



## ***Recreation & Parks Department Report August 2008***

- Six (6) groups used the Hughes Center during July for a total of 90 hours. Events included a Women of Zion Healing Clinic, an Arkansas Valley Soccer Association meeting and signups for senior softball and fall league softball.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in July.
- Seven vandalism incidents were recorded in July. The incidents included graffiti at Hickey Park, illegal dumping at Confederate Mothers Memorial Park, soccer complex and Pleasant View Park, theft at the soccer complex and the destruction of property at Hickey Park and the soccer complex.
- Three tournaments were held at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park. Tournaments included a team benefit tournament (26 teams), a senior softball tournament (4 teams) and the USSSA E and E+ Men state tournament (26 teams).
- Quarterly safety inspections were conducted on the park buildings and vehicles.
- Mark Lawrence, Safety and Health Specialist for the Arkansas Department of Labor, conducted a departmental safety inspection.
- Clearing under brush and cutting a new road and parking lot has begun at Illinois Bayou Park. Two improved concrete boat ramps were poured and pushed into the water. This was done with parks personnel, Game and Fish employees and volunteers. Mr. Ron Knost is our project coordinator for the park development project.
- Red Cross finished their swim lessons for the 2008 season on July 17.
- The annual British Soccer Camp was held at the soccer complex July 7 – 11.
- The L.R.F.C. Soccer camp was held at the soccer complex July 28 – August 1.
- Bids for shade structures were accepted and notice of award was sent out on July 21. Arkoma Playground and Supply was awarded the contract. Colors are tan frames with navy roofs for Pleasant View and Shiloh, evergreen frames with forest green roofs at Hickey and alpine white frames with aquatic blue roofs for the pool.
- The department's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display was held at Old Post Road Park and was larger and better than last year. The department teamed up with the Kiwanis to provide concessions. We hope this will be a partnership for all of our special events.
- Ashlyn Hill of Russellville was selected to represent Arkansas in the 2008 Hershey Track and Field National Meet. She will be competing in the 800 meter run for 11 and 12 year olds. The meet will be August 2 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Ashlyn will be treated to an all expenses paid trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania including a day at Hershey Park and a tour of the Hershey chocolate factory.
- The R.Y.B.A. completed their 2008 season play at Hickey Park on July 1.
- The RRPD summer adult softball league ended the 2008 season on July 1.
- RRPD adult fall softball registration began on the July 21 and runs until August 1. The divisional meeting will be held on August 4 at 6:30 at the Hughes Center.
- Contract mowing ended in July at Washburn, James School, Sequoyah, Circle Drive, Veterans and Harmon Parks. We have added these parks to our mowing schedule with our other parks.
- The last scheduled Saturday for maintenance employees to work the parks was July 12. This was done to help reduce our gas usage.