



April 1, 2019

**Berkeley Lake has just been named “#1 Best Place to Live in Gwinnett County” with an A+ rating and “#3 Best Place to Raise a Family in Georgia” and “#4 Best Suburb to Live in Georgia.” WOW!** Many cities have whole staffs of PR people promoting the public perceptions of their cities, but we have done nothing to achieve this recognition, other than our normal daily efforts to benefit our citizens. You can read about this [HERE](#) for further information. The numbers they considered don't tell the whole story, but we all know there's even more good stuff about our city than can be quantified – things like neighbors looking after each other and volunteering in all kinds of ways. We are all truly blessed to be here, and I am grateful every single day.

**Many thanks to Mark Jacobson and John Homonek** who have been working on the water wheel near Fowler's Mill. If you would like to support their efforts, please contact John. Looks like they have been having a good time, as well as doing good for our community!



**Thanks to Julie Huntington and her volunteers**

who gathered about 80 bags of food, even on a rainy day, and delivered it to the Duluth Co-op. The David B. Quin Foundation made two \$150 donations to the Duluth and the Norcross Co-ops. Debbie Peters, Susan Hanson, Janine and Jim Irwin, and Christopher and Jamie Huntington helped tremendously with distributing flyers and picking up food. These volunteers, and all of you who contributed, are much appreciated.

**Berkeley Lake's Earth Day will be Saturday, April 27 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM.** City staff will be on hand at City Hall, along with vendors and volunteers to assist you with shredding documents, disposal of unwanted items and recycling of others. Advanced Disposal will be accepting yard waste and large household items such as desks, mattresses, box springs, etc. Lott Bolden will be accepting scrap metal, appliances, lawn mowers, grills, car and truck batteries, and other metal items and electronics but **there will be a charge of \$10.00 - \$50.00 for TVs**, depending on size. Iron Mountain will provide onsite shredding. The Rice Settlement Team will sponsor this event for the third year in a row, so please thank Jill and Tracey when you see them. **Remember that this service is provided by the City of Berkeley Lake at no cost only to citizens, so bring your identification showing a Berkeley Lake address** in order to dispose of or recycle items. The following items will not be accepted: construction debris, wet paints, entire trees, and tires. You may dispose of a television without additional charge by calling Advanced Disposal at (678) 495-0058 to make arrangements with them to pick the television up at your home.

Jill Rice and Tracey Settlege are also sponsoring our city’s **Yard of the Month** recognition again this year. The March winner is the home of Bill and Laraine Downey on Ridge Road. It is a joy to pass by there any time of the year because they have a wonderful display of flowers with every season. If you want to nominate your yard or your neighbor’s, please contact Jill or Tracey. Let’s make Berkeley Lake even more beautiful this spring!



The **BLOSOMS** have been busily stuffing eggs for the bunny in preparation for their annual **Easter Egg Hunt**. It’s scheduled for Saturday morning, April 20 at the Chapel, time to be announced later. The BLOSOMS do so much for our community and have fun in the process. If you want to be part of all that and meet more ladies in our community, contact Tracey Settlege.

The **Southwest Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce** is centered on Berkeley Lake, Norcross, and Peachtree Corners. If you want to attend the Chamber’s next First Friday meeting on April 12 at 7:30 AM at the Hilton on Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, see [this link](#).

I have been asked by the **U.S. Census Bureau** to let you know that they are seeking to fill temporary positions with “excellent pay and flexible hours.” You can apply online at [2020census.gov/en/jobs](https://2020census.gov/en/jobs).

As we all know, a good local school is a powerful asset to the property values of us all and our city continues to support **Berkeley Lake Elementary** whenever possible. I have asked **Rachel Clark** to serve as our city’s liaison to the school and after meeting with Lesley Pendleton, our neighbor and wonderful principal of the school, she offers the following suggestions for helping: You could donate classroom supplies (which teachers often wind up buying themselves for needy students), pair with a teacher throughout the year to show appreciation maybe on a monthly basis (notes of encouragement, box of tissues for the classroom, etc.), donate books for classroom libraries, or mentor a child for one hour per week. Rachel can give you more information about any of this and is happy to help you connect in any way that you choose. Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up the week of May 7! The school would love to have Business Partners in the community who can financially donate to the school and be recognized on the school website. Let’s all find a way to help!

Our **County Commissioner Ben Ku** wants to meet with any of our Berkeley Lake folks who want to **discuss county issues with him**. Join him on **April 12 at 5:00 PM in our Berkeley Lake Starbuck’s**, 4895 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. Here’s a picture of him with me at our city’s recent safety seminar, so you know who to look for in the coffee shop.



Please remember the Chapel’s plan to award three (3) \$1,000 **scholarships to help pay for college expenses for hometown individuals** who have a proven sense of community and academic responsibility. The Chapel’s intention is to brighten and strengthen our community through our future leaders with these scholarships. Who can apply: current Duluth High School seniors and past Duluth High School graduates. You can get the application [here](#). If you have questions, send them to [board.outreach@blchapel.org](mailto:board.outreach@blchapel.org).



Our **Berkeley Lake Conservancy** has been especially busy recently. Many of you enjoyed the pruning seminar that they coordinated. The city hired a visiting expert speaker, Barbara Dorfman seen here, and her talk and demonstration was well attended. Shortly after that, Conservancy members gathered to plant several saplings near the Miramont pond to celebrate Arbor Day. Thanks to all of them and their leader Susan Hanson for their continuing work to beautify our city.



I got this announcement from Debbie Peters: **Retired Rebels with a Cause!** If you're 62+ and retired (or a retiree wanna-be), stuck in the 50s or 60s (but won't admit it), this lunch is for you! Muscle cars, motorbikes, good ol' rock & roll and all things that bring out the rebel in you.....including special Rebel-Rousing libations. The cause for the James-Deany themed lunch: the Berkeley Lake Chapel Legacy Expansion. Thursday, May 2, 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM at the Chapel.

- Guys - OPTIONAL - leather, jeans, slick your hair back (what's left of it)
- Dolls - OPTIONAL - play the part: poodle skirts, neckerchiefs, hairspray & red lipstick
- Donation - OPTIONAL - for the Berkeley Lake Chapel accepted

Disc spinning by Scott Lee (yes, a real product of the era!), cool cars on display, and hosted by BLOSOMS with homemade goodies, this is a Retired Rebel Rally you won't want to miss. Be there or be square! Questions? Call: Ginny Nevins (404) 447-0069 or Debbie Peters 770-368-2076.



**This month's Hometown Hero is Kay Berg**, president of Miramont's Homeowner Association. Beyond contributing her time in leading her neighborhood, Kay also mentors teen girls at her church, enjoys hiking and riding her bike, and is a Mary Kay consultant. She says it's important to her to "serve my family and neighbors" and she is committed to "preserving the uniqueness of our town." She appreciates the friendly people she has found in our city and believes that knowing our neighbors assures our security as well as making life better for all. Thanks, Kay!

Enjoy spring in beautiful Berkeley Lake!



*Lois D. Satter*