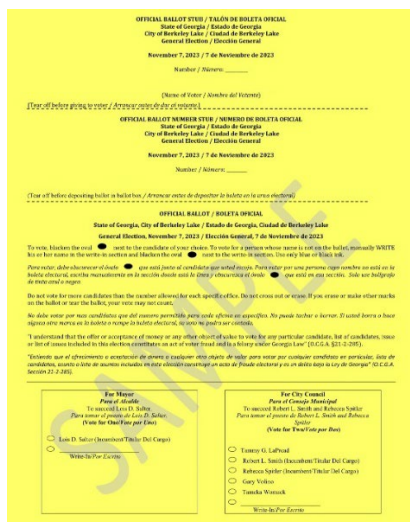




October 26, 2023



Our small but mighty city staff has been working very hard all of last week, (including last Saturday) and this week to help those of you who have come in to **vote in our city election**. I'm writing to remind you that this Saturday October 28 will be our second and last Saturday to be open for voting all day from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, but you can choose any weekday next week as well - October 30 through November 3, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Then the final day on November 7, the polls will be open longer in City Hall from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM. [Here is what your ballot will look like](#), and if you haven't seen the recording made at the recent Candidate Forum, Scott Lee prepared [this link so you can watch](#).

Halloween is coming and here are some ideas to make that a safe and happy occasion:

- Make sure all children are accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Adults should make sure that traffic rules for pedestrians are followed.
- Carry a flashlight and wear bright colors or reflective items.
- Stay in well-lit communities and areas. If a home does not have lights on, please do not approach.
- Nothing should be eaten until it has been checked by a responsible adult. Remember — when in doubt, throw it out.
- If you're driving, be on the lookout for trick or treaters.
- If your neighborhood has an end time for activities, be respectful of the time.
- Pass out sealed individual treats or items.
- Keep your home well-lit while passing out treats.
- Never give money to anyone who approaches.
- If you feel uncomfortable at any time, do not open your door.



In other holiday preparations, **we are helping our police officers again this year with their Fill the Sleigh Toy Drive.** Please bring toy donations to my office in City Hall for children ages 3 to 15 starting **Wednesday, November 1 through Friday, December 15.** Toys should be new, unwrapped, and priced at \$10 or more. Youth basketballs, footballs, and soccer balls are great gifts for teenagers. Toy weapons will not be accepted. Donations will be distributed during their Santa's Community Workshop events for local children in need. Please support our police officers in their efforts to help kids! They really appreciate it.



Chip McDaniel is once again organizing a **blood drive** for the American Red Cross. It will take place on **Saturday November 4 in our chapel from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.** [Sign up in advance here](#) or just come by. Blood supplies are very low right now and that could affect any one of us in an unexpected emergency, or someone that we love.

That same Saturday is also America Recycles Day. Do you have some **hard-to-recycle items? Rain or shine, you can bring them on Saturday, November 4 from 9:00 AM to noon to the Gwinnett Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville.** Volunteers will remove items placed in disposable containers from the trunk or back seat of your vehicle. Recycling electronics is free, but there is a \$35 fee per projection or console TVs, \$15 fee per flatscreen TV or computer monitor, and \$5 fee per printer. For a full list of acceptable items, visit GCSolidWaste.com or call 770.822.7141. The Gwinnett County Fairgrounds are located at 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway in Lawrenceville.



Please remember our **time change food pick-up**, organized by Julie Huntington, and her great bunch of volunteers. Be sure to have your bags of non-perishable food and household goods **out by your mailbox no later than 1:00 PM on Sunday, November 5.** They will deliver them to the Duluth Cooperative Ministry, which does such good work in our area. Please mark this day and don't forget. For early drop-off there will be a collection tub at City Hall beginning Wednesday, November 1, **or bring**

your bags with you when you come to vote. I already have quite a collection of them in my office and you are welcome to leave them there.

The annual **Veterans Day ceremony on Saturday, November 11 at 11:00 AM** will take place on the grounds of the Fallen Heroes Memorial at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. In the event of rain, the ceremony will move indoors to the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center auditorium.

The 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update is close to being complete. Thanks to the steering committee and all who have participated in plan preparation. Input from the steering committee, public input survey and public meeting held on August 26 has been incorporated into the [draft plan](#) which is available for public review and comment. City Council will hold a **public hearing during their meeting at 8:00 PM on November 16** to brief the community on the contents of the plan, provide an opportunity for residents to make final suggestions, additions or revisions and notify the community of when the plan will be submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission for review.

And here is one additional reminder for any of you who might be willing to serve on any of our **city's committees** in the coming year. If you are interested in serving on the Berkeley Lake Conservancy, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the citizens' Finance Committee, the Park Committee, or the Arts Committee, please let me know. There may be an opening coming up if some of our current folks roll off. The involvement of people who are so generous in volunteering their time is one of the major strengths of our city. There is information about committees on our city's website and I will be happy to discuss options for committee work with any interested citizens. I will be making appointments to committees as usual at the first City Council meeting in January.

This month's **Fun Fact about Berkeley Lake:** According to analysis by Zillow, the average home value in our city is \$713,394.

Enjoy the beautiful fall colors in our city!

Lois D. Satter

