



*Recreation & Parks
Department Report
July 2018*

J.J.

- Fourteen (14) groups used the Hughes Center during June for a total of 179 hours. Events included the Arkansas River Valley Friends of NRA Banquet, the Boots and Badges blood drive and an Arts Center workshop.
- For the month of June there were ten regular parties held at the Aquatic Center for a total of 20 hours. This included parties with Joseph's House and the Migrant Ed Department at ATU. There were five private parties for a total of 15 hours and included parties hosted by the Boy Scout Troop 221 and ATU middle school band camp. Other events included eight Zumba sessions for a total of 8 hours, 27 swim lesson classes with over 100 children participating and a family movie night which was a great success.
- The Parks Commission met on June 14. The minutes are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- The department had 20 pavilion rentals and 12 pool party reservations in June.
- In safety matters, all fire extinguishers in all vehicles, heavy equipment and park buildings were inspected. Self-inspection office forms were completed for the month of June.
- The Russellville Boys & Girls Club swim team "The Sharks" began practicing at M.J. Hickey Pool in June. The Sharks swim team is for kids ages 5 to 18 and who are able to swim unassisted for 25 yards. Anyone that is interested in joining should call the Boys & Girls Club.
- The annual children's fishing derby was held on June 9 with 51 young fishermen participating. Congratulations to Rebecca Millsap who won overall heaviest fish and the heaviest fish in the 7 - 9 age group, Chance Cauthen for overall smallest fish, Colton Farmer for heaviest fish and stringer in the 4 - 6 age group, Anderson Boley for the heaviest stringer in the 7 - 9 age group, Braddox Watts for heaviest fish and stringer in 10 - 12 age group. This is one of our favorite events we offer to area youth as everyone has such a good time.
- The Department had three tournaments at Pleasant View and Shiloh Parks in June. The ASA District 10 tournament brought 43 teams to the City of Russellville. The ASA 8 & Under State tournament was held the following weekend with 30 teams participating. The USFA State tournament completed the month with 20 teams competing. This made for a total of 93 teams visiting our community, restaurants and hotels in the month of June.
- The Arkansas River Valley Amateur Radio Club held a field day operation at Washburn Park on June 23 and June 24. To prepare in case of a catastrophic event, the group participates in a 24 hour emergency preparedness event where equipment is set up and the group communicates with people across the nation and the world.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association hosted the USSSA 9 AA State Tournament on June 29, June 30 and July 1. The event was well attended as people from all over the state came to watch the 25 teams that participated.
- Terry Thomas attended a Bike Summit in Bentonville, Arkansas. Topics of discussion included cycling infrastructure, development and events.
- Most of the goals at the soccer complex have been removed to help with the growth of the grass. Dirt was placed in all of the holes where the goals were anchored.
- The Department had several dead trees removed from Washburn Park, City Park and the soccer complex that were creating a hazard. Thanks to an alert citizen for bringing the trees to our attention. Please don't hesitate to call us at 479-968-1272 if you see a hazard in a park
- Several employees attended a customer service training on June 29 at City Hall. The training was presented by David Baxter of Arkansas Municipal League.