



Aerials and Accounting: Patricia Farmer

by Jane Branscomb

“Do you want to get on?” asked the woman on the trapeze Patricia was watching with rapt attention. This was Patricia’s first visit to a “baby burn,” one of many regional events built on the model and principles of the annual Burning Man festival in Nevada. Her friend had convinced her to go, but she had no idea what to expect. The trapeze called to Patricia’s inner gymnast: the answer was “Yes!”

Back in Atlanta, Patricia devoured aerial arts classes, first at Carrie Heller’s Circus Arts Institute near Pullman Yards, then at D’AIR, in a lovely former church on Boulevard. The schools no longer exist in the same form, but they gave Patricia the start she wanted, and she has been at it now for about 25 years.

The trapeze Patricia performs on is called single-point; it is a bar with ropes at each end attached at a single point to a swivel. She also performs on silks, the long sash of fabric (now usually made of



Patricia in the Baba Yaga performance.
Photo credit: Ju^2 Photography

nylon) hung from a knot in the center, and with various fire props like fans, staff (a pole with wicks at each end), and

Cont. on p. 11

Teach Your Children Well

by Beth Damon

Recently I was turning left across traffic into a shopping center. The opposing traffic was stopped at a traffic light and couldn’t go anywhere, yet a car pulled all the way up to the car ahead, blocking the shopping center entrance/exit. The frequent occurrences of such actions behind the wheel is my impetus to write an article on responsible driving behavior, to beseech drivers—new and old—to drive intentionally and unselfishly, with other auto drivers and bicyclists in mind. Even if only our Clarion readers do so, it would “pay it forward,” and serve as an example for others. Here are some things I’ve noticed just in the two days before writing this, and you surely could add to this list (feel free to write editor@lake-claire.org, and if enough material for a follow-up, I’ll publish). And regarding the title, **please** make sure that teen drivers read this—any amount of driving will show you that it is so important for kind behavior to start early.

Be predictable: use blinkers/turn signals. Using turn signals/blinkers

is an essential safety habit that communicates your intentions to other drivers, pedestrians, **and cyclists**, to prevent accidents. Signal at least 20 feet (100 feet even better) before turning or changing lanes, and ensure you signal **before braking** to allow drivers behind you to react.

Turning left across traffic. Be kind when someone in the other lane is turning left! Leave space. And when approaching stop signs and traffic lights, don’t pull all the way up if there are driveways, stores, etc.; be conscious of the small streets coming in and the shopping center entrances/exits. Come on, folks, are we in that much of a hurry? Again, pay it forward!

For that matter, when you are turning left, and a bicyclist is coming in the opposite direction going straight, let him or her go through before you turn!

Not crossing gores/gore points. One of the frequent problems I witness. Please tell new drivers to pay attention to the markings on the street. Only cross or

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Your Neighborhood. Your Safety. Your Patrol.

by Matt Johnson

Fifteen years ago, the Candler Park Lake Claire Patrol was born out of a real need—walking home alone from Little Five Points at night carried genuine risk, and daytime burglaries were a regular occurrence. Thanks in part to the Patrol and a stronger community, those days are largely behind us. But our work isn’t done.

Today’s threats look different: car break-ins, vehicle thefts, vandalism, and occasional assaults. Less dramatic, maybe—but no less frustrating when it’s your car window or your sense of security that’s been shattered.

What a neighborhood patrol actually does. A visible, active patrol deters crime before it happens and

gets police on the scene faster when it does happen. It is one of the most direct ways residents can shape the safety of their own streets. The CPLC Patrol is that resource—and right now, it needs you. Membership is at a historic low. Volunteers are scarce. Without both, the patrol simply cannot operate.

What’s changed (for the better).

You may have wondered: Where is the patrol? We’ve made a significant upgrade. The old 2011 Honda CR-V has been retired. Our officers now patrol our streets in real APD police vehicles—and the difference is already showing: *Lower costs—no more maintaining or fueling a patrol-owned car;

Cont. on p. 13

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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.

Summer Calendar

Some important and fun events coming up all summer, and in addition to these, please see the variety of neighborhood events on the Land Trust calendar, Pages 18/19.

June

1–30 The entire month of June is a fundraiser for the Lake Claire Community Land Trust with Pizza Verdera, with a percentage of proceeds being donated to the Land Trust. Identify yourself as a Land Trust supporter. See Page 19 for more details.

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

7 Annual Lake Claire Community Land Trust Open House and Potluck, 1–4 p.m. A tour of the land follows for those interested. See complete details on pages 18–19 as well as many more exciting events for this summer.

18 **The Lake Claire monthly neighborhood meeting—third Thursday.** Lake Claire Neighbors has hybrid meetings, in-person at the Frazer Center and virtual on Zoom. See lakeclaire.org for updates and Zoom info. Join and get Zoom link at lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/.

20 Mulberry Fields Community Garden celebration “Roots Revival,” 1301 Iverson Street, in Candler Park, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.—food, entertainment, fun—see details in the article on Page 9, and check-out the website at www.friendsmulberryfields.org.

20 Fiddler’s Green Coffeehouse (3rd Saturdays), 7 p.m. \$10 at door (members \$8). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. This month featuring Josh Gray, Nashville singer/songwriter (storyteller with thoughtful, poetic lyrics), and Blackfoot Daisy, Clarkston-based Americana/rootsey folk trio (rich instrumentation, heartfelt storytelling). More musician details, music schedule, other info: aaffm.org/aaffm-events/.

27 Lake Claire Park Workdays with Trees Atlanta – last Saturday of the month. 9 a.m. to noon in the park. Info: treesatlanta.org/calendar.

July

4 Please note there is no July Frazer Forest volunteer workday with Trees Atlanta.

14 **The Lake Claire monthly neighborhood meeting—third Thursday.** Lake Claire Neighbors has hybrid meetings, in-person at the Frazer Center and virtual on Zoom. See lakeclaire.org for updates and Zoom info. Join and get Zoom link at lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/.

18 Fiddler’s Green Coffeehouse (Details under June 20 – July musicians are Vega Verde Wranglers and Harm’s Way.)

24 Jointly sponsored Freedom Park Conservancy/Trees Atlanta walking tour in Freedom Park, “Tree Tour: The Living Legacy of Freedom Park—Trees, Trails and Civic Roots.” 9–10:30 a.m. Mark your calendars for the next one, Thurs., Oct 8, sunset tour!, 6:30-8 p.m. See article Page 5.

25 Lake Claire Park Workdays with Trees Atlanta – last Saturday of the month. 9 a.m. to noon in the park. Info: treesatlanta.org/calendar.

August

6 As of the summer Clarion publication deadline, we don’t know if we will have the Frazer Forest Volunteer Workday with Trees Atlanta in August. Please check the Frazer website closer to the date, frazercenter.org/about-us/events.

9 Lake Claire Land Trust Board Meeting, 5–6 p.m. (and every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield around a picnic table. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person or contact us at info@LCCLT.org for a Zoom link. And see MANY more Land Trust events, on pp 18-19.

15 Fiddler’s Green Coffeehouse (Details under June 20 – August musicians are Redwine Jam and the Jim Culliton Trio.) Again, please see the website for updates and further details at aaffm.org/aaffm-events/.

20 **The Lake Claire monthly neighborhood meeting— See details under June 18.**

29 Lake Claire Park Workdays with Trees Atlanta – details above, June 27. Info: treesatlanta.org/calendar.

Abandoned DeKalb

by Kevin Posey

If you live in Lake Claire or Candler Park, you also live in DeKalb County—in District 3, represented by Nicole Massiah (district3@dekalbcountyga.gov), to be precise. This fact may not seem all that pertinent, as you also live in the City of Atlanta. Most of our services, such as water, sewage, fire/police protection, and trash collection, are provided by City of Atlanta. However, we all interact with DeKalb County, especially if we travel east on DeKalb Avenue/Howard Avenue towards the city of Decatur.

When you go east on DeKalb Avenue after the road diet ends and the street widens out four lanes, you have entered what I call Abandoned DeKalb. This is where neither the City of Atlanta nor the city of Decatur have any jurisdiction. The railroad track is in this forlorn section of DeKalb County. You return to civilization once the road diet begins at the Decatur city limits.

Why do I call this Abandoned DeKalb? Because as far as I can tell, few people in the DeKalb County government are all that fired up about doing anything to maintain or improve it. For example, the railroad crossing is unsafe because it has no gates. This is in spite of the fact that the Atlanta Regional Commission managed to get some money to DeKalb County to put in gates. So, motorists continue to try their luck by darting in front of massive freight trains.

It's also incredibly dangerous to have what is essentially a very short passing zone right at this railroad track. Motorists heading east or west suddenly go from having one travel lane in each direction to having two. They take advantage of this by speeding up to pass slower vehicles. Continuing the road diet from Atlanta to Decatur would fix this, but the DeKalb County govern-

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Two Sad Stories at the Shelter

by Scott McLane

This was written in an all-too-familiar week at The DeKalb County Animal Shelter. It is the story of two dogs facing euthanasia, as written by our Social Media Coordinator, Jessica Davis.

Rubeus. No one came for Rubeus. The deadline is extended to Friday at 7 p.m. to find a long-term foster or adopter; otherwise, he will be euthanized Saturday a.m. Rubeus has a deadline.

He is sweet, resilient, affectionate, and goofy. You can see all that in his face, on Page 4. Somehow, none of those things have been enough, because ever since September 2025, Rubeus has sat in his kennel waiting for someone to choose him...and no one has. Not for Dog-for-the-Day. Not for Weekend Warrior. Not for foster. Not for adoption. Rubeus has not spent a single night outside the shelter in eight months. And somehow, despite all of that, he is still so full of love.

If I were Rubeus, I would have fall-

en apart by now. I would be defensive. Shut down. Hard to handle. But Rubeus is none of those things. He is still easy to walk. Still incredibly dog friendly. Still affectionate. Twice a week, he runs into playgroup with this joyful, goofy zest for life that honestly feels miraculous after everything he's endured. But while Rubeus hasn't been declining mentally, his body has been. I won't sugarcoat it: he's had recurring diarrhea almost the entire time he's been here. No infections. No underlying illness. Just stress. Chronic, nonstop stress. Bully breeds are notorious for sensitive stomachs, and after eight months in a kennel, his body is paying the price. The shelter has treated him over and over again, but there is only so much they can do when the root cause is the environment itself. And now, he's losing weight.

He's still beautiful. Still muscular. But those of us who have loved him since the beginning can see the differ-



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White

Thank you to all who joined us for our Community Appreciation Picnic! We love our volunteers, neighbors and partners, and it is always an honor to celebrate our community. Thanks to

Paolino's Italian Restaurant for the donation of a delicious spread!

The weather was beautiful and our hearts are full.

ence. And it's devastating to watch a dog this good slowly waste away from kennel stress. Rubeus is around four years old and 56 pounds. He's higher energy in the shelter, but after eight months of confinement, who wouldn't be? He's very dog friendly and would do best with older kids. **This is a good dog.** A really, really good dog. And he deserves more than wasting away from stress in a kennel. He deserves more than a deadline.

Rubeus is heartworm positive, but treatment will be provided free of charge for fosters and in-state adopters. It's not contagious to other pets or people. Let's get Rubeus home

Scottire. Scottire had only until today at 11 a.m., but deadline is extended to Friday at 11 a.m. to find a long-term foster or adopter. Otherwise, he will be euthanized on Saturday morning. I am posting this on behalf of a dear

friend whose name you don't see in this group nearly enough—Brittany. Someone who has poured more blood, sweat, tears, time, and love into these shelter dogs than most people will ever realize. And Scottire is her baby.

Scottire came into the shelter as a stray back in March, and from the very beginning, he struggled. Dogs who struggle this deeply in the shelter are often dogs who once knew love, routine, and safety. I'm certain that is true for Scottire. He is overwhelmed here. Overstimulated. Full of anxiety and pent-up energy and BIG feelings about being trapped in a kennel day after day. Honestly, it's amazing more dogs don't fall apart this way.

From day one, Brittany took him under her wing. And now, the bond they share is undeniable. His tail starts wagging the second he spots her. He melts

Cont. on p. 4

Sad Stories at the Shelter

Continued from page 3.

into her in a way that's hard to describe unless you've seen it yourself. Scottire loves everyone, but when he trusts you, he loves HARD.

Wednesday night, he became so overwhelmed in playgroup that it was clear he needed out. He wasn't fighting. He wasn't being "bad." He was pacing frantically, desperately searching for an escape despite being surrounded by people trying to love him. So Brittany took him out of the yard, sat down on the ground, and held him. And suddenly, there he was: the real Scottire. A dog who craves affection. A dog who wants to feel safe. A dog who leans into humans for comfort instead of pulling away from them. Scottire is only around a year old and weighs about 41 pounds. If you meet him, he may seem too stressed to connect fully right away. But some dogs aren't meant to shine in a shelter. Some dogs need time, patience,

and a quiet place to exhale finally.

And before anyone asks why Brittany can't just take him home herself — people like Brittany are the reason hundreds of dogs have made it out alive. The people carrying this work on their backs cannot save every dog alone, no matter how badly they want to. Scottire needs long-term placement through foster or adoption NOW. His deadline has been extended, but **This is it.**

Fosters must live in Georgia. Out-of-state adoptions are allowed, but transport must be arranged by the adopter. Out-of-state adopters should email adoption@dekalbanimalservices.com.

Please don't let Scottire's story end here.

Shelter Updates

The Pet Neighborhood is now almost fully utilized, housing 96 dogs, allowing each dog access to a covered outdoor kennel. Many of these dogs would

had been previously housed in 2x3 ft. stacked metal kennels. Quite the improvement.

As noted in my article today, even with extended deadines, the shelter had to euthanize dogs for space for the first time in eight months, due to an influx of dogs combined with reduced numbers of adoptions, foster homes, and rescue organizations.

Editor's note: Since this article was written the 2nd week of May, I was afraid that these two doggies would be euthanized before the summer Clarion came out. But the following Saturday night, Scott let me know that they were both miraculously saved by rescue organizations, after two days of extensions by the shelter administration. That said, these two stories illustrate the agony that shelter staff and volunteers go through every week hoping to avoid space-driven eu-



Rubeus

thanasias. Scott said that the shelter is now 34 over humane capacity as of writing this, so we will be facing the same stories next week—and indeed, the week you see this. If you are able to foster or adopt, please check: lifelineanimal.org/. As with Brittany herein, many of us with multiple dogs can't take another. But my heart breaks for these and many more deserving and loving dogs at Lifeline. Please consider fostering or adopting.

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What Community Looked Like at Frazer this Spring

by Dina Shadwell

On a recent morning at Frazer Center, children spread out across the atrium for Sensory Day, moving between stations and settling into whatever held their attention. Some moved quickly from one activity to the next, hands dipping into water beads, feet pressing into textured tiles, bells ringing as a mallet tapped across them. Others stayed longer in one place, focused on a single feeling or motion. A few paused to try on noise-reducing headphones or bounced on a mini trampoline before moving on. It looked like play, and it was. It was also how learning was happening.

For young children, the senses are how they begin to understand the world. They take things in through touch, sound, and movement, learning what something feels like, how their bodies move, and how to respond. Sensory play gives children a chance to focus on one or two of those senses at a time. As Frazer's Inclusion Specialist, Hannah Etchison, explains, "When children pay attention to a specific sense, they begin to understand what they are feeling and how to describe it. They start to connect experiences to words like rough, soft, loud, quiet, fast, and slow. Over time, those connections

build. Language grows, coordination develops, and confidence follows."

At Frazer, these kinds of experiences are part of everyday learning. Materials and activities shift based on age and interest, from simple texture pads for younger children to more complex materials for older ones. Some activities are guided, while others are open-ended, giving children space to explore in their own ways. There isn't one right way to engage, and that flexibility allows children to find what works for them.

That same approach can also help children regulate when they feel overwhelmed. Hannah recalls working with a child who often struggled in moments of frustration. One day, she introduced a simple activity using a Buddha Board, where a child paints with water on a surface and watches the marks slowly fade away. There was no pressure to make something permanent and no buildup of mistakes. Just the motion of the brush and the feel of water. "She locked into it," Hannah said. "You could see her body start to settle." Over time, the child returned to that activity again and again, using it as a way to focus and find calm.

Sensory Day brings these ideas into

one shared space. It offers a chance to gather a wide range of materials and let children move between them, trying, noticing, returning, or moving on as their curiosity leads. Each moment of play helps build a deeper understanding of both the environment and the self.

That sense of connection extends beyond the classroom. Later in April, Frazer hosted Mahjong & Mimosas, a Sunday afternoon that brought friends and neighbors together around shared tables in the atrium. Guests of varying experience levels played, learned, and spent time catching up between rounds while enjoying a catered spread and mimosa bar. The event served as a fundraiser as well, supporting Frazer's inclusion programs for children and adults of all abilities.

We're also beginning to explore new ways for the community to gather across campus. At the end of May, Frazer hosted a Sunday morning yoga session in Cator Woolford Gardens, the first of what we hope will become a recurring opportunity for neighbors to spend time in the gardens together.

Whether it's a child exploring a new texture, a table of players sharing a game, or a quiet morning in the gardens, Frazer is a place where people come together and find ways to connect. We're grateful to everyone who has been part of that this spring, and we look forward to welcoming more of our Lake Claire neighbors in the months ahead.



Sensory Play at Frazer Center

Classified Ads

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Friends enjoying Mahjong and Mimosas in support of Frazer Ctr

Freedom Park Conservancy/Trees Atlanta Tours

"The Legacy of Freedom Park Trees, Trails, and Civic Roots" tour will be Friday, July 24, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. It will be a stroll through Freedom Park, the official art park of the City of Atlanta. The Carter Presidential Center sits at the center of the park, and we'll explore how the park connects to many local amenities, including the Arboretum. We'll learn about the history of this

park (and its treasured legacy of hard-won civic activism); enjoy art installations along the trail; and identify some of the many native trees that make up our urban forest.

The second tour will be a sunset tour, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., on October 8. To learn where the tour begins, who the guides will be, and other details, see treesatlanta.org/events.



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Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

Baby wild animal season has been in full swing in Lake Claire! I was sitting on my back porch a few weeks ago when a juvenile possum ambled out from under the deck, looked at me and waddled back where it came from. A few days later, my neighbors called me from DeKalb Avenue at the Arizona Avenue crossing to say they'd found a baby bunny on the sidewalk and could I help them figure out what to do. I was shocked at how tiny it was (see my photo at right), and my search for a nest on the hillside was unsuccessful; so, I carried it up to the Peace Garden at the Land Trust and settled it in some leaf litter with a bunch of fresh clover and some water. The next day it was gone, though I have since seen somewhat larger baby bunnies skittering away when I'm outside checking on the garden.

While watering potted plants, I also found a baby bird that didn't look mature enough to have fledged (see my photo, Page 10) from a nest I suspected to be in a shrub in front of my house. Ginger L shared a photo of some baby birds still in a nest (see Ginger's photo on Page 10).

Continuing on the baby animal theme, Taylor B. reported the snapping turtles in the creek running through Candler Park were sunning with a baby turtle (or possibly a smaller turtle of another species) (see his photo on Page 10). Scott S. saw a family of watersnakes in nearly the same spot (picture also on Page 10), and Sherry N. snapped a close-up of one of the watersnakes (see photo page 10).

Meredith W. agrees that it is definitely baby season. The young red cedars in her yard are popular choices for bird nests. At Lullwater Preserve, Meredith has seen lots of baby geese (see her gosling on Page 10), four baby wood ducks, two snapping turtles (also pictured), and two river cooters (aka yellow sliders). She loves watching the goslings waddle around and occasionally pull so hard at a tough piece of vegetation that they nearly fall over.

I've been seeing lots of reports about



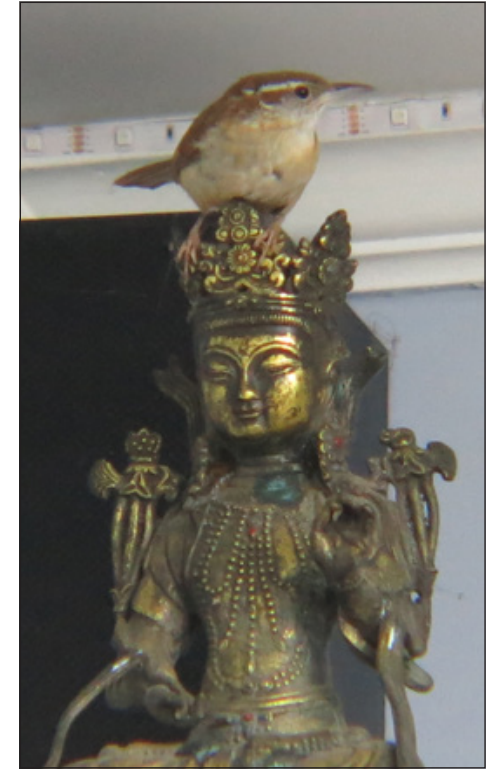
Sara's baby bunny

a turkey in the neighborhood, first by someone posting that their Merlin app (which identifies bird calls by recording ambient sound) picked one up, and then later Christa C. posted photos of a turkey in front of the Neighborhood Church on McLendon (see her photo at right). Another bird that I hear frequently around Candler Park is a pileated woodpecker, and Anusha S. snapped a great photo (pictured on Page 10) of one that she's been seeing daily in the woods by her house on Claire Drive. Anusha writes that with its vivid red crest, striking black-and-white markings, and impressive size, this remarkable bird is the largest woodpecker commonly found in North America. This one is a male, which you can tell by its distinctive red mustache along the side of his face. While pileated woodpeckers live throughout wooded parts of metro Atlanta, seeing one so close to home felt special. Moments like this are a reminder that even in the city, Lake Claire's trees and wooded spaces quietly support an incredible variety of wildlife.

Neighbors posting on the Lake Claire and Candler Park Facebook group have been sharing a great variety of nature observations lately! Sue M. on Leonardo observed a red-tailed hawk trying to enjoy its breakfast in her backyard,

but it chose a spot too close to a blue jay nest, so the squawking and dive bombing began with one of the jays getting a bit saucy, and actually hitting the hawk a few times, causing the hawk's wings to unfurl. At several points, the hawk attempted to fly off with its prey, but it failed before abandoning the scene.

Ginger L. shared a photo of a shrew she saw (see photo Page 10) and Dan G.



Dan's wren

reported that the Carolina wren taking its emotional temperature in my last column was now seeking enlightenment on a statue of the Buddha in his home (see Dan's photo above).

From farther afield, Miriam H. was fortunate enough to spend a week in the state of Amazonas in Brazil on a river boat trip. The ant and termite

Cont. on p. 10



Christa's turkey at the Neighborhood Church

The Park is Art – Photo Contest

by the Freedom Park Conservancy

Freedom Park is Atlanta's only designated art park and the city's largest linear park. The Park is Atlanta's most connected park, linking together seven of the city's most historic and desirable neighborhoods—Lake Claire, Candler Park, Inman Park, Old Fourth Ward, Poncey-Highland, Virginia- Highland, and Druid Hills. Freedom Park is the only park in the world that includes

two Nobel Peace Centers. These centers are dedicated to Jimmy Carter and Martin Luther King, Jr., two American treasures, national leaders, and Nobel Peace Prize laureates.

As part of our efforts to promote the arts in the City Of Atlanta, the Freedom Park Conservancy is presenting the 2nd Annual Photography Contest – The Park is Art! Submitted photos

should be scenes or objects within Freedom Park. Submission dates are June 1–August 1, 2026. Go to freedompark.org. Winners will be announced on September 1, 2026. For information on the prizes offered, see the flyer below and please visit freedompark.org.

Editor's Note:

The Conservancy is a donor-funded nonprofit organization- with an entirely volunteer board- that works in partnership with the City of Atlanta to preserve Freedom Park as a vibrant asset to the fabric of Atlanta.



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Thank you to every client, friend, and familiar face who's been part of our story over the last 10 years. Here's to the next decade of serving our neighbors with care, connection, and expertise!

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Freedom Park Conservancy Presents

The 2nd Annual The Park is Art! Photo Contest

Freedom Park is Atlanta's designated Art Park. As part of our efforts to promote the arts in the City of Atlanta, the Freedom Park Conservancy is presenting the 2nd Annual Photography Contest-

The Park is Art!

Submitted photos should be scenes or objects within Freedom Park.

Submission Dates:
June 1st- August 1st, 2026
at freedompark.org

Winners Announced:
September 1st, 2026

Submission Categories:

- Professional
- Adult Hobbyist (Ages 19+)
- Teen (Ages 13-18)
- Youth (Ages Under 13)

Each category will have a prize winner. Each winner will receive a framed print of their photo, which will be displayed for a limited time at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum in Freedom Park.



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Book Review: “Honk If You’re Awake”

Stephen Wing’s Poems Speak Powerfully to this Moment

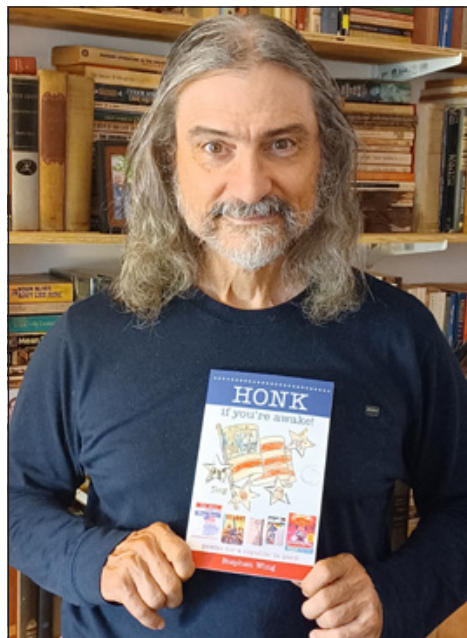
by Sherri L. McLendon

For almost 30 years, I have known Stephen Wing simply as “Wing,” first as a neighbor on Arizona Avenue, where he and his wife, Dawn Aura, became part of the daily rhythm of the neighborhood; then, through years of community activism, neighborhood meetings, and a shared love of animals and nature. Now, during his long tenure as president of the Lake Claire Community Land Trust board, Wing remains one of those rare people who consistently shows up: quietly, reliably, and wherever needed most.

That attentiveness to elevating human experience animates his latest poetry collection, *Honk If You’re Awake: Poems for a Republic in Peril*. Published by Wind Eagle Press, the collection gathers four decades of politically and socially engaged poetry that feels startlingly immediate for this moment in American life. Wing describes political poetry as “simply the human in me, responding to the human in those caught up in today’s headlines, reaching out to the human in you,” and that spirit echoes through every page.

My first exposure to Wing’s poetry came in 2003 after his return from travels in Colombia, through the poem “Presence of the Disappeared,” which is included in this collection. It spoke to me with immediacy because I had a close friend from that country. Also, I had recently traveled through Guatemala, Mexico, and Belize. In Guatemala, I saw firsthand the lingering cost of civil unrest on the people and places I visited: gutted buildings, beheaded religious reliquary, sun-baked, pock-marked vacant and overgrown spaces. Even now, in my memory, I can still see “...the Virgin of Guadalupe, / carved in dazzling white stone” as she “blesses the endless barrios / with outstretched arms,” now firmly ensconced at the site of a former Mayan temple to Ixchel, an adaptation to colonization which pervades every new world culture.

Those decades close like a folding door onto the present day. What once



Stephen Wing. Photo by Dawn Aura

seemed distant is no longer solely a Colombian story, but one hauntingly familiar to Americans now. Wing writes of those who vanished “without even the indignity of arrest/ Eight others had simply disappeared/ a slow, quiet, poisonous form of torture/ for the ones left waiting.” Today, we are increasingly the ones waiting. We wait for word of neighbors, co-workers, students, and immigrants who disappear into detention warehouses without access, representation, or accountability.

Revisiting Wing’s work now, I feel its urgency louder than ever. “Like waves of whispers that echo/ in the vast underground caverns/ of unheeded conscience/ under skyscrapers and factories, steadily/ wearing away the bedrock/ I feel the unexplained, undeniable presence of the disappeared.” Wing speaks into the present experience of our world in a way that deepens our understanding of both the past and the future.

Yet *Honk If You’re Awake* is not only a book of political witness. What I love most about Wing’s writing is the vividness with which he depicts ordinary life as the essential thread connecting us as human beings. His poems move fluidly between protest marches, neigh-

Cont. on p. 13

Mulberry Fields Roots Revival 2026

by Jesse Bathrick

Mark your calendar to be at Mulberry Fields Community Garden, 1301 Iver-son Street, on June 20, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. when we will celebrate a year of caring restoration of our green space. The excitement is building, with goats dancing, chickens preening, flowers growing, and bluebirds nesting. The garden is dressed in its finery of budding tomato and peppers plants, flowering okra, green beans, and blooming sunflowers. Every living thing is welcoming our neighbors.

We will enjoy each other’s company at this admission-free event sipping beer and wine (with a donation), water, lemonade, and iced tea. Children’s passports will be on sale for fun activities. Mulberry Fields commemorative T-shirts and mugs will be on sale. There will be food vendors serving yummy treats. We thank Coffyn Pies, Phantom Pizza and Jackson’s Grill for their support. We’ll also have some cool desserts. There will be fantastic entertainment! Conundrum, an all-woman African drumming troupe, will open our party. Then we will groove to the sounds of Liz Love Band, and boogie and parade with The Marching Abominables. The celebration will round off with the spectacular Chikabilly fire sculpture and a silent auction of fun and funky local items.

This event could not happen without the support of our local business sponsors:

Harvest Premier Level (\$2500): Cynthia Baer, Candler Park Neigh-



borhood Association; *Garden Steward level* (\$1000): Premiere Grease, Boutte Tree; *Community Cultivator level* (\$500): One Point Physical Therapy, Greenhead Construction, Candler Park Market, Comfort Professionals of Ga.; *Green Space Supporter level*: Green Mark Law, Georgia Piedmont Land Trust, B Buckets, Vin Atlanta, Compost Now, RLA Landscape, Little 5 Points Liquor Store. And thank you to the 50 host families also supporting the event. There is still time to lend your support and come to the party as a VIP, attend the VIP Reception, and have access to an indoor restroom, air-conditioned space, and comfy couches. www.friendsmulberryfields.org/roots-revival-2026-host-sponsors.

Logistical details had to be left out of the Clarion because of space. See www.friendsmulberryfields.org. We cannot wait to see you out under the pecans on the longest day of the year—the Summer Solstice.

Lake Claire Neighborhood Dues

Suggested annual dues are \$25/year per household effective this year. We rely on—and appreciate—your willingness and generosity to help LCN to serve the community. Please pay at lakeclaire.org via the PayPal link. These folks have paid since the last issue:

Madeline Gunter, Jane Branscomb & Sam Collier, Joanna Harbin, Beth Grashof, Eric Wallens, Debbie Livingston & David Tsao, Simon Briceno, Ronald Jakes, and Stephanie Teta.

THANKS TO ALL!



Wild

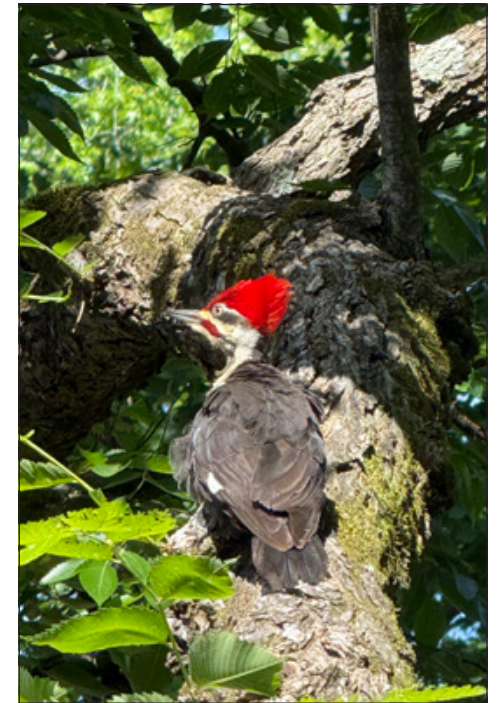
Continued from page 7.



Taylor's snapping turtles



Meredith's snapping turtle



Anusha's pileated woodpecker



Meredith's gosling

ture of a striking blue and yellow macaw (see photo to the right).

Whether you stay close to home this summer or travel somewhere exotic, I hope you'll take some time to look at and listen for all the living things that surround you there. Sir David Attenborough, who has done more than almost anyone to ignite an interest in observing nature for people all over the world, recently turned 100 years old. He said, "We only know a tiny proportion about the complexity of the natural world. Wherever you look, there are still things we don't know about and don't understand. There are always new things to find out if you go looking for them."



If you'd like to report a wild-life sighting for inclusion in a future column, please submit it via this Google Form: bit.ly/WildInLakeClaire

Miriam's macaw



Ginger's shrew



Sara's baby bird



Ginger's bird nest



Scott's watersnakes



Sherry's watersnake

Patricia Farmer

Continued from page 1.

poi (two wicks connected by a chain). In the early years, not long before she met her future husband Ben Farmer (see last month's issue, lakeclaire.org/clarion-may-2026), she also did acro-yoga. "It's like partner acrobatics, where somebody is a base and somebody is a flyer. Usually the base is on their back on the ground, and the flyer is on their feet, getting spun in all sorts of crazy positions around the base."

She and Ben began doing that together and attending regional burn festivals with a group of friends who also were into fire, aeriels, and acrobatics. Patricia describes the scene at the festivals: "They have different theme camps. Some give you food and some do performances; some offer music or hydration or a clothing swap." It was hard to keep the group of friends together and camping close to each other, so at some point Patricia suggested they create a camp of their own around the things they were doing.

"So that's what started my circus career: wanting to have my friends together in these regional burning man festivals. We put a camp together, and we created performances with fire, aeriels, and acrobatics as our main three acts." A DJ friend brought the sound system, another brought an aerial rig, and they dubbed themselves Circus Combustus.

"Fire, aeriels, circus—those were



Patricia, Leah, and Ben Farmer



Patricia on the trapeze, from her act in Bardos of Vaudeville

my life. I lived and breathed circus for many years," says Patricia. At first the group's shows were mainly improvised. Ben was their emcee: "He told the best dad jokes!" Later the group began planning cohesive performances, and Ben worked with them to develop original electronic music to match the feel they were going for. The next evolution was to build shows around a story line. This Patricia credits to their being joined by friends from a disbanding camp who worked in that way.

One year they designed a program based on Slavic folklore's Baba Yaga, "an old witchy story where Baba Yaga lives in a house that is on chicken legs." Another year they created a show called "Bardos of Vaudeville," which incorporated the idea of states between life, death, and rebirth that has roots in Vedic and Buddhist traditions.

Circus Combustus travelled to Burning Man and regional festivals for ten years until two things brought that to a halt: COVID and kids. Not only did the pandemic curtail gatherings, but several members of the group, including Patricia and Ben, also had new babies around the same time. Mental energy and hours in the day were suddenly at a premium.

Because, oh yeah, Patricia is also vice president of a Fortune 500 com-

pany. "I fell into it by accident," she says. "I have a degree in Spanish education. After I did my student teaching, I realized that was not my world, but I didn't want to be on my parents' dime either, so I took a job as a secretary." The company, Aon, saw from the start that she was underutilized. They paid for her additional education: a master's in international business finance; a master's in accounting, and her CPA license. Twenty-eight years later, she provides benefit and asset management consulting to mostly Fortune 500 companies on retirement benefits, life insurance, and disability plans. "It has been wonderful to have the opportunity to grow with a company like that," Patricia says.

But how does she reconcile the two worlds—and does each know about her other persona? As to the first, she says, "I compartmentalize." But she also notes that there are some overlaps. "For us to go to Burning Man, our budget was roughly \$25 grand, and there are logistics and spreadsheets, and quotes you have to get. So there are a lot of similarities. They are different, obviously, because one's all button-up shirts, prim and proper, and the other is bikini tops and burning myself!"

As to the second question, yes, after 28 years her colleagues know about

her aerial and fire arts. "My coworkers came out to the Bardo show, and I hosted a work party where my girlfriends and I put on an aerial show for them. So they all know now."

The family hasn't dropped their circus work altogether. Patricia has friends come over to do trapeze and silks work. When daughter Leah, now five, asked to try it out they created a stuffed-animal pit for her to drop into. Also, she, Ben, and friends occasionally create shows for small, mostly private, low-key events for friends. And when they go to festivals, or have the Hardendorf block party, or even just visit friends at the lake, well, "I always have my fire fans with me."

Editor's Note: This article is part of Jane's Lake Claire Creative series about neighbors whom you might not know are talented individuals, whether accomplished amateurs or consummate professionals. To read about the other creative Lake Claire residents that Jane has featured, see lakeclaire.org/clarion-archives/, starting with February 2024, and as noted herein, last month she highlighted Ben Farmer.



From the Baba Yaga performance. Photo credit: Ju^2 Photography

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Abandoned DeKalb

Continued from page 3.

ment appears to be unable to accomplish this.

Next to this passing zone is a very narrow sidewalk that is often overgrown. This sidewalk is the Lake Claire neighborhood's sole pedestrian access to East Lake MARTA station. Speeding SUVs race along right next to people walking, a condition that will inevitably result in injuries or even deaths. When it rains, a very large pond forms in the street next to the sidewalk. Any pedestrian unfortunate enough to be walking along there when a car passes is going to experience a sudden shower.

I recently learned that DeKalb

County does have plans to do something about this area, but there has been no effort to devote staff resources to actually getting things done. Evidently, the DeKalb County transportation department staff amounts to fewer than five people, so no fixes are impending. Plans are hardly a substitute for action.

And so, we are stuck with an abandoned zone between the city of Atlanta and the city of Decatur. Perhaps one or the other of these cities should annex this No Man's Land. While neither city is perfect, they are both certainly doing a better job of looking after their infrastructures than DeKalb County is.

Book Review: "Honk if You're Awake"

Stephen Wing's Powerful Poetry

Continued from page 9.

borhood encounters, aging bodies, environmental grief, humor, memory, and fleeting moments of tenderness. In one poem, he observes, "Remember, the one/ standing next to you in the crowd/ is the community you seek." That line alone feels like both poetry and practical instruction for surviving modern life.

Wing writes in the language of everyday people, never cloistered in academic abstraction. He can be sharply funny. For instance, he writes "Because it is prudent sometimes to lie,/ the President is putting on his underwear./ He is dressing for his rehearsal." Then, the words cut, devastatingly direct: "Since the victim is a woman,/ no one calls it 'terrorism.'" Elsewhere, he reminds us that "the world has been known to change./ It's called 'history.'"

The collection's visual presentation also deserves mention, as these are also creations by Wing. The cover and collage-style graphic images throughout the book are composed of "found art" Wing collected randomly over many years. Here, we see fragments of advertisements, patriotic imagery, pop

culture relics, and discarded ephemera reassembled into something unsettling and strangely beautiful. Like the poems themselves, the collages expose contradictions embedded in American life while preserving a sense of humor and humanity.

The title *Honk If You're Awake* could not be more fitting. These poems ask readers to remain awake to injustice, to inequality, to environmental destruction, to war, but also to compassion, connection, and hope. In a time saturated with noise, distraction, and fear, Wing's poetry reminds us that paying attention is itself an act of courage and resistance.

That reminder is a gift that feeds the spirit in trying times like these.

Editor's Note: I so enjoyed reading this book, have read many of the poems more than once, and I absolutely agree with Sherri's sentiments in this review. The book is available online from StephenWing.com, \$15.00 + tax and shipping (ISBN 978-0-9793907-4-6). And I love the title!

Please Help the Hungry!

by Ella Greene, 4th grader



My name is Ella Greene, I'm nine years old, and I go to Mary Lin Elementary. I wanted to write this article because I know that there are a lot of people that are struggling to get by. There are families that don't have shelter, or enough money, or most of all, food. A few times when I was complaining about not liking the snacks I have at my house, my mom said, "There are a lot of people out there that don't have any food, or barely any food, and you are lucky."

I want to help these people because I want everyone to have a good life and be equal. This is all why I want you to donate to the Atlanta Food Bank. The purpose of this article is to get donations to help people in need. I want to know if I can make a difference, so if you read this and decide to donate, please let me know at sarazuk@hotmail.com (my mom's email).

The Atlanta Food Bank is an association that helps families in need. Here's some more information from their website: "The Food Bank works with more than 700 community-based nonprofit food distribution partners in metro-Atlanta and north Georgia, including food pantries, community kitchens, childcare centers, and more. We distribute 9 million+ meals across metro Atlanta and north Georgia each month." And "In our fiscal year ending

on June 30, 2025, the Atlanta community Food Bank distributed nearly 112 million meals to people in need."

There are people that are in need of help. I learned that one in six children in the Atlanta area go to bed hungry. In Atlanta 820,000+ people are projected to be food insecure. \$1 can provide up to 3 meals. This information is from the Atlanta Food Bank website. I think they're helping a lot of people and saving lives! They are a member of Feeding America, "the nation's leading domestic hunger relief charity made up of over 200 food banks."

I hope you donate money to help save lives! For more information you can look on the Atlanta Food Bank's website acfb.org/. The message I want to send is, just the tiniest bit of money, even \$1, can still make an outstanding difference and change lives. Thank You!

Neighborhood Safety Patrol

Continued from page 1.

- * **Greater authority**—officers are recognized as on sight as actual police;
- * **Stronger deterrence**—a marked police vehicle gets noticed by would-be criminals;
- * **Safer streets**—officers report that drivers slow down and behave better around a patrol car.

A note on calling the patrol. If you have an emergency or need police, call or text 911, or use 311. CPLC Patrol officers are dispatched through those channels, not through the patrol's business number.

The patrol also doesn't run 24/7, yet it could be adding just 250 new members. That's one officer every day, in our Lake Claire and Candler Park neighborhoods. It's within reach.

Here's what you can do right now. This is your community. The patrol exists to serve everyone in Lake Claire and Candler Park, but only if we support it together. Joining is easy. Volunteering is flexible and genuinely impactful.

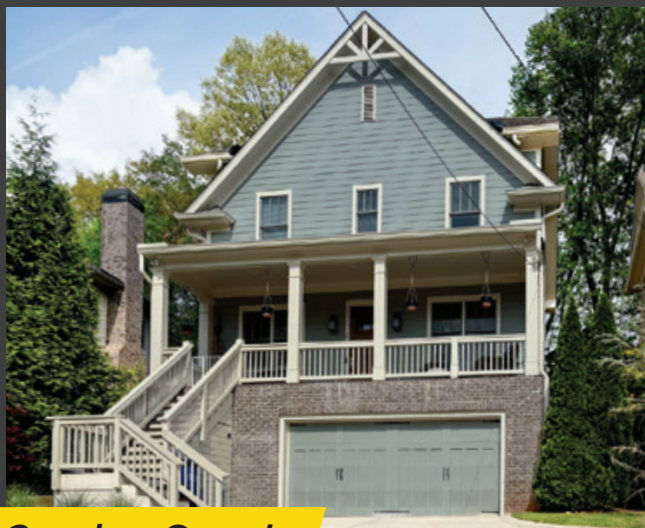
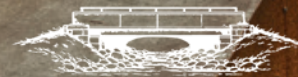
Join or volunteer at cplcpatrol.org. Any questions, please email cplcpatrol@gmail.com.

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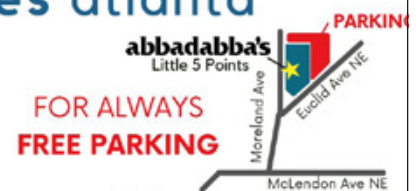
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FOR ALWAYS FREE PARKING

Tell the attendant,
"I'm going to Abbadabba's."

Kind Driving, Please

Continued from page 1.

change lanes when the solid line turns into a dashed or “skip” line, which indicates it is safe to merge. These zones are designed to manage traffic merge points. Driving through them can cause others to slam on brakes, not expecting you to go in front of them, lead to accidents, and maybe fines.

Concentrate on the road, not passengers, radio, eating, navigation system, or talking on the phone (whether hands-free or not).

Check Blind Spots. Perform a “head check” over your shoulder before merging or changing lanes, rather than relying solely on mirrors.

Please, pretty please! If someone in front of you seems to be confused about where he/she/they are going, e.g., putting turn signals on and then off, and/or driving under the speed limit, here is a real chance to be unselfish. Obviously, the person is trying to figure out directions, or is being a careful driver because of age or other factors; instead of speeding up, **make space.** Keep a safe

distance from the car. Do not speed up when they aren’t going the speed limit, in an effort to encourage them to go faster or intimidate them. Be sympathetic, not frustrated or angry. I am a septuagenarian; I’m being more careful than when younger. **Think:** “One day I will be older.” Did I mention “pay it forward”? Let’s start making kindness the norm on our streets.

Mean-spirited and aggressive driving is driven by a mix of psychological and social factors, e.g., stress, time pressure, anonymity, and territorial behavior. And I’m not being flippant with this title; the songwriter Graham Nash said his inspiration for the song was if we don’t teach our kids a better way of dealing with each other, humanity has no chance. Behavior in a car is a great start. Please, let’s make a renewed effort to focus and to go out of the way to be kind while driving. You’ll feel better instead of stressed or angry, and you’ll get some thank-you waves.

Clarion Delivery Kids

Thanks to all the kids who are part of the distribution teams delivering the Clarions to neighbors’ porches! Welcome to our two newest team-members, **Syn-**

nove Olson and Cecelia Lee (CeCe, pictured here). Others who want to volunteer to be back-ups, contact Miriam at distribution@lakeclaire.org.



Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

Congrats to our many graduates, some of whom are featured on Page 17.

JUNE Birthdays:

- 6/3 Yoni Williams – turns 14 (I think; Tamar, Lee, or Frank, LMK!), Harold & Indiana
- 6/7 Pen Sherwood, Harold Ave.
- 6/10 Margit Peel turns 6! On Ridgewood.
- 6/12 Steve Lamb, Delaware Avenue (♥♥♥♥)
- 6/12 Craig Allen, Harold
- 6/16 Clara Bloomfield turns 13 – Sutherland Place
- 6/19 Zoe Kaiser turns 13; Hardendorf
- 6/21 Hayden Pittman, turning 14, Marlbrook
- 6/21 Both Patrick Edmondson and son Dylan, Lakeshore Avenue
- 6/28 Shawn Gillespy, Marlbrook
- 6/28 Wendy Baker, happy birthday! Leonardo
- 6/30 Rashida Herbers, Arizona

JUNE Anniversaries:

- 6/23 Sue McAvoy & Bill McKinnon - Leonardo (EIGHT yrs went by in a flash!)
- 6/27 Wendy and Boyd Baker – 20+ years, CONGRATS! Leonardo

JULY Birthdays:

- 7/3 Brandon Bransford, Palifox
- 7/6 Missy Urda, Harold, AND Josephine Peel, Ridgewood, turns 9
- 7/10 Happy b’d day to the Clarion’s buddy, Mike McGill, 19 years old!!!!—Arizona Ave.
- 7/17 Happy b’d day to Colin Calderera, Hardendorf
- 7/19 Luna Herbers turns 9! – Arizona Ave.
- 7/24 Jason Weidert, Harold
- 7/29 Georgie Rogovin, Hardendorf, turns 11!

AUGUST Birthdays:

- 8/1 Patricia Emerson, turns 92! Wow, congrats, Patricia! (She always says, “Put the age in the Clarion, as I am so glad to have made it!”)

And a few neighbors a bit younger:

- 8/3 Jasper Sibille, turns 20, Ivy Place
- 8/5: Ally Bliss, Leonardo
- 8/10 Elizabeth Herbers, Arizona Ave.
- 8/13 Lyriq Gaspard Sibille, turns 14, Ivy Place
- 8/16 Peter Belle, McLendon Avenue
- 8/18 Mark Haggerty, Harold Avenue
- 8/26 Mollie Bloomfield turns 17 – Sutherland Place

Take a minute, and send life cycle events for the September issue by August 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org. We need YOUR help to make this series inclusive of the ‘hood!

CONGRATS TO LAKE CLAIRE'S GRADS, from PRESCHOOL TO COLLEGE! Those pictured and more!! GOOD LUCK, ALL!



New Board of Directors

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust welcomes our new Board of Directors for 2026. We are excited to see new faces and hear new voices. Our volunteer board members help guide the long-term vision and governance of the Land Trust while supporting its mission to “acquire, maintain and protect green space for neighborhood enhancement and education,” and to provide a place for neighbors and friends to celebrate nature, community, and the arts. The board meets monthly to review finances, policies, operations, property improvements, and the overall direction of the organization, while serving on committees alongside the operations manager and maintenance support to help care for the Land Trust for future generations.

Stephen Wing (President)	Casey Fishman
Diana Power (Secretary)	Lauren Ladov (Grounds Chair)
Eric Dusenbury (Treasurer)	Jay Roach
Martha Herbers-Sanger	Dan Salmond
	Shaun Yurcaba

Thank you to Véronique Perrot for her many years of service on the board of directors and as chair of the grounds committee. We welcome Lauren Ladov as our new chair of the grounds committee. The board of directors meets the second Sunday of every month at 5 p.m. for a board meeting and is available by email at info@LCCLT.org.

Pizza Verdura Fundraiser throughout June

Eat at Pizza Verdura anytime in June, and they will donate a portion of your purchase to the Lake Claire Community Land Trust.

Pizza Verdura Sincera, Atlanta’s leading plant-based Italian and pizza eatery, opened in May 2024, following a methodical historic rehabilitation of the structure occupied by Zesto in Little 5 Points for 52 years! The now 78-year-old building served as a corner gas station for 20-plus years before its conversion to Zesto. Since opening, Pizza Verdura Sincera has won both critical acclaim and a special place in the community. It was recognized in its first year as Atlanta Magazine’s “Best New Restaurant.” In 2025, “Jezebel” named it “Best Vegan/Vegetar-

ian Restaurant” in Atlanta. Just as importantly, Pizza Verdura Sincera has engaged with and supported numerous local Atlanta non-profit organizations, including: Southern Pride Queer Pride, Atlanta Fringe Festival, Atlanta Burlesque and Vaudeville Festival, Painted by Poets, Atlanta History Center, Candler Park Neighborhood Association, DARE, Wylde Center, Spelhouse College Homecomings, College Football Playoffs Foundation, Ch8sing Waterfalls, Nourish the Homeless, WRFG and The Giving Kitchen.

Check it out during June, and help support the Land Trust while enjoying delicious pizza. Identify yourself as a Land Trust supporter, either in-person or ordering on the phone.

**THE CLARION WISHES EVERYONE
IN LAKE CLAIRE A FANTASTIC SUMMER —
STAY COOL AND HEALTHY,
AND WE WILL BE BACK IN SEPTEMBER!**

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

JUNE

Thur., June 4: Sauna & Stretch Sessions. Every Thursday morning in June, 8–11 a.m. & every Sunday evening in June, 7–9 p.m. \$35/hour. A quiet space to sweat and recalibrate hidden in the bamboo forest at the Land Trust. Reservations required. Email: jules@julescollective.org

Fri., June 5: Somatic Exercise (similar to Pilates). Every Friday in June, 8:30–9:30 a.m., \$15/class meet at the fire pit with your mat. Sign-up for this movement practice designed to help regulate your nervous system. Questions or to sign up, email jules@julescollective.org. First class free for neighbors—just message Jules!

Sat., June 6: Family Drumming. 7:30–8 p.m. Family Drumming is back! Does our Drum Circle start too late for your little ones? Round them up and come half an hour early to join some experienced drummers for drum pointers and practice. Stay for the regular Drum Circle if you can, starting at 8 p.m., \$5 suggested donation. Rain date: **June 20**

Sat., June 6: Land Trust Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. Rain date: **June 20**.

Sun., June 7: Annual LCCLT Open House and Potluck, 1–4 p.m. We set aside this time each year to gather as a community, socialize, enjoy a meal, introduce our Board, then open the floor for dialogue, feedback, and sharing. Bring your ideas for enhancing our land and community as well as a dish, dessert, or beverage to share, if you can. Non-disposable plates and utensils are encouraged. A tour of the land follows for those interested. Join us in the Greenfield!

Sun., June 14: Death Café with Denise Johnson of EOL 101, 3–4:30 p.m. in the Gorilla Grill (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., June 14: LCCLT board meeting, 5–6 p.m. (every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield around a picnic table. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person, or contact us at info@LCCLT.org for a Zoom link.

Fri., June 19: Rest & Realign Mini-Retreat. 6–9 p.m. Half-day immersion featuring contrast therapy (sauna + cold plunge), sound bath, and breathwork, available for your team, friends, and community-groups. If you’d like a private retreat booking for your team or community, email jules@julescollective.org.

Sat., June 20: Community Work Day, 9 a.m.–noon (and every month on the 3rd Saturday). The Land Trust was created by countless hours of volunteer labor. That tradition continues with our Community Work Day on the 3rd Saturday every month. Getting together to get the work done is the surest way to build and experience community! We’ll be weeding, spreading wood chips, doing special projects, and more. Bring drinking water and work gloves. If you like what you see here, plug in and participate! Rain date: 4th Saturday. (Check the website if the weather is iffy.) **Workday hours have switched to the morning hours for the Spring/Summer schedule and are 9 a.m.–noon.**

Sat., June 20: Tarot Class with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 2–3 p.m. Beginners, 3–4 Advanced, \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT). Pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see LCCLT.org/new-events. Sliding scale available to women of color & LBGTQIA+ community if needed.

Wed., June 24: Land Trust Open Mic. 7–9 p.m. at the Land Trust amphitheater or the Gorilla Grill. All acoustic and spoken word performers welcome, or just come to listen. For details and updates, visit www.LCCLT.org/new-events.

Sun., June 28: Science for Georgia - Climate Survival Training Monthly Skillshare Meetup, 3–5 p.m. Gathering to share skills and knowledge which are useful for community climate resilience and preparedness. Free! Donations welcome.

JULY

Thur., July 2: Sauna & Stretch Sessions. Every Thursday morning in July, 8–11 a.m. & every Sunday evening in June, 7–9 p.m. \$35/hour. A quiet space to sweat and recalibrate hidden in the bamboo forest at the Land Trust. Reservations required. Email: jules@julescollective.org

Fri., July 3: Somatic Exercise (similar to Pilates). Every Friday in July, 8:30–9:30 a.m., \$15/class meet at the fire pit with your mat. Sign-up for this movement practice designed to help regulate your nervous system. Questions or to sign up, email jules@julescollective.org. First class free for neighbors—just message Jules!

Sun., July 12: Death Café with Denise Johnson of EOL 101, 3–4:30 p.m. in the Gorilla Grill (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., July 12: LCCLT board meeting, 5–6 p.m. (every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield around a picnic table. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person, or contact us at info@LCCLT.org for a Zoom link.

Sat., July 18: Community Work Day, 9 a.m.–noon (and every month on the 3rd Saturday). See June 20 above for complete details, and if weather iffy, check the LT website.

Sat., July 18: Tarot Class with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 2–3 p.m. Beginners, 3–4 Advanced, \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT). Pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see LCCLT.org/new-events. Sliding scale available to women of color & LBGTQIA+ community if needed.

Sat., July 18: Family Drumming, 7:30–8 p.m. Family Drumming is back! Does our Drum Circle start too late for your little ones? Round them up and come half an hour early to join some experienced drummers for drum pointers and practice. Stay for the regular Drum Circle if you can, starting at 8 p.m., \$5 suggested donation. No rain date.

Sat., July 18: Land Trust Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. No rain date.

Sun., July 26: Science for Georgia - Climate Survival Training Monthly Skillshare Meetup, 3–5 p.m. Gathering to share skills and knowledge which are useful for community climate resilience and preparedness. Free! Donations welcome.

Wed., July 29: Land Trust Open Mic. 7–9 p.m. at the Land Trust amphitheater or the Gorilla Grill. All acoustic and spoken word performers welcome, or just come to listen. For details and updates, visit www.LCCLT.org/new-events.

AUGUST

Sat., Aug. 1: Family Drumming, 7:30–8 p.m. Family Drumming is back! Does our Drum Circle start too late for your little ones? Round them up and come half an hour early to join some experienced drummers for drum pointers and practice. Stay for the regular Drum Circle if you can, starting at 8 p.m., \$5 suggested donation. Rain date **Aug. 15**.

Sat., Aug. 18: Land Trust Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. Rain date **Aug. 15**.

Sun., Aug. 9: Death Café with Denise Johnson of EOL 101, 3–4:30 p.m. in the Gorilla Grill (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., Aug. 9: LCCLT board meeting, 5–6 p.m. (every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Greenfield around a picnic table. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person, or contact us at info@LCCLT.org for a Zoom link.

Sat., Aug. 15: Community Work Day, 9 a.m.–noon (and every month on the 3rd Saturday). See June 20 above for complete details, and if weather iffy, check the LT website.

Sat., Aug. 15: Tarot Class with Chakura Kineard of Unfiltered Glitter, 2–3



JUNE FUNDRAISER FOR LCCLT

Identify yourself as an LCCLT Supporter in person or via phone throughout June and Pizza Verdura Sincera will donate a portion of your purchase to the Lake Claire Community Land Trust.



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p.m. Beginners, 3–4 p.m. Advanced, \$25/person (20% goes to LCCLT). Pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp; see LCCLT.org/new-events. Sliding scale available to women of color & LBGTQIA+ community if needed.

Sun., Aug. 23: Science for Georgia - Climate Survival Training Monthly Skillshare Meetup, 3–5 p.m. Gathering to share skills and knowledge which are useful for community climate resilience and preparedness. Free! Donations welcome.

Wed., Aug. 26: Land Trust Open Mic. 7–9 p.m. at the Land Trust amphitheater or the Gorilla Grill. All acoustic and spoken word performers welcome, or just come to listen. For details and updates, visit www.LCCLT.org/new-events.

For details and updates, visit www.LCCLT.org/new-events.

LAND TRUST NOTES

1. Nature Play Studio will be meeting at local splash pads during the ‘dog days of summer’ months of July and August. Follow their instagram for updates @natureplaystudio, or email them directly at natureplaystudio1@gmail.com.

2. CORRECTION FROM LAST MONTH: In the article about our Community Business Partners in the last issue, please note, the correct company name is “Turtle Island Trading Company,” our Oak level sponsor.



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion writers and artists to participate in our 'hood. We have two Summer featured children this month; the first is Hudson Williams, whose article is below. Hudson is eleven years old, in 5th grade at Mary Lin, and lives on Palifox Drive. What a perfect article for the summer! Thank you, Hudson,

and enjoy your travels. (And see last month's issue, Page 3, featuring the Georgia Boy Choir.) The other featured child this summer is Ella Greene. Ella is passionate about the Atlanta Food Bank. She is in 4th grade at Mary Lin, nine years old, and lives in Co-Housing. Please see her article on Page 13; thank you, Ella, for raising people's consciousness about

such a worthy cause.

Any Lake Claire child or young adult who wants to add your creativity to this page, send to editor@lakeclaire.org, by **AUGUST 15-18** for the next issue (**SEPTEMBER**).

Summer in Lake Claire

by Hudson Williams

The season we've all been waiting for is finally here... summer! Summer is a time to kick back and relax, and to visit new places. Everyone is doing something. Personally, I'm going to Wisconsin where my grandparents live, then going to Austria, Lichtenstein, northern Italy, Austria, and the Dolomites, all with my choir, singing in places like the Milan Cathedral. After that, I'm going to Turks and Caicos with my cousins. I also will do, and already

am doing, Wahoo swim team at Lake Claire pool, which I think is an amazing experience. Swimming is 100% my favorite summer activity, besides seeing family, and exploring new places. I really feel that summer is a good place to restart, especially when you're doing something new next year, or going to a new school, in my case.

Try to do something new this summer, and most importantly, have FUN!



Miles, first place



Zachary, second place

New Contest

Hello, kids! Did you know that August 20 is World Honeybee Day? To win the summer contest, find a graphic of a honeybee in this issue, and tell us the page number. The winner/winners will be pictured in the next Clarion. For extra credit, tell us what you know about honeybees and what will help them survive. Email editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade, along with a photo of yourself. (Please tell your parents to send large picture files, 1mb+. Any child from Lake Claire is eligible, except that you cannot win two months in a row.) The extra-credit prize is that you'll be a featured writer/artist in a future Lake Claire Clarion with your original work. The deadline is **AUGUST 15-18**. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this **HIGHLY** coveted prize.

Contest Winners

Miles Brittingham wins first place, Zachary Perlin second place, and there is a tie for third place, Grayson Bertram and Hudson Williams. (I have a nagging feeling there was a 3rd person in this tie: if so, sorry, he or she will be featured next time! Parents, LMK.) Miles is 11 years old, in 5th grade at Mary Lin and lives on Claire; Zachary is 9 and is in 3rd grade at Lin and lives on Harold; Grayson is age 6, in Kindergarten at Lin and on Hampton Terrace. Grayson won extra-credit telling us what he liked about May, saying "I like that it gets warmer in May!" Extra-credit means Grayson will be the featured child in a future issue. Hudson is featured this time, and his info is above. **Congrats to all of you!**

Important Editor Disclaimer to Parents: If ever I miss a child who sent an entry, please let me know, I'll fix it in the NEXT issue. Also, please reach out if you need extra newspaper copies, for



Hudson, third place tie



Grayson, third place tie

grandparents to post on refrigerators, or otherwise to celebrate the winners' 30 seconds of fame, editor@lakeclaire.org. And, it's available online at lakeclaire.org/clarion/clarion-archives/.

Kids: See our new contest at left, and make your guess: it's your chance to be **famous!**