

July 30, 2012

As most of you know, tomorrow, Tuesday July 31, you will have the opportunity to **vote** on some i mportant issues in our city, county, region, and state. The only city issue is whether or not you want to allow a Freeport exemption within our city for businesses. You can read a <u>Sample Ballot</u> on our website. It would be improper for me to urge you to vote one way or the other on this issue, but I can say as a matter of record that your City Council studied this issue thoroughly and voted for it unanimously. Now it comes to our citizens for their decision. To vote on this issue you will need to go to our City Hall between 7 AM and 7 PM. Many thanks to Lane Shutt and her diligent poll workers for all the effort that goes into any city election.

The voting place for us on issues beyond our city is at Pinckneyville Park Community Center so that would make two stops for you on Tuesday. There you can vote in the Democratic primary or Republicanprimary, or non-partisan ballot as well as on the T-SPLOST question you've heard so much about dealing with regional transportation improvements. You can get more information from the Department of Transportation website or from the Atlanta Regional Commission website, but you've probably already heard and read a lot about this. To study your complete ballot beforehand, go to My Voter Page and put in your name, county and birthday. I always find this very helpful.

As you know Tom Rozier, Bob Smith, and I continue to meet regularly with our **dam** contractors and e ngineers. I am happy to report that although they had unavoidably gotten somewhat behind a few weeks ago, they have worked very hard to catch up and are now again on schedule in spite of the frequent rains we had for a while there. The contractor has brought the select fill material up to elevation 902.5 and is constructing the culvert under North Berkeley Lake Road and the vaults that will anchor the low level drain. Remember that this is an active work area and unsafe for onlookers.





At my request, Pat Chapman has created a special information sheet on mailboxes to be helpful to our

citizens. I know this has been a frustrating issue for some of you. You can find Mailbox Basics on our website.

We got along for a while without **door to door solicitors** since our security personnel have successfully discouraged them in the past. Recently there has been another occurrence which prompts me to remind you again that it is illegal for them to bother you unless they have a Solicitation Permit from the City of Berkeley Lake. We cannot restrict religious freedom so Jehovah's Witnesses, for example, are not subject to this requirement, but you may ask all the various salespersons if they have a permit from us. If not, you may tell them you will be calling security who will cite them for an ordinance violation and/or escort them from the city. I just don't even open my door to strangers anymore. I think some of these folks have other agendas and may mean us harm.

Speaking of our **security** officers, I received an incident report late last week from them about a smart and alert lady on Lake View Drive who observed an unknown man entering her property from her neighbo r's. When she asked his business there he stated he worked for the gas company and was there to shut off her service. She then contacted Atlanta Gas/Light, was told there was no one working in that area, and informed the man who quickly left her yard. Our officer arrived on property immediately after receiving the citizen's phone call, took information on the man's description and the direction he departed. He then conducted extra patrols in the immediate and surrounding areas, but no further contact was made. Hopef ully he decided this is not a good place for him. Let's keep an eye out like this lady did.

Lois D. Salter