

Murphey Candler Park Newsletter



Brookhaven's Largest Park

Spring 2014

Dear Friends & Neighbors:

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of Murphey Candler Park. The Murphey Candler Park Conservancy is proud to mark this occasion with commemorative signs soon to be seen around the park and a special event this fall to celebrate the founding of this spectacular park. Many exciting things are happening regarding our park this year.

First of all, the City of Brookhaven assumed control of the parks within the city limits at the end of last year. A monumental occasion to be sure. One noticeable change from the start was the benefit of increased trash pickup in the park.

Secondly, Brookhaven hired our first Parks Director, Ray Holloway. We are very fortunate to have a quality person with many years of experience leading our parks system. Please join me in extending a warm Brookhaven welcome to this gentleman as he embarks on building a first-class parks system.

Thirdly, the City of Brookhaven's master plan process for our entire park system is already underway. A schedule of events is listed on page 7. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to provide input on the city's website (www.brookhavenga.gov).

In addition, we are proud to announce that through the generosity of many neighbors, we have currently



Commemorative Signage to mark 60th Birthday of Murphey Candler Park

raised over \$30,000 with a goal of raising over \$100k by year end. Please consider a tax-deductible investment into your community's most valuable asset.

Finally, in conjunction with the park's 60th birthday we will be hosting the inaugural Brookhaven 5K at Murphey Candler Park on October 4, 2014. Please come out and support your city, your neighborhood, and your park.

Sincerely Yours,

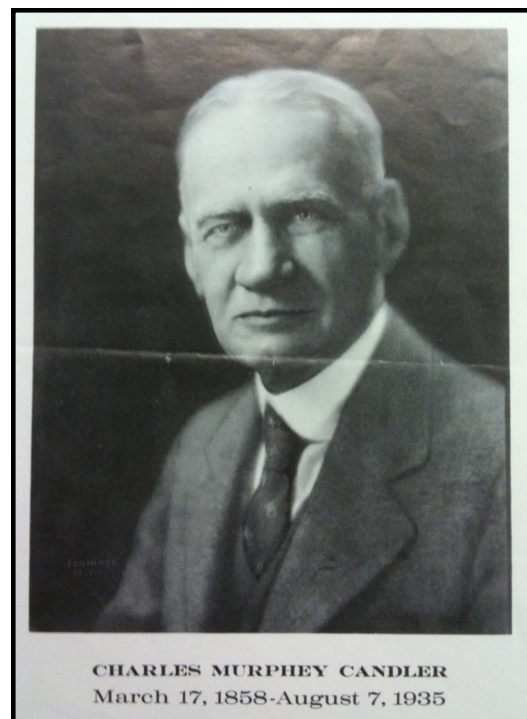
Shane Day Boyer
President
Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc.

Murphey Candler Park History

Who was Murphey Candler?

Charles Murphey Candler was a very well respected state senator from DeKalb County. He was born on March 17, 1858, a few years prior to the Civil War, in the City of Decatur. He was named after his grandfather, Charles Murphey (1799-1861), a U.S. Representative leading up the Civil War. Murphey Candler, as he was known, went on to become an attorney, state representative, state senator and chairman of the state Public Service Commission.

As a life-long citizen of DeKalb County, Murphey Candler married Mary Scott, the daughter of George Washington Scott, the founder of Scottdale Mills and main benefactor of the Decatur Female Seminary (later changed to Agnes Scott College in honor of Mary Scott's Irish immigrant grandmother).



Murphey Candler was bestowed the honor of giving the Historical Address at the Centennial Celebration of DeKalb County on November 9, 1922. Regarding our local history, Murphey Candler stated:

"Such a history should be preserved and handed down to future generations as an example and an inspiration. Let us encourage in our children and our children's children, by such celebrations as this of today, veneration and reverence of the simple lives of good men long gone to their reward, and in a review of their patriotic accomplishments, kindle afresh love for our county, our State, our Country."

Mark Your Calendars:

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Murphey Candler Park, the MCPC cordially invites you to the **Brookhaven 5K at Murphey Candler Park**. This event will take place on October 4, 2014.



We are excited to bring this event to the park with the support of the sports leagues. All proceeds will benefit the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy. Register on our website beginning May 1, 2014: www.murpheyandlerpark.org. So come on down and run with the ducks and support our park.

When: Saturday, October 4, 2014, 8:00 a.m.

Where: Murphey Candler Park

Brookhaven, GA 30319

Did You Know?

Who donated the land that we now know as Murphey Candler Park? *Answer on Page 7*

Results of Our Survey



We are pleased to present the survey results from the survey we conducted last fall. We collected nearly 200 surveys and the results are below.

(1) Where do you live? (zip code/city) 30319 (**60%**); 30341 (**20%**); 30338 (**13%**)

(2) How often do you visit the park?

- 64%** (a) 2 or more times a week
- 17%** (b) about once a week
- 13%** (c) once or twice a month
- 5%** (d) a few times a year; rarely or never

(3) What time of day do you use the park?

- 43%** (a) morning
- 56%** (b) afternoon (up til 5 pm)
- 60%** (c) evenings

(4) What do you most often come to the park to do?

- 39%** (a) play or watch youth sports leagues
- 36%** (b) dog walking
- 9%** (c) biking
- 19%** (d) pool
- 68%** (e) running/walking
- 22%** (f) visit the playground
- 5%** (g) fishing
- 9%** (h) tennis
- 2%** (i) social events

other: *feeding the ducks*

(5) What part of the park do you like the best (even if not the one you use the most)? *Lake and Trails received most votes*

(6) What are one or two areas that need the most improvement?

- 27%** (a) playground
- 19%** (b) pool
- 18%** (c) picnic shelters
- 44%** (d) shore erosion/silt in-fill in lake
- 22%** (e) open lawn green space
- 26%** (f) lack of bathrooms west of lake
- 30%** (g) parking

other: *Invasive Plants (Ivy, Bamboo, Privet) and Trash in Lake and Park*

(7) What are the areas where MCP Pool that need most improvement?

- 49%** (a) longer operating hours
- 53%** (b) more shade
- 18%** (c) playground
- 16%** (d) better concessions
- 34%** (e) Club house w/entertaining space

other: *Lack of Pool Furniture*

(8) What is the one thing not currently in MCP that you would like to see in the future? *Fishing License Requirement Enforced; Better Lighting; Renovated Caretaker's House with Coffee/Ice Cream Shop/Cafe*

(9) Which type of annual event would you most like to see?

- 51%** (a) food & music festival
- 39%** (b) 5k/fun run in and around park
- 31%** (c) beer &/or wine festival
- 26%** (d) arts & crafts festival
- 49%** (e) family friendly movie in the park

other: *Community Garden, Canoe Race and None of the Above were among others receiving votes*



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 continuing our initial capital campaign in 2014. We need your help. Our fundraising goal this year is \$100,000. We have raised over \$30,000 to date. Please consider making a tax-deductible* donation. A portion of these donations 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: Ray Holloway, Director of Parks & Recreation



Each park in Brookhaven has a distinct character that surrounding neighborhoods are very proud of. I would like to make sure each park's character remains intact as we work to make improvements.

Brookhaven, being a young new city, has the unique opportunity to create its own identity. I see myself helping to shape Brookhaven's identity as a city with premier parks. As Director of Parks and Recreation, I will actively be involved in all evaluation and planning activities, and tasked with executing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (which is currently underway).

The excitement of starting something from the ground up, combined with the city's passion and leadership, are all reasons that drew me to Brookhaven. It is rewarding to help people enjoy physical activity by providing a variety of opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy our parks and facilities. It is my hope that Brookhaven families will be able to take pride in fulfilling their recreational interests at the city's parks and recreational facilities for years to come.

I feel very fortunate to have an opportunity to work in this profession that I am deeply passionate about. For me, this position is a welcomed challenge, and I look forward to understanding the needs of Brookhaven park users and utilizing my knowledge and experience to develop a parks and recreation system that matches the city's first-class standard.

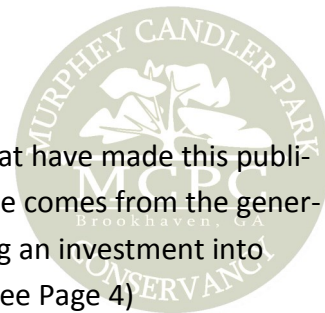
MC Park Sports News:

Murphey Candler Park Pool (MCPP) is under new management, The City of Brookhaven. Be on the lookout for major improvements in the years to come. If you have any children, join the local Brookhaven swim team, the Murphey Candler Park Marlins. More info: www.mcmarlins.com

Murphey Candler Little League (MCLL) is in the middle of their Spring season. Countless neighborhood boys have grown up learning our national pastime at our neighborhood park. Please consider joining them next season. www.murpheycandler.org

Murphey Candler Girls Softball Association (MCGSA) is also programming another successful softball season this year. A great outlet for your young girls. For more info: www.mcgsa.com

Atlanta Colt Youth Association (ACYA) is preparing for its 50th Year of Football in Murphey Candler Park this Fall. A program with a rich history of success, the Atlanta Colts have brought home numerous National Championships over the years. We wish all the Colt teams continued success this season. For more information: www.atlantacolts.com



A Tip of the MCPC Hat goes to:

MCPC would like to thank the many donors since our last newsletter (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.murpheyandlerpark.org (See Page 4)

Shane & Alison Boyer	Will & Karen Klein	John & Nancy Arnold	Susan Kays	Kevin Luyendyk
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Jim & Jane Bohanan	Craig Hoover	Frank & Bonnie Ringle	John & Martha Banna	Ted & Helen Gordon
Regina Harrison	Matthew & Kaltrina Carney	Allison & Randy Meyer	Kevin Kirchner	Kohls

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, April 27th

Saturday, May 24th



Murphey Candler Park Pool Set to Open this Summer

The Murphey Candler Park Pool is preparing to be open on schedule this summer. The pool which was recently converted to a saline pool (in lieu of chlorine) will undergo some routine maintenance in the next few weeks as the City of Brookhaven's contractors prepare for the start of a busy season.

The swim team, the Murphey Candler Park Marlins, are also preparing for the coming season. If you have a child that is interested in joining the swim team this year please visit their web page: www.mcmarlins.com.



Grading of Entrance Road

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
- Social Media Expert
- 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

Brookhaven Parks Master Plan: Project Schedule

Survey Posted on Web	April 28-May 19th
Focus Group Meeting	May 7th
Steering Committee Meeting	May 8th
Complete Survey Evaluations	May 30th
Begin Partnering & Funding Assessments	June 2nd
Open House	June 12th
Submit Draft Master Plan	June 17th
Submit Final Master Plan	July 10th
Present to City Council	July 22nd

Did You Know Answer: Fred Wilson & M.A. Long

Pickers in the Park

Earlier this year the reality television show **American Pickers** (History Channel), was in our park filming a portion of an upcoming show. The show is about two guys as they travel America looking for an-

tiques. They filmed segments of their show over near the historic caretakers home on the west side of the lake.

Learn more about Mike & Frank and their show at:

www.americanpickers.com

MCPC Note: As Atlanta continues to be a draw for more movies, television and short films keep an eye out for Murphey Candler Park on a big screen or television near you.



Murphey Candler Park Contact Info:

City of Brookhaven: 404-637-0500

Mayor (J. Max Davis): jmax.davis@brookhavenga.gov

District 1 Rep (Rebecca Chase Williams): rebecca.williams@brookhavenga.gov

Director, Parks & Recreation (Ray Holloway): ray.holloway@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 (Vic Parker): vic@murpheyandler.org



MCPC Board of Directors:

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Murphey Candler Park Conservancy, Inc.

1560 Brawley Circle

Brookhaven, GA 30319

Place Stamp
Here

