



PARKS & RECREATION ANNUAL REPORT

2004

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STAFF

Current Employees

Director
Assistant Director
Accounts Administrator
Administrator Assistant II
Administrator Assistant II
Administrator Assistant I
Athletic Recreation Coordinator
Assistant Athletic Coordinator
Athletic Recreation Assistant
Athletic Recreation Assistant
Recreation Program Coordinator
Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator
Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
Therapeutic Recreation Assistant
Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Parks Maintenance Tech II
Parks Maintenance Tech I
Parks Maintenance Tech I
Parks Maintenance Tech I
Parks Maintenance Tech I
Parks Maintenance Tech I
Parks Maintenance Aide
Parks Maintenance Aide
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
Grounds Maintenance Tech I
Grounds Maintenance Tech I
Grounds Maintenance Tech I

Tim Coley
Drew Torok
Donna Holder
Michelle Dunn
Tammy Padgett
Amber Craig
Robert Haygood
Jim Wilson
Ivy Maganghi
James Martin
Kathy Hunt
July Pierce
Shannon Cannon
Bobby Young
Kenny Morris
Stevie Joyner
Jeff Davis
Ronnie Hector
Walter Lacewell
Chad Patel
Casey Watson
Michael Collins
Chris Lewis
Ande McKenize
Todd Bond
Michael Fraiser
Marcus Miller

Past Employees

Charlatte Smith – Therapeutic Recreation Assistant
Chris Floyd – Athletic Recreation Assistant
Amy Zoretic – Clerk Typist
Wanda Holmes – Therapeutic Recreation Assistant
Steve Monce – Parks Maintenance Tech I
Judy Murphy – Clerk Typist



District I	Mr. Wayne Chumbley
District II	Mr. Wendell Campbell
District III	Mrs. Paula Engeman
District IV	Ms. Judy Neal
District V	Mr. Wayne Chase

The Recreation Advisory Board is committed to demonstration accountability to their constituents who include children, adults, staff, business community, civic associations and customers. This Annual report is part of our effort to communicate how we measure and actively promote the benefits of parks and recreation services, including economic development benefits.

Each member of the Recreation Board is extremely proud of the achievements and efforts of the hard working staff as well as our participants.

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H I G H L I G H T S

We are excited about Recreational opportunities and successes. This year our department improved in several areas that include communication, brochures and budget as well as recruitment and retention of quality staff both part time and full time. Some of the highlights from 2004 are as follows:

- Repainted pavilions and concession stands county wide,
- Met with youth associations to implement user impact fees and out of county fees,
- Renovated Cochran Park and addressed safety concerns,
- Added parking for handicap and officials and paved the service drive at Heritage Park,
- Held ground breaking and dedication at Mt. Carmel Park for 4 soccer fields, tennis courts, restrooms/concession and parking lot, as well as, placed sod between ball fields,
- Heritage Village Ribbon Cutting with the Historical Committee,
- Increased the number of youth and adult tournaments,
- Renovated concession stand and painted pavilion at Mickie D. Cochran Park,
- Regraded outside of football field to correct drainage, added concrete walkways and bleacher pads,
- Added safety nets to backstops and temporary fencing for youth softball and baseball tournaments at Heritage Park,
- Added parking and secured walking track at Franklin Rape Park,
- Landscaped around softball fields and added a playground,
- Removed cross ties and gravel; installed drains to tie into main drain system and planted sod on disturbed areas at Richard Craig Park, and
- Resurfaced tennis courts at Richard Craig Park.

Some other highlights of the year were funded by SPLOST and these include the following:

- Constructed a concession stand and restroom at North Forty Park and installed a head wall and pipe to eliminate retention pond and silt problem,
- Renovation of restroom/concession stand at the BMX track in Sandy Ridge Park for preparation of National BMX Race, and
- Tied into sewage system at Windy Hill Park.

We coordinated park projects for Hands on Henry in conjunction with Spruce Up Henry. We welcomed several volunteers such as United Way and

the Scouts. Our department acquired sponsorships in order to bid on tournaments to increase tourism and the economic benefits for Henry County.

In 2004, our department increased visibility by participating in the following events: National Night Out, Henry County Fair, Special Populations Day at the Fair, free Movie Under the Stars, Fall Festival, free Tennis Clinic, Atlanta Motor Speedway Legends Race, Turett’s Grill “Back to School Blast”, Special Olympic Softball Invitational, Memorial Walk with March of Dimes, and A Friend’s House.

Our department addressed the need for vehicles and was given some relief in that area. We were given a design for a gym/community center and created a Master Plan for vision and planning. Additional land was acquired at J.P. Moseley and Hidden Valley Parks.

In 2004, our department hired 1/3 of the Grounds staff. Equipment was acquired for these employees to use to landscape 27 county facilities.



Heritage Park



North Forty Park



Mt. Carmel Park

GOALS

Goals for Henry County Parks and Recreation include the following:

Hidden Valley Park - skate park, concrete work to accommodate ADA regulations, playground, pavilion, and concession renovation.

Richard Craig Park – add baseball fields where existing football fields are located.

North Forty Park – add walking trail and a pavilion.

North Mt. Carmel Park – add 4 softball fields for tournaments.

Sandy Ridge Park – add 3 softball fields and a concession/restroom stand.

Warren Holder Park – add football complex to new addition of park.

J.P. Moseley Park – recreation center under construction.

North Ola Park – renovate score booths, paint and landscape facilities.

Big Springs Park – add pavilion, playground equipment and connect walking trail to existing trail.

Fairview Road Property – acquire land for entrance to park.

Identify future park land in Kellytown area.



Park Improvements

Our maintenance crew currently services 18 parks, 755 acres, and 82 athletic fields along with 12 walking tracks, 48 restrooms, 20 tennis courts, 12 basketball courts and 19 playgrounds. Each park is serviced every week, which includes the following:

- Mowing
- Weed eating/trimming
- Spraying weed control
- Empty trash cans and pick up trash
- Clean restrooms, and
- Blow off walking tracks, pavilions and parking lots

We also check basketball goals and nets and tennis court nets, playground equipment for safety. We also keep pine straw/mulch in beds and around trees as needed and keep trees pruned.

Some special projects that took place in the parks this year included: laying sod at Sandy Ridge, Richard Craig, Cochran and North Forty Parks; aerate and top dressed football fields, soccer fields, softball fields and baseball fields; planted flowers, trees and bushes at 6 parks; painted pavilions, gazebo and restrooms at 7 parks; installed new park signs, basketball backboards and rims, new benches, new swing set, parking stop and handicap signs; sprigged Bermuda grass on soccer fields; spread a total of 300 tons of infield mix to 14 baseball fields; edged baseball fields with a sod cutter at 2 parks; added mulch to playgrounds; and anchored 63 bases at Windy Hill and Heritage Park.



Completed Projects

Henry County Soccer Complex **District I** **26 Acres**

- Added mulch and pine straw around trees
- Repaired bleachers
- Paint Gazebo
- Plant Junipers & Shrubbery
- Sprig Soccer Fields
- Added 2 entrance signs
- Painted restrooms
- Painted all buildings

Red Tail Hawk Park **District I** **39 Acres**

- Delivered 2 sets of bleachers

Sandy Ridge Park **District I** **34 Acres**

- Add mulch to playground
- Add pine straw around trees
- Plant junipers around BMX Track
- Installed 50 pallets of sod at BMX Track
- Painted all buildings
- Painted restrooms
- Prune Crepe Myrtles

Richard Craig Park **District I** **26 Acres**

- Pine straw around trees
- Replace 3 basketball rims and backboards
- Installed 80 pallets of sod around baseball fields
- Landscaped around baseball fields
- Prune Crepe Myrtles

Warren Holder Park **District I** **40 Acres**

- Pine straw around trees
- Aerate and top dress football field

Windy Hill Park **District I** **30 Acres**

- Add infield mix to all fields
- Anchor bases for baseball on field #5
- Pine straw around trees
- Build break room/office in shop for maintenance staff
- Anchor 24 permanent bases on softball fields 1-4
- Prune Crepe Myrtles

Completed Projects

Mt. Carmel Park	District II	129 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cut back walking track▪ Have dead pine trees removed around walking track – for safety▪ Add picnic tables to pavilion▪ Top dress 2 baseball fields▪ Added 4 soccer fields▪ Pine straw around trees		
North Forty Park	District II	12 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Landscape around new concession & sod▪ Spread 80 tons of infield mix on baseball fields▪ Added new playground equipment▪ New concession building at softball fields		
Pates Creek Nature Park	District II	12 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Add mulch to playground▪ Clean up trees cut down by DOT▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Replaced seats at outdoor classroom		
Alexander Park	District III	12.5 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Drag and rake all infields▪ Aerated 4 baseball infields		
Big Springs Park	District III	15 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Drag and rake all infields		
Heritage Park	District III	112 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Anchor 36 permanent bases on ball fields▪ Add infield mix and aeravate all fields▪ Plant flowers in planters at concession▪ Plant flowers around entrance sign▪ Painted restroom floors▪ Planted Holly bushes at Community Garden		
North Ola Park	District III	11 Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pine straw around trees▪ Drag and rake all infields▪ Removed old metal dug out roofs		

- Painted restrooms
 - Prune Crepe Myrtles
- Completed Projects

Ola 81 (Franklin Rape) Park **District III** **4 Acres**

- Drag and rake all infields
- Paint Gazebo
- Added storage building from North 40 Park
- Added parking lot

Cochran Park **District IV** **20 Acres**

- Added 9 pallets of sod around fields 5-6
- Pine straw around trees
- Drag and rake all infields
- Added 11 pallets of sod to the infield of the 13/14 field
- Painted all buildings

JP Moseley Park **District IV** **100 Acres**

- Drag and rake all infields
- Repair dugout roofs
- Add picnic tables to pavilion
- Plant flowers around entrance sign
- Bush hog around walking track
- Pine straw around trees

Mickie D. Cochran Park **District IV** **12.4 Acres**

- Pine straw around trees
- Painted restrooms and pavilion
- Enclosed screen porch on concession

Patrick Henry – BOE **District IV** **5 Acres**

- Drag and rake infields
- Add infield mix to baseball field (60 tons)

Hidden Valley Park **District V** **102 Acres**

- Pine straw around trees
- Drag and rake all infields
- Bush hog ropes course
- Replace tennis net
- Cut fallen trees around cross country track
- Painted 4 restrooms
- Pruned Crepe Myrtles

Grounds Improvements

Since its inception in May 2004, the Grounds Department has paid numerous visits to the 27 designated facilities for maintenance. The practices demonstrated at each of those facilities occur once a week and are as follows:

- Weeding
- Edging
- Weed Control
- Trash Removal
- Mowing
- Blowing
- Selective Pruning

In addition to the routine maintenance, we were able to place pine straw or mulch at each facility, design and create new bedding areas, as well as, take on several large projects. Those projects include:

- Landscape renovation and installation at the Administration Building, and
- Complete bed renovation and weed control mat installation at Heritage Village, Heritage Senior Center and Hidden Valley Senior Center.

It has been a hard eight months catching up from years of neglect. Through all of the sweat and body aches, the results are that of dramatic and noticeable impact.



Completed Projects

911 Tower

- Clear cut for new tower - August

Administration Building

- Landscaped
- Plant junipers to empty beds

Aubrey Harvey Building

Auction Building

Credit Counseling Center

DFAC's

- Added pine straw

Elections/Registrar

- Added pine straw

Engineering/Crew Building

Firing Range

- Sprayed out Firing Alleys

Friend's House

Health Department Building

- Added pine straw

Impound Lot #2

- Spray out caged storage area

Library – Hampton

- Added mulch
- Added sod

Library – Locust Grove

Library – McDonough

Library – Stockbridge

- Spray and replant bedding area

Magistrate Court

- Added pine straw

MR Building

- Removed dead Leyland trees

Park-n-Ride

Police Department

- Added pine straw

Probate Court

- Added pine straw

Senior Center – Heritage

- Pull and spray weeds
- Added pine straw
- Removed dead trees
- Redo beds

Senior Center – Hidden Valley

- Added pine straw
- Redo beds

Sheriff's Department/Jail

- Planted 17/7 gallon Ligustrums
- Investigate irrigation and means to fix

SPLOST Building

- Added pine straw

State Court Building

- Added pine straw

Superior Court Building

- Added pine straw

Volleyball – The Recreation Department had approximately 360 players to participate in volleyball. Volleyball games were played in a church gym.

Flag Football – The Recreation Department had 90 players to participate in flag football. There were a total of 8 teams and two of those teams went on to District and both of those teams went to State. Flag football games were played at Richard Craig Park.

Basketball – The Recreation Department had 435 players to participate in four leagues. There were a total of 36 teams. Basketball games were played in a church gym. 4 teams went on to participate in District.

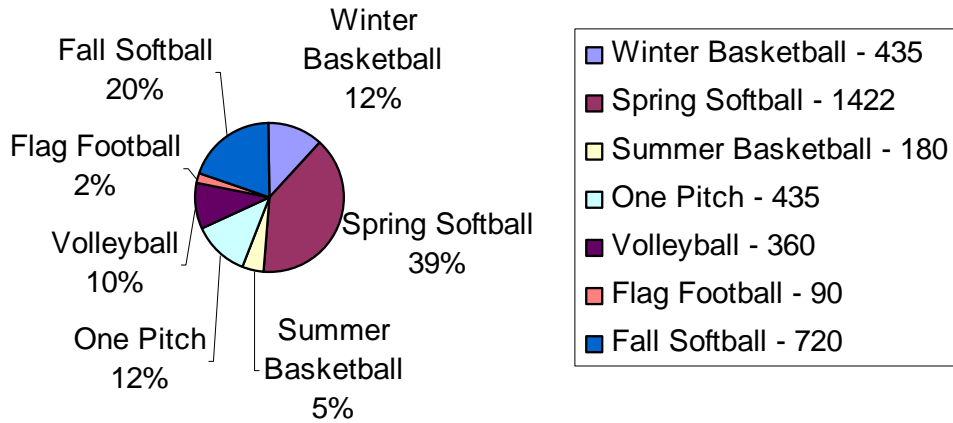
Softball – This year the Recreation Department had two seasons of adult softball. Within the spring season there were a total of 1,422 participants in six different leagues. In the fall season, there were a total of 720 participants in four different leagues. Three teams went to participate in District. Softball games were held at Heritage Park.

Friday Night One Pitch – The department held 11 Friday Night One Pitch Tournaments with a total of 1,836 people participating in these tournaments. Friday Night One Pitch tournaments were held at Heritage Park.

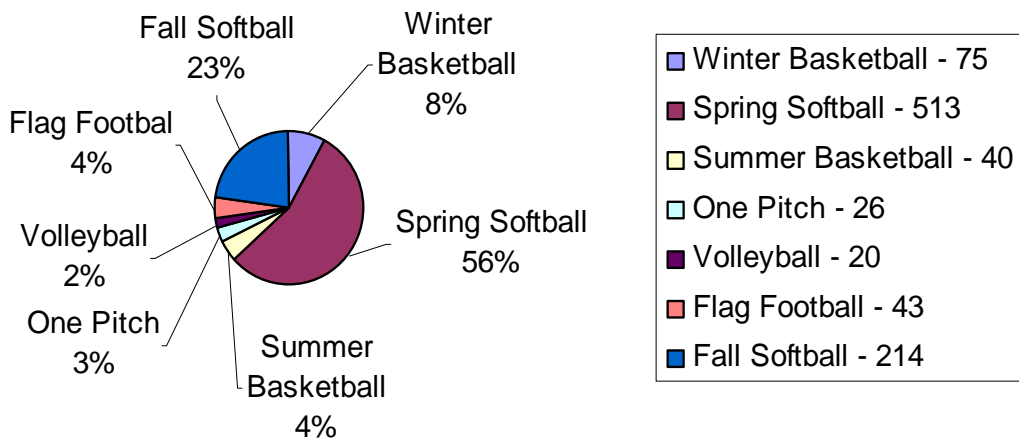
Field Rental and Tournament – Youth baseball and softball, adult softball and youth football tournaments were held in 3 different parks. Tournaments give a boost to the local economy by filling up hotels, restaurants and shopping. There were a total of 4,091 participants that were involved in these tournaments.

ADULT ATHLETICS

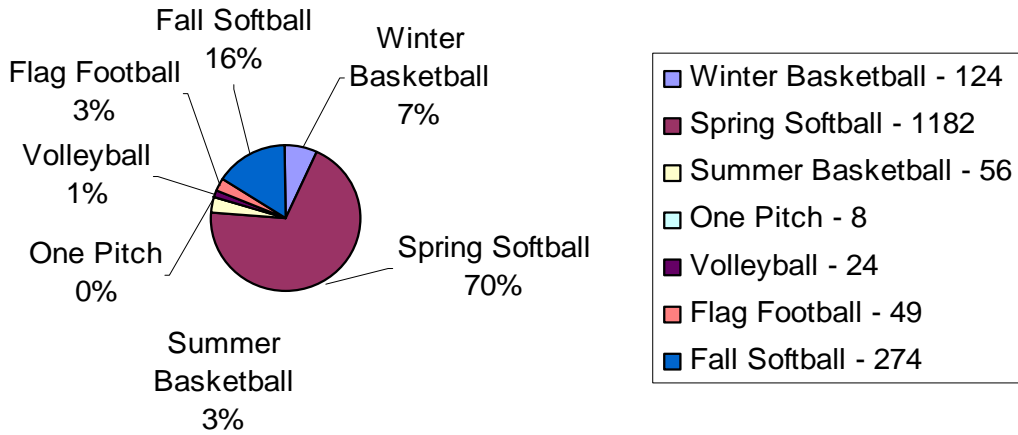
Adult Athletics - Participants



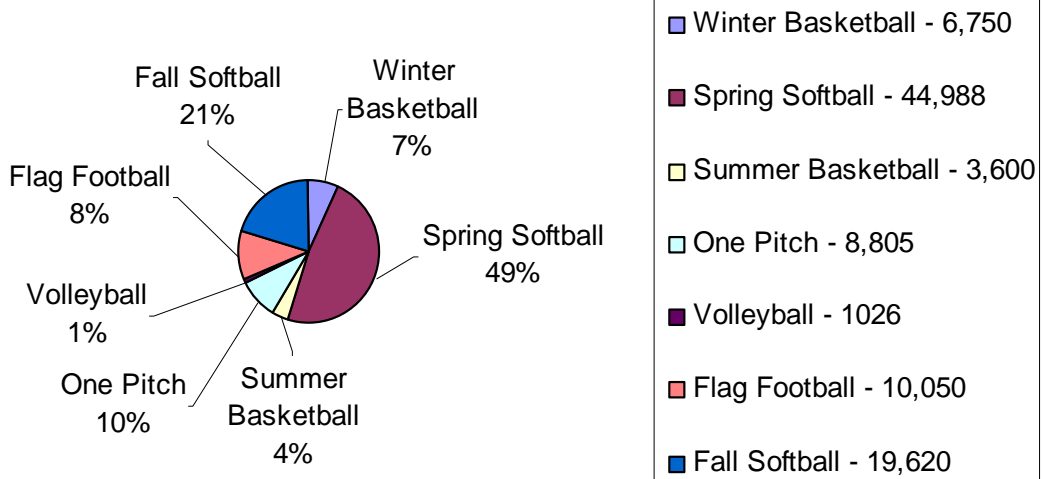
Number of Games



Total Hours of Facility Usage



Total Visits



Baseball – There were a total of 4,091 participants that were involved in 344 teams throughout the county over the spring and fall seasons. Baseball was played in the following parks: Big Springs, Richard Craig, Cochran, North Ola, North Forty, Warren Holder, Sandy Ridge and Hidden Valley. McDonough Youth Baseball hosted the World Series for the fourth year in a row.

Softball – There were a total of 1,098 participants that were involved in 135 teams throughout the county over the spring and fall seasons. Softball was played in the following parks: Alexander, J.P. Moseley, Hidden Valley, North Forty, Warren Holder and Ola 81.

Football – There were a total of 1,347 participants that were involved in 84 teams throughout the McDonough, North Henry and Locust Grove communities. The following parks were the host of these games: Richard Craig, Warren Holder and Mickie D. Cochran.

Cheerleading – There were a total of 838 participants that were involved in 56 teams throughout the McDonough, North Henry and Locust Grove communities. The following parks were the host of these games: Richard Craig, Warren Holder and Mickie D. Cochran.

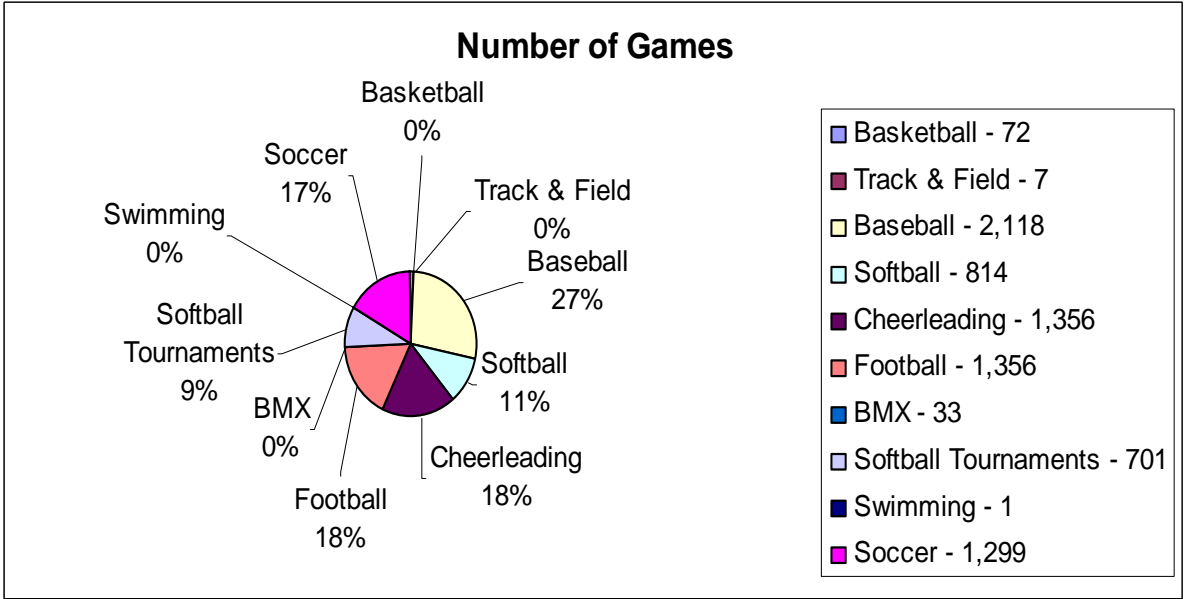
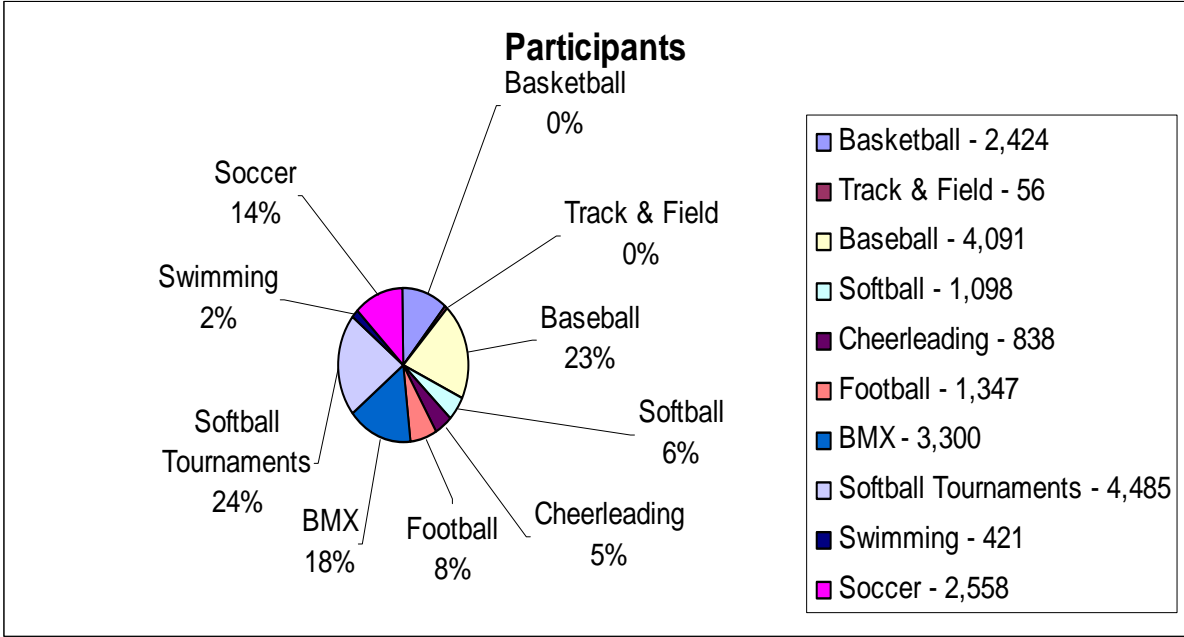
Soccer – There were a total of 2,558 participants that were involved in 263 teams for the spring and fall seasons. Soccer was played at the Henry County Soccer Complex and private fields at Vulcan Materials.

BMX – There were a total of 3,300 participants that participated in 31 races. All races were held at the Sandy Ridge Park.

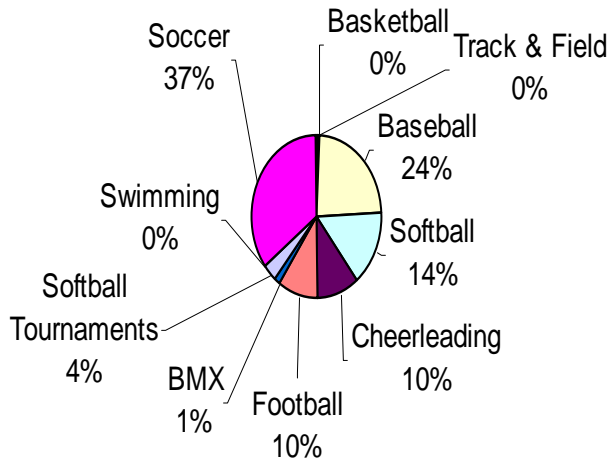
Basketball – There were a total of 2,424 participants that were involved in 134 teams throughout the county. Basketball games and practices were held in the surrounding county school gyms and churches.

Track & Field – There were a total of 56 participants that were involved in track. They participated in 3 track meets and also District. This is the second year of track.



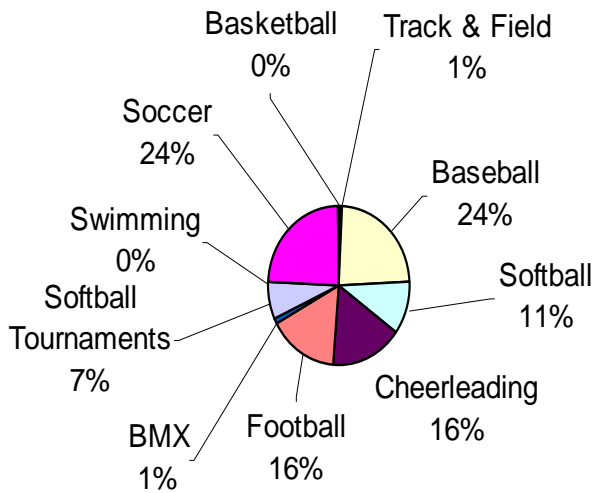


Total Hours of Facility Usage



Basketball	- 113
Track & Field	- 115
Baseball	- 5,709
Softball	- 3,447
Cheerleading	- 2,465
Football	- 2,465
BMX	- 214
Softball Tournaments	- 968
Swimming	- 0
Soccer	- 8,531

Total Visits



Basketball	- 3,572
Track & Field	- 5,229
Baseball	- 206,268
Softball	- 96,322
Cheerleading	- 136,944
Football	- 140,948
BMX	- 9,900
Softball Tournaments	- 63,090
Swimming	- 1,080
Soccer	- 216,890

PROGRAMS

Drop In Volleyball – Each Tuesday night the Fairview Elementary School gym is open for any adult who wishes to play volleyball. This year we had 155 people to participate in this activity.

Step Aerobics – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at either Wesley Lakes Elementary or Austin Road Elementary Schools, there is step aerobics taking place. We began a new location this year at East Lake Elementary School. All of these classes combined had a total of 1530 men and women who participated in this type of exercise.

Yoga – Monday nights at Wesley Lakes Elementary School is where yoga took place this year. During this year there were 94 people who took advantage in this exercise.

Line Dancing – This activity took place at the Windy Hill Activity Building on Tuesday and Thursday nights. There were a total of 852 people who participated in this program.

Karate – On Monday and Wednesday nights you will find karate going on in the Windy Hill Activity Building. This program had a total of 221 participants.

Dog Obedience – On Wednesday nights you will find dogs and their owners learning how to be obedient. There were a total of 131 people and their dogs that attended this program.

Baton – Georgia's Youth On Parade held baton and pom pom classes in the Windy Hill Activity Building on Sunday and Monday nights. There were a total of 1,685 girls that participated in these classes. These girls also had the opportunity to march in the McDonough and Forest Park Christmas Parades.

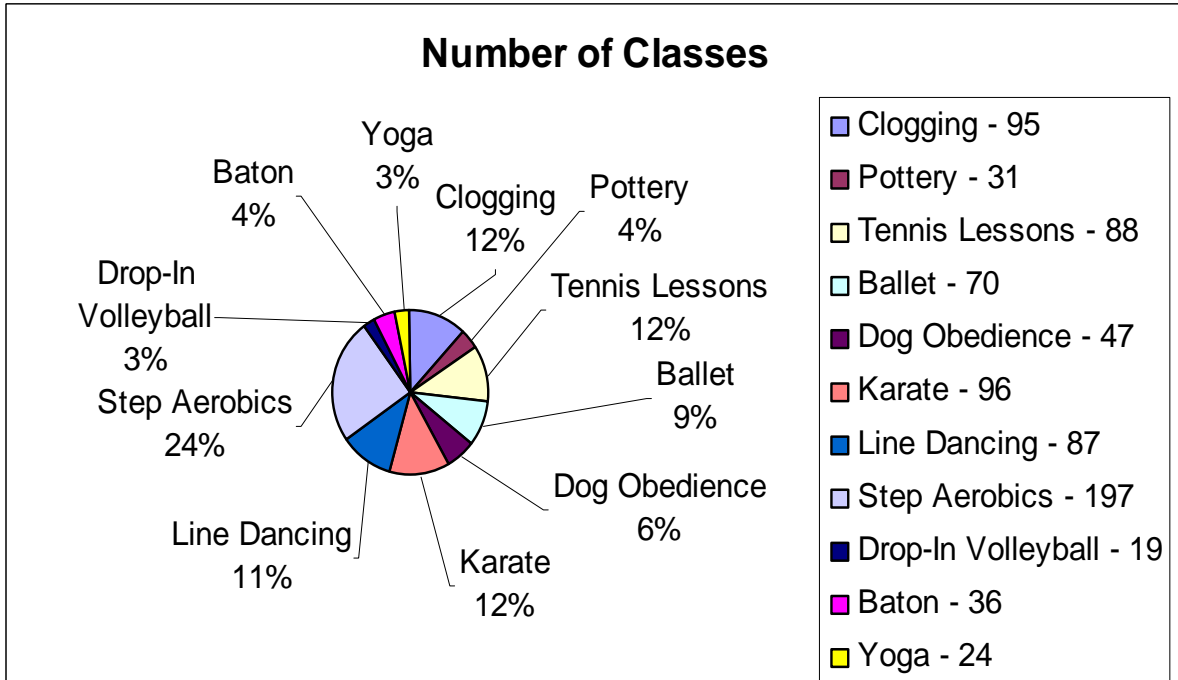
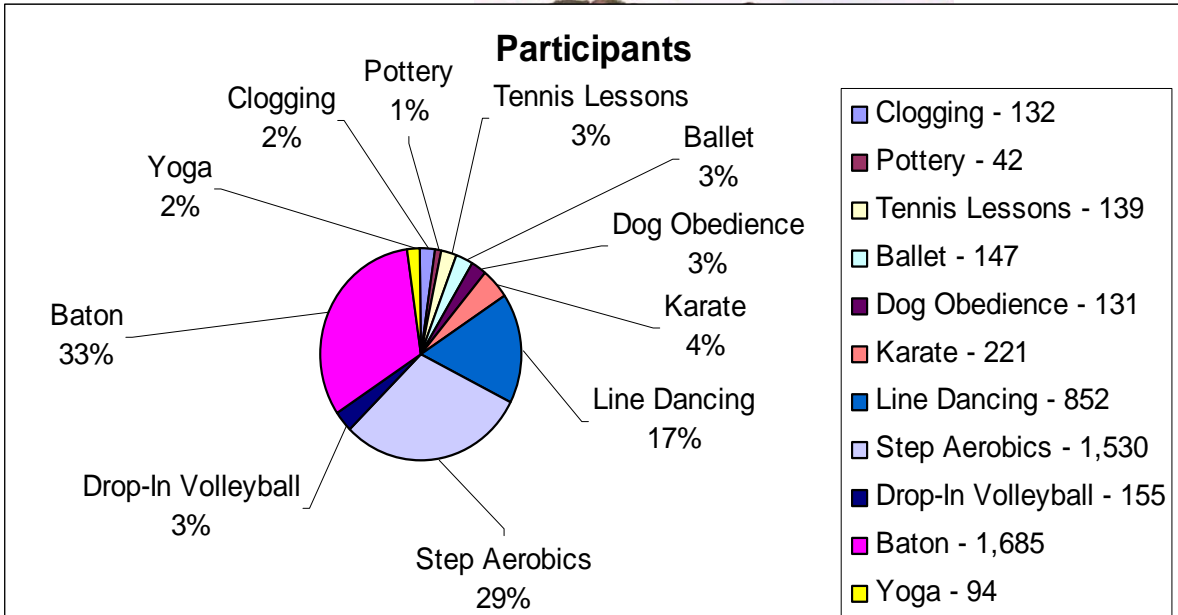
Ballet – This year we began a new class for toddlers in Ballet. These classes were taught on Monday afternoons at the Windy Hill Activity Building. There were a total of 147 girls that took lessons. On Friday, November 5, 2004, these girls participated in a concert for their parents and families.

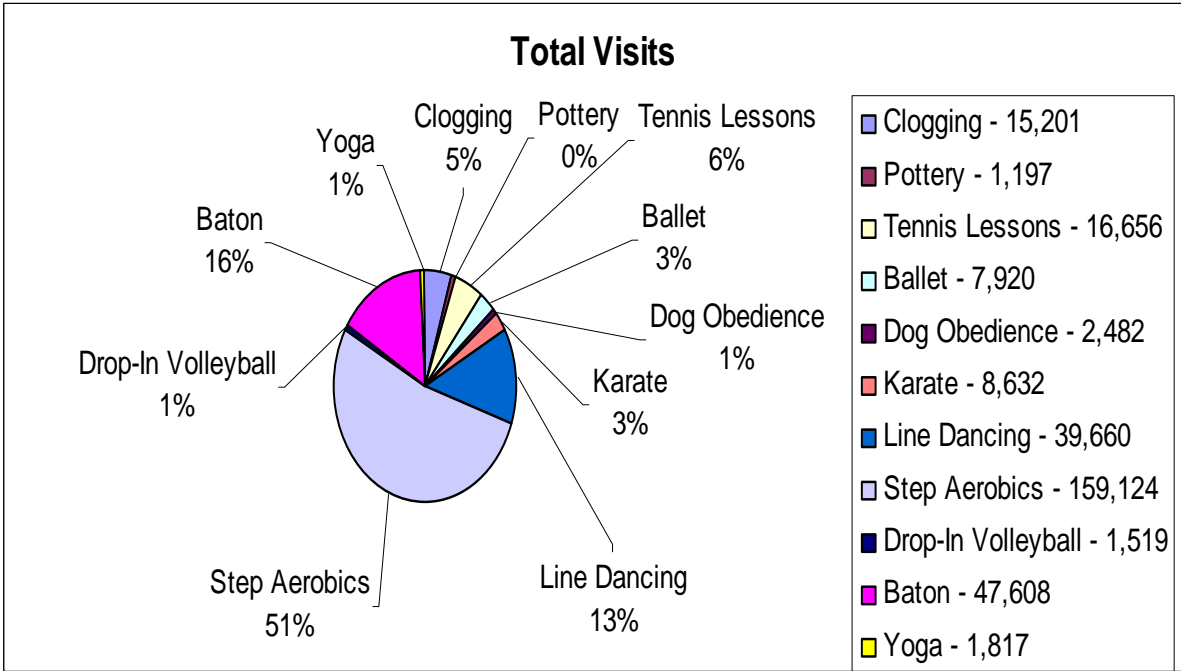
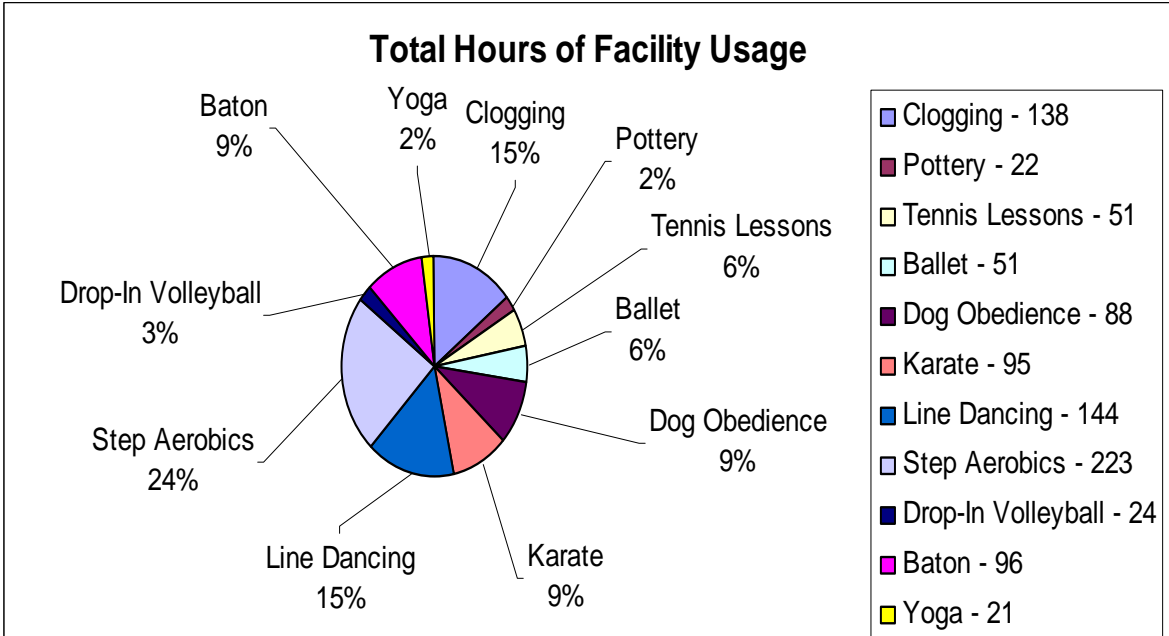
Pottery – Each Tuesdays you can find a pottery class. This class is taught at the Windy Hill Activity Building so the participants can mold clay and then fire it to become a very nice piece of pottery. There were 72 people who participated in this class.

Tennis – We had a huge success for tennis lessons this year. There were a total of 139 students that participated in tennis lessons over the spring, summer and fall. All classes were held at the Richard Craig Park Tennis Complex.

Clogging – On Thursday evenings at the Windy Hill Activity Building, you will find some very loud dancing taking place. This type of dance is called clogging. This year was the first year and there were 132 children and adults who took this class.







March of Dimes – There were 1,200 men, women and children who showed up at Heritage Park for a 3.5 mile walk to raise money. This event took place on April 17, 2004.

Hands On Henry – On April 24, 2004, there were approximately 1,000 people who showed up to volunteer to help clean up and repaint some of the parks’ buildings.

Armed Forces Day – On May 15, 2004, more than 75 veterans and their families turned out for this occasion. This event took place at Mt. Carmel Park.

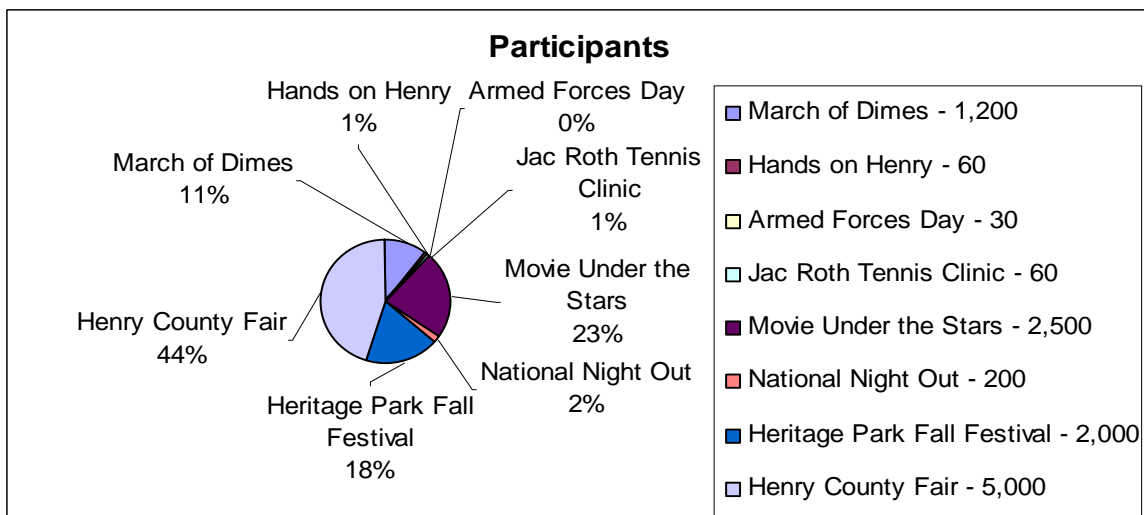
Jac Roth Tennis Clinic – This year marked the 4th year to hold this event. This is a free event and opened to anyone who wished to learn more about the game of tennis. There were 60 people who came to Richard Craig Park Tennis Complex to learn. This clinic took place on August 14, 2004.



Movie Under the Stars – On August 14, 2004, the Henry County Recreation Department with Star 94 hosted Movie Under the Stars. This event took place at the Henry County Soccer Complex. There were approximately 3,000 people that showed up to watch “Spider Man”.

Heritage Park Fall Festival – On October 23, 2004, the Recreation Department, Henry County Community Gardens and Henry County Humane Society put together a Fall Festival. This event took place at Heritage Park and there were approximately people that came for arts and crafts, food and entertainment. There was a childrens and pet costume contests as well as trick or treat around the Village.

One Pitch Tournament for A Friend’s House – On October 22 2004, the Recreation Department hosted a One Pitch Tournament to benefit A Friend’s House. Instead of paying an entry fee, each team member was asked to bring a new unwrapped toy. All the toys were donated to A Friend’s House on November 11, 2004. There were approximately 500 people who were either a spectator or a participant in this tournament.



Special Olympics - The Henry County Special Olympics again had a successful year and won many more medals than anyone could have expected. In terms of participation, fun and the implementation of new athletes we were very successful. We added 15 new athletes and one new sport, Bocce.

The S.O. Volleyball team attended Summer Games and brought home a gold medal. We also brought home third in singles tennis and silver in skills.

Henry County Special Olympic has grown to three basketball teams this past year.

Our 2004 Special Olympic Softball Invitational at Heritage Park went great. We had 26 teams for a total of approximately 520 athletes. Both of our Henry County Softball teams did a great job. The “Big Dogs” brought home the silver and our “Funky Dogs” took the silver as well.

The Henry County “Big Dogs” and “Funky Dogs” participated in a softball tournament in LaGrange, GA on October 8 & 9, 2004. Both teams did a great job!

The Henry County Softball Teams will participate in Fall Games October 15-17 in Gainesville, GA. This is a big event for our S.O. athletes. The “Big Dogs” brought home a silver medal and the “Funky Dogs” brought home a bronze medal.

Circle of Friends - The Circle of Friends group continues to grow. They attend outings and special events throughout the year. Among events attended in 2004 were the Stone Mountain, Movie Night in Morrow, GA, Blue Ridge Train Ride, etc. The annual formal, the biggest and most expensive event of the year, was held at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Over 150 participants dressed in their finest, ate and danced the night away. To make the night extra special they rode to the event in a limo.

BlazeSports - We are providing a wheelchair tennis team through BlazeSports. The team is doing a great job and has participated in several tournaments and brought home several gold medals and trophies.

Special Population Day - Over 400 students, athletes and volunteers attended the Special Population Day at the Henry County Fair. This event, sponsored by the McDonough Kiwanis Club, Special Olympics and the Recreation Department, continues to grow each year.

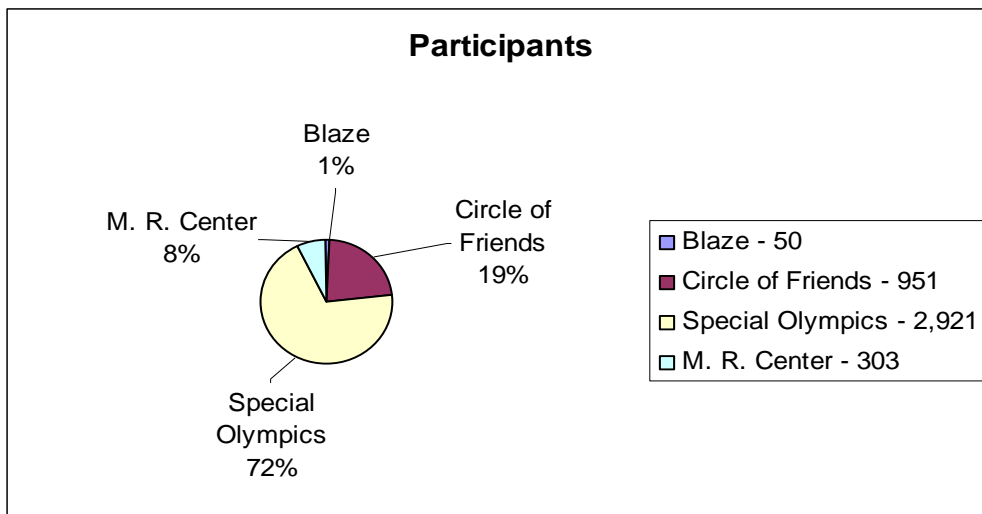
Fundraisers - The First State Bank gave us \$500.00 to help with “Share the Joy Day”.

The Southern Cruisers held a car show fundraiser to help raise money for our S.O. program. They raised over \$2,000.00, which will be used for travel, uniforms, and equipment. They also donated \$500.00 at our annual Christmas Party.

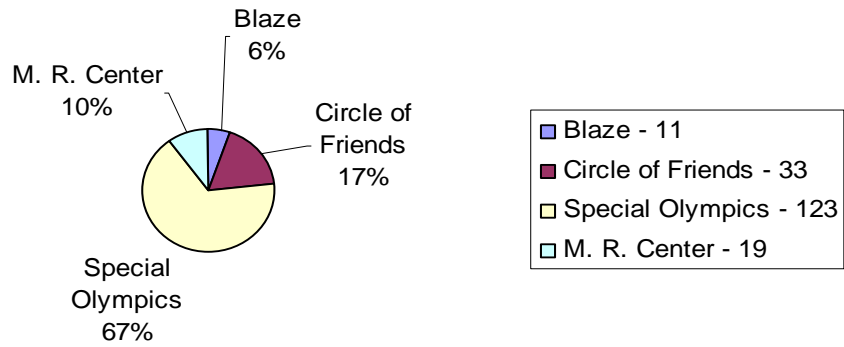
We provided a 2004 Henry County Special Needs Pageant for children and adults. We had 30 participants and hope to have more next year. The participants had a wonderful time and received many nice gifts that were donated by various organizations throughout Henry County. The event was a fundraiser for our therapeutic program. We raised over \$2,000.00.

Share the Joy Day was held on December 4, 2004. This fundraiser brought in over \$3,700.00 in one day.

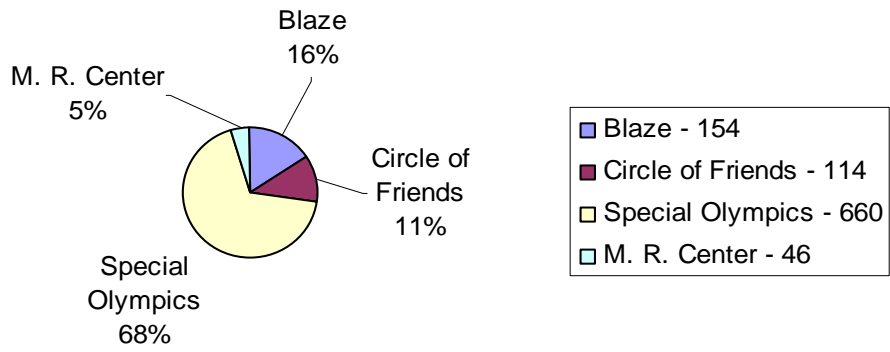
Needs - The T.R. Department is in dire need of an SUV or fifteen-passenger van with a lift to transport wheelchair athletes to various sporting events. In view of the fact that the average wheelchair for basketball cost \$1800 - \$2500 and the costs for travel, i.e. motels, meals, etc. is very expensive; we are requesting as much money as possible initially to cover these expenses.



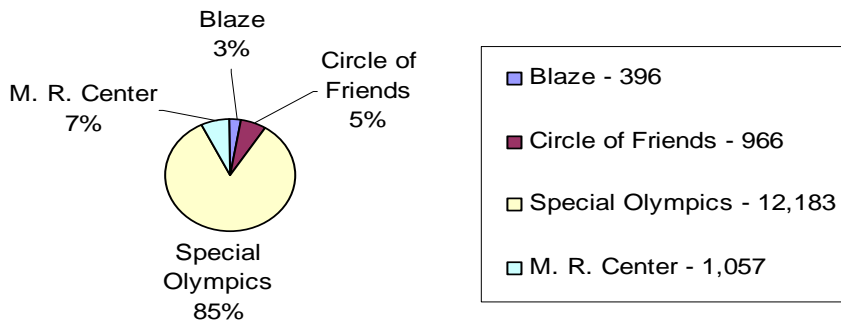
Number of Events



Total Hours of Facility Usage



Total Visits



FISCAL YEAR 2003 – 2004

FINANCIAL REPORTS

