



February 21 ,2025

**DEADLINE ALERT: 5:00 PM on February 28th**

City staff members are winding up the process of updating citizen information for the 2025 Berkeley Lake City Directory. Residents who have registered an email address with the city in the past should have already received instructions for updating their directory information online. Updating your listing online is the most efficient method, so please check your spam folder if you can't find it in your inbox. Residents for whom the city does not have an email address on file and who need to update their directory listing may do so by emailing an update form to [directory@berkeleylake.com](mailto:directory@berkeleylake.com). In case you need an update form, you can [download one from the city website](#) and complete it in your browser, Adobe Acrobat or a similar PDF program, then **save and email it to [directory@berkeleylake.com](mailto:directory@berkeleylake.com) or print the form and deliver it to city hall**. The deadline for updating directory information is February 28th at 5:00 PM so please be sure to respond as quickly as possible! The Directory is a lot of work for our staff, but it is a strong support for neighborliness within our community, and that is so important.

Keck & Wood, the city's contracted engineering firm, is going to be performing annual **inspections of stormwater infrastructure** in the coming weeks. Since we like for you to know who's wandering around your neighborhoods, the stormwater inspector will be wearing a Keck & Wood branded shirt and will be driving a Keck & Wood branded car. This year, the inspections will be in Berkeley Walk and Berkeley Commons, as well as in the Peachtree Lakes commercial subdivision. Every year the city inspects approximately 20% of its stormwater infrastructure in order to identify city infrastructure in need of maintenance or repair. And we're still not charging a stormwater infrastructure fee like other cities.

We were all so saddened by the passing of dear Bob Smith who served our city so well for many years. He is truly irreplaceable, but the City Council was charged by ordinance with picking someone to serve in his place until a special election is held to fill his unexpired term. After careful consideration, they chose **Barbara Geier**, a 30-year resident of Berkeley Walk subdivision and member of BLHA. Barbara was a Chapel board member for 5 years, and their secretary for 4. She has served admirably on the Berkeley Lake Planning and Zoning Commission for the past year. Barbara is a retired lawyer who worked for King & Spalding law firm, Coca-Cola, and Powell



Goldstein law firm. As a Master Gardener she serves our community by working in the Chapel gardens and leads a team that created and maintains a pollinator garden at Berkeley Lake Elementary School. Here she is being sworn in by our City Attorney, Dick Carothers.

People like to know about our **Earth Day** well in advance so as to have time to prepare, so please mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 26th from 10 AM until 2 PM.** You may want to start gathering up the following which we will haul off on that day (among other things).

Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, washers, dryers, water heaters, microwaves, metal signage, lawn mowers, gym equipment, junk cars, trailers, small metal Jon boats, car parts and batteries, piping, sink faucets & fittings, outdoor furniture and grills, DVD players, VCRs, gaming systems, metal cabinet knobs, computers, wire, old cords /wiring, steel/copper/aluminum/brass. No TVs on that day.



**Berkeley Lakers continue to find incredibly beautiful things to photograph around here.** Check out Cindy Purcell's gorgeous winning photo. Her prize donation,

provided as always by Ginny Nevins, goes to Duluth Hands of Christ Co-op, a food and clothing pantry. The December winner was Kim Berry with her picture "The Wonder of Christmas". Kim chose the Foundation



for Fighting Blindness for her winner's donation. The Arts Committee under the leadership of Chris Kimberley,



reported that last year a total 158 pictures were entered by 59 different photographers, resulting in the following winners: Kim Berry, Rachel Clarke, Karen Quinn, Jill Rice, Resa Mechling, Christy Mahon, Krystin George, Donna Jacobson, and Cindy Purcell. [Visit the LENS website](#) to learn how you can share your own beautiful photo.

Photographs must be taken within the city and will be judged by the

Arts Committee members. Winners are celebrated in the Mayor's Message and on the city website, as well as displayed in City Hall.



One of our city's strongest and most consequential assets is our small but mighty staff of 3.5 people, and one of those for whom I am most grateful is their leader, **Leigh Threadgill**. We are so fortunate to have her as most of you know, so we celebrated her 5th year anniversary working for our city with yummy cake. Congratulations and many thanks to Leigh for all her **diligence, extraordinary competence, and kindness!**



I was called recently about a **dead deer**. Removal is handled by the Gwinnett County Animal Control if it is right next to the street in the right-of-way. They are not allowed to go onto your private property. If you should ever need this, please call 770-513-5700, which is the non-emergency police number and that will get you to animal control as well.



Our **police officers** wanted me to thank you for the outstanding support you gave them in helping kids celebrate the holidays. Check out all these toys! Also, many of us now have **cameras** at our front doors and/or elsewhere on our property. Our officers are offering us the option of sharing limited information to help them keep us safe. They don't monitor your cameras 24/7 and integrating your cameras can't happen without your prior approval, but it **could help prevent crime or locate the perpetrators quickly**. For

further information, please see this [short video](#) and [link](#):

We've had a few days recently when **weather** was bad enough to close the Gwinnett County schools. As I think most of you know, it has for many years been the policy of our City Council to close **City Hall** whenever Gwinnett County schools close as a way of allowing our public to know that quickly and broadly. Hopefully we've seen the last of icy streets for this winter.

Whenever you have **septic servicing**, please make sure the technician completes [The Septic System Inspection and Compliance Statement](#) and bring or email the statement and the receipt to City Hall. This will reset the clock in the septic database to five years from the date of most recent service, if the tank is pumped and inspected. The sooner this happens, the better. People can call or email our Marshal Rob Hiller with any questions.

This month's **Fun Fact about Berkeley Lake**: According to Zillow, the average price of a home in Berkeley Lake has gone up 61.1% in the last five years.

*Lois D. Satter*