



October 28, 2011

Several things that I put in the recent *Mayor's Message* need to be updated because I got new information almost as soon as I sent it out. The following should catch you up:



Don't forget the **Berkeley Lake Turkey Trot** which will be held at Berkeley Lake Elementary School on **Saturday, November 12th at 8:30AM**. My earlier information was 8:00AM but I'm now told you can sleep in another 30 minutes. You can [download the registration form](#) via the city website.

Not only is Diane Cuttino coordinating the collection in City Hall of personal care items for BLES students who may need them. She is also leading the fall canned food drive effort as she did last year. Here is information from Diane:



*"The BLOSOMS hopped on the Can Wagon and collected hundreds of toiletries to be donated to the Berkeley Lake Elementary School Pantry. Laura Marantz, a school counselor, said that the families in need will be greatly appreciative. Thanks to all contributors. The City of Berkeley Lake will be conducting a **Can Drive that will coincide with the Autumn Daylight Savings Time Change on Sunday, November 6th**. Bags will be delivered to each home with requests to fill each to be picked up on that Sunday. City volunteers and Duluth High School students will collect the bags. They will be donated to the Norcross Cooperative Ministry. Please remember your neighbors in need."*

Thanks to Diane and her volunteers. Contact her or City Hall if you can help with collecting bags.

At our city council meeting last week Rich Edinger, the City Engineer, gave a **complete update on the dam project** to council and the public and took questions from both. You may have noticed that we cut off the siphons at Lake Berkeley dam because the water was getting so low. Rich has been working to get approval from Safe Dams to notch the dam and lower the siphons which will let us use them a while longer instead of pumps to save money and noise disturbance

to residents. Rental of a pump costs \$4200 a week. He now has that approval but is reluctant to move forward without more indication from FEMA regarding when they will actually produce money. We can't get out too far ahead of that on our own current funds, so I fear this will unavoidably slow us down somewhat. We are trying to hold costs down as much as possible because even though most of the money will come from FEMA and GEMA, those are still tax dollars that we want to minimize, as well as the smaller part that we pay. Rich is working with the lowest bidder on the project to see if there are other ways in which he could lower his bid further.

November 11th is Veterans Day. There are many in our community who have served our country. Remember to thank them and honor them especially on their day.

The Senior Citizen Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th, at noon in Lake Berkeley Chapel. The BLOSOMS have been doing this for our seniors (65 and over) for 10 years now and it is always enjoyed by everyone who attends. For more information, contact Kay Lee, Lane Shutt or city hall. Thanks to the BLOSOMS for their efforts.

I mentioned in the last *Mayor's Message* that I expected that the county would appeal the judge's ruling in the **service delivery strategy case**. They now have done that.

We have recently had some **unwanted visitors** in our city. Two of our Berkeley Lake security officers located a suspicious young man backed into a parking space at the pool pavilion in the Miramount subdivision. Upon questioning him they concluded he was there apparently for no good reason. In further investigation they discovered that he was on probation for shoplifting and upon asking him about illegal narcotics activity he became very nervous. They took pictures of him and issued him a Criminal Trespass Notice for the City of Berkeley Lake and its neighborhoods as he did not live here nor could he provide a location inside the city for anyone he knew living here. The young man (19 years old) said emphatically that he would never return to our city. Our security officers also found another young man selling door to door without a Berkeley Lake solicitation permit. They transported him out of the city and warned him not to be doing that again. Both of these were reported to the Gwinnett County Police as well. If you see someone who worries you, call our officers at (770) 780-2456 or the Police at 911.

Lois D. Salter
Mayor

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