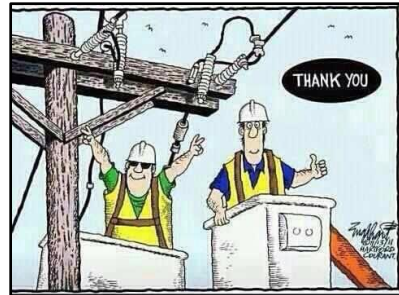




September 13, 2017

My goodness, isn't it wonderful to be able to turn on a light switch, to zap something in the microwave, to see a little blue sky! I am appreciating the simple pleasures more today than usual, and so very glad that all our Berkeley Lakers are safe! My mother always said, "Ordinary days, dear, are the best." This ordinary day feels really good.

Pat and Gene have driven the city again looking for problems and I have checked with homeowner presidents and others. Our roads are clear and to the best of my knowledge our city has all its power restored, although thousands still do not. I have thanked my management contact at Georgia Power most sincerely for sticking with me through the storm and responding very quickly to my concerns. I have asked him to pass on to his colleagues in all Georgia Power jobs how grateful we are for their very hard work. The Gwinnett County Emergency Management team has also done a great job, including our police. All of them were leaving their own families to go out in very stressful situations to help others.



I want, especially, to thank Pat Chapman (Deputy City Administrator) and Gene Rodgers (City Marshal). Our City Council's policy has been not to require employees to come in when Gwinnett County schools are closed for hazardous conditions because they all live in other cities and we don't want to put them in any possible danger getting here. Gene and Pat came anyway, and did whatever needed doing. They certainly are very dedicated to our city. Gene spent many hours in wind, rain, and darkness, moving branches and helping people, even after I told him to go home.

Lastly, I want to thank each of you who reached out to help those around you. As I said in my before-the-storm message to you, Berkeley Lake has an unusual history of strong relationships among neighbors. You have proved that again, and without wishing to sound sappy, I'm truly proud of you all. Please continue to check on your neighbors, and let me know of any special problems.



Here's what the city will be working on now. Gwinnett County has been added to the federal declaration for disaster assistance for debris removal. That makes us eligible for assistance upon meeting a county-wide per capita cost threshold. Since Berkeley Lake is a participant in the county Emergency Action Plan, we are included in that coverage. So, we

are documenting all clean-up activities for reporting to GEMA/FEMA with maps, pictures, invoices etc. Right-of-way clean-up on city-owned streets is the city's responsibility. Any debris not on public property is the responsibility of the private property owner and may be covered by their property insurance since what we experienced was wind damage and not flooding.



Goodbye and good riddance to IRMA! Enjoy the sunshine.

*Lois D. Salter*