

Rusk Baseball/Softball Association season opens in newly renovated facility



Oliver Sturns, Little League softball coach and member of the Citizens Community with other teams and coaches in the background.



Rusk Lions Club Members



Mike Murray, City Manager, Donald Woodard (councilman), Bill Middleton (councilman) Mayor Angela Raiborn, Sam Florian and Walter Session councilmen.

Members of the Rusk City Council and City manager were on hand May 6, to witness their vision of the newly renovated Rusk Baseball/softball Association Complex grand opening. The more than 50 year old complex was put together by Rusk Lions Club in the in 1950s and has been the home of Rusk Little League baseball and softball for generations of children since then.

City Manager Mike Murray says that in January 2014 the city made the decision to create a committee to look into how to proceed with the complex renovation. Rusk Baseball/Softball Association, Officials, Mayor Angela Raiborn, City Councilman Sam Florian, Austin Young, Oliver Sturns and other members of the community to come up with ideas on

on what the city should do. They looked at building a completely new facility which would have cost three time as much but in the end decided to renovate what they already had. Work was done to level the existing fields, the bathrooms, the dugouts, fencing, retaining walls storm drainage. Additional parking has been added with newly constructed wheelchair ramps and a walking trail which encompasses the pool and children's waterpark. At present the complex has three fields named for local citizens:

the Dickinson Field, The Stovall Little League Field and the Francis Townsend Field. Rusk Baseball/Softball Association President Jeremy Hubbard and Mayor Angela Raiborn addressed the crowd during opening ceremonies. There are 11 divisions with 60 teams representing Rusk, Jacksonville, Alto, Slocum, Troop and Whitehouse. The work was done by local contractors from Rusk and Alto along with Rusk City staff Neill Holcomb, Howard King, Dough Byfield and Gregg McDuff.

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