

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meetings

October 15th, 6:30 p.m.
November 5th, 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.



Henry County Boys and Girls Clubs Looking for Community Partners

Sees strong support from first community meeting



Pictured (l. to r.) Dr. Mary Elizabeth Davis, Superintendent for Henry County Schools; Annette Edwards, Henry County School Board; Phillip Bryant, CEO and President of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Georgia; District III Commissioner Gary Barham; District II Commissioner Dee Clemmons; District V Commissioner Bruce Holmes; and McDonough City Councilman Craig Elrod.

Henry County District II Commissioner Dee Clemmons held a community meeting on Wednesday morning where she outlined the next steps for opening the doors on the Boys and Girls Clubs in Henry County.

Clemmons gave an overview of her and the county's efforts so far to partner with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Georgia and detailed her history with the Boys and Girls Clubs. As a child she grew up in the organization, benefiting from the programs and mentoring, and as a young adult, was given her first job through the Boys and Girls Clubs.

"Welcome to hope and opportunity," said Clemmons to the crowd of stakeholders, consisting of community members, public safety personnel, judges, court representatives, elected officials, school board members and the business community.

Henry County School Superintendent Dr. Mary Elizabeth Davis, along with school board member Annette Edwards addressed questions regarding the school system's interest in partnering on the endeavor. Davis said the school system has



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October 24, 2019

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Join in on the fun...
**COSTUME CONTEST
TRUNK & TREATING**
...and MORE!



Mark Amerman
Chief of Police



Luther Phillips
Fire Chief



Don Ash
9-111 Director



Keith Mulbrayer
Sheriff

HENRY'S NIGHT OUT 2019

Public Safety - Community Partnership
Henry Towne Center
1850 Jonesboro Road
McDonough, GA 30253

Join your neighbors, friends and local law enforcement/ public safety agencies to be a part of the Fall festivities. Includes **food, drinks, trunk or treating, live music and fun activities** for the kids. Speak with local public safety and community leaders.

For more information in participating in the event, contact Sgt. Anthony Militello at amilitello@co.henry.ga.us

Parks and Rec to Host Trunk or Treat at Nash Farm Park

Bring the family out to Nash Farm Park on October 31 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a family-friendly, free Trunk or Treat celebration.

Join District II Commissioner Dee Clemmons and your favorite superheroes and princesses for a fun evening of prizes, plenty of candy, hayrides and photo ops with your favorite characters.

Nash Farm Park is located at 4361 Jonesboro Road in Hampton. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact 770-288-7300.



B&G Club - continued from page 1

a prime location to house a club and officials were currently doing a feasibility study on in-kind services such as maintenance and transportation.

McDonough councilman Craig Elrod offered the city's support, and said that many groups have tried to make a Boys and Girls Club happen, and even though some organizations came close, something always derailed the effort.

"We have a true partnership this time, and a true partnership will get this done," said Elrod. This is an investment in our youth, so we are here for you and we are your biggest cheerleader and your biggest partner."

Phillip Bryant, CEO and President of Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Georgia gave a presentation with an overview of how the Boys and Girls Clubs are funded and what will be needed to establish the organization in Henry County. He estimated that it would cost approximately \$300,000 to operate the clubs in Henry County but that the cost to families to participate would be nominal.

He also expressed his excitement about the

partnership with Henry County.

"You are on the verge of something great," he told those in attendance.

He said the target age group to benefit from the clubs are middle school students who would be given a safe place after school for homework help, activities, mentoring and a hot meal.

"We want to be an extension of the school system and send them home knowing their homework is done, they have had a nutritious dinner. Our goal is to help those who need us the most."

Clemmons thanked those in attendance and said that no one can do this alone. She outlined several ways for people to get involved, including volunteering, donating funds and joining the advisory council.

For more information on how to donate or be on the Advisory Council of the Henry County Boys and Girls Clubs, please contact dcclemmons@co.henry.ga.us or info@bgccg.org.

For more information about the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, visit www.bgca.org.

BOC Approves TIP Projects to be Submitted to ARC

With the approval from the Henry County Board of Commissioners, 11 projects from the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission for potential federal funding. The action came from the Board at the October 1 Commission meeting.

In an effort to alleviate traffic congestion and provide road improvements, the projects listed below have been added to the TIP list:

- Phase one of Hwy. 81 Widening, from east of Lemon St. to the North Bethany Rd./South Bethany Rd. Intersection
- Jodeco Rd. Project, from I-75 to Flippen Rd.
- Rock Quarry Rd. Extension, from SR. 42/138 to East Atlanta Rd. at Valley Hill Rd.

- Rock Quarry Rd. Widening, from Eagles Landing Pkwy to SR. 42/138
- Phase two of Hwy. 81 Widening, from North Bethany Rd./South Bethany Rd. to Keys Ferry Rd.
- Jonesboro Rd., from Mount Olive Rd. to Clayton County Line
- Bill Gardner Parkway from I-75 to SR. 155
- East Atlanta Rd from Old Conyers to Rex Rd.
- Flippen Rd., from SR. 42/138 to Jonesboro Rd.
- Hampton-Locust Grove Rd., from SR. 155 to SR. 20
- McDonough Parkway Extension, from Hwy. 42 to Hwy. 155

For more information on the Transportation Improvement Program, visit atlantaregional.org/.



October 4, 2019

Piedmont Henry Hospital Chooses Henry County Leaders As Breast Cancer Awareness Ambassadors

Proud to Be Pink.



District V Commissioner Bruce Holmes and Building and Plan Review Director George Patterson have been selected to participate in Piedmont Henry Hospital's 2019 Real Men Wear Pink campaign, joining a small group of influential men to work as ambassadors for breast cancer awareness.

Holmes said he was honored to be selected for such an important campaign that advocates the importance of mammograms for early detection, and shared his personal experience of losing someone he loved to cancer.

"None of us know if we will ever be impacted or understand the loneliness that people who struggle with cancer feel until it happens to us or a love one. During the Wear Pink Kickoff, I told a story about a woman who was a very close friend since high school, who became a very successful music executive with Def Jam and Arista Records. She lived a great life and did everything the right way. Although she lived a very clean life, she still developed breast cancer in

her 20s. I along with other close friends were there for her every step of the way until she won the first battle. But the cancer returned a decade later and metastasized to her lungs and into her bloodstream. I watched her deteriorate before my eyes until the day of her death. It was the hardest thing I've ever had to deal with. After that, I have advocated to everyone I love to get checked early and as often as necessary. Know your risk and communicate with your doctor. To me, this campaign is more than wearing pink, it's about protecting the people you love," said Holmes. "I want to thank Piedmont Henry for supporting our community and helping protect women in this very important battle to reduce risk and eliminate cancer."

George Patterson also said he was honored to be included as an ambassador and said he was inspired by his wife to be an advocate for breast cancer awareness.

"Cancer is one of the worst diseases we know," said Patterson. "So I'm doing this for my lovely wife

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The 2019 “Plug-In” Contracting Expo Garner Large Turnout

Contractors, developers, business owners and entrepreneurs came together to learn how to do business with and in the county at Henry County District IV Commissioner Vivian Thomas’ inaugural “Plug-In” Contracting Expo, held this past Saturday at the Henry County Administration Building.

Thomas opened the expo with a brief presentation on her purpose for the expo. She also shared her own business expertise and provided tips to those in attendance.

“The Plug-In Contracting Expo is designed to get you plugged into the right people to grow your business in a growing Henry County,” said Thomas. “We are giving everyone an equal opportunity here at this expo.”

Several Henry County staff members gave presentations including Building and Plan Review Director George Patterson, Financial Services Director David Smith, Community Development Director Shannon Sagnet, and Planning and Zoning Chief Planner Stacey Jordan, all of whom gave insight to their respective departments and the specifics to working on county projects.

During the “Plug-in” Expo, Kimberly King, Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) EEO Administrator, shared information on ways to do business with GDOT through government contracts. Attendees also had a chance to network with each other in order to connect services and learn about opportunities.

Thomas said she plans to make the “Plug-In” Contracting Expo an annual event.



District IV Commissioner Vivian Thomas along with Kimberly King, Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) EEO Administrator





October 4, 2019

Engineering Study Reveals Serious Stormwater Issues at Cochran Park

Park will remain closed in interest of public safety

County Manager Cheri Hobson-Matthews gave an update to Commissioners regarding Cochran Park and an engineering study the county commissioned to assess the condition of the stormwater system located throughout the park.

During county manager comments at this morning's Board of Commissioners' meeting, Hobson-Matthews presented the findings of Croy Engineering whose report states that the "existing storm network system at Cochran Park is in very poor condition."

The report also estimated the cost to fix only the crumbling stormwater system is \$592,524. The more than half a million-dollar price tag does not include parking lot repairs or repairs to any other structures or systems.

Key findings in the Croy Engineering study detailed serious issues with the stormwater system.

"While assessing the existing storm network system we observed existing field conditions, visible pipes and locations of existing drainage structures. It appears that some inlets are not properly located to efficiently capture runoff from the site, inlets that haven't been maintained with trash, debris and sediment clogging their inlets, crushed inlets not capturing their full capacity, visible pipes meaning pipes were not installed with proper cover causing the storm pipes to be exposed, inlets without manhole access to allow for maintenance and in general the entire existing storm network system seems to be undersized," the report read.

This past July, in a proactive move, Henry County officials closed Cochran Park, located on East Atlanta Rd. in Stockbridge, because of a dangerous and hazardous situation for the public.

At that time, Holmes, County Management,

Henry County Stormwater and Parks and Recreation staff held a site visit at the park citing serious concerns regarding the public's safety at the park.

Holmes said he was alerted to several issues at the park and became concerned after learning that there were serious infrastructure failures, including a crumbling stormwater pipe system resulting in several dangerous sinkholes and a compromised parking lot.

The recently completed engineering study confirmed the existence of a compromised stormwater system and existence of several sinkholes throughout the park.

After this morning's Commission meeting, Holmes reiterated his commitment to safety.

"The engineering reports was far worst then I imagined. As an elected official, I understand that I'm responsible for those who elected me and they have to trust that I will put their safety above politics no matter how much it hurts me politically," he said. "Citizens can trust that I will make decisions that will put them before myself. This report confirms that there was and still is a significant public safety risk for our children and Henry County citizens visiting Cochran Park."

"Currently, we are evaluating moving to provide more green space, walking/doggie trails and maybe a pickle ball court for our seniors in an area in the park that's considered safe by the report," he added.

Hobson-Matthews said her office and the office of the Board of Commissioners had received several calls regarding the closing of the park. She wants to reassure citizens that safety remains the county's highest priority.

In July, baseball teams playing out of Cochran Park were moved to a nearby park in order for them to continue play.

Henry County Fire Department Officers Earn Coveted Certification

Two Henry County Fire Department officers were recognized by the Henry County Board of Commissioners for earning certifications from the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs. The recognition came at the October 1 regular Commission meeting.

Battalion Chief Michael Hicks received the Georgia Fire Chief certification and Captain Aaron Lunsford was awarded the Chief Fire Officer certification by Chief Chad Jones and Chief Robert Singletary, both

with the GAFC.

“It is a grand accomplishment with just a few receiving the designation,” said Henry County Fire Chief Luther Phillips.

Less than ten firefighters in the department have earned the certification, which encompasses training, education, experience and rank, with points awarded in each category.



Henry County Battalion Chief Michael Hicks and Captain Aaron Lunsford were recognized for receiving the Georgia Fire Chief certification and the Chief Fire Officer certification, respectively, from the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs at the October 1 Commission meeting. Pictured in the front row (l. to r.) District IV Commissioner Vivian Thomas; District II Commissioner Dee Clemmons; Hicks; Lunsford; District I Commissioner Johnny Wilson; and Commission Chair June Wood. Second row (l. to r.) District V Commissioner Bruce Holmes; District III Commissioner Gary Barham; Chief Chad Jones with the GAFC; and Chief Robert Singletary with the GAFC.



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of 35 years who is a two-time breast cancer survivor. I want to help to educate that breast cancer is treatable if caught early enough through mammograms and regular checkups.”

The men will take part in community events throughout the month of October in Henry County, all while leading by example by asking the women in their lives to get screened for breast cancer.

“I believe the message of this program resonates throughout the community as people see leaders from Henry County promote the importance of early detection to prevent breast cancer,” said Piedmont Henry CEO Deborah Armstrong. “Through the campaign, the men can also share what a valuable resource the comprehensive cancer care we provide is to patients and their families.”

In addition to Holmes and Patterson, other participants in the 2019 Real Men Wear Pink Campaign include Gerard Brayboy with PVH Corp; Kevin Foskey with Nestle’ USA; J.D. Hardin with Henry County Schools; Scott Harrison with the Henry County Water Authority; Derek Haeney with ALPLA; El-Mahdi Holly, Georgia House of Representatives, District 111; Gary Lee with Academy Properties; Dean McAvoy with Georgia Power Company; Tony Moyer, Founder of Moyer’s Pharmacy; and Rusty Strawn of Strawn & Co. Insurance.

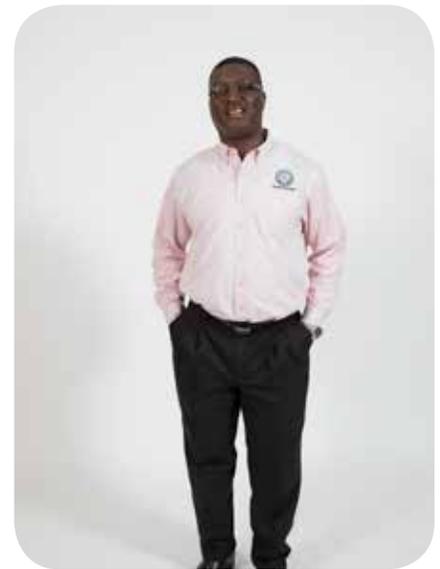
For more information on breast cancer awareness, please visit www.nationalbreastcancer.org/. For more information on Piedmont Henry Cancer Services, please visit www.piedmont.org/cancer.



Commissioner Bruce Holmes addresses the crowd at Piedmont Henry’s 2019 Real Men Wear Pink Campaign’s kickoff event on October 1 at Southern Roots Tavern in McDonough.



District V Commissioner Bruce Holmes sporting a pink jacket for breast cancer awareness.



Henry County Building and Plan Review Director George Patterson in his pink oxford supporting breast cancer awareness.

Board Approves Playground for Locust Grove Rec Center

The Henry County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution to purchase a handicap accessible playground for the Locust Grove Recreation Center at the October 1 Commission meeting.

The playground equipment will be purchased

from and installed by Miracle Recreation in the amount of approximately \$140,000. The funds are available in District I impact fees.

For more information on Henry County Parks and Recreation, please visit hccprd.org.

Locust Grove Recreation Center



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