



August 11, 2011

I think we are finally about to make some **progress in fixing the dam**. Our engineers met on August 4th with various persons from Safe Dams, including Tom Woosley, to discuss the plans which were submitted for their review quite some time ago. Immediately after that meeting, I pressed them for a commitment on a date when we could begin repairs. Mr. Woosley indicated that there are no significant problems with the city's current plans and that he just needs a few additional pieces of information. All parties will meet again this coming Monday, Aug. 15th, and I hope that after that meeting we will be able to go out to bid. While waiting for Safe Dams we went ahead and prequalified potential contractors, so we're prepared to move ahead swiftly. The only additional holdup is that we're still waiting to receive previously requested easements from the Berkeley Lake Homeowners Association and two private property owners. Hopefully we'll get those any day now. Our engineers have updated the timeline for the whole project and [we've put that on the website](#). We plan to be draining most of what's left of the lake on Sept. 15th, so if you have boats still there, please be prepared for that. I hope the dam can be finished next summer.

We have an **election** coming up in November, and although this [has been on the website for some time](#), I wanted to call that to everyone's attention as well. We'll be voting for mayor and two council members on November 8, 2011 from 7:00AM to 7:00PM in City Hall. If you want to run for one of those positions, you have to qualify in the office of the deputy city administrator at City Hall by submitting a Notice of Candidacy and paying a qualifying fee (\$150 to run for mayor, \$27 to run for council member). Qualifying will take place in City Hall during regular City Hall business hours the week of August 29th. Qualifying will end on Thursday, September 1st at 4:00PM. Qualifying packets are available for pick-up at City Hall or for download from [our city website](#). In conjunction with the general election, the City will hold a special election to ask the qualified voters "*shall the City Council of the City of Berkeley Lake be authorized to permit and regulate package sales by retailers of malt beverages, wine and distilled spirits on Sundays between the hours of 12:30 P.M. and 11:30 P.M.?*" The last day to register to vote in the November 8th election is October 11th. Early voting will be held at City Hall in accordance with state law beginning on Monday, October 17th. It will continue during regular City Hall business hours and end on Thursday, November 3rd. Absentee ballots will be available for mailing on Monday, October 17th. If you have questions about any of this, please contact Leigh Threadgill at (770) 368-9484, Ext. 102 or [deputy.admin@berkeley-lake.com](mailto:deputy.admin@berkeley-lake.com) for additional information. She'll be glad to help you. Also please be thinking about possible service next year on a city committee. There's information about committees on our website. There are lots of ways to help your city and I hope you'll find one that fits you.

Our [Fall Earth Day](#) will be on Saturday, October 15th from 9:00AM until 1:00PM. We are expecting all the usual folks to haul stuff off for us. Please remember as always to bring proof of city residency. As in the past there'll be a [City Wide Garage Sale](#) to coincide with your clean out and to get some things into the hands of others who might want them. It will be held Friday and Saturday, October 14th and 15th from 8:00AM to 2:00PM; and we are advertising in the newspaper and on Craig's List. More information about these events will be posted on our website shortly.

I regret to tell you that BLOSOMS has decided not to organize our city's **Fall Festival** this year. They've provided volunteers to plan and run the festival for many years while the city paid the cost. Understandably they're burned out with doing this, and I'm hoping someone else will step forward to provide new leadership. If you're willing to consider this, please contact me. It would be sad for us to lose this tradition that our children (and many of us older kids) have enjoyed for so many years. The city does have money in the budget to fund it.

I want to urge our neighborhood leaders to attend The Civic League's annual **Neighborhood Summit** which will be held on September 24th at the Loudermilk Center down in Atlanta. They'll be doing workshops on topics like the following:

- How Does Your Garden Grow: Community Gardens for Fun, Food and Fellowship
- The Empty House Next Door: Managing the Neighborhood Impact of the Foreclosure Crisis
- Leadership Development for Homeowners' Associations
- Not Just for Grown-Ups: Engaging Young People in Civic Life
- More Money! (I'm not sure what that means, but it sounds good to me!)
- Regional Transit: What It Is, What It Isn't, and What It Means for Your Neighborhood

Registration includes workshops, exhibits and lunch and is currently \$15 for general admission or \$10 for students and seniors (55 and over). [Go to our city website for more information.](#)

I need to make some **corrections** to my last Mayor's Message wherein I was bragging on some of the outstanding young men in our neighborhoods. Gerod Bond and Joseph Eaves are Berkeley Walk residents, not Miramont. Clayton Kucera is from Miramont, but I misspelled his name. My apologies.

Lois D. Salter  
Mayor

[www.berkeley-lake.com](http://www.berkeley-lake.com)