

City & Town

MAY 2012 VOL. 68, NO. 05

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

HOT SPRINGS
CONVENTION
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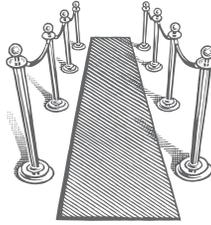
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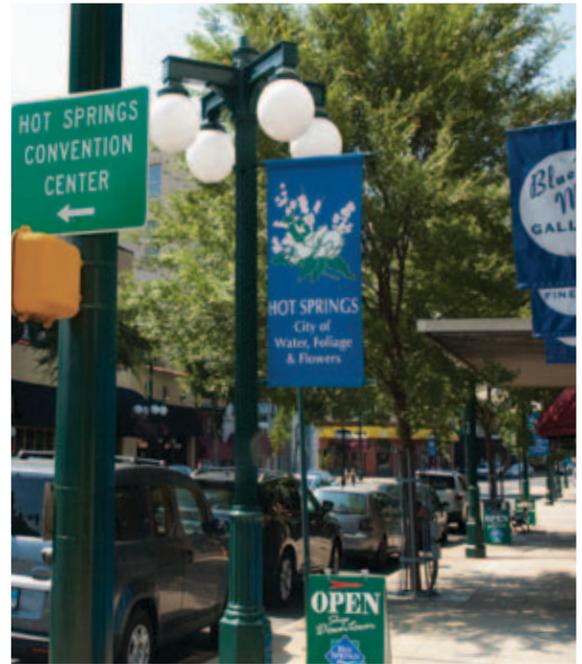
FEATURES

6 Going green good for growth
 The 3rd annual Little Rock Sustainability Summit, held April 12 at the Clinton Library, gathered public and private community and business leaders to discuss how sustainability is a key factor in economic growth.

19 Arkansas sister cities stay active
 Gilbert's sister cities coordinator has been named the new state coordinator, and Hot Springs is busy planning not one but two trips by delegates to its sister city, Hanamaki, Japan.

20 Teen Court provides positive peer pressure
 For North Little Rock Teen Court participants, trials held before a jury of peers helps youths turn negative behaviors into a positive experience, reduces recidivism and promotes community engagement.

28 Farmington welcomes new ball fields
 The six-field Farmington Sports Complex is now open, and just in time for baseball and softball season.



ON THE COVER—With its tree-lined avenues, shops, galleries and bathhouses, Hot Springs has earned its reputation as one of Arkansas's most beautiful cities. We hope you take the time to explore this historic community when you attend the League's 78th Convention, June 20-22 at the Hot Springs Convention Center. Read inside the expanded agenda for this year's Convention, at which we'll prepare our *Policies and Goals* for the coming year. If you haven't yet registered, don't hesitate. Save money by registering before June 8. Read also inside about Little Rock's recent Sustainability Summit, the North Little Rock Teen Court, Sister Cities updates from Gilbert and Hot Springs, and much more.—atm

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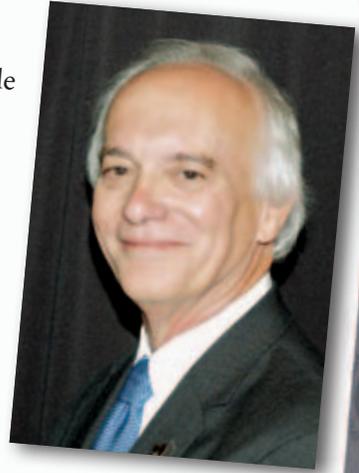
Cover photo by Andrew Morgan

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Dear Friends:

I recently attended the Southern Municipal Conference in Bentonville and heard presentations from NLC Program Director Leslie Wollack and numerous state league executive directors. Wollack gave us a legislative briefing and league directors touched on key issues within their states. It was thought provoking to hear the issues that other states have and realize that we, in spite of what we may think, really have much in common with those from other states and regions.

While in Bentonville, I had an opportunity to visit Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. WOW! It was great! If you have not visited the museum, I encourage you to make plans to do so. You will not regret making the trip. There is something there for everyone. Also, I'd like to give a "tip of the hat and thank you" to Mayor Bob McCaslin and the City of Bentonville for hosting the Southern Municipal Conference attendees at this great museum.



There has been much in the news recently concerning the proposed increase in the natural gas severance tax, both pro and con. Many of us have seen articles and ads, editorials, petition drives and have received information from the Committee for a Fair Severance Tax concerning their point of view. Last June, the Arkansas Municipal League committed to endorse the proposal and to assist in the collection of signatures on petitions that request the severance tax subject be put on the ballot this November. Early July is the deadline for turning the petition signatures in to the Secretary of State. I'm repeating this because the May primary election, which is generating a lot of local interest, will be a great opportunity for the supporters of the severance tax to be out making a push to collect petition signatures. If you participate in collecting the signatures, please remember to observe the rules concerning campaigning in the area of local polls.

Speaking of local elections, I challenge each of us to encourage all of our friends, family, neighbors, etc. to VOTE in the upcoming primary. We all are concerned about many different things and this is our opportunity to vote our convictions. As a nation, as a state and on the local level, many issues that require difficult choices face us. Don't be apathetic. Don't fail to voice your opinion. Don't sit around and complain. As an elected official, set an example: GO VOTE and encourage someone else to GO VOTE, too. Remember that early voting has already started for the May 22 primary.

Don't forget the upcoming 78th Convention in Hot Springs, Wednesday, June 20 through Friday, June 22. Two hours of certification training will be offered from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday the 20th and two hours of training are available on Friday the 22nd from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The topics will be "Best Procurement Practices" and "The Role of Elected Officials in Economic Development." New this year, we will be offering a social media lab throughout the Convention to assist city officials in creating a city Facebook page. The social media lab will be set up in the Arlington Board Room of the Hot Springs Convention Center. Everyone is encouraged to participate in order to further promote your city.

Frank Fogleman
Mayor, Marion
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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Summit promotes green growth

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Local business and government leaders discussed sustainable community development and ways to become more energy efficient and reduce our carbon footprint at the third annual Little Rock Sustainability Summit, held April 12 at the Clinton Library in Little Rock. More than 200 participated in the event, which included panel discussions and

presentations from companies with strong local ties like L'Oréal, Heifer International, AT&T, and UAMS. The Summit also included walking tours of the library, the neighboring Heifer International Headquarters, and the newly opened Clinton Bridge and adjacent Bill Clark Wetlands.

The Clinton Bridge, which opened in 2011, closes the southern loop of the Arkansas River Trail system and is a major sustainability selling point for Little Rock and North Little Rock. The Clinton Bridge joins three other pedestrian and bicycle bridges that connect the 17-mile trail.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN

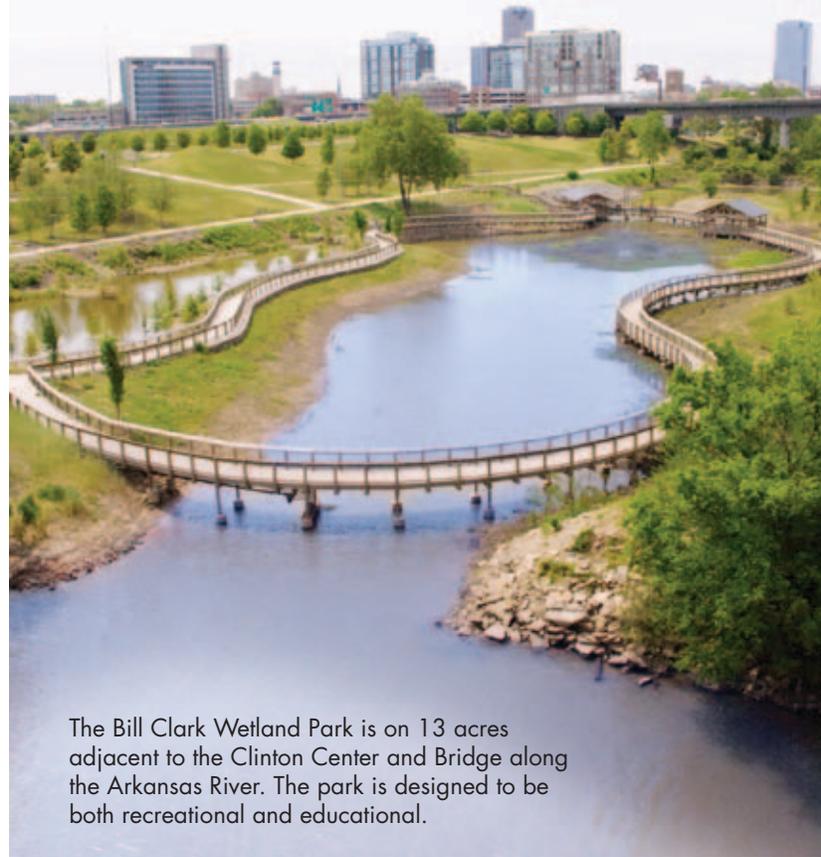
Focusing on sustainability “makes great economic sense,” Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola told Summit participants. He named several Little Rock initiatives to create a more sustainable, livable community, including the Arkansas River trail system, recycling program, and an incentive program for builders that place energy efficient appliances in new homes.

The river trail system, which includes 17 miles of trails on both the Little Rock and North Little Rock sides of the Arkansas River connected at several points by pedestrian and bicycle bridges like the Clinton Bridge, is an especially important selling point, Stodola said.

“What a wonderful amenity that we have,” he said. “It’s really an economic attraction. When I’m out with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, or with our Chamber, and we’re recruiting businesses, it is, along with all of the other sustainable actions that we’re taking, a tremendous, tremendous selling point for our city. That is something that we should really underscore, that these things are not only good for our health, and for recreation, but they’re also good for business.”



Jon Honeywell, a Little Rock city engineer, takes Sustainability Summit student participants on a tour of the Clinton Bridge and discusses the conversion of the century-old train bridge into a pedestrian and bicycle pathway.



The Bill Clark Wetland Park is on 13 acres adjacent to the Clinton Center and Bridge along the Arkansas River. The park is designed to be both recreational and educational.

Last year Little Rock placed fourth on a list of cities ranked by green jobs growth, Stodola said. Public-private partnerships and training programs offered by the state’s universities and colleges play a big role in our success, he said.

Sustainability has been one of the most exciting business trends to cover in recent years, longtime Arkansas business reporter and host of *Talk Business* Roby Brock told Summit participants. It was just a few years ago when Walmart announced efforts to pursue more green business practices, and at first it seemed more like a PR stunt, Brock said. Now it’s mainstream.

“Today there’s really not a company that is serious about doing business in this century, in this day and age, unless you have a sustainability strategy,” Brock said.

Customers now demand that companies do sustainable business, he said.

L’Oréal, the Paris-based cosmetics giant, is working at its North Little Rock plant and across its organization to reduce water usage and CO₂ emissions by 50 percent by the year 2015.

Where the company has seen the most growth in recent years is among a growing middle class, L’Oréal’s Pam Alabaster told Summit attendees. That middle class is increasingly eco-conscious, she said, so it makes good business sense to create a more sustainable manufacturing process.

“That global middle class is swelling,” Alabaster said. “It’s going to be close to five billion people by the year 2030, and I think most of the businesses here that do international business want a piece of that action.”



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Cornell Gunter's Coasters bring doo-wop hits to 78th Convention

Take out the papers and the trash! Cornell Gunter's Coasters are coming to the League's 78th Convention. The group, whose many late 50s and early 60s hits include "Yakety Yak," "Poison Ivy," "Charlie Brown," "Love Potion Number 9" and "Along Came Jones," will be our musical guest at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 21, in the Hot Springs Convention Center's Horner Ballroom. The evening's entertainment is sponsored by the Hot Springs Convention Center.

The group started its long career in 1955, blending tight doo-wop harmonies with rhythm and blues, helping shape the sound of early rock and roll. The Coasters' first Top 10 hit was 1957's "Searchin'," which stayed on the chart for 13 weeks. Their biggest success came after Cornell Gunter joined the group in 1958. The lineup featuring Gunter scored the group's only Number One single, "Yakety Yak," featuring the unforgettable sax of King Curtis. The hits "Charlie Brown," "Along Came Jones," and "Poison Ivy" quickly followed it up the charts.

It's been more than 50 years now since those early hits, and Cornell Gunter's Coasters still keeps crowds singing along and moving on the dance floor to that original doo-wop sound.





It's Convention time again.

June 20-22—Hot Springs, Ark.

See next page for more information.

Register online at www.arml.org.

Exhibitors, contact the League immediately to reserve space for your display.

Contact Whitnee Bullerwell
at 501-978-6105.

Cost for the exhibit space is \$500.



78th CONVENTION

Hot Springs Convention Center
June 20-22, 2012

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, June 8, 2012, to qualify for advance registration.

Advance registration for municipal officials	\$150
Registration fee after June 8, 2012 , 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 the **2011-'12 Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials** and the **2011 General Acts Affecting Arkansas Municipalities**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after June 8, 2012.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 8, 2012**.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL (headquarters hotel)			
Single	\$140	Double	\$150 Check in 3 p.m.
AUSTIN HOTEL			
Single/Double	\$85		Check in 3 p.m.
ARLINGTON HOTEL			
Single	\$88	Double	\$98 Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 8, 2012**.
- Rooms in Hot Springs are subject to a 13 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel.

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER

2

Complete the steps and **mail with payment to:**
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 78th Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

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

OR

Step 1: Delegate Information

Name:
 Title: City of:
 Address:
 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)

<input type="checkbox"/> Advance Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest	<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Registrants	Total
\$150	\$175	\$75	\$75	\$200	\$

• **HOW ARE YOU PAYING?**

Check Mail payment and form to:
 Arkansas Municipal League
 78th Convention
 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:
 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:

Arlington Hotel	Reservations _____	800-643-1502 or 501-609-2533
Austin Hotel	Reservations _____	877-623-6697
Embassy Suites Hotel	Reservations _____	501-321-4430 Emily Parker, Lead Reservationist

Step 4: Hotel Payment

Payment Options: Credit Card or Direct Bill Note: only two payment options.

To obtain direct billing as a payment option, registered delegates must directly contact hotel accounting offices listed below:

Arlington Hotel	Accounting _____	800-643-1502 or 501-609-2533
Austin Hotel	Accounting _____	800-844-7275
Embassy Suites Hotel	Accounting _____	501-321-4413 Melody Fruen

Continuing Legal Education Offered at League Convention

Twelve (12) hours of continuing legal education (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the Arkansas Municipal League's 78th Convention, June 20-22 at the Hot Springs Convention Center. The Arkansas City Attorney's Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE.

Maumelle City Attorney and the current ACAA President JaNan Davis urges members to register for the Convention as soon as possible. A registration form is in this issue of *City & Town* and copies are also being mailed to city attorneys.

The 12 hours are offered June 21 and 22, and the tentative CLE agenda includes topics relating to bidding, city attorney basics, RILUPA, police policies update, as well as an update on Arkansas case law. Additionally, the program will include 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, 501-374-3484, Ext. 206. For CLE information, call Mark Hayes, ACAA secretary/treasurer and League general counsel at 501-978-6102 or Jamie Adams at 501-978-6124.

RESOLUTIONS

Suggested Convention Resolutions for consideration at the 78th Annual Convention should be mailed to:

78th Convention Resolutions
Arkansas Municipal League
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

The deadline for Resolution submission is May 16.

Resolutions may be drafted by an official of any member city or town and can relate to any matter of municipal concern. See your **2011-2012 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 77th Convention.

WANTED: Elected City officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and begin serving your city or town in 1987? The League would like to know!

The League will give special recognition to elected city and town officials who are in their 25th year of municipal service at the 78th League Convention, June 20-22, in Hot Springs.

Names must be submitted to the League by May 16.

Call Ken Wasson at 501-374-3484, ext. 211; Sheila Boyd, ext. 218; or write to P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

At the 78th Convention, a special Exhibit Hall is available for businesses, companies and manufacturers to display their products and services that are available to Arkansas municipalities.

To guarantee your firm's exhibit area, contact the League immediately to reserve space for your display. Your name will be added to the list of exhibitors, and we will reserve a space for your exhibit when you arrive.

The cost this year for exhibit space is \$500. A large equipment space is \$1,050. We cannot guarantee space for companies that do not register before June 8.

Call Whitnee Bullerwell at 501-978-6105, or write to Arkansas Municipal League, P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038.



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The City of Distinction program is designed to honor outstanding initiatives in cities across the state. The award will serve as an opportunity to gain appreciation for outstanding contributions made to better your city.

The awards will recognize the successes of Arkansas cities as demonstrated by financial innovations, resourceful efficiencies, improved public services and overall enhanced public trust and support.

{ SIX AWARD CATEGORIES FOR CITIES }
TO HIGHLIGHT UNIQUE PROGRAMS }

VISIT ARKANSASBUSINESS.COM/CITY
Download and print your City's nomination form

****TENTATIVE****

**78th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
JUNE 20 - 22, 2012**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012

2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS,
TREASURERS ASSOCIATIONRooms 104-105

2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION Grand Lobby

2:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.

MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS/
RENEW ACQUAINTANCESHalls B-D

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

1:30 P.M. TO 6:45 P.M.

SOCIAL MEDIA LABRoom 206

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

2:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PURCHASING, BIDDING, BEST PRACTICE IDEAS FOR PROFESSIONAL
PROCUREMENT Horner Hall

Understanding the proper methods of municipal purchasing, bidding and professional procurement are skills that every municipal official should know. There are specific Arkansas laws that can guide you through this process. This 2 hour certification class is designed to assist you in understanding the world of public procurement and related matters. (2 Certification Hours)

Presiding: Mayor Frank Fogleman, Marion
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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

INTERIM JOINT CITY, COUNTY,
LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEERooms 102-103

The Interim Committee welcomes all city officials to attend this committee meeting.

5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE Horner Hall

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

Presiding: Mayor Chris Claybaker, Camden
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

7:00 P.M.

OPENING NIGHT BANQUET Hall A

Welcome to the 78th Annual Convention's Opening Night Banquet. Enjoy a delicious meal and visit with fellow delegates. After the conclusion of the banquet, we will recognize various individuals who have made significant contributions to the League this past year.

Invocating: TBA

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

PRESIDENT'S DESSERT RECEPTIONHalls B-D

After the opening night banquet, stroll over to the Exhibit Hall and enjoy delicious desserts and entertainment.

Sponsored by: TBA

Entertainment: Randy Holland and the Midnight Express Band

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012

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

PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOG Embassy Suites Lobby
Meet in the Lobby of the Embassy Suites Hotel.

7:15 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION Grand Lobby

7:30 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.

EXHIBITS OPENHalls B-D

7:30 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.

HOST CITY BREAKFAST BUFFETHalls B-D
Country-style breakfast buffet will be served, courtesy of our Host City of Hot Springs.

8:00 A.M. to NOON

CITY ATTORNEYSRooms 104-105

City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participating in two days of meetings located in Rooms 104-105 of the Hot Springs Convention Center.

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

OPENING GENERAL SESSIONHorner Hall Ballroom

The 78th Annual Convention begins with the posting of the colors and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from Mayor Ruth Carney of Hot Springs. We are honored to have NLC President Ted Ellis address our Opening General Session.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Color Guard by: Troop 2 Quapaw Area Council
Boy Scouts of America

Singing the National Anthem: TBA

Host City Welcome Address: Mayor Ruth Carney, Hot Springs

Presiding: Mayor Frank Fogleman, Marion
President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Mayor Ted Ellis of Bluffton, IN
President, National League of Cities

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

BREAKHalls B-D

10:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNORHorner Hall Ballroom

Presiding: Mayor Chris Claybaker, Camden
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: Honorable Mike Beebe, Governor
State of Arkansas

11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

BALLOT QUESTIONS

AFFECTING MUNICIPALITIESHorner Hall Ballroom

Speakers: TBA

11:30 A.M.

The Exhibit Hall will close until Lunch.

12:00 Noon to 1:15 P.M.

LUNCHEON BUFFETHalls B-D

1:00 P.M. to 5:15 P.M.

CITY ATTORNEYSRooms 104-105

1:15 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

SOCIAL MEDIA LABRoom 206

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

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

1:15 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.

1. DEALING WITH ANGRY CITIZENSRoom 207

How do you deal with angry citizens? Is there a way to defuse the hostility and reduce the frustration, mistrust and personal attacks that seem to be increasing in today's world of public service. A special group of speakers explains.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

2. THE FUTURE OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICESRooms 203-204

How do most cities handle their solid waste collection? What new state regulations are being considered? Listen and the speakers will explain.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

3. IMPORTANT LAND USE ISSUESRoom 205

Establishing a planning commission, annexation and using Eminent Domain are all important land use issues facing Arkansas municipalities.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

4. PUBLIC PENSION PROGRAMS: LOPFI, APERS, AND PRB ...Room 208

This workshop attempts to explain the regulations and requirements in public pension laws for these programs.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

5. AVOIDING LAWSUITS.....Room 209

Suing municipalities is becoming more and more common. What are some of the trends that are developing? Can you do things to avoid being sued?

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

6. GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES.....Rooms 201-202

How do you go about finding and securing additional funding sources for your municipality? Grant experts explain.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

7. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RECOVERYRooms 102-103

Cities are increasingly recognizing the need to be resilient in the face of natural and man-made disasters. What can you do to be prepared? What resources are available when disaster strikes? Speakers share their knowledge.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

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

BREAKHalls B-D

Soft drinks and coffee available in Exhibit Hall.

2:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

1. ENGAGING YOUR CITIZENSRoom 207

How do you go about engaging your citizens? What are some cities doing to reach out and communicate with their constituents? The speakers share their experiences.

Presiding: TB
Speaker: TBA

2. OLD BUILDINGS: WHAT TO DO WHEN THEY BECOME A SAFETY HAZARD.....Rooms 201-202

Old buildings often become a safety problem. They may not meet building codes. They may become eyesores. What can be done? Speakers explain.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

3. HOT TOPICS IN MUNICIPAL FINANCERoom 208

What are some of the important subject matters that you need to know about municipal finance? Greater compliance and reporting responsibility after bond closing will be explained by invited experts.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

4. MUNICIPAL SIGN REGULATIONS AND MAINTAINING YOUR STREETSRoom 209

New sign regulations have been passed. What do they mean for your city? Street maintenance is a year-round challenge. What are some of the best practices that you might utilize to improve your city streets?

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

5. DISTRICT COURTS: UNDERSTANDING HOW THEY WORK.....Rooms 203-204

District Courts—who understands how they work and how they impact your municipality? Speakers explain.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

6. DRUG TESTING: THE BENEFITS AND RISKSRooms 102-103

Drug testing can be a strong deterrent to guard against employee misuse. It can also be legally risky if not administered properly and according to the latest regulations. Experts in this field explain.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

7. SOCIAL MEDIA: BEST PRACTICES.....Room 205

Social media is taking off by leaps and bounds. Find out how your municipality might best engage your citizens using this technology. How do you manage multiple social media tools? Best Practices for social media will also be discussed.

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

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

BREAKHalls B-D

Soft drinks and coffee available in Exhibit Hall.

4:15 P.M.

The exhibit hall will close for the day.

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

1. WHY PARKS AND RECREATION MATTERRooms 203-204

Municipal Parks and Recreation programs seem to be taking on more and more significance each year. What are some of the new trends in P&R and can they be of benefit to your municipality?

Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2012

2. THE CHALLENGES OF ANIMAL CONTROL.....Room 207
Vicious dogs, ordinance enforcement and strays are just a few of the challenges with animal control. Panelists explain.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA
3. THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION
IN THE SISTER CITIES PROGRAM.....Room 205
More and more Arkansas municipalities are learning of the benefits of the sister city program. Several cities that have benefited share their experiences.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA
4. HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)
CHALLENGES/ PERSONNEL ISSUES.....Room 208
Background checks, at-will employment and FLSA regulations are all part of the HR world in which we navigate. What do we need to know in order to avoid personnel problems in our municipalities? Speakers explain.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA
5. WELLNESS, SAFETY AND AVOIDING RISKS.....Room 209
Having healthy employees, establishing safety rules and avoiding accidents can reduce your premiums and increase your efficiency. Speakers provide helpful hints to assist you.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA
6. SUGGESTIONS TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT WASTE-WATER AND
STORM WATER REGULATIONSRooms 102-103
Are you aware of the latest regulations dealing with waste-water and storm water regulations? Understanding these regulations could prevent compliance problems in the future.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA
7. UTILIZING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS.....Rooms 201-202
Volunteers can truly be of benefit to your city. How do you organize volunteers and enhance their contributions? Speakers from the Division of Community Service and Nonprofit Support (DCSNS) will be present to share their ideas.
Presiding: TBA
Speaker: TBA

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

- RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE..... Horner Hall
Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.
Presiding: Mayor Chris Claybaker, Camden
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

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

- RECEPTION WILL BE HELD IN THE GRAND LOBBY OF THE
CONVENTION CENTER Grand Lobby
The fantastic reception sponsored by Crews is one of the highlights of the annual convention. Drop by and enjoy delicious heavy hors d'oeuvres. When you see the sponsor be sure and thank them for this event.
Hosted by: Crews & Associates

DINNER.....ON YOUR OWN

Visit some of Hot Springs' finest restaurants before coming back for desserts and entertainment.

8:30 P.M.

- ENTERTAINMENT/DESSERTSHorner Hall Ballroom
After dinner, be sure to come back to Horner Hall for an evening of entertainment from The Cornell Gunter's Coasters.
Desserts sponsored by: Investment Managers

6:30 A.M.

- PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOG.....Embassy Suites Lobby
Meet in the Lobby of the Embassy Suites Hotel.

7:15 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M.

- SOCIAL MEDIA LABRoom 206
Do you want to build a social media presence to promote your municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a facebook page using our social media lab.

7:15 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

- REGISTRATION OPENS..... Grand Lobby

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

- EXHIBITS OPENHalls B-D
(Exhibit Hall will close at 10:30 A.M. for the remainder of the Convention.)

7:30 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.

- BUFFET BREAKFASTHalls B-D

8:00 A.M. to 3:45 P.M.

- CITY ATTORNEYSRooms 104-105

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

- PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AND
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Horner Hall

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

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

- BREAKHalls B-D

10:30 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

- WHO WANTS TO BE A SUPER CITY OFFICIAL?..... Horner Hall

How much do you know and understand about being a city official? Could you answer key questions about municipal law that would qualify you to be a Super City Official? Attend this session and see who acquires this year's title of "Super City Official."

Participants: Sheila Boyd, AML Staff
Mark Hayes, AML Staff
Ken Wasson, AML Staff
Members from the Audience

NOON to 1:30 P.M.

- AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS'
LUNCHEON Hall A

Municipalities and individuals are honored for their many successes and contributions during this past year. The new League President and officers will be introduced to the convention delegates.

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

- THE ROLE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS IN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT..... Horner Hall

Economic development is not just the role of the State. Local officials have a role also. This 2 hour certification class is structured to assist you in understanding your role in this important issue. (2 Certification Hours)

County equalization boards to meet in August

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

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

Cities and towns have a part to play in deciding who sits as a member of the county equalization board. Cities and towns select one member of a five-member board (counties with a population less than 79,000) and two members of a nine-member board (counties with a

population greater than 79,000) (ACA § 26-27-303 and 304).

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

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

New ADEQ requirements affect mosquito control

Effective March 1, 2012, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) issued a new permit requirement (General Permit ARG870000) under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and the Arkansas Water and Air Pollutant Control Act related to four activities:

1. Control of mosquitoes and other flying insect pests,
2. Weed and algae control,
3. Aquatic nuisance animal control, and
4. Forest canopy pest control.

City work activities affected by the new requirement would likely include the control of mosquitoes along with weed and algae control.

The General Permit ARG870000 requirements can be reviewed and are found at the ADEQ's website at:

www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch_permits/general_permits/default.htm.

Supporting documents and a helpful PowerPoint program are provided.

A key component of the permit is the amount of treatment activity anticipated or performed compared to the Annual Treatment Area Thresholds table published in the permit. A completed Notice of Intent (NOI) form may be required by the ADEQ including a \$200 permit fee.

The ADEQ Water Division headed by Steven Drown administers the requirements of the General Permit. Drown can be reached at 501-682-0655 or by email at drown@adeq.state.ar.us.

The ADEQ also incorporates requirements in the Arkansas Pesticide Use and Application Act administered by the Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB). Contact the Plant Board in Little Rock at 501-225-1598.

Teenagers and tanning beds a dangerous combination

By Daniel Davis, M.D.

A teenage girl seeking some indoor sun in Arkansas doesn't have to live in a big town, as a session in a tanning bed can be had in even the tiniest of outposts across the state.

On an average day, of the one million people using tanning beds in the United States, 71 percent of tanning bed patrons are girls and women between the ages of 16 to 29.

Teenagers are particularly vulnerable to the social pressures of sporting a "sun-kissed" appearance with their strapless fashions for proms and other formal events. Adolescents often scoff at skin cancer as something they'd only need to be concerned about later in life.

But the numbers don't lie. A Yale University School of Public Health study found that young people who tanned on indoor beds had a 69 percent increased chance of getting early-onset basal cell carcinoma, a common form of skin cancer.

Melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, is the leading cause of cancer death in women ages 25 to 29, and it's the second-most-common cancer among people ages 15 to 29. The Mayo Clinic in a recent study calls young adults "a high-risk population" in which melanoma is rapidly increasing. In fact, researchers say melanoma soared eight-fold among young women and four-fold in young men during the last 40 years.

Melanoma appears more often in fair-skinned people with light eyes but Caucasians are not the only people at risk. The Skin Cancer Foundation reports Asian- and African-American melanoma patients tend to delay medical evaluation until their cancer is more advanced. While melanoma is uncommon in African-Americans, Latinos, and Asians, it is frequently fatal for these populations.

So, what to do?

Eliminate the use of tanning beds, one of the major risk factors for melanoma. If a so-called healthy glow is what you want, choose a sunless tanning product as a safe alternative to ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure, which is linked to both skin cancer and premature aging.

Be vigilant about conducting skin self-exams.

There are efforts in Arkansas to raise awareness about the dangers of tanning beds. In 2010, when Gov. Mike Beebe signed indoor tanning legislation that requires in-person parental consent for anyone under the age of 18, Arkansas became one of more than 30 states with laws requiring parental consent for teens to use tanning. More than 10 states actually forbid tanning beds for teenagers of certain ages. And, reducing the number of teenagers using tanning beds is one of the Arkansas Cancer Coalition's Healthy People 2020 objectives.

The first signs of melanoma are changes in the size, shape or color of a mole. Or even the appearance of a brand new mole on the body. If you or someone you know sees a suspicious mole, seek out a professional skin care screening, a visual examination of the body, by a dermatologist. You could save a life.



Daniel Davis, M.D., is Associate Professor of Dermatology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Melanoma warning signs

- Any of these signs should prompt an immediate visit to a dermatologist or plastic surgeon:
- Any change in a mole, blemish, freckle, birthmark, or pigmented area
- A new mole or freckle that appears suddenly or is growing rapidly, especially if you don't have many moles, or the new mole or freckle looks different from your others
- A change in surface texture or in the way a mole feels to the touch
- A new "freckle" that is dark, dry or scaly
- A pigmented area or splotch that you don't remember seeing before
- A new spot that is black, even if very small
- A mole or other spot that looks or behaves differently than those around it
- A mole or other spot that itches and/or bleeds
- Redness, other color, or shadow extending into the surrounding skin

Source: Melanoma Education Foundation

Sister Cities International recognizes Arkansas

By Sherman Banks

Sister Cities International on April 4 named Evelyn Langston Terhune, Sister Cities coordinator for Gilbert, population 28, Arkansas State Coordinator. Terhune plans to focus initially on contacting the mayors of cities where colleges and universities are located, she said. She wants to use education as a springboard to reach out to international cities with colleges and universities to development sister city relationships.

She also plans to reconfirm with the cities in Arkansas who have international sister city relationships, to update the national roster, and to determine what programs each city is working on with their respective sister cities.

Since Arkansas's Secretary of State had been the state coordinator for Sister Cities International before Terhune's appointment, she wants to seek the assistance of the Secretary to help host a statewide sister city conference. It is her intention to attend some state sister city conferences in contiguous states to get a perspective on how programming for sister cities is done in their states.

Gilbert is the city with the smallest population in the International Sister Cities family, and Terhune believes they have a story to tell. She has been invited to be a panelist to share Gilbert's story at the Arkansas Municipal League 78th Convention, June 20-22 in Hot Springs. She'll discuss how Gilbert was able to form a relationship with a city on the Isle of Mann off the coast of Great Britain and how they have been able to create and maintain an active educational and cultural exchange program.

In other Arkansas sister city news, the Hot Springs Sister City program has received funding from Sister Cities International to send a four-member delegation to Hanamaki, Japan.

Hot Springs is one of seven U.S. cities selected by Sister Cities International to receive the Leading Asia: Renewing the U.S. and Japan Sister Cities Network exchange funding. The funding will enable the Hot Springs

delegation to visit their Japanese sister city, Hanamaki. The grant is for \$7,500, which will cover the coach airline tickets for the delegation. The delegation will cover other expenses, such as hotel and food.

Through the Leading Asia funding, the program has the opportunity to focus on the creative economies that are determined by Hot Springs economic development growth project. This program also includes health and wellness, arts and recreation, and quality of place.

Hot Springs formalized its relationship with Hanamaki in January 1993. The two cities are now placing emphasis on educational and cultural exchanges, and they also collaborate on tourism development.

This will be Hot Springs' first Japan delegation to focus entirely on economic development. Kay Brockwell of the Hot Springs Metro-Partnership and Hot Springs Information Officer Terri Payne are assisting with the planning of this trip.

While the Leading Asia-funded delegation prepares for its journey, Mary Neilson, coordinator for the Hot Springs Sister Cities program, is also making plans to take yet another delegation, this one including 13 students, to Hanamaki this September. The Hot Springs Sister Cities program continues to grow. Their educational and cultural programs have paved the way for their new focus on economic development.



For more information about Sister Cities International, contact Sherman Banks at 501-374-8493; email sbanks@aristotle.net; or write to P.O. Box 165920, Little Rock, AR 72216.

The students and citizens of Hot Springs' 2011 delegation to Hanamaki, Japan, are welcomed at Hanamaki's Onsen Hotel.



North Little Rock Teen court offers constructive sentencing

By Andrew Morgan, League staff



From left, student volunteer prosecutor Khoransea Carter and volunteer judge John Hout listen as North Little Rock Police Officer Mark Stephen testifies during an April 26 session of the North Little Rock Teen Court.

"All rise."

Everyone in the North Little Rock district courtroom heeds the bailiff's instruction as the judge enters the chamber and takes his place behind the bench. The prosecutors, defenders, defendants and jurors are all present, but this isn't your typical day in court.

Although his decisions will be final, today's "judge," John Hout, a deputy prosecuting attorney for Pulaski County, is a volunteer. The bailiff is a local high school student, as are the rest of the participants.

The North Little Rock Teen Court is now in session.

Hout tells the participants that today's proceedings are not to determine the guilt or innocence of

the defendants, but to determine their punishments. Everyone in the courtroom then pledges to not discuss the details of the proceedings outside of the room.

The defendant's infractions, though often minor, are very real. They've gotten in trouble for fighting at school or for engaging in other types of bad behavior for which they will now answer and face a jury of their peers. The sentences handed down typically involve a set amount of community service and essay writing. All defendants are also required to volunteer at least once on the Teen Court jury. It's what the judge calls "constructive" sentencing.



Gordan Geesaman, a local high school student, serves as public defender. He requests that the jury consider sentencing a defendant to 10 hours of community service and one term on a future Teen Court jury.

Teen courts like the one in North Little Rock have popped up across the country as a way to nurture in juvenile offenders a respect for the law and promote civic engagement through positive peer pressure. About 1,050 youth courts across the nation are members of the National Association of Youth Courts (NAYC) (www.youthcourt.net). The North Little Rock Teen Court is one of just five from Arkansas on the NAYC roster. Others in our state include youth courts in Faulkner, Lonoke, Saline and Washington counties. Together they form the Arkansas Teen Court Association. Paula Jones, an attorney in the North Little Rock City Attorney's Office who coordinates the program, would love to see more schools and local governments in Arkansas get involved.

"The object is positive peer pressure," Jones says of the program, which works to keep youths who've committed first-time and minor offenses out of the juvenile court system. By volunteering to participate in youth court, the youths can also keep their records clean. Answering for their offenses in front of their peers is an important part of the program. It helps "get the kids going in the right direction," she says.

"In juvenile court, they're just around other offenders," Jones says. "Here they're in a positive environment."

The youth court process benefits the community as well as the juveniles involved. It is less costly than the traditional juvenile justice system. It is also shown to reduce delinquency and recidivism rates.

Little Rock district makes National Register

The Capitol-Main Historic District in Little Rock has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program announced April 24. The Capitol-Main Historic District contains the 500 block of Main Street, 100 and 200 blocks of West Capitol Avenue, 500 block of Center Street, and 100 and 200 blocks of West Sixth Street. It features buildings dating to 1909.

"Today, the district is an important representation of nearly half a century that Capitol and Main Street were the commercial heart of Little Rock," the National Register nomination says. "These buildings, with their Sullivanesque, Art Deco, and International Styles, capture the development of the area throughout the years. These buildings are still visibly important to the people of Little Rock. This is evidenced by the revitalization movement of the 1970s and 1980s and, the recent movement to redevelop the buildings for mixed use while retaining their historic character, which was exemplified in the Lafayette Hotel's transformation into condominiums, and office space."

For more information on the National Register of Historic Places program, write the AHPP at 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St., Little Rock, AR 72201; call the agency at 501-324-9880 [TDD 501-324-9811]; email info@arkansaspreservation.org or visit www.arkansaspreservation.org.

Siloam Springs makes Top 20 list

Siloam Springs has been named one of the Best Small Towns in America, KNWA News has reported. *Smithsonian* magazine names the Northwest Arkansas city among the Top 20 cities with a population less than 25,000. A close proximity to historic sites, museums, gardens and live music are among the reasons Siloam Springs made the list. Other cities making the list include Great Barrington, Mass.; Taos, N.M.; Princeton and Red Bank, N.J.; Mill Valley and Laguna Beach, Calif.; Gig Harbor, Wash.; Durango, Colo.; Butler, Pa.; Marfa, Texas; Naples and Key West, Fla.; Staunton, Va.; Brattleboro, Vt.; Brunswick, Maine; Menomonie, Wis.; Ashland, Ore.; and Beckley City, W.Va.

Drones free to fly North Little Rock skies

The North Little Rock Police Department is among more than 50 non-military organizations that have asked for and received permission to fly drone aircraft to do surveillance within the United States, the *Vancouver Sun* has reported. Agencies across the country, from the FBI to local police, were given permission to deploy the unmanned aircraft.

The figures from the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a civil liberties group that aims to defend Americans from digital snooping by government, showed that agencies such as the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice had been cleared to launch drones.

Police chiefs in North Little Rock, Miami and Seattle are among those cleared by the Federal Aviation Authority to launch drones within their jurisdictions. Applications were also approved to use drones for collecting information over wildfires and for monitoring wildlife.

In most cases, the drones are tiny compared to the military models. And they are far cheaper to operate than manned aircraft.

A spokesman for the North Little Rock Police told the *Wall Street Journal* that it was only using its unmanned helicopter for training over unpopulated areas but hoped to fly it above crime-ridden neighborhoods and use it to gather intelligence for major drug cases.

In one of the few examples of an application being rejected, the FAA refused to sign off on a request by campus police at the Georgia Institute of Technology, a force tasked with protecting and keeping order among the university's 20,000 students. In response to the revelation, both Democrats and Republicans in Congress last week wrote to the FAA demanding that it take into account privacy concerns before approving deployments.

Fayetteville, Fort Smith make least expensive list

Fayetteville and Fort Smith have made a list of America's least expensive cities, the *State Journal-Register* has reported. The *Kiplinger* finance newsletter ranked cities across the nation based on average costs for housing, utilities, food, transportation and other factors. The top 10 least expensive cities in order of least expensive were: Brownsville, Texas; Pueblo, Colo.; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Smith, Ark.; Sherman, Texas; Waco, Texas; Fayetteville, Ark.; Austin, Texas; and Springfield, Mo.

ECONomy



Litter-free neighborhoods promote pride *and* growth. Business and industry prefer to create jobs in clean communities. Keep Arkansas clean. Make it **SHINE**.



Putting “comprehensive” back in planning: demographic analysis

By Jim von Tungeln

Urban planning faces strange pressures these days. One line of thought advocates no governmental control over urban life whatsoever. We might call it “The Somalia Model.”

Another group swears that good urban design can cure all urban ills. Then there is the “a regulation for every thought” crowd. What is the poor elected official who is attempting to initiate a planning program to make of it all? What is the best approach?

Maybe it is time that we put the word “comprehensive” back into planning. There will always be the need to focus on specific areas within the urban fabric, but perhaps we should first look at the broad vision of our city and then narrow our focus. Back in the day, we called this a “breadth and depth” approach. It means that the first look is quite broad but not too deep. As the breadth diminishes, the depth increases.

In the broad view of planning, we can look at the entire planning area of our community, which can extend as far as five miles. Why should local officials be concerned about an area this large? Beyond the need for planning beyond the corporate limits, particularly transportation planning, there are two other reasons.

First, there is the provision that existing cities have veto power against the incorporation of new cities within five miles of their existing city limits. Due to a recent change in legislation, this privilege only exists if the area contemplating incorporation lies within the existing city’s planning area.

Second, after years of hard work by the Arkansas Municipal League, it is now more difficult for rural water associations to form in areas adjacent to existing cities. Again, this protection only exists for areas within the existing city’s recorded planning area boundary.

Then there are the numbers. Our state is largely urban. Most of the population lives within or near a city. My associate, James Walden, selected a city at random and looked at the city population and that of the adjoining area. Results appear on the accompanying graphic. The total population more than doubled when he included the entire five-mile area. It is good to know how many people depend upon your city for their needs. It also proves useful to know the characteristics of the population. If it is a younger population, jobs and

schools will be important. An older population will be less interested in schools, perhaps to the point of opposing tax increases for them.

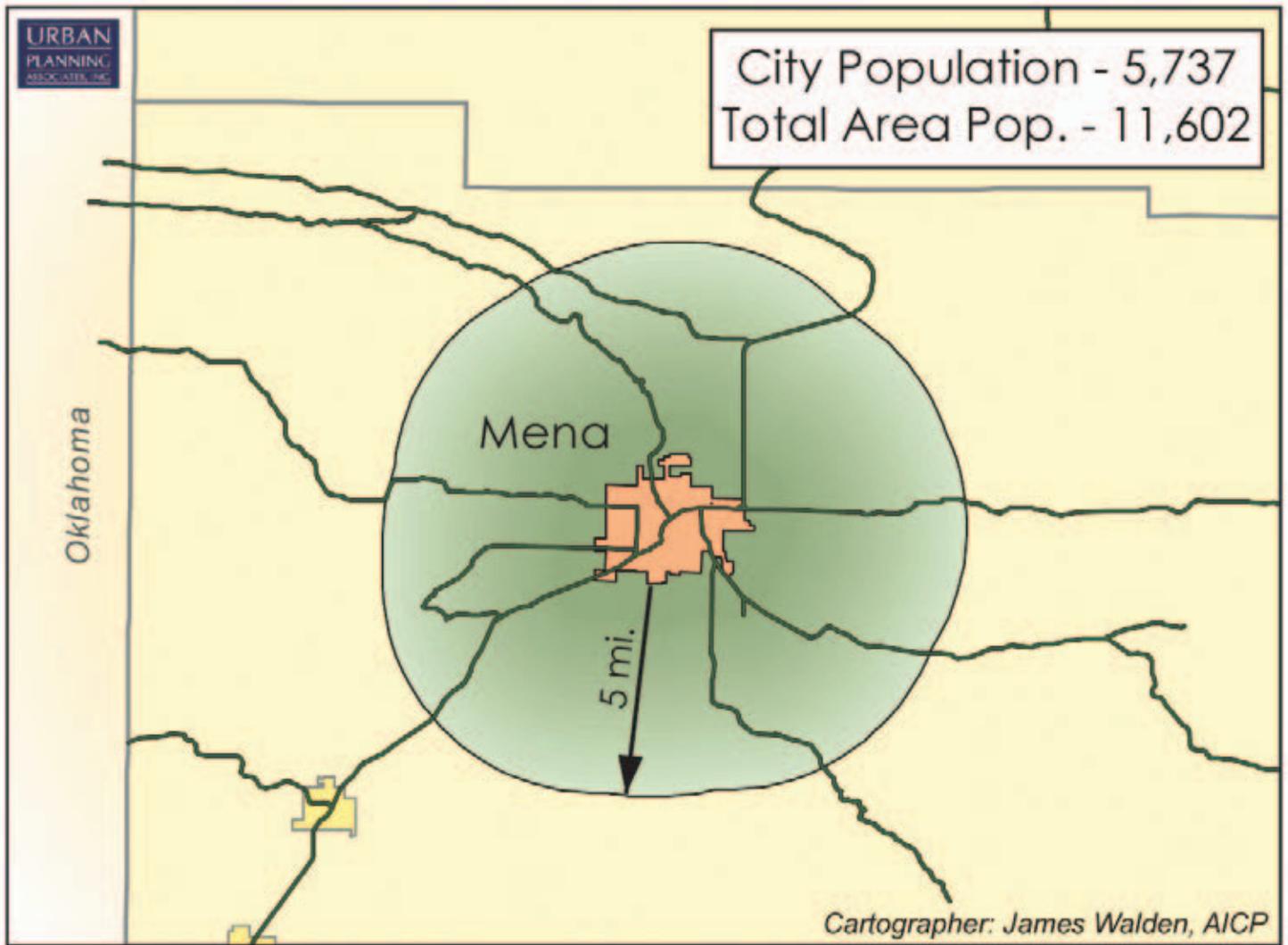
Likewise, an older population may not show much interest in active recreational areas, preferring passive park sites. In one city that we analyzed recently, the city population was older, while the surrounding population was quite young and active users of the city’s sports facilities. They supported the construction of those facilities through their payment of sales tax within the city. Sales tax elections for recreational development, however, were more difficult to pass.

Is this type information valuable for policy formation? You bet. It also proves valuable to know the purchasing power of the population base as compared with the type of public services that base will require. This leads directly to the need for the type of housing needed to accommodate that base and keep it from migrating away.

A valuable tool for analysis is the market itself. As much as we profess to admire the private market, we can ignore it at times. Nowhere is this more evident than when professionals within the housing industry demonstrate a need for rental property only to encounter resistance from existing residents.

The prediction of population growth can prove problematic, particularly for smaller communities. A review of old plan documents indicates that we are wrong more often than we are right. If someone were to collect all the population projections from the urban plans prepared in the 1960s in our state, they would provide more entertainment than factual data. For a real hoot, check out some of the population projections made to justify large public work projects. They inevitably, and quite miraculously, match the number needed to make the project work.

An effective demographic analysis involves studying the trends in the population. There are limits to what cities can do to influence those trends. For example, what city government can control where an interstate highway will locate or what requirements a federal judge might impose on local governments? Either might greatly influence the city’s growth without regard for the feelings of local officials.



Taking a random city, we can see that including the population of the surrounding five miles more than doubles the population of the city alone. This is the population that may depend on your city for daily needs or services.

What can we learn from trend analysis? If a city is not growing or losing population, trend analysis might identify what segment of the population chooses to remain in the community and why. What are the assets that attract and keep the existing residents and how can we nurture those assets?

If a city sees rapid population growth, trend analysis might tell us how the characteristics of the new residents differ from those who have lived in the city for years. In either case, such analysis should help form our development policies.

Where can we go for help? The Arkansas Institute for Economic Advancement provides demographic data at www.aiea.ualr.edu. The Census Bureau has

information readily available at www.quickfacts.census.gov. There are also private sources that will compile data customized to fit the client's specific need. No matter what the source, do not leave demographic analysis out of your planning process.



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.

Organizations in state exist to help

By Chad Gallagher

When it comes to pursuing outside resources for funding through grant programs, there is a certain knowledge base that must come with the skills you develop. Making grant writing a successful part of your community development efforts requires planning, organization, a thoughtful approach to writing, intelligent budgeting and much more. Developing a winning proposal is real work, but the beauty is it can be done by anyone. The thing that shocks me the most when visiting municipalities across the state is the lack of awareness of some of the help and resources that are available to our cities and towns. Here are several organizations that provide assistance, guidance and camaraderie.

Winrock International

Winrock is an amazing organization devoted to empowering others. This commitment finds them working hard day in and day out on business and community projects. Endowed by the generosity of the late Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller, Winrock has developed into a powerhouse of change making a positive difference across the globe. Beautifully though, they still call Arkansas home and are actively working through various programs to help develop new businesses, strengthen entrepreneurs and enrich the efforts of communities and nonprofits. With Arkansans like Annette Pagan, Linsley Kinkade, Tom Dalton and Ted Dickey at Winrock, you can be confident that they are working hard to help Arkansas. Learn more at www.winrock.org.

UCA Community Development Institute

The University of Central Arkansas has developed a first class program for community development. The three-year program is designed for capacity building for individuals and communities. The program runs one week a year over three years. It is a fantastic opportunity to roll up your sleeves and focus on sharpening your skills as a community leader. The program also lends itself to building strong relationships with fellow attendees from whom you can draw strength and ideas for years to come. Learn more at www.uca.edu/cdi.

UALR Institute for Economic Advancement

The Institute for Economic Advancement is a great program located in the heart of our capital city. On more than one project I have worked personally with Mark

Goodman at the Institute and found their team knowledgeable, helpful and eager to serve. They provide economic research and analysis, professional development and training, and technical assistance. Their services put web development within reach for communities, they offer great one-day workshops on various topics and are a reservoir of much needed research and data for Arkansas communities. Go to www.aiea.ualr.edu for more information.

These three are all strong organizations, but they are not the only ones that are helpful. Cities should also be familiar with their local planning and development districts. These organizations have staff who are well versed in a wide variety of community development projects, especially capital projects, and can provide assistance and consultation on many of the things you may be considering doing. When I was first became a mayor I found Kathy Lee, who was then at the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District, to be an invaluable source of help.

Additionally, there is great help and support found within our state agencies to help you with projects that would fall into their purview. For example, Greg Phillips at Main Street Arkansas, Butch Calhoun at Rural Development, Mike Chandler at Arkansas Natural Resources and many others are continually working on projects in communities across the state. These are important relationships to develop.

Above all, don't forget the services available to you through the Arkansas Municipal League. As a League partner, Legacy Consulting will help you with your community development and grant efforts. Beyond this you will learn that the League is the go-to place for all municipal challenges. Chances are you can't have a crisis that Don Zimmerman hasn't navigated through before, and Mark Hayes can quote more municipal law from memory than most will ever know in a lifetime. Taking advantage of these many great organizations, partnering, collaborating and accessing this good counsel will give you a leg up in pursuing grants.



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

Fairs & Festivals

May 11-12, **KINGSTON**, 30th Kingston Fair on the Square, 870-420-3731, mistymtn@ritternet.com; **VAN BUREN**, Old Timer's Days, 479-410-3026, www.vanburen.org

May 12, **BLYTHEVILLE**, Mayfest, 870-763-2525, www.mainstreetblytheville.com; **HORSESHOE BEND**, 26th Dogwood Days, 870-670-5433, www.cityofhorseshoebend.org

May 17-19, **PARAGOULD**, Loose Caboose Festival XXIII, 870-240-0544, www.loosecaboose.net

May 18-19, **ATKINS**, 21st Picklefest, 479-970-5801, atkinspicklefest@yahoo.com; **DERMOTT**, 29th Dermott Crawfish Festival, 870-538-5656, dermottchamber@sbcglobal.net; **HARRISON**, 22nd Crawdad Days Festival, 870-741-2659, www.harrison-chamber.com; **MAGNOLIA**, 24th Magnolia Blossom Festival and World Championship Steak Cook-off, 870-234-4352, www.blossomfestival.org; **TYRONZA**, 10th Stars & Stripes Festival, 870-487-2168, cityoftyronza@ritternet.com

May 24-27, **AUGUSTA**, 15th Augusta Days, 870-347-6457, www.augustaar.org

May 26, **GILLETT**, Heritage Days, 870-548-2634, arkansaspostmuseum@arkansas.com; **MOUNT IDA**, 24th Mount Ida Good Ole Days, 870-867-2723, www.mtidachamber.com; **NASHVILLE**, 21st Dinosaur Festival, 870-845-7405, www.nashar.org

June 1-2, **DES ARC**, 27th Steamboat Days, 870-256-5289, dasteam@yahoo.com; **MENA**, 35th Lum & Abner Festival, 479-394-8355, www.visitmena.com; **NEWPORT**, 31st Portfest, 870-523-3618, director@newportarchamber.org

June 2, **BERRYVILLE**, 27th Ice Cream Social, 870-423-3704, www.berryvillear.com; **GASSVILLE**, 10th Gassville in the Park Festival, 870-430-5300, gassvilleinthepark@gmail.com; **HARRISBURG**, Festival on the Ridge, 870-578-4104, www.harrisburgchamber.com; **LAVACA**, 2nd Lavaca Berry Festival, 479-739-2482, www.lavacachamber.com; **PRESCOTT**, 26th Chicken and Egg Festival, 870-887-2101, www.pnpartnership.org

June 8-9, **GLENWOOD**, 2nd Caddo River Festival, 870-356-5266, www.glenwoodarkansaschamber.com; **WYNNE**, 36th Farm Fest, 870-238-4183, www.crosscountychamber.com

June 14-16, **SMACKOVER**, 41st Oil Town Festival, 870-725-3521, www.smackoverar.com

CALENDAR

**Arkansas Municipal League
78th Annual Convention
Wednesday-Friday
June 20-22, 2012
Hot Springs, AR**

**National League of Cities
2012 Congress of Cities and Exposition
Boston, Massachusetts
November 28 - December 1, 2012**

Farmington ready to play ball at new complex



PHOTO BY ANDREW MORGAN

Farmington Parks and Recreation Director Jenna Innis, left, and Mayor Ernie Penn, right, stand at home plate on one of the new Farmington Sports Complex's six ball fields.

Farmington's youth baseball and softball players have a new park in which to swing for the fences. The Farmington Sports Complex is on 18 acres on the south side of the city. The complex includes six fields for baseball and softball, a playground area, a walking trail and concessions. The city celebrated with a grand opening on April 22 featuring a park dedication, music, and food. Just days before, the complex hosted its first tournament, with more than 50 teams participating.

As youth participation in baseball and softball has grown in Farmington, the few existing, mediocre ball-parks became increasingly inadequate. Dozens of teams were forced to share just a couple of fields. Both girls' and boys' teams had to share a single tee ball field, and the older boys' teams had to share a field with the high school team.

"They couldn't play on it until the high school team got through playing on it, so it was an interesting challenge," Penn said.

With more than 600 young ball players in Farmington, scheduling seasons and tournaments was beyond difficult.

"It was a nightmare," Penn said.

Talk of building a new complex of fields began about 10 years ago, but the city really got the ball rolling in about 2008, the mayor said. The city initially wanted to build the complex with charitable donations, but the donations didn't come. City leaders then regrouped and asked local businesses and citizens to consider a one-cent temporary sales tax for the park. There were those who spoke out against the tax. It was a battle, the mayor said.

"The agin'ers basically were people who were, number one, against taxes, and second, they didn't have any kids in the program and didn't really care," Penn said. "Also they thought we had financial reserves which could pay for the whole complex."

In 2010, supporters of the complex prevailed, narrowly, at the polls. The measure passed 641 to 602. Penn hopes the city will be able to pay off the \$2.2 million complex in about four years instead of the projected six.



PHOTO COURTESY LYNN KUTTER, WASHINGTON COUNTY ENTERPRISE-LEADER

Farmington youth ballplayers and supporters cut the ribbon at the complex's April 22 grand opening.

Animal rescue groups honored



From left, North Little Rock's Director of Commerce and Government Affairs Joe Smith and City Clerk/Collector Diane Whitbey present Polly Potter and Judy Goodwin of the Madison County Pet Shelter with a check. They were one of several animal rescue groups presented checks for their outstanding work during the Northshore Animal League's Annual Fall Tour For Life stop in North Little Rock on Tuesday, April 17. Other groups receiving checks at the event included the Fairfield Bay Animal Protection League and the Izard County Animal Rescue Effort. In addition to finding "forever homes" for animals, Northshore and the other participating animal groups promote spay and neuter programs, which are essential in the effort to control the unwanted animal population. As part of the effort to educate the public, Arkansas now offers a spay and neuter specialty license plate. North Little Rock Friends of Animals, Inc., receives \$25 for each plate issued and renewed. Northshore's tour stop also featured microchip and rabies shot offers, drawings for free sterilizations, and a demonstration of dog training tips (right). For more information, contact North Little Rock Animal Control Director Billy Grace at 501-791-8577, or North Little Rock City Clerk/Collector Diane Whitbey at 501-340-5317.



Drug testing: Benefit or cost?

By Judy Sims, CEO

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2012

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

In the nearly 25 years that I have been involved in the drug and alcohol testing industry, many changes have occurred. Testing panels have changed to include more drugs with lowered detection levels, random selection methodologies have been restricted to computer generations, the custody and control forms used to conduct the tests have been modified, and alternative testing methods have come on the scene. "Quick testing" involving urine or saliva, hair tests, lab-based saliva, sweat, fingernail testing, and more have all been introduced.

When I began my career, just about all testing was lab-based urine testing, and this is still the only testing permitted in federal testing. Over the years, however, alternative testing has become prevalent in non-federal employment testing. But not all drug testing is equivalent to the lab-based urine testing. Not all quick tests are equally reliable, and all must be considered only a screen, with lab confirmation of non-negatives being essential.

There are many issues to consider when choosing the type of drug testing needed. It can become mind boggling to keep up to date with state and federal testing requirements and with changes in the drug testing industry. This is why employers need to contract with a third party administrator (TPA) like a'TEST to assist in managing their testing programs.

Studies abound showing costs associated with drug testing can be a benefit to your company. Employers see savings in reduced absenteeism, lowered workers' compensation and medical claims, and less employee turnover and theft. The price of a drug test is minimal compared to potential losses.

The Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission's Voluntary Drug-Free Workplace Program assists employers with the expenses associated with drug testing by encouraging insurance providers to give up to a 5 percent discount to companies and organizations that implement an approved testing program. These savings often offset most employers testing costs. Our company can help you complete the discount application form, assist with the required training, and help with the implementation of your program.

a'TEST is a female-owned business with a long history in the drug testing industry. The company was recognized as the "Business of the Year" in 1992 by the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce. As CEO, I had a legislative appointment to the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council for two successive three-year terms, while Jeff Sims served on the board of directors and then as president of SAPAA (the national Substance Abuse

Professional Administrators Association). Jeff is a C-SAPA, C-SI certification holder (the highest in our industry) and has conducted international training programs, testified before a congressional hearing on drug abuse issues, and served as a trainer for the White House Office of Drug Control Policy.

There are three a'TEST offices located in North Little Rock, Searcy and Conway. Each office can provide 24/7 coverage for post-accident testing. We have clients from all over the United States and even into Canada, so we network with medical facilities to serve clients outside the central Arkansas area. If you want quality drug testing program management, call 800-837-8648 to inquire about testing services. Our staff will welcome your call.

U.S. sees downward trend in cocaine use

Since the recent death of singer Whitney Houston, cocaine has been in the news. The drug was linked to her untimely death. Cocaine still remains a public health issue in the United States; however, levels of its use have dropped significantly in the past few years.

The number and percentage of persons aged 12 or older who were current cocaine users:

- In 2005 (1.0%) 2.4 million
- In 2006 (1.0%) 2.4 million
- In 2007 (0.8%) 2.1 million
- In 2008 (0.7%) 1.9 million
- In 2009 (0.7%) 1.6 million
- In 2010 (0.6%) 1.5 million

The study was conducted by the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health and is available for review at: www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH.aspx. Cocaine, a white powdery substance, is an insidious drug that can lead to addiction, sometimes after the first use. Users say the first high was so good, that they want to have it again. To get the same high, the dose must increase—and that's the problem. It is good news to see cocaine use declining.



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 required drug testing for all holders of commercial drivers' licenses.



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Our cities' green infrastructure

By Kim J. Hesse

Trees set the boundary of our horizons, challenge our perceptions, inspire our art and give us comfort. The forests, both rural and urban, have been a part of our lives and a factor of our memories since childhood. Whether we are aware or not, trees are a major component of everyday life just as the roads on which we drive and the buildings in which we work and live. For those of us who work and live in the city, the system of trees, shrubs and associated vegetation is as much a part of the city's infrastructure as water, sewer, streets and storm drainage. This system, sometimes referred to as green infrastructure, provides benefits that enhance our daily lives and is known as our urban forest.

The urban forest provides us with aesthetic, functional and economic blessings. Trees provide cityscape ornamentation, their organic forms complimenting the hard lines of buildings and softening the impact of large paved parking lots. As natural parasols, trees provide physiological comfort, their canopies shading streets, sidewalks, plazas, lawns and gardens. With dense foliage, trees act as natural screens to dissipate noise, block

winds and provide privacy. And trees are critical to the natural environment, absorbing moisture and carbon dioxide while emitting oxygen. Trees serve as habitat for urban wildlife as they contribute to soil and water conservation. They slow down the rate of runoff and erosion since rain falling on forested land is intercepted and absorbed by the vast surface area of tree foliage. Trees also act as soil stabilizers with their netted root systems and retain groundwater reducing the impact to our sewer treatment facility.

On the scale of an entire city, substantial tree cover can have a significant economic influence. Many studies have shown that the urban forest has tangible benefits that can be measured in dollars and cents. A well-shaded city needs less electricity for summer cooling. The natural process of transpiration further cools the air temperature reducing harsh northern winds, winter heating costs are also reduced increasing energy conservation. And appraisers have long recognized the important contribution of trees to real estate values. Studies by the National Association of Home Builders have shown that landscaping with trees is associated with an increase of



PHOTO BY JOHN SLATER.

Our urban forests, as seen here at Little Rock's riverfront park, are an important component of the infrastructure in our cities and towns.

5 percent to as much as 15 percent in the sale price of homes. Conversely, a tree planted in the wrong location can cost taxpayers money. Tree species known to have invasive root systems can damage sidewalks, streets, water and sewer lines, and clog storm drains. Species that produce messy fruit can stain sidewalks, and some types of tree sap attract insects and can damage the paint on vehicles. A healthy urban forest includes planting the right tree in the right place.

With proper management, the benefits of trees can increase over time and the negative consequences can be reduced. The urban forest should be regarded as a commodity that requires nurturing. Trees in the urban setting command human intervention to thrive due to the harsh environment. Inventories are required to determine a needs assessment establishing where trees should receive maintenance and to develop a master plan for future plantings. For an urban forestry program to be successful, it must be supported both at the government level and at the public level.

Our city government in Fayetteville has made steps toward an urban forestry program with ordinances for tree preservation and landscaping requirements on commercial, industrial and multi-family housing developments. With the creation of the Landscape Administrator position and provisions for a maintenance crew, the program is on its way. But the city's obligation to the urban forest is only a small part of the overall picture. The trees within your own yards make up the largest percentage of the urban forest. As stewards of the environment, private property owners have a tremendous impact on the overall health of the urban forest and therefore the health of the city by planting and caring for your own trees.

The future of tree-shaded streets and parks, cleaner water and air, reduced energy consumption, and an overall healthy urban forest depends upon each of us playing our part as good stewards. The urban forest is a vital part of our overall environment and an essential factor in a healthy ecosystem. Be aware of the value of trees, support the care and planting of trees on public land, donate your own time towards citizen tree planting programs like Neighborwoods, or start your own neighborhood tree planting effort.



Kim J. Hesse, RLA, is a partner at Engineering Design Associates, PA (www.eda-pa.com), in Springdale. Contact Kim at 479-756-1266.



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City website a team effort

By Atherton Hiatt

Starting a new website for the city or a redesign of the present site requires a committee to be responsible for the site. They will need to be seriously interested in, and committed to, the creation and success of the site. Remember, their interest cannot be a veneer applied simply because they were appointed to the committee.

Characteristics of the website committee

As you can imagine, if you have five committee members, you will have five different opinions on most issues. Therefore, the committee needs to be a mix of personality types that can respect differences of opinion. Most opinions have a valid perspective even if it is not the decisive perspective. A contributing factor to their differences will be the way they view data, people, and things. Some folks prefer to work with data while others work with people or things. Each area of the website will need the emphasis of one or more of these points of view. When you talk about quality of life issues, a blend of numbers and “feel good” qualitative components and perspectives are important. On the other hand, when business site locators are looking at your site, they need real data that is easily accessible and as in-depth as possible.

Stages of possibilities

The first stage is the committee’s consideration of the possibilities for the city website. This will begin with the committee reviewing other cities’ sites to get a sense of what areas could be included and which are critical to be included. It is a good idea to have potential areas ranked in order of importance. Next, they will want to develop a budget and a sense of how much they are willing to spend to get a website up and running.

People who design websites can provide the second stage of possibilities. These are the people who take your ideas and convert them into a graphical expression that is visually appealing and functions the way you envision it. The more experience they have the more help they can be in suggesting elements to include on the site and ways to implement it.

The final stage of possibilities is when you decide what your site will include and you ask a designer to give you a quote. To get the quote the committee needs to decide upon which examples of sites they have found that appeal to them, what colors they prefer, and the items of greatest import. The list should be made of your “have to have” items, your “really would like to have” items, and “it would be nice to have” items. The designer’s response will let you know what it costs to have each of these types of items based upon the graphical requirements of the site. At that point you are ready to request a formal proposal based on what you have decided you can afford.

What to expect from a proposal

There are a number of things you want the proposal to include. You should expect to have the possibility of at least two designs to choose from. The proposal should indicate how long it will take to come up with the initial design and how long you have to approve it. Virtually every design will need tweaking to your satisfaction. Allowance must be made for this tweaking; however, there should be an hourly limit after which an hourly rate will apply for additional tweaking.

Most sites today are designed within a content management system (CMS). The CMS gives you password-protected access to the content of your site. This gives you a great deal of flexibility for doing your own editing; however, it is a good idea to get some training on the system. The proposal should include two to four hours of training for at least two people who will have the main responsibility of updating the website. You can expect fixed hourly costs to be included for additional training and content changes done by the designer at your request once the site is live. Content changes done by the designer should be done in a timely manner (such as two business days). The proposal should also include a discounted hourly rate for significant changes done to the site after the site goes live. The proposal should spell out exactly what you have requested. It should be the equivalent of a site map. If you deviate from this, expect them to add charges.

The development site

Once you have accepted the proposal, a development site can begin. Designating it as a development site simply means it is under construction and not ready for prime time exposure to the world. The site is developing and evolving. This is where you will see the first graphical representation of your site. Once you have signed off on the design there are no more changes to the look and feel of the site. It is time for the content to be added. This is where the committee and editors must focus on getting the site done. The site can look great, but without meaningful content it is all fluff with little business application.

Every section of your site needs a designated content manager. Content managers are the folks on the city staff or chamber office responsible for updating and maintaining the many specific content areas on the site. Give someone from that area the authority to update the information. They may forward the changes to trained personnel, or with training they can do it themselves.

Get your training on the CMS early in the content phase of development. It is a great time to learn how to do real changes before the site goes live. It will also free you to go live with the site as early as possible. Remember, no matter how pretty it is until the site goes live the public cannot use it.

The Development Information Network of Arkansas (DINA) team within the Institute for Economic Advancement would be happy to offer advice and help you with your city site, including visiting with your committee in its early stages. Give us a call at 501-569-8519.



Atherton Hiatt is Web Administrator, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR.

Announcing...

The 2012-2013 Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program

The League's Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program continues in 2012 and 2013 with a series of seminars covering topics helpful to municipal leaders. The first round of seminars were a great success and drew capacity crowds to cover issues such as municipal finance and budgeting, personnel matters and municipal operations.

Who? For Arkansas mayors, city managers, city directors and aldermen.

What? The certification plan is voluntary, approved by the Executive Committee, and consists of 21 hours of core topics.

Why? To increase the knowledge of local officials on how cities and towns function and equip them with the leadership skills needed to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

When? The next two sessions are focused on the Best Practices for Municipal Procurement and the Role of Elected Officials in Economic Development. The sessions will be held June 20 and June 22 during the League's 78th Convention in Hot Springs.

Where? Hot Springs Convention Center

Schedule:

- Best Practices for Municipal Procurement—Wednesday, June 20 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Role of Elected Officials in Economic Development—Friday, June 22 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Seminar topics for the remainder of 2012 will be announced later this year.

*For those city officials who have completed the 21 hours of core curriculum, you must obtain 6 hours of continuing education to maintain your certification status. The required 6 hours may be gained by attending any combination of certification seminars offered at League headquarters, or the Annual Convention and Winter Conference through the 2012-2013 year.

For more information on the Certification Program, contact Ken Wasson at 501-374-3484 Ext. 211, or email kwasson@arml.org.



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Charlie Holland, ext. 242
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Changes to 2012 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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



Batesville Add	CE	Damon Johnson	Glenwood Delete	MTG	First Monday
			Add	MTG	First and Third Monday
Bluff City Delete	AL	Loritta Johnson	Guion Add	AL	Charles Williams
Add	AL	Pamela Purifoy			
Bryant Add	PLD	Dave Green	Harrison Delete	FC	Richard Webb
Delete	FC	Randy Cox	Add	FC	Marc Lowery
Add	FC	(Vacant)			
Cave City Delete	R/T	Krystal Barnt	Hartman Delete	M	Debra Davenport
Add	R/T	Krystal Schreiner	Add	M	Kenneth Slach
Chidester Delete	POP	289	Heber Springs Add	PD	Martha Garrett
Add	POP	287			
Clinton Delete	FC	Paul Maddox	Lake Village Delete	AL	Wilbert May
Add	FC	D.L. Webb	Add	AL	(Vacant)
Dermott Delete	POP	2,899	Minturn Delete	AL	Loyce Tinker
Add	POP	2,889	Add	AL	Vickie Romine
			Oakhaven Delete	AL	(Vacant)
			Add	AL	Stacy Adams

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS DIRECTORY CHANGES

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Obituaries

LONA ACKERMAN, 94, who served as mayor of Mountain View from 1971 to 1987, died April 30.

WILLIAM F. "CASEY" LAMAN, 98, died April 16. He served as mayor of North Little Rock from 1958 to 1972 and again from 1979 to 1980. Also, he served as League President in 1959.

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2012 Estimated State Turnback Funds

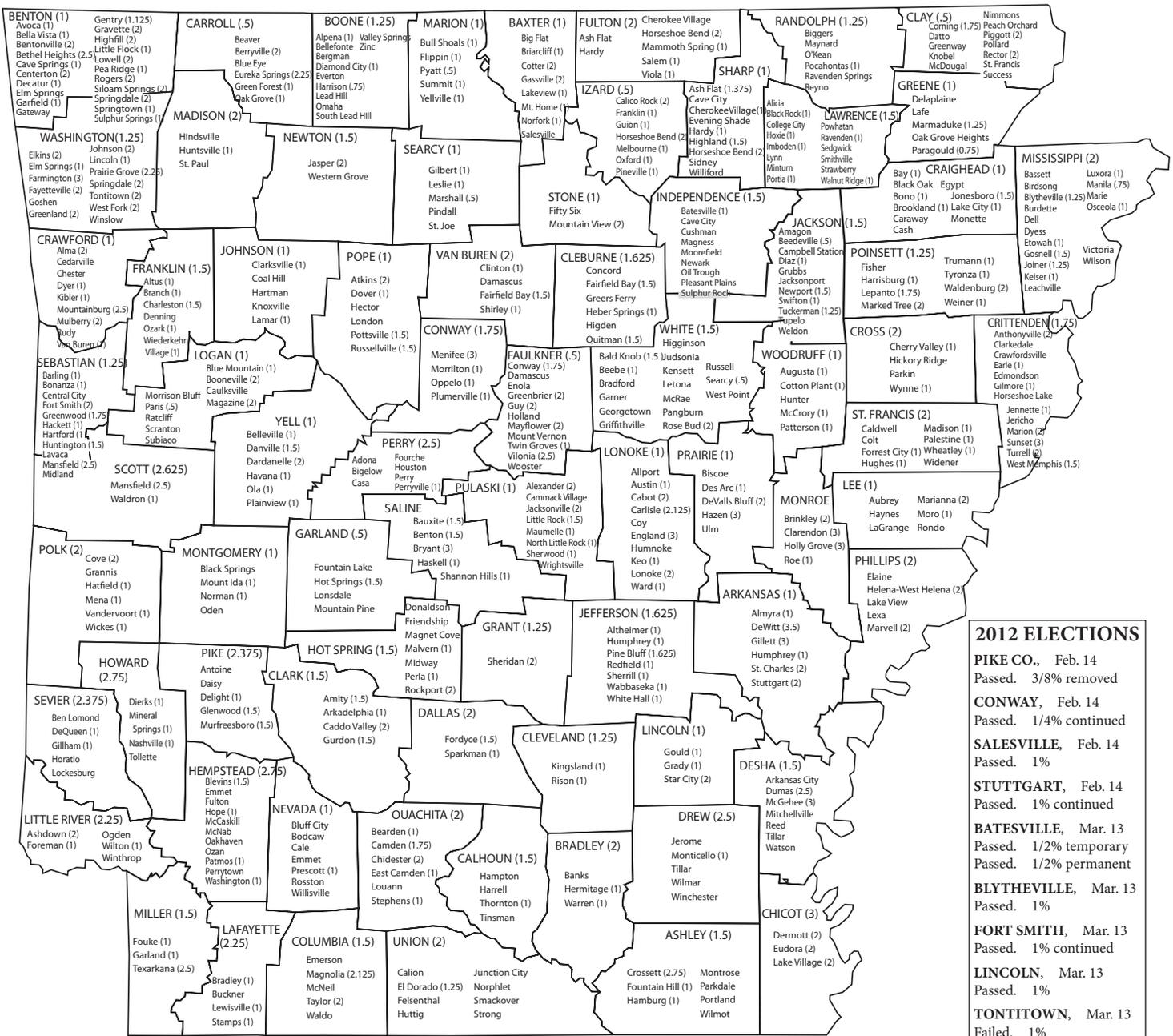
Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
January	\$3.572	\$3.479	\$0.329	\$0.286	\$3.344	\$3.134
February	\$4.020	\$3.780	\$0.291	\$0.258	\$1.070	\$1.01
March	\$3.216	\$3.252	\$0.373	\$0.431	\$1.000	\$1.01
April	\$3.368	\$3.463	\$0.375	\$0.270	\$1.000	\$1.00
May	\$3.703	\$-	\$0.346	\$-	\$0.990	\$-
June	\$3.676	\$-	\$0.341	\$-	\$1.010	\$-
July	\$3.662	\$-	\$0.363	\$-	\$2.900	\$-
August	\$3.818	\$-	\$0.412	\$-	\$1.010	\$-
September	\$3.732	\$-	\$0.395	\$-	\$1.010	\$-
October	\$3.531	\$-	\$0.402	\$-	\$1.010	\$-
November	\$3.512	\$-	\$0.393	\$-	\$0.920	\$-
December	\$3.284	\$-	\$0.376	\$-	\$1.010	\$-
Total Year	\$43.096	\$13.974	\$4.394	\$1.246	\$16.2736	\$6.146

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
January	\$6,297,470.92	\$6,537,582.03	\$578,646.75	\$537,347.01	* \$5,889,430.45	*\$5,889,623.14
February	\$7,080,721.02	\$7,103,104.25	\$511,874.74	\$485,627.91	\$1,889,837.05	\$1,889,245.23
March	\$6,041,952.97	\$6,111,822.72	\$699,895.94	\$809,523.74	\$1,878,361.11	\$1,889,603.23
April	\$6,328,001.75	\$6,508,820.12	\$704,744.69	\$508,320.37	\$1,883,619.31	\$1,882,530.42
May	\$6,957,111.57		\$650,134.81		\$1,860,445.27	
June	\$6,906,168.25		\$639,925.58		\$1,889,921.24	
July	\$6,879,119.02		\$682,553.18		** \$5,443,030.68	**
August	\$7,173,125.80		\$773,146.02		\$1,889,129.92	
September	\$7,011,103.63		\$741,466.34		\$1,890,081.33	
October	\$6,633,476.96		\$755,415.22		\$1,890,081.33	
November	\$6,597,419.28		\$738,267.62		\$1,734,293.45	
December	\$6,170,333.10		\$706,663.00		\$1,890,081.33	
Total Year	\$80,076,004	\$26,261,329.12	\$8,182,733.89	\$2,340,819.03	\$30,028,312	11,551,002.02

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

** Includes \$ supplemental in July

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



2012 ELECTIONS

PIKE CO., Feb. 14
Passed. 3/8% removed

CONWAY, Feb. 14
Passed. 1/4% continued

SALESVILLE, Feb. 14
Passed. 1%

STUTT GART, Feb. 14
Passed. 1% continued

BATESVILLE, Mar. 13
Passed. 1/2% temporary
Passed. 1/2% permanent

BLYTHEVILLE, Mar. 13
Passed. 1%

FORT SMITH, Mar. 13
Passed. 1% continued

LINCOLN, Mar. 13
Passed. 1%

TONTITOWN, Mar. 13
Failed. 1%

DEWITT, April 10
Passed. 1.5%

MELBOURNE, April 10
Passed. 1%

Source: Debbie Rogers, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2012 with 2011 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$37,846,866	\$35,123,247	\$37,289,267	\$35,666,555	\$75,136,134	\$70,789,802	\$12,533	\$27,640
February	\$46,523,853	\$42,235,810	\$44,592,756	\$42,753,266	\$91,116,609	\$84,989,076	\$22,619	\$34,351
March	\$40,360,002	\$33,606,662	\$36,819,087	\$34,174,199	\$77,179,089	\$67,780,861	\$13,222	\$35,321
April	\$41,324,697	\$35,244,719	\$37,882,489	\$35,257,864	\$79,207,186	\$70,502,583	\$27,247	\$23,355
Total	\$166,055,418	\$146,210,438	\$156,583,599	\$147,851,884	\$322,639,018	\$294,062,322	\$75,621	\$120,667
Averages	\$41,513,855	\$36,552,610	\$39,145,900	\$36,962,971	\$80,659,755	\$73,515,581	\$18,905	\$30,167

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ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF—Bentonville is seeking an Assistant Fire Chief. Under the general direction of the Fire Chief, assists the Chief in planning, directing, supervising, and coordinating all the activities and services of the fire department, including fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical, Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), and other services relating to the protection of lives and property. Also, in the absence of the fire Chief, serves as the City's Emergency Management Coordinator. Performs these duties either directly or through subordinate supervisors. A complete job description is available to applicants upon request. Hiring salary range is \$59,987 - \$75,523, DOE and qualifications. Qualified applicants will have successfully served as Battalion Chief or higher over a multi-station fire department (3 or more stations) of full-time firefighters with an EMS service/ responsibility (paramedics) for a minimum of 5 years and have 15 or more years of firefighting experience in full-time fire departments, with increasing levels of leadership and responsibility. Must be willing and able to serve 10+ years before normal retirement eligibility. Must be a licensed paramedic with 10+ years of experience and able to relocate (if necessary) within 60 days of receiving a job offer. It is highly desired that candidates have a Bachelor's in Management, Public Admin. or a related field; an Associate's Deg. in Fire Science, Fire Management or a related field; and be a graduate of the National Fire Academy.

To apply, pick up an application at City Hall or access an application online at www.bentonvillear.com. Completed applications & resumes can be mailed to: City of Bentonville, Attn: HR, 117 West Central Avenue, Bentonville, AR 72712; or fax to 479-271-5913; or email to ewheeler@bentonvillear.com. Open until filled. EOE.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR—Caney, Kan., seeks a City Administrator. For city information, visit www.caney.com/City_Main.html. Bachelor's degree required, Masters preferred. Ideal candidates should have 3+ years of municipal-management and budgeting experience. Accessibility, strong organizational skills, grant writing experience, and communication skills required. Salary DOQ. Send cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references to LEAPS-Caney, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS, 66603. EOE. Open until filled. Application review begins May 7.

CITY ENGINEER—Norman, Okla., is seeking a new City Engineer. Visit www.governmentresource.com for complete position profile. To apply, email resume and cover letter to Bill Peterson, Senior Vice President, Executive Search, Strategic Government Resources, Bill@GovernmentResource.com, 479-450-4442.

EXPERIENCED LICENSED CLAIMS REPRESENTATIVE—The Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust is seeking an individual with a minimum of 3 years experience handling lost time cases in the State of Arkansas. Applicants must have an Arkansas adjuster's license. Send resume to Assistant Director, Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust, P.O. Box 37, North Little Rock, AR 72115. Salary negotiable.

FOR SALE—Marmaduke has for sale two 1997 Ford Crown Victoria police cars. One has 69K miles, asking \$10,500. The other has 39.5K miles, asking \$12,500. Both slick top, equipped with full light bar in front and back windshield, console with siren box and light control box. Both have bush bumpers and strobe lights in front and rear. Both run and drive well. Call Chief Steve Franks at 870-597-2020 or 870-597-2753.

FOR SALE—Rison has for sale a 2002 Dodge Durango. 140K miles. Good shape, white, good tires, front bumper guard. Asking \$4,000 OBO from another police agency. Call 870-325-6381 or email cityofrison@tds.net for pictures.

FINANCE DIRECTOR—Harrison is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Finance Director. Under the direction of the mayor, this position is responsible for managing and directing the financial affairs of the city, including the functions of accounting, payroll, accounts payable, utility billing and collection, and treasury management. This position is further responsible for the preparation and administration of the municipal budget and annual audit process. This position requires a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from a four-year college or university, and five years related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience, and four years of managerial experience—governmental accounting experience preferred. Salary range: \$50,000-\$65,000, depending on experience and qualifications. Benefits include vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, APERS retirement, health insurance as well as dental, vision, and life insurance. For a complete list of duties, visit website at www.cityofharrison.com. Apply in person at the City of Harrison, Mayor's Office, 116 S. Spring, Harrison, AR 72601; submit resume and cover letter to City of Harrison, Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 1715, Harrison, AR 72602; or email admin@cityofharrison.com.

FINANCE DIRECTOR—Siloam Springs is accepting applications for a Finance Director. Under the direction of the City Administrator, this position is responsible for managing and directing the financial affairs of the city including the functions of accounting, payroll, accounts payable, utility billing and collection, and treasury management. This position is further responsible for the preparation and administration of the municipal budget and annual audit process. This position requires a minimum of a Bachelor's in Financial Management. Certification as a CPA or CGFO are preferred but not required. The successful candidate's background should include five years or more of financial management experience in a municipal entity with significant supervisory or management experience. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license, submit to a background check, and be willing to relocate.

Salary Range: \$65,289 - \$84,816. The city offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave.

The city requires a completed application be submitted for all positions. Applications are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, AR; or can be accessed online at www.siloamsprings.com. For further information call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. Open until filled. EOE.

FIRE CHIEF—Bryant is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Fire Chief. Under the direction of the mayor, this position plans, directs, and coordinates activities of a fire department, including fire prevention and suppression, emergency medical services, disaster planning, and hazardous material mitigation by performing the following duties personally or through subordinate supervisors. Position requires a broad knowledge of such fields as advanced accounting, marketing, business administration, and finance. Position further requires an equivalent to four years of college, plus 11 to 15 years related, experience and/or training, and 11 to 15 years related

management experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience. This position requires the following certifications, licenses, and registrations: Valid Arkansas driver's license or a valid driver's license recognized by the State of Arkansas, Arkansas Fire Training Academy certification to the level of Firefighter II or equivalent, Arkansas EMT-B certification, HAZMAT Operations Certification, National Fire Academy Chief Fire Officer Certification, and National Fire Academy Fire Arson Investigator Certification.

Salary range: \$63,729 to \$79,661 DOE and qualifications. Benefits include vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, LOPFI retirement, health insurance as well as dental, vision, and life insurance. A position description can be obtained online at www.cityofbryant.com. Apply in person at the City of Bryant, Human Resources Department, 210 SW 3rd Street, Bryant, AR 72202; or on the city website. For additional information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 501-847-5559. Position closes May 25.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR—Heber Springs is accepting applications for a Public Works Director. Under the direction of the Mayor, the Public Works Director is responsible for managing and directing the day to day operations of the workers to include trash collecting/recycling, minor repairs of vehicles, cleaning ditches and streets. Responsible for annual budget review and keeping within this budget. Responsible for all supervisory functions including evaluat-

ing, disciplining, completing timecards. Experience in public works or related field preferred with 3 years of managerial experience preferred. Salary DOE. Benefits include vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, APERS retirement, health insurance as well as dental, vision and life insurance. Apply in person at the City of Heber Springs, Mayor's office, 1001 W. Main St., Heber Springs, AR 72543. Submit resume and cover letter to City of Heber Springs, Attn: Human Resources, 1001 W. Main St., Heber Springs, AR 72543; or e-mail marthagarrett@suddenlinkmail.org

WASTEWATER OPERATOR—Menifee is accepting applications or proposals for Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Operator. Qualifications: HS Diploma or GED; Class I Operator's License with ability to obtain Class II License within one year. Must possess valid state driver's license. Wastewater Treatment Facility duties: submit discharge monitoring reports; coordinate with commercial laboratory for all required testing; maintain daily operating reports; maintain facility grounds and facility operation. Sewer Collection System Duties: maintain daily pump station operating reports, provide inspection of all residential/commercial sewer service connections, maintain collection system operation; approx. 20 hrs. per wk. Send proposal/resume to: Town of Menifee, Attn: Mayor Lee Smith, P.O. Box 38, Menifee, AR 72107, 501-354-0898. Applications taken until position filled.

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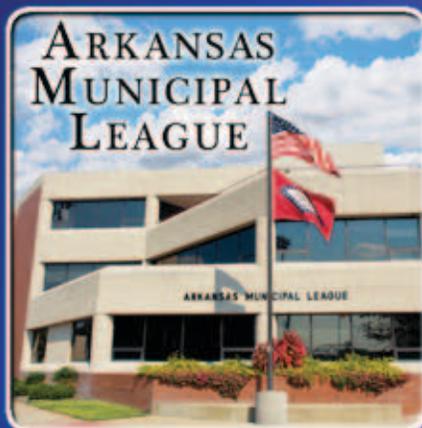
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Seated from left: Lindsey Ollar, Carey Smith, Dennis Hunt & Michele Casavechia

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