



October 9, 2019

I hope you will all come out to celebrate another **Hometown Heroes Day** in Berkeley Lake to recognize our law enforcement officers, our fire fighters and our local public servants like homeowner association presidents, city committee chairs, and various volunteers who make good things happen around here. I really think



it's so important to let these folks know how much we appreciate them. As usual, this will also be an opportunity for you to safely dispose of your unused drugs with the DEA representatives who will be there to help with that. It will be from **10:00 AM until noon** on **Saturday, October 26** at City Hall, so save some time to come by and talk with our officers, fire fighters, and city leaders. Jill Rice and Tracey Settlage will be feeding them coffee, donuts, and chicken nuggets, and I think a good time will be had by all. See you there!



We need to get your opinion on a proposed "**Brunch Bill**" to allow Sunday alcoholic beverage sales by the drink to begin at 11:00 AM. **Please come by City Hall and vote on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM.** It won't take but a minute to stop in and see some of your lovely neighbors who will be volunteering to help with this election. The actual ballot question is: "Shall the governing authority of the City of Berkeley Lake, Georgia be authorized to permit and regulate Sunday sales of distilled spirits or alcoholic beverages for beverage purposes by the drink from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM?" Early voting will be available at City Hall beginning Monday, October 14 through Thursday, October 31, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

We could use a couple more **volunteers** to serve as poll officials helping people through the voting process and counting votes after our polls close. This is usually a pretty pleasant process and we feed you good snacks! If you can be available from either 6:30 AM - 1:00 PM or 12:30 PM - 7:00 PM on November 5 as well as for training on October 28, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM or November 1, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, I think you'd find that this is a great way to meet your neighbors. Contact Pat Chapman at City Hall, 770.368.9484 or deputy.admin@berkeleylake.com, for more information.

Tracey Settlage and Jill Rice are organizing a Toy Drive for the Norcross Cooperative Ministries. Please consider buying some new toys for kids who would have none on Christmas without your

kindness and get them in to City Hall or to Tracey and Jill as soon as possible. NCM needs time to organize which kids will get what and wrap all the presents, so get your Santa hats on!

Some of our neighbors recently participated in **the Great Georgia Pollinator Count** promoted by the UGA extension service to raise public awareness of pollinators and to see how many are present in Georgia. Our Berkeley Lake Conservancy Chair, Susan Hanson, counted the pollinators at our butterfly garden at City Hall. Jane Burke, who lives in Hermitage and the Gorman family in Miramont also counted in their yards.



Almost all the food we eat was pollinated by bees. Butterflies, enjoyed for their beauty, are also pollinators, as are dragonflies and others. What can you do to make our city a better place for beneficial insects? Don’t spray for mosquitoes because it will also kill the pollinators. Plant native plants. Allow leaves to remain in your yard during the winter because butterflies live in leaf litter in the winter. Remove the non-native invasive plants from your yard. The birds need the berries from our native plants. We live in the Piedmont region of Georgia, one of the most biologically diverse areas of the world. We have beautiful native plants that support a wide variety of insects and wildlife.

If you need help with recommendations of native plants, please contact Susan or one of our other Conservancy members for advice. Here are some of the plants in my yard that are most attractive to pollinators.

Berkeley Lake Elementary School’s upcoming **Turkey Trot and Pancake Breakfast** will be on Saturday, November 9. This run through our city is always a lot of fun and benefits our local school, so come out and join the runners and/or pancake eaters on that day! The 4-mile run 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 and or register at active.com under BLES Turkey Trot.

One of our neighbors on Lakeshore Drive recently had a fire in their garage. Their home was saved by the quick attention of their neighbors who saw it and called the fire department. I want to thank them and also to remind everyone that **watching out for your neighbors** has historically been one the very best things about living in Berkeley Lake. Let’s all do our parts to keep that great tradition going!

Speaking of great traditions, the **Chapel will celebrate its 60th anniversary this Sunday** at 8:30 AM. What an amazing benefit that little building and the long line of people who worked to keep it going have provided to our community! For many years the Chapel held all our city meetings, and it continues to host many community activities. Its members reach out to care for many in the city who have various needs, regardless of any religious affiliation. Thanks to all who have supported the Chapel and our community through the years.



There will be a **Pumpkin Art class from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM on Thursday, October 17** at Pinckneyville Recreation Center here in our city at 4650 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Pumpkins, art supplies and paint will be provided, and design methods will be demonstrated. The class is open to artists of all ages, but children ages 12 and under will need an adult present to assist. The cost is \$6 per pumpkin.

The Daughters of the American Revolution recently celebrated Constitution Day. One of their members, Judy Dyer, shared the following **“Cool Facts about the Constitution”** with me and I thought I’d pass some of them on. The U.S. Constitution is the oldest written constitution of any major government in the world. It is also the shortest with only 4,543 words, including the signatures. The oldest person to sign the Constitution was Benjamin Franklin, who was 81 years old at the time. Because of his poor health and advanced age, Benjamin Franklin was in much pain, and needed help to sign his name to the Constitution. As he did so, tears streamed down his face. The U.S. Constitution was written and prepared in utmost secrecy, behind locked doors that were guarded by sentries. It consists of 7 Articles that, taken together, specify the principles and laws that establish and regulate American government. There are 27 amendments and the first 10 amendments known as the Bill of Rights set forth and define the rights and privileges of all American citizens.



Our Hometown Hero this month is Tracey Settlege who lives in Miramont and works with Jill Rice for Keller Williams Realty. Tracey has served as president of the BLOSOMS (which is a pretty huge job) and provides support for multiple city events like Hometown Heroes, Yard of the Month, Earth Day, and others. She enjoys tennis, gardening, hanging out on the lake, and traveling. Thanks for all you do, Tracey!

Lois D. Satter