

## Harford's NFL Hendersons take to the field to help The Arc; Tackling intellectual disability

BY ABRIELLE WILLIS

Posted 11/18/09

If you love football, you don't want to miss the "Saturday in the pArc" Punt, Pass and Kick Football Festival this Saturday, Nov. 21.

The event, which is taking place at Bel Air's Cedar Lane Regional Park from 3 to 9 p.m., is sponsored by The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region, an organization dedicated to providing services to more than 400 adults and children with intellectual disabilities.

"At this event, everyone will be able to see the benefits of recreation being accessible to all," explained Karen Green, of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Green is co-chairing the event with Scott Collins, vice-president of merchandising for DTLR Urban Fashion Retailers.

Brothers E.J. and Erin Henderson, Aberdeen High School graduates, University of Maryland alumni and linebackers for the Minnesota Vikings, have also been designated as honorary co-chairs of the festival.

Enthusiasts of the sport will have a chance to showcase their own skills in three punt, pass and kick competitions beginning at 3 p.m.

First, kids in grades 1 through 12 will vie for the top position in each of the three categories.

Representatives from local corporations, including BJ's, Union Memorial Sports Center of Bel Air, DTLR, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, the Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation, Harford Mutual Insurance Company, Homewood Suites-Hilton, Maryland Golf and Country Clubs, Rite Aid Distribution Center, and Susquehanna Spinal and Rehabilitation, will then contend for prizes in the adult division.

Varsity football players from John Carroll School, North Harford, C. Milton Wright, Fallston, Aberdeen, Edgewood, Patterson Mill, and the Friends School of Baltimore will play in teams of five in the high school competition.

Decked out in full Ravens garb, famed team icons "Fan Man," "Ravens Maniac," the "Bus Boys" and the "Ravens Nest" will be on site starting at 5:30 p.m. to cheer on participants.

They will later present medals to the winners, who will be announced by WXCY-FM radio personality Bob Bloom. The prizes have been graciously donated courtesy of Baltimore Trophy House.

Starbelly Band will perform live beginning at 6 p.m.

At 7 p.m., the winners of the adult and high school divisions will run across the field as part of a special effects show by "Image Engineering," the company responsible for every pre-game entrance of the Baltimore Ravens.

Admission to the Saturday in the pArc Punt, Pass and Kick Football Festival is free, but registration is limited.

Walk-on contestants may sign up until 5 p.m on Saturday. The first 500 guests will receive special gifts.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the event.

Contact Paul Levine at 410-879-6758 or plevine@arcncr.org or visit The Arc Web site at [www.arcncr.org](http://www.arcncr.org).

Through the purchase of raffle tickets, participants will be given 10 chances to win exciting prizes, courtesy of DTLR and Blac Label.

There will be two drawings for premium seats and exclusive tailgating privileges at the Nov. 29 Ravens vs. Steelers game in Baltimore.

Additionally, eight ticket holders will walk home with memorabilia of their favorite sports teams.

Concessions will be on sale throughout the evening.

children with developmental disabilities into recreational programs.

"We also hope to raise community awareness about intellectual disabilities," said Elaine Orbino, marketing and development coordinator for The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region.

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