Bryant Parks and Recreation
Director's Report
September 2026

Programming & Events

- Men's Basketball League is underway with 12 teams participating in the league.
- Adult Pickleball has two leagues currently underway that will finish in October.
- Registration is open for a charity Pickleball tournament on October 24. It will be Halloween themed raising money for polio vaccinations in partnership with the Bryant Rotary Club.
- Youth Flag Football will finish in October. We had 103 kids participating in our first year since taking over that program.
- Youth Volleyball closed registration with 127 participants, the highest number in years.
- Youth Tennis lessons start back on October 8 and run for the entire month.
- Registration is still open for Youth Basketball through the month of October.
- Bishop Park Softball Complex hosted a USA Softball Tournament on September 5.
- Bishop Park Baseball Complex hosted a 2D Baseball Tournament on September 12-13.
- Provided the Purple Room to Bryant Animal Control for a training session on September 21.
- There were 9 other unique rentals and 5 recurring rentals during the month of September.

Aquatics

- Closed Mills Pool for the season.
- Conducted a lifeguard in-service training focused on CPR/AED skills and response to a choking person.
- Entered into a maintenance agreement with Gibbs Service Company for the Aquatic Seresco dehumidification unit.

Senior Services

- The Center hosted its annual Health Fair and Dessert Contest, featuring nearly 50 booths and raising approximately $1,300 for the Center.
- Evidence-based health programs expanded significantly, including the launch of *A Matter of Balance*, *Drums Alive*, and continued *Walk With Ease* sessions with UAMS.
- Completion of the CareLink/Area Agency on Aging site assessment on September 14, covering compliance, nutrition programs, emergency procedures, and documentation review.

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- Participation in the Age Well, Live Well Forum, where staff presented on Center programs and fall-prevention initiatives.
- Social media presence exceeded 500 followers, improving community outreach and engagement.

Parks Maintenance

- Continued cleanup following the windstorm that impacted Bishop Park in August, including removing the destroyed scoreboard on A1.
- Weedeated and cleared the rain garden are on Mills Park Playground.
- Filled holes at the Alcoa 40 Dog Park.
- Worked with Leadership Saline County to prepare Mills Park for the Woofstock event that took place on September 26. Provided staff day of to assist with setup and cleanup, along with monitoring trash throughout the event.
- Construction is still underway for the Alcoa to Mills Park Connector Trail. Currently the project is scheduled to finish mid to late October.
- Construction is still underway for the Mills Park Basketball Court. Currently the project is scheduled to finish in mid October.

Parks Administration

- Parks Director Keith Cox had the opportunity to attend the NRPA Annual Conference in Philadelphia September 28 – October 1. At the event, which this year had nearly 9,000 professionals from around the world, he presented two educational sessions focused on small-agency challenges and leadership. The Small Agency Network, of which Cox co-founded earlier this year, was highlighted during both morning General Sessions in front of more than 5,000 professionals each day, including recognition from NRPA President & CEO Kristine Stratton. Cox also helped facilitate the first-ever in-person Small Agency Network meeting, which reached room capacity, providing valuable opportunities for networking, shared learning, and professional connection.