



November 12, 2024

I continue to be excited about our city's code update project. I'm beginning to be concerned that some of you are passing up multiple opportunities to give us your input. **This stuff is going to be important to you at some point, and I so very much want you to have a say in its development.** The top notch consultants that we hired have reviewed our current regulations, toured the city with staff, conducted citizen stakeholder interviews, held a July 4 event to garner personal feedback on hot topics, drafted a [diagnostic report](#) to clarify the types of issues that need to be addressed in the code update, and hosted a public meeting (seen here) on October 26 to gain public input on key policy issues. Those attending gave their opinions in writing on things like senior housing, accessory dwelling units, expanding housing options, commercial and residential design standards, and sign regulations. For those who couldn't attend the public meeting on October 26, you can participate virtually by taking [this survey](#) so that your feedback can inform the types of regulations that will be drafted. This is your chance to help shape your future in Berkeley Lake, so take a few minutes to share your thoughts. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Leigh Threadgill at 770-368-9484. She is so knowledgeable and helpful that I know you'll be glad you did!



You folks really came out for the recent **Electronics Recycling and Drug Takeback Event** that we had. We collected 25 pounds of drugs and a whopping 3000 pounds of electronics to keep out of the landfill.



The September winner of our city's Berkeley Lake Lens contest is **Krystin George** with her picture: 'Goodnight moon and goodbye summer'. Her chosen charity is Samaritans' Purse, and the prize will be provided as always by Ginny Nevins and Windsor Realty. Thank you, Ginny.



Again this year, **Berkeley Lake is helping our police officers with their annual Fill the Sleigh Toy Drive!** By participating in this joyful holiday event, you will make some child happy and support our police officers as well. They have told me that they really appreciate it, and I'm glad we have the opportunity to affirm them. We're looking for toy donations for children ages 3 to 15 that are new, unwrapped, and priced at \$10 or more. Youth basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, and gift cards are great gifts for teenagers, but no toy weapons. Go on a Santa spree and leave your stuff in my office at City Hall. I'll get them to the local precinct, and they will distribute them to local children in need at their Santa's Community Workshop event.

**Our city's recent collection of food and household items was the largest ever** with approximately 200 bags of much-needed stuff to help neighbors in need. We also received \$400 in donations from The David B Quin Fund for The Duluth Co-op and Neighborhood Cooperative Ministries. Julie Huntington reports that she had "a lot of great help" from the following: Debbie Peters, Susan Hanson, Beena Meshramkar, LeeAnn and Tod Senne, Wendy and Tim Shaw, Sandy and Bill Lacy, Cindy and John Purcell, Amy and John Parker, Eva Parks, Kayla English, and Jamie Huntington (seen here). Thanks to all of these, and to all of you who contributed!



At the end of every year, I always invite anyone who would like to participate for the next year on one of our **City Committees**. I have checked and found that the folks on the Planning and Zoning Commission and the citizen Finance Committee are all choosing to stay so we have no openings on those two groups, but there may be some room on the Berkeley Lake Conservancy or on the Arts Committee. If you are interested in working with either of those groups, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be making appointments as always at the first City Council meeting in January, but I'm trying to get this wrapped up before Christmas.





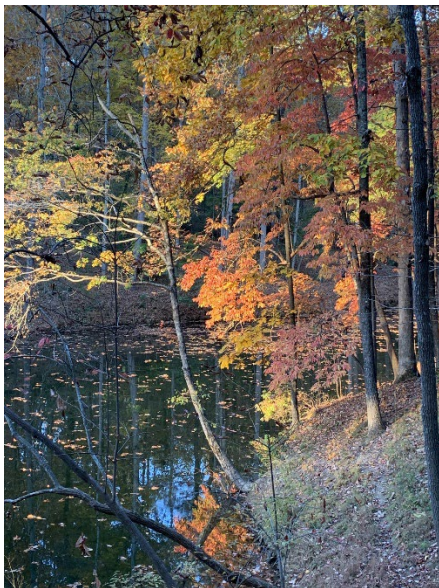
On **Veterans Day** we thank all our veterans and all the Berkeley Lake Good Guys who put up and take down the city's flags to honor them.

Our Gwinnett Police Dept is now offering an **Active Violence course** to help individuals understand the importance of situational awareness. The course covers the key concepts Run, Hide, Fight and Avoid, Deny, Defend. Participants will learn how to think critically and improvise to protect themselves during an active violence situation, as well as what to do once police officers arrive. These concepts will be learned in a classroom setting with no physical scenarios involved. Go



to [GwinnettCounty.com/ActiveViolence](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/ActiveViolence) to register for one of the upcoming classes. The nearest to us is on Thursday December 5, 6:30pm at West Precinct, 6160 Crescent Drive, Norcross.

Happy Fall, y'all!



*Lois D. Salter*