# Bright Side

#### Volume 30 No 7

**SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992** 

#### BRIAN BULTHUIS, ACWORTH CITY MANAGER, RETIRES



"It is with great excitement that I am announcing my retirement after 25 wonderful years with the City of Acworth. When I arrived ... Acworth was a small bedroom community of about 6,000 and today we are a thriving community of 24,000 with exciting housing opportunities with a wonderful downtown and a great quality of life for everyone.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK – YOU EVERYONE and GOD BLESS...Brian"

Brian Bulthuis has been the City Manager of Acworth Georgia since October 1996. Before moving to Georgia, Mr. Bulthuis earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Western Michigan University.

Mr. Bulthuis has been actively involved in our community since he arrived. He has been proud to serve the citizens of Acworth. He believes we have one of the most efficient local governments in the state because of the great employees that work for the City and that together our mission is to provide the best services we

can to our residents and business owners.

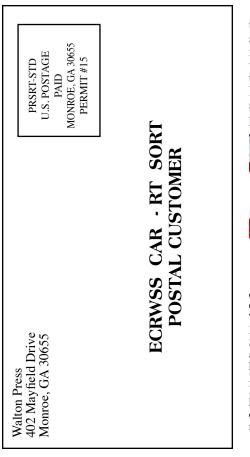
Appointed by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the City Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer of the City. The City Manager has the responsibility to direct the day-to-day operations of the City, as well as serve as the chief policy advisor to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. We wish you well, BRIAN BULTHUIS!

JAMES ALBRIGHT APPOINTED ACWORTH CITY MANAGER

James Albright has served the city of Acworth since 2000. Mr. Albright served as Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources from 2005 to 2021. He was appointed City Manager in July of 2021. He is a life-long resident of Acworth. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation Management in 2004 and a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 2008 from Kennesaw State University. He has been an active community member and currently serves as the Secretary of the Special Needs Development Group, Inc. and serves on the Board of Directors for the Acworth Business Association. He has also served as the President of the Acworth Business Association, Commissioner of the Georgia Recreation and Parks Fifth District, and is a Distinguished Past President of the Kennworth Kiwanis Club. Mr. Albright was named the 2008 Acworth Citizen of the Year and is a member of the North Cobb High School Athletic Hall of Fame.



Mr. Albright is extremely proud to serve the community he went to school in, played sports in, raised a family in, and built a career in. He is grateful for the opportunity to work with such a supportive and giving community that has done so much for he and his family. It's his goal to provide the highest level of services to the citizens of Acworth. We are proud of you JAMES ALBRIGHT!





Smith, (25% of the vote). District map is available at cobbelections.org. If you are in District 34 and have not early voted or voted absentee, then voters MUST go to their assigned polling location on Election Day, July 13, 2021, to vote between the hours of 7:00 am and 7 pm. You can vote in run-off even though you didn't vote on June 15, if you are registered in this district.



JULY 2021

#### **KENNESAW HOSTS RIBBON CUTTING FOR DEPOT PARK**

The City of Kennesaw and Kennesaw Parks & Recreation, along with the community, hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for Depot Park, located at 2820 Cherokee Street this morning, June 25.

"Ten years ago, our community asked for additional greenspace and parks to be built throughout the City," states Mayor Derek Easterling. "This request served as the beginning of our effort to build a truly unique and walkable community and created a fresh and different vision for our downtown. What you see today is the result of these efforts, and there is more to come. Today's event sets the stage for the next phase of this project which will truly put our community at the forefront of exceptional."

In 2015, the City of Kennesaw began planning for updates and improvements to the original Depot Park Master Plan (which had been adopted in 2008). The master plan was updated to include multiple program changes. Depot Park, located in historic downtown, is located in front of the City's Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History, and adjacent to the City's recently completed Gateway Park. Depot Park is planned to host ample green space, an amphitheater and additional amenities to promote active living.

To date, Phases 1-7 have been completed. Phase 8 is currently in the design phase.

•Phase 1: Museum ADA & Underpass; •Phase 2: Land Acquisition; •Phase 3: Gateway Park; •Phase 4: Engineering & Permitting; •Phase 5: Grading & Wetland Mitigation; •Phase 6: Depot Park Parking Improvements; •Phase 7: Parking Lawn & Upper Meadow; •Phase 8: Amphitheater & Festival Area

"I want our community to know that much of the work on this project was completed in house which saved tens of thousands of dollars in the overall cost of the project and will allow us to do more in the next phases," Easterling continues. "I would like to recognize our Public Works Team under the direction of Ricky Stewart who all worked diligently to make it happen: Rod Bowman, John Kennedy, Daniel Frey, William Robinson, Stanley 'Chilly' Mitchell, Randy Buchanan, Tim Christian, Kenneth Woodruff, Rodrick Garnigan, Nick Latham, Patrick Henry, Frank Wade, Gary Turner, Clint Warren, Keith Innes and Chris Warden. Amazing work ... thank you, gentlemen!"

"And, to our City Manager, Jeff Drobney, thank you for finding a way to create this beautiful park which will serve as a great addition to our community for years to come," adds Easterling.

Depot Park is located in downtown Kennesaw, 2828 Cherokee Street, across from the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History. The park serves as the backdrop for many city events, provides passive recreation to residents and welcomes visitors to our historical community.

Pictured above Kennesaw City Council with Mayor Derek Easterling (center).



#### MISS COBB COUNTY'S OUTSTANDING TEEN

Megan Wright, Miss Cobb County's Outstanding Teen, won the opportunity to represent Georgia in Miss America's Outstanding Teen Competition set for Universal Studios in Orlando, FL, July 27-30. Ms. Wright won from a field of 34 contestants in the annual Georgia contest in Columbus, June 18.

Ms. Wright, 18, gained a total of \$5,700 in scholarships. She will enter nursing school at Georgia Southern University this fall. Congratulations Megan! The Bright Side<sup>™</sup>Newspapers are privately owned publications of J. C. Thompson & Associates, Inc. P O Box 935, • Kennesaw, GA, 30156; 770-851-5469 All rights reserved.©.

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**Carol Thompson, Editor** Jennifer Pope, Office Manager **Carol Pope, Community News Editor** 

#### DEADLINE FOR AUG 2021 ISSUE MONDAY JULY 26 2021 PUBLISHED AUG 3 2021

#### SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS

Share you good news with us -- baby births, birthdays, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, . No charge, just get your information to us by the next deadline and include your zip code. Email a brief announcement and photo to brightnews@aol. com These announcements are published at NO CHARGE.

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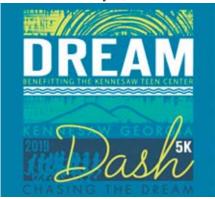
# THIS AND THAT

#### WELCOME NEW BABY



NAKAI IMANI MANGUNDA,

Calvin and Juanita Mangunda welcomed the birth of their daughter, Nakai Imani Mangunda, on March 23, 2021. Nakai arrived three months early and weighed 2 lbs, 4 oz. What a beautiful baby. Her parents write, "We love you so much and can't wait to spend the rest of our lives with you,"



#### DREAM DASH 5K

Runners - register now for the August 14, Dream Dash benefitting the Kennesaw Teen Visit Kennesawgrandprix.com to Center. register. The 5K Starts at 8:00 am. Registration fee is \$25. Packet Pickup & Late Registration at Big Peach Running Co. Kennesaw on August 13, 2021 from 4pm-8pm. (\$30). Race Day Registration (\$35).

#### **BRIGHT SIDE** PUBLISHING **INFORMATION**

The July 2021 paper is being printed and mailed along with being published digitally. As of now we plan to print and mail the paper as often as we can 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 -Print and Digital ad rates are available. Email brightnews@aol.com for information

## **CIVIL WAR FACTS & FIGURES**

The first presentation of the 2021 Save Acworth History Foundation lecture series will be Michael K. Shaffer speaking about 'Civil War Facts & Figures.'

It will be held on July 13 at 7pm, at the Roberts School (4681 School Street, Acworth). This presentation is FREE and open to the public. The public is invited to attend.

# **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.

#### FIRST FRIDAY **CONCERTS**

The Kennesaw Downtown Development Authority and the Kennesaw Downtown Merchants Association announce the inaugural First Friday Concert Series. 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 takes place at the Pedestrian Underpass off Main Street and is FREE - bring a chair. Tables are available for reservation for \$50. Tables will seat six individuals. To reserve a table, please visit https://turquoise-otter.myshopify.com/products/ first-friday-concerts-in-the-plaza-table-rentals-april-2-2021 The July concert is Friday, July 9.

# **COBB COUNTY**

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** 

Join the Cobb County Genealogical Society on Tuesday, July 27. 7:00 p.m. Our July 27 meeting will be the annual 'Brick Wall' meeting. Have you encountered a brick wall with your ancestral research? If so, please bring your brick wall question to the meeting and some of your officers will be available to help you with methodology and tips on how to potentially solve your issue.

The meeting will be held outside, so please bring a chair! 7 pm - Location: First Presbyterian Church West Parking Lot (off Kennesaw Avenue just west of the railroad tracks)





**David Grant Insurance** Agcy Inc **David Grant, Agent** 2571 Baker Road Acworth, GA 30101 Bus: 770-428-2893

**BRIGHT SIDE PAGE 2** ANDREW BRAMLETT'S WHY WE SAY WHAT WE SAY..

The names that come from ancient Greek and Roman mythology have given us a wide range of English words. One of the most surprising is CEREAL. The word comes from Ceres. the Roman goddess of agriculture and motherhood.



In ancient Greek mythology, ECHO was a lover of Zeus. Hera, the wife of Zeus, was angered by Echo and took away her ability to speak. There was, however, an exception. Echo could repeat the last words spoken to her by anyone else. Echo's curse gave us the word ECHO.

Echo fell in love with the hunter Narcissus, but he rejected her. The goddess of revenge, Nemesis, saw this and cursed Narcissus to fall in love with his own reflection. This gives as the word NARCISSISM, meaning a love of oneself. Before moving on, it should be noted Nemesis is the origin of the word NEMEISIS, which originally meant someone who seeks revenge.

The word CHAOS is from ancient Greek mythology but is not a name. It originally meant the void that existed before the universe was created. The TITANS are the gods that came before the Olympians, the main gods featured in Greek mythology. The Titans were defeated by the Olympians in a legendary war, and the Titans were banished and punished. The Titans gave us the word TITAN, meaning someone particularly important. One of the banished Titans was ATLAS, who was cursed to hold up the earth. ATLAS is the namesake of the ATLANTIC OCEAN, and of the term ATLAS, referring to a collection of maps. The first person to refer to a collection of maps as an Atlas was Gerardus Mercator in 1595.

EMAIL YOUR STORIES, **PHOTOS OR QUESTIONS 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 Histhird 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.

# **Remodeling?** Let's relook at your insurance.

If you've done any home renovations, it's time to review your coverage and make sure you've got the protection you need. LET'S TALK TODAY.



State Farm Fire and Casualty Company State Farm Florida



PAGE 3 BRIGHT SIDE

21 JULY NC



# **KENNESAW POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

Despite the rainy weather, the Kennesaw Police Department's first annual Juneteenth Community event on June 19, 2021 was a success! The community celebrated together with great food and fun provided by the Community Incident Response Foundation and the Kennesaw First Baptist Church. Thank you to all who made the event successful!

The Kennesaw Police Department's Detective Kieffer was recognized at the June's Cobb County Law Enforcement Association. Detective Kieffer is currently assigned to the Kennesaw Police Department Criminal Investigations Division. A rash of Entering Autos earlier this year totaling 30+ cases were assigned to Detective Kieffer. Because of his extensive network, continued effort and unwillingness to give up, by May 2021, he discovered the responsible individual had recently been arrested by a local jurisdiction. Detective Kieffer was able to successfully place the suspect at the incident locations clearing a great majority of his cases and providing justice to those victimized by the perpetrator. Detective Kieffer's service to his community, personal initiative, and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest standards of the Kennesaw Police Department and Law Enforcement service.

## FIVE NEW OFFICERS JOIN THE DEPARTMENT

Please join us in welcoming three new officers to the Kennesaw Police Department: Officers Marlin Adams, Jason Brewer, and Terry Giese, were sworn in to the department on June 17th. Please also join us in congratulating our police recruits Nicolas Burns and Jason Metcalf for graduating from the Police Academy on Friday, June 25, 2021 and were sworn in to our department as officers on June 28, 2021.



# A GARDEN WITH WINGS BUTTERFLY HOUSE AT SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS

"A Garden With Wings," the popular pollinator exhibit at Smith-Gilbert Gardens (SGG) featuring a kid-friendly pollinator garden and 2,000 square foot butterfly house, is open now through July 31.. Visitors to the pollinator garden will see an inspiring collection of annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs that attract and support native pollinators like bumblebees, hummingbirds and butterflies. The recently expanded butterfly house offers an up-close experience with butterflies, plus the opportunity to see all stages of their life cycle. Visitors will see host plants that serve as food sources for a wide variety of caterpillars.

Tickets must be purchased and reserved prior to arrival for all visitors and members. To purchase tickets, please visit https://smith-gilbert-gardens.square.site/.

"A Garden With Wings" is generously supported by Garden Members and the Smith-Gilbert Gardens Foundation. Smith-Gilbert Gardens would like to thank this year's sponsors, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Cobb EMC Foundation.

# ELECT DEVAN SEABAUGH IN JULY 13 RUNOFF

On Tuesday July 13, we have an opportunity to elect a man who has dedicated his whole life to making this community a better place to live. This is a crucial runoff campaign and it is important that you take the time to vote for Devan.

We have known Devan for over 22 years, worked beside him on community projects, laughed with him, cheered with him, and was astounded at times at his organizational skills.

We want someone representing us that has been involved in our community his whole life. Someone who knows us inside and out. We know that Devan Seabaugh is that person. Please vote for Devan on Tuesday, July 13 as your State Representative for District 34.

Seabaugh is a recognized leader with clear vision and a cooperative spirit. He's a familiar face in the 34th District, and a proud family man with five children, all of whom attended Kennesaw Mountain High School. He and his wife Beth have been married 29 years and are members of First United Methodist Church in Marietta. He is on Facebook and his cell phone is 470-832-9182.

# Day's Gets It Done DAY'S CHEVROLET ACWORTH



# THANK YOU LARRY ELLER

Larry Eller of Day's Chevrolet Acworth made my buying of a factory ordered, 21 Chevrolet Suburban an excellent experience. Larry has been with Day's for 25 years, and I bought my first vehicle from Larry, 20 years ago. A first class gentleman.

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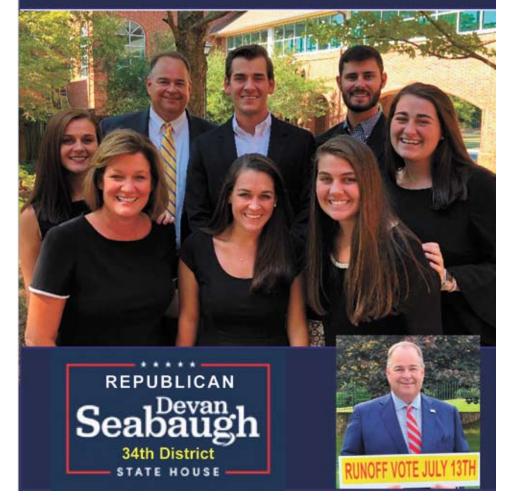


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Erika K. Orcutt Attorney and Counselor at Law

We Are Open For Virtual Appointments - Call Us!

# RUNOFF Election Tues. July 13th-Vote for CONSERVATIVE DEVAN SEABAUGH





DWardInsurance.com **Debbie Ward, AAI** 770-974-0670





# When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

To find out how to get your financial goals on track, contact us for a complimentary review.





Jim Nance, CFP\*, AAMS\* **Financial Advisor** edwardiones.com Member SIPC 4358 B Southside Dr Acworth, GA 30101-7335 70-529-9009 Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# THIS 'N THAT

## NEEDED EXPERIENCED **MASSAGE THERAPIST**

Trilogy Massage, is looking for an experienced massage therapist for a medical/ clinical massage office in the Acworth area. We work with clients having pain issues, knowledge of trigger point therapy and stretching is helpful. Contact Trilogy Massage by email at mary@trilogymassage.com titled RESUME with a copy of your resume and a short note about anything you want to add.

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

The Art House is hosting Acworth Treasures This exhibit runs from NOW thru July 31. An Artist Reception/Open House will be held Saturday, July 10, 4-7 pm. 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

## **MILITARY SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED**

The Think Melissa Team is collecting school supplies for local military families, in the Georgia National Guard.

When you are shopping, please grab some supplies and help us support our youngest heroes in Georgia. Donations are needed please by 07/23/2021

Please call (404) 793-2327 or 770-310-3269 to coordinate a drop-off or a pickup of supplies. Thank you so much for your consideration!

# **HORSE BARN FOR** RENT

Horse barn 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 **\$15 FOR 50 WORDS.** \$25 FOR 100 WORDS. **Email: Brightnews@aol.com** 

# What could be INORE TTIN than... **DANCE?!**

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# **BACKPACK GIVE AWAY**

Acworth Grace Fellowship Church is pleased to invite our community to attend our Back-To-School Drive on Saturday, July 24 at 11am.

Giveaways include backpacks, school supplies, food and more!

Acworth Grace Fellowship is located at 3891 Nance Road, Acworth, GA 30101

If you would like to be a sponsor for this event, please contact us by July 16 at agfhelpinghands@gmail.com.

# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Daybreak Village Assisted Living in downtown Kennesaw is looking for caring individuals that would be interested in volunteering to help with activities such as reading to our residents, helping with arts and crafts, leading Bible studies, assisting with games, etc. This would bless our residents tremendously. We look forward to your reply. Please contact Jennifer Mills at 678-713-6717 if you are interested in becoming a volunteer. Our address is 3056 Cherokee Street NW Kennesaw, GA 30144.

## **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 4849 North Main Street, Suite 104, Acworth, GA 30101

#### **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



#### **21 JULY NC**

## HOG FUNDRAISER FOR AUGUST

We hope you will make plans to be at the next event on August 10th! As always, we make sure 100% of the money we raise goes directly to the recipient!

Our NEXT HOG DINNER: will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 @ 6:30 PM in honor of Josh Webb, Former Northstar Church employee.

Josh Webb is no stranger to NorthStar Church. He has been a member since 2004 and has played guitar and sang with the worship team for over 17 years. He also led the creative team for 4 years. Four months months ago, Josh was diagnosed with a brain tumor- an acoustic neuroma- that was lodged against his brain stem. On April 29th, Josh had surgery to remove it. The tumor was 3.4cm large and was embedded in several nerves. During surgery the surgeons had to do extensive work on those nerves to remove the tumor, leaving Josh with

deafness in his right ear and paralysis of the right side of his face. Josh is having to relearn normal every day skills with his right hand, and regain balance. The Webbs are hopeful that with physical, occupational, and speech therapies and a hearing aide, his quality of life will be much improved.

The dinner will be held in the Northstar Church Compass Auditorium - Kennesaw, GA. We have only 250 seats available.



#### LIFE AND CHOICES **BY SHARON PELL,**

Sunrise and coffee, there is beauty in all moments, if you are willing to SEE them. Your world can be full, if YOU want that

Your dreams can be fulfilled if YOU are willing to believe in you. You can fill up YOUR lovers heart, if

YOU want to.

Life and choices are handed to us, we can look at things as a chore and push through OR we fulfill those things that fill is up and that leaves so much to fill others. Chores are NOT something we want and when you do not fill yourself up, those around you FEEL just like that, a chore.

I have chosen to fill me up for a very long

time, it has changed who I am, my health, my outlook, my opportunities. I BELIEVE in all that I am about to achieve and what I have already so boldly completed. I am so grateful for those in my world who believed so thoroughly in me. I THANK every single one of you who filled me and lifted me up. I am even grateful for those who did not, the ones I wasn't worth a day in the week for, those who felt I was such a chore, for those I did so much for and they bitched slapped me, why?

In every, single moment there are stories and signs, in every single QUICK response to a text and, THE NEXT DAY response, in the, nope sorry don't have time for you, moments, there are lessons, nit being worth any kind of plans ahead of time is an OBVIOUS sign and something to be grateful for.

DO NOT be the person repeating those acts on someone else, learn, that is something to be grateful for, every lesson.

I KNOW I pour into others and pay attention to how they receive and THAT alone, I am grateful for, I KNOW if someone says "I love it when......" I want to know what that is so I can do that. I know, I always, ALWAYS make time for plans and making sure my friends know THAT time is just for THEM, because when THIS is done for ME I am OVER FLOWING

OVER FLOW SOMEONE TODAY because filling someone up should be the BEST part of your day!!!



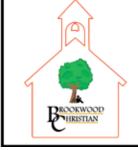
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Exp 08/06/2021



We are absolutely over the moon. Pumped. Jazzed. Bouncing off the walls. Because WE'RE BACK. We missed you. We missed your faces. We missed those of you that are first to arrive, the last to leave, and everyone in between. We've got a WHOLE LOT of stuff planned for July. Take a look below for what's on deck this month.



Georgia Players Guild Presents: The Music of the Eagles SATURDAY, JULY 17 @ 8:00pm



DEPARTURE: The Journey Tribute Band FRIDAY, JULY 30 @ 8:00pm



## Strand Ole Opry's Walk The Line SATURDAY, JULY 31 @ 8:00pm

For one or all three shows at www.strandmarietta.org

EARL AND RACHEL SMITH STRAND THEATRE 117 North Park Square Marietta, GA 30060 770-293-0080 strandmarietta.org

TICKETS



## 21 JULY NC BRIGHT SIDE PAGE 6 THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

As we celebrate our Nation's independence this July, it is the perfect time to reflect on the price of that freedom. In the City of Acworth, we love our veterans and have dedicated a special place on Lake Acworth to honor them. The Veterans Memorial at Patriots Point pays tribute to all men and women who have served our country. At Patriots Point, you will find the American Flag surrounded by the service flags of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard raised upon a concrete dome. This structure is surrounded by a paver walkway with engraved pavers. I purchased a paver for my Dad, CPT James Allegood. He served in the United States Navy and was part of the WWII D-Day Invasion. His paver stone can be found a Patriot's Point,



and I think of him and his brothers and sisters in arms whenever I am there. If you have a loved one that served in the armed forces that you would like to honor with a paver, visit www. acworthparksandrec.org to purchase a stone for them. It is a meaningful gift to remember the sacrifices of those who have served.

While we celebrate our freedoms, we would like to remember our partner organizations that served in the United States Military and continue to serve our community. The Ron Asby North Cobb American Legion Post 304 moved into their location on Main Street in 2012. Over the years, they have been a great partner by assisting with various City events and providing support and resources to our Veterans. The VFW Post 5408 also takes part in our Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Ceremonies and fosters camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts through social and service events in our community. Acworth is blessed to be home to both these organizations, and we encourage all veterans in the area that are seeking connection and support to reach out to these organizations. You can find their contact information on their websites. The American Legion Post 304 website is www.post304.org, and the VFW can be found at vfw5408.org.

God Bless, Tommy.

## CLASSIC CAR CRUISE

On a Saturday, July 31, the City of Acworth will host a Classic Car Cruise in their Historic Downtown. The event will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Main Street. The Lake City Cruisers partner with the city and the downtown Acworth merchants to hold these Classic Car Cruises. The event is free to the public. A \$5 entry fee is requested for all vehicles in the cruise. All proceeds go to the Horizon Field, an all-inclusive special needs sports facility in Acworth.

## YOUTH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

The Acworth Parks, Recreation and Community Resource Department is pleased to announce another season of the Acworth Youth Volleyball League! Practice days will either be on Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays with occasional additional Saturday practices. The season will consist of five games and a single elimination tournament at the send of the season. The fee to participate is \$110 for City residents and \$130 for non-residents. We will offer three 6-on-6 divisions based on the ages: 9- 10 years old, 11- 12 years olds, and 13- 14 years olds. Birth certificates are required to participate in the league. Please send all birth certificates to parksbirthcertificate@ acworth.org. The age cut-off to participate in the league is September 1. The deadline to register is Saturday, July 17. Assessments will take place on Saturday, July 17 with practices beginning mid-August. Registration and additional information are available at www. acworthparksandrecreation.org.

# ACWORTH ADULT

## PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

The Acworth Parks, Recreation and Community Resource Department will host a Summer Theme Pickleball Tournament! Come dressed in your best summer gear as we say goodbye to the Summer months! Players will be able to play against others of similar skill level and play is guaranteed! The tournament will be held on Friday, August 27.

The fee for the tournament is \$25 for both City residents and non-residents. Each participant will receive a custom Acworth take home. Winners will receive a t-shirt and department credit for a future pickleball program! Registration and additional information are available at www. acworthparksandrecreation.org.

## ACWORTH FARMERS MARKET IS OPEN

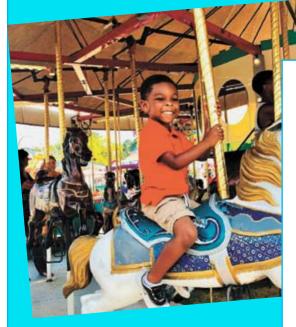
Shop for local at the Acworth Farmers Market every Friday morning from April 9-October 29 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The market takes place at Logan Farm Park (4405 Cherokee Street). Market customers will have a wide variety of garden ripe Georgia grown vegetables, eggs, cheese, bedding plants, fresh 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.

# **GENTLE YOGA WITH MARY**

Mary's Gentle Yoga is designed for Active Adults aged 55+, but ages 18+ are welcome. This class is conducted on a mat with gentle movements that concentrates on relaxation and strengthening muscles. Classes are held on Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information and registration, please visit www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.

## HORIZON FALL BASEBALL

The Horizon League provides children and adults with cognitive and physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in athletic events, develop lasting relationships among their peers, coaches and parents and demonstrate to them that they are an important part of their community by creating an environment of inclusion for both the participants and their families. The League is open to youth and adult's ages five and up. Teams are broken up by age groups. Games are non-competitive and each player on the roster gets on base before the opposing team gets to bat. Every effort is made to return players to their prior team. However, teams will have a player limit and team placement is based on first come, first serve. Special requests can only be considered based on available space on a team prior to Wednesday, August 18. Youth and Teen league games will take place on Saturdays beginning September 11 through October 23. These games are played on a rotating schedule throughout the day on Saturdays. Adult League games will take place on Thursdays beginning September 9 through October 21. Adult games are played on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. All games are played on the Horizon Field at the Acworth Sports Complex. It is \$15 to participate for all players registered before March 24. The cost of players registered after August 18 is \$25. Registration before August 18 also guarantees the preferred jersey size. Registration is available at www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.





# SUPERIOR PLUMBING PRESENTS 2021 NORTH GEORGIA STATE FAIR

The 88th Annual Superior Plumbing Presents North Georgia State Fair beginning Thursday, September 23, through Sunday, October 3, 2021.

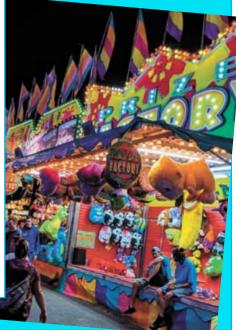
The Fair is open Monday through Thursday 4 to 11 p.m., Fridays 4 p.m. to midnight, Saturdays 10 a.m., to midnight, and Sundays 12:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and is located at Jim R. Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road S.W., Marietta, Georgia 30008

As the largest fair in metro Atlanta, the Superior Plumbing Presents North Georgia State Fair attracts over 300,000 people every year from north Georgia and neighboring states. The Fair features live music, a variety of free attractions including world class ground acts from around the globe, not one but two petting barns featuring barnyard and exotic animals, flower shows; blue ribbon competitions for handmade goods and items, fruits, vegetables and artwork of all kinds; local entertainment, and delicious fair foods including all of the traditional fair, as well as lots of unexpected culinary delights. The family owned and operated Great James H. Drew Exposition Midway, one of the largest carnival midways in the United States, features a wide assortment of carnival games, entertainment, and exciting rides for thrill-seekers of all ages, including the Wildcat Rollercoaster, the Georgia Mountain Lift and the Mega Slide.

Gate Admission: \$10.00 admission. Children 10 and under are free. Ride tickets are \$1.25 each, \$20.00 for 21 tickets, \$50.00 for 55 tickets and \$100 for 120 tickets. All rides require more than one ticket. Parking is \$5. ATM machines are located on the midway.

Online advance discount tickets can be purchased for \$7.00, with children 10 and under free. A book of 21 ride tickets can be purchased for only \$11.00 (a 50% discount) through September 23. Visit our website at www.northgeorgiastatefair.







# 21 JULY NC **TENTION VETERANS**

**BRIGHT SIDE PAGE 8** 

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# THE EYES OF FREEDOM: LIMA COMPANY

**MEMORIAL ON DISPLAY IN ACWORTH** On July 29 through July 31, the City of Acworth and Georgia Funeral Care will host The Eyes of Freedom: Lina Company Memorial in Tanyard Creek Overlook at the Acworth Community Center (4361 Cherokee Street). This nationally traveling tribute's mission is to "Honor the service and sacrifice of all who answer our Nation's call." The memorial exhibition features 23 life sized portraits of the fallen Marines and Navy Corpsman of Lima Company. Their eyes reflect the thousands of men and women who have given their lives and served our Nation. Their own boots stand at the base of their portraits, creating a tangible representation of their sacrifice. This exhibition will be free and open to the public from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 29 and Friday, July 30 and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 31. More information about the Eyes of Freedom: Lima Company Memorial can be found at www.limacompanymemorial.org. The Acworth Bureau Tourism authority would like to thank Cobb Travel & Tourism and Hummingbird Hideaway for their support in hosting this event.

## **GEORGIA FUNERAL CARE STARTS COLLECTING** TOYS FOR CHRISTMAS

In partnership with the City of Acworth, Georgia Funeral Care is hosting The Eyes of Freedom: Lima Company Memorial in Tanyard Creek Overlook at the Acworth Community Center (4361 Cherokee Street), Thursday through Saturday, July 29-31. What a perfect time for Georgia Funeral Care to kick off their Operation Toy Solder Christmas Toy Drive. Operation Toy Soldier is a nation wide program of the funeral homes in the Veterans

Funeral Care network. Georgia Funeral Care is an active member of this group

Most of the funeral homes in the Veterans Funeral Care network are owned and run by veterans or, are the children of veterans. We get questions about types of toys needed. A football or soccer ball is a big hit. Barbie Dolls and coloring books are huge. If your 5-10 year old would like it, our kids will love it too.

It is very important to us that you understand that even though Operation Toy Soldier is a nationwide toy drive, all the toys you donate STAY LOCAL. When you donate a toy in the Atlanta area, the toy goes to a soldier's family in Atlanta.

We ask the visitors to The EYES OF FREEDOM Exhibit to consider bringing a new toy and drop it in the collection barrels provided. The gifts can be for boys or girls ages infant to 18. The gifts will be provided for children of soldiers currently deployed. We are using the Eyes of Freedom Exhibit to launch "Christmas in August" and will collect toys throughout the month of August and through the fall.

For now, drop off points are the Acworth Community Center (starting July 29th) and Georgia Funeral Care, 4671 S. Main St., Acworth. By August we will have a list of drop off locations through out Acworth.

Georgia Funeral Care is also accepting cash donations to purchase gift cards for the teenagers who are so often not thought about in toy drive

For more information about Operation Toy Drive or to become a drop off point for toys, please call 678-574-3016.



OPERATEON Toy Soldier

## Christmas in August

Georgia Funeral Care is launching their Operation Toy Soldier drive at the Eyes of Freedom Exhibit - on display July 29-31 at the Acworth Community Center. The public is encouraged to bring an unwrapped gift for a boy or girl as they visit the Exhibit.

For more information call 678-574-3016

PAGE 9 BRIGHT SIDE

21 JULY NC



# WHAT IS LOVE DOES?

Love Does is a many faceted mission on the part of Piedmont Church, Marietta. Money to fund this project is raised by the congregation by giving over and above their tithes - a little bit here, a little bit there. The group operates under the direction of their Associate pastor, Marlon Longacre and support many many little known, non-profit groups that benefit segments of Cobb's population along with several local schools. Love Does showed God's love at their 365 Conference Luncheon by giving away \$28.5K to local schools, charities and organizations on June 30. If you would like to learn more about Love Does or become a part of it email Marlon at marlon.longacre@piedmonthchurch.tv.

# MEET THE HELPING HAMMERS.

The Helping Hammers are led by Austin and Aaron Eakins, members of Piedmont Church. When Marlon identifies the need, they help organize the project. Their latest project was for the respite home belonging to Special Needs Cobb. With over 60-70 volunteers over the course of two weeks, they painted, and made much needed repairs. In addition, The Helping Hammers ordered and installed new appliances and counter tops. A big thank you to Life University's (PICTURED ABOVE) men's track team, women's La Cross team, and women's soccer team who all pitched in. This was huge in completing the project. Without their dedication and hard work, we would not have been able to accomplish our goals.

At its core Helping Hammers is a group of individuals looking to make an impact in their community through construction related aid. Whether you have a garage full of tools, or are just looking to learn a little bit about construction while serving others, we would love to include you. Maybe you don't feel comfortable around job sites, that is 100% alright. There are tons of ways to get involved and make a big impact in the community. It's amazing to see how much a few people can accomplish when they come together with a common goal. We are continually seeking to grow Helping Hammers and the organization's ability to serve the community. If you are interested in Helping Hammers, email Austin Eakins at aeakins22@gmail.com.

# SPECIAL NEEDS COBB

Special Needs Cobb, in partnership with InCommunity, operates 24 facilities (23 group homes, 1 respite home), providing year-round, supervised residence for adults with developmental disabilities. InCommunity manages 14 of our 23 group homes. The remaining homes are managed by three additional agencies.

We provide loving care in affordable, accessible group home settings that give our residents the chance to experience greater independence and self-determination. Our homes are attractively appointed, with ADA-approved accessibility features such as wide halls and doorways, roll-in showers and reduced-height counter tops. Our group homes enable people with physical and mental disabilities to live as barrier-free as possible. Since being involved in group-home work, we've received a 100% pass rate on all completed HUD housing inspections.

To be eligible to live in one of our residential group homes, a person must have a NOW/ COMP Program Medicaid Waiver and a diagnosed developmental disability.

To learn more about our residential options, contact Alexis Hall, Housing Manager, or call 770-427-8401.

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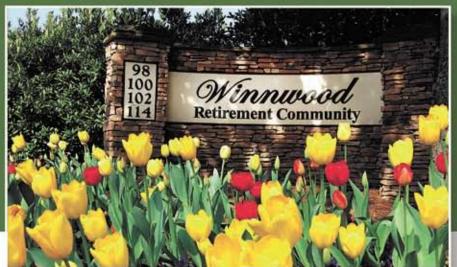


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#### 21 JULY NC

# FIRE IS DANGEROUS, HOME IS SAFE. JAMES ALBRIGHT, LEADERSHIP AND MAIN.ORG

Fire is dangerous, home is safe. I had made the drive down McPhail Drive thousands of times in my life. I rode the school bus home from Acworth Elementary this way, rode home with my dad from ball games this way, rushed home to make curfew as a teenager this way, and drove with anticipation of telling my parents they were going to be grandparents this way. One fateful Thursday morning, the drive down the road was very different.

I was wrapping up a breakfast meeting. I try my best to not check my phone when I am in a meeting. Since it was the first day of summer vacation, I knew Shannon and the kids were likely still in bed, I did not even peek at my phone during the meeting. When I got settled in the truck, I saw a bunch of text messages in my notification center. Before I could read the first one, Shannon called. She informed me that my parent's house was on fire and that I needed to get over there immediately.

My parents live less than two miles from the restaurant. By the time she and I wrapped up our conversation I was pulling down the road. The street is straight as an arrow until you get closer to their house. As you approach the house, there is a curve in the road. One I am so familiar with. It is where I start to look to see whether this is space in the driveway to park or not.

That day, I could not even make it to the curve. There was a sea of flashing red lights on more fire trucks than I had ever seen in one location blocking the road. I parked on the side of the road and started walking. As I got closer to the house, there was mon and dad standing in the neighbor's yard watching fire fighters work to extinguish the fire. Here are four, very valuable lessons that I learned from the fire that destroyed my

childhood home:

#### HOME IS SAFE

Something that Shannon and I have always wanted is for our home to be a place where our kids and their friends feel safe. Not only had my parents lived in this house for thirty-eight years, my brother and I spent our entire childhood there. It was home. This was always a safe place for us. No matter what good or bad decisions we had made, no matter where we had been or what we had done, we always knew we could return there. Safe. For the first time in my lifetime, their house was not safe that day. When I showed up, I could not just walk in like normal. Fire was the only thing that could rendered it unsafe.

#### **STUFF IS STUFF**

There was plenty of stuff in the house when it caught fire. You find out through the process that most of that stuff is not important. It comes down to stuff like pictures of our childhood and special occasions, things that had been handed down from generation to generation, and other items that have sentimental value. All the things with a monetary value are replaceable. Stuff is just stuff.

MEMORIES AND EXPERIENCES ARE FIREPROOF A week after the fire, several of my brother and I's childhood friends showed up and helped us sift through the damage. It was our last attempt at finding stuff that had some sentimental value to my parents. The crew was way bigger than what was needed to complete the task. While we spent four long ours at the house, only about thirty of it was actually working. The rest was hanging out telling stories of the memories and experiences we all had of our home. As I write this, there is a flood of memories and experiences that were created at that house. That house saw the best of us and the worst of us. It saw tears shed and uncontrollable

laughs, disappointment and encouragement, anxiety and calm. Fire can destroy structures and stuff, it cannot touch memories and experiences. Those are fireproof.

#### FIRE IS DANGEROUS, SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

My dad had left for work, my mom was starting to stir when she heard the smoke alarm go off. We all learned at an early age the importance of testing these devices. The question is, did that message stick? So, public service announcement for you, check out this resource from the National Fire Protection Associationon Smoke Alarm Safety. They save lives. A very valuable one that particular day

#### CONCLUSION

Community leadership is the ability and the willingness to use your influence to better others and the world you live in. The most important world we serve is home. The blessing of serving in a local community is that you can make a difference every time you walk out of the house in the morning. The curse is there is a constant pull away from your time at home.

If you have been following this blog for any period of time, a consistent theme of the messaging is how critical home is to a leader's success. If we do not prioritize home, everything else will fall short. You are invited to follow James Albright's blog on leadership

at leadershipandmain.org. James Albright is the interim City Manager for the City of Acworth and an integral part of our Acworth Community.



#### **21 JULY NC** PAGE 11 BRIGHT SIDE ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION BY KIM WIGINGTON, PRESIDENT



This July, I can't help but think about freedom. We now have freedom when it comes to mask wearing, opening businesses, meeting in person, shopping inside our favorite stores, travel, and everything else that goes along with Covid 19. We have choices again. But remember that freedom isn't free. We all made sacrifices and experienced loss to get to this point. I am thankful that my family and

my business made it through to the other side. I also realize that not everyone was so lucky.

This July, I just want to say thank you to the essential workers in hospitals, restaurants, grocery stores, delivery companies, and pharmacies

who had to meet people face to face to get us to this point. Thank you to the people who risked their lives by working at Covid testing sites and giving vaccines to everyone.

Acworth is open for business thanks to you. We are Acworth. Moving forward united and strong!

# ABA JULY AA5

**KBA JULY LUNCHEON** Join us on Tuesday, July 13 at 11:30 at the Governor's Gun Club, as we enjoy an

entertaining program by motivational speaker and award winning comedian, Kenn Kington.

Catering by Governor's Gun Club This event

is sponsored by Mission For Life Church.

Please RSVP at kennesawbusiness.org.

Thursday, July 15, 5:30-7:30 at Henry's Upstairs. RSVP www.acworthbusiness.org.

# **ABA WOMEN'S EVENT**

Thursday, June 15, 11:30-1:00. The July Women's luncheon will be at Center Street Tavern. RSVP www.acworthbusiness.org

## **ABA AUGUST LUNCHEON**

Thursday, August 5, 11:30-1:00 pm. Join us for our annual Pigskin Preview presented by Football coaches from Allatoona and North Cobb High School. Sponsored by Anchor Realty Acworth Community Center, 4361 Cherokee Street, Acworth, GA, 30101. Check out the program and RSVP at www. acworthbusiness.org.

**KBA JULY AA5** KBA members join us at the Smith Gilbert Gardens as we enjoy the beauty of the Gardens on Tuesday, July 20. This event will be catered by Adriane's Delectables and will feature Lazy Guy Distillery with his unique bourbon and whiskey presentations. Come ready to have some fun as OBrien Productions will be providing an unforgettable evening of Casino Games. Sponsors are Kennesaw Business Association, The Bright Side Newspaper Obrien Productions and Tracey Viars with Singleton Real Estate.

#### COBB COUNTY AND GJP OPENS COBB SECOND CHANCE DESK, A RECORD-RESTRICTION HELP DESK

Earlier this year, Cobb District Attorney Flynn D. Broady Jr. announced his support of a record restriction help desk. Partners on this project include the Georgia Justice Project, Cobb Circuit Defender Randy Harris, Cobb Solicitor General Barry E. Morgan, and the Cobb Judicial Circuit. The record-restriction help desk will be known as Cobb Second Chance Desk. It will be housed in the Cobb Circuit Defender's Office. Cobb's Second Chance Desk will be the first of its kind in Georgia. It will be staffed by GJP attorneys and the Cobb Circuit Defender's Office. These attorneys will assist eligible individuals with clearing their record as Georgia law allows.

The desk is open to the public. Online appointments are available at www. cobbsecondchancedesk.com or https://www.cobbcounty.org/second-chance-desk.

Second Chance Desks are an invaluable resource to meet this increasing need for record restriction services. "Georgia Justice Project helps many Georgians each year with their criminal record, but we can't do this work alone, and we do so with strong partnership support," says Doug Ammar, Executive Director of Georgia Justice Project. We appreciate District Attorney Broady and Solicitor Morgan for joining us in this effort.'

Cobb Solicitor General Barry E. Morgan added that the service provided by the Georgia Justice Project is needed. "Prosecutors and court clerks cannot give legal advice, and many people are in limbo if they can't afford to pay an attorney to navigate the additional, cumbersome process required for record restriction," Morgan said. "This service will help fill a gaping hole.'

Georgia Justice Project has served Georgians who have been impacted by the criminal justice system for almost 35 years. Learn more at www.GJP.org.



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# MARIETTA NEWS



## MARIETTA COBB MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF METRO MONTAGE XXI

Marietta Cobb Museum of Art (MCMA) is pleased to announce the opening of the annual juried art exhibition Metro Montage XXI. The exhibition runs from July 10 through September 5, 2021. Metro Montage XXI will feature all types of genre, medium, style, subject matter, concept, and technique.

MCMA will be hosting an Opening Night Reception on July 10, 2021 from 6 pm until 8 pm. The Opening Night Reception is free for members or \$10 for non-members. There will be a cash bar and light refreshments catered by Carriage House Catering. Tickets are sold at the door. For more information about the opening and the exhibition, please visit the website - mariettacobbartmuseum.org.

## MUSEUM OF HISTORY PRESENTS MARIETTA 1899: COLOR CAPTURED IN BLACK & WHITE

The Marietta Museum of History is proud to present Marietta 1899: Color Captured in Black & White. This special exhibit highlights the photography of New York photographer James Shaw and his visit to Marietta in the spring of 1899. The exhibit showcases neverbefore-seen images of the Marietta Square, the Marietta National Cemetery, Kennesaw Avenue, Kennesaw Mountain, and rural Cobb County. While visiting, Shaw chose to attend the May 30th Federal Memorial Day celebrations

While visiting, Shaw chose to attend the May 30th Federal Memorial Day celebrations on the Marietta Square. As a northerner, he was likely fascinated with how this formerly Confederate city would handle commemorating the Union dead. Not surprisingly, most attendants were African Americans from all over the Atlanta area. These are perhaps the most diverse images of nineteenth century Marietta we have ever seen. A truer version of life as it was, undiluted by the whitewashing of history. While bias of a white perspective remains, Shaw chose to include the activities of both races, thus presenting multiple shades of color in black and white photography.

This exhibit will be on display now through May 28th, 2022 at the Marietta Museum of History, 1 Depot Street, Marietta, GA 30060.

# **GLOVER PARK CONCERTS**

The City of Marietta is hosting its 2021 Glover Park Concert Series on the last Friday, of the month at 8:00pm on the Marietta Square. The concerts are free, but a limited number of tables can be reserved for a fee.

The concert for July 30 is Next Level Band playing (Beach/Oldies), Blankets and lawn chairs may be set up in the park and tables are permitted in the street after 6:00 p.m. No personal tables, plastic ground covering or ropes, tape, stakes, etc. used to section off areas are permitted inside the park as they will be removed. QUESTIONS: www.mariettaga.gov/ concerts, 770-794-5601



# **MARIETTA NEWS**



# ANNUAL ART IN THE PARK RETURNS TO MARIETTA SQUARE

After a necessary one-year hiatus, Art in the Park returns to historic Marietta Square this Labor Day weekend. Featuring more than 150 fine art booths, this outdoor event also delights the entire family with children's activities, live music and great food from local restaurants.

ART - Art in the Park is a fun and interactive way to experience a wide variety of artists working in many media. This year, the festival will feature more than 150 artists with offerings in watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, pottery, woodworking, glass, photography, textiles and jewelry in fine metals and precious stones. At the Artist Market, visitors can purchase art and learn about it in person with the artists. Some will even offer demonstrations during the festival for a real behind-the-scenes look at how to make certain pieces.

CHALK ART - The children's Chalk Spot, sponsored by THE Marietta Local is a street art display benefitting the Marietta High School Visual Arts Department and offers participants the opportunity to create their own designs on their own sidewalk spaces. This chalk art will be displayed throughout the festival, and participation is just \$10 per person. The registration fee (onsite only) includes a box of chalk and coupons from local businesses, while supplies last. Also for the kiddos, Art in the Park includes the Children's Art Alley, a free, interactive "make and take" area located on Atlanta St. on the south side of the park.

This event will be held Saturday, Sept. 4 - Monday, Sept. 6, 2021 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day in Glover Park on the Historic Marietta Square Free Festival

Admission

PARKING - Free on-street parking is available around Marietta Square. Additional parking is available in the decks located at Waddell and Lawrence streets.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

The 30th annual Marietta StreetFest brings family fun, live music, arts & crafts and classic cars back to the historic Marietta Square, Saturday, Sept. 18 - Sunday, Sept. 19. This outdoor event is presented by the Marietta Museum of History, and admission is FREE!

THE ARTS - Attendees will have the opportunity to glance through many collectibles and treasures that feature shabby chic and folk or something new and crafty for the home. Artist Alley will showcase works from more than 70 vendors. Local and national artists offer handcrafted items like paintings, jewelry and pottery, as well as market-style items, such as lotions, jellies, jams and sauces.

MUSIC - StreetFest is thrilled to welcome the Marietta Grassroots Music Festival again this year. Festival goers can grab their blankets and lawn chairs and support local musicians. This music festival was created with the purpose of showcasing the best talent from the city and surrounding communities to build upon and strengthen the foundation of community pride present today and encourage a pay-it-forward attitude. For more information about the Marietta StreetFest contact: Carolyn Morris 404-966-8497



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## **3RD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH** BY CRIS EATON WELSH

21 JULY NC

Did you know iatrogenic disease is the 3rd leading cause of death in the US? Do you know what iatrogenic disease is? Iatrogenic disease is what cost my mother her life.

Iatrogenic disease is the medical term for MEDICAL MISTAKES. Not abuse, misuse

or overuse of medications.... Simply perfect medical errors. My mom had a "routine" procedure for a stage one kidney cancer 2 years ago. The surgeon made a mistake and cut her bowel in the surgery and missed it, sewed her up and went on vacation. He sent a PA to do the follow up who simply checked the boxes, did not listen to the nurses, ignored our concerns and never touched my mother.

Three days later the nurses had had enough and called the rapid response team. The doctor they called took one look at my mother and knew she was septic and rushed her to emergency surgery. My mom was in Kennestone for over 3 weeks (for a routine procedure) and spent half of that in ICU.

We took her home at our expense to rehabilitate... we certainly weren't going to trust another medical facility to get her healthy. For the Last 2 years she felt awful. 75 doctors visits, to every type of doctor.. blood-work and pats on the head telling her she was fine were about the only outcome of those visits.

A month ago she went to another Wellstar doctor in the same practice that botched her surgery two years prior and they excised a tumor on her ureter... they told her everything was fine and to follow up in 6 months.

A week after that procedure she came into my office complaining of excruciating shoulder pain and hip pain as she had been for almost a year and I sent her back to her oncologist for a PET scan. Her oncologist told her she didn't need it and she wasn't due for one for another 3 years according to their practice management procedures and she finally demanded they do one. They did the scan. It was uploaded to her electronic medical record four days before she was able to talk to her doctor. When the report begins with "unfortunately there is hyper-blastic metastatic disease present"... it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out what's

going on. My mother, who had been seen by seven doctors totaling 75 doctor visits, had more blood-work than any one person should have in a year AND had a surgical procedure two weeks prior. My mother, who had been repeatedly told that everything was in her head, she was crazy and there's nothing wrong with her, had 9 metastatic bone lesions that were a metastasis from the botched kidney surgery. She was dead in 11 days.

So why am I writing this?? So you can learn from our lessons. So hopefully anyone in the medical profession who is stuck in checking the boxes and sticking to a practice management way of treatment will choose a better path.

You know the system... Get them in the door, Get them out the door, Code it right so insurance will pay Make sure to use the right modifier to get as much money from the insurance company as you can. Forget about actual patient care just gotta meet the bottom line.

Often times we don't see the problem when we're in the middle of it... maybe by telling this story one doctor or one medical student or one physician assistant or one nurse will slow it down for a second listen to a patient a little closer, order the test that isn't "on the list" and save someone else's life.

I fully believe with my entire heart had even one of her 7 doctors performed a PET scan a year and a half ago when she started complaining of all the pain that this would've been treatable and my mother would still be here today.

It is easy to say .... oh she had cancer in the past, it was just her time, she had a good fight... but honestly that's all bullshit and this is the time to do the hard thing...

Tell the story and make changes in the system so others don't have to go through this. Yes none of us are getting out of here alive and death is eminent for all of us but medical mistakes unchecked will lead to even more premature death.

The surgeon who performed my mother's surgery and botched it is now teaching at a University on surgical procedures and this, my friends, concerns me. I learned at her service last week she's left quite a Legacy in our community through her

service, deeds and actions.

I'm hopeful that just as her life taught us much that her death can teach a few more lessons to those who are willing to listen.

The two biggest lessons right now are:

1. Your health is your responsibility and you must advocate for yourself.

2. We absolutely do not have anything close to a health-care system in this country we have a big business sick care system.

Over the course of the next few weeks we continue to mourn, can grieve and try to make sense of all of this horrific killer - Iatrogenic disease - that took my mother from this community far to early.

And most importantly as a family will work hard to shine a light on the broken parts of this sick care system ..... in hopes that I can leave this world a little better place for my community and my family just like my mother did for us. Do The Hard Things





#### PAGE 15 BRIGHT SIDE

**21 JULY NC** 

# THE SCOOP AT COBB'S SENIOR SERVICES

We are now open to full capacity, which means we are so excited to see our "regulars" return AND welcome new friends to join us! Please tell Cobb residents age 55+ that we would love to greet them at any of our senior centers for a tour and information on all the activities available to them.

Veteran Connection is back at the four senior centers for the first time since "the most recent unpleasantness" known as coronavirus. .

Want to volunteer with us? We've created an easy way to contact Volunteer Services online. Simple click here www.CobbSeniors.org and you'll find it under Volunteer Opportunities.

#### NORTH COBB SENIOR CENTER -4100 S MAIN ST, ACWORTH 30101 770-975-7740

Blue Zones: Tips to Lead a Longer and Healthier Life will be held Tuesday, July 13, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Free; Registration required. "Blue Zone" is a non-scientific term given to geographic regions that are home to some of the world's oldest and healthiest people. It was first used by the author Dan Buettner, who was studying areas of the world in which eople live exceptionally long lives. Join Keith Mazonkey as he talks through the different blue zones and shares their secrets for a longer, healthier, and happier life.

Dye with Jenn, Wednesday, July 14, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Free; Registration required Jenn from Atherton will be joining us to show how to create dye projects using different dyes and techniques. We will have material and scarves, size varieties, and you are welcome to bring your own cotton tee. This will be fun project but can get a bit messy, so please don't wear clothes you might not like getting colored!

Blood Pressure Check , Thursday, July 15, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Free; Registration required. Knowing your blood pressure numbers is key to a longer healthier life. Provided by Kathy Ahlberg with Homestead Hospice. The rest of July's schedule for North Cobb is posted on www.brightsidenewspapernews.

com/ look for North Cobb Senior Center.

## **IT'S OKAY BY AMANDA GLASS**

Sunday, June 27 was an emotional day. I sang this song for my friend and mentor Pam Eatons memorial service. A song written by a brave cancer survivor. The lyrics ring true to those of us that have been marked with the "Big C'

Pam is the one who taught me (a week after I was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer) to say I was "battling cancer" instead of saying "I have cancer" because I didn't need to take ownership of this horrid disease. She was a spirited 4 time survivor against all odds. She taught me to be strong, fearless and to keep a sense of humor. She taught me that happiness and living life fully doesn't stop when you get a cancer diagnosis....even stage 4. She passed on wisdom that I have since passed on to other

recent cancer survivors. Pay it forward.

Not only does this song and disease hit me personally ..... but my sister is currently and unexpectedly battling stage 4

colon cancer. And I lost my stepmom of over 35 years to lung cancer last year. Matter of fact...Sunday was my dad's and Julia's 35 Wedding Anniversary. My dad teared up Saturday when I told him about Pam's Celebration. He said he regrets not being able to hold a proper Memorial Service for her last March due to Covid restrictions. No true closure. He said he would like to remember her today.....I told dad I would sing for her too and was sure she would hear it. \*tears\*

So I sang from my heart and soul (and tried not to cry) for SO many loved ones that day (family and friends).....because no matter what this earth and human body go through....our hearts and spirits and minds are ok. We are ok.

\*Love, light, healing, prayers\*

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF PAMELIA ANNE EATON JUNE 6, 1945 · MAY 14, 2021

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

- Maya Angelou Pam's gift to those who were blessed to have bumped into her on this trip around the sun was to make them feel completely supported. If she loved you she was your biggest advocate. Pam's family was always first. She was unconventional, outspoken, bold and unapologetically authentic

On Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 at 6:40pm Pam's work here was done.

Born in East St Louis, Illinois on September 28,1945 Pamelia Anne Eaton has left her husband of 54 years, James "Doc" Eaton and her two daughters, Courtney Eaton and Cristina Eaton Welsh to carry on her legacy in Kennesaw, Georgia. She also leaves behind her seven grandchildren: Ashlin Brennan, Megan Brennan, Aiden Brennan, Grace Eaton, Dominick Eaton, Isabelle Welsh and Shelby Welsh. She is preceded by her son James Corev Eaton.

Her days in high school as the Lead Majorette set her up to inspire the Kennesaw community to come together. She was passionate about our youth and the community. Her involvements are too numerous to list. She left our community better than she found it and was aptly nicknamed the Godmother is Kennesaw.

Her heart was wide open and unfiltered. She always left a seat at the table for an uninvited friend she had yet to meet. Pam lived large, loved fiercely, and gave generously. Without any gravitas she made her final goodbye and will continue to orchestrate great things

for us from above. The family greeted visitors at Winkenhoffer on Cobb Parkway, Saturday June 26 from 4PM to 6

PM. A celebration of her life was held at the Southern Museum on Sunday, June 27 at 2 PM.

Donations in Pam's name can be made to The Upstream Foundation 2847 South Main Street Kennesaw, GA 30144 Dr Cris Eaton Welsh





# **RUNOFF Election Tues. July 13th-**Vote for CONSERVATIVE **DEVAN SEABAUGH**



