

1300 N. Phoenix
Ave.
Russellville, AR
72801

RUSSELLVILLE
AQUATIC
CENTER



M. J.
HICKEY
POOL

1312 E. 16th Street
Russellville, AR
72801
178-968-6612

City Council Report - June 2024

RAC & Hickey Pool Report for May 2024

May was busy at RAC and Hickey Pool getting ready for summer. We held our final 7 spring learn-to-swim classes before the summer. Those classes were full and our new instructors received many accolades from parents and students alike. Zoe Keen and Brandon Warner instructed 4 lifeguard certification classes in May, which included some of our new summer staff. Gary Knudsen led a Water Safety Instructor class to certify another round of future swim lesson instructors.

In addition to our swim lessons and certification classes, our regularly scheduled water aerobics classes finished up for the season. We have had such an interest in classes, that the demand far exceeds the supply at this time. We are working with the current instructors to identify and train new instructors in order to add more class offerings in the fall. For a short-term fix, we hosted several demo classes to safely demonstrate exercises that can be performed on your own. This turned out to be a huge success. Another new initiative we have started is the "Talk with a Dietician" series. Registered Dietician Gina Kersh will be on hand one Wednesday a month to discuss various topics with our patrons.

Dwight Elementary treated their students to day at the pool to reward them for year-end testing. We hosted about 80 third and fourth graders. This was the first school that had teachers and staff get in and swim with the kids. This was a first and we hope to see more of this.

RAC hosted 28 party rentals for the month of May, while Hickey had its first party of the year on the May 31st. Hickey rentals are being booked daily and there are only a few days left that do not have private parties booked. We received the go ahead from the Arkansas Health Department to open Hickey on schedule. The Parks and Rec team have done an outstanding job preparing the pool and the grounds for opening day on May 25th. Despite weather related closings, there have already been 803 check-ins at Hickey. Whereas RAC experienced 3,999 check-ins for the month (members and guests).

We held a 5 hour in-service training for our lifeguards to review our lifesaving skills and the differences between RAC and Hickey. We had to move the afternoon session from Hickey to RAC due to weather.