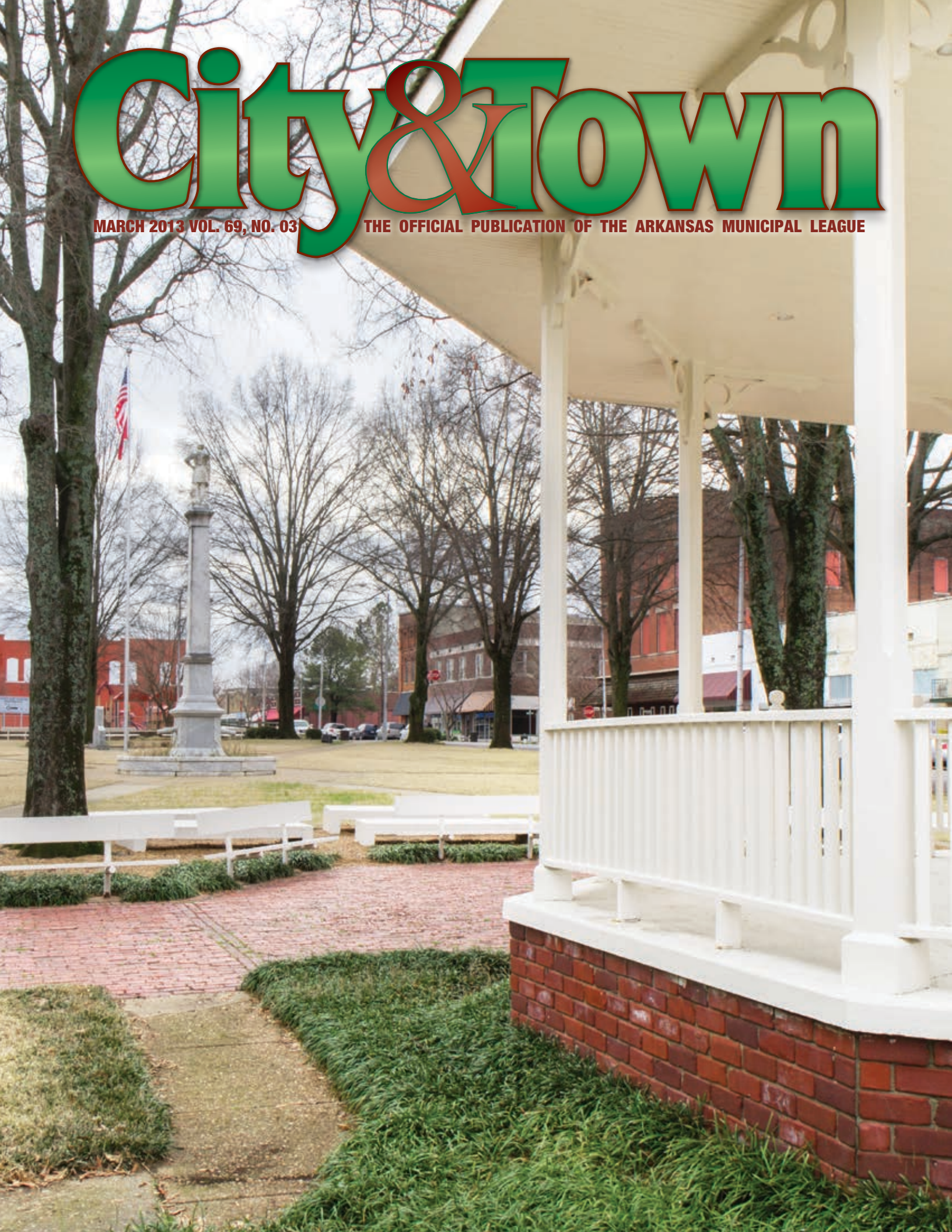


City & Town

MARCH 2013 VOL. 69, NO. 03

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



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FEATURES

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The new State Aid Street Committee has approved the first round of projects that meet the program criteria for cities and towns across the state.



ON THE COVER—The ongoing restoration of Marianna's historic downtown began with the building of the bandstand in the 1980s, and thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, the city is still making progress. Read about their efforts inside beginning on page 6. Read also about Gravette's historical museum, Jonesboro Police Department's new Quality of Life Unit, tips for effective leadership, and more. And check out the registration info for the fast-approaching 79th Annual Convention on page 14. Register early to save money.—atm

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Dear Friends:

The 89th General Assembly has been in session for approximately two months now, and it appears there is still a lot of work to be done. The Arkansas Municipal League has been very successful thus far in getting bills introduced that reflect our legislative agenda as adopted last June at our Annual Convention. A litany of bills has been introduced that will adversely affect the cities in our state, and League staff has been doing a great job in stopping them or at least slowing them down long enough to allow amendments to be filed to ease the negative impact. However, much still remains to be done. The staff would not be nearly as effective if it was not for you, our local elected officials, communicating with your legislators. Our executive director, Don Zimmerman, will continue to send out email blasts on legislation that we feel is harmful, as well as on legislation benefitting cities that we need to get passed. It is still critical that you reach out to your legislators when you hear from Don on these important issues. A reminder: You don't have to wait on Don to stay up-to-date on legislation; you can do it on your own by accessing the AML Legislative Bulletin online at www.arml.org.

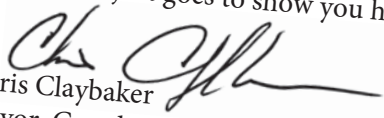


I would like to thank everyone who has taken an active role in your Municipal League by agreeing to serve on one of the Advisory Councils. Each one of the Advisory Councils has been busy, and they are set to meet again in April at League headquarters. The Advisory Councils and their meeting dates are: Combined meeting of Incorporated Towns and Second Class Cities, noon, Tuesday, April 9; First Class Cities, noon, Wednesday, April 10; Large First Class Cities, noon, Thursday, April 11; Public Safety, noon, Tuesday, April 16; and Economic Development, noon, Wednesday, April 17. I've had several people get in touch with me about wanting to get involved, and I was eager to appoint them to one of our Advisory Councils. It's still not too late to get involved. If you are interested in serving the League in some way, just contact Don Zimmerman or me and let us know of your interest, and we will make a place for you.

The new State Aid Street Committee held its third meeting on March 6 at the League. If you will remember, the committee is a result of the constitutional amendment that was passed in November establishing a 10-year, half-cent sales tax for roads and a permanent city state aid program for city streets. The committee was created in accordance with the provisions of ACA 27-72-413 and consists of nine mayors—three appointed by the Governor, three appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and three appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Those appointed include Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale; Mayor Jerry Boen, Lamar; Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock; Mayor Mike Gaskill, Paragould; Mayor JoAnne Bush, Lake Village; Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro; Mayor Shane Kilgore, Jasper; Mayor Tab Townsell, Conway; and me, Mayor of Camden. We are already receiving proposal letters (through the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department). If you are interested in applying for this program, the League staff has prepared a booklet on the program that you can obtain by contacting the League or visiting www.arml.org.

One last item. Don't forget about the Planning and Zoning Workshop scheduled for Thursday, April 18 or Friday, April 19. This workshop counts toward continuing certification hours under the League's Certified Municipal Official program. My thanks go out to First Vice President Jackie Crabtree in helping me in my presiding duties at these workshops.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *City & Town*. It features Marianna's downtown and Gravette's museum. It just goes to show you how special each one of our 500 municipalities is!


Chris Claybaker
Mayor, Camden
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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Marianna volunteers fight for downtown

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Marianna native Nancy Apple remembers the heyday of downtown. “It was bustling when I was a kid,” she says. “It was entirely different. On Saturday nights all the stores stayed open to midnight.”

“It was jumpin’, I’ll tell ya.”

Those days are gone, however, and the struggle to keep downtown viable is one shared by cities across the state. With limited resources available to restoration projects, cities must often rely on dedicated citizens who donate time and money. The efforts of a group of Marianna citizens helped earn the city the 2012 *Arkansas Business City of Distinction Award for Main Street Preservation*.

In the late 1990s a group of volunteers, led by Apple, sought to place downtown Marianna on the National Register as a historic district. It took three years to accomplish, and in the process they visited other successful downtowns such as El Dorado and Paragould for ideas. They looked into joining the Main Street Arkansas program, but it proved too expensive for a city with very limited resources.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN

Businesses bring traffic downtown, but keeping old buildings safe and finding the right tenants are struggles.

“With Marianna’s population,” Apple says, “you had to have a full-time employee, and you had to give \$50,000 to join the program, and we didn’t have it. But they shared information with us, they really did.”

Through their research, they realized the best way to invest in the community was to create a nonprofit organization. That was the birth of the Marianna Historic Trust, through which they’ve been able to take tax-deductible donations, apply for preservation and restoration grants, partner with other organizations, and more.

Katherine West is another key to the success of the trust. She grew up across the Mississippi River in Memphis, the daughter of prominent wholesaler Edmund Orgill, who was also the city’s mayor in the mid-1950s. West married a young man from Marianna and, after retirement, moved back to his hometown. She fell in love with Marianna and through her generous donations the trust has been able to acquire several buildings.

West’s involvement goes back well before the formation of the trust, however. Her enthusiasm for restoration started when she and her husband lived in Tampa, Fla., and she flipped several old houses.

“I had a really good time doing it,” she says, “so when we moved back and settled in Marianna, I just thought this downtown was really neat, and I just had an itch to do more of that.”



Katherine West, left, and Nancy Apple, right, have been instrumental in the restoration efforts in the heart of Marianna.



The playground built right on the square is a great example of what collaboration can accomplish.

The first project she undertook in the mid-1980s was to build a new bandstand on the square's lawn. The original Victorian-era gazebo had long since rotted and been replaced with what Apple and West call a "concrete hulk."

"It was really ugly," West says. "I guess the women weren't involved with that."

West happened upon a photograph in *Architectural Digest* of a bandstand in Houston, built by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She called them and said she wanted one like that for Marianna's downtown.

"They sent me the architectural plans in the next mail," she says.

The *Courier-Index*, whose editor was gung-ho about the idea, ran pictures of the plans and stories and pictures about the old bandstand. People got excited and started sending in money. Between the gifts, a grant, and donated materials and labor, they were able to push the concrete monstrosity aside and build the new bandstand.

The pocket park is another amenity bringing life to downtown. Two buildings had burned on that corner of the square, and the city didn't have a playground. So the trust partnered with the city and the Rotary Club to convert the lot. It's also the location of the community farmer's market.

The roofs of the old buildings continue to be one of the main challenges to finding and keeping tenants, Apple says. Several of the buildings have been donated outright to the trust.

"A lot of times when they give us these buildings, they can't rent them, because the main problem is the roof," Apple says. "These roofs are just exorbitant to fix them, and by the time you spend the money to put a new roof on a building, it would take you years to get your money back in rent."

Through the trust, the city can take more time to restore the buildings than a business owner whose first concern is recouping costs, she says.

Keeping businesses downtown is a constant struggle, Apple says. Several of the trust's buildings are occupied now. Tenants include a flower shop and a nail salon. A restaurant recently shut its doors in another building. For the right restaurant, it will be a good location, Apple says, and hopefully keep diners in downtown.

The restoration of the Wiley Building, once a hotel and an anchor building at one corner of the square, is another major project. The trust was able to fix the foundation and roof and mothball it for future use.

"It's now protected for future generations," Apple says, "because if it had fallen, it would have endangered the entire block."

Their dream is to see it used again as a hotel.

"It could be turned into a nice little downtown hotel," West says.

Apple and West would love to see the Wiley building—mothballed for now—become a nice downtown hotel once again.



New unit focuses on safety, code enforcement

By Jack Turner



From left, Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin; Lt. Todd Nelson, Quality of Life Unit; Police Chief Michael Yates; and Investigator David Stout.

From the football stadium where the Arkansas State University Red Wolves play to Main Street in the heart of downtown, our community has welcomed with open arms a new unit to the police department. Under the leadership of Chief Michael Yates, the police department has formed a Quality of Life Unit. The Quality of Life Unit will focus our resources and zero in on code enforcement issues with the result of improving the quality of life. As defined by Chief Yates, the Unit's objective is to reduce and to minimize crime by improving the aesthetics of Jonesboro neighborhoods to provide a safe environment for our citizens.

"Quality of life" is not a new term in the law enforcement landscape. As the Community Oriented Policing programs try to utilize the use of police powers to solve community problems, the Quality of Life Unit will utilize all the resources in city government to resolve the issues at hand.

Physical disorder in a community can attract criminal activity. Commonly known as the "broken window" theory, it is believed that where criminal activity exists

there is a greater amount of physical disorder. By enforcing current city ordinances we can provide a safe and orderly environment for our residents.

To help document and track ordinance complaints, the Jonesboro Code Enforcement Officers have been equipped with in-car computers. Jonesboro's grants department has coordinated with the unit to assist citizens with greater means to remove old buildings. The unit acts as a bridge connecting the people with the services provided by the Community Development Block Grant Coordinator.

The Quality of Life Unit will ensure that the consequences of criminal activity go beyond incarceration for the offender. These can include the loss of public benefits, loss of the use of personal property, and eviction.

The addition to the new department allows for greater efficiency among city services and communication with the citizens. We hope the Quality of Life Unit will help the citizens feel safer in their community.

Jack Turner is Jonesboro's communications director.

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Strive to be a “BLT” leader

By Mark Towers

An insightful mayor of a mid-sized city once told me, “People want more and less government at the same time. This is impossible to do. We must create sound local government that can simultaneously serve as both the freeway and the stoplight for the citizenry. This is no easy task. I like to think of magnificent local government as computer software. The dedicated public servants who comprise this computer software go to work each day and their efforts unleash everything else that is great about the community. Think about it! Communities that struggle have poor computer software in place. Communities that thrive have superb computer software in place. It motivates me daily to come into work and not think about being successful. Success dies. I think about creating significance. Significance is creating and administering local government that makes a positive difference in the lives of the citizens and significance never dies.”

After my conversation with this mayor, I felt compelled to write this article. It is my invitation and request that you digest and apply the simple, straightforward concepts here and seek to create lasting significance.

There is no question that effective leadership is a most valued commodity in your community. In order to be an effective leader, you need to have an easy-to-remember set of core values. That is why the BLT (Believable, Likeable and Trusted) acronym is worth remembering. It provides a model for you to keep uppermost in your mind as you enable yourself and others to manage/lead change in your municipality with unchanging values. As Jim Collins, the noted author and leadership guru, once observed, “The secret to managing change is knowing what not to change.” Indeed, your ability to be known and take action as a principled and effective BLT leader—regardless of your rank—pays



nothing but high dividends as you create “governmental computer software” that is second to none.

Believable

Being believable is about having your priorities in order, being of sound character first and being competent second. Here’s a cogent story that makes the point:

I was up early. I simultaneously opened my email as I sipped my first cup of coffee. I was excited to see an email from an old friend, Dave. I hadn’t heard from him in awhile. He updated me in regard to his work and family and signed off. Below his signature was a quote: “I do what I say and I say when I don’t.” This short phrase hit me like a lightning bolt because it says it all in terms of believability. I will follow through, be accountable, and do what I say I will do. Conversely, I will tell you when I drop the ball. I will stand before you, apologize and have the character to admit my shortcomings.

Likeable

Being likeable is about focusing on others first. When you look at another person, imagine that they have these four letters tattooed on the forehead: MMFI. These letters stand for Make Me Feel Important. Everyone, even the most shy among us, wants to feel significant and important. No one exudes this attitude better than Arnold Palmer.

Arnold Palmer is a charismatic person. During his years of golfing stardom, hordes of fans followed him around golf tournaments and they were referred to as “Arnie’s Army.” When asked the secret of his magnetism, he replied, “It’s nothing complicated. When I walk into a room, I always think and act this way—It’s not about here I am. It’s about there you are.”

Trusted

Trust is a highly valued commodity. The word is a critical component of all good, meaningful human relationships. Recently, the word transparent has been used to describe trustworthy leaders and followers. I like this word and I have found a way to “operationalize” it.

Imagine that you wear a t-shirt underneath your regular clothes each day. The shirt has four words on it in big, bold letters: “No Secrets, No Surprises.” These four words give you permission to speak and live with integrity, honesty and openness. They will enable you to be a “respectful rebel” and, in turn, a trusted individual, no matter what the situation.

Every time I see a skyscraper, I don’t think about the magnificent architecture or engineering that went

into it. I first think of the BLT leaders who envisioned it, worked diligently with one another and eventually executed the plan. May your life’s journey be filled with marvelous planned as well as unplanned events. As you travel daily, don’t forget the words of Roy Disney, Walt’s brother and business manager. He said, “Decisions are easy when values are clear.” Live, work, and build your community with the clear values of a Believable, Likeable and Trusted leader.

Mark Towers is a professional speaker, author, and consultant. He holds a Master’s Degree in Counseling Psychology. He has traveled throughout the United States, Europe, South Africa, Mexico, and Canada since 1987, providing people with creative strategies for dealing with an ever-changing world. Contact Mark at 817-421-4744 or email mark@speakoutseminars.com.

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Washington, DC**

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Stops along way make health journey an adventure

By David Baxter, League staff

Do you remember the good old days before MapQuest or the GPS on your phone? It was a time when the family sat down together and opened up the map and planned the route for the family vacation. If you were like me, you picked out strategic stops along the way to your vacation destination. These stops included everything from bathroom breaks, sightseeing opportunities, or just resting while eating at a good restaurant. I found that breaking the destination down into incremental stops along the way was a way to reduce the stress of a long drive, give everyone in the car a break, and make the journey feel more like an adventure. Similarly, reaching the final destination of a healthier, more active lifestyle is a result of accumulated stops along life's roadway, not driving straight through until we are exhausted and burned out.

Today, we live hectic lives. We carry our office with us every day in the form of our phones. We eat in a hurry, get stressed more often, and sometimes we even get so busy we forget to tell others how much we appreciate what they have done for us. Because of this fast-paced lifestyle, our health has suffered. Our bodies have become a casualty of our own success and we are constantly looking for a quick fix to "get in shape" or "lose the weight" and to reverse the potholes that we have let trip us up on our journey to being healthy and enjoying true quality of life. Over the years, the Cooper Aerobic Institute has offered many important steps that we all can use to improve our health and overall quality of life. Here is a rundown of four of the eight important stops along your health journey:

1. Maintain a healthy weight.

This is one of the healthiest things that you can do for yourself. If you do not think it matters, try carrying around a backpack all day with a mere 10 pounds in it. By the end of the day you will be more tired and your feet, joints, and back will hurt simply because of the 10 extra pounds you carried. You will reap huge rewards by losing only five to 10 percent of your bodyweight. This wellness journey stop is a combination of calorie reduction and increased activity. There is no magic formula or pill here; it is simply becoming more aware of your food intake and opportunities for increased physical activity.

2. Eat better more often.

Your eating habits do not have to be perfect, but you cannot expect your engine to run great and help you get to a healthy lifestyle destination if you are surviving on high-fat food and sugar-processed junk. Look at your eating habits as a whole. Eat in moderation, include some vegetables and fruit in your diet, and drink plenty of water. If you are eating more often to fuel your body rather than eating for the sake of pleasure, you are on the right road.

3. Be active more often.

The Cooper Institute was one of the first wellness organizations to push the idea of moderate, collective exercise on most days of the week. Exercise at least 30 minutes, collectively, throughout the day. This sounds simple, but if you do a personal exercise survey, you may be surprised how little exercise you are actually getting each day. Remember, you cannot out-exercise a terrible diet.

4. Take a multi-vitamin.

This simple health journey pit stop will do several things for you. For one thing, it creates a healthy habit, in which you are taking a moment and thinking about your health and well being each day. This is important, because in order to create a healthy lifestyle, you have to create healthy habits. Another reason for taking a multi-vitamin is that it adds additional nutrients to your body. No one eats correctly all the time, so this helps pick up some of the slack left from nutritional deficiencies.

For the next four tips and for more information on developing a healthier lifestyle, visit the Cooper Institute online at cooperaerobics.com/Health-Tips/8-Healthy-Steps.



David Baxter is the League Health and Safety Coordinator. Contact David at 501-374-3484 Ext. 110, or email dbaxter@arml.org.



It's Convention time again.

June 19-21—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.



79th CONVENTION

Hot Springs Convention Center

June 19-21, 2013

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, June 7, 2013, to qualify for advance registration.

Advance registration for municipal officials	\$150
Registration fee after June 7, 2013 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Spouse/guest registration	\$75
Child registration	\$75
Other registrants	\$200

- Registration will be processed **ONLY** with accompanying payment in full. Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of the **2013 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 7, 2013.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 7, 2013**.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL (headquarters hotel)				
Single	\$140	Double	\$150	Check-in 3 p.m.
AUSTIN HOTEL				
Single/Double	\$87			Check-in 3 p.m.
ARLINGTON HOTEL				
Single	\$91	Double	\$101	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 7, 2013**.
- 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: 79th 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)

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

• **HOW ARE YOU PAYING?**

Check Mail payment and form to: Arkansas Municipal League
79th 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 Andrea Medina, 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

TENTATIVE PROGRAM IN BRIEF

<p>WEDNESDAY JUNE 19</p>	<p>2:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. 5:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>REGISTRATION AND EXHIBIT HALL OPEN RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING OPENING NIGHT BANQUET</p>
<p>THURSDAY JUNE 20</p>	<p>7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 7:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.</p>	<p>REGISTRATION OPEN EXHIBITS OPEN HOST CITY BREAKFAST GENERAL SESSIONS LUNCHEON CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS EVENING OPEN—ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS</p>
<p>FRIDAY JUNE 21</p>	<p>7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 7:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Noon -1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>REGISTRATION OPEN BREAKFAST OFFICIALS' EXCHANGE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS' LUNCHEON</p>

RESOLUTIONS

Suggested Convention Resolutions for consideration at the 79th Annual Convention should be mailed to:
79th 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 **2012-2013 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 78th Convention.

WANTED: Elected City officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and begin serving your city or town in 1988? 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 79th League Convention, June 19-21, in Hot Springs.

Names must be submitted to the League by May 20.

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 79th 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. We cannot guarantee space for companies that do not register before June 7.

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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- Communicate key local issues to municipal officials
- Receive real-time League news and updates
- Achieve expansion of AML's online communications with local officials
- Receive reminders/notices on meeting registration dates

If you are a member of Facebook, visit www.arml.org and “like” us from our home page, or go straight to our facebook page at www.facebook.com/Arkansas.Municipal.League.



Gravette museum preserves past



The restoration of the Kindley House and construction of the annex, just out of frame, were made possible through donations, grants, and volunteer work by dedicated Gravette citizens over the last two decades.

Gravette in the northwest corner of Benton County, nestled among rolling pastures just miles from the Missouri and Oklahoma borders, may be slightly removed from the booming Northwest Arkansas corridor along I-540 now, but the city has plenty of reason to believe it has a bright future. It recently annexed a large swath of land that includes the Hiwasse community, placing it in the path of the now under construction Bella Vista bypass, which will connect eventually to the planned I-49 route through the state. The city also has an excellent school system and a recently upgraded sewer treatment facility that can handle the community's growth.

As the city preps for growth, a dedicated group of volunteers and donors in recent years have made sure that Gravette's past is not lost in the process. The Gravette Historical Museum is now housed in the historic Kindley House and a newly added exhibit hall next door, but its beginnings date back to 1993, when a local barber created a diorama depicting the city's early railroad days to celebrate its centennial. The city later purchased the Kindley House, formed the Gravette Historical Museum Commission, and set about restoring this permanent home for the city's artifacts. The new exhibit hall was financed with a grant from the Arkansas Department of Rural Services and built largely by volunteers.

A nut shelling plant was once one of Gravette's major industries.





A display tells the story of Field Eugene Kindley, a WWI flying ace from Gravette. They held an elaborate funeral for him back home when he was killed in a crash in 1920.

This diorama, which the museum hopes to restore, started it all.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN

First round of State Aid Street projects named

By Whitnee V. Bullerwell, League staff

The State Aid Street Committee held its third meeting of the year March 6. State Aid Engineer David Mayo of the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department presented the committee with a list of projects that meet the criteria of the new program. Cities and towns receiving project approval in the first round of funding are:

- Walnut Ridge—overlay of 4.51 miles of roadway, project estimate \$520,000
- Lamar—overlay of 1.67 miles of roadway, project estimate \$280,000
- DeWitt—overlay of .73 miles of roadway, project estimate \$140,000
- McGehee—overlay .47 miles of roadway and rehab of .38 miles of roadway, project estimate \$180,000
- Warren—overlay of 1.48 miles of roadway, project estimate \$190,000
- Diamond City—surface of .8 miles and overlay of .75 miles of roadway, project estimate \$350,000
- Gassville—overlay of .69 miles of roadway, project estimate \$85,000

- Bull Shoals—overlay of 2.1 miles of roadway, project estimate \$260,000
- Mountain Home—overlay of 1.74 miles of roadway, project estimate \$350,000
- Magnolia—overlay of 3.8 miles of roadway, project estimate \$450,000
- Little Rock—overlay of .85 miles of roadway with pavement marking changes, project estimate *\$460,000

*Of the awarded cities and towns, Little Rock with a population above 25,000, will be required to provide a 10 percent match as stipulated by state law. All other projects will be fully funded.

More than \$3.2 million dollars were awarded in this round of funding. If your city or town is interested in applying for State Aid Street funds, contact State Aid Engineer David Mayo at david.mayo@arkansashighways.com or call 501-569-2346. You may download a copy of *Procedures for Development of State Aid Construction Projects for Cities* by visiting the “Publications” page on the League’s website at www.arml.org.



PHOTOS BY MARK POTTER

The State Aid Street Committee: seated, L-R, Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin, Lake Village Mayor JoAnne Bush, Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse, Conway Mayor Tab Townsell; standing, L-R, Paragould Mayor and Committee Chairman Mike Gaskill, Lamar Mayor Jerry Boen, Camden Mayor Chris Claybaker, Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola, State Aid Street Engineer David Mayo; inset, Jasper Mayor Shane Kilgore.

Economic Development Advisory Council preps strategy

In other meeting news, the newly formed Economic Development Advisory Council met Feb. 28 at League headquarters. UALR's Institute of Economic Advancement (IEA) representative, Jim Youngquist, spoke to the group regarding Arkansas's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This Strategy is a collaborative effort on the part of the Arkansas Association of Development Organizations, the Association of Arkansas Counties and the League. Currently, Arkansas has eight Planning and Economic Development Districts. Representatives of the development districts, along with county and city CEDS reps are working to form strategies on addressing issues, opportunities and challenges all in the name of economic development for Arkansas. The group is actively working to identify local and regional assets as well as state assets and hopes to have a draft strategy put together by January 2014.

Also speaking to the group was Denisa Pennington, Community Development Director for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC). Pennington discussed the Prospect Readiness Education Program (PREP), which promotes teambuilding and cohesion at the local level and enables municipalities to better prepare themselves for prospect visits. Site selection and quality of place factors are extremely important to companies looking to locate within the state, she said. To date, 10 cities across the state have completed their PREP program. If you are interested in participating, contact AEDC at 501-682-1121 or visit www.arkansasEDC.com.

Members of the Economic Development Advisory Council expressed an interest in working closely with both UALR's IEA and AEDC to ensure the creation of a successful CEDS initiative. More information on this topic will follow as it becomes available.

Announcing...

The 2013-2014 Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program

The League's Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program continues in 2013 with a series of workshops covering topics helpful to municipal leaders.

The first 3 years of workshops 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, city recorders, recorder/treasurers, city clerks, clerk/treasurers.

What? The certification plan is voluntary, approved by the Executive Committee, and consists of 21 credit hours of 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 workshop is focused on Land Use: Planning & Zoning. The workshop will be held April 18 or 19, 2013, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where? Arkansas Municipal League headquarters, 301 W. Second Street, North Little Rock.

Schedule and topics to be covered:

- Land Use: Planning and Zoning in April 2013 (5 continuing education hours.)
- Municipal Finance and Budgeting in September 2013 (5 core curriculum hours.)
- Human Resources and Personnel Matters in October 2013 (5 core curriculum hours.)

*For those city officials who have completed the 21 hours of core curriculum, you must annually obtain 6 hours of continuing education to maintain your certification status. The required 6 hours must be gained by attending the hours of continuing education offered at the Annual Convention, Winter Conference or the 2013 Land Use seminar.

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

Public service a family tradition for mother and daughter

By Sherman Banks

Like mother like daughter. Both Jewell White, a Paris alderman, and her daughter, Brenda Miller, a Bryant alderman, have made serving their municipalities a priority.



Paris Alderman Jewell White, left, and her daughter, Bryant Alderman Brenda Miller.

White has been a Paris resident since 1963. She worked as a bookkeeper in the private sector for 10 years, but simply drawing a paycheck was not enough. She had a desire to work in city government. When the opportunity to be finance director for the city of Paris arose, she took it. She worked for the city for 24 years until her retirement in 2007.

Volunteerism has always been a part of her family's life, she says. White and her daughter have volunteered together in an organization for business and professional women. They worked together to establish the first Frontier Day celebration in Paris. Both have served on the planning commission in their respective cities. Each was appointed because of her commitment to work toward a strong and viable community.

When White retired from her position as finance director of Paris, she still had a desire to continue to serve her community, but she wasn't sure what direction that would take. After reflecting on the question for five years, she decided on politics and entered the race for alderman. She won the election in November 2012 and took office Jan. 1. It is now Alderman White's vision to make decisions that will improve Paris as an ideal place to live and raise a family, and she considers it an honor to serve and thanks the city for the opportunity.

White's daughter, Brenda Miller, moved to Bryant in 1989 with her family because of the excellent school system and because it's close to the metropolitan area of Little Rock. Her mother and father instilled in her that it is important to give back to the community, Miller says and believes that it is always important to find ways to make the community better through church, school, and community involvement.

After her three daughters graduated high school, Miller began to look for ways to serve her community. She worked closely with then Mayor Roy Bishop in growing the city through several annexations. In 1996, Bishop appointed Miller to serve on the planning commission, where she served for 10 years. During that time Bryant's retail and commercial businesses developed along the I-30 corridor, and Bryant's subdivisions grew along with the population, which expanded to 18,000 with a public school enrollment of near 8,500.

The fire to serve still burned, and in 2001 Miller ran for the Bryant School Board and served for five years. During that time she dealt with the needs of the rapidly growing city and public school district. In 2010 Miller was appointed to the City Council to fill an unexpired term and then was elected to the position by the citizens of her ward.

Both mother and daughter say they're overwhelmed at the trust that has been given them to make decisions for safer neighborhoods and better public schools. They are a family that exemplifies what public service and volunteerism mean as they work to bring about better municipalities.



Contact Sherman Banks at 501-374-8493, email sbanks@aristotle.net, or write to P.O. Box 165920, Little Rock, AR 72216.



Municipal Property Program



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

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

The Municipal Property Program's 2011 annual meeting in November adopted rates according to the following scale. See the new rates below.

FIRE CLASS I	—	.0021	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS II	—	.0022	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS III	—	.0023	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS IV	—	.0024	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS V	—	.0025	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VI	—	.0026	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VII	—	.0027	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VIII	—	.0028	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS IX	—	.0029	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS X	—	.003	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS Unincorporated	—	.003	X	covered value	=	Premium

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

Arkansas e-Link brings specialty care to your town

By Debbie Green

In or near your community is an Arkansas e-Link broadband network connection that might one day save your life or the life of someone you know.

Arkansas e-Link, led by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), is using high-speed transmission lines to connect 413 telehealth sites for videoconferencing between medical professionals, patients and doctors, and others along with the real-time exchange of patient data and readings. The project is more than 80 percent complete and ultimately will include a total of 454 sites.

Easing access

If you live in a rural area or small town in Arkansas, then it's likely you or someone you know often were unable to talk to a medical specialist or had to drive 100 miles or more to do so. Arkansas e-Link may greatly shorten that distance by connecting you at a nearby medical facility to that specialist in another city.

The telemedicine that e-Link provides made a big difference to one northwest Arkansas woman. In late 2011, Rhonda Smith, a 43-year-old nurse, was working in Bentonville when she had a massive stroke. A UAMS neurologist was able to question and examine her through a telemedicine real-time video connection. The connection was made through the Stroke Assistance Through Virtual Emergency Support network, now a part of e-Link. That quick, expert diagnosis enabled a blood-thinning drug to be administered that prevented her from experiencing permanent neurological damage.

Through e-Link, medical assistance can be given at the very start of life, too. The UAMS Antenatal and Neonatal Guidelines, Education and Learning System (ANGELS) program gives women with high-risk pregnancies access to genetics counselors and maternal-fetal medicine specialists who can monitor them and conduct live fetal ultrasounds from hundreds of miles away. Roughly a quarter of 450 pregnant women in the practices of two Mena obstetricians have received at least one telemedicine ultrasound through ANGELS and e-Link.

Moving faster

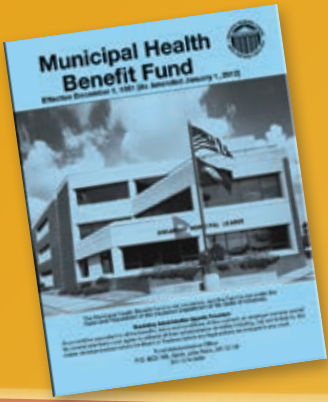
In addition, e-Link will also provide a means for transferring your health records electronically from one health care provider to another, reducing the cost of care and redundant testing.

When the network is completed in September, 22 two-year colleges and one four-year college will have been added to e-Link, and equipment will have been deployed to all 454 sites in the network. The higher education component of e-Link will facilitate resource sharing, collaboration, and research opportunities at two-year and four-year colleges in Arkansas. Besides improving patient care through access, e-Link will enable its community partners to reduce the cost of travel by staff for the continuing medical education credits they need to maintain professional certifications and standards. The network also will give health care providers another way to offer outreach for community health education. Better access to training and education should result in an even more highly skilled health care workforce and a public better informed about health care. Patients and providers through e-Link are able to access research and educational materials available through health care colleges and schools.

When finished, the building of e-Link will have been an almost three-year journey. It was created from a \$102 million grant awarded in August 2010 to UAMS and partner institutions through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Comprehensive Community Infrastructure grant. With another \$26 million in matching funds from partner institutions statewide, the project is reducing disparities in health care between rural and urban areas by opening up access to health care and education resources statewide.



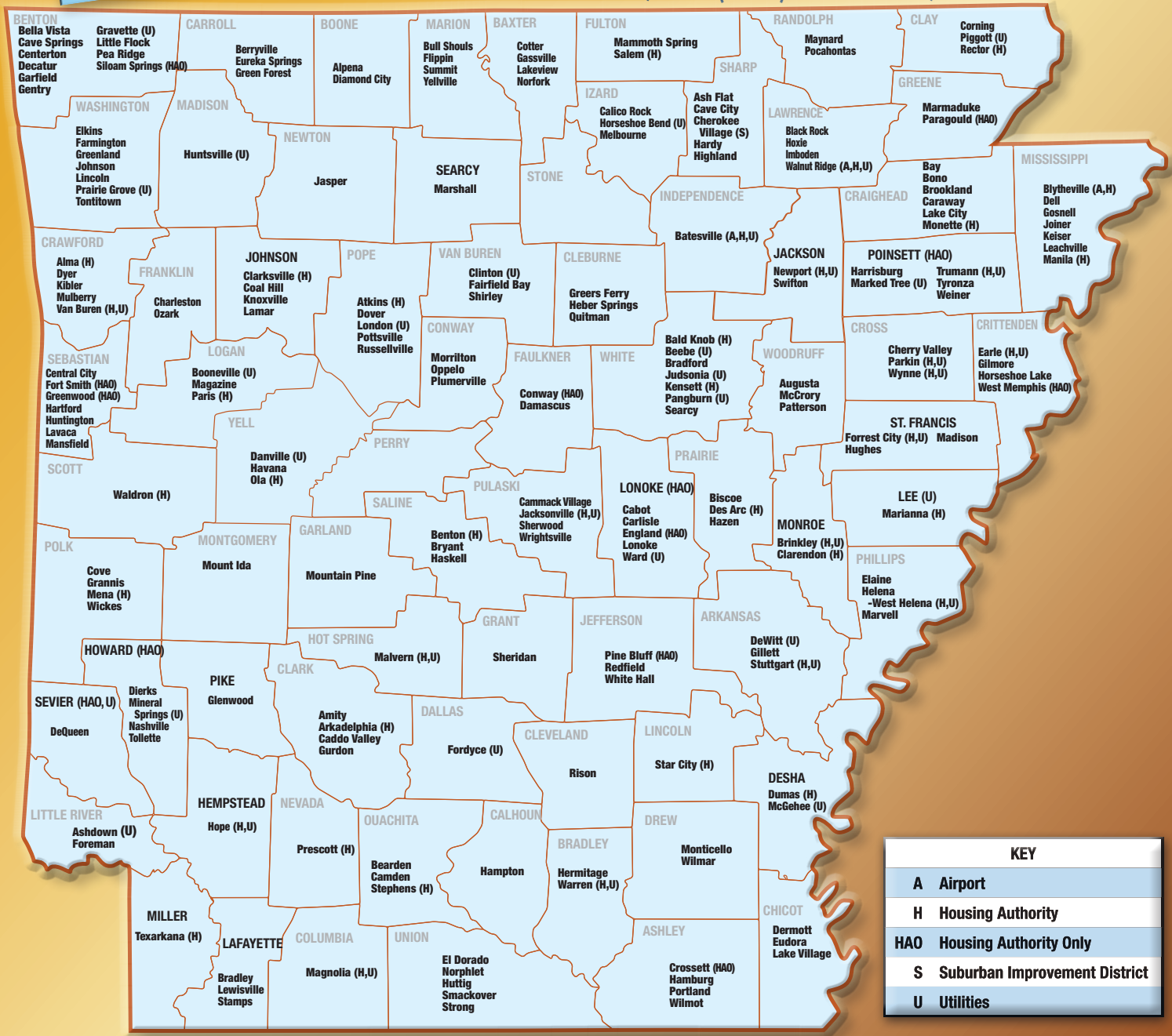
Debbie Green is Arkansas e-Link project director, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.



The Municipal Health Benefit Fund offers quality health care coverage to municipal entities across Arkansas.

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For further information, call (501) 374-3484, ext. 111.



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A	Airport
H	Housing Authority
HAO	Housing Authority Only
S	Suburban Improvement District
U	Utilities

Other Municipal Entities Covered by MHBF

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Argenta Community Development Corp. North Little Rock | Ladd Water Users Association Pine Bluff | Northwest AR Economic Development District Harrison |
| Barton-Lexa Water Phillips County | Lakeview Midway Public Water Lakeview | Ozark Regional Transit Ozark |
| Central Arkansas Planning & Development District Lonoke | Lee County Water Association Marianna | SE AR Economic Development District Pine Bluff |
| Eighth Judicial Drug Task Force DeQueen | Local Police & Fire Retirement System Little Rock | Sevier County Water Association DeQueen |
| Fifth Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney Russellville | Montgomery County Nursing Home Mount Ida | Thirteenth Judicial District Drug Task Force Camden |
| Fifth Judicial District Russellville | NE AR Region Solid Waste Management District Paragould | Upper SW Regional Solid Waste Management District Nashville |
| Grand Prairie/Bayou Two Water Lonoke and Prairie Counties | North Little Rock - Library North Little Rock | Western AR Planning & Development District Fort Smith |
| Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District Carroll County | North Little Rock - Sewer/Waste Water North Little Rock | Yorktown Water Association Star City |
| | Northwest AR Conservation Authority Rogers | |

Boost your purchasing power with TIPS/TAPS

The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS/TAPS) is a National Cooperative Purchasing Program designed for use by government entities such as city and county offices; local, state, and federal agencies; public and private schools; colleges and universities; and other "not for profit" organizations. Stay informed on the newly awarded TIPS/TAPS vendors by accessing the online monthly newsletter at www.tips-usa.com, or call toll-free 866-839-8477.

Eight cities picked for sustainability program

The Applied Sustainability Center at the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas has selected eight Arkansas cities to participate in its Sustainable Energy Scorecards and Education for Municipalities program, *The City Wire* reported Feb. 12. Cities selected are Arkadelphia, Fayetteville, Gould, Harrison, Hot Springs, North Little Rock, Searcy, and Wynne.

The Arkansas Community Foundation awarded a grant to the center for the program as part of the foundation's Sustainable Energy Initiative.

"Cities around the country are playing a central role in driving energy efficiency and renewable energy, and Arkansas cities stand to reap significant benefits in terms of job creation, retained wealth and attracting new investment," Michele Halsell, managing director of the Applied Sustainability Center, said in a statement. "The cities participating in the program will benefit from learning about the municipal policy innovations, hearing the success stories of other cities nationally and attending the Sustainable Energy Academy this summer at the University of Arkansas."

Cities were selected to ensure diversity in terms of total population and utility type. Cities also were selected based on their reputation for being serious about sustainability initiatives and the ideas and commitment expressed in their applications to the program.

The Sustainable Energy Scorecards and Education for Municipalities program provides baseline data on energy usage; a municipal energy education workshop, conducted by the Applied Sustainability Center in each city; monthly energy strategy calls and webinars; and the Summer Energy Academy. Cities

also have the option of working with University of Arkansas students on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

"The program will optimize the success of municipalities vested in developing the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy deployment for their communities," said Joanna Pollock, staff sustainability strategist at the center.

IIMC announces 44th Municipal Clerks Week

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), a professional nonprofit association with 9,500 members comprised of city, town, township, village, borough, deputy and county clerks throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, has announced its 44th Municipal Clerks Week will be May 5 - 11. This annual event features a weeklong series of activities aimed at increasing the public's awareness of municipal clerks and the vital services they provide for local government and the community.

IIMC has sponsored Municipal Clerks Week since 1969. In 1984 and in 1994, Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton, respectively, signed a proclamation officially declaring Municipal Clerks Week the first full week of May and recognizing the essential role clerks play in local government. During this week, municipal clerks throughout the world will host open houses and tours of their offices, visit local schools, and participate in other various events.

"The true worth of the municipal and deputy clerk is often not realized," said IIMC President Brenda M. Cirtin, MMC, city clerk for Springfield, Mo. "But Clerks perform some of the principal functions of the democratic process."

"One of the most important responsibilities clerks administer is advising their municipality's council of the legislative restrictions that apply to the ordinances and resolutions they wish to enact," Cirtin said.

Obituaries

MERLIN L. HENDRICKS, 92, a Des Arc alderman from 1973 to 1984 and the city's mayor from 1984 to 1994, died February 12.

JEROME NORWOOD, 77, a former Highland alderman and mayor, died Feb. 1.



Support a family on \$20 a week?

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

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

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

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

Call: 501-978-6127

Ken Martin can be reached at ext. 232, or Andrea Sayre at ext. 237.

The fax number is 501-537-7253

Protect your loved ones' financial security.

Arkansas Municipal League's Volunteer Firefighters Supplemental Income Program

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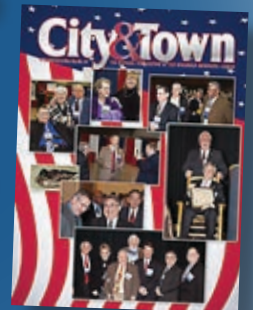


Crafton Tull

Missed us?

You can download last month's issue or older issues of *City & Town* that you might have missed.

Help us keep you up to date and informed.



www.arml.org

www.arml.org/publications_city_town.html

Safety training: Bits and pieces

By Neil Foreman, League staff

The League provides in-house training resources to assist members in their safety and health training efforts, and we also help facilitate valuable training resources provided through the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's (AHTD) Technology Transfer Center program (T² program).

Safety training allows an employee to obtain knowledge to perform a task in a safe manner by controlling potential exposure to injury. In general, a training program should include the following:

- Identify the departments to be involved.
- Identify and prioritize injury exposures unique to the work tasks being performed.
- Develop and commit to a training schedule.
- Present training based on the prioritized injury exposures.
- Obtain feedback from the groups on the adequacy of the training.

Call or email me if you need help evaluating injury exposures or setting up a training plan.

In-house resources available

Library

A video library of safety training materials is available from the League at no cost to your city except for return postage. In 2011, the library was upgraded to DVD based programs. Programs can be ordered online from the League's website at www.arml.org. Navigate to the League Programs page, scroll to the Loss Control/Emergency Response Program portion of the page and click on the Loss Control Video Library link. Note that the upgraded programs list "DVD" after the program's title.

Use of the video library by members increased in 2012, with individual orders up from 121 in 2011 to 147, and with the total titles ordered up from 275 to 399. It is my goal for 2013 to exceed the usage in 2012.

New titles available include:

- Backhoe Safety
- Backhoe Inspections
- Traffic Flagging
- Excavation Safety
- Water and Wastewater Plant Safety
- Ladder Safety
- Hand and Power Tools
- Vehicle Operations
- Chain Saws

Personal library

Over the years I have developed PowerPoint presentations and handouts on a variety of topics along with collecting numerous public domain programs. I would like to share these materials if you would send me an email request at nforeman@arml.org. These programs include Back Safety and Body Mechanics, Heavy Equipment Operations, Electrical Safety, and numerous others.



League Loss Control Specialist Neil Foreman, right, helps members at this year's Winter Conference.

Safe driving

My League colleague, David Baxter, presents emergency vehicle operations for police officers in cities participating in the Municipal Vehicle Program. The classroom and simulator training presented at League Headquarters continues to be well received by our many police officers. Recently, David and I discussed emergency driving techniques and I learned that when an officer approaches an intersection with lights and sirens activated the officer is “requesting the right of way.” Attend David’s class and find out why.



League Health and Safety Coordinator David Baxter's defensive driving training continues to be popular for police officers across the state.

David's latest program, Defensive Driving for Light Vehicles, is modeled after the National Safety Council program, which targets safe vehicle operations for light trucks, passenger cars, etc. This program, which can be presented on location in your city, is available at no charge to members in the Municipal Vehicle Program. Take advantage of this program and train all employees

operating a light vehicle on behalf of your city. If you can prevent a vehicle collision, you prevent a workers' compensation claim and possible injury to a citizen. It's a win-win-win. Email David at dbaxter@arml.org or call him at 501-374-3484 to discuss your needs.

T² program

The AHTD continues to administer the valuable T² training program that offers Arkansas cities safety training at no charge on a variety of topics including:

- Backhoe Loader Safety
- Flagging—Traffic Control and Work Zone Safety
- Trenching and Shoring
- Forklift Certification
- Bulldozer Safety
- Motor Grader Safety
- Chain Saw Safety
- Shop Safety
- CPR/First Aid (American Heart Association certificate)

Email me for a complete list of available training courses. I am working on having the training list linked on the League's website.

Laura D. Carter, AHTD's Arkansas Technology Transfer Program Manager, administers the program. Call Laura at 501-569-2380 or email laura.carter@arkansashighways.com to schedule a training session.



Neil Foreman is the League's Loss Control specialist. Contact Neil at 501-374-3484 Ext. 122, or email nforeman@arml.org.

Fairs & Festivals

March 16, **EUREKA SPRINGS**, 20th St.
Paddy's Day Parade, 479-881-9551,
www.StPaddy.Ureeka.org; **FORT SMITH**,
St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 479-784-1001,
www.fortsmith.org

March 17, **HOT SPRINGS**, 10th First Ever
Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade,
800-772-2489, www.hotsprings.org

March 29-30, **BRADLEY**, 38th Governor
Conway Days, 870-894-3935,
deloisdm@yahoo.com

April 13, **ENGLAND**, 10th England Celebration,
501-231-5919, kingjohnnie40@yahoo.com

Sometimes the best ideas come from someone else

By Chad Gallagher

Don't share this column with your high school English teacher, but sometimes it is OK to copy, reproduce someone else's work, and look at someone else's paper. When it comes to writing grants you don't have to reinvent the wheel. Learn lessons from both the successes and failures of others.

Grant writing is both an art and a science. Finding the perfect balance can be frustrating at times. The process is methodical and grant applications are normally full of statistics, clear objectives, measurable outcomes, evaluation models, and working budgets. Every "i" must be dotted and every "t" crossed. At the same time these applications must demonstrate a level of passion.

They should articulate a compelling vision while capturing the imagination and interest of the reviewer. To do this each application must address the unique challenges of your municipality. Each city and town has its own identity, but across the spectrum, cities everywhere face many common struggles and challenges. Cities should be creative in their solutions to solving problems but recognize that one does not need to think of a totally new and unheard of concept to wow a grant panel and receive funding. Funding agencies like creativity and clever approaches, but they also like time-tested efforts that have been successful in other locations. There is comfort in knowing a concept has worked elsewhere and will work here. It creates a sense of safety for investing public or private dollars.

A key step in writing a successful grant application is to review other applications written for the same funding opportunity, similar funding request, or another funding opportunity with the same agency or granting organization. Too many times, this simple step is overlooked or ignored. Reviewing other applications, particularly successful applications, provides many advantages to the development of a successful grant. Doing so allows one to see successful structure, methods, and even particular approaches that the funding agency found acceptable. One can often find an evaluation tool, an approach to coalition building, an expertise used, or a program concept that the agency seems to favor. By reviewing successfully funded applications it is possible to discover trends, preferences, and interests, as well as methodologies that may be worth emulating.

It can also be helpful, when available, to compare successful and unsuccessful applications. Doing so will allow you to discover the difference and use that knowledge to build a better application. Obviously, the goal is not to simply copy a successful application and resubmit it with a new name but to draw from it in order to improve your chance for funding, particularly when many grant applications face such a competitive field. This concept is successful when building a new product or a new business. Look to those who have succeeded and failed in order to learn from them. The same principle holds true in writing grants.

Private foundations and corporate grant programs will often provide copies of previous grant applications upon request. Obtaining these from state, federal, and local municipalities is possible through Freedom of Information laws. Copies of applications can be obtained from the funding agency or from the applying governmental entity. This isn't as contentious as you might expect. Most understand that any application made on behalf of a local government or made to a government entity must be made available for public review. When requesting copies of applications from an agency from which you also intend to ask for funds, be sure to go about your request in a way that maintains a good relationship with the agency.

There are many variables to writing a successful grant application. In a competitive grant process one small thing can make the difference between your proposal being funded and almost being funded. Grant writers must take advantage of every tool available. When sitting down to write an important grant for your community, be certain to include the tool of "learn from others" in your arsenal.



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

Maximize Your Benefit

JOIN THE MUNICIPAL HEALTH BENEFIT FUND

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

For 2013 benefits include:

- ◆ No Pre-existing for dependent children to age 19
- ◆ Coverage for dependent children to age 26
- ◆ No Lifetime Maximums
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- ◆ Special Bariatric Surgery Program



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



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

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

Driver protection important

About one third of the 635 truck drivers who died in crashes during 2011 did not have on their seat belts, according to data issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Why would a driver put himself or herself in harm's way by not wearing a seat belt? That makes no sense to me and certainly not to FMCSA Administrator Anne Ferro.

Additionally, the report stated that 22 percent of the truck-occupant victims were traveling in vehicles that exceeded the posted speed limit. Again, that's something reasonable the drivers could have controlled to save their own lives and the lives of others.

Another unpleasant fact is two percent of the victims had blood-alcohol levels higher than 0.04 and four percent had some other impairment, which could have been due to fatigue.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provided data showing that truck-occupant deaths during 2011 rose by 20 percent over the previous year, which accounted for 530 deaths. This has the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration scratching their heads over these statistics.

The Department of Transportation has taken steps to control substance abuse in the transportation arena. The federal regulators are looking at more stringent rules to include more drugs on the testing panels as well as lowering the cut-off levels for drug presence detection. The proposed medical certification for physicians who exam drivers may help by limiting the doctors who conduct tests improperly. Some apparently don't realize the dangers posed to the public by a seizure-prone driver, an insulin-dependent driver, or a person with a sleep apnea problem cruising down the highway. The medical certification course will ensure that physicians conducting DOT exams by having to study the FMCSA rules, take and pass a certifying exam, qualify to have their name listed in a national database, and they will be monitored as they conduct medical exams. Action is being taken to help the drivers be safety conscious, to be responsible in their behavior, and to protect you and me. Let's hope these necessary actions help protect all of us as we travel down the highways.

A few reminders

Q: How does an employer determine the number of tests to complete when their number of employees fluctuates during the year?

A: The employer estimates the number of random tests needed to be performed over the course of the year. If there are fluctuations in driver positions that are not clearly defined, the employer must estimate the number of tests to be completed. The key words are driver positions.

Q: May employees be randomly tested by terminal locations?

A: Yes, this can be accomplished by a two-part selection process. (A) Choose the terminal site from the list, and (B) choose employee names from the eligibility list at that site.

Q: How does the TPA for an employer's testing program maintain an accurate list to use for random generations?

A: The updated information must be provided to the TPA by the employer and that list will be maintained for audit purposes.

For more information, go to the FMCSA website: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations.



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



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Email: sales@RiceSigns.com

Web: www.RiceSigns.com

Community preparation for economic development: Physical infrastructure and capacities

Maintaining the physical infrastructure in your community can have a profound impact on how successful your community is in retaining and attracting residents and employers alike.

By Mark S. Goodman, CEcD

Increasingly, we are realizing the importance of taking care of our communities as the “product” that we promote as a great place to live, work, invest, and play. What we do to prepare our communities to be those great places falls under the category of community development. While there are many facets of community development, in this article we will discuss the community’s infrastructure. What constitutes infrastructure and why is it critical for successful community economic development?

What is infrastructure?

By definition, infrastructure refers to the physical support system needed for the delivery of goods and services. It includes water and sewer pipes, roads, bridges, cables, telecommunications (including WiFi and internet accessibility), power, water, and sewage treatment. Infrastructure capacity refers to the measure of what the infrastructure is capable of supporting, both now and in the future.

Both government and private businesses provide infrastructure. Public infrastructure usually includes water, wastewater, and stormwater systems; streets and road improvements; as well as schools, hospitals, and other public services. Private infrastructure may include natural gas and electric distribution, and telephone and telecommunications systems, although these systems may also be provided by the public sector or cooperative associations.

Planning for economic development and infrastructure systems occurs within the context of ongoing capital improvement planning that jurisdictions are required to do. The construction of infrastructure usually requires capital outlays and the use of debt financing, which is repaid from user rates and charges and tax revenues.

Why is infrastructure investment so important?

Infrastructure investment provides money for water, waste removal, energy, transportation, telecommunications, and the other services and facilities necessary to retain and expand existing business, as well as attract new business. Many industries have special infrastructure needs. Not surprisingly, infrastructure is often identified as one of the top factors of business location and community prosperity. As such, the benefits of maintaining infrastructure investments are many and include the following:

- Infrastructure supports and promotes retention and expansion of existing industry and business;
- Infrastructure provides for increased productivity and production efficiencies within the business community;
- Infrastructure improves quality of life, making a community more appealing to existing and potentially new residents and businesses, whether it is in transportation, safe drinking water, or other;
- Infrastructure improves opportunities for economic development through the proper layout of communities, relating to roads, water, sewer, telecommunications and powerlines, among other forms; and
- Infrastructure supports regional development by connecting citizens of one community to other communities and regional opportunities.

A balancing act between necessity and risk

Communities often find themselves in a balancing act, recognizing that infrastructure development is expensive and is not a guarantee to business and industry success. Yet, at the same time, poor infrastructure will render a community non-competitive. And infrastructure development provides jobs and economic impact through immediate and future activity, implying that infrastructure development provides financial benefits as well as direct costs.

This suggests the importance of infrastructure planning in a community's master plan. Infrastructure investment requires a carefully prepared master plan, including a land use plan and capital improvement program to project where and when public and private infrastructure will be required to service existing and future residential, commercial, and industrial users. Infrastructure programming can generally be broken into three categories:

1. Maintaining systems with repairs on existing infrastructure;
2. Adding capacity or improving efficiency to existing infrastructure; and
3. Actively building new infrastructure that adds capacity for growth.

Here are some questions that should be answered:


1. What infrastructure do we need to install?
2. Are we keeping up with our infrastructure needs?
3. How much is this going to cost?
4. How can it be paid for? By fees, taxes, grants, or a mix of sources?
5. Over how many years can it be financed?
6. When will it be completed? If phased in, completion dates per phase?
7. Can it be expanded?

Where do I get help?


Infrastructure planning and development play a critical role in maintaining community viability and marketing of your community as part of an effort to create and maintain jobs. Comprehensive master planning for infrastructure investment requires resources and careful planning, organizing, and consensus building. Communities generally rely on third-party consultants or planning professionals to assist in the process. Many of these experts are associated or affiliated with the eight Planning and Development Districts or Economic Development Districts across the state, the Arkansas chapter of the American Planning Association (www.arkansasapa.org), and the Arkansas Municipal League. The Center for Economic Development Education at UALR's Institute for Economic Advancement (IEA) can provide advice and referral, as well as conduct a range of community economic analyses to inform your efforts. For further information, call us at 501-569-8519.



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


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501-978-6137
fax 501-537-7252

Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust
501-978-6127
fax 501-537-7253



ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE THE 2013 DIRECTORY OF ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

**THE NEW AML DIRECTORY
IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

Don't be without the best resource for information on Arkansas cities. The Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials is published annually by the Arkansas Municipal League.

Directory information on each incorporated Arkansas cities or town includes:

- Municipal officials' names
- City population as updated by the city
- County in which the city is located
- City hall mailing addresses
- Phone and fax numbers for city hall
- Day of city council meetings
- City's Web address

To order copies of the directory, visit the AML Web site at www.arml.org or call 501-374-3484.

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2013 Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

Price: **\$25 each**

Orders must be pre-paid

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

Please send me _____ copies of the **2013 Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials** at: \$25 each.

My check of \$_____ is enclosed, payable to:

The Arkansas Municipal League.

Send **Directory** to:

Name _____

Title _____

Mailing Address:

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Clip and mail to: **Arkansas Municipal League**
2013 Directory
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Changes to 2013 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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



Alexander

Delete M
Add M

Michelle Kidd
Michelle Hobbs

Diamond City

Delete FAX
Add FAX

870-422-7178
870-422-7290

Alicia

Add PC

Doug Wicker

Gassville

Delete AL
Add AL
Add CA

(Vacant)
Naomi Lassen
Ron Kincade

Ash Flat

Delete CEO
Add CEO

(Vacant)
Phil Osborne

Little Flock

Delete AL
Add AL

Leon Harriman
Bob Stout

Bluff City

Delete M
Add M
Delete AL
Add AL

Vernell Loe
James Fort
James Fort
Lee Meadows

Newport

Delete AL
Add AL
Add AL

Aaron Hopkins
Kathy Green
Sheridan Chadwell

Centerton

Add PLD
Delete R/T
Add C/T

Lorene Burns
Todd Wright
Todd Wright

Walnut Ridge

Add AM
Delete CEO
Add CEO

Sue Hilburn
Elizabeth Halfacre
(Vacant)

Clinton

Delete R/T
Add R/T

Wendy Henderson
Dena Malone

ACCRTA scholarships available

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

A scholarship honoring the memory of Bill S. Bonner will be awarded to a first-year attendee in the certification program at the Municipal Clerks' Institute in September 2013.

Scholarships include: four local \$400 scholarships to attend the Municipal Clerks' Institute, Sept. 15-20, 2013, in Fayetteville; one \$400 scholarship for the Academy for Advanced Education, Sept. 18-19, 2013, in Fayetteville;

and one \$400 scholarship to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) annual conference, May 19-23, 2012, in Atlantic City, NJ.

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

Fill out the scholarship application below and return it to:

Barbie Curtis, CMC, CAMC
City Clerk / Treasurer
City of Van Buren
1003 Broadway
Van Buren, AR 72596

For more information, contact Scholarship Chairman Barbie Curtis at 479-474-8936, or email bcurtis@vanburencity.org.

2013 APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

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

Name _____ Title _____
Street Address or P.O. Box _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____ Date assumed present position _____

Other related experience:

Title	Municipality	Years
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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

Check one: This application is for a ___ First ___ Second ___ Third year Institute

What are the approximate costs of the institute you plan to attend?

Travel/Transportation _____ Registration Fee/Tuition _____
Lodging and Meal _____ Total Amount _____

How much does your municipality budget your department yearly for education? _____

What is your reason(s) for applying for this scholarship? _____

I understand that if a scholarship is awarded to me, it must be used between Jan. 1, 2013, and Dec. 31, 2013, and that I must attend all sessions. Yes. _____

Have you attached written evidence that your Chief Executive or legislative body supports your attendance at the institute and that in the event that a scholarship is awarded, you will be given the time to attend the institute? Yes ___ No ___

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

___ Municipal Clerks' Institute, Fayetteville—Sept. 15-20, 2013
___ Academy for Advanced Education, Fayetteville—Sept. 18-19, 2013

DEADLINE: April 2, 2013

DEADLINE: April 2, 2013

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

ACCRTA seeks nominations for Clerk of the Year

The Municipal Clerk of the Year Award recognizes a member of the Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders, Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) who has made significant contributions to the objectives of the municipal clerks profession and to the improvement of municipal government in Arkansas and the clerks own community.

Qualities are length of service, good relationship with other clerks, interest in education, attendance at national and regional conferences, community service, advancing and supporting the municipal clerks association.

Any municipal official or ACCRTA member may nominate a candidate for Municipal Clerk of the Year for 2013. **The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2013.** The finalist will be honored at the 79th Annual Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 19 - 21, 2013 in Hot Springs.

Requirements for nominees:

- Has been an active ACCRTA member for at least five years
- Holds a city clerk/recorder/treasurer or deputy position
- Is a Certified Municipal Clerk or Certified Arkansas Municipal Clerk
- Provides service to other municipal clerks in the state as the opportunity exists
- Exhibits leadership

Complete the nomination information below and send to:

City Clerk / Treasurer Sondra E. Smith
113 West Mountain
Fayetteville, AR 72701
ssmith@ci.fayetteville.ar.us
(479) 575-8323

Municipal Clerk of the Year 2013

Please Submit the Following Information

NOMINEE'S FULL NAME _____
ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP _____
BUSINESS PHONE _____

NAME OF THE CITY THE MUNICIPAL CLERK REPRESENTS _____

YEARS SERVED AS MUNICIPAL CLERK AND YEAR APPOINTED OR ELECTED _____

NUMBER OF YEARS AS ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, TREASURERS ASSOCIATION (ACCRTA) MEMBER _____

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE MUNICIPAL CLERK (IIMC) PARTICIPATION _____

CERTIFICATION RECEIVED:

IIMC CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK, IIMC MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK OR CERTIFIED ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL CLERK

DATE OF CERTIFICATION _____

ACCRTA MEMBERSHIP DATE _____

ACCRTA OFFICES HELD _____

ACCRTA MEETINGS ATTENDED _____

ACCRTA, IIMC, OR ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE SERVICE _____

EDUCATION PROGRAM PARTICIPATION (INSTRUCTOR, PANEL MEMBER, MODERATOR) _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE _____

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES _____

OTHER ACTIVITIES _____

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING NOMINATION _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

NOMINATOR: PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE THE REASONS WHY YOU BELIEVE YOUR NOMINEE SHOULD BE SELECTED AS THE 2013 MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR. _____

Farewells and new adventures

By John Slater

This is probably my last article for *City & Town* magazine, as I will be retiring March 31. I'm saying goodbye after nine years and approximately 90 articles. To be perfectly honest, writing articles has been the most difficult part of my job, not only because I'm not a writer, but also because it's very difficult to find new material each month. I hope you learned something from my articles. I know I did while I was researching them.

I have enjoyed traveling around Arkansas getting to meet many of you. I have seen more of our great state in the last nine years than in the previous 35 years that I lived here.

I am very proud of the progress I have seen around Arkansas in my travels as the Urban Forest Partnership Coordinator. My wish is to see communities in Arkansas, such as the ones highlighted below, continue the vision that has started in many areas around the state.

Russellville was one of the first to implement a Complete Streets project on Phoenix Avenue, which includes running, walking, and biking traffic in addition to vehicle traffic. They did one of the best tree planting projects I have seen in the state and have more planned for the future.

Conway and the Village at Hendrix development, with their roundabouts, tree plantings, and downtown revitalization, had one of the best Arbor Day celebrations I had the privilege to attend.

Fayetteville has one of the most comprehensive tree ordinances and active urban forestry programs in the state and around the nation.

Eureka Springs, which has been a Tree City USA for 31 years, and holds the honor of being the oldest Tree City USA in Arkansas.

El Dorado was one of the first cities in the state to realize that trees are good for economic development. This is reflected in their downtown area. They are actively pursuing the Tree City USA designation. In October, Mayor Frank Hash hosted a workshop, "Trees Are Good for Business," for the Arkansas Urban Forestry Council, which shows they are continuing to promote trees for their community.

Prescott, a Tree City USA, worked with the Arkansas Highway Department on a highway expansion project going through town. They saved a wide planting strip between the road and the sidewalk to plant trees and make it more walkable for the citizens of Prescott.



PHOTOS BY JOHN SLATER

Trees have enhanced the business environment in lovely downtown El Dorado.



When Prescott worked with the Highway Department to widen Hwy. 24, they improved walkability by keeping the sidewalks a safe distance from the road, and the trees they planted will provide shade and beauty in the years to come.

Bentonville’s Tree and Landscape Committee has done several successful tree plantings and beautification projects.

Little Rock not only has a great urban forestry department but also has the River Market downtown with street trees that shade your walk to the Clinton Presidential Museum.

Hot Springs has a beautiful downtown area. One of the best things they did for downtown was to plant trees; it’s one of my favorite hangouts. If you find my wife, Cathy, and me strolling down the street on a nice day, stop and say hello.

These are only a few of the great urban forestry successes around the state. I know there are many more communities that are active, and I’m sorry if I didn’t mention yours.

So what now?

I’m taking a sabbatical! For six months to a year, I will be on John’s clock. Part of that sabbatical includes a hike in the Appalachian Mountains on part of the Appalachian Trail. Cathy and I have visited those mountains many times in the last 20 years and have fallen in love with the area. I have spent the last eight months preparing for my expedition. Would I like to hike the whole 2,180-mile trail? Yes, I would, but will I? We’ll see.

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.”

—John Muir



Happy trails, John!

I want to thank my lovely and talented wife, Cathy Slater, for the help she has given me with all of my articles. I could not have done them without her. I want to thank Patti Erwin, the State Urban Forest Coordinator for the Arkansas Forestry Commission, for her help and for choosing me for her Partnership Coordinator. I have learned a lot, and it’s been a pleasure working with her the past nine years. Also Andrew Morgan, my final editor, and the staff of the Municipal League who make my articles sound and look professional.

Make a Memory...Plant a Tree



John Slater, Urban Forest Partnership Coordinator, Retired.

Summaries of attorney general opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Dustin McDaniel

Snack expenditures must meet criteria

Opinion: 2012-138

Requestor: Madison, Sue—State Senator

May a county use public funds to furnish coffee, soft drinks, or food items to employees or elected officials during the regular course of their working day? Q2) Assuming water fountains are readily available in county buildings, may a county use public funds to furnish bottled water or water coolers to employees or elected officials during the regular course of their working day? Q3) May a county use public funds to furnish coffee or soft drinks to members of the public who may visit county offices? Q4) Assuming water fountains are readily available to members of the public who visit county facilities, may a county use public funds to furnish bottled water or water coolers to members of the public who may visit county offices? Q5) May a county use public funds to furnish coffee, soft drinks, bottled water, or food items to elected officials or employees for work-related special events, such as a quorum court meeting during dinnertime or an employee training session conducted over lunchtime? Q6) May a county use public funds to purchase meals for jurors as a routine matter, or may meals be purchased for jurors only when it is not feasible for them to eat lunch on their own? **RESPONSE:** Q1-5) Neither the Arkansas Supreme Court nor the General Assembly has directly addressed any of your first five questions, rendering it impossible for me to answer these questions with an unequivocal “yes” or “no.” The Arkansas Supreme Court and this office, however, have articulated general principles that will control in determining the propriety of county expenditures. Among these are the following: (a) whether the specific expenditure has been expressly appropriated; (b) if not, whether the expenditure accords with legislation clearly authorizing an expenditure of the sort at issue; (c) whether the expenditure is consistent with established custom and practice, reflecting the shared view of officials authorizing the expenditure and of auditors reviewing its propriety over time that the expense conforms to the legislature’s intentions; (d) whether a legislative body has expressly identified the expenditure as serving a public purpose; and (e) whether the expenditure benefits individuals, if

at all, only incidentally. Any challenged practice that has by express legislation been approved as serving the public welfare will be set aside only if the legislative body is shown to have acted arbitrarily, unreasonably or capriciously. Q6) The legislature has expressly mandated that jurors be provided with meals during the time of their deliberations. Determining whether they might be provided or reimbursed for meals at other times would entail conducting a factual inquiry based upon the factors just recited.

City responsible for redactions

Opinion: 2012-141

Requestor: Woods, Jon—State Senator

What obligation, if any, does Tonitown, a second class city, have to redact exempt information from emails [requested pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”)] before producing them? Q2) May the city simply produce the emails in their entirety without examining the contents? Q3A) Does the city have to go through each email and redact exempt information before producing the responsive emails? Q3B) If so, will the city be entitled to any relief from the statutory time requirements imposed by the FOIA? Q4) May the city charge the cost of redacting to the person making the request? Q5) Would it be sufficient for the city to redact any emails that it knows contain exempt information and produce all other emails without first examining them for necessary redactions? Q6) May the city refuse to honor a FOIA request on the grounds that it will require the production of a large amount of documents and take a great deal of time and resources to respond? **RESPONSE:** Q1) The city (like all entities subject to the FOIA) must redact exempt information from any records it discloses in response to an FOIA request. Q2) No. Q3A and B) The legislature has not created an exception to disclosure for voluminous requests that take extensive time and resources to respond to. There may be occasions when it is impossible to comply with the FOIA’s time requirements, but whether there will be grounds for relief from those constraints in any particular case is a question of fact that this office cannot answer. Q4) No. See ACA 25-19-105(f). But the custodian should be aware of the authority to require advanced payment of valid copying fees when the

estimated copying costs exceed \$25. Q5) No. But see Op. 2009-186 for discussion of the phrase “existing agency personnel” in Section 25-19-105(d)(3)(A). Q6) No.

Mayor may attend Civil Service Commission meeting, not executive session

Opinion: 2012-147

Requestor: Woods, Jon—State Senator

Under Arkansas law, is the mayor of a city of the first class with a mayor-city council form of government, legally permitted to attend Civil Service Commission meetings and ask applicants questions when the hiring of a fire or police chief is being considered? **RESPONSE:** In my opinion, the mayor may attend a public meeting of the board of civil service commissioners but may not ask questions without the board’s consent. The mayor may not attend an executive session of the board.

Employees who meet requirements entitled to benefits

Opinion: 2013-006

Requestor: Rapert, Jason—State Senator

Is a former city employee currently entitled to immediate retirement benefits (at age 53) pursuant to the Nonuniformed Pension Fund, ACA 24-12-115, or some other provision of ACA 24-12-101 et seq., notwithstanding that the employee voluntarily ceased participation in that Fund as of December 31, 2000? Q2) Is the former employee vested and entitled to retirement benefits at age sixty (60) from the Non-Uniformed Pension Fund pursuant to any provision of ACA 24-12-101 et seq.? **RESPONSE:** Q1) I cannot definitively opine on any particular individual’s eligibility for retirement benefits, but I will note that in order to meet the length-of-service requirements under 24-12-115 (either 10 or 20 years), the employee must make the required contributions throughout the service period. See Op. Att’y Gen. 2002-323. Q2) Employees who meet the vesting, age, and contribution requirements are entitled to receive benefits under 24-12-115, even if they are no longer employed by the city. See Op. 2002-323.

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FIRE CLASS IV	—	.0024	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS V	—	.0025	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VI	—	.0026	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VII	—	.0027	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS VIII	—	.0028	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS IX	—	.0029	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS X	—	.003	X	covered value	=	Premium
FIRE CLASS Unincorporated	—	.003	X	covered value	=	Premium

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Let's "questionize" the way we do things.

By Jim von Tungeln

If a municipal government is not careful, its body of land use policies, plans, and regulations can create the image of one of those houses on a TV show about compulsive hoarders. First we pile things on top of one another without ever bothering to clean house. Then we fall in love with each item.

We make it worse when we prepare and adopt ad hoc solutions, i.e. regulations, to address real or imaginary problems without, as the late Gale Hinson, a long-time and beloved public servant of our state used to say, "... questioning the 'whyness' of the thing."

Not to be outdone, I have invented a new term. (Actually I stole it from the American author Zora Neale Hurston.) I'm suggesting that we periodically "questionize" our land-use plans, policies, and regulations to see if they (1) are still relevant, (2) are worth the cost of implementation, or (3) ever worked in the first place. If they fail these tests, we should, I suggest, call in the junk truck and discard them. Not having to deal with specious or unnecessary regulations can, as they say in the TV commercials, "free up a lot of our time."

We can find a number of causes for outdated provisions that deal with planning. One rises from the fact that technology changes. For years, almost every zoning code in our state had the same maximum allowable height for structures. After some cogitation and study, I came to the conclusion that the figure was based on the reach of fire trucks back in the 1950s. Hint: They reach a lot higher now.

On the other hand, folks in the 1950s weren't concerned with restaurant signs that can soar 150 feet into the air and make a city's skyline look like a giant pincushion. Technology can change against us as well as for us.

There are also regulations that appear to have been inserted to address a specific problem, a problem that might never again occur. Still, they remain to clutter up our municipal tool chest and confound existing citizens and potential investors as well. Prohibitions and burdens placed on multi-family housing development serve as examples of this type of ad hoc planning.

Sometimes a public official, when asked to explain a certain regulation, admits that it was borrowed from another city and no one knows why it exists. "Gee, we copied that from Gotham City's ordinances and we thought every modern city required structures to have a

'Bat Signal' attached to the roof." Or, a regulation may originate in a city whose per capita income is higher than our state budget and has no relevance for our community. Still we adopt it as if it had been carried down on stone tablets from Mount Sinai.

As in the TV shows, officials sometimes bring in a "hoarding expert" to help clean up and organize the mess. As one who is thus summoned, I can attest that it is no easy task.

Similar to home hoarders, regulatory hoarders sometimes find it difficult to let go of outdated or irrelevant material. We encounter what *Argumento DeMinimus*, the Harvard Bred Lawyer, calls the "say a man response." When asked why they wish to hang onto a regulation, the official answers, "Well, say a man was to come in wanting to do such and such. How else could we stop him?" This might be a safe, conservative approach, but our imaginations can sure create a lot of clutter when we follow it.

One of the essential facts to remember when cleaning up our program is that investors don't come into our city wanting to find out what they must or must not do. They come in wanting to know what they can do. Modern concepts of public administration suggest that investment in our city should be a collaborative effort whereby the investor and the city work together to arrive at mutually acceptable plans. This would seem to be preferable to the adversarial relationship that so often exists.

How do we proceed with our questionizing? In addition to applying the tests mentioned earlier, we might involve people directly impacted by our programs. A follow-up contact, like those so popular on the Internet these days, might help. Those ask the customer to rate the purchase. Why not ask those doing business with city hall to rate our service?

Another imperative is to analyze the relationship between plans and the regulations developed to carry out or protect the provisions of those plans. Are they connected by a strong strand of logic, or do they seem to have been prepared on different planets?

A more comprehensive and drastic step is to start over from zero. One city had a set of regulations dealing with planned unit developments (PUDs) that no one in town could explain. I surely couldn't. Further, the



A city's planning program, like a beloved old structure that served us long and faithfully, can become in need of restoration.

manner in which the regulations were fashioned was preventing the development of traditional PUDs.

It turned out that years before, a developer had sought funding for a mixed-use project under a federal program. The funding source required that it meet the zoning code. Someone found PUD regulations somewhere that fit and the city adopted them to accommodate the one development. They did, but never worked for anyone else. So it goes.

In this case, the city “grandfathered” the original development and prepared a new set of PUD regulations along more conventional lines. From time to time, that approach is necessary for the entire zoning code. Again, local officials should not be overly bound to the past.

In summary, a planning program, including its implementing regulations, works best when it represents an agreement between city officials and those who live or invest in that city. By asking if each plan or regulation is accomplishing a public good while encouraging sound investment, we can begin to rid our municipal “houses” of devastating clutter.



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.

2012 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
January	\$3.4786	\$3.2369	\$0.2859	\$0.3020	\$3.1339	\$3.1338
February	\$3.7795	\$3.4064	\$0.2584	\$0.3873	\$1.0053	\$1.0094
March	\$3.2521		\$0.4307		\$1.0055	
April	\$3.4633		\$0.2705		\$1.0017	
May	\$3.6848		\$0.1999		\$1.0053	
June	\$3.8035		\$0.2104		\$1.0056	
July	\$3.7480		\$0.1996		\$3.1087	
August	\$3.5350		\$0.1567		\$1.0052	
September	\$3.6430		\$0.1899		\$1.0056	
October	\$3.4734		\$0.2654		\$1.0056	
November	\$3.4269		\$0.2902		\$1.0054	
December	\$3.4321		\$0.2501		\$0.91	
Total Year	\$42.7202	\$6.6434	\$3.0077	\$0.6893	\$16.1978	\$4.1432

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
January	\$6,537,582.03	\$6,083,989.12	\$537,347.01	\$567,571.55	* \$5,889,623.14	* \$5,890,046.27
February	\$7,103,104.25	\$6,402,534.31	\$485,627.91	\$728,037.16	\$1,889,245.23	\$1,897,309.37
March	\$6,111,822.72		\$809,523.74		\$1,889,603.23	
April	\$6,508,820.12		\$508,320.37		\$1,882,530.42	
May	\$6,925,015.17		\$375,733.12		\$1,889,362.42	
June	\$7,148,252.90		\$395,417.87		\$1,889,865.20	
July	\$7,043,886.87		\$375,173.84		** \$5,842,460.26	
August	\$6,643,716.19		\$294,503.90		\$1,889,164.55	
September	\$6,846,853.12		\$356,918.13		\$1,890,041.23	
October	\$6,528,081.50		\$498,817.98		\$1,890,041.23	
November	\$6,440,629.62		\$545,491.57		\$1,889,559.03	
December	\$6,450,883.49		\$470,059.64		\$1,703,306.66	
Total Year	\$80,288,647.98	\$12,486,523.43	\$5,652,935.08	\$1,295,608.71	30,434,802.60	7,787,355.64

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

** Includes \$3,517,657 supplemental in July

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Debbie Rogers, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2013 with 2012 Comparison (shaded gray)

Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$43,764,256	\$37,846,866	\$39,379,372	\$37,289,267	\$83,143,628	\$75,136,134	\$12,329	\$12,533
February	\$51,585,273	\$46,523,853	\$44,215,215	\$44,592,756	\$95,800,488	\$91,116,609	\$26,338	\$22,619
Total	\$95,349,529	\$84,370,719	\$83,594,587	\$81,882,023	\$178,944,116	\$166,252,743	\$38,667	\$35,152
Averages	\$47,674,765	\$42,185,360	\$41,797,294	\$40,941,012	\$89,472,058	\$83,126,372	\$19,334	\$17,576

2013 ELECTIONS

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

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

CITY SALES AND USE TAX . AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Gilbert	91.76	99.05	Ozark	75,220.06	68,472.42	Bella Vista	396,896.23	387,514.78	
Alexander	46,012.10	43,993.11	Gillett	9,630.59	8,802.18	Palentine	16,184.89	7,850.90	Bentonville	529,489.97	516,974.39
Alma	213,638.33	196,855.09	Gillham	1,959.53	1,394.34	Paragould	314,243.87	485,943.09	Bethel Heights	35,578.32	34,737.35
Almyra	1,651.71	1,884.90	Gilmore	289.14	313.77	Paris	26,858.50	28,522.29	Cave Springs	25,933.77	25,320.78
Alpena	3,067.37	2,652.58	Glenwood	66,619.47	53,346.00	Patmos	372.84	167.90	Centerton	142,718.25	139,344.82
Alzheimer	2,572.02	2,671.03	Gosnell	13,611.06	14,725.93	Patterson	1,249.85	945.29	Decatur	25,483.80	24,881.43
Altus	7,573.04	6,899.58	Gould	4,071.31	3,251.17	Pea Ridge	27,802.71	28,830.39	Elm Springs	569.97	556.50
Amity	8,176.03	9,443.14	Grady	3,159.91	1,970.46	Perla	1,743.39	5,192.30	Garfield	7,529.64	7,351.67
Anthonyville	272.58	143.85	Gravette	63,628.27	117,250.31	Perryville	16,919.82	20,533.01	Gateway	6,074.71	5,931.12
Arkadelphia	164,901.55	172,393.62	Green Forest	24,720.08	27,002.55	Piggott	62,479.18	59,957.32	Gentry	47,367.76	46,248.13
Ash Flat	85,861.09	92,471.38	Greenbrier	142,404.37	138,719.76	Pine Bluff	1,045,026.92	1,036,595.29	Gravette	34,873.35	34,049.05
Ashdown	113,807.40	114,704.98	Greenland	17,417.18	15,064.13	Pineville	1,084.61	864.30	Highfill	8,744.59	8,537.89
Atkins	52,831.82	48,917.30	Greenwood	170,923.33	172,491.84	Plainview	2,740.38	3,076.79	Little Flock	38,773.17	37,856.68
Augusta	23,562.82	22,148.51	Guion	9,769.72	8,792.13	Plumerville	11,262.69	4,143.87	Lowell	109,899.80	107,302.10
Austin	12,132.10	8,545.85	Gurdon	20,552.73	33,530.96	Pocahontas	117,141.40	116,393.46	Pea Ridge	71,906.60	70,206.94
Avoca	1,961.94	4,100.77	Guy	4,915.62	6,557.41	Portia	2,241.52	2,516.52	Rogers	839,420.31	819,578.90
Bald Knob	54,505.15	65,435.35	Hackett	7,897.47	5,477.58	Pottsville	24,649.59	21,721.16	Siloam Springs	225,574.33	220,242.43
Barling	19,713.03	20,454.59	Hamburg	28,858.82	27,785.07	Prairie Grove	78,433.15	79,584.67	Springdale	90,805.71	88,659.33
Batesville	639,150.84	378,009.36	Hardy	15,354.55	17,042.72	Prescott	49,879.93	49,437.39	Springtown	1,304.94	1,274.09
Bauxite	13,602.93	12,926.45	Harrisburg	24,639.21	22,389.17	Pyatt	641.42	930.36	Sulphur Springs	7,664.65	7,483.47
Bay	7,588.51	6,476.31	Harrison	310,479.28	326,320.38	Quitman	21,187.57	25,774.83	Boone County	406,379.35	423,943.51
Bearden	12,402.91	8,720.85	Hartford	2,087.66	2,227.82	Ravenden	2,290.66	2,655.72	Alpena	4,288.18	4,473.52
Beebe	78,147.73	73,695.33	Haskell	13,628.74	14,747.64	Rector	25,496.90	24,885.91	Bellefonte	6,102.93	6,366.71
Beehiveville	63.18	144.92	Hatfield	2,892.54	2,622.73	Redfield	15,113.19	31,423.61	Bergman	5,901.29	6,156.35
Bella Vista	110,853.53	111,725.67	Havana	2,428.83	2,350.35	Rison	12,776.21	9,782.83	Diamond City	10,512.10	10,966.44
Belleville	2,329.93	3,570.74	Hazen	50,755.13	53,650.14	Rockport	67.65	2,722.91	Everton	1,787.86	1,865.14
Benton	749,574.62	737,699.64	Heber Springs	152,270.70	153,405.85	Roe	415.44	429.12	Harrison	173,987.34	181,507.27
Bentonville	1,872,738.68	2,019,807.57	Helena-West Helena	258,533.25	268,993.85	Rogers	2,932,183.07	2,610,200.07	Lead Hill	3,642.94	3,800.39
Berryville	261,090.57	232,399.27	Hemitage	4,595.61	3,664.06	Rose Bud	18,217.55	16,549.21	Omaha	2,271.80	2,369.99
Bethel Heights	48,891.65	38,261.03	Highfill	51,099.50	54,817.76	Russellville	1,028,165.75	1,085,513.05	South Lead Hill	1,371.14	1,430.41
Black Rock	5,229.09	5,386.40	Highland	24,718.71	30,734.33	Salem	21,773.14	23,795.02	Valley Springs	2,459.99	2,566.32
Blevins	2,714.83	2,167.31	Holly Grove	8,852.80	7,537.29	Salesville	4,419.01	NA	Zinc	1,384.61	1,444.42
Blue Mountain	156.57	1,111.41	Hope	178,980.96	181,557.70	Searcy	908,048.52	320,243.27	Bradley County	111,297.38	112,368.07
Blytheville	560,793.81	337,548.31	Horshoe Bend	20,266.47	20,505.86	Shannon Hills	9,202.87	15,381.38	Banks	859.39	867.65
Bonanza	1,562.86	1,838.01	Hot Springs	1,709,823.81	1,726,620.43	Sheridan	200,224.38	194,946.12	Hermitage	5,752.34	5,807.68
Bono	9,383.23	8,962.53	Hoxie	12,873.39	14,099.93	Sherill	739.06	581.65	Warren	41,603.97	42,004.21
Booneville	89,316.03	92,875.81	Hughes	7,784.46	8,798.06	Sherwood	470,520.29	461,760.84	Calhoun County	50,392.75	59,174.55
Bradley	2,653.92	2,652.34	Humphrey	2,036.39	1,964.15	Shirley	3,240.79	2,817.65	Hampton	11,095.96	13,029.62
Branch	1,792.74	1,576.71	Huntington	2,736.53	1,189.39	Siloam Springs	529,708.47	520,586.31	Harrell	2,128.68	2,499.64
Briarcliff	1,299.03	1,051.34	Huntsville	50,321.37	47,219.40	Sparkman	4,176.12	4,125.16	Thornton	3,410.92	4,005.33
Brinkley	104,726.63	97,808.31	Imboden	6,992.34	6,713.15	Springdale	1,832,098.04	1,815,367.46	Tinsman	452.56	531.42
Brookland	10,331.30	6,983.34	Jacksonville	681,801.08	676,002.42	Springtown	36.51	2,323.88	Carroll County	148,394.36	138,746.64
Bryant	1,087,257.80	1,067,400.95	Jasper	24,569.31	25,929.24	St. Charles	3,107.39	3,109.49	Beaver	543.25	507.93
Bull Shoals	11,685.17	11,055.88	Jennette	105.06	145.58	Stamps	13,796.77	14,103.65	Blue Eye	162.98	152.38
Cabot	727,367.94	923,373.44	Johnson	47,650.33	40,247.65	Star City	73,298.79	71,733.59	Chicot County	189,279.10	285,895.93
Caddo Valley	34,585.86	29,439.96	Joiner	1,982.99	2,275.38	Stephens	6,772.76	6,325.85	Dermott	19,764.60	29,853.38
Calico Rock	26,195.29	22,209.43	Jonesboro	2,346,985.91	2,357,949.21	Stuttgart	449,160.23	477,339.25	Eudora	15,522.98	23,446.63
Camden	304,985.86	304,625.97	Keiser	2,452.68	2,257.37	Sulphur Springs	1,447.08	1,912.92	Lake Village	17,616.43	26,608.66
Caraway	5,397.53	NA	Keo	1,184.79	1,261.39	Summit	3,614.15	2,569.10	Clark County	369,216.39	374,428.74
Carlisle	47,452.09	26,800.87	Kibler	1,854.63	1,885.30	Sunset	1,888.89	1,272.35	Clay County	48,670.71	47,839.04
Cave Springs	12,295.27	7,995.71	Kingsland	2,197.22	1,158.94	Swifton	2,633.33	2,849.45	Datto	336.22	330.47
Centerton	87,973.50	72,347.29	Lake City	12,662.66	9,321.28	Taylor	7,238.55	7,048.95	Greenway	702.69	690.69
Charleston	25,763.86	26,759.62	Lake Village	64,636.81	65,516.32	Texarkana	370,512.46	460,547.74	Knobel	964.94	948.45
Cherokee Village	15,301.26	121.28	Lakeview	4,404.97	3,567.19	Texarkana Special	181,204.21	230,115.39	McDougal	625.36	614.68
Cherry Valley	5,222.25	5,019.00	Lamar	9,665.34	8,361.76	Thornton	1,010.83	1,244.67	Nimmons	231.99	228.03
Chidester	2,025.59	2,302.58	Lepanto	19,577.18	17,564.86	Tontitown	116,856.80	87,876.96	Peach Orchard	453.89	446.14
Clarendon	42,290.58	103,938.35	Leslie	4,551.64	4,563.03	Trumann	73,832.77	71,178.04	Pollard	746.40	733.65
Clarksville	357,168.49	184,630.33	Lewisville	8,807.99	8,381.53	Tuckerman	12,501.57	14,131.32	St. Francis	840.54	826.18
Clinton	86,296.83	91,203.25	Lincoln	33,774.14	25,350.32	Turrell	5,623.36	4,673.67	Success	500.97	492.39
Conway	2,103,447.81	2,252,007.40	Little Flock	9,157.61	8,244.28	Twin Groves	0.33	589.46	Cleburne County	387,936.89	361,319.83
Corning	73,850.87	74,934.45	Little Rock	6,947,683.46	2,461,832.92	Tyrnza	2,240.39	2,375.89	Concord	2,880.05	2,682.45
Cotter	7,201.90	7,570.59	Lonoke	150,744.12	142,429.96	Van Buren	317,860.04	308,730.60	Fairfield Bay	2,160.04	2,011.84
Cotton Plant	1,280.53	1,707.41	Lowell	204,530.83	164,244.32	Vandervoort	949.24	323.26	Greers Ferry	10,516.92	9,795.34
Cove	12,001.86	10,579.37	Luxora	2,809.18	2,671.78	Vilonia	74,435.20	80,279.37	Heber Springs	84,572.10	78,769.46
Crosscut	173,432.39	347,617.99	Madison	1,194.02	1,329.44	Viola	2,410.41	2,263.34	Higden	1,416.42	1,319.24
Damascus	7,724.34	NA	Magazine	6,978.47	6,629.66	Wabbaska	6,330.57	757.72	Quitman	8,640.17	8,047.33
Danville	43,548.59	41,173.67	Magnolia	456,073.30	473,593.66	Waldenburg	7,176.63	4,403.79	Cleveland County	37,933.87	33,787.04
Dardanelle	168,772.24	147,671.84	Malvern	158,790.23	160,451.55	Waldron	37,735.81	41,405.43	Kingsland	1,869.46	1,665.09
Decatur	12,276.79	16,211.13	Mammoth Spring	6,778.25	6,875.04	Walnut Ridge	55,012.11	65,616.15	Rison	5,620.91	5,006.46
Delight	3,786.48	3,618.42	Manila	40,243.69	17,314.30	Ward	16,857.67	19,126.49	Columbia County	406,301.04	470,614.43
DeQueen	96,704.49	98,550.89	Mansfield	33,849.09	28,011.30	Warren	61,685.09	63,005.30	Emerson	723.82	838.39
Dermott	26,088.20	28,919.78	Marianna	68,419.28	99,556.93	Washington	1,571.50	958.75	Magnolia	22,770.80	26,375.19
Des Arc	17,474.18	18,004.52	Marion	165,676.25	147,513.31	Weiner	6,389.54	6,306.70	McNeill	1,014.92	1,175.57
DeValls Bluff	10,585.78	9,922.03	Marked Tree	42,228.50	46,994.34	West Fork	33,284.03	29,901.20	Taylor	1,113.27	1,289.48
DeWitt	195,798.87	165,767.80	Marmaduke	18,341.63	60.64	West Memphis	593,763.69	585,502.80	Waldo	2,698.58	3,125.76
Diamond City	2,060.94	1,584.01	Marshall	13,710.55	12,859.01	Wheatley	3,148.95	3,866.86	Conway County	339,962.06	360,025.06
Diaz	2,635.53	2,867.56	Marvell	17,703.17	19,432.10	White Hall	67,919.24	65,547.10	Menifee	3,595.88	3,808.09
Dierks	18,028.35	12,746.94	Maumelle	183,544.64	198,693.06	Wickes	3,059.30	3,162.46	Morrilton	80,573.81	85,328.91
Dover	19,395.95	18,078.31	Mayflower	56,643.05	68,948.38	Widener					

Earle	14,425.90	14,546.75	Jacksonport	1,938.16	1,977.05	Manila	38,533.77	40,477.92	St. Joe	820.67	792.02
Edmondson	2,551.72	2,573.10	Newport	72,031.97	73,477.15	Marie	968.53	1,017.40	Sebastian County	863,805.71	920,079.16
Gilmore	1,414.50	1,019.60	Swifton	7,295.53	7,441.90	Osceola	89,439.40	93,951.90	Barling	78,947.70	84,090.83
Horseshoe Lake	1,744.97	1,759.59	Tuckerman	17,022.91	17,364.44	Victoria	426.62	448.14	Bonanza	9,764.45	10,400.56
Jennette	618.51	623.69	Tupelo	1,645.61	1,678.63	Wilson	10,411.72	10,937.03	Central City	8,524.79	9,080.15
Jericho	711.14	717.09	Weldon	685.88	699.43	Monroe County	NA	NA	Fort Smith	1,463,971.26	1,559,343.09
Marion	73,772.86	74,390.90	Jefferson County	746,694.48	740,212.76	Montgomery County	32,210.15	33,238.80	Greenwood	152,019.75	161,923.23
Sunset	1,064.91	1,073.84	Alzheimer	10,758.46	10,665.07	Black Springs	416.29	429.59	Hackett	13,789.10	14,687.41
Turrell	3,307.68	3,335.39	Humphrey	3,367.48	3,382.25	Glenwood	176.61	182.25	Hartford	10,902.22	11,612.46
West Memphis	156,838.31	158,152.23	Pine Bluff	536,643.57	531,985.20	Mount Ida	4,524.56	4,669.05	Huntington	10,783.35	11,485.84
Cross County	250,247.99	245,460.37	Redfield	14,180.61	14,057.51	Norman	1,589.48	1,640.24	Lavaca	38,871.00	41,403.29
Cherry Valley	6,427.75	6,304.78	Sherrill	918.40	910.43	Oden	975.56	1,006.71	Mansfield	12,277.73	13,077.58
Hickory Ridge	2,685.64	2,634.26	Wabbaseka	2,788.01	2,763.81	Nevada County	34,760.98	33,154.39	Midland	5,519.04	5,878.58
Parkin	10,910.40	10,710.67	White Hall	60,417.91	59,893.45	Bluff City	963.86	919.31	Sevier County	235,753.58	251,427.80
Wynne	82,612.94	81,032.42	Johnson County	110,436.42	112,781.18	Bocaw	1,072.68	1,023.10	Ben Lomond	1,073.94	1,145.34
Dallas County	144,473.55	139,730.43	Clarksville	81,119.28	82,841.59	Cale	614.07	585.69	DeQueen	48,838.28	52,085.32
Desha County	100,213.23	96,182.50	Coal Hill	8,944.51	9,134.42	Emmet	3,692.19	3,521.54	Gillham	1,185.04	1,263.82
Arkansas City	3,878.40	3,710.24	Hartman	4,587.15	4,684.55	Prescott	25,619.90	24,435.79	Horatio	7,732.36	8,246.45
Dumas	49,868.19	47,706.03	Knoxville	6,460.91	6,598.08	Rosston	2,028.76	1,934.99	Lockesburg	5,473.38	5,837.28
McGehee	44,707.58	42,769.18	Lamar	14,185.71	14,486.90	Willisville	1,181.50	1,126.89	Sharp County	67,384.55	71,721.47
Mitchellville	3,814.82	3,649.42	Lafayette County	79,089.06	76,818.75	Newton County	45,689.45	45,823.03	Ash Flat	8,060.16	8,578.91
Reed	1,822.64	1,429.36	Bradley	3,727.35	3,620.36	Jasper	1,828.36	1,833.71	Cave City	14,327.34	15,249.46
Tillar	222.53	212.88	Buckner	1,632.20	1,585.35	Western Grove	1,506.64	1,511.04	Cherokee Village	31,895.19	33,947.99
Watson	2,235.91	2,138.96	Lewisville	7,597.16	7,379.07	Ouachita County	341,618.36	348,676.01	Evening Shade	3,553.05	3,781.73
Drew County	424,655.89	441,603.77	Stamps	10,048.43	9,759.98	Bearden	8,963.10	9,148.27	Hardy	6,003.99	6,390.42
Jerome	461.52	479.94	Lawrence County	115,940.95	124,699.68	Camden	113,040.81	115,376.17	Highland	8,594.76	9,147.92
Monticello	112,032.14	116,503.30	Alicia	625.29	672.53	Chidester	2,681.51	2,717.96	Horseshoe Bend	65.80	70.03
Tillar	2,414.13	2,510.48	Black Rock	3,338.24	3,590.43	East Camden	8,638.35	8,816.81	Sidney	1,488.66	1,584.47
Wilmar	6,047.16	6,288.50	College City	2,294.41	2,467.74	Louann	1,521.69	1,553.12	Williford	616.85	656.54
Winchester	1,976.27	2,055.14	Hoxie	14,018.61	15,077.64	Stephens	8,267.19	8,438.01	St. Francis County	139,344.68	140,479.95
Faulkner County	728,122.95	794,714.32	Imboden	3,413.88	3,671.79	Perry County	87,338.98	99,326.25	Caldwell	9,168.50	9,243.20
Damascus	NA	943.32	Lynn	1,452.29	1,562.00	Adona	778.33	885.16	Colt	6,244.50	6,295.36
Enola	2,217.13	2,415.48	Minturn	549.65	591.17	Bigelow	1,173.09	1,334.09	Forrest City	253,926.14	255,994.94
Holland	3,653.67	3,980.54	Portia	2,203.64	2,370.12	Casa	636.82	724.22	Hughes	23,805.06	23,999.00
Mount Vernon	951.13	1,036.23	Powhatan	363.07	390.50	Fourche	230.89	262.58	Madison	12,703.74	12,807.24
Twin Groves	2,197.45	NA	Ravenden	2,370.05	2,549.10	Houston	644.27	732.69	Palestine	11,250.00	11,341.66
Wooster	5,641.21	6,145.89	Sedgwick	766.49	824.39	Perry	1,005.50	1,143.51	Wheatley	5,864.54	5,912.32
Franklin County	153,750.61	152,659.47	Smithville	393.33	423.04	Perryville	5,437.15	6,183.41	Widener	4,509.90	4,546.66
Altus	6,023.67	5,972.28	Strawberry	1,522.88	1,637.93	Phillips County	99,179.73	97,017.02	Stone County	77,162.70	78,137.16
Branch	2,916.47	2,891.59	Walnut Ridge	24,658.65	26,521.46	Elaine	11,102.35	10,860.26	Fifty Six	1,409.18	1,426.97
Charleston	20,041.82	19,650.21	Lee County	25,856.52	34,451.04	Helena-West Helena	175,927.96	172,091.73	Mountain View	22,383.94	22,666.62
Denning	3,742.94	3,711.00	Aubrey	801.24	1,067.57	Lake View	7,733.24	7,564.61	Union County	553,932.90	623,461.90
Ozark	29,275.99	29,026.22	Haynes	946.98	941.97	Lexa	4,992.57	4,883.71	Callon	16,148.93	18,175.93
Wiederkkehr Village	301.98	299.40	LaGrange	419.47	558.90	Marvell	20,703.46	20,252.00	El Dorado	687,602.65	773,909.69
Fulton County	99,174.97	96,561.79	Marianna	19,394.74	25,841.42	Pike County	143,881.09	148,665.59	Feisenthal	3,957.02	4,453.70
Ash Flat	392.36	478.42	Moro	1,018.05	1,356.44	Antoine	922.72	773.81	Huttig	22,133.93	24,912.15
Cherokee Village	3,050.43	3,719.51	Rondo	933.21	1,243.41	Daisy	906.95	760.59	Junction City	19,743.61	22,221.80
Hardy	161.56	197.00	Lincoln County	55,893.42	51,051.82	Delight	2,200.33	1,845.25	Norphlet	24,911.10	28,037.90
Horseshoe Bend	65.39	79.74	Gould	4,424.32	4,041.08	Glenwood	17,239.86	14,457.74	Smackover	65,538.11	73,764.37
Mammoth Spring	3,758.22	4,582.55	Grady	2,373.38	2,167.80	Murfreesboro	12,941.73	10,853.23	Strong	18,647.16	20,987.72
Salem	6,289.35	7,668.85	Star City	12,020.21	10,978.99	Poinsett County	106,442.58	103,381.60	Van Buren County	242,493.86	245,682.38
Viola	1,296.35	1,580.66	Little River County	151,431.89	171,279.26	Fisher	1,592.02	1,539.33	Clinton	212,839.90	21,823.90
Garland County	1,657,844.10	752,997.26	Ashdown	30,888.38	34,936.76	Harrisburg	16,434.27	15,793.62	Damascus	2,069.63	2,096.84
Fountain Lake	3,884.24	4,001.37	Foreman	6,611.93	7,478.52	Lepanto	13,514.36	13,067.01	Fairfield Bay	17,840.17	18,074.75
Lonsdale	725.88	747.77	Ogden	1,177.20	1,331.49	Marked Tree	18,319.00	17,712.60	Shirley	2,409.04	2,440.72
Mountain Pine	5,946.05	6,125.36	Wilton	2,445.96	2,766.54	Trumann	52,087.06	49,997.03	Washington County	1,306,291.35	1,246,857.13
Grant County	178,145.10	178,674.39	Winthrop	1,255.68	1,420.25	Tyronza	5,440.01	5,259.94	Elkins	38,905.94	37,135.79
Greene County	485,129.80	143,000.12	Logan County	93,051.28	91,469.58	Waldenburg	435.49	421.07	Elm Springs	21,994.79	20,994.06
Delaplaine	1,251.38	1,237.63	Blue Mountain	916.83	901.25	Weiner	5,111.61	4,942.41	Farmington	87,773.46	83,779.90
Lafe	4,940.78	4,886.52	Booneville	29,501.36	28,999.89	Polk County	241,009.13	242,023.49	Fayetteville	1,081,079.85	1,031,892.40
Marmaduke	11,985.17	11,853.55	Caulksville	1,574.88	1,548.11	Cove	7,229.32	7,259.76	Goshen	15,735.75	15,019.80
Oak Grove Heights	9,590.30	9,484.97	Magazine	6,262.57	6,156.12	Grannis	10,484.42	10,528.54	Greenland	18,497.95	17,656.33
Paragould	281,700.11	278,606.45	Morrison Bluff	473.20	465.16	Hatfield	7,816.00	7,849.90	Johnson	49,278.90	47,036.79
Hempstead County	578,276.08	570,814.27	Paris	26,114.99	25,671.08	Mena	108,572.39	109,029.34	Lincoln	33,043.61	31,540.17
Blevins	3,593.35	3,546.99	Ratcliff	1,493.55	1,468.16	Vandervoort	1,646.46	1,653.40	Prairie Grove	64,353.49	61,425.51
Emmet	490.52	484.19	Scranton	1,656.22	1,628.06	Wickes	14,269.43	14,329.46	Springdale	936,548.96	893,937.45
Fulton	2,292.90	2,263.32	Subiaco	4,229.28	4,157.39	Pope County	335,518.83	353,271.53	Tontitown	36,143.74	34,499.26
Hope	115,158.42	113,672.47	Lonoke County	252,889.65	294,657.62	Atkins	40,294.86	42,426.91	West Fork	34,042.70	32,493.81
McCaskill	1,095.12	1,080.99	Allport	1,022.58	1,191.48	Dover	18,410.58	19,384.71	Winslow	5,744.80	5,483.41
McNab	775.71	765.70	Austin	18,121.98	21,115.06	Hector	6,012.16	6,330.27	White County	948,468.86	1,014,608.19
Oakhaven	718.67	709.40	Cabot	211,417.17	246,335.43	London	13,881.42	14,615.90	Bald Knob	36,910.31	39,484.17
Ozan	969.64	957.12	Carlisle	19,686.98	22,938.54	Pottsville	37,916.71	39,922.93	Beebe	93,199.49	99,698.55
Patmos	730.08	720.66	Coy	853.64	973.021.38	Russellville	373,021.38	392,758.37	Bradford	9,670.32	10,344.66
Perrytown	3,102.83	3,062.79	England	25,120.02	29,268.91	Prairie County	30,720.45	60,735.26	Garner	3,618.41	3,870.73
Washington	2,053.35	2,026.84	Humnoke	2,525.34	2,942.43	Biscoe	2,547.17	5,035.84	Georgetown	1,579.87	1,690.04
Hot Spring County	275,007.49	276,537.12	Keo	2,276.36	2,652.33	Des Arc	12,048.20	23,819.65	Higginson	2,866.70	3,066.60
Donaldson	2,224.93	2,237.60	Lonoke	37,746.71	43,981.07	DeValls Bluff	4,343.53	8,587.28	Jacksonville	15,058.36	15,696.57
Friendship	1,300.95	1,308.37	Ward	36,163.93	42,136.87	Ulm	1,192.89	2,358.39	Little Rock	556,139.64	579,710.15
Magnet Cove	NA	37.17	Madison County	184,612.73	162,743.58	Pulaski County	955,891.97	996,404.92	North Little Rock	1,221,609.23	1,273,383.90
Malvern	76,268.39	76,702.91	Hindsville	389.48	343.34	Alexander	4,627.31	4,823.42	Sherwood	578,864.43	603,398.06
Midway	2,875.40	2,891.78	Huntsville	14,978.95	13,204.55	Cammack Village	15,058.36	15,696.57	Wrightsville	41,449.68	43,206.43
Perla	1,781.42	1,791.57	St. Paul	721.50	636.03	Jacksonville	556,139.64	579,710.15	Randolph County	119,883.05	125,619.84
Rockport	5,580.80	5,612.59	Marion County	78,810.01	74,091.10	Little Rock	3,794,470.73	3,955,289.32	Biggers	2,906.56	3,045.65
Howard County	316,752.25	341,361.39	Bull Shoals	13,577.13	12,764.17	Maumelle	336,518.99	350,781.46	Maynard	3,568.28	3,739.04
Dierks	15,517.27	16,722.84	Flippin	9,434.36	8,869.46	North Little Rock	1,221,609.23	1,273,383.90	O'Keane	1,624.99	1,702.75
Mineral Springs	16,544.45	17,829.82	Pyatt	1,538.74	1,446.61	Sherwood	578,864.43	603,398.06	Pocahontas	55,350.29	57,998.98
Nashville	63,370.17	68,293.54	Summit	4,205.43	3,953.62	Wrightsville	41,449.68	43,206.43	Ravenden Springs	988.40	1,035.70
Tollette	3,286.98	3,542.34	Yellville	8,383.01	7,881.06	Wrightsville	41,449.68	43,206.43			

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MUNICIPAL MART

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BOOKKEEPER 1—Maumelle has an opening for a Bookkeeper 1 in the Finance Department. The position of Bookkeeper 1 is responsible for all monthly and quarterly billing and all related duties. Essential duties and responsibilities include: Setting up new accounts, keeping records, returning checks, writing letters, calculating fees, making collections, posting payments, making transfers, making deposits, answering customer questions about billing, assisting new residents, making copies, faxing, processing mail, filing, preparing bills for mailing (including use of postage and folding machines), relieving receptionist; preparing court report, telephone bills, and taking cash payments; and completing other duties and tasks as needed and assigned. Minimum qualifications: Associates Degree or equivalent from a two-year college or technical school; and three years related experience and/or training or the equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience with utility billing and collecting preferred. Experience with Microsoft Word and Excel required. Experience with Springbrook preferred but not required.

Salary range DOE. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Go to www.maumelle.org and click on the Human Resources Department to print an application. Mail completed applications to: City of Maumelle-Human Resources Department, 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 590, Maumelle, AR 72113. For more information call 501-851-2784 ext. 242, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. EOE.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR—Seneca, Kan. (pop. 1,979; \$6.6 million budget; 20 FTE), is a progressive community in NE Kansas. For information, visit www.seneca-kansas.us/. Bachelor's degree required. Ideal candidate should have 2+ years in municipal government, along with budgeting and grant writing experience. City is seeking a hard-working, ethical administrator with strong leadership and communication skills. Salary \$60K-\$75K DOQ. Send cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references to LEAPS-Seneca@lkm.org or LEAPS-Seneca, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS, 66603. EOE. Open until filled. Application review begins February 11.

CITY ENGINEER—Siloam Springs is seeking qualified candidates for the position of city engineer. Under the direction of the city administrator, the city engineer oversees engineering design, provides technical engineering support, reviews private development proposals and is responsible for the administration of capitol improvement projects. Duties also include resolving public technical questions and developing engineering solutions for road, building and utility maintenance projects, and supervision of personnel. A Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering and two years experience as a professional engineer in a government setting is preferred. Must possess working knowledge of planning practices involving land use, etc. Must be proficient in Windows environment, including Word, Excel, Outlook, and Auto Cad. Must possess a valid Ark. DL or have the ability to obtain one and Ark. registration as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Civil Engineering or ability to obtain within three months.

Salary Range: \$65,928-\$87,360. The city offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 Deferred Compensation, vacation and sick leave. Applications are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, or can be accessed online at www.siloamsprings.com. For more information, call 479-524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. EOE. Open until filled.

CITY TREASURER—Lakeland, Tenn., pop. 12,460, is accepting applications for the position of City Treasurer. Position reports to city manager. Degree in finance or related field and local government experience preferred. Salary negotiable DOE. Benefits include 12 days paid sick and vacation leave, paid disability, TCRS retirement, paid health and dental insurance. Applications available at Lakeland City Hall, 10001 U.S. Hwy. 70, Lakeland, TN 38002; or online at www.lakelandtn.gov. Mail applications to City Hall, fax to 901-867-2063, or email to Rherry@lakelandtn.org. EOE/drug testing employer.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & BUDGET—North Little Rock seeks a Director of Finance & Budget. Directs city's financial planning and accounting practices, and its relationship with lending institutions, financial community, and taxpayers. Min. requirements: BA/BS in Accounting or related field, CPA license, seven years directly related experience or equiv. of education and experience, basic knowledge and understanding of computerized accounting systems. Salary: Neg. Excellent benefits package. Applications available at Human Resources Dept., 3rd Floor, 120 Main St., North Little Rock, AR. Jobline: 501-975-3724. Tel.: 501-975-8855. Open until filled. EOE.

FOR SALE—Hampton has for sale a 1978 Galion Motor Grader. Can be seen at Hampton City Shop, or call 870-798-2753 for more info.

FOR SALE—Magnolia has for sale three Chevy Impalas. 2009 Impala, mileage 101,417; 2009 Impala, mileage 108,078; and 2010 Impala, mileage 99,400. All running, ready to work. Pictures upon request. \$7,500 each OBO. Contact Mayor Parnell Vann at 870-234-1375.

LEGAL ASSISTANT/MAYOR'S SECRETARY—Bryant is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Legal Assistant/Mayor's Secretary. Under the direction of the mayor and staff attorney, this position maintains and organizes correspondence and documents; assists in legal preparation; responds to public inquiries; prepares proclamations, memorandums and other certifications; submits invoices; investigates facts of a limited scope; communicates with staff and department heads; responds to general public; and other duties. Requirements: broad knowledge of such fields as accounting, marketing, and business administration; HS diploma or equivalent, plus specialized training equal to two years of college or four years related experience and/or training and 1-6 months related management experience or equivalent combination of education and experience; valid Ark. DL or valid DL recognized by the State of Arkansas. Paralegal Certificate preferred but not required. Pay range: \$26,531 to \$33,164 DOE and qualifications. Benefits include vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, APERS retirement, health insurance as well as dental, vision, and life insurance. Full job description available at www.cityofbryant.com. Apply in person at the City of Bryant, Human Resources Department, 210 SW 3rd St., Bryant, AR 72202; or on the City of Bryant website. For additional information, contact the Human Resources Department at 501-943-0999.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR—The Cabot Parks and Recreation Commission is looking to hire a parks and recreation director. Application and Job description can be found online at cabotparks.com. Applicants should submit cover letter, resume and application to Maggie Cope (maggie.cope@cops.k12.ar.us) by Monday, Feb. 18, 2013. Salary range \$51,477 to \$77,215.

POLICE OFFICER—Fordyce is accepting applications for the position of full-time police officer. Candidates must be able to meet all requirements of law enforcement standards and training. Fordyce maintains a residency requirement for full-time officers. Benefits include health insurance package, paid vacation, sick leave and retirement. Certified and/or military veterans preferred. For applications contact Chief Jimmy Vaughan at 870-352-2178.

POLICE OFFICER—Russellville is seeking certified and non-certified applicants for police officer. Application deadline is 4 p.m. April 5. Applicants must be at least 21 years old, U.S. Citizen, HS Graduate or GED, and possess valid DL. Applications can be picked up at the Russellville Police Department, 115 West H Street, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, March 11-April 5, or contact the Police Department at 479-968-3232 to request an application by mail. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—The West Fork Police Department is now hiring a full-time certified police officer. If interested send resume to wfpd@westforkar.gov or mail to P.O. Box 339, West Fork, AR 72774. If you have any questions call 479-839-2300.

POOL MANAGER—Maumelle is taking applications for pool manager with the Parks & Recreation Dept. This position is seasonal. The pool manager will be responsible for daily operations of the Aquatic Center, including all pools and slides, dressing room facilities, offices and storage space, pool equipment, concession stand, supervise head life guards and lifeguards, maintains staff schedule, manage swim lessons, maintain discipline and safety, and complete other duties and tasks as needed or assigned. Qualifications include a HS diploma or GED and two years related experience or training, or the equivalent combination of education and experience and one to six months of functional/management experience. The interview process will begin in March. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. For an application go to www.maumelle.org and click on the Human Resources Department. Completed applications should be mailed to: City of Maumelle Human Resources Department, 550 Edgewood Drive Suite 590, Maumelle, AR 72113. For questions, contact the Human Resources office at 501-851-2784 ext. 242, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. EOE.

WATER UTILITIES MANAGER—Mena Water Utilities is seeking applications for a General Manager to direct the operations and oversee the finances of the Utility. Applicants should have either a BA in Management or equivalent experience. Applicants with water utility experience and background preferred. Relevant attributes include knowledge of water treatment and distribution, wastewater treatment and collection, accounting and financial controls, and state and federal regulations. Must possess a Class III Water Treatment, Class III Water Distribution, and Grade II Wastewater licenses, or the ability to obtain them within one year. Must be able to maintain positive team environment, and balance current utility demands with future goals and performance requirements.

Applications with resumes and copies of certifications will be accepted at the Arkansas Employment Security Department, 479-394-3060, Mena, AR 71953. Open until filled. EOE.

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Seated from left: Michael McBryde, Carey Smith, Jason Holsclaw and Mark McBryde (Executive Vice President and Director of Public Finance)

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