



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
January 2017**

- Eleven (11) groups used the Hughes Center during December for a total of 175 hours. Events included several Christmas parties, a New Year's Eve party, parade meetings and a trout seminar.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in December. The next scheduled meeting is January 12 at noon in the Hughes Community Center. The public is invited to attend.
- Department employees attended a safety meeting on hazard communication on December 6 at City Hall given by the Arkansas Department of Labor. In other safety matters, fire extinguishers, offices and jobsites were inspected.
- The annual Christmas Parade was held downtown on December 1. Winners of this year's parade were St. John Catholic School (Grand Prize), Counseling Associates, Inc. (Santa's Choice), Bost Adult Development Center, Russellville Missionary Baptist Church and Fair Park Baptist Church (Non-Profit) and Pet Solutions, LLC, Beacon Tire and River Valley Medical Center (Profit). The Department wishes to thank the Russellville Police Department, Russellville Animal Control, Pope County Sheriff Reserve, the Leadership Russellville group, the RHS student banner carriers from the FCCLA Club and the students of the ATU Cadet Program, Russellville Public Works and the Russellville Fire Department for all of their help. We could not do the parade without you.
- Our department along with the Caddis Fly Fishing Club and Arkansas Game and Fish hosted the annual Trout Day fishing event on December 3 at the Pleasant View Park pond. The Caddis Fly Fishing Club turned out in full force to help give local fishermen the opportunity to trout fish in the River Valley. This year 76 participants attended the event and fifty free rod and reels were distributed to kids. Special thanks the Russellville Police and Fire Departments and ATU volunteers for their help at the event. Maurice Jackson, Eric Pratt and Carter Witt from Arkansas Game and Fish did a great job educating the public on trout fishing. The pond will be restocked periodically through the cold months for area residents to continue to catch trout.
- The Department celebrated 50 years of service to our citizens with a come and go reception on December 13 at the Hughes Community Center. We had a great time visiting with everyone about our department and talking about the future of recreation and parks for Russellville.
- Work on the aquatic center is going well. All of the decking in the natatorium has been poured. All of the block work has been completed. The frames for the northern windows are in place and waiting on the glass to be installed. The metal roof, sprinkler system and the lane tiles are completed. The duct work for the dehumidifier system has been installed.
- Shoreline cleanup, clearing, grubbing and pruning were done at Shiloh Park, the soccer complex and Pleasant View Park.