



Henry County Parks and Recreation Annual Report 2014



ADMINISTRATION

The Henry County Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all citizens of Henry County by providing quality recreation and athletic programs, opportunities, special events, facilities and amenities. In addition, our Therapeutic Recreation programs offer the special populations residents of Henry County the opportunity to participate in competitive sporting events as well as organized outings, socials and creative activities that enhance emotional, spiritual, social, physical and cognitive abilities. This annual report provides an overview of the accomplishments of Henry County Parks and Recreation for the calendar year of January 1 through December 31, 2014.

There are 26 parks located throughout Henry County that are maintained by Parks and Recreation; five city parks and one state park, all of which are strategically located throughout the county to be just minutes away for residents to enjoy. We also operate historic sites as a great way to get out and learn about our heritage while exploring nature.

The Parks and Recreation Department consists of 1,300 acres of park land featuring 73 baseball and softball fields, 17 football fields, 15 soccer fields and 26 tennis courts. It also boasts 8.2 miles of walking trails, 27 playgrounds; with 4 being considered as Regional Playgrounds, a dog park, paintball complex, BMX track, disc golf course, roller hockey rink, a lawn mower racing track, a remote control car track, a remote control airplane strip, a Sunshine Field complex, two Event Centers, and even 3 recreation centers that feature an indoor walking track, two basketball courts and several classrooms.

Jason T. Harper Event Center

The Jason T. Harper Event Center hosted numerous events including: Bully Dog Show, Taste of Henry, Pet Expo, and Vettes for Vets 4th Edition Car Show, MMA Fight Wrestling, church picnics and Connecting Henry Parent Expo. JTHEC also hosted several walks/5K including: Miles for Meals and March of Dimes. The Extension Agency utilized the Event Center for their archery team, dog club and 4-H clubs along with a Farmer's Market June through August and HCPRD's Day Camps utilized the facility during the school breaks and the summer.



J.P. Moseley Recreation Center

Home to the HCPRD Youth Basketball leagues, JP Moseley Recreation Center also offers Aerobics, Yoga, Gymnastics, Self-Defense, Line Dancing and Music classes. The variety of meeting rooms and newly refinished basketball courts have allowed JP Moseley to host various public events throughout the 2014 calendar year including: Wheelchair Basketball Tournaments, Wheelchair Hand Ball Tournaments, AAU Training, Youth Camps (Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer). Private rental events such as birthday parties, family reunions, bridal and baby showers, Christmas parties and business training sessions filled out the calendar.

Henry County hosted more than 520 youth baseball teams March 15-17th 2014 for the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Atlanta Super NIT, featuring youth ages 5-14 playing in all divisions. In the Major Division, the top two winning teams in this tournament in the age 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 age divisions will get berths in the Elite 32 Tournament at Disney's Wild World of Sports in Orlando, Florida. Henry County has hosted the Atlanta Super NIT, the largest NIT in the nation, for the last six years, and are the only place in Georgia to have hosted this tournament.

HCPRD had a tremendous impact on Henry County's economy in 2014. There were more than 56 large tournaments played in Henry County involving 954 teams. These totals include the USSSA World Series Baseball Tournament that was held in July and the Atlanta Peach Classic Soccer Tournament.

Disc Golf is one of the fastest growing sports in Georgia and Henry County is home to one of the state's premier disc golf courses. In fact, the PDGA (Professional Disc Golf Association) recognized the disc golf

course at J.P. Moseley as a “championship-caliber course” that caters to all players regardless of skill level. It features an 18-hole course and is the highest-rated course in Metro Atlanta. 2014 brought several tournaments to Henry County’s disc golf site, including a PDGA sanctioned single’s tournament that was held in May, the “Black Friday Madness at the Moze” tournament in November the “Under ATL Bag Tag” and “Santa Slam” tournaments in December. The bigger of these tournaments hosted well over 60 players per event. The Henry County course also draws a year-round and consistent amount of foot traffic due to the social groups, teams, and other individuals who come out to enjoy the fun. Anyone interested in connecting with fellow disc golf enthusiasts can find more information on the “Atlanta Disc Golf Organization” and “J.P. Moseley Disc Golf” Facebook pages.

Locust Grove Event Center

The Locust Grove Event Center was used for 43 events that included wedding receptions, retirement and birthday parties and High School Military Balls throughout the year. During the week, the facility is used for the seniors to visit with each other, senior center programs and offers two meals each day.

Locust Grove Recreation Center

The Locust Grove Recreation Center is used for Therapeutic Recreation Programs and events throughout the year. The facility was rented out for several birthday parties, recitals, church services, reunions and weddings in the Sanctuary. The film industry used the Locust Grove Recreation Center to film a portion of a reality show. There were also over a 170 Therapeutic division special events. Dance and yoga classes were also held at this Recreation Center.



Nash Farm Park

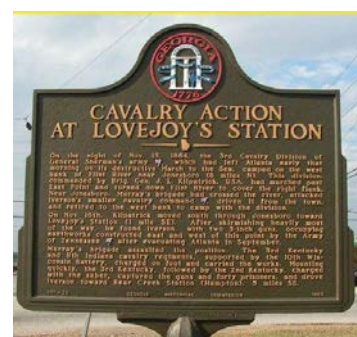
In June, two archaeology camps were hosted by Henry County Parks and Recreation and Friends of Nash Farm Battlefield, Inc. These two camps provided the opportunity to learn about and help preserve some of Henry County’s history. The classes were attended by 20 students from 8th through 12th grades. A professional archaeologist was on hand to teach the students how to recover and preserve the artifacts found. Between the two camps, over 500 artifacts were recovered and some are currently on display in the Battlefield Museum.

2014 was a booming year at Nash Farm Battlefield; it started with the 4th of July fireworks celebration and was followed up by two 150th anniversary events of the War Between the States battles that took place on Nash Farm.



Kilpatrick’s Cavalry raid was the first action that encompassed Nash Farm and it occurred on August 20, 1864. To celebrate this event, a living history was hosted at the farm by the Friends of Nash Farm Battlefield, Inc. and Henry County Parks and Recreation. The highlight of the event was the dedication of a black granite monument to the men who died as result of Kilpatrick’s Cavalry raid on August 18-22, 1864. Several different living histories were set up to educate and entertain the visitors.

The second event that took place that involved Nash Farm was the battle of Lovejoy’s Station September 2-6, 1864 that followed the battle of Jonesboro. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of this event, Atlanta Campaign Inc. hosted a national re-enactment that had over 2500 re-enactors. During this three day event, living histories were available to educate the visitors; and each day at least one battle took place at the park. This event was and will probably be the largest re-enactment to be held at the park.



In September, the Henry County Rodeo Association held their annual rodeo and had over 1500 in attendance. People's First Fall Festival followed the rodeo and over 600 families attended this event. There were games and food for everyone along with train rides and hayrides for the kids to enjoy.

In October, Chick-Fil-A and the Boy Scouts of America hosted a father son camp out at Nash Farm. This was a Friday night Saturday morning event where fathers and sons camped, played games and learned camping skills. There were over 300 father son combos that participated.

Nash Farm has become a desirable location for high school and college cross country runs. The coaches and spectators like the Farm because they can stand in one location and view the entire course. The number of runners and spectators keeps increasing each year. One of the larger races had over 2500 runners.

During the year, Nash Farm is visited by photographers who make family photos and school photos utilizing the scenic backdrop of the park. Most every day someone is fishing in the lake, walking the trails, watching the birds or just enjoying the park in general.

Because of the affordable pricing of the two multiuse buildings at Nash, it has become a popular spot for weddings and wedding receptions. During 2014, 37 weddings took place at the farm. In addition to weddings, the buildings are also used for birthday parties, bridal showers, baby showers and family reunions. During 2014, there were 41 of these events at the farm.

The museum at Nash is open on Fridays and Saturdays. It houses many artifacts from Henry County. During 2014, there were 4,461 visitors that toured the museum to learn about Henry County's history.

During 2014, over 3000 volunteer hours were invested in Nash Farm making improvements and operating the museum. Some of the improvements made to the farm were done by Boy Scouts as Eagle projects. Some of the major improvements were removing and replacing the iron fence with a split rail fence along the edge of the battlefield, landscaping around the gazebo, monument, and arbor over the walk way to the gazebo. These projects were done through donations and volunteer hours.



Veteran's Museum

Heritage Park Veterans Museum is known for its treasure trove of memorabilia on display for the public to view. Several period correct and restored vehicles are displayed amongst various pieces of memorabilia from WWI to present. This year the museum added a UH1 "Huey" helicopter for its first outside display. The helicopter is fully restored and on permanent display. It is dedicated to Chief Warrant Officer Rebholz, Army Medivac pilot during the Vietnam War. Mr. Rebholz flew over 200 missions in Vietnam. He was shot down twice and returned to base once with over 250 bullet holes in

the outer skin of the aircraft. Dedicated on Memorial Day, Mr. Rebholz's family from as far away as Ohio were there for the dedication.

The museum also gained a marvelous weapons collection so graciously donated by Dr. Elmer Swartzmeyer of Monroe, Georgia. The collection consists of 27 rifles and 19 pistols of various countries and years of manufacture.



Veteran's Wall of Honor

Memorial Day Ceremony was held at the Veterans Wall of Honor this year on the 26th of May and was hosted by American Legion Post 55 in McDonough. The ceremony honored and remembered the men and women who paid the ultimate price protecting the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans. Guest speaker for this year's ceremony was Colonel Gary Freedman, US Army and Retired. He

was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, on the eastern shores of Lake Superior. He graduated from Western Michigan University, where he was honored as an ROTC *Distinguished Military Graduate*, and given a Regular Army commission as a Second Lieutenant. Vietnam was in full action and within a year Lieutenant Freedman was in Vietnam facing the Tet Offensive and other combat action in the Mekong Delta. While staying with one of his detachments in Vinh Long Province one night, the base was overrun by Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces and he narrowly escaped being killed when an enemy combatant burst into his sleeping quarters and sprayed the room with automatic weapons fire. Later in the year while staying with another of his detachments, this time in Tay Ninh Province, the aircraft he was riding in was shot down and he again narrowly escaped death.

After his first year of combat he was promoted to Captain, returned stateside, and then had a return tour to Vietnam as commander of a Combat Military Police Company. During this second tour his unit was attacked one night by Viet Cong forces and he suffered severe wounds to his left arm, left hip and the left side of his face. He was evacuated to the U.S. where he underwent extensive physical therapy. Threatened with forced retirement as "too disabled for duty" he attended rigorous Airborne training at Fort Benning, GA. As a result of his successful designation as a paratrooper, the Army had to recognize his physical capabilities and he remained on active duty.

His subsequent assignment was as a law enforcement instructor at the Army Military Police School at Fort Gordon, GA, where he was honored as a *Distinguished Military Instructor* for designing and teaching innovative police operations. Following that assignment, Captain Freedman was assigned to South Korea as commander of a Military Police Company, and then as Chief of Police Operations at the Second Infantry Division. During that assignment he single-handedly rescued four hostages from a fully-armed gun-man who was going to kill them, and was awarded the Army's highest peacetime award for heroism, the *Soldier's Medal*. After Korea, he received assignment to the Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) as Chief of Field Operations. That was followed by assignment to Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, GA, as a Police Operations Staff Officer, where he was promoted to Major. In 1983, Major Freedman was nominated by the Department of the Army for assignment as a United Nations Military Observer in the Middle East, covering Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Upon assignment he was directed by the U.N. Forces Commander to form a United Nations Special Investigation Unit, and he was designated Chief of the SIU. He was honored by the U.N. for "Exemplary Service" for leading investigations of murders, for helping resolve treaty violations, and for breaking up long-standing smuggling rings of narcotics, gold and weapons to terrorist organizations. Following the United Nations assignment Major Freedman received training at the U.S. State Department Foreign Service Institute, and was given alternate duty as a Foreign Area Officer. Assigned to Third U.S. Army (Army Central Command), he traveled extensively in the Middle East and Africa performing military-diplomatic duties. On a mission in Kenya in 1987, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the jungle, surrounded by Samburu tribesmen. Among his Foreign Area Officer duties he led sensitive missions to Somalia, and watched in dismay as that country dissolved into mayhem, civil war and death. On completion of his tour with Army Central Command, Lieutenant Colonel Freedman was assigned to the Army Corps of Engineers as Chief of Security and Law Enforcement, South Atlantic Division. However, his Foreign Area Officer skills were once again called on in 1991, during *Desert Storm* and the liberation of Kuwait.

Lieutenant Colonel Freedman's military awards include the Legion Of Merit, the Soldier's Medal for heroism, 2 Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart for wounds in combat, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 3 awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, 3 awards of the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, 2 Army Meritorious Unit Commendations, 2 National Defense Service Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 7 Viet Nam Service Medals, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, 2 Overseas Service Ribbons, the United Nations Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation w/Palm, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Parachutist's Badge.

After serving his country for 26 years, Lieutenant Colonel Freedman retired to Henry County where he served as a Henry County Police Officer, and eight years as a Henry County Commissioner. He now shares time with his wife, Lynn, their two sons, David and Christopher, and 14 grandchildren. He is Chairman of his Lutheran

Church Council, is a United Way Advisory Board member, and leads the United Way Homeless Veterans project.

The Veterans Day Ceremony this year was hosted by American Legion Post 55 of Stockbridge. The guest speaker was Mr. John Pierson Master Sergeant, US Army, Retired.

MSG Pierson joined the US Army in 1969. After initial service he was assigned to the Army Reserve. He returned to Active Duty in Jan 1981 in support of the Army Reserve. He served at Fort Bragg, NC; Third US Army at Fort McPherson, GA; Army Records Center in St. Louis, MO; and US Army Reserve Command and Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson until his retirement in Jan 2001. MSG Pierson also served in Egypt and Somalia with Third Army.

After 9/11/2001, MSG Pierson returned to Army Forces Command as a Business Systems Analyst on a project team in G-3 Operations developing and staffing a new combat support command for the Army. After completion of the project, he remained with G-3 in the Tactical Operations Center and finally in G-3 Training where he staffed and developed training policy, retiring again in 2008. MSG Pierson is a 25-year member of the American Legion, and is Past Commander of Post 33 in Stockbridge, Past Commander of the 4th District, and Past Vice-Commander for the State of GA. He holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Business Administration and is a graduate of the US Army Sergeants Major Academy.

MSG Pierson and Denise, his wife of 46 years, currently live in Lamar County, GA. They have two sons, Dr. David Pierson of Huntsville, AL, and Jason Pierson of St Louis, MO, and 3 grandchildren



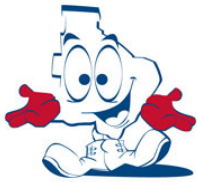
HCPRD continued to sell bricks for the Veteran's Wall of Honor throughout the year. In 2014, (35) 4x8 bricks and (15) 12x12 bricks were sold. This monument hosted the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Ceremonies. Approximately 16,400 people visited the Veteran's Wall of Honor as well as the Heritage Park Veterans Museum.

Community Outreach

July is National Parks and Recreation Month and our department celebrated by hosting and attending several events throughout the month. These included the Georgia Independence Day Festival, Day Camps, the Roberto Clemente AABC World Series, Mr. & Miss Special Henry County Pageant, Special Olympics Master's Bowling Competition, and the GRPA District Swim Meet.

The Community Service Program allowed inmates and probationers the opportunity to pay their debt to society if they were unable to meet the fine imposed by doing roadside litter pickup, departmental assistance, and routine janitorial duties at parks, the recycling center and county buildings. There was a total of 56,000 hours worked and over 210,000 lbs. of weight disposed of.

HCPRD is a member of GRPA, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, preservation and advocacy of the Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services profession. Participation with GRPA includes serving on GRPA committees, participating and hosting adult basketball and adult softball tournaments, hosting a sixth district meeting, attending day camp workshops, sending teams to compete in youth track, hosting a youth basketball tournament, sending swimmers to compete at a State competition, sending staff to its annual conference, and staff taught sessions at the conference.



**HANDS ON
HENRY**

HCPRD participated in the 16th Annual Hands on Henry Day, sponsored by Leadership Henry and Henry County Chamber of Commerce. For this event, thousands of volunteers come together to make our community a better place. Those that participated completed projects at Henry County park facilities such as landscaping beautification, maintenance, entrance sign improvements, garbage pick-up, painting and playground equipment repair.

HCPRD is a Partner in Education, a program sponsored by the Board of Education and the Henry County Chamber of Commerce that links businesses and schools in an ongoing commitment to strengthen and enrich educational opportunities for students. HCPRD teamed up with the Board of Education to provide AAASP, adapted sports program that enhances educational outcomes for students with physical disabilities. The Board of Education provided transportation for AAASP participants and HCPRD Camp programs that took place during school breaks. HCPRD utilized 16 Board of Education gymnasiums to provide a youth basketball program during the winter months. HCPRD utilized the Stockbridge High School Track for our youth track program. The Department also held tours at parks and provided use of the picnic shelters for school field trips. Hidden Valley Park's cross country track was utilized by Stockbridge High School.

HCPRD Staff was available for information booths and to speak with schools, clubs, and civic organizations to share information about Henry County Parks and Recreation's programs & services. In 2014, those groups included Ola Elementary School, Luella Middle School and Locust Grove High School for their career days; as well as had a booth during the National Night Out program presented by the Police Department.

We had a very positive year with our partners. We also partnered with Children's Health Care of Atlanta. Academy Sports provided a practice basketball for each of our youth basketball teams as well as clipboards and lanyard for each of our head coaches. We are very thankful to each of our partners for supporting our efforts to provide quality products for the citizens of Henry County. We are hoping to find and build more relationships in the upcoming year.

ADULT ATHLETICS

Adult Softball had 5 leagues- Co-Ed open, Co-Ed church, Men's open C, Men's open D, and Men's church D. We offered a fall and spring season with 46 teams in spring and 43 teams in fall. We had over 1400 participants that played at Heritage Park in McDonough. At the end of each season we provide a single elimination tournament to the leagues. The Champion and Finalist team of each league received t-shirts and a trophy.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

In November, the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department received five awards from the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association. Brandi Dailey received the Athletics Distinguished Professional, Harlon Matthews received the Therapeutics Distinguished Professional, Alan Hudson received the Therapeutics Outstanding Volunteer and the Hotshots Paintball Complex received the Outstanding New or Renovated/Expanded Park & Recreation Facility for 2014. Director Tim Coley received the Mike Daniel Award for his dedication and commitment to his profession are evident in every program and facility he helped design. Mr. Coley is most deserving of GRPA's Mike Daniel Award because of his enthusiasm and professional contributions to the field which were major traits of the award's namesake, Mike Daniel.



DAY CAMPS

Henry County Parks and Recreation offered Day Camps for school breaks at different sites throughout Henry County. Day camps were offered for mid-winter break, spring break, and fall break. During each of the week long camps we offered the campers a free snack and each camper received a t-shirt to reflect the camp theme. 300 campers attended over the 2014 school year. Our staff ratio was 1 counselor to every 10 campers and camp times were 7:30am – 6:00pm each day.

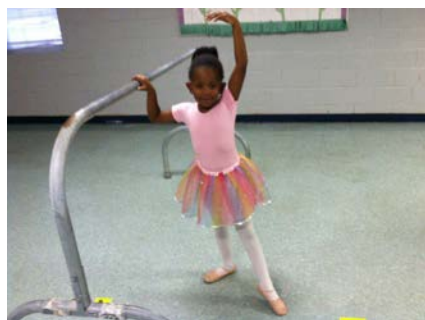
We also offered a Summer Camp. This camp ran from May 27 – June 27 and July 7 – Aug. 1, 2014. We had 240 campers participate in at least 1 week of the 9 weeks of Camp. Henry County Parks and Recreation teamed up with the Library System during the 2014 Summer Camp Program. “Library Goes to Camp” is a partnership to enhance the literacy among campers during their summer break by bringing books to the children participating in the camps but unable to participate in the Library System’s Vacation Reading Program. Educational studies show that children who read during the summer maintain their skill level from the previous spring and are ready for school in the fall. These children require less review of materials than children who have not participated in a summer reading program. The goals are to present books and reading as a fun activity and to present book talks on various subjects such as science, animals, archaeology, etc. in such a way that children are excited about reading these books. Carolyn Fuller with the Henry County Library System developed eight themed story boxes with enough books for each child in each facility to have a book a day to read. Any camper who read at least 10 hours or 20 books was given a free book at the end of the summer. She visited each of the five Day Camp sites once a week and interacted with the children while reading books, doing activities, etc. Each week the camps received a new themed story box.

PAINTBALL

The 2014 paintball season wrapped up with several improvements to the Paintball Park by improving and rebuilding the buildings, adding two Cessna airplanes, and 50 large spools to the playing surface, giving us a scenario field that rivals any other in the nation. The Department opened the Hyperball Field and the Woodsball Field, resulting playing in fields for just about any desired scenario from Infantry style woods to urban warfare and tournament play! The rental Paintball gun inventory was increased by 20 professional guns.

The Henry County Paintball Breakout Teams went to the podium at every tournament they entered and also participated in the Georgia 3-Man Championships. Henry County’s team placed first in the GFOA five man event, and second place in the PSP Young Guns National event.

The facility is State-of-the-Art and capable of hosting National events and local recreational play simultaneously. 2014 was a good year for the facility and 2015 looks even better! Come visit and see what paintball has to offer, from individual recreational players and parties for your office or birthday groups to National Tournaments. See you at the field!



RECREATION PROGRAMS

HCPRD offered nine adult programs that included dog obedience, exercise programs and line dancing along with karate, yoga and zumba. We also offered dance for children and piano lessons.

Both the dance and piano classes held recitals during May. Both were a huge success for each of the classes. Tennis camp was offered the month of June along with a music camp and a dance camp.

The Afterschool Program held strong throughout the year and finished strong with the last of day of school festivities on May 23. The parents were given a program survey to complete and return and the feedback was very positive. The program is offered at the Fairview Recreation Center from 2:30 – 6:30 PM when school is in session for Austin Road Elementary and Middle Schools. For the month of August, there were 263 participants for the month. The cooking class was also continued every Thursday and the children made macaroni and cheese with hot dogs, spaghetti and meatballs, jambalaya and chicken and/or beef tacos. All

enrolled in the program participated in the Fall Festival in October where they played with games, made arts and crafts, decorated the Fairview Recreation Center for the fall season and we were able to rent a gaming truck so the kids could play multiple video games on big screens. The year ended with a Winter Festival and we are looking forward to a great 2015 program.

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

The Therapeutic Division consists of: Special Olympics Trainings, Competitions, Social outings with the Circle of Friends Group, Fundraisers, Wheelchair Sports, Sunshine League, Young and Fun Youth Program, Public Relations, AAASP, Developmental Services Programs, Annual Trips, and Festivals. The staff also helps with all departmental events and or activities that take place throughout the year. Exercise and Arts/Crafts classes are offered throughout the year. Also, we offer TR Fitness Challenge promoting exercise, and good health practices for our Special Needs population. There were two more TR programs started this year. TR Canvas started to help our participants learn to paint and create a masterpiece. (Creatively, Actively, Nurturing, Vast Artistic Strategies). The TR A-Team was created to challenge our participants with Team Building and adventure based programming.

Fundraising was a goal for the staff this year. Special Olympics 5K/10K on July 4, yard sale, and “Share the Joy Day” were some of the fundraising events that the Therapeutic Section held this year. Henry County Parks & Recreation’s Special Olympics program would like to express its appreciation to Arabia Temple #7, Locust Grove GA, for being a generous supporter of the Special Olympics Program since 1991. They continued their support on December 19, 2014, when the group presented Parks & Recreation with a \$1,500 donation. Thanks to Atlanta Motor Speedway (5,000.00) Toppan (3,000.00) Central GA EMC (4,000.00), Taylor Foundation (3,000.00) Chick Fil-A (1,500.00) and Masonic Lodge Hampton GA (3,500.00)

More than 80 athletes and partners traveled to Cobb County to compete in Special Olympics Georgia Winter Games on January 24-27. Henry County athletes competed in floor hockey, team skills basketball, individual basketball skills, traditional basketball, and unified basketball. The team also had Special Olympic Cheerleaders that helped to cheer them on to victory. Athletes won a silver medal in unified basketball, a silver medal in floor hockey, earned fourth place in traditional basketball, and two Henry County teams placed fourth and fifth in team skills basketball. Several individual athletes also won medals in individual skills basketball competitions. The Henry County Special Olympics Team also traveled to Emory University for the Summer Games, Masters Bowling in Warner Robins, Fall Games and Equestrian in Gainesville. Our unified volleyball team traveled to Phoenix, AZ to compete in the TEAM USA OPEN championships.



Three Henry County Athletes who participate in the Special Olympic program were chosen as part of the Georgia team to represent the state in 2014 USA Games. The Henry County athletes chosen were Melissa Dodgen for Bocce, Tarcia Keys and her event partner, Davina Ford, for Bowling, and Brittney Hagelthorn and her event partner, Mandy Conner, for Tennis. The Fabulous five brought home a grand total of 12 medals for their hard work in the 2014 USA GAMES. We appreciate the support from everyone but especially the Masonic Lodge of Hampton GA, who sponsored a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser to send our athletes to the games. It was also announced in

2014 that we have one Kayaking Coach, Davina Ford, and one equestrian athlete Jennifer Maddox attending the World Games in Los Angeles in 2015. We are proud of all the hard work from our athletes and coaches.

After dominating the 2012/2013 JV Division of the AAASP school-based sports of wheelchair handball, basketball and football competitions the Henry Hurricanes moved up to the Varsity level for the 2013/2014 season. This was a tall task that needless to say made a lot of parents nervous. Despite being the “new kids on the block” in the Varsity Division the Hurricanes pushed hard and shot well and made it all the way to the state championship held at Macon Coliseum. Unfortunately, a very formidable opponent, The Houston County Sharks, won the AAASP State Wheelchair Basketball Varsity title. The one thing that Houston County could not take from the Henry Hurricanes was, HEART – the same heart that each team member

displayed the entire season. The same heart that enabled the team to be successful the first season playing at the Varsity level. This 2nd place title now brings the Henry Hurricanes trophy count to three State Championship titles in basketball, 2007/2008, 2008/2009 and 2012/2013 seasons; in handball 2011/2012 and 2012/2013; and football 2012/2013. The Henry Hurricanes is a Henry County Schools interscholastic wheelchair sports team in partnership with Henry County Parks and Recreation Wheelchair Sports. The team is comprised of eleven physically impaired students who are recruited from several Henry County schools, with one coming from Griffin. Eligibility for the team includes any physical limitation that prevents the student from participating on “main stream” school-based teams. The team is not only made up of manual and power wheelchair users, but also includes students who use mobility aides like walkers, canes, crutches or no mobility aides at all.

On November 8th Henry County hosted the AAASP State Wheelchair Handball Championships for the 7th consecutive year at J.P. Moseley Recreation Center in Stockbridge. This daylong competition featured eight teams from across Georgia playing semi-finals and championship games to determine the 2014 Georgia Junior Varsity and Varsity Wheelchair Handball Champions.



The 8th Annual Geranium Festival Wheelchair Tennis Tournament took place at Richard Craig Park in McDonough June 13-15, 2014. The tournament has been consistently successful for the past several years and was named the 2011 Wheelchair Tournament of the Year by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Georgia and in 2010, was named the 2010 USTA Southern Wheelchair Tournament of the Year by the United States Tennis Association Southern Section. The tournament is being sponsored by the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association (ALTA) and is a USTA sanctioned wheelchair tennis tournament. The annual wheelchair tennis tournament attracts players from around the country who compete in several divisions, included Men’s A, B and C singles and doubles; Women’s A singles and doubles; Quad A singles and doubles and Junior Open/A singles and doubles. In 2013 a “Novice” division was developed to the tournament for players who had minimal tennis experience and no tournament experience. The players in the Novice division received complimentary entry but experienced all of the same benefits that other players received to include meals, player goody bags and a pair of designer sunglasses that are now a staple to the tournament. This division was also included in 2014 and was again a success. The main addition to the tournament in 2014 was adding a military division that included 8 military players who competed in a doubles format. A military appreciation event was scheduled on Saturday during the tournament that included representatives from the Georgia Republican Party who presented a tennis wheelchair to a wounded veteran.






Henry County Wheelchair Sports collaborated with other adaptive sports organizations to contribute to other wheelchair sports events. These organizations included BlazeSports, American Association of Adapted Sports (AAASP), Dream Maker’s Foundation, ReThink of Georgia Tech, United States Tennis Association (USTA) Southern and USTA Georgia.





YOUTH ATHLETICS




38 swimmers went to the GRPA District 6, Class A swim meet held at Emory University. 13 swimmers also advanced to the two day State Swim meet held in Cumming. HCPRD had a total of 1,028 registered athletes for youth basketball. The Fairview and J.P. Moseley Recreation Centers and 16 Henry County schools were used for practices. One middle school and one high school, along with the J.P. Moseley and Fairview Recreation Centers, were utilized for the games. The Fairview Recreation Center was used to host some GRPA District games and three teams advanced to the State tournaments. The 10u boys won the State tournament and 12u girls were State runner-up.





HCPRD offered youth track and field with a total of 83 boys and girls ranging in ages from 7-14. We hosted the 6th District Class A Track Meet in which Walton County, Macon-Bibb County, Rockdale County and DeKalb County participated in at Stockbridge High School. There were a total of 330 athletes who participated. From there, about 22 boys and girls advanced to the State track meet in Augusta. The track program had an end of the year banquet and medals were provided to all participants.


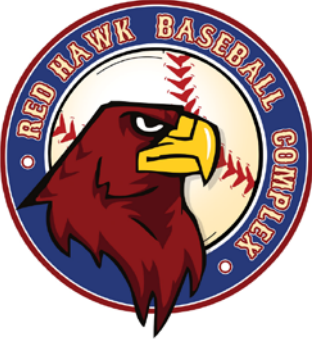

PARKS





Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trials (Miles)
Alexander Park	City/County	12.5	4		4	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Repaired wash at dugout gate on field 3 • Repaired scoreboard • Installed chains with welded locks to gates and light boxes to prevent soccer play on softball fields • Fertilized softball fields • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 450 lbs 					
Avalon Park	City/County	20	4		4	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repaired playground equipment • Aerated and top dressed football fields • Fertilized football fields • Repaired damaged player benches 					
Cochran Park	County	20	8		7	0.4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed two batting cage nets • Spread 72 tons of infield mix on baseball fields • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Fertilized baseball/softball fields • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 1,250 lbs 					
Fairview Recreation Center	County					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread ant control around playground • Trimmed hedges • Spread 470 bales of pine straw • Installed new security/surveillance cameras 					
Franklin Rape Park	County	4	2		2	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilized baseball/softball fields • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 150 lbs 					

Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trails (Miles)
Heritage Park	County	129	4		10	0.9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replaced (4) 20'x3' pads on backstop concrete walls • Painted restroom walls and floors • Installed new ground sockets on all 4 fields for new temporary fence • Built 2 new batting cages • Spread 36 tons of infield mix on softball fields • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer • Spread 400 bags of pro-choice infield conditioner • Replaced climbing bridges on Kidsville playground • Removed silt fencing and spread seed and straw • Sprayed softball fields with 46-0-0 Eureka • Performed lighting maintenance • Repaired scoreboard • Installed new A/C unit • Bush hogged • Spread pre-emergence of athletic fields – 2,400 lbs • Spread 250 bales of pine straw • Trimmed hedges • Installed new security/surveillance cameras 					
Heritage Park – Veterans Museum	County					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poured 12'x14' concrete pad for helicopter • Anchored helicopter to concrete pad • Relocated yellow motor grader to make room for helicopter • Installed steps from parking lot to Museum • Painted hand rails on front porch of the Nolan House 					
Heritage Park – Veterans Wall of Honor	County					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed 35 4x8 engraved bricks • Installed 15 12x12 engraved bricks • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer • Fertilized lawn • Spread 50 bales of pine straw around shrubbery • Trimmed shrubbery • Replaced all flags 					
Hidden Valley Park	County	115	9	5	9	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed damaged ceiling from busted pipe and repaired ceiling • Replaced gate hinges on field 9 • Installed new soap dispensers • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Repaired scoreboard • Delivered a load of clay for pitcher mounds • Had Landrum's tree service trim trees around field 3 light pole and field • Fertilized baseball/softball fields 					

Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trails (Miles)
Jason T. Harper Event Center	County					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean/blow arena weekly and set up for events • Fertilized lawn 					
J.P. Moseley Park	County	179	8		12	1.4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed new gate latches on dugout gates • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer • Repaired bleachers and picnic tables at football complex • Replaced climbing net • Replaced 2 broken tot swings at football complex • Repaired new playground equipment and perimeter fencing • Repaired drainage problem and spread 40 yards of mulch on softball playground • Repaired scoreboards • Aerated and top dressed football fields • Bush hogged • Fertilized football and softball fields • Poured (2) 6'x12' concrete t-pads • Installed new water/irrigation pressure regulator • Set up big tent for Disc Golf Tournament • Repaired irrigation on football and softball fields • Painted inside of playground restrooms and front of football concession due to vandalism/graffiti • Replaced scoreboard bulbs on softball fields 					
J. P. Moseley Recreation Center	County					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed new security/surveillance cameras 					
Joel McClendon Memorial Park	City/County		3			
Locust Grove Conference Center	County	10				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repaired rental tables • Addressing elevator inspection issues • Trimmed hedges • Spread 136 bales of pine straw 					

Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trails (Miles)
Locust Grove Recreation Center	City/County	2.5				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered and picked up 20 tables and 75 chairs for rental Set-up 75 chairs and 20 tables for event Cleared out classrooms and touched up paint Set-up stage for dance recital Addressed elevator inspection issues Installed new security/surveillance cameras Made repairs to sanctuary Spread 70 bales of pine straw Trimmed hedges 					
Mickie D. Cochran Park	County	12.4	1	3	4	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerated and top dressed football field Fertilized football field Spread pre-emergence on football field – 450 lbs Cut limbs Made repairs to playground 					
Nash Farm Park	County	204			5	1.1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted restrooms and Activity Barn walls Secured crawl space doors on Museum and Carriage House Installed new soap dispensers Repaired wood trim and painted in Activity Barn 					
North Mt. Carmel Park	County	129	14		6	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repaired tot swing at playground Installed new field number signs Laid 5,000 sq. ft. of sod Watered sod Aerated and top dressed soccer fields Bush hogged Fertilized soccer fields Replaced bad irrigation heads Sprayed weed control Spread pre-emergence on soccer fields – 7,000 lbs Repaired bleachers 					

Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trails (Miles)
North Ola Park	County	11	4		7	0.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted restrooms walls and floors Repaired backstop netting and fencing on field 2 & 3 Installed new hinges on double gate at field 3 Repaired scoreboard Fertilized baseball fields Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 550 lbs Replaced 30 panels of privacy fence 					
Pates Creek Nature Preserve	BOE/County	12	1		3	0.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repaired broken bench swing Removed fallen trees from trails Removed old bridge from back trails and replaced with dirt and crush-n-run for walking 					
Red Tail Hawk Airport	County	39			1	
Red Hawk Baseball Complex	County	26	4		6	0.2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted restrooms walls and floors Installed new guide wire/cable to support field netting poles Installed new soap dispensers Mulched parking lot islands and trees around field Box tilled infield dirt Spread 27 tons of infield mix Sprayed pre-m and weed killer Sprayed fields with 46-0-0 Eurea and 12-0-0 5% iron Performed lighting maintenance Fertilized baseball fields Repaired irrigation 					
Richard Craig Park	City/County	26	9	17	18	0.4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tied all windscreens on Sunshine League Field Replaced American Flag Spread 72 tons of infield mix on baseball fields Replaced scoreboard bulbs Repaired scoreboard Replaced broken bar on swing set Tied all windscreens and replaced straps on 2 nets – Tennis Complex Installed new paper towel dispensers Spread new mulch Installed new net on court 3 Replaced gate latches on tennis court gates Performed lighting maintenance Aerated and top dressed infields Fertilized baseball fields Installed new ice machine Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 1,400 lbs Repaired Sunshine League roof from storm damage 					

Parks	Maintained By	Park Acreage	Athletic Fields	Outdoor Courts	Support Facilities	Walking Trails (Miles)
R.W/Mary Lou Coley Park	County	40	7		9	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painted restrooms walls and floors • Tied backstop net on 13/14 baseball field • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Spread 72 tons of infield mix • Performed lighting maintenance • Fertilized baseball/softball fields • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 1,650 lbs 					
Sandy Ridge Park	County	34	4	2	9	0.8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed playground fence for paving crew • Installed new soap dispensers • Replaced scoreboard bulbs on field 1 • Repaired scoreboard • Removed old playground equipment • Laid 5,000 sq. ft. of sod • Installed wooden fencing around playground • Watered sod • Aerated and top dressed field 1 infield • Fertilized softball fields • Repaired irrigation • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 850 lbs • Cut/trimmed low hanging limbs throughout park 					
Warren Holder Park	City/County	40	13	2	13	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fence repairs on fields 5 and 7 – 9 • Installed 2 batting cage nets • Repaired field 4 scoreboard • Tied all windscreens on fences • Replaced scoreboard bulbs • Filled holes and repaired sideline fencing on football fields 3 & 4 • Installed 12 new light switch/electrical outlet covers at baseball complex • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer on baseball fields • Repaired scoreboard • Installed new tennis nets • Repaired backstop fencing and 2 score boxes • Repaired bleachers on fields 6 & 7 • Re-installed 40' of net in left field of field #2 • Delivered 2 generators for football event on fields 3 & 4 • Repaired irrigation on football fields • Spread pre-emergence on athletic fields – 1,650 lbs for baseball and 2,150 lbs for softball 					
Windy Hill Park	County	30	3		5	0.5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repaired netting on scenario field 					

GROUNDS

911 Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 263 bales of pine straw • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer
Administrative Building	
Aubrey Harvey Building	
Animal Control	
Blessings Thrift Store	
Connecting Henry	
Court House/Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 830 bales of pine straw
Court House Parking Deck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 233 bales of pine straw
DFAC's	
DOT	
Department of Motor Vehicles	
Developmental Disabilities Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 258 bales of pine straw
Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 93 bales of pine straw
Exit #218	
Fairview Library	
Fleet Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprayed pesticide insect control around parking lot
Flint Circuit Public Defender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 40 bales of pine straw
Friend's House	
Firing Range (Police)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug holes and set wooden poles for police department
Haven House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 160 bales of pine straw
Health Department	
Henry County Airport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprayed weed killer around hangers and runway lights
Henry County Government Annex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 338 bales of pine straw
Henry County Judicial Center	
Henry Parkway Connector	
Henry Parkway Median	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 69 bales of pine straw
Heritage Senior Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 708 bales of pine straw
Hidden Valley Senior Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 288 bales of pine straw
Jonesboro Rd/GA DOT Gateway Enhancement Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project calls for design and planting over 12,000 plants/trees • Prep, plant, mulch and spread weed control • Planted and watered medians
Library - Cochran	
Library – Fairview	
Library – Hampton	
Library – Locust Grove	
Library – McDonough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 166 bales of pine straw
North Police Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 192 bales of pine straw • Sprayed pre-m and weed killer
Old SPLOST Building	
Probate Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread 100 bales of pine straw
Senior Services Annex	
Sheriff's Department/Jail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprayed weed killer around back
Tag Office/Stockbridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread pre-m and weed killer
Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread pre-m and weed killer • Spread 129 bales of pine straw



Adult Activities

4,674

Participants

475

Games

45,053

Total Visits



Facility Rentals

7,365

Rentals

186,058

Total Visits



Recreation Participation

11,528

Participants

250,426

Total Visits

17,432

Hours



Therapeutic Recreation

3,465

Participants

14,669

Total Visits

1,187

Hours



Revenue Totals

\$1,027,076



Youth Activities

34,462

Participants

3,408

Games

317,709

Total Visits

Henry County Parks and Recreation Current Staff

Heritage Park Staff

Tim Coley - Director

Kenny Morris - Assistant Director Parks

Donna Holder - Executive Assistant II

Michelle Dunn - Accounts Administrator

Sandy Hawkins - Accounts Administrator

Jamey Dixon – Administrative Assistant II

Kaye Durkit – Administrative Assistant II

Kathy Hunt - Program Coordinator, CPRP

Brandi Dailey – Youth Athletic Coordinator

Peggy Hesselbach – Recreation Specialist

Jim Wilson – Recreation Specialist

Jim Joyce – Facility Coordinator

Locust Grove Recreation Staff

Terry Nash - Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator, CTRS

Davina Ford - Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Garland Jones - Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, CTRS

Keri Knab – Recreation Aide

Harlon Matthews - Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Gary Miller – Recreation Aide

Andrew Vaughn – Recreation Aide

Brandy Yaeger – Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

J.P. Moseley Recreation Staff

Reggie Ammons – Facility Coordinator, CTRS

Ray Beasley – Recreation Aide

Jerry Belcastro – Recreation Aids

Brandi Betsill – Recreation Aide

Tina Fuss – Recreation Specialist

Tommy Holder – Recreation Assistant

Laura Merlino – Recreation Aide

Destiny Oliphant – Recreation Aide

Duck Robertson - Recreation Aide

Richard Craig Tennis Complex Staff

Donald Carnrike - Recreation Assistant

Larry Graham – Tennis Instructor

Fairview Recreation Staff

Shenoa Brown – Recreation Aide

Haley Holder – Recreation Aide

James Martin – Facility Coordinator

Beverly Peavy – Recreation Aide

Fonda Riley - Recreation Aide

Jerry Wright – Recreation Aide

Maintenance Staff

Todd Bond - Maintenance Specialist Tech III

Richard Castleberry - Maintenance Specialist Tech III

Bryan Dixon - Maintenance Specialist Tech III

Marcus Miller - Maintenance Specialist Tech III

Walter Lacewell - Maintenance Specialist Tech II

Gerald Miller – Maintenance Specialist Tech II

Keith Ayers – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Reginald Chandler – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Drew Cheeves – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Bill Dodgen – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Jacob Farah – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Jason Gasses – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Ronnie Hector - Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Clark Herring – Maintenance Specialist Tech I

Robert Hymowitz - Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Shane Massey – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
James New – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Richard Strickland – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Keith Taylor – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Day Camp Employees – 50
Tennis Employees – 8
Youth Basketball Employees – 8
Adult Softball Employees – 3

Past Staff

Alison Haglethorn - Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
Barbara Barber – Recreation Aide
John Cook – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Bill Hoelscher – Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Kristen Lynn – Recreation Aide
Antonio Mathis - Maintenance Specialist Tech I
Mark McBrayer – Facility Coordinator
Amey Moses - Recreation Specialist
Chris Strong – Recreation Aide