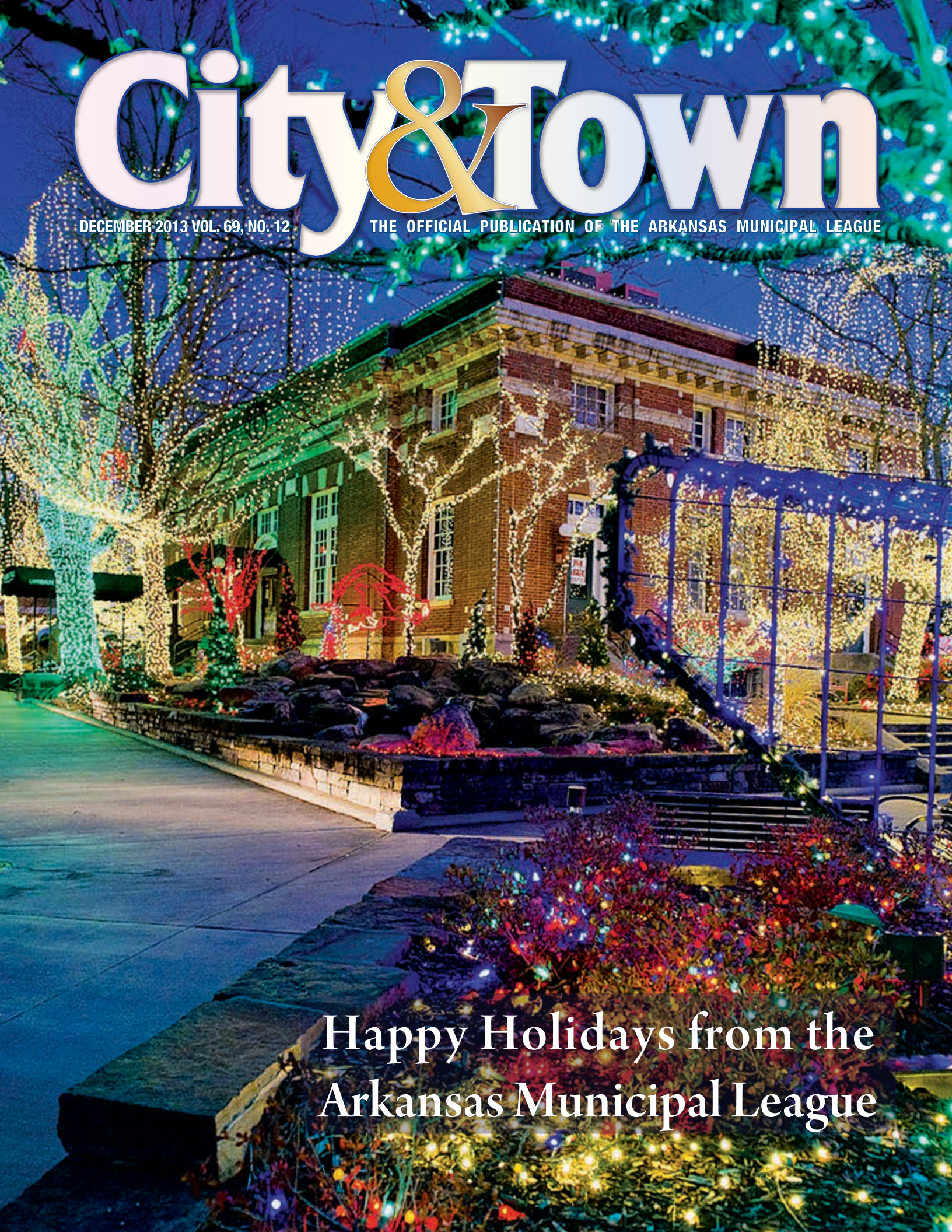

City & Town

DECEMBER 2013 VOL. 69, NO. 12 THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Happy Holidays from the Arkansas Municipal League

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FEATURES

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10 Jonesboro welcomes new city hall
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14 Helena-West Helena signs sister city agreement
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CORRECTIONS

- A corrected version of Attorney General Opinion No. 2013-083, which ran in the November 2013 issue and concerns the filling of vacancies in cities of the second class, appears in this issue on page 18.
- Although participants in the new Veterans International Exchange Program visited the State Capitol during their October visit, the group picture that appears on page 14 in the November issue was taken at the Pulaski County Courthouse and not the Capitol as the caption implies.

City&Town

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ON THE COVER—The annual Lights of the Ozarks display in Fayetteville is celebrating 20 years of holiday cheer this year. Read about the tradition in this month's Parks and Recreation column on page 44. Read also inside about the League's District 4 Vice President and Hope City Manager Catherine Cook, Jonesboro's new Municipal Center, Helena-West Helena's now-official sister city relationship with Moshi, Tanzania, and much more. And don't forget to register for the fast-approaching 2014 Winter Conference. Registration and hotel information and an updated tentative agenda are inside this issue.—atm

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Photos courtesy Fayetteville Visitors Bureau

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Greetings,

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and took time to reflect on our blessings. How very fortunate we are to live in this country. No matter how things may look, we are still the best country on earth!

I had the opportunity to attend the National League of Cities Congress of Cities and Exposition in Seattle last month. Being able to visit with mayors and council members from across the country about issues we all face, regardless of the size of the city, helps us gain a better focus on issues. It also helps build a network of individuals who can be a resource in the future. The one takeaway for me is how much social media is a part of government today. Whether it's keeping up with what's going on in the city, reporting problems, or attracting new businesses, almost everyone today expects this type of interaction with your city. That being said, let me ask you a question: When was the last time someone went through your city website and made sure everything was correct and up-to-date? The site is often the first impression people and businesses get of your city. Is your website an asset or liability to you?

Speaking of social media and websites, we are looking at some opportunities for IT solutions for cities of all sizes. The solutions would also include data backup, remote assistance, and on-site assistance. More details to follow.

Remember to register for the 2014 Winter Conference, Jan. 29-31, 2014, at the John Q. Hammons Center in Rogers. The cut-off date for hotel reservations is Dec. 31. Be sure to take advantage of the discounted, early bird rate. The deadline for the discount expires Dec. 31 as well. 2014 marks the 80th year for the Arkansas Municipal League and we are looking forward to great things this year.

We are at 554 "likes" for our Facebook page now. Thank you for getting the word out. Please encourage your department heads and city personnel to head to www.facebook.com/Arkansas.Municipal.League and like it as well. Again, my challenge to you is 1,000 likes by Jan. 1. Remember to also keep up with us on Twitter (@ARMuniLeague) and YouTube (ARMunicipalLeague).

If you have not sent Whitnee (wvb@arml.org) unique email addresses for anyone who will be using the Cvent program, please do so.

Have you visited greatcitiesgreatstate.com and requested access to the site materials? Why not? As I mentioned earlier, people expect a quality social media presence for our cities. The materials available to you here help with that. You will be able to download the videos, posters, and ads to use in your area. Infographics, which are graphic visual representations of information, data, or knowledge to present complex information quickly and clearly, are available now. We continue to see the videos throughout the state.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope you have a great time with family and friends.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Sincerely,

Jackie Crabtree
Mayor, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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Hope city manager serves with focus, tenacity

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Hope City Manager Catherine Cook, 2013-2014 League District 4 vice president, may be unique among this year's officers, the rest of whom were elected to their positions, but she's no short timer. She's not just a hired hand. Hope is her home, and she has for more than two decades served her city with the passion of a public servant.

She was born in Denver and moved to Portland, Ore., as a small child, and from there life has taken her all over the map, including stints in Ohio, Michigan, Louisiana, Arkansas, Arizona, and now, Arkansas again.

After attending school at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia and graduate school at Arizona State, Cook knew she wanted to return to Arkansas, she says. When she did, she took a job with the Planning and Development District in Magnolia as a community economic development specialist, a position that suited her well and helped shape her professional career from that point on.

"I loved that work, for a number of different reasons," she says. "For one I got to see a lot of South Arkansas. It was a 12-county district, and I found out at that time that one of the things I love is working with small communities and helping them achieve what they wanted to achieve."

She worked on water projects, sewer projects, park projects, and all kinds of economic development projects.

"It's amazing what a small community, one that most people would call rural, can achieve," she says.

The constant travelling across the 12 counties took its toll after Cook's daughter was born, and she wanted a position that was more rooted. That's when the opportunity arose to work for David Merriweather, Hope's former city manager. Beginning in 1990 she worked for him and the city for six years before he left and she was appointed city manager, and in that time grew to love Hope and knew it was the place she and her husband, Jeff, wanted to stay and serve. In addition to serving as city manager, Cook is simultaneously pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree at SAU.

As the birthplace of a surprising number of Arkansas's movers and shakers over the years, most notably President Bill Clinton and former Gov. Mike Hukabee, Hope has seen both the good and bad sides of being in the limelight, Cook says. When the limelight's off, however, the city has always managed to keep partisanship at bay and make things happen, and she credits smart leadership and wonderful citizens for that.

"There have been people here who have been willing to sacrifice personal agendas to get something larger done," she says.

As an example, she notes that Hope started an economic development corporation long before most cities in the state, particularly in South Arkansas.

"I think that's one thing that has kept Hope from experiencing the real lows that some of the surrounding areas have had. It doesn't mean we've seen meteoric growth or anything like that, but I think it's really helped keep a good economic base here."

Another good example is the city's strong relationship with the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope, Cook says. The city worked with the

The return this year of passenger rail service to Hope was a major victory and the result of more than 20 years of work by the city.

The old Iron Mountain/Missouri Pacific depot has been restored and now serves as the Amtrak station and Hope's visitors center. A few steps away is the city's other historic depot, the Cairo-Fulton Freight Depot, which is the oldest remaining building in Hope. It has also been restored and now houses the Paul W. Klipsch Museum and is home of the Southwest Arkansas Arts Council.

college and the county to build Hempstead Hall, a venue for concerts, meetings, and all kinds of cultural activities the entire community can enjoy and participate in.

Creating a new home for the Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative was another project that was successful because of the local spirit of cooperation, and there are always roadblocks to overcome when many partners are involved in a project, she says. You have to want to do it, she says, and that's what sets Hope apart. The city also has a healthy, varied industry base, including Klipsch Audio Technologies, Tyson Foods, and International Paper. According to the Hempstead County Economic Development Corporation, manufacturers provide more than 4,000 jobs in the area.

As city manager, Cook shuns the spotlight, preferring to work behind the scenes to contribute her skills to make things happen for the city. She describes herself as a focused and intense person, "Although I try to keep it low-key," she adds. Convincing Amtrak to stop in Hope is the perfect example of her and her staff's tenacity. It wasn't easy or quick, but they got it done, she says.

"I think this is true of all of us here in Hope: If you give us a project, we're going to keep working on it until you tell us to quit working on it. We're going to find a way to get it done if there's a way to get it done."

Passenger service in Hope had stopped in the 1960s. After President Clinton's election, city officials in 1993 contacted Amtrak about restoring service on the line that runs through downtown. After 20 years of effort and many challenges, The Amtrak Texas Eagle, which serves points between Chicago and San Antonio, made its first stop in the city April 4 this year. The westbound train leaves at 5:09 a.m. daily with stops in Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, and San Antonio. The eastbound train leaves at 9:18 p.m. daily with stops in Little Rock, St. Louis, and Chicago.

The joy she gets from public service and working with others in the community to make things happen helps keep her batteries charged, Cook says.

"I still—after 23 years here—enjoy coming to work, and I still see challenges and projects I want to work on and hope I have the opportunity to work on."

One of the most important challenges moving forward for Cook is to meet the needs of young people in Hope. Technology and styles change over the years, but fostering our cities' young people is still a fundamental need, she says, and its especially challenging with limited resources.

"It's a challenge we've got to embrace and continue to work on, because if we don't continue to make it a good community for the people who live and work here we're not doing anything. I feel we've got to do something every day."

The President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home is a National Historic Site of the U.S. National Park Service. The home and adjacent visitor center draw tourists from across the globe to Hope.

MHBF seminar preps members for Affordable Care Act changes

Charles Smith, MD, founder of eDocAmerica, talks about the future of telemedecine at November's MHBF seminar.

The Municipal Health Benefit Fund on Nov. 7 hosted a seminar at the League's North Little Rock headquarters to share with members information on changes in program benefits, the implementation of the new federal health care law, and more. The seminar attracted 123 attendees from member cities and towns and other entities that participate in the program.

League Assistant Director Pat Planek and staff attorney Chris Bradley gave a summary of program benefit coverages and discussed the changes to the program under the Affordable Care Act. MHBF partners eDocAmerica, American Fidelity Assurance, and RxResults were on hand to share information about their services available to members. And League Assistant Director Ken Wasson and Health and Safety Coordinator David Baxter covered the importance of establishing a wellness program.

Continuing Legal Education Offered at League 2014 Winter Conference

Six (6) hours of continuing legal education. (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the Arkansas Municipal League's 2014 Winter Conference, Jan. 29-31, 2014, at the Rogers Convention Center in Rogers. The Arkansas City Attorneys Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE. All CLE will occur on Friday, Jan. 31 in Ambassador Rooms C, D, and E of the Rogers Convention Center.

Robert Bamburg, City Attorney for Jacksonville, and ACAA President, urges members and non-members to register for the convention as soon as possible. A registration form is in this issue of *City & Town;* copies also are being mailed to city attorneys.

CLE topics are selected based on the requests from our city attorney members and will include, among other topics, municipal employer policies on fraternization, FOIA and job evaluation record requests, recent developments in eminent domain, DUI, and criminal procedures, as well as one (1) hour of ethics.

To attend the CLE program, registration is required at the League Convention. For registration information, call Whitnee Bullerwell at the League, 501-978-6105. For CLE information, call Mark Hayes, ACAA secretary/treasurer and League General Counsel at 501-978-6102 or his assistant, Jamie Adams, at 501-978-6124.

AHPP schedules 2014 "Walks Through History" and "Sandwiching in History" tours

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's "Walks Through History" and "Sandwiching in History" tours will visit historic properties across the state during 2014, AHPP Director Frances McSwain has announced.

In the "Walks Through History" program, AHPP historians each month provide free guided walking tours of historic structures and districts across Arkansas. Most tours begin at 11 a.m. on Saturdays. The 2014 schedule includes:

March 15, **Downtown Forrest City**, co-sponsored by The Gladlands

April 12, **Jasper Commercial Historic District**, co-sponsored by the Newton County Library

May 10, **Fredonia Cemetery near Stevens Creek in White County**, co-sponsored by the White County Historical Society

June 14, **Moose Addition Historic District**, co-sponsored by the Morrilton Historic District Commission

July 19, **McCrory Commercial Historic District**, co-sponsored by the Woodruff County Historical Society

August 9, **Ozark Courthouse Square Historic District**, co-sponsored by Main Street Ozark

September 13, **Downtown McGehee**, co-sponsored by the Desha County Historical Society

October 11, **Downtown Bentonville**, co-sponsored by the Benton County Historical Society

November 15, **Murfreesboro Courthouse Square**, co-sponsored by the Pike County Archives and History Society

December 13, **Taylor House and Cemetery/ Hollywood Plantation near Winchester in Drew County**, co-sponsored by the University of Arkansas at Monticello and Drew County Historical Society

The "Sandwiching in History" tour series targets Pulaski County structures and sites. The noontime series includes a brief lecture and tour of the subject property. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunches with them. "Sandwiching in History" tours will be held in 2014 at the following locations:

January 10, **St. Andrew's Catholic Cathedral**, 617 Louisiana Street, Little Rock (this tour will begin at 12:30 p.m.)

February 7, **Stone's Throw Brewing**, 402 East Ninth Street, Little Rock

March 7, **Christ Episcopal Church**, 509 Scott Street, Little Rock

April 11, **Philander Smith College Historic District**, 900 West Daisy Gatson Bates Drive, Little Rock

May 2, **O'Kelley House**, 413 West Fifth Street, North Little Rock

June 6, **Barney L. Elias House**, 335 Goshen Avenue, North Little Rock

July 11, **George Dickinson House**, 515 West Fifteenth Street, Little Rock

August 1, **Old North Little Rock Post Office**, 420 Main Street, North Little Rock

September 5, **Rozelle-Murphy House**, 1301 Scott Street, Little Rock

October 3, **Augustus Lane House**, 3617 Ridge Road, North Little Rock

November 7, **Roundtop Filling Station**, Trammel and Roundtop Road, Sherwood

December 5, **Joseph W. House House**, 2126 South Arch Street, Little Rock

All tours are free and open to the public. For information, call the AHPP at 501 324-9880, write the agency at 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St., Little Rock, AR 72201, send an email message to info@arkansaspreservation.org, or visit www.arkansaspreservation.org.

Jonesboro opens new Municipal Center in the heart of Downtown

With a total of 68,000 square feet, Jonesboro's new Municipal Center provides one-stop service to citizens.

In 2009, when Harold Perrin became mayor of Jonesboro after serving as alderman for 16 years, he quickly realized their 12,000-square-foot city hall was more than a bit too small. For Jonesboro, a city that has experienced tremendous population growth for the last 25 years, the small digs were problematic at best. Perrin and his city team set out in 2010 to find a solution to the problem. Adding onto the existing city hall was cost prohibitive and would not align well with Jonesboro's 20-year plan. With careful consideration, negotiations began on the purchase of a 65,000-square-foot building, located in the heart of downtown, just three blocks away from the smaller city hall. The city purchased the former bank building from a local owner and Perrin calls the purchase a "win-win for all involved." In May of this year, the move-in began.

And what you see today is known as the Jonesboro Municipal Center—all 68,000 square feet of it. After the purchase, the city took in the building next door making the additional 3,000 square feet their council chambers and part of the overall complex. For Perrin, the move was a "homecoming of sorts" in that he served as president of Mercantile Bank in this very location some 18 years ago.

Serving as motivation for this project is what Perrin refers to as an "inverted service curve." The city wasn't able to meet the customer service needs of its citizens effectively. Moving into the Municipal Center allows Jonesboro's administration to be in one location and allows them to better serve the citizens of Jonesboro by providing a "one-stop shop" where all city business can be transacted. In addition, the center allows for a one-stop shop approach to recruiting new business for

Mayor Harold Perrin once served as president of Mercantile Bank, based in the same building.

the city. Any and all questions that potential businesses have can be answered by personnel housed in this one location. In fact, there is a state-of-the-art meeting room located in the Municipal Center that is devoted solely to the recruitment of new businesses.

For Perrin and his staff, it was important to locate the Municipal Center in downtown Jonesboro. Like many cities in the state, much effort has been focused on improving the entertainment, eating, and retail aspects of the downtown area. Locating the new city hall in the heart of Jonesboro helps with the downtown continuity, he said. To ready the Municipal Center, Jonesboro was able to tap local talent in the way of architects, contractors, and subcontractors. Being able to infuse the city's funds back into the local economy was very important to Perrin. And Mayor Perrin has put his many years of finance experience to work for the city by leasing a small portion of the building to private companies. Doing so offsets expenses related to maintenance and upkeep.

This meeting room is dedicated to the recruitment of new business.

The City of Jonesboro's motto is People, Pride and Progress. The main motivation for the Municipal Center was to better serve the people. Attendance at the November Grand Opening was fantastic, which is symbolic of the pride found in this city. And lastly, a Municipal Center of this magnitude is most definitely progress. Congratulations to the city on a job well done.

The new city council chamber is state-of-the-art and features a desktop screen at each member's station.

From left, Mayor Perrin, U.S. Rep. Rick Crawford, and former Mayor Hubert Brodell celebrate the Municipal Center's grand opening.

Keep diabetes in check with exercise

Diabetes is a disease that affects how the body processes sugar. When not kept in check, it can have dangerous and even deadly consequences. Type-1 diabetes is a genetic disease in which the pancreas does not function as it should and therefore the body is not able to appropriately process sugar. Type-2 diabetics have a functioning pancreas but due to other complications within the body, the body is unable to absorb insulin and use it effectively.

Type-1 diabetes cannot be prevented, but the symptoms can be kept in check with a healthy diet and regular exercise. Type-2 diabetes, on the other hand, can often be prevented, and diet and exercise are keys in preventing and treating Type 2 diabetes.

What is the benefit of exercise for diabetics?

Debi Wilkins, professional fitness trainer at Cooper Fitness Center, Dallas and a Type-1 diabetic, outlines five benefits of exercise for diabetics:

1. Exercise helps control the amount of sugar in the blood. As you exercise, blood is pushed through the body and the body uses sugar in the blood for energy.
2. Exercise increases the levels of HDL (good cholesterol) and lowers LDL (bad cholesterol).
3. Exercise burns calories and fat. Decreased body fat results in improved insulin sensitivity. The lower your body fat, the more efficiently and effectively the body uses insulin.
4. Exercise decreases blood pressure and improves circulation, which helps reduce risk of heart disease. (Diabetes is also a risk factor for heart disease.)
5. Exercise decreases stress and anxiety, both of which can raise blood sugar.

The body breaks down and utilizes glucose in phases, says Cristie Ballow, Cooper Clinic registered dietitian. During the first five to 10 minutes of exercise, glucose is utilized from the blood. Once you hit the 10 to 20-minute mark, the body utilizes glucose from the muscle. The next phase (20 to 40 minutes) it uses glucose from the muscle and after the 40-minute mark, it starts breaking down body fat, which is key in promoting weight loss. Ultimately, Type-2 diabetics want to lose weight so the body will use insulin more effectively.

What type of exercise is best and how much exercise do you need?

The American Diabetes Association recommends 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous aerobic exercise a week, spread out over at least three days with no more than one day of rest between workouts.

Resistance exercise (strength training) is just as important as aerobic exercise in managing diabetes, Ballow says.

10 exercise tips from Cooper Fitness Trainer Debi Wilkins

1. Consult with your doctor before you begin an exercise routine. Exercise causes the blood sugar to drop and some people (especially Type-1 diabetics) may experience this drop more suddenly.
2. Always check your blood sugar before and after you exercise. Don't start exercising if your blood sugar is low. Do not exercise when your diabetes medicine is at its peak effect.
3. Always carry some sort of sugar with you when you exercise (hard candy, glucose tablet, etc.).
4. Always wear your medical identification tag.
5. Wear good shoes. Nerve problems are common for diabetics, especially in the feet. Get a good pair of shoes to protect your feet.
6. If you take insulin shots, give yourself a shot in an area of the body that you won't be exercising. For example, if you're planning to go for a run, take your shot in your belly. When the muscles start contracting with exercise, it will push insulin through your body very quickly, which may cause a rapid drop in blood sugar.
7. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated and decrease stress on your body.
8. Exercise with someone who knows your health situation. If you work with a trainer, let your trainer know you have diabetes.
9. To reduce the risk of hyperglycemia, follow a regular routine of exercise, eating, and taking your medications at the same time each day (if possible).
10. Listen to your body.

Bottom line: Don't let fear of complications from your diabetes keep you from exercising or being physically active. In fact, exercise may be the best thing to help keep your diabetes in check.

—Article provided by Cooper Aerobics Marketing and Communications

David Baxter is the League's Health and Safety Coordinator. Email David at dbaxter@arml.org, or call 501-374-3484 Ext. 110.

Reminder to All City Councils Regarding First Council Meeting of 2014

ACA § 14-43-501. Organization of city council

(a)(1) The aldermen elected for each city or town shall annually, at the first council meeting in January, assemble and organize the city council.

(2)(A) A majority of the whole number of aldermen constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(B)(i) They shall be judges of the election returns and of the qualifications of their own members.

(ii) These judgments are not subject to veto by the mayor.

(C)(i) They shall determine the rules of their proceedings and keep a journal of their proceedings, which shall be open to the inspection and examination of any citizen.

(ii) They may also compel the attendance of absent members in such a manner and under such penalties as they shall think fit to prescribe.

(iii) They may consider the passage of rules on the following subjects, including without limitation:

(a) The agenda for meetings;

(b) The filing of resolutions and ordinances; and

(c) Citizen commentary.

(b)(1)(A) The mayor shall be ex officio president of the city council and shall preside at its meetings.

(B) The mayor shall have a vote to establish a quorum of the city council at any regular meeting of the city council and when his or her vote is needed to pass any ordinance, bylaw, resolution, order, or motion.

(2) In the absence of the mayor, the city council shall elect a president pro tempore to preside over council meetings.

(3) If the mayor is unable to perform the duties of office or cannot be located, one (1) of the following may perform all functions of a mayor during the disability or absence of the mayor:

(A) The city clerk;

(B) Another elected official of the city if designated by the mayor; or

(C) An unelected employee or resident of the city if designated by the mayor and approved by the city council.

CALENDAR

Arkansas Municipal League
2014 Winter Conference
Wednesday-Friday
January 29-31, 2014
John Q. Hammons Convention Center
Rogers, AR

National League of Cities
2014 Congressional City Conference
Saturday-Wednesday
March 8-12, 2014
Washington, D.C.

Arkansas Municipal League
80th Annual Convention
Wednesday-Friday
June 18-20, 2014
Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

Helena-West Helena makes Moshi, Tanzania, connection official

By Sherman Banks

During the week of Oct. 8-14, Helena-West Helena Mayor Arnell Willis and other leading citizens hosted a delegation of 10 from Moshi, Tanzania, led by Mayor Japhary R. Michael. This trip was a follow up to the inaugural visit of a delegation led by Mayor Willis to Tanzania for the purpose of developing Arkansas's first sub-Saharan sister city.

During their visit we offered the opportunity for the delegation to meet with city and state leaders, enjoy the King Biscuit Blues Festival, and learn about the rich history and culture of the Delta. Willis wanted his colleagues to realize that the relationship between Helena-West Helena and Moshi offers the opportunity for a broad-based, long-term partnership to pursue cultural, educational, tourism, and economic development.

Gov. Mike Beebe presented Japhary, mayor of Moshi, with an official Arkansas Traveler Certificate. During the trip the delegation also met with such organizations as the World Services for the Blind, Arkansas Department of Health (Malaria Project), and visited various historical sites in the Delta, including the Delta Cultural Center.

Mayors Willis and Japhary on Oct. 12 made the cities' relationship official with a formal signing ceremony at the Delta Cultural Center. Please see below the formal agreement that has served to open the door to understanding between Helena-West Helena in Arkansas's Delta and the city of Moshi, Tanzania, in sub-Saharan Africa.

Helena-West Helena Mayor Arnell Willis, left, and Moshi, Tanzania, Mayor Japhary Michael make the two cities' sister cities agreement official during an Oct. 12 signing ceremony.

The delegation meets with Gov. Beebe at the State Capitol.

Formal Ceremony Signing of the Agreement of Sister Cities between Moshi, Tanzania, and Helena-West Helena, Arkansas—at the Delta Cultural Center in Helena-West Helena, Arkansas, on Saturday, October 12, 2013

WHEREAS: The cities of Moshi, Tanzania and Helena-West Helena have agreed to enter into a sister city relationship.

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to develop an educational exchange between primary, secondary, and university students and faculty, and

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to work to equip the libraries in the school system in Moshi with text and reference books, and

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to establish an in service volunteer exchange program between the nurses, physicians and other health care professionals and technicians in Arkansas, and

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to work to develop a process by which we can market and export/import our mutual agricultural products, and

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to develop a reciprocal tourism package, and

WHEREAS: The two cities have agreed to develop a partnership in addressing public health of Moshi with an emphasis on malaria, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: On this twelfth day of October two thousand and thirteen I hereto set my hand along with the mayor of Moshi, Tanzania to formally sign the sister city agreement between Moshi, Tanzania and Helena-West Helena, Arkansas.

The Honorable Arnell Willis
Mayor, Helena-West Helena, Arkansas

The Honorable Japhary R. Michael
Mayor, Moshi, Tanzania

To learn more about becoming a sister city, contact Sherman Banks at 501-374-8193, email sbanks@aristotle.net, or write to P.O. Box 165920, Little Rock, AR 72216.

Advertise in the 2014 Directory

The Arkansas Municipal League Directory reaches municipal officials and many more.

The Directory is a working reference of state and federal agencies, legislators, city and town elected and appointed officials, municipal department heads and others. It is a one-stop information guide to all of Arkansas's 500 incorporated cities and towns.

- **Published in early 2014**
- **More than 1,200 copies distributed**
- **100-110 pages**

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- Inside front cover—$3,000
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- Full page—$1,500
- Half page—$1,000
- Quarter page—$500
- Eighth page—$250

Advertising deadline is Dec. 28, 2013.

For more information, contact Tricia Zello at 501-374-3484, Ext. 285, or e-mail citytown@arml.org.

2014 Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

Price: $25 each
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To get your copy of this valuable resource, fill out form below, and send it to the Arkansas Municipal League at the address below.

Please send me _____ copies of the 2014 Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials at: $25 each.
My check of $_____ is enclosed, payable to:
The Arkansas Municipal League.

Send Directory to:
Name _____
Title _____
Mailing Address:
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Clip and mail to: **Arkansas Municipal League**
2014 Directory
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

WHO you gonna CALL?

We don't know either, without your help. Fill out the **Directory Information Request Forms** and return them to the League by **Monday, December 2nd**. Watch for the new Directory in early 2014.

The deadline for enrollment in the *Arkansas Municipal League 2014 Municipal Officials and Department Heads Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan* is Dec. 31, 2013.

Contact Tammie Williams at 501-374-3484, Ext. 216, or e-mail twilliams@arml.org.

Summaries of attorney general opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Dustin McDaniel

Cities of the second class: Do's and Don't's

Opinion: 2013-083

Hammer, Kim—State Representative

(Q1) Does Arkansas law allow a city of the second class to alter ACA 14-42-103's requirements for how vacancies are filled? Q2) What are the voting requirements when a city council of a city of the second class is attempting to fill a vacant alderman position pursuant to ACA 14-44-104? Q3) If a city council meeting is convened without the minimum required for a legal quorum, would it void all actions taken at the meeting? Q4a) If a person was appointed to the city council illegally and that person's presence was required to make a quorum at [certain public] meetings, were those meetings illegal? Q4b) If any of those meetings had a quorum without the illegally appointed individual, would any votes made by that individual be null and void? Q5) Can an individual hold more than one paid city position or job, i.e., be a police officer and hold a position with the sanitation department simultaneously? Q6) Is it legal to combine individual city department funds into a single account? Q7) Are the fire department reserve funds established by [Act 833 of 1991] required to be kept in a separate account? Q8) Does Arkansas law mandate that the city council receive a monthly report on the reconciliation of the city's bank accounts? Q9) Under Arkansas law, are cities of the second class required to have payroll checks signed by a city official or employee at city hall? **RESPONSE:** In my opinion the answer to Questions 1, 4, and 7 is "no"; and the answer to Question 8 is "yes." *The answer to Question 2 is that the city council must appoint someone to the vacancy by a majority of the "remaining members" on the council, but the vote still must be a majority of a quorum of the whole number of the council [Sentence corrected-Ed.]*. Regarding Question 3, there is no requirement in state law for a quorum to be present to convene a meeting. Rather, state law requires a majority of a quorum in order to take any action. I have enclosed an Opinion that addresses your fifth question. The answer to Question 6 depends on the nature of the fund. The answer to Question 9 is that written checks must be signed by at least two persons who are the city's "authorized disbursing officers."

Prosecuting attorney may elect to prosecute city misdemeanors

Opinion: 2013-096

Requestor: Vickery, Ian W.—Pros. Att'y, 13th Judicial District

Which, if any, of the following types of cases occurring within the boundaries of a municipality within a prosecuting attorney's judicial district is the prosecuting attorney required by law to commence and prosecute: a) misdemeanor violations of state statutes; b) traffic violations not defined by the Arkansas Criminal Code; and/or c) violations of ordinances enacted by a municipality? Q2) Conversely, is the city attorney of the municipality required by law to commence and prosecute any of the three classes of cases referenced in question one above? **RESPONSE:** 1) A prosecuting attorney may, at his election, prosecute city misdemeanors, but he is not obliged to do so. A prosecutor is not authorized to prosecute violations of municipal ordinances or traffic laws not defined by the Criminal Code. Q2) A city attorney is charged with the responsibility to commence and to prosecute all three types of cases listed, subject only to the condition that the prosecuting attorney may, at his election, pursue the prosecution of a city misdemeanor.

For full Attorney General opinions online, go to www.arkansasag.gov/opinions.

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2014 Winter Conference

John Q. Hammons Center, Rogers, AR

January 29-31, 2014

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, December 31, 2013, to qualify for advance registration.

Advance registration for municipal officials $150
Registration fee after **December 31, 2013**, and on-site registration for municipal officials. $175
Spouse/guest registration $75
Child registration $75
Other registrants $200

- Registration will be processed **ONLY** with accompanying payment in full. Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of ***Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials, 2013-2014 edition***.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after December 31, 2013**.
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **December 31, 2013**.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Embassy Suites (headquarters hotel)
SOLD OUT
Single/Double . . . . . ~~$129~~ Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.

Holiday Inn & Suites
Single/Double . . . . . $122/$132 Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.

Staybridge Suites
Single/Double . . . . . $122/$132 Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.

Hyatt Place
Single/Double . . . . . $129 Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **December 31, 2013**.
- Rooms in Rogers are subject to an 13.5% percent tax. Check out time is 12 noon.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel.

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER

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

OR

2 Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
Attn: 2014 Winter Conference
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

☐ I am a newly elected official.

Name: .....

Title: ..... City of: .....

Address: ..... Email: ..... (required)

City: ..... State: .... Zip: ..... Telephone: .....

Spouse/Guest will attend: ☐ Yes ☐ No Name: .....

Children will attend: ☐ Yes ☐ No Name(s): .....

Step 2: Payment Information

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

☐ Advance Registration $150 ☐ Regular Registration $175 ☐ Spouse/Guest $75 ☐ Child $75 ☐ Other Registrants $200 Total $_____

- **HOW ARE YOU PAYING?**

☐ **Check**

Mail payment and form to:
Arkansas Municipal League
2014 Winter Conference
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115

☐ **Credit Card** Complete information below and send to address above.

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card Number: __ __ __ __ — __ __ __ __ — __ __ __ __ — __ __ __ __ Exp. Date: __ __ /20__ __

Card Holder Name (as it appears on card): .....

Billing address (as it appears on statement): .....

City: ..... State: .... Zip: ..... Telephone: .....

E-mail address **(required for credit card payment)** .....

Step 3: Hotel Reservations

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

Embassy Suites SOLD OUT	3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, AR 72758	Reservations: 479-254-8400
Holiday Inn & Suites	1803 South 52nd Street, Rogers, AR 72758	Reservations: 479-845-1300
Staybridge Suites	1801 South 52nd Street, Rogers, AR 72758	Reservations: 479-845-5701
Hyatt Place	610 W Walnut Street, Rogers, AR 72756	Reservations: 479-633-8555

TENTATIVE 2014 WINTER CONFERENCE

Rogers, AR

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 29

2:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION ..... Registration Area

2:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

VISIT WITH STATE AGENCIES .....Grand Ballroom V

Different state agencies have been invited to set up in this area. Take time to visit with them about how their agencies might best assist your city.

2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

MLWCT BOARD OF TRUSTEES .....Hammons Boardroom

4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

COMMUNICATION IN A CRISIS:
SPEAK LIKE YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT .....Grand Ballroom I-IV

How we communicate with our citizens, employees and fellow elected officials that we come in contact with daily is of vital importance. This speech will be based on three key elements of leader communication: Purpose, Precision and Passion.

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Steve Trainor, Executive in Residence/Director of Research, The Soderquist Center

(This session will count toward 1 hour of continuing education credit.)

7:00 P.M.

OPENING NIGHT BANQUET ..... Grand Ballroom VI-X

Our featured banquet speaker is former Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt. After his remarks, we will then recognize this year's Main Street award winners. Also, we will recognize the city officials who have completed the required 21 hours of course work to become certified municipal officials and those who have qualified for continuing education credit.

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Invocation: TBA

Speaker: Former Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt

8:30 P.M.

PRESIDENT'S POST BANQUET RECEPTION .....Ambassador Rooms A-E

After the Banquet, stroll over to the Ambassador Halls for delicious desserts and a time to mix and mingle with fellow municipal officials.

Sponsored by The Friday Law Firm

THURSDAY AM - JANUARY 30

7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION OPENS ..... Registration Area

7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

VISIT WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES .....Grand Ballroom V

9:00 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.

OPENING GENERAL SESSION.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

The Winter Conference officially begins with the singing of our National Anthem followed by welcome remarks from our host city Mayor, Greg Hines. Our keynote speech will be given by Mr. Andy Core a recipient of the "2012 Top 5 Global Speakers in Health/Health Care." Mr. Core will seek to motivate us to all live a more balanced, productive and healthier life. At the conclusion of Mr. Core's speech we will recognize the recipients of this year's Arkansas Business *City of Distinction Awards.*

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

National Anthem: Julio Arriola and Johann Acuna
Cross Church Pinnacle Hills

Speaker: Andy Core, Work-Life and Human Performance Expert

10:15 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

BREAK .....Grand Ballroom V

10:30 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.

GENERAL SESSION II: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: WHAT HAS WORKED IN NORTHWEST ARKANSAS .....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Business is booming, unemployment is down and cities are growing throughout Northwest Arkansas. Is there a strategy or secret to their success? This morning's speakers are community leaders who will discuss what has worked well for them in Northwest Arkansas.

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Steve Clark
President, Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce

Perry Webb
President, Springdale Chamber of Commerce

Raymond Burns
President, Rogers Chamber of Commerce

11:15 A.M. – NOON

GENERAL SESSION III:
ECONOMIC ISSUES IMPACTING ARKANSAS .....Grand Ballroom I-IV

This session focuses on several economic development activities occuring throughout the state.

Presiding: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Mayor Sandy Sanders, Fort Smith

Mayor Lioneld Jordan, Fayetteville

Jim Youngquist, Executive Director
Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR

Gene Higginbotham, Executive Director
Arkansas Waterways Commision

Becky Thompson, Deputy Director of Global Business
Arkansas Economic Development Commission

THURSDAY PM - JANUARY 30

NOON

VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR
AWARDS LUNCHEON ..... Grand Ballroom VI-X

Mayor Melodee Kean will address the group about the significance of volunteerism in the aftermath of the Joplin tornado. At the conclusion of Mayor Kean's remarks, the 2013 Volunteer Community of the Year Award winners will be announced and recognized.

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Invocation: TBA

Speaker: Mayor Melodee Colbert Kean, Joplin, Missouri
Second Vice President, National League of Cities

2:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.

THE FISCAL SESSION AND
OTHER LEGISLATIVE ISSUES .....Grand Ballroom I-IV

The Fiscal Session begins in just a few days. An invited group of distinguished legislators share their perspective on the upcoming fiscal session and other topics of interest and concern.

Presiding: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: State Sen. Cecile Bledsoe, District 3
State Sen. Missy Irvin, District 18
State Sen. David Johnson, District 32
State Sen. Uvalde Lindsey, District 4
State Sen. Jon Woods, District 7
State Rep. Greg Leding, District 86
State Rep. Micah Neal, District 89

3:15 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

BREAK .....Grand Ballroom V

3:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

THE STATE AID STREET PROGRAM UPDATE.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Presiding: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Mayor Mike Gaskill, Paragould
Chairman of the State Aid Street Committee

4:15 P.M. – 5:15 P.M.

CREATING A VIBRANT SOCIAL COMMUNITY.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Whitnee Bullerwell, Communications Director
Arkansas Municipal League

(This session will count toward 1 hour of continuing education credit.)

5:15 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

THE WALTON FOUNDATION AND THE CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM:
GIVING BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Mayor Bob McCaslin, Bentonville

6:15 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

RECEPTION ..... Crystal Bridges Museum

You may begin boarding the shuttle busses at 6:00 p.m. Busses will leave from the front of the Embassy Suites Hotel beginning at 6:15 p.m. to take delegates to Crystal Bridges for a reception and tour of the museum. Busses will begin returning delegates to the Embassy Suites at 7:45p.m. The Reception/Tour will conclude at 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY - JANUARY 31

7:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION OPENS..... Registration Area

8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

CITY ATTORNEYS..... Ambassador Rooms C,D,E

City Attorneys will meet for six hours of CLE.

9:00 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.

UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON D.C. .....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Third District Congressman Steve Womack will give an update on municipal subjects of interest from the U.S. House perspective.

Presiding: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: U.S. Congressman Steve Womack
Third Congressional District

10:15 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

BREAK .....Grand Ballroom V

10:30 A.M.– 11:30 A.M.

GOOD PLANNING MAKES GOOD SENSE.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Presiding: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: John Robert Smith
Co-Chair, Transportation for America Campaign

(This session will count toward 1 hour of continuing education credit.)

11:30 A.M.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.....Grand Ballroom I-IV

Speaker: Mayor Jackie Crabtree, Pea Ridge
President, Arkansas Municipal League

11:45 A.M.

LUNCH BUFFET ..... Grand Ballroom VI-X

Before you depart, join us for a buffet of Southwest cuisine.

OTHER FRIDAY MEETINGS:

1:00 P.M.

MHBF BOARD MEETING .....Hammons Boardroom

1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS,
AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION ..... Ambassador Rooms A & B

Presiding: Clerk/Treasurer Sondra Smith, Fayetteville
President, Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders, and Treasurers Association

Arkansas Municipal League Winter Conference Scholarships Available

The executive committee of the Arkansas Municipal League (AML) voted in 2012 to award two (2) scholarships for registration to the AML Winter Conference. A scholarship will be awarded to one (1) Mayor or Alderman, and (1) City Clerk, Recorder or Treasurer, both of which will enable city officials the opportunity to further their educational training in municipal government.

The Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders, and Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) agreed to handle applications and the selection process.

Fill out the scholarship application below and return to:

Diane Whitbey, CAMC/MMC
City Clerk and Collector
City of North Little Rock
P.O. Box 5757
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72119-5757

For more information , please contact Diane Whitbey at dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov, or call 501-340-5317.

2014 APPLICATION FOR ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE SCHOLARSHIP

I, _____, am a member of the Arkansas Municipal League, and do hereby apply for a registration assistance from AML. (Applicant's city or town must be a member of AML at the time of application).

Name _____ Title _____
Street Address or PO Box _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____ Date assumed current position _____

Other related experience:

Title	Municipality	Years

Education: H.S._____ Graduate College (years) _____ Degree _____

Please answer the following questions:
How does your municipality budget yearly for your education? _____
What is your reason(s) for applying for this scholarship? _____
_____
_____

I understand that if a scholarship is awarded to me, it must be used for registration at the AML Winter Conference to be held in January 29-31, 2014, at the John Q. Hammons Convention Center in Rogers, Arkansas, and that I must attend all sessions.
Yes _____

If your attendance must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer or legislative body of your city or town, will you be given time to attend the conference? Yes _____ No _____

I do hereby attest that the information submitted with this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Deadline to apply is December 18, 2013.

DISCLAIMER:
ACCRTA or AML will not be responsible for applications that are not received by the deadline.

Please feel free to call to verify that your application has been received.

ACCRTA scholarships available

The executive board of the Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) awards scholarships for tuition to attend the Municipal Clerks' Training Institute, the Academy for Advanced Education and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' annual conference, all of which will enable Arkansas clerks to further educational training.

A scholarship honoring the memory of Bill S. Bonner will be awarded to a first-year attendee in the certification program at the Municipal Clerks' Institute in September 2014. This scholarship covers the registration fee.

Scholarships include: four local $400 scholarships to attend the Municipal Clerks' Institute, Sept. 14-18, 2014, in Fayetteville; one $400 scholarship for the Academy for Advanced Education, Sept. 17-18, 2014, in Fayetteville; and one $400 scholarship to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) annual conference, May 18-22, 2014, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

These scholarships are in addition to the 11 regional scholarships awarded by the IIMC.

Fill out the scholarship application below and return it to:

Donna Stewart, City Clerk
City of Camden
PO Box 278
Camden, AR. 71711

For more information, contact:
Scholarship Chairman Donna Stewart at ***(870) 836-6436***
or email ***payroll.camden@cablelynx.com***.

2014 APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

I, _____, am a member of the Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and do hereby apply for assistance from ACCRTA. (Applicant must be a City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, Recorder, Treasurer or related title at the time of application.)

Name _____ Title_____
Street Address or P.O. Box _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____ Date assumed present position_____
Other related experience: Title _____ Municipality _____ Years _____
_____

Education: H.S. ___ Graduate College (years) _____ Degree _____
Check one: This application is for a _____First _____ Second ____ Third year Institute
What are the approximate costs of the institute you plan to attend? _____
Travel/Transportation _____ Registration Fee/Tuition _____
Lodging and Meal _____ Total Amount _____
How much does your municipality budget your department yearly for education? _____
What is your reason(s) for applying for this scholarship? _____
_____
_____
_____

I understand that if a scholarship is awarded to me, it must be used between Jan. 1, 2014, and Dec. 31, 2014, and that I must attend all sessions.

Please attach written evidence that your Chief Executive or legislative body supports your attendance at the institute and that in the event that a scholarship is awarded, you will be given the time to attend the institute.

I do hereby attest that the information submitted with this application is true and correct to my best knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

_____ Municipal Clerks' Institute, Fayetteville	September 14-18, 2014	**Deadline: May 31, 2014**
_____ Academy for Advanced Education, Fayetteville	September 17-18, 2014	**Deadline: May 31, 2014**
_____ IIMC Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	May 18-22, 2014	**Deadline: April 15, 2014**

Disclaimer: ACCRTA will not be responsible for applications that do not reach the chairman by the deadline. Please feel free to call after a few days to be sure your application was received

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Maximize Your Benefit

Join the Municipal Health Benefit Fund

Approximately 90 percent of the municipalities across Arkansas that offer employees and officials medical benefits have joined the Municipal Health Benefit Fund and receive major medical and prescription coverage, employee life, accidental death and dismemberment, dependent life, dental and vision coverages.

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- **Coverage for dependent children to age 26**
- **No Lifetime Maximums**
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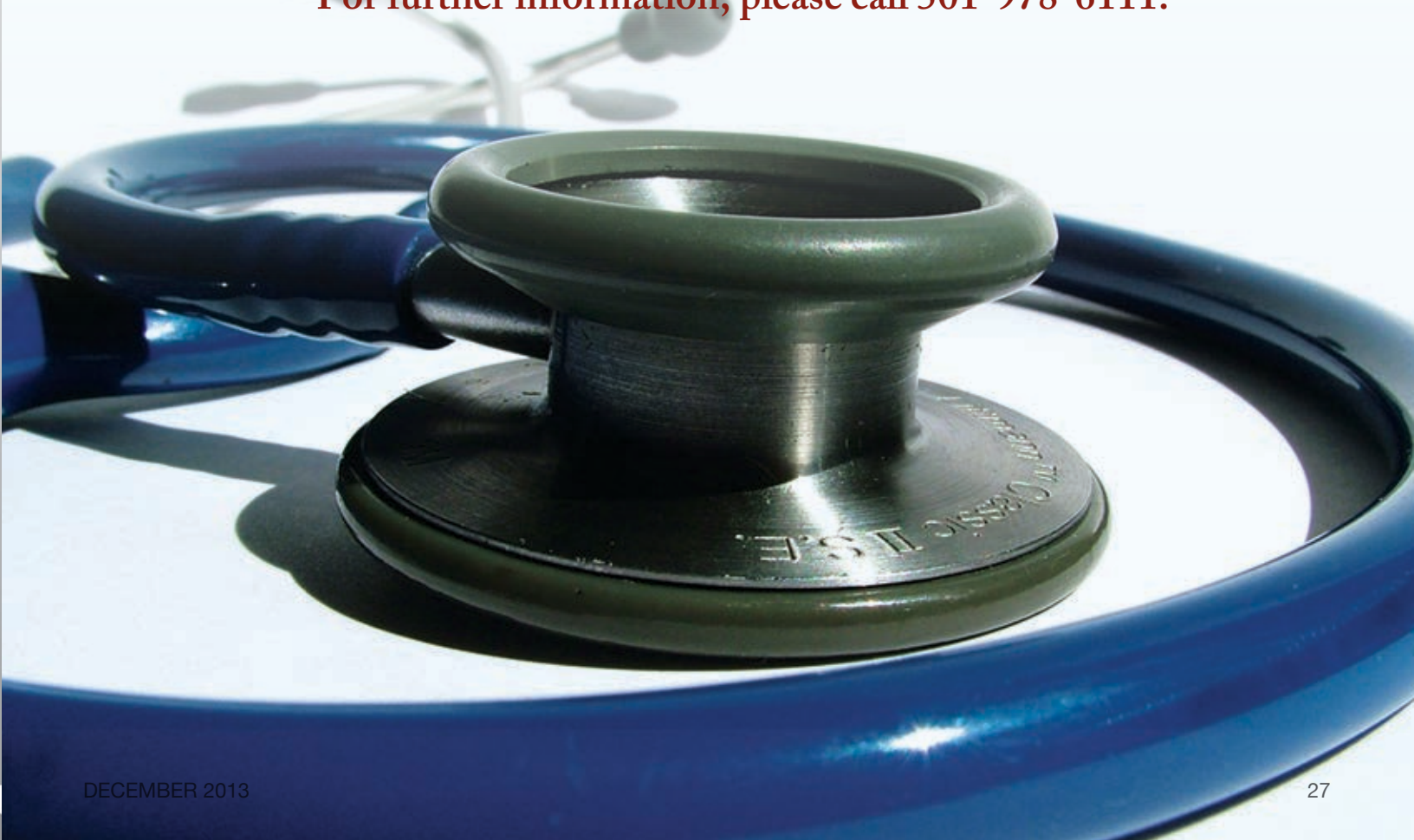
- **Preventive Care Benefits for all covered members**
- **Coverage for specific preventative vaccines under the Preventative Care Program**
- **Special Bariatric Surgery Program**

The Municipal Health Benefit Fund provides quality health protection for your officials and employees at a reasonable rate. For further information, please call 501-978-6111.



Bringing specialty healthcare to your hometown

By Tamara P. Perry, BA-SLP, MA

Jennifer is expecting triplets. But because she lives in a small town, her local OB/GYN does not have experience with multiples. She needs to see a high-risk specialist. But the nearest one is more than two hours away, and this is a trip she will need to make frequently during the course of her pregnancy.

Thanks to technology developed in the last few years, specialty care can now be brought to rural areas through telemedicine that could allow Jennifer and others to get the specialty care they need in their local clinic.

The South Central Telehealth Resource Center (SCTRC), created through the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), can provide the way by helping your medical community set up a distance health connection.

What is telemedicine?

Telemedicine, also called telehealth, is providing health care using modern technology and electronic communications. It allows patients to visit with physicians live over video for immediate diagnosis and treatment.

Using telemedicine, specialty medical care can now be brought to any rural area in Arkansas, giving specialists in one city the ability to see patients in their local health care facilities.

Because of a $102 million federal grant secured in 2010 by UAMS and other partners, Arkansas has become the second-most connected state in the country in the ratio of rural residents to connection points. The grant increased broadband availability to community institutions across the state, including more than 450 hospitals, schools, libraries, and other sites. All 75 counties in the state have a telehealth-equipped facility.

The SCTRC is one of 14 such centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The SCTRC serves Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee, and works with the UAMS Center for Distance Health to educate providers, administrators, students, and lay people about telemedicine and distance education.

Communities can receive training on how to set up a telemedicine network through the UAMS Center for Distance Health's Training Center. The center conducts hands-on training and has a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week dedicated video support line for technical assistance. The SCTRC is always looking for opportunities to bring better health care to your community.

LearnTelehealth.org

Since February 2011, the SCTRC has provided telehealth-focused education and resources through LearnTelehealth.org. The site includes numerous free resources for communities looking to develop telemedicine services, including blogs, tools, interactive modules, and guides to help with telehealth education. The site is not only useful for health care providers, students and caregivers, but also the general public who may see a need within their community. You can take a quick tour of LearnTelehealth.org to view video highlights of services available.

If you are looking for more information in connecting your community, consider attending the South Central Telehealth Forum, May 8-9, 2014, in Little Rock. For more information, go to LearnTelehealth.org.

The SCTRC stands ready to provide Arkansas and its largely rural population with award-winning telemedicine programs that can address the unique health care and educational needs within your community.

Tamara P. Perry, BA-SLP, MA, is Education Coordinator, South Central Telehealth Resource Center, UAMS Center for Distance Health, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

New Reduced Rates!

Municipal Property Program

Your Municipal Property Program offers broad coverage for your municipal property. The limits of coverage are $500 million per occurrence per member for damages from fire, windstorm and other incidents in excess of $5,000.

Coverage is $50 million for losses exceeding $100,000 on earthquakes and flooding.

The Municipal Property Program's current rates are listed below.

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FIRE CLASS II	—	·0012	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS III	—	·0013	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS IV	—	·0014	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS V	—	·0015	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VI	—	·0016	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VII	—	·0017	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VIII	—	·0018	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS IX	—	·0019	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS X	—	.002	X	covered value	=	Premium

For more information, call Linda Montgomery at League headquarters, 501-978-6123 or 501-374-3484, Ext. 233.

Urban soil conditions require special attention

By Alison Litchy

What is not seen is often overlooked. It can be easy to overlook a tree's roots, but without roots a tree cannot survive. Roots store nutrients, gather water, stabilize the tree, and are overall what allow the tree to live. You can't have a tree without soil for the roots to grow in. Urban soils are especially important to consider since they are commonly altered by man. Understanding a few basics about how different tree species respond to various soil types will make it easier to select a tree for your site. This will also improve the overall health and vigor of your urban trees. An urban tree is in a significantly different environment than a tree in a rural area. In urban settings a tree may need assistance from us to thrive in its environment.

Broadly defined, soil is an unconsolidated mixture of organic and mineral material. There are different types of soils. These can be broken down into four main categories: sand, silt, clay, and loam. Different combinations of these soil structures make up different soil types. Sand is the largest particle size and clay is the smallest particle size. Silt is between sand and clay. A loam is a mixture of all particle sizes. Between these particles water fills the large openings, or macrospores. As the soil dries water clings to the particles through adhesion or sandwiches itself in tiny microspores. When these spaces are not filled with water the space provides oxygen to the roots. Compaction limits the amount of macrospores your soil structure has and reduces the amount of water and oxygen to your tree's roots and should be eliminated through some type of aeration process.

Complexity of urban soils is vast due to human disturbances over the years. In a given area the soils can range from unsuitable for planting to soil that is ready to grow crops. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service can help you survey the soil types in your area. You can also get your soil tested at your local extension service. This will allow you to know what levels of nutrients are in the soil and if any action needs to be taken. Most fertilizers will contain Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium. These are the macronutrients that the tree requires. However, it is usually unnecessary to fertilize your tree. Your soil test along with help from an arborist will help determine if fertilizer is needed or not.

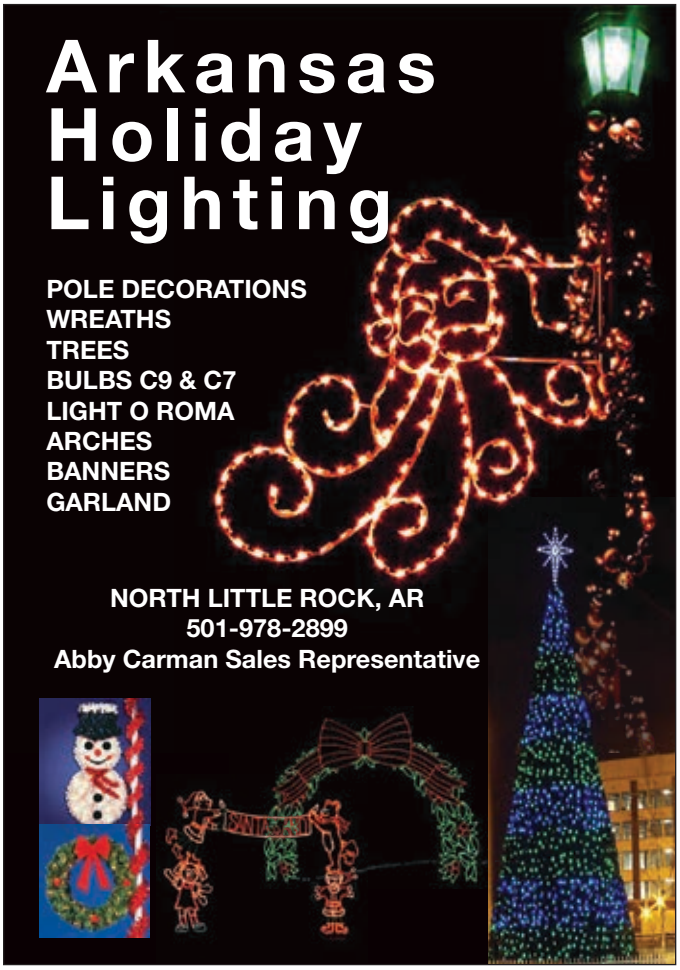
Unlike rural trees, urban trees often need our help, especially when it comes to protecting the critical root zone.

Several key soil features affect a tree's growth. The soil that affects the tree is the soil within its root zone. As a general rule, 90 percent of roots are in the top 18 inches of soil and spread 1-2 times the height of the tree. We touched on nutrients that are required for plant growth. There are both macronutrients and micronutrients. The pH is also important based on what species you want to plant. Generally, conifers prefer a slightly acidic range of 5-6 and deciduous trees succeed at a pH of 6-7. Location of the hardpan—or impervious subsurface layer— can prevent root development. This also affects the subsurface drainage, causing waterlogged soils. Depth of the topsoil is also a factor. Soil structure (grouping of soil particles) and texture (size distribution of soil particles) play a key role in the tree's development. Finally, mycorrhizal fungi and the roots have a symbiotic relationship. They enhance the water uptake of the root system. Trees grow better and can react to stress better when mycorrhizae are present.

So your tree is already established in bad soil? One of the best things you can do is to add a layer of organic mulch. There are many different varieties on the market—different wood types, bark, pecan shells, cottonseed hulls, and more. This will add beneficial nutrients to your trees critical root zone. It also helps keep frost out in the winter and prevents the roots from drying out in the summer. It does this by reducing the amount of evaporation from the soil surface and takes away competition from weeds and grasses for the same moisture. Just 1.5 inches of mulch can reduce evaporation from the sun by 35 percent and evaporation by wind up to 25 percent. This is an easy way to improve growing conditions for trees.

The soil impacts the tree throughout its life. Determine the soil type and what the tree species requirements are before you begin planting trees. Always add a properly applied layer of mulch to new plantings to give them nutrients and protection as they become established.

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



Community assessments help address strengths, weaknesses

By Mark S. Goodman, CEcD

Has anyone ever asked you to describe your community? You begin by telling them about the great people, maybe the football team, etc. When we respond to these requests, we're basically describing our community's identity either as we see it or as we would like our audience to see it. In other words, community identity can be defined or measured in many different ways. In the economic development field, our task is also to measure our communities in specific terms, terms that describe who we really are in the most objective way possible. We aim to answer questions such as:

- Should someone invest in business here?
- How competitive is our community on a global scale?
- What sets us apart from other markets?
- What is our capacity for growth?
- What are the qualities, capabilities, and availability of our workforce?
- How many businesses can our market support?
- Do we have quality infrastructure, sites, and buildings to support development?

In economic development, we're constantly faced with these questions from prospective and existing business, industry, and citizens. Addressing the situation right here and right now, and determining our strengths and weaknesses are components of a community assessment for economic development. In effect, we're identifying those key issues locally, beginning with an inventory of the components (or assets) of our community that make us competitive, as well as those that hinder our competitiveness.

What is a comprehensive economic development community assessment?

Comprehensive assessments typically include a combination of economic analysis, objective information inventorying, and subjective data collection through surveys, focus groups, and face-to-face interviews. These strategic actions are all critical and complementary in an assessment. But, one should not necessarily conduct all three activities simultaneously. For example, the results of a properly conducted inventory of assets alongside an analytical study can provide real-world, on-the-ground insight, which can in turn inform the interviews and subjective information gathering that could follow. With the inventory complete, we can more clearly say what "is" and use the interview to ask "why."

Why do an assessment?

Assessments help us to be prepared for opportunity, play to our strengths, and identify any impediments so we can address them. A comprehensive assessment identifies both the positive and difficult issues. After all, we want to accentuate the positives, and plan to address our negatives.

When to do an assessment?

Many think of community assessments as efforts we engage in on an occasional basis, either because someone told us we needed one, or it was a requirement for another purpose such as in support of a strategic planning effort. Naturally, it makes sense for communities to conduct an assessment ahead of a strategic planning effort. After all, how do we know where to go if we don't know where we are right now?

However, communities could utilize this information on more than an occasional basis, as a part of their marketing and business development efforts. The right assessment asks the same questions and collects the same information that would be required by a prospective business or industry. A regularly–updated community assessment can be a valuable economic development tool.

What are the elements of an assessment inventory? Consider the following if you are planning to conduct an economic development community assessment:

- **Population and the movement of people**—Measure the change in population and number of households over time, focusing on people, ages, income, and consumer spending. Identify who is spending their money locally.

- **Employment and workforce**—Measure the change in employment; by sector, wages, concentration by employment type, and unemployment rate. Identify the employers who are generating the most economic bang.
- **Business and industry**—Measure the change in business/industry establishments and employment. Who are your top employers? Identify the condition of your commercial districts, industrial sites, and buildings.
- **Infrastructure**—Measure the condition and capacity of your physical infrastructure. Identify the capacities for growth in water, sewer, solid waste, electric, gas, and internet coverage, among other factors. Don't forget to include transportation infrastructure!
- **Environment**—Measure the conditions and composition of your water, soil, and other natural attributes.
- **Education**—Measure the educational attainment, changes over time in enrollment, test scores, graduation rates, and statewide rankings of both k-12 public schools and institutions of higher education. Also include skills training and retraining programs available regionally. Do training programs locally address the needs of business and industry?
- **Medical**—Measure the development in local healthcare services; including hospital beds, medical/areas of expertise, and the market area served. Are your clinics' hours of operation adequately serving the population?
- **Crime**—Measure your police force capacity and crime-specific numbers.
- **Housing**—Measure the change in the number of housing permits, residential utility hookups, median home value, and housing affordability over time.
- **Community spaces and places**—Measure your community centers and gatherings places, such as town square activities and farmers markets, conference/meeting centers and the like. Focus on attendance, utilization, capacities, and program marketing.
- **Local government**—Is local government engaged in comprehensive planning, zoning, regional efforts, recycling, downtown development, business development, and online government services?
- **Citizens**—Identify and measure the number of leadership programs, bond issues passed, level of voter participation, and availability of social programming in your area.
- **Culture and activity**—Measure quality of life indicators locally; such as outdoor activities, shopping and entertainment, and citizen mobility infrastructure.

In future issues we will discuss the analysis often accompanying a community assessment, as well as how to conduct interviews and subjective data gathering.

Where do I get help?

Conducting community assessments can be hard work, but they are critical to successful community and business development. A comprehensive assessment requires some careful planning, organizing, data-gathering, and calculation. For this reason, many communities rely on third-party providers to do the groundwork. Your choice of assistance will depend on how much you are able to spend, how quickly you need the results, and how often you plan to conduct an assessment.

The Center for Economic Development Education at UALR's Institute for Economic Advancement (IEA) can assist with your assessment needs. Please contact us for more information on community assessments by calling 501-569-8519, or by visiting our website, iea.ualr.edu/centers-and-programs/center-for-economic-development-education.html.

Mark Goodman is Director of the Center for Economic Development Education, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR. Email Mark at msgoodman@ualr.edu.

Wanted: Eight cities to participate in energy planning program

The Applied Sustainability Center invites Arkansas cities to apply for the second cohort of the Sustainable Energy Scorecards and Education for Municipalities (SESEM) Program. Eight cities will be selected to participate in 2014. The program is funded by a grant from the Arkansas Communities Foundation and is free to participating cities.

Participants receive several benefits as part of the SESEM program:

- A customized city energy scorecard
- Training at the Summer Energy Academy
- Monthly webinars and group calls
- Energy education and outreach programming

The SESEM program assists cities in developing a comprehensive, strategic approach to expanding energy efficiency and renewable energy resources. As part of the program, the ASC provides each participating city with an energy scorecard that provides an energy baseline and reports energy consumption by sector. The scorecard also provides information about the city's energy resources. Cities can use the scorecard to set goals and measure results in terms of energy efficiency and renewable energy generation.

Each city sends a team representing various stakeholder groups to attend the annual Summer Energy Academy in Fayetteville. The academy provides city leaders with an opportunity to learn from a variety of experts about innovative energy programs and policies, as well as explore energy planning as an economic development tool. Monthly webinars help city leaders stay connected and provide information about best practices and resources to meet city energy goals.

Harrison used its energy scorecard to begin targeted energy improvements on public buildings.

"Through performance contracting efforts, and reaching out to City Smart/CleaResult, the city is on its way to being even better stewards of taxpayer money with regards to energy usage," said Patrick Hunter, assistant to Mayor Crockett in Harrison. "We now even have future financing prospects for upgrading equipment and facilities where a notoriously 'tight city budget' would not consider before."

Cities interested in participating in the second cohort of the SESEM program should email Michele Halsell at MHalsell@walton.uark.edu for an application, or visit asc.uark.edu to download the application. Applications are due on Jan. 10, 2014. The cities selected for the 2014 cohort will be announced in early February 2014.

League delegation visits Seattle

Members of the League's delegation to the 2013 National League of Cities Congress of Cities and Exposition, held Nov. 13-16 in Seattle, rally around the Arkansas sign. Each year city officials and League staff meet at the Congress to share best practices and discuss strategies to ensure the quality of life for city and town residents.

Photo by Laney Harris

Support a family on $20 a week?

Volunteer firefighters who are injured in their firefighter duties receive only $20 a week for a compensable injury.

Solution: The Arkansas Municipal League's Volunteer Firefighters Supplemental Income Program protects the earnings of volunteer firefighters who are injured in their duties.

What they get: Weekly temporary total disability benefits payable up to a MAXIMUM of $575 allowed under Arkansas Workers' Compensation Law; weekly benefits go for 52 weeks; $10,000 death benefit.

How? Cost is only $20 a firefighter a year. All volunteer and part-paid firefighters in the department must be covered. The minimum premium for each city or town is $240.

Call:
Kenneth Martin at 501-978-6127 ext. 232 or Andrea Sayre, ext. 237.

Protect your loved ones' financial security.

Arkansas Municipal League's Volunteer Firefighters Supplemental Income Program

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Brian Woodring | 501-920-1900
bwoodring@utilityservice.com

UPDATE: State Aid Street Committee modifies project criteria

The State Aid Street Committee met Dec. 4 to consider comments received regarding the proposed Project Criteria Rules and other issues that have been raised with regard to the State Aid Street Program. The Committee modified the Project Criteria Rules in two instances. One, the Committee made clear that a municipality may submit only one project request per calendar year; and second, if a municipality has had a project awarded for funding then that municipality must wait until the following calendar year to submit another project and if not awarded that year must resubmit the following calendar year. As an example, if Town X is awarded a project in 2013, then Town X must wait until 2014 to submit another project, and if that project is not awarded in 2014 then Town X must resubmit in 2015 and each year thereafter until the project is awarded. The Committee will take into consideration the length of time that a project has been pending, including resubmittals, when making awards.

The Committee also took steps to expand the scope of the Program to allow more municipalities to receive funding for their projects. It was determined that starting immediately streets that consist of loops, end in a cul-de-sac or terminate at a public or commercial facility will not be considered "dead ends" and will be eligible for funding. Also the Committee decided to allow consideration of streets with widths less than 18 feet if there are no other suitable projects available to a municipality and the mayor submits a design exception request with the initial application.

The Committee is working hard to see that the State Aid Street Program benefits as many municipalities as possible. To date projects for 75 municipalities in the amount of $16.4 million have been approved or awarded funding. Starring in January 2014 the Committee will have approximately $20 million dollars to fund new projects. The criteria appear at right.

STATE AID STREET PROJECT CRITERIA

- In order to qualify for funding roadway conditions for overlays must be fair, fair to poor, or poor.
- Funding for projects will be capped at $250,000. If bids exceed the cap, then the city must agree to pay the overage amount or scale back the project.
- Projects requiring design work will be granted preliminary approval but not considered for award until the engineering has been completed. The $250,000 cap will apply to these projects.
- Projects awarded funding for less than $250,000 but whose bid amounts are 10 percent higher than the approved estimated project cost must come back to the Committee for approval.
- Municipalities may submit one project per year on a calendar year basis, but priority will be given to those municipalities that have not had a project previously funded.
- Municipalities that have had a project approved for funding must wait until the following calendar year to submit another project and if not awarded must resubmit the following calendar year.

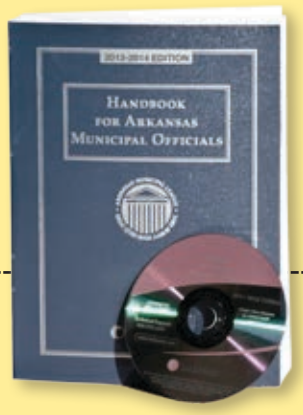
Your thoughts and feedback are important for the continued success of the Program, so please do not hesitate to let me know how the Program is working for you.

For more information please contact Steve Napper, attorney for the State Aid Street Committee, at 501-378-7755 or email snapper@aristotle.net.

The must-have reference for every city hall in Arkansas

The new 2013-2014 edition of the *Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials* has arrived. The *Handbook* compiles state laws affecting Arkansas municipalities, including the newest laws from the 2013 legislative session.

This is the most complete publication on municipal law and city government in Arkansas. You may order and pay for your copy online via Visa or MasterCard by visiting the Publications page at www.arml.org, or use the order form below.



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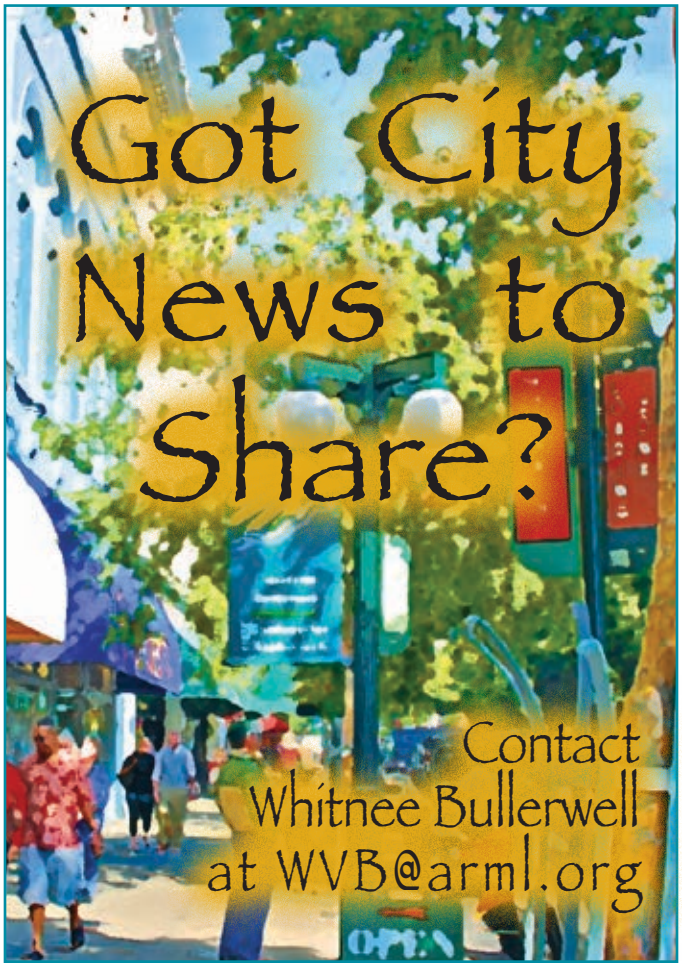

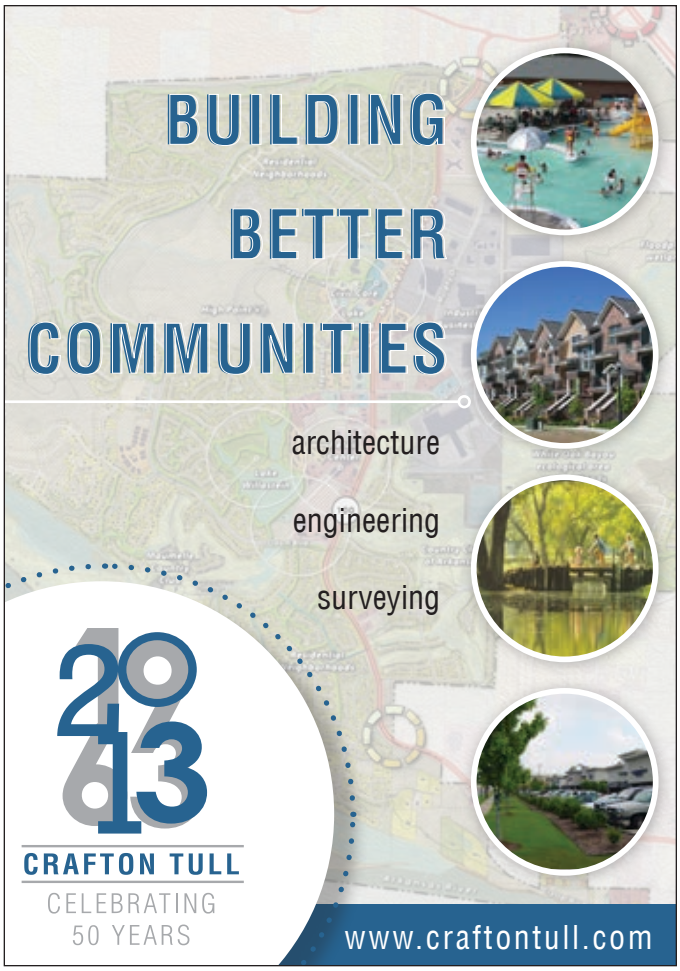

Tax-funded projects on a roll across state

By Daniel Barnes, PE

Although the Arkansas economy is still recovering, a great number of cities are seeing growing tax revenues. In the past two years, Arkansas voters have approved a mixture of sales tax extensions, renewals, and new taxes, which are a major source of infrastructure project funding at the local level.

In Huntsville, voters approved a new one percent sales tax in August. The revenue will fund water and sewer improvements near the 412 bypass area, as well as a new fire station, street improvements, and park improvements. Bringing water and sewer service to the area will allow for new development opportunities.

Little Rock voters approved a new one-cent sales tax in September 2011. Of the one cent, 5/8 cent is permanent and funds city operations, and 3/8 cent expires in 10 years. The 3/8 portion is funding $72 million in public works construction including street resurfacing and maintenance, street and drainage reconstruction, traffic signals, and sidewalks. More than $28 million generated by the 3/8-cent tax is paying for parks and recreation projects, as well as capital upgrades at the zoo, and supports state fair tourism.

Voters in Russellville extended a one-cent tax that has been in place since 1993 in September, although the city has only been receiving the revenue since 2003. Russellville City Corp was the previous beneficiary. The sales tax extension sets aside 6.25 percent for economic development and capital improvement purposes with 12.5 percent for water and sewer improvements. The remaining collections are providing $7 million for an aquatic center, $1.3 million for parks and recreation capital improvements, and $6.5 million for a new central fire station. The balance, which will be $25 million at minimum, will fund street and drainage projects.

Some local governments have capitalized on the good mood of the voting public and created bond issue packages, which authorize the sale of bonds to complete public works projects.

White Hall Recreation Park, funded by HMR sales tax revenues, is under construction and anticipated to open in summer 2014.

White Hall used video, conceptual renderings, photographs, and schematic drawings to inform voters about the amenities the approved project would include.

Fayetteville collects a two percent hotel, motel, and restaurant (HMR) tax, of which one percent funds the Advertising & Promotion Commission. The commission must get approval from voters on how to spend revenue. Last month, in a special election, Fayetteville voters approved three bond issues that will repay the remaining debt on the Town Center, provide $6.9 million towards expansion of the Walton Arts Center, and fund $3.5 million toward construction of a regional park.

The issuance of bonds is a popular way to fund projects because projects can be completed at a faster rate than could be achieved with banking funds for a pay-as-you-go approach.

At the state level, voters last November also approved a half-cent sales tax increase to finance a $1.3 billion bond issue for improvements to four-lane highways that will connect all areas of the state. Collection of the tax began July 1. The tax, which expires in 10 years, will substantially increase the amount of state aid to cities and counties for road projects. These funds, known as turnback revenue, are expected to increase by a total of $670 million to $700 million over the course of the tax.

Local municipalities are already identifying projects that they will use turnback funds to support. Eligible projects include maintenance, construction, and reconstruction of city and county roads and bridges, and parking for specified county facilities. Cities and counties may also use a specified amount for transit.

When looking at municipalities that have been successful in achieving voter approval for sales tax and bond issues, a common thread is that the city has worked hard to communicate the benefits of the projects to the public at large and to provide comprehensive information as to how funds will be spent. When developing public works projects, it is critical to be good stewards of public tax dollars.

White Hall voters approved a $4.5 million bond issue in May for a recreation park that includes an aquatic center and community center. The $7 million project uses funds from the city's HMR tax. Before the vote, the city worked closely with project designers to develop presentation materials, such as a video, conceptual renderings, photographs and schematic drawings, to show the types of amenities that the facilities would include when constructed. The park is expected to be complete in summer 2014.

These are only a few examples of exciting projects that local electorates are voting to support, and many have been able to take advantage of lower costs of construction that were a product of the economic downturn. Prices are beginning to rise slightly as the economy continues to improve. Support for local infrastructure and quality of life projects also aids in job creation and economic development, which continues the cycle of improvement.

Daniel Barnes, PE is president of McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc.–Fayetteville. Contact Daniel at 479-443-2377 or email dbarnes@mcclelland-engrs.com.

Pre-plan to plan

By Jim von Tungeln

At a recent planning commissioner training session, several members inquired about the process of getting started with a plan. With increasing interest in planning by cities of all sizes, and with budget preparations in full swing, that seems like a timely topic. After all, the old adage states that the hardest parts of any job are getting started and getting finished.

Some of what follows may sound new to those with years of experience with plans and planning commissions. The reason is that my experience has taught me that a "one size" approach to planning may not fit all communities as they face the future. And the times in which we live may cause those who ponder that future to look for more "custom-made" solutions.

This column assumes that a city has taken the essential first step and established a planning commission. Small cities and towns in our state that may have trouble finding enough volunteers may now elect to have the city council serve as the planning commission. I suggest that any city contemplating this move contact me or someone at the League prior to choosing this option.

The next step after a city has formed a planning commission should be to make a few basic decisions to guide its effort. This involves what we might call "pre-planning." This will allow the commission to focus on real needs as opposed to undertaking an academic exercise. Although much of what follows focuses on smaller cities, the points are valid for larger ones, particularly at the neighborhood level.

The presence of dilapidated and abandoned housing is emerging as a major issue in many Arkansas cities and is a primary focus of planning efforts.

It has been a common practice of professional planners to recommend to cities of all sizes that they use the same approach to the planning process. So, the smallest town with which I have worked—Keo (pop. 256)—would use the same approach as the largest—Little Rock (196,537). It should be obvious that this methodology doesn't pass the reasonableness test.

It would be nice if all planning centered on being proactive. Some cities, however, don't have that luxury. Events force them into a reactive posture. It seems fairly consistent in my experience that smaller cities, say those less than 2,000, fall into the latter category. They often face one or two issues or opportunities that have awakened their leaders to the need for planning. Recognizing and confronting those issues or opportunities should remain uppermost in the minds of planners. The future will hold ample opportunity to become more comprehensive in the planning process.

In other words, first address the basics.

Conversely, many cities do seek a comprehensive planning program. Closely associated with this approach is the need for an overall community vision of itself in the future. As with many things that sound simple, this can prove a tough task and should be formed with adequate community input. Remember that the plan that is ultimately adopted must be one that the citizens will accept, approve, and defend if need be.

In short, it pays to ask folks what they think. This can be done in a number of ways. The best I have found is to go directly to the citizens with a "blank slate" and ask them. Too often, citizens have the feeling that visions are already formed and plans made from them before they are consulted. As mentioned in previous columns, the "charrette" process is a good method for gaining citizen "buy-in." The difficulty lies in getting citizens out, and this requires effort, including personal invitations to key community leaders and activists.

At the other end of the citizen input spectrum is the so-called "Blue-Ribbon Committee." These, in my experience, are generally populated by an older cohort of individuals who may not match the demographics of those who must live with the results of the plans. Good plans often die in such committees. On the other hand, a steering committee comprising professionals, staff, business representatives, and a diversity of age and income groups can provide a solid bridge between the city and the public.

Cities that are in a reactive mode also need citizen input in the early stages. Although the issue or issues may already be identified, there may be multiple approaches to addressing them. It is crucial, again, that the approach chosen is one that is acceptable to the community at large. It is equally important that the public be aware of the causes, severity, and long-term implications of the issue.

Another important step in pre-planning is the education and training of both staff and planning commissioners. It is difficult to imagine a more important group of individuals in setting a path for the growth of the city. It is equally distressing to learn that they are often placed in their position with no advance training. Workshops and other assistance are available and cities should take advantage of them. Check with the League.

The state chapter of the American Planning Association offers inexpensive "Chapter Only" memberships. These permit members access to activities at the state level, including two conferences per year, each of which offers helpful educational programs.

Finally, the planning commission and other participants should have access to basic tools that will be needed to begin their work. One of the first and most important items is a good base map of the city and its territorial jurisdiction. Although this may involve some professional assistance, the difficulty and expense of obtaining adequate mapping represents a pittance of the overall cost of planning when compared with that expense 20 or 30 years ago.

Another important tool is a community profile that acquaints planners with the physical, financial, and social characteristics of the planning area. Along with this, they should have a printed copy of the statutes affecting planning in the state. Also helpful would be a summary of legal issues, cases, and doctrines with which a planner should be familiar.

With the planning commission formed, educated, and outfitted, and with the public engaged, the city is ready to begin the planning process. Here's wishing you a happy journey.

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.

Budgets need sense as well as cents

By Chad Gallagher

Here we are again. A new year is before us and for municipal officials budget time is here. It's time to set priorities, evaluate income, sales tax receipts, utility rates, expenditures, and capital needs, and to figure out a way to make the money stretch out. Having built municipal budgets and closely watched the construction of state budgets I know firsthand what a frustrating process it can be.

Municipalities have a wide range of responsibilities and these only seem to grow over the years. Cities and towns are responsible for police and fire protection, code enforcement, utility services, solid waste, economic development, infrastructure improvements, animal control, parks and recreation, planned growth, and much more. City leadership must find enough funding opportunities to keep pace with new and proposed projects. This is one reason that the grant process is important. However, it is also why creating the municipal budget should be a purposeful, strategic exercise.

Since the budget determines the amount of resources available to each department, budgeting usually exerts more influence on what gets done than a strategic plan, which is why it should be tied to a strategic plan. Create a budget that is working to achieve your goals and serves as an integral part of a true vision. Building a haphazard budget or simply copying what was done the year before leads to stagnation. Governing cannot be about shuffling the numbers a bit from year to year. The budget should be a workhorse. It is designed to be one of the main cylinders in the engine driving the city forward.

Every municipality should have a strategic document. I like to call this document a community blueprint. It maps out a future direction, what you would like to build, and the desired results the community would like to achieve. The blueprint paints a clear picture of the destination. In return, the budget should advance the fulfillment of this vision. Every mayor and city council can articulate what they hope to accomplish and what they would like to see transpire in the community, even if a formal process has not been conducted. While we recommend a formal process be initiated, it is fundamental that the budget be tied to these larger goals.

Many strategic plans do not achieve their goals because there is no mechanism to drive the strategic plan through the budgeting process. The strategic, long-term goals and the tactical, short-term needs are disconnected. The tactical is more specific, more immediate and more tangible in its urgency and its payoffs. For this reason the tactical tends to usurp the strategic. Without strong linking mechanisms between these two worlds, the strategic drifts out of focus and becomes less relevant.

Creating departmental objectives is a key to preventing your overall strategic plan from being lost. Each department should be asked to create a list of department objectives, as well as a list of long-term capital improvements needed to achieve these objectives. Then, each objective should be challenged. Does the department objective drive the overall strategic plan? Does the objective fit into the sum total of the plan? Encourage your department heads to think broadly, to consider the overall direction of the community. This will begin to weed out spending that does not help achieve the goals of the community.

Be succinct and help department heads see the overall direction the council and mayor are leading the city. Ask each department head to make a list of every department activity, service, and responsibility. Ask them to evaluate those services against the overall community plan. Then ask each leader to compare each activity to an alternative way of achieving the desired result.

Give your department heads the guidance necessary to create a strategic plan for their department. It should address these questions: What is our primary purpose? What do we need to better fulfill it? How can be become more efficient? When do we need the identified item?

The law is clear that the mayor will submit a budget to the council for approval, but a deliberate community engagement process can enhance the building of that budget. Invite city employees to meet with you in small groups to get their opinions. Hold neighborhood meetings and meet citizens for coffee. Have questions and discussion points ready in order to gauge their views on your budget ideas. Invite a couple of business leaders to work with you on the budget. Ask them to use their business experience to help you craft a budget. Listen with an open mind. Above all, make the budget fresh and make it carry the water to make your city's dreams come true.

Chad Gallagher is principal of Legacy Consulting and a former mayor of De Queen. Contact him in De Queen at 870-642-8937, 501-246-8842 in Little Rock, or email chad.gallagher@legacyincorporated.com.

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Lights of the Ozarks celebrates 20 years of holiday illumination

By Marilyn Heifner and Byron Humphry

The Lights of the Ozarks, a holiday celebration of lights in Fayetteville that occurs on the Saturday before Thanksgiving and concludes on New Year's Eve, will soon celebrate 20 years of holiday cheer. The A&P Commission developed the idea for the display 1993 as a way to increase hotel, motel, and restaurant tax in the slow winter months. George Smith, Holly Smith, and Gayle Walsh were the original chairmen of the project. George, publisher of the *NWA Times*, moved to Fayetteville from Marshall, Texas, where he had been involved in a similar lights festival. In 1994, a lighting project was in the Chamber Convention and Visitors Development Committee business plan. The committee sold lights door-to-door and recruited businesses along Hwy. 71-B from Drake Field airport to the Northwest Arkansas Mall to light their businesses.

On the evening before Thanksgiving in 1994, a lighted fire truck started at Drake Field airport and headed north toward the mall. Businesses along the way turned on their lights as the fire truck passed by. The fire truck circled the Fayetteville square, which was lit one block at a time. Events coordinated with the first Lights of the Ozarks included choirs on the square, Bugs in the Lights (a VW Bug show), a Jingle Bell Jog, a home decorating contest, and a holiday parade.

Over the years, the display became centered on the downtown square. A partnership evolved between the city and the A&P Commission. The A&P Commission funded a sound system that was added around the square to broadcast Christmas music during the festival and has also contributed substantially through the years to purchase lights. The Commission also coordinates all events that include camel, pony and carriage rides,

choirs, photos with Santa and his reindeer, and vendors that provide hot cider, coffee, and hot chocolate. In recent years, the Fayetteville Visitors Bureau and the University of Arkansas hospitality class have organized and coordinated the parade on lighting night.

The Fayetteville Parks and Recreation Department installs the display, which consists of approximately 450,000 lights. Installation begins the first week in October and takes six weeks to install, totaling over 2,000 man-hours. In 2009, the Parks Department, with funding assistance from the A&P Commission, began converting the light display to LED lights. Because the LED light strands are more expensive than incandescent lights, the conversion process occurred over a three-year period. By 2012, the display was 100 percent LED. Although the LED lights are more expensive, they offer many benefits. LED lights utilize 88 percent less energy than incandescent lights. While this energy savings amounts to a smaller utility bill, the lower power consumption has also allowed easier installation and power distribution around the square and created a safer display, virtually eliminating power failures and overheating of receptacles. The LED bulbs also have an effective bulb life of 50,000 hours and are made of hard plastic that is resistant to breakage. This allows the LED strands to be used multiple years as opposed to the traditional incandescent strands that lasted a maximum of two years.

This year the light display is being extended down Block Avenue and Dickson Street. Street light poles on Block will be wrapped with lighted garland, and on Dickson lighted ornaments consisting of snowflakes, poinsettias, and Razorbacks will be placed on the light poles. Lights on the square are placed in tree canopies and ground cover surrounding the square.

This year's Lights of the Ozarks runs to midnight on Dec. 31. The lights will come on 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. nightly throughout the duration of the display. The A&P Commission estimates 300,000 people will visit the square during the Lights of the Ozarks display with an estimated $500,000 added to the local economy.

If you've never seen the Lights of the Ozarks display, make plans to attend this year. Nightly carriages, camel and pony rides, fresh hot chocolate, and festive holiday music make the Lights of the Ozarks an event that cannot be missed. For more information, visit thelightsoftheozarks.com.

Marilyn Heifner and Byron Humphrey are members of the Fayetteville Advertising and Promotion Commission.

Photos courtesy Fayetteville Visitors Bureau

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013

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

Have fun celebrating holidays, but use caution

"I am so tired, and going to these parties is wearing me out. Thank goodness I have some leftover cough medicine to take to help me relax and get some sleep! I have to work tomorrow and I need rest."

Does this sound familiar? Have you ever had the same thoughts as a result of fatigue, excitement, and the realization that work will be awaiting you in a few hours and you may not be fit for duty? Cough suppressants, sleep aids, and antihistamines can be abused for their psychoactive effects, with cough medications being the most commonly abused over-the-counter drug. Mixing over-the-counter (OTC) medication with alcohol, or with illicit or prescription drugs can have dangerous, if not fatal, consequences. Some OTC drugs contain aspirin or acetaminophen, which can be toxic to the liver at high doses. Other medications taken for their "hallucinogenic" properties can cause confusion, psychosis, coma, and even death.

In 2010, 6.6 percent of high school seniors took cough syrup "to get high." At high doses, dextromethorphan, a key ingredient found in cough syrup, can act like PCP or ketamine, producing dissociative or "out-of-body" experiences.

A warning to all: Only under the supervision of a doctor can opioid drugs be used safely with other drugs. Remember that opioids are Central Nervous System (CNS) depressants. They should not be used with other substances that depress the CNS, such as alcohol, antihistamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, or general anesthetics, because these combinations increase the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression.

With these warnings, to make your parties fun and safe, go home early, drink less, avoid taking any medications, and get plenty of rest. The parties are lots of fun; however, your life is very important to your family and to your employer.

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

Year-end reports due for Arkansas Voluntary Drug-Free Workplace Discount participants

The Arkansas Voluntary Drug-Free Workplace Discount Programs' participants are required to have a year-end report available for the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Safety and Health Administration to review. The purpose of this review is to assure the Commission that participants are following all required guidelines established for the program. Each entity receiving the five percent discount for establishing a comprehensive drug testing program should be administering testing for pre-employment, post-accident, return to duty, and follow-up testing. Random testing is not required; however, it is strongly encouraged since it is a very strong deterrent for drug abusers. A medical review officer is required to review all positive tests. If you have any questions about your statistical report, please contact Tamaro Williams in our North Little Rock Office.

Conway a'TEST office moving

We have good news. The Oak Street office in Conway we have occupied for 10 years is closing and we are relocating to a more convenient location on a busier street. Our new address will be 505 Dave Ward Drive.

We plan to move into the office in January 2014 and to spend all of that month and part of February making improvements to the facility. The neighboring businesses in the building are an occupational medical clinic and an orthopedic clinic, which will be great for us. We plan to officially open no later than March 1 at the new site. More information will be sent to you on the move and directions to the new office. For now, continue to use the Oak Street Office. We are excited about this change.

a'TEST CONSULTANTS, INC

Municipal Notes

12 honored as Arkansas Volunteer Communities of the Year

Twelve communities have been selected to receive the 2013 Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year Award. The communities were chosen for the award based on efforts by volunteers working in each community. Chosen to receive recognition are: Bentonville, Blytheville, Clarendon, Clarkridge, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Heber Springs, Murfreesboro, Norfork, Redfield, Van Buren, and Vilonia.

The Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year Awards are sponsored by the Governor's Office, the Arkansas Municipal League, and the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Community Service and Nonprofit Support. The Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department provides signs announcing the Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year designation. The signs are placed at prominent locations along highways outside of the winning cities.

The award presentations will take place at a noon luncheon, Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014, in Rogers as part of the League's 2014 Winter Conference.

16 cities, counties receive grants

Sixteen Arkansas cities and counties have received Community Development Block Grants through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the office of Gov. Mike Beebe has announced. The grants totaled $3.3 million and will be used for a variety of projects, including senior centers, libraries, community centers, and street improvements. Recipients are: Alma, Cave City, Cove, Crawfordsville, Dewitt, Harrison, Jericho, Marianna, and Morrilton. Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Lonoke, Saline, Stone, and Woodruff counties also received the grants.

Delta Regional Authority announces investment

The Delta Regional Authority has joined with local officials in southeastern Arkansas to announce a $175,000 investment to provide for training of health-care professionals in the region. The announcement was made Dec. 2 at the Walnut Lake Country Club in Pickens, just south of Dumas.

The investment is intended to help employees at the Delta Technological/Education Center in Dumas receive training that will allow them to train health-care workers.

Obituaries

HAROLD BING, 85, a Gilbert alderman, died Oct. 2.

BILL CHANDLER, 66, a Fouke alderman, died Nov. 17.

JAMES FULLER, 75, who since 1988 served on Siloam Springs' board of directors, including three terms as the city's vice mayor, died Nov. 19.

DAVID HAMILTON, 81, a former West Point mayor who served for 38 years, died Nov. 20.

JERRY DOYLE JAMES, 68, Des Arc's public works director who worked for the city for 45 years and who retired from the Des Arc Volunteer Fire Department as assistant chief, died Nov. 2.

2013 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita

	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	**2012**	**2013**	**2012**	**2013**	**2012**	**2013**
January	$3.4786	$3.2369	$0.2859	$0.3020	$3.1339	$3.1338
February	$3.7795	$3.4064	$0.2584	$0.3873	$1.0053	$1.0094
March	$3.2521	$3.0946	$0.4307	$0.3953	$1.0055	$1.0055
April	$3.4633	$3.2024	$0.2705	$0.3438	$1.0017	$1.0056
May	$3.6848	$3.5348	$0.1999	$0.3138	$1.0053	$1.0028
June	$3.8035	$3.6607	$0.2104	$0.3573	$1.0056	$1.0055
July	$3.7480	$3.5917	$0.1996	$0.4276	$3.1087	$2.8863
August	$3.5350	$4.0882	$0.1567	$0.4603	$1.0052	$1.3763
September	$3.6430	$5.0401	$0.1899	$0.4348	$1.0056	$1.0055
October	$3.4734	$5.0134	$0.2654	$0.3953	$1.0056	$1.0055
November	$3.4269	$4.3811	$0.2902	$0.3652	$1.0054	$1.0053
December	$3.4321		$0.2501		$0.9062	
Total Year	**$42.7202**	**$42.2503**	**$3.0077**	**$4.1827**	**$16.1940**	**$15.4415**

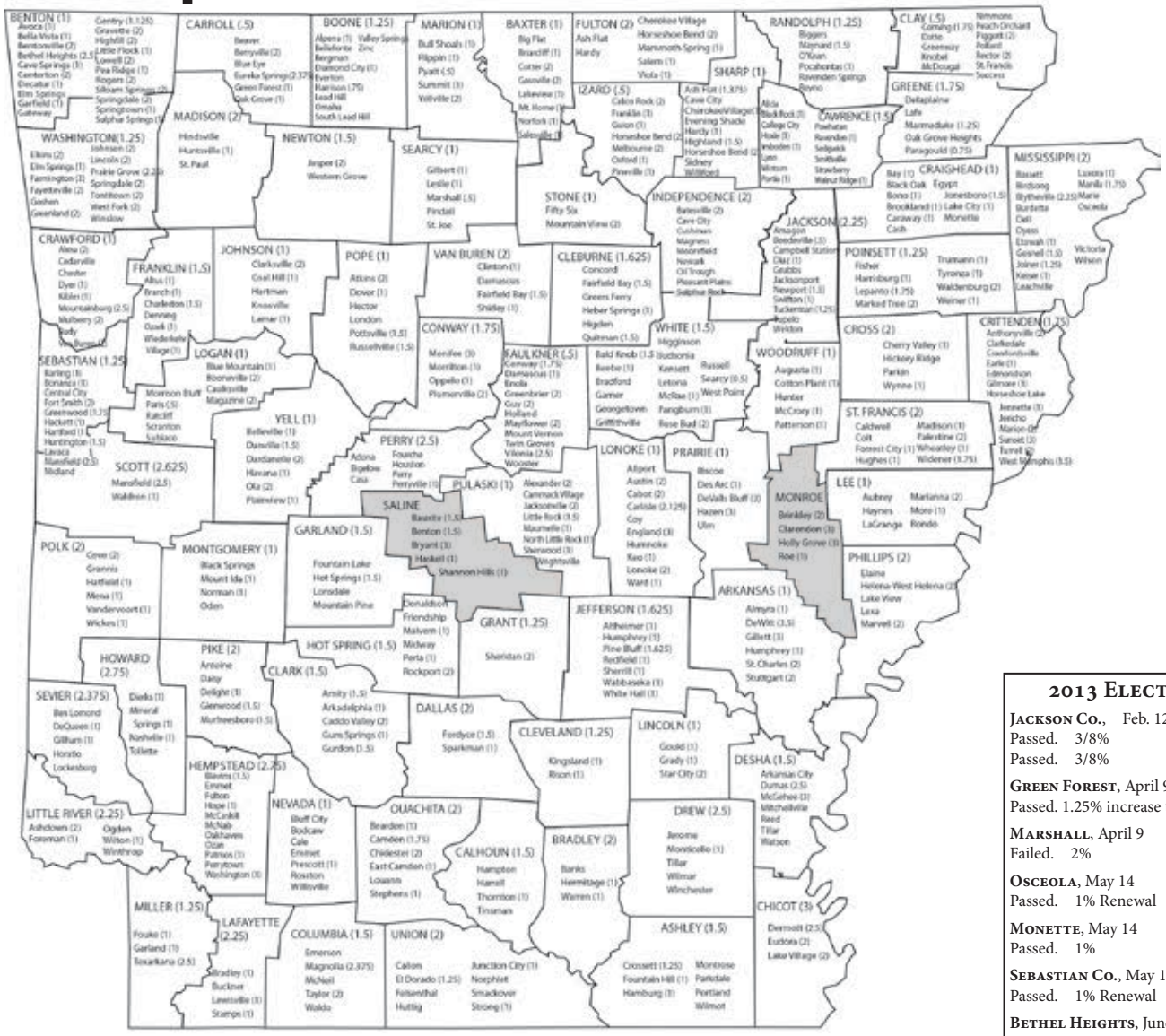
Actual Totals Per Month

	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	**2012**	**2013**	**2012**	**2013**	**2012**	**2013**
January	$6,537,582.03	$6,083,989.12	$537,347.01	$567,571.55	* $5,889,623.14	*$5,890,046.27
February	$7,103,104.25	$6,402,534.31	$485,627.91	$728,037.16	$1,889,245.23	$1,897,309.37
March	$6,111,822.72	$5,816,498.28	$809,523.74	$742,998.16	$1,889,603.23	$1,889,913.31
April	$6,508,820.12	$6,019,069.40	$508,320.37	$646,153.53	$1,882,530.42	$1,890,083.64
May	$6,925,015.17	$6,643,763.23	$375,733.12	$589,734.49	$1,889,362.42	$1,884,771.73
June	$7,148,252.90	$6,880,560.47	$395,417.87	$671,509.25	$1,889,865.20	$1,889,910.83
July	$7,043,886.87	$6,750,810.43	$375,173.84	$803,621.40	** $5,842,460.26	** $5,424,973.20
August	$6,643,716.19	$7,684,015.71	$294,503.90	$865,190.21	$1,889,164.55	$2,586,803.92
September	$6,846,853.12	$9,473,119.80	$356,918.13	$817,319.05	$1,890,041.23	$1,889,909.64
October	$6,528,081.50	$9,422,855.56	$498,817.98	$742,984.39	$1,890,041.23	$1,889,909.64
November	$6,440,629.62	$8,234,597.41	$545,491.57	$686,466.96	$1,889,559.03	$1,889,429.45
December	$6,450,883.49		$470,059.64		$1,703,306.66	
Total Year	**$80,288,647.98**	**$79,411,813.72**	**$5,652,935.08**	**$7,861,586.15**	**$30,434,802.60**	**$29,023,061.00**

* Includes $4 million appropriation from the Property Tax Relief Fund

** Includes $3,516,786.65 supplemental in July 2012 and $3,516,799.83 in July 2013

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Debbie Rogers, Office of State Treasurer **See also:** www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2013 with 2012 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	$43,764,256	$37,846,866	$39,379,372	$37,289,267	$83,143,628	$75,136,134	$12,329	$12,533
February	$51,585,273	$46,523,853	$44,215,215	$44,592,756	$95,800,488	$91,116,609	$26,338	$22,619
March	$42,875,487	$40,360,002	$38,040,827	$36,819,087	$80,916,314	$77,179,089	$8,508	$13,222
April	$44,204,032	$41,324,697	$39,707,294	$37,882,489	$83,911,326	$79,207,186	$24,953	$27,247
May	$47,315,206	$46,157,943	$42,055,467	$41,661,276	$89,370,673	$87,819,219	$5,611	$8,489
June	$46,455,658	$43,883,127	$41,846,373	$40,430,123	$88,302,031	$84,313,250	$27,062	$30,892
July	$47,227,642	$44,736,261	$42,580,665	$40,688,525	$89,808,307	$85,424,786	$7,773	$11,606
August	$47,615,222	$45,618,216	$43,352,547	$41,616,180	$90,967,768	$87,234,396	$25,210	$27,685
September	$45,850,267	$44,215,998	$43,479,764	$40,815,883	$89,330,031	$85,031,881	$9,433	$14,110
October	$46,540,715	$45,686,669	$44,208,889	$42,353,132	$90,749,603	$88,039,801	$26,911	$28,246
November	$45,245,392	$45,434,409	$42,367,542	$41,142,702	$87,612,934	$86,577,110	$8,718	$14,114
Total	**$508,679,150**	**$481,788,041**	**$461,233,955**	**$445,291,420**	**$969,913,103**	**$927,079,461**	**$182,846**	**$210,763**
Averages	$46,243,559	$43,798,913	$41,930,360	$40,481,038	$88,173,918	$84,279,951	$16,622	$19,160

2013 Elections

Jackson Co., Feb. 12
Passed. 3/8%
Passed. 3/8%

Green Forest, April 9
Passed. 1.25% increase to 2.25%

Marshall, April 9
Failed. 2%

Osceola, May 14
Passed. 1% Renewal

Monette, May 14
Passed. 1%

Sebastian Co., May 14
Passed. 1% Renewal

Bethel Heights, June 11
Passed. 1/2% Renewal

Dyess, June 11
Failed. 1%

Pocahontas, June 11
Passed. 1/2%
Passed. 1/2%

Drew Co., July 9
Passed. 1% Renewal

Hot Spring Co., August 13
Passed. 1/2% Renewal

Huntsville, August 13
Passed. 1%

Lawrence Co., August 13
Passed. 1/2% Renewal
Passed. 1/2%

Paris, August 13
Passed. 1%

Chicot Co., September 10
Passed. 1% Renewal

Madison Co., September 10
Failed. 1%

Benton, Nov. 12
Passed. 1½% Renewal
Passed. 1/2%
Passed. 1/2%

November 2013 Municipal Levy Receipts and November 2013 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2012 Comparison (shaded gray)

CITY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR
Alexander	53,727.71	52,552.60
Alma	189,675.25	183,581.42
Almyra	2,849.14	2,144.45
Alpena	3,438.98	3,934.45
Altheimer	2,746.20	2,572.69
Altus	6,217.66	9,215.38
Amity	7,656.08	8,149.48
Anthonyville	.232.10	1,377.99
Arkadelphia	151,163.76	154,769.85
Ash Flat	75,899.34	72,382.78
Ashdown	106,425.65	107,349.55
Atkins	44,685.84	48,314.04
Augusta	28,431.25	26,819.45
Austin	20,077.86	9,921.34
Avoca	2,536.02	2,645.60
Bald Knob	53,694.41	52,104.04
Barling	21,576.35	19,953.66
Batesville	528,145.82	511,084.76
Bauxite	20,244.52	14,111.63
Bay	6,273.54	9,433.77
Bearden	12,366.80	10,106.39
Beebe	116,526.09	78,970.78
Beedeville	.74.70	65.99
Bella Vista	119,409.17	112,956.07
Belleville	2,056.21	2,497.71
Benton	664,110.39	635,533.90
Bentonville	1,199,672.60	1,653,171.77
Berryville	197,815.25	207,822.20
Bethel Heights	54,208.98	40,427.23
Black Rock	7,906.09	6,055.36
Blevins	1,621.52	1,871.52
Blue Mountain	.147.20	160.69
Blytheville	514,953.21	542,179.55
Bonanza	1,994.13	1,936.61
Bono	12,358.96	10,186.71
Booneville	79,971.53	80,770.52
Bradley	3,406.58	3,410.20
Branch	1,479.17	1,468.24
Briarcliff	1,213.30	1,071.10
Brinkley	101,794.06	106,926.02
Brookland	16,566.21	17,205.83
Bryant	927,035.47	927,060.79
Bull Shoals	12,772.93	14,066.55
Cabot	639,424.33	659,190.04
Caddo Valley	42,452.78	38,427.59
Calico Rock	25,559.86	26,320.00
Camden	274,537.12	264,166.08
Caraway	5,056.64	6,057.70
Carlisle	58,642.29	50,270.83
Cave Springs	18,299.33	12,176.71
Centerton	93,525.76	78,679.10
Charleston	24,213.74	28,314.97
Cherokee Village	13,313.02	12,944.31
Cherry Valley	5,772.61	5,406.59
Chidester	2,709.64	2,354.51
Clarendon	44,510.77	42,962.31
Clarksville	309,636.48	319,510.07
Clinton	80,408.04	76,478.42
Coal Hill	1,993.11	NA
Conway	1,827,138.95	1,872,479.80
Corning	78,287.33	78,949.16
Cotter	14,414.53	8,826.74
Cotton Plant	1,754.75	1,813.37
Cove	11,127.67	11,588.17
Crossett	146,689.68	158,686.02
Damascus	11,547.37	NA
Danville	45,444.47	42,310.43
Dardanelle	141,705.33	143,244.22
Decatur	31,674.46	17,545.91
Delight	3,589.61	3,605.04
De Queen	96,897.18	95,218.56
Dermott	38,826.41	27,825.66
Des Arc	18,855.72	21,467.61
DeValls Bluff	12,116.03	8,712.37
DeWitt	178,300.23	181,972.73
Diamond	2,301.89	3,078.85
Diaz	2,983.78	3,340.87
Dierks	12,167.87	11,337.64
Dover	18,198.36	20,221.11
Dumas	150,877.13	132,024.08
Dyer	1,339.93	1,290.05
Earle	20,482.48	24,466.49
East Camden	3,351.61	2,472.26
El Dorado	483,908.68	434,712.45
Elkins	47,485.36	49,361.30
Elm Springs	4,541.16	4,466.37
England	67,425.01	65,486.34
Etowah	.633.99	679.46
Eudora	30,852.28	30,988.07
Eureka Springs	230,091.52	201,764.95
Fairfield Bay	30,320.20	24,778.57
Farmington	128,607.73	109,847.96
Fayetteville	3,186,543.26	3,144,770.17
Flippin	41,258.98	40,357.05
Fordyce	75,063.22	76,452.87
Foreman	8,807.28	8,798.39
Forrest	157,381.71	157,603.13
Fort Smith	3,205,766.23	3,184,821.26
Fouke	8,063.25	8,474.26
Fountain Hill	.589.41	1,194.20
Franklin	2,800.49	2,061.84
Garfield	9,660.41	6,482.28
Garland	3,540.73	2,320.65
Gassville	37,005.06	37,132.46
Gentry	53,191.90	32,961.18
Gilbert	.209.04	163.99
Gillett	11,062.70	10,191.26
Gillham	2,127.73	1,875.78
Gilmore	.476.73	243.68
Glenwood	58,804.30	53,174.19
Gosnell	15,269.61	16,474.84
Gould	3,616.85	4,100.40
Grady	6,062.69	3,292.17
Gravette	74,214.98	53,089.98
Green Forest	23,360.81	23,242.61
Greenbrier	139,454.91	136,303.01
Greenland	19,263.77	16,529.52
Greenwood	158,120.01	154,860.01
Guion	6,022.80	37,893.82
Gum Springs	.360.07	NA
Gurdon	18,081.36	19,482.04
Guy	4,444.79	4,168.43
Hackett	4,988.50	4,988.51
Hamburg	27,093.34	28,000.85
Hardy	19,631.22	18,008.04
Harrisburg	23,258.88	25,472.71
Harrison	260,534.42	238,255.71
Hartford	3,087.13	2,009.82
Haskell	20,425.64	17,485.82
Hatfield	3,149.08	2,773.02
Havana	2,211.22	2,149.76
Hazen	52,058.51	59,891.56
Heber Springs	134,897.65	143,156.58
Helena-West Helena	249,346.59	231,566.19
Hermitage	3,779.16	5,324.83
Highfill	68,722.72	69,198.70
Highland	28,785.02	24,222.47
Holly Grove	7,322.64	7,179.31
Hope	166,732.86	158,531.30
Horseshoe Bend	20,234.12	18,595.56
Hot Springs	1,382,855.17	1,399,693.84
Hoxie	16,678.36	22,017.37
Hughes	10,303.56	10,815.85
Humphrey	2,125.78	1,876.23
Huntington	2,543.91	2,505.09
Huntsville	49,756.33	45,796.40
Imboden	6,698.65	6,943.37
Jacksonville	590,579.67	632,811.39
Jasper	27,223.17	26,214.94
Jennette	.112.51	98.96
Johnson	51,568.27	47,380.92
Joiner	2,188.04	3,781.73
Jonesboro	1,931,475.34	1,869,853.23
Junction	3,841.78	NA
Keiser	2,414.61	2,801.26
Keo	2,008.82	1,486.95
Kibler	2,014.95	1,731.50
Kingsland	2,066.36	1,069.15
Lake	11,781.36	11,741.46
Lake Village	70,820.69	67,574.44
Lakeview	3,688.23	3,362.19
Lamar	8,844.21	8,478.47
Lepanto	21,987.03	22,068.27
Leslie	4,325.95	4,364.21
Lewisville	9,680.34	8,976.27
Lincoln	40,726.36	34,125.57
Little Flock	9,184.33	7,876.55
Little Rock	5,755,151.36	5,751,151.34
Lonoke	141,089.02	137,270.62
Lowell	284,196.69	197,543.99
Luxora	2,838.31	3,171.48
Madison	1,542.25	1,215.47
Magazine	8,917.69	9,782.08
Magnolia	422,092.80	398,515.73
Malvern	143,149.92	141,430.83
Mammoth Spring	7,530.72	7,482.34
Manila	40,255.32	41,583.64
Mansfield	33,562.86	29,562.99
Marianna	81,136.98	79,484.81
Marion	187,060.71	176,545.13
Marked Tree	48,290.28	51,939.10
Marmaduke	17,862.67	15,339.20
Marshall	13,606.05	13,860.25
Marvell	25,347.54	24,898.19
Maumelle	194,153.56	136,815.59
Mayflower	85,714.04	54,645.75
Maynard	4,762.47	4,793.59
McCrory	18,776.87	20,373.82
McGehee	176,536.86	165,768.79
McRae	3,403.93	NA
Melbourne	58,736.67	28,271.45
Mena	121,029.49	123,043.46
Menifee	4,986.16	5,133.35
Mineral Springs	6,541.29	4,312.16
Monticello	172,378.19	165,539.26
Moro	2,835.87	2,650.92
Morrilton	131,988.86	130,962.60
Mount Ida	19,591.55	18,977.25
Mountain Home	350,299.50	276,631.01
Mountain View	158,402.53	163,831.01
Mountainburg	12,724.28	12,518.37
Mulberry	24,435.15	21,791.06
Murfreesboro	26,403.58	24,692.74
Nashville	98,182.89	99,306.43
Newport	171,451.87	165,403.06
Norfork	4,193.72	3,934.12
Norman	2,923.51	2,351.36
North Little Rock	1,262,130.52	1,323,056.30
Oak Grove	.834.15	1,070.15
Ola	14,486.13	9,158.29
Oppelo	2,013.30	1,812.71
Osceola	4,233.97	104,520.28
Oxford	1,647.28	1,646.90
Ozark	69,150.94	70,623.71
Palestine	17,080.53	8,157.10
Pangburn	6,371.72	NA
Paragould	157,098.22	268,836.96
Paris	23,044.36	23,927.23
Patmos	.69.85	135.84
Patterson	1,724.57	1,148.26
Pea Ridge	29,375.70	26,322.86
Perla	2,811.32	2,263.02
Perryville	18,230.99	18,948.09
Piggott	71,027.16	62,391.29
Pine Bluff	929,390.78	929,062.78
Pineville	1,804.16	1,165.86
Plainview	3,004.25	3,301.58
Plumerville	10,202.20	10,026.67
Pocahontas	112,773.90	105,579.67
Portia	2,249.05	3,270.99
Pottsville	24,045.16	24,159.99
Prairie Grove	80,926.98	83,788.03
Prescott	47,684.30	46,061.65
Pyatt	.441.62	613.19
Quitman	24,798.71	24,004.84
Ravenden	2,607.59	2,959.42
Rector	27,513.74	29,909.68
Redfield	14,246.91	13,988.40
Rison	14,508.54	12,575.83
Rockport	11,582.27	74,703.01
Roe	.695.89	1,244.21
Rogers	2,392,857.83	2,295,625.72
Rose Bud	15,133.80	35,645.50
Russellville	968,671.45	907,301.17
Salem	21,148.95	19,479.23
Salesville	3,825.91	3,204.85
Searcy	254,848.27	781,528.09
Shannon Hills	9,235.87	11,519.45
Sheridan	178,996.69	188,235.09
Sherrill	1,260.89	1,014.14
Sherwood	399,345.92	387,825.61
Shirley	2,732.20	3,009.27
Siloam Springs	471,337.17	475,862.56
Sparkman	3,959.10	3,490.71
Springdale	1,801,827.79	1,744,035.01
Springtown	.196.81	37.29
St. Charles	2,632.98	2,613.91
Stamps	16,623.85	14,879.86
Star	72,932.01	70,285.36
Stephens	9,213.62	6,594.86
Strong	9,662.33	NA
Stuttgart	350,144.49	343,369.66
Sulphur Springs	1,355.58	1,404.87
Summit	3,734.09	3,517.20
Sunset	1,696.47	1,570.50
Swifton	2,920.33	2,876.92
Taylor	6,191.32	6,282.27
Texarkana	374,814.42	485,162.59
Texarkana Special	187,029.98	239,779.48
Thornton	1,115.54	944.33
Tontitown	108,107.26	91,819.69
Trumann	67,907.59	71,635.32
Tuckerman	13,883.72	15,459.85
Turrell	5,539.45	4,701.14
Twin Groves	.0.61	784.39
Tyronza	3,528.87	3,513.41
Van Buren	622,179.57	265,635.40
Vandervoort	.781.32	2,307.67
Vilonia	87,254.03	98,815.16
Viola	2,259.53	2,338.61
Wabbaseka	.848.03	596.60
Waldenburg	9,875.23	9,465.16
Waldron	40,925.88	43,902.21
Walnut Ridge	73,353.30	61,861.97
Ward	20,798.82	19,161.24
Warren	69,455.67	61,054.92
Washington	1,490.16	1,419.50
Weiner	12,224.93	11,935.94
West Fork	35,522.01	28,278.76
West Memphis	538,245.89	478,319.55
Wheatley	3,860.38	3,428.86
White Hall	67,228.17	63,976.62
Wickes	3,456.74	2,711.63
Widener	2,895.92	1,189.72
Wiederkehr Village	2,185.64	2,453.12
Wilton	1,580.83	1,218.85
Wynne	118,829.44	113,138.61
Yellville	42,352.05	20,025.03

COUNTY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR
Arkansas County	307,486.35	298,820.44
Ashley County	206,878.99	219,501.73
Crossett	50,345.02	53,416.82
Fountain Hill	1,599.85	1,697.47
Hamburg	26,118.71	27,712.34
Montrose	3,236.27	3,433.73
Parkdale	2,532.34	2,686.85
Portland	3,931.06	4,170.92
Wilmot	5,028.09	5,334.89
Baxter County	288,865.43	239,712.89
Big Flat	1,253.06	1,039.84
Briarcliff	2,843.47	2,359.63
Cotter	11,687.15	9,698.50
Gassville	25,037.01	20,776.78
Lakeview	8,928.02	7,408.85
Mountain Home	149,981.10	124,460.73
Norfork	6,156.84	5,109.21
Salesville	5,421.87	4,499.32
Benton County	567,607.36	579,271.38
Avoca	6,238.29	6,366.48
Bella Vista	338,260.85	345,211.93
Bentonville	451,265.88	460,539.14
Bethel Heights	30,322.16	30,945.27
Cave Springs	22,102.45	22,556.65
Centerton	121,633.80	124,133.31
Decatur	21,718.95	22,165.26
Elm Springs	485.77	495.75
Garfield	6,417.25	6,549.12
Gateway	5,177.27	5,283.66
Gentry	40,369.89	41,199.47
Gravette	29,721.34	30,332.10
Highfill	7,452.71	7,605.86
Little Flock	33,045.02	33,724.08
Lowell	93,663.78	95,588.52
Pea Ridge	61,283.49	62,542.84
Rogers	715,408.73	730,109.98
Siloam Springs	192,249.16	196,199.77
Springdale	77,390.54	78,980.88
Springtown	1,112.15	1,135.01
Sulphur Springs	6,532.32	6,666.52
Boone County	363,922.13	361,741.15
Alpena	3,840.17	3,817.15
Bellefonte	5,465.32	5,432.56
Bergman	5,284.75	5,253.07
Diamond	9,413.83	9,357.41
Everton	1,601.07	1,591.48
Harrison	155,809.70	154,875.94
Lead Hill	3,262.34	3,242.79
Omaha	2,034.45	2,022.25
South Lead Hill	1,227.89	1,220.53
Valley Springs	2,202.98	2,189.78
Zinc	1,239.92	1,232.50
Bradley County	118,583.19	102,942.68
Banks	915.64	794.87
Hermitage	6,128.90	5,320.53
Warren	44,327.48	38,480.92
Calhoun County	62,141.05	47,568.09
Hampton	13,682.81	10,474.00
Harrell	2,624.95	2,009.36
Thornton	4,206.12	3,219.73
Tinsman	558.06	427.19
Carroll County	149,873.33	149,242.03
Beaver	548.66	546.35
Blue Eye	164.60	163.91
Chicot County	233,049.07	225,356.60
Dermott	24,335.08	23,531.83
Eudora	19,112.60	18,481.73
Lake Village	21,690.15	20,974.21
Clark County	366,445.68	335,484.12
Clay County	54,726.84	52,543.07
Datto	378.05	362.97
Greenway	790.13	758.60
Knobel	1,085.01	1,041.71
McDougal	703.18	675.12
Nimmons	260.86	250.45
Peach Orchard	510.37	490.01
Pollard	839.28	805.79
St. Francis	945.13	907.42
Success	563.29	540.81
Cleburne County	397,558.06	360,187.94
Concord	2,951.48	2,674.05
Fairfield Bay	2,213.61	2,005.53
Greers Ferry	10,777.75	9,764.65
Heber Springs	86,669.56	78,522.70
Higden	1,451.55	1,315.10
Quitman	8,854.45	8,022.14
Cleveland County	42,310.10	36,463.38
Kingsland	2,085.13	1,796.99
Rison	6,269.37	5,403.02
Columbia County	375,344.61	368,262.81
Emerson	668.67	656.05
Magnolia	21,035.88	20,638.98
McNeil	937.59	919.90
Taylor	1,028.44	1,009.04
Waldo	2,492.99	2,445.95
Conway County	358,423.27	332,978.83
Menifee	3,791.15	3,522.01
Morrilton	84,949.27	78,918.73
Oppelo	9,804.25	9,108.25
Plumerville	10,369.16	9,633.05
Craighead County	272,778.88	261,371.60
Bay	27,250.65	26,111.06
Black Oak	3,964.28	3,798.50
Bono	32,243.83	30,895.43
Brookland	24,844.85	23,805.87
Caraway	19,352.35	18,543.06
Cash	5,174.75	4,958.35
Egypt	1,694.65	1,623.79
Jonesboro	1,017,746.06	975,185.15
Lake	31,502.42	30,185.03
Monette	22,711.41	21,761.63
Crawford County	233,359.90	222,780.67
Alma	45,161.86	43,114.48
Cedarville	11,617.57	11,090.90
Chester	1,325.10	1,265.03
Dyer	7,300.57	6,969.60
Kibler	8,008.96	7,645.88
Mountainburg	5,258.74	5,020.34
Mulberry	13,792.74	13,167.46
Rudy	508.37	485.33
Van Buren	189,939.87	181,329.02
Crittenden County	658,705.04	625,065.63
Anthonyville	962.10	914.59

Clarkedale	2,217.02	2,107.52
Crawfordsville	2,862.40	2,721.03
Earle	14,425.54	13,713.10
Edmondson	2,551.66	2,425.64
Gilmore	1,414.47	961.16
Horseshoe Lake	1,744.93	1,658.75
Jennette	618.49	587.95
Jericho	711.12	676.00
Marion	73,771.03	70,127.67
Sunset	1,064.88	1,012.29
Turrell	3,307.60	3,144.24
West Memphis	156,834.38	149,088.76
Cross County	261,142.70	242,879.83
Cherry Valley	6,707.59	6,238.50
Hickory Ridge	2,802.56	2,606.56
Parkin	11,385.39	10,589.16
Wynne	86,209.54	80,180.53
Dallas County	137,024.94	146,778.93
Desha County	118,269.89	102,722.74
Arkansas	4,577.22	3,962.53
Dumas	58,853.56	50,949.96
McGehee	52,763.10	45,677.41
Mitchellville	4,502.18	3,897.57
Reed	2,151.04	1,526.55
Tillar	262.63	227.36
Watson	2,638.79	2,284.41
Drew County	415,277.15	405,995.22
Jerome	451.33	441.24
Monticello	109,557.85	107,109.10
Tillar	2,360.81	2,308.04
Wilmar	5,913.60	5,781.43
Winchester	1,932.63	1,889.43
Faulkner County	678,835.67	673,231.44
Damascus	NA	799.12
Enola	2,067.05	2,046.24
Holland	3,406.35	3,372.06
Mount Vernon	886.75	877.83
Twin Groves	2,048.70	NA
Wooster	5,259.35	5,206.41
Franklin County	142,643.01	141,490.72
Altus	5,588.49	5,543.35
Branch	2,705.78	2,683.92
Charleston	18,593.91	18,443.71
Denning	3,472.53	3,444.48
Ozark	27,160.97	26,941.56
Wiederkehr Village	280.17	277.89
Fulton County	96,523.43	91,649.12
Ash Flat	381.87	362.59
Cherokee Village	2,968.88	2,818.95
Hardy	157.24	149.30
Horseshoe Bend	63.65	60.43
Mammoth Spring	3,657.74	3,473.03
Salem	6,121.20	5,812.09
Viola	1,261.68	1,197.97
Garland County	1,797,349.74	1,491,873.03
Fountain Lake	6,101.85	3,495.38
Hot Springs	182,966.99	NA
Lonsdale	1,140.30	653.21
Mountain Pine	9,340.80	5,350.78
Grant County	171,231.56	156,135.59
Greene County	368,062.26	451,341.90
Delaplaine	949.41	1,164.22
Lafe	3,748.51	4,596.67
Marmaduke	9,093.01	11,150.44
Oak Grove Heights	7,276.04	8,922.36
Paragould	213,722.56	262,080.50
Hempstead County	504,533.68	532,175.91
Blevins	3,135.12	3,306.89
Emmet	427.97	451.42
Fulton	2,000.51	2,110.11
Hope	100,473.29	105,977.99
McCaskill	955.47	1,007.81
McNab	676.79	713.87
Oakhaven	627.02	661.38
Ozan	845.99	892.34
Patmos	636.98	671.88
Perrytown	2,707.16	2,855.47
Washington	1,791.49	1,889.65
Hot Spring County	278,763.23	308,490.05
Donaldson	2,255.31	2,496.15
Friendship	1,318.72	1,459.54
Magnet Cove	NA	41.46
Malvern	77,309.98	85,565.67
Midway	2,914.67	3,225.92
Perla	1,805.75	1,998.58
Rockport	5,657.01	6,261.11
Howard County	300,930.25	298,592.15
Dierks	14,742.17	14,627.63
Mineral Springs	15,718.04	15,595.92
Nashville	60,204.79	59,737.02
Tollette	3,122.80	3,098.53
Independence County	654,706.01	449,770.91
Batesville	112,100.30	110,990.10
Cave	1,772.08	1,754.53
Cushman	4,944.31	4,895.35
Magness	2,209.63	2,187.74
Moorefield	1,498.61	1,483.77
Newark	12,863.97	12,736.57
Oil Trough	2,844.07	2,815.91
Pleasant Plains	3,817.62	3,779.81
Sulphur Rock	4,988.08	4,938.66
Izard County	42,423.18	60,763.94
Jackson County	232,739.59	124,024.36
Amagon	834.76	879.13
Beedeville	911.43	959.86
Campbell Station	2,172.09	2,287.53
Diaz	11,226.73	11,823.38
Grubbs	3,287.95	3,462.69
Jacksonport	1,805.82	1,901.79
Newport	67,113.36	70,680.11
Swifton	6,797.37	7,158.62
Tuckerman	15,860.53	16,703.44
Tupelo	1,533.24	1,614.73
Weldon	638.85	672.78
Jefferson County	669,127.91	662,229.95
Altheimer	9,640.87	9,541.48
Humphrey	3,017.67	2,986.56
Pine Bluff	480,897.07	475,939.55
Redfield	12,707.53	12,576.53
Sherrill	823.00	814.52
Wabbaseka	2,498.40	2,472.64
White Hall	54,141.69	53,583.56
Johnson County	103,317.57	102,325.03
Clarksville	75,890.25	75,161.20
Coal Hill	8,367.94	8,287.55
Hartman	4,291.46	4,250.24
Knoxville	6,044.43	5,986.36
Lamar	13,271.28	13,143.79
Lafayette County	87,479.30	77,765.65
Bradley	4,122.77	3,664.98
Buckner	1,805.36	1,604.89
Lewisville	8,403.11	7,470.03
Stamps	11,114.42	9,880.29
Lawrence County	144,414.03	134,441.43
Alicia	778.85	725.07
Black Rock	4,158.06	3,870.92
College	2,857.88	2,660.53
Hoxie	17,461.34	16,255.53
Imboden	4,252.27	3,958.63
Lynn	1,808.94	1,684.03
Minturn	684.64	637.36
Portia	2,744.82	2,555.28
Powhatan	452.24	421.01
Ravenden	2,952.10	2,748.24
Sedgwick	954.72	888.79
Smithville	489.92	456.09
Strawberry	1,896.88	1,765.89
Walnut Ridge	30,714.36	28,593.35
Lee County	34,762.32	31,646.15
Aubrey	1,077.21	980.65
Haynes	950.48	865.28
LaGrange	563.95	513.40
Marianna	26,074.91	23,737.49
Moro	1,368.70	1,246.00
Rondo	1,254.64	1,142.17
Lincoln County	55,746.86	50,354.20
Gould	4,412.72	3,985.86
Grady	2,367.16	2,138.17
Star	11,988.68	10,828.97
Little River County	162,438.27	158,232.98
Ashdown	33,133.42	32,275.64
Foreman	7,092.50	6,908.89
Ogden	1,262.76	1,230.07
Wilton	2,623.73	2,555.81
Winthrop	1,346.95	1,312.07
Logan County	89,351.17	74,735.22
Blue Mountain	880.38	736.37
Booneville	28,328.26	23,694.36
Caulksville	1,512.26	1,264.89
Magazine	6,013.54	5,029.86
Morrison Bluff	454.39	380.06
Paris	25,076.55	20,974.56
Ratcliff	1,434.16	1,199.56
Scranton	1,590.36	1,330.21
Subiaco	4,061.09	3,396.77
Lonoke County	243,412.32	246,429.61
Allport	984.26	996.46
Austin	17,442.84	17,659.06
Cabot	203,494.07	206,016.54
Carlisle	18,949.19	19,184.08
Coy	821.64	831.83
England	24,178.62	24,478.33
Humnoke	2,430.70	2,460.83
Keo	2,191.05	2,218.21
Lonoke	36,332.11	36,782.48
Ward	34,808.66	35,240.13
Madison County	162,196.56	153,216.48
Hindsville	342.19	323.24
Huntsville	13,160.17	12,431.55
St. Paul	633.88	598.79
Marion County	81,604.82	78,516.10
Bull Shoals	14,058.61	13,526.50
Flippin	9,768.93	9,399.18
Pyatt	1,593.31	1,533.00
Summit	4,354.56	4,189.75
Yellville	8,680.30	8,351.74
Miller County	380,539.88	541,089.13
Fouke	10,014.21	10,714.64
Garland	10,014.21	10,714.64
Texarkana	225,319.67	241,079.31
Mississippi County	683,735.94	752,285.90
Bassett	2,120.81	2,333.44
Birdsong	502.62	553.01
Blytheville	191,486.27	210,684.29
Burdette	2,341.48	2,576.23
Dell	2,733.77	3,007.85
Dyess	5,026.21	5,530.13
Etowah	4,302.92	4,734.33
Gosnell	43,495.09	47,855.82
Joiner	7,061.21	7,769.15
Keiser	9,304.61	10,237.48
Leachville	24,432.28	26,881.81
Luxora	14,441.15	15,888.99
Manila	40,969.73	45,077.27
Marie	1,029.76	1,133.00
Osceola	95,093.41	104,627.28
Victoria	453.58	499.06
Wilson	11,069.92	12,179.76
Monroe County	NA	NA
Montgomery County	43,000.34	44,348.93
Black Springs	555.75	573.18
Glenwood	235.77	243.17
Mount Ida	6,040.26	6,229.69
Norman	2,121.95	2,188.50
Oden	1,302.36	1,343.20
Nevada County	31,198.02	31,543.50
Bluff	865.06	874.64
Bodcaw	962.73	973.39
Cale	551.13	557.23
Emmet	3,313.74	3,350.44
Prescott	22,993.89	23,248.52
Rosston	1,820.81	1,840.98
Willisville	1,060.40	1,072.13
Newton County	49,031.59	61,456.02
Jasper	1,962.11	2,459.30
Western Grove	1,616.84	2,026.54
Ouachita County	340,477.62	315,845.87
Bearden	8,933.17	8,286.90
Camden	112,663.34	104,512.75
Chidester	2,672.55	2,479.21
East Camden	8,609.50	7,986.65
Louann	1,516.60	1,406.89
Stephens	8,239.60	7,643.50
Perry County	93,631.22	85,080.66
Adona	834.41	758.21
Bigelow	1,257.60	1,142.75
Casa	682.70	620.35
Fourche	247.53	224.92
Houston	690.68	627.61
Perry	1,077.94	979.50
Perryville	5,828.86	5,296.57
Phillips County	117,375.08	105,741.48
Elaine	13,139.18	11,836.89
Helena-West Helena	208,203.45	187,567.41
Lake View	9,151.98	8,244.87
Lexa	5,908.50	5,322.87
Marvell	24,501.68	22,073.22
Pike County	143,640.09	124,117.77
Antoine	921.17	795.98
Daisy	905.43	782.37
Delight	2,196.64	1,898.10
Glenwood	17,210.99	14,871.82
Murfreesboro	12,920.05	11,164.07
Poinsett County	118,944.85	121,005.75
Fisher	1,779.02	1,809.84
Harrisburg	18,364.56	18,682.76
Lepanto	15,101.70	15,363.36
Marked Tree	20,470.66	20,825.35
Trumann	58,204.98	59,213.47
Tyronza	6,078.97	6,184.30
Waldenburg	486.64	495.07
Weiner	5,712.01	5,810.97
Polk County	235,224.82	225,473.68
Cove	7,055.82	6,763.32
Grannis	10,232.78	9,808.60
Hatfield	7,628.42	7,312.18
Mena	105,966.62	101,573.80
Vandervoort	1,606.96	1,540.34
Wickes	13,926.92	13,349.60
Pope County	327,411.10	321,400.93
Atkins	39,321.14	38,599.34
Dover	17,965.69	17,635.90
Hector	5,866.88	5,759.19
London	13,545.98	13,297.32
Pottsville	37,000.47	36,321.26
Russellville	364,007.41	357,325.44
Prairie County	35,476.76	42,803.05
Biscoe	2,941.54	3,549.00
Des Arc	13,913.57	16,786.85
DeValls Bluff	5,016.02	6,051.87
Hazen	11,895.82	14,352.42
Ulm	1,377.57	1,662.06
Pulaski County	810,205.30	819,328.79
Alexander	3,922.06	3,966.23
Cammack Village	12,763.33	12,907.05
Jacksonville	471,378.88	476,686.94
Little Rock	3,216,158.74	3,252,374.99
Maumelle	285,230.42	288,442.32
North Little Rock	1,035,424.83	1,047,084.45
Sherwood	490,640.20	496,165.16
Wrightsville	35,132.39	35,528.01
Randolph County	118,009.91	113,229.23
Biggers	2,861.15	2,745.24
Maynard	3,512.53	3,370.24
O'Kean	1,599.60	1,534.80
Pocahontas	54,485.46	52,278.21
Ravenden Springs	972.95	933.54
Reyno	3,759.89	3,607.57
Saline County	NA	NA
Scott County	136,617.11	148,148.64
Mansfield	6,429.04	6,971.70
Waldron	25,716.16	27,886.80
Searcy County	38,290.27	37,591.27
Big Flat	6.25	6.14
Gilbert	175.01	171.82
Leslie	2,756.45	2,706.13
Marshall	8,469.36	8,314.75
Pindall	700.05	687.27
St. Joe	825.06	810.00
Sebastian County	736,474.76	733,621.64
Barling	67,310.26	67,049.50
Bonanza	8,325.10	8,292.85
Central	7,268.18	7,240.02
Fort Smith	1,248,171.75	1,243,336.31
Greenwood	129,610.99	129,108.87
Hackett	11,756.49	11,710.95
Hartford	9,295.16	9,259.15
Huntington	9,193.81	9,158.19
Lavaca	33,141.15	33,012.76
Mansfield	10,467.91	10,427.36
Midland	4,705.49	4,687.26
Sevier County	250,200.57	261,508.97
Ben Lomond	1,139.75	1,191.26
De Queen	51,831.09	54,173.72
Gillham	1,257.65	1,314.50
Horatio	8,206.20	8,577.09
Lockesburg	5,808.79	6,071.33
Sharp County	70,894.80	66,311.05
Ash Flat	8,480.03	7,931.75
Cave	15,073.69	14,099.09
Cherokee Village	33,556.70	31,387.07
Evening Shade	3,738.14	3,496.44
Hardy	6,316.76	5,908.34
Highland	9,042.48	8,457.84
Horseshoe Bend	69.22	64.75
Sidney	1,566.21	1,464.95
Williford	648.99	607.02
St. Francis County	140,805.95	142,915.44
Caldwell	9,264.64	9,403.44
Colt	6,309.98	6,404.50
Forrest	256,589.00	260,433.08
Hughes	24,054.70	24,415.08
Madison	12,836.96	13,029.28
Palestine	11,367.98	11,538.28
Wheatley	5,926.04	6,014.82
Widener	4,557.20	4,625.48
Stone County	83,308.97	82,834.24
Fifty Six	1,521.42	1,512.75
Mountain View	24,166.90	24,029.19
Union County	520,478.43	467,994.86
Calion	15,173.63	13,643.56
El Dorado	646,075.25	580,926.87
Felsenthal	3,718.03	3,343.12
Huttig	20,797.16	18,700.04
Junction	18,551.20	16,680.55
Norphlet	23,406.60	21,046.34
Smackover	61,579.97	55,370.42
Strong	17,520.97	15,754.21
Van Buren County	285,129.57	253,194.44
Clinton	25,327.98	22,491.19
Damascus	2,433.51	2,160.95
Fairfield Bay	20,976.86	18,627.41
Shirley	2,832.61	2,515.35
Washington County	1,221,133.83	1,195,731.72
Elkins	36,369.66	35,613.09
Elm Springs	20,560.94	20,133.23
Farmington	82,051.48	80,344.64
Fayetteville	1,010,603.93	989,581.27
Goshen	14,709.93	14,403.94
Greenland	17,292.07	16,932.36
Johnson	46,066.40	45,108.12
Lincoln	30,889.48	30,246.92
Prairie Grove	60,158.27	58,906.85
Springdale	875,495.06	857,282.95
Tontitown	33,787.52	33,084.67
West Fork	31,823.45	31,161.45
Winslow	5,370.29	5,258.57
White County	990,693.35	849,805.89
Bald Knob	38,553.51	33,070.77
Beebe	97,348.60	83,504.56
Bradford	10,100.83	8,664.38
Garner	3,779.49	3,242.01
Georgetown	1,650.20	1,415.53
Griffithville	2,994.32	2,568.49
Higginson	8,264.32	7,089.04
Judsonia	26,869.01	23,047.94
Kensett	21,931.71	18,812.78
Letona	3,393.56	2,910.96
McRae	9,076.11	7,785.39
Pangburn	7,998.16	6,860.73
Rose Bud	6,414.49	5,502.28
Russell	2,874.55	2,465.75
Searcy	304,196.07	260,936.05
West Point	2,461.99	2,111.87
Woodruff County	19,555.87	18,723.46
Augusta	20,227.35	19,366.36
Cotton Plant	5,969.78	5,715.67
Hunter	965.84	924.72
McCrory	15,904.09	15,227.12
Patterson	4,157.69	3,980.72
Yell County	94,368.09	93,608.77
Belleville	2,685.74	2,664.13
Danville	14,671.09	14,553.04
Dardanelle	28,897.60	28,665.08
Havana	2,283.79	2,265.42
Ola	7,801.44	7,738.67
Plainview	3,702.79	3,673.00

MUNICIPAL MART

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

CITY CLERK—Siloam Springs is accepting applications for a City Clerk. Requires a min. of an Associate's degree or equivalent, or two years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be a registered voter, bondable and free of felony convictions, have or obtain Notary Public Certificate within six months and City Clerk Certification within four years of employment. Applicants must possess a valid DL, submit to background check, and be willing to live within the city limits. Salary range $39K to $55K. Applications available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs; or online at www.siloamsprings.com. For more info and complete job description, call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. Open until filled. EOE.

FIRE FIGHTER—The City of Camden Civil Service Commission will conduct an open competitive examination for the position of Fire Fighter at 8 a.m., on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014. Applications will be accepted until Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, and may be obtained online at www.camden.ar.gov or picked up at City Hall, 206 Van Buren Street NE, Camden, AR 71701, or by calling Donna Stewart or Kathy Lee at 870-836-6436. Requirements: U.S. citizen, HS grad or GED equivalent, be between the ages of 21 and 35, felony convictions are disqualifying, must pass a physical agility exam, must pass a thorough physical examination and drug screen, pass a thorough background investigation, must pass Fire Fighter entrance examination and be interviewed by the Civil Service Commission, must successfully complete Firefighter Standards Course at the Arkansas Fire Academy within 12 months of employment, must successfully complete an EMT course certification within 12 months of employment.

Benefits: starting salary range is $27.4K-$29.9K after 1 year. Uniform allowance $550.00 first year, $480.00 annually thereafter. Educational Incentive Pay up to 10% of base salary (based on college credit hours). Certificate Pay up to 10% of base salary. Annual vacation (accrue 192 hours vacation leave annually first yr.). Sick leave benefits (accrue 360 hours per year). Health and Life Insurance premiums for the employee and majority of family coverage are paid by the City of Camden. Excellent retirement benefits. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—The City of Camden Civil Service Commission will conduct an open competitive examination for the position of Police Officer at 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014. Applications will be accepted until Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, and may be obtained online at www.camden.ar.gov/ or from the City Clerk's office at City Hall, 206 Van Buren Street, Camden, AR 71701 or by contacting Donna Stewart or Kathy Lee at 870-836-6436. Requirements: U.S. citizen, HS grad or GED equivalent, be at least 21, felony and some misdemeanor convictions are disqualifying, must pass a physical and psychological examination and drug screen, must possess valid DL, must pass Police Officer Entrance Examination and be interviewed by the Civil Service Commission, must pass an extensive background investigation, must pass a physical agility test. Candidates should make themselves familiar with the Department's tattoo, piercing and body scaring policy. Copies may be obtained at the Department during normal business hours.

Benefits: starting salary range is $29K - $30K after 1 year. Uniform allowance $700 first year, $600 annually thereafter. Take home vehicle benefit after 1 yr. for employees residing in Camden. Educational Incentive Pay up to 10% of base salary (based on college credit hours).

Certificate Pay up to 10% of base salary. Three weeks paid annual vacation (accrue 15 days vacation leave annually) Sick leave benefits (accrue 15 days first year of employment and 20 days thereafter). Health and Life Insurance premiums for the employee and the majority of family coverage are paid by the City of Camden. Excellent retirement benefits. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—Charleston is accepting applications for a full-time Police 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. Application deadline is Jan. 31, 2014. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—Hermitage is taking applications for an evening shift police officer. To apply send resume to City of Hermitage, P.O. Box 120, Hermitage, AR 71647. For more information call 870-463-2209.

PURCHASING/PAYROLL ASST.—Ozark Regional Transit in Springdale is accepting applications for a purchasing/payroll assistant. Requires a degree in accounting or a minimum of 3 years experience with basic accounting knowledge. The primary responsibility is administrative oversight of all company procurements including vehicle parts inventory, janitorial and office supplies, blanket purchases and capital projects. Additional duties include oversight of the disposal of surplus property and the records retention program. The position will also have accounting responsibilities by assisting payroll, fixed assets, accounts payable, inventory, audit and invoicing, in order to foster the appropriate segregation of duties.

Applicants must submit a letter of intent and a resume with application. View and print an application at www.ozark.org or obtain one in person at 2423 E. Robinson Ave., Springdale, AR. 72764. For further information and full job description contact Susanne Watson, Human Resource Officer swatson@ozark.org or at 479-756-5901 ext. 8752, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri. Open until filled.

WATER/WASTEWATER GM—Forrest City Water Commission is accepting applications for a Water/Wastewater General Manager. Requires degree in Civil Engineering, Public Admin., Business Admin. or related field; minimum of 5 years previous experience in Public Works or Business Administration with increasing supervisory experience. Must possess valid DL, submit to a background check and be willing to relocate, and possess or have the ability to obtain an Arkansas Class IV Water/Wastewater License within one year. The Commission requires a complete application to be submitted. Application is available at: Forrest City Water Commission, 303 North Rosser, P.O. Box 816, Forrest City, AR 72336. The Commission offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave. For more information call 870-494-5561 or email jlking50@msn.com. Open until filled.

FOR SALE—1974 American LaFrance 55 foot Snorkel, 12,379 miles, 356 engine hours, 1,250 gpm pump, current aerial test, current pump test, asking $8,000 OBO. For more info please contact Magnolia Fire Chief Greg Pinner at 870-234-5022 or email at gpinner@magnolia-ar.com.

FOR SALE—England Fire Department has for sale a 1984 Ford F700, gas. 1,000 gpm American LaFrance pump, 750 gal. tank, 3 ladders, 2 axes, 1 pike pole, deluge gun-grd. Mount, 2 hard suctions, 2 hose reels and nozzles, lights/siren, good rubber, super clean, good paint. Passed pump test in Aug. 2013. Mileage 10,985. $15,000 OBO. Contact Chief Mike Busick, 501-681-9773, or Asst. Chief Jeremy Nutz, 501-425-8327.

FOR SALE—Hamburg has for sale 230k Onan generator with 300 gallon diesel tank, Y configuration. Asking $15,000. For more information contact Jimmy Hargis at 870-853-6645 or jghargis@sbcglobal.net.

Having a hard time connecting?

You may now reach the Municipal Health Benefit Fund and the Workers' Compensation Trust directly, by phone or by fax, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon.–Fri.

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501-978-6137

fax 501-537-7252

Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust

501-978-6127

fax 501-537-7253

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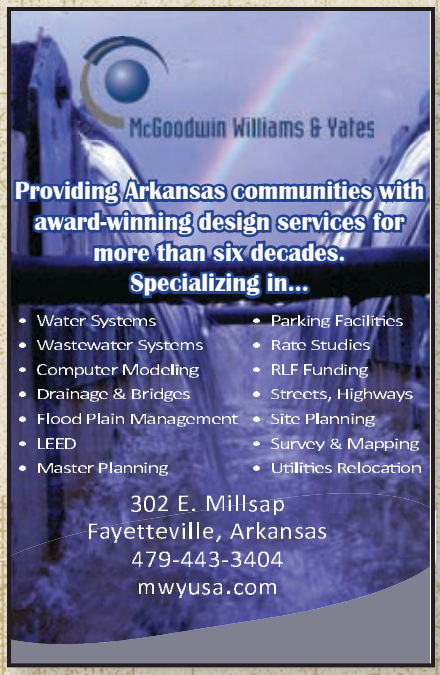
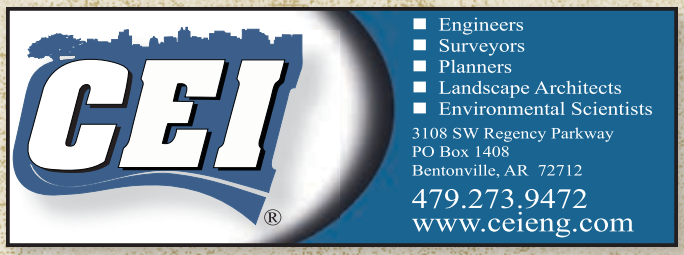
Professional Directory





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Cabot 501-843-9233
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Conway 501-336-0511
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