

The HPL News

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HPL



HPL Board Elections - May 9 and 10

**HPL needs you now more than ever.
Don't delay. Get on the ballot now!**

Current Events

Spring Cleaning

Thanks to all who came out on Saturday March 29 for the annual spring cleaning. The turnout we had was more than we expected and the results were extraordinary. The park hadn't looked that good in a while. Let's keep it that way. The city does send a crew to clean the bathrooms and empty the trash cans but beyond that, we are the cleaning crew.

The **baseball** and **softball** season are underway and all is going well. Thanks for your support of the new presidents of these two sports.

Park Improvements

Anyone who has visited the park since spring cleaning would have noticed that the new cages are complete and operational. They are without equal in Huntsville and other parks will be following if they can afford it. Please help keep them looking good.

3rd Annual Dinner at the Park - Friday, May 9

Plan to join all your friends at the park for this event which has become an annual favorite.

Yes, it's cleverly coordinated with the city's scheduled board elections so that we can take advantage of your attendance to get you to cast a ballot but you're sure to enjoy the good food, ball games and party inflatables for the kids.

You may have noticed that the elections are several weeks earlier this year than in the past. **The main benefit to us is this will allow our softball patrons to participate** unlike in previous years when their tournament was at the same time. We have no control over the city's planning but apparently our voices were heard in this case.

You'll find a Farewell Address from the HPL Chairman on the second page of this news letter.

Visit our **web site** if you haven't yet. You'll find lots of good information there including this news letter and previous ones.

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A FAREWELL ADDRESS

John Priest
HPL Chairman

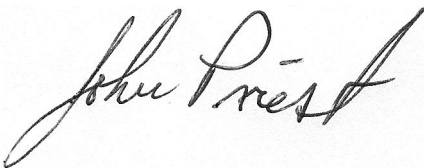
To all my friends at Bell Mountain Park and to all HPL patrons whom I may not yet have had the pleasure of knowing, my time as an HPL volunteer is nearing an end. HPL board elections will be held on Friday May 9 and Saturday May 10 and my name will not be on the ballot. My devotion to HPL and it's mission has not changed but it is time for me to move on.

The call for volunteers comes from many causes and I'll take some time to choose another. I have served HPL in many capacities since 2000 including as Chairman of the board for the last two. I am pleased with what the HPL board has been able to accomplish in these two years and I hope the progress continues. However, that requires your help. Every one of us has the capacity to help HPL in some way, some more able than others depending on circumstances, but don't ever underestimate the value of your contribution, no matter how insignificant it may seem at the time. A parent just watching a practice can, with a few words, affect a player's attitude for years. A coach can impact a player for life. We don't often think of our responsibilities this dramatically but we should *all* always remain cognizant of it. This is in fact the only reason we are all here, for the kids, nothing more.

I will miss this very much. The summers at the ball park, the falls on the fields and the winters in the gym, so many good memories and friends made will not soon be forgotten. Through all this I have received much more than I was able to give and I would do it all over again if I could.

Soon HPL will be under new leadership and it's success depends on you. The time your children spend at HPL events shapes their lives, make sure you're a part of it. There is no insignificant role. The parent who watches the practice, the team mom/dad who makes sure everyone knows to be there, the assistant coaches, the coaches... The list goes on. Be a part of it if you can, you'll never regret it.

God Bless You All,



John Priest
HPL Chairman