

Spalding County News & Views

January, 2015

County Managers Comments

Fellow Employees,

As we begin this New Year let us take a minute and look back over the accomplishments of the past year. Each and every one of the accomplishments listed below are not just accolades for that particular department but are accolades for the entire County. We have a great team here at Spalding County and when one part of that team excels we all excel and continue to exhibit the county motto of “Committed to Excellence”.

- County Crews prepared for and effectively dealt with “Snowpocalypse” in January
- County Crews prepared for and effectively dealt with “Icepocalypse” in February
- Purchased new Fire Truck and put into operation in July 2014
- Awarded ACCG Wellness Grant
- Vehicle Use Policy adopted
- Completed Transit Feasibility Study
- Financial Policies & Procedures adopted
- New Personnel Policies adopted
- Website makeover completed
- Relocated Griffin-Spalding Athletic Hall of Fame
- Relocated Cooperative Extension Office
- County awarded Certificate of Excellence in Governmental Reporting for the 13th consecutive year
- Fire Department collected funds for Give Burns the Boot Drive
- Six County employees completed the City of Griffin Leadership Development Institute
- Six County employees graduated from the Leadership Griffin-Spalding Program sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce
- Spring into Fitness employee and family health & wellness event at Wyomia Tyus Park

- Collected 53 units of blood at our annual blood drive with 55 participants
- Minimum Housing Code demolition and removal of 14 structures this year, 8 homes demolished by County and 6 by property owners
- Mrs. Judith Jones Brewer was awarded 2014 recipient of the Bain Proctor Award for Volunteerism
- Otsuka Chemical Company, LTD announced locating their North American Headquarters to the Lakes at Green Valley Industrial Park
- Toppan Printing Company, LTD. announced locating to The Lakes at Green Valley Industrial Park
- Disc Golf coming to Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park
- Barbara Lights appointed E-911 Communications Manager
- Negotiated and implemented Intergovernmental Agreement for construction of a new Griffin-Spalding County Airport
- Installed “swamp cooler” in animal shelter kennel area and drastically reduced temperature in that area
- Facility Dude program implemented in Public Works, Code Enforcement, Community Development and Water & Wastewater Departments
- Scheduled unpaid holidays in FY 2014 were funded and made paid holidays
- Resurfaced 27.4 miles of County roads
- Initiated “How to do business with Spalding County” on the website
- Second Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) formed and trained
- Parks & Recreation Department named Agency of the Year
- General Fund Revenues exceeded Expenditures for the first time in four years
- Updated and improved Courthouse Cameras and Security
- Transitioned to Bi-Weekly Payroll
- Construction of improvements to Park @ 6th

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of ALL County Employees, and I want to thank you for what you do every day to make Spalding County a better place to live, work and play.

William

Congratulations

**Spalding County
2015 United Way Campaign
Exceeds Expectations!**

Gas Card Raffle!!!!



The employees of Spalding County proved once again how big their hearts are through the 2015 United Way Campaign. Our goal for this year was \$7,500.00 and our total pledges for the year are \$8,842.60.

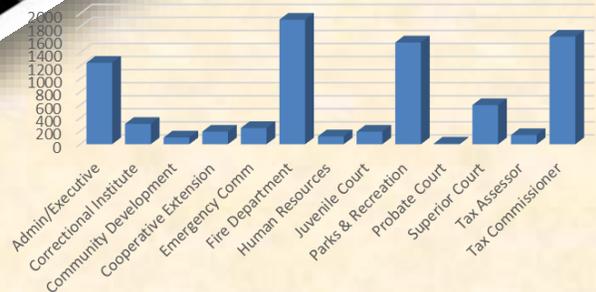
Our thanks goes to everyone who participated in this program and a special thanks to

Melissa Jackson and Megan Lummus

for their hard work as volunteers during the 2015 United Way Campaign.



2015 United Way Pledges





**The Spalding County Fire Department
hosted the
10th Annual “Firefighters for Kids”
Charity Golf Tournament on
September 18, 2014**



1st Place Team:
DGR Holding/College Park Fire
Department



2nd Place Team:
Team Murphy/Spalding County Fire
Department



3rd Place Team:
Conner-Westbury Funeral Home

Spalding County Fire Department hosts a golf tournament in September to raise funds to purchase toys for children in our community who otherwise would wake up on Christmas morning with no toys, gifts or clothes from Santa.

Through Hole Sponsorships and Registration Fees over \$6,000 was raised during this event. The tournament assists in the Griffin-Spalding County Angel Tree Program and helped over 50 needy children placed in DFCS care.



On November 20th, Lt. Tate and Melissa Jackson from the Spalding County Fire Department teamed up with DFCS workers and Griffin-Spalding School System employees for a shopping trip to Walmart. Armed with a budget of \$120 per child they shopped from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in order to fulfill the Christmas wishes of the children involved.

DFCS workers visited the assigned children prior to the shopping date and had them fill out a list to include their name, age and at least three items they really wanted for Christmas. Some of the children requested the necessities of pillows, comforter sets and clothing instead of toys. The lists were distributed to the volunteers and the items were purchased to be delivered by the DFCS worker to the assigned children.



***Spalding County Parks and Recreation
Celebrates the Season with the “Festival of Lights”***



Spalding County Parks and Recreation kicked off the holiday season with the annual “Festival of Lights” on November 25, 2014. This event is held at Airport Park and is an opportunity for the citizens of Spalding County to experience the wonder and the magic of the Christmas season through creative light displays and carefully planned interactive games and activities.

A big thank you to all of the employees and volunteers who helped to make this event an outstanding success!

Spalding County Parks and Recreation

January, 2015

December 20, 2014

On Saturday, December 20, 2014 the Spalding County Parks and Recreation Department hosted a **"Free Breakfast with Santa"** at the City Park, Fairmont Park and AMBUCS Park locations from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.



Compliments to Spalding County Staff

January, 2015

August 26, 2014

Email to Melissa Jackson & Chief West – Spalding County Fire Department:

“Hi Melissa and Chief West-

I just received a call from Mr. Slaughter and WOW- what an AWESOME JOB y’all did this year!!! \$11,144.56- that AMAZING and more than \$2,500 over what you did last year!! We are SO thankful for you!! I have attached some of the pictures above- please share with everyone and let them know how very thankful we are!!

Please let me know if you need anything at all! I look forward to working with you again in the future!”

Lisa Jeffers

Fundraising Coordinator
MDA of Central Georgia



Thank you, Spalding Fire Department!

**YOU RAISED \$11,144.56 THIS YEAR-
A \$2,598 INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR!!**

WAY TO GO!!

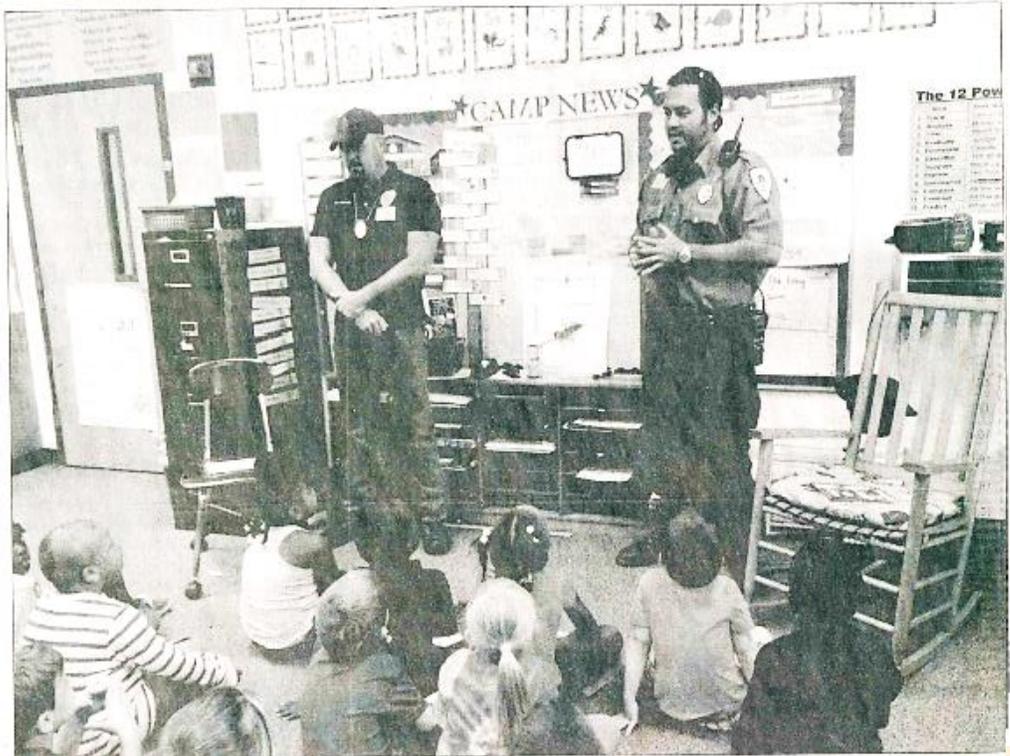
THANK YOU FOR BEING HEROES FOR MDA!

  
60 YEARS STRONG
Fighting Muscle Disease

Education is being treated seriously when the 'F.B.I.' gets involved

Spalding County Animal Control officers Brent Foster, left, and Steven Arnold read to Mrs. Freeman's kindergarten class at Orrs Elementary School Friday as part of the school's F.B.I. (Fathers Be Involved) Program. "I think it is exceptional to see fathers interacting with and engaging students," said Patti Arnold, whose grandson Trenton attends Orrs Elementary. "Another example of Orrs encouraging character development."

SUBMITTED



September 11, 2014 – Spalding County Hosts Red Cross Blood Drive

Spalding County hosted their Blood Drive for the American Red Cross on September 11, 2014. There were 54 employees who signed up to donate blood.

You don't need a special reason to give blood, you just need your own reason. Whatever your reason, the need is constant and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply and you'll feel good knowing you've helped change a life.

*A big **Thank You!** goes out to everyone who participated.*

October 30, 2014

Email from Ms. Jewel Walker-Harps to William Wilson, County Manager:

Mr. Wilson,

"Thank you, thank you for the work on the buildings at Fairmont. We really appreciate your promptness and willingness to take care of the job."

Jewel Walker-Harps EPI

November 19, 2014

Email from Sylvia Hollums,
Spalding County Tax
Commissioner to William
Wilson, County Manager:

William,

“I wanted to share with you the response I received today when we held a meeting in our Senior Citizen's Center with the Clerk of Court and Tax Commissioner from Liberty County, several vendors that service the Clerks of Court in Georgia and a representative from Thomson Reuters (VCS), our property tax software vendor. They were very impressed with the facility and even suggested they might like to retire in Spalding County. The staff was very gracious and accommodating, as always.

We should be very proud of this achievement for our community. My sincere thanks to you, the county commissioners and Parks and Recreation for allowing me to host this meeting here today.”
Sylvia

December 17, 2014



Paul Beamon
601 South 8th Street
Griffin Ga 30224
12/28/2014

Chief West
Spalding County Fire Department
600 Carver Road
Griffin Ga 30224

On December 17, 2014, Members of the Spalding County Fire Department, Lieutenant White, Firefighter Arron Burrow, Firefighter Fernando Harps, Captain Jester, Deputy Chief Clark and Battalion Chief Slaughter responded with Spalding Regional EMS Medic 3 on a report of a patient unconscious after sustaining a significant injury to the their leg with a skill saw.

EMS Lieutenant Brian Cook wishes to express how impressed he was with the Spalding County Fire Department's response, teamwork, and level of support these men provided. The determination and commitment along with the effortless manner in which the Spalding County Fire Department and Spalding Regional EMS teams were able to operate together were a fundamental element in the successful resuscitation of the patient.

Although the patient succumbed to his injury after surgery, we feel that the efforts of men of the Spalding County Fire Department are to be voiced and we want to thank you for all your leadership and support.

Sincerely,



Paul Beamon,

Director Spalding Regional EMS

Upcoming Events

Hello Everyone! I hope you all had a great holiday. We are going to have a fundraiser for United Way and I think you all will either love it or know someone that would.

Consider it a girls' night out, New Year's resolution start off, or fun fitness for anyone of any age to join this class. This is a Belly Dancing class where you will learn the moves as well as the hand movements. Regular cloths or appropriate work-out gear is the attire and when you call to sign up, you have the option to buy a coin skirt or veils. If you are interested, bring silk veil, bandana, sheer curtain, something that will flow for the dances. Our instructor is one of my ladies here at the Senior Center and she was taught the dance back in the 70's and boy it is a good ab work-out.

If you would like to join in on the fun please RSVP by January 15th and call 770-467-4384. Thanks and hope to see you there!

Megan Lummus
Administrative Assistant
Spalding County Senior Center



LIVE UNITED
United Way

SPALDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

Spalding County and United Way invite you to an Arabian Red Carpet Affair.

A Belly Dancing Class, \$5/person

Friday, January 23rd at 6pm.

At the Spalding County Senior Center

885 Memorial Drive, Griffin, Ga 30223

Please Call in advance to sign up, 770-467-4384

All ages are welcome to join this event.

What a better way to start your New Year's resolution than with coin skirts, best friends, and fun dancing for a United Way fundraiser. Regular clothing or appropriate fitness clothing is acceptable.

Service Award Recipients

January, 2015

Congratulations to the Spalding County Service Award Recipients 4th Quarter 2014:

Administration

Mike Windham 10 Years

Fire Department

Kenny West 35 Years
Michael Ellis 25 Years
Kory Dufresne 10 Years
Zavario Johnson 5 Years
Juan Diaz 5 Years

Correctional Institute

Richard Wallace 5 Years



*Pictured to the left: (from left to right)
Captain Lyons, Juan Diaz, Deputy Chief Clark*



*Pictured above: (from left to right)
Captain Lyons, Kory Dufresne, Deputy Chief Clark*

Probate Court

Jan Hunt 25 Years

Sheriff's Department

Tammi Riggins 25 Years
Lydia Kraeuter 10 Years
Ron Buchanan 5 Years
Jennifer Fuller 5 Years

Wastewater

Gregory Elliott 5 Years

Public Works

Tim Crane 20 Years

State Court

Leslie Heffron 10 Years

Tax Commissioner

Anita Harps 25 Years

Spalding County Intradepartmental Cooperation

January, 2015

November 11, 2014 - Service Panel



On November 11, 2014, Spalding Fire, Spalding Regional EMS, Emergency Communications (911), and the Spalding County Sheriff's Dept. held a Service Panel Presentation for the residents of Sun City Peachtree.

*Spalding County News & Views
2015 Winter Edition*

December 3, 2014 - Gas Leak Drill



On December 3, 2014, Battalion 1, Engine 2, Engine 3, Squad 3, 500, 501, and 502 reported to the intersection of Newton Road and Highfalls Road for a Gas Leak Drill sponsored by Atlanta Gas and Spalding County Public Works.



Spalding County 2014 Birthdays

<i>January 2015</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Nancy Evans Kareem Fuller	3
4 Eric Huggins	5 Susan McWilliams Jonathan Johnson Reggie Sutton	6 Bobby Allen Kenneth Haygood William Murray	7 Angie Perdue Tony Ranieri Gerald Collier	8	9 Derrick Watts	10
11 Jordan Andrews Happy Johnson Richard Mangham Rabi Releford	12 Beverly Brown	13 Tony Ison John Shivers, Jr. Vincent Henley Brittany Wilson	14 Cody Cahill David Marston	15 William Wilson	16 Terry Colling Joshua Seigler	17 Lisa Crapo Chad Long Raymond Ray
18 Barbara Lights Jason McKinney	19 Kristin Hill Regina Langston Nick Russo Marlon Moore	20 Roger Moore Pamela Hancock	21 Louis Smith	22 Keondra Barkley Ayonna Thurman	23 James Caldwell	24 Kala Gladden
25 Kevin Hollums	26 Paige Parks	27	28 George Nash, Jr. Luke Enslow	29	30 Barry Wilson Gregory Thaxton Pamela Parks Ronald Whitehouse	31 Ricardo McCrary

<i>February 2014</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Marco Colbert Michelle Lyons Chad Brooks	2 Shirley Miller Vickie Wilson Richard Wallace	3 Kevin Chute Laneice Stargell	4 Randy Bogan	5 Denise Lewis	6 Melanie West Daniel Gooden Nikki Oates	7 Vincent Sims Henry Baker
8 Tammy Chapman	9 David Allen Lola Martinez	10 Kathy Gibson Dester Jester	11 Lawrence Bodine Jr.	12	13 Roy Parrish, Jr.	14
15 Curtis Jones	16 Mary Griffin Ian Hinton	17 Laurie Littlejohn	18 Greg Elliott Andrea Jenkins	19 Brian Bankston Michael Chadwick	20 James Coffey Ashley Neath	28 Oscar Jordan
22	23	24 Dunstan Milner Paul M. Whitfield	25	26 Thalia Beck Tonja Cobb Patrick Johnson Christopher Strickland	27 Mellissa Ambles Shayla Frazier Shirley Nelms	28 Darryl Larrabee Homer Daniel

March 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sidney Esary Lance Griffin Randy Moore	2 Terris Bunn	3 James D. Walker	4 Robert Maner Kim Slaughter	5	6	7 Yolanda Keys
8 Tami Riggins	9 Dexter Head	10 Bree Jones Mitchel Kimbell	11	12 Marcia Norris	13	14 Julie Gates
15	16 Athena Hightower	17	18	19	20 Misty Piper	21 Diane Pugh Bill Harden Ron Buchanan
22 Lanette Self	23 Renee Dupree-Law Susan Lynch Richard Anding	24 Madeliene Stoner-Gatlin	25 Duon Dorsett	26 Sandra Fletcher Tameka Nelson	27 Larry Bishop Jeffrey Chambers Jamie Cain	28 Nathan Johnson
29 W. Fletcher Sams Cordelia Stodghill	30 Robbie Milner	31				

*Cindy & Kenny
Young
January 15
38 Years*

*Glenn & Mary
Polk
January 16
22 Years*

January

2015

**Wedding
Anniversaries**

*Thalia & Wayne
Beck
March 8
34 Years*

*Robby & Sabrina
Milner
March 14
15 Years*

*Eddie & Carrie
James
March 19
16 Years*

*Marco & Monica
Colbert
March 26
16 Years*

March

What's Happening in Spalding County?

January, 2015



Otsuka Chemical Co., LTD breaks ground on their manufacturing facility in the Green Valley Industrial Park



October 2014



Spalding County Administration

January, 2015

Congratulations Ms. Melanie!

Melanie West in the Finance Department welcomed a new member to her family, a grandson, Harold "Isiah" West, born August 27, 2014, weighing in at 7 lbs. 8 oz.



Good bye Ms. Felicia we will miss you!

Felicia Mathis, retired from the Finance Department in January 2015. Ms. Felicia celebrated 35 years of service with Spalding County in May, 2014. We will miss your smiling face, your subtle humor, your direct way of telling folks how to submit their items for payment and your special way of viewing life and the world. It has been a pleasure working with you and we wish you all the best.

Welcome Aboard

Jill Crews joined the Finance Department in December to fill the shoes of Ms. Felicia. Although these are big shoes to fill, Jill has "dug in her heels" and is "hanging on" for the ride. Jill comes to us from the Clerk of Court's office and we are glad she has joined us.

Spalding County Animal Control



November 5, 2014

Animal Control, not just for dogs and cats anymore:

This alligator was rescued from the side of the road on 19/41 at the Ingles Shopping Center. This little guy was turned over to Reptile Rescue, Jason Clark, who stated that there is a swampy area over around the church so there is a possibility more of these little fellas could immerge in the future....



DogS and Cats and

ALLigatorS???

OH MY !!!!



Spalding County Community Development

January, 2015

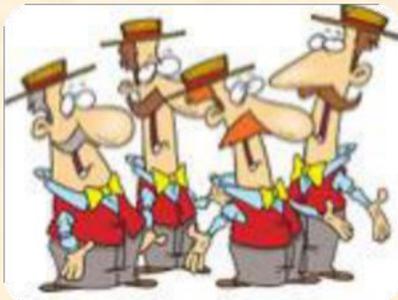


Welcome to Charlie Tillman!

In November, Community Development welcomed Charlie Tillman as our new Administrative Assistant. Charlie will be handling Water Authority issues and licensing matters. Charlie came to Community Development from the Clerk of Courts office and is doing a fantastic job!

Good bye to Kyri Johnson

Also in November, Community Development had to say goodbye to Kyri Johnson, who resigned her position as Environmental Resources Coordinator. Kyri accepted a similar position with Dekalb County and we wish her all the best in the future. We will miss her smiling face.



Well done Eric!



Community Development would also like to congratulate Building Official Eric Mallard and his barber shop quartet "The Tone Rangers" for winning a singing contest this past October in Helen, Georgia. And if you get a chance, ask him to sing his solo rendition of "Old Man River". It'll know your socks off!



Spalding County Fire Department

January, 2015



Spalding County Fire Department participates in two food drives a year at Thanksgiving and Christmas. The firefighters and anyone in the community can drop off canned food to any of the seven county fire stations. The food drive benefits Five Fish and Two Loafs Food Pantry.



- On October 1-3, 2014, The Spalding County Fire and Office of Homeland Security assisted with the Flu Shot / Point of Distribution exercise at the Spalding County Health Department.
- On October 8, 2014, Chief West celebrated his 35 Year of Service to Spalding County.
- On October 28, 2014, Spalding County Fire and Spalding County Office of Homeland Security hosted the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for an Emergency Operations Class and WEBOC Presentation and Training at the Annex Meeting room for all Captains, Battalions, Deputy Chiefs, and Fire Chief.



On October 31, 2014
10.31.2014: Chief West, Engine 7, and Melissa Jackson attended the Annual Public Safety Trick or Treat Detail at Northgate Shopping Center.





Graduates of the Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) were recognized for their participation in the C.E.R.T. Program hosted by the Spalding County Office of Homeland Security at the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Meeting Monday December 1, 2014 at 6pm-7pm at the Annex Room 108.

On November 3, 2014, Captain Harold Williams was promoted to Fire Marshal.



- November 5, 2014, Spalding County Fire and Spalding County Office of Homeland Security hosted Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for a Hazardous Material Awareness Class held at Headquarters Station.
- On November 11, 2014, Spalding Fire, Spalding Regional EMS, Emergency Communications (911), and the Spalding County Sheriff's Dept. held a Service Panel Presentation for the residents of Sun City Peachtree. (*See Intradepartmental Cooperation*)
- On November 13th & 14th Spalding County Fire and Spalding County Office of Homeland Security hosted the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for a Rescue Specialist Class held at Headquarters Station.
- On December 3, 2014, Battalion 1, Engine 2, Engine 3, Squad 3, 500, 501, and 502 reported to the intersection of Newton Road and Highfalls Road for a Gas Leak Drill put on by Atlanta Gas and Spalding County Public Works. (*See Intradepartmental Cooperation*)

- On December 4, 2014 the Spalding County Fire Department hosted Breakfast with the Chief in the bay of Headquarters and catered by the C.I. Breakfast with the Chief provides an informal way for the firefighters to express their concerns and get questions answered concerning the future of the Spalding County Fire Department. The leftover breakfast items were taken to the 911 Dispatchers.



- On Saturday December 6, 2014, the Spalding County Fire Department participated in the Annual Christmas Parade sponsored by the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce. The Spalding County Fire Department invited Spalding County E-911 Dispatchers and their family to ride with the firefighters in the parade.



- Spalding County Fire Department receives new piercing nozzle. This piece of equipment is designed to penetrate walls, ceilings and cars to assist firefighters in extinguishing fires in a faster and safer manner.



Spalding County Firemen got into the Christmas spirit by participating in "Ring the Bell" for the Salvation Army at Big Lots on three separate occasions during the Christmas Season.



Spalding County Parks and Recreation

January, 2015



Parks and Recreation Celebrates 2014!

08-21-14 Lauren Brown, Administrative Assistant II and Robby Milner, Athletic Supervisor graduated the Griffin-Spalding Leadership Development Institute, 12 week program held on Thursdays, August 21st-November 6th.

4th District Awards 10-22-14

The Georgia Recreation and Park Association (GRPA) recently held the annual 4th District Awards Banquet in Carrollton, Georgia on Wednesday, October 22, 2014. Spalding County Parks and Recreation received four awards including Administrative, Athletic and Senior Section Awards.

Lauren Brown, Administrative Assistant II- received the Administrative Award “Class A” Award. The Administrative Award honors administrative staff for their contributions to the Department as a whole which includes improving and enhancing the effectiveness of the Department and providing outstanding customer

service to citizens and fellow colleagues.

The Department was honored with Athletic Agency of the Year Award “Class A”. This

award is presented to the Agency that best demonstrates leadership and participation in GRPA athletics.

Senior Section Awards-

Athletic Program Award “May is Older American Month” “Class A” - was presented to Spalding County Parks & Recreation because of outstanding senior game events that



have been hosted in Spalding County for almost 25 years. The event has grown from 50 participants to over 300!

Special Populations Award was awarded to the Spalding County Senior Citizen's Center Silver Foxes Club. This award is given for innovative and creativity programming within special population groups. The Silver Foxes Club is a very active senior club that promotes the arts and drama community.

11-04-14 The Department would like to welcome its newest employee, Robyn Redding, Recreation Leader

Congratulations Spalding County Parks and Recreation on Receiving the GRPA Agency of the Year Award.



State Awards 11-06-14

The Georgia Recreation and Park Association (GRPA) recently honored Spalding County Parks and Recreation with the Agency of the Year Award during the annual GRPA conference held in Jekyll Island, GA. This esteemed award recognizes agencies across the state of Georgia that have made a significant contribution to recreation, park, and leisure services by providing quality programming and services within their communities.

Throughout 2014, Spalding County Parks and Recreation has made many strives to improve and expand upon the services provided to the citizens of Spalding County. With events such as Senior Games, Flicks at Sixth Free Movies Series, S'mores in the Park, Fishing Rodeo, and free Summer Sports Camps. The Department continues to remain diligent in its commitment to excellence.



In addition to these programs, Spalding County Parks and Recreation has also recently completed remodeling improvements to the administration office located in the Memorial Drive Plaza. This renovation and the addition of the new Sports Hall of Fame have propelled accessibility to the general public by creating a customer friendly atmosphere for the citizens of Spalding County. It is these initiatives that confirm the department's commitment to excellence and optimism for the future.

Volunteer of the Year Award- Senior Section was presented to Ms. Janie Clark for her years of volunteer services, promotion of parks and recreation services, collaboration with other organizations and outstanding volunteer achievements.

11-24-14 Spalding County Parks and Recreation is proud to announce that Phase I fundraising

for the Disc Golf Course at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park is now complete! The Griffin Disc Golf Association has

raised \$8,100 of the \$18,000 committed toward the building of a Championship Disc Golf Course at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park.

With the help of private donations, construction is scheduled to begin December 2014. The donations will be used to fund the initial construction of the disc golf course, along with the purchase of baskets, pin sleeves,

tee signs, course rule signs, and sponsor signs. Phase II of

fundraising is currently underway. Phase II will include the completion of the disc golf course, installation of tee boxes, benches, trash cans, hole features, walk ways, footbridges, and other course amenities.





January, 2015

Spotlight On:

Spalding County Probate Court

Did you know:

Georgia Probate Courts exercise exclusive, original jurisdiction in the probate of wills, administration of estates, appointment of guardians (minor and adult) and involuntary hospitalization of incapacitated adults and other individuals.



All probate court judges administer oaths of office, issue marriage and firearms licenses; some process United States Passports applications. They may hold habeas corpus hearings or preside over criminal preliminary hearings. Unless a jury trial is requested, probate court judges may also hear certain misdemeanors, traffic cases and violations of state game and fish laws in counties where there is no state court.



To learn more about the Probate Court visit their page on the Spalding County Website:

http://www.spaldingcounty.com/probate_court.php

2014 has been a very busy year for Probate Court.

April 7, 2014

Stephanie Wright joined our staff in Probate Court. She has been a welcomed addition and she is a very quick study in learning the many duties of Probate Court. Stephanie was thrilled when a new addition came to their family—Makii Wright, born June 23, 2014. Parents are Dustin and Catherine Wright, big brother, Eli Wright.

July 1, 2014

Probate Court has continued to see an increase in the issuing of Georgia Weapons Carry License. As of July 1, 2014, legislation was passed, allowing renewals for Weapons Carry License.

- If the applicant has a current WCL that is not over 30 days expired and was issued in Spalding County they are allowed to do a renewal. The fee is \$35.00. These applicants will not have to go to the Sheriff's Department. We will send their applications out to the Sheriff's Department each morning by Sheriff's Department personnel for a criminal history check (without fingerprints).
- If the applicant has a current WCL that is not over 30 days expired and was issued in any county other than Spalding County, their application will be considered a new application with a fee of \$79.25. These applicants will have to go to the Sheriff's Department to be fingerprinted.

In, October, Judge Jan Hunt attended COAG Training in Savannah, Georgia with Judges from all 159 Georgia counties

Congratulations Judge Hunt!

On December 5th, Judge Hunt celebrated her 25th Anniversary in Probate Court. Judge Hunt has worked every job in Probate Court and she still lends a hand in every working area. She leads, guides and directs with knowledge and experience and welcomes the public always with an open door policy. Congratulations, Judge Hunt!!

On December 10, Judge Hunt swore in all of the 2014 Elected Officials.

Lanette Self just celebrated her 2-year anniversary with Probate Court. She continues to grow and excel in learning Probate duties. Lanette shares her many years of customer service as she expertly greets our customers and makes sure they leave our office a satisfied customer and with a smile.

Pat Wilkerson's son, David, has moved to Key Largo, Florida and is enjoying life to the fullest. He became a certified master diver and is teaching scuba diving. He has been fervently studying to become a captain and will soon take the test. At the publication of this newsletters he will have taken (and hopefully passed) the test to become captain and will be driving the big boats.

Pat and her husband, Jim, had the occasion to visit with David, in June, to celebrate their anniversary. While David took a group out for diving, Pat and Jim went snorkeling. Pat stated that was the greatest experience! The water was beautiful and the world that is beneath the ocean is just breathtaking with its myriad of colors, plant and animal life. She would highly recommend it.

Everyone in Probate Court would like to wish for all of you and your families the Happiest of New Year's filled with great times, good health and joy beyond measure. God bless you all.

Spalding County Public Works

January, 2015

The Spalding County Public Works Department has been busy:

- Upgrade to High Falls Road at Busksnort Road.



- The Spalding County Public Works Department in conjunction with Atlanta Gas Light conducted a mock gas line cut on High Falls Road at Newton Road. The Spalding County Fire Department, 911 Center and Sheriff's Department participated in this joint training exercise.
- Spalding County Public Works Department also conducted a training course to instruct individuals on their duties when "flagging" on public roads.



- Jim Weaver of Trans Safe conducted a training class on the new concept blue tooth technology radar signs to be installed on County roads.



On a personal note:

- Deana Bohanon bought a new house and moved in in late July, 2014.
- Tim Granger's grandson, Landon, who is 8 years old played baseball this summer and his team won the USSSA Junior World Series winning 77 games and losing only 6. Landon also had the highest batting average (.607) and won the Home Run Derby in the Roberta Clemente World Series. Landon played on the Elite Gamers team.



GET ACTIVE & GET REWARDS

Need a little motivation, a helpful nudge, to get moving each day? Sign up for Virgin Pulse HealthMiles, a fun and rewarding way to get and stay active. The more you do, the better you feel, and the more rewards you can earn.

HOW IT WORKS

Do what you like to get active – walk, ride, play with the kids, dance in front of the mirror – and track it all with your Max pedometer. Uploading your steps is a snap, and the more you move, the more “HealthMiles” (points) you’ll earn.



Log in to your LifeZone online tracking center to set goals, monitor your progress, watch your HealthMiles add up, and spend your HealthCash.



Visit the HealthZone measurement station to check your weight, blood pressure and body fat each month. Your stats upload to your account, and you’ll earn HealthMiles each time you measure up.



ABOUT THOSE REWARDS

As your HealthMiles add up, you’ll proceed through a series of Reward Levels. You’re rewarded when you get there with HealthCash. You have 12 months to earn as much as you can, starting on the day you join.

And you don’t have to be a marathon runner to get to Level 5! Regular, moderate amounts of activity tracked throughout the year will go a very long way, and there are lots of other opportunities to earn HealthMiles, too.



➔ (Flip over for how to earn HealthMiles.)

HOW TO EARN HEALTHMILES

Get Active. Put on Max and go. Your pedometer is the best way to earn HealthMiles. The more active you are, the more steps you take, the more HealthMiles you earn:

- » up to 7,000 steps/day 20 HealthMiles
- » 7,000+ steps/day or 15 active mins 60 HealthMiles
- » 12,000+ steps/day or 30 active mins 80 HealthMiles
- » 20,000+ steps/day or 45 active mins 100 HealthMiles

- » Earn up to 100 HealthMiles a day for all physical activity, including Max uploads, Activity Journal entries (20 HealthMiles each) and other validated workouts; see your LifeZone for details on additional HealthMiles tracking devices.

Check In. Keep an eye on those stats, monitor your progress, read up on health & fitness news... and spend your hard-earned HealthCash! Visit the LifeZone website as often as you like; you'll get HealthMiles for a couple visits per week:

- » Log in to the LifeZone (www.virginhealthmiles.com) 10 HealthMiles per visit, 2 per week

Measure Up. Your blood pressure, weight and body fat percentage are important indicators of overall health, so it's important to measure up on a regular basis.

- » Take your measurements on the HealthZone (*weight, body fat & blood pressure*) 200 HealthMiles per month
- » Plus, earn an additional 150 HealthMiles a month for each improved or ideal score!

Stay On Your Toes. HealthMiles will also be up for grabs from time to time during challenges and other special promotions. Check the LifeZone and your email box regularly for invitations!

Those are the basics. Once you join, you'll get all the details about the program, how to use your GoZone, what your fellow members are up to, tips & tricks for getting and staying active – and even more ways to earn rewards!

HOW TO JOIN

Virgin Pulse HealthMiles is brought to you by Spalding County, so you get all the features and benefits of the program including your Max pedometer, special online shopping rebates, fun competitions and challenges - plus up to \$300 a year in rewards - for just \$3.95 per month, payable by payroll deduction.

Questions about this benefit?
Check in with HR

Wendy Law
wlaw@spaldingcounty.com
770-467-4231

Bill Gay
wgay@spaldingcounty.com
770-467-4221

SO, WHAT DO YOU SAY? UP FOR IT? We think you are, and we'll be with you every step of the way.

Join today at: www.virginhealthmiles.com/spaldingcounty