



HONORING THOSE WHO HELP THE COMMUNITY

A Marietta firefighter was named Public Safety Employee of the Year during a Cobb Chamber of Commerce event on Monday, Oct. 2.

The annual event honors public safety employees from throughout the county and kicked off a week-long celebration of those workers and their efforts on behalf of the community. Public Safety Appreciation Week runs Oct. 2-8.

The employee of the year, Lt. Herman Trautwein, was on vacation in Daytona Beach last year when he spotted two people who had been struck by lightning while in shallow water. Without regard to his safety, he ran to help pull the man and woman from the water and began CPR on the victims. Trautwein was able to save one of the patients.

Cobb County Firefighter Mark Blesener and Marietta Police Officer Scott Davis were awarded Medals of Valor during the Monday ceremony. Blesener helped rescue a hypothermic woman on the Chattanooga River after being lowered from a helicopter. Davis was twice wounded in a gunfight, but still managed to relay a description of a vehicle that fled the scene of the shooting.

Cobb Fire and Emergency Services Capt. Josh Taylor and Cobb Police Det. Steve Hammond received the Award of Merit for their creation of the police Tactical First Aid program. This helps Cobb



File photo

From left, Acworth Police Lt. Curtis Endicott, Cobb Fire and Emergency Services Capt. Josh Taylor, Marietta Fire Lt. Herman Trautwein, Smyrna Police Master Patrol Officer Louis Defense, Marietta Officers Michael Malcolm and Scott Davis. Cobb County Public Safety Appreciation Week runs Oct. 2-8.

officers provide immediate care to injured victims and increases their chance for survival. The Marietta Police Morning Watch, consisting of Officers Michael Malcolm and Kenyon Jackson, also earned the Award of Merit for their actions during the same August 2016 gunfight that Davis was wounded in.

Acworth Police Lt. Curtis Endicott and Smyrna Police Master Patrol Officer Louis Defense both received the Distinguished Achievement Award, recognizes an individual whose service and performance has exceeded the demands of the job.

Defense, a 16-year-veteran on the force, teaches the Smyrna Citizen's Police Academy and founded the cit's "Call Before You Go" program that helps escort business owners making financial deposits.

Endicott, who has spent 30 years in public safety, is known for new ideas, such as Acworth's Quality of Life unit, which enhances safety in parks.

Nominations for the awards program were received from public safety agencies throughout Cobb County, including police, fire, sheriff's office, campus police and EMS.

For information on how you can participate in the Cobb Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Appreciation Week, go to cobbchamber.org/member-services/appreciation_week.aspx.

Senior Services seeks your input

Stand up and be heard. Cobb County Senior Services is seeking your input on the future of the department. It will host a series of meetings this month where you can share your thoughts, ideas and questions. The following is the schedule for these meetings:

- Monday, Oct. 16, 1-3 p.m. – Freeman Poole Senior Center, 402 South Hurt Road, Smyrna
- Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1-3 p.m. – West Cobb Senior Center, 4915 Dallas Highway, Powder Springs
- Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1-3 p.m. – East Cobb Senior Center, 3332 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta
- Thursday, Oct. 26, 1-3 p.m. – East Cobb Library, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta

Those with questions should call 770-528-5351.

County property taxes due this month

More than 261,500 bills, representing \$729,711,039 in 2017 property taxes, have been mailed. There were 245,942 bills resulting in \$674,891,143 for real property and 15,582 bills resulting in \$54,819,896 for personal property.

The Tax Commissioner's Office bills and collects property taxes for Cobb County Government, Cobb County Board of Education, Cumberland and Town Center Community Improvement Districts and the Cumberland and Six Flags Special Services Districts.

All six of Cobb's cities bill and collect their own property taxes. State of Georgia property taxes have now been eliminated. Payments received or U.S. postmarked after Monday, **Oct. 16** will incur a 5 percent late penalty, plus monthly interest on the unpaid balance. Payments can be made online at www.cobbtax.org, by automated IVR at 1-866-PAY-COBB or by mail to P.O. Box 100127, Marietta, GA 30061-7027.

In-person payments are accepted at the Property Tax office at 736 Whitlock Ave., Marietta, the East Cobb Government Service Center at 4400 Lower Roswell Road in Marietta and the South Cobb Government Service Center at 4700 Austell Road in Austell. Payment drop boxes are located both inside and outside the Whitlock Avenue location, as well as inside both Government Service Centers. Payments via check will also be accepted at any Motor Vehicle office.

Visit Understanding Your Tax Bill at cobbcounty.org/images/documents/UnderstandingYourTaxBill2017.pdf for a detailed explanation of the 2017 tax bills.

Workshops set to assist nonprofits with grants

Cobb Community Development Block Grant Program staff is hosting informational grant workshops for nonprofit organizations seeking program year 2019 funding through federal and state grant programs. Learn the basics about Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership, Emergency Solutions Grant, Community Services Block Grant, Justice Assistance Grant and Emergency Food and Shelter Program. These workshops are intended for nonprofit organizations not currently funded through the CDBG Program. They will be held:

- 11 a.m., Thursday, **Oct. 12**
MUST Ministries, Inc., 1407 Cobb Parkway N, Marietta
- 2 p.m., Thursday, **Nov. 16**
South Cobb Regional Library, 805 Clay Road, Mableton

For more information, call 770-528-1455 or email info@cobbcountycdbg.com.



File photo

GIS offers mapping classes to community

Cobb County's Geographic Information Systems department provides a variety of maps to encourage community engagement and innovation, including interactive maps of construction projects, zoning information, trail systems, medical burn ban areas, entertainment attractions and historic driving tours. These tools have moved beyond the normal desktop to full mobile for use on smartphones and tablets in the field. Two free GIS mapping public workshops will



help you understand how these tools can be helpful. They will be held 1:30-3 p.m., Thursday, **Oct. 12**, or 2-3:30 p.m., Friday, **Oct. 13**, in the Learning Center, second floor, 100 Cherokee St., Marietta. To register, email GIS_Support@cobbcounty.org. Please include which date you would like to attend.

Library book sale returns this month

The 2017 fall book sale will be held **Oct 27-29** at the Cobb Civic Center. All profits from this sale go directly to buying more items for the 16 libraries in the Cobb County Public Library System. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday. Acceptable forms of payment are cash and checks. On Friday until 1 p.m. electronic devices are not permitted. The book sale will only be able to sell up to two boxes of items at a time on Friday until 1 p.m. Please plan to pay and take items to your vehicle before continuing shopping. Cobb Civic Center is located at 548 South Marietta Parkway SE, Marietta. Parking is free. For additional information, please call Jonathan McKeown at 770-528-2332 or email mckeownj@cobbcat.org.



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

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