

Hall, Renee

From: Elizabeth Barton <bartonbet@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 8:55 PM
To: City Council and Mayor
Cc: president@iastate.edu; ljolly@iastate.edu; chou@iastate.edu
Subject: FORKER POOL

[External Email]

For two Fall-Winter- Spring years, the Ames Parks & Rec department has provided Aqua Aerobics" classes in the Forker Building Pool due to the closing of the old AHS pool.

As you know, there is NO other PUBLIC pool available to the city of Ames until the Fitch Center indoor pool is completed. The citizens who partake of these classes have been told that this arrangement ended at the end of the 2024 ISU spring semester.

If any of you reading this letter is not aware of the great disappointment of these paying customers, I would like to inform you that this summer at Furman outdoor PUBLIC pool, there have been 5 days a week of classes and most days between 15 -20 participants. There is no other PUBLIC affordable option that will exist in Ames after Furman closes for this season.

The college of Human Sciences supports some research on the value of exercise for the elderly (see PASS and Walk With Ease programs) but no aqua related research. Why not?

The participants of these classes include typical samplings of the public: adults, elderly, special needs. People come from all walks of life, many are employees of ISU as well as other employers.

The City of Ames offers a variety of classes for all ages but when Furman closes, there will be a huge void for aqua exercise compared to comparable communities across the nation, to say nothing of cities that include a major university.

Why are the leaders of ISU, the College of Human Sciences and the City of Ames failing to accomodate this type of exercise for an entire (and maybe more if construction is delayed) indoor season?

Please help us find a solution for aqua classes this fall.

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