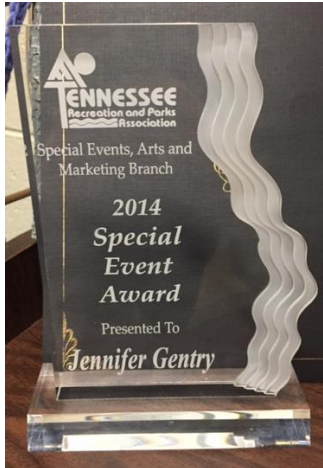




The Special Events Award is presented by the Special Events, Arts and Marketing branch of TRPA to an individual that has demonstrated innovation and creativity to inspire others to develop similar programs. Morristown Parks and Recreation, together with staff member Jennifer Gentry, was the 2014 recipient of the award for the Summer Jam Series.



Morristown Summer Jam Series

We hosted five evenings of live music for the community at the Hughes Amphitheater at Fred Miller Park. We had Jazz, Country, Contemporary Christian, Christian Rock, civil war to blue grass and classic rock. Admission was free and concessions were sold. Each evening at Fred Miller Park had a different audience but many happy faces. The goal with this event was to have nights where families could gather and enjoy different styles of music for free but still built a bond in their community. We had five different bands to join us over the summer.

Just Bcuz was our first concert of the series and I was thrilled with the youngsters who know how to have a blast. They had a great crowd of fifty plus people at Fred Miller Park. Just Bcuz Music is a sibling duo of young musicians from a small town just outside of Rogersville, TN. The band performs all types of music--Originals and Covers--from Country to Rock- 1950's to present! Songwriting is at the heart of the band but many genres of music influence their performances. A Note from the Manager: "Many people ask if I am the one pushing the kids. Well, here's my answer. I wish each and every one of you could see these kids behind the scenes. They practice--- 2-3x per week for hours! They are "infected" with music-which is a great, POSITIVE thing-doing what they love. I never ask them to practice more and

honestly, during school hours, I have to make them wrap it up after 9:00 at night! (They are all A/B students by the way) It isn't me who is pushing them; it's me trying to stay caught up with them!"

The Billy Crawford Band joined us at Fred Miller Park. Along for the ride with Crawford are singer/ guitarist Rex Boggs, sax man Jay Corder, bassist Robert McMclain, drummer Chinault and on occasion, Hammond B3 player Jacob Tipton, They'll bring you a smoking blues show. They were very entertaining and even the kids on the playground were dancing to them, the crowd was very interactive and enthusiastic.

Nick Fillers and The Fugitives filled the park with many fans approximatley 100 people joined us at Fred Miller Park for this wonderful evening of family fun. The Fugitives is a 4 man country, southern rock, blues band from Greeneville, TN. Encounter Eternal (EE) is a Christian alternative/hard rock band from East TN formed by Paul Belcher and Dale Johnson in early 2012. The addition of Vance Moore, Jon Hopkins and Craig Latham came soon after. Both Paul and Dale, formerly of BRIM, supply the driving guitars. Vance, on bass and Craig on drums complete the hard-hitting rhythm section. The lead vocals of front man Jon Hopkins add an original sound to this band. The positive message through thunderous riffs, soaring melodies and powerful lyrics will speak to the hearts and minds of all who listen.

Grab the family and join us on July 25th for an adventure for the night. Meet "CanJoe*John" at Fred Miller Park 7-9pm. One band, and a man who plays a 'stick, a string, and a can'. The band MB4 are going to do a new showcase just for us. They are going to showcase an eclectic music genre from civil war, ol'time, bluegrass and rock and roll. This evening will be like none other at Fred Miller Park. Thank you to the Guitar Vault for their sponsorship. "All about the "man who plays a 'stick, a string, and a can'... who is rather 'canspicious' about it, too!! CanJoe* John, the "world's most unique musician, plays the world's most unique musical instrument, the canjoe." He now takes this cool, unique musical gift and gives them to kids who are under the care of specialty children's hospitals for us as fun and very effective music therapy.

