

The  
Lake  
Claire

# Clarion



November 2025

The Lake Claire Neighborhood Newspaper • www.LakeClaire.org  
Lake Claire embraces inclusivity and diversity of all kinds.

V.33, #11



## Lake Claire Crafts Fair! Saturday, Dec. 6

Not sure what to get that special someone for a gift in the holiday season? The Lake Claire Crafts Fair is nearly here, in less than a month! Come one, come all to the Lake Claire Crafts Fair! Mark your calendars for

Saturday, December 6, rain or shine! As always, artists/vendors/food/music will be located at homes and other outside places in the “states’ streets” part of the Lake Claire neighborhood. One of the things that makes Lake Claire’s

sale unique is the participation by young folks, ranging from elementary to high school.

The entry requirement to participate in this event is the agreement to donate 10% of proceeds, which we

donate to some of the Midtown Cluster Schools. As a bonus to the arts and crafts, there are food trucks – and music throughout the participating streets.

*Cont. on p. 11*

## Can Paths Put Atlanta in the Same League as Paris?

by Kevin H. Posey

Major events can be the catalyst for major change, as Atlanta showed when city leaders used the 1996 Olympics to create Centennial Park. Paris went even bigger when they leveraged the 2024 Olympics to vastly expand their micromobility infrastructure into a citywide network. Bike lanes and paths are relatively cheap and simple to build, compared to highways and fixed rail transit. This means that Paris

could build a lot very quickly without overly burdening hard-pressed budgets. Atlanta can do the same, or better, via the newly approved Trails ATL plan, especially if we can get well underway in time for our part of the FIFA World Cup.

Micromobility isn’t just people on e-bikes and standing scooters. Powered wheelchairs or personal mobility scooters used by those with disabilities are

*Cont. on p. 15*

## History’s Shadow

by Jane Branscomb

I had a free afternoon in Warsaw near the end of a trip to Poland last May. Over the preceding days I had been taken by the beauty of Poland’s natural and built spaces, touched by its people’s warmth, awed by its rich cultural legacy. While the horrors wrought there during and after World War II were abundantly evident, so too were stories of courage, resistance, and resilience: stories that both inspired and challenged me as a U.S. citizen in 2025.

On this Sunday afternoon I decided

to take a walk from our rooms at Hotel Polonia Palace to Royal Lazienki Park for a free, open-air piano concert. As I would learn, my steps connected two exemplars of Varsovians’ defiance of the German campaign to demolish their city—one anchoring its onset and one its bitter finale.

Polonia Palace, a grand, Parisian-style structure on Jerusalem Street, opened in 1913 during a period of Tsar-

*Cont. on p. 10*

**Thank you, generous sponsors of the Lake Claire Halloween Parade and Party! — See Page 4!**

**Thank you, generous sponsors of the Lake Claire Crafts Fair—See Page 20!  
And see all the artists so far on Pages 7–8!**

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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.**

*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.*

## Calendar for November

Plus, see Land Trust happenings on P. 19.

**1** Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday with Trees Atlanta, 9 a.m.–noon. Help restore and maintain our beloved neighborhood old-growth forest. Space is limited; pre-register at [frazercenter.org/about-us/events](http://frazercenter.org/about-us/events).

**14** Candler Park Conservancy presents movie night, *Back to the Future*; pre-movie fun then movie at sunset, in Candler Park. Sponsored by Cynthia Baer.

**15** Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse (3rd Saturdays), 7 p.m. \$10 at door (members \$8). This month: Sparky and Rhonda Rucker, internationally recognized musicians, authors, and storytellers who are preserving and sharing African-American and Appalachian folk culture. Their music includes old-time blues, slave songs, Civil War music, spirituals, work songs, ballads, and civil rights music. For more details about the musicians, music schedule for the balance of the year, and other info: [aaffm.org/aaffm-events/](http://aaffm.org/aaffm-events/)

**20** **The Lake Claire monthly neighborhood meeting** – third Thursday of each month. Lake Claire Neighbors is continuing hybrid meetings, both in-person at the Frazer Center and virtual, on Zoom. See [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) for updates and Zoom info. Sign up for neighborhood mailings and the Zoom link at [lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/](http://lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/). **Elections this month/See article Page 13.**

## Early December, Two fantastic annual events:

**6** 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., **Lake Claire Crafts Fair**, article page 1, vendors page 7–8, sponsors page 20.

That same day, after a quick break, 4:30–7:30 p.m.: **Winter Wonders in the Garden!** Cator Woolford Gardens, *A Celebration of Light and Togetherness for All*. Ring in the holidays at one of your favorite neighborhood greenspaces. Tickets and more info at [frazercenter.org/about-us/events](http://frazercenter.org/about-us/events). See article p 3.



## New Need for Clarion Volunteers!

We are looking for at least one more volunteer to distribute Clarions to people's porches. It's a great way to serve the neighborhood, to get steps, and (**high schoolers**) to earn community credit. Time-sensitive delivery is the last week of each month, except no Clarion in July and August.

**We will need a new delivery person for Mathews**, starting with the January issue (which is delivered the last week of December/first week of Jan.). The route has 30 homes; several of those (from Arizona to the dead end) are duplexes, so it does not take long to walk it. And when there is an occasion that you can't delivery by the first week of the month, we find help, so don't hesitate because of the monthly

commitment.

Speaking of help, we love volunteer delivery folks for back-up for when regular volunteers can't deliver by the first week of month. This way you'd only need to be available occasionally.

Please email Miriam at [distribution@lakeclaire.org](mailto:distribution@lakeclaire.org) to volunteer or if you have questions. Thanks to all our Clarion deliverers, most of whom have done it for many years, and some of whom are kids. And while I'm at it, thanks to the Advertising Manager, Pat del Rey, the Layout Editor, Véronique Perrot, the Distribution Supervisor, Miriam Herbers, and our regular writers: we all do this on a volunteer basis as a labor of love!

**THE CLARION IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.**

## Freedom Park Conservancy News November 2025

Freedom Park Conservancy has two exciting announcements to make. First, it has adopted a new messaging campaign to help residents and visitors learn more about Freedom Park. The main message is “Freedom Park Is Your Park.” The details are:

**Freedom is Our Legacy Park.** – Years’ long activism by intown neighbors stopped a highway from cutting through historic communities (would

have been a section of I-42) and transformed the scar of highway demolition into John Lewis Freedom Parkway and Freedom Park.

**Freedom Is Your Art Park.** – Freedom Park is Atlanta’s designated art park, with temporary and permanent installations throughout the 130-acre greenway.

**Freedom Is Your Intown Green-**  
*Cont. on p. 15*



*Greg's class*

## Clifton Sanctuary Ministries – Giving Back

by Lori White

As a testament to how Clifton positively makes an impact in our guests' lives, we often get to witness guests graduating from our program and then coming back to serve in some capacity. Greg Ellis is a perfect example of this. Greg graduated from Clifton's program in 2008. He has gone on to work as a fulltime state employee and become a proud homeowner! Greg also serves on Clifton's Board of Directors.

As Greg was praying in church one Saturday, God gave him the idea to start a men's empowerment Bible study at Clifton. The program is designed to help the men experiencing homelessness establish a foundation that will

help them as they leave the program. He also wanted to be an example to them that if he can get out of homelessness with God's help, anyone can. He started a group called “Stewards of Vision,” and they meet every other Sunday afternoon. He covers topics such as trusting God and being a good steward with your resources while building a solid foundation. He hopes the men will learn to be financially stable by using God's word and principles for living.

Greg says he learned at church to be a doer of God's word and not just a listener. Greg is an incredible example of paying it forward and we are so grateful for him and his impactful testimony.

## Frazer Center's Fall Festival

by Dina Shadwell

Lake Claire neighbors are invited to Frazer's Fall Festival in Cator Woolford Gardens, featuring uniquely fun inclusive and sensory play activities, including: arts & crafts, pumpkin decorating, face-painting, gardening, storytime, parachute play, and much more! Delicious seasonal food and drinks will be available along with adult beverages for parents (\$5 suggested donation).

This annual event is hosted by the Frazer Center Parent-Teacher Action Committee, with proceeds funding PTAC initiatives benefiting Frazer's hard-working teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.

The Fall Fest is Sunday, November 9 (rain or shine), 2–5 p.m., Cator Woolford Gardens, 1815 S. Ponce de Leon



*Frazer Center brings on the family-friendly fall festival FUN!*

Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30307. The event is open to the public. For more information, visit: [frazercenter.org/about-us/events/](http://frazercenter.org/about-us/events/).

We hope to see our neighbors there!

## Frazer Center Celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month

by Dina Shadwell

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), and Lake Claire's own Frazer Center is shining a light on the many Georgians with disabilities who are eager to work—and the challenges they face in accessing the support they need to do so.

Frazer's Supported Employment program helps adults with developmental disabilities find and keep meaningful, competitive jobs in the community. And for most job seekers with disabilities in Georgia, that journey starts with a long wait. “There are more than 7,000 people on Georgia's Medicaid waiver waitlist,” explains DeAnna Julian, CEO of Frazer Center. “Families can wait years for approval before their loved one can receive services like job coaching. This means thousands of capable Georgians are ready and willing to work but can't yet get the support they need.”

Once approved for a Medicaid waiver

er through the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), individuals must also open a case with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)—another step that can take months. Only then can Frazer's job coaches begin working with that individual to identify their strengths, interests, and employment goals.

Despite these hurdles, success stories abound.

Tiarrah joined the team at Marshalls in April and loves her coworkers. “She's very conscientious,” says her colleague Helen. “We can count on Tiarrah.”

Aaliyah works at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, retrieving wheelchairs for travelers and connecting with people from around the world. With the support of Frazer Center Job Coach Thomas Johnson, she's now exploring her dream of be-

*Cont. on p. 13*



# Lake Claire Halloween Parade and Party: Thank you, Generous Sponsors!

by the Halloween Parade Committee



On behalf of the 2025 Lake Claire Halloween Parade Committee, we would like to sincerely thank the sponsors for this year's Halloween parade and after-party. Without their generous support, this neighborhood tradition would not be possible.



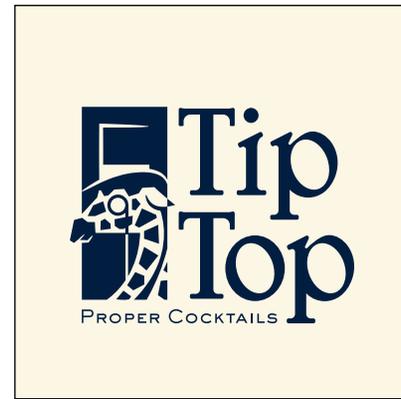
Thank you to all who attended and to the many helping hands that came together—a special thanks to the Kotheimer family for leading the committee and organizing sponsors, for their time setting and cleaning up, as well as emceeing the event. Last but not least, thank you to Steve Raimonde and the Raimonde family. Each year they help set up the event and provide pizza, so that 100% of purchases can fund future LC Halloween parades.



During this month of giving thanks, we are deeply grateful for all who come together to make this neighborhood event a success.



moxie burger




## ADOPT LEAH!

**LEAH** (aka Lionheart)

- 5 Years Young
- Happy, Cuddly, & Playful
- Gentle Walker
- Crate & House Trained
- Curious About The World



**Scan QR code to inquire about Leah!**

LEAH is in foster through Lifeline's Fulton County Animal Services




## Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

Fall is a time when the cycles of life become hauntingly apparent with the leaves changing color and falling, caterpillars metamorphosing into butterflies, birds departing for the tropics, and fruits providing their final harvests. While the theme of the season can seem dominated by these endings and departures, they are also a reminder that beginnings will follow.

I am especially delighted by the fall caterpillar season when it's so easy to observe the obligatory relationship between certain species. Many people are familiar with the dependence of monarch butterflies on milkweed for their caterpillars to feed on; here is one in the Peace Garden at the Land Trust, at the top left. I observed another such relationship between caterpillar and food plant near my second home, in Western N.C.: the pipevine caterpillar on (you guessed it!) pipevine (photo top, middle). While working at Holly Creek in Murray County a few weeks later, I observed many adult pipevine swallowtails "puddling" on some exposed sand by a creek (see picture of one of them, top right), feeding on the salts left behind as the water dried.

Meredith W. notes that last month the jewelweed covered her yard with beautiful, bright orange blooms. Now



*Monarch caterpillar on milkweed*



*Pipevine swallowtail caterpillar on pipevine*



*Pipevine swallowtail adult butterfly*



*Praying mantis and her lunch*



*Praying mantis egg case*



*Praying mantis*



*Mediterranean house gecko*

those have faded, and intense, yellow hues of the goldenrod and blurry purple of blue mistflower are having their turn. White asters are just beginning to open up and will offer late-season nourishment to bees on warm days throughout the next several weeks.

Meredith has also seen lots of young green anoles recently, and one night she saw a baby lizard she thinks was a Mediterranean house gecko. Its skin was translucent in the light of her headlamp, with black rings on his tail. Nadia B. shared a photo of a Mediterranean house gecko she saw (see photo by Nadia B. at left).

On the theme of the cycles of life, Bren B. heard loud rustling from a

nearby butterfly bush while sitting on a neighbor's porch. He was surprised to discover a very large praying mantis determined to make a meal of an equally large—and very angry—moth (see photo by Bren B., above left). The moth bravely fought for its life for what seemed like ten minutes; but in the end, it stopped flapping its wings, and the mantis greedily claimed its prize.

Meredith found a praying mantis egg case on a chair in her yard (see photo by Meredith W., above middle), then two more nearby on low branches. She then ran into a gorgeous adult praying mantis on the side of her house (see photo by Meredith W., above right). It was large and quite friendly. Meredith was glad to see that next year's generation

of mantids might have a good start. Miriam H. writes that a great blue heron was back, fishing in her backyard pond; she had not seen it lately so was happy for the visit. Sadly, she frightened the bird away before getting a picture. Lyndsay S. sent in a photo (see photo) of a coyote she saw in her neighbor's yard on Harold by Frazer Forest. It was hunting little rodents, jumping constantly like a little arctic fox. It was heartfelt to watch and instead of feeling scared of this animal her heart grew so much for the coyote, and she felt lucky all day.

*Cont. on p. 11*



# LAKE CLAIRE REAL ESTATE



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4 BR | 3.5 BA | 2160 SQ FT | 2-CAR GARAGE

**ANOTHER HOME UNDER CONTRACT!**



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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.

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# Save this page and page 8, and take them with you on December 6

## Lake Claire Crafts Fair Vendors

We are excited that this signature event of Lake Claire is fast approaching, on **Saturday, December 6**, 10:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. This list is as of going to press the third week of October. (Art-

ists: If you registered after that, you aren't included but will be in the final list. Contact us at [lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com) if you have not heard from us with confirmation of registration

and/or location if needed, and we will get you on the list.)

You can see what a variety of arts, crafts, and baked goods are featured at this walkable fair. See the article on

Page 1, and please see the back page, Page 20, for our sponsors. Please try to patronize our sponsors, who are always fantastic community partners in Lake Claire!

### New York (More New York hosts available, hoping for more artists.)

**Kiln it Pottery** (functional handmade pottery)

**Jill Stanley, Kindle Candle Studio** (Sustainable refillable essential oil candles in eco-resin handmade unique jars w/scented wax inserts. Sculptural candles: trees, gnomes, & other seasonal giftable candles) (@ Connecticut)

**Mae Leach, Bleach Waves** (creative bleach hand-painted t-shirts, sweat-shirts, tote bags/teen artist) (@ Connecticut)

**Jackson Leach, Hot Cider Extraordinaire** (spiced hot cider, seasonal sweet treat) (@ Connecticut)

**Jill Stanley & family** (Hot Nuts: Sweet & Spicy, served in paper cones) (@ Connecticut)

### Connecticut Avenue

**Tenacious Threads** ("Alotl" crocheted furry friends, hand-made stuffed axolotls, positive potatoes, earwarmer crowns, and more!)

**Greg and Sharon Beaumont Woodworking** (cutting boards, coasters, charcuterie boards, candle holders, more)

**Crochet by Mandi and Marley** (The Wonderlust Crochet Co. Crochet plushies, hats, other handmade items)

**Danika Kolay** (baked goods)

### Food trucks and tents:

**Victoria Cakes LLC** (Basque cheese-cake & artisan handmade necklaces)

**Tlacualli** (Vegan empanadas and other goodies)

**Hungry Hippo Eats** (BBQ, burgers, and bowls. Haitian jerk food with a Southern twist)

**Yom Ice Cream** (premium custard push pops—our own Lake Claire guys)

**Stix and Buns** (wings, smash burgers, catfish and shrimp po boys) (pictured)

**Snowie Atlanta** (Shaved ice, coffee, hot chocolate)

**SideHustle Soups** (homemade soups)

**El Buen Pastor** (El refugio de los tacos) (tacos and Quesadillas, sodas, water)



### Musicians:

**Buford Highway/friends** (Americana, roots, and originals)

**Ian McKenzie** (Singer-songwriter, folk)

**Doug Morton and friends** (Americana, eclectic)

**Brother Sam** (Americana and folk)

**Indydorf** (Eclectic, folk, Americana)

**Project 361** (Bluegrass and Americana)

**Molly Martin and Beat Box Ben** (Blues and folk rock)

**Lonesome Shoes** (Varied, acoustic)

**Garden Fresh Pickers** (Folk, Americana)

**Crash Landing** (Eclectic, pop, Dutch)

### Indiana Avenue

**Morse & Co** (Simply Modern Beadwork, handbeaded jewelry)

**Becker's Chocolate Delights** (delicious homemade chocolates—not to be missed)

### Porta-Potties:

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Parking

Lot (Connecticut @ Delaware),

Indiana at Arizona

Fair-goers are welcome to use the Land Trust facilities (Arizona dead-end)

Several sponsors will have tables:

So far,

**Cynthia Baer** on Delaware,

**Yom** on Connecticut, and

**Achieve with Steve** on Indiana.

And the **Info both** on Delaware

## Arizona Avenue

- Tlacualli** (Vegan empanadas and other goodies)  
**e.Claire Creations** (handmade knitted scarves and beanies)  
**Millie's Craft Room** (homemade fabric crafts, bags, totes, pouches, holiday ornaments)  
**A Paper Floral Artisan, LLC** (flowers & succulents from fine German/Italian crepe paper, in vases, large wall hangings, more), acrylic folk critters.  
**Edgy Bear Crafts** (rustic crafts and pottery)  
**Roxy Mazur** (watercolors)  
**DEW Jewelry Design** (one of a kind rustic handmade sterling silver w/semi-precious stones)  
**Mary's Woods** (charcuterie/cutting boards, trays, home décor)  
**Synnové Olson:** Crotchet plushes and more (variety of cute crotchet animal plushies and household items)  
**Studio Ohaya** (handmade jewelry from polymer clay)  
**Crochet & Crafts by Ada** (crocheted plushies and paper goods)  
**S&S Fibers** (clothing and household items dyed using indigo grown at the Land Trust, dried indigo leaves, seeds)  
**Bijoux Metal Arts** (handcrafted authentic silver jewelry, small batch, slow craft)  
**Poodle Doodles** (watercolor bookmarks and earrings)  
**The Printables + The Bakeables** (3D printed items & homemade baked goods)  
**Lutin's Gluten Free** (undetectedly gluten-free staples including sourdough, fluffy cinnamon rolls, dairy-free: small batches w/organic ingredients)  
**Crochet by Noa** (crochet stuff)  
**Stefania's Shop** (handsewn headbands and handmade jewelry)  
**The Cornell/Siebenmann family** (mix of various arts, crafts, treats)  
**Beth** (Crochet amigurumi AND stained glass art!)  
**Stephen Wing, poet & author** (4 books of poetry, *Wild Atlanta*, poetry samples, free poetry reading, original bumper stickers)  
**M&M Woven Jewlery** (woven jewelry, mostly bracelets)



## Arizona @ Delaware:

- Color Street** – Nail Your Sparkle with Aimee (dry nail polish & clean makeup)  
**Ellie and Naomi Goldberg** (jewelry, homemade caramels in holiday gift boxes, stress balls)  
**Millie & Cha Cha's Treats** (two kids aged 8 and 6 with cookies and other homemade treats)  
**Sara's Handcrafted Jewelry** (delicate unique jewelry pieces)  
**Ifama Frazier** (Ceramic ware; bowls, mugs, vases, decorative trays, etc.)



## Delaware Avenue

- Fair Info Booth** (maps, info, sponsors' swag)  
**Véronique Perrot, Petitchenefibers** (one of a kind handwovens)  
**The Young & the Heckless** (teen director of the Youth Art Collective @ Heck House) 4-6 youth artists  
**Petite Pixel Art** (fuse bead art)  
**Extraversions Jewelry, Lalah Manly** (fifth generation jewelry designer, unusual combinations of semi-precious stone and wire)  
**Michèle Spears** (Gourd birdhouses, Original design notecards, Felted wool items and Assorted whimsies)  
**Lee and Laurie Dayvault** (handmade festive wooden signs)  
**Sewing by Wilmie Fern** (handmade pillows and clothing)  
**Linda Abraham** (one-of-a-kind jewelry, Xmas ornaments, barrettes, other intricately patterned thread buttons; Home décor, gift tags, more)  
**B Hart Art** (pottery)  
**The Kitchen Crafter** (local organically sourced vanilla extract, vanilla sugar, other items crafted in the kitchen)  
**Courtney's Crafts & Love** (Lake Claire-based jewelry line featuring affordable metals and gemstones)  
**The Unmasking**, the literary magazine of Midtown HS (creative writing and art of dozens of Midtown's students)  
**Out of the Oven** (made in the kitchen by Rhita Pflieger: iced cookies)  
**Ashley Rush** (Handmade Jewelry). **Sarah Cusick** (Handmade Jewelry using traditional silver and goldsmithing techniques)  
**Pen Sherwood** (ceramic art holiday décorations, ceramic and jewelry beads, pottery, handmade greeting cards)  
**The Crafty Family** (handmade Xmas ornaments, knitted items, headbands, baked goods)  
**Troop 21669 Girl Scouts**, selling for LifeLine (baked goods for humans & pets)  
**THAT COOKIE** (cottage bakery, favorite classic cookies, signature flavors, all organic and nut-free)  
**Cassie Norvell, Card Maker** (handcrafted all-occasion cards and tags)  
**The Jewelry Dream** (handcrafted jewelry 14k gold-filled sterling silver metals, semi-precious beads, organic stones and pearls, earrings, necklaces and bracelets)  
**E & V Cullman's Whimsical Creations** (handcrafted ornaments, illustrations, cards, jewelry, variety of things that spark joy)  
**Andrew Sherwood, Author** (books including autobiography, distance running, and worldwide travel)  
**Rai Granier** (watercolors and other art, and hot chocolate)

## Optimism (amidst the familiar) at the Dekalb Animal Shelter!

Nine Consecutive Weeks without Space Euthanasias!

by Scott McLane

On Tuesday, October 1, 33 dogs were placed on the list to be euthanized on Friday October 4 if not adopted, fostered, or rescued. This was the highest number of dogs ever placed on the list at the DeKalb Animal Shelter, the immediate cause being one of the highest monthly intakes on record combined with lower outcomes. Thanks to many hard-working volunteers and staff, a major social media and local media push, along with county promotions, all of these dogs were saved, making it eight consecutive weeks (which is now nine!) with no space euthanasias at the shelter.

This is an ongoing crisis at the shelter. Yes, we have a beautiful pet neighborhood opening which will improve the overall quality of life in the shelter, but it will not increase the sustainable number of dogs. Building more kennels is not the long-term answer. Spay/Neuter, education, and getting the word out about the other resources provided by Lifeline and the shelter are where we need to focus.

**Short update from Advocates for Dekalb Animals:** Members received an update (reprinted in the October Clarion) with the items we are currently working on. Now, more than ever, we need our community to pledge to work with us. Please join Advocates for Dekalb Animals (AfDA) (see the link on our page and below). There is no cost or obligation. We just need your support in spreading the word about our work. Also, please follow us on Instagram and NextDoor.

Those on our leadership team who are also volunteers at the shelter have been consumed with trying to get animals adopted or fostered out before a euthanasia deadline. We are not naïve enough to think this will continue, but we are grateful for what we have had so far. If you are interested in helping this cause, the easiest way is to follow us on FaceBook and Instagram and share in



Saratoga

your own channels. Also, follow DeKalb County Animal Shelter on both Facebook and Instagram, and share those posts as well. Social media is the single most powerful tool to save animal lives, BUT we need to spread the word outside just the animal loving community.

We stay in touch with a key common ground partner of ours, Georgia Pet Coalition. You may have seen some shares of their posts recently:

\* Doraville became the first jurisdiction in DeKalb County to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the sale, display, or barter of dogs, cats, and domestic rabbits in public places such as parking lots, sidewalks, roadsides, and flea markets. This is important because even though we have a state and a county law, State law is harder to enforce, and the county law does not apply to incorporated cities. Chamblee and Brookhaven are also working on this to be followed by, we hope, the other 13 cities in DeKalb.

\* DeKalb has four Spayathons scheduled: 12/1 and 12/8 by LifeLine, and 11/22 and 12/6 by Paws Atlanta.

\* There is work being done at the

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

**Happy November Birthday to:**

- Nov. 1 Jane Merkle (Connecticut)
- Nov. 2 Woody Spivey (Harold) turns 17
- Nov. 3 Seija Olson (Leonardo) turning 13
- Nov. 6 Cora Elisabeth Weeks (Leonardo) turns 10 (the big 1-Oh)
- Nov. 7 Sue McAvoy (Leonardo, xoxo) and Aviva Berman Billinkoff (Harold)
- Nov. 9 Ollie Hutcheson (Hardendorf) turning 5!
- Nov. 11 Susan Ledbetter (McLendon), Tim Bonner (Harold)
- Nov. 12 August Goldstein, turns 10 (1-O) (Indiana Avenue)
- Nov. 14 Marilyn Schertz (Arizona)
- Nov. 15 Aileen Mary Styczynski—12 years old (Harold),  
Aileen Cole (Harold), Greg Hutcheson (Arizona)
- Nov. 18 Debbie Livingston (Marlbrook) Thx for all the photography.
- Nov. 22 Andrew Sherwood (Harold) and Criss Wood (Harold)
- Nov. 23 Christina Woodhouse (Harold)
- Nov. 24 Anne d'Agostino (Connecticut), Henry Cornell (turns 3!),  
and Georgeanne Wasick (Harold)
- Nov. 26 Mindy Kidd (Harold)

Send us new family additions, anniversaries, b'days, and other life cycle changes for the next issue—November already!? The year is zipping by!—Help make this series inclusive (editor@lakeclaire.org) by Nov. 15.

state level to speed up dispositions of court-held dogs.

### Court case update

An issue that stays on our front burner is court case animal impoundment which we see as cruel and unusual to these pets. Please email and share your support for the active prosecution of all animal cruelty/abuse/neglect cases:

Solicitor General Donna Coleman-Stribling ([solicitorinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:solicitorinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov), 404 371-2201) and District Attorney Sherry Boston ([dainfo@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:dainfo@dekalbcountyga.gov), 404 371-2232)

\* The Johnson/Robison case is an example of the more proactive position we are beginning to see from the County Attorney's office in response to our community's pressure. Keep it up! 11 dogs were seized on August 25, 2023. Two dogs were dead on site and had clearly suffered a terrible life and death before succumbing. The animals were found in appalling conditions, with open sores, overgrown nails, and severe malnutrition. Some of the dogs were only a few months old. All the dogs were either tethered or confined

in a crate sealed shut with wires and rags, surrounded by trash, dried feces, and insect infestation. Their suffering was undeniable. And, like many neglect cases, this one involved breeding for sales. After more than two years confined in the shelter, seven dogs, part of an eleven-dog case, are now available for their forever homes.

Horrible human neglect and system glitches failed these dogs for years before and after they were impounded. The defendants in the case were difficult to locate (and to serve) and, thus, were not charged with the violations initially. Since they were not charged, the motion to dispose was not an option to be used to get the dogs released from the court hold. Later, efforts to use the cost of care petition were stymied, also by the inability to locate them. It turns out the perpetrators were residing in Fulton County and continued to own [and abuse] dogs. A second cost of care petition was finally executed. The week of August 7, 2025 the judge's order approving the release of the animals gave these pups the opportunity of their lifeline—to find that perfect, loving,

**Cont. on p. 13**

## History's Shadow

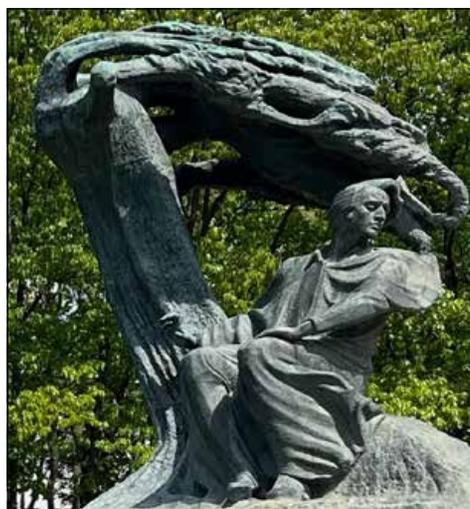
*Continued from page 1.*

ist rule. Its founder chose the name as a reminder that, though not recognized as an independent state at that time, Poland “should always exist in the heart and mind.”

Occupying German forces in WWII commandeered the hotel for use by officers. It was retaken in the summer of 1944 by the Polish Home Army, part of Poland's non-communist underground resistance movement, and served them as a field hospital and supply center during the Warsaw Uprising. The 65-day Uprising ultimately failed, but by then German leaders could see that they had lost the War. For vengeance alone, they ordered specialized combat engineers to raze what remained of the city before leaving in retreat. Polonia Palace was a rare survivor, reportedly thanks to loyal staff who risked their lives to return to the Hotel and secure it.

A massive effort after the war rebuilt Warsaw, literally using the rubble as much as possible in construction. How did architects know how to reconstruct the ruined city? They followed what blueprints survived and, notably, the detailed cityscapes of a Venetian artist who was court painter to the king of Poland in the mid-18th century.

My destination that afternoon was the Frederic Chopin statue, an enormous bronze sculpture depicting the composer beneath a willow tree, both dramatically lashed back by a great



*Frederic Chopin Monument (author photo)*



*Hotel Polonia Palace today. Photo By Leszek Bosak, used under CC BY-SA 3.0, commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32807519*



*Concert-goers in Lazienki Park, Warsaw (author photo)*

wind. It stands in Warsaw's largest park—at 188 acres, the same size as Piedmont Park. The statue was meant to be finished in time to celebrate the composer's 100th birthday in 1910, but design controversies and World War I delayed its unveiling until 1926. Fourteen years later it was the first monument ordered destroyed by the invading German army.

I say German army, not Nazi army. A Polish journalist and political activ-

ist I spoke with about Warsaw's history insisted that Germany as a state, not Nazis, was the perpetrator. I had not considered the distinction but grasped it at once: To blame a controlling political party for a government's bad actions relieves the rest of a complicit nation—its institutions and its people—of accountability.

In 1959 an exact replica of the Chopin statue was cast in the original mold and erected at the site. Its pedestal

bears these words by a famous Polish poet of Chopin's time: “Flames will consume our painted history, sword-wielding thieves will plunder our treasures, the song will be saved...”. Free Sunday afternoon recitals have been played beneath the monument from May through September every year since.

I arrived at Lazienki Park and found my way to the Chopin statue, imposing above an oval pool surrounded by rolling lawn. I took a spot by the pond as others filtered in, unfurling blankets, staking out areas for children to play. Elders took the benches. Ducks paddled on the pond. The piano looked small beneath the huge monument, the guest pianist tiny. But with discreet amplification, the notes carried well across the muted expanse.

The recital I heard included Chopin's Piano Sonata Number 2, whose third movement is his well-known funeral march. Some believe Chopin composed the march in reference to the November Uprising of 1830—an unsuccessful bid for freedom from Russian control—and the brutal reprisals that followed. The Pole who wrote his first biography described hearing in the piece the “pain and grief of an entire nation.” Local legend has it that the day after the German army demolished Chopin's statue, this note appeared at the site: “I don't know who destroyed me, but I know why: so that I won't play the funeral march for your leader.”

*Author's Note:  
Dear Readers,*

*This month I've been occupied by other (fun) matters and am unable to bring you my regular Lake Claire Creatives column. Instead, our esteemed editor has indulged my request to share this essay I've been working on related to recent experiences. I'll be back with a new, fascinating neighbor for you to meet next month! Meantime, as always, please be in touch if you have feedback, know a creative person (including yourself) to suggest for the series, or would like to write the column some month.*

*Thanks! Janie B.*

JaneBranscomb@gmail.com

## Wild

*Continued from page 5.*

Daniel G. sent in several photos of a Joro spider in his backyard (see his photo to the right). He has noted many phenomenal web formations all over the neighborhood, as have I. Who needs those fake Halloween spider web decorations with this non-native invasive spider spinning its sticky, messy webs and ferociously displacing our native garden spiders—very scary!

Bernard S. went to Lake Juliette recently, and as he was walking around, he came across a tree with small fruit he did not recognize. Bernard took a picture (at right) and sent it to an arborist friend who identified it as southern persimmon, also known as *Diospyros virginiana*. His phone app called it possumwood, which reflects the fondness that wildlife, especially opossums, have for this lovely native fruit. A cheeky folk song goes like this: “Possum up in a ’simmon tree, raccoon on the ground / Raccoon said, ‘you son of a gun, shake them ’simmons down!’”

While I was hiking the Emery Creek trail in Murray County (after spotting the pipevine swallowtail butterflies), I noticed some small orange orbs at the bottom of the creek. On closer inspection, I realized they were persimmon



Coyote



*Joro spider and web*



*Persimmon seeds*

fruits and took a few minutes to extract the seeds (see my photo above), which I put in my pocket to bring home. The mother tree had to be the largest persimmon tree I’ve ever seen, with its distinctive dark, ridgy bark. I’ll keep the seeds wrapped in a moist paper towel in my refrigerator for a few months before sowing them in pots this spring. Eventually, with some luck and proper care, they’ll grow into beautiful trees with fruit that future possum and raccoons can bicker over.

*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)*

## Lake Claire Crafts Fair

*Continued from page 1.*

We hope everyone will plan to attend this always-fun event, enjoy catching up with friends and neighbors, buy some unique art that contributes to our neighborhood schools, and have a wonderful day in Lake Claire.

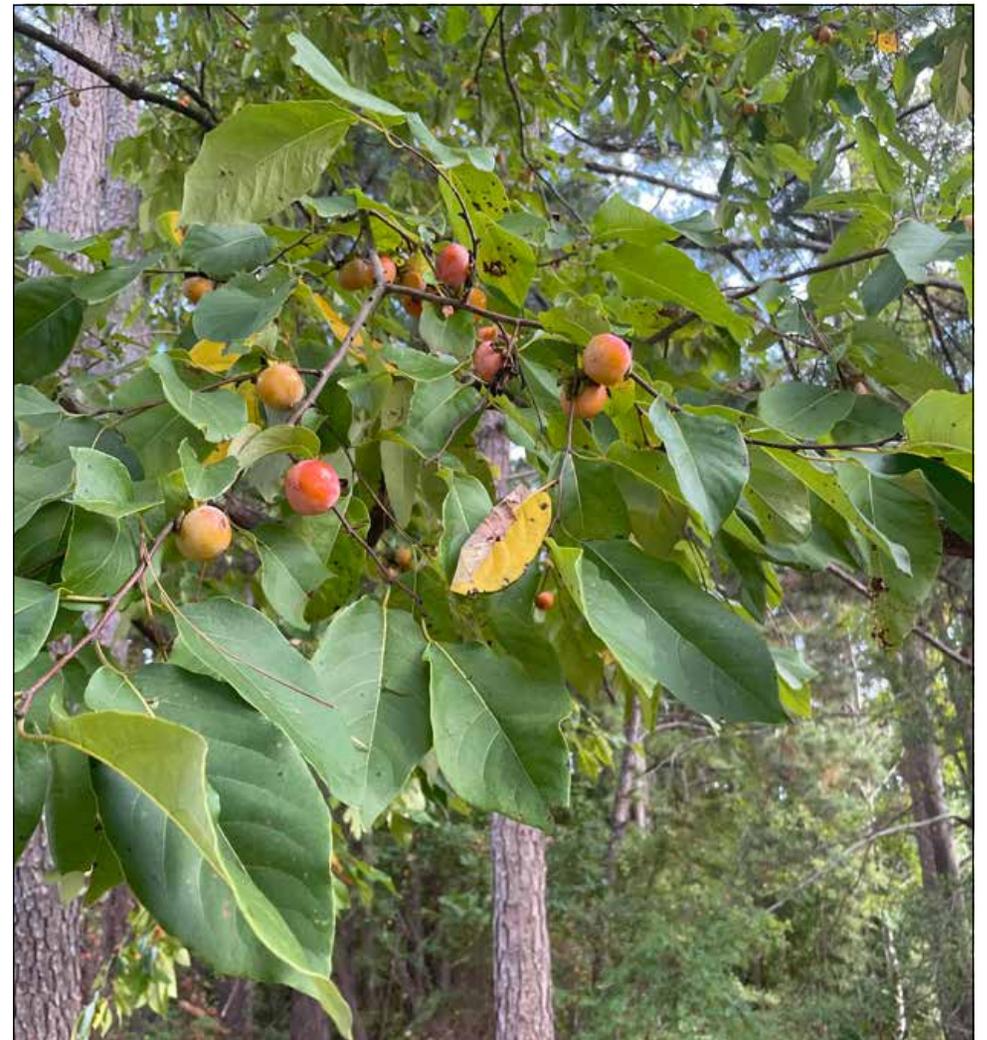
Vendors: If you register by November 7, you can still exhibit/sell arts/crafts, volunteer, host, sponsor, or be a food vendor. See our NEW website, [www.lakeclairecraftfair.com](http://www.lakeclairecraftfair.com), or scan this QR code.



If you have questions, our address is [lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com).

As of this Clarion going to press in late October, we have an exciting lineup of artists/crafters so far. See the amazing myriad of arts, crafts, food, and music, on Pages 6–7. Come hungry and ready to enjoy the variety of treats for the tastebuds, ears, and eyes.

Please tell your friends from other neighborhoods to come that day, rain or shine. Through the 10% donation amount on all sales, it’s a great way to support some of our Midtown Cluster schools.



*Persimmon tree with fruit*



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## Disability Employment Awareness

Continued from page 3.



On the Job: Tiarrah at Marshalls, Aaliyah at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, Matthew at Popeyes

coming a flight attendant.

Matthew has been with Popeyes for nearly six months, helping keep the restaurant clean and ready for customers. He's already setting his sights on advancement within the company.

DeAnna Julian believes that inclusive hiring benefits everyone. "Hiring people with disabilities can shift the culture in a workplace," she says. "It signals to customers that inclusion is a priority, it boosts morale, and there may even be tax incentives for employers. Most importantly, it gives talented individuals the chance to contribute and thrive."

Frazer Center partners with many Atlanta-area employers, including Home Depot and Mercedes-Benz Stadium, to create pathways to integrated, sustainable employment. Businesses interested in learning more about inclusive hiring or becoming a Frazer employer partner can contact Frazer Center Employment Specialist Shelita Brumfield at [s.brumfield@frazercenter.org](mailto:s.brumfield@frazercenter.org).

*Editor's note: As most readers know, Frazer Center is located in our*

*historic Lake Claire neighborhood; it is a nonprofit organization that fosters inclusion and belonging for children and adults with and without disabilities. Its programs include inclusive early education, adult community access and supported employment, and the stewardship of Cator Woolford Gardens, a social enterprise and event venue on Frazer's 39-acre forested campus. Learn more at [www.frazercenter.org](http://www.frazercenter.org). And consider attending "Winter Wonders in the Garden" the evening of December 6, after the Crafts Fair all day.*



## DeKalb Shelter Update

Continued from page 3.

caring, happy forever home. Cloud, Zeppo, Cassidy, Rigby, Jubert, Ju-Ju, and Rhapsody are ready to start new lives in loving homes. They deserve the best humans can do for them, having survived the worst.

\* Joshua Allen, the man who stabbed his fiancé's dog to death in Fulton County was sentenced to 11 years in prison with no parole. The courts did the right thing, and multiple animal welfare organizations stood firm and strong on insisting that justice be done

in this case.

Please spread the word about Advocates for Dekalb Animals to your friends. Ask them to join and be part of this movement. Facebook: [@advocatesfordekalbanimals](https://www.facebook.com/advocatesfordekalbanimals), Instagram: [@advocatesfordekalbanimals](https://www.instagram.com/advocatesfordekalbanimals).

*Editor's note: Fostering makes a huge difference for doggies stuck in shelters for long periods. Or if not possible, please consider becoming a monthly donor to support the ongoing work and programs at [lifelineanimal.org](http://lifelineanimal.org).*

## Lake Claire Leadership and Nominations

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are this month (every November). According to our bylaws, all nominations must be made at the meeting in October, i.e., at last 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. After the opportunity for nomination in October, a slate of officers is presented at the November meeting (which this year is **Thursday, November 20**). The offices for LCN are: (i) president; (ii) treasurer; (iii) vice presi-

dent for planning/NPU rep.; (iv) vice president for zoning; (v) vice president for environment; (vi) vice president for safety; (vii) vice president for communications and secretary; and (viii) vice president for fundraising. Collectively, they comprise the Executive Committee.

LCN meetings are hybrid, in-person and Zoom (see calendar Page 2 for details and Zoom link.) You can always view the LCN meeting agendas in advance and see announcements on the website, [lakeclaire.org/](http://lakeclaire.org/).

## Neighborhood Dues for Lake Claire

Suggested annual dues are \$20/year per household, but as with NPR, more is always appreciated and will be put to good use. Pay at [lakeclaire.org](http://lakeclaire.org) via the PayPal link, OR with the old-fashioned check in the mail, to Jay Severa, Treasurer, Lake Claire Neighbors, P.O. Box 5942, Atlanta Georgia, 31107. Please note if you are paying for a family member as well, so we can get correct names. These are the folks who've paid 2025 dues since the last issue; thanks to all:

Joshua Howard  
Jennifer Lund and Byron Anderson  
Thomas Chapel  
Andrew Carrol  
Sarah Herbert

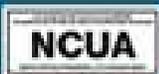
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## Paths in Atlanta

*Continued from page 1.*

also part of the mix. This means that every bike lane and bike path is also a route offering freedom to those with mobility impairments. Car and transit access are no longer dealbreakers for getting around.

Paris went with a big mix of infrastructure to get its system going fast. Bi-directional bike/scooter lanes, center-running bikeways, concrete-protected lanes, parking-buffered lanes, and off-road paths are scattered throughout the city. City officials are finding that some of these options work better than others, which gives us the opportunity to learn from their trials and forgo their errors.

For example, a bi-directional bike/scooter lane offers plenty of space to pass other users, just as a two-lane road offers passing opportunities that a single-lane road does not. However, it can make access difficult to destinations on the other side of the street. A uni-directional bike path on both sides of the road offers potentially more access, but they can be too narrow for passing. The City of Paris is shifting to a solution that is the best of both worlds: uni-directional bike paths on both sides of busy streets that are wide enough to accommodate slower users. However, that can be tricky to pull off where the space is narrow due to sidewalks, trees, and buildings.

Center-running bikeways can be a mixed blessing. They can provide a faster route for those on e-bikes, as con-



flicts with pedestrians and at driveways are sharply reduced. However, access to businesses and residences along the route is made more difficult, as it's only possible at designated crosswalks.

Concrete-protected lanes offer a level of safety for bike and scooter users that paint doesn't. Motorists are likely to be a lot more careful, if wandering from their lane will cause damage to their vehicles. As most Paris streets now carry a low speed limit, 30 kph/18 mph, they typically use fairly subtle curbs. The higher speeds and more traffic on our streets might require a more intrusive measure, such as concrete bollards.

To avoid the need for massive numbers of big bollards on their busier streets, Paris uses parallel parking spots to offer an additional buffer to the curb-protected, bidirectional bike lane. With parking-protected bike lanes, the curb needs to be wide enough for drivers to step out on. This prevents dooring incidents or collisions between pedestrians and fast-moving e-bike riders. In some spots, Paris reconfigured



## Freedom Park

*Continued from page 3.*

**way.** – Planned highway turned greenway, Freedom Park is Atlanta's car-free intown connector. Neighborhood to neighborhood, take the scenic route and skip the gridlock as you walk, bike, or roll wherever you want to go.

**Freedom Park Is Your Nobel Peace Park.** – From the Carter Center to The King Center, Freedom Park is the only park in the world connecting two Nobel Peace Centers. Enjoy learning more about Georgia's only two Nobel Peace Prize laureates along our 1.5 mile trail.

Freedom Park Conservancy has also announced the launch of **Find Your Way in Freedom Park**, a fundraising campaign to create a comprehensive signage program that will enhance navigation, accessibility, and community engagement throughout the city's beloved 130-acre green space.

The new program will include gatewaysigns, directional wayfinding, maps, and informational signage, highlighting the park's rich art and history. Phase One, with an emphasis on wayfinding and directional signs, is slated for installation in time for the FIFA World

spaces to create loading zones as well as parking for bikeshare and other micromobility. This keeps delivery vehicles from illegally stopping in bike and scooter lanes, while also keeping streets clear of badly parked bikes and scooters. The catch is that all of this requires a lot of right-of-way.

Atlanta's workaround can be to make heavy use of off-road paths. Unlike hyper-dense Paris, we have strips of property along streams, through parks, highway buffers, and abandoned rail corridors that allow us to create a connected network with minimal disruption. Care will be needed where the micromobility network crosses the road network, plus safety and lighting will need to be addressed if this is to be heavily used. But these are solvable issues.

In order for the system to reach its full use potential, bike and scooter sharing services will need to be readily available and affordable for all Atlantans. It

Cup in Atlanta in June and July 2026.

Freedom Park is Atlanta's largest linear park, with over eight miles of multi-use paths connecting historic intown neighborhoods and cultural landmarks. The new signage program will ensure both residents and international visitors fully experience the park's beauty and amenities.

The Conservancy aims to raise **\$250,000** for this Phase One initiative. Grants are being sought, and the campaign has already secured **\$40,000 in donations and pledges**. Organizers are calling on neighbors and park enthusiasts to demonstrate their gratitude for this vital community resource by contributing generously.

"Freedom Park has always been about bringing people together," said Ann Cramer, Honorary Chair of the Campaign. "As Atlanta prepares to welcome the world in 2026, this project will help visitors and neighbors alike connect with the park's history, culture, and natural beauty."

To donate and learn more about the campaign go to [bit.ly/freedomparksignage](http://bit.ly/freedomparksignage).

is also crucial that such rides be neatly parked and not blocking sidewalks, paths, nor just cast aside randomly. Paris uses strong geofencing measures to ensure that's not a problem. Users must return rides to designated spots, which means that plenty of rides are available in these locations and not scattered haphazardly all over the city.

It's vital that we keep the needs of businesses in mind when designing a network like that of Paris, as doing so can significantly improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. With a full micromobility network, deliveries to residents and businesses need not be accomplished via large, polluting trucks. Cargo e-bikes are widespread in Paris, with some that come equipped with a cargo carrier on the bike AND an attached trailer.

Wouldn't it be something to get your overnight internet order from someone on a bike like that?

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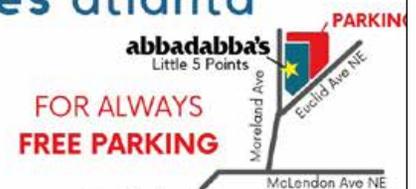
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## Wild at Heart: A Note from the New LCCLT Operations Manager

by Stephanie DeSantis

I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the new Operations Manager for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust—a place that's become deeply meaningful to me over the years. I've spent many days at the Land Trust with neighborhood families while babysitting and nannying, exploring together—walking the trails, feeding the chickens, and finding magic in the smallest corners of this space. I still remember climbing the lookout chairs to watch the sunset for the first time, feeling instantly connected to this land and community. Now, one of my favorite things is helping the children I care for climb those same chairs and watching their faces light up with wonder and pride.

To me, the Land Trust represents freedom, creativity, and connection—a community-built space where nature and people grow side-by-side. It's where I go to slow down, breathe deeply, and remember the beauty of living in rhythm with the land. With this new role, I'm looking forward to learning from those who have cared for this space over the years, becoming even more connected to the land, and honoring the history that has made the Land Trust what it is today.

I earned my BFA in Studio Art from Georgia State University, where I developed a passion for sustainability and natural materials. I'm a Natural-

ist through Georgia Birds' Beloved Naturalist Program and an educator trained in Growing Up WILD, Getting Little Feet Wet, and Georgia WILD—environmental education programs from the Department of Natural Resources that inspire children to explore and learn through hands-on experiences in nature. Before this role, I spent eight years as the Naturalist Teacher at a local nature-based preschool and after-school program, helping design seasonal lessons that celebrated Georgia's ecosystems, flora, fauna, and lunar rhythms—blending these with Bright from the Start early-learning standards.

Through my business, Wild Art Adventures, I offer creative birthday parties, art classes, and outdoor workshops that blend art and nature. I've partnered with organizations like Paddle4Tomorrow, PaintLove, Science ATL, and Nature Play Studio, bringing Art in Nature programs to local schools and community events.

As Operations Manager, my role is to support and strengthen the many programs that make the Land Trust so vibrant—from community classes and volunteer days to music, art, and environmental education. I'm excited to collaborate with neighbors, teachers, and local organizations to nurture what already exists while exploring

## Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

**Sat., Nov. 1: Family Drumming**, with Drake Pendley & Rusty Gilbert, 7:30–8 p.m., \$5 donation requested. Stay for the Drum Circle if you can.

*Rain date: Nov. 15.*

**Sat., Nov. 1: Land Trust Drum Circle**, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. *Rain date: Nov. 15.*

**Sat., Nov. 8: Forest Bathing: A Slow Walk Back to Yourself** with Spurgen Brown, 1–4 p.m. Experience the Japanese art of slowing down in nature, as regularly prescribed by doctors in Japan. “Love offerings” encouraged. For info, email [cinematicyogii@gmail.com](mailto:cinematicyogii@gmail.com).

**Sun., Nov. 9: Death Café** with Denise Johnson, 3–4:30 p.m. in the Amphitheater (and every month on the 2nd Sunday). All are welcome for a monthly informal conversation about death and dying, with tea, coffee and cake. Free! Donations welcome.

**Sun., Nov. 9: LCCLT board meeting**, 5–6 p.m. (every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person or contact us at [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org) for Zoom link.

**Mon., Nov. 10: Monday Nature Play Group**, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (and every Monday except the first Monday of the month). Free! Donations welcome. *See Land Trust Notes.*

**Sat., Nov. 15: Community Work Day**, 1–4 p.m. (and every month on the 3rd Saturday). Bring drinking water and work gloves. **Note change to cool-weather hours!** Rain date: 22 Nov.

**Sat., Nov. 15: Tarot Class** with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 1–2 p.m. Beginners, 3–4 Advanced, \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT). Please pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see [LCCLT.org/new-events](http://LCCLT.org/new-events). Sliding scale available to women of color and LBGTQIA+ community if needed; contact [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org).

**Wed., Nov. 26: Land Trust Open Mic**, 7–9 p.m. at the Land Trust amphitheater. All acoustic and spoken word performers welcome, or just come to listen.

YOUR EVENT HERE! Get in touch at [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org), and let's discuss holding your class or workshop at the Land Trust! For details, more info, and updates of any of the above, please visit [www.LCCLT.org/new-events](http://www.LCCLT.org/new-events).

## Land Trust Note

MONDAY PLAY GROUP. Nature Play Studio has moved away from Atlanta, but a group of families is carrying on the tradition of gathering at the Land Trust playground every Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 (except the first Monday of the month, when they organize a hike). Join this informal gathering at no cost, or make a \$5 donation.

new opportunities that connect art, nature, and learning. I'd love to hear from neighbors who want to get involved or share ideas—please reach out at [info@lcclt.org](mailto:info@lcclt.org), and stay connected through our Facebook, Instagram, and Nextdoor pages for updates and volunteer opportunities.

Looking ahead, I hope to add future offerings such as Nature Babies, a sensory class for infants; toddler nature programs inspired by Growing Up WILD and Getting Little Feet Wet; and

Georgia WILD for school-age children. I'm also developing ideas like a Kid's Moon Club celebrating the new and full moons, and adult workshops exploring sustainable art through textile techniques like shibori and natural dyes. My goal is to continue nurturing the creativity, care, and connection that make the Land Trust such a special place.

*Editor's note: Check out Stephanie's art on December 6 at the Lake Claire Crafts Fair. She'll be at 296 Arizona.*



# LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun for kids and a way for young neighborhood writers and artists to participate in the Clarion. Each month, we feature a writer, a poet, or an artist from Lake Claire; this month we feature **Amia Mason**. Amia is in kindergarten at Mary Lin. She is a 3rd generation Lake

Claire resident (!) whose grandmother has written for the Clarion, too. Amia and her mom, Justina, are in the process of moving back to Justina's childhood home on Tuxedo. Her mom apprised me of a fun situation—that she (Justina) was one of my featured kids many years ago—Way to make the editor feel old!

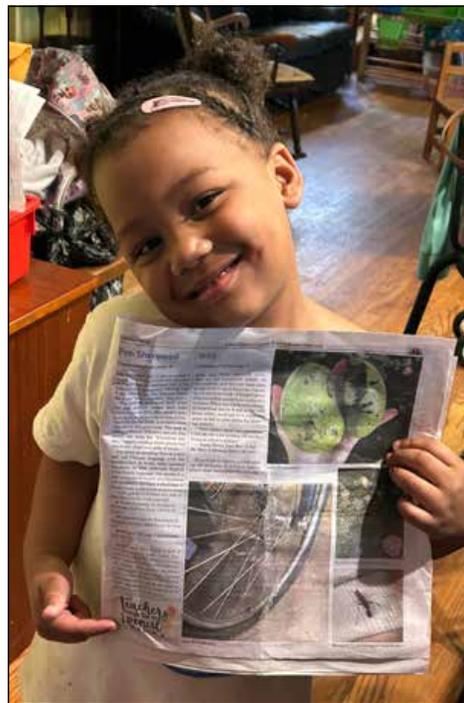
We welcome any Lake Claire child or young adult to add your creativity to this page.

Send contributions to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), by **NOVEMBER 15** for the **DECEMBER** issue.

## My Favorite thing about October

by Amia Mason

My favorite thing is trick-or-treating with my friends and all the pretty colored leaves. I love reading the Clarion and especially because my mom was featured as a kid!



Amia, third place winner – and featured writer!

## New Contest

Hi kids! November might make us think of Thanksgiving and Veterans Day and its role as a month of gratitude, but it also has cultural celebrations including Native American Heritage Month, and it is marked by the end of daylight saving time. To win extra credit this month, tell us the page number of a picture about ending daylight saving time. The winner/winners who find it will have their pictures in the next Clarion (DECEMBER). To win, write [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade, along with a photo. **Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two issues in a row.** For extra credit, tell us **your** favorite thing about November. The extra-credit prize is to be a featured writer/artist in a future Lake Claire Clarion with your original work. **The deadline is NOV. 15. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this HIGHLY coveted prize.**



River, second place winner

## Contest Winners

We have great winners this month, who found the graphic about teachers. Ames Yeend came in first place! He is in 3rd grade at Mary Lin and lives on Arizona.

River Syfan came in second, who is 4 years old and at the Freedom Park Preschool and lives on Harold Avenue.

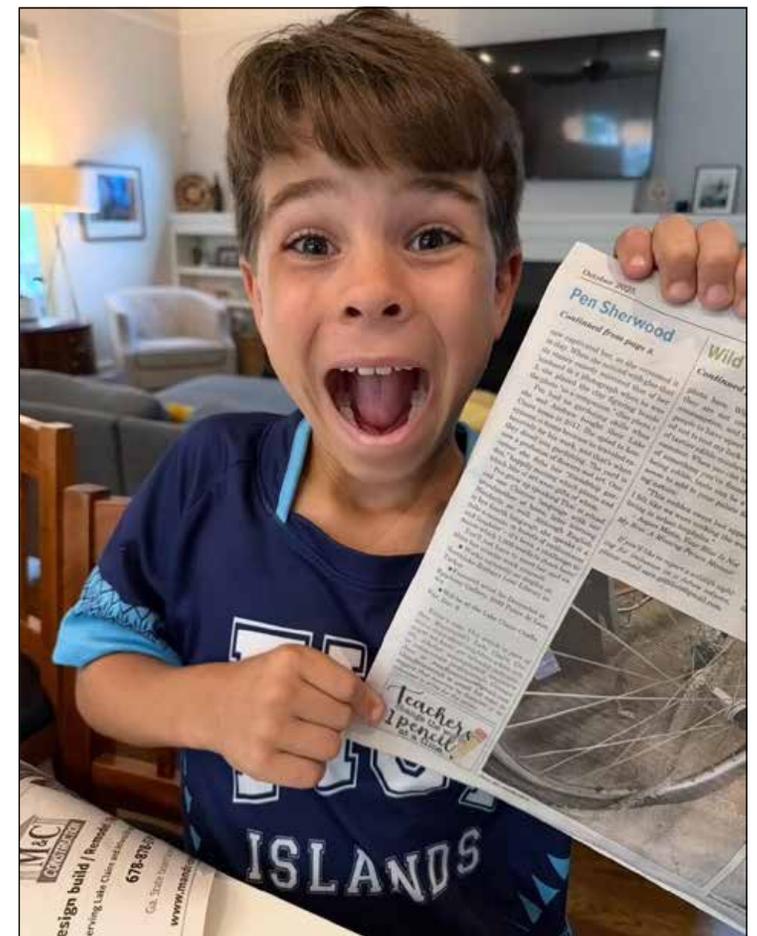
And Amia Mason, kindergartener at Mary Lin, came in 3rd, winning extra credit for telling us her favorite thing about October, which won her the

honor of being the featured writer this month.

**Congrats to these 3 winners!**

**All:** Play the new contest; it's your chance to be famous in a newspaper, and if you win extra credit, you can be a featured writer/artist.

**Parents, if we've missed anyone, pls let us know, and we'll correct that next time—I don't want anyone to be disappointed.**



Ames, first place winner

# 2025 LAKE CLAIRE CRAFTS FAIR SPONSORS

December 6, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

# District5

Office of Councilmember Liliana Bakhtiari



*Achieve with Steve!*

