REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Town of Fremont's Parks and Recreation Commission oversees recreational programs and activities for the Fremont community and the maintenance and management of Fremont Memorial Park and Fields.

Playgroup for preschool-aged children is still going strong after 10 years thanks to the many volunteers who have stepped up to coordinate the weekly meetings and monthly field trips. A special thanks to Brinn Chute, our current coordinator. Playgroup meets Fridays at the People's United Methodist Church on Main Street from 9:30-11:00 am. For more information please call 679-2275 or e-mail <u>brinnmargaret@yahoo.com</u>.

The Easter Egg Hunt at the Fremont Memorial Park continues to grow every year. Thousands of eggs are laid over a snow covered soccer field to be scooped up in a matter of seconds. Prizes of pickets, teddy bears and special treats are a delight to the children. The Recreation Department also hosts Camp Fremont. The main objective of camp is to provide a safe, enjoyable environment where school-aged children can develop mentally, emotionally, socially, and physically at an affordable cost to parents. Our Camp Director is Jen Jaquith, a 10year veteran Physical Education teacher who also has 10 years of experience in various recreational leadership positions. Our counseling staff is mature, CPR certified, and welltrained.

With a low camper-to-counselor ratio, your child receives individual attention and is actively monitored. Campers participate in a structured day which is filled with a variety of enrichment, physical, and arts & crafts activities that are largely based upon the theme of the week. Campers are often entertained by educational presenters and typically go on two field trips per week. These experiences and a Camp Fremont t-shirt are included in the tuition costs. Enrollment is open so you are never too late. Come see how much fun Camp Fremont can be! This year watch for family deals and tuition price breaks when signing up for multiple weeks.

As we progress though the years we try to come up with new activities for a wide range of residents. A free movie night on the soccer field seemed like a great way to appeal to teens and adults. Mother Nature was having no part of it. After the 4th rain date it was not surprising that attendance was not quite what we hoped for. However, those of you who did attend enjoyed pizza, popcorn and root beer floats. If this is something you would like to see offered again please let us know.

The Memorial Fields certainly see many activities each year. The fields are not only maintained by the Recreation Department but by the many volunteers that pitch in every year. Fremont children played and enjoyed many games, tournaments and other activities at the park during baseball, softball and soccer season. This year the fifth grade D A R E Program held their annual graduation ceremony at the park complete with K-9's and helicopters. The Ellis School Field Day was a great time! I am happy to report the basketball court has been a wonderful addition to the park. You can still order engraved pickets for around the playground. Proceeds will be used to purchase additional equipment. You can download your order form and instructions on the town website at <u>www.Fremont.nh.gov</u> on the Parks and Recreation page.

We rounded out the year with our annual holiday tree lighting. We saw record numbers of children making crafts and singing holiday carols. We would like to thank the People's United Methodist Church for providing songbooks and leading the caroling.

We are dedicated to continuing these successful programs and we are always seeking new ideas to build the community through recreational activities and programs. We are always looking for additional members to the Committee. Without the many volunteers from the community these activities and programs would not be possible. We would like to recognize the time and efforts of organizations such as the Fremont Athletic Association, PTA, Ellis School employees, the Board of Selectmen, Town Office Staff and everyone who supported us during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jon Benson

Nicole Coutier

Sarah Lamirande

Parks & Recreation Commission



Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Easter Egg Hunt Memorial Fields March 2008

Easter Bunny with her basket is Jillian Evans

Photo courtesy of Ellen Canty