

Murphey Candler Park Newsletter



Brookhaven's Largest Park

Fall 2015

Dear Friends & Neighbors:

This year the City of Brookhaven's park master plan process will shape our park's future look and projects. Currently the City is processing plans and studies affecting our green space. This is a great opportunity for our community to participate in park planning.

In 2015, Brookhaven hired Sustainable Water Planning & Engineering to complete a comprehensive basin study for the Murphey Candler Park lake and Nancy Creek watershed. This study will help identify sources of lake silt and debris as well as solutions for erosion and lake pollution. Lake dredging will be considered to maintain the MCP lake, the only public lake in Brookhaven.

Also, Brookhaven is conducting a pedestrian, bike and trails initiative being led by Pond & Company. The project's focus is to develop a map for future infrastructure and to prioritize cost effective projects.

By the end of 2015, Brookhaven will present a comprehensive park master plan. The firm Greenberg Farrow leads the plan effort and seeks public input through a series of public meetings currently taking place.

Finally, the MCPC is proud to announce the 2015 Duck Duck Goose 5K. This year's event will feature a community wide social event (aka Duck Duck Food Truck)



Snap Dragons planted by the MCP Conservancy in partnership with City of Brookhaven

which will be held Friday, October 23rd from 5—8:00 p.m. Anyone in the neighborhood, whether or not you are participating in the race, is welcome. We will have food trucks, beer, music and festive games. The Duck Duck Goose 5K will be held on Saturday, October 24th at 9:00 a.m. We greatly appreciate all of the support last year and hope to have an equally great turn out of volunteers, sponsors and participants. Visit our website or email us for more details.

Sincerely Yours,

Shane Day Boyer
President—Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc.

Murphey Candler Park History

Who Lived in the Caretaker's Home?

In 1962 Mel & Jo Farrell moved into Murphey Candler Park with three kids in tow, Gail, Sharon & Bud.

Mel was the Director of the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Department for 20 years beginning in 1952. He was a civil engineer and recreation specialist who designed many of the county's swimming pools and tennis centers. Additionally, Mel planned the excavations and oversaw the creation of ball parks and soccer fields and secured the grants to buy places like Callenwolde.

Jo Farrell made reservations for picnic tables and events while raising her family in the park. The three kids helped work the pool at Murphey Candler Park through the 1960's and 70's. Much of the woods that surrounded the family in 1962 gave way to single family homes that dominate much of the land around the park.

Around 1978, some years after Mel's retirement from DeKalb County Parks the Farrell family moved out of the Caretaker's Home. The Sea Scouts would be the next tenant. However, the Farrell family was the last family to reside in this home and now fondly recall the memories of growing up in the largest park in Brookhaven. Christmas by the fireplace inside this cozy cottage, summers swimming in the pool and fishing down by the lake, at their front door. Memories and history worth preserving.



The Historic Caretakers House was the first structure to be placed in Murphey Candler Park

Mark Your Calendars:

Duck Duck Food Truck

A community wide social in the park will be held on the eve of the big race, Friday, October 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Friday's event is free and open to anyone whether you are running the race or not and will feature food trucks, beer, music and festive games.

When: Friday, October 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: Murphey Candler Park

Brookhaven, GA 30319



Duck Duck Goose 5K

This years Duck Duck Goose 5K will begin at 9:00 a.m. on October 24, 2015. We are excited to bring this event to the park. All proceeds will benefit the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy. Register today on our website: www.murpheyandlerpark.org. So come on down and run and support our park.

When: Saturday, October 24, 9:00 a.m.

Where: Murphey Candler Park

Brookhaven, GA 30319



Murphey Candler Park— The Future

In the Fall of 2013, the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy created a survey to seek input from neighbors and regular park patrons. Our group wanted a more comprehensive understanding of the uses and issues regarding Murphey Candler Park. Via online survey and write-ins, 214 people responded. Most of the results were not surprising.

Addressing the health of the lake (including shore erosion and siltation) was at the top of the list. In addition, parking and traffic in and around the park ranked high on the list of things that need improvement. While it is true the park is very busy with many activities at certain times of the year, perhaps the most critical issue is the lack of safe pedestrian access to the existing parking in the park. From a pedestrian safety standpoint, we believe it is a priority to address this safety item in the immediate future. Also ranking high from the survey results, was a first class playground that maintains the shaded forest feel. The MCPC will advocate for an innovative analysis and design process which should take place prior to any new playgrounds in the park.

Historic preservation and sustainability are important to the MCPC and residents alike. In 1959, the caretaker's home was the first structure placed in the newly established park. Originally this historic home, dating back to the turn of the last century, was built on a parcel of land that is now home to Brookhaven's Cherokee Plaza on Peachtree Road. In an act of historic preservation, the proposal of removal of two 1978 additions and restoration of the main structure has been put forth. The MCPC and Brookhaven have developed a caretaker's home restoration and park



This historic structure houses the Sea Salt, a boutique restaurant with indoor & outdoor seating in Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis, Minnesota

conceptual plan with an architect. The goal is to develop a multi-use community use structure with room for meetings and possibly a coffee shop or boutique restaurant at some point in the future similar to the photo above in Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis, MN.

Other items that were noted as needing attention in our survey results were trail maintenance & new trails; park wide design standards for structures, signage, park elements, and site improvements; exotic invasive and nuisance plant species removal and revegetation with native plant material; a new pool house with entertaining space for larger neighborhood meetings.

Please come out to the Murphey Candler Park public workshop session at Lynwood Park Community Center (3360 Osborn Road) **Saturday, September 12th from 1-3:00 p.m.** Make your voice heard and give your input on Murphey Candler Park's future. Visit the city website to view all Brookhaven park public workshop sessions.

Thank you for your valuable input.

-MCPC Board of Directors



Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc.

1560 Brawley Circle

Atlanta, GA 30319

email: mcpconservancy@gmail.com

www.murpheyandlerpark.org



Attention Friends & Neighbors:

The **Murphey Candler Park Conservancy** is currently seeking donations for our 2015 capital campaign. We need your help. Please consider making a tax-deductible* donation. A portion of these donations helps to beautify our park and will be used in master planning efforts that will be taking place this year. Ultimately, your donations will help with the implementation of the Master Plan, which will enhance the beauty of your park and our neighborhood.



Name: _____ email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

- ☐ \$35 donation: One 4" MCPC Logo Sticker
- ☐ \$50 donation: One 5" Car Magnet
- ☐ \$100 donation: Two Car Magnets; One Sticker
- ☐ \$500 donation: 2 Stickers, 2 Magnets, MCPC Baseball Cap, Yard Marker (See picture)
- ☐ \$2,500 donation: MCPC Founders Club—Special Recognition & Gifts
- ☐ \$_____ Other (*Any amount of money is encouraged and appreciated*)



Checks Payable to: MCPC (Mail to: 1560 Brawley Circle, Atlanta, GA 30319)

Donations accepted via U.S. Mail or through our website below:

www.murpheyandlerpark.org

Proudly serving the City of Brookhaven's Largest Park

*Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization

www.murpheyandlerpark.org

Parks Update from the City of Brookhaven

By: Rebecca Chase Williams, Mayor



The City of Brookhaven has recently contracted with Sustainable Water Planning & Engineering to develop a Watershed Plan for the Murphey Candler – Nancy Creek watershed. This study will assist the city in securing grant funds for projects, programs and policies that are identified in the plan to improve watershed health and minimize flooding.

Engineers are currently walking along the streams and looking at bodies of water throughout the watershed to gather information and identify problems and solutions. When the walks are completed, the engineers will have walked eight miles of streams.

The first stakeholder meetings, centered on Murphey Candler Lake, were held over the summer. Public input meetings are currently underway, with the next one held on September 9th at the Lynwood Park Community Center from 7 - 9:00 p.m.

Additionally, a Facebook page, “Murphey Candler – Nancy Creek Watershed Study” has been launched where residents can post old and new photos of the watershed as well as provide input.

Regarding the parks master plan, The City of Brookhaven recently selected Greenberg Farrow for the development of Master Park plans of all parks in Brookhaven, including Murphey Candler Park. The consultants have begun their community outreach efforts, as the work will take place over the next few months with final master plans expected before the end of the year.

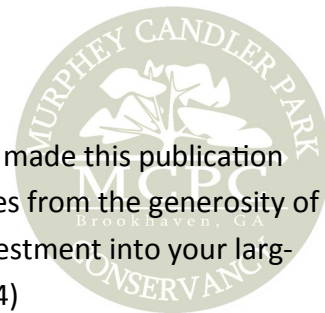
MC Park Sports News:

Murphey Candler Park Pool (MCP), under new management of the City of Brookhaven is wrapping up a successful year. If you have any children, consider joining our local Brookhaven swim team next year, the Murphey Candler Park Marlins. More info: www.mcmarlins.com

Murphey Candler Little League (MCLL) is gearing up for the Spring 2016 season. Established in 1958, MCLL teaches boys the game of baseball right here in our neighborhood park. Register your little leaguer for Baseball: www.murpheycandler.org

Murphey Candler Girls Softball Association (MCGSA) is completing another successful softball season. Softball teaches our young girls about teamwork and discipline and the MCGA does a wonderful job providing that for our community. For more info: www.mcgsa.com

Atlanta Colt Youth Association (ACYA) celebrating 50 Years of Football in Murphey Candler Park this Fall. Established in 1965 by Bob Johnson, the Atlanta Colts offer boys and girls the opportunity to learn focus, dedication and teamwork through the game of football. For more information: www.atlantacolts.com



A Tip of the MCPC Hat goes to:

MCPC would like to thank the many recent sponsors/donors (listed below) that have made this publication and our future endeavors possible. As a non-profit, all of our operating income comes from the generosity of the people, businesses and organizations in our community. Consider making an investment into your largest community asset. Donate online at: www.murpheycandlerpark.org (See Page 4)

Oxford Garden Club

Heather Dauchert

Guitar Center

IBM

William Burton

K Boyer Photography

Hakerem Family

The Boyer Group—Atlanta Communities

Sweetwater Brewing Company

Gary Harris & Anne Stevenson

Madeline Suits Team—Keller Williams

Shane & Alison Boyer

Long Engineering, Inc.

Gary & Debbie Price

TSW Design

WEST NILE VIRUS ALERT:

The DeKalb County Board of Health saw an increase in West Nile virus activity in the county in late August. As part of the Division of Environmental Health's routine monitoring, the number of infected mosquito collections increased from 37 during the week of Aug. 16 to 70 during the week of Aug. 23. In addition, the county reports two human cases of West Nile virus.

Effective repellents for use on skin and clothing contain DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535. Clothing can be sprayed with permethrin, which will retain its effectiveness after repeated washing. Any repellent should be applied according to label instructions. Please take precaution when you are outside anywhere including all of Brookhaven's Parks.

Thank You to our Volunteers:

MCPC organizes community volunteer days throughout the year. Bring your family out and show your children what it means to volunteer and help your community. We appreciate the many



people and groups that make an effort to pick up trash in our park, improve trails, remove invasive species.

Together we can make a difference.

NEXT VOLUTEER DAYS

Sunday, October 4th

Sunday, November 15th

Does Your Group Need Community Service Hours?

If you or your group needs community service hours, you can complete them at Murphey Candler Park. We host many volunteer days throughout the year and would love to partner with nearby schools, churches and other organizations to plan these events. We can help individuals complete required community service/volunteer hour paperwork. Please email us at mcpconservancy@gmail.com for more details.

Did You Know?

How large was Candler Lake in Murphey Candler Park when it was built? *Answer on Page 7*

Grading of Entrance Road to MCP

February 10, 1954



Entrance Road to Murphey Candler Park from Ashford Dunwoody Road (now known as West Nancy Creek Drive). This photo is courtesy of the DeKalb History Museum.

MCPC Needs Your Help:

MCPC is laying the foundation for a successful future. We are seeking talented individuals with the following expertise:

- Architect
- Web Design Expert

If you or anyone you know fits the above description and is looking to give back to their community please drop us a line.

Email us: mcpconservancy@gmail.com

Did You Know Answer: Candler Lake was approx. 32 acres when originally built. Today it is approx. 19 acres.

Brookhaven Duck Duck Goose October 23-24:

Friday Night:

Duck Duck Food Truck

Community Social Event 5:00-8:00p.m.
Featuring food, beer, music, good times
Everyone welcome; Event is Free

Saturday Morning:

Duck Duck Goose 5K

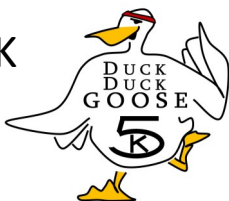
Race begins at 9:00 a.m.

To Run: Visit our website

www.murhpeycandlerpark.org

To Volunteer: email us at

mcpconservancy@gmail.com



Improvements in the Park

The MCPC in partnership with the City of Brookhaven continues to work on beautifying Murphey Candler Park ahead of the master plan.

Ultimately the master plan will provide a blue-print for improvements. In the meantime, on a recent volunteer day, with the assistance of many volunteers including local cub scouts, the planting beds on either side of the dam were replanted. Fresh pine straw was added and invasive ivy was removed from the park.

A tip of the hat goes out to all our volunteers and supporters. Our park is a better place thanks to your efforts and generosity.



Murphey Candler Park—Contact Info:

City of Brookhaven: 404-637-0500

Mayor (Rebecca Chase Williams): rebecca.williams@brookhavenga.gov

District 1 Rep (Linley Jones): linley.jones@brookhavenga.gov

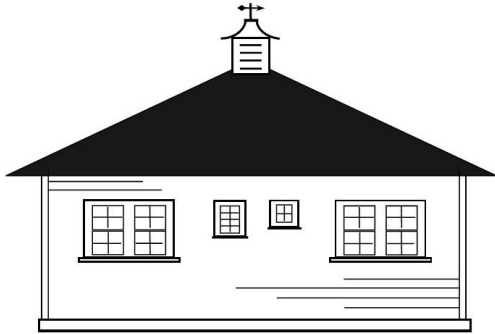
Brookhaven Parks & Recreation (Gary Schussler): gary.schussler@brookhavenga.gov

Murphey Candler Park Conservancy: mcpconservancy@gmail.com

Football ACYA President (Pat Rice): pat@atlantacolts.com

Softball MCGSA President (David Axelson): president@mcgsa.com

Baseball MCLL Vice President (Paul Liles): paul.liles@gmail.com



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Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc.

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Place Stamp
Here