

- In May, the Hughes Center hosted 14 different groups for a total of 215 hours. Notable events included a meeting by the Arkansas Department of Labor, the annual police memorial ceremony and an overnight stay by the Texas 4000 for Cancer bike group.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in May. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- The Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Parks Commissioner. This advisory commission meets once a month. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit their resumes to City Hall or the Hughes Community Center.
- In May, the department handled 47 pavilion rentals across the city parks and 49 practice field reservations for Shiloh Park, Pleasant View Park, and Vick Field.
- All AEDs, eyewash stations, and fire extinguishers in vehicles, heavy equipment, and park buildings were inspected in May as part of safety procedures. Additionally, the employee safety committee met on May 7 to finalize plans for the upcoming city employee health fair.
- In May, tournaments at Pleasant View Park and M.J. Hickey Park featured two softball tournaments. A total of 52 teams traveled to Russellville for the tournaments.
- The City Park splash pad did not open over Memorial Day weekend due to a malfunction in the main computer system. A part is currently being repaired and will be installed as soon as it is returned by the company. The city appreciates the public's patience and will provide updates as they become available.
- All park employees who operate a city vehicle completed a comprehensive driving course conducted by Russellville Police Department Officers Keith Spears and Jimmy Richard. The training was thorough and proved highly beneficial to the participants, enhancing both safety awareness and driving skills among participants.
- A thank you goes out to our hardworking maintenance staff for their outstanding efforts over the past four weeks. They have cleaned up after multiple storms, removed numerous downed trees and limbs, prepared for the opening of M.J. Hickey Pool, worked weekends to support two softball tournaments and logged countless hours mowing and maintaining the parks. Their commitment and dedication keep our parks safe, clean and welcoming for everyone.
- Construction is progressing steadily on the new pickleball courts at the soccer complex. The pavilion is nearly complete, and all concrete work has been finished. Over the next few weeks, the lights will be installed, the courts will be painted and the fence will go up. These additions will bring the project closer to completion and provide an exciting new recreational opportunity for the community.
- Construction is moving along at the James School Park playground. The dirt work has been completed, and the new play structure is now fully installed. The next steps include installing the play surface and cleaning up the construction site. We're excited to see the playground take shape and look forward to welcoming families soon.
- A new boat dock with a kayak ramp has been installed at the Russellville Ski Area. The kayak ramp, in particular, has been a big hit with our local kayaking community, providing easier and safer access to the water.