

# The Bright Side™

Volume 32 No 6

SERVING ACWORTH, KENNESAW, MARIETTA SINCE 1992

JUNE 2023



## CITY OF KENNESAW'S SALUTE TO AMERICA

The City of Kennesaw will host its annual Independence Day celebration of freedom, music and fireworks on Monday, 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. Fireworks begin at 9:30 pm. The evening will conclude with a brilliant fireworks finale, visible from depot Park and along Main Street, from Summers Street to Dallas Street. In the event of inclement weather, the fireworks will be rescheduled.

Trevor Startt kick off the evening on the Park Stage, performing from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., and Courtney Dickinson will take the Park Stage from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. The premiere party band, Band X, will be rocking the Main Stage from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. and DEPARTURE: The Journey Tribute Band will headline the Main Stage from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Due to construction at Depot Park, the Main Stage will be located on Main Street and the Park Stage will be located in the Depot Park parking lot at the corner of Sardis St and Big Shanty Drive..

In addition to street vendors 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, but no Grills. A six-foot rectangular table, located in front of the Main Stage, that seats six can be reserved for \$75. Other than reserved tables all seating will be general admission, so please bring a blanket or comfortable low-back chair. Table reservations are available online at [www.kennesawjuly3.com](http://www.kennesawjuly3.com).

ATM machines will be available for convenient cash withdrawals. The event may be canceled or postponed due to inclement weather conditions. For more information, visit [www.kennesawjuly3.com](http://www.kennesawjuly3.com) or call Kennesaw Parks & Recreation at 770-422-9714.



## KENNESAW'S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION OF UNITY

The Kennesaw Police Department and its Citizen's Advisory Board announces the third annual "One Community: A Juneteenth Celebration of Unity" on Saturday, June 17 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Swift-Cantrell Park.

The greater Kennesaw community is invited to join in family-friendly activities like bouncy houses, police and fire truck displays, entertainment, and a historical Juneteenth presentation. The community "Unity Walk" state at 11 a.m. and more than 30 vendors, including food trucks, will participate at the event.

Juneteenth is the most popular annual celebration of emancipation from slavery in the United States. 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.

"We are so excited about this opportunity to connect with those we serve," says Kennesaw Chief of Police William Westenberger. "One of our department goals is to build stronger relations with the diverse community we serve. We recognize that the "Peel Principle" –the police are the community and the community are the police—emphasizes the vision for us all to be one. The Juneteenth celebration provides a platform of unity for us to come together, get to know one another and forge relationships that build a strong, safe community."

This Juneteenth event is an outcome of the partnership between Kennesaw Police Department and its Citizens Advisory Board, which is made up of community and faith leaders.

"I am thrilled the City of Kennesaw has embraced Juneteenth and the true spirit it embodies, which is unity in our community," says Rod Green, Chair of the Kennesaw Police Citizens Advisory Board. The event is free to the public. Food truck vendors will sell food and drink.



## 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 22nd 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!

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 25, at 5:00. Tables may also be purchased in person at the Acworth Community Center through Saturday, June 28 at 2:00 p.m. Tables are \$75 each for City of Acworth residents and \$95 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. Once fireworks start you will not be permitted to leave the park til finished. Those without a parking pass or parking spot will need to park downtown and walk down to the park. No Shuttles will be running for this event, except for the handicap parking at McCall Primary School a shuttle will be provided for handicap attendees. Handicap shuttles begin at noon.



## CITY OF MARIETTA – TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2023

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.

Parade: The Marietta Independence Day parade is scheduled to include more than 110 entries with approximately 2,000 participants. Entries include marching units from the City of Marietta, civic organizations, beauty queens, scouts and local businesses. The parade begins at 10 a.m. 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.

Crafts, Food, & Kid's Zone Schedule: Arts and crafts show with nearly 100 unique handcrafted vendors: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Food concessions: Find all your favorite carnival foods including corn dogs, cotton candy, snow cones, 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 sale at booths around the Square.

Fireworks: The City of Marietta fireworks display is scheduled to begin at 9:30 p.m. If you want to watch the fireworks, make sure you get there early to grab a spot because traffic is expected to be heavy.

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DEADLINE FOR JULY 2023 ISSUE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 30 2023  
PUBLISHED JULY 7 2023

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## THIS AND THAT

### CONGRATULATIONS



Skyler Gray Jackle, daughter of Stormi Kenney, graduated with her Juris Doctorate from Stetson University College of Law on May 13, 2023. Skyler is a graduate of Kennesaw Mountain High School and received her Bachelors degree at the University of Georgia. Upon passing the Florida bar, she will be taking a position with the State Attorney's office for Hillsborough County in Tampa, Florida.

### CONGRATULATIONS



Allatoona High School's Jacob Longacre made the Georgia Football Scoop's 30 under 30! The top 30 coaches who under 30 years old are eligible to win this award. Longacre is the Co-Varsity OL Coach at Allatoona and was the youngest (23) on the list. Congratulations and GO BUCS.

### ACWORTH BATTLE OF THE BOARDS!

The Acworth Police have partnered with Cornhole ATL to host the First Annual Acworth Battle of the Boards, Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 3pm-7pm at Logan Farm Park. Come out and join us at the beautiful green space at Logan Farm Park for our Acworth Battle of the Boards Cornhole Tournament! To registered for this event, visit <https://cornholeatl.leaguelab.com/league/62527/details>

### CONGRATULATIONS



Patrick Duckett, son of Jeff and Aundie Duckett, graduated Summa Cum Laude from SCAD (Savannah Campus) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Industrial Design. He graduated from NCHS four years ago.

### HELPING ONE GUY



Please save the date for our next Fundraising Dinner on June 21st to support and honor Jaye Richardson.

Jaye's cancer journey began two years ago. Plagued with headaches and memory lapses, the doctor ordered a scan and found a brain tumor. He has experienced two surgeries. The treatment protocol after the second surgery caused brain swelling and increased symptoms. This has led to a rapid decline in Jaye's condition since February.

Let's show the Richardson family what our community is all about by loving on them during this time. Please consider registering for the dinner in advance and/or making a donation today. Thank you for your prayers and support! Visit [www.helpingoneguy.org](http://www.helpingoneguy.org) to register and/or make a donation.

The dinner will be held at North Star Church on Blue Springs Rd., Kennesaw on Wednesday, June 21, from 6:30-8:00 pm.

### 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](mailto:Brightnews@aol.com) (Photos are welcome too) Call 770-851-5469 for more information on submitting stories.

### ANDREW BRAMLETT'S LOCAL HISTORY STORIES

#### THE LITCHFIELD HOTEL

Shortly after the Civil War, the Litchfield House opened in Acworth to serve travelers. It was managed by Elwin L. Litchfield (referred to both as a Judge and Colonel) and opened in or before 1868. It was located at the corner of Main and Lemon streets at a site that today is home to Lacey Drug Company. According to a June 30, 1870, article from the Cartersville Express, the hotel "gives an inviting feast to travelers," and on March 12, 1874, the same paper stated that the Litchfield House "set the best table in North Georgia." When Litchfield passed away in 1883, his wife took over the management of the business.

The hotel was demolished and rebuilt in 1890, and the Atlanta Constitution noted on December 7, 1890, it was "one of the most elegant little hotels" in the area. It was sold in 1902, renovated two years later, and sold again in 1906, each time keeping the name Litchfield Hotel. In the 1920s it would be known as the Acworth Inn, and sometime before the 1940s, it was renamed the Acworth Hotel. During these later years the grand porch that once surrounded the building was removed and replaced by the Acworth Café. The hotel was torn down in 1962 to make way for a supermarket.

In 2022, the Save Acworth History Foundation and Kennesaw State University installed a marker at the former hotel site. The marker tells the story of the building and features brickwork from the 1890 structure.

### 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

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**BILL  
MCNAIR, CPRP  
DIRECTOR OF  
KENNESAW PARKS  
AND RECREATION**

So happy to share that Bill McNair has been elevated to Director of Kennesaw Parks and Recreation. Bill has several years of experience in this field. He retired as Director of Recreation at the Baldwin County Recreation Department in 2018. That didn't last long as he came on board with Kennesaw's Parks and Recreation in June of 2019. In May of this year, the City of Kennesaw hired

Bill to take the reins of Kennesaw's Parks and Recreation.

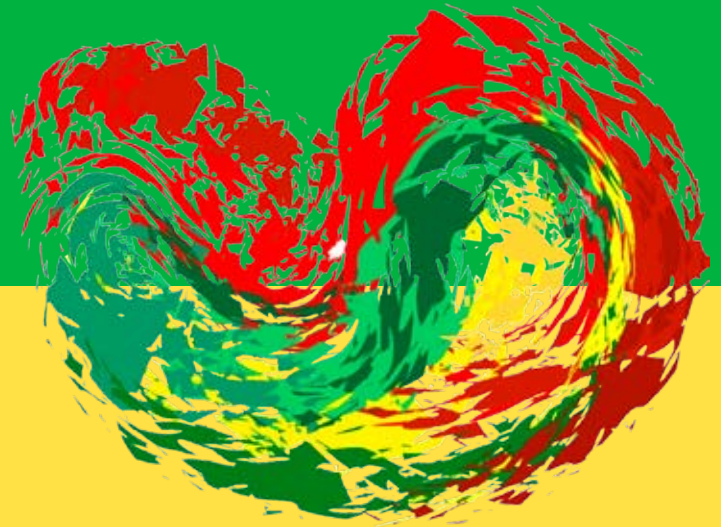
In addition to his experience with Park's and Recreation departments Bill also is a College and High School Basketball Official 1993- present; Georgia Southern University GATA Round Ball Club President 2016 – present and a Board member of Georgia Southern Eagle Athletic Foundation Board 2018 – 2023. P S Bill Graduated from Georgia Southern College in 1986. To top of his experience Bill is a Certified Parks and Recreational Professional.

**KENNESAW POLICE PRESENTS**



**ONE COMMUNITY:**

*A Juneteenth  
Celebration of Unity*



**Hosted by the Kennesaw Police  
Citizens Advisory Board**

🎈 **Bouncy Houses** 🎈 **Food Trucks**  
🎈 **Police & Fire Vehicles** 🎈 **Games** 🎈 **Prizes**  
🎈 **Music** 🎈 **Vendors** 🎈 **Family Fun**

**Saturday, June 17, 2023**

**FREE Event activities are from**

**11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Unity Walk at 11:00**

**Swift Cantrell Park**

**3140 Old 41 Highway**

**Kennesaw**



**“DOG DAYS AT THE  
GARDENS”**

Smith-Gilbert Gardens introduces new “Dog Days at the Gardens” the first Tuesday and Saturday of each month from June through October!

For just \$3 per visit, pups can explore the gardens alongside their humans. Dog Memberships are also available for only \$20! Memberships include a signature Smith-Gilbert Gardens gift.

For more information, please visit <https://smithgilbertgardens.com/dogdays/>.

Smith-Gilbert Gardens, located at 2382 Pine Mountain Road, is open Tuesday – Saturday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

**SOUTHERN SPIRITS**

The Kennesaw Museum Foundation and the Southern Museum will host Southern Spirits on Monday, July 3, coinciding with the city of Kennesaw's Salute to America. The event will take place both indoors and outdoors from 7 to 9 p.m., and then all guests will head outside to the front lawn for one-of-a-kind views of Kennesaw's fireworks display until 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 for museum members and \$40 for non-members for General admission that includes two beverages (beer, or wine), one featured spirit, a tasting plate of food, admission to museum and lawn seating for fireworks display. (you may bring a blanket or chair. No coolers or outside food or drink allowed.)

Attendees must be at least 21 years old. Parking near the museum and downtown area will be limited. (Adams Park will be open to the public.) The event will be held rain or shine; no refunds.

Non-alcoholic drinks will also be available for no cost. Atlanta Bonded Warehouse, North Georgia Staffing and Savannah Distributing are sponsoring the event. Music will be provided by the Mars Hill Porch Pickers.

Purchase your tickets at <https://southernmuseum.org/event/southern-spirits-5/> click on **Tickets here** under the graphic.

**BLUEGRASS &  
BUTTERFLIES**

Smith-Gilbert Gardens will host an unforgettable evening of toe-tapping bluegrass music and the beauty of nature at the Bluegrass & Butterflies concert on Friday, June 30! The community is invited to be immersed in the tranquil surroundings of the lush Gardens while listening to the lively tunes of the Hired Hands band.

Attendees will have the opportunity to experience the magic of the Butterfly Exhibit as a preview to the season when it officially opens for the summer. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., music starts at 5:30 p.m.

Food, drinks, and alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase from The Nest Kennesaw.

**MENU SNEAK PEAK INCLUDES:**

- Pulled Pork Sandwiches
- Banana Pudding
- Fresh-made pork rinds with Pimento Cheese
- Traditional Southern sides to include - baked beans, collards, and pasta salad
- Craft beer and wine will be available for purchase

Tickets are available for \$30 for nonmember and \$25 for members.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit <https://smithgilbertgardens.com/bluegrassandbutterflies/>.

Smith-Gilbert Gardens, located at 2382 Pine Mountain Road, is open Tuesday – Saturday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

**RAILROAD  
RENDEZVOUS**

The popular annual Railroad Rendezvous event will return to the Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History on Saturday, July 22.

A variety of activities celebrating the railroad and other industrial enterprises will be taking place throughout the day. Activities include an outdoor model train layout, small tractor display, blacksmithing demonstration, historic printing press demonstrations, a quilting display and an interactive model train display. An interactive exterior tour of the Museum's Southern Railway Caboose will also be available.

Railroad Rendezvous also offers the rare opportunity to step aboard the General locomotive, made famous during the Civil War's Great Locomotive Chase of 1862, and tour the cab of the historic steam locomotive. The “Board the General Experience” is \$5 per person, children 3 years old and younger are free, proceeds will go to the Kennesaw Museum Foundation

All activities excluding “Board the General Experience” are included with regular Admission; \$10 for Adults, \$8 for Seniors, and \$5 for Children.

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## THIS 'N THAT

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### COBB GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

On Tuesday June 27 at 7 PM, the Cobb County Genealogical Society (CCGS) will be holding its next program. The speaker is Kelli Wolk, Probate Judge, who will speak on Probate records. Judge Wolk has served as the President of the Probate Judges' Council of Georgia, and has served on the Executive, Legislative, and Rules & Forms Committees. The program will be held downstairs in First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, 189 Church Street, Marietta, 30060. For more information, visit our website, <https://cobbgagensoc.org/>

### ARTS ALLIANCE NEWS

Our Summer Daze in Acworth Exhibit is underway! There are many "Acworth" themed pieces of art included in this exhibit, as well as summer themed pieces... The exhibit will run through July 29 with an Artist reception on July 8, 4-7 pm.

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

All Artwork at the Art House is for sale!

The Art House is located at 4425 Cherokee St., Acworth (on the edge of Logan Farm Park).

### KENNESAW FARMERS MARKET IS OPEN

The Kennesaw Downtown Development Authority is excited to present the Kennesaw Farmers Market as it returns to Downtown Kennesaw. 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 Main Street Underpass Plaza. The market season is now open on Mondays, and runs through Monday, September 25. The market will be closed May 29 (Memorial Day), July 3, and September 4.

The Market features farmers, makers, baked goods, plants, as well as some local favorite food trucks. On a typical Market day in summer, over 15 vendors will be set up offering their best vegetables, fruits, baked goods, and specialty items.

For additional information, please visit <https://www.kennesaw-ga.gov/farmers-market/> and follow us on Facebook @ KennesawFarmersMarket!

### FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT

The Kennesaw Downtown Development Authority and the Kennesaw Downtown Merchants Association are excited to announce the third annual First Friday Concert Series in Downtown Kennesaw.

The Series will run from NOW through October, with no concert during the month of July.

From 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., the community is invited to stroll through the Historic Downtown area, and enjoy an evening of shopping, dining and live music. The concerts will take place at the Pedestrian Underpass/Tunnel Plaza off Main Street. VIP Tables are available for reservation for \$70 for individual concerts or \$300 for the series. VIP tables include a six-foot table with tablecloth, centerpiece and special gift. Tables will seat six individuals.

To reserve a table, please visit city calendar of events at [www.kennesaw-ga.gov/events](http://www.kennesaw-ga.gov/events).

### GOOD RASCAL DOG TRAINING

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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.

### SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM AT N. COBB LIBRARY

Happy Helpings, Georgia's summer food service program, will provide free meals to children in three Cobb County public libraries on weekdays in June and July. Sit-down meals will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis at these locations:

North Cobb Regional Library, 3535 Old 41 Highway, Kennesaw. Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, June 5 - July 28. Breakfast 10 - 10:30 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. - noon

A local, county-inspected commercial kitchen prepares free meals for children ages 18 and younger. Adults 19 years and older who are enrolled in school programs for persons with disabilities will also receive meals. Parents and caregivers must remain with the children during the meals.

For information on the Happy Helpings program and children's food insecurity in Georgia, visit [happyhelpingsga.com](http://happyhelpingsga.com).

### VISIT COBB SAFETY VILLAGE

Wear a firefighter hat, hop into a squad car, ring the firetruck bell and have more family fun at the Cobb County Safety Village next week. Kids of all ages can learn about safety, tour Sparky's House, play safety games, see up-close emergency vehicles and more.

The Cobb County Safety Village is located at 1220 Al Bishop Drive, Marietta. Admission is \$5 per person, with a maximum cost of \$20 per family. For group rates of 20 or more, call 770-852-3270. Head over on any or all of these dates: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, Thursday, June 29, and Tuesday, July 18.

### THIS N THAT ADS

\$25 FOR 50 WORDS,  
\$35 FOR 100 WORDS.

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### NORTH COBB ROTARY

North Cobb Rotary meets at Copelands New Orleans every Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m., feel free to stop by in the coming weeks for great food, great fellowship

### PARKING ON THE SQUARE

The City of Marietta is pleased to announce that it has made it easier to locate both free and paid parking lots on and around the Marietta Square.

This parking map information will benefit everyone and make parking hassle-free. Please visit [mariettaga.gov](http://mariettaga.gov), type downtown parking in the search box as you head to the Square to find the best parking spot for your visit.

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# Fourth of July

## Fireworks &



## Concert



**FREE Admission**

**JULY 4, 2023**

**FREE Parking**

**MUSIC STARTS AT 5:30 P.M.**

**FLASHBACK TAKES THE STAGE AT 8 P.M.**

Presented by:

**CAUBLE PARK ON LAKE ACWORTH**



**FIREWORKS**

**9:30 P.M.**



**Fireworks ~ Food**

**FREE Entertainment**



**More info: 770.423.1330 [www.acworthbusiness.org](http://www.acworthbusiness.org)**

Free public parking is available throughout downtown. Cauble Park parking is by pass only.

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## THE ACWORTH'S MAYOR'S DESK

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through the calendar year. June has arrived, and Acworth is in summer mode. With the kids out of school, camps are in full swing across the community, and memories are being made daily. We'd like to thank our Acworth Parks, Recreation, and Community Resource team for keeping the parks looking beautiful and the kids entertained this summer!

Please join us this month as our community comes together for Concert on the Green: A Juneteenth Celebration at Logan Farm Park on Saturday, June 17. This celebration of freedom returns for its third year with a free concert. Food and other vendors will be on site from 5:00 p.m., and there will be wonderful performances from local community organizations before the Total Package Band takes the stage at 7:00 p.m. Bring the whole family for a great evening of celebration in Acworth! Before we know it, the 4th of July fireworks and concert celebration will return to Cauble Park for Independence Day! We're looking forward to partnering with our friends at the Acworth Business Association again for this wonderful night by Lake Acworth. For more information on both of these events, please visit [www.acworthparksandrec.org](http://www.acworthparksandrec.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" the City of Acworth, Georgia on Facebook, or follow us on Instagram at @cityofacworthga.

May God Bless You and Your Families, Tommy



## FRIDAY NIGHT SEAFOOD BUFFET



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7:00am - 8:00pm

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## CELEBRATING THE ACWORTH ROSENWALD SCHOOL

Last month we celebrated the re-opening of the Acworth Rosenwald School after its first renovation since it was rebuilt on Cherokee Street in 1953. This important part of Acworth history reminds us of the spirit of community in our city. From a segregated schoolhouse to a beloved "Community House" and a present day community center open for rentals and special occasions, the Acworth Rosenwald School is an important reminder of our history and growth. The City of Acworth was able to take on these renovations through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The CDBG is federal money that has been allocated to the county and distributed to cities based on population. It's a grant for public infrastructure that expands economic opportunities for principally low and moderate income level areas with a focus on community development purposes. Acworth is grateful for the opportunity to utilize this grant program to renovate such a treasured part of our history. We look forward to the many memories that will be made now that the Acworth Rosenwald School has been re-opened for rentals through Acworth Parks, Recreation, and Community Resource Department.

### CONCERT ON THE GREEN: A JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Join us on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at Logan Farm Park for Concert on the Green: A Juneteenth Celebration. This concert is held in observance of June 19, 1865, when the last African American slaves held in Confederate states were finally freed by the Union army. 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. For more information, please email [mbgibbs@acworth.org](mailto:mbgibbs@acworth.org).

### LINE DANCING

Learn how to line dance with knowledge, technique, and style all while staying fit! Join Leslie in a fun and friendly atmosphere where no experience is needed and all you need is a smile and your own two feet. Intermediate, beginner, and evening classes meet on Tuesdays in monthly sessions. Additional information and registration are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.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. Additional information and registration are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.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.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

**YOU ARE SO MUCH STRONGER  
THAN YOU THINK.**

### SPECIAL WARRIORS TAE KWON-DO

Special Warriors Tae Kwon-Do is a great program for the young community with special needs. The traditional skills of Tae Kwon-Do have been adapted to teach focus, balance, hand-eye coordination, and effective self-defense. This class is instructed by Omar Welch who is a third-degree black belt and instructor certified by the United States Tae Kwon-Do Federation. Classes will meet monthly at the Acworth Community Center on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

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**CONGRATULATIONS BROOKWOOD CHRISTIAN GRADUATES**

BY KRISTEN WIGINGTON

Brookwood Christian School held their annual commencement ceremony on May 26th, 2023. Seniors at Brookwood Christian School have several traditions passed down from class to class. Upperclassmen dream of the day that they get to decorate one of the sealing tiles from the high school building. As silly as it may seem, it is a way of saying “I was able to succeed and so can you.” Each of the five graduates this year covered their tiles with photos of past school events and trips, hand prints, and quotes.

The graduating class of five include Bailey Bridges (attended BCS for eight years), Eric Stringer (attended BCS for four years), Jaelle Statia (attended BCS for six years), Kristen Moore (attended BCS for eight years), and Skyla Phillips (attended BCS for seven years). Brookwood Christian School is proud to announce that all five have either already been accepted into programs and schools of higher education or are currently in the application process of doing so.

Bailey Bridges and Kristen Moore have been accepted into Chattahoochee Technical College. Bailey intends to major in psychology to one day become a child psychologist. Kristen plans to major in business so she can continue helping schools that specialize in dyslexia. Starting this summer, Jaelle will be an inaugural Tommy Nobis Academy participant. This is a program that specializes in job training and placement. Eric and Skyla are still in the application process but intend on finding the best school for them. Needless to say, these graduates are going to do amazing things in the world. Pictured above: l-r Bailey Bridges, Jaelle Statia, Eric Stringer, Kristen Moore, Skyla Phillips

**ACWORTH CULTURAL ART AUDITIONS**

Acworth Cultural Arts is holding auditions on June 22 Thursday 6:30p at The Acworth Old Jail. Auditions are cold readings from the play. Director is Carole Roach, ACA Chairman. Email Carole letting her know that you will attend on the 22nd and what time you can be there.

If you cannot attend on the 22nd, please email Carole to arrange a special time BEFORE the 22nd. Let me know via email if you plan to attend on the 22nd and what time you can be there. Email: carole.roach@acworthculturalarts.org

Play characters are 5 female 4 male Ages between 20’s to 60’s. Rehearsals are starting earlier than usual to accommodate summer vacations. Play opening is Sept 21 and runs for 2 weekends (Friday, Saturday and Sunday).



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**MALINDA HOWE, BROKER**

Malinda opened Anchor Realty Partners in 2006 and brings over 31 years of experience as a full-time real estate professional. As the daughter of a single mom, she learned a strong work ethic early on and was determined to be the best that she could be in school, home and career. Malinda lives, works and play in Historic Downtown Acworth and has a vested interest in the Acworth Community.

**DEBORAH HILL:, REALTOR**

Deborah has lived and worked in the Kennesaw/Acworth area for 20 years and joined Anchor Realty Partners as a Realtor in 2018 when she moved to downtown Acworth. She spent more than 10 years working in marketing and business development with Chick-fil-A and developed strong ties in the community.

She also brings her knowledge of design to the business having studied interior design at Oklahoma State University.

Deborah has had the pleasure of working as a designer assistant on several TV design shows on HGTV, NBC Peacock and A&E including Rock the Block, Sell This House and Build it Forward. Her breadth of experience is a valuable asset to potential sellers and buyers.

The city of Acworth was just recently voted by the Atlanta Regional Commission as the No. 1 place to live in Cobb County. Acworth’s incredible location with easy access to I-75. The historic downtown boasts one-of-a-kind shops and critically-acclaimed restaurants and top-notch hospitals and medical care is nearby. National retailers are just down the road on Highway 41.

Malinda and Deborah are business partners. For more information about Anchor Realty, visit [www.malindahowe.com](http://www.malindahowe.com).

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**GIRL SCOUT TROUP CHOOSES ROAD TRIP HOME ANIMAL RESCUE TO SUPPORT**

Part of Girl Scouts is learning how to support others in our community. Some troops do this through the funds they raise in selling Girl Scout Cookies. This year, Girl Scout Troop 20656 was very excited to choose Road Trip Home Animal Rescue to support because the rescue is always in need of food for the dogs and cats they rescue and transport to homes up north. The girls were able to collect and donate over 190 pounds of dry food and 125 cans of wet food to the rescue! On 4/30/23, Road Trip Home’s volunteers Kathi Higgins and Robin Blackburn came to meet the girls, tell the girls all about Road Trip Home, and let the girls meet some of the pets in the program! The scouts LOVED meeting the cats and dog and the volunteers were so excited to receive the donated pet food!

Road Trip Home is always accepting any dog and cat food donations and they can be dropped off at Lake City Animal Hospital, 3671 Cobb Pkwy NW, Acworth GA 30101. Please label the food with Road Trip Home donation. They are also always collecting used sneakers in ANY condition. These can also be dropped off at the same location. Lastly, if you would like to make a donation to RTH, you can send it to PO Box 372, Acworth GA, 30101.



**NEW BIKES FOR FOR TOWN CENTER CID BIKESHARE PROGRAM**

Town Center Community replaced the entire fleet of bikes just in time for summer. “We are thrilled to continue to provide this amenity,” said Jennifer Hogan, director of community for the Town Center CID. “Our bikeshare program is an investment in the health and well-being of our community. It provides a fun option for recreation, exercise, and mobility within the district.”

The bikeshare program provides 24/7 rental access to 45 bikes across 6 stations in the Town Center area. Bike rental is free for the first hour and just \$1.50 per 30 minutes after that. Bikers can take mid-ride stops by locking and unlocking the bike as many times as needed during the rental period.

For those seeking a more challenging ride, the bikeshare also allows the rental and return of bikes at any station in the Cumberland area. Together, the Town Center and Cumberland bikeshare programs offer a combined 12 stations and 80 bikes, allowing members to travel greater distances and explore destinations throughout Cobb County.

The Town Center Community bikeshare program is Georgia’s first CID-sponsored bikeshare program. Operation, equipment and maintenance are provided via contract with Tandem Mobility and rentals are handled using the Movatic smartphone app.

**ACWORTH YOUTH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE**

The Acworth Parks, Recreation, and Community Resource Department is pleased to announce another Acworth Youth Volleyball League season! The season will consist of five games and a single elimination tournament at the end of the season. We will offer three 6-on-6 divisions based on the ages: 9- 10 years old, 11- 12 years olds, and 13- 14 years olds. The deadline to register is Tuesday, July 25. Assessments will take place on Tuesday, July 25 with practices beginning mid-August. Registration and additional information are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

**ACWORTH ADULT SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

The Acworth Parks, Recreation and Community Resource Department will soon enter another Acworth Adult Summer Basketball League season! The league begins in June with both competitive and recreational divisions available. Games will be held in the Acworth Community Center. The season wraps up in August with tournaments for each division. Don’t have a team, no worries! Come out and participate in our Free Agent Day on Monday, May 22 at the Acworth Community Center at 6:00 p.m. Registration and additional information are available at [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org).

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### THE BENEFITS OF LOVE DOES

BY MARLON LONGACRE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF PIEDMONT CHURCH

One of the driving forces behind Love Doe is meeting the deepest needs in our community. Last year Piedmont met with local neighborhood groups, schools, and Principals about the needs in our community. The biggest need was mentors. Because of your financial support of Love Does, Piedmont was able to fund a pilot mentoring program between Sprayberry High School and Kincaid Elementary. I got this email from Kincaid Elementary Principal Debbie Tennyson on how well this program went this past year.

“Marlon,

Once again, we cannot thank you, and Piedmont Church, enough for sponsoring a mentoring program for Kincaid students!

Kincaid coordinated with the Sprayberry Beta Club, and SQUAD Club, to match up high school volunteers with elementary students who could benefit from having a high school role model in their life. We called it “Beta Buddies”!

Every Wednesday, Beta Buddies from Sprayberry, came to Kincaid from 7:15am – 8:15am. The Beta Buddies picked up their little buddies’ goal folder, and a game. You will see in this video, that the students spent time talking, and getting to know their buddy. They built relationships through playing games, and they discussed their academic or behavior goals. A folder went back and forth from the high school buddy to the classroom teacher to maintain communication throughout this mentoring time, and to monitor progress. I have also attached pictures.

We are happy to report increased attendance, motivation, behaviors, and academic skills as a result of Beta Buddies!

With Piedmont’s generous donation, we purchased breakfast for the Sprayberry students who came to Kincaid for a training day, games for the buddies to play and get to know each other, prizes for Kincaid students who were making progress toward their goals, communication folders, and a lovely end of year Chick Fil-A Breakfast for all the high school and elementary school buddies.

Kincaid looks forward to continuing this partnership with Sprayberry next year. Thank you for opening this door for us!

Thank you, Debbie Tennyson “

June’s Love Does is all about Partnerships. All financial donations given this month to Love Does will go to support front-line ministries such as MUST Summer Lunch Program, Davis Direction Foundation, Special Needs Cobb, Mountain Top Boys Home, and Cobb Senior Citizens Council. We will also be looking to purchase new sensory equipment for the Wonder Room at Piedmont as we are looking to start that ministry back-up in August.

I want to say thank you to everyone who has helped with all the end-of-year projects with the schools. Today we finished by cooking 462 hotdogs for Palmer 8th graders and Blackwell Elementary 5th graders. We served Pizzas and drinks for the 5th graders at Bells Ferry Elementary. 11 schools in 4 days were shown God’s love. We could not have done this without your volunteer and financial support of Love Does. All of us on staff at Piedmont are so grateful. You made this week enjoyable for so many.

I am confident of one thing and that is Piedmont Church will always be a giving, loving, serving, and caring church for our community.



### FOURTH OF JULY IN CARTERSVILLE, GA

The July 4th Celebration at Dellinger Park is a community- wide event that includes Arts & Crafts, children’s activities, entertainment, and huge fireworks show!!

All activities are at Dellinger Park on the football field. Park activities start at 3:00 P.M. and continue until 10:00 p.m. Century Bank of Georgia stage will showcase music all day with a concert starting at 8:00 p.m. featuring Scott Thompson and friends and ending with a huge fireworks celebration. Bring a chair and help celebrate our nation’s birthday.

While you are here: Your kids will love the Enormous Kid’s Zone which features huge inflatable slides, obstacle courses, bounces, and more. There will be a petting zoo, pony rides and even camel rides. Check out the delicious fare including hamburgers, hotdogs, grilled cheese, funnel cakes, roasted corn, boiled peanuts, cheese steaks, corn dogs, cotton candy sweet treats from Kona Ice and much more! Be sure to visit The Georgia Grown Member Village ~ Highlighting goods and products from all over the state of Georgia.

While admission is FREE, parking is \$10 per vehicle at the Park. Thanks to the City of Cartersville, Bartow County and Century Bank of Georgia we will again have a huge firework display. Fireworks will launch from Dellinger Park about 9:30 p.m. More info at Facebook search: Cartersville 4th of July

**The Bright Side Newspaper is online  
[WWW.BRIGHTSIDENEWS.COM/WEB.NC.PDF](http://WWW.BRIGHTSIDENEWS.COM/WEB.NC.PDF)**



**PRESENTING THE CHECKS**

**2ND ANNUAL GEORGIA FOOD + WINE FESTIVAL PARTNERS WITH SAFEPATH CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER TO RAISE \$20,000**

The 2nd Annual Georgia Food + Wine Festival, presented by Georgia Grown was a huge success. Celebrity chefs, amazing food, a curated vendor/Georgia Grown market, an outrageous selection of wine and spirits, and \*almost\* perfect weather combined for a can't miss event that has grown exponentially. SafePath Childrens' Advocacy Center, the festival's charitable partner this year, worked hard gathering items for their Silent Auction, hustled for the wine/spirits pull, and collected unused tokens from generous festival patrons. The combined efforts succeeded in raising \$20,000 for this incredible organization so they can continue their work of reducing the trauma to children and their families by offering a comprehensive, professional and child-friendly approach to allegations of child abuse. To learn more about SafePath, please visit [www.safepath.org](http://www.safepath.org). We look forward to doing it again next year.

Please join us for the 3rd Annual Georgia Food + Wine Festival, March 21 -24, 2024. Also pictured with a check for \$6,000 are residents of Burnt Hickory Registry who raised money for SafePath Childrens' Advocacy Center, by holding a pubcrawl.



**MEET THE PUGS OF COBB COUNTY**

BY TAMMY EVERHART

The Pugs of Cobb County were the official winner of the 2023 Big Shanty Festival Parade in downtown Kennesaw on April 22. Their whimsically decorated "Garden of Pugs" float took first place in the parade as they rolled down the streets of Kennesaw showing off a 'grumble' of pugs dressed as flowers, ladybugs, and bumblebees.

The Pugs of Cobb County is a 350+ member social meet-up group for pugs and their owners. They meet once a month at various dog parks, and dog-friendly breweries and events in Cobb County. Some of their favorite meetups have been the Kennesaw parades at Christmas and during the Big Shanty Festival, and the Pet Halloween Costume Contest at the Marietta Square. The group held an Easter egg hunt for the pugs in April at Red Top Brewery in Acworth, where more than 20 pugs "hunted" for plastic eggs filled with dog treats. At many of the meetups, the group celebrates the birthdays or adoption days of the pugs in the group so you may see a group of pug lovers belting out "Happy Birthday" songs to their pugs and eating pup-cakes and cupcakes. You'll also frequently see the adorable pugs dressed up in costumes, dresses, and themed clothing. The group meetups are opportunities for the members to share the pugs' fun-loving, social nature with the community.

According to the American Kennel Club, the unofficial pug motto is the Latin phrase "multum in parvo" (a lot in a little) – the perfect description of this lovable breed! The charming yet mischievous pug is full of personality, as anyone who is lucky enough to have one in their family knows. A group of pugs is known as a "grumble" due to the pug's affinity for snorting and grunting – which you will definitely hear during one of the Pugs of Cobb County meetups!

**ACWORTH'S ZUMBA**

Zumba fitness combines high-energy Latin music and international rhythms with unique and easy to follow moves and combinations that allow participants to dance away their worries. 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. 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. [www.acworthparksandrecreation.org](http://www.acworthparksandrecreation.org)

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## MARIETTA NEWS

### MEET THE AUTHOR: NEELY YOUNG

On Thursday, June 22nd, 2023, at 6pm, the Marietta History Center will host an evening lecture featuring newspaper icon, journalist and historian, Neely Young. Mr. Young will be discussing his latest publication, Georgia Made: The Most Important Figures Who Shaped the State in the Twentieth Century.

Neely Young is well known as the former CEO of Morris Newspaper Corporation, Southern Publishing Co. and as the Co-Owner, former Publisher, and former Editor-in-Chief of the Georgia Trend Magazine. His newest book highlights the men and women who hauled Georgia up from its poor, agrarian roots, making it among the most diversified, prosperous states in the country. They fought for freedom and served from the state and White House. They excelled at sports, founded institutions that shaped countless lives and inspired through art and lives lived artfully. –Georgia Made Books will be available for sale and Mr. Young will sign them after his presentation. Cost is \$10 if you aren't yet a member. FREE if you are a member. At the Marietta History Center our mission is to ignite curiosity in Marietta's history by connecting people through compelling stories and engaging experiences. Current Temporary exhibits includes a traveling photography exhibition highlighting Black Vietnam Veterans from Georgia & "Marietta 1899: Color Captured in Black & White" which was produced in house at the Marietta History Center.



### PETER PAN WILL BE FLYING OVER

#### MARIETTA (GA) THIS SUMMER!

Broadway's timeless classic musical will whisk you away to a place where dreams are born and no one ever grows up!

Peter and his mischievous fairy sidekick, Tinkerbell, visit the nursery of the Darling children late one night and, with a sprinkle of pixie dust, begin a magical journey across the stars that none of them will ever forget. In the adventure of a lifetime, the travelers come face to face with a ticking crocodile, a fierce Indian tribe, a band of bungling pirates and, of course, the villainous Captain Hook.

Show Dates: July 7th (7:30pm) 8th (2pm + 7:30pm) and 9th (3pm) at the Marietta Performing Arts Center, 1171 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta, GA 30064

Fly over to get your tickets today!  
Info and Tickets at: PeterPanGeorgia.com.

### GLOVER PARK SUMMER CONCERTS

The Downtown Marietta Development Authority and the City of Marietta are proud to announce the 2023 Glover Park Concert Series presented by Marietta Dental Associates. As in previous years, these free concerts take place monthly in Glover Park in the Marietta Square.

#### THE CONCERT LINEUP:

June 30: Guardians of the Jukebox, an 80's tribute; July 28: Chuck Martin & The Line-up, Country & Classic Rock. August 25: Bogey and The Viceroy, Classic South to today's hits, September 29: Grains of Sand, Beach, Soul & Motown

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.

Free street parking, City Hall parking deck, 205 Lawrence St and the Care Here of Marietta parking lot, 268 Lawrence St.

Admission is Free. Table reservations may be made online at [www.marietta.ga.gov/](http://www.marietta.ga.gov/)

### COBB EMC TO HOST EV SEMINAR

You're invited to our EV seminar: Plug into the Future. Everything you need to know about electric vehicles.

Curious about electric vehicles? As your power provider, we want to help you learn more about EVs and the resources available to you. Join us at Cobb EMC's free in-person event, Plug into the Future. This electric vehicle seminar event will empower attendees with knowledge, hands-on experiences, and insights from industry experts.

Residential and commercial Cobb EMC members are welcome to attend.

When: Wednesday, June 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m. EV Gallery: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Panel Discussion: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

The event will be held at Cobb EMC's Bo and Mary Jean Pounds Auditorium 1000 EMC Parkway, Marietta GA 30060

Light refreshments will be served and if you attend the seminar, you will be entered to win door prizes

### SILENCE ISN'T EMPTY, IT'S FULL OF ANSWERS

### POP-IN AT MARIETTA HISTORY CENTER

The Marietta History Center will be hosting its monthly Pop-In event on Saturday, June 17th from 10am-4pm. This is a monthly event that takes place on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Pop-In's provide children and their families the opportunity to interact with the museum through themed activities and crafts. Join us in, June for crafts and activities geared towards the different cultures that are in Cobb County. Due to a private donor, we are able to offer this event for FREE to the community. Bach 2 Rock, East Marietta will be joining MHC and offering FREE music classes and will give a performance!

#### Schedule of Events:

12:15 PM - Bach 2 Rock - Free Music Class, 1:00 PM - Bach 2 Rock - Performance, 2:30 PM - Bach 2 Rock - Free Music Class

### JLCM'S MINT JULEP MINGLE RAISED \$5,000 IN ITS INAUGURAL EVENT,

#### THE LEAGUE'S DERBY-THEMED PARTY WAS A SUCCESS!

The Junior League of Cobb-Marietta's Mint Julep Mingle drew quite a crowd May 6, as approximately 120 guests enjoyed music, contests, a raffle and prizes, hors d'oeuvres, drinks and a live broadcast of the 149th Annual Kentucky Derby—while also helping raise about \$5,000 for our community partners.

Held at Boxwood Social Hall on the Marietta Square, the League's first-ever Mint Julep Mingle will help add to the Marietta-headquartered location's opportunity to continue to make a financial impact for those who are underserved in Cobb County.



**KENNESAW'S SUMMER SUN RUN 5K - JUNE 10**

There is still time to register for the second 5K of the season hosted by the Kennesaw Grand Prix. The SUMMER SUN RUN 5K is the second race of the 2023 Kennesaw Grand Prix Series and will be held on Saturday, June 10. How about setting a goal to run your all four 5K's? Or if you are a runner, how about setting your PR on an amazing, fast and flat course inside the city limits of Kennesaw?

The race includes a one mile fun run at 7:30 a.m.; the 5K at 8 a.m.; and a Tot Trot at 8:55 a.m. Awards are presented at the after party on Main Street at 9:15 a.m.

The SUMMER SUN RUN 5K is run on a mostly flat and fast asphalt course, professionally timed and USAT&F Certified, through Downtown Kennesaw and Swift-Cantrell Park. The course is perfect for competitive runners seeking a qualifying time for the Peachtree Road Race.

Fees are: 5K - \$35 (now - June 9) Day of Registration \$45; 1 Mile Fun Run - \$20; Tot Trot - \$5. After-party activities include snacks and water for participants, music and local vendors!

Packet Pick up is available Thursday June 8 from 4:00 - 8:00 PM at Big Peach Running Co. Kennesaw located at 1625 Ridenour Blvd, Kennesaw, GA 30152. The Kennesaw Grand Prix races are under the direction of the Kennesaw Parks and Recreation Department. Visit [Kennesawgrandprix.com](http://Kennesawgrandprix.com) to register or for more information.



**SOLE KIDZ FAMILY RUNS IN 5K'S**

Running is great exercise and Alicia Todisco and her boys, William and Grayson spend a lot of time running. The boys are registered with the Sole KIDZ Running Club where Alicia helps coach. Their efforts paid off in the Kennesaw Grand Prix first 5K: Fit City 5K. All three took home a medal. William placed first in his age group. Grayson placed first in his age group with his fastest time yet - 21.30. And Alicia placed third in her age group.

Alicia is a single mom, owns her own business, Ace Handyman Services in Acworth, and not that she doesn't have enough to do, she also coaches soccer for the boys. Bet we see this family running down Main Street on June 10.

**NCHS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP**

We are excited to host our North Cobb Football Youth Camp this summer July 18-20, 6:00-8:00 pm at Emory Sewell Stadium. You can register at [www.northcobbfootball.com](http://www.northcobbfootball.com) by June 29 to ensure a camp t-shirt. Cost is &75.00. The camp is for students grade 1-8. Must bring your own cleats, sneakers, waterbottle

This year's camp will feature the coaching staff from your back-to-back-to-back defending Region Championship varsity coaching staff led by Coach Shane Queen and several players for 3 days of skills, drills and Warrior Football. This year's camp ensures to be the best as we have grown our camp to over 100 participants.

If you know someone who may be interested in attending, please feel free to push this information along to them. Have questions, email [robert.ingram@cobbk12.org](mailto:robert.ingram@cobbk12.org).

**PRO WAKEBOARD TOUR 2023:**

We are proud to announce that the Pro Wakeboard Tour is returning to Acworth this summer! The Pro Wake Tour is the world's most dominant, highest-credibility professional wakeboard circuit. Comprised of four cash prize events, the PWT showcases the top athletes from Europe, Australia, Canada, the US, and more. Mark your calendar for this unforgettable weekend June 9-10, 2023, at Dallas Landing Park.

**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.

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### A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

**BY MARLON LONGACRE, CHAIR OF THE BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL**

The 2023 Big Shanty Festival was one for the ages. This year's BSF was back at full strength. For the past three years local schools, because of the Pandemic, were not able to participate. What a welcome sight it was to see the North Cobb High School Marching Band kicking off the Big Shanty Festival parade.

The 2023 BSF saw a record in attendance as the millions and millions of Big Shanty Fans packed the streets of downtown Kennesaw. I cannot thank the local businesses, food vendors, crafters, KBA, and the City of Kennesaw enough for their support.

The Big Shanty Festival is one of the premiere hometown festivals in America. It is a joy to be able to watch local schools, churches, dance teams, perform and volunteer before their hometown. It is an even bigger joy to see the pride that local citizens take in their hometown festival.

Next year's Big Shanty Festival will take place on April 20th and 21st. Come be one of the millions and millions of Big Shanty Fans. Editor's note: BSF photo courtesy of Kennesaw Mayor, Derek Easterling



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### ABA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

At the May luncheon the following students were awarded scholarships: North Cobb Christian: Finley Ross / Univ of Georgia / Business Management; Kennesaw Mountain: Julia Oubre / Georgia Southern Univ / Mechanical Engineering; North Cobb: Alison Hayley Bolanos-Aleman / Georgia Tech / Neuroscience (Pre-Med); Allatoona: Davis Windham / Univ of Mississippi / Civil Engineering. They are pictured above l-r along with ABA President Kelly Nagel, on left, and Todd Lollis, Education Chair on far right.

### BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS JUNE CALENDAR

#### ACWORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

**THURS JUNE 8 - ABAALIVE AFTER FIVE** - hosted by Red Top Brewhouse Address 4637 S. Main Street Acworth GA 30101 5:30-7:30. Event is free for ABA members, \$5 for guests. RSVP at [acworthbusiness.org](http://acworthbusiness.org)

**TUES. JUNE 13 & 27, MORNING JOLT**, Acworth Community Center, 7:45-9:00 am. Join the ABA for coffee and early morning networking. This event is FREE. RSVP at [acworthbusiness.org](http://acworthbusiness.org)

**THURS JUNE 22 - ABA WOMEN'S LUNCHEON**, 11:30 at THE COWAN 4271 Southside Drive Acworth. SPONSORED BY LAKE CITY CHIROPRACTIC, CATERED BY ADRIANE'S DELECTABLES

Join the women of the ABA for lunch and networking. This month we will be recognizing educators. Cost is \$20 if you preregister, if you choose not to register in advance you will be charged an addition \$5 at the door. RSVP [acworthbusiness.org](http://acworthbusiness.org).

#### KENNESAW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

**TUES JUNE 13 KBA MONTHLY LUNCHEON** - 11:00 Join us for our program: Leadership and Team Building with guest speaker Bryan Coley. LOCATION CHANGE: We are returning to The KSU Professional Education Building on Busbee Dr. Kennesaw. Sponsored by 22 One Realty and Up Up and Away Junk Haulers, catered by Williamson Bros. BBQ RSVP at [kennesawbusiness.org](http://kennesawbusiness.org).

**TUES JUNE 20 KBA ALIVE AFTER FIVE** at Forks and Flavors, 2920 Busbee Parkway, Kennesaw, 30144. 5:30-7:30. Event is free for kBA members, \$5 for guests. RSVP at [kennesawbusiness.org](http://kennesawbusiness.org).

**TUES JUNE 27 WAKE UPKBA**. 7:45-9:00am. Hosted by 22One Realty 2695 Summers Street Kennesaw GA 30144. Join us at 7:45am on the 4th Tuesday of every month for coffee, breakfast, and some early morning networking at various locations around town. Interact with business owners & various team members to start your day off right!

### ABA OUTREACH

The Acworth Business Association has developed a new program called ABA Outreach. The outreach program is designed to help people in the community who may be struggling in some form or fashion. The ABA Outreach was founded by Bob Brooks, a native to the Acworth community. ABA Outreach is focused on giving back to the community - whether it is helping to repair a home, maintain yard work, or provide groceries or school supplies to a family - we are here to help the community where we live, work, and play.

Our goal this year is to complete four projects, in hopes of growing to twelve a year. This endeavor will be solely supported by donations. A link is provided below for donations. A special thank you to ABA Member, Hill Brothers Flooring, for funding our first ABA Outreach project. They generously donated their time and resources to replace the carpet in the home of a family who recently lost their son.

If you have questions, would like to donate goods or services, or nominate a deserving individual or family, please contact Bob Brooks by phone 770-572-4173 or email bob.brooks@ccm.com. To donate visit acworthbusiness.org and click on ABA Outreach in the top menu.

### HOW ABOUT THIS REAL ESTATE MARKET

BY BOB BROOKS, LOAN ADVISOR,

In this market today of trying to do a mortgage transaction when you ask the experts what is happening in the market. I am not going to lie. 95% of the people are going look at you and shrug their shoulder. I have a fancy word that I made up and it is called politicking. They are not sure what is going on as well.

What I do know is people in the industry and the folks who are trying to use a mortgage person, real estate person or even an insurance person are frustrated. Why? They can not afford it. When I speak with folks the first question, they ask about is what is the interest rate. When I tell them 6.5%, they look at me as if I just said a cuss word. The interesting thing is that is normal. What is not is the housing price increase.

In the past two years homes have increased in price by over 11%-12%. That was due to LOW interest rates and a buying and refinancing frenzy. Unfortunately, interest rates will NEVER be in the 2% range for a long while. Do not quote me, as this is just my opinion. If you wait to buy until next year the inevitable happens. The dreaded normal 5%-6% inflation happens. So, if you wait, you could be paying 15%-16% for the house of your dreams than this year. As a mortgage professional I always put faith in the real estate agents to inform that if it is \$400,000 house it will appraise for \$400,000. Not \$450,000. Please trust in the folks that do their job. In closing the inflation is what it is and know that we are here to answer questions whenever you have them. My advice is free and I am always around to help! Contact Bob by texting him at 770.572.4173 or send him an email at bob.brooks@ccm.com.

### BACH FLOWER REMEDIES: A WAY TO HEAL NATURALLY

BY PATRICIA WALLENBURG, OAK SANCTUARY

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.

### JAMES "JIMMY" HERBERT WILBUR

JANUARY 29, 1949 - MAY 5, 2023

James "Jimmy" Herbert Wilbur, Jr. passed away peacefully on May 5th, 2023, at 74 years, surrounded by his wife and children. Jimmy was born in Marietta, Georgia, on January 29, 1949, to James Herbert Wilbur Sr. & Ruby Wilbur. Right out of high school, Jimmy married his high school sweetheart, Phyllis Irene Miller and attended two years of vocational electronics at Southern Polytechnic University. Jimmy worked several jobs early on after high school including Lanier Electronics, Sears and Roebuck, the Standard Service Station, and Cobb County Schools Transportation. He then spent time at Lockheed Martin prior to going on to work at Georgia Power where he would work for 30 years until he was forced to retire in 2001 due to a stroke. Outside of work, Jimmy's hobbies included fishing, golf, yard work, and cars, but above all, he loved spending time with his family. Jimmy is survived by his wife of 55 years, Phyllis Wilbur, and his children, Shannon and her husband, Wes Anderson; Jamie Wilbur; Cam and his wife, Alison Wilbur; along with grandchildren James Wesley (Jake) Anderson III; Tatum Anderson Barber, and husband, Thomas Barber; Griffin Bogner; Carson Wilbur; and Kenley Wilbur. Jimmy is preceded in death by his parents. The family requests no flowers. Instead, the family asks those who wish to express sympathy to consider donating to Calvary Children's Home at <https://calvarykids.org/donate/>.



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