

June 1, 2010

Operation Save A Life

“Operation Save A Life” is a community initiative spearheaded by the Pickens County YMCA and the American Red Cross of Pickens County to promote water safety for youth and adults. The goal of “Operation Save A Life” is to work together as a community to decrease the number of drownings and water related emergencies in Pickens County.

The program was started in 2009 after 3 members of a family drown in a backyard pool in the Easley area. In this year’s initiative, swim lessons were offered free of charge to 2nd graders from four local elementary schools. During the swim lessons parents will listen to water safety talks given by Safe Kids Upstate and the Baptist Easley Pediatric Team Center, and they will be provided with information on how to be safe in, on and around the water.

Heather Cirincione, Aquatics Director at the Pickens County YMCA says, “It is such a great opportunity that we have to teach children how to swim as well as teaching their parents how to keep their whole family safe in and around the water. Currently there are 47 students signed up for these swim lessons. If we can prevent at least one drowning through “Operation Save A Life” then we know a difference has truly been made.”

Summer is a time to enjoy the water. The memories made can last a lifetime. Make sure they are fond recollections by learning water safety. Helpful resources can be found at www.pcyymca.net.



Last year kids were taught about water lifesaving equipment



Children learn not to jump in the pool without adult supervision.