

Pelican Watch

PELICAN PARK



Recreation District #1 of St. Tammany Parish

VOL. 4 NO. 3

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Phone: 626-7997 Fax: 626-9028 Hotline: 626-1444

MAY 2004

From the Director Anticipation.....



When you are anticipating something it always seems that time goes so slow.... This is the case for the staff and every user of the park in reference to the expansion of the Park. Voters approved a millage one year ago to fund the construction of 3 new baseball/softball fields, 2 new football/soccer game fields, practice fields, a skatepark and intra-structure. Once the bond issue was approved, we wanted the improvements immediately and that just doesn't happen. Most major park construction projects, similar to this project, take two to three years to complete. Initially, the Park had to obtain a wetlands permit for the property. We presently have the permit and now the clearing and grubbing package is out to public bid. Work will begin in July on the clearing and grubbing of the 70 acres. Meanwhile, Meyer Engineering has been working for months on the scope of work and presently they are drawing the construction documents. Construction documents/plans should be complete by late 2004 with a contractor beginning work in early 2005. The project should take approximately one year to complete.

Ms. Kathy Foley

RENOVATIONS OF PURPLE 2 FIELD

The Board of Commissioners this spring approved \$20,000.00 to completely rebuild the Purple 2 field. Rebuilding consists of removal of the existing irrigation and addition of **875 tons** of sand and soil. The fields were then laser graded and allowed to settle. After 3 weeks the fields were laser graded again and final grade established. Hybrid bermuda seed will be added by staff and irrigation reinstalled. The field will be given a strict regiment of fertilizer, weed control, pest control and mowing for the next 2 months during grow in.

SPECIAL THANKS!!!

The volunteers who serve as coaches, age group directors and Advisory Board members are vital to the success of Pelican Park youth sports programs. These men and women take time out of their busy lives to volunteer to make a difference in your children's life and the Park's programs. Please take a moment to thank your coach and the coach's spouse for the time and effort they give to the children and Park.

Baseball Advisory Board:

Mickey LePere-Pres	Michael Hertzig
Milton Meyer	Mark Morel
Ralph Whalen	Ron Clark

Softball Advisory Board

Sam Camarda-Pres	Rick Childress
Deana McDonald	Jeff Norris
Charles Burton	

Baseball Age Group Directors

Boys T-Ball	Mark Morel
6's Milton Meyer	7's Kerry Priola
8's Wayne Durr	9's Jim Berry
10's Mark Morel	11's Steve Soteropulos
12's Mickey LePere	13's Greg Cruice
14's Joe Moore	

Softball Age Group Directors

Girls T-Ball and 6's	Mike Lucio
7-8's Sam Carmarda	
9-10's Deana McDonald	
11-12's Rick Childress	
13-15's Jeff Norris	

FRONT ENTRANCE WORK TO BEGIN IN THE FALL



This fall work will begin on the front entrance of the Park that will include a stacking lane on Hwy 190 for cars waiting to turn into the Park. The addition of the stacking lane will greatly enhance the safety of people turning into the Park.

The State will also redesign the front entrance of our present road to include a proper exit lanes for both right and left turns.

Special thanks to Rep. Diane Winston, Rep Tim Burns and Bob Roth of DOTD for their assistance with and support of this project.

INSIDE: REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR SUMMER BASKETBALL JUNE 7 - 19th LIMITED REGISTRATION



Recreation District #1
of St. Tammany Parish
Pelican Park
63350 Pelican Dr.
Mandeville, LA 70448

**Board of
Commissioners:**

Nixon Adams
Chairman
Stephen R. Meyer, M.D.
Vice Chairman
Commissioners:
Greg Cruice
Joe FitzPatrick, D.D.S.
Chris Keller
Bill Matthews
Tony Oramous

Staff:

Kathy Foley
Director
Doug McLemore
Park Superintendent
Kia Knight
Castine Center Mgr.

Pat Dayton
Recreation Supt.

Kimberly Breath
Office Manager

Ann Keyes
Recreation Supervisor

Angie Walker
Recreation Supervisor

Karen Haydel
Recreation Supervisor

Cheryl Johnson
Secretary

Harris LaGrange
Turf Supervisor

Ron Johnson
Construction Foreman

Recreation District #1 is a free standing governmental agency. The District is supported by a property tax paid by the residents and businesses of Recreation District #1.

The general boundaries of the Recreation District are Lake Pontchartrain on the south side, the Tchefuncte River on the west side, Big Branch on the east side and I-12 on the north side.

The District, which operates Pelican Park, is under the direction of a 7 member administrative board and staff.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL THANKS



Presently we have over 1900 children playing youth baseball and softball in our Spring session. There are 41 girls softball teams and 123 boys baseball teams. This year for the first time girls and boys were divided into separate leagues for T-ball. This year the number of 5 & 6 year old girls registered increased from 45 to 118. We certainly wish to express our appreciation to all of the volunteer coaches, Age Group Directors, and Advisory Board Members who work so hard to help make this program a success.



PARK MAJOR SPONSOR OF PROJECT GRADUATION

Each year, Recreation District #1 supports our children and graduates of MHS and FHS by co-sponsoring Project Graduation. Project Graduation is an all-night after-graduation party held in the Castine Center. The Park waives all rental charges for use of the Castine Center for the 9 days. (over \$11,000 value) This event is put on to give graduates a safe, drug and alcohol free party to celebrate their accomplishments. Congratulations to the graduates and thanks to all of the hundreds of Project Graduation volunteers this years event was a great success.

F.Y.I.

As part of your registration fee, Pelican Park has purchased secondary, excess, accident insurance for your child for potential injuries sustained while playing in our programs. This insurance HELPS pay for what your primary insurance doesn't. Please be advised that in the event of an accident/injury, you must file your accident claim form within 30 days of the injury. You may contact our office manager at 985-626-7997 for further details.

ADULT SPORT RECREATION NEWS:

Session II of Adult Sports begins play starting on the 25th of May. There will be leagues in the Over 35 Basketball, Co-ed Just for Fun Volleyball, Rec. Softball, and Cabbageball at this time. Registration for Session III of Adult Sports will be July 26-August 6, 2004. Sports offered are: Competitive Softball, Cabbage Ball, Over 35 Basketball, Rec. Volleyball, Co-ed Just for Fun Volleyball, Rec. Softball, Ladies Just for Fun Volleyball, Competitive Basketball.



CASTINE CENTER THRIVES WITH EXISTING AND NEW EVENTS

The Castine Center is experiencing a flood of new bookings as well as re-booking of existing events. In May alone, 6 new events were contracted to include a Scrap-booking Fest, a Slidell Krewe Mardi Gras ball, an awards banquet, a children's consignment sale, a Sweet 16 party and a fundraiser. The Castine Center is the largest building of it's kind in St. Tammany Parish. It not only serves the needs of our basketball program three months out of the year and community events, but is host to a myriad of events like the upcoming Reptile and Exotics Show to be held here June 5 & 6 and the Homebuilders Association trade show to be held June 12 & 13. The Castine Center is the ideal place to hold birthday parties, wedding reception, anniversary parties, fundraisers, to name a few. Call us to book your special event at 626-7997.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ever thought about working in a park? Thought about working around ball players and coaches on fields and in gyms? Pelican Park is seeking qualified people to fill the following part-time and full time positions. Facility Staff workers work part time in the evenings and on weekends. The Recreation Supervisor position, that is full time, and requires a degree and/or extensive experience in recreation and sports activities. Think one of these positions is right for you and good for the Park? If so, contact Pat Dayton, Recreation Superintendent, at Pelican Park, (985) 626-7997 or visit our website @pelicanpark.com

FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION JUST AROUND THE CORNER



Registration for Pelican Park Football, Cheerleading, and Fall Baseball is **August 2-14**. Mark your calendars and watch for information in the next newsletter.





SUMMER BASKETBALL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Limited # of participants – register early

REGISTRATION DATES JUNE 7 – JUNE 19

Office registration hours:
Monday – Friday 8am-6pm
Saturday 9am-5pm



Online registration:
Returning players register 24 hours a day beginning at 12:01am on June 7th
Online registration ends at midnight on June 19th

BOYS SUMMER BASKETBALL

- **Ages 8-18**
- Age as of 8/31/2004
- **Games begin week of 7/5 and end by 8/15**
- 10 games with a single elimination tournament
- Pre-season practices only. Season practices upon coaches request only – limit 1 per week
- No evaluations
- **MAXIMUM # OF TEAMS WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO – NEED A MINIMUM OF 4 TEAMS FOR A LEAGUE**
- With the exception of the 8 yr. old age group - **age groups may be combined in order to form a league.**
- Please note: **Play up** requests can only be done in the office and will be granted **ONLY** if room after registration.

TENTATIVE GAME DAYS

GAME DAYS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER REGISTRATION ENDS

- 8/9/10 boys – 6 team maximum – Mon. & Sat.
- 11 boys – 8 team maximum – Tues. & Sat.
- 12 boys – 10 team maximum – Tues. & Sat.
- 13/14/15 boys – 6 team maximum – Thurs. & Sat.
- High school age participants (ages 16-18) 6 team maximum – Thurs. & Sat.
- 18 yr. olds must be a high school student with a current high school ID and must register in the office. Bring your ID with you at the time of registration.

SUMMER BOYS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION FEE

ALL AGES

**Recreation District #1 resident - \$57
Non resident - \$82**

GIRLS SUMMER BASKETBALL CLINIC

One hour of drills and one hour of scrimmaging equals two hours of fun

Ages 7-12

Age as of 8/31/2004

Saturday mornings – 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31, 8/7, 8/14

Clinic participants will be grouped according to age – 7/8, 9/10, 11/12

Maximum # of participants per age group – 30

Minimum # of participants per age group - 20

Season ending contest on 8/14 (per age group)

Competition for Best Free Throw Shooter

Best dribbler

Best three point shooter

SUMMER GIRLS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION FEE ALL AGES

**Recreation District #1 resident – \$18
Non resident - \$43**



General Registration Information



- First time players must register in the office & bring a copy of their birth certificate
- **Online registration available for returning players only at www.pelicanpark.com**
- Players must meet the age as of date requirement in order to register.
- Play up requests do not apply to children who do not meet the minimum age requirement.
- **Players wishing to play up an age group must register in the office. Players have to complete a play up/ play down form that is available only in the office.**
- **Play up granted ONLY after registration ends and if there is space available.**
- In order to form teams that are fair and equally balanced, requests for a specific team will not be honored.
- Mail-in's no longer accepted.

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!!!!

**Log on to www.pelicanpark.com
to register as a boy's coach**

Please note: Members of the Girls Basketball Advisory Board will be conducting the girls clinic but volunteers are needed to assist them. This is a great opportunity for players to work on fundamentals so please help the girls by volunteering to assist the board members. Call office to volunteer to help with the girls clinic.

RECREATION DIST. # 1
63350 PELICAN DRIVE
MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

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FOR FIELD CONDITIONS, CALL THE PELICAN PARK SPORTS HOTLINE 626-1444

INTERESTED IN SOCCER?

The soccer program in Mandeville is run by a private non-profit group called **Mandeville Soccer Club**. For information about their program please call **624-8080**.

Recreation District #1's Board of Commissioners has granted Mandeville Soccer Club (MSC) "exempt" status at the Park. *This "exempt" status saves MSC over \$18,000 per year.* Up until the "exempt" status was granted in 2000, MSC paid the direct cost of field lighting and field painting for game use. "Exempt" status is granted to large non-profit organizations within the District because without their existence the Recreation District would have to provide that sport.

DIRECT YOUR UNITED WAY DONATIONS TO THE PARK!

The "Friends of Pelican Park" is a 501C3 non-profit organization that is an approved agency by the United Way. People making donations to the United Way can mark on their donation cards, FRIENDS OF PELICAN PARK, and the donation will be passed on by the United Way to the Friends organization. Please consider directing your donation to the "Friends of Pelican Park". For more information call 626-7997.



Weddings and Receptions
Hold your Special Event
At The Castine Center
In Pelican Park
Low Rates and a Personal Touch
Call to Reserve Your Special Date, 626-7997

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS:

- * Jeremy LeBreton, Castine Center Maint.
- * Karen Haydel, Recreation Supervisor
- * Jonathan Mares, Summer Park Crew

LET'S AVOID DUPLICATE MAILINGS

If you receive duplicates of the same newsletter with different names or addresses, please send the newsletter to us at 63350 Pelican Drive, Mandeville LA 70448 or email us at pelican-sec@nternet.com. Please indicate the incorrect information and we'll change our records for the next mailing. You may receive some duplicates for a while. Thanks!



**The official soft drink of Pelican Park
and the Castine Center**

