

City & Town

SEPTEMBER 2018 VOL. 74, NO. 09 THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



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Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



ON THE COVER—North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, this year’s League president, participates in the groundbreaking for First Orion, which will be an anchor of the new Argenta Plaza. Read about Smith and the improvements in his city beginning on page 6. Read also about the League’s Annual Planning Meeting, Bay Mayor and League District 1 Vice President Darrell Kirby, and more. Also, planning for the 2019 Winter Conference is already underway. Check out the registration and hotel reservation information inside on page 24.—atm

Features

6 League president builds upon successes
North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, the League’s 2018-2019 president, works to build upon the successes of his resurgent hometown.

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Growth is coming, slowly but surely, to the City of Bay, and Mayor Darrell Kirby, the League’s 2018-2019 District 1 vice president, stays busy making sure his hometown is ready.

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The League’s Executive Director has released the annual budget information letter, which details the service charges, optional program rates, and turnback estimates for the coming year to help cities and towns budget appropriately.

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Dear Friends,

I sure hope you take advantage of this wonderful magazine. I am continually impressed by the quality and breadth of valuable information we can find within its pages. It is a must-read for any public servant in Arkansas hoping to stay up to date on the best practices and policies for Arkansas cities and towns.

This month's edition is no exception. I take great pleasure in telling you the League's Annual Planning Meeting, held Aug. 21-23 in North Little Rock, was a success! I am proud of my home city and staff for hosting and making the attendees feel welcomed. They put in the time and effort to insure we have a successful year ahead of us.

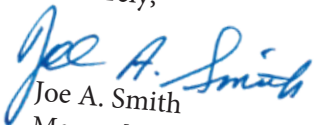
As you know, the meeting was an event for League officers, the Executive Committee, the Advisory Council chairs, past presidents, the Investment Committee, the Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust board, the Municipal Health Benefit Fund Board of Trustees, and the Municipal League Defense Program steering committee to brainstorm and work on achieving our goals for the coming year. This meeting is an important one and I encourage you to read the coverage in this issue for several of the ideas and advances that came from it.

Not least of our accomplishments at the meeting was the selection of Mark Hayes as the new executive director of our Municipal League. Many of you know Mark through his stellar work as our general counsel. We chose Mark to carry on the hard work and great successes of Don Zimmerman, and we are supremely confident in his ability to lead our organization with his exceptional work ethic, integrity, creative thinking, and deep institutional knowledge. Mark has our full support and we look forward to a strong future for the Arkansas Municipal League under his leadership.

Remember to use the League website to stay current on all our upcoming events on the Calendar of Events page at arml.org. I'm looking forward to our municipal finance and budgeting workshop Sept. 12. I hope to see you there.

Again, I want to thank the participants, League staff, and City of North Little Rock staff, who helped make our meeting such a success. I'm proud to be president of a League with such amazing people and mayor of a town that knows all about hospitality.

Sincerely,



Joe A. Smith
Mayor, North Little Rock
President, Arkansas Municipal League



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

Mayor Smith builds on city's successes

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

When *City & Town* first visited with North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith in 2015, he was near the beginning of his first term as mayor and the League's District 2 vice president, and he was determined to build upon the city's successes, particularly in Argenta, North Little Rock's resurgent downtown. Now, three years later, he is the League's 2018-2019 president, and while there's progress he can celebrate, it's more important for Smith that he and his hometown continue pushing forward.

Smith's family roots run four generations deep in North Little Rock. His great-grandparents ran a restaurant and boarding house on Pike Avenue, and his grandfather worked for the railroad. His father served as the city's assistant chief of police. When Smith graduated from high school, he moved the Fayetteville to study business at the University of Arkansas. He then worked for several car dealerships, including becoming a partner at a Ford dealership in Hope before moving back home. Smith and his wife, Missie, have two children and two grandchildren.

In 1989, longtime North Little Rock Mayor Pat Hays, then in his first year, named Smith director of community relations, and the business and public relations skills Smith had honed as a car dealer served him well as he served the city. Over the next 25 years he continued his public service in a range of different capacities. When Hays decided that after 24 years he wouldn't run again, Smith decided to run for mayor.

"I anticipate that in the next five years we'll see more development in North Little Rock than we've seen in the past 10."



The August groundbreaking of the new First Orion building, which will anchor the forthcoming Argenta Plaza, is like "icing on the cake" of North Little Rock's economic development efforts, Mayor and new League President Joe Smith said.

That was Mayor Smith in 2015. Fast-forward to now and his words ring true.

One of his goals was to continue the growth of Argenta, which, over the last 10-15 years, has become a dining, arts, business, and residential destination. He and the city imagined a plaza that would attract even more people and businesses to downtown. The Argenta Plaza will soon become a reality. On August 16 the city broke ground for the new corporate headquarters of First Orion, a data and network solutions company with offices in Seattle, Dallas, and London. The new 60,000-square-foot office building will be an anchor of the plaza. Plans also just went out for bid on the adjacent 600 Main Street building, the mayor says.

"There's a really good possibility that all three of those will start before winter gets here. We're excited



Work on Argenta Plaza should begin before the end of this year.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

Residential and business development branches out from downtown and continues on the north side of the Arkansas River.

about it. It's been a long time coming. We knew we had a special place here."

New housing is also part of the plan, and the construction of 165 residential units is well underway. They are already being gobbled up, and Smith predicts the entire complex will be rented within six months of completion, reflecting a need and a desire for housing options in and around the city's core. And more infill projects like this will follow, he says.

"We're bringing the young people to our community because they want to live here and they want to work here. That was our goal all along. We're being successful so we're not going to stop. Whatever we're doing we're not quittin' it."

On top of that, the plaza and accompanying downtown development are proving to be a great example of successful public-private partnerships, and the city's efforts have already shown a great return on investment. The city will end up spending about \$4.5 million on the plaza. It's already generated somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30 million in private development, Smith says.

While the heart of North Little Rock remains a focus, the threads of development are spreading out from the downtown corridor as well, with housing, restaurants, and mixed-use commercial projects soon getting underway on the west side of Riverfront Park between the Broadway Bridge and the growing Rockwater Village neighborhood.

Moving north from there up Pike Avenue, streetscape and pedestrian improvements continue, and new tenants are on tap for some of the industrial and warehouse sites that line the avenue next to the Union Pacific rail yard. The Arkansas Department of Community Corrections will soon move their headquarters into the former Timex manufacturing space.

"It's a good shot in the arm" for that area, Smith says.

While Ben E. Keith did move their operation away from Pike Avenue, the city convinced the food distribution giant to stay in North Little Rock and the company built a new distribution center serving the mid-south region near the I-40 and I-440 interchange on the east side of the city. It saved 250 jobs and is expected to add another 250, Smith says. Caterpillar, which also has a manufacturing facility near there, has announced the addition of 250 new jobs as well.

Up the hill from Pike Avenue and overlooking the Baring Cross neighborhood, both Fort Roots and Pulaski Tech continue to thrive and expand. On the west side of the city, Burns Park, one of the nation's largest municipal parks, has undergone numerous upgrades over the last several years, and the city estimates that it had more than one million visitors in 2017.

"That shows that it's not just a quality-of-life issue for our residents, it also has such a great economic impact for our community because there's so many visitors that come from around the state and the country to Burns Park, so we're really proud of that."

Improvements are also forthcoming in two of the city's historic neighborhoods. Through the Jump Start Levy and Jump Start Park Hill initiatives, the city will soon embark on plans to improve the appearance, streetscapes, walkability, and quality of place of the neighborhoods and their town centers. Smith says plans for Levy should be finalized in about six months and Park Hill should follow a year after that.

Improving public safety has also been a priority for city leadership, Smith says. Levy will soon be home to the city's first brand new fire station in nearly 20 years, and renovations on another of the city's stations are now



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

Improvements are coming to Pike Avenue's infrastructure, and empty industrial spaces are getting new occupants. The Arkansas Department of Community Corrections will soon move into the old Timex building.

underway. The city is getting ready to draw plans for a new \$20 million police and courts complex to be located where the National Guard's old armory now stands, just east of the current police headquarters. All of these improvements are a result of a penny increase in the city's sales tax championed by Smith and approved by voters in 2017.

As this year's League president, one of Smith's first goals, which he announced in his acceptance speech at the 84th Convention in June, is to actively recruit more young people to serve at the local level and get involved with the League. He's already had some success, having recruited several of the state's younger municipal officials to participate in the Executive Committee and Advisory Councils.

"City leaders have a responsibility to look 10 or 20 years down the road, so it's our responsibility to help bring the younger generation along."

Diversity of ideas and decision-making is important in cities and within an organization like the League, and we need to increase that, he says.

The coming legislative session is a priority as the president helps lead the effort to advocate for cities and towns at the state capitol.



Food distributor Ben E. Keith left Pike Avenue, but they built a new distribution center on the east side of the city, which saved jobs and will add more in the near future.

"We'll certainly miss Don Zimmerman not being with us to help lead that challenge, but I've got complete confidence in our staff. I've asked mayors across the state to help me during our lobbying efforts, and I've got a list as long as your arm of people who said call me if you need me."

One of the League's legislative priorities remains its push for so-called marketplace fairness policies at the federal and state level to facilitate the collection of local sales tax on internet purchases.

"It's been approved by the Supreme Court, but we still have to do our due diligence," Smith says.

It'd be better if there were federal movement on the issue, he says, but in the meantime Arkansas needs to act.

Smith is also continuing to work on finding ways to combat the opioid epidemic in Arkansas, including exploring funding options for every city and town in Arkansas to have access to the drug Naloxone, sold under the brand name Narcan, to prevent deaths from overdose.

"I'd be willing to bet that less than half have that capability," Smith says, adding that an effort to increase the drug's shelf life from two years to four will help affordability.

For the League, Smith says he will work to make sure newly appointed Executive Director Mark Hayes and the staff have the support needed in order to ensure the organization that Don Zimmerman built will have a strong future.

"I am very confident that our League will continue to get better, even with the loss of Don. He built a great team and they work hard for the cities and towns of Arkansas." 🏛️



The Levy neighborhood will soon be getting a major facelift through the Jump Start Levy initiative, with improvements coming to the adjacent Park Hill neighborhood after that.

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Leadership plots year at Annual Planning Meeting

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

North Little Rock—home of this year’s League president, Mayor Joe Smith—hosted the League’s Annual Planning Meeting, Aug. 21-23. The mayor and his administration went all out to welcome the League’s committee and board members. In between the important meetings, where the League’s leadership plotted the course for the coming year, North Little Rock made sure the League members, staff, and spouses and guests were taken care of. From an informative tour on the trolley that connects the downtowns of Little Rock and North Little Rock over the Arkansas River, to a laugh-filled comedy show at Argenta’s The Joint, the host city made sure everyone had a good time.

The city planned several special events for the spouses and guests of the meeting participants as well. Mayor Smith’s wife, Missie, led the group on an excursion that included a tour of the new Rockwater Village neighborhood on the Arkansas River Trail and a visit to the Edgemont House, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Getting down to business

North Little Rock is also home to the Arkansas Municipal League, and League headquarters served as the location for the committee and board meetings. President Joe Smith called the Executive Committee to order at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22, and the members covered numerous articles of business.



North Little Rock Mayor and League President Joe Smith and his wife, Missie, welcome city and town leaders to The Joint, a comedy and music venue/coffee shop in the Argenta Arts District.

As one of the first orders of business, the committee went into executive session, and, upon emerging, named Mark Hayes as the League’s new executive director. The cities and towns of Arkansas lost a true champion on June 24 with the passing of Don A. Zimmerman, who had served the League since 1966 including serving as executive director since 1974.

Hayes, who has earned great respect as the League’s longtime general counsel, is the right person to carry on Don’s work supporting Arkansas cities and towns, Smith and the Executive Committee agreed. Hayes thanked the committee for their support, and he also thanked the League staff, which he said have done strong work through this difficult period.

“When you see these people in the hallway, thank them,” Hayes said. “They’re working really, really hard. With that I will tell you how appreciative I am of your confidence. We will work to make Don’s legacy continue to glow and shine even more than it does right now.”

Hayes announced several steps the League will be taking to honor Zimmerman’s legacy, including naming the League’s campus after him, establishing a scholarship fund in his name, and creating an award for municipal service in his name. The committee approved naming the



Meeting attendees boarded two of Rock Region Metro’s trolleys for a leisurely afternoon tour of the Little Rock and North Little Rock downtown areas.



PHOTO BY JIM BILLINGS, CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK.

Missie Smith, at the wheel, leads the way on a Club Car tour of the Arkansas River Trail.

League campus to honor Don and agreed to return at the next meeting to discuss in more detail the establishment of a scholarship and award in his name.

The League’s Investment Committee and the boards for each of the service programs met during the Planning Meeting to discuss any changes members can expect in the coming year. League Finance Director Cindy Frizzell reported stronger overall returns for the second quarter of 2018 after a sluggish first. Thanks to a diversified portfolio, the overall financial health of the League and its programs remains strong, she said, and the League has benefited from the record-length bull market that’s been going since spring of 2009.

The Municipal Property and Vehicle Programs took several big weather-related hits in the last year, which will result in premium increases this year. The exact new rate is undecided at this point, but the board

recommended that participating member cities plan for a 10-15 percent increase when budgeting for the year.

The Municipal League Workers’ Compensation Trust is going the other way, Frizzell reported. For the third year in a row, the Arkansas Workers’ Compensation Commission has reduced rates, this time by about 14 percent. The MLWCT also will offer a two percent front-end discount for all members with a cumulative loss ratio of 100 percent or less.

The Municipal Health Benefit Fund Board of Trustees met on Aug. 23, the final day of the meeting, to plan for the coming year, and positive changes are on the way for MHBF members. Effective Jan. 1, 2019, if you have single coverage and are adding family coverage due to the birth of a baby, the coverage will be effective during the month in which the baby is born. Also, the eligibility requirements for membership when a spouse loses employment will be less restrictive. Finally, and possibly the best news of all, is the addition of a comprehensive vision benefit being offered through EyeMed. Detailed information about the new optional vision benefit will be coming soon.

In other business, the Executive Committee voted to continue the membership agreement with the National League of Cities (NLC) whereby each city and town that is a member of the Arkansas Municipal League is automatically a member of the NLC. For more than 25 years Arkansas was the only state league with this arrangement, but more states are catching on, said Little Rock Mayor and this year’s NLC President Mark Stodola. Five more state leagues are now taking advantage of the beneficial agreement, he said.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

The Executive Committee convenes for the Annual Planning Meeting at League headquarters.

“It’s good for municipalities around the country,” Stodola said.

Stodola encouraged city leaders to attend the NLC City Summit, Nov. 7-10 in Los Angeles, where he will conclude his yearlong term as president. For information about the event, visit citysummit.nlc.org.



Regarding the League’s legislative package, which was adopted at the 84th Convention in June, Hayes explained that the order in which resolutions appear in the *Policies and Goals 2018-2019* publication is based upon their priority. The League’s support for legislation at the federal and state level to ensure collection of local sales tax on internet sales remains the top priority. The U.S. Supreme Court in June overturned its 1992 *Quill* decision in the case *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, which should open the door for action on the issue. Having comprehensive federal legislation would be preferable to a state-by-state, piecemeal effort, and Rep. Steve Womack has been a champion of the legislation in Congress, but progress has stalled in recent years. Sen. John Boozman has voiced support, but the rest of Arkansas’s congressional delegation has been less enthusiastic, Hayes said.

“For those of you with relationships with the rest of the delegation besides Womack, I would strongly encourage you to have a direct conversation about this issue and the need to get it passed now,” Hayes said.



Dermott Council Member Edmond Shelton, center, is one of the newest and youngest members of the Executive Committee. One of President Joe Smith’s priorities this year is to recruit more young people to serve their cities and participate in the League.

At the state level, it’s going to take a team effort to advocate for city issues at the Arkansas capitol, Smith said.

“It’s going to take all of us when we get over there to the capitol come January,” Smith said. “If we call you or email you and ask you to make a call for us, please do it.”

New Executive Director Mark Hayes recommended no changes be made to the League’s service charge formula for 2019. For information on the League service charge, fees associated with the League’s programs, turnback estimates, and the latest APERS multiplier, please refer to the Executive Director’s Budget Memo in this issue on page 22.



Newly appointed League Executive Director Mark Hayes addresses the MLDP Steering Committee.

Lastly, the future meetings calendar was reviewed and approved. The 2019 Winter Conference will be held Jan. 16-18 at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little

Rock. The Statehouse Convention Center will also host the League’s 85th Convention, June 12-14, 2019. To access the future meetings calendar, visit the League’s website at arml.org.

League Finance Director Cindy Frizzell, far right, updates the Investment Committee on the League’s financial status.



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The new 2017-2018 edition of the *Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials* has arrived. The Handbook compiles state laws affecting Arkansas municipalities, including the newest laws from the 2017 legislative session.

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Bay mayor readies city for growth

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

The League's District 2 vice president, Bay Mayor Darrell Kirby, isn't quite an Arkansas native. Just very nearly. He was born in Rockford, Ill., but his memories of that time are vague.

"I remember a two-story house we lived in, because I fell down the stairs," he says. "I remember that."

When the local Quaker Oats plant shut down, his parents moved south to Arkansas for better work prospects and to be closer to family. Many of his mother's brothers and sisters lived in Arkansas, most of them just south of Bay in Trumann.

"We stayed in Trumann for about a week, and my mother said no, we will not live here. I think at the time Trumann was maybe 5,000 or 6,000 people, but still my mother wanted to live in a small community, so we moved to Bay."

They moved, Kirby started kindergarten there, and he went on to graduate a proud Bay Yellowjacket.

Kirby and his wife, Kellee, have a 16-year-old daughter and two grown children from previous marriages, his 22-year-old son and her 21-year-old daughter.

"They're wonderful," he says. "I love 'em to death."

After high school he chose to go to vo-tech school and decided he wanted to become a paramedic. He earned his EMT license and enrolled in paramedic school. He was also working part-time at the grocery store in Bay. That's when his career path took a turn.

Linda Watts, a former Bay mayor and council member, was the butcher at the store. Kirby was assisting her one day when she told him the city was hiring.



New FEMA flood maps would move about 80 percent of the city out of the current, outdated flood zone and open up Bay to more residential and commercial development.



The Bay School District, which is Mayor Darrell Kirby's alma mater and where all his kids have attended school, is a key to the city's growth and vitality.

"I asked her, 'What does the city do?' She said, 'Well, they do a variety of things.' So I asked, 'How much do they pay?'"

The city was paying more than the ambulance service, so, in 1993, he applied to be a general laborer for Bay.

About a week passed, and Kirby was opening up the store with owner Wayne Hill, who also happened to be the city's recorder/treasurer. They'd had their council meeting the night before, but Wayne hadn't said anything, so Kirby went about setting out the produce and getting ready for the day. When he finished that he went to the front to relieve Wayne on the register, and Wayne said, "Well, I guess I'm going to have to hire somebody."

"Why? Who's leaving?" Kirby asked.

"You are," Wayne said.

Kirby did general labor for a while before moving over to the water department, where he achieved his water/wastewater license, which he still holds today. Over the next several years he worked for a couple of different mayors. In February of 2006, Wayne Hill came to



Work will soon begin at this location on a new fire station, which will increase public safety on the west side of the railroad tracks that intersect the city.

him to say that several people around town wanted Kirby to run for mayor. He initially said no, that he didn't want to do it.

A few months later, he was on vacation in Jamaica with his wife and some of their friends from Bay. It was there that he changed his mind, Kirby says.

"My friends said if you'll run, we'll vote for you. We'll help you. We'll go campaign and do all that."

He had five opponents, and he ended up winning in a runoff. He took office January 1, 2007. He's now nearing the end of his third term and is running for a fourth.

One of his first tasks as mayor was to appoint a new police chief, which was a bit of a trial by fire, Kirby says.

"I was so overwhelmed! I remember sitting here the first two months going, 'Why'd I run?'"

But things got easier, Kirby says, and he credits the League for giving him support.

"I know Don Zimmerman got tired of hearing from me," he says. "I was emailing and emailing, asking him questions. I didn't know the steps how to do all this."

Don gave Kirby his cell phone number and said call if you need anything.

"I do not know what I would have done that first year without Don Zimmerman," Kirby says.

One of Bay's biggest projects over the last several years has been working with FEMA to update the flood

map. Because of two drainage ditches coming from fast-growing Jonesboro just to their north, the entire city of Bay is in a flood zone, Kirby says. They're working to change that. The new, proposed maps—which have about 80 percent of Bay out of the flood zone—are ready and awaiting approval.

"It's been a long process, but I think we're on the right track," Kirby says.

A rail line running north-by-northwest cuts Bay essentially in half, and there are two crossing points to get from the west to the east side of the city. There have been times when a train coming through has blocked both crossings for long periods of time, and that's a big concern, Kirby says. A new fire station will soon be built on the west side of the tracks. That will increase public safety and help the city maintain its ISO rating of 3, which they earned last year.

The Bay School District is the largest employer in the city, and the student population has grown in the last several years, which Kirby believes is a good sign. The city has already seen residential growth as a result, and developers are looking to add more homes. That will get a boost when the FEMA flood maps change as well.

"That's the first thing contractors ask about when they come here," he says. "But it's looking very promising for Bay. I think in the next four or five years, Bay is going to outgrow itself."

That would mean finding ways to expand services like water and wastewater, but it's a good problem to have, he says.

Retail and other business options in the city are slim right now, but that is also expected to change, Kirby says. Bay has a medical clinic and is hoping to attract a pharmacy soon. The old grocery store no longer exists, but a new Super Dollar General, which would carry fresh produce and more food options, is possibly in the works, he says. Bay is home to Jessica's Bridal & Formal, a region-wide destination for wedding gowns, bridesmaid and prom dresses, and accessories.

"She is well known, and people from all the surrounding states come to her," Kirby says.

The real key to Bay's continuing vitality is the school system, Kirby says. It was a 1A school for years, but this year it becomes a 2A school. He's witnessed other small cities and towns face rapid decline with the loss of a school system. Bay has been fortunate, he says.

"We are actually moving up, we are growing again. We're blessed. The only gripe in this town is that railroad track!" 🏠



Bay has seen residential growth in the last several years, and more is on its way, Mayor Kirby says.

PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.



From left, Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse, Stephanie Sisco, Firefighter John Buchan, Capt. Dustin McDonald, Fire Chief Mike Irwin, Asst. Chief Jim Vaughan, Peer Review Team Leader David Farnum, and CFAI Commission Chair Tommy Thompson.

Springdale FD awarded International Accredited status

The Springdale Fire Department (SFD) has received Accredited Agency status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) for meeting the criteria established through the CFAI's voluntary self-assessment and accreditation program, the city has announced. The SFD is one of more than 250 agencies to achieve Internationally Accredited Agency status with the CFAI and the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. (CPSE).


The CFAI announced the status after an Aug. 8 hearing. The SFD joins only four other agencies in Arkansas to achieve accredited status: Rogers Fire Department, Little Rock Air Force Base, Searcy Fire Department, and Little Rock Fire Department.

CFAI is dedicated to assisting the fire and emergency service agencies throughout the world in achieving excellence through self-assessment and accreditation in order to provide continuous quality improvement and the enhancement of service delivery to their communities. The CFAI process is voluntary and provides an agency with an improvement model to assess their service delivery

and performance internally and then works with a team of peers from other agencies to evaluate their completed self-assessment.

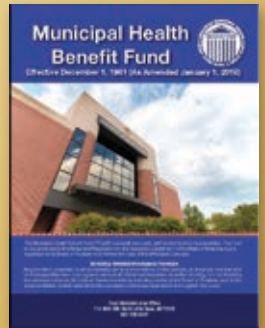
"The agency's achievement of Accredited Agency status demonstrates the commitment of the agency to provide the highest quality of service to our community," said Fire Chief Mike Irwin. "We have also been able to use the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's process as a proactive mechanism to plan for the future of this agency and locate areas where we can improve on the quality of the services we provided."

This process was used in order to relocate two stations in 2015 and identify the need for the additional three stations that were approved and planned with the successful 2018 bond election.

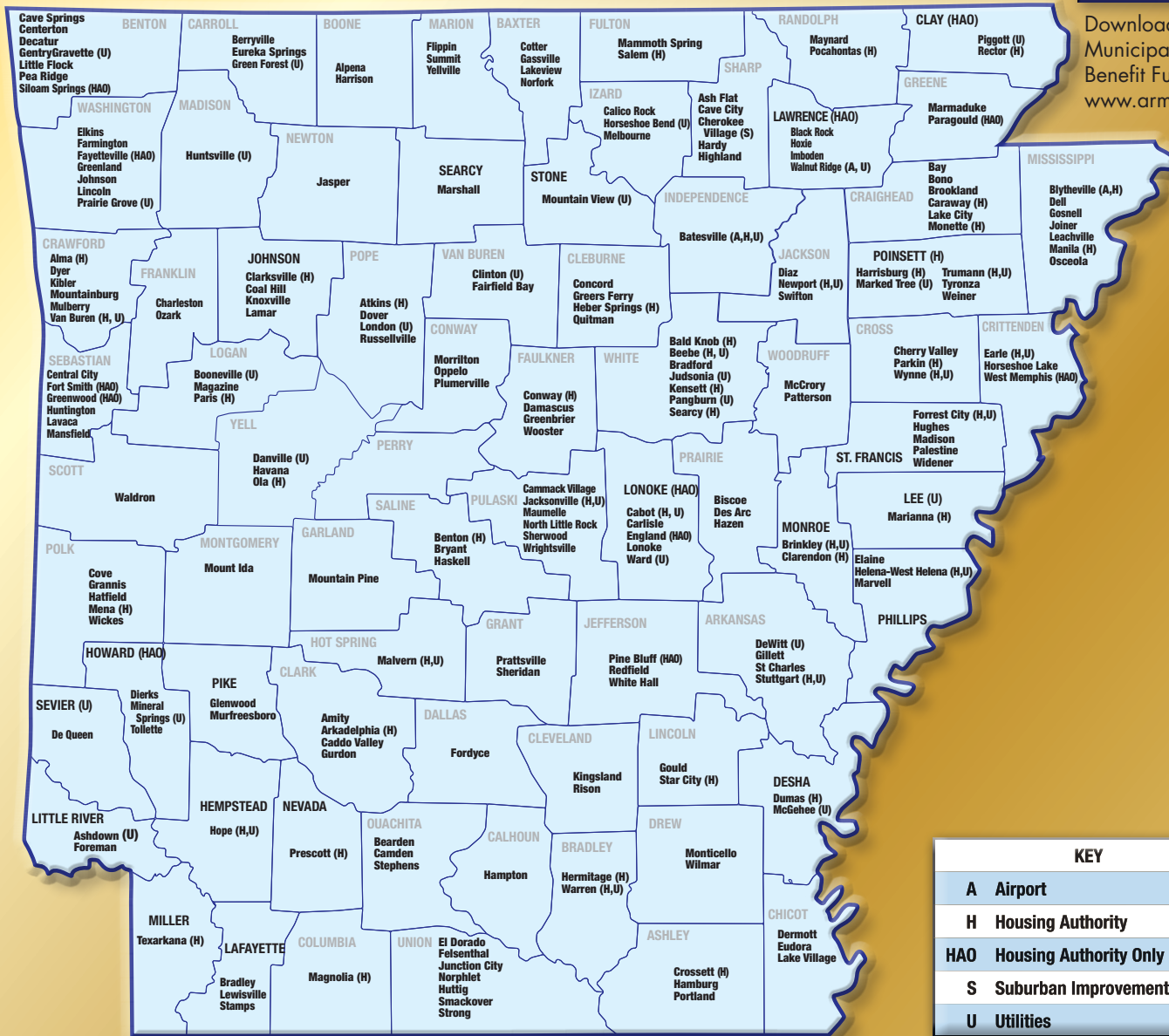
The SFD began this process more than three years ago and has been working diligently over the past two years to complete the Standards of Cover/Risk Assessment as well as the Self-Assessment Manual in order to allow for a site visit of a peer review team to validate our self-assessment. 

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Other Municipal Entities Covered by MHBF

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Beebe Housing	Boston Mountain Solid Waste	Lakeview Midway Public Water	Lakeview	Ozark Regional Transit	Ozark
Crossett Economic Dev. Foundation	Crossett	Lee County Water Association	Marianna	SE AR Economic Development District	Pine Bluff
Central Arkansas Planning & Development District	Lonoke	Local Police & Fire Retirement System	Little Rock	Sevier County Water Association	De Queen
Eighth Judicial Drug Task Force	De Queen	Magnolia Regional Medical Center	Magnolia	Southwest White County Water	White County
Fifth Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney	Russellville	Mena Regional Health System	Mena	Thirteenth Judicial District Drug Task Force	Camden
Fifth Judicial District	Russellville	Monticello Economic Development Commission	Monticello	Upper SW Regional Solid Waste Management District	Nashville
Gillham Lake Regional Water Association	Gillham	Montgomery County Nursing Home	Mount Ida	Waldron Housing Authority	Waldron
Grand Prairie/Bayou Two Water	Lonoke and Prairie Counties	NE AR Region Solid Waste Management District	Paragould	Walnut Ridge Airport	Walnut Ridge
Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District	Carroll County	North Little Rock - Sewer/Waste Water	North Little Rock	White River Regional Housing	Melbourne
Horseshoe Bend MRID	Horseshoe Bend	Northeast Public Water	Mountain Home	Yorktown Water Association	Star City

Relationships matter

By Chad Gallagher

It's not what you know but who you know. There's some truth in that old saying. I know that I can tie every good thing that's happened to me—every door opened, every blessing—to someone God used to help me. It's important that we never forget that none of us arrived at any measure of success on our own. We are all products of the kindness of others, the chance someone took on us, the introduction someone made. This is true in the grant world as well.

Grants can be complex, and to become successful in securing them takes a great deal of effort. It starts with understanding and quantifying your needs through a community needs assessment, engaging the public, and developing a blueprint or strategic plan. This level of preparedness gives the funding agency confidence in the place they are investing.

What we begin to see is that progressive community development, strategic planning, and forward vision create the best environment for receiving grants. Agencies and private sector funders want to bet on a “winning horse” and these kinds of efforts show them you are preparing to win.

The process doesn't have to be hard and can be done as formally or as informally as you'd like. From here, the work of becoming educated takes precedent. To be successful in grants, you must learn where the grants are, who is giving them, what their priorities are, and what they've funded before. You have to discern whether your project is a good fit for a particular grant and become adept at determining the likelihood of your success in order to prioritize where to invest your time and efforts.

Great preparation is just the first leg of the race. To have a chance to cross the finish line, you have to actually learn how to write the grant. This is a skill that can be enhanced through coaching, reviewing the grant applications of others, and experience. Once you begin

down the path, you begin to realize that writing good grant applications can be mastered and that you too can become very good at it.

We cannot overlook the importance of relationships. Becoming successful in the world of grants depends on them. Attending meetings, workshops, and conferences helps build those relationships. Look for events being hosted by the agencies or organizations from which you are seeking funding. Attending their conferences allows you to interact with them professionally and socially. It also shows your interest in their mission and programs. Ask the points of contact—the program directors, the support staff, and anyone else you meet—if you could come visit with them about their programs. Ask if they'll teach you. Let them be the expert in the room. Don't try to wow them with your knowledge, but rather share your vision and your humble request for help to achieve it. Humility always impresses. Always take advantage of technical support offered. Never miss a webinar that they offer about a program. Dial into the conference calls. Build those relationships.

Building relationships will always be important, because we are human and our connection to one another matters. How we treat people matters. In your efforts to become a better and more successful grant writer be sure you are building strong connections with the individuals you meet. Besides, well beyond the grant of the moment, you never know where life may take them or how your paths may cross again.



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

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Small cells, big issues

By Jim von Tungeln

Of all the issues that confront municipalities in our state, and across the country, none may prove to be more challenging than the coming of small cell internet towers. Larger cities are already dealing with them. Smaller communities may expect them soon.

What are they, what can cities expect, and how can cities deal with them?

Small cell towers are wireless communication towers, maybe 50 feet of maximum height, and designed to service a small or targeted area. They will be at the heart of the highly anticipated 5G network, which promises to provide internet service that is 10 to 100 times faster than what is available now. The economic development potential will be immense, so they say.

In describing small cell towers, Linda Poon, in an October 2017 article at www.citylab.com commented, “They’re essentially low-power transmitters that are smaller in size and range than traditional cell towers. They need to be densely packed together so that they operate as a relay team around obstacles, handing off signals from one station to another. That means thousands would have to be placed on streetlights, utility poles, and other city property. San Francisco alone would need about 10,000.”

Therein lies the debate: the sheer number of locations required.

They can also be quite unattractive, a fact that will create additional debate. Progress can affect the appearance and charm of a city. On the other hand, cities strive for state-of-the-art internet service. It promises significant economic development returns for cities that can achieve it and lagging status for those who can’t. Both citizens and businesses will want the service. Whether they will want the equipment providing it is another matter.

The appearance of a small cell facility, according to experts, usually resembles a pole with a fixture not much



PHOTO BY JIM VON TUNGELN.

Some small cell towers are more attractive than others.

larger than a loaf of bread on the top and a fixture the size of a refrigerator at its base. Photos of existing placements, however, suggest that this description fails fully to describe the actual appearance of a small cell.

What can municipal leaders do? Unfortunately, space herein allows only a brief overview of approaches. One of the major problems facing municipalities is that the industry doesn’t seem to have a clear idea of what they will eventually want. Both the ultimate potential and final goals are still under contemplation. Cities must face, to some degree, a moving target.

There are a number of possible ways of locating the small cell apparatus. The first priority for both the industry and for cities would be placement on existing

structures. This could be any structure suitable for installation and located where it would serve the need. Utility poles present a much-discussed target. For this reason, cities in our state that operate their own electrical systems face a particularly complicated task in dealing with small cell locations. Most are already working on the problem. Some have finished.

For complex reasons, the industry avoids co-location, creating the need for more nodes. Thus, so called “distributive antenna systems,” or facilities serving multiple wireless service providers, will not likely fit into future plans.

A second option for location is within public easements. This poses problems for municipalities. How much control can the city exercise over easements not owned by the city? In some cases this may even include easements within the city’s own water and sewer systems.

Some cities have approached the small cell issue by means of a franchise system. This can create a consistent flow of revenue through franchise fees, but the effect of “life-cycle” costs may outweigh the revenue. These are costs to the city that would continue for the entire duration of the franchise, escalating costs that can eventually strain city budgets.

As a last resort, providers may seek easements from private property owners for placement of small cells. Again, how much control will a municipality have over this within its police power?

The answer to local control is a complex legal one and one that evades a simple answer. At the present time, small cell placement seems to rest under the provisions of the Wireless Communications Act of 1996. With certain limitations, this law has allowed cities some leeway in controlling the placement of towers. Such limitations include the following:

- A city can’t prevent a provider from fulfilling the provisions of federal license,
- A city can’t use false science to deny a placement, and
- A city can’t favor one provider over another.

From the view of a planner working with the act, it appears that the courts have been kind toward cities that prove a clear rational basis for exercising control over cell towers. It remains to be seen if this kindness will remain in place as small cells proliferate.

With the aforementioned economic benefits that small cell placements promise, those working within the economic development function of a city will no doubt support placements. Residents will likely support their placement enthusiastically, except at or anywhere near

their own home. Elected officials will be stuck in the middle of the debate.

There is also the question of where to place regulations. Some cities have proposed stand-alone ordinances to regulate small cell placement. Others will opt to place them within the planning and zoning function. This appears to have some benefits. There is a large body of law affecting planning and zoning. It should provide our attorneys guidance in creating regulations guiding the placement of small cells.

Also, planning commissioners should be accustomed to dealing with difficult, complex, and controversial issues.

Finally, the issue will require detailed training. Planning commissioners and planning staff should already be trained to some degree, thus avoiding the initial costs in introducing individuals to the complex issues involved in the regulation of land uses.

There also exists the possibility that the issue may be resolved outside the control of local government. One state has already passed legislation favoring the location of small cells due to the economic development potential. This legislation removes the regulation of small cell placement from local zoning authority.

One thing is clear: There are some battles looming. For example, providers seeking multiple approvals of locations. Cities fear this due to limited staff capabilities. A related issue is the establishment of reasonable application processing fees. Experienced local officials are well aware of the gap that exists between what providers deem reasonable and what a complex review of plans and proposals actually costs a city.

Providers also want applications to be “deemed approved” if not acted on within a specific time. This no doubt relates back to the so-called “pocket vetoes” used by a few cities to resist unwanted cell towers. Again, elected officials worry about staffing shortages.

These battles may prove more difficult because of the changing technology of small cell usage. For the moment, the only call to action for most cities is to start learning about and preparing for the coming technology. Meanwhile, the Arkansas Municipal League has legal staff working on this looming issue. This new problem deserves a reasoned approach and our cities deserve the new benefits that small cells can provide.



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. Persons having comments or questions may reach him at (501) 944-3649. His email is uplan@swbell.net.


Municipal Notes

From the ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

2nd & Willow • P.O. Box 38 • North Little Rock, AR 72115 • (501) 374-3484

August 28, 2018

**TO: OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY COUNCILS
MAYORS, CITY ADMINISTRATORS AND MANAGERS
CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND TREASURERS
FINANCE DIRECTORS**

FROM: MARK R. HAYES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 

SUBJECT: BUDGET INFORMATION

The new League governing bodies, which were elected at the Convention or appointed by Mayor Joe Smith, League President, met in North Little Rock last week. Several items considered will affect your budget preparations for 2019.

League Service Charge. The Executive Committee retained the current service charge formula. The base charge is \$40 plus 35¢ per capita with 7¢ per capita credits, determined on October 1st, for participation in each of the following programs:

- Municipal Legal Defense Program
- Municipal Health Benefit Fund
- Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust
- Municipal Vehicle Program
- Municipal Property Program

Also continued by the Executive Committee was inclusion of membership in the National League of Cities for all our members.

Municipal Legal Defense Program. The Steering Committee for the Municipal Legal Defense Program retained the current service charge formula for 2019. The 2019 charges range from \$1.25 to \$7.00 per capita depending upon your municipality's loss experience. The optional drug & alcohol testing program for **non**-Commercial Drivers License (CDL) employees will continue to be available and can be implemented by increasing your MLDP charge by 20¢ per capita.

Municipal Health Benefit Fund. The Board of Trustees made some minor changes which will be effective January 1st. The 2019 booklets will be accessible online at <https://www.arml.org/services/mhbf/>. A Health Seminar will be held at League headquarters on November 2, 2018. If you are not currently participating in the MHBF and would like to receive a proposal for comparative purposes, please advise.

Municipal Workers' Compensation Trust. The Board of Trustees adopted the same rates as the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission for 2019 which is approximately 15% lower than they were in 2018. They also approved a 2% front-end discount for participating members with a cumulative loss ratio of 100% or less.

Municipal Vehicle Program and Municipal Property Program. Rates for the Municipal Vehicle and Property Programs have not been established at this time but we will apprise you as soon as that information is available.

Turnback Estimates. Estimates for general turnback are as follows. The street turnback estimate includes proceeds from the highway ½ cent sales tax and the severance tax.

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019 (same as 2018)</u>
Street Turnback -	\$65.50 per capita	\$65.50 per capita
General Turnback -	<u>\$15.50 per capita</u>	<u>\$15.50 per capita</u>
Total Turnback -	\$81.00 per capita	\$81.00 per capita

APERS Cost. For those municipalities participating in the Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS), the employer contribution will remain at 15.32% for 2019.


We hope this information will be of assistance to you as you begin your budget preparations for 2019.

Great Cities Make a Great State

Time to levy property taxes

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

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

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



2019 Winter Conference

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, January 16-18, 2019

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Monday, December 31, 2018, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.

Pre-registration for municipal officials	\$150
Registration fee after December 31, 2018 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Pre-registration for guests	\$75
Registration fee after December 31, 2018 , and on-site registration for guests	\$100
Other registrants	\$200

- Registration will be processed **ONLY** with accompanying payment in full. Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of **Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials, 2017-2018**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after December 31, 2018.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **December 31, 2018.**

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double.	\$139	Check-in 3 p.m.
Capital Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$189	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$144	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel		
Single/Double.	\$114	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **December 31, 2018.**
- Rooms in Little Rock/North Little Rock are subject to a 13-15 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel as penalties for cancellation can apply.

Two ways to register **2**

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

OR

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
 ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 2019 Winter Conference
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

I am a newly elected official.

Name:

Title: City of:

Attendee only email (required): CC Email:

Address: City:

State: Zip: Phone Number:

Non-city Official guests will attend: Yes No

Name: Name:

In Case of Emergency (ICE) Contact Name: ICE Phone Number:

Step 2: Payment Information

• **What is your total?** (see opposite page for fees)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-registration for Delegate \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-registration for Guest \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Registrants \$ 200	Pre-registration Total \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration for Delegate \$ 175	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration for Guest \$ 100	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Registrants \$ 200	Reg. Registration Total \$ _____

• **How are you paying?**

Check

Mail payment and form to:
 Arkansas Municipal League
 2019 Winter Conference
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115

Credit Card Complete information below and send to address above.

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: ____/20__

Card Holder Name (as it appears on card):

Billing address (as it appears on statement):

City: State: ... Zip: Telephone:

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

Step 3: Hotel Reservations

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

Marriott Hotel Reservations..... 877-759-6290

Capital Hotel..... Reservations..... 877-637-0037 or 501-374-7474

Doubletree Hotel Reservations..... 800-222-8733 or 501-372-4371

Wyndham Hotel..... Reservations..... 866-657-4458 or 501-907-4823

Special dietary needs:

- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Pescatarian
- Vegan

IBLA Grand Prize winners prep for spring 2019 Arkansas performances

By Sherman Banks

The IBLA Grand Prize competition takes place every year on the historic Mediterranean island of Sicily, Italy. The rocky town of Ragusa/Ibla lies just a few miles from where the Ionian and Mediterranean Seas meet at Sicily's southernmost tip. It was here, among the clusters of 17th and 18th Century stone buildings that crowd narrow streets, where talented musicians from different musical genres performed for the 27th annual competition, held July 19-25.

Experiencing the competition in this kind of setting is amazing. Gordon Sparber of the *Winston-Salem Journal* wrote, "It is like the opening of an ancient and ornate casket only to find it stocked with glittering gems."

The performances during the 2018 IBLA Grand Prize again reached extremely high levels of excellence. These artists are all outstanding professionals and deserve the attention of international audiences. I should point out that IBLA competitors are not judged against each other but against this standard of excellence.

Although there were winners in several categories, the top winners are the ones who will be featured in upcoming performances in Asia, regions of the United States including Arkansas, and at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

The most outstanding artist overall was a young composer from Greece, Andreas Foivos Apostolou. Other top winners included a clarinetist from Japan; a violinist from Bolivia/Brazil; pianists from China, Italy, and Taiwan/USA; a pianist/composer from Italy; and a pan flutist from Romania.

IBLA winners for the past 21 years have performed for students and the public in several Arkansas cities, including Lake Village, Batesville, Little Rock, North Little Rock, Springdale, Star City, Jacksonville, and Harrison. It is our intention in the spring of 2019 to add the cities of Jonesboro and Searcy to the musicians' Arkansas tour.



Andreas Foivos Apostolou

Each year I extend the invitation to you to host these incredible international musicians in your city or town, where they may reach out to the children in your community through performances and master classes. If you have any questions about how to feature these wonderful musicians in your community, please contact me.



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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To date, 429 of Arkansas's 500 cities and towns have received a State Aid Street grant. Are you one of the 71 cities and towns that haven't applied? If so, the time to apply is now.



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Summaries of Attorney General Opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Leslie Rutledge

Felons may not hold public office or become certified law enforcement officers

Opinion: 2018-022

Requestor: Mike Holcomb, state representative

Does an individual who has a prior criminal record or a record that has been expunged have the right to run for and serve in a public office of trust in the State of Arkansas? Q2) Does this individual meet the standard requirements for a policeman if he did not get his gun rights or voting rights reinstated? Q3) What are the restrictions on running for public office in law enforcement and other public offices of trust?

RESPONSE: Q1 & 3) Arkansas law disqualifies anyone convicted of a felony from running for or holding public office, but a valid expungement ordinarily restores

eligibility for public office. Q2) A person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a felony is ineligible to be appointed or certified as a law enforcement officer.

2 sections of state law govern local water system sale

Opinion: 2018-058

Requestor: R. Trevor Drown, state representative

Does Ark. Code Ann. 14-199-301 et seq. control the procedures and requirements for the sale of a municipal water system, or is the town also required to also comply with procedures set forth in Ark. Code Ann. 14-54-302?

RESPONSE: In my opinion, and in accordance with the standard rules of statutory construction, the sale of a town's water system is governed by both Ark. Code Ann. sec. 14-199-301 et seq. and Ark. Code Ann. sec. 14-54-302.

To find and read full Attorney General opinions online, go to www.arkansasag.gov/arkansas-lawyer/opinions-department/opinions-search.

Little Rock holds open data training

Little Rock is hosting a series of sessions to train city employees from all departments how to access the city's Open Data Portal (data.littlerock.gov) and Citizen Connect (citizenconnect.littlerock.gov) sites. The sites are part of the city's effort to increase transparency and accountability by making data and important information easily accessible by the public.

Melissa Bridges, Little Rock's performance and innovation coordinator, leads the training, which provides an overview of what information is available on the sites so that city employees can be better informed when responding to the public. The online portals offer data sets, maps, and other visualizations on key local government services, including public safety, infrastructure, economic development, and basic city services.

The training takes place at the Little Rock Fire Department's training building at 7000 Murray Street. The one-hour sessions continue next month at 9 a.m. Oct. 9; 9 p.m. Oct. 25; 3 p.m. Nov. 8; 9 a.m. Nov. 13; and 9 a.m. Dec. 4.



Melissa Bridges, Little Rock's performance and innovation coordinator, helps city employees navigate the city's Open Data Portal.



PHOTO BY ANDREW MORGAN.



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Great Cities Make a Great State!



E.H. Colgan House

The E.H. Colgan House at 2318 S. Summit Street and the Frederick A. Garrett House at 1400 S. Schiller Street, both featured on the 2018 Spring Tour of Homes, are part of the revitalization of Little Rock's Central High School Neighborhood Historic District.

Historic preservation as community and economic development

By Moriah Bruner and Ali Taylor

Historic resources—buildings, objects, neighborhoods, and cultural heritage—are vital community assets. Historic preservation, or the endeavor to preserve, restore, and rehabilitate these resources, is an important element of community development and serves as a catalyst for economic growth.

Across the state, numerous organizations are focusing attention on historic preservation initiatives.

The Quapaw Quarter Association, for example, is Little Rock's preservation nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve greater Little Rock's historic places. The association recognizes its role extends beyond preserving historic structures.

“Historic preservation is more than just saving old buildings; it is a means of revitalizing neighborhoods, containing urban sprawl, and returning life to Main

Street,” Quapaw Quarter Association Executive Director Patricia Blick said.

Each year, the Quapaw Quarter Association hosts an annual Spring Tour of Homes, which regularly draws more than 1,000 participants. While the main purpose of the tour is to foster appreciation of historic buildings and neighborhoods and the need for preservation, it has proven to be one of the organization's most effective methods of changing negative perceptions about the Quapaw Quarter, encouraging continued investment, and recruiting new residents to the area. With such a large number of attendees each year, the event also showcases the remarkable economic impact of hosting heritage tourism experiences.

Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola agrees that historic preservation efforts bring vast and unique economic benefits to Arkansas.



Frederick A. Garrett House

“A huge piece of Little Rock’s downtown renaissance is taking place in buildings and homes that the Quapaw Quarter Association and other groups have fought to save,” he said. “We know that historic properties provide unique tax credit opportunities for economic development that incentivize developers financially while preserving our historic character and shared culture.”

Other organizations across the state share the goal of preserving local historic resources with the ultimate goal to build stronger Arkansas communities. The Capitol Zoning District Commission, Preserve Arkansas, and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, a state agency in the Department of Arkansas Heritage, are just a few examples.

Would your community benefit from historic preservation? A good way to start is to acquaint the public with historic buildings and the history and culture of your particular area. A few projects to consider include:

- Tours—Establish free or inexpensive guided or self-guided walking tours in historic districts or neighborhoods.
- Signage—Install visually appealing signs or plaques on historic buildings and sites that identify their history and significance.
- Publicity—Create educational brochures, posters, and other materials highlighting historic places of interest and make them readily available in the community so that residents and visitors will be enticed to visit them. Be sure to also make the information available online in a mobile-friendly format.
- Presentations to local organizations—Deliver educational programming describing the historic

resources in your community. These are opportunities to teach members of service clubs, faith-based groups, and other local organizations about the importance of historic preservation. These gatherings often include community leaders and influential citizens who will serve as advocates for historic preservation projects.

- Dramatizations—Host haunted history walks and driving tours, community theater celebrating culturally significant stories, and performances of period music to promote understanding and appreciation for local history.

Historic preservation is needed all across the state, in urban centers and smaller rural towns. Investment in historic resources not only makes Arkansas more attractive, it grows the local economy and makes our state a better place to live, work, play, and thrive for generations to come.



Moriah Bruner is project coordinator at UCA’s Center for Community and Economic Development (uca.edu/cced). Contact her at mbruner1@uca.edu or (501) 450-3460.



Ali Taylor is a University of Central Arkansas undergraduate student majoring in Public Relations. She is also a Community and Economic Development Fellow with the Center for Community and Economic Development. Ali is from Conway and will graduate UCA in December 2018.

Nutrition to maintain your muscle mass

By Gina Cortese-Shiple, MS

An unfortunate effect of aging is a decline in many of our functional capabilities. One such decline is a loss of muscle mass and strength. This decline not only affects our ability to function physically in everyday life, but is also a major risk for falls and subsequent disability. The good news is that while this decline is inevitable, we can slow the rate of decline. The best approach is exercise (surprise, surprise), with resistance training being most effective.

There are other factors that affect the rate of muscle loss such as nutrition, genetics, trauma, hormones, and neuromuscular dysfunction. The International Osteoporosis Foundation Nutrition Working Group, in a study published in 2012, reviewed a number of studies that looked at both the nutritional factors that contribute to loss of muscle mass, as well as those that are beneficial to its maintenance. Here are their major findings and suggestions:

- **Protein**—The group suggests that older adults should consume .45-.55 grams per pound of body weight per day, which is higher than the suggested intake for their younger counterparts (0.36 g/lb. of body weight per day). The reason for this increased requirement is due to a number of factors. Older adults tend to have a decreased ability to digest protein due to a decline in digestive enzymes. In addition, their muscle cells are less responsive to the hormones that allow for protein uptake. Lastly, the increased requirement is to account for the decline in mass, as more is needed in order to replace the muscle that is being lost.
- **Vitamin D**—Vitamin D has been shown to play an integral part in a number of processes in the body, some of which include bone growth, immune function, inflammation reduction, and the development and preservation of muscle mass and function. Because there are limited food sources of vitamin D, older adults should have adequate exposure to sunlight, as vitamin D synthesis is

stimulated in the skin by ultraviolet light. Because the recommended daily allowance for vitamin D is higher for those ages 70 and older, supplementation is often necessary to ensure adequate intake.

- **Avoid dietary acid loads**—This is probably something that you may not have heard of before, but the review found that excess intake of acid-producing nutrients (meat and cereal grains) in combination with low intake of alkalinizing fruits and vegetables may have negative effects on musculoskeletal health. Modifying the diet to include more fruits and vegetables is likely to benefit both bones and muscles.
- **Vitamin B-12 and folic acid**—Recent evidence indicates that vitamins B-12 and folic acid play a role in proper muscle function. Vitamin B-12 can be obtained through animal products such as fish, meat, poultry, eggs, milk, and milk products. Because it is bound to the protein in these foods, older adults are often deficient in vitamin B-12 because of their decreased ability to digest protein. Supplementation is often needed. Good dietary sources of folic acid include dark leafy greens, asparagus, broccoli, and citrus fruits.

Any guess as to when the decline in muscle mass begins for most individuals? As early as ages 30-39. Therefore, we should all engage in physical activity and follow the above dietary recommendations in order to help conserve muscle mass. It's never too soon to start.

This article appeared originally in the Eat Better blog of the Cooper Institute (cooperinstitute.org) and is reprinted with permission.



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



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beatlesattheridge.com

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Downtown Jonesboro
BBQ Festival

Jonesboro

jonesborodowntownbbq.com

Sept. 28-29

Depot Days Festival

Newport

(870) 523-3618; depotdays.org

Sept. 28-29

11th Get Down
Downtown Festival

Searcy

(501) 279-9007;
searcy.com/mainstreetsearcy

Sept. 29

30th Autumn on the
Square

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Sept. 29

Pop-Up in the Bluff

Pine Bluff

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Sept. 29

42nd Sherwood Fest

Sherwood

(501) 833-0476;
cityofsherwood.net

Oct. 6

10th Conway EcoFest

Conway

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conwayecofest.com

Oct. 6

Hoo-Rah Days

De Queen

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Oct. 6

Arkansas Goat Festival

Perryville

(501) 749-7976;
arkansasgoatfestival.com

Oct. 12-14

Van Buren Fall Festival

Van Buren

(479) 922-6862;
oldtownvanburen.com

Oct. 13

October Daze

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Oct. 13

Cabot Fest

Cabot

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Oct. 13

Crawfordsville
Hometown Festival

Crawfordsville

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Oct. 13

47th Old Fashioned
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Ozark

(479) 667-5337

Oct. 13

2nd Lakeside Market

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Arkansas Municipal League
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Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

June 12-14, 2019

Arkansas Municipal League
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Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola proclaims August 10, 2018, Don Zimmerman Day.

LR Board honors Don Zimmerman

The Little Rock Board of Directors, at their August 7 meeting, proclaimed August 10 to be Don Zimmerman Day in honor of the League’s longtime executive director who died June 24. August 10 would have been Zimmerman’s 76th birthday.

Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola read the proclamation, which listed many of Zimmerman’s accomplishments, including establishing the League programs that have saved the cities and towns of Arkansas millions of dollars, helping secure the local option sales tax, advocating for cities at the state and federal level, and, most recently, helping to organize the historic litigation against opioid manufacturers to fight the epidemic in his beloved home state.

The proclamation concludes:

“...and whereas Don Zimmerman’s vision and dedication have transformed cities across Arkansas, helping them to grow and thrive; now therefore I, Mark Stodola, mayor of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, do hereby proclaim August 10, 2018, as Don Zimmerman Day here in the City of Little Rock.”

Mayor Stodola presented the proclamation to Jan Zimmerman, Don’s widow, who thanked the board members and encouraged them to continue their work “in the trenches” for the capital city.

“There’s so much to be done, and everybody has a special role,” she said. “Don would have been so thrilled today to think that you would want to celebrate his birthday and give him such a wonderful proclamation, so I thank you all.”

Don and Jan’s seven grandchildren also attended the proclamation presentation, and each took a turn at the podium to share with the board a favorite memory of their grandfather, who they lovingly referred to as “Biggie.”

The same evening, the Lake Village City Council passed its own proclamation, signed by Mayor JoAnne Bush, naming August 10, 2018, Don A. Zimmerman Day in the Chicot County city. 🏛️



Don’s wife, Jan Zimmerman, and their grandchildren, from left, Garrison Brister; Mary Evelyn May; Cooper, Madison, and Austin Millard; Owen May; and Finn Brister.



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Batesville Community Center

#CityHallSelfie Day showcases hometown pride



From the capital city to tiny Rose Bud, cities and towns across Arkansas took to social media on August 15 for the second annual #CityHallSelfie Day. Elected officials, city employees, whole departments, and residents captured selfies on their smartphones to show their pride in good local government

and posted the pics to Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. And this year Arkansas cities and towns debuted their own hashtag: #ARLocalGovYall. As you can tell from the collages, folks in Lake Village and Little Rock were especially enthusiastic this year. Thank you, everyone! #GreatCitiesGreatState 🏛️

Nominations open for 2018 Volunteer Community of the Year Awards

The Arkansas Department of Human Services Office of Communications and Community Engagement is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year Awards. The deadline to apply is Oct. 12.

Each year DHS partners with the Governor's Office and the Arkansas Municipal League to recognize cities and towns that seek to address the greatest needs within their communities through volunteerism. A panel of judges from across the state will select 12 communities to be honored at the League's Winter Conference in Little Rock in January 2019. Winners will also receive two signs donated by the Arkansas Highway Commission designating the city as a Voluntary Community of the Year.

For more information, support materials, and to complete a nomination form online, visit www.volunteerar.org/COY-nomination. 🏛️

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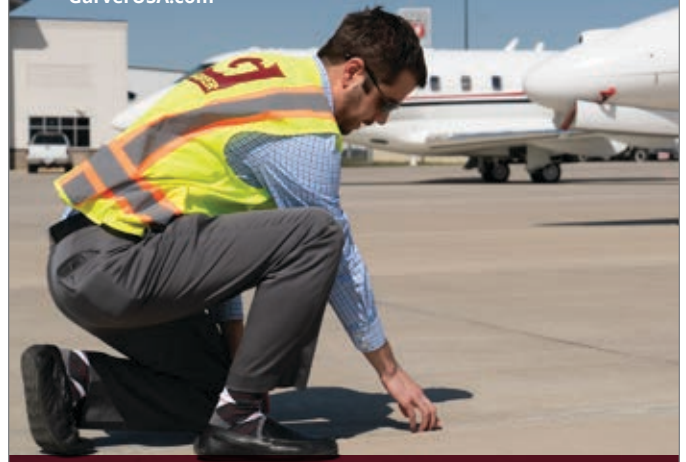


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Five tips for exploring mindful meditation right now

By Denise Compton, Ph.D.

In today's busy world with seemingly endless distractions, the ability to pause, take a deep breath, and refocus on the task at hand is an invaluable skill—and certainly one worth honing. That is one of the basic ideas behind a form of meditation called mindfulness.

For those new to the idea, meditation can seem mysterious, but it's actually very simple. We set aside a little time to get quiet and practice the skill of paying attention in a way that we choose. We practice intentionally focusing our minds, rather than letting them go on autopilot and dragging us around from topic to topic, as they tend to do.

That's simple enough, but also profound. Mindfulness has its roots in thousands of years of Eastern philosophical wisdom, and modern Western neuroscience is shedding light on exactly how practices like these work.

Practice being still

In short, the neurological connections in our brains are similar to our muscles in that the more we use them, the stronger they get. When we get still and practice focusing attention as we choose, the mind tends to quiet down, we concentrate better, and we become more relaxed and energized.

Brain scans of experienced meditators show that they have less activity in the fight-or-flight, emotionally reactive parts of their brains and more activity in the parts of the brain that help them concentrate, enjoy sensory experiences, make decisions, and access memories.

Getting started

So let's begin. Here are five tips for working mindfulness into your everyday life.

- **Anchoring in the breath**—Many forms of meditation use the breath as the point of focus because it is always there, no fancy equipment or special circumstances needed. For your first time meditating, try getting comfortable in a seated position or lying down, closing your eyes, and counting your breath. Each inhale/exhale counts as one breath. Count up to 10 breaths, then reverse and count backward to one. Keep counting for the duration of the exercise. When your mind wanders and you lose count (which will certainly happen), simply start over at one.
- **Getting curious**—See if you can approach your meditation practice as a curious observer. It may help to pretend like you're looking in at yourself from the outside or just taking notes on your observations. When you have thoughts that distract you from your chosen focus, be curious about them as well. Over time, you will notice patterns about what your mind tends to do when it is stressed, bored, or distracted. Increased self-awareness will lead to personal growth.
- **Letting go of judgment**—If you feel like the practice is not going "right" or your mind is "too busy," see if you can let that judgment go. Sometimes, we fall asleep or end up thinking about our grocery lists, and that's normal. Remember that you are practicing a skill. Try to learn from the experience rather than judge yourself.
- **Paying attention**—The beautiful thing about mindfulness is it enables any aspect of our lives to become an opportunity for meditation. We can choose anything to become the focus of attention. When was the last time that you really paid attention to the process of taking a shower or making coffee in the morning? It's really about paying attention to what you are doing right here, right now.
- **Walking meditation**—One particularly lovely way to meditate is to go on a walk and pay attention to the experience. Instead of checking your phone or letting your mind drift to your to-do list, really immerse yourself in the world around you. How many details can you notice? Can you use all your senses?



Denise Compton, Ph.D., is a geriatric neuropsychologist and assistant professor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

I hope you find these tips helpful and I hope you enjoy your mindfulness experience, whether it takes place on a meditation cushion, on the walking path, or wherever you are, right now.

Changes to the Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

Submit changes to Tricia Zello, tzello@arml.org.

Beaver

Delete R/T (Vacant)
Add R/T Teresa Adams

Beebe

Delete AM Angie Gibbons
Delete PC Wayne Ballew
Add PC (Vacant)

Cherokee Village

Delete CEO (Vacant)
Add CEO Cory Bobo

Diamond City

Delete FO Ed Zehr

Fort Smith

Delete PD Naomi Roundtree
Add /A/PD Rick Lolley
Delete SAN (Vacant)
Add SAN Kyle Foreman
Delete SS (Vacant)
Add SS George Allen
Delete DJ Ben Beland
Add DJ R. Gunner Delay

Goshen

Delete PC Zebulon Rone
Add PC Michael Ball

Hackett

Delete SS Charles Fortson, Jr.
Add SS William Garner

Hermitage

Delete CM Carol Bell
Add CM Randy Gorman, Jr.
Delete CM (Vacant)
Add CM Matt Huitt
Delete CM (Vacant)
Add CM Annette Peebles
Delete R/T Kim Thomas
Add R/T Daphne Hargis

Little Flock

Delete CM Greg Sapp
Add CM Frankie Hart

Pleasant Plains

Delete CM Billy Caplener
Add CM Jerry Allen
Delete PC John Marlow
Add PC Adam McGilton

Rose Bud

Delete M Tammy Bomar
Add M (Vacant)

Sherwood

Delete PD Maureen Pylant
Add PD Rhonda Benton

Smackover

Delete CM Tommie Sue Fleming
Add CM Donald Brock

Wheatley

Delete FC Chad McLain
Add FC Charles Mark Reinhart



Obituaries

TAMMY BOMAR, 58, mayor of Rose Bud and a former council member, died Aug. 16.

TOMMIE SUE FLEMING, 70, a Smackover council member since 2007, died May 27.

ARNOLD DEWAYNE SEWELL, 56, the former mayor and fire chief of Garner and an active volunteer firefighter, died Aug. 12. 🏠



Airports to receive supplemental \$1 billion in funding

By James M. (Mitch) Rose

On March 23 of this year the President signed HR 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018. The omnibus spending bill packaged many smaller, ordinary appropriations bills into one larger, single bill that could be passed by the 115th Congress with only one vote in each house. The total bill amounted to \$1.3 trillion in funding with \$1 billion in discretionary, non-primary entitlement grants designated specifically for airport infrastructure improvements going to the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program. The funding is to be spent over a three-year period.

Shortly after the act was signed, the FAA announced the process for eligible airport sponsors in two categories to notify the FAA of any supplemental discretionary funding requests. The process includes two distinct deadlines with different submission requirements for each. The FAA said it may award supplemental discretionary funding regardless of whether the airport sponsor previously identified the project through the ACIP process during the preceding year. Because of the unique statutory requirements associated with the funding made available by the act, the FAA established a special process for airports to notify them of any associated funding requests. The FAA identified any airport in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems Report as eligible to request this supplemental funding.

There are stipulations, however, regarding which airports can receive the grants. The act stipulates that the secretary of transportation will give "priority consideration" to projects at non-primary airports with specific classifications of regional, local, or basic airports in rural areas, or primary airports that are classified as small or non-hub airports. For grants at primary airports, the normal federal share applies, based on the airport category and project type.

The priority consideration provision means that Congress expects the FAA to direct the majority of the funds for projects to airports meeting the statutory criteria for the distinction. However, the legislation does not establish hard parameters, minimums, or limits. Moreover, to the extent that the FAA is able to apply these supplemental funds to projects that meet the criteria for priority consideration, it may also provide additional AIP funds for other projects elsewhere.

AIP grants are typically given out for planning, development, or noise compatibility projects that are at or associated with individual public-use airports. Furthermore, to be eligible for this specific funding, an airport must be included in the NPIAS Report, meaning that the airport is significant to national air transportation and thus is eligible to receive federal grants under the AIP. The NPIAS contains all commercial service airports, all reliever airports, and selected general aviation airports.

Examples of the types of projects eligible for funding from this act include:

- Runway construction/rehabilitation
- Taxiway construction/rehabilitation
- Apron construction/rehabilitation
- Airfield lighting
- Airfield signage
- Airfield drainage
- NAVAIDS
- Safety area improvements
- Fencing

Not all airports that are eligible for priority consideration have eligible/justified projects that have been through the planning and associated processes. Some are just beginning to update their master plans, and it may be quite some time before some airports are in a position to accept AIP grants. Part of the planning process is to

identify, annually, each airport's role in the system based on activity and based aircraft. While the number of airports remains largely unchanged from year to year, the FAA reviews and validates each airport's classification at the beginning of the fiscal year.

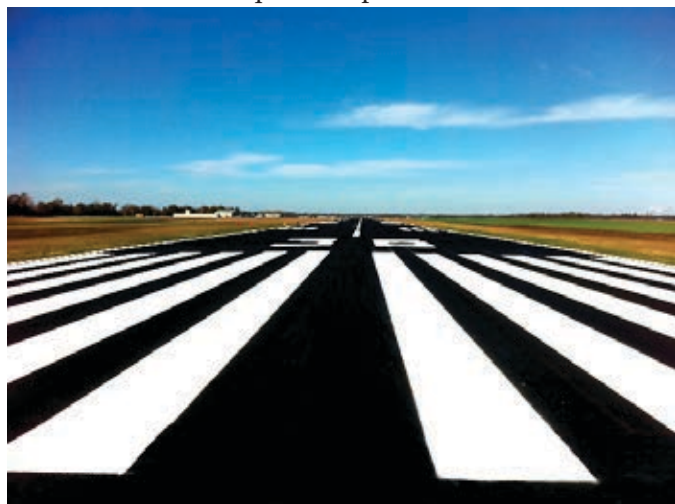
Of the 1,418 airports on the list of those meeting the criteria for priority consideration, four are primary Arkansas airports: the Texarkana Regional Airport, XNA in Bentonville, the Fort Smith Regional Airport, and the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock. In order for these airports to receive funding, they must have met the September 1 deadline to not only have paperwork turned in to the FAA but are also required to have the engineering design completed and bids in-hand for the project before any funding was handed out.

Other airports that were not given this priority consideration have until October 31 to notify the FAA of their desire to be considered for the second round of funding in 2019 and 2020. Both deadlines had different requirements for submitting. The FAA anticipates issuing grants from this supplemental funding during fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

For deadline one, which was August 8, the FAA only considered grant applications for projects for which airports had already completed all of the required planning, airspace reviews, environmental and other permitting requirements, and engineering design. Additionally, the FAA only considered grant applications for which construction bids were received in time for the airport operators to be administratively prepared to accept a grant by September 1, with construction starting within six months, or no later than March 1, 2019.

For deadline two, which is October 31, any eligible NPIAS airport is invited to notify the FAA's appropriate district or regional office of the airport's desire to be considered for supplemental discretionary funding in fiscal years 2019 and 2020.

The NPIAS list is current as of April 30, and the FAA's fiscal year ends in September. This means that the FAA, which is required to publish a new NPIAS list



every two years, will be required to update the list once again by the end of September. When the new NPIAS list publishes, it will list any newly added NPIAS airports, possibly making additional airports qualify for priority consideration. Some of the airports shown on the current list today may no longer meet the criteria as of October 1, and several airports that do not meet the criteria today may meet it under the new NPIAS Report.

The supplemental funding does not change any of the rules or policies for the normal AIP funding process. However, the additional discretionary funds made available to priority consideration airports could free up other types of AIP funds for other airports.

The FAA has until September 20, 2020, to obligate all of the supplemental \$1 billion that it can. Any portion of the funding not obligated by that date will expire, be returned to the U.S. Treasury, and no longer be available to the FAA. The FAA has until September 30, 2025, to liquidate/pay out any obligation made under the provision.



James M. (Mitch) Rose is the executive vice president and Aviation Department head for McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. Contact Mitch at (501) 371-0272 or email him at mrose@mce.us.com.

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Alcohol abuse makes workers and the public less safe

Alcohol is classified as a depressant, meaning that it slows down vital functions. This can result in slurred speech, unsteady movement, disturbed perceptions, and an inability to react quickly. Any one of these signs or symptoms could impact a worker's ability to be safe on the job.

Alcohol can affect the mind by reducing a person's ability to think rationally, and it distorts their judgment. The type of effect one might exhibit is determined by the amount of alcohol consumed.

Most people drink for the stimulant effect, such as a beer or a glass of wine "taken" to help them "loosen up" and cope with the day's stress. If a person consumes more than the body can handle, they will experience alcohol's depressant effects. At that time, they would start to feel "stupid" and they can lose control and coordination.

Alcohol overdose causes even more severe depressant effects, such as an inability to feel pain; toxicity, where the body vomits the poison; and, ultimately, unconsciousness or even coma or death from a severe toxic overdose. The reactions a person will experience depend on both how much alcohol is consumed and how quickly.

Alcohol abuse and heavy consumption of alcohol by either the mother or father of a child can result in birth defects in their baby. Fetal alcohol syndrome is the most common defect passed from an alcoholic parent to the fetus. There is no cure for this defect, and the result is a child that will suffer for a lifetime.

There are different kinds of alcohol. Ethyl alcohol (ethanol) is the only alcohol used in beverages. It is produced by the fermentation of grains and fruits. Fermenting is defined as a chemical process where yeast acts upon certain ingredients in the food and creating alcohol.

Fermented drinks such as beer and wine contain anywhere from two percent alcohol to 20 percent alcohol. Distilled drinks, or liquor, contain from 40 to 50 percent alcohol (or in some cases even more). Here are some alcohol content examples:

Beer: 2-6% alcohol	Gin: 40-47% alcohol
Cider: 4-8% alcohol	Brandy: 40% alcohol or more
Wine: 8-20% alcohol	Whiskey: 40-50% alcohol
Tequila: 40% alcohol	Vodka: 40-50% alcohol
Rum: 40% alcohol or more	Liqueurs: 15-60% alcohol

One surprise to many individuals is the content of alcohol in wine. Some may have the misconception that wine doesn't really have much alcohol in it.

If you weigh 160 pounds and consume two beers in an hour, you could blow a Breathalyzer reading of .02. At this level DOT regulations state you will be taken out of service. At a .039 or greater, a CDL holder could be terminated or required to seek an addiction counselor or go to treatment. If a CDL holder has completed treatment (which is not the employer's responsibility to furnish or pay for) then the counselor will recommend a return-to-duty test and follow-up testing (six times the first year with the option to recommend testing for up to five years). The employee must remain in the company's DOT random testing pool and is subject to these tests also.

Drinking and driving remains a serious problem in the United States. In 2007, the death toll from teenage drunk-driving accidents was 1,393 with nearly four fatalities every day of the year. Those numbers have continued to increase. Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death among teenagers, and a 2006 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study showed that about 31 percent of teens killed had been drinking. The risk of a driver under the influence of alcohol being killed in a vehicle accident is at least 11 times that of a driver without alcohol in their system.

For the majority of people, these numbers and facts are only statistics—shocking or denied. However, for the families and friends of those who die as a result of teenage drinking and driving, each number represents a tragic loss.

When it comes to CDL holders, employers assume a great responsibility for keeping their workforce drug free and their employees and the public safe. Maintaining this standard is a huge challenge since alcohol is the most abused drug but is not an illegal drug.

Drivers admit their perception becomes distorted after heavy alcohol consumption. Reaction time is slower than when not drinking. Perception issues, slower reaction time, and loss of some inhibitions can easily cause a driving fatality.

Is alcohol a drug? Is it commonly abused? Can it cause serious health issues? Can it lead to death? The answer to each question is a firm yes. Employers must take alcohol abuse and use seriously. Testing must be done correctly to remain legally sound, and a'TEST Consultants can help with the process.

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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New crepe myrtle pest leads to consideration of alternatives

By Krista Quinn

Crepe myrtles are one of the most beloved tree species in the South. They are tough, low-maintenance plants that bloom throughout the summer regardless of how hot and dry the weather gets. However, a new insect pest, crepe myrtle bark scale (CMBS), has arrived in Arkansas and is making life difficult for both the trees and their owners. Since crepe myrtles are no longer the trouble-free trees they once were, many people are looking for alternatives when choosing new plants for their landscapes.



PHOTO BY CHANDLER BARTON, ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION.

The emergence of a new pest, crepe myrtle bark scale, has landscapers considering alternatives to the popular tree.

While CMBS will not usually kill crepe myrtles, the pests do make the trees very unattractive and reduce their vigor. The main signs of a CMBS infestation are the development of black, sooty mold on the tree trunks and a reduction in blooming. CMBS can be controlled by washing the tree trunks with soapy water and applying a systemic insecticide in early summer, but the treatments are time consuming and costly.

Some of the features that have made crepe myrtles so popular in the past are their relatively small size, long blooming season, and attractive bark. They have also been favored for their ability to grow almost anywhere with very little care or attention. There may be no other plant that can deliver all of that in one package, but there are still some good alternative trees that can be used in different situations.

Perhaps one of the most similar trees to crepe myrtles in terms of appearance is the chaste tree, also referred to by its genus, vitex. Chaste trees are small, broad, and bloom profusely in early summer in shades of blue, purple, pink, or white. Bees and butterflies love the flowers of chaste trees. Like crepe myrtles, chaste trees are often grown as multi-trunk trees and are very tolerant of poor soil, heat, and drought.



PHOTO BY DR. JIM ROBBINS, UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE.

The chaste tree, or vitex, features colorful blooms through the summer and attracts butterflies and bees.

Althea, also known as rose of Sharon, is a hardy hibiscus that can grow eight to 15 feet tall, and it is a showy summer bloomer like crepe myrtles. Altheas were previously considered to be semi-invasive because older cultivars self-seeded profusely, but new cultivars have been bred to be sterile so they do not become invasive. Altheas have large flowers in shades of purple, pink, white, and apricot. Some are even bi-color and flowers may be doubled so they appear ruffled. They will bloom more if grown in full sun but can tolerate some shade. Altheas are also known to attract hummingbirds.



PHOTO BY KRISTA QUINN.

American hornbeam's pendulous seed clusters give the tree an interesting appearance.

Another great summer-blooming tree is the golden raintree. The golden raintree is larger than most crepe myrtles but still considered small for a shade tree. Golden raintrees are absolutely covered in bright yellow blooms in early to mid summer. After the flowers fade, interesting seed capsules resembling Chinese paper lanterns form and remain on the trees through the fall months. Golden raintrees are hardy trees that require little maintenance, but they do have one flaw that can be



PHOTO BY KRISTA QUINN.

These sweetbay magnolias at a Little Rock shopping center are native to our region and feature citrus scented blossoms.

a big turnoff in some situations. The trees are the host for golden raintree bugs. These insects are completely harmless to both the trees and people, but they sometimes occur in such large numbers that they can be a nuisance. For this reason, it is best to plant golden raintrees 20 feet or more away from homes or other buildings where the bugs would not be welcome.

For those who prefer to grow native plants, the sweetbay magnolia makes a nice alternative to crepe myrtles. The sweetbay magnolia is similar in size to large crepe myrtles and is often grown as a multi-trunk tree. Sweetbay magnolias also bloom during the summer. While their large, white blossoms are beautiful and citrus scented, but they have fewer flowers overall, making them less showy than some of the other summer bloomers. Sweetbay magnolias are unique in that they perform well in wet or dry soil and tolerate light shade or full sun. Sweetbay magnolias may keep some of their leaves through the winter in southern parts of Arkansas, and their fruit attracts songbirds in the fall.

Another small native tree that is growing in popularity is the American hornbeam, also referred to as ironwood or musclewood. American hornbeams grow approximately 25 feet tall and wide and are sometimes grown as multi-trunk trees. One of their notable features is their smooth, gray, ridged bark that looks like muscles. American hornbeams do not have showy flowers, but they have clusters of winged seeds that give the tree an interesting appearance throughout the summer months. The leaves exhibit nice fall color as well. American hornbeams will grow in full sun or part shade and prefer moist soil. They can even tolerate some periodic flooding. American hornbeams will not do well in compacted soil, though, so they should be planted where people and animals will not walk on their roots.

Crepe myrtles will probably always have a place in southern landscapes, but many other plants can provide summer color and interest also. Increasing plant diversity in our landscapes and growing more native plants can also make our urban forests more resilient and benefit a greater variety of wildlife.



Krista Quinn is the urban forestry partnership coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Contact Krista at (479) 228-7929 or Krista.Quinn@arkansas.gov.

2018 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
January	\$5.3276	\$5.3807	\$0.3041	\$0.2314	\$2.1473	\$2.1460
February	\$5.5378	\$5.7121	\$0.1894	\$0.2181	\$1.0884	\$1.0867
March	\$4.7222	\$4.9583	\$0.3450	\$0.2452	\$1.0886	\$1.0870
April	\$5.3517	\$5.3609	\$0.3611	\$0.2342	\$1.0886	\$1.0854
May	\$5.4824	\$5.6871	\$0.2602	\$0.2369	\$1.0864	\$1.0859
June	\$5.5686	\$5.6422	\$0.1858	\$0.1786	\$1.0881	\$1.0872
July	\$5.5610	\$5.9048	\$0.2628	\$0.1625	\$2.9480	\$2.9589
August	\$5.5557	\$5.5464	\$0.2711	\$0.1504	\$0.9499	\$0.9368
September	\$5.4801		\$0.2230		\$1.0881	
October	\$5.5047		\$0.2508		\$1.0888	
November	\$5.1475		\$0.2377		\$1.0875	
December	\$5.1764		\$0.1561		\$1.0882	
Total Year	\$64.4157	\$44.1925	\$3.0471	\$1.6573	\$15.8379	\$11.4740

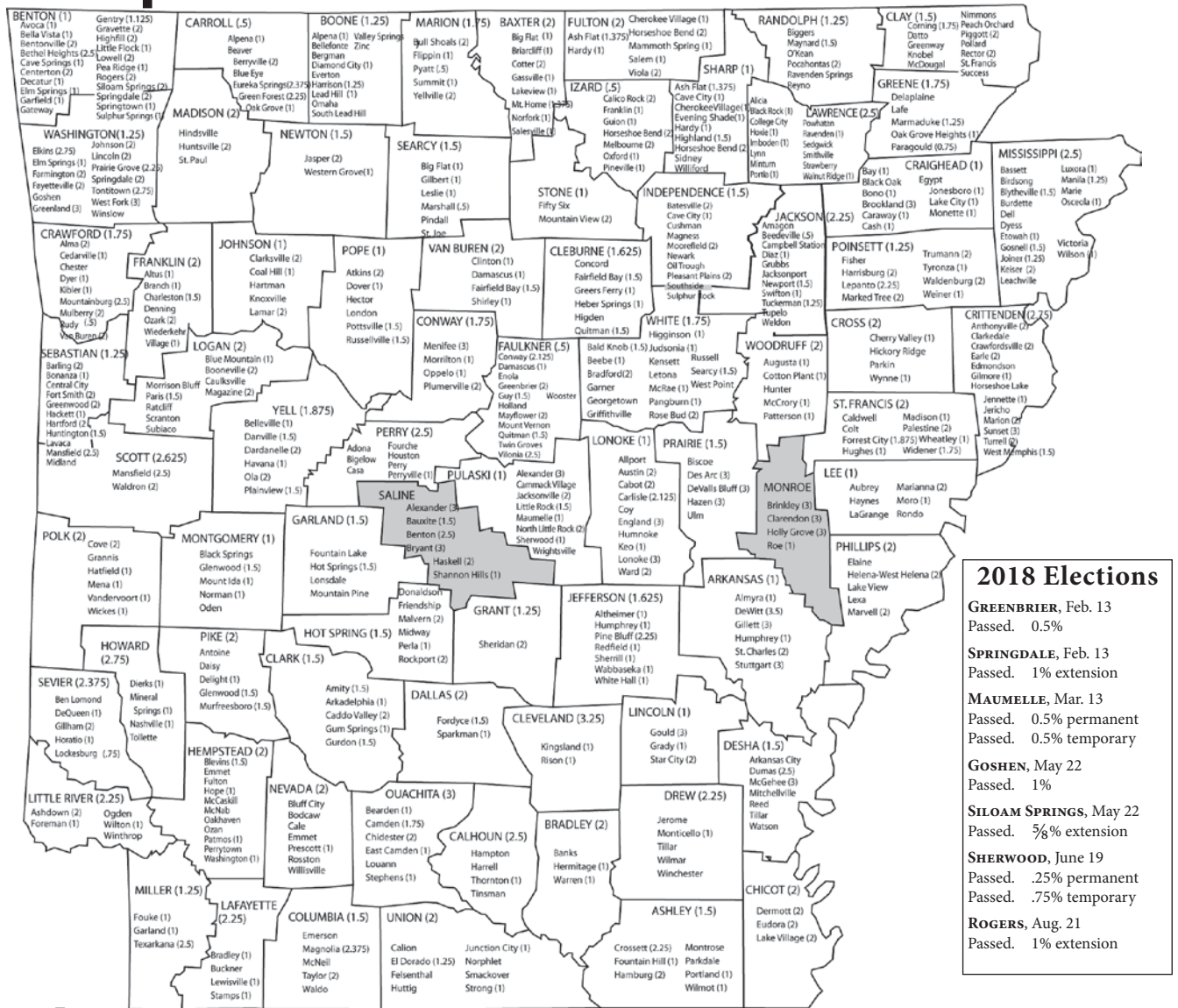
Actual Totals Per Month						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
January	\$10,065,525.00	\$10,171,403.10	\$574,575.98	\$437,461.72	*\$4,056,819.92	*\$4,056,771.18
February	\$10,462,690.50	\$10,797,904.69	\$357,751.63	\$412,277.48	\$2,056,417.62	\$2,054,332.65
March	\$8,921,686.11	\$9,372,912.56	\$651,783.55	\$463,496.06	\$2,056,718.50	\$2,054,888.05
April	\$10,110,987.00	\$10,133,933.55	\$682,243.26	\$442,746.74	\$2,056,718.50	\$2,051,743.46
May	\$10,363,642.30	\$10,750,634.53	\$491,893.79	\$447,755.63	\$2,053,761.87	\$2,052,679.36
June	\$10,526,632.40	\$10,665,832.80	\$351,199.83	\$337,582.28	2,056,937.75	\$2,055,168.34
July	\$10,512,280.90	\$11,162,170.00	\$496,864.92	\$307,247.09	** \$5,572,710.46	*** \$5,593,456.00
August	\$10,502,217.40	\$10,484,657.00	\$512,555.17	\$284,348.41	\$1,795,649.71	\$1,770,842.80
September	\$10,359,333.50		\$421,562.72		\$2,056,885.50	
October	\$10,405,765.80		\$474,027.01		\$2,058,156.39	
November	\$9,730,523.28		\$449,423.80		\$2,055,750.30	
December	\$9,785,275.08		\$295,172.64		\$2,056,989.97	
Total Year	\$121,746,559.27	\$83,539,448.23	\$5,759,054.30	\$3,132,915.41	\$29,933,516.49	\$21,689,881.84

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

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

***Includes \$3,514,066.32 supplemental for July 2018

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



2018 Elections

GREENBRIER, Feb. 13
Passed. 0.5%

SPRINGDALE, Feb. 13
Passed. 1% extension

MAUMELLE, Mar. 13
Passed. 0.5% permanent
Passed. 0.5% temporary

GOSHEN, May 22
Passed. 1%

SILOAM SPRINGS, May 22
Passed. 5/8% extension

SHERWOOD, June 19
Passed. .25% permanent
Passed. .75% temporary

ROGERS, Aug. 21
Passed. 1% extension

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 2018 with 2017 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$59,272,899	\$51,749,675	\$50,925,990	\$46,139,133	\$110,198,889	\$97,888,807	\$68,417	\$15,903
February	\$63,961,892	\$60,007,416	\$56,034,012	\$52,583,090	\$119,995,904	\$112,590,506	\$76,180	\$17,386
March	\$51,260,662	\$48,225,282	\$44,932,987	\$42,723,485	\$96,193,649	\$90,948,767	\$79,235	\$18,863
April	\$51,354,831	\$50,349,075	\$45,689,403	\$44,591,728	\$97,044,234	\$94,940,803	\$79,564	\$15,747
May	\$60,844,519	\$55,441,606	\$53,613,192	\$48,861,910	\$114,457,712	\$104,303,516	\$75,253	\$17,059
June	\$56,373,987	\$50,977,784	\$48,955,855	\$45,261,893	\$105,329,842	\$96,239,677	\$71,501	\$17,534
July	\$59,973,977	\$55,472,881	\$52,379,093	\$49,248,601	\$112,353,069	\$104,721,482	\$84,551	\$18,995
August	\$60,174,400	\$54,840,523	\$52,922,077	\$49,357,901	\$113,096,478	\$104,198,425	\$79,558	\$15,982
September		\$53,692,981		\$48,991,616		\$102,684,597		\$45,866
October		\$53,796,257		\$49,299,660		\$103,095,917		\$79,279
November		\$53,815,854		\$49,290,527		\$103,106,380		\$78,491
December		\$52,730,085		\$48,086,258		\$100,816,343		\$72,999
Total	\$463,217,167	\$641,099,418	\$405,452,610	\$574,435,802	\$868,669,777	\$1,215,535,220	\$614,259	\$414,105
Averages	\$57,902,146	\$53,424,951	\$50,681,576	\$47,869,650	\$108,583,722	\$101,294,602	\$76,782	\$34,509

August 2018 Municipal Levy Receipts and August 2018 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2017 Comparison (shaded gray)

CITY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Franklin	2,675.11	2,737.49	Mountainburg	14,205.13	15,064.38	Crossett	57,723.02	56,386.78
Alexander	104,707.05	84,214.09	Garfield	12,319.61	14,752.33	Mulberry	27,257.74	31,385.23	Fountain Hill	1,834.31	1,791.84
Alma	229,091.65	234,308.81	Garland	1,795.80	2,191.98	Murfreesboro	38,867.89	37,967.69	Hamburg	29,946.37	29,253.14
Almyra	5,305.69	8,709.05	Gassville	23,177.80	18,067.26	Nashville	115,179.11	111,636.45	Montrose	3,710.54	3,624.64
Alpena	4,660.44	9,146.15	Gentry	53,532.64	49,620.36	Newport	167,277.94	75,725.56	Parkdale	2,903.45	2,836.23
Altheimer	2,464.30	2,343.75	Gilbert	2,205.89	1,692.23	Norfork	5,868.29	5,438.50	Portland	4,507.15	4,402.82
Altus	6,621.57	6,715.65	Gillett	10,350.62	11,884.52	Norman	4,670.23	2,561.03	Wilmot	5,764.97	5,631.52
Amity	11,484.08	11,343.72	Gillham	4,016.36	3,871.28	North Little Rock	2,903,689.52	1,486,249.25	Baxter County	980,299.36	351,088.04
Anthonyville	901.03	826.23	Gilmore	341.96	256.38	Oak Grove	1,018.62	806.13	Big Flat	1,556.79	1,522.97
Arkadelphia	173,316.23	160,811.77	Glenwood	78,553.58	73,683.26	Oak Grove Heights	5,873.65	6,011.54	Briarcliff	3,532.72	3,455.97
Ash Flat	99,579.27	99,058.45	Gosnell	15,763.81	16,810.95	Ola	18,149.36	10,859.51	Cotter	14,520.07	14,204.60
Ashdown	145,082.56	126,177.00	Gould	14,898.08	12,785.83	Oppelo	4,617.73	3,401.96	Gassville	31,105.88	30,430.07
Atkins	57,222.60	55,210.69	Grady	4,689.35	4,616.87	Osceola	70,192.34	96,658.57	Lakeview	11,092.14	10,851.15
Augusta	25,474.45	27,950.18	Gravette	108,886.47	91,563.43	Oxford	1,679.18	1,440.34	Mountain Home	186,335.92	182,287.55
Austin	38,752.31	33,863.09	Green Forest	93,451.28	111,808.21	Ozark	163,811.05	191,561.16	Norfork	7,649.23	7,483.04
Avoca	8,906.59	7,215.27	Greenbrier	190,877.44	177,145.77	Palestine	26,689.23	25,111.69	Salesville	6,736.11	6,589.77
Bald Knob	55,654.41	53,942.04	Greenland	30,403.71	20,659.70	Pangburn	8,651.94	8,866.73	Benton County	821,185.64	756,126.00
Barling	64,443.48	64,443.36	Greenwood	223,079.13	208,076.41	Paragould	336,442.29	324,614.84	Avoca	9,432.92	8,685.58
Batesville	610,289.53	627,268.54	Greers Ferry	25,083.34	25,419.33	Paris	83,742.19	77,193.47	Bella Vista	512,740.87	472,118.22
Bauxite	12,835.05	13,056.53	Guion	NA	5,529.18	Patmos	88.41	527.16	Bentonville	682,359.40	628,298.47
Bay	9,802.40	9,887.15	Gum Springs	593.11	570.83	Patterson	2,418.47	1,660.44	Bethel Heights	45,850.16	42,217.61
Bearden	8,327.88	9,887.54	Gurdon	25,088.36	22,846.52	Pea Ridge	65,851.17	61,479.32	Cave Springs	37,325.74	34,368.55
Beebe	121,690.13	123,154.99	Guy	7,514.72	6,297.41	Perla	2,881.39	2,647.07	Centerton	183,922.54	169,351.01
Beedeville	239.88	120.86	Hackett	6,625.80	5,519.62	Perryville	23,107.21	21,019.86	Decatur	32,841.24	30,239.34
Bella Vista	183,496.46	168,797.49	Hamburg	58,447.86	32,550.71	Piggott	70,672.40	67,549.42	Elm Springs	2,648.18	2,438.37
Belleville	1,700.33	1,871.87	Hardy	24,834.17	23,048.84	Pine Bluff	1,408,723.83	949,352.35	Garfield	9,703.53	8,934.76
Benton	1,611,769.54	1,462,701.60	Harrisburg	58,103.77	54,705.44	Pineville	3,139.74	1,794.55	Gateway	7,828.55	7,208.32
Bentonville	2,344,626.76	1,947,394.41	Harrison	530,102.71	501,576.40	Plainview	4,499.34	3,017.45	Gentry	66,204.38	60,959.24
Berryville	263,514.17	242,441.49	Hartford	3,709.48	3,885.91	Pleasant Plains	9,086.12	7,762.80	Gravette	60,173.50	55,406.17
Bethel Heights	101,881.89	87,525.81	Haskell	41,507.46	39,343.85	Plumerville	13,951.83	11,941.97	Highfill	11,269.24	10,376.42
Big Flat	331.16	334.73	Hatfield	4,047.47	4,252.41	Pocahontas	251,829.44	260,940.30	Little Flock	49,967.40	46,008.66
Black Rock	10,749.75	9,175.31	Havana	3,581.78	3,140.19	Portia	2,901.69	3,744.29	Lowell	141,629.06	130,408.28
Blains	3,667.16	1,963.58	Hazen	60,302.50	63,494.34	Portland	5,455.21	6,319.28	Pea Ridge	92,666.81	85,325.14
Blue Mountain	113.32	119.65	Heber Springs	168,031.50	159,261.06	Pottsville	25,844.22	37,436.17	Rogers	1,081,769.96	996,065.14
Blytheville	381,414.20	251,336.83	Helena-West Helena	254,555.30	227,527.63	Prairie Grove	106,415.02	102,600.21	Siloam Springs	290,700.06	267,668.92
Bonanza	6,902.06	2,523.42	Hermitage	6,414.15	5,285.70	Prescott	66,041.51	70,324.68	Springdale	126,648.50	116,614.59
Bono	17,294.87	15,866.89	Higginson	1,573.26	1,468.08	Pyatt	1,115.22	579.09	Springtown	1,681.69	1,548.45
Booneville	114,889.94	109,924.64	Highfill	61,489.61	68,214.02	Quitman	22,224.14	22,449.37	Sulphur Springs	9,877.48	9,094.94
Bradford	10,672.89	13,223.79	Highland	28,450.04	28,503.38	Ravenden	2,646.42	2,449.23	Boone County	438,337.49	419,938.41
Bradley	2,824.65	2,571.12	Holly Grove	5,662.27	6,078.58	Rector	36,664.08	26,851.91	Alpena	4,625.41	4,431.26
Branch	1,954.30	1,778.83	Hope	195,263.86	182,182.42	Redfield	19,252.26	19,950.55	Bellefonte	6,582.87	6,306.56
Briarcliff	1,063.73	1,620.39	Horatio	7,412.71	6,640.91	Rison	15,160.42	14,145.89	Bergman	6,365.38	6,098.19
Brinkley	144,350.24	106,868.21	Horseshoe Bend	25,506.29	24,632.42	Rockport	16,735.60	13,856.31	Diamond City	11,338.78	10,862.84
Brookland	62,489.42	61,256.02	Hot Springs	1,765,329.56	1,771,033.21	Roe	677.05	907.28	Everton	1,928.46	1,847.52
Bryant	1,240,048.50	1,105,700.96	Hoxie	15,595.91	18,643.59	Rogers	3,277,711.56	3,071,366.10	Harrison	187,669.91	179,792.52
Bull Shoals	31,355.04	16,119.47	Hughes	5,227.93	6,797.06	Rose Bud	21,870.96	24,093.14	Lead Hill	3,929.42	3,764.49
Cabot	807,596.85	755,987.58	Humphrey	2,399.44	2,263.49	Rudy	8,252.63	8,375.74	Omaha	2,450.45	2,347.60
Caddo Valley	64,057.97	56,809.97	Huntington	3,758.42	3,115.96	Russellville	1,061,955.28	982,071.21	South Lead Hill	1,478.97	1,416.89
Calico Rock	28,413.28	28,035.76	Huntsville	140,109.87	124,076.87	Salem	20,842.72	16,899.54	Valley Springs	2,653.45	2,542.07
Camden	295,839.10	275,424.89	Imboden	9,269.18	7,609.11	Salesville	4,452.39	5,683.58	Zinc	1,493.49	1,430.78
Caraway	5,430.49	4,783.45	Jacksonville	654,318.93	649,498.56	Searcy	820,823.42	809,947.39	Bradley County	148,759.17	132,200.61
Carlew	50,568.46	50,700.89	Jasper	33,107.15	32,399.02	Shannon Hills	9,733.76	9,827.46	Banks	1,148.65	1,020.79
Cash	2,341.72	2,431.58	Jennette	163.54	312.58	Sheridan	213,841.12	189,434.46	Hermitage	7,688.53	6,832.71
Cave City	18,814.55	18,141.93	Johnson	46,200.62	63,454.56	Sherrill	692.54	900.33	Warren	55,607.53	49,417.80
Cave Springs	31,375.65	34,288.83	Joiner	3,084.78	3,794.14	Sherwood	458,204.00	440,693.07	Calhoun County	100,146.25	88,308.04
Cedarville	5,033.49	5,924.32	Jonesboro	1,568,936.90	1,543,950.95	Shirley	2,527.47	2,103.83	Hampton	28,386.56	25,031.01
Centerton	250,640.73	195,991.38	Judsonia	10,661.01	12,361.85	Siloam Springs	660,511.82	665,857.60	Harrell	5,445.76	4,802.02
Charleston	28,841.34	34,224.89	Junction City	5,935.32	5,381.93	Sparkman	3,016.30	3,550.86	Thornton	8,726.08	7,694.58
Cherokee Village	17,695.95	16,052.56	Keiser	3,982.54	7,002.52	Springdale	2,659,351.15	2,555,877.94	Tinsman	1,157.76	1,020.91
Cherry Valley	4,286.77	4,720.01	Keo	1,513.44	2,731.81	Springtown	179.15	76.07	Carroll County	199,394.07	181,936.47
Chidester	2,841.59	2,598.16	Kibler	3,383.18	3,180.68	St. Charles	1,259.30	986.11	Beaver	729.95	666.04
Clarendon	44,264.17	47,465.61	Kingsland	2,096.84	2,083.29	Stamps	13,718.53	15,366.29	Blue Eye	218.99	199.81
Clarksville	403,787.41	358,300.58	Lake City	12,363.40	12,934.49	Star City	85,610.75	73,070.66	Chicot County	157,003.61	124,515.81
Clinton	94,784.75	88,831.75	Lake Village	57,055.22	74,350.82	Stephens	6,397.43	4,955.53	Dermott	28,586.59	22,671.34
Coal Hill	5,471.47	4,788.49	Lakeview	4,277.56	3,590.84	Strong	9,495.30	10,057.46	Eudora	22,451.71	17,805.91
Conway	2,731,858.61	2,114,433.14	Lamar	21,198.72	12,942.41	Stuttgart	558,647.45	579,949.78	Lake Village	25,479.56	20,207.24
Corning	75,023.47	78,563.36	Lead Hill	6,573.98	5,872.77	Sulphur Springs	1,803.27	1,567.80	Clark County	423,298.49	390,074.01
Cotter	15,718.44	12,716.47	Lepanto	32,508.83	28,943.98	Summit	4,730.54	4,300.33	Clay County	97,393.17	90,568.16
Cotton Plant	1,994.76	1,493.05	Leslie	4,509.02	3,700.46	Sunset	3,283.12	2,865.30	Corning	26,288.61	24,446.38
Cove	12,819.83	9,810.49	Lewisville	8,443.24	11,023.03	Swifton	3,616.03	3,686.65	Datto	1,167.69	1,085.86
Crawfordsville	10,216.09	13,712.85	Lincoln	43,219.08	42,187.91	Taylor	8,130.54	7,556.16	Greenway	2,440.47	2,269.45
Crossett	302,087.47	299,443.60	Little Flock	7,960.07	11,219.75	Texarkana	394,891.02	395,410.60	Knobel	3,351.27	3,116.43
Damascus	9,775.11	11,778.22	Little Rock	6,450,594.92	6,359,520.20	Texarkana Special	197,910.37	193,827.65	McDougal	2,171.91	2,019.70
Darville	38,347.88	35,068.03	Lockesburg	4,522.69	4,234.41	Thornton	1,113.55	969.81	Nimmons	805.71	749.25
Dardanelle	152,611.50	147,076.89	Lonoke	235,748.03	168,603.48	Tontitown	233,501.92	151,086.35	Peach Orchard	1,576.38	1,465.92
Decatur	26,639.96	24,836.18	Lowell	309,328.91	288,339.19	Trumann	166,337.10	146,368.89	Piggott	29,962.94	27,863.23
Delight	5,505.49	5,212.16	Luxora	3,019.48	1,570.10	Tuckerman	13,452.53	13,812.32	Pollard	2,592.27	2,410.62
De Queen	118,809.21	127,760.51	Madison	1,004.19	1,094.47	Turrell	3,897.68	2,869.16	Rector	15,390.16	14

Egypt	2,036.86	2,028.51	Cushman	6,233.80	5,999.60	Birdsong	551.11	552.18	Mansfield	6,642.61	7,641.11
Jonesboro	1,223,259.08	1,218,248.16	Magness	2,785.90	2,681.24	Blytheville	209,960.79	210,366.18	Waldron	26,570.42	30,564.42
Lake City	37,863.69	37,708.59	Moorefield	1,889.45	1,818.46	Burdette	2,567.38	2,572.34	Searcy County	77,414.18	70,750.96
Monette	27,297.51	27,185.68	Newark	16,218.92	15,609.59	Dell	2,997.52	3,003.31	Big Flat		6.92
Crawford County	751,412.70	744,244.30	Oil Trough	3,585.81	3,451.10	Dyess	5,511.13	5,521.78	Gilbert	212.02	193.77
Alma	54,684.34	54,162.66	Pleasant Plains	4,813.27	4,632.44	Etowah	4,718.07	4,727.18	Leslie	3,339.33	3,051.91
Cedarville	14,067.17	13,932.97	Southside	53,801.02	51,779.76	Gosnell	47,691.48	47,783.56	Marshall	10,260.30	9,377.18
Chester	1,604.50	1,589.20	Sulphur Rock	6,288.97	6,052.70	Joiner	7,742.47	7,757.42	Pindall	848.08	775.09
Dyer	8,839.91	8,755.58	Izard County	42,377.17	47,114.29	Keiser	10,202.32	10,222.02	St. Joe	999.54	913.49
Kibler	9,697.67	9,605.15	Jackson County	300,844.90	296,744.48	Leachville	26,789.49	26,841.22	Sebastian County	877,689.54	850,213.17
Mountainburg	6,367.56	6,306.82	Amagon	1,079.04	1,064.33	Luxora	15,834.43	15,865.00	Barling	80,216.62	77,705.41
Mulberry	16,700.98	16,541.65	Beedeville	1,178.13	1,162.07	Manila	44,922.47	45,009.20	Bonanza	9,921.39	9,610.80
Rudy	615.56	609.69	Campbell Station	2,807.70	2,769.43	Marie	1,129.11	1,131.29	Central City	8,661.81	8,960.65
Van Buren	229,989.08	227,794.99	Diaz	14,511.95	14,314.15	Osceola	104,267.98	104,469.30	Fort Smith	1,487,501.46	1,440,934.76
Crittenden County	1,278,926.79	1,249,925.05	Grubbs	4,250.08	4,192.16	Victoria	497.35	498.31	Greenwood	154,463.14	149,627.63
Anthonyville	1,038.19	1,014.78	Jacksonport	2,334.24	2,302.43	Wilson	12,137.94	12,161.37	Hackett	14,010.73	13,572.12
Clarkedale	2,392.35	2,338.41	Newport	86,752.38	85,569.97	Monroe County	NA	NA	Hartford	11,077.45	10,730.67
Crawfordsville	3,088.78	3,019.14	Swifton	8,786.45	8,666.69	Montgomery County	64,070.72	55,049.45	Huntington	10,956.67	10,613.67
Earle	15,566.42	15,215.43	Tuckerman	20,501.71	20,222.27	Black Springs	828.07	711.47	Lavaca	39,495.77	38,259.34
Edmondson	2,753.46	2,691.38	Tupelo	1,981.90	1,954.89	Glenwood	351.30	301.84	Mansfield	12,475.07	12,084.54
Gilmore	1,526.34	1,491.92	Weldon	825.80	814.55	Mount Ida	9,000.01	7,732.79	Midland	5,607.74	5,432.19
Horseshoe Lake	1,882.93	1,840.48	Jefferson County	757,830.62	700,210.71	Norman	3,161.71	2,716.54	Sevier County	298,641.84	309,791.46
Jennette	667.41	652.36	Alzheimer	10,918.91	10,088.71	Oden	1,940.53	1,667.30	Ben Lomond	1,360.42	1,411.21
Jericho	767.36	750.06	Humphrey	3,417.71	3,157.85	Nevada County	125,795.93	131,871.14	De Queen	61,866.10	64,175.84
Marion	79,605.42	77,810.50	Pine Bluff	544,647.02	503,236.03	Bluff City	1,158.12	1,214.05	Gilham	1,501.15	1,557.19
Sunset	1,149.10	1,123.19	Redfield	14,392.09	13,297.82	Bodcaw	1,288.87	1,351.12	Horatio	9,795.00	10,160.69
Turrell	3,569.18	3,488.71	Sherrill	932.10	861.23	Cale	737.83	773.47	Lockesburg	6,933.43	7,192.29
West Memphis	169,238.11	165,422.16	Wabbaseka	2,829.59	2,614.45	Emmet	4,436.34	4,650.59	Sharp County	88,424.05	82,884.20
Cross County	315,011.62	284,883.01	White Hall	61,318.98	56,656.75	Prescott	30,783.53	32,270.20	Ash Flat	10,576.78	9,914.14
Cherry Valley	8,091.24	7,317.37	Johnson County	133,071.14	119,855.26	Rosston	2,437.65	2,555.38	Cave City	18,800.77	17,622.88
Hickory Ridge	3,380.67	3,057.34	Clarksville	97,745.25	88,037.74	Willisville	1,419.64	1,488.17	Cherokee Village	41,853.84	39,231.65
Parkin	13,733.98	12,420.43	Coal Hill	10,777.75	9,707.36	Newton County	64,037.29	63,439.30	Evening Shade	4,662.42	4,370.31
Wynne	103,992.99	94,046.80	Hartman	5,527.32	4,978.38	Jasper	2,562.59	2,538.66	Hardy	7,878.62	7,385.02
Dallas County	145,962.12	140,928.72	Knoxville	7,785.11	7,011.94	Western Grove	2,111.66	2,091.95	Highland	11,278.30	10,571.71
Desha County	79,003.36	117,560.32	Lamar	17,093.18	15,395.58	Ouachita County	594,509.36	539,167.12	Horseshoe Bend	86.34	80.93
Arkansas City	3,057.55	4,459.76	Lafayette County	77,712.81	79,005.03	Bearden	9,124.65	8,275.24	Sidney	1,953.47	1,831.08
Dumas	39,313.72	58,500.46	Bradley	3,662.49	3,723.39	Camden	115,078.21	104,365.70	Williford	809.45	758.74
McGehee	35,245.34	52,446.55	Buckner	1,603.80	1,630.47	Chidester	2,729.84	2,475.72	St. Francis County	147,468.04	290,311.50
Mitchellville	3,007.42	4,475.17	Lewisville	7,464.95	7,589.08	East Camden	8,794.04	7,975.41	Caldwell	9,703.00	10,395.36
Reed	1,436.88	2,138.14	Stamps	9,873.58	10,037.75	Louann	1,549.11	1,404.91	Cott	6,608.52	7,080.08
Tillar	175.43	261.05	Lawrence County	319,297.09	301,822.77	Stephens	8,416.21	7,632.76	Forrest City	268,729.26	287,904.62
Watson	1,762.70	2,622.96	Alicia	861.54	814.39	Perry County	118,201.35	109,991.38	Hughes	25,192.82	26,990.48
Drew County	410,862.57	387,847.11	Black Rock	4,599.50	4,347.78	Adona	1,053.37	980.20	Madison	13,444.34	14,403.66
Jerome	512.64	483.92	Hoxie	19,315.12	18,258.06	Bigelow	1,587.61	1,477.34	Palestine	11,905.84	12,755.38
Monticello	124,439.48	117,466.25	Imboden	4,703.72	4,446.30	Casa	861.85	801.98	Wheatley	6,206.42	6,649.28
Tillar	2,681.49	2,531.28	Lynn	2,000.99	1,891.48	Fourche	312.48	290.78	Whener	4,772.82	5,113.40
Wilmar	6,716.87	6,340.61	Minturn	757.32	715.87	Houston	871.93	811.36	Stone County	93,220.80	93,721.59
Winchester	2,195.14	2,072.17	Portia	3,036.23	2,870.06	Perry	1,360.81	1,266.29	Fifty Six	1,702.44	1,711.58
Faulkner County	823,382.39	765,538.00	Powhatan	500.25	472.87	Perryville	7,358.44	6,847.36	Mountain View	27,042.20	27,187.47
Enola	2,507.19	2,331.06	Ravenden	3,265.51	3,086.79	Phillips County	115,192.25	101,338.59	Union County	548,518.94	508,707.15
Holland	4,131.67	3,841.41	Sedgwick	1,056.08	998.28	Elaine	12,894.83	11,344.03	Calion	15,991.10	14,830.45
Mount Vernon	1,075.57	1,000.01	Smithville	541.94	512.28	Helena-West Helena	204,331.49	179,757.45	El Dorado	680,882.23	631,463.45
Twin Groves	2,484.94	2,310.37	Strawberry	2,098.26	1,983.43	Lake View	8,981.78	7,901.58	Felsenthal	3,918.34	3,633.94
Wooster	6,379.25	5,931.08	Walnut Ridge	37,087.81	35,058.10	Lexa	5,798.61	5,101.24	Huttig	21,917.61	20,326.81
Franklin County	231,945.77	182,307.27	Lee County	35,409.57	32,748.60	Marvell	24,046.02	21,154.13	Junction City	19,550.64	18,131.64
Altus	7,205.63	7,142.47	Aubrey	1,097.27	1,014.81	Pike County	193,084.34	175,180.09	Norphelt	24,667.62	22,877.23
Branch	3,488.74	3,458.16	Haynes	968.18	895.42	Antoine	1,238.26	1,123.44	Smackover	64,897.55	60,187.26
Charleston	23,974.39	23,764.26	LaGrange	574.45	531.28	Daisy	1,217.10	1,104.24	Strong	18,464.91	17,124.72
Denning	4,311.55	4,438.13	Marianna	26,560.40	24,564.40	Delight	2,952.78	2,678.98	Van Buren County	326,832.47	304,886.13
Ozark	35,020.49	34,713.03	Moro	1,394.18	1,289.41	Glenwood	23,135.41	20,990.12	Clinton	29,032.43	27,082.95
Wiederkehr Village	361.24	358.07	Rondo	1,278.00	1,181.97	Murfreesboro	17,367.43	15,756.99	Damascus	2,789.43	2,602.13
Fulton County	118,582.00	102,227.48	Lincoln County	60,243.77	51,828.88	Poinsett County	132,037.94	119,482.37	Fairfield Bay	24,044.93	22,430.34
Ash Flat	469.14	404.44	Gould	4,768.68	4,102.59	Fisher	1,974.85	1,787.06	Shirley	3,246.90	3,028.88
Cherokee Village	3,647.35	3,144.32	Grady	2,558.11	2,200.79	Harrisburg	20,386.08	18,447.55	Washington County	1,590,846.82	1,481,810.87
Hardy	193.18	166.53	Star City	12,955.77	11,146.10	Lepanto	16,764.05	15,169.95	Elkins	47,806.87	44,530.21
Horseshoe Bend	78.19	67.41	Little River County	212,619.34	208,035.41	Marked Tree	22,724.01	20,563.17	Elm Springs	31,702.75	29,529.85
Mammoth Spring	4,493.65	3,873.90	Ashdown	43,369.12	42,434.11	Trumann	64,612.00	58,468.01	Farmington	107,854.33	100,462.04
Salem	7,520.08	6,482.93	Foreman	9,283.54	9,083.40	Tyrnza	6,748.13	6,106.45	Fayetteville	1,328,410.02	1,237,361.37
Viola	1,550.02	1,336.24	Ogden	1,652.86	1,617.22	Waldenburg	540.20	488.84	Goshen	9,335.79	18,010.52
Garland County	2,264,859.57	1,180,306.66	Wilton	3,434.27	3,360.23	Weiner	6,340.77	5,737.81	Greenland	23,361.82	21,760.61
Fountain Lake	7,689.00	7,460.88	Winthrop	1,763.05	1,725.04	Polk County	265,590.36	247,006.12	Johnson	60,552.97	56,402.69
Hot Springs	230,558.66	223,718.35	Logan County	321,360.69	291,552.93	Cove	7,966.66	7,409.22	Lincoln	40,603.35	37,820.41
Lonsdale	1,436.91	1,394.28	Blue Mountain	1,140.56	1,034.76	Grannis	11,553.76	10,745.30	Prairie Grove	79,906.81	74,430.03
Mountain Pine	11,770.44	11,421.24	Booneville	36,700.13	33,296.02	Hatfield	8,613.18	8,010.48	Springdale	1,158,973.65	1,079,538.10
Grant County	196,010.21	192,087.63	Caulksville	1,959.18	1,777.46	Mena	119,646.00	111,273.98	Tontitown	44,412.73	41,368.70
Greene County	562,319.92	535,463.13	Magazine	7,790.73	7,068.10	Vandervoort	1,814.40	1,687.44	West Fork	41,831.01	38,963.93
Delaplaine	1,450.49	1,381.21	Morrison Bluff	588.67	534.07	Wickes	15,724.80	14,624.48	Winslow	7,059.08	6,575.27
Lafe	5,726.92	5,453.40	Paris	32,487.43	29,474.07	Pope County	344,659.05	348,213.85	White County	1,122,886.21	1,105,462.73
Marmaduke	13,892.16	13,228.66	Ratcliff	1,858.00	1,685.66	Atkins	41,392.57	41,819.49	Bald Knob	34,712.75	34,174.12
Oak Grove Heights	11,116.23	10,585.31	Scranton	2,060.36	1,869.25	Dover	18,912.12	19,107.18	Beebe	87,650.60	86,250.55
Paragould	326,522.06	310,927.13	Subiaco	5,261.28	4,773.26	Hector	6,175.95	6,239.65	Bradford	9,094.57	8,953.46
Hempstead County	408,175.71	372,282.13	Lonoke County	292,238.28	282,958.09	London	14,259.58	14,406.65	Garner	3,402.98	3,350.17
Blevins	3,811.22	3,476.08	Allport	1,181.69	1,144.17	Pottsville	38,949.64	39,351.37	Georgetown	1,485.81	1,462.75
Emmet	520.26	474.51	Austin	20,941.69	20,276.67	Russellville	383,183.24	387,135.38	Griffithville	2,696.02	2,654.19
Fulton	2,431.92	2,218.07	Cabot	244,312.85	236,554.55	Prairie County	77,403.83	71,798.27	Higginson	7,441.01	7,325.55
Hope	122,140.56	111,399.93	Carlisle	22,750.20	22,027.75	Biscoe	3,216.48	2,983.55	Judsonia	24,192.28	23,819.28
McCaskill	1,161.51	1,059.38	Coy	986.46	955.13	Des Arc	15,214.05	14,112.26	Kensett	19,746.85	19,440.44
McNab	822.74	750.39	England	29,028.59							

Monday 8:34 am



THIS MOMENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR HOMETOWN. The lifeblood of any city is progress. Finding the new jobs and the new opportunities that will keep the city and its residents moving forward. And we're leading the charge. Whether it's negotiating with potential businesses or building roads to their new facilities. A better life starts in the city limits. From small towns to big cities, Arkansas's municipal communities improve our quality of life, every day. *Great Cities Make a Great State.*





Support a family on \$20 a week?

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

Solution: The Arkansas Municipal League's Firefighters Supplemental Income and Death Benefit Program protects the earnings of volunteer, part-paid and paid firefighters who are injured in their duties.

What they get: Weekly temporary total disability benefits payable up to a **MAXIMUM** of \$673 for 2018 allowed under Arkansas Workers' Compensation Law; weekly benefits go for 52 weeks; \$10,000 death benefit.

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

Call: 501-978-6127

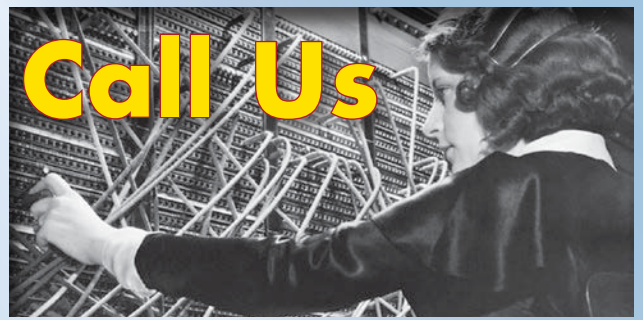
Glenda Robinson can be reached at ext. 243

The fax number is 501-537-7253

Online: www.arml.org/mlwct

Protect your loved ones' financial security.

Arkansas Municipal League's Firefighters Supplemental Income and Death Benefit Program



Call Us

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

Municipal Health Benefit Fund

(501) 978-6137

Fax (501) 537-7252

Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust

(501) 978-6127

Fax (501) 537-7253

Municipal Property & Vehicle Programs

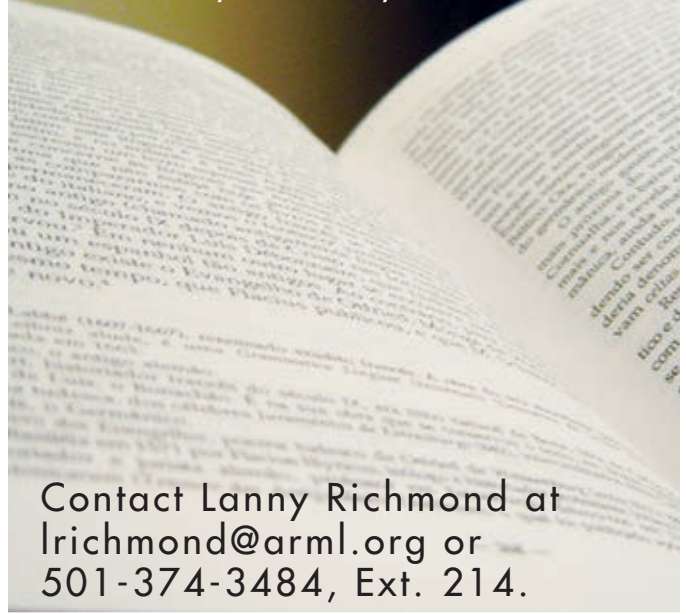
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arkansas municipal league

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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.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR—The City of Conway, a vibrant and progressive community located in central Arkansas, 31 miles northwest of the state capital of Little Rock, is accepting resumes for a planning and development director. Conway, with an estimated 2016 population of 64,000, is home to three universities: the University of Central Arkansas, Hendrix College, and Central Baptist College. Conway is a rapidly growing community that has more than doubled in population since 1990, seeing growth in residential, retail, technology, and energy sectors. Conway offers a dynamic quality of life with a lively downtown, quality schools, and recreational opportunities including: sports programs, boating, fishing, hiking, and hunting available at nearby lakes, rivers, parks, and national forest areas. Conway is the northwestern entrance into the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metro region as well as the gateway into the recreational opportunities of the Arkansas River Valley and the Southern Ozark Mountains. The planning and development director, reporting directly to the mayor, directs and coordinates all activities dealing with planning for the City of Conway, including the development of comprehensive plans and programs for utilization of land and physical facilities. The city seeks a proactive leader who is a superior communicator committed in inclusion and diversity. Responsibilities include advising the mayor, city council, planning commission, other city departments, and the general public regarding planning, zoning, and subdivision ordinances and issues. Requirements are: Thorough knowledge of the principals and practices of urban planning, federal, state and local laws and regulatory requirements applicable to comprehensive planning and land use; ability to plan, implement and coordinate technical and administrative programs; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the general public, co-workers and elected officials; and the ability to direct and evaluate the work activities of assigned professional and clerical staff including interns from colleges and secondary schools. The planning and development director recommends governmental measures affecting land use, public utilities, community facilities, and housing and transportation to control and guide community development and renewal; and develops and directs the development of long-range plans to identify and accommodate community needs regarding planning, zoning, neighborhood development plans and programs. Requires thorough knowledge of the funding process in a governmental environment as related to budgeting, cost accounting, fiscal planning and management. Requires Master's degree or equivalent in planning, public administration, landscape architecture, architecture, urban planning, urban design or a related field; or a Bachelor's degree in one of those fields and four to 10 years related experience and/or training. Equivalent combinations of education and experience will be considered. Salary: Compensation includes a competitive salary and benefits package. Closing date: Sept. 30. Please submit resume with salary history to: Human Resources Director; City of Conway; 1201 Oak Street; Conway, AR 72032. Email: lisa.williams@cityofconway.org; fax 501-513-3503.

Conway planning information may be obtained from the Planning Department website:

<http://www.cityofconway.org/pages/planning-development>. The City of Conway is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, status as a covered veteran, political status, or other legally protected status. Submitted applications and resumes will be subject to disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

POLICE CHIEF—The City of Harrisburg is accepting applications for the position of police chief. Ideal applicant will have at least 5 years of direct law enforcement with experience in criminology and strong leadership skills, will be ALETA certified, and have experience in a supervisory position in the law enforcement field. Starting salary \$52,000. Resumes may be sent to Harrisburg City Hall, 200 East Jackson Street, Harrisburg, AR 72432, or email mayorhbg@gmail.com. For more information call (870) 578-5467.

RECREATION COORDINATOR—The City of Siloam Springs Parks and Recreation Department is seeking a recreation coordinator. This position will supervise all recreation programs, adult sports, and special events. The recreation coordinator will plan, organize, supervise, market, and evaluate recreational programs, adult sports, and special events. Establish and manage approved budget for all recreational programming. Applicants should have a BS/BA in Recreation or equivalent, or three years related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience. This position requires a valid DL. The city offers a generous benefit package including, but not limited to medical, dental, vision, LTD, 457 deferred compensation, vacation and sick leave. Salary range: \$38,000 - \$57,000. The city requires a completed application be submitted for all positions. Applications are available at City Hall, 400 N. Broadway, Siloam Springs, AR; or online at www.siloamsprings.com. For further information, please call (479) 524-5136 or email humanresources@siloamsprings.com. EOE. Open until filled.

WATER AND WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT —The City of Redfield Water Department is accepting applications for the position of Water and Wastewater Superintendent. The superintendent is responsible for the management and administration of all aspects of the water treatment and distribution, wastewater, and business operations. Administrative and management duties include personnel, budgeting, planning, report writing, public relations, implementing and enforcing policies and procedures, regulatory compliance, and other duties as assigned. Must have a minimum of T2, D2, and WW1. Supervisor experience is preferred. Salary will be based on experience and qualifications. Applications can be found at www.redfieldar.com. Applications and resumes should be sent to dfults@redfieldar.com or delivered to Redfield City Hall.

FOR SALE—2011 Dodge Charger Police Package, 75,000 miles, Hemi V-8, Silver in color. Department-to-department sale only. \$10,200 OBO. (870) 878-6792.





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Standing from left:
Robert Dudley, Kevin Faight,
Dennis Hunt (Executive Vice
President and Manager of Public
Finance), Leigh Ann Biernat,
Bo Bittle, Jack Truemper

Seated from left: Lindsey
Ollar, Michele Casavechia,
Jason Holsclaw, Melissa Walsh,
Michael McBryde

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In 2017, our firm led the state in successfully managing the largest number and par amount of negotiated issues. During the same period, Stephens completed a majority of the financial advisory transactions for Arkansas school districts. While 2017 was another good year, we understand it was possible because of the trust and confidence shown by our fellow Arkansans.

We are continually impressed with the talent and dedication of the women and men who manage Arkansas' municipalities, hospitals, colleges and universities, school districts, state agencies, counties, utility systems and other governmental organizations. Thank you, Arkansas, for your continued confidence in our capabilities.

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