

**March 14, 2018**

## **Kick Butts Day to be recognized on March 21**

MOBILE, Alabama — In recognition of national Kick Butts Day, the Mobile County Health Department’s S.W.A.T. (Students Working Against Tobacco) teams from Murphy, Vigor, Alma Bryant and Mary G. Montgomery high schools will host the event along with the Kick Butts Day Challenge now in its third year.

Kick Butts Day is a national day of activism that empowers youth to speak up and take action against tobacco use at more than 1,000 events from coast to coast. The local event will take place Wednesday, March 21, at Mobile Mardi Gras Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The park is located at South Royal Street between Church and Government streets across from the History Museum of Mobile. The event is taking place in partnership with the City of Mobile’s Special Events Department.

On the agenda once again is the Kick Butts Challenge, which is a fitness challenge sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. The purpose is to bring awareness to the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke. The challenge will showcase the benefits of a smoke-free environment when trying to be physically fit.

S.W.A.T. members will begin the day by having a sidewalk stroll to local businesses to present “This is a smoke-free facility” stickers. Informational material on the health risk of tobacco products and smoking cessation will also be given out to those attending the event.

The Kick Butts Challenge will begin at noon, followed by recognition of winners and participants. This is a free event, and the public is invited to come enjoy their lunch in the park and cheer on the participants.

Mayor Sandy Stimpson will issue a proclamation calling March 21 as Kick Butts Day in Mobile.

For more information about the S.W.A.T. program or to setup a presentation, contact Harold Jones at 251-544-2064 or at [hjones@mchd.org](mailto:hjones@mchd.org). To learn about the nation-wide campaign, visit [www.KickButtsDay.org](http://www.KickButtsDay.org) or [www.TobaccoFreeKids.org](http://www.TobaccoFreeKids.org).