

- Nine (9) groups used the Hughes Center during June for a total of 151 hours. Events included an overnight stay by the Bike & Build Program, weddings, birthday parties and baby showers.
- The Parks Commission met on June 11. Minutes attached.
- The department had 28 pavilion reservations for the month of June. The pavilion at City Park is our most popular rental with both time slots rented a lot. The use of the park has increased to the point where people are bringing popup tents and portable tables and creating their own pavilion for parties. We have added three trash receptacles and an additional dumpster at the shop to handle the additional trash.
- Two youth softball tournaments were held at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park in June. The first tournament was the ASA 8 & 10 Under District Tournament which brought 48 teams to Russellville. The second was the ASA State Tournament for the same ages and it hosted 38 teams. The department is eagerly awaiting the USSSA Youth State Tournament to be held on July 5, 6 & 7 and already has more than 80 teams registered. We hope the motels and restaurants are ready for the rush of ball players to our city.
- The Learn to Swim program is in progress and participation is exceeding last year's program. Gary Knudsen and his instructors are doing a great job. Gary conducted a water safety instructor course and found some great new instructors. We encourage everyone to learn how to swim.
- The department conducted two safety meetings in the month of June. The first meeting covered the OSHA changes to the hazard communication program and the second topic was proper procedures for downed power lines in the parks. In other safety matters, all department fire extinguishers, offices and job sites were inspected.
- The annual children's fishing tournament was presented by the department on June 8 at Pleasant View Park. With 122 participating this year, it was the most kids the department has had at this event. Special thanks to the generous donation from the Pope County Conservation District. Eric Pratt and Jamie Jackson of the Arkansas Game and Fish were super helpful and made the event very enjoyable.
- A fence was constructed around the splash pad at City Park. Unfortunately the pad was closed for a few days during this time but the improvement was necessary for added safety of the citizens and to help keep dirt and leaves from clogging the system and causing unnecessary down time. The added improvements are working great and are doing exactly what was needed.
- The Arkansas State Hershey Meet was held in Jacksonville on June 15. Twenty-eight participants from our local Hershey Track and Field Meet qualified to attend and participate in the meet. Congratulations to Sylvia Styles who competed in our local meet on her winning softball toss at the state meet.
- Several young adult cycling for the Bike and Build Program spent the night at the Hughes Community Center on their journey across the central United States. Through fund-raising cycling trips, Bike & Build raises money for and awareness of affordable housing efforts. The group was delightful and we hope they utilized our community center the next time they cycle through. We would like to express our gratitude to Jeff Priorie for coordinating their stay and Spence Roberts for feeding the participants.
- All of the summer softball leagues wrapped up play in June at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park. Congratulations to Dunn Callin, Lowes Auto Parts, Smackdown, Smooth Operators, Farm Credit Services and Maxx Nutrition on finishing first in the RRPD summer softball league. Registration for the fall softball leagues for our department, seniors and church will be in July.

- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association completed their league play at M.J. Hickey Park. The season was exciting and enjoyed by many. The association also played host to the 12 AA State Baseball Tournament at the park. The tournament hosted twenty teams from around the state which filled up the area hotels and restaurants.
- A careening car left the roadway at North Knoxville, traveled through the Arts Center sign and struck the department's maintenance bull pen. The accident heavily damaged the sign, bullpen and the newest of our maintenance trucks and caused minor damage to another truck.
- The parking lots at Washburn, Sequoyah, James School and Veterans parks were restriped along with the Pleasant View Ski Trail and new parking lot. The new parking lot and roadway were asphalted and trees planted to accent the trail head parking for the new trail.