

City Highlights

A weekly activity update
from the City of Hot Springs

September 11, 2017

Airport

One of the airport's customers made a few trips to Houston to bring water and building supplies to the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Floridians have also been flying into the airport in order to get out of Hurricane Irma's path. Normal airport operations continue.

Glen Barentine, Airport Director

Parks & Trails

Parks & Trails employees temporarily removed two of the city's public sculptures from the Convention Boulevard medians for repairs as recommended by the city's Arts Advisory Committee. The sculptures, by local artist Marshal Cunningham, will be placed back in the medians once repairs are complete. Utilities helped with sculpture transport, and Solid Waste will assist by grinding off rust and applying new paint purchased by Parks & Trails. *The "Yellow Bird" sculpture is pictured at right.*

Over the Labor Day weekend, the Valley Street Skatepark was enjoyed by hundreds of citizens and tourists. The picture at right was taken last Saturday by P&T Office Manager Kathleen Fason, who was out enjoying Hot Springs' city parks herself.

Parks and Trails crews also finished installing new gutters on the pavilion at Linden Park, made repairs to the water fountain at the Valley Street Skatepark, removed several tree grates from the historic downtown area for repairs, repaired a water line at Kimery Park, and assisted the Garland County Master Gardeners at Entergy Park on their adopted landscape beds.



Jean Wallace, Parks & Trails Director

Public Information

PI provided major staff support for the recent well-attended Ouachita River Valley Association conference, with many positive comments afterwards. PI taped City News segments with Ken Freeman on upcoming trail biking events; Danny Carder on Stormwater Division activities; Randy Atkinson on the upcoming Trash Bash and Household Hazardous Waste events; and Larry Merriman on the installation of a grit chamber and UV disinfection system at the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. PI is now airing on City12 new stormwater educational videos supplied by Mr. Carder.

Terry Payne, Public Information Director

Public Works

The 15th Annual Alzheimer's Arkansas Walk will be held on September 16 from 10 a.m. until noon. This event raises funds and creates awareness in support of those with Alzheimer's disease. The walk will begin and end at the Exchange Street Parking Plaza; concessions will also be served there. Event participants will walk along Bathhouse Row, some walkers crossing at Central and Fountain Street, and some walkers crossing at the Central/Park/Whittington Avenue intersection crosswalk, completing their walk in front of the local shops on Central Avenue.

The Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride procession will leave Oaklawn Park on September 18 at 9 a.m. traveling south on Central Avenue, west on the King Expressway, exiting onto Highway 270 West/Albert Pike and traveling west out of town. This yearly event raises awareness as to what Native Americans were subjected on the Trail of Tears.

Denny McPhate, Public Works Director

Utilities

Utilities representatives held a preconstruction conference this week for the upcoming project at the Ouachita Water Treatment Plant. The meeting addressed expectations for the rehabilitation of the six oldest filters and pipe gallery; renovation and construction of the exterior front and roof of the building; conversion from chlorine gas to sodium hypochlorite; and replacement of the high-service pump control valves. Construction will begin in the fall and continue through the winter. The staff will continue to operate at full capacity as the construction occurs around them.

Monty Ledbetter, Utilities Director

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