

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

Volume 31 No 2

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

FEB 2022



## 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@adfshgroup.com](mailto:jan@adfshgroup.com) or Kelly Smith, [kelly@adfshgroup.com](mailto:kelly@adfshgroup.com) for additional festival information, festival photography and assets.

## SCHOOL CHOICE TRANSFERS

Parents/guardians of a student zoned to attend a District school may apply for an HB 251 transfer in accordance with Georgia's Quality Basic Education Act and District Administrative Rule JBCD-R in order to pursue a transfer to another District school.

Available space at a school is based on permanent classroom space. In the event that the number of transfer requests exceeds the available capacity of a school, the District will conduct a random lottery.

The application window for the 2022-2023 school year is open from February 1, 2022, through February 28, 2022. For more information about this program, including instructions on how to apply, please visit our Student Transfer page. (<https://www.cobbk12.org/page/8755/school-choice-transfers>).



Photo by Amber Roland, Editor-In-Chief, NCHS "The Chant"

## CITY OF KENNESAW KICKS OFF A BIGGER, BETTER, BRIGHTER YEAR WITH RIBBON CUTTING AND KBA LUNCHEON

Tuesday, January 18, 2022, marked a historical day for the town of Kennesaw. City officials, law enforcers, educators, business owners and numerous community members united to celebrate the reveal and ribbon-cutting ceremony of Kennesaw's new, highly anticipated Recreational center. Located in the heart of downtown Kennesaw at Adams Park, the beautiful facility came to fruition thanks to revenue from the approved 2016 Special-Purpose Local-Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) dollars. This 1% tax increase allows city officials to pour money back into their beloved city, allowing it to reap the rewards generated by SPLOST dollars.

Mayor Derek Easterling invited city officials from years past to participate in this celebration. Pictured above, with Mayor Easterling, are former councilman Tim Killingsworth and Jack Roland along with Dr. Cris Welsh. Also pictured are present council members: Tracey Viars, Pat Ferris, Antonio Brown and Dr. Jim Eaton. Be sure to visit this new facility - it is amazing



## KENNESAW TO HOST VALENTINE'S DANCE PARTY LUAU IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

Spend the evening with your big and little tikis experiencing the sights and sounds of the beach at Kennesaw Parks & Recreation's Valentine's Dance at the Ben Robertson Community Center, located at 2753 Watts Drive in Kennesaw, on Saturday, February 5 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Join us for a Totally Tiki Luau. The Ben Robertson Community Center's Banquet Hall will be transformed into a colorful and tropical luau dance party. This family-friendly event will feature an "all-you-can-eat" dinner and dessert bar, plenty of memorable photo opportunities and tunes spun by a professional DJ.

All adults must be accompanied by a child, and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Seating will be open; however, tables will be reserved for parties of six or more. Tickets are only \$15 per person and can be purchased online at <https://secure.rec1.com/GA/kennesaw-ga/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTE4NjI3MTY> or at the Ben Robertson Community Center. Advance purchase is required.

For more information, visit [www.kennesawparksandrec.org](http://www.kennesawparksandrec.org) or call Kennesaw Parks & Recreation at (770) 422-9714.

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## THIS AND THAT

### CONGRATULATIONS



### CHARLOTTE SMITH

BY NOELLE SMITH,  
BROOKWOODCHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Charlotte began attending Brookwood  
Christian School in the 6th grade. She was  
barely reading at a 1st grade level and had no  
confidence in herself. The teachers provided  
intensive Wilson Reading instruction and by  
the time Charlotte graduated, she was reading  
on level.

BCS also provided extensive college prep  
instruction in Math, Science, and History.  
Charlotte excelled and gained confidence due  
to the instruction the teachers were giving  
her.

While at BCS, Charlotte began dual  
enrollment attending Chattahoochee Technical  
College. Again, she excelled and once she  
received her Associates in Computer and  
Electrical Engineering, she enrolled at  
Kennesaw State University.

Charlotte recently graduated Cum  
Laude from KSU with her BS in Electrical  
Engineering Technology and is preparing to  
take the FE and PE tests to join the workforce  
as an engineer.

Without the care of the teachers and the  
focus on teaching her to read at BCS, Charlotte  
would have been lost in the public school  
system. BCS brought forth her Engineer and  
promoted her confidence and realization that  
she can achieve anything she wishes.



### FEBRUARY HOG HONOREE JESSE SANDOVAL

The February Hog Honoree Dinner will  
be held Tuesday, Feb 8, 2022 6:30-8:00 pm  
at NorthStar Church. Our honoree is Jesse  
Sandoval with Acworth's Mayor, Tommy  
Allegood as the guest speaker.

Jesse is a City of Acworth Power  
Department employee for more than 15 years.  
He is a 35-year-old husband, father of two  
girls, and provider for his family. In June of  
2021 Jesse's 9-year-old daughter, Nieva, was  
diagnosed with bone cancer in her left leg.  
Research on how to stop her cancer started  
right away, and by July she was admitted for  
an experimental surgery to replace her tibia.  
The surgery was successful, and now Nieva  
must go through chemotherapy and regular  
procedures to "grow" her prosthetic bone. In  
August 2021, Jesse's wife, Diana, gave birth  
to their second child. After baby Raya's birth,  
and due to complications from a previous  
diagnosis with cancer, Diana started going  
into kidney failure. After being admitted to  
the hospital, Diana checked herself out and  
delayed treatment to be available for her  
daughters. The family has continued to go  
through serious health issues.

You have the chance to be a serious  
blessing to him during a time when his family  
needs it most. Being a part of this can change  
your life.

More information and register at  
eventbrite.com (search for jesus sandoval  
dinner) .

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### ANDREW BRAMLETT'S RESIDENTS OF THE KENNESAW CEMETERY

#### LUTHER CHALKER

Luther Chalker  
was born March  
17, 1888, near  
where Kennesaw  
State University is  
today. His family  
were farmers and he  
originally attended  
school in a two-room  
building in Kennesaw. He was one of the  
few in his family that was able to further his  
education as he attended the Macland School  
of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts that was  
located roughly where McEachern High  
School is located today.



Chalker married Bertha Gilham on  
December 25, 1918. He was a teacher and  
farmer in his early years and later became  
the cashier for the Kennesaw State Bank. In  
1920 he donated property on Shiloh Road for  
a school that was known as Chalker School.  
He was a teacher there for a time in addition  
to teaching at a few other one-room schools  
nearby. The Chalker School building is still  
standing and is a part of the Wildwood Baptist  
Church.

Chalker believed in helping other  
members of the community and he decided  
to enter politics. He served as mayor of  
Kennesaw from 1931 to 1945. Some of his  
accomplishments while in office were helping  
to raise money to replace the Kennesaw  
Elementary School building after it burned in  
1938 and he was involved with the purchase  
of the land that became Adams Park.

In 1934 and again in 1948, Chalker  
purchased plots of land that had been used for  
burials that were next to the cemetery. These  
plots were later both deeded to the city to be  
added to the cemetery and are located near  
the gazebo. Today, this land is known as the  
Chalker section.

Because of his focus on helping the  
community, Chalker Elementary School was  
named in his honor when it opened in 1997.

Luther Chalker died on December 30,  
1975.

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## DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF KEEPING BUSINESS LOCAL

### KBA BUSINESS EXPO SLATED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

From painting services to money markets, from insurance to local eateries, the new Kennesaw Recreation Center at Adams Park, located at 2737 Watts Drive, will be full of Cobb County businesses at the Kennesaw Business Association Business Expo on Tuesday, February 15. The event will be held from 4 p.m., to 7:30 p.m.

"The business expo is a great way to support local businesses that give back to the very community we live in," commented Dana Dorris, President of the Kennesaw Business Association. "Through support of the local businesses KBA has been delighted to give thousands of dollars back to local schools and this is just one of the opportunities they have to share their business with the community."

The Business Expo is a free event and provides visitors a unique opportunity to meet some of the local business leaders in a comfortable setting and is looked at as a way busy professionals can achieve greater productivity and efficiency while growing their potential customer base.

Visitors will find lots of free give-a-ways and coupons as Cobb businesses show off new products, deals and upcoming releases of future products or promotions.

Light hors d'oeuvres and admission to the expo is free. If your business would like a booth the price is \$75 for KBA members and \$170 for non Members (this fee includes a membership in KBA for 2022. For information on the event or to become an exhibitor, please contact JRM Management Services, at 770.423.1330, or visit the KBA website, at kennesawbusiness.org. You can also email Laura at Laura@jrmmanagement.com.

Pictured above: 2022 KBA President, Dana Dorris invites our community to the KBA Business Expo which will be held at the Kennesaw Recreation Center, 2737 Watts Drive, Kennesaw. **PHOTO BY Red Baryl Portraits**



## WELCOME TO THE KENNESAW RECREATION CENTER

On behalf of the Kennesaw Parks and Recreation Department, we would like to welcome each and every one of you to our brand new Kennesaw Recreation Center at Adams Park. Many of you we have had the pleasure of meeting and for those of you that have not been able to make it to our new facility, we hope to see you soon! We are located at 2737 Watts Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

Below is a brief run down of our current programs, all of which currently has registration available! Spots are limited and are filling up fast! The Recreation Center is open Monday-Saturday: 7:00 am till 9:00 pm. Visit [www.kennesawparksandrec.org](http://www.kennesawparksandrec.org) for more information.

If anyone has any questions please call the Kennesaw Recreation Center at 678-385-0165 or our administration office at 770-422-9714.

### OPEN GYM HOURS

**Toddler Tuesdays** - Want to get your toddler more active? Check out Toddler Tuesdays where your child can experience open play with others their age with age appropriate equipment! Toddler Tuesdays are available to children ages 1-5 and caregivers only.

**Basketball:** Monday- Saturday, 7 AM- 9 AM; Monday- Saturday, 3 PM- 9 PM; Wednesdays & Fridays (Court 1), 7 AM- 9 PM

**Pickleball:** Monday- Saturday, 7 AM- 2 PM

Wednesdays & Fridays (Courts 2 & 3), 7 AM- 9 PM

**Volleyball:** Open Play Volleyball is available to all! Please call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a court.

**Badminton:** Please call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a court.

### COMMUNITY CLASSES

A wide variety of classes are offered for all ages, ranging from the arts, to exercise, to sports. Check out the offerings at [www.kennesawparksandrec.org](http://www.kennesawparksandrec.org), click on community classes in the left hand menu for more information.

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## THIS 'N THAT

### COBB GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 pm. a presentation on postcard collecting and how it can be helpful to genealogists. Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., will be the speaker for this virtual presentation which will address the history of postcards and how you can possibly document your family history by using them. Join us via zoom for this free presentation at 7 P.M. on February 22. This presentation is open to everyone. Registration is required. To find out more about CCGS and their upcoming programs, or to register for this free program, visit the society's website: [www.cobbgagensoc.org](http://www.cobbgagensoc.org).

### BOOTH SPACE AVAILABLE

"Mama G" Beauty Salon, 3055 N. Main Street, Kennesaw, Georgia 30144, has Booth Rentals available to Licensed Cosmetologists. Call Connie JOHNSON @ 404-932-0665 or email [lcrd98@bellsouth.net](mailto:lcrd98@bellsouth.net).

### 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 is open through February 26, 2022. In addition to our featured exhibit, we have original art, prints, notecards, glass, pottery, jewelry, fabric work...created by our Member Artists also available! As always, we offer a broad variety of art styles and mediums. All Artwork is for sale!

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/](http://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.

### THIS N THAT ADS

**\$15 FOR 50 WORDS,  
\$25 FOR 100 WORDS.**

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### SERIOUS COMEDY THRILLER COMING TO ACWORTH

ACTworth Arts Theatre, has the cast and will present a "serious comedy thriller" - "Seven Keys to Baldpate Inn"! Author Paul Thain adapted the original script by George M Cohan.

It is dark, storm night at a mountain top lodge....closed for winter! Enter several characters each saying "I have the only key to Baldpate Inn". The plot weaves around a bet to write a novel in 24 hours - political intrigue, involving bribery, blackmail AND a missing \$1 million. Directed by Suzzune Husting

Rehearsals have started! The cast is from all over north Georgia. The dates are the last weekend in March and first weekend in April (no Sunday in April) Tickets soon to be available. Check [www.Acworthculturalarts.org](http://www.Acworthculturalarts.org) for tickets soon

Acworth Cultural Arts exists as a facilitator for art and culture in public places and gives a city a unique identity, a sense of pride, making it more of an attraction for investments and economic endeavors. Arts in our everyday lives make us appreciate ourselves as a community and enriches us culturally either as an observer or actor in the art form.

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### LEARN TO LISTEN TO YOUR INNER VOICE

On Sunday, February 27, 2022 beginning at 4pm OAK Sanctuary will host Listen to Your Inner Voice. We all have the ability to use our inner voice or intuition for guidance. This event will help you grow and strengthen your intuition. How does your intuition speak to you? What are the signals that your body gives when it wants to give you a message? Do you listen to that feeling in your stomach? We will explore some activities to help you to start learning how to trust your inner guidance. With practice, every one can access another way of receiving information and learn to trust their inner voice. Please bring a journal for recording your experiences.

For more information or to purchase a ticket, please visit [www.theoaksanctuary.com](http://www.theoaksanctuary.com) under the Events tab or call 404-903-4104. The cost is \$20 and class will be held in-person at OAK Sanctuary, 4989 North Main Street, Suite 104, Acworth, GA 30101.

### 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/>.

### 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](http://www.theoaksanctuary.com) under the Consultations tab or call 404-903-4104.

### BORN AGAIN BLESSINGS CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Children's and maternity clothes, shoes, toys, nursery items, baby equipment, furniture and more! Friday March 25, 9am-7pm. Saturday March 26, 9am-noon. Preview sale: Thursday open to workers and sellers only. First time moms can sign up for early shopping privileges. Riverstone church, 2005 Stilesboro rd. Nw, Kennesaw, Ga 30152. More info: [www.bornagainblessings.com](http://www.bornagainblessings.com)

### 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





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**MARCH 24 - 27, 2022  
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The Georgia Food + Wine Festival celebrates the best of Georgia and the South, from its culinary superstars and beverage experts to its farmers, artisans, live musicians and more.

A variety of events for all taste buds starting with Cobb Life Magazine's "Best of Cobb" event and including a weekend of "Classes from Georgia's Masters" and the legendary barbecue event, "Fired-Up" an all-inclusive, food and drink tasting event. Saturday's main event, "Savor" offers hundreds of unlimited beer, wine and spirits tastings, a Georgia Celebrity Chef Stage, VIP Lounge, artisans, and live music. "Sunday/Funday" is the budget friendly and family-friendly day, with Kids Zone, VIP Lounge Oyster Roast, live music and more. Savor the Flavors!

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## THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

We welcome February and celebrate Black History Month in the City of Acworth. Our hope is that you and your family will take the time to visit Acworth's rich African American history and experience the culture that makes our city special. For Instance ...did you know that the building the Art House is in is believed to be the site of the first African American owned business in the city? Now home to the Acworth Arts Alliance, Acworth is proud to have this historic building preserved while serving a new purpose in bringing the Arts to Acworth. Right across Cherokee Street, Doyal Hill Park commemorates Acworth's first African American Alderman. Nestled within this park is the Rosenwald School Community Center built in the 1920's during segregation in the south. This historic school is one of just a few of these schools left in the entire country. Don't forget, the Depot History Center on Main Street serves as a wonderful resource for learning more about Acworth's heritage. Be sure to stop by next time you're downtown to listen to the oral history series that the Save Acworth History Foundation has worked so hard to create for citizens and visitors alike.



Now that we're in the middle of winter, let's take a moment to thank all the men and women on the Acworth Power and Public Works team who keep our city going during winter storms and icy weather. This team is the first to put their boots on while the rest of us are hunkering down at home. From the linemen taking care of fallen trees and downed power lines, to the sanitation team being out before the sun comes up to keep our neighborhoods clean, we appreciate you! This winter season, make sure you have your emergency kits prepared, and be sure to follow Acworth Power and Public Works on Facebook for the most up to date tips, information, and service updates.

As always, for more information on any city projects you can visit [www.acworth.org](http://www.acworth.org), God Bless, Tommy Allegood

## EVENTS

*For the latest updates on changes to our events and programs, please monitor our website at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org) or follow us on Facebook @acworthparksandrec*

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS GEORGIA POLAR PLUNGE

Special Olympics Georgia is proud to present the 13th Annual Polar Plunge which will be held on Saturday, February 19th at Cauble Park in Acworth, Georgia, and the plunging will occur between 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. The Polar Plunge is one of Special Olympics Georgia "coolest" and largest fundraising events through the efforts of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Program (LETR). All proceeds raised go to help provide 26,620 Special Olympics Georgia athletes free year-round sports training. For more information and to register, visit [polarplungega.org](http://polarplungega.org).

### ACWORTH FAMILY DANCE PARTY

The Inaugural Acworth Family Dance Party will be on Saturday, March 12 at the Acworth Community Center in TCO. The 2022 theme will be Disco! The purpose of this event is to expand on our Daddy Daughter Dance and provide all types of families in our community with a fun dance event. We will be hosting our Daddy Daughter Date Night in June to provide a special night for father figures and daughters to spend together closer to Father's Day each year. Register online at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### ACWORTH SPRING PRESCHOOL SPORTS CAMP

Preschool Sports Camp is a non-competitive program to help three and four year-olds develop basic skills for sports programs in the future. The program gives children a chance to explore a variety of different sports all in one program such as soccer, T-ball, and basketball. Spring camp is held every Tuesday and Thursday starting Tuesday, April 12 and running through Thursday, May 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. at the Horizon Field. Registration is \$50 for City of Acworth residents and \$65 for non-residents. The deadline to register for this program is March 26. Registration and additional information is available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

### ART EXPLOSION WINTER BREAK CAMP

It's time to get those creative juices flowing! Our Art Explosion Camp has a full week of non-stop art projects and activities. Throughout this fun week of camp, we will work with different art styles like fabrics and dyes, watercolors, paper making, paint, clay and more! Prepare to roll up your sleeves and create your next masterpiece. Campers are encouraged to dress in clothing ready to get painted, stained and splattered! Camp will take place Monday through Friday, February 21-February 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Campers may be dropped off no earlier than 7:45 a.m. and picked up no later than 5:30 p.m. This camp is open to children ages 6-13. The cost of this camp is \$115 for City of Acworth residents and \$140 for non-residents. Registration and additional information are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

### HORIZON SPRING 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, March 23.

Two leagues: Youth & Teen League: Saturday, April 16 - Saturday, May 21; Adult League: Thursday, April 14 - Thursday, May 19 (evenings) Held at Acworth Sports Complex- Horizon Field, 4000 S. Main Street, Acworth, Ga 30101

League Cost: \$15 per player; Late Registration: After March 23 League Cost \$25; Register before March 23 to guarantee your jersey size.



PAGE 7 BRIGHT SIDE 22 FEB NC  
ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
BY DALE HOEFLINGER PRESIDENT  
MAXIMIZE YOUR MOMENTUM

Are you in a place where you want to Maximize Your Momentum but you just aren't sure what to do next? This is where our community and the Acworth Business Association can help. The first step is to be willing to step out of your comfort zone and into the uncomfortable. Instead of just attending a luncheon to listen to a speaker, try sitting at a table where you don't know anyone and introducing yourself. When you come to the morning JOLT or Alive After Five, leave your phone in your pocket and talk to one or two people; be curious about what it is they do and how you can help their business.

If all that is uncomfortable to you, ask for help! Get connected! Ask another ABA member to introduce you to a few people in the room. This community is full of love; and the people here are eager to help you feel the love. Quite often, the antidote to uncomfortable is a connection and The Acworth Business Association is the right place for you. New things are always easier when we do them with friends.

My challenge to you is this: this month do one thing that is uncomfortable. You just might find it to be the very thing you need to move forward. Maximize Your Momentum Acworth!



ABA UPCOMING EVENTS

ABA FEB AA5

Will be held Thursday, FEB 10, 5:30-7:30, at The Cowan. 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](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK

The ABA Women's Business Network will be held on February 17 at 11:30 am at the Cedars, 4610 Northside Dr. Acworth. Catered by Adriane's Delectables. Please RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

ABA MAR LUNCHEON

Will be held on Thursday, MARCH 3 at the Acworth Community Center. The luncheon begins at 11:30. Be sure to RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY DANA DORRIS, PRESIDENT



Great leadership is timeless and always a popular topic amongst business leaders. We all search for the qualities of the best leadership principles that will withstand the test of time. In reflecting on those who possess the best leadership qualities, perhaps there is no greater analogy than that of the shepherd protecting his sheep. The epitome of servant leadership. The shepherd characterizes the traits, attributes and perspectives of leadership and provides the approach that will take us all to the next level

CHARACTERISTICS OF TIMELESS LEADERSHIP.

1. Vision and Strategy – True leaders have a clear vision for the future and move towards it
2. Character – An effective leader must be a worthy model to follow
3. Trust and Relationship - A leader needs to cultivate a deep sense of trust within those they lead.
4. Investment in Others – Leaders provide for the needs of others and are willing to experience personal sacrifice for the benefit of their followers.

It is our responsibility as leaders to lead well and to help others grow, develop their best self, and send them out to foster change. This is how we create a bigger purpose, better business, and a brighter future.

Local Business owners and managers are invited to attend one of KBA's monthly luncheons or AA5's to learn more about our organization and how we can be a benefit to you and your business. Visit [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org) for more information.

TUES FEB 8: KBA FEB Luncheon 11:30-1:00 will be held at the Kennesaw Rec Ctr on Watts Drive, Kennesaw. Speaker is Brian Dodd. Catered by Copeland's. Please RSVP at [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org).

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Kaiser Permanente Medicare specialist

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[Joseph.W.Mayes@kp.org](mailto:Joseph.W.Mayes@kp.org)

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## KENNESAW'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

BY AMBER ROLAND, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, NCHS "THE CHANT"

This year, the KBA seized the opportunity to host their annual State of the City Address in Kennesaw's newest event space. Two of the recreational center's three basketball courts quickly transformed into a prestigious event space as protective flooring covered the gym floors and round tables adorned with white linen filled the room.

Kennesaw's 2022 State of the City Address constituted the 7th consecutive year where Easterling fulfilled his mayoral duties by delivering a keynote speech. This year, the mayor wanted his address to stand out from previous years. Epitomizing the meaning of the common phrase "a man of many hats", Easterling dabbles in the art of woodworking and complimented his 2022 address with his handcrafted blocks that boasted letters that spelled out Easterling's 2022 goals for Kennesaw when rearranged on multiple occasions.

As he dove into the verbal portion of his address, Easterling acknowledged the trials and tribulations the city of Kennesaw endured over the past year as America coped with the imposed by COVID-19. Despite the inevitable challenges Kennesaw faced over the past year, Mayor Easterling detailed the success Kennesaw cultivated amid an ongoing pandemic. Speaking highly of the continued dedication of Kennesaw locals Mayor Easterling repeatedly emphasized the importance and impact of relationships throughout the Kennesaw community.

"Kennesaw we know who we are and we stand with each other. We love our country and our community, we believe in God and we know where we want: life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and a safe place to raise our families," Easterling said.

Easterling's natural leadership, confidence and outgoing personality engaged his audience as he detailed the future of Kennesaw. Featured on three of his wooden blocks, Easterling focused on his "big three" aspirations for Kennesaw: business development, sustained relationships and an economic development strategy. Easterling believes that with the dedication that runs deep in Kennesaw, following these three steps will create a successful 2022 and establish innumerable benefits for the future generations of Kennesaw. After rearranging his blocks a final time to spell out the word 'success' Easterling left his audience with a piece of scripture to ponder, encouraging them to abandon fear and conquer timidity through courage and power. As the mayor left the stage to a standing ovation, the sound of applause stood as a measurable testament to the bright future Kennesaw will cultivate.

PICTURED above Kennesaw's Mayor, Derek Easterling delivers his keynote speech. PHOTO BY Red Baryl Portraits

## GA. JUNKIES SPRING VINTAGE MARKET

Addicted to rusty, retro, and funky junk! Join the GA Junkies 41 for our semi-annual event! Join us Friday, Sat and Sunday, March 18, 19, and 20 as we host Cartersville's largest spring a vendor markets! Georgia Junkies 41 is a semi-annual shopping extravaganza!

Our vendor fair has 100+ booths available for selling everything rusty, shabby, industrial to farmhouse chic! Expect to see unique handcrafted clothing, jewelry, recycled goods, furniture, home decor, timeless treasures and lots of junk! Shopping extravaganza! Shop 100 booths selling everything rusty, shabby, industrial to farmhouse chic! Expect to see unique handcrafted clothing, jewelry, recycled goods, furniture, home decor, holiday, timeless treasures and lots of junk!

Visit them, follow them, like them, love them, become a vendor with them. GAjunkies41@gmail.com, www.georgiajunkies41.com and they are on FB at gajunkies41.

Kids under 12 are free. Tickets are \$10 for the Early Bird/Weekend Pass, \$5.00 for each weekend Day. Plan to join us on March 18 from 3-7 (Earlybird), March 19 from 10-6 \$5.00, Mar 20, from 11-5 \$5.00, at the Bartow County Saddle Club, 43 Saddle Club Drive, Cartersville, GA, 30120.

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### CONGRATULATIONS JOHN PATRICK EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO OUR ECOSYSTEM

John Patrick "JP" successfully completed his Eagle Board of Review on November 3, 2021, and this weekend we celebrated JP's earning the highest achievement in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America, the Eagle Scout award at his Eagle Court of honor. Also wanted to share with you that his Eagle Scout service project was very unique and the board recommended JP to apply for the Adams Award that annually recognizes one Eagle Project for the for the Atlanta Area Council.

A little about JP's Eagle service project: JP planned, lead, built, and deployed 10 fish attracters known as GA cubes in Lake Allatoona on Saturday July 10th with the help of a couple Biologists from the Georgia DNR Wildlife, Boy Scout leaders, boy scouts and parents. JP wanted a project that will have a meaning for our ecosystem. Since we live in Acworth with Lake Allatoona nearby and this lake been one of the lakes that his Troop 2096 enjoyed the most for camps and adventures, it made sense for him to find a project that will help the lake. The GA Cubes are a type of artificial fisher attractors developed and designed by one of their Biologists, Mr. Hakala. These GA Cubes have been adopted by other states wildlife agencies for use across the U.S.



### DANSBY SWANSON TO SPEAK AT FEBRUARY CHAMBER BREAKFAST



The Cobb Chamber will host Dansby Swanson at its February Marquee Monday breakfast, presented by Superior Plumbing, on February 14 at the Coca-Cola Roxy Theatre. Swanson will sit down with parents Nancy and Cooter Swanson, brother Chase and sister Lindsey to discuss his journey from high school baseball to his current success in the majors.

Swanson is an American professional baseball shortstop who grew up in Marietta and attended Marietta High School. Both his father and brother played college baseball, his mother played college basketball and tennis, and his sister was a softball player. Swanson went on to play college baseball at Vanderbilt University before playing professionally.

In addition to the fireside chat, the February program will kick-off the Chamber's annual membership campaign. Registration is now open through February 9 for the February Marquee Monday. Tickets are \$35 for Cobb Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Attendees may register for the event at <https://bit.ly/3ImGR11>.

Doors open at 8 a.m. and the program begins promptly at 8:45 a.m. Parking is available at The Battery Red Deck for free up to three hours. For further parking options, please refer to the Battery Atlanta Parking Guide. A security screening will be required at check-in.

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## TO LIVE WITHOUT GOD IS INSANE

MARLON LONGACRE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR, PIEDMONT CHURCH

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **Luke 15:17-18**

For years I used to do the breakout bible session for JobSeekers. Jobseekers was a networking ministry that helped people who lost their jobs find new ones. Every week before I would speak, someone would share a testimony about their journey from losing a job to finding a new one. How God guided them through it.

Every testimony started out with **Proverbs 14:12** "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end, it leads to death." Then the message would end with **Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

The point is that it is hard to maintain a lifestyle that is not sustainable and fulfilling.

"When he came to his senses the prodigal son realized that to live without God is insane and does not make sense. It is not rational or logical to live a life without the Creator. When he came to his senses he said, 'I have sinned against God and you.'

One leadership lesson that Ike has drilled in my head is "To the extent that you cover God will uncover but what you uncover God will cover." Just own up and admit you did wrong and let God cover you with his grace.

**James 4:6** "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." You are never more at war with God than when you are too proud to admit you are wrong. It is a battle that you can not win.

I lost! I remember when I came to my senses. I remember when I came to the realization that my plan was not working. I remember the stench of how I smelled from being in the pig pen because of my bad choices. I remember coming back home to church. I remember the lessons that I learned that Sunday. I learned that being in church was the right place and no matter how far away I went from God it was only one step back. I found a God who loved me and that He still had Plan A for my life.

You are as close to God as you want to be. Own up and come back home to Piedmont. Surround yourself with a church family that loves you. Take advantage of the Next Steps Class that Daniel Roberts teaches. For those of us that remember what the smell of the pig pen smells like, we need to do what Ike has been preaching about the past few weeks. Let's share with others about how we experienced God's amazing grace. How we have been blessed to bless others.

I cannot thank all of you enough for all the items you have brought in to help restock the pantries of our community front line partners. We have one more Sunday to bring in those items. I will re-share the items needed on Wednesday and Friday's EPIC. On Thursday because of your financial support, we will be going out and purchasing even more items for the pantries. I cannot wait to take these fresh supplies to those on the front lines.

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

Marlon



## JANUARY'S LOVE DOES

January's Love Does project has been all about restocking pantries. Piedmont partnered with 11 front line ministries in our community. What motivated this project so much was when Angie Bolton took some extra Love Does Groceries Bags to Green Acres Elementary, a title 1 school that performed at Christmas at Piedmont. She took the bags over to the school and found that their food pantry was completely empty. Piedmont contacted Green Acres and other schools in that area and asked them what items they needed. Pictured are some of items that were brought each Sunday in January.

Thank you to everyone who brought in and shipped items to the church or donated money. Because of your financial support this month, the Love Does shoppers were able to purchasing even more food items for the pantries.

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## 2021 MARKET UPDATE

**BY MELISSA KRUDIG,  
THINK MELISSA**

The 2021 Metro Atlanta housing market was on fire. Real estate values rose, and equity earned is always and are always driven by your local market conditions. Sales trends (average sales price, number of listings, etc.) vary by county.

There were less new listings presented to the market in 2021, compared to 2020, in Cobb and Cherokee counties. There were more new listings presented to the market in 2021, compared to 2020, in Paulding, Douglas and Bartow counties.

This lack of inventory was felt throughout the year by buyers (residential, commercial and land). The average sales price and property values increased from the previous year, in both detached (single family) and attached (town homes, condos) homes in these 5 counties.

2021 did not equal LOWER housing values and there is no projection of a housing crisis in 2022. Last year's sellers were not accepting offers lower than the fair market value. Most owners received multiple offers as well as above asking price offers.

Property values and interest rates are projected to rise in 2022.

Angie and I help our buyers navigate this swift market by guiding them, as we manage their purchase and sell transactions at the same time.

Give us a call if you would like to learn what your home would sell for in today's market. Our team knows what it takes to sell homes and commercial properties for top dollar.

We would be honored to help your friends and family achieve their 2022 Residential and Commercial real estate goals.

Data Source: FMLS  
Data: 01/2022

## AND I WAS WRONG

**DR CRIS EATON WELSH**  
**EATON CHIROPRACTIC**

Over the past few months we have heard about the fights between hospital systems and insurance companies and it has really disrupted the doctor patient relationship. The same reasons these hospital systems have opted out of some insurance companies are the same justifications I made ten years ago when I threw my hands up in the air and opted out of every insurance company. Filing insurance is undoubtedly a pain. Reimbursements are generally below what a doctor normally charges. Nothing about the system is any good. Yet, I was wrong.

Admittedly, the system is completely broken and while doctors and insurance companies duke it out the only person losing is the only person who really matters, the patient. It is for this reason that our office, Eaton Chiropractic, has spent the last 6 months opting back in and re-credentialing with every insurance company.

After my mother passed in June it was obvious to me that I needed to stop standing on my soap box about how horrible insurance was and stop cutting off access to people in our community who need our office and our services. In addition to adding BCBS, Aetna, Kaiser, UHC, Cigna, Medicare, VA and many more we have also invested in a high end all digital XRay system to better serve the Kennesaw community.

As always a consultation in our office is done at our expense. It is a great way to see if we are a good fit for you and your family. We would honored to see you.

Dr Cris Eaton Welsh practices at Eaton Chiropractic in Downtown Kennesaw. You can reach the office at 770-429-9733. [www.EatonChiropractic.com](http://www.EatonChiropractic.com).

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# 2021 Market Update

COBB COUNTY

2020  
VS  
2021

MARKET TRENDS

NEW LISTINGS		CLOSED SALES	
2020	2021	2020	2021
16,174	15,797	13,323	13,850

**Average Sales Price Comparison - Cobb County:**

- Detached Homes:** 2020 (\$374,624) vs 2021 (\$441,024). +17.7% increase.
- Attached Homes:** 2020 (\$270,445) vs 2021 (\$314,955). +16.3% increase.

PAULDING COUNTY

2020  
VS  
2021

MARKET TRENDS

NEW LISTINGS		CLOSED SALES	
2020	2021	2020	2021
4,257	4,500	3,766	3,863

**Average Sales Price Comparison - Paulding County:**

- Detached Homes:** 2020 (\$255,225) vs 2021 (\$319,745). +25.3% increase.
- Attached Homes:** 2020 (\$204,281) vs 2021 (\$245,676). +20.3% increase.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

2020  
VS  
2021

MARKET TRENDS

NEW LISTINGS		CLOSED SALES	
2020	2021	2020	2021
7,021	6,654	5,806	5,723

**Average Sales Price Comparison - Cherokee County:**

- Detached Homes:** 2020 (\$357,080) vs 2021 (\$432,859). +21.2% increase.
- Attached Homes:** 2020 (\$267,798) vs 2021 (\$323,532). +20.9% increase.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

2020  
VS  
2021

MARKET TRENDS

NEW LISTINGS		CLOSED SALES	
2020	2021	2020	2021
2,470	2,577	2,128	2,321

**Average Sales Price Comparison - Douglas County:**

- Detached Homes:** 2020 (\$258,476) vs 2021 (\$300,355). +23.9% increase.
- Attached Homes:** 2020 (\$196,465) vs 2021 (\$226,147). +15.1% increase.

# THINK MELISSA

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BARTOW COUNTY

2020  
VS  
2021

MARKET TRENDS

NEW LISTINGS		CLOSED SALES	
2020	2021	2020	2021
1,578	2,013	1,666	1,721

**Average Sales Price Comparison - Bartow County:**

- Detached Homes:** 2020 (\$247,534) vs 2021 (\$297,395). +20.1% increase.
- Attached Homes:** 2020 (\$146,491) vs 2021 (\$175,317). +19.7% increase.



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### NORTH COBB HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN ALL-STATE BAND HONORS!

Congratulations to these NCHS students who made it through a grueling two-part audition process and were named as some of the best high school musicians in the state of Georgia! They will travel to UGA to participate in the All-State Band event in March. We are so proud of our students who are Inspiring Excellence. The North Cobb HS Band is under the direction of Sheldon Frazier. Learn more about the band at [www.nchsbands.com](http://www.nchsbands.com).

PICTURED above l-r are Miguel Flores-Padilla, Alto Sax, Thomas Simmons, Alto Sax, Ian Lilly, Trombone, Sarah Jiang, Clarinet, and Madeline Shell, Flute



### KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC RIFLE

BY KIMBERLY BESSE

Kennesaw Mountain High School was one of 13 NJROTC programs to qualify for the Area 12 NJROTC rifle regional on January 22nd, 2022 in Anniston, Alabama. They competed against 2 of the top 10 NJROTC programs in the nation. Rifle is both an individual and team sport, cadets are trained how to properly handle and use an air-rifle safely.

After the event, they announced that their Rifle Team Commander Ditsy Werner was awarded a medal and will compete at the National level for Rifle on February 10th, she shot a 525 out of 600 and placed 4th out of 80 competitors. Overall the unit placed 5th out of 13 schools.

Rifle team is a sport where teams of four individuals shoot air rifles at competitions to compete for the best scores. During competitions, there are three positions that are used. Prone and kneeling for twenty minutes and standing for twenty-five minutes with twenty shots in each position.

Ditsy is picture above accepting her medal from Commander Jonathan Shaw, Area 12 Manager..

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## MARIETTA NEWS

### ART OF THE COCKTAIL

Marietta Cobb Museum of Art is pleased to announce a new event for 2022 – “art of the cocktail”. The first “art of the cocktail” will be held on February 11 starting at 6:00 pm. We will be partnering with local distilleries to create specialty cocktails at each event. For our first event, we are partnering with Glover Park Brewery who will be creating the “specialty cocktail.” The first Specialty Cocktail will be the Park Mule. Glover Park will provide the recipe and a discount to be used at Glover Park Brewery. We will also be raffling off a set of Mule glasses. Johnny Porrazzo will be entertaining guest with his dynamic style of pop and rock music. Guests will enjoy the two current art exhibitions; Something to Declare and Be Still.

Admission is \$10 for non-members and free to members. Tickets are purchased at the door. Hor's d'oeuvres are provided by Carriage House Catering and a cash bar will be available.

### MARIETTA TREE KEEPERS FEBRUARY EVENT

Marietta Tree Keepers invites volunteers of all ages to help plant trees at the Marietta City Club Golf Course on Saturday, February 12 at 9:30am. Tools and refreshments provided. Dress for outdoor weather.

Keep your 2022 New Years Resolution of giving back to your community and come out and join us for our February Tree Planting. We will be planting trees at The City Club Golf Course at the Hilton/Marietta Conference Center in Marietta. The address is: 510 Powder Springs Street, Marietta, Georgia 30064. The date is Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 9:30am.

Meet at the back of the clubhouse for golf cart transportation to the site on the grounds. Location phone number is 770-528-GOLF (4653).

Dress for the weather, which is expected to be cold. 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 rain date. Large groups please contact us with your number of volunteers that will be in attendance.



### FREE TREES - MARCH 5!

In an effort to promote awareness of Arbor Day, Marietta Tree Keepers will give away “Free Trees” on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 9am-12noon or until we run out at the Marietta Farmer's Market on the Square.. The variety of trees are Dogwoods, Willow Oaks, Catalpa, and Bald Cypress. Free literature will also be available on selecting trees, caring for trees and maintaining trees. This event is free to the public. We will also have 2 scheduled tree walks on the square for anyone that is interested at 10am and 11am led by Certified Arborists.

This event is free to the public. Tree bareroot seedlings will be given away.

Members of the Marietta Tree Keepers have been promoting the value of trees to the community since it was founded in 2002. MTK has over 150 members and has planted over 5000 trees around the city. The 501(C)3 non-profit organization works closely with the City of Marietta to plant trees along public right-of-ways. Those wishing to become a member or make a donation can learn more by visiting MTK's website at [www.mariettaga.gov/committees/treekeepers](http://www.mariettaga.gov/committees/treekeepers). For more information, please call 770.424.4664.

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## POP-IN AT THE MARIETTA HISTORY CENTER: AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE MILITARY

The Marietta History Center will be hosting its monthly Pop-In event on Saturday, February 19th from 10:30am-3:30pm. Pop-In's provide children and their families the opportunity to interact with the museum through themed activities and crafts. Join us in February for crafts and activities geared towards African-Americans in the Military, currently these will be "Make and Take" so families may enjoy them at home as well as crafts in the galleries.

The event will be held on Saturday February 19th, 2022, 10:30am-3:30pm at Marietta History Center, 1 Depot Street, Marietta, GA 30060. Cost is FREE that day due to a private donor. Many thanks.

## MARIETTA SHAMROCK SHUFFLE

The Marietta Police Athletic League (PAL) invites you, your family, your company to create a team and register today for the 6th Annual Marietta Shamrock Shuffle 5K Walk/Run! This Peachtree Road Race Qualifier will take place Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 9:00am (welcome & warm-up at 8:00am) at the Marietta Square, 75 East Park Square, Marietta, GA. Early registration is available now through January 31st for just \$30. Onsite registration will be available starting at 8:00am on race day and at Packet Pick-up on Friday, March 11th from 3-7pm at the Hugh L. Grogan Jr. Community Center, 510 Lawrence Street, Marietta. Proceeds will support Marietta PAL's youth sports and recreation programs. Register today at <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Marietta/ShamrockShuffleMarietta>.

## TASTE OF MARIETTA SEEKING VENDORS

Marietta's largest and longest running food festival is returning to the Marietta Square on April 24th. Ending a two-year hiatus, Taste of Marietta will bring the flavors of Cobb County together once again.

Applications are now available for vendors, and any restaurant in Cobb County is welcome to apply. The deadline to apply is March 18, 2022. Visit [tasteofmarietta.com/restaurants](http://tasteofmarietta.com/restaurants) for applications, deadlines, and health department information.

For questions about vendor applications or event details, call 770-429-1115 or visit the Marietta Welcome Center

## GEORGIA FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

**Thursday, March 24 – "Drinks, Meat 'n' Three"** 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, Jim R. Miller Park. A fun festival Kick-Off Luncheon with whiskey, beer and wine tastings - and a variety of Meat 'n' Three lunch plate combos. Guest celebrity chefs will be preparing fantastic lunch plates.

**Friday, March 25 – "Classes from the Georgia Masters"**, Jim R. Miller Park (Master Class Pass Available for all 5 Classes) A variety of master classes featuring cooking demonstrations with some of Georgia's most celebrated chefs, beverage demonstrations and tastings from winemakers and beverage experts. Each class offers the attendee an opportunity to taste culinary creations/bites with paired wines, beers or featured signature cocktails. \*Classes from guest chef/authors will include a signed copy of their most recent cookbook.

**Friday, March 25, 7:30 – 9:30 pm – "Fired-Up"**, Jim R. Miller Park This BBQ Extravaganza is a showcase of the southeast's most celebrated Pitmasters and grill masters with wine, beer and spirits - live music and more. Enjoy unlimited beverage tastings in a souvenir glass, along with delicious grilled, smoked and roasted gourmet BBQ bites – all included with ticket price. FREE parking, 21 & older only event, no pets allowed.

**Saturday, March 26, 1 – 4 pm, "Savor, Georgia Food + Wine Festival", Jim R. Miller Park** A fun afternoon of culinary and beverage tastings, with live music, celebrity chef demonstrations, interactive stations from several world-renowned beverage experts. Tickets include a souvenir glass for unlimited beverage tastings from hundreds of wines, beer and spirits exhibitors, and each guest will receive an RFID wristband which will be pre-loaded with \$10 in Tasting Credits and can be used to purchase additional credits throughout the festival. to be determined. A fantastic Silent Auction will feature a variety of items and services, from luxury and beauty, to travel and one-of-a-kind entertainment and dining opportunities. The Silent Auction will benefit MUST Ministries. FREE Parking, no pets allowed.

**Sunday, March 27, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm, "Sunday/Funday"** (Family-friendly event) An exciting festival finale with live music and a variety of delectable restaurants, farmers, artisans, and food trucks, and a variety of beverages for purchase. A family friendly event with something for everybody in the family, including a free Kids Zone. There will be a variety of beverages available for purchase for 21 and older - including beer, wine and cocktails. The Sunday/Funday Lounge will feature specialty drink stations for purchase: Mimosas, Sparkling Wines, Bloody Mary Bar and Frose' (Frozen Rose') with a souvenir cup! Each ticket includes an RFID wristband pre-loaded with 10 Tasting Credits. Children 12 & under are FREE, free parking, no pets allowed.

**Sunday, March 27, 12:00 - 3:00 pm, "Oyster Roast, VIP Lounge"** (Family-friendly event) Enjoy sipping and shucking the afternoon away while listening to live music and enjoying unlimited wine, beer and spirits tasting stations with unlimited buckets of oysters and BBQ. Oyster Roast, VIP Lounge tickets include admission to Sunday/Funday from 11 am – 5 pm and VIP Lounge parking. Each ticket includes an RFID wristband pre-loaded with 10 Tasting Credits. Children 12 & under are FREE, free parking, no pets allowed.

**Tickets available at [www.georgiafoodandwine.com](http://www.georgiafoodandwine.com).**

## REMEMBERING DENT MYERS

Dent "WILDMAN" Myers, passed peacefully at his home early Sunday morning, on January 16, 2022.

Most knew him for the civil war shop downtown but the rare few knew better.

He was an esteemed and well-respected historian, business owner, filmmaker, cartoonist, re-enactor, poet and artist among other things. His dedication to Wildman's Civil War Shop was just a fraction of the amazing life he lived. Dent was well-respected across the world for his immense knowledge and eclectic collection. His respect and dedication to historical preservation inspired many 'young-uns.'

From Wildman's great words of wisdom, he said, 'Everybody else is different. I'm the only one just alike. To say he will be missed is an understatement.

While arrangements are pending, we ask that the public respect our privacy. We will have a public celebration of his life to be announced at a future date. We would never deny any one the opportunity to pay their respects. TOOT TOOT- Long live the Wildman





**COBB COUNTY LOCAL COURTS IN A NUTSHELL****BY DANIELE JOHNSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW**

Cobb County has six trial-level courts, all of which have distinct roles from each other. Those courts are Superior, State, Juvenile, Probate, Magistrate, and Municipal.



The Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction over family law matters, such as, divorce, child custody and child support. Superior Court also has exclusive jurisdiction over felony crimes, including homicide, rape, and aggravated assault.

Secondly, we have State Court, which handles civil actions not otherwise within the exclusive jurisdiction of Superior Court, including land-lord tenant disputes, certain traffic cases and personal injury cases. Further, State Court has exclusive jurisdiction of misdemeanor crimes, such as, simple assault, criminal trespass, and disorderly conduct.

Next, we have our Juvenile Court. If a child does not have biological parent willing and capable of providing a stable home-environment, Juvenile Court will place the child in a proper home. Juvenile Court also hears cases involving allegations of unruly conduct, delinquency, or traffic violations concerning children under the age of seventeen.

The primary function of Probate Court is to ensure that estates are administered in accordance with one's will or intestate laws. Probate Court also hears guardianship cases involving children and adults.

Magistrate Court has jurisdiction over civil claims of \$15,000 or less, county ordinance violations, applications for and issuance of arrest and search warrants. In an attempt to relieve Superior Court's docket, Cobb County Magistrate Court will also hear cases involving temporary restraining orders.

Finally, we have our Municipal Court system. These city-level courts have jurisdiction over traffic cases arising within the city limits. Municipal Courts also have limited jurisdiction over minor misdemeanor offenses, such as shoplifting of \$500 or less and minor traffic violations.

And that is your Cobb County Court system in a nutshell.

Daniele Johnson is a family law attorney, and owns and operates her own family law firm. She has served Cobb County families for the last 22 years in such matters as divorce, custody, child support, legitimation, and domestic violence. Additionally, Daniele Johnson is a certified Guardian Ad Litem, and is trained to determine the best interests of children who are at the center custody disputes.

**ACWORTH ACTIVE ADULT EVENTS****SENIOR LUNCHEON**

Join us every third Wednesday of the month for the City of Acworth's Senior Luncheon. Come join us for lunch at noon and Bingo after. This program is free to all seniors but you must RSVP to attend. Reservations will be accepted the week prior to the event. The event is the 3rd Wednesday of the Month at the Acworth Community Center (4361 Cherokee Street Acworth, Ga 30101)

RSVP: (770) 917-1234 Acworth Community Center (1 week prior to the luncheon) Cost: Free but you must RSVP.

**LINE DANCING FOR BEGINNERS**

Active Adults: Register now, learn how to line dance with knowledge, technique and style while staying fit. Join Leslie Thompson at the Roberts School Community and Education Center (4681 School St., Acworth) every Tuesday from March 1 to March 22; 1-2:30 pm. Fee is \$25 for residents, \$30.00 for non-residents. Call (770) 917-1234 for more information.

**CARDIO WITH LAUREN**

Elevate your metabolism by moving rhythmically to music. Strengthen and tighten muscles using free weights. Classes are held on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Registration is required. This class is free for all active adults ages 55 and over.

For more information contact Lauren Ham at lham@acworth.org or call 770-917-1234.

**ACWORTH FARMERS MARKET VENDORS**

The goal of the Historic Downtown Acworth Farmers Market is to support the development of the local agricultural economy by providing a place for farmers/producers to sell their goods directly to consumers while assisting businesses that sell food, farm/garden, and kitchen related products. The idea behind the market is to bring back the "small town" community atmosphere while providing an alternative shopping outlet. The Farmers' Market shall encourage a sense of community where business people and residents come together in historic downtown to support the local community & producers in our area.

LOCATION: Logan Farm Park (Main Entrance), 4405 Cherokee Street, Acworth, GA 30101

OPERATION: Each Friday morning from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. beginning APRIL 8th through OCTOBER 28th, 2022. The event is rain or shine.

For more information visit acworth [https://www.acworth.org/departments/parks\\_recreation\\_and\\_community\\_resource\\_department/index.php](https://www.acworth.org/departments/parks_recreation_and_community_resource_department/index.php) and click on Acworth Farmers Market in the menu on the left.

**CLASSES FOR SENIORS****SENIOR WARRIORS GENTLE MOVEMENTS**

Senior Warriors is designed for Acworth's amazing Active Adult (55+) population. Join our instructor, Omar Welch, as we use traditional Korean movements to increase balance, mental focus, and movement. The goal is to help students continue to be the best they can be in all things! Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Acworth Community Center [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

**CHAIR YOGA WITH MARY**

Mary's Chair Yoga is designed for Active Adults aged 55+. This class is conducted in a chair with gentle movements that concentrates on relaxation and strengthening muscles. Mondays or Wednesdays from 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Acworth Community Center [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

**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. Tuesdays or Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Acworth Community Center [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

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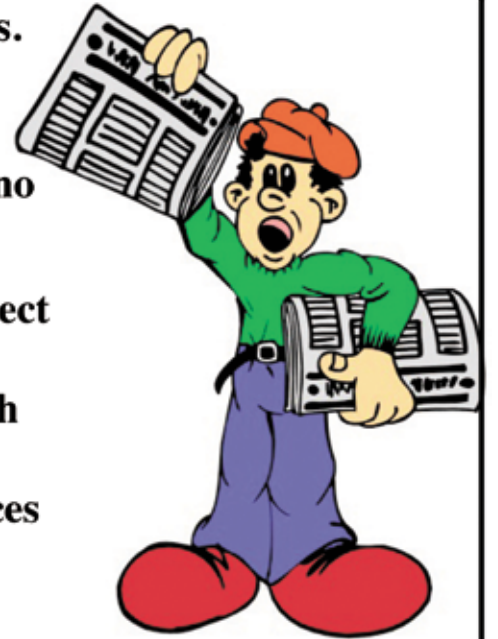
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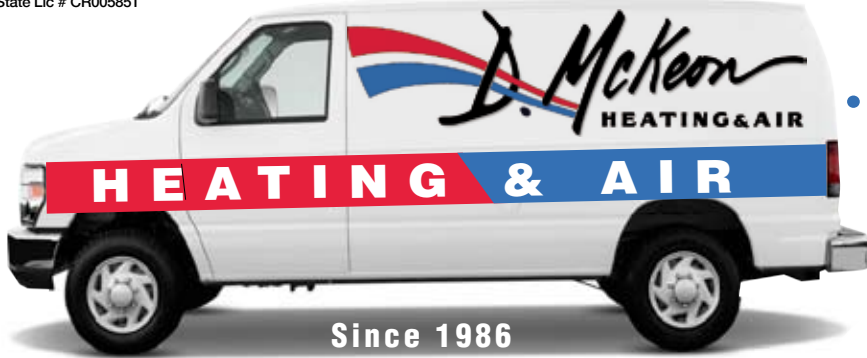
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