

The Bright Side™

Volume 31 No 1

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

JAN 2022



TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS! RETURNS TO THE SOUTHERN MUSEUM

The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History is excited to announce the return of its biggest, most popular event of the year—Trains, Trains, Trains!—on Saturday, January 29 and Sunday, January 30, 2022. The 2022 event will feature the Museum's biggest model train display to date along with train-themed activities and historic trains.

The model train layouts will come in all sizes and feature a variety of themes, many of which have interactive buttons to delight young visitors. Railroad artifacts will be on display for visitors to hold, touch and discover how they were used. Operation Lifesaver will also be on-site to teach kids and families about railroad safety.

For those looking to take something home, the General Emporium, the Museum's gift shop, will more than double in size for the event with a variety of train-themed items, from clothing and collectibles to toys and model trains, perfect for train enthusiasts, kids and fans of history!

"We are thrilled to once again host Trains, Trains, Trains! as the premier family and child-oriented model railroading event in metropolitan Atlanta," said Dr. Richard Banz, Executive Director of the Museum. "We are planning to feature more operating layouts than ever before. Mark your calendar, as this is one experience that the entire family will enjoy and remember for years to come."

Museum operating hours for the event are from 9:30am to 5:00pm. Regular admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (ages 65+), and \$5 for children (ages 3 to 17), active-duty military (with ID) and university students (with ID). Tickets are available online. Admission for Museum members is always free!

Parking will be available at Swift-Cantrell Park, located at 3140 Old 41 Hwy NW, with a free shuttle service.

The Southern Museum is located at 2829 Cherokee Street in Downtown Kennesaw (exit 273 on Interstate 75). For more information, visit www.SouthernMuseum.org or call 770-427-2117.

ACWORTH AND KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS DECEMBER AWARDS



ACWORTH BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Eco Tech Services, accepted by Mike Wilson, presented by Kelly Nagel



ACWORTH PERSON OF THE YEAR

Mike Schroeder with 1885 Grill Acworth., presented by Mayor Tommy Allegood



GIFTS OF LOVE

Jay White, Acworth Business Association, presents Gifts of Love to community organizations that make a difference for its citizens. Acworth Baseball Association, Acworth Football and Cheerleading Association, Expanding Horizons Program, Horizon Field, Allatoona High School, Allatoona High School Shop with a Buc Program, North Cobb High School, North Cobb High School Shop with a Warrior Program, Brookwood Christian School, Cornerstone Preparatory School, American Legion (Ron Asby PTSD Dog), The Link School, Acworth Turkey Chase Donation, YMCA Summer Lunch Program. Monies are raised from Fourth of July Concert and Taste of Acworth.



KENNESAW BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Jenni Brown,
Brown & Dutton Law Firm



KENNESAW BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Copeland's of New Orleans, accepted by Quinton Austin, Managing Partner and Natalie Albin, Head of Catering.

KBA PHOTOS BY Red Baryl Portraits

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COBB COUNTY DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Chairwoman Lisa Cupid has signed a new Declaration of Emergency for the county after consulting with public health officials about the dramatic rise in COVID-19 cases. The declaration will enable the county to implement its Emergency Operations Plan, hold all or portions of public meetings virtually, and encourage residents to take precautions to avoid further spread of the Omicron variant of the virus.

The declaration urges residents to help slow the spread by taking these actions: getting vaccinated and/or boosted, wearing masks indoors with others, and avoiding crowded situations.

County Manager Dr. Jackie McMorris again requires the wearing of masks inside county government facilities. This re-institutes a policy that lapsed in November.

This policy does NOT affect: Privately-run businesses in the county; The Cobb County School District which is governed by the Board of Education, and The Cobb County court complex, which has its own mask mandate by judicial order.

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THIS AND THAT

WELCOME NEW BABY



MADDOX JOSEPH

Congratulations to Evan Portwood &
Kaylee Bronson (Kennesaw, Acworth, &
Marietta) on the birth of their baby boy,
Maddox Joseph. He arrived on November
7, 2021 at 2:42pm, weighing 8lbs 1oz at
Kennestone Hospital. He and his mother,
Kaylee are in perfect health; God is so good!
The blessing of their beautiful baby boy
Maddox reminds us that God's timing is
always perfect.

MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

MEET HISTORY FACE TO FACE VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

Join the Meet History Face to Face
Virtual Book Club on Thursday, January 27,
2022, from 8:00-9:00 p.m. We will discuss the
Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *All the Light We
Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr! If you have
never participated in our book club, January
is the perfect month to join.

Following the lives of Marie-Laure, a
blind French girl hiding a valuable gem, and
Werner, a German boy with a penchant for
radios, *All the Light We Cannot See* powerfully
examines human kindness during one of
history's most tumultuous eras.

We look forward to discussing this book
with you in January.

Click below to register! Happy reading!

Questions? Contact us at 470-578-2083 or
mhhe@kennesaw.edu. Ask how to register.

BRIGHT SIDE PAGE 2

ANDREW BRAMLETT'S RESIDENTS OF THE KENNESAW CEMETERY DR. JOHN W. ELLIS



John W. Ellis was
born June 11, 1868, in
Forsyth County. After
finishing grammar
school, he spent seven
years working as a
janitor to pay his way
through Reinhardt
College. After graduation he went to the
Southern Medical College, now known as
Emory University. He had a scholarship that
paid his tuition, but he had to pay his room and
board himself. Ellis worked as a farmhand for
a year to raise money for two years of school.
He then went back to the farm for another year
to pay for the final two years. After graduation
Ellis returned to the farm for two years to raise
money for his time at the Georgia College of
Eclectic Medicine and Surgery. After many
years of hard work and education Dr. Ellis
was ready to open an office, and he chose
to relocate to Kennesaw. His office opened
on April 4, 1900.

While in school Dr. Ellis had married
Carrie Boring, from Woodstock, on October
30, 1895. Together they would have seven
children. Dr. Ellis was likely the largest
landowner in town and for many years
managed his own drugstore downtown. He
served as mayor of Kennesaw from 1916 to
1917 and again from 1923 to 1924. During
his career Dr. Ellis spent about twenty-five
years traveling by horse and buggy visiting
patients.

Dr. Ellis enjoyed making fishing trips to
Florida, and it was noted in his obituary that
that "one of his favorite entertainments was a
TV set the octogenarian watched constantly.
Milton Berle was his favorite entertainer."

Dr. Ellis passed away on December 16,
1950. News of his death was on the front page
of the Marietta Daily Journal two days later.

BASKETBALL CLINIC

Hoop Heaven Georgia and The Kennesaw
Parks & Recreation Department will host an
8-week basketball clinic that will focus on
fundamentals such as dribbling, shooting,
rebounding, and passing. The clinic will
be on Thursdays from 6 – 7 PM February
3 – March 31. All instructors are former and
current professional and collegiate athletes.
Each participant will receive a t-shirt. Register
now at: <http://ow.ly/Cxmw50EciUp>



CONGRATULATIONS BOB KELLY

The City of Acworth presented Bob with an award proclamation for his fundraising efforts
with HOG. It was a complete surprise to Bob! Helping One Guy was actually there to give them
a check for the Special Needs children (which has totaled 30k from his 10 years of working
with them.) However, they surprised Bob by recognizing him and his ministry of HOG!

"There are only two ways to live
your life. One is as though nothing
is a miracle. The other is as though
everything is a miracle."
-- Albert Einstein



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

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/Cxmw50EciUp> Our Book Swap would not be
possible without volunteers, and we greatly
appreciate any help with this event!

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RECREATION CENTER OPEN HOUSE

The City of Kennesaw and Kennesaw Parks & Recreation invites area residents to attend the Open House for the Recreation Center at Adams Park, located at 2737 Watts Drive, on Saturday, January 22 beginning at 10 AM and ending at 3:00 pm. Upon completion, the 42,000 square foot Recreation Center will feature three basketball courts, a walking track, two fitness rooms, a gymnastics center and office space. Programs offered at the Recreation Center will include basketball, volleyball, pickleball, and more. The gyms will be open for basketball, volleyball, and pickleball. Pickleball will have some instructors around showing people how to play. There will be classes going on, snacks, giveaways, the walking track will be open and more! The Rec Center will be open for the remainder of the day. Giveaways will include mini basketballs and volleyballs, sunglasses and more!



KENNESAW'S ANNUAL BOOK SWAP

Kennesaw Parks & Recreation will host its annual Book Swap even at the new Recreation Center at Adams Park on Saturday, January 22, from 8 to 11 a.m.

Area residents interested in participating can drop off gently used hardcover or paperback books, music CDs, DVD movies and vinyl records January 19 & 20 from noon to 8 p.m. and receive a ticket redeemable for the same number of items during "open swap" time on January 22. Books must have their front and back covers intact and be in good condition. CDs, DVDs and vinyl records must be in their original cases

and fully operable. Magazines, software, VHS or cassette tapes, adult content, unauthorized or illegal material will not be accepted.

Items will be organized into the following categories: Fiction, Children, Teen, Non-Fiction, DVDs and CDs/Vinyl. This swap is completely free; items cannot be purchased with money. Any remaining items left at the end of the swap will be donated.



KENNESAW'S "A DAY WITH SANTA" PARADE

ANDREW J. BRAMLETT

The "Day with Santa" festivities in Kennesaw on December 4, 2021, began with the always-festive annual Christmas parade on Main Street. This year's parade had over fifty floats and groups participate. On Main Street, judges were tasked with finding who deserved this year's parade awards.

The Winter Wonderland Award, for best overall group, went to Great Gig Dance Co., a dance studio located off Wade Green Road. The young dancers from Great Gig showed their talents with a performance to the tune of "Jingle Bells."

The Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree Award, for best musical performance, went to the Kennesaw Mountain High School Band. The Mustang's band performed several seasonal songs during the parade and were enjoyed by all of the parade goers.

The Ugly Christmas Sweater Award, for funniest group, was awarded to Pugs of Cobb County. An entire float was filled with pugs and their owners with even more walking behind.

The final award, the Holly Jolly Award for most original group, went to the float of Kennesaw United Methodist Church. Many of the youth from the church were onboard a nativity-themed float.

After the parade was over, many children had their photo taken with Santa Claus at the Kennesaw Depot. Many vendors were also set up on Main Street and in Depot Park. The 2021 parade was full of unique and festive ideas, and all who saw the parade cannot wait to see what will happen next year!

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COBB GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Jan 25 Topic: Researching Your Medieval Ancestors Speaker: Muriel Jackson 7 pm - Virtual via Zoom. Join us via zoom for this free presentation at 7 P.M. on Jan 25. This presentation is open to everyone but you must register. You may do so at the CCGS website at www.CobbGaGenSoc.org.

ARTS ALLIANCE NEWS

Upcoming Exhibit: The Acworth Arts Alliance's Art House will begin 2022 with a new exhibit. "It's a New Year!" Exhibit will open on Saturday, January 8th with a Reception from 4-7PM. An Open House is also planned for Saturday, February 5. These events are free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be available.

Call for Artists for our "Chiaroscuro" Exhibit! Submission Deadline February 15, 2022 at midnight. This exhibit will run from March 5 thru April 23. acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines/.

The Art House is located at 4425 Cherokee St., Acworth. It is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 12-6 pm.

GRIEF SHARE SEMINAR

Beginning Sunday, February 6, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Summit Baptist Church in Acworth, GA, will be hosting an interdenominational seminar called GriefShare. This seminar is a Bible based program designed for persons that have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Participants will be around others that understand their feelings. This is a 13 week seminar with each session being a stand alone session so that a person is welcome to come anytime during the 13 weeks. Visit GriefShare.org, click on Find a group, enter your zip code and register – or you can call the number below and sign up and register at the first session.

The cost is \$20 per person and scholarships are available. The group will meet in Room M112 at Summit Baptist church in Acworth, 4310. Moon Station Lane. For more information, please call 770-975-4595.

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 brief list 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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THIS N THAT ADS

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NEW YEAR SUNDAY

Join Oak Sanctuary on January 9, 4:00-5:00 pm for a smorgasbord of skills and talents featuring you! Let's see what 2022 holds for us and let's share the tools from your toolbox to help us. Bring along your favorite skill whether that be cards, runes, crystals, pendulums, numerology, angels, spirit guides, astrology, or something else. Each of us has a favorite way of getting answers to questions. This will be a fun way to gain some insight to the upcoming year. This is a fun way to connect with others. All are welcome even if you are still searching for your particular strength. You might experience something that opens doors for you. OAK Sanctuary, 4989 North Main Street, Suite 104 Acworth, GA 30101

CALLING ALL MOMS

The MOMS Clubs of Kennesaw and Acworth support mothers through park days, playgroups, coffee chats, book club and field trips. What a great way to get to know other moms in your area. You are invited to join us. Visit kennesawmomsclub.weebly.com for more information.

ACCEPTING APPOINTMENTS

OAK Sanctuary is open for appointments either online or in-person. Bach flower remedies are wonderful for times of stress and anxiety and are a gentle and safe way to assist with your emotional and mental well-being. A sound session, using Tibetan bowls, is the perfect way to escape, relax, regain focus, and regroup during these stressful times. Full descriptions of our services can be found at www.theoaksanctuary.com under the Consultations tab or call 404-903-4104. We are offering a special of \$15 off any service that is booked during the month January.

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MEET MATT WOLF OWNER OF GA MATTRESS BROKERS

Matt Wolf has over 18 years in the mattress industry and has had the privilege of working in leadership positions with companies such as Mattress Firm, Leggett and Platt, Ergomotion, Southerland Bedding, and Rooms to Go. Matt has been recognized multiple times as an expert in his field and has earned respect in the industry as one that values integrity, customer service, and knowledge that is truly beneficial to the end consumer. Matt has also designed and built mattresses and is keenly aware of what makes a mattress provide proper support for years to come.

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Matt has been married for almost 10 years, has 3 children, and values time spent with his family while pursuing ministry alongside his local church.



**SOMETIMES IT IS
HARD TO SEE THE
WHOLE PICTURE
WHEN YOU ARE
INSIDE THE
FRAME**

KATHERINE SHAY

VOLUNTEERS HELP WITH HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION.

In December 2021, Volunteers Mike Evans and Hewitt Dupont helped Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park with historic landscape preservation. Mr. Evans and Mr. Dupont worked in clearing a section of the historic earthworks along Cheatham Hill Drive, known as the Granbury redoubt. Throughout their two days of work, Evans and Dupont removed pine seedlings and additional brush from in front of the redoubt, enabling park visitors to see the artillery pieces and learn about the military importance of the position.

Mr. Evans and Mr. Dupont spent a week in August clearing a small diamond shaped redoubt, located just north of Dallas Highway along the Hardage Mill Trail. This redoubt was also overgrown with tree saplings, shrubs, and falling tree limbs. Similar to their work in December, the two men completely cleared the position of brush and small trees. Their hard work and dedication helped to restore, retain, and stabilize the integrity of the historic earthwork. In clearing the area, the park can provide additional interpretation of the historical earthworks and cultural landscape in this area of the park.

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park's Volunteer-In-Parks program plans offer volunteers opportunities in the Spring 2022. These opportunities are based on the work done by Mr. Evans and Mr. Dupont as well as a similar program at Gettysburg National Military Park. For more information about volunteering at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, please visit: www.Volunteer.gov or contact us at KEMO_volunteer@nps.gov.

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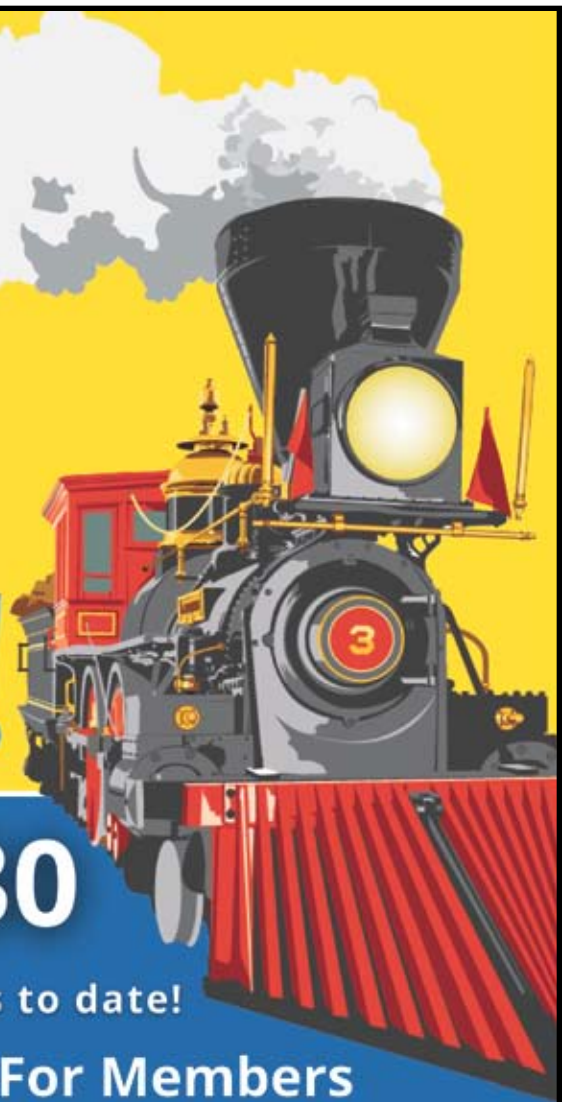
TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS!

January 29 & 30

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www.southernmuseum.org



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THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season of celebration. As we look towards 2022, we look forward to a year of collaboration and community engagement that will continue to make our city a great place to live, work, and play.

Every January is when Acworth turns a day off into a day on. This year's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service will be held on Monday, January 17. The Acworth Achievers are excited to lead a unity walk from the Roberts School to the Acworth Community Center at 9:15 a.m. with the program beginning in Tanyard Creek Overlook at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to another great day of service highlighting what we can do for others in our community.

Don't forget to join me for my annual State of the City address at the Acworth Community Center on Thursday, February 3 at 11:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required at www.acworthbusiness.org. This gives everyone an opportunity to hear what's been going on in Acworth, and how we are working together to make great things happen here in our community.

One thing that makes Acworth unique is our engaged citizens. Many of these are volunteers on our boards and commissions. Each of them is made of partners from within our city that actively volunteer their time to participate in moving Acworth forward. Did you know that the Acworth Tourism Bureau Authority guides our branding and marketing efforts that bring visitors to our shops, restaurants, and recreational opportunities within the city? And that the Downtown Development Authority plays an integral role in creating a vibrant, diverse, and relevant downtown? The Lake Authority works with the Army Corps of Engineers to keep the maintenance of our resources a priority. The Acworth Tree Commission maintains our Tree City USA status and oversees the new Acworth Community Garden. The Historic Preservation Commission protects the integrity of Acworth's historic districts and landmarks, while the Planning and Zoning Commission ensures that development and site standards are consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan. Each of our boards and commissions work together to bring forward the vision of our city, and we appreciate the dedication these volunteers and ambassadors bring to Acworth!

As always, for more information on any of these projects you can visit www.acworth.org, sign up for our e-news blasts on our home page, "like" Visit Acworth on Facebook, or follow us on Instagram at @VisitAcworth.

God Bless, Tommy



ACWORTH SENDS TREE CREWS TO HELP CLEAN UP

On December 10, 2021, a violent, long-tracked tornado moved across Western Kentucky, producing severe to catastrophic damage in numerous towns, including Mayfield, Benton, Dawson Springs, and Bremen. Pictured above: Vince Rogers, Matthew Hightower & Jordan Pope. We are praying for Kentucky and all of those affected by the tornadoes and storms. This clean up will take a long time.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

The Acworth MLK Celebration and Day of Service will be held Monday, January 17, 2022. The community is welcome to join us for a light welcome breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at the Roberts School Community and Education Center. Following the welcome breakfast, the Unity Walk will begin at 9:15 a.m. and leave from the Roberts School and finish at the Acworth Community Center. Our program honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the Tanyard Creek Overlook of the Acworth Community Center. After the program concludes, we will begin our service project helping an organization in our community. MLK Day of Service shirts will be for sale at the Acworth Community Center leading up to and on the day of the event. All proceeds will go towards the Acworth Expanding Horizons and Acworth Achievers programs. For more information on the Acworth Expanding Horizons and Acworth Achievers programs, please visit www.acworthexpandinghorizons.org

ACWORTH'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Please join Mayor Tommy Allegood as he delivers Acworth's State of the City address at 11:30 a.m. at the Acworth Community Center on Thursday, February 3, 2022. This event will be held at Acworth Business Association's February monthly luncheon. Pre-registration for this event is required and can be found at www.acworthbusiness.org.

ACWORTH ADULT WINTER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The Acworth Adult Basketball League will offer two divisions: Competitive and Recreational. The Competitive Division will take place at the Acworth Community Center on Court 1 and the Recreational Division will take place on Court 2. Both divisions will run simultaneously with start times beginning in the early afternoon. The league will begin on Sunday, February 6, with a single-elimination tournament being held on Sunday, March 20. There will be no games on Sunday, February 13. The fee for this league is \$375 per team for both City residents and non-residents. Those without a team are invited to participate in a free agent day on Sunday, January 9 at the Acworth Community Center at 2:00 p.m. Free Agent registration is \$40 for both City residents and non-residents. Registration and additional information regarding schedules and guidelines are available at www.acworthparksandrecreation.org.

ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY DALE HOEFLINGER PRESIDENT

2021 was a demanding year for most of us and I am proud of the community in which we live. Acworth not only made it through, but we thrived! We moved forward, united and strong. Bread was broken at the same table, business doors were opened, friendships were strengthened and we pushed forward. Thank you Kim Wigington for a great year leading the Acworth Business Association.

In 2021, we have all had to figure out how to go from a dead stop and then return to full speed ahead. We started out with slow, hesitant steps, then we gained some confidence that the world was in fact beginning to show signs of normalcy. Momentum is an interesting thing...it can be difficult to gain, however once you start moving, even just a little, gaining momentum is much easier. The Acworth Business Association can help you Maximize Your Momentum in 2022!

One question I always ask..."How Connected Are You?" The ABA is a great way to meet new people, build friendships and develop relationships with business owners in our community. I would encourage everyone to attend all of our events for better exposure for your business. Get out of the office and enjoy an amazing lunch and inspirational words during our luncheon. Take the floor and let others know what makes a great referral to your business at our morning JOLT. Grab a drink with your fellow business owners and develop new friendships with our Alive After Five. Take the stage and share your success with our Women's Business Lunch.

I am honored and proud to help you Maximize Your Momentum and serve our community for 2022 as the Acworth Business Association President. See you soon!

Dale Hoeftinger



ABA UPCOMING EVENTS

ABA JAN AA5

Will be held Thursday, Jan 13, 5:30-7:30, at Center-Street Tavern. This restaurant is located at 4381 Center Street (formerly Senator Russell Ave) Acworth. Great food, great staff, great place to network and start the year off in a positive mood. RSVP www.acworthbusiness.org.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK

The ABA Women's Business Network will be held on January 20 at 11:30 am at the Broken Anchor Winery, 3335 Cobb Pkwy, Suite, 930 Acworth. Please RSBP at www.acworthbusiness.org.

ABA FEB LUNCHEON

Will be held on Thursday, February 3 at the Acworth Community Center. The luncheon begins at 11:30. The program is Mayor Tommy Allegeood and the State of the City. Be sure to RSVP at www.acworthbusiness.org.

KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY DANA DORRIS, PRESIDENT



During this season of reflection and preparation, I believe we can all agree that 2021 was a year of resiliency for the Kennesaw Business Association. Connecting face-to-face at our monthly luncheons, and networking events created opportunities to engage in growing our businesses and serving our community. It also gave us normalcy as we navigated our new normal.

In 2022, we are looking forward to providing our businesses many opportunities for business growth; to engage with other members, cultivate new relationships and ultimately grow your business. We believe by partnering with our members, we are creating a stronger community. It is our membership and generous sponsorships that allow us to collectively give back to our business community, schools, law enforcement, local government, and the citizens of our Kennesaw community.

The 2022 annual membership fee will remain the same at \$95.00 which gives you unlimited networking opportunities. I am pleased to announce that we have created packages with various levels of membership, including the addition of the KBA Golf Tournament.

If you have not yet visited our organization, please accept my personal invitation to join us at our next luncheon or at one of our many networking events. You can find a calendar of events and our membership opportunities listed on our website at kennesawbusiness.org.

In 2022, we will continue to navigate and grow together, and encourage and support one another. I am surrounded by an incredible board of directors who are equally enthusiastic about our business community in Kennesaw. I am honored to be your 2022 Kennesaw Business Association President.

Dana Dorris.

KBA UPCOMING EVENTS

KBA JAN LUNCHEON

JANUARY LUNCHEON will be held one week later than normal. Join us on Tuesday, January 18 at 11:30 at the state of the City of Kennesaw address delivered by Mayor Dereck Easterling. The meeting will be held at the newly dedicated Kennesaw Recreation Center, located at 2737 Watts Drive, Kennesaw. Come join us to see this beautiful new building. Ribbon Cutting: 10:30am. Please RSVP at kennesawbusiness.org.

KBA JAN AA5

Will be held Tuesday, Jan 18, 5:30-7:30 Quinton Austin, Chair, is still finalizing the location - please check the KennesawBusiness website at kennesawbusiness.org. RSVP www.kennesawbusiness.org.

This is a great event to network with other business owners and managers - bring your smile and your business cards.. Please RSVP at Kennesawbusiness.org

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CITY OF KENNESAW WON A T-MOBILE GRANT

The City of Kennesaw is proud to announce that they are one of 25 cities across the nation that has been awarded a T-Mobile Hometown Grant for improvements to the all-inclusive play area at Swift Cantrell Park.

The monies received will be used to purchase a We-Go-Swing which is a revolutionary step forward in inclusive play experiences. Designed to be integrated into the playground setting, this swing lets kids of all abilities play together and experience the thrill of swinging, thus opening up a whole new world of playground fun. This swing adds wheelchair accessibility to Swift Cantrell Park - everyone can swing!

The City of Kennesaw is excited to receive this Hometown Grant from T-Mobile in the amount of \$46,420.00. A big thank you to T-Mobile for selecting Kennesaw, GA as one of your Hometown Grants.

Pictured above with Mayor Derek Easterling are members of the T-Mobile team, along with members of the Swift Cantrell Foundation, including Steve Welsh and Ann Pratt, and Kennesaw Parks and Recreation director, Steve Roberts.

IRANIAN REFUGEE WHO ESCAPED DEATH SENTENCE IN IRAN TO SPEAK IN KENNESAW



North Cobb Christian School and NorthStar Church will co-host a free public event featuring international speaker Marziyeh Amirzadeh on Monday, January 10, 2021, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at NorthStar Church in Kennesaw. Amirzadeh, an Iranian-born Christian refugee and author of *Captive in Iran: A Remarkable True Story of Hope and Triumph amid the Horror of Tehran's Brutal Evin Prison*, will share the miraculous, jaw-dropping story of being arrested, persecuted and sentenced to death in Iran for her faith. Her story, entitled "Faith, Persecution and Triumph," is best suited to those 12 years old and older.

Admission is FREE and No RSVP is necessary. The public is welcome.

Immediately following her inspiring program, Amirzadeh will be available for autographs and photographs, and signed copies of *Captive in Iran* will be available for purchase.

NorthStar Church is located at 3413 Blue Springs Rd, Kennesaw, GA 30144. Event details can be found at bit.ly/nccsevent.

SAVE THE DATE

DEBUT OF THE NOONDAY SHANTY 5K/10K

The Town Center Community Alliance has announced the debut of the Noonday Shanty 5K/10K for those looking to make strides along Noonday Creek Trail. Participants will have the opportunity to compete with runners, walkers and families at the inaugural event on March 26, 2022.

Managed by Orion Racing, the Noonday Shanty 5K/10K will offer two race lengths and will be the first USA Track and Field-certified race to take place on the Noonday Creek Trail. Participants of all skill levels are welcome to join. To register, visit <https://www.towncentercid.com/alliance/noonday-shanty/>.

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SAVOY MUSEUM IN CARTERSVILLE IS OPEN

We are excited to announce that Savoy Automobile Museum is officially open to the public! With the help of dedicated and hard-working contractors, subcontractors, and employees, we are ready to roll out the red carpet for guests.

NOW ON DISPLAY

Great Hall

The American Racing Collection exhibits cars driven by Richard Petty, Dick Landy, Courtney Hizer, and Bobby Rahal. Don't forget to check out Mark Thompson's 2018 Ford NASCAR. Other exciting race cars on loan from private collections include: the 1969 Dodge Daytona, on loan from the Wellborne Musclegar Museum, Petty's 1970 Plymouth Superbird and Dick Landy's '71 Dodge Challenger Drag Car are on loan from the Todd Werner Collection.

Gallery A

Visit Gallery A to preview some classic American-made vehicles dating all the way back to the 1920s. Highlights of this gallery include the 1933 Pierce-Arrow Silver Arrow, on loan from the Richard H. Driehaus Collection, in Chicago and one of only five made. A second must see in the gallery is the 1930 Duesenberg Model J Convertible Sedan meticulously restored and on loan from the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum.

Gallery B

Station wagon woodies are the epitome of classic American family car. Step into Gallery B to explore some of the popular woodies that put thousands of American families on wheels! Before you leave the gallery be sure to notice the large art piece produced by Cube Works of the 1946 Mercury Woodie Wagon consisting of 903 Rubik Cubes.

Gallery C

Orphans is one exhibit you will not want to miss! This gallery highlights American-made vehicles from lesser known automotive companies. One vehicle visitors will want to see is the 1948 Tucker on loan from Howard Kroplich's private collection. Check out the rare Tucker and other forgotten vehicles in the Orphans exhibit.

Gallery D

Each vehicle included in the Savoy Collection has a significant story to share. A must-see in Gallery D is the 1954 Kaiser Darrin. This novelty car brings some serious attitude and drama with its pursed-lips grill and sliding Darrin doors. Get lost in the beauty.

Make it a family day - plan on lunch at the Savoy Cafe open Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 am. until 4:00 pm

Tickets are reasonable priced at \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for Youths 3-12. If you become a member of the Savoy Automobile Museum, then admission is complimentary. Memberships start at just \$55.00 and includes unlimited general admission for one year, 10% discount in the Savoy Store and Savoy Cafe, subscription to the Savoy Story member newsletter and monthly en-news. Visit www.savoymuseum.org to purchase tickets, a membership and to learn more about this new museum.

Savoy joins an exceptional group of museums that serve the communities of Georgia and the southeast, including Booth Western Art Museum, Bartow History Museum, and Tellus Science Museum, all programs of Georgia Museums, Inc.

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THOUGHTS FOR 2022

BY MARLON LONGACRE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR, PIEDMONT CHURCH

"We plan the way we want to live, but only God makes us able to live it." Proverbs 16:9

For the past week, I have done nothing but planning. I have been working on my goals, writing down my list of things to do and meetings that I must set up. Most of us right now are planning 2022. We all want to make an impact with our lives next year. It is biblical to plan. The bible teaches us in 1 Corinthians 14:33 that God is not a God of disorder. God plans so therefore we should as well.

One thing I have learned is to reach and achieve the goals that I have set for 2022 is that I need to do a self-evaluation of where I am right now. I must start with the basics. I must master the fundamentals.

The first fundamental is that I must be plugged into God. I am no expert on how to fix things. I do know that appliances work better when they are plugged in.

Jesus says in John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

If you want to bear much fruit and have a productive 2022 then get plugged into God.

The second fundamental is to read the word of God. The more you read the word of God, study it, memorize it and meditate on it, the more successful your 2022 is going to be.

The third fundamental is to get into a bible study. I have no idea what the challenges are going to be like in 2022. I know I do not want to face them all by myself. I still remember the words that Clint Eastwood said as the Preacher in the movie "Pale Rider." "A man alone is easy pickens."

That is why you need to a member of a church family and in a bible study. A Christian without a church family is an orphan.

I know going into 2022 that there is no way on earth that Angie and I can meet the deepest needs of our community without a church family. We cannot do it by ourselves. We need all of you. I know that I cannot be effective in anything without learning these fundamentals. I pray that you will get these basics down. I challenge you to start January by contacting Daniel Roberts at Daniel.roberts@piedmontchurch.tv to learn more about his Next Steps Class where he teaches you these fundamentals that you will need to make an impact in 2022.

Love Does for January is all about restocking the pantries of our Community Partners. January is where we have the Souper Bowl of Giving. I need you to bring soups and laundry detergent to the church. Below is a list of items that are needed in our food pantries.

PANTRY RESTOCK SHOPPING LIST

Canned SOUPS, Dry Black Beans, Pinto Beans, Rice, Flour Tortillas, Cans of Corn, Green Beans, Green Peas or Chickpeas. Peanut butter, Penne Pasta, Fettuccini, Alfredo Sauce, Tomato Sauce. Salt, Pepper, Cereal, Oats, Bottled Water, Juice, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels

I cannot wait to share with you the good news that your financial support for Love Does in December accomplished. I am so grateful to work for the most giving, serving, loving, and caring church in America.

I love all of you dearly and thank you for the way you love people! Marlon

PIEDMONT'S DECEMBER LOVE DOES



At left: Nate Galloway, Family Life Pastor at Piedmont Church, presents a check for \$10,000 to Marcy Stidum, KSU Care Services Director. This money was raised by the congregation at Piedmont in the first two weeks of December. KSU Care helps students struggling with homeless and food in security at Kennesaw State. This gift will help provide multiple students with a full mean plan for the upcoming semester.

The public may not be aware, but most of these students have graduated from the Foster Care Program, leaving them without a place to live and little money to survive.

KSU CARES mission is to provide access to food, temporary housing, and other supportive services to foster students' realization of a healthy, stable, and dignified life academically and professionally. To learn more about this program and how to help, visit <https://care.kennesaw.edu/>.

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Pictured are members of our military that received Christmas Care packages collected and filled by community volunteers along with the Think Melissa Team.

GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM A SUCCESS!

BY MELISSA KRUDWIG, THINK MELISSA REAL ESTATE

The love shown by our community certainly got us all into the Christmas spirit! I am so very humbled by everyone’s generosity.

With your help and donations, we were able to deliver toys and gift cards to the Georgia National Guard Christmas Assistance Program.

It was an amazing team effort and the results will be a blessing to our local military families.

I’m so very grateful for our returning donors and for our new ones. Georgia National Guard Christmas Assistance Program collects toys year round. If you would like to make a donation at any time during the year you can contact the National Guard directly or feel free to reach out to me.

If you dropped off donations (prior to the event) and I did not get to properly thank you, I apologize in advance.

All the Best, Melissa, Angie, Jessie and Kim - Think Melissa Team.

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THE GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

David and Jenny Dickerson, Dickerson Heating and Air www.dickersonhvac.com; Amy Wilemon and Carrie Powers, Wilpower Team; Silverton Mortgage www.yourhomeownershipteam.com/; David Perrie, Perrie & Associates <http://www.perrielaw.com/>; Susan Pryor, Atlanta Mortgage Specialists at Benchmark Mortgage <https://susanpryor.benchmark.us/>; Aqua-Tots <https://www.aqua-tots.com/kennesaw/>; Christine Perron, The School Box <https://www.schoolbox.com>; Christian Riceman, The Riceman Group <https://ricemaninsuranceagency.com>; Chris Moll; Mitchell Family; Amy Gibbs; Lea Tatum and Family; Joyce Lambard and Family; Emily Moore; Scott Hamilton; Andrea Meeks; Jim and Pat O’Connor; Austin Mitchell and the Georgia Tech Delta Chi Fraternity; Paul Floryanc, Cobb Fire; Kelsey Scott; The Pleinis Family



TASTE OF KENNESAW RECIPIENTS

At the December meeting of the Kennesaw Business Association, Michael Everhart, Chair of Taste of Kennesaw presented checks in the amount of \$2000 each to the following, Peter Jiles, Principal of Kell HS, (Shop with a Longhorn Program) David Bell, Vice Principal of NCHS, (Shop with a Warrior Program) KMHS students (Shop with a Mustang Program), Kennesaw Police Department (Jerry Worthan Christmas Fund) and Kennesaw Teen Center.

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

SNAPSHOT OF 2021

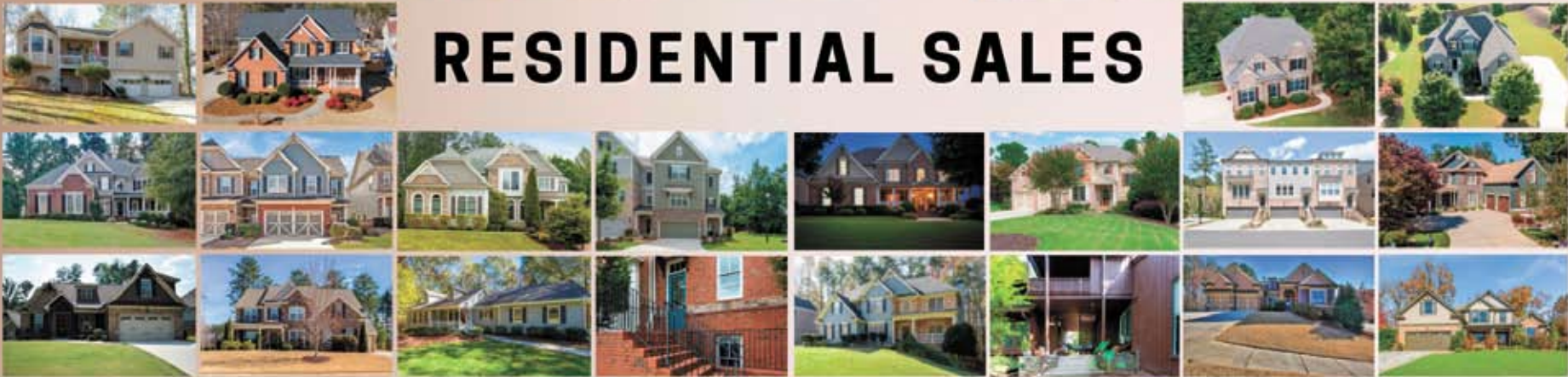
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HAVE AN AWESOME 2022

The staff at North Cobb Animal Hospital wishes everyone a Happy 2022. Be sure to take advantage of our new Wellness Vaccine Prices and Wellness Bloodwork. See our ad on page 13.

CONGRATULATIONS NCHS



Congratulations to these four young men who signed this letter of intent just before Christmas vacation. Sam Mbake Univ of Arkansas. Josh Joseph Univ of Tennessee. Andre Stewart Univ of Kentucky. Reggie Givhan UNC Charlotte. Standing behind these mighty warriors are Principal Matt Moody, Coach Shane Queen and Athletic Director Matt Williams

SHOP WITH A WARRIOR

On Saturday, December 11, 78 teams made up of North Cobb High School students participated in our 18th annual Shop with a Warrior. 56 little shoppers from Baker, Kennesaw, Acworth, and Big Shanty Elementary school went on a shopping spree with their NCHS teams. Each little shopper was able to choose gifts for themselves and other members of their families. They also visited with Santa and received a goody bag filled with a blanket and some yummy snacks. The other 22 NCHS teams shopped for items from Awtrey and Barber's Giving Trees

and for toys to be donated to Cobb Christmas.

Thank you to our sponsors and many volunteers that it takes to make this event possible.

24 NCHS STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR COUNTY HONOR BAND

North Cobb High School is thrilled to announce that we had a record 24 students qualify for County Honor Band this year. Thirteen of these honorees scored high enough to qualify for an All-State audition. Just Warriors doing great things! Congratulations to them and to their understandably proud Band Director, Sheldon Frazier.

NCHS NOMINATED TO STATE HONORS PROGRAM INTERVIEWS

The faculty and staff of North Cobb High School is proud to announce that we are one of the top 4 high schools in the county to earn nominations to the state-level in this year's Cobb County Governor's Honors Program Interviews! We want to thank our recommending teachers and the GHP department coordinators Sheryl Cox (CTAE), Holly Botella (Fine Arts), Suzanne Yeganegi (Math), Alex Yeganegi (ELA), Jen Johnson (Science), Tara Sisino and Carol Galloway (Social Studies), and Lorna Fair-Tham (World Language) for empowering our students to show their incredible abilities and passions to earn this honor. We are excited to see how many will be chosen for a state-wide interview and eventually earn a coveted spot at this summer's Governor's Honors Program in Rome, GA!

MARIETTA NEWS



THOMAS SHERRER, JR. NAMED 2021 MARIETTA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

On December 8, the Cobb Chamber named Thomas Sherrer, Jr., Co-owner and Pharmacist in Charge of Poole's Pharmacy, as the 2021 Marietta Citizen of the Year. The Citizen of the Year Awards are given to honor an individual whose impact through the years will be recognized and regarded with pride throughout the area as a role model. These outstanding citizens are chosen for their definable, exceptional deeds, with which he or she have made their community a better place to live. Awards are given based on local area nominations. The 2021 Marietta Citizen of the Year award was presented at the Marietta Area Council breakfast at the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel & Conference Center.

THOMAS SHERRER, JR. 2021 MARIETTA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Thomas Sherrer, Jr., Co-owner and Pharmacist in Charge of Poole's Pharmacy, has been a crucial fixture within the Marietta community for more than three decades. Prior to the pandemic, he provided flu vaccines at each of the Marietta City Schools (MCS) campuses so that the staff would have convenient access to the vaccine. He is a trusted and respected member of the Marietta community, but it is during the pandemic that his compassion and dedication to Marietta and the school system became incredibly clear.

As soon as the COVID-19 vaccine first became available, Sherrer called his customers, worked with their schedules, counseled hesitancy and came up with a system so no vaccine would be wasted. Through Poole's Pharmacy, Sherrer was ready and willing to ensure that all teachers and staff who were able and willing to get the vaccine were vaccinated as soon as feasible. Within days of educators being eligible, Sherrer and the Poole's staff were working with MCS to plan and implement vaccine clinics located at Marietta High School. What began as an initial clinic for MCS staff would soon become an ongoing partnership of MCS vaccine events for staff, students and members of the Marietta community.

When children 12 and older were able to get the vaccine, he was right back at it – helping parents with the decision and getting back to the schools to help administer the dose. In a time where it is vital to keep our community safe and educated about their options, Sherrer has done everything he can to make sure his fellow citizens are informed and vaccinated. Sherrer has consistently worked to support and ensure the health and wellness of his community, tirelessly dedicating himself to making Marietta a safer place for all.

Pictured above l-r: Marietta Mayor Steve Tumlin, CYO Tom Sherrer and John Loud, Chairman of the Cobb Chamber.

For more information about Area Councils, contact Katie Guice at kguice@cobbchamber.org or 770-859-2334. Thank you to Series Presenting Sponsor, Kaiser Permanente, and Program Sponsor, Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP.

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

Marietta Cobb Museum of Art is pleased to announce the first Opening Night Reception of 2022. On January 8, 2022, we will be opening two exhibitions: Something to Declare & Be Still: Examining Still Life in the MCMA Permanent Collection.

Something to Declare is a group exhibition featuring over twenty Latin-American artists from across the eastern United States. The exhibition aims to discuss and analyze some of the conditions and circumstances relevant to the artists' individual autonomy, what drives them to create, and their desire to proclaim in a collective setting that, "we are here." This exhibition also explores the concept that ideas, customs, and objects can travel between cultures, and identities are often layered.

Opening Night Receptions are free for members and \$10 for non-members and are held from 6 PM until 8 PM.. We offer a cash bar and light refreshments catered by Carriage House Catering. Tickets are sold at the door.

MARIETTA TREE KEEPERS PRESENT

"Tree Care for Adolescent Trees" on January 8, 2022 at Elizabeth Porter Park. RAINDATE: January 15, 2022. This will be an instructional training event for volunteers over 18 with a limited number of volunteers accepted. The volunteers will be trained on doing root collar excavation (by hand), mulching and structural pruning. This limited group of volunteers will then be named Marietta Tree Keeper VIP's. This group will then lead future volunteers in caring for adolescent Trees. Start time is 9:30am. Please call 770-424-4664 to pre-register as space is limited: please leave your name, phone number and age please. Tools and refreshments provided. Dress for outdoor weather.

BACKGROUND

Please join us as we do an instructional training for volunteers. Adults over 18 must call to pre-register with name, phone number and age. Register is limited. Dress for the weather. Tools and gloves included. Donuts, hot chocolate and hot coffee provided. In case of bad weather please call 770-424-4664 for weather updates and rescheduled date.

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MARIETTA NEWS



ROTARIANS LAUD LIFE-CHANGING WORK BY COURT PARTICIPANTS

Members of the Rotary Club of Marietta Metro hosted a pizza party for participants in Cobb's Drug Treatment Court and Mental Health Court programs. The Dec. 1 lunchtime gathering was held in the Debra Bernes Plaza adjacent to Cobb Superior Court and provided an opportunity for healthy socializing and recognition of the work put forth by court participants to improve their lives. (Photos are attached.)

Separately, just before Thanksgiving, participants in Drug Treatment Court celebrated sobriety at the Be Grateful Dinner. Staff of the accountability court program and its treatment provider, In Search of Wellness LLC, collaborated to host the dinner, which they intend to establish as an annual event. Attendees shared things they are thankful for, with family, health and sobriety at the forefront for many. One participant told Judge Kimberly Childs he was grateful that she had given him a second chance by sentencing him to drug court.



KOFC DONATES ULTRA-SOUND MACHINE

Six Knights of Columbus Councils collaborated to donate and dedicate an Ultra-sound machine to the Hope Center in Woodstock, Georgia.

Hope Center of Atlanta director, Cindy O'Leary, gratefully accepted the machine on behalf of the Hope Center with the promise that it will save the lives of mothers and the unborn. The initial plan is to use the new ultrasound machine on the Hope Center's mobile unit. Present at the dedication ceremony were: KofC-GA State Deputy, Jim Clifford, KofC Representatives of the six participating councils, Hope Center staff, clergy and KofC members and wives.

INAUGURAL GEORGIA FOOD + WINE FESTIVAL

A world-class culinary and beverage celebration will take place this spring in Marietta, March 24 - 27, 2022 at Jim R. Miller Park. The Georgia Food + Wine Festival will be a showcase of cuisine, beverage and culture that showcases Georgia celebrity chefs, local chefs, celebrity winemakers/vintners, artisans, farmers, local craft spirits and beers, along with renowned wine, spirits and beer brands from around the globe. The inaugural festival offers a wide variety of events for all tastebuds and budgets, with a variety of tasting events, master classes and more.

Two of the South's leading festival event management companies have combined forces to create and produce the Georgia Food + Wine Festival. JRM Management manages and produces fairs and festivals throughout Georgia and South Carolina, including the North Georgia State Fair, The Great Anderson County Fair, the Big Shanty Festival, Smyrna Jonquil Festival, Taste of Smyrna, Taste of Acworth, Taste of Kennesaw and numerous other events. The AdFish Group specializes in creating, marketing, and managing culinary festivals and events in the southeast, including the Savannah Food & Wine Festival, Whiskey, Wine & Wildlife on Jekyll Island, the St. Augustine Food + Wine Festival and the Hilton Head Island Seafood Festival. The festival has partnered with MUST Ministries, a Cobb County, Georgia based 501-(c)3 non-profit organization and will develop several fundraising opportunities to benefit its mission of caring for our neighbors with programs to provide income assistance, food, housing, and more.

The festival organizers look forward to bringing this top-tier culinary event to Cobb County. The Georgia Food + Wine Festival takes place at the centrally located Jim R. Miller Park, in Marietta, at 2245 Callaway Road, SW which is minutes from The Battery Atlanta and Truist Park, just off I-75 and Windy Hill Road.

The Georgia Food + Wine Festival will take place March 24 - 27, 2022 with culinary, wine, beer and spirit tasting experiences, with schedule events and talent subject to change. The most up to date festival information is available on the Georgia Food + Wine Festival <https://georgiafoodandwinefestival.com/> and the festival's social media channels: Facebook, Instagram. Please contact Jan Gourley, jan@adfishgroup.com or Kelly Smith, Kelly@adfishgroup.com for additional festival information, festival photography and assets.

GUEST EDITORIAL

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION ADJOURNS, COBB VOTING DISTRICTS CHANGE TO ACCOMMODATE POPULATION INCREASES

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE DEVAN SEABAUGH (R-MARIETTA)



During the first week of November, the Georgia General Assembly gavelled in for a special legislative session to update Georgia's legislative and congressional districts. We were called into session by Governor Brian Kemp to fulfill this constitutional duty, and the House and Senate met for most of November to redraw the maps for Georgia's state House, state Senate and 14 U.S. Congressional districts. My colleagues and I gave final passage to the new maps and adjourned this special session ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Every 10 years, following the U.S. Census, the process of redistricting begins all over the country. As the population in Georgia grows, the number of people in each district must be adjusted so that the population in each district is as close to equal as possible. This is accomplished by modifying the boundary lines of each district. In Georgia, the new resident population is 10,711,908, which is an increase of slightly more than a million people compared

to the 2010 statewide count of 9,687,653 residents. Due to this major population increase, Georgia's 14 congressional districts will adjust to include approximately 765,136 people per district. As for the Georgia General Assembly, the population increase requires each district in the 56-member state Senate to have close to 191,284 people, with the average district size of the 180-member state House being 59,511.

The House and Senate each have a redistricting committee, and these committees worked in conjunction with the nonpartisan Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office to redraw the district lines for each respective branch of government. Some of the redistricting committees' joint priorities were to comply with federal guidelines, preserve district cores and population centers, accommodate communities of interest and keep counties whole as much as possible. In-person and Zoom town hall meetings were held across the state to gather input from local residents, legislators and communities of interest. An online portal was also made available for residents to offer comments before and during the creation of the new maps.

Due to population increases mainly in north Georgia and population shifts from rural South Georgia towards the greater-Atlanta area, several districts had to be combined, and some districts were shifted to more populated areas. In Cobb County, the population increased by around 78,000 people in the last 10 years. Cobb County has officially become Georgia's third most populated county, and as such, the representation for our county will inevitably experience some adjustments. But, this increase in population also means our county will see greater representation at the state and federal levels. For instance, State Representatives Sharon Cooper (R-Marietta) and Matt Dollar (R-Marietta) of east Cobb were drawn into the same district due to redistricting requirements, resulting in an additional district along the Powers Ferry Road corridor. My district, along with State Representative Ginny Ehrhart's (R-Marietta) district, will be stretched north and northwest, making way for an open district in northwest Cobb County. Meanwhile, State Representative Ed Setzler's (R-Acworth) current district shifted southeast. These district shifts will result in two additional House districts for Cobb County starting with the 2022 election cycle.

My current district, House District 34, will stretch more into northwest Cobb County, and House District 34 will transfer its current portions north of Highway 41 and east of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield over to House Districts 35 and 37. My district will still include communities inside the City of Kennesaw, southwest of Highway 41 and west in the City of Marietta, including Lee's Crossing, Marietta High School, as well as communities down Cheatham Hill Road and Barrett Parkway.

There are other notable adjustments in our local legislative and congressional districts. Rep. Ehrhart's current district will shift to represent the most western parts of Cobb County. Rep. Ed Setzler will move from District 35 into District 22, which includes some of North Cobb (mainly east of Interstate 75) and a large portion of west Cherokee County. This leaves an open seat that now incorporates portions of the city of Acworth and Kennesaw, Kennesaw State University, Town Center CID and the Cobb International Airport. State Senator Lindsey Tippins' (R-Marietta) Senate District 37 still includes the cities of Acworth, Kennesaw and portions of Marietta; that district will also stretch north into southeast Bartow County to include the city of Emerson. Cobb County will gain another congressional representative from District 14, which is currently held by U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene; this district shall cover the cities of Austell and Powder Springs and portions of west Cobb County (mainly between Highway 120 and Macland Road). U.S. Rep. Barry Loudermilk of District 11 will continue to represent the Cobb County cities of Acworth, Kennesaw, Marietta and Smyrna.

I appreciate the efforts of the House Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Committee, along with my other House and Senate colleagues, for their tireless commitment to this redistricting process. With the increase in population over the past decade and the vast population shifts we have experienced out of rural Georgia and into the greater Atlanta area, including Cobb County, I am confident the district changes in Cobb County best represent the residents we currently have and will serve our county well over the next decade.

The updated legislative and congressional district maps, which include the Cobb County areas, are located on the nonpartisan Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office's website under the "Proposed Plans" section here.

Representative Devan Seabaugh represents the citizens of District 34, which includes portions of Cobb County. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 2021 and currently serves on the Code Revision, Creative Arts & Entertainment and Transportation committees.

GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP SIGNED NEW MAPS IN TO LAW ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp has signed new maps for Georgia's congressional delegation, state Senate and state House into law.

The new districts are designed to increase the number of Republicans in Georgia's 14-member congressional delegation from eight to nine.

The state Senate map is projected to keep 33 of the Senate's 56 seats in GOP hands. Meanwhile, the House map is projected to keep 98 of 180 in Republican control.

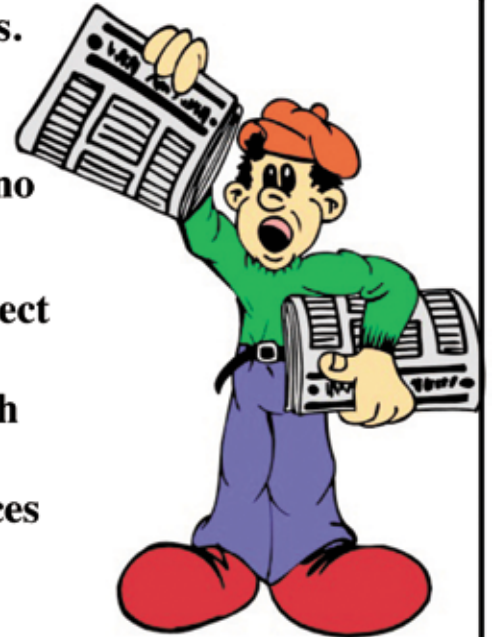
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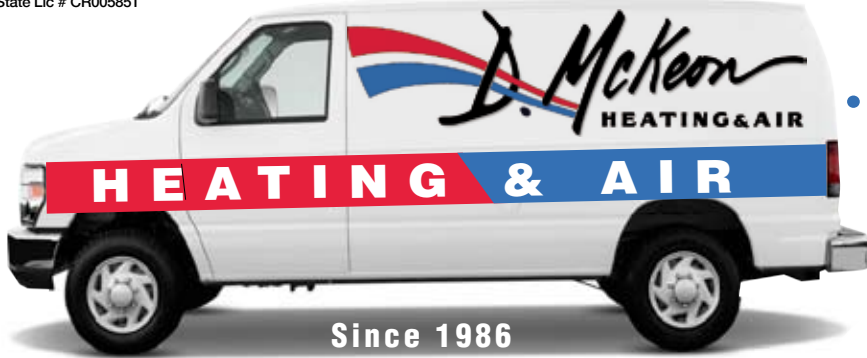
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