

**O**n May 24, the Republican and Democratic parties will be holding general primaries to select nominees for the November general election. Judicial seats will also be elected in nonpartisan elections. EAST COBBER promotes political responsibility by informing readers about who is running for what local office. With that in mind, the EAST COBBER submitted questions to candidates running for local office. It is hoped their responses will help you gain a quick introduction to our fellow citizens seeking to serve our community. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited. The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the EAST COBBER which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates. ☺

## VOTE BY MAIL

Our country works best when everyone exercises the most important right of citizenship: the right to vote. For that reason, the process of voting should be as simple, convenient, and fair as possible. Across the country, an increasing number of cities, counties and states are making it easier for citizens to vote without standing in long lines. Cobb County Board of Elections has embraced this trend. Any Cobb County voter may request a Vote-by-Mail ballot. No "reason" is required. The Cobb County Board of Elections' website [www.cobbelections.org](http://www.cobbelections.org) reviews the required steps to vote by mail.

## VOTE EARLY!

**May 2 - 20**  
**Cobb County Board of Elections**  
**736 Whitlock Avenue**  
**Marietta 30064**

**May 16 - 20**  
**East Cobb Government Center**  
**4400 Lower Roswell Road**  
**Marietta 30068**

**May 24**  
**Primary Election**

# UPCOMING CANDIDATE FORUMS

## MAY 9

**Candidate Forum for the District 2, Cobb County Board of Commissioners election hosted by the ECCC PTA, the Wheeler PTSA, and the East Cobb Middle School PTSA.** The event will begin with a Meet & Greet with the candidates at 6:30 pm, followed by the Candidate Forum at 7:00 pm. The Forum portion of the event will end at 8:00 pm. The candidates for the District 2, Cobb County Board of Commissioners election are Bob Ott and Jonathan Page. East Cobb Middle School, 380 Holt Road NE, Marietta 30068. More info: Anne Davis at [annedavidson.ga@gmail.com](mailto:annedavidson.ga@gmail.com)

## MAY 10

**Candidate Forum hosted by East Cobb Civic Association (ECCA).** District 2, Cobb County Commissioner candidates Bob Ott and Jonathan Page will be participating. Questions can be submitted in advance via the ECCA website [www.eastcobb.net](http://www.eastcobb.net) until noon May 9. Questions may also be written on index cards and brought to the meeting or written on index cards supplied at the meeting. Doors open at 6:45pm and the forum will begin at 7pm ending promptly at 8:30pm. Sterling Estates of East Cobb, 4220 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta 30068. More info: [www.eastcobb.net](http://www.eastcobb.net).

## MAY 11

**Candidate Forum hosted by the Terrell Mill Community Association** will be open to the community, moderated, and in a Town Hall Meeting format. Attendees will be able to submit questions, with all candidates having a prescribed amount of time to respond. Participants for County Chairman: Tim Lee, Mike Boyce, and Larry Savage; and participants for District 2 Commissioner: Bob Ott and Jonathan Page. All candidates have committed to attend. The forum will take place 7pm at Brumby Elementary School, 1306 Powers Ferry Road SE, Marietta 30067. More info: [www.terrellmill.com](http://www.terrellmill.com).

## MAY 17

**Candidate Forum hosted by the Cobb County NAACP.** The forum includes candidates running for Commission Chairman, and District 2 Commissioner. County Government Building, 100 Cherokee Street NE, Marietta. The forum will be televised on Cobb County TV 23.

# CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER COBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

On May 24, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the two candidates running in the Republican primary election for the District 2 Commissioner of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners. There is no Democratic candidate running.



**BOB OTT**

www.bob4cobb.com

**AGE:** 59

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Norfolk, VA

**EDUCATION:** BA Biology, Bucknell University; MS Systems Management, University of Southern California

**OCCUPATION:** A-330 Pilot, Delta Air Lines

**FAMILY:** Wife: Judy, Katie and Chris

**HOBBIES:** Golf, Boy Scouts

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Troop 1011 Scoutmaster, BOD Symphony on the Square, Advisory Board The Strand Theater

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 25 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Yes, District 2 County Commissioner, 2008, 2012

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB.** The Board of Commissioners are responsible for Public Safety, Water, Roads and all other areas of the local government. East Cobb is completely in District 2 which I have the honor of representing

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I served on the Planning Commission for four years and have been the District Commissioner since 2008. I also was the President of the East Cobb Civic Association.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** Public Safety. The county needs to improve the retention rate for police officers. It is very expensive to train a police officer so it is important to keep the ones the county already has. In addition, I would like to increase the number of officers that patrol our streets and neighborhoods.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My father. While he was alive he always put others first. I always admired his dedication to our family. He worked hard but always found time to be with us. I also admired his work ethic and his compassion for his patients.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Caring, Thoughtful, Analytical



**JONATHAN PAGE**

www.PageforCobb.com

**AGE:** 34

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Marietta, GA

**EDUCATION:** Young Harris College, A.S.; Georgia Institute of Technology, B.S. with a concentration in Mathematics, highest honors; Georgia State University School of Law, J.D., magna cum laude.

**OCCUPATION:** Business Attorney; Page Law, LLC

**FAMILY:** Wife: Mariana; four boys: Ryan, 15 years old; Harry, 7 years old; Jonathan, Jr., 4 years old; and William, 3 years old.

**HOBBIES:** Ballroom and Salsa dancing.

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** East Cobb Rotary Club, Grants Chair; Catholic Charities of Atlanta, Steering Committee Member; Terrill Mill Community Association, member; Cobb Chamber of Commerce CEO Roundtable, Purple Team Member; Vistage, Member; Cobb County Bar Association; Georgia Bar Association.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** East Cobb – 9 years; Cobb County – nearly 34 years.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE?** No.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** A Cobb County commissioner has a vote on close to an \$850 million budget, imposition of SPLOST, rezoning and land use proposals, adoption of property tax rates, appointments to a variety of important boards and committees, legislative changes to county ordinances and a variety of other important matters. These decisions directly impact the character of East Cobb and the preservation of the community's common interests, job growth, and quality of life. And because of this, the commissioner must provide effective and consistent leadership to keep East Cobb on track and successfully manage its growth.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I have specific experience with government law and zoning, having served as general counsel for state and local government agencies. I own and have grown a small business law firm in this District that serves small-to-mid sized businesses and in the process created five jobs by learning to listen.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** Effective leadership that advances the priorities of our District (low taxes, safe communities, reducing traffic congestion and increased greenspace), is the most important issue facing this political office. If elected, I will provide the strong leadership needed for to fight for these priorities.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** I admire my mother most. She had a strong Christian heart and always looked for the best in others. She taught me determination coupled with empathy. Her smile would win you over in heartbeat and she shared her joyful attitude with every person she met – from strangers to dear friends.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Determined; impactful; caring.



# SAMPLE BALLOT

## FOR MAY PRIMARY ELECTION

The following is a sample ballot of the contested races East Cobb County voters will be asked to vote on. The Republican ballot is listed in red. The Democratic ballot is listed in blue. Readers are encouraged to visit [cobbelections.org](http://cobbelections.org) for a complete sample ballot.

**For United States Senate (Republican)**

- MARY KAY BACALLAO
- DERRICK GRAYSON
- JOHNNY ISAKSON (Incumbent)

**For United States Senate (Democrat)**

- JIM BARKSDALE
- CHERYL COPELAND
- JOHN F. COYNE III
- JAMES KNOX

**For Public Service Commissioner (Republican)**

- (To Succeed Tim Echols)
- KELLIE POLLARD AUSTIN
  - TIM ECHOLS (Incumbent)
  - MICHELLE MILLER

**For State Representative in the General Assembly From the 43rd District (Republican)**

- SHARON COOPER (Incumbent)
- PETER MINETOS

**For Chairman Board of Commissioners (Republican)**

- MIKE BOYCE
- TIM LEE (Incumbent)
- LARRY SAVAGE

**For Cobb County Commissioner District 2 (Republican)**

- BOB OTT (Incumbent)
- JONATHAN PAGE

**Republican Party Question**

*Should Georgia empower parents with the right to use the tax dollars allocated for the education of their children, allowing them the freedom to choose among public, private, virtual, and home schools?*

- YES
- NO

**Democratic Party Questions**

*Should Georgia invest less than 1% of its annual budget to provide healthcare to 500,000 low-income citizens and military veterans by expanding Medicaid?*

- YES
- NO

*Should Georgia guarantee paid family leave to include pregnancy, serious illness, care of a family member with a serious health condition, or care for a newborn, newly-adopted child or newly placed foster child?*

- YES
- NO

*Should private property on rivers and streams be protected by natural vegetative buffers to ensure that Georgia's waters are swimmable, drinkable, and fishable?*

- YES
- NO

*Should Georgia automatically register to vote all legal and permanent residents upon issuance of a driver's license or state-issued ID which includes an opt-out provision?*

- YES
- NO

**NONPARTISAN**

**For Judge, Superior Court of the Cobb Judicial Circuit**

- (To Succeed Reuben M. Green)  
(Vote for One)
- REUBEN GREEN (Incumbent)
  - NATHAN WADE

**NONPARTISAN**

**For Judge, Superior Court of the Cobb Judicial Circuit**

- (To Succeed Adele Grubbs)  
(Vote for One)
- CHUCK BACHMAN
  - KIMBERLY CHILDS
  - GRADY A. MOORE

**NONPARTISAN**

**For Judge, Superior Court of the Cobb Judicial Circuit**

- (To Succeed J. Stephen (Steve) Schuster)  
(Vote for One)
- CINDIE ALTER
  - JOANNE ELIZABETH ELSEY
  - J. STEPHEN SCHUSTER (Incumbent)

**NONPARTISAN**

**For Judge of State Court of Cobb County Post 3**

- (Vote for One)
- KELLIE HILL
  - LUKE LANTTA
  - JOHN MORGAN
  - CHANDLER VREELAND
  - LEAH J. ZAMMIT

**NONPARTISAN**

**For Judge of State Court of Cobb County Post 4**

- (Vote for One)
- JANE MANNING
  - BRENDAN F. MURPHEY
  - AARON STRIMBAN





!!! NO SITTING FEES UNTIL JULY !!!



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## CANDIDATES FOR CHAIRMAN COBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

On May 24, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the three candidates running in the Republican primary election for the Cobb County Board of Commissioners Chairman. There is no Democratic candidate running.



### MIKE BOYCE

www.likemike4cobb.com

**AGE:** 66

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Brawley, CA

**EDUCATION:** BA University of Notre Dame, MA Pepperdine University, Naval War College

**OCCUPATION:** US Marine Corps (Retired)

**FAMILY:** Wife Judy, 3 Children, 4 grandchildren

**HOBBIES:** Reading, Traveling,

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Marine Corps League, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled Veterans of American, Military Officers Association of America, American Legion, Kiwanis

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 15 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE?** No

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST**

**COBB:** The Chairman is responsible for developing the budget in coordination with the District Commissioners to ensure that each district, including East Cobb is properly provided with essential services.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY**

**YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** Military training: total quality leadership senior leaders course, procurement supply management course, command officer supply and maintenance material management course, senior shore leadership course, academic: master of arts human resources management. Experience: commanding officer, marine aircraft group, deputy commander, marine corps base, pentagon budget team lead, director, morale, welfare and recreation program, lead planner, marine corps forces pacific, director, men's ministry, Mt Bethel UMC

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

Open and transparent government. Work with the Board of Commissioners to develop guidelines for programs and projects requiring bonds that should go before the voters as a referendum; appoint an Ombudsman; involve the Commissioners earlier in the budget process; implement time and budget metrics in reporting from SPLOST Oversight Committee; review the 2011 Citizen Oversight Committee with goal of adopting further recommendations.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My wife Judy. She has made me a better person.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:**

Never give up!! (I know two of these words are adverbs and one a verb. Nonetheless, these words describe me and all Marines.)



### TIM LEE

www.leeforcobb.com

**AGE:** 58

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Milwaukee, WI

**EDUCATION:** HS; Studied Economics at Fordham University

**OCCUPATION:** Cobb County Commission Chairman

**FAMILY:** Married to Annette for 27 years and are the proud parents of 3 children and 5 grandchildren

**HOBBIES:** Traveling; weekend get-a-ways

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Active member of Marietta First United Methodist Church and Marietta Kiwanis Club

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 27 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE**

**LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Former County Commissioner of District 3, 2002-2010; Cobb County Commission Chairman, 5 years

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST**

**COBB:** The Chairman is the official head of the county, chairs the Board of Commissioners and is responsible for numerous other roles. The Chairman makes decisions on behalf of all of Cobb County—not just a district. The decisions made by the Chairman impact the entire county for generations to come. That's why I have worked to make all of Cobb stronger than ever.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY**

**YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I have a proven record of service to this community from a homeowner association leader to Commission Chairman. I understand this county, the unique needs of each district and the citizens. As Chairman, I have provided the serious leadership to see us through tough times and take Cobb to new levels of success. My record of conservative results speaks for itself.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

When re-elected I will continue to build on the success that Cobb has realized in the last 5 years. I will continue my proven conservative record to maintain a conservative budget that keeps taxes low and makes public safety a priority, and I will work to continue Cobb's tremendous economic growth.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** First, it is the public safety officials in Cobb who work hard every day and put it all on the line to keep our community safe. Second, it's Johnny Isakson. Johnny is a leader who quietly develops a path forward to solve issues without fanfare because it's the right thing to do.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:**

1. Dedicated; 2. Passionate; 3. Collaborative.





**LARRY SAVAGE**

www.SavageForChairman.org

**AGE:** 72 (younger than Bernie Sanders)

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Atlanta, GA

**EDUCATION:** Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (GMI, 1967), MBA (Georgia State, 1970)

**OCCUPATION:** Retired (last was management in sales & marketing)

**FAMILY:** Unmarried, no children

**HOBBIES:** Special interest cars & motorcycles, home improvement projects, county government

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** None currently

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 40 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE?** No

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:**

Chairman of Board of Commissioners is the top elected position in county government. This position essentially controls the budget and the operating agenda for the county and directly affects such things as tax policy. Chairman became a full-time position about the year 2000. There are few, if any, effective controls on the powers of the Chairman, probably because such controls were unnecessary when the position was part-time. The county should re-evaluate whether Chairman needs to be a full-time position and whether additional measures are needed to limit the power of the position.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.**

My education background as an engineer and in business school, combined with 40 years in a variety of jobs in big industry and ownership of five small businesses have given me an extensive range of experiences that translate directly to identified needs in the county government. I have training and experience in organized problem-solving and have a good understanding of finance, economics, and large organizations. I also have done a lot of outside reading on the many issues involved in local government. Over the past six years I have been a very close observer of Cobb County government, attending hundreds of meetings and reading thousands of pages of documents.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

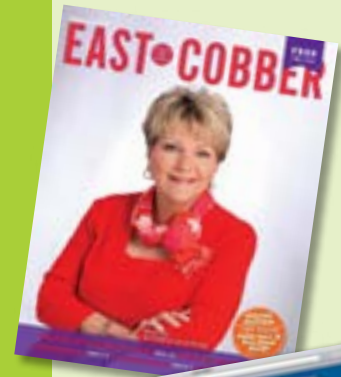
In 2014 I went to court to contest Cobb County's financing plan for the Braves stadium using revenue bonds. I believed the county was acting illegally in several areas, creating "Special Districts" and related new taxes, and that they were violating certain provisions of the Georgia Constitution in denying a referendum of voters to approve the new debt. Although not an attorney, I argued the case at the Georgia Supreme Court. I believe my case was sound but the Court decided in favor of the county, based primarily on a precedent case from 1952. We now have a pressing need to restore the voter rights that were taken away by the actions of Cobb County.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** Joe Gibbs, Super Bowl-winning coach in the NFL and Championship-winning car owner in NASCAR, Maintains his Faith in hostile environments and gets the best out of everyone around him.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:**

Tenacious, informed, understanding

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ON  
LINE  
AND  
ALL  
AROUND  
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