

City & Town

OCTOBER 2019 VOL. 75, NO. 10

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE





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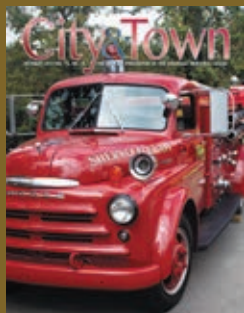


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Cover photo by Mark Potter.



ON THE COVER—Fall is festival season in Arkansas, and for the 43rd Sherwood Fest, the fire department rolled out the city’s “original fire truck,” a 1949 Dodge. See pictures from Sherwood Fest and also Batesville’s White River Carnival inside. Learn also about the League’s District 3 Vice President and Siloam Springs Mayor John Mark Turner, study the filing and election dates for the 2020 elections, and read about preparations to get everyone in every community counted in next year’s census.—atm

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 With a lovely city center and recreational opportunities galore, Siloam Springs keeps up its historic reputation as a destination city in northwest Arkansas, and Mayor and League District 3 Vice President John Mark Turner aims to build on its legacy.

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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/
 @armunileague



twitter@ARMuniLeague



greatcitiesgreatstate.com



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 ARMunicipalLeague



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www.arml.org

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Dear friends and fellow public servants,
First let me tell you how excited I was to see 176 attendees at our Municipal Finance 101 certification workshop in North Little Rock. That represents a record attendance, beating the previous record of 133. I am sure it is a result of the expanded certification programs and opening participation to department heads and other key municipal staff members. That was a decision approved in August by our executive committee members, and it is encouraging to see such a quick payoff. I feel confident these numbers will continue to grow in the future.



It is especially timely, as you know, because we are heading into budget season. All the important services we provide begin and end with the budget process. I think it is a great thing that finance directors, department heads, and other employees can now join elected officials in earning certification credits.

As this issue of *City & Town* goes to press, the city of Jonesboro is holding its health and wellness fair. We go to great lengths to build good relationships with our employee insurance providers and to get the best rates for our employees. It is equally important that they understand and participate in selecting the coverages that suit them best, and to know the facts about the risk/cost ratio of each type of concierge coverage.

Along these lines, the Human Resource and Personnel Matters certification workshop will be Oct. 9 in North Little Rock. This course will help you establish and adhere to policies and procedures that will help avoid the internal problems that can distract from our ultimate objective of serving the citizenry.

Coming later in October, the first round of the League's advisory council meetings will begin Oct. 22. As you know, the executive committee and I, in addition to League staff, lean heavily on ideas brought forth by our advisory councils. I hope if you have a concern that you make it known so we may consider it during these meetings.

Also, I ask any interested municipal officials to register for the National League of Cities' City Summit, Nov. 20-23 in San Antonio. You can register online at nlc.org, and the meeting in San Antonio is a short flight from Arkansas airports or a day's automobile drive, whichever works for you. Having the event in the south is a good opportunity, and we should take advantage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Harold Perrin".

Harold Perrin
Mayor, Jonesboro
President, Arkansas Municipal League

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



As the postcard-esque mural attests, Siloam Springs has long been a tourism destination, known in its earlier days as a popular health resort.

District 3 VP builds on Siloam Springs' amenities

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

As northwest Arkansas has boomed over the last two decades, so has Siloam Springs, which sits about 23 miles west of hectic Interstate 49. It's an off-the-corridor gem in that part of the state, says John Mark Turner, the city's mayor and the League's 2019-2020 District 3 vice president.

"I always tell people Siloam Springs has two ties to the world," Turner says. "One tie is John Brown University. The next tie is Camp Siloam."

The camp on the south side of the city has been a Baptist summer camp, retreat, and conference center for more than 90 years.

"You've probably heard of it. You'd be surprised the people you run into, not just in Arkansas, who went there."

Siloam Springs may be the largest stand-alone city in northwest Arkansas, meaning it doesn't abut another city the way the cities along I-49 from Fayetteville up to Bella Vista do. With so much infill along that corridor, it's becoming more and more difficult to tell where one city ends and another begins. Being removed from that helps Siloam Springs have a distinct identity, Turner says.

"When you hit Siloam, you know you're in Siloam," he says.



Siloam Springs Mayor and League 2019-2020 Dist. 3 Vice President John Mark Turner.

The city is expected to hit a population of 17,500 or possibly higher after the 2020 Census. If it does, that will mean the population has more than doubled since 1990. New neighborhoods are going in, retail options continue to expand, and the job market remains strong, with workers coming from all parts of the region. Forty percent of the workforce comes from Oklahoma, Turner says. The state line forms the city's western border.

Siloam Springs is a shopping hub for the communities west of I-49. Residents of smaller nearby cities like Tontitown to the east and even Gravette to the north often come to Siloam Springs to do their grocery and other shopping. Springdale or Bentonville are closer, but they want to avoid the traffic, Turner says.

Turner was born and raised in Siloam Springs.

"I live about two blocks from where I was raised, and don't live very much further from city hall."

As a young student, he initially felt that he had the aptitude to go into the agricultural field, so after graduating high school, he went to Arkansas Tech in Russellville to study agri-business. It proved to be more expensive than he was prepared for, and he cut college short in order to return home and go to work.

He took a job at Webb Wheel, a company that still has a facility in Siloam Springs today, making brake drums, wheel hubs, and drive wheels for trucks, tractors, and trailers. He ended up working in the company's printing department.

Turner had gone to school with the grandson of the founder of the Allen Canning Company, famous for its

brand names like Popeye Spinach and Veg-All. They were looking for someone to run their label printing operation and he came calling, Turner says.

"When you consider all the private can labels and the printing and warehousing of all the labels, it's a pretty big operation."

He took that job and later, a job opened in sales, and he made the transition into food service sales, which he preferred over retail sales. It involved more face-to-face interaction and was more immediate, he says.

"In retail, you can make a presentation and it may be six months before you know if you got their business. In food service, unless it's Sysco or one of the other larger companies, you walk in a business and sit down with the owner and walk out knowing whether you got it that day."

His territory stretched across the southeast, and at that time, there were more small, mom-and-pop operations, and he got to visit with them and sell them what they needed.

"Selling southern vegetables in the south is pretty easy," he says.

He ended up as director of food service bids, handling bidding for large companies, the military, and others. He worked at Allen for 39 years, but he didn't quite get the chance to retire.

"I was retired," he says. "I was three months short of being 40 years."

In 2008 Allen, which at the time was the largest independent canner in the world, bought frozen food



The city grew up around Sager Creek, whose clear spring waters were touted as having healing qualities that drew visitors.



On the south side of Sager Creek, the terraced lawn of Siloam Springs' new Memorial Park leads up to the public library.

giant Birds-Eye. It stretched the business too thin, and by 2013, they were bankrupt.

It was a sad ending, Turner says, but it allowed him to focus more fully on his public service. He was first elected to the city's board of directors (Siloam Springs operates under the city administrator form of government) in 2006. In fact, he succeeded his wife, Kathy, in that position, who had served one four-year term.

"I never in my wildest dreams thought I would ever be on the board let alone be the mayor."

He learned a great deal about his hometown and its governance vicariously while Kathy was on the board, he says. When she decided not to run again, he decided he could contribute, so he ran for the seat and won.

At that time the city was exploring funding options to upgrade its wastewater system, a process his wife had been involved with and he wanted to continue. He also looked forward to helping grow the city's parks and recreation options. After six years on the board, he ran for mayor and won. He has held that position since 2012, and in that time the city has made great strides in its recreational amenities. Siloam Springs has become a true outdoor recreation destination, with numerous parks and more than seven miles of mountain biking trails.

Just south of town is the Siloam Springs Kayak Park, which features a small set of rapids where kayakers can hone their skills.

Perhaps the city's greatest amenity is its downtown area, through which Sager Creek runs. It makes for a peaceful, green city center that invites visitors to slow down and spend time walking, dining, shopping, or just sitting and enjoying the slow-moving water.

In May of this year, more than 1,500 people attended the grand opening of the city's new Memorial Park along the creek. It features a large and lush terraced lawn with great views of the new amphitheater, a veterans memorial, and an interactive water feature. It's all overlooked by the Siloam Springs Public Library, which sits atop the hill. It's already proven wildly popular, Turner says.

"At the first concert we had, every downtown restaurant ran out of food," he says.

One major infrastructure project on the horizon is upgrading the water treatment and delivery system. With the \$25 million wastewater upgrade now complete, it's time to turn the focus to their drinking water, Turner says.

"Our water treatment facility is somewhat, well, antiquated might be a good way to put it," he says. "Some of the portions of it needed on a day-to-day basis are at least 50 years old, some of it is a little bit older. The pipeline that comes from the Illinois River is 65 years old."

The source point on the river for the city's water is actually in Oklahoma, which makes for a unique situation. Because cities in the neighboring state don't enjoy the same tort immunity as Arkansas cities, Siloam Springs set up a separate corporation in Oklahoma, with the mayor the head of a two-person board.

They're in the early stages of getting design estimates and permits and hope to get funding mechanisms in place soon. The city wants to get ahead of the game before the government steps in and forces them to do it, Turner says. 🏛️



The city's kayak park gives water sport enthusiasts a chance to enhance their skills.

From the Desk of the Executive Director

When I was a kid, we played several outdoor games that I'm sure everyone has heard of or played: hide-and-seek, kick the can, dodgeball, kickball, and many others.

My earliest memories of these games come from the years I lived in Kentucky and then Michigan. I was seven or eight when I lived in Kentucky. We were there about a year and a half. Then we moved to Birmingham, Michigan, right outside of Detroit. I learned some valuable lessons from that move. And even more when my family moved to Racine, Wisconsin, in 1970 and to Jonesboro in 1976.¹ Some of the most valuable and memorable lessons were the various nuances and rule changes to these common children's games depending on locale. Venue, it seems, brings different rules.

In Kentucky, the boundaries for hide-and-seek and kick the can were the creek behind my house and the Patterson's yard down the street. The creek rule was parent-driven: muddy feet, etc. The Patterson's yard was more practically driven. They had a 100-pound German Shepherd named Rolf. Rolf loved adults. Loud quick-moving kids, not so much.

Birmingham had different boundaries. Pearce Street was way too busy to play on or around, thus the parental units placed a force field in front of it. The threat of punishment for breaking through was enough to keep us away. The other boundaries: a ten-foot chain link fence and a well-manicured lawn that had no trespassing signs and a mean old man sitting on the front porch.²

This little jog down memory lane got me thinking about the similarities of the many places I've lived and the differences. Those memories were my first exposure to local control, although I had no understanding of it at the time. At its core, local control³ is simple. Citizens of a city or town elect people to do what is right for that community. Key words: that community (that city or town). Not the city down the road or even next door. What works well in Gentry may not work well in Camden. In short, one size does not fit all. Just like the creek in Kentucky and the busy street in Birmingham, cities and towns in our great state make "rules" that suit their specific needs—individually. North Little Rock's riverfront provides a uniqueness for the city council to consider. That's vastly different from land locked but beautiful downtown Bentonville.⁴

Arkansas's cities and towns do best when left to their own devices. Federal and state laws and regulations that stifle local creativity and control must stop. Put another way, I'm glad my parents had a rule to stay off Pearce Street or I might not be writing this column. And I am darn sure glad the neighborhood rule of "stay away from Rolf's yard" existed or I might not put up dog pictures during my training classes!⁵

In short, let local folks do what they do best: They make their community better because they know their community.

Until next month, peace.



Mark R. Hayes
Executive Director
Arkansas Municipal League



1 I was born in Warwick/Providence, R.I.; moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., at 6 months of age; then off to Lexington, Ky., for a couple of years; then Birmingham, Mich.; and in 1970 we went to Racine, Wis.; and in 1976...Jonesboro, Ark! No, I am not a military brat; I'm a manufacturing brat. Pop worked his way up to plant manager by the time he retired, but that's a story for another day.

2 As I approach my 60th birthday it occurs to me that the old man may have been my age! Perspective. Always perspective.

3 Local control or "Home Rule" is statutorily vested in Arkansas's cities and towns via A.C.A. § 14-43-601 et.seq.

4 The Little Osage Creek is quite beautiful, and I'm told there are some property owners in Bentonville taking advantage of Mother Nature's work.

5 Mac, Elby, Zorro, and the 18-pound cat/dog are all doing well!



Sherwood Fest celebrates 43 years of fun

“We are proud of the hometown spirit that our annual Sherwood Fest brings to our community. People of all ages can enjoy a 5K fun run, archery, food trucks, castle contest, local vendor shopping, carnival rides, or just sit back and listen to music from some of our local talent.” —Sherwood Mayor Virginia Young.

Saturday, Sept. 28 marked the 43rd year of Sherwood Fest, the city’s biggest annual event. The weather was cotton candy clouds in a blue sky for the free festival, which is a family-oriented event that combines crafts, kid’s activities, and family entertainment. The event has been so popular that this year it was moved to the Sherwood Sports Complex at the end of Bear Paw Road. Event coordinator Misty Raper said over 4,500 attendees, 58 vendors, and dozens of local acts enjoyed the festival.

Activities included a 5K fun run, archery, contests, vendors, festival food, entertainment, and a kids zone. All of the live music and entertainment were

provided by talented local artists. The “Castle Contest” was a crowd favorite. Contestants competed for gift cards by showing their arts and craft creativity by building their own castle. 🏰



PHOTOS BY MARK POTTER AND THE CITY OF SHERWOOD.





SHERWOOD
KEST



Castle contest judge Ginann Swindle, director of the Amy Sanders Library, looks at details of each castle to help determine the top three winners. Other judges included an architect and an art teacher.



First Place - "Nottingham Castle" by Moxy Crackers (Milla Bottoms, 10, and Zoe Bottoms, 8, of Sherwood). They worked on it for two weeks.



Second Place - "Castle Goober" by Team Goober (Caleb Schichtl, 32, and Seth Compton, 8, of Jacksonville). They worked on it for one week.



Third Place - "Lamore Sherwood Castle" by McMonts (Jax McMore, 3, River Lamont, 3, and Beth Lamont, 30, of Sherwood). They worked on it for one week.



2020 Municipal Election Information

DEADLINES FOR FILING AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Filing Dates

Primary Election: From noon Nov. 4, 2019, until noon Nov. 12, 2019. A.C.A. § 7-7-203(c)(1).

General Election (for Independents): From noon July 29, 2020, until noon Aug. 5, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-42-206(b)(1).

OR, by City Ordinance (for Independents): From noon Feb. 11, 2020, until noon March 2, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-42-206(d).

Election Dates

Preferential Primary Election: March 3, 2020. A.C.A. § 7-7-203.

Primary Election (Runoff): March 31, 2020. A.C.A. § 7-7-203.

General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. A.C.A. § 7-5-102.

General Election (Runoff): Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. A.C.A. § 7-5-106.

City Administrator Form of Government

Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Deadline for filing statement of candidacy and petition, no more than ninety (90) days (May 13, 2020) or less than seventy-five (75) days by noon (May 28, 2020) before a municipal primary election, which is the second Tuesday of August. A.C.A. § 14-48-109(a).

Tues., Aug. 11—Primary Election for Directors and Mayor when more than two are seeking the office (second Tuesday in August preceding the municipal general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020). A.C.A. § 14-48-109(a)(2).

Tues., June 2, 2020—Deadline for clerk to certify names of candidates on the petitions to county board of election commissioners seventy (70) days before municipal primary election, which is Aug. 11, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-48-109(a)(6)(B).

City Manager Form of Government Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Deadline for all candidates for petitions of nomination and political practice pledges not more than one-hundred two (102) days (July 24, 2020) nor less than eighty-one (81) days by noon (Aug. 14, 2020) before general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-47-110(a)(2).

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020—Deadline for city clerk to certify names of candidates for director to county board of election commissioners, unless petition fails to meet standards seventy-five (75) days before general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-47-110(a)(3)(D).

Political Practice Pledge and Affidavit of Eligibility

- For candidates in Preferential Primary Election: From noon Nov. 4, 2019, until noon Nov. 12, 2019. A.C.A. § 7-6-102(a); 7-7-301(a).
- For independent candidates: During the period for filing petition for nomination from July 24, 2020, until noon Aug. 14, 2020. A.C.A. § 7-6-102(a); § 14-42-206(b)(3).

Political Practice Pledge is filed with the County Clerk at time of filing petition for nomination, a pledge in writing stating that candidate is familiar with the requirements of A.C.A. §§ 7-1-103, 7-1-104; § 7-3-108,

7-6-101 through 7-6-104 and will in good faith comply with their terms. See A.C.A. § 7-6-102.

Financial Disclosure Statements

- Party candidates for elective office: Must file a statement of financial interest for the previous year (2018) on the first Monday following the close of the filing period, which is Nov. 18, 2019.
- All candidates for elective office must file a statement of financial interest for 2019 by Jan. 31, 2020. A.C.A. § 21-8-705.
- Independent candidates for elective office: Must file a statement of financial interest for the previous year (2019) on the first Monday following the close of the filing period, which is Aug. 17, 2020. A.C.A. §§ 21-8-701(c), 21-8-703.



- Incumbent officeholders filing statements of financial interest by Jan. 31, 2020, are not required to file an additional statement for the remainder of 2020 upon becoming a candidate for reelection or election. A.C.A. § 21-8-701.

Financial Disclosure Statement(s) must be filed with the City Clerk or Recorder on the first Monday following the close of the period to file as a candidate for the elective office. Any incumbent office holder who has filed the statement for the year 2019 by Jan. 31, 2020, shall not be required to file an additional statement. A.C.A. § 21-8-701(c) and 703(a)(3). For party candidates, Financial Disclosure Statements for both 2018 and 2019 are required to be filed.

Reports of Contributions and Expenses

Pre-election Report—No later than seven (7) days prior to any preferential primary, runoff, general, or special election. Not required if contributions and expenditures are each less than five hundred dollars (\$500), or if candidate runs unopposed.

Final Reports—No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the month in which the candidate’s name has appeared on the ballot, regardless of whether a candidate has received contributions and/or expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500). A candidate who withdraws shall file within thirty (30) days of withdrawal a report of any contributions and expenditures not previously reported.

Supplemental Reports—After the final report, within thirty (30) days of contribution or expenditure. A.C.A. § 7-6-208.

Officials elected take office: Jan. 1, 2021.

Mayor-Council Form of Government

Important Statutes

14-42-206. Municipal elections—Nominating petitions

(a)(1) The city or town council of any city or town with the mayor-council form of government may request the county party committees of recognized political parties under the laws of the state to conduct party primaries for municipal offices for the forthcoming year by resolution passed:

- (A) Before January 1 of the year of the election, if the election will occur in a year in which the preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and
- (B) No less than sixty (60) days before the party filing period begins under § 7-7-203, if the election will occur in a year in which the preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

(2) The resolution shall remain in effect for the subsequent elections unless revoked by the city or town council.

(3) When the resolution has been adopted, the clerk or recorder shall mail a certified copy of the resolution to the chairs of the county party committees and to the chairs of the state party committees.

(4) Candidates nominated for municipal office by political primaries under this section shall be certified by the county party committees to the county board of election commissioners and shall be placed on the ballot at the general election.

(b)(1) Any person desiring to become an independent candidate for municipal office in cities and towns with the mayor-council form of government shall file during a one-week period ending at 12:00 noon ninety (90) days before the general election with the county clerk the petition of nomination in substantially the following forms:
 (A) For all candidates except council members in cities of the first class and cities of the second class:

“PETITION OF NOMINATION—We, the undersigned qualified electors of the city (town) of _____, Arkansas, being in number not less than ten (10) for incorporated towns and cities of the second (2nd) class, and not less than thirty (30) for cities of the first (1st) class, do hereby petition that the name of _____ be placed on the ballot for the office of _____ (A candidate for council member in an incorporated town shall identify the position for which he or she is running) at the next election of municipal officials in 20 _____. [Printed name, signature, street address, date of birth, and day of signing.]

(B) For candidates for council member elected by ward in cities of the first class and cities of the second class, the nominating petitions shall be signed only by qualified electors of the ward in the following manner:

“PETITION OF NOMINATION—We, the undersigned qualified electors of Ward _____ of the city of _____, Arkansas, being in number not less than ten (10) for cities of the second (2nd) class, and not less than thirty (30) for cities of the first (1st) class, do hereby petition that the name of _____ be placed on the ballot for the office of Council member, Ward _____, position _____, of the next election of municipal officials in 20 _____. [Printed name, signature, street address, date of birth, and day of signing.]

(C) For at-large candidates for council member of a ward in cities of the first class and cities of the second class, the nominating petitions shall be signed by a qualified elector of the city in the following manner:

“PETITION OF NOMINATION—We, the undersigned qualified electors of the city of _____, Arkansas, being in number not less than ten (10) for

cities of the second (2nd) class, and not less than thirty (30) for cities of the first (1st) class, do hereby petition that the name of _____ be placed on the ballot for the office of Council member, Ward _____, position _____, of the next election of municipal officials in 20 _____. [Printed name, signature, street address, date of birth, and day of signing.]

(2)(A) An independent candidate for municipal office may qualify by a petition, to be circulated no longer than ninety (90) days of not fewer than ten (10) electors for incorporated towns and cities of the second class and not fewer than thirty (30) electors for cities of the first class of the ward or city in which the election is to be held.

(B)(i) The county clerk shall determine no later than ten (10) days from filing whether the petition contains the names of a sufficient number of qualified electors and certify that no signatures are dated more than ninety (90) days before the filing of the petition.

(ii) The county clerk's determination shall be made no less than seventy-five (75) days before the general election.

(C) The county clerk promptly shall notify the candidate of the result.

(3) Independent candidates for municipal office shall file a political practices pledge and an affidavit of eligibility at the time of filing their petitions.

(4)(A) An independent candidate shall state the position, including the position number, if any, on his or her petition.

(B) When a candidate has identified the position sought on the notice of candidacy, the candidate shall not be allowed to change the position but may withdraw a notice of candidacy and file a new notice of candidacy designating a different position before the deadline for filing.

(5) The sufficiency of a petition filed under this section may be challenged in the same manner as election contests under § 7-5-801 et seq.

(6) A person who has been defeated in a party primary shall not file as an independent candidate in the general election for the office for which he or she was defeated in the party primary.

(c)(1)(A) If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast in the general election, the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast for the office to be filled shall be the nominees for the respective offices, to be voted upon in a runoff election pursuant to § 7-5-106.

(B) In any case, except for the office of mayor, in which only one (1) candidate has filed and qualified for the office, the candidate shall be declared elected and the name of the person shall be certified as elected without the necessity of putting the person's name on the general election ballot for the office.

(2) If the office of mayor is unopposed, then the candidate for mayor shall be printed on the general election ballot and the votes for mayor shall be tabulated as in all contested races.

(d)(1)(A) The governing body of any city of the first class, city of the second class, or incorporated town may enact an ordinance requiring independent candidates for municipal office to file petitions for nomination as independent candidates with the county clerk:

(i) No earlier than twenty (20) days prior to the preferential primary election; and

(ii) No later than 12:00 noon on the day before the preferential primary election.

(B) The governing body may establish this filing deadline for municipal offices even if the municipal offices are all independent or otherwise nonpartisan.

(2)(A) The ordinance shall be enacted no later than ninety (90) days prior to the filing deadline.

(B) The ordinance shall be published at least one (1) time a week for two (2) consecutive weeks immediately following adoption of the ordinance in a newspaper having a general circulation in the city.

(e) A person filing for municipal office may file for only one (1) municipal office during the municipal filing period.

(f) Nothing in this section shall repeal any law pertaining to the city administrator form of government or the city manager form of government.

(g) This section does not apply in any respect to the election of district judges.

7-5-106. Runoff elections for county and municipal officers

(a)(1) If there are more than two (2) candidates for election to any county elected office, including the office of justice of the peace, at any general election held in this state and no candidate for the county elected office receives a majority of the votes cast for the county elected office, there shall be a runoff general election held in that county four (4) weeks following the date of the general election at which the names of the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes, but not a majority, shall be placed on the ballot to be voted upon by the qualified electors of the county.

(2)(A) The following procedure will govern if there are more than two (2) candidates for election to any municipal office at any general election held in this state in which no candidate for the municipal office receives either:

(i) A majority of the votes cast; or

(ii) A plurality of forty percent (40%) of the votes cast.

(B)(i) A candidate who receives a plurality of forty percent (40%) of the votes cast must obtain at least twenty percent (20%) more of the votes cast than the

second-place candidate for the municipal office to avoid a runoff general election against the second-place candidate

(ii) If required, the runoff general election between the two (2) candidates shall be held in that municipality three (3) weeks following the date of the general election with the names of the two (2) candidates placed on the ballot to be voted upon by the qualified electors of the municipality.

(b) If two (2) candidates receive the highest number of votes and receive the same number of votes, a tie is deemed to exist and the names of the two (2) candidates shall be placed on the runoff general election ballot to be voted upon by the qualified electors of the county or the municipality, as the case may be.

(c)(1) If there is one (1) candidate who receives the highest number of votes, but not a majority of the votes, and two (2) other candidates receive the same number of votes for the next highest number of votes cast, a tie is deemed to exist between the two (2) candidates.

(2) The county board of election commissioners shall determine the runoff candidate by lot at a public meeting and in the presence of the two (2) candidates.

(d) If one (1) of the two (2) candidates who received the highest number of votes for a county elected office or a municipal office but not a majority of the votes in a county for a county elected office or either a majority or both forty percent (40%) of the votes cast and at least twenty percent (20%) more of the votes cast than the second-place candidate in a municipality for a municipal office in the general election withdraws before certification of the result of the general election, the remaining candidate who received the most votes at the general election shall be declared elected to the county elected office or municipal office and there shall be no runoff general election.

(e)(1) The person receiving the majority of the votes cast for the county elected office or municipal office at the runoff general election shall be declared elected.

(2) However, if the two (2) candidates seeking election to the same county elected office or municipal office receive the same number of votes in the runoff general election, a tie is deemed to exist, and the county board shall determine the winner of the runoff general election by lot at an open public meeting and in the presence of the two (2) candidates.

(f)(1) As used in this section, “municipal office” means offices of cities of the first class and cities of the second class and incorporated towns and includes the offices of Council Members, members of boards of managers, or other elective municipal offices elected by the voters of the entire municipality or from wards or districts within a municipality.

(2) “Municipal office” does not include offices of cities having a city manager form of government.

(g) This section does not apply to election of members of the boards of directors and other officials of cities having a city manager form of government.

(h) This section is intended to be in addition to and supplemental to the laws of this state pertaining to the election of officers for county elected offices and municipal offices at general elections.

Mayor-Council Form of Government

The following offices will be elected in 2020:

Incorporated towns

Council Members—five (5) elected for two (2) year terms if there has been no approval of four-year terms and the requisite election procedures. Council members run by Position Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5. A.C.A. § 7-7-304(e). Voted on by all electors of the town. A.C.A. § 14-45-102. If the voters have approved a four year election cycle then initially, positions one (1), three (3), and five (5) shall have four (4)-year terms with council members representing positions numbered two (2) and four (4) to have two-year terms and thereafter four (4)-year terms.

Marshal (if elected)—two (2) year term. Council may provide by ordinance for appointment or election of city marshal or may create police department. A.C.A. §§ 14-45-109, 14-52-102 and 14-52-103.

Cities of the second class

Recorder—four (4) year term. A.C.A. § 14-44-115.

Treasurer—if separate from recorder, four (4) year term. A.C.A. § 14-44-109; § 14-44-115.

Council Members—two (2) from each Ward elected for two (2) year terms and must reside in Ward. File by Position Number (1) or (2), and elected city wide unless otherwise provided by ordinance. A.C.A. § 14-44-103 (b)(1)(A) and (B) and (c)(1)(A) and (B). Note: Council members may, by ordinance referred to the voters, be elected to four-year staggered terms. A.C.A. § 14-44-103(a)(4) through (7). Some council members will initially be elected to two-year terms in order to create the staggered terms.

Marshal (if elected)—two (2) year term. Council may provide by ordinance for appointment or election of city marshal or may create police department. A.C.A. §§ 14-44-111, 14-52-102, and 14-52-103.

Collector (optional)—two (2) year term. A.C.A. § 14-44-117.

Cities of first class with less than 50,000 population

Council Members—two (2) from each Ward elected for two (2) year terms; must reside in ward, file by Position No. 1 or No. 2 and elected city wide unless

otherwise provided by ordinance. A.C.A. §§ 14-43-307, 14-43-312. However, any first class city may, by ordinance referred to the voters, elect its council members to four-year staggered terms as provided in A.C.A. § 14-43-312. Note that this will mean some council members will initially be elected to two-year terms in order to create the staggered terms.

Cities of first class with over 50,000 population

Mayor—four (4) year term. A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(1)(A)(i).

City Clerk, Clerk/Treasurer—four (4) year term. A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(1)(A)(ii).

Council Members—one (1) from each ward for four (4) year terms, must reside in the ward, elected city-wide unless City Council passes ordinance to provide otherwise. A.C.A. § 14-43-303 (a)(1)(A)(iii).

District Court Judges

District Judge—beginning in 2004, all District Judges were elected to four (4) year terms. Ark. Const. Amend. 80 secs. 16, 19.

Election of Council Members

Council members in cities of the first and second class are elected city-wide if the City Council has not adopted one of the following two options:

Option 1. All the council members can be elected by wards.

Option 2. One council member from each ward can be elected citywide and one council member from each ward can be elected by ward. A.C.A. §§ 14-43-307(b)(1)(B)(ii), 14-44-103(c)(1)(B)(ii).

No election in 2020 of the following offices:

Incorporated towns

Mayor—A.C.A. § 14-45-104.

City Attorney—A.C.A. § 14-42-112(a) (although this law is not entirely clear about when a city attorney should stand for election, stating only “at the time of the election of other officers. . . .” This could mean either the other four-year office holders, or could also include the biannual election of Council Members).

Recorder/Treasurer—A.C.A. § 14-45-108.

Cities of the second class

Mayor—A.C.A. § 14-44-105.

City Attorney—See note above under incorporated towns.

Cities of first class with less than 50,000 population

Mayor—A.C.A. § 14-43-305(a).

City Attorney—A.C.A. § 14-43-315(a).

City Clerk, Treasurer or Clerk/Treasurer—A.C.A. §§ 14-43-316, 14-43-405 (note: Treasurer can be appointed

or elected as designated by ordinance. If elected the office follows the election cycle of the Clerk or Clerk/Treasurer and will be next elected in 2014).

Cities of first class with over 50,000 population

City Treasurer—unless the office has, by ordinance, been combined with the City Clerk or is appointed rather than elected. A.C.A. §§ 14-43-303(a)(2)(A)(ii), 14-43-405.

City Attorney—A.C.A. § 14-43-303(a)(2)(A)(i).

Council Members—one (1) from each ward. A.C.A. §§ 14-43-303 (a)(2)(A)(iii), 14-43-307.

Independent candidates—deadline for filing

Independent candidates for municipal office shall file during a one-week period ending at noon ninety (90) days before the general election (provided the city council has not passed an ordinance pursuant to A.C.A. § 14-42-206(d)(l) to shorten the filing period). This translates to July 29, 2020, until noon Aug. 5, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-42-206(b)(1); § 7-6-102(a)(3).

The city council, by ordinance, may fix filing deadline for independent candidates for municipal office:

(i) No earlier than twenty (20) days prior to the preferential primary election; and

(ii) No later than noon on the day before the preferential primary election (March 3, 2020). A.C.A. § 14-42-206(d).

The council must enact this ordinance no later than 90 days prior to the filing deadline and publish it for two weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. The deadline may be established even if all offices are independent or otherwise nonpartisan.

Petitions must be signed by not less than ten (10) electors for incorporated towns and cities of the second class and not less than thirty (30) electors for cities of the first class filed with the county clerk. A.C.A. § 14-42-206. The county clerk shall determine whether the petition contains a sufficient number of qualified electors. For City Administrator and City manages cities, petitions must have at least 50 signatures. A.C.A. § 14-48-109(a)(5), § 14-47-110(a)(3)(A)(i).

Defeated candidates in primary—A person who has been defeated in a party primary shall not be an independent candidate in the general election for the office for which he or she was defeated in the party primary. A.C.A. § 14-42-206(b)(6).

No write-in votes—In all general elections held in cities of the first class, second class cities and incorporated towns for the election of officials of these municipalities, no ballots shall be counted for any person whose name is written thereon. Only votes cast for the regularly nominated, or otherwise qualified candidates whose names are printed on the ballot as candidates in

the election, shall be counted by the judges and clerks. A.C.A. § 14-43-202.

Who may seek municipal office:

1. Must be a U.S. citizen. Ark. Const. Art. 3 § 1.
2. Must be a resident of municipality or ward represented. Ark. Const. Art. 19 sec. 3; A.C.A. § 14-42-201(c).
3. Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Amendment 26, U.S. Const. Ark. Const. Art. 3 § 1.
4. Qualified elector and eligible at time of filing, or in case of age, at time of taking office. A.C.A. § 7-5-207(b).
5. Free from felony conviction, or conviction of embezzlement of public money, bribery, forgery, theft or other crime involving dishonesty, including misdemeanors. *State v. Oldner*, 361 Ark. 316, 206 S.W.3d 818 (2005); *Edwards v. Campbell*, 2010 Ark. 398 (misdemeanor theft of campaign sign was disqualifying). An exception to this rule may occur if the conviction has been sealed. See A.C.A. §§ 16-90-1401 to 1419; *Powers v. Bryant*, 309 Ark. 568 (1992) (decided under prior law).
6. Must not claim the right to vote in another county or state. Ark. Const. Amend 51 § 6.
7. Must not presently be judged mentally incompetent by a court. Id.

Appointed municipal officials may seek election

Officials who have been appointed to their office may run for the office to which they were appointed. Amendment 29 to the Arkansas Constitution prohibits this for federal, state, district, circuit, county and township offices, but Amendment 29 does not apply to municipal offices.

City Administrator Form of Government

Important Statutes

14-48-109. Election of directors and mayor—Oath

- (a) Candidates for the office of director and mayor shall be nominated and elected as follows:
- (1)(A)(i) A special election for the election of the initial membership of the board of directors and mayor shall be called by the Secretary of State as provided in A.C.A. § 14-48-108.
 - (ii) The proclamation shall be published in accordance with A.C.A. § 7-11-101 et seq.
 - (iii) For the initial election of directors and mayor, any person desiring to become a candidate shall file within twenty (20) days following the date of the proclamation by the Secretary of State with the city clerk or recorder

a statement of candidacy in the form and with the supporting signatures as provided in this section. In all other respects, the initial elections shall be governed by the provisions of this chapter for holding municipal elections. (B)(i) Special elections to fill any vacancy under A.C.A. § 14-48-115 shall be called through a resolution of the board.

(ii) A proclamation of the election shall be signed by the mayor and published in accordance with A.C.A. § 7-11-101 et seq. in some newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the municipality;

(2)(A) Candidates to be voted on at all elections to be held under the provisions of this chapter shall be nominated by primary election, and no names shall be placed upon the general election ballot except those selected in the manner prescribed in this chapter.

(B)(i) The primary elections, other than the initial primary, for those nominations for offices to be filled at the municipal general election shall be held on the second Tuesday of August preceding the municipal general election.

(ii)(a) The elections shall be under the supervision of the county board of election commissioners, and the election judges and clerks appointed for the general election shall be the judges and clerks of the primary elections.

(b) Primary elections shall be held in the same places as are designated for the general election, so far as possible, and shall, so far as practicable, be conducted in the same manner as other elections under the laws of this state;

(3) Any person desiring to become a candidate for mayor or director shall file with the city clerk not less than seventy-five (75) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the primary election by noon a statement of his or her candidacy in substantially the following form:

“STATE OF ARKANSAS
COUNTY OF _____

I, _____, being first duly sworn, state that I reside at _____ Street, City of _____, County and State aforesaid; that I am a qualified elector of said city and the ward in which I reside; that I am a candidate for nomination to the office of _____, to be voted upon at the primary election to be held on the __ day of __, 20__, and I hereby request that my name be placed upon the official primary election ballot for nomination by such primary election for such office and I herewith deposit the sum of ten dollars (\$10), the fee prescribed by law.”

(4) The statement of candidacy and the petition for nomination supporting the candidacy of each candidate to be voted upon at any general or special election shall be filed with the city clerk or recorder not less than seventy-five (75) days nor more than ninety (90) days before the election by noon;

(5) The name of each candidate shall be supported by a petition for nomination signed by at least fifty (50)

qualified electors of the municipality requesting the candidacy of the candidate. The petition shall show the residence address of each signer and carry an affidavit signed by one (1) or more persons in which the affiant or affiants shall vouch for the eligibility of each signer of the petition. Each petition shall be substantially in the following form:

“The undersigned, duly qualified electors of the City of _____, Arkansas, each signer hereof residing at the address set opposite his or her signature, hereby requests that the name of _____ be placed on the ballot as a candidate for election to Position No. ___ on the Board of Directors (or Mayor) of said City of _____ at the election to be held in such city on the ___ day of __, 20___. We further state that we know said person to be a qualified elector of said city and a person of good moral character and qualified in our judgment for the duties of such office.”

(6)(A) A petition for nomination shall not show the name of more than one (1) candidate.

(B) The name of the candidate mentioned in each petition, together with a copy of the election proclamation if the election is a special election, shall be certified by the city clerk or recorder to the county board of election commissioners not less than seventy (70) days before the election unless the clerk or recorder finds that the petition fails to meet with the requirements of this chapter.

(C)(i) Whether the names of the candidates so certified to the county board of election commissioners are to be submitted at a biennial general election or at a special election held on a different date, the county board of election commissioners shall have general supervision over the holding of each municipal election.

(ii)(a) In this connection, the election board shall post the nominations, print the ballots, establish the voting precincts, appoint the election judges and clerks, determine and certify the results of the election, and determine the election expense chargeable to the city, all in the manner prescribed by law in respect to general elections; it is the intention of this chapter that the general election machinery of this state shall be utilized in the holding of all general and special elections authorized under this chapter.

(b) The result of the election shall be certified by the election board to the city clerk or recorder;

(7) The names of all candidates at the election shall be printed upon the ballot in an order determined by draw. If more than two (2) candidates qualify for an office, the names of all candidates shall appear on the ballot at the primary election;

(8)(A) If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast in the primary, the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes for mayor and for each director position to be filled shall be the nominees for those respective offices to be voted upon in the general election.

(B) If no more than two (2) persons qualify as candidates for the office of mayor or for any director position to be filled, no municipal primary election shall be held for these positions, and the names of the two (2) qualifying candidates for each office or position shall be placed upon the ballot at the municipal general election as the nominees for the respective positions. Primary elections shall be omitted in wards in which no primary contest is required.

(C) In any case in which only one (1) candidate shall have filed and qualified for the office of mayor or any director position, or if a candidate receives a clear majority of the votes cast in a primary election, that candidate shall be declared elected. The name of the person shall be certified as elected without the necessity of putting the person’s name on the general municipal election ballot for the office; and

(9) Any candidate defeated at any municipal primary election or municipal general election may contest it in the manner provided by law for contesting other elections.

(b) Each member of the board of directors, before entering upon the discharge of his or her duties, shall take the oath of office required by Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, Section 20.

City Manager Form of Government

Important Statutes

14-47-110. Election of directors

(a) Candidates for the office of director shall be nominated and elected as follows:

(1)(A)(i) A special election to elect the initial membership of the board shall be called by the mayor as provided in A.C.A. § 14-47-106.

(ii) The mayor’s proclamation shall be in accordance with A.C.A. § 7-11-101 et seq.

(B)(i) A special election to fill any vacancy under A.C.A. § 14-47-113 shall be called through a resolution of the board of directors.

(ii) A proclamation announcing the holding of the election shall be signed by the mayor and published in accordance with A.C.A. § 7-11-101 et seq.;

(2) The petition mentioned in subdivision (a)(3) of this section supporting the candidacy of each candidate to be voted upon at any general or special election shall be filed with the city clerk or recorder not more than one hundred two (102) days nor fewer than eighty-one (81) days before the election by noon;

(3)(A)(i) In respect to both special and general elections, the name of each candidate shall be supported by a petition, signed by at least fifty (50) qualified electors of the municipality, requesting the candidacy of the candidate.

(ii) The petition shall show the residence address of each signer and shall carry an affidavit signed by one (1) or

more persons, in which the affiant or affiants shall vouch for the eligibility of each signer of the petition.

(B) Each petition shall be substantially in the following form:

“The undersigned, duly qualified electors of the City of _____, Arkansas, each signer hereof residing at the address set opposite his or her signature, hereby request that the name _____ be placed on the ballot as a candidate for election to Position No. ___ on the Board of Directors of said City of _____ at the election to be held in such City on the ___ day of __, 20___. We further state that we know said person to be a qualified elector of said City and a person of good moral character and qualified in our judgment for the duties of such office.”

(C) A petition for nomination shall not show the name of more than one (1) candidate.

(D)(i) The name of the candidate mentioned in each petition, together with a copy of the election proclamation if the election is a special election, shall be certified by the city clerk or recorder to the county board of election commissioners not less than seventy-five (75) days before the election unless the clerk or recorder finds that the petition fails to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(ii)(a) Whether the names of the candidates so certified to the county board of election commissioners are to be submitted at a biennial general election or at a special election held on a different date, the election board shall have general supervision over the holding of each municipal election.

(b) In this connection, the board shall post the nominations, print the ballots, establish the voting precincts, appoint the election judges and clerks, determine and certify the result of the election, and determine the election expense chargeable to the city, all in the manner prescribed by law in respect to general elections. It is the intention of this chapter that the general election machinery of this state shall be utilized in the holding of all general and special elections authorized under this chapter.

(c) The result of the election shall be certified by the election board to the city clerk or recorder; and

(4) The candidate for any designated position on the board of directors who, in any general or special election, shall receive votes greater in number than those cast in favor of any other candidate for the position shall be deemed to be elected.

(b) Each director, before entering upon the discharge of his or her duties, shall take the oath of office required by the Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 20. ☞

“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

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Notice!

Municipal Property Program Rates

Effective 12/1/2019

A rate increase has been approved and an optional buy-down on deductibles is available for Class 101 and Class 102.

Rate Increases & Deductibles

ISO Ratings of 1 – 3 = Class 101 = .001560 x value (\$10,000.00 Deductible)

ISO Rating of 4 – 6 = Class 102 = .001910 x value (\$7,500.00 Deductible)

ISO Rating of 7 – 9 = Class 103, = .002250 x value (\$5,000.00 Deductible)

ISO Rating of 10 = Class 104 (and LSM Members) = .002600 x value (\$5,000.00 Deductible)

Rate is determined by the member's ISO Rating

ISO Ratings of 1 – 3 = Class 1

ISO Rating of 4 – 6 = Class 2

ISO Rating of 7 – 9 = Class 3

ISO Rating of 10 = Class 4

Effective 10/01/2019:

- Class 101 and 102 members have an option of buying down to a \$5,000 deductible. Class 101 rate would be .001760 and Class 102 would be .00206.
- Current and Cumulative Loss Ratios over 300% and Cumulative loss to the pool over \$600,000 will be assessed a surcharge of .0004.

Municipal Vehicle Program Rates

Effective 12/1/2019

| Part I, Class Table | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Class | Standard Vehicle | 15+ Pass Van & Ambulances & LSM's | Buses |
| 1 | \$100 | \$200 | \$800 |
| 2 | \$300 | \$400 | \$1,000 |

| Part II, Cumulative Loss Experience | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| Class | | Standard Vehicle | 15+ Pass Van & Ambulances & Buses & LSM's |
| 21 | Under 100% | 0.0055 | 0.011 |
| 22 | 100 - 120% | 0.0066 | 0.0132 |
| 23 | 121 - 140% | 0.0077 | 0.0154 |
| 24 | 141 - 170% | 0.0088 | 0.0176 |
| 25 | 171 - 200% | 0.0099 | 0.0198 |
| 26 | Over 200% | 0.011 | 0.0220 |

Surcharge application

Part I (Liability) has been reset for all members to Class 1. Members with a current loss ratio over 100% for the last two years cumulative, plus a current 100% Cumulative Loss Ratio, plus an aggregate loss to the pool of \$750,000 or higher, will be surcharged and the maximum Class 2 Rates would apply.

The Part II Premium would also incur a 10% surcharge. Our hope is that the surcharge will encourage municipalities to take the necessary steps to mitigate their losses. The League has extensive resources available, at no charge to you, to accomplish this.



Please contact John Wells, general manager of the Municipal Vehicle and Property Programs, at (501) 978-6123, if you have any questions regarding the Municipal Property Program rates or the Municipal Vehicle Program rates.

NLC
NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES



CITY SUMMIT

SAN ANTONIO • NOVEMBER 20-23, 2019



AN UNMATCHED EVENT FOR LOCAL LEADERS

Here's the thing about local government: with so many daily challenges, it can be easy to put your head down and just dig in. But we believe that leaders govern better when they have access to creative ideas, people, and places.

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**JOIN US IN SAN ANTONIO
NOVEMBER 20-23,
2019 TO GET BIG IDEAS
THAT SUPPORT ALL
COMMUNITIES - FROM THE
LARGEST CITIES TO THE
SMALLEST TOWNS.**



REGISTER NOW AT
CITYSUMMIT.NLC.ORG



League Executive Director Mark Hayes provides a packed house of municipal leaders with legislative updates that affect city budgets.

Municipal Finance 101 breaks record

The League held its Municipal Finance 101 workshop Sept. 26 at the Wyndham Hotel in North Little Rock, and it was a record-breaker, with 176 municipal officials and employees participating and 196 participants overall, including League staff and guest speakers. The previous record was 133.

The workshop is a core Level 1 course in the League’s voluntary certification program for elected officials and key personnel who wish to achieve Certified Municipal Official (CMO) or Certified Municipal Personnel (CMP) status. The course was held at the Wyndham adjacent to League HQ while the assembly hall and other parts of the campus undergo renovation.

The full-day course covered a broad array of essential finance topics for cities and towns, including legislative updates to municipal finance law, creating and following a city budget, online sales tax collection, the top 10 findings in municipal accounting by Legislative Audit, best practices in information systems, cybersecurity, and more.



Forge Institute CEO Lee Watson discusses strategies to avoid being hacked and how to recognize if your data has already been compromised.

McGehee hosts League EEOC training

Members of the League staff conducted a regional Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) training session Sept. 25 in McGehee. League General Counsel John Wilkerson, Director of Human Resources Tracey Pew, and General Manager of Health/Safety Operations David Baxter covered several key areas related to the EEOC, including a legal review of typical EEOC complaints and how to avoid them, and an overview of how complaints can be costly, both monetarily and in lost productivity and low employee morale. Also as part of the program, David Baxter presented a condensed version of the League’s “Respect and Understanding” training, which aims to help create and maintain a positive work environment for everyone in our cities and towns.



The League's David Baxter leads a discussion among southeast Arkansas city officials during a recent EEOC training session in McGehee.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Oct. 19

Fall Festival & Car Show

Osceola

(870) 563-2281 osceolasmcchamber.com

Oct. 19

Founder's Day Festival

White Hall

(870) 247-2399 whitehallfoundersday.com

Oct. 25

37th Bean Fest & Championship
Outhouse Races

Mountain View

(870) 269-8068 yourplaceinthemountains.com

Oct. 26

43rd Grand Prairie Rice Festival

Hazen

(870) 255-3042

Oct. 26

Fall Fest

Shannon Hills

(501) 455-2003

Oct. 31

Hermitage Fall Fest on Main Street

Hermitage

(870) 463-2209

Nov. 2

Lavaca Berry Festival

Lavaca

(479) 739-2482

Nov. 2

Monette Fall Festival

Monette

(870) 486-2000



| IT in a Box Gold | | IT in a Box Silver | | IT in a Box Bronze | |
|--|-------------|--|--|---|-------------|
| Save up to 52% | | Save up to 52% | | Save up to 65% | |
| Features & benefits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Cybersecurity & Computer Maintenance > 24x7 Helpdesk (onsite & remote) > Data Backup & Disaster Recovery > Records/Document Management, Email, & Microsoft Office > Video Archiving > Policy & Compliance > Website > Vendor Management and Procurement | | Features & benefits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Cybersecurity & Computer Maintenance > 24x7 Helpdesk (remote) > Data Backup & Disaster Recovery > Vendor Management and Procurement | | Features & benefits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Cybersecurity & Computer Maintenance > Data Backup & Disaster Recovery | |
| SIGN UP ONLINE & SAVE | | | | | |
| Example: 2 PCs | | Example: 2 PCs | | Example: 2 PCs | |
| List price | | List price | | List price | |
| Onboarding | Monthly Fee | Onboarding | Monthly Fee | Onboarding | Monthly Fee |
| \$1,000 | \$515 | \$1,000 | \$252 | \$1,000 | \$142 |
| AML members SAVE 52% the first year! | | AML members SAVE 52% the first year! | | AML members SAVE 65% the first year! | |
| Onboarding | Monthly Fee | Onboarding | Monthly Fee | Onboarding | Monthly Fee |
| FREE | \$249 | FREE | \$120 | FREE | \$50 |
| Save on IT in a Box, sign up today, and let us handle your IT needs and risks. | | | | | |
| https://sophicity.com/Signup-AML-ITinaBox.aspx | | | | | |
| Dave Mims 770.670.6940 x110 davemims@sophicity.com www.sophicity.com | | | Chris Hartley 501.978.6106 chartley@arml.org www.arml.org | | |

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

ELGL Road Trip stops in Little Rock

Little Rock was one of 27 cities in September to host a session of the ELGL Road Trip, a multi-day, multi-location series of “lunch-n-learn” meetings organized by the organization Engaging Local Government Leaders to showcase how local governments are using data to create innovative solutions. Event partners for the Sept. 24 session held at the West Central Community Center in Little Rock included the Bloomberg Philanthropies Initiative What Works Cities, John Hopkins University’s Center for Government Excellence (GovEx), among others.



The data available at Little Rock's open data portal is designed to evolve based on policy priorities and input from the city's residents, said Little Rock Performance and Innovation Coordinator Melissa Bridges.

Led by Little Rock Performance and Innovation Coordinator Melissa Bridges, the session showcased the city's Open Data Portal and the many ways the city is able to use data to help city departments and employees do their jobs more effectively.

For the city's planning department, creating a one-stop-shop for data has helped make decision making and permitting a quicker much more responsive process, said Planning Director Jamie Collins. Also, utilizing the data available and new technology, the department was able to roll out a new online building permitting system.

The Housing and Neighborhood Programs' Code Enforcement Division is another area that is benefiting from access to data. The officers in the field can enter code violations and other data remotely, which,




The city's code enforcement is more efficient and more transparent thanks to the collection of good data, said Housing and Neighborhood Programs Director Victor Turner.

once gathered, can be used to target areas that need more attention, helping them best utilize their time and resources.

“It has helped us to be, not only more efficient, but also accountable,” said the department’s Director



Victor Turner.

Visit data.littlerock.gov to see how Little Rock is using data to make a more responsive and accessible local government. 

**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

Arkansas Municipal League's Certified Municipal Official/Certified Municipal Personnel Voluntary Certification Program

All municipal officials—mayors, city administrators, city managers, city directors, council members, city clerks, recorders, and treasurers; or department heads, managers, and other key personnel—are invited to participate in the new advanced voluntary certification program.

To become a Certified Municipal Official (CMO) or Certified Municipal Personnel (CMP), a participant must complete a combination of 15 core Level 1 hours, plus 6 continuing hours. Participants pursuing any and all levels of certification must obtain six hours of continuing education on an annual basis to maintain certification status.

For the first time, advanced level training will be offered to our members. The new advanced classes will include 15 hours of Advanced Level 2 training, 20 hours of Advanced Level 3 training, and 6 hours of Continuing Education. Please examine the class schedule below for a preview of the next two years.

Voluntary Certification Program



| Level 1 | Continuing Education | Advanced Level 2 | Advanced Level 3 |
|---|--|---|--|
| City Government 101 Municipal Finance 101 Human Resources | Various topics of interest to municipalities | Municipal Finance 201 Disaster Preparedness Leadership 101 at the Local Level | Personnel Management Technology/Cybersecurity Conflict Management Leadership 201 at the Local Level |
| 15 hours | 6 hours | 15 hours | 20 hours |

Voluntary Certification Class Schedule

| Even Year 2020 | Month | Odd Year 2021 |
|--|------------------|--|
| Municipal Finance 201 (5 hours of Advanced Level 2) | January | Winter Conference City Gov't 101 (5 hours of Level 1) plus (3 Hours of Continuing Education) |
| Winter Conference (3 Hours of Continuing Education) | February | Personnel Management (5 hours of Advanced Level 3) |
| Disaster Preparedness (5 hours of Advanced Level 2) | March | Technology/Cybersecurity (5 hours of Advanced Level 3) |
| City Government 101 (5 hours of Level 1) | April | Planning & Zoning (5 hours of Continuing Education) |
| Leadership 101 (5 hours of Advanced Level 2) | May | Conflict Management (5 hours of Advanced Level 3) |
| June Convention (3 Hours of Continuing Education) | June | June Convention (3 Hours of Continuing Education) |
| | July | |
| | August | |
| Municipal Finance 101 Workshop (5 hours of Level 1) | September | Municipal Finance 101 Workshop (5 hours of Level 1) |
| Human Resources (5 hours of Level 1) | October | Human Resources (5 hours of Level 1) |
| MHBP/MLWCP | November | Leadership 201 (5 hours of Advanced Level 3) |
| | December | |

ACCRTA gets sneak peek of League's new advanced training

As a public servant, you understand the importance of learning. Learning is a humbling experience, because it teaches us to listen and consider ideas that are not our own. The Arkansas Municipal League is committed to providing educational opportunities for municipal officials and personnel at all levels. To further this goal, we offer the newly expanded Certified Municipal Official/Certified Municipal Personnel Voluntary Certification Program.

This program presents a diverse training curriculum designed to give both municipal officials and personnel the knowledge and skills to better serve their communities. The curriculum features a core group of courses on the basics of municipal government, various continuing education topics, and newly developed advanced training tiers for members who have already achieved Level 1 status.

Key features of the League's new advanced level training are Leadership 101 and Leadership 201. Whether you have had the privilege of guiding your community for many years or you are new in a leadership role, you understand how important leadership skills are to the success of your municipality and to your career as a public servant. The

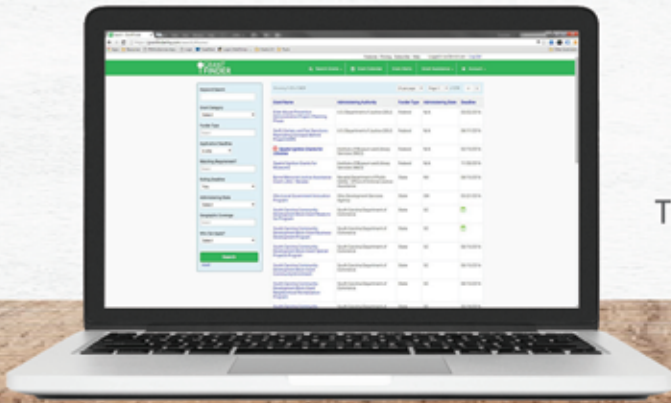
advanced course is built on the premise that leadership is primarily a communication-based activity. The course also draws from all the best parts of other leadership programs, observation-backed leadership studies, and psychological principles of human nature.

A condensed preview of this new course was recently presented by the League's David Baxter at the annual meeting of the Arkansas City Clerks, Records and Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) in Fayetteville. Leadership 101 highlights two main areas for effective leadership: influence, and show don't tell. The first part, influence, focuses on the differences between power and influence and basic communication skills that can help influence leaders. The second part, show don't tell, advances the concept that leadership is built on a foundation of ethics, credibility, and the advanced communication skill of emotional intelligence.

If you have already achieved Level 1 CMO or CMP status and wish to take advantage of the newly expanded offerings, be sure to sign up for Leadership 101 in 2020 along with the League's other advanced certification courses. For a general outline of next year's certification training schedule, see page 25 in this issue. 🏛️



Crafton Tull
architecture | engineering | surveying



GRANT FINDER

The fastest, easiest and most effective way to search for grant funds!

Who Uses GrantFinder?

We're helping communities and organizations of all sizes secure the grant funding they need. To date, more than 800 cities, town, counties regional planning organizations and COGs have subscribed.

Bigger, Better Data

Unlike other research tools on the market, GrantFinder is not filled with extraneous grants that may not be relevant to cities and towns. We've searched and sorted through thousands of grants to identify more than 8,500+ federal, state, corporate and foundation grant programs available to municipal organizations.

NLC Member Pricing






This service is free to the member cities and towns of the Arkansas Municipal League. Each city and town is allowed one user ID and password. Visit grants.nlc.org/sign-up/ to obtain your municipality's free seat.

“ In our short term of using GrantFinder, we have been able to find and apply for over 20 grants. These grants range from law enforcement, fire, library and numerous non-profit agencies in our community. Laramie will be a subscriber for years to come! ”

Sandra Newland
Grants Manager
Laramie County, WY

Powerful Features

Includes:

-  Access to our cloud-based platform from anywhere 24/7
-  Custom Grant Alert e-mails for popular grant categories catered to your preference
-  Interactive calendar allowing users to see upcoming grants and grant deadlines
-  Online administration tools to add, edit, and delete users
-  Over 8,500+ grants being updated and more added daily

Ready. Set. Get Counted.

A municipal field guide to the 2020 Census

By Kara Wilkins and Abby Hughes Holsclaw

The 2020 Census is less than six months away. Already, Arkansas municipal leaders are developing plans and outreach strategies to help get out the count. Many officials are focused on tackling the widespread uncertainty among non-English speakers who are hesitant to fill out official government documents. Others are determining how to increase participation on a survey that, for the first time ever, will be taken online in a state without reliable broadband internet access for approximately 30 percent of its residents.

The anxiety among officials as well as residents is palpable. And for good reason. There's a lot at stake in next year's census. The information gathered in April will determine the federal funding Arkansas receives over the next decade for education, healthcare, infrastructure, and other essential services. Even a one-percent undercount of our state's population could result in a loss of nearly \$1 billion in funding. That's why it's essential we join together to ensure an accurate and representative count.

Since it was launched, Arkansas Counts has partnered with municipal leaders in hard-to-count communities to help ensure their residents complete next year's survey. As part of our efforts, we have recently hosted six regional trainings with elected officials in De Queen, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Springdale. We were fortunate to have the participation of city leaders like Mayor Shirley Washington who said, "The training helped members in my community understand the importance of getting a complete count."

These training sessions are a great start. But Arkansas Counts recognizes there's more we can, and should, do to help municipalities get out the count. That's why we're asking members of the Arkansas Municipal League to use your voices, as well as your cities' communication channels, to encourage all residents to participate in the census. In the coming months, we encourage you to do the following:

- Establish a diverse and representative local Complete Count Committee to help develop an action plan for your community.
- Focus on hard-to-count communities by recruiting trusted ambassadors from your city to conduct ongoing outreach.
- Encourage your residents to apply for U.S. Census field jobs at census.gov.

Pine Bluff Mayor Shirley Washington understands the importance of reaching everyone in her city, which hosted a recent Arkansas Counts regional training session.



- Participate in the New Construction Program to update the U.S. Census Bureau's residential address list for construction properties in your community that will be completed by April 1, 2020.
- Meet with U.S. Census officials or partnership specialists from a field, area, or national office.
- Install and actively promote online response kiosks in publicly accessible city buildings (e.g., libraries, workforce development centers).
- Leverage all existing city communication channels, including social media accounts, to share information about the census.
- Hold a public event to promote civic engagement and census participation.
- Incorporate messages about the importance of the census into speeches, public gatherings, and city council meetings.

As we look ahead to the 2020 Census, we hope all municipalities will visit arcounts.org and follow @ARcensus2020 on Facebook and @ar_census on Twitter for additional resources on how to help get out the count. By working together, we can ensure our communities continue to receive the resources they need to thrive.

Kara Wilkins is the coordinator of Arkansas Counts, a statewide, community-led initiative, and Abby Hughes Holsclaw is the coordinator of Arkansas Impact Philanthropy, which powers Arkansas Counts. Visit arcounts.org for more information or email info@arkansasimpact.org to share your efforts to promote the census in your community.



Wilkins



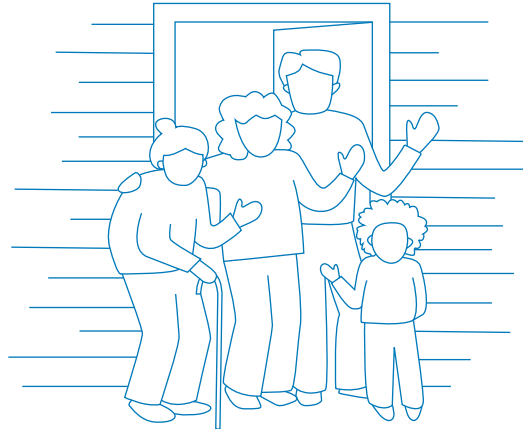
Holsclaw

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

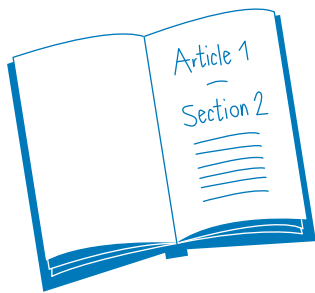
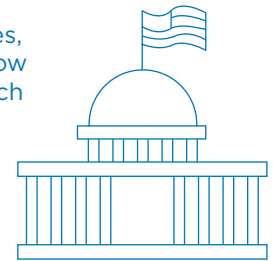
Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



It's about fair representation.

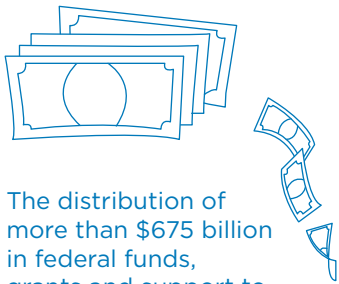
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



It's in the constitution.

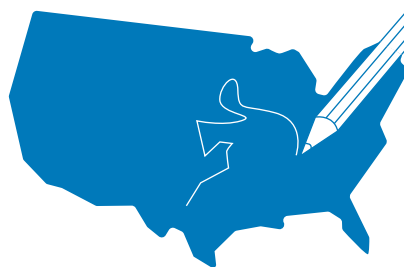
The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

It's about \$675 billion.



The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data.

That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

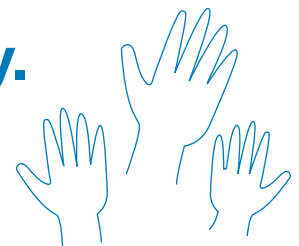


It's about redistricting.

After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"





2020 Winter Conference

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, February 12-14, 2020

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, January 31, 2020, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Pre-registration for municipal officials | \$150 |
| Registration fee after January 31, 2020 , and on-site registration for municipal officials | \$175 |
| Pre-registration for guests | \$75 |
| Registration fee after January 31, 2020 , and on-site registration for guests | \$100 |
| Other registrants | \$200 |

- Registration will be processed **ONLY** with accompanying payment in full. Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of **Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials, 2019-2020**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after January 31, 2020.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **January 31, 2020**.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

| | | |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel) | | |
| Single/Double. SOLD OUT | \$139 | Check-in 3 p.m. |
| Capital Hotel | | |
| Single/Double. SOLD OUT | \$195 | Check-in 3 p.m. |
| Doubletree Hotel | | |
| Single/Double. SOLD OUT | \$144 | Check-in 3 p.m. |
| Wyndham Hotel | | |
| Single/Double. | \$109 | Check-in 3 p.m. |

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **January 15, 2020**.
- Rooms in Little Rock/North Little Rock are subject to a 13-15 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel as penalties for cancellation can apply.

Two ways to register **2**

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

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
 ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 2020 Winter Conference
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

Name:

Title: City of:

Attendee only email (required): CC Email:

Address: City:

State: Zip: Phone Number:

Non-city Official guests will attend: Yes No

Name: Name:

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

Step 2: Payment Information

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

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

• **How are you paying?**

Check

Mail payment and form to: Arkansas Municipal League
 2020 Winter Conference
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115

Credit Card Complete information below and send to address above.

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

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

Card Holder Name (as it appears on card):

Billing address (as it appears on statement):

City: State: ... Zip: Telephone:

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

Step 3: Hotel Reservations

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

- Marriott Hotel** **SOLD OUT** 877-759-6290
- Capital Hotel** **SOLD OUT** 877-637-0037 or 501-374-7474
- Doubletree Hotel** **SOLD OUT** 800-222-8733 or 501-372-4371
- Wyndham Hotel** Reservations 866-657-4458 or 501-907-4823

Special dietary needs:

- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Pescatarian
- Vegan



PHOTOS BY KRISTA QUINN.

Opinion: Trees and city heat

It's past time that we double down on efforts to plant trees in our city centers to reduce the heat island effect, to reduce pollution, and, ultimately, to save lives.

By Richard Mason

Trees may be the answer to one of our city centers' health problems. One significant cause of death in our cities is directly related to heat exhaustion, and that occurs when the body overheats to the point where either a heat stroke or heart failure overcomes a person and their body's functions are impaired. A few extra degrees of heat can be the difference between life and death. That's where trees help.

Since the population in many cities is concentrated in the core of the city, elevated temperatures in that area affect more individuals, and that is where trees save lives. Infrared measurements have recorded that almost all city centers have heat islands, with temperatures from six to 15 degrees hotter than the suburbs, and studies have proven the absence of trees is the difference. These heat islands exist in almost every city of any size, and the persons living there, who are exposed to those elevated temperature, have a much greater risk of dying of a heat related problem than those in shady suburbs.

The Texas Tree Foundation, a group that has researched this problem, has focused on tree canopies, because heat islands have a direct relationship to a city's tree canopy. Not only are city centers hotter, they have less moisture and consequently more dust, which brings about allergic reactions and more health problems. Trees solve these problems by secreting moisture.

The Foundation has collected a mountain of data to illustrate the benefits of having a tree canopy, and their research shows how that canopy can combat the heat island effect that is present in almost all of our downtowns. The heat island effect is caused by the absence of any or very little tree canopy, and when temperatures are measured in the suburbs versus downtown it becomes very obvious. Towns with fair to good tree canopies record much lower temperatures than towns without trees. Some of the best towns have a heat island effect of only six degrees hotter than a tree-lined suburb. In the worst there can be a 15-degree disparity.

When we have 100-degree days, the temperature is usually recorded away from the city center. The actual downtown temperature could be as high as 115 degrees, and that is not the heat index, which, of course, will be even higher. If you plug in the heat index, cities with a heat island could easily have downtown temperatures of over 120 degrees.

In 2011 Dallas had temperatures that topped 100 degrees for 40 consecutive days and 112 people died. Nearly half of those deaths were directly attributed to the heat wave, according to the Texas Tree Foundation's research. In the United States an estimated 30,000 people die from heat-related deaths annually, twice as many who are killed by gun violence.

The problem is simple. Almost all city centers have impermeable surfaces of concrete and asphalt, which soak up the sun's heat and contribute to the heat island effect. The increase in temperature can be deadly to people with respiratory issues or children with asthma. Trees can filter harmful air pollution and protect people from chronic respiratory illness.

The problem is not just in the Southwest, where 100-degree days are common. It is now becoming a worldwide problem because of global warming. Paris has just experienced a brutal heat wave and is responding with a reforestation effort to ensure 50 percent of the city's land is planted by 2030. Here in the United States a recent study indicates replanting trees lost to urban development could reduce between one-sixth and two-thirds of our carbon pollution. There are an estimated 255 million suitable acres available for tree-planting in the U.S., an area the size of Texas.

I think we see the problem and the solution, so how are we doing here in Arkansas, The Natural State? Actually, we're doing a lousy job, but there are bright spots. The city of Fayetteville is committed to a 40 percent tree canopy and is working to maintain that even while having to replace older trees. Little Rock's Tree Streets organization is committed to planting trees, and they are doing a great job, but they could use more help from the city and more volunteers.

I know trees are old hat here in Arkansas, and slash and burn is still in a lot of minds. I had a friend look at a lot, which the day before had beautiful trees. It had just been bulldozed for a used car lot. She said, "Well, that's sure an improvement." And she meant it. We have got to overcome the mindset that an empty parking lot is preferable and that trees just get in the way.

Just last week here in El Dorado, two healthy, 100-year-old oaks, which were city street trees, were cut down without good reason. We have a long way to go.

We are making some progress, although it's pretty hit or miss. I have personally gotten over 1,000 trees planted in our downtown, but on some of the ugliest



treeless streets in town I have been stonewalled, even after I offered to buy the trees. Cities and towns of every size face similar challenges.

Planting trees in our city centers is just part of the solution. We need to plant trees in every available spot, and we can't possibly plant too many trees. Plant them around bus stops, in parking lots, along city sidewalks, and in every green space available. Keep in mind that all trees aren't created equal. Try to pick a recommended street tree with wide, leafy foliage. Here in Arkansas we can easily plant native trees in the late fall and winter, if we will just use a little initiative to find them, or spend a few bucks with a local nursery.

Yes, trees will grow in highway medians, and we have hundreds of miles of mowed grass without tree one. Trees don't have to be on city streets to improve air quality and cut down on pollution. They can be anywhere, and I don't know a single reason why we don't have trees in our highway medians.

We were once The Bear State, but we killed off nearly all the bears. So we changed to The Natural State. Will we repeat history by losing so much tree cover that one day we'll be too embarrassed to call ourselves "The Natural State?"

El Dorado's Richard Mason is a professional geologist, downtown developer, former chairman of the Department of Environmental Quality Board of Commissioners, and past president of the Arkansas Wildlife Federation. This column appeared originally in the Sept. 14 edition of the El Dorado News-Times and is reprinted with permission of the author.

MHBP Tips

Know before you go: Precertification

The Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP), like many other health plans, requires our members to obtain authorization before some services or procedures are performed. This process is called precertification, and it's a necessary step in the benefits process. It allows MHBP to appropriately assess member eligibility, gather important information, and ensure that certain standards of care are followed. Further, it ensures our members know coverage decisions before procedures, services, or supplies are provided.

When MHBP requires precertification

- Ambulatory surgical procedures (whether performed in a hospital, surgery center, or doctor's office)
- Bariatric weight loss program
- Chemical dependency treatment
- Durable medical equipment (if purchase price or annual rental cost exceeds \$2,000)
- Home health care services
- Hospice care
- Inpatient hospital confinements
- Organ transplant services
- Outpatient observation lasting more than 23 hours
- PET scans
- Wound care and hyperbaric oxygen treatments
- Prosthetic devices (if purchase price exceeds \$2,000)

How is precertification obtained?

It is the member's responsibility to obtain precertification by calling 888-295-3591. MHBP encourages our members to call even if the physician or the facility says that they will do it on their behalf. If an event that requires precertification occurs over the weekend or after business hours, please leave a detailed message on MHBP's voicemail so that the precertification process can begin on the next business day.

What happens if you don't obtain precertification?

Failure to obtain precertification will result in either the complete denial of a claim (depending on the specific procedure, this could be quite costly) or an assessment of a \$1,500 penalty payable by the member.

If members are unsure whether a procedure needs precertification, they may call 888-295-3591 and we will be happy to assist in making that determination. The goal of MHBP is to make sure that our members receive the best care possible. When in doubt, pick up the phone. ☎



Gaskill named Mayor of the Year

The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police has named Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill its 2019 Mayor of the Year for his strong support of the city's police department and commitment to public safety. The association presented the award during its 52nd annual convention, held Sept. 23-26 in Rogers.

Gaskill told the *Paragould Daily Press* that he doesn't set out to win such awards.

"My goal is to upgrade the city of Paragould so the residents can enjoy the town they live in," he said. "So I'm just doing my job." ☎

From left, Paragould Police Chief Todd Stovall; Paragould Mayor of the Year Mike Gaskill; and AACP President, Trumann Police Chief Chad Henson.



Guy, St. Charles officers among AG's Regional Officers of the Year

Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge presented her office's Outstanding Law Enforcement Officers of the Year awards at a luncheon held during the 2019 Law Enforcement Summit, held Oct. 1 at the Benton Events Center. Two municipal police officers—Senior Corporal Steven Rayburn of the Guy Police Department and Chief Jamie Forbes of the St. Charles Police Department—were named Regional Officers of the Year for the central and southeast region, respectively.

The AG also named an Officer of the Year for each county. Municipal police officers who received the honor were:

- Arkansas County—Chief Jamie Forbes, St. Charles Police Department
- Bradley County—Officer Alex Meeks, Warren Police Department
- Carroll County—Sgt. Craig Hicks, Berryville Police Department
- Chicot County—Capt. Bob Graham, Lake Village Police Department

- Clay County—Chief Jeremi Wicker, Piggott Police Department
- Faulkner County—Senior Corporal Steven Rayburn, Guy Police Department
- Garland County—Officer Cash Murray, Hot Springs Police Department
- Lincoln County—Lt. Kenneth Keough, Star City Police Department
- Lonoke County—Sgt. Virgil “Calvin” Thomas, Cabot Police Department
- Miller County—Det. Brian Tribble and Det. Jason White, Texarkana Police Department
- Nevada County—Chief Joey Beavers, Prescott Police Department
- Sebastian County—Officer Wesley David Sawyer, Fort Smith Police Department
- Union County—Officer Logan Owens, El Dorado Police Department
- Yell County—Capt. Mark Frost, Dardanelle Police Department. 🏛️



From left, Attorney General Rutledge and St. Charles Police Chief Jamie Forbes.

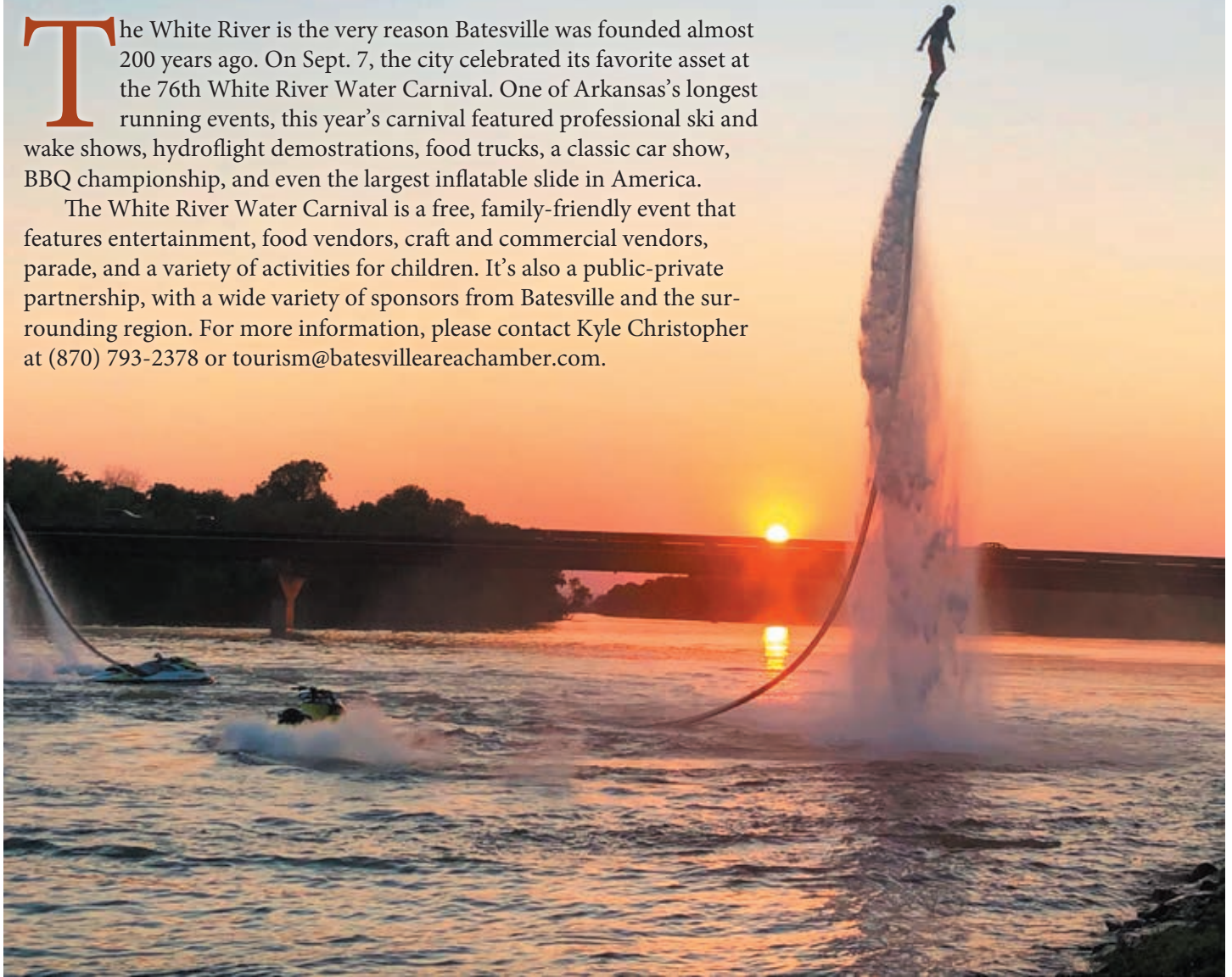


From left, Attorney General Rutledge and Guy Police Dept. Senior Corporal Steven Rayburn.

Batesville celebrates 76 Years of the White River Water Carnival

The White River is the very reason Batesville was founded almost 200 years ago. On Sept. 7, the city celebrated its favorite asset at the 76th White River Water Carnival. One of Arkansas's longest running events, this year's carnival featured professional ski and wake shows, hydroflight demonstrations, food trucks, a classic car show, BBQ championship, and even the largest inflatable slide in America.

The White River Water Carnival is a free, family-friendly event that features entertainment, food vendors, craft and commercial vendors, parade, and a variety of activities for children. It's also a public-private partnership, with a wide variety of sponsors from Batesville and the surrounding region. For more information, please contact Kyle Christopher at (870) 793-2378 or tourism@batesvilleareachamber.com.



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Changes to the Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Alpena

Delete DJ Fred Kirkpatrick
 Delete T Lora Carter
 Delete R Roberta McAlister
 Add R/T Roberta McAlister
 Delete CM James Allen Davis
 Delete CM Amelia Shook

Arkadelphia

Delete M James Calhoun
 Add M (Vacant)

Black Rock

Delete R/T Taressia Stinnett
 Add R/T Sarah Gokey

Bodcaw

Delete M (Vacant)
 Add M Kimberly Hernandez

Cabot

Delete CA Jimmy Taylor
 Add CA (Vacant)

Clarendon

Delete C/T (Vacant)
 Add C/T Elizabeth Davenport

Crossett

Delete CM Lynn Rodgers
 Add CM Sheila Phillips

Egypt

Delete CM (Vacant)
 Add /A/CM Victoria Gallaher
 Fort Smith
 Delete /A/PC Danny Baker
 Add PC Danny Baker

Goshen

Delete R/T Sharon Baggett
 Add R/T (Vacant)

Hackett

Delete PC Darrell Spells
 Add PC Ricci Pyle, Jr.

Hartford

Delete M Mary Radley
 Add M Larry Hall

Helena-West Helena

Delete FC Reginald Wilson
 Add FC Pervis Watson
 Delete SS Oscar Hoskins
 Add SS Bobby Jones
 Delete WS Jack Ross
 Add WS Benzene Collier

Hermitage

Delete CM Randy Gorman, Jr.
 Add CM Mary Moore
 Delete R (Vacant)
 Add R Christi Dollar

Hope

Delete HRD Theresa Fields
 Add HRD Amber Collums

Huntsville

Delete DPW James Sisk
 Add SS Josh Murr

Jonesboro

Add IT Jason Ratliff
 Delete FO Deanna Hornback
 Add FO Steve Purtee

Keiser

Delete R/T Nola Fincher
 Add R/T Peggy Sellars
 Delete CM Jerry Sellars
 Add CM Lynn Skaggs
 Delete M Sandra Smith
 Add M Eddie Gardner
 Delete CM Eddie Gardner
 Add CM Tracy Jackson
 Delete PC Wes Sanders
 Add PC Glen Austin
 Delete FC Joseph Richmond
 Add FC Ron Hallett
 Delete WS/SW/SAN Kevin Love
 Add CM Laura Smith

Lakeview-Baxter

Delete R/T (Vacant)
 Add R/T Kim Wallace

Maynard

Delete CM John Banning
 Add CM David Simmons

North Little Rock

Add IT John Barber

Oppelo

Delete R/T (Vacant)
 Add R/T Renee Wilson

Osceola

Delete FO Steve Purtee
 Add FO (Vacant)

Pangburn

Delete R/T Shirley Ramsey
 Add R/T Hollie Hopkins

Pea Ridge

Delete PC Ryan Walker
 Add PC Lynn Hahn

Pine Bluff

Delete AM Keidra Burrell
 Add AM Louise Sullivan
 Add IT Kasey Cooper

Rison

Delete PC Peggy Stallings

Russellville

Delete AM Julie Paladino
 Add AM Erin Michael

Sheridan

Delete CM Rick Balwanz
 Add CM Marion Camp

Sidney

Delete M Pet Moser
 Add M (Vacant)

Smackover

Delete DPW Benjy Hildebrand
 Add DPY (Vacant)

Vilonia

Delete PRD Johnny Alexander
 Add PRD Logan Henley

Winthrop

Delete M Sherry Jones
 Add M (Vacant)



Nov. 20-23, 2019
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2019 City Summit

San Antonio, Texas

February 12-14, 2020
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Statehouse Convention Center
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March 8-11, 2020
National League of Cities
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Batesville Community Center

A section of Interstate Highway 40. It runs from Wilmington, North Carolina; through Arkansas; to Barstow, California, earning it the nickname "America's Main Street."



PHOTO BY JIM VON TUNGELN.

Urban planning: Does the interstate system help or hurt?

By Jim von Tungeln

In some ways, urban planning seemed a lot easier in the old days, say in the 1960s and 1970s. Lots of reasons accounted for it. Some were good. Some were bad. Some were simply functions of life in different, simpler, times.

For example:

The existence of major grant programs allowed municipalities to plan for more than they could afford.

Community growth relied on far simpler and more predictable causes.

Park systems were simpler, still favoring the Fredrick Law Olmsted vision of serving as passive areas for repose, peace, and contemplation.

Drugs had yet to begin ravaging our neighborhoods.

Urban plans, until the early 1970s, focused largely on the concept of neighborhood schools.

The use of the local option sales tax did not exist as a determinant of land use configurations.

Traffic and parking concerns were secondary to land use decisions. In 1960, there were 61,671,390 passenger vehicles in America. Today there are over 276 million. Urban plans must make accommodations for these in some form or another. It's not unusual for the cost of

parking vehicles today, in large-scale buildings, to cost more than the buildings.

The national system of interconnecting freeways, imagined by Dwight D. Eisenhower, was just emerging, as was its impact on cities based on the freeway's proximity to or distance from them.

Let us focus on this last example: the interstate highway system. It goes by several descriptions. Some call it "the best investment a country ever made." Others refer to it as "the killer of cities." Somewhere, resting among all the claims, charges, data, and myths, lies the truth.

We'll look at the positive first. On the 40th anniversary of the interstate system, in 1996, Wendell Cox and Jean Love, writing for The American Highway Users Alliance, made the following claims on its behalf.

- It has enriched the quality of life for virtually every American.
- It has saved the lives of at least 187,000 people.
- It has prevented injuries to nearly 12 million people.
- It has returned more than \$6 in economic productivity for each \$1 it cost.

- It has positioned the nation for improved international competitiveness.
- It has permitted the cherished freedom of personal mobility to flourish.
- It has enhanced international security.

More recently, the Federal Highway Administration said, “The interstate system has been called the ‘greatest public works project in history.’ From the day President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, the interstate system has been a part of our culture as construction projects, as transportation in our daily lives, and as an integral part of the American way of life. Every citizen has been touched by it, if not directly as motorists, then indirectly because every item we buy has been on the interstate system at some point. President Eisenhower considered it one of the most important achievements of his two terms in office, and many historians agree.”

Not everyone, though.

In the 1960s, as the system took shape, activists decrying the damaging effect of freeways on existing neighborhoods stopped construction on highways in New York, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and New Orleans. This resistance resulted in several urban interstates becoming roads to nowhere.

Regionally, at least, the most famous challenge ended with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, Inc. v. Volpe*. The case originated just over the border from Arkansas in Memphis, Tennessee. Legally, it clarified the guidelines for judicial review of discretionary agency actions. Politically, it marked the beginning of public interest litigation on environmental issues.

What happened was this. The federal government, with the approval of the Memphis City Council, proposed a plan to build a six-lane interstate highway through Overton Park, which would have resulted in the destruction of 26 acres of that park. The final result was that it didn’t happen and “through-city interstates” became an endangered species. I-630 in Little Rock, after much litigation and delay, became the last to be built, although existing lanes are still expanding, or are being planned for expansion.

In summary, the interstate system has affected, and still affects, the development patterns of 49 of the 50 United States, Alaska being the only state without an interstate. No person would disagree that with the 47,000-mile-long system, America created a vastly different country than the one that existed previously. It opened the country, created a nation of drivers, and helped the growth of suburban America.

Despite such resistance as that showed in Memphis, the interstate system also changed the nature of major

cities. An estimated 12 percent of the interstate system runs through urban areas. As the system came into existence, nearby cities grew toward it and retail trade shifted accordingly. The use of rail to deliver goods dropped. So-called “white flight” became a boon to some cities and a concern to others. Suburbs flourished, earning blame for an old concept under a new name: “urban sprawl.”

Also, critics of the interstate, or at least critics of its continual expansion, cite the concept of “induced demand” in traffic planning. This is the controversial concept that additional highway capacity stimulates corresponding increases in demand. This concept embodies the “build it and they will come” idea, or a belief in the existence of “latent demand.” This idea suggests that there are willing “buyers” who will express their demand for travel once the service is offered.

Not all modern traffic planners accept the concept of induced demand, but urban planners increasingly consider it and factor it into their work. They assume that more lanes will mean more traffic and more traffic will mean more lanes, i.e. a never-ending cycle. In addition, there are other issues surrounding the interstate system that affect urban plans.

If an interstate highway bisects a city, altering or expanding it is bound to create conflict, controversy, and concerns for existing neighborhoods.

If the interstate is near a city, the pressure to grow toward it will prove unstoppable.

If the interstate is more than 100 miles from a city, local industrial recruitment may suffer, and commutes will grow in distance.

For these and other reasons, most urban planners support mass transit as an alternative to the individual vehicle for transportation. Unfortunately, the citizens for whom they are planning don’t agree. Nor is there broad-based support at higher levels of government.

Meanwhile, planners plan for more cars as the existing interstates become increasingly congested. Local governments, as well as the private sector, must spend more resources on accommodating single drivers. As things become more complicated, the need for expertise in planning grows. Mistakes become more costly each day. Urban planning requires good municipal leaders and staff. We are blessed because they abound in our state. Also, the Arkansas Municipal League stands ready to help your city through these complicated times. Stay tuned.



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.

What Is Ritalin and is it safe?

Ritalin is the common name for methylphenidate and it is a Schedule II drug according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. This classification is the same as cocaine, morphine, and amphetamines and it is considered a stimulant. There are indications that teens like to abuse the drug for its stimulant effects.

When Ritalin is used as a prescription drug, it may have severe side effects including nervousness, insomnia, anorexia, loss of appetite, pulse changes, heart problems, and weight loss. The manufacturer has admitted Ritalin is a drug of dependency.

In June of 2005, the FDA issued a series of public health advisories warning that Ritalin and drugs like it may cause visual hallucinations, suicidal thoughts, psychotic behavior, aggression, and violent behavior. Those warnings remain firmly in place today.

Parents giving this drug to their children are often not told about the adverse side effects of Ritalin (up to and including death). No one expects their child to have that type of potential danger from a prescribed medication. Additionally, children on stimulant medications are twice as likely to abuse drugs in the future. Incidentally, one third of all children on these medications develop symptoms of obsessive-compulsive behavior within the first year. These behaviors may carry over into adulthood.

Where are Ritalin and other "hyperactivity" type drugs found? Unfortunately, the answer is almost anywhere, including our high schools and colleges. Pushers may be fellow students, who are eager to make an easy profit by selling drugs to classmates. In some schools, statistics show as many as 20 percent of the students take Ritalin regularly. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) found that many of these schools had more stimulant drugs than the neighborhood pharmacy. In the workplace, a pusher may be providing stimulant drugs to coworkers.

While the law forbids unrestricted distribution of these powerful stimulants, the sad fact remains that these substances are available almost anywhere.


What does Ritalin look like? Ritalin comes in small pills, about the size and shape of aspirin tablets, with the word "Ciba" (the manufacturer's name) stamped on it. The 5 mg tablets are pale yellow, 10 mg tablets are pale green, and the 20 mg tablets are both white and pale yellow. The manufacturer, in the drug package insert, admits that no one really knows how it affects the human body.

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.

Time to levy property taxes

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

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

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

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Gov. Asa Hutchinson, back row center, joins Hot Spring County community leaders and engaged citizens for the unveiling of their countywide strategic action plan.

Hot Spring County Conversations: Grassroots initiative leads to 10-year strategic action plan

By Moriah Bruner

The Hot Spring County Conversations Executive Committee, along with Gov. Asa Hutchinson and Hot Spring County Judge Dennis Thornton, unveiled their action plan for the growth on Aug. 20, which plots a course for development and improved quality of life for residents of the county over the next 10 years. This milestone was the culmination of two years of grassroots organizing and extensive citizen engagement and marks the beginning of the implementation phase of this community and economic development initiative.

In Fall 2017, Thornton reached out to UCA’s Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) and shared his vision for the county. He wanted to start planning for the successful future of the county and to

lay the groundwork for leaving a positive legacy for his children and grandchildren and generations to come.

Thornton gathered together engaged community leaders and stakeholders that shared his vision and formed an executive team. The initiative was branded as Hot Spring County Conversations (HSC Conversations) with the purpose of being an inclusive, future-focused, asset-based community development initiative.

The first step in the planning process was engaging community leaders and the general public in identifying the county’s needs through a county-level survey. Through hundreds of responses collected, five main priority areas were identified: education and workforce development; job creation; family recreation and youth activities; health and public safety; and housing, real estate, and downtown development.

Recognizing that the cities, towns, and rural communities that make up the county have unique opportunities and challenges, the HSC Conversations Executive Committee formed local steering committees in the five county school districts. Two residents' meetings were held in each of the districts to assess local priorities. Community surveys and focus groups solicited ideas for the future of the five districts, and the steering committee members encouraged citizens to get involved in the process. Through this community-level assessment, more than 1,500 citizens of Hot Spring County were directly engaged and each community identified its own priority areas and economic development goals that were subsequently included in the countywide plan.

During the unveiling celebration, Thornton was excited to debut the action plan as the "blueprint for the citizens' vision of a Hot Spring County that is a place where families want to live, work, and play. It envisions a vibrant community that meets the needs of residents, visitors, and the business community."

Earlier this year, the initiative was honored by the Arkansas Community Development Society with the organization's Innovative Community Development Program award.

In addition to technical assistance received from CCED, the initiative was supported by University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, College of the Ouachitas, Hot Spring County Economic Development Corporation, Malvern/Hot Spring County Chamber of Commerce, West Central Planning and Development District, Entergy, all five Hot Spring County school districts, and numerous other public and private entities.

To read the Hot Spring County Conversations Action Plan in its entirety, visit uca.edu/cced/impact-technical-assistance.



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



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Planting trees can curb climate change

By Krista Quinn

Scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have officially declared July of 2019 to be the hottest month ever recorded globally. While Arkansas experienced fairly average summer temperatures this year, there is no doubt that global climate change is occurring and we should expect more extreme weather events in the future. Many experts agree that one of the simplest ways to combat climate change is by planting, conserving, and caring for trees.

Through the natural process of photosynthesis, trees absorb carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that causes global warming. The carbon is then stored in the tissues of trees. As long as the trees are growing or their wood or paper products are in use, the carbon cannot be released back into the atmosphere.

Planting trees is one way that individuals and communities can help curb global warming. However, planting alone does not ensure that those trees will survive to actually make a difference. Unfortunately, trees in cities and towns experience a lot more stress than trees in a forest and have a low chance of long-term survival. Some estimates place the average lifespan of urban trees around 10 years, meaning that most trees planted in cities and towns never reach maturity. However, there are a few things that can be done when planting trees to increase their chances of survival.

Contrary to popular belief, it is much better to plant trees in Arkansas in the fall, rather than in the spring. When trees are planted in the fall, their roots grow through the fall and even during the winter. Fall planting gives trees a chance to become better established before the heat and drought of summer sets in. Late October and November are some of the preferred times to plant trees in Arkansas. Planting during the winter when trees are fully dormant is also acceptable.

Planting trees too deep is another common planting mistake. Often trees are planted too deep in their pots at the nursery. For this reason, it is a good idea to remove any loose soil from the top of a tree's root ball before planting. Some of the small, fibrous roots on the top of a tree's root ball may also need to be removed in order to expose the wide section of the trunk just above the roots, known as the trunk flare. The trunk flare should remain above the soil line when planting.

It is also best to avoid digging a deep planting hole. If a tree is placed on top of fill dirt in a hole, it will almost



The wide section of trunk just above the roots, called the trunk flare, is easy to spot on this Shumard oak and a sign that this tree was not planted too deep.

always settle over time to become deeper than intended. Making sure to dig a shallow hole that leaves about ten percent of the root ball above the soil line is a good way to prevent planting too deep.

Irrigating trees for the first two years after planting also greatly improves their chances of survival. Young trees need at least ten gallons of water per week and often more if the weather is very hot or dry. If there is adequate rain, trees are usually fine. However, when the weather is dry, trees do a lot better when watered.

Watering trees with a hose, sprinkler, sprinkler system, drip hose, or even a bucket works. However, tree-watering bags are easy to use, efficient, and inexpensive. The heavy-duty plastic bags are filled with water once a week. The water slowly drips out of the bags soaking into the root zone of the trees without running off or disturbing the soil. Some people make DIY versions of this by putting small holes in five gallon buckets and placing them under trees. It is important to remember that Arkansas can experience dry weather in the winter, also, so it is a good idea to keep an eye on conditions and water anytime the soil starts to get dry.



PHOTOS BY KRISTA QUINN.

The water bag at the base of this tree will allow water to slowly drip into the root zone, and the mulch will help prevent the water from evaporating before the tree can use it.

One of the most common ways newly planted trees are killed is by lawnmower and weed eater damage. When the trunk of a tree is damaged, it can be very difficult for the tree to recover. A five to ten-dollar investment in some mulch or a trunk guard can protect trees from this type of mechanical damage for several years. Ideally, a six-foot ring of mulch should be placed around all newly planted trees to keep lawn equipment away and preserve moisture in the root zone. The mulch layer should only be about two or three inches deep and mulch should never touch the bark of the tree since it can lead to decay. Trunk guards are also a good insurance plan for trees and can be purchased online or made from a section of flexible plastic drainpipe or metal hardware cloth.

In the age of global warming, cities need trees now more than ever in order to be more resilient to environmental changes. However, most cities are losing tree canopy annually due to development and poor tree care practices. Cities cannot prevent tree loss without the help of residents who plant and care for trees on their own properties. Planting and caring for trees does take some effort, but a small investment of time and money can reap big dividends for individuals, communities, and the planet.



Krista Quinn is the Urban Forestry Program Coordinator with the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Forestry Division. Contact Krista at (479) 228-7929 or Krista.Quinn@agriculture.arkansas.gov.

Men: Don't ignore testicular cancer

By Rashmi Verma, M.D.

Barriers to polite conversation usually exist for a good reason, but it's important not to let them negatively impact your health.

In the case of testicular cancer, men—and especially young men—are often hesitant to talk about testicular swelling or discomfort with anyone, including a physician. But it's vitally important that they overcome this anxiety and do so.

Unlike many cancers, testicular cancer can be cured, and patients can live normal, healthy lives. But to do so, men must be able to recognize the signs and alert their doctor to the symptoms.

Recognize red flags

Lumps or swelling in the testicles are an important red flag. Sometimes there's a dull ache or heavy sensation or pain in the groin, back, or abdomen, but not always. At times patients could have neck swelling, cough, weight loss, and fatigue.

If you're experiencing these symptoms, it's important to bring it to the attention of a doctor right away, no matter how uncomfortable you imagine the conversation will be. This is particularly true for younger men and teenagers. A common misconception is that an otherwise healthy teen can't develop cancer, only the elderly can. That's just not true. I've treated an 18 year old as well as seniors (and all ages in between).

Too often patients ignore their symptoms for too long, hoping they'll go away or writing them off as an infection or an injury and they come to a physician after their disease progresses. I've even had a medical student—a well-educated health care professional—who came to me after ignoring his symptoms for 18 months.

Treatment options

So what happens after guys take the admittedly difficult step of acknowledging and reporting their symptoms? Your doctor will conduct tests to determine whether the symptoms are the result of infection, injury, something else, or cancer. This might include a physical exam, ultrasound scans, and blood tests. Ultrasound is a reliable tool to diagnose testicular cancer. Your physician might need a CT, MRI, or PET scan to confirm the

extent of disease. Blood tests including tumor markers add certainty to the diagnosis.

If the results indicate cancer, the good news is that there are treatment options.

Like most cancers, there are different kinds of testicular cancer. Your doctor will work to identify the kind and what stage it is in. That will determine the treatment plan, which may include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, or some combination. The goal is the same regardless: to treat and possibly cure the cancer.

My specialty is medical oncology, and I treat patients with chemotherapy. Sometimes patients see some response to treatment and end the chemotherapy too early. This is not good. Patients can develop resistance to standard lines of chemotherapy and when they eventually return to treatment it's no longer effective. It's important for patients to adhere to treatment regimen under guidance of specialist.

Identifying causes

While we have the ability to cure testicular cancer, particularly when caught early, we don't have the means to reliably predict it.

Despite what you might have heard about boxers vs. briefs or cycling being a contributing factor, science can't identify what causes testicular cancer to develop. It's more common in white men but can occur at any age and in any race or ethnicity. A family history of testicular cancer or undescended testes may put men at greater risk.

Incidence of testicular cancer is higher in the U.S. compared to other parts of world. About 9,560 new cases were diagnosed in the U.S. in 2019. The five-year survival rate if diagnosed early is between 96-99 percent but drops to 74 percent if diagnosed late. That might sound scary, but the high cure rate with early diagnosis is a good reason to take any symptoms very seriously.

Don't let potential embarrassment pose a threat to your well-being. Know the warning signs and, if you encounter them, put your health first and seek medical help.



Rashmi Verma, M.D., is a medical oncologist and an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine in the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science (UAMS).

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Prescriptive rights-of-way and easements

By Justin Taffner, PLS

So, what exactly is a prescriptive right-of-way or easement anyway, and how do they come into existence? It can be a complicated subject at best, and sometimes a great cause of contention between two parties. Since it can be confusing, the best place to begin is defining the terms. After that, we can move on to the details of how they are acquired.

An easement is a right to another person's land that entitles the easement holder to a specific limited use, for a specified purpose. A right-of-way is a legal right to cross another person's land. Though different, they both convey to an entity a certain amount of right to use another entity's land, and, in practice, they are often used interchangeably. Generally speaking, easements are granted for utility lines and rights-of-way are granted for streets. These are primarily conveyed legally by a written agreement or oral permission between two parties, but that is not always the case.

There are cases where no agreement of record exists, and that is where prescription comes in. The term "prescription" refers to the method of obtaining easement rights from long-term use. But just using a bit of land belonging to someone else doesn't automatically convey a prescriptive right to another person. There are certain elements that must be met before a claim of prescription can be made.

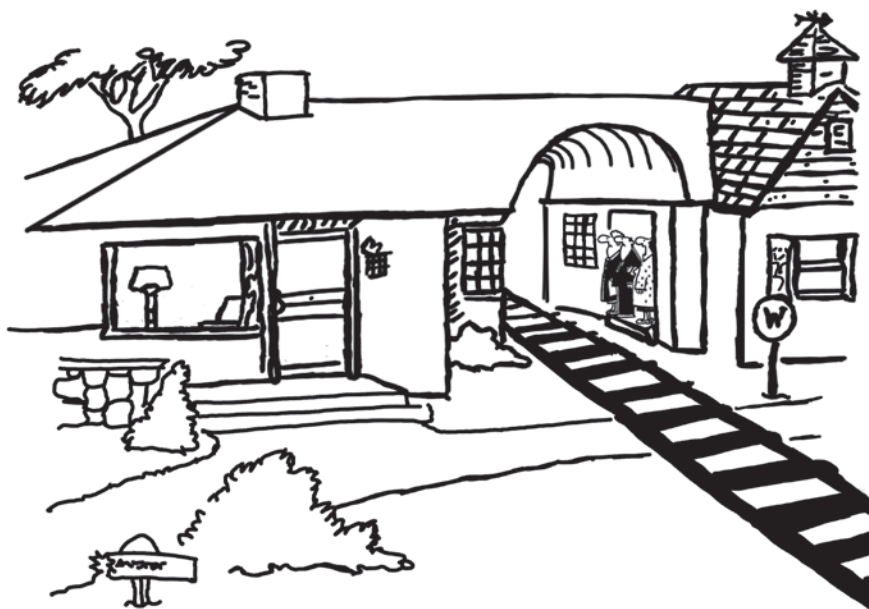
In Arkansas, a prescriptive easement across someone else's land may be acquired by the continuous and uninterrupted, open and notorious, adverse or hostile use of the land under a claim of right for a period of at least seven years. In order for the use to be continuous and uninterrupted, there cannot be any period where the prescriptive claimant has ceased using the land or any time where the owner has interrupted the claimant's use of the land. For the use to be open and notorious, it has to be fully visible, obvious, and not done in secret. To be adverse or hostile means that it is a use that infringes the right of the owner to use the land.

In order to understand this better, we will use a hypothetical situation that includes two characters, Jim and Bob. Jim owns a large field at the foot of a

mountain. Eleven years ago, Bob bought a cabin on the side of the mountain, which adjoins Jim's land. Roughly once a week, Bob drives into town for supplies and human interaction, passing along a trail that crosses over a corner of Jim's land. Continuous and uninterrupted use doesn't necessarily mean daily use, but regular use. At this point, Bob has met the conditions of continuous, uninterrupted use for at least seven years. If at any point Bob regularly takes a different route, or if Jim stops Bob from passing along the route in some way (for example, by building a fence or digging a ditch), then Bob fails to meet the continuous and uninterrupted condition.

That part is fairly straightforward. But what about open and notorious? Open and notorious means that Bob's use must be so blatantly obvious that, if Jim happened to drive by occasionally, he couldn't help but see it. For example, Bob could improve the path by grading it, spreading gravel, and digging drainage ditches along the side. He could go even further and put up a fence along the side of the road to keep Jim's cows from wandering into his path. Those steps would make his claim to the path open and notorious. Simply crossing the land is not enough to meet the condition.

Now, supposing Bob has improved his road, is his claim adverse or hostile? This doesn't mean hostile as in unfriendly or antagonistic. Adverse or hostile means that Bob's claim is against Jim's rights and interest in



"At the time we bought it, I didn't know what an 'easement' was!"

his land. Since Bob improved the road, Jim cannot dig a ditch across the path to drain a pond on the other side without tearing up Bob's road. Or, if Bob decided to go ahead and put up that fence, it would restrict Jim from accessing his land on the other side of the road. Both adversely affect Jim's use of the land. These are Bob's acts of exerting his claim to the right to use the land against Jim's right.

Continuous and uninterrupted, open and notorious, adverse or hostile ... it seems like Bob has a pretty solid claim to a prescriptive easement here, but there is another factor to consider: permission. If Jim had originally given Bob permission to cross his land when he moved in, then that goes a long way toward negating Bob's claim. Permissive use usually never ripens into a prescriptive easement, no matter how long the use continues. However, Bob has taken the open and notorious, adverse or hostile step of building up his road, which "ripens" his claim of prescription away from Jim's permissive use since it impacts Jim's right to the land.

Also involved is whether the land is wild and unenclosed, or occupied. Since Jim's land is rural and unfenced, it is open and use of it is automatically considered to be permissive. Jim is a nice neighbor and has never minded Bob crossing his land. However, Bob's actions have caused Jim to worry, so Jim decides to put up a fence around his land, with gates on either end of Bob's road. By doing this, Jim exerts his ownership and full right to the land, while simultaneously stating his continued permission towards Bob to use his land. If Bob acquiesces by using the gates, he recognizes Jim's ownership, negating any prescriptive claim.

The claim for prescription is, in essence, a claim to have a certain right, defensible against other claims to the land. For Bob to make his claim, he has to be clearly stating that he has the right to use this land for a specific purpose, no matter what Jim says or does, due to this long-term use and clear exertion of his right. For Jim to refute the claim, he has to clearly state that he is the only person with full right to the land, and any use by Bob is only with his continued permission.

Finally, one last thought to keep in mind is that Bob has a claim, not a right. The only way that Bob can make his claim become fact is by court action. A surveyor cannot state that it is so. Bob cannot have a lawyer file an easement document to make it so. Nor can he have a city or county planner come out and declare it to be so.

Jim's property rights are protected by law and can only be deprived of him by due process of law.

While this example scenario takes place in Arkansas, and would play out differently in other states where the processes and requirements are different, it is applicable anywhere in the country. A person's right to property is fundamental to American society and should never be taken lightly. The best way to resolve situations like these, instead of engaging in escalating action, is to simply talk to your neighbor and get an agreement in writing.



Justin Taffner is a professional land surveyor with MCE's Survey Department and works out of the Fayetteville office. Contact Justin by phone at (479) 443-2377 or email him at jtaffner@mce.us.com.



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2019 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita

| MONTH | STREET | | SEVERANCE TAX | | GENERAL | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 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 | \$5.401 | \$0.2342 | \$0.338 | \$1.0854 | \$1.085 |
| May | \$5.6871 | \$5.811 | \$0.2369 | \$0.227 | \$1.0859 | \$1.086 |
| June | \$5.6422 | \$6.017 | \$0.1786 | \$0.209 | \$1.0872 | \$1.088 |
| July | \$5.9048 | \$5.801 | \$0.1625 | \$0.182 | \$2.9589 | \$2.959 |
| August | \$5.5464 | \$5.990 | \$0.1504 | \$0.114 | \$0.9368 | \$0.924 |
| September | \$5.5992 | \$5.899 | \$0.1999 | \$0.155 | \$1.0873 | \$1.087 |
| 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 | \$51.340 | \$2.5145 | \$2.004 | \$15.8224 | \$12.549 |

Actual Totals Per Month

| MONTH | STREET | | SEVERANCE TAX | | GENERAL | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | 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 | \$10,209,400.74 | \$442,746.74 | \$638,095.99 | \$2,051,743.46 | \$2,051,915.02 |
| May | \$10,750,634.53 | \$10,985,547.22 | \$447,755.63 | \$428,651.27 | \$2,052,679.36 | \$2,052,767.40 |
| June | \$10,665,832.80 | \$11,374,227.00 | \$337,582.28 | \$395,730.25 | \$2,055,168.34 | \$2,056,915.45 |
| July | \$11,162,170.00 | \$10,966,523.76 | \$307,247.09 | \$343,609.83 | ** \$5,593,456.00 | *** \$5,592,768.93 |
| August | \$10,484,657.00 | \$11,322,293.50 | \$284,348.41 | \$214,617.36 | \$1,770,842.80 | \$1,746,588.81 |
| September | \$10,584,484.30 | \$11,150,912.22 | \$377,800.40 | \$292,391.02 | \$2,055,387.11 | \$2,055,099.92 |
| 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 | \$97,051,493.18 | \$4,753,371.52 | \$3,787,517.62 | \$29,909,918.42 | 23,721,480.11 |

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

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

***Includes \$3,513,475.89 supplemental for July 2019

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 | \$53,915,385 | \$51,354,831 | \$45,679,915 | \$45,689,403 | \$99,595,300 | \$97,044,234 | \$239,875 | \$79,564 | |
| May | \$61,136,496 | \$60,844,519 | \$51,962,167 | \$53,613,192 | \$113,098,664 | \$114,457,712 | \$233,250 | \$75,253 | |
| June | \$63,455,242 | \$56,373,987 | \$53,477,656 | \$48,955,855 | \$116,932,898 | \$105,329,842 | \$199,380 | \$71,501 | |
| July | \$62,196,778 | \$59,973,977 | \$52,242,794 | \$52,379,093 | \$114,439,573 | \$112,353,069 | \$239,855 | \$84,551 | |
| August | \$63,103,397 | \$60,174,400 | \$53,989,906 | \$52,922,077 | \$117,093,303 | \$113,096,478 | \$229,107 | \$79,558 | |
| September | \$63,071,625 | \$58,128,177 | \$54,693,037 | \$51,260,076 | \$117,764,662 | \$109,388,253 | \$213,728 | \$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 | \$547,447,051 | \$698,269,262 | \$466,715,615 | \$609,724,320 | \$1,014,162,667 | \$1,307,993,584 | \$2,049,886 | \$1,311,205 | |
| Averages | \$60,827,450 | \$58,189,105 | \$51,857,291 | \$50,810,360 | \$112,684,741 | \$108,999,465 | \$227,765 | \$109,267 | |

Conway GIS efforts net SAG Award

Conway's Planning and Development Department has been named a 2019 SAG Award winner for its innovative use of data to provide open and transparent information to the public. The city's open data hub features web maps and a variety of data to help the public and local businesses find the information in a one-stop-shop framework. To check out Conway's efforts, visit conwayarkansas.gov/gis.

GIS industry leaders Esri (esri.com) present its SAG (or special achievement in GIS) awards each year to cities, businesses, and other entities from the U.S. and across the globe. Little Rock-based telecom business Uniti Group also received a SAG Award.

Pine Bluff lands \$400K grant for youth sports

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has granted Pine Bluff \$400,000 through its Youth Engagement in Sports initiative, the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* reported Sept. 22. The national initiative's goal is to increase youth participation in sports at the local level. Pine Bluff is among 18 communities across the nation to receive the funding.

Zimmerman scholarship goes to Stephens R/T

Stephens Recorder/Treasurer Marlene Fulkroad was this year's recipient of the Arkansas City Clerks, Records and Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) Don A. Zimmerman Memorial Scholarship. The ACCRTA established the scholarship to honor the legacy of the League's longtime leader, who died in 2018. The award covers the registration fee for the member to attend the annual ACCRTA Certification Institute in Fayetteville, which was held Sept. 15-19.

Four south Arkansas municipalities get funds for water projects

The cities of Hamburg, Kingsland, and Star City, and the town of Mount Pleasant are among 45 recipients in 25 states to share in \$144 million in funding through the USDA's Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program, the federal agency announced Sept. 30. The program is aimed at rural cities and towns and water districts, which can use the funds for drinking water, stormwater drainage, and waste disposal systems in communities of 10,000 or less.

Hamburg will use \$630,000 in loans and \$1.2 million in grants to construct a water extension and make improvements to its existing water system.

Kingsland will use \$393,000 in loans and \$233,150 in grants to make improvements to the city's existing water system.

Mount Pleasant will use \$178,000 loan to rehabilitate its 180,000-gallon water storage tank.

Star City will use loans of \$1.9 million and \$493,000 in grants to rehabilitate the city's existing wastewater treatment plant and lift station systems. 🏛️

Obituaries

RICHARD LLOYD BALWANZ, 71, a member of the Sheridan City Council, the Sheridan Water Commission, and a former planning commissioner, died June 9.

BILLY WADE "DOC" GASKILL, 90, of Paragould, who served the 78th District in the Arkansas House of Representatives from 2007 to 2013, died Sept. 13.

CHARLES THOMAS "CHUCK" HOLLINGSHEAD, 80, who served 16 years as mayor of Arkadelphia, died Sept. 27.

MELVIN "PETE" MOSER, 67, mayor of the town of Sidney, died July 26.

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CITY MANAGER—Joplin, Mo., is a city of approximately 50,000 located in Jasper County (primarily) and northern Newton County. Covering 38.28 square miles, Joplin is the largest city in Jasper County. Approximately 400,000 people living in a 40-mile radius. Joplin is the fourth largest metro area in Missouri and approximately a quarter of a million people travel to Joplin daily for work, health care, and entertainment. Joplin is a home rule city and operates under the council-manager form of government. The council consists of nine members including the mayor. The council selects a professional city manager to oversee the daily operations of the city. The city of Joplin seeks an innovative, progressive, and creative municipal professional with strong leadership skills and a passion for public service to serve as its new city manager. The selected candidate must hold a bachelor's degree in public admin., finance, or a closely related field and have experience equivalent to six years of full-time work as a city manager, public works director, city finance director, assistant city manager, or comparable position in a similarly sized city. A master's degree in public admin., finance, or a closely related area may substitute for one year of the required experience. The chosen candidate must hold a valid DL, successfully complete a background check, and successfully complete a physical exam and drug test. Residency within the city limits is required. Please apply online at: <http://bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches>. For more information on this position contact: Kurt Hodgen, Strategic Government Resources, KurtHodgen@GovernmentResource.com, (540) 820-0531.

FIRE CHIEF—The city of Cabot is seeking a new fire chief. The fire chief will plan and direct activities related to fire suppression, fire prevention, and emergency medical response within the city. The city seeks a minimum of 10 years of experience within the fire department field along with five years in a supervisory or administrative capacity within a fire department. This is a salaried position and it includes full benefits and retirement along with a brand new take-home vehicle. Salary will be based off experience but can be negotiated. To apply online visit the employment tab of www.cabotar.gov. This position will be open until filled. EOE.

FIRE MARSHAL—The city of Monticello is accepting applications for the position of full-time fire marshal. The objective of the fire marshal is to direct the operations of building inspections for all residential and commercial construction, enforce adherence to ADEQ storm water requirements, complete commercial and residential plan reviews, and direct enforcement of city codes. Essential duties and responsibilities: Complete commercial and residential plan reviews; knowledge of city codes and directing enforcement procedures; interpret and communicate building, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and structural codes; train other employees in code enforcement and building inspections; public speaking as requested; direct ADEQ storm water enforcement procedures/flood plain management and city compliance; all other duties as required or assigned. Education and experience: Certified fireman and law enforcement officer, other qualifications include five years of related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience, and prefer at least four years of managerial experience. Must be licensed/certified with the following credentials: Arkansas Plumbing Inspectors License, Arkansas Mechanical Inspectors License, Arkansas Electrical Inspectors License, Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Certification, Flood Plain Management Certification, FF1 and FF2 certifications, Inspection 1 certification. Must be familiar with International Fire Code and International Building Code. 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 and salary DOE. For more information, please call (870) 367-4400, Ext. 2. Position is open until filled.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER—Benton Utilities is currently accepting applications and resumes for the above position. A job description outlining job responsibilities and qualifications can be found at www.bentonutilities.com/personnel. Those who are interested in the position should complete an application and attach a resume then submit it to the Human Resources Department as soon as possible. An application is available from the Human Resources Department, Benton Utilities Complex, 1827 Dale Ave., Benton, AR 72015; or a printable application is available on-line at the above referenced link. Position will remain open until filled.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR—The city of Wynne seeks a Parks and Recreation Department head. This position is responsible for directing and managing the activities, services, maintenance, and employees of the Parks and Recreation Department. Essential job functions: Supervise, direct, and evaluate staff; handle employee concerns and problems; direct work; counsels and disciplines staff; complete employee performance appraisals; recruits, appoints, and trains staff. Conducts staff meetings and in-service training. Directs day-to-day operations and manages the Parks and Recreation Department, facilities, and grounds. Formulates department policies and procedures. Monitors the maintenance of neighborhood parks, playgrounds, and recreation buildings; manages and coordinates preparation of athletic fields and facilities and litter pick-up for events and activities. Develops and coordinates programs and works with appropriate city departments to design and develop plans for buildings, grounds, playgrounds, athletic, and multi-purpose facilities. Monitor the condition of facilities, parks, playgrounds, and buildings. Promotes open and effective communication with employees, community leaders, and the public. Plans and prepares Parks and Recreation Department revenue and budget estimates; approves department purchases, approves all recreation programs athletics, activities, and services offered through the department. Prepares, manages, and monitors grants and contracts that

expand and enhance the delivery of quality recreation programs and services. Plans and monitors department goals, objectives, performance outcomes and the quality of service delivery. Assesses programs, policies, and operational needs and makes appropriate adjustments as required. Attends athletic games, recreational activities, and special events or manages people to be present for said events. Monitors facilities, programs and services to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, codes, and/or standards as well as city and department policies and procedures. Maintains records and prepares regular special reports. Collaborates and builds strong partnerships with community organizations, human service agencies, recreation and sports leagues, neighborhood groups and other city departments. Participates on boards, commissions, and committee as required; and prepares and presents presentations, staff reports, and other necessary correspondence. Develops and implements community outreach, marketing and promotional plans in cooperation other city departments. Promotes activities throughout the city on the radio, social media, newspapers, and the city website. Performs other duties as assigned. Salary: \$54,850 plus benefits. Qualifications: Prefer experience in park management or a bachelor's degree in Parks Management. Applicants should mail a resume to Wynne City Hall Attention: Mayor Jennifer Hobbs 206 S Falls Blvd Wynne, AR. 72396; or deliver in person or email jhobbs@cityofwynne.com. Closing Date: Dec. 2.

POLICE OFFICER—The city of Monette is accepting applications for the position of police officer. Arkansas certified preferred. Starting salary for certified officer is \$36,000 per year plus benefits, paid holidays, sick and vacation time. Send resumes to The City of Monette, P.O. Box 382, Monette, AR 72447; or drop resumes off at City Hall located at One Drew Ave. in Monette.

PUBLIC WORKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR—The city of Prairie Grove is accepting applications for the position of public works and administrative services director. The position is responsible for overseeing water, sewer, streets, solid waste, parks and recreation, planning, code enforcement, and various city administrative responsibilities related to the day-to-day operations of the city. Applicants should hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree in engineering, public admin., management, or a related field. Experience and knowledge of water and wastewater utilities is a priority and applicants will either need to be licensed with a minimum of a Class IV water and Class III wastewater license or the ability to get licensed within the first year. Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years' experience managing similar job duties. Knowledge of budgeting, regulation compliance, human resource management, and business operations is important. The current director will be on salary through August of 2020, which will serve as a transition period. A salary range of \$85,000 - \$95,000 will be considered, with benefits to be negotiated that could include phone, work vehicle, health insurance, retirement, and other benefits. For a full a job description and application please email pgwater@pgtc.com or contact Mayor Hudson at sonnyhudson@pgtc.com. Applicants should submit a detailed resume as well as an application to Mayor Hudson, P.O. Box 944, Prairie Grove AR 72753; by email to sonnyhudson@pgtc.com; or in person at City Hall, 975 E. Douglas Street, Prairie Grove, AR 72753.

UTILITIES DIRECTOR—Fort Smith seeks an innovative, dedicated manager and self-motivated leader to serve as the new utilities director. Under the direction of the city administrator, the utilities director manages a team of personnel and resources to efficiently and reliably provide high quality potable water and effective wastewater treatment, along with a high level of customer service and compliance with federal and state regulations. The director also serves as the emergency action plan coordinator for two dams. Duties include emergency planning, training, and implementation utilizing resources from all levels of government. The chosen candidate will hold a bachelor's degree in engineering or a related area, with at least 10 years of experience working with water and wastewater systems. The candidate is preferred to be a registered professional engineer in Arkansas with a Class IV water license or should have the ability to acquire each. Experience with federal consent decrees is preferred but not required. The starting salary is up to \$113,780, which includes a car allowance, depending on education and experience. Please apply online at: <http://bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches>. For more information on this position contact: Gary Holland, senior vice president, Strategic Government Resources, GaryHolland@governmentresource.com, (405) 269-3445.

WASTEWATER OPERATIONS OPERATOR—The town of Menifee is accepting applications or proposals for a wastewater operations operator. Qualifications: HS diploma or GED; Class II operator's license. Applicants must possess valid state driver's license. Wastewater treatment facility duties: Submit discharge monitoring reports, coordinate with commercial laboratory for all required testing, maintain daily operating reports, maintain facility grounds and facility operation. Sewer collection system duties: Maintain daily pump station operating reports, provide inspection of all residential/commercial sewer service connections, maintain collection system operation; responsible for all maintenance and repairs. Approx. 20 hrs. per wk. Send proposal/resume to: Town of Menifee, Attn: Mayor Gary L. Green, P.O. Box 38, Menifee, AR 72107; (501) 477-2409 or (501) 354-0898. Applications taken until position filled.

FOR SALE—1962 Ford Fire Engine. Howe Fire Body, 750 gallon/minute pump, 500 gallon tank, ladder, hard suction red line. \$3,000.00 or best offer. Contact Belleville Fire Chief D.A. Laster, (479) 495-0725.

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