

Hall County Celebrates Significant Accomplishments In 2013

December 30, 2013

Hall County Government is proud to have accomplished many things in 2013 through the leadership of the Hall County Board of Commissioners and the coordination of Hall County staff. The following represents a sample of those achievements; however, it does not capture every success, including the many that were made by individual County departments and employees.

Accomplishments during 2013:

- Glades Reservoir Project
 - The state announced that Hall County will be receiving a portion of \$39 million from the Governor's Water Supply Program.
 - Hall County signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Glades with the City of Gainesville.
- Groundbreakings were held and construction began on the new fire stations in District 2 and District 3.
- Development of the Gateway Industrial Park continued
 - Groundbreaking of the Georgia Poultry Lab
 - The Hall County Board of Commissioners voted to allow the City of Gainesville to provide sewer service along the Ga. 365 Corridor and to the Gateway Industrial Park.
- A grand opening was held for Don Carter State Park, Hall County's first state park.
- New vehicles were purchased for the sheriff's office.
- A much-needed ladder truck was purchased for the fire department, providing greater coverage to all of Hall County.
- County staff began the process of developing a re-entry program in order to reduce recidivism rates.
- The Hall County Board of Commissioners voted to give County employees bonuses, which is a reflection of the County's strong financial status.
- The Hall County Board of Commissioners voted to absorb the increase in health benefits costs to employees.
- County staff and commissioners began exploring the concept of an on-site pharmacy and clinic, which would provide employees with greater access to health care and would also reduce healthcare costs to the County overall.
- Planning and construction began on Hall County's newest park, Cherokee Bluffs.
- Special Olympics Georgia announced they will host their 2014-2016 Fall Games in Hall County.
- Hall County was named the "Most Fit Company" in the Large Company Division by the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce.
- The County implemented the Citizen's Alert System, ensuring that residents and Hall County staff receive life-saving emergency information and other important public service announcements in minutes.
- Through the leadership of the Commission and the discipline of department heads, Hall County maintained a solid fund balance in 2013.
- Gateway Domestic Violence Shelter opened their transitional housing unit, which was made possible through grants attained by Hall County staff and was built under the supervision of Hall County employees.
- Hall County's Neighborhood Stabilization Program saw continued success.
- Hall County Commissioners voted to create a Foreclosure Registry, which was then implemented by County staff.

- A new Local Option Sales Tax agreement was signed with the cities.
- Hall County employees made a prompt and substantial response to flooding and road washouts in south Hall in the spring of 2013.
- The Hall County Government Center hosted a state legislative Town Hall Meeting and Congressional Field Hearing.
- In 2013, the Hall County Animal Shelter announced the formation of the Hall County Animal Shelter Advisory Board, a group charged with organizing donor efforts as the agency moves forward with several significant projects.

Again, these represent only a few of the County's achievements in 2013. Hall County's elected officials and staff looks forward to continuing this legacy of success in 2014 as they remain dedicated to serving the needs of Hall County citizens.