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“Memorial AquaVenture Manager – Lisa Peters”



As the new Memorial AquaVenture Water Park manager, Lisa Peters will have more water, more kids and more employees to watch over this year.

Peters has been the manager of the City of Norfolk pools for ten years, supervising lifeguard staff, overseeing pool maintenance and organizing swimming lessons.

Her job responsibilities will be the same this year yet on a greater scale as she oversees the operations of the new water park that covers two

acres, has three story high winding slides, a large concessions area and wave pool.

Peters is ready for the challenge. She has been in on the park plans from the beginning, helping to choose water play features and other amenities at the park.

She has already hired the 80 employees it will take to operate the facility. Fifty lifeguards had to be hired and trained this winter and spring in preparation for the park's opening. Another 30 employees were added to the park staff to take admissions at the gate, operate the concessions stand, and act as aids for the lifeguards.

She will be doing all the scheduling so that there are 15 lifeguards on staff at a time.

“I've worked with kids all my life so I like to see them have fun and also learn about job responsibilities,” Peters said.

Originally from Wausa, Peters said she spent summers at the hometown swimming pool and later coached summer softball.

As a physical education teacher at Norfolk Catholic High, she began coaching softball for the City of Norfolk Summer Recreation program. She then moved on to managing the Norfolk pools. Last year she became the fulltime pool manager for the city.

Peters plans on spending many long days at the water park this summer. Once open it will operate every day of the week from 12:00 noon until 8:00 pm. Four times a day the water needs to be tested to make sure it has the

appropriate chemical balance. There will also be decks, locker rooms, pool furniture and the pools to clean each day.

“The concessions will always be open and we could have baseball games going on besides so it’s going to be a busy place. The park is also going to be available for birthday parties and other events,” Peters said.

The zero depth pool was filled with water last week to test the containers which makes the expected opening date in mid-June seem like a lot closer.

“The excitement in the kids’ eyes when they see all the play features- I can’t wait. It’s a great addition to Norfolk for all ages,” Peters said.

The City of Norfolk Recreation staff is taking lots of calls about swimming lessons this year. The message they give out is that there will be swimming lessons, probably in July, and watch the city’s website and news outlets for more information about registration times.