



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact:

Jessica Welch

Office of Policy & Public Information

(850) 926-0919

Wakulla County Celebrates Hickory Park Improvements:

On October 22, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. Wakulla County will celebrate the recent improvements to Hickory Park. Hickory Park is located in the heart of Crawfordville on Hickory Avenue and is approximately two blocks from Hudson Park. The improvements include new playground equipment, lighted walking/bike trail, benches, tennis court, renovated picnic shelter, restroom facilities, water fountains, bicycle racks, and ample parking.



In 2007, the County was awarded a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for \$200,000 through the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP). The program provides grants to local governments for

acquisition and development of land for public outdoor recreation use or to construct recreational trails.

The Hickory Park land was donated to the County by the late Jewell Hudson of Crawfordville. When Mr. Hudson began the Hudson Heights development in the 1960's the plat for the subdivision included 5 parcels of land to be set aside for parks. Hudson Park, Azalea Park, Crabapple Park, and Dogwood Park were all donated by Hudson. Tax Collector Cheryll Olah, who worked for Mr. Hudson for 18 ½ years before his death in 1985, said "Mr. Hudson wanted a place for children to play and have a good time. He wanted to give back to Wakulla County."

"This park is located in a neighborhood community setting, and is a wonderful space for parents and children to enjoy. The park is ideal for families, employees, local businesses, and area residents", commented Commissioner Kessler. Please join us and come out and celebrate the enhancements to Hickory Park.

For additional information related to this story, please contact Jessica Welch, Policy & Public Information Coordinator at (850) 926-0919.