

SPLOST

From 1A

Brand also worked for Bob Weatherford's successful campaign for the Republican nomination for the District 1 seat on the Board of Commissioners.

O'Dell said Brand would serve in a similar capacity for Secure Cobb's Future, helping the group with data gathering and polling information.

In a joint statement in the release, the co-chairs said they are excited about the campaign and look forward to the work ahead.

"The projects in the 2014 SPLOST are lean and necessary to secure Cobb's future," the co-chairs stated. "This is an important opportunity to continue to do something positive for Cobb in regards to transportation, public safety and quality of life, and we cannot afford to

let it pass us by."

O'Dell, founder of Marietta-based O'Dell and O'Neal Attorneys, said he has advocated for SPLOSTs in the past and said the group has already had an organizational meeting.

"There's the group of people that have supported (SPLOSTs) in the past and different working groups that have come together to support them. So everybody begins talking about how we're going to get the information out there to the voters," O'Dell said.

O'Dell is a member of the Cobb

Chamber of Commerce and serves as president of the Kiwanis Club of Marietta, according to the release.

A Georgia native, Hughes has worked as a business consultant for 30 years, according to the release, and currently consults with community-oriented businesses such as Atlanta-based Gay Construction and Kennesaw-based GTP Associates with his wife, Cindy, the release states.

Watkins has been a Cobb resident for more than 27 years and lives in the Smyrna/Vinings area, the release states.

He is a member of the South Cobb Redevelopment Authority and serves on the Cobb Board of Elections in addition to his position as a global client advisor for the Oracle Corporation, according to the release.

Leading the anti-SPLOST contingent is Austell-resident Lance Lamberton, chairman of the Cobb Taxpayers Association.

"Unfortunately for Cobb taxpayers, the county has become overly dependent on SPLOST and is using it to pay for routine maintenance items which should be budgeted through other revenue sources," Lamberton said in a release on the CTA's website. "It is shocking to think that something like 98 percent of the Cobb's Department of Transportation budget is dependent on SPLOST. Instead of being a special purpose tax, it has morphed into a permanent one."

"This is an important opportunity to continue to do something positive for Cobb in regards to transportation, public safety and quality of life, and we cannot afford to let it pass us by."

— Co-chairs of 'Secure Cobb's Future' in a joint statement released to the MDJ

NEW LOOK

From 1A

to our readers," said MDJ Managing Editor Billy Mitchell. "Our editors have put in many extra hours in planning this redesign, and their cooperative efforts in building a better newspaper are greatly appreciated."

Graphics Editor Kayla Allen headed up the redesign team and was joined by: News Editor Jon Gillooly and Assistant News Editor Emily Boorstein; Sports Editor John Bednarowski and Assistant Sports Editor Eli Boorstein; Life & Style Editor Kathy Goldsberry; Editorial Page Editor Joe Kirby; Copy Desk Chief Margaret Chwat and Copy Editor Philip Clements; and Photo Chief Kelly J. Huff.

The redesign also coincides with the completion of the news staff.

Hillary Butschek, who joined the staff in May, and Ricky Leroux who moved from the Copy Desk to news several weeks ago, were joined Tuesday by Aimee Sachs, who comes to the MDJ from The Ledger in Lakeland, Fla.

Ricky Leroux
"This is the brightest young reporting team I've been

KEY ELEMENTS

- ◆ A refreshed presentation of **Page 2A — Daily Entertainment** — focusing almost solely on entertainment news, but still offering "Today in History" in a new, easier-to-read format;
- ◆ A redesign of the **Opinion** section that retains our lineup of widely respected local and national columnists;
- ◆ A daily side-strip on **Cobb & State — Cobb Chat-terbox**, which will offer quick-read stories and snapshots of people around Cobb;
- ◆ A makeover of the **Life & Style** section that will add more emphasis on local content, embracing health, fashion and the performing arts;
- ◆ **Page 2D — Daily Tidbits**, will be streamlined with the majority of community events moved to our website, mdjonline.com;
- ◆ A revised **Page 2C in Sports — The Morning Line**, which will include a weekly schedule for state college and pro teams, plus a new format for our prep Athletes of the Week.
- ◆ Also, the winning lottery numbers have moved from **Page 2A** to **Page 2B — Cobb & State II**.
- ◆ Redesigned **Nation** and **World** pages featuring maps of locations from top news stories and briefs



Hilary Butschek



Ricky Leroux
"This is the brightest young reporting team I've been

associated with," said Mitchell. "I look forward to them bringing more clarity and depth to our news reporting."

Butschek is a graduate of Forsyth Central High School and the University of Georgia, where she

served as Editor in Chief of the 10,000-circulation Red & Black student-run newspaper, supervising a staff of 11 editors and 70 writers. She also was an investigative reporter and desk editor for the newspaper before becoming Editor

Decorating Mart
WHERE THE DESIGNERS SHOP
up to 50% OFF Fabric & More
2932 Canton Road, Suite 150 | Marietta
770-424-3025 | decoratingmart.com

Sep 6th - 6pm

For tickets and information:

shadygrovewebs.com

Ph. 770-878-4000

\$20.00 In Advance \$25.00 At The Door

Collingsworth Family



First Baptist Canton

1 Mission Point - Canton, GA



RE-USE YOUR NEWS

For information on recycling, contact Cobb County's Keep Cobb Beautiful program at **770-528-1135** or keepcobbbeautiful@cobbcounty.org, or visit <http://kcb.cobbcountyga.gov>.

in Chief.

She has primarily covered Marietta city government since joining the MDJ in May.

Leroux is a graduate of Woodstock High School and the University of Georgia, where he earned a degree in journalism. Prior to joining the MDJ's Copy Desk, he was an editorial and layout assistant for IBISWorld Inc. in Santa Monica, Calif., and did freelance work for the Athens Banner-Herald sports department.

He has primarily been covering Cobb government since moving to news.

Sachs grew up in Tallahassee and covered sports for the Tallahassee Democrat after graduating from the University of Florida with a degree in telecommunication. She

covered cops and crime and sports for The Ledger in Lakeland. In addition to covering crime, she also covered the Detroit Tigers

spring training camp in Lakeland.

Sachs has been assigned to cover the education beat for the MDJ.

Formerly Artiques Galleria

MarketPlace 120

MULTI-DEALER ART & ANTIQUE MALL

Shop • Exhibit • Learn • Connect

562 Wylie Road, Suite 24 - Marietta, GA 30067
Easy access from I-75, Exit 263
Phone: 678-540-7511
Tuesday - Saturday: 10:00am - 6pm • Sunday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm • Closed Monday
Web: ArtiquesGalleria.com email: info@artiquesgalleria.com

Saturday, Sept 27 & Sunday, Sept 28

10am - 6pm

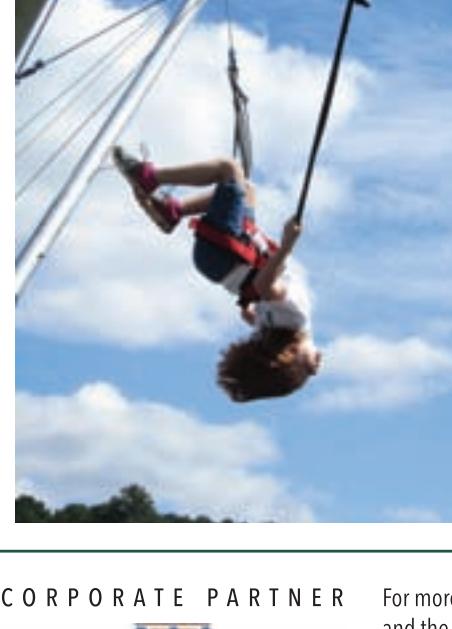
10am - 5pm



BOLING PARK, CANTON

\$5 recommended donation for entrance at the gate

All proceeds raised through this event directly benefit children in need in Cherokee County, supplying necessities such as food, clothing, dental and medical care, eyeglasses, rental and utilities assistance, scholarships and much more.



CHILDREN'S AREA

The children's area is packed with exciting, new attractions for children of all ages like the Zip Line Xtreme, a dunk tank featuring local "celebrities," sports-themed games, popcorn and cotton candy, as well as returning favorites such as the old-fashioned carousel, hamster bumper balls, pony rides, inflatables, a petting zoo and much more!

CORPORATE PARTNER

NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL
CHEROKEE

For more information about Riverfest and the Service League of Cherokee County, visit: www.ServiceLeague.net or scan the QR code with your smart phone.



MARIETTA DAILY JOURNAL

Chronicling Cobb County's People & Events Since 1864