

CHATT HILLS MOVIE NIGHT

RAIN DIDN'T DAMPEN THE SPIRITS

By Laurie Searle, Photos by Chip Denton

Chatt Hills Community Outreach (CHCO) hosted its second annual Movie Night on April 29th at Rico Park, featuring kids “Music Fun” pre-movie activities, followed by the block-buster movie, “Field of Dreams.”

Even though rain cancelled the movie after its first 15 minutes of viewing, this event was counted as a Win, Win, Win.

Win #1 – Team approach to creating community fun

With the support from CHCO volunteers, city staff, and the Art Farm at Serenbe, this event was offered to the community at *Free of Charge!*

Residents began arriving at 6:30 p.m. when the gates opened. They were welcomed by volunteers offering free giveaways and new Chatt Hills baseball caps for a small donation. Near Judy’s Home Plate Concession Stand, Chatt Hills staff offered freshly popped popcorn, sodas, and bottled water. Public safety staff and volunteers helped residents park safely.

With their freebies, picnic blankets, and lawn chairs in tow, residents staked their ideal place for viewing the movie and for visiting new and old friends and neighbors.



The community gathered at Rico Park for the second annual Movie Night hosted by Chatt Hills Community Outreach in partnership with the city of Chattahoochee Hills and the Art Farm at Serenbe.



Win #2 – Pre-event activity was the star of the show

The Cupcake Concert series hosted by the Art Farm at Serenbe has become a big hit with kids and adults alike. These concerts feature a wide range of musical talent from pop groups, to chamber music, to interactive music with kids.



Madalyn Mentor, Brandon Copeland, Janice Barton, and Thomas Usher from the Art Farm at Serenbe hosted the Cup Cake Concert.

The Art Farm team announced the evening's concert would start with percussion lessons given by Thomas Usher.

Residents received two drum sticks and a white construction bucket, which when turned upside down served as make-shift drum.

Thomas demonstrated the art of holding the drum sticks and the single stroke roll, which participants first practices in the air. Then, with a humorous apology to the adults, he taught several of the basic drum rudiments, resulting in a cacophony of rhythmic sounds and a neighbor's howling dog joining in. After learning the multiple bounce roll, flam and paradiddle, the audience applied their skills and accompanied recorded music for their Cupcake Concert.



Win #3 – A Movie with a vision and a dream

As the night sky darkened, CHCO event coordinators Councilmembers Camille Lowe (Dist. 4) and Ruby Foster (Dist. 1), thanked residents for attending and then introduced the movie, "Field of Dreams."

Known for its ghostly phrase, "If you built it, they will come," whispered by "Shoeless" Joe Jackson, the movie centers around a farmer driven by a vision to create a baseball diamond in his cornfield – a seemingly impossible dream.

That phrase was only uttered a few times before the night skies opened up in Chatt Hills and the event was called because of rain. As residents packed up and dashed to their cars, a few gave parting words of thanks to the event team. Sarah Davis, who lives next door to the ball field said, "I love these community events. This is one of the reasons I moved here – to have this sense of community."

And with that closing comment, it would seem that the Chatt Hills Community Outreach vision is becoming a reality. If you create opportunities for the community to meet up and connect with one another, they will come. And when people connect, they make a strong community.



Councilmembers Ruby Foster (Dist. 1) and Camille Lowe (Dist. 4) welcomed and thanked residents for attending.