

Pool opening still on schedule

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Adventure Bay Water Park's newest manager, Christi Wojnowaski, watches Wednesday as city workers finish repair work on one of the pools at the facility. Despite some recent leakage issues, the manager said swimmers should be able to take to the park's waters this weekend. L&T photos/Robert Pierce

By ROBERT PIERCE • Leader & Times The Memorial Day weekend is traditionally the unofficial start of summer, and most area schools have already started their break from formal education for the season. The kids are out of school and want to have some fun. Historically, one of the most popular activities young people, and some older ones, engage in during the summer season is swimming.

Since its official opening a few years ago, Liberal's Adventure Bay Water Park has opened its gates for summer swimmers on the Memorial Day weekend.

After a slight mishap when workers were resizing some portions of the swimming pool, many in the community feared that the facility could not be opened on time for summer, but new pool manager Christi Wojnowaski said as of Wednesday, plans still call for swimmers to be able to take to the pool this weekend.

She explained what happened to cause damage to the Adventure Bay facility.

"The pipes that were underneath, they needed to redo those pipes and just get a better surface on that pool," Wojnowaski said referring to the resizing work that was being done.

The pool supervisor began working at Liberal's swimming pool in January, and she said city workers have labored to get Adventure Bay in usable condition.

"I didn't see it in operations previously, but they just wanted to make sure they took the time to get that in the best standings so we didn't have leaks this season," she said.

Wojnowaski said she likes what she has seen from the work repair crews have done on the pool.

"It's been going fabulously," she said. "The floor is poured. It's looking good. I believe they've got new concrete stairs in there that look wonderful. The next step will be just getting it filled. Hopefully, that will be pretty quickly."

Wojnowaski said although plans still call for the pool to be open this weekend, she advised patrons to check ahead before going swimming at Adventure Bay.

"I have been making notes to community members that are calling just to be safe, give us a call before you come out on Saturday so we can update 100 percent, but we are moving forward as though we will open on Saturday," she said.

Wojnowaski said Adventure Bay officials are taking measures to lessen the chances of more damage being done to the pool similar to what happened last year.

"Not knowing what they did the first time around, I can't guess as to what's being done differently, but I do know that with the experience of what happened the past three years, that was taken into consideration when plotting out what kind of repair work they were doing this time around," she said. "The intention is that it is fixed, and we will not see this type of issue in the upcoming three or four years."