

Atchison Area Youth Vie to Break World Record

Around 30 Atchison area youth, swim instructors, and lifeguards joined forces with thousands of people from around world this morning, in an effort to break the Guinness World Record for the “World’s Largest Swim Lesson”.

The record-breaking attempt took place at the Atchison Family YMCA, which was one of hundreds of host facilities participating in the simultaneous swim.

Anne Schafer, Aquatics Director at the Atchison Family YMCA, says they had to follow certain guidelines to qualify for the record...

(Play audio)

Schafer says she’s not sure when they’ll find out if they broke the record for the “World’s Largest Swim Lesson”. The current record was set in 2011 and stands at 19,322 participants.

“The World’s Largest Swim Lesson” is a promotional event designed to spread awareness about the importance of teaching kids to swim to help prevent drowning.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death among children ages one to fourteen, behind motor-vehicle crashes.