



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
January 2024**

- Seven groups used the Hughes Center during the month of December for a total of 139 hours. Events included an award ceremony for the Russellville Fire Department, several enthusiastic games of pickleball and basketball, U.S. Navy training and the Fit Girlz met every Monday to exercise.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in December. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- Park maintenance and public works staff provided road closures for the Russellville Christmas parade. With the tremendous number of spectators, this invaluable service helps keep everyone along the parade route safe.
- The annual Russellville Christmas Parade was held on December 7. Prizes were awarded to floats entered into commercial and non-profit categories as well as a grand prize for the best float. Winners of this year's parade were Russellville Nursing and Rehabilitation (Grand Prize), City Corporation, Bost, Inc. and Atkins First Freewill Baptist Church (Non-Profit) and The Pediatric Playhouse, Chambers Bank and Americold (Profit). The Department wishes to thank the Russellville Police Department, Jr. Auxiliary Crown Club, Russellville Airport, Pope County District Court, Russellville Public Works, A & P Commission and the Russellville Fire Department for all of their help. The parade was successful due to citywide help and support.
- Our department along with the Caddis Fly Fishing Club and Arkansas Game and Fish hosted the annual Trout Day fishing event on December 2 at Pleasant View Park pond. The Caddis Fly Fishing Club turned out in full force to help give local youth the opportunity to trout fish in the River Valley. This year 160 participants attended the event. Maurice Jackson from Arkansas Game and Fish did a great job educating the public on trout fishing and coordinating their support for the event. New for this year was trout cleaning demonstrations by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and they also cooked trout for people to sample. Another new addition was Michael Witt from Chambers Bank had their grill on site and provided hot dogs for all the participants. The pond will be restocked periodically through the cold months for area residents to continue to catch trout.
- The turf project at Pleasant View Park has been completed. Once the final dirt work is finished and the fences have been installed, the park will be opened to the public for use.
- Parks maintenance has been mulching leaves, cleaning parks, making repairs, trimming trees and blowing off trails to prepare for the upcoming spring season.
- The Welcome to Russellville sign at Washburn Park has been cleaned and resurfaced. New acrylic logo and letters will be installed soon.