

City & Town

APRIL 2019 VOL. 75, NO. 04

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



WE MEASURE COMMITMENT IN DECADES.



At Crews & Associates, our team has spent the last 40 years investing in Arkansas individuals, businesses and communities – and we're just getting started. Ready to move forward for the future? Contact us today and see what Crews can do for you.

crewsfs.com

Crews & Associates
40 YEARS
of INVESTING IN YOU

Member FINRA & SIPC



Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



ON THE COVER—Infrastructure remained the top agenda item this year when city leaders from across the nation gathered for the National League of Cities’ Congressional City Conference, March 10-13 in Washington, D.C. Read coverage of the conference inside beginning on page 6. Read also about Searcy’s *Small Business Revolution* win; Ember, Crossett Fire Department’s adorable new mascot; and more. And be sure to register for the 85th Convention if you haven’t already. Registration and hotel information is inside.—atm

Features

6 “Rebuild with us,” NLC tells Washington
 City leaders from across the country met in Washington, D.C., in March for the 54th National League of Cities Congressional City Conference, where they urged the administration and Congress to rebuild our nation’s critical infrastructure.

11 Centennial cities celebrate
 Four cities in Arkansas—Altheimer, Danville, Elaine, and Lavaca—celebrate their centennials this year, and each has a unique and storied history to share.

12 Searcy celebrates Small Business Revolution win
 Searcy has won a spot on the Hulu show *Small Business Revolution*—Main Street, and the show’s hosts were in town March 22 to hype the crowd and announce the six local businesses that will share in \$500,000 in prize money.

Correction: In the February and March issues, the Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas chart mistakenly featured totals from 2017 rather than 2018 in the previous year comparison column (shaded gray). The charts have been corrected in the online versions of the two issues, available at www.arml.org/services/publications/city-town.

City & Town Contents

Arkansas Municipal League Officers	5
a'TEST Consultants, INC.....	18
Directory Changes	31
Economic Development	34
Engineering.....	42
Fairs & Festivals	49
Meeting Calendar	13
Municipal Mart	50
Municipal Notes	48
Obituaries.....	48
Planning to Succeed	36
President's Letter	4
Sales Tax Map.....	45
Sales Tax Receipts	46
Turnback Estimates	44
Urban Forestry.....	40
Your Health	38

Publisher
Mark R. Hayes

Deputy Director
Whitnee V. Bullerwell

Editor
Andrew T. Morgan

Graphic Designer
Mark R. Potter

Advertising Assistant
Tricia Zello

Email:
citytown@arml.org



Facebook.com.com/
 Arkansas.Municipal.League



twitter@ARMuniLeague



greatcitiesgreatstate.com



youtube.com/user/
 ARMunicipalLeague



flickr.com/photos/
 arkansas_municipal_league

www.arml.org

City&Town (ISSN 0193-8371 and Publication No. 031-620) is published monthly for \$20 per year (\$1.67 per single copy) by the Arkansas Municipal League, 301 W. Second St., North Little Rock, AR 72114. Periodicals postage paid at North Little Rock, Ark.
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *City&Town*, P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115.

Dear Friends,

The first signs of spring are showing and we are getting excited for warmer weather and a chance to enjoy the outdoors.

Speaking of outdoors, I know many cities are spending valuable resources on parks, trails, and pools this season. Some may see these quality-of-life projects and their maintenance as “extras,” but I realize the critical impact these amenities play in economic development. Just last year Burns Park in North Little Rock brought in nearly \$7 million to our community from sports tournaments and other visitors. And no one would ever choose to make their home in a city or town without a park.

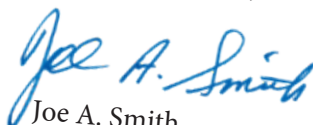
It's vitally important to make these parks accessible to all. I was proud of the great turnout at our League ADA workshop in March. Our organization is really pushing for our members to be proactive in making our cities and towns accessible for our residents and visitors. In North Little Rock, I like to highlight our One Heart Playground that is designed specifically to be enjoyed by those with physical or developmental disabilities.

In other League news, many of us were able to attend the NLC Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C., last month, and the focus was on infrastructure. It's not sexy, but I know we all understand that if our streets are in disrepair the entire community has a depressing feel. Cities across the nation are struggling with the same issues and we visited with almost every member of our congressional delegation to stress to them our priorities in this area and the need for the federal government to pass legislation that provides support for local governments.

Here at home, the legislative session is winding down, but now is when we must watch for the last-minute bills that affect our communities. Make sure you stay in touch with your senators and representatives and share your concerns and opinions.

Finally, our amazing League staff is putting together an agenda for the 85th Convention that promises exceptional opportunities for us all to learn from each other and stay up to date on the best practices from around the country. Register now if you haven't already.

Until next month,



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



ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OFFICERS

Mayor Joe Smith, **North Little Rock** President
Mayor Harold Perrin, **Jonesboro** First Vice President
Mayor Darrell Kirby, **Bay** Vice President, District 1
Mayor Allen Lipsmeyer, **Morrilton** . Vice President, District 2
Mayor Greg Hines, **Rogers** Vice President, District 3
Mayor Bobby Neal, **Smackover** ... Vice President, District 4
Mark R. Hayes..... Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Mayor Tim McKinney, **Berryville**; Mayor James Sanders, **Blytheville**; Mayor Danny Shaw, **Bono**; Mayor Jonas Anderson, **Cave City**; Mayor Paul Wellenberger, **Fairfield Bay**; Mayor Lionel Jordan, **Fayetteville**; Vice Mayor Kevin Settle, **Fort Smith**; Mayor Kevin Johnston, **Gentry**; Mayor Sammy Hartwick, **Greenbrier**; Mayor Bill Groom, **Greenland**; City Manager Catherine Cook, **Hope**; Mayor Pat McCabe, **Hot Springs**; Council Member Reenie Ray, **Jacksonville**; Council Member Sam Angel, II, **Lake Village**; Mayor Jerry Boen, **Lamar**; City Director Lance Hines, **Little Rock**; Mayor Jimmy Williams, **Marianna**; Mayor Steve Dixon, **Marmaduke**; Mayor Gary Baxter, **Mulberry**; Council Member Debi Ross, **North Little Rock**; City Clerk Andrea Williams, **Paragould**; Mayor Sonny Hudson, **Prairie Grove**; Mayor Virginia Young, **Sherwood**; City Administrator Phillip Patterson, **Siloam Springs**

PAST PRESIDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, **Batesville**; Mayor Frank Fogleman, **Marion**; Mayor Mike Gaskill, **Paragould**; Mayor Jackie Crabtree, **Pea Ridge**; Mayor Doug Sprouse, **Springdale**; Mayor Robert Patrick, **St. Charles**; Mayor Harry Brown, **Stephens**

CITIES OF THE LARGE FIRST CLASS ADVISORY COUNCIL: City Administrator Carl Geffken, **Fort Smith**, Chair; Mayor James Calhoun, **Arkadelphia**; Clerk/Treasurer Denise Johnston, **Batesville**; Council Member Jeff Hamm, **Benton**; Council Member John Musgraves, **Blytheville**; Council Members Eddie Long, Norma Naquin and James Reid, **Cabot**; Chief of Staff Don Marr and Communications Director Susan Norton, **Fayetteville**; Asst. City Manager Lance Spicer, **Hot Springs**; Council Members Les Collins and Kenny Elliott, **Jacksonville**; Council Members Chris Gibson and John Street, **Jonesboro**; Intergovernmental Relations Manager Emily Cox, **Little Rock**; Clerk/Treasurer Tina Timmons and Council Member Jess Holt Maumelle; Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey and Council Members Steve Baxter and Beth White, **North Little Rock**; Council Member Josh Agee, **Paragould**; Council Member Steven Mays, **Pine Bluff**; Council Member Marina Brooks, **Sherwood**; Mayor John Mark Turner, **Siloam Springs**; Clerk/Treasurer Phyllis Thomas, **Van Buren**; Council Member Wayne Croom and Human Resources Director Janice Coleman, **West Memphis**

CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Council Member James Earl Turner, **Mena**, Chair; Council Member Lorene Pearson, **Ashdown**; Council Member Larry Hall, **Bay**; Clerk/Treasurer Carol Westergren, **Beebe**; Mayor Bill Edwards and Council Member Wayne Low, **Centerton**; Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Blackard, **Clarksville**; Mayor Scott McCormick II and Council Member C.T. Foster, **Crossett**; Council Member Anthony Scott, **Dermott**; Council Member Ross Martin, **Dumas**; Council Member Adrian Wilson-Clark, **Lake Village**; Mayor Rodney Robertson and Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Keith, **Leachville**; Council Member Loye Free, **Marianna**; Mayor Doyle Fowler, **McCrary**; Assistant to the Mayor Becky Horton, **Mena**; Council Member John Payne, **Morrilton**; Mayor Sally Wilson, **Osceola**; Clerk/Treasurer Prenita White, **Parkin**; Council Member Tony Cunningham, **Prairie Grove**; Council Member Art Brooke, **Ward**; Council Member Dorothy Henderson, **Warren**

INCORPORATED TOWNS AND CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Dennis Behling, **Lakeview**, Chair; Mayor Veronica Post, **Altus**; Mayor Bobby Box, Sr., **Chidester**; Council Members Robert Otis and Doyle Scroggins, **Fairfield Bay**; Council Member Jennifer Porter, **Flippin**; Mayor Jeff Braim and Council Member Anita Seaman, **Gassville**; Recorder/Treasurer Sheila Mangrum, **Gould**; Recorder/Treasurer Jennifer Hill, **Haskell**; Recorder/Treasurer Mary Ruth Wiles, **Highland**; Recorder/Treasurer Shirley Rose, **Lake View**; Mayor Marion Hoosier, **McCaskill**; Mayor Teresa Triplet, **McNeil**; Mayor Carl Lee Griswold, **Mitchellville**; Council Member Don Sappington, **Norfork**; Council Member Michael Barnett, **Rison**; Mayor Lisa Hackett, **Shirley**; Recorder/Treasurer Rick East, **Smackover**; Recorder/Treasurer Rita Fite, **Sparkman**; Council Member A.C. Loring, **Wrightsville**

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL: Chief of Police/Assistant City Manager J.R. Wilson, **Hope**, Chair; Council Member James "Jim" Wozniak, **Bella Vista**; Mayor Kenneth Jones, **Brookland**; Council Member Doug Warner, **Cabot**; Fire Chief Robert Medford, **Camden**; Council Member Crystal Marshall, **Crossett**; City Director Karen Garcia and Police Chief Jason Stachey, **Hot Springs**; Mayor Jon Milligan, **Lake City**; Asst. Police Chief Alice Fulk, **Little Rock**; Council Member Terry Williams, **Maumelle**; Fire Chief Kevin Lang, **Paragould**; Council Member Delores Atkins, **Parkin**; Financial Director Steve Miller, **Pine Bluff**; Mayor/Police Chief Tim Mayfield, **Salesville/Gassville**; Council Member Betty Cook, **Sheridan**; Council Member James Pulliaum and City Engineer Amanda Hicks, **West Memphis**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Doug Kinslow, **Greenwood**, Chair; Council Member Robin Reed, **Centerton**; Council Member Judy Weaver, **Clarksville**; Mayor Veronica Smith-Creer, **El Dorado**; Council Member Don Bailey, **Fairfield Bay**; Council Member Naomi Lassen, **Gassville**; City Director Mark Ross, **Hope**; Economic Development Advisory Council: Council Member Sherry Holliman, **Marion**; Council Member Leroy Powell, **Marvell**; Mayor Hillrey Adams, **Mountain Home**; Mayor Roger Gardner, **Mountain View**; Council Member Gregory Baker, **Osceola**; Council Member Sherry Gillon, **Parkin**; Council Member Howard Austin, **Prescott**; Mayor Teresa Roofe, **Rector**; Council Member Beverly Williams, **Sherwood**; City Director Bob Coleman, **Siloam Springs**; Mayor Charlie Gastineau, **Ward**

MUNICIPAL HEALTH BENEFIT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Mayor David Stewart, **Newport**, District 1; Finance Director Joy Black, **Bryant**, District 2; Mayor Bill Edwards, **Centerton**, District 3; Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Blackard, **Clarksville**, District 4; Mayor Parnell Vann, **Magnolia**, At-Large Member

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE WORKERS' COMPENSATION TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Chief of Staff Bill Reznicek, **Jonesboro**, District 1; Human Resources Director Lisa Mabry-Williams, **Conway**, District 2; Clerk/Treasurer Sharla Derry, **Greenwood**, District 3; Mayor Shirley Washington, **Pine Bluff**, District 4; City Attorney Howard Cain, **Huntsville**, At-Large Member and Group Manager

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



NLC continues push for infrastructure

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Fixing the nation's failing infrastructure remained at the top of the agenda during the National League of Cities' 54th Congressional City Conference, held March 10-13 in Washington, D.C. The conference drew nearly 3,000 city leaders from across the nation to discuss this and other issues important to local governments and to press the administration and Congress to work with cities to create a plan that moves the country forward. The NLC continues to elevate this issue through its national campaign, #RebuildWithUs.

Local leadership on the issue of infrastructure has never been more important than at this critical time, Gary, Indiana, Mayor and NLC President Karen Freeman-Wilson said in her address during the conference's opening general session on March 11.



Freeman-Wilson

"The National League of Cities is the voice of America's cities, towns, and villages," she said, "representing over 280 million people across this country, and that means we have 280 million people who are counting on us to fix our infrastructure."

Local leaders will do what it takes to get things done, she said.

"Our constituents, our citizens, the people who have trusted us to represent them don't take no for an answer," Freeman-Wilson said. "We see them in the grocery store, in the post office, in the doctor's office, in the places of worship that we frequent. And quite frankly, they don't want to hear excuses. They'll tell you that very quickly, won't they?"

The infrastructure needs across our nation are broad, including fixing or upgrading our aging highways, streets, bridges, public transit, water and wastewater systems, and it must include expanding broadband, workforce development programs, and more, Freeman-Wilson said. To do what we need to do will take a strong federal partnership, she said.

"The reality is we have to have a stronger partner at the federal level," she said, "and we got off to a rocky start this year with a federal government that was shut down for the longest period in the history of our country. That is unacceptable."

The new Congress has a unique opportunity to come together to create a bipartisan, comprehensive infrastructure plan, and members of both parties have expressed an interest in moving on the issue, she said.

"At least they've been talking about it," she said, "but it's time to stop talking and time to start doing."

Freeman-Wilson has launched the #LoveMyCity initiative, which she intends to be the cornerstone of her

year as NLC president and one that dovetails perfectly with the overall push for infrastructure, she said.

“One of the ways we as local leaders demonstrate that love for our communities is through advocacy and working to make aspects of our communities better. In this case, it’s our infrastructure,” she said.

The #LoveMyCity initiative has an online home at lovemycity.nlc.org where you can see a short video about her city, Gary, Indiana. Freeman-Wilson has been mayor of Gary since 2012. She is the first woman to serve as the city’s mayor and the first African-American woman to serve as a mayor in the state of Indiana. The League has extended an invitation to Freeman-Wilson to join us and speak at our 85th Convention in June in Little Rock.

Continuing on the topic of infrastructure, NLC partnered with *Politico* to host a panel discussion that included two members of Congress, Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Calif.), vice chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Rep. Rodney Davis (R-Ill.), ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. To get something moving on infrastructure will take Congress coming together, stopping the bickering, and finding a funding solution both parties can live with, Carbajal said.

“This president has said, early on, that he’s willing to invest and move forward on an infrastructure bill, and I’m holding him to that,” he said. “I’m hoping we can achieve that.”



Carbajal

As to whether the House could have a proposal ready by May of this year, as some among the House leadership have suggested, Carbajal said that might be a little ambitious.

“But if you don’t have an ambitious timeline, you’ll never get to it,” he said.

Davis expressed regret that infrastructure bills, which until recent years often enjoyed bipartisan support, have gotten caught up in the extreme partisanship of today, he said.



Davis

“If there is a way to get bipartisanship to rise to the top it’s going to come out of the [Transportation and Infrastructure] Committee that Salud and I are both a part of,” Davis said. “I know May is probably a little ambitious, but I think that’s our goal. And if we don’t have a goal, we’ll never get it accomplished.”

During the afternoon general session on March 11, NLC welcomed to the stage Kellyanne Conway, senior advisor and counselor to President Donald Trump, for a conversation with the NLC president about infrastructure and other issues important to cities. Freeman-Wilson asked Conway what cities can do to work with the administration to make progress.

“There really would be no point to tackling infrastructure without the input and the advice you provide,” Conway said. “Because after all, the impact of the federal dollars will be seen most decisively close to home.”

The president released his proposed budget on March 10, and it requested \$200 billion over the next 10 years for infrastructure, the same as the previous two years’ budgets. In that time, however, Congress has not yet passed a sweeping infrastructure package.



From left, Gary, Indiana, Mayor and NLC President Karen Freeman-Wilson and White House Senior Advisor and Counselor Kellyanne Conway.

Citing some progress in the expansion of broadband in rural America, Conway suggested creating more public-private partnerships to meet infrastructure goals rather than just relying on what she called the “vertical” partnerships among local, state, and federal governments.



Carson

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Dr. Benjamin Carson addressed the conference for the second year in a row on the morning of March 12. A lack of affordable housing across the country is another aspect of our nation’s infrastructure needs, and Freeman-Wilson asked Carson how HUD is working with local communities to solve the crisis.

“It is a huge problem, and fortunately there are some solutions,” Carson said.

He cited the RAD, or Rental Assistance Demonstration program (www.hud.gov/RAD), which creates public-private partnerships to preserve and improve public housing properties.

“In the past what would happen is the government rides in on a white horse with a big bucket of money, builds these gigantic public housing structures with no holistic thought around it, and rides off into the sunset while it immediately begins to deteriorate,” Carson said.

With a private-sector component, they will take a long-term interest in the viability of the low-income housing because it affects their income stream, he said.



Carroll

Carson is also confident that the “opportunity zone” initiative will have a positive impact in underserved areas. Passed as part of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017, the initiative’s goal is to spur private investment in low-income communities by providing a federal tax incentive for reinvesting capital gains into “opportunity funds.”

Another member of the administration addressed the conference during the closing general session on March 12. White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Director Jim Carroll discussed the recently released policy, which includes strategies for dealing with the opioid epidemic. While it is a national issue, the crisis is most immediate at home in our cities and towns, he said.

“At the end of the day, this is a local issue,” Carroll said. “You all are truly on the front lines.”

He said it’s important that we frame it as an addiction crisis.

“We know that addiction is a disease,” he said. “What we have to remind people—and sometimes it’s the people in our community who are suffering—is that treatment is available.”

If we could get people into treatment, then we could have remarkable success, he said. The president’s budget includes about \$34 billion to address the opioid epidemic, Carroll said, split between law enforcement and treatment center funding.

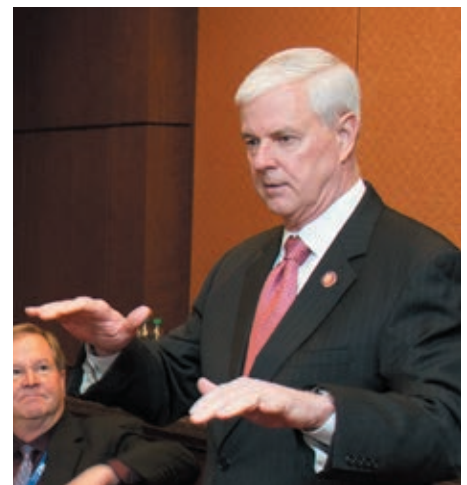
City leaders meet with Arkansas congressional delegates

City and town leaders attending the NLC Congressional City Conference are encouraged to use the final day of the conference to set meetings with their congressional delegations and advocate for cities on Capitol Hill. Most members of Arkansas’s delegation were able to spend some time with our city officials during a luncheon Wednesday, March 13, in a meeting room at the Capitol Visitors Center.

Rep. Steve Womack told city leaders not to emulate what they see in Washington, D.C., back home.

“It’s good to come up here and see what dysfunction really looks like at a macro level, and pledge to yourselves not to do it this way,” he said.

Womack said local leaders shouldn’t get “too



Womack

worked up” about what they see or don’t see in the president’s proposed budget, and that Congress is working on an infrastructure funding measure.

“We don’t have consensus on that yet, and now you’ve got divided government so it’s a little worse in that you’ve got Democrats in control of the House and Republicans in the Senate, and we’re moving into an election year, and all the other external inputs that go with trying to get major legislation passed,” Womack said. “I’m confident that if there’s something a divided government ought to be able to do, I would say infrastructure is probably it.”

Arkansas is well represented on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rep. Bruce Westerman said. He is the ranking member on the Water and Environment Subcommittee and Rep. Rick Crawford is the ranking member on the Rail and Pipeline Subcommittee. Water and wastewater infrastructure systems are facing a \$21 billion maintenance backlog across the country, he said.

“People are facing real struggles,” Westerman said. “How do you get clean water and get a system and pay to put it in? And then how do you pay to maintain it once you get it in? With the standards that are out there now, that’s quite a challenge. That’s one of the focuses the committee is working on that affects you all directly.”

There are federal loan programs available for water and wastewater, and we’re not taking advantage of those as much as we could, Westerman said.

Rep. Crawford addressed the effort to expand rural broadband in rural communities.

“It’s important,” he said. “It’s the rural electrification issue of our generation.”

Like electricity in years past, it’s an equalizer, he said, but one that doesn’t help the economy all that much if

more basic necessities like water infrastructure are still lagging. States and local governments need more creative funding solutions, including partnering together regionally, he said.

“Broadband’s great, but if you’ve got raw sewage in your town, broadband’s not your immediate problem,” Crawford said. “The market will take care of broadband. It’s going to happen.”

Sen. John Boozman has been on the transportation committee since he was first elected to the House in 2001.

“I’ve really worked hard to bring all the resources we can to Arkansas,” he said.

It was a bit easier to fund special projects in the days of earmarks, he said, and the fact that Arkansas receives more federal dollars in return than it pays in taxes is not sustainable.

“Regardless, it’s something that’s very timely and it’s something that we’ve got to get done,” he said.

The Arkansas delegation works very well together for the state’s interests, Boozman said.

“We will help you any way that we can help you,” he said.

Rep. French Hill discussed the funding they’ve secured to address the opioid crisis in Arkansas.

“We got \$11 million to the state for opioid prevention and treatment, and that’s being distributed right now across the state,” he said. “We want to make sure we’re taking care of your EMS, fire, and police officials. They are as much at risk as some of our kids because of the lethality of fentanyl mixed into the drug population in our state.”

On the infrastructure front, Hill sees a lot of promise in opportunity zones, he said.

“That will make Arkansas more competitive,” he said. ☰



Crawford



Westerman



From left, Sen. John Boozman, Rep. French Hill, and North Little Rock Mayor and League President Joe Smith.



League hosts ADA workshop

The League on March 14 hosted the workshop “What You Need to Know About the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for Local Government” as part of our voluntary certified continuing education program for municipal officials. Attendance was strong for this important topic, with 111 participants from cities and towns across the state.

North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, the 2018-2019 League president, welcomed the attendees to his city and to League headquarters. He encouraged everyone to take the ADA very seriously and asked that we consider the challenges that people with disabilities face in their everyday lives in our cities and towns, things we may take for granted. Something as routine as running to the grocery store or paying a water bill at city hall can be extremely difficult if your city is not accessible, he said.

“We’re here to make the quality of life better for all of our citizens, whether they’re disabled or not,” Smith said.

To give an overview of the law and the typical compliance issues cities face, the League invited one of the nation’s top ADA experts, Kirk Tcherneshoff, president of Tcherneshoff Consulting, Inc., to give a presentation and participate in a question-and-answer session. Though he was unable to travel from his home in Alabama that day, Tcherneshoff was able to interact with participants via live video feed.

Sherwood is one of our cities that has faced litigation for non-compliance, and Mayor Virginia Young shared her city’s experience going through that process and




Tcherneshoff

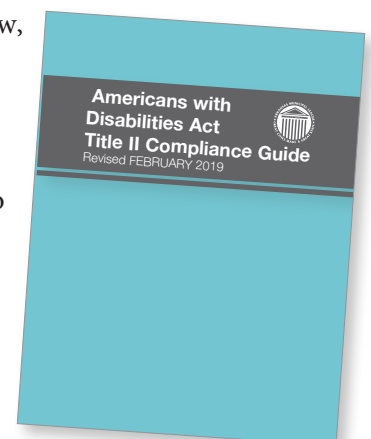
working to correct their compliance issues. Sherwood Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Darren Austin shared examples from across the city where they’ve made progress in the last two years in removing barriers to access.



LaFever

League Director of Human Resources Tracey Pew discussed engaging in the interactive process of Title 1 of the ADA from an employer’s perspective, and League Counsel Amanda LaFever covered the types of complaints cities may face and what their obligations are in addressing them.

In an effort to make our cities and towns accessible to all of our citizens and visitors, and to help prevent costly litigation, the League is encouraging members to be proactive on this issue, which includes completing a self-evaluation and taking other steps as required by the ADA to achieve compliance. The publication, *Americans with Disabilities Act Title II Compliance Guide*, was updated in February of this year. This invaluable resource provides an overview of the law, sample self-evaluation guidelines, grievance procedures, and more. It also provides an extensive list of resources available to cities and towns to help achieve compliance. The booklet is available for free in print or as a downloadable pdf from the Publications page on the League’s website, www.arml.org. 



Four cities celebrate centennials



Four cities across Arkansas celebrate their centennials this year: Altheimer, Danville, Elaine, and Lavaca were each incorporated in 1919.

Located just northeast of Pine Bluff in Jefferson County, Altheimer grew up in the flood-prone Arkansas River basin amid cotton fields, and though it has never had a very large population, it was once a bustling stop along the Cotton Belt railroad line. Today the city of 984 is still very much an agricultural community, and it is a popular destination for duck hunters as well.

When Yell County was established in 1840, commissioners decided that what is now Danville, along the Petit Jean River, was the best location for the county seat. The settlement grew rapidly, though it wouldn't be incorporated until nearly 80 years later. It shares county seat status with Dardanelle. In its early days, Danville was a hub of milling and ginning, and when the railroad came through it saw moderate growth. Though it never saw boom times, the city's growth has continued in the modern era, boosted by Latino immigrants seeking work in the poultry industry. Today, the city of 2,409 maintains a diverse local economy and draws lovers of the outdoors because of its proximity to the Ouachita National Forest, the Petit Jean Wildlife Management Area, and the river.

Elaine was established on what was once swampland in the Mississippi Delta region of Arkansas in Phillips County. Through flood control, timber clearing, and establishment of the railroad in the area around the turn of the 20th century, a farming community was built on the land. Elaine will forever be associated with

the race massacre that took place there, just more than six months after its incorporation in 1919. A shooting incident resulted in white mobs murdering an unknown number of African-Americans, with estimates ranging in the hundreds. Five white people died. It was the deadliest racial confrontation in Arkansas history, and one of the deadliest in the United States. Today the city remains a small farming community of 642. In 2017 the Elaine Legacy Center opened to shed light on the city's civil rights struggle and memorialize the victims of the terrible violence.

Lavaca, east of Fort Smith in Sebastian County, sprung from a well dug along the military road that ran from Fort Smith to Little Rock in the late 1800s. People and businesses began to settle near this well, and a post office was established. That military road is now the city's Main Street. Lavaca thrived over the course of its first few decades, but the Great Depression hit the economy hard. When local farmers began growing a boysenberry-raspberry hybrid they dubbed the Lavacaberry, the fruit's popularity helped the city recover. Though some small family farms still keep bushes, farming of the Lavacaberry became unprofitable on a larger scale. Today Lavaca is largely a bedroom community with a population of 2,289.

Information for this article comes from the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture (encyclopediaofarkansas.net) and The History of Lavaca, Arkansas: Military Road, Oak Bower and Beyond by Jack James (2007). Population numbers are from the 2010 Census.



Small Business Revolution—Main Street hosts Ty Pennington and Amanda Brinkman rev up the audience.

MAIN STREET

Searcy's six winning businesses named for *Small Business Revolution—Main Street*



A large and enthusiastic Searcy crowd celebrate their victory.

After winning its spot on the next season of the Hulu television series *Small Business Revolution—Main Street*, Searcy has learned which six of the city's businesses will share in the \$500,000 prize that comes with the victory. The recipients were announced on March 22 during the city's Beats and Eats Festival, where food trucks, entertainment, craft vendors, and folks from Searcy and the central Arkansas region filled downtown to celebrate.

The show's hosts, Amanda Brinkman and Ty Pennington, were on hand to congratulate Searcy, hype the crowd, and announce the winning businesses.

Pennington praised the city for its enthusiasm about the opportunity.

"This is the biggest turnout we've seen and the biggest excitement we've seen," he said.

"We love small businesses," Brinkman said, "and it was your small businesses that got you into the top six [finalists]. Then it was all y'all who got you to number one."

Brinkman then announced the six winning local businesses. They are:

- ARganic Woodwork LLC, a custom woodshop;
- Savor + Sip, a coffeehouse and creperie;
- El Mercado Cavadas, a grocery specializing in authentic Latin American ingredients;
- Zion Climbing Center, a nonprofit climbing organization;
- Whilma's Filipino Restaurant, a local eatery serving Filipino cuisine; and
- Nooma Life Studio, a fitness and nutrition studio with a holistic approach.



Brinkman congratulates the six local businesses that will share in \$500,000 of prize money.

June 12-14, 2019
Arkansas Municipal League
85th Annual Convention

Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

Nov. 20-23, 2019
National League of Cities
2019 City Summit

San Antonio, Texas

February 12-14, 2020
Arkansas Municipal League
2020 Winter Conference

Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR



Searcy Mayor Kyle Osborne looks forward to what's next.

Searcy Mayor Kyle Osborne was on hand to welcome the show hosts and congratulate his hometown.

"Welcome to the revolution!" Osborne told the crowd. "You deserve this."

Based on a conversation he had with the mayor of Upton, Ill., which was previously featured on *Small Business Revolution*, he is excited for what's coming, he said.

"He told me to 'prepare for the unbelievable,' so we are trying to prepare for the unbelievable," Osborne said.

Season four is expected to begin filming in May. 🏠

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
(501) 978-6123
Fax (501) 978-6562



GarverUSA.com

We're invested
in Arkansas.

For more information, contact:
Mike Griffin, PE, *Director of Aviation*
MJGriffin@GarverUSA.com
501.376.3633



CELEBRATING
ONE HUNDRED
YEARS
1919 to 2019



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

Crossett Fire Chief Bo Higginbotham with Ember.

Crossett FD welcomes Ember, firefighting mascot

Met Ember, Crossett Fire Department's resident pup and all-around city mascot. She's been with the department since late last summer, and the loveable Dalmatian is winning fans across town, says Fire Chief Bo Higginbotham.

When a firefighter in north Arkansas who breeds Dalmatians offered a new puppy to Higginbotham, the timing was right and he thought she would make a nice companion at the station as well as a good outreach partner, especially when they visit schools and community groups.

"She's a great icebreaker when we go around and visit the kids and let them pet her," he says. "We try to use her to teach 'stop, drop, and roll' and other things. It makes it more interesting for them. They can get kind of bored just hearing from a firefighter."

Ember spent the month of January with a dog trainer, and though she's still "got puppy in her," she's starting to listen to commands, Higginbotham says.

Crossett Mayor Scott McCormick says when Chief Higginbotham approached him about the possibility of bringing Ember on board as a mascot, he was all for it.

"The school kids love her, especially the elementary children," McCormick says.



Ember is also a great way to spread the word about public safety and municipal services in a positive way, he says.

"It's been a good thing for the department and for the city as a whole." 🐕



ETC Engineers & Architects, Inc.

1510 S. Broadway, Little Rock, AR 72202 • (501) 375-1786
www.etcengineersinc.com



Architecture • Public Buildings • Parks Planning and Design
Stormwater • Hydraulic Modeling • Water & Wastewater Systems
Street and Drainage Designs • Aquatic Parks

Batesville Community Center

**Are Your Bad Debt
Accounts Adding Up?
Having No Success With
Collection Agencies...**

**Turn Those Bad Debts Into
Deposits By Joining The
Water Utility DataBase System**



A network of Municipalities and Rural Water/
Sewer systems across the state, through
legislation have joined forces through our
database system to track and collect their
otherwise uncollectable bad debts.

Won't You Join Them By Joining WUDB Today...

For more information contact an ARWA representative,
contact us at 800-264-0303 or go to www.wudb.com

IT in a Box

A complete IT solution for city governments.



Cybersecurity
and Computer
Maintenance

Who guarantees
IT services
based on your
expectations?

Website

24x7 Helpdesk

WE DO!

Data Backup and
Disaster Recovery

Records / Document
Management and Email

Video Archiving

Policy & Compliance

Vendor Management
and Procurement

Guaranteed.

If we don't meet your
expectations, then
cancel the service!

Dave Mims
770.670.6940 x110
davemims@sophicity.com
www.sophicity.com

Chris Hartley
501.978.6106
chartley@arml.org
www.arml.org



Lake Village vies for Culture of Health Prize



Activities and amenities in Lake Village that helped the city meet the six criteria for the Culture of Health Prize included its farm-to-table effort, a downtown pocket park, an expanded farmers market, and a new fitness cluster park.

Lake Village is one of 12 communities across the nation to be named finalists for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize. The RWJF Culture of Health Prize is a national, annual competition that awards \$25,000 to prize-winning communities that are working together to transform neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and more so that quality of life and quality of place flourishes everywhere, for everyone. RWJF announced the 12 finalists on March 6.

Selected from nearly 200 applicants, Lake Village joins 11 other communities vying for the prize. They include: Sitka, Alaska; Del Norte County and Tribal Lands, Calif.; Gonzales, Calif.; Vista, Calif.; Lake County, Colo.; Broward County, Fla.; Carrollton, Ga.; Fishers, Ind.; Jersey City, N.J.; Perth Amboy, N.J.; and Greenville County, S.C.

“These communities have set themselves apart by recognizing that health is about opportunity. It is connected to every element of our lives—good schools, safe and affordable housing, high-quality jobs that pay a

fair wage and so much more,” said Richard Besser, MD, RWJF president and CEO. “In the coming months, we look forward to visiting each community to learn more about how it is working with local leaders and residents to shape solutions in all these areas that impact health.”

To earn Culture of Health Prize finalist status, communities had to demonstrate how their efforts reflect the six prize criteria:

- Defining health in the broadest possible terms.
- Committing to sustainable systems changes and policy-oriented long-term solutions.
- Creating conditions that give everyone a fair and just opportunity to reach their best possible health.
- Harnessing the collective power of leaders, partners, and community members.
- Securing and making the most of available resources.
- Measuring and sharing progress and results.

The 2019 winners will be announced this fall. Learn more about the previous 39 prize winners at www.rwjf.org/prize. 🏠



NOW ENTERING: RECREATION AND RELAXATION.

Parks • Athletic Facilities • Swimming Pools

Great Cities Make a Great State.



greatcitiesgreatstate.com

How does alcohol affect the body?

Alcohol is a drug. When it is consumed frequently and in large quantities, it can lead to addiction and death. Alcohol is a legal substance when consumed appropriately; however, the abuse of alcohol is a very real problem in our society. It is important to understand how alcohol affects the body.

Alcohol is absorbed into the bloodstream via small blood vessels in the walls of the stomach and small intestines. Within minutes of drinking alcohol, it travels from the stomach to the brain, where it quickly produces its effects, slowing the action of nerve cells. Approximately 20 percent of alcohol is absorbed through the stomach. Most of the remaining 80 percent is absorbed through the small intestine.

Alcohol is also carried by the bloodstream to the liver, which eliminates the alcohol from the blood through a process referred to as metabolizing, where it is converted to a non-toxic substance. The liver can only metabolize a certain amount at a time, leaving the excess circulating throughout the body. Therefore, the intensity of the effect on the body is directly related to the amount consumed.

When the amount of alcohol in the blood exceeds a certain level, the respiratory (breathing) system slows down significantly, and can cause a coma or death, because oxygen no longer reaches the brain.

A young person's body cannot cope with alcohol the same way an adult's body can. Drinking is more harmful to teens than adults because their brains are still developing throughout adolescence and well into young adulthood. Drinking during this critical growth period can lead to lifelong damage in brain function, particularly as it relates to memory, motor skills, and coordination. According to some researchers, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21.

The media often tell stories about binge drinking on college campuses (and even at junior high or high school functions). Binge drinking is defined as the practice of consuming large quantities of alcohol in a single session, usually defined as five or more drinks at one time for a man or four or more drinks at one time for a woman. About 90 percent of the alcohol consumed by youth under the age of 21 in the United States is in the form of binge drinking. Youthful habits concerning alcohol use (or abuse) have a high chance to carry over into adulthood—and into the workforce.

When employers hire summer teenage workers, it is important to observe them as closely as you monitor your full-time employees. Many cities hire teenagers to work for the summer and some are already testing them before employment, following any accident, or for reasonable suspicion.

Alcohol is a very dangerous drug and abusing it can be devastating. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, a 160-pound person consuming two beers in an hour can result in blowing a .05 on a breathalyzer—and that is bad because it is required to be reported to the state. At that level, the driver will be removed from their safety-sensitive position and required to seek a substance abuse professional (SAP) for treatment and education. Once released by the SAP, the person will have a return-to-duty test and six additional tests during the first year. They also remain in the company drug-testing pool. The SAP can require follow-up testing up to five years, if that is appropriate. Most employers do not pay for any of the treatment or additional tests, and they generally terminate the employee. The employee cannot drive again until he or she completes the SAP and is released to drive. At this point, the driver is going to be out a large amount of money, have no income, and cannot work anywhere while the positive alcohol test result is on the state's registry, and a national registry is coming soon. Alcohol positive tests have serious consequences.

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.

Foster Heavy Duty Services
 316 Thomas Road
 White Hall AR 71602
 870-247-2670
 1530@ exit 36



Joel or Noel Foster
 870-540-7918
 Commercial Truck
 Sales and Service

Pierce Tanker Pumper
\$49,500



2007 CCC Refuse Sideload, \$69,000



E-one ARFF Crash Truck, nice
\$98,500



2002 Fire Engine \$85,000, pump tested, nice



2010 Dodge police cruiser, reconditioned, fully rigged out! **\$14950**

International KME Pumper 750 Tank
\$29,500



NOW ENTERING: JOB OPPORTUNITIES.
Economic Development • Street Construction • Industrial Parks

Great Cities Make a Great State.

greatcitiesgreatstate.com

ACCRTA scholarships available

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

A scholarship honoring the memory of Bill S. Bonner will be awarded to a first-year attendee in the certification program at the Municipal Clerks' Institute in September 2019. This scholarship covers the registration fee.

Additional scholarships include: four local \$400 scholarships to attend the Municipal Clerks' Institute, Sept. 15-19, 2019, in Fayetteville; one \$400 scholarship for the Academy for Advanced Education,

Sept. 16-17, 2019, in Fayetteville; and one \$400 scholarship to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) annual conference, May 19-22, 2019, in Birmingham, Ala.

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

Completed scholarship application should be returned to the ACCRTA Scholarship Committee chair:

Andrea Williams, CMC, CAMC
City Clerk, City of Paragould
301 West Court Street
P.O. Box 1175
Paragould, AR 72450

Questions: Andrea.Williams@Paragouldcity.org
 or (870)239-7500.

2019 APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

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

Name _____ Title _____

Street Address or P.O. Box _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Date assumed present position _____

Other related experience: Title _____ Municipality _____ Years _____

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

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

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

Travel/Transportation _____ Registration Fee/Tuition _____

Lodging and Meal _____ Total Amount _____

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

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

I understand that if a scholarship is awarded to me, it must be used between Jan. 1, 2019, and Dec. 31, 2019, and that I must attend all sessions.

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Clerks' Institute, Fayetteville	September 15-19, 2019	Deadline: May 31, 2019
<input type="checkbox"/>	Academy for Advanced Education, Fayetteville	September 16-17, 2019	Deadline: May 31, 2019
<input type="checkbox"/>	IIMC Conference, Birmingham, Ala.	May 19-22, 2019	Deadline: April 15, 2019

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

ACCRTA seeks nominations for Clerk of the Year

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

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

Any municipal official or ACCRTA member may nominate a candidate for Municipal Clerk of the Year for 2019. The finalist will be honored at the 85th Annual Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 12-14, 2019, in Little Rock.

The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2019.

Requirements for nominees:

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

Complete the nomination information below and send to:

**Denise Johnston, ACCRTA Vice President
Clerk/Treasurer, City of Batesville
500 East Main
Batesville, AR 72501
cityclerk@cityofbatesville.com.**

Municipal Clerk of the Year 2019 Please Submit the Following Information

NOMINEE'S FULL NAME AND TITLE _____

ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE _____

NAME OF THE CITY THE MUNICIPAL CLERK REPRESENTS _____

YEARS SERVED AS CLERK, RECORDER, TREASURER OR DEPUTY CLERK AND YEAR APPOINTED OR ELECTED _____

ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, TREASURERS ASSOCIATION (ACCRTA) MEMBER YEARS SERVED AND DATE OF MEMBERSHIP _____

ACCRTA OFFICES HELD _____

ACCRTA MEETINGS ATTENDED _____

ACCRTA, IIMC, OR ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE SERVICE, COMMITTEES SERVED ON AND NUMBER OF YEARS SERVED _____

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE MUNICIPAL CLERK (IIMC) PARTICIPATION AT ANNUAL AND REGIONAL MEETINGS _____

IIMC WORKSHOPS (DISTRICT MEETINGS) ATTENDED _____

MUNICIPAL CLERKS INSTITUTE ATTENDANCE (NUMBER OF YEARS AND CLASSES ATTENDED) _____

CERTIFICATION RECEIVED:

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

DATE OF CERTIFICATION _____

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE CONFERENCES ATTENDED _____

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

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT _____

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES _____

OTHER ACTIVITIES _____

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING NOMINATION _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

NOMINATOR: PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE THE REASONS WHY YOU BELIEVE YOUR NOMINEE SHOULD BE SELECTED AS THE 2019 MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR.

ACCRTA holds workshop at Lake DeGray



The Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) held a district workshop March 6-7 at Lake DeGray, hosting municipal clerks, recorders, treasurers, and others from around the state. Presenters included Kim Bruggeman, whose topic was the Affordable Care Act. City Clerks Diane Whitbey and Barbara Blackard conducted a session on agendas, packets, and minutes, and Arkansas Municipal League Attorney Lanny Richmond presented a

presentation on how codification works and why your city should do it.

The ACCRTA offers scholarships for sponsored workshops. For more information, see “ACCRTA scholarships available” on page 20 in this issue, or contact Paragould City Clerk Andrea Williams at (870) 239-7500, or by email at Andrea.Williams@Paragouldcity.org.

The next ACCRTA workshop will be held April 25-26 in Jonesboro. 🏛️

2019 Act 833 Deadline for Arkansas Fire Departments

The 2019 Act 833 application period will open **Jan. 1, 2019**, and will close **June 30, 2019**. Act 833 of 1992, “Funding for Fire Departments,” is administered by the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board (AFPSB) and requires all Arkansas fire departments to become certified in order to be eligible for funding. Certification requirements include possession of a NFPA 1901 compliant fire suppression apparatus, a minimum of six active members with 16 hours of certified training, and personal protective equipment (PPE) for all active members. New for 2019—Online application at the Arkansas Fire Portal arfire.arkansas.gov. To request log-in credentials contact your county LEMC/Fire Coordinator or State Fire Coordinator Kendell Snyder at (501) 683-6781 or email fire/emsservices@adem.arkansas.gov. 🏛️

Barbara Blackard

for IIMC Vice President

The Natural Choice from the Natural State!

- Serving for 24 years and counting as City Clerk/Treasurer for City of Clarksville, Arkansas, Barbara was elected in 1994.
- Has proudly served the Arkansas Municipal League on Advisory Council and Executive Committee for over 20 years.
- Served as Region IV District Director on the IIMC Board from 2008-2011.
- Served three terms as President for the Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association.
- Designated Master Municipal Clerk in 2008.
- Arkansas Clerk of the Year in 2003.
- Designated Certified Municipal Clerk in 1998.

#VoteBarbaraBlackard for Vice President of IIMC!

VoteBarbaraBlackard.com



#VoteBarbaraBlackard



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.



The State Aid Street Committee will soon be awarding grants for street projects in 2020. Since inception, this program has awarded 507 projects for a total of \$116.4 million in project funding. Additionally, improvements have been made to 635.3 miles of streets in cities and towns across Arkansas.

Apply today to improve your hometown's streets at citystreet.arkansas.gov.

Civic capital enhances cities' capacity to solve problems and thrive

By Doug Linkhart

What makes some communities better able than others to solve the tough social, political, economic, or physical challenges they face? This was a question the National Civic League set out to answer over 30 years ago. On-the-ground research revealed a set of factors that we call civic capital—the formal and informal relationships, networks, and capacities that communities use to make decisions collaboratively and solve problems.

Somewhat like social capital, but not to be confused with financial capital, civic capital can be found in all sorts of communities, not just the most affluent, educated, or advantaged. While myriad other factors contribute to community progress, civic capital is the core factor identified by the National Civic League as the primary explanation for long-term community success.

At the National Civic League, we know of many communities with an abundant supply of civic capital. The All-America City program has recognized over 500 of these communities during the past 69 years. All have varying degrees of civic engagement, collaboration, and leadership, and they have been able to tackle tough issues in a sustainable manner by bringing everyone to the table and creating equity.

Earlier this year the National Civic League released the fourth edition of the Civic Index, a self-assessment tool consisting of questions that provide a framework for discussing and measuring a community's civic capital. Since it was first developed in 1986, many communities have used the Civic Index to better understand their civic strengths and to identify gaps or areas in need of further attention, soliciting community input to create a baseline measure of their civic capital and monitor progress over time as they work to enhance their internal capacity.



The seven components of civic capital

The Civic Index describes the seven components of civic capital, provides examples of each, lists the 32 questions that are used to gauge each component, and provides ideas on how to use the index. Here's a synopsis of these seven components:

1. **Engaged residents:** Residents play an active role in making decisions and civic affairs.
2. **Inclusive community leadership—**The community actively cultivates and supports leaders from diverse backgrounds and with diverse perspectives.
3. **Collaborative institutions:** Communities with good civic capital have regular collaboration among the government, business, nonprofit, and other sectors, as well as structures in place that facilitate such collaboration.
4. **Embracing diversity and equity:** Communities with healthy civic capital recognize and celebrate their diversity. They strive for equity in services, support, and engagement.
5. **Authentic communication:** Healthy communities need credible, civic-minded sources of information presented in a way that residents can use.

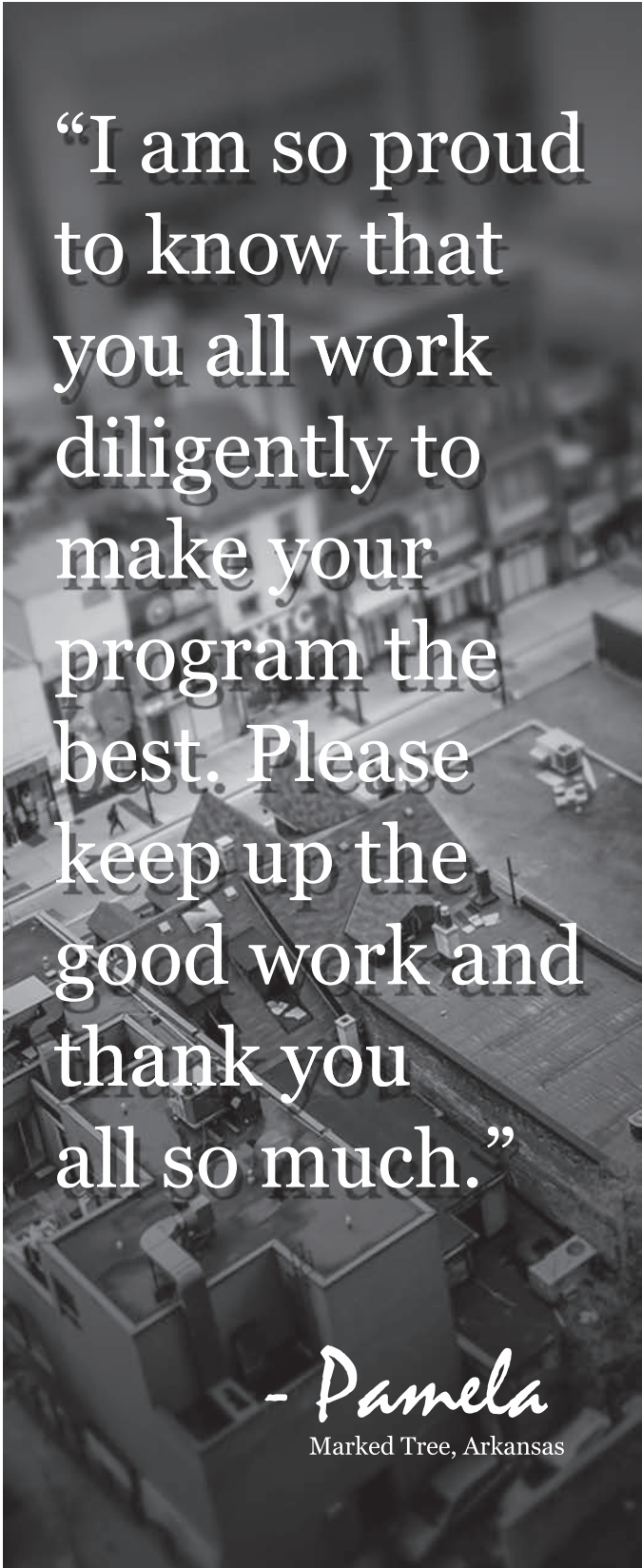
6. Culture of engagement: Involvement by residents, businesses, nonprofits, and other stakeholders in every aspect of civic affairs should be part of local culture—an expectation, not an afterthought.
7. Shared vision and values: Communities with shared values and civic pride have a common foundation for addressing public matters.

Nearly a hundred years ago, Justice Louis Brandeis, a one-time member of the National Civic League’s executive committee, called states “laboratories of democracy.” That mantle has now been passed to the local level, as cities, towns, and other local communities create innovations and regional or national networks to tackle such issues as climate change, health, education, and economic prosperity.

At the same time, local governments cannot solve problems on their own. As Bruce Katz points out in *The New Localism*, community problem-solving depends on “multi-sectoral relationships,” with government often serving as a convener or catalyst. What happens next depends on the civic capacity of the particular locality. It is the communities with civic capital—the full engagement and collaboration of its residents, businesses, nonprofits, and other stakeholders—that have the resources and persistence to successfully address difficult issues and build a sustainable future.

For a free copy of the National Civic League’s Civic Index, please visit www.nationalcivicleague.org/resource-center.

Doug Linkhart is president of the National Civic League.



“I am so proud to know that you all work diligently to make your program the best. Please keep up the good work and thank you all so much.”

- Pamela

Marked Tree, Arkansas

CenterPoint® Fund Accounting and Payroll Software



Distributed By

CSAsoftwaresolutions
Accounting & Billing Specialists

www.csasoftwaresolutions.com • 800.264.4465

To get your FREE guide visit: www.csasoftwaresolutions.com/fundaccounting



85th Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 12-14, 2019

MONTHS

02

DAYS

00

HOURS

00

Countdown to Convention.

June 12–14 in Little Rock, AR.

See next page for more information.

Register online at www.arml.org.

Contact Whitnee Bullerwell
at (501) 978-6105.

Cost for 10' x 10' exhibit space is \$550.
Cost for Large Equipment Space is \$1,100.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM IN BRIEF

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 12**

1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Registration and Exhibit Hall Open
Clerks Meeting
Training Sessions
Resolutions Committee Meeting
Opening Night Reception

**THURSDAY
JUNE 13**

7:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Host City Breakfast
Registration Open
Exhibits Open
General Sessions
Luncheon
Concurrent Workshops
Dinner on Your Own

**FRIDAY
JUNE 14**

7:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
7:00 a.m.-Noon
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Noon -1:30 p.m.

Breakfast
Registration Open
Annual Business Meetings
General Sessions
Awards and New Officers' Luncheon

RESOLUTIONS

Suggested Convention Resolutions for consideration at the 85th Annual Convention should be mailed to:
85th Convention Resolutions
Arkansas Municipal League
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

The deadline for Resolution submission is Wednesday, May 15.

Resolutions may be drafted by an official of any member city or town and can relate to any matter of municipal concern. See your **2018-2019 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 84th Convention.

WANTED: Elected City officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and began serving your city or town in 1994? The League would like to know.

The League will give special recognition to **elected city and town officials** who are in their 25th year of municipal service at the 85th League Convention, June 12-14, in Little Rock.

Names must be submitted to the League by May 15.

Call Whitnee Bullerwell at (501) 978-6105; Sheila Boyd, (501) 537-3785; or write to P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

At the 85th Convention, a special Exhibit Hall is available for businesses, companies and manufacturers to display their products and services that are available to Arkansas municipalities.

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

The cost this year is \$550 for a regular exhibit space or \$1,100 for a large exhibit space. We cannot guarantee space for companies that do not register before May 31.

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



85th Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel / Statehouse Convention Center, June 12-14, 2019

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, May 31, 2019, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.

Pre-registration for municipal officials	\$150
Registration fee after May 31, 2019 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Pre-registration for guests	\$75
Registration fee after May 31, 2019 , 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 **2019 General Acts Affecting Arkansas Municipalites**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after May 31, 2019.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **May 31, 2019.**
- **Marriott guests:** In order to avoid a cancellation penalty of one night's room and tax, reservations must be cancelled at least seven (7) days prior to arrival.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double	\$140	Check-in 3 p.m.
Capital Hotel		
Single/Double	\$189	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel		
Single/Double	\$146	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel		
Single/Double	\$109	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **May 31, 2019.**
- Rooms in Central Arkansas are subject to a 13.5 or 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.

Two ways to register

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

OR

2

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
 ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 85th Annual Convention
 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: _____ ICE Phone Number: _____

Step 2: Payment Information

• WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL?

<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
 85th Annual Convention
 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 HotelReservations.....(877) 759-6290

Capital HotelReservations.....(877) 637-0037 or (501) 374-7474

Doubletree HotelReservations.....(800) 222-8733 or (501) 372-4371

Wyndham HotelReservations.....(866) 657-4458 or (501) 371-9000

Special dietary needs:

- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Pescatarian
- Vegan

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

The 2019-2020 Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

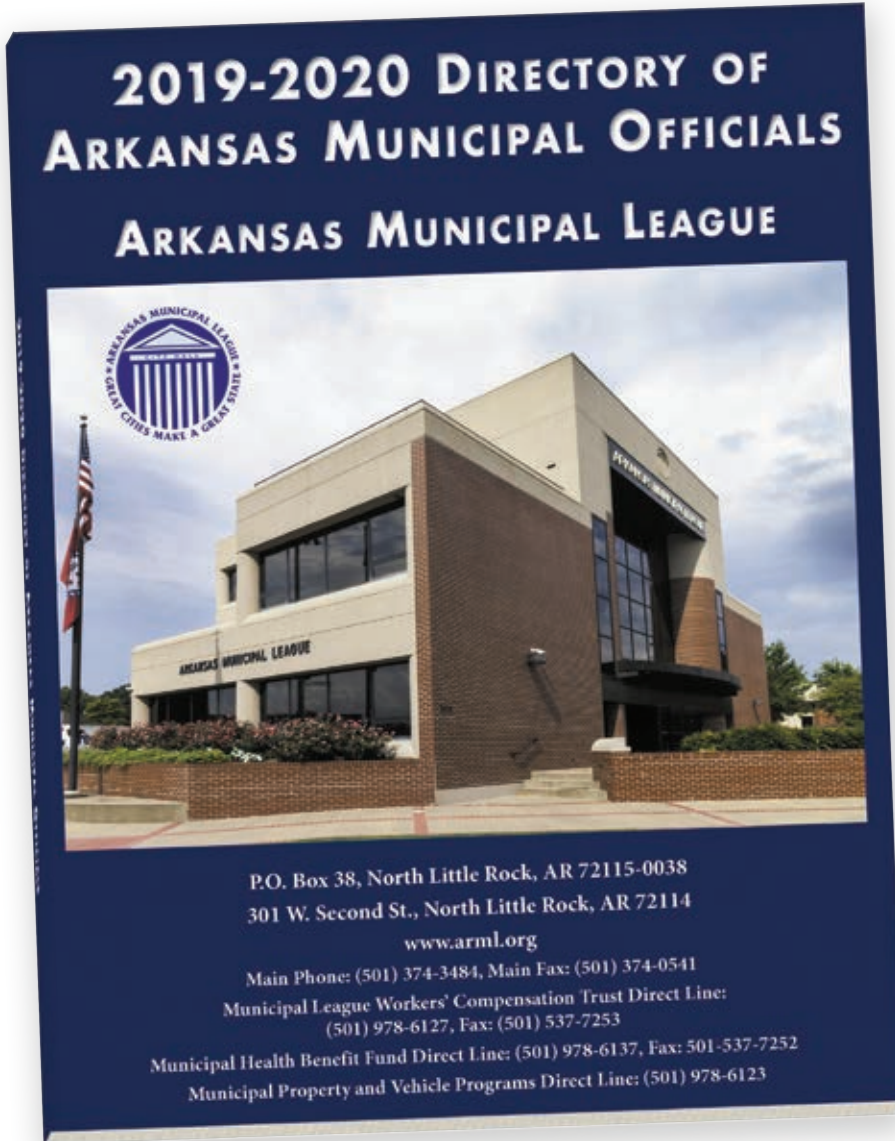
Don't be without the best resource for information on Arkansas cities. The Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials is published biennially by the Arkansas Municipal League.

Directory information on each incorporated Arkansas cities or town includes:

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

Order the Book for \$25 or the Seachable PDF for \$50 at the AML Web site at www.arml.org/store or call 501-374-3484.

Great Cities Make a Great State



Changes to the Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Allport

Delete M Ivory Gaston
 Add M Kenneth Raynor
 Delete CM Kenneth Raynor
 Add CM Robert Dockery
 Delete R/T (Vacant)
 Add R/T Jeremy Allen

Ash Flat

Delete CM Neil Camden
 Add CM (Vacant)

Barling

Delete ADM Mike Tanner
 Add ADM Steve Core
 Delete DPW Steve Core
 Add DPW (Vacant)

Bella Vista

Delete HRD Melissa Cruise
 Add HRD Glenda Kelderman

Bluff City

Delete CM Tanya Purifoy
 Add CM Sharon Meador

Clarendon

Delete C/T Deborah Thompson
 Add C/T (Vacant)

Conway

Delete PLD Bryan Patrick
 Add PLD James Walden

Cotton Plant

Add T Doris Wright
 Delete DJ Jay Eldridge
 Delete FC Jack Criswell
 Add FC (Vacant)
 Delete WS/WW Rodney Baldwin
 Delete CM Doyle Flanery
 Add CM (Vacant)

Gosnell

Delete CA Richard Reid
 Add CA (Vacant)
 Delete CEO Keith Hill
 Add CEO Stacy Bullard

Gould

Delete WS Frank Jones
 Add WS Charles James

Gravette

Delete FC Lonnie Mullen
 Add FC David Orr

Greenland

Delete CM Eric Bryant
 Add CM Diane Reed
 Delete CM (Vacant)

Harrison

Delete FC Marvin Holt
 Add FC Marc Lowery

Hermitage

Delete R/T Angela Dawson
 Add T Angela Dawson
 Add R Daphne Hargis

Hot Springs

Delete DCR Bill Burrough
 Add CR Bill Burrough

Jonesboro

Delete FD Trevor Harvey
 Add FD (Vacant)

Keiser

Delete CA Richard Reid
 Add CA (Vacant)

Lake Village

Delete C/T Deborah Oswalt
 Add C Deborah Oswalt
 Add FO (Vacant)

Murfreesboro

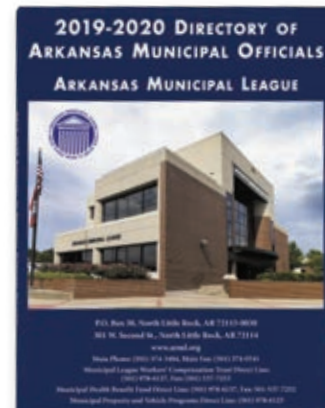
Delete CM Debbie Shukers
 Add CM (Vacant)

Rondo

Delete M Nathaniel Hull
 Add M Erma Watson-Williams
 Delete R/T Loretta Gray
 Add R/T Michelle Holden

Waldo

Delete PC John Witcher
 Add PC Reggie Ellis



Here to help: Spotlight on MHBP customer service

Health coverage can be difficult. There are lots of forms to be completed and submitted, volumes of text dedicated to explaining the many benefits and exclusions of your plan, and networks of providers and hospitals to navigate. Add to this the financial obligations attached to visiting a doctor or receiving treatment of one kind or another, and the process of accessing healthcare can seem downright daunting at times.



To make the process less cumbersome, The Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP) is always on call to assist our members. Our top-notch customer service team is dedicated to not only helping you better understand your benefits, but to protecting your pocketbook as well.

Place a quick call or email to our customer service team to:

- Receive an explanation of your benefits—we will not only provide a copy of your EOB, but we will walk through it with you as well to help you understand why some services were paid while others were not, and to explain your financial responsibility within the plan.
- Check the status of a pending claim or claims.
- Pre-certify or find out if a test or procedure is a covered benefit prior to it being performed.
- Learn more about a provider, and whether your chosen provider is in-network or out-of-network.
- Ask questions regarding your eligibility, including coordination of benefits. New to MHBP? Call customer service to determine when you're eligible to receive benefits. If you carry more than one health policy, customer service can help you determine which carrier is primary.
- Understand the ins and outs of your benefits. When in doubt, give us a call.

Our customer service team can be reached by calling (501) 978-6137 (select Option 1). ☎

CLE offered during League's 85th Convention

Twelve hours of continuing legal education (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the 85th Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 12-14 at the Statehouse Convention Center and Marriott Hotel in Little Rock. The Arkansas City Attorney's Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE.

Connie Barksdale, city attorney for Cave City and the current ACAA president, urges members to register for the Convention as soon as possible.

The 12 hours will be offered June 13 and 14, and the tentative agenda includes case law updates, sign ordinance revisions, Act 779 of 1999, legislative process and updates, and federal court practice presented by a panel of federal court judges. The program will also include at least one hour of ethics.

Held in conjunction with the League's 85th Convention, all CLE classes will be located at the League's headquarters in North Little Rock. CLE will tentatively begin at 8 a.m. Thursday, June 13. If you

have not pre-registered, you may do so starting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 12 at the Statehouse Convention Center. Registered city attorneys attending Thursday and Friday classes can pick up registration materials at the League headquarters on Thursday or Friday, or from 1-7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12 at the Statehouse Convention Center.

To attend the CLE program, registration is required. If you have not pre-registered, you may do so online with a credit card at www.cvent.com/d/v6qq10, or download the registration form from www.arml.org. Deadline for pre-registration is May 31. For registration information, call Whitnee Bullerwell at (501) 374-3484 Ext. 206. For CLE information call John Wilkerson at (501) 978-6136 or Jamie Adams at (501) 978-6124. ☎





GREEN COMMUNITIES BY DESIGN



craftontull.com/insights



Crafton Tull
architecture | engineering | surveying



TREASURY MANAGEMENT WITH LOCAL, PERSONAL SERVICE

If you're looking for customized solutions to your unique business needs, Arvest offers our trusted team of advisors for treasury management. We get to know your business and its challenges, and develop strategies that help you focus on your work, including:

- Payroll Solutions
- Cash Flow Management
- Fraud Detection & Deterrent
- Account Reconciliation
- Payment & Collection Services
- Business Accounts

To find out how we can help your business, visit us today!

(501) 379-7277
arvest.com

ARVEST
BANK

Member FDIC



PHOTO BY ANDREW MORGAN.

A joint use agreement between Bryant and its school system gives competitive swimmers access to the city-owned aquatic center.

Joint use agreements improve access to local amenities

By Greta Hacker

Recreational opportunities have a direct effect on the economic vitality of communities. Easier access to recreation can improve citizens' well being, which makes for a healthier and happier workforce. In addition, strategically planned and maintained built environments can increase a community's desirability to attract potential residents, bringing more economic activity into the area.

Local leaders are improving community access to recreational spaces through the adoption of formal policies known as joint use agreements (JUA). Enacted in tandem by two or more government entities (usually a school and a city government), the JUA outlines the provisions for shared utilization of public recreational facilities. Many of these agreements allow for expanded use of school or community facilities (gymnasiums, playgrounds, basketball or tennis courts, and walking tracks). This includes making school facilities open to the public after school hours and allowing school groups to use public recreation centers as spaces to exercise. In some cases, localities adopt JUAs to encourage the construction or renovation of recreational spaces in their communities.

Although JUAs can work in many different communities, this technique is especially useful in smaller cities and towns with government entities and school

districts that have difficulty providing funding or resources for recreational space on their own. The city of Lake Village exemplifies this type of community. Although Lake Village has many assets, maintaining and improving those assets can be challenging given competing city needs, like sewer and water improvements. Through a JUA, the city is immersed in planning to construct a multi-use sports field on a 12-acre plot of undeveloped city-owned land. School sports teams in Lake Village will practice and compete in this new public recreational area.

Dr. Jennifer Conner, regional program associate for obesity reduction at the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, spoke to the JUA's success in helping Lake Village make more efficient use of its assets. Conner noted that the JUA arose out of an issue of insufficient space for school sports leagues.

"This planning process helped our city consider how to best use community space in the absence of school resources," Conner said. "This project also raised the question, 'What does community shared space look like?' and prompted us to more strategically plan land use in our community."

The Lake Village City Council has adopted a formal joint use policy. Conner emphasized that the city is excited to propel the multi-use field initiative forward and

to continue developing strategies for creating innovative recreational spaces.

Many communities in Arkansas have utilized this technique to improve access to recreation in a variety of ways. For example, the city of Bryant entered into an agreement that allowed their high school swim team to utilize a community aquatics center. This gave high school athletes greater opportunities to succeed through access to a proper practice and competition facility. Another example of this policy's success is in the city of Springdale, which adopted a JUA to construct walking tracks around school-owned playgrounds. This allowed for adults to safely exercise in tandem with their children and facilitated more efficient use of community space.

The Arkansas Department of Education offers numerous resources for communities looking to improve access to recreation through its JUA grant program. About 15 Arkansas communities a year receive up to \$30,000 to support projects that increase community access to recreational space. The program also directs resources to areas that need them most by awarding grants to communities with low income and high levels of obesity.

Jerri Clark, school health services director at the Arkansas Department of Education, explained that the grant program is particularly effective in helping develop long-term investments in community health.

"The joint use agreement program aims to increase access to physical activity through a sustainable partnership. It helps schools and community partners formalize the process of sharing recreational space and supports efficient, continuous collaboration," Clark said. "Through this program, communities can work towards putting foundational pieces in place for more effective use of their existing resources."

Many communities across the state can benefit from the intentional planning and meaningful collaboration JUAs facilitate. To learn more about what your community can do to put a JUA into practice and receive grant funding, contact Jerri Clark at jerri.clark@arkansas.gov.



Greta Hacker is the University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development spring 2019 intern. To contact the Center's staff, please visit uca.edu/cced/facultystaff.

We engineered a system to cool a campus, reduce water usage, and save energy.

**NOW
THAT'S
CHILL.**

Kansas State Chilled Water / Manhattan, Kansas

olsson[®]

We're Olsson, engineers who understand that where there's a project, there's a purpose. Discover why students at Kansas State University are happier than ever at olsson.com.



PHOTO BY DUBS BYERS, FORMER MAYOR OF GOULD.

If we could only talk to buildings such as these in Norfolk, oh the stories they could tell.

Information and where we get it

By Jim von Tungeln

The digital age has brought substantial benefits to the practice of urban planning, and not a few challenges. Both the benefits and challenges involve the amount of information available. It is plentiful and often free. But weeding through it all and deciding what to believe in and use can lead to confusion, doubt, and, sometimes, inaction. It makes us wonder what we should be depending on, or to whom should we be talking.

First, we seem almost to be drowning in statistical data. This trend became obvious in the 1960s when computers first organized Census data. Census publications printed socio-economic data by census-tract, and sometimes even by block or level. Planners rejoiced, but it also created consternation among some residents of so-called “sundown towns” around the country. They noticed a tiny percentage of minority families reported as living within their communities. It turned out that those primitive computers wouldn’t register a “zero.” Crisis averted.

Easy-to-access data promised great benefits in what was the apex of the grant era. The data only appeared in what was known then as “printed” form but now merits the somewhat disparaging term “hard copy.” Still, planners found it helpful although they soon learned that grant application forms rarely, if ever, requested data from any form available within Census publications. Compliance often required extrapolation, estimation, or downright prevarication. Welcome to the Information Age.

Other sources of information in the planning function are less statistical than personal. For example, both

planning commissioners and elected decision-makers talk to support staff. Their input should be worthwhile, based on their experience and education. They include professionals in a number of fields, chief among those the legal one. We talk to professionals to learn. We talk to attorneys also to stay out of court.

Often, if our city can afford it, we talk to outside consultants and experts. They can provide highly specialized information. They can also provide useful insight once they realize that an Arkansas city, particularly in our Delta region, doesn’t operate under the same socio-economic dynamics as affluent cities on our nation’s east coast.

In short, we talk to lots of people, or should, in trying to help our own cities prosper.

We talk to folks in other cities. That might help. It might also lead to the passing along of bad ideas from those who had gotten information from another city who got the information from another city who got it from ... who knows where? Years ago, there was a typographical error that appeared in more than half the zoning codes of the state, undetected and resulting from the tendency to “see what [another city] is doing.”

We talk to the ethically challenged to avoid being cheated. There was a case in our state in which a clerical worker copied digital files from her firm, left, became a “consultant,” and sold a city of 400 population a “find-and-replace” zoning code. She picked up a quick \$5,000 from a grant program available at the time, then disappeared. The problem? The original code came from a city of 13,000 population. What could possibly have been amiss?

We talk to community leaders because we must. They have good, often practical ideas. Further, not much goes forward without their concurrence.

We talk to activists and representatives of special interest groups because they have insights that we might overlook, insights that affect portions of the population that we might ignore. At the same time, we communicate to them that there are concerns affecting the city-whole that cannot be overlooked. We talk about the need to balance group-specific needs with citywide needs.

We talk to real estate professionals, including appraisers. They know what's working in our city and what's not. They know where and how much people will invest in our city. They don't operate under the "build it and they will come" philosophy. They operate under the "fix it or they won't come" philosophy.

We talk to neighbors who might or might not be affected by planning proposals. We listen to them, as a legendary Arkansas planner once said, when asked about it in court, "... to the extent that their concerns are based on facts, reality, and sound reasoning."

We talk to developers because they are the only ones who may risk all they own in order to invest in our city. Our goal should be to seek a safe common ground where both the citizens and the builders profit from plans and neither suffers disproportionately.

We talk to those who have served in the trenches before us. Trends change. Movements change. Attitudes change. Power brokers change. But sound advice based on eternal truths never goes stale.

We talk to lawmakers, for they should be as vitally interested in building great cities in our state as we are.

We talk to educators. They need to know what their students need to know and we need to know what their students think.

We talk to dreamers, for sometimes they can see beyond the harrowing concerns of day-to-day municipal governance.

We talk to opponents of government, for they will point out to us the faults in our plans.

We talk to those who are successful in the trades, for they are experts at the most vital level of urban economics and can give us details about the condition of our municipality's middle class, or what is needed to build one.

We talk to those who manage money, for we need to learn the secrets.

We talk to people on the street. They may say things such as a woman said to the author when asked how much community involvement she engaged in, "Mister, I work two jobs to feed my boys and me and pay the rent. I keep them locked inside for safety when I'm gone and I don't have time to engage with anyone else." We don't learn things like that from out-of-town experts.

And so it goes. There is no shortage of information available to us. Much is positive. Some is not. Some is helpful but may have hidden dangers of which we are unaware. For example, large progressive cities have embraced "smart" technology that can monitor, for planners, items as diverse as localized traffic congestion and specific health needs among the population. Opponents appear, though, who are concerned that such information flow acts in both directions—what we gain in useful data we may lose in individual privacy. It seems that nothing associated with urban planning is simple.

We must also deal with those who think that it is simple. They offer us opinions on every topic from spending money to preventing blight, simple solutions that germinate from superficial insight. They make us recall the oft-quoted observation of Bill Bullard Jr., a former member of both houses of the Michigan Legislature. He observed: "Opinion is really the lowest form of human knowledge. It requires no accountability, no understanding. The highest form of knowledge is empathy, for it requires us to suspend our egos and live in another's world. It requires profound purpose larger than the self-kind of understanding."

While there may be truth in that, responsible decision-makers value both forms of knowledge in dealing with urban problems. We should constantly seek an appropriately wide range of input to ensure balanced decisions. Our success as planners may depend on it.



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.

Is vaping better than smoking cigarettes or cigars?

By Pebbles Fagan, Ph.D., M.P.H.

In recent years, many people have asked whether using electronic cigarettes or vaping devices are better than using cigarettes or cigars. The bottom line is that both are bad for your health.

We have celebrated the progress made across the United States in the last 50 years to reduce the cigarette-smoking rate in half. However, over the last decade, we have seen a growth in the electronic cigarette market and increase in use, particularly among youth.

What are e-cigs?

E-cigarettes first came on the market around 2007. They go by many names including cigalikes, e-cigs, e-hookah, mods, vape pens, vapes, vaporizers, tank systems, electronic cigarette delivery devices (ENDS). But, they all work the same way. A battery-powered device heats a liquid that usually contains nicotine, flavorings, propylene glycol, vegetable glycerin, sweeteners, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and other chemicals, some unknown. The heating device turns the liquid into a “vapor” and users take a drag and inhale the vapor into the lungs. Exhaling usually releases a vapor-like cloud resembling smoke.

Like cigarettes, e-cigarettes deliver nicotine, a highly addictive chemical found in the tobacco plant. Nicotine is more addictive than crack cocaine and heroin. The strength of nicotine can vary from 3 mg/ml to 64 mg/ml. The over 7,000 flavors of e-cigarette liquid are quite appealing to youth. E-cigarette companies also advertise them as safer than traditional cigarettes because they do not burn tobacco.

Uncrowned JUUL

The largest segment of the e-cigarette market today is controlled by the JUUL Labs brand, and this is worrisome for many reasons. These devices are easy to conceal, and, partly for that reason, are favored by minors. They look like a large USB drive and can be charged on any computer to heat the liquid using this battery-powered device. It is hard to detect an odor or vapor like other e-cigarettes.

A single JUUL pod contains about 50 mg/ml of nicotine—the same amount as a pack of cigarettes. While bottled e-liquids can be purchased at that strength, they are most commonly purchased at only a fraction of that

strength—3-12mg/ml of nicotine. JUUL advertises that its products contain 5 percent nicotine, leading consumers to think their products are within that more common lower range rather than 50 mg/ml.

Recently, JUUL began offering several of its flavors in 3 percent nicotine strength, which is about 30 mg/ml of nicotine. The JUUL and its imitators have led to an increase in e-cigarette use among minors. We estimate a 21 percent increase in e-cigarette use among minors in Arkansas during 2018, compared to only a 6 percent growth among adults. That’s alarming, especially after several decades of cigarette use dropping among teens.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has proposed steps to help curb the e-cigarette epidemic among youth, including the use of JUUL. The agency has suggested restrictions on over-the-counter sale of most flavors and also suggested that more be done to verify the age of those who buy them. However, it could be two years before any real changes go into effect.

Does vaping help you stop smoking?

While we would love to see people stop smoking cigarettes, studies show that many end up using both cigarettes and electronic cigarettes, which could potentially be more harmful than using either tobacco product alone.

Also, when refilling e-cigarettes, nicotine can often get on your hands and absorb into the skin. Nicotine poisoning can cause nausea, vomiting, or more severe conditions in children. The American Association of Poison Control Centers reported over 3,000 exposure cases of e-cigarette and liquid nicotine in 2018, some requiring emergency room visits.

It is important to remember that nicotine ingested through vaping narrows blood vessels, increases the heart rates, and increases the risk for heart attacks. The fact is there is no safe tobacco product.

Any use of any tobacco product will increase your risk for diseases, and who would want that?



Pebbles Fagan, Ph.D., M.P.H., is the director of the UAMS Center for the Study of Tobacco in the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health. She has more than 20 years of doing research on cigarettes and other tobacco products.

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT

ametrucks.com

501-425-1567

Daniel Ellison



LOOK

NJPA

National Joint Powers Alliance®

contracts on
Refuse Trucks,
Knuckle Boom Trucks
and Refuse Carts.



**PROVIDING QUALITY REFUSE AND RECYCLING EQUIPMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES.
MUNICIPAL LEASING OPTIONS IN THE NJPA.**





This field inside the city limits of Conway has been completely taken over by invasive Callery pear trees, which have choked out native species and provide little support for wildlife.

PHOTOS BY KRISTA QUINN.

Invasive species: Beauty or beast?

By Krista Quinn

We often discuss the many ways that trees benefit communities, such as cleaning the air we breathe and the water we drink, helping prevent street flooding, and promoting economic growth. However, several tree species have been identified as invasive and are wreaking havoc in cities, on farms, and in natural areas. It is best to avoid planting these trees and also remove any that are currently growing.

Some trees known to be particularly invasive in Arkansas include tree-of-heaven, chinaberry, mimosa, Bradford or other Callery pears, Chinese tallow (also known as popcorn tree), royal paulownia (also known as empress tree), and Siberian elm. These trees are not native to Arkansas, which is part of the reason they have become invasive. Since these trees were originally from other parts of the world, they have very few natural pests in Arkansas to control their populations. Many of these trees were also intentionally brought to the United States as ornamentals and are not accidental introductions.

“Many people don’t realize that these early blooming pear trees are actually a menace to the community,” says Regine Skelton, county forester in Clark and Garland counties with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. “The seeds are widely dispersed by birds in parks, fields, along right-of-ways, and in other natural areas where landowners have a really hard time controlling their spread.”

One of the main concerns with these non-native, invasive trees is that they reproduce aggressively and thus compete heavily for

important plant resources such as water, light, and nutrients. This robs our native trees of these limited resources to the point that many natives struggle to survive or simply never get a chance to grow. Many invasive trees grow very densely in the wild, literally choking out native plants.

Most invasive plants also do little to support wildlife. Our native wildlife species depend on native plants for food and habitat, but non-native plants disrupt the balance in our ecosystems. As mentioned earlier, invasive species generally have few insect pests. Yet, our songbirds rely on insects for food. When there is an abundance of non-native plants that do not support



PHOTOS BY KRISTA QUINN.

The invasive, ornamental pear on this side of the fence was planted as part of the landscape at an apartment complex, and now seedling pears have sprouted on the other side of the fence, creating a nuisance for the adjacent property owners.



PHOTO BY KEITH BRESHEARS.

These invasive Chinese tallow trees were recently removed from a city park in Crossett.

insect populations, many birds then struggle to survive in areas once abundant in food.

Many bird populations have declined dramatically since the 1960s, researchers have reported. While multiple factors have contributed to this decline, the use of non-native plants in urban and rural landscaping has been found to have a significant negative impact on the breeding success of many birds. Other wildlife that rely on acorns or other fruits and seeds of native trees are also negatively affected when invasive trees take over lands once covered by native plants.

Some places in Arkansas are so thoroughly dominated by invasive plants that it can be difficult to imagine ever eliminating the plants or even getting them under control. Certain communities also have such a large percentage of invasive trees on both public and private land that it would be devastating to lose such large amounts of canopy cover at one time.

“It’s a daunting task in many areas, but we must start somewhere,” Skelton says. “We need to ensure that residents can identify problem species so they can start recognizing the prevalence and resulting problems these invasives are creating. I’d like to see nurseries stop selling invasive plants and homeowners start planting more native species.”

In addition to not planting invasive species, people can also remove those that are already growing on their property. However, many invasive trees can be difficult

to kill. Landowners with large numbers of invasive trees can contact their local Arkansas Forestry Commission office for advice on controlling the trees.

“In general, invasive trees should be cut down and the stump immediately treated with herbicide,” Skelton says. “Any root sprouts should be sprayed with herbicide until it finally gives up. Blocking all light to the root stump can be effective at stopping root sprouting for those who want to avoid herbicides. Landscapers love these trees because they are hard to kill, so it often takes a year or two to completely kill the root system of these stubborn trees.”

Skelton recommends replacing invasive plants with native trees such as serviceberries, red buds, yellowwoods, and red buckeyes for their spring flowers. While dogwoods are wonderful spring-blooming natives, she notes that they can be difficult to grow. Other native trees to consider are American hornbeam, sassafras, Kentucky coffeetree, thornless honeylocust, and blackgum. Oaks are the most common native trees in Arkansas with thirty different species growing in the wild, and Skelton says she would like to see even more oaks planted in cities and towns.

“Many people avoid planting oaks because they think they’re too big or grow slow,” she says. “However, oaks are among the best trees to plant because they’re naturally common across the state, so birds and other wildlife evolved to rely on them heavily, and they tend to grow happily on our soils. Some oak species are large, but there are others that stay around 50 feet. No matter the space you have available, there should be a native tree that is well suited. The Arkansas Forestry Commission’s urban forestry representatives are happy to offer information or advice on selecting the best tree for your planting location.”

While most trees are valuable in communities, non-native invasive trees can do a lot of harm and should not be planted. Property owners can also benefit from learning to identify invasive trees and taking steps to remove any growing on their properties. Many conservation organizations and watershed protection groups also hold volunteer events to remove invasive plants in parks and other public green spaces. Landowners with large tracts infested with invasive species can reach out to their local Natural Resources Conservation Service office to inquire about cost-share opportunities through the Forest Stand Improvement practice within the Environmental Quality Incentive Program.



Krista Quinn is the Urban Forestry Program Coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Contact Krista at (479) 228-7929 or Krista.Quinn@arkansas.gov.

Pavement surface treatments help save cities' largest assets

By Jack Branscum, PE, CFM

Changing the oil in a car, painting the outside of a house, and applying lotion to dry skin are simple tasks we do to keep the things we've invested in working well and looking good. The street network is often a city's largest asset. It stands to reason that we should work to preserve the pavement in order to extend its life for as long as possible, in order to get the best use out of taxpayer money.

Pavement preservation uses one or more of a variety of asphalt surface treatments in order to extend the life of the pavement beyond its initial 10- to 20-year life expectancy. All too often cities wait until a street fails to address any of its problems, and that adds to the cost. A street costs approximately \$5 a square foot to reconstruct, as opposed to \$0.50 to \$2 for surface treatments that keep it in good driving condition.

An asphalt roadway consists of four main layers: soil subgrade, sub-base, base course, and surface course. Soil subgrade and sub-base failures result in structural deficiencies and no amount of surface treatment is going to correct them. However, surface stresses in the surface course such as longitudinal cracking, transverse cracking, block cracking, fatigue cracking, thermal cracking, and reflective cracking are prime candidates for early treatment in order to keep the pavement in good shape by preventing ingress of water. The type of surface treatment used will depend on the needs of the pavement. Let's look at some of the options available.

Crack seal

Asphalt pavement is prone to surface cracking, which can lead to serious pavement failure including potholes and sub-base failure. Crack sealing is a labor-intensive but cost-effective way to keep a street in good driving condition by filling cracks greater than 1/8-inch. While not aesthetically pleasing, this treatment can extend a pavement's usable life by three to five years, and when a de-tacking agent is used it can be opened to traffic quickly after application.



Fog seal

A fog seal is a single application of emulsified asphalt applied to an existing asphalt surface that is in good condition. Being able to rejuvenate the asphalt surface with a fog seal helps fight oxidation and gives a better appearance. The emulsified asphalt will also seal more cracks and combat raveling, adding an additional approximately two to four years to the street.



Slurry seal

A road in slightly worse condition than what a fog seal can cure may call for a slurry seal. This surface treatment is also for asphalt pavements in relatively good condition. By providing skid resistance, restricting moisture intrusion, protecting the structure from further oxidation and raveling, and restoring a uniform black appearance, a slurry seal can extend the life of the pavement by five to seven years. Typically, traffic can return one to four hours after application.



Micro surface

Micro surface is a mixture of polymer-modified asphalt emulsion, mineral aggregate, water, and additives designed to extend the life of asphalt pavement by increasing skid resistance, keeping moisture out, protecting against oxidation and raveling, and giving a uniform black coating. When a roadway is in need of leveling, micro surfacing can be a cost-effective solution. Micro surfacing can add six to eight years of usable life to a roadway and traffic typically can return within one hour after construction.



Chip seal

Chip sealing is a reliable method of surface maintenance utilized mainly on rural roadways. A chip seal is a two-step surface treatment where a layer of asphalt binder is applied to the existing surface and a layer of embedded aggregate is immediately spread on top. Chip seals add skid resistant surfaces that help prevent further raveling and seal minor cracks. Polymer-modified asphalt can be used in a chip seal binder to improve aggregate retention and shorten the curing time. Chip seals aren't recommended in urban setting because they create a louder driving surface. Chip seals aren't terribly bicycle-friendly either, as they potentially create flying debris.

Scrub seal

A scrub seal is also a two-step surface treatment similar to a chip seal treatment, differing only by the broom sled that is pulled by the asphalt distributor. The broom sled guides the emulsion into cracks to ensure the roadway is sealed. A scrub seal placed at the right time can extend the life of the roadway by six to seven years.



Before and after a scrub seal.

Cape seal

A cape seal is a multi-step surface treatment that involves placing a chip seal on the existing roadway, then coming back over the surface with a micro surface or a slurry seal. A cape seal is designed to extend the life of pavements by eight to 10 years. This treatment can be performed in urban settings where chip seals alone are not appropriate but the need for sealing cracks is warranted.

Scrub cape seal

A scrub cape seal is the combination of the scrub seal and a micro surface or a slurry seal. Scrub Cape seals offer similar advantages as the cape seal while minimizing any loose aggregate. Both the cape seal and the scrub cape seal result in a smoother and quieter driving surface.

Full-depth reclamation

When it's too late for surface treatments, an economical, long-lasting, and greener alternative to complete reconstruction is full-depth reclamation (FDR), an engineered rehabilitation technique where the full thickness of the asphalt pavement and a predetermined portion of the underlying materials (base, sub-base and/or subgrade) is uniformly pulverized and blended with cement to provide an upgraded, homogeneous material. The reclaimed materials may be strengthened by using mechanical, chemical, or bituminous stabilization. FDR can provide up to 25 years of life extension and is 40 to 80 percent less expensive than traditional reconstruction techniques.

Pavement management is an important task for every city and town. With the needs of deteriorating streets often surpassing available budgets, utilizing these surface treatment methods can extend the life of our streets while saving money.




Jack Branscum is a professional engineer and certified floodplain manager with MCE's Transportation Department and works out of the Fayetteville office. Contact Jack by phone at (479) 443-2377 or email him at jbranscum@mce.us.com.



mce.us.com
Little Rock: 501.371.0272
Fayetteville: 479.443.2377
Ft. Smith: 479.434.5333

Transportation Services

-  Roadway Design
-  Intersection Design
-  Roundabout Design
-  Signalization
-  Traffic Studies
-  Roadway Rehabilitation
-  Pavement Management
-  Drainage Design
-  Construction Engineering
-  Trails & Streetscapes
-  Construction Materials Testing
-  Associated Utility Design

2019 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
January	\$5.3807	\$5.662	\$0.2314	\$0.246	\$2.1460	\$2.145
February	\$5.7121	\$5.675	\$0.2181	\$0.096	\$1.0867	\$1.087
March	\$4.9583	\$5.085	\$0.2452	\$0.438	\$1.0870	\$1.087
April	\$5.3609		\$0.2342		\$1.0854	
May	\$5.6871		\$0.2369		\$1.0859	
June	\$5.6422		\$0.1786		\$1.0872	
July	\$5.9048		\$0.1625		\$2.9589	
August	\$5.5464		\$0.1504		\$0.9368	
September	\$5.5992		\$0.1999		\$1.0873	
October	\$5.7310		\$0.1746		\$1.0871	
November	\$5.2853		\$0.2317		\$1.0869	
December	\$5.4642		\$0.2511		\$1.0871	
Total Year	\$66.2722	\$16.422	\$2.5145	\$0.780	\$15.8224	\$4.320

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
January	\$10,171,403.10	\$10,702,464.91	\$437,461.72	\$464,101.95	*\$4,056,771.18	*\$4,054,867.57
February	\$10,797,904.69	\$10,728,532.32	\$412,277.48	\$181,468.75	\$2,054,332.65	\$2,055,501.82
March	\$9,372,912.56	\$9,611,591.51	\$463,496.06	\$828,851.20	\$2,054,888.05	\$2,055,055.19
April	\$10,133,933.55		\$442,746.74		\$2,051,743.46	
May	\$10,750,634.53		\$447,755.63		\$2,052,679.36	
June	\$10,665,832.80		\$337,582.28		\$2,055,168.34	
July	\$11,162,170.00		\$307,247.09		** \$5,593,456.00	
August	\$10,484,657.00		\$284,348.41		\$1,770,842.80	
September	\$10,584,484.30		\$377,800.40		\$2,055,387.11	
October	\$10,833,617.52		\$330,015.80		\$2,054,971.77	
November	\$9,991,022.76		\$438,040.74		\$2,054,702.54	
December	\$10,329,322.67		\$474,599.17		\$2,054,975.16	
Total Year	\$125,277,895.48	\$31,042,588.74	\$4,753,371.52	\$1,474,421.90	\$29,909,918.42	\$8,165,424.58

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

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

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2019 with 2018 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$59,187,540	\$59,272,899	\$49,660,885	\$50,925,990	\$108,848,426	\$110,198,889	\$188,294	\$68,417
February	\$66,363,635	\$63,961,892	\$55,082,773	\$56,034,012	\$121,446,409	\$119,995,904	\$265,350	\$76,180
March	\$55,016,953	\$51,260,662	\$49,926,480	\$44,932,987	\$104,943,433	\$96,193,649	\$241,046	\$79,235
April		\$51,354,831		\$45,689,403		\$97,044,234		\$79,564
May		\$60,844,519		\$53,613,192		\$114,457,712		\$75,253
June		\$56,373,987		\$48,955,855		\$105,329,842		\$71,501
July		\$59,973,977		\$52,379,093		\$112,353,069		\$84,551
August		\$60,174,400		\$52,922,077		\$113,096,478		\$79,558
September		\$58,128,177		\$51,260,076		\$109,388,253		\$111,033
October		\$60,197,608		\$52,310,178		\$112,507,786		\$174,353
November		\$57,456,746		\$50,423,804		\$107,880,551		\$202,659
December		\$59,269,564		\$50,277,652		\$109,547,217		\$208,901
Total	\$180,568,129	\$698,269,264	\$154,670,139	\$609,724,320	\$335,238,267	\$1,307,993,584	\$694,690	\$1,311,205
Averages	\$60,189,376	\$58,189,105	\$51,556,713	\$50,810,360	\$111,746,089	\$108,999,465	\$231,563	\$109,267

Correction: In the February and March issues, the Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas chart mistakenly featured totals from 2017 rather than 2018 in the previous year comparison column (shaded gray). The charts have been corrected in the online versions of the two issues, available at www.arml.org/services/publications/city-town.

March 2019 Municipal Levy Receipts and March 2019 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2018 Comparison (shaded gray)

CITY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Garfield	10,469.14	7,638.39	Mountainburg	11,226.06	11,448.11	COUNTY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR
Alexander	103,015.79	64,006.87	Garland	2,628.53	1,509.58	Mulberry	63,819.17	23,383.92	Arkansas County	299,248.07	297,089.40
Alma	200,621.06	197,929.09	Gassville	16,597.87	15,689.70	Murfreesboro	25,611.45	26,432.12	Ashley County	212,160.56	211,349.40
Almyra	2,491.18	3,345.22	Gentry	70,533.80	50,436.45	Nashville	109,230.86	108,485.47	Crossett	51,630.31	51,432.92
Alpena	5,142.16	4,699.28	Gilbert	91.48	140.13	Newport	165,676.02	297,249.14	Fountain Hill	1,640.69	1,634.42
Altheimer	2,028.82	2,051.70	Gillett	8,680.55	9,944.14	Norfork	3,673.95	3,623.81	Hamburg	26,785.51	26,683.10
Altus	6,145.02	5,470.25	Gillham	3,555.79	2,943.13	Norman	2,804.96	3,307.99	Montrose	3,318.89	3,306.20
Amity	37,417.69	9,901.45	Gilmore	396.77	282.31	North Little Rock	2,746,557.90	2,522,986.77	Parkdale	2,596.99	2,587.06
Anthonyville	1,057.81	885.58	Glenwood	62,578.34	58,804.15	Oak Grove	982.03	876.96	Portland	4,031.42	4,016.01
Arkadelphia	162,999.49	168,732.77	Goshen	8,059.73	NA	Oak Grove Heights	5,960.74	6,010.48	Wilmore	5,156.47	5,136.75
Ash Flat	78,962.87	81,204.26	Gosnell	13,610.70	12,432.28	Ola	17,652.22	15,879.24	Baxter County	428,946.96	283,799.61
Ashdown	124,830.55	118,371.77	Gould	12,867.80	11,663.71	Oppelo	4,032.30	3,165.24	Big Flat	1,298.58	1,231.08
Atkins	55,220.06	51,205.48	Grady	4,945.02	2,067.02	Osceola	89,202.21	82,257.57	Briarcliff	2,946.78	2,793.61
Augusta	22,013.05	23,144.27	Gravette	88,517.47	84,805.52	Oxford	1,705.08	1,751.68	Cotter	12,111.77	11,482.19
Austin	30,280.66	27,269.60	Green Forest	100,694.49	80,743.20	Ozark	175,408.48	114,036.46	Gassville	25,946.65	24,597.94
Avoca	6,349.71	5,658.55	Greenbrier	221,260.71	157,627.73	Palestine	21,555.34	20,943.41	Lakeview	9,252.39	8,771.45
Bald Knob	45,156.53	44,081.07	Greenland	29,092.59	26,923.14	Pangburn	6,933.99	6,375.57	Mountain Home	155,430.18	147,350.89
Barling	56,597.46	44,590.99	Greenwood	202,611.54	203,217.81	Paragould	293,646.66	278,353.74	Norfolk	6,380.53	6,048.87
Batesville	593,085.68	577,357.55	Greers Ferry	16,291.32	15,650.16	Paris	74,190.61	73,804.34	Salesville	5,618.85	5,326.79
Bauxite	10,654.26	12,502.87	Guion	7,279.00	6,078.72	Patmos	104.11	133.03	Benton County	751,417.01	703,033.16
Bay	10,489.63	8,470.21	Gum Springs	271.67	236.36	Patterson	890.43	1,565.32	Avoca	8,631.49	8,075.71
Bearden	9,348.30	12,946.50	Gurdon	23,114.10	51,179.39	Pea Ridge	56,019.50	54,453.70	Bella Vista	469,177.97	438,967.53
Beebe	117,869.61	120,152.05	Guy	5,370.94	7,654.72	Perla	3,006.73	9,983.48	Bentonville	624,385.56	584,181.29
Beedeville	116.09	117.85	Hackett	5,703.75	4,965.06	Perryville	23,378.81	20,690.94	Bethel Heights	41,954.69	39,253.22
Bella Vista	165,747.03	153,084.97	Hamburg	73,048.86	50,243.27	Piggott	60,523.17	62,370.98	Cave Springs	34,154.51	31,955.30
Belleville	1,997.51	2,130.52	Hardy	14,831.63	15,567.63	Pine Bluff	1,258,940.85	1,143,116.79	Centerton	168,296.33	157,450.70
Benton	1,409,498.95	1,385,967.28	Harrisburg	57,257.40	53,024.34	Pineville	1,562.58	1,637.95	Decatur	30,051.02	28,116.03
Bentonville	2,410,328.30	2,144,242.81	Harrison	445,431.11	398,610.05	Pineville	4,615.80	4,461.52	Elm Springs	2,423.18	2,267.15
Berryville	229,529.69	213,159.96	Hartford	3,507.23	3,286.29	Pleasant Plains	8,576.57	10,015.35	Garfield	8,879.11	8,307.39
Bethel Heights	60,495.24	63,749.43	Haskell	38,846.84	38,389.21	Plumerville	11,515.72	8,365.46	Gateway	7,163.43	6,702.17
Big Flat	311.45	284.44	Hatfield	4,578.62	3,910.57	Pocahontas	255,601.64	238,158.67	Gentry	60,579.60	56,678.87
Black Rock	8,557.49	7,705.32	Havana	2,931.38	2,792.20	Portia	2,770.71	2,016.18	Gravette	55,061.11	51,515.72
Blevins	2,958.83	3,630.03	Hazen	48,933.43	14,905.05	Portland	4,952.63	3,429.66	Highfill	10,311.80	9,647.82
Blue Mountain	177.02	541.87	Heber Springs	133,695.04	128,638.63	Pottsville	23,462.35	24,438.03	Little Flock	45,722.12	42,778.07
Blytheville	314,647.79	324,304.90	Helena-West Helena	222,306.50	219,002.52	Prairie Grove	98,341.00	87,009.74	Lowell	129,596.13	121,251.42
Bonanza	2,629.99	5,901.70	Hermitage	5,920.57	4,880.55	Prescott	87,338.39	51,220.09	Pea Ridge	84,793.76	79,333.87
Bono	21,323.83	12,917.38	Higginson	1,712.98	1,692.94	Pyatt	1,030.41	524.86	Rogers	989,861.87	926,124.52
Booneville	102,377.33	100,586.55	Highfill	42,619.01	53,973.52	Quitman	19,855.84	20,669.16	Siloam Springs	266,001.94	248,874.04
Bradford	9,703.16	13,407.91	Highland	21,798.90	20,997.05	Ravenden	1,542.52	2,085.94	Springdale	115,888.34	108,426.27
Bradley	3,805.11	2,464.89	Holly Grove	6,889.73	4,669.94	Rector	23,949.69	24,471.25	Springtown	1,538.81	1,439.73
Branch	1,579.72	1,420.45	Hope	175,944.23	162,246.14	Redfield	15,973.24	19,416.32	Sulphur Springs	9,038.31	8,456.32
Briarcliff	1,487.29	1,060.56	Horatio	6,448.12	6,147.94	Rison	13,422.54	13,345.40	Boone County	382,250.90	343,524.45
Brinkley	143,626.35	131,657.66	Horseshoe Bend	24,400.85	22,458.24	Rockport	14,227.30	14,086.46	Alpena	4,033.58	3,624.93
Brookland	54,172.51	49,371.21	Hot Springs	1,467,690.17	1,469,418.38	Roe	670.74	612.23	Bellefonte	5,740.58	5,158.99
Bryant	1,043,677.37	969,263.16	Hoxie	14,938.28	13,806.59	Rogers	2,788,314.34	2,735,651.89	Bergerman	5,550.91	4,988.54
Bull Shoals	27,750.18	20,291.15	Hughes	6,493.67	5,092.30	Rose Bud	22,318.30	18,881.84	Diamond City	9,887.95	8,886.19
Calet	721,710.08	714,205.23	Humphrey	2,610.89	1,877.01	Rudy	7,300.50	6,537.24	Everton	1,681.71	1,511.33
Caddo Valley	55,258.86	44,330.09	Huntington	2,868.48	2,926.59	Russellville	998,268.72	986,001.09	Harrison	163,656.98	147,076.63
Calico Rock	35,888.29	23,633.86	Huntsville	119,074.59	113,313.79	Salem	24,103.48	19,610.79	Lead Hill	3,426.64	3,079.48
Camden	285,722.21	252,552.33	Imboden	7,226.74	8,083.00	Salesville	2,906.89	3,839.76	Lead Hill	3,426.64	3,079.48
Caraway	4,855.95	4,671.16	Jacksonville	608,403.35	574,417.53	Searcy	727,468.58	713,369.79	Omaha	2,136.91	1,920.42
Carlisle	54,079.43	48,340.37	Jasper	27,393.79	23,166.54	Shannon Hills	9,670.44	13,150.94	South Lead Hill	1,289.73	1,150.07
Cash	2,404.53	1,978.23	Jennette	218.14	178.79	Sheridan	182,941.94	189,944.63	Valley Springs	2,313.93	2,079.50
Cave City	19,462.41	17,462.22	Johnson	57,469.05	62,816.40	Sherill	932.33	878.08	Zinc	1,302.38	1,170.43
Cave Springs	33,273.67	26,092.84	Joiner	2,301.74	1,867.81	Sherwood	805,808.60	356,069.76	Bradley County	126,353.49	119,510.46
Cedarville	5,303.97	5,567.43	Jonesboro	1,473,747.70	1,308,649.96	Shirley	2,644.80	2,747.04	Banks	975.64	922.80
Centerton	218,094.19	203,113.10	Judsonia	10,827.74	9,394.51	Siloam Springs	579,092.50	582,824.12	Hermitage	6,530.51	6,176.83
Charleston	28,303.24	26,310.74	Junction City	5,142.74	5,030.54	Sparkman	3,177.75	3,079.95	Warren	47,232.08	44,674.09
Cherokee Village	18,966.03	15,897.08	Keiser	4,607.69	4,884.12	Springdale	2,348,220.47	2,134,074.24	Calhoun County	88,696.55	148,591.99
Cherry Valley	4,384.61	3,928.52	Keo	1,114.98	995.86	Springtown	234.30	182.50	Hampton	25,141.14	42,118.56
Chidester	3,408.99	2,249.05	Kibler	3,461.53	2,927.66	St. Charles	3,438.58	3,152.29	Harrell	4,823.14	8,080.14
Clarendon	38,395.54	38,603.24	Kingsland	1,715.90	1,946.44	Stamps	12,582.81	13,042.18	Thornton	7,728.42	12,947.32
Clarksville	326,828.93	346,742.07	Lake City	11,922.79	9,896.84	Star City	70,432.93	63,958.02	Tinsman	1,025.40	1,717.83
Clinton	77,830.22	76,401.34	Lake Village	63,342.52	56,192.24	Stephens	5,377.05	5,023.62	Carroll County	148,838.20	129,737.31
Coal Hill	4,455.67	3,997.49	Lakeview	4,856.17	3,679.86	Strong	9,010.46	7,489.11	Beaver	544.88	474.95
Conway	2,293,931.39	1,976,789.75	Lamar	23,088.13	18,966.45	Stuttgart	621,746.46	610,984.94	Blue Eye	163.46	142.49
Corning	62,468.41	67,957.92	Lead Hill	6,040.33	4,641.35	Sulphur Springs	1,433.14	1,589.55	Chicot County	108,186.28	103,899.48
Cotter	10,188.65	9,775.11	Lepanto	23,890.59	20,252.86	Sunset	5,796.79	2,658.24	Dermott	19,698.13	18,917.60
Cotton Plant	4,805.10	1,399.12	Leslie	4,857.91	4,139.47	Swifton	3,388.82	4,413.75	Eudora	15,470.77	14,857.75
Cove	12,936.73	12,311.06	Lewisville	8,355.40	7,788.39	Taylor	7,001.65	8,580.35	Lake Village	17,557.16	16,861.49
Crawfordsville	4,461.28	10,135.35	Lincoln	41,436.79	39,385.17	Texarkana	396,623.66	352,360.04	Clark County	419,492.05	403,742.64
Crossett	152,129.13	267,144.55	Little Flock	9,602.42	8,891.98	Texarkana Special	179,570.40	177,172.55	Clay County	76,272.01	86,280.73
Damascus	8,387.40	7,993.31	Little Rock	6,082,572.86	5,665,913.52	Thornton	1,192.96	958.70	Corning	7,272.01	23,289.11
Danville	37,491.59	28,653.90	Lockesburg	4,965.81	4,385.84	Trumann	141,029.76	136,305.78	Datto	914.46	1,034.46
Dardanelle	142,714.71	143,694.10	Lonoke	209,640.23	105,364.74	Tuckerman	9,756.97	11,822.79	Greenway	1,911.22	2,162.02
Decatur	21,729.82	21,360.12	Lowell	297,535.72	297,769.98	Turrell	3,384.59	3,063.96	Knobel	2,624.50	2,968.89
Delight	3,694.41	5,011.04	Luxora	2,644.01	2,389.88	Tyronza	3,056.08	3,554.16	McDougal	1,700.89	1,924.09
De Queen	111,096.41	105,110.25	Madison	1,354.06	1,296.82	Van Buren	590,001.98	565,129.68	Nimmons	630.98	713.78
Dermott											

Caraway	21,482.21	19,330.77	Cave City	2,012.66	1,872.96	Birdsong	449.57	424.94	Waldron	27,026.64	26,153.84
Cash	5,744.27	5,168.98	Cushman	5,615.58	5,225.78	Blytheville	171,276.68	161,893.38	Searcy County	63,880.55	62,412.65
Egypt	1,881.16	1,692.77	Magness	2,509.62	2,335.41	Burdette	2,094.36	1,979.62	Big Flat	6.25	6.10
Jonesboro	1,129,756.04	1,016,611.35	Moorefield	1,702.07	1,583.92	Dell	2,445.24	2,311.28	Gilbert	174.96	170.94
Lake City	34,969.48	31,467.30	Newark	14,610.44	13,596.27	Dyess	4,495.74	4,249.44	Leslie	2,755.55	2,692.23
Monette	25,210.93	22,686.08	Oil Trough	3,230.20	3,005.98	Etowah	3,848.79	3,637.94	Marshall	8,466.59	8,272.03
Crawford County	653,943.62	632,126.17	Pleasant Plains	4,335.92	4,034.95	Gosnell	38,904.59	36,773.22	Pindall	699.82	683.74
Alma	47,590.99	46,003.22	Southside	48,465.42	45,101.23	Joiner	6,315.96	5,969.95	St. Joe	824.78	805.84
Cedarville	12,242.45	11,834.01	Sulphur Rock	5,665.27	5,272.02	Keiser	8,322.60	7,866.65	Sebastian County	753,320.01	732,920.72
Chester	1,396.38	1,349.79	Izard County	46,739.24	45,800.53	Leachville	21,853.68	20,656.43	Barling	68,849.84	66,985.44
Dyer	7,693.25	7,365.58	Jackson County	241,212.72	220,829.82	Luxora	12,917.02	12,209.37	Bonanza	8,515.52	8,284.93
Kibler	8,439.74	8,158.16	Amagon	865.15	792.05	Manila	36,645.75	34,638.14	Central City	7,434.42	7,233.10
Mountainburg	5,541.60	5,356.71	Beedeville	944.61	864.79	Marie	921.08	870.62	Fort Smith	1,276,720.96	1,242,148.41
Mulberry	14,534.62	14,049.70	Campbell Station	2,251.17	2,060.94	Osceola	85,057.18	80,397.37	Greenwood	132,575.56	128,985.52
Rudy	535.72	517.84	Diaz	11,635.45	10,652.24	Victoria	405.71	383.49	Hackett	12,025.40	11,699.76
Van Buren	200,156.16	193,478.40	Grubbs	3,407.65	3,119.70	Wilson	9,901.61	9,359.14	Hartford	9,507.76	9,250.30
Crittenden County	1,201,825.91	1,205,111.05	Jacksonport	1,871.56	1,713.41	Monroe County	NA	NA	Huntington	9,404.10	9,149.44
Anthonyville	975.68	978.35	Newport	69,556.69	63,679.03	Montgomery County	134,948.84	134,948.84	Lavaca	33,899.18	32,981.22
Clarkedale	2,248.31	2,254.45	Swifton	7,044.83	6,449.53	Black Springs	501.61	471.53	Mansfield	10,707.34	10,417.40
Crawfordsville	2,902.80	2,910.73	Tuckerman	16,437.94	15,048.91	Glenwood	212.81	200.04	Midland	4,813.12	4,682.79
Earle	14,629.14	14,669.12	Tupelo	1,589.06	1,454.78	Mount Ida	5,451.86	5,124.94	Sevier County	247,128.15	269,800.80
Edmondson	2,587.67	2,594.75	Weldon	662.12	606.15	Norman	1,915.25	1,800.40	Ben Lomond	1,299.91	1,229.04
Gilmore	1,434.43	1,438.35	Jefferson County	403,749.63	618,257.62	Oden	1,175.49	1,105.01	DeQueen	59,114.43	55,891.44
Horseshoe Lake	1,779.39	1,774.39	Alzheimer	10,120.30	8,907.92	Nevada County	151,732.03	100,996.35	Gilham	1,434.38	1,356.18
Jennette	627.22	628.94	Humphrey	3,167.73	2,788.25	Bluff City	1,396.89	929.81	Horatio	9,359.34	8,849.05
Jericho	721.15	723.13	Pine Bluff	504,811.48	444,336.99	Bodcaw	1,554.61	1,034.78	Lockesburg	6,625.05	6,263.84
Marion	74,812.21	75,016.71	Redfield	13,339.46	11,741.44	Cale	889.96	592.38	Sharp County	71,258.82	73,700.46
Sunset	1,079.91	1,082.86	Sherrill	863.93	760.43	Emmet	5,351.01	3,561.75	Ash Flat	8,523.57	8,815.63
Turrell	3,354.28	3,363.44	Wabbaseka	2,622.64	2,308.46	Prescott	37,130.36	24,714.83	Cave City	15,151.09	15,670.23
West Memphis	159,047.92	159,846.76	White Hall	56,834.10	50,025.59	Rosston	2,940.24	1,957.09	Cherokee Village	33,729.00	34,884.71
Cross County	230,359.19	225,846.76	Johnson County	109,797.28	118,587.18	Willisville	1,712.31	1,139.76	Evening Shade	3,757.33	3,886.07
Cherry Valley	5,916.90	5,801.00	Clarksville	80,649.81	87,106.30	Newton County	34,811.72	46,002.29	Hardy	6,349.19	6,566.74
Hickory Ridge	2,472.19	2,423.70	Coal Hill	8,892.74	9,604.66	Jasper	2,168.75	1,840.88	Highland	9,088.91	9,400.34
Parkin	10,043.28	9,846.54	Hartman	4,560.61	4,925.71	Western Grove	1,787.13	1,516.95	Horseshoe Bend	69.58	71.96
Wynne	76,047.17	74,557.51	Knoxville	6,423.51	6,937.75	Ouachita County	568,823.94	482,745.11	Sidney	1,574.25	1,628.19
Dallas County	137,109.28	122,055.02	Lamar	14,103.62	15,232.69	Bearden	8,730.42	7,409.27	Williford	652.32	674.68
Desha County	88,855.42	93,770.74	Lafayette County	72,753.16	72,887.07	Camden	110,106.33	93,444.19	St. Francis County	132,868.10	242,967.17
Arkansas City	3,438.84	3,629.07	Bradley	3,428.75	3,435.06	Chidester	2,611.90	2,216.64	Caldwell	8,742.36	8,700.08
Dumas	44,216.31	46,662.27	Buckner	1,501.44	1,504.21	East Camden	8,414.10	7,140.81	Colt	5,954.26	5,925.46
McGehee	39,640.59	41,834.43	Lewisville	6,988.54	7,001.40	Louann	1,482.18	1,257.89	Forrest City	242,123.96	240,952.84
Mitchellville	3,382.46	3,569.57	Stamps	9,243.44	9,260.45	Stephens	8,052.59	6,834.01	Hughes	22,698.62	22,588.84
Reed	1,616.07	1,705.46	Lawrence County	283,728.78	275,971.29	Perry County	107,506.53	115,634.80	Madison	12,113.28	12,054.70
Tillar	197.31	208.23	Alicia	765.57	744.63	Adona	1,078.10	1,030.49	Palestine	10,727.12	10,675.22
Watson	1,982.50	2,092.16	Black Rock	4,087.14	3,975.39	Bigelow	1,624.88	1,553.14	Wheatley	5,591.96	5,564.92
Drew County	368,762.31	347,816.72	Hoxie	17,163.51	16,694.24	Casa	882.08	843.13	Widener	4,300.29	4,279.46
Jerome	460.11	433.97	Imboden	4,179.75	4,065.47	Fourche	319.82	305.70	Stone County	75,071.65	74,524.23
Monticello	111,688.42	105,344.55	Lynn	1,779.09	1,729.47	Houston	892.40	852.99	Fifty Six	1,370.99	1,360.99
Tillar	2,406.72	2,270.02	Minturn	672.96	654.56	Perry	1,392.76	1,331.26	Mountain View	21,777.36	21,618.56
Wilmar	6,028.60	5,686.18	Portia	2,698.00	2,624.24	Perryville	7,531.18	7,198.67	Union County	553,092.69	529,959.58
Winchester	1,970.21	1,858.30	Powhatan	444.52	432.37	Phillips County	100,516.49	94,881.78	Calion	16,124.44	15,450.03
Faulkner County	684,210.88	707,995.10	Ravenden	2,901.74	2,822.41	Elaine	11,252.00	10,621.24	El Dorado	686,559.69	657,844.32
Enola	2,083.42	2,155.84	Sedgwick	938.44	912.78	Helena-West Helena	178,299.17	168,304.17	Felsenthal	3,951.01	3,785.76
Holland	3,433.32	3,552.67	Smithville	481.57	468.40	Lake View	7,837.48	7,398.13	Huttig	22,100.36	21,176.01
Mount Vernon	893.77	924.84	Strawberry	1,864.52	1,813.55	Lake View	5,059.87	4,776.22	Junction City	19,713.66	18,889.14
Twin Groves	2,064.92	2,136.70	Walnut Ridge	32,956.39	32,055.32	Marvell	20,982.49	19,806.28	Norphlet	24,873.31	23,832.98
Wooster	5,301.00	5,485.27	Lee County	28,363.34	27,772.14	Pike County	146,901.91	129,238.10	Smackover	65,438.70	62,701.72
Franklin County	250,380.89	195,246.51	Aubrey	878.92	860.60	Antoine	942.09	828.81	Strong	18,618.87	17,840.14
Altus	7,778.33	6,065.53	Haynes	775.52	759.35	Daisy	925.99	814.64	Van Buren County	256,535.19	241,450.71
Branch	3,766.03	2,936.74	LaGrange	460.14	450.55	Delight	2,246.53	1,976.40	Clinton	22,787.95	21,448.00
Charleston	25,879.88	20,181.08	Marianna	21,275.09	20,831.63	Glenwood	17,601.82	15,485.34	Damascus	2,189.46	2,060.72
Denning	4,654.23	3,629.36	Moro	1,116.75	1,093.47	Murfreesboro	13,213.44	11,624.63	Fairfield Bay	18,873.18	17,763.43
Ozark	37,803.93	29,479.42	Rondo	1,023.68	1,002.36	Pointsett County	115,823.34	104,812.02	Shirley	2,548.54	2,398.68
Wiederkehr Village	389.94	304.08	Lincoln County	131,564.27	49,987.63	Fisher	1,732.33	1,567.64	Washington County	1,410,877.66	1,347,403.43
Fulton County	109,925.82	96,862.23	Gould	4,456.83	3,956.84	Harrisburg	17,882.62	16,182.52	Elkins	42,398.58	40,491.10
Ash Flat	434.90	383.21	Grady	2,390.82	2,122.61	Lepanto	14,705.38	13,307.34	Elm Springs	28,116.28	26,851.35
Cherokee Village	3,381.11	2,979.30	Star City	12,108.51	10,750.13	Marked Tree	19,933.45	18,038.37	Farmington	95,652.99	91,349.64
Hardy	179.08	157.79	Little River County	197,189.43	192,837.50	Trumann	56,677.48	51,289.15	Fayetteville	1,178,129.78	1,125,126.69
Horseshoe Bend	72.48	63.87	Ashdown	40,221.80	39,334.11	Tyronza	5,919.44	5,356.68	Goshen	17,148.37	16,376.88
Mammoth Spring	4,165.63	3,670.58	Foreman	8,609.83	8,419.82	Waldenburg	473.87	428.82	Greenland	20,718.94	19,786.82
Salem	6,971.14	6,142.68	Ogden	1,532.91	1,499.08	Weiner	5,562.09	5,033.30	Johnson	53,702.74	51,286.69
Viola	1,436.85	1,266.11	Wilton	3,185.04	3,114.75	Polk County	231,479.98	228,244.78	Lincoln	36,009.97	34,389.91
Garland County	1,878,723.16	1,802,142.08	Winthrop	1,635.10	1,599.01	Cove	6,943.50	6,846.44	Prairie Grove	70,867.12	67,678.86
Fountain Lake	6,429.01	6,118.12	Logan County	287,266.86	269,453.40	Grannis	10,069.88	9,929.14	Springdale	1,027,861.39	981,618.75
Hot Springs	207,775.43	183,454.84	Blue Mountain	1,019.55	956.33	Hatfield	7,506.96	7,402.04	Tontitown	39,388.41	37,616.36
Lonsdale	1,201.45	1,143.35	Booneville	32,806.54	30,772.20	Mena	104,279.60	102,822.16	West Fork	37,098.76	35,429.72
Mountain Pine	9,841.65	9,365.70	Caulksville	1,751.33	1,642.73	Vandervoort	1,581.38	1,559.26	Winslow	6,260.52	5,978.86
Grant County	148,324.72	185,211.63	Magazine	6,964.19	6,532.34	Wickes	13,705.20	13,513.70	White County	1,004,907.68	981,986.59
Greene County	488,162.84	466,647.97	Morrison Bluff	526.22	493.59	Pope County	322,121.14	272,814.47	Bald Knob	31,065.58	30,357.00
Delaplaine	1,259.20	1,203.70	Paris	29,040.77	27,239.95	Atkins	38,685.83	32,764.24	Beebe	78,441.39	76,652.21
Lafe	4,971.67	4,752.55	Ratcliff	1,660.88	1,557.89	Dover	17,675.42	14,969.87	Bradford	8,139.03	7,953.39
Marmaduke	12,060.10	11,528.58	Scranton	1,841.77	1,727.56	Hector	5,772.09	4,888.56	Garner	3,045.43	2,975.97
Oak Grove Heights	9,650.25	9,224.94	Subiaco	4,703.10	4,411.46	London	13,327.12	11,287.15	Georgetown	1,329.70	1,299.37
Paragould	283,461.30	270,968.27	Lonoke County	258,630.17	261,660.57	Pottsville	36,402.65	30,830.54	Griffithville	2,412.76	2,357.72
Hempstead County	356,175.11	338,289.85	Allport	1,045.80	1,058.05	Russellville	358,126.17	303,308.25	Higginson	6,659.21	6,507.32
Blevins	3,325.68	3,158.68	Austin	18,533.34	18,750.50	Prairie County	63,076.50	95,683.02	Judsonia	21,650.47	21,156.64
Emmet	453.98	431.19	Cabot	216,216.27	218,749.71	Biscoe	2,621.12	3,976.07	Kensett	17,672.10	17,269.01
Fulton	2,122.10	2,015.54	Carlisle	20,133.87	20,369.78	Des Arc	12,397.96	18,806.91	Letona	2,734.46	2,672.09
Hope	106,580.14	101,228.24	Coy	873.01	883.24	DeValls Bluff	4,469.62	6,780.13	McRae	7,3	

IIMC celebrates 50th anniversary during Municipal Clerks Week

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), a professional nonprofit association with 14,500 members comprised of city, town, township, village, borough, deputy, and county clerks throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, announces its 50th

anniversary of Municipal Clerks Week, which takes place the week of May 5-11. This event features a weeklong series of activities aimed at increasing the public's awareness of municipal clerks and the vital services they provide for local government and the community.

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

"The true worth of the municipal and deputy clerk is often not realized," said IIMC President Stephanie Carouthers Kelly, MMC, and city clerk of Charlotte, N.C. "But clerks perform some of the principal functions of the democratic process."


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

Municipal and deputy clerks' main function is to serve as the council's foundation. Other duties include preparing agendas, taking minutes, maintaining ordinance and resolutions files, keeping the municipality's historical records, processing permits, and serving as the clearinghouse for information about the local government. They also record the actions of the various commissions and committees appointed by the council. Many serve as financial officers or treasurers and, in small municipalities, may act as chief administrative officers. Another important responsibility is administering part or all of the local election functions.




One of local government's oldest positions is the municipal clerk. Their duties have expanded over the years and, today, modern technology assists them with their increasing responsibilities. To stay abreast of new computer applications, records management, and other relevant information, many municipal and deputy clerks return to the classroom to increase their knowledge of these issues, learn new material, and sharpen old skills.

"Because some elements of government are constantly changing, clerks must stay current of changes so they can advise their council and inform their community," Kelly said. "As the focus of each level of government changes, clerks must also adapt."

Founded in 1947, IIMC is a professional nonprofit association with more than 14,500 members throughout North America and 15 other countries, representing municipalities with populations of 1,000 to more than 8 million. IIMC prepares its membership to meet the challenge of the diverse role of the municipal clerk by providing services and continuing educational development opportunities in 46 permanent college-and university-based learning centers. IIMC offers municipal and deputy clerks a Certified Municipal Clerk program (CMC), a Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) program, and other opportunities to benefit members and the government entities they serve. A 26-member Board of Directors governs IIMC. 

Obituaries

NEIL CAMDEN, 70, an Ash Flat council member, died March 18.

ANNA LEA GIECK WALKER, 88, who served as Stuttgart city clerk for more than 20 years, died March 24. Walker served the League on the executive committee and on the Municipal Health Benefit Fund board of trustees, and upon retirement she received the designation of lifetime member of the League. She was also active in the Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders and Treasurers Association as well as the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. 

April 13

Festival on the Rails

McNeil

(870) 695-3641; mcneil-ar.com

April 20

2nd Blazin' BBQ Festival

Manilla

(870) 243-3246

April 20

Springfest

Norman

(870) 867-2723

April 23-27

35th Fordyce on the Cottonbelt
Festival

Fordyce

(870) 313-1299; fordyceonthecottonbelt.com

April 26-28

45th Dogwood Festival

Siloam Springs

(479) 6466; www.siloamchamber.com

April 27

Whistlestop Festival

Ashdown

(870) 898-2758

May 3-4

Downtown Crawfest

Arkadelphia

(870) 246-5542

May 3-4

World Famous Armadillo Festival

Hamburg

(870) 853-8345

May 3-5

38th Toad Suck Daze

Conway

(501) 327-7788; toadsuck.org

May 10-11

34th Tuckerman Hometown Days

Tuckerman

(870) 512-9586

May 11

Mayfest

Blytheville

(870) 763-2525; mainstreetblytheville.com

May 17-18

Steamboat Days

Des Arc

(870) 256-3011

May 17-18

29th Crawdad Days Festival

Harrison

(870) 741-2659; crawdaddays.org

May 17-18

32nd Springfest

Heber Springs

(870) 834-1437; downtownhebersprings.com

May 17-18

31st Magnolia Blossom Festival &
World Championship Steak Cook-off

Magnolia

(870) 234-4352; blossomfestival.org

May 18-19

42nd Old Timers Day Steampunk
Festival

Van Buren

(479) 922-6862; oldtownvanburen.com

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.

AIRPORT DIRECTOR—The City of Conway is accepting resumes for an airport director. The new Conway Regional Airport was opened in 2014. It has a 5,500-foot concrete runway, 100 feet in width, with full parallel taxiway, GPS approaches, AWAS, terminal building, as well as corporate and general aviation hangars. There are currently about 70 based aircraft. The airport director is responsible for all aspects of managing the airport, including compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements. Responsibilities include working with the mayor, Airport Advisory Committee, Conway Chamber of Commerce, Conway Development Corporation, and the Advertising and Promotions Commission in conjunction with other city officials for the promotion of economic development and job creation, utilizing the new airport facility as a marketing tool for the city and the area. Candidates must be capable of exercising independent judgment, proficient in managerial, administrative, financial, and supervisory functions. The airport director reports directly to the mayor. Prefer a Bachelor's in Business Administration, Public Administration, Aviation Management, or successful completion of specialized training at a certified school where Airport Operations/Administration was a major educational emphasis. Equivalent combinations of education, experience, and certifications may be considered. Compensation includes a competitive salary and benefits package. Closing date: April 19. Please submit resume with salary history to: Human Resources Director, City of Conway, 1201 Oak Street, Conway, AR 72032. Email: humanresources@cityofconway.org; fax: (501) 358-6325. Visit the airport website for more information: www.conwayarkansas.gov/airport. EOE. Submitted applications and resumes will be subject to disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

FIRE CHIEF—The City of Lowell is now accepting applications for fire chief. The Lowell Fire Department operates two 24/7 fire stations with staff of 27 firefighters and paramedics. Resumes may be sent to Mayor Chris Moore, City of Lowell, 216 N. Lincoln Street, Lowell, AR 72745; or email to mhouston@lowellarkansas.gov.


FIREFIGHTER—The City of Monticello is accepting applications for the position of full-time firefighter. Qualifications: driver's license, be able to complete academy training if not already certified, and have HS diploma. Must be 21 years of age or older and be able to meet all other requirements. Resumes may be sent to Patty Burchett, HR Director, City of Monticello, P.O. Box 505, Monticello, AR 71655; or faxed to (870) 367-4405. Full benefit package included. Salary DOE. For more information please call (870) 367-4400 Ext. 228 or (870) 367-5433.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER—Benton Utilities is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of chief financial officer. The chief financial officer directs the financial planning and accounting practices of Benton Utilities, as well as the relationships with lending institutions, the financial community, and ratepayers (to include billing/customer services), by performing the following duties personally or through subordinate managers, under the direction of the general manager. The incumbent serves in a managerial capacity to ensure compliance with all regulatory financial statutes/guidelines and may serve as the financial liaison to the Benton Public Utility Commission and Benton City Council. Salary based on education & experience. Submit resume and application via mail to Mollie Wright, Benton Utilities, 1827 Dale Ave., Benton, AR 72015; or via email to cbmollie@bentonar.org. Applications and resumes will be accepted until position is filled. For complete job description and qualifications visit www.bentonutilities.com/personnel. EOE.

FIRE MARSHAL—The City of Lowell seeks applicants for the position of fire marshal. Responsible for the administration and enforcement of state and local fire codes, oversight of public education and fire prevention programs, and investigation of fire related emergencies. The employee of this class makes administrative and operational decisions pertaining to fire prevention standards, training and enforcement of fire prevention laws, regulations, and established policies. Resumes may be sent to Mayor Chris Moore, City of Lowell, 216 N. Lincoln Street, Lowell, AR 72745; or email mhouston@lowellarkansas.gov. Phone (479) 770-2185 for more information. Resumes accepted until May 1.

POLICE CHIEF—The City of Lowell is now accepting applications for the position of police chief. Applicants must be certified and meet all requirements of law enforcement standards and training. Send resumes to Mayor Chris Moore, City of Lowell, 216 N. Lincoln Street, Lowell, AR 72745; or email to mhouston@lowellarkansas.gov.

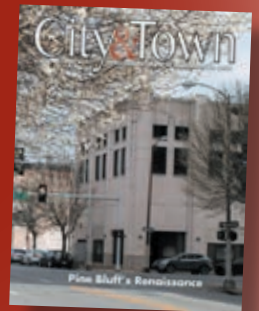
POLICE CHIEF—The City of Mansfield is now accepting applications for a full-time police chief. Must be certified and meet all requirements of law enforcement standards and training. Resumes may be sent to: City of Mansfield, Attn: Mayor Buddy Black, P.O. Box 307, Mansfield, AR 72944. Applications may be picked up at the Mansfield City Hall, 200 N. Sebascott. Office hours are 8-4 Mon-Fri. (479) 928-5552. EOE.

WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR—City of Glenwood has an immediate opening for a licensed water/wastewater operator. Class 3, D3 or above. Full time, sick leave, vacation, health paid, 401A. Send resume or inquire via email: bt@glenwoodar.com. 

Missed us?

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

Help us keep you up to date and informed.

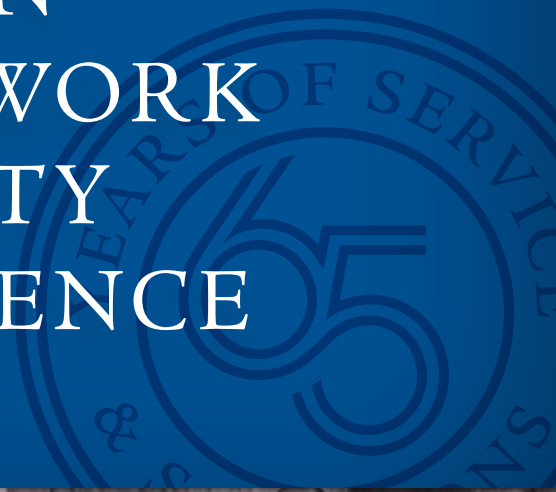


www.arml.org
www.arml.org/services/publications

RELATIONS
VALU
EXPE
SERV
TRADI
TE
INTE
EXC

H
E
R
I
T
A
G
E

IPS
S
IENCE
CE
ION
MWORK
RITY
LLENCE



We are proud to celebrate 65 years of service and solutions. Since 1954, the foundation of our law firm has been, and continues to be, our solid, long-term relationships with clients – they are the core of who we are.

MITCHELL || WILLIAMS

Little Rock | Rogers | Jonesboro | Austin | MitchellWilliamsLaw.com

Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C. | R.T. Beard, III, Managing Director

425 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201

The only Top 10 public
finance firm in Arkansas also
has some of the deepest roots.



CHAD MYERS // MARY MORGAN GLADNEY // SAMANTHA WINEKE // DANIEL ALLEN
RON PYLE // SAM NAGEL // PATRICIA QUINN // JIM BIRDWELL
GAVIN MURREY // CARMEN QUINN // CHUCK ELLINGSWORTH // ELIZABETH ZUELKE

Our team has a long history of serving the Arkansas public sector we can trace back to 1931, when T.J. Raney & Sons opened its doors. A history that continued when we became Morgan Keegan and then joined forces with Raymond James. And through all that time, our commitment to our clients and to the communities across our state has only grown, helping us become one of the top 10 underwriters in the country – and the only top 10 national firm in Arkansas.

Put our unique combination of local history and national strength to work for you.
Visit rjpublicfinance.com.

ARKANSAS PUBLIC FINANCE

100 Morgan Keegan Drive, Suite 400 // Little Rock, AR 72202 // 501.671.1339

RAYMOND JAMES®