



Cis Hinkle and the Pro-Live Music, Pro-Community Spirit of Contra Dance

by Jane Branscomb

When I met Cis Hinkle at her Arizona home (that would be the street, of course), she was between dance weekends in Tennessee and Alabama. In the course of our visit, it became clear that contra dance is a central part of her world. “I often wonder who my friends would be if I hadn’t stumbled into a contra dance at the E Church back in 1980,” she mused.

Cis and her brother Charles grew up in Morningside and attended Grady High School. Recent college graduates when their mother died, they bought the Arizona house in 1981. An interesting bit of Lake Claire and Atlanta history: The sellers of the house were Murphy Davis and Ed Loring, both ordained Presbyterian ministers. They led Clifton Presbyterian Church, where, with their housemates Rob and Carolyn Johnson, they began the city’s first house of worship homeless shelter, still in operation today (CliftonSanctuary.com). With the proceeds of their sale to Cis and Charles, the four realized their next dream of creating the Open Door Community on Ponce de Leon Avenue. There the two families lived with and served the poor, unhoused, and death row prisoners for 35 years.

Cis had returned to Atlanta from Ithaca, New York, the year before and



Cis Hinkle. Photo by David Frantz

was living in a Lake Claire apartment. One day she saw a flyer announcing a dance at the First Existentialist Congregation featuring a band she recognized from Ithaca. “I should go check out what this thing is!” she thought. As fate would have it, the first person she saw as she walked through the door was an old friend of her brother’s. He and his partner welcomed her in, and she was captivated by the lively, welcoming nature of the experience. She immediately fell in with a large group of

Cont. on p. 11

Save the Date! Lake Claire Annual Crafts Sale: Saturday 7 December

by Beth Damon and Annsley Klehr

Mark your calendars for the 7th Annual (!) Lake Claire Crafts Fair as a walking/porch event Saturday, December 5, rain or shine!

For any new folks to the ‘hood, this exciting yearly event is akin to a walking tour of the south side of the neighborhood, involving artists/vendors/food/live music. All activities are hosted at local residences in Lake Claire. The event showcases **handmade** art from local artists and crafters of ALL ages,

(children welcome and prominently featured). Community organizations have tables, and the schools will likely have choirs (presently organizing).

We encourage artists to start thinking about your Plan B for rain, e.g., pre-arranging stand-alone tents.

To learn more about the fair, and to register, volunteer, sponsor, host, or be a food vendor, visit our website, see the link below, and please note these dead-

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2026 Lake Claire Halloween Parade Coming: Seeking Sponsors & Volunteers

by Michelle and Matt Kottheimer

Please join us on Saturday, October 24 for Lake Claire’s annual Halloween party and parade. The parade starts at 4:30 p.m., lining up on Marlbrook, for 30 minutes of schmoozing and costume admiration. Then at 5pm, the parade marches down Ridgewood Road to McLendon Avenue, ending at Lake Claire Park for food, treats, and fun. All are welcome to join the march or line the streets to cheer on our tiniest ghouls & goblins. AND Don’t Miss the Costume Competition!

Volunteer Judges will select winners in categories such as:

- Best Kids’ Group
- Best Individual Costume
- Best Family Costume, and more

We are seeking Volunteers & Sponsors—We Need Your Help!

• **Volunteers:** Can you help prepare signs, make social media posts, hand out treats, or commit to being a Costume Contest Judge? (Teenagers are welcome to volunteer in exchange for community hours.)

• **Sponsors:** We need neighborhood sponsors to help make this event a success.

To volunteer or become a sponsor, please reach out to Michelle at: michelle.kottheimer@gmail.com and Matt at: mattkoty@yahoo.com.

Recycle trucks are consistently leaving shards of glass on LC streets. Poor doggies’ paws!

Please consider taking your glass to Emory Recycling (868 Peavine Creek), the Farmer’s Market, CHaRM (2 locations, see livethrive.org/charm/dekalb/), or elsewhere, and not putting in recycle bins in Lake Claire.

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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.

September Calendar

In addition to these, please see the variety of neighborhood events on the Land Trust calendar, Page 18/19.

4 Opening night at the Alliance of *Purpose*, on the Coca-Cola stage, award-winning new play. Best enjoyed by ages 15+. Runs through Sept. 20.

5 Opening night at the Alliance of *Carmella Full of Wishes*, at the Goizueta Stage for Youth and Families. Runs through Sept. 27.

12 **Frazer Forest volunteer workday 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.

16 Mary Lin MEET & EAT, between 5:30 and 8 p.m., percentage of proceeds goes to Mary Lin. Location to come, not known as of publication time. Contact rachel.s.weinthal@gmail.com.

17 **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 Candler Park Fall Ball, 7-11 p.m. Wreaking Ball Brew Pub. Celebrate with our Candler Park neighbors.

18 Theatrical Outfit presents August Wilson's "Fences," a 3-week limited engagement through October 4. www.theatricaloutfit.org/full-season/

19 The Horizon – last day of *Holy Chicken Sandwich*, which started August 21. A Clucking Good time! See www.horizontheatre.com/plays/2025-2026-mainstage-season/

19 Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse (3rd Saturdays), 7 p.m. \$10 at door (members \$8). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. This month they feature Joyce & Jacque, and ELISE WITT! (Editor wishing she weren't 1420 miles away!) Musician details, music schedule, other info: aaffm.org/aaffm-events/. Also, see article this issue of the Clarion, Page 14.

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

1 Oct Actor's Express, *I Never Asked for a GoFundMe*, runs through Oct. 25. A couple who return to their hometown of Mobile, Alabama, while one recovers from gender-affirming surgery. actors-express.com/whats-on/

October Reminders

Mark your calendars—

1. The 7th annual Lake Claire Halloween Decorating Contest and Fundraiser is coming! Registration open mid-September.
2. The Lake Claire Annual Halloween Party, October 24, see article P. 1.
3. Freedom Park Sunset Tree Tour: The Living Legacy of Freedom Park—Trees, rails, and Civic Roots. Thurs, Oct 8, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Freedom Park Conservancy
4. Candler Park Fall Fest, 5K, and Fun Run, Oct 4. Fun run 8–11 a.m., Fest starts 11 a.m. In Candler Park, their major fundraiser.

Classified Ads

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Making Leaders Bike in Cold Rain

by Kevin H. Posey

What do Paris and The Netherlands have in common? A curious obsession with odd cheeses? Well, yes, but they do share something else. Both are world leaders in transportation infrastructure, particularly when it comes to bikes and other micromobility—like scooters, one-wheels, and motorized barstools. Well, not that last one, but I have actually seen one of those used for getting around—at an airport! This is why Micromobility Atlanta, a small organization founded by Walter Brown and me, has spent the last two years taking leaders in policy and government from Atlanta to both countries.

In May of 2025 we took fewer than five participants on a trip that included Paris and Utrecht. The former has quickly changed from being as car-choked as the Downtown Connector at, well, all hours of the day, to a bike-friendly, cleaner, safer metropolis,

thanks to strong leadership from Mayor Anne Hidalgo. The latter is both easily bikeable and a major railway hub for The Netherlands, which makes getting around a country about twice the size of the Atlanta metro area a breeze. Our participants were simply amazed by what they saw.

Evidently, word got around, because this past May the group was more like twenty for a trip focusing on The Netherlands, alone. I'm being deliberately vague when I say "like twenty," because there were so many to shepherd about that I lost count. Quite literally, as I missed that one of our intrepid group fell asleep on the train and didn't get off in Delft when we all did. It's okay; I'm sure he'll turn up eventually.

What did these trips typically involve? Biking. Lots of biking—in all kinds of weather. In 2025, it was warm and sunny in both France and The Neth-



Our group in Delft in May 2026

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for reading my reports on creative Lake Claireons and for the many kind words I've received. I have decided to push pause on this project for a few months and reassess whether I can pick it back up in the new year.

Right now, I feel a deep civic obligation to protect the democracy that I cherish but see being chipped away at. State and federal policies make it increasingly hard for people to exercise their vote; disinformation sows unfounded doubt in our proven-effective election processes, and leaders' rhetoric seeks to scare some voters away from the polls with threats of illegal law enforcement presence. I am absolutely committed to nonviolent action, as are all of the organizations in which I'm involved. And while solemn, I also see our work as a positive celebration of the values aspired to in our nation's founding documents 250 years ago.

Here is my plea to you: Over the next few months, keep building the bonds of community with your neighbors, whatever your differences. Check and re-check your voter registration to be sure it remains accurate and active (mvp.sos.ga.gov). Research the candidates and questions that will be on your ballot (*Branch.Vote* is an excellent, nonpartisan tool for this). Print out your selections or jot notes to guide you at the polls, and keep that handy with your photo ID. Vote early; bring friends; make it a party! And be ready to honor the lawfully determined results. We the people hold the power in a democracy.

Peace and blessings,
Jane

erlands. In 2026, well, not so much.

You know how winters in Atlanta can be chilly and rainy? Well, that was early May in Utrecht... and Veenendaal... and Eindhoven... and Delft. What can I say? It's a soggy country.

So, if you've ever heard someone say, "Bikes aren't any good if it's cold or rainy," go ahead and laugh, because some of your elected officials did it and didn't complain—they loved it! Really! They actually stayed pretty dry, because they heeded our advice that there is no such thing as bad weather—just a bad choice of clothing. Rainjackets exist for situations like this, although I have seen some of the Dutch riding bikes while holding an umbrella. Don't try that unless you're really coordinated or have good insurance.

The outcome of these trips was a huge change in perspective. Atlanta's leadership is coming around to the fact that we shouldn't all be forced to use a car to go two blocks. With the right street design, we can safely walk, bike,

and scoot.

It took the Dutch two decades to build a bikeable infrastructure network. Paris did it in less than a decade. With the perspective gained from these trips, Atlanta could beat both of those times.

So, we will likely do it all again this May. Walter and I are researching a possible itinerary with our partners at the Dutch Consulate here in Atlanta and the Dutch Cycling Embassy in Utrecht. We are also discussing expeditions after the spring to other bike-friendly places, including perhaps a return visit to Paris.

Our goal is simple: To make it easier to get around Atlanta, by giving people practical alternatives on safer infrastructure. After all, there is nothing easy about using a car in this city—driving, parking, insuring, washing, fueling, trying to remember the phone number of that lawyer on the side of the MARTA bus after getting in a crash. Who needs all of that?

Struggle to Avoid Euthanasia: Rescues to the Rescue

by Scott McLane

Dekalb Animal Shelter has struggled to avoid space-necessitated euthanasias. This summer, Rescues were a big part of the success. Here are the stats: **July Dekalb Shelter Stats (DCAS)**

Total Intake: 1,006 (567 dogs, 426 cats)
Adoptions: 548
Rescue: 233
RTH: 96
Save Rate: 90.4%
Population at end of day on July 31:
Dogs in shelter, 544;
Dogs in foster, 521
Cats in shelter, 167;
Cats in foster, 478

This means 19 dogs and 14 cats arrived EVERY DAY at DCAS, or 133/98 per week. This is why we had multiple weeks of 25 dogs on the euthanasia list. Miraculously, through Herculean social media, staff, and volunteer efforts, only four dogs were euthanized

for space this summer. The compassion fatigue this entails is unsustainable. Rescue organizations were a key component in saving dogs off the E-list.

But that said, unfortunately, Rescues are not always legitimate, and this past year DCAS fell victim to one of these, Caneups Sanctuary & Rescue. **Caneups Rescue & Sanctuary**

Animal Rescue Corps responded at the request of law enforcement to rescue 46 surviving animals from a purported rescue organization in rural Tennessee. Investigators allege that at this "rescue," donations were raised for medical care that was never provided while animals languished at facilities in Tennessee and Georgia, including starving one five-month-old animal to death and providing inadequate ventilation to animal habitats. One individual associated with the organization has already been arrested and charged

with animal cruelty.

Our team rescued every surviving animal. Heartbreakingly, we also found the remains of multiple animals who never got the second chance they deserved. Now the 46 survivors need emergency veterinary care, nutritious food, safe shelter, enrichment, and the specialized care they've been denied for far too long. This year, that "rescue" pulled dozens of dogs from DCAS and perhaps hundreds of dogs from Metro Atlanta shelters. Several of these dogs were returned to DCAS this week.

What is a Rescue?

An animal rescue is a private, usually non-profit organization dedicated to saving homeless, abandoned, abused, or stray animals and finding them permanent homes. Some rescues "pull" many dogs from shelters. Unlike government-funded municipal shelters, Rescues are typically independent, vol-

unteer-run operations funded entirely by public donations and adoption fees. Many rescues do not have a physical brick-and-mortar building. Instead, they rely on a network of volunteers who foster the animals in their private homes until they are adopted.

The Rescue Conundrum

The following is a new initiative focused on Rescue Reform launched by the Georgia Animal Welfare Improvement Project. Rescue can feel like a tangled web. At first glance, everything appears straightforward. But as you begin to understand how dogs move between shelters, rescues, boarding facilities, foster homes, and transport networks, it becomes clear that the system is incredibly complex. There are public concerns and allegations involving some rescue organizations. In many cases, it's difficult

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Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

How can summer be coming to an end when we've been having days with heat indices over 100 for nearly a week with no end in sight? Everything seemed early this year, right up to the pawpaws growing in the Peace Garden at the Land Trust, which started dropping in early August. I wrote about these fruits in previous years, and included photos from a wildlife camera I set up in my trees to see all the critters eating them.



Sara's pawpaw

This year, my crop is so large that even with the animals still snacking on some of the fruits, I have more than I know what to do with. I can recommend just eating them straight off the tree for breakfast (see my photo below).

Bernard S. shared his impressions from a recent trip to Brittany, in northern France. He reported the vegetation is pretty different there, although with some similar plants. Bernard saw a



Passionflower fruits in Brittany



Bernard's well-dressed French bug (probably Graphosoma italicum)



Inez's mushrooms



Lyndsay's pittiesaurus

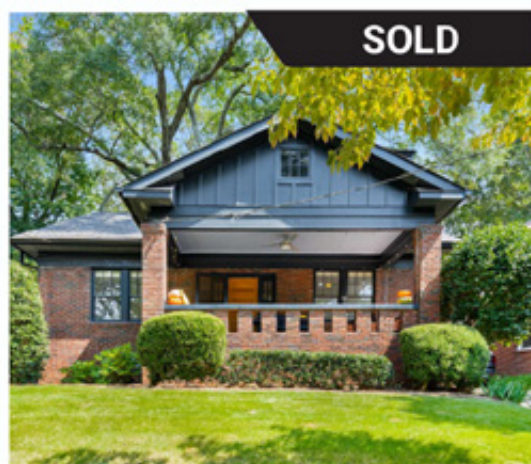
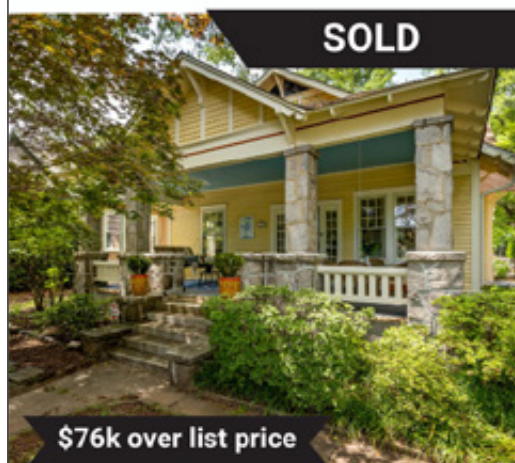
passionflower climbing on a fence, but it had something he had not seen before: fruits (see photo at left)! The leaves on his plant at home were always eaten by Gulf fritillary caterpillars as soon as the flowers were gone (this year has also provided a bumper crop of passion fruits on my own vines, and many fewer caterpillars than usual). Bernard noted that the bugs in France dress in a different style (photo at left).

Miriam H. has been teaching her granddaughter about birds with the help of a webcam on a bird feeder, which makes it easy and fun to observe

them. She taught her granddaughter how to distinguish a juvenile cardinal with its black beak from an adult with a red beak.

A few new contributors responded from the neighborhood Facebook Group to my call for observations. Christa C. shared a photo of three turtles in the creek on the north end of Candler Park Golf Course (sorry, Clarion didn't have room). This year has been an incredible one for mushrooms during the long periods of rain earlier in the summer, and Inez F-H shared a photo of "fluffy" mush-

Cont. on p. 10



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Tribute to Leo Dolata

by Dan Curl

I wrote this some time ago and wish to share now with my Lake Claire neighbors:

Dr. Wilcox
 You've ruined my day
 By leaving abruptly
 Too proud and tight with money
 Or too fearfully proud
 To rely on others for such things as care and comfort and sharing
 They could have cracked your chest and
 All would have been fine in 6 weeks
 Now you've gone and left a hole in
 All our lives
 No more contretemps over crosswords
 No more learned discussions of the topic of the day
 Of movies, of books, of the myriad jobs,
 Of dogs, of birds, of friends and foes present and past
 Or wry smiles and bonhomie
 Now Kai waits the 49 days until
 You reappear. Perhaps a jay, a hawk, or a free-willed hound
 Still you've ruined my day
 Burdened my heart
 I'll give you no pardon
 Until the 50th day

On December 19, 2017, our neighborhood lost long-time resident Leo Dolata. Most everyone in LC/CP knew, knew of, or had seen Leo reading at his porch on McLendon or riding his orange bike.

I met Leo at Lake Claire Park in the early 90s. He grabbed my dog by the ears and engaged him in what seemed to me a very long and complex conversation. Leo was like that: he'd meet and greet any living thing with an openness rarely seen these days.

Leo, like his best friend Larry T. Dogg before him, was ubiquitous anywhere within bike range. He had a talent finding free and/or cheap: La Fonda (he'd order chicken soup and nosh on baskets of nachos), festivals, Emory movies, Carter Center book lectures, Bonaventure Quartet concerts, the Land Trust, Lake Claire Park, and for the past few years, our house on Lakeshore.

Leo's memorial was held, appropriately, at Manuels, his favorite watering hole. Family, friends, and neighbors reflected his personality: eclectic, intelligent, in-teresting folks all.

Leo, like other notable neighborhood personalities Ter-Bear Williams and Hawaiian John Apana, was alternately brilliant, lazy, flawed, selfish, and charming. He was, they were, people I loved. He was part of the fabric of my life and the soul of this place we call our home. I miss Leo dearly, not just because he's not here to help me finish the Sunday crossword, because he was gregarious, deeply intelligent and ... difficult. For all his faults, Leo made our lives richer into the bargain.

Note: Regarding the picture, it conveys his character. Funny how nine years goes by so quickly. The day he died, Brynnan showed up at my door...Kai and I managed things until his relatives arrived. Leo was a slacker, possessed of hidden wealth, bon vivant, a diva, deeply intelligent, private in his associations and activities (e.g., he never admitted to us that he smoked pot), an avid bike rider, kayaker, and lover of dogs and birds. He contained multitudes....



Ascertaining Interest in Helping with the Clarion

by Beth Damon

I have been editor of this newspaper since 2011; before that I got my feet wet writing articles, having been an editor/writer/proofreader in previous jobs, both paid and volunteer. In addition to the Editor, the rest of the Clarion's small volunteer staff handle Layout, Advertising, and Distribution. Pat del Rey, Advertising Coordinator, also started 15 years ago with me. All four of us are past retirement age. None of us have an active plan to retire from our Clarion responsibilities. That said, however, when we do decide to step

back, it might be nice for some other folks to have started thinking about the possibility of volunteering for this vital neighborhood service. I am testing these waters: if you think you might have an interest in one of these jobs in the future, either editing, or coordinating advertising, distribution, or layout (the latter takes thorough knowledge of InDesign software and print production concepts), or if you just have questions about the process, please write to me at editor@lakeclaire.org.

Clarion Delivery

In case you are new to the 'hood, you might not know how you get the newspaper on your porch. The newspaper is brought to you each month through the efforts of many – advertising coordinator and advertisers themselves, layout artist, delivery coordinator, and—as our final link to readers—the dedicated volunteer “Clarion Carriers,” who faithfully deliver this newspaper the old-fashioned way—in person! Whether it’s a familiar neighbor

(sometimes assisted by kids who love helping and learning the importance of volunteerism) or newcomers contributing to the same vital community spirit that’s drawn so many to Lake Claire, you’ve probably seen someone showing his or her commitment, door-to-door. If you might like to be a back-up to deliver Clarions to front porches while ‘getting in your steps,’ please contact Miriam at distribution@lakeclaire.org.



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Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White

Summer was a busy time for volunteer activities at Clifton! We had so many groups, of ALL ages, serve on campus. Some of the projects that our awesome volunteers completed included: painting our handicap ramp and back staircase, organizing our clothing closet, landscaping activities, washing our van, building a compost bin, cutting tree branches, clearing curb materials to prevent flooding on the street, organizing the food pantry, providing

meals, cookouts, cleaning out our shed, and restoring our memorial garden.

We love having volunteers on campus! In a single year alone, our volunteers clock over 5000 hours of service to Clifton. Amazing! It is a blessing to be a blessing! If you are interested in volunteering, please email lori@clifton-sanctuary.com. We can definitely plug you in!



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Trees Atlanta Teen Job Program Helps Restore Frazer Forest

by Dina Shadwell

Anyone who walked the trails in Frazer Forest this summer may have noticed groups of teenagers carrying handsaws and hauling piles of brush. They were part of Trees Atlanta's Youth Tree Team, a summer employment program helping restore Frazer Center's 39-acre old-growth forest while giving high school students hands-on conservation experience.

If you walk those same trails today, you probably pass by without giving it a second thought the plant they spent much of the summer targeting. Cherry laurel blends into the forest at first glance, but it spreads aggressively, crowding out native plants and changing the character of the woodland over time.

"We've been pulling it for weeks," said Drew Kenner, a Youth Tree Team mentor with Trees Atlanta. "Every group that's come through here has been working on the same thing. We're five weeks in, and there's still so much." Students crouch low to pull roots from the ground. When the plants are too stubborn, they reach for handsaws. Cut branches are stacked into brush piles so crews can continue moving through the site. The work doesn't transform the landscape overnight, but over time it creates room for native plants to thrive.

Youth Tree Team participants spend two days each week at restoration sites like Frazer Forest and two days in the classroom learning about data collection, mapping, GIS software, and environmental systems. "They're actually doing the entirety of the work," Kenner said. "They're out here, pulling, cutting, building brush piles. Then they go back and learn how all of this connects on a larger scale." Each team rotates to a different work site every week, and multiple crews worked in Frazer Forest over the course of the summer, building on each other's efforts.

Some students entered the program already interested in environmental careers. Others simply wanted a summer job. Kenner feels both groups benefit from the experience. "You've got students who love it and want to keep doing this," he said. "And then you've got others who've never heard of these kinds of jobs before. But once you're out here, you start to see how this kind of work shows up in your daily life. That stays with you."

The students are paid for their work, often making this their first job. Liam Rocks, a Leader-in-Training with Kenner's group, notes the experience has helped shape his future plans. "After this program, I'll be going into my se-



Students from Trees Atlanta's Youth Tree Team pause their work in Frazer Forest, where they have spent the summer removing invasive plants and learning forest restoration techniques. The program brings high school students into hands-on environmental work across Atlanta, including ongoing projects at Frazer Center

nior year of high school," he said. "I'm interested in studying conservation biology when I get to college." He explains: "What we're doing is helping the native plants that are already here. When we remove things like cherry laurel, it gives those plants a better chance to grow."

The work in Frazer Forest is part of an ongoing partnership between Trees Atlanta and Frazer Center. In addition to hosting Youth Tree Team crews each summer, Frazer Forest is the site of monthly volunteer restoration days led by Trees Atlanta. On the first Saturday of most months, community members join staff and volunteers to continue clearing invasive plants and caring for the forest. Neighbors who walk the trails regularly may notice the gradual changes: a cleared patch, a brush pile, a little more light reaching the forest floor. Over time, those small shifts add up. The students who spent their summer in Frazer Forest contributed to work that will continue long after the season ends. Their efforts are part

of an ongoing restoration project that will benefit the forest, the surrounding community, and future generations.

Frazer Forest is open to the public from sunup to sundown, and neighbors use the trails every day. As more people share the space, staying on marked paths and respecting the rule to keep dogs leashed helps protect both visitors and the forest itself, including the restoration work underway. Community members interested in volunteering in Frazer Forest can join the workdays led by Trees Atlanta, typically held on the first Saturday of most months. More information is available at frazercenter.org/about-us/events.

Frazer Center is an Atlanta non-profit where people with and without disabilities learn, grow, and thrive together. Its 39-acre campus includes Frazer Forest and Cator Woolford Gardens, both open to the community and rooted in a mission of inclusion and connection.



The teens are holding one of the larger cherry laurels they cut down, standing in front of a pile of them that they collected.

Wild

Continued from page 5.

rooms sprouting up after a rainstorm, which she thought was a fun sighting during a morning run (pictured on page 5). Finally, Lyndsay S. shared a rather tongue-in-cheek photo of the “rare but beautiful pittiesaurus” spotted on Harold Ave. (photo on page 5).

Dan G. captured a great photo of a deer in Frazer Forest and another one of a bunny on Page Ave (both shown on this page). Many folks have reported an explosion in the local rabbit population, and I have definitely seen more than ever this year, with predictable results in the garden. Anything young and tender has to be protected with fencing or mesh fabric at least until it gets established, and some things have been nearly impossible to grow this year (such as beans) due to the rabbit browse. Deer browse hasn't been an issue yet, but Dan's photo is proof that they are here!

Another surprising and unwelcome visitor in the neighborhood is the invasive hammerhead flatworm. I came across one that was over two feet long slithering across a sidewalk in CoHousing (pictured above). These non-native species eat earthworms, so after I photographed and positively identified it, I froze it and added its carcass to my garden soil.



Sara's hammerhead flatworm

This summer's observations have made me think of this quote by William Blake: “The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way. Some see nature all ridicule and deformity, and by these I shall not regulate my propositions. And some see no nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself.”

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



Dan's bunny



Dan's deer in Frazer Forest



Freedom Park is Atlanta's designated Art Park, with a collection of permanent and temporary outdoor sculptures, throughout the 130 acre greenspace, less than a mile from downtown and connected to the Beltline.

The Park is Art!

Photo Contest



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Cis Hinkle and Contra Dance

Continued from page 1.

regulars at Atlanta's Friday night contra dance. "We were young. We would dance, and then go out dancing after. It was that kind of thing," she recalls.

Contra dance, a popular form of social dance in the U.S. from the late 18th century to the mid-19th, saw a resurgence in the 1960s and 70s alongside American folk music. Atlanta's contra dance organization formed in 1975. It shared a few novice callers and musicians with a sister group in Birmingham of the same vintage. In 1985, leaders of the two groups decided they needed more and put on a "Contra Dance College." Cis was among the organizers, and "it was at least as much fun to plan as it was to do," she laughs. "We had a fight song – it was just wonderfully ridiculous!"

That's where Cis's calling career began. The professional that they brought in from Seattle led workshops for musicians and callers. "Part of the way she ran the workshop was to have us stand up at the microphone in groups of three, which was comforting, and repeat what she had written down, like 'allemande left with your left hand; back to your partner with the right and left grand.' I think I probably was the loudest of our three, so she turned

to me and said, 'You're gonna call!' She pulled out a little card and said, 'Here. Call this.' That evening we had a dance with student musicians put together in bands and student callers. She played with the band that was on last, and she had me on last. So, I feel like it was kind of, you know, her fault!"

Cis describes contra dance as "an American amalgamation of the kinds of dancing that came over from England and Ireland, Scotland, and France. It's in the same family as square dancing – the same do-si-do, swing your partner kind of stuff." Only in contra, rather than dancing in "squares" of four couples each, contra has a line of couples facing couples up and down the hall. You and your partner stay together throughout the dance, moving on to another couple each time through the tune.

In contra, as in square dancing, a caller directs dancers' moves. But square dancers may need to take classes to learn them before joining in the event. In contra, the caller walks participants through the moves before each new dance is put to music, and the sequence of moves repeats several times as the tune repeats. The caller steps back once folks are getting the hang of it, only interjecting an instruction here



Lake Claire Neighbors Debbie Livingston and David Tsao met at contra dancing 21 years ago and have been twirling together ever since. Photo by Patrick Harrigan.



An Atlanta contra community tradition is making quilts for members. Cis made the square in the upper left corner of this 1990 marriage quilt to commemorate the couple's love story. Photo by Philip Foster.



Cis gives tips on some of the finer points of a dance. Photo by David Frantz.

or there when they notice confusion at a certain part. This allows everyone to relax into dancing with confidence and enjoy the music.

Atlanta Contra Dance's tagline, "building community through movement and live music," encapsulates what Cis loves about contra dance. "The culture of contra dance is what really hooked me. It's very welcoming of

new people. We have a beginner's intro session the half hour before, so you can just walk in off the street and pick it up." As the tune repeats, couples typically advance one place down the line so that everyone ends up dancing with everyone. "And you don't have to come with a partner; most of us change partners between each dance." Further—

Cont. on p. 15

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Avoiding Euthanasias in Shelters

Continued from page 4.

to know what was reported, whether the appropriate authorities were notified, which agency had jurisdiction, or whether concerns were ever reviewed. For many volunteers and community members, it's simply not clear where to report concerns, what happens after a report is made, or whether there is a way to report anonymously. The possibility that reports could become part of public records may also make some people hesitant to come forward, particularly if they fear retaliation or other consequences.

The goal of this initiative is to better understand where Georgia's rescue system is working well, where there may be gaps in oversight, and what practical improvements could better protect animals while supporting the many reputable organizations doing excellent work.

As part of this effort, the Georgia Animal Welfare Improvement Project is launching a confidential Google Form to collect information and identify statewide patterns involving topics such as:

- Long-term boarding of dogs
- High-volume rescue intake compared to organizational capacity
- Rescue-to-rescue transfers and outcome transparency
- Foster or rescue hoarding situations
- Transport concerns, including situations where dogs may have been moved without appropriate health documentation, veterinary clearance, or required paperwork (if observed)
- Difficulties reporting legitimate concerns
- Gaps in oversight, accountability, or enforcement
- Other systemic concerns affecting animal welfare

To be clear, this initiative is not about a Rescue having one difficult dog in boarding while actively working to find placement. Instead, it's intended to better understand broader patterns—such as Rescues with numerous dogs in long-term boarding, repeated transfers between organizations, or situations

where there appears to be no clear path forward for the animals. The initiative also seeks to better understand how information is shared when significant concerns arise and whether there are opportunities for stronger communication, oversight, transparency, and consistency across jurisdictions.

The Google Form link is below. It does not collect your email address. Anonymous submissions are welcome. If you'd like us to follow up, you may include your contact information, but it is completely optional. You're also welcome to send information privately through Facebook Messenger. Submitted information will be treated with care and will not be publicly shared. If information appears relevant to a legitimate review or investigation, it may be shared with the appropriate authorities or oversight agencies.

Ultimately, we hope this initiative helps identify recurring, evidence-based system concerns that may warrant review by the Georgia Department of Agriculture or other appropriate state agencies while also informing conversations about stronger rescue oversight, clearer reporting pathways, improved transparency, and better protections for animals across Georgia. This initiative is not about creating online drama or public call-outs. Please don't use the comments to accuse or attack specific people or organizations. The goal is to identify statewide patterns—not to litigate individual cases.

At the end of the day, this initiative is about one thing: better protecting dogs and other animals. By understanding where the system works well—and where it may have gaps—we can work toward practical, evidence-based improvements that strengthen rescue, support ethical organizations, improve accountability where appropriate, and ultimately improve the lives of the animals who depend on us.

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenoWQsFFvGYqRpD1vjKqmNxoBESwy2sf3aAoYRpX1higH7lQ/view-form

Craft Fair

Continued from page 1.

lines.

- **Register:** registration deadline November 7
- **Volunteer:** registration deadline November 7
- **Sponsor:** deadline October 14 for print, otherwise November 7
- **Host:** registration deadline November 7
- **Vend food:** registration deadline November 7

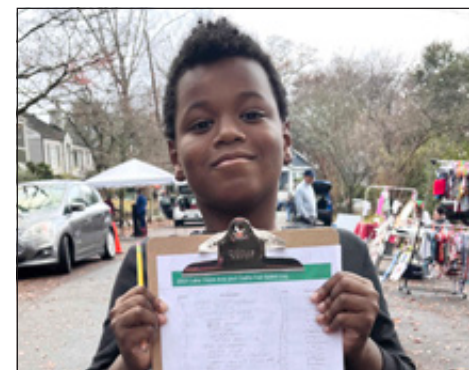
Our website is very detailed and user-friendly:

www.lakeclairecraftfair.com.

Join and follow us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/1171946276321822/

Entry requirement: An agreement to donate 10% of your proceeds, which will be donated to some of the Midtown Cluster Schools, with a small portion to Lake Claire Neighbors for reimbursement of expenses/hosting. The streets included are listed on the website. If you do not live on one of these streets,



Desmond, enthusiastic young entrepreneur—Photo by Beth Damon

we will assign you to a place on one of these streets. Register anytime via the website. Meanwhile, if you have questions, our email address is

lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com.

Registration is confirmed when you receive the written confirmation, which will begin to come to people in MID September.

Starting in mid-September, we will send personal reminders to previous participants. Also, we will announce further details in the October Clarion and on the Lake Claire website and Lake Claire/Candler Park Facebook page.

Lake Claire Neighborhood Dues

Suggested annual dues are **\$25/year** per household. 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, **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 any family members' names. And, we still have a great promotion—\$5.00 off the Lake Claire banner, when you buy a banner at the time you pay dues.

These folks have paid since the last issue:

Ezra Billinkoff
Mary Sloop
Annie D'Agostino
Denise Dumais
Rachael Otis
Ed & Stacy Hyken
Anna Munsey
Mary Swan Lamar
Bernard Xie
Judy Hammack
Katherine Arrington
Sarah Herbert

Thomas Chapel
Catherine Bonk
Patricia Deheer
Chris Campbell
Patricia Grindo
Lisa Holloway
Tyler Higgins
Ashley Fowlkes
Kimberly Perrins
Evan Perlin
Thomas Stemen
Claire Carothers

THANKS TO ALL! Be famous, and be listed in a future issue! (And most important, of course, support the 'hood and its good causes.)

Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse by Atlanta Area Friends of Folk Music (AAFFM)

Many may notice that we list AAFFM's Fiddler's Green coffeehouse concerts every month in our neighborhood calendar on Page 2. You may wonder about the connection with Lake Claire. Besides being held at the First Existentialist Church in our neighboring Candler Park, the new President of AAFFM is Linda Hoopes of Claire Avenue.

The next Fiddler's Green coffeehouse is a very special program on Sept. 19, with two Atlanta-based performers. **Elise Witt** celebrates the power of singing to bring us together in community, drawing on a diversity of languages and genres as well as her *joie de vivre*. Elise's original songs celebrate the pollination of bees, the mystery of the spiral, and the power of singing to find strength in diversity. Elise's concerts of Global, Local & Homemade Songs™ and her Impromptu Glorious Chorus™ workshops have created and connected singing communities around the world. Born in Switzerland, raised in NC, and living in Atlanta since 1977, Elise speaks five languages fluently and sings in at least a dozen more. From

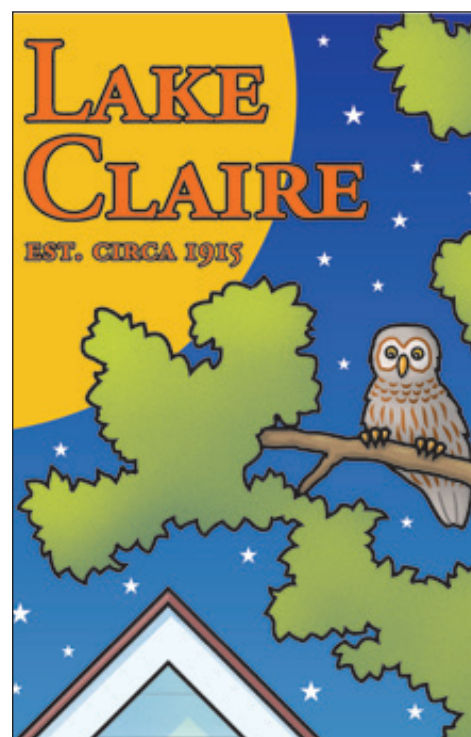
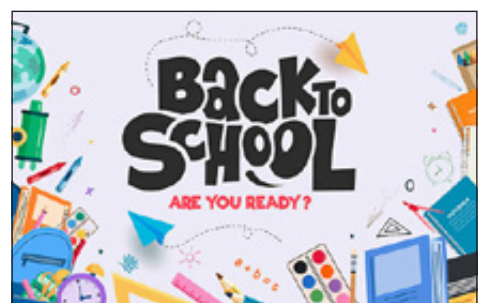
2009 to 2024, Elise served as Director of Music Programs at the Global Village Project, (GVP) a special purpose middle school for teenage refugee girls in Atlanta, Georgia. By the end of the concert September 19, you might just find yourself part of her Impromptu Glorious Chorus! For more on Elise, elisewitt.com/web/.

Joyce & Jacque combine an ethereal soprano and a rich alto to create unusual and stunning harmonies. They have shared the stage with Sweet Honey in the Rock, Nina Simon, Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, and other powerhouse singers. The duo's hope is that their music will lead others to the well of healing. Drawing from their Christian faith and incorporating hard-hitting issues, they minister to the human condition through the heart, leaving their audiences motivated to keep hope and faith alive in today's world.

As always, the location is the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; show begins at 7 p.m. There is a \$10 admission, with discounts for members of AAFFM.

Buy Lake Claire Merchandise

Lake Claire in collaboration with the FineArtAmerica offers a way to buy neighborhood items online, including our Lake Claire banner (pictured here). See Shop and Support tab at the top of the LCN website lakeclaire.org. Any questions, contact fun@lakeclaire.org.



Time to Get Kids Off their Screens and Into Cub Scouts

Open to all elementary school-aged youth

by Ben Turner, Atlanta Area Council, Scouting America

Roasting s'mores around the campfire. Racing homemade cars down a track. Hiking to a waterfall with your whole family. That's Cub Scouts – and registration is open now for youth across metro-Atlanta. The Atlanta Area Council, Scouting America, is urging families to sign up before September so their Scout doesn't miss a single adventure this year!

Cub Scouts welcomes elementary school-aged boys and girls to join a local pack where they will build confidence, make friends, and try things they've never done before. It's hands-on, it's outdoors, and it will get youth off their screens and into real adventure. Families are busy and often ask the same question: where does Scouting fit? The

answer is that Cub Scouts is made to work around a family's schedule, not compete with it. Cub Scouts meet in Dens – small groups of peers from the same grade level – and each Den sets its own meeting rhythm, so activities work alongside sports and other commitments, and every family decides how much they want to take on. It's Scouting on your time, not the other way around.

Every Scout who registers this year also receives a voucher for a free handbook, courtesy of the Atlanta Braves! Registration takes just a few minutes at BeAScout.org, where families can enter their ZIP codes to find a Cub Scout pack meeting nearby. Learn more at ScoutingATL.org.

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Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

Happy Birthday to:

- September 1 Thomas Mayer turning 13 (Gordon Avenue)
- September 7 Vickie Smith (Harold)
- September 10 Alicia McGill (Arizona)
- September 13 Lilly Amato—18th birthday (Marlbrook)
- September 15 Harper Gamble turning 16 years old. (McLendon Avenue) and Brett Peel (Ridgewood)
- September 19 Dahlia Berman-Billinkoff: If I'm not wrong, she turns two, but not the "terrible two"! Congrats!
- September 20 Keely Baker (Leonardo)
- September 22 Rene Godiers (Marlbrook)
- September 23 Miles Judy (Lakeshore Drive) 7 years old! Alyssa Olson (Leonardo)

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

Nature's Nightlights

by Anjili Mohan

Have you ever looked outside your window late at night just to see tiny little lights flickering and flitting around like fairies? Many of you know that those little lights are actually a type of bug called a firefly. These little guys can be found all over. The most common type to find in Lake Claire is the Common Eastern firefly (*Photinus pyrealis*). This type of firefly displays J-shaped flight patterns and can mostly be found during the summer months. Also called the "Lighting Bug," the firefly is a natural pest controller that eats bugs that are harmful to the garden like slugs, snails, and caterpillars.

The Science of a Flicker. How does our little friend glow in the first place? The often bright light produced by fireflies is from light-producing lantern organs in their abdomens. The chemicals luciferase and luciferin, coalesce with other substances in the insect's body to produce light.

Where to Find Them Now. Having a hard time finding the little light lamps? Lake Claire, Candler Park, and Hawk Hollow are all great places to

look for fireflies. The plants and shrubbery provide great places for them to cling to during the day. Additionally, Hawk Hollow's narrow creek provides the perfect amount of moisture in the soil for firefly larvae.

Catch & Release. Now for a little experiment. Did you know each species of firefly has a different blinking pattern that their light mimics? The Common Eastern firefly is no exception. The males have leisurely flashes that last about half a second with 5 second intervals between them. Females flash for half a second exactly two seconds after the male's signal. With the help of an adult, use a small flashlight to mimic the female's pattern while keeping one finger over the light to dull it slightly. The males will be drawn to the light pattern as they think it's another female firefly. Quickly scoop the firefly up with a tupperware container, and there you have it! Make sure to be gentle with the fireflies you capture and to release them shortly after. The next time you see that small light, grab a flashlight and get to work – have fun!

Cis Hinkle and Contra Dance

Continued from page 11.

more, Cis says, "anyone can dance in either role. What used to be the 'gents' and 'ladies' parts are now called Lark and Robin to be gender-neutral. Lark refers to the person on the left, Robin the person on the right."

Live music is another draw for Cis. "Contra dance is almost always done to live music," she notes. "The musical style can vary from old-time string band music to Irish or Scottish – it's mostly jigs and reels." The consistent feature is a tune length of 64 beats. "You can just about put any tune to any dance, and it will just feel a little different," Cis says.

Calling gradually became Cis's primary career. At first, she says, "I was this newbie caller, gradually getting so I could call an entire evening. I must ad-

mit that for the first at least five years, I was terrified every single time! I had to promise myself, 'I'll never make you do this again. But you said you would, so you've got to get up there.' Then it usually went okay, and I would forget I'd promised that." During those early years she earned a masters in computer science from Georgia Tech and took a job in Gainesville, Florida, where she found instant community in the contra dance scene. As her reputation grew, she was sought out as a caller for dances and festivals around the country and eventually in Denmark, England, and more. By 2003 her IT job back in Atlanta afforded her 4-day work weeks and 5 weeks of vacation, facilitating that travel. When at that point she was laid

off, she thought, "I'm never going to be able to walk into a job that'll let me do that. So I sort of neglected to look for another computer job."

Early organizers of Atlanta Contra Dance managed to snag the URL "contradance.org." There you can find information about the two regular weekly dances in town, as well as other events. Check it out, and if you're lucky you might get to learn from our home-grown pro!

Bloopers

N.b., I typically voice-record my conversations with neighbors. I'm sharing a few of the auto-transcription bloopers from this month:

- Counter dancing, contract,

countries, conscious, congress (variations on contra dancing)

- David Tot mall (debutante ball)
- 7 Nanda (our local food co-op)
- Mormonside (an intown neighborhood)
- And one I had to play back to decipher: Tennessee steak engine (Tennessee state convention!)

Editor's note: Re the Sevananda blooper, ever since I've been involved with Sevananda, I've found many humans making the same mistake as the auto-transcription! And relating to Jane's wonderful series on creative folks in the 'hood, please see her article on Page 3.

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Local Girl Scouts at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust from last month's meeting alongside some care bags that they put together to share with unhoused neighbors

Growing Together: Girl Scouts at the Land Trust

For the past three years, the Lake Claire Community Land Trust has been a regular meeting place for local Girl Scout troop, Troop 25009. troop leader Melissa Heim Viox. The girls first began meeting here as Daisies and are now in their second year as Brownies, using the Land Trust as a space to learn, explore and spend time together. During their first year, the troop worked through the Daisy petals, learning Girl Scout values such as being honest and fair, courageous and strong, and making the world a better place. After bridging to Brownies in 2025, they worked toward their Wonders of Water Journey.

"We really enjoyed being able to walk through the Land Trust to visit the pond and discuss water conservation and the impact on wildlife and the ecosystem as part of that," their troop leader, Ms. Melissa, shared. Ms. Melissa feels one of the special things about meeting here is how the space itself can become part of the experience. "There are badge activities where the Land Trust space can really be an 'instructor' itself, where we can walk through the trails and make observations, build a fire and discuss fire safety, etc." But not every meeting has to be about nature.

"We often cover topics that are wholly unrelated while enjoying the greenspace," she said. "And our girls often enjoy the playground before or after the formal meetings, building community with one another through free play."

Giving back is an important part of the troop's experience. The girls are currently creating resource bags for unhoused neighbors and hope to make another round with cold weather supplies this winter. Their leader would also like to find ways for the girls to give back to the Land Trust.

"I'd also like to get the girls involved in giving back to the Land Trust, as you've been so kind to host us over the years and we can see the benefit of taking care of this special space, such as through the monthly workdays."

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust is happy to provide a place where local groups like the Girl Scouts can gather, learn, and connect, and we look forward to welcoming the troop for their third year at the Land Trust.

Stay tuned for next month's article, when we'll highlight the involvement of our local Boy Scout troop and the ways they've contributed to the Land Trust over the years.

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

Sat., September 6: Land Trust Drum Circle, 8–11 p.m. (and every month on the 1st Sat.), \$5 donation requested. No alcohol please. Rain date: Rain date: September 12

Sun., September 13: 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., September 13: 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.

Sun., September 13: Community Potluck Dinner, 6–8 p.m. We're excited to bring back our monthly Community Potluck Dinners! Please bring a dish, dessert, or beverage to share. To help keep cleanup simple, we encourage everyone to bring their own plate, cup, and eating utensils.

Mon., September 14: Monday Play Group, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (and every Monday except the first Monday of the month). Join this playful gathering with your children ages 6 and under. Contribution of \$10/drop-in or \$15 monthly per family.

Sat., September 19: Community Work Day, 9 a.m.–noon (and every month on the 3rd Saturday). We'll be weeding, spreading wood chips, doing special projects, and more. Bring drinking water and work gloves. 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., September 19: 2026 Jerry Jam, 1–10 p.m. Come on down to the Lake Claire Community Land Trust for our 2026 Jerry Jam! We have plenty of live music, food trucks, art, beverages, bake sale and most of all Community to benefit our Oasis in the City. If you would like to volunteer email brynan1865@gmail.com.

Sun., September 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.

Mon., September 21: Monday Play Group, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (and every Monday except the first Monday of the month). See September 14 for details.

Sat., September 26: Secret Stories, 6–8 p.m. a monthly story telling event, but it's a secret! This month's venue will be at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. For more info, visit [@secretstories_atl](https://www.instagram.com/secretstories_atl) on Instagram.

Mon., September 28: Monday Play Group, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (and every Monday except the first Monday of the month). See September 14 for details

Tues., September 29: 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. For details and updates, visit www.LCCLT.org/new-events.

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

LAND TRUST NOTES

Nature Play Studio will resume meeting for Monday playgroup this month! Follow their Instagram for updates [@natureplaystudio](https://www.instagram.com/natureplaystudio) or email them directly at natureplaystudio1@gmail.com.

Acoustic Open Mic has moved to the last Tuesday of the month.

YOUR EVENT HERE! Do you have knowledge or skills to share in an outdoor setting? Get in touch at info@LCCLT.org and let's discuss holding your class, workshop or presentation at the Land Trust!

COMMUNITY POTLUCK

Bring a dish, beverage, or dessert to share and your re-usable plate, cup, and utensils.
See you on the Greenfield!

**The 13th of every month!**
**6pm - 8pm**

**Lake Claire Community Land Trust**
270 Arizona Ave

Nature Play Studio at the LCCLT



Mondays are for the littlest neighbors at the Land Trust. On Monday mornings, some of Lake Claire’s littlest neighbors gather at the Land Trust for Nature Play Studio—a weekly rhythm of opening circle, shared snack, free

play, and invitations to make, cook, craft, sense, explore, and wonder together. Since 2022, Nature Play Studio has been creating space for children to learn about the world through their hands and their curiosity, while families build community alongside them.

We would love for more of the neighborhood to be part of this. Nature Play Studio is looking for volunteers to help tend the garden, lend a hand with setup and cleanup, and—especially—to share small skills, interests, and bits of knowledge with the group. Know how to grow something, make something, play an instrument, identify birds, bake bread, tell stories, or work with your hands? Come share a little of what you know with the children. We love the idea of our youngest neighbors growing up surrounded by the skills, creativity, and care of the people who live right here.

Nature Play Studio is donation-based, with a suggested donation of \$10 per drop-in or \$15 per month, and no one is turned away for lack of funds. We meet from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come play, make, snack, get muddy, meet your neighbors, or bring something you’d love to share.



Calling Local Artists!

We’re looking for local creative folks who would like to share their talents and get involved at the Land Trust.

Artists—Have you noticed the mural at our Arizona Avenue entrance? Painted by local artist Sunshine, the mural on the AT&T building includes two blank “canvases” designed for rotating community artwork. Each season, we’ll invite local artists to create something new by painting directly on these spaces on the wall. We’re now looking for artists interested in being part of this ongoing community art project!

Please e-mail the Lake Claire Community Land Trust to learn more and get involved. Info@LCCLT.org

OCTOBER MUSIC SERIES



Every Sunday evening in October, enjoy live local music on the LCCLT stage. Bring your own picnic or preorder a picnic box, grab a spot around the amphitheater, and settle in for the show. More details coming soon! Save the dates!

PERFORMANCES BY:

- LOCAL BANDS AND MUSICIANS SHOWCASING THE INCREDIBLE TALENT OF LAKE CLAIRE AND OUR NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES.



SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER 2026
SP-8P | LCCLT 270 ARIZONA AVE

TICKET PRICE FREE!

JERRY JAM

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
1PM-10PM

270 Arizona Avenue NE Atlanta GA 30307

Benefiting **THE LAKE CLAIRE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST**

TICKETS

Suggested Donation
Adults(21+): \$20
Teens: \$5
Kids(12 & under) & Supporting Members: FREE
WWW.FRESHTIX.COM/EVENTS/JERRY-JAM-2026
WWW.LCCLT.ORG

-Walking, biking & Marta is strongly encouraged!
-Free parking @ Clifton Sanctuary
-BYO water bottle, refill station available!
-No pets allowed!



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion writers and artists to participate in our 'hood. Anjili Mohan has written this month's article. She has loved bugs since she was six years old and wants to share the love. Now an 8th grade bug enthu-

siast, she believes the more we know about insects, the more we know about our planet as a whole and so we can protect its biodiversity. She says: "Next time you see a spider, don't scream, think." Anjili lives on Gordon Avenue and also subs in delivering Clarions.

Please see her article on Page 15.

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

Contest Winners

Our first-place winner this month is Vera Ryan Cullman, age 11, a rising 6th grader headed to Howard, who lives on McLendon. They pointed out for the extra credit that there are over 20,000 know species of honeybees helping our planet around the world.

Coming in at 2nd place are Lena and Jack Aprati, on McLendon Avenue. Lena is starting 4th grade at Mary Lin, and Jack starts first grade at Mary Lin.

And these tied for third place! Dawson Oates is 9 and a rising 4th-grader at Mary Lin who lives on Hardendorf.

Felix Elgarrista is a rising fifth grader at Mary Lin. Millie Parks is a rising 3rd grader and her sister Cha-Cha a rising first-grader, on Harold Avenue. They also won extra-credit for telling us about Honey Bees. Millie said, "Two things that I know about honey bees are plants could not possibly live without them. Another fact about honey bees is that when a honey bee gets its job in the hive, it must keep the same job for the rest of its life! Cha-Cha said, "they help pollinate flowers." Brooks Moler is in preschool at Frazer Center and lives on Harold Avenue. Victoria Kelley is 10 and a rising 5th grader at Mary Lin who

lives on Hardendorf. August Hutcheson, age 7, at Mary Lin, lives on Arizona Ave. She won extra credit saying, "honeybees will survive if we clean up trash, compost more, so trees can grow for their hives and we need to take care of the flowers because they make nectar." Ames Yeend is 9 yrs old and a rising 4th grader on Arizona. Ames also wins extra credit, saying "If people put bee houses up it will help them; don't spray for mosquitoes! It kills bees. (Spray your own skin instead!). And plant flowers bees like." Great comments! Congrats to all of you! And all of you that got extra credit, I am so impressed with the

myriad of facts about honey bees! You win the honor of being one of our featured writers in a future month.

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 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 below, and make your guess: it's your chance to be famous!



Vera Ryan, first place winner

Lena and Jack, second place winners

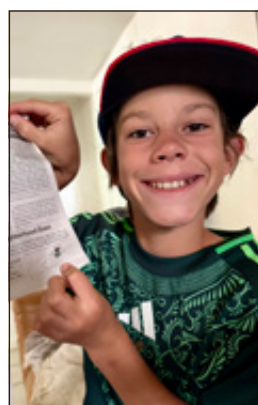
New Contest

Hi kids, did you know that September is National Happy Cat Month? And Sept. 11 is National Hug Your Hound Day! September 19 is Talk Like a Pirate Day. To celebrate, find the back-to-school graphic somewhere in the paper, and tell us the page number. The winner/winners will be pictured in the next Clarion. For extra credit, say something that a pirate would say. Email editor@lakeclaire.org, identifying the page num-

ber, 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 SEPTEMBER 15-18. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this HIGHLY coveted prize.**



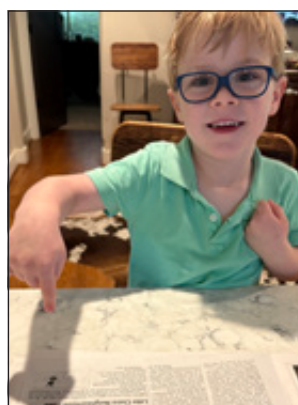
Dawson



Felix



Millie & Cha-Cha



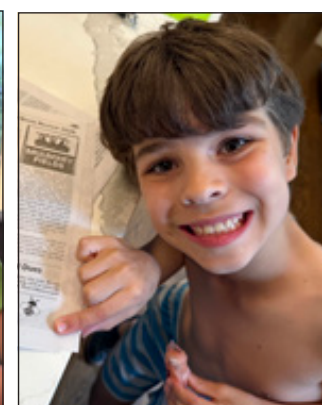
Brooks



Victoria



August



Ames

Third place winners, tied: