

The Recreation Connection



A Publication of the Acworth Parks and Recreation Department

Spring Preschool Sports Camp

After months of anticipation, the Acworth Parks and Recreation Department will be having a spring edition of Preschool Sports Camp. This is a non-competitive program to help three and four year olds develop basic skills for sports programs in the future.

The program gives children a chance to explore a variety of different sports, all in one program. Preschool sports camp exposes these eager preschoolers to soccer, T-ball, and basketball through six organized instructional sessions.

Parents come enjoy the

spring weather with your child as we discover their potential to be the next big homerun hitter, goal scorer, and/or basketball superstar. Sessions are



every Thursday morning from 9:00 am to 9:45 am beginning April 10th and ending May 15th. Every session will be at Logan Farm Park, located at 4762 Logan Road in Acworth. The registration fee for City Residents is \$50 and \$65 for Non-City Residents. Register online from the convenience of your home by visiting www.acworth.org and clicking on the Rec1 logo. You can also come by the Acworth Parks and Recreation Department office located at the above address. For more information please call Frank White at (770) 917-1234.



Volunteer Spotlight- Marlon Longacre

If you know Marlon Longacre, you know community is his top priority. Marlon serves as the community pastor at NorthStar Church in Acworth. Marlon has served in several different capacities in the community. Marlon has served on the Acworth Planning and Zoning Board, President of the Acworth and Kennesaw Business Association, Chairman of the Big Shanty Festival in Kennesaw, Chairman of the Summer Concert Series at Cauble Park, currently serves as team Chaplain for the Kennesaw Mountain Football Team, and is currently a member of the Rotary Club of North Cobb just to name a few. Marlon has also

won both the Kennesaw and Acworth citizen of the year awards.

Marlon is currently serving in one of his most important capacities. Marlon serves on the Special Needs Development Group. The Special Needs Development Group is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that is helping in the cause to raise money for the Acworth Special Needs Field. Marlon actively promotes the field and his goal is to raise awareness for the Special Needs community.

"You can always call on Marlon when you need him," said James Albright, the Director of



Parks and Recreation. "24 hours a day seven days a week Marlon is on call for the community." So the next time you see Marlon in one of his various capacities say thanks for all he does for our community!

Volume 1, Issue 2

March Edition

Mark Your Calendars:

- 3/7 First Friday Event
- 3/8 Lake Acworth Trail Ribbon Cutting
- 3/12 Neighborhood Meeting
- 3/15 Easter Egg Hunt
- 3/15 KaBOOM! Playground Build Day
- 3/18 Senior Citizen Luncheon
- 3/29 Classic Car Show
- 4/4 First Friday Event
- 4/12 Family Fun Day
- 4/15 Senior Citizen Luncheon

Visit us on the web for more details or call 770-917-1234.

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The Easter Bunny is Coming to Town!



The Easter Bunny is making his way to Acworth! He's bringing over 10,000 eggs with him filled with candy and prizes. The Annual Acworth Parks and Recreation Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 15, at 10:00 a.m., at Cauble Park.

The hunt will be for children below the age of 14. The children will be divided into three age groups. Within each age group there will be several prize eggs that can be redeemed at the Main Stage. Following the hunt there will be picture opportunities with the Easter Bunny, as

well as other activities for the kids. Be there sharp, the event begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 10:04! For more information on the Easter Egg Hunt contact Jodi Mills at jmills@acworth.org or call 770-917-1234.



KaBOOM! - Community Volunteers to Build Special Needs Playground

Hundreds of volunteers from The Home Depot Suppliers and the City of Acworth Parks & Recreation Department, organizers from KaBOOM! and residents of the Acworth community will join forces on March 15th to build a new, safe Special Needs Playground at the Acworth Sports Complex. The playground will be fully handicap accessible and will be located next to the future Special Needs Field. The new playground's design is based on drawings provided by children of the Acworth area who attended a Design Day event in January.

The new playground will provide thou-

"It's for our Kids"

sands of children in the Acworth community and Cobb County a safe place to play. Currently, the children who visit the Acworth Sports Complex do not have a playground to play on. Most importantly, the new playground will be inclusive for everyone as it accommodates Special Needs children and people of all abilities. Made possible through KaBOOM!, The Home Depot Suppliers, Geo Global Partners, and Melnor this special playground is set to be built all in one day.

The KaBOOM! Build Day will be on March

15th, 2008 located at the Acworth Sports Complex and future Special Needs Field 4000 South Main Street Acworth, GA 30101. The build kickoff will be at 8:30a.m. and the ribbon cutting ceremony will be at 2:30pm. The best time to view the playground under construction will be between 11a.m. - 1 p.m.

Hundreds of volunteers, the City of Acworth Mayor & Board of Aldermen and other city officials, county elected officials, State and Federal Representatives will all be apart of this historic event.



New Multi-Use Trail Opens at Cauble Park

The City of Acworth has taken another step to add connectivity in the City by way of multi-use trails. The City of Acworth received a \$750,000 transportation enhancement grant from the State of Georgia to construct a trail that connects Cauble

Park to Winn Street. The 1/3 mile long trail has a 10 foot wide concrete surface and contains a bridge that spans a cove on Lake Acworth.

The city was required to match 20% of the transportation enhancement grant that created a total project budget of \$900,000. The city matched the grant money using recreation impact fees. The city receives \$500 per residential dwelling unit that comes into the city to use towards the construction of new recreation facilities.

Citizens will be able to access the park and its activities by walking, jogging, or cycling. The trail will be the second multi-use trail in the city. The first trail was com-



Acworth residents Red and Shirley Walker walk across the new bridge that links Cauble Park to Winn Street.

pleted in Fall of 2005. The Logan Farm Park trail connects Cowan Road to Logan Farm Park and was completed with grant funds as well. For more information on the trail contact Peter Jezerinac at pjezerinac@acworth.org or call 770-917-1234.



Park of the Month— Acworth Sports Complex

In its fifth year in existence, the Acworth Sports Complex is busting at the seams already. More than 900 kids are playing baseball in the spring and nearly 700 in the fall seasons, the Acworth Baseball Association is proud to be the home of the local big-league hopefuls.

Kids from age four to 12 enjoy the facilities located just off Main Street in the heart of Acworth. Five fields of various sizes make up this beautiful park. Just across the pedestrian pathway of the south side of the Sports Complex is the North side which is home of one more baseball field and two football fields which accommodate the Acworth Warriors football and cheerleaders.

The newest addition to the Sports Complex is coming this month- the Special Needs playground. The non-profit organization KaBOOM!, and Home Depot Suppliers, Geo Global Partners, have generously donated \$40,000 to help make this a reality. The project will be built in just one day. Community members from all over the area will

attend on March 15, to put together this playground in just a matter of hours.

"This is such a great project for the city of Acworth and all of its residents," said Acworth Parks and Recreation Director, James Albright. "We are really looking forward to a day of fun with the entire community and seeing this all happen in just a



matter of hours is going to be great. It's a true testament of how the citizens of our community can come together for such a great cause."

The 42-acre complex is not only home to the football and baseball associations, but also to the Acworth Special Needs League. Last season more than 60 kids with special needs competed in five games over a seven-week period on the existing fields. Plans to build a special needs field are in the works and funding is almost complete. The Special Needs Development group is looking to raise the final \$200,000 to make this field a reality.

Other activities that occur at this park are the APRD football, baseball, softball, cheerleading and speed and agility camps that begin in July. For more information on these camps or the Acworth Sports Complex, please check out the city's website at: www.acworth.org, or call the Parks and Recreation offices at (770) 917-1234.



Senior Luncheon

The City of Acworth Parks and Recreation Department hosts a Senior Luncheon on the third Tuesday of every month. This month's senior luncheon will be held on March 18th. Come join us for lunch, board games, cards, ping-pong, bingo, and other special activities. The luncheon is held at Roberts School Community and Education

Center in Acworth. Lunch is served at noon. Following lunch there will be several rounds of bingo with prizes for the winners. For questions about the Senior Luncheon please contact Frank by phone at (770) 917-1234 or by email at jwhite@acworth.org.



Play Ball!!! - Acworth Baseball Opening Day

To celebrate Opening Day, the Acworth Baseball Association is hosting their first Annual Family Fun Night at the Acworth Sports Complex on Friday, March 7th.

The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m., this is a free event for players and parents to celebrate Opening Day! There will be several Moon Walks, a home run contest, games

and prizes, a rock climbing wall, and other events available to our families of Acworth Baseball at no cost. The event will conclude at 9:00 p.m.

The ABA annual raffle drawing will be held Saturday, March 8, at 8 p.m., winners will be posted at the field and on the website at : www.acworthbaseball.org.



Arbor Day Poster Contest

The Acworth Tree Commission held its Arbor Day Poster contest in February for students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade at McCall Primary and Acworth Intermediate.

This year there were approximately 40 posters entered in the contest. A representative from the Tree Commission picked the top 3 from each grade.



The winners were:

McCall Kindergarten

1st Place Revay Shaw II
2nd Place Eric Eads
3rd Place Nathan Tompkins

McCall 1st Grade

1st Place Eric Cross
2nd Place Alex Zajc
3rd Place Rebecca Hernandez

Acworth Intermediate 2nd Grade

1st Place Tori Gatewood
2nd Place Emily Markham
3rd Place Hailey Cutler

Acworth Intermediate 3rd Grade

1st Place Dakota Goodwin
2nd Place David Sharp
3rd Place Olga Hernandez

Acworth Intermediate 4th Grade

1st Place Faith Wanjiku Njoroge
2nd Place Jon Jones
3rd Place Tobi Woghiren

Acworth Intermediate 5th Grade

1st Place Hank Strickland
2nd Place Elicia Darnell
3rd Place Peggy Fregene



Classic Car Cruise Night

It's back! On Saturday, March 29th, the first Classic Car Cruise Night of 2008 will take place in Downtown Acworth. The Classic Car Cruise Night takes place throughout the year on months with a fifth Saturday. Bring out your piece of history for hundreds to see. The \$1 entry fee goes to the Shop with a Hero Foundation. Over 200 cars, trucks and motorcycles will be on display and there will be live music.

The event will be from 4:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. on Main Street. All of Downtown Restaurants and Merchant will stay open late. For more information please visit www.acworth.org or call 770-974-3112.



RecToid of the Month— Online Registration

Citizens can now register for Parks and Recreation programs and facilities from the convenience of their own home 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The process is simple. Go to: www.acworth.org/departments/pnrecreation and select "click here to register online". Once you are on the online



registration site, you simply need to create an APRD Account and you are ready to register.

If you experience any issues or need assistance with the process please contact Jeff Chase at jchase@acworth.org or call 770-917-1234.



Staff Directory

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Visit us on the web at
<http://www.acworth.org/departments/pnrecreation/>