



October 22, 2018

Many of us were very saddened by the death a few days ago of Gwinnett County Officer Antwan Toney. He was killed in the line of duty, and this has been a real blow to our law enforcement community. He was, by all accounts, such a nice guy who went beyond the call of duty to help citizens, especially kids. **On this Saturday, October 27 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM you will have your once-a-year chance to come by our City Hall and shake the hands of the officers who work most closely with us in Berkeley Lake.** It's an easy drop-in thing, and I really hope you'll find the 10-15 minutes to come by and thank them for protecting us daily, and nightly, in Berkeley Lake. It's **Hometown Heroes Day**, a chance for us to celebrate again not only those who protect us, but who lead us in community service, the presidents of our homeowner associations and other community organizations. They will each get a small gift from our city and snacks provided by Jill Rice and Tracey Setlage.



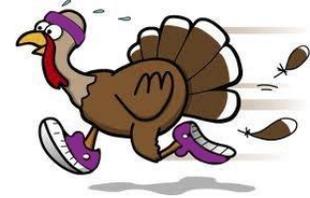
**Gene Rodgers** who's retiring at the end of this year will be there, and although we're having a goodbye celebration of him on December 1 (save the date), you may want to come by and thank him, too, for all he's done these years as our City Marshal. I have also invited the candidates for public office who came to our recent Town Hall Candidate Forum because I think offering to serve us in this way is kind of heroic these days. I have told them there will be no "politicking" or signs given out, etc. but some of them will be there to talk with you briefly and informally if you didn't get a chance to meet them before. Remember also that our police officers will be collecting your unused drugs for proper disposal. Last year there were quite a lot of old prescriptions brought in by our citizens. If you are unable to come but want to thank our police officers, write a note to them and leave it in my home or City Hall mailbox by Friday and I will give it to Major Spellman to share with them all. I do hope to see you Saturday.



**On this Tuesday, October 23 at about 3:45 PM or shortly thereafter the Gwinnett County Bicentennial Torch will arrive at our City Hall.** It's hard to know exactly what time the young student runners will arrive, but most of your city council and I will be there to receive it and to welcome them. We'll feed them protein bars and water, and the press will be there, I'm told, to take pictures of this event. I hope

many of our citizens will come and join us on this happy occasion. The torch will stay at our City Hall until November 1, so if you can’t come Tuesday, you can still see it on Saturday.

Speaking of runners, don’t forget the **Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 3** to benefit our Berkeley Lake Elementary School. The 4K will begin at 7:30 AM while the 1.5-mile fun run will begin at 8:15 AM with the pancake breakfast to follow immediately after the races. Registration forms are at the school or register on active.com under BLES Turkey Trot at [this link](#).



It’s almost **time to “FALL BACK”** and that means restocking the shelves at Norcross Cooperative Ministries with non-perishable food items as well as toiletries and paper products. Our clocks roll back one hour on **Sunday, November 4** when our volunteer food drive coordinator, Julie Huntington and her helpers will be collecting donations beginning at 1:00 PM. Please place your donations beside your mailbox by that time or drop them by city hall beforehand during business hours.

Other dates to remember:

November 6 - Election Day

November 11 - Veteran’s Day

On this past week we held the Open House at City Hall to get citizen input for the update in progress of our city’s **Comprehensive Plan**. Thanks to Pat Chapman, the staff member who’s working hardest on this, and the Atlanta Regional Commission consultants who came to assist. I and a few hardy citizens came, but if you couldn’t make it on a weekday evening, don’t worry. You still have an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions for the city’s future by completing a brief online survey. The Atlanta Regional Commission staff have formulated **five questions that will help the city’s decision makers understand what you want to protect or want to change about Berkeley Lake over the next five years**. You will find the survey [here](#). It will be open through November 3. Let us know what you think.

See you soon, I hope!