

The Bright Side™

Volume 30 No 4

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

APRIL 2021



45TH ANNUAL SUPERIOR PLUMBING KENNESAW/BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL

The Kennesaw Business Association in cooperation with the City of Kennesaw along with the Title Sponsor: Superior Plumbing and Presenting Sponsor: LGE Community Credit Union will host the 45th Annual Superior Plumbing Kennesaw/Big Shanty Festival on Saturday April 17 and Sunday April 18 in downtown Kennesaw.

The Superior Plumbing Kennesaw/Big Shanty Festival features over 200 Arts & Crafts booths, 25 food booths, one entertainment stage, as well as live acoustic music in the new Food Court throughout the weekend. Something for the entire family!

The health and safety of those who visit the Superior Plumbing Big Shanty Festival is our top priority. We have taken enhanced health and safety measures for you, our visitors, and our staff. Here's what we are doing to keep you safe: Event staff members required to utilize appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times. Event staff members to wash hands prior to starting their shift and at frequent intervals in between tasks. Event staff members to undergo screening, including a temperature check, upon arrival to event facility. Food to be handled with plastic utensils to minimize touch points by staff members. Multiple hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout the festival. Superior Plumbing Big Shanty Festival will follow all social distancing guidelines provided by local & state officials.

Because of the need to continue to social distance, we will not have a parade this year. Admission is free.

However, the Festival is providing FREE SHUTTLES to and from the downtown area. Two 14 passenger busses will be running shuttles from Swift-Cantrell Park to festival grounds during event hours – both Saturday & Sunday. Parking: Available at Adams Park & Swift-Cantrell

The Festival is sponsored by the Kennesaw Business Association in cooperation with the City of Kennesaw. Superior Plumbing is the title sponsor and LGE is the presenting sponsor. For more information call 770-4231330 or email jonathanjenkins@jrmmanagement.com. See you there! Pictured above: Kennesaw's own Great Gig Ensemble dance for Big Shanty Festival.

COBB ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS HOSTING REAL ESTATE EXPO

The Cobb Association of Realtors has partnered with The Governors Gun Club to hold their annual Real Estate Expo at the Kennesaw location of the Governors Gun Club on April 21, 2021 from 11 am-3 pm.

In years past, the Cobb Association of Realtors® held the event at the Cobb Civic Center. The Cobb Civic Center, like many county buildings,



has been closed for events since late February 2020 due to Covid. Affiliate Committee Chair and organizer of the event, Lindsay Frangie, says, "We had to look at other options that have the space and staff to hold such event, I believe this new venue will be one that we will rely on for the Expo every year now, this partnership will continue not only for this Expo but for other association events throughout the year".

Cobb Association of Realtors is a nonprofit organization in Marietta, GA. The event proceeds will be donated to SAFEPATH Children's Advocacy Center, another nonprofit organization in Cobb County.

This event will be open to the public and is free to attend. The event will have exhibitors from the Real Estate industry. There will be giveaways, prizes, cash bar and a free 3 hour CE course offered to Realtors from 10 am- 1 pm. The expo will be 11 am- 3 pm. The address for the Governor's Gun Club is 1005 Cobb Place Blvd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144



KMHS HOST THEIR SPECIAL NEEDS DANCE IN SPITE OF THE PANDEMIC

Even in a Pandemic, Kennesaw Mountain HS Mustangs find a way to serve our community. After weeks of planning and building colorful decorations for hours after school and on the weekends, "The Dance" for our Special Needs Students was held on March 25th, 2021.

With the assistance of John Stafford, Senior Executive Director, Events, and his staff of 30 technicians we were able to put on a 110-minute show copying Dick Clark's Rocking New Year's Eve party. KMHS Hosted live interviews and dancing, other schools around the county were live for special songs and some were pre-recorded. The event was televised on CCSD's IPTV Network to all 113 schools.

Mane Link lead the charge to make sure this dance happened. Under the supervision of Avery Watson (Student Body President) and Ayusha Prasad (Student Body Vice- President), they conferred with their event coordinators Makayla McGruder (Jr class President), Anjali Balagnesh (Student Body Secretary), and Siya Daya (Sophomore Class President) to put on an impactful dance.

Pictured above: Cast of characters of Never Never Land. The mane link executive board spent 7 weeks after school everyday building sets, making costumes and designing the program.

Editor's Note: For several years KMHS has put on a dance for our special needs students at Valentine's Day, inviting and busing the students from all over the Cobb County. We have seen many examples of how folks have thought outside the box since the pandemic started. However, this production of the Special Needs Dance wins our THINK OUTSIDE OF THE BOX award for the year. Thanks Wm Richardson, VP at KMHS and all the students that made this happen. This is, without a doubt, AMAZING. If you think hard enough, you too can think outside of the box and come up with a workable solution.

GALAXY OF STARS IS APRIL 23

Tommy Nobis Center, a Marietta-based nonprofit that helps individuals with disabilities enter or return to employment, will hold its 23rd annual Galaxy of Stars event online on Friday, April 23, 2021, from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.

This year's event theme is "Stars Among Us." It will be an inspiring time of celebrating the success of Tommy Nobis Center participants and honoring the community champions who empower people with disabilities.

Honorees include Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Dr. Ike Reighard, President & CEO of MUST Ministries and Senior Pastor of Piedmont Church; Family Member Advocate Award Winner, Lucy Cusick, Executive Director Emeritus of FOCUS + Fragile Kids; Community Champion Award Winner, Jay Cunningham, Owner and President of Superior Plumbing Services, Inc.; and Tommy Nobis Rising Star Award Winner, former program participant Destiny Adamson. The event is sponsored by Cobb EMC Community Foundation, WSB-TV, Wellstar Health System, and the Atlanta Falcons.

This year's Galaxy Committee Chair is Tommy Nobis Center board member and daughter of Tommy and Lynn Nobis, Devon Jacksoniski. "I am honored to serve as chair of the 2021 Galaxy of Stars," said Devon. "I share the same enthusiasm for the mission of Tommy Nobis Center as my father did."

Even during a pandemic, Tommy Nobis Center has continued to serve the most vulnerable among us. Funds raised through this event directly support programs and services for youth and adults with disabilities. Community members can participate by donating to the event directly online or via mail, during the virtual event, or through the online silent auction that will run from April 21st until April 26th. To learn more, visit <https://avlaunch.me/tnc>.



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DEADLINE FOR MAY 2021 ISSUE
MONDAY APR 26 2021
PUBLISHED MAY 4 2020

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THIS AND THAT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



LOGAN KALINOWSKI

Logan Kalinowski will be celebrating her
15th Birthday on April 16th. Happy Birthday
LoLo! We love you!

ENJOY THE SPRING

CONGRATULATIONS



ANDREW BRAMLETT

Local Kennesaw historian and Bright
Side contributor Andrew Bramlett was
recently given the Outstanding Youth Veterans
Volunteer Award by the Georgia State Society
of the Daughters of the American Revolution.
He was given the award at a banquet held
at Stone Mountain on March 19th, 2021.
Andrew gives cemetery tours about veterans
in the Kennesaw City Cemetery, volunteers
at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield
Park, and gives educational presentations
throughout Cobb County.

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

KENNESAW CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY

The City of Kennesaw Cemetery
Preservation Commission will be hosting
Cemetery Clean-Up Day at the Kennesaw
City Cemetery on April 24, 2021 from 10AM
to 2PM. Cleaning supplies are provided, but
we ask participants to bring their own gloves.
To clean the stones, we use a product that is
environmentally safe and recommended by the
Veterans Administration. For questions, please
contact City Clerk Lea Alvarez (lalvarez@
kennesaw-ga.gov).

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL FOOD PANTRY

ATTENTION - if you are in need of food,
contact SVDP to request groceries. If so please
send an email to SVDPCat@gmail.com with
your name and phone number. Someone will
contact them to arrange for a pickup on Mon,
Thursdays or Saturdays from 11am-12pm. The
pantry is located in the same shopping center
as the SVDP thrift store in Kennesaw.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION SENIORS IN NEED INVITED TO FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT.

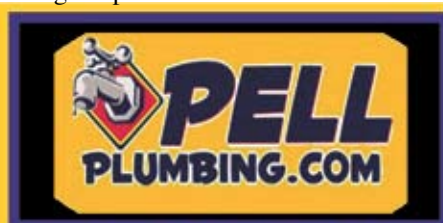
Cobb Senior Services staff are holding
drive-up services for Cobb residents age 60
and older to get shelf stable food from 11 a.m.
until noon, or while supplies last, on Friday,
APRIL 16 An ID showing date of birth and
Cobb County home address for each senior is
required upon arrival. No appointment needed.
The address is Cobb Senior Services, 1150
Powder Springs St., Marietta.

This will be our final food distribution as
our Senior Centers will begin operating
Monday-Friday starting Monday April 19

COBB COUNTY

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Join the Cobb County Genealogical
Society on Tuesday, April 27. 7:00 p.m.
Have you ever wondered how to overcome a
proverbial genealogy paradox? How do you
know what you don't know and how do you
overcome it? Cobb County Genealogical
Society (CCGS) will be hosting a free webinar
to help you answer this question with Thomas
MacEntee. The meeting will be held via Zoom.
com, so sign up by going to the CCGS website:
www.cobbbgagensoc.org. Must register by
midnight April 26.



770-499-2006

ANDREW BRAMLETT'S WHY WE SAY WHAT WE SAY.

This month's
article is about foods
which you may not
know were named
for people. The most
famous example is
SANDWICH, named
after John Montagu,
4th Earl of Sandwich.
While gambling one
day, the earl did not



want to leave his seat at the table. He asked a
servant to make something he could eat that
would not interrupt the game. The servant
returned with meat between two slices of bread.
This soon became known as a SANDWICH.
The variety of chocolate used in the original
GERMAN CHOCOLATE CAKE was made
by the Baker's Chocolate Company. It was
named "Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate"
after its inventor, Samuel German. He created
the chocolate in 1852, but it took 102 years
for it to become popular in cake. TACO BELL
is named after its founder, Glen Bell, who
founded the company in 1962, in Downey,
California.

James Salisbury was a popular Victorian
physician, chemist, and dietitian. He was
well known for his advocacy of eating plenty
of meat. Salisbury was especially fond of
a type of hamburger steak, later named
SALISBURY STEAK in his honor. In 1923,
Italian immigrant Caesar Cardini, who lived
in San Diego, opened Caesar's restaurant in
Tijuana, Mexico. He opened his restaurant
in Mexico to avoid American prohibition
laws. On July 4, 1924, Cardini invented the
CAESER SALAD, which was named after
both him and his restaurant. COBB SALAD is
named after Richard H. Cobb, original owner
of Hollywood's Brown Derby Restaurant.
According to legend, Cobb made the salad
out of spare ingredients in the restaurant's
kitchen.

**EMAIL YOUR STORIES,
PHOTOS OR QUESTIONS**
Brightnews@aol.com

BRIGHT SIDE PUBLISHING INFORMATION

This is our first printed and mailed
publication since November, 2020. As of
now we plan to print and mail the paper once
a quarter until all of our special events and
community gatherings return. Even when
the paper is not mailed it is still published
once a month. You can read it online every
month at www.brightsidenews.com/web.
nc.pdf. Articles and advertising are always
welcome - Digital rates available.



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SUMMER CAMP EXPO



The City of Kennesaw's Department of Parks & Recreation will host a Summer Camp Expo from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, at the Ben Robertson Community Center, located at 2753 Watts Drive.

Summer Camp Expo is an open-house style free event for the community to learn about the summer camps available through Kennesaw Parks & Rec. The camp instructors will be on site so attendees can meet them and learn more about the different camps available to the community such as, sports, art, and science camps, as well as the All-Star Camp.

This year, the Summer Camp Expo will be held outside in front of the Community Center to allow for proper social distancing. There will be information posted on the Parks & Recreation social media pages

for those who do not wish to attend in person. A coupon code for online registration will also be given out at the event and on social media that will be good for 24 hours.

The Ben Robertson Community Center will be open for restrooms and for community members to tour the building, if desired. Masks will be required to enter the building.

SMITH GILBERT GARDENS PLANT SALE

The e-store opens to the General Public from April 19 – 22, 2021. Sales will be online only. There will be no on site sales. Payments will be made online by credit card; no checks or cash.

We have limited quantities of all varieties! Plants are sold to Members first – on a first come, first serve basis.

The link will be posted on the SGG homepage on April 19th: <https://smithgilbertgardens.com>. Plant pick up for General Public sales will be Saturday, April 24. Please note: Plants will not be held after 4 PM on April 24. Plants remaining will be considered a tax deductible donation. You will receive a donation letter for your tax planning purposes.

ALL SALES are final. Smith-Gilbert Gardens makes no guarantee on plants sold. No sales on site. Pick up required; no shipping. Make sure you or a friend can pick up your plant order on the designated day.



BOOK SWAP - A FREE EVENT

Kennesaw Parks & Rec is hosting its annual Book Swap, a free media swapping event, at the Ben Robertson Community Center on May 1, 2021, from 8am-11am.

Area residents are able to drop off gently used books, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, etc. in exchange for tickets. Each item dropped off is worth one ticket. At the Swap, only attendees who dropped off items will be able to redeem their tickets for items brought in by others. There will be no exchange of money at the Book Swap so you must have tickets to "purchase" items.

This year, the Book Swap will take place outside in the front parking lot to allow for proper social distancing and masks will be highly encouraged. Any remaining items left at the end of the swap will be donated locally. Coffee and snacks will be available (while supplies last) for all attendees.

Items can be dropped off at the Ben Robertson Community Center Banquet Hall from 12:00-8:00 PM on Thursday, April 29, and Friday, April 30.

Kennesaw Parks & Rec is in need of volunteers to help us run our Book Swap! This event requires a lot of preparation and set up on the days leading up to the event, and requires help to smoothly run the event on the day of.

To sign up, visit: <http://ow.ly/Vf050EciV4>. Our Book Swap would not be possible without volunteers, and we greatly appreciate any help with this event!

FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS

The Kennesaw Downtown Development Authority and the Kennesaw Downtown Merchants Association are excited to announce the inaugural First Friday Concert Series in Historic Downtown Kennesaw.

The Series, which runs from now through October, will hold the next concert on Friday May 7.

From 6:00 to 9:00 PM, the community is invited to stroll through the Historic Downtown area and enjoy an evening of shopping, dining and live music. The concert will take place at the Pedestrian Underpass off Main Street. Tables are available for reservation for \$50. Tables will seat six individuals.

For more information, visit www.kennesaw-ga.gov/first-friday-concert-series.

BIRD AND BUTTERFLY HOUSE WORKSHOP

Kennesaw Parks & Rec is hosting a Bird and Butterfly House workshop for the April Art in the Park at the General Pavilion at Swift Cantrell Park. Participants will have the option to choose a bird or butterfly house that will make a wonderful addition to any garden. The class will be led by Kennesaw Parks & Rec Director Steve Roberts and Assistant Director Bill McNair. This event is suitable for all ages. All materials will be supplied, and no artistic experience or talent is necessary. Light snacks and drinks will be available onsite or participants can bring their own food. Please remember that glass is not permitted in the park.

This event will be held at Swift Cantrell Park on Wednesday April 21, 2021 from 6:00 til 7:30 pm. Tickets are at secure.rec1.com/GA/kennesaw-ga/catalog

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THIS 'N THAT

SUMMER JOBS

Want to stay busy, have fun, and earn some extra money this summer? Apply for Kennesaw Parks & Rec's summer jobs! We need camp counselors and Splash Pad attendants. You can find out more information and apply from the City of Kennesaw's hiring page - kennesaw-ga.zohorecruit.com/jobs/Careers

THE ACWORTH ARTS ALLIANCE'S ART HOUSE

The Art House is hosting Something for Everyone. This exhibit runs from NOW thru April 24.

Please wear a mask or face shield while inside the Art House (while Covid continues). In addition to our featured exhibit, we have artwork by our 65+ Member Artists also on display! As always, we offer a broad variety of art styles and mediums...including paintings, drawings, prints, notecards, pottery, glass, jewelry, fabric creations etc. All Artwork is for sale!

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

GARDEN TOUR

The Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County, Inc. 18th Annual Garden Tour is scheduled for Saturday, May 22, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will feature six (5) gardens including four (4) private gardens and the Reconnecting Our Roots Community Garden, all in the Central and East Cobb area.

Tickets are on sale beginning April 1. \$15 in advance, \$20 on the day of the tour. Children ages 17 and under are free. Tour is held rain or shine! Masks are required.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit: <https://www.cobbmastergardeners.com>

HORSE BARN FOR RENT

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

NORTH COBB ROTARY

North Cobb Rotary meets at Copelands New Orleans every Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m., feel free to stop by in the coming weeks for great food, great fellowship

THIS N THAT ADS

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Certified Dog Trainer offers Private Dog Training in your home or other mutually convenient location. Positive, gentle methods make training fun for dog and owner. Licensed, Bonded and Insured. For details, see our Website: www.mygoodrascal.com To set up a consultation, Email: gary@mygoodrascal.com or call 770-401-7945.

OAK SANCTUARY IS OPEN FOR APPTS.

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 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. OAK Sanctuary is located at 2765 South Main Street, Suite 101, Kennesaw, GA 30144 (next to Hoot Owl Brewery).

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Are you a parent or grandparent looking for work but need to be off when your children or grand-children are off of school? Are you retired or an entrepreneur and need to find a solution for the rising cost of healthcare? Are you a college student looking for a job that pays more than flipping burgers? Consider joining us. We are looking for responsible, caring, kid-friendly, fun-loving people to drive the school bus for Cobb County School District. All you need is a clean driving record, a regular driver's license, and to be up for a great adventure. We have great kids here in Cobb County who need you --- you hold the keys to their future. There are more than 70,000 students who ride our buses every day, many of whom have no other way to get to and from school. We will provide all the training you need and within a few short weeks you could be the hero for countless young lives. For more information go to www.ccsdbusdrivers.com.

BE A BRIGHT SIDE REPORTER

It's easy to be a Bright Side Reporter — if you have a positive, upbeat story about your family, your neighborhood, your civic group, school, church activities, happening in Kennesaw or Acworth, send it to us.

Simply write us a short note of the facts — we will rewrite it as a story. Email to Brightnews@aol.com (Photos are welcome too) Call 770-851-5469 for more information on submitting stories.



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NORTH COBB ROTARY'S SMOKE ON THE LAKE BBQ FESTIVAL

The North Cobb Rotary Club, City of Acworth, and the Georgia Barbecue Association partner each year to host the Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival presented by Superior Plumbing, will now be held at Logan Farm Park. The event will take place on Friday, May 7 and Saturday, May 8. All proceeds are distributed amongst local charities, so come out and help make a difference in your community! Thanks to the partnership of The Acworth Business Association, Friday night will feature an outdoor concert from the Georgia Players Guild featuring music from Three Dog Night and Hall and Oates. Table reservations will be available and will include 6 chairs. Friday night will also include the infamous Lord of the Wings contest! Purchase tasting tickets and be the judge for best wings and get a taste of what different vendors have to offer. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. and festivities will last until 10:00 p.m. Saturday boasts some of the best BBQ around! Teams from all over the Southeast will compete in professional and amateur divisions to see who will take home the title. For a small fee, you can taste your way through some of the best BBQ in the Southeast! The event will run from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Rotary Club of North Cobb as proceeds of the event go to the charities of the North Cobb Rotary Club, including the Acworth Special Needs Field, End Polio Now, Mountain Top Boys Home, The Men's Extension, The Women's Extension, MUST Ministries, Cobb Christmas, local Cobb schools and more.

To sign up to be a cook team, to help sponsor the event or for information, call (770) 423-1330, or visit www.smokeonthelake.org and follow us on facebook.

WALKING MEDITATION

BY PATRICIA WALLENBERG, OAK SANCTUARY

The thought of sitting in meditation and being quiet is very intimidating to many and prevents a person from beginning any type of meditation. There are many other ways to meditate that do not involve sitting in one place and being silent for an extended period of time.

Walking meditation is a way to get the same positive effects of calming the mind. It can bring about better focus, less anxiety, and reduce blood pressure; all of the same benefits a sitting meditation brings. It can be as simple as a walk in the park, or even better, a wooded trail.

Another wonderful walking meditation is to walk a labyrinth. A labyrinth is a single winding path that leads to a center. It is not a maze that confuses or blocks your way. A labyrinth is built on the ground and you can see exactly where you are going. It winds back and forth until you reach the center and then you pause there and walk the same path back out.

There is no right or wrong way to walk a labyrinth; just enter and walk. You walk at the pace that is good for you and see if anything comes up for you. Just breathe and stay as calm as you can.

There are several wonderful labyrinths here in Georgia. The First Methodist Church of Marietta on Whitlock Road off of Marietta Square has one at the back of the parking lot. They take very good care of this one and it is in a peaceful location. The visitor's center of Rome has one at the back of their parking lot. I really like this one as it is made of grass and bricks. I like to walk a labyrinth with no shoes. The Spa at Dahlonega has a wonderful one on their property too. They are always planting new flowers and plants around the edges.

To learn more about labyrinths and find some other ones closer to home, please visit <https://labyrinthlocator.com/home>.

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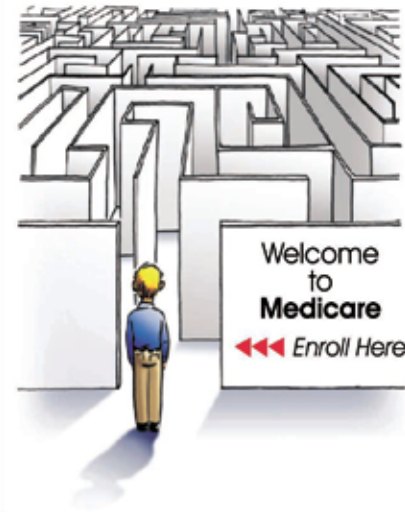
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In the City of Acworth, we have committed to safely and thoughtfully reintroducing our unique events to the community. Our event partners and City team have approached each event individually to find the best way to follow public health guidelines and support our local businesses by welcoming visitors back into our community. Many events have been modified, but continue to offer the attractions that bring excitement to our City.

We are excited to welcome back North Cobb Rotary's Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival next month! Logan Farm Park will now host Smoke on the Lake to provide the additional space required to follow public health recommendations and easier access to parking for our visitors to enjoy. Smoke on the Lake will kick off on Friday, May 7 at 5:00 p.m. Later that evening at 8:00 p.m., the Georgia Player's Guild will play a free concert. The BBQ tasting continues Saturday, May 8 at 11:00 a.m. As much as we all love the great music and BBQ, the most special thing about Smoke on the Lake is that the Rotary Club of North Cobb invests all proceeds back into the community. We encourage you to visit www.smokeonthelake.org to learn more about the great things Rotary does for North Cobb County.



As the days grow longer and the sunshine returns, it's a blessing to see the community enjoying our outdoors spaces. The Acworth Baseball Association celebrated opening day on March 6, and it doesn't feel like spring without baseball. Registration is now open for Acworth Warriors Football and Cheerleading. You may sign your child up at www.acworthwarriors.com. We are so thankful to our local sports associations and City team for continuing to bring youth athletics to our community and finding ways to play while remaining safe.

Outdoor enthusiasts can also celebrate the upcoming opening of our lakes and beaches. Dallas Landing Park and Proctor Landing Park will open to the public on April 10. We would like to remind everyone that Dallas and Proctor Landing have a \$10 daily parking fee per car for non-residents of Acworth. Beginning April 17, South Shore Park and Cauble Park will charge a \$10 parking fee on the weekends for non-residents. If you are unsure if you reside within city limits, visit www.acworthparksandrec.org. There you will find a FAQ page that can answer questions regarding your residency, parking, facility rentals, and more.

God Bless, Tommy

ACWORTH FARMERS MARKET IS OPEN

Shop for local at the Acworth Farmers Market every Friday morning from April 9-October 29 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The market takes place at Logan Farm Park (4405 Cherokee Street). Market customers will have a wide variety of garden ripe Georgia grown vegetables, eggs, cheese, bedding plants, fresh baked bread, pies, cakes, honey, and jams to choose from each week. The Acworth Farmer's Market is proudly sponsored by the Acworth Downtown Development Authority. If you are interested in more information on being a vendor or just have questions about the market, please call 770-917-1234.

ON GOLDEN POND

The Acworth Cultural Arts presents On Golden Pond, by Ernest Thompson the weekends of April 16-18 and April 23 & 24. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:00 pm, the Sunday matinee is at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$25.00. This will be presented at the Roberts School, 4681 School St., Acworth. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.acworthculturalarts.org.

ZUMBA

Zumba fitness combines high-energy Latin music and international rhythms with unique and easy to follow moves and combinations that allow participants to dance away their worries. This effective, exhilarating, and calorie-burning program features exotic rhythms such as salsa, merengue, cumbia, samba, and more! You'll not only have a great time, but you'll experience a great workout as well! All fitness and skill levels are welcome. There is no other fitness class like the Zumba Fitness party - join us and see for yourself! Zumba will take place on Tuesdays or Thursdays at the Acworth Community Center from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monthly and drop-in rates are available. For more information and registration, please visit www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.

SPECIAL WARRIORS TAE KWON-DO

Special Warriors Tae Kwon-Do is a great program for the young community with special needs. The traditional skills of Tae Kwon-Do have been adapted to teach focus, balance, hand-eye coordination, and effective self-defense skills to those with special concerns. This class is instructed by Omar Welch who is a third-degree black belt and instructor certified by the United States Tae Kwon-Do Federation. Classes will meet monthly at the Acworth Community Center on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Additional information and registration are available at www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.

CAMP ACWORTH

Camp Acworth 2021 is around the corner and is going to provide your kids with a summer full of fun, safety, and new adventures! Parents may choose to register their child at either Lake Acworth Adventure Camp located at Cauble Park or Overlook Adventure Camp located at the Acworth Community Center. Weekly camp activities include outdoor nature walks, educational speakers, water based activities, arts and crafts, team building activities and more! Camp Acworth is for children ages 6 - 14 (Children attending 1st - 8th grade in upcoming school year). Camp consists of eight, one-week sessions beginning June 1 and concluding on July 30. The cost is \$115 per week for residents and \$140 per week for non-residents. Registration opens Monday, April 5th for residents and Monday, April 12th for non-residents. Space is limited! For more information and to register, please visit www.campacworth.org.

LIVE AT LOGAN FARM PARK

The Weekend Getaway Band will perform live music at Logan Farm Park (4405 Cherokee Street) on May 22. This outdoor music event is free and open to the public. Live at Logan Farm Park is the annual Acworth Arts Alliance and the Acworth Art House fundraiser. Proceeds from this event fund scholarships for High School Students furthering their education in visual arts, as well as the Acworth Arts Alliance providing art activities to the kids who attend camps offered at the Acworth Community Center. Music begins at 6:45 p.m. and concessions will be available for purchase. Additional information and sponsor table purchases are available at www.acworthartsalliance.org.

PICKLEBALL LESSONS

Pickleball lessons are back at the Acworth Community Center. Lesson times are available on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. All experience levels are welcome. Kids lessons now available. Additional information and registration are available at www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.

45th Annual

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KBA
KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



APRIL 17 & 18

Downtown Kennesaw

Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM & Sunday Noon - 5:00 PM

Arts & Crafts - FREE Entertainment
Festival Food - Family Fun

For more information visit Kennesawbusiness.org or call 770-423-1330

THE KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION BOOTH

As a reminder the city allows Main Street to be closed for the Festival. This provides a



much safer environment for folks to get back and forth between city hall and the depot/museum area. The Kennesaw Business Association will host an information tent, right in the middle of Main St.. So if you are looking for a particular booth, someone at the Information tent will be able to tell you which section they are in. Pictured above are KMHS Mane Link Students along with VP Billy Richardson at the Kennesaw Business Association booth, always ready to help..

If you have questions, stop by and see the KBA booth. Parents you might want to suggest to your kids,

that if you get separated during the festival to meet each other at the Information booth. Let your child have your cell phone number, and someone from the booth can call and tell you that your child is there.

For forty five years the Kennesaw Business Association and the City of Kennesaw have worked together to make this Festival a success and fun for everyone. The Kennesaw Business Association takes this time to publicly thank everyone at the City, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, the Police Department, the elected officials for their support and their help.

STREET CLOSINGS

The following streets will be closed starting Friday, April 16 at 6:00 pm until Sunday April 18 at 8:00pm. Watts Drive from Little General Way to Main St., J O Stephenson Ave. (runs in front of city hall and Cherokee Street in front of the museum. Starting Saturday, April 17 6:00 am until Sunday April 18 at 8:00pm. Main Street will be closed from Cemetery St. to Moon Station Rd. Watts Drive and Lewis will be closed between Dallas and Main Streets.

DON'T MISS PETER HART

Peter Hart With Atlanta Puppet will be back with the Big Shanty Festival, performing every hour on the hour.

Peter has long been regarded as one of the finest and skillful professional puppeteers in the South. His exceptional talents have received praises from audiences at Walt Disney World/Epcot, the Georgia Governor's Mansion, Six Flags Over Georgia, Centennial Park, the 1996 Olympics, and in Europe. He has performed as Head Puppeteer in over 70 different professional puppetry productions that have won 4 International Awards from UNIMA.



BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL HISTORY

In 1975, merchants in the downtown area of Kennesaw created a business organization that would promote and preserve the historical heritage of the downtown area of Kennesaw and encourage people to patronize their businesses. Thus the Kennesaw Business Association was chartered. Town Center wasn't even a gleam in anyone's eye then — the area was still being farmed. I-75 stopped in Marietta and resumed in Cartersville, and Highway 41 (now Cobb Parkway) was dotted with Stuckey's, quilts, and boiled peanuts.

The idea started with Gayle DeSpain, Lynda Spence, Carol Thompson and Jean Guess, all local business women and members of the KBA. In discussing ways to bring new people and business into Kennesaw, they planned a spring outdoor sale in an open area between their shops on Main Street, with the hopes of attracting customers with a colorful display of antiques and craft items."

Dr. Frank Boone, President in 1975, suggested that their plans be sponsored on a larger scale by the business association and supported by the City of Kennesaw (he was a Councilman too). Thus the first Festival was born. Originally known as Trade Days, that first Spring, 36 booth spaces were set up. In 1977, Festival Chairman, Dent Myers, added a civil war battle reenactment and over 10,000 people attended the Spring event.

The rest is history, with the sponsorship of the KBA and the active support of the City of Kennesaw, the Festival has spread from the front lawn of By-Gone Treasures to encompass the lawn of the Museum, the Depot Parking lot, line the streets of J. O. Stephenson Ave and Main St.. and fill the parking areas at City Hall. Over 250 booths have been sold for this year's festival — I don't think any of us who were involved in the planning of the first event ever envisioned how large and successful it would grow..

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**2021 CIRCUS DATES – SATURDAY, MAY 22 - MONDAY, MAY 31
IN ITS NEW LOCATION AT THE CITY OF CUMMING FAIRGROUNDS**

The largest Shrine Circus and Fair in North America is back for its 79th year, packed with more excitement than ever! The Yaarab Shrine has proudly partnered with Royal Hanneford Circus to provide circus goers with some of the best entertainment under the Big Top. Ringmaster Tim Tegge hosts an unforgettable array of talent including the Flying Poemas featuring Adrian Poema, Parisian Poodles of Paradise trained and presented by Miss Gabriela, an aerial extravaganza, Hanneford Horses performing at liberty, Human Cannonball Brian Miser, and many more thrills and chills. The Shrine Circus would not be complete without the hilarious Shrine Circus Clowns. You can also see all the FREE ground acts including All-American Petting Zoo, Robinson's Racing Pigs, Cycle Circus Live, and Lew-E's Comedy Circus. Wade Shows always provides fun affordable family entertainment with 35 rides for all ages. Come be entertained and amazed then fill up on all your favorite carnival foods-corn dogs, funnel cakes and cotton candy, just to name a few. For more information visit www.2021shrinecircus.com

MIDWAY AND CIRCUS TIMES

“SNEAK-A-PEEK-RIDE-A-THON” on Friday, May 21, \$10.00 unlimited rides (5:00 pm till close - Only Carnival and food – no circus performance). AND then Saturday, May 22, through Monday (Memorial Day), May 31, 2021

Midway Times: Monday through Friday the Midway opens at 5pm; Saturday at 10am; Sunday at Noon, and Memorial Day at 10am

Circus Times: Monday through Friday: 11:00am, and 7:00pm, (No 11:00am Circus Tuesday, May 25 and Thursday, May 27) , Saturdays: 11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm, Sundays: 1:30pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm, Memorial Day, 11:00am, 1:30pm, and 4:00pm.

TICKET DEALS

Online Discount Tickets: Purchase your 2021 Shrine Circus Tickets online at 2021shrinecircus.com on sale now – May 31st, 2021 at your convenience.

MEGAPASS- \$24.95 per person. Purchase is good any day and includes gate admission, circus admission and unlimited carnival rides for any one day from open to close (**Minimum 36” for rides**).

ADMISSION TICKETS- \$7.00 per person. (10 & Under are always free).

RIDE TICKETS- \$14.00 per 21-ticket sheet. (All Rides require more than 1 ticket).

COMMON GROUNDS PLAZA

Apotheos Roastery announces that their company has recently received approvals from the City of Kennesaw to begin moving forward with the construction of Common Grounds Plaza on the corner of Main Street and J.O. Stephenson. Common Grounds Plaza will include the first Apotheos Cafe in the former Whistlestop building, along with a new building that will house Dry County's Taproom. Both buildings will be joined together by Common Grounds Plaza itself.

They anticipate breaking ground on the project in early Summer 2021, with a projected completion date of Late 2021/January 2022.

For more information on Common Grounds Plaza you can check out CommonGroundsPlaza.com for updates on the project's progress, as well as more information about the businesses involved, and for more information on the overarching thesis behind Common Grounds Plaza.

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ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY KIM WIGINGTON, PRESIDENT

RELATIONSHIPS VS SALES PITCHES



I am so lucky to live in downtown Acworth where I can walk down the sidewalk to Main Street and know all the merchants as well as all the neighbors along the way. I know their names, their family's names, and their dogs' names. Acworth is special because of these relationships.

I learned the hard way after starting my business that the best cost is not usually the best option. Relationships beat sales pitches every time. Yes, I've been burned by reaching for the most convenient or the best price. As a result, I do not do business with cold callers, and I do not do business with walk-ins. I want to know you.

We need to know and trust each other to do business together.

I want you to be part of my community and my support network. I want to know that you are ethical and have integrity. That you are honest, knowledgeable, dependable, and helpful. That you will be in the community long term. I want to have a business relationship and not just an exchange.

We build these relationships through networking with members of the Acworth Business Association. If you want to get to know the people behind the businesses, join us at AcworthBusiness.org and start building relationships. We are Acworth, moving forward, united and strong.

ABA LUNCHEON

Thursday, MAY 6, 11:30-1:00 pm.
 Speaker is Drew Tronsmeire, Director of Small Business at KSU. Sponsored by Bay Equity, Catered by 1885 Grill, Acworth Community Center, 4361 Cherokee Street, Acworth, GA, 30101. RSVP at www.acworthbusiness.org.

ABA APRIL AA5

Thursday, April 8, 5:30-7:30 at Center Street Tavern, Center Street, across from City Hall. RSVP www.acworthbusiness.org.

ABA WOMEN'S EVENT

Thursday, April 15, 11:30-1:00 pm.
 Doros, Main Street, across from baseball fields. Acworth, GA 30101. RSVP www.acworthbusiness.org.

KBA LUNCHEON

Tuesday, April 13, 11:30-1:00 pm. KBA SCHOLARSHIP Luncheon Our monthly luncheons are held at The Governor's Club; 1005 Cobb Place Blvd. NW in Kennesaw. Catered by The Governor's Club, Sponsored by Kennesaw First Baptist Church and Northwest Classical Academy

KBA MARCH AA5

The KBA AA5 will be held on Thursday April 15, 5:30-7:30 at Trackside Grill, located on Main Street, downtown Kennesaw. This is our kick-off to the Big Shanty Festival. Come enjoy Trackside's Low Country Boil. Please RSVP at kennesawbusiness.org

LOOK FOR THE HELPERS

BY CLAUDIA CHANDLER, HENRY'S LOUISIANA GRILL

The last year has certainly seen a lot of change across the world. Our days look different. Routine and plans necessarily altered. It has felt, at times, like a great shaking that has left no one unaffected. It can be difficult to find our footing again after such turmoil, especially when much confusion remains.

Mr. Rogers shared something his mother used to tell him as a child when there were scary things in the news: "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

What a wise mom. She taught him to seek, and therefore focus, on the good amidst the chaos, knowing there was always something good to be found and that highlighting the good actually helped to increase it.

Many times, the good can most easily be found in the quiet, or at least in quieting ourselves. For me, that's one of the benefits of Lent. Committing to a new goal during Lent, daily prayer time, skipping a favorite indulgence, making an intentional effort in spiritual growth (even if I am bound to have setbacks!) is sometimes painful, but always worthwhile. It serves to help me refocus on and ultimately, celebrate, goodness.

It's like Mrs. Rogers said about looking for the helpers. She understood that seeing people helping others would likely inspire us to help also and, in doing so, magnify and increase the good all around us.

When so much around the world feels surreal, it's one way of beginning to move forward. Choosing to control the things we can in a positive way may feel like a small thing, but eventually, impacts us all.

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In October of 2020, local residents Sushma Soni and Hardika Soni (Mother-Daughter duo) opened a franchise location of Kitchen Tune-Up here in Kennesaw, Acworth and Marietta. When they learned about Kitchen Tune-Up, they knew right away it would be the perfect company to bring to this area.

What's truly unique about Kitchen Tune-Up is what they can do in just five days. The original "Tune-Up" restores wood cabinets by removing scratches and gouges and can make your cabinets look brand new again in only one day. With one to two days, their re-dooring option replaces the cabinet doors and drawer fronts with a newer or more modern style, if you're happy with your cabinets' current color. And in three to five days, cabinet refacing can change your cabinets' color and style while leaving the cabinet boxes in place. If you're seeking custom cabinetry or a new layout, the team will help from design to installation.

At Kitchen Tune-Up Kennesaw, there is something for every budget and style. Whether your budget is small or large, they understand that you're trying to change your space and are there to help you work with what you have. Also, they offer some of the best financing options to customers.

The team at Kitchen Tune-Up Kennesaw will exceed your expectations in so many ways. They take great pride in providing excellent customer service and making your kitchen dreams come true.

If you're ready to transform your kitchen, call Kitchen Tune-Up Kennesaw today at 470-377-5555 to set up your free virtual consultation. You can also visit their website at kitchentuneup.com/kennesaw-ga/. Also, be sure to follow them on Facebook by searching Kitchen Tune-Up Kennesaw.

Pictured above: Sushma Soni and Hardika Soni (Mother-Daughter duo), owners.

SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS ART BLOOMS

During the months of April and May, Smith-Gilbert Gardens invites the community to experience selected pieces from the permanent sculpture collection as they've never been seen before- surrounded by over 10,000 daffodil blooms planted in unique patterns!

Art Blooms, presented by the Cobb EMC Community Foundation, is a two-month exhibit that includes a series of weekend artists' demonstrations and workshops. On Saturdays, Art Ambassadors will be on-site to share behind-the-scenes stories of the artists and sculptures.

Smith-Gilbert Gardens' permanent sculpture collection features 31 outdoor pieces representing international, national and regional artists. In May, the permanent collection will be joined by a temporary outdoor exhibit featuring sculptures created by students in the Master Craftsman Program at KSU.

Smith-Gilbert Gardens is excited to feature Doug Pisik in this year's Art Blooms exhibit. His piece, Morph, is an interactive wooden sculpture and will be on exhibit for visitors to experience. Doug Pisik is a nationally recognized artist and master woodworker who specializes in creating sculptures, 3D wall pieces and intricate art boxes with complex designs both inside and out.

Art Blooms is included with regular Garden admission. Weekly Timed Tickets for Art Blooms are now available at www.smithgilbertgardens.com.

COMPLIMENTARY MOVIE

Local military and veteran families, please join the Think Melissa Team as we celebrate Military Children at our Annual Free Movie Event on Saturday morning, 04/24. All military (active, veterans, National Guard, and Reserves) families are welcome to attend.

Sign in begins at 0900/9:00 am and the movies begin at 0930/9:30 am at NCG Cinemas in Acworth (4421 Cinema Dr, Acworth, GA 30101).

Movie Options are: Tom and Jerry – PG, Raya & The Last Dragon – PG, Godzilla VS Kong – PG13

We are working alongside with the Georgia National Guard Family Program and our trusted business partner, Silverton Mortgage, to host this event. We are so grateful for Amy, Carrie and Lori with the Wilpower Team for helping make this 'thank you mission' happen annually.

The theater is at a reduced occupancy to allow for social distancing. More details can be found at: <https://ncgmovies.com/re-opening-ncg/>

To RSVP, please email Admin@ThinkMelissa.com. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, 4/22.



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KGP Series Race Dates

- May 8 - Swift-Cantrell Classic
- June 5 - Dream Dash
- July 10 - The Sports Fanatics
- August 14 - Hero Run
- September 18 - Great Locomotive Chase
- October 30 - Garden Gallop

Find us on facebook.com/KennesawGrandPrix



OFFICIAL INVITE NORTH COBB WARRIOR FOOTBALL CAMP

Coach Shane Queen invites all interested football players who are entering grades 1-8 this fall to join him and his defending REGION CHAMPIONSHIP coaching staff a long with several current and former North Cobb Warriors for three days of skills and drills that will help take your game to the next level. Meet us Tuesday - Thursdays, July 6-July 8, 6:00-8:00 pm at Emory Sewell Stadium at NCHS. Bring cleats, sneakers, sunscreen, sports drinks and water bottle.

The Cost is \$75 per player. Register online at www.northcobbfootball.com/camp. Questions? Call 770-315-2341 or email Robert.Ingram@cobbk12.org.

NORTHWEST YMCA SUMMER DAY CAMP

The Northwest Cobb Family YMCA is accepting registrations for their weekly summer camps. Registration may be completed online at <https://www.ymcaatlanta.org/summer-camp/>. Select the Northwest Cobb YMCA location to register. Contact information is on this page for the Northwest Cobb Family YMCA. OR register in person at the YMCA located at 1700 Dennis Kemp Lane, Kennesaw, GA 30152.

Traditional Camp: In our traditional camps, we use challenging and fun activities that feature weekly themes, promote personal growth, and encourage campers to have fun with their friends -while observing social distancing guidelines. Traditional camp includes age-appropriate activities including arts & crafts, group games, outdoor exploration, indoor learning experiences and much more.

Camp Hours: Monday -Friday, 9:00 am -4:00 pm. Pre-Camp: 7:00-9:00 am & Post Camp: 4:00-6:30 pm. Ages: 5-15, However, ages vary by camp, check your Y's Camp-at-a-Glance guide for more information.

SUMMER ARTS AT KSU

Welcome to the College of the Arts' Summer Art Intensives! Please join us this summer, June 7-11, 2021, for a week filled with the arts. Geared for rising freshman through high school seniors, the Summer Art Intensives give you the opportunity to experience technical and artistic growth in an environment that fosters creativity and learning. Registration opens April 1, 2021. Programs include Acting, Dance, Musical Theatre, Percussion, Theatre Design and Technology. Visit <https://arts.kennesaw.edu/community-programs/summer-arts.php> for more information.

The Bright Side Newspaper is online
www.brightsidenews.com/web.nc.pdf

THANK YOU METRO ATLANTA AMBULANCE

Congratulations to the Metro Atlanta Ambulance COVID-19 Vaccination Team for administering over 15,000 vaccines! Serving our communities Beyond the Lights and Sirens!

In partnership with the Cobb-Douglas Department of Public Health, Metro Atlanta Ambulance has assisted with targeted education, healthcare, Church, 65+ seniors and essential workers over the past several months to help get vaccinations to high risk groups in Cobb, Douglas and Fulton Counties. Special thanks to the Marietta Fire Department, Smyrna Fire Department and the Trinity School for assisting on vaccination sites in their communities. We've all worked together to take the necessary steps to help stop the spread of this terrible virus and make our way back to a resemblance of normalcy for all.

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MARIETTA NEWS

TASTE OF MARIETTA MOVED TO OCTOBER

The Marietta Visitors Bureau is pleased to announce the 27th annual Taste of Marietta will take place Sunday, October 24. Taste of Marietta, one of Marietta's largest celebrations held on the Square, usually kicks off the city's festival season on the last Sunday in April.

The safety and health of the community, vendors, artists, guests, and staff is the festival's top priority. The Marietta Visitors Bureau will be monitoring and following recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Governor Kemp's Executive Orders.

The Marietta Visitors Bureau hosts Taste of Marietta in conjunction with the City of Marietta. The Taste of Marietta not only showcases local restaurants and sponsors but is a fundraiser for the Marietta Visitors Bureau & Welcome Center. This year's festival will include an emphasis on supporting local restaurants.

Updates with the public can be found through social media and on tasteofmarietta.com. The Marietta Visitors Bureau continues to promote local businesses and restaurants through digital advertising campaigns and social media posts on @VisitMariettaGeorgia.

TOWN CENTER BIKESHARE:

We are aware of some recent locking connectivity issues across our bike share programs, and are working urgently to address these concerns so we can ensure a great spring riding season.

We have uncovered a bug in the Movatic software that is no longer forcing and notifying riders to turn on their bluetooth and location services. Without those turned on the app can not properly communicate with the lock and the result is difficulty with unlocking/locking bikes.

We are also aware that this may impact potential rider charges and are happy to work with riders to ensure they have not been overcharged for access to the bikes. Any rider who may have concerns regarding their billing should reach out to support@tandem-mobility.com and we will work to quickly remedy the error.

We hope to have a new app update released soon which should result in immediate improvements to the locking experience.

SWIFT-CANTRELL CLASSIC 5K - MAY 8 2021

The first 5K in the Kennesaw Grand Prix Series, the Swift-Cantrell Classic 5K, held annually on Mother's Day weekend, will take place on Saturday, May 8 in downtown Kennesaw. The race for adults and children benefits Swift-Cantrell Park. Same-day registration and packet pickup at Kennesaw First Baptist Church opens at 6:30 am; a one-mile run starts at 7:30 am with the 5K race beginning at 8 am.

The race follows a fast, mostly flat route through historic downtown Kennesaw and Swift-Cantrell Park and is fun for beginners and accomplished runners and walkers alike. The route is a USA Track and Field Certified course. Traffic control is coordinated by local law enforcement. The race is electronically timed for fast, accurate results. Race Day refreshments are provided for all participants.

The one mile race will begin at 7:30am and starts at Kennesaw First Baptist Church. The 5k will begin at 8am. Can't wait to see our friends out there... bring your family and let's all make Kennesaw the most fit friendly community around! Register online at www.KennesawGrandPrix.com or in person at Big Peach Running Company.

LAUNCH PARTY AND PACKET PICK UP

The Kennesaw Grand Prix 2017 Launch Party will be held on Wednesday April, 14, from 4pm-8pm at Big Peach Running Company in Kennesaw.

SWIFT CANTRELL 5K CLASSIC



SATURDAY
May 8th

7:30 a.m - 1 Mile Start
8:00 a.m - 5K Start
Downtown Kennesaw

REGISTER ONLINE

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MARIETTA COBB MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBITION

The Marietta Cobb Museum of Art presents The Four Elements: A Group Exhibition, on view in the Main Galleries from April 10 through June 20, 2021.

For this thematic group exhibition, the concept centers on the Four Classical Elements: Earth, Air, Water, and Fire. Going back to antiquity, these were considered to be the most fundamental materials that comprised everything in the physical universe. This exhibition features thirteen artists whose work is relevant to at least one of the Four Elements, either by way of subject, concept, or technique.

Featuring artwork by Chad Awalt, Robert G. Burch, Scott Eakin, Eloisa Gallegos Hernandez, Joseph Guay, Donté K. Hayes, Christina Kwan, Pam Longobardi, Eleanor Neal, Kevin Palme, Doug Pisik, Corrina Sephora, Jamele Wright, Sr.

The exhibition opening is Saturday April 10, 2021 from 11am to 4pm. Reception and programming to be announced; please visit www.mariettabartmuseum.org for updates.

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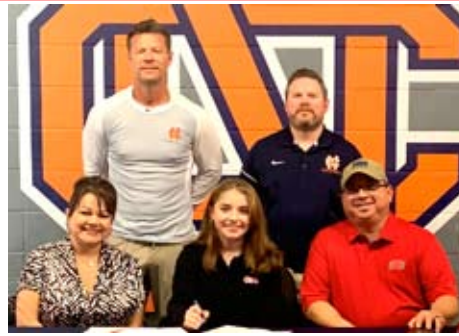
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CONGRATULATIONS NCHS



Congratulations to Samantha Sanchez for signing an NLI to play volleyball at Indiana Wesleyan University. Pictured with Sam are her parents, Joe and Lilliana, Coach Stephen Sansing, and Athletic Director, Matt Williams.



Congratulations to Coach Tom Callahan on winning his 250th game as the Head Baseball Coach at NCHS.



Congratulations to Dayuna Colvin (11) on being selected as a 1st Team All-Region member of the girls basketball Region 3-7A team.



Congratulation to Tyler Gorsuch on being selected for 7A Region 3 first team in boys basketball.

NORTH COBB BAND MEMBERS NAMED TO COBB COUNTY HONORS BAND

Congratulations to the following students for being names to the 2021 Cobb County Honor Band: Thomas Simmons, Flute/Alto Sax; Sarah Triana, Flute; Ethan Petersen, Contra Clarinet/Baritone Sax; Madeline Shell, Flute; Anandie McCowan, Flute; Daniel Johnson, Bassoon; Sarah Jiang, Clarinet; Gina Zheng, Clarinet; Angelica Ricardo, Clarinet, Migeul Flores-Padilla, Alto Saxophone; Gabe Adams, French Horn; Ian Lilly, Trombone; Will Chastain, Tuba; Alex Currier, Tuba.

WHEN DOES A PLANT BECOME A WEED?

KEN WHITE, OUTDOOR COLUMNIST

One thing that thrives in spite of all the rain this spring are weeds, as gardeners well know.

There seems to be a growing number of plants we can do without because of their threatening the health of our native species. Organizations with names like Weed Warriors and Weed Busters have declared war on this seemingly benign enemy plants. Citizen volunteers and professionals alike have armed themselves with every garden tool imaginable to literally "root out" invasions of exotic plant species.

What makes a plant an exotic species? An exotic plant is one that has been transplanted from its habitat of origin to another one, like when a person has moved from one culture or country to another or from the eastern United States to the west, or vice versa. The seeds of exotic plants disperse in all directions, even making their way into wilderness areas or on the boots of hikers, vehicle tires or even on the fur of animals.

Why does a given plant species become invasive? Two primary factors seem to contribute to plant invasions. These are the biology of a plant species and disturbances to the land. Disturbances to the landscape such as roads, gas and power line rights-of-way and housing developments often take ecological succession back to bare ground. This creates opportunities for these plants to become established. Once established, their rapid growth and reproduction rates allow them to cover and choke out native plant communities. Disturbances in natural areas such as deer overgrazing may create opportunities on the forest floor for invasive species to expand. Once established, these invasive species prevent the once diverse carpet of wildflowers from returning.

As a result of the introduction and spread of invasive species, increasing losses of wildlife food and habitat occur. In addition, it cost billions of dollars to protect and restore natural resources threatened by these invasive species. In many southern states, kudzu has been an increasing problem. This vine grows a foot a day and within a few years, acres of wildlife habitat vanish. Forget the trellis, this import from Asia grows nearly 60 feet in a growing season over shrubs and trees. Like many exotic imports, it is a weed gone wild.

Another plant I remember that, at first, was promoted as a good thing for use in erosion control as well as a living fence for livestock, was the multiflora rose. However, long ago it surpassed the qualifications as the most problematic invasive plant species. Its prolific spread across fields, park lands and woodlands placed it on the noxious weed list. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent each year trying to remove this pest plant.

To help minimize landscape disturbances from these and other invasive plant species, don't buy or plant invasive species. Buy primarily native plants for your gardens. As all gardeners know, weeds will grow when nothing else will.

We welcome Ken White back to our pages. He is Claudia Chandler's dad (Henry's Louisiana Grill). Ken is an interesting and prolific writer.



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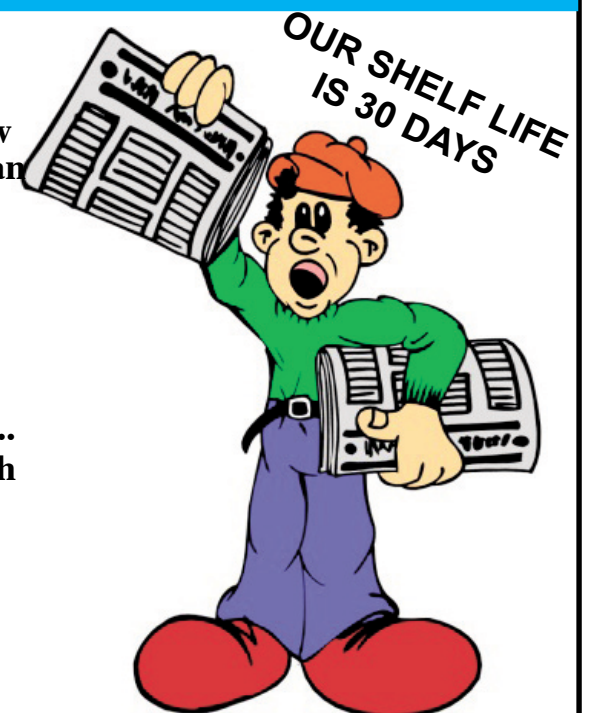
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