



Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
February 2020

- Thirteen groups used the Hughes Center during January for a total of 218 hours. Events included the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, the weekly Fit Girlz workouts and an Arkansas River Valley Gun Club party.
- For the month of January there were 17 regular parties and 4 private parties at the aquatic center for a total of 46 hours. Classes in January included Try Scuba, Water Aerobics, Silver Fins, Tone Zone and Aqua Zumba for total of 41 hours. Swim lesson classes were held for a total of 8 hours. The aquatic center hosted a Russellville High School swim meet on January 25 and training for 35 divers of the Yell County dive team on January 28 for a total of 10 hours.
- The Parks Commission met on January 16. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org)
- The AARP began training for the upcoming tax season. They offer tax assistance beginning February 3 until April 8 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Thank you to the many volunteers that donated their time as this program is a great help to many people.
- Community Service, Inc. began the First Tee Program on January 14. They meet on Tuesdays at the Hughes Center from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. The First Tee after-school program helps shape the lives of young people by reinforcing values like integrity, respect, and perseverance through the game of golf.
- Quarterly safety inspections were conducted by the department. All fire extinguishers, emergency lights and exit lights were inspected to ensure that they work properly. An unannounced fire drill was held at the Hughes Community Center in January and no problems were encountered. The Department strives to have the safest work environment as possible.
- Maintenance staff removed and stored all of the downtown Christmas lights until next year. The lights always bring a warm glow to the downtown area of Russellville during the holiday season.
- Construction on the dog park continues. The fence work is nearing completion, all of the signage has been ordered and the dog obstacles have been installed.
- Maintenance has been hard at work getting ready for the summer months. Trees including the crepe myrtles are being trimmed, flower beds are being cleaned up and the mowers are being serviced. Maintenance painted the hallways and large room in the Hughes Community Center. All park signs are being cleaned and replaced as needed.
- An 8' x 12' pavilion/ ticket booth was installed and is ready for use at M.J. Hickey Park.