In This Issue
1  ...  Leaving a Legacy for Children’s Education
1  ...  Elachee Seats New Trustee, Mandi Whiting
1  ...  Bittersweet Goodbyes to Gordon and Stock
2  ...  21st Annual Flights of Fancy Benefit & Auction
2-3  Elachee Honor Roll of Donors and Sponsors
4  ...  Camp Elachee 2021 and Early Bird Discounts
4  ...  Discovery Saturdays at Elachee
4  ...  Citizen Scientists: Great Backyard Bird Count
4  ...  Calendar of 2021 Public Programs and Events

Nature Mixed In
Quarterly News from Elachee Nature Science Center • February 2021

Bittersweet Goodbyes
Peter Gordon and Judy Stock Retire after Decades of Service to the Community

These two Elachee trailblazer veterans are now enjoying retirement. From volunteer to his invaluable role as the organization’s long-time Education Director, Peter’s can-do approach has contributed to Elachee reaching and teaching hundreds of thousands of Georgians about the natural world the past 29 years. Judy, too, has been a constant face greeting the public in Elachee’s Visitor Center. As Nature Shop Manager and the point person for facility and wedding rentals for many years, for two decades Judy has been a consummate Elachee ambassador.

We will all sorely miss these incredible individuals, their unique manner of bonding with Elachee visitors and their passion for promoting environmental understanding through education and conservation... the Elachee mission.

Elachee Seats New Trustee
The Elachee Board of Trustees Welcomes Mandi Whiting

“Elachee is special to me and my family, so I couldn’t be prouder to be asked to join,” shares Mandi. “I am appreciative and excited for this opportunity to serve and support my community.”

Board Vice Chair Jason Everett says, “Mandi brings immense enthusiasm and passion to the mission of the Elachee organization. She has been involved as an Elachee Nature Academy parent, has been a strong supporter of Elachee in recent years and has taken on the monumental task of chairing the Elachee Flights of Fancy fundraiser.”

The Elachee 2021 Board of Trustees are Chair Emily Bagwell, Vice Chair Jason Everett, Treasurer Nick Bruner, Secretary Anna Guzman and Trustees Kevin Bales, Beth Bell, Phil Bonelli, Rick Boyd, Maria Calkins, Will Cobb, Lance Gardner, Jay Kilroy, Martha Nesbitt, Richard Oates, Rob Robinson, Al Trembley, Dixie Truelove, Kelvin Whisenhunt, Mandi Whiting and Trey Wood.

Leaving a Legacy for Children’s Education
Elachee is humbled to have received a major gift from the Catherine O. Sale and Susan J. Rogers Estate. Dedicating their lives to educating children, this gift will perpetuate their legacy of motivating and teaching students to love and protect our environment. These ladies owned, built and operated the beautiful Tumbling Waters Camp in Rabun County, Georgia for almost 30 years. The sale of their gifted property will be dedicated to supporting the operations for Elachee Nature Academy, and this year will assist with the expansion to serve 2nd and 3rd graders.

Elachee Nature Academy
Preschool to 3rd GRADE
Enrolling for 2021-2022
Nature School Choice for Young Children

Key Advantages
• Our educational philosophy promotes a nature-based learning environment.
• Inquiry-based curriculum meets Georgia learning standards.
• Accredited by SACS/Cognia and licensed by Bright from the Start.
• Small class sizes allow for personalized instruction.
• Students benefit from meaningful guided outdoor instruction, representing 85% or more of each school day!

Find Tuition Details and Enrollment Packets at
www.ElacheeNatureAcademy.org

Call 770-535-1976 x225 to schedule a tour.
CAMP ELACHEE
Where Nature is the Adventure

SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP: April 5-9, 2021
Kindergarten through 5th Grade

WEEKLY SUMMER DAY CAMPS: June 1-July 30, 2021
Pre-Kindergarten: Ages 3, 4 and 5
Elementary: Rising Kindergarten–6th Grade
Middle: Rising 7th and 8th Grade
Counselors-in-Training: Rising 9th–12th Grade

REGISTER ONLINE: elachee.org/camp-elachee
Early Birds: Register your camper(s) February 1-28, 2021 for an additional 10% discount!

Calling Citizen Scientists to Join in the National Great Backyard Bird Count 2021 to Help Inventory Local Bird Species

Visit elachee.org/calendar for a schedule of birding activities the week of February 8-12 that you can participate in from home or the classroom. Then, join in-person birding activities at the Nature Center on Saturday, February 13, 2021. Check pre-registration details!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Discovery Saturdays at Elachee
Come visit us! Elachee is open each Saturday in February.
• Enjoy Guided Hikes in Chicopee Woods.
• Meet Elachee resident ambassadors at Live Animal Showcases.
• Reserve a telescope for the Stars Over Elachee evening program.

VIRTUAL SCIENCE NIGHTS
FREE: PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
Lungless Salamanders of the Blue Ridge with Herpetologist Carlos Camp

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
Wood Warblers in Georgia with Author, Photographer and Naturalist Giff Beaton

Tuesday, May 4, 2021
The Ecology of Trees with Landscapes and Yards with Dr. Kim Coder

Elachee Science Nights
Presented by Northside Hospital and Event Sponsors New Urban Forestry, David Eisner and Adrienne Lloyd

elachee.org/calendar OR CALL (770) 535-1976
Elachee Nature Science Center
2125 Elachee Drive • Gainesville, GA 30504

TRILLIUM TREK TRAIL RUN/WALK
HALF-MARATHON AND 5K RUN/WALK
Saturday Morning • May 1, 2021
REGISTRATION OPEN: elachee.org/trillium-trek
Presented by Northside Hospital and Event Sponsors Haschton Animal Hospital, New Urban Forestry Tipton Construction Co., and Whitehead Diecasting

SNAKE DAY WILDLIFE FESTIVAL
PLANNING NOW UNDERWAY!
Saturday • September 11, 2021
Presented by Northside Hospital and Event Sponsors Haschton Animal Hospital, New Urban Forestry Tipton Construction Co., and Whitehead Diecasting

GEORGIA MASTER NATURALIST FALL 2021 PROGRAM SERIES
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Classes held each Friday, August 6 through October 8, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.