

City & Town

JUNE 2016 VOL. 72, NO. 06

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE





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ON THE COVER—It’s Convention time! Municipal leaders from across Arkansas will soon fill the halls of the Statehouse Convention Center and Marriott Hotel in beautiful downtown Little Rock to discuss issues important to cities and towns and to learn from each other. The earlybird registration deadline may have passed, but that doesn’t mean it’s too late to make plans to attend the 82nd Convention. Registration and hotel information, along with the latest updates to the Convention agenda, are all inside this issue.—atm

Features

- 6 Prepping for the 2020 Census: Census map building blocks**
The 2020 Census is fast approaching, and in part two of a four-part series of articles, we look at the geographic blocks the Census Bureau creates to measure the populations within and how municipalities can help in this process.
- 8 Pea Ridge joint city hall/school administration building nears completion**
The new, joint municipal and school administration building in Pea Ridge, the result of a first-of-its-kind partnership, is coming in ahead of schedule and under budget, with a grand opening slated for August.
- 12 Flying Wallendas wow in Blytheville**
Blytheville’s annual Mayfest celebration, which this year featured the famous acrobatic family the Flying Wallendas, drew nearly 4,000 visitors to the historic heart of the city.
- 22 2016 municipal election deadlines approaching for some candidates**
Several filing deadlines and other important dates are approaching for individuals running as independents for municipal offices in November’s General Election.

City & Town Contents

Arkansas Municipal League Officers.....	5
a'TEST	44
Calendar	34
Directory Changes	15
Economic Development.....	46
Engineering.....	28
Fairs & Festivals	34
Grant Money Matters	52
Municipal Mart	60
Municipal Notes	54
Planning to Succeed.....	20
President's Letter	4
Sales Tax Map.....	57
Sales Tax Receipts.....	58
Turnback Estimates	56
Urban Forestry.....	24
Your Health	14

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City&Town (ISSN 0193-8371 and Publication No. 031-620) is published monthly for \$20 per year (\$1.67 per single copy) by the Arkansas Municipal League, 301 W. Second St., North Little Rock, AR 72114. Periodicals postage paid at North Little Rock, Ark.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *City&Town*, P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for allowing me the honor of serving as the Arkansas Municipal League president for the past year. The year has gone by quickly, but it has been full of tremendous opportunities and experiences. I have enjoyed working with city leaders from all over the state. I would like to extend a special thanks to the League staff for their knowledge and outstanding support. The entire staff is top-notch and always ready with advice and help when needed. My sincere thanks also to Don and Jan Zimmerman for their hospitality and kindness, to Mayor Harry Brown for serving as first vice president, to the Advisory Council members, the Executive Committee members, and to those who found time in their busy schedules to serve on other boards and committees. Your guidance, friendship, and assistance have made this a fantastic year and one that I will never forget.



The 82nd Convention is fast approaching, and while pre-registration is closed, you may still register on site. The tentative agenda is packed with some exceptional speakers, workshops, and certification classes. I cannot stress enough what a magnificent networking opportunity the League Conventions provide.

One of the things I have focused on this past year has been wellness. I would encourage you to attend the General Session: America Walks during the Convention. Speaker Ian Thomas has worked with Batesville to improve walkability in our city and would be happy to work with your city as well. A healthy workforce is a productive workforce and a healthy community is a productive community. Be sure to check out the League's new wellness program and video, #AMLMoves, produced in-house by League staff.

With school out and summertime upon us, now is the time to visit the state of Arkansas! We are blessed with an abundance of extremely beautiful state parks and tourist attractions. It is also a prime time to attend local festivals that showcase the traditions of our individual cities and towns. Here in Batesville, the 73rd White River Water Carnival will be coming up on Aug. 27. This is a day packed with family fun including a Kid's Zone, entertainment from local bands, a parade, and fireworks. This year's headline entertainment is Backroad Anthem. We would love for you to make plans to join us. Batesville is also looking forward to the completion of our new community center and aquatic park later this year. We will be planning our grand opening festivities and would be honored to have you as a guest on that exciting day.

In closing, I would like to again express what an honor it has been to serve as your president. If I can ever be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Elumbaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rick Elumbaugh
Mayor, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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2020 Census timeline: the building blocks of the 2020 Census map

Part two in a four-part series outlining the steps cities and towns should take to prepare for the fast-approaching 2020 U.S. Census.

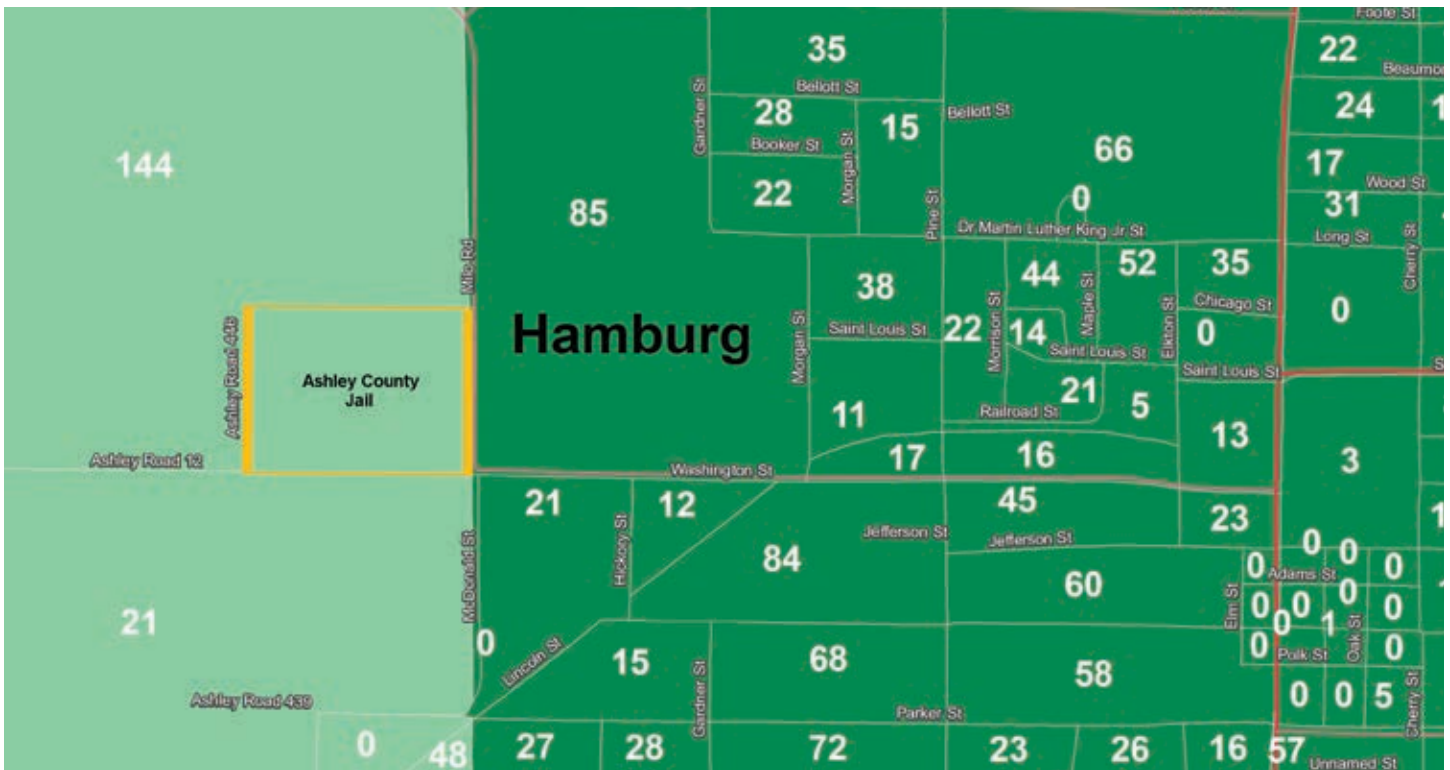
By Shelby Johnson

What do a road, a creek, and a railroad all have in common? The U.S. Census Bureau uses a combination of all three of those geographic features to serve as boundaries for a geographic feature known as a Census Block. There's one other thing those features have in common. Their location is mostly fixed and that location is easy to see and understand. The Census Bureau runs a process where they splice all these features together to form a series of unique geographic polygons. Those polygons become the blocks. The Census blocks all have unique identification codes, and when they finish counting the population that population total is summarized by each unique block. Layered on top of that are other administrative polygons like city, county, or school district boundaries. These lines are also used to form blocks.

People often mistakenly think a Census block is akin to a city street block layout, but that is incorrect. Blocks can be in high-density urban areas, but the vast majority of blocks are irregularly shaped pieces of geography defined by roads, rivers, lakes, railroads, and administrative boundaries like cities.

The example here shows Hamburg in Ashley County. The large white numbers are the population totals for each block. In Hamburg, most of the block boundaries are formed by city streets and the main highways. But as you can see, the outer boundary of the block at the northwest corner of the city where Highway 189 comes into town is not formed by a street. The north edge of town is defined by the quarter section line and a tract of land, which at some point was annexed into Hamburg. This portion of Hamburg's boundary is not a visible geographic feature. Instead it is based on lines of ownership, framed up by legal descriptions. That particular block holds a total population of 32 people. The block on the western edge of town holds 85 people based on the 2010 Census.

I happen to know the Ashley County jail sits just west of the intersection of Milo Road and Washington Street. The jail is out in the county on a 30-acre parcel. Let's say, for example, that Hamburg chooses to annex the jail into the city. The legal description of the parcel might read like this: the South 990 feet by parallel lines, of the Southeast 1/4, of the Northwest 1/4, of Section



15, Township 17 South, Range 7 West being 30 acres more or less. That description together with a map or plat become a part of the recording of the annexation. This information is used to create a new representation of the city boundary. Once the record is filed with the U.S. Census Bureau, a new Census Block is created. Any population in that area it would be added to the city of Hamburg.

Most blocks are made from visible geographic features, but when it comes to cities, those lines are often invisible. Act 914 of 2015 requires the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office to coordinate with cities on boundary changes. It gives Arkansas a mechanism to coordinate those changes onto the map and ensures cities, the state, and the federal governments are all using the same map in 2020.

As you can see, making changes to the map happens one block at a time. We recommend making any changes before 2018. If you are a city leader, please begin thinking about those changes your city needs for progress and success. Be smart; get a start. Get it done between now and 2018.

Shelby Johnson is Geographic Information Officer, Arkansas GIS Office. Contact Shelby at 501-682-2943, or email shelby.johnson@arkansas.gov.

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Pea Ridge joint city hall/school administration building ahead of schedule

The shared-space city hall and school administration building under construction in Pea Ridge is about two weeks ahead of schedule despite a rainy spring, Mayor Jackie Crabtree has reported. The project is expected also to come in under the nearly \$2.6 million budgeted. The city and school officials expect to be able to move into the new building in the middle of August, Crabtree said.

With budgets tight and cities being asked to do more with less, it wouldn't surprise the mayor to see more inter-agency partnerships like this in other cities going forward, Crabtree said.

"It allows the schools and the cities to maximize their tax dollars," he said.

The partnership also allows the school system and the city to share resources with one another as the building goes up. As an example, the mayor said, the school system's IT department is using its expertise to design and run the fiber optic cable throughout the building, while the city will be able to use its street department resources to expand the parking area where needed.

"It's a hand-in-hand situation where we can both save money."

Mayor Crabtree will be participating in a discussion about the importance of developing such partnerships during the concurrent workshop "Economic and Business Development Strategies for Municipalities" at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16 during the League's 82nd Convention in Little Rock.

"We'll go through step-by-step the kinds of documents we've got in place to guarantee how things are run, who's going to be responsible for what, and how we set the whole thing up. Look for more coverage in the coming months as we will feature the completion of Pea Ridge's one-of-a-kind building. 🏗️



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County equalization boards to meet in August


County equalization boards will meet Aug. 1 through Oct. 1 to equalize the assessed value for all acreage lands, city and town lots, other real property and personal property. “Equalization” means to adjust the valuation of property in order to bring about a uniform tax rate (ACA § 26-27-315; *Black’s Law Dictionary*). The boards will meet as often as necessary during this time to complete their work (ACA § 26-27-309). If a county’s ratio of assessed-to-market value is out of compliance, the equalization board may meet after Oct. 1, but no later than the third Monday in November (ACA § 25-27-309 & 311).

County equalization boards have two responsibilities: (1) to review and equalize overall county assessments as assessed by the assessor, and (2) to hear assessment appeals by property owners. The board begins the review of assessments on Aug. 1, when the county assessor delivers the completed assessment records to the county clerk, who serves as the secretary for the board. Assessment appeals from landowners begin no later than the second Monday in August (ACA § 26-27-317).

Cities and incorporated towns have a part to play in deciding who sits as a member of the county equalization board. Cities and incorporated towns select one member of a five-member board (counties

with a population less than 79,000) and two members of a nine-member board (counties with a population greater than 79,000) (ACA § 26-27-303 and 304).

To select county equalization board members, city and incorporated town representatives within the county shall hold a meeting during the month of May each year in which the terms of any of the municipally-appointed members of the county equalization board shall expire (ACA § 26-27-304(b)(2) (A)). The mayor of the city or town or his or her designee shall serve as the representative of his or her city or town (*Id.*). The mayor of the county seat shall be the chair of the meeting, and if there are dual county seats, the mayor of the larger of the two seats shall be the chair of the meeting (*Id.*). Those at the meeting shall select the member of the board via majority vote, and each city or town shall be entitled to one vote (*Id.*). No action shall be taken unless a quorum is present. A majority of all of the representatives of all cities and incorporated towns in the county shall constitute a quorum (*Id.*).


Information for this article comes from “Arkansas Property Tax Equalization and Appeal System,” a publication of the Assessment Coordination Department. For more information, contact the Department at 501-324-9240, or visit www.arkansas.gov/acd. 

Reminder: ACA reporting deadline extended

Starting in 2016, all municipal employers must file information returns for the ACA with the IRS, and the League has partnered with Five Points to help MHBF members with this process.

Even if an employer (municipal entity) is not an applicable larger employer (ALE) it must submit the appropriate forms to the IRS. The deadlines have been moved but are fast approaching. Employers should have distributed Forms 1095-C and 1095-B by March 31, 2016, which was two months beyond the original February 1 deadline.

Additionally, the deadline for print filings has been extended to May 31, 2016, while the deadline for electronic filing has been extended to June 30, 2016.

For more information, contact Five Points at 800-435-5023, www.fivepointsict.com, or contact your certified public accountant, tax attorney, or American Fidelity Assurance Representative Charles Angel at 501-690-2532 or via email at Charles.Angel@americanfidelity.com. Also, visit the League’s website at www.arml.org/services/mhbf and scroll down for links to helpful information on ACA reporting, the forms that are required, and instructions for those forms. 



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For more information, call Dale Carter at League headquarters, 501-978-6104. Email us at mpp@arml.org or you can access the Program online at www.arml.org/mpp.



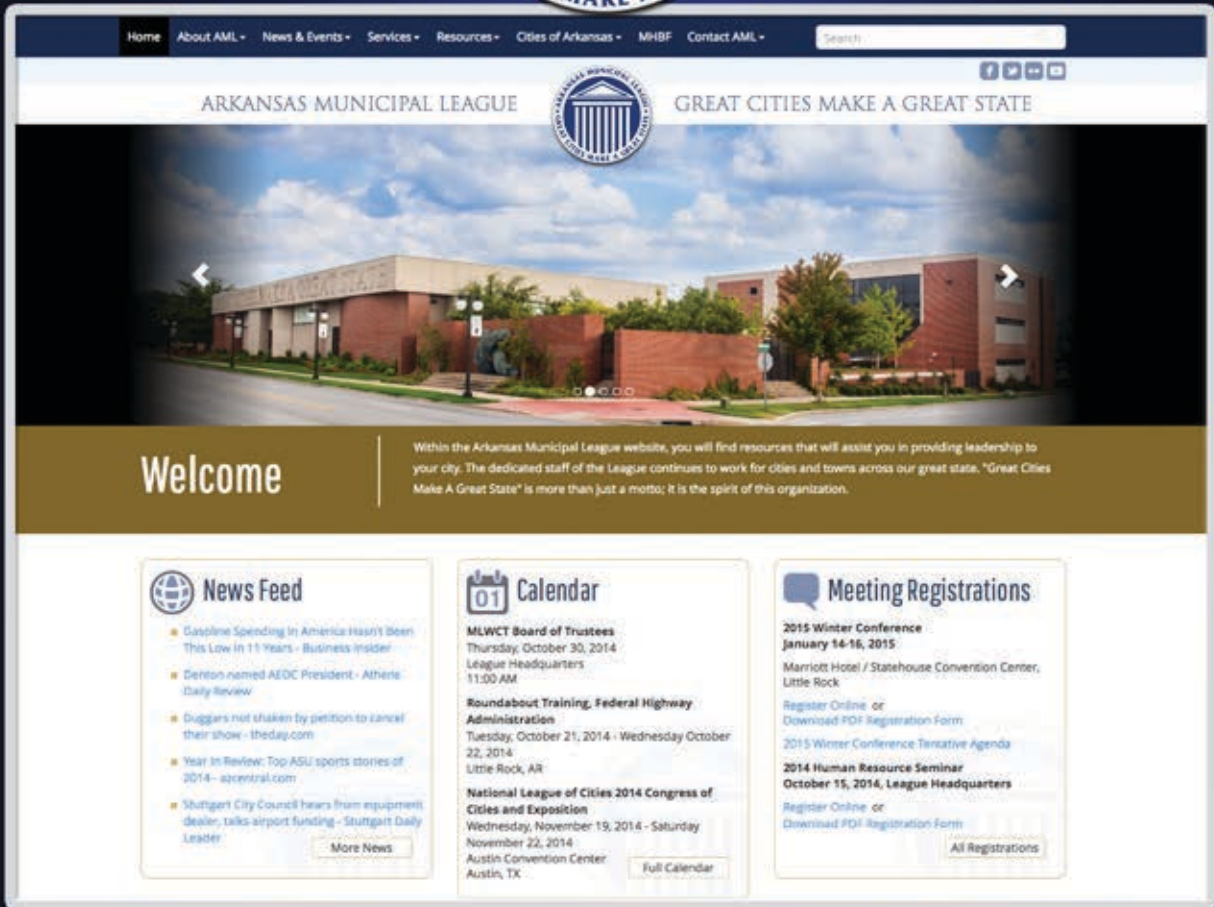
The Flying Wallendas help Blytheville celebrate Mayfest

Citizens of Blytheville and out-of-town visitors alike were treated to a unique Mayfest this year in the city’s beautiful and historic downtown. The festival, originating in the late 1970s as Springtime on the Mall, is held annually by the Blytheville Main Street organization on Mother’s Day weekend. This year’s Mayfest attracted about 4,000 people to the city’s retail business district, bringing together vendors of all sorts—food, crafts, and novelties—along with music, children’s inflatables, face painting, and nonprofit doings.

This year the event had a new twist. In cooperation with the Greater Blytheville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Flying Wallendas, a world-renowned family of high-wire aerialists with a 200-year performance history, made a spectacular appearance in Blytheville as they anchored the west end of historic Main Street with a show that included juggling, comedy, trapeze artistry, and a Wallenda trademark high-wire pyramid.

Other events during the fun-filled weekend included a “Music On Main” show by Rockin’ Luke Stroud at the historic Greyhound Bus Station—a great event for fans of Jerry Lee Lewis and old time rock n’ roll. The gospel stage, another Mayfest tradition, was the forum for terrific talent including nationally-known Pastor Tim Rogers and the multi-award winning Isaacs, a group featured frequently at the Grand Ole Opry and with Gaither Homecoming performances.

Beautiful weather was another big star for Blytheville on a day that bespoke community through and through. “We could not be more pleased with our event,” said Main Street Executive Director Tucker Nunn. “Blytheville is a community with amazing heart and a spirit for fun. The positive impact of such a day will leave an imprint.” 🏛️



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Minding the rays this summer and year round

By Thomas Jennings, M.D., Ph.D.

The kids are out of school, the temperatures continue to rise, and we're all eager to get to our favorite beach spot, hiking trail, or cove. Before we head out in the summer sun, it's important to remember a few steps for protecting our skin.

First, it is good to understand how the sun and our skin interact. Our body uses sunlight to manufacture vitamin D, which is vital for healthy bones. However, being exposed to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays for long periods of time can damage our skin. Most of the time, the damage is repaired quickly by our bodies, but sometimes the damage builds up and leads to brown blemishes or lesions that can become skin cancer. Damage can also be done to deeper structures of the skin, leading to wrinkles.

Proper steps for protection

Even though the summer usually means hotter temperatures, it's important to cover your skin. Find lightweight, loose clothing that covers your arms, stomach, back, and legs. Wide-brim hats are good for head protection, including your neck, ears, cheeks, nose, and lips. Always try to seek shade when you can and avoid peak sun times between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

It's critical to remember to wear sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30. Find a broad-spectrum product that protects against UVA and UVB rays. It's important to reapply every 90 minutes, especially if your outdoor activity involves sweating.

One misconception is that precautions should only be taken on sunny, summer days. That is not the case. Even on cloudy days, the sun's UV rays shine through so remember sunscreen and proper clothing.

There is one popular indoor spot that has the same risks as sunlight: the tanning bed. Tanning beds expose your skin to a significant amount of UV rays that can also lead to skin damage, which just like the sun, can lead to precancerous lesions and skin cancer.

Know the warning signs

It's important to know the warning signs for skin cancer and when to see a dermatologist.

Precancerous lesions are usually rough to the touch. One way to tell is if you can rub your fingers on the spot

and feel a spot catching. These lesions can come and go. If you notice a rough spot appear that does not go away, it's best to see a dermatologist.

The two most common forms of skin cancer are basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. Basal cells are typically pearly and have blood vessels on top of them, but they can ulcerate. Squamous cells are red and scaly or crusty.

Melanoma is a less common but far more serious form of skin cancer. Look for new, unusual growths or changes to an existing mole. Melanoma spots have uneven borders, multiple colors and grow over time. If you're concerned with a spot, take a picture on your phone every few weeks to keep a record of it and look for changes in shape, size, or color.

Treating skin cancer

One of the most advanced and effective treatments for skin cancer is Mohs micrographic surgery, which we specialize in at UAMS. This technique minimizes the chance of regrowth and lessens the potential for scarring by removing the least amount of tissue to treat the cancer.

Using this procedure, malignant skin lesions are removed in thin slivers—like peeling back layers of an onion—and examined immediately under a microscope to determine if all malignant tissue was removed. The physician continues removing thin layers until all cancerous tissue is gone. The Mohs procedure is especially helpful for patients with skin cancer on their face, which is one of the most common locations for the cancer to appear.

Summertime is filled with opportunities for outdoor activities with family and friends. Just remember to take proper precautions to stay safe in the sun.



Thomas Jennings, M.D., Ph.D., is Assistant Professor, Department of Dermatology, UAMS College of Medicine.

Changes to 2016 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

Submit changes to Whitnee Bullerwell, wvb@arml.org.



Brookland

Delete Class 2nd
Add Class 1st
Delete R/T Jennifer Foster
Add C/T Billy Dacus

Cherry Valley

Delete DJ Joe Boeckmann
Add DJ (Vacant)

Dell

Delete E-Mail delltownhall@att.net
Add E-Mail townofdell@att.net

Fairfield Bay

Delete AL Larry Castro
Add AL Don Bailey

Gateway

Delete PC Grant Hardin
Add PC (Vacant)

Harrell

Delete R/T Sandy Nash
Add R/T Jeannie Story

Junction City

Delete M Larry Carter
Add M Allen Simmons
Delete AL Allen Simmons
Add AL (Vacant)

Keiser

Delete AL Don Haile
Add AL Jessie Lang
Delete CA David Burnett
Add CA Richard Reid

Little Rock

Add AM Bryan Griffith

North Little Rock

Delete WS Graham Rich
Add WS C. Tad Bohannon

O’Kean

Delete M Danny Gifford
Add M Donna Robertson
Delete R/T Fran Gifford
Add R/T Amy Morris
Delete FC David Ball
Add FC Ronnie Roberts
Delete AL Sleety Haynes
Add AL Tommy Castelan
Delete AL Marvin Gifford
Add AL (Vacant)
Delete AL Freda Dean
Add AL (Vacant)

Rudy

Delete R/T Jackie Jones
Add R/T Jennifer Rudy-Robertson
Delete AL Doris Miller
Add AL Raymond Winfrey

St. Charles

Delete FC (Vacant)
Add FC Tim Bogy
Add AM Melba Denny

Tuckerman

Delete M Larry Bowen
Add M Ronald Koller
Delete AL Ronald Kollar
Delete AL Bearl Bennett
Add AL David Dixon

Waldo

Delete FC Lance Fuller
Add FC Shane Fuller

Wynne

Delete DJ Joe Boeckmann
Add DJ (Vacant)

Yellville

Delete AL (Vacant)
Add AL Layton Lee



Bella Vista new Street Department facility is a city milestone

By Cassi Lapp

Bella Vista on May 12 cut the ribbon on its new Street Department facility, a step up from the former department's location and a milestone in Bella Vista's history—the building is the first city building constructed after Bella Vista's incorporation in 2007. A second building, a new fire station, will be completed next month.

The new, almost 20,000-square-foot facility nearly doubles the space of the previous building, at which the superintendent, foreman and administration offices were tucked into a single-wide trailer, along with the kitchen, copy room, restroom, and file storage. The new facility also features a mechanics shop with two lifts, along with a vehicle maintenance pit for working underneath dump trucks and heavy machinery. There is also a crane installed to assist in lifting such heavy items as the dump bed body of a dump truck.

The new building also includes two large vehicle bays, plus additional storage space for signs, tools, and other materials. This indoor parking availability will save time in clearing off trucks and warming up engines during winter weather events, getting the crew out clearing the roads in less time.

The facility will also have by the end of this month fuel tanks for use by all city vehicles, saving the city money on gasoline and diesel. A salt and sand storage bunker will also be built, to store these road materials off the ground and covered, as required by law, along with an additional heavy equipment storage shed.

This location, which is very near to the geographical center of the 47-square-mile city, will allow road workers to more quickly access all of the more than 550 miles of streets in Bella Vista.

The project has a guaranteed maximum price of \$2.2 million, but when completed is expected to come in under budget.



The city of Bella Vista took over street maintenance operations from the Bella Vista Village Property Owners Association in 2012. They started that year with a staff of 12 and a fleet of eight vehicles and equipment. Today, the department operates with 22 full-time employees and four seasonal employees, and a fleet of 48 vehicles and various heavy equipment, including dump trucks, backhoes, an excavator, bulldozer and other equipment necessary to maintain city streets and rights-of-way.

Cassi Lapp is communication manager for the city of Bella Vista.



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Association honors water/ wastewater systems and employees

Municipal water and wastewater systems, department heads, and employees were recognized for their outstanding work and their commitment to their communities at the Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association's annual awards luncheon, held in May in Hot Springs.



Smackover Municipal Water Works Water Supervisor Bobby Parker, right, received the Arkansas Water Works Outstanding Achievement Award for systems serving populations fewer than 5,000.



Prescott Water Superintendent Perry Nelson, right, accepted the city's Special System Recognition Award for water systems serving fewer than 5,000.



Randy Miller, right, manager of the Murfreesboro Water and Wastewater System, is this year's recipient of the Wastewater Outstanding Achievement Award for systems serving populations fewer than 5,000.



Brad Stewart, right, pretreatment manager for Springdale Water Utilities, was named this year's recipient of the Arkansas Water Environment Association Pretreatment Professional of the Year Award.



Thea Hughes, right, general manager of Jacksonville Water Utility, is this year's recipient of the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award for Extraordinary Service to the Arkansas Water Environment Federation.



Lance McAvoy, right, deputy director of operations for the Fort Smith Utility Department, is this year's recipient of the Water Environment Federation's Water Manager of the Year Award.



Michael Kline, right, loss and risk control administrator for Little Rock Wastewater, received the Burke Award for Safety for cities with populations greater than 20,000. He also accepted the Safety Award for cities with populations greater than 20,000 on behalf of the utility.



Rhonda Fouts, right, water quality analyst for Fort Smith Utility, received both the Water Environment Federation Analyst of the Year Award and the Arkansas Water Environment Association's Analyst of the Year Award.



Kevin McGill, right, pretreatment coordinator for Jacksonville Wastewater Utility, is this year's recipient of the Wastewater Outstanding Achievement Award for utilities serving populations of more than 5,000.



Larry Oelrich, left, public works director for Prairie Grove, is this year's recipient of the Arkansas Water Environment Association Mike Thomason Wastewater Manager of the Year Award.



Paul Richards, right, engineering/construction manager for Jacksonville Wastewater Utility, was named the Arkansas Water Environment Association Young Professional of the Year.



Caraway Water and Sewer received the Special Systems Recognition Award for wastewater systems serving populations fewer than 5,000. The city's Johnny Boatman, right, accepted the award.



Sam Zehtaban, right, administrative operations manager for Jacksonville Wastewater Utility, is this year's recipient of the William D. Hatfield Award for outstanding performance as a wastewater treatment plant professional.



Coy Cothren, right, maintenance supervisor for Jacksonville Water Works, received the Arkansas Water Works Outstanding Achievement Award for cities with populations greater than 5,000.



Shawn Dorman, right, distribution director for Springdale Water Utilities, is this year's recipient of the Arkansas Water Environment Association's Collection Systems Award.



James Boston, right, representing Decatur Wastewater Treatment Plant, accepted the Special System Recognition Award for wastewater systems serving fewer than 5,000.



Stanley Suel, director of the Environmental Assessment Division for Little Rock Wastewater, is this year's recipient of the Glen T. Kellogg Hall of Fame Award, the highest and most prestigious award presented by the Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association.

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A charming tiny house in the Quapaw Quarter area of Little Rock



“Tiny house” phenomenon challenges cities

By Jim von Tungeln

Housing remains one of the thorniest issues for urban planners, one that evades any effort to find common agreement. Oh, there is the vaguely stated intent to “promote affordable housing” in almost every urban plan, but seldom is there any consensus as to how to achieve that intention. Often, a proposal for affordable housing will last only until planners announce whose back yard it will face.

Further, the market will sometimes decide to accomplish the feat on its own, and both planners and elected officials may land in the middle of a fight. That is happening now in some places with a phenomenon known as “tiny houses.”

First, allow a slight digression. Recent issues about housing size revolved around large homes that didn’t fit the scale of the neighborhood in which they sat. We called them “McMansions.” It seems that a family would fall in love with a charming neighborhood of older homes with pronounced architectural character, albeit too small for a modern “with-it” family. Before anyone realized it, two or more of the smaller homes had been razed to make way for a monstrosity so out of character with the neighborhood that the previous ambience disappeared. We called it—at least I did—“Charmacide.”

Now, it’s a different picture in a different frame, as cities are scurrying to deal with homes at the opposite end of the size-scale. They call them tiny houses. And when they say tiny, they mean tiny. Whereas the typical American home is around 2,200 square feet, the typical tiny house is between 100 and 400 square feet. And, according to a June 25, 2015, *Washington Post* article by Nina Patel, “America is having a big love affair with tiny houses.”

Patel mentions some reasons tiny house owners cite for this love affair: “...financial and emotional freedom, a greener lifestyle, the satisfaction of building one’s own refuge.” Of course there are more practical reasons, including care and maintenance. It’s hard to imagine needing a maid or a gardener to help keep up a 400-square-foot home on a small lot.

Actually, for middle-income America, large homes are a more recent phenomenon than small homes. Following World War II, many cities saw the development of homes as small as 800 square feet, cramped by today’s standards but suitable for raising families at the time. In fact, many of our state’s (now retired) teachers, public servants, physicians, attorneys, and corporate executives grew up in such homes. We must also note that, unfortunately, not all returning veterans, specifically minorities, enjoyed access to such homes, even under the GI Bill.

Back to the present, while living in a small, if not tiny, dwelling was once an economic necessity, today it may well be a choice. Just ask the couple that, according to a news story, just beat out 250 other prospective buyers to purchase a 350-square-foot home in Greenwich Village, N.Y., for \$850,000. Other testimonials by tiny house devotees indicate a choice of love, not necessity.

If the movement grows in strength, your city will see the appearance of such homes. In fact, some have, as the accompanying photographs indicate. The question will then be asked, “How shall we accommodate them in our land use regulations?” It’s a good question with a deceptively simple answer. Handle them as you handle every other dwelling.

The next question, and I have been asked this already, is: “Can we set a minimum size requirement for housing?” That is trickier. Most planners I know don’t recommend it, although there reportedly are cities in other states that have done exactly that. Most planners believe that such restrictions properly lie in the area of private covenants rather than public regulations. Personally, I would hate to be asked to appear as an “expert witness” to justify a city’s arbitrary size limitation on private homes. What figure would be defensible from a public health, safety, and welfare standard? I have no idea.

That having been said, the Arkansas State Fire Code does offer some guidance. While it doesn’t specify a minimum size for a dwelling, it does specify other requirements that, cumulatively, would require a size of slightly less than 300 square feet.

This brings us to the next issue. In preparing to handle tiny houses, remember the state fire code. In the *Washington Post* article mentioned earlier, several examples were discussed and it is not likely that all could have satisfied our state’s code. Another recent publication, this time a website offering, advised those wishing to live in a tiny house in an urban setting to seek, “... a progressive city that would amend its building code to accommodate tiny houses.”

Well, you can’t do that in our state. The Arkansas State Fire Code is our state building code and it is a state law that covers every property. A city can adopt a more, but not less, stringent code. Even if a city adopts no code at all, it remains bound by the state code.

What cities can do is mandate a minimum lot size. Those in most cities of our state are quite spacious when compared to those of states in the more crowded northern and eastern areas of the country. It’s interesting to note that railroad surveyors prepared many of the original plats of Arkansas cities. That resulted in the large number that feature 25-foot-wide lots, a size that must have been common in the surveyor’s hometown. Today, moving away from “large-lot mania,” architects



Street view of a tiny house on a corner block in Little Rock’s legendary Hillcrest Neighborhood.

are designing quite livable dwellings on lots as small as 25 feet in width, albeit with the necessity of rear-yard parking.

It is also worth noting that many cities, some in our state, allow second dwellings such as so-called “mother-in-law flats” on individual lots. This is becoming a common use for tiny houses, even in new subdivisions with otherwise strict protective covenants.

So, don’t get exercised about tiny houses. We will talk about them further at the 82nd Convention. Check out the examples included here and consider them another layer of charm for your town. Who knows? You may someday see me and my family in one. I think of this occasionally when I recall that happy day I drove into “The City” to take my first job in planning, with all my earthly possessions in the trunk and back seat of one car.



Jim von Tungeln is staff planning consultant and available for consultation as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Contact him at 501-944-3649. His website is www.planyourcity.com.

2016 Municipal Election Information

The 2016 preferential primaries have passed, but several filing deadlines and other important dates are approaching for individuals running as independents for municipal offices in November's General Election. For a more complete look at the Arkansas statutes governing elections for municipal office, see page 12 in the August 2015 issue of *City & Town*, available online at www.arml.org. The following is a condensed version regarding the upcoming July and August deadlines.

DEADLINES FOR FILING AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Filing Dates

General Election (for Independents): From July 29, 2016 until 12 p.m. Aug. 19, 2016. (See A.C.A. § 14-42-206(b)(1).)

Election Dates

General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016. (See A.C.A. § 7-5-102.)

General Election (Runoff): Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2016. (See A.C.A. § 7-5-106.)

City Administrator Form of Government

Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Tues., Aug. 9—Primary Election for Directors and Mayor when more than two are seeking the office (second Tuesday in August preceding the municipal general election, which is Nov. 8, 2016). (See A.C.A. § 14-48-109(a)(2).)

City Manager Form of Government

Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Deadline for all candidates for petitions of nomination and political practice pledges not more than one-hundred two (102) days (July 29, 2016) nor less than eighty-one (81) days by 12 p.m. (Aug. 19, 2016) before general election which is Nov. 8, 2016. (See A.C.A. § 14-47-110(a)(2).)

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2016—Deadline for city clerk to certify names of candidates for director to county board of election commissioners, unless petition fails to meet standards (seventy-five (75) days before general election, which is November 8, 2016). (See A.C.A. § 14-47-110(a)(3)(D).)

Political Practice Pledge and Affidavit of Eligibility

- For independent candidates: During the period for filing petition for nomination from July 29, 2016, until 12 p.m. Aug. 19, 2016. (See A.C.A. § 7-6-102(a); 14-42-206(b)(3).)

Political Practice Pledge is filed with the County Clerk at time of filing petition for nomination, a pledge in writing stating that candidate is familiar with the requirements of A.C.A. §§ 7-1-103, 7-1-104, 7-3-108, 7-6-101 through 7-6-104 and will in good faith comply with their terms. (See A.C.A. § 7-6-102.)

Financial Disclosure Statements

- Independent candidates for elective office: Must file a statement of financial interest for the previous year (2015) on the first Monday following the close of the filing period, which is Aug. 22, 2016. (See A.C.A. §§ 21-8-701(c) and 21-8-703.)
- Incumbent officeholders filing statements of financial interest by February 1, 2016 are not required to file an additional statement for the remainder of 2016 upon becoming a candidate for reelection or election. (See A.C.A. § 21-8-701.)

Reports of Contributions and Expenses

Pre-election Report—No later than seven (7) days prior to any preferential primary, runoff, general, or special election. Not required if contributions and expenditures are each less than five hundred dollars (\$500), or if candidate runs unopposed.

Final Reports—No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the month in which the candidate's name has appeared on the ballot, regardless of whether a candidate has received contributions and/or expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500). A candidate who withdraws shall file within thirty (30) days of withdrawal a report of any contributions and expenditures not previously reported.

Supplemental Reports—After the final report, within thirty (30) days of contribution or expenditure. (See A.C.A. 7-6-208.)

Mayor-Council Form of Government

Within mayor-council municipalities only, the following offices will be elected in 2016:

Incorporated towns

Aldermen—Five (5) elected for two (2) year terms if there has been no approval of four-year terms and the requisite election procedures. Aldermen run by Position Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5. (See A.C.A. § 7-7-304(e).) Voted on by all electors of the town. (See A.C.A. § 14-45-102.) If the voters have approved a four year election cycle then initially, positions one (1), three (3), and five (5) shall have four (4) year terms with alderman representing positions numbered two (2) and four (4) to have two-year terms and thereafter four (4)-year terms.

Marshal (if elected)—Two (2) year term. Council may provide by ordinance for appointment or election of city marshal or may create police department. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-45-109, 14-52-102, and 14-52-103.)

Cities of the second class

Recorder—Four (4) year term. (See A.C.A. § 14-44-115.)

Treasurer—If separate from recorder, four (4) year term. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-44-109 and 14-44-115.)

Aldermen—Two (2) from each Ward elected for two (2) year terms and must reside in Ward. File by Position Number (1) or (2), and elected city wide unless otherwise provided by ordinance. (See A.C.A. § 14-44-103 (b) (1)(A) and (B) and (c)(1)(A) and (B).) Note: Aldermen may, by ordinance referred to the voters, be elected to four-year staggered terms. (See A.C.A. § 14-44-103(a)(4) through (7).) Some alderman will initially be elected to two year terms in order to create the staggered terms.

Marshal (if elected)—Two (2) year term. Council may provide by ordinance for appointment or election of city marshal or may create police department. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-44-111, 14-52-102 and 14-52-103.)

Collector (optional)—Two (2) year term. (See A.C.A. § 14-44-117.)

Cities of first class with less than 50,000 population

Aldermen—Two (2) from each Ward elected for two (2) year terms; must reside in ward, file by Position No. 1 or No. 2 and elected city wide unless otherwise provided by ordinance. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-43-307, 14-43-312.) However, any first class city may, by ordinance referred to the voters, elect its aldermen to four-year staggered terms as provided in A.C.A. § 14-43-312. Note that this will mean some aldermen will initially be elected to two-year terms in order to create the staggered terms.

Cities of first class with over 50,000 population

Mayor—Four (4) year term. (See A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(1)(A)(i).)

City Clerk, Clerk/Treasurer—Four (4) year term. (See A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(1)(A)(ii).)

Aldermen—One (1) from each ward for four (4) year terms, must reside in the ward, elected city-wide unless City Council passes ordinance to provide otherwise. (See A.C.A. § 14-43-303 (a)(1)(A)(iii).)

District Court Judges

District Judge-Beginning in 2004, all District Judges were elected to four (4) year terms. (See Ark. Const. Amend. 80 secs. 16, 19.)

Election of aldermen

Aldermen in cities of the first and second class are elected citywide if the City Council has not adopted one of the following two options:

Option 1. All the aldermen can be elected by wards.

Option 2. One alderman from each ward can be elected city wide and one alderman from each ward can be elected by ward. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-43-307(b)(1)(B)(ii) and 14-44-103(c)(1)(B)(ii).)

No election in 2016 of the following offices:

Incorporated towns

Mayor—See A.C.A. § 14-45-104.

City Attorney—See A.C.A. § 14-42-112(a) (although this law is not entirely clear about when a city attorney should stand for election, stating only “at the time of the election of other officers.” This could mean either the other four-year office holders, or could also include the biennial election of aldermen). The term of office for an elected municipal attorney shall be 4 years. (See A.C.A. § 14-42-112(e).)

Recorder/Treasurer—See A.C.A. § 14-45-108.

Cities of the second class

Mayor—See A.C.A. § 14-44-105.

City Attorney—See note above under incorporated towns.

Cities of first class with less than 50,000 population

Mayor—See A.C.A. § 14-43-305(a).

City Attorney—See A.C.A. § 14-43-315(a).

City Clerk, Treasurer or Clerk/Treasurer—See A.C.A. §§ 14-43-316 and 14-43-405 (note: Treasurer can be appointed or elected as designated by ordinance. If elected the office follows the election cycle of the Clerk or Clerk/Treasurer and will be next elected in 2018).

Cities of first class with over 50,000 population

City Treasurer—Unless the office has, by ordinance, been combined with the City Clerk or is appointed rather than elected. (See A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(2)(A)(ii) and 14-43-405.)

City Attorney—See A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(2)(A)(i).

Aldermen—One (1) from each ward. (See A.C.A. §§ 14-43-303 (a)(2)(A)(iii) and 14-43-307.)

Officials elected take office: Jan. 1, 2017.



PHOTO BY KENNY COLEY.

Arkansas Forestry Commission foresters conduct a tree inventory on the grounds of the Arkansas Governor's Mansion.

The value of tree inventories

By Alison Litchy

Tree inventories serve many purposes in the world of forestry and are particularly valuable in urban forestry—so much so that they are known as the foundation of urban forest management. Inventories can be done on any budget and adjusted to fit the desired outcome.

Trees are everywhere—along streets, backyards, parks, parking lots, cemeteries, and more. With so many trees working hard to clean the air and make our communities beautiful, we sometimes lose track of them. When we aren't mindful of where our trees are located, safety issues can arise. Many cities manage valuable urban forests assets without knowing what they have or what they are responsible for maintaining.

Urban forest management is the process through which urban forests are maintained to provide multiple uses and long-term benefits to communities. A successful management program includes good planning. For example, a park may have an area that is frequently under water. With an inventory, possible planting locations can be chosen for water loving trees. These trees will reduce runoff and save the city money by reducing the amount of water that goes into the sewer system.

There are four types of urban tree inventories: comprehensive, sample, remote sensing, and windshield sample. Comprehensive inventories include 100 percent of the trees in the given area. In a sample inventory a random sample of trees throughout the inventory area is

assessed, giving an approximation of what is in an area. Remote sensing inventories are done from aerial images and sometimes using LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), which uses light from a laser to get an idea of what is on land from an aerial perspective. A windshield sample is the fastest way to conduct an inventory. It is an assessment from a car as it is driven past the trees. This can be done periodically and rather quickly, but less data is collected than other methods.

Which method is the right choice depends on multiple factors, such as the budget available or what the goals are for the city. Windshield inventories are usually the cheapest option and can provide the information needed for the particular situation. Other times it is important to have a more comprehensive look at the condition and location of the trees in a community. The information the city needs about its trees—total canopy cover, planting needs in parks or natural areas, tree maintenance, disaster mitigation, or legal matters—will help determine the type of inventory selected.

Tree inventories should be conducted by urban foresters or certified arborists, who will have the training and credentials to provide the most accurate information. The Arkansas Forestry Commission focuses mainly on street trees and parks or natural areas when assisting with tree inventories. Usually these are detailed inventories. They should be updated on a regular basis. These inventories can help improve safety, especially in areas

like playgrounds and trails. Inventories provide valuable information to city leaders, such as species, diameter, height, condition, location, utilities, planting space, stumps, canopy spread, crown height, critical root zone, pests, and hazards.

American Forest recommends a community have an average canopy cover of 40 percent. There are many ways to increase the tree canopy. Some good ways to accomplish this would be planting more street trees and park trees. Sometimes this means finding non-traditional locations to plant such as in flood control areas. When the tree canopy is increased more questions will need to be asked. How will the new canopy be maintained? What will be the cost for this maintenance? Volunteers, non-profits, municipal staff, and urban professionals are great groups to partner with and help answer these questions.

Bentonville had a tree canopy assessment conducted by Plan-it Geo. It was calculated that they have a 25 percent tree canopy. This assessment is used to prioritize strategic planting sites, monitor and assess the effectiveness of land use planning and natural resource protection policies, and determine tree and forest canopy change over time. All of this will help Bentonville make informed decisions regarding sustainability and urban forest management plans. Fifty-two percent of the urban tree canopy is in residential zoning; however, residential zoning is only 40 percent of the total land area. This quickly shows where Bentonville needs to focus on planting more trees. Their trees remove 410,000 lbs. of air pollutants annually. Their tree canopy provides a value of \$2.8 million in avoided storm water runoff costs annually.

The Bentonville inventory was quite extensive. Inventories can be much smaller. For example, a city might want to know if the trees in the park are safe. These trees are also providing benefits and those can be determined as well. Walnut Ridge had a complete tree inventory done in Stewart Park. They found out that about 80 percent of their park trees are in fair or better condition. They also discovered that the species diversity and age class diversity is low. This information highlighted an opportunity for planting new and different species.

Please contact me if you have more questions or would like to conduct a small inventory in your city or town.



Alison Litchy is urban forestry partnership coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Call Alison at 501-984-5867 or email alison.litchy@arkansas.gov.



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Arkansas Municipal League's Firefighters Supplemental Income and Death Benefit Program

Ibla Grand Prize-winning musicians bring talents to Arkansas

By Sherman Banks



The Ibla international music competition and festival with the cooperation of Arkansas municipal leaders and music enthusiasts, offers an annual tour of public concerts and community outreach programs that allow Ibla winners to perform for and interact with local students and families by sharing their professional and artistic talents.

This year the Ibla Foundation celebrates its 25th anniversary and 15 years of sharing the extraordinary talent of the international performers with Arkansas in our schools and communities. This year's performers hail from the countries of Italy, Poland, Korea, China, Georgia, and the United States. In past years we introduced classical, blues, and jazz music of multi-talented musicians to the school districts of Harrison, Star City, Little Rock, Tontitown, Springdale, and Lake Village, where we have performed for and given master classes to over 20,000 students. This year was our fifth year to travel to Lake Village and we added the city of Batesville, which along with Lake Village rolled out the red carpet to welcome our performers.

A particular joy this year was witnessing the performance of Jiayi Jessica Sun, a pianist from China. She is nine years old and began playing at the age of three and a half with her mother, a professor of piano. At the age of four she won her first award. She has won more than 20 various awards in China and collected her first international piano award in Los Angeles in August 2014. In addition to her discipline as a pianist, she enjoys assembling her LEGO robot and taking photographs when she travels. Her ambition is to be a pianist, a scientist, a photographer, or maybe all three. How glorious it is that she also finds time to actually be a child.

Each year the winners of the previous year perform at venues around the world—from Carnegie Hall in New York to cities in Arkansas. In addition to the other cities mentioned the winners have performed at Gibbs Magnet Elementary School for the past 15 years and at Parkview High School in Little Rock, in addition to free public performances at the Argenta Community Theater in North Little Rock and First United Methodist Church in Jacksonville.



PHOTOS BY WHITNEE V. BULLERWELL.

Music is the panacea. It brings rhythm, harmony, and balance to a world whose cadence is too often mistrust and violence. As a friend of mine wrote: "Music is a metaphor for life, and if you think of a musical piece that you love and ask yourself why you do, you'll likely find



that the music you deem most satisfying is that which is expressed with the measure of rhythm, harmony and balance that suits your personal consciousness." Through music, my friend also said, "Rhythm, harmony and balance is the Trinity that tells us how to live an enlightened life."



It is through Ibla Foundation that we can bring, for a little while, rhythm, harmony, and balance to the students and communities we have visited, along with a sense of self-awareness and peace. Through these master classes, the students learn that they can achieve great things if they apply themselves.

Writer Christian Nestell Bovee wrote: "Music is the fourth great material want of our nature—first food, then raiment, then shelter, then music." I have heard from the students and communities that music moves them and they do not know why. They feel tears and cannot determine the source. Letitia Elizabeth Landon asked, "Is it the language of some other state, born of its memory? For what can wake the soul's strong instinct of another world like music?"

With the unrest that is within our communities, let music be the bridge that brings tranquility. As vice president of Ibla Foundation, it would be an utmost pleasure to bring the performers to your community next year. If you have an interest with reservations, please contact me. I also encourage you to contact Lake Village Mayor JoAnne Bush and Batesville Mayor Rick Elumbaugh for their assessment of the program. I look forward to hearing from you.



For more information contact Sherman Banks at (501) 786-2639; email sbanks@aristotle.net; or write to P.O. Box 165920, Little Rock, AR 72216.

Arkansas's 91 airports help drive local economies

By Alex Smith, PE

Air travel may not be a big part of your everyday life. Most people consider airports only when flying out of a major regional airport for a vacation or for business. But airports play a huge role in Arkansas. There are 91 airports in the state.

proximity to a local airport is a highly weighted factor in its decision on a location. The ways businesses use airports vary. They may own or lease their own aircraft, use air cargo service, or fly clients, vendors, and employees to and from Arkansas.

The economic effects of aviation on the state can be surprising when looking at the figures. The aviation industry in Arkansas provides almost 30,000 jobs, generating \$846 million in annual payroll and \$2.5 billion annually in overall economic activity. Understandably, this is a service and industry that more than merely exists—it dramatically fuels the state's economy.

The general aviation airports in the state also provide a hub for agricultural operations. Arkansas is known for its agricultural industry. The municipal and regional airports allow farmers to have a base for their planes to refuel, load up on chemicals and fertilizers, store their aircrafts during the off-season, make repairs, and even

grab a bite to eat. Some of the local airports in the state have amazing restaurants that usually go unnoticed by the public due to the fact that they are located in an airport. Grider Field Restaurant at the Pine Bluff Regional Airport has some of the best soul food around, while

These range from small general aviation airports to the large passenger airports such as the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock. Different airports affect the state in various ways. While the benefits of a passenger airport may be obvious, the benefits of the smaller general aviation/municipal airports often go unnoticed. And people may not completely understand how these airports are funded. It is a misconception that citizens pay for airport maintenance throughout the state by way of their tax contributions. This could not be further from the truth.

The benefits of aviation

First, let's look at the benefits that airports provide for Arkansas and its cities. When a new business is looking for a location to open a factory, branch, or new office,



Airports large and small, such as, from the top, Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport in Bentonville, Clinton Municipal Airport, and Corning Municipal Airport, play an integral role in both passenger travel and local economic development efforts.



Top the Mains Café & Grill at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport has been a huge hit among the aviation community. Pilots have been known to adjust their flight plans according to some of these fine airport restaurants.

Our airports also benefit the recreational side of Arkansas. Hunting, fishing, and camping are very important to the economy here in “The Natural State.” Airports provide a way for outdoor enthusiasts from other states to reach their dream hunting vacation or make it to their fishing hole without having to drive for the majority of the weekend. Also, local airshows are held at some local airports that can generate aviation interest among all ages.

Funding Arkansas’s airports

Next let’s look at the misconceptions of funding for airports. The Arkansas Department of Aeronautics (ADA) collects revenue through a special account set up for sales tax paid on aircraft, aviation fuel/aviation-related products, parts and repairs or service. The ADA operates solely from these Special Revenues and does not receive any tax dollars from the state’s general fund. The 91 airports in Arkansas are all eligible to receive monies from this Special Revenue fund as grants. The ADA reports that each of the 91 airports participates in this grant program. The amount of funding available and awarded is directly related to the type of project each airport requests. Eligible projects for this reimbursable and matching funding include:

- Runway, taxiway, and apron paving
- Rehabilitation of existing airfield pavements
- Land acquisition
- Navigational equipment and lighting
- Security fencing
- Obstruction removal
- Hangar construction

Safety enhancement projects have always been the top priority with the ADA and it works with the FAA safety inspection program to make sure all safety and security needs are covered. When looking at airport projects available for funding, the policy is to begin with safety concerns, starting with the runway centerline, and work out from there. When all of these issues are met, the end goal is to enable all 91 airports to safely provide support for local and statewide economic development and growth efforts.

The FAA funds airport projects as well. They provide any airports included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) with an entitlement each year through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). The grant money can be applied towards 90 percent of an eligible project. The airport is responsible for the remaining 10 percent of the funds. At the end of the project, the

airport can apply for a reimbursement grant from the ADA. The ADA has been able to manage their budget to reimburse all AIP projects since the program started. The ADA reports that it has awarded more than \$26.5 million in AIP grants to Arkansas airports. With the matching program, this has generated more than \$155 million for improvements to Arkansas’s airports. These monies are integral in supporting our airports, which in turn support commerce, industry, agriculture, and community needs.

There is no question that aviation plays a large role in Arkansas cities large and small. Its positive effect on the economy, growth, business, and tourism is an integral part of the success among businesses and municipalities throughout the state.



Alex Smith, PE, is a Project Engineer/Associate at McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc.’s Little Rock office and is a Project Manager within the Aviation Department. Contact Alex at 501-372-0272 or email him at asmith@mcclelland-engrs.com.

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Regardless of the size or scope of your needs, McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. has the experience and expertise to see your project through to completion. We commit our time, our energy and our professionalism to ensure all projects enhance the quality of life, improve infrastructure and offer positive economic impact in each community in which we work.

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Little Rock's dining and craft food and beverage scene is on the rise. Whether enjoying a romantic dinner for two, sampling our city's ever-expanding offerings of ales, wines and spirits with our Locally Labeled Passport program, or tasting any of the amazing products our artisan bakers and food producers are making, there's never been a better time to enjoy great food and drink in Little Rock.



Little Rock

Learn about our city's
breweries, distillery and wineries >
To see more,
visit LittleRock.com



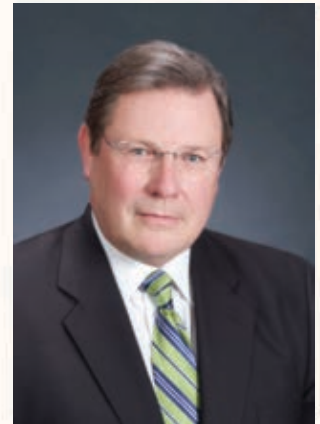
City of Little Rock

Mark Stodola
Mayor

City Hall, Room 203
500 W. Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1427
Phone: (501) 371-4510
Fax: (501) 371-4498
www.littlerock.org

June 15-17, 2016

Arkansas Municipal League
82nd Convention



Dear Delegates,

As mayor, I am proud to welcome you to Little Rock for the 82nd Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League. Local officials like you are the driving force behind innovation in our communities today, and I appreciate that you have chosen to attend this gathering so that we can share best practices, build relationships and find common ground that will help us to make our cities the best place they can be for all of our residents.

While you are in Little Rock, I hope you will explore many of the interesting attractions our city has to offer. You will find world-class museums a short walk from the Statehouse Convention Center, including the William J. Clinton Presidential Center, the Old Statehouse Museum, and the Museum of Discovery. Nearby, you will also find the Historic Arkansas Museum, the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center, the Central High National Historic Site, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and the Arkansas Arts Center. In addition, the nearby River Market District, South Main, and Creative Corridor areas have many shops and attractions, as well as vibrant nightlife and delicious restaurants.

Welcome to Little Rock! As always, I am looking forward to meeting with you, my colleagues, from around our great state.

Sincerely,

Mark Stodola
Mayor

A destination for all seasons!



The Old Mill at T.R. Pugh Park

Enjoy the outdoors at The Old Mill from *Gone with the Wind* or take a stroll along the Arkansas River Trail. Shop and dine in the McCain Mall area or Argenta Arts District, laugh hysterically at The Joint Comedy Theater or explore a real World War II submarine & tugboat.



Call 501-758-1424 or visit www.NorthLittleRock.org for details.

   #ExploreNLR



Argenta Arts & Entertainment District • The Joint Comedy Theater • USS Hoga

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



JOE A. SMITH
MAYOR
mayor@nlr.ar.gov

PHONE (501) 975-8601
FAX (501) 975-8633

CITY HALL
P.O. BOX 5757
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72119-5757
website: www.nlr.ar.gov



Arkansas Municipal League
82nd Annual Convention
June 15-17, 2016

Greetings!

As Mayor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 82nd Annual Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League. During your stay, we hope you can include some or all of the following points of interest in North Little Rock:

- **Argenta Arts & Entertainment District** – Stroll North Little Rock's Main Street, lined with art galleries, restaurants, The Joint Comedy Theater and the North Little Rock Heritage Center.
- **Dickey-Stephens Park** – home of the Arkansas Travelers and the finest facility in minor league baseball. Great family entertainment!
- **Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum** – Tour a real World War II-era submarine, USS *Razorback* (SS394) and learn about the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, cruiser USS *Arkansas* and tugboat USS *Hoga*.
- **River Rail Trolleys** – allow visitors to travel across the Arkansas River in style and stop for shopping and dining in the Argenta Arts & Entertainment District in North Little Rock and River Market District in Little Rock.
- **Burns Park** – Encompassing 1,700 acres and one of the largest city parks in the nation, Burns Park hosts tennis, baseball, softball and soccer tournaments.
- **The Old Mill at T.R. Pugh Memorial Park** – a 1930s replica of a 1800s gristmill, presumed to be the last standing structure from *Gone with the Wind*.

For non-stop shopping and dining, visit the newly-renovated McCain Mall – the largest enclosed shopping center in Central Arkansas. Other dining and shopping opportunities are located in close proximity.

On behalf of the City of North Little Rock, I welcome you and extend our best wishes on a fun and successful convention.

Sincerely,

Joe A. Smith
Mayor

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

Fairs & Festivals

June 13-19, **LESLIE**, 62nd Leslie Homecoming, 870-448-7505

June 16-18, **SMACKOVER**, 45th Smackover Oil Town Festival, 870-725-3521, smackoverar.com

June 17-18, **BEARDEN**, Bearden Gazebo Festival, 870-687-1451; **FAIRFIELD BAY**, Surf the Bay, 501-884-6030

June 18-26, **MOUNTAIN HOME**, 17th Red, White & Blue Festival, www.redwhitebluefestival.com

June 23-25, **CLINTON**, 18th Archey Fork Festival, 501-745-6500

June 25, **EMERSON**, 27th PurpleHull Pea Festival & World Championship Rotary Tiller Race, 870-547-3500, www.purplehull.com; **HATFIELD**, 16th Jubilee in June Festival, 870-389-6611

July 2, **HEBER SPRINGS**, Fireworks Extravaganza, 501-362-2444; **MENA**, 4th of July Celebration, 479-394-8355, VisitMena.com; **MULBERRY**, Celebrate Mulberry, 479-997-1321, cityofmulberry.org; **OZARK**, 6th Cardboard Boat Race, 479-667-2949

July 3-4, **FAIRFIELD BAY**, 4th of July in the Bay, 501-884-3324

July 4, **BEEBE**, 4th of July Extravaganza, 501-882-3135; **CHEROKEE VILLAGE**, Thunder on Thunderbird, 870-257-5522; **COLT**, Colt Fire Dept. Fireworks on the 4th, 870-633-9170; **GREENWOOD**, Greenwood Freedom Fest; **479-806-2241**; **HORSESHOE BEND**, Independence Day Parade & Celebration, 870-670-5433; **MOUNTAIN VIEW**, Independence Day Celebration, 870-269-8068; **RUSSELLVILLE**, Community Fireworks Display, 479-968-1272; **SALEM**, Fireworks in the Park, 870-895-3221

CALENDAR

Arkansas Municipal League 82nd Convention

June 15-17, 2016

Wednesday-Friday

Little Rock, Arkansas

National League of Cities City Summit

November 16-19, 2016

Wednesday-Saturday

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

- CITIES OF DISTINCTION IS BECOMING -



ARKANSAS BUSINESS
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2017

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**Arkansas
Business**

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Winners will be recognized in the following categories

- Public Safety
- Infrastructure/Utilities/Water
- Education/Workforce Development
- Wellness and Fitness
- Tourism Development/Creative Culture
- Environmental/Green Management Practices

Three Population Categories to compete in:

Under 5,000 // Between 5,000 and 20,000 // More than 20,000



TO LEARN MORE

arkansasbusiness.com/trendsetter

For more information contact Bonnie Jacoby at Bonnie@abpg.com or (501) 372-1443

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82nd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 15-17, 2016

DAYS

07

HOURS

00

MINUTES

00

Countdown to Convention.

June 15–17 in Little Rock, AR
See next page for more information.
Register online at www.arml.org.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM IN BRIEF

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 15**

1:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M.
1:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
2:30 P.M.-5:30 P.M.
5:30 P.M.
7:00 P.M.

CLERKS MEETING
REGISTRATION AND EXHIBIT HALL OPEN
CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATION TRAINING
RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
OPENING NIGHT BANQUET

**THURSDAY
JUNE 16**

7:00 A.M.-8:45 A.M.
7:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
7:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
8:45 A.M.-NOON
NOON-1:15 P.M.
1:30 P.M.-5:30 P.M.
6:30 P.M.-10:00 P.M.

HOST CITY BREAKFAST
REGISTRATION OPEN
EXHIBITS OPEN
GENERAL SESSIONS
LUNCHEON
CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
EVENING ACTIVITIES

**FRIDAY
JUNE 17**

7:00 A.M.-8:45 A.M.
7:00 A.M.-NOON
8:45 A.M.-10:15 A.M.
11:45 A.M. -1:30 P.M.

BREAKFAST
REGISTRATION OPEN
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS
AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS' LUNCHEON



LOCAL PROGRESS DESERVES A PARTY.

Join us for an evening of desserts, drinks and live music from the Ned Perme Band during the Arkansas Municipal League's 82nd Annual Convention.

DESSERTS & ENTERTAINMENT RECEPTION

Sponsored by Crews & Associates and 360 Energy Engineers

Thursday, June 16

8:30 - 10pm

Wally Allen Ballroom
Little Rock



Member FINRA & SIPC



82nd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel / Statehouse Convention Center, June 15-17, 2016

REGISTRATION

If you missed the June 1 pre-registration deadline, on-site registration and payment can be completed at the Statehouse Convention Center.

Registration fee after June 1, 2016 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Registration fee after June 1, 2016 , and on-site registration for guests.	\$100
Other registrants.	\$200

- Registration will be processed **ONLY** with accompanying payment in full. Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of **2015-2016 Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after June 1, 2016.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 1, 2016**.
- **Marriott guests:** In order to avoid a cancellation penalty of one night's room and tax, reservations must be cancelled at least seven (7) days prior to arrival.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double.	\$132	Check-in 3 p.m.
Capital Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$189	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$139	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$109	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 1, 2016**.
- Rooms in Central Arkansas are subject to a 13.5 or 15 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel.

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER

1

Register online at www.arml.org
and pay by credit card.

OR

2

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 82nd Annual Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

Name:

Title: City of:

Email (required): CC Email:

Address: City:

State: Zip: Phone Number:

Guests will attend: Yes No Name:

Name:

In Case of Emergency (ICE) Contact Name: ICE Phone Number:

Step 2: Payment Information

• WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL? (see opposite page for fees)

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration for Delegate \$ 175	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration for Guest \$ 100	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Registrants \$ 200	Reg. Registration Total \$ _____
--	---	--	-------------------------------------

• HOW ARE YOU PAYING?

Check

Mail payment and form to:
 Arkansas Municipal League
 82nd Annual Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115

Credit Card Complete information below and send to address above.

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____/20____

Card Holder Name (as it appears on card):

Billing address (as it appears on statement):

City: State: Zip: Telephone:

E-mail address (required for credit card payment)

Step 3: Hotel Reservations

To obtain hotel reservations, registered delegates must directly contact participating hotels listed below. Please mention that you are with the Arkansas Municipal League to get the negotiated hotel rate.

Marriott Hotel Reservations 877-759-6290

Capital Hotel Reservations 877-637-0037 or 501-374-7474

Doubletree Hotel Reservations 800-222-8733 or 501-372-4371

Wyndham Hotel Reservations 866-657-4458 or 501-371-9000

82nd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 15 - 17, 2016

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016

1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND
TREASURERS ASSOCIATIONConway Room

1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION Osage & Caddo Rooms, SCC

1:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.

MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS/
RENEW ACQUAINTANCESGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC

Use this time to meet the exhibitors and see what products and services they have that could benefit your city. Popcorn and cool beverages will be served throughout the afternoon. Also, take the time to renew acquaintances with fellow municipal officials while relaxing in the Exhibit Hall.

1:00 P.M. TO 6:45 P.M.

SOCIAL MEDIA LAB Quapaw Room, SCC

Do you want to build a social media presence to promote your municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a social media presence using our lab.

2:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

WORKING IN A SOCIAL WORLD Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Today's social world makes for a unique work environment. Do you suffer from information overload? Do you have a social media strategy in place? And what, if anything, can you do to protect your city from cyber threats.

(3 Continuing Education Hours)

Speakers: Whitnee Bullerwell, Communications Director
Arkansas Municipal League
Dave Mims, Consultant
Arkansas Municipal League's IT in a Box

3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

INTERIM JOINT CITY, COUNTY,
LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE Fulton Room

City officials are welcome to attend this committee meeting.

5:30 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

7:00 P.M.

OPENING NIGHT BANQUET Wally Allen Ballroom, SCC

Welcome to the 82nd Annual Convention's Opening Night Banquet. Enjoy a delicious meal and visit with fellow delegates. At the conclusion of the banquet we will hear from Gov. Hutchinson and then recognize various municipalities and individuals who have made significant contributions to the League this past year.

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Invocation: Reverend Joyce A. Campbell
St. Andrew AME Church

Speaker: Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Governor
State of Arkansas

8:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

PRESIDENT'S DESSERT RECEPTIONCapital Hotel

After the opening night banquet, stroll over and enjoy delicious desserts at the historic Capital Hotel.

Sponsored by: Stephens Inc.

THURSDAY A.M., JUNE 16, 2016

6:30 A.M. to 7:00 A.M.

PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOGMarriott Lobby

Early risers meet in the Grand Lobby of the Marriott Hotel and take a scenic 30 minute walk or jog along a designated route. You should be back in time for breakfast.

7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

REGISTRATION Osage Room, SCC

7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

EXHIBITS OPENGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC

7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.

HOST CITY BREAKFAST BUFFETGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC

Country-style breakfast buffet will be served, courtesy of our Host City Little Rock. At 7:30 A.M. in the League Services area, Dr. Charles Smith from eDocAmerica will speak about various wellness challenges facing Arkansans.

7:15 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.

VOLUNTARY PRAYER SESSION Fulton Room

This is a brief time set aside for those who wish to gather to pray for our national, state and local leaders.

8:45 A.M. to 9:45 A.M.

OPENING GENERAL SESSION Governor's Hall IV, SCC

The 82nd Annual Convention begins with the posting of the colors and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from Mayor Mark Stodola of Little Rock.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Color Guard by: Little Rock Fire Department Color Guard
National Anthem: Officer Allison Walton
Little Rock Police Department

Host City Welcome Address: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Clarence E. Anthony, Executive Director
National League of Cities

9:45 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

BREAKGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC

10:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.

GENERAL SESSION 2: BALLOT PROPOSALS

AND LEGAL ISSUES OF CONCERN Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Attend this session to learn more on the ballot proposals and legal issues of municipal concern. This session will feature invited speakers with special knowledge on a variety of topics including, the open carry law and various ballot proposals.

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Honorable Leslie Rutledge, Attorney General
State of Arkansas
City Attorney Tom Carpenter, Little Rock
Kristin Higgins, Program Associate
University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service

10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

GENERAL SESSION 3: AMERICA WALKS Governor’s Hall IV, SCC

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Ian Thomas, Ph.D.
State and Local Program Director, America Walks

Dr. Thomas of America Walks will move you to action with his motivational talk committed to mobilizing individuals, organizations and businesses to increase walking and walkability in our cities and towns.

Sponsored by: Arvest Bank

11:45 A.M. TO NOON

GENERAL SESSION 4: STATEWIDE LONG RANGE INTERMODAL PLAN Governor’s Hall IV, SCC

The Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department is in the process of updating their Statewide Long Range Intermodal Transportation Plan. Learn how you and your constituents can be more involved in the process.

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Jessie Jones, P.E. Division Head, Transportation Planning and Policy Division, AHTD

NOON to 1:15 P.M.

LUNCHEON BUFFETGovernor’s Halls I - III, SCC

Sponsored by: American Fidelity

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.

1. AVOIDING CONFLICT IN CITY COUNCIL MEETINGSMarriott, Salon C

Disagreements at city council meetings are bound to occur. However, they shouldn’t turn into conflict or open hostility. Are there steps you can take and policies that you can adopt to avoid conflict. We think so. The speakers explain.

Presiding: Mayor Sonny Hudson, Prairie Grove
Speaker: Mark Hayes, Director of Legal Services
Arkansas Municipal League

2. AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SMALLER CITIES Pope Room

Is Affordable Housing an option for smaller cities? Are there new rules and regulations that could affect public housing? Authorities from the Fair Housing Commission and the ADFA will be available to explain.

Presiding: Mayor Bobby Box, Chidester
Speakers: Carol Johnson, Executive Director
Arkansas Fair Housing Commission
Ben Van Kleff, Vice President of Housing
Arkansas Development Finance Authority

3. MANAGING YOUR BUDGET DURING TURBULENT TIMES Marriott, Salon B

Preparing an annual budget can be difficult during normal times but it can be especially difficult during turbulent times of uncertainty. Are there things you can do to avoid a budget crisis? The speakers share their knowledge.

Presiding: Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry
Speakers: Cindy Frizzell, Finance Director
Arkansas Municipal League
Finance Director Karen Scott, North Little Rock
Tim Jones, Audit Manager
Arkansas Division of Legislative Audit

4. RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING: CITIZEN AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATIONMarriott, Salon A

Respect and understanding is critical in avoiding conflict between law enforcement and citizens. What are some cities doing to promote positive relations between law enforcement and the citizens they serve? Several law enforcement personnel from around the state share their experiences.

Presiding: Mayor James Sanders, Blytheville
Speakers: Ken Wasson, Director of Operations
Arkansas Municipal League
Chief of Police Kenton Buckner, Little Rock
Captain Jay Kovach, North Little Rock
Chief of Police Virgil Green, Helena-West Helena

5. ANNEXATION, ZONING LAWS, AND PROFESSIONAL LAND USE PRACTICES IZard Room

Comprehensive Planning is critical to organized growth. What is “tactical urbanism?” How should we address the issue of “tiny houses?” Understanding and following proper annexation procedures is critical for orderly municipal growth. Learn from knowledgeable speakers.

Presiding: Mayor Jill Dabbs, Bryant
Speakers: Jim von Tungeln, Staff Planning Consultant
Arkansas Municipal League
James P. Walden, AICP
Urban Planning Manager, Garver Engineers

6. ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR MUNICIPALITIES Fulton Room

What can you do to make your city more attractive to business and industry? Are there certain strategies you can adopt to create a vibrant community? What about the feasibility of public/private partnerships? The workshop speakers share their ideas.

Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale
Speakers: Daniel Hintz, Chief Experience Architect, Velocity Group
Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge

7. DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL CITIES Caraway Rooms I-III

A group of international visitors will be available to inform the attendees about culture in their respective countries and the benefits of the sister city program.

Presiding: Mayor Gary Fletcher, Jacksonville
Speakers: Sherman Banks, Former President
Sister Cities International
International Visitors and Sister City Mayors

2:45 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

BREAK Governor’s Exhibit Halls I - III, SCC
Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.

1. AVOIDING LAWSUITSMarriott, Salon C

Lawsuits against municipalities continue to mount. Lawsuits are now coming from different areas—sign ordinances, FOIA, RFRA, speed traps, etc. Are we seeing trends developing and if so what can we do to avoid being sued?

Presiding: Mayor Joe Dillard, Mountain Home
Speakers: Staff Attorneys
Arkansas Municipal League

82nd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 15 - 17, 2016

2. THE CHALLENGES OF CREATING A DIVERSE WORKPLACE Marriott, Salon B

Does diversity in the workplace matter? Why is it difficult to attract minorities to your police department? How do you go about creating a culturally diverse workplace? The speakers share their insight about this complex topic.

Presiding: Mayor Lioneld Jordan, Fayetteville
Speakers: Ken Wasson, Director of Operations
Arkansas Municipal League
Personnel Director Minnie Lenox, Hot Springs
David Baxter, Health and Safety Coordinator
Arkansas Municipal League Staff

3. LEGAL TOOLS TO KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN..... Marriott, Salon A

Grown up lots and neglected property can ruin the appearance of your city. Are there code enforcement ordinances and policies you can pass to prevent your city from becoming an eyesore to citizens and visitors alike? How should you deal with rundown apartment houses?

Presiding: Mayor Doyle Fowler, McCrory
Speakers: City Attorney Jason Carter, North Little Rock
City Attorney Jimmy Taylor, Cabot

4. PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR LARGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.....Izard Room, SCC

Planning for large Capital Improvement projects can be confusing. Are there various funding sources to consider? What guidelines should you follow to ensure that you avoid the many traps that exist in Capital Improvement projects?

Presiding: Mayor John Mark Turner, Siloam Springs
Speakers: Ryan Bowen, Partner
Friday, Eldredge & Clark LLP
Patricia Quinn, First Vice President
Raymond James
Ron Pyle, Managing Director
Raymond James
Daniel Allen, Financial Advisor
Raymond James

5. MUNICIPAL STREET MAINTENANCE: THE CHALLENGE NEVER ENDS Pope Room

Street maintenance is a never ending challenge. Are there certain preventative tasks that you can perform to avoid serious maintenance problems?

Presiding: Mayor Scott McCormick, Crossett
Speakers: Darryl Gardner, Sales Manager
Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc.
Mike Morgan, Sr. Project Manager, GreenbergFarrow
Stacy G. Williams, Research Associate Professor
Department of Civil Engineering, University of Arkansas

6. GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES FOR CITIES OF LESS THAN 10,000 POPULATION..... Fulton Room

Are there grants and funding sources available for smaller municipalities? What about the State Aid Street Program and EPA grants? This will be a two part session with emphasis during the first session on grants and funding sources for cities of less than 10,000 population. The second session will be begin at 4:30 with emphasis on cities of more than 10,000 population.

Presiding: Mayor Johnny Brigham, Dumas
Speakers: Chad Gallagher, Principal
Legacy Consulting
Kevin Smith, Chairman and CEO
The Grant Book Company
Steve Napper, Attorney
State Aid Street Committee
Amber Perry, Region 6 Brownfields Team Member
Environmental Protection Agency

7. PROMOTING YOUR MUNICIPALITY Caraway Rooms I-III

Establishing pride in your city is important. Is downtown revitalization possible? Sometimes the unexpected can contribute to downtown revitalization. City officials from different cities share their experiences.

Presiding: Mayor Joe Smith, North Little Rock
Speakers: Mayor Frank Hash, El Dorado
Vice Mayor Kevin Settle, Fort Smith

4:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

BREAK Governor's Exhibit Halls I - III, SCC
Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

1. GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES FOR LARGE CITIES Fulton Room.

This is the second session on Grants and Funding Sources. This session is designed primarily for cities with more than 10,000 population.

Presiding: Alderman Bill Eaton, Russellville
Speakers: Chad Gallagher, Principal
Legacy Consulting Service
Kevin Smith, Chairman and CEO
The Grant Book Company
Steve Napper, Attorney
State Aid Street Committee
Amber Perry, Region 6 Brownfields Team Member
Environmental Protection Agency

2. THE IMPORTANCE OF UPDATED PUBLIC SAFETY POLICIES Miller Room

Understanding the recommended policies for the Use of Force, Pursuit Driving and the correct number of employees on emergency vehicles is critical to avoiding serious public safety problems and in serving your citizens in a professional manner. The speakers explain.

Presiding: Alderman Charlie Hight, North Little Rock
Speakers: Sara Teague, Staff Attorney
Arkansas Municipal League
Chief of Police Chad Henson, Trumann
Arkansas Police Chiefs Association
Fire Chief Chad Mosby, El Dorado

3. ANIMAL CONTROL..... Caraway Rooms I-III

Establishing, maintaining and managing an animal control department is a huge challenge for cities of every size. What can you do to incorporate some best practices in managing your animal control department?

Presiding: John Grochowski, Alderman, Horseshoe Bend
Speaker: Edwin Creekmore, President
Arkansas Animal Control Association

4. MUNICIPAL HUMAN RESOURCE CHALLENGES..... Izard Room

The world of HR and personnel issues is constantly changing. Being aware of changes in the law is your responsibility. This workshop will focus on responding to these challenges.

Presiding: Alderman Rose Marie Wilkinson, Haskell
Speakers: HR Director Stacy Witherell, Little Rock,
President, Arkansas Public Employees Human Resource Association

5. PLANNING FOR DISASTERS AND RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES..... Pope Room

It is not a matter of if but when a disaster will strike your city. Disasters arrive in various ways and usually when you least expect them. Are you prepared? How will you respond?

Presiding: Alderman Sam Angel, Lake Village
Speakers: Scott Bass, Director
Response and Recovery, ADEM
Mayor Randy Holland, Mayflower

1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

SOCIAL MEDIA LAB..... Quapaw Room, SCC

Do you want to build a social media presence to promote your municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a social media presence using our lab.

4:15 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE..... Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

5:30 P.M.

The exhibit hall will close for the day.

6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Visit some of central Arkansas's finest restaurants before returning for desserts and entertainment.

8:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

DESSERTS AND ENTERTAINMENT..... Wally Allen Ballroom, SCC

Longtime television meteorologist Ned Perme and his band will delight you with their unique style of entertainment, which specializes in a combination of country and folk rock. You don't want to miss this performance which features a group of professional musicians from around the state of Arkansas. Hurry back from dinner and head to the Wally Allen Ballroom to enjoy delicious deserts and be entertained by the Ned Perme Band.

**Sponsored by: Crews & Associates, Inc.
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FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016

6:30 A.M.

PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOG.....Marriott Lobby

Early risers meet in the Grand Lobby of the Marriott Hotel and take a scenic 30 minute walk or jog along a designated route. You should be back in time for breakfast.

7:00 A.M. to NOON

REGISTRATION OPENS..... Osage Room, SCC

7:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

EXHIBITS OPEN.....Governor's Halls I - III, SCC

(Exhibit Hall will close at 10:30 A.M. for the remainder of the Convention.)

7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.

BUFFET BREAKFAST.....Governor's Halls I - III, SCC

8:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.....Governor's Hall IV, SCC

At this session Executive Director Don Zimmerman will give his annual report followed by the Annual Business Meeting. During the business meeting, the League's Policies and Goals are presented and voted on. The nominating committee presents their recommended slate of new officers for the upcoming year, which will be followed by the annual business meetings for the Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust, Municipal Health Benefit Fund, Municipal Vehicle Program, and Municipal Property Program.

10:15 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

BREAK.....Governor's Halls I - III, SCC

Sponsored by: American Fidelity

10:45 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.

SENATORIAL CANDIDATES..... Grand Ballroom Salon C
Marriott Hotel

Two candidates for the U.S. Senate have been invited to attend our Convention and answer questions of municipal interest.

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

11:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL:

THE GHANA EXPERIENCE..... Grand Ballroom Salon C
Marriott Hotel

President Elumbaugh and First Vice President Brown visited the country of Ghana last September to learn more about issues of common interest. For the second year in a row we are fortunate to have delegates from Ghana attending our Convention. This morning we will have a panel discussion with questions and answers concerning ways in which we can learn and benefit from our respective cultures and customs.

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Panelists: Sherman Banks, Past President
Sister Cities International
Ghana Officials

11:45 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS'

LUNCHEON..... Grand Ballroom Salons A & B
Marriott Hotel

Municipalities and individuals are honored for their many successes and contributions during this past year. President Elumbaugh will give his presidential address and concluding remarks. The new League president and officers will be introduced to the Convention delegates.

Sponsored by: Raymond James

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016

The Newsletter, provided by a'TEST consultants, is included in *City & Town* as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League Legal Defense Program.

Outreach critical to educate youths about marijuana risks

Although marijuana use among youth poses a risk to their health, only one in five adolescents perceived it to be a concern, according to the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) survey in 2014. This misconception among youth exists at a time when marijuana concentrates are continuing to become more potent, and this is a cause for public concern. This issue demonstrates a need to educate young people about various forms of marijuana and the health consequences and harm they pose.

In the SAMHSA report, approximately 1.8 million adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17 reported using marijuana in the past month. Health risks associated with youth marijuana use include lower education/employment outcomes, cognitive problems, increased likelihood of vehicular crashes, and increased addiction risks. It is important for employers to remember this is the pool from which future employees will come.

Marijuana concentrates are described by the Drug Enforcement Agency as a substance containing highly potent THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana. Interestingly, this concentrate is often referred to as "oil" or "710" ("710" is "OIL" spelled upside down and backwards.) THC levels in this oil could range from 40 to 80 percent, which is about four times stronger than what is found in a high-grade marijuana plant.

Using marijuana concentrated is different from smoking marijuana in several ways. Oil is harder to detect because when extracted from the plant and concentrated it is odorless. This makes it harder to detect in

e-cigarettes or food. With this particular characteristic, it could be harder for parents, teachers, and law enforcement to know when marijuana is being used. Conversely, when marijuana is smoked it causes a distinctive smell.

"Vaping" (inhaling and exhaling the vapor produced by an electronic cigarette or similar device) is much easier to conceal. It is harder to tell if adolescents are vaping and getting high. Oil can be mixed into other products, including alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, and phencyclidine (PCP), which causes an even stronger psychoactive response. Sweet drinks and foods like brownies can lead to high levels of exposure and can have toxic consequences when accidentally ingested. Users may not conceptualize the potency or effects until they are feeling unwell.

It is important for employers to know the street names for cannabis extracts and oils. Here are some of the names used:

- Hash Oil
- Butane Honey Oil (BHO)
- Shatter
- Dabs
- Honeycomb
- Honey Oil
- Snap-and-Pull
- Pull-and-Snap
- Crumble
- Sap
- Ear Wax
- Black Glass
- Budder
- Errl
- 710

It is interesting to note that marijuana concentrate can be extracted by using liquid butane, which is a highly flammable carcinogen. In many cases, traces of butane remain and, when inhaled, can lead to long-term

a'TEST CONSULTANTS, Inc., provides drug and alcohol testing as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League Legal Defense Program. The program helps cities and towns comply with the U. S. Department of Transportation's required drug testing for all holders of commercial drivers' licenses.

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2002 Rescue Truck \$19,500



Pierce Fire Engine, department ready \$48,900

cognitive impairment and can affect nervous system functioning. Besides the butane chemical exposure, pesticides used when growing marijuana are also a factor of concern.

Jon Perez, Ph.D., SAMHSA's Region 9 Administrator, said, "In the case of marijuana, the science lags behind policy and access. That means we do not yet have a full understanding of the health consequences of marijuana, hash concentrates, or what happens when it consumed through e-cigarettes."

Even though more data are needed on the impact of marijuana concentrates, it is clear that in order to prevent use by youth, public education and awareness of the potential health risks are critical.



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Entrepreneurship in Arkansas

By Shelby Fiegel

Gone are the days of “build it and they will come.”

Traditional economic development strategies are not as effective for many rural Arkansas communities as they were in years past. Emerging strategies best designed to move our rural communities forward involve grow-your-own approaches. Approaching economic development from a grow-your-own perspective involves communities strengthening themselves from the inside out. Instead of putting resources into economic development strategies that reach outside of the community, it focuses resources on existing community strengths, small businesses, and encouraging the development of local entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurship is arguably the most important topic in community and economic development, especially in regard to the survival and revitalization of our rural communities. Entrepreneurship creates job opportunities, is a root cause of economic growth, and provides strength to a small business culture. Recognizing the importance of this sector, communities and organizations across the state have begun developing programs that highlight Arkansas as a growing hub of entrepreneurship.

There are diverse organizations across the state that support innovation and entrepreneurship, such as The Innovation Hub, Innovate Arkansas, Startup Junkie Consulting, and Arkansas Economic Development Commission’s Division of Science and Technology, to name a few.

Arkansas communities are also dipping their toes into programs specifically designed to encourage entrepreneurship. An innovative and successful program that is a bright spot for the state is the Harrison Regional Chamber of Commerce’s E-Ship University, commonly referred to as E-Ship U. E-Ship U supports entrepreneurs interested in learning about launching a new business. The program is free of charge and runs for eight weeks. During the program, participants learn a variety of skills and gain knowledge on how to own and operate a small business. Some things participants learn include: how to develop a solid business plan, e-commerce, economic development tools and assistance, human resources,

training employees, and networking strategies. Classes are taught by volunteer speakers who are community leaders that are experts in their field.

Participants must apply to E-Ship U and those selected receive a scholarship to attend the program. Space is limited to ensure there is a small group environment so speakers can communicate one-on-one with the entrepreneurs and cater to their specific businesses.

Once a participant completes all E-Ship U classes they are eligible to compete in the Business Plan Competition where one to three winners have the opportunity to win up to \$5,000 in cash awards, provided by the Boone County Economic Development Corporation, to further support their new business. Winners also receive other prizes from community partners that include: advertising space in the local newspaper and on the radio, various license fees, free Wi-Fi connection, classes at the local community college, up to six months of free rent in Harrison, and a variety of other prizes. In the past, total prize packages have an estimated value of \$32,000 for the first place winner, \$25,000 for second, and \$15,000 for third.

Harrison Regional Chamber of Commerce Director Patty Methvin said, “We looked all over Arkansas for examples on how to encourage entrepreneurship within our community, but most active programs were cost prohibitive for us. We were able to create a program that fits our community with just \$5,000 to work with. Our local businesses bought in to the process and helped provide resources to the winning businesses so that the winners received over \$30,000 worth of resources. I would encourage every community to be creative and find a way to promote small business development in a way that makes sense locally.”

Thus far, 25 individuals have attended E-Ship U and 16 new businesses have opened in the community because of the program. Businesses range from a variety of sectors. Winners of the Business Plan Competition, now currently operating businesses in Harrison, include:

- EVAGE, LLP, an electronic waste recycling company;
- Scales and Tails Pet Shop, the first pet shop to open in Harrison;

- Elevate Sports, an indoor rock climbing and Ninja Warrior training facility;
- Correll Family Gardens & Gifts, a retail garden center; and
- Bald Knob Farms, a local farm that produces homegrown, chemical-free vegetables, fruits, and farm-fresh eggs for the Central Ozarks Farmers and Artisans Market.

E-Ship U encourages citizens to follow their dream of becoming their own boss, and it also allows them to test the waters of entrepreneurship before diving in. Some participants become small business owners and some realize through the process that their business idea is not sustainable. No matter the outcome, these entrepreneurs are celebrated and have the support they need to ultimately be successful.

Harrison Finance Director Luke Feighert stated, “We are so happy the Harrison Regional Chamber of Commerce is providing E-Ship University to our community! At the City of Harrison, we understand the local businesses we have are vitally important, and we are amazed at the economic impact they provide. In our experience, we believe businesses that are started locally, stay locally. We have already experienced that in the past with one of our locally grown companies that expanded and was eventually bought out by a Fortune 500 company. That company today employs over 2,000 people locally. We hope that E-Ship University will one day foster one of those bold, new ideas that does the same thing and continues to make Harrison a vibrant, growing community.”

You can learn more about on Harrison’s E-Ship University on the Chamber’s website at harrison-chamber.com/economic_development/eship or on Facebook at facebook.com/eshipuniversity.



Shelby Fiegel is Project Coordinator, University of Central Arkansas, Center for Community and Economic Development.



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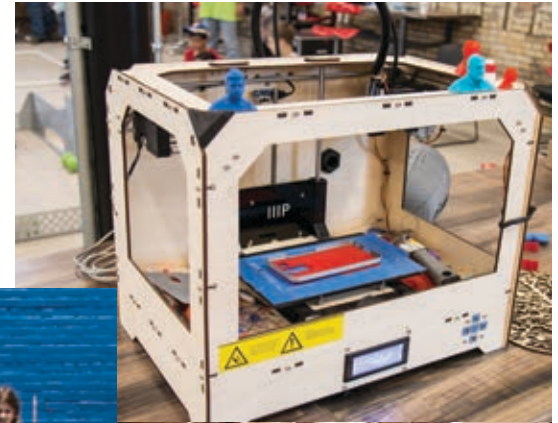
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NLR's Innovation Hub hosts 2nd annual Mini Maker Faire

The Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub in North Little Rock hosted the second annual Mini Maker Faire on May 7, which featured makers, creators, educators, and entrepreneurs from across Arkansas and beyond. More than 85 exhibitors showcased their talents and wares, ranging from old-world skills like blacksmithing to the latest drone technology, 3D printing, and robotics. The more than 1,500 attendees also had the opportunity to enjoy food prepared by a variety of area food trucks and sample beer made by local brewers.

Learn more about the Mini Maker Faire, including information on participating in the next event, at makerfairenlr.com, or visit the Innovation Hub online at arhub.org.





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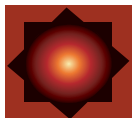
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2016 Continuing Legal Education Program Offered For the Arkansas City Attorney's Association

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The Arkansas City Attorney's Association (ACAA) is sponsoring a 2016 Continuing Legal Education Program that includes 12 hours of continuing legal education, including one hour of ethics for ACAA members. The program is scheduled for Thursday June 23 and Friday June 24 at the Arkansas Municipal League, 301 W. Second Street, North Little Rock.

CLE topics are selected based on the requests from our city attorney members and will include DUI, elections, ACIC, and annexation presentations, as well as a one hour ethics presentation.

Morrilton City Attorney Paul Dumas, ACAA president, urges all city attorneys to register for the program as soon as possible. The cost of the program is \$100 for current ACAA members and \$150 for non-members.

A registration form is below and is also available for download under the Meeting Registrations page at www.arml.org. A tentative agenda can be found on the League's website, also. For more information, please contact Jamie Adams at 501-978-6124 or jadams@arml.org.

Register now for the ACAA 2016 Continuing Legal Education

WHEN: June 23 and 24, 2016; 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

WHERE: Arkansas Municipal League Headquarters
301 W. Second Street
N. Little Rock, AR 72114

REGISTRATION FEE: \$100 Per ACAA Member \$150 Per Non-Member

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Evaluating needs leads to stronger grant applications

By Chad Gallagher

When building a house, your vision inspires an architectural plan, but it is the blueprint that ensures you end up with what you want. Building and developing a city with the help of grant funding parallels the example of building a house. Though planning ahead may seem laborious, it results in a better community and easier access to sources of funding.

Arkansas municipalities are challenged to provide a wide array of services while also providing important leadership for long-term growth and prosperity. These demands upon municipal leaders far outweigh the funds provided by the tax base of most cities. In order to expedite the realization of community dreams, leaders must be creative and seek outside funding. Government and private grant programs are great tools for our cities and are often overlooked.

The key to obtaining grant funding is preparation. The endless grant opportunities and millions of available dollars will tempt you to dive hastily into grant applications. While this may work on occasion, most often it leaves the applicant disappointed and frustrated. Similar to the preparation involved in building a house, you must be prepared for the grant writing process. King Solomon wrote in Proverbs 21:5, “The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely comes to poverty.” His wisdom is still true today. The best results come when we plan well.

The first step in long-term community planning should be a thorough evaluation of your city’s needs, strengths, and weaknesses. This process may be formal or informal, but it must be inclusive in regard to both the citizens and the areas it evaluates. Consider having an impartial, outside entity conduct the assessment to

achieve objectivity. It is difficult to discover and implement long-term solutions if the nature of the actual problem has not been properly identified.

A needs assessment must have the active support of the city’s leadership and involve every sector and group within the community. Town hall meetings, surveys, and focus groups are all methods that can be used to solicit community input and participation. This allows a community to have an honest dialogue about its weaknesses, greatest needs, challenges, and obstacles.

Though community input is important, the needs assessment must utilize other measuring methods as well. The assessment should also evaluate demographic trends that impact long-term social needs or workforce changes. It must also review the composition of the local economy, regional challenges or strengths, comparative data, as well as indicators from similarly situated and like-sized cities. The assessment should be comprehensive and thorough. Ultimately it will become the guiding force to develop a strong blueprint.

Funding agencies are looking for grant recipients who are trustworthy, organized, and able to execute the goals of the grant. This type of thorough evaluation is the first step to demonstrate to the grantor that your city is serious about identifying challenges and solving them through long-term planning and solution implementation.



Chad Gallagher is principal of Legacy Consulting and a former mayor of De Queen. Contact him at 501-246-8842 or email chad.gallagher@legacymail.org.

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Senior Account Executive
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SB-29354-1013

Monticello named Playful City USA

Monticello has received the national designation as a “Playful City USA,” the city has reported. Kaboom!, a national nonprofit dedicated to promoting and rewarding communities dedicated to providing balanced and active play, made the announcement May 18. Monticello and Bentonville are Arkansas’s first two cities to receive this designation. They join 257 communities across the country to commit to a focus of the importance of play, not only on the playground but across the city.

“There’s a great deal of research that confirms that helping kids engage in play contributes to their success in school and beyond,” Mayor Zack Tucker said. “As the world has changed, children face numerous obstacles and distractions that take away from their opportunity and ability to play.”

To learn more about these cities, see the full list of the 257 communities named 2016 Playful City USA honorees, or to gather more information on the Playful City USA program, visit www.playfulcityusa.org.

Little Rock earns Bicycle Friendly Community designation

The League of American Bicyclists has recognized Little Rock with a bronze Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) award, the city has announced. Little Rock joins 374 cities from across the country that share the designation and are transforming their neighborhoods. The bronze BFC award recognizes Little Rock’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

“We are pleased to receive this designation because we have, through our Complete Streets ordinance, pledged to make our street system friendly to all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, driving, and mass transit,” City Manager Bruce T. Moore said. “Recognition of our efforts shows that Little Rock is on the right course to transform our streets into a modern, multimodal transportation network.”

The Complete Streets ordinance, recently recognized as one of the best new Complete Streets policies of 2015 by Smart Growth America, requires new and resurfaced streets to include multimodal transportation options as the default policy. Multimodal streets will allow greater self-sufficiency for people who can’t drive or don’t own a car, will let people make healthier transportation choices, and will help Little Rock remain competitive in attracting young professionals craving a vibrant, healthy community in which to settle.

The City’s Bike Master Plan, part of the Master Street Plan, also identifies the corridors of greatest need for bike facilities and plots a network of connectivity, allowing

people to safely and conveniently traverse the City by bike. Streets on the Bike Master Plan should be fitted with bike facilities when resurfaced, but a street need not be on the plan to receive bike facilities.


The BFC program provides a roadmap to building a Bicycle Friendly Community and the application itself has become a rigorous and an educational tool in itself. Since its inception, more than 900 distinct communities have applied and the five levels of the award—diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze—provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit www.bikeleague.org.

Little Rock named one of 50 Invest Health Cities

Little Rock has been selected by Reinvestment Fund and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to take part in the new Invest Health initiative, the city announced May 17. Invest Health is aimed at transforming how leaders from mid-size American cities work together to help low-income communities thrive, with specific attention to community features that drive health such as access to safe and affordable housing, places to play and exercise, and quality jobs.

Little Rock was selected from more than 180 teams from 170 communities that applied to the initiative. Cities with populations between 50,000 and 400,000 were asked to form five-member teams, including representatives from the public sector, community development, and an anchor institution, preferably academic or health-related. Little Rock’s team will seek to address health outcome disparities related to domestic violence and obesity, and the factors leading to health disparities, such as violent crime and housing, by targeting efforts in geographic locations within Little Rock that show the most deviation from the broader population.

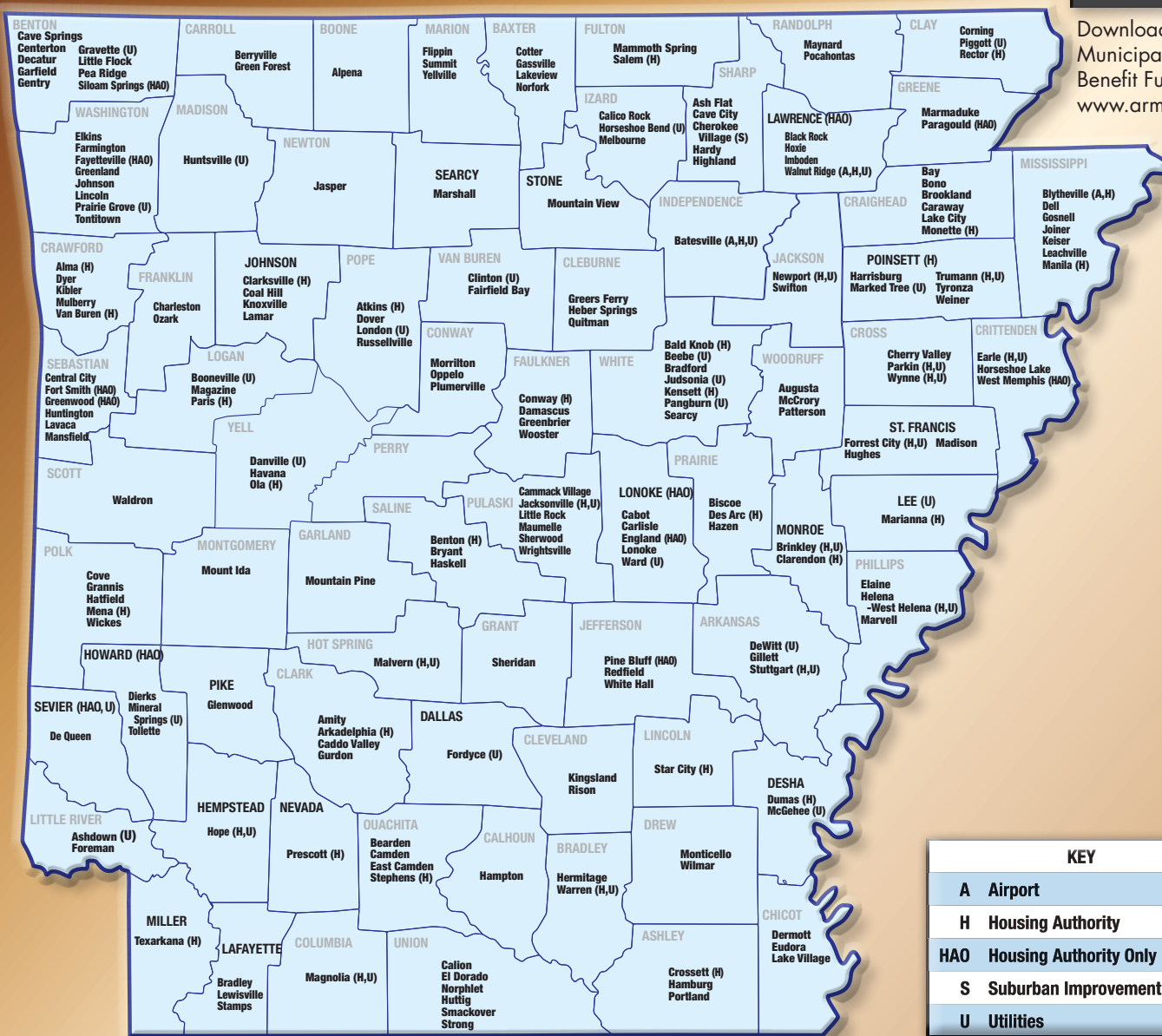
“We are honored to be part of the team selected for this national initiative to tackle important quality of life challenges seen in our communities,” Mayor Mark Stodola said. “This collaboration with our local partners has already created a common vision for what we hope to accomplish, and the guidance we receive will help us more quickly execute this viable plan to become a healthier city.”

Over the next 18 months, Invest Health teams will take part in a vibrant learning community, have access to highly skilled faculty advisors and coaches who will guide their efforts toward improved health, and receive a \$60,000 grant. The city of Little Rock will also engage a broader group of local stakeholders to encourage local knowledge sharing. A full list of awardees and more information is available at www.investhealth.org. 

Check out the Municipal Health Benefit Fund. MHBF provides coverage to 406 entities. And that number is growing! For further information, call (501) 978-6137.



Download the Municipal Health Benefit Fund booklet at: www.arml.org/mhb



Other Municipal Entities Covered by MHBF

Argenta Community Development Corp. North Little Rock
 Barton-Lexa Water Association Phillips County
 Boston Mountain Solid Waste Prairie Grove
 Central Arkansas Planning & Development District Lonoke
 Eighth Judicial Drug Task Force De Queen
 Fifth Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney Russellville
 Fifth Judicial District Russellville
 Grand Prairie/Bayou Two Water Lonoke and Prairie Counties
 Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District Carroll County
 Ladd Water Users Association Pine Bluff
 Lakeview Midway Public Water Lakeview
 Lee County Water Association Marianna
 Little Rock Arts Center Little Rock
 Little Rock Downtown Partner Little Rock

Little Rock First Tee Little Rock
 Little Rock Metroplan Little Rock
 Little Rock Port Authority Little Rock
 Little Rock Workforce Investments Little Rock
 Local Police & Fire Retirement System Little Rock
 Magnolia Regional Medical Center Magnolia
 Mena Regional Health System Mena
 Montgomery County Nursing Home Mount Ida
 NE AR Region Solid Waste Management District Paragould
 North Little Rock - Library North Little Rock
 North Little Rock - Sewer/Waste Water North Little Rock
 Northeast Public Water Mountain Home
 Northwest AR Conservation Authority Rogers
 Northwest AR Economic Development District Harrison

Oakland Cemetery Little Rock
 Ozark Mountain Regional Public Water Diamond City
 Ozark Regional Transit Ozark
 Piggott Community Hospital Piggott
 Regional Recycling & Waste Reduction District Pulaski County
 SE AR Economic Development District Pine Bluff
 Sevier County Water Association De Queen
 Third Judicial District Drug Task Force Jackson County
 Thirteenth Judicial District Drug Task Force Camden
 Upper SW Regional Solid Waste Management District Nashville
 Waldron Housing Authority Waldron
 Western AR Planning & Development District Fort Smith
 White River Regional Housing Melbourne
 Yorktown Water Association Star City

2016 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
January	\$4.8662	\$5.0284	\$0.5728	\$0.2297	\$2.0995	\$1.0777
February	\$4.8562	\$5.1992	\$0.4599	\$0.1524	\$1.0921	\$1.0775
March	\$5.1898	\$4.6255	\$0.2339	\$0.1655	\$1.0909	\$1.0778
April	\$4.7309	\$5.5340	\$0.6375	\$0.2342	\$1.1417	\$1.0777
May	\$5.2251	\$5.4590	\$0.2547	\$0.0745	\$1.0918	\$1.0773
June	\$5.2410		\$0.2738		\$1.0920	
July	\$5.3082		\$0.6600		\$2.9748	
August	\$5.0259		\$0.2560		\$0.9641	
September	\$5.3748		\$0.2632		\$1.0791	
October	\$5.2322		\$0.2767		\$1.0707	
November	\$5.0931		\$0.2797		\$1.0772	
December	\$4.8776		\$0.2499		\$1.0776	
Total Year	\$61.0210	\$25.8462	\$4.4181	\$0.8563	\$16.4878	\$5.3880

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
January	\$9,159,751.23	\$9,482,577.19	\$1,078,253.79	\$433,179.54	*\$3,951,880.56	\$2,032,277.00
February	\$9,140,972.61	\$9,804,689.33	\$865,620.02	\$287,481.18	\$2,055,766.00	\$2,031,997.39
March	\$9,768,890.51	\$8,722,769.73	\$440,227.94	\$312,010.76	\$2,053,376.13	\$2,032,596.84
April	\$8,905,034.06	\$10,436,025.60	\$1,199,954.61	\$441,661.71	\$2,149,094.75	\$2,032,297.66
May	\$9,840,348.46	\$10,294,480.80	\$479,664.03	\$140,536.93	\$2,056,091.57	\$2,031,495.51
June	\$9,870,151.62		\$515,640.06		\$2,056,559.07	
July	\$9,996,770.39		\$1,242,957.21		**\$5,602,259.11	
August	\$9,465,188.42		\$482,195.54		\$1,815,712.03	
September	\$10,122,118.61		\$495,609.13		\$2,032,276.34	
October	\$9,866,818.54		\$521,753.79		\$2,019,155.56	
November	\$9,604,609.53		\$527,387.24		\$2,031,292.21	
December	\$9,198,069.64		\$471,202.66		\$2,032,217.62	
Total Year	\$114,938,723.62	\$48,740,542.65	\$8,320,466.02	\$1,614,870.12	\$29,855,498.01	10,160,664.40

* Includes \$2 million appropriation from the Property Tax Relief Fund


** Includes \$3,516,801.52 supplemental for July 2015

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



2016 ELECTIONS

- BALD KNOB**, March 1
Failed. .5%
- BIG FLAT**, March 1
Passed. 1%
- GATEWAY**, March 1
Failed. 1%
- HACKETT**, March 1
Passed. 1%
- HARTFORD**, March 1
Passed. 1%
- MARION Co.**, March 1
Failed. .75%
- PULASKI Co.**, March 1
Failed. .25%
- RUDY**, March 1
Passed. .5%
- SILCOM SPRINGS**, March 1
Passed. .375%

KEY:  Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Graves, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2016 with 2015 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$49,037,009	\$48,260,965	\$43,720,229	\$42,805,543	\$92,757,238	\$91,066,508	\$15,812	\$12,222
February	\$59,477,239	\$57,956,453	\$51,693,904	\$50,071,410	\$111,171,143	\$108,027,863	\$20,455	\$12,659
March	\$45,484,389	\$46,032,300	\$41,503,958	\$41,404,634	\$86,988,347	\$87,436,935	\$17,357	\$19,161
April	\$51,278,433	\$46,694,339	\$46,543,122	\$42,176,819	\$97,821,554	\$88,871,158	\$19,032	\$15,459
May	\$51,716,750	\$52,104,723	\$46,509,945	\$46,560,371	\$98,226,695	\$98,665,094	\$16,799	\$4,827
June		\$49,711,589		\$44,369,398		\$94,080,987		\$25,867
July		\$50,358,675		\$44,565,666		\$94,924,341		\$18,804
August		\$51,846,227		\$47,174,793		\$99,021,020		\$16,649
September		\$50,366,202		\$48,072,222		\$98,438,424		\$17,771
October		\$50,569,467		\$46,609,011		\$97,178,477		\$18,511
November		\$49,449,818		\$46,067,600		\$95,517,418		\$17,009
December		\$53,013,791		\$47,830,901		\$100,844,691		\$18,591
Total	\$256,993,819	\$606,364,549	\$229,971,157	\$547,708,368	\$486,964,977	\$1,154,072,916	\$89,454	\$197,530
Averages	\$51,398,764	\$50,530,379	\$45,994,231	\$45,642,364	\$97,392,995	\$96,172,743	\$17,891	\$16,461

MUNICIPAL MART

To place a classified ad in City & Town, please email the League at citytown@arml.org or call 501-374-3484. Ads are FREE to League members and available at the low rate of \$.70 per word to non-members. For members, ads will run for two consecutive months from the date of receipt unless we are notified to continue or discontinue. For non-members, ads will run for one month only unless otherwise notified.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR—Battlefield, Mo. (pop 6,200), is a family-friendly, residential community located one mile south of James River Freeway between Springfield and Republic in southwest Missouri. It is a 4th class city that operates under a highly cooperative city administrator-mayor-aldermen (6) form of government. Battlefield covers 2.5 square miles with a \$2.5 million annual budget and 18 employees. Municipal services include a police department, municipal court, planning and zoning, parks, public works, building, streets and sewer. Property tax is the City's largest revenue source. The city is currently seeking a qualified, experienced professional with strong interpersonal skills, who can communicate well with citizens, Mayor, Board of Aldermen and City staff. A bachelor's degree in public administration or a related field is required with a master's degree preferred. The successful candidate must be able to competently create and manage budgets, be knowledgeable in municipal financing and accounting, oversee and develop personnel, provide visionary leadership to the community, city committees and staff, and be committed to economic development. The selected candidate should have 3 or more years of progressively responsible municipal government service. Candidates should submit a cover letter, detailed resume, three work-related and two personal references. Compensation will be based on experience and qualifications. Deadline to apply is Friday, June 24. Requested materials may be submitted online to kchaney@battlefieldmo.gov or mailed to: Battlefield City Administrator Search, 5434 S. Tower Drive, Battlefield, MO 65619. Please feel free to direct any questions or concerns to Kim Chaney at 417-883-5840.

CITY PLANNER—Sherwood is seeking a City Planner. This position plans, organizes, directs and integrates current and long-range municipal planning programs and services. Conducts comprehensive planning projects affecting land use, regulations, and transportation issues. Meets with public, developers, and other planning agencies to discuss regulations and office planning advice. Attends Planning Commission meetings, City Council meetings and other forums as assigned. Reviews and evaluates development proposals, development designs, applications, planning and zoning changes, conditional use requests, variance requests, technical documents and special permits for compliance with City standards and regulatory requirements; answers inquiries and assists the public and other agencies in matters relating to planning, zoning and permit review, and other City subdivision standards and regulations. Reviews and evaluates development plans, including subdivision plats, with residents, developers, and builders; develops recommendations to assure compliance with City subdivision and zoning regulations; summarizes issues and makes presentations to the Planning Commission and the City Council. Performs professional and technical planning services to achieve structured and organized growth and development in the City in compliance with all regulatory requirements. Reviews site plans for both commercial and residential developments, and assures project plans, policies and procedures are in conformance with City goals, and in compliance with local, state and federal codes and regulations. Minimum qualifications: Possess certification as a Floodplain Manager, or obtain certification within

six (6) months of employment date and a baccalaureate degree in planning, design or a similar related field of study AND five (5) years direct experience in municipal, urban, or regional planning required. Must possess AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners) certification or obtain certification within the first six (6) months of employment. For more information contact Maureen Pylant, Human Resources Director, 501-833-3703; FAX: 501-833-2180.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE—Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of Director of Finance. This position reports directly to the clerk-treasurer and the mayor. The general purpose of the position is to perform responsible management and administrative work directing and coordinating the varied functions of the city's Finance Department. Work involves administering the central accounting system and data processing functions of the city. Education and experience: Applicants must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from a four year college or university and five years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Also, must have four years managerial experience. NOTE: Online applications and resumes will not be accepted by themselves. A city of Maumelle employment application must be completed. For additional information, including a complete job description, application and listing of employee benefits go to the city of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department web site. Completed applications are to be mailed to: City of Maumelle, Human Resources Department, 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 555, Maumelle, AR 72113. For questions, you may contact the Human Resources office at 501-851-2784, ext. 242 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at 501-851-2784 ext. 242.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES—Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of Director of Human Resources. This position reports directly to the mayor. The general purpose of the position is to guide and direct the development, enhancement, maintenance, and administration of a comprehensive human resources and payroll administration system for the city of Maumelle. Education and experience: Applicants must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from a four year college or university and five years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Also, must have four years managerial experience. NOTE: Online applications and resumes will not be accepted by themselves. A city of Maumelle employment application must be completed. Please go to the city of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department to print an application. Completed applications should be mailed to: City of Maumelle, Human Resources Department, 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 555, Maumelle, AR 72113. For questions, you may contact the Human Resources office at 501-851-2784 ext. 242 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at 501-851-2784, ext. 242.

DISPATCHER—Siloam Springs is accepting applications for the position of Communications Dispatcher. This position is responsible for answering multiple phone lines including 911. The position requires simultaneous data entry into a computer aided dispatch program while dispatching routine and emergency calls to include police, fire, ambulance and other emergency response, maintain logs and tapes and other duties as required. Qualifications: U.S. citizen, be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid DL, HS diploma or equivalent, no felony convictions, must be able to work nights, weekends and holidays, must pass background check. Hire rate: \$12.33/hour. The city offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave. The city requires a completed application be submitted for all positions. Applications and full job description are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, or online at www.siloamsprings.com. For further information call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. EOE. Open until filled.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER—Hope Water & Light is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Electrical Engineer. Responsibilities include planning and analyzing electric system resources and needs; aides in development of the master plan to meet these needs, to include cost projections and capital budgeting under the direction of the Assistant General Manager, Operations. Monitors electric system operations and collaborates with all electric system departments. Thorough knowledge and familiarity with principles and practices of electric power line construction, maintenance, and substations required. Completion of Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering or related areas or education at a level necessary to accomplish the job. Salary is based on education and experience. Submit resume with salary history via mail to Charlotte Bradley, Hope Water & Light, P.O. Box 2020, Hope, AR 71802; or email charlotte@hope-wl.com. Open until position is filled. For a complete job description and qualifications contact Janell Morton at 870-777-3000 ext. 531 or visit www.hope-wl.com and follow the employment link.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER—Siloam Springs is accepting applications/resumes for an electrical engineer for full time employment. Applicants must be registered as professional engineer and have experience with the operating practices of designing and operating of transmission, distribution and substations of a utility system. The position will be responsible for assisting with the management and supervision of a municipal owned electric department. Applicant must be willing to relocate to within 10 miles of Siloam Springs. Applicants must possess P.E. license and B.S. Degree in Electrical Engineering. Salary Range: \$70,000-\$100,000. The city provides a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, long-term disability, life insurance, 457 Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave. The city requires a completed application be submitted for all positions. Applications are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, AR; or can be accessed on our website, www.siloamsprings.com. For further information please call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. EOE. Open until filled.

FIREFIGHTERS & EMT—Holiday Island Fire Department is accepting applications for a full-time Firefighter 1 and 2, EMT; one position may become a company officer. Experienced preferred. Excellent opportunity. Salary based on experience. Paid vacation, sick leave, retirement. Contact Chief AT 479-253-8397. Mail resumes to 251 Holiday Island Drive, Holiday Island, AR 72631.

FIREFIGHTER EXAMINATIONS—Examinations will be given by the city of Texarkana and Arkansas Civil Service Commission for the purpose of establishing an eligibility list of Firefighters. Applicants must apply on forms supplied by the Fire Administration Office, 416 E. 3rd St., Texarkana, AR 71854. Applications must be completed and returned no later than 4 p.m. Friday, July 22. Applicant must be of sound mind and good physical condition. Applicant must be at least 21 years of age and not older than 35. Must have 15 hours of college credit from an accredited college. For additional information, call 870-779-4956. The exam will be given 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 at the North Heights Jr. High School, 2118 East 35th St., Texarkana, AR. Entry level salary: \$36,871 plus benefits. The city offers health and life insurance, retirement plan, educational and certificate incentive pay, workers compensation, current pay plan provides for step increases, uniforms and equipment are furnished. EOE/AA.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER—Bella Vista is accepting applications for a newly created Human Resources Manager position. This position is responsible for administering city personnel policies and practices, ensuring the adherence to said policies, procedures, and federal, state, and local regulations. This position is further responsible for employee relations, FMLA, benefit administration, ACA Reporting, payroll, drug screening program and training management in areas of personnel practices and laws. Requirements: Bachelor's Degree from four year accredited college or university (major in Human Resources Management or closely related field preferred) and at least five years' experience directly related to HR Administration. Must possess formally recognized HR Certifications. HS diploma or equivalent additional required if experience instead of college is used to meet minimum qualifications. Broad experience in a generalist role preferred. Salary Range: \$55,000 - \$75,000. The city offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave. Applications and a job description are available at City Hall, 101 Town Center, Bella Vista, AR, or online at www.bellavistaar.gov. For further information, including a copy of the complete job description, please call 479-876-1255. EOE. Open until filled.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR—Bryant is currently seeking a forward thinking and innovative Planning and Community Development Director to help drive our city's growth. Bryant offers competitive wages, comprehensive benefits packages, excellent retirement programs and paid time-off. Job Requirements: Broad knowledge of such fields as advanced accounting, marketing, business administration, finance, etc., equivalent to four years of college, plus 7 years related experience and/or training, and 4 years related management experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience. This position

pays up to \$77,296 pending council approval. For a complete job description, further information, or to complete an application please visit www.cityofbryant.com and follow the employment link. Questions regarding this position can be directed to the Human Resources Department at 501-943-0999 ext. 0306. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—Siloam Springs is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. This position is responsible for vehicle police patrol, investigations, traffic regulation and related law enforcement activities. Federal and State laws and departmental policy govern this position. Minimum qualifications: Must be a U.S. citizen, possess a valid DL, HS diploma or equivalent, be at least 21 years of age, no felony convictions, must meet requirements to attend the AR Law Enforcement Training and Academy and attain certification. Hiring process includes a written test, physical agility assessment, oral interview board, psychological test, drug test and a thorough background investigation. Additionally, an applicant must meet the medical standards required by law Enforcement Minimum Standards and pass a health examination for communicable diseases. Applicants will be notified of the date, time and location of the department's entrance written and physical agility assessment. Shift work and irregular working hours are required. This position is subject to call out. The city requires a completed application be submitted for all positions. Applications are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, or can be accessed online at www.siloamsprings.com. Please attach a copy of the following documents to your application: birth certificate, social security card, HS diploma or GED, valid DL. Hire rate: \$15.55/hour. The city offers a benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 Deferred Compensation, LOPFI, vacation and sick leave. For further information please call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. EOE. Open until filled.

SUBSTATION TECHNICIAN—Hope Water & Light is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Electric Substation Technician. Duties include monitor and maintain electric transmission (115 KV) interconnection and substation (115 KV/13.8 KV) facilities. Includes operation and maintenance of substation metering, relaying, and protective equipment necessary for the delivery of power into the 13.8 KV distribution system, conducts construction and maintenance of interconnection and substation facilities responsible for revenue metering resources and activities at the wholesale power supply and industrial customer level. Completion of or in the process of completing an approved line worker apprentice program or Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering or a related area or equivalent related experience in the electric utility setting necessary to accomplish the job. Must be able to complete an approved substation maintenance program. Must have knowledge of regulatory requirements and industry practices pertaining to electric systems. Submit resume via mail to Charlotte Bradley, Hope Water & Light, P.O. Box 2020, Hope, AR 71802; or email charlotte@hope-wl.com. Open until position is filled. For a complete job description and qualifications contact Janell Morton at 870-777-3000 ext. 531 or visit www.hope-wl.com and follow the employment link.

WATER OPERATOR—Forrest City Water Utility is seeking a water operator that has a Class IV Water Treatment and Distribution license. The Water Supply Operator is responsible for the operation of the Water Treatment Plant, storage distribution system monitoring on an assigned shift and other related duties. Application can be found on dws.arkansas.gov or contact Derrick Spearman at Arkansas Workforce at 870-633-2900 located at 300 Eldridge Rd #2, Forrest City, AR 72335. Applications accepted until filled. Forrest City Water Utility is located at 303 N. Rosser in Forrest City, AR 72335; 870-633.2921.

WATER OPERATOR, CLASS III OR IV—Eudora is accepting applications for a Class III or IV Water Operator. Duties include assisting in maintaining WWTP, the water system, maintaining equipment, meter reading. Additional duties include maintaining streets. Valid DL required. Pay is commensurate with experience. Applications available at City Hall or resumes can be sent to City of Eudora, 239 S. Main Street, Eudora AR 71640. EOE. For more information, call 870-355-4436.

WATER UTILITIES GENERAL MGR.—Wynne is recruiting a professional to fill the position of General Manager of Water Utilities. The Wynne Water and Sewer Commission has oversight responsibility and direction for this position. This position is responsible for the planning, development, and implementation of the long-term goals, rate presentations, public finance, EPA compliance, financing through public bonds, and day-to-day operation of the utility including customer service. Minimum qualifications include an Associate's degree or equivalent from an accredited college or technical school; and seven years related experience and five years of managerial experience-governmental accounting is preferred. Starting salary: commensurate with education and experience that exceed the minimum qualifications may be considered for a higher starting salary. A city of Wynne Water Utility application is required along with a detailed resume including references and salary history. Starting salary is set at \$55,000 with growth potential to \$105,000 plus excellent benefits. Contact wynnewater45@yahoo.com for more information.

FOR SALE—Two 115/230 volt 3HP electric motors (Emmerson) \$250 each. Two 220/440 volt 20 HP electric motors (US Motors) \$500 each. One 8" Pressure relief valve (New) Newport Beach, Ca \$1,500. Contact Roseanna Markham, City of Norman at 870-334-2400 or 870-245-6436.

WANTED—Norman is seeking used Christmas decorations for the city. Donated items will be appreciated but will buy if price is feasible. Please send pictures to cityofnorman@yahoo.com or call Roseanna Markham at 870-334-2400.



MHBF tips: Take advantage of eDocAmerica

It is 10:30 p.m. on Saturday night. Your child has a fever of 102 degrees and a severe stomachache. Urgent care clinics are closed, so what do you do? Do you pay the \$250 co-payment and take your child to the emergency room? Who can you turn to at this time of night? eDocAmerica's 24-hour Registered Nurse Advice Line is the answer.

eDocAmerica is a free benefit offered to all MHBF members. Access to a registered nurse, 24 hours a day, seven days a week is part of the service provided. To access the eDocAmerica Registered Nurse Advice Line, call toll free at 1-866-842-5365. A registered nurse will advise callers as to the proper action to take for their situation. English and Spanish speaking nurses are available.

eDocAmerica offers more than just a 24-hour Registered Nurse Advice Line. They also provide direct email access to eDocAmerica medical professionals including doctors, psychiatrists, pharmacists, dentists, dieticians, nurses, fitness experts, and more. Just email your question to the appropriate medical professional and a response is typically provided within a couple of hours. eDocAmerica enables you to become a wise healthcare consumer.

eDocAmerica services include:

- Email, telephone, and smartphone access to the entire eDocAmerica medical team;
- 3D Video Library with 250-plus state-of-the-art animations covering various topics and conditions;
- Weekly health tips authored by eDocAmerica's physicians and delivered right to your email;
- Healthy lifestyle assessment to help you monitor your current health status;
- 24-hour toll-free Registered Nurse Advice Line for more emergent needs;
- BMI calculator, and more!



If you are a member of the MHBF, all services are unlimited, confidential, and cover the entire immediate family.

Signing up for your free eDocAmerica account is easy as 1-2-3-4:

1. Visit www.edocamerica.com
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3. Choose "Arkansas Municipal League" from the drop down menu.
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