



***Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
May 2008***

- Seven (7) groups used the Hughes Center during April for a total of 206 hours. Events included a hairstyle show and the Lincoln Day Republican Fundraiser. There was also an appreciation party for Dr. Thurlby.
- The Parks Commission met on April 9<sup>th</sup>. They discussed the needs survey being conducted by Arkansas Tech recreation classes, pool prices, converting Orbit Lane to walk-in only access, capital projects and developing a walking trail at the Russellville Famous and Historic Tree Park located in Pleasant View Park.
- Quarterly safety inspections were conducted on the park buildings and vehicles. A fire drill was held at the Hughes Community Center on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- A staff and safety meeting was held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The safety topic was defensive driving. CPR techniques and seat belt use were also discussed as well as the Saturday work schedules and the summer schedule of events.
- The AARP finished their tax assistance program on April 15<sup>th</sup>. This year because of the economic stimulus rebate, they assisted a record number of citizens with their tax needs.
- The department hosted the local Hershey Track and Field Meet on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Russellville High School Track. There were 56 participants this year. The first and second place winners qualified for the Arkansas State Hershey Track and Field Meet which will be held June 21<sup>st</sup> in Russellville. After 16 years as the host city, this will be the last year the state meet will be held in Russellville.
- The M.J. Hickey pool staff was hired for the 2008 season. Nathan Henderson was hired as pool manager. The pool is scheduled to open for the 2008 season on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Work has begun at the pool to get it ready for the 2008 season.
- Three softball tournaments were held at Pleasant View Park and two baseball tournaments were held at M.J. Hickey Park. The Rumble on the River youth softball tournament had 49 teams participating which makes it one of the largest held at Pleasant View Park.
- The department had eleven pavilion rentals in the month of April.
- Mowing has begun in all city parks.
- Twenty two ball field lights were replaced at Pleasant View Park. Five lights were replaced at Hickey Park.
- Four of the five scoreboards at Hickey Park were repaired and all needed light bulbs were replaced.
- Work continued on clearing underbrush at Illinois Bayou Park.
- There were six incidents of vandalism in April in city parks. All the rolls of toilet paper were stolen from the soccer complex on two occasions. Graffiti was painted on the skate park bowl, park tables at Hickey Pavilion #1 and in the restrooms at City Park.