The Lake Claire Clarion

November 2026

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

V.34, #11

Inman Park Library Building

by Anne Haimes



Stairway highlighted by stacks of books – photo by Linda Hoopes

The red brick and granite Georgian Revival style building stands at 447 Moreland Avenue, just as it has for eighty five years. It has been a landmark in the community since it opened as a library on November 3, 1941. And, as a preservation newsletter, part of the Inman Park Library file from the Special Collections Department of the Fulton County Library System says, "It was on the eve of Pearl Harbor, as the United States was thrust into World War II, that the library opened its doors. Through war and peace, good times and bad, for almost fifty years the library served the community."

I have always had a soft spot in my heart for this special building and the story of a community's desire to have a library in its midst that it represents.

I first visited the Inman Park Branch Library shortly after moving to Candler Park in 1973. I was in search of a good read and found a great collection of books. But, I found much more. Here was a welcoming staff who greeted me

Cont. on p. 13

Peach Trees... in Atlanta?

by Kevin H. Posey

If you live in Atlanta, you probably live near a street with the name "Peachtree" on it. Peachtree Street, Peachtree Road, Peachtree Circle… it can get monotonous. According to the Atlanta History Center, the names originate from a Native American (Creek) village in the area of the original Peachtree Street that was known as Standing Peachtree. Contrary to some folk tales, the village wasn't named for a "Pitch" (pine) tree and mangled by time and bad spelling among settlers, but rather an actual peach grove. These were apparently common in Creek settlements.

So, where are all the peach trees? If you look around town, you probably don't see many along streets or in front yards. This may be down to a misconception that it's hard to grow them in the city. But that is far from the truth.

Ten years ago, before I returned to Atlanta from northern Virginia, I happened by Lane Orchards in Fort Valley, Georgia, after visiting with family in Columbus. In addition to jams, jellies, fresh peaches, and pecans, Lane was selling peach tree seedlings. I got one, took it home to Alexandria, and put it in a bigger pot. I didn't want to plant

Cont. on p. 5

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Annual Craft Fair, December 5

by Beth Damon and Annsley Klehr

Come one, come all, to the Lake Claire Crafts Fair! Saturday, December 5, rain or shine (but pray for shine)! It is a wonderful community event attracting folks from all over Atlanta. As of this Clarion going to press in late October, we have an exciting line-up of artists/crafters (listed on pages 10 & 11). Come hungry and ready to enjoy the variety of treats for the tastebuds, ears, and eyes. As a bonus to the arts and crafts, there are food trucks and music. (See food truck list and music list on pages 10 and 11). We hope everyone will plan to attend, get a head start on holiday shopping, and enjoy catching up with friends and neighbors.

Sponsors: Please support our sponsors (Page 20), who generously support this event, giving us the opportunity to donate to Midtown Cluster schools. It is not too late to become a sponsor and be added to this list and featured in our city-wide advertising. For info and to sign-up, go to *www.lakeclairecraftfair.com/home/sponsors*. (Sponsors' logos are in order of donation amount, and donation amounts are not disclosed.) Our sponsors make this community event possible and are making an excellent investment in our schools.

If you have any questions, please reach out to *lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com*. If you registered as an artist/crafter and are not listed on pages 10 & 11, please contact us at *lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com*.

Mark your calendars to come to enjoy the ambiance of the day, while buying local, handmade presents that give money back to the schools!

Solutions Bathing

by Sam Collier

The fun of "solutions bathing" as a response to climate change is in keeping up with a whole range of new technologies. Come geek out with me!

Being an American, I have considered a car a necessity since I was 16. Oil changes, filling stations, and engine repairs were just part of life, right? After owning several hybrids, I stepped up to a Plug-In Hybrid, which allowed me to get around town on its 30 miles of electric range and know that I could fall back on the gas engine for long trips. Then it was totaled in a car accident, and I re-thought the situation. I decided to buy a used 2025 Nissan Leaf EV with 19,000 miles on it for $15,000. No more oil changes, no more costly fill-ups, no more emissions inspections—because NO EMISSIONS!

With 150 miles of range, I still get

Cont. on p. 9

Lake Claire Officers
President: Joe Agee, *president@lakeclaire.org*
VP Finance & Treasurer: Jay Severa, *treasurer@lakeclaire.org*
VP Planning & NPU Rep: Carol Holliday, *npu@lakeclaire.org*
VP Zoning: Beth Grashof, *zoning@lakeclaire.org*
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VP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, *comm@lakeclaire.org*
VP Fun(d)raising: Pen Sherwood, *fun@lakeclaire.org*
Education Chair: Annsley Klehr, *education@lakeclaire.org*.

Clarion Staff
Editor: Beth Damon, *editor@lakeclaire.org*
Advertising: Pat Del Rey, *advertising@lakeclaire.org*
Distribution: Miriam Herbers *distribution@lakeclaire.org*
Layout: Véronique Perrot, *layout@lakeclaire.org*
Contact Lake Claire Neighbors at PO Box 5942, Atlanta, GA 31107, 404-236-9526 or *www.lakeclaire.org*.

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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.

November Calendar

In addition to these, please see the variety of neighborhood events on the Land Trust calendar, Page 17 of this issue.

6 **DEADLINE** for artists to register for the Lake Claire Craft Fair. See article Page 1, centerfold pp 10–11, and Sponsors, Page 16.

7 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*.

8 Frazer Fall Fest, inclusive & sensory fun for infants to preschoolers, all ages welcome. 2–5 p.m., rain or shine, Cator Woolford Gardens. More info, see Clarion last month page 5 and *frazercenter.org/about-us/events*.

15 Yoga in the Gardens. 8:30–9:30 a.m. Spend a quiet Sunday morning surrounded by the natural beauty of Cator Woolford Gardens in this donation-based, all-levels yoga class. For more details, visit frazercenter.org/about-us/events.

19 **The Lake Claire monthly neighborhood meeting—third Thursday.** Lake Claire Neighbors has hybrid meetings, in-person at the Frazer Center and virtual on Zoom. ***This is the month for the election of LCN officers! Info in article at right.*** See *lakeclaire.org* for updates and Zoom info. Join and get Zoom link at *lakeclaire.org/resources/newscast-sign-up/*.

21 Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse (3rd Saturdays), 7 p.m. $10 at door (members $8). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. This month: (1) Atlanta-based Vega Verde Wranglers—Barbara Hotz and Jonathan McBee—keeping alive the musical traditions of the Wild West. (2) Pickers Anonymous—Nicholas Edward Williams, Owen Grooms, and John Benjamin Davis—bringing their own flair to Old-Time, Bluegrass, early Country, and Hillbilly Blues. Musician details, music schedule, info: *aaffm.org/aaffm-events/*.

December Reminders

Saturday, December 5: annual Lake Claire Craft Fair! 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. See Centerfold pp 10-11 and Sponsors P. 16.
Saturday, December 12, 2–5 p.m. Winter Wonders in the Garden. Cator Woolford Gardens, holiday fun, cookies & cocoa, arts & crafts, inflatables, and photos with Santa in the Cator Woolford House. More info at *frazercenter.org/about-us/events.*

Lake Claire November Meeting & Election

The annual Lake Claire Neighbors (LCN) Executive Committee elections are this month. According to our neighborhood bylaws, all nominations had to be made at the regular LCN meeting on October 15; there were no new nominations at the meeting, so the slate of officers of all current office-holders are the only ones in the running. The meeting is Thursday, November 19, hybrid via Zoom and in-person at the Frazer Center. Come and give a vote of confidence to your neighborhood leadership.

Clarion Seeks Delivery Volunteer(s) for Palifox

Our newspaper is brought to you each month through the efforts of many, with our final link to readers being 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.

At this time, we need a delivery person for Palifox starting next month, please. Or two people could share it. We could use one or two more subs also (people available when the normal person can't deliver one month). Delivery takes place the last week of the month. We treat this as a real job, and at every stage of production we do what is necessary to get the Clarion to porches by the first week of the following month. (High schoolers can earn community credit.)

If you are looking for a way to help the 'hood and might be interested in one of these roles, please contact Miriam at *distribution@lakeclaire.org*. And thank you Margaret Witten for your years of service to Palifox and continuing service…

"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Thank you, all!

Notes

- You can **recycle political signs** at CHaRM (Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials), and you can see other itmes they accept at: *livethrive.org/charm/*.
- **Lake Claire Halloween Parade and Party**
  (Pics and logos will be featured next month!)

The Election's Over, Now What?

by Jane Branscomb

"This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on."
~ Justice Thurgood Marshall

Hi, neighbors! Here's hoping that by the time you're reading this we're safely through another secure and unimpeded election and on our way to seating the candidates chosen by the voters. If so, let's celebrate it – and thank all the officials, workers, and volunteers who made that happen.

Heeding Justice Marshall's words, here is something to look out for after the election that could influence how well we live up to our envisioned representative democracy: Redistricting.

The State Legislature is likely to revisit the idea of changing the legislative maps (again) sometime after the election. Governor Kemp called them into special session last summer to look into it. The leadership backed away from considering it then; but indications are that they will probably try again in another special session this winter or in the regular 2027 legislative session. The next ten-year census, which would normally be the time for redistricting, will be in 2030.

Redistricting is the other side of the coin from Election Administration in terms of fulfilling democractic principles. Even if all the laws and processes around registering voters, cleaning lists, voting, tabulating, etc. are fair and impartial, the results will fall short of that if they are based on biased district maps. Fair Districts Georgia is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that works for common-sense redistricting reforms – changes that are supported by a majority of Georgia voters across the political spectrum. Voters want an end to mid-decade redistricting, partisan gerrymandering, and splintering of communities into different districts. They want competitive districts and maps that yield elected representation that reflects the overall political and demographic makeup of our state. They want redistricting standards and processes that are fair, transparent, and informed by the people. (These are all findings from an independently conducted poll of Georgia voters in March 2026, commissioned by Fair Districts Georgia, Common Cause of Georgia, ACLU-Georgia, and the League of Women Voters of Georgia.)

I am fully aware that we are today in the midst of a runaway "redistricting arms race," wherein one state redistricts for a certain party's advantage, and another state tries to offset that with a partisan gerrymander for the other side. It is a reality that can't be naively ignored. But it is a perversion of democracy that must be solved.

To learn more, sign up for news, and get involved in this worthy effort, visit *www.FairDistrictsGa.org*.

Please Recycle Aluminum Cans at Mary Lin

by Stephanie Shumacher

Mary Lin Elementary has partnered with Novelis to collect aluminum cans. About 100 billion aluminum cans are made in the U.S. each year and Americans throw away approximately 100 million cans (100,000,000) each year!

Novelis is proud to be the world's leading recycler of aluminum. The cans they collect can be recycled, remade, refilled, and returned to the store shelf in just 60 days. Savings from recycling cans allow Novelis to give back to local organizations. Every 3 million cans collected is equal to $100, 000 that they donate to Habitat for Humanity.

We were fortunate to get our very own can trailer at Mary Lin. Novelis will service the trailer and give the money from our collected cans to both Habitat for Humanity, and the Mary Lin STEAM Program. Please drop all of your aluminum cans off at the trailer located in the Mary Lin parking lot. Cans don't need to be crushed, but plastic bags and other containers should NOT go into the trailer. This impacts the processing of the aluminum.

Editor's note: Stephanie is the STEAM Program Coordinator at Mary Lin Elementary. Please make the effort to take your aluminum to this trailer, since the proceeds from the collection are donated back to Habitat for Humanity and to the Mary Lin STEAM Program. Stephanie noted that they purposefully placed the trailer in a spot that is accessible to the whole community. Please share widely!

New Old Houses

by Dan Curl



Our first home was a 1924 brick bungalow. Despite my wife's mangled syntax, "Our New Old House" aptly described an old house perhaps, but new to her, new to a boomer grown up in tract homes. New because it represented our first major project together.

I share a love (there is no better word) of old homes. Early years in California, we'd visit family in Benicia, Ojai, and Tehachapi. The dark, woody and vaguely foreboding Victorians, Queen Annes, and Bungalows of great aunts and third cousins had an old California smell: of rose water, stone fruit, hot-dry summers, smudge pot smoke, pheasants. Of Grandpa's garage, heavy tools, ancient push mower, and black widow spiders. So, too, the neighborhoods near the Austin, UT campus and limestone ranch houses scattering the Texas Hill Country. They had the feel, the smell, of history and mystery.

And so it was with our new old house. The first owner had converted a musty, varnished wood basement to living quarters for a son he chose not to "put away." Fat steel posts, chunky beams, lathe and plaster walls and ceilings, tilting, unlined chimney, aging wiring and plumbing, windows failing, six layers of kitchen linoleum, 70s kitchen.

And so it was as we took up the "This Old House Challenge." Transforming the house, building our marriage, raising our children. Some marriages flounder on Home Improvement. I've seen it. They usually dissolve just after the project is done. Done with the house and each other.

We were regular customers at one of the first Home Depots. We should have sold our house and bought stock. But didn't. We were too much in love. One key was knowing who: Who was the right plumber, electrician, or roofer … pre-Angie, names from work, neighbors, and clients.

So it was that we spent our money wisely enough, solidified our marriage, adopted our children. We trod a familiar path.

Later we bought a not-as-old old house. An about-my-age house. With a bigger yard. And more bathrooms. It had, and has still, the three Ls*. And Good Bones. I didn't overlook "everything else." I was getting a great deal. So it was as we took up the challenge. Of everything else. Blessed again with connections, characters, competence.

I, like so many others, look forward to home work. I haven't a builder's skill, an architect's depth, an engineer's confidence. But I know people—who know people. I've seen so many ways homes go wrong. And the few that work.

And made a career out of learning How Homes Work. How to make old houses "new." Without erasing what they were before. Or washing away the smells. The feel. The memories.

*Editor's Note: *The 3 Ls = location, location, location. The houses Dan referred to are 556 Clifton and their current house at 608 Lakeshore.*

















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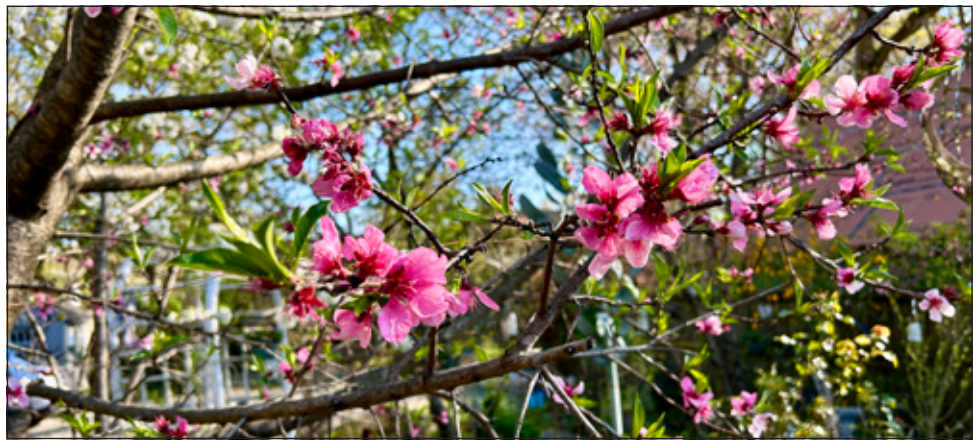


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Associate Broker

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cynthiabaer30307
cynthia@cynthiabaer.com
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Peach Blooms in March

Peach Trees

Continued from page 1.

it in the ground, because a move to Atlanta was looking likely. The tree didn't grow much, but it survived the harsh winter (the Potomac River froze) that greeted its arrival.

After making the trip south in the back of a Penske rental truck, along with a bunch of other plants, it arrived in my backyard. Once the tree was in the ground, it took off. I added another peach tree from Lane and was rewarded with lots of fruit, which the squirrels promptly ate. However, the squirrels often left behind the peach pits. These quickly turned into seedlings. Lots of seedlings. A few years ago, I donated 50 of them to the Lake Claire Land Trust. Those seedlings are now probably all over our neighborhood.

But, I neglected to include instructions. So, in case you come across a peach seedling that I've offered up or that a squirrel has helpfully provided, here are some salient tips:

Peach trees like full sun, well-drained soil, and a weekly watering when getting established. For those who have a terrace of soil in front of their house, as many of us on McLendon Avenue do, this is a good spot because the terrace is mostly sand. I planted a seedling out front on my terrace, and it started producing a lot of fruit in its third year.

You can get fruit with just one tree, but it's best to have two. Bees will fly between them constantly when they bloom in early spring, so much so that you will hear a steady hum coming from the pink clouds the trees become in March.

According to the staff at Lane, seedlings will not produce much or any fruit if they are allowed to stay close to the parent tree. This is due to changes in the soil that peaches make. Lane's answer to this is that once an orchard is exhausted, generally after 15 years since peaches don't live very long, plant pecan trees. If you are in central Georgia and you see a pecan grove, there's a good chance it once was a peach orchard.

You can pick peaches and ripen them in a paper bag. The fruit gives off ethylene gas that accelerates the ripening process in a confined, but not sealed, space. This is a good idea if you want to outwit the squirrels, who can tell when peaches are ripe.

Peach trees grow 15 to 20 feet tall and wide. However, they can be trimmed to any shape. Lane trims theirs so that they are wide instead of tall to make harvesting easier. However, the branches must be braced because the fruit can be heavy enough to break them.

The short lifespan of a peach tree might put off some people, but they can offer a bit of shade that makes it easier for other longer-lived trees to get established. I planted pomegranates near mine, since they grow slower than peaches and send their roots much deeper. This allows them to co-exist in close proximity, even in dry spells since pomegranates are very drought tolerant.

Happy farming!

Wild in Lake Claire

by Sara Gottlieb

Shortly after the second anniversary of when Hurricane Helene cut a devastating path across the southeast, I was in Asheville for the Natural Areas Association conference, where I joined a field workshop on river cane restoration. This native bamboo was once widely distributed across the southeast and central U.S. near waterways, providing unique habitat, stabilizing streambanks, and used by indigenous people for making baskets, rugs, weapons, and shelter. Over time, river cane was removed, its habitat altered and outcompeted by invasive plants, and is now reduced to about 2% of its historic distribution.

At a spot on the Swannanoa River near the Blue Ridge Parkway, we stood in the largest, densest remaining stand of river cane (known as a brake) in the area, and I realized I had never experienced anything quite like it (see photo below by Sara G). Many people in Atlanta are familiar with the "bamboo forest" along the Chattahoochee River, but this canebrake represented something that belongs here and that people here hundreds and thousands of years ago would have experienced regularly. It was humbling.

No fewer than three people shared photos of birds making meals of other animals this month. One was Glenn O. who shared a video of a hawk in a yard on Nelms feasting on a squirrel it had caught (see photo by Glenn O. on page 15), and Lyndsay P. shared a photo of a vulture feasting on some roadkill (see photo by Lyndsay P. on page 15). My next-door neighbor texted me a similar photo of a vulture eating a squirrel

Cont. on p. 15



Sara in a canebrake







Green anoles galore. Top: Marc's; bottom two: Keri's.

Buy Lake Claire Merchandise



To buy merch, please go to the Lake Claire Neighbors website, lakeclaire.org, choose "Resources," and under that select Shop and Support. Our neighborhood hanging banner (pictured here) and bumper stickers can be purchased with cash, check, or PayPal. The banner (designed by local artist Leslie Hodges of Sutherland Terrace) is also available at Candler Park Market.

Scroll down, and you will see other items. In collaboration with FineArtAmerica, you can buy the "Ski Lake Claire" logo, the "30307 Not Just a Zip Code" logo, coffee mugs, clothing, and face masks, which will be delivered to you.

All proceeds from sales go to local organizations of LCN's choice, such as Lake Claire Park, Mary Lin Elementary School, Olmstead Park, Freedom Park, Police Zone 6, our Firefighters, and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries.

Any questions, contact *fun@lakeclaire.org*.

Candler Park Lake Claire Patrol

The CPLCP is *your* neighborhood-funded and neighborhood-run security patrol, which has been serving the Lake Claire and Candler Park neighborhoods since 2016. The patrol's mission is to improve the safety and enjoyment of Lake Claire and Candler Park neighbors by helping the Atlanta Police to deter and respond to crime and safety incidents in the area.

Please read the details on the website and Facebook page, and if you are not a member, consider joining. The Patrol depends on members to fund the patrol. Every member that joins the patrol increases the number of hours that our APD Officers can provide additional police presence in our area.YOUR support is critical to the ongoing operations of the patrol.

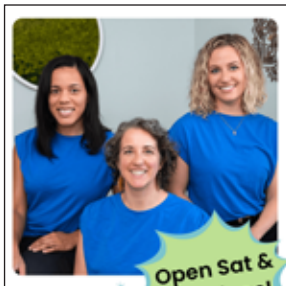
The Facebook page is *www.facebook.com/CPLCPatrol*, and the website is *www.cplcpatrol.org*.

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Sherry@nealandwright.com

Dan Wright, J.D.
Dan@nealandwright.com

Jodi Greenberg, J.D.
Jodi@nealandwright.com

Jessica Cole
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Finding the Right Fit: Supported Employment at Work

by Dina Shadwell

At The Fresh Market, Jonathan Grant begins his workday by reviewing the list of tasks left for him. On a recent morning, tangerines were on the list. Jonathan washed the fruit and fed it through an industrial juicer, keeping an eye on the peels so they wouldn't clog the machine. Once the juice was ready, he filled and labeled the bottles and stocked the refrigerated juice case.

Jonathan has worked at Fresh Market for four months. Watching him work, it is clear that he knows his routine. He is meticulous and thorough, paying attention to each step. His Produce Manager, Alonzo, sees that in him, too. Jonathan always does what's asked of him, Alonzo said, before breaking into a broad smile. "I love him!" Jonathan also works with produce and occasionally assists in the floral department. He is soft-spoken and prefers working behind the scenes, where he can concentrate on his tasks. When asked what he likes most about working at Fresh Market, Jonathan didn't mention the juice or the flowers. "I like having some financial independence," he said. "And a sense of purpose each day."

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month, a time to recognize the contributions of workers with disabilities and the importance of access to employment. At Frazer Center, a nonprofit here in the Lake Claire neighborhood, the Supported Employment program helps adults with developmental disabilities pursue jobs based on their individual goals.

Frazer's job coaches get to know what each individual enjoys, what he or she is good at, and the kind of work environment each prefers, while also building relationships with employers. They support changes as needed. A job coach may initially help someone learn a role or settle into a workplace, then step back as the employee becomes more independent. Coaches can also help individuals advocate for themselves at work. Jonathan's job coach, Thomas Johnson, was recently promoted to Lead Job Coach at Frazer. Four months into his job, Jonathan works independently, with Thomas checking in as needed. Jonathan has a job that fits the way he likes to work, along with a paycheck and a place to put his skills to use.

Georgia has made a formal commitment to creating more opportunities like this. The state's 2018 Employment First Act established competitive, integrated employment as the first and preferred option for working-age people with disabilities who receive publicly funded services. That means people with disabilities should have opportunities to work alongside people with and without disabilities and earn wages comparable to others doing similar work. But barriers remain. Transportation is one. Finding employers willing to hire people with disabilities can be another. Access to individualized employment support also matters. Supported Employment can help people navigate some of those barriers. Frazer's job coaches, for example, may help someone learn to use MARTA or explore other ways to get to and from work reliably.



Jonathan Grant, a participant in Frazer Center's Supported Employment program, on the job at Fresh Market

The services that help make employment possible are also tied to larger policy decisions. Georgia's Medicaid waiver programs can fund supported employment and other services that help eligible people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live, work, and participate in their communities. Thousands of Georgians remain on waiting lists for waiver services, while changes in federal Medicaid policy have raised questions about how disability services will be funded and administered in the years ahead. Whatever those changes bring, Georgia's Employment First commitment raises an important question: Do people with disabilities who want to work have access to the opportunities and support they need to do so?

At Fresh Market, that question becomes concrete. Jonathan checks his list, prepares fruit, bottles juice, labels products, and makes sure the shelves are stocked. Customers may never meet the person who prepared the juice they take home, but his attention to detail is clear. He makes sure each step is completed with care. There is satisfaction in a job well done and knowing that your work matters. That is something most of us want from our work. It should be within reach for people with disabilities, too.



Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

by Lori White

Clifton was excited to host a booth at the Candler Park Fall Festival. Thanks to all who stopped by and took part in making a "hand wreath" for our front door. We love being part of the community and mingling with all our neighbors!

We hope you stop by and say hi during the Lake Claire Craft Fair on December 5!

The Spectacular, Wholesome, and Fabulous People of Lake Claire!

by Pen Sherwood

In 1998, I was living in Bangkok, Thailand, a land on the far side of the world, across both the Atlantic and Indian oceans from here. If you dig down straight through the earth, you'll find yourself close to my native land. America was not something I thought of very much in those days. As fate would have it, however, that was the year that I learned about Candler Park and Atlanta through exchanging letters with my new penpal, Andrew Sherwood. He wrote about the artsy tie-dyed scene around his home, about how popular Mary Lin Elementary School is, about the art store Donna van Gogh's (sadly now long gone), and the environment of his home. He was a marathon runner and described Candler Park, Olmsted Park, Freedom Park, and the Appalachian Trail, places where he regularly went running or hiking.

Fast-forward to 2010: After 12 years of an on-again off-again relationship, I moved to Atlanta, where we finally agreed to get married and went house hunting. We looked online at more than 80 houses before narrowing our search to the Lake Claire/Candler Park area. We finally chose a little primrose-yellow cottage on a quiet corner lot opposite the Harold Avenue Green Space in Lake Claire. It was the last house we looked at and had the largest backyard we found in the area. Andrew chose it for its backyard, saying "I want to do gardening when I retire." We never knew that that would be the thing that almost killed him!

Throughout the years, you might occasionally have seen an older gentleman running around the neighborhood in his bright red Atlanta Track Club team outfit. That was Andrew, who loved running our neighborhood trails to Medlock Park, Piedmont Park, and beyond. He and his team won for their age group many US National Championship races around the country.

Andrew also ran many marathons, but he had to give those up at the age of 75 when atrial fibrillation (which runs in his family) kicked in. By 2024, his symptoms had worsened, forcing him to stick mostly to 5K races, but he still competed with his team in events around the country. In February 2025, as captain of the Atlanta Track Club 80+ team, he managed to lead them to one more national championship team victory, but he could no longer reach the individual podium. A few weeks later, after spending two hours pruning the hedges in our backyard, Andrew came inside too tired to eat breakfast; he slept all day until dinner time and could only swallow a few bites. We thought it was pollen allergy, so we didn't suspect anything serious. Over the next few weeks, however, he started to sleep more and more, lost his appetite, lost weight, and showed less and less energy. Even sitting and reading a book—normally one of his favorite occupations—could exhaust him.

A visit to his cardiologist produced the verdict that the a-fib was causing his heart to have difficulty pumping blood to his muscles. He went through a cardioversion procedure to shock his heart back into rhythm, saying that now he understood a little of what it must feel like to be in the electric chair! However, that failed after less than a week. He also had a cyst in his lower spine which caused intense pain when he tried to move, walk, sit, stand or sleep. His neurologist said that it wasn't serious enough for surgery and told him to grin and bear it. He needed to use a walker and even wheelchair to get about and lost almost 25 pounds. The doctors thought he might have either leukemia or Parkinson's disease because of some of his symptoms.

After seeing multiple specialists and undergoing multiple tests including an MRI brain scan, we finally learned that luckily Andrew has a milder set of symptoms known as Parkinsonism. His surgeon installed a heart pacemaker, which has made all the difference. After eighteen months of trouble and stress, my dear husband is now healthy again, and it is time to recognize how



lucky we are to live in such a caring neighborhood.

During this difficult time, our neighbors were unsparingly kind and helpful. I want to shout out to all our neighbors on Harold Avenue and in Candler Park who gave us so much support. I couldn't have gone through that period without them. They cooked for us, did grocery shopping for us, one loaned us a walker, another loaned a wheelchair, they often checked on us and showed us so much care. They gave us rides to and from the hospital and the emergency room. I'm so grateful and thought to myself that I'm so lucky.

This woman from Thailand without a single relative in this country was adopted by this lovely neighborhood. Our neighbors and friends sent us cards and prayers with words of encouragement which are imprinted on my heart. Now I want to say a big "Thank-you."

It really takes a village, and I've found mine. Lake Claire and Candler Park people - you are all one-of-a-kind. Andrew and I feel lucky and happy to be part of you!

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 you'd like included here. And, we still have a great promotion—$5 off the Lake Claire banner, when you buy a banner at the time you pay dues.

These folks have paid since the last issue:

Matthew Chotin
Ann Mauney
Martha Loring
Brian Fitzgerald
Claudia Deng
Brian Spears
Benjamin Freeman

THANKS TO ALL! Be famous, and be listed in a future issue!—most important, of course, support the 'hood and its good causes. You have one month left for your 2026 dues!

Solutions Bathing

Continued from page 1.

around town just fine using only a Level 1 charger (i.e., house current) at home. We use my wife's car for long trips, but around town I love the torque and the simplicity of my Leaf!

Range anxiety is real—but charging infrastructure is getting built quickly. Recently, eight auto manufacturers (including BMW, GM, Honda, Hyundai, Kia, and Mercedes Benz) teamed up to form Ionna, a nationwide EV charging network. This effort, along with Tesla's sharing of their fast-charging network, will start making EV charging much more widespread and reliable. The EVs of tomorrow will hold more charge, have a cleaner footprint, and charge faster than today's batteries, and networks like Ionna will speed up this transition. Plus, once a battery has outlived its usefulness in a vehicle, it can still be re-purposed for home energy storage – there is still a lot of storage for soaking up solar energy.

Speaking of home energy storage with a car battery, General Motors has announced bold new initiatives to speed the EV transition. In addition to investing in the charging network Ionna, they have instituted "Energy Pass," a single pass that allows a GM car to charge with Ionna, Tesla, Electrify America, and other networks. Instant charging network of about 70% of existing chargers!

GM also is collaborating with Peak Energy, a manufacturer of Sodium Ion batteries, which contain cheaper and less toxic materials than current batteries, work over a wider temperature range, and last longer. An American move toward matching China's battery dominance.

Third, GM is investing in bi-directional EV chargers—where your house can charge your car, OR your car can power your house (or critical parts of it). This starts to really transform how our homes reduce greenhouse gases and keep us powered during storms. The implications of these solutions as they relate to our homes will be the subject of my next article in the Clarion.

To close for now, I'll share a story about one country that is getting a whole lot right: Norway.

Norway is the leading light on EVs, by far. These days 96% of all new car purchases in Norway are EVs, so they are headed towards total EV adoption. But wait, there's more… about 90% of Norway's electricity is generated by carbon-free hydropower. Those dammed fjords! They have so much energy storage in the fjords that they even store neighboring countries' excess clean energy—say, from a sunny solar streak, for instance—then sell it back at a premium.

So, with transportation about 1/4 of a country's emissions and electricity another roughly another 1/4th, Norway is getting about halfway there toward decarbonization.

The other interesting thing about Norway is that in the 1960s, huge oil deposits were discovered in the North Sea off its coast. Before they let the Texas drillers come in, Norway formed a state oil company to partner with them and rake in the profits. The result is that Norway has the largest sovereign wealth fund in the world. They're being judicious in how they use it—in fact, releasing too much into the economy at once could cause problematic inflation! But they do have great social supports. For example, each parent of a newborn gets one year's leave, paid for by the state. Everyone who has a child in Norway is given time to get their child and their parenthood off to a good start.

Although it should go without saying, I'll state emphatically anyway—it is always better to walk, take transit, bicycle, or carpool than to drive a single-occupancy vehicle for every errand every day all the time. That is easier in Europe, which is built around more dense population centers, many with extensive transit infrastructure. We're so far from that in the U.S. that I don't know if we'll ever catch up. But once we get serious about climate stabilization, electric vehicles will still be an important step in the journey.

Lifeline Animal Project: 2025 Annual Report Summary

by Scott McLane



This is sweet one-eyed Anubis, who barely made it out of the shelter just hours before his euthanasia deadline.

LifeLine helped 46,600 pets in 2025, through their shelters, veterinary services, and community programs. From foster care and adoption to Pets for Life, food pantries, mobile and stationary veterinary clinics, spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and other services, together they advanced the health and wellness of Atlanta's animals and our pet-owning community.

In 2025, 93 cents of every dollar given went directly toward Atlanta's animals. This generosity helped provide the care, resources, and lifesaving solutions that they and their families needed.

Across three shelters, LifeLine achieved a 90.7% lifesaving rate, up from 89% in 2024. As economic uncertainty and financial insecurity continued to put pressure on families and their pets—and our shelters—this support helped Lifeline meet those challenges with both compassion and action.

Together with the Dekalb County Governing Authority, LifeLine opened a new Pet Neighborhood at Dekalb County Animal Services, providing 12 additional housing units for dogs at a time when shelter capacity was needed more than ever.

In service to Lifeline's mission, Lifeline:

* performs high-volume spay and neuter surgeries for community animals at vastly reduced or no cost;

* provides affordable or free health care services to pets in need at mobile and full-service veterinary clinics and at Healthy Pets events;

* offers targeted support to vulnerable animals and their owners through the community outreach program Pets for Life;

* administers Atlanta's largest trap-neuter-return (TNR) program for free-roaming cats;

* minimizes the time an animal stays in the shelter thanks to the "low-barrier" foster program, which houses 50% of the dogs and cats in LifeLine's care;

* distributes free food and supplies to pets and pet owners in need through a pet food pantry.

The numbers

21,405 animals came into the shelters;
14,156 animals adopted;
12,890 animals fostered;
4,638 pets served in the full-service clinic;
2,473 pets served by Pets for Life;
5,287 pets received free vaccinations at biannual Healthy Pets events;
3,035 community TNR cats;
21,759 spay/neuter surgeries;
2,547 pets served by mobile clinic;

Revenues: $31,279,519	
County Contracts	$17,810,000
Donations	$7,790,766
Clinic Services	$2,985,616
In-kind contributions	$810,955
Licensing fees	$728,098
Events	$510,001
Adoption fees	$329,013
Grants	$121,662
Kennel service fees	$66,031
Expenses: $29,313,990	
Programs	$27,319,389
Mgmt/General	$1,323,935
Fundraising	$670,666

Cont. on p. 12

Craft Fair, Saturday, December 5
Artists' Wares at the Craft Fair

These are some of the talented folks and their creations that will be available at the fair. There are close to 100, so far! These are the artists who registered as of Clarion press deadline October 23. Crafters signing up after that aren't included here, but will be included on future lists. Any questions or problems, contact *lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com*. You will find these offerings on Arizona Avenue, Delaware Avenue, New York Avenue, Connecticut Avenue, and Indiana Avenue (between Arizona and Connecticut). AND please see our sponsors on the back page (Page 20), and give them your business! This event could not take place, nor could we give such a generous donation to some Midtown Cluster schools without them: Councilmember Liliana Bakhtiari, John Morgan/Park Realty, Cynthia Baer Realty, BOND Community Federal Credit Union, Hill Manufacturing, Inc., Achieve with Steve (Steve Raimonde, Realtor), Meghan Riley (Compass), Lisa Pittman (Cushman Wakefield Commercial Real Estate Advisor), Little Muscles, Yom Ice Cream, Little 5 Pub, Neal & Wright LLC, Moxie Burger, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Beryl Firestone Design, Lake Claire Neighbors.

Alex Cameron Woodworks	Turned wooden bowls and kitchen goods
A Paper Floral Artisan, LLC	Fine German/Italian crepe paper flowers and succulents. Knitted fine wool beanies and acrylic critters.
Ada Covington's Crotchet	Crocheted stuffed animals and items
Alina's Bead Bloom	Bead bracelets
Avani Hill Stained Glass	Stained glass, mosaics, paint on glass
B Hart Art	Functional pottery
Bowman Crafts	Wind chimes, home made stuffed animals
Caprice Art	Pop Culture inspired Art and clothing
Caramelo Art	Felt ornaments, paper mache ornaments,shadowboxes, felt jewelry, watercolor paintings
Cassie's Crafts	Hand crafted all-occasion cards, tags, and gifts
Cecelia Lee	Candles, Oyster shell bowls, herb smudge sticks
Chainmail Jewelry by Tamorie	Chainmail jewelry
Color Street	Nail Your Sparkle with Aimee. Dry nail polish strips, hand/nail care and clean beauty products
Corner Aces Crochet	Crochet Wearables such as hats, cardigans, blankets, and sweaters
Crafts & Love	Gold and gemstone jewelry
Crafts 4 Kidz	3D printed toys for kids, crocheted kindle holders, hand drawn art
Crafts and Cocoa	Hot cocoa, sweet treats, and a variety of handmade crafts
Crafty Amanda	Cards and paper crafts
Crochet Amigurumi!	Crochet amigurumi animals Each animal has a book to go with it!
Crocheting Kingdom & Kandi Kid	Crochet goods and beaded jewelry
Danika Kolay	Baked goodies from my kitchen
Design @ 2200 Degrees	Functional pottery decorated with strong graphic designs
DEWJewelry Design	Handcrafted one-of-a-kind jewelry in silver,copper, brass, letting unusual gemstones inspire each design; highlights the natural beauty/unique character of the stone
Duo-Wei Handcrafted Jewelry	Handcrafted jewelry inspired by nature and classic fairytales, carefully sculpted from polymer clay and resin, capturing a sense of whimsical wonder, incorporating foraged flora
E. Claire Creations	Hand knit beanies and scarves
Edgy Bear Crafts	Pottery and Rustic Paper Crafts (including ornaments and decoupage)
EdgyBear Crafts	Pottery and Rustic Crafts
Girl Scout Troop 23006	Face painting, baked goods, and more!
Glass & Thread Jewelry Co.	Handmade jewelry made using high quality glass and crystal beads
Go Jump in the Lake	Cool wood neighborhood signs
Greg and Sharon Beaumont Woodworking	Wood items—cutting noards, coasters, charcuterie boards, candle holders
Handmade Leather Wallets by Rolf	Fine handmade leather card holders and wallets
The Jewelry Dream	Hand crafted jewelry, 14k gold-filled & sterling silver
Jewelry by Sara	Original jewelry and some ceramics!
Karen Simpkins, shadow box dioramas and jewelry	Scenes in small wooden boxes with short text description on back of the scene within—"story boxes." Also earrings and necklaces
Kiln it Pottery	Handmade functional pottery
Kitchen Crafter (Klehr family)	Organic and homemade vanilla extract, lotion bars, fruit vinegars, chocolate, lips balms and more
Knitted hats & Perler Beads	Handmade knitted hats and fingerless gloves, and perler bead crafts and earrings
Laughing Wolf Wood Carvings by Jim Carey	Hand carved kitchen utensils, birds and animals, boxes, ornaments, and child toys
Leather & Heart	Handcrafted jewelry, meaningful personalized gifts, home decor, and wellness kits designed to inspire connections, creativity, relaxation
Lizzy Leigh	Mixed media collage arts
Luna Construction Bakery & Studio	Hand-woven pot holders and handmade fudge, by Jess (mom) and Roman (age 6)
Michele Spears	Gourd birdhouses, original art notecards, felted wool items, playful jewelry, and assorted whimsies
Millie's Craft Room	Hand-sewn fabric crafts: gift bags, pennant banners, felt ornaments, zippered pouches, dog bandanas
Moody Doodles Apparel and Accessories	Come connect with our characters: Grumpy Cat, Warm Hug, Deep Breath, and Singing Frogs, each character sending a unique moody message to whomever is wearing the PJs
Nail Your Sparkle with Aimee	Dry nail polish, nailcare and clean/gf/vegan skincare and makeup
Neelima's Squishy Business	Handmade crochet plushies for all ages! Sea creatures, snakes, snacks, and other friendly weirdos looking for someone to take them home
Pen Sherwood	Hand-made ceramics dishes, ornaments, greeting cards, bookmarks
Petite Bakery	Sweet Treats (baked goods)
Petite Pixels	2D and 3D perler bead art
PK Young Art	Abstract works that begin with intuition and evolve through layers of color, texture, and mark-making
Rachel's Sunshine Studio	Stained glass, pipe cleaner critters, and accessories—handmade by Rachel Orenstein, 6 years old
Rosita	Everything-crochet: bags, animals, charms, sewn items bags, pouches, monsters, patchwork jackets
Roxy Mazur	Watercolors and earrings
Sappho and Ada's Christmas in Style	Sustainable Christmas ornaments, baked goods, jewelry, and other things kids like
Sekou's Soliders	Holiday crafts
Stefanie's Shop: Handmade Accessories	Handmade fabric headbands in a variety of colors, prints, and patterns; handmade and assembled jewelry, including earrings and necklaces
Stephen Wing	Poetry books & stickers
Sugar and Satin	Knitted items, sewed items, baked goods, and needle felted items
Sun Catchers by Cillian	Cillian (age 6) makes sun catchers using glass, gemstone, wooden, metal, and plastic beads and ending with crystals that turn light to rainbows. Great gifts for all ages!
Sunshine's Happy Place	Positivity art! Paintings, ceramics, tiedye, sewn items
Synnove's Sweets	Homemade sweet treats to eat while you walk around!
The Printables ATL	3D Printed Items
The Wonderlust Crochet Co	Mother Daughter Duo making cute crochet plushies, hats, cardigans, and more
The Young and the Heckless	An art vending collective for teens and tweens, a variety of art media including crocheted creatures and drawings
Twist & Stitch	Crotchet art, pipe cleaners figures, bedazzled stuff, embroidery towels and pastries
Véronique Perrot, Petit Chêne Fibers	One-of-a-kind handwoven goods, designed and woven in Lake Claire
WATABAG ... Bag with panache	Handcrafted handbags, kitchen accessories, fabric baskets, embroidered items, and practical fabric creations, combining quality materials, creative designs, careful stitching
Wildflower Designs by Harli	Dried flowers and botanicals used to make jewelry inspired by nature and love of the outdoors
Yujin Lee	Handmade pottery including functional pieces and decorative art

Music and Food at the Fair

This Craft Fair is mostly about the arts and crafts. Over 100 artists and crafters selling their unique creations. But sprinkled throughout you will find food and music. Food trucks are on Connecticut and Arizona.

As of Clarion press deadline, these are the music offerings. Check them out in between getting an early start on your holiday gift shopping—and special treasures for yourself. Where times are not mentioned, keep your eye out on social media or write *lakeclairecraftfair@gmail.com* closer to the event.

Music

Marching a few passes throughout the streets
- 10:30 a.m. to noon — **Feed and Seed Marching Abominables** (not 100% confirmed as of Clarion press deadline)

369 Connecticut Avenue (Clifton Sanctuary Ministries)
- 10:30 a.m. — **The Mary Lin Chorus**

1800 Delaware Avenue (on the Connecticut side, across from Clifton Sanc.)
- 12:30–1:30 p.m. — **Jonathan Adams and Todd Davis** (Americana)
- 2:00–3:00 p.m. — **Ian Mackenzie** (singer-songwriter, folk)
- 3:15–4:30p.m. — **Doug Morton & friends** (tbd, potentially Western Swing)

301 Connecticut Avenue
- Afternoon (time tbd) — **Kirkwood Swing** (Jazz/Swing ensemble representing Guitar Shed music school)

1802 New York Avenue
- starts at 1:00 p.m. — **Lonesome Shoes and other band(s)** tbd (acoustic, varied)

1823 Indiana Avenue
- 1:00–3:00 p.m. — **Liz Love Band** (cover band/hits from 80s, 90s and 2000s, from the Rolling Stones to Adele

1770 Indiana Avenue
- 11:30 a.m.–12:30 — **Indydorf** (eclectic, folk, Americana)
- 1:00–2:00 p.m. — **Garden Fresh Pickers** (fast bluegrass)
- 2:15–3:15 p.m. — **Crash Landing** (eclectic, pop, Dutch)
- 3:30–4:30 p.m. — **GiddyUp** (bluegrass and originals)

361 Arizona Avenue
- 1:00–2:15 p.m. — **Dali Martin and Waylon Bennings** (blues & folk rock)
- 2:30–4:00 p.m. — **Spring Street String Band** (bluegrass and Americana)

Food trucks and tents

Connecticut Avenue
- 277 **Yom Ice Cream** (Lake Claire's "own" ice cream!)
- 301 **SideHustle Soups** (delicious homemade soups)
- **Snowie** (snow cones, maybe coffee/hot chocolate, tbd)
- 311 **Stix and Buns** (comfort food on sticks)

Arizona Avenue
- 354 **El Buen Pastor** (Pedro's famous tacos, quesadillas)
- 344 **Pizza Verdura** Sincera (vegan pizza, all-natural organic, non-GMO)

More delicious goodies, baked goods, etc., throughout the five streets of the fair!

Official parking

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Parking Lot

Porta-Potties

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Parking Lot (Connecticut @ Delaware),
Indiana at Arizona
Fair-goers are also welcome to use the Land Trust facilities (Arizona dead-end)

Holiday Photo Booth!

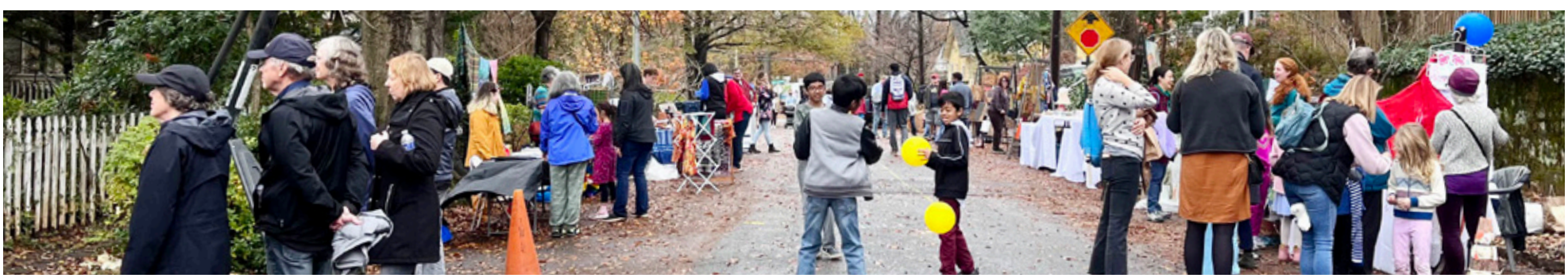
Meghan Riley, one of our sponsors, is organizing the Fair's 2nd annual Holiday Photo Booth! 322 Connecticut Avenue.

Raffle for a Solo Stove

Cynthia Baer, one of our sponsors, will hold a raffle for a Solo Stove, and serve free cider, at 1778 Delaware Avenue.

Please Support our Sponsors:

Some will be at the Fair - stop by and visit!! John Morgan, 371 Arizona Avenue; Steve Raimonde, across from 344 Arizona; Lisa Pittman, 310 Connecticut; Yom Ice Cream, 277 Connecticut; Cynthia Baer, 1778 Delaware Avenue; Meghan Parham Riley, 322 Connecticut; Lake Claire Neighbors - with merch! - 1800 Delaware Avenue. See a list of all of our sponsors above, and see all of our sponsors' logos on Page 20.



Hello – Safe Journey: Skiing in and around Lake Claire

Happy October Birthday to:

November 1: Jane Merkle (Connecticut)
November 2: Woody Spivey (Harold)
November 3: Seija Olson (Leonardo) turning 14
November 6: Cora Elisabeth Weeks (Leonardo) turns 11
November 7: Sue McAvoy (Leonardo, xoxo ❤) and Aviva Berman Billinkoff (Harold)
November 9: Ollie Hutcheson (Hardendorf) turning 6!
November 11: Susan Ledbetter (McLendon), Tim Bonner (Harold)
November 12: August Goldstein, turns 11 (Indiana Avenue)
Arden Joiner, Claire Drive, 13
November 14: Marilyn Schertz (Arizona)
November 15: Aileen Mary Styczynski—13 (Harold), Aileen Cole (Harold), Greg Hutcheson (Arizona)
November 18: Debbie Livingston (Marlbrook) **Thx for all the gorgeous photos throughout the year!**
November 22: Andrew Sherwood proud to turn 87 (Harold) (see article Page 8) and Criss Wood (Harold)
November 23: Christina Woodhouse (Harold)
November 24: Anne d'Agostino (Connecticut), Henry Cornell (turns 4!), and Georgeanne Wasick (Harold)
November 26: Mindy Kidd (Harold)

Send us life cycle changes for upcoming issues by November 18.

Lifeline Animal Project: 2025 Annual Report Summary

Continued from page 9.

More numbers

309 Employees
1916 Volunteers
42,443 hours volunteered
4,966 foster homes
217 Rescue partners
7,668 individual donors
14 sponsors
15 grants awarded
245 Community events



The challenges and achievements of 2025 demonstrated what is possible when a community unites behind a common cause. Helping 46,600 animals throughout our city, maintaining a lifesaving rate of 90.7% within our shelters, and securing the resources required to sustain this lifesaving operation takes extraordinary levels of commitment, compassion, and collaboration. The strength of this organization comes from LifeLine's community partnership and from what is made possible together for animals across Atlanta. Every volunteer who gives their time, every foster parent who opens their home, every adopter who changes a life, every advocate who speaks up, and every donor who makes this work possible is part of that change.



Inman Park Library Building

Continued from page 1.

as I entered. Here was a place to find community as someone new to Atlanta. And, after months of frequent visits, it became a workplace for me. With the encouragement of the librarian, I applied for a position at the branch and ended up working there. In fact, this was the start of a found career. It was a lovely place to work because the community embraced the library as both a source of books and information as well as an informal gathering place.

The library had begun as a community's dream, and, according to the branch history, it was housed in a storeroom on Euclid Avenue. The branch history says land for the library had been held for twenty years but because of the depression, it was difficult to raise funds for a building. The community kept its focus on getting a library building, and $40,000 was finally raised. The federal program W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration—a New Deal agency), City of Atlanta, and DeKalb County each paid a portion. Once funds were in place, a groundbreaking was held on August 31, 1940. The branch history lists attendees at this event as Mayor Hartsfield and several dignitaries, including Fanny Hinton, the library system director, and Helen Chaffey, the Inman Park Branch librarian. The new library opened on Monday, November 3, 1941, with a formal dedication and unveiling of the cornerstone sponsored by the Bass Community Council on December 18, 1941. That cornerstone, still affixed to the building, lists Atlanta's mayor as Roy LeCraw. Mr. LeCraw served a brief term as mayor from September 1941 to May of 1942, when he resigned to join the armed forces. His term was sandwiched between two non-consecutive terms for Mayor Hartsfield.



Cornerstone from building dedication – photo by Linda Hoopes

The Inman Park branch library was one of three Atlanta Public Library branches serving communities in the portion of the City of Atlanta located in DeKalb County. The other two libraries were the Kirkwood and East Atlanta branches. In 1983, following a change in the state law governing libraries, the Library System became a part of Fulton County. As the branch history says, "The future of the three libraries was in doubt until the City of Atlanta found a solution by collecting extra property tax in the DeKalb portion of the city and paying the money to Fulton County for library operations." Thus, those of us who live in the City of Atlanta in DeKalb County are eligible for a resident Fulton County Library card.



Wish *sign facing building front – photo by Linda Hoopes*

In 1985, a bond issue was passed which provided funds for several new libraries, including the Ponce de Leon Branch, which was slated to replace two smaller branches, the Highland and Inman Park libraries. The Inman Park library closed in November 1989. According to an article from a preservation newsletter found in the library file, the building was sold to a member of the Atlanta Preservation Center in 1990.

For the past 20 years, the building has been home to the boutique Wish, described in an Atlanta Journal Constitution August 24, 2026 article by Gavin Godfrey as "One of Atlanta's storied style and culture hubs." Lauren Amos, its founder, and the store were the subject of this article. The article says that Ms. Amos, a graduate of the Atlanta College of Art, worked as a manager at Wish, a retail shop owned by a Seattle-based group in 2004. According to the AJC article, the owners felt their fledgling business could use a local's touch and they offered it to Amos. She accepted and reopened the space in 2006.

Wish grew into a successful retail business. In her message on Wish's website about the planned closing. Ms. Amos describes Wish as, "...a place where fashion, art and culture intersect." She goes on to talk about the exhibits and events that have graced Wish during its operation. A visit to Wish demonstrates the creativity involved in displaying and marketing fashion. The emphasis is on shoes that are strategically displayed on the main and lower levels of the space. There are design elements that harken back to the building's origins. The stairway to the lower level is highlighted by stacks of books. One interactive display encourages people to write their Wish story on a library card and display it in a book pocket.

Wish is slated to close on December 28. According to the AJC article, Ms. Amos owns the building. The article says she has no immediate plans for what could fill the space. Ms. Amos is quoted as saying, "I hope a young, cool, creative person comes in and creates something new, not another carbon copy of Wish, but something totally exciting, that keeps people talking about Atlanta." So, the building at 447 Moreland Avenue, this landmark, this product of a community's hopes and dreams, awaits the next chapter in its storied existence.

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*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates are effective as of the date of publication and subject to change without notice. A $500 minimum deposit is required. New money must come from another financial institution. Membership eligibility is required.

Wild in Lake Claire

Continued from page 5.

on the road shortly after Lyndsay did. Ginger L. shared a photo of a beautiful hawk on her fence (see photo by Ginger L.), likely scoping out the potential for a squirrel meal.

Another common thread this month was spiders (pun intended). The non-native Joro spiders are seemingly everywhere, creating quite the natural Halloween decorations. Dan G. sent in some very scary close-ups of a Joro in his yard (see photo by Dan G.), and Ethan D. sent one of a Joro at his home on Nelms with the detail of its golden-threaded web (see photo by Ethan D.). Ethan also shared a photo of a beautiful spinyback spider (see photo by Ethan D.). While possibly spooky, neither of these spiders is in any way dangerous to humans.

A final set of repeated observations this month came from Keri B. and Marc B., both of whom report seeing green anoles around the neighborhood in a variety of situations, on walls, railings and in plants (see photos by Keri B. and Marc B. on page 5).

Meredith W. reported that a few weeks ago she saw a dead snapping turtle at Lullwater, which made her sad. Later, she saw another snapping turtle half-submerged with the back of its head above the water in an unusual position. Lullwater has been having issues with algal blooms, so she wondered if this turtle had died too. She watched for a while and got sad—the snapper was perfectly still, and she assumed it was dead. Then suddenly she heard a snap, and a frog exploded from just in front of the snapper's face. The American bullfrog stood still for a long time as if recovering from the fright, and the snapping turtle retreated back into the water. Meredith was so glad to be wrong!

Bernard S. described coming across a baby rat snake on a recent trip to Macon (see photo by Bernard S.). He says it took a while to identify it, and some in his group thought it might be a rattle snake, as apparently, they do not have rattles when very young. They released the snake in the woods.

A Chinese proverb says, "Be like bamboo. The higher you grow, the deeper you bow," which is a reflection on staying humble. If you ever have the chance to stand in a canebrake, a patch of giant grass, I think you'll see what I mean.

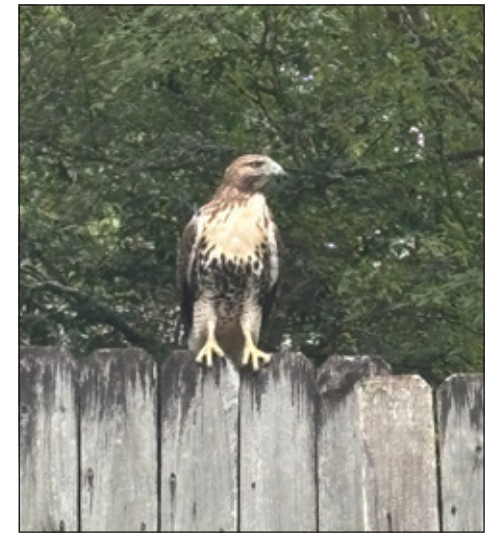
If you'd like to report a wildlife sighting for inclusion in a future column, please submit it via this Google Form: bit.ly/WildInLakeClaire.



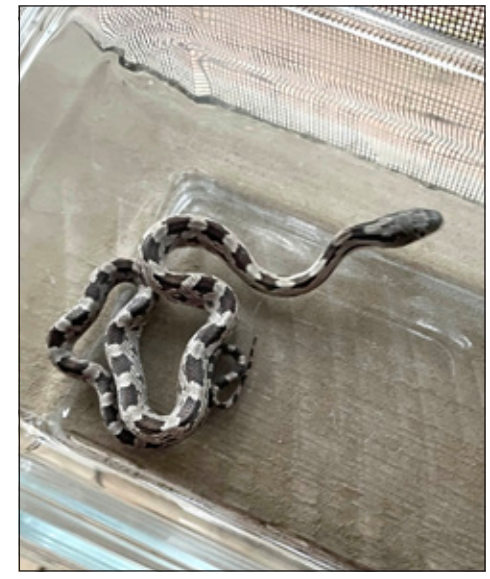
Lyndsay's vulture



Glenn's hawk



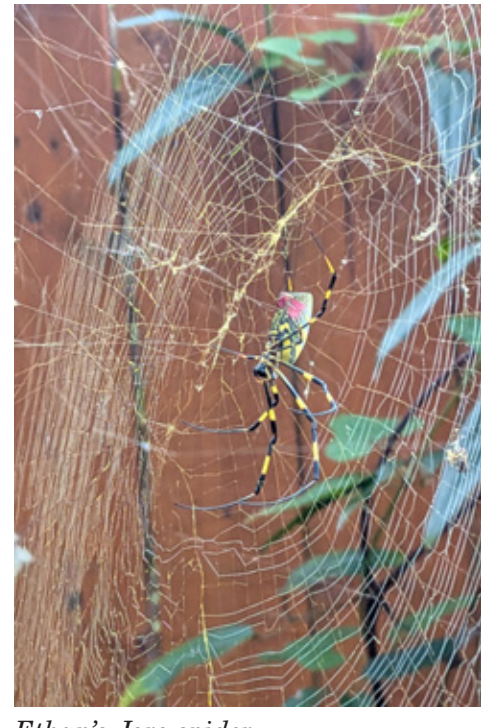
Ginger's hawk



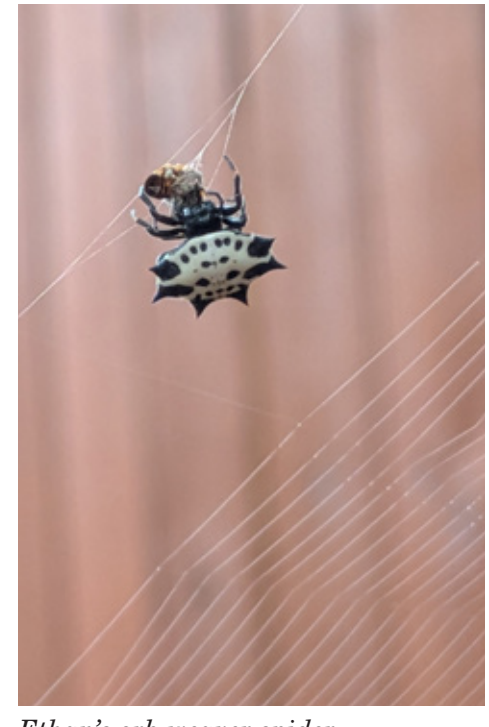
Bernard's rat snake



Dan's Joro spider



Ethan's Joro spider



Ethan's orb weaver spider



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion writers and artists to participate in our 'hood. Ryan Cullman is this issue's featured writer, with their story of a very unique pet. I am so impressed by Ryan's writing, and I feel this is the start of a great writing career. Thank you, Ryan, and I hope all is well with you and Whiskers, indeed a unique pet!

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

Snails are Awesome!

by Ryan Cullman

My name is Ryan, and I am a middle schooler here in the neighborhood. I have a topic you may not have expected to read about today – snails. Your first thought may be about them ruining a garden, but they are quite interesting! Snails, part of the Gastropoda family, are much more than your average pests. Snails are incredibly good for the environment because they play a vital role in keeping ecosystems healthy. As decomposers, they break down organic material to create richer soil, they are a great source of calcium to birds and other animals up the food chain, and they help spread fungus and plant spores as they travel. While gardeners often view them as pests or invaders, native snails act as unsung little heroes with antennas in forests, aquatic, and even urban environments.

I have my own pet snail called Whiskers, who has quite a personality and brings lots of joy to our lives. Over the summer when we visit family on the west coast, one of my favorite things to do is find giant moon snails on the beach and help rebury them before predators can find them. It always feels good to help creatures that add so much to our world. Next time you see a snail or slug on a leaf, at a beach, or on a sidewalk, please remember they are more than a slimy little alien organism; they are adorable, (in my opinion), and important, (science's opinion), contributors to ecosystems near and far.



Ryan and giant moon snail



Whiskers, Ryan's pet

Contest Winners

Our first-place winner this month is Victoria Kelley on Hardendorf, a fifth grader at Mary Lin.

In 2nd place is Roman Luna Warras on Marlbrook, who was very excited to try this month's contest after seeing his friends Susannah and Blair in the October issue!

And 3rd place, Amia Williams, age 6, is in first grade at Wesley International Academy and lives on Tuxedo. **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 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**!



Victoria, 1st place winner!



Roman, 2nd place winner!



Amia, 3rd place winner!

New Contest

Hi kids, November is a great month for holidays, big and small. On the threshold of the huge Christmas holiday season, we get a chance to slow down and give thanks for all that we have. Some people enjoy Thanksgiving more than any other holiday. Why? Maybe because Thanksgiving is all about the "Four Fs": food, family, football, and fun. But don't forget the next letter, 'g', gratitude. To win this month, find a graphic of Thanksgiving and gratitude. The winner/winners will be pictured in the next Clarion. For extra credit, tell us – for whom are you grateful? . Email *editor@lakeclaire.org*, identifying the page number, and include your name, age, school, street, and grade, along with a photo of yourself. (**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. **The deadline is NOVEMBER 18. Hurry and look; competition is always stiff for this HIGHLY coveted prize.**

Upcoming & Ongoing at the Land Trust

Sun., Nov. 1: Sunday Slowdown Music Series, 5:30–8 p.m.Sunday Slowdown is a free live music series highlighting talented musicians from Lake Claire and surrounding neighborhoods. Bring your own picnic dinner, settle in around the amphitheater, and enjoy time slowing down and connecting with neighbors, friends, family, and the LCCLT. GiddyUp will kick off the Sunday evening music series. GiddyUp arose at the Lake Claire Craft Fair December 2025 and includes Paul Shaw (guitar and vocals) and Mel Shaw (vocals), Adam Fristoe (mandolin and vocals), Leonard Wortzel(banjo) and Frank Williams (fiddle). (They'll be back at the next fair on Indiana December 5.) The audience can expect a twangy musical uplift with hints of folk, bluegrass, originals, and eclectic tunes from across the board that will get you up out of your seat—GiddyUp--to boggiewoggie with the beat.

Sat., Nov. 7: 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: *Nov. 12*

Sun., Nov. 8: 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., Nov. 8: LCCLT board meeting, 4:30–6 p.m. (every month on the 2nd Sunday) in the Gorilla Grill with the heater on. All are welcome to sit in and speak up. Come in person, or contact us at *info@LCCLT.org* for a Zoom link.

Mon., Nov. 9: Monday Play Group, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (and every Monday except the first Monday of the month) at the Land Trust.Each session features creative, hands-on activities that encourage exploration, learning, and community. Some activities may be messy or require parental assistance. Drop in anytime and leave as needed. Cost: Join this playful gathering with your children ages 6 and under. Contribution of $10/drop-in or $15/monthly per family. (must be accompanied by an adult!) Bring water and bug spray.

Fri., Nov. 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., Nov. 16: Monday Play Group. See Mon. 9 for details.

Sat., Nov. 21: Community Work Day, **1–4 p.m.** (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.)

Sun., Nov. 22: 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.

Sun., Nov. 22: Science for Georgia - Climate Survival Training Monthly Skill Share Meetup 3–5 p.m. Gathering to share skills and knowledge which are useful for community climate resilience and preparedness. Free! Donations welcome.

Mon., Nov. 23: Monday Play Group. See Mon. 9 for details.

Tues., Nov. 24: 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.*

Sat., Nov. 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 on Instagram.

Mon., Nov. 30: Monday Play Group. See Mon. 9 for details.

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

Grateful For Our Community

November is often a time to reflect on gratitude, giving us a chance to recognize the people we appreciate all year long.

At the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, we're grateful for our volunteers, sustaining members, gardeners, program leaders, board members, artists, musicians, community partners, and neighbors who share their time, talents and support.

Whether you lend a hand, attend an event, bring your children to play, walk through the gardens, or simply enjoy some time beneath the trees, you're part of the community that makes the Land Trust such a special place.

Be a Land Trust Sustainer/Supporter

Become a Land Trust **Sustainer** with a monthly donation of any amount. Be a Land Trust **Supporter** by donating $10 or more per year. The Lake Claire Community Land Trust is a 501(c)3 and depends heavily on volunteers and donations to maintain this haven. We appreciate whatever you can do to help! For more information, go to *www.lcclt.org/*.

Did You Know?

The Lake Claire Community Land Trust started with a group of neighbors, a vision for community greenspace, and a whole lot of kudzu.

LCCLT was founded by Lake Claire neighbors in 1983. Three years later, they purchased land from MARTA that was covered in red clay, trash, and kudzu, with the goal of preserving it as greenspace for community use. Over the decades, neighbors and volunteers transformed the property. In 2008, LCCLT officially received 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. The property expanded to include the pond in 2009, and in 2012 a conservation easement was established to protect the land permanently.

Today, the Land Trust encompasses 1.7 acres and includes more than 50 community garden beds, a children's garden, playground, amphitheater, pond, and gathering spaces used for everything from music and workshops to gardening, play, and community celebrations.

More than 40 years after that original group of neighbors came together, their vision lives on every time someone walks through the gates, lends a hand, attends an event, or simply finds a quiet place outside to enjoy.

LAND TRUST NOTES

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!

Transforming spaces responsibly to deliver amazing new homes in Lake Claire and Candler Park.

2044 Howard Circle



Distressed house



Coming soon!

Every project begins with architectural rescue. In order to preserve the past, our standard practice is to partner with local entities to recover historic assets before demolition.

As a 28-year resident and perennial Top Producer with Atlanta REALTORS® Association, I bring unmatched local knowledge and proven experience to the market. I pride myself on being a trustworthy partner and offering my neighbors total transparency. From coaching to sponsoring local events, I'm plugged in to our community. My roots here run deep—in fact, you might even remember me as your child's former APS school bus driver!

Whether you are looking to buy, sell, or just want to chat about the local market, reach out today to get an expert on your side.



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