

# City & Town

OCTOBER 2015 VOL. 71, NO. 10

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE







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Cover photo by Mark R. Potter

**ON THE COVER**—The resurgence of Little Rock’s Main Street is well underway with the grand opening of the first stage of the Creative Corridor. Read inside about the sustainable streetscape and the energy around this exciting downtown development. Read also about North Little Rock Mayor and League 2015-2016 District 2 Vice President Joe Smith; Helena-West Helena’s new sister city relationship with Moshi, Tanzania; a preview of the next term of the U.S. Supreme Court; and important information regarding new towing laws.—atm

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



Dear Friends and Colleagues,  
As summer comes to a close and the cooler weather of fall begins, Batesville is buzzing with activity. During the month of September, the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce hosted 10 ribbon cuttings at new locations around the city. Four of those new businesses are located on our historic Main Street. Ground was broken for the first time in many years on Main Street for a new coffee and sandwich shop.



Our fair city received some welcome recognition recently when popular design blog House Beautiful ([www.housebeautiful.com](http://www.housebeautiful.com)) named Batesville one of "The 50 Most Beautiful Small Towns in America." We're honored to be included on the list with other such beautiful cities as Breckenridge, Colo., Avalon, Calif., and Stuart, Fla. We dedicated the newest addition to our Greenway Trail on Sept. 29. This addition makes our total trail 1.6 miles long. The trails are being used daily by people who are making exercise and wellness a top priority. One such gentleman, whom I see often on the trail, recently shared with me that with proper diet and exercise, he has been able to lose 100 pounds, which greatly improved his overall health. I am always happy when people share their success stories and are appreciative of the facilities that are available in Batesville.

If your city has not applied for the 80/20 matching grant from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department Recreation Trails Program, I certainly encourage you to do so. I am pleased that the League has chosen to embrace wellness, which is one of my priorities as League President. I understand the League has formed a wellness team of about 30 employees and have chosen to call themselves #AMLMMoves. The members post pictures of outdoor activity or workout sessions on social media using this hash tag. What a great way to use social media to help promote wellness within their own offices and to share their stories so that others can be inspired!

I encourage you to attend the HR and Personnel Matters certification workshop on Oct. 28 and the Health and Wellness workshop on Nov. 18, which is extremely important to those cities participating in the Municipal Health Benefit Fund. The Finance and Budget workshop held Sept. 11 set a record for the largest single-day attendance for a certification workshop. I cannot stress the importance of these workshops enough. They are a great source of valuable knowledge for our cities.

With that being said, if you have not already registered for the 2015 Fall Conference, I encourage you to attend that as well. This conference will offer three hours of continuing education credit and will have an abundance of valuable information about crucial municipal matters. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Elumbaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rick Elumbaugh  
Mayor, Batesville  
President, Arkansas Municipal League



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





## Little Rock premieres Main Street's Creative Corridor

Little Rock celebrated the grand opening of part of its new Creative Corridor on Sept. 14, as the low impact development streetscape and revitalization of Main Street continues, block by block.

The Creative Corridor is a mixed-use development project aimed at restoring the vitality of Main Street by creating an arts district and retrofitting a four-block segment of the street between President Clinton Avenue and 7th Street. The city estimates that more than \$100 million in private and public investment has occurred to date to help make this vision a reality.

The 500 block of Main Street is the first section of the Creative Corridor streetscape to officially open. The environmentally friendly area features tree-line boardwalks, rain gardens, and other bio-diverse vegetation. It is designed to become a downtown hub that can support both pedestrian activity and traffic.

According to Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola, the design for the area has won more than 10 national and international awards. At the grand opening ceremony Stodola credited the many partners involved in making the Creative Corridor come to life.

"Plans are great, but if they stay on the shelf, nothing ever happens," Stodola said.

The initial \$100 million investment is just the beginning, he said.

"It is an evolving project, and I'm hoping for a Phase 2 and a Phase 3."

He hopes to see the growth extend the complete length of Main Street.

"That's just the beginning of the revival of Main Street," Stodola said.

One of the major partners with the city has been the U.S. EPA and its Region 6 Administrator Ron Curry, who was on hand to celebrate the development with the city. Little Rock is unique in the region and nation, he said, calling the city a model of what can happen when the community works together on a vision. He also praised the sustainable aspects of the development. On top of that, "it's cool," he said.

"The good thing is you're not done," Curry said. "You're going to continue to grow this and you're going to continue to make it sustainable as you go forward."

The retail that has moved away from downtown isn't going to come back, not in the traditional way at least, said Stephen Luoni, director of the University of Arkansas's Community Design Center. The Creative Corridor brings a new approach to reviving downtown, with a focus on the arts, people, and the environment. This approach wasn't quick or easy, he said, and it meant working closely with the city to change the code to allow variances for the low-impact development. Luoni predicted that the 2nd and 3rd waves of development will soon follow when investors see how well the Creative Corridor is working. The first \$100 million is just the "pioneer stage" of development, he said.





The completion of the streetscape of the first several blocks of the Creative Corridor is just the beginning, Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola, above, told the audience at the grand opening Sept. 14 at the Arkansas Repertory Theater. The Rep, right, is an anchor on the corridor and will be joined by other local arts organizations on Main Street. The corridor's well-lit, bio-diverse streetscape makes it inviting to pedestrians, bicycles, and automobiles.





North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, the League's 2015-2016 District 2 Vice President, aims to continue the brisk development the city has experienced the last decade.



## League District 2 VP predicts more development in North Little Rock

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

**T**he family roots of North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith, the League's 2015-2016 District 2 Vice President, run four generations deep in this, his hometown. His great-grandparents owned a restaurant and boarding house on Pike Avenue, and his grandfather worked for the railroad. His dad was assistant chief of police. Smith graduated from high school in 1969 and moved to Fayetteville for college.

Smith and his wife, Missie, have two children and two grandchildren.

After graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1973 with a degree in business, he went to work for a local car dealership. He later became a partner at a Ford dealership in Hope. He learned much as a car dealer that has served him well as a municipal leader, he says.

"There is a similarity in being a car dealer and being a mayor because your goal is to make people happy," he says.

One particular bit of on-the-job philosophy he picked up from his business partners back then has stuck with him.

"Their philosophy was 'do in the beginning all things that are required in the end.' As mayor, my philosophy is pretty much the same."

Smith may be in his first term as mayor, but he has served the city since 1989, when longtime Mayor Pat

Hays, then in his first year as mayor, named him director of community relations.

"It was kind of a 'jack of all trades' position," he says. "It was community relations, it was public relations, it was public affairs, it was a little bit of everything back then."

It wasn't a political appointment, Smith says. He was hired for his managerial and public relations skills, and over the next 25 years, he wore many hats and was able to gain a very broad experience of city governance. When Hays decided, after 24 years as mayor, he wasn't going to run for re-election, Smith, with the support of his family, made the decision to run for the office.

"We thought that we could continue the good work that's been going on and continue to improve the city."

The transition was seamless, Smith says, adding that one of the unique things about North Little Rock is that the city owns a \$100 million-per-year utility company, of which the mayor is CEO.

"So not only are you electing a mayor to represent your city and manage your 60-million-dollar budget, but you're also electing a CEO over a hundred-million-dollar electric utility that you own part of. It's owned by the citizens. So it's important for the citizens of North Little Rock to value their vote for mayor."



The city has seen a tremendous amount of development and improvement in the last decade, and there's more to come, he believes.

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

He's emboldened by the success of the Park Hill Business and Merchants Association, and has his sights next on developing one in the Rose City area. He has numerous meetings each week about some sort of economic development opportunity, he says, and he's confident some of these will begin coming through soon. Maintaining excellent city services and public safety is of course very important, and on top of that, job creation and retention is what the citizens want from the city's leadership, he says.

A newly expanded Hum's Hardware, a longtime North Little Rock business and employer, is nearing completion on east Broadway in Rose City and will be an anchor in the neighborhood. Food distributor Ben E. Keith, now located on Pike Avenue, was looking for more growth and a possible relocation to Memphis,

but the city with the help of the Governor's office has convinced them to stay. They have begun construction of a new, larger \$70 million facility in the industrial area on the east side of the city. It will mean saving the 250 existing jobs and adding a potential 250 more, the mayor says.

Good jobs aren't the only thing that helps the city retain its skillful and talented residents. The city's arts, cultural, and outdoor amenities are very important and add to the quality of life in North Little Rock. One aspect of the city that too often gets overlooked is Burns Park, Smith says. At more than 1,500 acres, Burns Park is one of the largest municipal parks in the nation, and its offerings are second to none. He'd like the city to do a better job letting the world know that it's a special place.

The term "quality of life" gets tossed around a lot by politicians these days, Smith says, but it's true. These amenities, from culture to cuisine, help make the city special.

"It gives our citizens the opportunity to live life to the fullest."



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

Argenta, the city's downtown area, has come alive in recent years and is now an arts and dining destination.



Burns Park is one of the nation's largest municipal parks, and Smith would like the city to do a better job of spreading the word about its many world-class amenities, which include ballparks, trails for walking and for horse riding, a golf course, an amusement park, a BMX bicycle track, camp sites, and much more.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.

Economic and cultural development go hand in hand, the mayor says, citing a study that found by increasing the number of residents with a college degree by just one percent has a \$50 million economic impact in a city. To attract that talent a city needs both jobs and vibrant and varied cultural amenities.

“Back when I graduated from college, we found a job and then moved there—wherever it was. Now the young people decide where they want to live first and then they find a job there. That is why we have to focus on the amenities downtown, and parks, and trails, along with our public safety.”



Argenta, the city's historic downtown and surrounding neighborhood, has seen a great resurgence in the last decade. It is now an arts, dining, business, and residential destination, and none of that is by accident, Smith says. Much of the coming development the mayor predicted will be in the downtown area, he says, from new residences to new business developments on both sides of Main Street.

“You cannot have a successful community without having a strong downtown. Downtown's your front porch.”

In addition to promoting the city's economic and cultural vitality, Smith also makes sure the city improves its more basic amenities, like the city streets. Major improvements are currently underway on Main Street/JFK Boulevard, and the very busy McCain Boulevard has recently received a complete overlay.

“I've told everyone, and I'm going to commit to this: As long as I'm mayor, we're going to spend at least a half a million dollars a year on repaving our streets,” Smith says. “We expect that, we deserve that, and I'm going to continue to do that.”

As the city moves into the future and continues to develop, it's essential to get all the neighborhoods involved in the process, Smith says. To that end he has created a leadership group of all the presidents of every neighborhood association.

“They meet every other month or so, and we have guest speakers. They share ideas and successes. A strong neighborhood association gives a neighborhood a leg up, and it makes it easy for elected officials to want to help those groups.”

Maintaining basic services and city streets remains a top priority amid the economic development of North Little Rock, as a recently overlaid McCain Boulevard shows.



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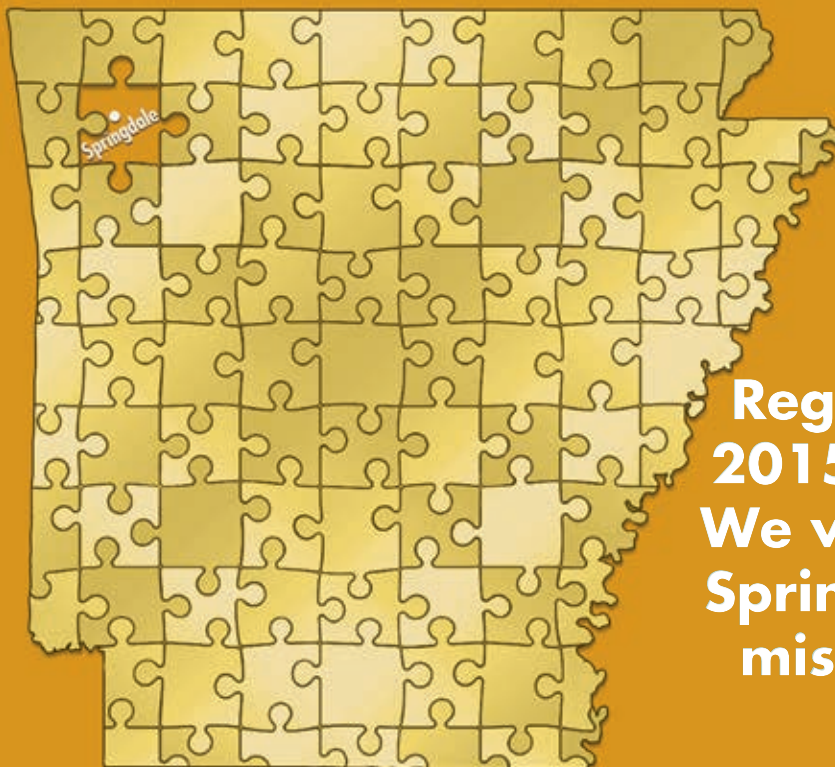
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PHOTOS BY SHERMAN BANKS.

Mosai tribal dancers perform for our delegation.

# Moshi, Tanzania: Helena-West Helena's new sister city

By Sherman Banks

In July of this year I made my second trip in two years to Moshi, Tanzania. On my first trip in July 2013, then Mayor Arnell Willis of Helena-West Helena accompanied me on a fact-finding visit to explore a potential sister city relationship between the two cities. During our visit we received an overview of Moshi's municipal government, their primary and secondary education system, healthcare services, and economic development through culture and tourism. Since sister city relationships are developed municipality to municipality, Mayor Willis and Moshi Mayor Jafar Michael agreed to pursue the development of sister city between their two cities.

It was decided that a formal signing of the agreement would take place Oct. 12 in Helena-West Helena during the famous King Biscuit Blues Festival. A delegation of five city officials from Moshi will come for the formal signing at the Delta Cultural Center.

My visit this past July was to aid in the development of a tourism package to appeal to the more adventurous southern traveler. Moshi hosts several cultural programs on the lower slopes of the famous Mt. Kilimanjaro. Moshi also serves as the base for many expeditions up the mountain, with climbers staying in safari campsites

and hotels. Like the city of Little Rock, the municipality of Moshi established and promotes the Kilimanjaro Marathon held at the end of February or the beginning of March. Working directly with Ashanti Tours of Moshi, we spent five days on safari in order to see first-hand the intrigue and adventure, the wildlife, and the culture. A safari can be as primitive as your adventurous nature allows, such as sleeping in a tent, or it can be luxurious, with a three to five-star wildlife lodge for your over night stay.



When visiting Tanzania, one may enjoy a safari in a tent, or enjoy the modern amenities in chalets such as these.



During our trek we saw migration of thousands of wildebeests, giraffes eating from thorny trees, lions, elephants, monkeys of all kinds, hippos, and zebras. We witnessed huge termite mounds, lava boulders 10 stories high, 3,000 year old trees, and unbelievably picturesque rivers and waterfalls. We danced with members of the Mosai tribes, and went on a hunt with the bush people. Of course we stood near the base of the historic Mt. Kilimanjaro. Thousands of people trek that mountain each year just for the accomplishment and satisfaction of having completed a task once considered impossible.

Every few years Ol Doinyo Lengai, or “Mountain of God,” an active volcano, erupts, sending lava, boulders, and ash for hundreds of miles, destroying everything in its wake. The mystique of this volcano intrigues adventurous climbers who want to

experience first hand the spatter and lava rise leading to the next gigantic eruption.

For your next vacation abroad, consider visiting Helena-West Helena’s new sister city, Moshi, Tanzania, and experience the splendor of natural areas that have remained seemingly unchanged for eons and the modern culture of a city that can be like walking the streets of your own hometown. It’s like visiting the ancient past and the future in just one visit.



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



A curious monkey joins us for breakfast at the lodge.

Moshi, Tanzania, is near the foothills of the famous Mt. Kilimanjaro.





# Supreme Court preview for local governments 2015

By Lisa Soronen, State and Local Legal Center, Washington, D.C.

The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) files Supreme Court amicus curiae briefs on behalf of the Big Seven national organizations representing state and local governments.

*\*Indicates a case where the SLLC has or will file an amicus brief.*

**T**he Supreme Court's last term was big for local governments because the Court decided a number of important cases against them, most notably *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*, Arizona (2015), holding that strict scrutiny applies to content-based sign ordinances. The October 2015 term is one to watch not just because the Court has accepted numerous cases on controversial topics affecting local governments. Adding to the intrigue, many of the Court's decisions this term are likely to be discussed by the 2016 Presidential candidates as the election heats up. Here is a preview of the most significant cases for the local governments that the Court has agreed to decide so far.

## Public sector collective bargaining

In *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* the Court will decide whether to overrule a nearly 40-year old precedent requiring public sector employees who don't join the union to pay their "fair share" of collective bargaining costs. More than 20 states have enacted statutes authorizing "fair share."

In *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education* (1977) the Supreme Court held that the First Amendment does not prevent public employees who do not join the union from being required to pay their "fair share" of union dues for collective-bargaining, contract administration, and grievance-adjustment. The rationale is that the union may not discriminate between members and nonmembers in performing these functions. So no free riders are allowed.

In two recent cases the Court's more conservative justices, including Justice Kennedy, have criticized *Abood*. If the Court doesn't overrule *Abood* it may instead rule that public employees may be allowed to opt-in rather than required to opt-out of paying "non-chargeable" union expenditures, in which case presumably fewer will opt-in.

"Fair share" and opt-out are foundational principles for public sector collective bargaining in the United States. Overturning either of them would mean a major change in the law that would substantially weaken public sector unions.



## Redistricting

The U.S. Constitution Equal Protection Clause “one-person one-vote” principle requires that voting districts have roughly the same population so that votes in each district count equally. But what population is relevant—total population or total voting population—and who gets to decide? The Court will answer these questions in *Evenwel v. Abbott*.

Over the last 25 years the Supreme Court has repeatedly refused to decide (in cases all involving local governments) whether total voter population must be equalized in state and local legislative districts.

Plaintiffs claim that total voter population must be the metric. They argue their votes are worth less than other voters because they live in districts that substantially deviate from the “ideal” in terms of number of voters or potential voters.

The lower court disagreed because the Supreme Court has never held that any particular population metric is unconstitutional. Most state legislatures use total population not total voting population data.

## Asset forfeiture

The question in *Luis v. United States\** is whether not allowing a criminal defendant to use assets not traceable to a criminal offense to hire counsel of choice violates the Sixth Amendment right to counsel.

Local law enforcement often receives asset forfeitures related to drug crime.

This case comes on the heels of *Kaley v. United States* (2014) where the Supreme Court held 6-3 that defendants may not use frozen assets which are the fruits of criminal activities to pay for an attorney.

*Luis* argues that it is “inconceivable” that she may not use “her own legitimately-earned assets to retain counsel.” The federal government responded that per her reasoning criminal defendants “could effectively deprive [their] victims of any opportunity for compensation simply by dissipating [their] ill-gotten gains.”

The Eleventh Circuit ruled against *Luis*, who was indicted on charges related to \$45 million in Medicare fraud.

## Local governments sued out-of-state

In *Franchise Tax Board of California v. Hyatt\** the Court will decide whether states must extend the same immunities that apply to them to foreign local governments (and states) sued in their state courts. *Hyatt* is important to local governments who are often sued out-of-state.

The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) of California concluded that Gilbert Hyatt didn’t relocate to Nevada when his tax returns indicated he did and assessed him \$10.5 million in taxes and interest. Hyatt sued FTB in Nevada for fraud among other claims.

In *Franchise Tax Board of California v. Hyatt* (2003) the Supreme Court held that the Constitution’s Full Faith and Credit Clause does not require Nevada to offer FTB the full immunity that California law provides.

A Nevada jury ultimately awarded Hyatt nearly \$400 million in damages. The Nevada Supreme Court refused to apply Nevada’s statutory cap on damages to Hyatt’s fraud claim reasoning that Nevada has a policy interest in ensuring adequate redress for Nevada citizens that overrides providing FTB the statutory cap because California operates outside the control of Nevada.

Hyatt has also asked the Supreme Court to overrule *Nevada v. Hall* (1979), holding that a state may be sued in another states’ courts without consent. If the Court overrules this case, the question of whether the immunities a state enjoys must be offered to a foreign local government (or state) will be moot.

## Affirmative action

For the second time the Court has agreed to decide whether the University of Texas at Austin’s race-conscious admissions policy is unconstitutional in *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*.

Even though this case arises in the higher education context, the Supreme Court decides relatively few affirmative action cases so all are of interest to local governments that use race as a factor in decision-making.

Per Texas’s Top Ten Percent Plan, the top 10 percent of Texas high school graduates are automatically admitted to UT Austin, which fills about 80 percent of the class. Most other applicants are evaluated through a holistic review where race is one of a number of factors.

Abigail Fisher claims that using race in admissions is unnecessary because in the year she applied UT Austin admitted 21.5 percent minority students per the Top Ten Percent Plan.

The Supreme Court has held that the use of race in college admissions is constitutional if race is used to further the compelling government interest of diversity and is narrowly tailored.

In *Fisher I* the Court held that the Fifth Circuit, which upheld UT Austin’s admissions policy, should not have deferred to UT Austin’s argument that its use of race is narrowly tailored. When the Fifth Circuit relooked at the plan again it concluded that it is narrowly tailored. Only time will tell whether the Court agrees.

## Conclusion

The Court’s docket is only about half full right now. Interestingly, the Court hasn’t accepted a Fourth Amendment or qualified immunity case yet, but no term would be complete without a few such cases. Of interest to the Court may be a case involving whether cell phone location data may be obtained without a warrant.





PHOTO BY MARK POTTER.

# How to be authoritative without being a jerk

By Dan Rockwell

**F**ear only works when the big bad leader is present. The sigh of relief when jerk-leaders leave the room signals disengagement.

The most effective leaders are authoritative, not authoritarian.

## Authoritative:

Authority is permission to act without asking permission while being held accountable.

Successful leaders know how to take the bull by the horns—be authoritative—in ways that engage and energize organizations. They don't trample people. They point the way and "go with" at the same time.

Authoritarian leaders believe leadership is about power rather than service.

## Seven ways to be an authoritative leader:

1. Purpose. Leaders exist to serve. The purpose of authority in organizations is effective service.
2. Parameters. Authority is made safe by boundaries and accountability.
  - a. Align and explain your role in terms of organizational mission and vision.
  - b. Define what you don't do. Boundaries focus energy and protect.
  - c. Exemplify organizational values.
3. Learn. Authority often makes people feel they know when they don't. You become authoritative

when you learn from people who know more than you. Leaders become coercive jerks when they're always the smartest person at the table. (Sarcasm intended.)

4. Competence. Celebrate the competence of others without degrading your role.
5. Engage. Authoritarian leaders say, "Do what I tell you." Authoritative leaders get their hands dirty. Participation indicates authoritative. Isolation indicates authoritarian.
6. Explain. Authoritative leaders explain what we are doing and why. Jerk-leaders just want it done.
7. Forward. Focus more on where you're going than what went wrong. Backward facing leaders only lead into the past. They're great at blame and repetition. Never point out negatives unless you're ready to reach toward positives.

Push-overs can't lead. Authoritative leaders are confident but not domineering, empathetic but not weak.

The power of authoritative leadership is respect; authoritarian is fear.

How might leaders be authoritative without being authoritarian?

*This article appeared originally on Dan Rockwell's blog, Leadership Freak (leadershipfreak.wordpress.com) and is reprinted with permission.*







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Murals like this one by local artist Jordan Karpe in Conway can tell the community's story and be an economic development tool.

# Community murals as economic development tools

By Amy Whitehead and Katelyn Wilkins

**T**he arts can be a useful tool for economic development at the local level. Many municipalities in Arkansas are beginning to embrace arts-based initiatives as a development tool.

“Arts programs and quality-of-place initiatives are the minimum price of admission when competing in a global marketplace for jobs and investment,” said Tim Allen, President and CEO of the Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce. “On a local level, community murals and other arts initiatives encourage a sense of excitement among the citizens and promote reinvestment in downtown.”

Recently featured in state publications was a weeklong festival in Fort Smith called The Unexpected Project: A Festival of Murals, where artists from around the world converged on the city to paint seven murals as part of a larger arts-based festival. Other cities, such as Conway and North Little Rock, have embraced arts as a strategy for tapping into community talent and expanding the cultural offerings of the community in order to create the kind of place where residents and visitors are eager to live and visit.

Americans for the Arts, a leading nonprofit for advancing the arts, provides insight on why the arts can have a positive impact on the economy, including:

- Arts are an export industry—\$72 billion was the export value of the arts in 2011.
- Arts drive tourism—the U.S. Department of Commerce reports that the percentage of international travelers visiting museums on their trips to the U.S. has steadily increased since 2003.
- Arts strengthen the economy—the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector represents 3.25 percent of GDP, and generates \$135 billion in economic activity annually.
- Arts are good for local merchants—attendees at nonprofit arts events spend money on meals, parking, and babysitters, thus stimulating the economy.

Many cities that want to begin working on a community-based arts initiative begin with a mural in their downtown area. According to Dr. Gayle Seymour, Associate Dean of UCA’s College of Fine Arts and Communication, there are reasons this may be a good place to start. They can be fast and cheap. Though the process for creating a mural can take close to a year, the actual time needed to paint the mural is only one to two months. Considering the high cost of other development projects, murals only cost between \$25,000 and \$35,000 for the artist, scaffolding, paints, signage, and





PHOTO BY DR. GAYLE SEYMOUR.

other supplies. This makes them financially accessible to many communities, though pooling of local resources is usually necessary.

“Most grants in the arts are made to nonprofit organizations (schools, arts agencies, etc.) and require matching funds, usually a 1:1 match,” Seymour said. “This requires many partners who can contribute cash, personnel, supplies, in-kind services, etc. Easy options are Arkansas Arts Council and Mid-America Arts Alliance.”

Once murals are complete, they are safe and easy. Murals also require limited maintenance. According to her experience, Seymour advised that murals can last up to 25 years if an appropriate site is selected and properly prepared. Finally, one of the most important aspects of a mural is its connection to community history

and values. This provides community attachment to the mural, making people more likely to want to preserve the mural while also attracting tourists looking for art that reflects local culture. If a city is interested in creating a mural, the local team should seek ways to involve the community either through design or artist selection, site selection, and/or assisting with painting the mural with oversight from the artist. For a truly community-based mural, selection of the right artist will mean that person will listen to and involve the public, as well as champion the process.

Murals have the opportunity to tell the community’s story, create a unique experience, engage citizens, increase foot traffic and tourism, increase appreciation for the arts and artists, and increase overall attractiveness of the space. Allen sees this as the case for Fort Smith.

“When a company or consultant visits Fort Smith, the economic development benefit of the arts is evident; they see we are growing our community, supporting the arts, and creating a vibrant quality of place for their employees and families,” Allen said. “This makes Fort Smith more competitive when compared to larger cities with a robust arts program.”

*Amy Whitehead is the Director of UCA’s Center for Community and Economic Development.*

*Co-author Katelyn Wilkins is an undergraduate student at the University of Central Arkansas, and is completing an internship at the Center.*



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# Finance and budgeting workshop sets attendance record

**T**he League's Director of Legal Services Mark Hayes, standing, guides a packed house of municipal leaders through the ins and outs of laws that govern city budgets at the Finance and Budgeting workshop, held Sept. 11 at League headquarters in North Little Rock.

With 145 in attendance from 74 different cities and towns, the workshop set a single-day attendance record. Topics covered included an overview of Arkansas budgeting laws, analyzing available revenue sources, basic municipal accounting practices, payroll and tax reporting, evaluating municipal property, and common Legislative Audit findings. It was a beautiful day, which allowed workshop participants to enjoy their lunch outside in the courtyard. 🏛️



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## Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program

The League's Voluntary Certified Continuing Education Program continues in 2015 with a series of workshops covering topics helpful to municipal leaders. The voluntary certification plan is, approved by the Executive Committee, and consists of 21 credit hours of topics.

For those city officials who have completed the 21 hours of core curriculum, you must annually obtain 6 hours of continuing education to maintain your certification status. The required 6 hours must be gained by attending the hours of continuing education offered at the 2015 Fall Conference, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, or the 2017 Land Use Seminar.

The Program is for Arkansas mayors, city managers, city directors and aldermen, city recorders, recorder/treasurers, city clerks, clerk/treasurers.

The next workshops are:

- Human Resources and Personnel Matters (5 core curriculum hours), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 28 at League headquarters. Registration will open Monday, Sept. 28.
- City Government 101: Who Does What at City Hall (5 core curriculum hours), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 13, 2016, at League headquarters.

For more information contact Ken Wasson at 501-374-3484 Ext. 211, or email [kwasson@arml.org](mailto:kwasson@arml.org).





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# Macular degeneration a leading cause of vision loss as we age

By Sami Uwaydat, M.D.

**A**s we age, it seems our body slowly decides not to function as well as it did when we were younger. That includes vision. Like the rest of our five senses, it seems we use and rely daily on our eyes working, but don't really think about them until something is wrong.

One of those eye conditions to be on the lookout for is age-related macular degeneration, or AMD. If you're like most, you are probably saying, "What is AMD?" Simply put, it's a common eye condition that is also the leading cause of vision loss in people age 50 and older. It affects 1.75 million Americans and the numbers are expected to rise as our nation grows older. By 2020, the number affected could reach three million.

The condition usually takes place over a long period of time and is the result of damage to the macula, which is a small area in the center of the retina responsible for our central vision. As we grow older, our retinas cannot keep up with the debris that results from its every-day function. These debris byproducts start to pile up in the back of the eye. Eventually, this leads to a blurred or black spot in our central vision that can make it hard to perform daily activities, such as driving, reading, and writing.

There are different stages of AMD: early, intermediate, and late. Most of the time, there are little to no symptoms experienced during the early and intermediate stages. Late AMD is divided into two types: non-neovascular, or dry, and neovascular, or wet.

## Wet or dry

Dry AMD occurs when yellow spots form on the retina and cause progressive vision loss over several years. The only treatment available is in the form of vitamins, which can slow the progression in 25 percent of patients.

Wet AMD occurs when vessels grow under the retina. These vessels can leak fluid or bleed, which causes people to see black spots or experience distorted vision. The only treatment available now is the injection of

medicine in the eye. This helps the vessels shrink and improves vision. However, the vessels do not disappear and injections must be done monthly.

The major risk factor in developing AMD is age. It's most likely to affect those 60 and older, but it can occur earlier in life. Other than aging, smoking is the greatest risk factor. Smoking causes oxidation, which leads to damage in the vessels of the eye. Race is also a factor, as AMD is more common in Caucasians than African-Americans. As with many other health-related conditions family history also plays a role.

## Prevention

There are ways to help prevent AMD, including regular exercise and a healthy diet rich in green, leafy vegetables and fish. Exercise keeps you in good shape, which can reduce factors associated with AMD like obesity, high blood pressure, and diabetes. Eating veggies and fish gives you a diet healthy in antioxidants, vitamins, and Omega-3 fatty acids. Fruits, such as blueberries, kiwi, grapes, and avocados, as well as nuts, are also recommended.

A condition like AMD helps remind us of the importance of regular eye exams. These yearly, routine examinations could allow an eye specialist to detect AMD in its early stages and make treatment more successful.

In the Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, our physicians are able to diagnose and treat eye conditions like AMD. The Jones Eye Institute also has a low-vision specialist and an occupational therapist to help patients who have experienced vision loss.

Our vision is important to our daily lives, so let's make sure we're doing all we can to preserve it.



*Sami Uwaydat, M.D., is Associate Professor and Director of the Retina Service, Department of Ophthalmology/Jones Eye Institute, UAMS College of Medicine.*



# TENTATIVE 2015 Fall Conference

Holiday Inn & Convention Center Northwest Arkansas, Springdale. December 2-4, 2015.

## WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 2

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**1:00 P.M.**

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

**2:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.**

REGISTRATION

**2:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.**

VISIT WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

**3:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.**

CERTIFICATION CLASS  
(CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS)

**7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M.**

OPENING NIGHT BANQUET

## THURSDAY - DECEMBER 3

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**7:15 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

REGISTRATION

**9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.**

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

**10:30 A.M.-NOON**

THE FUTURE OF ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

**NOON**

VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARDS  
LUNCHEON

**2:00 P.M.-2:30 P.M.**

THE ARKANSAS BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN

**2:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M.**

NEW COURT RULINGS: WHAT CITY OFFICIALS NEED  
TO KNOW

**3:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M.**

PREPARING FOR 2016: IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**6:30 P.M.**

RECEPTION

## FRIDAY - DECEMBER 4

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**7:15 A.M.-NOON**

REGISTRATION

**9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.**

UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.

**10:15 A.M.-11:00 A.M.**

GENERAL SESSION

**11:00 A.M.-NOON**

THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE: VETERAN CITY  
OFFICIALS SHARE FROM THEIR TIME IN OFFICE

**NOON**

LUNCHEON

**1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## NOTICE TO ALL CITY ATTORNEYS

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The Arkansas City Attorney Association's Fall CLE will **NOT** be held in conjunction with the Arkansas Municipal League's 2015 Fall Conference, Dec. 2-4 in Springdale.

However, the ACAA will hold its Winter CLE program Friday, Jan. 29, 2016, at the League's North Little Rock headquarters. As in the past, the ACAA Winter CLE will consist of six hours of CLE, including one hour of ethics.

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# 2015 Fall Conference

Holiday Inn & Convention Center Northwest Arkansas, Springdale. December 2-4, 2015.

REGISTRATION

**Registration and payment must be received in League office by Monday, November 9, 2015, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.**

Pre-registration for municipal officials . . . . .	\$150
Registration fee after <b>November 9, 2015</b> , and on-site registration for municipal officials . . . . .	\$175
Pre-registration for guests . . . . .	\$75
Registration fee after <b>November 9, 2015</b> , 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, 2015-2016**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after November 9, 2015.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **November 9, 2015.**

HOTEL RESERVATION

## Hotel Room Rates

<b>Holiday Inn</b> (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double <b>SOLD OUT</b> . . . . .	<del>\$104</del>	Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.
<b>Hampton Inn</b>		
Single/Double <b>SOLD OUT</b> . . . . .	<del>\$104</del>	Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.
<b>Fairfield Inn &amp; Suites</b>		
Single/Double . . . . .	\$104	Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.
<b>Comfort Suites</b>		
Single/Double . . . . .	\$104	Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.
<b>Doubletree Club</b>		
Single/Double <b>SOLD OUT</b> . . . . .	<del>\$104</del>	Check-in . . . . . 3 p.m.

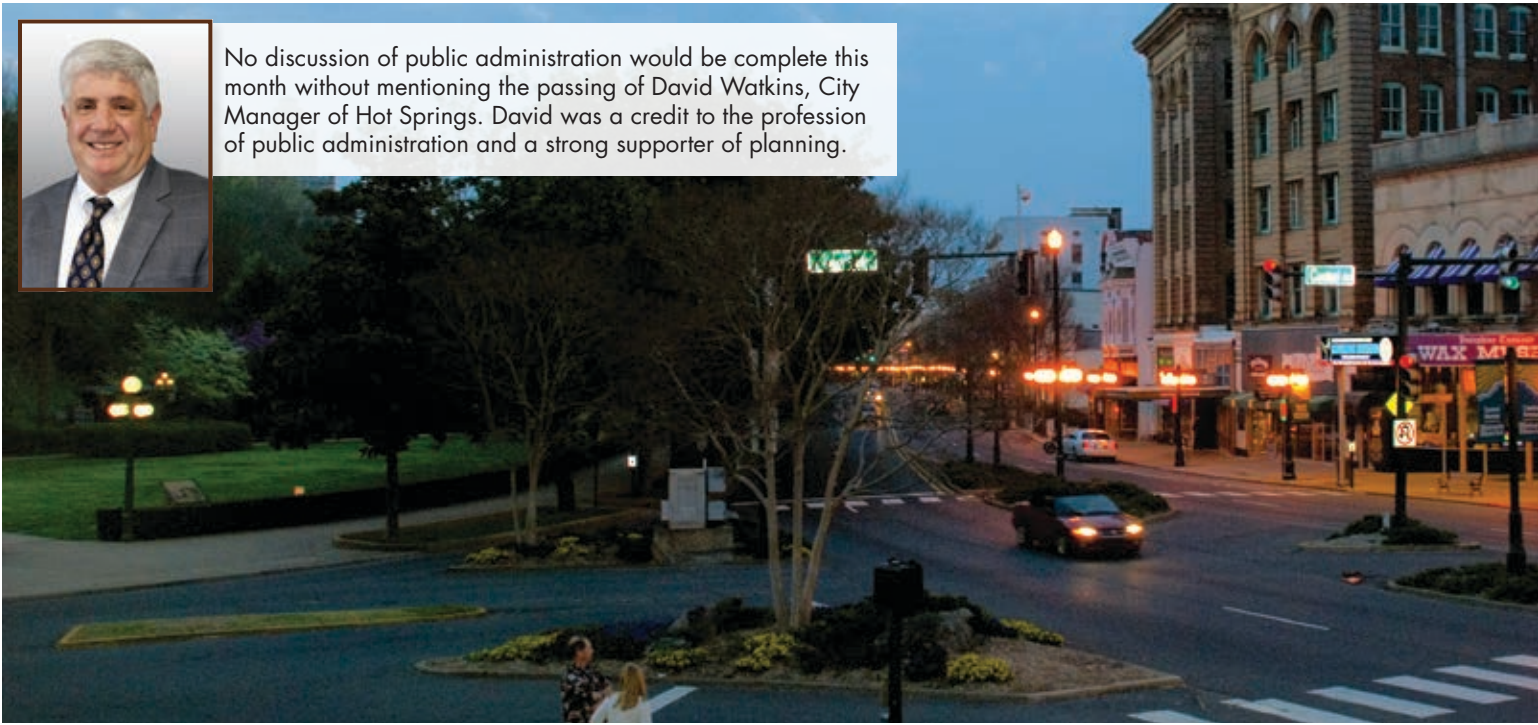
- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **November 9, 2015.**
- Rooms in Springdale are subject to an 13.75 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel.







No discussion of public administration would be complete this month without mentioning the passing of David Watkins, City Manager of Hot Springs. David was a credit to the profession of public administration and a strong supporter of planning.



# Administration: Who's doing it, and how?

By Jim von Tungeln

No matter how noble the goals, aspirations, and proposals of a city's plans, personal contact eventually carries out the result. No matter how much a municipality may spend on professional staff, paid experts, or legal advice, someone must eventually administer the final product on a person-to-person basis. No matter how many famous names appear on the planning documents, an anonymous staff person provides the face of the municipal planning to the public. The results are sometimes admirable. Sometimes they are not.

Whether we call them plan administrators, zoning administrators, or "counter" planners, we are talking about the staff members who receive and log submitted material, dispense paperwork and information, and deal with the public face to face. In our state they may be, on one extreme, a professional planner who has membership in the American Institute of Certified Planners—the highest professional accreditation in the field. On the other extreme, they may be the manager of the city's water system who was informed just last week that her duties now include administering the zoning and development codes. In the not-to-distant past, planning commissioners themselves administered the regulations.

This implies that education, training, and experience may be one reason for the success or failure of the city's planning implementation. Intuition tells us that proper

education and training will lead to problem-free administration, right?

Maybe. There are some aspects of public administration that aren't always included in formal training or education. Although training and education are important, and should be encouraged, let's look at planning administration, simply a form of public administration, from some different angles.

For example, human relation skills should be, but aren't always a part of our training. Vital as they are to public service, they are mostly overlooked, often with dire consequences. As the administrator of a large hospital in one of our state's larger cities once told the author, "Many malpractice suits don't originate with malpractice. They originate with rude behavior and then someone gets mad and digs up the malpractice."

This column resulted from observing the flippant and disrespectful attitude of a private-sector clerk toward a customer at her place of work. The company provides farm equipment and the customer was an elderly farmer who had, no doubt, once picked cotton by hand for a few dollars a day in the blistering sun of the Arkansas Delta. At that moment, the clerk was "the company," not the glossy brochures and not the well-dressed executives at the corporate headquarters. For the customer, the encounter was perhaps simply the latest in a lifetime of disrespect. For the clerk, it was a missed opportunity to





PHOTO BY JIM VON TUNGELN

advance a small degree of dignity to someone who was helping provide her salary.

Elected officials would do well to ask constantly, “Who is the face of our city and what are they giving back to the taxpayers?”

Does this mean that public administration should sink to a “touchy-feely” type experience? Certainly not, but each of us can recount instances in which we were treated kindly, helpfully, and cordially by a public servant while a wall of professionalism stood between the administrator and applicant. One represents the organization, in our case the city. The other represents the public, who must agree, ultimately, to finance the city.

No, the administrator should not aspire to be an applicant’s best friend, nor should the administrator appear cold, indifferent, or hostile. Each approach provides the same slippery path to a disenchanting citizenry or even the courtroom.

An over-friendly administrator can fall into a couple of traps. The first is simply to “talk too much.” One who continually does that will invariably say or imply something far above their level of expertise, leading to much misunderstanding and confusion. A second trap of over-friendliness sees the administrator become a “champion” for a development submittal. The resulting enthusiasm can result in what we might call “torturing the regulations” until they do what is best for the developer but perhaps not best for the city.

An administrator may also fall into the practice of over-interpreting regulations designed to carry out or implement the city’s plans. “Well,” one might say, “who is going to interpret the regulations for the public?” An answer based on years of study and education is that if

a regulation needs interpreting and the administrator might interpret it incorrectly, it is the regulation that is the problem and not the administrator. General Douglas MacArthur reportedly once said, “Never give an order that can be understood; always give orders that cannot be misunderstood.” Shouldn’t the same be true for our regulations?

There are special considerations for the public administrator as well. As Donald F. Kettl points out in his book, *The Politics of the Administrative Process* (CQ Press, 2014), there are significant differences between administration in the public sector and management in the private sector. It includes being held to a higher ethical standard. It is vital that planning administrators understand this and other aspects of their role in the process.

Public administrators can face competing forces acting on their performance. In business, profit-and-loss reports can provide exacting standards of success or failure. Public administrators on the other hand, don’t have such clear feedback. As Anthony Downs once phrased it, “For public administrators, compliance with the law is the ultimate measure of performance, but laws often are vague and give little guidance.” This statement resonates with anyone who has dealt with phrases such as “whenever practicable” or “reasonable accommodation.”

Dealing with laws provides another difference. Private sector business can pursue their goals as long as they don’t do anything illegal. Public organization may only take measures that are specifically authorized by a law. This difference can confuse those who simply feel that cities need to “use more imagination,” the way business does.

Then there is the issue of public scrutiny. Municipalities must operate “in the sunshine,” a requirement that is certainly reasonable. It is a requirement, however, that lays an additional layer of complexity over an administrator not trained in the specific requirements of a state’s Freedom of Information Act. Add to this the additional oversight of legislators and the courts.

All of this screams for a high level of expertise and sensitivity. In summary, perhaps the spending of hundreds of thousands of dollars to prepare plans and regulations, and hundreds or thousands of dollars to administer them is fair neither to those who create our plans nor those hard-working public servants who implement them. Is your system in balance?



*Jim von Tungeln is staff planning consultant and available for consultation as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Contact him at 501-944-3649. His website is [www.planyourcity.com](http://www.planyourcity.com).*

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015

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

## Nicotine: Is it a drug?

For a long time, I have wanted to address a commonly abused drug that most people prefer to ignore. Nicotine is a naturally occurring drug found in tobacco. When individuals are smoking or chewing tobacco products, they are getting a dose of nicotine. Quite often clients say they don't smoke tobacco, but they chew tobacco and believe this to be not as dangerous. Wrong.

Nicotine has short-term effects. It can speed up the nervous system, which makes the body work harder and less efficiently, which can impact job performance. Nicotine also has long-term effects that result in serious health problems (including death) and addiction. Basically, nicotine should be avoided like other drugs.

Tobacco companies have had excellent and compelling marketing campaigns to encourage people to consume their products. For many years, the movie industry encouraged smoking because it helped to make the actor and actresses look sexy, tough, and powerful. Tobacco companies sponsored all types of events and this gave them a chance to recruit more smokers. Teenagers, wanting to look cool, began smoking at very young ages, and many became addicted to the nicotine.

How dangerous is nicotine? It has many effects on a person's health by altering chemicals that affect other body functions. It makes blood more likely to clot, which can cause strokes; forces the body to burn more oxygen, which causes the heart to work harder; raises blood pressure; slows reflexes and muscle activity; and it increases heart and breathing rates. Many individuals that have smoked or chewed tobacco contracted emphysema, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), strokes, lung cancer, oral health cancers, rotten teeth and poor gums, and other diseases that can lead to death. Nicotine impacts the brain cells that influence learning, alertness, concentration, and mood. Have you ever thought that an employee using tobacco products might be less productive or responsible than a non-smoker?

These reasons are why many employers are testing for nicotine during the pre-employment drug test. All of these health issues can impact an employer's health insurance—and that costs you money.

When a person smokes tobacco, this is how it works. First, it enters the lungs where it quickly passes into the bloodstream. Within approximately seven seconds, it reaches the brain and then spreads to other parts of the body. It is this last step where the organs (kidney, liver, and pancreas) can be impacted. Nicotine taken in other forms is also quickly absorbed by the body.

It might surprise you to know that tobacco use is also associated with bladder, pancreas, kidney, and cervix diseases. In women smokers, there is a higher risk of miscarriage, stillbirth, and premature and low birth-weight babies. Studies show smoking is not good for any pregnant woman.

It has been documented in research nicotine users risk addiction. Users develop tolerance, which leads to using more nicotine to get the same effect. Users become physically and mentally dependent on the drug. Efforts to quit often lead to unpleasant withdrawal symptoms; however, it is possible to do. Even an occasional smoker can easily become addicted to nicotine.

It has been said that nicotine is a "gateway drug," often leading to using marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and LSD. Tobacco and alcohol are illegal for use by minors.

It is important to realize how dangerous the use of tobacco is to your workforce and employee health. If you would like to add nicotine testing to your pre-employment urine drug screens, please let us know. There are certain limitations to the additional drug on the testing panel, including the Department of Transportation, the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Voluntary Drug-Free Workplace Program, any federal program, and the Arkansas Municipal League testing program. To add nicotine testing to your drug testing policy will require an update to your employee handbook.



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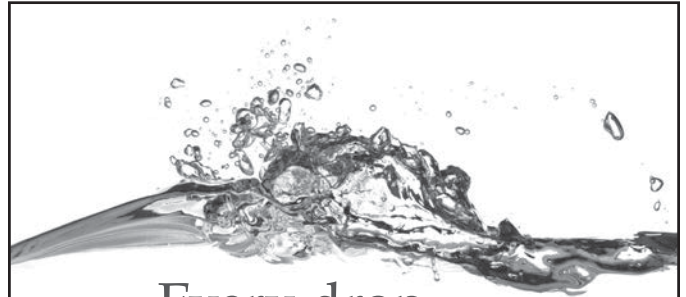
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## New towing laws now in effect

**T**his year the Arkansas Legislature introduced several new acts that overhauled the laws regarding non-consent towing. The new law requires law enforcement agencies to have a non-consent rotation policy. Additionally, the new acts enumerate the violations that tow operators, owners, and drivers may be issued, along with a more defined schedule of fines for violations. Finally, consumer complaints now have a more transparent process. The changes will be codified in the new sections 27-50-1217 and 1218 of the Arkansas Code.

First, Act 1224 now requires law enforcement agencies to create a non-consent rotation policy that is both reasonable and reflects the day-to-day operations of tow operators in the immediate area. Any law enforcement agencies that already have a policy in place, or have a pre-existing contract with a tow operator, are excluded from this requirement. Law enforcement agencies must provide the tow operators on the list with a copy of the new policy, which the tow operators are bound by in addition to the statutes and rules of the board. The tow operators must acknowledge receiving the policy in writing.

Act 1224 further requires that the Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board (ATRB) establish rules setting up a complaint process for the removal of a tow operator from the non-consent rotation list when they violate the policy in question. The removal or suspension of the tow operator will be determined by weighing the reasonableness of the law enforcement agency's policy against the severity of the violation. The penalties for violations increase upon subsequent violations, beginning with an initial suspension of up to 15 days for a first offense to a one-year suspension with a fine for the third offense. Any tow operator that receives a suspension of more than six months must reapply for a position on the non-consent rotation list. Additionally, Act 1224 requires that all tow operators seeking to be on a non-consent rotation obtain a license and permit by the board. Failure to obtain or renew the licenses and/or permits will result

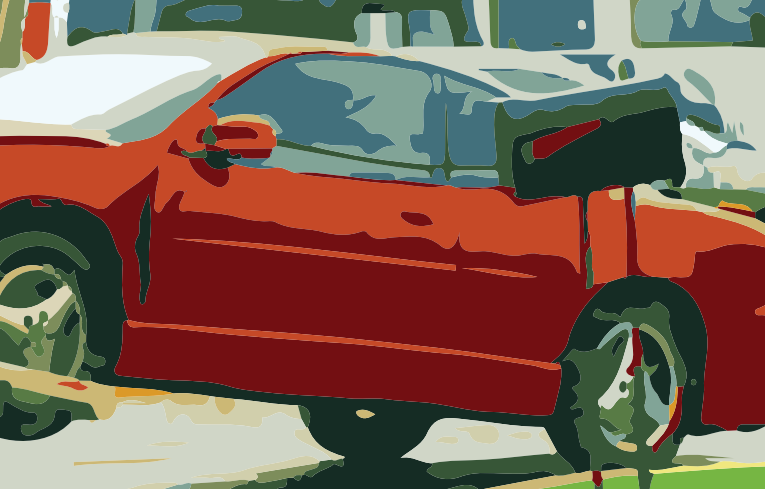
in an immediate suspension of the tow operator and/or storage facility until the permits are obtained.

The director and investigators employed by ATRB now possess the power to issue citations to a tow company, owner-operator, or tow vehicle driver for the following offenses: (1) operating a tow vehicle without a proper permit or license, (2) operating a tow vehicle which has not been permitted or licensed as a tow vehicle by the State of Arkansas, (3) operating a tow vehicle which is out of compliance with the safety and operating regulations prescribed by the board, (4) not responding within a prescribed time frame to a request for information related to a consumer complaint, (5) failure to properly post any required notifications in a conspicuous place as required by the board, or (6) failure to meet the basic criteria for an adequate place of business. All fines for any of the enumerated violations will reflect the severity of the penalty and may be increased for multiple offenses or repeated violations of the same offense. However, no individual fine given by the board will exceed \$200 for these violations. (ACA § 27-50-1218.)

“An adequate place of business” is defined in Act 1195 as a location that the public can easily access, with an appropriate and secure filing system for business records, and clear and visible front and rear signage that is a minimum of 4x6 feet and displays the name, physical address, phone number for the company that can be easily accessed by the public, and towing company's hours of operation. Additionally, Act 1117 now requires tow operators and storage facilities to post signs notifying customers of the consumer complaint process. The sign must be in a visible and central location in the public area, and shall be a minimum of 16x20 inches in size. Any operator or facility found in violation of the signage requirement may be fined between \$50 and \$250 by the state board.

Moreover, Act 387 now requires law enforcement agencies with a non-consent rotation policy to require each tow operator and storage facility in their jurisdiction to annually file a list of the towing and storage firm's current rates of service. It is now an unclassified





violation if a towing and storage firm fails to file the list required under this section or engages in the towing, removal, or storage of a vehicle within the jurisdiction of the entity with which it failed to file the list. A first offense violation is subject to a fine of \$1,000; second and subsequent violations are punishable by a fine of \$2,000.

Act 1117 provides new regulations for the consumer complaint process. When a consumer complaint is filed with the law enforcement agency, the agency must submit the complaint to the board within five days of receiving it. The written complaint must include four things: (1) the complainant's name and contact information, (2) the tow company involved in the dispute, (3) the nature of the consumer's complaint including any important details that show cause for filing a complaint against the tow company, and (4) the contact information for the on-scene officer who initiated the non-consent removal of the vehicle. Additionally, the person filing the complaint must have a vested interest in the vehicle; this interest includes, but is not limited to, being the owner of the towed vehicle or their agent, being the lien holder of the vehicle, or being the company that insures the vehicle. The board must resolve the complaint within 45 days, unless conditions warrant an extension. In order to maintain this time limit, complainant and tow operator are required to respond to any requests from the board for more information within 10 days by either sending the requested information or requesting an extension. If the complainant does not respond within this time period, the claim may be automatically dismissed. If the tow operator does not respond within the time period, they will be fined \$25 a day until they provide the requested information.

In terms of damages, if a complainant's claims are found to be valid, any financial restitution will be considered part of the penalty by the board when determining the fines for the tow company and/or storage facility. Moreover, a complainant can only obtain actual damages, and cannot recover punitive damages. The board is responsible for determining all financial restitution; however, the complainant may still bring suit in court as an alternative to the statutory complaint process. ☰

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# New #AMLMoves initiative makes wellness a priority

Improving wellness is a major priority for the League this year, and to help lead the way we have created a new initiative, **#AMLMoves**, to help our staff and our municipalities to get moving.

By David Baxter, League staff

**B**atesville Mayor and League 2015-2016 President Rick Elumbaugh has made promoting health and wellness—in both the workplace and the community—one of our main priorities this year. With that goal in mind, the League has started its own wellness initiative called **#AMLMoves**, and in just a few weeks, we have had 28 League staff members sign up to become wellness leaders. Not only have they stepped forward and expressed interest in becoming wellness leaders, they are leading by example in changing their behaviors.

I reviewed everyone's fitness/wellness goals, the steps they plan to take to accomplish them, and even the challenges they are having to overcome in order to become more active and healthier. I have been involved in wellness and fitness endeavors, both personally and as a trainer, for a long time, and I must say that I am impressed with the motivation that our group has shown. I believe they will serve as an inspiration to others who are trying to become more active and healthy.

Our **#AMLMoves** team members have a wide range of wellness goals, experiences, and expectations. For some team members, they simply want to be more consistent with some form of exercise. For them, they mentioned that barriers such as family obligations often get in the way of walking or taking a fitness class after work. The thing that struck me was their commitment to overcoming these barriers. One of the ways that they are overcoming barriers to being more active and healthy is by utilizing their time at work more wisely. That can mean simply taking the stairs more often, eating lighter and quicker at lunch, and then using the League's fitness equipment for the remainder of the lunch break. Others have also said that since the weather is cooler, they are team-walking on their breaks, instead of eating and sitting as they normally would.

A number of our wellness team leaders use family time with their children to not only help them stay active and healthy, but also teach their children the important benefits of staying active. They turn off the television, go outside and use yard work and play as a way to promote wellness as a family. Still more are making lifestyle changes by not only moving more, but becoming more

aware of what they eat and drink. Many have expressed to me that once they started exercising, even a little, it made them suddenly more aware of how much food they were taking in. In fact, here at the League, we have two team members who have lost 65 pounds and 72 pounds, respectively, of unwanted weight this year! They have reached their personal goals and maintained their weight loss by staying in constant touch with what they want to accomplish and by applying the common sense strategy of eating less and moving more. This is something that many people come to realize once they become active. They start to understand that they cannot take in more energy than you expend on a daily basis and still lose unwanted bodyweight.

These are just a few successes that our **#AMLMoves** wellness team members have realized thus far. I believe that their wellness successes illustrate what can be accomplished when regular folks give a little time and attention to their own health and wellness. I have often heard people complain about how their life is just too hectic to focus on their own wellness. I agree that life is busy, but we all seem to find time to do things that we enjoy. When faced with the choice between creating a healthy and active lifestyle and finding reasons not to work at it, almost everyone gets busy finding reasons not to do it. Why? Our default setting is to take the path of least resistance, but the human body is not designed for the path of least resistance. It has to have stressors or else it grows stagnant and starts to decline. Becoming more active and healthier doesn't have to be a burden; it can be integrated incrementally into daily activities.

I encourage all our member cities to follow our League president's lead and give time and attention to your own health and wellness. It will make a difference in your life, and it may just motivate others to do the same. **#AMLMoves**—become a part of the movement!



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



**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)**

1. Publication Title: City & Town

2. Publication Number: 0311620

3. Filing Date: 9/30/15

4. Issue Frequency: monthly

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 12

6. Annual Subscription Price: \$20

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®):  
P.O. Box 38  
North Little Rock AR 72115-0038

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):  
Arkansas Municipal League  
P.O. Box 38  
North Little Rock AR 72115-0038

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):  
Publisher (Please print complete mailing address):  
Don Zimmerman, Exec. Dir.  
P.O. Box 38  
North Little Rock AR 72115-0038  
Editor (Please print complete mailing address):  
Andrew Morgan  
P.O. Box 38  
North Little Rock AR 72115-0038  
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all individuals owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

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11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of this amount of stock, mortgage, or other securities. (None, check box  None  More

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12. Tax Status (If completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one):  
 The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
 Has not changed during preceding 12 months.  
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PS Form 3526, July 2014. Page 1 of 4. See instructions page 45. PSN: 7530-01-000-9001. PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy at www.usps.com



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13. Publication Title: City & Town

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Sept. 2015 Vol. 31 No. 9

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: local, state, & national officeholders, municipal department heads, etc.

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		<u>6715</u>	<u>6814</u>
b. Legitimate Paid and/or Requested Distribution (By mail and outside the mail)	(1) Outside County Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions stated on PS Form 3541 (include direct mail request from recipient, telemarketing, and internet requests from recipient, paid subscriptions including nominal rate subscriptions, employer requests, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	<u>6185</u>	<u>6275</u>
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and e)		<u>6565</u>	<u>6664</u>
g. Copies not Distributed (See instructions to Publishers #4, page #3)		<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
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16. Electronic Copy Calculation: N/A

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Requested and Paid Electronic Copies		
b. Total Requested and Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Requested/Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		
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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Andrew Morgan editor Date: 9/30/15

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# First-time mayor helps instill pride in Bono

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

**B**ono Mayor Danny Shaw didn't grow up in Bono, but he's had a strong desire to improve life in his adopted hometown, he says. He started his working career as a teenager in a family business, later owned a furniture and upholstery business for 10 years, then worked for 27 years running a household moving and relocation business out of Jonesboro. About seven years ago he moved to nearby Bono. He sold his moving business at the end of 2014.

"Running for mayor is something I've felt compelled to do ever since I've lived in this city," Shaw says.

It's his first elected office of any kind. He was inspired to run in order to help lift Bono and reverse the "bad wrap" and negativity he saw in the city over the last several years, he says. It doesn't have to be that way, Shaw says, and after "some soul-searching and a lot of prayer," he ran and won the election for mayor.

"Being elected mayor has really been a blessing for me, and I just can't imagine why anybody would think there's a better job than to do this," he says. "The pay's not great but good enough, and there's so much good you can do for the community."

With a desire to be a part of improvements in the city, Shaw, the city leadership, and its citizens have already made great strides in just one year. The city has completed improvements to its community building. They've created a new official logo for Bono that reflects its hometown pride and its history. They've launched a

new and improved website, and the city has partnered with students at the high school to help with site maintenance and upgrades. Shaw has also made it a priority to keep residents informed of everything going on in town with a regular city newsletter, cleverly titled *Pro Bono*.

A major piece of Shaw's vision for Bono is the creation of a city park, which he says would be "a place where 'motion' and 'emotion' can happen." The city has its eye on 16 and a half acres in the heart of Bono, and has a dream to make the Bono Legacy Park a reality. They have a long wish list of amenities for the park, including playgrounds, a splash pad, a quarter-mile walking track with workout stations along the way, grills and picnic tables, a pavilion and restrooms, a basketball court, baseball and softball fields, and even a tornado safe house.

The vision is there, and fund raising is the next step. To start with, the city has for sale Bono license plates for \$20 each. They plan to sell in-memory pavers as well. Once the plan is in motion, it'll stay in motion, Shaw believes, and the support of the citizens has been overwhelming.

"I just feel like we've got a little better attitude in town than we've had in the past and a little more pride in the city. That's really my goal, to have people be proud to say we're from Bono." Mayor Shaw's dedication to improving his city shows, right down to the way he closes his official correspondence: "Yours for a better Bono."





## Bryant Fall Fest continues to grow

**B**ryant's annual Fall Fest, held Sept. 26 at Bishop Park, continues to grow, the city reports. They estimate this year's attendance was more than 8,000. They were especially proud to host an officially sanctioned Kansas City Barbecue Society competition, which offered \$7,500 in prize money. Saturdays in Arkansas are of course game days, and Fall Fest accommodated fans with a tailgating area offering BBQ and craft beers. Other activities included duct tape boat races, human foosball, laser tag, a fishing derby, parade, and much more.





# Fairfield Bay: A shining example

By Chad Gallagher

Six years ago I conducted a site visit in Fairfield Bay. The resort town is nestled among stunning vistas on the beautiful Greers Ferry Lake. It is an easy, short drive from Conway and the Little Rock metro area, but it feels like you've traveled a world away. The natural beauty and the setting alone give Fairfield Bay a tremendous head start in community and economic development. However, the state of things was concerning those six years ago.

The visit revealed that there was not consensus among key community leaders on the future of the city, and there was a good bit of space between the city government and Fairfield Bay's important POA—property owner's association. Fairfield Bay began as a planned retirement community, organized and managed mutually through a POA. Years later residents voted to incorporate the city. There are great advantages to doing so; however, it can create competition and natural opposition between the POA and the city. Avoiding this and turning the tension into a positive asset requires true leadership and deliberate effort.

Fairfield Bay six years ago also showed signs that maybe its glory days had come and gone. A dilapidated convention center stuck out like a sore thumb, a lack of beautiful parks and numerous other missing amenities, as well as a slight decline in population were all danger signs. After our visit we provided a 15-page report to the city with suggestions and ideas for community and economic development. Through the years I've kept up with Fairfield Bay's leadership and their efforts in pursuing grants. It's been quite impressive.

Last week, I returned to Fairfield Bay to conduct a new site visit. Wow! What a difference good people putting their community first and working together proactively can make—even in just six years. The once dilapidated convention center is alive, well and functioning. It now hosts events, conferences, and weekly live theatrical performances. New and renovated parks with beautiful sidewalks and the most stunning flowers and fountains shine like the morning sun. This in addition to new clinics in town and a new "school" with courses on pottery and art, as well as others.

This success didn't happen spontaneously. I met with community leaders and was amazed. Each of these leaders was in their sixties or older. I mention their age because it is noteworthy in the fact that I found them to be more progressive, more innovative, more willing to change and challenge the status quo, more focused on the future than most any young leadership group

I've ever met. The team had overcome major hurdles. Together, they had closed the gap between the POA and the city and launched a new mantra that simply said, "Put the citizens first and solve their problems." The turf battles disappeared when everyone became eager to serve. The POA and city are now closely aligned, leveraging resources and unique skills and assets for overall community growth.

I listened to their stories and their ideas and I saw their PowerPoint where they had followed suggestions, become aware of their needs, learned their data and used it to their advantage. There is a formula that we strongly recommend every city use in community development and strategic growth: Conduct a true assessment of your current state, including input from as many stakeholders as possible, and develop a blueprint of where you want to be in the future. Then begin to work on the strategies for executing this plan—including utilizing grants as a tool. I was so delighted to see that Fairfield Bay had followed our guidance and pursued so many of our recommendations and achieved much more beyond those.

Fairfield Bay developed a fresh marketing effort with clean branding and became proactive in their outreach. All the while they were working to bring unity in the community and start working on their projects. The vast majority of their recent successes were achieved fully through grants and volunteer labor. The convention center received \$1.1 million from the U.S. Economic Development Commission and another \$78,000 from the Delta Regional Authority. Fairfield has also received over \$100,000 in park grants through private and public funds. Space doesn't allow us to mention all the awards they've won such as the ones for their fantastic new volunteer run recycling center, master gardening club, and Trip Advisor certificate.

Don't get me wrong. Fairfield Bay doesn't think they've arrived. They have much to do and are ambitiously in pursuit of a hotel for their conference center and much more. With the team they have in place and the superb leadership Mayor Paul Wellenberger is providing, I have no doubt they will reach their goals, one way or another.



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



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# Pharmaceutical contaminants threaten our water systems

By Byron Hicks, PE

**D**ecades of improper disposal of pharmaceutical and personal care products has resulted in a growing list of emerging contaminants threatening our environment and human health. Research is now showing that many existing water treatment regulations and wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to remove some emerging contaminants from waterways.

A report by the International Joint Commission, a consortium of officials from the United States and Canada who study the Great Lakes, states that only about half of the prescription drugs and other newly emerging contaminants in sewage are removed by treatment plants. Their conclusion is that better water treatment is needed across the country. The long history of improper disposal of pharmaceuticals in the U.S.—largely due to the mistaken belief that wastewater treatment facilities are equipped to remove these chemicals—has continued to increase the likelihood of negative effects on the environment and on human health.

How do pharmaceutical chemicals get into our waterways? Pharmaceutical waste—which includes prescription medications, over the counter drugs, and other personal care products—are usually dumped into a sink or toilet, which then exposes them to our environment and waste streams. If these drugs are not biodegraded or eliminated during sewage treatment, they have the potential to eventually reach drinking water. Another way pharmaceuticals are introduced to our waste streams is through our bodies. Small amounts of some medications do not fully metabolize when ingested and enter the wastewater stream this way. Even disposing of pharmaceuticals in the trash can result in the chemicals “leaching” into groundwater through landfill leachate. In fact, most sewage and water treatment facilities do not take pharmaceutical contaminants into consideration, so these wastes are left untreated to enter our surface, ground and drinking water.

Although this issue is not new and attempts to regulate disposal of health care waste began over 40 years ago, regulating disposal and developments in contaminant removal in the water/wastewater treatment process have been limited largely to industrial production. Minimal mitigation efforts have been made at the personal/patient use level.

Not all chemicals found in wastewater effluent will be found in drinking water. But some studies have found some prescription drugs in drinking water at varying levels. A federal study of 74 waterways used for drinking

water in 25 states found 53 had traces of one or more pharmaceuticals. Our research found no federal regulations of pharmaceuticals in waste or drinking water; therefore, these chemicals and the impact they could have on humans and the environment remain unclear. Twelve pharmaceuticals, however, are currently on the EPA’s list of chemicals under consideration for drinking water standards.

Although most wastewater plants are not currently designed to handle these types of chemicals, technologies exist that are effective at removing pharmaceuticals and other new chemicals—emerging contaminants—but these technologies can be expensive, especially for municipalities, which are under tight budgets and doing what they can just to meet current requirements. Treatment facilities will most likely be required to address emerging contaminants in the future as regulations are modified or added to mitigate health and environmental hazards as they are identified. Until that time when water and wastewater treatment facilities are upgraded to remove pharmaceutical chemicals, we can help reduce the amount entering our waterways right now.

In 2010, an Arkansas coalition launched an ongoing educational program to encourage everyone to “Monitor, Secure and Dispose” of their prescription medications. Numerous partners have made the success of this program possible. The coalition plans Arkansas’s participation in the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration’s National Prescription Take Back Initiative with collection events each spring and fall. Through a partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Arkansas, some collection sites are available year round. This alternative for disposing of prescription medications is offered currently by the Drug Enforcement Administration and many local law enforcement agencies. This program attempts to provide safe, convenient, and responsible options for prescription drug disposal, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications, and prevents these medications from ending up in landfills or waterways. You can find out more about the Prescription Drug Take Back options in the state of Arkansas and read the common “myths” about drug disposal at [www.artakeback.org](http://www.artakeback.org) or contact your local law enforcement agency.



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# U.S. Department of Labor Proposes to Change White Collar Exemptions to Overtime Rules

The U.S. Department of Labor has issued proposed rules that would change the standard salary level required to qualify for the “white collar” overtime exemptions. These exemptions apply to administrative, executive, computer and professional employees. Currently, these employees are exempt from overtime compensation if they meet the following tests:

- The employee is paid on a salary basis;
- The employee is paid a salary of at least \$455 per week (\$23,660 per year); and
- The employee performs certain duties which are specified for each category.

For more information on the Fair Labor Standards Act, including these exemptions, see FLSA—21 Things You Should Know on the League’s website at [www.arml.org/resources/legal-faqs/](http://www.arml.org/resources/legal-faqs/).

The proposed amendments to these requirements will greatly increase the minimum salary requirement. The new rules, if adopted, would set that minimum at the 40th percentile of weekly earnings for full-time salaried workers. The Department of Labor has estimated that in 2016, this would increase the salary threshold to approximately \$970.00 per week or \$50,440.00 annually. The DOL also proposes that this amount shall be adjusted on an annual basis.

In addition, the Department of Labor may consider changes to the duties tests and for additional occupations. However, no specific proposals were put forward by the department.

The change to the salary test alone, however, will reduce the number of employees who will be exempt from overtime. For example, a department head who meets the duties test and earns a salary of \$700 per week would currently be exempt from overtime requirements. If the proposed rule goes into effect, that department head would have to be paid overtime or granted compensatory time at the rate of time-and-a-half for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week (or the established work period for police and firefighters). In addition, if the amount is adjusted annually, as the DOL proposes, employers will need to reevaluate their payroll practices each year to determine whether employees who were exempt will continue to be so.

It is important to note that the rule is not currently in effect and cities need not make any changes as a result at this time. However, it is quite possible that these proposals will become rules effective as early as Jan. 1, 2016. City officials should therefore consider the potential need to reclassify currently exempt employees and to plan accordingly.

The Municipal League staff will monitor the progress of these proposals and will keep our membership informed of any changes in the regulations that may occur.



## 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; ACA 26-25-102 and 103). ACA 14-14-904(b) requires the Quorum Court to levy the county, municipal and school taxes at its regular meeting in November of each year. ACA 26-73-202 requires the city or town council on or before the time fixed by law for levying county taxes to certify to the county clerk the rate of taxation levied by the municipality. ACA 14-14-904(b) establishes the November meeting of the Quorum Court as the time to levy those taxes.

In other words, the governing body of the city or town must levy and certify its property tax to the county court every year prior to the November meeting of the Quorum Court. As the Attorney General has explained, the “millage is an annual levy, and failure to levy by the required date results in a millage of zero for the following year.” (Ark. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 91-044; citing Ark. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 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 November meeting of the Quorum Court. It would be advisable to have this done at the council’s October meeting at the latest.**



This maple at Hendrix College in Conway is a great example of the right tree planted in the right place—it's trunk is protected from the sun and will not get sun scald and the crown has plenty of room to flourish.

PHOTO BY ALISON LITCHY.

# Choosing the right tree for the right environment

By Alison Litchy

For people who enjoy gardening and landscaping, an itch to plant sets in when the weather starts to turn cooler. There are so many choices of what to plant, especially when it comes to trees. Choosing the right tree for the right location can become overwhelming sometimes. While it may be tempting to plant a species due to it having great flowers for a week in spring or beautiful fall color, there is so much more than that to consider.

Here are some important considerations when choosing a tree:

- Overall, the faster a tree grows the weaker the tree will be, and often shorter lived. An example would be a Bradford Pear. This commonly planted tree has an expected lifespan of less than 30 years. Do you want to remove this tree so quickly? Instead, consider something like Chinese Pistache, Japanese zelkova, or flowering cherry.
- Think of the mature size of the tree, not its size when planted. Will the tree grow into the power lines? Is there something to worry about below ground? A common tree that can outgrow its planting space would be a Bald Cypress, which is known for very expansive root systems that can

cause problems with underground piping. The white oak has a very wide crown and will likely grow into power lines if not given a wide berth.

- What kind of roots will the tree have as it grows? Maples are known for shallow roots and will grow along the top of the soil. This might be a problem in high traffic situations where someone could trip. Some trees have compact root systems. For example, loblolly pine tree roots are shallow and more fine than other large trees. Smaller trees, such as Trident Maple, have less expansive roots systems. Oaks, on the other hand, are the reverse of pine, with very expansive roots that thrive in large planting sites.
- Are there diseases or insects that affect a particular species? The most current example would be the Emerald Ash Borer, which makes ash a bad idea to plant. An older, but still relevant example is Dutch elm disease, which can be a big problem for American Elms.
- What kinds of trees are currently growing in your area? Species diversification is important because most pests are specific to a certain type of tree. By



having a variety of tree species there is less chance of losing all of the trees to one pest.

- What do you want the trees to provide for your community? Trees like ginkgo, white oak, and tulip poplar are excellent at providing shade, while persimmon, sawtooth oak, and hickory are exceptional at food for wildlife. Yoshino cherry, Chinese pistache, and redbud are common ornamental choices for great flowering or beautiful fall colors. The loblolly pine, eastern red cedar, and arborvitae are particularly good for wind protection. Whatever the goals are for your trees there are always great options.

A more common type tree worth mentioning is the crape myrtle. Crape myrtles are loved for their blooms through the summer; however, they are often pruned improperly. When the tree is topped or cut back drastically each year the tree becomes weaker and is more likely to have problems in the future. There are many varieties of crape myrtles that range in size from three to 33 feet tall. There is no need to trim a large one back when you can plant the size you prefer. Be sure to check the mature height before planting.

Species to avoid include both invasive and exotics, and some native species as well. Ash, as mentioned before, is native but will not be able to thrive here anymore due to problems with the borer. Bradford pear trees are commonly planted for their week of blooms in the spring; however, the poor branching structure makes them prone to failure. The rootstock is from a callery pear and, after it fails, it reverts back and becomes an invasive (as seen in the spring time along the highway) and has sharp thorns. Silver Maples have weak wood and poor branching structure. Mimosas are invasive but often planted for their blooms. Researching how a tree grows prior to planting can save you heartache in the long run.

Plenty of information is available on different species. I have given a few examples of trees that are good for our urban forests. The Arkansas Forestry Commission has a series of free color posters that show a variety of trees to choose from and where they grow best. If the right tree is planted in the right location, less maintenance will be needed in the long run. To find out more information visit forestry.arkansas.gov, or feel free to contact me at 501-580-9609 or Patti Erwin at 479-442-4963.



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

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# 2015 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
January	\$5.1428	\$4.8662	\$0.3163	\$0.5728	\$1.9533	\$2.0995
February	\$4.5811	\$4.8562	\$0.4833	\$0.4599	\$1.0052	\$1.0921
March	\$4.7165	\$5.1898	\$0.4463	\$0.2339	\$1.0055	\$1.0909
April	\$4.8363	\$4.7309	\$0.5347	\$0.6375	\$1.0055	\$1.1417
May	\$5.1527	\$5.2197	\$0.5897	\$0.2544	\$1.0053	\$1.0906
June	\$4.9881	\$5.2355	\$0.6126	\$0.2735	\$1.0050	\$1.0909
July	\$5.5230	\$5.3027	\$0.5581	\$0.6593	\$3.9543	\$2.9716
August	\$4.9486	\$5.0207	\$0.6130	\$0.2558	\$1.0932	\$0.9631
September	\$5.0410	\$5.3691	\$0.5763	\$0.2629	\$1.0910	\$1.0780
October	\$5.1889		\$0.5542		\$1.0930	
November	\$4.9326		\$0.4906		\$1.0928	
December	\$4.8110		\$0.4013		\$1.0919	
<b>Total Year</b>	<b>\$59.8626</b>	<b>\$45.7908</b>	<b>\$6.1764</b>	<b>\$3.6100</b>	<b>\$16.3960</b>	<b>\$12.6185</b>

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
January	\$9,666,249.40	\$9,159,751.23	\$594,574.44	\$1,078,253.79	*\$3,671,282.93	*\$3,951,880.56
February	\$8,610,432.52	\$9,140,972.61	\$908,313.92	\$865,620.02	\$1,889,234.55	\$2,055,766.00
March	\$8,864,931.29	\$9,768,890.51	\$838,837.95	\$440,227.94	\$1,889,913.97	\$2,053,376.13
April	\$9,090,103.48	\$8,905,034.06	\$1,005,050.29	\$1,199,954.61	\$1,889,913.97	\$2,149,094.75
May	\$9,684,675.50	\$9,840,348.46	\$1,108,429.75	\$479,664.03	\$1,889,592.55	\$2,056,091.57
June	\$9,380,093.69	\$9,870,151.62	\$1,151,947.00	\$515,640.06	\$1,889,914.20	\$2,056,559.07
July	\$10,386,236.87	\$9,996,770.39	\$1,049,503.01	\$1,242,957.21	**\$7,436,192.77	***\$5,602,259.11
August	\$9,310,016.61	\$9,465,188.42	\$1,153,167.19	\$482,195.54	\$2,056,570.50	\$1,815,712.03
September	\$9,483,759.74	\$10,122,118.61	\$1,084,169.71	\$495,609.13	\$2,052,581.22	\$2,032,276.34
October	\$9,763,094.43		\$1,042,826.36		\$2,056,448.50	
November	\$9,282,963.15		\$923,263.56		\$2,056,540.00	
December	\$9,054,075.63		\$755,208.69		\$2,054,945.78	
<b>Total Year</b>	<b>\$112,576,632.31</b>	<b>\$86,269,225.91</b>	<b>\$11,615,291.87</b>	<b>\$6,800,122.33</b>	<b>\$30,833,130.94</b>	<b>\$23,773,015.56</b>

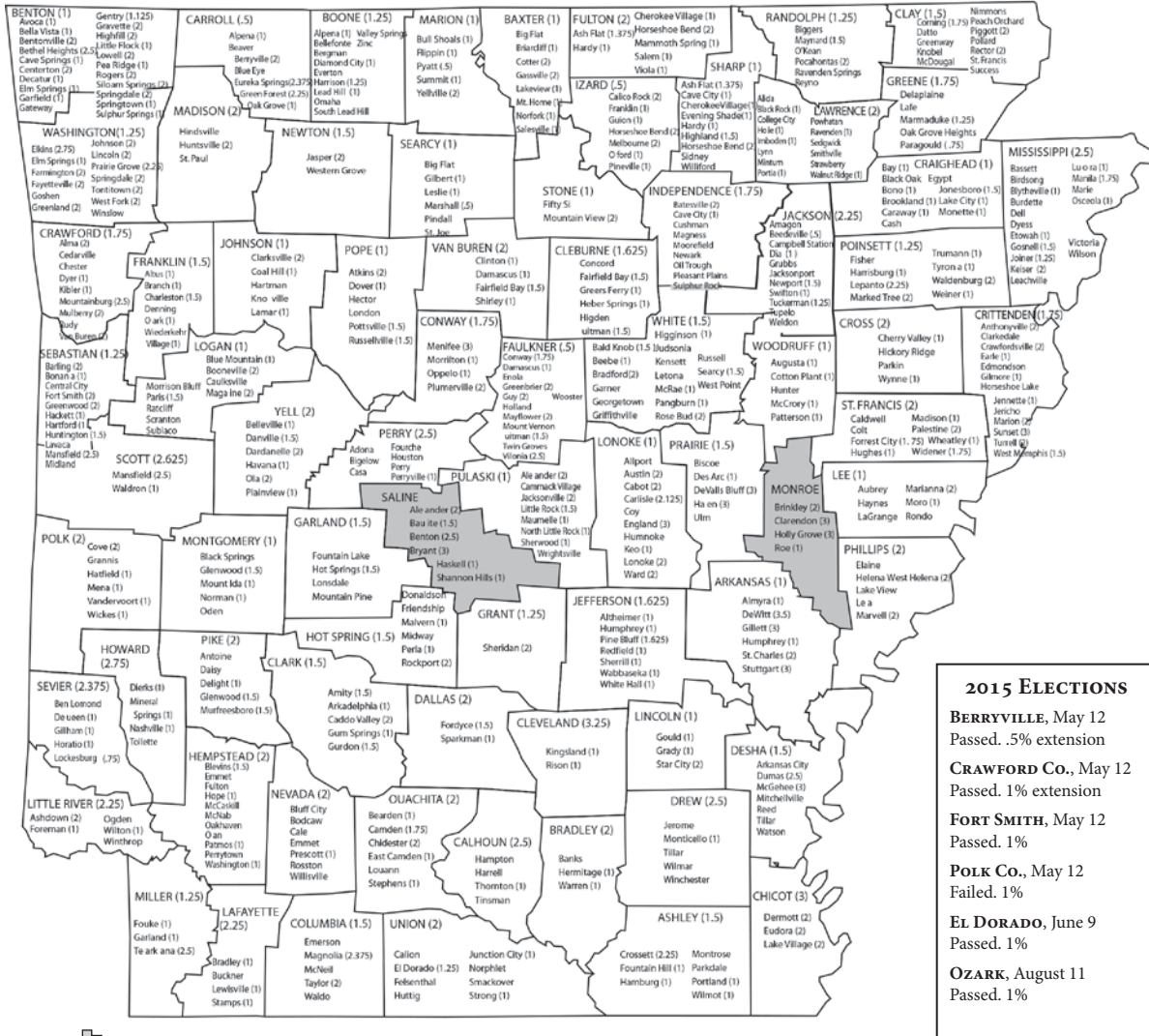
\* Includes \$2 million appropriation from the Property Tax Relief Fund

\*\* Includes \$3,516,800.29 supplemental and \$2 million appropriation from Category B of Budget Stabilization for July 2014

\*\*\* Includes \$3,516,801.52 supplemental for July 2015



# Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Graves, Office of State Treasurer

See also: [www.dfa.arkansas.gov](http://www.dfa.arkansas.gov)

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2015 with 2014 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$48,260,965	\$44,899,051	\$42,805,543	\$41,135,484	\$91,066,508	\$86,034,535	\$12,222	\$4,805
February	\$57,956,453	\$51,556,660	\$50,071,410	\$46,326,186	\$108,027,863	\$97,882,846	\$12,659	\$5,765
March	\$46,032,300	\$41,142,676	\$41,404,634	\$37,596,230	\$87,436,935	\$78,738,906	\$19,161	\$5,571
April	\$46,694,339	\$44,819,678	\$42,176,819	\$41,824,879	\$88,871,158	\$86,644,557	\$15,459	\$6,185
May	\$52,104,723	\$48,373,032	\$46,560,371	\$43,431,803	\$98,665,094	\$91,804,835	\$4,827	\$6,011
June	\$49,711,589	\$45,121,494	\$44,369,398	\$40,770,568	\$94,080,987	\$85,892,061	\$25,867	\$7,080
July	\$50,358,675	\$50,985,699	\$44,565,666	\$45,660,838	\$94,924,341	\$96,646,537	\$18,804	\$7,291
August	\$51,846,227	\$48,591,520	\$47,174,793	\$44,364,160	\$99,021,020	\$92,955,680	\$16,649	\$7,038
September	\$50,366,202	\$48,279,490	\$48,072,222	\$43,224,258	\$98,438,424	\$91,503,748	\$17,771	\$9,120
October		\$50,649,942		\$45,482,360		\$96,132,302		\$8,604
November		\$48,903,456		\$44,043,654		\$92,947,110		\$19,648
December		\$49,348,276		\$44,623,076		\$93,971,352		\$14,221
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$453,331,473</b>	<b>\$572,670,974</b>	<b>\$407,200,856</b>	<b>\$518,483,496</b>	<b>\$860,532,330</b>	<b>\$1,091,154,469</b>	<b>\$143,419</b>	<b>\$101,339</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>\$50,370,164</b>	<b>\$47,722,581</b>	<b>\$45,244,540</b>	<b>\$43,206,958</b>	<b>\$95,614,703</b>	<b>\$90,929,539</b>	<b>\$15,935</b>	<b>\$8,445</b>

# September 2015 Municipal Levy Receipts and September 2015 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2014 Comparison (shaded gray)

CITY SALES AND USE . . . . .	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	2014	2015	2014	2015
Alexander	68,375.82	62,277.60	68,375.82	68,375.82	68,375.82	68,375.82
Alma	214,221.10	190,685.32	214,221.10	214,221.10	214,221.10	214,221.10
Almyra	2,722.14	3,139.30	2,722.14	2,722.14	2,722.14	2,722.14
Alpena	5,436.89	3,743.38	5,436.89	5,436.89	5,436.89	5,436.89
Alzheimer	2,679.23	2,311.43	2,679.23	2,679.23	2,679.23	2,679.23
Altus	6,771.97	4,357.77	6,771.97	6,771.97	6,771.97	6,771.97
Amity	8,729.42	7,992.80	8,729.42	8,729.42	8,729.42	8,729.42
Anthonyville	348.48	199.89	348.48	348.48	348.48	348.48
Arkadelphia	172,337.66	158,431.72	172,337.66	172,337.66	172,337.66	172,337.66
Ash Flat	88,584.86	89,550.03	88,584.86	88,584.86	88,584.86	88,584.86
Ashdown	124,408.58	117,637.91	124,408.58	124,408.58	124,408.58	124,408.58
Atkins	52,776.01	54,472.37	52,776.01	52,776.01	52,776.01	52,776.01
Augusta	30,571.41	24,228.06	30,571.41	30,571.41	30,571.41	30,571.41
Austin	27,576.52	24,830.08	27,576.52	27,576.52	27,576.52	27,576.52
Avoca	7,934.32	5,005.29	7,934.32	7,934.32	7,934.32	7,934.32
Bald Knob	49,463.55	51,330.96	49,463.55	49,463.55	49,463.55	49,463.55
Barling	53,276.13	20,232.31	53,276.13	53,276.13	53,276.13	53,276.13
Batesville	613,299.37	554,308.65	613,299.37	613,299.37	613,299.37	613,299.37
Bauxite	16,703.64	18,500.20	16,703.64	16,703.64	16,703.64	16,703.64
Bay	6,259.66	6,582.86	6,259.66	6,259.66	6,259.66	6,259.66
Bearden	13,873.50	13,517.45	13,873.50	13,873.50	13,873.50	13,873.50
Beebe	114,022.55	109,497.29	114,022.55	114,022.55	114,022.55	114,022.55
Beedeville	86.63	120.81	86.63	86.63	86.63	86.63
Bella Vista	151,939.32	145,311.57	151,939.32	151,939.32	151,939.32	151,939.32
Belleville	1,340.16	2,106.14	1,340.16	1,340.16	1,340.16	1,340.16
Benton	1,276,857.05	1,089,061.39	1,276,857.05	1,276,857.05	1,276,857.05	1,276,857.05
Bentonville	1,707,956.47	1,394,637.34	1,707,956.47	1,707,956.47	1,707,956.47	1,707,956.47
Berryville	233,577.82	242,757.12	233,577.82	233,577.82	233,577.82	233,577.82
Bethel Heights	51,714.56	57,019.14	51,714.56	51,714.56	51,714.56	51,714.56
Black Rock	6,636.45	7,806.34	6,636.45	6,636.45	6,636.45	6,636.45
Blevins	2,702.43	1,855.29	2,702.43	2,702.43	2,702.43	2,702.43
Blue Mountain	273.22	143.23	273.22	273.22	273.22	273.22
Blytheville	244,360.09	221,551.07	244,360.09	244,360.09	244,360.09	244,360.09
Bonanza	2,146.68	2,720.80	2,146.68	2,146.68	2,146.68	2,146.68
Bono	13,420.15	14,608.35	13,420.15	13,420.15	13,420.15	13,420.15
Booneville	104,575.92	89,185.91	104,575.92	104,575.92	104,575.92	104,575.92
Bradford	11,597.68	8,778.31	11,597.68	11,597.68	11,597.68	11,597.68
Bradley	3,303.66	1,534.15	3,303.66	3,303.66	3,303.66	3,303.66
Branch	1,624.87	1,641.55	1,624.87	1,624.87	1,624.87	1,624.87
Briarcliff	1,393.11	1,177.21	1,393.11	1,393.11	1,393.11	1,393.11
Brinkley	106,127.19	113,113.66	106,127.19	106,127.19	106,127.19	106,127.19
Brookland	20,801.19	14,997.82	20,801.19	20,801.19	20,801.19	20,801.19
Bryant	1,075,314.35	950,648.04	1,075,314.35	1,075,314.35	1,075,314.35	1,075,314.35
Bull Shoals	14,798.16	15,145.41	14,798.16	14,798.16	14,798.16	14,798.16
Cabot	692,256.74	650,295.86	692,256.74	692,256.74	692,256.74	692,256.74
Caddo Valley	60,999.14	59,463.38	60,999.14	60,999.14	60,999.14	60,999.14
Calico Rock	25,604.43	36,212.67	25,604.43	25,604.43	25,604.43	25,604.43
Camden	197,408.76	282,913.89	197,408.76	197,408.76	197,408.76	197,408.76
Caraway	5,769.91	4,466.67	5,769.91	5,769.91	5,769.91	5,769.91
Carlisle	53,547.53	51,773.37	53,547.53	53,547.53	53,547.53	53,547.53
Cave City	17,858.20	17,736.59	17,858.20	17,858.20	17,858.20	17,858.20
Cave Springs	28,574.19	24,087.16	28,574.19	28,574.19	28,574.19	28,574.19
Centerton	183,494.65	179,010.44	183,494.65	183,494.65	183,494.65	183,494.65
Charleston	31,937.87	29,945.79	31,937.87	31,937.87	31,937.87	31,937.87
Cherokee Village	14,905.35	15,098.80	14,905.35	14,905.35	14,905.35	14,905.35
Cherry Valley	4,495.36	8.89	4,495.36	4,495.36	4,495.36	4,495.36
Chidester	2,524.75	2,201.61	2,524.75	2,524.75	2,524.75	2,524.75
Clarendon	42,462.20	39,558.02	42,462.20	42,462.20	42,462.20	42,462.20
Clarksville	364,911.12	358,296.22	364,911.12	364,911.12	364,911.12	364,911.12
Clinton	99,797.00	89,712.85	99,797.00	99,797.00	99,797.00	99,797.00
Coal Hill	6,548.24	2,662.62	6,548.24	6,548.24	6,548.24	6,548.24
Conway	1,967,579.26	1,844,763.32	1,967,579.26	1,967,579.26	1,967,579.26	1,967,579.26
Corning	77,535.78	83,052.06	77,535.78	77,535.78	77,535.78	77,535.78
Cotter	12,286.38	12,076.66	12,286.38	12,286.38	12,286.38	12,286.38
Cotton Plant	1,341.07	1,614.16	1,341.07	1,341.07	1,341.07	1,341.07
Cove	12,733.03	10,655.99	12,733.03	12,733.03	12,733.03	12,733.03
Crawfordsville	6,998.93	NA	6,998.93	6,998.93	6,998.93	6,998.93
Crossett	286,610.24	290,339.90	286,610.24	286,610.24	286,610.24	286,610.24
Damascus	19,746.98	8,858.16	19,746.98	19,746.98	19,746.98	19,746.98
Danville	42,069.68	40,407.19	42,069.68	42,069.68	42,069.68	42,069.68
Dardanelle	155,384.58	156,221.67	155,384.58	155,384.58	155,384.58	155,384.58
Decatur	20,567.18	15,502.84	20,567.18	20,567.18	20,567.18	20,567.18
Delight	4,900.38	3,900.43	4,900.38	4,900.38	4,900.38	4,900.38
De Queen	112,866.43	97,290.66	112,866.43	112,866.43	112,866.43	112,866.43
Dermott	29,951.79	33,415.45	29,951.79	29,951.79	29,951.79	29,951.79
Des Arc	21,382.71	16,503.48	21,382.71	21,382.71	21,382.71	21,382.71
DeValis Bluff	11,292.25	12,257.74	11,292.25	11,292.25	11,292.25	11,292.25
DeWitt	185,071.84	168,379.84	185,071.84	185,071.84	185,071.84	185,071.84
Diamond City	2,517.36	3,273.39	2,517.36	2,517.36	2,517.36	2,517.36
Diaz	3,532.85	3,881.95	3,532.85	3,532.85	3,532.85	3,532.85
Dierks	16,741.74	15,735.48	16,741.74	16,741.74	16,741.74	16,741.74
Dover	20,846.11	19,648.37	20,846.11	20,846.11	20,846.11	20,846.11
Dumas	143,756.27	127,018.13	143,756.27	143,756.27	143,756.27	143,756.27
Dyer	2,109.89	2,600.53	2,109.89	2,109.89	2,109.89	2,109.89
Earle	20,948.92	20,648.31	20,948.92	20,948.92	20,948.92	20,948.92
East Camden	3,853.29	3,304.65	3,853.29	3,853.29	3,853.29	3,853.29
El Dorado	138,290.27	521,167.78	138,290.27	138,290.27	138,290.27	138,290.27
Elkins	91,731.55	51,570.59	91,731.55	91,731.55	91,731.55	91,731.55
Elm Springs	6,192.18	5,708.31	6,192.18	6,192.18	6,192.18	6,192.18
England	67,323.53	64,258.44	67,323.53	67,323.53	67,323.53	67,323.53
Etowah	392.44	585.77	392.44	392.44	392.44	392.44
Eureka	34,563.93	30,969.57	34,563.93	34,563.93	34,563.93	34,563.93
Eureka Springs	265,053.60	249,357.12	265,053.60	265,053.60	265,053.60	265,053.60
Evening Shade	5,073.54	NA	5,073.54	5,073.54	5,073.54	5,073.54
Fairfield Bay	31,555.32	31,596.16	31,555.32	31,555.32	31,555.32	31,555.32
Farmington	114,489.67	139,985.82	114,489.67	114,489.67	114,489.67	114,489.67
Fayetteville	3,273,163.21	2,964,262.98	3,273,163.21	3,273,163.21	3,273,163.21	3,273,163.21
Flippin	46,049.63	45,866.86	46,049.63	46,049.63	46,049.63	46,049.63
Fordyce	83,009.33	75,979.23	83,009.33	83,009.33	83,009.33	83,009.33
Foreman	10,682.52	9,357.06	10,682.52	10,682.52	10,682.52	10,682.52
Forrest City	314,749.28	300,702.85	314,749.28	314,749.28	314,749.28	314,749.28
Fort Smith	3,376,397.01	3,301,263.97	3,376,397.01	3,376,397.01	3,376,397.01	3,376,397.01
Fouke	8,177.00	8,369.77	8,177.00	8,177.00	8,177.00	8,177.00
Fountain Hill	999.98	650.99	999.98	999.98	999.98	999.98
Franklin	2,341.27	2,599.93	2,341.27	2,341.27	2,341.27	2,341.27
Garfield	10,147.17	8,256.01	10,147.17	10,147.17	10,147.17	10,147.17
Garland	3,811.59	3,282.44	3,811.59	3,811.59	3,811.59	3,811.59
Gassville	16,873.91	35,005.50	16,873.91	16,873.91	16,873.91	16,873.91
Gentry	49,248.87	42,597.27	49,248.87	49,248.87	49,248.87	49,248.87
Gilbert	1,315.43	1,506.13	1,315.43	1,315.43	1,315.43	1,315.43
Gillett	9,144.80	8,938.40	9,144.80	9,144.80	9,144.80	9,144.80
Gillham	1,845.92	2,100.21	1,845.92	1,845.92	1,845.92	1,845.92
Gilmore	272.63	214.77	272.63	272.63	272.63	272.63
Glenwood	68,082.42	60,898.01	68,082.42	68,082.42	68,082.42	68,082.42
Gosnell	16,091.76	16,196.80	16,091.76	16,091.76	16,091.76	16,091.76
Gould	3,831.56	3,552.83	3,831.56	3,831.56	3,831.56	3,831.56
Grady	4,113.51	4,004.80	4,113.51	4,113.51	4,113.51	4,113.51
Gravette	230,874.81	70,529.99	230,874.81	230,874.81	230,874.81	230,874.81
Green Forest	62,416.63	61,959.59	62,416.63	62,416.63	62,416.63	62,416.63
Greenbrier	176,482.87	131,130.75	176,482.87	176,482.87	176,482.87	176,482.87
Greenland	20,151.59	23,144.24	20,151.59	20,151.59	20,151.59	20,151.59
Greenwood	203,853.03	195,463.28	203,853.03	203,853.03	203,853.03	203,853.03
Greers Ferry	18,821.41	NA	18,821.41	18,821.41	18,821.41	18,821.41
Guion	8,333.97	6,926.08	8,333.97	8,333.97	8,333.97	8,333.97
Gum Springs	335.87	286.28	335.87	335.87	335.87	335.87
Gurdon	26,158.25	19,447.83	26,158.25	26,158.25	26,158.25	26,158.25
Guy	9,108.94	1,597.17	9,108.94	9,108.94	9,108.94	9,108.94
Hackett	4,985.06	4,836.37	4,985.06	4,985.06	4,985.06	4,985.06
Hamburg	2					



Alma	50,257.98	48,124.22	Oil Trough	3,369.21	2,943.43	Dell	2,685.54	2,302.73	Searcy County	41,188.89	40,033.54
Cedarville	12,928.52	12,379.62	Pleasant Plains	4,522.51	3,950.99	Dyess	4,937.54	4,233.71	Big Flat	6.72	6.54
Chester	1,474.63	1,412.02	Sulphur Rock	5,909.07	5,162.33	Etowah	4,227.02	3,624.47	Gilbert	188.26	182.98
Dyer	8,124.38	7,779.45	Izard County	46,348.41	46,190.04	Gosnell	42,727.82	36,637.10	Leslie	2,965.12	2,881.94
Kibler	8,912.70	8,534.30	Jackson County	283,012.56	287,900.15	Joiner	6,936.65	5,947.85	Marshall	9,110.50	8,854.95
Mountainburg	5,852.15	5,603.69	Amagon	1,015.08	1,032.61	Keiser	9,140.48	7,837.53	Pindall	753.05	731.92
Mulberry	15,349.13	14,697.47	Beedeville	1,108.30	1,127.44	Leachville	24,001.28	20,579.97	St. Joe	887.52	862.63
Rudy	565.74	541.72	Campbell Station	2,641.27	2,686.89	Luxora	14,186.41	12,164.18	Sebastian County	778,467.36	756,994.68
Van Buren	211,372.88	202,398.78	Diaz	13,651.76	13,887.53	Manila	40,247.01	34,509.92	Barling	71,148.19	69,185.69
Crittenden County	759,165.04	694,495.31	Grubbs	3,998.16	4,067.21	Marie	1,011.59	867.39	Bonanza	8,799.79	8,575.06
Anthonyville	1,108.83	1,014.38	Jacksonport	2,195.88	2,233.81	Osceola	93,415.93	80,099.78	Central City	7,682.60	7,470.69
Clarkedale	2,555.14	2,337.47	Newport	81,610.20	83,019.60	Victoria	445.58	382.07	Fort Smith	1,319,340.50	1,282,948.79
Crawfordsville	3,298.95	3,017.93	Swifton	8,265.64	8,408.38	Wilson	10,874.67	9,324.50	Greenwood	137,001.20	133,222.26
Earle	16,625.60	15,209.34	Tuckerman	19,286.48	19,619.56	Monroe County	NA	NA	Hackett	12,426.83	12,084.06
Edmondson	2,940.82	2,690.30	Tupelo	1,864.43	1,896.63	Montgomery County	57,203.74	53,296.93	Hartford	9,825.15	9,554.14
Gilmore	1,630.19	1,491.32	Weldon	776.86	790.25	Black Springs	739.32	688.82	Huntington	9,718.03	9,449.97
Horseshoe Lake	2,011.05	1,839.74	Jefferson County	707,850.20	649,267.73	Glennwood	313.65	292.23	Lavaca	35,030.80	34,064.54
Jennette	712.82	652.10	Altheimer	10,198.78	9,354.72	Mount Ida	8,035.41	7,486.62	Mansfield	11,064.77	10,759.57
Jericho	819.57	749.76	Humphrey	3,192.30	2,928.10	Norman	2,822.85	2,630.06	Midland	4,973.79	4,836.60
Marion	85,021.95	77,779.32	Pine Bluff	508,726.49	466,623.71	Oden	1,732.53	1,614.21	Sevier County	285,042.67	242,909.52
Sunset	1,227.29	1,122.74	Redfield	13,442.91	12,330.36	Nevada County	135,331.57	102,325.68	Ben Lomond	1,298.47	1,106.54
Turrell	3,812.04	3,487.31	Sherrill	870.63	798.57	Bluff City	1,245.91	942.04	De Queen	59,048.92	50,320.69
West Memphis	180,753.41	165,355.88	Wabbaseka	2,642.98	2,424.24	Bodcaw	1,386.57	1,048.40	Gilham	1,432.79	1,221.01
Cross County	271,379.01	260,965.37	White Hall	57,274.87	52,534.75	Cale	793.76	600.17	Horatio	9,348.96	7,967.06
Cherry Valley	6,970.52	6,703.42	Johnson County	120,543.06	114,727.95	Emmet	4,772.63	3,608.63	Lockesburg	6,617.71	5,639.52
Hickory Ridge	2,912.41	2,800.65	Clarksville	88,542.95	84,271.56	Prescott	33,117.00	25,040.13	Sharp County	78,856.07	77,543.06
Parkin	11,831.68	11,377.66	Coal Hill	9,763.07	9,292.09	Rosston	2,622.43	1,982.85	Ash Flat	9,432.31	9,275.26
Wynne	89,588.80	86,151.01	Hartman	5,006.95	4,765.41	Willisville	1,527.24	1,154.77	Cave City	16,766.42	16,487.25
Dallas County	162,670.88	154,472.95	Knoxville	7,052.18	6,711.98	Newton County	55,809.77	57,286.47	Cherokee Village	37,325.02	36,703.52
Desha County	113,079.65	104,664.81	Lamar	15,483.92	14,736.97	Jasper	2,233.35	2,292.44	Evening Shade	4,157.92	4,088.69
Arkansas City	4,376.35	4,049.99	Lafayette County	94,299.93	63,674.76	Western Grove	1,840.36	1,889.05	Hardy	7,026.11	6,909.12
Dumas	56,270.78	52,074.43	Bradley	4,444.22	3,000.90	Ouachita County	574,060.86	338,403.23	Highland	10,057.93	9,890.45
McGehee	50,447.61	46,685.51	Buckner	1,946.12	1,314.09	Bearden	8,810.80	8,878.74	Horseshoe Bend	77.00	75.72
Mitchellville	4,304.61	3,933.59	Lewisville	9,058.28	6,116.48	Camden	111,120.03	111,976.93	Sidney	1,742.09	1,713.08
Reed	2,056.65	1,903.27	Stamps	11,981.00	8,090.01	Chidester	2,635.94	2,656.27	Williford	721.86	709.84
Tillar	251.10	232.38	Lawrence County	213,317.98	205,073.19	East Camden	8,491.57	8,557.05	St. Francis County	153,264.94	141,080.44
Watson	2,522.97	2,334.82	Alicia	766.97	737.33	Louann	1,495.83	1,507.36	Caldwell	10,084.42	9,282.70
Drew County	444,938.46	404,948.37	Black Rock	4,094.66	3,936.40	Stephens	8,126.72	8,189.41	Cott	6,868.30	6,322.28
Jerome	483.57	440.11	College City	2,814.30	2,705.53	Perry County	123,247.37	98,872.13	Forrest City	279,292.87	257,089.20
Monticello	117,383.06	106,832.93	Hoxie	17,195.08	16,530.49	Adona	1,098.33	881.11	Hughes	26,183.14	24,101.60
Tillar	2,529.43	2,302.09	Imboden	4,187.44	4,025.59	Bigelow	1,655.39	1,327.99	Madison	13,972.82	12,861.98
Wilmar	6,335.98	5,766.52	Lynn	1,781.36	1,712.51	Casa	898.64	720.91	Palestine	12,373.85	11,390.14
Winchester	2,070.66	1,884.55	Minturn	674.20	648.14	Fourche	325.82	261.38	Wheatley	6,450.40	5,937.58
Faulkner County	809,425.98	685,245.19	Portia	2,702.97	2,598.50	Houston	909.15	729.34	Widener	4,960.43	4,566.10
Enola	2,464.69	2,086.56	Powhatan	445.34	428.13	Perry	1,418.90	1,138.28	Stone County	90,526.29	88,044.58
Holland	4,061.64	3,438.51	Ravenscroft	2,907.08	2,794.72	Perryville	6,772.58	6,155.14	Fifty Six	1,653.23	1,607.91
Mount Vernon	1,057.34	895.12	Sedgwick	940.16	903.83	Phillips County	104,741.83	107,882.95	Mountain View	26,260.55	25,540.64
Twin Groves	2,442.82	2,068.05	Smithville	482.45	463.81	Elaine	11,724.99	12,076.62	Union County	608,018.53	521,653.53
Wooster	6,271.12	5,309.02	Strawberry	1,867.96	1,795.76	Helena-West Helena	185,794.24	191,366.03	Calion	17,725.70	15,207.89
Franklin County	189,781.33	186,814.84	Walnut Ridge	30,246.03	29,077.00	Lake View	8,166.94	8,411.86	El Dorado	754,739.66	647,533.92
Altus	7,435.29	7,319.07	Lee County	35,776.16	35,566.13	Lexa	5,272.57	5,430.68	Felsenthal	4,343.37	3,726.43
Branch	3,599.94	3,543.66	Aubrey	1,108.63	1,102.12	Marvell	21,864.53	22,520.22	Huttig	24,295.07	20,844.12
Charleston	24,738.52	24,351.83	Haynes	978.20	972.46	Pike County	185,828.03	153,890.16	Junction City	21,671.35	18,593.09
Denning	4,620.08	4,547.86	LaGrange	580.40	576.99	Antoine	1,191.73	986.91	Norphet	27,343.40	23,459.44
Ozark	36,136.68	35,571.82	Marianna	26,835.38	26,677.84	Daisy	1,171.36	970.04	Smackover	71,937.20	61,710.00
Wiederkehr Village	372.75	366.92	Moro	1,408.61	1,400.34	Delight	2,841.81	2,353.40	Strong	20,467.85	17,560.53
Fulton County	118,263.01	116,069.75	Rondo	1,291.24	1,283.65	Greenwood	22,265.96	18,439.15	Van Buren County	532,706.78	288,259.44
Ash Flat	467.88	459.20	Lincoln County	56,843.40	56,127.85	Murfreesboro	16,714.75	13,842.02	Clinton	47,320.19	25,606.00
Cherokee Village	3,637.54	3,570.08	Gould	4,499.52	4,442.88	Poinsett County	122,255.05	117,647.17	Damascus	4,546.52	2,606.22
Hardy	192.66	189.08	Grady	2,413.72	2,383.34	Fisher	1,828.53	1,759.61	Fairfield Bay	39,191.01	21,207.12
Horseshoe Bend	77.98	76.53	Star City	12,224.50	12,070.61	Harrisburg	18,875.64	18,164.21	Shirley	5,292.15	2,863.70
Mammoth Spring	4,481.56	4,398.45	Little River County	201,213.87	147,380.98	Lepanto	15,521.98	14,936.94	Washington County	1,320,511.75	1,226,833.16
Salem	7,499.85	7,360.76	Ashdown	41,042.69	30,062.10	Marked Tree	21,040.36	20,247.33	Elkins	39,682.98	36,740.65
Viola	1,545.85	1,517.18	Foreman	8,785.55	6,435.06	Trumann	59,824.80	57,569.96	Elm Springs	26,315.45	20,770.68
Garland County	2,162,044.53	2,000,166.38	Ogden	1,564.19	1,145.71	Tyronza	6,248.15	6,012.65	Farmington	89,526.47	82,888.46
Fountain Lake	7,339.95	6,790.39	Wilton	3,250.05	2,380.53	Waldenburg	500.18	481.33	Fayetteville	1,102,671.24	1,020,912.78
Hot Springs	220,092.27	203,613.37	Winthrop	1,668.47	1,222.08	Weiner	5,870.97	5,649.68	Goshen	16,050.03	14,859.98
Lonsdale	1,371.68	1,268.98	Logan County	113,138.73	92,438.91	Polk County	264,921.68	228,117.03	Greenland	19,391.91	17,954.08
Mountain Pine	11,236.12	10,394.83	Blue Mountain	1,114.76	910.80	Cove	7,946.62	6,842.62	Johnson	50,263.11	46,536.31
Grant County	176,102.63	175,022.86	Booneville	35,869.97	29,307.21	Grannis	11,524.66	9,923.58	Lincoln	33,703.56	31,204.58
Greene County	499,032.64	491,369.47	Caulksville	1,914.86	1,564.52	Hatfield	8,591.50	7,397.90	Prairie Grove	66,328.12	60,771.92
Delaplaine	1,287.24	1,267.47	Magazine	7,614.50	6,221.36	Mena	119,344.78	102,764.62	Springdale	962,027.46	890,697.14
Lafe	5,082.38	5,004.33	Morrison Bluff	575.36	470.09	Vandervoort	1,809.84	1,558.40	Tontitown	36,865.61	34,132.18
Marmaduke	12,328.64	12,139.32	Paris	31,752.56	25,943.12	Wickes	15,685.18	13,506.10	West Fork	34,722.60	32,148.07
Oak Grove Heights	9,865.13	9,713.64	Ratcliff	1,815.97	1,483.72	Pope County	345,906.08	311,416.53	Winslow	5,859.51	5,425.07
Paragould	289,773.06	285,323.31	Scranton	2,013.75	1,645.32	Atkins	41,542.34	37,400.24	White County	845,160.09	864,842.27
Hempstead County	386,365.54	333,675.34	Subiaco	5,142.27	4,201.43	Dover	18,980.55	17,088.04	Bald Knob	32,889.98	33,655.92
Blevins	3,607.57	3,115.60	Lonoke County	263,200.40	236,171.44	Hector	6,198.29	5,580.27	Beebe	83,048.05	84,982.08
Emmet	492.46	425.30	Allport	1,064.28	954.98	London	14,311.17	12,884.23	Bradford	8,617.02	8,817.69
Fulton	2,301.98	1,988.05	Austin	1,860.84	16,923.96	Pottsville	39,090.57	35,192.93	Garner	3,224.29	3,299.37
Hope	115,614.19	99,847.42	Cabot	220,037.01	197,440.65	Russellville	384,569.65	346,225.05	Georgetown	1,407.79	1,440.57
McCaskill	1,099.45	949.51	Carlisle	20,489.65	18,385.50	Prairie County	73,202.93	62,872.89	Griffittville	2,554.45	2,613.94
McNab	778.78	672.57	Coy	888.44	797.20	Biscoe	3,041.92	2,612.66	Higginson	7,050.29	7,214.47
Oakhaven	721.51	623.12	England	26,144.20	23,459.36	Des Arc	14,388.35	12,357.94	Judsonia	22,921.94	23,455.75
Ozan	973.47	840.72	Humnoke	2,628.30	2,358.39	DeValls Bluff	5,187.18	4,455.19	Kensett	18,709.94	19,145.66
Patmos	732.97	633.01	Keo	2,369.17	2,125.88	Hazen	12,301.75	10,565.78	Letona	2,895.04	2,962.46
Perrytown	3,115.11	2,690.29	Lonoke	39,285.71	35,251.33	Ulm	1,424.58	1,223.56	McRae	7,742.83	7,923.14
Washington	2,061.48	1,780.34	Ward	37,638.41	33,773.19	Pulaski County	852,331.54	811,771.87	Pangburn	6,823.22	

## Little Rock, Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind receive national award

The City of Little Rock and Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind have received a first place CommunityWINS<sup>SM</sup> (Working/Investing in Neighborhood Stabilization) Grant Award, the city announced Sept. 17. The award includes monetary grants to city-based nonprofit organizations and recognizes mayors for exemplary leadership in developing local programs that promote long-term economic prosperity and improve the quality of life for residents. A grant totaling \$150,000 will be presented to the Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind for the Employment for the Individuals Who Are Blind—Inclement Weather Outer Layer (IWOL) Project, which offers employment for individuals who are blind or visually impaired, and provides funding for training and machinery accommodations. Those workers will produce 14,400 units of the Inclement Weather Outer Layer jacket for the U.S. Army each year under federal contracts totaling \$5.18 million annually. The award was made possible by a grant through collaboration between the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Wells Fargo Housing Foundation.

## Lake Village, Little Rock get COPS funding

Lake Village and Little Rock have been named recipients of federal funds under the 2015 COPS Hiring Program (CHP), the U.S. Department of Justice has announced. The funding allows local law enforcement agencies to hire new officers or rehire officers who have been laid off or are scheduled to be laid off on a specific future date as a result of budget reductions. Lake Village will receive \$101,526 for one officer, and Little Rock will receive \$1,875,000 for 15 officers. The DOJ received more than \$376 million in requests from 1,103 law enforcement agencies across the nation and awarded \$107 million through the program.

## DRA announces new investment projects

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) and its partners are investing more than \$108 million in federal, state, and local resources to support small business owners and entrepreneurs, workers and their families by improving economic development, workforce training, and job creation in the Arkansas Delta, DRA Federal Co-Chairman Chris Masingill and Governor Asa Hutchinson announced Sept. 23. The nine new investments, including a renovation and expansion to a training center and infrastructure improvements that support economic development, leverage \$1.3 million in DRA resources into \$7 million in total public investment and nearly \$100 million in private investment for Arkansas's Delta communities, their residents, and their economies. These investments are expected to help create and retain nearly 1,000 jobs for local residents and train 600 residents for jobs in their communities.

The nine investments, including their location and regions, are:

- Be Pro. Be Proud, regionwide (AR-1, 2, 3, 4)—Initiative will educate approximately 800,000 9-12 grade students, parents, teachers, and other key influencers about the value of technical skilled professions with emphasis on workforce development. DRA Investment: \$250,000; Leveraged Public Investment: \$245,700.
- Chicot County Waterline Extension, Lake Village (AR-1)—Extension of the water line that will accommodate the Loves Travel Stops and Country Store that is locating in Lake Village (15 jobs to be created). DRA Investment: \$65,069; Private Investment: \$4,000,000.
- Helena Harbor Rail Improvements, Helena-West Helena (AR-1)—Necessary improvements to the rail system serving Phillips County and specifically the Helena Port area, in order to reopen the rail line and retain industry (115 jobs to be retained). DRA Investment: \$155,500; Public Leveraged Investment: \$500,000.
- Independence County Ozark Mountain Poultry Feed Mill, Magness (AR-1)—Infrastructure improvements including concrete paving of an access road and the construction of rail lines to support the expansion of a feed mill for Ozark Mountain Poultry (225 jobs to be created and 247 jobs to be retained). DRA Investment: \$150,000; Leveraged Public Investment: \$3,492,520; Private Investment: \$35,000,000.

## Obituaries

**WILLIE GENE FRANKS**, 85, an Emerson alderman of seven years, died Aug. 30.

**DOUGLAS J. SMITH**, 80, a member of the Paragould City Council for 10 years, died Sept. 14.



# Bryant leaders meet residents where they live with new campaign

- Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum Expansion, North Little Rock (AR-2)—Expansion of the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum to enlarge the space in which historical artifacts can be displayed and to enhance the daily activities of the museum for the tourists and visitors to the USS Razorback (2 jobs to be created). DRA Investment: \$150,000; Leveraged Public Investment: \$20,000.
- Fairfield Bay Highway 16 Sewer Extension, Fairfield Bay (AR-2)—Extension of sewer line from existing manhole south of the Presbyterian Church on Dave Creek Parkway to businesses on highway 16 that are currently on septic system (10 jobs to be retained). DRA Investment: \$133,266; Leveraged Public Investment: \$50,000.
- North Little Rock EDC Equipment Purchase, North Little Rock (AR-2)—Purchase and installation of equipment to be used by the City of North Little Rock, North Little Rock Electric Department, and Ben. E. Keith Foods, a food distribution company (82 jobs to be created and 256 jobs to be retained). DRA Investment: \$150,000; Public Leveraged Investment: \$2,120,000; Private Investment: \$60,000,000.
- Our House Learning Center Renovation, Little Rock (AR-2)—Renovation of Our House’s Learning Center, which equips homeless adults with full-time jobs each year, for a new roof, electrical and HVA systems, flooring, and exterior drainage systems, as well as redesign of computer lab, classroom space, and other amenities for students (12 jobs to be created and retained, 600 individuals to be trained). DRA Investment: \$100,000; Leveraged Public Investment: \$679,690; Private Investment: \$600,000.
- Yellville Rail Spur, Yellville (AR-3)—Improvements for reopening of the only publicly accessible rail spur on the Missouri Northern Arkansas Railroad (MNA) as well as road, electricity, and water service between industrial park and the rail spur (5 jobs to be created and 15 jobs to be retained). DRA Investment: \$124, 696; Leveraged Public Investment: \$45,000. 🏛️



**B**ryant’s city leaders are hitting the streets this fall to meet and visit with citizens as part of a new outreach campaign, the city has announced.

Most Bryant residents work during the 8-5 hours that City Hall is open and accessible. It’s convenient that the majority of city business can be conducted over the phone or online, but that doesn’t allow the average citizen the opportunity to have “face” time with elected officials or public safety officials.

“By mobilizing City Hall, we hope to give our residents, that would normally have to schedule time off to meet with my office or other officials, the opportunity to sit down, address any questions they may have, or just give them the chance to get to know their local officials better,” Mayor Jill Dabbs said.

Four of these “Community Conversations” have already been held from late August through September, where the mayor, members of the City Council, and other city leaders spent a day touring a neighborhood in each of the city’s four wards. They met with more than 100 residents during the first round of Community Conversations, discussing everything from city growth and services offered to streets and sidewalks. It’s been a great experience so far, Dabbs said.

“These ‘Community Conversations’ are incredibly beneficial and will be something we continue organizing over the next few years.” 🏛️

# MUNICIPAL MART

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

**BILLING COORDINATOR**—The City of Bradley is accepting applications for a Billing Coordinator to manage processing/accounting for a WWTP. Microsoft certification preferred but not required. Excellent communication skills required. Needs to adapt easily to assuming duties in other departments as needed. Pay commensurate with experience. Send resumes to City of Bradley at City Hall, P.O. Box 759, 410 Pullman Street, Bradley AR 71826. Bradley is an EOE. For more information, call 870-894-3464.

**CLASS IV WATER OPERATOR**—The City of Bradley is accepting applications for a Class IV Water Operator. Must have license or be willing to pass the appropriate testing. Duties include assisting in maintaining WWTP, the water system, maintaining equipment, meter reading. Additional duties include maintaining streets, and driving truck for Solid Waste. Valid DL and CDL required. Pay is commensurate with experience. Applications available at City Hall or resumes can be sent to City of Bradley, P.O. Box 759, 410 Pullman Street, Bradley AR 71826. EOE. For more information, call 870-894-3464.

**DISTRICT MANAGER**—The Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District (pop. 3,300, \$4 million budget, 45 employees) seeks applicants for District Manager. Holiday Island is a planned community in the scenic Ozark Mountains on Table Rock Lake. The District Manager is the chief executive and operational officer and is responsible to an elected Board of Commissioners for the overall affairs of the District's service offerings, finances, programs, policies, and priorities. The Manager will work closely with the Board of Commissioners, Department Heads, District personnel and the general public to accomplish short and long-term objectives. A Bachelor's Degree in public administration, business administration, or related field is required. MBA and/or planned community experience a plus. Applicants should have substantial management and administrative experience in municipal government or a public agency. A competitive compensation package, commensurate with qualifications and experience, includes base salary, health and life insurance, vacation and sick leave, and employee retirement savings plan. For more info and a complete job description visit [www.holidayisland.us](http://www.holidayisland.us). Send resume, cover letter and detailed salary history to: Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District, ATTN: District Manager Search, 110 Woodsdale Drive, Holiday Island, AR 72631.

**FIREFIGHTER 1 AND 2, EMT**—Holiday Island Fire Department is accepting applications for a full time Firefighter 1 and 2, EMT. Experienced preferred. Excellent opportunity. Salary based on experience. Paid vacation, sick leave, retirement. Contact Chief @ 479-253-8397. Mail resumes to 251 Holiday Island Drive, Holiday Island, AR 72631.

**GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT**—Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District (HISID) is accepting resume's for a FT Golf Course Superintendent for an 18-Hole, 9-Hole Course and Driving Range. Superintendent will be responsible for supervision of the golf course operation and maintenance. The responsibilities include: turf grass/plant material maintenance programs, property/asset management, personnel management, budget/forecasting, financial management, scheduling/maintenance, irrigation systems, pesticide applications, related recordings, and compliance of regulatory issues. Mail resumes to 251 Holiday Island Drive, Holiday Island, AR 72631. Benefits include full health benefits package, paid vacation, sick leave, and retirement. Mail cover letter/resumes to: GC Superintendent Search, 110 Woodsdale Drive, Holiday Island, Arkansas 72631 or email to [DistrictMgr@holidayisland.us](mailto:DistrictMgr@holidayisland.us).

**OFFICE MANAGER**—The City of Bradley is accepting applications for an Office Manager. Experience required with payroll, AIR, AIP, utility billing process, accounting and manage liabilities and taxes. Centerpoint Fund accounting preferred but not required. Must be customer-oriented with strong communication skills. Needs to adapt easily to assuming duties in other departments as needed. Pay commensurate with experience. Send resumes to City of Bradley at P.O. Box 759, 410 Pullman Street, Bradley AR 71826. EOE. For more information call 870-894-3464.

**POLICE CHIEF**—Jasper is now accepting applications for a full-time police chief. Must be certified and meet all requirements of law enforcement standards and training. Must live at least within 10 miles of Jasper city limits. Applications are available at City of Jasper, City Hall, P.O. Box 434, Jasper, AR. 72641. Resume must accompany application. Office hours are 8-4 Mon-Fri, 870-446-2633. Applications accepted until position is filled.

**WATER OPERATOR**—Forrest City Water Utility is seeking a water operator that has a Class IV Water Treatment and Distribution license. The Water Supply Operator is responsible for the operation of the Water Treatment Plant, storage distribution system monitoring on an assigned shift and other related duties. Application online at [dws.arkansas.gov](http://dws.arkansas.gov) or call Derrick Spearman at Arkansas Workforce at 870-633-

2900, located at 300 Eldridge Road #2, Forrest City, AR 72335. Open until filled. Forrest City Water Utility is located at 303 N. Rosser in Forrest City, AR 72335.

**FOR SALE**—The City of Huntsville has 1500-watt metal Musco Halide lights for sale that were removed from a softball field. There are two 2-light fixtures (arms), two 5-light fixtures, and two 6-light fixtures. Asking \$100 per light or \$2400 for all. They are single phase 240 voltage. Also have three 4x10 Nevco scoreboards for softball or baseball fields. Please call 479-789-0179.

**FOR SALE**—City of Jasper VFD is selling a 1999 Mack Truck 10-speed tanker. The tanker holds approximately 2,000 gallons with a pump on back. Tanker has 15,342.2 hours and 632,230.0 miles. Price is \$35,000. For pictures or questions email us at [www.cityofjasper@ritternet.com](mailto:www.cityofjasper@ritternet.com) or call Shane Kilgore at 870-446-2633.

**FOR SALE**—City of Norman is dismantling water treatment plant. We have for sale: 1 8" pressure relief, pressure sustaining, back pressure valve (new); 2 115/230 volt 3hp elec. motors; 2 220/440 volt 20 hp elec. motors; 2 6" shaft driven pumps; 2 4" shaft driven pumps; 2 4" check valves. Will consider reasonable offers. Contact Mayor Roseanna Markham, 870-334-2400 or 870-245-6436.

**FOR SALE**—The city of Van Buren has for sale 1990 Chevrolet Kodiak 6500 Dump truck, 366 cid gasoline engine, with a 5-speed transmission w/2 speed axle and 11R22.5 tires. New exhaust manifolds & bolts installed. Truck has 105,000 miles. Included is a 7.5cy Henderson Sand spreader model #FSHM10. The spreader is operated by truck PTO. For more information contact the Street Department Manager Wayne Sandusky at [wsandusky@vanburencity.org](mailto:wsandusky@vanburencity.org) or 479-474-3641.



## CALENDAR

### Human Resources and Personnel Matters

October 28, 2015

Arkansas Municipal League headquarters  
North Little Rock

### National League of Cities 2015 Congress of Cities and Exposition

November 4-7, 2015

Nashville, TN

### 2015 Arkansas Municipal League Fall Conference

December 2-4, 2015

Holiday Inn & Convention Center  
Springdale

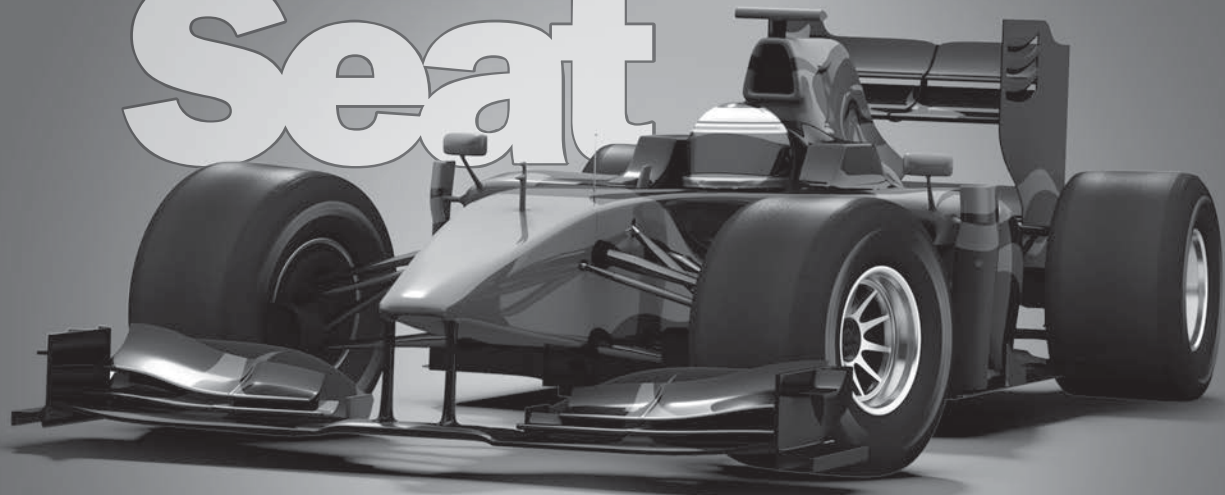
### City Government 101: Who Does What at City Hall

January 13, 2016

Arkansas Municipal League headquarters  
North Little Rock



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## Changes to 2015 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

### Calion

Delete AL Jim Staples  
Add AL Bonnie Warwick

### Emerson

Delete R/T Don Moore  
Add R/T David Cunningham  
Delete M Terressa Curtis  
Add M Don Moore  
Delete AL David Cunningham  
Add AL Donna Bilbray  
Delete AL Willie Franks  
Add AL (Vacant)

### Fouke

Delete AL Sherry Akins  
Add AL Breanna Crank

### Jonesboro

Delete FO (Vacant)  
Add FO Suzanne Allen

### Mountain View

Delete SS (Vacant)  
Add SS Mike Vannatter  
Delete WS (Vacant)  
Add WS Don Smith  
Delete AL Richard Hubberd  
Add AL Cindy Hubberd

### Redfield

Delete AL Larry O'Briant  
Add AL Tony Lawhon

### Siloam Springs

Delete AL Dennis Brown  
Add AL Steve Beers

### Texarkana

Delete DPW Paul Hackleman  
Add DPW Carl Teel  
Delete PLD Carl Teel

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[www.arml.org/services/publications/](http://www.arml.org/services/publications/)



## October 31 is Act 833 funding deadline

The deadline to apply for 2015 State Fire Grant Act 833 funds through the office of Fire Protection Service is October 31. Applications must be postmarked by that date to qualify for the 2015 funding year. Applications and program guidance documents are available on the ADEM website, [www.adem.arkansas.gov](http://www.adem.arkansas.gov). For more information on the grant program, contact Kendell Snyder, Fire and EMS Coordinator, at 501-683-6700, or email [kendell.snyder@adem.arkansas.gov](mailto:kendell.snyder@adem.arkansas.gov). Mail completed applications to Office of Fire Protection Services c/o Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, Bldg. #9501 Camp Joseph T. Robinson, North Little Rock, AR 72199-9600.



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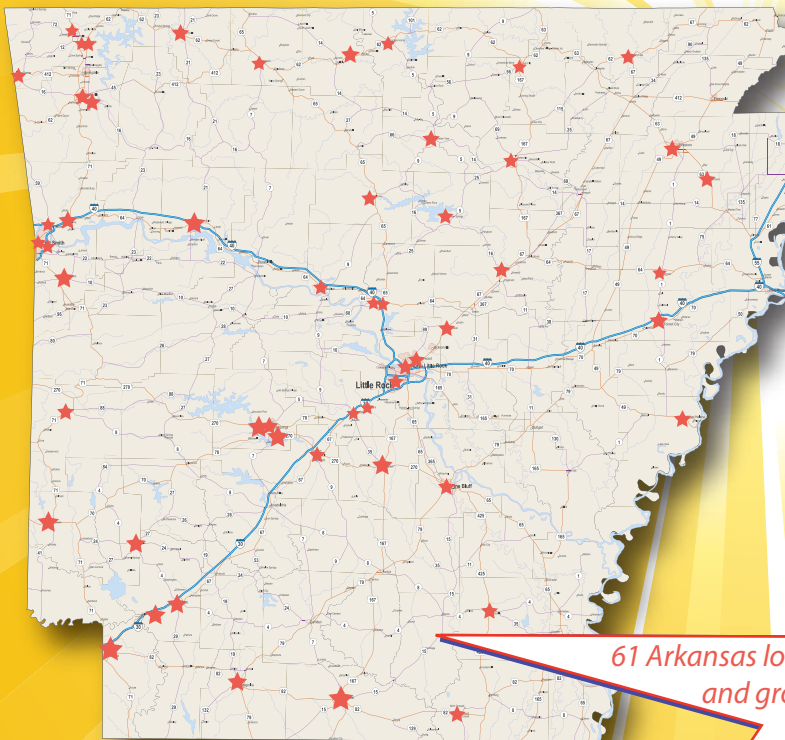
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