



Lake Claire Park Spruce-Up Made MLK Day Shine

by Boyd Baker



Some of the Volunteers who Spruced Up LC Park

It all started with a simple email just a couple of days before the MLK holiday weekend. “So do you know of any family-friendly MLK service projects going on in

the neighborhood?” That note from my neighbor to me did two things: one, it made me question what was happening around our neighborhood on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Day. And two, it smacked my conscience. Smacked it right into the Guilty Corner where it belonged. I had not given one real moment’s thought to giving of my time in honor of
Cont. on p. 9

Frazer Center’s Cator Woolford Gardens

by Dan Watson

To visit Cator Woolford Gardens (1815 S. Ponce de Leon SE) is to discover a hidden gem. A manicured garden surrounded by acres of old growth forests minutes from Midtown and Decatur—there really isn’t anything like it. Now a popular wedding and event spot on weekends and a favorite woodland walk for so many families in Lake Claire, the Cator Woolford Gardens help support the children of all abilities and adults with disabilities who participate at the Frazer Center. This tradition of hos-



Cator Woolford Gardens Today (See 1920s picture on Page 5)

pitality dates back nearly 100 years to the founding of the gardens.

The gardens were laid out in 1919 when Cator Woolford (the co-founder of The Retail Credit Company, known today as Equifax) and his new wife built their dream home on 42 acres of property in Druid Hills. According to

Cont. on p. 5

The Little Libraries of Lake Claire

by Brian Kirk

Go back as far as you can into the archives of human history, and you’ll find one clear tradition we’ve carried with us throughout time. We like to tell stories.

We told stories about hunting on cave walls, about wars around tribal fires, about the

stars and what gods may inhabit them while peering out into the dark. Long before we learned to build homes, and form neighborhoods with cute names like Lake Claire, we had our stories, which we shared. It is through

Cont. on p. 7



LFL on Palifox, named after Bo, their cat

Highlights of this issue

- 2 Monthly calendar
- 4 Security/Crime Stats
- 5 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 8 Monthly Gardening
- 11 Lake Claire Land Trust
- 12 Lake Claire Kids’ Corner

THE CLARION IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.



Miss Ladybug is available for garden or fairy-themed birthday parties for children at the Land Trust. Please see Page 11.

MARTA to Move Forward on Development Adjacent to Edgewood/Candler Park Station

MARTA is moving forward on its latest lease of property adjacent to a transit station for residential and commercial development. The deal is designed to spur ridership and of course boost the authority’s bottom line. The first phase of the project, expected to break ground in 2015, will be the building of 200 units

of market-rate housing. The second phase will include an additional 235 housing units. At least 20 percent of the apartments will be priced “compatibly with affordable workforce housing.” There will also be some commercial space for lease. More to come in future Clarions.

Lake Claire Officers for 2014

President: Joe Agee, president@lakeclaire.org
 VP Finance & Treasurer:
 Andrew Sherwood, treasurer@lakeclaire.org
 VP Planning & NPU Rep:
 Carol Holliday, npu@lakeclaire.org
 VP Zoning: Robin Singer, zoning@lakeclaire.org
 VP Environment: Christiane French,
 environment@lakeclaire.org
 VP Safety: Kathie Ryan, safety@lakeclaire.org
 VP Communications: Nancy Dorsner, comm@lakeclaire.org
 VP Fun(d)raising: Sara Rockaway, fun@lakeclaire.org
 Education Liaison: Annsley Klehr, education@lakeclaire.org.

Clarion Newsletter Staff

Editor: Beth Damon, editor@lakeclaire.org
 Advertising: Pat Del Rey,
 advertising@lakeclaire.org
 Distribution: Alicia McGill,
 distribution@lakeclaire.org
 Layout: Erik Rühling, layout@lakeclaire.org
 Webmaster: Will Burke,
 webmaster@lakeclaire.org
 Contact Lake Claire Neighbors at PO Box 5942,
 Atlanta, GA 31107, 404-236-9526 or
 www.lakeclaire.org.

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

Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

Zoning: Effective March 1, Dan White resigned as VP for Zoning. According to our bylaws, the Exec. Committee appoints a replacement, and Robin Singer, long-time LC resident and neighborhood supporter, has volunteered to take over. Dan has held the position since 2006 and has been active in a myriad of ways in Lake Claire for MANY years. The Clarion hopes to interview him soon with more detail, but for now, let's all extend our gratitude to Dan for his many years of service!!! Thank you, Dan.

The newspaper's current and past issues are available online at <http://lakeclaire.org/clarion/>

Lots of Great Stuff in MARCH:

1 "Life is Too Short to Watch Lousy Movies" home movie group, see details in article Page 10. First Saturday of every month.

3 *Teeny Tiny Tots Storytime* introduces toddlers to books/reading; free open to the public. Kirkwood Branch library, 11 Kirkwood Rd. comments@co.fulton.ga.us, 404-377-6471 (Weekly, on Tuesdays)

7 Land Trust Drum Circle, from sunset to 11 p.m. Please walk, bike, or carpool. Donation requested. Bring a friend!

9 The next Grady cluster meeting will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m., Grady High School. See School-Stuff article on Page 3.

10 Sierra Club monthly meeting – 2nd Tuesday of each month, Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave @ East Lake Drive, 7pm. See <http://georgia.sierraclub.org/atlanta/>

14 *Wild Poisons Day* from 10am to 2pm. Learn more about the poisons of plants, animals and fungus among us! Special displays & demonstrations. Fernbank (see <http://www.fernbankmuseum.org>).

14 **Good Gracious show!** - THE variety show celebrating Atlanta & the South – at THE Variety Playhouse 8pm. See box below for details and check the website.

15 "Shoe String Theory" at the Land Trust, 4:00-6:00 pm. See article page 11. For info or to sign up, contact Andrea at missladybu-gevents@yahoo.com.

17 Noon – Dekalb History Center Free Lunch & Learn: History and Culture of Southeastern Indians, bring your lunch, Historic Courthouse, 101 E. Court Sq., Decatur, 2nd floor, Superior Court Room

19 and the 3rd Thursday of every month **7:15 pm Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, The Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, pizza (THANKS, SAVAGE)**

20 6-8:30 pm - Silent auction, Dekalb History Center, info--donaldson@dekalbhistory.org

21 Backyard Composting Workshop at the Land Trust, 10:00 am-12:00 noon. See article page 11. AND in the evening: Drum Circle, sunset to 11 p.m. See 2/7. Bring a friend!

22 Linapalooza at Inman Middle school. **Please support our local talent.**

22 Community Work Day at the Land Trust, 2:00-5:00 pm. See Page 11.

26 Taste of Inman – over 20 restaurants! details <http://inman-middleschool.org/events-fundraising/>

28 Natural Soap-Making Workshop at Lake Claire Co-housing, 10:00 am-1:00 pm. See Page 11.

28 Annual Peace & Love Spring Fest at the Land Trust! Great bands! See Page 11.

Calendar deadline for APRIL CLARION: MARCH 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org.

The Clarion is *your* newspaper; please contribute.

Lake Claire's – and Atlanta's -- favorite variety show is back on Saturday, March 14 at the Variety Playhouse in Little Five Points for its fourth show. A night of music, laughs, and more is sure to please all ages. Folks you'll see on stage are singer-songwriter GARETH ASHER, DAD'S GARAGE IMPROV, musician HANNAH THOMAS, TREES ATLANTA, ATLANTA DRUM ACADEMY, 48-HOUR FILM PROJECT, poet THERESA DAVIS, The GIVING KITCHEN, and more. Tickets are only \$17 (\$20 day of show) at the Variety Playhouse box office (online at Ticketmaster). Learn more at www.GoodGraciousShow.com.

Personal and Business Classifieds

Peter and Paul Landscape Cleanup and Maintenance, Call or email Lake Claire resident Pat Del Rey, 404 933 3053 or pdelrey@uga.edu

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR LAKE CLAIRE STREET

I'm doing research for a family Fun Walk and Treasure Hunt Day in Lake Claire. Please let me know your street's special characters so I can include them in the walk. -- Thanks, Pen Sherwood, aprilstar64@yahoo.com

S • C • H • O • O • L S • T • U • F • F

by Annsley Klehr

The education world seems to be hopping this month. Here is some of the pertinent news to us.

Budget Effects on Georgia Public Schools

On Wednesday, January 28, the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) convened at Centennial Academy where Claire Suggs, Senior Education Policy Analyst for the Georgia Budget & Policy Institute, presented how the current state budget affects student achievement and policy in Georgia. It was a very informative presentation and can be viewed at http://www.cinsatlanta.org/uploads/2/8/8/6/2886994/cins_gbpi_presentation_2-28-15_for_distribution.pdf.

Inman Middle School and Its Future Expansion Unknown

In other news, APS Superintendent Meria Carstarphen wrote a letter dated January 29, 2015 to Inman Middle School Community concerning Inman Middle School's pending addition. (To read her full letter, visit: https://gallery.mailchimp.com/a9dba30166f77231dddc36935/files/2015_01_29_Letter_from_Dr_Carstarphen_re_Inman_Middle_School_Community_3_.pdf)

Her letter states that there have been developments that will "delay our construction plans." She goes on to explain that enrollment projections for the next school year are greater than expected, and the planned addition to Inman will not be able to accommodate this growth. Her other concern is around the potential annexation of the Druid Hills community. She states that "[w]hile APS is not involved in this process and there



Mary Lin Class in 1951

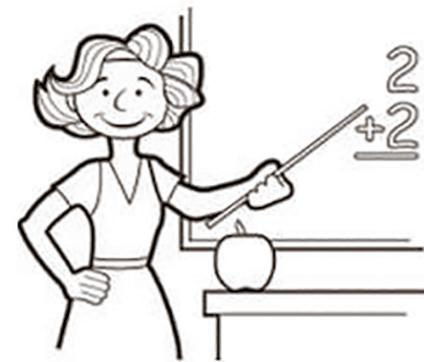


Mary Lin Class Student Council 1953-4

are many unanswered questions, if the Druid Hills community chooses to pursue this path later this year, we would be faced with important decisions related to transitioning additional students and school buildings into the APS family and portfolio."

Carstarphen's temporary solution is to bring in more modular

classrooms to accommodate the population growth for the 2015-2016 school year until she has enough information to make a more informed, long-term solution. Carstarphen also notes that she recently brought in a "residency verification officer" to address overcrowding concerns due to potential fraudulent enrollment. To



address these concerns in person with her and others, there was a meeting held Thursday, February 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Inman Middle School (after the Clarion had gone to press).

APS and the Charter System

Back in the fall, the Georgia Department of Education required that APS choose a school governance system. On November 3, 2014, the Atlanta Board of Education voted 8 to 1 to pursue Charter System status (different from a Charter School). The idea of the Charter System is to give

Cont. on p. 7

Looking for GHOSTS!!

Ok, so maybe not ghosts but **history**, old photos, cool memories of our LC/CP neighborhoods. Know someone who went to Mary Lin years ago? Somebody who has lived here his or her whole life? I want to collect as many photos and stories as I can to share with future 30307 generations, starting with these two pictures on the left of historic Mary Lin. Contact/email Boyd Baker at 404.895.9276 / boyd@sumowriter.com.

And we'll continue to share some of the photos in the Clarion, of course. -Ed.

The Waverly Alphabetical Compendium

For the last few years The Clarion has been running a monthly illustration from artist Anna Trodglen called "Biscuits And Bellyrubs." Now Anna has a new alphabet/art book called *The Waverly Alphabetical Compendium*.

Anna grew up on East Lake Road, right around the corner from Lake Claire, and she now lives in Pine Lake with her husband Dugan and their two terriers. In addition to her illustration work, she can often be found

at dog shows or Kirkwood Groomers drawing pastel dog portraits.

Anna draws much inspiration from classic children's book art as well as early twentieth century illustration. She particularly likes to tell stories with art, just as she has done with music, where she has recorded and performed under the name Grace Braun.

In the spirit of Anna's love of art and animals, each letter in her new book is accompanied

by a full page illustration of an animal whose name begins with that letter. Many of the animals chosen for the book are unusual and witty, and the drawings are designed to be appreciated by lovers of illustration as well as by children and their parents.

The Waverly Alphabetical Compendium is available locally at Book Nook Decatur, online through Anna's website annatrodglen.com, or at Amazon.com.



From Anna Trodglen's *Waverly Book*

Keep An Eye on the Crime and the Time:

Lake Claire Security Report, January 4 – 31, 2015

Compiled from Atlanta Police Department (APD) Report (their notices are regularly a little behind, plus the Clarion comes out once a month)



Burglary

200 block Connecticut Ave.	1/14/15	<p>Taken: iPad, laptop Key left in front door!* Homeowner heard a noise in the night, found the front door partially open, locked the door removing key and went back to sleep. Upon returning home from work later in the day she noticed the items missing.</p>
200 block Nelms Ave.	1/15/15	<p>Taken: laptop Back door left unlocked!* Victim left the apartment leaving his roommate sleeping and the back door unlocked. When he returned there was a male he has seen frequent L5P leaving the apt. with a backpack. When he entered the apt. the roommate was still asleep and the dog, which had been silent, began to bark. No prints. Suspect: B/M, 5'9" tall, medium afro, in his forties</p>
200 block Connecticut Ave.	1/26/15	<p>Taken: laptop, purse, credit cards, car keys Residence was unlocked!* Using the car keys the suspect also removed clothing from the trunk of the car. No prints.</p>

Other Larceny

400 block Sutherland Pl.	1/30/15	<p>Taken: bicycles taken from backyard Witness advised that 3 males were walking near the home around the time of the theft. The bicycles were recovered at the location of a separate incident, an auto theft.</p>
--------------------------	---------	--

Theft from Auto

400 block Hardendorf Ave.	1/18/15	<p>Taken: iPad, tablet at residence Damage: driver's side door window broken. No prints taken</p>
---------------------------	---------	---

***PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS ARE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES!!!**

Other notes Regarding Crime and Security

The property manager at the Edgewood Retail District would like all patrons to program the following number into their phones in the event of a threatening situation or to report anything amiss: 678-618-2308. This is ERD's 24 hour security number.

Contact APD by dialing 911 from your home or cell phone for any/every incidence of crime or suspicious behavior. Program 404-658-6666 into your cell phone for a prompter response. Tell the operator you're in APD's Zone 6, Beat 608 if your location does not automatically come up on the operator's screen. It's also a good idea to give a call back number.

For up-to-date security reports join lakeclaireneighborhoodwatch@yahoogroups.com and nextdoor.com (Lake Claire). The latter has become the best way to receive up to date security reports, and the Atlanta Police Department posts to that site. To join: www.nextdoor.com/join. This is also a great place to report missing pets in the Lost & Found category. You will only receive the notifications you request when you choose your settings, so your inbox will not be slammed with information in which you are not interested.

 **Ebel Family Law**

This is a law practice in which kindness, mutual respect between lawyer & client, and a goal of creating a superior work product (a hearing, a trial, a brief, or a successful appeal) prevails.

Conveniently located office at Colony Square. Well respected by peers, clients, the courts. National and local accolades.

Deborah Ebel
404-228-4441
<http://www.ebelfamilylaw.com/contact.php>





**Change your channel.
 Atlanta's new home town brokerage.**



lewisandredwine.com • 1417B Dutch Valley Place NE Atlanta, GA 30324 • 404.897.1595

Cator Woolford Gardens in the Frazer Center

continued from page 1

the publication *Garden History of Georgia 1733-1933*, "Mr. Woolford's intention in creating his gardens was not only the enjoyment of flowers and shrubs, but also to place in the beautiful setting offered by the estate, various types of recreation." **In short, the gardens were made for entertaining.**

Each spring Frazer Center keeps with this tradition by hosting its annual fundraiser *Goodness in the Gardens* in the Cator Woolford Gardens. This year's *Goodness in the Gardens* will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event is not only a special occasion to help raise important funds for the Frazer Center, but also a chance for the community to relive the past and enjoy the splendor of the Gardens the way Mr. Woolford intended.

It is no wonder Mr. Woolford decided on this gorgeous location to build his estate, which he named Jacqueland, after an orphan he supported in France. The property sits on a timbered hill surrounded by streams. Mr. Woolford built his house—what is now the Atlanta Hospital Hospitality House, a nonprofit that provides a "home away from home" to outpatients and caregivers of patients hospitalized in Atlanta area hospitals—midway up the hill to overlook his gardens.

The varied topography gave opportunity for gardens of different types on the property, according

to the Garden Club of Atlanta. The Cator Woolfords had a staff of 14 gardeners to help maintain the grounds that featured wild plantings along trails and streams, vegetable gardens, an elaborate rock garden, and the formal gardens. The largest formal garden featured numerous pink and white dogwoods highlighted by wide curved beds of azalea *Hinodegiri*—one of the first attempts in the state to grow this now popular type of azalea. *Garden History of Georgia 1733-1933* captures the formal gardens eloquently by stating, "the dogwoods in early spring, against the evergreen of the tall cherry laurel trees and pines, give a bouquet effect to the set design of the flower beds."

Mr. Woolford made sure the gardens had features and activities for all to enjoy, so in addition to the stunning landscaping, the gardens featured a swimming pool, club house with dancing terrace, tennis courts, and even a miniature golf course. Scattered throughout the gardens and recreational spaces were pink and white Cherokee roses, Japanese Irises, Madonna lilies, delphinium, varicolored peonies, among numerous other vibrant flowers and plants.

By all accounts Jacqueland and its gardens were a sight to behold. In 1943 Mr. Woolford sold his estate. Shortly after in 1952, what is now the Frazer Center began operations on the property as the Cerebral Palsy School Clinic.



Gardens of Old: 1920s photo - how this beautiful piece of property has been enjoyed for almost 100 yrs. Cator Woolford is on the right in the white suit. Photo courtesy of Cator Sparks.

The gardens were restored in 1996, eventually named the Cator Woolford Gardens in honor of the Woolford's dedication to hospitality and beautiful grounds, and opened for the neighborhood to enjoy. Today the Frazer Center maintains the grounds, which remain open to the community except when rented for private events and other activities. Rental proceeds support the programs of the Frazer Center including maintenance of the gardens and surrounding forest.

The Goodness in the Gardens event on April 25 is the perfect occasion for Lake Claire and other community members to enjoy the gardens the Cator Woolford way; with neighbors, entertainment, and cheer—and to help preserve this special resource for years to come.

Dan Watson is the Communications & Development Coordinator at the Frazer Center. He can be reached at d.watson@frazer-center.org. – Ed.

Hello...Safe Journey – Skiing in and around Lake Claire



Evan Golden

Looks like Chime likes Maisie (L) already

This Month's Birthdays:

March 8 – Lawson Crutcher will be 11, Hardendorf
 March 11 – Zoë Steib on Palifox Drive will be the big 10!
 March 11 – Sharon Golubic, Adolphus
 March 14 – Jennie Caine, Leonardo
 March 31 – James Crutcher, Hardendorf
 Happy 1-yr wedding anniversary:
 March 22 – Anna Kilinski & Spencer McKinley Brent, Clifton Rd.

*Please help us make this feature inclusive. Take a minute right now, and send life cycle events/important rights of passage, etc., for the month of April – and beyond – send to editor@lakeclaire.org. **Deadline MARCH 15** for the April newspaper.*

New Pet:

Maisie, rescue doggie, adopted by Susan Rutherford, Hardendorf
 Belated stuff:

The Golden on Harold have a new baby boy, Evan, born on January 28

Patricia Farmer birthday 2/12, Hardendorf; Selena Howard Fleming, Harold, turned 21 February 15; Eva Capps, Harold, turned 6 February 17; February 18, Ben Farmer, Hardendorf

Girl Scouts (and GS cookies) Abound in March

Why I love Girl Scouting

by Bridget Stevens

Hi, I'm Bridget Stevens, one of the Girl Scouts of Troop 13553. I love Girl Scouting because you get to learn about tips on camping and go camping. We even learned what to do if you are in the wilderness and somebody has a broken finger!! This year, since we are in Juniors, we ourselves get to pick what we do instead of the leader. So far it's been cool. We have gone to camp, learned

archery, camp songs, and we did the climbing wall (my personal favorite).

In addition to camping we have special visitors. For example, we had a Zumba instructor come to our meeting and tell us about what she does -- and we got to do some Zumba!! We do a lot more fun stuff at Girl Scouts too, such as *World Thinking Day* and field trips.



Troop 13553 Wall Climbing: From left to right, Scarlett Capps (Harold), Bridget Stevens (Adolphus), Sara McGill (Delaware), Lucia Gravel (Inman Pk), Addie Holoran (Candler Pk), Grace Bradshaw (Palifax), and Jamie Marlowe (Harold) prepare for the climbing wall at a fall 2014 camping trip at Camp Misty Mountain

"GO GIRL SCOUTS!"

by Scarlett Capps

My name is Scarlett, and I am happy to be a member of Girl Scout Troop 13553. Our Troop meets twice a month at Epworth Church, and we have a great Troop Leader named Mrs. Stevens who helps us plan activities and earn badges. Many of our parents help us earn badges too.

We recently earned the "Jewelry" badge. To earn the badge, we visited Worthmore Jewelers, and they gave us a tour of the whole shop. We were able to see how they shined different types of jewelry such as rings and bracelets. Then, we used different types of wire and beads to create our own pieces of jewelry. The most difficult part of earning this badge was wiring together the ends of the bracelets and necklaces. At the end, our jewelry turned out great, and we earned our badges.

Also, our Troop participates in *World Thinking Day* each year. Each Troop at *World Thinking Day* is assigned a country.

This year we are assigned the United Kingdom. Your Troop makes a booth, and everybody in the Troop is responsible for researching different things related to that country. For example, I am researching about Major Events and the Olympics. In the booth you also give out samples of different foods from that country. This doesn't mean that you stay at the booth the whole time. Each Girl Scout is given a Passport and 5 tickets. You travel to different booths to receive a stamp from other countries. You use the tickets to taste the food samples.

Our Troop also goes camping. We did an "Urban Campout" in our Troop Leaders back yard, and we also camped at Misty Mountain Campground with other Girl Scout Troops.

Some other badges we earned and things we have done include a Geocaching badge, a Staying Fit badge, a bike tour of the Atlanta Beltline, a tour



Brownie Troop Beltline Ride

of the Waffle House Museum, a tour of an animal shelter (that we made chew toys for) and putting together bags of food for the homeless. We also sell cookies each January door-to-door and at a booth. We use the funds we earn from cookies sales to do something that helps others and a fun outing.

One of the first interesting things I ever learned in Girl Scouts was how to use an acorn cap for whistling. A long time ago we also learned how to "finger knit" with yarn, which I still

do today.

As you can see, my Troop has had a lot of fun activities. The main thing I have learned in Girl Scouts is the ability to try new things. I think that Girl Scouts is something every girl should try, and along the way you make a bunch of new friends. My favorite part of being a Girl Scout is learning and doing new things.

Scarlett lives on Harold Avenue, is 9-years old, and attends St. Thomas More Catholic School.



Troop Cookie Booth



TM TNN Guest News Anchor and GS Bridging Ceremony

The Little Libraries of Lake Claire

continued from page 1



Front view of the LFL on Pg 1: Bo's Books are children's books. There is also a stash of dog treats and a water bowl available for four-legged passersby.

our stories that we made sense of the world. They help unite us in some primal way.

This tradition is alive and well in our own community today, where we swap stories out in the streets, on virtual social groups, around fire pits on certain Saturday nights, and by sharing books that we've read through little boxes that you see on the side of



Kids enjoy Lake Claire's Harold Greenspace - with LFL by Robin Singer



select roads. Our own little libraries.

These little neighborhood libraries were first introduced in 2009 by Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin, who built a model of a single room schoolhouse as a tribute to his mother, a former teacher who loved reading. He filled it with books and put it on a post in his front yard with a sign that said FREE BOOKS. Whether it was the word "Free" or "Books" that attracted such attention, we may never know. But the concept caught on and has spread across the nation, making it all the way to our neighborhood here.

Lake Claire's Little Free Libraries first appeared around 2011. The last time we wrote an article about them exactly two years ago there were *three* (see <http://www.lakeclaire.org/clarionarchives/2013/2013-03.pdf>). There are now almost ten. Each little library has its own distinct character and personality, much like its maker. And each carries a different selection of books, a collection as diverse and varied



Haller and Wren's LFL on New York

as people who live here. In some you'll find kids' stories; others contain classics. Some contain thrillers, mysteries, books on philosophy, romance, and, dare I say it, sex, drugs and rock & roll.

These are *our* stories, the ones we share with one another. So go visit the nearest little library to you, and share a story of your own.

As these little libraries can sometimes be hard to find, we have taken the time to map them out, pinpointing the location of each little library in Lake Claire. Each square box with the letters LL inside denotes a little library box. Go take a tour of them all.



Speaking of stories, we'd love to talk with the builders of our Little Free Libraries, and hear what inspired each of their creation and design. **Please email us at editor@lakeclaire.org if you would like your LFL to be featured in a future article for The Clarion.**

See also the story on Pat Edmondson's Lakeshore LFL at <http://www.lakeclaire.org/clarionarchives/2013/2013-03.pdf>.



School Stuff

continued from page 3

more local control to the school district and to the local school governance councils. Under the Charter, APS can apply for waivers, which can "waive" certain requirements that are imposed by the state Department of Education, in exchange for having greater accountability for student achievement. Since the decision made in November, APS will spend the next six months developing the charter petition, which will outline why they have chosen this system, goals, proposed operation of the system, and goals for "specific student performance expectations" that will be evalu-

ated after 5 years of operation (<http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/domain/9279>). The next Grady cluster meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2015 at Grady High School.

Proposed House Bill 100

And lastly, House Bill 100 has been proposed to change the current age a child is eligible for entering as a kindergartener. As it stands, a child must be five by September 1. HB 100 proposes that all children entering kindergarten in the fall 2015-2016 must be five by August 1 and must be five by June 30 for the school year

2016-2017 and each year thereafter. Georgia State Superintendent Richard Woods is in support of this bill as he stated in an article from the Rome News-Tribune on February 2, 2015. He does not believe that some four-year-olds are developmentally ready to start kindergarten, and is quoted saying, "Oftentimes their presence in a classroom requires teachers to provide pre-kindergarten services to the disadvantage of the older students who are ready to learn at the kindergarten level and achieve the high academic standards we have in Georgia." Although Woods supports this bill,

there has been opposition from many parents, especially those with children that will be affected by this bill this fall. **If you are interested in contacting our state representatives you can reach Elena Parent, Senator for District 42 by phone: 404.656.5109 or 404.229.9596 or Stacey Abrams, Representative for District 89 by phone: 404.656.5058 or e-mail: stacey-abrams@gmail.com or stacey.abrams@house.ga.gov**

Annsley Klehr is Lake Claire's Education Chair. - Ed.

March into April in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

This is the month many of us are sowing seeds, which got me thinking about the wild confusion I hear about plants and food, people thinking all old-fashioned items or new inventions are bad and everything in between. Yes, I do think the natural world is going to hell in a hand basket. But people tend to rush like lemmings towards the same fads, whether or not those things are actually better for each individual. Look at the deck fad or the fad for open plan houses, for instance, things that suit some of us and not others.

What are touted now as heirlooms are **open-pollinated** plants that will come true from seed the next year. Some people think these plants taste better than newer varieties. I think it depends on the variety. It is important to the individual only if you save the seed, another task in addition to preparing soil, sowing seeds, mulching, feeding, watering, monitoring for insects, harvesting, preparing, and eating. Then you must keep your seeds in a dark, low humidity en-

vironment, not too hot or too cold. I don't have that kind of environment and am not willing to monitor seeds in my basement refrigerator all year round. Traipsing up and down stairs to store and withdraw the new tulip bulbs for a six-week period in late fall is enough. And, no, my partner will not allow me to store hundreds of seeds in the kitchen refrigerator. I have gardened for over 50 years and commend others who save seed without ever having successfully done it myself.

I buy seeds of all kinds fresh each year from several different companies. **Hybrid** plants do not produce seeds like themselves because they have been artificially created by crossing the pollen of one variety with another, just as if a busy bee had the mind of a farmer. Take tomatoes as an example (the ones left you by squirrels, rats, etc.): each year our soil becomes more permeated by diseases that attack tomato plants. Some hybrids were developed to be resistant to disease and are labeled with letters like VFFNTAS^t to tell

you. 'Celebrity' is an example. Of course, other tomatoes were bred to travel long distances or not spoil as fast. You don't need to buy them.

Both kinds of seeds can produce organic food if you keep poisons out of the garden, amend your soil with compost, and use only organic supplements. Most important is that your seeds have not been treated. Farmers trying to get a crop into cold, wet soil in the spring time may need treated seeds; but companies who make their major profit from farmers, such as Harris or Stokes, now offer us untreated seeds marked as such.

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) are something else altogether, new beings produced by splicing the genes of different species together. We don't know what the outcome of this may be. However, we cannot buy these expensive seeds, and farmers cannot sell them or save the seeds for themselves. It is illegal for them even to give you GMO seeds for free. Companies have spent a lot of money to develop

GMOs, and it makes no sense for them to sneak them into your garden. They want you to buy the finished produce—why we need to work on the labeling of GMO food, which we are already eating. Ever hear of high fructose corn syrup?

I assume you have already planted peas outside and have started your brassicas and nightshade plants indoors. If you have not done the latter, then look for small plants at stores. Remember to sow your own seeds this summer for a fall crop. In February I began harvesting broccoli heads from last July's planting, yes, a little late—perhaps I should have potted up the seedlings earlier. At any rate, this is the big month for directly sowing the rest of cool weather crops: radishes, carrots, lettuce, beets, Swiss chard, turnips, parsnips, and potatoes (sets). In past years I have recommended *Square Foot Gardening* by Mel Bartholomew (he put out a 2nd edition in 2013, which is good since my 1981 copy is in two pieces), and I suggest it

Cont. on p. 9



Ready to put down or pick up roots? I can help.



I've helped people put down (and pick up) roots in and around 30307 for years. I'm a Mary Lin and Grady High mom and personally rooted in Lake Claire. As an Intown homeowner and Realtor® with deep roots in our community, I know how to help you find the right home and market your home to sell.

Ready to buy? I'll leverage my intown network to find the right property – and negotiate the best deal for you.

Ready to sell? My experience with professional staging, compelling photography, and creative marketing helps sell your home faster and for the highest price.

Contact me, your intown Realtor® and neighbor, when you're ready to put down (or pick up) roots.

-  Lake Claire
-  Candler Park
-  Inman Park
-  Decatur
-  Druid Hills
-  Virginia Highland
-  Morningside
-  Poncey Highland
-  Old Fourth Ward



Get my free app to view all available homes!



March into April in the Garden

continued from page 8

again, especially for those nice raised beds some of you are creating. He has a web site <http://squarefootgardening.org/> although there is still nothing like a book for traveling with you any time, anywhere, Internet up or down.

And if you are worried about frost, start some seeds in a sim-

ple cold frame created with hay bales or cinder blocks covered with an old window or anything that lets in light and can be closed during cold spells. Our biggest problem in Atlanta is too much heat build-up on sunny days. When I had to be at work, I got an automatic vent opener to expand in warmth and lift the

window, which works fine unless your eight-pound cat likes to sit on it. If you graduate up to a purchased cold frame, I recommend the Juwel, a German brand that lasted me over 20 years (and was carted away by someone when I put it on the curb) before I purchased a second.

It is never too late to add to

your compost piles, and it is never too early to start mulching spring plantings. My only caveat in March is to plant only what you can maintain in July. Start small, plant appropriately each month, and enjoy your successes.

Please feel free to write to Elizabeth at knowltonew@earthlink.net

Lake Claire Park Spruce-Up Made MLK Day Shine

continued from page 1

Dr. King. Not until my neighbor Peter asked if I knew anything his family could do to make the world a little better.

From that moment on the die was cast, I suppose. I realized I'd been selfish and needed to follow Peter's lead and find some way to give back with my family. So I told him that I really didn't know of anything official but maybe we could come up with something on our own. Having kids, the parks always come to mind. The value of our local parks to families cannot be overstated. Having a destination just to take a walk to, a field to run around in, or a swingset to while away an afternoon can create some special memories.

That's where resident **Judy Hammack of the Friends of Lake Claire Park** came into the picture. She and I had been on a team of folks talking with the City about possible improvements to Lake Claire Park. I knew there were big dreams of renovating the park but, at the same time, there were lots of little things that could always be

done to improve the greenspace. Peter, Judy, and I threw out some ideas of what might be most beneficial and reasonable completed by volunteers within a few hours. We posted on the neighborhood message board, emailed friends, and asked for it to be shared by others.

And that's how our wacky-last-minute-volunteer-friendly Lake Claire Park Spruce-Up came about. There was no master plan. There was only chaotic last minute tasks created and tools borrowed and begged for. Folks came out of the woodwork on one of the best days we'd had in the neighborhood in quite a while. It was sunny and warm and perfect for meeting new friends and giving back to our lovely Lake Claire Park.

About 30 folks came out and brought tools, wheelbarrows, and great attitudes, and worked from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Peter and I worked around the decaying "sewer cap" at the lower end of the park to make sure no one fell into the sinkhole that has developed. The Johnson Boys (sans James)

cleared off the stone stairway and were crucial in building the foundation of the path that leads to Marlbrook Drive. Kelly Karim and various dads loaded wheelbarrows and helped haul loads of "reclaimed" mulch from the playground across the length of the park and up the deer trail at great personal risk to their lower lumbar regions. Kids jumped right in to spread the mulch onto the natural path that gets quite muddy.

The Pressman men teamed up with Evan Levy and took Nature's fallen trees, then cut and lined them along the path to create a more stable walkway. Afterwards, they patched up the soccer goal that had come apart and looked so sad. Naka Nathaniel helped rally the troops to cut away and pull down ivy from the trees along Lakeshore at great personal, and itchy, cost as he learned a few days later. (Poison ivy can make you itch even without the leaves.) Ally and Tyler Bliss helped their mom, Melanie, Melissa Pressman, and Judy to weatherproof the three picnic ta-

bles with sealant. And countless others came out to pitch in, clean up, and just enjoy a gorgeous day with good neighbors.

Two hours later, we could see the fruits of our labor, and it felt good. Already the wheels are turning a bit thinking about next year. Could this be a tradition? Definitely I'll look at MLK Day in a different light from here on out. **So mark your calendars now**, we'll be more prepared and give more warning so that we can do even more good. Maybe we even have multiple projects! All ideas that make our neighborhood better are good ideas. So next time you're at the park and you notice a bunch of friendly faces sprucing up the place, feel free to ask if they need a hand. It's always appreciated, and you just might meet your next best friend. The park is all of ours, and it's great to be part of a neighborhood that cares.



Wild in Lake Claire

by Carol Vanderschaaf

Jennifer Gililterra reported animal dung on her back walk (on nextdoor/Lake Claire). After consulting with her experts, dad and brother, they decided it was most likely a coyote's. Kathie Ryan notes that in the case of the coyote the proper term is "scat." (Dung is a term used for larger animals.) Rebecca Anderson added that she had heard a "huge" pack of coyotes on the railroad tracks between Ridgecrest and the Parkwoods at 10:30 p.m. Christmas night, so loud that "my dogs went crazy!" Some supportive input on coyotes per Pamela Sellers, who states "without them we'd be overrun with, rats, squirrels, etc.," and Gayla Jamison,

"predators are part of the natural scheme of things, and since we love our streams and wooded areas, we must learn to live with the creatures that inhabit them." Bravo, Gayle and Pamela.

Coyote mating season is February and March. Pups are usually born about 63 days after impregnation, so keep an eye out in April and May. A litter can include up to nine pups but only two tend to survive to maturity due to predation and changes in the weather. Two factors limit coyote reproduction. Males are sterile for eight months of the year, and females are infertile for ten months and only have one litter. They mate for life. And

BTW, their lifespan is ten to fourteen years.

On February 8, Asher Vilensky spotted a migrating flock of Sandhill Cranes (roughly 50-60 birds) in the LC "air space." They flew from the southeast towards the northwest. Asher spots the cranes' migration every season -- both when they fly south through Atlanta February/March and when they return up north October-December. Asher asks if anybody knows where they land for the night. Any answers? I want to note that on GABO, the Georgia birding listserv, birders occasionally mention seeing the cranes in a landing spot somewhere over Georgia. Also there

is a Sandhill Crane Festival every winter (this year it was held in January) near Birchwood, TN. Check out the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency for more info.

Lastly, a word about Eastern Bluebirds. These native and declining birds are now in the process of searching for nesting sites and will continue to do so through April. The birds usually have 4 to 6 light blue eggs and can have three broods a year. These birds are declining in part to competition for sites with non-native birds such as House Sparrows and Starlings and partly from habitat loss. Another sad story, huh?

Neighborhood Movie Group in its 9th Year, with Louise Brooks and Alfred Hitchcock

In January *Life is Too Short to Watch Lousy Movies* embarked on its ninth year of appreciating classic movies, with the swashbuckling 1940 adventure *The Sea Hawk*. A spirited discussion focused on the similarity to and differences from current comic book movies and whether or not Tom Cruise or George Clooney is today's Errol Flynn. In February, in honor of Valentine's Day the group screened the granddaddy of all romantic comedies, *It Happened One Night*, which featured Clark Cable teaching Claudette Colbert how to hitchhike – and vice versa. The March program will showcase cult goddess Louise Brooks in her most famous role, libertine dancer Lulu in the German silent *Pandora's Box* (1929). April will feature Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman in Alfred Hitchcock's romantic thriller

Notorious (1946).

Life is Too Short to Watch Lousy Movies screens and discusses classic movies on the first Saturday of every month in a home theater in Ormewood Park. Participation is Space-available, as are a very few "regular" slots with guaranteed seating. **There is no charge for the films or the programs.**

Interested? ClassicFilmAppreciation.webs.com explains how things work. Then to be notified of future films, sign up for the mailing list as a space-available "Drop In" participant on the Contact Us page of the site. Moderator Steve White-man can answer questions at ClassicFilmAppreciation@gmail.com.

One of the regulars has said, "There is no better way to spend a Saturday evening in Atlanta!"



Our monthly cartoons are from the *Biscuits and Bellyrubs* series by Anna Trodglén. See the article on Anna on Page 3.

FIRST RATE ROOFING EXPERTS
 Hail damage or aging problems?
 Call for a free inspection.



Lake Claire references
Mention CLARION for a discount.
 404-876-1213
 Owner: David Damon firstratesiding@comcast.net

Lore Ruttan Illustration

Graphic Design Services
 Custom Wedding Stationery
 Fine Art Commissions



Lmruttan@gmail.com, 404 276-1404

Tickets Available Now!



This is Goodness.

Goodness in the Gardens is an elegant night in our gardens enjoying friends, delicious food, fine wine, craft beer, live music, a lively auction, and photo booth memories. It is the Frazer Center's premier fundraiser to support its mission for an inclusive community where people of all levels of ability and disability gather, learn, and flourish together.

It is Saturday, April 25 from 6-10 p.m.

Gator Woolford Gardens at Frazer Center
 1815 S. Ponce de Leon Ave. NE
 Atlanta, Georgia 30307
 More information and tickets at
GoodnessInTheGardens.org






NEW

LLC

Neal & Wright LLC

Your Family...Your Business...
 Your Firm!

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



Sherry Neal, J.D.
 Sherry@nealandwright.com
 (678) 596-3207

Dan Wright, J.D.
 Dan@nealandwright.com
 (678) 613-7850

Visit our website at
www.nealandwright.com

P.O. Box 5207
 Atlanta, GA 31107

Spring 2015 Community Work Day, Sunday, March 22, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Celebrate Spring by getting your hands dirty as we spruce up the land for another year of community gardening, education, and good times (starting with the Peace & Love Spring Fest the following weekend). Our project list includes re-laying the ramp to the Sunset Overlook, re-setting some of the amphitheater benches, repairing the concrete steps to the sweat lodge, clearing debris out of the drainage gully behind the stage, and the usual wood-chip spreading, weeding, etc. Bring work gloves and drinking water. All volunteers get pizza when we finish. Come help!

Peace & Love Spring Fest 2015, Sat. March 28

Planning is underway for our first music festival of the year, featuring music, food and drink, raffle prizes, vendors and more. Bands confirmed so far include Chicken 'n' Pigs and the Boo Hoo Ramblers. Our talented neighborhood kids will lead off the

line-up, as always. And of course, volunteers are needed to make it a success. Mark your calendars, and stay tuned to www.LCCLT.org for further details. To join our volunteer list, email info@LCCLT.org.



MARCH CLASSES & WORKSHOPS AT THE LAND TRUST

“Shoe String Theory,” Sun. March 15 at the Land Trust, 4:00-6:00 pm

The All Together Now! Family Fun Enrichment Series presents a hands-on woven adventure with art installations and storytelling, featuring storyteller Christy Foelsch of Kidsgowild.me (“Educating through the art of storytelling”), with art contributions from the students of SoulShine (a farm-to-table school focused on nature and community; makeyoursoulshine.com). It involves a display of children’s artwork, stories, a giant shoe, and lots of string. Children will experience weaving on a real loom!

All Together Now! is a collaboration between Ladybug Events LLC and the Land Trust Family Project. “The name of the shoe, I mean show,” Miss Ladybug explains, “is ‘Shoe String Theory,’ and it is basically about how we got here and how the whole entire universe began with one small step – or one giant step, depending on your perspective.” She has been playing and working hard with the kids at SoulShine, preparing art materials.

“Because we are on a shoestring budget,” she adds, “donations of \$5 or more will be graciously accepted. We look forward to weaving and sharing our shoe, I mean our show, with you.” The show begins with a short theater performance, so please don’t be late.

The All Together Now! Family Fun Enrichment Series comes around every other month (May,

July, September, November) on the 3rd Sunday, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. The next one is May 17 and is about Earth-Inspired Poetry and Art. Each program is donation-based and supports local artists and educators. Share with us! Watch for details at LCCLT.org or missladybugeventsllc.com, or email missladybugevents@yahoo.com. Find out more at missladybugevents.tumblr.com.

(BY THE WAY . . . Miss Ladybug is also available for **garden or fairy-themed birthday parties for children** at the Land Trust. Inquire at missladybugeventsllc.com.)



Backyard Composting Workshop, Sat., March 21 at the Land Trust, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

(followed by optional Vermicomposting Workshop, 12:00-12:30 pm)

Early spring is a great time to start a compost pile. If you’re interested in composting at home, or already have a compost pile or bin and need guidance, this late winter hands-on workshop will give you the knowledge and

skills to turn your kitchen scraps into dark, crumbly humus-rich compost!

The fee is \$25 per individual or \$30 per family. All participants receive a copy of Storey’s **Easy Composters You Can Build at Home** booklet. 10% of registration fees will be donated to the Land Trust. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/backyard-composting-workshop-tickets-15546420763> (or use link at www.LCCLT.org, under “Recent Posts” on left.) **A minimum of 6 participants or families must register by March 7 or the class will be re-scheduled.** Maximum class size is 20. Dirt-curious children welcome!

Stick around after the Backyard Composting workshop for a brief introduction to vermicomposting. You can purchase a simple worm kit for \$40 with a worm bin, worms, worm bedding, newspaper, spray bottle, and worm food. **(Must be requested and paid for by March 7 to ensure availability).** For every worm kit purchased, \$5 will be donated to the Land Trust.

Corinne Coe has been teaching sustainable gardening and composting to children and adults since 2008. She has a Permaculture Design Certificate from the Urban Permaculture Institute (San Francisco) and has taken multiple technical courses through the U.S. Composting Council. She is the co-founder and co-owner of Terra Nova Compost.



Natural Soap-Making Class from Scratch, Sat. March 28 at Lake Claire Cohousing, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Join Quinnie Demetria Cook, a longtime popular instructor at the Wylde Center, and learn how to make soap from scratch using all natural ingredients. Save your skin as well as your money, and have fun doing it! In this hands-on demonstration class, students will learn the basics of how to make traditional vegan/vegetarian Cold Process Soap, the way Grandma made it, by using a blend of oils, butters, and lye. Students will leave with a small batch of soap, plus hand-outs, and the hands-on knowledge to go home and make their own. A minimum of 6 people is needed to pre-register **by March 20** (maximum 15 per class.) Location: Lake Claire Cohousing Common House, facing the Arizona Ave. cul-de-sac. Cost: \$50 (includes all supplies, artisan soap to take home, and more) Visit ladybugeventsllc.com to save your spot!

See the calendar on Page 2, which includes Land Trust events.



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young readers to participate. This month we have brother-sister guest columnists – Justine Germaine and Aidan Murray. Justine is 8 years old and in 3rd grade at Mary Lin. Aidan is 7 years old and in the 2nd grade at Mary Lin. They live on Harold Avenue. Aidan loves Lake Claire, he says, because he can “get to the village fast.” Justine and Aidan have an older sister, 13-year old Gabby. Justine was a winner of last month’s find-the-snowman contest, and her prize was to be a guest columnist. By

coincidence, Aidan was one of the winners of *this* month’s find-the-groundhog contest and thus, won the guest columnist prize, too. So we are pleased that they both are great writers and artists, as you can see below. (*Aidan also wins the prize for the most exclamation points in one article!!! – Editor*). Hey there, let’s hear from more Lake Claire kids – we want your creativity on this page. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to editor@lakeclaire.org. Be creative...we’d love to hear from you.

I love Lake Claire

by Aidan Murray

I love Lake Claire! My favorite part is the Lake Claire Park. Around 6 o’clock there are dogs everywhere! Bark! Bark! Bark! Once my Goldendoodle, Sergeant, hid in the bushes! We were about to leave, and we couldn’t find him! We kept whistling, and we

even said “come!” After a while he came out covered in briars and leaves. My stepdad, Sean, and I said “phew!” It’s scary to lose your dog! We also met another man there, who had a black dog. His dog kept on running in circles around the goal. He was a really nice guy, so we said bye to him when we left. He didn’t lose *his* dog!!



Justine and Aidan, this month’s columnists

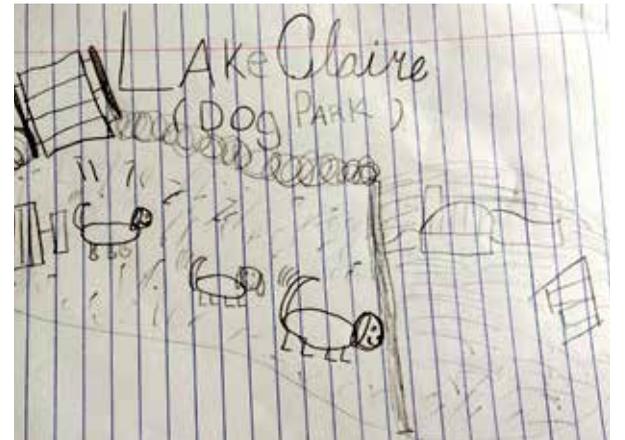
CONGRATULATIONS!

to Elliott Bulloch, who found the groundhog in February’s issue. She also knew if the groundhog sees his/her shadow we would have 6 more weeks of Winter. Elliott is in first grade at Mary Lin, and they live on Casson Street. You will always find Elliott and her little sister, Zoe, riding their bikes and playing outside with friends. In the picture, Elliott is featured with her dog, Fiona.



Elliott and Fiona

I am Justine Germaine and this picture is about lake Claire Park. Call lake Claire park lake Claire dog park because every night I take my golden retriever there. People and dogs go there and there is a dog that I love he's a black poodle he doesn't want to play with my dog but one time he played with him and my dog tried to hump him but the black poodle didn't let him the black poodle jumped back on him I thought it was funny we all laughed. Lake Claire dog park is the best!



RUNNERS-UP: Brothers **Jordan and Ryan Levs** live on Harold Ave with mom Melanie, dad Josh, and baby sister Abby, 16 months. Jordan, 5 years old (Left) attends pre-kindergarten at Toomer Elementary. He loves playing outside, gymnastics and making up imaginative stories. Ryan, eight, (Right), is a second grader in the Challenge program at Mary Lin. He is an avid reader, loves LEGOS and science, and enjoys watching the PBS TV show “Odd Squad” with his brother.



Jordan & Ryan Levs



Lily Morris



Niland Siebenaler



Zoë Steib



Jacob Williams (R)



Aidan Murray (R) and Justine

Niland Siebenaler is 9 years old and attends 4th grade at Mary Lin. He lives with his mom, dad, little brother Trevon, dog Tater and cat Koshka. Niland enjoys reading, acting, Minecraft and magic. He has performed magic at Mary Lin’s Linapalooza Talent show and Candler Park Fall Fest the last couple of years. You can see this year’s magic act and many other talented acts at this year’s Linapalooza March 22 at Inman Middle School. Please support our local talent. **Lily Morris**, Sutherland Place, is a rising 4th grader at Mary Lin Elementary and has a brother named Jack. She loves taking dance classes at the Decatur School of Ballet, and she especially loves her tap class. She loves to read and to write creative fiction. The Clarion hopes to convince her to share some of that with us. **Jacob Williams**, who lives on Harold, is a 9 year old 3rd grader at Mary Lin. He lives with his parents, sister Esther, brother Yoni, cat, and chickens. Jacob is a history buff who enjoys reading, LEGOS, cub scouts, and playing with his friends in the neighborhood. **Zoë Steib**, who lives on Palifox, is 9 years old (will be 10 March 11 – happy birthday, Zoë!), and is in the 4th grade at Mary Lin. She loves art, music, science, math and reading, swimming and dancing; she has performed in dance routines for several years. Our last runner-up is **Aidan Murray**, featured columnist above, with his sister, Justine.

NEW CONTEST:

HELLO, KIDS: One of the fun characters associated with St. Patrick’s day is a leprechaun, in a class of faerie folk said to inhabit the isle of Ireland. A popular belief is that you may find a leprechaun and his/her pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. If YOU find him or her with the pot of gold hidden somewhere in this issue, you will be the contest winner,

and you will have your name and picture noted in the April Clarion. To win, send e-mail to editor@lakeclaire.org with the answer. Any Lake Claire kid is eligible, except that you can’t win two months in a row. **Hurry and look;** competition is always stiff for this coveted prize. Congratulations and thank you, Elliott Bulloch and all the others who wrote in this month. May you always find a pot a gold at the end of your rainbow.