# Lake Claire Centennial Celebration — Come on out and eat BBQ!!

Who: Lake Claire Friends and Neighbors | What: Barbeque and Vegetarian, Kid's Activities, Silent AuctionWhen: Sunday, June 14 from 2 until 5 p.m. | Where: the beautiful Frazer Center Gardens & Pavilion

Why: We're celebrating the Centennial of our beloved intown oasis, Lake Claire!

**The BBQ:** David Gelen and Wayne Germon have teamed together to cater this event. David has authored a book about BBQ (see picture); Wayne and his business partner were the recipients of Atlanta Magazine's Best Ribs award. They will start smoking their pork and chicken onsite early on the day of the event. They are preparing quarter chicken plates, pulled pork plates, and beef or veggie hot dog plates. The sides are cole slaw and baked beans with or without meat. Dessert is fresh cut water-

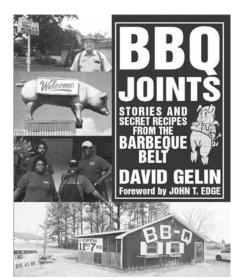
melon. Great Prices: chicken or pork plate - \$8; hot dog plate - \$5. Lake Claire Neighbors is providing lemonade and water. You will need to bring cash. And David and Wayne will sell any BBQ that is left over.

Kid's Activities: will be held between 2:30 and 4:30. Miss Ladybug and her helpers will provide activities for the kids including face-painting, bubbles, and games with prizes.

**Silent Auction:** will take place from 2:00 until 4:15. Items will include a brand new ukelele, a

cut and color at Salon Red, gift cards and certificates from our local businesses, a special edition Lake Claire Centennial Wine, and much, much more. Proceeds will be used to offset the event expenses and will go into the LCN general account. Plan to pay with cash, checks, or use Pay Pal on your iPhone.

**Scavenger Hunt:** A fun scavenger hunt will be held at the party. The event will be held at the Cator Woolford Gardens during the afternoon. A sign-up ta-



Cover of David Gelen's Book about BBQ

ble will be set up inside the Gardens. All are invited!

Please note: It is not too late for artists and others to donate to the Centennial Celebration's silent auction. Please contact safety@ lakeclaire.org



Front L to R: Nancy Dorsner, Katie Stachler, Alex Orr, Dirk Lamb, Sarah Jane Reedy, Matt Kottheimer & baby; Back: Dameion Dorsner, Ryan Gesser, Boyd Baker, Ian Campbell, Josh D'Agostino, Hugh Braselton, Robert Stachler

#### Lake Claire Softball

Neighborhood softball games have been well-played with no injuries – and a win against Cabbagetown Twisters when this picture was sent in, and maybe more since then. Check out the way-cool team photo!

# Lake Claire Wahoo

Lake Claire Wahoo Swim Team's primary goal is to have fun!! The coaches also endeavor to instill in the swimmers a love of sport, an appreciation of sportsmanship, and the opportunity for each to improve skills



and achieve success at his or her level of ability. See the website for dates of swim meets and other information - http://www.teamunifv.com/Home.

There will be a membership table at the BBQ for those who wish to pay their membership dues. or folks can go online to the website - lakeclaire.org and use Paypal to pay dues.

### Clarion Needs a Layout Artist Soon

Erik Rühling, our layout coordinator since March 2013, will be leaving Atlanta, and we are looking for someone to volunteer to take over the Clarion layout.

One of the most important requirements of this job is the flexibility to stick to our timing. The paper comes out by the first day of the month, eleven months a year (not in July). For that to happen the paper must be printed and distributed between the 29th of the previous month and the first of the month; so the layout has to be finished by around the 27th-28th of the previous month to go to the printer -- I can usually get the draft to the layout person by around the 19th or 20th - which gives the person a little more than a week. The

ideal volunteer is able to "drop" things in life to make sure to stick to this schedule of quick turnaround each month. The estimated time it takes for someone familiar with the computer software during that 7-8

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#### Highlights of this issue

- 2 Monthly calendar
- 4 Neighborhood Security
- 6 Monthly Gardening
- **11** Lake Claire Land Trust
- 12 Lake Claire Kids' Corner

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lication. Letters to the edi-

tor should be limited to 300

words or fewer. The opinions

expressed herein are those of

the authors and not those of



#### **Lake Claire Officers for 2014**

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Lake Claire Neighbors, Officers, or the Clarion Staff.

Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

The Clarion Newspaper (including its predecessor Neighbors Monthly Newsletter and **its** predecessor Lake Claire Neighbors Flyer) has been written, edited, and distributed by volunteers since 1989.

#### **JUNE**

- 1-28 Horizon Theatre Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, very funny, http://www.horizontheatre.com
- **6-7** Virginia Highland Summer Fest and 5K http://rungeorgia.com/summerfest\_race.html
- 6-30 Fernbank Special exhibition *Brain: The Inside Story; Humpback Whales* in the IMAX Theatre (closes June 30); *Mysteries of the Unseen World* in the IMAX Theatre, Martinis & IMAX, Fridays from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Summer Series (through August). See www. fernbankmuseum.org
- 6 & 20 Lake Claire Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 pm. Please walk, bike or carpool. Bring a friend!
- 7 The next **GoodGracious Show**, "Southern Fun for Everyone," at 5:00 p.m. at the Variety Playhouse. Celebrating Atlanta & the South through music, arts, and ideas. See www.GoodGraciousShow. com almost its 1st year anniversary (started 6/21/2014!)
- **9** The Sierra Club, Atlanta chapter, 2nd Tues of each month, see http://sierraclub.org/georgia/atlanta
- 11-12 Dad's Garage & Friends at the 7th Stages Theatre and June 13 at the Fox: Improv, Music, and Fooling Around. See www. dadsgarage.com
- 13 Celebration of Life Service for Ceci (Cecilia) Mitchell, details on Page 5
- 14 LAKE CLAIRE IS 100 YEARS OLD! The Lake Claire Centennial BBQ with family and neighbors see article top of Page 1 with details.
- 18 and every 3rd Thursday, Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, The Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting, pizza provided free from Savage (*THANKS*, *SAVAGE*)
- $27\text{-}28 \hspace{0.1cm} \text{Old Fourth Ward Arts Festival http://www.oldfourth-wardparkartsfestival.com/}$
- 27 Women's Outdoor Network Summer Fest fundraiser, noon to 6:00 pm at the Land Trust (See article p. 11.)

#### **JULY**

**4** Kick off July 4 with the Peachtree Road Race, the largest 10K in the world, http://www.atlantatrackclub.org/2015-peachtree

4 Annual Independence Day Potluck & Cookoff at the Lake Claire Land Trust, 3:45 p.m., see article P. 11

- 4 & 18 Lake Claire Land Trust Drum Circle, Sunset to 11:00 pm. Please walk, bike or carpool. Bring a friend!
- 11 Atlanta Street Food Festival, Piedmont Park, 12-10 p.m. http://www.atlantastreetfoodfestival.com/
- 14 The Sierra Club, Atlanta chapter, 2nd Tues each month, see http://sierraclub.org/georgia/atlanta
- 16 and every 3rd Thursday, Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, The Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting, pizza provided free from Savage (*THANKS*, *SAVAGE*)
- 16 last day to see "Mysteries of the Unseen World" at Fernbank. See lots more stuff on Fernbank's website http://www.fernbankmuseum.org
- $18 \ \, {\rm Right\ On\ opening\ night\ party\ at\ Horizon\ Theatre,\ see\ more\ at\ their\ website\ (above\ June\ 1)}$
- 19 Refreshing Herbalism for the Whole Family, 4:00-6:00 pm, the Land Trust (All Together Now series; see article page 11.)
- 25 7th Annual "Jerry Jam" Grateful Dead tribute at the Land Trust. (Watch LCCLT.org for details.)

Reminder - This is a "combo" issue! Next deadline, **July 15** for the **AUGUST** issue to editor@lakeclaire.org.

#### Fun Event Coming in September

We are planning the Lake Claire Tour of Homes – Mark your calendar for September 26 from 10 until 4, and more to come in the next issue. To volunteer, email Sara at fun@lakeclaire.og

#### **Personal and Business Classifieds**

Francine's Cleaning Service - impeccable - for references in Lake Claire call Pat Del Rey 404-933-3053

For cleaning call 678-886-4188 or email fancypineapples@yahoo.com

\*Southern Fiction, by Alice Bliss.

See http://aliceblissatlanta.wordpress.com\*

#### TUTORING AVALIBLE IN LAKE CLAIRE

Is your child in need of extra help this summer or during the upcoming school year? Anne Weidert is a former classroom teacher who is a Reading Specialist and Orton Gillingham trained. She tutors K-5 reading, writing and math. Resume and references available. (202) 302-7404 or annewright2000@gmail.com



## S • C • H • O • O • L

## Grady, Inman, and Mary Lin

by Annsley Klehr

#### 1. The Grady Cluster

The Grady Cluster has been going through a lot of self-reflection this year . . .

The Grady Cluster Focus: All the Atlanta Public Schools (APS) are to pick a curriculum focus. Ideas that have been thrown out there have been STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math), and IB (International Baccalaureate). All programs would have curriculum and teacher training that goes along with each one. They each cost a good bit of money, which the cluster doesn't quite have . . .

The Grady Cluster has had several meetings explaining the intricacies of each one. If you happened to have missed the meetings, you're in luck, because a brief synopsis follows below. If you happen to know all the facts and want to know the direction the Grady Cluster is headed, skip down a bit.

**STEM** – to read more about it visit: http://stemgeorgia.org/

In Georgia, STEM uses problem solving, discovery, exploratory project/problem-based learning, and student-centered development of ideas and solutions to study science, technology, engineering, and math. (Language Arts is still taught). Different than studying them in isolation, they would be integrated and intertwined throughout the cur-

riculum.

**STEAM** – to read more about it visit: http://steamedu.com/faqs/

Similar to STEM, it takes the approach of an integrated curriculum, but includes the arts. The arts refers to more than just art; it encompasses the liberal arts, which include Language Arts, Social Studies, Physical Arts, Fine Arts, and Music.

IB - to read more about it visit: http://www.ibo.org

The IB Program is used in the North Atlanta Cluster already and starts in Kindergarten and is used all the way through high school. It is recognized internationally. It teaches language, math, science, social students, arts, and Personal, Social, Physical Education Scope and Sequence along with addresses children's social and emotional needs. It engages students in their own learning through purposeful inquiry, and engages the teachers in the planning process.

Many questions have arisen about what these structures would look like, and how they would play out.

Pros:

- If all the APS clusters choose alike, it would make transferring between schools much easier.
- There would be a cohesive, researched curriculum.
- Lots of teacher training and professional development.

Cons:

- Expense
- Years of Training
- These programs could not necessary be put in place at Grady while maintaining Grady's diversity of honors, AP Classes, and course exchanges with colleges.

S • T • U • F • F

The Grady Cluster principals, LSC chairs, and PTA presidents have been meeting to try to figure out what will make the most sense. When the Grady Cluster assessed how their current curriculum and array of classes measured up to these three programs, they realized that what they are currently doing seems to be working. Therefore, the Grady Cluster is thinking about using a smaller, less expensive curriculum that will continue to improve upon what is already in place here. Basically, the Grady Cluster will continue to offer a wide range of classes and activities that meet the needs and interests of a variety of learners.

#### 2. Inman to Expand or Not to Expand

The Inman Expansion has been a hot topic, because the Grady Cluster is projected to continue to be the fastest growing cluster in APS. The question that the Board of Education and Dr. Carstarphen have been working to address is: How are we to accommodate this growing population, since the majority of the Grady Cluster elementary schools, Inman Middle School,

and Grady High School are already over their maximum capacity?

An expansion meeting was held in the Inman Auditorium on May 5. In attendance were Superintendent Carstarphen, along with Board of Education members Leslie Grant, Matt Westmoreland, Courtney English, Jason Esteves, and Cynthia Briscoe-Brown. Showing all the data about growth and funds, they reported that the best option is for Inman to become a 9th grade academy, the former Howard Site would become the middle school. housing 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, and the Walden fields would be used for sports. The board explained that they had yet to work out all the details, but the idea was to have the 9th grade close to Grady so that they could still partake in classes and sports. All of this costing a total of \$45 million dollars, with the hope of getting \$40 million from SPLOST V, about which has yet to be voted.

The audience seemed less than pleased, asking questions/ comments spanning topics from

Cont. on p. 9

#### Wild in Lake Claire

by Carol Vanderschaaf

Our neighborhood is going to the birds. All wildlife sightings seem to be about our flying friends. Patrick Edmondson saw a peacock walking down Lakeshore Drive on April 20. On April 25, Pen Sherwood spotted a Pileated Woodpecker flying over the Frazer Center Woods/Harold Avenue Greenspace, eventually settling on her tree on Muriel. That's a rare treat! But then again a peacock is pretty rare too.

In late April, Tom Zarrilli got a surprise -- a wild turkey walking down McLendon near Nelms. See picture he took here of the bird (which would have become our national emblem if Ben Franklin had had his way). And then on May 7, Jane Merkle spotted 3 ducks on New York Avenue, two male and one female (what an eye, Jane!). And speaking of ducks, there is a large family of Mallards over at the little pool in Candler Park. Meta Larsson, our Candler Park Correspondent, has submitted this great photo of the group (see page 7). Thanks to Nextdoorlakeclaire.com for some of these sightings.

Early today (as I write this in late May) I kept hearing chirps outside my living room window. They went on for quite a while. I thought perhaps there was a cat around annoying the birds, but I was too lazy to get up to look. Suddenly the chirps got louder,



and my dog began to sniff excitedly around the fireplace. You can guess the rest. After I removed

everything from the fireplace, an adolescent mockingbird flew out

Cont. on p. 10



#### Keep An Eye on the Crime and the Time:

Lake Claire Security Report, April 12 through May 2 (3 weeks)

#### Theft from Auto

1700 block McLendon Ave

Taken: electrical testing equipment. Damage: none visible

As the result of an increased APD presence in our Beat 608 following the double homicide in L5P and an uptick in car incidents and burglary over the last few months, it is good to report this month that crime is way down in Lake Claire, with only one reported incident during the period indicated above. Remember to **leave nothing unattended** including personal items and vehicles.

#### More Notes Regarding Crime and Security

Edgewood Retail District 24-hour security --program into phone in the event of a threatening situation or to report anything amiss: 678-618-2308.

APD: dial 911 from landline

or cell phone for any/every incidence of crime or suspicious behavior. Program 404-658-6666 into 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, and give a call back number.

For up-to-date security reports join lakeclaireneighborhood-watch@yahoogroups.com and Nextdoor.com (Lake Claire). The latter has become the best way to receive up to date security reports, as the Atlanta Police Department posts to that site. To join: www.nextdoor.com/join. 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.



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Lake Claire references

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## 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.

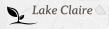








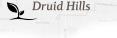


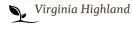














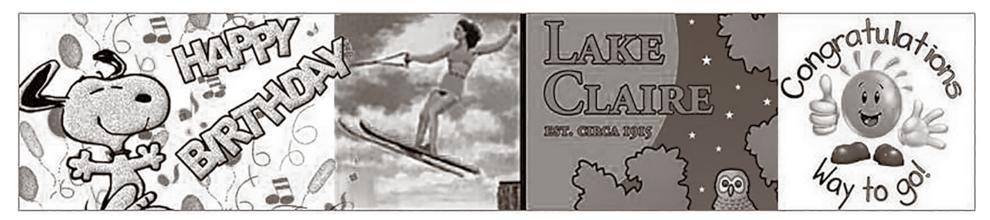








## Hello...Safe Journey — Skiing in and around Lake Claire



#### June

6/3 Yoni Williams turns 3, Harold Avenue

6/7 Pen Sherwood, Harold Avenue

6/8 Patricia and Ben Farmer – Happy Anniversary, Hardendorf 6/9 Jacquelyn Howard-Fleming's birthday Harold Ave

6/12 Steve Lamb's birthday, Delaware Avenue (I **did** remember, Steve! Now you're famous)

6/12 Happy birthday, Craig Allen, Harold Ave

6/13 Ellen Ericson, happy b'day, Gordon Ave

6/17 Eric Ericson, happy happy, Gordon Avenue

6/19 Zoe Kaiser's birthday, turns 2!! Hardendorf

6/20 Happy birthday, Sharon Doochin, maybe older but young in spirit, Harold Avenue

6/23 Emma French, happy birthday, Harold Avenue

6/27 Wendy and Boyd Baker's anniversary – 18 years of fun! Leonardo

6/28 Shawn Gillespy's 12th birthday, Marlbrook; Wendy Baker, happy b'day, Leonardo; and Susan Rutherford, happy bday, Hardendorf Ave.

#### July

7/3 Brandon Thames Bransford, Palifox

7/6 Missy Urda, Harold Avenue 7/9 Carrie Ericson, Gordon Avenue – 14!

7/10 Happy birthday to my buddy, Michael McGill, 8 years old --- Delaware Avenue

7/24 Jason Weidert, Harold Avenue

**AIDAN ROGERS**: Hope you had a great May birthday/sorry we spelled your name wrong last month!

#### SAD NEWS -TWO FRIENDS GONE TOO SOON



James Benjamin "Benny" Goss, Jr., November 30, 1944 – April 24, 2015

The Lake Claire and Candler Park communities have lost a special friend, Benny Goss. Many of us knew Benny as the epitome of the shade-tree mechanic...his "shop" was under his Hackberry tree at his home in Candler Park. Benny was a kind, gentle soul who loved taking care of old cars for his many and loyal customers, all of whom became his friends. He knew by heart everything that had happened with and what he had done to fix my and others' cars. Benny was born in Atlanta and grew up in Smyrna. He had learned from his father how to assemble/disassemble not only cars, but how to fix anything, how to recycle/ reuse any and everything. He had degrees both in engineering and music composition, and others may also have known him as a musician who had spent almost a decade as the keyboard player with Banks & Shane. He played keyboard, bass, and harmonica, and he particularly loved jazz.

Benny and his wife Betsy lived for the last 38 years in their much-loved Candler Park home. He loved the mountains, the beach, and fishing, but mostly tinkering at home. Lake Claire and Candler Park neighbors will miss the mutual support and community of family that many of us had with Benny. In many ways, he helped to shape the fabric of the neighborhood in which he and Betsy lived for decades. And he lived his life his way: "keep it simple."



Cecilia Florence "Ceci" Mitchell, November 10, 1951 – April 26, 2015

Our community has lost a dear friend and social justice activist with a deep love for our natural environment. Arriving in Atlanta from her native Michigan in the mid-1970s, Ceci Mitchell lived most of the past 40 years in Candler Park and Lake Claire.

Ceci actively supported the movements for women's rights, gay and lesbian rights, civil rights, and a world without war. During the 1970s and 1980s, she was a co-founder of Lucina's Music, a women's music production company, and was active in ALFA (Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance), one of the earliest organization advocating for women's and lesbians' rights, and the Atlanta Women's Union, a socialist-feminist organization. contributed energy to the Stop the Road fight, which succeeded in keeping the proposed freeway from destroying our neighborhood. Ceci always found time to make phone calls and canvass for progressive political candidates, including travel to Washington, D.C., for many demonstrations in the 1990s, and more recently to express her opposition to the Iraq War, and in August 2013, to

celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington. Her love of nature was reflected in her participation in Gaggle, a birding group of close friends, and the Women's Outdoor Network, which encourages outdoor activities for women of all ages. Professionally, Ceci worked as a therapist for over 30 years--at Karuna, in private practice and, since 2002, at Grady Hospital. She was also a journalist for a short time, during which she won recognition from the Georgia Press Association.

There will be a **Celebration of Life** Service for Ceci on Saturday,
June 13, 11:30 am - 3:30 pm, at
the First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta (470 Candler
Park Drive). A time for sharing
memories of Ceci will be followed
by a potluck lunch. Please bring
a dish or drink to share.

#### Congrats, Jax!

Jacqueline Howard Fleming, currently hiking the Appalachian Trail, was passing the 500-mile mark as of publication of the newspaper....and by time this issue hits the porches, she will be well into the 600th mile....(yay for Jacqueline – Harold Avenue).

#### And, Congrats to Betsy Hoddinot and Ken Scott

Congratulations on your nuptials at the end of April (see picture).



Please help us make this feature inclusive. Take a minute, and send life cycle events/important rights of passage, etc.-- August newspaper deadline is July 15.



## June into July in the Garden: Of Seeds and Bulbs

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Perhaps you think this is an odd time to be talking about seeds when the weather is so hot and seedlings would have trouble establishing. True. However, I am not talking about annual crops but about the perennials (and some biennials) many people claim to like better than annuals. My main problem with perennials in the Southeast is that most popular ones (irises, peonies, daylilies) bloom in spring and early summer, leaving the garden rather bare later on; of course there are many exceptions such as garden phlox, but my experience here is that most perennials do not live on forever, rather, die without warning, perhaps from having to serve us for so many months of ferocious heat and drought.

Barbara Pleasant, in her book Warm Climate Gardening, recommends these perennials for our gardens: monarda (bee balm), blue flax, butterfly weed, iberis (candytuft), columbine, coreopsis, dahlias, daylilies, gaillardia (blanketflower), four-o'clocks, liatris (gay-feather), dianthus deltoids, penstemon, echinacea (purple coneflower, always called that whether white or pink or purple), rudbeckias, sedum, Shasta daisies, verbena, and yarrow.

Of these, only purple coneflower meets the extreme expectations people have for perennials. It blooms early and late, does not need much care, and mildly self-sows even though it comes back regularly for years. Candytuft, columbine, and dianthus finish blooming in spring; monarda, daylilies, liatris, and Shasta daisies, and yarrow, in summer. I love sedum and grow 'Brilliant,' which blooms with aster 'Harrington Pink' (another fine perennial not mentioned by Pleasant), for some weeks in the fall. Rudbeckias have a long bloom time but function as biennials for me. I have killed numerous flax plants, coreopsis, and penstemon, probably through less than perfect drainage. Except for butterfly weed, I have grown most of the others, many of them successfully, but they will never give the mass of bloom we now expect with our annual flowers. Oddly, Pleasant does not list garden phlox (Phlox paniculata), a childhood favorite of mine in New Jersey because of the smell, and one I killed many times here in Georgia before finding some tough magenta type that flourishes. A variety named 'David,' a cool white, is also pretty long-lived.

Pleasant does give one piece of advice that I think would make growing perennials more successful in the South: that one "propagate new plants every fall, even if books tell you they must be divided only every three years" (p. 126). This sounds easier than the sowing of annual seeds each spring. I notice though that I have boundless energy gardening in February and naught in September.

Sowing perennial seeds is similar to growing annual flowers and vegetables. Just be sure to read the packet instructions carefully. times you must subject the seeds to cold temperatures before or after planting, and this is where a small refrigerator comes in handy because others may have a ridiculous aversion to finding soil among their food. Just as with annuals, I find using a four-inch plastic pot filled with moistened seed starting medium and covered with plastic wrap, the easiest procedure. Again, check the packet for how deeply to plant the seeds, whether to expose them to light or dark, and any other special instructions. In nature, seeds from perennials may lie in the soil all winter, germinate in spring, grow slowly that year, and only begin to bloom a year or two later. You are hastening the process by beginning during your down time (summer) and giving the seeds the illusion of passing seasons. As usual, remove the plastic wrap as soon as germination occurs (which may be many more days than for annuals) and place the pots just a few inches below florescent lighting. As soon as there are two-four real leaves, pot each seedling in its own container or six-pack. Not needing to produce their own seeds before frost, perennials are often very slow growing. Do not despair. Just keep them watered and in good light.

Some straight-forward types for beginners are bee balm, flax (Linum perenne), gaillardia, Shasta daisy, echinacea, and columbine (although I have had no luck with the latter). Local stores carry a few packets of perennials, but your range is much larger direct from seed companies, the same ones I recommend for annuals. When you really into this, you might want to try, J. L. Hudson, Seedsman, in California, as big a grouch as I am. My greatest successes, however, have come with foxgloves, almost always biennials, growing big one year, blooming the next, and then dying. They are so beautiful and spectacular and expensive when purchased ready to bloom, that I try never to forget to sow several different kinds each summer. This is all you need to do with your seedlings until September.

Your other task in June is to

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SUSTAINABLE ATLANTA

Cont. on p. 10



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## An Adventure with a Honey **Bee Swarm**

by Beth Damon

One day last month, my mother (91½) was frightened to see her back yard completely full of a thick cloud of bees. We were previously not familiar with the way honeybees form a swarm and why. But I knew someone in Lake Claire who kept honey bees, since I had over the years purchased fresh honey from him. I contacted him, and he was willing to follow me to my mother's house. As it turns out, he is a Georgia Master Beekeeper, someone who specializes in swarm retrieval and apiary services. By virtue of their achievements as authorities and educational resources, Master Beekeepers have been given this designation (see sidebar on the Georgia Beekeepers Association).

A bee swarm is a fascinating sight, although it may unnerve some people, and it did my mom and her neighbors. A dense cloud of bees whirling into the air -- even on a calm sunny day -- can cause panic. However, the friendly master beekeeper from Lake Claire explained that the bees are not likely to attack. The bees are merely looking for a new place to make a home. In doing so, a honey bee swarm may rest in a particular place while scout bees go off to find a suitable place to make a permanent hive, and that's what was happening in my mother's back yard - in her camellia bush.

**Swarming** is what the process is called by which a new honey bee colony is formed when the queen bee leaves the colony with a large group of worker bees. In the prime swarm, about 60% of the worker bees leave the origi-

nal hive location with the old queen. This swarm can contain thousands to tens of thousands of bees, thus the heavy black cloud of bees in my mom's yard. Swarming is mainly a spring phenomenon, usually within a twoor three-week period depending on the locale, but occasional swarms can happen throughout the producing season. Secondary afterswarms may happen, but are rare, usually smaller, and are accompanied by one or more virgin queens. Sometimes a beehive will swarm in succession until it is almost totally depleted of workers. Swarming is the natural means of reproduction of honey bee colonies. In the process of swarming, the original single colony reproduces to two and sometimes more colonies.

If my mom were able to 'sit it out' and leave the bees alone, the swarm would have moved on by itself – which usually happens within a day or two. But my mom was very scared about the bees and afraid to go in the yard to tend to her tomatoes, so we were thrilled that someone was able to come to my mother's aid immediately.. (Note that bee swarm removal is not something for an unequipped amateur to try himself/herself. One should not call a pest control company, either, since experienced master beekeepers will remove the bees humanely.) Our beekeeper offered to take the swarm and start up a new colony in a vacant hive, which benefits the bees. And of course, at the same time, he was doing my mom a favor by helping them exit her home sooner.

On that Sunday afternoon, our



Transporting Honeybees in box to

beekeeper used what looked like a vacuum cleaner to capture the bees in a caged container to transport them to the new hive. This is in fact called a "bee vacuum." Very few bees are lost this way, and in this manner bee swarms can be collected alive and relocated. We were surprised that he did not wear head gear or even full-length clothing. As he vacuumed, the back of his shirt and his arms were covered with bees. Bees in this situation are not likely to sting you, though they can become aggressive if they feel under threat. As a rule, if one keeps her or his distance, the bees will not bother you.

As the swarm was vacuumed from the branches of my mom's camellia bush, the majority of them landed in his box, and we were surprised to see many others voluntarily joining their mates. They all want to stay with the Queen. After about an hour and a half of retrieving the bees, the beekeeper carried the box from the back yard to his truck, and other bees flew along behind him. It reminded us of the Pied Piper, as a trail of bees flew in his wake to stay with the box. And stayed with his car all the way back to Lake Claire.

10 years for us, but it was in a hay day when hives weren't endangered. I am now down to my last jar of honey that I have been rationing, so I may return to beekeeping.

An old remedy for arthritis is supposedly bee stings. As far as swarms go, the proverbial beekeeper's saying from the mid 17th century reads that a swarm in May is worth a load of hay; a swarm in June is worth a silver spoon; but a swarm in July is not worth a fly. This simply means that the later in the year it is, the less time there will be for bees to collect pollen from flowers in blossom.

## Georgia **Beekeepers Association** and Master **Beekeepers**

The Georgia Master Beekeeper Program is an intensive four-step program designed to provide participants the opportunity to increase their knowledge about all things dealing with bees and beekeeping. The program gives participants the opportunity to learn and to teach others about beekeeping and promote the industry. It also helps establish a participant as an authority and an educational resource in his or her community. There are four levels of certification, including:

- 1. Certified Beekeeper: Individual is familiar with the basic skills and knowledge necessary for the beginning hobby beekeeper;
- Journeyman Beekeeper: Individual functioning as a competent hobby beekeeper with the skills and knowledge for moving into sideline beekeeping if desired;
- 3. Master Beekeeper: Individual functions as a sideline or commercial beekeeper. Can also demonstrate knowledge in such areas as bee botany, business aspects of beekeeping, honey and beerelated judging, bee behavior, and other specialty areas;
- 4. Master Craftsman Beekeeper: Individual has knowledge of all relevant areas of beekeeping as well as be a specialist in one or more selected topics. Level is comparable to a graduate program in apiculture at a major U.S. university.

There are several resources in Georgia for obtaining these certifications (for example, http://www.beesuitscheap.com/ Georgia-Master-Beekeeper-Program-Bee-Suits.html).

You might not know it, but honeybees are Georgia's official insect. But the state's bee population has dwindled 35 percent in the past year. Farmers are not producing the usual bounty because of bees not being there to pollinate.

Beekeepers saw the first

Cont. on p. 10

#### What's All the Buzz?

by Linda Maynard, longtime Lake Claire resident

My life with bees began when I bought two hives from a nearby farmer friend. My father joined me in picking the hives up. We waited until after sundown when the bees would mostly be in their hive to move them. Still, as the loaded hives sat in the backseat of the car with a sheet thrown over them, I imagined they'd swarm us and that we'd have to abandon the car.

These two hives over a few years became ten. The bee complex was next to a picnic table, and it was fascinating to watch

the bees easily take off from the hive porch but land with a heavy thump upon their return landing, laden with legs full of pollen. Far busier than any major airport.

I was never able to tend to the bees without full head gear, lengthy gloves, and full-length clothing. Even so, a persistent bee often found a way under my bee veil or where the gloves met shirtsleeves to sting me. My father was in awe of the bees and would pause with the lawnmower when a bee was in its path. Beekeeping continued for about





The Last of the Girl Scout Cookie Sales: Claudia Crenshaw & Esther Williams, in front of CP Market last month

#### **DUE(S) YOUR PART FOR 2015**

How? Mail a check for \$20 to Lake Claire Neighbors,

Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 5942, Atlanta, GA 31107,

or go to

www.lakeclaire.org/lcn/members.htm.
Why? Help our neighborhood association clean up
greenspaces, install signs, support initiatives, have
great parties,

and support deserving causes.

Thanks to Lake Claire neighbors who have already paid 2015 dues.



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4 - 12 years | M-F 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Every week includes two pool days, two field trips, & guest speaker, included in tuition. Children are exposed to farm animals, e.g., pigs, goats, chicks.

Veekly themes | first theme May 25-29:
"Farming Entrepreneurs—The Real Dirt"
June 1-5: Bee Sweet!-Urban Beekeeping
June 8-12: The Animal Farm—Raising
Sheep, Goats, Chickens, & More
June 15-19: The Medicine Wheel (create
medicines to take home, foods, herbs)
June 22-26: Food Shopping, Growing, &
eating... And many other themes. Check
but the website! Makeyoursoulshine.com

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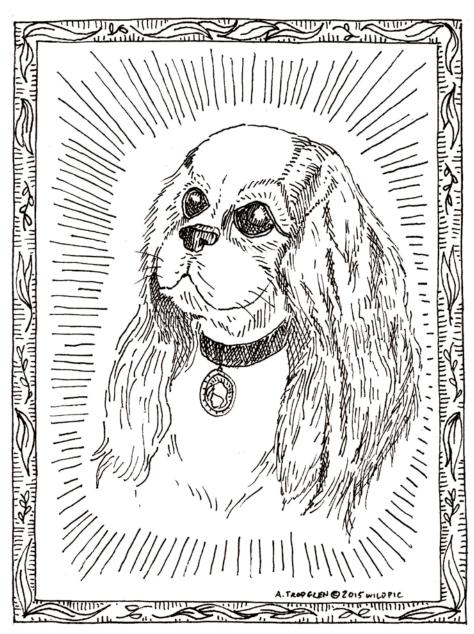
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Our monthly cartoons are from the Biscuits and Bellyrubs series by Anna Trodglen. See the article on Anna and her book in the March issue.

## The Mysterious Cruise Clue

continued from page 12

tattoo and read it out loud: "Time is merely an illusion." "One of my favorite quotes," the man explained. Abby remembered in the hallway of the rooms there was a huge grandfather clock. She told this this to Connor, thanked the man, and started on her way.

It took her roughly ten minutes to find the right hallway. When they finally found the correct one, she walked over to the mammoth clock and opened it up.Inside, attached to gears, was another note. It read, "Go to the pool and search carefully. You will be pleased at what you find."

"We'll go to our and get dressed. Meet me in the hallway."

They scurried to their rooms, excited to find the treasure. Once they got dressed, they met in the hallway as planned and dashed to the outdoor pool.

"Hey!" Abby yelled as Connor pushed her into the water. He laughed and jumped in with her.

"Okay, Connor, we can't fool around now. This is serious stuff, and if you want to find the treasure, you'll have to calm down. Now, we need to start searching along the walls for anything. Tell me if you come across something interesting."

With that, they started searching. They looked and felt for half an hour until Abby came up for a breath, knocked her head on a part of the ledge, and the ledge slid open, revealing a passageway.

Clutching her throbbing skull, Abby exclaimed, "Hey, Connor! Come look at this!" Connor broke through the water and swam over her.

"Awesome! We've got to find out where it leads!"

They started through the passageway. It was dark and damp, but at least it wasn't filled with water.

The tunnel ended. They were in a huge cavern, filled with stalagmites, stalactites, and crystals. There was a small pool of glossy water over by another opening, leading to another tunnel.

"Wow!" Abby gasped, "This is amazing!" Connor thought so too, but he didn't see any treasure.

"We should follow that other tunnel," he suggested.

"No," Abby argued, "we need to

#### **School Stuff**

continued from page 3

boundary reconsideration, to concerns for special needs, to the disappointment of the capacity analysis of the buildings to the separation of Grady. A major concern that was not addressed in the aforementioned overcrowding solution was that Grady's building is falling apart -- in addition to the fact that it is overcrowded. More frustrations were voiced challenging the Board about coming up with another "bandaid" fix that would break apart the Grady community and only temporarily (being many years, but not necessarily 20), address the overcrowding issues. Some audience members felt like the Board was not willing to invest in or attempt to come up with the appropriate sum of money that it would take adequately to solve overcrowding issues across the cluster, while The Jackson Cluster received money for a new makeover, and North Atlanta got the deluxe palace. Many of these Grady Cluster families faced a similar situation to this three years ago about the Inman overcrowding that still has not been solved. As a result of this frustration, a Grady parent aptly stated, "We don't want to be here in three years after the middle school has been 'solved.' Keep Grady together."

Leslie Grant thoughtfully responded, "We're not solving problems for the next 20 years, but this solution does the best with the money that we have that gets us safely into the future." Nevertheless, the feeling that resonated that night was that the Grady Cluster felt and still feels sorely neglected and disappointed.

Parents, neighborhoods, and students stood up to speak out, and through the anger and disappointment of the pending solution, the tone became one of sharp tongues, harsh criticisms,

and overall doubt. At the very end, Dr. Carstarphen stood up with a shaky voice and said, "You didn't see all the work; it's hurtful to say we didn't take our time and find the least child-centered approach. . . I didn't come here to make everyone's life miserable. It's very difficult to hear accusations. I try to treat people the way I like to be treated. What's most helpful is when we are together to be very clear about what you want us to do. Please figure out what you want as next steps." She continued to say that the Grady Cluster did not present a solution easy to grasp, but what she heard from the meeting was that bringing Howard back "online" is good, and that we would like to see Grady expanded, and potentially making Inman another elementary school.

The meeting ended, and the Grady Cluster was left back to the drawing board.

#### 3. Mary Lin Meets its new Principal

After a thorough search, Sharyn Briscoe will join the Mary Lin Community! Not only does she reside in Candler Park, but also both of her boys attended Mary Lin Elementary School. Originally from New Jersey, she made Atlanta her home after coming here to attend Spelman College and then Georgia State University. She has been in APS for 20 years serving as an elementary teacher, a Model Teacher Leader, an Assistant Principal, and Principal, before joining the Brandon team in 2013 as a Program Administrator.

Many Mary Lin parents met her on Friday, May 8 at the Principal's coffee talk. We are excited to welcome her to our community. Welcome, Ms. Briscoe!

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

check this cave first before we do anything else." Connor reluctantly agreed, and the two siblings started the tiring job of checking the huge cave for treasure. As they couldn't find any, they set off into the other tunnel.

When they finally emerged from the passageway, they knew at once that their search was

They were in a huge cavern, bigger than the last, filled with treasure of all sorts *everywhere!* Abby and Connor jumped up and down and yelled for joy, just as they when they first found out they were going on the cruise.

Unfortunately, there were still smooth stalactites hanging down from the rough ceiling. When they screamed, the stalactites shook, threatening to crash to the hard, rocky floor. Abby and Connor saw this happen, so they grabbed as much as they could carry and dashed out of there to safety in the small, cramped tunnel. Just as they made it out, one stalactite fell and shattered on the ground, causing all of the others to do the same.

The sound of the huge icicles shattering was deafening. They

Cont. on p. 10



## The Mysterious Cruise Clue

continued from page 9

dashed out of the whole intricate maze of caves as fast as they could without dropping any of the priceless artifacts that they carried.

They got out safely, but emerged in the deep water of the pool on

The two siblings, despite everything, where both wondering, who in their right minds would build a maze of caves on a cruise

ship?

However, they quickly dismissed the thought, as they were holding some very ancient treasures that could get damaged very fast in the chlorine.

They hopped out of the pool and ran to their rooms.

Once they put the treasure in a secure spot, they told their dad all about their adventure searching for the treasure.

Their dad called up the local Florida artifacts museum, and they said that when the family got home, they could deliver the artifacts to the museum and they would put it on display.

Once their mom got back from her business trip, Abby and Connor told her all about their adventures, just as they had with their dad.

The family received a bunch of

money from the Florida museum for donating the artifacts, and the Queen Elizabeth crewmen dug out all the rest of the trea-

Connor and Abby both got to have their rooms completely renovated. They are very happy now, and the two siblings are still extremely proud of their discov-

#### Wild in Lake Claire

continued from page 3



and over me. After some master trickery on my part I finally got it out of my house and into the wild blue yonder -- another bird done gone.

My topic today was supposed to be chipmunks, but I seem to have been carried away by the birds. So next time the chipmunks will

We'll get up close and personal with them -- maybe do a little Kim Kardashian type coverage or something on the Real Chipmunks of Lake Claire. Adults only, please. And please send any spottings of your wild and crazy neighbors to cvanderschaaf@bellsouth.net.

## **Clarion Needs a Layout Artist Soon**

continued from page 1

days is 10-12 hours.

The 2nd requirement: the technical skills: an attention to detail and thorough knowledge of Adobe InDesign. After doing the layout in InDesign, you will produce a pdf for soft proofing, and we will email back and forth with changes/pdfs, until it is final, and you upload the Press-Ready pdf to the printer. The only other requirement is an easy-going nature, such that you don't mind frequent emails back and forth as we finalize the paper during that week.

If you have the above skills and think you might be interested, or have questions, please contact me at 404-727-0608 or editor@lakeclaire.org to talk or set up a meeting - if you have technical questions, you are also free to contact Erik at layout@lakeclaire.org.

Above all, I want someone to enjoy it and join me in viewing this work as a "labor of love." Though it is unpaid, there is a great deal of satisfaction in volunteering for our community and producing a beautiful product. Lake Claire's deepest gratitude to Erik for the years of service!

Kind regards, Beth

## June into July in the Garden

continued from page 6

select next spring's flowering bulbs. If you place your orders now, you have the best selection, there are some early bargains, and most places will not charge you until shipment ask for late October. I continue to recommend Brent and

Becky's Bulbs, John Scheepers, Messelaar Bulb Company, and White Flower Farm. You can do all your business at their websites, but I find the catalogs easier for browsing and dreaming.

## Georgia Beekeepers **Association and Master Beekeepers**

continued from page 7

signs of trouble around 2006. Bees started dying at record rates nationwide and in Georgia from mites, viruses, and pesticide spraying. The honeybees eat that poison, ingest that poison, and it kills them. Some die on the spot, and some bring it back to the hive, killing the entire colony. The Georgia Beekeepers Association works to raise consciousness on the issue, discouraging pesticide spraying or encouraging it to be done responsibly. Pollination by Georgia bees helps en-

sure a bountiful harvest of the state's 700 million dollar fruit and vegetable crop. Through their work as lecturers, TV and radio guests, newspaper and magazine article authors and local authorities, Georgia Master Beekeepers remain the public educators and ambassadors that keep beekeeping at center stage of public discourse and policy. See http://www.gabeekeeping.com/index.html.

### Meals on Wheels Delivery Volunteers Wanted

Sign up to deliver Meals on Wheels to senior citizens. You licenses and motor vehicle insurwill deliver meals on assigned meal route(s) to seniors' doors. This is about a 2-hour time commitment. Route pick-up sites include Chamblee, City of Decatur, and City of Lithonia. Volunteers pick up the meals, deliver, and then return delivery materials to the pick-up site. Routes must be delivered between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Drivers must be 18

years or older with valid drivers' ance. Even if you are unable to commit to volunteering once a week (or more), please consider signing up as a back-up volunteer to deliver the meals. Back up volunteers are essential in the Summer months. To sign up or for more information, contact Senior Connections at 770-455-7602 or 678-469-3476; and visit www.seniorconnectionsatl.org.



#### WONfest 2015

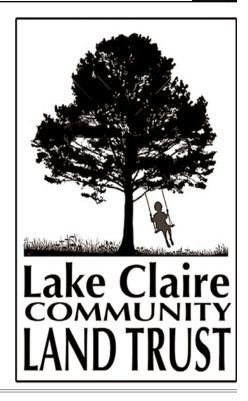
# The Women's Outdoor Network's annual Summer Festival (Saturday, June 27, from noon to 6:00 pm at the Lake Claire Community Land Trust)

Enjoy live entertainment from a WONderful all-female line-up, including the Maria Gabriella Band, Steff Mahan, Diane Durrett & Soul Suga, Tabetha Durham, the Morgan Rowe Band, and comedy from Ruthann Hayes, all led by MC Renee Washington from WSB radio.

Guests will feast on summer food delights catered by Jo Ellen. And the Caribbean style adult beverages will be served by your familiar bartenders. The entrance donation is \$15 for WON members, \$20 for pre-paid non-members, and \$30 at the event. Purchase your tickets today at http://www.wonatlanta.com/summerfest/. The entrance donation includes food. Vegetarian options are available. Drinks are \$5 each; non-alcoholic options are \$2.50; water is free. Fun snacks are \$2.50. Either cash or credit cards will be accepted at the event. Coolers and outside food and beverages not allowed!

This is a pet-friendly event, *on leash*, as there are other exotic animals on the property.

The event is a fundraiser for WON, an LGBT-friendly non-profit, volunteer-driven organization that has been serving the Metro Atlanta women's community for over 20 years by providing a fun and safe environment for indoor, outdoor and social activities, as well as volunteer opportunities.



## July 4 Afternoon at the Land Trust

Each year the Lake Claire Community Land Trust holds a COOK-OFF contest and POT LUCK on the Fourth of July. This year's cook-off theme will be **Beans** (any kind; any way you want to make them). Everyone is invited to submit an edible entry or just bring yourself and a dollar to have a taste and be a

judge. Bring your entry to the to the Land Trust's Big Gazebo next to the playground at 3:45 p.m. The contest and pot luck start at 4:00 p.m. Bring a potluck dish to share and your own plate, cup, and utensils. First, Second and Third place winners will be awarded certificates and their photographs and recipes

will be published in the August Clarion. Kids' games, including our world-famous watermelon seed-spitting contest, will follow. The event ends with enough time to get to your favorite fireworks display. Questions? Call Debbie Livingston 404-547-0368. We look forward to seeing you at the Land Trust.



# Refreshing Herbalism for the Whole Family

All Together Now Series -- July 19, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

by Andrea Zoppo

Ladybug Events LLC presents a sensational herbal program for families featuring two local herb-

alists, Dara and Cara-Lee. Families will learn the healing benefits of 10 herbs, taste and smell healing plants, discover how to make natural bug repellents, and drink refreshing

teas and lemonade! Participants should bring a jar or two for teas.

Cara-Lee spent most of her childhood wandering the wild outdoors of Southern Africa. An Exercise Science graduate, she later went on to study at the Botanologos School of Herbal Studies. She is currently pursuing an M.S. in Nutrition and Integrative Health and teaches courses in herbal medicine and whole foods cooking to all ages.

As an avid wildcrafter, kitchen herbalist, nutrition educator, and wellness cook, Cara strives

> to build relationships with local farmers and engage community interest in natural healing.

> Dara Suchke is a gardener and kitchen herbalist who enjoys foraging, wildcraft-

ing, medicinal plant cultivation, and ecological land design. She grows ecological and edible landscapes with Convivial Gardens, LLC

The All Together Now series is brought to you by Ladybug Events Ladybug Events LLC.com) in collaboration with the LCCLT Family Project. For more info, or to volunteer and help with more fun events, contact Missladybugevents@yahoo.com.

#### Coming on July 25:

# 7th Annual "Jerry Jam" Grateful Dead Tribute at the Land Trust!



Mark your calendar in dayglo ink for this annual celebration of the life and music of Jerry Garcia (born Aug. 1, 1942). The Land Trust stage will be rockin', and flower children of all ages will be dancin'! As always, volunteers are needed to make it happen. Contact us via info@LCCLT.org if you can help.

## **Upcoming at the Land Trust**

Upcoming at the Land Trust . . .

Sat. June 6 and 20 – Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 pm. Please walk, bike or carpool. Bring a friend!

Sat. June 27 — Women's Outdoor Network Summer Fest fundraiser, noon to  $6{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ . (See article.)

Sat. July 4 – annual Independence Day potluck & cookoff, 3:45 pm. (See article.)

Sat. July 4 and 18 – Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 pm. Please walk, bike or carpool. Bring a friend!

Sun. July 19 – Refreshing Herbalism for the Whole Family, 4:00-6:00 pm. (All Together Now series; see article.)

Sat. July 25 – 7th annual "Jerry Jam" Grateful Dead tribute. (Watch LCCLT.org for details.)





## LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER





We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/ writers/artists to participate. This month's featured writer is **Sophie Heller**. Sophie is 11 years old and a rising 6th grader. She goes to St. Thomas More, loves to read, and she has two siblings, Howie and

Charlotte. Sophie also has two dogs, Wrigley and Duke, and (obviously!!) she enjoys writing. Sometimes when I receive contributions to this column, I am certain that the pieces are first efforts of future successful writers, and this is certainly one of those times. Congrats, Sophie

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. We'd love to hear from you.

# The Mysterious Cruise Clue

by Sophia Heller

They had just gotten out of school for the summer when two siblings, Abby and her younger brother Connor, entered a contest to win a free cruise on the *Queen Elizabeth*.

One week later, they got a letter saying, "Congratulations! You have been chosen to go on a free cruise on the *Queen Elizabeth*! You may bring one adult with you. You will be leaving on June 25 at the St. George dock in Eastpoint, Florida. Please be there by 9:00, or else your cruise will go on without you. Thank you and congratulations! - McMan and Sons."

Abby and Conner jumped up and down and screamed for joy. They were going on a cruise! But there was one problem: they could only bring one parent. Which one should they choose? They eventually decided on their dad, as their mom was going to be on a business trip that week. Besides, their mom got seasick easily. Because the trip was in a week, they quickly told their parents, got packed, and debated amongst themselves who would get to choose his or her room first.

When the day finally came, safely on the

#### \*\*CONGRATULATIONS!\*\*

to AIDAN MURRAY, who won the contest, finding the May Pole Dance in the last issue! Aidan is in the 2nd grade at Mary Lin Elementary, is seven years old, and he loves video games. Great job, Aidan!



Aidan Murray Finding the Hidden Maypole

boat, they used the strategy *Rock Paper Scissor* to choose rooms. After they got settled, they ate dinner at the ship's buffet. They stuffed themselves with food, so they were very tired when they got back to their rooms.

Connor slid into bed and, feeling something rough under his sheets, turned back on the lights, and got out of bed. He lifted up the mattress and groped around for the object that was annoying him. When his hand finally touched something, he closed his short, stubby fingers around it and brought it out from inside his bed.

After close inspection, Connor concluded that it was an old, worn-out, folded sheet of yellow, crumpled paper. He unfolded the faded parchment and studied the paper carefully. It had text on it!

He hurried to Abby's room and, finding the door was locked, started rapping on the door. Abby woke up and threw the door open angrily. "What do you want?" she snapped, clearly annoyed. "Can't you see I was trying to sleep?" Conner exclaimed, "Look, I found something! Remember that old legend about the treasure on this boat? I think these might be the instructions on where to find it!" There was a silence. Finally, Abby spoke. "Are you out of your thick-headed mind?! That's a myth, a legend, not real-life stuff! Now go back to bed, Connor, before I chuck a book at you!"

"But Abby-" Connor started. "But nothing!" Abby burst out. "We'll talk about it later." Connor was disappointed. "Okay, fine, I guess." He left her doorway and went back to bed.

The next morning, Abby got dressed and dragged herself to her brother's room. Connor was there, waiting for her. Abby had thought about what Connor had said last night. She had decided that it was better to look for the fabled treasure than to do nothing about it.

"Connor," Abby said, "I have decided to go with your crazy plan and look for the treasure." "Yay!" yelled Connor. Abby whispered, "Shh! Keep it down, knucklehead! People are still sleeping!" "Sorry!" Connor whispered back.

Abby snatched the paper from him. "Hey!" he exclaimed. She read the parchment over carefully and thoroughly. She read out loud, "In this room you will find the opposite of black. The next clue you'll need to find is in the form of a

tack." "Dad's room!" they exclaimed in unison.

They bolted for their father's room and when then got there, they crept silently into his room. "Now, we need to find something that looks like a tack or is one," whispered Abby.

They searched the room with no luck until Connor whispered rather loudly, "Dad's bed! It has little tack things lining the fabric!" Abby responded, "Of course! Why didn't I think of that?" "Because I'm smarter than you!" challenged Connor. "Oh, be quiet, or I'll make you," threatened Abby.

They examined their dad's bed until they found one that had the number 3 on it.

"Okay," said Connor, "The next clue will probably be in the shape of a 3. Hey, wasn't there a creepy crewman with a leg in the shape of a three?" Abby responded sarcastically, "Oh, yeah, now I remember! There was a guy with a leg in the shape of a three. Really, Connor? How far can your imagination take you?" Connor was frustrated. "I'm serious, Abby! There really was!"

He stalked off in search of the creepy crewman. Abby sighed and reluctantly followed.

When they arrived in the crewmen hangout room, they started searching for the strangelegged man. He wasn't hard to spot. He stood out from all the others, as he also had a disoriented face. He was clustered around his crew mates, laughing and drinking.

Abby and Connor started towards him. He noticed them coming to him and he turned their way. The two siblings froze. The man yelled across the room to them, "What do you want?" Abby finally mustered up the courage to keep moving towards the small group, and Connor followed.

When they reached him, Connor asked, "Can we look at your leg?" The man looked at him like he had three eyes. Abby laughed and explained. "Sir, we found a piece of paper that we believe might be the directions to a treasure. One of our clues said '3'. Connor, my brother, said he remembered a man with a leg shaped like a three, so we came down here to see if we could find you."

The man laughed. "That's just a myth, but sure, I guess you can look at my leg," he said. Connor hesitantly bent down. "Don't be afraid, kid. I don't bite," chuckled the strange man. Connor studied the curved leg. He saw a

Cont. on p. 9

#### **NEW CONTEST:**

HELLO, KIDS: Hidden in this issue is a **July 4** graphic.IfYOU find it, you will be the contest winner & have your name and picture noted in the AUGUST Clarion. To win, send e-mail

(or have your parent(s) send one) to **editor@lakeclaire.org**. Any Lake Claire child is eligible, except that you can't win two months in a row. *Hurry and look;* competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.