



## GET THE INSIDE LOOK WITH FREE CLASSES

**W**ant to increase your understanding of our county government and how it operates? Or enhance your ability to effectively communicate with local officials? How about the opportunity to network with other like-minded stakeholders in the community?

You have the chance to do all of this and more by joining our inaugural Cobb 101 Citizens Government Academy. It will be held from April to June and registration is open now for this free 10-week course. The application deadline is **Feb. 28**, but the academy is limited to 45 people so those interested are encouraged to register now.

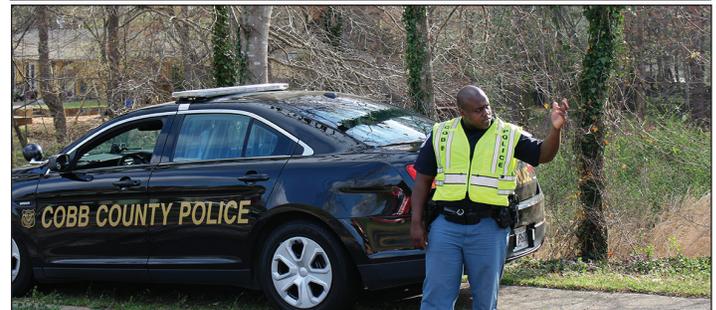
It will be held at 100 Cherokee Street in Marietta and various government buildings in Cobb, allowing participants to fully experience all the county has to offer. Classes will meet from 6-9 p.m. one day each week.



Those who are running for office are ineligible to participate. After the inaugural class has been selected, additional applications will be eligible for the second class, tentatively scheduled for spring 2019.

Through a combination of presentations and hands-on projects, participants will learn about vital community services including emergency services, law enforcement, planning, zoning, finance, court systems, public works, special projects, parks and recreation.

Most importantly, participants will have the opportunity to connect with their local officials and county staff who provide these services. Weekly instructors will vary depending upon



the county service or department being covered that week. For more information, or to register, visit [cobbcounty.org/cobb101](http://cobbcounty.org/cobb101).

## Yearly plant sale provides greenery and support to 4-H youths

Pre-orders for the Cobb 4-H Plant Sale have started. All proceeds go to benefit the Cobb County 4-H youth development program, supplies, judging teams, scholarships and professional development.

Pre-Order Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday, **March 23**.

Order Information: Orders will be accepted via walk-in with debit/credit card (Visa/MasterCard/Discover), cash, money order or check. Mail-in orders will be accepted with check or money order. All checks should be made out to Cobb County Extension/4-H. All sales are final.

Cobb County 4-H makes no guarantee on plants sold.

Plant Sale Theme: "Wonderful World of Pollinators!" Many of the plants offered will not only add color to your yard but will attract beneficial pollinators to your landscape. Details are available in the Cobb Extension page at [cobbcounty.org](http://cobbcounty.org).

Pick up location: Jim Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road, Marietta

Plant pick up time: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday **April 7**. Plants will not be held after 1 p.m. on the pick up date. Plants remaining will be considered a tax deductible donation. You will receive a donation letter for your tax planning purposes.

Office hours – 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday  
Phone: 770-528-4070



Gary A. Witte

## New fees at Marietta parking decks

New parking deck fees and procedures are in effect at the two Marietta Square locations: 100 Cherokee St. and 191 Lawrence St. Parking deck patrons pay at kiosks and upon exit. No cash is accepted; debit and credit cards only. The fees are effective 6 a.m. - 8 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays. The decks is free on Sunday.

- First 30 minutes: free
- 31 minutes-two hours: \$2
- Two-five hours: \$5
- More than five hours: \$7
- Lost ticket: \$7

Monthly parking passes are available. For more information, call 770-528-2100.

## Citizens Academy enrollment now open

The spring session of the Citizens Public Safety Academy is accepting applications. The academy will start Tuesday, **March 6**, and this 14-week program will provide an opportunity for residents to gain insight on how the police, fire, animal control and 911 departments are organized. Participants will also learn the important role each department plays to ensure the safety of all residents and visitors.

A few of the planned activities include:

- Meeting with distinguished members of public safety departments
- Touring the 911 Communications Center and the Medical Examiner's Office
- Receiving demonstrations from the police department on weapons/firearms safety and defensive tactics
- Participating in classes from fire department special operations, including hazardous materials and the heavy rescue squad

In order to participate, you must either live in Cobb or work for Cobb County Government or schools and be at least 21 years old. An application can be emailed to you or picked up at the DPS Training Center, 2109 Valor Drive, Marietta. The completed application must taken to the Public Safety Internal Affairs Department, 1150 Powder Springs St., Suite 300, Marietta, by 3 p.m., Monday, **Feb. 26**. Please bring your driver's license with you because a copy of it will be needed. For more information, contact training registrar Mallorie Wheat at 770-590-5650.



## Avoid pipe blockages

In the month of love and thoughtfulness, share some love for your pipes. In Cobb, the sewer collection system is a network of pipes connecting your home to one of four water reclamation facilities. Problems arise from our pipes when we have blockages. Flushed sanitary wipes contribute to blockages when they stick to cooled fats, oils and grease in the pipes. Allowing fats, oils and grease down your drain may seem harmless and easy, but once in the pipes it cools and clings to everything in the sewer system. Unlike toilet paper, flushed sanitary wipes do not break apart in the pipes. These blockages can lead to sewage backups in homes, streets and creeks.



## Faith Forum invitations

Cobb Police Chief Michael Register invites all pastors, staff from institutions of faith and community members to attend the Faith Forum 9:30-11 a.m., Monday, **Feb. 19**. It will be held at the Cobb County Public Safety Training facility, 2019 Valor Drive, Marietta. Church safety and security will be the topic of discussion at this forum. Seating is limited to 140 attendees, so please RSVP by **Feb. 14**, to Darcy Sibilsky at [darcy.sibilsky@cobbcounty.org](mailto:darcy.sibilsky@cobbcounty.org).



*Cobb County...Expect the Best!*

COBB COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT • 770.528.2480 • [information@cobbcounty.org](mailto:information@cobbcounty.org) • [www.cobbcounty.org](http://www.cobbcounty.org)

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