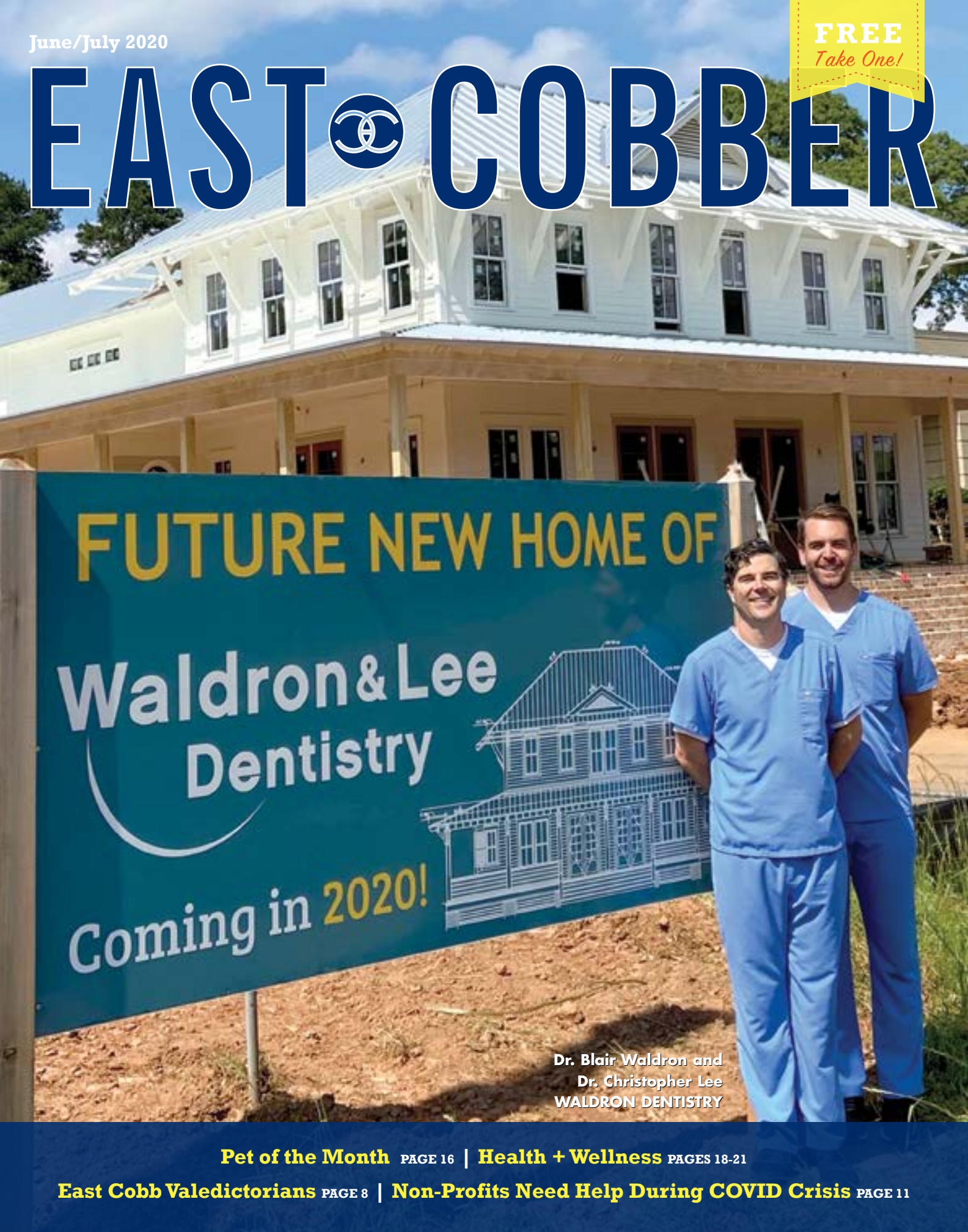


June/July 2020

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Dr. Blair Waldron and
Dr. Christopher Lee
WALDRON DENTISTRY

Pet of the Month PAGE 16 | **Health + Wellness** PAGES 18-21

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strives to build a sense of community and pride in
East Cobb County by providing its residents with
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE



Publisher Cynthia Rozzo

The last few months sure have been strange and many, if not most, COVID questions remain unanswered and who knows what will ever be the same, but the good news is, you can continue to count on EAST COBBER. I cannot thank you enough for the countless phone calls, emails and personal notes encouraging us through these past couple of months. Using our social media platforms, we have not stopped shining a light on local businesses, recent grads, and other East Cobb residents doing great things in the face of adversity. After all, as Darwin famously said, "It is not the strongest of species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to

change." Like other local businesses, EAST COBBER is doing its best to find a way to adapt to the current environment.

So many things I took for granted are gone (for now): random encounters while shopping, gatherings with friends, casual chats while walking my dog and checking out events around town. Speaking of events, as the situation surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve, I have decided to cancel the EAST COBBER Parade + Festival in order to protect the health of parade participants, attendees, exhibitors, and employees. For more information, see page 17.

I'm trying to establish a new way of living, and I'm grateful to be safe and healthy. While many people globally are devastated by the pandemic, I am incredibly privileged to stay at home reading, watching movies and working. Just about everyone I speak to has experienced some sort of loss from domestic routines to cancelled spring sports to being furloughed. One poignant loss is my staff's kids graduating without celebrating their academic milestones. Whether it's their seniors in high school or a little fifth grader moving up to middle school that isn't getting to say goodbye to his friends or marking that achievement. So, I am sharing their graduates' photos below. While this is an unconventional way to honor them, they've studied hard and they deserve some recognition.



Devin
Kramer
Son of
Alicia
Kramer,
EAST COBBER
Publisher's Asst.



Parker
O'Shaughnessy
Daughter of
Michelle
O'Shaughnessy,
EAST COBBER
Sales Rep



Jon
Walker
Son of
Laren
Brown,
EAST COBBER
Sales Rep

This COVID crisis has the potential to change us both individually and collectively for the better, though the growth may not be welcome or comfortable. Hopefully, we will get through this pandemic with an improved sense of humanity.

In the meantime, continue to practice safe social distancing and masking, and keep the faith. I thank you for your support and readership!

Cynthia M. Rozzo, Founder | Publisher
cynthia@eastcobb.com

On the Cover

Pictured on our June/July issue is Dr. Blair Waldron and Dr. Christopher Lee, owners of Waldron + Lee Dentistry, in front of their new office. The newly constructed building at 2419 Roswell Road/Hwy 120 is near the intersection of East Piedmont Road, next to Bank of America and adjacent to the McCleskey East Cobb Family YMCA.

Dr. Jonathan Waldron, DMD, started Waldron Dentistry in the 1980s, and it has continued to grow ever since. In those 30 years, they have added Dr. Jon Waldron's son, Dr. Blair Waldron, Dr. Ed Schlissel, Dr. Christopher Lee, Dr. Arielle Scherz and Dr. Henry Almquist to the practice and updated the name to Waldron & Lee Dentistry when Dr. Lee became a partner. They now have a support team of more than 20 staff who focus on creating a comfortable experience for patients while doing high quality dentistry.

"We are proud of the wonderful relationships we have built with our patients over the years," says Dr. Blair.

You can read more about this locally-owned business on page 6. To make an appointment, visit www.waldrondentistry.com or call 678-498-1992.

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WALDRON & LEE DENTISTRY MOVES TO NEW EAST COBB LOCATION



Dr. Almquist, Dr. Scherz, Dr. Lee, Dr. B Waldron, Dr. J Waldron, Dr. Schlissel and staff

Waldron & Lee Dentistry is excited to announce they will be moving to their new office in August! Close to their current East Cobb location, the newly constructed building at 2419 Roswell Road/Hwy 120 is near the intersection of East Piedmont Road, next to Bank of America and adjacent to the McCleskey East Cobb Family YMCA.

“Although our current location has been fantastic for us for so many years, we finally outgrew the space,” shared Dr. Blair Waldron. “I used to be a soccer referee and a camp counselor at the McCleskey Y, so when Dan Buyers told me the YMCA was selling the outparcel, it seemed like a perfect fit. Jeff Kowalczyk and Becky Shipley and everybody at the YMCA were professional and easy to work with, and we were able to come to an agreement to connect our parking lots so that both YMCA patrons and our patients can use either entrance.”

Dr. Jonathan Waldron, DMD, started Waldron Dentistry in the 1980s, and it has continued to grow ever since. In those 30 years, they have added Dr. Blair Waldron, Dr. Ed Schlissel, Dr. Christopher Lee,

Dr. Arielle Scherz and Dr. Henry Almquist to the practice and updated the name to Waldron & Lee Dentistry when Dr. Lee became a partner. They now have a support team of more than 20 staff who focus on creating a comfortable experience for patients while doing high quality dentistry.

One way they focus on the customer is to offer convenient hours with both early morning and late afternoon appointments. While some patients prefer to always see the same dentist and hygienist, others seek specific times or the ability to schedule last minute. The staff prides themselves on accommodating everyone’s needs while running appointments on-time with minimal or no wait. Patients can be sure they will always be made a priority.



Dr. Christopher Lee and Dr. Blair Waldron

Their attention to detail shows up in referrals. More than 70 percent of new patient referrals come from existing patients, and the office has grown up with generations of families who continue to see them for dental care even after they’ve moved out of town.

“I’m excited that our new building will allow us to accommodate new patients, while still delivering the same level of care our existing patients have come to expect. Also, it will allow us to continue to use the latest dental technology, as well as the benefits of new construction,” shared Dr. Lee. The new building will have a state-of-the-art instrument sterilization center and a new HVAC system with specialized filtering and UV light sanitizing treatment.

In addition to traditional dental services like cleanings, mercury-free fillings, implants and extractions, they also offer digital imaging, bridges, veneers, in-office or at home whitening, sedation options, root canals, night guards and Botox. Waldron & Lee Dentistry offers onsite CEREC technology, which allows certain dental crowns to be placed the same day.

New patients and most insurance plans are welcome. The office also has a Friends and Family Plan for those without insurance. Their current

address is 3020 Roswell Road, Suite 100, Marietta, GA 30062. The new office will be at 2419 Roswell Road. To make an appointment, visit www.waldrondentistry.com or call 678-498-1992.

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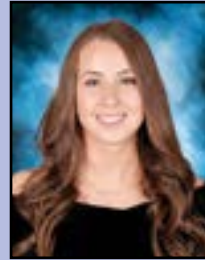
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College: University of Georgia



JENNA HOLTON

Sprayberry High School

College: Emory University



EMILY EDITH PATEL

Lassiter High School

College: Georgia Institute of Technology



ANANT RAJAN

Walton High School

College: Harvard University



ANDREW MYERS

Pope High School

College: Vanderbilt University



MORRIS WAN

Wheeler High School

College: Georgia Institute of Technology

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ECCC PTA RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



Eli Huey
Kell HS



Katie Parsons
Lassiter HS



Trey Sprecher
Pope HS



Mashoor Al
Ahammed
Sprayberry HS



Nidhi Manikoth
Walton HS



Devanshu Tiwari
Wheeler HS

Six local high school seniors were recently named Margie Hatfield Scholarship recipients: Eli Huey, Kell High School; Katie Parsons, Lassiter High School; Trey Sprecher, Pope High School; Mashoor Al Ahammed, Sprayberry High School; Nidhi Manikoth, Walton High

School; and Devanshu Tiwari, Wheeler High School. The scholarship was established in 1989 to honor the dedication and years of service by Mrs. Hatfield to the ECCC PTA and the East Cobb community. The scholarship recognizes and awards outstanding seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to service and citizenship in the genuine spirit of PTA. The winners, each of whom received a \$1,000 cash award to be used to further their education, were selected on the basis of their applications, personal essays and letters of recommendation. Funded by the local units of the ECCC PTA and donations from community members, the scholarship program has awarded over \$100,000 to students over the years. All of the winners contribute to our community in significant ways through school and community activities.

For the first time in the history of awarding these scholarships, the ECCC PTA was unable to have an in person celebration of these students due to COVID-19 related school closures. 📺

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LOCAL NONPROFITS NEED HELP DURING COVID CRISIS

The coronavirus pandemic has caused mass closures of schools and businesses and is straining resources. Local nonprofits are struggling to meet clients' needs as the coronavirus sickens thousands of people and forces layoffs and school closures. These organizations face increased demand while being forced to cancel crucial fundraising events. "Every nonprofit needs money. Many have canceled fundraisers like galas, luncheons, golf tournaments, road races, etc. which are an important source of unrestricted funding," says Irene Barton, Executive Director, Cobb Collaborative. Here are some local nonprofits that could use some help.

COBB SENIOR SERVICES

1150 Powder Springs Street • Marietta 30064
770-528-2009

www.cobbcounty.org/public-services/senior-services

Needs: Donations of canned vegetables, paper towels and toilet paper for clients. Delivery arrangements may be made by calling Merline Tippens at 770-528-2009.

THE EXTENSION - WOMEN'S CAMPUS

130 Holiday Street • Marietta 30060
770-528-4852 • www.theextension.org

Needs: Dryer Sheets, Toiletries, Feminine Hygiene Products

CENTER FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

2221 Austell Road SW • Marietta 30008
770-333-9447 • ccyakids.org

Needs: Funding, gift cards to Target, WalMart, Kohls, Old Navy. Paper towels, napkins, plates, plasticware, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies. Individually wrapped snacks, cookies, nuts, chips, granola bars. Water bottles, gatorade bottles, juices.

CENTER FOR FAMILY RESOURCES

995 Roswell Street • Marietta 30060
770-428-2601 • thecfr.org

Had to cancel its annual gala in March, which is a source of unrestricted funding. Providing financial assistance (rent, mortgage, utilities, hotel stays) for families with minor children impacted by COVID-19. Please donate online.

LIVESAFE RESOURCES

48 Henderson Street • Marietta 30060
770-427-2902 • www.livesaferesources.org

Needs: Individual wrapped snacks- sweet & savory; small bottle of water; shelf stable food items that could be given to clients placed in hotels; personal care items- especially hair care items for African American Women; fresh fruit; funds to purchase gift cards for clients

FAMILY PROMISE OF COBB COUNTY

1823 Blackwell Road • Marietta 30066
678-594-3150 • www.familypromisecobbcounty.org

Family Promise had to cancel its annual golf tournament held in June, but invites the public to "Give A Mulligan" to help it fulfill its mission of providing emergency housing for families. secure.givelively.org/donate/family-promise-of-cobb-county/golf-outing-2020. You can also order a taco kit from Moe's to support the work of Family Promise: familypromise.org/moes

SALVATION ARMY - MARIETTA CORPS

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MUST MINISTRIES

1280 Field Parkway • Marietta 30062 (Donation Center)
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32 Fairground Street NE • Marietta 30060
770-693-5982 • www.davisdirection.com

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P.O. Box 670265 • Marietta 30066
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Needs: Children's toothbrushes, socks for women and men (ankle length), Stuffed animals for younger kids with the eyes sewn on, books for kids ages 3-4, Size 1 and 4 diapers, Women's underwear sizes 4, 5 and 6. Will pick up stain-free mattresses and box springs outside of donors' homes. Please email to ensure someone is available to accept your donations: info@SimpleNeedsGA.org. org. Donation drives are on select Saturdays. 📞

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START THE SCHOOL YEAR STRONG WITH HUNTINGTON LEARNING CENTER

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- ✓ ACT/SAT

Do you want your child to start the next school year with confidence and motivated to learn? Are you worried about the impact of the long break from classroom instruction experienced by your child this school year due to COVID-19? East Cobb's Huntington Learning Center offers a summer tutoring series designed to not only eliminate the summer slide but also help children move to the next academic level. Huntington is a local leader in tutoring and test preparation and has faithfully served the East Cobb community for more than 25 years. Lives of more than 2,000 students have been changed by Huntington, from kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Summer can be a critical transitional time for kids, especially as they enter middle school or high school. "We want your child to start the new school year feeling like they can conquer anything," shares Frank Fabregas, franchise owner. "We want them to feel like superheroes."

The summer slide is a real thing and no year will this be more evident than our current situation. A recent study by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) presented alarming statistics with regard to our children. NWEA suggested the students who return to school in the fall without the continuity of instruction during the COVID closures will retain only about 70% of their reading progress, and stand to lose anywhere from half to all of their academic growth in math from the previous year.

For elementary, middle and high school students, the certified educators at Huntington provide each child a personalized academic assessment in all subject areas. This assessment will identify strengths and weaknesses so the child starts in the right place. The Huntington educators will then design a curriculum specifically for that student. Parents may be concerned about math grades, but the assessment might show that the child needs support with reading comprehension as well, which could have gone under the radar and unnoticed.

"I didn't know how to help my daughter, but I know she wasn't finishing her work at school," shares East Cobb mom Perla. "I took her to Huntington Learning Center for an assessment, which showed she was struggling with reading comprehension, and it was impacting her in all subjects. After a short time

at Huntington, her school work improved tremendously, and her confidence increased. I've also seen this program benefit my middle school son and

the high school students that I tutor in Spanish. Some of them are missing basic skills that can impact their overall educational success. Huntington helps build that foundation for learning.”

“Summer is the perfect time for kids to learn. They don’t have to worry about homework or grades, so they are free to explore and learn at a faster pace,” says Frank.

Frank and Montse Fabregas met in New York 25 years ago while both were enrolled in a program at Columbia University. They raised their children in Barcelona and then chose to move back to the United States for the educational experience. They have one son who graduated from the University of Barcelona and another who just graduated from Lassiter High School and will attend the University of Georgia this fall. They chose 15 years ago, to make East Cobb their home because of our both the high ranked schools and the culture of how parents make education a priority.

Huntington can work with young learners from kindergarten to second grade, many who struggle with phonics and reading. Huntington can also work with older children, who may lack math, reading, writing, or study skills. They will work with the students intensively to improve their skills, track grades, and assignments from school and help them with weekly study plans based on what’s a priority. They partner with parents and schools, so everyone works together on behalf of the student.

“Struggling in school can impact a child’s self-esteem, and we nurture and support each child, in addition to teaching them the subject matter,” says Frank.



For high school students, Huntington tutors in math, reading, study skills and other topics. However, they also can provide

measurable improvement with standardized tests like the ACT and SAT. East Cobb mom Malin shares how the experience helped her son: “My son wanted to raise his ACT scores to open more college and scholarship opportunities. After studying and preparing at the Huntington Learning Center, he was able to raise his ACT score by six points.”

Frank recommends that students take the ACT or SAT early in their junior year, therefore they should prepare for the tests in their sophomore year and the summer prior to their junior year.

Frank shared they now have the ability to tutor online 1-on-1, as well as tutor in-person as long as they follow strict guidelines as set down by the CDC. Right now, Huntington in East Cobb utilizes plastic barriers to work with students in close proximity. Huntington provides masks for students and tutors, and requires all individuals inside the building to have their temperature checked prior to entry. Parents must drop off the student and pick up outside. Safety is one of Huntington’s top priorities during this time.

Frank and Montse take pride in the family atmosphere at the center. “Our vision is to be the educational choice for local families who want support and academic success for their kids.”

If your student has experienced difficulty in math, reading, writing, study skills, or needs SAT or ACT prep contact Huntington Learning Center. They are conveniently located in the East Cobb Crossing shopping center, 4381 Roswell Road, Suite 240 in Marietta. Visit huntingtonhelps.com/center/east-cobb for more information or call 770-977-3112 for an appointment.



HUNTINGTON LEARNING CENTER

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huntingtonhelps.com/center/east-cobb



GET YOUR NATURE ON AT CHATTAHOOCHEE NATURE CENTER

Nature is Calling and the Chattahoochee Nature Center (CNC) is ready! CNC has re-opened and we are ready to help you "Get Your Nature On"! Although we are opening and delivering programs on a limited basis, we are excited to, once again, be able to offer our unique, outdoor experiences to the community. Whether it's hiking, canoeing, or just taking a stroll, CNC has something for everyone. With 127 acres on the Chattahoochee River, the possibilities for outdoor fun are infinite! Learn all about native Georgia plants and animals, gain new perspective by exploring the tree tops on the Screaming Eagle Zip Line and Ropes Course, or observe birds of prey at the Wildlife Walk. Bring the family, have a picnic, and make a day of it! There has never been a better time to de-stress, take a deep breath, and improve your health and wellness by getting outdoors and connecting with nature.

Back by popular demand, CNC's Butterfly Encounter will open June 6 – August 2. Get up close and personal with hundreds of native butterflies surrounded by colorful nectar plants. Photo opportunities abound, be sure to bring your camera. You'll also have the opportunity to purchase nectar and host plants to start your own butterfly garden at home. The Butterfly Encounter is Included with general admission and free to CNC Members. Visitors must purchase admission tickets in advance, which include a date and time to visit the center. Members will also be required to make a reservation for their visit. To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for our visitors, we are drastically reducing the capacity of our outdoor Butterfly Encounter tent to ensure space for social distancing.



CNC has been actively monitoring COVID-19. We have adopted new policies and procedures to offer the best experience possible. More information can be found on our website at www.chattnaturecenter.org, however, the 'Know Before You Go' quick list includes:

- Mandatory advanced ticketing and reservations for members and visitors – including Screaming Eagle Zipline. Our limited, timed admission system will not only provide for an intimate experience on the property, but will allow us to reduce person to person contact and better maintain social distancing throughout the admissions process.
- All purchases must be via credit card only – sorry, no cash will be accepted.
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- Enhanced Cleaning using CDC guidelines
- Seasonal hours are in place. CNC is open 9-5pm Monday-Saturday and from noon-5pm on Sunday. 📍



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HOW COVID-19 MAY CHANGE YOUR VISIT TO THE DENTIST

Never in our lifetime have we experienced such a worldwide health crisis as we are currently. Protecting the health of ourselves, our families, and our community members has become a major group effort! Wearing masks, frequent hand washing, and sanitizer use is now the norm for everyone. Infection control has always been a top priority for us at Cheek Dental, but COVID-19 has certainly put our procedures to the test!

Dental offices have been given special infection control recommendations and guidelines for COVID by the American Dental Association (ADA), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). There is so much new information for us dentists to sort through during this pandemic! Many dental offices were closed for two months, and their dental employees, including ours, certainly did not get to enjoy a 60-day "staycation." During the time that our practice was closed, we worked to develop new protocols to prevent the spread of COVID within our dental office as well as researched the types of personal protective equipment needed to keep our employees safe.

Some changes you may notice at your next visit with your dentist are...

- A call or message before your appointment asking some COVID screening questions. (It is highly likely that you will again be asked those same questions once you arrive at the office.)
 - Having to wait in your car instead of in the reception area to maintain social distancing.
 - Empty reception rooms with will no magazines or children's toys since those items are difficult to clean and disinfect.
 - Having to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival as well as having your temperature taken. You may even be asked to use a special mouth rinse.
 - Medical grade air purifiers in the office to help pull viral particles out of the air.
 - The dental team wearing an increased amount of protective equipment including double masks or respirators, eyewear, visors, and head coverings as well as jackets or gowns.
- The need for a sweater since the office temperature will likely be lowered as the staff will feel hot wearing all the extra protective equipment.

These are just a few of the changes we have implemented for the safety of ourselves and our patients. Our team actually has a multiple page document that we have assembled of all the necessary steps we are taking to ensure that each patient and team member is protected to the best of our ability. But we love what we do, so we will do what it takes to keep practicing dentistry and serving our community. Stay safe and be sure to keep up with your oral health during this time as we know there is a link between dental and overall health!



Dr. Cristi Cheek is the owner of Cheek Dental here in East Cobb. You may contact her at 770-993-3775 or visit www.cheekdental.com.

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Submitted by Lola Ayers



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Favorite Person: His mom

Best Trick: Scaring our 90-pound Malamute

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EAST COBBER PARADE + FESTIVAL CANCELLED DUE TO COVID

The 2020 EAST COBBER Parade and Festival has been canceled this year due to COVID-19 concerns.

Organizers say the cancellation is in compliance with public health rules, with the hometown tradition to resume next year—bigger and better! Under current rules, community events and large gatherings are still prohibited. With the focus on the health and safety of participants and spectators, organizers said canceling at this time is necessary.

"This year would have been the 25th annual EAST COBBER Parade . . . I've had many conversations in the past several weeks weighing out the risks and rewards of holding the parade, says Cynthia Rozzo, Founder and Publisher of the EAST COBBER magazine.

Cynthia Rozzo, who has organized the parade annually for 25 years, said the outbreak of the disease and the uncertainty about when it will end led her to decide to cancel this year's parade. It's the right thing to do," Rozzo said. "I hated to do it. It was a very hard decision to make."

"The annual parade takes months of planning and preparation to pull off, between securing permission to close roads to hold it and lining up participants as well as other behind-the-scenes steps that have to be taken. Those planning steps have been hampered by the outbreak and the uncertainty about it, the parade's founder and organizer said.

"We're in a situation that nobody has been in before, and there's just too many facets of the parade and festival that have to happen that cannot be finalized because of the coronavirus situation," Rozzo said.



The EAST COBBER Parade and Festival was slated to be held at September 19, 2020. Founded in 1993, EAST COBBER extended its mission of building a sense of community by establishing a hometown tradition of a community parade and festival. As the producers of the first parade and festival in East Cobb County, the EAST COBBER aims to establish a strong network between schools, businesses, government and clubs to create a showcase event and annual tradition for East Cobb County. The EAST COBBER Parade has become the largest parade in all of Cobb County and is the only community-wide event for East Cobb. 📺



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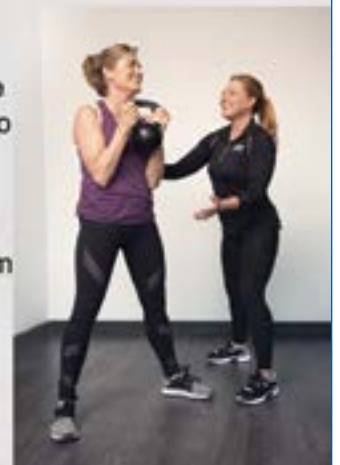


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EAST COBB COVID CASES

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. Newly identified in humans toward the end of 2019, COVID-19 has spread with cases in the United States. The spread of any illness is reason for concern and the outbreak of COVID-19 has been a stressful time for communities around the world. The best defense you have is to equip yourself with information to make informed choices, prevent spread, seek proper treatment as needed, and continue to share quality information with others. The EAST COBBER presents information on the total confirmed COVID-19 cases (tested positive) and deaths attributed to COVID-19 as of May 28, 2020. Source: Georgia Department of Public Health, State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SENDSS). 

COVID CASES BY LOCATION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	TOTAL DECEASED
USA	1,698,523	100,446
Georgia	42,800	1,823
Cobb County	2,943	168
East Cobb – 30062	161	8
East Cobb – 30066	126	6
East Cobb – 30067	158	4
East Cobb – 30068	98	8
East Cobb – 30075	14	0



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