Volume 18, Issue 5

May, 2024

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#### Fiscal 2024 FOKM/KMTC

#### **Consolidated Calender**

May 11, 2024 Trail Work Day

June 8, 2024 Trail Work Day & Park Day

July 13, 2024 Trail Work Day

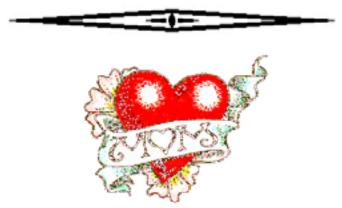
#### July 16, 2024 FOKM/KMTC Board Meeting

August, 10, 2024 Trail Work Day

September 14, 2024 Trail Work Day

October 12, 2024 Trail Work Day

#### October 15, 2024 FOKM/KMTC Board Meeting



#### June Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the June Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at <a href="mailto:faf1948@bellsouth.net">faf1948@bellsouth.net</a> no later than May 20th!



Calendar of Events - Friends/KMTC

<u>Date Time Location Event</u>

May, 2024

5/11 8:00 am - noon Cheatham Hill Rd. Activity area May, 2024 Work Day

June, 2024

6/8 8:00 am - noon TBD June, 2024 Work Day

July, 2024

7/13 8:00 am - noon TBD July, 2024 Work Day

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP/posts/?ref=page">https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP/posts/?ref=page</a> internal

#### **Current Status Of Park**

All NPS outdoor events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are being conducted.

All trails are open, except as noted, below. All parking lots are open. The Mountain Road parking lot is open when the Mountain Road is open.

Visitor Center is now open; masks are *optional*. The Visitor Center theater is open - the movie is being shown.

The Mountain Rd. is open to motorized vehicles on weekdays only (excluding major holidays)

The shuttle bus is now transporting visitor to/from the Visitor Center/Kennesaw Mountain Top Parking Lot on weekends.

#### **Trail closures**

The horse trail crossing on John Ward Creek on the Kolb Farm East Trail is closed until further notice because of the treacherous creek crossing there.

See page 6 for a listing of NPS-sponsored events for the month of May.



# Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook

The Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook sponsored by the Friends of KMNBP is now available on Amazon.

678-315-5888

"Earthworks" is published monthly jointly by the Friends of KMNPB & the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

Editor: Fred Feltmann

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

#### List of Abbreviations

FOKM - Friends of Kennesaw Mountain

KMNBP - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

KMTC - Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club

NPS/KEMO - National Park Service/Kennesaw Mountain

VHP - Veterans History Project

VC - Visitor Center

## **Newsletter Sign-up**

Would you like to receive our newsletter? To sign up, click on the following link: <a href="http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n">http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n</a> Complete and submit this form. You'll be added to our subscription list.

Wish to unsubscribe? Simply follow the instructions at the bottom of the email forwarding the newsletter link, and you'll be permanently removed from our mailing list. To re-subscribe, you will need to use a different email address removal is permanent for the original email address!



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152

> (770) 427-4686 phone www.nps.gov/kemo

National Park Service, U.S.Department of the Interior, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30152, (770) 427-4686 phone,

#### **Kennesaw Mountain** News Release

Release Date: Immediately

Contact: Marjorie Thomas, Marjorie thomas@nps.gov, 770-427-4686 x 231

#### John Ward Creek Crossing Closed to Horseback Riders

Kennesaw, GA – Effective immediately, the John Ward Creek crossing just south of the Illinois Monument is closed to horseback riders until further notice. This closure stems from a safety concern due to hazardous conditions relating to an unstable streambed. The closure affects the creek crossing between Milepost 3.5 and Milepost 4 of the Kolb's Farm East Trail.

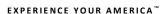
Superintendent Patrick Gamman states, "We are concerned for the safety of all park users. Crossing John Ward Creek at this section of the trail poses a risk that we want to alert our horse community to, as it could potentially cause harm to both horse and rider. We will be working as quickly as possible to mitigate this problem."

Please contact the park at 770-427-4686 or visit the park's website at <u>www.nps.gov/kemo</u> for further information.

#### The National Park Service

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at the NPS website, and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

Work on the bridge replacement is currently work scheduled to begin in August, 2024.



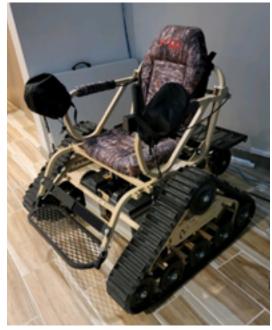
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

# Tree blocking trail/bridge along 24-Gun Battery Trail. A large tree has fell and destroyed a bridge along the 24-

A large tree has fell and destroyed a bridge along the 24-Gun Battery Trail, west of Old Mountain Road. The 24-Gun Trail was closed during the mid-April time frame to remove and replace the bridge. The trail was reopened the week of April 19th.







#### All-Terrain Wheel Chair Available

An all-terrain wheel chair has been donated to the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Contact the Park staff to get trained on it's use. The disabled person and a care giver must take the training prior to use. There are a few designated trails in the park on which it can be used.



# **Park Moments**









Photos taken by Fred Feltmann on the Brumby Trail during the April 13th Work Day.



A view from afar...connected places.

Memorial Day Flag Placement - 5/28/22 - Marietta National Cemetery. Photo by Fred Feltmann





# Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield ParkInterpretive Programs for May

\*All outdoor programs are weather- dependent.
\*Unless otherwise noted, all programs will be held at the Visitor Center

Museum Tours every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 2:00 pm!

#### May 4th @ 3 pm- Hug a Tree Program

Ideal for families with children ages 5-12 years old. Come on down and learn valuable outdoor safety skills with our Preventative Search and Rescue volunteers. Activities include interactive demonstrations on what to do when you're lost and fun games/ activities for kids. Please dress appropriately for outdoor activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### May 5th @ 11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm- Infantry Demonstrations

The Civil War was the first modern war in history, fought using tactics and techniques still relevant to the battlefield today. Come out and experience our living historians as they encamp and offer rifle firing demonstrations at the above-listed times.

#### May 12th, @11 am - Pickett Line History Walk

The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain was a large-scale offensive with many moving parts. One of the first actions of that day was a diversionary attack at the base of Kennesaw Mountain itself and part of the way up the slope. Join one of our rangers for a short walk along this line of battle as they detail the techniques, tactics, and aftermath of this fateful assault. This walk includes rolling, rocky terrain and is approximately 1.3 mile long.

#### May 19th, @11 am-Mountaintop Hike

This ranger - led hike will take you roughly 1 mile up to the peak of Big Kennesaw Mountain. Along the way, you'll learn about the flora and fauna of the area and the history that shapes us from pre-history, through Civil War and on to today. The hike is semi-strenuous so bring water and good shoes!

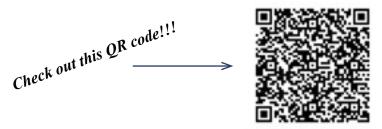
#### May 26th and 27th @ 11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm- Artillery Demonstrations

Artillery is described as the king of battle, and acted as a deciding factor for many of the fights along the Kennesaw Line. Come on out and see our living historians set up camp and offer cannon- firing demonstrations at the above-listed times.

# Kennesaw Mountain is hosting a lecture series for the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Atlanta Campaign!

Local authors, historians and educators will be sharing their insight into one of the most impactful operations in American history.

For more information including scheduled times, lecture topics and speaker biographies, please scan the QR code below:



For more program details, please contact Visitor Center at 770-427-4686, ext. o





# The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Are Looking For A Few Good Folks!

Like the Trail Club, the Friends have many opportunities for volunteers to provide services to the Park. Here are a few select ones:

**Butterfly Garden & Plant Nursery Coordinator -** This individual would work with the NPS staff at the park to coordinate volunteer projects around the Park

**160th Anniversary (2024) Coordinator -** This individual would head up a volunteer group to coordinate various activities with the NPS staff to conduct the 160th Anniversary of the Battle for Kennesaw Mountain.

Activities might be:

- Fundraising
- Parking
- · Food logistics for feeding the various volunteers

- · General logistics
- Publicity
- · Hospitality Services

**Endowment Fund Chair** - Coordinate/lead the activities necessary to establish an Endowment Fund for the Friends:

- Policies
- Publicity
- •Establish a core group to manage it

#### **Legal Secretary**

For more information on these positions, contact Scott Mackay - <a href="mailto:President@TheFriendsOfKMNBP.onmicrosoft.com">President@TheFriendsOfKMNBP.onmicrosoft.com</a>



#### The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain

The Friends of Kennesasw Mountain's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Your Membership helps to fund this mission.
Please join us.

### **Our Mission:**

The mission of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is to work in partnership with the National Park Service and the local community to provide volunteers and raise funding to support activities such as:

- Visitor & Away Events
- Transportation, Housing, and Feeding of volunteer groups (example: Living History, Student Conservation Association, Invasive Plants Team)
- Museum Upgrades and Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit Additions (& the Wallis House)
- Restrooms, Parking, and Picnic Area Facilities
- · Trails, Fire Roads, and Bridges Maintenance
- Educational Day Trips and Vacation Camps
- Volunteer-In-Park Training Programs

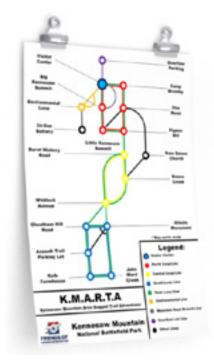
The ultimate goal is to create endowments for the most significant expense items and move them toward a sustainable and perpetual self-funded status that reduces the need for these items to rely on federal budget support.

#### The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Webstore

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is excited to announce our new webstore! Our first product is a unisex T-shirt, which is 100% cotton. The design on the back of the shirt shows Kennesaw Mountain and the Visitor Center. It is inspired by the New Deal travel posters from the 1930's. The shirt can be purchased online for \$20 at <a href="https://friendsofkmnbp.org/shop/">https://friendsofkmnbp.org/shop/</a>. Visit our website! *New items have been added!* 

## **Andrew Bramlett**





Some of the items for sale.







Become a supporting member of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (KMNBP)

The Friends of KMNBP's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

#### These include:

Hiking/Equestrian Trail improvements and Maintenance Museum improvements and expansion

Living History Demonstrations

Additional parking and restrooms

Guest speakers

More

Our long term goal is to establish endowments to provide perpetual sources of funding for the programs that make the park special for all of us and generations to come.



Your annual membership will help us achieve our goals. We are a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization. 100% of all funds received are put to use for and at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Annual membership levels:

#### **Individuals**

- \$15 Corporal (Student)
- \$25 Sergeant
- \$100 First Sergeant
- \$300 Ordinance Sergeant
- \$500 Quarter Master
- \$1,000 Sergeant Major
- \$1,500+ General

#### **Businesses**

- \$150 Company
- \$300 Regiment
- \$500 Brigade
- \$1,000 Division
- \$15,000 Corps
- \$25,000+ Army



## Six Ways To Donate

You can support the Friends in 6 ways:

- Directly through our website <a href="https://friendsofkmnbp.org/giving-membership/donate/">https://friendsofkmnbp.org/giving-membership/donate/</a>
- Through PayPal <a href="https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/3750205">https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/3750205</a>
- Through Guidestar (Network for Good) <a href="https://www.nfggive.com/donation/83-4627827">https://www.nfggive.com/donation/83-4627827</a>
- 4. QR Code:



DipJar located in the Visitor CenterNew!

**6.** Or, by mailing to:

Friends of KMNBP 905 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152

Thanks for your support!

Please Use the pledge card on the following page when mailing in a donation.

Please check with your company to see if they will match your gift.





Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Nation 2024 Pledge Card	One Payment  Quarterly Payment
Name	Individuals   S15 Corporal (Student)   S25 Sergeant   S100 First Sergeant   S300 Ordinance Sergeant   S500 Quarter Master   S1,000 Sergeant Major   S1,500 General   Check enclosed   Check enclosed   Check enclosed   Check enclosed   Check enclosed   Carporate   S150 Company   Corporate   S150 Company   Credit Card Number:   S500 Brigade   S1,000 Division   S15,000 Corps   S25,000 Army   Other Amount   S   I wish to remain anonymous   I wish to r

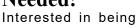


### May 11 Work Day

Our next workday is Saturday, May 11, 2024, and we will be working on the Old John Ward Road Trail by Activity Area 3 starting at the Cheatham Hill parking lot.

# Mike Collett Trails Director

# "Other" Volunteers Needed!



more active with the Trail Club (or the Friends), but don't want to do Crew Leader or Trail Ambassador work? See page 7 for a list of activities/functions needed to maintain the organizations and contact the various department heads to volunteer!

# Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Mike Collett (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

A training class for prospective Trail Ambassadors will be announced shortly.

Mike Collett - <u>trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</u> Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner -

ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

# Rena Bailey Retires at the End of April, 2024

Rena Bailey has retired, effective at the end of April, 2024. She has served the Trail Club as the Community Volunteer Director for many years. She coordinated the efforts of many groups that signed up to participate in our monthly scheduled work days and coordinated efforts of groups that wanted to schedule a special work day. We wish her well in her new endeavors!

Thanks, Rena, for a job Well Done!

KMTC Staff

## A Special Thanks!

Each year we have various groups who come out and help us. Henceforth, we will make every attempt to list your group here for the current/past fiscal year. If you are participating as a group, be sure to let us know when you are registering!

Following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the groups who participated during Fiscal 2023 (October 2022- September 2023 and Fiscal 2024 (October 2023- Present):

#### **FY 2023**

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)
GA TECH ROTC
HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KING'S ACADEMY HS AJROTC
KSU
KSU, ALPHA PHI OMEGA
KSU VOLUNTEER DAY STUDENTS

MARIETTA HS SPORTSMANS CLUB



#### FY 2024

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
ETOWAH HIGH SCHOOL EAGLE SERVICE CONNECTION CLUB
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KSU

#### This Past Month's Volunteers

We had three work days in April - April 6th, made up of students from KSU (9 Crew leaders and 22 students), April 13th (Park Day), with volunteers (11 Crew Leaders,

5 Trail Ambassadors & 15 volunteers) and 4/27/13 with 11 volunteers (9 volunteers, 1 Trail ambassador and 1 crew leader) made up of:

leader) made up of:

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)

HILLGROVE HS NJROTC

KSU



# **Register for** Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at tinyurl.





com/27ef2vph. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.

#### Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

See the sign-up links, above. Anyone one is now welcome to sign-up.

The Trail Club will provide supervision and tools. Volunteers must wear long pants and closed toed shoes. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, and work gloves. The NPS Volunteer Service Agreement and COVID forms are required, signed by a parent or quardian, if the student is under 18 years old. The forms are available on the trail club web site: http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub. org/volunteer.php

For May's work day, parking and registration will be in the Activity field across the street from the Cheatham Hill Rd. Parking Lot. Temporary Vehicle Entrance Passes will issued at registration. Registration will open at 8:00 am.

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at trails@

kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Trail work can be performed any day of the week.

We work closely with the Park Service and assist the park staff by providing critically needed volunteer effort to install signs, build bridges, and maintain the 20+ miles of trails. Since our beginning in 2002, the Trail Club has donated over 281,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day soon!

#### Cancellation policy

If rain is forecast for the work day, we will issue a cancellation notice on our website at least 24 hours before hand. In addition, during the winter months, if the temperature is forecast to be below 40 degrees, we will also issue a cancellation at least 24 hours prior to the work day.

# KMTC Contact List - Updated 4/16/24

NAME

Jerry Givan

Wendy Turner

Kathy Van Valkenburg

#### **Position**

**Trails Director** 

Community Volunteer Director

**Newsletter Editor** 

Information/Technology Director Trail Ambassador Co-Director Trail Ambassador Co-Director

**Plants Director** 

**KMTC** Website

**NPS** Website

Facebook Page

Volunteer Sign-up website\*

\* updated

#### E-MAIL

Mike Collett trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org Vacant\*

comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org Fred Feltmann

webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Danny Leigh

http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/

https://www.nps.gov/KEMO

http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial

www.tinyurl.com/27ef2vph

## April Work Days - 4/6/24 & 4/13/24

For April, 2024, the Trail Club sponsored 2 work days - the Kennesaw State University Volunteer Day on April 6 and the April scheduled workday for the Camp Brumby Trail on April 13.

#### April 6, 2024, KSU Volunteer Day

We had 9 crew leaders for the workday. The Crew Leaders were Anna, Bill, Donald, Eric, Robert, Scott, Stewart, Tom, and Mike. Bill and Donald registered the volunteers and handled parking. We had 22 volunteers from Kennesaw State University. Scott and I took pictures and documented the event. Scott drove the Gator taking tools between work locations. We split into two groups:

The first group with Anna, Stewart, Robert, and Bill and 12 of the KSU volunteers worked on repairing the fence and cleaned the concrete ditch on the Pickett Line Trail.









Before and after pictures.

The second group, Tom and Eric and 10 of the KSU volunteers worked on cleaning the ditch from the wet area on the service road to where it met Pickett Line Trail.









Before and after pictures.

I bounced between sites monitoring the progress.









Pictures of our volunteers working.

The pre-workday was done on Friday, April 6, with Eric, Tom, Mark, Stewart, Bill, and Mike reviewed the workplan and put out flags.

#### April 13, 2024, The Scheduled Monthly Workday

We had 11 crew leaders for the workday. The Crew Leaders were Ann, Aron, Bill, Curt, Donald, Fred, Rich, Robert, Scott, Tom, and Jenny under instruction. We had 5 Ambassadors, they were Debbie, Doug, Laurie, Rena, and Wendy. They did registration and directed the volunteers to the parking area. We had 15 volunteers. The volunteers were from the Hillgrove JROTC (6), Allatoona JROTC (2), Kennesaw State University (2), individuals (2), the Atlanta Outdoor Club (4, I'm also in this number).

I welcomed the volunteers at the picnic area. We did introductions and James Pratt, NPS, welcomed

everyone to Park Day. I did a safety briefing and split our volunteers into two teams. I went between Teams answering questions and ensuring the workplan was being followed. Fred took pictures; Scott and Rich drove Gators with tools to the work locations and back.

Team 1 was led by Aron with Robert and Anna assisting and the Allatoona JROTC, the Atlanta Outdoor Club, and individuals (7). They worked on cleaning ditches around the part of Brumby Circle and the part that touches Camp Brumby Trail. When they with finished the used buckets, a wheel barrel and the two Gators driven by Rich and Scott took the chipped fencing from the pile to the low areas of the trail in attempting to prevent further trail creep.







2 Before and 1 after pictures.

Team 2 was led by Bill with Curt and Tom assisting and the Hillgrove JROTC and Kennesaw State University groups (8). They worked on cleaning ditches.







2 Before and 1 after pictures.

I bounced between sites monitoring the progress.









Pictures of our volunteers working.

Mike Collett
Trails Director

# SPECIAL WORKDAY -ALLATOONA HS NJROTC

Last fall, the park requested a high school group to help with one or more special projects including cleaning up several landmarks in the park. The KMTC asked Jeff Knudson (Lt. Col – Ret) of Allatoona JROTC if they wanted to participate. They selected April 27 for their special project.

That Saturday morning started as a beautiful spring morning in Georgia. James Pratt, NPS, joined Curt Spinney and Rena Bailey, KMTC moved supplies and equipment to the picnic area on Cheatham Hill Road and the Illinois Monument. Nine smiling young people showed up and one young lady stepped forward as their leader. The young people were all 'rising seniors' and would be the student commanding officers for the 2024-25 school year. The day was to be multi-purpose: team building for a new set of officers and work day at KEMO.

James started with a brief history lesson and a short hike. The group cleaned signs, cleared limbs and trash from the Illinois Monument. Then they cleaned the areas around several of markers in the area. No project in the area would be complete without cleaning the pollen, or should we say POLLEN, from the Illinois Monument.

A brief hike back to the picnic area on Cheatham Hill Road and lunch culminated the morning.

Thank you to the Allatoona HS JROTC for a job well done! And Good Luck to the new commanding officers!

#### Rena Bailey

Community Volunteer Director (retired)

# The Unknown Soldier

May 29, 2011 Fred Feltmann

My ashes have lain at this site nigh on 50 years now.

No living person knows where I am.

Not friend

Not foe.

Not even my relatives.

Nor the Service for which I gave my last full measure.

Only my God knows where my ashes are,

And my relatives and friends dear to me who have passed this way as well.

And, yes, there are these fine young men and women, some only a few years younger than I,

- They know I am here, though not my name.

They come annually and place a flag upon my resting place.

The Flag of my country for which I so proudly served,

And gave my last full measure.

He proudly saluted me today!

I so look forward to his return or the return of his friends next year, for they are but the few who visit My final resting place now.

Thank you!

I hear tell that there is a man afoot who is looking into our demise, and one by one discerning who we are. I wish him well.

For at last someone among the living will know that I am no longer missing in action.

That their long-lost relative is here, safe now, resting in this hallowed ground.

Found at last.

They will know my story and know how I served and gave the last full measure for my Country And for the freedom of my fellow man.

Unknown...BUT not forgotten!



April 6, 2024 Work Day Photos

Photos by Scott Mackay

















April 13, 2024 Work Day Photos
Photos by Fred Feltmann















Sponsors/Partners Corner
Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!







http://americanhiking.org























# KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

