

City & Town

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

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Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



ON THE COVER—Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse, the League’s 2017-2018 president, takes to the infield at Arvest Park, home of the Northwest Arkansas Naturals. Read about this year’s president and his efforts to promote smart growth in his hometown inside beginning on page 6. Read also editorial support from the Jonesboro Sun for creating marketplace fairness by collecting sales tax on Internet sales, a preview of the upcoming session of the U.S. Supreme Court, and much more.—atm

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6 Springdale mayor helps city weather storm

Mayor Doug Sprouse, new League president, has helped his city come out on the other side of several economic trials, and Springdale is looking and feeling more vibrant than ever before.

10 Editorial: Collecting online sales tax evens playing field

A recent editorial in The Jonesboro Sun argues in favor of taking action at the state level to create a mechanism for collecting sales tax on Internet purchases, which would help even the playing field for the brick-and-mortar businesses that anchor our cities and towns and provide much-needed revenue for municipal services.

12 2018 Supreme Court preview for local governments

The U.S. Supreme Court’s 2018 docket is shaping up to be very interesting for local governments, as it considers the federal government’s so-called travel ban, whether police must obtain warrants for certain wireless carrier data, and whether compelling a baker to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple violates the cake artist’s rights.

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Dear Friends,

I am looking forward to hosting the planning meeting this month in Springdale with the executive committee, advisory council chairmen, and the various League boards of trustees. This will be a great opportunity to map out our priorities for the year and develop strategies to better serve our residents. I plan to take some time during the event to walk the attendees through Springdale's revitalized downtown and showcase the development and expansion that has taken place in the past few years.



As we discuss the steps we need to take to maximize the growth of our cities and prosperity of our residents, there will be one initiative that will be crucial: online sales tax collection. For those who are wondering what effect online sales tax collection can have on a city budget, please take my beautiful city as an example. In 2016, the City of Springdale received an estimated \$113,372 in online sales tax revenue. Amazon began voluntarily collecting online sales tax. Thanks to Amazon, as of July we have already exceeded last year's revenue for online sales tax collection.

The average monthly revenue from online sales tax in 2016 was \$9,447. So far this year we are averaging \$16,220 each month. That is a 72 percent increase in average monthly revenue. The month Amazon started collecting online sales taxes, our revenue increased from \$8,277 to \$22,308 in one month— a 170 percent increase.

The online sales tax initiative is not a new tax, nor is it a tax increase. It is simply compelling online retailers and shoppers to comply with our current tax code. The shoppers themselves will reap the benefits of online sales tax revenue as cities will have an increased capability to offer services to its residents. This includes life-saving services such as police and fire protection, and quality-of-life services such as parks and libraries.

Additionally, there will be a large benefit to local business owners. Brick-and-mortar business owners invest in our community. They create jobs, increase property values, encourage additional development, and help support the surrounding businesses by driving traffic to the area. Currently, those business owners are at a disadvantage and the least we could do is level the playing field. Many business owners not only invest money into building the business, but daily they and their staff invest time into serving and educating customers who often take what they have learned and simply go online to buy the item cheaper because they don't have to pay sales tax online. This is just not fair. Let's work together to fix this.

I hope Governor Hutchinson will call a special session to address this issue. I ask you to please join me in educating the residents and legislators in Arkansas about why online sales tax collection is vital as more and more revenue is generated through online purchases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Sprouse". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Doug Sprouse
Mayor, Springdale
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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NOTE: Names submitted for positions on committees, councils and boards received after the issue print date will appear in the next issue of *City & Town*.



PHOTO BY CHRIS ROGERS.

Walter Turnbow Park transformed a strictly utilitarian, creek-channeling culvert into a gathering place in downtown Springdale.

Springdale mayor meets “perfect storm” of economic challenges head on

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

It has always been a goal of Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse’s to ensure that, as his city grows, the infrastructure and amenities that improve the quality of life for its citizens grow along with them. After weathering a storm of economic challenges a decade ago, the northwest Arkansas city of about 73,000 is poised to keep moving forward.

Sprouse, the League’s 2017-2018 president, grew up in Springdale and is now in his third term as mayor. He met his wife, Sandy, while they were both students at Springdale High School. They have three children, two sons and a daughter. They’ve been blessed with eight grandchildren, the oldest of whom is eight. The whole extended family lives in Springdale.

“We can keep grandkids anytime we want, and we do it a lot,” Sprouse says.

Springdale will host the League’s annual planning meeting later this month, August 20-22, and the timing couldn’t be better for the mayor and his city to show off the numerous improvements and additions to the community’s infrastructure and quality of life in just the last several years. Downtown is again a destination, the true heart of Springdale, with new streetscape work expected to be completed by the planning meeting, along with beautiful landscaping and lighting.

Businesses are again taking an interest in making downtown their home, with new shops and restaurants opening in the row of historic buildings. Many of those buildings are in the process of being renovated. The Downtown Springdale Alliance secured \$10,000 matching grants for historic building facades through

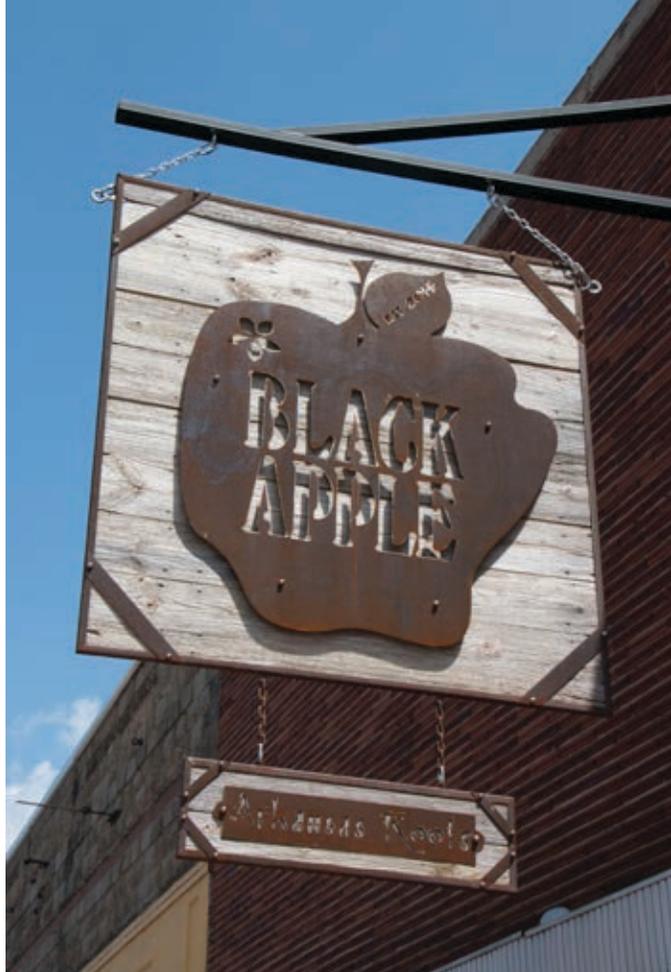
the Walton Family Foundation, and eight or more buildings are taking advantage of the funds, including the old Apollo Theater, which will have a new life as an event center.

Walter Turnbow Park is another new gem in Springdale’s downtown. What was before just a concrete box culvert for channeling Spring Creek from one side of downtown to the other, has now been transformed into a landscaped and well-lit park with access to new businesses. It also connects to the 36-mile Razorback Greenway, which travels along the creek as it passes through downtown.

At the planning meeting, the League’s leadership will have the opportunity to explore downtown, and eat and drink local—the author recommends the Core Brewing Company’s downtown pub and its tasty, toasted coconut beer—before making their way down to the newly renovated Apollo Theater for a desert reception.

Many of the city’s improvements, completed and on-going, are the direct result of the \$70 million bond issue voters passed in 2012. In addition to the work downtown, the bonds have paid for three new fire stations, two new city parks, and numerous road improvements, including the tree-lined Don Tyson Parkway and interchange at I-540 that serves the area around Arvest Park, home of the Northwest Arkansas Naturals, who compete along with the North Little Rock-based Arkansas Travelers in minor league baseball’s Texas League.

As this round of projects wraps up, the city is again looking ahead.



Black Apple Crossing, the state's only cidery, is one of the unique businesses making a rejuvenated downtown its home.

“We’re getting ready to go again in ’18,” Sprouse says.

The city will hold another election in early 2018 for an extension of the bond issue. It won’t raise anyone’s taxes, Sprouse says, and it would generate between \$130-150 million in further improvements. The mayor hopes to put at least half the revenue into infrastructure, with the rest divided among public safety, parks, and, importantly, a new criminal justice building.

The current police department and courts are in the same building as city hall, and the city long ago outgrew that space and has departments and offices spread across downtown. For the new criminal justice building, Springdale was chosen as a Walton Family Design Excellence Project, which meant an award of \$3.3 million for the design of the building, and that is already underway.

“We can create a real municipal campus here in downtown, and I wholeheartedly believe our voters will support that.”

In 2006 things were looking more grim for the city when Sam’s Club—the state’s first location—closed and moved south down Highway 71 to neighboring Fayetteville. The loss of sales tax revenue was painful for the city.

“That was a huge blow, but not just for the loss of sales tax, which was probably \$1 million a year. A lot of folks felt defeated, because it was part of a perfect storm.”

That storm included the nationwide economic downturn of 2008, and the implementation of the streamline sales tax in Arkansas. Springdale felt the effects more than many other cities in the state, he says.

Other cities in the northwest Arkansas corridor—Fayetteville, Rogers, and Bentonville—have larger concentrations of restaurants, clothing and other retailers, Sprouse says, and weathered the switch to the streamline system more easily. That’s where the streamline sales tax, with its point-of-origin provision, hurt Springdale, the economy of which is anchored by manufacturing, shipping, and service industries rather than retail sales.

It’s difficult to quantify what the dip in revenue resulting from the streamline sales tax has been for Springdale, Sprouse says, but he puts it at \$2-3 million a year.

Things on the retail front have begun to improve in the city, however. More than a decade after shutting its doors, a new Sam’s Club has opened in Springdale, and the mayor is excited to see the boost in revenue for public services that will come from that. Just up the street from the new Sam’s, construction of a new branch of Arkansas Children’s Hospital is nearing completion, which Sprouse believes will also be a game-changer. And Northwest Arkansas Community College has purchased 20 acres adjacent to Arvest Park for their Washington County campus.

Poultry giant Tyson Foods, a longtime economic anchor in the city and a great community partner, is building a new office building downtown, which will both continue the revival in the heart of Springdale while also bringing a few hundred employees and consumers downtown every day. The new building will link two historic storefronts—the original Tyson building and the Jeff D. Brown building next door. Brown, who opened a

PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.



The original Tyson Foods building, on the left, and Jeff D. Brown hatchery building, on the right, are being connected as a new downtown office space for Tyson. The project looks to the future while preserving Springdale’s poultry-producing past.



A dessert reception during the League’s August planning meeting will be one of the first events held at the newly renovated, historic Apollo Theater, seen here with facade work still underway.

hatchery in the building, was another of the city’s poultry pioneers. That stretch on East Emma Avenue is referred to as the Springdale Poultry Industry Historic District and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“We’re going to see our gap with surrounding cities continue to close slowly, but they’re not going to sit still and wait on us.”

Closing that gap and leveling the playing field is one of the reasons Sprouse supports the effort to create a mechanism at the state level to collect sales tax on online purchases.

“It’s important to every city, but it’s especially important to Springdale,” he says, “because of how the streamline sales tax and the point-of-delivery provision negatively impacted us, probably more than any other city in the state.”

The League, with Sprouse as president this year, is encouraging all Arkansas cities and towns to pass resolutions at home in support of a statewide effort to collect online sales tax and push for Gov. Hutchinson to call a special session of the Legislature to address the issue. The governor has indicated his willingness to explore the possibility, and thus far more than 50 cities, including Springdale, have passed a resolution in support.

There has, of course, been pushback to the idea, but the time is right to move forward on the issue, Sprouse says.

“I’m an optimist by nature, but I understand too that the governor wants to be fairly confident that the

votes are there before he calls a special session. But I’m hopeful.”

While it’s important for municipal leaders to voice their support, it will mean more to legislators to hear from the business community, especially our brick-and-mortar retailers for whom the current system is not fair. Sprouse tells a story told to him by his friend, the late Stan Bedford, founder of Bedford Photography, who witnessed folks come to the store to research cameras, going so far as to get a free tutorial on a new Nikon, then go to their vehicle and, on their iPhone, order the same camera from an out-of-state, online retailer.

Sprouse is confident that, eventually, collecting online sales tax will be the norm, in Arkansas and nationwide, though a special session would give us a chance to get it done sooner.

“I would enjoy nothing more this year as League president than to see that get changed.” 🏛️



Sam’s Club is back in Springdale, more than a decade after closing its doors.

MEET YOUR 2017-2018 LEAGUE VICE PRESIDENTS



First Vice President

Mayor Joe Smith, North Little Rock

Smith has served on the Executive Committee from 2014-2015 and 2016 to the present, as District 2 vice president in 2015-2016, and on the Large First Class Cities Advisory Council from 2012-2014.



District 1 Vice President

Mayor Joe Dilliard, Mountain Home

Dillard has served on the Executive Committee from 1998-2002 and 2015-2017, and on the Large First Class Cities Advisory Council from 2014-2015.



District 2 Vice President

Council Member Debi Ross, North Little Rock

Ross has served on the Large First Class Cities Advisory Council from 2009 to the present.



District 3 Vice President

Mayor Loineld Jordan, Fayetteville

Jordan has served on the Executive Committee from 2015-2017 and on the Public Safety Advisory Council from 2012-2014.



District 4 Vice President

Mayor Jerry Boen, Lamar

Boen has served on the Executive Committee from 2016 to the present and on the League-affiliated State Aid Street Committee.



Editorial: Sales tax should be levied on all online purchases

A recent Jonesboro City Council meeting got heated when a resolution, drafted by the Arkansas Municipal League asking Gov. Asa Hutchinson to call a special session to address sales taxes of goods purchased online, was brought up.

Currently, the only purchases that require sales tax to be collected are by retailers with a physical presence in our state. Arkansas residents are “supposed” to report all other purchases, those where sales tax is not paid, to the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration. Failing to do so is technically tax evasion, or so Mayor Harold Perrin stated.

The world has changed. More and more people are shopping online. Some might say it’s for convenience, but the underlying reason is that the Internet is the new low-cost retailer. Not paying sales tax gives an out-of-state online retailer an immediate advantage, selling items for eight to 10 percent less than our local brick-and-mortar stores.

Is that fair? We say no.

Here’s why. Our point is highlighted not necessarily by the mere cost advantage, but where that savings is not going. It’s not going to help pave our streets, or collect our trash, or pay for police and fire protection. It’s not going to pay for those basic services that we depend on each and every day to maintain our quality of life.

Those sales taxes that online purchases avoid are doing more to

damage than help our lives. Sure, not paying sales tax puts a few more cents in our individual pockets. Each purchase may seem like such a small thing individually, the result being we fail to see the cumulative impact.

That impact is based upon the need for our local retailers to be successful. Local retail is the lifeblood of Anytown, USA. Local retail, or the brick-and-mortar stores, are our neighbors, our friends—those whom we turn to if we need help.

We challenge you to go out to the Joe Mack Campbell Park and look for team eBay or team Wayfair.com. Next time you have a cause worthy of solicitation, try finding someone at Alibaba.com to get a donation. Need an ad in your high school yearbook? Try finding someone over at Overstock.com. Good luck, because you’re going to need it.

The fact is, online retail may be the way of the future, but it’s a race to the bottom for Smalltown, USA, and eventually for Anytown, USA.

If we can’t change a consumer’s purchasing habits, which we’re not giving up on here at *The Sun*, then why is it these retail scavengers aren’t required to collect sales taxes that help pay for basic services? (Keep in mind, they’re not paying, only collecting from you and then remitting to the state). It seems simple to us and something that our federal government should be looking at rather than our states since this is a national problem, rather than a state problem.

If our state could collect more than \$100 million in online sales taxes, perhaps our total statewide tax rate could be lowered. If the pie is larger, the burden should be lessened for individuals rather than increased. One thing is for certain, an out-of-state online retailer shouldn’t be given a price advantage based upon not having to collect and remit sales taxes while local stores do. There is nothing fair about that, and the sooner our state and nation comes to grips with this, the better.

Putting the onus on individuals to remit sales taxes for online purchases is laughable, as proven by the less than 100 people (out of tens of thousands, if not millions) that remitted sales taxes to DFA. The system needs to be changed, and sales taxes need to be collected for all types of local purchases. It’s fair and it’s vital to every community in our state.

Charging sales taxes for online purchases is not a tax increase. Councilman Bobby Long stated that a recent poll showed the majority of people oppose collection of taxes on online commerce. We bet that a supermajority of people oppose a decrease in the services that their future declining sales tax collections would bring, and the shuttering of retail businesses because online retailers are given a built-in competitive advantage.

This editorial appeared in the July 21 edition of the Jonesboro Sun and is reprinted with permission.



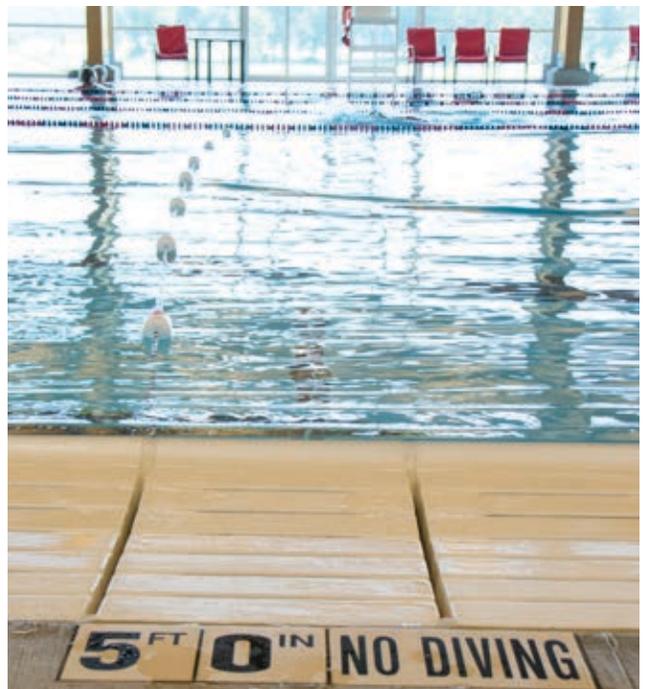
Russellville opens new aquatic center

In June Russellville cut the ribbon on the city’s new aquatic center, a 24,800-square-foot indoor facility on a 22-acre site on North Phoenix Avenue west of Arkansas Tech University. The facility features an eight-lane, 25-yard competition pool; a therapy/exercise pool; and a splash pad for children. It also features space for meetings and parties.

Russellville residents in 2013 voted to renew a one-cent sales tax to fund the \$6.6 million facility, which opened more than two months ahead of schedule. The city also runs an outdoor pool, the M.J. Hickey Pool, which opened in 1978.

The new competition pool will also be home to the Russellville High School swim team, which was left without a place to practice with the closure of the pool at Arkansas Tech.

Mayor Randy Horton says the city is already exploring a possible phase two of this project, which would take advantage of the space on the property to add an outdoor aquatics, exercise, and recreation area. 🏊





Supreme Court preview for local governments 2018

The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) files Supreme Court amicus curiae briefs on behalf of the Big Seven national organizations representing state and local governments.

An * indicates a case where the SLLC has filed or will file an amicus brief.

By Lisa Soronen

Most of the Supreme Court’s interesting grants for its new term beginning the first Monday of October usually come in the fall. It is rare that the Supreme Court’s docket for the next term is this interesting for local governments—much less anyone else—at the end of June. But it is hard to get more interesting than the travel ban, religious liberty, and technology and parties and the Fourth Amendment. Four of the most interesting cases for local governments accepted so far are discussed below in detail.

The so-called travel ban executive order prevents people from six predominately Muslim countries from entering the United States for 90 days, freezes decisions on refugee applications for 120 days, and caps total refugee admissions at 50,000 for fiscal year 2017.

The Fourth Circuit ruled it likely violates the Establishment Clause, noting that its “text speaks with vague words of national security but in context drips with religious intolerance, animus and discrimination.”

The Supreme Court concluded that until it rules on the merits of this case the executive order cannot be enforced against persons, including refugees, who have a “bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United States.”

In *Trump v. International Refugee Assistance Project* the Supreme Court will decide whether the decision to deny a visa is reviewable in this case, whether the travel ban violates the Establishment Clause, and whether the travel ban became moot on June 14.

In *United States v. Carpenter* the Supreme Court will decide whether police must obtain warrants per

the Fourth Amendment to require wireless carriers to provide cell-site data. Cell-site data showed that Timothy Carpenter and Timothy Sanders placed phone calls near the location of a number of robberies around the time the robberies happened. The federal government obtained the cell-site data from Carpenter's and Sanders' wireless carriers using a court order issued under the Stored Communications Act, which requires the government to show "reasonable grounds" for believing that the records were "relevant and material to an ongoing investigation."

The defendants argued obtaining the information was a "search" under the Fourth Amendment requiring a warrant. The Sixth Circuit held that obtaining the cell-site data does not constitute a search under the Fourth Amendment because while "content" is protected by the Fourth Amendment "routing information" is not.

In *District of Columbia v. Wesby** the Supreme Court will decide whether, when the owner of a vacant house informs police he has not authorized entry, an officer assessing probable cause to arrest those inside for trespassing may discredit the suspects' claims of an innocent mental state.

Police officers arrested a group of late-night partygoers for trespass. The partygoers gave police conflicting reasons for why they were at the house (birthday party v. bachelor party). Some said "Peaches" invited them to the house; others said they were invited by another guest. Police officers called Peaches, who told them she gave the partygoers permission to use the house. But she admitted that she had no permission to use the house herself; she was in the process of renting it. The landlord confirmed by phone that Peaches hadn't signed a lease. The partygoers sued the police officers for violating their Fourth Amendment right to be free from false arrest.

D.C. Circuit granted the partygoers summary judgment reasoning police officers lacked probable cause to make the arrest for trespass because: "All of the information that the police had gathered by the time of the arrest made clear that Plaintiffs had every reason to think that they had entered the house with the express consent of someone they believed to be the lawful occupant."*

The owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, Jack C. Phillips, declined to design and make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple because of his religious beliefs. The issue in *Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* is whether

Colorado's public accommodations law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, violates a cake artist's First Amendment free speech and free exercise rights.

The couple filed a complaint against Masterpiece claiming it violated Colorado's public accommodations law. Masterpiece argued that being required to comply with the law violates Phillips' free speech and free exercise rights. The Colorado Court of Appeals rejected both of Masterpiece's claims.

Masterpiece argued that wedding cakes inherently communicate a celebratory message about marriage and that, by forcing it to make cakes for same-sex weddings, it is being unconstitutionally compelled to express a celebratory message about same-sex marriage that it does not support.

For speech to be protected by the First Amendment it must convey a particularized message. According to the Colorado Court of Appeals: "Masterpiece does not convey a message supporting same-sex marriages merely by abiding by the law and serving its customers equally."

Regarding Masterpiece's free exercise of religion claim, the Colorado Court of Appeals applied rational basis analysis to Colorado's law and "easily conclude[d] that it is rationally related to Colorado's interest in eliminating discrimination in places of public accommodation."

Conclusion

The billion-dollar question for local governments is whether the Supreme Court will take a case where it is asked to overturn *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota* (1992). In *Quill*, the Supreme Court held that states cannot require retailers with no in-state physical presence to collect sales tax. In *Direct Marketing Association v. Brohl* (2015), Justice Kennedy stated that the "legal system should find an appropriate case for this Court to reexamine *Quill*." South Dakota passed a law requiring remote vendors to collect sales tax, which is currently being litigated in state court. If the South Dakota Supreme Court strikes down this law by the end of August it is possible the Supreme Court could decide this question by June 2018.



Lisa Soronen is executive director of the State and Local Legal Center, Washington, D.C. Contact Lisa at lsoronen@ssl.org or 202-434-4845.

Water/wastewater systems and employees honored

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



Robert Pugsley, left, utility systems operator for the National Park Service, received the Wastewater Outstanding Achievement Award for utilities serving a population of less than 5,000.



Stacy Carpenter, left, Laboratory Supervisor for Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility, was selected as the Arkansas Water Environment Association's Pretreatment Professional of the Year.



Larry Oelrich, director of public works and administrative services for the City of Prairie Grove, was named this year's recipient of the William D. Hatfield Award for outstanding performance and professionalism in wastewater treatment.



Johnny Lunsford, left, construction and maintenance supervisor for Rogers Water Utilities, was presented with the Arkansas Water Environment Association Collection System Award for outstanding contributions to the field of wastewater collection systems.



David Poe, technical services supervisor for Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility, was named this year's recipient of the Author Sidney Bedell Award for extraordinary personal service to a Water Environment Association member association.



Carolyn Roth, left, environmental services coordinator for Rogers Water Utilities, was presented with Arkansas Water Environment Association Laboratory Analyst Award.



Bruce Sutterfield, left, general operations director for Jonesboro City Water and Light, received the Arkansas Water Works Outstanding Achievement Award for utilities with more than 5,000.



Terry Bice, left, director of distribution for Central Arkansas Water was named 2017 Water Manager of the Year.



James Clark, left, public works director for the city of Tontitown, received the Arkansas Water Works Outstanding Achievement Award for utilities serving a population of less than 5,000.



Shannon Bowen, left, maintenance supervisor for Springdale Water Utilities, received the Wastewater Outstanding Achievement Award for utilities serving a population of more than 5,000.



Jennifer Enos, left, wastewater facilities director for Springdale Water Utilities is this year's recipient of the Mike Thomason Wastewater Manager Award.



Stan Avery, left, safety officer with Shumaker Public Service Corporation, accepts the Arkansas Water Environment Association Safety Professional of the Year Award. Shumaker Public Service Corporation was the recipient of the Safety Award for utilities serving populations less than 5,000.



Zachary Crumpler, left, communications specialist for Little Rock Wastewater is this year's recipient of the Arkansas Water Environment Association Young Professional of the Year Award.



Thea Hughes, left, general manager for Jacksonville Water Utility, received the James Bailey Memorial Educator of the Year Award.



Vincent Miles, right, environmental compliance director for Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility, was named Laboratory Analyst of the year.



Springdale Water Utilities, received the 2017 Arkansas Water Environment Association Safety Award for Cities with Populations Greater than 20,000.

Hot Springs, Hanamaki celebrate 25 years with artist scholarship

By Sherman Banks

The sister city relationship between Hot Springs and Hanamaki, Japan, began officially on Jan. 15, 1993, after a group of Hanamaki residents combed the United States and found Hot Springs to be a perfect fit. Since then, many friendships, greater understanding, and a mutual respect have grown out of the steady cultural, educational, and artistic exchanges between the two cities.

The people of Hanamaki, population 106,414, rely on tourism as a chief revenue source. Hanamaki has much in common with its sister city in Arkansas. It features bathhouses, called *onsen*, fed by thermal waters from nearby hot springs. The city is surrounded by rolling hills and a low mountain range. Hanamaki is home to the late Miyazawa Kenji, Japan's most illustrious poet, along with many other artists and poets, giving the city its rich artistic heritage. Hanamaki also has the only airport in the region.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the sister city relationship, the Hot Springs National Park Sister City Foundation will award a grant to fund the travel expenses for one Garland County visual artist to travel to Hanamaki in the spring of 2018. This will be stage one of a new arts exchange with Hanamaki. The scholarship will fully fund the travel costs for up to a four-week trip to the Japanese city during April of 2018. The city of Hanamaki will provide living arrangements, most meals, tours, and cultural and artistic opportunities during the artist's stay.

This trip provides a Garland County artist the opportunity to interact with local artists, to observe and learn about the culture of Hanamaki, and to share these experiences with other Hot Springs artists, area teachers, and the public upon returning. The artist will also have the opportunity to participate in the anniversary activities in the fall of 2018. Upon the artist's return from Hanamaki, he or she will produce one piece of artwork to be presented to Hanamaki as a 25th anniversary gift. The artist will also prepare an art exhibit featuring art pieces created as a result of the exchange.

To be considered for the scholarship, answer the following prompts in no more than two typewritten pages and in paragraph form:

1. Briefly describe both your background and your current activity in the visual arts.
2. List your participation in any community-oriented artistic projects in the past five years.
3. What has sparked your interest in this trip to Hanamaki?
4. If you are chosen as the artist to travel to Hanamaki, please explain your particular area of interest.
5. Is there anything else about yourself that you would like to include in this application?

In the header, include your name, home address and telephone number, and email address. Your resume can be included as an attachment with the two typewritten pages.

To submit an application or for more information, contact Mary Neilson at mneilson@hotsprings.org or call (501) 545-6960.

Hot Springs has over its 25-year relationship with Hanamaki focused on culture and education as primary missions of the sister city program. The cities of Hot Springs and Hanamaki have enriched each other's way of life, barriers have been broken, friendships gained, and international tourism enhanced.

Some of the information for this article comes from the website of the Hot Springs Sister City Program, www.cityhs.net/236/Sister-City-Program.



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.

Great Arkansas Cleanup soon underway

Each fall, thousands of Arkansans remove tons of trash from our state's roadways, shorelines, parks, and public areas during the Great Arkansas Cleanup, Keep Arkansas Beautiful's fall statewide community improvement campaign. Communities large and small show their commitment to the Great Arkansas Cleanup campaign by recruiting volunteers of all ages and taking on a variety of community cleanup and environmental improvement projects.

Visit keeparkansasbeautiful.com/get-involved/great_arkansas_cleanup for a variety of resources to help get started in your city, including video tutorials, downloadable planning materials, cleanup safety tips, customizable fliers and media materials, and much more.

During the 2016 Great Arkansas Cleanup, Sept. 9—Oct. 31, more than 7,000 volunteers worked almost 43,000 hours in communities across the state. The community improvement effort involved 144 events, with volunteers collecting 210,582 pounds of litter from 541 miles of roadways, 1,194 miles of waterways, and 16,251 acres of parks and public areas. The total economic value of the 2016 Great Arkansas Cleanup to Arkansas communities was more than \$1.6 million!



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Time to levy property taxes

City and town councils may levy general property taxes of up to five mills on the dollar (Ark. Const. art. 12 § 4; A.C.A. §§ 26-25-102 and 103). In order to implement this millage, the governing body of the city or town must certify the rate of taxation levied to the county clerk. (A.C.A. § 26-73-202). This must be done prior to the time fixed by law for the Quorum Court to levy county taxes. *Id.* Arkansas Code section 14-14-904(b) establishes the November or December meeting of the Quorum Court as the time to levy those taxes.

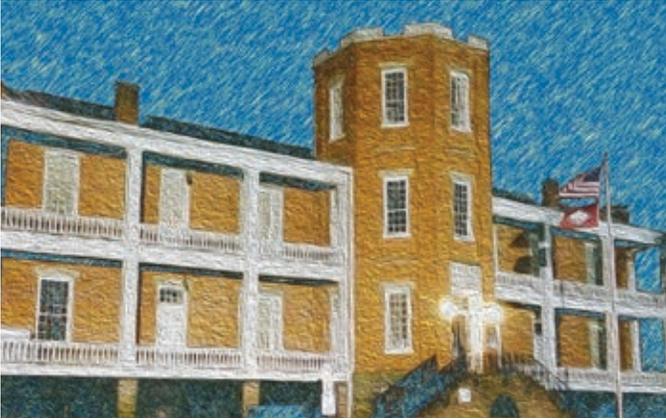
Accordingly, municipal officials should check with the Quorum Court to determine whether its levying meeting will be in November or December. It is important also to bear in mind that the city council must levy and certify its taxes annually, as failure to levy by the required date will result in a millage of zero for the following year (*See* Ark. Ops. Atty. Gen. No. 91-044 and 85-5).

The bottom line: If your city or town wishes to collect property taxes for the following year, make sure that council approval and certification to the county clerk occur prior to the meeting of the Quorum Court at which county taxes are levied.

October is Act 833 funding deadline

The deadline to apply for 2017 State Fire Grant Act 833 funds through the office of Fire Protection Service is October 31. Applications must be postmarked by that date to qualify for the 2017 funding year. Applications and program guidance documents are available on the ADEM website, <http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/fire-services>. For more information on the grant program, contact Kendell Snyder, Fire and EMS Coordinator, at 501-683-6700, or email kendell.snyder@adem.arkansas.gov. Mail completed applications to Office of Fire Protection Services c/o Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, Bldg. #9501 Camp Joseph T. Robinson, North Little Rock, AR, 72199-9600.

AHPP awards more than \$2.8 million in preservation grants



The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, has awarded more than \$2.8 million in grants for projects 47 Arkansas counties through its Historic Preservation Restoration Grant, Certified Local Government Grant, and Main Street Downtown Revitalization Grant programs, the agency has announced.

Thirty-one projects shared \$960,853 in Historic Preservation Restoration Grants to rehabilitate buildings listed on the Arkansas or National Registers of Historic Places and owned by local governments or not-for-profit organizations. Municipal recipients of the grants, amounts, and properties to be restored include:

- Hope, \$46,667 to restore the Girl Scout Little House
- Little Rock, \$100,000 for porch restoration at the MacArthur Museum of Military History and \$24,986 to restore a gate at Oakland Fraternal Cemetery
- Menifee, \$70,000 for restoration work at the Menifee Gymnasium
- North Little Rock, \$17,136 for restoration work at the Park Hill Administration Building
- Osceola, \$21,000 to repoint masonry at the Coston Building
- Paragould, \$9,999 for a condition assessment at the Linwood Cemetery Mausoleum
- Quitman, \$14,666 for roof restoration at the O.D. Gunn Sale and Trade Barn
- Searcy, \$20,000 for condition assessment at the Rialto Theater
- Sulphur Springs, \$33,733 for window restoration at the Sulphur Springs School
- Warren, \$74,532 for restoration work at the Warren & Ouachita Valley Railroad Station

Three recipients shared \$44,069 in grants for projects through the Certified Local Government Grant (CLG) program, which is open to cities and counties that contain a historic district commission and a historic district protected by local ordinance, as well as to cities and counties that are seeking to join the CLG program. The grants provide training opportunities to local historic district commissions and can fund other local preservation projects. At least 10 percent of the AHPP's annual appropriation from the federal Historic Preservation Fund goes to CLG cities as grants for local projects. Municipal recipients and amounts include:

- Dumas, \$23,469 for roof restoration and gutters at the Dumas Area Arts Center Building
- El Dorado, \$13,500 for a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Goodwin Field Terminal Building
- Eureka Springs, \$7,100 for a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Eureka Springs Cemetery

Nineteen Main Street Arkansas programs shared \$285,000 in Downtown Revitalization Grants, which are funded through the state Real Estate Transfer Tax and are available to accredited Main Street programs for building rehabilitations, parks, streetscape improvements, and other design-related projects that will have major long-term impacts in the local Main Street area.

Main Street programs in Batesville, Blytheville, Dumas, El Dorado, Eureka Springs, Helena-West Helena, Osceola, Ozark, Paragould, Rogers, Russellville, Searcy, Siloam Springs, Texarkana, West Memphis, the Conway Downtown Partnership, Downtown Little Rock Partnership, Downtown Jonesboro Association, and Little Rock's South Main each received \$15,000 grants through the program.

An additional \$16,000 in Downtown Revitalization Grants was awarded to cities involved in Main Street's Arkansas Downtown Network. Grants of \$1,000 each were awarded to the programs in Arkadelphia, Clarksville, Forrest City, Fort Smith, Hardy, Heber Springs, Malvern, Monticello, Morrilton, Newport, Paris, Pine Bluff, Pocahontas, Rector, Warren, and Wynne.

For more information on AHPP grant programs, write the agency at 1500 North Street, Little Rock, AR 72201; call (501) 324-9880; email info@arkansaspreservation.org; or visit www.arkansaspreservation.org. 

Friday 4:22 pm



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Football pads for community engagement—bad idea?

Our choice is in our role as local government officials—what will we choose to do? Ignore? Inform? Defend? Or will we host?

By Amanda Nagl

For all of us who have worked in the field of community engagement—local government, or otherwise—we instinctively know the difference in playing offense or defense with our tactics and communications. It goes without saying that organizational reputation, values, and community trust are always of utmost importance and guide our entire playbook. In any given play, however, we also know which side of the ball we are on and we balance the fear of turnover with the calls we make.

Offense is when we get to introduce an idea, project, or decision with a plan but without a lot of rules—interest and support are high; risk is low—levels of approval are few. These projects feel good, serve as a respite and reward for employees in some cases, and remind us why we got into this business in the first place. In-person events are a pleasure and connecting people in the online space feels natural and comfortable. We are open to dialogue and we come across as transparent. We may be described as innovative, positive and accessible. We promote broad discussions and blue-sky thinking in our exercises with the public. We encourage imagination and dialogue. We engage readily on social media, encourage the public to share messages, celebrate alongside us, and have independent discussions. In the online world, we use forums that allow community members to talk to us and to each other—building on ideas and expanding capacity.

Then there are the ideas/projects/decisions where the odds are stacked against us from the beginning. The opposition is strong and may be previously undefeated, presenting a situation where we feel there is a win-or-lose outcome to a process. Natural instinct is to double-team and back away. In the world of community engagement, this sounds a lot like silence. The tendency is to only answer direct questions and hope that the issue just goes away on its own.

If policy dictates and we must go “out there” into the public then we put on our battle gear. We make sure we create an agenda that will protect us or, at the very least, control the conversation. Our engagement tactics are narrow and defined and if we are honest, even without intent, we are likely creating community engagement processes designed specifically to keep the opposition

groups at bay—we are thinking of them and preparing for them while we build—rather than thinking about our values related to community engagement or the information that we need from the public to make a specific decision. If protection and defense are guiding our play calls, we’re likely to make mistakes.

Just as our in-person defense posture takes on a specific look—feet squared, weight balanced, arms folded, tables placed between us and the public, and in possession of a tight agenda that doesn’t allow for outside influence—so is our online engagement influenced when we feel defensive. When we are afraid of turnover, we are likely to use controlled tools like closed surveys and polls. While these tools certainly have their place, when used in isolation they may not allow all the issues to get out on the table and frequently leave out members of the public, enabling the “opposition” to make statements such as, “I don’t feel heard” or “nobody is listening.” Worse yet, we might skip the survey altogether and just assume that “we know how the public feels.” We all know these feelings and statements frequently serve as a prelude to a period of community unrest and that projects are often stalled or come to a standstill while we try to undo bad community outreach by creating new processes, designing new plays that cost more time, more money, create more politics, and lead to penalties such as staff burnout and low employee morale as well as community distrust.

Defensive posturing in community engagement is very costly and can easily be avoided. By utilizing a broader set of tools for online engagement in these circumstances, we come across as more open and available, willing to hear all positions related to a decision. We will be better positioned to provide facts and offer reasoning for decision making because we’ve allowed all of the ideas and emotions to surface. We’ve listened, and we’ve provided an opportunity for the public to do the same. Sometimes the opportunity is all that is needed. By providing it, we remove the perception that we are hiding information or are being driven by ulterior motives. We build trust in our community.

Ideas or brainstorming tools can be used to open up the conversation, allowing for new ways of thinking and providing an alternative to a polarized community



dialogue about only two options. This tool is best used in collaboration with an open-ended question. By allowing people to vote, or like, ideas presented by others, the silent majority gains a voice. Storytelling tools can be used to allow people to share through video or photos, providing images that can evoke emotion and understanding in a way that words alone can never achieve.

If there is a need to protect the vulnerable, then cutting off public comments on publicly submitted stories is always an option. Guestbooks can work very well. Ask them to read information or visit a location and honestly reflect on that experience, just like we would all do if we visited a bed and breakfast or another facility that asked for our heartfelt feedback—open and honest.

In reality, these types of open-ended conversations are happening all over our community. People will find a way to communicate their feelings, emotions, and beliefs about issues that matter to them. Nextdoor.com and Facebook are full of open dialogue regarding civic issues. The only voice that is missing on these channels is often that of local government—sometimes because we’ve gone into a defensive posture and shut down engagement on a divisive issue or decision. Other times it’s because we have no idea the conversation is happening, or we do not have access to the channel. In those cases, we sat out on the play altogether.

Through the use of an online community engagement platform and the incorporation of online resources, our voices can become a part of the dialogue, providing factual information regarding the process and previous decision-making that may have a critical impact on the topic or decision. What will we, as local government officials, choose to do? Ignore? Inform? Defend? Or will we host?

Amanda Nagl is engagement manager for Bang the Table. This article appeared originally at icma.org, the official website of the International City/County Management Association, and is reprinted with permission.

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Fire pump valves: manual, electric or air?

By Captain Bob Franklin, LRFD (Ret.)

Fire apparatus have changed drastically over the years, from simple valving to sophisticated electronic or air valves with all the bells and whistles. We can find valves that operate with the mere pushing a switch, holding a button in, turning of a hand wheel that operates a gearbox, to the old reliable pull-open push-close valves. But how do these new innovations effect our operations on the fire ground when seconds count?

The apparatus valves are some of the most abused items on our apparatus. They are jerked open, slammed closed, operated half open, and are subjected to all of whatever is moving through the water (rocks, pieces of steel, toy metal cars, and even old timer pocket knives) when pumping.

Valves are expensive. A three-inch quarter-turn valve may cost \$625 and up, and some trucks may have five or six three-inch valves just for starters. So let's break these down to the most practical for the fire service.



We must look at valves that are dependable, give long service, and are subject to the least down time for repair.

The valves are located within the pump compartment, normally above the pump. Years ago, there was enough space in the pump compartment to actually climb in to facilitate repairs or replacement of a valve. With the advent of the top mount pump panel, space was compromised for the walkways, which caused pump compartments to become smaller. A smaller compartment requires stacking of valves and flex lines instead of metal pipe. In most cases electric or air valves are required due to the lack of space for actuator rods. These changes mean it takes more time to gain excess to the needed valve for repairs.

Now let's look at the different valves out there.

Electric valves

As the name implies, these valves are operated by an electric current that goes through a relay, to a switch, to a motor assembly that drives a gear that opens and closes the ball valve.

These are commonly found on tank-to-pump valves and large diameter discharges, and they can be found on any or all valves as specified. Wow!

Say you've arrived at the fire, placed pump into gear, pushed the OPEN side of the tank valve and ... instant water? Nope! It didn't open. Now what do you do? First you have to gain excess to where the valve is located, and then you have to find the 9/16 socket, the half-inch extension and the ratchet to open the valve manually. Oh, did I mention the fire is doubling in size every minute you are trying to open the valve?

In this scenario, once you've located all the tools, got the panel door open, found the head for the socket to open the valve, you're set. But then you find that the

extension will not fit due to the metal pipe that is directly over the spot where you have to turn the tool. Oh, did I mention that the fire is doubling in size every minute while you try to open the valve?

The cost of electric valves is around \$1,800.

Air valves

Air operated valves require a master airline to feed a double switch that directs air into the direction needed to open or close the valve. Air operated valves need a minimum of 80 psi to operate. The air valve, as with the electric, should have a manual override in the event the valve fails to open. The same tools are required to operate the override feature. The cost for an air valve is around \$1,800. Air operated valves are not recommended for our Arkansas climate due to condensation that can collect within the airlines or the actuator gearbox. That condensation can freeze and break during our cold winters.

Manual valves

Manual valves come in three types: the standard push-pull valve, the hand wheel, and the self-locking operated valve.

- The standard push-pull valve is the most reliable as it is open when the handle is pulled out and closed when pushed in. These valves have locking features that allow you to partially open the valve and with a twist of the handle the lock is applied. This valve has the least moving parts.
- The hand wheel valve operates by turning a hand wheel that connects to a gearbox that operates the valve stem. This valve does not have a locking system, as the gear will hold the valve in the position in which it is stopped.
- The self-locking valve has an automatic locking feature built into the valve assembly. When you open the valve it automatically locks in that position. These are commonly found on top mount pump panels.

The cost for manual operated valves is around \$2,000 depending on manufacturer.

In my experience, I find that the manual valve is the most reliable of all the valves discussed above. When writing specifications for a new fire apparatus, get the truck you want and not what the salesman wants you to have. 🏠

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Sleep apnea—5 things to know

By Caris Fitzgerald, M.D.

Do you snore? Do you toss and turn all night? Do you wake during the night feeling like you can't catch your breath? When morning comes, do you feel not a bit rested?

Sleep apnea could be to blame. The American Sleep Apnea Association estimates that more than 22 million Americans have it.

Apnea is the ceasing of breathing. Sleep apnea is when a person's breathing is repeatedly interrupted while asleep. The most common form of sleep apnea is obstructive sleep apnea, caused when the airway is blocked fully or partially by soft tissue in the back of the throat.

Now that you know the basics, here are five things you need to know about sleep apnea.

1. The causes

Genetics is one of the most important factors associated with sleep apnea. Some struggle their entire lives with breathing in sleep. But even if the airway you have at birth is sufficient, this may change as you age, add pounds, lose teeth, or undergo menopause.

Alcohol and certain pain medications and sedatives can make sleep apnea worse or cause apnea that would not have occurred otherwise.

2. The symptoms of sleep apnea and long-term risks

Most patients have a complaint associated with sleep and/or wake. For some, the complaint may be going to sleep or staying asleep with daytime fatigue or actual sleepiness. For others, it may be feeling un-refreshed even after a sound night of sleep.

Most patients snore, but some do not. The person may have other people telling them they are having trouble breathing in sleep or a patient may themselves wake up coughing, choking, or gasping for air.

Sleep apnea often affects day-to-day life, as well. Depending on certain genetic factors, a person may have difficulty regulating blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol levels. The body can also experience trouble regulating hormones, including testosterone, and certain neurochemicals leading to possible depression and irritability or issues with attention span, learning, and memory.

Inflammation is higher so it is not uncommon for a subset of patients to have chronic pain complaints. Also frequent nightmares have been strongly associated with sleep apnea.

3. The treatment options

A positive airway pressure (PAP) machine remains the gold standard of sleep apnea treatment. This is most likely an adjusting positive airway pressure (APAP) machine, which adjusts pressure throughout the night, or a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine, which is set at one pressure.

PAP machines have advanced throughout the years to great benefit for the patients. Machines now provide a tremendous amount of information to the physician, which makes continued treatment and needed adjustments much easier on the patient and doctor.

Dental devices, surgery and weight loss can be helpful, as well, if you are a good candidate.

To find the correct treatment option, it's vital to undergo a sleep study with a sleep specialist. This provides a physician with the information needed to properly treat the condition and ensure a quality night of sleep.

4. Exercise and diet are important

As with any health issue, exercise and a healthy diet are important. This can help keep off the pounds, which can improve flow through the airway. Also, certain foods or beverages may lead to excess acid production, which can aggravate the airway and are best to have at lunch instead of dinner.

5. Myths and misconceptions

Many fear PAP machines are too loud and will disturb their sleep more than apnea. However, these machines are very quiet, usually equaling the sound of normal breathing.

Many expect a sleep study to be a normal night of sleep; however, it's not. It is a medical procedure to look for medical diagnoses that occur during sleep. It's important to be monitored in every stage of sleep in various positions to ensure the right diagnosis and to help determine the right treatment.

In the end, sacrificing one night of restful sleep for a lifetime of it in return is a fair tradeoff.



Caris Fitzgerald, M.D. is Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Sleep Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.



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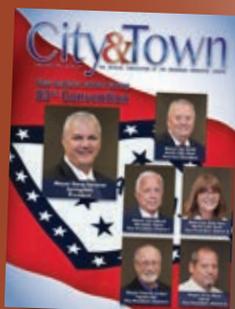
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MHBF Tips: August is National Immunization Awareness Month

By Tracey Pew, League staff

I am old enough to remember my Uncle James who was paralyzed by polio, a terrible disease that forever changed his life. I am also old enough to have had both measles and mumps and survived them, although after a week at home with both my brother and I while we were sick may have driven my mom to the brink. Thanks to vaccinations—polio vaccinations began in 1955 and mumps and measles in 1963—these diseases are rarely seen in the United States today. National Immunization Awareness Month is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages.

Any of you with school-age children are very aware of the immunization schedule for children. Lest you forget, the school will probably send your child home with a note requiring them to be vaccinated before returning to school. Vaccinations not only protect your child, but they also help prevent the spread of disease, especially to those that are most vulnerable to serious complications.

The need for vaccinations does not end in childhood. Every year, tens of thousands of adults in the U.S. needlessly suffer, are hospitalized, and even die from diseases that could be prevented by vaccines. As adults, vaccinations are especially important. Even healthy adults can get seriously ill and pass certain illnesses to others. Everyone should have their vaccination needs assessed at their doctor's office. Certain vaccines are recommended based on a person's age, occupation, or health conditions.

All adults, including pregnant women, should get the influenza vaccine each year to protect against seasonal flu. Every adult should have one dose of Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis or whooping cough) if they did not get Tdap as a teen, and then get the Td (tetanus and diphtheria) booster vaccine every 10 years. If you won't do it for yourself, please consider doing it for those around you. The vaccinations are particularly important if you are caring for loved ones who are vulnerable to serious complications such as infants, young children, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems.

Adults who are 60 years and older are recommended to receive the shingle vaccine. Adults 65 and older are recommended to receive one or more pneumococcal



vaccines. Depending on a person's occupation, travel, health risk factors, or vaccinations they have already received, adults may need other vaccines such as hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and HPV.

Most adults have probably not received all the vaccines they need, leaving themselves and their loved ones vulnerable to serious disease. Per data from the Centers for Disease Control:

- Only 20 percent of adults 19 years or older had received Tdap vaccination.
- Only 28 percent of adults 60 years or older had received shingles vaccination.
- Only 20 percent of adults 19 to 64 years at increased risk had received pneumococcal vaccination.
- Only 44 percent of adults 18 years or older received a flu vaccine during the 2014-2015 flu season.

Vaccines are very safe and have been thoroughly tested before licensing. They are carefully monitored even after they are licensed to ensure that they are safe. Side effects are usually mild and temporary. Some people may have allergic reactions to certain vaccines, but serious and long-term side effects are rare.

At Municipal Health Benefit Fund, we encourage you to take time to take care of you. Talk with your healthcare professional about which vaccines are right for you based on your age, health, job, lifestyle, and other factors. Preventing a serious illness is definitely worth the effort. 🏠

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The civilization at Chichen Itza on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico fell to changes in the weather patterns.



Change ... ready or not, here it comes

By Jim von Tungeln

Sometimes thinking about the future of our cities is as painful as thinking about the past of our cities. Like the cat who, once burned on a hot stove, would never get on a cold one again, the memories of past mistakes can weaken plans for the future, even though history may or may not repeat itself.

Experience teaches us that, most often, the changes that control the future will be nothing like the ones of the past. City leaders will probably face challenges in the future that they simply can't contemplate at this time.

For example, one of our state's cities a mere 30 years ago perhaps owned one or two DOS-based computers. Just recently, it completed a state-of-the-art building to house its IT Department. Yes, it is an entire building housing those given the task of keeping the computers going. Perhaps this could have been predicted, perhaps not. The point is that change will come to our cities regardless of how much we distrust it, and it can be costly. Civilizations have fallen and iconic businesses disappeared from the cruel whims of change.

Some of the changes will be self-imposed, and some not good for our cities in the long run. We never pass up the opportunity to mention the disaster of "Main Street malls." Also, our cities will continue to suffer because of the change in emphasis from protecting our neighborhoods to placing the needs of the automobile above all.

Other changes, ones we might call "macro-events," are beyond the control of local governments. One only has to picture the boarded-up remnants of factories that have located to foreign countries to see the results. Cities can only hope to contend with such changes, and somehow try to anticipate trends.

As mentioned in a previous column, predictions are difficult, especially when they involve the future (the author's statement, not Yogi Berra's). If we allow our minds to drift unfettered, however, we might conjure some of the images that would fit our cities of the future.

The future of retail businesses comes to mind. Each day we read the dire predictions regarding the future of brick and mortar retail. They are disappearing, and experts tell us they will continue to do so. We should bear in mind the works of the great urban thinker Lewis Mumford, that "trend is not destiny." Some of us can remember, for example, the predicted end of radio when TVs appeared. Still, the future of in-store retail is complex and difficult for the average person to contemplate.

Some experts have tried, however, and some of their findings don't match the predictions. It may be that funeral arrangements for in-store shopping may be premature in light of current economic shifts.

They include the buying of brick-and-mortar businesses by online companies. The on-line giant Amazon recently purchased Whole Foods, an event that signals

a coming battle with Walmart. At the same time, such brick-and-mortar giants are buying up online business. For a more detailed accounting, see an article by Barbara Thau in the June 27, 2017, edition of *Forbes* magazine.

That article also points out that retail stores are both more profitable, and more favorable to the younger generation, than online stores. Perhaps all we can predict is that the act of purchasing deliverable goods will change, but we're not sure how.

One thing is apparent, however, to our cities. Unless the imposition and collection of sales tax is made fair, cities will continue to encounter revenue impacts. At the same time, the current system of delivering retail goods to front doors will create more demands for street maintenance, public services, and expanded transportation links. That is a no-win situation for municipal budgets.

Another trend that may affect our cities involves personal choices. The next major population cohort that will shape our cities will be the so-called "Millennial Generation." Although it is sometimes difficult to assign specific dates to media classifications, a rough estimate offers the birth years of 1982 through 2004 as the period for this group.

This means that the youngest of the group are in their teens and the oldest are in their mid-thirties. This represents a particularly large group, by some accounts larger than the "Baby Boomers." The Brookings Institution estimates that Millennials will comprise more than one in three of adult Americans by 2020. In addition, they will represent 75 percent of the workforce by 2025. Like their predecessor cohorts, they exhibit tendencies that are unique and will affect the future of cities.

Many Millennials are laden with college loans. This results in what is sometimes termed "failure to launch," i.e. they live with their parents after completing their education. Thus, they postpone both marriage and home ownership. Will this result in a huge housing boom when they do enter the market? Will it also result in a significant population boom when the group gets around to marriage? These are potential issues that prudent planners will monitor.

Generalizations are risky, but one characteristic of the Millennials appears with astounding frequency. They don't tend to move to where jobs are, but instead they choose where they want to live and then they look for a job there, even accepting a less desirable job for the ability to live where they choose.

Further, a survey found that 64 percent of Millennials would rather make \$40,000/year at a job they love than \$100,000/year at a job they think is boring. These preferences will affect the growth of cities throughout the nation. Some will grow. Some won't. Urbanist Richard Florida has even coined the phrase "winner-take-all-urbanism."

PHOTO CREDIT: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.



The original Sears Roebuck Mail Order Building, a business now threatened by Internet ordering.

Planners should be thinking about what lifestyles attract this group, one that accounts for more than \$1 trillion in U.S. consumer spending. Failure to do so could result in dialogue such as that found in the "that's good—that's bad comedy" routine of Vaudeville days. Imagine hearing this conversation going on between mayors.

"Our plants are still operating."

"That's good."

"No, that's bad. Robots are causing a reduction in employment."

"That's bad."

"No, that's good. This is creating higher paying jobs for people who can work on robots."

"That's good."

"No, that's bad. Young people who can work on robots won't move to our city."

And so it goes. City leaders may face a time when they must decide whether their city will be the kind where they like to live, or be the kind where younger generations, not the Baby Boomers, like to live.

What about the Baby Boomers? The oldest of them now are entering their 70s. Are our cities preparing for the day when they can no longer drive themselves? We are hearing much these days about "driverless cars." We even hear about streets that will automatically charge the batteries of such vehicles. It beggars our imagination to think of what level of training and education those working in public administration will face in the near future in dealing with such new developments.

This brings us to the conclusion of how we might best plan to accommodate changes that will affect our cities, changes we can't even predict. May we suggest three strategies? They aren't sexy, but they have stood the test of time. They are: education, expertise, and training.



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.



Using a different material for crosswalks such as brick, seen here in downtown Arkadelphia, gives automobile drivers a visual cue to watch for pedestrians, creating safer walking spaces in our town centers.

Pedestrian oriented design in downtown America

By Edwin Hankins, IV, PLA, ASLA

Cities and towns evolve. They start as small civilizations and grow to become increasingly developed over time. What is most fascinating about this evolutionary trend is the city center that almost always develops. The city center is a spot that locals can point to as the core, the heart of the city or town. Sometimes the city center is a town square with a courthouse, post office, or a church, and in most cases there is one main street that leads you to and from this center.

Main streets are places that evoke the ideals of small-town America because most cities and towns began this way, even New York City, Boston, and Los Angeles. The town centers and main streets that lead you to the core were bustling with activity. The commercial and residential landscapes intertwined near the city center and allowed for organic and symbiotic relationships.

As cities and towns of all sizes across the United States became more industrialized, they also found that these spaces were becoming increasingly populated. There were job opportunities, amenities, and

conveniences of living the city life, sparking an upswing in city growth. That growth, of course, led to a lack of space. It seems that the invention and widespread use of the automobile and the expansion of public transportation via bus and rail couldn't have come at a more opportune time. The portions of the population that could afford a car were now able to get away from these types of downtown areas and gain personal space by living out of the city centers. Thus marks the beginning of the era of the suburban living movement, and the age of the automobile takes center stage.

As suburban living increased, the town centers became less dense, requiring merchants and commercial retailers to adjust to the change in population density and the birth of suburban culture. In an effort to have their product convenient to these new suburban dwellers, commercial and retail vendors left their downtown storefronts and moved into localized strip centers, or became part of larger shopping malls. This also ushered in the generation of big box development that facilitated a one-stop shopping experience.

The problem with this model of living and shopping, as they would eventually come to realize, was the degradation of quality pedestrian space. In order to facilitate so many people shopping at one time, all of whom will arrive by automobile, there arose the need for vast amounts of parking facilities. Most pedestrian shopping experiences are a rushed affair, surrounded by droves of unfamiliar people where cut-rate pricing and bulk purchases were the only by-product to show. Quality of product and quality of life were forfeited in order to save a dollar. It's an ever-expanding model.

In the late 1990s, movements began to surface that created boutique malls or lifestyle centers. These lifestyle centers are typically located in affluent suburban areas and they do attempt to address some of the key flaws of the traditional mall environment. The first design characteristic is the change in pedestrian scale. There are places for pedestrians to be—plazas with unique paving patterns, benches, bike racks, water features, seat walls, park-like landscaping, and pedestrian scale lighting. These are all features that assist in creating a sense of place for the pedestrian. The second design characteristic of the lifestyle center is the reduction, if not total removal, of parking and streets in front of the storefronts. By turning the façade of the strip center inward and having vehicular traffic predominantly exterior to the main user space there is less conflict between the pedestrian and the automobile.

A development like The Country Club Plaza, known as The Plaza, which opened in 1923 in Kansas City, Missouri, was one of the first shopping mall developments in the world that specifically accommodated shoppers that arrived via car. Interestingly, this shopping center has remained successful since its inception. Nearly 100 years old and still thriving, the success of the center is likely because it is designed as a mixed-use development. Mixed-use developments incorporate commercial, retail, and restaurants on the street level while commercial offices and even residential spaces often sit above these spaces. This type of development facilitates greater population density, can provide variety of housing (condos or apartments), allows for a more concentrated development by reducing travel from business to shopping to home, allows bike-friendly and pedestrian walkability, and can create a strong sense of place and character within a development. All of the characteristics, however, are not a new concept. They are all part of the Main Street or downtown core model from the early 1900s. We have come full circle. The very density that we had run away from in the early-to-mid-1900s has proven to be so desirable that private developers are recreating the Main Street in the middle of suburban lifestyle centers.

The new movement shifts its eye back to underutilized downtown cores. In most cases, there may be a certain amount of infrastructure that needs to be installed or rehabilitated in order to make re-establishing the downtown core a reality. Utility infrastructure is key to attracting private developers back to downtowns. Utilities, storm drainage, and sidewalks are the basic infrastructure improvements necessary to recreate these town centers. Some other valuable components are standard public services like sanitation, safety, schools, and shared-structured parking facilities. These infrastructure issues are simple, but groundbreaking moves for getting private development investment dollars to come back to these types of areas. Some studies show that for every \$1 spent to establish the groundwork mentioned above, it



Wide, tree-lined sidewalks help make Little Rock's Main Street inviting.

will yield \$10-\$15 of private developer money. For this very reason, it is critical to have the public and private sectors see the vision of the development prior to moving into the design of these facilities.

One way to capture this vision is to centralize on a theme or characterization that defines the city or town. This can be done through signage illustrating historical character, use of regionally appropriate landscape design, outdoor art installments, water features, and various other paving patterns and pedestrian furnishings. A first step for improved pedestrian-oriented design is to limit the interaction of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in order to create a safe pedestrian space. This can be achieved simply by widening the sidewalk for pedestrians, creating bike lanes, and even removing lanes of traffic. We are visual learners by nature, and there is a trend in urban redevelopment to utilize this visual acuity to clue pedestrians, cyclist and motorists to where their proper place is. Pedestrians typically belong on a curbed sidewalk, usually made of concrete, brick, or decorative pavers. Cars belong on the asphalt or concrete street, usually four to six inches below the designated pedestrian zone. The zone for cyclists may be indicated by a white stripe on the street or perhaps a solid color.

This delineation of user zones works well in a linear fashion, however there will be intersections that cannot follow this pattern and must be addressed. Visual pattern changes can be enough to slow vehicular traffic and create a safe space for the pedestrian and bike lanes to cross. Crosswalk striping is a minimal expense for most typical streets. However, if the city is trying to really give a sense of character, a change in material may be a better visual clue that the driver of the car doesn't necessarily have the right-of-way. Another trend is to install a pedestrian table. These pedestrian tables resemble speed bumps and allow the pedestrian to cross the intersection without ramping down to the street level, which can also facilitate meeting ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility standards. Cars are encouraged to slow down as they ramp up to the pedestrian table level, making for an all-around safer pedestrian environment.

Landscape is another key component of the pedestrian oriented streetscape. Pedestrians like to feel buffered from vehicular traffic and the use of appropriate plantings can provide excellent screening between the two uses. Landscaping and tree canopies are a scarce commodity in the typical city center setting and can provide a welcomed oasis in the middle of a sea of impermeable hardscape features. A study on urban street trees shows that a planting that costs \$250-\$600 per tree can yield a \$90,000 return on investment outside of the

aesthetic, social, and natural benefits. The study found that trees provide the following benefits: reduced traffic speeds; safer walking environments; improved business profitability; reduced drainage infrastructure; rain, sun, and heat protection; and reduction of vehicular emissions, among many others.

Our cities and towns have expanded with the boom of automobiles, affordable land, and housing. Some believe this defines the American Dream, while others believe it has left some lacking quality of life. Many of our Main Streets in Arkansas have been left idle, waiting for a re-invigoration of the downtown core and yearning for local merchants and pedestrians to walk up and down its streets again. The next link in the evolutionary chain is to bring life back to the heart of these cities and towns across America, and more specifically, to bring life back the heart of these cities and towns across Arkansas.



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Morrilton clerk/ treasurer retires

Morrilton City Clerk/Treasurer Charlotte Kindle has retired after 28 years with the city, 19 as clerk/treasurer. She served as deputy clerk for nine years before being appointed city clerk/treasurer in 1998 by the city council. She has served for nearly five terms, unopposed in each election.



Mountain Home's Tilley retires

Longtime Mountain Home employee, Street Director Amon Tilley, retired at the end of May. Tilley was hired in 1983 and served the city just 21 days shy of 34 years. He worked under seven mayors during his time with Mountain Home.

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NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2017

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

Fentanyl abuse still growing

In previous *City and Town* articles we've discussed Fentanyl and the dangers it imposes on drug abusers. On July 17, 2017, the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* published a comprehensive analysis of this deadly drug and its impact in Arkansas. Fentanyl, a synthetic drug, is 50-100 times stronger than morphine—and it kills. This very powerful and lethal drug is often mixed with heroin to increase the effects; however, the persons that are using this deadly concoction seem to prefer to assume the risk rather than avoid the deadly possibility.

The article indicated law enforcement encounters with Fentanyl rose from 1,000 cases in 2013 to 14,400 in 2015. These numbers coincide with the national trends showing huge increases in Fentanyl use everywhere. No community is immune from this scourge, and now all need to get on board with strong treatment, education, and law enforcement efforts. Drug abuse is hurting our country.

If you are interested in knowing more about this problem in Arkansas and nationally, you can obtain a copy of the full article from the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. It is a very good source of information.

Studying marijuana dispensaries and mortality

Nearly half of the states in the U.S. have implemented policies that sanction marijuana use for medical purposes. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) supported research to know if providing legal and practical access to marijuana might have both positive and negative impacts on public health.

Three economists (Dr. David Powell, Dr. Rosalie Pascula at the Rand Corporation, and Dr. Mireille Jacobson at the University of California) studied three medical marijuana policies. They found the policies had a common motivation; however, the reality was varied with indirect effects on substance use and related issues. The most interesting finding was that legally protected marijuana dispensaries were associated with lower rates of dependence on prescription opioids and death due to overdose. This was a surprise based on prior trends. The opposite finding was marijuana dispensaries were associated with higher rates of recreational marijuana use and increased potency of illegal marijuana.

Seventeen states provided legal protection to dispensaries between 2004-2014, and patients meeting eligibility requirements for medical marijuana had safe access to the

drug. Interestingly, patients receiving prescriptions from doctors in states without legal dispensaries seemed to turn to illicit or quasi-illicit sources. These patients often feared legal implications in trying to obtain the drug.

A portion of the study compared rates of opioid-related treatment admissions and mortality rates in states with or without legal marijuana dispensaries. The outcome indicated that states with the legal dispensaries had lower opioid overdose mortality rates and fewer admissions to treatment for opioid addiction than they would have experienced without the dispensaries. Arkansas will soon have marijuana dispensaries, so this data might be applicable to our state.

Drug testing updates

A significant number of businesses, cities, and agencies have increased their testing volumes this year. Many more tests being reported to employers are positive (meaning the drug was present in the donor's system) and that is significant after years of declining abuse. With medical marijuana entering the workplace, it is critical that drug testing is conducted by the highest standards and that an employer's drug testing policy be updated to reflect the entry of workers who are medical marijuana users into the workplace. Part of the role of a TPA (Third Party Administrator) is monitoring the forensic testing laboratory performance, informing employers of upcoming changes in the drug testing industry, and offering educational programs for administrators and staff. A TPA may recommend lab changes, different testing mediums and panels, educational programs, background checks, driver qualification file management, and help update handbooks for the organization. Having a qualified TPA as a partner to an employer's program adds an important element to protecting the program's effectiveness and legal defensibility.



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Help trees beat the heat with effective watering techniques

By Alison Litchy



PHOTO BY ALISON LITCHY.

Mulching is one way to avoid runoff and ensure the roots of trees, especially new trees, get the water they need during dry, hot summer months.

As Arkansas heats up, everyone needs to stay hydrated, even trees. Trees constantly lose water to the atmosphere this time of year. Water is the single most limiting essential resource for the survival and growth of urban tree. Water shortages can severely damage young and old trees.

A mature tree can handle environmental stressors better than the young or newly planted tree. A mature tree has an extensive root system that, if not disturbed, can extend two to three times the height of the tree perpendicular to the trunk. However, a newly planted or young tree has not had all those years to create such an elaborate root system and shows signs of damage faster and must be watered during times of drought.

Urban trees have to deal with additional pressures that forest trees do not. A heat island is an urban area that is hotter than nearby rural areas because of the greater absorption, retention, and generation of heat by its buildings, pavements, and human activities. The annual mean air temperature of a city with one million people or more can be 1.8–5.4 degrees warmer than surrounding cities. In the evening, the difference between rural and urban air temperatures can be as high

as 22 degrees because of the heat island effect. Heat islands can affect communities by increasing summertime peak energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illness and mortality, and water quality. Trees are a great way to help reduce the heat island effect. Trees and vegetation lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade and through evapotranspiration (the process of turning liquid into vapor). Shaded surfaces may be 20–45 degrees cooler than the peak temperatures of unshaded surfaces.

Evapotranspiration, alone, or in combination with shading, can help reduce peak summer temperatures by 2–9 degrees. In addition to planting trees, maintaining existing trees is critical to reducing our urban temperatures.

Urban trees, as we know, also have to deal with disturbed soils and often a lack of soils. Because of their harder lives than their forest tree cousins, they need extra help from their human caretakers. The following will serve as a guide on summer care for urban trees.

Trees need your help to beat the heat! So how can you properly water your tree?

How—The best way to water is a slow trickle or drip over a longer period of time. Items like soaker hoses or drip irrigation are perfect for this. A garden hose with a slow trickle and moved around from time to time can do the trick as well. Organic mulch is a great way of keeping soil moisture in. There are products available to establish new trees such as “gator bags.” Gator bags are bags you fill up with water and they slowly drip it out over time. A slow drip ensures the water all goes to the roots and doesn’t run off. A bucket with a couple of small holes in the bottom can replicate the effect of a Gator bag.

Where—Most of the roots of a tree are in the top foot of the soil, so watering from the top of the soil and allowing it to slowly absorb is best. Avoid using a pipe or wand stuck in the ground, which does not allow water to get to the most important roots. A common mistake is to water just at the trunk of the tree. Water all of the soil directly below the foliage (drip line) and shaded by the tree. Make sure that water application is slow enough that the water is soaking in and not running off. Do not spray foliage. This can cause leaf tissue damage in the sun. For newly planted trees, make sure to focus the water on the root ball of the tree.

When—The best time to water is at night and early morning from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. This reduces the amount of evaporative loss, ensuring water moves into the soil and the tree can utilize it. For every 18-degree increase in temperature, the amount of water lost by a tree and the site around it almost doubles. Trees surrounded by pavement or hot surfaces can be 20-30 degrees warmer than a tree in a landscaped yard.

How much—This depends on your soil texture, bulk density, daily temperatures, and rainfall amounts. One to three inches of water per week should keep a tree healthy. Trees with limited root space may need additional water and care. Five gallons per square yard is about one inch of water.

How often—Trees should be watered about once or twice a week in the growing season if there is no rainfall in that particular week. A few higher volume water events are more effective than several light shallow watering events. Light watering can encourage shallow rooting that leads to more severe drought damage down the road.

Many plants in a small area can effectively compete with the soil and available water. Grass, for example, has roots that are right at the soil surface and can take the water in before the tree. Prevent this by placing mulch in the area between the trunk and drip line. When choosing landscape plants consider the current zone and the range of the species. As USDA hardiness zones are changing and temperatures are rising, plants that range further south may be a better selection than a plant that is in its southernmost range.

Mature trees are not easily replaced. They are not as simple and low cost to replace as other landscape plants can be. Watering trees in times of drought is critical.



Alison Litchy is urban forestry partnership coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Call Alison at (501) 580-9609 or email alison.litchy@arkansas.gov.



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Sipes named police chiefs association's first director

The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police (AACP) has named Gary Sipes as the organization's executive director. Sipes is the first executive director of the AACP, which will gather for its 50th annual convention in September in Hot Springs. The move comes as part of the group's efforts to promote professionalism in police departments across the state, Sipes said. He started at his new post on July 1, and, as part of a memorandum of understanding with the Arkansas Municipal League, will occupy an office at the League's North Little Rock headquarters.

Sipes is a Pine Bluff native and has spent his career in law enforcement. He first joined the North Little Rock Police Department in 1975. He retired in 1999, and then spent time as the city's code enforcement director. He went on to spend four

years as Benton's police chief and another six years as Jacksonville's chief.

Since 2010 the association has made an effort to help departments across the state be more consistent and professional, Sipes said, through the development and sharing of policies and procedures, especially those concerning the most critical areas of policing, such as use-of-force and pursuits. Also toward this end, the association has developed an accreditation program for police departments.

Sipes recommends that all officers in department leadership positions join the AACP and that all police departments in Arkansas take advantage of the sample policies and training opportunities the association offers. For further information call (501) 372-4600 or visit the AACP website at www.arkchiefs.org. 



Nominations sought for 2017 Volunteer Community of the Year Awards

The Arkansas Department of Human Services Office of Communications and Community Engagement (OCCE) is accepting nominations for the 2017 Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year awards through Sept. 15. The OCCE made the announcement in a July 13 media release.

Each year, the division partners with the Governor's Office, Governor's Advisory Commission on National Service and Volunteerism, and the Arkansas Municipal League to recognize communities that band together in serving its neighbors. Winners typically have overcome obstacles such as limited funding for projects, taking a new approach to an old problem or recovering from natural disasters. Cities that have been honored in the past can be recognized again for new accomplishments.

A committee of citizens who represent a cross-section of the state population will select 12 communities to be honored at the Arkansas Municipal League's Winter Conference in January 2018 in Fort Smith. Winners will receive two signs donated by the Arkansas Highway Commission designating the city as a Volunteer Community of the Year.

Recipients in 2016 were Benton, Bentonville, Cherokee Village, Clarkridge, Fayetteville, Greenbrier, Heber Springs, Little Rock, Maumelle, McNeil, Mountain Home, and Van Buren. Volunteers in these communities donated thousands of hours last year toward supporting on-going activities and needs of their fellow citizens.

To complete the online nomination form, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/VCOYA2017 or if you would like to complete the PDF nomination form visit www.volunteer.org.

For more information or assistance in completing the nomination form, contact Kimberly Simpson at 501-320-6599, kimberly.simpson@dhs.arkansas.gov, or by mail at P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-230, Little Rock, AR 72203. 



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PHOTO BY JEREMY RODGERS.

Arkansas's trail systems enhance our quality of life and our local economies, and grants are available to establish and maintain them.

Trail funding supports local development efforts

By Benjamin Askew

Adding public recreational facilities to your community not only adds to the personality of your city but also to the overall quality of life of its citizens. The addition of such facilities as motorized or non-motorized trails, for example, encourages locals to get outside and actively admire the beauty of their home while also enticing more people who are just passing through to stop and stay for a while.

The increased connectedness of communities that employ the use of recreational trails makes retail and work sites more accessible, which could lead to an increase in tourism and a newfound revitalization of local economic health. These benefits are a reality that is well understood by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) as they prepare for yet another funding cycle for their Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant.

The RTP is a competitive, reimbursement-type, federal aid program established in 1993 that provides for an 80 percent federal share and 20 percent non-federal share for each project. It was created for the purpose of allowing cities, counties, state or federal government

agencies, and nonprofit groups to apply for funding for the construction or maintenance of recreational trails or trail facilities throughout the state. This program continues to be administered by the AHTD and the Federal Highway Administration to do exactly that, and it has had a relatively long and successful history of assisting Arkansas communities in seeing these projects through to completion.

Fifteen different projects were awarded funds from this program in 2016. One of the projects was the construction of phase two of Hot Springs' Northwood Trails, which is still underway. The RTP awarded Hot Springs \$48,000 to pursue this goal as part of their greenway efforts, and so far the funding has proven to be an incredible help in the construction of phase two.

Hot Springs Mayor Pat McCabe said "the greenway was just an overgrown streambed, and now it is a well-maintained, beautiful walkway with many activities along the way." He elaborated on the positive impacts these new trails will have on the community.

"These trails will enhance our tourism," McCabe said. "We are a significant player in the mountain-biking

world, and we want to enhance our community in that area.”

It’s just a five-minute bike ride from the trailhead to the downtown area, he said.

“This will certainly appeal to the cyclists in our community who just want to quickly and easily access the retail sites and prop their bikes outside the shops.”

For any who are interested in this program and the positive impacts it has to offer to your community, the applications for both the motorized and non-motorized trails can be found at the bottom of the RTP’s webpage on the AHTD’s official website at www.arkansashighways.com/recreational_trails.aspx. Historically, the deadlines for these applications have been around the start of each calendar year, but the deadline for the current funding cycle has not yet been decided. All interested groups should watch for updates on the AHTD’s website. However, there are still a few other things to keep in mind for communities considering this program.

When it comes to allocating the funds from this program, priority is given to the construction of new trails and for the major maintenance of existing trails. Although support facilities including restrooms, benches, trailhead parking, and lighting are also funded

on occasion, they have been viewed by the Arkansas Recreational Trails Advisory Committee as less important.

Eligibility of who can apply also needs to be taken into account by all interested parties. According to the RTP site, applications for trail projects will be accepted from city and county governments, state agencies, other governmental bodies created under state law (i.e. river authorities, planning districts), federal land managers (i.e. U.S. Forest Service, Corps of Engineers), and private 501(c)(3) organizations. The Program Management Division of the AHTD has specified, however, that the primary criteria for the eligibility of a group or project to be funded by this program is that the funded trail or trail facility be open to the public and not be exclusively privately used.

Anyone interested in this program can call the Program Management Division of the AHTD at (501) 569-2481 for additional information.



Benjamin Askew is an intern for University of Central Arkansas’s Center for Community and Economic Development.



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Trump budget proposal threatens grant programs

By Chad Gallagher

Washington seems to provide us no shortage of theatrics and drama these days. Between the health care debate, the Russia controversy, and the President's Twitter account, it seems that Americans can easily turn to Washington for amusement or bewilderment. One thing is certain: Washington has a real impact on our lives. Not only does Washington craft the federal laws we must live by, but the budget decisions made there can have a profound impact in our cities and towns.

The federal government provides a great deal of grant money to cities and towns. Much of these funds come as pass-through funds administered by programs at the state level, while others are directly granted from federal agencies to the municipal applicant. Politicians often debate the merit of these programs, and rightfully so. We all know that the federal government is spending more money than all of us can make and pay in. The excessive spending must stop and the budget needs to be balanced.

However, grants themselves are not the problem. In fact, most grants are better managed than the dollars managed directly by federal agencies. I can assure you that an Arkansas town can generally better manage a dollar and make it go further than any D.C. bureaucrat. There should be healthy debate on the merit of every program and every dollar, but to me there is little doubt that granting funds to states and local governments is a wise and efficient way to spend tax dollars. If the purpose of the dollars is determined to be an appropriate purpose, then you can generally trust states and cities to do a good job in getting the most out of a dollar and ensuring it is best used at the local level.

Recently, all eyes in the grant world have been on D.C. and the budget process. This summer President Trump released his proposed 2018 budget, which included cuts to 66 federal programs for a savings of \$26.7 million to the federal budget. Many of these are not programs utilized by Arkansas cities and towns, but some of them could have real impact in Arkansas. HUD's Community Development Block Grant would have some impact under this proposal, as would other programs at Human Services. Cities could also see potential impact through Energy Department cuts, the TIGER program at the Transportation Department, and the USDA's Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account. Of local interest on the chopping block is the Delta Regional Authority.

Of course this budget is just a proposal, and the ultimate federal budget will be the result of work between both houses of Congress and the administration. Municipal officials might consider encouraging the members of Arkansas's congressional delegation to focus on cutting foolish federal waste, while carefully considering cuts to any program that partners with local communities. You can be sure that we will be closely watching it all unfold and will keep you posted along the way.



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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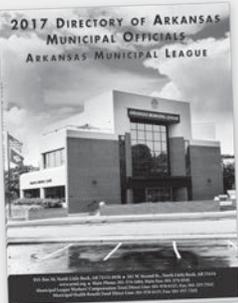
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2017 Directory

P.O. Box 38

North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Changes to 2017 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

As of August 1, 2017, Act 879 of the 91st General Assembly changed the term "Alderman" to "Council Member." Please note this update in terminology will be used moving forward.

Altheimer

Delete CA John (Jack) Talbot
Add CA Jessica Yarbrough

Arkadelphia

Delete C Rendi Currey
Add /A/C Nancy Anderson

Benton

Delete PRD John Eckart
Add PRD (Vacant)
Delete CM Charles Cunningham
Add CM Jocelyn Cash



Gum Springs

Delete FC (Vacant)
Add FC Austin Thompson

Little Flock

Delete M Buddy Blue
Add M Bob Stout
Delete CM Bob Stout
Add CM Debb Formanek

Little Rock

Delete PLD Tony Bozynski
Add PLD Jamie Collins
Delete PRD Truman Tolefree
Add PRD John Eckart

Lonoke

Delete PC Pat Mulligan
Add PC Randy Mauk
Delete FC Jimmy Wallace
Add FC Justin Whittenburg

Morrilton

Delete C/T Charlotte Kindle
Add C/T Sherry Montgomery

Mountain Pine

Add MR Bill House, Jr.

O’Kean

Delete CM Tommy Castelan
Add CM Randy Rainwater

Pottsville

Delete CM (Vacant)
Add CM Steve Williamson

Siloam Springs

Delete WS Brandon Ross
Add WS Josh Napier

Van Buren

Delete PC Kenneth Bell
Add PC Jamie Hammond

Vilonia

Delete R/T (Vacant)
Add R/T Eric Simmons

Note: CM = Council Member

Obituaries

MARK BRADLEY, 57, a White Hall police officer of seven years and former Pine Bluff police officer, died July 22.

CHARLES F. CUNNINGHAM, 84, a Benton council member and a former mayor, the first African-American to hold that position in the city, died April 18.

BILLY JOE HELMS, 79, mayor of Clarksville for 14 years, died July 23.

BIRDIA MAE LASSITER, 78, who, during her 36-years of service in Warren served as city clerk, treasurer, and special projects director for the mayor, died Aug. 2.

JAMES E. MOORE, 55, a Morrilton police officer, died July 15.

LONDELL WILLIAMS, 78, a former Texarkana mayor, the first African-American to hold that position, who served on the city board for 37 years from 1977 to 2014, died July 10.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Sept. 2

32nd Leachville Harvest Festival
Leachville
(870) 530-4333

Sept. 2-3

Downtown Junk Fest
Van Buren
(479) 474-8936; www.vanburencity.org

Sept. 4

Labor Day Picnic
Rector
(870) 595-4807

Sept. 16

10th Avoca Town & Fire Department BBQ
Avoca
(479) 621-5921; www.avocaarkansas.info

74th White River Carnival
Batesville

(870) 793-2378; www.mybatesville.org

31st Cane Hill Harvest Festival
Cane Hill
(479) 435-4622

Bash on the Boulevard
Maumelle

(501) 851-9700; www.maumellechamber.com

Sept. 23

29th Autumn on the Square
Marianna
(870) 295-2469;
www.mariannaregionalchamber.org

Sept. 29

20th Depot Days Festival
Newport
(870) 523-3618; www.depotdays.org

Sept. 29-30

10th Get Down Downtown Festival
Searcy
(501) 279-9007; www.searcy.com

Sept. 30

Fishing Derby
Mountain Home
(870) 425-9290

41st Sherwood Fest
Sherwood
(501) 833-0476; www.cityofsherwood.net

11th Quitman Fest
Quitman
(501) 589-3312; www.quitmanfest.com



MEETING CALENDAR

November 15-18, 2017

**National League of Cities
City Summit 2017**
Charlotte Convention Center
Charlotte, NC

January 10-12, 2018

**Arkansas Municipal League's
2018 Winter Conference**
Fort Smith, AR

June 13-15, 2018

**Arkansas Municipal League's
84th Convention**
Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR



2017 State Turnback Funds

| Actual Totals Per Capita | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| MONTH | STREET | | SEVERANCE TAX | | GENERAL | |
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 |
| January | \$5.0284 | \$5.3276 | \$0.2297 | \$0.3041 | \$2.1382 | \$2.1473 |
| February | \$5.1992 | \$5.5378 | \$0.1524 | \$0.1894 | \$1.0775 | \$1.0884 |
| March | \$4.6255 | \$4.7222 | \$0.1655 | \$0.3450 | \$1.0778 | \$1.0886 |
| April | \$5.5340 | \$5.3517 | \$0.2342 | \$0.3611 | \$1.0777 | \$1.0886 |
| May | \$5.4590 | \$5.4824 | \$0.0745 | \$0.2602 | \$1.0773 | \$1.0864 |
| June | \$5.2768 | \$5.5686 | \$0.0968 | \$0.1900 | \$1.0778 | \$1.0881 |
| July | \$5.6734 | \$5.5610 | \$0.0987 | \$0.2628 | \$2.8803 | \$2.9480 |
| August | \$5.0337 | | \$0.1292 | | \$1.2006 | |
| September | \$5.3389 | | \$0.1482 | | \$1.0906 | |
| October | \$5.5217 | | \$0.2562 | | \$1.0896 | |
| November | \$5.3393 | | \$0.2306 | | \$1.0881 | |
| December | \$4.9184 | | \$0.2078 | | \$1.0884 | |
| Total Year | \$62.9483 | \$37.5513 | \$2.0238 | \$1.9084 | \$15.9639 | \$10.5355 |

| Actual Totals Per Month | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| MONTH | STREET | | SEVERANCE TAX | | GENERAL | |
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 |
| January | \$9,482,577.19 | \$10,065,525.00 | \$433,179.54 | \$574,575.98 | * \$4,032,277.00 | *\$4,056,819.92 |
| February | \$9,804,689.33 | \$10,462,690.50 | \$287,481.18 | \$357,751.63 | \$2,031,997.39 | \$2,056,417.62 |
| March | \$8,722,769.73 | \$8,921,686.11 | \$312,010.76 | \$651,783.55 | \$2,032,596.84 | \$2,056,718.50 |
| April | \$10,436,025.60 | \$10,110,987.00 | \$441,661.71 | \$682,243.26 | \$2,032,297.66 | \$2,056,718.50 |
| May | \$10,294,480.80 | \$10,363,642.30 | \$140,536.93 | \$491,893.79 | \$2,031,495.51 | \$2,053,761.87 |
| June | \$9,950,873.55 | \$10,526,632.40 | \$182,493.78 | \$351,199.83 | \$2,032,597.66 | 2,056,937.75 |
| July | \$10,698,830.40 | \$10,512,280.90 | \$186,206.19 | \$496,864.92 | ** \$5,431,589.73 | *** \$5,572,710.46 |
| August | \$9,492,433.07 | | \$243,594.47 | | \$2,264,157.25 | |
| September | \$10,068,067.87 | | \$279,548.09 | | \$2,056,681.01 | |
| October | \$10,421,889.30 | | \$483,529.74 | | \$2,056,531.47 | |
| November | \$10,087,659.40 | | \$435,692.77 | | \$2,055,823.30 | |
| December | \$9,292,326.92 | | \$392,523.22 | | \$2,056,318.09 | |
| Total Year | \$118,752,623.16 | \$70,963,444.21 | \$3,818,458.38 | \$3,606,312.96 | \$30,114,362.91 | \$19,910,084.62 |

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

** Includes \$3,517,035.84 supplemental for July 2016

*** Includes \$3,515,747.46 supplemental for July 2017

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

| Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2017 with 2016 Comparison (shaded gray) | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Month | Municipal Tax | | County Tax | | Total Tax | | Interest | |
| January | \$51,749,675 | \$49,037,009 | \$46,139,133 | \$43,720,229 | \$97,888,807 | \$92,757,238 | \$15,903 | \$15,812 |
| February | \$60,007,416 | \$59,477,239 | \$52,583,090 | \$51,693,904 | \$112,590,506 | \$111,171,143 | \$17,386 | \$20,455 |
| March | \$48,225,282 | \$45,484,389 | \$42,723,485 | \$41,503,958 | \$90,948,767 | \$86,988,347 | \$18,863 | \$17,357 |
| April | \$50,349,075 | \$51,278,433 | \$44,591,728 | \$46,543,122 | \$94,940,803 | \$97,821,554 | \$15,747 | \$19,032 |
| May | \$55,441,606 | \$51,716,750 | \$48,861,910 | \$46,509,945 | \$104,303,516 | \$98,226,695 | \$17,059 | \$16,799 |
| June | \$50,977,784 | \$48,045,270 | \$45,261,893 | \$42,836,823 | \$96,239,677 | \$90,882,093 | \$17,534 | \$17,947 |
| July | \$55,472,881 | \$52,527,961 | \$49,248,601 | \$47,321,806 | \$104,721,482 | \$99,849,766 | \$18,995 | \$17,750 |
| August | | \$52,254,925 | | \$47,594,177 | | \$99,849,102 | | \$17,169 |
| September | | \$53,746,167 | | \$49,430,573 | | \$103,176,740 | | \$18,913 |
| October | | \$52,105,594 | | \$47,384,899 | | \$99,490,493 | | \$17,666 |
| November | | \$53,632,182 | | \$48,831,434 | | \$102,463,617 | | \$17,523 |
| December | | \$51,969,068 | | \$46,917,820 | | \$98,886,888 | | \$17,198 |
| Total | \$372,223,717 | \$621,274,986 | \$329,409,839 | \$560,288,690 | \$701,633,557 | \$1,181,563,676 | \$121,489 | \$213,621 |
| Averages | \$53,174,817 | \$51,772,916 | \$47,058,548 | \$46,690,724 | \$100,233,365 | \$98,463,640 | \$17,356 | \$17,802 |

July 2017 Municipal Levy Receipts and July 2017 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2016 Comparison (shaded gray)

| CITY SALES AND USE | AMOUNT | LAST YEAR | Franklin | 2,238.22 | Mountainburg | 11,496.33 | 22,317.64 | Crossett | 54,382.27 | 55,655.86 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| Alexander | 80,865.13 | 64,525.50 | Garfield | 12,132.06 | Mulberry | 30,052.13 | 24,107.00 | Fountain Hill | 1,728.15 | 1,768.62 |
| Alma | 230,930.63 | 218,626.62 | Garland | 2,080.86 | Murfreesboro | 36,583.09 | 29,899.83 | Hamburg | 28,213.21 | 28,873.94 |
| Almyra | 11,126.79 | 4,343.50 | Gassville | 18,069.69 | Nashville | 111,068.70 | 110,677.94 | Montrose | 3,495.79 | 3,577.66 |
| Alpena | 5,147.92 | 6,536.68 | Gentry | 62,276.99 | Newport | 180,077.88 | 213,275.47 | Parkdale | 2,735.41 | 2,799.47 |
| Altheimer | 2,984.17 | 2,246.50 | Gilbert | 695.51 | Norfolk | 4,945.60 | 5,824.92 | Portland | 4,426.30 | 4,345.75 |
| Altus | 5,686.18 | 6,342.01 | Gillett | 10,690.34 | Norman | 1,969.20 | 2,152.92 | Wilmot | 5,431.31 | 5,568.50 |
| Amity | 9,527.74 | 7,693.80 | Gillham | 3,009.02 | North Little Rock | 1,408,000.07 | 1,462,233.05 | Baxter County | 351,364.70 | 319,110.44 |
| Anthonyville | 643.32 | 181.70 | Gilmore | 336.27 | Oak Grove | 841.36 | 920.25 | Big Flat | 1,524.17 | 1,384.25 |
| Arkadelphia | 164,610.68 | 162,496.85 | Glenwood | 77,258.97 | Oak Grove Heights | 6,091.44 | NA | Briarcliff | 3,458.69 | 3,141.19 |
| Ash Flat | 100,348.23 | 93,266.91 | Gosnell | 15,419.45 | Ola | 17,452.03 | 21,797.97 | Cotter | 14,215.80 | 12,910.83 |
| Ashdown | 131,759.78 | 130,578.86 | Gould | 11,487.64 | Oppelo | 3,422.19 | 3,105.36 | Gassville | 30,454.05 | 27,658.46 |
| Atkins | 53,802.67 | 56,271.42 | Grady | 3,581.39 | Osceola | 90,931.05 | 109,715.13 | Lakeview | 10,859.70 | 9,862.81 |
| Augusta | 26,136.80 | 30,138.38 | Gravette | 113,121.47 | Oxford | 1,509.41 | 1,280.92 | Mountain Home | 182,431.19 | 165,684.54 |
| Austin | 35,133.87 | 29,057.63 | Green Forest | 194,015.60 | Ozark | 191,562.73 | 96,594.11 | Norfork | 7,488.94 | 6,801.48 |
| Avoca | 7,454.36 | 8,245.09 | Greenbrier | 170,303.53 | Palestine | 22,205.21 | 18,517.09 | Salesville | 6,594.96 | 5,989.56 |
| Bald Knob | 52,714.57 | 35,995.12 | Greenland | 21,625.74 | Pangburn | 8,436.03 | 7,852.93 | Benton County | 810,939.41 | 721,703.60 |
| Barling | 57,039.98 | 52,748.56 | Greenwood | 217,251.05 | Paragould | 322,714.65 | 310,182.07 | Avoca | 9,315.22 | 8,290.17 |
| Batesville | 651,166.51 | 614,184.67 | Greers Ferry | 19,883.99 | Paris | 78,031.64 | 78,439.88 | Bella Vista | 506,343.22 | 450,625.18 |
| Bauxite | 13,129.19 | 15,765.03 | Guion | 5,721.04 | Patmos | 501.46 | 64.90 | Bentonville | 673,845.36 | 599,695.38 |
| Bay | 7,937.98 | 7,052.30 | Gum Springs | 241.98 | Patterson | 1,495.69 | 1,966.77 | Bethel Heights | 45,278.07 | 40,295.67 |
| Bearden | 13,621.45 | 13,738.01 | Gurdon | 24,101.67 | Pea Ridge | 58,231.96 | 49,151.72 | Cave Springs | 36,860.01 | 32,803.94 |
| Beebe | 127,797.03 | 110,708.16 | Guy | 5,363.15 | Perla | 4,748.39 | 3,893.24 | Centerton | 181,627.67 | 161,641.36 |
| Beedeville | 54.42 | 87.44 | Hackett | 5,940.19 | Perryville | 20,704.07 | 27,042.21 | Decatur | 32,431.47 | 28,862.71 |
| Bella Vista | 159,330.96 | 167,670.55 | Hamburg | 31,578.77 | Piggott | 66,676.70 | 63,511.05 | Elm Springs | 2,615.13 | 2,327.36 |
| Belleville | 1,990.32 | 2,917.66 | Hardy | 20,501.23 | Pine Bluff | 945,208.38 | 950,703.55 | Garfield | 9,582.46 | 8,528.00 |
| Benton | 1,443,914.92 | 1,359,505.33 | Harrisburg | 57,997.61 | Pineville | 1,820.59 | 1,558.58 | Gateway | 7,730.87 | 6,880.16 |
| Bentonville | 2,409,708.16 | 1,905,496.76 | Harrison | 484,212.29 | Plainview | 3,093.01 | 3,318.85 | Gentry | 65,378.33 | 58,184.09 |
| Berryville | 254,122.67 | 244,734.79 | Hartford | 5,148.69 | Pleasant Plains | 7,375.26 | NA | Gravette | 59,422.70 | 52,883.82 |
| Bethel Heights | 111,481.00 | 63,060.66 | Haskell | 39,343.87 | Plumerville | 12,305.34 | 13,744.81 | Highfill | 11,128.63 | 9,904.04 |
| Big Flat | 320.76 | NA | Hatfield | 4,647.88 | Pocahontas | 219,750.00 | 263,401.00 | Little Flock | 49,343.93 | 43,914.13 |
| Black Rock | 10,599.47 | 8,077.92 | Havana | 3,254.60 | Portia | 4,479.61 | 2,356.99 | Lowell | 139,861.90 | 124,471.49 |
| Blevins | 1,994.42 | 2,442.20 | Hazen | 77,990.82 | Portland | 5,134.07 | 5,800.22 | Pea Ridge | 91,510.57 | 81,440.74 |
| Blue Mountain | 146.74 | 257.69 | Heber Springs | 157,388.62 | Pottsville | 22,804.15 | 27,973.30 | Rogers | 1,068,272.33 | 950,719.59 |
| Blytheville | 245,171.39 | 253,675.91 | Helena-West Helena | 238,317.20 | Prairie Grove | 99,125.97 | 81,237.35 | Siloam Springs | 287,072.90 | 255,483.38 |
| Bonanza | 2,754.33 | 2,619.47 | Hermitage | 4,675.62 | Prescott | 50,732.25 | 55,497.02 | Springdale | 125,068.26 | 111,305.75 |
| Bono | 15,018.93 | 11,433.94 | Higginson | 1,649.07 | Pyatt | 557.42 | 611.60 | Springtown | 1,660.70 | 1,477.96 |
| Boneville | 107,967.77 | 102,671.04 | Highfill | 74,373.20 | Quitman | 25,641.37 | 19,292.52 | Sulphur Springs | 9,754.26 | 8,680.90 |
| Bradford | 14,186.91 | 14,694.36 | Highland | 26,421.97 | Ravenden | 2,356.21 | 2,307.77 | Boone County | 399,340.09 | 383,711.40 |
| Bradley | 3,330.42 | 3,293.72 | Holly Grove | 8,132.21 | Rector | 26,600.53 | 25,437.82 | Alpena | 4,213.90 | 4,048.99 |
| Branch | 1,883.86 | 1,584.62 | Hope | 193,707.29 | Redfield | 18,289.26 | 24,023.47 | Bellefonte | 5,997.22 | 5,762.51 |
| Briarcliff | 1,513.69 | 1,225.71 | Horatio | 6,069.63 | Rison | 14,921.65 | 15,085.11 | Bergman | 5,799.07 | 5,572.12 |
| Brinkley | 100,782.05 | 117,526.04 | Horseshoe Bend | 20,132.81 | Rockport | 12,268.48 | 11,654.02 | Diamond City | 10,330.01 | 9,925.73 |
| Brookland | 63,887.87 | 53,559.29 | Hot Springs | 1,637,511.55 | Roe | 388.26 | 405.31 | Everton | 1,756.89 | 1,688.14 |
| Bryant | 1,166,068.98 | 1,072,235.81 | Hoxie | 14,970.56 | Rogers | 3,099,356.30 | 3,028,882.99 | Harrison | 170,973.55 | 164,282.90 |
| Bull Shoals | 15,714.51 | 14,482.41 | Hughes | 4,914.15 | Rose Bud | 21,498.87 | 21,567.89 | Lead Hill | 3,579.84 | 3,439.74 |
| Bull Shoals | 780,362.11 | 778,577.67 | Humphrey | 2,283.61 | Rudy | 10,236.53 | NA | Leah | 2,232.44 | 2,145.08 |
| Caddo Valley | 59,047.60 | 61,523.34 | Huntington | 2,454.21 | Russellville | 1,047,344.45 | 1,008,496.82 | South Lead Hill | 1,347.39 | 1,294.66 |
| Calico Rock | 25,061.80 | 25,549.42 | Huntsville | 134,088.86 | Salem | 18,624.18 | 20,885.26 | Valley Springs | 2,417.38 | 2,322.77 |
| Camden | 288,665.31 | 302,373.54 | Imboden | 6,549.85 | Salesville | 4,353.33 | 4,246.01 | Zinc | 1,360.62 | 1,307.34 |
| Caraway | 6,216.75 | 5,595.78 | Jacksonville | 627,876.33 | Searcy | 798,441.54 | 779,842.21 | Bradley County | 118,965.95 | 119,413.96 |
| Carlew | 54,763.16 | 50,753.80 | Jasper | 30,254.64 | Shannon Hills | 8,964.65 | 8,699.07 | Banks | 918.6 | 922.06 |
| Cash | 1,901.19 | 1,973.09 | Jennette | 135.68 | Sheridan | 200,954.26 | 196,801.78 | Hermitage | 6,148.69 | 6,171.84 |
| Cave City | 17,744.93 | 17,929.61 | Johnson | 61,046.96 | Sherrill | 989.27 | 834.19 | Warren | 44,470.54 | 44,638.02 |
| Cave Springs | 37,364.27 | 32,223.75 | Joiner | 1,601.44 | Sherwood | 431,771.86 | 433,913.76 | Calhoun County | 78,476.21 | 87,290.51 |
| Cedarville | 5,531.12 | NA | Jonesboro | 1,523,129.37 | Shirley | 3,834.34 | 2,916.15 | Hampton | 2,242.16 | 24,742.59 |
| Centerton | 217,841.24 | 184,268.76 | Judsonia | 10,183.97 | Siloam Springs | 670,637.55 | 637,119.68 | Harrell | 4,267.38 | 4,746.69 |
| Charleston | 29,213.41 | 28,136.55 | Junction City | 4,886.51 | Sparkman | 3,905.81 | 2,728.61 | Thornton | 6,837.90 | 7,605.92 |
| Cherokee Village | 15,180.00 | 13,952.96 | Keiser | 4,134.01 | Springdale | 2,813,453.64 | 2,380,313.01 | Tinsman | 907.24 | 1,009.13 |
| Cherry Valley | 4,973.78 | 3,985.67 | Keo | 1,319.54 | Springtown | 200.14 | 328.20 | Carroll County | 199,388.60 | 164,029.26 |
| Chidester | 2,424.87 | 2,552.02 | Kibler | 2,865.55 | St. Charles | 910.01 | 1,490.08 | Beaver | 729.93 | 600.49 |
| Clarendon | 47,463.84 | 39,693.12 | Kingsland | 2,115.24 | Stamps | 12,346.88 | 11,877.70 | Blue Eye | 218.98 | 180.15 |
| Clarksville | 383,851.52 | 379,051.51 | Lake City | 11,904.24 | Star City | 75,289.76 | 74,971.26 | Chicot County | 112,076.57 | 120,144.13 |
| Clinton | 94,649.29 | 85,389.48 | Lake Village | 70,557.61 | Stephens | 4,763.92 | 6,281.67 | Dermott | 20,406.46 | 21,875.37 |
| Coal Hill | 4,170.63 | 2,365.92 | Lakeview | 4,175.62 | Strong | 10,251.20 | 11,188.88 | Eudora | 16,027.09 | 17,180.76 |
| Conway | 2,100,844.08 | 2,015,379.59 | Lamar | 11,991.74 | Stuttgart | 568,597.39 | 513,165.40 | Lake Village | 18,188.51 | 19,497.77 |
| Corning | 17,138.50 | 79,750.26 | Lead Hill | 5,153.30 | Sulphur Springs | 2,003.78 | 1,795.80 | Clark County | 413,234.54 | 385,018.46 |
| Cotter | 14,660.04 | 14,753.37 | Lepanto | 26,607.28 | Sunmit | 4,348.97 | 4,422.50 | Clay County | 86,563.36 | 89,342.82 |
| Cotton Plant | 1,765.16 | 1,297.78 | Leslie | 4,492.92 | Sunset | 2,523.82 | 1,983.18 | Corning | 23,365.40 | 24,115.64 |
| Cove | 13,700.48 | 14,330.80 | Lewisville | 7,598.40 | Swifton | 3,951.18 | 3,406.13 | Datto | 1,037.85 | 1,071.17 |
| Crawfordsville | 11,370.36 | 8,137.98 | Lincoln | 49,156.35 | Taylor | 8,675.57 | 7,841.49 | Greenway | 2,169.10 | 2,238.75 |
| Crossett | 292,132.88 | 306,838.27 | Little Flock | 9,719.89 | Texarkana | 387,202.73 | 382,068.22 | Knobel | 2,978.42 | 3,074.26 |
| Damascus | 9,975.65 | 5,191.47 | Little Rock | 6,453,590.98 | Texarkana Special | 190,465.15 | 190,167.21 | McDougal | 1,930.40 | 1,992.38 |
| Darville | 38,267.34 | 46,212.31 | Lockesburg | 4,628.22 | Thornton | 905.06 | 918.69 | Nimmons | 716.11 | 739.11 |
| Dardanelle | 166,866.98 | 164,514.25 | Lonoke | 158,474.18 | Tontitown | 147,046.75 | 120,702.62 | Peach Orchard | 1,401.09 | 1,446.08 |
| Decatur | 24,146.74 | 19,006.80 | Lowell | 180,149.89 | Trumann | 162,893.60 | 87,918.09 | Piggott | 26,631.16 | 27,486.25 |
| Delight | 4,585.33 | 4,588.67 | Luxora | 1,827.61 | Tuckerman | 12,058.81 | 13,496.10 | Pollard | 2,304.02 | 2,378.00 |
| DeQueen | 126,197.41 | 109,292.11 | Madison | 953.52 | Turrell | 4,435.48 | 3,472.48 | Rector | 13,678.82 | 14,118.04 |
| Dermott | 26,640.90 | 21,688.17 | Magazine | 9,693.10 | Tyronza | 2,322.35 | 2,977.84 | St. Francis | 2,594.62 | 2,677.93 |
| Des Arc | 18,159.77 | 21,034.89 | Magnolia | 473,356.07 | Van Buren | 652,983.63 | 599,533.90 | Success | 1,546.39 | 1,596.04 |
| DeValls Bluff | 14,761.50 | 11,756.00 | Malvern | 171,104.40 | Vandervoort | 642.01 | 463.72 | Cleburne County | 386,738.65 | 360,803.52 |
| DeWitt | 166,976.58 | 174,305.26 | Mammoth Spring | 12,151.33 | Vilonia | 94,517.71 | 74,029.02 | Concord | 2,871.16 | 2,678.62 |
| Diamond City | 2,254.73 | 2,737.21 | Manila | 29,462.84 | Viola | 8,056.92 | 4,681.01 | Fairfield Bay | 2,153.37 | 2,008.96 |
| Diaz | 8,230.75 | 1,881.40 | Mansfield | 39,258.07 | Wabbaseka | 1,182.59 | 693.14 | Greers Ferry | 10,484.44 | 9,781.34 |
| Dier | 21,280.94 | 29,569.32 | Marianna | 78,810.86 | Waldenburn | 7,577.15 | 7,776.58 | Heber Springs | 84,310.88 | 78,656.90 |
| Dover | 24,574.94 | 22,123.55 | Marion | 233,882.93 | Waldron | 98,270.30 | 45,768.77 | Higden | 1,412.05 | 1,317.35 |
| Dumas | 146,572.35 | 145,526.91</ | | | | | | | | |

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|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Egypt | 1,978.95 | 1,858.24 | Cushman | 6,153.95 | 5,778.11 | Bassett | 2,070.82 | 2,124.79 | Scott County | 154,571.63 | 149,208.96 |
| Jonesboro | 1,188,482.08 | 1,115,991.44 | Magness | 2,750.22 | 2,582.25 | Birdsong | 490.77 | 503.56 | Mansfield | 7,273.96 | 7,021.60 |
| Lake City | 36,787.23 | 34,543.42 | Moorefield | 1,865.25 | 1,751.33 | Blytheville | 186,972.54 | 191,844.86 | Waldron | 29,095.83 | 28,086.39 |
| Monette | 26,521.44 | 24,903.72 | Newark | 16,011.16 | 15,033.32 | Burdette | 2,286.28 | 2,345.86 | Searcy County | 68,108.30 | 41,092.74 |
| Crawford County | 709,787.49 | 654,840.14 | Oil Trough | 3,539.88 | 3,323.69 | Dell | 2,669.33 | 2,738.89 | Big Flat | 6.66 | 6.71 |
| Alma | 51,655.05 | 47,656.24 | Pleasant Plains | 4,751.61 | 4,461.42 | Dyess | 4,907.73 | 5,035.62 | Gilbert | 1,186.53 | 187.82 |
| Cedarville | 13,287.90 | 12,259.24 | Southside | 53,111.84 | 28,852.22 | Etowah | 4,201.50 | 4,310.98 | Leslie | 2,937.91 | 2,958.19 |
| Chester | 1,515.62 | 1,398.29 | Sulphur Rock | 6,208.40 | 5,829.26 | Gosnell | 42,469.82 | 43,576.54 | Marshall | 9,026.92 | 9,089.24 |
| Dyer | 8,350.22 | 7,703.79 | Izard County | 46,169.83 | 45,353.83 | Joiner | 6,894.76 | 7,074.43 | Pindall | 746.14 | 751.29 |
| Kibler | 9,160.45 | 8,451.31 | Jackson County | 265,440.86 | 283,465.97 | Keiser | 9,085.29 | 9,322.04 | St. Joe | 879.39 | 885.45 |
| Mountainburg | 6,014.83 | 5,549.19 | Amagon | 952.05 | 1,016.70 | Leachville | 23,856.35 | 24,478.03 | Sebastian County | 823,620.65 | 817,899.20 |
| Mulberry | 15,775.81 | 14,554.54 | Beedeville | 1,039.49 | 1,110.08 | Luxora | 14,100.75 | 14,468.20 | Barling | 75,274.98 | 74,752.07 |
| Rudy | 581.46 | 536.45 | Campbell Station | 2,477.28 | 2,645.51 | Manila | 40,003.98 | 41,046.45 | Bonanza | 9,310.20 | 9,245.52 |
| Van Buren | 217,248.62 | 200,430.59 | Diaz | 12,804.15 | 13,673.64 | Marie | 1,005.49 | 1,031.69 | Central City | 8,128.21 | 8,071.74 |
| Crittenden County | 1,285,863.81 | 1,275,442.78 | Grubbs | 3,749.93 | 4,004.57 | Osceola | 92,851.85 | 95,271.48 | Fort Smith | 1,395,865.95 | 1,386,169.25 |
| Anthonyville | 1,043.90 | 1,035.44 | Jacksonport | 2,059.54 | 2,199.40 | Victoria | 442.89 | 454.43 | Greenwood | 144,947.65 | 143,940.74 |
| Clarkedale | 2,405.52 | 2,386.02 | Newport | 76,543.18 | 81,740.95 | Wilson | 10,808.97 | 11,090.65 | Hackett | 13,147.62 | 13,056.29 |
| Crawfordsville | 3,105.78 | 3,080.61 | Swifton | 7,752.44 | 8,278.88 | Monroe County | NA | NA | Hartford | 10,395.04 | 10,322.83 |
| Earle | 15,652.08 | 15,525.23 | Tuckerman | 18,089.02 | 19,317.38 | Montgomery County | 49,098.91 | 49,301.74 | Huntington | 10,281.70 | 10,210.27 |
| Edmondson | 2,768.62 | 2,746.18 | Sherrill | 1,748.67 | 1,867.42 | Black Springs | 634.57 | 637.19 | Lavaca | 37,062.69 | 36,805.22 |
| Gilmore | 1,534.73 | 1,522.30 | Wabbaseka | 2,672.57 | 2,574.61 | Glenwood | 269.21 | 270.32 | Mansfield | 11,706.56 | 11,625.24 |
| Horseshoe Lake | 1,893.29 | 1,877.95 | White Hall | 57,916.12 | 55,793.36 | Mount Ida | 6,896.92 | 6,925.41 | Midland | 5,262.29 | 5,225.73 |
| Jennette | 671.09 | 665.64 | Johnson County | 122,480.96 | 120,411.97 | Norman | 2,422.90 | 2,432.91 | Sevier County | 320,635.71 | 256,376.72 |
| Jericho | 771.58 | 765.33 | Clarksville | 89,966.40 | 88,446.66 | Oden | 1,487.07 | 1,493.22 | Ben Lomond | 1,460.61 | 1,167.88 |
| Marion | 80,043.47 | 79,394.77 | Coal Hill | 9,920.03 | 9,752.45 | Nevada County | 101,309.58 | 106,277.05 | DeQueen | 66,422.31 | 53,110.53 |
| Sunset | 1,155.43 | 1,146.06 | Hartman | 5,087.44 | 5,001.51 | Bluff City | 932.69 | 978.42 | Gillham | 1,611.70 | 1,288.70 |
| Turrell | 3,588.82 | 3,559.74 | Knoxville | 7,165.55 | 7,044.51 | Bodcaw | 1,037.99 | 1,088.89 | Horatio | 10,516.36 | 8,408.76 |
| West Memphis | 170,169.37 | 168,790.28 | Lamar | 15,735.85 | 15,467.08 | Cale | 594.21 | 623.35 | Lockesburg | 7,444.05 | 5,952.18 |
| Cross County | 270,168.92 | 269,205.22 | Lafayette County | 71,653.04 | 66,699.99 | Emmet | 3,572.80 | 3,747.98 | Sharp County | 80,805.43 | 76,627.06 |
| Cherry Valley | 6,939.43 | 6,914.68 | Bradley | 3,376.91 | 3,143.48 | Prescott | 24,791.47 | 26,007.07 | Ash Flat | 9,665.49 | 9,165.69 |
| Hickory Ridge | 2,899.43 | 2,899.08 | Buckner | 1,478.74 | 1,376.52 | Rosston | 1,963.16 | 2,059.42 | Cave City | 17,180.89 | 16,292.49 |
| Parkin | 11,778.92 | 11,736.90 | Lewisville | 6,882.86 | 6,407.08 | Willisville | 1,143.30 | 1,199.35 | Cherokee Village | 38,247.70 | 36,269.96 |
| Wynne | 89,189.32 | 88,871.19 | Stamps | 9,103.66 | 8,474.37 | Newton County | 65,435.40 | 58,631.44 | Evening Shade | 4,260.70 | 4,040.39 |
| Dallas County | 149,284.70 | 138,052.70 | Lawrence County | 313,079.69 | 281,733.13 | Jasper | 2,618.54 | 2,346.26 | Hardy | 7,199.80 | 6,827.51 |
| Desha County | 108,634.55 | 106,364.52 | Alicia | 844.76 | 759.72 | Western Grove | 2,157.77 | 1,933.41 | Highland | 10,306.56 | 9,773.62 |
| Arkansas City | 4,204.32 | 4,116.46 | Black Rock | 4,509.94 | 4,055.92 | Ouachita County | 558,053.07 | 566,500.61 | Horseshoe Bend | 78.9 | 74.82 |
| Dumas | 54,058.81 | 52,929.15 | College City | 0 | 2,787.68 | Bearden | 8,565.11 | 8,694.76 | Sidney | 1,785.16 | 1,692.85 |
| McGehee | 48,464.54 | 47,451.78 | Hoxie | 18,939.02 | 17,032.41 | Camden | 108,021.42 | 109,656.60 | Williford | 739.71 | 701.45 |
| Mitchellville | 4,135.40 | 4,048.98 | Imboden | 4,612.13 | 4,147.82 | Chidester | 2,562.44 | 2,601.23 | St. Francis County | 277,564.24 | 138,973.34 |
| Reed | 1,975.80 | 1,934.51 | Lynn | 1,962.03 | 1,764.51 | East Camden | 8,254.78 | 8,379.73 | Caldwell | 9,938.92 | 9,144.06 |
| Tillar | 241.23 | 236.19 | Minturn | 742.57 | 667.82 | Louann | 1,454.12 | 1,476.13 | Cott | 6,769.20 | 6,227.86 |
| Watson | 2,423.80 | 2,373.16 | Portia | 2,977.11 | 2,677.40 | Stephens | 7,900.11 | 8,019.71 | Forrest City | 275,263.08 | 253,249.46 |
| Drew County | 394,315.80 | 431,093.56 | Powhatan | 490.51 | 441.13 | Perry County | 106,606.66 | 112,065.96 | Hughes | 25,805.36 | 23,741.62 |
| Jerome | 491.99 | 468.52 | Ravenden | 3,201.92 | 2,879.58 | Adona | 950.04 | 998.69 | Madison | 13,771.22 | 12,669.88 |
| Monticello | 119,427.90 | 113,730.52 | Sedgwick | 1,035.51 | 931.27 | Bigelow | 1,431.88 | 1,505.20 | Palestine | 12,195.32 | 11,220.02 |
| Tillar | 2,573.50 | 2,450.73 | Smithville | 531.38 | 477.89 | Casa | 777.3 | 817.11 | Wheatley | 6,357.32 | 5,848.90 |
| Wilmar | 6,446.36 | 6,138.83 | Strawberry | 2,057.40 | 1,850.28 | Fourche | 281.83 | 296.26 | Whelan | 4,888.86 | 4,497.91 |
| Winchester | 2,106.73 | 2,006.23 | Walnut Ridge | 36,365.65 | 29,959.86 | Houston | 786.4 | 826.67 | Stone County | 89,580.25 | 89,132.69 |
| Faulkner County | 758,790.48 | 709,977.22 | Lee County | 33,161.66 | 34,383.55 | Perry | 1,227.32 | 1,290.17 | Fifty Six | 1,635.95 | 1,627.78 |
| Enola | 2,310.51 | 2,161.87 | Aubrey | 1,027.61 | 1,065.48 | Perryville | 6,636.64 | 6,976.50 | Mountain View | 25,986.12 | 25,856.29 |
| Holland | 3,807.56 | 3,562.61 | Haynes | 906.72 | 940.13 | Phillips County | 104,709.63 | 105,022.31 | Union County | 515,394.11 | 510,391.69 |
| Mount Vernon | 991.19 | 927.61 | LaGrange | 537.99 | 557.81 | Elaine | 11,721.38 | 11,756.40 | Calion | 15,025.41 | 14,879.56 |
| Twin Groves | 2,290.00 | 2,142.69 | Marianna | 24,874.27 | 25,790.80 | Helena-West Helena | 185,379.09 | 186,291.77 | El Dorado | 639,764.06 | 633,554.97 |
| Wooster | 5,878.81 | 5,500.63 | Moro | 1,305.67 | 1,353.78 | Lake View | 8,164.43 | 8,188.81 | Felsenthal | 3,681.72 | 3,645.48 |
| Franklin | 174,192.44 | 166,132.22 | Rondo | 1,196.86 | 1,240.96 | Lexa | 5,270.94 | 5,286.68 | Huttig | 20,594.01 | 20,394.12 |
| Altus | 6,824.54 | 6,508.76 | Lincoln | 51,516.81 | 54,476.46 | Marvell | 21,857.81 | 21,923.09 | Junction City | 18,369.99 | 18,191.68 |
| Branch | 3,304.23 | 3,151.34 | Gould | 4,077.89 | 4,312.16 | Pike County | 174,203.56 | 158,118.84 | Norphlet | 23,177.95 | 22,952.99 |
| Charleston | 22,706.47 | 21,655.79 | Grady | 2,187.54 | 2,313.21 | Antoine | 1,117.18 | 1,014.03 | Smackover | 60,978.42 | 60,386.56 |
| Denning | 4,240.58 | 4,044.36 | Star City | 11,078.99 | 11,715.48 | Daisy | 1,098.08 | 996.69 | Strong | 17,349.82 | 17,181.42 |
| Ozark | 33,168.37 | 31,633.60 | Little River County | 217,979.36 | 182,050.98 | Delight | 2,664.04 | 2,418.06 | Van Buren County | 303,026.36 | 265,517.04 |
| Wiederkehr Village | 342.13 | 326.30 | Ashdown | 44,462.44 | 37,133.93 | Glenwood | 20,873.11 | 18,945.83 | Clinton | 26,917.74 | 23,585.80 |
| Fulton County | 108,089.88 | 109,519.46 | Foreman | 9,517.58 | 7,948.85 | Murfreesboro | 15,669.15 | 14,222.38 | Damascus | 2,586.26 | 2,266.12 |
| Ash Flat | 427.63 | 433.29 | Ogden | 1,694.52 | 1,415.22 | Poinsett | 121,916.79 | 133,519.55 | Fairfield Bay | 22,293.52 | 19,533.98 |
| Cherokee Village | 3,324.64 | 3,368.61 | Wilton | 3,520.84 | 2,940.52 | Fisher | 1,823.47 | 1,997.01 | Shirley | 3,010.40 | 2,637.77 |
| Hardy | 176.08 | 178.41 | Winthrop | 1,807.50 | 1,509.58 | Harrisburg | 18,823.42 | 20,614.83 | Washington County | 1,523,879.14 | 1,401,512.05 |
| Horseshoe Bend | 71.27 | 72.21 | Logan County | 293,724.23 | 104,005.23 | Lepanto | 15,479.03 | 16,952.16 | Elkins | 45,794.41 | 42,117.13 |
| Mammoth Spring | 4,096.05 | 4,150.23 | Blue Mountain | 1,042.47 | 1,024.76 | Marked Tree | 20,982.14 | 22,979.00 | Elm Springs | 30,368.20 | 27,929.64 |
| Salem | 6,854.71 | 6,945.37 | Booneville | 33,543.98 | 32,974.25 | Trumann | 59,659.27 | 65,337.02 | Farmington | 103,314.13 | 95,018.04 |
| Viola | 1,412.87 | 1,431.55 | Caulksville | 1,790.69 | 1,760.28 | Tyroneza | 6,230.86 | 6,823.85 | Fayetteville | 1,272,489.77 | 1,170,309.19 |
| Garland County | 1,112,117.74 | 2,035,921.80 | Magazine | 6,999.80 | 6,999.80 | Waldenburg | 498.8 | 546.27 | Goshen | 18,521.83 | 17,034.54 |
| Fountain Lake | 7,029.85 | 6,911.78 | Morrison Bluff | 538.05 | 528.91 | Weiner | 5,854.71 | 6,411.92 | Greenland | 22,378.39 | 20,581.41 |
| Hot Springs | 210,793.65 | 207,253.20 | Paris | 29,693.57 | 29,189.23 | Polk County | 253,616.66 | 244,998.42 | Johnson | 58,003.95 | 53,346.25 |
| Lonsdale | 1,313.73 | 1,291.66 | Ratcliff | 1,698.22 | 1,669.37 | Cove | 7,607.50 | 7,349.00 | Lincoln | 38,894.12 | 35,770.93 |
| Mountain Pine | 10,761.40 | 10,580.66 | Scranton | 1,883.17 | 1,851.19 | Grannis | 11,032.88 | 10,657.96 | Prairie Grove | 76,543.08 | 70,396.69 |
| Grant County | 196,707.43 | 186,952.65 | Subiaco | 4,808.82 | 4,727.13 | Hatfield | 8,224.86 | 7,945.38 | Springdale | 1,110,185.93 | 1,021,038.30 |
| Greene County | 529,692.73 | 501,060.84 | Lonoke County | 276,128.45 | 267,243.64 | Mena | 114,251.96 | 110,369.52 | Tontitown | 42,543.15 | 39,126.94 |
| Delaplaine | 1,366.33 | 1,292.47 | Allport | 1,116.55 | 1,080.63 | Vandervoort | 1,732.60 | 1,673.72 | West Fork | 40,070.11 | 36,852.49 |
| Lafe | 5,394.63 | 5,103.03 | Austin | 19,787.26 | 19,150.58 | Wickes | 15,015.88 | 14,505.58 | Winslow | 6,761.95 | 6,218.96 |
| Marmaduke | 13,086.10 | 12,378.75 | Cabot | 230,844.94 | 223,417.18 | Pope County | 351,888.23 | 345,155.67 | White County | 1,108,568.06 | 833,588.21 |
| Oak Grove Heights | 10,471.24 | 9,905.23 | Carlisle | 21,496.08 | 20,804.41 | Atkins | 42,260.78 | 41,452.22 | Bald Knob | 34,270.12 | 32,439.65 |
| Paragould | 307,576.43 | 290,950.77 | Coy | 932.08 | 902.09 | Dover | 19,308.80 | 18,939.37 | Beebe | 86,532.95 | 81,910.96 |
| Hempstead County | 393,621.98 | 346,318.96 | England | 27,428.37 | 26,545.83 | Hector | 6,305.49 | 6,184.85 | Bradford | 8,978.61 | 8,499.03 |
| Blevins | 3,675.33 | 3,233.65 | Humnoke | 2,757.40 | 2,668.68 | London | 14,558.67 | 14,280.12 | Garner | 3,359.58 | 3,180.14 |
| Emmet | 501.71 | 441.42 | Keo | 2,485.54 | 2,405.57 | Pottsville | 39,766.61 | 39,005.77 | Georgetown | 1,466.86 | 1,388.51 |
| Fulton | 2,345.21 | 2,063.38 | Lonoke | 41,215.37 | 39,889.21 | Russellville | 391,220.45 | 383,735.37 | Griffithville | 2,661.64 | 2,519.48 |
| Hope | 117,785.57 | 103,630.84 | Ward | 39,487.15 | 38,216.58 | Prairie | 76,654.99 | 68,252.11 | Higginson | 7,346.13 | 6,953.75 |
| McCaskill | 1,120.10 | 985.49 | Madison County | 218,012.07 | 195,159.89 | Biscoe | 3,185.37 | 2,836.19 | Judsonia | 23,883.80 | 22,608.10 |
| McNab | 793.4 | 698.06 | Hindsville | 459.94 | 411.73 | Des Arc | 15,066.87 | 1 | | | |

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.

AQUATIC CENTER DIRECTOR—The City of Ozark is accepting applications for a newly created position of aquatic center director. Responsibilities include but are not limited to enforcing policies and procedures, which ensure efficient and effective operation of pool facilities and activities facility including personnel management and training. Duties involve all swimming pool operations, including first aid, rotations, scheduling for staff, public relations, janitorial duties, limited pool maintenance including daily chemical analysis/testing, pool cleaning, cleaning of bathrooms and concession area, swim lessons, water aerobics and all other duties as necessary or required. Requires excellent organization communication and public relations skills. This is a working supervisory position requiring weekend and holiday work. Prefer degree in Physical Education or Recreational Administration. Aquatic Facility Operator Certification a plus. Application deadline is Aug. 15. Salary negotiable. Applications may be picked up at city hall at 120 S 30th STE D, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or resumes may be mailed to: City of Ozark, ATTN: Mayor T. R. McNutt, P.O. Box 253, Ozark AR 72949.

CALL FOR PROPOSAL—The City of Van Buren is considering entering into an exclusive contract to provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service within the city. Contact the city for a complete list of minimum requirements and additional considerations. Interested parties should contact the City of Van Buren Fire Chief's Office at (479) 471-5031; email battchiefs@vanburencity.org; or write to City of Van Buren Fire Department, Ambulance Contract, 1234 Northridge East, Van Buren, AR 72956. All proposals should be submitted no later than close of business on Aug. 14.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR—Lyons, Kan. (pop. 3,725; \$12.1 million budget; 33 FTE's), seeks a city administrator. Lyons is a dynamic community located in the heart of Kansas, with a prosperous business climate and first-rate public schools plus access to higher education. The city operates gas, water, and wastewater utilities, along with a growing municipal airport. The city administrator reports to a progressive nine-member council and oversees all departments. For more information about the community, visit www.lyonsks.org. Applicants should have a Master's degree in

Public Admin. or a related field and at least five years of management experience. The successful candidate will have a history of sound decision-making ability, excellent administrative and organizational skills and experience facilitating economic development. Candidates must also display the communication skills and openness needed to collaborate with the city council and staff. Salary \$60,000–70,000 DOQ. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to LEAPS-Lyons@lkm.org or LEAPS-Lyons, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Position will remain open until filled. Application review will begin July 31. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—Charleston is accepting applications for a full-time patrol officer. Candidates must be able to meet all requirements of law enforcement standards and training. The City of Charleston maintains a residency requirement on full-time officers. Contact Charleston City Hall at (479) 965-2269 or email mail@aboutcharleston.com for an application. EOE. Application deadline is Aug. 31.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR—Junction City seeks applicants for the position of public works director. Applicant must be a certified water and sewer operator. Competitive salary and benefits. Must relocate to Junction City area. Interested persons may call the Junction City Hall at (870) 924-4922 for an application or apply in person at 207 North Main in Junction City.

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 you can ask for Derrick Spearman at Arkansas Workforce at (870) 633-2900 located at 300 Eldridge Rd #2, Forrest City, AR 72335. Application accepted until filled. Forrest City Water Utility is located at 303 N. Rosser in Forrest City, AR 72335 (870) 633-2921.



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