



Perris News

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Swimming is the Coolest Part of Perris in the Summer

Summer temperatures may be heating up but conditions are cool and comfortable at the Perris High School swimming pool.

The City's summer aquatics programs are in full swing this summer but there are plenty of openings still available for Perris residents looking to stay fit and cool during the next sizzling weeks.

Perris offers a variety of swimming programs, said Deputy City Manager Darren Madkin. Those include beginning swimming lessons, a competitive swim team open to children ages 5 to 18 and "splash ball," an introduction to water polo also available to youngsters 5 to 18.

In addition, the community pool is available every day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. for open swimming to all residents. Individual and family swim passes are available. Open registration for advanced swimming lessons, the competitive swim team and splash ball remains available, Madkin said.

"It's fun, it's great exercise and who wants to stay cooped up inside when it's 100 degree out?" he said.

Several parents took advantage of a Mommy-and-Me class this week to enjoy a refreshing dip with their children, some of whom are learning to swim before they can walk.

Christina Galvan came to the pool with her 10-month-old twins, Edaliz and Sajid. Her 8-year-old son, Ivan, also enjoys taking part in the City's aquatics programs.

"It's great," she said. "The programs are effective. My kids feel more comfortable in the water. The staff does a great job. They are so patient with the children. This is a program I would highly recommend."

Paul Jefferson echoed her sentiments. He brings his daughter, Aneica, 10, to daily swimming lessons.

"She never knew how to swim," he said. "Now she is teaching other children in our apartment complex to swim. The kids love it. They learn how to swim without holding their nose in the water. I can't say enough good things about these swimming programs."

Madkin said the City employs 11 teen-agers and young adults as swimming instructors, providing welcome employment during a tough economy. The City also has obtained 90 scholarships to cover expenses for swimming-related programs. Those scholarships were obtained through The Community Foundation, which serves Riverside and San Bernardino counties and federal Community Development Block grants.

Perris City Councilman Al Landers said he is pleased the City can provide "these needed and fun pastimes."

"Our City Parks and Recreation staff does a great job," Landers said. "Programs such as swimming and splash ball are worthwhile and fun. I am proud that our City continues to provide these crucial programs even during a difficult economy. I give our staff the highest accolades."

More information about Perris aquatics programs is available by calling 951-943-6603.



Mother and daughter have a great time staying cool in the Perris High School swimming pool.



A swimming instructor teaches a youngster how to float.



Christina Galvan with her twins, Edaliz and Sajid, 10 months old, at the Perris High School pool. Mom and tots swim together as part of the City's aquatics program.