



November 15, 2019

I have been asked by our Representative to the Georgia House, Beth Moore, to invite you to attend the next Gwinnett Delegation Town Hall which she will host right here at Berkeley Lake Elementary School on this Tuesday, November 19 at 6:30 PM. Representatives from both parties are participating in this series of town halls. They plan to report to you on what happened in the last legislative session and discuss what to expect from the next one. I urge you to attend if you can, because it's a good opportunity to ask questions and find out what's going on in state issues which affect us all.

Thanks to Julie Huntington and her gallant volunteers who collected food as always on our time change campaign recently. There were about 4 times as many bags at the City Hall collection tub than ever before. Our totals were approximately 140 bags and a \$300 donation - half to Norcross Co-op and half to Duluth Co-op. What a generous bunch you are!

Tracey Settlege and Jill Rice are continuing their 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. People have been bringing toys in to City Hall, and it's a merry time of year. Please help if you can!

The "Brunch Bill" that we voted on recently did pass, and I want to thank all of you who committed time to come by and vote, whatever your vote was, and especially to thank all the volunteers who helped us manage the voting process. Your participation was much appreciated.



Our **Hometown Heroes Day** was a great celebration in which we honored our police, city marshals, fire fighters, and community volunteers. We appreciate those of you who came by to thank them in person, and everyone who participated in our concurrent



Drug Takeback Event. The officers collected a total of 34 pounds of medication which will make our homes safer for kids and the Chattahoochee safer for aquatic life and animals. Our heroes were each given a gift by the city and enjoyed doughnuts, chicken nuggets, and other goodies provided by Jill Rice and Tracey Settlage. Those ladies are surely hometown heroes themselves!

I go to lots of meetings around the metro area to try to keep up with issues of importance and I am disturbed to keep hearing about **human trafficking**. I have learned that the Atlanta area, especially in the suburbs, has a growing problem with this. A total of 3,600 kids are sold into modern-day slavery every year in Georgia alone, and the average age of a human trafficking victim is 14.8 years. Georgia’s First Lady Marty Kemp says, “The criminal enterprise behind this national operation is strong, well-funded and organized. Awareness and education are key in combating this evil.” I urge you to learn as much about this problem as you can, and if you see something, say something. Atlanta is one of the 14 worst cities in the country for trafficking children, according to the FBI. For more information, see www.humantraffickinghotline.org

All Berkeley Lake residents can brighten the neighborhood and share in the holiday spirit by competing in our **6th Annual Christmas Lights Contest**. It’s fun, it’s festive and it’s for a great cause. Light up your house, yard, trees or lakefront! To enter your home, simply email a photo of your decorated house at night with your address to Ginny Nevins at admin@windsoratlanta.com or she will take the photo if you wish. Each home entered will be given a number with a sign displayed in the front yard and or lakefront.



Votes will be cast by our neighbors in the form of a canned good or non-perishable item that will help feed those in need this holiday season. Voting will take place **December 5 – December 22**. Food bins will be placed outside of City Hall. Each house/entry in the contest will have a number, so simply mark each food item with your favorite’s number and place it in the food bin. The winner will be the house with the largest number of canned goods donated. **The more votes cast,**

the more people helped. The winner will be announced on December 24th via social media and email; and this will allow for the food donated to be distributed to those in need by Christmas. You may want to gather a group of friends and family to drive the neighborhood and pick your favorites, or join Windsor Realty which sponsors our contest each year for a boat ride for Sunday Night Lights – December 15th 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Make a reservation and get details by emailing admin@windsoratlanta.com. **Last year the contest yielded 771 food items through votes! Join with your neighbors to cast more votes this Christmas!** This benefits [Norcross Cooperative](http://www.norcrosscooperative.com)

[Ministry](#). If you have questions, contact Ginny Nevins of Windsor Realty at 404.447.0069 or ginny@windsoratlanta.com. Thanks, Ginny!!

I was asked recently to see what I could do to get more **activities for adults and seniors in the local Pinckneyville Community Center** which as you know is within our city. They have lots of activities for kids but not much for those of us who are older. In response I met with the County Commission Chairperson and she is going to get her staff to respond to our concerns. She says they may ask me for specific suggestions, so I’ve gotten some from a few of our civic-minded ladies. If you have others, please let me know.



As most of you know, Tracey Settlege manages our city’s **Yard of the Month** program. Here is an update from Tracey: *Our September Yard of the Month was Bob and Kathy Strickland’s on North Berkeley Lake Road. Their yard has many perennials and beautiful sculptures throughout, in honor of their children and grandchildren. They also have a small graveyard on the front of the property, dating back to the late 1800s. I loved their use of creeping jenny spilling over rock and stone work to add beauty. They have many native*



ferns nestled among annuals. They work hard to keep the deer from enjoying all of their hard work. Congrats Bob and Kathy!

Our October Yard of the Month is known as Camp Waxweiler on Lakeshore. Rick and Shelley Waxweiler had a large tree fall on their home a few years ago, and they have rebuilt even better than before. They generously share their home and garden with others and have seen many generations of children enjoy fishing and more from their home. They have several terraced levels to allow for multiple entertaining areas overlooking the water and one of the widest waterfront properties. The views are stunning!

Are you wondering how we select YARD OF THE MONTH winners? What are the criteria? How can I be selected or nominate my neighbor? Wonder no more!! The answer is:

This month's winner selects the next month’s winner! It is up to the current honoree to drive around our city and find the home that they would like to select. We have heard all sorts of unique reasons for the selections made. We have also found several "secret" gardens that you could never find from just the street view. We are very proud of all the hard work are citizens do to care for and beautify our city.

Thanks to Tracey, and congratulations to her winners.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

Lois D. Satter