

DEAR ABBY: SHARING SPACE TROUBLESOME WHEN SIGNIFICANT OTHER GETS SICK > 4D

HOROSCOPE: FOR LEOS, TODAY WILL BE A REWARDING DAY TO HELP OTHERS > 4D

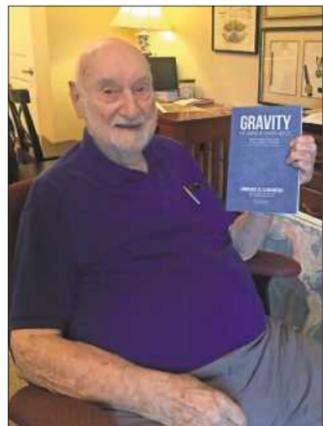
PUBLICATION I 'GRAVITY'

## A WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE

Retired Navy code breaker writes scientific book on Earth's formation

By Therra Gwyn  
therragwyn@gmail.com

Commander Lawrence St. Clair Myers is a resident at Sterling Estates of East Cobb now, but has lived and labored around the globe in a highly successful career with the United States Navy and later the National Security Agency.



Commander Lawrence St. Clair Myers, a resident at Sterling Estates of East Cobb, holds his book 'Gravity, The Source of Earth's Water.' / Special to the MDJ

He's worked in Cyprus and San Francisco, lived in Morocco and Knoxville, Tennessee. He can read Chinese, Japanese and Russian, speak some French, play a pretty good game of poker and just wrote his first book.

As a note, Myers is 95-years old.

A father of six children and 17 grandchildren, Myers moved to Marietta after his second wife died in 2014.

While he needs a cane and a walker to get around these days, the nonagenarian also has a computer and a cellphone, both of which he uses with gusto.

WORLD, 7D

PUBLICATION I 'ADAO'S DANCE'

## Local pastor's novel explores inner peace

By Sally Litchfield  
sallylit@bellsouth.net

Russ Masterson, Senior Pastor of Christ the Redeemer Church of Marietta, explores the meaning of inner peace in his newest novel, "Adao's Dance." Masterson's inspiration for the book is based on his own spiritual journey.

The book looks at the struggle for peace through the experience of a 16-year-old boy, Adao, who carries the symbolic treasure of his village to the top of a great mountain known as the Dragon.

"(Adao's) looking for peace. He's looking for meaning," said Masterson, a Marietta resident who is married to Kristy. They have three daughters: Josie, age 7, who attends West Side Elementary School, Izzie, age 5, and Greta Mae, age 2, who both attend preschool at First Presbyterian Church of Marietta.

While serving at another church in Atlanta, Masterson experienced a transformation of faith. "I was a pastor and teaching a lot. Yet, at the same time, I was exhausted spiritually. I was trying to figure out why. The Christian life that I had embraced was not living up to the thing that I thought it was, and it was wearing me out," he said.

Masterson struggled with his faith. "I wrestled through how God regards me and relates with me," he explained.

PASTOR, 7D

COLUMNIST I SALLY LITCHFIELD

## 'Line Dancing Against Lung Cancer' kicking off

On Saturday, March 12 from 5 to 7 p.m., Girl Scout Troop 2074 at the Walker School is hosting "Line Dancing Against Lung Cancer," a dance party to raise awareness of non-smoker's lung cancer and the need for additional lung cancer screening.



Litchfield

The dance will be held Upper/Middle School Dining Hall at the Walker School (700 Cobb Parkway N, Marietta 30062). A live DJ will teach dances and families are welcome. Admission is \$5 per person, with a family maximum of \$20. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be on sale for \$1 each.

The troop was inspired by the courageous battle that Robb Morris fought against lung cancer. Robb, deceased, is the husband of Walker School third-grade teacher Kerry Morris and father of former Kally student, Kaylee Morris who attends Harrison High School. Robb, a

former All-American swimmer, died March 13, 2015. (Robb's story was profiled in Lifestyle on Oct. 21, 2011 and May 20, 2012. To read it, visit mdjonline.com.)

The girls were motivated to help because of alarming statistics on lung cancer. According to the Lung Cancer Alliance, the disease is the leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women in every ethnic group.

Of the about 160,000 people who die of lung cancer every year, an estimated 25-30,000 (20 percent) never smoked. WellStar Health System has partnered with the Lung Cancer Alliance, and is now offering lung cancer screening, targeting those people at high risk, but wider screening is needed.

Please help these girl scouts raise money and awareness about lung cancer by attending this fun and informative event. Troop 2074 is made up of 8th-graders Kayla Barassa, Emma Camp, Emma Clonts, Caroline Cohen, Kiely Gilbert, Margaux Nicholas, Kira Pardue, and Shanzeh Sheikh.

♦ ♦ ♦ Professional butcher Delfor

Barrios Larico of Marietta will be among 107 meat cutters traveling to Orlando, Florida next month to compete in the National Meat Cutting Competition with a grand prize of \$20,000. The winner of the competition will be crowned the Texas Roadhouse Meat Cutter of the Year.

The event will take place on the ice rink at The Ice Factory in Kissimmee, Florida. The frigid conditions and large venue make it the perfect place to test the skills of these master meat cutters.

The two-day competition begins March 8 with three regional semi-final rounds to narrow the field. On March 9, the top 30 meat cutters will face off in a no holds barred competition. Only 10 will remain to compete in the final round. The winner will be announced at the Texas Roadhouse Annual Conference on April 10 in Miami, Florida.

Sally Litchfield is a longtime Marietta resident. She has written for the MDJ since October 2000. Send Sally news at sallylit@bellsouth.net. Call Sally at 770-425-8106.

BOUTIQUE I HANDMADE ITEMS



## SOUTHERN STYLE



Above: The Front Porch of Vinings owner, Lisa Rieves, travels the U.S. looking for unique antiques, home furnishings, jewelry and more, providing a place for her handpicked vendors and their handcrafted items. The boutique offers a variety of items such as, clockwise from top left, clothing and decor, handmade purses and string lights made of spent shotgun shells, for that one-of-a-kind party accent. / Staff-Kelly J. Huff

## Front Porch of Vinings carries vintage and modern collections, all with country charm

By Jennifer Hafer  
jhafer@kennesaw.edu

"Every so often ... go where you can hear a screen door slam shut."

Those are the words that greet customers at The Front Porch of Vinings, as they make their way up the steps onto the green painted porch, complete with rocking chairs, and through the quintessentially Southern screen door. What's inside is an eclectic mix of vintage and modern gifts, home goods and furnishings and women's accessories.

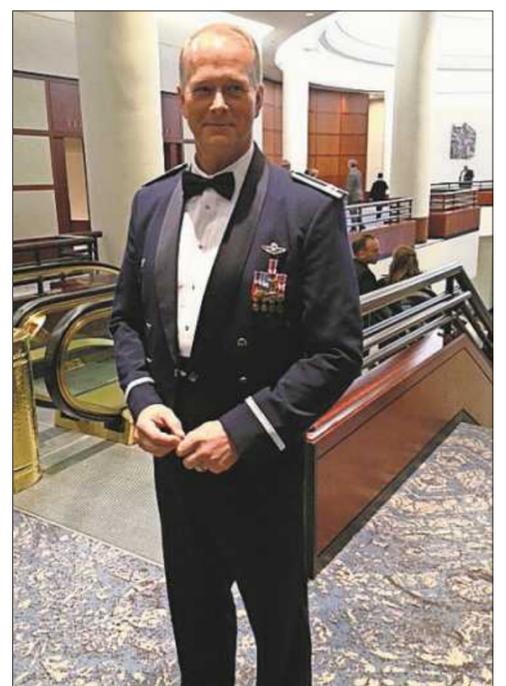
"The first six months have been great," said owner Lisa Rieves. "Everything has been selling; from cowboy boots to farm tables."

Rieves said she also sells a lot of lighting and chandeliers, some old and some new.

STYLE, 7D



SALLY LITCHFIELD I FASHION SPOTLIGHT



Fashion spotlight of the week: Colonel Steve Parker — this week's fashion salute. / Special to the MDJ

## PASTOR

From 1D

"I was exhausted as a Christian, and exhausted because I was never quite doing enough to maintain this relationship with God. I felt like I needed to do something else so that God would be pleased with me. It was just never quite enough," he said.

Masterson questioned the checklist of things to keep a person in right standing with God. "That question was what got me wondering — what is the Christian life, what is it formed on, and when we talk about the sufficiency of Jesus what do we mean because I'm not feeling that on a daily basis," he said.

Masterson contemplated a narrative of his struggle. "As soon as that curiosity began,

there was no turning back. I decided I was going to write this book. Even if it was only for my children to read, then it was only for my children to read," said Masterson who wrote the book 3 years ago. He is also the author of a non-fiction memoir ebook, *Forty Days Without Food*.

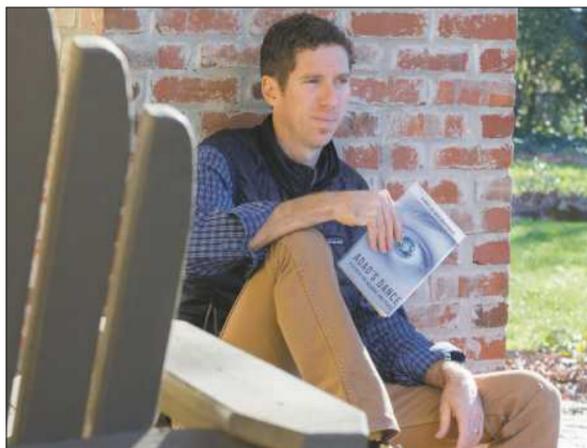
The book examines the spiritual journey. "It becomes about what do we make about human achievement, acceptance, and love, and where can we find true inner peace, and what happens after you get what you think will bring you that meaning and that peace," he said.

"(The book) is a commentary on God and how he relates to us. I wanted to write it and, to some regard, I needed to write it," Masterson said.

The book is available at Amazon.com, along with Kindle, nook and iBook for ebook.

Marietta resident Russ Masterson, the minister of Christ the Redeemer Church, has written his second book entitled 'Adao's Dance,' a search for meaning and peace. The novel is fiction and was inspired by his own struggle to find meaning in his relationship with God.

Staff-Kelly J. Huff



## STYLE

From 1D

"I do a lot of my buying in Round Top, Texas," she said. "Twice a year, the cows move out and the vendors move in for this outdoor antique festival. I pick out there for a week, and I find lots of one-of-a-kind pieces, no reproductions. Nothing's been altered, it's in its original glory."

One of her best finds, according to Rieves, was a counter from an old general store with a butcher-block top that she uses for display in her 1,500-square-foot shop in the heart of Vinings.

"People love to buy things with a story," she said. "They also love to buy local."

Capitalizing on the resurgent "buy local" trend, Rieves offers a handbag line made in Blue Ridge, a candle line from Decatur, paintings by local artists and books by local authors.

"I just try hard to support people by bringing their stuff into my shop," she said. "Buying local is a step back to a simpler time, and people are all about it."

Rieves also supports businesses with a cause, such as the Akola Project, an initiative in which women in Uganda make jewelry that is sold in the U.S., and 100 percent of the proceeds go back to the women to help them provide for their families and communities.

"If you're going to spend your money, you might as well spend it helping someone else," she said.

Whether supporting other local entrepreneurs, artists or women in Africa, Rieves hopes her customers see her passion for what she's doing in every purchase.

"Home is my happy place, and I think it should be everybody's happy place," she said. "It needs to reflect who you are and what you like to do. I have no training in interior design, but I tell people all day long, if you keep buying the things you love, you'll have a collection of things you love, and I hope I give people the courage I guess to do that."

The Front Porch of Vinings is at 2949 Paces Ferry Road SE, Atlanta. For more information, call 678-424-1606 or visit [www.thefrontporchofvinings.com](http://www.thefrontporchofvinings.com).

COBB ENERGY  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Atlanta Opera  
The Pirates of Penzance  
March 5, 8, 11, & 13, 2016

Atlanta Ballet - 20/20  
March 18-20, 2016

Natural Born Pranksters  
Movie Premiere  
March 28, 2016

Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood  
March 31, 2016

Menopause, the Musical  
April 1-3, 2016

Married But Single  
April 8 & 9, 2016

Vishal Daldani & Shekhar Ravjani  
April 10, 2016

Atlanta Ballet  
The Princess & the Goblin  
April 15-17, 2016

2016 Shuler Hensley Awards  
April 21, 2016

Ragtime, the Musical  
April 23-24, 2016

Tracy Morgan  
Picking Up The Pieces Tour  
April 30, 2016

The Atlanta Opera  
Romeo & Juliet  
May 7, 10, 13 & 15, 2016

Atlanta Ballet - MAYhem Kissed  
May 20-22, 2016

Michael Carbonaro  
June 11, 2016

Maks & Val Live On Tour  
June 23, 2016

Roberta Fleck & Peabo Bryson  
June 24, 2016

Sinbad  
June 25, 2016

The Legend of Zelda  
Symphony of the Goddesses  
September 10, 2016

Il Divo - Amor & Pasion Tour  
September 24, 2016

For a tickets and more information please visit [cobbenergycentre.com](http://cobbenergycentre.com)

## WORLD

From 1D

When asked if he has an email address he snorts, "Of course!"

His stride may be diminished but his curiosity about the world and "how things fit together" has not slowed. It was what drove him to write "Gravity, The Source of Earth's Water," a provocative book positing his theory of an expanding planet and how the world's oceans were formed.

"I'm a thinker," he says, "I see things and say 'Why?' and 'How does that work?'"

The retired Navy cryptolinguist cautions that while he is not a scientist, he is a logical thinker, a code breaker by trade, not bound by conventional or restricted current scientific thought.

"Studying geophysics and the Earth has been a hobby of mine for

fifty years," he says.

"Gravity" is slim considering its subject matter — about 160 pages with notations — and includes stories about Myers' career and world travels.

An avid reader, he counts Isaac Asimov's "Intelligent Man's Guide To Science" as a favorite. He's spent years studying world and regional maps and plate tectonics. For decades, Myers ruminated on and researched the unique planet humans calls home.

His published theory is simple in concept, layered in detail and could cause ripples in the scientific world, a community not known to be kind to the ideas of outsiders.

Myers contends that the accepted idea that the Earth is 4.5 billion years old is wrong to start with.

He says the Earth began as a much smaller planet, about half its present size, with no oceans, lakes or rivers. Indeed, he insists, there was no surface water at all

in the beginning.

Over millennia the constant onslaught of meteors and space dust and, as he states in the book, "omni-directional gravitational pressure" added to the earth's bulk.

"All planets, not just Earth, are formed gradually as they orbit the sun," he says.

"Tons of meteorite dust falls on the earth every day and add to gravitational mass."

"Meteors that we see light up are ones that have struck the Earth's atmosphere. Some are small some are not. They fall to the Earth silently with a seventy to eighty percent chance of falling into an ocean or in the mountains."

So how did the once small, barren planet of Myer's book become the big blue marble we know today?

"In 2013, I first identified the fact that all the water on the earth came from the center of the planet," he says with a smile.

He points with his cane to a

large, laminated copy of Heezen and Tharps "World Ocean Floor" map and uses the walking stick to trace a ribbon of underwater volcanoes that encircle the planet.

This ridge and its trenches is responsible, Myers says, for separating land mass into the continents we know today and forming water from molten lava and gases, bringing it up to the surface from the center of the earth.

"In the last 250 million years all the oceans have appeared," he says, "and expanded the size of the earth."

He says this activity will continue into the future and in his book names it as a natural growth function.

"We live on an expanding planet," he smiles, "It is growing daily."

"Gravity, The Source of Earth's Water — New Functions Discovered in the Creations of Planets" is available in paperback through Amazon online for \$13.95.

## Jim Glover Group, Inc.

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[www.atlantafinehomes.com](http://www.atlantafinehomes.com)

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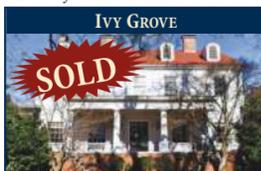
Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.

This information is believed to be accurate but is not warranted. Offer subject to error, changes, omissions, prior sales and withdrawals without notice.



### 932 Old Mountain Road

Amazing custom home on 1.89 AC at Kenn Mtn. 4BR/3.5BA Mstr on main, vaulted/beamed cigs, guest house, saline pool, 5 car garage. \$1,999,999



c. 1840, 6BR/6.5BA on 5.8 Acres in heart of Marietta. Grand rooms, b'ful millwork, huge master suite on main, gameroom, tennis court, pool & pool house. \$1,900,000



### 492 N St Marys Lane

7BR/5BA Mstr on main, open kitchen, amazing terrace, pool, 1.97 AC. \$1,250,000



### 1196 Button Hill Rd

5BR/5BA Prvt retreat near Kenn Mtn. In-law suite, hdwds, keeping rm, hot tub, outdoor FP, 1.4AC. \$625,000



### 1836 County Line Rd

6BR/6BA/2HB Exquisite with every upgrade! Mstr on main, library, 5 fpls, elevator, 8-car garage/workshop, poss in-law suite, 4 AC. \$2,199,000



### 592 Wythrop Manor Ct.

6BR/6.5BA Mstr on Main, open plan, finished terr w/in-law suite, media rm, Pebbletec Infinity Pool, culdesac, next to Natl Park. \$895,000



### 1341 Park Royal Dr.

6BR/5BA Bedrm on main, hardwds thru-out, arched doors, huge mstr, loft, terr w/ kitchenette, at Kenn Mtn. \$724,000



### 204 Gold Bridge PL

5BR/5.5BA Mstr on main, open kit to grt rm, huge bdrms w/prvt baths, fully fin terr opens to saline pool & total privacy. Great amenities, near Allatoona. \$999,900



### 812 Oakton Pond Ct.

7BR/5.5BA Charming gated comm, mstr on main, keeping rm w/FP, in-law suite in terr, deck w/FP, prvt bkyc, 3-car garage. \$699,000



### 136 Mars Hill Road

4BR/4BA + 2 HB, Mstr on Main, hdwds thruout, 2-story fam rm, huge bonus room, lrg bedrooms, workshop, gated entry on 7.8 acres. \$750,000



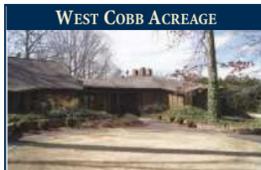
### 28 Hawks Branch Ln

6BR/6.5BA Mstr on main, huge kitchen, wine cellar, media rm, gym saline pool, heavy millwork, gorgeous! \$1,250,000



### 3949 Paul Samuel Rd

5BR/5.5BA Mstr on Main, lake property, heart pine floors, huge beamed cigs, in-law suite in bsmt, pool, 3.15 AC. \$1,000,000



### 1150 Midway Road

3BR/3BA Ranch home w/open plan, 2 fpls, in ground pool, in-law suite, 5.57 AC, Hillgrove HS district! \$550,000



### 68 Moon Street

3BR/2BA charming bungalow w/in blocks of Square, hdwds, mstr on main, flat yard. \$350,000



### 44 Emerson

3BR/3BA Amazing townhome w/hi-end, modern finishes, 2 rooftop patios, gated, walk to Marietta Square. \$460,000



### 4455 Marietta Street

Built c.1830, approx. 4584 SE, full of character, pine floors & walls, great street frontage for retail. \$295,000



### 1610 Corner Road

5BR/5.5BA Mstr on main, amazing finishes, in-law suite, sep garage/bonus rm, approx. .5 ac. \$925,000



### 5BR/4.5BA Mstr on main, gorgeous reno w/incredible kitchen, fin terrace, pool, custom covered party dock. \$1,000,000



### 700 Atlanta Country Club Dr.

4BR/5.5BA Mstr on main, European details, pool, golf course, 1.5 AC. \$1,795,000



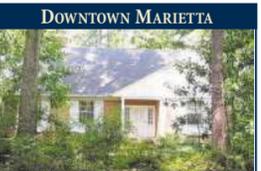
### 5071 Old Mountain Trail

5BR/2.5BA w/guest house on 1.9AC, open flrplan, gorgeous updated kitchen, 2 fpls, hardcoat stucco, 3 car garage, excellent schools! \$475,000



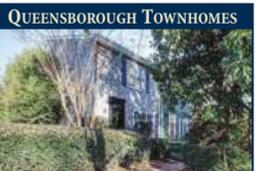
### 619 Family Acres Ln

3BR Log cabin home on 32 prvt ac, 2-story fam rm, granite kitchen, out-buildings, huge deck w/views. \$495,000



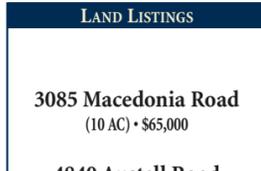
### 488 Whitlock Avenue

3BR/2.5BA Brick home, hdwds up & down, rich moldings, den, approx. 1 ac lot. \$384,900



### 260 Manning Rd. #42

3BR/2BA Charming end-unit townhome w/gorgeous hdwd floors, spacious bedrooms, courtyard, great location near park & Square. \$164,000



3085 Macedonia Road  
(10 AC) • \$65,000

4840 Austell Road  
(.90 AC) • \$160,000



### 141 Cedar Woods Trail

7BR/6.5BA Mstr on main, 5 fpls, coffered ceilings, open kitchen, finished bsmt could be in-law, golf course. \$950,000



### 4617 Hadaway Road

3BR/2BA Brick ranch on 25+ acres, 1 ac pond, open pasture, partial floodplain, amazing privacy. \$575,000



### 478 Chowning Place

3BR/3BA Open flrplan, huge master suite w/office area, ample storage, open kitchen to LR, adorable brick courtyard. \$345,000



### 495 Chowning Place

3BR/2.5 BA Charming townhome in great location near mtn. Lrg bedrooms, updated kitchen, n'hood pool. \$330,000



### 2200 Smyrna Rd.

4BR/2.5BA on 6 ac w/riding arena, barn, pool/pool house, mstr on main w/new bath & remodeled kitchen. \$599,900