

- Nine (9) groups used the Hughes Center during April for a total of 202 hours. Events included the Fitz Girls Monday night workouts, Arkansas State Land Commissioner tax sale, Arkansas Hospice Saturday's Fair and pARTy in the Park.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in April. The next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, May 12 at noon at the Hughes Center.
- The department had 19 pavilion reservations and 18 practice field reservations in April.
- The Russellville Recreation and Parks Department summer softball league began play with 30 teams participating this summer. Games are played on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park. Other softball leagues beginning play at the same parks are the Russellville Church League with 20 teams playing and the Boys and Girls Club with 16 teams. The older teams compete in the River Valley Girls Softball League which has 61 teams participating this year.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association league began play at M.J. Hickey Park on April 10 with 37 teams participating.
- The River Valley Arts Center held their annual pARTy in the Park fundraiser on April 25 at City Park and the Hughes Center. The event provides area children a day of fun in the River Valley. Amy and the Arts Center staff did a wonderful job with the event.
- Park employees attended a defensive driving safety course on April 30 at City Hall. The safety training was conducted by David Baxter from the Arkansas Municipal League. In other safety matters, a fire drill was conducted at the Hughes Center, quarterly vehicle inspections were performed and all fire extinguishers, exit and emergency lights, grinders and weather radios were inspected.
- Work began on cleaning and preparing Hickey Pool to open for the summer season. Floors and interior walls have been painted, door jambs repaired, equipment inspected and moved and the bushes were trimmed and mulched.
- Applications were taken for the pool staff in April. The pool will open on Saturday, May 23 for the weekends. After the school year ends, the pool hours for public swimming are 12:30pm to 6:30pm every day.
- The asphaltting of the new Orbit Lane Trail was completed in April. The trail will be striped in May and then will be opened for use.
- Work at M.J. Hickey Park included a new roadway, press box window screens were installed, the press box was painted, excavation work, moved a ten row bleacher on Field 1 to the outfield in right field and renovation of the infields. The lights on Field 4 were repaired where lightening had struck one pole.
- The Department worked with the RussVegas half marathon providing fence and bleachers for the starting and finish lines. We also trailed the race and cleaned up litter after the runners. This is a great event for Russellville and we encourage everyone to get involved and help. We plan to help with it every year.
- Three new lights were added at the soccer complex maintenance shop. All lights were repaired or replaced at the complex.
- Mowing has begun at all city parks. This includes our three new parks, Waco Basin, Old Shorty and Depot Park. The heavy rains have made mowing difficult with wet grounds.
- The second application of weed control was done on all athletic facilities. The first fertilizer treatment will be next week. As part of turf plan, dirt work was done at M.J. Hickey, Pleasant View, Shiloh Parks and the soccer complex. Top dressing will continue this year also.