

## The History of Glen Rock Park

When the flood waters of Tropical Storm Agnes destroyed the town baseball diamond in 1972, local residents stepped up to the plate to establish a new ball field and community park.

Members of the Glen Rock Athletic Association (GRAA), led by Daniel Jesse Mays, set out to create a site where the whole town could enjoy complete recreational facilities. It was called Project '76 in the hope that the park could be completed in time for the American Bicentennial Celebration on July 4, 1976.

The Glen Rock Recreation Board was established by the Borough Council in 1972 and with Mays as chairman, was given all authority to proceed with buying land to develop a park. Other board members were Curtis Stermer, vice-chairman; the Rev. Karl Fetterman, secretary-treasurer; Nevin Grove, Robert McCoy, Lloyd Bubb and the Rev. Edgar Steedle.

Near the end of 1972 the new board signed an option to buy twelve acres from the Bowman Family when funds became available.

Glen Rock citizens rallied to the cause. In one year, community groups including Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church youth groups, businesses, families and individuals donated funds that enabled the board to buy the property. The Lions Club, the GRAA, the centennial committee and American Machine and Foundry (AMF) Company all contributed major gifts toward the purchase.

The board bought the land for \$16,920 in September 1973 with owner Maggie Bowman donating three acres as a gift to the borough.

More donations came in from the Glen Rock Jaycees, the GRAA, Borough Council and AMF.



ESTABLISHED 1972

Caterpillar of York donated several acres of sod for the park and the Lions Club agreed to sponsor an entrance circle, 45-foot flagpole and memorial plaque.

The park was dedicated on July 4, 1976 and the recreation board was charged with the

responsibility to oversee, maintain and further develop the park. Again the community stepped up. The Russ Delp Family provided dugouts, the Young Community Women's

Club sponsored a tot lot and the Glen Rock Women's Club, volunteered to maintain circle plantings, a service its members continue to provide.



The recreation board established a free summer playground program that continues to serve the children of the community.

The Jaycees sponsored a softball diamond and basketball, tennis and sand volleyball courts. Water service, a water fountain

and permanent restrooms were added.

A Community Development Block Grant paid for a playground for 5 to 12 year olds and Glen Rock native Andy Good built covered picnic tables and a park sign as his Eagle Scout Project.

A total of 43 people have served on the recreation board since 1972 and residents continue to volunteer their help to keep the park in top condition.

The Borough Council agreed in a 1971 resolution, to donate all cable television franchise fees toward the maintenance and improvement of the park and strongly urged future councils to continue the practice. A portion of those fees, two small trusts, donations from park users and the occasional recreation fee from a developer make up the park's limited budget.



One man's dream became reality because a community held countless sandwich and candy sales and a myriad of other fund raising activities to make it happen.