

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

Volume 31 No 4

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

APR 2022



## 46TH ANNUAL SUPERIOR PLUMBING KENNESAW/BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL

The Kennesaw Business Association in cooperation with the City of Kennesaw along with the Title Sponsor: Superior Plumbing and Presenting Sponsors: LGE Community Credit Union and Georgia Grown will host the 46th Annual Superior Plumbing Kennesaw/Big Shanty Festival on Saturday April 9 and Sunday April 10 in downtown Kennesaw.

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

A parade will kick-off the festival Saturday morning at 9:30am Admission is free to the festival. Want to be in the parade? Email [missy@jrmmanagement.com](mailto:missy@jrmmanagement.com). Schools, churches, scouts, friends and neighbors are all welcome to march.

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

The Festival is sponsored by the Kennesaw Business Association in cooperation with the City of Kennesaw. Superior Plumbing is the title sponsor and LGE Community Credit Union and Georgia Grown are the presenting sponsors. For more information call 770-423-1330 or email [missy@jrmmanagement.com](mailto:missy@jrmmanagement.com). See you there! Pictured above: The crowds enjoying a beautiful day at last year's festival.

## BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL HISTORY

In 1975, merchants in the downtown area of Kennesaw created a business organization that would promote and preserve the historical heritage of the downtown area of Kennesaw and encourage people to patronize their businesses. Thus the Kennesaw Business Association was chartered. The General at the Big Shanty Museum (original name) was the focal point of the City's heritage.

Town Center wasn't even a gleam in anyone's eye then — the area was still being farmed. I-75 stopped in Marietta and resumed in Cartersville, and Highway 41 (now Cobb Parkway) was dotted with Stuckey's, quilts, and boiled peanuts.

The idea started with Gayle DeSpain, Lynda Spence, Carol Thompson and Jean Guess, all local business women and members of the KBA. In discussing ways to bring new people

and business into Kennesaw, they planned a spring outdoor sale in an open area between their shops on Main Street, with the hopes of attracting customers with a colorful display of antiques and craft items."

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

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



## SOUTHERN MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR & LOCOMOTIVE HISTORY CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Southern Museum opened fifty years ago on April 12, 1972, in historic downtown Kennesaw, Georgia. Originally called the Big Shanty Museum, it showcased the famous General locomotive and was dedicated to telling the story of the Great Locomotive Chase. The event, which took place 110 years earlier on April 12, 1862, elevated the engine and Big Shanty (today the City of Kennesaw) to prominence during the Civil War.

Over the next fifty years, the Museum grew in size and expanded its collection to include other artifacts from the Civil War period and railroading in the Southeast. In the mid-1990s, the Museum acquired and curated an impressive collection from the Glover Machine Works of Marietta, Georgia, the last builder of steam locomotives in the South. The name was changed to the Kennesaw Civil War Museum soon thereafter. Beginning in 2001, a two-year renovation and enlargement project culminated in a nearly 50,000 square foot facility housing three permanent exhibits: Railroads: Lifelines of the Civil War, Glover Machine Works: Casting a New South and The Great Locomotive Chase featuring the General locomotive. The name was changed, yet again, to the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

The Museum expanded further in 2007 with the opening of the Jolley Education Center. The 8,000 square foot facility offers classroom space for programs and a dedicated area for the very young to play safely alongside older children. The Jolley Education Center also houses Georgia's Merci Boxcar, a gift from the French people to the state of Georgia following World War II. The Southern Museum's Library and Archives, which opened to the public in 2015, contains extensive documentary records, manuscripts and photographic materials related to the Civil War and railroad history in the South.

Today, the Southern Museum is a prestigious Smithsonian Affiliations member devoted to history and education. The Museum provides a family-friendly experience that fosters conversation about the strategic and economic use of railroads in the region during and after the Civil War.

## TOMMY NOBIS CENTER TO HOST 24TH ANNUAL GALAXY OF STARS LUNCHEON APRIL 8

Tommy Nobis Center, a Marietta-based nonprofit that helps individuals with disabilities enter or return to employment, will host its 24th Annual Galaxy of Stars Luncheon on Friday, April 8, 2022, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM at the Georgia Aquarium.

Galaxy of Stars is Tommy Nobis Center's premier annual fundraising event and awards ceremony honoring the incredible talents of people with disabilities and the community champions who help empower individuals on their journey to independence and success.

This year's theme is "45 Years of Empowerment." Tommy Nobis Center will look back at its rich history of serving the community and celebrate the thousands of people whose lives have been changed by their programs and services over the years.

"We look forward to a meaningful event commemorating an incredible four and half decades of empowering people with disabilities and their families," said President & CEO Dave Ward.

Honorees include former Atlanta Falcons Coach Dan Reeves for Lifetime Achievement, Community Champion Jim Budzinski, Family Member Advocates Marlon and Libby Longacre, and Tommy Nobis Rising Star Clarence Wine.

There will be an online auction accompanying this event starting March 28. For more information, go to <https://tommynobiscenter.org/galaxy-of-stars>. Funds raised through the event and auction directly support programs and services for youth and adults with disabilities. Pictured: Marlon, Libby and Mathew Longacre



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## THIS AND THAT



**KEYEION ASHLEY**

Keyeion entered Brookwood Christian School in the 6th grade. Public school had been very challenging for us as parents as well as for Keyeion. Although his teachers worked very hard to help Keyeion, he still struggled. After five years of constant meetings, conferences, and tutoring sessions and still watching our son struggle, we knew we had to find a school that could help. An admissions counselor mentioned BCS and Kim.

We went for a tour and knew immediately BCS could help Keyeion. The classes were smaller, teachers used many different teaching techniques, and individualized assignments to meet Keyeions needs. They initially focused on helping Keyeion improve his math and reading skills. Once he had improved, they introduced more challenging work. At BCS, Keyeion progressed academically but also formed friendships. He made friends and wasn't ostracized for being different.

Keyeion is now a college student at Chattahoochee Technical College. He receives the Hope Scholarship and is a Marine Corps scholar. He will graduate Summer 2022 with an Associate's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. He will continue his studies at Kennesaw State University pursuing a Bachelor's degree in International Affairs.

## BROOKWOOD TEA AND SILENT AUCTION

Brookwood Christian School will host their famous Brookwood Tea and Silent Auction on April 28, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. at Brookwood Christian School, 4728 Wood Street, Acworth 30101. This is a fund-raiser for the school.

At this writing they already have over 50 items in Silent Auction. If you are interested in donating, you call/ text 678-401-5855.

This event will be Catered by Soiree Catering, Atlanta and includes: Savory and sweet scones, tea sandwiches, quiche, charcuterie, assorted desserts, as well as cold and hot teas. Tickets are \$40 each. Text TEA to 404-491-7724 to buy tickets or purchase at [BrookwoodChristian.com](http://BrookwoodChristian.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS



**COURTNEY EATON**

Courtney won BEST OF COBB MEAL PREP. Her business, Eatin Fresh, provides individual meals that only need to be heated. Order online at [eatinfreshkennesaw.com](http://eatinfreshkennesaw.com). In addition to her Meal Prep meals, she also has a Sandwich and Juice Bar and she Caters.



## HOG DINNER

Helping One Guy will Honor David Burrell & Family on Wednesday April 13, 2022, 6:30 - 8:00 PM.

Helping One Guy Dinners are FREE for attendees Space is limited please register for this upcoming fundraising dinner.

David Burrell is a husband to Eileen and adopted father of two girls. His oldest, Rachel was diagnosed with Thyroid cancer while they are living paycheck to paycheck. Let's help this guy and his family. You have the chance to be the answer to their prayers!

The dinner is held at NorthStar Church, Kennesaw, GA and catered by Carrabbas Italian Grill with desserts by Cakehouse on Main Sign up for the dinner and donate:

<https://www.helpingoneguy.org/details/david-burrell/>



## ANDREW BRAMLETT'S RESIDENTS OF THE KENNESAW CEMETERY

Charlie Jackson Guess was born in Kennesaw on Christmas Day of 1893. His parents were Murat and Mary Guess. He attended school until 8th grade. Guess had an early interest in mechanics, and once created a miniature steam locomotive out of tin cans. By 1917, he was working as an Auto Mechanic. He registered for the WWI draft and was inducted on June 21st, 1918. Guess served at Camp Gordon and Fort McPherson as a mechanic. He served overseas from September 14th of 1918 to July 11th of 1919. During his time overseas the Cobb County Times described him as both musical and a mechanical genius.



On July 21st, 1919, Guess was honorably discharged. He returned home and purchased a garage. By 1920 he had moved to Atlanta, but he soon moved back to Cobb County. In 1923, he married Lura Ellis. By 1930, he was working as an Assistant Foreman with the railroad. He later served as mechanic. During the 1940's, Guess served as a city councilman, and he was reelected at least 14 times.

His wife Lura died in 1965. Charlie Guess passed away April 20th, 1971, in Chattanooga and was buried in the Kennesaw City Cemetery.

## DECORATION DAY

Join Kennesaw's Cemetery Preservation Commission as we celebrate Decoration Day on Saturday, May 7 from 10am to 2pm at the Kennesaw City Cemetery in Downtown Kennesaw. The time will be dedicated to beautifying Kennesaw's historic City Cemetery. Cleaning supplies will be provided, courtesy of the City of Kennesaw. There will be free lunch and music. All are welcome to come and participate!

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

## BE A BRIGHT SIDE REPORTER

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

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**SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS RECOGNIZED AS CAMELLIA TRAIL GARDEN**

On Thursday, March 17, the American Camellia Society (ACS) recognized Smith-Gilbert Gardens as a Camellia Trail Garden. This national recognition reflects a partnership the ACS has with public gardens who hold notable camellia collections located across the country. Along with a Trail Marker, a Certificate of Recognition was presented. The American Camellia Society representatives joined Smith-Gilbert Gardens staff, Kennesaw elected officials, City staff and SGG Foundation Board Members to recognize the Paladino Camellia Garden at Smith-Gilbert Gardens as a destination garden on the Camellia Trail. Smith-Gilbert Gardens has 94 camellia plants in the collection with four different species of camellias represented, including an evergreen camellia called *Camellia sinensis*, also known as the tea plant. Visitors will find camellias throughout the Garden, but the majority of the collection can be found in the Paladino Camellia Garden. Especially notable, a new camellia cultivar was recently discovered at Smith-Gilbert Gardens. This naturally occurring sport (a mutation) was recently certified as a new cultivar. A unique, and somewhat rare, opportunity to name this plant will be offered at the 2022 Rose Garden Gala on May 14. Pictured above: From Left, Penny Scarpucci, Smith-Gilbert Gardens Executive Director Ann Parsons, North Georgia Camellia Society President John Scarpucci, City Manager Dr. Jeff Drobney, Smith Gilbert Gardens Garden and Education Manager Lisa Bartlett



**SILVER SERVERS - PICKLEBALL GROUP**

Kennesaw Parks & Recreation is extremely excited to announce our FIRST EVER “Silver Servers” women’s pickleball group! This amazing opportunity is available to women ages 65+ and they are still looking to expand their pack! Members meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 12 PM to 2 PM. These lovely ladies have been honored with the Georgia Recreation & Park Association (GRPA) New Initiative Grant! If you see them around the Recreation Center give them a high five or a fist bump!



**ART BLOOMS**

During the months of April and May, Smith-Gilbert Gardens invites the community to experience selected pieces from the permanent sculpture collection as they’ve never been seen before, surrounded by over 22,000 daffodil blooms planted in unique patterns! Art Blooms is a two-month exhibit that includes a series of weekend artists’ demonstrations and workshops. On Saturdays, Art Ambassadors will be on-site to share behind-the-scenes stories of the artists and sculptures. Beginning May 7, experience Designed by Nature, a sculpture exhibit by new and emerging artists including a collaborative piece by LaBelle Elementary third grade students and artist, Allen Peterson.

**Marietta Pops Orchestra**

*Spring Concert*

Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Buy tickets online or at the door

[www.MariettaPops.org](http://www.MariettaPops.org)

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**Brookwood Christian School Ladies Tea and Silent Auction**



**Thursday: April 28, 2022 - 11:30-1:30**  
**Brookwood Christian School (4728 Wood Street, Acworth)**  
**COST: \$40 per person – seating is limited to 50 people so don’t delay!**  
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## THIS 'N THAT

### COBB GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Join the Cobb County Genealogical Society on Tuesday, April 26th, 7 p.m., where Karen Molohon will present "1950 Census Arrives: Searching It Effectively". Bring information about where your ancestor(s) were residing April 1, 1950 for an interactive meeting! In person at First Presbyterian Church, 189 Church Street, Marietta, GA. For more information, visit <https://www.cobbgagensoc.org/>.

### ARTS ALLIANCE NEWS

The Art House Exhibit "Chiaroscuro will run through April 23. 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!

"Local Inspirations" Exhibit

"Local" is Georgia- ideally within 30 miles of the Art House which is located in downtown Acworth. Open submissions~ submit up to 4 pieces. Submission Deadline May 15: This exhibit will run from June 4 thru July 30, 2022. More information about this exhibit is available on our website: <http://acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines/>

Our hours: Tuesday thru Saturday's~ Noon to 6PM. Closed on Sundays, Mondays and Holidays. The Art House is located at 4425 Cherokee Street, Acworth.

### 3 DAY YARD SALE

Hosted by Branches of Christ Church Over 100+ families will donate a wide and wild variety of items – over 10,000 sq ft of goods! Come shop the bargains indoors and out – Rain or Shine!

Thurs., May 12th Noon-4pm; Fri., May 13th 8a-6p, and Sat., May 14th 8a-3p. No early sales. 5946 Jacobs Road, SE, Acworth 30102 [www.branchesofchrist.com](http://www.branchesofchrist.com) for directions

### EASTER SUNRISE SERVICES

The public is invited to attend Easter Sunrise Services at Winkenhof-Pineridge Funeral Home and Cemetery on Sunday, April 17. The service will begin at 6:45 am. Dr. Perry Fowler, Kennesaw First Baptist Church, will conduct the service. For more information call 770-422-7299.

### THIS N THAT ADS

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### 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).

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### 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.

### COLLECTING MEDICAL DEVICES FOR DISABLED ADULTS AND CHILDREN

The Rotary Club of Marietta Metro is partnering with FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children) for the collection of new or gently used medical devices and equipment like wheelchairs, bath rails, bedside toilets and walkers. The collection will be at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot, 189 Church Street, Marietta, on April 23, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Donations are tax-deductible. For large item pickups or more information, call 770-713-0600.

### MARIETTA POPS SPRING CONCERT

Marietta Pops is now busy preparing for an equally successful spring concert at the Strand Theatre. This year's concert is on Saturday evening, April 30th at 7:00pm. The concert is about an hour and a half (no intermission) and is full of family-fun music. As usual we have a wide variety of pieces to present and all of them are for the incredibly low ticket price of only \$20!

The Strand Theatre has limited seating and tickets usually go fast, so don't delay getting your tickets online. If any tickets are left, we will have them available at the door. Get your tickets soon!

Click the link and buy your tickets now: [MariettaPopsOrchestra.org](http://MariettaPopsOrchestra.org)

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## THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

Spring has arrived, and Acworth is blossoming with opportunities to enjoy everything our city has to offer. We can't wait to reopen our seasonal parks, enjoy concerts in our greenspaces, and celebrate our great quality of life that we are blessed to have here in Acworth.

Congratulations to Major Mark Cheatham and Captain Mike Taylor! We are so proud of these latest promotions within the Acworth Police Department. Major Cheatham and Captain Taylor have been with our city for years and have invested hard work and a lot of heart into making Acworth a safe place to live, work, and play.

Visit the Acworth Egg Hunt on Friday, April 8 at the Acworth Sports Complex. Freedom Church is helping us again this year to make this the best egg hunt around. This year, the Easter Bunny will make his grand entrance by parachute! We've missed the skydiving bunny and we're so excited to see his return. Egg Hunt times and more information on the event can be found at [www.acworthegg hunt.com](http://www.acworthegg hunt.com). We can't wait to see you and your family there as this spring tradition returns to Acworth.

Looking forward to getting back out on the lakes? Dallas Landing and Proctor Landing parks will be reopening for the 2022 season on Saturday, April 9. We would like to remind everyone that these Lake Allatoona parks have a \$10 daily parking fee per car for non-residents of Acworth. One week later, Cauble and South Shore parks will officially open for the season. For these Lake Acworth Parks, a \$10 parking fee will be charged on the weekends for non-residents until Cobb Schools are out for the summer. After school is out, the \$10 charge will be daily for non-residents. Parking passes were mailed to City residents at the end of March. If you did not receive your parking pass and you are a City of Acworth resident, contact the Acworth Parks Offices at (770) 917-1234 or visit [www.acworthparksand.org](http://www.acworthparksand.org) and you will find a FAQ page that can answer questions.

Mark your calendars for North Cobb Rotary Club's Smoke on the Lake next month! We're excited to be the home of the largest outdoor Bar-B-Q event at Logan Farm Park on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7. For more information on this event and all that North Cobb Rotary does for our community, visit [www.smokeonthelake.org](http://www.smokeonthelake.org).

As always, for the latest information on any of our events and projects, you can visit [www.acworth.org](http://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.

May God Bless You and Your Families, Tommy

### LIVE AT LOGAN FARM PARK

Join us for some live music at Logan Farm Park (4405 Cherokee Street) Saturday, April 23, 2022! The Acworth Arts Alliance will be partnering with the City of Acworth to bring you Live at Logan Farm Park featuring a free concert.

Live at Logan Farm Park is the annual Acworth Arts Alliance and the Acworth Art House fundraiser. Event proceeds support the Acworth Arts Alliance, specifically to fund a scholarship for students pursuing a degree in art as well as to fund arts initiatives in underfunded programs and among the underserved in our community.

For more information on this event or to purchase a table, please visit [www.acworthartsalliance.org](http://www.acworthartsalliance.org).

### SMOKE ON THE LAKE BBQ FESTIVAL

The North Cobb Rotary Club, City of Acworth, and the Georgia Barbecue Association partner each year to bring you the Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival presented by Superior Plumbing. This event will be held at Logan Farm Park on Friday, May 6, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All proceeds from this event are distributed amongst several local charities, so everyone come out and help make a difference in your community!

This two-day event features a Friday night concert under the stars and a BBQ competition on Saturday! Teams from all over the Southeast compete in professional and amateur divisions to see who will take home the title. For a small fee, you can taste your way through some of the best BBQ in the Southeast! Parking will not be available at the park so please park downtown. For more information on this event, please visit [www.smokeonthelake.org](http://www.smokeonthelake.org)

### PICKLEBALL LESSONS

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

### ACWORTH EGG HUNT

The skydiving Easter Bunny will be back for 2022! Come watch him make his exciting arrival on Friday, April 8 at the Acworth Sports Complex! The City of Acworth and Freedom Church invite your family to participate in the return of the Acworth Egg Hunt! The event will take place at the Acworth Sports Complex (4000 South Main St.) on the baseball fields. Egg hunts are timed, and gates will open at 6:00 p.m. Join Acworth as we celebrate with games, crafts, and grand entrance by the Easter Bunny! Always a ton of fun for young and old alike.

#### SCHEDULE:

7:30 p.m. – 0-2 year olds (Field #1)  
7:40 p.m. – 3-4 year olds (Field #2)  
7:50 p.m. – 5-6 year olds (Field #3)  
8:00 p.m. – 7-8 year olds (Field #4)  
8:10 p.m. – 9-10 year olds (Field #5)

### CAMP ACWORTH

Camp Acworth summer day camp program provides a safe and active environment for children to enjoy their summer with the option of two exciting locations! Both Lake Acworth Adventure Camp and Overlook Adventure Camp will return this summer. Each week, both camps will go on a field trip to exciting places like Medieval Times, Zoo Atlanta, and the World of Coke. Weekly guests will visit Camp Acworth and teach kids a variety of subjects, ranging from public safety to performing arts. Camp Acworth is open to Acworth residents and non-residents. Our camps are tailored for kids in 1st through 8th grade. For more information, please visit [www.campacworth.com](http://www.campacworth.com).

### ZUMBA

This effective, exhilarating, and calorie-burning program features exotic rhythms such as salsa, merengue, cumbia, samba, and more! You'll not only have a great time, but you'll experience a great workout as well! All fitness and skill levels are welcome. There is no other fitness class like the Zumba Fitness party - join us and see for yourself! Zumba will take place on Tuesdays or Thursdays at the Acworth Community Center from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monthly and drop-in rates are available. For more information and registration, please visit [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).





“The first step to getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are.” JP Morgan said that. Morgan revolutionized the banking industry through years of relentless hard work, a willingness to try new things along with the ability to take calculated risks.

Are you ready to take some calculated risks? Here is some of the wisdom I have gathered from the speakers and members at the Acworth Business Association over the last few months.

Have a clear vision, mission and measurable goals. If you don't know where you want to go, you will simply wander. Having a clear vision of what you want your business or life to be in the next year, 2 years or 5 years, will help you stay focused. You don't have to say yes to every good opportunity. Only say yes to the best ones. The ones that help you achieve your vision, mission and measurable goals. Being clear on these will also make you actually feel good about saying no!



Although I know you are smart and talented I am sure, you can't know everything and you probably don't want to know everything. Asking an expert in an area that you need help, not only gives you access to their knowledge, it forms relationships that can be beneficial both professionally and personally. We all need cheerleaders, especially when we are taking risks.

If you are ready to get somewhere, and have decided you are not going to stay where you are, I am here to cheer you on! Come meet me and the other members of the ABA at one of our next events. Let us all help each other Maximize Our Momentum Acworth

## ABA UPCOMING EVENTS

### ABA APR LUNCHEON

Will be held on Thursday, APRIL 14 at the Acworth Community Center. The luncheon begins at 11:30 and will be sponsored by Anchor Realty Partners. 1885 will cater the luncheon PLEASE to RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

### ABA APR AA5

Will be held Thursday, APR 14, 5:30-7:30, at BROKEN ANCHOR winery located at 3335 Cobb Pkwy NW Suite 930, Acworth, GA 30101. They serve Wine, Whiskey, Cocktails. Coffee. Food. Come unwind where you can weather any storm at Broken Anchor Winery. RSVP [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

### WOMEN'S APR BUSINESS NETWORK

The ABA Women's Business Network will be held on APR 21 at 11:30 am at The Logan Farmhouse, 4756 Logan Farm Rd, Acworth, GA 30101 Catered by Picnic Market and Mercantile. Please RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

## KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

### BY DANA DORRIS, PRESIDENT

Spring brings so much fun and life into our community and April means that we all get to be excited about the BEST festival of the year!

The Kennesaw Business Association in cooperation with the City of Kennesaw will host the 46th annual Superior Plumbing Kennesaw/Big Shanty Festival, on April 9th and 10th. This is the largest festival in North Georgia and combines the rich heritage of Kennesaw. Marlon Longacre, the festival chairman since 2003 describes the Big Shanty Festival as “the ultimate hometown festival”. The festival kicks off with the Big Shanty Parade on Saturday at 9:30 am.

Why does it mean so much to our city for both businesses and residents? Community festivals contribute to keeping the spirit high for local residents within the community and have an impact on repeat visits on annual events. Community festivals also provide opportunities for participation which is huge right now for social cohesion. Festivals boost the economy and attract visitors. It is estimated that our festival brings in \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000 to our area which supports our SPLOST efforts and school taxes. Visitors spend time and money in our community both on and off the festival site which stimulates the growth of tourism. Plus, they learn just how great the city of Kennesaw really is!

For businesses, community involvement benefits your business in many ways. It increases your brand awareness where you can build your businesses reputation while becoming an active and contributive member. You build trust within your community. Consumers want to see that a company cares for something other than their bottom line. You also get to meet other businesses to create a network of connections. Not all business requires competition.

The Big Shanty Festival is the Kennesaw Business Association's largest fundraising event which allows us to give back over \$100,000 each year in scholarship dollars to our local schools. We take our role as an active community partner very seriously and as part of our commitment in helping Kennesaw be the best place to live, work and play we offer 18 scholarships each year to promising high school seniors.

So, whether you are an individual or a business. We invite you to experience the benefits of community involvement by participating in our Big Shanty Festival. When we all practice community first, we create lasting relationships. To go along with our Kennesaw Business Association's theme of the year, we expect this year's festival to be Bigger, Better and Brighter!

See you there!

### KBA APR LUNCHEON

TUES APR 12 : 11:30-1:00 will be held at the Kennesaw Rec Center on Watts Drive, Kennesaw. This is our Scholarship luncheon, where 18 local high school seniors are awarded scholarships. Please RSVP at [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org).

### KBA APR AA5

The Big Shanty Festival AA5 will be held on Thursday April 7th! at Trackside Grill. This is the beginning of the Big Shanty Festival weekend celebration. Brett will be serving his famous Low County Boil Trackside is located in downtown Kennesaw GA 30144 RSVP [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org).

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AFTER 40 YEARS, JUDGE MARY STALEY CLARK STEPS OFF THE BENCH

Judge Mary Staley Clark, who has served as a Cobb County judge since 1982, has announced her retirement. Her last day will be May 1, 2022.



“It will take time to adjust to not being on the bench every day. Of course, I’ll continue to help as a senior judge, but I am looking forward to getting married this spring and being able to spend more time with my parents and family,” Judge Staley Clark said.

She was elected to the Superior Court bench in 1992 and served as Chief Judge from 2005 to 2007. An advocate and pioneer of accountability courts, she helped create Cobb’s Mental Health Court in 2013, and she now presides over Cobb’s Drug Treatment Court. She has practiced law since 1978, when she earned her Juris Doctor at the University of Georgia and went to work as a criminal prosecutor under District Attorney Thomas Charron.

Before joining Superior Court, she was elected to Magistrate Court in 1982 and then to Division I of State Court in 1984. Judge Staley Clark was elected, without opposition, to every position she ever held and was the first female initially elected to any judgeship in Cobb County.

“She has been a leader in promoting accountability courts,” Schuster said. “Judge Staley Clark realized there was a better way to treat those with illness than incarceration. She saved many lives and returned many in our population to be good citizens.”

Throughout her tenure, Judge Staley Clark has been equally active outside the courtroom. She was a member of the 1996 Class of Leadership Georgia, and she co-authored a volume of Georgia Jurisprudence on family law. Judge Staley Clark was also instrumental in establishing Cobb’s Family Law Workshop, a free monthly seminar for self-represented litigants.

From 2014 to 2015, she served as president of both the Kiwanis Club of Marietta and the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia, which sets rules for the hundreds of judges that sit in the state’s 50 judicial circuits. Judge Staley Clark also served as an officer on the Council of Accountability Court Judges until this year.

Chief Judge Rob Leonard said Judge Staley Clark is irreplaceable. “As Chief Judge, I’ve relied upon her wisdom and depth of experience on many occasions. She will certainly be missed by everyone, and I look forward to her joining our group of distinguished Senior Judges following her appointment by the Governor.”

“My parents raised me to be honest, work hard, study hard, and be kind and courageous. They put me on the path I’ve been so blessed to travel these 40 years,” she said. “And, of course, my late husband, Chuck Clark, was a great source of strength, love, and support.”

“I am thankful for so much,” Judge Staley Clark said. “I am thankful for the vision and courage Tom Charron showed in hiring female prosecutors for the first time in the office’s history, and I am thankful that the Mental Health Court and Drug Treatment Court helped people live better lives.”

“And, I am thankful for the wonderful Cobb community that gave me the privilege to serve as a judge and administer justice these many years. Cobb is a wonderful place with the best bench in Georgia.”

Governor Brian Kemp will appoint a successor to serve the remainder of Judge Staley Clark’s term, which runs through 2024.

2022 MARIETTA COMMUNITY EGG HUNT

The Marietta Community Egg Hunt is Hosted by Life University and presenting sponsors are Superior Plumbing and the Marietta Business Association

Plan to join us for the Marietta Community Egg Hunt on Friday April 15 from 5:00-9:00 pm at Life University Athletic Complex: 1415 Barclay Circle ~ Marietta, Ga. 30060. There will be fun, food, games, music, activities, and of course egg hunts for everyone. The event will take place at Life University. There will be more than 40,000 eggs and candy for the various hunts. The funds raised from the Egg Hunt go to support Marietta City Schools via the Marietta Business Association Education Programs.

Parking is FREE - There is ample parking at the school (1269 Barclay Circle) Admission is FREE. Kids bring your Easter Baskets

For more Information: Call 770-423-1330 or e-mail: billwatson@jrmmanagement.com or missy@jrmmanagement.com



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WE LOVE A PARADE - JOIN US

The Big Shanty Festival PARADE – will start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 9. The Parade features fabulous floats and proud marchers – plus winners of many pageants along with Allatoona, Kell, Kennesaw Mountain and North Cobb High School Bands. So grab your sister, brother, neighbors, friends, round up your church group, scout group, bring your business vehicles and let’s all parade down Main Street. It is an exciting way to start the Festival. You know you will see everyone you know in Kennesaw that weekend! To participate in the parade - down load application form at [kennesawbusiness.org/bsf](http://kennesawbusiness.org/bsf) fill out and email to [Missy@JRMManagement.com](mailto:Missy@JRMManagement.com)



THE KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION BOOTH

As a reminder the city allows Main Street to be closed for the Festival. This provides a much safer environment for folks to get back and forth between city hall and the depot/ museum area. The Kennesaw Business Association will host an information tent, right in the middle of Main St., So if you are looking for a particular booth, someone at the Information tent will be able to tell you which section they are in.

If you have questions, stop by and see the KBA booth . Parents you might want to suggest to your kids, that if you get separated during the festival to meet each other at the Information booth. Let your child have your cell phone number, and someone from the booth can call and tell you that your child is there.

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

STREET CLOSINGS

The following streets will be closed starting Friday, April 8 at 6:00 pm until Sunday April 10 at 8:00pm. J O Stephenson Ave. (runs in front of city hall and Cherokee Street in front of the museum. Starting Saturday morning at 6:00 am until Sunday at 8:00pm. Main Street will be closed from Cemetery St. to Moon Station Rd. Watts Drive and Lewis will be closed between Dallas and Main Streets.

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## CALLED TO BLESS (PART ONE)

BY MARLON LONGACRE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR, PIEDMONT CHURCH  
CALLED TO BLESS

We are looking at the five callings of your life. The five purposes of your life. The five reasons God created you. The five assignments that he has for your life.

The word "calling" is used more than the word "purpose" in the Bible. Over the past few weeks Ike and Daniel have talked about the callings on your life. We looked at God's first calling in your life – you're called to be loved. God made you to love you. The second calling is you're called to belong – to belong to his family, the body of Christ, the family of God. Last week we looked at your third calling – you're called to become. God wants you to grow up, he wants you to mature, he wants you to become who he wants you to be. The whole reason why we exist is because God wanted a family.

This phrase, "God's call", I used to think it was a special thing for people like missionaries were called or priests were called of God or pastors, or nuns had the call, that it was some kind of special thing. You're walking down the street one day and you're zapped and you are "called by God -- from now on I must serve Him with all my life."

But the fact is, the Bible says every Christian is called. The Bible says the call to salvation and the call to service are identical. The moment you signed up and said, "Yes, I want to go to heaven and I want to have my sins forgiven" you also said, "And I'm willing to serve You the rest of my life." The Bible says every Christian is called to serve; every member of God's family is a minister. Not everybody's a pastor. But a minister. What's a minister? A servant. What's a servant? Somebody who serves. Anytime you use your abilities to help other people in the name of Jesus, you're ministering to them. The Bible says I've been called to serve. Every Christian is called to serve. A non-serving Christian is a contradiction.

Today I want to focus on the fourth calling on your life and it is You are called to bless. You are called to bless other people.

How do you do that? You bless others by serving them. There are so many ways to serve others. It may be physical assistance. It may be financial assistance. It may be emotional support. It could be relational support. Countless ways to serve others.

I want you to write this down in notes. The fourth purpose of my life is God SHAPED me to serve him.

### S- SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Supernatural abilities that God gives you the moment you become a believer in order to fulfill His purpose in your life. God gives you specific talents, multiple spiritual gifts the moment you become a believer. Many of you don't even know you've got spiritual gifts. You've never unwrapped them but you have them. He gives you these spiritual abilities the moment you become a believer.

But I need to be honest with you. Some of you don't have any spiritual gifts. You're not believers yet. You haven't stepped across the line. You haven't established that relationship to God through Jesus Christ. But the moment you do, you will be given those spiritual gifts, which are abilities to help you fulfill your purpose in life. Every Christian has at least one.

### H- HEART

This is your motivations, your interests, your core passions, the things that "turn your crank." Have you noticed that some things really interest you and other things bore you to tears? Have you noticed that some things really turn you on, really get you excited, and others you couldn't care less about? Where do you think you got your innate interest? God gave them to you. God gave you your heart, the things that really interest you, that cause you to get passionate. Why did He do that? Because He wants you to be you.

### A- ABILITIES

Those are the natural abilities you were given the moment you were born. And everybody has some natural abilities. Some of you are really good at numbers. I was really good at math until they started putting letters besides the numbers. I lost my heart for math after that. Some of you are good with words. Some of you are good with people; some of you are not so good with people. Some of you are really good with animals. Some of you have natural athletic ability. Some people have mechanical abilities, the ability to work with machines. I don't have one ounce of mechanical ability in my body. I have shared with you many times that Libby puts things together in our house. I came home the other day and she was fixing the chain on the toilet. Some of you have musical abilities – you pick up an instrument and in a few days you're playing the thing. Some of you have great voices and you can sing. Others of you are prison singers – you're always behind a few bars and never have the right key.

### P- PERSONALITY

God shapes you by giving you unique personality. And some of your personalities are very unique. God loves variety; you've probably figured that out by now.

For instance when you go swimming do you like to plunge right in or do you like to test the water and wade in? Typically plungers marry waders. How many of you would say, "I love to be organized!" How many of you would say, "Organization cramps my style"? That's me!

How many of you would say, "I really like routine. I like things to be set up, a system." How many of you would say, "I like variety. I like things to be different." It's not right or wrong. We're just different. The point is that God uses different personalities to get all the work done in the world.

### E- EXPERIENCE

Obviously God gives us lots of different kinds of experiences. There are vocational experiences. Jobs that we have had in the past that shape our lives. There educational experiences. The things you learned at through schools and seminars. There are spiritual experiences. Things at church, camps, retreats, tapes, quiet times. Relational experiences. Painful experiences. God never wastes a hurt. Sometimes your greatest ministry comes out of your pain, your tragedy, your failure your mistakes.



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## MEET LEARNING DAYS CHILD CARE

BY SHIKETA MORGAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our journey began in 1998 in our home in St. Louis Missouri. I left a career as a Medical assistant, because I heard the voice of God say, Start a daycare. I resisted at first and I decided to be obedient to God's plan. We opened our first center in 2003 in St. Ann Missouri, then we expanded again in 2014 into our dream location. In 2013, visited Atlanta and we fell in love with Atlanta. It was on my heart for 5 years, but I was afraid to step outside of my comfort zone.

Then I got a call on January 27, 2018 and it was my mom. She said my sister went into cardiac arrest. Seven days later, we were forced to take my sister off of life support and that day, I made the decision to live out the dreams in my heart.

On October 5, 2018, my Husband and I moved to Atlanta with the dream of doing business in Atlanta and expanding our child care business. Two years later we found our Atlanta location. It was such a blessing. The building was completely turnkey and supplied with equipment. We signed the lease in March, 2021 and we opened our location on August 16, 2021.

Pictured above: We did a ribbon cutting on August 20, 2021 with the mayor of the city of Kennesaw and we are so excited to do business in the city of Kennesaw. The best is yet to come and we look forward to providing families in Atlanta with high quality child care services!! Thank you so much for sharing our story.

### SUMMER FUN CAMP

Learning Days is now taking enrollment for Summer Fun Camp. Your child will have a summer of fun and learning. Camps will be held June - August. Please call 678-742-8004 or email learningdays@aol.com for more information.

## THE SWIFT-CANTRELL PARK FOUNDATION

BY ERICKA ORCUTT,  
CHAIR OF SWIFT-CANTRELL PARK FOUNDATION

If you've been around Kennesaw, you've probably seen or visited the Swift-Cantrell Park. Located in the heart of Kennesaw, its popularity extends to residents and non-residents alike. But you may not have heard of the Swift-Cantrell Park Foundation.

The Swift-Cantrell Park Foundation was created to support the City of Kennesaw by raising funds for capital improvements for the Park. The Foundation is operated by a volunteer Board of Directors consisting of area residents who utilize the Park's amenities. The Board works closely with the City of Kennesaw, City Council, and community leaders, to identify upcoming needs and goals for improvements and additions to the Park's facilities that are consistent with the Park's Master Plan.

Since its inception in 2010, the Foundation has contributed to the creation, upgrades, and maintenance of the skate park, creation of the splash pad, addition of shade structures, and tree planting. Notably, in January 2020, the Foundation donated \$100,000 for the Inclusive Playground addition, a project championed by the Foundation and presented to the City in 2018.

The Foundation's main fundraiser is the Swift-Cantrell Classic 5K run, held annually in May. Known as the "May Day Race for More Play Space," this year's race will take place on May 14, 2022. The race is a qualifier for the Peachtree Road Race and is the lead race in Kennesaw's Grand Prix race series.

Other fundraising opportunities include Memorial Tree Plantings at the Park, Buy-A-Brick from the Old Kennesaw Schoolhouse, t-shirt sales, corporate grants, and partnerships and sponsorships with local businesses. The Board also participates in the Big Shanty, Pigs & Peaches, and Taste of Kennesaw festivals to bring awareness to both the Swift-Cantrell Park Foundation and Park.

The Foundation welcomes new board members, volunteers, and sponsors and appreciates the ongoing community support received from Kennesaw residents and beyond. To learn more, please visit the website at [www.swiftcantrellparkfoundation.org](http://www.swiftcantrellparkfoundation.org), or social media pages.

## SWIFT CANTRELL 5K CLASSIC



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**FOUR NCHS BANDS EARN SUPERIOR RATINGS**

Congratulations to Band Director Sheldon Frazier and our North Cobb High School bands for a set of stellar performances at our District Large Group Performance Evaluation. This annual assessment of student achievement is similar to the standardized tests or end of course exams of other disciplines. Nationally recognized experts evaluate the band on every aspect of student and director performance, giving the performance a set of sub-category grades that culminate to an overall rating on a scale of 1-5: 5 = Failure, 4 = Poor 3 = Average 2= Excellent and 1 = Superior.

NCHS sent 4 separate bands (between 40-70 kids in each band) to evaluation and each band earned straight Superior (1) ratings from every judge in attendance. The tradition of excellence continues in the NC Band Program!! We all know how special these kids are, but these kids touched lives with what they were able to do with their talent.

Our most advanced band, the North Cobb Wind Symphony, was also selected to perform at the Southeastern Regional Concert Band Festival at Georgia State University through an evaluation process alongside 15 other excellent bands from the Southeastern US. Our Warriors are Inspiring Excellence.

**BRAIN BRAWL TEAM ARE CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to the North Cobb-Harrison NJROTC Brain Brawl Team who reclaimed the Area 12 Championship! The competition took place Saturday, 19 March in Jacksonville, Florida and the team will now travel to San Diego, California to compete at the Navy Nationals in April where they will attempt to win their 6th National Championship.



**NORTH COBB-HARRISON NJROTC  
 BRAIN BRAWL TEAM**

**PICKETT'S MILL CELEBRATES**

Read Across America Day at Pickett's Mill was on Wednesday, March 2nd. A great big thank you to Mayor Allegood, Acworth Police Officer Lamar Almon, Allatoona Principal Candace Wilkes, Durham Middle School Principal Andy Bristow, CCSD Chief of Staff Kevin Daniel, CCSD Board member Randy Scamihorn, and Acworth business owners Daniel Diemer/Day's Chevrolet, Andy Duncan/Chick-Fil-A and Susan McElvy/Pearl's Day Spa. These folks were just some of the guests. We had a total of about 26 readers with us that day. Pictured above is Andy Duncan and his Chick-Fil-A Mascot!

**LOCAL HISTORIAN, MICHAEL K. SHAFFER'S DAILY ACCOUNTING**

Until now, a daily account (1,630 days) of Georgia's social, political, economic, and military events during the Civil War did not exist. Each daily entry derives from a quill scrolling the parchment or a press imprinting type on the day the activity occurred. With this effort, historian Michael K. Shaffer strikes a balance between the combatants while remembering the struggles of enslaved persons, folks on the home front, and merchants and clergy attempting to maintain some sense of normalcy. As such, this work will become the standard reference book for those studying the Civil War in Georgia.

Michael K. Shaffer is a Civil War historian, instructor, lecturer, newspaper columnist, and author. He is a member of the Society of Civil War Historians, Historians of the Civil War Western Theater, and the Georgia Association of Historians. Shaffer teaches Civil War courses at Kennesaw State University's College of Graduate and Professional Education and at Emory University.

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## MARIETTA NEWS



### MARIETTA TREE KEEPER

Marietta Tree Keepers invites volunteers of all ages to help plant trees in the Marietta City Cemetery on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 8:30am. Tools and refreshments provided. Dress for outdoor weather.

Please join us for another Tree Maintenance Day. We will be maintaining trees in the Marietta City Cemetery. The parking address is: Brown Park, 358 West Atlanta St., Marietta, 30064, look for the green signage. You can also drive into the middle of the cemetery and look for our sign-in table at the small white building. Grab a friend or a family member and donate your Saturday morning to help Marietta Tree Keepers maintain trees. Donuts, hot chocolate and hot coffee provided. In case of bad weather please call 770-424-4664 for weather updates and rescheduled date.

### GLOVER PARK CONCERT SERIES

The Downtown Marietta Development Authority and the City of Marietta are proud to announce the 2022 Glover Park Concert Series presented by Atlanta Fine Homes Sotheby's International Realty. As in previous years, these free concerts will take place monthly in Glover Park in the Marietta Square. All concerts begin at 8:00 on the last Friday of each month, April - September

The concert lineup: April 29, The Geek Squad, Pop/R&B; May 27, BJ Wilbanks, That 70s Show; June 24, Catalinas, Beach; July 29, Chuck Martin, Country; August 26, Brotherhood, Doobies Tribute; September 30, Still Swinging Big Band

Attendees can bring a picnic or dine in one of the many fine restaurants located on the square. Blankets and lawn chairs may be set up in the park. Tables and chairs are permitted in the street after 6:00 p.m. No personal tables, plastic ground covering, ropes, tape, stakes, etc. used to section off areas are permitted inside the park as they will be removed.

### MARIETTA HISTORY CENTER PRESENTS POP-IN FOR FAMILY FUN

Saturday, April 16th, we will be hosting our monthly Pop-In event from 10:30am-3:30pm. This month the theme is Bugs & Flowers. Pop-In's provide children and their families the opportunity to interact with the Museum through themed activities and crafts. WWW.mariettahistory.org. Free Admission.

### TASTE OF MARIETTA

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. With an impressive variety of restaurants – some new to the event, along with past favorites – the 2022 festival is sure to be better than ever. For questions about event details, call 770-429-1115 or visit the Marietta Welcome Center

### 4TH OF JULY PARADE APPLICATIONS

Marietta Parks and Recreation Department is proud to announce the application for the 2022 Let Freedom Ring July 4th Parade, on Monday, July 4th, is now open. School bands, military units, civic organizations, beauty queens, local Boys and Girl Scout clubs, area businesses and others can sign up online to be a part of this year's parade. Parade applicants should apply online. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 27th at 5 pm. To register for the parade: [https://cityofmarietta.formstack.com/forms/fourth\\_of\\_july\\_parade](https://cityofmarietta.formstack.com/forms/fourth_of_july_parade) More info: Call Marietta Parks and Recreation, 770-794-5601

### FOREVER PLAID AT THE STRAND

Forever Plaid is a deliciously fun musical chock-full of classic barbershop harmonies and pop hits of the 1950s. In this crowd-pleasing favorite, the four young men of "Forever Plaid" will make you laugh and steal your hearts as they send up a lovable throwback to great nostalgic hits with music like "Three Coins in the Fountain," "16 Tons," and "Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing."

Singing in close harmony, squabbling boyishly over the smallest intonations, and executing charmingly outlandish choreography with overzealous precision, the "Plaids" take you through a delightful, mischievous, and unashamedly heartwarming homage to the sweet and innocent sounds of the '50s and the '60s.

The program runs May 13-May 22. Tickets available online at [earlsmithstrand.org](http://earlsmithstrand.org) or call the box office at 770-293-0080

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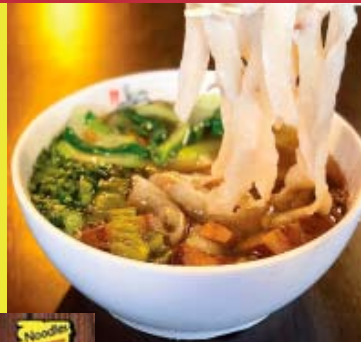
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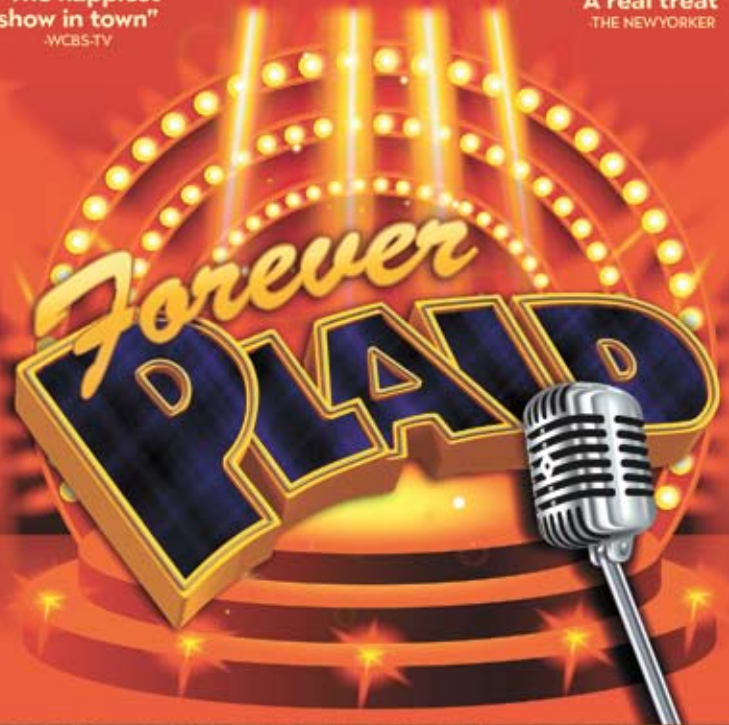
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**Outdoor Worship Center**  
**Traditional Service- 10am-11am**  
**Sanctuary**  
**Modern Service-11am-12pm**  
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## EXPERIENCE EASTER AND KENNESAW UMC

Kennesaw United Methodist Church invites you to be part of the Easter experience. We kick off holy week with Palm Sunday, April 10, with one service only at 10:30 am in our Sanctuary. Holy week continues with our Good Friday service, April 15, at 7pm in our Sanctuary.

On Saturday, April 16th, we invite our community to join us for an Easter Extravaganza at 10am in our CAC, as we will have egg hunts, snacks, prizes, and a live Easter story.

Come celebrate the resurrection of Jesus with us on Sunday, April 17, as we have three services for you to choose to attend. At 6:45am we will worship as the sun rises in our Outdoor Worship Center. Our traditional service will take place at 10am in our Sanctuary, followed by our modern service at 11am in the CAC.

Kennesaw UMC is located at 1801 Ben King Road, Kennesaw, GA 30144. For more information and to check on all of our Easter related events, visit <https://www.kennesawumc.org/easter>.

## 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.

## WALKING MEDITATION

**BY PATRICIA WALLENBERG, OAK SANCTUARY**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## MEET DANIELE JOHNSON



Daniele Johnson is running for Cobb Superior Court Judge. She is seeking the open seat created by Judge Flournoy's decision to retire at the end of his term.

Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction over family law matters, including divorce, custody, and domestic violence. Daniele Johnson has practiced family law in Cobb County since 1999. She is also a certified Guardian Ad Litem, meaning, she is trained and certified to represent the best interest of children.

Superior Court also has exclusive jurisdiction over felony crimes. Upon graduating from law school, Daniele Johnson served as a deputy district attorney and assigned to the Special Victims Unit, a team dedicated to prosecuting felony crimes committed against children. Prior to then, Daniele Johnson was court-certified to represent victims of domestic violence.

Daniele Johnson is hoping to bring her 25 consecutive years relatable experience to the Cobb Superior Court bench. She and her husband have lived in Cobb County since 1999 and are the proud parents of three teenage daughters.

To learn more about Daniele Johnson and her professional accolades, visit her website at [www.daniele4judge.com](http://www.daniele4judge.com).

## ACWORTH'S 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.





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