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ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



GREAT CITIES MAKE A GREAT STATE

Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



ON THE COVER—The Lincoln Memorial, located on the western end of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., has inspired Americans and visitors from across the globe since its dedication in 1922. Municipal leaders from across the country gathered in our nation's capital in March for the National League of Cities' Congressional City Conference (check out the hashtag **#NLCDC** on social media). Read coverage of the event inside starting on page six. Read also about Little Rock's open data initiative, urgent public management issues cities face, and more. And register now for the League's 82nd Convention if you haven't already. Hotels are filling up quickly!—atm

Features

NLC conference takes city issues to D.C.

Infrastructure, public safety, and e-fairness were among the National League of Cities' top priorities as municipal leaders from across the nation gathered in Washington, D.C., to take our message to the capital.

Little Rock opens data portal
In an effort to make more municipal
data public and accessible, Little
Rock is one of just 27 municipalities
in the country participating in the
What Works Cities initiative, which
aims to increase local government
transparency.

47 Top urgent public management issues for 2016

Deferred maintenance of our infrastructure, police-community relations, and cybersecurity are among the top urgent public management issues for this year and beyond.

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Spring tournaments and festivals are what have been happening in the city of Batesville. On Easter weekend, spring baseball season began and 55 teams were in town for a tournament that brought an estimated 1,650 people out for a beautiful day of baseball. This is just the beginning of tournaments scheduled at our new Terry Sims Diamond Sports Complex. Just down the street, at the East Main Sports Complex, spring soccer season began with the largest number of registered participants to date. According to the Parks Department, we have 120 more participants than this time last year, with a

Lyon College recently hosted their 37th Arkansas Scottish Festival. Over the years this festival has grown to be one of the top competition venues in the south-central United States for pipers, bands, and dancers.

I was honored to represent the Arkansas Municipal League recently at the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. As always, the speakers were remarkable, providing valuable information for both large and small cities. Among the breakout sessions, I would like to mention the "Families in Crisis: Heroin and Opioid Epidemic in Our Neighborhoods." After more than four decades in decline, heroin is once again making a strong comeback across the country. This time the addicts seem to come from more affluent suburbanite families. Mayor Harry Brown and I were able to attend a White House briefing at the conclusion of the conference, and combatting opioid abuse is now one of the President's priorities.

Another breakout session that was of interest was "Restoring Trust Through Community Policing." Police departments nationwide have seen the need to create transparency with the public through many different avenues. In Batesville we are getting positive feedback to our department's approach with foot and bike patrols, visiting with residents and business owners, and the addition of our new Internet Purchase Exchange Location. This is an area set aside in the Police Department parking lot for people who buy and sell items on the Internet to meet. It is under 24-hour video surveillance, making the exchange safer for both parties. The League has also added a new public safety list serv. I would encourage our members to subscribe to this new tool. I myself receive good information from

Our group also had the opportunity to visit with members of the Arkansas delegation and their staffs while in D.C. and discussed our desire for continued support of e-fairness. I greatly appreciate Senator Boozman, Congressman Crawford and Congressman Womack's continued support on this

Advisory Council meetings have begun and I appreciate the hard work these members put in making sure all facets of local government are discussed. They are a very important part of the League as well as to the 500 cities and towns they represent.

The 82nd Convention is fast approaching. This will be the only large meeting in 2016, so the League would like to make this Convention the largest on record. Early registration is currently open and will end on June 1. As always, I encourage each of you to attend. This is such a valuable time of learning and networking for all city officials. The League is encouraging everyone to use #82ndAMLConv when posting on your social media pages during the meeting. It is just another way for everyone to stay connected. Sincerely,

Rick Elumbaugh Mayor, Batesville

President, Arkansas Municipal League

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NLC takes city issues to D.C. at Congressional City Conference

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

delegation from Arkansas joined municipal leaders from across the country at the National League of Cities' annual Congressional City Conference, held March 5-9 in Washington, D.C., to advocate for city priorities, learn from each other, and to strengthen local-federal partnerships.

NLC President Melodee Colbert-Kean, a Joplin, Mo., councilmember, outlined our priorities at the March 7



Colbert-Kean

opening general session. The NLC this year is focusing on four key issues: reforming the unfair and regressive criminal justice system, repairing and modernizing our nation's aging infrastructure, passing e-fairness legislation in order to close the online sales tax loophole, and

protecting the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. It's critical that cities have the tools they need in each of these areas in order to build safer, more economically viable communities to work and live, she said.

"Cities are the future of America," Colbert-Kean said. "They are centers of innovation and economic growth."

On the importance of cities joining together to fight for their priorities, Colbert-Kean evoked the disaster that struck Joplin in 2011, when an EF-5 tornado decimated the city and killed 161 people in less than 30 minutes. With help, the city is coming back, she said.

"It couldn't destroy our spirit or our resolve, because we are stronger than an EF-5 tornado. We are strong because cities are strong together. Cities are stronger together with a unified voice, and that voice is amplified with the help of the National League of Cities."

She also called out the bipartisan bickering that has overtaken Washington.

"It might make for good TV, but the yelling and the name-calling won't solve our nation's challenges,"



Colbert-Kean said. "In our cities, we don't let politics get in the way of serving our residents. We don't have a Democratic police; we don't have a Republican fire department. What matters to us is what we do every day for our residents, and that is serve."

Speakers, panel discussions highlight local-federal partnerships

The Congressional City Conference hosted several panel discussions featuring members of the Obama Administration, policymakers, and local leaders who discussed an array of issues important to cities. During one such panel, NLC Executive Director Clarence Anthony asked Anthony Foxx, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary; Julian Castro, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary; Jay Williams, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, U.S. Department of Commerce; and Karol Mason, Assistant Attorney General for Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, to share their insights on the federal programs and partnerships crucial for cities.



From left, Williams, Mason, Foxx, Castro, and Anthony

Castro, who is a former mayor of San Antonio, Texas, said one of the important things HUD and this administration has done is to bring various departments together to help local governments improve the quality of life rather than creating what he called "silos" within the federal government. It takes a more holistic approach, he said.

"The challenge we have today is, in this resourceconstrained environment, how can we work together across the federal government and then state and local

governments—and even with nonprofit and the private sector—to make those resources stretch as far as possible and serve as many people as possible." Castro said.

Foxx, a former mayor of Charlotte, N.C., thanked cities for their collaboration with the U.S. Department of Transportation in the efforts that resulted in Congress recently passing the first long-term transportation bill in more than a decade. Transportation is a part of what creates a sustainable economy along with things like education, economic opportunity, and public safety, he said. This administration has worked to make transportation a big part of the discussion, "but there's a lot more work to do," he said.

The popular TIGER Grant program, the next funding round of which begins at the end of this month, focuses on underserved communities in an effort to lift them up.

"We're doing that deliberately, because we know going back to the 1950s, with the development of the highway system, that some very, very, very bad mistakes were made," Foxx said. "It literally carved the guts out of so many underserved communities that couldn't really take it."

The Transportation Department seeks to reconnect those areas with opportunity and make neighborhoods safer, which is especially important now, as income equality has increased, he said.

"We depend on you to come up with those ideas and bring them to us," Foxx said.

Mason reiterated the importance of the federal agencies both working together and with local governments to achieve healthier communities.

"If we want healthy communities, we've got to have communities where people feel safe, and in order to feel safe, they've got to feel like they have opportunities," Mason said. "So you can see that they're all intertwined."

She asked local leaders to consider the impact of things like a simple \$100 speeding fine on people in the community.

"Think about the impact of that on our cycle of poverty and people who don't have that \$100, and because of the assessments that get added onto it that \$100 becomes \$1,000, and then that sometimes sucks them into our criminal justice system."

Simple things can quickly turn into a criminal justice issue, she said.

Williams said that the U.S. Department of Commerce sees itself as the "grease or glue" in this multifaceted effort to improve opportunity at the local level.

"The best social program is a good job," he said.

He cited data showing that summer jobs programs resulted in much lower crime rates among young people. The same holds true for job training and opportunities for working age people, he said.

Little Rock Mayor and this year's NLC Second Vice President Mark Stodola, who is the first Arkansas municipal official to be an NLC officer, participated in a panel discussion on our most pressing infrastructure needs, including water, transit, Internet broadband, and how to fund



Stodola

them. The session was held March 9, the final day of the conference, at the Capitol Visitors Center. Other participants in the session included Dan Gilmartin, executive director and CEO of the Michigan Municipal League; Greg Evans, a councilmember from Eugene, Ore.; and Andy Huckaba, a councilmember from Lenexa, Texas.

The message cities are sending loud and clear to Washington is "don't mess with the tax exemption on municipal bonds," Stodola said.

"It is critical to cities to have this latitude and flexibility to be able to finance all of these improvements that we've been talking about."

Any change will increase the borrowing cost to local governments, who then will have to pass it on to the taxpayers, he said. Lower income taxpayers would bear that cost disproportionately, he added. Local economies would also lose the multiplier effect this bond money brings to the city, county, and state.

"A lack of this type of investment is only going to hurt long-term growth," Stodola said.

Gilmartin said he hopes no city has to go through what Flint is going through. Updating our infrastructure



Gilmartin

will take a threepronged approach, he said, with local, state, and federal governments working together.

"What we've seen the last several years, for the last several decades now, is those different levels of government are making unilateral decisions to

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do things a little bit differently," Gilmartin said.

This contributes to the infrastructure crisis the whole country faces, he said.

"How can a major city in the United States not have clean water?" he asked. "If you go around the world, 60 percent of all hospital intakes according to the U.N. have

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to do with the access or lack thereof of clean water. And here we are in the richest country in the world and we haven't got that right, right here."

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy spoke to city leaders during the afternoon general session March 7 and said that protecting our environment is now more important than ever.

"Recent events have made it very clear," she said. "There is a simple fact—that you cannot take clean air and clean water for granted. It requires investment."

That investment starts locally and at the state level and "deserves consistent federal support," she said.



McCarthy

The conversation started by the ongoing water crisis in Flint, Mich., needs to happen across the country, McCarthy said.

"I've been to Flint twice in the last two months to oversee the EPA's emergency response to this crisis. Clearly what happened in Flint should never have happened. And EPA is there on the ground and we are not leaving until that water system is back on track."

States carry the prime responsibility in enforcing rules under the Safe Drinking Water Act, and too many states and communities have been disinvesting in water infrastructure, she said. In Michigan, although red flags were raised, the partnership broke down, McCarthy said.

"When there is a problem we admit it and we take action," she said. "We did not succeed in doing that, and I need to figure out why and never let that happen again."

Senators meet with municipal leaders

enators John Boozman and Tom Cotton met with members of Arkansas's delegation at a lunch meeting on the final day of the conference in the Russell Senate Office Building. The U.S. House of Representatives was in recess and our Congressmen were back home in their districts, though several members of their staffs visited with us.

The League asked each Senator to discuss his take on several of the NLC's and Arkansas Municipal League's key positions, especially protecting tax-exempt municipal bonds and passing e-fairness legislation. Sen. Boozman supports both issues, he said. Ten years ago



Boozman

he might not have supported e-fairness legislation, Boozman said, but he has since become a strong supporter and has voted for it twice.

Now known as the Remote Transactions Parity Act, the legislation would provide a way for the sales tax already due on Internet sales to be collected.

Doing so will help local businesses compete with online retailers and help local governments pay for essential services.

"It's a matter of fairness," he said. "And when you start out nine or 10 percent behind, when you're competing with somebody, that's difficult."

On maintaining tax-exempt municipal bonds "I'm with you 100 percent," Boozman said. "I understand how important that is."

Senator Cotton does not support e-fairness legislation, he said. Though he won't call it a new tax, as some opponents have charged, he said, he prefers that individuals pay the sales and use tax due voluntarily rather than via federal legislation. He'd rather the state do more to collect, he said.

"Put a line on our tax form. Put a sticker on the front



Cotton

cover of our tax booklet. Tell people they have to pay use tax, whether they buy something online or whether they buy it in a catalog. We do it for cars and boats and fur coats and diamond rings and all the rest. There's no reason we can't do it for all purchases."

Most Arkansans, if alerted, would pay it, he said. "You wouldn't have 100 percent collection, but you'd have a lot better than what we have now, because our state simply hasn't made an effort to collect our use tax."

While not directly expressing support for protecting the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, Cotton did say that he was confident "nothing is going to happen on that this year."

There won't be any major tax legislation, and municipal bonds are likely safe for now, he said. ♠

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Purge your regulations—don't be a word hoarder

By Jim von Tungeln

pring gives us a chance to clean things, and a city's regulations shouldn't escape our notice. A casual look at those of any municipality reveals terms, concepts, and objects of stricture for things that don't still exist, at least in their original form. It's a good time of year to consider calling in anti-hoarding experts. Those include me, and some of the senior planners around the state who agreed to help.

For example, Kathy Sellman, head of planning in Hot Springs, suggests we eliminate the terms "fortune teller" and "palm reader," since they can fall under a general term of "personal service." Brian Minyard of Little Rock agreed when he threw in the wordy "custom sewing and millinery, emphasis on millinery."

Actually, fortune tellers are a vanishing breed entirely. A few still exist, but they are mostly of the incompetent variety. All the good ones got rich at the horse races and have long-since retired to Florida. At the same time, one of the longest operating fabric stores in the Capital City just closed its doors, suggesting a fading interest in sewing and millinery. Too bad.

Brian also suggests removing the more archaic "boarding house." The last one of those I remember was on Little Rock's Capitol Avenue and closed back in the early 1970s. Many cities still have them listed in the "definitions" section of their zoning code. They are gradually disappearing in favor of the more modern "bed and breakfast." The old and familiar "service station" is suffering a similar but slower death.

Some terms still exist but their size and function no longer resemble those of the originals. Take, for example, the common "convenience store." It once produced an image of a small neighborhood facility with maybe four fueling stations and a small store for snacks and impulse sales. We apply the same term now for facilities that may offer more than 20 fueling stations and sell everything from cigarette papers to bundles of firewood. Each pump at a convenience store generates about 100 to 130 trips per day. We can see, then, that their impact is dramatic and wide ranging, sometimes more controversial than convenient.

We still list them, sometimes, as "neighborhood commercial," an increasingly outdated term itself. Such facilities seldom appear in our state now, except in isolated areas. In neighborhoods in which densities may average up to 70 units per acre or more, neighborhood facilities still exist for the convenience of those wanting to walk and make a quick purchase. Hereabouts, even a use labeled as a neighborhood facility will want to locate on a main traffic artery to be profitable. Some modern urban designers say we must have them in our neighborhoods, even if the developer—or we may suppose the property owners' association—has to subsidize them. I haven't seen that happen around here as of yet.

At any rate, "quiet business and office" use seems a more likely choice for low impact development these days. As much as we might wish for the old neighborhood grocery, they aren't likely to reappear any time soon. The age of the automobile and big box development has seen to that.

Back to outdated terms, my old colleague Rob Middleton suggests eliminating the term "servant's quarters." As much as the success of TV's "Downton Abbey" may cause some of us to envision ourselves as lords of a manor, the term "servant" doesn't quite seem useful to most Americans. On the other hand, with the aging of the "baby boomers," there is likely to be a growing need for lodging accommodating either those receiving care or those providing care. As we have mentioned in a previous column, there is a growing tendency among progressive cities to allow ancillary lodgings in otherwise single-family subdivisions.

Along with our hanging on to outdated terms, redundancy presents a major cause of "word-hoarding" in our development regulations. For example, some zoning codes extend for page after page listing potential retail uses such as florist shops, tobacco stores, locksmiths, bakeries, etc. In reality, they could all simply appear under one heading: "retail uses of no more than a certain size." It seems more useful to base permitted uses on size, bulk, height, traffic impact, and general design factors than upon what is actually being sold inside.

The late Elmore Leonard, a "writers' writer," once offered some rules for would-be authors. The rule most useful for those writing development regulations would seem to be: "Try to leave out the part that readers tend to skip." We can't always do that with zoning and subdivision codes because of statutes that must be obeyed. But, we could try. With that, I offer a few other rules for writing regulations that would be simple enough to be used.

- Don't—unless your city attorney makes you—include both Arabic numerals and written numbers in your text, i.e. "The maximum height is 40 (forty) feet." This just doubles the chances for errors, adds length, serves no purpose, and looks silly.
- Make sure the regulation is the least necessary to serve the clearly stated public purpose.
- If something claims to be a "simplified process," make it simple.
- If you don't know what you want a regulation to accomplish, don't write it, much less adopt it.
- Don't simply copy another city's regulations. There is a good chance that city copied them from another city that copied them from another city, etc., for reasons now lost to history.
- Remember that the purpose of a regulation is to protect the health, safety, welfare, and morals of your community. Anything else can get you into court.
- Remember that zoning and subdivision regulations protect or carry out provisions of your adopted plans. Anything else can make your citizens distrust you.
- Accept the fact that one set of regulations will not cure 100 years of neglect.
- Don't bother defining something that isn't mentioned in your regulations.
- Accept the fact that we are planners, not the "pretty-police."



Boarding houses, such as this one in Annapolis Maryland, disappeared years ago, after serving us faithfully for centuries.

Some of these may appear outlandish, but trust me when I say that I've seen them all abused. The results range from landscape regs that contain 15 pages of mathematical formulas to zoning codes with 20 separate districts. Before long, our development process can resemble one of those TV "hoarding" shows, with planners acting the role of the packrat who won't part with a single regulation, no matter how outdated or worthless.

Happy spring cleaning.



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.

Jonesboro students apply learning to help homeless

tudents at Jonesboro's Success Academy work on a small shelter they are building to serve a homeless person in their city. Jonesboro alderman Dr. Charles Coleman, who mentors at the Academy, is leading the effort, showing the students what it takes to build a house, step by step. All building material was

donated by Home Depot and Ridout Lumber. The project is the brainchild of Success teacher Jennifer Snyder, who felt her students were "disengaged" at certain points in the classroom. She partnered with fellow teacher Josh Miller and took the







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To precertify, or not to precertify, that is the question

n order to better serve our members and to ensure that standards of care are met before a member has a surgery or procedure, precertification is required in some cases. It is the member's responsibility to obtain precertification by calling 888-295-3591.

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- Hospice care
- Inpatient hospital confinements
- Organ transplant services
- Outpatient observation lasting more than 23 hours
- PET scans
- Wound care and hyperbaric oxygen treatments
- Prosthetic devices (if purchase price exceeds \$2,000)

If you are unsure whether or not a procedure needs to be precertified, call 888-295-3591 and we will be happy to assist you in making that determination. The goal of MHBF is to make sure that our members receive the best care possible.





WE WORK HERE. WE LIVE HERE. WE'RE INVESTED IN ARKANSAS.

For more information, contact

Jerry D. Holder, PE | Director of Transportation

JDHolder@GarverUSA.com | 501.376.3633

GarverUSA.com



Keeping your city active in urban forestry

By Alison Litchy

pril is a great month to celebrate trees with Earth Day coming up. Many cities choose to celebrate Arbor Day around this time too.

There are many great ways to celebrate Arbor Day. A good reason for communities to celebrate now is that the tree has a better chance of survival than if it was planted in the middle of summer.

It doesn't have to take much to develop an excellent tree appreciation celebration in your area. It only takes one person to inspire others and to cultivate a program. However, sometimes when that individual is no longer in the community, the strength of the program decreases. It is important to communicate with others and have more than one person active in the program once it is off the ground and running.

Morrilton, an eight-year Tree City USA recipient, recently celebrated their Arbor Day with great effect. Students from a local school came out to volunteer while members of the community and the senior center also attended the event. Six trees were planted along the walking trail at the senior center. Pruning demonstrations and hands-on learning were conducted. Trees were planted and properly mulched, and dead trees were removed along the trail as well. Afterward, tree books were awarded to local schools and libraries, and participation in a future Shade Trees On Playgrounds (STOP) program was discussed. The city also recently received a Tree Planting Grant from the Arkansas Forestry Commission to get some new trees along streets in downtown. The species selected include Chinese Pastiche and Tulip Poplar in columnar form.

This excellent celebration of trees was all due to the great attitude of Mollie Williams. She is a light in that community, however, she will be moving away shortly. She will be leaving behind big shoes to fill. It was her last Arbor Day celebration for Morrilton, and she urged all people in attendance to create the contacts needed for their great city to continue these programs after she has moved. Mollie has made sure that advocates have been established to fill her role and ensure these events go on each year.

When Mollie was asked what motivates her, she replied, "In traveling around the country, to visit family and friends, I have noticed the towns I enjoy the most have trees in neighborhoods and in the downtown areas.



Mollie Williams, right, has been instrumental in growing Morrilton's tree program, and she has helped ensure the city's efforts will continue when she moves.

The shade offered by trees in the summer is noticeable and protects the cars from the intense heat. My husband was in the lumber business, at one time, and we both have planted trees at our home and in city parks where we have lived. He dedicated time, in his later years, to growing trees rather than cutting them down. One of his last wishes was to see more trees planted in downtown Morrilton. I am so glad to have helped with this planting and others throughout the years and that we have a Tree City program."

STOP program a great way to get started

The Shade Trees on Playgrounds (STOP) program is another wonderful way to get started in urban forestry. Each year schools across the state are chosen to have five large trees planted on their playgrounds. The idea is to create shade and reduce the chance of kids getting skin cancer, as well as teach them the proper planting and care for trees. This will teach them to be better stewards of the land when they get older, and to appreciate all that trees do for them.

Students not only get to help plant the trees, they often name them, and keep fellow classmates from pulling on their limbs and damaging them. Prior to the event, teachers often teach lessons on trees. Wonderful artwork has been created from this program and is displayed in school hallways across the state. Information about the STOP program is available on the Forestry Commission website, forestry.arkansas.gov.



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

IIMC announces 47th Municipal Clerks Week

he International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), a professional nonprofit association with 10,000 members comprised of city, town, township, village, borough, deputy and county clerks throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, announces its 47th annual Municipal Clerks Week, May 1 through May 7. This event features a weeklong series of activities aimed at increasing the public's awareness of municipal clerks and the vital services they provide for local government and the community.

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

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

"Because some elements of government are constantly changing, clerks must stay current of changes so they can advise their council and inform their community," said IIMC President Monica Simmons, MMC, and city clerk for the city of Seattle. "As the focus of each level of government changes, clerks must also adapt."

To learn about ways to participate, visit the IIMC online at www.iimc.com.

"The true worth of the municipal and deputy clerk is often not realized," Simmons said. "But clerks perform some of the principal functions of the democratic process."

47th annual Municipal Clerks Week, May 1 through May 7



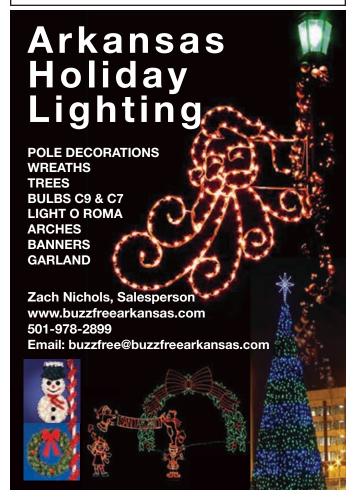


Contact

Matt Lyles

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matt.l@coulsonoil.com



Little Rock embarks on open data initiative

National partnership, new portals mark initial rollout

ittle Rock is making a big splash in the realm of open data, recently becoming one of only 27 municipalities in the country to be a part of the What Works Cities initiative through Bloomberg Philanthropies. As part of the capital city's commitment to transparency with the help of technology, two new data portals were unveiled that include data sets covering such topics as budget information, public safety statistics, and 311 requests.



"As the first major municipality in Arkansas to undertake an open data initiative of this magnitude, we are eager to lay this groundwork to make our city better," City Manager Bruce T. Moore said. "It comes down to how we engage with our citizens, and how we are providing data in a transparent and timely manner."

Open data is now the default in many large cities, and Little Rock plans to be proactive in sharing information through these new portals. Right now, citizens can browse the data, using the visualization tools to create their own views, drill down to see certain geographic areas of the city, or compare year-over-year statistics.

The city's open data initiative will not only bring external data to the public but be utilized internally to improve efficiencies in the city's departments. From predictive policing to real-time budget analysis, data can be utilized in every area of city government.

Little Rock was selected in late 2015 to participate in What Works Cities, a \$42 million initiative to support municipalities as they work to enhance their use of data to engage citizens, improve services, and incorporate performance metrics into departments. Just 100 cities will be admitted into the program through 2017.

As part of the initiative, Little Rock has benefitted from the expertise provided by Results for America, the Center for Government Excellence at Johns Hopkins University, the Government Performance Lab at the Harvard Kennedy School, and The Sunlight Foundation. Working with those experts, city employees are taking inventory of data and working toward an open data policy and governance framework. This strategic approach will help the city develop and implement practices that will allow for the regular release of data sets to the public.

"This open data initiative is a process," said Melissa Bridges, network security manager and project lead. "Once our time with our What Works Cities partners concludes, we will continue with our own governance committee, which will provide input and guidance on identifying additional datasets to be published."

Information that previously lived in spreadsheets or was tucked away in filing cabinets will now be considered for the data portals. The governance team, made up of several employees from across Little Rock's 14 departments, is working to identify what data sets exist and devise a schedule for publishing.

The data sets are live on the new main data portal at data.littlerockar.gov.

The 311 request data can be found at 311data.littlerockar.gov.

Reminder: ACA reporting deadline extended

tarting in 2016, all municipal employers must file information returns for the ACA with the IRS, and the League has partnered with Five Points to help MHBF members with this process.

Even if an employer (municipal entity) is not an applicable larger employer (ALE) it must submit the appropriate forms to the IRS. The deadlines have been moved but are fast approaching. Employers now have an additional two months beyond the Feb. 1 deadline to distribute Forms 1095-C and 1095-B to individual recipients, with the new deadline standing at March 31, 2016.

Additionally, the deadline for print filings has been extended to May 31, 2016, while the deadline for electronic filing has been extended to June 30, 2016.

For more information, contact Five Points at 800-435-5023, www.fivepointsict.com, or contact your certified public accountant, tax attorney, or American Fidelity Assurance Representative Charles Angel at 501-690-2532 or via email at Charles.Angel@americanfidelity.com. Also, visit the League's website at www.arml.org/services/mhbf and scroll down for links to helpful information on ACA reporting, the forms that are required, and instructions for those forms.

Visit Us.
www.arml.org



CALENDAR

Arkansas Municipal
League 82nd Convention
June 15-17, 2016
Wednesday-Friday
Little Rock, Arkansas

National League of Cities City Summit November 16-19, 2016 Wednesday-Saturday Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The benefits of geotechnical investigations

By Steven Head, PE

eotechnical investigations are performed by geotechnical engineers or engineering geologists to gather information on the physical properties of subgrade soil and rock at a potential project site. The investigations consist of sampling site subgrade material for the purpose of providing design recommendations for items such as foundation type, foundation bearing capacity, foundation settlement amounts, pavement subgrade material, pavement type and sections, as well as site grading. Geotechnical investigations are typically conducted for future development or improvement projects, but can also be conducted to obtain repair recommendations for structures in distress due to foundation movement. In specific design projects, geotechnical investigations are also used to measure the thermal resistivity of soils or backfill materials required for underground transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines, radioactive waste disposal, and solar thermal storage facilities.

Geotechnical investigations are often used as project budgeting tools for costs associated with foundation construction as well as earthwork-related items such as undercut, backfill, and topsoil/unsuitable soils removal. A geotechnical investigation can also include surface exploration, which may consist of geologic mapping and photogrammetry. Surface exploration can also be as simple as a geotechnical professional walking the site to observe the physical conditions.



This truck-mounted drilling rig is one of the ways engineers may collect and test the soil at a construction site as part of a geotechnical investigation.

There are many benefits for conducting and providing geotechnical investigations either for a municipality, public agency, developer, or even for personal residential reasons. Some of these benefits include:

- Using this information for utility projects and saving municipalities money with better planning.
- Members of the community can be informed of potentially problematic soils in the project area.
 Corrective or precautionary actions can be recommended to prevent damages by problematic soils.
 In residential projects, prospective buyers might avoid purchasing the lot.
- The most appropriate foundation system can be determined for a project before the design phase, and therefore can be budgeted. It can eliminate over-designing based on otherwise unknown factors.
- Higher degrees of accuracy provided by the investigation.
- Reducing maintenance costs after the project is complete.
- Determining the need for undercut of roadways, as well as volumes can more accurately be estimated.

To obtain information about the soil conditions below the surface, some form of subsurface exploration is required. Methods of observing the soils below the surface, obtaining samples, and determining physical properties of the soils and rocks include test pits, trenching, boring, and "in situ" (in its original place) investigation.

Soil sampling

Borings come in two main varieties: large diameter and small diameter. Large-diameter borings are rarely used due to safety concerns and expense, but are sometimes used to allow a geologist or engineer to visually and manually examine the soil and rock stratigraphy in situ. Small-diameter borings are frequently used to allow a geologist or engineer to examine soil or rock cuttings or to retrieve samples at depth using soil samplers, and to perform in situ soil tests.

Soil samples are often categorized as being either "disturbed" or "undisturbed." "Undisturbed" samples, however, are not truly undisturbed. A disturbed sample is one in which the structure of the soil has been changed sufficiently that tests of structural properties of the

soil will not be representative of in situ conditions, and only properties of the soil grains can be accurately determined. An undisturbed sample is one where the condition of the soil in the sample is close enough to the conditions of the soil in situ to allow tests of structural properties of the soil to be used to approximate the properties of the soil in situ.

Soil samples are taken using a variety of samplers; some provide only disturbed samples, while others can provide relatively undisturbed samples. Samples may be taken by relatively simple methods, such as a shovel or by excavating a trial pit, or by more complex methods and devices.

Testing the samples

A variety of laboratory tests can be performed on soils to measure a wide variety of soil properties. Some soil properties are intrinsic to the composition of the soil matrix and are not affected by sample disturbance, while other properties depend on the structure of the soil as well as its composition, and can only be effectively tested on relatively undisturbed samples. Some soil tests measure direct properties of the soil, while others measure "index properties" providing useful information about the soil without directly measuring the property desired.

Depending on the water content of the soil, it may appear in four states: solid, semi-solid, plastic, and liquid. In each state, the consistency and behavior of a soil is different and consequently so are its engineering properties. Thus, the boundary between each state can be defined based on a change in the soil's behavior. Gradations or sieve analyses are useful tests that break down the grain sizes of soil samples into gravel, sand, and fine (silt or clay) particles. The combination of the gradation results and the Atterberg limits—the basic measurement of the soil's water contents—allow for the classification of a soil. AASTO and USCS are two common soil classification systems that rate the soils from poor to excellent with respect to their use as subgrade material for construction projects. Many other laboratory tests can be applied depending on the desired soil properties to be determined.

Geophysical exploration

Another important aspect of geotechnical investigations is the use of geophysical methods to evaluate a site's behavior in a seismic event. By measuring a soil's shear wave velocity, the dynamic response of that soil can be estimated. There are a number of methods used to determine a site's shear wave velocity: crosshole method; downhole method (with a seismic Cone Penetration Test or a substitute device); surface wave reflection or refraction; suspension logging (also known as P-S logging or

Oyo logging); spectral analysis of surface waves (SASW); multichannel analysis of surface waves (MASW); refraction microtremor (ReMi); electromagnetic (radar, resistivity); and optical/acoustic televiewer survey.

In summary, it is beneficial to the owner to know a realistic cost of construction and design for the foundations and earthwork operations to limit budget surprises. The architect benefits from the investigation by being able to position a structure in the best possible location given the on-site soil conditions. The design engineer has the necessary information to provide the accuracy and details needed for a successful project. The investigation allows for fair and informed bids by contractors based on realistic expectations of the earthwork and are therefore prepared in advance for costs, manpower, equipment and projected completion dates.



Steven Head, PE, is the Geotechnical Department/Soils Laboratory Manager for McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. in Fayetteville. Contact Steven at 479-443-2377 or email shead@mcclelland-engrs.com.





82nd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 15-17, 2016



June 15–17 in Little Rock, AR
See next page for more information.
Register online at www.arml.org.
Contact Whitnee Bullerwell
at 501-978-6105.

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

TENTATIVE PROGRAM IN BRIEF

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15

1:30-3:00 P.M. CLERKS MEETING 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. REGISTRATION AND EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 2:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATION TRAINING 5:30 P.M. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

7:00 P.M.

OPENING NIGHT BANQUET

THURSDAY JUNE 16

7:00 A.M.-8:45 A.M. HOST CITY BREAKFAST 7:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. **REGISTRATION OPEN** 7:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M. **EXHIBITS OPEN** 9:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M. **GENERAL SESSIONS** 12:30 P.M.-1:30 P.M. LUNCHEON 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS** 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

EVENING ACTIVITIES TBA

FRIDAY **JUNE 17**

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

BREAKFAST REGISTRATION OPEN GENERAL SESSIONS TBA **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS** AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS' LUNCHEON

RESOLUTIONS

Suggested Convention Resolutions for consideration at the 82nd Annual Convention should be mailed to:

82nd Convention Resolutions Arkansas Municipal League P.O. Box 38

North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

The deadline for Resolution submission is Monday, May 16.

Resolutions may be drafted by an official of any member city or town and can relate to any matter of municipal concern. See your **2015-2016 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 81st Convention.

WANTED: Elected City officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and began serving your city or town in 1991? The League would like to know!

The League will give special recognition to elected city and town officials who are in their 25th year of municipal service at the 82nd League Convention, June 15-17, in Little Rock.

Names must be submitted to the League by May 16.

Call Ken Wasson at 501-374-3484, ext. 211; Sheila Boyd, ext. 218; or write to P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

At the 82nd Convention, a special Exhibit Hall is available for businesses, companies and manufacturers to display their products and services that are available to Arkansas municipalities.

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

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

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

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82nd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 15-17, 2016

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Monday, June 1, 2016, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.

Pre-registration for municipal officials	0
Registration fee after June 1, 2016 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	5
Pre-registration for guests\$7	5
Registration fee after June 1, 2016 , and on-site registration for guests	0
Other registrants\$20	0

- 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 2015-2016 Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- No refunds after June 1, 2016.
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 1, 2016**.
- Marriott guests: In order to avoid a cancellation penalty of one night's room and tax, reservations must be cancelled at least seven (7) days prior to arrival.

Hotel Room Rates

Marriof Hatel (headquarters hotel) Single/Double	
Single/Double	Check-in
Capital Gel OUT Single/Double	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel Single/Double\$109	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 1, 2016**.
- Rooms in Central Arkansas are subject to a 13.5 or 15 percent tax.
- Rooms will be held until 6 p.m. and then released unless guaranteed by credit card.
- Contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations in hotel accommodations.
- Hotel confirmation number will come directly from the hotel.
- Please check on cancellation policy for your hotel.

Two ways to register

R

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

2

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
Attn: 82nd Annual Convention
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Name:						
Title:		City of:				
Email (required):						
Address:		City:				
		-				
Guests will attend: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Name:					
In Case of Emergency (ICE) Contact Na						
			L FIIONE NUMBER			
Step 2: Payment Inform						
• WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL? (see oppos	' 	•	Υ	<u>r</u>		
☐ Pre-registration for Delegate	☐ Pre-re(gistration for Guest	☐ Other Registrants	Pre-registration		
\$150		\$75	\$200	Total \$		
☐ Regular Registration for Delegate \$ 175	□ Regular 	Registration tor Guest \$ 1 0 0	Other Registrants \$200	Reg. Registration Total \$		
• How are you paying?		<u>Ψ100</u>	<u>Ψ200</u>	Toldi <u>v</u>		
□ Check Mail payment and form to: Arkansas Municipal League 82nd Annual Convention P.O. Box 38 North Little Rock, AR 72115 □ Credit Card Complete information below and send to address above. Credit Card: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Discover Card Number: Exp. Date:/20						
Card Holder Name (as it appears on co	ırd):		•••••			
Billing address (as it appears on stateme	ent):					
City:	tate:Zip:	Telephone:				
E-mail address (required for credit c	ard payme	nt)				
Step 3: Hotel Reservation	ons					
To obtain hotel reservations, registered that you are with the Arkansas Municip	delegates mus			lease mention		
Marriott () Lote () U.T Rese	ervations	877-759-6290				
Capital GleD OUT Rese	ervations	877-637-0037 or 5	501-374-7474			
Doubletree Hotel Rese	ervations	800-222-8733 or 5	501-372-4371			
Wyndham Hotel Rese	ervations	866-657-4458 or 5	501-371-0000			

TENTATIVE

82nd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 15 - 17, 2016

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016	THURSDAY A.M., JUNE 16, 2016			
1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	6:30 A.M. to 7:00 A.M.			
ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION	PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOGMarriott Lobby Meet in the Grand Lobby of the Marriott Hotel.			
1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.	7:15 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.			
REGISTRATION Osage & Caddo Rooms, SCC	VOLUNTARY PRAYER SESSIONFulton Room			
1:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.	This is a brief time set aside for those who wish to gather to pray for			
MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS/	our national, state and local leaders.			
RENEW ACQUAINTANCESGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC	7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.			
Use this time to meet the exhibitors and see what products and services they have that could benefit your city. Popcorn and cool	REGISTRATION Osage Room, SCC			
beverages will be served throughout the afternoon. Also, take the	7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.			
time to renew acquaintances with fellow municipal officials while	EXHIBITS OPENGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC			
relaxing in the Exhibit Hall.	7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.			
1:00 P.M. TO 6:45 P.M.	HOST CITY BREAKFAST BUFFETGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC			
SOCIAL MEDIA LAB	Country-style breakfast buffet will be served, courtesy of our Host City of Little Rock.			
municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a social	8:30 A.M. to NOON			
media presence using our lab.	CITY ATTORNEYSTBA			
2:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participating in two days of meetings located in the Statehouse Convention Center.			
WORKING IN A SOCIAL MEDIA WORLDGovernor's Hall IV, SCC	8:45 A.M. to 9:45 A.M.			
(3 Continuing Education Hours) Speakers: TBA	OPENING GENERAL SESSIONGovernor's Hall IV, SCC			
3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.	The 82nd Annual Convention begins with the posting of the colors			
INTERIM JOINT CITY, COUNTY, LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from Mayor Mark Stodola of Little Rock. PRESENTATION OF COLORS			
The Interim Committee welcomes all city officials to attend this committee meeting.	Color Guard by: TBA Singing the National Anthem: TBA			
5:30 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.	Host City Welcome Address: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock			
RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEEGovernor's Hall IV, SCC	Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville			
Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.	President, Arkansas Municipal League Speaker: Clarence E. Anthony, Executive Director The National League of Cities			
Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens	<u> </u>			
First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League	9:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.			
7:00 P.M.	BREAK			
OPENING NIGHT BANQUET	10:15 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.			
Welcome to the 82nd Annual Convention's Opening Night Banquet. Enjoy a delicious meal and visit with fellow delegates. At the	GENERAL SESSION 2: AMERICA WALKS Governor's Hall IV, SCC Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville			
conclusion of the banquet we will recognize various municipalities and individuals who have made significant contributions to the AML	President, Arkansas Municipal League			
this past year.	Speakers: Ian Thomas, PhD State and Local Program Director, America Walks			
Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville	Dr. Thomas of America Walks will move you to action with his			
President, Arkansas Municipal League	motivational talk committed to mobilizing individuals, organizations			
Invocating: TBA Speaker: Governor Asa Hutchinson	and businesses to increase walking and walkability in our cities and			
State of Arkansas	fowns.			
8:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				
PRESIDENT'S DESSERT RECEPTIONTBA				

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	1:00	A.IVI.		1 1 1 1 1 1 1	\mathbf{v}	4./VI.

GENERAL SESSION 3: ARKANSAS STATE BIKE

AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN PRESENTATION Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville

President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speakers: Virginia Porta, PE, Senior Multimodal Planning Engineer

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

The AHTD is nearly complete with a state bicycle and pedestrian plan. They want your reaction and feedback to the plan.

11:30 A.M. to NOON

GENERAL SESSION 4: SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL:

THE GHANA EXPERIENCE.......Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens

First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: TBA

THURSDAY P.M., JUNE 16, 2016

1:00 P.M. to 5:15 P.M.

CITY ATTORNEYS......TBA

1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPSTBA

1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

Do you want to build a social media presence to promote your municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a social media presence using our lab.

4:15 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE......Governor's Hall IV, SCC

Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens

First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

5:30 P.M.

The exhibit hall will close for the day.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Visit some of Little Rock's finest restaurants before coming back for desserts and entertainment.

8:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

DESSERTS AND ENTERTAINMENT......Grand Ballroom Salons A-C Marriott Hotel

The Ned Perme Band will delight you with their unique Arkansas style of entertainment. Enjoy delicious desserts and beverages.

Sponsored by: Crews & Associates, Inc.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016

6:30 A.M.

PRE-BREAKFAST EXERCISE WALK/JOG......Marriott Lobby Meet in the Grand Lobby of the Marriott Hotel.

7:15 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M.

Do you want to build a social media presence to promote your municipality? Do Friends, Fans and Followers confuse you? Let League staffers walk you through the process of creating a social media presence using our lab.

7:00 A.M. to NOON

REGISTRATION OPENS...... Osage Room, SCC

7:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

EXHIBITS OPEN......Governor's Halls I - III, SCC (Exhibit Hall will close at 10:30 A.M. for the remainder of the

Convention.)

BUFFET BREAKFAST......Governor's Halls I - III, SCC

8:30 A.M. to 3:15 P.M.

7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.

CITY ATTORNEYS......TBA

8:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGGovernor's Hall IV, SCC

At this session Executive Director Don Zimmerman will give his annual report followed by the Annual Business Meeting. During the business meeting, the League's Policies and Goals are presented and voted on. The nominating committee presents their recommended slate of new officers for the upcoming year, which will be followed by the annual business meetings for Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust, Municipal Health Benefit Fund, Municipal Vehicle Program, and Municipal Property Program.

10:15 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

BREAKGovernor's Halls I - III, SCC

10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

SENATORIAL CANDIDATES Grand Ballroom Salon C Marriott Hotel

The two candidates for the U.S. Senate have been invited to address our convention.

Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens

First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

11:45 A.M. to NOON

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

AND CONCLUDING REMARKS...... Grand Ballroom Salon C

Marriott Hotel

Presiding: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville

President, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaker: TBA

NOON to 1:30 P.M.

AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS'

LUNCHEON Grand Ballroom Salons A & B

Municipalities and individuals are honored for their many successes and contributions during this past year. The new League president and officers will be introduced to the Convention delegates.

APRIL 2016 25

Turkish mayors visit Arkansas

By Sherman Banks

hen President Eisenhower established Sister Cities in 1956, it was his dream that people from different cultures would reach out to understand, appreciate, and celebrate their differences while building partnerships that can lessen the chances for world conflict. In this millennium, Sister Cities International continues to expand its reach to new and emerging regions of the world. Today, it dedicates a special focus on areas such as Turkey with significant opportunities for cultural and educational exchanges, economic partnerships, and humanitarian assistance.

Six months ago Nora Dillingham, a resident of Heber Springs, began a conversation with Saffet Ozdemir, secretary general of the Association of Local Authorities in Turkey, and expressed her fascination with the history of Kars, Turkey. During their communication over this short period a special "citizen diplomacy" relationship began. When Dillingham learned that Mayor Ozdemir was planning a visit to New York with other Turkish officials, she invited the delegation to include Arkansas as one of the stops on their tour.

Ozdemir said, "We're happy to be in Arkansas and particularly Heber Springs. We have different cultures and ways of life, but in the process of globalization the world is becoming smaller and smaller and all cultures are interdependent to each other."

In the delegation were mayors of other Turkish cities who expressed an interest in developing sister cities with U.S. cities and Arkansas cities in particular. It was their thought that social and cultural interaction through organizations like Sister Cities opens an avenue toward world peace.

Dillingham arranged for the visiting Turkish delegation to meet with Heber Springs Mayor Jimmy Clark, Cleburne County Judge Jerry Holmes, Cabot Mayor Bill Cypert, and other local leaders on March 9. The delegation wanted the opportunity to experience the way local government authorities conduct their day-to-day activities to meet the needs of their constituents.



A conversation between a Heber Springs resident and a Turkish local official culminated in a visit in March to the Arkansas city by a small delegation, an example of citizen diplomacy at work. From left, Bulent Kantaraci, mayor of Caycuma, Turkey; Nora Dillingham of Heber Springs; Behcet Kemal Uzaldi, deputy mayor of Caycuma; Omer Acikel, mayor of Sarikaya, Turkey; Naif Alibeyoglu, former mayor of Kars, Turkey; Ozkan Evren, director of Seyhan; Seray Zunbulcan, deputy mayor of Balcova, Turkey; and Saffet Ozdemir, secretary general of the Association of Local Authorities.

It is important to note that international relationships can be done in a very formal way through public diplomacy or through a more informal outreach, such as the way Ms. Dillingham opened communication with the Turkish delegation because of an appreciation for the country's history and culture. Despite the language barrier, she persevered and opened a dialogue that ultimately led to a visit to Arkansas.

Municipal officials, too, can open the door to international involvement and spread the dream of President Eisenhower to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation—one individual, one community at a time.



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



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as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League Legal Defense Program.

Governor forms committee to discuss drugs

Gov. Asa Hutchinson spoke recently at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences on numerous very important topics. Some of his discussion on medical care, health awareness, and drugs were especially of interest to me. There is hope that the Arkansas Works program will be funded to alleviate serious financial issues for medical providers.

Hutchinson's work at the Drug Enforcement Agency and Homeland Security offers expertise to our state agencies in addressing drug issues. It was good to hear him talk about his intentions to move forward with more drug programs. To start this process, he has organized a committee to discuss various issues related to drugs, violence, and crime. Judy Sims, CEO of a'TEST Consultants, Inc., has been asked to participate in this discussion group. This is very important to employers in our state to be represented in this meeting, as their workforce drug issues are different than law enforcement. I will keep you updated on the meeting and suggested plan for Arkansas.

Quest Diagnostics releases new report on drug positivity rate

The newly released report from Quest Diagnostics contains news that employers will not want to hear. The illicit drug positivity rate has increased sharply in workplace testing. The upsurge in marijuana, cocaine, and methamphetamine positive drug test results is noted for a second consecutive year. This is not good news, considering this is a reversal in a decade long decline in workforce drug use.

Employers should take note of this news since many of the drugs used impact physical and cognitive functions. The study involved most workforce categories and different types of specimens. Quest Diagnostics analyzed urine, oral fluid, and hair samples. The workers selected for the study were in three categories: employers in the general private workforce, employers subject to federal drug testing rules (including safety-sensitive employees), and a combination of both workforces. In the past, it was prescription drugs that had an increase in positive results; however, it now seems illicit drug use appears to be on the increase.

Quest has analyzed annual workplace drug testing data since 1988. It is important for employers to review their testing policy and update it, if needed. With the legalization of marijuana in many states, it appears this could be contributing to the new study issued by Quest.

Recent increase of heroin addicts being hospitalized

A recent report from a hospital in Southwest Arkansas has indicated that two-thirds of hospitalizations for substance abuse treatment are heroin related. To make matters worse, some of those are admitted in critical condition because of mixing heroin with fentanyl, a powerful pain drug. Fentanyl is a Schedule 2 drug and its action is very fast—around five minutes. Mixing this very powerful drug with heroin has resulted in several recent deaths.

Heroin addiction is difficult to treat. In fact, most users begin using the drug again within a short timeframe. Treatment is difficult and painful for most individuals addicted to heroin.

If this increase of heroin use is found in the south-western part of Arkansas, you can rest assured that it is happening in the area where you live. Employers need to be sure their drug testing program is looking for heroin, and they also need to understand what treatment options are available for employees addicted to heroin.

For many years, the stereotype of a heroin addict was a guy living on the streets, dirty, with heavy track marks on his arm. That is not true. Heroin is used by youth and adults of all ages. The drug is used by people of all vocations, gender, and living in any location. It is cheap to buy and causes a quick high. There are no boundaries when it comes to using heroin.



a'TEST CONSULTANTS, Inc., provides drug and alcohol testing as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League Legal Defense Program. The program helps cities and towns comply with the U. S. Department of Transportation's required drug testing for all holders of commercial drivers' licenses.



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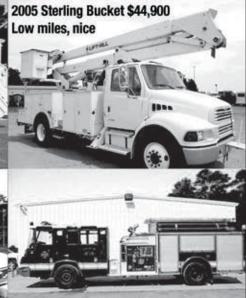
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APRIL 2016

Collaboration the key to downtown revitalization

By Josh Markham,

or decades, major social and economic factors worked together to negatively impact the commercial viability of downtown areas. Across America the signs of this shift are still apparent. Boarded windows, neglected buildings, and overgrown community spaces are common sights. However, all is not lost for the American downtown. Many Arkansas cities have recognized the importance of a thriving downtown to their economic future. As a result, they have successfully implemented programs to revitalize their downtowns.

While downtowns across America have experienced steady decline, the importance of a vibrant downtown is evident on many levels.

"We have seen time and time again that when economic developers are bringing industrial prospects to a community, the first area they want to see is the downtown," Main Street Arkansas Assistant Director Samantha Evans said. "It's a signal to investors that their investment in the community will be protected if they see a viable downtown."

The economic importance of a successful downtown extends beyond business recruitment. A thriving downtown is an important recruitment tool for students, physicians, and faculty members, Evans noted. Young professionals view quality of place as an important factor when considering relocating to a community; as a result, a well developed downtown is a major selling point.

Many Arkansas cities are turning to Main Street Arkansas for assistance with revitalization efforts. One such city is Siloam Springs. Main Street Siloam Springs started in 1985, and changes have been incremental; however, by 2008, development had plateaued. According to Meredith Bergstrom, Main Street Siloam Springs Executive Director, "The downtown retail presence was strong, but downtown was lacking people." This noticeable absence needed to change, and Siloam Springs' downtown has benefited from taking a deliberate approach to development and planning over the past few years. The result: more than \$10 million in private investment in downtown and over 20 new businesses.



A thriving downtown gives residents a reason to celebrate their city. During Siloam Springs' annual Dog Day of Summer Festival, dogs and their people take to the streets of the city's revitalized downtown.

This turnaround for Siloam Springs' downtown was a slow process. The first step began with a single private investment. A local entrepreneur renovated a downtown commercial space to include a café with apartment living space on the second story. The impact was immediately noticeable.

"This development brought people, and people brought other investors," Bergstrom said. "Within three years, 10 other businesses followed."

After this initial private investment showed success, Main Street Siloam Springs shifted its focus from simply hosting events to trying to be a purposeful economic engine to support the growth occurring from private investment in downtown.

"Main Street Siloam Springs attempted to build a vision for downtown," Bergstrom said. Working with the National Main Street Center and Main Street Arkansas enabled Bergstrom to see the connections between a long term vision, historic preservation, and an economically successful downtown. These three goals came together in the form of a master plan for Siloam Springs. This document outlined goals toward growing the connectivity of the trail system to downtown Siloam Springs and increasing beautification efforts linking downtown with surrounding natural assets and parks.

Collaboration was the key to the creation of this vision. City officials, the local Chamber of Commerce, and local businesses all played crucial roles in completing the master plan. After six months of public participation, and 18 months of work, the Downtown & Connectivity Master Plan was complete.

Implementing aspects of this master plan are currently underway. New local small businesses in the downtown are an important goal for economic growth in downtown Siloam Springs, and local banks have stepped up to assist. Five area banks are developing a loan consortium to assist with financing the implementation of the downtown master plan.

The road to completing this master plan was not always smooth. Major financial challenges were an obvious obstacle to many changes. Working with Main Street Arkansas provided access to grant funds to help with areas that private investment could not. However, even when private investors showed interest in developing a new business, zoning and code issues proved to be a new challenge. Old codes related to parking requirements and mixed used housing would have made development impossible in downtown. Working to revise these zoning issues through the Master Plan gave private investors the confidence that the city was ready to support them.

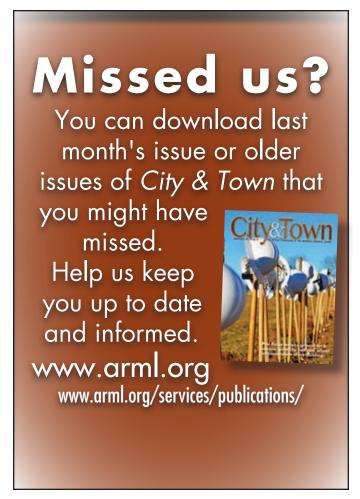
Downtown Siloam Springs is just one example of an Arkansas city recognizing the economic importance of a

vibrant downtown area. According to Samantha Evans, designated Main Street districts in Arkansas have seen over \$1,846,989 in public/private investment in 2015 leading to 140 façade renovations, building rehabilitations, and new downtown construction projects.

Successful downtown development can begin many different ways. Evans noted that taking inventory of vacant or underused buildings can be the first step toward downtown mixed-use projects. Hosting community visioning sessions or developing a matching grant program for local downtown merchants are also viable initial projects. Regardless of where a community starts, Meredith Bergstrom has some advice for success: "Collaborate. Get all the players involved. Solidify your vision. Be inclusive. Be diverse. And educate others about the importance of your work."



Josh Markham is Assistant Director, University of Central Arkansas, Center for Community and Economic Development.





Batesville PD trains on simulator

embers of the newly formed Batesville Police Department were put through their paces in March on the League's driver training simulator. Driver safety is one of the most important areas of police training, and the League encourages all cities and towns to take advantage of the training available on our state-of-the-art driving simulator. Since beginning the program in 2009, League Health and Safety Coordinator David Baxter has helped more than 1,300 officers from across the state to improve their driving skills, reduce the risk of injuries and death, and reduce liability costs.

To learn more about the program or to schedule a training session for your city's officers, contact David Baxter at 501-374-3484 ext. 110, or email dbaxter@arml.org.







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APRIL 2016

An ounce of prevention

By Chad Gallagher

ith spring's arrival the work of mowing, maintaining flowers, and—for some cities—swimming pools is in full swing. Street paving and all the other major improvement projects that require good weather are about to begin. It is also a good time to review your community development process and specifically how grants fit into that strategy.

Grant writing is a bit of a misnomer for the entire grant acquisition process. There is much more to getting a grant than just writing one. Including grant funding into your community development strategy requires strategic planning, preparation, and good execution. Of course, writing the actual proposals is an important piece, but alone it isn't much better than a running car engine without a body or wheels. As the old saying goes, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Develop an overall community plan

Grant funding isn't meant to stand alone, project by project. Every grant request should fit into an overall community blueprint. Grant programs should be sought that help cities and towns achieve goals that already exist. Grants are simply a tool to help build the community desired. To this end we recommend cities and towns conduct some type of needs assessment. The assessment should be comprehensive in reviewing every aspect of the community and should identify: strengths, weaknesses, successes, failures, opportunities, and challenges. It should clearly assess the current health or state of the community. This can be done through a simple or complex approach, but it must be done.

Once the city has assessed its needs then it should use this information to develop a true strategic plan or community blueprint. The blueprint articulates the vision and paints the picture of the desired result. It sets goals and identifies strategies for implementation. This type of planning is important because it engages the community in fleshing out where it wants to go in the future. Much can be said about the planning process, but for the moment it is key to note that every city should engage in some thoughtful futuristic planning.

Grants are a strategy

Once the city has its blueprint, grants should be seen as a tool to help achieve these ends. Cities should peruse *The Arkansas Grant Book*, have discussions with our firm, and interact with various agencies to become familiar with available grants. In doing so the city can begin to identify funding opportunities that match community

needs and help fulfill the city's plan. Don't go shopping for just any grant. Doing so will lead to frustration and lots of failed proposals. Instead, look for grants that fit well into your community blueprint. Find what fits your plan and only pursue those.

Prepare thoroughly

To prepare for developing a successful proposal there are several things you can do:

- Clearly identify each project you would like to find funding for.
- Build a case for that project. This would include all the information you can find about it—successes elsewhere, the need it addresses, and the benefits it brings.
- Research and collect hard data. Hard data is needed to write successful grants. Soft data is helpful, but most failing grant proposals lack much hard data. Soft data is anecdotal and persuasive. Hard data includes statistics, demographics, and other quantifiable data that demonstrates your funding request.
- Build local support. Support from all local stakeholders is always helpful when a funding opportunity presents itself.
- Build a budget. For every project in your community plan you should have an estimated budget.
 Find out what it will cost to build your dream, if it can be done in phases, what portion of the project could be cut, and which ones cannot be.
- Learn from others. Find other cities in Arkansas that have tackled similar projects. How did they do it, what did it cost, and what lessons did they learn?
- Build relationships with funders. Once you have started matching funding opportunities with your wish list, make a deliberate effort to get to know those people.
- Ask for help. The League understands that every city cannot afford a staff of professional community developers and grant writers. That's why they've established programs to help members with these kinds of projects. Call us today and see how we can help you with your efforts.



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

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

DOJ resumes Equitable Sharing payments to local law enforcement

he Department of Justice is pleased to announce that, effective immediately, the Department is resuming Equitable Sharing payments to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

As you know, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 included a \$746 million permanent reduction, or "rescission," that, when combined with the additional rescission of \$458 million contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act signed into law in December 2015, reduced Asset Forfeiture Program funds by \$1.2 billion. Those rescissions threatened the financial solvency of the Assets Forfeiture Fund, and forced the Department to take cost-cutting steps across all discretionary programs, including on December 21, 2015, the deferral of Equitable Sharing payments.

It's worth repeating that we did not make the decision to defer Equitable Sharing payments lightly, and it was always our intent to resume payments as soon as it became financially feasible. Thus, in the months since we had to make that difficult decision, we explored alternative options, while also keeping a close eye on incoming receipts. And now, we are finally at a point where it is no longer necessary to continue the deferral.

Therefore, effective immediately, we are resuming payments and agencies will receive the full amount of their share of any approved Equitable Sharing payments.

The Department is grateful to our partners for standing by us on our federal law enforcement task forces while the deferral was in effect. We understand this deferral has been difficult for many of you, as you depend on these resources for your critical law enforcement efforts to disrupt and dismantle criminal activity. The Department appreciates all the support and patience that you have afforded to the Department while we worked through this unfortunate, but necessary response to financial circumstances that were beyond our control.

Please direct any correspondence to afmls.communications@usdoj.gov.



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Municipal Notes



Bradley back in compliance

Bradley in Lafayette County has made the necessary upgrades to its wastewater system to get back in compliance with ADEQ, Communities Unlimited has announced. CU is a member of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership, a national network of nonprofits that provide technical assistance to help small, rural communities address drinking water, wastewater, and other development needs.

According to CU, the city's water lines were disintegrating at an alarming rate, resulting in high levels of pollutants in its discharge. The city had faced 44 violations with ADEQ over two years. A loan through the USDA to overhaul the system but wouldn't arrive in time to avoid ADEQ fines of up to \$10,000 per day. Through CU the city was able to secure \$153,000 in financing to get back in compliance and to help pay for preliminary engineering for the USDA project.

Seven cities reach milestones

Six cities and towns in Arkansas this year celebrate their centennials, and one city celebrates the sesquicentennial of its incorporation. Celebrating 100 years of incorporation in 2016 are the city of Bono in Craighead County, the city of Colt in St. Francis County, the city of Hughes in St. Francis County, the town of Keo in Lonoke County, the city of Leachville in Mississippi County, and the city of Patterson in Woodruff County. Devalls Bluff in Prairie County turns 150 this year.

Obituaries

JERRY TAYLOR, 78, longtime state and local leader from Pine Bluff, died March 19.
Taylor served as a state representative for four years and as a state senator for eight years. He served as Pine Bluff's mayor for eight years and as an alderman for 12 years. Taylor was active with the Arkansas Municipal League, serving on the Large First Class Cities Advisory Council in 1993-1994 and 1999-2000, and on the Executive Committee from 1994-1997 and 1998-1999. He was League District 4 vice president in 1997-1998, and in 2005 Taylor was named the League's Person of the Year.

Fairs & Festivals

April 15-16, **MOUNTAIN VIEW**, 52nd Arkansas Folk Festival, www.yourplaceinthemountains.com; **STAR CITY**, 13th StarDaze Festival, stardazefestival.com

April 18-23, **FORDYCE**, 36th Fordyce on the Cotton Belt Festival, www.FordyceOnTheCottonBelt.com

April 22-23, **HEBER SPRINGS**, 29th Springfest, www.heber-springs.com; **PERRYVILLE**, 12th Fourche River Days, fourcheriverdays.com

April 22-24, **SILOAM SPRINGS**, 42nd Dogwood Festival, 479-524-6466

April 23, MCNAB, 15th Twin Rivers Festival, 870-896-2281

April 29-30, **GLENWOOD**, Caddo River Festival, www.CityOfGlenwoodArkansas.com

April 29-May 1, **CONWAY**, Toad Suck Daze, www.toadsuck.org

May 4-7, **HAMBURG**, 46th World Famous Armadillo Festival, 870-853-8345

May 6-7, **BATESVILLE**, Mayfest, www.mainstreetblytheville.com; **DARDANELLE**, Yell Fest, dardanellechamber.com

May 14, **HORSESHOE BEND**, 30th Dogwood Days Festival, 417-257-3773

May 20-21, **HARRISON**, 26th Crawdad Days Festival, www.crawdaddays.org; **LOWELL**, 40th Mudtown Days Festival, 479-770-2185 ext. 427; **MAGNOLIA**, Magnolia Blossom Festival & World Championship Steak Cook-off, magnoliachamber.com



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APRIL 2016

Understanding autism

By Maya Lopez, M.D.

utism is a complex neurological condition that can mean different things for different children and their development.

Although each child with autism spectrum disorder would have difficulties in the areas of social interaction and communication, and show atypical and repetitive behaviors, we know that their symptoms are expressed with great variability. Thus, this condition is considered a spectrum diagnosis.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about one in 68 American children are on the autism spectrum. Autism is more common in boys as an estimated one in 42 boys will have the condition, compared to one in 189 girls. More than three million people in the United States and tens of millions across the globe are affected by autism spectrum disorders, including Asperger's syndrome.

Recognizing signs

Indications and symptoms of autism tend to occur early in childhood development, usually in the toddler stage. There are many signs parents can look for to make sure their child is developing properly.

Babies and toddlers are incredibly curious human beings. They're drawn to play and interact with others. If you notice your child does not respond to his or her name, is not engaged or does not interact much with others, it could be a sign that their development is atypical.

Language and communication development are important in assessing whether a child might be autistic. Children who do not know at least one word by 12 months or are not pointing by 15 months show signs of lacking social communications skills, which could be related to autism.

Another measure of whether a child is developing appropriately is something called joint attention. This refers to you and your child paying attention to a third object or person. For instance, if you laugh at the television or turn your head to look at something outside, your child is likely to look as well to see what has your attention. In the same way, the child can try and draw your attention to another object or person through verbal and

nonverbal communication. This can occur in children as young as six months and lack of this development could point to the possibility of autism.

Differentiating between warning signs and a still-developing child is a complex skill. It's important for you to contact your family doctor if you have a concern. Your doctor has the ability to properly screen your child and review his or her medical history to determine whether or not the child should be evaluated for autism.

Treating the disorder

Educational therapy remains the best treatment for those with autism, which includes in-school services like developmental, speech, and occupational therapy. It's important for you to be involved with your child's therapy, which ensures your child's development continues at home. Ask your child's therapist about what's going on and what your child is learning so that it can be reinforced at home. Carrying over therapy to the home helps improves its results.

Like with any condition, autism has its share of misconceptions. Parents may feel that their child's autism may be directly caused by their actions and decisions about raising their child. This is not true. Parenting does not cause autism.

Another common misconception is that people with autism lack the intellectual abilities or emotions of people without the disorder. This is utterly false. A person with autism is still a person who enjoys interaction and has feelings. They have just as much potential as anyone and can excel in a variety of skills.

These and other misconceptions, underline the importance of continued research, which in recent years has uncovered the role of genetics, and education so we can further our understanding of the disorder and better help those diagnosed with autism.



Maya Lopez, M.D. is Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

NLR city attorney promoted to Colonel



From left, The Carters' children Faith, Jacob, and Sarah, Col. Jason Carter and his wife Rebecca, and League Director of Legal Services Mark Hayes.

orth Little Rock City Attorney Jason Carter has been promoted to the rank of Colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He received the promotion at a March 4 ceremony at the Supreme Court. Carter began his military career in 1989 with the U.S. Army. He then joined the Army National Guard, and in 2001 he transferred to JAG. He currently serves as State Judge Advocate.

Carter began his service with the city of North Little Rock in 2000 as assistant city attorney. In 2002 he began a stint as Cabot's city attorney before returning to North Little Rock in 2003. He spent late 2003 and all of 2004 on active duty in Iraq, returning in 2005 to serve as North Little Rock's deputy city attorney before being appointed city attorney in 2007.



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APRIL 2016 39

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Add Delete Add Gillett	ADM PC /A/PC	Carl Geffken Kevin Lindsey Dean Pitts	Add AL Donnie Foster Kingsland Delete E-Mail kcityhall@tds.net Add E-Mail kingslandcityhall@gmail.com					
Delete Add Griffithv Delete Add	AL AL ille AL AL	Nick Kelley Matthew Knoll Brenda Hambrick Allen Matthews	Waldo Delete DPW Jason Terry Add DPW Laquita Evans Delete AL Margie Standoak Add AL Jackie Curry					
Hardy Add	PSD	Scott Ray	Walnut Ridge Delete E-Mail cityclerk@suddenlinkmail.com Add E-Mail wrcityhall@att.net					
Helena-N Delete Add Delete Add Delete Add Delete Add Delete Add	West Held T CA CA PC PC WC WC CEO	Patrick Roberson Derrick Turner Chalk Mitchell Andre Valley Uless Wallace Virgil Green Ken Fratesi Kevin McCormick Josh McIntosh Patrick Allen	Ward Delete AL Charles Gastineau Add AL James Wier					
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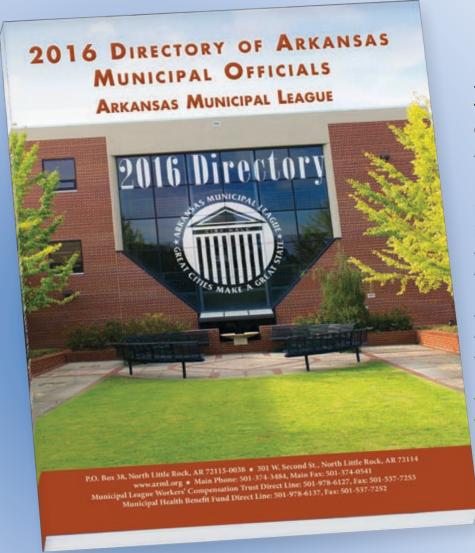
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ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

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THE NEW AML DIRECTORY IS NOW AVAILABLE!

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

Directory information on each incorporated Arkansas cities or town includes:

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

To order copies of the directory, visit the AML Web site at www.arml.org/store or call 501-374-3484.

Great Cities Make a Great State









5 urgent public management issues

These are the top challenges governments will need to address in 2016.

By Katherine Barrett & Richard Greene



t's become a new tradition for us—to reflect on the important topics of the past year and then to look ahead to the future. What follow are our predictions for what will be the most pressing management issues in 2016. These items could be addressed through management changes in addition to potential legislative maneuvers. A couple of the issues—cybersecurity and deferred maintenance—appeared on last year's list as well. But we're confident that they're more important than ever.

Sharing data vs. data privacy

Last year, we delved into the significance -- and the potential for improved efficiencies -- of having accurate, timely and useful data in cities and states. The more we looked into the issue, the more convinced we became that one of the biggest obstacles to the use of data as an effective management tool is the lack of sharing among agencies. There is general agreement that it would be a good thing if various agencies, such as departments of mental health, education and corrections, were able to access the data gathered about all of their clients.

This goal is often stymied by concerns over privacy. Many agencies claim they can't share their data with other agencies due to legal restrictions. Yet when those agencies go to their state attorneys general to check on

legalities, they're often told that the laws that seem to proscribe sharing on the basis of privacy don't necessarily do that. Many state AGs suggest that application of those laws to data sharing is based on hand-me-down theories that have no legal standing to back them up. What's more, technological advances in so-called "de-identifying" data makes it easier to share the gross numbers without putting an individual's history on wider display.

The public's faith and trust in police departments

We discovered in 2015 that one of the underlying causes for this potentially serious problem is that, in many police departments, success is measured by the number of arrests its officers made. When the goal is to arrest more people, fewer resources are going to go toward cementing good relationships between the police and the public, which can lead to improvements in crime prevention. On the face of it, the prevention of crime would seem to be a better goal than catching the person who committed it after the fact. We're hopeful that police departments will, out of necessity, rethink their measurement systems to focus more on the relationships they have with the community.

Deferred maintenance

There's nothing particularly new about the need for states, counties and cities to pay more attention to the maintenance of streets, bridges and buildings—and the way they measure the amount of money they should be spending today on maintenance they put off yesterday. Based on conversations with many academics and budget directors, we believe the talk about this topic is reaching an all-time peak. One reason for this is that a huge amount of necessary maintenance was deferred during the recession. The impact of that is becoming increasingly obvious now. Even leaders and the public in states that weathered the recession better than others are concerned.

Consider Texas. A telling article in *The Texas Tribune* referred to "walls patched with toilet paper. Rodent urine leaking into the ceiling at a state school for deaf and disabled kids ... a backlog of pipeline safety inspections." There was more, until the article concluded with this: "The signs of wear and tear in state government seem to be cropping up everywhere."

Cybersecurity

There couldn't be a complete list of hot management issues without mention of the security of our online systems. So far, the nation's states and localities have been pretty lucky in that most of the problems on this front have involved only the threat of identity theft. But it's inevitable that a malevolent organization will intrude into state or city computer systems in a far more dangerous way. You can hold us accountable on this one, but we'd be willing to bet a \$100 donation to a worthy charity that before Jan. 1 of next year, a breach in a state or city computer system will lead directly to loss of life. We don't make this forecast happily, but when and if it comes to pass, the already strong focus on cybersecurity in the states will multiply tenfold.

State procurement processes

As part of a project under the auspices of the Governing Institute, we've been examining reforms by state procurement departments. To keep our comments here short and sweet, states are increasingly aware of the savings to be had with modernized procurement systems, including the way those systems are managed and by whom. Based on the number of states that told

the institute that they were planning new procurement reforms in the coming months, we're pretty sure that this is going to be a hot, if often ignored, management topic from coast to coast.

Obviously, these aren't the only significant management issues with which states and localities will be trying to deal in the next year. A handful that came close to being included here are mental health waiting lists, understaffed jails, electronic health records and budget reforms. Of course, there will be new issues popping up all the time. That's good for us—otherwise, what would we write about?

This article appeared originally online in the March 2016 issue of Governing Magazine (governing.com) and is reprinted with permission. Columnists Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene have done original research and writing in fields pertaining to state and local government and are columnists and correspondents for Governing Magazine, where they founded the Government Performance Project. They are consultants to the Pew Charitable Trusts government performance unit, senior advisers to the Fels Institute at the University of Pennsylvania and contractors to Bloomberg's government work. Contact the authors at greenebarrett@gmail.com.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Arkansas Municipal League 2017 Summer Convention

he League sponsors an Annual Convention (three-day meeting, Wednesday through Friday) for municipal officials from across the state. The Convention is designed to provide these officials with the opportunity to discuss problems of common interest and to learn of new developments and techniques in local government and public administration. Participation and attendance at this Convention has grown significantly over the last several years. Attendance now averages approximately 1,500 participants.

The League is now taking RFPs for the 2017 Summer Convention. Over a four-night period, approximately 1360 hotel rooms are needed. Peak nights are Wednesday night with approximately 650 rooms needed followed by Thursday night with 640 rooms needed. Traditionally, there are five large meals served during the Convention. Seating of up to 900 attendees is needed. For general meetings, a large meeting room that will seat approximately 800 is needed. No less

than six meeting rooms are needed for an afternoon of concurrent workshops. Each workshop room should be equipped with a head table, podium, seating for six (at the head table), audio/visual equipment, and theater seating for approximately 100. A registration area is needed to set up to register the approximately 1,500 attendees. The area needs to be large enough to store packets and registration materials for the delegates. The exhibit hall should be large enough for setting up approximately 115 10x10 booths including large equipment. The exhibit hall must be large enough to host as many as 900 people at one time.

For more information and to obtain a complete RFP, contact League Director of Operations Ken Wasson at 501-374-3484 Ext. 211. The deadline to submit RFPs for the 2017 Annual Convention is 5 p.m. Friday, April 29, 2016. RFPs should be submitted to the attention of Ken Wasson, P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115; or via email to kwasson@arml.org.

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ACCRTA seeks nominations for Clerk of the Year

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

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

Any municipal official or ACCRTA member may nominate a candidate for Municipal Clerk of the Year for 2016. The finalist will be honored at the 82nd Annual Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 15-17, 2016 in Little Rock.

The deadline for nominations is April 13, 2016.

Requirements for nominees:

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

Complete the nomination information below and send to:

Barbara Blackard, ACCRTA Vice President City of Clarksville, City Clerk/Treasurer 205 Walnut Street Clarksville, AR 72830 479-754-6488 BBlackard@ clarksvillear.gov

Municipal Clerk of the Year 2016 Please Submit the Following Information

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Nominee's full name and title
ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP
BUSINESS PHONE
Name of the city the municipal clerk represents
Years served as clerk, recorder, treasurer or deputy clerk and year appointed or elected
Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders, Treasurers Association (ACCRTA) member years served and date of membership
ACCRTA OFFICES HELD
ACCRIA MEETINGS ATTENDED
ACCRTA, IIMC, OR ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE SERVICE, COMMITTEES SERVED ON AND NUMBER OF YEARS SERVED
International Institute Municipal Clerk (IIMC) participation at annual and regional meetings
IIMC workshops (district meetings) attended
IIMC workshops (district meetings) attended
CERTIFICATION RECEIVED:
☐ IIMC Certified Municipal Clerk, ☐ IIMC Master Municipal Clerk or ☐ Certified Arkansas Municipal Clerk
Date of Certification
Arkansas Municipal League conferences attended
Education program participation (instructor, panel member, moderator)
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES
Other activities
Name of individual submitting nomination
Address
Phone number
SIGNATURE
DATE
Nominator: Please briefly summarize the reasons why you believe your nominee should be selected as the 2016 Municipal
CLERK OF THE YEAR.

ACCRTA scholarships available

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

A scholarship honoring the memory of Bill S. Bonner will be awarded to a first-year attendee in the certification program at the Municipal Clerks' Institute in September 2016. This scholarship covers the registration fee.

Additional scholarships include: four local \$400 scholarships to attend the Municipal Clerks' Institute, Sept. 11-15, 2016, in Fayetteville; one \$400 scholarship for the Academy for Advanced Education, Sept. 12-13,

2016, in Fayetteville; and one \$400 scholarship to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) annual conference, May 22-25, 2016, in Omaha, Nebraska.

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

Fill out the scholarship application below and return it to:

Donna Stewart, City Clerk City of Camden PO Box 278 Camden, AR 71711

For more information, contact: Scholarship Chairman Donna Stewart at (870) 836-6436 or email payroll.camden@cablelynx.com.

2016 APPLICATION FOR am a member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and do learn Clerks, Deputy City Clerk, Recorder, Treasurer or related	e Arkansas City Clerks, Reconereby apply for assistance fron	rders and Treasurers Associ						
NameTitle								
Street Address or P.O. Box								
City, State, Zip								
Telephone Date assumed present	position							
Other related experience: Title	Municipality	Years						
Education: H.S Graduate Co	llege (years)	Degree						
Check one: This application is for a First Second	Third year Institute							
What are the approximate costs of the institute you plan to	attend?							
Travel/TransportationReg	istration Fee/Tuition							
Lodging and Meal Tota	al Amount							
How much does your municipality budget your departmer	nt yearly for education?							
What is your reason(s) for applying for this scholarship								
I								
\mid I understand that if a scholarship is awarded to me, it mu \mid attend all sessions.	ast be used between Jan. 1, 2016,	and Dec. 31, 2016, and that 1	must					
Please attach written evidence that your Chief Executand that in the event that a scholarship is awarded, you w			e institute					
$\begin{bmatrix} I & \text{do hereby attest that the information submitted with th} \end{bmatrix}$	is application is true and correc	t to my best knowledge.						
Signature: Date	e:							
CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE	APPLYING:		_					
Municipal Clerks' Institute, Fayetteville	September 11-15, 2016	Deadline: May 27, 2016						
Academy for Advanced Education, Fayetteville	September 12-13, 2016	Deadline: May 27, 2016						
IIMC Conference, Omaha, Nebraska May 22-25, 2016 Deadline: April 8, 2016								

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

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2016 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita									
	STRE	ET	SEVERAN	ICE TAX	GENERAL				
MONTH	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016			
January	\$4.8662	\$5.0284	\$0.5728	\$0.2297	\$2.0995	\$1.0777			
February	\$4.8562	\$5.1992	\$0.4599	\$0.1524	\$1.0921	\$1.0775			
March	\$5.1898	\$4.6255	\$0.2339	\$0.1655	\$1.0909	\$1.0778			
April	\$4.7309		\$0.6375		\$1.1417				
May	\$5.2251		\$0.2547		\$1.0918				
June	\$5.2410		\$0.2738		\$1.0920				
July	\$5.3082		\$0.6600		\$2.9748				
August	\$5.0259		\$0.2560		\$0.9641				
September	\$5.3748		\$0.2632		\$1.0791				
October	\$5.2322	ĺ	\$0.2767		\$1.0707				
November	\$5.0931		\$0.2797		\$1.0772				
December	\$4.8776		\$0.2499		\$1.0776				
Total Year	\$61.0210	\$14.8532	\$4.4181	\$0.5476	\$16.4878	\$3.2331			

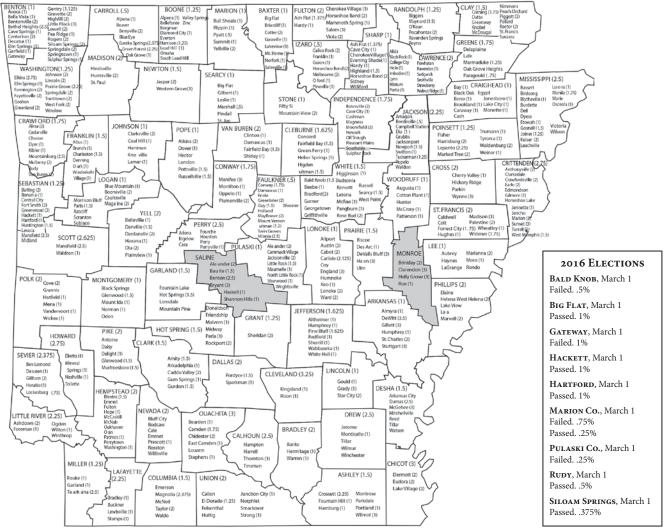
Actual Totals Per Month

	STR	EET	SEVERAN	ICE TAX	GENERAL		
MONTH	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
January	\$9,159,751.23	\$9,482,577.19	\$1,078,253.79	\$433,179.54	*\$3,951,880.56	\$2,032,277.00	
February	\$9,140,972.61	\$9,804,689.33	\$865,620.02	\$287,481.18	\$2,055,766.00	\$2,031,997.39	
March	\$9,768,890.51	\$8,722,769.73	\$440,227.94	\$312,010.76	\$2,053,376.13	\$2,032,596.84	
April	\$8,905,034.06		\$1,199,954.61		\$2,149,094.75		
May	\$9,840,348.46		\$479,664.03		\$2,056,091.57		
June	\$9,870,151.62		\$515,640.06		\$2,056,559.07		
July	\$9,996,770.39		\$1,242,957.21		**\$5,602,259.11		
August	\$9,465,188.42		\$482,195.54		\$1,815,712.03		
September	\$10,122,118.61		\$495,609.13		\$2,032,276.34		
October	\$9,866,818.54		\$521,753.79		\$2,019,155.56		
November	\$9,604,609.53		\$527,387.24		\$2,031,292.21		
December	\$9,198,069.64		\$471,202.66		\$2,032,217.62		
Total Year	\$114,938,723.62	\$28,010,036.25	\$8,320,466.02	\$1,032,671.48	\$29,855,498.01	6,096,871.23	

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

^{**} 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.aov

	Source: Rachel Graves, Office of State Treasurer See also: www.clackransas.gov										
	Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2016 with 2015 Comparison (shaded gray)										
Month	Municip	oal Tax	Count	y Tax	Tota	l Tax	Interest				
January	\$49,037,009	\$48,260,965	\$43,720,229	\$42,805,543	\$92,757,238	\$91,066,508	\$15,812	\$12,222			
February	\$59,477,239	\$57,956,453	\$51,693,904	\$50,071,410	\$111,171,143	\$108,027,863	\$20,455	\$12,659			
March	\$45,484,389	\$46,032,300	\$41,503,958	\$41,404,634	\$86,988,347	\$87,436,935	\$17,357	\$19,161			
April		\$46,694,339		\$42,176,819		\$88,871,158		\$15,459			
May		\$52,104,723		\$46,560,371		\$98,665,094		\$4,827			
June		\$49,711,589		\$44,369,398		\$94,080,987		\$25,867			
July		\$50,358,675		\$44,565,666		\$94,924,341		\$18,804			
August		\$51,846,227		\$47,174,793		\$99,021,020		\$16,649			
September		\$50,366,202		\$48,072,222		\$98,438,424		\$17,771			
October		\$50,569,467		\$46,609,011		\$97,178,477		\$18,511			
November		\$49,449,818		\$46,067,600		\$95,517,418		\$17,009			
December		\$53,013,791		\$47,830,901		\$100,844,691		\$18,591			
Total	\$153,998,637	\$606,364,549	\$136,918,091	\$547,708,368	\$290,916,728	\$1,154,072,916	\$53,623	\$197,530			
Averages	\$51,332,879	\$50,530,379	\$45,639,364	\$45,642,364	\$96,972,243	\$96,172,743	\$17,874	\$16,461			

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March 2016 Municipal Levy Receipts and March 2016 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2015 Comparison (shaded gray)

March 2016	Municipal	Levy Rece	eipts and March a	2016 Muni	cıpai/Coun	ty Levy Receipts	with 2015	Comparis	son (snaded gray)		
CITY SALES AND US		LAST YEAR	Garland		3,193.02	Murfreesboro		18,866.41	Portland		3,785.61
Alexander	68,872.22	59,433.63	Gassville		15,534.74	Nashville		100,712.22	Wilmot		4,842.06
Alma		175,271.97 2,772.06	Gentry		45,110.05 97.36	Newport Norfork		185,568.08 3,665.86	Baxter County Big Flat		283,500.81 1,229.78
Alpena		4,046.81	Gillett		10,395.50	Norman		1,665.55	Briarcliff	2 733 40	2,790.66
Altheimer	2,553.38	2,433.67	Gillham	3,273.39	2,571.37	North Little Rock	1,193,883.13	1,276,281.19	Cotter		11,470.11
Altus		5,663.95	Gilmore		359.78	Oak Grove		747.83	Gassville		24,572.04
Amity Anthonyville		8,325.42 161.22	Glenwood		55,621.79 14,845.33	Ola	2 772 72	12,468.92 2,616.30	Lakeview	144 175 10	8,762.21 147,195.75
Arkadelphia		150,782.48	Gould		3,302.54	Osceola		79,222.67	Norfork	5 918 50	6,042.50
Ash Flat		75,116.63	Grady		2,658.38	Oxford		1,951.60	Salesville		5,321.19
Ashdown	116,141.61	101,847.08	Gravette	74,540.22	736,508.12	Ozark	76,889.60	75,519.31	Benton County	583,337.45	656,467.02
Atkins		52,290.35	Green Forest		55,508.29	Palestine		19,059.30	Avoca		7,493.71
Augusta Austin	25,582.34	24,343.16 24,771.91	Greenbrier	157,153.07 17 760 08	139,016.43 18,233.78	Pangburn Paragould		7,212.51 262,110.06	Bella Vista	364,230.61 484 720 84	407,332.03 542,080.52
Avoca		4,395.39	Greenwood		188,958.12	Paris		73,305.78	Bethel Heights		36,424.32
Bald Knob	32,872.92	45,957.61	Greers Ferry	12,869.77	14,200.94	Patmos		75.68	Cave Springs	26,514.71	29,652.35
Barling		26,414.91	Guion	5,455.41	1,180.28	Patterson		1,545.34	Centerton		146,111.90
Batesville Bauxite		545,844.80 15,547.50	Gum Springs Gurdon	23.000.03	341.52 20,358.00	Pea Ridge	2 215 60	40,473.76 2,847.53	Decatur Elm Springs		26,089.77 2,103.77
Bay		6,577.85	Guy		4,102.17	Perryville		24,512.28	Garfield		7,708.69
Bearden	9,027.30	14,794.01	Hackett		4,819.55	Piggott	59,357.05	59,729.86	Gateway	5,561.09	6,219.16
Beebe		111,236.98	Hamburg		25,920.54	Pine Bluff		831,683.86	Gentry		48,494.10
Beedeville		74.70 144,893.63	Hardy		14,511.02 22,408.13	Pineville Plainview		1,190.56 2,917.71	Gravette		47,803.08 8,952.52
Belleville		1,970.55	Harrisburg		383,313.05	Plumerville		12,155.96	Highfill	35 494 84	39,695.14
Benton		1,101,003.54	Hartford	1,987.96	1,978.07	Pocahontas		220,849.70	Lowell		112,513.07
Bentonville	1,542,242.70	1,708,113.16	Haskell		16,847.49	Portia		1,954.91	Pea Ridge		73,616.44
Berryville	230,083.73	217,398.88 58,619.26	Hatfield	1 047 25	3,751.73	Portland Pottsville	22 292 05	3,638.89 21,046.31	Rogers	206 501 70	859,380.59 230,938.19
Black Rock		6,020.60	Hazen		2,167.96 52,743.51	Prairie Grove		80,130.39	Springdale		100,612.21
Blevins		2,295.63	Heber Springs	116,502.62	123,374.60	Prescott		55,739.58	Springtown	1,194.60	1,335.97
Blue Mountain		146.34	Helena-West Helena	206,534.46	228,070.79	Pyatt		451.96	Sulphur Springs	7.016.59	7,846.89
Blytheville		186,357.65	Hermitage		4,742.10	Quitman		22,980.58	Boone County	335,224.49	331,910.06
Bono		3,080.96 12,094.49	Higginson		NA 57,556.84	Ravenden		2,438.24 25,788.10	Alpena		3,502.37 4,984.57
Booneville		99,391.12	Highland		23,186.37	Redfield		13,440.32	Bergman	4,868.01	4,819.88
Bradford	12,496.22	11,132.49	Holly Grove	5,806.88	5,392.44	Rison	13,515.09	11,055.65	Diamond City	8,671.49	8,585.75
Bradley		2,953.28	Hope	168,667.89	155,185.39	Rockport		27,308.18	Everton		1,460.24
Branch Briarcliff		1,352.14 1,309.63	Horatio	19153 59	5,052.25 18,535.30	Roe	2 372 779 09	525.58 2,246,603.16	Harrison		142,104.05 2,975.37
Brinkley		97,311.51	Hot Springs	1,370,093.27	1,382,801.57	Rose Bud		16,360.81	Omaha		1,855.49
Brookland	15,248.10	13,358.02	Hoxie	12,539.23	13,795.74	Russellville	870,624.99	888,384.51	South Lead Hill	1,131.06	1,119.88
Bryant	885,470.38	817,368.71	Hughes	5,237.12	8,677.10	Salem	23,345.03	13,227.66	Valley Springs	2,029.26	2,009.20
Bull Shoals		11,409.55 629,739.26	Humphrey		3,132.41 3,829.04	Salesville		2,889.29 726,372.74	Zinc	113 508 42	1,130.84 117,141.33
Caddo Valley	41.630.96	38,795.11	Huntsville		116,256.20	Shannon Hills	12.050.41	14,943.62	Banks		904.51
Calico Rock	24,017.89	20,797.87	Imboden	5,987.84	5,889.18	Sheridan	178,361.98	179,422.64	Hermitage	5,871.27	6,054.38
Camden		260,825.23	Jacksonville		568,516.07	Sherrill		827.25	Warren	42,464.13	43,788.50
Caraway		4,654.47 45,154.12	Jasper Jennette		29,598.17 157.07	Sherwood		364,558.38 3,766.39	Calhoun County Hampton		72,999.24 20,691.72
Cave City		15,790.40	Johnson		48,866.82	Siloam Springs		493,190.74	Harrell		3,969.56
Cave Springs	20,672.02	24,238.74	Joiner		1,866.46	Sparkman	2,662.00	3,088.25	Thornton	7,939.38	6,360.68
Centerton	121,164.21	158,524.55	Jonesboro		1,245,746.60	Springdale		1,932,169.00	Tinsman	1,053.38	843.90
Charleston	12 408 52	29,780.13 14,583.22	Junction City Keiser	3 350 80	4,873.65 3,875.16	Springtown St. Charles	2 552 70	230.89 3,079.63	Carroll County Beaver		129,744.80 474.98
Cherry Valley	3.858.57	14,363.22 NA	Keo		1,828.92	Stamps		12,571.49	Blue Eye		142.49
Chidester	2,179.92	1,834.06	Kibler		3,050.93	Star City	65,069.89	67,166.31	Chicot County	169,255.37	181,452.57
Clarendon		44,561.49	Kingsland	2,006.68	1,152.21	Stephens		6,031.69	Dermott		18,947.35
Clarksville		326,974.77	Lake City	10,291.48	10,108.39 63,349.22	Strong	14,131.63	8,993.80 549,103.28	Eudora Lake Village	15,752.00	14,881.12
Coal Hill	2.661.22	68,061.83 1,919.27	Lakeview		3,486.53	Sulphur Springs		1,951.58	Clark County	387.169.78	16,888.00 361,504.76
Conway		1,658,781.22	Lamar		9,439.24	Summit		3,861.56	Clay County		89,710.54
Corning	73,476.34	83,681.23	Lead Hill	4,577.66	NA	Sunset		1,534.92	Corning	22,130.27	24,214.89
	8,923.50	9,768.82	Lepanto		24,639.19	Swifton		2,579.64	Datto		1,075.58
Cotton Plant Cove		1,608.84 12,331.90	Leslie		3,402.79 9,959.80	Taylor		12,885.47 361,193.95	Greenway		2,247.96 3,086.91
Crawfordsville	7,774.04	6,503.30	Lincoln		34,801.03	Texarkana Special	183,453.13	179,311.03	McDougal	1,828.35	2,000.58
Crossett	245,417.62	251,912.44	Little Flock	11,854.98	8,540.30	Thornton		928.66	Nimmons		742.15
Damascus		10,631.14	Little Rock		5,582,212.11 NA	Tontitown		93,611.42 69,384.07	Peach Orchard		1,452.03 27,599.38
Dardanelle	149,601.87	38,582.06 156,639.32	Lockesburg Lonoke	129.767.22	129,353.76	Tuckerman	11.447.38	13,122.84	Piggott	23,223.40	2,387.79
Decatur	23,207.41	23,153.09	Lowell		283,729.42	Turrell	4,920.23	3,518.05	Rector	12,955.74	14,176.14
Delight	4,305.71	4,507.67	Luxora		2,678.61	Tyronza		3,232.84	St. Francis		2,688.95
De Queen		91,247.10 26,546.22	Madison	1,172.77	1,439.68 7,119.14	Van Buren	567,780.87	571,983.01 395.56	Success	277 021 26	1,602.62 327,967.60
Des Arc		17,724.82	Magnolia	443,560.09	435,406.85	Vilonia		103,867.00	Concord		2,434.84
DeValls Bluff	14,930.92	13,651.02	Malvern	144,582.82	150,532.35	Viola	3,667.82	2,773.22	Fairfield Bay	1,547.47	1,826.13
DeWitt		181,638.62	Mammoth Spring	7,586.77	6,670.89	Wabbaseka	608.22	847.88	Greers Ferry	7,534.41	8,891.16
Diamond City Diaz		2,369.49 2,788.46	Manila		48,784.04 34,002.64	Waldenburg Waldron		6,180.23 42,154.78	Heber Springs Higden		71,498.51 1,197.46
Dierks		15,176.80	Marianna		67,883.00	Walnut Ridge		63,958.43	Quitman		7,304.53
Dover	22,459.97	18,775.82	Marion	185,481.40	166,049.62	Ward	37,963.12	16,492.41	Cleveland County	95,747.69	93,314.48
Dumas		118,192.98	Marked Tree		46,834.72	Warren		65,841.41	Kingsland	1,618.22	1,577.10
Dyer	2,190./0	2,386.33 20,526.02	Marmaduke Marshall		19,820.04 12,897.58	Washington		1,762.60 6,103.20	Rison	4,805.54	4,741.89 373,235.90
East Camden		4,933.94	Marvell	13,287.60	16,167.49	West Fork	38,580.57	36,073.57	Emerson		664.91
El Dorado	509,977.31	467,919.51	Maumelle	218,500.16	171,927.13	West Memphis	507,618.36	552,122.22	Magnolia	20,605.29	20,917.69
Elkins		66,682.89	Mayflower	49,421.35	52,481.40	Western Grove		2 020 22	McNeil		932.33
Elm Springs England	64 299 54	5,887.63 63,229.86	Maynard	18 887 37	4,952.67 18,433.33	Wheatley	65 341 20	3,029.32 61,215.73	Taylor	1,007.39	1,022.67 2,478.97
Etowah		501.48	McGehee		145,402.61	Wickes		3,369.16	Conway County	301,425.29	313,693.21
Eudora	23,625.27	29,089.76	McRae	3,082.53	2,848.68	Widener	4,107.03	3,044.21	Menifee	3,188.26	3,318.02
Eureka Springs		137,754.38	Melbourne		59,258.74	Wiederkehr Village		1,862.34	Morrilton		74,347.87
Evening Shade Fairfield Bay		NA 23,367.18	Mena Menifee		118,674.97 5,901.76	Wilmot		NA 1,341.00	Oppelo		8,580.71 9,075.13
Farmington		108,883.25	Mineral Springs		4,115.24	Wynne	112.350.70	121,789.21	Craighead County	251.303.82	250,494.73
Fayetteville	2,831,916.13	2,966,305.34	Monette	12,150.51	12,574.12	Yellville	38,186.10	37,681.49	Bav	25.569.07	25,486.75
Flippin		42,155.75	Monticello		165,022.00	Court, CALED AND II	CE AMOUNT	ANACHAT	Black Oak	3,719.65	3,707.68
Fordyce Foreman	9 035 10	74,911.92 8,379.07	Moorefield		NA 1,976.28	County SALES AND U Arkansas County		E AMOUNT 285,488.56	Bono Brookland	27 954 20	30,156.73 27,864.20
Forrest City	265,290.57	270,209.63	Morrilton	130,411.07	131,432.30	Ashley County	192,633.55	199,224.57	Caraway	18,158.16	18,099.70
Fort Smith	3,127,898.45	3,153,538.34	Mount Ida	17,456.39	17,471.95	Crossett	46,878.32	48,482.28	Cash	4,855.43	4,839.79
Fouke		7,211.47	Mountain Home		355,940.10	Fountain Hill		1,540.66	Egypt		1,584.96
Fountain Hill Franklin		688.06 2,184.70	Mountain View Mountainburg		133,428.43 10,494.71	Hamburg	24,320.20 3 013 42	25,152.33 3,116.53	Jonesboro Lake City	29 558 47	951,868.65 29,463.31
Garfield		6,512.31	Mulberry	, . 27,600.75	30,809.51	Parkdale		2,438.64	Monette		21,241.32
	*		-		*					OIT (0 TO	

Crawford County 618,329.35	595,593.93	Newark		12,695.51	Blytheville	149,589.20	180,757.93	Mansfield 6,663.23	6,552.76
Alma44,999.15	43,344.57	Oil Trough	2,985.67	2,806.83	Burdette		2,210.29	Waldron 26,652.93	26,211.04
Cedarville	11,150.09	Pleasant Plains		3,767.63	Dell		2,580.60	Searcy County 32,973.35	32,352.76
Chester	1,271.78 7,006.80	Southside		NA 4,922.76	Dyess Etowah		4,744.61 4,061.85	Big Flat	5.28 147.87
Kibler 7,980.10	7,686.68	Izard County		37,266.07	Gosnell		41,058.20	Leslie 2,373.69	2,329.02
Mountainburg 5,239.80	5,047.14	Jackson County	224,997.41	249,923.15	Joiner		6,665.59	Marshall 7,293.32	7,156.05
Mulberry	13,237.73	Amagon		896.40	Keiser		8,783.31	Pindall	591.50
Rudy	487.92 182,296.75	Beedeville Campbell Station		978.72 2,332.46	Leachville		23,063.42 13,632.06	St. Joe	697.12 723,680.40
Crittenden County 1,095,539.24	643,229.90	Diaz		12,055.62	Manila		38,674.33	Barling 67,183.47	66,140.92
Anthonyville	939.50	Grubbs	3,178.57	3,530.71	Marie		972.07	Bonanza 8,309.42	8,180.48
Clarkedale 2,049.47	2,164.93	Jacksonport		1,939.14	Osceola		89,765.64	Central City7,254.49	7,141.91
Crawfordsville2,646.08 Earle13,335.37	2,795.15 14,086.63	Newport		72,068.46 7,299.23	Victoria		428.17 10,449.70	Fort Smith 1,245,820.52 Greenwood 129,366.83	1,226,487.99 127,359.33
Edmondson 2,358.82	2.491.71	Tuckerman		17,031.54	Monroe County		10,449.70 NA	Hackett	11,552.25
Gilmore 1,307.57	1,381.24	Tupelo	1,482.24	1,646.44	Montgomery County		35,895.36	Hartford 9,277.65	9,133.68
Horseshoe Lake 1,613.06	1,703.93	Weldon		686.01	Black Springs		463.92	Huntington 9,176.49	9,034.09
Jennette	603.96	Jefferson County		613,787.37	Glenwood		196.82	Lavaca	32,565.41
Jericho	694.41 72,037.90	Altheimer		8,843.52 2,768.09	Mount Ida		5,042.22 1,771.34	Mansfield 10,448.19 Midland 4,696.63	10,286.06 4,623.75
Sunset	1,039.87	Pine Bluff		441,124.24	Oden		1,087.16	Sevier County 251,395.67	238,535.92
Turrell 3,057.63	3,229.89	Redfield	12,004.56	11,656.54	Nevada County	229,122.29	106,353.66	Ben Lomond 1,145.19	1,086.61
West Memphis 144,982.09	153,149.84	Sherrill		754.93	Bluff City	2,109.37	979.13	De Queen 52,078.66	49,414.67
Cross County 213,772.78 Cherry Valley 5,490.87	240,918.09 6,188.11	Wabbaseka White Hall		2,291.76 49,663.90	Bodcaw		1,089.67 623.80	Gillham	1,199.02 7,823.61
Hickory Ridge 2,294.19	2,585.51	Johnson County		107,095.70	Emmet		3,750.69	Lockesburg 5,836.54	5,537.98
Parkin	10,503.63	Clarksville		78,665.41	Prescott		26,025.81	Sharp County65,580.39	66,821.40
Wynne	79,532.91	Coal Hill		8,673.94	Rosston		2,060.90	Ash Flat	7,992.80
Dallas County 141,574.22	118,936.33	Hartman		4,448.39	Willisville		1,200.22 47.960.72	Cave City	14,207.60
Desha County	96,025.40 3,716.33	Knoxville		6,265.46 13,756.59	Newton County Jasper		1,919.25	Cherokee Village 31,041.22 Evening Shade 3,457.92	31,628.63 3,523.35
Dumas	47,784.24	Lafayette County		75,244.92	Western Grove		1,581.53	Hardy 5,843.24	5,953.82
McGehee	42,839.29	Bradley	3,593.75	3,546.18	Ouachita County	517,413.89	330,273.56	Highland 8,364.64	8,522.93
Mitchellville 3,005.16	3,655.40	Buckner		1,552.87	Bearden		8,665.44	Horseshoe Bend	65.25
Reed	1,746.47 213.23	Lewisville Stamps		7,227.89 9,560.02	Camden		109,286.84 2,592.46	Sidney 1,448.80 Williford	1,476.22 611.70
Watson 1,761.36	2,142.47	Lawrence County		180,248.30	East Camden		8,351.48	St. Francis County 125,879.66	121,364.16
Drew County 391,868.91	380,142.54	Alicia		648.07	Louann	1,348.22	1,471.15	Caldwell 8,282.54	7,985.44
Jerome	413.15	Black Rock		3,459.88	Stephens		7,992.66	Colt 5,641.08	5,438.72
Monticello	100,288.69	College City		2,378.01	Perry County		108,788.96	Forrest City	221,160.46
Tillar 2,227.74 Wilmar 5,580.26	2,161.07 5,413.28	Hoxie		14,529.41 3,538.28	Adona Bigelow		969.49 1,461.19	Hughes	20,733.34 11,064.50
Winchester 1,823.69	1,769.12	Lynn		1,505.21	Casa		793.22	Palestine	9,798.34
Faulkner County 622,315.38	610,372.19	Minturn		569.68	Fourche		287.60	Wheatley 5,297.84	5,107.80
Enola 1,894.94	1,858.58	Portia		2,283.94	Houston		802.49	Widener 4,074.10	3,927.97
Holland 3,122.73 Mount Vernon	3,062.80 797.32	Powhatan		376.30 2,456.41	Perry Perryville		1,252.45 6,772.48	Stone County 70,947.37 Fifty Six	69,251.02 1,264.69
Twin Groves 1,878.13	1,842.08	Sedgwick		794.41	Phillips County		100,865.96	Mountain View 20,580.95	20,088.86
Wooster 4,821.46	4,728.93	Smithville		407.66	Elaine		11,291.11	Union County	474,144.54
Franklin County 144,177.63	152,454.13	Strawberry		1,578.37	Helena-West Heler		178,919.07	Calion	13,822.84
Altus	5,972.88	Walnut Ridge		25,557.14	Lake View		7,864.73	El Dorado	588,560.51
Branch 2,734.89 Charleston	2,891.88 19,872.82	Lee County		27,004.04 836.80	Lexa		5,077.45 21,055.46	Felsenthal	3,387.04 18,945.76
Denning 3,509.89	3,711.38	Haynes		738.35	Pike County		122,281.49	Junction City 15,798.50	16,899.74
Ozark 27,453.18	29,029.13	LaGrange	414.41	438.09	Antoine		784.20	Norphlet 19,933.43	21,322.90
Wiederkehr Village	299.43	Marianna		20,255.49	Daisy		770.79	Smackover	56,098.01
Fulton County	87,315.86 345.45	Moro Rondo		1,063.23 974.62	Delight	15 408 54	1,870.01 14,651.80	Strong	15,961.23 238,222.01
Cherokee Village 2,945.07	2,685.67	Lincoln County		47,841.95	Murfreesboro		10,998.90	Clinton	21,161.19
Hardy	142.24	Gould		3,787.00	Poinsett County	98,832.39	102,888.49	Damascus 2,073.96	2,033.17
Horseshoe Bend	57.57	Grady		2,031.50	Fisher		1,538.87	Fairfield Bay 17,877.53	17,525.89
Mammoth Spring 3,628.41	3,308.82	Star City		10,288.68	Harrisburg		15,885.53	Shirley	2,366.61
Salem	5,537.28 1,141.33	Little River County Ashdown		154,114.84 31,435.64	Lepanto		13,063.12 17,707.33	Washington County 1,173,363.00 Elkins	35,975.67
Garland County 1,682,888.97	1,723,045.54	Foreman		6,729.08	Trumann		50,347.88	Elm Springs 23,383.04	23,856.98
Fountain Lake5,713.26	5,849.59	Ogden	1,284.02	1,198.06	Tyronza	5,051.08	5,258.37	Farmington 79,550.26	81,162.63
Hot Springs 171,315.09	175,402.96	Wilton		2,489.29	Waldenburg		420.95	Fayetteville 979,797.14	999,656.21
Lonsdale	1,093.17 8,954.63	Winthrop Logan County	82 771 97	1,277.92 96,347.31	Weiner Polk County		4,940.94 215,700.25	Goshen	14,550.58 17,580.25
Grant County 171,197.48	161,922.69	Blue Mountain	815.55	949.31	Cove		6,470.16	Johnson	45,567.37
Greene County 426,231.70	440,228.78	Booneville		30,546.35	Grannis	9,567.40	9,383.42	Lincoln 29,947.86	30,554.86
Delaplaine 1,099.45	1,135.56	Caulksville		1,630.67	Hatfield		6,995.22	Prairie Grove58,936.97	60,131.54
Lafe 4,340.94 Marmaduke 10,530.09	4,483.49 10,875.89	Magazine		6,484.40 489.97	Mena		97,170.97 1,473.58	Springdale 854,825.73 Tontitown 32,757.56	872,151.82 33,421.50
Oak Grove Heights 8,425.97	8,702.67	Paris	23,230.08	27,040.02	Wickes	13.021.36	12,770.95	West Fork 30,853.36	31,478.71
Paragould 247,499.76	255,627.44	Ratcliff	1,328.56	1,546.46	Pope County	293,065.01	312,963.70	Winslow 5,206.57	5,312.12
Hempstead County 332,748.83 Blevins 3,106.94	310,183.37 2,896.25	Scranton Subiaco		1,714.88 4,379.07	Atkins		37,586.05 17,172.94	White County 744,914.67 Bald Knob 28,988.86	803,877.26 31,283.43
Emmet	395.36	Lonoke County		230,398.28	Hector		5,608.00	Beebe	78,991.47
Fulton 1,982.53	1,848.08	Allport		931.64	London	12,124.98	12,948.25	Bradford 7,594.94	8,196.11
Hope99,570.18	92,817.80	Austin	14,898.05	16,510.26	Pottsville	33,119.04	35,367.78	Garner 2,841.85	3,066.79
McCaskill	882.67	Cabot		192,614.26	Russellville		347,945.15	Georgetown 1,240.81	1,339.02
McNab	625.22 579.25	Carlisle		17,936.07 777.72	Prairie County Biscoe		72,925.19 3,030.38	Griffithville 2,251.46 Higginson 6,214.04	2,429.68 6,705.91
Ozan	781.53	England		22,885.90	Des Arc	10.623.62	14,333.76	Judsonia	21,802.29
Patmos	588.44	Humnoke	2,076.08	2,300.74	DeValls Bluff	3,829.95	5,167.50	Kensett	17,796.03
Perrytown 2,682.82	2,500.89	Keo		2,073.91	Hazen		12,255.07	Letona 2,551.66	2,753.63
Washington 1,775.40 Hot Spring County 276,326.05	1,654.99 245,544.43	Lonoke		34,389.62 32,947.59	Ulm	770 710 27	1,419.18 779,805.67	McRae 6,824.44 Pangburn 6,013.91	7,364.62 6,489.94
Donaldson 2,235.59	1,986.56	Madison County		184,242.74	Alexander		3,774.90	Rose Bud 4,823.14	5,204.91
Friendship 1,307.19	1,161.58	Hindsville		388.70	Cammack Village	12,141.15	12,284.43	Russell 2,161.41	2,332.49
Malvern 76,634.07	68,097.34	Huntsville		14,948.93	Jacksonville		453,692.32	Searcy	246,833.50
Midway	2,567.34	St. Paul		720.05	Little Rock		3,095,485.57	West Point 1,851.20	1,997.73
Perla	1,590.57 4,982.89	Marion County Bull Shoals		73,384.41 12,642.43	Maumelle North Little Rock .	984.951.15	274,528.32 996,574.76	Woodruff County 14,203.63 Augusta 14,691.34	16,304.60 16,864.46
Howard County 331,773.27	311,868.58	Flippin	8,175.37	8,784.86	Sherwood	466,723.05	472,230.94	Cotton Plant 4,335.92	4,977.28
Dierks	15,278.02	Pyatt	1,333.40	1,432.81	Wrightsville	33,419.78	33,814.20	Hunter	805.26
Mineral Springs 17,329.02 Nashville 66,375.31	16,289.36 62,393.13	Summit Yellville		3,915.91 7,805.89	Randolph County Biggers		119,987.91 2,909.10	McCrory	13,259.96 3,466.45
Tollette 3,442.84	3,236.31	Miller County		311,823.62	Maynard		3,571.41	Yell County	239,097.37
Independence County 556,175.91	547,226.78	Fouke	8,701.70	8,205.88	0'Kean	1,955.81	1,626.41	Belleville 2,669.50	2,581.22
Batesville 117,681.36	110,632.32	Garland		8,205.88	Pocahontas	66,618.43	55,398.71	Danville 14,582.35	14,100.16
Cave City 1,860.30	1,748.87	Texarkana Mississippi County		184,632.41	Ravenden Springs		989.26 3,822.92	Dardanelle 28,722.81 Havana 2,269.98	27,773.04
Cushman 5,190.47 Magness 2,319.64	4,879.57 2,180.69	Bassett		645,428.47 2,001.99	Reyno		3,822.92 NA	Ola	2,194.92 7,497.84
Moorefield 1,573.22		Birdsong		474.46	Scott County		139,246.16	Plainview 3,680.39	3,558.70
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APRIL 2016

MUNICIPAL MART

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

AIRPORT DIRECTOR—The City of Hot Springs is seeking an airport director who is experienced in all phases of a municipal airport. The ideal candidate should have at least five years related experience and/or training, and five years related management experience. The new director should possess at least a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Public Administration, Aviation Management or other related field; or any combination of education and experience; Salary range is \$67,320-\$73185, DOQ, with an excellent fringe benefit package available. Submit cover letter, application and resume to City of Hot Springs, Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 700, Hot Springs, AR 71902; or online at www.cityhs.net by April 22. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. EOE.

DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL COURT SERVICES—The

City of Corpus Christi, Texas, is seeking a new director of municipal court services. Corpus Christi, located on the Gulf of Mexico, is the largest city on **POLICE CHIEF**—The City of Hot Springs is seeking the Texas coast, with a population of approximately 312,000. The Corpus Christi Municipal Court, with a FY2015-16 administrative budget of just over \$4 million, includes 66 employees: the director, assistant director, 30 municipal court staff, 23 City Detention Center staff, 3 case managers, and 8 marshals. Reporting to an assistant city manager, the director is responsible for the overall management, strategic planning, and employee relations for the court. Bachelor's degree required. Master's degree preferred. Must have a minimum 10 years' experience with similarly sized courts as director, or larger courts at assistant director level. Class 3 Texas Municipal Court Clerk Certification required, or equivalent for out of state candidates. View complete position profile and apply online at bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches. For more information, contact: Molly Deckert, Senior Vice President, Strategic Government Resources, MollyDeckert@GovernmentResource.com.

GENERAL MANAGER—Benton Utilities is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of General Manager. Responsibilities include management, planning, administrating, and overseeing the affairs of Benton Utilities. Salary based on education & experience. Submit resume and/or application via mail to Mollie Wright, Benton Utilities, 1827 Dale Ave., Benton, AR 72015; or email cbmollie@bentonar.org. Applications will be accepted until April 15 or until position is filled. For complete job description and qualifications visit www.bentonutilities.com. EOE.

INVESTIGATOR/PATROL OFFICER—The Clinton Police Department is looking to hire an investigator/ patrol officer. Must be certified and experienced in all aspects of policing including investigative, patrol, affidavit preparations and courtroom experience. Send resume to: Clinton Police Department, P.O. Box 1050 Clinton, AR 72031; or call 501-745-4997.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR—Bryant is currently seeking a forward thinking and innovative Planning and Community Development Director to help drive our city's growth. Bryant offers competitive wages, comprehensive benefits packages, excellent retirement programs and paid time-off. Job Requirements: Broad knowledge of such fields as advanced accounting, marketing, business administration, finance, etc., equivalent to four years of college, plus 7 years related experience and/or training, and 4 years related management experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience. This position pays up to \$77,296 pending council approval. For a complete job description, further information, or to complete an application please visit www.cityofbryant.com and follow the employment link. Questions regarding this position can be directed to the Human Resources Department at 501-943-0999 ext. 0306. EOE.

a police chief who is experienced in all levels of law enforcement. The ideal candidate should have at least seven years of direct law enforcement experience, with management experience in a department similar in size to the Hot Springs Police Department which employs 133 employees, 105 of which are uniformed. The new chief should possess at least a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, business administration or related field and must meet the requirements of applicable state and local laws regulated by the civil service; any combination of education and experience required; starting salary is negotiable with an excellent fringe benefit package available. Request for information may be directed to Minnie Lenox, Human Resources Director, 501-321-6840 or email mlenox@cityhs.net. Submit cover letter, application and resume by April 18 to City of Hot Springs, Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 700, Hot Springs, AR 71902. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—Bradley is accepting applications for P/T II police officer. Must be certified and meet FOR SALE—2007 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle all requirements of law enforcement standards and training, Send resumes to: City of Bradley, P.O. Box 759, 410 Pullman Street, Bradley, AR 71826. EOE. For more information, call 870-894-3464.

POLICE OFFICER—Hermitage seeks qualified candidates for the position of police officer, night shift. Paid holidays, retirement, apartment with 18 to City of Hermitage, P.O. Box 120, Hermitage, AR 71647. Contact: 870-463-2209.

WATER PRODUCTION MAINTENANCE—Hope Water & Light is currently accepting resumes for the following position: Water Production Maintenance. Responsibilities include highly skilled maintenance work usually performed in relation to a water treatment facility. Position involves installing, adjusting, maintaining and repairing mechanical equipment as well as preventive and emergency repair work. Computer competency required. Water treatment knowledge helpful. Selected individual must possess knowledge in electric motors, pumps, valves and chemical feed units. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must possess an Arkansas Class A CDL on or before completion of a six month initial employment period. Must be able to meet the essential functions of the job. HWL offers an excellent benefit package. Interested individuals may submit a resume to Department of Workforce Services, 205 Smith Road, Suite A, Hope, AR 71801. Nothing in this job posting should be construed as an offer or quarantee of employment. EOE.

ZONING OFFICIAL—Cave Springs seeks a Zoning Official to administer zoning and subdivision regulations; make recommendations consistent with good land use planning; prepare amendments to zoning and subdivision regulations; perform professional planning studies; and perform office administrative duties and related work as may be necessary, and as required. Job Requirements: Thorough knowledge of modern planning and land use principles and practices; thorough knowledge of modern land use, zoning, population and subdividing concepts; ability to prepare comprehensive plans, land use regulations, and studies; ability to perform technical research work and to give reliable advice on difficult planning and development projects; ability to establish and maintain effective relations with other staff members, officials, and the public: ability to express ideas clearly and concisely, both in writing and orally; good professional judgment. Required Training: One year responsible experience in planning, zoning, and subdivision matters (including some supervisory experience), and possession of a degree in planning, urban studies, or related field; or any equivalent combination of education, experience, and training that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. For more information contact Nicole Ferguson, City of Cave Springs, 134 N. Main St. Cave Springs, AR 72718; phone: 479-248-1040; fax: 479-248-7521.

(black and white). Approximately 81,279 miles. Vehicle is equipped with lights, sirens, radar unit, camera, and has a prisoner partition. Trunk has storage area. Asking a reserve of \$8,000. Anyone interested or for more information, please contact Oak Grove Heights City Hall, Mayor Rudy Garner, at (870) 586-0042 between 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

utilities, and med. insurance. Send resume by April NOTICE OF BIDS—Rison will be accepting bids until April 20 on two vehicles listed below. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope, with "SEALED BID" on the bid envelope. Bids will be opened at 2 p.m. on April 20. City of Rison reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. 2007 Chevrolet 4 door sedan, VIN: 2G1WS55R379264301, 77,405 miles. 2009 Dodge Durango SUV, VIN: 1D8H-B38P69F715425, 95,609 miles.

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