

December 2013

EAST COBBER

FREE
Take One!



Susan Hampton
East Cobb Citizen of the Year

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Don't Miss!

18-20

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Comments and stories are always welcome. Please address all correspondence to cynthia@eastcobber.com.

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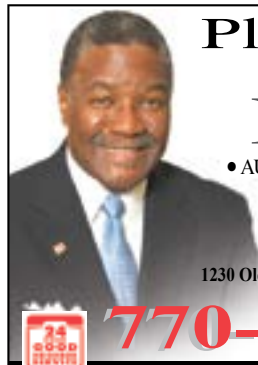
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Bellingham Apartments
Biscuits & More
Book Nook
Café Life
Canvas by U
Capozzi's Deli
Capozzi's Pizza
Chestnut Ridge Christian Church
Chevron
Chicago's
Classy Flea
Community Bank of the South
Cookies by Design
Creative /Cresco Montessori
Cuban Diner
Curves
Debbie Emerson Counseling
Dermatology Consultants
DK College Consultants
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Dog City Bakery
Dr. Bradley Cross
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Dr. Mark Light
Dr. Rubin-WellStar
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East Cobb Prep
East Cobb Presbyterian
East Cobb Urgent Care
Eastminster Preschool
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ENT of Georgia/Cobb
Episcopal Church of St. Peter & Paul
European Deli
Evans Jewelers
Eye Level
Eyes on Providence
Fitness4U
Fresh Produce
Fuji Hana
Goodyear
St. Ann Catholic Church
State Farm Insurance/Don Johnson
Sudano Chiropractic
Sunrise of East Cobb
Sunshine School
Sweeney Chiropractic
Temple Kol Emeth
The Goddard School
The Hair Image

Timber Ridge Elementary School
Tritt Elementary School
Urban Relics
Walmart
Walton High School
WellStar
Williamson Bar-B-Q
Wood Acres Day School
Zeba Salon

30066 Area-Sandy Plains Road

A Passion for Pets
Ace Hardware
Addison Elementary School
Ankle & Foot Center
Berner Chiropractic
Bi-County Chiropractic
Blackwell Elementary School
Blimpie
Brewsters Restaurant
British Academy of Ballet Arts
Buddha's Delight Restaurant
C2 Education
Capozzi Pizza
Cazadores Restaurant
Chalise & Co.
Chattahoochee Tech College
China Dynasty
Citgo Gas Station
Cosmos Fitness
Covenant Presbyterian Preschool
Curves
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Invigo Spa
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John Boys Buffet
John M Miller CPA
Judy's Buffet
Kids Kuts
Kids R Kids
Kincaid Elementary School
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Linked Athletics
M&J Nutrition
Marietta Eye Clinic
McCleskey Middle School
Merrymac
Montessori School of Woodstock
Mountain View Aquatic Center
Mountain View Community Center
Mountain View Elementary School
Mr. WonTon's
New Lucky China
Nicholson Elementary School
North Atlanta OB/Gyn
Omega Learning
Pak Mail
Paradise Grille
Paradise Optical
Patrick Carmen Hair Salon
Preeminence Salon
Primary Prep Academy
Publix
Rib Ranch
Rocky Mount Elementary School
Rosa's Pizza
Safe America
Sandy Plains Office Supply

30067 Area

A Child's Night Out
American Clinic for Preventative Medicine
Atlanta Ballet
Atria Johnson Ferry
Baldino's
Barber Shop
BMW Dealership
Boneheads
Brazilian Bakery
Brumby Elementary School
Chevron Food Mart
Christos Restaurant
Delkwood Grill
Doc Greens
Happy Mart
Harry's Farmers Market
Hot Dogs Cool Cats
Inga's
J. Christopher's
John Knox Presbyterian Church
Los Bravos Mexican Restaurant
Lovin' Knit
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
McIntyre's Family Practice
Mellow Mushroom
Midtown Athletic Club
Powers Ferry Elementary School
Sal Grosso
Schlotzsky's Deli
Shell Food Mart
Shreiner Academy
Simply Fresh
Sope Creek Elementary School
Sugarbenders Bakery
The Sunshine House

US Post Office
Walton at Columns
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30068 Area-Johnson Ferry Road

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American Brake Center
Arbor Terrace
Atlanta North Stars
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Bagelicious
Baked
Bank of North Georgia
Barber Shop
Barrack Spinal
BBQ-1
Betsy's Hallmark
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Bicksford of Marietta
Bookmiser
BP
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C2 Education
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Center for Ortho & Sports Medicine
Chevron
Children's Network
Chin Chin
Choi Kwang Do
Coldstone
Coldwell Banker
Cook's Warehouse
Crème de la Crème
Crestwood Suites
CrossFit
CT Nails
CVS
Dance Stop
Delta Credit Union
Dermatology Affiliates
Diane's Nails
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D'Lites
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Draisen Edwards
Dunkin Donuts
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LaVida
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Lilli Nails
Manor Care
Marietta Family Dental
Marietta Ice Rink
Marietta Imaging Center
Marlow's Tavern
Massey's Automotive
Medi Grill
Mellow Mushroom
Montrose Animal Hospital
Moohan Martial Arts
Mower Doctor
Mt. Bethel Christian Academy
Mt. Bethel Athletics Center
Mt. Bethel Elementary School
Neurosport
Omega Learning Center
Overstock Warehouse

... and more!



'Tis the season to celebrate miracles—Hanukkah and Christmas. Though this holiday season is one of the most magical times of the year for children, many of us often find the season to be stressful. I hope by reading this issue of the EAST COBBER you are giving yourself a break from the holiday rush. You can get some gift-giving ideas on pages 18-21 in our annual gift guide. The merchants mentioned

are in our own backyard so that should make your shopping a little easier. Please check them out, you'll be awed and inspired by the gift selections they offer. When the going gets really tough, another stressbuster is eating out. The Dining Guide on pages 38-43 should give you a short-list of local restaurants that you can enjoy with friends and family during the holiday season—or to just simply enjoy while giving yourself a break from the busyness of the season!

As always, this issue includes stories about the good people that share their "gifts" making East Cobb (and beyond) a better place to live. From Scott Feight, founder of the Foundation for Hospital Art to Drs. Azita and Michael Mansouri who coordinated a free dentistry day. I hope you, EAST COBBER reader, are inspired by their "gift"-giving and may be more inspired to share your "gift" for a better East Cobb and beyond. And if you already are contributing to the quality of life here in East Cobb, let me share your story, too! Just give me call or e-mail the EAST COBBER.

For me, the best presents I'll receive this holiday season can't be wrapped. Of course, the best gifts are my three healthy children. And another favorite present is the joy of being able to work on this paper every month for such a great community. It's a gift I'm thankful for not just during the holidays but everyday.

Happy Holidays!

Cynthia M. Rozzo
Founder & Publisher
cynthia@eastcobber.com

On the Cover

This month's front cover features the East Cobb Citizen of the Year, Susan Hampton. Sponsored by the East Cobb division of the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, East Cobb Kiwanis, Civitans, Rotary, and Lions Clubs, the award recognizes an outstanding citizen who has contributed to the quality of life in East Cobb. Susan was very surprised at the honor of being named Citizen of the Year and is proud to have been recognized.

Hampton is a vice president/regional manager at the Fidelity Bank branch on Johnson Ferry Road. She attributes her community involvement to a strong sense of giving back. In 1995, when her husband died suddenly, she was touched by the people who reached out to her to help her through that time of loss. That inspired her to carry on as a single mom and to give back whenever and however she could. For years, she's been a tireless volunteer for a number of community projects, from volunteering as a grief counselor at Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church, at Pope High School (where her son graduated) to the East Cobb Public Safety Celebration dinner held this past October. She noted that being a member of the East Cobb Lions Club is near and dear to her heart because of all the many opportunities offered to serve the community.

In her spare time, Susan plays tennis and is "a fanatic for football." She has only missed five UGA games in 25 years and attends the Atlanta Falcon games with her son, Rob (26). Susan loves East Cobb because of the great sense of community pride, the "well-managed county government, and superior schools."

Front cover photograph taken by Michael Drewitz of Michael's Photography.



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Toys for Tots Seeks Donations

As the holidays are upon us and planning for Christmas arrives, it's also time to think about doing something special for children in need. The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is again underway giving local residents an opportunity to purchase a toy for a boy and girl outside their family.

Toys for Tots started more than 60 years ago when Maj. Bill Hendricks, USMCR, and a group of Marine reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed more than 5,000 toys to needy children. Hendricks' idea caught on and was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots the following year and expanded it into a nationwide program. In 1995, the Secretary of Defense approved Toys for Tots as an official activity of the U.S. Marine Corps and an official mission of the Marine Corps Reserve.

Today, Toys for Tots is the Marine Corps' premier community action program and one of the nation's flagship Christmas charitable causes. Toys for Tots is the only charitable endeavor within the Department of Defense which reaches outside the military establishment to give something back to the communities. Toys for Tots has enjoyed over a half century of success because of the support of millions of caring Americans, local communities, and corporate America plus the dedication and hard work of thousands of U.S. Marines. Toys for Tots is a program which brings all elements of a community together in a common cause for three months each year. It is a program dedicated to helping in the development of our nation's most valuable natural resource: our children. The shiny new toy at Christmas lets these youngsters know that someone cares.

Area Toys for Tots coordinator Gunnery A.T. Wilson is in charge of finding enough money and toys to fulfill the 900,000 toy requests for children in the 11 counties throughout Metro Atlanta. "Many people in Metro Atlanta have been hit hard this year with so we are working extra asking for more donations and drop-off points," says Mr. Wilson.

Toys for Tots collects only new toys. Organizers ask that toys brought to drop-off points be unwrapped so they can be sorted and given to the right child. Toys are to be appropriate for children from birth to 12 years. 

Toys For Tots Drop-off Points

- **American Laser Skincare**
1121 Johnson Ferry Road
Suite 310
Marietta 30068
- **Brick House Pizza**
580 East Crossville Road
Roswell 30062
- **BP Oil Gas Station**
2951 Shallowford Road
Marietta 30066
- **Cumberland Pediatrics**
1405 Franklin Road
Marietta 30067
- **Doug Mikula State Farm Office**
2961 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta 30066
- **Ferguson Enterprises Inc**
910 Cobb Parkway North
Marietta 30062
- **FLOSS Dentistry**
1121 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta 30068
- **Innovative Orthodontics**
1229 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta 30068
- **Lassiter High School Beta Club**
2601 Shallowford Road
Marietta 30066
- **O'Charleys**
3550 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta 30066
- **Pep Boys Speed Shop**
1531 Cobb Parkway South
Marietta 30062
- **Pro-Fix Home Repair**
3655 Canton Road
Marietta 30066
- **Ryland Homes - Canterbury**
542 Knowlton Street
Marietta 30066
- **Sellers Goodyear**
2950 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta 30062
- **TerraMark Land Surveying**
1396 Bells Ferry Road
Marietta 30066
- **Triangle Rent A Car**
300 Cobb Parkway North
Marietta 30062
- **Wireless Zone**
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Foundation for Hospital Art Helps Brightens Patients' Stays



▲ Kacie Goepfner and Matthew Perez at the Holy Transfiguration Christ Teen PaintFest fundraiser.

Imagine lying on a hospital gurney in a stark white hallway, or a drab hospital room. You are in your bed waiting to get better, just waiting. Now imagine bright beautiful colors while you lie on that same gurney, or in that same hospital bed, transporting you to exotic lands and oceans across the world, or looking up at your ceiling and seeing the blue sky above you with birds in flight. You close your eyes and you are in flight with those birds. For a moment, your illness is gone and you are free from the hospital.

This freedom from illness is what the East Cobb-based Foundation for Hospital Art has been accomplishing since 1984. Scott Feight, the Executive Director of the Foundation explains, "Since 1984, The Foundation for Hospital Art has been dedicated to softening the hospital environment with colorful paintings, wall murals and ceiling tiles. Our dream is to reach patients and medical staffs "in all the hard places." Hard places are those areas where patients and

medical staffs are working under stress for long periods of time. Adding color and scenes from nature in blank spaces can turn a bleak depressing treatment room into a room of hope." The Foundation of Hospital Art is truly a family affair. Feight's father, John, created the Foundation while volunteering at Northside Hospital. He saw stark white hallways and was inspired to transform them into beautiful colors to give patients a place of comfort and love. Since then, his nonprofit has donated art to thousands of healthcare facilities throughout the world. "Our goal is to make art available to your facility at no cost. "Our quest is to donate at least one painting to every hospital on Earth," shares Scott.

There are several ways in which to volunteer for the Foundation. The first is to offer your time at their studio on Shallowford Road and help paint the murals for the hospitals. An artist designs the mural (each mural contains six panels) and the painting starts out as a black and white outline, only to become a colorful painting. Volunteers then come into the Foundation's studio and paint in between the borders with the paint provided. Everyone can feel a part of the art, without being an artist. The art has been painted by patients, families, medical staffs, and volunteers.

Another fun way to help is to hold a PaintFest. Volunteers paint pre-drawn, color-coded designs at PaintFest® events. The completed artwork is then donated to needy healthcare facilities on behalf of the sponsor. An organization can order a PaintFest kit from the Foundation, and all of the supplies for the Murals are provided. The cost of Paint Fest kits vary, depending upon the amount of people who will be attending. It is also a great way for organizations to host fund raisers. The organization would pay the fee for the kits, and then can charge a fee for people to attend. It is a win/win proposition, because the group can support their cause, while helping the Foundation.

>>continued on next page>>



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Transfiguration Catholic Church recently hosted a PaintFest. Their "Art for the Heart" event was held on October 12th as a fundraiser for their Christ Teen program. 100 volunteers worked on 33 murals that will be sent to hospitals all around the country, including a Women's and Children's Center in Maryland, Dallas Children's Hospital, Miami Children's hospital, a hospital in Albany, Georgia, and a hospital in San Diego, CA.



▲ Scott Feight, Founder of Foundation for Hospital Art

Some East Cobb schools have recently signed up with the Foundation to participate in their Paint Fest program including clubs Lassiter High School, Sprayberry High School, Pope High School, and Walton High School. Feight feels this is a testament to how much our schools are doing to teach the importance of volunteerism and giving back.

"Through art, you can love and comfort people who are suffering. Bright colors make things brighter and brighten lives and give encouragement. The foundation enables people to volunteer locally and ultimately impact around the world," says Feight.

Whether you are organizing a large event for hundreds or if you are looking for a way to personally volunteer the Foundation for Hospital Art needs your help. The patients need your help. Please consider joining a "Painting Army" and spread joy through a paintbrush. If you would like more information regarding volunteering for the Foundation of Hospital Arts, you may contact them at: www.hospitalart.org. ☺



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Woodlawn Square
(Behind Chick-fil-A)

Walton High School Volleyball Team Wins State for Fourth Year in a Row



Walton High School's Lady Raiders wrapped up the season capturing the team's fourth consecutive state title in last month's Class AAAAAA's championship match versus the Chattahoochee High School squad. The Lady Raiders have earned nine state titles in the last 16 seasons. Congratulations, Lady Raiders! Members of the winning team are pictured above: Back Row: Sarah Schneider (Coach), Maddie Quirk, Dalaney Hans, Leanne Villanueva, Leo Hausman, Maria Granros , Grace Ryan, Ethan Ratnowsky (Manager), Suzanne Fitzgerald (Head Coach). Middle Row: Mary Belle Gosch, Ashley Miller, Celeste Fitzgerald, Lindsay Seagraves, Ashley Dean, Isabel Kun. Front Row: Jessica Sloan, Leah Jackson (Captain), Kate Schwartz, Brooke Landon (Captain), Jack Peterson (Manager). 🏆



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Cobb Young Professional Debuts Mentoring Program


Cobb Young Professionals, the Cobb Chamber's networking group for young professionals in their 20s and 30s, named the participants in the 2013-2014 Next Generation Mentoring Program.. This new program was created to build connections between members of Cobb Young Professionals and established members of the Cobb Chamber, in order to develop the future leaders of the Cobb County business community.

The Next Generation Mentoring Program will consist of face-to-face meetings and events throughout the program year, including discussions to set and track goals. Mentors will provide young professional participants with expertise and insight needed to grow successfully in their career, while helping develop and achieve personal goals.

The 2013 mentees were selected from a group of applicants who are active within the community and Cobb Young Professionals program. The Cobb Young Professionals were selected for the 2013-2014 program are: Angelo Brown of DeVry University - Keller Graduate School of Management; Katy Ruth Camp of The Georgia Ballet; Brian Capozzi of Lincoln Educational Services; LaBrita Cash-Baskett of Fundamental Focus; Meredith Davis, 2013 Chamber Board member and community activist; Ashley Hungerford of United Way; Kevin Hyland of Sweetwater Financial; Ben Johnson of ABC Home and Commercial; Ally Rakoczy of Aerotek; Andrew Snyder of NOODLEit, Inc.; Andreas Wilder

of Hill, Wilder & Associates; and Andrew Windham of College Planning Institute.

Mentors were selected from the Cobb community, active in the Chamber and in varying industries. Mentors include: Jeri Barr, CEO of the Center For Family Resources; Tony Britton of Community and Southern Bank; Shan Cooper, vice president and general manager of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company; Andy Crowe, CEO of Velociteach; Barbara Hickey, director of The Etiquette School of Atlanta; Dr. Michael Hinojosa, superintendent of the Cobb County School District; John Loud, CEO of LOUD Security Systems; Kim Menefee, senior vice president, Public/Government Affairs at WellStar; Greg Morgan, partner in charge of Mauldin &

Jenkins; Dr. Ike Reighard, president and CEO of MUST Ministries; Dr. Kathy Schwaig, dean of the Coles College of Business at KSU; and Pam Younker, community outreach liaison at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Cobb Young Professionals is dedicated to the promotion and encouragement of young professionals in the workplace. Monthly meetings are held to network with other young professionals and feature various guest speakers bi-monthly on topics that can influence their job performance and careers. For more information on Cobb Young Professionals or the Next Generation Mentoring Program, contact Jessica Dudley at 770-859-2359 or jdudley@cobbchamber.org. 





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East Cobber Ed Baker Inducted into Atlanta Press Club's Hall of Fame



▲ Ed Baker

The Atlanta Press Club honored Atlanta's finest journalists as they were inducted into the Hall of Fame this past October. This year, East Cobber Ed Baker was inducted along with Margaret Mitchell, Monica Pearson, Dale Russell and Bill Shipp. "The Atlanta Press Club Hall of Fame recognizes journalists for their life-time achievements and those whose careers represent the highest

standards of journalistic integrity and ethics," according to Lauri Strauss, executive director of the Atlanta Press Club. "Our honorees have made outstanding contributions either to journalism in Georgia, and/or advancing the mission of the Atlanta Press Club. They often courageously overcame obstacles to pursue and find the truth that the public needed to know."

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed introduced inductee Ed Baker. An East Cobb resident, Baker is the long-time publisher of Atlanta Business Chronicle, which has grown into one of the largest business journals in the country under his direction. He is also the chief strategic officer of American City Business Journals. Ed Baker has been publisher for 27 years of Atlanta Business Chronicle, one of the country's largest business journals with more than 166,000 readers each week. In addition to his local responsibilities, Ed is chief strategic officer of American City Business Journals, the parent company.

Ed grew up in Atlanta and is very active in the community. He serves on the boards of the Metro Atlanta Chamber, Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau,

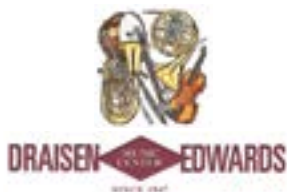
Public Broadcasting Atlanta, Junior Achievement of Georgia, Georgia State University's Robinson College of Business, Atlanta Business League Foundation, Arby's Foundation and the Atlanta Sports Council.

Prior to joining the Chronicle, Ed was a senior executive in the advertising agency business, having worked on the launch of cellular for BellSouth, The Weather Channel and the Kawasaki Jet Ski at J. Walter Thompson and D'Arcy MacManus and Masius. He was inducted into the Atlanta Advertising Club Hall of Fame in the last century.

A graduate of Georgia State University, he is currently working on a Master's degree in International Business. He was named an Outstanding Alumnus in 2004. Ed remains happily married (for 38 years) to his high school sweetheart. They have one married son, who works in advertising in Atlanta. They are expecting their first grandchild in December.

"We honored trailblazers," said Jon Shirek of WXIA-TV, who also is an Atlanta Press Club past president and the chairman of the Hall of Fame committee. "Margaret Mitchell helped pave the way for women in journalism as a reporter for the Atlanta Journal. And Bill Shipp, Monica Pearson, Ed Baker and Dale Russell have given decades of service to improve journalism in our community."

The Atlanta Press Club (APC) is one of the largest and most dynamic professional journalism associations in the country. The membership encompasses Atlanta's burgeoning media community - print, broadcast and online, large and small, national and local media outlets. More than half the club's 500 members are working journalists; the balance consists of public relations professionals, educators, retirees and students. The APC's mission is to serve the professional and social needs of Atlanta's journalism community, foster journalistic excellence and advance the public's interest in and understanding of a free press. Please visit www.atlantapressclub.org for more information. ©



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Northside Hospital Auxiliary Volunteers Honored for Years of Service



▲ Michaelle Arkin, Northside Auxiliary President-elect with Lisa Angel, current President.

Northside Hospital honored its Atlanta Auxiliary volunteers at the 43rd annual Auxiliary Luncheon last month. More than 110 Auxilians attended the event, which recognized the volunteers for their dedicated service to the hospital.

Northside's Auxiliary began serving the Atlanta hospital and community

in 1969 with 100 volunteers. Today, the organization has 325 active volunteers, from ages 14-99 years, who work in more than 30 departments and have given more than 47,800 hours of service to Northside in the past year.

This year's luncheon, themed "Volunteers are the key to success," honored volunteers celebrating anniversaries and other very special milestones. The event also recognized the Auxiliary's newly-elected officers, who are eager to continue the organization's sterling reputation.

Jane Moore, of East Cobb, was recognized for her 15 years of service to the Northside Hospital-Atlanta Auxiliary. Moore volunteers as an escort, delivering flowers to patients and transporting them to their rooms and cars. East Cobb Michaelle Arkin, also was recognized at the event as the Auxiliary's president-elect.

"Again this year, we have accomplished our mission to provide compassionate support and quality service to patients, families and visitors, as well as funding for special projects which benefit the hospital," said Lisa Angel, Auxiliary president and East Cobb resident. "I am humbled by the dedication of our volunteers. It is a privilege and an honor to work with such a conscientious group of caring people."

Angel presented Northside with a check for \$344,289, raised from all of the Auxiliary's fundraising efforts in 2012-2013 including sales in the Gift Shop, commissions on baby photo sales and several other sales to employees. The money was used

to fund Northside's annual Camp Hope for adult cancer patients, additional online resources for maternity patients, scholarships to those interested in the medical field, support programs and services for cancer patients and families in the Special Care Nurseries, the hospital's Healing Sounds (music therapy) program and much more. In all, the Auxiliary money supported more than 25 departments of the hospital.

Additional accomplishments of the Auxiliary over the last year include:

- The Auxiliary hosted 105 "volunteens" in various areas of the hospital.
- Volunteers delivered 3,559 flower arrangements and 2,728 pieces of mail to patients, and transported 5,752 patients.
- The Auxiliary's Community Health Education Program (CHEP) performed 42 puppet shows to more than 4,000 children.
- Happy Tails (pet therapy) volunteers made more than 550 visits to patients and their families in the High-Risk Perinatal and Medical-Surgery units.
- Volunteers made 2,655 items, including baby blankets, caps, baby booties and scarves, for babies in the hospital's Special Care Nursery and patients receiving cancer treatment.
- Network of Hope volunteers visited with and offered support to 540 breast and other cancer patients. They also made 423 follow-up calls to recently discharged breast cancer patients.

"The Northside Hospital Auxiliary has always been and remains an essential component to hospital's long-standing success," said Bob Quattrocchi, president and CEO of Northside Hospital. "There are no limits to the extraordinary contributions our volunteers make to our patients, visitors and staff each and every day; we greatly appreciate all that they do."

For more information about the Northside Hospital-Atlanta Auxiliary, call 404-851-8707 or visit www.northside.com/volunteers. ☎



▲ Jane Moore

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Dermatology Affiliates Welcomes Dr. Abbott to East Cobb



▲ Cynthia Abbott, M.D.

As the days grow shorter in the fall and winter months, now is the perfect time to begin a reparative skin care regimen to correct unfortunate summer sun damage. This process is now easier than ever, because Dermatology Affiliates recently added Cynthia Abbott, M.D., to its practice. Known for their focus on patient care, the physicians at Dermatology Affiliates see patients with a variety of skin conditions impacting skin, nails or hair. They also treat skin cancer. They also treat eczema and removing warts or moles.

Dr. Abbott has always felt at home in the field of science and the world of dermatology. She draws her to the field of dermatology both skills to bring out healthy and beautiful skin. "I feel like all my life I have been in the field of science," Dr. Abbott says.

"In college I majored in both my master's in Medical Illustration and in Cosmetic Dermatology. I am a dermatologist that I do for a patient, ethically pleasing."

The visual appeal may have been Dr. Abbott's interest in dermatology, going is the variety of people she treats.

Dr. Abbott also completed a residency at Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. She feels she has expertise in Pediatric Cosmetic Dermatology.

"What I mostly love about dermatology is the generational factor," Dr. Abbott says. "I treat kids and World War II vets in the same office."

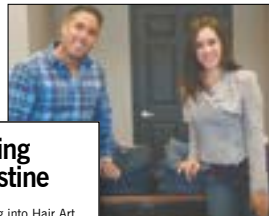
To get the most out of your dermatologist, Dr. Abbott recommends that you be open to her medical needs.

"Be educated, know your own medical history," she says. "I want to know your medical history, so I can treat you together to treat your diseases and your skin."

Dermatology Affiliates

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Get Jeans at The Hub Boutique Casual Fashion That Flatters Your Body



▲ Laura Fanoie and her brother Dennis Farrell, Jr. True Religion jeans with a casual shirt purchased at The Hub Boutique.

Steps of her beloved grandmother, East Cobb resident Laura Fanoie is full of upscale jeans, cute little tops, and gift items. Laura gave her shop a name, The Hub Boutique. "The ultimate nod to grandma. She and I were best friends," The Hub Boutique's mother-in-law, Doris, family friend are helping out.

"I wanted to give local women the ability to great designer clothing without the consuming commute. I want The Hub to be a place where you are in need of a 'me-up,'" shares Laura.

The boutique opens for business November 3, just after the search for holiday gifts begins. Laura says she will be able to find high-end jeans, until she found the best that make everyone look great! "She's something for everybody...to the perfect fit."

Well, you can shop for upscale, well-made gifts. Explore not just shades of blue but other color options. NYDJ, the Your Daughter Jeans, are available. They are from the cleaner-looking Henry's look of True Religion.

At San Diego Hat Company merchandise really cool scarf that has a pocket," she says. "It's a soy candle that makes you feel like you're in a kind of lotion. Cute things you might find? Check out Merchant's Walk shopping center, Suite 140, in Marietta/East Cobb. Visit our informative website at www.hubboutique.com.

Personal Pampering at Hair Art By Christine



▲ Christine Rhodes

Walking into Hair Art by Christine makes you feel like you're visiting a friend rather than getting a haircut. Stylist Christine Rhodes has recently moved her business to one of the 12 private suites in Sala Salon Studios, which is located in the heart of East Cobb.

Brilliantly lit with ceiling to floor windows, Christine's cozy corner of the world provides you with just the place for what she calls "personal pampering." It's all about you – no waiting and no scuffling from chair to chair. The suite gives you privacy and her undivided attention.

A hair color specialist and stylist, Christine has been in the business for 25 years. For the past 13 years, she worked at Van Michael's Salon in Sandy Springs. Wanting to branch out on her own, Christine was looking for both freedom and flexibility. "I want to be flexible for my clients," says Rhodes. "When you work for a large salon, someone else is handling your schedule, and the products you use are chosen for you. Now I can offer better scheduling and product choices. The privacy of the suite also gives my clients a personal experience."

Christine considered her current customer base when searching for a new location. The new Johnson Ferry address is convenient for her East Cobb customers. For the Sandy Springs customers, she is just a few miles north of her previous location.

Appointments are available on Tuesdays through Saturdays. Christine emphasizes that she is flexible in her scheduling, with Thursdays designated for late appointments.

Hair Art by Christine is located at 1062 Johnson Ferry Road, Suite #100, Studio #127, in East Cobb. (The studios are directly behind Goldberg Bagel Company and Deli.) To schedule an appointment, call 678-794-5162.



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Cobb County Schools at Financial Crossroads

By Anne Davidson, East Cobb County Council PTA, Legislation Chair

Cobb County Schools are at a crossroads. At stake are the education quality of our students and the long-term economic strength of our community. The Cobb County School District ("the School District") recently announced a projected shortfall of \$79 million for fiscal year 2015. This news comes after several years of budget shortfalls, which have resulted from diminishing real estate tax revenues and major cuts in state funding for education. In an economy that increasingly demands highly skilled workers, it is critical that our elected officials at the state and local levels support a fully funded education system that prepares our students with the high quality education necessary to succeed. Failure to do so will take our students and our community down a road that leads away from recovery and off the track of the high-growth, high-wage industries that build economic prosperity.

In a recent presentation the Georgia Budget & Policy Institute ("GBPI") provided further insight into the financial picture of the School District. The GBPI reports that in 2014 the state austerity cut to the School District budget was nearly \$66 million. State austerity cuts are calculated through a complex education funding formula called the Quality Basic Education (QBE). Cumulatively, since 2002, the state QBE funding cuts to Cobb County have totaled nearly \$450 million, while at the same time student enrollment has increased by 11 percent. At the local level, Cobb County's tax digest fell by 17.8 percent between 2008 and 2012. All of these fiscal challenges have meant that the School District's current budget has been cut to its barest level in many years.

What does this continuing budget crisis mean for parents, students, teachers and schools? For families with students in Cobb County schools, it has meant fewer teachers. Since 2009, the GBPI reports that Cobb has lost nearly 1,400 teaching positions, mostly through attrition. That has meant increased class sizes and less opportunity for teachers to give individual attention to students. The school budget shortfall has also meant furlough days – or five less instructional days during the school year, and the corresponding related cut to teacher salaries. Teachers also have had delayed step-increases, reduced time for curriculum planning and decreased professional development opportunities. The central office staffing has been cut, and funding for instructional materials has been reduced. To date, the School District has not reduced or eliminated art or music programs, elective courses, or programs to help remedial students. But the continued budget shortfall may require those cuts.

Fortunately, the School District has performed effectively with less, and Cobb County student academic performance has remained high. For instance, while seniors who graduated in 2013 saw a five-point decrease in SAT scores from 2012, their scores were still well above averages for the state of Georgia and the nation. Nevertheless, parents and community members are increasingly concerned that continued state austerity cuts and insufficient real estate tax revenues will negatively impact the quality of education their students will receive and ultimately hinder their ability to graduate, to go to college and/or to get a job.

On a community-wide scale, the school budget cuts come at a time when it is more and more critical to provide a high quality education – to sustain existing jobs, to meet the anticipated need for high-skilled jobs and to improve economic opportunity. In a recent report, the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education ("GPEE") cites expectations that Georgia will generate a predicted 1.5 million new jobs by 2020 in fields such as high technology, science, math, engineering, trade, transportation and natural resources. Of those new jobs, 60 percent will require education beyond high school – but only 42 percent of young adults in Georgia have a post-secondary degree or certification today. Similarly, the Economic Analysis and Research Network ("EARN") of the Economic Policy Institute ("EPI") conducted a study which demonstrated that "[t]here are no states with a relatively highly educated workforce and relatively low wages and virtually no states with lower levels of education and relatively high wages." Instead, the study found that the states with the most highly educated workforces – New Jersey, Maryland, Connecticut and Massachusetts – have the highest median wages. And, in contrast, most states with the least-educated workforces – including Arkansas, Nevada, Louisiana and Mississippi – have comparatively low wages.

A similar correlation can be demonstrated in Georgia with respect to education levels and employment rates. For instance, a GPEE report shows data that Georgia counties with higher graduation rates in May 2013 were more likely to have lower rates of unemployment for that time period. For instance, Cobb County's graduation rate is listed as between 73 and 85 percent in the report, with a corresponding unemployment rate of less than

>>continued on next page>>

8 percent. The GPEE concluded from its data that policies to improve high school graduation rates also improve employment opportunities:

"Communities that increase the educational levels of their residents become more attractive to businesses searching for an area in which to locate that has an abundant supply of qualified workers. Additionally, as greater percentages of the population are able to secure employment, communities may benefit from an increase in their tax revenue."

The national business community is equally invested in a highly skilled workforce. A recent Business Roundtable survey revealed that 95 percent of its CEO members indicated that their companies suffered from skills shortages – and that the growing disparity between the skills that U.S. workers have and the skills that U.S. businesses need is proof of an alarming "skills-gap" that could have both negative and far-reaching impacts on workers, families, businesses, governments and the economy. The Business Roundtable contends that "[a] skilled, prepared workforce is the cornerstone of economic competitiveness," and "building America's capacity to effectively develop 'homegrown' talent is one of the most important challenges of our time."

The critical question for parents, community, education and business leaders is whether the continued school budget crisis will prevent students in Cobb County and in Georgia from succeeding in higher education and in the workforce. This is a serious and real question, for although Georgia's economic development plan predicts an added 1.5 million highly skilled jobs by 2020 -- it is far from certain that Georgia's education system will produce the highly skilled employees necessary to meet the expected workforce demands. In addition to the school budget crisis, our schools have growing numbers of students who come from economically disadvantaged

backgrounds, or who speak English as a second language – which populations have had historically lower graduation rates and less exposure to the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields that are the anticipated growth sectors in Georgia's economy. It would seem the wisest choice for state and local elected officials is to increase financial investment in education, so that Georgia students from all levels of income, and from diverse populations, can learn to be the highly educated workers who attract the high-growth, high-wage industries that strengthen our economy.

What can parents, education, community and business leaders do about the School District continuing budget crisis?

- Be informed – understand the fiscal challenges facing public schools. The ECCC PTA, local PTA's, the Georgia PTA, the School District website, Face It Cobb, the GBPI and the GPEE are all resources for learning about the school budget deficit issue.
- Communicate with your government representatives. Let them know how important education is to you, to your student, to your community and its future, and ask that education be supported and fully funded.
- Get involved – join your local PTA or other organizations, such as Face It Cobb, which support education.
- Leverage Social Media – share your concerns with friends, neighbors, work colleagues, etc., via word of mouth, email, on Facebook or other social media.
- Vote. It is a constitutional right. It makes a difference.
- Thank your teachers. They do a lot for our children. 🙏



Anne Davidson has lived in East Cobb nearly six years. She lives in Sibley Forrest with her husband, Matt Njaa, and their children Matthew (10) and Nate (8).

¹See: "School Funding Woes at a 'Tipping Point,'" Wendy Parker, East Cobb Patch, Nov. 13; see also "Cutting Class to Make Ends Meet," Claire Suggs, Senior Education Policy Analyst, Georgia Budget & Policy Institute ("GBPI"), Nov. 2013.

²See: "School Funding Woes at a 'Tipping Point,'" Wendy Parker, East Cobb Patch.

³Id.

⁴See: "Cutting Class to Make Ends Meet," Claire Suggs, Senior Education Policy Analyst, GBPI, Nov. 2013; see also: Cobb County School District, ("The School District") budget reports.

⁵See: "Cutting Class to Make Ends Meet," Claire Suggs, Senior Education Policy Analyst, GBPI at Appendix D.

⁶"Cobb County SAT Scores Dip, But Continue to Exceed State, National Averages," Jay Dillon, Cobb County School District press release, Sept. 26, 2013.

⁷See: "The Economics of Education, 4th Ed.," Dana K. Rickman, Ph.D., Policy and Research Director, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education ("GPEE"), 2013 at 2.

⁸See: "Top Ten Issues To Watch in 2012," Dana K. Rickman, Ph.D., GPEE, 2013 at 17.

⁹"A Well-Educated Workforce is the Key to Economic Prosperity," Noah Berger and Peter Fisher, Economic Policy Institute ("EPI"),

Economic Analysis and Research Network ("EARN"), Aug. 22, 2013, at 7.

¹⁰Id. at 7 and Figure D; see also "Cuts in Education Come at the Expense of Long Term Prosperity," Maureen Downey, publishing an article by Doug Hall, Director, EARN, EPI, Atlanta Journal Constitution, Sept. 5, 2013.

¹¹See: "The Economics of Education," Dana Rickman, Ph.D., GPEE, at 4.

¹²Id. & see Figures 4 and 5; see also, "Cobb 2012 Graduation Rate Rises 2.6 Percent," CCSD, May 24, 2013 (reporting graduation rate at 76 percent) and Cobb County Unemployment Rate, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, July 2013 (reporting Cobb County unemployment rate at 7.7 percent).

¹³See: "The Economics of Education," Dana Rickman, Ph.D., GPEE, at 4.

¹⁴See: "Taking Action on Education and Workforce Preparedness," Business Roundtable, Oct. 4, 2013 at 1.

¹⁵Id.

¹⁶See: "The Economics of Education," Dana Rickman, Ph.D., GPEE, at 4; see also: "Cutting Class to Make Ends Meet," Claire Suggs, Senior Education Policy Analyst, GBPI at Appendix B.

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Holiday Gift Guide

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Holiday Gift Guide

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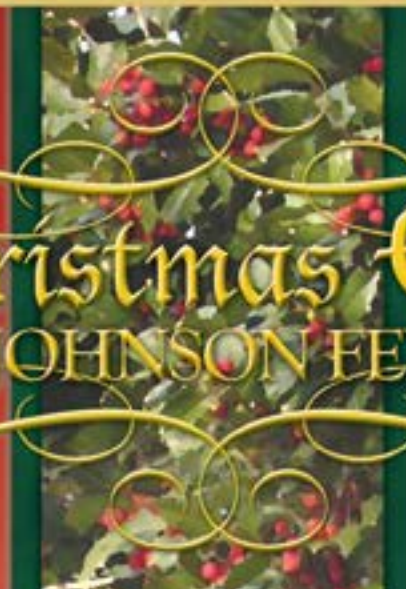
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Editor's note: In early November, Kevin Isakson of Isakson Living Communities refiled his company's petition/revised application to rezone 53.7 acres in East Cobb County. Isakson Living is seeking approval to change the zoning on the Tritt property from R-20 (single-family) to CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community). The case number is Z-2 and will be on the schedule to be heard in February (no zonings are heard in January). The EAST COBBER presents both viewpoints on whether the Cobb County Board of Commissioners should vote to approve this zoning change.

Isakson Living Retirement Community Will Positively Benefit the County

By Kevin Isakson, Isakson Living

Since Isakson Living East Cobb filed for initial rezoning, we have conducted numerous meetings with civic, community and homeowner groups, we have listened and put forth a revised application that features approximately 70 percent, (40 acres of the 53.7 acre site) devoted to green space, with approximately 43 percent of the property, (23 acres) completely undisturbed, including preservation of almost 1,400 trees, more than twice as many as is required. We have decreased the number of residential units by 15 percent, and increased the total green space by 26 percent and undisturbed nature areas by 16 percent.

Addressing visibility from Roswell Road and closest neighborhoods, nature buffers have been increased even further. The buildings along Upper Roswell Road have been reduced to three stories and moved back nearly 100 yards. On the property's southern side adjoining Hidden Hollow, buildings have been reduced to two and three stories and set back more than 200 feet. The tallest building remains four stories but is located in the interior of the project, and not visible off site. Additionally, most parking is underground and below grade from the North, South and East.

It is important to dispel misinformation, including, that the complex "is larger than two Georgia Domes". This statement is misleading, based on a graphic that places two Georgia Domes over the entire campus – including landscaped areas, green space between and around buildings, side-walks and hardscape. All of these impervious surfaces actually occupy less than 30 percent of the acreage, 70 percent is devoted to green space, much unlike the Georgia Dome.

It is also important to address why multiple-story buildings are necessary for seniors. Mobility and the desire to drive in traffic can become an issue as you age. Two, three and four story buildings with parking underground located in a campus-like arrangement allows residents to be close enough together to walk to the amenities located on-site and retain their independence. We choose larger sites for our communities because larger communities offer all the services and amenities that today's and tomorrow's seniors will demand but still maintain an affordable monthly cost.

Further addressing alternative uses, it is not economically feasible to expect any developer to build a single-family community of 80 homes or less on 53 acres of premium land on a four-lane state road. This scenario would not be economically feasible, nor would the market support homes at this purchase price. The reality is that the market is buying mostly \$350,000 to \$400,000 homes. The most likely scenario is 200 homes, less green space, and likely placing one to two


children per house into the overcrowded East Side, Dodgen and Walton schools.

It is common knowledge that our county is facing an education budget shortfall and East Cobb residents have mobilized to seek solutions to save our schools. Isakson Living will be taxed as a continuing care retirement community and will pay more than \$1 million annually in school and property taxes, of which the majority will go to the public education budget, while adding zero students to our schools.

Finally, to address the statement that our development "would result in two to three times as much traffic as a new subdivision," Factually, any single-family development will have a minimum of two cars per household that drive at peak times. While some of the residents of our community will be drivers, most all will also be retirees, who do not typically drive during peak traffic periods.

Finally, Mrs. Tritt desires this land to address the growing needs of seniors in this community who would like to stay in this community, while preserving green space. We worked with her closely to preserve the legacy of this land. It is not her desire for it to be clear cut for high density homes, office, or big box retail.

Our community will provide a transitional piece of property providing an attractive buffer between the existing commercial and office development and the surrounding park and neighborhoods. Realistically, any other possible development for the land may not include these generous buffers, green space and undisturbed areas.

Since 2000, Cobb County's 65-plus population has increased 67 percent, and currently one-third of Cobb County's population is over the age of 50. Our aging residents that built East Cobb should not be relegated to a commercial area that has been coded for seniors. Mrs. Tritt, like so many other seniors in East Cobb, wishes to remain in the community, near family, friends and their church. We believe a continuing care retirement community will positively benefit the county, the school system, provide jobs and revenue, while providing accessibility, affordability and quality services for seniors. 



Kevin is the Director of Sales and Marketing for Isakson Living. He and his wife, Katherine, are lifelong East Cobb residents and have three children who attend Sope Creek Elementary School.

Concerned Citizens of East Cobb Oppose Proposed Isakson Living Retirement Community

By Doug Rohan

In the battle over the re-zoning of the Tritt Property next to East Cobb Park, a group of citizens are playing the underdog in a high stakes debate over the future of green space in East Cobb. Isakson Living (IL) is seeking to rezone the 53.7-acre parcel into a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC). The initial plans called for a 987 unit residential community, with several buildings four stories in height over a parking garage. After extensive community objection, the plans were withdrawn and resubmitted, reducing the number of units by 15% to a total of 845. The revised plans also called for a reduction in height on some of the units by placing the parking underground and reducing some structures to three or two stories.

The end result still delivers a sprawling complex with a footprint of two Georgia Dome stadiums. While supporters of the Isakson plan seek to reinforce the fact that they are preserving a number of trees on the property, the reality is that they are required to preserve many trees. Seven acres of the land are located on a flood plain and cannot be developed due to the presence of Sewell Mill Creek. There is also a tributary creek on the property and the developer must maintain a 50-foot buffer on either side of the watercourse, which runs almost 2,000 feet in length through the property. Additionally, the topography of the lot makes building on some portions impractical. The trees will stay simply as a function of erosion control. The reality is that Isakson is preserving "40% of the trees" (if that figure is accurate) because the law and practical development requires them to. Any subsequent development would preserve a similar number of trees.

Supporters of IL also argued that this is an arms-length transaction between private parties and the parties should be insulated from community involvement in buying, selling and developing the land. In the case of the new Wellstar development and the development next to the Parkaire Kroger, there was little public outcry because Wellstar did not have to go through formal rezoning (that issue will be addressed by us in 2014) and the Perkins property next to Parkaire Kroger was not seeking the same drastic increase in density that the Isakson CCRC request is seeking. The CCRC zoning has no density restriction at all. Should a high-density senior residence complex be allowed in a low-density residential area? The Concerned Citizens of East Cobb believe the answer to that question is "no".

At the November meeting, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to place a moratorium on zoning requests under the CCRC code. The revised Isakson plans were submitted before the moratorium was approved, so the Isakson plans are

not technically subject to the moratorium. However, the planning board suggested that they might wait on any decisions on approval of the Isakson request until after the CCRC code review was completed in April 2014. Presently, the Isakson Living proposal to allow the CCRC development is scheduled for a vote in February 2014. It remains to be seen whether or not that will go forward.

Our concerns are focused on: density, scale, height, lack of green space preservation, traffic congestion, risk of an unsuccessful development turning into an eye sore, and process of approval. This has nothing to do with politics or personal feelings. In cobbling together a coalition opposing the planned development, the question becomes, what's next? Obviously we recognize that a landowner is free to sell their property, and a developer is entitled to develop property within the existing zoning laws. Where the community does have a right to have a say is when the zoning laws are being modified. One possible outcome is that the property is sold to another developer with plans to develop a residential neighborhood within the current or slightly increased density zoning laws. When considering the topography and floodplain, it is unlikely that a developer would be able to squeeze more than 97 homes onto the property. A more likely figure is 80 homes. According to the traffic study done by Isakson Living, their traffic patterns would result in 2-3 times as much traffic as a new subdivision.

The alternative to a residential development is to preserve the property as green space and additional parkland. The price for East Cobb Park (a fraction of the acreage) was also purchased for a fraction of cost of the Tritt property. However, if the community outcry in opposition to the development can be matched with efforts of creative corporate and private financing, perhaps something can be achieved that few thought would be possible.

For greater details and supporting documentation of the information contained in this article, please visit our website at www.cceastcobb.com and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CCEastCobb. ☺



Doug Rohan is an East Cobb resident since 2005. He has his own law practice, specializing in criminal defense, workers' compensation claims, and personal injury. He resides in the Hidden Hollow subdivision with his wife Julia, and three daughters, 7, 4 and 2. He can be reached at doug@rohanlawpc.com

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Metro Atlantans celebrate the holiday season by continuing old traditions, decorating public spaces and putting on plays. The EAST COBBER is happy to provide a sampling of those special events to help you get in the holiday spirit.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

6th Annual Sleighbells on the Square 5K/1K/Tot Trot sponsored by the Cobb County Bar Association to benefit their Children's Emergency fund. December 14. Peachtree qualifier. 8:30am. \$25 in advance or \$30 day of. Historic Marietta Square. More info/to register: www.active.com, www.cobbcountybar.org, or www.marietta.gov.

10th Annual Empty Bowl Brunch with proceeds going to various charities. \$15 includes a bowl made by a local artist (you choose and keep) and chili or soup. December 15. 11am-1:30pm. Advance tickets on sale now. The Art Place, 3330 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. 770-509-2700 | www.theartplace.us

Breakfast with Santa. Presented by Mt. Zion Youth. \$5/person; \$20/family. December 14 8:30-10:30am. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 1770 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. 770-971-1465 | www.mtzionumc.org.



The Botanical Express at Atlanta Botanical Garden. Weekends through December 31 and select weekdays. 10am-4pm. \$2/passenger. Climb aboard as the conductor takes you on a scenic holiday journey around the Garden. 1345 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta. 404-876-5859 | www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org.

Cobb Executive Women's (CEW) Holiday Social celebrating the season with good food and good friends. Open to all CEW members and guests. December 10. 5:30-7:30pm. \$5. Mansour Center, 995 Roswell Street NW, Suite 100, Marietta. More info: 770-859-2359 or www.cobbchamber.org.

Christmas at Callanwolde. You'll be transported into a magical world in the twinkling of an eye as you enter the magnificent Gothic-Tudor mansion. Transformed by Atlanta's top interior and floral designers, the historic Callanwolde estate captures the spirit and charm of the holidays. December 6-17. Monday-Saturday: 10am-4pm. Friday: 10am-9pm. Extended hours: Wednesday 5-7:30pm. Sunday: 11am-6pm. \$20/adult.\$15/seniors 65+. \$12/ages 4-12. Free/children 3 and under. Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, 980 Briarcliff Road NE, Atlanta. 404-872-5338 | www.christmasatcallanwolde.org

Christmas High Tea at Bulloch Hall served by ladies in period clothing. Reservations: \$40. December 3, 10, 12, 17. 4pm. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Avenue, Roswell. 770-992-1731 | www.bullochhall.org



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<i>O Come O Come Emmanuel</i>	1st Sunday of Advent	Sun 12/1 8:30 & 11:00 am	<i>Gloria in Excelsis Deo</i>	Christmas Cantata 3rd Sunday of Advent	Sun 12/15 8:30 & 11:00 am
<i>Sing We Now of Christmas</i>	Advent Celebration	Sun 12/1 8:30 pm	<i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>	Keenager Brunch (seniors ministry 65+)	Tues 12/17 Time 9:30 am
<i>O Holy Night</i>	Remembrance Service	Wed 12/4 8:30 pm	<i>Joy to the World</i>	4th Sunday of Advent	Sun 12/22 8:30 & 11:00 am
<i>Good Christian Friends Rejoice</i>	2nd Sunday of Advent	Sun 12/8 8:30 & 11:00 am	<i>Silent Night</i>	Christmas Eve	Tues 12/24 5, 7 & 11 pm
<i>Away In a Manger</i>	Nativity in-the Round	Wed 12/11 8:15 pm	<i>Go Tell it on the Mountain</i>	Christmas Day	Wed 12/25 Merry Christmas
<i>Here Comes Santa Clause</i>	Breakfast with Santa	Sat 12/14 8:30 - 10:30 am	<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen</i>	One Family Worship (no children's Sunday school)	Sun 12/29 10:00 am

Christmas Packages. Check out over 20 venues featuring timeless Christmas traditions including carriage rides, music, games, face painting, freeze tag, puppets, trains, reindeer, food and crafts. December 8. 4-7:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. 770-973-6561 | www.johnsonferry.org

Christmas at Piedmont. Join the festive celebration. There will be delicious festival food to warm your insides, local entertainment, FREE rides on the 50-foot Snow Tube ride on Friday and FREE Petting Zoo on Saturday. All weekend there will be FREE photos with Santa, FREE children's activities, roasting marshmallows & smores and much, much more. Local school chorus groups will fill the air with joy. Local dance groups will also be there to get you in the Christmas Spirit! December 13 and 15. Friday: 5-9pm. Saturday: 10am-5pm. Free. Piedmont Church, 570 Piedmont Road, Marietta. 770-423-1330 | www.piedmonthchurch.tv

Christmas Royal Tea and Grand Yuletide Ball. Treat that special starry-eyed child in your life to an afternoon of Royal Tea this holiday season at The Strand. You and your prince or princess will start the evening with Christmas royals Prince Goodtidings and Princess Joy at the The Strand's fourth floor banquet chamber for High Tea. Afterwards, guests are invited to retire to 2nd floor minstrel's hall where the Prince and Princess will teach young guests a few simple royal dances at the Grand Yuletide Ball. \$15. Limited space available. December 7, 14, 21. 1-2:30pm, doors open at 12:30pm. The Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 N. Park Square, Marietta. 770.293.0080 | www.earlsmithstrand.org

Christmas for Kids. December 14. 10am-12pm. Yule log and candy cane hunt, snacks, craft, storyteller Queen Glitter, and a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Claus. For ages 5-11. \$10. Reservations required. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Avenue, Roswell. 770-992-1731 | www.bullochhall.org

Cookies with Santa at the McCleskey YMCA. All ages are invited to come for a relaxing, fun-filled afternoon of holiday activities. Kids will be able to talk to Santa in a casual environment. Enjoy an afternoon of holiday treats, cocoa and tea. \$5/child. Parents are free but must accompany children to this event. December 15. 2-4pm. McCleskey-East Cobb Family YMCA, 1055 East Piedmont Road, Marietta. 770-977-5991 | www.ymcaatlanta.org

Holiday Festival at the Galleria Specialty Shops. This free, family event will feature games with Mrs. Claus (11-4), cookie and ornament decorating, no hassle gift wrap, face painting, free hot chocolate for kids, a "Christmas Scene" setup for family photos, and a fashion showcase. Kids Eat FREE at mall restaurants (Big Chow Grill, Buckhead Pizza, Jocks & Jills, and Subway); 20% off shopping at specialty retailers. December 7. 11am-6pm. Galleria Specialty Shops, 2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. 770-955-8000 | www.galleriaspecialtyshops.com

The Marietta Pilgrimage, a Christmas tour of 6 private historic homes all lovingly restored and decorated for the season. December 7-8. Saturday: 9am-6pm. Candlelight tour: 7-9:30pm. Sunday: 10am-6pm. \$20. \$15/candlelight tour. \$25/combo. Cash or check only. Marietta Welcome Center, No. 4 Depot Street, Marietta. More info: 770-429-1115 or 770-426-4982 or www.marietapilgrimage.com.

Pink Pig. A holiday tradition for the whole family, ride Priscilla along the train tracks under the Pink Pig Tent and experience storybook fantasy in real life. Macy's Lenox Square. Through January 5, 2014. Closed December 25. Monday-Friday: 10am-8pm. Saturday: 10am-9pm. Sunday: 11am-7pm. Christmas Eve: 9am-6pm. New Year's Eve: 10am-6pm. \$3/ride. 3393 Peachtree Road, Atlanta. 404-231-2800 | www1.macys.com/campaign/pinkpig/info.jsp

Reindeer Day. Come out for this unique holiday tradition. Live reindeer will be making a special holiday appearance. Create reindeer crafts and warm up with campfire treats. December 15. 1-4pm. Chattahoochee Nature Center, 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell. More info: 770-992-2055 or www.chattnaturecenter.org.





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East Cobber Wishes You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Swim with Santa. Come join Santa and his friends for a dip in the pool! Share your Christmas wish list with Santa and have your picture taken with him. Enjoy fun games and receive a special holiday frame for your photo with Santa. Children 10 and under must have an adult in the pool area with them. Children 8 and under must have an adult in the water with them. Registration required. \$8/child. December 14. 4-6pm. McClesky-East Cobb Family YMCA, 1055 East Piedmont Road, Marietta. 770-977-5991 | www.ymcaatlanta.org

St. Catherine's Annual Christmas Market and Secret Santa Workshop. December 7. Continental breakfast available from 9am to noon. Professional Santa and photographer on-site. Secret Santa Shop for children ages 3 to 10. Over 25 vendors offering crafts, food, clothing, jewelry and more. 9am-3pm. Proceeds benefit St. Catherine's Youth Group. St. Catherine's Episcopal Church, 571 Holt Road, Marietta. 770-971-2839 | www.stcatherines.org/christmas-market | mike.peterson@bellsouth.net

CONCERTS

A Christmas Tapestry featuring Mt. Bethel Instruments. Be ushered into the season with Mt. Bethel Orchestra, handbells, and piano/organ duets by Chuck Newman and Ira Pittman. December 18. 7-8pm. Free. Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church, 4385 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. 770-971-2880 | www.mtbethel.org

A Christmas Tradition. This song and dance revue is guaranteed to make the entire family dance, clap, and enjoy the spirit of the holidays - from Santa loving six year olds to out of town in-laws. December 6-22. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays: 8pm. Sundays: 3pm. \$25. The Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 N. Park Square, Marietta. 770-293-0080 | www.earlsmithstrand.org

Big Chicken Chorus 2013 Christmas Show featuring the Big Chicken Chorus and Quartets and South Cobb High School Youth Chorus. December 14. 3pm & 7:30pm. \$25/general admission. \$22/Seniors & Students. A portion of the proceeds will go to MUST Ministries. Donation bins will also be in place for MUST and Toys for Tots. Jennie T. Anderson Theater, Cobb Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Parkway, Marietta. 770-438-9752 | www.bigchickenchorus.org

Carols by Candlelight, featuring the Georgia Festival Chorus and directed by Frank Boggs. December 15. 7:30-9:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. 770-973-6561 | www.johnsonferry.org

Carols for Christmas: 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. December 6 & 8. 7:30pm on Friday & 4:30pm on Sunday. This service of music and drama -- presented by Chancel choir, praise team, youth choirs, children's choir, bells and orchestra. Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church, 4385 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. 770-971-2880 | www.mtbethel.org

Charlie Brown Christmas Show. Jeffrey Bützer and T.T. Mahony present a jazzy musical tribute to Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas. The show, now an established Atlanta tradition, will be making its way outside the perimeter to a family friendly venue! Bützer and Mahony will be playing the songs that Charlie Brown and the gang have made favorites. December 18. 8pm. \$15 in advance, \$18 the day of show. The Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 N. Park Square, Marietta. 770.293.0080 | www.earlsmithstrand.org

Christmas Cantata. December 15. 8:30am & 11am. Coffee hour in between. A Christmas Cantata by the Chancel Choir and Children's Choir. Nursery provided. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 1770 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. 770-971-0267 | www.mtzionumc.org

Christmas Festival Concert with the 120-voice Roswell United Methodist Church Sanctuary Choir under the direction of Dr. Michael O'Neal, Celebration Ringers under the direction of Lisa Stover, and organist Tom Alderman and Brass Quintet performing favorite holiday music from traditional Christmas hymns to moving settings of familiar carols. December 13: 7:30-9pm. December 15: 3-5pm. Free but tickets required to ensure seating. Roswell United Methodist Church, 814 Mimosa Boulevard, Roswell. Call 770-594-0512 for tickets.

Christmas Rocks! Extravaganza. The Brian Setzer Orchestra, fronted by three-time Grammy Award-winner and founder/leader of The Stray Cats, Brian Setzer, brings their Christmas Rocks! Extravaganza to the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center. December 7. 8pm. \$35-\$75. Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center, 2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. 770-916-2800 | www.cobbenergycentre.com

Holiday Pops 2013, Georgia Symphony Orchestra's annual holiday spectacular featuring seasonal favorites performed by the Georgia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. December 14. 3pm & 8pm. Murray Arts Center at Mt. Paran Christian School, 1275 Stanley Road, Kennesaw. 770-429-7016 | www.cobbsymphony.org

Holiday Music Showcase, presented by the Joseph Wheeler High School band, chorus, and orchestra. December 14. Philharmonia & Sinfonia Orchestra and Spiritual & Chorale Choirs will perform at 2:30pm. Bel Voce Choir, Chamber Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble will perform at 4pm. \$10/adults. \$5/students. Lassiter High School Concert Hall, 2601 Shallowford Road, Marietta. Visit www.wheelerorchestra.com for tickets.

Masterworks Concert presented by Sprayberry High School Fine Arts Department. The Sprayberry Chorus and Symphony Orchestra will perform traditional and seasonal favorites. 7-8pm. Free. Donations accepted. Sprayberry High School Theater, 2525 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-578-3200.

The Johnson Ferry Christmas Festival. December 14: 7pm. December 15: 4pm & 7pm. The music, the visuals, the message - The Johnson Ferry Christmas Festival wraps together everything glorious about Christmas into one spectacular performance. Admission is free. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. 770-973-6561 | www.johnsonferry.org

Searching for the King, presented by the Sandy Plains Baptist Church adult choir. December 8. 10:50am & 6pm. Sandy Plains Baptist Church, 5250 Roswell Road NE, Marietta. 770-971-8525 | www.sandyplains.org

LIGHT DISPLAYS

Fantasy in Lights at Callaway Gardens. Through December 30. \$24/Adults. \$12/Children 6-12. Ages 5 and under: free but require a "free child" ticket. Check for times and purchase tickets in advance. Enjoy the scenic five-mile drive, featuring over eight million lights with holiday tunes. Hwy. 27, Pine Mountain. 800-225-5292 | www.callawaygardens.com

Garden Lights, Holiday Nights at Atlanta Botanical Garden. Through January 4, 2014. 5-10pm. \$20/adult. \$14/ages 3-12. Experience the Garden as never before when it is transformed into a twinkling winter wonderland. 1345 Piedmont Ave. NE, Atlanta. 404-876-5859 | www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org

Global Winter Wonderland Atlanta at Turner Field. Through January 5, 2014. This event will host carnival rides, international foods, world class entertainment and shopping, and a spectacular lantern light show. 5-11pm. \$25/adults. \$19/seniors. \$17/children ages 5-12. Free/Children ages 4 and under. Green Lot of Turner Field, 755 Hank Aaron Drive, Atlanta. 1-855-739-4687 | www.globalwonderland.com

Holiday in Lights at Centennial Olympic Park. Through the first week of January. Free. 7am-11pm. Thousands of colorful lights and animated holiday displays transform the downtown park into a dazzling dreamland. Outdoor ice skating: \$10/90 minutes, includes skate rental. Monday-Thursday: 4:30-10pm. Friday: 4:30-11pm. Saturday: 10am-11pm. Sunday: 10am-10pm. 265 Park Avenue West, Atlanta. 404-223-4412 (for skating hours) | www.centennialpark.com

Lights of Life. Through December 31. Millions of holiday lights throughout the campus. Santa and his sleigh stand over 65 feet high, making it the tallest in the Southeast. Sunday-Thursday: 6-10pm. Friday-Saturday: 6-10:30pm. \$5/car. \$10/Friday-Sunday, November 28-December 1, December 20-25. \$20/bus or van. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Life University Treehouse, 1269 Barclay Circle, Marietta. 678-331-4334 | www.life.edu



"O Come, All ye Faithful"

Advent and Christmas at The Episcopal Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

Breakfast with Saint Nicholas: Saturday, December 7th 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. Come celebrate Saint Nicholas' feast day with breakfast, activities and pictures. Reservations are needed, please the Parish Office today!

Advent Lessons and Carols: New this Year! Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 PM. While the rest of the world is in the chaos of commercial "Christmas," come and share in this special worship service that marks the quiet season of Advent. Seven readings from Scripture that foretell the coming of Jesus will be read, and Advent Carols, hymns and anthems will be sung, led by the choir.

Christmas Eve Family Eucharist: Tuesday, December 24th at 3:00 PM. This child-friendly service of Holy Communion will include children as shepherds, animals and angels in a dramatic presentation of the Christmas story; and a children's sermon. Nursery available.

Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist: Tuesday, December 24th at 5:30 PM, 9:00 PM, 11:00 PM. Traditional Christmas Eve services including Holy Communion and led by the choir at all services. Note that mild incense will be used at 11:00 PM. Our Nursery is available only for the 3:00 PM Family Eucharist and the 5:30 PM Choral Eucharist.

Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25th at 10:30 AM. No Nursery available.






The Episcopal Church of
St. Peter & St. Paul

1795 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta, GA 30062 • **770-977-7473**
www.peterandpaul.org

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

LIVE NATIVITY

Bethlehem Walk. Walk through the streets of Bethlehem to a live nativity scene. December 7-8. 7-10:30pm on Thursday. 7-9pm on Friday. Free. Mountain View United Methodist Church, 2300 Jamerson Road, Marietta. 770-928-0050 | www.mvumc.org

Live Nativity. December 18. 5:30-8:30pm. Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church, 4385 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. 770-971-2880 | www.mtbethel.org

SANTA SIGHTINGS

The Avenue at East Cobb

Fridays through December 20: 3-7pm
4475 Roswell Road, Suite 1520 • Marietta 30062
More info: 770-971-9945
www.theavenuedalist.com

Cumberland Mall

Monday-Saturday: 10am-9pm. Sundays: 12pm-6pm.
1000 Cumberland Mall • Atlanta 30339
More info: 770-435-2206
www.cumberlandmall.com

Lenox Square Mall

Various times – see website
3393 Peachtree Road NE • Atlanta 30325
More info: 404-233-6767
www.simon.com

North Point Mall

Monday-Friday: 10am-9pm. Saturdays: 9am-9pm.
Sundays: 11am-8pm.
1000 North Point Circle • Alpharetta 30022
Mall hours through December 24
More info: 770-740-9273
www.northpointmall.com

Perimeter Mall

Monday-Saturday: 10am-8pm. Sundays: 9am-6pm.
4400 Ashford Dunwoody Road • Atlanta 30346
More info: 419-345-2630
www.perimetermall.com

Phipps Plaza

By appointment.
Through December 23
Monday-Saturday: 10:30am-1pm; 2-4:30pm; 5:30-8pm
Sunday: 10:30am-1pm; 2-5pm
3500 Peachtree Road • Atlanta 30326
More info: 404-262-0992
www.simon.com

Santa on the Square

Saturdays: 10am-6pm
Sundays: 11am-5pm
December 24: 10am-2pm
Marietta Square - Glover Park • Marietta 30060
More info: 770-794-5601
www.marietta.gov

Town Center Mall

Various times – see website
400 Ernest W. Barrett Parkway • Kennesaw 30144
More info: 770-424-9486
www.towncenteratcobb.com

THEATER

A Christmas Carol, a traditional holiday classic for the entire family guaranteed to fill you with the Christmas spirit and warm your heart. December 7, 14-19, 21-23. 8pm, Sunday performances 7pm. \$15. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Avenue, Roswell. 770-992-1731 | www.bullochhall.org

Atlanta Ballet's Nutcracker with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra. Fairies, princes, and dancing snowflakes. The magic of the holiday season is alive again at the Fabulous Fox Theatre. Share the tradition and feel the warmth that has been enchanting audiences in Atlanta for over 50 years. December 6-29: 7:30pm. Saturdays & Sundays: 2pm. December 24: 1pm. \$27.05-\$106.70. Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta. 404-873-5811 | www.atlantaballet.com | 800-982-2787/Ticketmaster

Christmas at Sweet Apple, a heartfelt collection of holiday stories from the pen of acclaimed Georgia writer Celestine Sibley presented by CenterStage North. Tales of Jingles the dancing cow, Miz Tippetts the "hero" of Snout Island, and other colorful characters are told to the accompaniment of traditional and original holiday music. A family favorite! December 13-15, 19-21. Thursday-Saturday: 8pm. Saturday-Sunday: 2pm matinee. \$12. The Art Place - Mountain View, 3330 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. 770-516-3330 | www.centerstagenorth.org

It's a Wonderful Life Marathon. In this true holiday classic, an angel (Henry Travers) helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman (James Stewart) by showing what life would have been like if he never existed. Get here half an hour early for a holiday preshow and sing along on the Mighty Allen Theatre Organ. \$8/adults. \$7/seniors, students, and military. December 23. 12pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. The Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 N. Park Square, Marietta. 770.293.0080 | www.earlsmithstrand.org

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Miracle on 34th Street the heartwarming story of what takes place in New York City following Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, as people are left wondering whether or not a department store Santa might be the real thing. Miracle on 34th Street embodies the true Christmas spirit of love and compassion. Get here half an hour early for a holiday preshow and sing along on the Mighty Allen Theatre Organ. \$8/adults. \$7/seniors, students, and military. December 15. 8pm. The Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 N. Park Square, Marietta. 770.293.0080 | earlsmithstrand.org

The Nutcracker presented by The Georgia Ballet, featuring dancing snowflakes, giant toy soldiers, a growing Christmas tree, and a delectable land of sweets. December 6-8. Friday: 7pm. Saturday: 2pm & 7:30pm. Sunday: 1:30pm & 5:30pm. Last performance is a fundraiser for the Cobb Chapter of the American Heart Association. \$15-\$36. Jennie T. Anderson Theatre, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta. More info: 770-528-0881 or www.georgiaballet.org.

The Sanders Family Christmas presented by Atlanta Lyric Theatre. In this sequel to the ever-popular Smoke on the Mountains, the Sanders family returns to Mount Pleasant Baptist Church where they have been invited to sing and witness, getting the congregation into the holiday spirit before the boys are shipped off to World War II. December 13-22. Friday/Saturday: 8pm. Sunday: 2pm. \$28-\$33. First United Methodist Church of Marietta's Family Life Hall, 56 Whitlock Avenue, Marietta. More info: 404-377-9948 or www.atlantalyrictheatre.com.

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Friday, December 13th

5:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm

Saturday, December 14th

10:00 am ~ 5:00 pm

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Friday Night

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SATURDAY (12-3)



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570 Piedmont Rd. ~ Marietta 30066



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Free Mulch. Cobb EMC offers free mulch from the clearance maintenance of Cobb EMC power lines. It is available throughout the year and can be delivered when crews are in your area. More info: 678-355-3413.

Guided Tour of the Strand. Get a behind-the-scenes peek at the Earl Smith Strand Theatre. Learn about the history of the theatre dating back to the 1930s, recent renovation efforts and fun facts about the theatre business. 11am (appointment only). \$5. Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 North Park Square, Marietta. More info: 770-293-0080 or www.earlsmithstrand.org.

Through December 21

The Artist Attic Holiday Sale, which began on November 13, continues through Dec. 21. Local artist works are for sale including mosaic nutcrackers, decorative and functional pottery, framed artwork, fused glass, scarfs, hats, jewelry. Monday-Thursday from 10am to 5pm; call ahead for evening and weekend hours. The Art Place, 3330 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta/East Cobb. More info: 770-509-2700.

First Sunday

Family Day at the Marietta/Cobb Art Museum.

Free admission and fun activities for the whole family. 1-4pm, except when museum is closed. Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art, 30 Atlanta Street, Marietta. More info: 770-528-1444 or www.mariettacobbartmuseum.org.

Every Sunday

Kabbalah Café. Delve into the mystical secrets of Judaism based on the Chassidic teachings of Tanya. This tale of two souls will give you the tools to understand yourself in unprecedented ways. 9:30-10:30am. Chabad of Cobb, 4450 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info/to register: 770-565-4412 or www.chabadofcobb.com.

Every Tuesday and Saturday

Feeding Time at the Chattahoochee Nature Center.

Join a naturalist for an in-depth look at one of their resident animals as they are being fed. 4pm. Admission: \$6 for Child/\$10 Adult/\$7 Seniors 65+/\$7 Students. Chattahoochee Nature Center, 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell. More info: 770-992-2055.

Every Saturday

Free Arts and Crafts at Lakeshore Learning Store.

11am-3pm. Ages 3 and up. Make an Igloo Toss Game, Festive Frame Ornament, Snowy Bear Puppet, or New Year's Party Hat. Lakeshore Learning Store, 4287 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-578-3100 or www.lakeshorelearning.com.

December 3

READING Paws. Come read with a four-footed friend. Free. Registration required. 3:30-4:30pm. Gritters Library, 880 Shaw Park Road, Marietta. More info/to register: 770-528-2524 or www.readingpaws.org.



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December 3, 5, 10, 12, & 19

Toddler Tadpoles. Weekly stories, finger plays, action rhymes and lots of music for ages 1-2. A parent or caregiver is expected to stay with the child and participate in all of the activities. 10:15am. East Cobb Library, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-509-4997 or domingum@cobbcat.org.

December 4-5, 18-19, & 21

Defensive Driving/Driver Improvement Class. Six-hour class taught by certified instructors for those who want to lower their cost of insurance or have gotten a traffic ticket and need to take a defensive driving class. Court ordered/point reduction: \$75. Insurance reduction only: \$30. Registration in person only due to state form requiring signature. Wednesday & Thursday: 6-9pm. Saturday: 9am-3:30pm. Safe America Foundation, 2480 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-973-7233 or www.safeamerica.org.

December 5

Networking Master Session presented by the Cobb Chamber of Commerce. A panel of experienced business leaders will give tips on effective networking and how to take full advantage of networking events and an interactive forum will equip participants with the best practices to be more effective and consistent in their business development. 2-3pm. \$5. Cobb Chamber of Commerce, 240 Interstate North Parkway, Atlanta. More info: 770-980-2000 or www.cobbchamber.org.



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December 5, 12, & 19

Rain Garden Work Day. Rain gardens protect local waterways by decreasing the volume of runoff entering surface waters, at the same time providing a unique landscape feature that adds color and interest and providing a habitat for wildlife. Come learn more about the garden and get your hands dirty! Every week we will explore and maintain the rain garden. 8:30 -10:30pm. Cobb County Water Quality Lab, 662 South Cobb Drive, Marietta. More info: www.cobbstreams.org.

December 6

A Night of Tibetan Culture. The Tibetan Monks of Drepung Loseling Monastery in exile invite us to a greater understanding of their Tibetan culture. They will speak of their Buddhist culture, the situation in their native country of Tibet, now a part of China, and demonstrate some of their traditional dances. Come and learn more about the culture of "the roof of the world," Tibet. 7:30pm. \$15. Unity North Atlanta Church, 4255 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta/ East Cobb. More info: www.unitynorth.org

December 6-7

33rd Annual Apple Annie Crafts and Arts Show with over 130 of the Southeast's finest artisans and crafters. One of the largest nonprofit shows with a high quality and large assortment of crafts and arts in a festive setting. Friday: 9am-7pm. Saturday: 9am-2pm. \$3. Free/under 12. No strollers. Catholic Church of St. Ann, 4905 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-552-6400 or www.st-ann.org.

December 7

Middle School Night at the Northeast YMCA. No parents, no teachers just fun! Music, games and activities. Pizza and drinks sold. 7-10pm. Members: \$5. Program Members/Community: \$10. Northeast YMCA, 3010 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 678-564-2120 or lindaj@ymcaatlanta.org.

December 7

Safe America's Open House and Tailgate Barbecue.

Learn more about Safe America's Transportation Safety Programs and how they can benefit you, while our tailgate barbecue gets you ready for the SEC Championship game, later that day. Sidewalk art contest, Vehicle airbag demos, Headlight Checks and Re-Polishing, neck massages, and more! \$20 tax-deductible donation provides you with barbecue and a raffle ticket to win a 32" JVC flat screen television! 10:30am-6pm. Safe America Foundation Headquarters, 2480 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30066. More info: Deborah.Worley@safeamerica.org, or 770-973-7233.

Shabbat in Israel. Enjoy gourmet Israeli cuisine, singing, Jewish stories, a special children's program and a chance to meet some wonderful new friends. 6:30pm. (Services optional 5:20 pm.) Adults: \$28. Children: \$14 (ages 7-12); \$8 (ages 3-6). Chabad of Cobb, 4450 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info/reservations: 770-565-4412, ext. 300, or www.chabadofcobb.com.

December 7-8

Eastman Gun & Knife Show. Saturday: 9am-5pm. Sunday: 10am-5pm. \$10/adults. Free/ages 12 & under. Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta. More info: Matt Eastman, 229-424-4555 or www.eastmangunshows.com.

Zizi Has Relocated

Zizi is no longer with Variations Hair Color. She is now working full time at Nancy's Salon across the street in the Woodlawn Square, next to Publix.

Zizi is a hair specialist with over 25 years experience. Her specialties include Keratin Smoothing Treatments, CHI Thermal Straighteners, and UpDos for any special occasion.

Zizi will customize your hair cuts and find a style that is best suited for you and complements you and your lifestyle.

Call Zizi for your next hair appointment!

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- \$30 - Women's Cut
- \$20 - Shampoo & Blow Dry
- \$40 - Color
- \$45 - Partial Highlights
- \$65 - Full Highlights
- \$100/Hr - Keratin Smoothing Treatment

Zizi Golkarieh
Nancy's Salon
 1100 Johnson Ferry Road
 Marietta, GA 30068
Cell: 678.462.8601
zizigolkar@yahoo.com

For more information & specials, find me on [facebook.com/zizi.golkarieh](https://www.facebook.com/zizi.golkarieh)

December 7-8

Bizarre Bazaar, presented by Roswell Fine Arts Alliance. A slightly whacky way to find wonderful holiday gifts at reasonable prices. Our artisans will offer a variety of items along with the beautiful seasonal paintings in our Gallery. There will be light refreshments available and a few surprises in store. Saturday: 10am-4pm. Saturday: 1-4pm. The Art Center, 9100 Fouts Road, Roswell. More info: 770-977-0238, RFAA.org, or sherry.hardage@gmail.com

December 8

Atlanta Wedding Soiree, a stylish wedding show for the stylish bride to be. Walk down the aisle at the Atlanta Wedding Soiree and speak to the very best vendors Atlanta has to offer. See tablescape, sample great tasting appetizers and cake, see beautiful flowers, sip champagne, and see aspects of your vision transformed right before your eyes. Arrive early to register for all of the great prize giveaways at the show and have a chance to win the grand prize. 12-4pm. \$5/bride and groom. \$10/guests. Hyatt Regency Suites Atlanta Northwest, 2999 Windy Hill Road, Marietta. More info: 678-209-5479, atlantaweddingsoiree@yahoo.com, or www.atlantawedding-soiree.eventbrite.com.

Greater Atlanta Coin Show. Dealers display a variety of numismatic items and other collectibles. People are invited to browse, buy, sell or trade coins, currency, gold and silver bullion, or other collectibles. Free. 9am-5pm. Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta. More info: Bob O'Brien, 770-772-4359 or www.atlcoin.com.

December 11

Family Fun Time with a variety of books, short films, music and crafts for all ages. 3:30pm. East Cobb Library, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-509-2730.

Museum Mice Tours: Following Murray's Treasure Map. Tours are geared towards children ages 3-5 and their parents to introduce them to history. 10:30-11:30am. \$7/family. Marietta Museum of History, 1 Depot Street, Suite 200, Marietta. More info: 770-794-5710 or www.mariettahistory.org.

Spa for the Soul a unique event dedicated to celebrating what it means to be a Jewish woman today. Guest Speaker Liz Raphael Helesen, the voice of Marta Atlanta, will present Bringing Heaven to the Mundane, a Personal Journey. Spa treatments, raffles, boutiques, and dinner. 5:30-8pm. Couvert: \$36. Sponsor: \$180, Silver Sponsor: \$360, Gold Sponsor: \$540. Chabad of Cobb, 4450 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-565-4412 or www.chabadofcobb.com.



December 13

Writing a Mini-Business Plan presented by SCORE. Learn how to prepare a concise, 3 to 8 page mini business plan. This plan is a condensed version of a more traditional business plan, which provides more details. 9:15am-11:30am. \$25/general admission. Free/Chamber members. Cobb Chamber of Commerce, 240 Interstate North Parkway, Atlanta. More info: 770-980-2000.

December 13-14


Christmas at Piedmont Church Arts & Crafts Show. Unique artists and crafts exhibitors from all over the southeast that have crafted, arranged, painted, or built all the products themselves, as well as delicious food and local entertainment. Jewelry, pottery, paintings, ornaments, apparel, unique one of a kind gift items and much, much, more. A perfect time to enjoy good family fun and finish up your Christmas shopping! Friday: 5-9pm. Saturday: 10am-5pm. Free. Piedmont Church, 570 Piedmont Road, Marietta. More info: 770-423-1330 or www.piedmonthchurch.tv

December 14-15

Disney Junior Life On Tour! Pirate & Princess Adventure. Grab your tiaras and doubloons and join us for this never-before-seen live show featuring your favorite characters from Disney Junior's hit series, Sofia the First and Jake and the Never Land Pirates. Filled with new music, amazing effects, thrilling action and endless surprises, your whole family will sing, shout, and soar into the action. Saturday: 7pm. Sunday: 11am, 2pm & 5pm. \$20-80. Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, 2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. More info: 800-745-3000 or www.cobbenergycentre.com


December 19

Mittie Bulloch and Theodore Roosevelt Sr.'s 1853 Wedding Reenactment. Step back in time as a guest at this important wedding which ultimately produced our 26th president, Theodore Roosevelt. \$12/adults.\$6/ages 6-18. Tours on the half hour: 6:30pm, 7pm, 7:30pm, 8pm, 8:30pm, & 9pm. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Avenue, Roswell. More info/reservations: 770-992-1731 or www.bullochhall.org





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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 21-22

Eastman Gun & Knife Show. Saturday: 9am-5pm. Sunday: 10am-5pm. \$10/adults. Free/ages 12 & under. Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta. More info: Matt Eastman, 229-424-4555, or www.eastmangunshows.com.

December 23-January 6, 2014

Cobb County schools closed for winter break.

December 23-27, December 30-January 3, 2014

Winter Break Camp at Camp Kingfisher, a 4-day taste of summer camp fun with some unique twists. Kindergarten – 7th grade. 9am-4pm. Free extended care available from 8-9am & 4-6:15pm. No camp December 25 and January 1. \$240/members. \$260/non-members. Chattahoochee Nature Center, 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell. More info: 770-992-2055, ext. 222, or www.chattnaturecenter.org.

December 23, 26, 27, 30

Dynamite Days Off Camp. During the school holiday breaks the McCleskey YMCA is providing healthy fun activities for children 5-12. Activities include swimming, crafts, sports and group games. 9am-4pm (extended care from 7:30am-6pm). Members: \$35/day. Program Members: \$55/day. McCleskey YMCA, 1055 E Piedmont Rd, Marietta. More info: 678-564-2120 or lindaj@ymcaatlanta.org.

December 23-28, 30-January 4, 2013

Driver Education at Safe America. State of Georgia licensed driver education courses. 30 hours of classroom training plus 6 or 10 hours of private individual behind-the-wheel training with a licensed driver training instructor within 6 months following completion of the classroom session. \$150/30 hours classroom only. \$474/classroom plus 6 hours behind-the-wheel. \$574/30 hours classroom plus 10 hours behind-the-wheel. 9am-3:30pm. No class December 25 and January 1. Safe America Foundation, 2480 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-973-7233 or www.safeamerica.org.

GET YOUR EVENT LISTED!

We need: event name, date, description, ticket prices, time/hours, site, address, phone number and Web address. The deadline for the Community Calendar is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. Mail info to: **EAST COBBER**, P.O. Box 680455, Marietta, GA 30068 or e-mail calendar@eastcobber.com

December 25

6th Annual Chinese Dinner. Enjoy a night of dinner and a movie with your friends! We will provide a Disney movie for the kids. Will also be collecting toiletries at the door, writing letters for soldiers overseas, and making birthday cards for the elderly. RSVP no later than December 20. \$13/adult members. \$18/guest adults. \$10/Child members (ages 3-11). \$15/guest children. 6-9pm. Temple Kol Emeth, 1415 Old Canton Road, Marietta. More info/tickets: 770-973-3533 or www.kolemeth.net.

December 31

New Year's Eve at the Strand: The Jagged Stones, a Rolling Stones tribute show, one of the best rock shows in Atlanta, performing all of your Rolling Stones favorites. \$35. Assigned seating. Doors open at 8pm. Show: 9pm until after midnight. Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 North Park Square, Marietta. More info/tickets: 770-293-0080 or www.earlsmithstrand.org.

January 4

Fight for Air 5K Run/Walk join the American Lung Association in the fight for healthy lungs and healthy air. Proceeds will support the American Lung Association, so their education, research, and advocacy will continue to thrive. 8am. \$30 (increases after December 20). Jim R. Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road SE, Marietta. More info: 770-544-0532 or bcowen@lungga.org.

January 5

The Georgia Bridal Show. Meet face to face with wedding professionals and find everything you need to create the wedding of your dreams. 12-5pm. \$10 in advance on line or \$15 cash only at door. Cobb Galleria Centre, 2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. More info/tickets: www.eliteevents.com.



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Did you know that your old Christmas trees can be recycled and that one twenty pound tree takes up valuable landfill space comparable to a washing machine? Recycling trees creates mulch, fuel, wildlife habitats and other useful material. You

can help "Keep Cobb Beautiful" by recycling your old tree after the holiday season. Keep Cobb Beautiful will sponsor free recycling drop-offs.

Keep Cobb Beautiful is inviting everyone to "Bring One for the Chipper," and recycle your Christmas tree after the holidays. As a part of a statewide effort to reuse Christmas trees, Keep Cobb Beautiful is hosting convenient sites where area residents can drop-off their trees. Most sites will be manned by various volunteer organizations from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. No other items will be allowed to be dropped off at sites. Cobb County Parks sites will accept trees from December 26 until January 4. All Home Depot sites will accept trees ONLY on Saturday, January 4. To volunteer at a site location, look on the web site at kcb.cobbcountyga.gov and go to the volunteer section for more information.

The following Cobb County Parks will accept drop-offs from December 26, 2013 until January 4, 2014:

- >Noonday Creek Park, 489 Hawkins Store Road
Kennesaw 30144
- >Harrison Park, 2650 Shallowford Road
Marietta 30066
- >Sewell Park, 2085 Lower Roswell Road
Marietta 30066
- >Fullers Park (Lower Field), 3050 Robinson Road
Marietta 30064

HOME DEPOTS-trees will be accepted only on January 4:

- >Home Depot, 3605 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta 30066
- >Home Depot, 4101 Roswell Road NE
Marietta 30062

Davey Trees at 770-451-7911 as well as the Cobb Parks locations will have free mulch available to citizens after January 4th. For more information and to receive a mulch request form, contact Keep Cobb Beautiful at 770-528-1135 or visit: www.kcb.cobbcountyga.gov. 

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New Year's Eve Events

The Atlanta area offers a New Year's Eve celebration for every taste and every budget. Here are some of the big ones. For more New Year's events and local restaurant specials and church festivities, visit www.eastcobb.com or check out the EAST COBBER Facebook page for last-minute listings.

Chick-fil-A Bowl Parade and FanFest

Watch the parade, complete with bands, cheerleaders, mascots and more start at 1:00pm at the intersection of Peachtree & Baker Street and proceed south on Peachtree and west on Andrew Young International Boulevard. The parade ends at the Georgia World Congress Center (285 Andrew Young International Boulevard) with FanFest featuring games, rock climbing and inflatables from 2-6pm. December 31. Parade: free. FanFest: \$17. 404-586-1923 | www.chick-fil-abowl.com

The Jagged Stones NYE Show

Ring in 2013 with one of the best rock shows in Atlanta and all of your Rolling Stones favorites. 9pm. \$35/ concert only. Earl Smith Strand Theatre, 117 North Park Square, Marietta. 770-293-0080 | earlsmithstrand.org

Peach Drop

Festivities start at 11am with children's activities, games, food, and live entertainment leading up to the midnight dropping of the 800-pound peach which lands among a shower of confetti. Party will continue well into the morning. Free. Underground Atlanta, 50 Upper Alabama Street SW, Atlanta. 404-523-2311 | www.peachdrop.com | www.underground-atlanta.com

Polar Bear Swim

hosted by the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club at Lake Lanier Olympic Venue. Finish the year with a chilly dip in the lake. January 1. 12:00pm. 3105 Clarks Bridge Road, Gainesville. 770-287-7888 | www.lckc.org.

Radio Disney Noon Year's Eve

A dance party just for kids with games, prizes and a balloon drop at noon. Radio Disney will DJ the event. 10:30am-12:30pm. Free. Smyrna Community Center, 200 Village Green Circle, Smyrna. 770-431-2842 | www.smyrnacity.com. 

@eastcobb



Safe America Celebrates 20 Years In East Cobb

By Matthew Thome



▲ Audra Pagano and Safe America Foundation instructor Rick Howard.

Twenty years ago an East Cobb Public Relations Executive had a vision of ensuring that no child was left without a car seat because of their family's ability to afford one. Today, that goal of protecting infant and

toddler lives has grown into the Safe America Foundation – Georgia's only non-profit driver safety training center and a national leader in emergency preparedness.

"In those first three years, we helped over 150,000 children avoid totally needless car crash injuries and fatalities by ensuring that they had a safe, high-quality car seat," said Safe America Founder, CEO and President Len Pagano. "This success made us realize that we could tackle other important emerging health and safety issues, both nationally and here in Georgia."

On December 7, the Safe America Foundation is inviting the community to its headquarters at 2480 Sandy

Plains Road in Marietta/East Cobb, to help celebrate the kick-off of its 20 anniversary year with a fundraiser and open house. Beginning at 10:30am and running until 6pm, the open-house will feature:

- an afternoon appearance by WSB-TV's John Bachmann;
- exhibits on the Foundation's work through the years, including current programs;
- interactive demonstrations on a range of safety technologies like state of the art five-screen driving simulator, an anti-texting app from Sprint, and the "Teen Tracker" real-time driving safety GPS monitor;
- free-with-donation windshield scratch and chip repairs provided by ABRA;
- discounts and deals on up-coming holiday teen driving safety courses;
- area teens competing in the "Chalk 1 Up For Safety" anti-texting-themed art competition;
- authentic Georgia BBQ; and
- a raffle to win a 32' JVC flat-screen TV.

Tickets for the event are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.safeamerica.org or at the door. All funds collected will go to the Foundation's local driving safety work in high schools. 

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Restaurant Roundup

By Tricia Morris

Since 1993, *EAST COBBER* magazine's mission has been to promote local East Cobb County businesses. With East Cobb filling up with talented chefs and must-try dishes, we are dedicating more space in our Dining Guide section to spotlight the increasing dining options for our community. So, Eat Out and Eat Up, East Cobb! Here's the latest restaurant round-up.

HOOF & ALE

If you're a huge fan of farmers markets and you love the experience of dining out, it's time to check out a farm-to-table restaurant. Farm-to-table chefs seek out the very best ingredients from the best local farmers and dream up delicious recipes and grace your plate with all of that goodness. In East Cobb newly opened restaurants practicing farm-to-table are Common Quarter, Zeal and now, Hoof & Ale. Hoof & Ale, opened last month. Owner and Chef, Joseph Rahme, has been in the restaurant business for over 20 years and was formerly the Executive Chef at Atlanta Seafood Company, in Alpharetta. "I had always wanted to open my own restaurant," says Joseph. "I wanted to create a small neighborhood tavern where craft food meets craft beer." His wife, Kathleen, is his partner.

The interior walls are covered in wood reused from wood pallets. The wooden/steel interior seats 44 in the dining area and an additional 8 at the bar. There is also a patio with brightly colored umbrella covered tables. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30am -2:30pm with prices averaging \$6.95-\$11.95. Hoof & Ale offers tavern fare of burgers, made from 100% southern raised beef, Panini's, tacos, a couple salads and sides that include mac & cheese, slaw, and homemade hush puppies. The four burgers on the menu are made to order--the Clayton Burger, special of the house with pimento cheese, fried shallots and house pickles, the Guacamole Burger, the Breakfast Burger, and lastly the H&A Burger, built any way you want. All are receiving rave reviews. Dinner is available Wednesday through Saturday only and is served from 4:30 to 9:30pm.

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J. CHRISTOPHER'S

In 1996, Jay McCann and Chris Brogdon hatched a new idea for a different restaurant concept: a neighborhood daytime breakfast and lunch featuring traditional house-made favorites, healthy choices, and creative menu options in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere. It all started with one restaurant—right here in East Cobb! Now after 18 years and 22 restaurants later J. Christopher's has become a "name" in the breakfast/lunch restaurant market. The original location, 1205 Johnson Ferry Road, opened in the former Butler Shoes and 10 years later expanded in the former Domino's Pizza next door. Great cooks, great staff and an attention to what the customer wants have helped the franchise become what it is today. "You have to stay on top of the menu," owner Jay McCann said. "We are aware of what customers want whether it is gluten-free items or more health conscious." Four of the original cooks are still preparing meals. A family-oriented restaurant both to customers and its staff, children of employees have come to work here. About a month ago the interior went through a color scheme change and more importantly the noise level was addressed and now under control. Customers keep coming back. J. Christopher's is definitely doing it right. 1205 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30068, 770-579-6800, 1275 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30067, 770-953-0002 www.jchristophers.com

FAT LADY BAKER

Tired of working in the corporate arena, Nancy McKinney decided to start her own business. The Fat Lady Baker offers pre-made meals and baked goods for take-out. Looking as if she's working in her kitchen at home, Nancy prepares meals for two with prices starting around \$13.95. A few of the specialties are the Chicken Piccata, Chicken Pot Pie and Shepherd's Pie. In addition to dinner entrees, guests have a choice of several sides. Fresh bread Friday features delish homemade breads by the loaf. Ezekiel has become a favorite. After the first of the year, Nancy will introduce single serving healthy meals as part of her "Getting Fit with the Fat Lady" menu.

2995 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30062, 770-587-3005, www.fatladybaker.com



NANCY MCKINNEY



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STEM WINE BAR

Seed Kitchen & Bar's Owner and Executive Chef, Doug Turbush, opened his newest East Cobb establishment, Stem Wine Bar in the Merchant's Walk Shopping Center adjacent to Seed Kitchen & Bar. Stem Wine Bar offers a relaxed and cozy atmosphere for dining and drinks. Partially open to Seed's dining room, the 1500-square-foot space seats a total of 40 guests, including a 25 seat U-shaped bar as its centerpiece. The distinct menu features European-inspired small plates, charcuterie, artisan cheeses, and casual fare paired with selections from a carefully curated wine list. The wine list has nearly 80 wines with 45 different grape varietals represented. An Enomatic wine dispenser allows them to offer by

the glass wines that are usually only available by the bottle. Turbush, who trained at the Culinary Institute of America, and Brendan Keenan, chef de cuisine, developed the menu and oversee the kitchen at Stem. General Manager and Sommelier Jason Raymond oversees the wine program. Bar Manager Chris McNeill designed Stem's cocktail menu. The hours are 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 4 p.m. to 11p.m. Friday and Saturday. 1311 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30068, 678-214-6888, www.stematlanta.com



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CAFÉ DE PARIS

Located in a strip mall in East Cobb, Café de Paris is a welcome refuge from the chain restaurants and fast food establishments that are abundant along the Johnson Ferry Road. After a few days of closing in October for refreshing, cleaning, refinishing the floors and making some interior changes, the new owners of Café de Paris, Luis and Angela Ocegüera, re-opened this popular restaurant. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, the menu is primarily French, as it always has been, but now has some Latin/Brazilian influences which reflect Angela's background. Try their Feijoada for \$14.95. "We are offering this dish from Brazil, the most served dish in cold weather time," says Angela. Feijoada is made with beef, pork ribs and pork loin, bacon, linguica (Brazilian sausage), beans and orange served with farofa (mix of yuca flour and condiments), white rice, kale and fresh orange slices. Café de Paris offers live music on Friday nights. 1100 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta/East Cobb 30068 770-977-4945, www.thecafeparis.net

Tricia Morris covers local restaurant news and writes articles and reviews related to all things food, beer, wine, spirits, coffee and more. She is a native of Marietta and lives in East Cobb with her husband, mother and two children. Years ago, Tricia used to write the Metro and Dining sections of the Hudspeth Report, an entertainment newspaper catering to the dining and nightclub scene in Atlanta.



We invite readers to contribute restaurant reviews and share their opinions about your favorite neighborhood eateries with us. Just email your dining experiences and dish recommendations to: foodie@eastcobber.com.





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Pet of the Month: Hemi

Submitted by Jen Collins



Animal/Breed: Shih Tzu

Age/Gender: 12 years/Male

Favorite Food: Cheese

Favorite Person: Jen Collins

Best Trick: Playing Soccer

Turn Ons: Food

Turn Offs: When you cough and squeaky shoes

Favorite Toy: Squeaking Snake

Last seen: Snuggling up to his mom

What makes your pet so special? Loves his whole family

Should Your Pet Be Our Pet of the Month?

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Tips for Picking the Perfect Shelter Pet



Here are some helpful tips for readers who may be thinking of adding a pet to the family this holiday season. Keep these guidelines in mind when choosing a cat or dog for adoption -- your future self will thank you.

1. Take notes before you go

Talk to all your household members to clarify what you want in a pet. Identify your dealbreakers before you even begin to look. Write them down, and take the list to the shelter. Often, we become overwhelmed with seeing cats and dogs in cages, or are distracted by looks. Examples of deal breakers might include heavy shedding and drool, high or low energy, or lack of house training. Writing these things down will help you to keep your focus and self-discipline.

2. Consider a trial run

Some animal shelters offer "foster-to-adopt" programs, in which you essentially give the animal a trial run in your own home before committing to adoption, in order to decide if the dog will be a good fit. Ask whether your local shelters offer this. If you can try a cat or dog out first, go for it. It only increases the odds of a perfect rescue.

3. Don't window-shop alone

If you are a novice in the dog world, try to bring someone more experienced with you to the shelter. Even if you are a skilled assessor, it can still be helpful to have another's observations. Always bring an objective, dog-savvy friend.

4. Ask lots of questions

Observe the pets and take notes on their behavior. Talk with the shelter staff about their daily interactions with the cats/dogs and what their impressions are. If an animal was surrendered, the previous owner may have been asked to fill out forms with background information. You'll want to find out whether the cat or dog has ever bitten anyone, is house trained, and is good with kids.

5. Consider a pet being fostered in a home

Some rescue organizations, rather than having a shelter or kennel facility, maintain cats/dogs in foster homes while they are awaiting adoption. These rescues may be breed-specific or all-breed. One of the benefits of this is that it allows the potential adopter to see how a dog behaves in a home setting, as well as in other pet-typical situations like walking on-leash and visiting dog-friendly stores. Also, it allows you to get exactly what you want. For example, you might want a snuggly dog, one who is good with kids, or one who is good with cats. In the last case, you could look for a dog that has been specifically fostered alongside cats.

6. Give your new pet a grace period

When you bring your new cat or dog home (congratulations!), remember to be patient. The cat/dog does not yet know you, your home, your other pets, your neighborhood, or your routine. Dogs are adaptable and will try hard, but give them a grace period. It's typical, for example, for a solidly housetrained dog to have accidents in a new home. S/he just needs a little refresher course.

A pet is for life, make sure you can make the commitment. Adopting a cat or a dog is a big deal and should never be taken lightly. But like with any relationship, they take time, adaptation, patience, and communication.

(Abridged and reprinted from dogster.com)





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Dr. Dan Howard: Back Where He Belongs



▲ Dr. Dan Howard

Dr. Dan Howard recently burst on the scene as the new podiatrist at East Cobb Foot and Ankle Care. But he is definitely not a new face in our area. An East Cobb native who graduated from Walton High School, Dr. Howard compares his journey to that of Lewis Grizzard, an Atlanta journalist who wrote extensively about going “north” for training, but was destined to return to his roots.

After graduating from the University of Georgia, Dr. Howard worked in the Atlanta area for about five years as a computer analyst. He had always had an interest in podiatry, stemming from several reconstructive surgeries during his teenage years to repair a congenital foot issue. Leaving computer technology behind, he went to the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine near Cleveland, OH, and then on to three years of surgical residency at the Metrowest Medical Center in Framingham, MA. In July 2013 he joined Dr. Mark Light at East Cobb Foot and Ankle Care.

“I am glad to be a part of the community again,” says Dr. Howard. “On a weekly basis, I run into a teacher or classmate from my past. It’s good to be back.”

East Cobb Foot and Ankle Care’s motto is “We put your feet first.” Dr. Howard joins his colleague, Dr. Light, in providing premier care for medical diagnosis and treatment options, including surgery, for foot and ankle problems. This covers bunions, heel pain, spurs, hammertoes, neuromas, ingrown toenails, warts, corns, and calluses. Their podiatry care also includes sprains, fractures, infections, and injuries of the foot, ankle, and heel.

Dr. Howard’s specialty is sports medicine, with an emphasis on issues relating to running and dance; trauma care; and foot and ankle surgery. “My personal experience with multiple foot surgeries gives me insight into what my patients are going through,” relates Dr. Howard. “It helps me to meet their specific needs.”

Fluent in Spanish, Dr. Howard can offer diagnosis and treatment to Spanish-speaking individuals. Further putting his skills to work, he gives back through Honduras mission trips to help clubfoot patients.

In his free time, Dr. Howard enjoys biking on the Silver Comet Trail and juggling with the Atlanta Jugglers Association. Some East Cobbers may even remember his early beginnings as a juggler. His family was known throughout Marietta as the Howard Family Jugglers.

East Cobb Foot and Ankle Care is conveniently located at 4439 Roswell Rd., adjacent to The Avenue at East Cobb. For more information about Dr. Howard and his practice, visit eastcobbfoot.com or contact him at 770/977-8221.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Red Cross Calls for Blood Donors


The American Red Cross urges individuals to donate blood as soon as possible. The current blood supply has dropped critically low throughout the Southeast. Donors of all blood types are welcome, but there is an urgent need for type O negative, B negative and A negative blood donors.

During the holiday season, blood shortages often occur because individual donations decrease, along with the number of organizations that are able to sponsor blood drives. Eligible blood donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. Donors with type O (positive and negative), B negative and A negative blood should consider an automated red cell donation, a process in which only red cells are donated.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to donate, call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org.

The following are some of the blood drives being held around East Cobb County during the month of December:

- >December 9 • 3-7pm
LA Fitness East Cobb
4400 Roswell Road, Marietta 30062
- >December 12 • 2-6pm
Johnson Ferry Baptist Church
955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta 30068
- >December 14 • 8am-1pm
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
3155 Trickum Road, Marietta, 30066
- >December 17 • 3-8pm
St. Catherine Episcopal Church
571 Holt Road, Marietta 30068
- >December 19 • 9:30am-2:30pm
WellStar Windy Hill Hospital
2540 Windy Hill Road, Marietta 30067
- >December 29 • 9am-2pm
Kennesaw United Methodist Church
1801 Ben King Road, Kennesaw 30144

Additionally, the Red Cross has a Cobb Donor Center open every day. It is located in East Lake Shopping Center, 2145 Roswell Road, Suite 250, Marietta 30062. Call 770-578-1977 to set up an appointment to donate. 

Dynamic Duo Offers Healthy Lifestyle Fitness Programs

There's a new duo in town whose goal is to help East Cobb get healthy and stay healthy. Meet Alex and Ashley Poptodorova of A+A Wellness. As new residents, they want to plug into the community and share their fitness and nutrition regime with others. According to Alex, "Education is at the core of each of our custom-tailored programs. We want to give clients the necessary tools to achieve health and happiness and then be able to pass on what they have learned to their children, grandchildren, and friends."

The idea to create A+A Wellness was birthed in 2005. When Alex and Ashley met, Ashley had recently lost 80 lbs., leaving her body and spirit depleted. She had focused on weight loss, but not her overall health. A microbiology major headed for medical school, Alex had an extensive knowledge of nutrition and health. According to Ashley, he taught her from A-Z how to properly eat, exercise, choose the right supplements, and even shop for food. "I became healthy on the inside and out," says Ashley. "I was once again coming from a place of self confidence."



▲ Alex and Ashley Poptodorova

Ashley's transformation was the catalyst for creating their business in Tampa, Florida. This dynamic combination of talent blended Alex's knowledge of health and nutrition with Ashley's abilities to motivate and relate to clients as someone who has walked in their shoes. They began the business in a one-car garage and moved five times over the next seven years to larger facilities, accommodating their growing client base.

A+A Wellness is now open for business in East Cobb, with a combined 20 years of fitness expertise between the two owners. Flexibility to address clients' needs, budgets, and schedules is key to what they offer. They can meet a client at a gym, in the client's home, at a park, at a business, or even through Skype for a busy traveler. Custom-tailored programs are provided in a variety of areas including one-on-one training, small group training, boot camp, corporate wellness, nutrition plans, supplement plans, pregnancy fitness, career prep training, sports-specific training, food shopping education, and web-based fitness and nutrition plans.

"Sometimes a client's goal is completely different from what that client actually needs," explains Alex. "For example, someone may come to us to lose 30 lbs. for an upcoming event. Our role is to help them not only lose the weight, but also understand the right reasons for doing it."

For more information, contact Alex or Ashley at 770/905-7400 or aandawellness@icloud.com. They can also be located at www.aandawellness.com and on [facebook.com/aandawellness](https://www.facebook.com/aandawellness).

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PODIATRISTS

Podiatry Group of Georgia

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404-806-3731 • www.podiatrygroupofgeorgia.com

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Podiatry Group of Georgia offers both conservative and surgical treatment of the foot and ankle. Services that Podiatry Group of Georgia offers are: Sports and Recreational Injuries; Foot and Ankle Deformities, Fractures, Sprains, Bunions, Hammer Neuroma Diabetes and related limb affects, Ingrown Toenails, and Nail Conditions

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Reproductive Biology Associates have been leaders in IVF in Georgia since 1983. RBA was Georgia's first IVF program and is responsible for Georgia's first IVF birth. Based in Atlanta, RBA is a full service female and male fertility clinic with satellite offices in Buckhead, Cumming, Fayetteville, Lawrenceville, and Marietta, Georgia.

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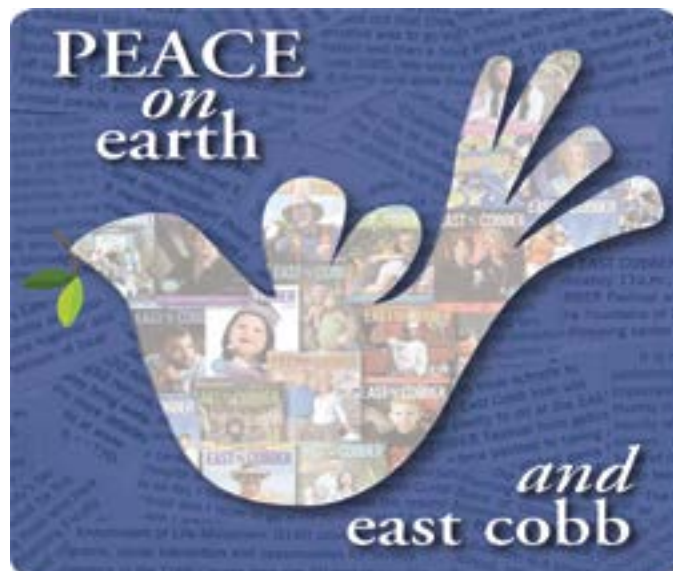
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A few years ago, Jessica Demby was struggling. After graduating from high school Jessica tried college, but soon realized it wasn't for her. Jessica did not know what to do and felt she had run out of options. All she knew was that living at home and making minimum wage was not what she wanted. Now, in less than two years she's doubled her salary, has paid vacations and holidays, and is truly enjoying her work every day.

What did she do?

Jessica enrolled in the Dental Staff School, run by Janet Waldron and her husband, Dr. Jon Waldron, practicing dentist. Today, the Dental Staff School offers students the same great opportunity to build a career Jessica has enjoyed. In just ten weeks, students learn professional dental assisting in a real-office setting. Each Saturday, the school hosts the current class of students and offers state-of-the-art dental equipment for students' lessons. From working on models to practicing with the dentists and fellow students, Jessica really enjoyed the hands-on learning. "It wasn't boring," she says, "it was a whole lot of fun!"



Dental Staff School

www.DentalStaffSchool.com

Dental Staff School (www.DentalStaffSchool.com) is a ten-week dental assisting school in Pelham, AL; Marietta, GA; Knoxville, TN and Franklin, TN. Classes are held on Saturdays at local working dental offices and teaching facility of Patterson Dental Supply. The program is accredited through National Accreditation for Colleges and Schools, Non-public Postsecondary Commission in Georgia, and the Alabama and Tennessee Higher Education Commission. NEW Orthodontic Course: Brighter Smiles and Brighter Future Johnston Orthodontics -- Marietta's most trusted orthodontist for over 20 years -- is now offering an Orthodontic Cross Training Course.

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Local Marietta Dentist Coordinates Free Dentistry Day



Root canals. Tooth extractions. Fillings. Dental work isn't exactly pleasant—or cheap. In this struggling economy, many families are reluctant to spend money on their oral health. But

neglected teeth can lead to a mouthful of problems. So, on November 9, the going rate for a seat in the dentist's chair was free—thanks to Drs. Azita and Michael Mansouri of Marietta Family Dental Care (4720 Lower Roswell Road in Marietta/East Cobb).

Drs. Azita and Michael Mansouri are the driving force behind Cobb County's annual Dentistry from the Heart event which provided free dental care to people who could not get care otherwise. The doctors anticipated a very busy day and opened the doors of their practice, Marietta Family Dental Care, at 4am. To illustrate the level


of need, this year patients began lining up outside the practice as early as 9am on Friday for the Saturday clinic. 18 volunteer dentists and 88 other dental volunteers joined Drs. Azita and Michael Mansouri and provided free oral exams, x-rays, cleanings, fillings and extractions. The dentists committed to the project as a meaningful way to give back to their community.

Here are some highlights from this special day:

- 192 Patients were served.
- More than \$98,000 of Free Services were provided
- 52% of patients received extractions. Little over 180 teeth were extracted (some patients had multiple teeth extracted.)

-31% of patients received Fillings.

-17% of patients received cleanings.

Dr. Mansouri would like to thank all of the volunteers and the following local businesses that contributed to this incredible event: Microscopy Dental, Pure life supplies, Key Worth Bank, Willeford Group, POOIA organization, Henry Schein, Coryographix Photography, Chick-Fil-A, McDonald's, Longhorn, and Suburban Rental. 

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East Cobb Senior Center Activities Scheduled for December

All Cobb residents age 55+ are invited to participate in activities at various senior centers throughout Cobb. The following is a listing of activities scheduled at the East Cobb Senior Center located at 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta 30066. Call the East Cobb Senior Center at 770-509-4900 for reservations and/or more details.

Blood Pressure Checks

Tuesdays, December 3 & 17 | 10am – 12pm

Dine-a-Round

Wednesday, December 4 | 11:30am

Reservation required

Cherokee Cattle Company, 2710 Canton Road, Marietta.
Payment by separate checks.

Stress Free Holiday

Tuesday, December 10 | 11am – 12pm

Free; Registration required

The holiday season often brings unwelcome guests: stress and depression. And it's no wonder. The holidays present a dizzying array of demands: parties, shopping, baking, cleaning and entertaining, to name just a few. With some practical tips, the stress that accompanies the holidays. You may even end up enjoying the holidays more than you thought you would. Presented by Alisha Montiero, Counselor with the Anxiety and Stress Management Institute.

Winter Wonderland Luncheon

Wednesday, December 18 | 11:30am – 1:30pm

\$12 Cobb residents, \$15 Non-residents

Registration required, Limited seating

"Sleigh bells ring, are you listening? In the lane, snow is glistening. A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight, walking in a Winter Wonderland." Come into our magical Winter Wonderland for a marvelous holiday luncheon of turkey and all the trimmings catered by West Cobb Diner and sponsored by Dignity Memorial, Homestead Hospice and BrightStar. Entertainment by The Georgia Ballet, with dancing excerpts from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. A special way to ring in the holiday season.

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Be a Santa to a Homebound Senior

Cobb Senior Services is gearing up for its eighth annual Senior Santa program. Held on December 14, this special event is a wonderful opportunity for homebound senior adults in Cobb County to enjoy an afternoon of holiday cheer, great food, terrific gifts and warm, inviting fellowship with others.

In order to help make the Senior Santa program a continued success, Cobb Senior Services is asking the community to consider adopting a senior(s) for the Christmas Holiday. The public is invited to adopt a senior by making a \$30 monetary donation; donate gift certificates; or donate new unwrapped gifts that are gender specific. All donations are appreciated and are tax deductible.

With the economy in its current condition, Cobb Senior Services understands that families and businesses are carefully watching their budgets. Your generosity and thoughtfulness will go a long way to make a difference in the lives of these homebound seniors who have given so much over the years to their own community.

Check or gift certificates can be mailed to: Cobb Senior Services, P.O. Box 649, Marietta, GA 30061. Please make checks payable to: Cobb Senior Services. Suggested items for donation include:

- > Adult pull-ups: Male & Female (all sizes)
- > Bath sets: male & female

- > Blankets
- > Diabetic socks: male & female; all sizes
- > Disposable under pads for beds: (all sizes)
- > Generic gift items: Male & Female
- > Gift Bags (M, Lg, Jumbo)
- > Gift cards: Kroger, Publix, Walmart, Aldi etc.
- > Gowns: button down the front (need 3x, 4x, 5x)
- > Hats & Gloves (males & female)
- > House shoes: no skid bottoms (male/female)
- > Large Print Books (puzzle etc.)
- > Loungers: button down the front (need 3x, 4x, 5x)
- > Magnifying glass (large)
- > Pajamas: (male & female)
- > Shelf staple meals:
- > Toothpaste & Tooth

Donations can be dropped off at the East Cobb Senior Center located at 3332 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta.

For additional information, call Latronda Andrews-Perry, Care Support Coordinator at Cobb Senior Services, 770-528-5368. ☎

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PEACE
LOVE & Joy

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays

The Residents & Staff of
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Hope Christmas brings you all that you are wishing for . . . and more!
❄️ Happy Holidays from your friends at the East Cobber! ❄️

CLUB CALENDAR

AARP Chapter 2830. First Thursday of each month. 1:30pm. East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: Mary Johnson, 770-926-7881 or doule37uga@comcast.net.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Cobb County. Second Tuesday of the month. 7pm. Mansour Center, 995 Roswell Street, Marietta. Does not meet in July & August. More info: Karen Peters, kpeters@aol.com.

American Needlepoint Guild. Second Tuesday of the month. 6:45pm. Tiny Stitches, 2520 East Piedmont Road, Marietta. More info: 770-394-0065.

Anne Hathaway Garden Club. Third Wednesday of the month (except July and August). Marietta Educational Garden Center, 505 Kennesaw Avenue NW, Marietta. More info: Charlene Robinson, 770-971-7786.

Atlanta Illini Club. Professional and social networking for University of Illinois alumni, families and friends in the Atlanta area. Game watches at the Rose & Crown, 1931 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: www.atlantailini.com or club@atlantailini.com.



TWEET TWEET!
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- **Atlanta Metropolitan Council Navy League.** Second Tuesday of each month. 7pm. Navy Recruiting District HQ, 2400 Lake Park Drive, Suite 410, Smyrna. Membership open to all civilian and retired military with an interest in supporting our men and women of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and associated youth programs. More info: 678-234-2310 or campbellfc@comcast.net.
- **Atlanta World War II Roundtable.** Third Thursday (Sept-June) of the month. 11:30am. Petite Auberge Restaurant, North Druid Hills Road @ LaVista Road, Atlanta. More info: 770-928-4579 or jkovach2000@yahoo.com.

- **"Aware & Conscious Birds"**
- **Book Club.** Mondays. 7-8:30pm. Bikram Yoga Marietta, 80 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: awareconsciousbirds@gmail.com or www.consciousness.meetup.com/203.

- **Big Chicken Chorus.** Every Monday evening. 7:00pm. John Knox Presbyterian Church, 505 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. Male a cappella harmony chorus. More info: Frank, 770-587-1264, fehrach@aol.com, or www.bigchickenchorus.org.

- **Bridge Club.** Four free lessons; \$5 thereafter. Thursdays 7:30pm and Sundays 2pm. Singles are welcome. 1809 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-973-7717.

- **Business Breakfast Networking of East Cobb.** Professional Referral Networking. Second Tuesday each month. 8:15-9:30am. C'est Moi/Café Paris, 1100 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: Ellen Kelly, 404-713-2830 or lnkelly@sbcglobal.net.

- **Business Network International (BNI).** The World's largest referral organization. Multiple chapters in the area, please refer to the website: bnisoutheast.com for listings. More Info: Anita York, 678-888-0200

- **Cobb County Democratic Committee.** Monthly breakfast 2nd Saturday each month. 9am. 3 Amigos Mexican Bar & Grill, 1000 Whitlock Avenue, Marietta. More info: 770-420-7133 or www.cobbdemocrats.org.

- **Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society.** Second Tuesday of the month. 7:30pm. East Cobb Government Service Center, 4400 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Becky Patellis, 770-973-7483 or Kay Yoest, 770-952-3244.

- **Cobb County Genealogical Society.** Fourth Tuesday of the month. 7pm. First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, 189 Church Street, Marietta. More info: www.cobbgagensoc.org or ccgs@cobbgagensoc.org.

- **Cobb County Republican Women.** Fourth Friday of the month. 11:30am. Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta. More info: 770-785-2522 or www.ccrwc.org.

- **Cobb Marietta Retired Educators Association.** Second Thursday of every month. 11:30am. Luncheon reservations required. Freeman-Poole Senior Center, 4025 South Hurt Rd., Smyrna. Contact: Carolyn Wilson, clw770@bellsouth.net or 770-427-6840.

- **Cobb Photographic Society.** Photographers of all skill and ability levels are welcome. First and 3rd Monday of each month. 7-9pm. American Business Center, Bldg. 700, Suite 702, 1395 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta. More info: www.cobbbphotosociety.com or info@cobbbphotosociety.com.

- **Cobb Regional Republican Women.** Third Tuesday, every month. 7pm. Cobb GOP Office, 799 Roswell Street, Marietta. More info: Neva Lent lentneva@aol.com.

- **Colored Pencil Society of America.** Atlanta District Chapter 107. First Monday of the month. 7pm. North DeKalb Cultural Center, 5339 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Room 2 (second floor in the back), Dunwoody. More info: Nancy Guérine, 678-354-3590.

- **Danc'n Singles.** A square dance club. First and 3rd Saturday of the month. 8-10:30am. FOP Lodge, 2350 Austell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-943-6979.

- **Dinner-and-a-Book Club.** More info: RuthE or Batya at Thou Shalt Read, 770-993-5432 or sales@andthoushaltnotread.com.
- **Dog Hikers of Georgia.** Every Sunday. 10am. Various locations. Non-dog owners welcome. More info: Dr. Dan Batchelor, 770-992-2362.

- **Dudes 'n Darlins Square Dance Club.** Dances on 2nd and 4th Friday each month. 8-10pm. Mountain View Community Center, 3400 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: Margaret, 770-751-7210, dudesndarlins@comcast.net, or www.dudesndarlins.com.

- **East Cobb Bass Club.** Visitors, boaters and non-boaters are welcome. First Tuesday of each month. 7pm. Free admission. Attendees pay for dinner. The Rib Ranch, 2063 Canton Road, Marietta. More info: 770-364-3036 or noeyf1@bellsouth.net.

- **East Cobb Business Association.** Luncheon and featured speaker. Third Tuesday each month. 11:30am-1pm. Hollycrest Hall, 2235 Sewell Mill Road, Marietta. More info: Susan Hampton, 404-218-6216, susan.hampton@lionbank.com, or www.eastcobbbba.com.

- **East Cobb Civic Association.** Last Wednesday of the month. 7pm. East Cobb Government Service Center, 4400 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Jill Flamm, 770-552-8206 or www.eastcobb.net.

- **East Cobb Civitans.** Second and 4th Thursday of the month at noon for lunch at The Olde Town Athletic Club (behind Tuesday Morning & Sports-O-Rama), 4950 Olde Towne Parkway, Marietta. More info: 770-578-9901.

- **East Cobb Community Friends for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.** Third Tuesday of the month. 7pm. Meetings are in members' homes and vary each month. We work to benefit CHOA with fund raisers and service projects. More info: Suzanne Strickland, 770-992-2882, or Patricia Laffaldano, patricia.laffaldano@gmail.com.

- **East Cobb Democratic Alliance.** Third Thursday of the month. 6pm - Social. 7pm - Program. Rib Ranch, 2063 Canton Road, Marietta. More info: Tom Barksdale, 770-715-1218 or tbarksdl@aol.com.

- **East Cobb Kiwanis Club.** Every Wednesday evening. 7pm. Paradise South of the Border, 3605 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: Johnny Johnson, 770-977-2026 or edwardjohnsjewelers@yahoo.com.

- **East Cobb Lions Club.** Second and 4th Tuesday of the month. 7pm. East Side Baptist Church, 2450 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Don Garrow, 770-955-6914.

- **East Cobb New Horizons Band.** Monday mornings, 11:00am. If you are 50 or older, play a musical instrument and have been looking for a great place to make music, come join us! Great people and good music! To learn more go to our website, ecnhb.com or email webmaster@ecnhb.com.

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Indian Hills Country Club
7:00AM Every Wednesday**



**Guest Speakers:
December 11: Chris Walters
CEO of the Weather Channel
December 18: Commissioner Stan Wise
GA Public Service Commission**

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East Cobb Open Networking. Professional Referral Networking. Every Friday. 7:30-9am. Capozzi's NY Deli, 4285 Roswell Road (next to Michaels), Marietta. \$3 cover. More info: Tim Langley, 770-289-9711 or drfm02@yahoo.com.

East Cobb Rotary Club. Every Wednesday. 7am. Indian Hills Country Club, 4001 Clubland Drive, Marietta. More info: Bob Schwale, 770-640-6954.

East Cobb Woodcarvers Club. Every Thursday. 9-11am. East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-645-0817.

Georgia Perennial Plant Association. Third Tuesday of the month. 7:30pm. Atlanta History Center, McElreath Hall, 130 West Paces Ferry Road NW, Atlanta. More info: www.georgiaperennial.org.

Georgia Vietnam Veterans Alliance. Third Thursday of the month. Social hour: 6pm. Meeting: 7pm. American Legion Post, 921 Gresham Road, Marietta. More info: Bill Kalish, 770-298-9966.

Georgia Nature Photographers Association. Third Thursday of the month. 7pm. Nature photographers of all skill levels are welcome to our monthly meetings. The Mansour Center, 995 Roswell Street, Marietta. More info: www.gnpa.org or info@gnpa.org

Golden "K" Kiwanis Club. Every Thursday. 10am. East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: Joe Vanhorn Jr., 770-424-6654.

Happy Tails Pet Therapy. Orientation for prospective members 1st Thursday or Saturday of the month. 10:30-11:30am and 7-8pm. Mt. Bethel Christian Academy, 4385 Lower Roswell Road, Building F, Room F001, Marietta. Check dates: 770-740-8211 or www.happytailspets.org.

IMPS Bridge Club An offshoot of the former Newcomers Club of East Cobb, looking for new members. Various formats, dates and times available. For more information contact Roni Fink @ 404-310-3448 or phinque999@AOL.com.

International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP)-Cobb County Chapter. Fourth Monday 6pm. Education program and networking dinner. Wyndam Atlanta Galleria, 6345 Powers Ferry Road NW, Atlanta. More info: Karen Ortega-Carbonell, kortega@habitat.org.

Jewish War Veterans, Bicentennial Post 976. Third Sunday of the month. 11am. Marriott Hotel, Perimeter Center. More info: Fran Jacobson, 770-436-7456.

Libertarian Party of Cobb County. First Thursday of the month. 7:30pm. More info: www.cobbllp.org or call 770-795-1331

Marietta Kiwanis Club. Every Thursday. 12noon. Hilton Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta. More info: Pat Huey, pathuey@comcast.net or www.mariettakiwanis.org.

Marietta Lions Club. Second Thursday of the month. 7pm. Hilton Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta. More info: 770-565-8230.

Marietta PFLAG. Fourth Sunday each month. 1-3pm. Newcomers are welcome. Pilgrimage United Church of Christ, 3755 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: mariettapflag@gmail.com.

Marietta Rotary Club. Every Wednesday. 12noon. Marietta Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta. More info: Adele Grubbs, 770-424-8212 or www.mariettarotary.org.

Marietta VFW Post 2681. Dinner with VFW Ladies Auxiliary. First Thursday of the month with separate meetings following dinner. 6:15pm. 140 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: www.vfwpost2681.org

Martha Stewart Bulloch Children of the American Revolution Society meets one Sunday per month from September through May, 2-4pm. Osage Terrace Room and Pavilion at Bulloch Hall 180 Bulloch Avenue, Roswell. More info: Paula, 770-594-1819.

Moms in Prayer (formerly Moms in touch) for parents of Dickerson Middle School. Every Thursday at 1pm. Meeting location available upon request. More info: Movita Stallworth, 770-321-1783 or mo633@comcast.net.

Moms in Prayer (formerly Moms in touch) for parents of children at East Side Middle School. Every Tuesday at 11am. Meeting location: Eastside Baptist Church (in the prayer room). More info: Esther Thenot, 678-372-2336 or Philippe@Thenot.net

National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE). Second Wednesday of each month. 11:30am. East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More Info: 770-973-2834.

Newcomers Club of Cobb County. Third Tuesday each month. 10am. Various social activities throughout the month for those new to Cobb County or just looking for new friends and activities. John Knox Presbyterian Church, 505 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-234-5068 or newcomersofcobbcounty@yahoo.com.

North Metro Mothers of Multiples Club. Third Monday of the month. 7pm. Chicago's, 4401 Shallowford Road, Roswell (corner of Johnson Ferry & Shallowford). More info: www.northmetromultiples.org.

North Metro Women's Connection. Second Wednesday of each month. 11am-1pm. Hollycrest Hall, 2235 Sewell Mill Road, Marietta. More info: 770-335-6013.

Northeast Cobb Business Association. Luncheon meeting 3rd Wednesday of each month. 11:30am-1pm. \$15. Piedmont Church, 570 Piedmont Road, Marietta. More info: 770-460-6222.

Northwest Atlanta Mothers of Multiples (formerly Cobb Parents of Multiples), a parent's club for families with or expecting twins, triplets, quads, etc. Second Monday of each month (except December). 7pm. North Metro Church, 2305 Barrett Parkway, Marietta. More info: 678-235-8468 or www.nowamom.org.

Order Sons of Italy in America Marietta Lodge #2607. General membership meeting 2nd Monday each month. Pot Luck Dinner (except June, July, August-dessert and fruit). 7-9pm. East Cobb Government Service Center, 4400 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-928-9314 or degriillmouse@comcast.net.

Peach State Depression Glass Collectors' Club. Second Tuesday of month except December. Guests welcome. 6:30 Social; 7pm meeting. Marietta Museum of History, 1 Depot Street, Marietta. More Info: psdgc.com

Polk Street Speakers Toastmasters. First and 3rd Tuesday of the month. 6-7:30pm. St. James Episcopal Church, 161 Church Street, Marietta. More info: www.polkstreetspeakers.org.

Retired Old Men Eating Out (R.O.M.E.O.) Every Tuesday, 8-10am. Meet for friendship, conversation and to share their variety of antique cars, street rods and muscle cars. Marietta Diner, 306 Cobb Parkway South, Marietta.

Shakespeare Reading Group. First and 3rd Thursday of the month. 2-4 pm. 32 N. Fairground Street, Marietta. More info: Lynne Johnson, 770-591-3474.

Song of Atlanta Show Chorus. Women's four-part harmony chorus. Every Tuesday. 7:30pm. St. John United Methodist Church, 550 Mount Paran Road NW, Atlanta. Visitors welcome. More info: www.songofatlanta.com or 770-509-0322.

Sope Creek Garden Club. First Wednesday of the month (Sept-June). 10am. Locations vary. More info: Karin Guzy, 770-955-1303 or guzy@mindspring.com.

Strive for Balance. For people who suffer from anxiety. Express your feelings, share your stories and experiences, gain more knowledge about anxiety and learn great coping strategies. November 6, 2013: 6-7:15pm; December 12, 2013: 4:30-5:15pm. East Cobb Public Library, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Galina Bannova, 770-633-1023 or galinabannova@gmail.com.

The Foxtrotter's Dance Club. The 4th Friday of every month (no dance in May, Nov. & Dec. are the 3rd Friday). 7:30-10:30pm. If you enjoy ballroom dancing, come and dance to 'Live Music'. Everyone is welcome. East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-587-1160.

WeCan Women Entrepreneurs Collaborating and Networking. Fourth Monday of the month. 7-9pm. Unity North Atlanta, Admin. Building, 2nd Floor, 4255 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: Pam Brooks-Crump, 678-300-0698 or pam@pambrookscrump.com.

Y Business Network. Every other Friday. 7:30-8:45am. Local business networking and referrals. Northeast Cobb Y, 3010 Johnson Ferry Rd., Marietta. Guests always welcome. More info: ybusinessnetwork.webs.com, Michelle Hutchinson, 770-518-0010.

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ECBA
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The ECBA meets monthly at The Hollycrest Hall, 2235 Sewell Mill Road, at 11:30am for lunch, networking and a great speaker.

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For more information visit www.EastCobbBA.com



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Couture for Charity Fashion Show

Last month, Couture for Charity held its first fashion show at the Atlanta Country Club to raise funds for breast cancer research. Couture for Charity is a non-profit organization founded by Walton High School student Yasmin Rahimi. The idea of having a fashion show for charity occurred during her sophomore year, when she decided to combine her passion for design and her love for helping people in need. For her first fashion show, Yasmin decided to raise funds for breast cancer research because of a family friend battling the disease over the past 9 years and the hope for an eventual cure. The fashion show featured seventeen outfits all designed by Yasmin and modeled by her fellow Walton High School friends. Ticket sales to watch the fashion show along with a silent auction, helped to raise over \$7,000 for the American Cancer Society. 📸



Mahien Agharahimi checked in guests



Front row, sitting: Barrett Hellman, Dr. Nadia Esfandiari, Yasmin Rahimi, Olivia Baddour, Lily Akbar. Back row, standing: Nikka Duarte, Roya Agharahimi (co-organizer), Sanam Mahmoodi



Yasmin Rahimi, Couture for Cancer event organizer with guest of honor, Dr. Azar Daftarian



Models Barrett Hellman, Alina Robinson, Anna LaRoque, and Charlotte Hinton



Farhang Agharahimi and Shirin Agharahimi



Sanam Mahmoodi models a cute couture outfit



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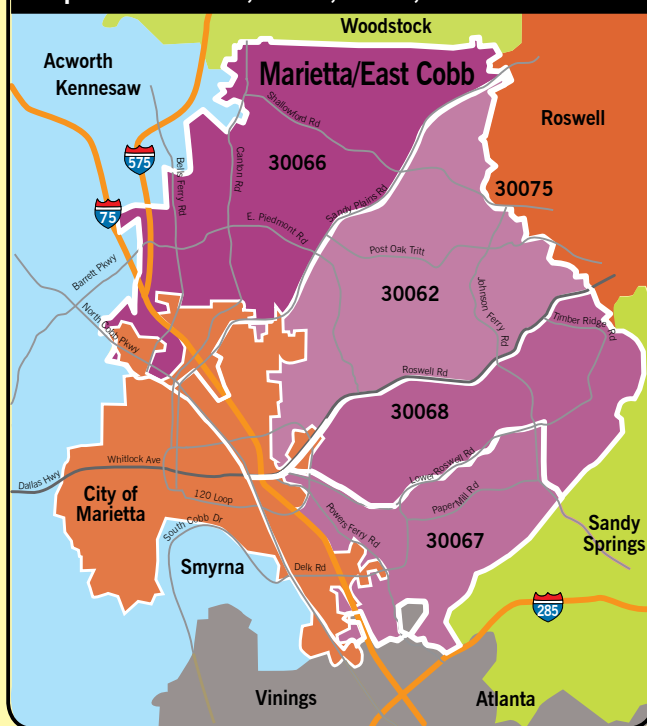
EAST COBBER targets East Cobb residents better than any other publication in Metro Atlanta. 'East Cobb' County is comprised of the following zip code areas: 30062, 30066, 30067, 30068 and some of 30075. Here is a snapshot of the East Cobb community we serve:

AFFLUENT

East Cobb County is the wealthiest area in all of Cobb County and one of the most affluent in Metro Atlanta.

Median Income for Georgia:	Median Income for USA:	Median Income for East Cobb:
\$62,294	\$65,093	\$70,741

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SUPPORT GROUPS

A.A./Al-Anon/Al-Anon

Beginners/Alateen. Every Monday, 8pm. Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2281 Canton Road, Marietta. More info: 770-973-5347 or jpm105@comcast.net.

Adult Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse Support

Group. First and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7pm. Room 334, Johnson Ferry Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. Men and women welcome. More info: 678-578-4888 or info@voicetoday.org.

Al-Anon. For family and friends of alcoholics. Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, Room 345, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-587-0483.

Al-Anon Family Group. 7pm. Teens 13 and older welcome. Temple Kol Emeth, 1415 Old Canton Road, Marietta. More info: Paulette L., 678-551-2433.

Alzheimer's/Caregiver Support Group Meeting

First Monday of each month at 10:30am. Open to family members who are assisting an aging loved one both inside and outside of the home. Free respite care is provided for your loved one while we meet. Aloha to Aging/Mt. Bethel Community Center, 4608 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info or to RSVP: 678-439-1177.

Anxiety Anonymous for people who suffer from anxiety, meets the 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:30-7:30pm. Cobb County Government Center, 4400 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-633-1023 or galinabannova@gmail.com

• **Babywearing Group.** Koalamommas, North Atlanta's resource for help, support, and information about baby carriers of all kinds. Meets monthly. Meeting dates/time vary. More info: Jennifer Worrell, 770-516-4192 or jenniferworrell@bellsouth.net.

• **Bereavement Support.** First and 3rd Wednesday of the month, 5pm. Counseling Room in Parish Office, St. Ann's Catholic Church, 4905 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-552-6400, ext. 6020.

• **Cancer Support Group.** Second and 4th Monday of the month, 7-8:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-794-2978.

• **Career Transition.** Third Monday of the month (March-October). Second Monday of the month (November-February) 6:30pm: Personal resume reviewing, interviewing, networking, and career assessment help. 7pm: Presentation. First Presbyterian Church, 189 Church Street, Marietta. More info: Bill Lins, 404-558-1579, or Bob Sabin, 770-795-9084, or visit www.fpcmarietta.org

• **Caregiver and Share Support Group for Alzheimer's.** First Wednesday of the month, 4:30-5:30pm. Arbor Terrace, 886 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-977-4420.

• **Codependents Anonymous.** Mondays & Thursdays, 7:30-8:45pm. Unity North Church, 4225 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: 770-578-6368.

• **Depression/Bipolar Support Group.** First and 3rd Thursday of the month, 7-8:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, Room 339, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-794-2978.

• **Divorced/Separated Support Group.** First and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:30pm. St. Ann's Catholic Church, Mary's Chapel, 4905 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: 770-552-6400, ext. 6018.

• **Divorce Support Group** by Visions Anew for women who are contemplating or going through the divorce process. First Thursday & 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7-9pm. East Cobb Government Center, 4400 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: www.visionsanew.org.

• **Diabetes Support Group** offered by WellStar Health System. Second Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8pm. McLaren Mill Office Park, 531 Rose Lane Street, Suite 100, Marietta. No registration required. More info: 770-793-7818.

• **Domestic Violence Support Groups.** Sessions in English and Spanish. Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15pm. Childcare available for children 6 weeks to 12 years. Children over 12 may attend and learn childcare skills. More info: 770-427-3390.

• **East Cobb Satellite of CHADD (Children & Adults w/Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) Parental Support Group.** 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:00 pm. Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church (Room B109) on Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Cattie Suttle, 404-368-9394, east-cobb@chadd.net, or www.chadd.net/300.

• **Emotions Anonymous,** a fellowship of people who come together to work toward recovery from emotional difficulties and discover a new way of life. Tuesdays & Fridays, 7pm. Roswell United Methodist Church, 614 Mimosa Boulevard, Counseling Building, Roswell. More info: 770-330-1991.

• **Families Anonymous (FA)** for families who have loved ones struggling with addiction. Every Tuesday, 7:30-9pm. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Youth Center, 1770 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-971-1465.

• **Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS).** To listen, inform and educate, and offer programs for the families and the child with special needs. Last Thursday of the month during school year, 10am. Chick-Fil-A, 1201 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info/to confirm meeting date: Angie, 770-234-9111, angie@focus-ga.org, or www.focus-ga.org.

• **Fractured Families for Parents Estranged from their Children.** First and 3rd Wednesday, 7pm. La Madeleine, 4101 Roswell Road, #812, Marietta. More info: Sandy 404-446-6093 or Judy 404-643-3531.

• **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group.** Second and 4th Tuesday, 7:15pm. Special guest speaker. Transfiguration Church, Room 102, 1815 Blackwell Road, Marietta. More info: Jeannie, 770-919-9275.

• **Grief Support Group** for those who have had a family member, friend or other loved one pass away. First Thursday of each month, 7-9pm. Unity North Atlanta Church, 4255 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. More info: kathzkel@yahoo.com.

• **JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent and Significant Others).** For Jewish members of 12 Step groups, 7-8pm, first and third Tuesdays of every month except on Jewish holidays. Congregation Etz Chaim, 1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, in the library. More info: 770-928-2523 or teshuva@aol.com.

• **Loneliness Bereavement Support Group.** Every Wednesday except holidays, 11am. Heritage Hospice, 3315 Hilltop Drive, Marietta. More info: 770-423-5959.

• **Marietta Moms.** For all kinds of moms - new to the area, looking for new friends, or just needing support. Daily events for babies, toddlers and older kids. More info: 770-956-0318 or 678-357-3661 or www.mariettamoms.com

• **Mothers Circle Group.** Are you a mother raising Jewish children but you are not Jewish? Free education and support through a 16-week course. Groups are held in Marietta, Intown and North Fulton. More info: Suzette Cohen, suzette@themotherscircle.org or www.themotherscircle.org.

• **Mothers of PreSchoolers(MOPS).** Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15pm. A place where moms can come to build friendships and receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. Childcare provided. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 1770 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: 770-971-1465 or mtzionmops@gmail.com.

• **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).** Family Support Group for families who have loved ones struggling with mental illness. Second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 7-8:30pm. Hillside United Methodist Church, Second Floor, 4474 Towne Lake Parkway, Woodstock. More info: 770-928-2762.

• **Overeaters Anonymous.** A support group for those who suffer from the need to compulsively overeat. Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 10am. St. Ann's Catholic Church, 4905 Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Betsy: 404-226-4931.

• **Parents of Prodigals.** For parents of struggling teens and young adults. Second and 4th Thursday, 7-8:30pm. Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta. More info: Fair Brocard, 770-612-1197 or www.prodigalchildministries.org.

• **Parkinson's Disease Support Group.** For persons with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers. Second Sunday each month, 4pm. Roswell United Methodist Church, 814 Mimosa Boulevard, Bldg. A, Roswell. More info: Robin Cleveland, 678-819-3915.

• **Thrive to Balance!** will help fight anxiety. October 12: 4:30-5:15pm; November 6: 6-7:15pm; December 12: 4:30-5:15pm. East Cobb Public Library, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta. More info: Galina Bannova, 770-633-1023.

• **Widowed Helping Others (WHO)**. First and 3rd Wednesday of the month. St. Ann's Catholic Church, La Salette Hall, 4905 Roswell road, Marietta. More info: Ann's Pastoral Care, 770-552-6400, ext. 6018.



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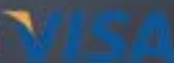


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