

# THE BULLETIN

Activities and Events in Cobb County, Georgia for Adults 55 Plus

Volume 44, Number 3

It's not about AGE; it's about ATTITUDE

March 2017

#### lang your Hat Where you

Home is more than just an address, it's a sense of community, the grocery store clerk who knows your name. and your route to avoid traffic. Currently there are over 130,000 people in Cobb County over the age of 55. Overwhelmingly across the country people live in single family homes and prefer to keep it that way. Many people only leave their home when it becomes unsafe or difficult to meet basic daily needs or after an injury or medical event.

Unless you bought a house with universal design in mind there is a good chance that you will need to either make modifications to your home or move. Even the smallest of upgrades can make a large difference in the safety and

livability of your home as you age. Some options include adding more lighting, especially in the kitchen and garage or other areas where increased visibility can keep you safe. Changing doorknobs, cabinet/ drawer pulls, and faucet handles to levers that are easier to use with reduced dexterity or can even be pushed with your elbow when carrying something are easier on arthritic hands.

Removing rugs or using double sided tape to secure them to the floor reduces trip hazards.

Adding a bench or shelf next to the door to place packages when trying to unlock the door can keep you from dropping the eggs when coming home or provides a place for the mailman to deliver packages so you won't have to lean too far to pick up.

If you are able to handle a slightly larger rennovation on a kitchen or bathroom, no matter the age of your house or yourself there are a few features you can put in place that will increase your home's accessibility. Lowering cabinets and coutnertops so they are comfortable to use and puts items within easy reach can easily be done if you are already redoing the kitchen. In the bathroom you can install a comfort height toilet that has a higher seat, or a tub that has a zero step entry. If you are doing work inside the walls it is easy to install blocking to support grab bars while the wall is open. Then, if you need to add extra support later on it

will be easy to install grab bars without having to open up the walls.

Outside your home some of the main hazards come in the form of tripping over large cracks in the sidewalk or trying to climb too many stairs.

Installing a ramp can be helpful even if you do not utilize a wheelchair or walker as it reduces the amount of energy

you must expend to reach your front door. Filling in cracked pavement can be expensive but can also save you from a bad fall. Large and small changes can be made to extend your independence at home and at a range of costs. It's important to plan now for how you wish to live in the future.

By Kristie Naylor

	Senior Citizen Council Executive Committee	2017	INSIDE this issue	
PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. <u>251</u> MARIETTA, GA	President: Frank O'Brien 1st V-Pres: Jane Galvin-Lewis 2nd V-Pres: Rena Bailey Secretary: Kimberly Haase Treasurer: Surendra Shah EC Delegate Dorothy Beckworth Sally Sarkin NC Delegate Vacant	WC Delegate Eloise Evans CFP Delegate June VanBrackle SWC Delegate Vacant Site Council: Louise Bedford A/L Delegates: Jim D'Emillio Roberta Linton John Delves	Senior Council News Pages 2 Human Interest & Community Events Page 3 Have You Heard About Page 4	
u u u u u u u u u u u u u u u u u u u	DATES TO REMEMBER		Club Chatter Page 5	
Or Current Resident	3/31Teepa Snow3/6-4/18Free AARP Tax Pr	ep see page 3	Multipurpose Centers Pages 6-10	
Curret	4/15 Tax Day		Neighborhood Centers Page 11	
O.	5/6 Aging By Design 20	17 Expo	Volunteer & Advocacy RSVP Zest for Life Page 12	
			Computer4Seniors Nuts about Nutrition Page 13	
ervices 0061	For more information check out these sites: www.cobbseniors.org Twitter-@CobbSeniors		Center Travel Pages 14-15	
Cobb Senior Services P.O. Box 649 Marietta, GA 30061	Instagram- CobbSeniorServices www.facebook.com/CobbSeniors www.computers4seniors.org		<u>PAID ADVERTISING</u> Page 16	
Cobl P.O. Mar	http://seniorcitize	encouncilofcobb.org forCitizensCouncilofCobbCounty		

#### *THE BULLETIN* c/o Senior Citizens Council 1750 Powder Springs Rd. Suite 190, Box 107 Marietta, Ga. 30064

A complimentary yearly subscription to *The Bulletin* is offered with Senior Citizen Council Membership. \$12/yr. for individuals and \$15/yr for families. Applications may be obtained at any Multipurpose Center. Items submitted for publication are included on a space available basis. *Paid advertisements should be submitted by the first of the month for the following month.* 

#### <u>Paid advertisements appearing in</u> <u>this publication DO NOT</u> <u>constitute endorsements of any</u> <u>product, organization, individual</u> <u>or company. Purchase or use of</u> <u>these products or services is at the</u> <u>reader's own discretion.</u>

Editor/Ad Sales Kristie Naylor Legacy Coordinator kristie.naylor@cobbcounty.org

**Volunteers** 770-528-5381

GREAT NEWS!! Georgia Coalition on Aging is excited to share that Governor Deal has included \$4.2 million in new funding for HCBS in his budget for FY 2018! The \$4.2 million in new funding will make a big difference for those on the waiting lists. Governor Deal also included \$750,000 for senior nutrition and funding for an additional 11 Adult Protective Service workers.

You can take action now by tweeting or posting on Facebookusing #GAEndTheWait with your message of support. GCOA and CO-AGE issued an alert to ask CO-AGE members to thank Governor Deal for listening to Georgia's seniors. The budget also added \$750,000 for home-delivered and congregate meals for seniors. It is important to note that the governor also included a rate increase for meal providers in the Department of Community Health budget as well.

### Frank O'Brien, Council President

April 17-21, 2017 Plan to ENGAGE with CO-AGE

Join CO-AGE for the 2nd Annual ENGAGE with CO-AGE week from April 17-21, 2017. This is an opportunity to meet experts on the legislation and hear details.

2017 Advocacy Days for Georgia Coalition for the Developmentally Disabled GCDD Advocacy Day at the Capitol is March 9th. Contact Hanna at 404.657.2124 or email hanna.rosenfeld@gcdd.ga.gov for more information. GCDD is the Georgia Coalition for the Developmentally Disabled; it works closely with GCOA on common interests, things like handicapped parking rules.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

March 10th at East Cobb, Mike Boyce, Board of Commissioners Chairman will be our special guest. April and May meetings at West Cobb and C Freeman Poole, dates to be announced.

SeniorsGo continues to expand at rapid pace. Common Courtesy one time registration fee has increased to \$15.

Obviously there is a lot going on at the Gold Dome and closer to home. We hope to help you have a better life and for you to get involved.

Frank O'Brien Council President 404-731-6678, francisobroien0@ gmail.com

### COBB SENIOR SERVICES Jessica Gill, Director 770-528-5366

#### Austell Center\*\*

Located in Clarkdale Park 4915 Austell-Powder Springs Rd Austell, GA 30106 (770) 819-3200

This beautiful facility is home to a diverse fun loving group age 60 or better who enjoy gardening, games, lunch, day trips, arts and crafts, and educational programs each week.

#### Marietta Center\*\*

Located in Cobb Senior Services Complex 1150 Powder Springs Rd. Marietta, GA 30064 (770) 528-2516

This unique facility offers seniors age 60 plus opportunities for classes, games, arts and crafts, day trips and socialization. Lunch is served daily in the café or on the patio, weather permitting.

#### \*\*Transportation Available Transportation Information: (770) 528-5355

#### Sandee Panichi

North Cobb Center\*\*

Located in Kennworth Park 4100 South Main St. NW Acworth, GA 30101 770-974-2984

This Center enjoys the benefits of North Cobb Multipurpose Center as well as the lovely park setting. The active seniors are age 60 or better. Each week they enjoy games, arts and crafts, lunch, day trips, music, educational programs and gardening.

#### ....

**Multipurpose Centers** provide social, educational, health and wellness programs for adults over 55. Ongoing activities and classes are available. See each Center's page for details.

#### Manager of Operations

**C. Freeman Poole Center** 4025 South Hurt Road

Smyrna, GA 30082 (770) 801-3400 - Page 6

#### East Cobb Center

*3332 Sandy Plains Road Marietta, GA 30066* (770) 509-4900 - Page 7

#### North Cobb Center

4100 South Main St. NW Acworth, GA 30101 (770) 975-7740 - Page 8

#### Senior Wellness Center

1150 Powder Springs St. Suite 100 Marietta, GA 30064 (770) 528-5355 - Page 9

#### West Cobb Center

4915 Dallas Highway Powder Springs, GA 30127 (770) 528-8200 - Page 10

#### Senior Services Web Site: http://cobbseniors.org

Administrative Offices, Care Management, and Assistive Technology Lab

1150 Powder Springs St. Suite 100 Marietta, GA 30064 (770) 528-5355

Call your nearest Center today for more information, or visit our website: cobbseniors.org





## Aging by Design Expo 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, May 6 Cobb Civic Center

548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta

Health and Wellness Screenings Housing & Transportation Information Demonstrations & Breakout Sessions

Take control of how you age. If you are caring for a loved one, THIS IS FOR YOU!

THIS FREE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL Register online www.CobbSeniors.org Event code #11936 The Bulletin

## Have You Heard? Facts, Tidbits & News You Need to Know

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Due West UMC & Cobb Senior Services invite you for "A Day with Teepa Snow: Today's Voice for Dementia"

Friday, March 31 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Family Life Center (Bldg. B)

Free Event Open to Family Caregivers & Professional Caregivers Alike

wood

ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE



Renowned Positive Approach To Care Educator and Trainer

Helpers WELLSTAR

Due West United Methodist Church 3956 Due West Road, Marietta, GA 30064 REGISTER ONLINE AT http://www.duewest.org/index.php?cID=225 Further Info: Sheila Welch at sheilaowelch@gmail.com or 404-642-6027

5



## NEW LIFE WALKING CLUB

at Cobb Senior Wellness Center Come and Join the Fun!



For the New Life Walking Club members at the Cobb Senior Wellness Center, 2016 was a wonderful year. Active club involvement was instrumental in keeping the group healthier and happier through individual and group walks.

In addition to urging each other to continue with their daily walks, the club participated in Senior Wellness Center and community related activities. We enjoyed events like our Spring Picnic, a walk excursion to Red Top Mountain State Park and a Fall Walk and Picnic at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. They also joined participants from the Senior Wellness Center at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park for an opportunity to hear about the history of the park from park staff, participate in a group exercise and explore the hiking trails the park has to offer.

The New Life Walking Club marked their four year participation in the annual Atlanta Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes, as well as bringing home top medals in the 2016 Legacy (Senior) Games.

Stay tuned for more information on all the exciting opportunities the group has planned for 2017, beginning with planning a meet-up at Tumblin Park on Wednesday April 5, 2017 in celebration of the American Heart Association's National Walking Day event. More information coming soon to a Center near you.





**Program Coordinator** Donna Kibbe **Program Specialist** Viktoria Mihan **Administrative Specialist** Jessica Stearns **Maintenance Technician II** Ira Knowles

#### How to have

"Happy Feet" #10838 Friday, March 3 11:00am-12:00pm This lecture will provide you with the information on healthy feet including education on causes of foot pain and what you can do about it. Presented by Bev Stegman with Foundation Therapy Center.



9:00am-12:00pm

#### **East Cobb Operating Hours:** 3332 Sandy Plains Road Marietta, GA 30066 Senior Center 770-509-4900 www.cobbseniors.org



The Bulletin



#### The Six Dimensions of Wellness #10854

Come have fun while learning "The Six Dimensions of Wellness". This is a seven week program including an introduction seminar and a party for the social dimension component. We encourage you to attend all seven weeks. The Six Dimensions of Wellness are: physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, occupational, and social. The program is interactive, fun, and is not set up as a lecture. Don't miss this opportunity to apply the model to your life. Please bring your ticket to each session.

- 1. Introduction Seminar Wednesday, March 1
- 2. Physical Session: Wednesday, March 8 Presented by Comforting Arms.
- 3. Occupational Session: Wednesday, March 15 Presented by Johnnie Gabriel.
- **4. Intellectual Session:** Wednesday, March 22. Presented by ComFore Care Home Care.
- 5. Spiritual Session: Wednesday, March 29. Presented by Tang Acupuncture Team.
- 6. Emotional Session: Emotional Journey of Aging Wednesday, April 5. Presented by Private Care Services. 7. Social Session: Wednesday, April 12 party (speakers & participants).
  - **Preventive Benefits of Traditional Personal Health Records** #10858 10:00am-11:30am Friday, March 17 **Chinese Medicine** #11327 Monday, April 10 10:00am-11:30am Join our seminar to learn more about the traditional Chinese communicating effectively with health benefits for many common and

chronic conditions such as obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol, and infertility. Presented by Tang Acupuncture Team.

Weekly

American Mah Jongg

### Personal Health Records presentation aims to educate you about taking control of your healthcare decisions by maintaining a personal health record, providers, and completing an advance directive for health care. This presentation does not give medical advice, just safety suggestions and techniques. Any questions about your medications should be directed to your healthcare providers.



7:30pm-10:30pm

Foxtrotter's Dance (3rd Fri. Nov/Dec) 4th Fri. of Mo.





The Bulletin

 $2^{nd}$  &  $4^{th}$  Mon

**Ballroom Dance Practice** 

Woodcarvers

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

12:15 pm - 4:00 pm

Advanced Canasta



Table Tennis

Bunco\* - 1<sup>st</sup> Fri

Stardust Dance - 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

11



featuring authentic Chinese cuisine. To end the celebration, the Atlanta Chinese Dance Company entertained with traditional Chinese dance performances, combined with a lecture demonstration introducing the history of various Chinese cultures. VOLUNTEERS Legacy Coordinator Kristie Naylor Program Leader Cindy Campbell Volunteer Line 770-

SatorCommunity Outreach<br/>Kathy Lathem<br/>Metro Atlanta RSVP<br/>Mike Nichols770-528-5381

#### AARP TAX-AIDE TAX PREPARATION LOCATIONS NOW THROUGH APRIL 18, 2017

LOW TO MODERATE INCOME TAXPAYERS MEMBERSHIP IN AARP IS NOT REQUIRED SERVICE IS AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF AGE

MONDAY 10:00-2:00 SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER 1150 POWDER SPRINGS ST \*

MONDAY 10:30-2:30 GRITTERS LIBRARY 880 SHAW PARK RD, \*

TUESDAY 10:00-2:00 SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER 1150 POWDER SPRINGS ST \*

TUESDAY 10:30-2:00 EAST COBB LIBRARY 4880 LOWER ROSWELL RD, \*

WEDNESDAY 10:00-2:00 WOLFE ADULT RECREATION 884 CHURCH ST, SMYRNA WEDNESDAY 10:30-2:30 WARD RECREATION CENTER 4845 DALLAS HWY, POWDER SPRINGS THURSDAY 11:30-3:00 MT VIEW LIBRARY 3320 SANDY PLAINS RD, \*

THURSDAY 11:30-3:30 WEST COBB LIBRARY 1750 DENNIS KEMP LANE, KENNESAW

FRIDAY 12:00-3:30 CENTRAL/SWITZER LIBRARY 266 ROSWELL ST, \*

No tax returns will be prepared at Central Library on 4/14/17

FRIDAY 10:00-2:00 ROBERTSON COMMUNITY 2753 WATTS DR CENTER KENNESAW

No tax returns will be prepared at Robertson Community Center on 4/17/17

\*MARIETTA

TAXES PREPARED BY IRS – TRAINED

TAX COUNSELORS

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

ELECTRONIC FILING AVAILABLE AT ALL

LOCATIONS SPONSORED BY THE IRS

BRING YOUR 2015 RETURN AND YOUR 2016 TAX DOCUMENTS

EACH TAXPAYER MUST PRESENT THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS OR OTHER IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION FOR YOURSELF AND ALL DEPENDENTS.

FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT REFUNDS, TAXPAYER MUST HAVE A VALID CHECK.

For more information go to aarp.org/taxaide

## Beware Tax Time Scam Artists!

Scam artists adopt false identities as a way to extract personal information from their targets or to plant destructive software into a person's computer.

The IRS never contacts people via email or phone.

Scammers often pretend to be IRS agents, informing their targets of problems with their returns or refunds and telling them that the only solution is to send their Social Security numbers or bank account information.

Once they have a Social Security number in hand, the scammers can file a phony tax return in the victim's name, claiming a large refund and having it sent to a false address. One of the surest signs of a scam is when tax preparers make unrealistic promises, guaranteeing huge payouts, regardless of an individual's financial situation.

Another way is they are telling people their payments are rejected and ask for another credit card or insisting that they wire the money immediately or risk imprisonment.

They claim that the IRS is holding their money because of scammers. They will request their personal information to ensure they are speaking with the actual client due the refund and then will release the funds to them.

If you receive a suspicious email that appears to come from TurboTax, forward it to us at spoof@intuit.com so we can investigate.

Taxpayers also need to be wary of ghost preparers, unlicensed companies or websites whose only goal is to take advantage of their so-called clients.

You should use only a tax service that is well-known, established or registered with the IRS.

You can contact A.A.R.P. for tax help who will prepare a simple return at no cost for low income households. Check below for locations to get assistance:

https://secure.aarp.org/applications/VMISLocator/ searchTaxAideLocations.action If you suspect that you are the victim of a scam, contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490. Suspicious emails should be forwarded to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

## Is your New Year's Resolution to share your talents with others?

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer instructor at any Cobb Senior Center we are always looking for people to share their knowledge and talent with others. From drawing to dance; from cooking to crochet; we try to offer a wide variety of opportunities and as with many of our programs we do that with volunteers.

New volunteers in all programs have to complete volunteer paperwork including a background check. For more information call 770-528-5381.

#### Beyond Rice: Great Grains By Dawn Hedley, Life University Dietetic Intern

Rice has long been a staple food in countries all over the world. It is very versatile as it makes a great side with a little seasoning or it can serve as a complete meal when combined with a protein and vegetables. It is also very simple to prepare and can have nutritional benefits if you choose brown rice over white. Overall, rice is a great food choice, but if you are getting bored with the same old go-to side item or are looking for more nutrition in your meals, discover some other great grains.

Barley has been a popular grain used in soups for quite some time, but did you know that it is a nutritional "powerhouse"? According to the Whole Grains Council, this grain is packed with fiber which not only helps to reduce the risk of heart disease, but has also been shown to be helpful in preventing the onset of type 2 diabetes. This is due to the ability of beta-glucan, a special kind of fiber found in barley, to slow the absorption of sugars. Boasting a mildly nutty flavor and a chewy, pasta-like consistency, barley makes a great hot cereal or can be substituted for rice in casserole dishes for

added health benefits. Farro is a distant relative of barley, actually belonging to the wheat family. It is one of the oldest forms of wheat and has been found buried in the tombs of ancient Egyptian kings. Farro is much higher in fiber than most wheat varieties used in breads and pastas today and contains 10 essential vitamins and minerals. Similar to barley in taste and texture, this grain goes wonderfully in salads, soups or as a side dish with your favorite vegetables.

Quinoa has recently become a regular item in grocery stores and on menus. This ancient food that was considered sacred to the Incas, is what is known as a pseudo-grain as it has the nutritional profile of a grain but is in fact related to spinach and beets. This tiny "grain" is packed with protein as well as other nutrients. Cook in low-sodium chicken, beef or vegetable broth for extra flavor and nutrition and mix in with any dish for added texture.

Aside from adding variety to your meals, including some of these great grains in your meal planning will also add extra nutrition into your life. They are all rich in fiber which is important in heart and digestive health as well as protein which plays a vital role in everything from cell health to healing. These grains are also excellent sources of B vitamins important to energy and metabolism, iron needed to get oxygen to all of our cells,

magnesium for bone health and zinc for fighting off viruses and bacteria. Try adding in some great grains to your meals today and see the health benefits begin.

## Baked Chicken with Apples and Barley

Recipe courtesy of barleyfoods. org

1 tablespoon olive oil

1/2 c chopped onion 1/2 c chopped red bell pepper 1/2 c chopped green bell pepper 1 clove garlic, finely chopped 1 medium green apple, chopped 1-2 tablespoons curry powder 1 cup pearl barley 2-1/2 c chicken broth 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt 3 tablespoons orange marmalade or apricot jam Heat oil in large skillet; sauté onion, bell peppers and garlic 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add chopped apple and curry powder; sauté 4 minutes longer. Stir in barley and chicken broth; bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes. Pour barley mixture into large baking dish or casserole. Arrange chicken breasts over barley and season with garlic salt. Cover and bake in 375° F oven for 45 minutes. Remove cover; brush chicken with marmalade. Continue to bake, uncovered, 15 minutes longer. Remove from oven and let stand 5 minutes before serving. Makes 4 servings.

**The Bulletin** 

MARIETTA, Ga. (January 24, 2017) – The Cobb County Department of Public Safety is working to enhance the delivery of near real-time information to the public regarding incidents that may have a significant and/or imminent impact on their safety or welfare. DPS has now implemented the SwiftReach Swift911 notification system to inform residents of those types of alerts. SwiftReach is a high speed Emergency Notification System that alerts residents to emergency situations including severe weather, missing and endangered persons or significant road closures due to fatality accidents or other unplanned incidents in the local area. The program has the capability of delivering pre-recorded messages to the entire county via telephone, cell phone, email and text messaging. The system uses a publicly

available list of phone numbers that can be removed, or updated by both residents and businesses. There are two simple options to opt-in and provide contact information for this service. A sign up portal is available on the Police, Fire, EMA, 911 and Public Safety pages on the Cobb County website. Residents can also get the Swift911 Mobile App by texting the word "Swift911" to "99538", once it is sent a response will be received with a link for the Swift 911 Public App within your app store. SwiftReach is one example of using current technology to make it easier for residents to receive communications from the Department of Public Safety. For more information residents can visit the Department of Public Safety page at www.cobbcounty.org and click on the SwiftReach icon.



SWIFTREACH. www.swiftreach.com 1.800.794.3891



15



The Bulletin

16

