average live outcomes to make a realistic goal for each week, while still decreasing the shelter population over time. Once we are able to reach 475, we will have a similar process each week to keep our numbers from rising again and to be as clear and immediate in our calls for help from the community as possible."

...And It Worked!... at least for now

On Wednesday, March 13, shelter director Annie Alder posted this thank you on the Dekalb Animal Services Facebook page:

"At this time last Wednesday, our shelter had 548 dogs and we had to reach a target population of 530. While many dogs were finding homes, the increasing number of dogs arriving at the shelter outnumbered these departures, putting us at

571 dogs by Saturday morning. We put a call out to our community, and you answered, to help us save lives.

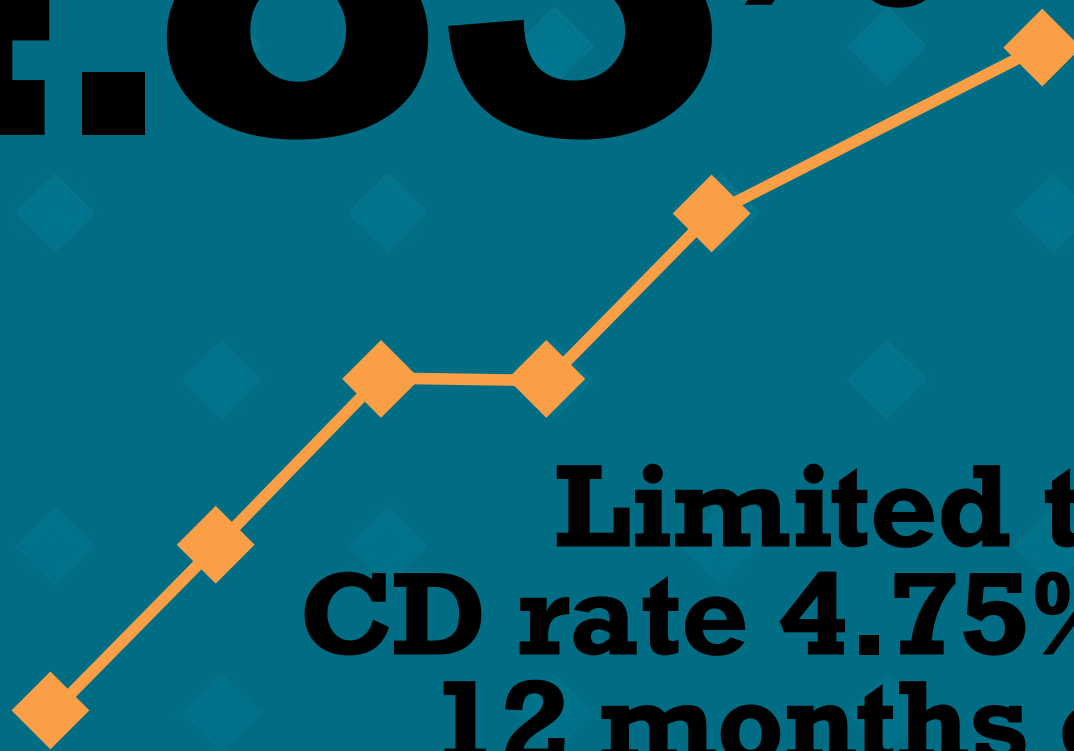
So many people came out to adopt, foster, and advocate for these dogs in need, and while the situation these past few days was not easy, we are happy to share that we reached 528 dogs at 7 p.m. yesterday, two below our target population! We can't state enough how grateful we are for your support and that EVERY dog who left the shelter made an impact. We would like once again to express our gratitude for your help and support during this challenging time for us and Atlanta's animals. From us and all the pets in our care, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"

Editor's note: As you can see, there are many ways communities like ours can help make a difference for the animals that have been lost, surrendered, or have otherwise found their way into animal shelters. Even if you can only foster for a few weeks, it makes a huge difference. If you cannot foster, please consider becoming a monthly donor to support the ongoing work and programs that LifeLine provides in the shelters, community, and through the clinics, to help keep people and pets together. Speaking as someone who just adopted an additional rescue this past November, I say again that animals bring such joy and comfort into our homes and lives.
~Beth

Wednesday, May 8	Nolan Taylor	Terminal West
Thursday, May 9	Sierra Ferrell	The Eastern
Friday, May 10	Boywithuke	The Eastern
Friday, May 10	Intersellar Echoes	Terminal West
Friday, May 10	Cypress Hill	Tabernacle
Friday, May 10	Heart/Cheap Trick	State Farm Arena
Friday, May 10	ATL Collective Relives Neutral Milk Hotel	Center Stage/The Loft
Saturday, May 11	Sarah Jarosz	Terminal West
Saturday, May 11	Summerdrive	Smith's Olde Bar
Sunday, May 12	Dustbowl Revival	Eddie's Attic
Sunday, May 12	The Decemberists	The Eastern
Sunday, May 12	Tod & Lost Dog Street Band	Variety Playhouse
Monday, May 13	Enter Shikari	Terminal West
Monday, May 13	Echo & the Bunnymen	Tabernacle
May 14-15	Bad Bunny	State Farm Arena
Wednesday, May 15	Black Joe Lewis & the Honeybears	Aisle 5
Thursday, May 16	George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic	The Eastern
Thursday, May 16	The Polish Ambassador	Terminal West
May 17-18	Billy Pilgrim	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, May 18	Grateful Shred & Circles Around the Sun	Variety Playhouse
Saturday, May 18	Kenny Chesney/Zac Brown Band	Mercedes Benz
Saturday, May 18	The Steeldrivers	Buckhead Theatre
Saturday, May 18	Thievery Corporation	Tabernacle
Saturday, May 18	VaHi Porchfest	VaHi
Saturday, May 18	Roswell Music Fest	Roswell
Sunday, May 19	Allman Betts Band	Buckhead Theatre
Sunday, May 19	Mutlu	Eddie's Attic
Sunday, May 26	Real Estate	Variety Playhouse
Sunday, May 26	Canyon Ladies	Eddie's Attic
Saturday, June 1	The Magnetic Field	Variety Playhouse
Friday, June 7	Rolling Stones	Mercedes Benz

Investing in your credit union is investing in your community!

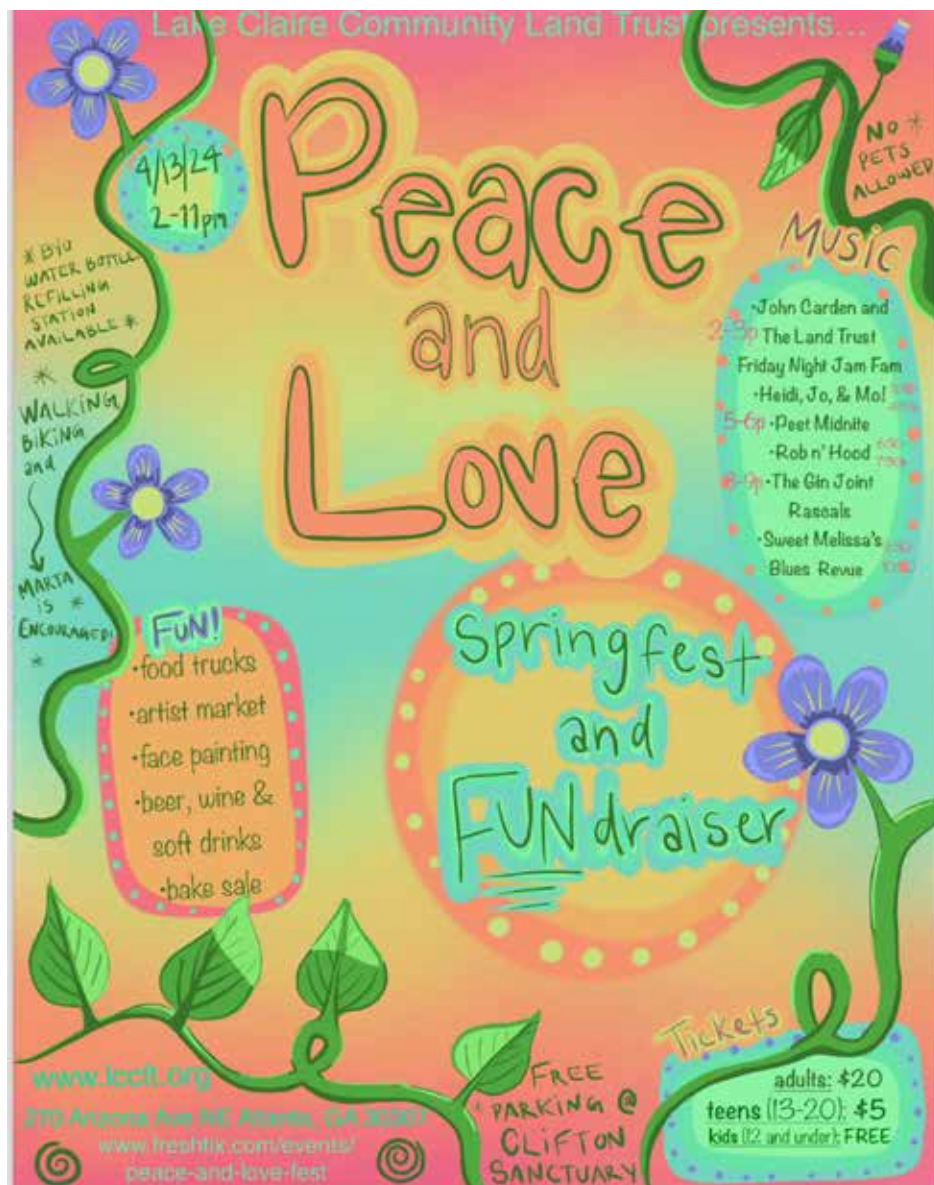
4.83%⁰APY



**Limited time
CD rate 4.75% APR
12 months only**

Offer may be withdrawn at any time.





Artwork by Violet Pope (our own Danny Pope's daughter)

A Tarot Journey with Chakura Kineard

by Amber D. Corbett

Chakura Kineard joined us for some "Introduction to Tarot" classes last year at the Land Trust, and we're excited to announce that she's back with a re-imagined Tarot series, starting this month. Chakura is a spiritual artist and Tarot reader sharing her journey and insights with us, and we're thrilled to have her as part of our regular programming family.

In an interview with Chakura for *verygoodlight.com*, Emily Sharp sums up the topic well: "Tarot is a pack of cards that are used to offer practitioners and patrons guidance and answers to sometimes unanswerable questions." The captivating classes that Chakura offers will provide a unique crash course to both beginners and experienced Tarot readers ages 13 and up. As stated on her website, "We respect and welcome individuals from all walks of life. Learning is a community, and each of us has unique and valuable insights to contribute through our passion and interest in the Tarot."

Tarot, for Chakura, is a narrative of the hero's journey that everyone can relate to, blending universal symbols with personal experience. "We will fall in love (VI – The Lovers),

have dreams and wishes (XVII – The Star Card), and we struggle with excess and the shadow sides of life (XV – The Devil). You are the characters, and life is the story." Addressing hesitations about trusting Tarot, Chakura reminds us that it is a versatile tool, embraced by many individuals from diverse backgrounds, but each of us should follow our own path and do what feels right for us. As we delve into the history of Tarot, we find the endorsement of Carl Jung, the father of analytic psychology. His belief in the benefits of a Tarot practice underscores the synergy between mental health and metaphysical work in a holistic healing paradigm. Chakura's journey, intertwined with the rich tapestry of Tarot, invites us to explore the mysteries, connect with our own intuition, and embark on a transformative adventure through the cards. In the realm of Tarot, Chakura shares her initiation guided by intuitive mediums and encourages aspiring readers to start with a personal deck. She advocates reading one's own Tarot, emphasizing the empowering act of journaling questions and card meanings for clarity.

Chakura's new series begins on

Peace & Love Spring Fest

Sat. April 13, 2–11 p.m.

Greetings, Land Trust lovers! The birds are singing, and the flowers are blooming, so that means it's time for our annual springtime FUNdraiser for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. Our normally quiet landscape will be a-bloom for a day with lots of live music, arts and crafts booths, massage tables, face painting, food

trucks, and of course our bake sale. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will also be available. We are so excited and can't wait to see you all! One exciting thing this year is that our own Friday night jam family featuring John Carden will be opening the show. So be sure to come on over, you don't want to miss it!

Spring Plant Sale

Sat., April 20, 10 a.m.—noon

Gardeners, plant-lovers, and green thumbs, come support the Land Trust and take home some prize specimens to add to your spring planting! We will be offering vegetables, herbs, flowers, native and non-native plants. And as you work in your garden and find plants that need to be divided, or if you have (once again)

started way more vegetable seedlings than you can possibly plant out, please consider contributing these to the sale. Label your plants with popsicle sticks or tape, and drop them off after April 14. All proceeds benefit the Land Trust. Volunteers are needed before, during, and after the sale. Contact us at info@LCCLT.org.

Upcoming and Ongoing at the Land Trust . . .

Sat., Apr. 6: Foraging Tour & Picnic, with Morgan Strickland of Flourish & Flora, 2–4:30 p.m. \$55/person for tour + picnic, \$30 for tour only (10% goes to LCCLT). Join Morgan for a seasonal foraging tour, where you'll learn to identify and use 15 edible and medicinal southeastern plants. Pay a little extra to enjoy a wild edibles picnic featuring seasonal dishes and herbal teas of plants discussed during the tour.

Sat., Apr. 6: Land Trust Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. *Rain date: Sat. April 20. Check LCCLT.org/new-events for updates.*

Sat., April 13: Peace & Love Spring Fest, 2–11 p.m., \$20/adults, \$15/teens, kids free. *Sorry, no potluck this month. See article & graphic, this page.*

Sun., Apr. 14: LCCLT board meeting, 10–11 a.m. (and every 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person, or contact us at info@LCCLT.org for Zoom link. *Fair weather location: picnic table in the Greenfield. Note new meeting time!*

Sun., Apr. 14: Tarot Class with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 5:30–7:30 p.m., in the Gorilla Grill. \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT). More info: www.unfilteredglitter.com & in article above.

Sun., Apr. 14: Death Café with Denise Johnson, 3–4:30 p.m. Land Trust amphitheater. Denise Johnson of EOL (End of Life) 101 LLC. hosts this monthly informal conversation about death and dying, with hot drinks and snacks. Free. (Yes, at the same time as Tarot class, note change of location.)

Sat., Apr. 20: Community Work Day, 9–noon. (and every 3rd Saturday). Bring drinking water and work gloves. This is your Land Trust too, join us! Bring drinking water and work gloves. Pizza follows. **Note switch to summer hours!** *Rain date: April 27. Check LCCLT.org/new-events for updates.*

Sat., April 20: Plant Sale Fundraiser, 10 a.m.—noon. *See announcement this page.*

Sunday, April 14, 3:30–5:30 p.m. The first hour is geared for beginners, the second hour for advanced students. The cost is **\$25 for each hour, \$50 for both; 25% of the proceeds benefits LCCLT.** A sliding scale is available to women of color and the

LBGTQIA+ community if needed. Please pay in advance; click on "Tarot" at LCCLT.org/new-events for payment options. For more info, visit Chakura's website at www.unfilteredglitter.com. We'll see y'all there!



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 artists this month are Nicolas and Julian Sanders, who are featured because they won extra credit in the February issue. They live on Southerland Avenue, and are 8 (Nic) and 4 (Julian). Nic drew his favorite car,

a Model T-Ford, and Julian drew his 'Space Buzz Cat.' Obviously, both are great artists, have been featured for chalk art in the Clarion before, and Nic was so excited to win that he jumped up and started drawing as soon as hearing the news that he was a winner, akin to when a Nobel Prize winner gets the call in the middle of the night.

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 **April 15-18** for the **MAY** issue.



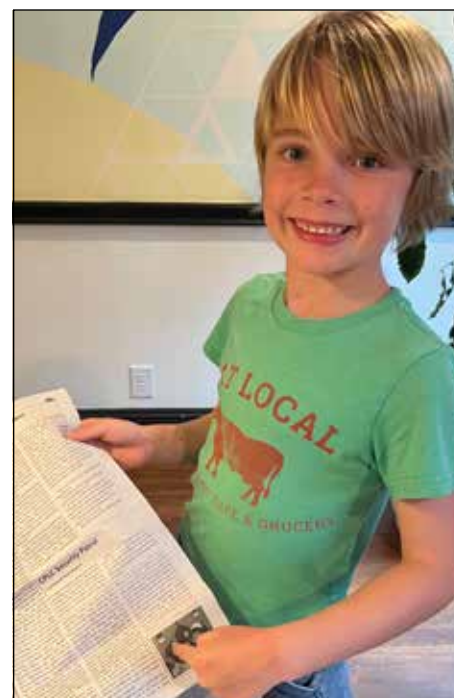
Nic, Featured Artist



Julian, Featured Artist with Space Buzz Cat



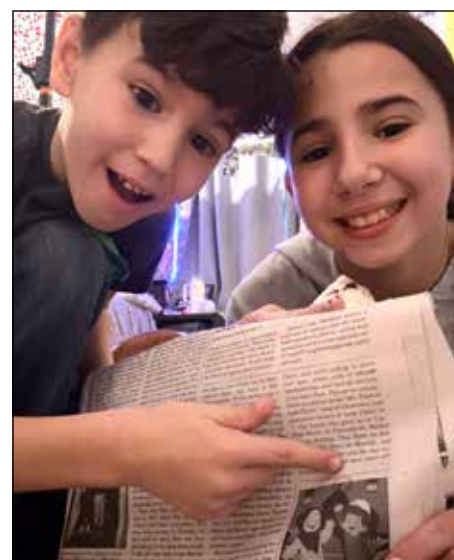
Nic's Model T



Theo, 1st place



Cecelia, 2nd place



Madison and Oliver, tied for 3rd place

Contest Winners

Theo Williams on Palifox was the first to find the graphic of children celebrating Ramadan in the March issue. Theo is 7 years old, in first grade at Mary Lin. His favorite spring tradition is finding the Easter baskets hiding in the house. Cecelia Lee came in 2nd, finding the Ramadan graphic on page 11. She is seven, lives on McLendon, and is in the 2nd grade at Mary Lin. There was a tie for third place, among Madison and Oliver Hostetler of Sutherland Place and Ella Fisher of Leonardo; Madison is 7 and in first grade at Mary Lin, and Olivia is 11 and in 6th grade at Howard. Ella is six and a Kindergarten at Mary Lin; she said that in the spring, she loves celebrating Purim, when you eat hamantaschen, dress in costume, and celebrate with friends and family. Ella's answer made me have a taste for hamantaschen, apricot and poppy-seed, in particular. Ella and Theo win extra credit by telling us about rituals they love in Spring, so they are welcome to be featured artists/writers in a future issue. Congrats to all 5 winners!

Editor disclaimer to parents: If I missed a child who entered, please let me know, I'll fix it in the NEXT issue.

Kids: Do keep reading the Kids' Page; it is the Clarion editor's "baby" and favorite part of the paper! See our new contest to the left below, and make your guess: it is your chance to be famous!



Ella, tied for 3rd place

New Contest

Well, they say April showers bring May flowers. Somewhere in this newspaper is a graphic of that. The winner/winners who find it will have their pictures in the next Clarion. To win, write editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade, along with a photo. (Your parents should 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 what you love about May. The extra-credit prize is to be a featured writer/artist in a future Lake Claire Clarion with your original work.

The deadline is APRIL 15-18. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.