



December 14, 2012

**The dam is 85% complete and the end is in sight!** We expect the sod to go on it next week and the road to be opened the first week in January, if AT&T can get some necessary cable work done in time. We are using a different kind of grass which will cost the city less in future maintenance than we have had in the past. You will recall my saying in past messages to you that our requests to Safe Dams to begin refilling the lake before the dam was entirely finished were not well received at first. I'm happy to say that we've made our case for the safety of a plan to begin accumulating water in a carefully monitored way, and the water is now coming back.

The work on River District's entrance is 90% finished and all the landscaping there will be finished before the end of January. Our City Engineer says this has been "an excellent project and the contractor has really been a partner with us in achieving our goals." All of us who have worked on this project share that opinion and are grateful that we've had such conscientious and cooperative people working on our dam.



There is a lot of understandable concern among our citizens about the obvious evidence of **deer hunting** recently within our city limits. We found a deer stand in the greenspace and tore it down, but gunshots have been heard in the early morning hours and one family discovered a dead deer right in their yard. Aside from being against the laws of multiple jurisdictions including our city, it is clearly very dangerous to have guns fired so near our homes and distressing for children to find dead deer in their yards. I don't want to have to explain to my visiting grandbabies how Rudolph came to a bloody end here just before Christmas, and neither do any of the rest of us who have little people around. I have met with the commander of our Gwinnett County Police Precinct to ask for their extra help in this and also with enforcement officers of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. They will be patrolling our city as well, and I assure you that anyone caught will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. **There are plenty of places to hunt. Our city is not one of them.** If you hear gunshots or have any evidence of hunting, please call the state Conservation Rangers at 770.535.6922 and give as much detailed information as you can.



**The city is collecting toys for children who may receive no others for Christmas.** If you can provide a new unwrapped toy or game, drop it off at City Hall and we will get it to the appropriate agencies (i.e. Department of Family and Children Services, Norcross Cooperative Ministries, U. S. Marines Toys for Tots). If you cannot bring it by City Hall during business hours, contact

me and I will make other arrangements to get it. You may create some holiday joy not only for a child, but for yourself.



You may remember my thanking Steve and Carol Seitz recently and all those who help with the **veterans' memorial crosses**. The City pays for them but, like so much else, this wouldn't happen without the work of dedicated volunteers. Carol wants me to let you know that Chip McDaniel, Britt Collins, John Pendleton, and Bob Herb do all the manual labor in getting the crosses up for the City twice a year and then again to remove and store them. Jack Andreu has built crosses for Carol to paint while Steve gathered the necessary flags and hardware. As Carol says, "Having the flags and crosses displayed in our City shows the community our appreciation for our residents who fought for our freedom." Thanks to all!

I hope we will all continue to **support our Berkeley Lake businesses** with our holiday shopping and dining.

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all!** Ride around and see the Christmas lights, especially in Miramont!

I wish you joy and peace.

*Lis D. Salter*

