



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

Parish Skate Park Now Open

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GONZALES –Local skating park organizers joined parish and city officials on Feb. 11 to cut the ribbon for the new Ascension Parish Recreation Department Skate Park on Irma Boulevard.

Ascension Parish President Tommy Martinez, Gonzales Mayor Barney Arceneaux and Parish Councilman Dempsey Lambert joined with local skate park organizer Branden Bennett and others to open the park, an opening that Bennett and his friends envisioned several years ago.

“The plan for all of this began about six years ago,” Bennett said. “And about four years ago, we started our non-profit organization, YOURS Foundation, to bring about an effort to get skaters of all ages interested in this park actually being built.”

The skate park is located on Irma Boulevard between the National Guard Armory and the Council on Aging.

“It’s finally here and a lot bigger than I anticipated when I first saw it,” said President Tommy Martinez. “Hopefully this is just a beginning and we can build parks around the parish while expanding on this one.”

President Martinez thanked Parish Recreation Director Garney Gautreau and former-director Cheryl Kinchen for seeing the park through its beginning phases, and through completion.

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Gautreau said lighting will be added to the park in the next several months. He said the lighting will operate with a timer to shut off at 9 p.m. Currently the park closes at dusk, he said.

Gautreau said a wooden fence will also be erected on the back side of the property to give homeowners more privacy.



Parish and city officials joined local skating enthusiasts as they cut the opening ribbon for the Ascension Parish Recreation Department Skate Park on Feb. 11. Shown from left to right, foreground: Kyle Throckmorton (holding ribbon), Gonzales Mayor Barney Arceneaux, Jordan Perkins, Branden Bennett, Ascension Parish President Tommy Martinez and Ascension Parish Councilman Dempsey Lambert.

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