



Recreation & Parks Department Report December 2009

- Nine (9) groups used the Hughes Center during November for a total of 128 hours. Events included the Bass Masters Tournament Registration, AVSA Board Meeting, LOPFI Regional Seminar and a AARP State Meeting.
- The Parks Commission met on November 18. The commission voted to hold a dedication or grand re-opening of Hickey Park in conjunction with baseball's opening day in April. The commission voted to utilize the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, AmeriCorps members, to provide a variety of projects in Russellville. The Advertising and Promotion Commission approved \$15,000.00 for a marquee for the Hughes Center. The commission Voted to place the sign on the corner of Parkway and Knoxville. The commission also voted to partner with the River Valley United Way to develop a Born Learning Trail. The trail consists of ten fun outdoor games that create fun learning opportunities for young children. It will be located at either the soccer complex trail or City Park. The commission voted to support Earth Day 2010 which is scheduled for April 17 at the Hughes Center and City Park. Updates were given on the progress of all the capital improvement projects.
- Two incidents of destruction of park property were reported in November. The vandalism incidents included someone driving through the fence, one road sign and the park entrance sign at Hickey Park with damage estimated at \$1,000 and the net on the Hickey Park Field 6 batting cage was cut.
- Work has begun by Williamson Construction Company on the pavilion at the soccer complex. The 20' x 40' foot pavilion will be located between the north parking lot and the composite play structure.
- Asphalt was put in place at Illinois Bayou Park. The park should be finished by the first of the year. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled with Arkansas Game and Fish sometime in early spring.
- The bull pen area at the main shop was refurbished with new fence, barbed wire and security slats.
- A new sidewalk, that will improve access to the new restrooms, was poured at Sequoyah Park.
- Christmas decorations were hung at the Hughes Center, City Park and Washburn Park. The Hughes Center was also decorated.
- James School Park, Vick Field, Hickey Park, Shiloh Park, the pavilion and fountains at Pleasant View Park, the mower shop and sprinklers at the soccer complex were winterized for the season.
- The pad was poured and block work was started at the Hickey Park concession stand. The project is scheduled for completion in February.