

Johns Creek Environmental Campus Cornerstone Ceremony

BY VICKI WILKES, EDITOR



“WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE IT TAKE A BIG STEP FORWARD TODAY” - MIKE BODKER, MAYOR OF JOHNS CREEK

The Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Johns Creek Environmental Campus on March 15th celebrated the construction start of this state of the art water treatment facility scheduled to open in 2010 that will serve all of Johns Creek and part of Roswell.

The facility is located on 43 acres off Holcomb Bridge Road between Spaulding and Barnwell and will treat 15 million gallons of water per day, doubling the current reclamation system. Using a **membrane biological reactor system, the JCEC will filter out more bacteria than the existing facility, enabling the treated water to be used for irrigation.** The facility will also serve as an education center for the community, with a great emphasis on enhancing the water quality of the nearby Chattahoochee River.

The mayors of Roswell and Johns Creek, and Fulton County Commissioners all briefly spoke of the tremendous benefit this will be to the County. Mayor Bodker and Commissioner Riley warmly remembered the late Fulton County Commissioner Bob Fulton who they said had been instrumental in beginning the study for this facility. “As the Johns Creek basin continues to build out the need for this facility is more important than ever. I appreciate the foresight of the late Fulton County Commissioner Bob Fulton, who began this process many years ago. We’re happy to see it take a big step forward today.” Mayor Bodker said.



The most delightful part of the ceremony was presented by three 5th grade students from Ms. Vose’s Class at River Eves Elementary. An essay contest was held and three children were chosen with the best essays to participate in this ceremony and read their essays. The essays were amazingly

descriptive of the environmental challenges we face today, and especially from such young people. A few had to stand on tip toes to reach the microphone. These exceptional children are Ty Douglas, Abby Troughton and Dorothy Cannella.

At the end of the ceremony, a time capsule was filled with items chosen by selected participants to be buried in the ‘cornerstone’ site of the facility, not to be opened for fifty years. Mayor Bodker placed a photo album depicting the incorporation of the City of Johns Creek into the capsule. The essay winners from River Eves Elementary also placed an item in the capsule.



DR. BOB FULTON WARMLY REMEMBERED BY COLLEAGUES



THE ESSAY WINNERS PLACE A T-SHIRT SIGNED BY THEIR CLASS IN THE TIME CAPSULE



FULTON COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN JOHN EAVES



ROSWELL MAYOR JERE WOOD, JOHNS CREEK MAYOR MIKE BODKER, AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, ANGELA PARKER FOUND OUT TODAY THAT THEY ARE ALL BULLDOGS!



COMMISSIONER LYNNE RILEY WITH KUN SUWANARPA. "FULTON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR. SHE HAS BEEN VERY INVOLVED WITH THE JOHNS CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPUS PROJECT"



MS. VOSE (ON LEFT) AND HER 5TH GRADE ESSAY WINNERS TY DOUGLASS, ABBY TROUGHTON AND DOROTHY CANNELLA, WITH THEIR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, HAZEL C. SCROGGS