

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

Volume 31 No 6

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

JUNE 2022



## ACWORTH'S JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

Let freedom ring! The City of Acworth and the Acworth Business Association are proud to present one of the largest fireworks extravaganzas in Metro Atlanta. This July 4th, live music and fireworks will once again take place at Cauble Park. Live music begins at 5:30 p.m. Fireworks will begin at approximately 9:30 p.m. (subject to change depending on weather).

As tradition holds, there will be special tribute to all those men and women who have served in our Armed Forces at 7:45 p.m. Then our headliners "FLASHBACK" takes the stage at 8:00 p.m. This is the 21st year in a row that Flashback has brought their energy to the Acworth state. Flashback takes you through decades of classics; from the best of Motown, Beach, and Disco, then all the way into Current Top Hits. The audience experiences an interactive and energetic performance while dancing to song after song!

This Party Band showcases phenomenal musicians, clever choreography, breathtaking vocals, and carefully chosen medleys of all your favorite songs. Each of the seasoned musicians in Flashback bring years of experience and unimaginable talent to the stage.

Admission to the event and concert is free! There will be food vendors on-site selling a variety of options beginning at noon. Tables are available to purchase for the July 4th concert. Online table purchases may be made at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org). Online table sales close Wednesday, June 23rd at 5:00. Tables may also be purchased in person at the Acworth Community Center through Saturday, June 26 at 2:00 p.m. Tables are \$50 each for City of Acworth residents and \$70 for non-residents. Table purchases include 6 chairs and one parking pass. This parking pass will grant access to park at Cauble Park if spots remain available. Parking at Cauble Park is by parking pass only on July 4th, but Cauble Park parking is not guaranteed with this pass. It is highly recommended to arrive early. Anyone parked at Cauble will not be permitted to leave once the fireworks have begun. Cars will be permitted to leave the park once the fireworks have concluded and the crowd has cleared out.

Those without a parking pass or if the parking is full will need to park downtown and walk down to the park. Shuttles will not be running for this event. Handicap parking will be available at McCall Primary School and there will be a shuttle provided for handicap attendees. Handicap shuttles begin at noon.



## CITY OF KENNESAW'S SALUTE TO AMERICA TO FEATURE LIVE MUSIC, FOOD & FIREWORKS

The City of Kennesaw will host its annual Independence Day celebration of freedom, music and fireworks on Sunday, July 3 from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. in Downtown Kennesaw. Admission to the event is free.

Salute to America will feature two stages of live music, festive street entertainment, food vendors, and kid's activities. The evening will conclude with a brilliant fireworks finale, visible from Depot Park and along Main Street, at 9:30 p.m.

The American Flyers is a collection of career musicians with decades of experience in the recording and concert industry. This show is a commemorative of Smash hits from the sixties rock trios to the big R&B groups that have filled the dance floors and dominated radio. In addition to street vendor and sponsor booths, attractions will include pay-to-play inflatable amusements. A wide selection of entrées, cold beverages and snacks will be available for purchase. Attendees may bring picnic baskets or coolers. Grills will not be allowed. A table for six located in front of the Depot Park Stage, may be reserved for \$75. With the exception of reserved tables near the Depot Stage, all seating will be general admission, so please bring a blanket or comfortable low-back chair.

Kennesaw city parks are "Breathe Easy Zones"; NO tobacco products, smoking, and e-cigarettes allowed in Depot Park. For more information and to reserve a table, visit [www.kennesawjuly3.com](http://www.kennesawjuly3.com) or call Kennesaw Parks & Recreation at 770-422-9714.



## MARIETTA TO CELEBRATE JULY 4

Grab your American flag, put on your red, white and blue, and celebrate America's Independence July 4, from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. with an Independence Day parade and celebration on the Square presented by Superior Plumbing, free live concerts, arts and crafts show, food, carnival games and the City of Marietta fireworks finale. Throughout the day, more than 80,000 people are expected to celebrate on the Square with great food, fun activities, the best arts and crafts around and free entertainment from Departure: The Journey Tribute Band starting at 8:00 on. Fireworks show will start at dark, around dark thirty.

The Marietta Let Freedom Ring Parade includes 110 entries, 2,000 participants and an estimated 30,000 spectators. Entries include marching units from the city of Marietta, civic organizations, beauty queens, scouts and local businesses. The parade begins at 10:00am at Roswell Street Baptist Church and travels west on Roswell Street, north on East Park Square past Glover Park and the Square, down Cherokee Street and ends at North Marietta Parkway. The end of the parade marks the start of the Festival. Food concessions, arts and crafts and carnival will provide plenty to do for the whole family.

Arts and crafts show with nearly 100 unique handcrafted vendors: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Food concessions: Anything to please the palate from ice products to cool you down to corn-dogs and BBQ to satisfy your appetite. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Kid's Zone – huge interactive kids play area: 10 a.m.-dark; tickets for games available at booths located throughout the park

Concert Table Reservations. The evening concerts will begin at 7:00pm & float you into the fireworks show at 9:30pm. A limited number of tables will be available on Tuesday, June 1st on a first served basis. Pricing is \$100 for an 8-top table & 6-top tables are \$80. To reserve a table or more information, contact Laura McLaughlin at 770-423-1330 or email [laura@jrmmanagement.com](mailto:laura@jrmmanagement.com).

## TWO WEEKS TO RUNOFFS

Candidates who didn't earn 50% plus in the May 24 will be on the ballot for the June 21 run-off. The runoffs that effect our area are all state wide seats. The following seats in the run-off are all Democratic and they are Secretary of State Democrats: Dee Dawkins-Haigler and Bee Nguyen; Lieutenant governor Democrats: Charlie Bailey and Kwanza Hall; Insurance commissioner Democrats: Raphael Baker and Janice Laws Robinson; Labor commissioner Democrats: William Boddie and Nicole Horn

### ELECTION INFORMATION

Deadline to request an absentee ballot for the runoff: June 10

Early voting for the runoff starts on June 13. The Runoff is June 21, 2022.

Need an absentee ballot for the Nov 8 election? Apply for an absentee ballot starting Aug. 22. Absentee ballots are not mailed until the first day of early voting.

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DEADLINE FOR JULY 2022 ISSUE  
TUES JUNE 27 2022  
PUBLISHED JULY 5 2022

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## THIS AND THAT



### CONGRATULATIONS

Mackenzie Whiten, Office Manager for Lake City Chiropractic, used her creative skills to wow the Easter Bunny. She won the Bunny Award for best decorated egg in the Acworth's Parks and Recreation contest. MacKenzie shared that she had help from her three year old and her Mom created the letters.

### CONGRATULATIONS



JOHN P. MCLAUGHLIN

Congratulations to Kennesaw Resident, John P. McLaughlin for receiving the honor and being named a Kentucky Colonel. The commission of Kentucky Colonel is the highest title of honor bestowed by the Governor of Kentucky. It is recognition of an individual's noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to our community, state, and nation. John is the Manager of Territory Sales for Beam Suntory



### HOG DINNER

Ricky MacDonald will be honored on Tuesday June 14 at North Star Church, 3413 Blue Springs Dr., Kennesaw. The event is dinner and is from 6:30 until 8:00 pm. No charge for dinner.

January 2018 was the first time we almost lost Ricky. By the time he got to the emergency room, he had lost 8 units of blood. His kidneys and liver had started shutting down and as we now know, the damage to his liver was irreversible. It's called cirrhosis.

In January, he was evaluated for the liver transplant and was told he would likely get his transplant in a matter of days or weeks. Three days later, he had a fever caused by a staph infection that ravaged his body and led to two weeks on a ventilator fighting for his life and 35 days in the hospital. He lost 40 pounds and is working on getting his strength back as he awaits his new liver.

The MacDonalds could use some help to offset medical and living expenses as they prepare for and recover from Ricky's liver transplant.

Register online at <https://www.helpingoneguy.org/details/ricky-macdonald/>.

## BRIGHT SIDE PAGE 2

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

Luther P. Mathis was born March 19, 1876, in Forsyth County. Prior to 1910, he married a woman named Mary. According to the 1910 census, the family lived in Kennesaw where Mathis worked as a farmer. By the 1920s they had moved to West Cobb, near the corner of Kennesaw Due West, Acworth Due West, and Due West Roads. The community went by several names: at one time it had been known as Due West, it is listed in the 1920 census as Red Rock, and the Marietta Journal referred to it as Dixon Schoolhouse.



Mathis worked in the casket industry, and according to his obituary he spent 51 years in the business. From 1920 until his death, he worked for the Atlanta Casket Company. By 1923, Mathis had moved back to Kennesaw from West Cobb. He served as Mayor of Kennesaw in 1930.

In October of 1932, Mathis and 5 other Kennesaw residents were in car traveling down what is now called Old 41 Highway. Near Kennesaw Mountain there was a heavy fog, and the car Mathis was in struck a truck head on. The other 5 occupants were treated for minor bruises, while the Atlanta paper reported Mathis was seriously injured and in a "semi-conscious" state. He survived the accident and returned to Kennesaw.

Luther P. Mathis passed away on September 2, 1941, at an Atlanta hospital. His funeral was held at the Methodist Church, where Mathis had been a member for 46 years. He was buried shortly afterwards in the Kennesaw City Cemetery.

EMAIL YOUR STORIES,  
PHOTOS OR QUESTIONS  
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.

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

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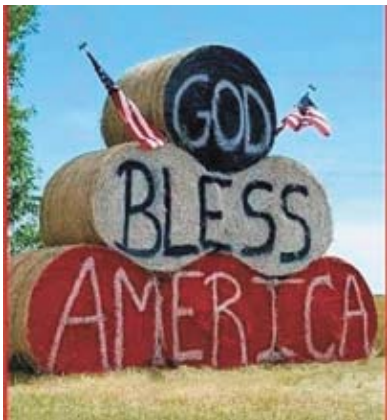


## A GARDEN WITH WINGS BUTTERFLY HOUSE RETURNS TO SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS

"A Garden With Wings," the popular pollinator exhibit at Smith-Gilbert Gardens (SGG) featuring a kid-friendly pollinator garden and 2,000 square foot butterfly house, opens for the season on Thursday, July 1, 2022. Visitors to the pollinator garden will see an inspiring collection of annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs that attract and support native pollinators like bumblebees, hummingbirds and butterflies. The recently expanded butterfly house offers an up-close experience with butterflies, plus the opportunity to see all stages of their life cycle. Visitors will see host plants that serve as food sources for a wide variety of caterpillars. The exhibit is included with Garden admission and runs through Saturday, July 31, 2021.

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

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



## CELEBRATE AMERICA WITH A KID'S PARADE!

Families in our community are invited to participate in Kennesaw Parks & Rec's Kid's Parade! This year, the parade will be held on Friday, July 3 from 12-1 PM. We'll meet in the Commemorative Park and will walk down Main Street, ending behind City Hall.

Parade participants are welcome to dress up and decorate their strollers, wagons or bicycles with a red, white and blue theme. Please no motorized vehicles. Parents must accompany their children for the entirety of the parade.

This event is FREE! Register today at <https://secure.rec1.com/GA/kennesaw-ga/catalog>. ; Click on Special Events and then Salute to America. Select Kids Parade!

## KENNESAW FARMERS MARKET IS OPEN

The Kennesaw Downtown Development Authority is excited to present the 2022 Kennesaw



Farmers Market as it returns to Depot Park for the 2022 season. This year's market will take place on Mondays, with hours of operation from 3:30-7:30 p.m., and will be located in the Big Shanty Drive parking lot at Depot Park. The market season is set to open on Monday, April 4, and run through Monday, August 1. The market will close on July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

The Market will feature farmers and makers, as well as some local favorite food

trucks. On a typical Market day in summer, over 20 vendors will be set up offering their best vegetables, fruits, baked goods, and specialty items.

For more information or to apply, email [kennesawfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:kennesawfarmersmarket@gmail.com)

## SPLASH PAD IS OPEN

Kennesaw Parks & Rec is so excited for the Splash Pad to start its season! Memorial Day (May 30) is opening day! To make it even better, it will be free admission all day! Splash Pad hours are from 10 AM to 7 PM. See you there! The Splash Pad season runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The Splash Pad is open daily, except for Thursdays as it is closed for scheduled maintenance. Admission is \$2 per person. Children ages 2 and under are free.

## ALL-STAR SUMMER DAY CAMP

Announcing the new and improved All-Star Summer Day Camp: Camp Venture! Camp Venture will have the same structure your kids know and love! This summer there will be nine weeks of non-stop fun now through July 29th! Each week's schedule is hand crafted by our very own camp counselors. They will lead your camper on a summer to remember. Each week also has fun activities; from field trips, crafts, games, and more! Below is the list of themes this year! Register online at [www.kennesawparksandrec.org](http://www.kennesawparksandrec.org)

Nine weeks of Adventure: Week 3: S.T.E.A.M Week; Week 4: Water, Water Everywhere; Week 5 All-Star Sports; Week 6 Amazing Animal Kingdom;; Week 7 Wilderness Explorers; Week 8: Mad About Science; Week 9: Finale Fun in the Sun;

For a ton more information visit their Camp Page: <https://www.kennesaw-ga.gov/summer-day-camp/>. Registration: <https://secure.rec1.com/GA/kennesaw-ga/catalog>. Click on Summer Camps and scroll to the camp you are interested in.



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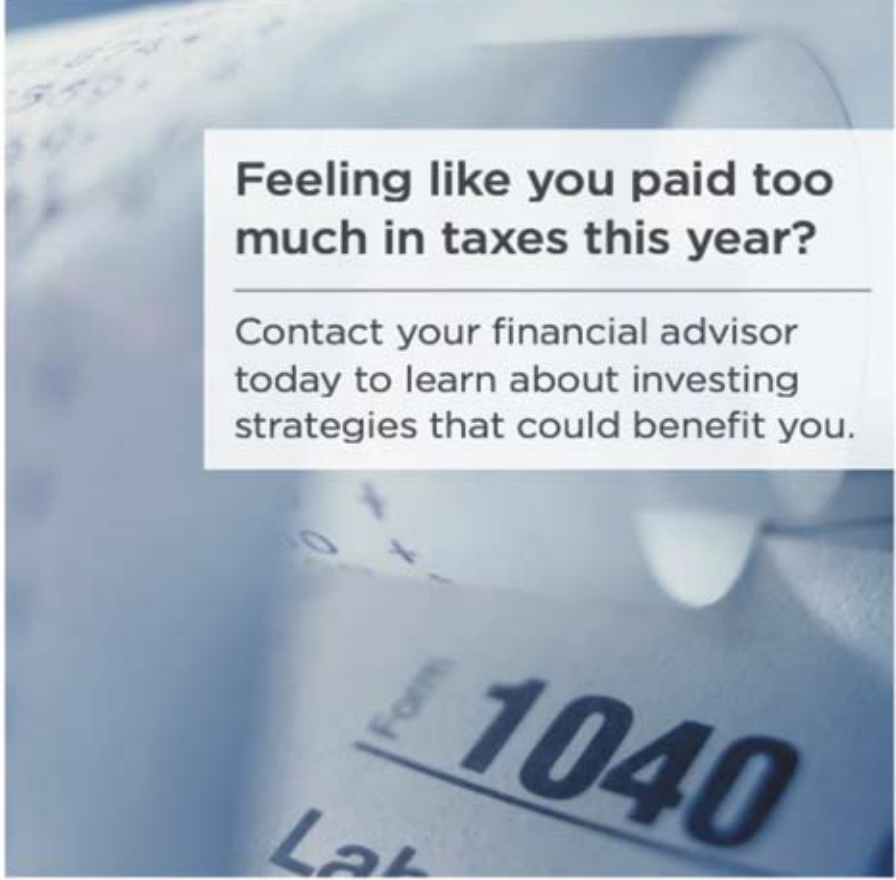
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## THIS 'N THAT



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
Happy Birthday to my granddaughter, Isabel DeAntonio, who turned 20 on June 5. She is pictured here (on the left) with her mom, Susan King (NCHS '80). Isabel attends Syracuse University.

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**WELCOME NEW ADVERTISER**  
The Bright Side welcomes Kim Gallatta, Remax Around Atlanta, real estate specialist. Take advantage of her 21 years of selling in Kennesaw, Acworth and Marietta. Call her on her cell at 770-377-3256. She has the answers. See her ad on page 3.

The Bright Side welcomes Nagel's Bagels and congratulates them for opening their brick and mortar store at 125 W. Main St., Cartersville. Open Monday - Saturday for breakfast and lunch. See their ad on page 9.

**ARTS ALLIANCE NEWS**  
**YOU'RE INVITED!**  
Visit us as we open our "Local Inspirations" Exhibit. "Local" is Georgia, Atlanta, Cobb County, Acworth... this exhibit includes paintings, photography, pottery, glass, turned wood, beading, quilting... Open House- Saturday, July 9, 4-7pm. Light refreshments will be available. This event is free and open to the public.

Call for Artists: The submission deadline for our "Juried Exhibit- Ordinary to Extraordinary" is Friday, July 15 at Midnight. This exhibit will open on Saturday August 6, with a reception from 4-7pm. An awards reception is planned for Saturday, September 3, from 4-7pm. Our receptions are free and open to the public, and light refreshments are available. Visit our website for more information: [acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines](http://acworthartsalliance.org/guidelines)

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# Fourth of July

## Fireworks &



## Concert



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## THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

Summer is here, and Acworth is bursting with great things for the community to enjoy! We're excited to begin our summer of celebration as we take in all that Acworth has to offer. The parks are open, the restaurants are bustling, and Downtown Acworth has great new businesses to enjoy that complement our longstanding local favorites.

This month, we'd like to celebrate community heroes. We value teamwork in our city, and each of us can make a positive difference in each other's lives here in Acworth. We were proud to celebrate city employee Brad Wilson from Acworth Power last month as his quick action to perform CPR during an otherwise normal day for him resulted in saving someone's life. His training made a huge impact not just to one person, but to their family, friends, and community. Each of our lives are so important, so as we head into a season full of activity and adventure, consider opportunities to learn simple skills that could help serve your community. From learning CPR to donating blood, a small activity can make a big difference! Check out [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for some great local resources on how to serve those you love and those that are loved by others.



Acworth is looking forward to the second annual Concert on the Green: A Juneteenth Celebration event at Logan Farm Park on Saturday, June 18 from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. See page 11 of this edition of the Bright Side for more details.

Before we know it, it's going to be time to head to Cauble Park to celebrate the 4th of July! The Acworth Business Association and the City of Acworth can't wait to let freedom ring with a concert and firework show at this not-to-be-missed annual event. Tables are available for sale at [www.acworthparksandrec.org](http://www.acworthparksandrec.org), and don't forget to make sure to park downtown and walk to the event as parking is only available at Cauble Park first come, first serve to people who purchase a table. Handicap parking will be available at McCall Primary School, and a shuttle will be running from the school for attendees who utilize the handicap parking area. We can't wait to celebrate America's birthday with you and your family!

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

## STAND UP PADDLEBOARD YOGA

Join Marlo from Backbends & Brews in this exciting stand-up paddleboard (SUP) yoga class on beautiful Lake Acworth! SUP Yoga will begin with basic paddleboard safety and instruction. Then, students will anchor for a fun one-hour yoga class focused on breath, balance and movement. This class is suitable for all levels, but participants must be able to swim. 20% of all of Backbends & Brews profits will be donated to charity! Paddleboard Rental is available at \$15 per class. Class is held on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Cauble Park.

## ACWORTH SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Acworth's annual Summer Camp Sports Series is here! Each camp focuses on fundamentals and skills of a different sport. Each camp is \$40 for City of Acworth residents and \$50 for non-residents. All participants will receive an official Acworth Sports Camp swag item. Camp schedules, locations, and age groups are below:

**Football Camp** for Ages: 5- 12 years of age. Dates: June 21 - 23. Time: 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.. Location: Acworth Sports Complex-Football Fields

**Speed and Agility Camp.** Ages: 7- 16 years of age Dates: June 28 - 30 Time: 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Location: Acworth Sports Complex- Football Fields

**Soccer Camp.** Ages: 5- 12 years of age. Dates: July 12 - 14. Time: 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Location: Acworth Sports Complex-Football Fields

**Baseball Camp** Ages: 5- 12 years of age. Dates: July 19 - 21 Time: 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Location: Acworth Sports Complex- Baseball Fields Field.

Camp schedules, locations, and age groups are also listed at <https://www.acworthparksandrec.org>. Select upcoming registrations. Youth registrations will be at the top. Can't find what you need. Call 770-917-1231

## DADDY DAUGHTER DATE NIGHT

The City of Acworth will host a Daddy Daughter Date Night at Tanyard Creek Overlook on Saturday, June 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This special event is the perfect night out for girls up to 14 years of age and their dad or adult male chaperone. Attendees will create precious memories as we enjoy an elegant dinner and some evening entertainment. The cost is \$40 per couple for City of Acworth residents and \$50 for non-residents. Seating is limited! For more information and to reserve your table, please visit [www.acworthparksandrec.org](http://www.acworthparksandrec.org).

## 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.acworthparksandrec.org](http://www.acworthparksandrec.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 from 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Acworth Community Center [www.acworthparksandrec.org](http://www.acworthparksandrec.org).

## ACWORTH'S SENIOR LUNCHEON

Join us every third Wednesday of the month for lunch and bingo at the City of Acworth's Senior Luncheon. 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 BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
BY DALE HOEFLINGER PRESIDENT

Many of you know that I am in the investing world and financial advisement. I have something I want to share with you around investing, a hot tip if you will...you ready? Invest in YOURSELF...as business owners and decision makers, all serve each other day in and day out. We put others needs ahead of our own. We share our expertise. We take care of our community...but do we take care of ourselves?

I recently learned this lesson in my career field. I don't have a boss looking over my shoulder, no punch card to clock in or out, and definitely no to-do lists each morning. I make my schedule, I set my success by how much dedication and time I put in, however, months have gone by where I didn't take time for myself. I have been investing other people's assets and forget about mine. Investing in yourself is SO important as WE too, need to recharge our batteries.

Here are three major ways to invest in yourself:

1. Develop your skills...you have something special, build on it! 2. Explore your creative side. 3. Nurture your mind and body

You could join a business association to make friends that love golf and drinking as much as you do...some of you just need a nap for God's sake...Whatever your investment is in yourself, The ABA is here to embrace and support you. I haven't met a greater group of people that are willing to help everyone around them succeed. Invest in yourself and maximize your momentum Acworth!

ABA UPCOMING EVENTS  
WOMEN'S JUNE BUSINESS NETWORK

The June Women's Luncheon will be held on Thursday, June 16 at Main Street Events by The 1885 Grill, Main St. Acworth GA 30101, Please RSVP at [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

ABA JULY LUNCHEON

Will be held on Thursday, July 7 at the Acworth Community Center. The luncheon begins at 11:30 and will be sponsored by LGE. Community Credit Union. Please RSVP at [acworthbusiness.org](http://acworthbusiness.org).

ABA JULY AA5

The ABA Alive After Five will be held at Red Top Brew House on Thursday, July 14, 2022. Located at 4637 S. Main St. Acworth. RSVP [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org).

KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
BY DANA DORRIS, PRESIDENT

BUILDING TEAMS

In business, building your team can be so stressful yet so rewarding. Often compared to sports, careful thought, and consideration on who represents you and your company can parlay into the hard work and grit that it takes to make your business successful. The people in our organization are our most valuable investment and understanding their impact on our business or the organization you serve can help with making your team sustainable and efficient. I've identified five ways to build your team to last.

Evaluate Yourself – You must be aware of your own leadership style. Be critical about where you can improve your own techniques and consider how your style can benefit those whom you are leading. Just because you are in charge, it does not mean that you are appreciated by those around you. You may have good intentions, but make sure you hold yourself accountable and modify your approach when necessary.

Get to Know Your Team – It is most important to get to know those you are leading. You must learn their strengths and weaknesses, embrace your differences, and use encouragement to bring the real assets to the table. Understanding that weaknesses are talents that are yet to be developed and that great leaders know how to match the talents and competencies to the work at hand and what is required to motivate their team to excel beyond what is expected of them.

Clearly Define Roles & Responsibilities – Each team member's responsibilities are interconnected and dependent upon one another. This is why you must not only evaluate their ability to fit a particular role, but you must also make sure that they fit your company's culture and will be a team player.

Clear Communication and Feedback – Communication plays an important role in keeping your team on track. It should be proactive and constant. Feedback can be both formal and informal and should be a part of one's natural dialogue.

Recognition, Rewards, Celebrating Success – Take the time to give your teammates the proper accolades they have earned and deserved. You must never take for granted your team's performance and take the attitude of it is "part of their job". Team building is the process of turning a group of individual contributing employees into a cohesive team who work together to meet the needs of their customers by accomplishing their purpose and goals. Great methods of collaboration and communication, you can create a successful team. Leaders are only as successful as their teams and the great ones know that with the right team, everyone wins.

KBA UPCOMING EVENTS  
KBA JUNE LUNCHEON

TUES JUNE 14 : 11:30-1:00 will be held at the Kennesaw Rec Center on Watts Drive, Kennesaw. Our speaker is DEBBIE PIKE, Principal Meritage Restaurant Group. at the Kennesaw Community Center. Sponsored by Eaton Chiropractic. Catered by Copelands. Please RSVP at [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org).

KBA JUNE AA5

The June AA5 will be held on Tuesday June 21, 5:30-7:30 at Pisano's Italian Kitchen, 2740 Summers Street, downtown Kennesaw. RSVP [www.kennesawbusiness.org](http://www.kennesawbusiness.org).



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## A LOVE OF READING BLOSSOMS AT KENNESAW ELEMENTARY

When school doors close for summer break, students near Kennesaw Elementary School will still have access to books. Adding a little free library to the school campus has been a dream of Kennesaw’s media specialist, Beth Finnegan, for several years. Thanks to a former Kennesaw student, that dream is now a reality.

Alex Grecko returned to his elementary school to install a Little Free Library for his Eagle Scout project. The Allatoona High School junior was inspired to build the little library so young readers would have an opportunity to learn, even when school is not in session. In addition to the easily-accessible books, Alex also helped with the school’s new story wall, which provides different open-air reading experiences for the elementary students.

“So, Alex really took on two huge projects, and I am just super excited. I feel like at our school, I can give the kids a love for reading. These are two more opportunities that I have to promote books and reading out to the community,” Ms. Finnegan added.

When families park at the school to walk to the nearby park, students can first pick out a book at the little free library, named the Finnegan Express, in tribute to the school’s media specialist.

“To me, reading is the key. I tell the kids all the time that if you can read, you can do anything, you can learn anything. So, this is just one more opportunity to try to give back to the kids,” Ms. Finnegan added.

Inside the school, Ms. Finnegan, with the help of Kennesaw teachers, has taken steps to create a learning commons where there is more going on than just checking out books. There are lessons based on standards. Kids are engaging content on computers. There is even a Lego wall inside Kennesaw’s learning commons. All their work resulted in Kennesaw earning a Library Learning Commons certification. An accomplishment celebrated at the ribbon-cutting for the Little Free Library—Finnegan Express.

“Library media specialists are book providers, tech experts, construction collaborators, space designers, construction leaders, creators of engaging programs, and the list goes on and on. It takes energy, passion, a desire to make this space student-friendly, the right ways to keep kids reading, and emphasis on the importance of digital literacy and collaborating with,” said Holly Frilot, Cobb Schools Supervisor of Library Media Education.

After visiting the Kennesaw Learning Commons, the Library Learning Commons Advisory Board members praised the work of Ms. Finnegan and the staff at the school. Here’s an example of their accolades:

“Kennesaw Elementary School is a shining example of what a Learning Commons should be, and that is clearly developing independence, confidence, and a love of reading.”

Pictured above: Eagle Scout Alex Grecko with Media Specialist Beth Finnegan. At right Beth Finnegan with the Finnegan Express Little Free Library.



## BACH FLOWER REMEDIES: A WAY TO HEAL NATURALLY BY PATRICIA WALLENBURG

One of the best ways to help yourself feel better is to use natural remedies created from plants. They work much gentler on the body and can restore the balance between mind and body in a gentle but very effective way.

At OAK Sanctuary, we use Bach Flower Remedies to customize a remedy blend that works for you and only you. Every person responds in their own way to outside stresses and is in a different place mentally and emotionally. A consultation will help you to begin to find the balance that is needed for you.

This month I want to talk about one of the remedies that I personally like to use myself and explain how it might help you too.

Is it difficult to stay grounded and present? Do you find yourself thinking about everything around you but never being in the moment? Are you accident prone because you are not paying attention?

Clematis is the remedy used to help you get grounded and be more present in your body. It will assist in keeping you from thinking and worrying about the future and keep you more in the enjoyment of the present. It works over several weeks as it gently assists you in getting to a calmer place in your mind.

Amazing that just one plant can do all of that!

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 bath, 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.





### NORTH COBB LIBRARY "MEET UP FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS"

BY ROBIN BOYER

Join your friends and their caregivers on Thursdays at 10:30 to 11:30 AM, July - September (not meeting in June) at the North Cobb Library. Our group of young adults with special needs have been meeting at the library since 2019. The hour is themed with activities like story time and craft, karaoke, or a scavenger hunt. We never know what the creative minds at the library have planned for us but it is always fun! We even have started a garden club as we have been included in the community garden at the library. Along with activities the library offers, it's an opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones. Share with your friends what you have been doing lately and what you like to do. It's a great time for working on those social skills. It's also an opportunity to network with other parents and caregivers. So meet up and join your friends at the North Cobb Library!

Pictured above the Meet Up for Adults take a second for a photo, before visiting Community Garden.



### NORTH COBB LIBRARY GARDEN

BY VIDHYA JAGANNATHAN

A community garden is a great way of expanding the library's service beyond its four walls and promoting patron collaboration. The North Cobb Library Garden was imagined with the purpose of teaching, demonstrating, donating and involving families in growing food and experiencing the immense satisfaction derived from harvesting home-grown produce! Library gardens are a natural setting for promoting nutritional literacy and hands-on environmental learning. The North Cobb Garden reflects Cobb County Public Library's mission of being a vital resource center providing services to enrich people's lives.

In addition, a sensory garden that encourages patrons to see, smell, touch, hear, and taste, promotes cognitive learning, improves gross motor skills, and calms and nurtures the mind. The North Cobb Library hosts a weekly meetup for neurodivergent adults every Thursday morning and it was with this group in mind, that Makerspace Coordinator, Vidhya Jagannathan, created two ADA compliant wheelchair accessible beds with the help of an Eagle Scout from Troop 75. Along with the two ADA compliant beds, the garden also has six regular raised beds that Cobb County PARKS generously constructed for the garden. Funding for garden supplies and infrastructure has been made possible by a grant from Food Well Alliance that Vidhya applied for with support from The Cobb Library Foundation and the branch manager, Nichole Knox.

Immense help, support, and advice for the North Cobb Garden has been received from Cobb County Master Gardener, Jeanne Young. Jeanne generously donates her time, expertise, and plants to the North Cobb Garden! In addition to the Boy Scouts, Master Gardener, and Parks, the Cobb Library Foundation has been extremely supportive in acquiring needed supplies. Besides Vidhya, North Cobb Staff Rita Spisack, Dennis Baswell, Alice Cavallaro, Marie Lee, and Sachin Kamra are also involved in the care and maintenance of the garden.

Vidhya plans to start a North Cobb Garden Club to involve the library's families in the garden and get the rest of the beds planted. This club will meet whenever there is planting, weeding, and harvesting involved. Produce harvested from the garden will be donated to the "Plant a Row for the Hungry" program. North Cobb will also use the produce in the library's STEM learning, food literacy, and cooking programs. We hope our patrons participate enthusiastically in the garden and garden-related innovative programs. For further information please contact jagannathanv@cobbcat.org or knoxn@cobbcat.org.

### ABOUT THE NORTH COBB REGIONAL LIBRARY

North Cobb Regional Library opened in September 2019. It is a consolidation of Acworth and Kennesaw Libraries both built in the 1960s. Located across the street from North Cobb High School, North Cobb Regional Library will feature a teen space including a makerspace. Other features include a children's room stocked with early learning toys, a Computer Training Lab, and an outdoor plaza for programming or relaxation.

The library is located at 3535 Old 41 Highway, Kennesaw. It is open for full, in-service Monday-Wednesday 10:00 am - 8 pm; Thursday and Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturdays 10 am - 5 pm.

The staff provides a variety of events for folks of all ages, ranging from art, to book clubs, an outdoor cafe for youngsters. Our library isn't just for checking out books, it is a gathering place for members of our community. Learn more about what is offered by visiting <https://www.cobbcounty.org/library/locations/north-cobb-regional-library>. Better yet go visit and meet our local librarians.

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## FOSTER4LOVE THANKS LOVE DOES

**MARLON WRITES:** June's Love Does is all about partnerships. Piedmont partners with organizations who help meet the deepest needs in our community. Some of you have not been able to come to the Love Does 365 Conferences in person to hear the stories and impact your support of Love Does makes in our community. For the month of June, I have asked our community partners to write an EPIC email to share with you how your support of Love Does makes a difference. All of our community partners are within a rocks throw from Piedmont. As I shared with you a few weeks ago during my message on Moses. In God's hands our deepest hurt can become our message to the world.

### JENNIFER MOODY, FOSTER4LOVE, SHARES THEIR STORY

Jennifer Moody and her husband adopted three kids that suffered from fetal alcohol syndrome. One of the biggest needs she had was getting the medical records history for her newly adopted children and a one stop shop of services for kids experiencing foster care. Being a nurse, she realized that this was not only a need for her family but for so many other parents who adopted children and for foster parents as well. She started Foster4Love. She wanted to share with you how your support of Love Does projects has helped her meet some of the deepest needs for Foster Parents.

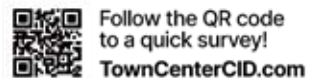
Jennifer is so honored for this opportunity to share how Piedmont Church's Love Does ministry has helped our mission.

The first memory that comes to mind is when Love Does donated soup, laundry detergent, underwear, socks, diapers, and wipes. When I arrived at our office to refill our resource closet a sweet grandma raising four little kiddos happened to be in the office. We offered her some of the donations because she never asks for anything, but we could tell she was struggling. When we put a box of items together for her, we learned that her husband had recently left her and she was struggling to put food on the table, had to stretch the diapers and wipes with three little kiddos in diapers. We were able to show this grandma, who had stepped up to raise her grand kids and keep them from entering foster care, that she matters, and her community is here to walk through challenging times with her. Our resource closet, filled with your donations, has been so important for families suddenly experiencing raising kiddos unexpectedly. You are helping fill a role with these families to help them be reunited or just need a little extra help to make sure the children do not go without.

Love Does has also stepped up and filled the gap for our Together 4 Grads program. This program partners with DFCS to host a graduation party to celebrate teens experiencing foster care graduating from high school or college. These teens do not have a family that is there to celebrate them or recognize their achievements. Without this event they would not be noticed. These remarkable teens have beaten the odds and graduated! The graduation rate for teens experiencing foster care is 11% for high school graduates and only 3% go on to graduate college. With Love Does generosity they will have a enjoy a meal as their caseworkers and mentors recognize them and their achievements.

We cannot thank Love Does enough for helping us love on this community that is struggling and needs to know they matter. We prayerfully hope that Love Does continues to assist us with meeting these family's needs and letting Jesus' light shine bright in the darkness they are walking through. THANK YOU PIEDMONT CHURCH.

Abig thank you to Piedmont Church for their generosity. Pictured here is Marlon Longacre, Associate Pastor, makes a much needed laundry detergent delivery to give Foster4Love families in need!



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## KENNESAW'S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

BY MELISSA O'BRIEN

The Kennesaw Police Department and its Citizen's Advisory Board is pleased to announce that Juneteenth 2022 will be celebrated again in the City of Kennesaw on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Swift-Cantrell Park. The entire Kennesaw community is invited to join in family-friendly activities with food trucks, community vendors, bouncy houses, police and fire truck displays, entertainment and more from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

This is the second annual Juneteenth celebration in Kennesaw. The event is a result of the Kennesaw Police Department, in partnership with a team of faith and community leaders, teaming up to celebrate the community, the diversity of the community, and unity with a family-friendly event.

Juneteenth is the most popular annual celebration of emancipation from slavery in the United States. Last year, Juneteenth became a federal holiday to be celebrated each year. The holiday was first celebrated in Texas, where on that date in 1865, in the aftermath of the Civil War, those who were enslaved were declared free under the terms of the 1862 Emancipation Proclamation.

The event is free to the public. Food truck vendors will be there selling food and drink.

## ACWORTH'S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Concert on the Green: A Juneteenth Celebration will take place at Logan Farm Park on Saturday, June 18, 2022. The event opens at 5:00 p.m. with live music taking place from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This concert is a celebration in observance of June 19, 1865, when the last African American slaves held in Confederate states were finally freed by the Union army. This federal holiday honors our American ideals of equality for all, and we invite the entire community to join in this celebration of freedom and culture.

The City of Acworth invites the whole community to bring blankets and folding chairs and join this celebration of freedom and respect for all cultures.

We're looking forward to an evening of music and dancing with a variety of performances and vendors present before the Total Package Band takes the stage at 7:00 p.m. Make sure to bring the whole family for food, fun, and celebrations as our community comes together.

## LOCAL LIBRARIANS TAKING PART IN JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Visit your favorite librarians at Logan Farm Park in Acworth! You're invited to take part in City of Acworth's Juneteenth Celebration, which includes games, food, and a concert on the green! Stop by the library booth to say hello to your favorite librarians, do some fun crafts, and check out books from the Cobb Library Bookmobile :)

## LEARNING DAYS SUMMER CAMP NEWS



We Still have camp slots available for 6 campers! We have lots of fun activities, meals included, summer reading club, fun in the park, Movie days and weekly field trips to local attractions! Call us to register at 678-742-8004

## DOWNTOWN DASH



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**ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
SCHOLARSHIPS**

At the May luncheon, Todd Lollis, Chair of the Education Committee, presented the following students with scholarships. Pictured above: (l-r) Chandler Phillips, Allatoona High School, will attend Samford University; Taylor Nash, KMHS, will attend University of Alabama; Graham Lawson, North Cobb Christian School, still has to make his decision; and Joniel Lewis, NCHS, will attend John Hokies University - with Todd Lollis on far right.

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## HONORING OUR GRADUATES

A fun perk of publishing the Bright Side is getting to know several of the youngsters in our community. Below are our most recent graduates - CONGRATULATIONS students and best wishes in the next step of your adventure.



### CASSIDY LUMPKIN

Her mom Jackie writes: Super proud of our Cassidy Lumpkin as she finishes up middle school. She navigated three years of crazy Covid, doing 7th grade completely virtual, while maintaining straight As all three years. To top it off she was chosen for the Honor Viking Leadership Award among only 10 nominated in her 8th grade class. This kid has a heart for serving, a love of learning & determination to succeed. Cassidy is the daughter of Michael and Jackie Lumpkin.

I had the pleasure of becoming friends with the Lumpkin family at the Swift Kids running program.



### CALEB JORDAN MOORE

Congratulations to Caleb Jordan Moore who has graduated from Allatoona High School. Caleb will be attending Western Illinois University and majoring in business. Caleb received a full athletic scholarship to play football. He plays Defensive Back. He is the son of Kim and Sabrina Moore.



### WARD KANOUR

Congratulations to Ward Kanour on graduating from Allatoona High School. Ward was recognized for his character and received the AJC Cup at graduation - "Truly represented himself as a Buccaneer. Who is not only one of the best in his class, but one of the best for his class. Ward is attending UGA. He is the son of Chip and Leigh Kanour.



### JACOB LONGACRE

Congratulations to Jacob Longacre on his graduation from Point University in May. Jacob will be teaching Special Education in the fall at Allatoona High School. He is already hard at work helping coach the Buc's football team during the summer. He is the son of Marlon and Libby Longacre.



### MATTHEW LONGACRE

Congratulations of Matthew Longacre on graduating from North Cobb High School in May. Matthew will further his education at Transition Academy at Kennesaw Mountain HS in the fall. This summer he will attend the EYES program at the Tommy Nobis Center in Marietta. He is the son of Marlon and Libby Longacre.

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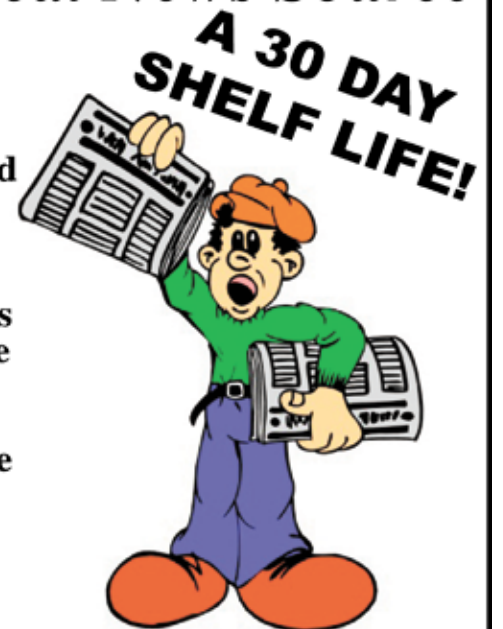
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## MARIETTA NEWS

### MARIETTA TO CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH

The Cobb County Branch of the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People, will be hosting a two-day Juneteenth Celebration, recently recognized as a holiday, starting Friday, June 17, 2022 with a concert in the Marietta Square. On Saturday, June 18, 2022, we will have our annual cultural celebration from 10am-7pm.

June 17-18, 2022 – The weekend is filled with exciting events to be held at Glover Park the Marietta Square in Marietta GA. Events are as follows:

- Friday, June 17th - "Evening Under the Stars" 6pm – 11pm featuring the sounds of Jazzy Blu Band & Friends, you are guaranteed to be on your feet the entire time.
- Saturday, June 18th - Juneteenth Cultural Festival 10am – 7pm Over 100+ Vendors, Live Performance by Grammy Award vocalist LeAndria Johnson, Atlanta Old Skool Drummers and various entertainment throughout the day, Health Fair, Children's Area and Activities. Come and enjoy the various vendors and what they have to offer, the variety of entertainment throughout the day and all the activities available for the young and young at heart.

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of Slavery. Dating back to 1865, it was June 19th that the union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were free. This was two and a half years after President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation. The celebration of June 19th was coined "Juneteenth" and grew with more participation from descendants. Juneteenth today celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect of ALL cultures.

### ART IN THE PARK RETURNS TO MARIETTA SQUARE LABOR DAY WEEKEND: SATURDAY, SEPT. 3 – MONDAY, SEPT. 5

The 36th-annual Art in the Park takes place in historic Marietta Square during all three days of Labor Day weekend. The only fine art festival in Cobb County, the outdoor, family-friendly event regularly welcomes more than 45,000 attendees and features 150+ artist booths, live music, children's activities, the Chalk Spot and plenty of great food from surrounding restaurants. A portion of the proceeds from Art in the Park benefits the Marietta Business Association, serving as its largest fundraiser.

For Festival Map & More Information: <http://www.artparkmarietta.com/> or call Festival hotline – 404-966-8497

### REMEMBERING THE DIXIE HIGHWAY

The Marietta History Center will be hosting a traveling exhibit, "Gateway to the South: Remembering the Dixie Highway" from the Bandy Heritage Center. Beginning in 1915, the Dixie Highway was a prominent feature of everyday life in the early 20th century south. This exhibit features historic images of the Dixie Highway in its prime. Highlights include popular tourists' spots, advertisements along the highway, and local businesses. This exhibit is courtesy of the Bandy Heritage Center for Northwest Georgia and will be displayed here at the Marietta History Center and augmented with images and artifacts connected to the Dixie Highway from the MHC's collection. The temporary exhibit is included with regular admission. The event will run to July 30th, 2022 at the Marietta History Center, 1 Depot Street, Marietta, GA 30060. The Cost: is \$7 Adults, \$5 Senior / Student, FREE for Children under 5 and those with a Military ID For more information from the Bandy Heritage Center: <http://www.bandyheritagecenter.org/exhibitions/traveling-exhibits>

### GLOVER PARK CONCERT SERIES

The 2022 Glover Park Concert Series is 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.

The concert lineup for June 24 features the Catalinas playing Beach Music.

A limited number of stage-adjacent tables can be reserved for a fee. On the first working day of each month beginning at 8:00 a.m., table reservations open. 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.

All concerts begin at 8:00 on the last Friday of each month, April - September, in Glover Park on the Historic Marietta Square

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**BIRTHDAY GIRL CELEBRATES AT PRECINCT 1**

A 6-year-old spent her birthday by assisting the Cobb County Police Department in raising funds for the annual SWAT Blue Santa Program. The birthday girl, Carina, an Acworth resident, is an aspiring police officer who spends her play time looking for ways to “save the day”. When her mother mentioned the Blue Santa program, she immediately jumped into action and volunteered to help. Carina requested backup from her friends and asked that instead of giving her a present for her birthday, they donate to Blue Santa and help other kids in need. Soon after, 25 kindergarteners arrived at Precinct 1 for a station tour and The Cobb County Police Department’s Community Affairs Unit spent time educating and leading the children around to meet the K9 Unit and Firefighters. At the end of the day, children donated to assist Carina in her first unofficial police business raising over \$400 for the SWAT Blue Santa program, including one friend who gave her tooth fairy money



**GREAT JOB TEAM.**

Congratulations to the Piedmont Church team for winning TWO People’s choice trophies plus placing in other catagories.at the May Smoke on the Lake event held by the North Cobb Rotary. Saturday, May 9 was a good day in the Smoke on the Lake BBQ competition. The Piedmont Church team brought home some brass. Jeff Massey can’t thank Marlon Longacre Jacob Longacre Todd Longacre, Matt Manning, Robert Holt, Angie Brown Bolton Jeff Massey and the rest of their team enough. Great to have Kennesaw Mountain Mane Link, Michelle, & Maddie helping us as well. What an amazing time.... bringing home the hardware is always fun. Piedmont took 6th place in pulled pork, 4th place in chicken, 2nd place in ribs, The People’s Choice Grand Champion and The Overall Reserve Grand Champion. The team is pictured above.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN 5K**

The Law Enforcement Torch Run 5k is the 2nd race of the Kennesaw Grand Prix Race Series. It is a fast, flat, and well-marked course with gentle hills through Kennesaw’s Main Street and Swift Cantrell Park. Registration is now open for our June 11, 2022 race day! Register today [kennesawgrandprix.com/law-enforcement-torch-run-5k](http://kennesawgrandprix.com/law-enforcement-torch-run-5k)

**Law Enforcement Torch Run 5k**



**Sat. June 11, 2022**  
7:30 a.m. - 1 Mile Start  
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**Register**  
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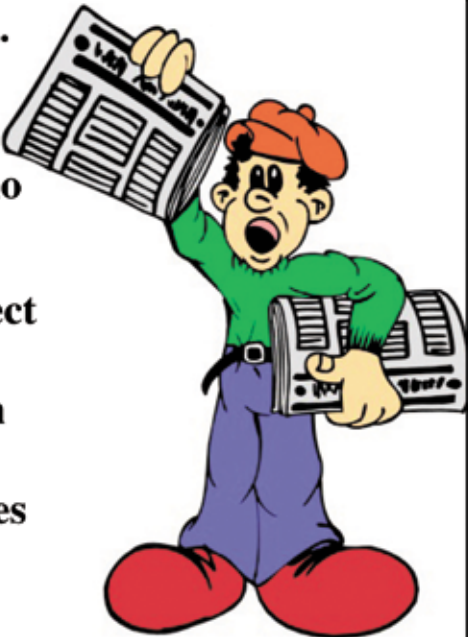
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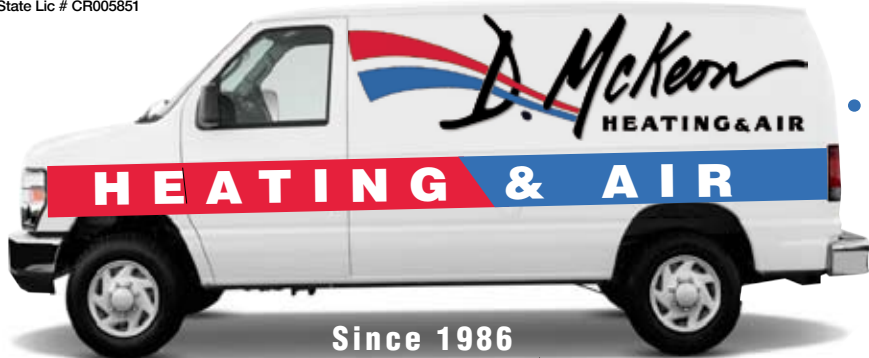
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