

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meetings

July 16th, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 6th, 9:00 a.m.

Meetings held at:

Administration Building
Community Room
140 Henry Parkway
McDonough, GA 30253

Regular Commission meetings air daily on
Henry TV

Charter Channel 180
and

AT&T U-Verse
Channel 99,

at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.



SWAG Students Overcome Obstacles to Earn GED



Peppered with inspiring testimonials about the sometimes rocky road to finishing high school, 36 young adults finally earned the title of high school graduate after completing Connecting Henry's SWAG program.

SWAG (Students Working to Achieve Greatness) held its graduation ceremony at the Henry County Performing Arts Center last night in an auditorium filled with family, friends and community leaders cheering on their accomplishments.

Several graduates shared testimonials on how they came to the SWAG program and the missteps along the way, thanking parents, friends and the staff and teachers of Connecting Henry for the support and resources to help them reach their goals. Several students received awards for their outstanding accomplishments and the evening's program also included the debut of an original song written and performed by the students.

Atlanta television news legend and Henry County resident Monica Kaufman Pearson was the keynote speaker, directing her inspirational words to the graduates in attendance.

She talked about career paths and opportunities, as well as the importance of a positive attitude, being a team player and being a blessing to others. She also reiterated sound advice from her own mother.



July 12, 2019

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Upcoming Millage Meetings

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the County Administration Building, 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough, GA on the following dates:

- July 16, 2019 at 9:00 am
- July 16, 2019 at 6:00 pm

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the County Administration Building, 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough, GA on the following date:

- August 1, 2019 at 10:00

For further information as well as a 5 Year Millage History, please visit henrycounty-ga.com.

Henry County Libraries Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing

Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing and celebrate like it is 1969 all over again! On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon and utter the famous phrase "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Your local library is geared up with food, crafts, games, and more to mark that historic event.

On Thursday, July 18 from 5:00 to 7:30 P.M., Cochran Public Library will host the Apollo 11 Landing Anniversary Party. This celebration promises to be an exciting event. Wear your retro fashion as we take a step back in time, watching videos, enjoying snacks, and sharing in the community spirit. Name that song as we listen to music released in the year 1969. For more information, please call 678-432-5353, option 7.

Fortson Public Library has an all-day, galactic

extravaganza planned on Friday, July 19. The Moon Landing Party features space-themed crafts, a photo booth, and a groovy 1960's costume contest. Fortson Library will also screen a short film of the Apollo 11 landing. So, break out your bell-bottom pants and go-go boots and come to your local library. For more details on this all-day event, please call 678-432-5353, option 5.

All ages are invited to attend these intergalactic parties. There is something for everyone to enjoy. While you are celebrating, do not forget to peruse HCLS's great selection of space-themed books, audiobooks, and movies. Check out our website at www.henrylibraries.org or the library system's Facebook page for more FREE family fun.

Henry County Police Major Returns from Police Leadership Training in Israel



Major Vance Rosen of the Henry County Police Department has returned after an intensive two weeks of public safety leadership training with Israel's top police executives. He trained in Israel with another 12 Georgia police chiefs and command staff, two sheriffs, a Georgia Bureau of Investigation inspector and executives from the Georgia State Patrol, Georgia Command College and Stone Mountain Department of Public Safety.

He was in a 21-member delegation of senior law enforcement officials from Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina participating in the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange's (GILEE) 27th annual peer-to-peer training program in partnership with Israel. While there, the delegates were shown best practices and the latest technologies in policing and public safety.

"Technology in the form of drones, license plate readers, and camera systems were used to great effect in Israel to detect crime and identify criminals. It is my belief that these systems also act as a deterrent since offenders know that they can be easily identified through their use," said Rosen. "It was also wonderful to have our own use of these technologies validated.

Henry county has for some time been using drones and license plate readers. We have recently been expanding into other camera based detection systems as well."

Community policing, "a policy and a strategy aimed at achieving more effective and efficient crime control, reduced fear of crime, improved quality of life, improved police services and police legitimacy, through a proactive reliance on community resources that seeks to change crime-causing conditions," was the focus again this year.

Community policing assumes a need for greater accountability of police, a greater public share in decision-making and a greater concern for civil rights and liberties, according to Robbie Friedmann, who formulated the definition. A professor emeritus at Georgia State University and GILEE's founding director, he led this year's delegation.

More than 770 public safety officials—most from Georgia—have participated in the program in Israel. Nearly 35,000 have attended additional GILEE trainings, briefings, seminars and workshops in Georgia and around the world.

"Our GILEE delegates return with new ways of

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Board Approves Nash Farm Activity Barn Transformation

The Henry County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution authorizing the purchase of equipment to transform the Nash Farm Activity Barn to a new cultural art center and flex space theater. The action came at the July 9 Commission meeting.

With this enhanced space, the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department will be able to present arts and entertainment events and offer a venue to host plays, presentations and productions. The repurposed activity barn can also be used for rental space, and is expected to become an economic driver in the creation of revenue.

District II Commissioner Dee Clemmons shared her thoughts on why renovating the activity barn is a positive initiative for the county to undertake.

“The county does not own any theater space or any art space at all and we don’t have to go buy one. This is the most inexpensive way to create space,” said Clemmons. “We can now attract smaller productions

into Henry County and have indoor concerts. This will be the first theater piece that Henry County has ever had.”

The equipment needed to renovate the art center will be purchased from Productions and Concerts, Inc. in the amount of \$94,250 and funds will be allocated from District II impact fees.

The Board also approved the purchase of a 20’ by 16’ mobile staging system from Stageline Mobile Stage in the amount of \$94,075.

The mobile staging system is a benefit to the county’s existing programs and will allow new programs to be held countywide.

Funds to purchase the stage will be allocated from the countywide impact fees.

The creation of the cultural arts center is a part of Nash Farm Park’s Master Plan.

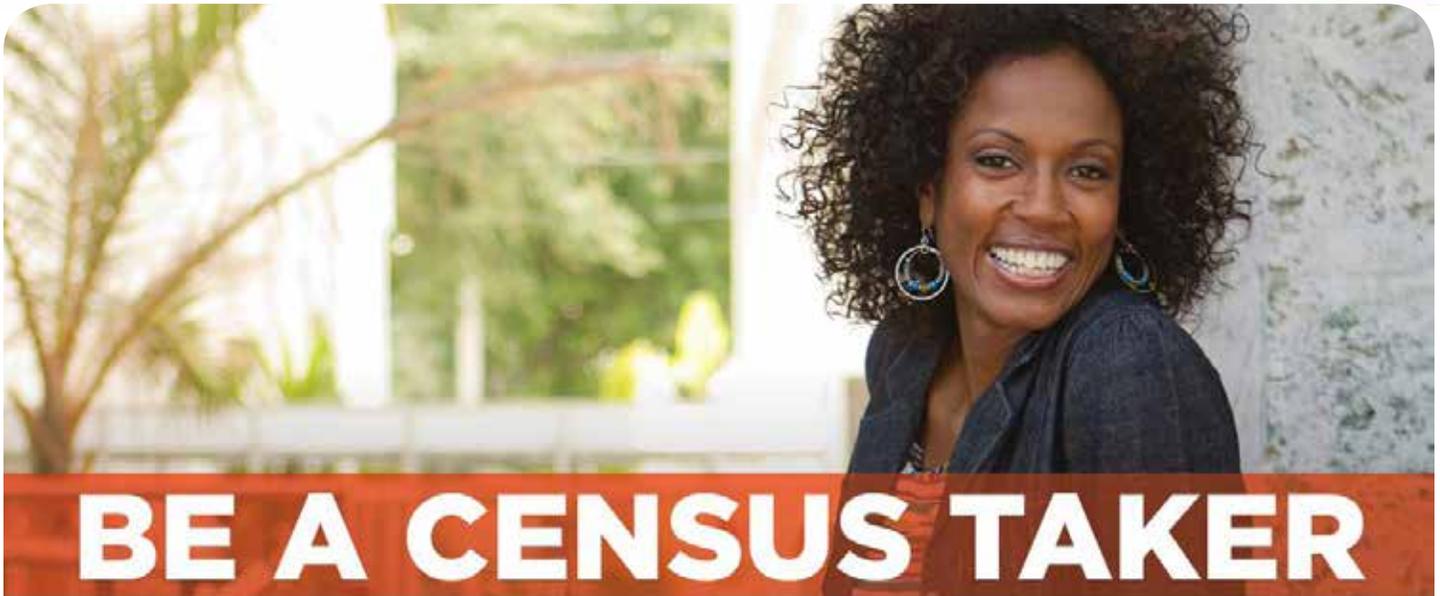
For more information on Henry County, visit henrycounty-ga.com.

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Training in Israel - continued from page 3

developing, collaborating on and using strategies to minimize the production of crime and terrorism,” said GILEE executive director Steve Heaton. “In GILEE’s 27 years, many of these graduates have gone on to serve in key leadership roles in Georgia and beyond.”

GILEE is a research unit within Georgia State’s Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. It enhances public safety by nurturing existing and new partnerships within and across public agencies and the private sector. It has received multiple awards and honors, including the Special Service Award from the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Georgia Governor’s Public Safety Award.

“I believe GILEE offers one of the best leadership development training programs globally,” said Donald De Lucca, a three-time police chief and

past president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), in a recent letter to GILEE. “The inside look and hands-on learning provide executives with a broader view of some of the best practices available to the police profession.”

In fact, several U.S. and international professional policing associations and academic institutions have written this year in support of the many contributions GILEE has made to the field’s professional development.

Learn more about the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange at gilee.gsu.edu.



July 12, 2019

County Employees Recognized for Service Clifford Sims honored for 40 years with County



Three Henry County employees were recognized at the July 9 Henry County Commission meeting upon the occasion of their retirements.

The Board of Commissioners recognized longtime employee Clifford Sims, Foreman with Henry County's Transportation Department, who retired this month after 40 years of dedicated service to the county.

Deputy County Manager Brad Johnson gave out awards and certificates thanking each employee for their service to Henry County, noting Sims long tenure with the county.

"Our longest serving employee in Henry County history," said Johnson. "He was the glue that kept everything together for the longest time. Forty years of service is unprecedented."

Sims, who was accompanied by his wife,

received a standing ovation from those in attendance.

Major Jack Oakman with the Sheriff's Office was recognized for 13 years of service and will be retiring at the end of July. Although he was recognized for his 13 years of service with the Sheriff's Office, Johnson noted that Oakman has been involved in public safety, having served as a volunteer reserve peace officer since 1974.

Darlene Hilderbrand was recognized for 12 years of service as a Deputy Clerk II for Superior Court, retiring last month. Johnson said that her work in the department made it a success every day.

"We would like to thank her for that and for her dedicated service to Henry County," said Johnson.

Join the Henry County Citizen's Academy

Do you know the inner workings of your county government or want to connect with those who work every day to serve citizens of this county? Then register for the Henry County Citizen's Academy beginning in August at the Administration Building in McDonough. Classes are free.

The seven-week program is designed to help citizens better understand the functions of Henry County Government as well as help develop a stronger connection within the community.

Participants will learn all about how services from areas such as Administrative Support, Financial Services, Public Works, Public Safety, and Courts within Henry County are provided.

Meetings will be held Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning August 6 and will continue through September 17.

The requirements for the academy are as follows:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must live or work in Henry County
- Must be clear of any prior felony arrests
- Must be clear of any misdemeanor arrests within 6 months of the application

Applications for the Citizen's Academy class must be turned in and completed by July 17. Please fill out and return original copies to the Henry County Administration Office located at 140 Henry Parkway in McDonough.

For more information, applications and consent forms, please visit co.henry.ga.us/HCCA or contact Kayla Correa at 770-288-6082 or at kcorrea@co.henry.ga.us

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE
HENRY COUNTY
CITIZEN'S
ACADEMY

AUG. 6 - SEPT. 17, 2019

Classes begin August 6, 2019 & continue
Tuesday nights through September 17,
from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Classes are free of charge & will
teach & discuss topics such as:
Administrative Support
Financial Services
Planning & Economic Development
Community Leisure
Public Works
Public Safety

JOIN THE ACADEMY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION & APPLICATIONS, VISIT WWW.CO.HENRY.GA.US/HCCA

140 Henry Pkwy. McDonough, GA 30253



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SWAG Graduation - continued from page 1

“Don’t fear failure...overcome it,” Pearson told the graduates.

SWAG is a program through Connecting Henry for young adults ages 16 to 24 to earn their GED and gain work experience for those who have struggled to do so in a traditional school setting. More than a GED

course, the program teaches life skills and partners with local businesses to offer internships to help the students find success.

For more information about the SWAG program, please visit www.connectinghenry.org.

