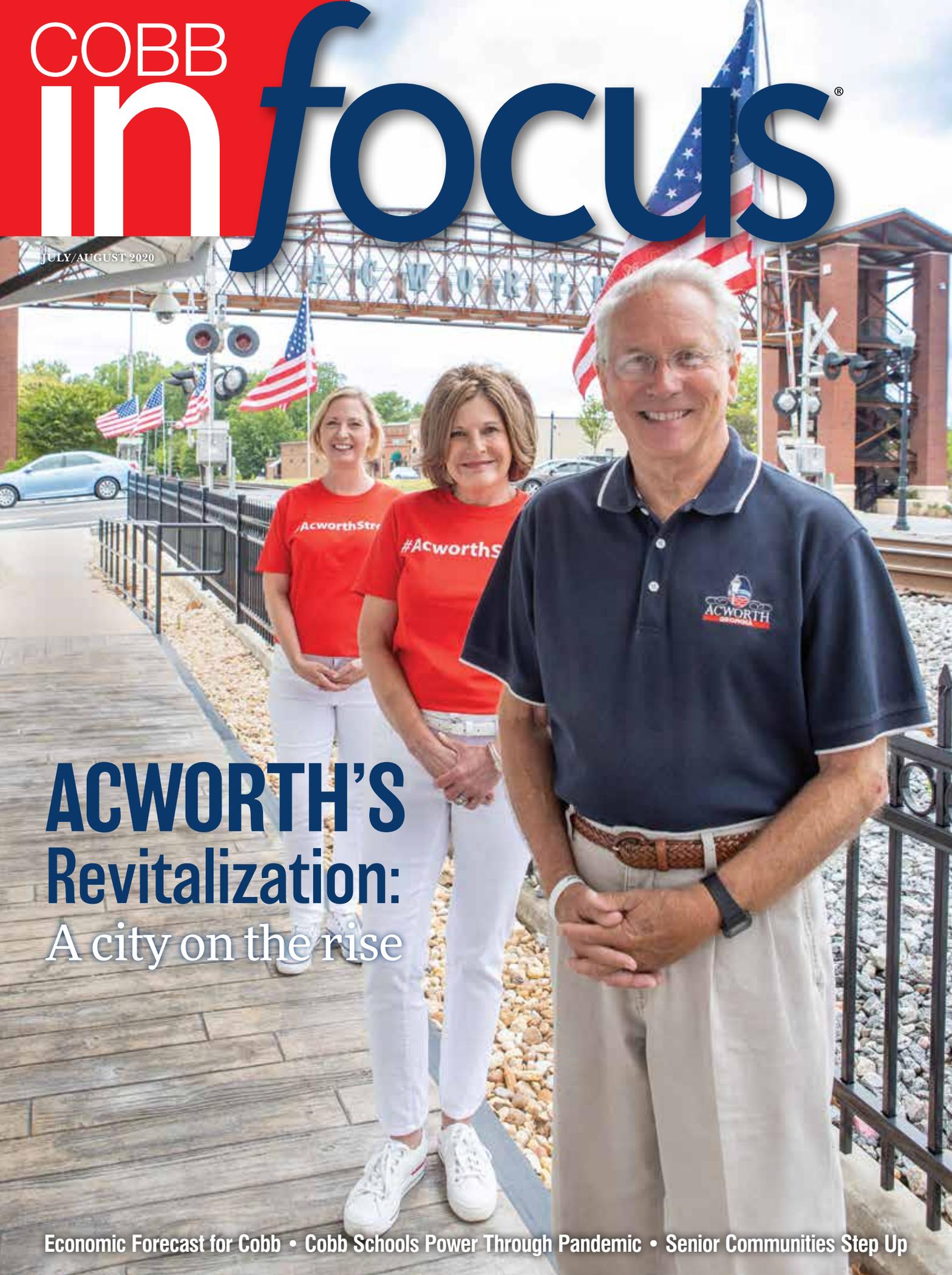


COBB
in

focus®

JULY/AUGUST 2020



**ACWORTH'S
Revitalization:**
A city on the rise

Economic Forecast for Cobb • Cobb Schools Power Through Pandemic • Senior Communities Step Up

Leaders of Cobb

Since its establishment more than 180 years ago, Cobb County has been defined by its people. Some of these individuals have made their mark by becoming pioneers of business, captains of industry and heads of state.

And if you're reading this, you likely know why Cobb is attractive to so many. It hosts exceptional schools, is within close reach to the world's busiest airport, has all of the convenience of proximity to the

big city and is fertile ground for entrepreneurship. The list goes on, but it always comes back to the people who have built this county into what it is.

On the following page we have profiled an individual who is among Cobb's premier leaders. We wanted to find out about his job, delve into his personal life and gain some words of wisdom. And of course, we asked: Why have you picked Cobb County?

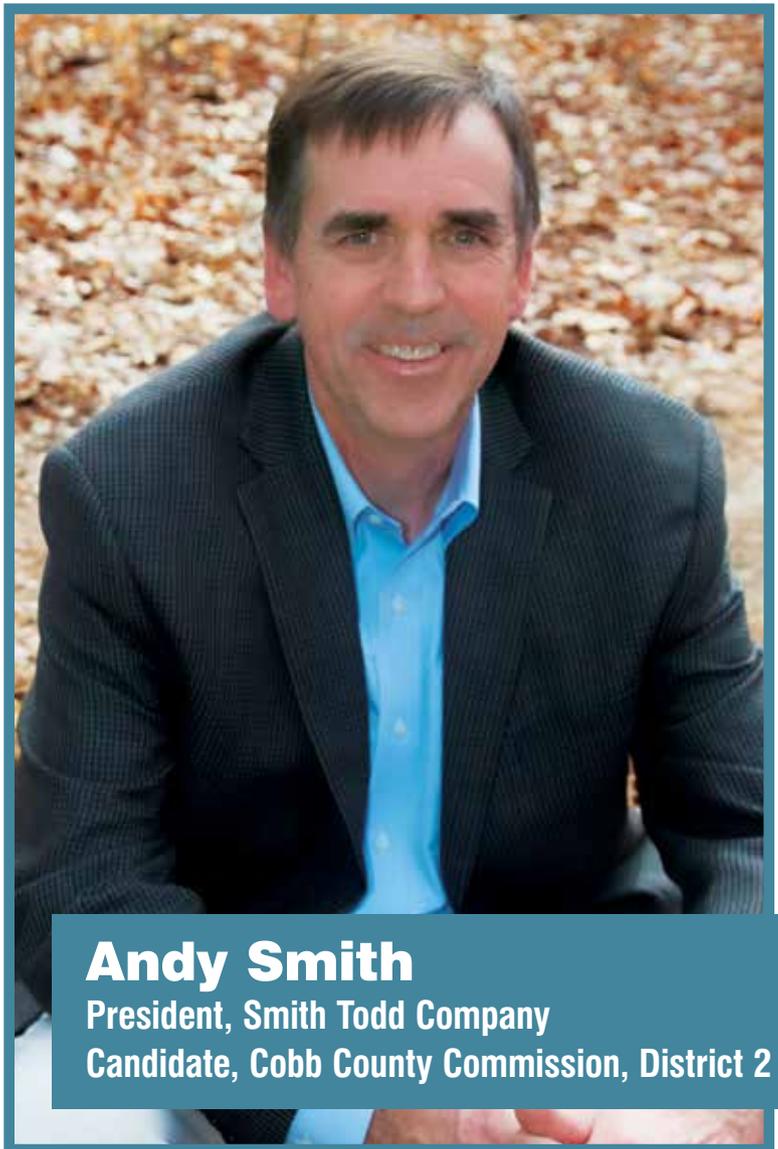


THE STORY: I was born in Charlottesville, Virginia and grew up in New York and New Jersey. In 1975, I moved to Atlanta to attend Georgia Tech, where I earned a bachelor's degree in Architecture. After working for various architectural firms in Brunswick and Atlanta, I took a job managing construction for a real estate developer and realized construction is what I loved. In 1988, I started an interior construction division for Ridgeway Development in Smyrna, where I met my wife, Ann. In 1993, I started my own construction firm, Smith Todd Company, which I still operate today. In 2018, I was appointed to the Planning Commission by Commissioner Ott and served until this past spring. I also serve the county on the Transit Advisory Board and as vice chairman of the Neighborhood Safety Commission.

WHY I CHOSE TO LIVE IN COBB: I moved to Smyrna in 1988 and have never considered leaving Cobb County. Ann and I were married in 1994 and moved to East Cobb after our son, Michael, was born. Our daughter, Marie, soon followed. Because of the schools, our church (Mt. Bethel UMC), the wonderful neighbors and neighborhoods, and first-class public services, we realized there is no better place to live, work, play, and raise a family than Cobb County.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB? I love the people I work with. Most of my clients and the subcontractors I work with have been together practically since I started the company. I have worked for two clients, David's Bridal and GM (regional office), longer than any of their current employees. What I am most grateful for is the freedom running my own company has given me to be involved in the community. Through Mt. Bethel UMC, I have volunteered on over 20 Habitat homes, in most cases as crew leader or project manager. I've led our church's Handy Helpers and Disaster Response ministries, meeting many wonderful people along the way while serving local organizations including Hope Center, Cobb Street Ministries, Dobbins Chapel, OK for Youth, Wellspring Living, Brumby Elementary, and Boy Scouts, to name a few. These opportunities have given me a deep understanding of our community.

LEISURE TIME: I do many of the same things as I do for work. I enjoy repairing and building things. I have been leading our church's annual lawn mower tune-up



Andy Smith
 President, Smith Todd Company
 Candidate, Cobb County Commission, District 2

for the past 11 years. Through the Handy Helpers, I have volunteered time most weeks, on projects from simple repairs to building ramps and decks, and even installing an elevator. For fun, I've coached 43 youth league teams and enjoy bowling, playing softball, and golf.

BEST ADVICE: Get involved in your community. Discover the joy that comes from serving others. Spend time with good people doing good works. Many of my best friends I've met through volunteer projects and my work with the county.

WHAT'S NEXT? I hope to continue serving the community through public service. I have long admired our current Cobb County Commissioner Bob Ott, and the positive impact he's had on the community through his dedication and service to the District. I hope to continue his good work as the next Cobb County Commissioner in District 2.