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PRESS STORY
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SPALDING COUNTY PARKS, PUBLIC GROUNDS AND LEISURE SERVICES STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS EARN DISTRICT HONORS!

On October 19, 2016 the Georgia Recreation and Park Association District Four held its annual Awards Banquet at the Riverdale Centre and presented Spalding County staff and volunteers with special recognition.

Volunteer, Barron Cumming, received the “Volunteer of the Year” award for his years of dedicated service to Griffin Youth Soccer. Since 2005 he has dedicated nearly 25 hours every week to the program. He has been an effective leader who played a major role in the completion of the Soccer Lights SPLOST project at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park.

The Spalding County Senior Nutrition program received yet another award of excellence as “Program of the Year.” This quality program has been in service since August 2015 and has already served 14,558 meals. Under the management of Spalding County the number of Congregate Meal Program clients grew from 38 to 240 and Meals on Wheels service grew by 23%.

In June of 2016 Spalding County hosted “Pro Day-One Way to Play.” Ten current and former football players made local history and came home to Griffin to interact and run drills with local youth. This event received the “Athletic Event of the Year Award.” Partners including Home Depot of Griffin, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, US Army recruiters, local recording artists and multiple social clubs donated time and resources to make this event a success.

Spalding County Parks, Public Grounds and Leisure Services was honored to receive the “Class A Agency of the Year” Award. The department is celebrating the success of the past year which featured a focus on service, quality and image. Some of the successes include: Youth and summer programming development with participation doubling at all recreation sites; a Disc Golf Course under construction at Dundee Lake Park; The lighting of the Soccer Complex; The Griffin-Spalding Sports Hall of Fame now open to the public through the departments office; Growth in Senior Adult program services and much more.

The Awards banquet culminated with the recognition of Jo Ellis as the Distinguished Professional of the Year. With a moment of silence the district members set aside a time of

remembrance for the service that Ms. Ellis gave to Spalding County and to Georgia Recreation and Park Association.

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