

# The Bright Side<sup>TM</sup>

Volume 30 No 1

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

JANUARY 2021



## ACWORTH POLICE IS ABA BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

At the December meeting, 2020 ABA President, Shannon Stahl, presented the Acworth Business Association Business of the year award to the Acworth Police Department - and this is what she said:

As President, it has been amazing to watch how our members have given back to the community. Watching members support other members.. all while navigating their own challenges presented by COVID-19. One thing is sure, Acworth is a strong and resilient community! While there were many deserving member organizations that stood out in 2020, this one remains as steady as ever.

The recipient is proactive, professional, and believes in community partnerships. They have the courage to overcome opposition, fear and prejudice. They believe in their obligation to serve the community with respect and dignity. They are dedicated to the highest levels of professionalism, leadership, and honor. They take their responsibility to exercise integrity in the use of power in authority, very seriously.

They navigated the un-chartered and sometimes choppy waters of this year with professionalism and steadiness. They continue to serve through a community-oriented philosophy, and not just a policy. The recipient is one of our strongest partners. They are present at all of our large events, luncheons and do the million little things like arrive early to help our guests cross the street safely for an outdoor breakfast. They hold toy drives for families in need, raise money for the special needs community, help an adult with special needs purchase a new scooter to replace his stolen and damaged one, and they are not above changing a stranded motorist's tire, and these are only the acts of service that we know about.

This community is extremely grateful for all the civilians, Jailers, Officers, Corporals, Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captains and our wonderful Chief of Police that do such an amazing job serving this community.

Today is my great pleasure to present to you, the 2020 Acworth Business Association Business of the Year Award to the Acworth Police Department. Pictured above: Chief Wayne Dennard on left with members of his police department.

## BECKY CROSS NAMED ABA'S PERSON OF THE YEAR



Todd Lollis of Freedom Church presented this award at the December luncheon. And this is his story:

It is my honor to be able to introduce the 2020 ABA Person of the Year. This is our organization's highest individual award. It is an effort to recognize the people that make up this great community. Without great people, we wouldn't have great businesses, local government, schools, or churches.

The POTY for 2020 was a somewhat difficult choice but this person's name seemed to always rise to the top.

She has contributed to this community for years as a board member but this year has been unique. I'll never forget my conversation with her on March 13th. She called me burdened about the kids in our community that would be hungry because schools were closing. Together we were able to develop a plan to get these kids a bag of food once a week.

Since March she has been a huge part of providing meals to 141,000. For a family of 4, that would be a meal a day for 96 years! Not only was she making sure they had food, she was also making sure they had bike helmets, Easter candy, hygiene items, etc. Almost everyday during the spring and summer, I have received a call, email, or text with an idea of another group of people who are in need of help. I'm really not sure she took a day off. She is truly one of the most generous and giving people I know.

Without further delay, I want to introduce you to the 2020 ABA person of the year - Becky Cross.

Editor's Note: Becky is a vital part of the Northwest YMCA While she made sure that our local families were being taken care of, she also was enrolled in college.



## KBA COMMUNITY CITIZENS OF THE YEAR KENNESAW POLICE DEPARTMENT

KBA has a history in December of awarding a person and business for what they have achieved in and for our community. The late Greg Carter put great effort into choosing the business and person for this award. The criteria centered on their involvement in KBA, how they supported KBA's programs and initiatives, their involvement in local community activities and their moral character in business and personal dealings. But this was a very different year. Wonderful KBA members were not as visible because of this Pandemic. So the 2020 President, Shelly Elder, changed the criteria to reflect this highly unusual year. The focus this year was on the ability of a person or business to safely work for our common good in the midst of the pandemic. Shelly selected two organizations to be the KBA Community Citizen of the Year.

The first award goes to an organization that was unable to stop during this time, that had to work harder because they were facing challenges on various levels, from protests in the street to dealing with increased domestic violence calls in homes. They did this by meeting people where they were. They gave and received respect. They went above and beyond to serve and care for their community as they faced this new and challenging world. Today we honor the Kennesaw Police Dept. Each man and woman supports the whole and this award is for the whole team.



## KBA COMMUNITY CITIZENS OF THE YEAR JRM MANAGEMENT

The second award goes to an organization that never stopped looking for opportunities to help the community. When the Pandemic started they advertised they would help anyone who needed it with yard-work or any duties the person could not attend to. They managed to hold a different version of the No. GA State Fair, they held various events for individual businesses such as Tom and Chee, Rotary, Raffertys and they made our first outdoor lunch a huge success handling everything expertly. They maintained constant communication with the City of Kennesaw. With their ceaseless support the KBA board came together seamlessly for zoom meetings - and some of these people could barely FaceTime before 2020. When the City of Kennesaw bravely allowed the Big Shanty Festival on Nov. 7-8, it was this company that made it work. Big Shanty was good for the City, good for KBA and for so many vendors as all other festivals were cancelled. JRM did all the heavy lifting. So this award, of course, goes to JRM Management.

Pictured above: Tod Miller, Collins Quinney, Missy Miller, Leigh Kanour, Jonathan Jenkins, Bill Watson, with President Shelley Elder.



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## THIS AND THAT



## MASKS? OH BOY

**BY PHIL ROBINSON**

When I was a young man, I lost 90% of my  
hearing due to a diving accident. Since then, I  
gather what you say by listening carefully and  
reading lips. Sometimes, I fake it and smile,  
not understanding a word you say. Which  
brings up the subject of masks. I look at a  
cashier at the store, and she says, "ha nnn ay"  
with the mask; without the mask, it translates  
to, "Have a nice day." The teller at the bank  
finally took off her mask to say, "Have a nice  
weekend." "OH," I said, "Is it Friday?" I left  
her with a puzzled look on her face until she  
realized she was dealing with an old retired  
man who not only was half deaf, but didn't  
know what day it was.

Which brings up another subject. The  
mask hides the expression on your face. I  
sometimes wonder if someone is sticking out  
their tongue at me, or in some way making a  
stinky scowl. Why do I wonder that? I've done  
it myself. Since half the face is covered, I have  
paid more attention to people's eyes and the  
expression they contain. By doing this, you  
can see the smile in their eyes. Speaking of  
eyes, to help hearing impaired, we could learn  
Morse code and blink our eyes in short and  
long blinks. You know, like some prisoners  
of war did to get a message back home when  
they were televised. We could blink: dot dot  
dot, dash dash dash, dot dot dot, SOS, which  
means Save Our Sanity.

Despite everything, I will help save the  
planet by wearing my mask.

(Mr. Robinson taught karate and tai chi in  
the Kennesaw area for over 30 years and has  
retired and moved to the mountains.)

**REMEMBER PROTECT  
YOURSELF AND  
OTHERS  
WEAR MASKS, WASH  
HANDS, WATCH  
DISTANCES AND WAIT  
TO GATHER!**

## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS AT JIM R. MILLER PARK

Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH)  
will begin administering the COVID-19  
vaccine to residents in Phase 1A on Thursday,  
January 7 at Jim R. Miller Park instead of  
the current site at the Marietta Public Health  
Center. Phase 1A includes healthcare personnel  
working on the front lines of the pandemic.

A vaccination appointment system  
has been created exclusively for Phase 1A  
participants and they will receive an email from  
CDPH on how to register after they complete  
the enrollment form. Participants in Group 1A  
will be asked for proof of healthcare personnel  
status and priority will be given to Cobb and  
Douglas County residents.

Beginning on Tuesday, January 12, CDPH  
will begin vaccinating residents in Phase 1A+.  
This phase includes public safety professionals  
and individuals age 65 years and older. An  
appointment system for people in Phase  
1A+ will be available on the CDPH website  
beginning on Monday, January 11.

Points to Remember: CDPH will  
administer vaccines by appointment only.  
Participants will be asked to remain on-site for  
15 minutes for post-vaccination observation.  
No walk-up appointments are available -  
participants must remain in their vehicle to  
receive the vaccine and be accessible to clinical  
staff providing the shot. Residents are also  
reminded that many healthcare providers, in  
addition to public health, are gearing up to  
provide this service across the county next  
week.

CDPH will continue to offer COVID-19 testing  
at satellite locations throughout Cobb and Douglas  
Counties. Testing registration may still be found on  
our website at [www.cobbanddouglaspublichealth.org](http://www.cobbanddouglaspublichealth.org).

## COBB COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Did your ancestors arrive by riverboat,  
wagon train, horseback, or perhaps the  
railroad?

Want to learn more? Join the Cobb County  
Genealogical Society General Meetings are  
held at 7 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the  
every month, except December. For now The  
meetings are virtual. Visit the CCGS website  
to register – [www.cobbbgagensoc.org](http://www.cobbbgagensoc.org).



## ANDREW BRAMLETT'S WHY WE SAY WHAT WE SAY.

For many  
centuries, there was  
no unique English  
word for the color  
ORANGE. Instead,  
all words or terms used  
to describe it were  
based on other colors.  
In old English, it was  
called geoluhread, or  
"Yellow-Red". In  
Middle English, it was  
referred to as "Between  
Yellow and Red".



In the 16th century, Portuguese traders  
brought Oranges from India to Europe. In India  
Oranges were known as naranga. Even though  
at first the fruit was referred to as "Golden  
Apples" in Europe, eventually versions of the  
original name became popular. In England  
they became known as "norange". Over time  
the "N" at the beginning was lost, creating  
the word ORANGES, which only referred to  
the fruit.

So, when did the fruit's name become the  
name of a color? In the 1590's, Shakespeare  
made mention of "Orange Tawny" as a  
color. Tawny was another word for brown,  
so "Orange Tawny" is a light brown, instead  
of its own color. Other accounts from the  
time refer to "the color of an orange". By  
the 1620's, ORANGE had become its own  
distinct color.

PURPLE also has an interesting history.  
In ancient times, purple dye came from a  
snail that lived near Tyre, in Lebanon. The  
snail was known as porphura, and the dye  
was called Tyrian Dye. The dye was difficult  
to extract from the snail, and because of this  
it became very valuable. Cloth with Tyrian  
dye was often worn by royalty. Eventually,  
porphura was used to refer to the dye, and  
then later the color. The name was adapted  
into the Latin word purpura, which eventually  
became PURPLE.

**EMAIL YOUR STORIES,  
PHOTOS OR QUESTIONS  
[Brightnews@aol.com](mailto:Brightnews@aol.com)**

## ANDREW BRAMLETT VIDEO SERIES

For the past 3 years Andrew Bramlett has  
written articles for the Bright Side on the origins of  
Words and Phrases. Now Andrew also is producing  
videos! His first series cover his Bright Side  
Articles. His next series covers the history and  
highlights of each Georgia State Park His third series  
covers former State Parks in Georgia. Andrew's  
current series is called "Overlooked History" where  
he shares interesting stories from history that have  
been largely forgotten. All of these videos can be  
found under the "Video Series" tab of his website,  
[ajbramlett.com](http://ajbramlett.com).



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### CITY OF KENNESAW OPENS UPDATED HISTORIC KENNESAW EXHIBIT AT THE DEPOT

The City of Kennesaw's recently updated the exhibit of Historic Kennesaw at the Depot is now open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Historic Train Depot in Downtown Kennesaw is over 100 years old, but it is not the first such structure to serve the community. Construction on the nearby railroad was completed in 1850, and within a decade, a small, two-story hotel served as the primary stop for passengers. A drawing from the 1860s that appeared in the popular magazine Harpers Weekly also depicted an actual depot in the area, then known as Big Shanty, but the accuracy of the image continues to be debated. At the end of the Civil War, the Lacy Hotel and nearly every other structure in Big Shanty was destroyed, making verification of these early structures difficult.

Recently, the staff of the Southern Museum completed a months long project to update and revitalize the local history exhibit inside the Depot. The displays, which include panels, cases and murals, now explore key topics in the history of the Kennesaw region. These displays include the indigenous peoples who once occupied the land, the impact of the Civil War, the significance of the railroad, the development of Downtown Kennesaw, cultural offerings of the City and the history of the Depot itself. The Depot's bay window now boasts a rotating display of upcoming programs and attractions sponsored by the City of Kennesaw.

Kennesaw has a long and rich history, parts of which are not explored at the Southern Museum given its focus on railroads and the Civil War. The new Historic Kennesaw at the Depot exhibit is inside the Depot and is thus a welcome addition to the cultural legacy of the City.

Pictured above: Kennesaw Mayor & Staff cut ribbon for Grand Opening of Historic Kennesaw at the Depot. Pictured, l-r, The Southern Museum Director of Operations Jeffrey Richardson, The Southern Museum Curator Ben Baughman, City Manager Dr. Jeff Drobney, Mayor Derek Easterling, The Southern Museum Executive Director Dr. Richard Banz, and The Southern Museum Archivist Dustin Klein..

### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



On Saturday, December 19, 2020, the Kennesaw Mountain Chapter, NSDAR (DAR) partnered with the city of Kennesaw, Kennesaw Historic Cemetery Preservation Commission and the Kennesaw Historical Society with the Wreaths Across America ceremony and its community-wide program at the Kennesaw City Cemetery. Many thanks for the assistance from the North Cobb-Harrison High School JROTC and the Etowah High School JROTC units. The JROTC units

assisted in the cemetery preparations, the ceremony and in placements of the wreaths. Funds were raised for 200+ wreaths. There are 126 veteran graves buried at the city cemetery that received the wreaths. Additional wreaths were delivered and placed at Bascomb Methodist, Shiloh and Winkenhof Pine Ridge cemeteries.

### GIFT SHOP ONLINE

The Southern Museum is excited to announce that their gift shop, The General Emporium, has launched an online gift shop.

The General Emporium features a variety of exclusive Civil War and railroad items, from clothing and collectibles to toys and model trains. They also have our own signature line of Lacy House jams, jellies and sauces. Created and stocked for children and adults alike, you will find something special at the General Emporium, where all purchases benefit the educational mission of the Southern Museum.

Visit the online store at <https://generalemporium.square.site>.

### THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

**FEBRUARY 13, 2021**

Inviting all citizen scientists to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) on Saturday, February 13th. The GBBC contributes data that provides a snapshot of bird distribution and helps scientists observe changes over the past two decades. This self-guided event is from 9AM-2PM. Backyard birding experts from Bird Watcher Supply Co. will be on hand to answer all your birding questions. Children can also help these efforts by using our Bird-themed Nature in Action Discovery Kit sold in our Gift Shop! This event is included with garden admission.

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**Richard M Rosenberger, MD is retiring from his Acworth Family Medicine practice effective March 15, 2021.**

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### HORSE BARN FOR RENT

Horse barn with 2 stalls for rent! Off Schillings Chase in Kennesaw-404-408-4223.

### SACRED CIRCLE SUNDAY

On Sunday, January 10, from 4pm to 5pm is Sacred Circle Sunday. A sacred circle is an invisible boundary that you create and then stay inside of to keep safe from harm or outside influences when doing meditation or intention setting. How would one create such a space? How do others create their sacred space? Are there rituals that are followed to create a sacred space? Are there items that you can use to create your sacred space? This event will discuss some ways that you can create your own sacred space and will introduce some of the ways of inviting in the energies of the four directions to lend their support. We will then do a meditation to meet the helpers that are in each direction that you can ask to help you stay protected and safe while you are in the circle you create. To find out more or to purchase a ticket, please go to [www.theoaksanctuary.com](http://www.theoaksanctuary.com) under the Events tab or call 404-903-4104. Cost for the class is \$10.

### ACWORTH'S ART EXPLOSION WINTER BREAK CAMP

It's time to get those creative juices flowing! Art Explosion Camp offers a full week of non-stop art experiments and activities. Each day of camp will focus on a different art style like fabrics and dyes, paper making, paint, clay, and more! Young artists will roll up their sleeves and create their next masterpiece. Campers are encouraged to dress in clothing ready to get painted, stained, and splattered! Camp will take place Monday through Friday, February 15-February 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Campers may be dropped off no earlier than 7:45 a.m. and picked up no later than 5:30 p.m. This camp is open to children ages 6-13. The cost of this camp is \$115 for City of Acworth residents and \$140 for non-residents. Registration and additional information are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

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3+3 LAN ZHOU RAMEN AN AUTHENTIC CHINESE NOODLE RESTAURANT OPEN IN KENNESAW

Congratulations Frank Zheng, owner of 3+3 LanZhou Ramen an authentic Chinese Noodle Restaurant in Kennesaw on your grand opening and ribbon cutting on December 16, 2020. These event was sponsored by the Kennesaw Business Association and attended by several board members. As a thank you, Frank and his staff not only served a complimentary lunch, but also brought out a wide variety of appetizers for everyone to taste. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

Frank Zheng, owner of 3+3 LanZhou Ramen an authentic Chinese Noodle Restaurant invites you to enjoy lunch or dinner at their restaurant located at 2700 Town Center Dr. #132, Kennesaw, GA 30144, (in the shopping center across from Macy’s Department store). Their phone number is 678-403-8433.

Everything that is served is made in the restaurant including the noodles. It was fascinating to watch the noodle maker stretch and pull the dough, and see the dough suddenly turn into individual noodles hanging from his hand. The noodle dish has won praise from customers around the Georgia. The word Ramen means noodle. 3+3 Lanzhou Ramen, also known as Lanzhou Soup Beef Ramen, is a full-flavored dish from Lanzhou City, in Gansu Province, China. It belongs to Northwestern high class cuisine. It’s also been named one of the “Top Ten Noodles in China. The Beef broth is made in the restaurant and is simmered for at least 10 hours before it is ready.

The restaurant also serves Stir Fry and several other delicious authentic Chinese cuisine. Their menu is online at 33lanzhouamen.com/menu.

BACH FLOWER REMEDIES: SHOCK AND COMFORT

PATRICIA WALLENBURG, OAK SANCTUARY

As we move into the new year and reflect on all that has passed, you may find yourself feeling the traumas of the past months. You may have been ill, not adjusting well to the new normal, or have lost someone close to you. All of these emotions may cause shock, fear, and emptiness for you. These are a difficult emotions to process and the feelings may come over you in waves at unexpected times. You may feel stuck in them and not really know how to move on from them.

The Bach Flower Remedy for these emotions is the Star of Bethlehem. It can be taken as a separate remedy, but it is also part of the Rescue Remedy blend that you may have seen in the stores.

This remedy assists with the feelings of loss and grief and any suddenness or shock that comes with it. Star of Bethlehem can help you regain your inner strength and bring a feeling of comfort.

OAK Sanctuary is open for appointments either online or in-person. Bach flower remedies assist in times of stress and anxiety and are a gentle and safe way to improve your emotional and mental well-being. A sound session, using Tibetan bowls, is the perfect way to escape, relax, regain focus, and regroup during these stressful times. Full descriptions of our services can be found at www.theoaksanctuary.com under the Consultations tab or call 404-903-4104.

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## THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

A new year represents a time of new beginnings and opportunities. Although things may have been difficult, it was truly inspiring to see our community come together to support one another throughout the pandemic, social unrest, and economic stresses. Many could have given up or focused on their own fears and disappointments, but we have been blessed to see our community leaders unite, bringing love and comfort to those in need.

The City of Acworth and the Northwest Cobb Council of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce recognized Janet Paulsen as our 2020 Citizen of the Year. Ms. Paulsen has a truly inspiring story. In past years, she served as Vice President of the Acworth Baseball Association, and in 2015, she was recognized as the Georgia Recreation and Park Association Volunteer of the Year. Shortly after, her world changed. On the night of November 5, 2015, her then-husband attacked her by shooting her six times, paralyzing her right leg due to a spinal cord injury. She went through grueling physical and occupational therapies that helped her learn how to live with her spinal cord injury. Since then, she has worked tirelessly as an advocate and public speaker sharing her story.

At their last luncheon of 2020, the Acworth Business Association recognized Becky Cross of the Northwest Family YMCA as their Person of the Year. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Becky has organized local food pantries, grocery stores, and volunteers to feed over 140,000 people when they needed food relief the most. The Acworth Business Association also awarded the City of Acworth Police Department as the 2020 Business of the Year. Our Acworth Police have always shown their dedication to public service, but their response to the events of last year earned this special recognition. Congratulations to the Acworth Police Department and Becky Cross for these well-deserved honors.

Although we are not yet out of the woods from COVID-19, hope is on the horizon. For many this will take the form of a vaccine and the knowledge that the world will return to normal. It is important for us all to remain safe and patient as we approach the finish line of this pandemic. As we move forward together, we would like to wish everyone a happy, prosperous 2021.

God Bless, Tommy Allegood



### DOYAL HILL PARK DEDICATED

Located adjacent to the Rosenwald School and Acworth Community Center, Doyal Hill Park serves as an outdoor interpretive history area featuring public art honoring Acworth's rich African American History.

The ribbon-cutting and grand opening ceremony of Doyal Hill Park was held on Thursday, December 3. The park is named after Doyal Hill who served Acworth as an Alderman for several years. He was well-loved and an active member of the community and attended Zion Hill Baptist Church. The park is located at 4410 Cherokee Street, between 1885 Grill and the Rosenwald School. Hill Park contains a plaza, sculpture, and interpretive signage documenting our community's rich Black History. A brief ceremony was held followed by the ribbon cutting and the unveiling of the interpretive signage and the sculpture. Pictured above are family members of Doyal Hill. He passed away in May of 2017 at the age of 80. Doyal Hill Park will forever bear his name and serves as a fitting tribute to his legacy.

### THE ACWORTH ARTS ALLIANCE'S -ART HOUSE



Jan. 9 thru Feb. 27

Tuesday-Saturday, Noon-6P.M.

Receptions: Jan. 9, Feb. 6, 4-7pm



In January The Art House will host our first "SIMA" Exhibit (student, instructor, member artist). This exhibit runs from January 9 thru February 27.

Receptions are planned for Saturday, January 9 and February 6 from 4-7PM. Receptions are free and open to the public. Please wear a mask or face shield while inside the Art House (while Covid continues). All artworks are available for purchase.

#### CALL FOR ARTISTS

Call for Artists: Submission Deadline for our "Something for Everyone" Exhibit is Monday, February 15th. This exhibit will run from March 6 thru April 24. Visit our website for more details and to submit art. [acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines](http://acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines).

**ART CLASSES-** Classes and Workshops will resume the week of January 4th. We are currently requiring masks or face shields during our classes. Visit our website to register for upcoming classes: [acworthartsalliance.org/classes/](http://acworthartsalliance.org/classes/)

We are open: Tuesday thru Saturday, Noon to 6PM. Closed Sunday, Monday. Located at 4425 Cherokee

Street, Acworth, GA 30101, call 678-543-5777, visit [acworthartsalliance.org](http://acworthartsalliance.org)



## *Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Dickens*



*I want to thank Charlie, the owner of Charlie's Angels Movers, for being the best move in my life. I want to thank her for her heart of giving and serving. Charlie is not only beautiful, but her heart is made of gold and every thing she touches is a reflection of that gold. Charlie Dickens thank you for being my wife and best friend! I Love you, Jimmy Dickens*



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## COBB CHAMBER'S ACWORTH & KENNESAW 2020 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

The Cobb Chamber's Northwest Cobb Area Council, which represents Northwest Cobb's three distinct districts of Acworth, and Kennesaw and West Cobb, has selected three community advocates as 2020 Citizens of the Year: Janet Paulsen for Acworth, Cris Eaton-Welsh for Kennesaw, and Mary Chatman for West Cobb. (Mary's article is on page 13.)

### JANET PAULSEN, 2020 ACWORTH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Janet Paulsen, a speaker and advocate for domestic violence, is an engaged and active member of the Acworth Community who shows her passion for defending the defenseless in everything she does.

On the night of November 5, 2015, Paulsen's then-husband attempted to kill her by shooting her six times. The shooting left her in critical condition, with a spinal cord injury that paralyzed her right leg. After years of invasive surgeries and grueling physical therapy, she began working as a domestic violence advocate and public speaker. She fought to close a loophole in state law that allowed some domestic violence perpetrators to keep their firearms, a provision that could have prevented her attack. She has spoken at many engagements on domestic violence, and in 2020 was appointed by Governor Kemp to the Georgia Commission on Family Violence.

"Janet Paulsen's survival story and her work to prevent domestic violence is truly inspiring," says Sharon Mason, President and CEO of the Cobb Chamber. "She displays such bravery and commitment to ending domestic violence and she has made a lasting positive impact on her community."

Prior to the attack, Paulsen was heavily involved in her Acworth community, was the Vice President of the Acworth Baseball Association, and was even named Volunteer of the Year by the Georgia Recreation and Park Association.

Since the attack she has made every moment count. Her two sons are football and baseball standouts at Allatoona High School and have both committed to playing baseball at the collegiate level—and she will be there to support them every step of the way.



### CRIS EATON-WELSH, 2020 KENNESAW CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Cris Eaton-Welsh, owner of Eaton Chiropractic, is a crucial fixture within the Kennesaw community. From sitting on the City Council to founding the Swift Kids Running Club and the Kennesaw Grand Prix Race Series, Eaton-Welsh is passionate about promoting a healthy, happy and productive community. She was heavily involved in the fundraising efforts for Swift Cantrell Park, including championing its skate park, and served on the Cobb2020 Steering Committee to promote health in the county.

"Our community is lucky to have Cris Eaton-Welsh," says Mason. "Cris is an outstanding community leader for Kennesaw. She has served on the city council, on many non-profit boards, and she works tirelessly to make Kennesaw a vibrant place to live, work and play."

Cris Eaton-Welsh was named Chiropractor of the Year in 2009 by the Georgia Council of Chiropractors, named Citizen of the Year by the Kennesaw Business Association in 2013, received the Cobb Chamber's Health Hero Award in 2013, and was honored as a Cobb Chamber Top 25 Small Businesses in 2016.

Eaton-Welsh is always eager to help someone find the resources to better themselves physically and mentally. She often hosts drives to meet the needs of her local non-profits. She is generous, loving and truly believes in lifting up those in need in Kennesaw.

Pictured at top Acworth's Citizen of the Year, Janet Paulsen with her sons, Chamber dignitaries John Loud, Sharon Mason, Commissioner Kelli Gambrill and Acworth Mayor Tommy Allegood.

Pictured at bottom is Cris Eaton-Welsh with John Loud, Kelli Gambrill, Sharon Mason and Kennesaw mayor, Derek Easterling.



## A GREAT BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



At left, Superior Plumbing's Tina Myers presents a check to KMHS, Billy Richardson for \$1000 to be used in the Shop with a Mustang program

## SHOP WITH MUSTANG AND SHOP WITH WARRIOR PROGRAMS NEEDED A LITTLE HELP

BY AMBER ROLAND, NCHS AND CAROL THOMPSON, BRIGHT SIDE

A great big thank you to our community, alumni of KENNESAW MOUNTAIN AND NORTH COBB HIGH SCHOOLS, business leaders and civic groups for stepping up and helping raise the monies needed for 2020's Shop with a Mustang and Shop with a Warrior programs.

During normal times, the high school students have plenty of time to raise the money for these programs, but returning to school in November as opposed to August drastically cut this time short. For half a minute it was thought these two programs would be scrapped.

In order to successfully host Shop With a Mustang and Shop With A Warrior, both Kennesaw Mountain and North Cobb High Schools had to rely on donations from our community and alumni of these two schools

Thanks to the generosity of Superior Plumbing, the Acworth Business Association, the Kennesaw Business Association, Piedmont Church and individual businesses and alumni, each school was able to raise the \$3000 needed to fund these two programs.

The money raised covered their costs of buses, t-shirts, sweatshirts for the little shoppers, a take home goodie bag for each youngster and provided each little shopper had at least \$100 to spend on gifts. In essence high school students form teams and "adopt" a young student, taking them shopping for Christmas

Yes, there were restrictions that were met, for safety reasons. NCHS hosted 45 students at their school on Saturday December 12 while KMHS students met at their individual feeder schools instead as a large group at KMHS and hosted 75 youngsters.

The Shop program was originally the idea of a group of KMHS student leaders in 2004. Based off of their character Ed lessons and their community mentors instilling the concept of serving your community the students decided to take care of future mustangs - The first year was so successful that KMHS helped NCHS start their own version of shopping in 2005. Since the conception at Kennesaw mountain the students have assured 42 high schools around the country financially and with how to information start their programs. UGA, tech, and John Hopkins have started variations of the program from former KMHS students.

At right, Superior Plumbing's Tina Myers presents a check to NCHS, Kennedy Reese for \$1000 to be used in the Shop with a Warrior program



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## ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY KIM WIGINGTON, PRESIDENT



Putting 2020 in hindsight, it's time for the ABA to move forward, united and strong. 2020 was tough, but we should never forget the lessons we learned.

As 2021 president of the Acworth Business Association, my challenge to everyone this year is to change your world for the better. We, as individuals, may never change the whole world, but we can change the one little circle on which we stand.

By remembering our history (good and bad), correcting our negative thinking, and moving forward with positive growth, we can make a change. Just because something "has always been this way" does not mean it is the best way or the right way. Now more than ever, take a look at yourself, your thoughts, and your actions.

Norman Vincent Peale said, "Change your thoughts. Change your world."

I challenge you to seek out your local community to connect, encourage, support, and build. In 2020 we learned the importance of personal connections. Connect with local business owners, people in your church, members of your civic clubs, and neighbors, old friends, and new friends. Encourage them to keep going. Support them with your words and your business. Build up each other.

The Acworth business community's strength comes from uniting. None of us is as strong as all of us. When all those little circles of change come together, we can change the world.

Join the ABA at [AcworthBusiness.org](http://AcworthBusiness.org), and share our strength. We are Acworth, moving forward, united and strong.

See the website: [www.Acworthbusiness.org](http://www.Acworthbusiness.org) and RSVP for events to guarantee your seat.

### ABA LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 7, 11:30-1:00 pm at  
 Acworth Community Center, 4361 Cherokee  
 Street, Acworth, GA, 30101. RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

### ABA JANUARY AA5

Thursday, January 14, at Brookwood  
 Christian School, 4728 Wood Street, Acworth,  
 30101. Catered by 1885 Restaurant. RSV[  
[www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

## KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY CASSANDRA STIFF, PRESIDENT

Hello Kennesaw and Happy New Year. We've all endured the wrath of the virus and I'm grateful to focus on growing our businesses and organizations into 2021. I'm excited to be the President of KBA for 2021, we have no where to go but up, up, up. I love this time of year because it's the opportunity to take a look back at what we've accomplished in our businesses. Like many of you, we've had to change our business model, and it is my opinion our new business model is here to stay. Change can be scary because it's the unknown and unexpected, but I hope you, like myself have embraced the change and uncertainty. Our desire should be to meet change where the opportunity presents itself.

The 2021 KBA board has looked at our membership and committees, we're excited to take a 'refreshed' approach at providing great value and experiences for our existing and new members. To kick the year off, we will hear from the mayor; Derek Easterling. We are grateful for our relationship with the City of Kennesaw and we're excited to hear from him.

As I conclude I'd like to share a location update and new sponsorship opportunities:

•Our new location for our monthly luncheons will be held at The Governor's Club; 1005 Cobb Place Blvd. NW in Kennesaw. The new location will accommodate the COVID restrictions and our safety.

•It's a great time to join KBA or renew your membership, the early birds will get a free lunch, but you'll have to hurry and register.

•We're excited to offer great sponsorship packages for every budget. You get to customize the sponsorship for the events and networking opportunities that are best suited for your business or organization. Check them out and let us know what you think.

Lastly, I wish 2021 to be a year of great personal and professional growth for you and your business. Build your plan to grow and stick to it! There's no turning back.

God speed!



### KBA LUNCHEON

Tuesday, January 12, 11:30-1:00 pm.  
 Come hear Kennesaw's Mayor, Derek Easterling  
 share the State of the City. Please RSVP at [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org). Our monthly luncheons  
 will be held at The Governor's Club; 1005 Cobb  
 Place Blvd. NW in Kennesaw

### KBA JANUARY AA5

Tuesday, January 19, at Carrabbas Italian  
 Grill, Cobb Parkway. Come ready to network  
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EDITOR’S NOTE: While the season of Christmas lights has passed we are sharing the story behind one of the most popular Christmas displays in Kennesaw. Covid squelched a lot of our Christmas activities - visiting light displays was one of the few that we could enjoy without being infected. Many thanks to Amber for taking the time to investigate and write this article.



**LIGHTS OF JOY ILLUMINATES KENNESAW**  
**BY AMBER ROLAND, NCHS JOURNALIST**

Georgia’s largest residential Christmas light display lives in the hearts of Kennesaw on Ben King road across the street from the Influencers Church. Since 1988, Lights of Joy’s extravagant light show brings overwhelming amounts of holiday excitement to Kennesaw’s community each year. Lights of Joy’s road front exhibit stretches across 700 feet. With over 750,000 lights, 226 trees, and 60 holly bushes shaped like Christmas trees, Lights of Joy illuminates Ben King road.

Richard and Sherrie Taylor are the masterminds behind Lights of Joy. The couple opens their gates, welcoming thousands of people to fully experience Lights of Joy every year. Mr. Taylor takes care of installation needs, and Mrs. Taylor specializes in light repairs. In 2020 alone, she meticulously repaired 500 strands of lights. Their immersive light display includes an interactive radio station where featured holiday music perfectly syncs to the impressive light presentation. The extraordinary light spectacular surrounds an inside circle where Kennesaw’s patrons can walk around with friends, family, and significant others to personally experience the joy created by the Taylors’ hard work.

“The more we saw people come and enjoy our display, the more we are motivated to make it bigger and better each year. Many people take a mission trip each year to a foreign country and reach perhaps a couple of dozen people. Our mission is in our front yard. We reached in excess of 21,000 people who walked around our circle in 2019,” Mr. Taylor said.

Richard’s late mother, Marjorie Hixon, inspired the name “Lights of Joy”. From a young age, Hixon represented the epitome of joy, she quickly coined the nickname “My Joy” from her brother Brook. Over the years, Hixon dropped the “My” and became known as Joy. She lived a long life of servitude bringing joy to everyone she encountered. The Taylors decided to honor her legacy and dedicate their beloved light display to Joy Hixon.

After taking in all 750,000 lights, visitors tend to form the common misconception that the Taylors’ electrical bill reaches astronomical heights. In reality, Lights of Joy’s electrical bill constitutes merely 4% of their total cost, one of the production’s smallest components. Behind the scenes, Lights of joy consists of 750 extension cords, 46 circuits of 20 amps each, and approximately 2,000 hours of labor and preparation. All of these factors, juxtaposed with precise planning allows Lights of Joy to run smoothly from November 29th to January 3rd.

Worldwide, 2020 took people on an emotional roller coaster. It often seemed impossible to mask the darkness caused by this unprecedented year. Not even the Taylors could escape 2020’s wrath. Just weeks before opening their light display to the public, Hurricane Zeta created problems for Lights of Joy. Two pine trees came crashing down, snapping wires and creating faulty light bulbs on the way. The Taylors refused to let Hurricane Zeta dampen their spirits. They quickly started clean up efforts, and after 90 man-hours of work, Lights of Joy quickly started to resemble its previous glory once again. Georgia’s residents faced intense trials and tribulations of their own this year after coping with the extremities of the COVID-19 pandemic. Georgians have been stretched thin and need holiday spirit more than ever. Lights of Joy provides people with the perfect opportunity to safely embrace the holiday spirit.

Lights of Joy continually adapts from year to year. This year, the Taylors clocked 2,000 hours of labor after beginning preparations on July 24th. They decided to add the ‘Tunnel of Joy’ to this year’s extravaganza. The picturesque tunnel creates the perfect photo opportunity for visitors to snap holiday selfies for Instagram, or family photos for Christmas cards. This season, the Taylors also invited talented musicians to become a part of the Lights of Joy Family, they will host a live trombone concert on December 18th and 19th at 7:30 pm.

Each year, Lights of Joy attracts visitors from across the globe. Annually they receive many visitors from Canada and northern states as they pass through Georgia on their way to their Florida winter homes. Last year, ABC’s Great Christmas Light Fight featured Lights of Joy, bringing their holiday light spectacular to a national audience.

“It is very rewarding for us to see people happy. ‘We hope to bring a little joy to everyone we meet’. This is our mission statement, everyone is happy and joyful when they visit our display. They can forget about their problems, even if just for 10 to 20 minutes,” Mr. Taylor said.

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### KENNESAW ACWORTH OPTIMIST CLUB SECRET SANTA TOY DRIVE

On December 16, members of the Kennesaw Acworth Optimist Club socially distanced to shop for children as part of its annual Secret Santa Christmas Drive. The Club has participated in an annual Secret Santa Christmas Drive for 20 consecutive years. Working with family and children lists provided by the City of Acworth and Kennesaw Police Departments, the club was able to fulfill the wish lists for 13 families and 25 children. Leading this year's collection effort were Optimist members Robert Kenney, David Grant and Captain Kevin Mitchell of the Kennesaw Police Department.

While the pandemic has cut back on in person meetings the club remains active and is planning events for 2021 including Junior Optimist Club meetings at our local schools, Communication Contests for the Deaf and Hard of hearing, the Big Shanty Festival, a Golf Tournament in May, and a "Let's Go Fly A Kite Day" in September at Swift Cantrell Park in Kennesaw. Information about the club and its efforts can be obtained by contacting Eddie Lummus Club, President at [eddie.lummus@dignitymemorial.com](mailto:eddie.lummus@dignitymemorial.com) or Jim Mayhew at [Jim.mayhew@comcast.net](mailto:Jim.mayhew@comcast.net).

Pictured: Kennesaw Acworth Optimist Club Member Helen Haugen dropping off Secret Santa toys and gifts to the City of Acworth Police Department



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### DRIVING A ROUNDABOUT!

Have you driven on a roundabout? Did you know what to do? Although roundabouts are not very common in Georgia, they have been used extensively in Europe for more than 100 years. Cobb County has only 13 roundabouts but, there are plans for additional roundabouts in the future. Roundabouts are not complicated but can be confusing to drivers experiencing them for the first time.

#### SO HOW DOES IT WORK?

A roundabout is intended for one way traffic, counter-clockwise. As your car approaches the roundabout, slow down and, remember, you must yield to the vehicles already circling the roundabout. Only enter when it is safe to do so and, remember to keep moving until you exit the roundabout. Using your signals as you exit is courteous and will help alert the driver behind you of your intention.

#### ARE THERE ADVANTAGES TO ROUNDABOUTS?

According to safety reports, roundabouts reduce crashes by 38 %, injuries by 76%, and fatal injuries by 90% after being converted from traditional intersections. Collisions are slower and tend to happen at more acute angles rather than head-on or rear-end.

Other benefits of roundabouts include:

- Less congestion: Shorter commute times for everyone! The Federal Highway Administration says continuous moving traffic helps increase the roadway capacity between 30%-50%.
- Easier for pedestrians: Pedestrians only have to watch traffic in one direction rather than three.
- Better for the environment: less time spent idling at stop signs and red lights equals fewer emissions and less pollution.

While roundabouts can be helpful, they will not work at all intersections. Nothing replaces attentive and lawful driving. Remember, always obey all signs and traffic rules and stay safe.





NEW BIKESHARE PROGRAMS LAUNCH IN CUMBERLAND AND TOWN CENTER

The Cumberland and Town Center Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) are excited to announce new bike-share programs in partnership with Tandem Mobility. The CIDs’ previous bike-share provider shuttered operations in May (see earlier releases from Cumberland and Town Center). The relaunch with Tandem Mobility will serve as a one-year pilot program while the CIDs explore a regional bike-share program with additional community partners.

“With the CIDs’ investments in our urban trail network, the region has evolved into a hub of greenway and regional trail connections that attracts walkers, joggers, cyclists, and outdoor enthusiasts.” said Kim Menefee. “Our bike-shares help make our communities more attractive, more accessible, and more connected. Whether you are heading to a Braves’ game or taking a beautiful ride in Town Center, our bikeshares connect you to the best of what Cobb County has to offer.”

“Our vision of a regional system would take these programs to the next level,” said Tracy Rathbone Styf, executive director of the Town Center CID. “This collaboration between the Cumberland and Town Center CIDs sets the stage for a more connected Cobb County in the future. Through our membership numbers, we’ve seen that thousands of users want to ride and ride further, and now they can. We could not be more thrilled to launch our new system and offer this amenity once again.”

Tandem Mobility offers technology that improves the user experience for renters. Bikeshare members can rent and return a bike from either program’s stations. The previous system allowed riders to rent and return bikes to only one program’s stations. Now, riders can use the programs interchangeably, with access to 80 bikes at 12 stations. Users of the new program will be able to ride for free for the first hour. After that, it will be \$3 per hour with a \$24 per day maximum.

The Cumberland and Town Center CIDs took a creative approach for the ribbon cutting of the new program. The relaunch took place as a YouTube premier showing both CIDs’ executive directors celebrating the long awaited return of the program.

The Town Center Community Alliance (Alliance), the Town Center CID’s nonprofit partner, will manage the Town Center Bikeshare Program. The Alliance leverages the work of the CIDs, Cobb County, and other partners who have invested in a regional trail network to engage community members.

The Cumberland and Town Center CIDs look forward to releasing more announcements in the future regarding Cobb’s bikeshare programs. To find out more about station locations, visit Cumberland (<https://www.tandem-mobility.com/cumberland>) and Town Center’s bikeshare page (<https://www.tandem-mobility.com/town-center>). To rent a bike, download the Movatic app on your smartphone and follow the registration guide.

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## MARIETTA NEWS

### COBB CHAMBER'S WEST COBB 2020 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

The Cobb Chamber's Northwest Cobb Area Council, which represents Northwest Cobb's three distinct districts of Acworth, Kennesaw and West Cobb, has selected three community advocates as 2020 Citizens of the Year: Janet Paulson for Acworth, Cris Eaton-Welsh for Kennesaw, and Mary Chatman for West Cobb.

#### MARY CHATMAN, 2020 WEST COBB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

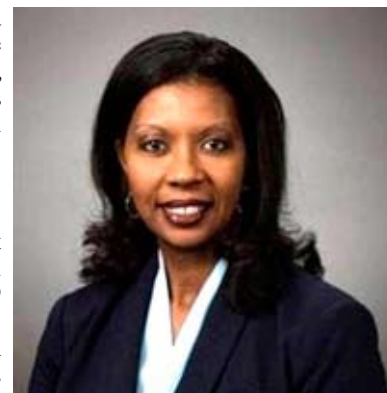
Mary Chatman, Executive Vice President/President of Wellstar Health System's Kennestone and Windy Hill Hospitals, has spearheaded the fight against COVID-19 throughout Cobb and Northwest Atlanta.

Chatman currently works for Wellstar Health System, but has worked on the healthcare frontlines since 1988, with Vidant Medical Center and Memorial Health. On a daily basis, she displays effective leadership, fiscal management, program development, quality improvement and interdisciplinary collaboration—all crucial to Wellstar Health System's organized fight against COVID-19.

"Mary Chatman is a deserving recipient of the West Cobb Citizen of the Year award," said Mason. "She is serving on the front lines for Cobb, fighting COVID-19 and working with local leaders to help us through the pandemic challenges this year."

Along with her work in healthcare, Chatman is deeply involved in Cobb County's community life. She has volunteered with Girls Inc. and BUY Cobb, and serves on many local, state and national boards, including the Georgia Board of Nursing and the Georgia Hospital Association. She has been heavily awarded for her work, including receiving the 2020 STEM Award, 2018 Women of Excellence Award and Nursing Achievement Award—and was even recognized by MBA Diversity Magazine as a Top 50 under 50.

Through her leadership and hard work, Chatman has helped lead the battle against COVID-19 throughout the region, and is a true hero in our community.



### ACWORTH'S MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE CELEBRATION

Festivities will begin on January 18, 2021, at 9:15 a.m. The Acworth Community will take a unity walk from the Roberts School Community and Education Center to the Acworth Community Center. Following the unity walk, there will be a celebration program with guest speaker Earnest Davis centered around the MLK quote: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'" Upon conclusion of the program, there will be no in-person community service project, but an opportunity still exists to spend the remainder of that day "as a day on, not a day off." Volunteer your time or resources to help improve your communities and share a photo or message with the hashtags #AcworthDayofService #MLKDayofService. MLK Day of Service shirts will be for sale at the Acworth Community Center leading up to and on the day of the event. All proceeds will help fund the Acworth Achievers and Expanding Horizons programs. To attend the MLK Day Program in person, RSVP to the email address [MLKday@acworth.org](mailto:MLKday@acworth.org).

### JLCM GIVES COLLECTS 9,000 HYGENE PRODUCTS

The Junior League of Cobb-Marietta (JLCM) is excited to announce that our It's A Girl Thing! collection drive this fall as part of Period Poverty Awareness Month was a total success.

"At the end of our drive, we successfully collected nearly 9,000 feminine hygiene products that were donated to local schools in Cobb County," shares Erica Guffie, the 2020-21 JLCM Gives Chair. "But we aren't done—and we certainly can't do it alone!"

JLCM's goal for the 2020-21 League year is to collect and distribute more than 50,000 products. For every \$15 donation made to JLCM, we are able to purchase a one-month supply of period products. These products benefit women and girls in Cobb County who may be missing school, work or similar events because of lack of access to products.

To support this ongoing collection drive and learn more about It's A Girl Thing!, visit [jlcmm.org/project/its-a-girl-thing/](http://jlcmm.org/project/its-a-girl-thing/).

If you have any additional questions, or if you would like to get your business, school or organization involved in supporting our initiative, contact Erica Guffie at [jlcmmgives@gmail.com](mailto:jlcmmgives@gmail.com).

### "MY SMILE DOESN'T GET ANY WIDER"

"My smile doesn't get any wider" exclaimed Daneea Badio-McCray, Marietta PAL Executive Director when presented with a check from the 7th Annual ThanksGIVING Golf Classic which was held on November 9th at the Marietta Country Club. Every year a new non-profit is selected as the beneficiary and the 2020 recipient was the Marietta Police Athletic League (PAL), whose motto is "It's better to build youth than mend adults." Even though it was a new challenge due to the pandemic, this year the Tournament was able to present a record setting \$150,000 to PAL to continue their programs for at-risk Marietta youth.

Over the past seven years this tournament has raised over \$550,000 for local charities including KSU CARE, Marietta Student Life Center, Devereux Center, Wellstar Cancer Center and Hospice Angel Fund. Major sponsors of the tournament were the Marietta Country Club, Liberty Furniture and the Kiwanis Club of Marietta. By combining these resources and hosting the tournament, the tournament committee will afford PAL the funds to be able to continue their community initiatives first dreamt of by Lieutenant Michael Goins in 2007. Since then, Marietta PAL has served over 6,000 youth and their families. They have sponsored soccer, basketball, swimming, dance, martial arts, track and field, cheerleading and tutoring programs.

If you would like to get more information on PAL and how you can become involved, you can visit [mariettapal.org](http://mariettapal.org). If you would like to find out more about how you can join or sponsor next year's Annual ThanksGIVING Golf Classic, please contact Club Pro Stephen Keppler [mccpgapro@yahoo.com](mailto:mccpgapro@yahoo.com).

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## MARIETTA NEWS



### SAINT JOSEPH'S DISTRIBUTED OVER 1000 CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO FAMILIES IN NEED

The Annual Children's Christmas Program which is sponsored by Saint Joseph Knights of Columbus Council 4599 & Saint Vincent de Paul Society was a huge success! Thanks to the generous donations from Saint Joseph Catholic Church parishioners who provided over 1000 gifts which included toys and clothes to make sure that over 485 needy youngsters in Cobb County will have a visit from Santa this year.

In addition to the local families served we also provided 100's of toys and new clothing to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite Hospital, Mary's Shelter which operates a home for unwed mothers and Calvary Children's Home which is a home for 35 to 40 children in the Metro Atlanta area that are orphaned or need to live apart from their families.

All in all we touched the lives of hundreds of children this Christmas Season!

Thank you! to everyone that volunteered and donated gifts in making this Christmas a little merrier for all the hundreds of children we assisted.

Pictured above: Volunteers making goodie bags to handout to children)

### CHALLENGED ACCEPTED!

#### EAST MARIETTA SPIKES COLLECTED COATS AND BLANKETS

More than 125 coats and blankets have been collected for MUST Ministries

When the East Marietta Spikes 10U travel baseball team learned that MUST Ministries was in need of coats during the cold, winter months, they stepped up to the plate.

Since Dec. 16, the team has rallied together with community partners to collect nearly 90 new and gently used coats for children and adults, in addition to collecting almost 40 new blankets. All items are being donated to MUST Ministries, which shared a message on its social media channels in late December asking the community for help. "We have an urgent need for winter coats! Our normal coat drive was unable to happen this year and it has led us to being unable to meet the need," the post stated.

East Marietta Spikes 10U team members have set up collection boxes for coats and blankets at the following locations:

- Merchant's Exchange Barber Shop, 4400 Roswell Road, Suite 174, Marietta, GA 30062
- D-Bat-Marietta, 1666 Roswell Road, Marietta, GA 30062

The collection boxes will remain in place through most of January 2021 and items can be donated during regular business hours.



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