



Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
July 2019

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. H.", is located to the right of the department report title.

- Ten (10) groups used the Hughes Center during June for a total of 174 hours. Events included the Arkansas River Valley Friends of the NRA banquet, a Senior Benefits meeting, a Financial House seminar and the Arkansas Blood Institute Boots and Badges blood drive.
- For the month of June there were 17 regular parties and 8 private party at the aquatic center for a total of 58 hours. Classes in June included Try Scuba, Water Aerobics, Silver Fins, and Aqua Zumba for total of 29 hours. Swim lesson classes were held for a total of 176 hours.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in June. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org)
- The department had 14 park pavilion rentals and 12 private party reservations at M.J. Hickey Pool 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 and the Central Arkansas Swim Club swim team began practicing at M.J. Hickey Pool in June. This is the first year for the Central Arkansas Swim Club to utilize M.J. Hickey Pool for their program.
- The annual children's fishing derby was held on June 8 with 82 young fishermen participating that caught a record number of 90 fish. Congratulations to Connor Collins who won the biggest fish overall, the heaviest stringer and biggest fish in the 7 - 9 age group, Jeffrey Simpson for heaviest stringer in the 4 - 6 age group, Ruger Meyer for biggest fish in the 4 - 6 age group and Jacob Robertson for biggest fish and heaviest 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 two tournaments at Pleasant View Park in June. The ASA District 10 tournament brought 25 teams to the City of Russellville and the ASA 8 & Under State tournament was held with 26 teams participating.
- RYBA and Russellville Sports Academy hosted the Stan Newton Memorial Wood Bat Tournament at M.J. Hickey Park with 24 teams participating. The park was packed with spectators all day Saturday and Sunday. Wooden bats from Phoenix Bats were provided for the tournament and Vulcan bat grips were distributed to each player. The bats and grips were purchased with funds from the A&P Commission. Proceeds from the tournament went to the Stan Newton scholarship fund.
- The Arkansas River Valley Amateur Radio Club held a field day operation at Washburn Park on June 22 and June 23. 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 28, June 29 and June 30. The event was well attended all three days as people from all over the state came to watch the 26 teams that participated. The Northwest Arkansas Prospects won the thrilling championship game by one run in extra innings.
- The Department celebrated Bennie Hampton's retirement on June 21 at the Hughes Center. Bennie was a long time maintenance employee that was dedicated to keeping the soccer complex in great shape. We wish him the best.