

City & Town

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

New leaders named during 83rd Convention



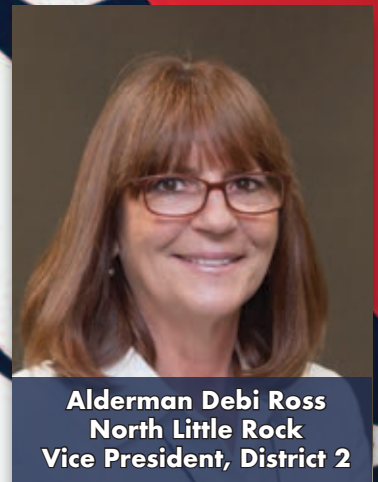
Mayor Doug Sprouse
Springdale
President



Mayor Joe Smith
North Little Rock
First Vice President



Mayor Joe Dillard
Mountain Home
Vice President, District 1



Alderman Debi Ross
North Little Rock
Vice President, District 2



Mayor Lioneld Jordan
Fayetteville
Vice President, District 3



Mayor Jerry Boen
Lamar
Vice President, District 4

How do you think new money becomes old money?



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Cover photos by Mark Potter.



ON THE COVER—The League welcomes its new slate of officers for 2017-2018. They began their terms on June 16, the final day of a successful 83rd Convention in Little Rock. New League President Doug Sprouse, mayor of Springdale, will appoint a new Executive Committee, the members of which, along with advisory council members, will appear in the August issue of *City & Town*. Revisit the 83rd Convention inside beginning on page 6.—atm

Features

6 League preps for year at 83rd Convention

The League elected new officers, adopted its policies and goals for the year, discussed legislation affecting cities and towns arising from this year's General Assembly, and covered an array of issues important to municipalities at the 83rd Convention, held June 14-16 at the Statehouse Convention Center and Marriott Hotel in Little Rock.

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Stephens has donated 20 sets of firefighting turnout gear, which are on their way to Ghana to help fight fires in the communities of the Volta Region.

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Batesville in June cut the ribbon on its long-anticipated community center and aquatic park, one of the finest such facilities in the state.

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Publisher Don Zimmerman	Communications Director Whitnee V. Bullerwell
Editor Andrew T. Morgan	Graphic Designer Mark R. Potter
Advertising Assistant Tricia Zello	Email: citytown@arml.org



www.arml.org

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Dear Friends,

It was an honor to be named as your new president at the 83rd Annual Convention last month. I'm glad to have the chance to speak to you about important issues each month through this publication. I want to take some time in my inaugural letter to introduce myself.

I am the mayor of the great city of Springdale, which is the fourth-largest city in Arkansas. I was elected in 2008, and I am currently in my third term. It has been the greatest joy of my life to serve the families in Springdale, and I am eager to take on the awesome responsibility to also serve as your League president. This is truly a humbling experience, and it is not a responsibility I take lightly.

I want to thank Mayor Harry Brown for his inspiring leadership. He is an example of grace, strength, and tenacity, and I aim to echo those qualities in my role as president. I also want to thank Don Zimmerman and the entire AML staff for promoting and protecting the interests of the municipi-

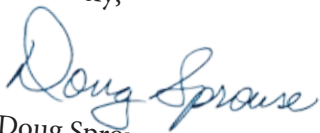
This organization has been a vital part of my tenure as mayor, and I have been involved with the Municipal League since taking office in Springdale. I served on the Executive Committee from 2009-2013 and 2014 to the present, as District 3 vice president in 2013-2014, and I have served on the State Aid Street Committee since 2013. Thank you for allowing me to now serve as your president. I know we will do great things together.

I'm looking forward to working with a new slate of officers and to continue working with the League on behalf of the cities and towns of Arkansas. It is a pleasure to serve alongside the elected officials in this great state who are consistently mindful that we've been placed in this position solely to serve the residents of our cities.

This will no doubt be a great year as we all work together to move Arkansas forward for the benefit of all Arkansans. To ensure that we are looking out for our communities, we must stay vigilant on the issues that affect all of us. One issue that will be crucial this year is online sales tax collection. Many cities have passed a resolution supporting the online sales tax collection legislation, and the Springdale City Council will have that opportunity on July 11.

Your support for this legislation is critical to encourage the governor to call a special session and deal with this issue. As we all know, sales tax is the lifeblood of a city. This legislation will help level the playing field for our brick-and-mortar businesses, and bring financial benefits to our residents through the supplying of and enhancement of city services. I hope each of you will join me and the Arkansas Municipal League leadership this year to fight for this legislation.

Sincerely,



Doug Sprouse
Mayor, Springdale
President, Arkansas Municipal League



Mayor Doug Sprouse, **Springdale** President
 Mayor Joe Smith, **North Little Rock** First Vice President
 Mayor Joe Dillard, **Mountain Home** ... Vice President, District 1
 Alderman Debi Ross, **North Little Rock** Vice President, District 2
 Mayor Lioneld Jordan, **Fayetteville** Vice President, District 3
 Mayor Jerry Boen, **Lamar** Vice President, District 4
 Don A. Zimmerman Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: TBA

PAST PRESIDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, **Batesville**; Mayor JoAnne Bush, **Lake Village**; Mayor Mark Stodola, **Little Rock**; Mayor Frank Fogleman, **Marion**; Alderman Murry Witcher, **North Little Rock**; Mayor Mike Gaskill, **Paragould**; Mayor Jackie Crabtree, **Pea Ridge**; Mayor Robert Patrick, **St. Charles**; Mayor Harry Brown, **Stephens**

LARGE FIRST CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

FIRST CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

SECOND CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: TBA

MUNICIPAL HEALTH BENEFIT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Clerk/Treasurer Mitri Greenhill, **Stuttgart**, District 1; Mayor Gary Fletcher, **Jacksonville**, District 2; Mayor Randy Horton, **Russellville**, District 3; City Mayor Marie Trisollini, **Camden**, District 4; Mayor Parnell Vann, **Magnolia**, At-Large Member

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PENSION MANAGEMENT AND OPEB TRUSTS, BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Finance Director Karen Scott, **North Little Rock**, Chairman; Treasury Manager Scott Massanelli, **Little Rock**, Vice Chair; Clerk/Treasurer Carol Westergren, **Beebe**; Comptroller Mandy Spicer, **Benton**; Finance Director Joy Black, **Bryant**

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



League sets agenda for year at 83rd Convention

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

The Arkansas Municipal League set its agenda for the year, elected a new slate of officers for 2017-2018, and covered numerous issues important to cities and towns during the 83rd Convention, held June 14-16 at the Marriott Hotel and Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. Total attendance at this year's Convention was 1,325 including 749 delegates.

Several of the sessions during the 83rd Convention dealt with new laws emerging from the recent 91st General Assembly, including implementing legislation for new constitutional amendments passed by the state's voters during last year's general election. League Executive Director Don Zimmerman gave delegates an overview of the legislative session and how bills affecting municipalities fared.

Zimmerman thanked Gov. Asa Hutchinson for his support of municipal issues during the 91st General Assembly. One especially important thing that Hutchinson did for cities this session was to protect turnback for cities, he said. The governor was also very helpful when it came to preventing certain bad bills from moving forward and becoming law. Those included a number of harmful restrictions on municipal annexations, bills that aimed to limit cities' ability to hold special elections, a bill that would require the consent of the state for cities to alter or move historical military monuments, and a bill that would have prevented a city from passing a local sales tax without the approval of a full two-thirds of the electorate. A Senate bill called for a prohibition against so-called "sanctuary cities."



Zimmerman

"The governor correctly labeled that 'a solution looking for a problem,' and that bill didn't go anywhere," Zimmerman said.

The League's legislative package fared very well before the Legislature, with 16 bills of the 20 proposed becoming law. One of those that did not make it that the League hopes there's still life for is creating the mechanism necessary at the state level to collect the sales tax due on Internet purchases. Similar legislation at the federal level has stalled in the last few years despite broad bi-partisan support.

Being able to collect the sales tax already due on Internet purchases would do several important things for the local economy, Zimmerman said, including level the playing field for local, brick-and-mortar retailers who are already compelled to remit sales tax, and boost sales tax collections for municipalities, which rely on those funds for public safety, streets, parks, and numerous other essential services.

Zimmerman said that with a little more time during the 91st General Assembly, that legislation might have made it. Senate Bill 140 fell just eight votes short in the House.

In March of this year, Amazon began voluntarily remitting sales tax on some Internet sales in Arkansas, and when the receipt totals were released in May it showed an overall 7.2 percent increase for cities from the same month last year.

"The only thing that can explain that to me is the Amazon effect," Zimmerman said.

The League renewed its support for the issue of marketplace fairness at the 83rd Convention, and the resolution will be included in this year's *Policies and Goals*. Zimmerman also encouraged all city councils to pass a similar resolution at home and then to share the news with the governor.

"We're gathering momentum on this issue," he said, "and the governor has been with us on that all the way through."

PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

The League welcomed Gov. Hutchinson, who addressed the Convention during a general session on Thursday, June 15. He acknowledged that local retailers are at a disadvantage to online retailers.

“There ought to be fairness,” he said.

He encouraged cities to work with the legislatively created task force for tax reform, which is exploring this issue. It should be part of the larger discussion on making our overall tax system better, he said.

“How can it be more fair, how can it be more competitive, how can it be more simple for our citizens of this state?” Hutchinson asked.

He hopes that pursuing marketplace fairness is one of the recommendations that comes out of that task force.

He said he considered the 91st General Assembly a very “pro-jobs, pro-economic growth” session. He thanked the League and cities for their participation during the session on issues that affect municipalities.

Lowering what he called the state’s non-competitive income tax rates has been a priority for the governor, he said. During the 2015 legislative session it was reduced for middle income earners in the state, and during this session it was reduced for the lower income earners.

“Since I’ve been governor, 95 percent of Arkansans have had their income tax rate reduced,” Hutchinson said. “It simply means that your citizens have more money in their pocket that they can spend in the downtown merchants that drive your economy forward.”

It also means more sales tax for cities and towns, he added.

The state’s voters in 2016’s general election passed Amendment 97, which allows cities to spend taxpayer money on certain economic development initiatives.

During the 91st General Assembly, Sen. Jim Hendren was instrumental in working with the League to introduce and pass implementing legislation—Act 685 of 2017—that both fulfills the intent of the amendment while providing necessary



Hutchinson



Hendren

protections for municipalities. For his work on the legislation, the League named Hendren its Person of the Year during the 83rd Convention. During a general session on the final day of Convention, Hendren discussed the issue. He credited the hard work of the stakeholder groups who worked together to make the legislation work, including the League, the Association of Counties, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and the State Chamber of Commerce. The resulting law will service cities well, he said.

“What I was concerned with, particularly since my name is on the bill, was that we did not pass a piece of legislation that embarrassed us later because we have a bunch of cities that get in financial distress and either have to be bailed out by the state or by the taxpayers in some other form,” Hendren said.

“The legislative intent on this was to give you the authority that was approved by the voters. And then we as the Legislature had a duty to implement laws to make sure it was legal and the rules of the game were spelled out, and then to make sure that you go forth and do great things with it. I’m convinced that this legislation does that.”

Beth Van Duyne, HUD’s newly appointed admin-

istrator of Region VI, which includes Arkansas, addressed the Convention Thursday morning, June 15. Van Duyne is a former mayor and city council member of Irving, Texas, and she was active in the Texas Municipal League. HUD’s Region VI office is based in Fort Worth.



Van Duyne

Van Duyne acknowledged that the current proposed 2018 budget for HUD does not include funding for the widely utilized Community Development Block Grant program, or CDBG.

“HUD’s \$40 billion 2018 budget does pose some challenges, but I do believe that we are prepared to meet those challenges,” she says.

CDBG has done some good, but it is “also full of inefficiencies,” she said. Moving forward, programs should be compassionate but fiscally responsible, Van Duyne said. 🏛️



Convention workshops cover array of municipal issues

Sharing information and best practices are at the core of the Arkansas Municipal League's mission, and the 83rd Convention featured 18 concurrent workshops that covered a wide variety of topics important to cities.

In the workshop "Planning and Preparing for Large Capital Improvement Projects," finance and bond experts discussed the steps city officials need to follow when seeking bond financing. The first step in the process is to identify projects. The second step is to know what you want to build or repair, but also understand your financial ability to maintain the infrastructure in the future. Green Forest Mayor Charlie Reece advised "hiring qualified people, listening to bond counsel, and then get out of their way!"

In another finance-centered workshop—"The Basics of Budgeting: Are you Prepared for a Legislative Audit"—Deputy Legislative Auditor Marti Steel provided an overview of how to prepare for a Legislative Audit and a description of what types of reports that Legislative Audit prepares for the municipalities of Arkansas. She provided the participants with a handbook titled, "How to prepare for a Legislative Audit." She discussed budgeting law, several common audit findings, and discussed the new Act 712. She expects this new legislation to only affect the repeat offenders that are significantly out of compliance with the Municipal Accounting Law and those who are not correcting their audit findings. She stressed that each city will be given time to become compliant before their charter is revoked.

Brookland Mayor Kenneth Jones discussed the budgeting process from a mayor's point of view, stressing the importance of cooperation among the different city departments in the budgeting process.

The League's Finance Director Cindy Frizzell briefly discussed the importance of the *Municipal Accounting Handbook*. It has been updated with legislative changes, but a committee should be formed to update the handbook in its entirety, she suggested.

In the workshop "The Challenges of Municipal Human Resources," Hot Springs Human Resources Director Minnie Lenox suggested ways to create a diverse workplace. "Does your workforce mirror your community, and are the needs of everyone being met equally?" she asked. She encouraged attendees to embrace differences and open the dialog about creating and maintaining a diverse workforce. She offered practical ways of creating a diverse workforce such as looking beyond compliance, recruiting from new talent pools, recognizing and celebrating diversity, creating ways to allow people to

network with diverse organizations, and making diversity a core value of your organization.

League Director of Legal Services Mark Hayes presented an overview of the Fair Labor Standards Act, including minimum wage requirements, overtime and compensatory time calculations, maintaining accurate timekeeping records, defining exempt and non-exempt employees, requirements regarding uniformed employees, and more.

Charles Angel with American Fidelity introduced a new Human Resources Information System that the League is beta testing as a new offering from their company. The HRIS system will help resolve some of the issues presented by Mark Hayes concerning FLSA compliance.

Cities and towns in Arkansas are "social" and it's paying off for them, according to presenters of the workshop "Social Media Success: How Can Your City Benefit?" Police departments, in particular, have ramped up their social media presence as the public is assisting with crime solving in cities throughout Arkansas in a big way.

No matter the city or town's population, social media is an effective way to engage with and inform citizens. The small town of Avoca, under 500 in population, has a vibrant social media presence using only Facebook. Avoca does a great job at curating information from their region of the state, too. So not only do they make certain their citizens are informed, they go beyond by making sure their social media reaches to the neighboring cities and towns. And if you want to take a lesson in creating exciting and innovative "hashtags," just visit any of Rogers social media platforms. #RogersRock and #WherePossibleLives are attracting visitors and engaging residents in a variety of ways—all benefitting the city of Rogers.

In "Managing Information When a Crisis Strikes," Richard McKeown, a professional crisis communication and reputation management counselor, presented a crash course in message management for public officials, including good examples and bad. Keeping the public informed via the media is key following a crisis, and he offered these essential tips: Speak with one voice to keep the message succinct, share verified information only (don't engage in speculation), and communicate and update regularly. He reminded attendees that everything you say after a crisis is subject to instant broader circulation via social media, which makes communicating clearly and effectively all the more important.

League staff members Whitnee Bullerwell, Cindy Frizzell, and Tracey Pew contributed to our workshop coverage.

New officers elected and executive director reports at annual business meeting

Delegates to the 83rd Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League elected a new slate of officers for 2017-2018 during the annual business meeting, held June 16 at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. Outgoing President Harry Brown, mayor of Stephens, introduced the new officers at the closing awards and new officers' luncheon later that day.



The League honored outgoing President Harry Brown, mayor of Stephens, left, and welcomed new President Doug Sprouse, mayor of Springdale, right, during the Awards and New Officers Luncheon at the conclusion of the 83rd Convention, June 16.

The new officers are: Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse, president; North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, first vice president; Mountain Home Mayor Joe Dillard, District 1 vice president; North Little Rock Alderman Debi Ross, District 2 vice president; Fayetteville Mayor Lioneld Jordan, District 3 vice president; and Lamar Mayor Jerry Boen, District 4 vice president.

The League starts the new fiscal year with 499 member cities and towns out of the state's 500 municipalities, Executive Director Don Zimmerman said during his annual report on the organization and its programs. It's the first time in 12 years the League has dropped below 100 percent membership, he said. The newly incorporated city of Southside in Independence County has not yet joined the League, but Zimmerman said he hopes they'll see the value membership offers and join soon.

In the last several years the League has offered a limited service membership for other municipal entities—counties, housing authorities, and water districts,

for example—and 123 have joined to take advantage of some of the League's programs, Zimmerman said.

The League's programs, particularly in the realm of risk management, are going strong, he reported.

"I think you all do risk management better than cities anywhere else in the country," Zimmerman said.

Though down two cities from last year, the League's Municipal Legal Defense Program serves nearly all the municipalities in Arkansas, with 445 members.

Participation in the Municipal Health Benefit Fund is the same as last year with 212 members. The Municipal Vehicle Program has 412 participants, three more than last year. The Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust is down two to 489 cities and towns. The Municipal Property Program is up 17 to 329.

Participation in the Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit is up eight to 208. The Firefighters Supplemental Income Protection and Death Benefit Program is up 10 to 243 participants.



Executive Director Don Zimmerman reports during the annual business meeting that the League's optional programs saw a net increase of 32 participants in the past year.

The Arkansas Local Government Pension Management Trust has 18 participants, one less than last year. The drug-testing program for non-CDL employees has 103 members, three less than last year. The ordinance codification service has 141 participants, two more than last year. 🏛️

Recognition for One Year of Service

The Recognition for One Year of Service is given to those who have served on various boards or committees for the first time this past year. Recipients were recognized at the Opening Night Banquet of the 83rd Convention.

City Clerk Rendi Currey,
Arkadelphia, MHBF Board of Trustees

City Clerk/Treasurer Denise Johnston, **Batesville,** Advisory Council

Mayor Danny Shaw, **Bono,** Advisory Council

Mayor Ronnie Guthrie, **Calico Rock,** Advisory Council

Mayor Phillip Moudy, **Danville,** Advisory Council

Alderman Ralph Bird, **Gassville,** Advisory Council

Mayor Sherry Kelly, **Gurdon,** Advisory Council

Mayor Jerry Boen, **Lamar,** Advisory Council

Fire Chief Josh Dunavan, **Little Flock,** Advisory Council

Alderman Loye Free, **Marianna,** Advisory Council

Mayor Carroll Shipman, **McDougal,** Advisory Council

Mayor Terrie Triplet, **McNeil,** Advisory Council

Mayor Carl Griswold, **Mitchellville,** Advisory Council

Alderman John Payne, **Morrilton,** Advisory Council

Mayor Jim Poole, **Piggott,** Advisory Council

City Director Bob Coleman, **Siloam Springs,** Advisory Council

Asst. to Mayor Pamela Dawkins, **Strong,** Advisory Council

Mayor Charles Miller, **Tollette,** Advisory Council

Mayor Namon Goff, **Twin Groves,** Advisory Council

Mayor Patricia Glover, **Waldo,** Advisory Council

Alderman James Pulliaum, **West Memphis,** Advisory Council

Alderman Marvin Hopson, Sr., **Wilmar,** Advisory Council 

League adopts resolutions, policies and goals for 2017-2018

The League's Resolutions Committee, which is comprised of one delegate from each member municipality, met twice during the 83rd Convention to discuss and then vote upon a package of resolutions and to update the *Policies and Goals* statement that will guide League policy this year. The resolutions and *Policies and Goals* statement endorsed by the committee were approved by the full membership during the annual business meeting on Friday, June 16.

The number of resolutions submitted for the committee's approval is typically smaller in years when the Convention follows a General Session of the Arkansas Legislature. This year just four resolutions were passed. They include:

1. A resolution supporting federal and state legislation ensuring the proper assessment and collection of local sales tax on Internet sales;
2. A resolution supporting the continued study of all financial matters of the state's district court system, including the funding of the Administration of Justice Fund, and court fees and fines;
3. A resolution supporting amending A.C.A. § 26-74-401 et seq. to ensure a more fair distribution of sales tax revenue; and
4. A resolution supporting amending A.C.A. § 14-44-115 and § 14-45-108 to give cities of the second class and incorporated towns the authority, by ordinance, to make the position of recorder, treasurer, or recorder/treasurer non-elected but subject to the normal hiring practices of the municipality.

Regarding the first resolution, the League also encourages all member cities and towns to consider passing a similar resolution at home in a show of support for leveling the playing field between local businesses and Internet retailers. The League is imploring Gov. Asa Hutchinson to call a legislative special session before the year ends to address the issue of marketplace fairness at the state level since the federal legislation, the Remote Transactions Parity Act, has stalled despite bipartisan support.

The League has produced a sample resolution on this issue that city councils may use as a guide. To download a copy of the sample resolution, visit the Legislative Action Center under "Resources" or the Press Releases page under "News & Events" on the League's website,



Pea Ridge Mayor Jackie Crabtree gives the nominating committee's report at the annual business meeting.

www.arml.org, or call League Executive Director Don Zimmerman at 501-374-3484.

The new resolutions will appear in the League's updated *Policies and Goals 2017-2018*, which will be included as a supplement to the August issue of *City & Town*. 🏛️



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League honors leaders, cities for service

LITTLE ROCK—The Arkansas Municipal League honored state and local leaders and cities and towns for outstanding service to their citizens and to the League this past year at the League's 83rd Convention, June 14-16 in Little Rock.

The League named District 2 State Sen. Jim Hendren its Person of the Year. The League periodically presents the award to a person who, during the previous year, has made a special contribution to advancing the goals and objectives of the League and its member cities and towns.



League President Harry Brown, mayor of Stephens, left, presents Sen. Jim Hendren with the League's Person of the Year Award during the opening night banquet of the 83rd Convention.

During the 2017 legislative session, Hendren sponsored the League's bill to implement Constitutional Amendment 97, which the state's voters passed in the General Election of 2016. The new legislation should result in increased economic development opportunities for cities and towns while at the same time ensuring that municipal funds are spent appropriately.

The League honored Jeff Hawkins with the John Woodruff City Above Self Award. The award is presented to a person who has provided lasting benefits to cities and towns of Arkansas, either collectively or individually, by being an outstanding example of dedication to their improvement.

Hawkins has served as a planning director at the city and regional levels in Arkansas for more than 40 years. He is recognized for his expertise regarding municipal planning and development, land use, redistricting, and

annexation. He has been involved in more than 100 annexations in cities across Arkansas.

The award is named in honor of the League's former communications coordinator who, until his death in 2007, worked tirelessly and unselfishly for the cities of Arkansas.



Diane Woodruff, left, presents Jeff Hawkins with the League's John Woodruff City Above Self Award.

The Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders, and Treasurers Association named Russellville City Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Collins its Clerk of the Year. The award is presented each year to a member of the Association who has made significant contributions to the objectives of the municipal clerk profession, to the improvement of local government, and to the clerk's community.

Fifteen municipal officials received the Adrian L. White Municipal Leadership Award this year. The award is presented to city officials who have served with distinction and dedication on the League's boards, councils, or committees for six years. The award is named in honor of White, who was mayor of Pocahontas from 1967-1974 and a former League president and vice president. The recipients are Bella Vista Alderman James Wozniak, Blytheville Mayor James Sanders, Bryant Mayor Jill Dabbs, Elkins Mayor Bruce Ledford, Fayetteville Chief of Staff Don Marr, Fort Smith Vice Mayor Kevin Settle, Gould Mayor Essie Cableton, Horseshoe Bend Alderman John Grochowski, Jonesboro Alderman John Street, Lake City Mayor Jon Milligan, Leachville City Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Keith, McRae Mayor Robert Sullivan, Mena Assistant to the Mayor Becky Horton, Shannon Hills Mayor Mike Kemp, and Wynne Mayor Bob Stacy.

Two municipal leaders who have served their cities and the League for 12 years received the Marvin L. Vinson Commitment to Excellence Award, named for the longtime Clarksville mayor who served from 1983 until 2001 and was League president in 1992-1993. The recipients are Dumas Alderman T.C. Pickett and Sherwood Alderman Marina Brooks.

One city official, Warren Alderman Dorothy Henderson, received the Jack R. Rhodes, Sr. Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented to officials who have served their cities and the League for 25 years. Rhodes served as a mayor of Lake Village from 1957 until his retirement in 1990 and was League president in 1981.

Sixteen cities and towns received the Four Star City Award for demonstration of excellence in loss control and employee safety, wellness, vehicle safety, and prevention of liability. They are: Ash Flat, Atkins, Black Rock, Calico Rock, Charleston, Clarendon, Dierks, Greenbrier, Havana, Horseshoe Lake, Kingsland, Mountain View, Mulberry, Prescott, St. Charles, and Tyrone. 🏠

ACAA elects officers for 2017-2018



The Arkansas City Attorney's Association elected new officers for the year at its annual business meeting. The new officers are, from left, Bryant Staff Attorney Chris Madison, 2nd vice president; Cabot City Attorney Jimmy Taylor, secretary; Calico Rock City Attorney Connie Barksdale, 1st vice president; and Jonesboro City Attorney Carol Duncan, president; with Mark Hayes, executive director. Not pictured are Conway City Attorney Chuck Clawson, treasurer; and Jamie Adams, executive secretary.



The ACAA held two days of continuing legal education during the 83rd Convention, meeting at the League's North Little Rock headquarters June 15-16. 🏠

ACCRTA elects officers for 2017-2018



The Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association elected a new slate of officers for the year at the League's 83rd Convention in June. The new officers are, from left, Ozark City Clerk/Treasurer Sonya Eveld, vice president; Batesville City Clerk/Treasurer Denise Johnston, secretary; Paragould City Clerk Andrea Williams, treasurer; and Clarksville City Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Blackard, president. 🏠

83rd Convention Snapshots





749 delegates represented 219 cities and towns at the 83rd Arkansas Municipal League Convention



Alexander

Mayor Paul Mitchell
Alderman Joe Polland
Alderman Melissa Ratliff
Alderman Harold Timmerman
Alderman Juanita Wilson
City Treasurer Ken Miller

Alma

Clerk/Treasurer Wayne Beck

Alpena

Mayor Bobbie Bailey
Recorder/Treasurer Lora Carter
City Attorney James Goldie
Court Clerk Phyllis McNair

Alzheimer

Mayor Zola Hudson
Recorder/Treasurer Doris Hudson-Gaddy
Alderman Linda Gipson
Alderman Blanchie Laws
Alderman Essie Robertson
Alderman Travis White

Altus

Mayor Veronica Post

Arkadelphia

Mayor James Calhoun
City Director Joann Nelson
City Director Mark Overturf
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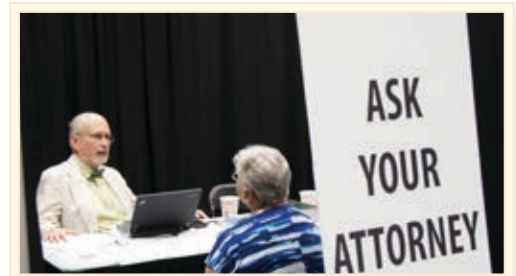
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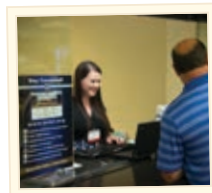
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Stephens donates firefighting gear to Ghana

By Sherman Banks

Stephens Mayor Harry Brown first visited Ghana as the League's first vice president in 2015 as part of a delegation with then-League President Rick Elumbaugh, mayor of Batesville, and me. During that trip we began the process for the development of sister city relationships, and it resulted in agreements for both Stephens and Batesville.

We made several visits to the local municipalities, towns, and villages. We reviewed how we could best develop a comprehensive collaborative relationship between the cities of Arkansas and Ghana's Volta Region moving forward. We brought back our findings and deliberated on our next step.

With input from the local mayors and traditional rulers in the Volta Region, we made another trip to Ghana with Mayor Brown as President of the League and leader of the delegation that included League Director of Operations Ken Wasson, Batesville Alderman Doug Matthews, myself, and a couple from Stephens who are interested in working with Ghana. We found while there that we could provide training to the local officials, offer shadowing opportunities with our League staff, and provide needed equipment and training to their local fire and police departments.

In meeting with the various public service agencies, Mayor Brown learned that there was a desperate



Stephens is donating 20 sets of firefighting turnout gear to firefighters in Ghana, where it is much needed.

need for firefighting apparel and equipment known as "turnout gear" within Ghana's local fire departments. Brown contacted the Stephens fire chief and asked if the city had any turnout gear that was not in use and could be donated.

Stephens had just purchased a new set of turnout gear for the department, which by law they are required to do after 10 years, regardless of the condition of the older gear. Mayor Brown was excited to report that the city of Stephens would be happy to donate 20 sets of turnout gear valued at approximately \$800 per set. A donation of this magnitude from a city the size of Stephens is what Sister Cities is all about—helping one individual, one community at a time. This is true citizen diplomacy.



These two crates of turnout gear are bound for Chicago en route to Ghana.

The turnout gear has been boxed up and within the next few weeks will be delivered to Chicago, where it will begin its journey to the Office of the Ghanaian Fire Service.

Turnout gear is just the tip of the iceberg of what we as a state can provide. There is an enormous need for training, not only for the local officials, but also for fire and police, administrative work, agriculture, and public health. There are many ways to lend your expertise that may or may not involve the expenditure of capital. I urge you to become a citizen diplomat and implore your community to reach out. Sister Cities can help.



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

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7 ways Arkansas benefits from the tobacco settlement

By Jim Raczynski, Ph.D.

Tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable death in the United States and in Arkansas, and the state is doing many things to lessen the effect of tobacco on its citizens.

In 1990, several states sued the major tobacco companies to recover costs the state had paid in treating sick and dying cigarette smokers. In 1998, the tobacco companies settled the lawsuit and agreed to pay the states billions of dollars in what is known as the Master Settlement Agreement.

Thanks to an initiated act by Arkansas voters, the state has put every dollar of its share—up to \$50 million to \$60 million a year—into health-related programs. This effort made Arkansas the only state to use these funds specifically to improve the health of its citizens, which include discouraging people from starting to smoke, helping people quit smoking, performing tobacco-related medical and agricultural research, expanding access to health care and other health needs.

Arkansans have benefited greatly from the Master Settlement Agreement, in particular by establishing the following programs:

1. Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health

The UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health was created in 2001 to increase education, research, and services in public health. By training students in a variety of practice, administrative, and academic areas, the college has produced graduates ready to address the state's public health efforts. These areas include infectious disease, maternal and child health, disaster preparedness, health communications, health education and health behavior, and nutrition and health care administration. Other areas are biostatistics, epidemiology, health policy and management, environmental and occupational health, and global health.

2. Arkansas Biosciences Institute

The Arkansas Biosciences Institute supports agricultural and medical research dedicated to improving the health of Arkansans. It also helps build infrastructure to support research in Arkansas. It consists of five research institutions: UAMS, Arkansas Children's, Arkansas State University, the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

3. UAMS East Regional Campus in Helena-West Helena

UAMS East Regional Campus works to improve the health of Arkansans in seven counties in the Arkansas Delta—St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, Chicot, Desha, Monroe, and Crittenden. The campus helps recruit and retain health care professionals to provide community-based health care and education to some of the most underserved in Arkansas. Services include health screenings, educational materials, and preventive and educational programs.

4. Arkansas Aging Initiative

Arkansas Aging Initiative works to improve health outcomes of older Arkansans through interdisciplinary clinical care and innovative education programs and to influence state and national health policy. A part of the UAMS Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, it consists of seven Centers on Aging throughout the state to provide senior adults access to quality care within a 60-mile drive of their homes. These centers offer the Schmieding Home Caregiver Training Program so older adults might have more opportunities to remain at home.

5. Minority Health Initiative

Managed by the Minority Health Commission, the Minority Health Initiative strives to improve the health care systems in Arkansas and access to health care delivery systems. It targets needs like screening, monitoring and treating hypertension, stroke, and other disorders that disproportionately affect minority groups in Arkansas.

6. Medicaid Expansion Program

The Medicaid Expansion Program works to expand access to health care for poor people who are pregnant, elderly or developmentally disabled.

7. Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program

The Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program at the Arkansas Department of Health uses evidence-based strategies outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop and implement statewide and comprehensive tobacco education, prevention, and cessation programs for youth and adults. More than 5,800 people die from tobacco-related illness each year in Arkansas.

It is evident that Arkansas has benefited greatly from the Master Settlement Agreement dollars and by the citizens' determination to apply that money to improving health and health care in Arkansas.



Jim Raczynski, Ph.D. is the Inaugural M. Joycelyn Elders, M.D., Chair In Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, Professor and Founding Dean, Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

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Act 685 of 2017, which passed with major help by the Arkansas Municipal League, may result in putting abandoned buildings like this one to good use.



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Change: Ready or not, here it comes—a case study

By Jim von Tungeln

Public administrators, particularly those involved with cities, have a common distrust of sudden change. They view it as most often for the worse, and seldom manageable. They tend to like stability if things are going well, and incremental change for the better when it's not.

Accordingly, I set out at the Annual Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League in June to ask some mayors of our state what changes they saw coming that would affect their cities and how. After some head scratching and blank stares, I found one who shared plenty.

Did he ever.

His name is Furlough Thompson—Mayor Furlough Thompson. He was born in November of 1943 while his dad was in the United States Army, which may explain the unusual first name. He governs the small town of Potluck, Arkansas (population 1,236), and is both personable and illuminating.

“Change?” he said. “We haven’t seen much.”

“Oh really?” I asked.

“It may have something to do with our town motto. We have it painted in big letters on both entrances into town, on the side of Roy Jenkins’ store on the east, and on Monroe Huddleston’s barn on the west. I think it helps keep our town quiet and stable.”

“And what is that motto?”

“Welcome to Potluck, but mind your own business.”

“That,” I said, “is a unique city slogan.”

“We had one of those big-city consultants suggest we change it but we decided it suited our needs just fine.”

“So,” I said, “you say you don’t see much change in your future?”

“Son,” he said. “I didn’t say that. I said we haven’t seen much in the past. But we’re ‘fixna’ have some. We’ve got to get with modern times.”

“How so?”

“First, we need to get my Fire Chief, Preacher’s Gracie, a computer.”

“Preacher’s Gracie?”

“Yeah. We’ve got so many women in town named Gracie that we have to identify them by their daddy’s name. Otherwise, we’d get this one confused with my Police Chief, Newt’s Gracie, or with Rooster’s Gracie, the water plant operator. This naming came about when a lady evangelist named Gracie Throughgood did a service at First Baptist years ago.”

“I see. What other changes do you foresee?”

“We’re planning on getting into the ‘evo-deco’ business.”

“I think you mean ‘eco-devo’ business.”

“Whatever. We got to have some jobs. Look what that Mayor up in Paragould has done. He’s a one-man

job-making machine. You know who I'm talking about. I call him 'Jokerman' myself. What do you call him?"

"I call him Mayor Gaskill."

"I guess you would. Anyway, I talked to him and then I sat in on the session where that lawyer that talks so loud told us all about new economic development tools for cities like us."

"You mean Mark Hayes?"

"Ain't that what I said? Anyway, what he said was right down our alley. We've already got a project working."

"Oh really? What kind of project?"

"One that creates jobs. Say, are you listening to me?"

"Yes sir. What kind of jobs?"

High-skilled jobs. The kind for older citizens that can't find work anywhere else. We're going to assist a new business. You remember when Mark talked about a 'project side' and a 'service side' to this new economic development law?"

"Yes. I heard him. How could we not hear him?"

"You have a point there. Anyway, our plans have both. Wanna hear about them?"

"Sure."

"Well, on the project side, we're going to provide financial assistance and infrastructure improvements."

"I think that's 'infrastructure.'"

"Whatever. We have a start-up business already waiting. It's called Buzzing Bees Incorporated and it will employ up to 20 people, all older women who represent an underemployed segment of our population."

"That sounds good."

"It will be, and it will solve a social problem we have as well."

"A social problem?"

"Yes. When those women stay home all the time, they get on their husbands' nerves something awful, asking for help around the house. So they, the husbands, leave home and hang out at Billy Don Chidester's domino parlor all day. Some of them invariably have a beer or two too many. It's what you might call a social ill."

"I can see your problem. What will this new business produce?"

"Quilts."

"Quilts?"

"Yep. We're going to fix up the old high school gym, hang quilting hooks from ceiling, buy some quilting frames and put all these women to work."

"You mentioned infrastructure."

"A sewer line to the, uh, facilities, you know? Indoor ones. Didn't have them in the old days. That lawyer said it was eligible."

"I see. And the 'service side' of the deal?"

"We're going to contract with Ida Mae Ratliff to come over from Hog-Eye Bend and teach the finer points of quilting to them what didn't grow up doing it."

"You think this is going to work, this venture?"

"Oh yes, 'Loudmouth' said we needed something called a 'feasibility study' to see if it would work. Johnny 'Too-Slow' Eddington's oldest boy took a course in economics before he dropped out of college, so he did us one, a feasibility study."

"What modeling technique did he use?"

"Well, it was interesting. He got with his girlfriend, Chester's Gracie, and guess what?"

"What?"

"She has over two thousand friends on this Facebook thing."

"That many?"

He winked.

"She is what you might call a friendly girl. Anyway, she asked how many of them thought homemade quilts were as 'cute as a month-old puppy.' That was the way she put it."

"And?"

"She got over 900 of those things they call 'likes' and a hundred comments asking where they could buy one. A quilt, not a puppy. Now if that ain't feasibility, I don't know what is. I think I'll tell Mr. Zimmerman how a great education can help make great cities."

"I'm sure he'll like that. How about cost?"

"Glad you asked. Figuring remodeling, rope, pulleys, frames, chairs, material—and most of that will be donated—the sewer line, and technical services, my finance director, Antwon's Gracie, estimated ..." He took a pad from his pocket, consulted it, and read, "Roughly, \$23,208.39."

"That was a 'rough' estimate?"

"She was in the Marines for four years."

"I have to ask," I said, "about what happens if they don't generate the jobs they've promised and you have to use the so-called 'claw-back' provision of the act?"

"We have that covered," he said. "Abner Stubblefield—he's a retired pharmacist you know—is so excited about his wife being out of the house that he's offered to put the money up in an escrow account at First Potluck Bank to cover any default." He stopped, smiled, and said, "We've got this fish hooked, landed, and strung."

"How," I wondered, "can a small state like ours produce such leaders?"



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.

Summaries of Attorney General Opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Leslie Rutledge

Aug. 1 effective date for legislation from this year's General Session

Opinion: 2017-052

Requestor: Mark Martin, Secretary of State

What is the effective date of legislation passed during the regular session of the 91st General Assembly that did not have an emergency clause or a specified effective date?

RESPONSE: August 1, 2017, based on Amendment 7 to the Arkansas Constitution, which gives the people ninety days after the final adjournment of the session to file referendum petitions. Additionally, if the petition-filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline to file such petitions is the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Aug. 2 effective date for legislation from this year's First Extraordinary Session

Opinion: 2017-061

Requestor: Mark Martin, Secretary of State

What is the effective date of legislation passed during the First Extraordinary Session of the 91st General Assembly that did not have an emergency clause or specified effective date? **RESPONSE:** August 2, 2017, based on Amendment 7 to the Constitution of Arkansas, which gives the people "ninety days after the final adjournment of the session" to file referendum petitions.

NOTE: The Attorney General's website has been redesigned. To find and read full Attorney General opinions online, go to www.arkansasag.gov/arkansas-lawyer/opinions-department/opinions-search.

Officer may not pursue beyond jurisdiction over misdemeanor

Opinion: 2017-027

Requestor: Dwight Tosh, State Representative

Is it legal for a law-enforcement officer, outside his jurisdiction, to pursue and detain a second motorist for failing to change lanes, if the officer first detained another motorist for a speeding violation that began within the officer's jurisdiction? Q2) Would it be legal for the officer to issue a ticket to the second motorist for failing to change lanes? **RESPONSE:** In my opinion, the answer to your first question is "no." Failure to change lanes is a misdemeanor offense in Arkansas. And Arkansas statute generally does not authorize a law-enforcement officer to pursue and detain an individual for a misdemeanor that occurred entirely outside the officer's jurisdiction. I believe the answer to your second question is also "no." Your hypothetical describes conduct consistent with probable cause for a failure-to-change-lanes violation. But because the officer could not pursue or detain the second motorist for committing a misdemeanor, the officer could not ticket (or arrest) the second motorist.

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Large diameter water transmission mains—keeping up in a rapidly growing area

By Nick Batker, P.E., CFM

Northwest Arkansas continues to experience rapid growth, with more than 30 people moving to this area each day on average. The total population in the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) has now exceeded 525,000, making it the 22nd fastest growing MSA (out of 382 total) in the nation. While this growth creates new opportunities for

business, education, entertainment, recreation, and the like, it also places a strain on the area's infrastructure. In particular, water utility owners are faced with the challenge of delivering safe drinking water from a reliable source to customers now and well into the future. This requires proactive planning, design, and construction of new, large diameter water mains (i.e., 24-inch diameter and larger) as well as the effective operation and maintenance of existing transmission mains that are already in service.



Workers install a 24-inch water main in Benton.

Planning considerations

The first step in the planning process is identifying the need for new transmission mains. Ideally this is accomplished several years or more in advance of the actual need in order to allow ample time to design and construct the main. By conducting an analysis of growth rates and patterns, current and projected water usage rates, and model simulations, the size of the new transmission main can be established. Once this is done, the following steps can be taken to move toward designing the new water main.

1. Perform an alternative route analysis, which takes into account factors such as:
 - Constructability
 - Utility conflicts
 - Traffic impacts
 - Public impacts
 - Environmental impacts
 - Topography
 - Project costs

2. Select a preferred route:
 - Coordinate with stakeholders (property owners, adjacent cities, and agencies such as the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD), railroads, etc.)
 - Establish a minimum easement with a requirement to allow sufficient space to construct, operate and maintain the transmission main. In some cases, space for a future parallel transmission main should be factored in.
 - Consider acquiring critical easements in advance of design in areas experiencing rapid development or infrastructure expansion (i.e., roadway improvements, new highways, etc.)
3. Develop a schedule and budget to design and construct the new transmission main:
 - Detailed cost estimate
 - Identify source of funding – bonds, or grants/loans through agencies such as the Arkansas Natural Resource Commission (ANRC), or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Note: If grants or loans are necessary, additional time should be accounted for in the schedule to allow for agency coordination and approvals.

Design considerations

Once the planning phase is completed, the project can proceed into design. Typically, an engineering firm will be selected to perform the design. This selection is based on a formal evaluation of each submitting firm's qualifications. Depending on the size, length, and route of the proposed transmission main, the design phase can last anywhere from several months to a year or more. Although not a comprehensive list, the following items will be considered during this phase:

- Horizontal and vertical alignment
 - Depth of main – note that large diameter transmission mains will typically be installed deeper than distribution lines to protect them from potential damage
 - Location of main within the easement – allow ample space for contractor to install the pipeline
 - Utility conflicts – current and future

- Thrust blocking and/or restraints required at change in horizontal and vertical changes in direction
- Connections
 - Tie-in points at each end of the alignments
 - Connections to existing water distribution mains
 - Stub-outs for future water distribution mains (note that service taps are generally discouraged on transmission mains)
 - Air release valves and in-line valves
- Pipe material options
 - Dependent on size and utility owner preference
 - Cathodic protection requirements
 - Costs
 - Permitting and Coordination
 - Department of Health, AHTD, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, railroads, etc.
 - Stakeholder meetings
 - Funding agencies (if required)
 - Continued easement acquisition (if not completed during planning phase)
- Constructability
 - Access during construction
 - Traffic control and pedestrian safety
 - Geotechnical evaluation of subsurface conditions
 - Construction methods—open cut versus tunneling/boring methods.

Construction considerations

When design is complete, the new water transmission main will be ready to be bid out and constructed. As with the design phase, construction can last anywhere from several months to a year or more, depending on the size, length, and complexity of the project.

- Consider including similar experience requirements in bid documents to ensure a qualified contractor is selected.
- Safety/Security
 - Follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines for trench and general worksite safety
 - Keep work areas secure to prevent access by the general public
- Working space required
 - Large diameter pipes require more room for piping and materials than distribution mains
 - Ample room for construction equipment to safely maneuver
 - Separate staging areas may be required
- On-site observation and inspection
 - Ensures transmission main and appurtenances are installed according to design documents
 - Necessary testing—compaction, pressure testing, and disinfection

Operations and maintenance considerations

Upon successful completion of the project, the water utility owner takes over operation and maintenance of the transmission main. Periodic inspections of the transmission main route are necessary to check for potential leaks as well as encroachments into the easement by other utilities or structures. The easement should be maintained (mowing, trimming trees/brush) to allow for easier access should an issue arise. Finally, in-line valves and air release valves should be checked regularly for proper operation. By taking a proactive approach to operation and maintenance, the life of the transmission main can be maximized.

The next time you turn on your faucet, consider all the time and effort spent ensuring that a steady and reliable stream of water will always be coming out of that faucet, no matter the circumstance. Rest assured as well that the water utility owners in our region are already planning ahead for the next transmission mains that will be required to meet the future demands due to population growth.



Nick Batker, PE, CFM is an engineer in the water/wastewater department at McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. in Fayetteville. Contact Nick at nbatker@mce.us.com.



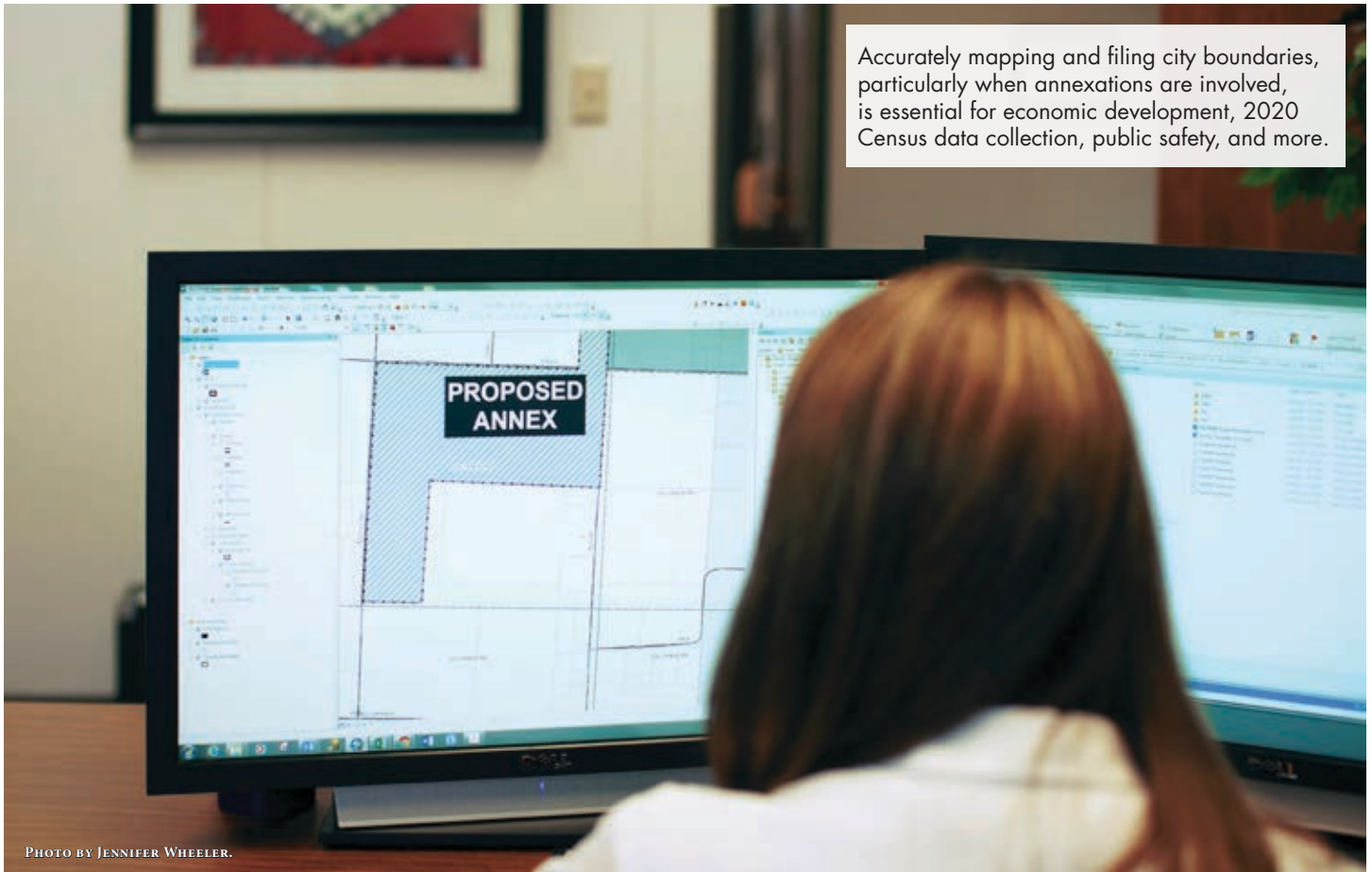
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Accurately mapping and filing city boundaries, particularly when annexations are involved, is essential for economic development, 2020 Census data collection, public safety, and more.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER WHEELER.

Maps and land use: an economic development issue

By Amy Whitehead

An accurate map of a city’s boundaries, understanding the appetite for planning and zoning, and the upcoming 2020 Census are issues that can and will impact economic development for Arkansas municipalities. Unfortunately, many rural cities and towns struggle to address these issues.

A city should ensure it has an accurate map of its boundaries. The map used by the city should match the map with the Secretary of State’s Office and the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Office. According to Arkansas Geographic Information Officer Shelby Johnson, a city can check its boundaries at gis.arkansas.gov/checkmycity.

“At a minimum, a city should file an updated map with the Secretary of State and GIS Office, which normally comes through filing with the county clerk,” Johnson said. “They may also wish to notify their local public utilities such as gas, electric, and cable. Others who need to know of changes include every fire department that touches the city and law enforcement.”

Maps not filed appropriately can be a common problem in smaller cities. Planning and development districts are a good resource to correct this issue in many cases.

“We have worked with many cities in our district to get them connected with the Arkansas GIS Office to correct problems to their maps,” said Sasha Grist, executive director of the Western Arkansas Planning and Development District. “Corrections are completed by filing the appropriate documents related to annexations.”

According to Grist and her GIS staff, “Many of the inconsistencies between what the city has on file and what the state shows as the official map have to do with annexations not being filed correctly, the description of the annexation not being accurately reflected on the map, or the legal description being inaccurate. In some cases, a city will need to correct the legal description and go back through the annexation process.”

An inaccurate map can impact emergency services, tax collections, and official Census numbers. All of these things are important to local economic development efforts. A city can contact the Arkansas Municipal League,

GIS office, or local planning district to receive guidance on the proper filing procedures.

Additionally, a city considering annexing land and people into its city limits should remember that the 2020 Census is looming. Population count and Census data will impact grant eligibility, state turnback money, and other economic development initiatives. GIS Information Officer Johnson recommends that annexations be complete before the end of 2018.

“If a city waits until 2019 they risk running out of time for all the legal waiting periods and filings to make their way through the official recording process,” Johnson said.

Once a city has an accurate map, the city may also want to engage in land use planning and zoning. In areas without an existing planning commission or significant land use restrictions, it is important to engage citizens in conversations to understand if there is an appetite for planning and zoning.

“The benefits of planning and zoning include an ability to control what types of development happen in various parts of your community, and what laws will govern the appearance of property,” said Marsha Guffey of MG Consulting. “This is the difference between controlled and uncontrolled growth and development.”

Jasper Mayor Jan Larson looked at the possibility of forming a planning commission, but decided instead to form a community development committee that will advise the city council on matters of land use and zoning and review existing ordinances to ensure they are appropriate and enforceable. This approach fits the manpower and resource level of the city.

Working with the University of Central Arkansas and MG Consulting, Larson is also navigating land use, zoning, annexation, and permitting issues through collaboration with the GIS office, local planning district, and a neighboring community. With citizen input and outside guidance, “Jasper is committed to community and economic development so that we can capitalize on the natural resources and appeal of the area,” Larson said. “Thinking strategically about development, land use, and planning will only support those efforts.”



Amy Whitehead is the Director of the Center for Community and Economic Development at the University of Central Arkansas.



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NEWSLETTER

JULY 2017

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

Opioid epidemic dominates headlines

The opioid problem is beginning to dominate the news, both in the print media and on the air. Social media is also helping to create awareness that this drug problem is real and extremely dangerous. Heroin has become the drug of choice for many because of its availability, the affects from use, and its affordability. We are losing thousands of people because of the scourge of this drug class. Unless the abuse of heroin and other opioid drugs is curtailed, it is anticipated that 94,000 deaths will occur by 2027. Tragically, in 2015 some 33,000 people succumbed to opioid abuse. It is shocking to realize that prescribed medications containing opioids are killing more Americans than any illegal drug. According to a recent posting on *Vox*, some 90 people died every day from opioid overdoses in 2016. The analysts are warning that the problem will get worse before it gets better.

States are concerned about costs for emergency care and for treatment. As Congress continues to discuss Medicaid cuts, there is anxiety at the state level because treatment costs may fall directly upon them. Losing funds for opioid treatment could be devastating and lives will be lost.

How did this opioid epidemic come about? Were these drugs over-prescribed by physicians? Are states monitoring or regulating pharmacies for abuse indicators? Are there enough treatment facilities to handle the crisis at hand? Is the opioid antidote, Naloxone, available (for emergency personnel and first responders or citizens) to save lives from overdoses? Where will the money come from to get these needs established? The federal, state, and local governments will have to work together to address these important issues. Without these needs being met, our country could go in a very dangerous direction as the opioid problem increases.

More people died in 2015 from opioid abuse than in car accidents, gun violence, and HIV AIDS. This statistic is shocking. Who were these people that died? They were everyday people—moms, dads, parents, teens, and children.

To change the tone of the “doom and gloom” message that is being broadcast, what will have to happen? How can you help with this epidemic? First, when your doctor prescribes an opioid drug (Codeine, Morphine, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Oxycodone, etc.) for you, ask if there is another drug you might use that is not so addicting? If not, ask how often and long must you take it? The side effects from opioid drugs can be annoying: constipation, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, sleepiness, confusion, dizziness, headache, and a craving for the drug. The big problem is the fact you could die from a prescription opioid. When an opioid drug is taken with alcohol or a benzodiazepine, it can become lethal.

Overall, we are gaining new awareness of an age-old problem. Heroin addicts have been around a long time. Doctors have prescribed opioid medication for years. Illegal markets for these drugs exist. It is time to check your medicine cabinet and, if taking the drug is necessary, take the pain medicine for the shortest time possible. If the prescription has expired, take the unused medicine to a drug take-back program site.

Money is sorely needed to continue the fight this crisis, and it is important that governments and insurance companies work with each other to save lives.

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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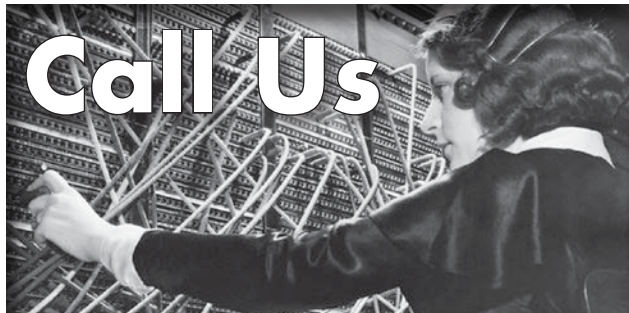
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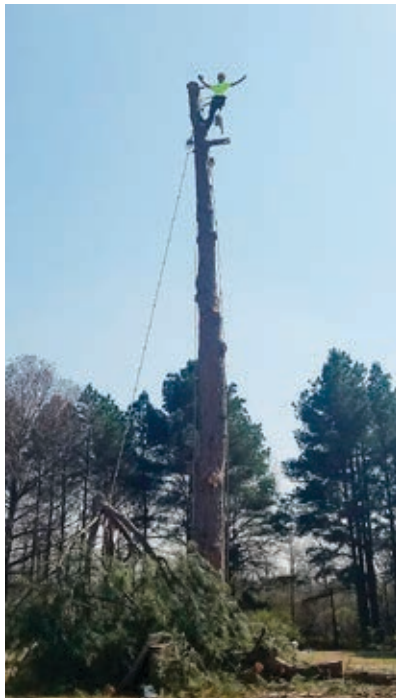
What you should know before hiring an arborist

By Alison Litchy

Picking the right person to care for the trees in our cities and towns should not be taken lightly. Arborists are professionals whose main focus is planting and maintaining trees. Arborists possess knowledge about the needs of trees and are trained to implement practices to address those needs. The International Society of Arboriculture has an arborist certification program that has improved the tree-care profession by setting minimum standards of achievement. A person becomes a certified arborist by taking a test developed by tree-care experts. Maintaining certification requires annual continuing education and following a code of ethics. You can verify an arborist's certification online at www.isa-arbor.com.

Trees do so much for us, but they sometimes go unappreciated. It is important to know what trees do to better understand a tree's value. The obvious benefits are shade, cleaner air, oxygen production, and aesthetics. They also cool cities and towns, conserve energy, save and clean water, reduce erosion, and provide us with food and resources. Studies even show that trees reduce violence and decrease healing time for hospital patients. With all the benefits trees provide, their care should not be left in the wrong hands.

Arborists are vital to the development and maintenance of a safe urban forest. A story of how improper tree care can have an impact is told by Norm Berner of Little Rock. Norm had an experience in Little Rock where a tree had fallen on his car with him inside. To make the situation worse, the tree had brought power lines down with it. The car was charged and he was trapped. He knew to stay in the car and wait for help to arrive.



Established tree-care professionals can trim or remove hazard trees or those damaged by storms effectively and safely.

It was later determined that the tree had been improperly pruned and, as a result, over several years had become decayed and rotten in its center.

"The lack of proper pruning on their part definitely constituted an emergency on my part!" Norm said.

Proper pruning would have prevented the introduction of decay and preserved the structural integrity of the tree.

When is it necessary to hire an arborist?

It is appropriate to utilize an arborist anytime trees require pruning and when the city is planning construction in the vicinity of trees. Arborists can provide corrective pruning and remove limbs that are in conflict with an object such as a building. Shade trees, even if vigorous and healthy, may need pruning to prevent issues in the future.

Cities should also contact an arborist if certain symptoms are observable that could indicate unhealthy or unsafe trees, including:

- Leaf yellowing
- Undersized leaves
- Dark spots on leaves
- Withering or dying limbs
- Presence of insects
- Cracks in the trunk
- Mushrooms growing on the base of a tree
- Compacted soils

An arborist will also be able to help you with storm-damaged trees. In the event of an ice storm or other natural disaster, your trees may need some corrective pruning. One thing to look out for after disaster events is "fly by night" tree service companies. These are people who see the opportunity for work, borrow a chainsaw, and conveniently become tree workers overnight. No training, no experience, no insurance. A legitimate tree service company will not normally knock on your door. Of course, even an established tree service company may not have a certified arborist, and may use harmful techniques such as topping.

When consulting a tree service company ask to see their insurance before you hire. Ask several questions about qualifications and proper pruning cuts. For example, an ISA Certified Arborist should not recommend topping a tree. Topping is not an acceptable tree-care



Certified arborists know how to make the right cuts when pruning to help ensure that our urban forests are healthy and safe.

practice. Topping—also called tipping or rounding over—is the practice of removing whole tops of trees, leaving only branch stubs. Topping causes significant stress to the tree and poses future safety issues.

Ask a tree service for references, and take a look at a site they have worked at in the past. This should be a good indicator of the quality of their work. When getting several bids, lowest is not always the best. Consider credentials and skill. It is faster to go in and do indiscriminate cuts than it is to do the proper cuts. Companies may charge you less for improper pruning, but it can lead to the death of your tree and become a hazard to those around it.

Trees that are well cared for are not only aesthetically beautiful but add value to property. Poorly maintained trees can be a liability. Before hiring an arborist, become educated on the subject. Learn the basics. Utilize your local Arkansas Forestry Commission county forester, city arborist, or county extension agent. They will answer your questions and provide you with the information needed to insure your urban forest continues to provide benefits to your community.



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



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Stodola honored for small business advocacy

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has awarded Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola with the 2017 Small Business Advocate Award for his support of the small business community in Arkansas's capital city. Jeff Bean, managing director of the Conference's Partner America program, presented Stodola with the award at a June 1 reception at the Little Rock Technology Park in the heart of the rejuvenated Main Street corridor.

"Small business is big business here in Little Rock," Bean said. "Mayor Stodola has created a business-friendly environment... making it easy to start and grow a business."



Mayor Mark Stodola, left, and Director Jeff Bean.

Bean cited the mayor's work to expand new business opportunities through last year's Mayor's Summit on Entrepreneurship, his work with the Venture Center, the Little Rock Tech Park, the growth of downtown's "Creative Corridor," and more. 

County equalization boards to meet in July

County equalization boards will meet from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 18, 2017 at the Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock to equalize the assessed value for all acreage lands, city and town lots, other real property and personal property. "Equalization" means to adjust the valuation of property in order to bring about a uniform tax rate (A.C.A. § 26-27-315; *Black's Law Dictionary*). The boards will meet as often as necessary during this time to complete their work (A.C.A. § 26-27-309). If a county's ratio of assessed-to-market value is out of compliance, the equalization board may meet after Oct. 1, but no later than the third Monday in November (A.C.A. § 26-27-309 & 311).

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

Cities and incorporated towns have a part to play in deciding who sits as a member of the county equalization board. Cities and incorporated towns

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

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

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



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The significance of historic preservation

By Chad Gallagher

I feel very passionate about historic preservation. I'm often baffled and sometimes offended by the casual willingness by so many to simply tear down or neglect historic structures in our communities. Historic preservation matters because it creates a continuum of life from generation to generation. It tells the story of who we are and where we've been as a people, and it contributes to the overall personality of a place. Historic structures serve as unique identifiers from town to town. Historic properties help tell the story of Arkansas.

Our state's historic properties showcase craftsmanship that is rarely duplicated today. Key community buildings were once designed and constructed with grandeur and character in mind. These days too many of our towns' important facilities are metal buildings that look like glorified barns or sheds.

Historic buildings capture the essence of a community's heritage. The very thought that you are walking the same halls that every family in your community walked for more than a hundred years is impressive unto itself. It's a reminder that we didn't just appear here, our smart phones in hand, all alone and self-sufficient. Historic buildings remind us that others came before us, and their efforts and sacrifices allow us to be where we are and who we are today.

Importantly, historic buildings cannot be replaced. Once they are gone, they are gone forever. For those concerned with our impact on the environment, there is no greater form of recycling than historic preservation. Restoring and renewing our historic homes and buildings is the ultimate recycling project. Further, you can rest assured that prospective businesses and residents all take note of how a town looks, whether its old neighborhoods and its downtown are dilapidated eyesores, or if they are preserved jewels of the city. I've seen both and both leave a real impression.

Help is available for cities seeking to revitalize their downtown and preserve historic properties. The Arkansas Department of Heritage has a grant program for renewing nonprofit and government owned buildings. The same agency also has a certified local government grant program to assist cities in these efforts. Other municipalities have garnered hundreds of thousands of dollars for single renewal projects from the Arkansas Energy Office, the Arkansas Natural Resources and Cultural Council, EPA Brownfields grants, USDA Community Facility funds and business enterprise grants, transportation enhancement funds, CDBGs and HUD grants, along with others.

Just last month, The Department of Arkansas Heritage's Arkansas Historic Preservation Program awarded nearly \$3 million in grants for projects in 47 Arkansas counties

through its County Courthouse Restoration Grant, the Historic Preservation Restoration Grant, and Main Street Downtown Revitalization Grant programs. Nineteen Main Street Programs shared \$285,000 in grants for building rehabilitations, parks, streetscape improvement, and other design projects. Sixteen other Main Street programs received additional funds.

At the same time, 31 projects shared \$960,853 in Historic Preservation Restoration Grants, which fund projects designed to rehabilitate buildings listed on the Arkansas or National Register of Historic Places and owned by a local government or not-for-profit organizations. These included projects in a Girl Scout house in Hope, a historic church's windows in Logan County, Menifee's historic gymnasium, a cemetery project in Paragould, a historic theater in Searcy, a railroad station in Warren, a library in Arkadelphia, an old high school in Norman, and many others.

There are some common myths that we hear as obstacles to historic preservation:

1. "No one appreciates the history anyway." This simply isn't true. Preservation alone sends the message that it is worthy of being appreciated.
2. "It's always cost prohibitive to restore an old building." Restoration projects can be expensive, but they can be cheaper than building something new of similar scope, size, features, and character.
3. "If you put it on the historic register, you lose control of the building." This is blatantly false. Believe me, I know—my house is on the register. Simply put, placing a building on the state or national register does not take away your control of the property nor your fundamental rights as a property owner.
4. "There is no help out there." Well, hopefully this column has put that falsehood to rest. Stacy Hurst and her team at the Department of Heritage are doing the best job in historic preservation and helping Arkansas cities and organizations with preservation that I've seen from the department in my 20 years of observing and interfacing with the agency. Great help and guidance are available.

A city's history and heritage is to it what a memory is to an individual. It's a critical part of who we are as a society. It's worth preserving.



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



Batesville welcomes new aquatic park and community center

The new Batesville Community Center and Aquatics Park held its grand opening and ribbon cutting on June 8. The day was a long time coming for the city. After an initial campaign for a one-cent sales tax to fund a facility failed by less than 100 votes in 2010, Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, community members, business leaders, and other supporters of the idea regrouped, and in 2012 the city's voters approved the measure. Now, more than four years later, Batesville has one of the finest such centers in the state.



The bid on the project came in at \$22 million, the *Batesville Daily Guard* has reported. Half of the one-cent sales tax will sunset when the bonds are paid off. The other half is permanent and will go toward operations and maintenance, public safety, streets and parks.



The outdoor aquatics area features a variety of pools, splashpads, slides, and a zip line. The center also features indoor pools, including a competition pool and a therapy pool. The community center features a gymnasium, fitness rooms, and meeting rooms for small or large groups.

Though the official ribbon cutting was held June 8, the facilities had been partially open for use since Memorial Day weekend. Already more than 20,000 people—from local children to members of the National Wild Turkey Federation—have visited and utilized the center. 🏠

Changes to 2017 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Alpena

Delete R/T Lora Carter
 Add T Lora Carter
 Add R Roberta McAlister
 Delete AL Herbert Kolb
 Add AL Herman Kolb

Arkansas City

Delete Mail P.O. Box 71
 Add Mail P.O. Box 369

Bentonville

Delete AL James Smith
 Add AL (Vacant)

Carthage

Delete AL Sandra Morris
 Add AL (Vacant)

Damascus

Delete PC Rick Perry
 Add PC (Vacant)

Enola

Delete M James Hackler
 Add M (Vacant)

Grannis

Add E-Mail cityofgrannis@yahoo.com

Griffithville

Delete AL Josh Havener
 Add AL Greg Matthews

Hardy

Delete WEB www.visithardyarkansas.com
 Add WEB www.cityofhardy.org
 Add FC Tamara Taylor
 Add CEO Tamara Taylor

Helena-West Helena

Delete DJ Jesse Porter
 Delete WS (Vacant)
 Add WS Jack Ross
 Delete CEO Patrick Allen
 Add CEO Michael Grubbs
 Delete AL (Vacant)
 Add AL Christopher Franklin

Hot Springs

Delete DR (Vacant)
 Add DR Karen Garcia

Lexa

Delete M (Vacant)
 Add M Diane Karr
 Delete AL Diane Karr
 Add AL (Vacant)

Mountain Home

Delete SS Amon Tilley
 Add SS Arnold Knox

Mountain View

Delete CEO Charles Ramsey
 Add CEO Rex Vannater

Nimmons

Delete M Elbert Perry
 Add M David Taylor
 Delete AL David Taylor
 Add AL (Vacant)
 Delete Mail 391 Dock St., Rector, AR 72461
 Add Mail P.O. Box 131, Piggott, AR 72454

Osceola

Delete PC David Gladden
 Add PC Ollie Collins

Vilonia

Delete R/T Marshall Smith
 Add R/T (Vacant)

Warren

Delete AM Helen Boswell
 Add AM (Vacant)
 Delete C Jeanie Reep
 Add C Helena Boswell
 Delete /A/PC Shaun Hildreth
 Add PC Shaun Hildreth
 Delete AL Marty Reep
 Add AL Janzy Cobb





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My check of \$ _____ is enclosed, payable to: The Arkansas Municipal League.

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Title _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Clip and mail to: Arkansas Municipal League

2017 Directory

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North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Springdale wins All-America City Award

Springdale has received the All-America City Award for helping young children achieve grade-level reading proficiency and early school success, *Arkansas Business* reported June 20. Springdale was one of 15 communities nationwide to receive the award from the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and the National Civic League. The city is also working to achieve the statewide Arkansas Campaign for Grade Level Reading and Reading Initiative for Student Excellence (R.I.S.E.) Arkansas goals.

Springdale launched its "OneCommunity Reads, UnaComunidad Leyendo!" program in 2013. The city has also:

- Reduced chronic absenteeism rates by nearly 70 percent at Monitor and Parson Hills elementary schools.
- Decreased summer learning loss among rising first through fourth graders from 89 percent in 2014-15 to 81 percent in 2015-16 at George and Jones elementary schools with OneCommunity's "Feed Your Brain" program.
- Increased parent engagement through its "Parents Taking Leadership Action" program.

OneCommunity Reads is supported by the city of Springdale, Springdale Public Schools, the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation and the Arkansas Campaign for Grade Level Reading

Clarksville, Scenic Hill partner for \$10M municipal solar plant

Scenic Hill Solar of Little Rock and Clarksville's city-owned utility have partnered to build the largest municipal power source in Arkansas using renewable energy, a \$10 million solar project expected to be completed by next summer, *Arkansas Business* reported June 29.

Scenic Hill, which has done recent multimillion-dollar solar projects for L'Oreal in North Little Rock and Kentucky, will pay to build and operate the array for Clarksville Light & Water Co., and the utility will buy the electricity it produces under a 30-year power-purchase agreement. The project is expected to save Clarksville Light consumers \$500,000 a year, according to John Lester, the utility's general manager.

The 20,000-module array, covering 42 acres bordered by Main Street and Clark Road, will be the state's third largest solar power plant and will have a capacity of 6.5 megawatts of direct current, 5 megawatts of alternating current.

Under the 30-year deal, Clarksville Light will pay 5.8 cents per kilowatt for the electricity, and the array will provide more than 25 percent of Clarksville's residential power. The utility serves about 4,500 customers, including major commercial and industrial clients like Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Tyson Foods Inc. facilities and Hanes Brands Inc., which has manufacturing facility in Clarksville.

Obituaries

NATHANIEL CLARK CRUMP, 30, who served for six years as a firefighter with the Little Rock Fire Department and was a volunteer fireman for the Antioch Fire Department, died June 21.

JAMES OLIVER HACKLER (HACK), 71, former 16-year mayor of Enola and founder of the Enola Area Volunteer Fire Department, serving as chief from 1983 to 1997, died April 8.

MARSHALL SMITH, 80, who had served a record 32 years as a Jacksonville alderman and who was currently recorder/treasurer of Vilonia, died June 26.

LARRY LAWAYNE STRICKLIN, 65, former 16-year mayor of Hatfield, died Dec. 14, 2016.

U.S. Marshals Museum estimate cut in half

Design changes and reduced site preparation work cut in half the estimated cost of building the U.S. Marshals Museum in Fort Smith, the *Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* reported June 15. Costs have been reduced from \$33.5 million to \$16.5 million.

President and Chief Operating Officer Patrick Weeks said streamlining the museum building design and eliminating the need to replace soil under the museum's footprint has accounted for the reduction in the cost.

"By implementing a few design changes, we'll now be able to reap significant cost savings in both construction and future operations," Weeks said in a news release.

Construction was estimated to cost \$25.3 million in 2009 but it ballooned to \$33.5 million last year, mostly because of inflation, Weeks said at the time. At that cost, Weeks said, the site and facility costs would increase the overall project cost from \$58.6 million to about \$70 million.

The facility and site cost reductions take the total project cost back to the \$58.6 million level, Weeks said. The project cost includes the building; exhibits; an endowment; furniture, fixtures and

equipment; contingencies; and first-year operating expenses.

Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects updated the museum's design to reduce the complexity of construction, the news release said. The 102-foot-tall roof that was to tower over the Arkansas River was lowered to 40 feet, changes were made to the design of the roof that had been configured to let in light, and more 90-degree angles in the building were added in places outside the public's view to simplify the design and reduce the cost. Engineers also estimated soil 16 feet deep under the museum were found to be unstable and would have to be removed and replaced at a cost of \$600,000. Weeks said a more recent testing showed them to be more stable than first thought and able to support the structure without being replaced.

The news release said construction is expected to begin next spring. Weeks announced in October the museum will open Sept. 24, 2019, the 230th anniversary of the U.S. Marshals Service. 🏛️

MEETING CALENDAR

November 15-18, 2017

**National League of Cities
City Summit 2017**

Charlotte Convention Center
Charlotte, NC

January 10-12, 2018

**Arkansas Municipal League's
2018 Winter Conference**

Fort Smith, AR

June 20-22, 2018

**Arkansas Municipal League's
84th Convention**

Little Rock, AR



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July 15

6th Bentonville Ice Cream Festival
Bentonville
(501) 978-6329;
www.business.greaterbentonville.com

July 27-29

38th Cave City Watermelon Festival
Cave City
(870) 283-5301;
www.cavecitywatermelonfestival.com

July 29

31st World Championship
Cardboard Boat Races
Heber Springs
(870) 834-1437; www.heber-springs.com

Aug. 1-5

Tontitown Grape Festival
Tontitown
(479) 361-2615;
www.tontitowngrapefestival.com

Aug. 4-5

45th Pine Tree Festival
Dierks
(870) 286-2911

Aug. 10-12

41st Hope Watermelon Festival
Hope
(870) 777-3640; www.hopemelonfest.com

Sept. 2

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

Sept. 4

Labor Day Picnic
Rector
(870) 595-4807

Sept. 16

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

74th White River Carnival
Batesville

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

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

Bash on the Boulevard
Maumelle
(501) 851-9700; www.maumellechamber.com

Sept. 23

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

Sept. 29

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

Sept. 29-30

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

Sept. 30

Fishing Derby
Mountain Home
(870) 425-9290

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



Investing in central Arkansas focus of 10th Argenta Downtown Council luncheon

The Argenta Downtown Council held its 10th annual luncheon at the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub on June 1. The revitalization of Argenta, North Little Rock's historic downtown area, is known for its vibrancy and innovation. The Argenta Downtown Council, along with the city of North Little Rock, is doing a tremendous job restoring and moving this area of North Little Rock in a progressive way.



Metroplan Executive Director Tab Townsell, former mayor of Conway, addresses the 10th annual Argenta Downtown Council luncheon June 1.

North Little Rock's Mayor Joe Smith informed luncheon attendees on the future developments in store for Argenta. A plan for a city plaza is underway and will ensure that Argenta is a destination with a unique mix of space and a vibe unto itself.

Former Conway Mayor and current Metroplan Executive Director Tab Townsell was the ADC luncheon's featured speaker. Townsell spoke on the importance of investing in ourselves—that is the cities and towns in which we live, work, and play. When comparing city and county sales taxes of the central Arkansas region to the northwest Arkansas region, Townsell says central Arkansas is behind the mark.

"The northwest Arkansas region collects \$73 million dollars more in tax dollars than the central region



Attendees mingle in the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub, which hosted the luncheon.

and puts that money right back into their hometowns and counties—their region—creating a strong sense of place," he said.

Townsell emphasized the need for cities and counties working together to give central Arkansas more regional authority. Lastly, the importance of projects like Argenta, Villages at Hendrix and SoMa need to be lauded by citizens for their sustainability, for the great quality of life they offer, and for their support of downtown.

Created in 2007 by local business and property owners, the Argenta Downtown Council provides guidance on economic development to this historic area of North Little Rock and fosters progress that supports local businesses and residents of this historic downtown. To learn more, visit www.argentadc.org. 

2017 State Turnback Funds

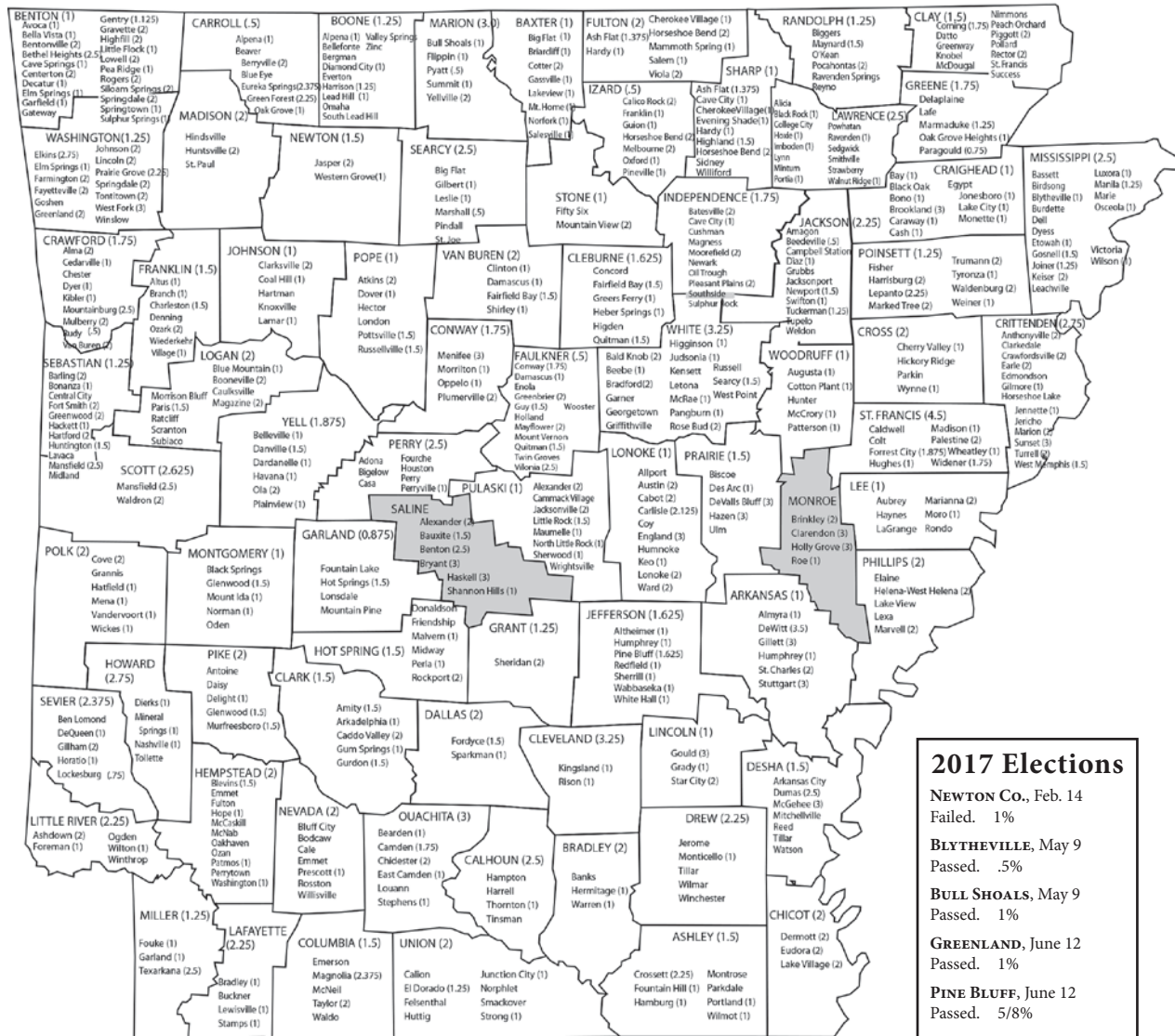
Actual Totals Per Capita						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
January	\$5.0284	\$5.3276	\$0.2297	\$0.3041	\$2.1382	\$2.1473
February	\$5.1992	\$5.5378	\$0.1524	\$0.1894	\$1.0775	\$1.0884
March	\$4.6255	\$4.7222	\$0.1655	\$0.3450	\$1.0778	\$1.0886
April	\$5.5340	\$5.3517	\$0.2342	\$0.3611	\$1.0777	\$1.0886
May	\$5.4590	\$5.4824	\$0.0745	\$0.2602	\$1.0773	\$1.0864
June	\$5.2768	\$5.5686	\$0.0968	\$0.1858	\$1.0778	\$1.0881
July	\$5.6734		\$0.0987		\$2.8803	
August	\$5.0337		\$0.1292		\$1.2006	
September	\$5.3389		\$0.1482		\$1.0906	
October	\$5.5217		\$0.2562		\$1.0896	
November	\$5.3393		\$0.2306		\$1.0881	
December	\$4.9184		\$0.2078		\$1.0884	
Total Year	\$62.9483	\$31.9903	\$2.0238	\$1.6456	\$15.9639	\$7.5875

Actual Totals Per Month						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
January	\$9,482,577.19	\$10,065,525.00	\$433,179.54	\$574,575.98	* \$4,032,277.00	*\$4,056,819.92
February	\$9,804,689.33	\$10,462,690.50	\$287,481.18	\$357,751.63	\$2,031,997.39	\$2,056,417.62
March	\$8,722,769.73	\$8,921,686.11	\$312,010.76	\$651,783.55	\$2,032,596.84	\$2,056,718.50
April	\$10,436,025.60	\$10,110,987.00	\$441,661.71	\$682,243.26	\$2,032,297.66	\$2,056,718.50
May	\$10,294,480.80	\$10,363,642.30	\$140,536.93	\$491,893.79	\$2,031,495.51	\$2,053,761.87
June	\$9,950,873.55	\$10,526,632.40	\$182,493.78	\$351,199.83	\$2,032,597.66	2,056,937.75
July	\$10,698,830.40		\$186,206.19		** \$5,431,589.73	
August	\$9,492,433.07		\$243,594.47		\$2,264,157.25	
September	\$10,068,067.87		\$279,548.09		\$2,056,681.01	
October	\$10,421,889.30		\$483,529.74		\$2,056,531.47	
November	\$10,087,659.40		\$435,692.77		\$2,055,823.30	
December	\$9,292,326.92		\$392,523.22		\$2,056,318.09	
Total Year	\$118,752,623.16	\$60,451,163.31	\$3,818,458.38	\$3,109,448.04	\$30,114,362.91	\$14,337,374.16

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

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

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2017 with 2016 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$51,749,675	\$49,037,009	\$46,139,133	\$43,720,229	\$97,888,807	\$92,757,238	\$15,903	\$15,812
February	\$60,007,416	\$59,477,239	\$52,583,090	\$51,693,904	\$112,590,506	\$111,171,143	\$17,386	\$20,455
March	\$48,225,282	\$45,484,389	\$42,723,485	\$41,503,958	\$90,948,767	\$86,988,347	\$18,863	\$17,357
April	\$50,349,075	\$51,278,433	\$44,591,728	\$46,543,122	\$94,940,803	\$97,821,554	\$15,747	\$19,032
May	\$55,441,606	\$51,716,750	\$48,861,910	\$46,509,945	\$104,303,516	\$98,226,695	\$17,059	\$16,799
June	\$50,977,784	\$48,045,270	\$45,261,893	\$42,836,823	\$96,239,677	\$90,882,093	\$17,534	\$17,947
July		\$52,527,961		\$47,321,806		\$99,849,766		\$17,750
August		\$52,254,925		\$47,594,177		\$99,849,102		\$17,169
September		\$53,746,167		\$49,430,573		\$103,176,740		\$18,913
October		\$52,105,594		\$47,384,899		\$99,490,493		\$17,666
November		\$53,632,182		\$48,831,434		\$102,463,617		\$17,523
December		\$51,969,068		\$46,917,820		\$98,886,888		\$17,198
Total	\$316,750,837	\$621,274,986	\$280,161,238	\$560,288,690	\$596,912,075	\$1,181,563,676	\$102,494	\$213,621
Averages	\$52,791,806	\$51,772,916	\$46,693,540	\$46,690,724	\$99,485,346	\$98,463,640	\$17,082	\$17,802

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

SALES AND USE TAX	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Franklin	2,751.58	2,123.88	Mountainburg	10,884.14	17,937.13	Crossett	46,149.77	45,147.57
Alexander	74,188.29	59,326.86	Garfield	9,621.25	7,925.24	Mulberry	27,850.95	19,083.06	Fountain Hill	1,466.54	1,434.69
Alma	205,322.06	189,874.37	Garland	2,890.46	1,924.77	Murfreesboro	30,026.84	28,065.91	Hamburg	23,942.24	23,422.30
Almyra	12,516.64	2,362.74	Gassville	16,766.51	14,397.27	Nashville	112,672.97	109,314.09	Montrose	2,966.59	2,902.17
Alpena	4,415.49	4,932.66	Gentry	48,702.52	42,342.06	Newport	175,965.27	165,981.07	Parkdale	2,321.32	2,270.91
Alzheimer	2,221.21	2,508.15	Gilbert	289.28	301.75	Norfolk	5,048.86	5,018.02	Portland	3,603.49	3,525.23
Altus	5,673.22	6,458.91	Gillett	9,099.95	10,919.03	Norman	1,661.95	1,873.24	Wilmot	4,609.10	4,509.02
Amity	10,177.58	8,557.44	Gillham	4,028.24	3,068.19	North Little Rock	1,303,906.02	1,347,476.21	Baxter County	315,208.72	307,338.40
Anthonyville	492.54	300.57	Gilmore	354.61	332.23	Oak Grove	923.41	805.08	Big Flat	1,367.33	1,333.19
Arkadelphia	138,159.64	150,431.18	Glenwood	71,602.74	68,530.81	Oak Grove Heights	3,598.35	NA	Briarcliff	3,102.78	3,025.31
Ash Flat	89,735.32	86,050.85	Gosnell	14,263.49	11,902.56	Ola	15,612.79	15,925.93	Ola	12,752.97	12,434.55
Ashdown	124,024.20	122,177.28	Gould	11,366.21	7,062.20	Opello	2,917.35	2,455.45	Gassville	27,320.28	26,638.13
Atkins	53,694.46	50,596.72	Grady	6,242.60	1,555.39	Osceola	93,750.05	112,844.46	Lakeview	9,742.22	9,498.97
Augusta	24,565.96	26,794.28	Gravette	88,709.21	58,930.38	Oxford	1,372.23	759.79	Mountain Home	163,658.73	159,572.41
Austin	28,204.04	30,107.84	Green Forest	120,407.14	67,906.53	Ozark	179,892.10	80,338.13	Norfork	6,718.32	6,550.57
Avoca	5,014.63	5,269.42	Greenbrier	169,792.63	168,328.47	Palestine	36,836.11	16,741.21	Salesville	5,916.32	5,768.60
Bald Knob	50,562.65	32,435.27	Greenland	17,812.41	15,148.66	Pangburn	8,335.79	8,994.36	Benton County	672,980.46	608,933.47
Barling	41,381.74	49,699.30	Greenwood	204,310.75	187,983.22	Paragould	291,704.74	256,183.14	Avoca	7,730.49	6,994.79
Batesville	622,529.79	591,527.43	Greers Ferry	19,136.97	16,840.27	Paris	83,437.76	73,651.08	Bella Vista	420,202.90	380,212.54
Bauxite	11,875.55	11,412.39	Guion	6,242.60	4,993.62	Patmos	326.10	46.91	Bentonville	559,209.17	505,989.70
Bay	9,401.21	7,924.50	Gum Springs	220.83	170.77	Patterson	884.64	1,127.66	Bethel Heights	37,575.26	33,999.25
Bearden	15,934.55	13,446.90	Gurdon	19,743.45	17,796.81	Pea Ridge	52,952.38	46,192.19	Cave Springs	30,589.30	27,678.24
Beebe	123,574.92	107,505.12	Guy	5,871.21	2,393.72	Perla	741.29	3,281.76	Centerton	150,728.74	136,384.01
Beedeleville	104.86	123.37	Hackett	4,967.55	4,343.08	Perryville	22,535.09	21,067.70	Decatur	26,914.15	24,352.75
Bella Vista	147,113.31	144,535.49	Hamburg	27,179.30	20,737.64	Piggott	57,531.74	52,127.31	Elm Springs	2,170.24	1,963.70
Belleville	2,676.30	1,750.39	Hardy	18,045.52	16,397.50	Pine Bluff	896,413.37	927,210.78	Garfield	7,952.27	7,195.46
Benton	1,387,276.36	1,220,114.46	Harrisburg	47,307.34	48,167.80	Pineville	1,716.48	1,622.26	Gateway	6,415.67	5,805.10
Bentonville	1,683,501.82	1,333,439.00	Harrison	451,010.09	452,805.45	Plainview	2,924.24	3,106.45	Gentry	54,256.01	49,092.51
Berryville	227,744.28	236,712.78	Hartford	3,281.47	1,644.98	Pleasant Plains	6,562.03	NA	Gravette	49,313.56	44,620.43
Bethel Heights	114,256.49	71,902.18	Haskell	38,810.35	17,037.95	Plumerville	10,771.92	13,883.51	Highfill	9,235.40	8,356.48
Big Flat	253.20	NA	Hatfield	3,835.92	2,700.77	Pocahontas	252,437.08	253,612.07	Little Flock	40,994.43	37,052.30
Black Rock	8,031.03	15,288.81	Havana	3,173.68	1,743.53	Portia	2,022.88	1,769.79	Lowell	116,068.26	105,022.14
Blevins	1,849.42	3,927.13	Hazen	55,984.10	51,704.97	Portland	5,826.70	5,393.81	Pea Ridge	75,942.57	67,715.18
Blue Mountain	127.95	186.26	Heber Springs	136,238.60	128,875.04	Pottsville	24,284.68	16,812.58	Rogers	886,535.29	802,164.47
Blytheville	225,991.60	218,744.38	Helena-West Helena	230,079.36	214,406.66	Prairie Grove	86,905.39	76,835.73	Siloam Springs	238,235.37	215,562.71
Bonanza	1,971.12	4,635.86	Hermitage	4,754.56	5,495.87	Prescott	64,112.44	55,903.54	Springdale	103,791.35	93,913.62
Bono	13,518.98	11,472.76	Higginson	1,083.27	1,623.55	Pyatt	1,161.78	390.68	Springtown	1,378.18	1,247.02
Booneville	101,404.48	100,239.27	Highfill	56,614.88	64,400.62	Quitman	22,572.71	19,156.16	Sulphur Springs	8,094.85	7,324.47
Bradford	13,999.38	12,069.73	Highland	26,698.83	26,178.62	Ravenden	2,858.56	2,081.56	Boone County	379,576.50	366,620.66
Bradley	2,998.66	1,241.29	Holly Grove	5,379.09	6,033.44	Rector	27,201.80	26,637.91	Alpena	4,005.36	3,868.64
Branch	2,009.55	1,360.43	Hope	175,294.82	183,705.45	Redfield	16,963.44	19,137.35	Bellefonte	5,700.41	5,505.84
Briarcliff	1,205.31	1,046.93	Horatio	6,105.34	6,349.54	Rison	13,866.31	11,088.41	Bergerman	5,512.07	5,323.93
Brinkley	95,753.38	87,512.99	Horseshoe Bend	19,203.64	18,022.68	Rockport	15,287.83	8,581.24	Diamond City	9,818.77	9,483.63
Brookland	57,316.33	59,734.42	Hot Springs	1,529,855.18	1,615,800.09	Roe	367.76	425.15	Everton	1,669.94	1,612.95
Bryant	1,051,410.75	920,741.81	Hoxie	14,187.43	14,724.50	Rogers	2,882,117.79	2,816,730.35	Harrison	162,511.97	156,965.05
Bull Shoals	14,196.20	11,697.28	Hughes	6,112.53	6,014.96	Rose Bud	22,757.70	21,653.14	Lead Hill	3,402.67	3,286.53
Cabot	782,296.72	699,327.55	Humphrey	2,001.66	1,721.29	Rudy	9,605.18	NA	Omaha	2,121.96	2,049.53
Caddo Valley	49,408.46	46,997.34	Huntington	3,041.16	2,284.76	Russellville	935,175.52	912,419.17	South Lead Hill	1,280.71	1,237.00
Calico Rock	24,841.84	24,287.83	Huntsville	118,819.70	130,850.05	Salem	17,758.76	16,390.81	Valley Springs	2,297.74	2,219.32
Camden	290,237.37	269,916.42	Imboden	8,043.56	7,675.38	Salesville	4,001.02	3,819.30	Zinc	1,293.27	1,249.13
Caraway	4,447.82	5,194.57	Jacksonville	665,240.62	616,830.19	Searcy	782,299.63	786,714.92	Bradley County	113,441.69	93,345.41
Carlisle	48,590.36	54,859.58	Jasper	29,450.82	29,911.90	Shannon Hills	10,397.34	9,082.37	Banks	875.94	720.77
Cash	1,991.08	1,556.90	Jennette	136.86	64.13	Sheridan	195,979.84	184,008.73	Hermitage	5,863.17	4,824.50
Cave City	18,217.24	19,419.81	Johnson	45,746.54	36,194.50	Sherrill	759.48	760.87	Warren	42,405.54	34,893.36
Cave Springs	27,273.33	28,969.27	Joiner	1,706.64	3,018.35	Sherwood	405,085.92	397,760.79	Calhoun County	92,333.46	91,987.89
Cedarville	5,473.75	NA	Jonesboro	1,393,049.48	1,325,028.21	Shirley	2,802.44	2,448.58	Hampton	26,172.02	26,074.06
Centerton	181,851.42	160,289.03	Judsonia	8,968.60	NA	Siloam Springs	611,995.05	567,441.77	Harrell	5,020.92	5,002.12
Charleston	23,669.43	24,504.69	Junction City	5,299.06	2,253.24	Sparkman	2,826.99	3,187.44	Thornton	8,045.32	8,015.22
Cherokee Village	13,917.61	13,626.63	Keiser	2,461.69	3,025.37	Springdale	2,254,719.07	2,044,694.24	Tinsman	1,067.44	1,063.46
Cherry Valley	4,689.10	5,421.26	Keo	1,178.96	800.35	Springtown	319.34	54.18	Carroll County	158,235.20	152,605.08
Chidester	2,383.00	2,518.99	Kibler	2,633.87	1,889.69	St. Charles	952.04	1,211.93	Beaver	59.28	558.67
Clarendon	35,405.27	48,422.77	Kingsland	2,115.93	852.93	Stamps	10,752.87	10,493.37	Blue Eye	173.78	167.60
Clarksville	361,724.38	358,277.71	Lake City	10,546.73	11,699.56	Star City	77,152.43	53,628.94	Chicot County	114,630.04	103,889.46
Clinton	81,611.42	82,271.05	Lake Village	72,872.00	65,644.52	Stephens	5,864.38	5,123.35	Dermott	20,871.38	18,915.78
Coal Hill	3,744.48	2,220.58	Lakeview	2,583.64	3,507.01	Strong	8,896.19	13,553.47	Eudora	16,392.23	14,856.32
Conway	1,931,703.36	1,682,418.73	Lamar	11,197.99	10,108.87	Stuttgart	543,918.63	528,854.73	Lake Village	18,602.91	16,859.86
Corning	75,664.76	64,505.35	Lead Hill	4,508.39	6,360.46	Sulphur Springs	1,790.96	1,681.64	Clark County	347,445.59	367,058.62
Cotter	10,596.99	35,461.27	Leopanto	22,799.71	24,670.81	Summit	4,154.41	4,063.68	Clay County	83,074.44	82,463.12
Cotton Plant	1,226.47	796.26	Leslie	4,298.82	2,271.02	Sunset	2,779.88	1,519.66	Corning	22,423.66	22,258.65
Cove	16,160.78	11,587.94	Lewisville	8,099.24	8,018.33	Swifton	3,420.56	2,948.45	Datto	996.02	988.68
Crawfordsville	8,433.77	11,832.93	Lincoln	39,258.37	38,336.40	Taylor	8,117.19	8,380.88	Greenway	2,081.67	2,066.36
Crossett	234,151.07	273,765.57	Little Flock	10,941.86	8,091.79	Texarkana	349,056.87	339,995.94	Knobel	2,858.57	2,837.53
Damascus	6,872.26	4,992.55	Little Rock	5,921,064.53	5,780,483.04	Texarkana Special	161,317.02	169,622.94	McDougal	1,852.59	1,838.96
Darville	31,536.79	14,727.63	Lockesburg	4,585.39	4,395.11	Thornton	864.42	686.91	Nimmons	687.25	682.20
Dardanelle	159,260.05	137,134.59	Lonoke	159,903.33	154,171.00	Tontitown	123,826.24	105,351.28	Peach Orchard	1,344.63	1,334.73
Decatur	19,824.45	19,027.43	Lowell	286,586.68	261,399.79	Trumann	138,547.33	66,762.01	Piggott	25,557.79	25,369.72
Delight	3,841.31	4,773.25	Luxora	1,740.57	3,377.93	Tuckerman	12,674.82	10,908.02	Pollard	2,211.15	2,194.89
De Queen	124,287.98	101,345.26	Madison	1,154.06	953.25	Turrell	3,348.69	2,899.81	Rector	13,127.50	13,030.90
Dermott	28,150.81	24,814.68	Magazine	8,628.21	7,815.57	T					

Egypt	1,808.11	1,712.36	Cushman	5,373.08	5,279.30	Bassett	1,997.83	1,894.20	Scott County	149,419.41	138,810.24
Jonesboro	1,085,882.51	1,028,376.20	Magness	2,401.24	2,359.33	Birdsong	473.47	448.91	Mansfield	7,031.50	6,532.25
Lake City	33,611.46	31,831.46	Moorefield	1,628.57	1,600.14	Blytheville	180,381.92	171,029.22	Waldron	28,126.01	26,129.98
Monette	24,231.90	22,948.61	Newark	13,979.52	13,735.53	Burdette	2,205.69	2,091.29	Searcy County	60,985.29	33,568.73
Crawford County	665,862.74	626,805.35	Oil Trough	3,090.71	3,036.77	Dell	2,575.23	2,441.66	Big Flat	5.97	5.48
Alma	48,458.41	45,615.99	Pleasant Plains	4,148.68	4,076.28	Dyess	4,734.74	4,489.15	Gilbert	167.03	153.44
Cedarville	12,465.59	11,734.40	Southside	46,372.54	26,361.47	Etowah	4,053.40	3,843.15	Leslie	2,630.66	2,416.63
Chester	1,421.83	1,338.43	Sulphur Rock	5,420.65	5,262.02	Gosnell	40,972.79	38,847.56	Marshall	8,082.86	7,425.23
Dyer	7,833.47	7,373.98	Izard County	41,606.96	39,567.31	Joiner	6,651.73	6,306.71	Pindall	668.10	613.75
Kibler	8,593.57	8,089.49	Jackson County	251,986.36	234,538.03	Keiser	8,765.04	8,310.40	St. Joe	787.39	723.34
Mountainburg	5,642.60	5,311.62	Amagon	903.80	841.21	Leachville	23,015.44	21,821.64	Sebastian County	791,173.29	720,023.49
Mulberry	14,799.53	13,931.44	Beedeville	986.80	918.47	Luxora	13,603.71	12,898.09	Barling	72,309.45	65,800.70
Rudy	545.48	513.49	Campbell Station	2,351.72	2,188.88	Manila	38,593.88	36,592.04	Bonanza	8,943.41	8,139.14
Van Buren	203,804.32	191,849.82	Diaz	12,155.14	11,313.48	Marie	970.04	919.73	Central City	7,807.99	7,105.82
Crittenden County	1,183,865.22	1,226,730.03	Grubbs	3,559.85	3,313.36	Osceola	89,578.91	84,932.51	Fort Smith	1,340,874.39	1,220,290.26
Anthonyville	961.10	995.90	Jacksonport	1,955.15	1,819.77	Victoria	427.28	405.12	Greenwood	139,237.29	126,715.75
Clarkedale	2,214.71	2,294.89	Newport	72,663.41	67,631.97	Wilson	10,427.96	9,887.08	Hackett	12,629.66	11,493.88
Crawfordsville	2,859.42	2,962.95	Swifton	7,359.49	6,849.89	Monroe County	NA	NA	Hartford	9,985.52	9,087.52
Earle	14,410.51	14,932.28	Tuckerman	17,172.14	15,983.08	Montgomery County	40,090.40	38,391.13	Huntington	9,876.64	8,988.44
Edmondson	2,549.00	2,641.29	Tupelo	1,660.03	1,545.00	Black Springs	518.14	496.18	Lavaca	35,602.56	32,400.84
Gilmore	1,412.99	1,464.16	Weldon	691.68	643.79	Glenwood	219.82	210.50	Mansfield	11,245.37	10,234.08
Horseshoe Lake	1,743.11	1,806.22	Jefferson County	630,858.21	710,754.36	Mount Ida	5,631.50	5,392.80	Midland	5,054.97	4,600.38
Jennette	617.85	640.22	Alzheimer	9,089.47	10,240.63	Norman	1,978.35	1,894.50	Sevier County	302,592.94	267,447.30
Jericho	710.38	736.10	Humphrey	2,845.08	3,205.40	Oden	1,214.22	1,162.75	Ben Lomond	1,378.41	1,218.31
Marion	73,694.18	76,362.46	Pine Bluff	453,392.93	510,813.68	Nevada County	119,568.64	107,162.17	De Queen	62,684.60	55,403.90
Sunset	1,063.77	1,102.29	Redfield	11,980.74	13,498.06	Bluff City	1,100.79	986.57	Gillham	1,521.01	1,344.35
Turrell	3,304.15	3,423.79	Sherrill	775.93	874.20	Bodcaw	1,225.07	1,097.96	Horatio	9,924.59	8,771.86
West Memphis	156,671.02	162,343.69	Wabbaseka	2,355.50	2,653.82	Cale	701.31	628.54	Lockesburg	7,025.16	6,209.20
Cross County	248,431.92	233,027.75	White Hall	51,045.17	57,509.86	Emmet	4,216.73	3,779.20	Sharp County	73,778.77	70,514.15
Hicky Valley	6,381.11	5,985.44	Johnson County	120,023.72	109,917.87	Prescott	29,259.65	26,223.66	Ash Flat	8,825.00	8,434.50
Cherry Ridge	2,666.15	2,500.83	Clarksville	88,161.48	80,738.40	Rosston	2,316.98	2,076.57	Cave City	15,686.88	14,992.76
Parkin	10,831.22	10,159.62	Coal Hill	9,721.01	8,902.51	Willisville	1,349.35	1,209.34	Cherokee Village	34,921.77	33,376.52
Wynne	82,013.41	76,928.12	Hartman	4,985.38	4,565.62	Newton County	53,834.72	52,907.46	Evening Shade	3,890.20	3,718.07
Dallas County	126,762.23	139,146.57	Knoxville	7,021.80	6,430.57	Jasper	2,154.31	2,117.21	Hardy	6,573.72	6,282.84
Desha County	104,787.99	86,377.94	Lamar	15,417.21	14,119.10	Western Grove	1,775.23	1,744.65	Highland	9,410.33	8,993.93
Arkansas City	4,055.45	3,342.96	Lafayette County	65,931.49	58,560.87	Ouachita County	570,053.27	522,862.17	Horseshoe Bend	72.04	68.85
Dumas	52,144.69	42,983.46	Bradley	3,107.26	2,759.89	Bearden	8,749.29	8,024.99	Sidney	1,629.92	1,557.80
McGehee	46,748.50	38,535.32	Buckner	1,360.66	1,208.55	Camden	110,344.29	101,209.58	Williford	675.38	645.50
Mitchellville	3,988.97	3,288.15	Lewisville	6,333.26	5,625.25	Chidester	2,617.54	2,400.85	St. Francis County	268,943.65	127,319.06
Reed	1,905.84	1,571.01	Stamps	8,376.73	7,440.28	East Camden	8,632.29	7,734.23	Caldwell	9,630.22	8,377.24
Tillar	232.69	191.81	Lawrence County	268,205.94	248,845.59	Louann	1,485.39	1,362.42	Cott	6,558.96	5,705.58
Watson	2,337.98	1,927.22	Alicia	723.68	671.03	Stephens	8,069.98	7,401.94	Forrest City	266,713.94	232,012.02
Drew County	366,030.02	394,064.73	Black Rock	3,863.53	3,582.46	Perry County	102,816.05	85,734.12	Hughes	25,003.88	21,750.66
Jerome	456.70	428.28	College City	NA	2,462.26	Adona	916.26	764.03	Madison	13,343.50	11,607.40
Monticello	110,860.88	103,961.62	Hoxie	16,224.49	15,044.16	Bigelow	1,380.96	1,151.53	Palestine	11,816.56	10,279.10
Tillar	2,388.89	2,240.22	Imboden	3,951.07	3,663.63	Casa	749.67	625.12	Wheatley	6,159.88	5,358.42
Wilmar	5,983.93	5,611.53	Lynn	1,680.81	1,558.53	Fourche	271.81	226.65	Whedner	4,737.04	4,120.71
Winchester	1,955.61	1,833.91	Minturn	636.14	589.86	Houston	758.43	632.43	Stone County	79,810.28	79,669.63
Faulkner County	700,201.77	605,056.39	Portia	2,550.40	2,364.86	Perry	1,183.68	987.03	Fifty Six	1,457.53	1,454.96
Enola	2,132.11	1,842.39	Powhatan	420.20	389.63	Perryville	6,400.66	5,337.24	Mountain View	23,151.97	23,111.17
Holland	3,513.56	3,036.13	Ravenden	2,742.99	2,543.44	Phillips County	100,337.11	89,867.10	Union County	525,204.42	423,375.75
Mount Vernon	914.66	790.37	Sedgwick	887.09	822.56	Elaine	11,231.91	10,059.97	Calion	15,311.40	12,342.77
Twin Groves	2,113.18	1,826.04	Smithville	455.22	422.10	Helena-West Helena	177,980.98	159,410.20	El Dorado	651,941.68	525,540.68
Wooster	5,424.89	4,687.74	Strawberry	1,762.52	1,634.29	Lake View	7,823.49	7,007.17	Felsenthal	3,751.79	3,024.37
Franklin County	163,447.75	142,378.05	Walnut Ridge	31,153.35	26,462.59	Lexa	5,050.84	4,523.82	Hutrig	20,986.00	16,917.16
Altus	6,403.59	5,578.11	Lee County	27,610.56	24,694.50	Marvell	20,945.05	18,759.62	Junction City	18,719.65	15,090.21
Branch	3,100.42	2,700.75	Aubrey	855.60	765.23	Pike County	152,907.01	146,039.08	Norphlet	23,619.13	19,039.77
Charleston	21,305.87	18,559.37	Haynes	754.94	675.21	Antoine	980.60	936.56	Smackover	62,139.12	50,091.34
Denning	3,979.01	3,466.08	LaGrange	447.93	400.62	Daisy	963.84	920.55	Strong	17,680.07	14,252.18
Ozark	31,122.45	27,110.52	Marianna	20,710.44	18,523.13	Delight	2,338.36	2,233.33	Van Buren County	256,530.73	228,118.09
Wiederkehr Village	321.01	279.65	Moro	921.30	972.30	Glenwood	18,321.35	17,498.44	Clinton	22,787.55	20,263.66
Fulton County	93,678.01	72,983.27	Rondo	996.51	891.27	Murfreesboro	13,753.58	13,135.83	Damascus	2,189.43	1,946.93
Ash Flat	370.62	288.74	Lincoln County	52,291.40	41,253.05	Poinsett County	103,211.84	101,427.13	Fairfield Bay	18,872.86	16,782.55
Cherokee Village	2,881.35	2,244.82	Gould	4,139.20	3,265.44	Fisher	1,543.70	1,517.01	Shirley	2,548.49	2,266.23
Hardy	152.61	118.89	Grady	2,220.43	1,751.71	Harrisburg	15,935.46	15,659.90	Washington County	1,373,326.72	1,278,909.32
Horseshoe Bend	61.77	48.12	Star City	11,245.57	8,871.71	Lepanto	13,104.18	12,877.58	Elkins	41,270.13	38,432.77
Mammoth Spring	3,549.92	2,765.69	Little River County	209,916.89	169,290.47	Marked Tree	17,762.98	17,455.83	Elm Springs	27,367.96	25,486.39
Salem	5,940.75	4,628.36	Ashdown	42,817.89	34,531.10	Trumann	50,506.12	49,632.78	Farmington	93,107.16	86,705.96
Viola	1,224.48	953.99	Foreman	9,165.55	7,391.69	Tyrone	5,274.90	5,183.69	Fayetteville	1,146,773.50	1,067,931.83
Garland County	1,077,150.04	1,979,935.72	Ogden	1,631.85	1,316.03	Waldenbury	422.27	414.97	Goshen	16,691.96	15,544.37
Fountain Lake	6,808.81	6,721.71	Wilton	3,390.62	2,734.41	Weiner	4,956.46	4,870.77	Greenland	20,167.50	18,780.97
Hot Springs	204,165.78	201,553.92	Winthrop	1,740.63	1,403.76	Polk County	227,575.27	222,504.44	Johnson	52,273.42	48,679.58
Lonsdale	1,272.42	1,256.15	Logan County	278,574.48	94,133.73	Cove	6,826.36	6,674.26	Lincoln	35,051.56	32,641.73
Mountain Pine	10,423.05	10,289.69	Blue Mountain	988.70	927.50	Grannis	9,900.02	9,679.42	Prairie Grove	68,980.97	64,238.47
Grant County	180,058.73	161,319.27	Booneville	31,813.85	29,844.54	Hatfield	7,380.34	7,215.88	Springdale	1,000,504.55	931,719.00
Greene County	472,369.79	425,899.92	Caulksville	1,698.33	1,593.20	Mena	102,520.56	100,236.20	Tontitown	38,340.08	35,704.16
Delaplaine	1,218.46	1,085.49	Magazine	6,753.47	6,335.42	Vandervoort	1,554.70	1,520.06	West Fork	36,111.36	33,628.68
Lafe	4,810.83	4,337.15	Morrison Bluff	510.30	478.71	Wickes	13,474.02	13,173.80	Winslow	6,093.88	5,674.94
Marmaduke	11,669.94	10,520.91	Paris	28,162.03	26,418.78	Pope County	321,637.81	304,542.16	White County	1,042,369.40	764,987.46
Oak Grove Heights	9,338.05	8,418.62	Ratcliff	1,610.63	1,510.93	Atkins	38,627.79	36,574.65	Bald Knob	32,223.66	29,770.01
Paragould	274,290.74	247,283.88	Scranton	1,786.04	1,675.48	Dover	17,648.90	16,710.83	Beebe	81,365.59	75,170.04
Hempstead County	351,406.19	322,157.61	Subiaco	5,660.77	4,278.47	Hector	5,763.43	5,457.09	Bradford	8,442.44	7,799.60
Blevins	3,281.15	3,008.05	Lonoke County	268,854.57	237,192.25	London	13,307.12	12,599.82	Garner	3,158.96	2,918.43
Emmet	447.90	410.62	Allport	1,087.14	959.11	Pottsville	36,348.03	34,416.06	Georgetown	1,379.27	1,274.24
Fulton	2,093.69	1,919.42	Austin	19,266.02	16,997.11	Russellville	357,588.81	338,582.29	Griffithville	2,502.70	2,312.13
Hope	105,153.12	96,400.91	Cabot	224,763.93	198,294.06	Prairie County	67,048.46	59,301.27	Higginson	6,907.45	6,381.49
McCaskill	999.97	916.74	Carlisle	20,929.82	18,464.97	Biscoe	2,786.17	2,464.24	Judsonia	22,457.57	20,747.55
McNab	708.31	649.36	Coy	907.53	800.65						

MUNICIPAL MART

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II—The City of Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Assistant II in the Police Department. The position files, indexes, and manages arrest and fingerprint records, warrants, police reports, and related documents in accordance with departmental standards and legal requirements. Handles sensitive and confidential information with privacy and on a “need to know only basis.” Requires HS diploma or GED and three years related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience; and 12 to 18 months management experience. Starting salary is \$24,511. Open until filled. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Please go to the City of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department site and complete the online application. You may contact the Maumelle Human Resources office by phone at (501) 851-2784 ext. 242, or at the office location 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 555 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday for an application or assistance. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at (501) 851-2784, ext. 242 or at rhilton@maumelle.org.

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

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

CITY ADMINISTRATOR—Girard, Kan. (pop. 2,760; \$10.7 million budget; 32 FTE's), is friendly, progressive community seeking an energetic administrator to lead its local government. Bachelor's degree in Public Administration or a related field and at least 5 years of local government experience required. Leadership and budgeting skills required. Salary \$60,000-\$75,000 DOQ. Send

cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references to LEAPS-Girard@lkm.org or LEAPS-Girard, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS, 66603. EOE. Open until filled. Application review begins July 31.

FINANCE DIRECTOR—The City of Greenwood has an open position for Director of Finance. Applicants must possess a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a minimum of four years managerial experience. This position is required to perform responsible management and administrative direction coordinating the varied functions of the city's Finance Department. Work involves administering the central accounting system with data processing functions, financial reporting, performance of general accounting processes and develops and oversees the city budget for all departments. Experience in Governmental Fund Accounting will be a plus. Applicants must submit a resume along with application and have verifiable professional references. This position is salaried and pay will be commensurate to experience. A comprehensive benefits package includes paid health, vision and dental insurance (w/ optional dependent coverage); retirement, paid vacation, sick leave and holidays. Applications can be picked up at the Greenwood City Hall, 30 Bell Road, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., or by contacting the Mayor's Office at (479) 996-2742. Applications can also be accessed at www.greenwoodar.org/Government/JobOpportunities. Completed applications are to be mailed to: City of Greenwood, HR Department, P.O. Box 1450, Greenwood, AR 72936. EOE.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR—The City of Republic, Mo., seeks applicants for the position of Public Works Director. This position is a department head level position that directs and manages the operations and personnel of the Public Works Department, which is responsible for construction, maintenance and improvement of the city's public infrastructure. The incumbent's primary function is to organize, direct, schedule and coordinate the activities of the Public Works Departments, which include outsourced engineering and construction, streets and stormwater, water and wastewater utilities, animal control, and ADA coordination. Pay range: \$75,000-\$85,000 DOQ. Application and complete job description available at www.republicmo.com. Application must be completed and submitted to HR, City Hall, 213 N. Main, Republic, MO 65738. Open until filled.

WATER OPERATOR—Forrest City Water Utility is seeking a water operator that has a Class IV Water Treatment and Distribution license. The Water Supply Operator is responsible for the operation of the Water Treatment Plant, storage distribution system monitoring on an assigned shift and other related duties. Application can be found on dws.arkansas.gov or you can ask for Derrick Spearman at Arkansas Workforce at (870) 633-2900 located at 300 Eldridge Rd #2, Forrest City, AR 72335. Application accepted until filled. Forrest City Water Utility is located at 303 N. Rosser in Forrest City, AR 72335 (870) 633-2921.





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Standing from left:
Leigh Ann Biernat, Jack Truemper,
Lindsey Ollar, Michael McBryde,
Michele Casavechia, Kevin Faught,
Melissa Walsh

Seated from left: Jason Holsclaw,
Bo Bittle, Mark McBryde,
Dennis Hunt (Executive Vice
President and Manager of
Public Finance)

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