



*Henry County Board of Commissioners*

# News Release

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Julie Hoover-Ernst

Phone: 770.288.6020

Email: [jernst@co.henry.ga.us](mailto:jernst@co.henry.ga.us)

## **Public Invited to Ribbon cutting Ceremonies for Two County Projects**

The Henry County Board of Commissioners will celebrate the completion of two anxiously awaited projects with ribbon-cutting ceremonies on February 23, 2012, and the public is invited to attend. The first of the ceremonies marks the completion of the Firing Range at the Henry County Public Safety Training Complex. It will be held at the firing range beginning at 10 a.m. Later that day, Henry County will officially open the largest playground in Henry County at J.P. Moseley Park in Stockbridge at 3 p.m.

For the Firing Range ceremony, a combined Honor Guard comprised of officers from the Henry County Police Department and deputies from the Henry County Sheriff's Office will present the colors. The Chief of Police Keith Nichols, Sheriff Keith McBrayer, and Fire Chief Bill Lacy will share their vision for the complex to advance the training and capabilities of all public safety personnel, while Henry County Commission Chairman Elizabeth 'B.J.' Mathis will provide the keynote address. Following the ceremony, attendees will be able to see the new range in action as combined forces from the Sheriff's Office and Police complete a training demonstration.

The state of the art open-air Firing Range is the first phase of a comprehensive Public Safety Training Center. It is divided into two parts, one for firing pistols, the other for firing rifles. The pistol range incorporates a concrete grid system that features a walking and shooting path with distance markings and has 12 shooting positions, each with two targets. The grass-only rifle range is constructed to engage targets from as much as 300 yards away and will incorporate sniper training as well.

The Firing Range will enhance the proficiency for Henry County's public safety officers, while also reducing training and travel expenditures from having to travel out of county for the required annual firearms qualifications. In addition, the firing range will be available for other agencies to come and use, which will help to defray the cost of the range even further. Even the public will have access to the range several days per month, with officers on hand for assistance.

Built with SPLOST funds and located at J.P. Moseley Park, the new playground features separate sections for different age and ability levels, numerous swings and slides, including three huge tube slides, a climbing wall, swinging bridge, see-saw, spring riders, musical instrument stations, and other play areas. A perfect place for family gatherings and birthday celebrations, this playground also features two picnic pavilions complete with BBQ grills, nearby restrooms, covered benches, and a concrete walking track surrounding the play areas.

The Public Safety Training Center is located at 2650 Stroud Road in Jackson in South Henry County. J.P. Moseley Park is located at 1041 Miller's Mill Road in Stockbridge. As both ceremonies will be held outdoors, attendees are encouraged to dress appropriately, given February's unpredictable weather.