



## Bryant Parks and Recreation Director's Report April 2026

### ***Programming & Events***

- On May 26-28 the Bishop Park Gymnasium welcomed NBA Hall of Famer Scottie Pippen, along with Memphis Grizzlies point guard Scotty Pippen, Jr and Ohio State Buckeyes guard Justin Pippen for Pippen Skills Camp. 135 kids ages 6-17 participated in the camp over the course of three days.
- Youth Kickball concluded its inaugural season with 42 participants.
- Youth Archery held its first session in May with 7 participants.
- Youth Tennis concluded its spring session with 28 participants.
- Youth Volleyball concluded its second spring session with 27 participants.
- Adult Pickleball concluded two leagues for the spring season:
  - Indoor at Bishop Park: 18 teams participated
  - Outdoor at Mills Park: 24 teams participated
  - Hosted a 14 team tournament during Family Fun Fest in partnership with Saline County Library
- Adult Basketball began its spring season with 7 teams participating, the season will continue through June.
- Bishop Park hosted the following events in the month of May:
  - May 2: Hosted a USA Softball Tournament
  - May 2: Hosted a Slammin Basketball Tournament
  - May 9: Hosted a BASE Softball Tournament
  - May 9-10: Hosted a 2D Baseball Tournament
  - May 27-29: Provided space to the BYA in Center meeting rooms and Senior Center for Summer orientation and parent meetings.
  - May 28: Provided space to Our Blood Institute for a blood drive with an estimated 57 lives impacted.
  - May 29: Provided space for Leadership Saline Class XX Bingo Burger Bash fundraiser. The fundraiser is for Leadership Saline as well as scholarships for graduating seniors and each year a local non-profit is selected to receive a portion of the funds. This year the selected organization was the Bryant Youth Association.
  - May 30: Hosted a Slammin Basketball Tournament
  - May 30-31: Hosted a 2D Baseball Tournament
- The Center also hosted 27 other reservations throughout the month of May.
- Upcoming June Programs:
  - Adult Volleyball Open Play: Nights to build interest and a participant database for a future league.
  - Youth Art Classes



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- Youth Pickleball Lessons
- Adult Pickleball Ladder League

### ***Aquatics***

- Held a Lifeguard Certification Course with 8 participants on May 11-18.
- Held a Lifeguard Recertification Course with 4 participants on May 18-19.
- Completed the conversion of the Splash Pad to a flow-through system and opened it on May 23.
- Opened Mills Park Pool for the Summer Season on May 23.
- Hosted 10 private parties at Bishop Pool.
- Painted the back (scoreboard) wall of the Aquatic Center.
- The Barracudas Swim Team began practices with 80 swimmers in the first year coming under the Bryant Parks Department.

### ***Parks Maintenance***

- Reinstalled the shade structure pole at Mills Park playground damaged during the snow and ice.
- Applied Safecoat topdressing to Bishop Park Softball Fields
- Leveled areas around bases, mounds, and home plates to Bishop Park Baseball and Softball Fields.
- Repaired the fence surrounding the Splash Pad from the construction of converting to a flow-through system.
- Repaired the tennis and pickleball court fencing at Mills Park, including top rail and latches.
- Installed a new top on the water box at the Splash Pad.
- Had lines painted on Center and Baseball parking lots at Bishop Park, Softball lot will be painted in June.

### ***Parks Administration***

- Parks Director Keith Cox attended the Arkansas Economic Development Commission's Rural Development Conference on May 19-20 in Jonesboro. He was selected to speak on a panel with 3 other community leaders from around the state, discussing finding new uses for previously underutilized spaces.